

# Dimensionality reduction

# Outline

- Dimensionality Reductions or data projections
- Random projections
- Singular Value Decomposition and Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

# The curse of dimensionality

- The efficiency of many algorithms depends on the number of dimensions **d**
  - Distance/similarity computations are at least linear to the number of dimensions
  - Index structures fail as the dimensionality of the data increases

# Goals

- Reduce dimensionality of the data
- Maintain the meaningfulness of the data

# Dimensionality reduction

- Dataset  $X$  consisting of  $n$  points in a  $d$ -dimensional space
- Data point  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  ( $d$ -dimensional real vector):

$$x_i = [x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{id}]$$

- Dimensionality reduction methods:
  - **Feature selection:** choose a subset of the features
  - **Feature extraction:** create new features by combining new ones

# Dimensionality reduction

- Dimensionality reduction methods:
  - **Feature selection:** choose a subset of the features
  - **Feature extraction:** create new features by combining new ones
- Both methods map vector  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , to vector  $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$ , ( $k \ll d$ )
- $F : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$

# Linear dimensionality reduction

- Function **F** is a **linear** projection
- $y_i = x_i A$
- $Y = X A$
- **Goal:** **Y** is as **close** to **X** as possible

# Closeness: Pairwise distances

- **Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma:** Given  $\epsilon > 0$ , and an integer  $n$ , let  $k$  be a positive integer such that  $k \geq k_0 = O(\epsilon^{-2} \log n)$ . For every set  $X$  of  $n$  points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  there exists  $F: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  such that for all  $x_i, x_j \in X$

$$(1 - \epsilon) \|x_i - x_j\|^2 \leq \|F(x_i) - F(x_j)\|^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|x_i - x_j\|^2$$

**What is the intuitive interpretation of this statement?**



# JL Lemma: Intuition

- Vectors  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , are projected onto a  $k$ -dimensional space ( $k \ll d$ ):  $\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{x}_i A$
- If  $\|\mathbf{x}_i\| = 1$  for all  $i$ , then,  
 $\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2$  is approximated by  $(d/k)\|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j\|^2$
- **Intuition:**
  - The expected squared norm of a projection of a unit vector onto a random subspace through the origin is  $k/d$
  - The probability that it deviates from expectation is very small

# Finding random projections

- Vectors  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , are projected onto a  $k$ -dimensional space ( $k \ll d$ )
- Random projections can be represented by linear transformation matrix  $\mathbf{A}$
- $\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{A}$
- What is the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ?

# Finding random projections

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# Finding matrix **A**

- Elements **A(i,j)** can be Gaussian distributed
- Achlioptas\* has shown that the Gaussian distribution can be replaced by

$$A(i, j) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{with prob } \frac{1}{6} \\ 0 & \text{with prob } \frac{2}{3} \\ -1 & \text{with prob } \frac{1}{6} \end{cases}$$

- All zero mean, unit variance distributions for **A(i,j)** would give a mapping that satisfies the **JL** lemma
- **Why is Achlioptas result useful?**

# Datasets in the form of matrices

Given  $n$  objects and  $d$  features describing the objects.  
(Each object has  $d$  numeric values describing it.)

## Dataset

An  $n$ -by- $d$  matrix  $A$ ,  $A_{ij}$  shows the “importance” of feature  $j$  for object  $i$ .

Every row of  $A$  represents an object.

## Goal

1. **Understand** the structure of the data, e.g., the underlying process generating the data.
2. **Reduce the number of features** representing the data

# Market basket matrices

$d$  products  
(e.g., milk, bread, wine, etc.)

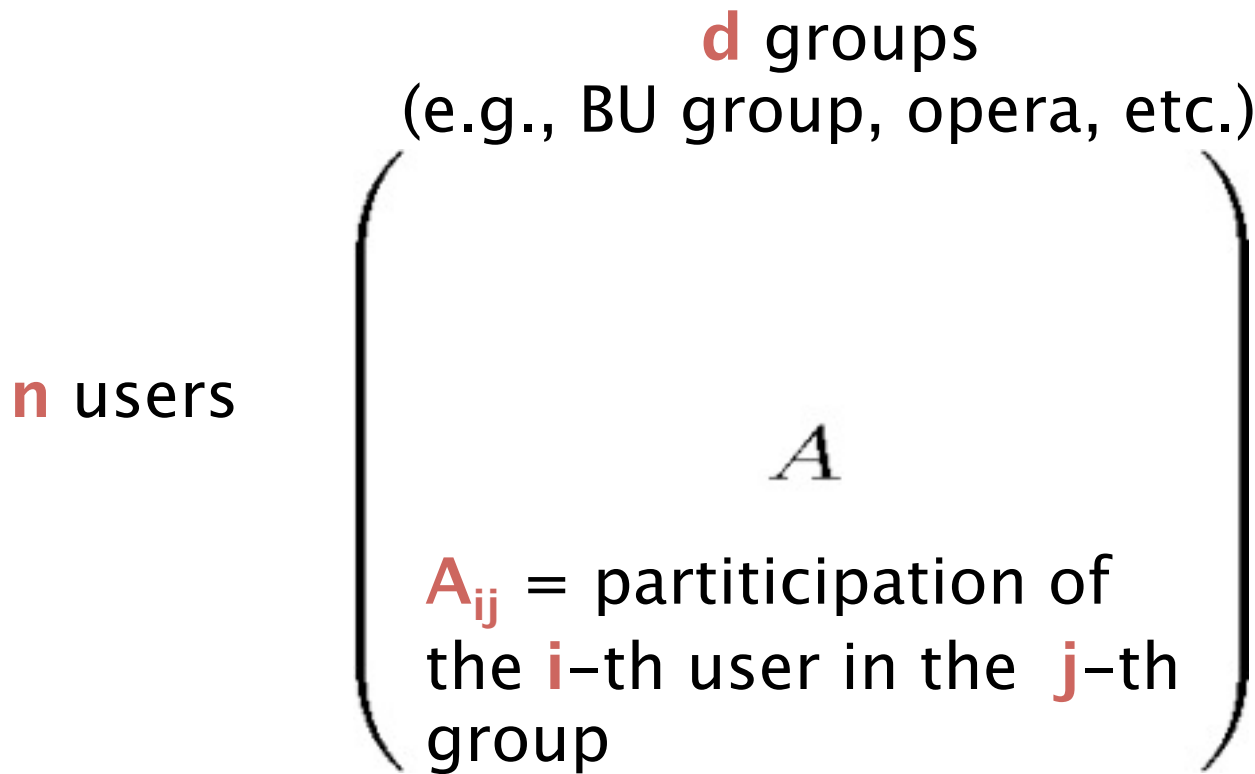
$n$   
customers

$$A$$

$A_{ij}$  = quantity of  $j$ -th product  
purchased by the  $i$ -th  
customer

Find a subset of the products that  
characterize customer behavior

# Social-network matrices



Find a subset of the groups that accurately clusters social-network users

# Document matrices

**d** terms

(e.g., theorem, proof, etc.)

**n**

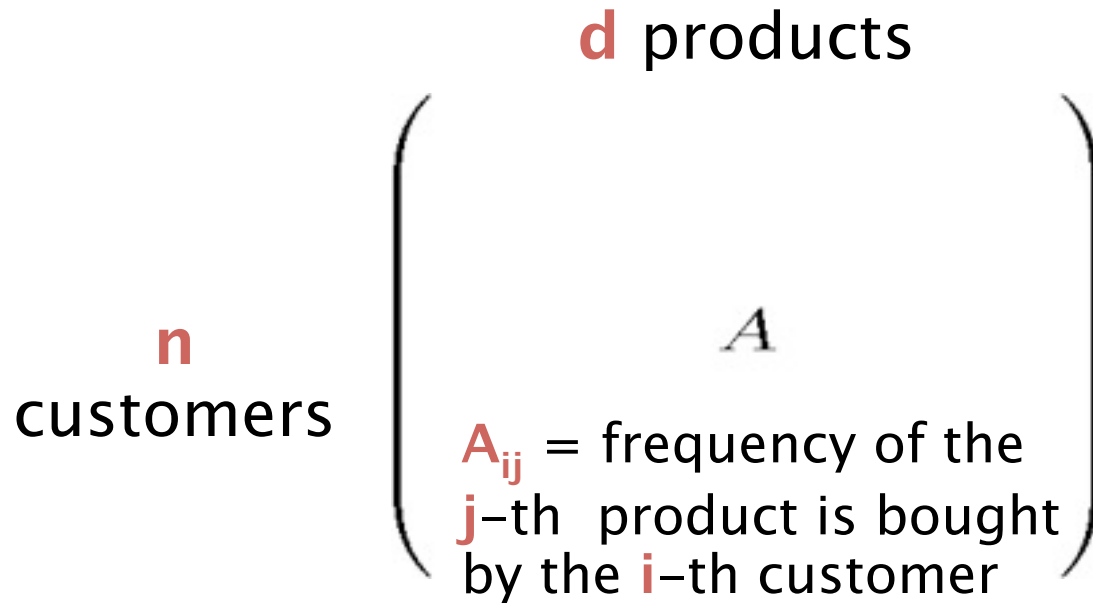
documents

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} A \\ A_{ij} = \text{frequency of the } j\text{-th} \\ \text{term in the } i\text{-th document} \end{array} \right)$$

