

# Adaptive Sampling for Low-Rank Matrix Approximation in the Matrix-Vector Query Model

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## Abstract

We consider the problem of low-rank matrix approximation in case the matrix  $A$  is accessible only via matrix-vector products and we are given a budget of  $k+p$  matrix-vector products. This situation arises in practice when the cost of data acquisition is high, despite the Numerical Linear Algebra (NLA) costs being low. We create an adaptive sampling algorithm to optimally choose vectors to sample. The Randomized Singular Value Decomposition (rSVD) is an effective algorithm for obtaining the low rank representation of a matrix developed by [HMT11]. Recently, [BT22] generalized the rSVD to Hilbert-Schmidt Operators where functions are sampled from non-standard Covariance Matrices when there is already prior information on the right singular vectors within the column space of the target matrix,  $A$ . In this work, we develop an adaptive sampling framework for the Matrix-Vector Product Model which does not need prior information on the matrix  $A$ . We provide a novel theoretic analysis of our algorithm with subspace perturbation theory. We extend the analysis of [TWA<sup>+</sup>22] for right singular vector approximations from the randomized SVD in the context of non-symmetric rectangular matrices. We also test our algorithm on various synthetic, real-world application, and image matrices. Furthermore, we show our theory bounds on matrices are stronger than state-of-the-art methods with the same number of matrix-vector product queries.

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# 1 Introduction

In many real-world applications, it is often not possible to run experiments in parallel. Consider the following setting, there are a set of  $n$  inputs and  $m$  outputs, and there exists a PDE such it maps any set of inputs in  $\mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ . However, to run experiments, it takes hours for set up, execution, or it is expensive, e.g. aerodynamics [FDH05], fluid dynamics [LPZ<sup>+</sup>01]. Thus, after each experimental run, we want to sample a function such that in expectation, we will be exploring an area of the PDE which we have the least knowledge of. For Low-Rank Approximation the Randomized SVD, [HMT11], has been theoretically analyzed and used in various applications. Even more recently, [BET22] discovered if we have prior information on the right singular vectors of  $A$ , we can modify the Covariance Matrix such that the sampled vectors are within the column space of  $A$ . They extended the theory for Randomized SVD where the covariance matrix is now a general PSD matrix. The basis of our analysis is the idea of sampling vectors in the Null-Space of the Low-Rank Approximation. This idea has been introduced recently in Machine Learning in [WLSX21] for training neural networks for sequential tasks. In a Bayesian sense, we want to maximize the expected information gain of the PDE in each iteration by sampling in the space where we have no information. This leads to the formulation of our iterative algorithm for sampling vectors for the Low-Rank Approximation. The current state of the art algorithms for low-rank matrix approximation in the matrix-vector product model used a fixed covariance matrix structure. In this paper, we consider the adaptive setting where the algorithm  $\mathcal{A}$  chooses a vector  $\mathbf{v}^{(k)}$  with access to the previous query vectors  $\mathbf{v}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}$ , the matrix-vector products  $A\mathbf{v}^{(1)}, \dots, A\mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}$ , and the intermediate low-rank matrix approximations,  $Q^{(k)}(Q^{(k)})^H A$ , where  $Q^{(k)} \triangleq \text{orth}(AV^{(k)})$  where  $V^{(k)}$  is the concatenation of vectors  $\mathbf{v}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{v}^{(k)}$  and  $Q^{(k)} \triangleq \text{orth}(AV^{(k)})$ .

Adaptive Sampling techniques for Low-Rank Matrix Approximation first appeared in CUR Matrix Decomposition in [FKV04]. Optimal column-sampling for the CUR Matrix Decomposition received much attention as can be seen in the works [HP14a, DRVW06, DV06]. More recently, [PMID15] gave an algorithm for sampling the rows for CUR-Matrix Factorization and proved error bounds by induction. Similar to adaptively choosing a function, in recommender systems, the company can ask users for surveys and obtain data with high probability is a better representation of the column space of  $A$  than a random sample. Choosing the right people to give an incentivized survey (e.g. gift card upon completion) can save a company significant expenses.