Find a subset of the terms that accurately clusters the documents



# Recommendation systems



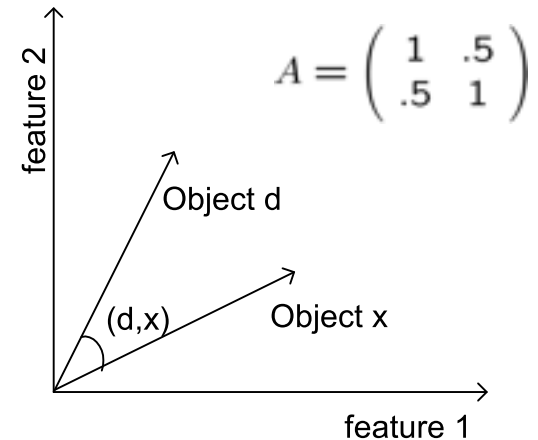
Find a subset of the products that accurately describe the behavior of the customers

# The Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

Data matrices have **n** rows (one for each object) and **d** columns (one for each feature).

Rows: vectors in a Euclidean space,

Two objects are “**close**” if the angle between their corresponding vectors is small.



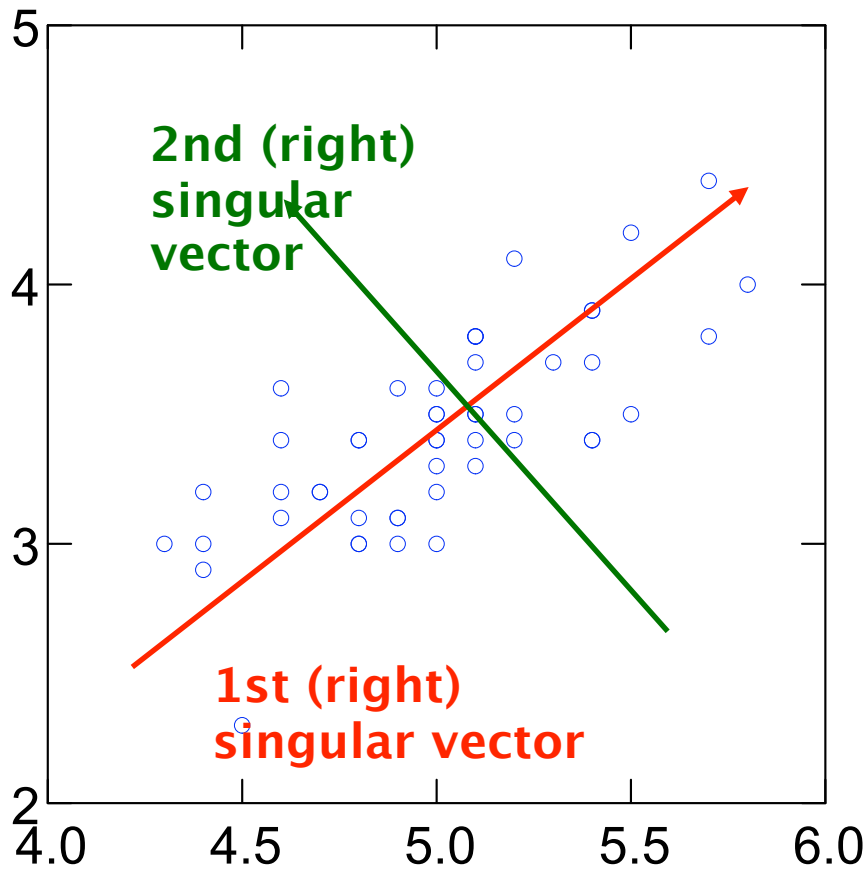
# SVD: Example

**Input:** 2-d dimensional points

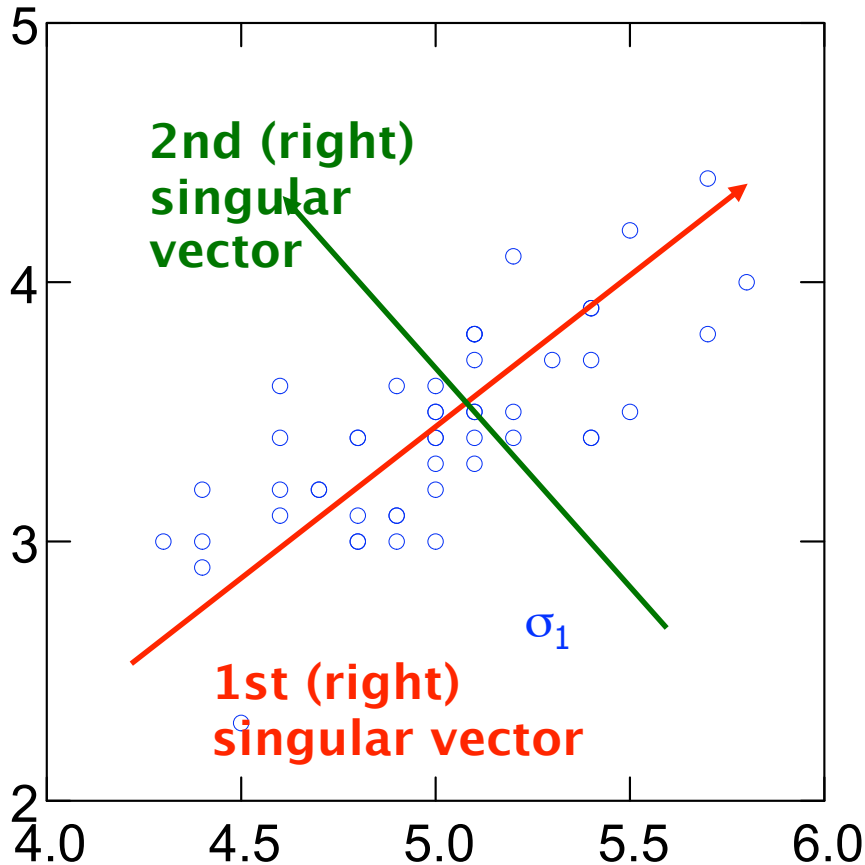
**Output:**

**1st (right) singular vector:**  
direction of maximal variance,

**2nd (right) singular vector:**  
direction of maximal variance,  
after removing the projection  
of the data along the first  
singular vector.



# Singular values



$\sigma_1$ : measures how much of the data variance is explained by the first singular vector.

$\sigma_2$ : measures how much of the data variance is explained by the second singular vector.

# SVD decomposition

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ n \times \ell \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma \\ \ell \times \ell \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} V \\ \ell \times d \end{pmatrix}^T$$

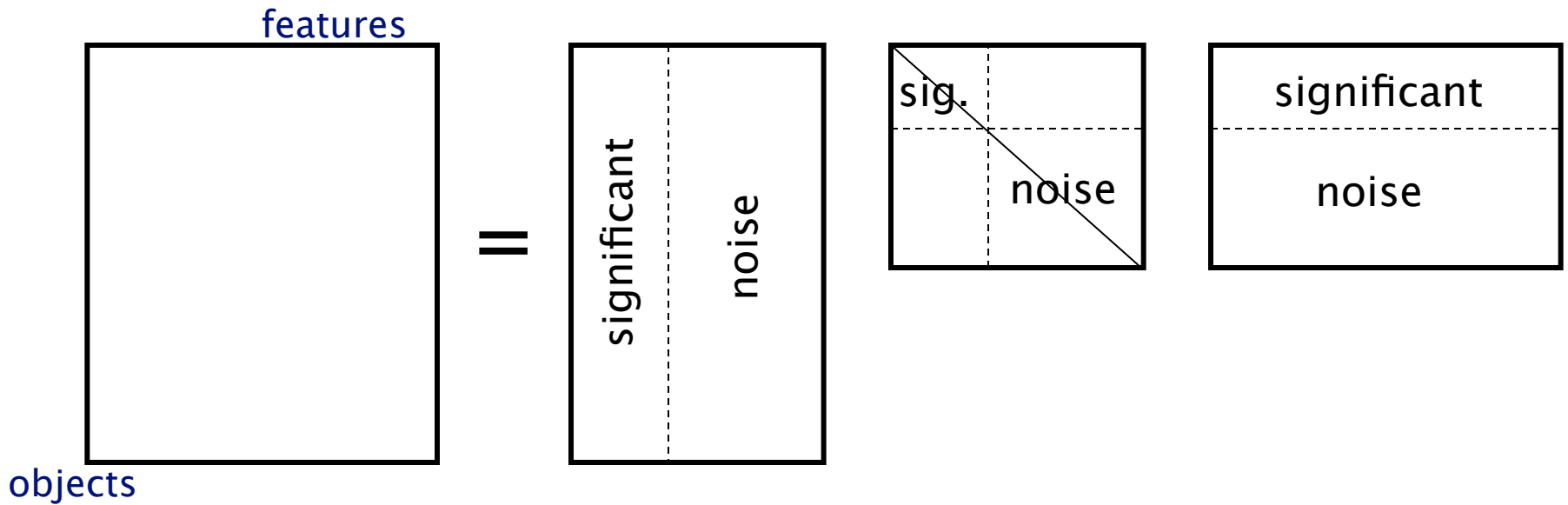
**U (V)**: orthogonal matrix containing the left (right) singular vectors of **A**.

**$\Sigma$** : diagonal matrix containing the **singular values** of **A**:  
( $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_\ell$ )

Exact computation of SVD takes  **$O(\min\{mn^2, m^2n\})$** .  
The top k left/right singular vectors/values can be **computed faster** using Lanczos/Arnoldi methods.

# SVD and Rank- $k$ approximations

$$A = U \Sigma V^T$$



# Rank- $k$ approximations ( $A_k$ )

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_k \\ n \times d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_k \\ n \times k \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_k \\ k \times k \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} V_k^T \\ k \times d \end{pmatrix}$$

$U_k$  ( $V_k$ ): ortho-  
(right) singular  
 $\Sigma_k$ : diagonal  
values of  $A$

$A_k$  is the **best**  
approximation  
of  $A$

$A_k$  is an approximation of  $A$

# SVD as an optimization problem

Find **C** to minimize:

$$\min_C \left\| \begin{array}{cc} A & - C X \\ n \times d & n \times k \quad k \times d \end{array} \right\|_F^2$$

Frobenius norm:  $\|A\|_F^2 = \sum_{i,j} A_{ij}^2$

Given **C** it is easy to find **X** from standard least squares. However, the fact that we can find the optimal **C** is fascinating!



**SVD is “the Rolls–Royce and the Swiss Army Knife of Numerical Linear Algebra.”\***

**\*Dianne O’Leary, MMDS ’06**

# Reference

Simple and Deterministic Matrix Sketching  
Author: Edo Liberty, Yahoo! Labs  
KDD 2013, Best paper award

Thanks Edo Liberty for the slides

# Sketches of streaming matrices

- **A**  $n \times d$  matrix
- Rows of  $A$  arrive in a stream
- Task: compute

$$AA^T = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i A_i^t$$

# Sketches of streaming matrices

- **A**  $d \times n$  matrix
- Rows of  $A$  arrive in a stream
- Task: compute

$$AA^T = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i A_i^t$$

- Naive solution: Compute  $AA^T$  in time  $O(nd^2)$  and space  $O(d^2)$
- Think of  $d=10^6$ ,  $n = 10^6$

# Goal

- **Efficiently** compute a **concisely representable** matrix **B** such that

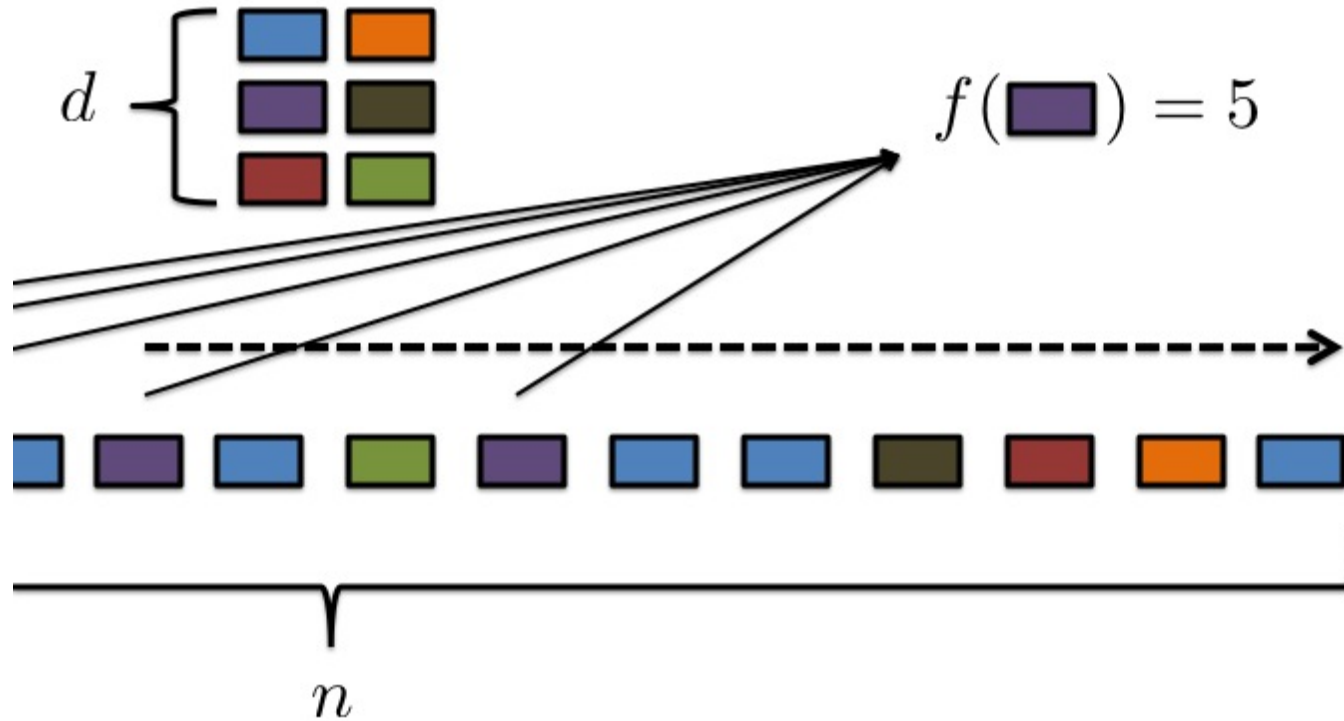
$$B \approx A \text{ or } BB^T \approx AA^T$$

woking with **B** is good enough for many tasks

- **Efficiently** maintain matrix **B** with only  $\ell = 2/\epsilon$  such that