Adaptively sampling vectors for matrix problems has been studied in detail in [SWYZ21]. The theoretical properties of adaptively sampled matrix vector queries for estimating the minimum eigenvalue of a Wishart matrix have been studied in [BHSW20]. Their bounds are used in [BCW22] to develop adaptive bounds for their low-rank matrix approximation method using Krylov Subspaces. To our knowledge, we are the first paper to give an algorithm for low-rank approximation in the non-symmetric matrix low-rank approximation in the matrix-vector product model. Our algorithm utilizes the SVD computation of the low-rank approximation at each step to sample the next vector. Although there are runtime limitations, both in theory under certain conditions and most real-world matrices, our algorithm gets the most value out of each sampled vector.

We will now clearly state our contributions.

## Main Contributions.

1. We develop a novel adaptive sampling algorithm for Low-Rank Matrix Approximation problem in the matrix-vector product model which does not utilize prior information of  $A$ .
2. We provide a novel theoretical analysis which utilizes subspace perturbation theory.
3. We perform extensive experiments on matrices with various spectrums and show the effectiveness of Bayes Near-Optimal Sampling comparing to State-of-the-Art Low-Rank Matrix Approximation Algorithms in the Matrix-Vector Product Query Model.

# 2 Notation, Background Materials, and Relevant Work

In this section we will introduce the notation we use throughout the paper, perturbations of singular spaces, as well as relevant work in the Low-Rank Matrix Approximation Literature.

## 2.1 Notation

We will denote boldface characters  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}$  as matrices and lower roman boldface characters  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}$  as vectors. The spectral norm of a matrix is given by  $\|\cdot\|$ , which is equivalent to the max singular value,  $\sigma_{\max}(\cdot)$ . The pseudoinverse is represented by  $(\cdot)^+$  s.t.  $\mathbf{X}^+ = (\mathbf{X}^H \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^H$ . The Projection Matrix is defined as  $\Pi_Y = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^+ = \mathbf{Y} (\mathbf{Y}^H \mathbf{Y})^{-1} \mathbf{Y}^H$  as the projection on to the column space of  $\mathbf{Y}$ . If  $\mathbf{Y}$  has orthogonal columns, then  $\Pi_Y$  is the Orthogonal Projection defined as  $\Pi_Y = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^H$ . Let  $a \wedge b = \min(a, b)$  and  $a \vee b = \max(a, b)$ . Let  $\mathbb{O}_{n,k}$  be the set of all  $n \times k$  matrices with orthogonal columns, i.e.  $\{\mathbf{V} : \mathbf{V}^H \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}_{k \times k}\}$ . The Frobenius Norm is denoted for a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  as  $\|\mathbf{A}\|_F$ . We use Big-O notation,  $y \leq O(x)$ , to denote  $y \leq Cx$  for some positive constant,  $C$ . We define  $\mathbf{E}[X]$  as expectation of random variable  $X$ ,  $\Pr\{A\}$  as probability of event  $A$  occuring, and  $\mathbb{V}(X)$  as variance of a random variable  $X$ .

## 2.2 Linear Algebra

We follow a similar setup as previous literature. Let  $\rho \triangleq \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) \leq m \wedge n$ , we will factorize  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} k & \rho - k \\ \mathbf{U}_k & \mathbf{U}_{\rho-k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k & \rho - k \\ \Sigma_k & \Sigma_{\rho-k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}_k^H \\ \mathbf{V}_{\rho-k}^H \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} k \\ \rho - k \end{matrix} = \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^H = \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} \mathbf{U}_{(:,i)} \Sigma_{(i,i)} \mathbf{V}_{(:,i)}^H \quad (1)$$

Furthermore, we let  $\mathbf{A}_{(k)} \triangleq \sigma_k \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{v}_k^H$  and  $\mathbf{A}_{\perp,k} \triangleq \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_{(k)}$ . The low rank matrix approximation is denoted by  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}} \triangleq \mathbf{W} \mathbf{W}^H \mathbf{A}$  for a  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$  such that  $\mathbf{W}^H \mathbf{W} = \mathbf{I}$ . The matrix factorization notation described in Equation (1) holds for  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$  with a *tilde* over the typical notation. We denote  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times \ell}$  to be a test matrix such that columns of  $\Omega$  are sampled i.i.d from  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}_n, \mathbf{I}_{n \times n})$ .

## 2.3 Singular Subspace Perturbations

To represent the distance between subspaces we utilize the  $\sin \angle$  norm. Let  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$  be subspaces, then we denote the principal angles between subspaces (PABS)  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  as  $\frac{\pi}{2} \geq \angle_1(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) \geq \dots \geq \angle_{m \wedge n}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$ . We then have that for any two matrices,  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}$ , it follows that  $\|\Pi_{\mathbf{P}} - \Pi_{\mathbf{Q}}\|_F = \|\sin \Theta(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q})\|_F$ .

## 2.4 Relevant Works

The Randomized Singular Value Decomposition was developed and analyzed thoroughly in [HMT11]; throughout this paper we will refer to this algorithm as HMT. [BT22] proposed learning the Hilbert-Schmidt Operators associated with the Green's Functions with the randomized SVD algorithm. One of their key findings is they can better approximate the HS Operator when they use functions drawn from  $\mathcal{GP}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K})$  where  $\mathbf{K}$  is not the identity.

A similar analysis of a power method is explored in [HP14b] utilizing subspace perturbation theory. In this work, the authors consider the Matrix-Vector products with Gaussian noise.

## 3 Near Optimal Sampling

In this section, we will go over the covariance matrices proposed papers and we consider choosing the optimal covariance matrix adaptively for sampling vectors. In the seminal paper by [HMT11], the covariance matrix is given as identity matrix,  $\mathbf{C} \triangleq \mathbf{I}$ . In the generalization of the Randomized SVD, when given some prior information of the matrix, the covariance matrix is given as  $\mathbf{C} \triangleq \mathbf{K}$  where  $\mathbf{K}$  has some information on the right singular vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  (e.g. discretization of Green's Function of a PDE). Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}$  be the right singular vectors of the SVD of the low-rank approximation at iteration  $k - 1$ , then the update for the covariance matrix is given as  $\mathbf{C}^{(k+1)} \triangleq \tilde{\mathbf{V}}_{(:,k)} \tilde{\mathbf{V}}_{(:,k)}^H$ . Throughout this paper we will only consider  $\mathbf{C}^{(0)} = \mathbf{I}$ , however using theory from [BT22], this can be extended to  $\mathbf{C}^{(0)} = \mathbf{K}$  if one has some knowledge of the right singular vectors, e.g. if the matrix represents a Partial Differential Equation (PDE), having  $\mathbf{K}$  as a discretized Green's Function for the type of PDE, e.g. elliptic, parabolic, or hyperbolic [Eva22]. A similar algorithm can be found in [WLSX21]. It is intuitive that we want to continuously sample in the null space of the the matrix

approximation we have already obtained. This ensures we are learning new information in each iteration as we don't want to sample vectors which will not learn significant unknown information about the matrix.

### 3.1 Algorithm

The Pseudo Code for the optimal function sampling is given in algorithm 1. For efficient updates, we frame all operations as rank-1 updates.

**Algorithm 1** (Near Optimal Sampling for the Matrix-Vector Product Model).

**Input:** HS Operator:  $\mathcal{F}$ , Rank:  $r$ , Initial Covariance:  $C$ , Oversampling Parameter:  $p$

**Output:** Rank- $\rho$  Approximation,  $\tilde{A}$

- (1) Let  $\Omega \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times p}$  be an oversampling matrix with columns sampled from  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I)$  with  $q = 1$ .
- (2) Compute  $Y = A\Omega \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times p}$  and corresponding QR Factorization  $Y = Q^{(0)}R$ .
- (3) **for**  $k = 1, 2, \dots, \rho$  **do**
- (4) Rank-1 update to the low-rank approximation

$$\tilde{A}^{(k)} = \tilde{A}^{(k-1)} + Q_{k-1}^{(k-1)} \left( Q_{k-1}^{(k-1)} \right)^H A$$