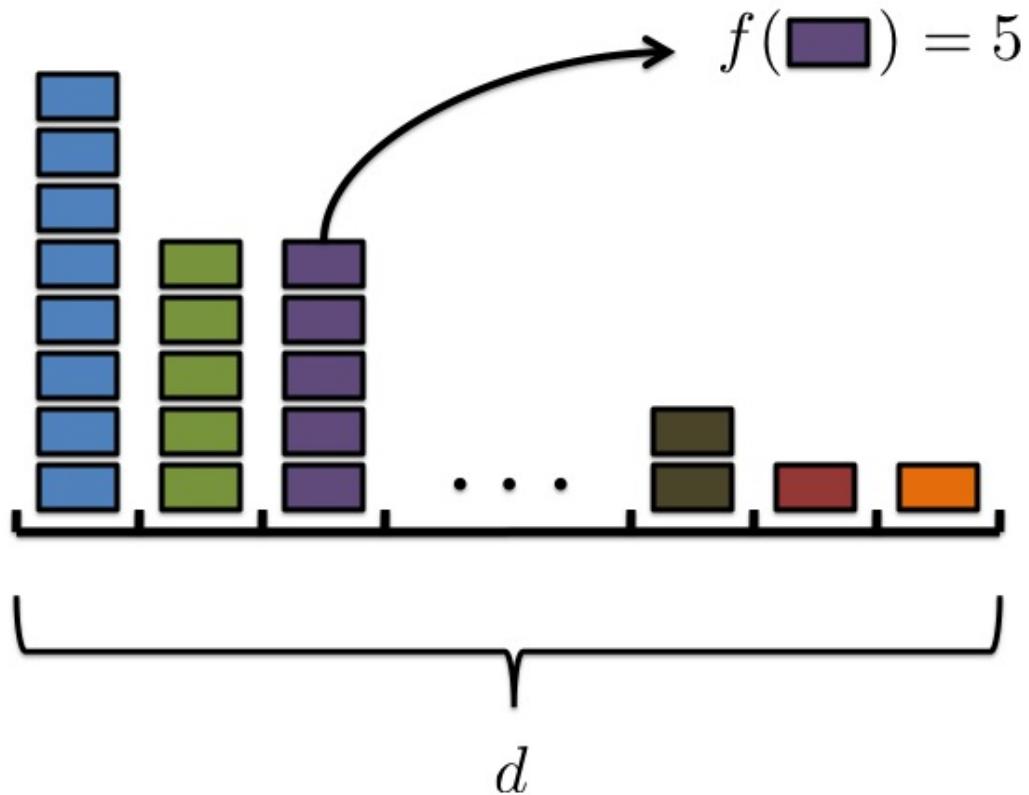
$$\|AA^T - BB^T\|_2 \leq \epsilon \|A\|_f^2$$

# Frequent items



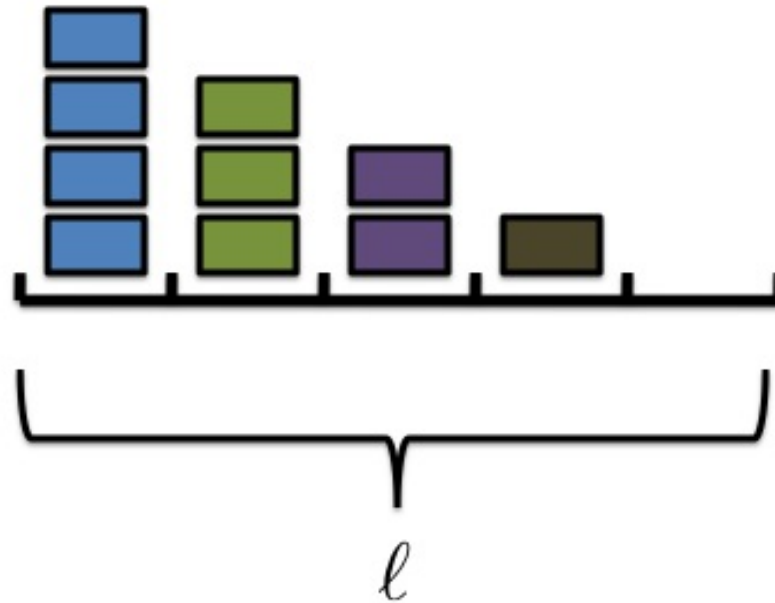
- obtain the frequency  $f(i)$  of each item in a stream of items

# Frequent items



- With  $d$  counters it's easy but not good enough

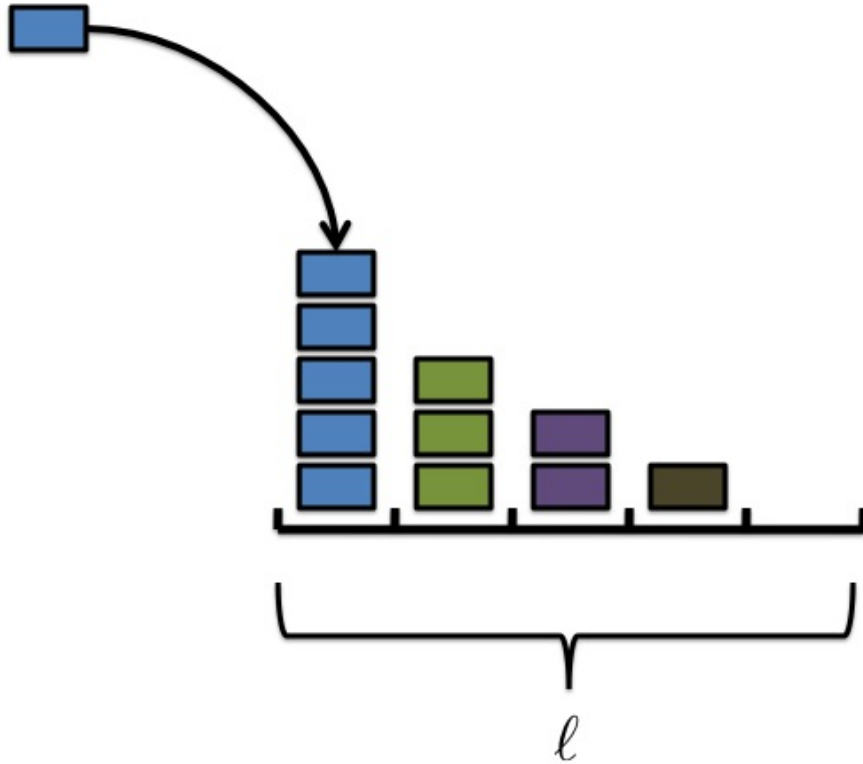
# Frequent Items



- Lets keep **less than** a fixed number of counters

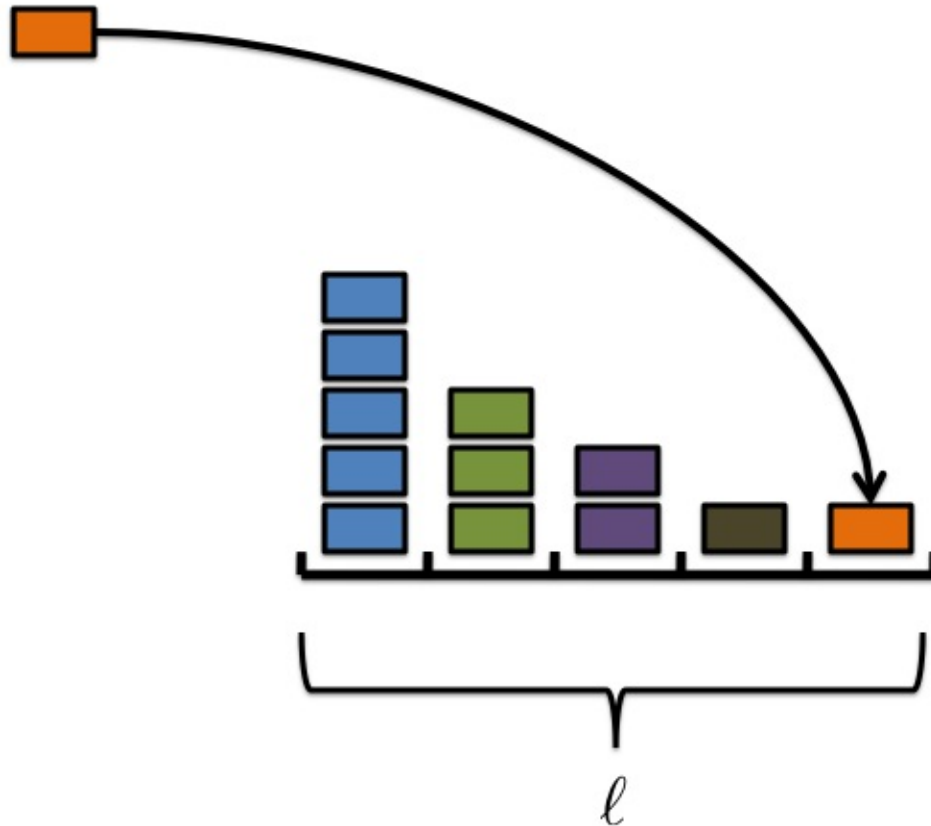


# Frequent items



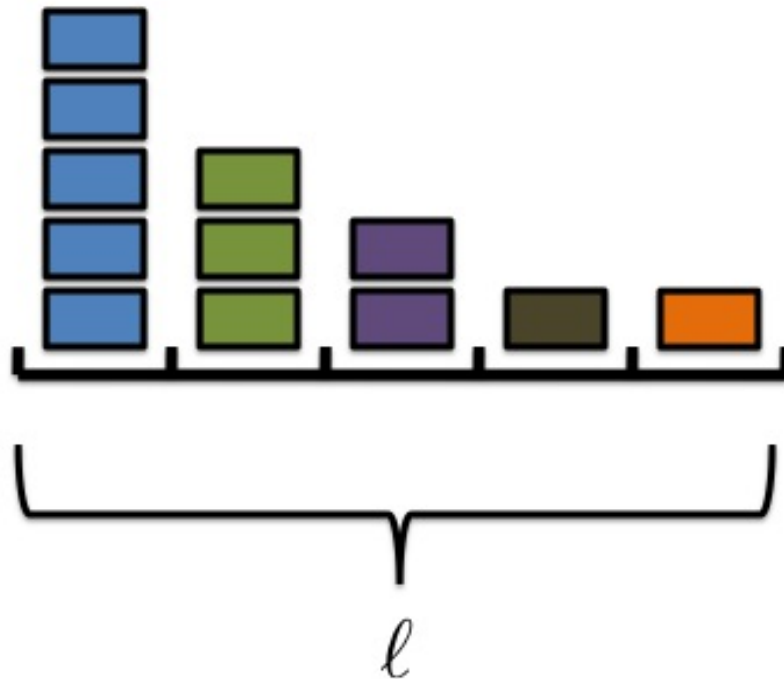
- If an item has a counter we add 1 to that counter