- (5) Compute the SVD for  $\tilde{A}^{(k)}$  denoted as  $\tilde{U}\tilde{\Sigma}\tilde{V}^H$ .
- (6) Update the covariance matrix

$$C^{(k)} \triangleq \tilde{V} (\tilde{\Sigma}^2)^+ \tilde{V}^H$$

- (7) Sample a random vector  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, C^{(k)})$  and compute  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(k)} = \tilde{V}^{(k)} (\tilde{\Sigma}^{(k)})^+ \mathbf{x}$  and append the matrix vector product to  $Y$  and calculate the corresponding QR Factorization  $[Y, A\tilde{\mathbf{v}}^{(k)}] = Q^{(k)}R$ .
- (8) **end for**

**Return**  $Q^{(\rho)} (Q^{(\rho)})^H A$ .

In Algorithm 1, we first sample a standard normal gaussian matrix which can be considered as the oversampling vectors. These oversampling vectors are used to approximate the first singular vector. This is the first vector which is *adaptively* sampled. Next, we form the low-rank approximation  $QQ^H A$  where  $Q = \text{orth}(A\Omega)$  where  $\Omega$  is a matrix of all our adaptively chosen vector queries. From here, we choose the  $k$ th right singular vector of the SVD of the approximation  $QQ^H A$ . This process is then repeated for  $k$  iterations. The final low-rank approximation,  $QQ^H A$ , is then returned.

## 4 Theory

In this section we will give the mathematical setup for the theoretical analysis. We will then represent theorems from relevant works on the error bounds for their low-rank approximation methods. We will then give our error bounds and general theory of Algorithm 1 with the proofs in the appendix.

### 4.1 Near Optimal Function Sampling

In this section, we will describe the motivation of choosing the  $k$ -th right singular vector as our new sample. In particular, we will show why our approach is *near-optimal*.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$  be a unitary matrix such that  $Q \triangleq \text{orth}(A\Omega)$  for a test matrix  $\Omega \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times k}$ . Recall  $\tilde{Q} \triangleq \text{orth}(A[\Omega, \tilde{\mathbf{v}}])$  where  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$  is adaptively chosen. Then, we have

$$\arg \min_{\tilde{\mathbf{v}} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|A - \tilde{Q}\tilde{Q}^H A\|_F = \arg \max_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \text{Null}(QQ^H A) \\ \|\mathbf{x}\|=1}} \|A^H A \mathbf{x}\|$$

The proof is deferred to Appendix A.1. ■

Lemma 1 gives us the result that in the Frobenius Norm, we want to sample maximally in the Null Space of the current low-rank approximation. However, even with knowledge of the  $\text{Null}(QQ^H A)$ , we note that we do not have knowledge of  $\|A^H A \mathbf{v}\|$  for any  $\mathbf{v} \in \text{Null}(QQ^H A)$ . If we are to take a random sample in this subspace, we can still be quite far from the optimal sampling vector, even in expectation. Rather, we sample to the closest singular vector to the Null-Space, which is *known*.

## 4.2 Query Lower Bound for Frobenius Norm

We will first give the error bounds for the randomized SVD using a general positive definite covariance matrix.

**Theorem 2** (Theorem 2 [BT22]). Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $k \geq 2$ , oversampling parameter  $p \geq 2$ , where  $k+p \leq m \wedge n$ . Let  $\Omega_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, K)$  for  $i \in [k+p]$ , and  $Q \triangleq \text{orth}(A\Omega)$ . Then,

$$\|A - QQ^H A\|_F \leq \left(1 + ut \sqrt{(k+p) \frac{\beta_k}{\gamma_k} \frac{3k}{(p+1)}}\right) \sqrt{\sum_{j=k+1}^n \sigma_j^2}$$

with failure probability at most  $t^{-p} + [ue^{-(u^2-1)/2}]^{k+p}$ , where  $\gamma_k = k/(\lambda_1 \text{Tr}((V_1^H K V_1)^{-1}))$  and  $\beta_k = \text{Tr}(\Sigma_2^2 V_2^H K V_2)/(\lambda_1 \|\Sigma_2\|_F^2)$ , where  $\lambda_1$  represents the largest eigenvalue of  $K$ .