# Frequent items



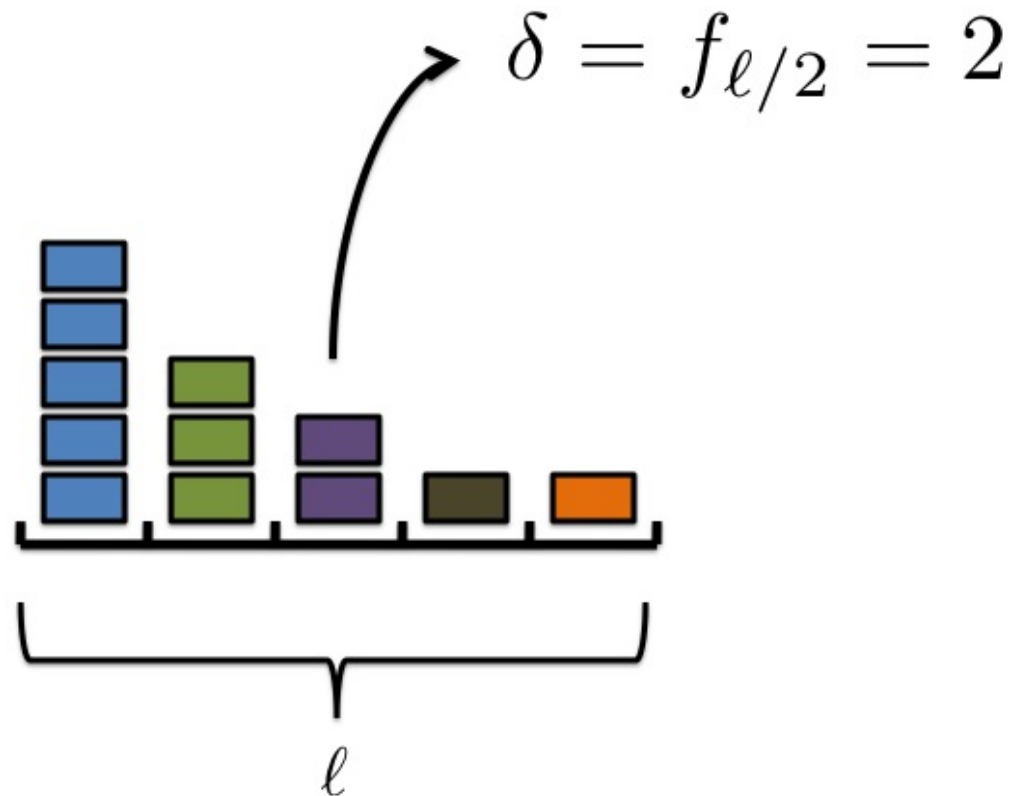
- Otherwise, we create a new counter for it and set it to 1

# Frequent items



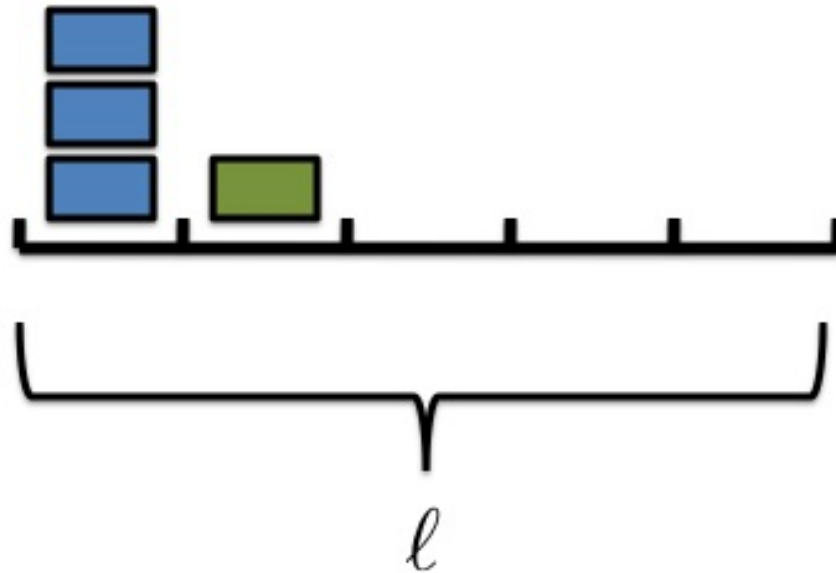
- But now we do not have less than  $l$  counters

# Frequent items



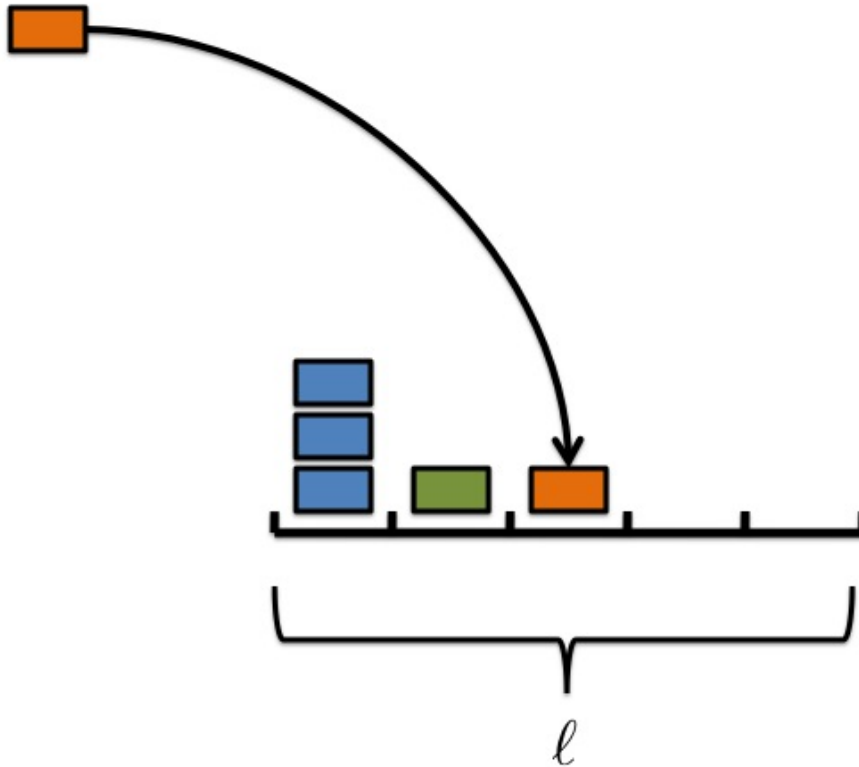
- Let  $\delta$  be the median counter value at time  $t$

# Frequent items



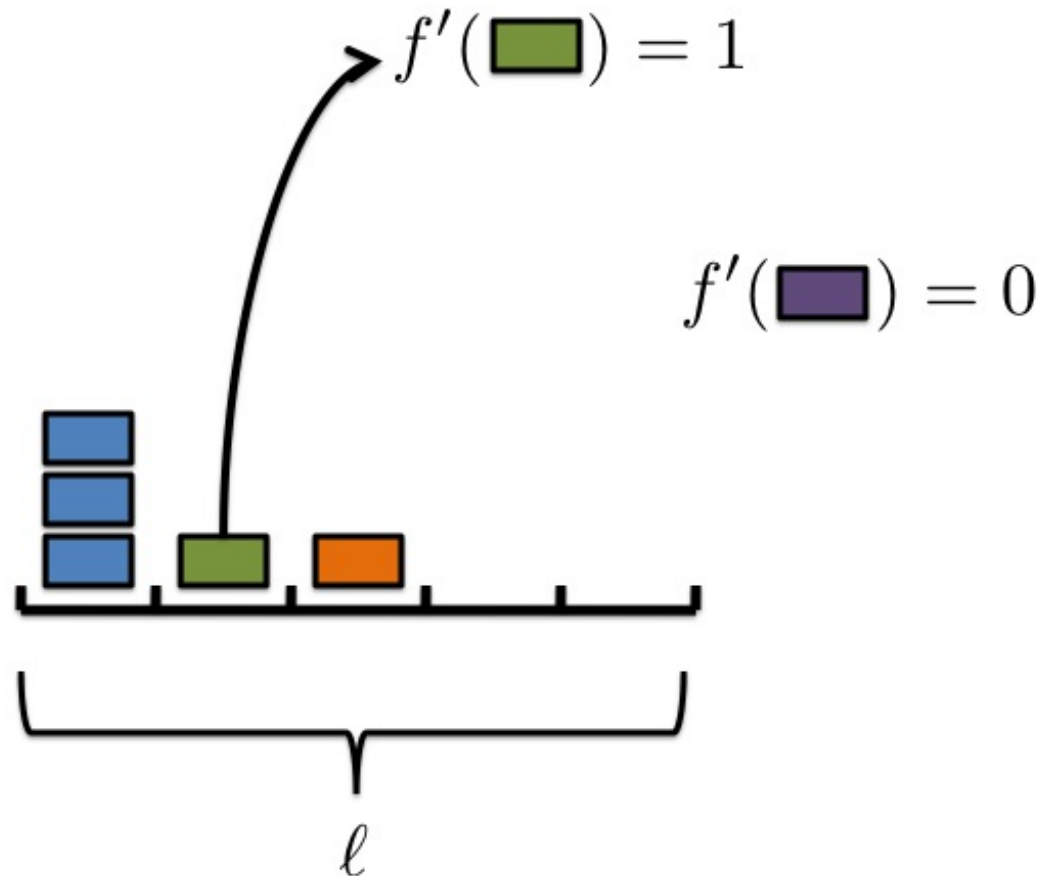
- Decrease all counters by  $\delta$  (or set to zero if less than  $\delta$ )

# Frequent items



- And continue....

# Frequent items



- The approximated counts are  $f'$

# Frequent items

- We increase the count by only 1 for each item appearance

$$f'(i) \leq f(i)$$

- Because we decrease each counter by at most  $\delta_t$  at time  $t$

$$f'(i) \geq f(i) - \sum_t \delta_t$$

- Calculating the total approximated frequencies:

$$0 \leq \sum_i f'(i) \leq \sum_t (1 - (\ell/2)\delta_t) = n - (\ell/2) \sum_t \delta_t$$

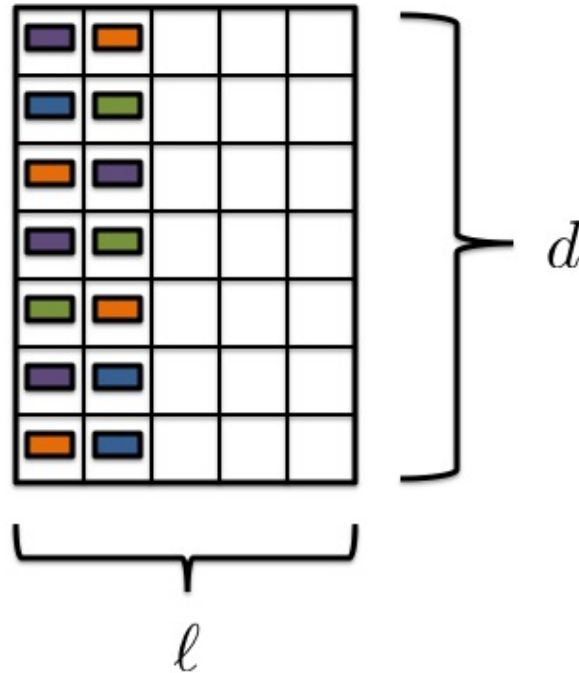
$$\sum_t \delta_t \leq 2n/\ell$$

- Setting  $\ell = 2/\epsilon$

$$|f(i) - f'(i)| \leq \epsilon n$$

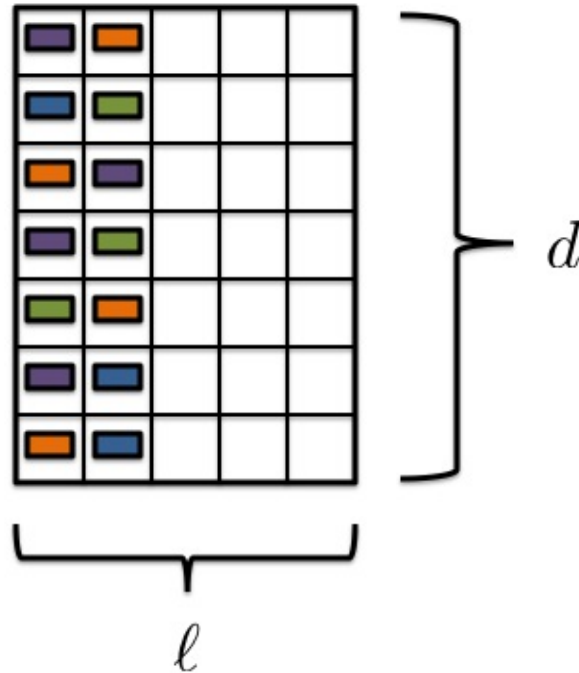


# Frequent directions



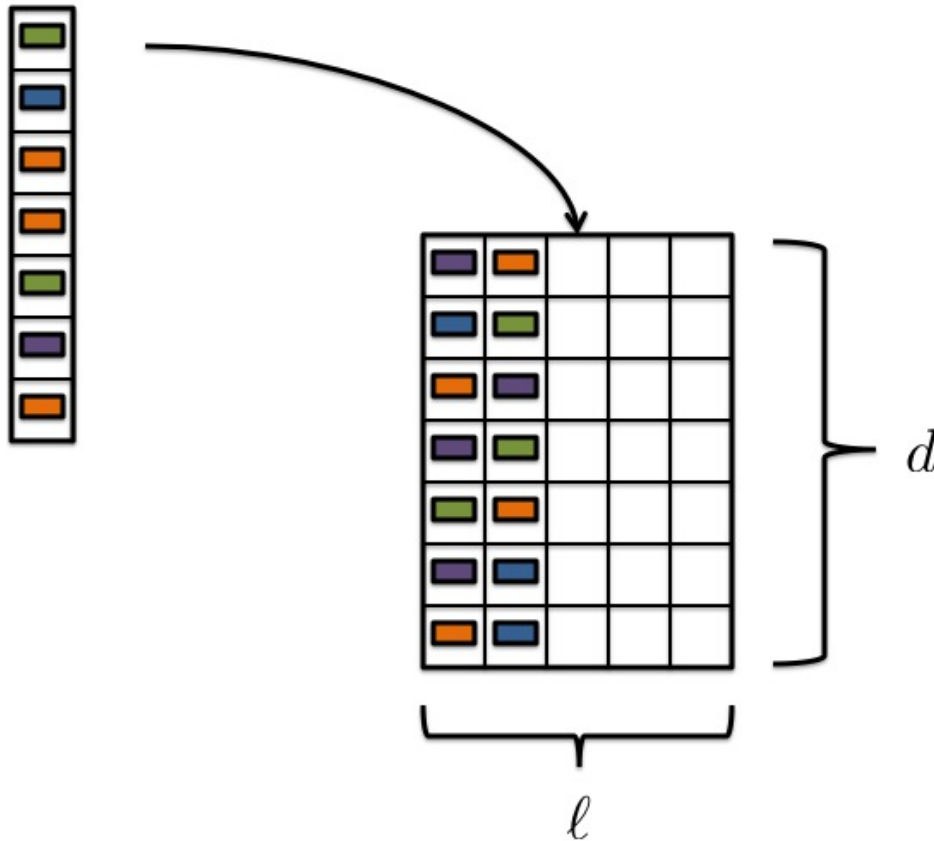
- We keep a sketch of at most  $l$  columns

# Frequent directions



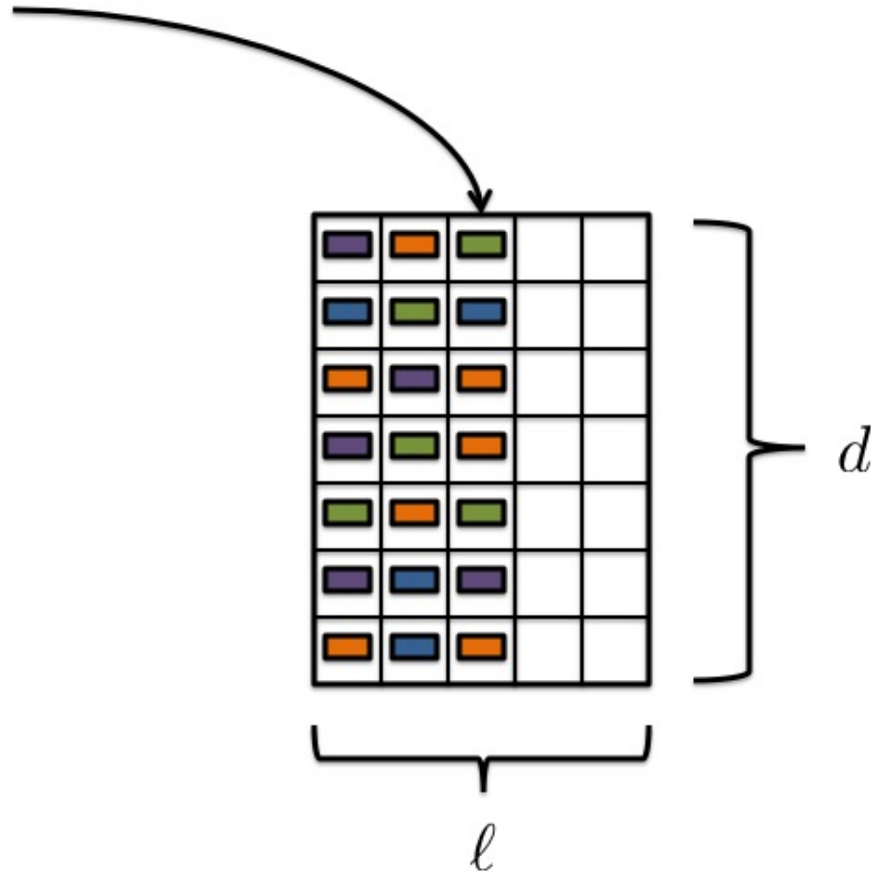
- Maintain the invariant that some of the columns are empty (zero-valued)

# Frequent directions



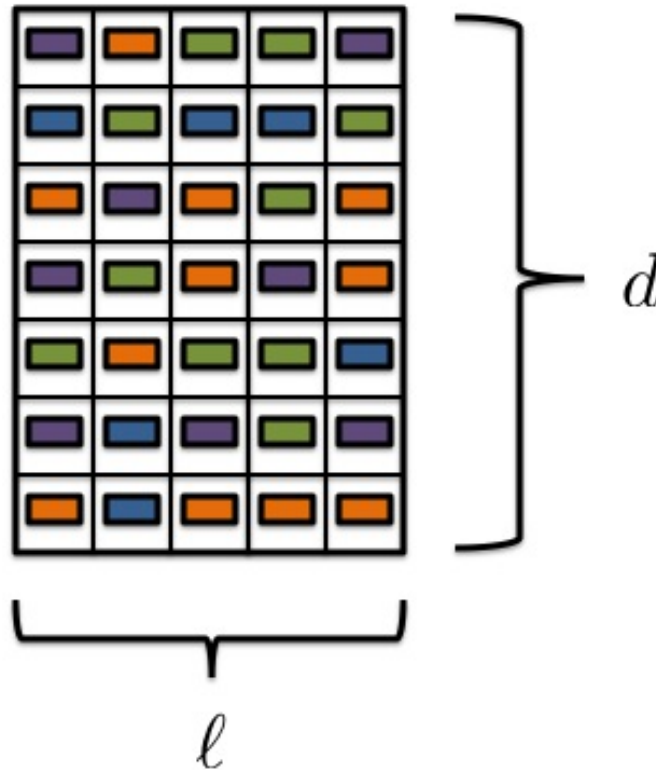
- Input vectors are simply stored in empty columns

# Frequent directions



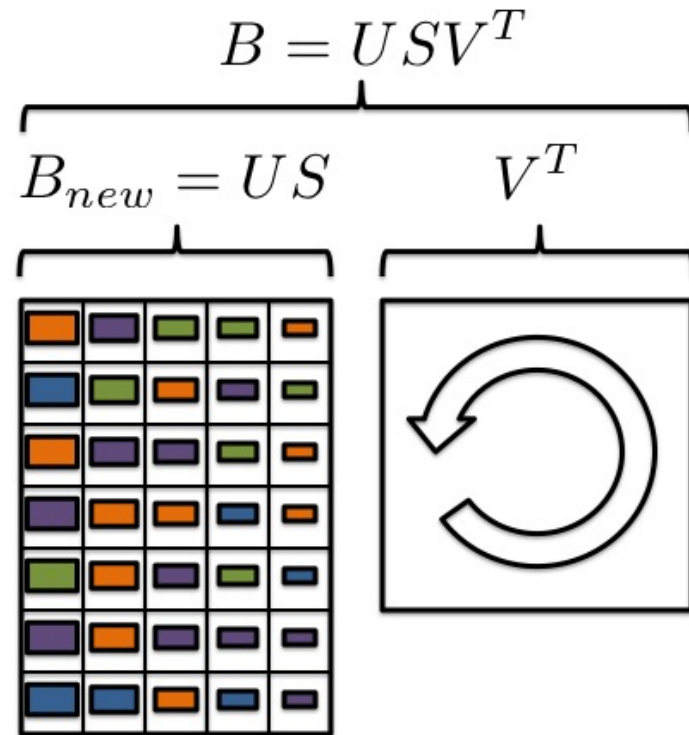
- Input vectors are simply stored in empty columns

# Frequent directions



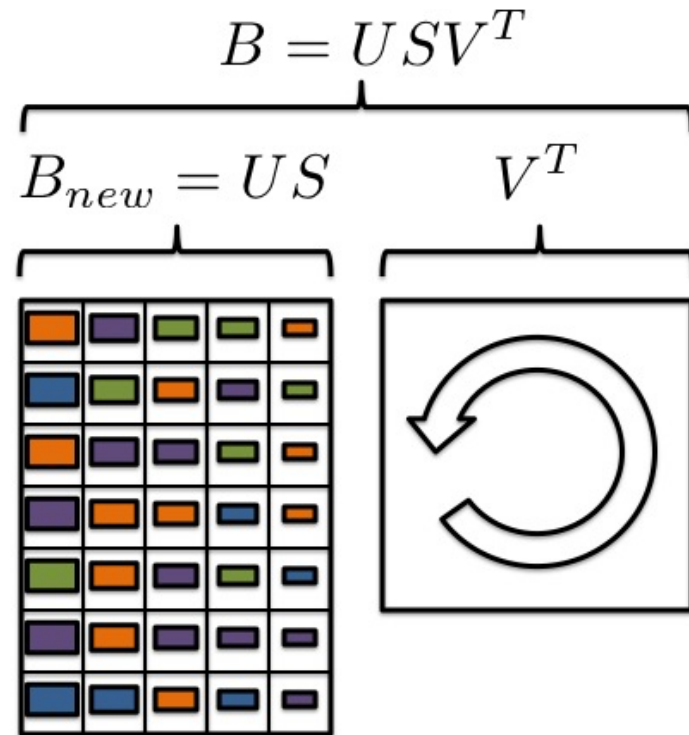
- When the sketch is “full” we need to zero out some columns

# Frequent directions



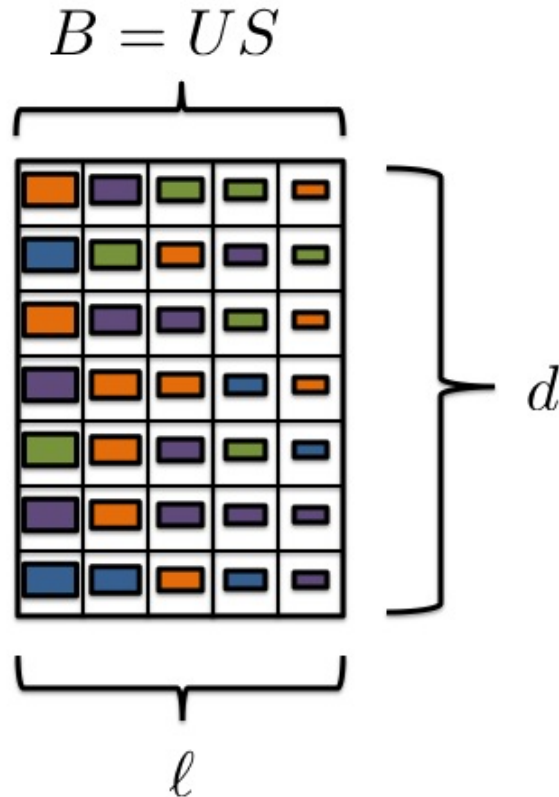
- Using SVD we compute  $B = USV^T$  and set  $B_{new} = US$

# Frequent directions



- Note that  $BB^T = B_{new}B_{new}^T$  so we don't “lose” anything

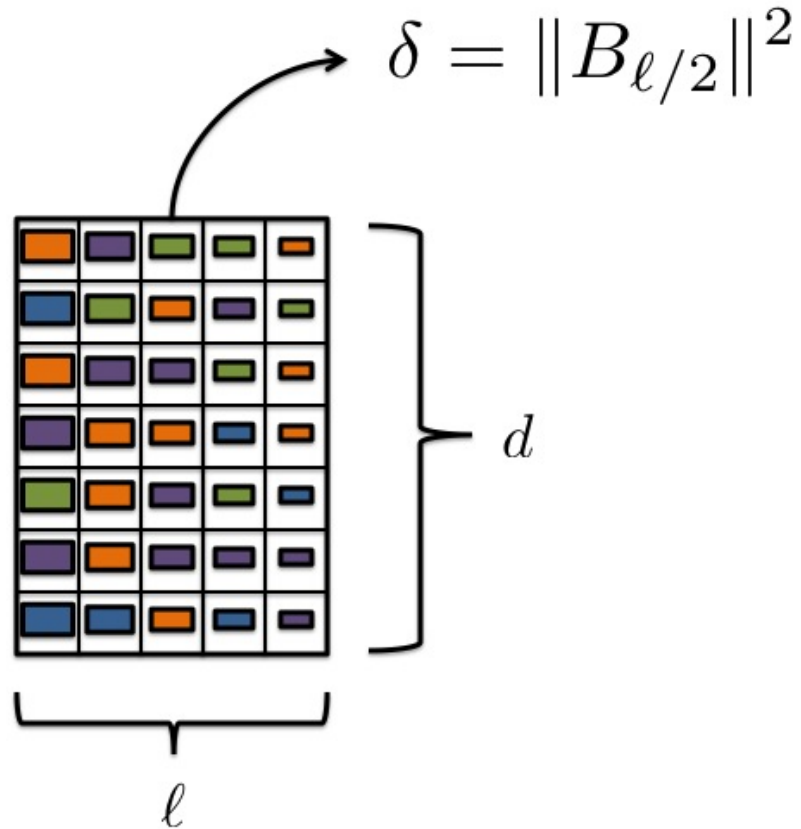
# Frequent directions



- The columns of  $B$  are now orthogonal and in decreasing magnitude order

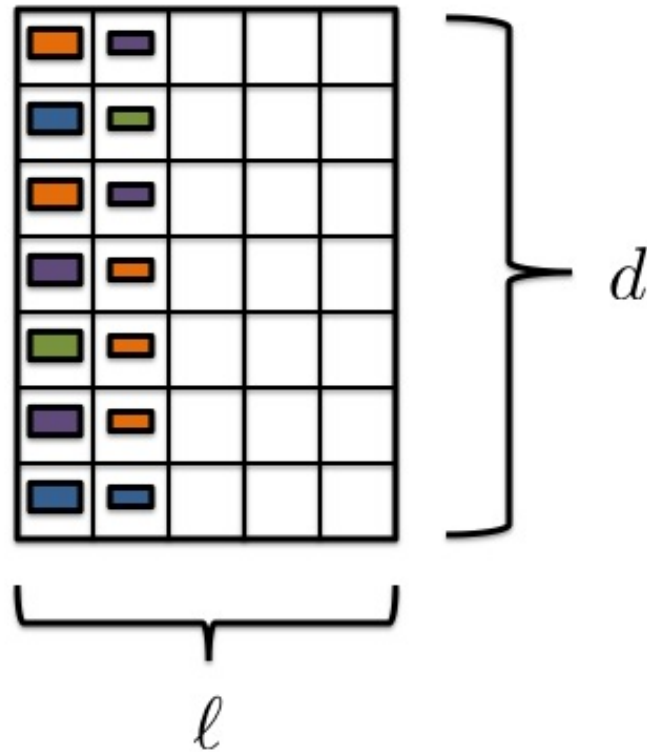


# Frequent directions



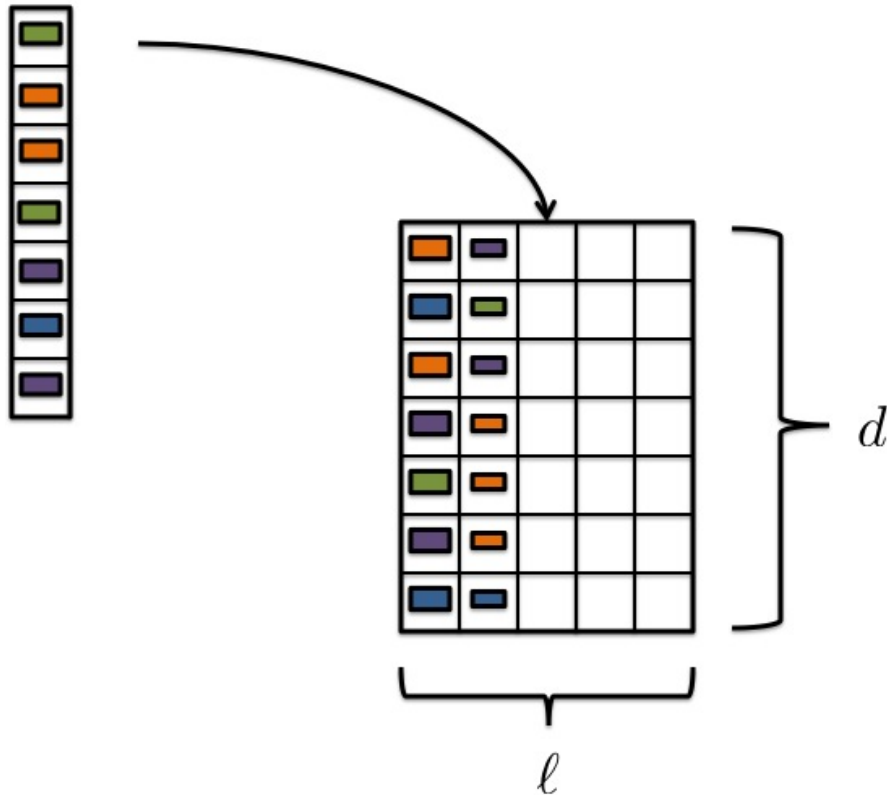
- Let  $\delta = \|B_{\ell/2}\|^2$

# Frequent directions



- Reduce column  $\ell_2^2$  – norms by  $\delta$  (or nullify if less)

# Frequent directions



- Start aggregating columns again

# Frequent directions

**Input:**  $\ell, A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$

$B \leftarrow$  all zeros matrix  $\in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell}$

**for**  $i \in [n]$  **do**

    Insert  $A_i$  into a zero valued column of  $B$

**if**  $B$  has no zero valued columns **then**

$[U, \Sigma, V] \leftarrow \text{SVD}(B)$

$\delta \leftarrow \sigma_{\ell/2}^2$

$\check{\Sigma} \leftarrow \sqrt{\max(\Sigma^2 - I_{\ell}\delta, 0)}$

$B \leftarrow U\check{\Sigma}$                        $\#$  At least half the columns of  $B$  are zero.

**Return:**  $B$

# Frequent directions: proof

- Step 1:

$$\|AA^T - BB^T\| \leq \sum_{t=1}^n \delta_t$$

- Step 2:

$$\sum_{t=1}^n \delta_t \leq 2\|A\|_f^2 / \ell$$

- Setting  $\ell = 2/\epsilon$  yields

$$\|AA^T - BB^T\| \leq \epsilon\|A\|_f^2$$

# Error as a function of $\ell$