In this section, we give information theoretic lower bounds on query complexity. We assume the algorithm,  $\mathcal{A}$  not only has access to the matrix-vector products, but also has available the SVD of the intermediate low-rank approximations.

**Theorem 3.** There exists an adaptive algorithm (possibly randomized) with access to vector queries  $\mathbf{v}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}$  where w.l.o.g  $\|\mathbf{v}^{(\zeta_1)}\| = 1$  for all  $i \in [k-1]$  and  $(\mathbf{v}^{(\zeta_1)})^H \mathbf{v}^{(j)} = \delta_{ij}$  for all  $i, j \in [k-1] \times [k-1]$ , matrix-vector queries,  $A\mathbf{v}^{(1)}, \dots, A\mathbf{v}^{(k-1)}$ , and intermediate low-rank approximations,  $Q^{(1)}(Q^{(1)})^H A, \dots, Q^{(k-1)}(Q^{(k-1)})^H A$ , which requires  $k = O(\Xi)$  vector queries to obtain a rank- $k$  matrix with orthogonal columns,  $Q$ , such that with probability at least  $1 - \delta$  for a  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  such that

$$\|A - QQ^H A\|_F \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \min_{\substack{U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k} \\ U^H U = I_k}} \|A - UU^H A\|_F$$

Our proof is by construction and given in Algorithm 1. The rest of the section will be dedicated to the proof.

## 4.3 Analysis of Algorithm 1

First we will introduce a lemma for the resultant vector of sampling from  $\mathbb{C}^{(k)}$ . Since our general proof technique will be an induction. We first want to understand how well we are able to approximate the first right singular vector. To do this, we must know the singular vector perturbation from the error of the low-rank matrix approximation.

**Lemma 4.** Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  and  $Q$  be an orthogonal matrix representing the basis of the subspace of  $Y \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$ . Let  $\mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}_n(\mathbf{0}, I)$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$  represent the  $k$ -th right singular vector of  $QQ^H A$ . Denote  $\hat{Q} \triangleq \text{orth}([Y \ \mathbf{v}])$  and  $\tilde{Q} \triangleq \text{orth}([Y \ \tilde{\mathbf{v}}])$ , if  $\|A - QQ^H A\|_F \leq C\sigma_{k+1}$  and  $\|A - QQ^H A\|_2 \leq c\sigma_{k+1}$  for positive constants  $c, C > 0$  where  $C \geq c$ , then we have in the worst case,

$$\|A - \tilde{Q}\tilde{Q}^H A\|_F \leq \sigma_k^2 - \|A\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_k\|^2 \quad (2)$$

**Proof.** The proof is deferred to Appendix A.2. ■

**Lemma 5.** Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  and  $Q$  be an orthogonal matrix representing the basis of the subspace of  $Y \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$ . Let  $\mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}_n(\mathbf{0}, I)$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$  represent the  $k$ -th right singular vector of  $QQ^H A$ . Denote  $\hat{Q} \triangleq \text{orth}([Y \ \mathbf{v}])$  and  $\tilde{Q} \triangleq \text{orth}([Y \ \tilde{\mathbf{v}}])$ , if  $\|A - QQ^H A\|_F \leq C\sigma_{k+1}$  and  $\|A - QQ^H A\|_2 \leq c\sigma_{k+1}$  for positive constants  $c, C > 0$  where  $C \geq c$  and an absolute constant  $c_3 > 0$ , it then follows

$$\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbf{v}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I)} \|A - \hat{Q}\hat{Q}^H A\|_F \leq C\sigma_{k+1} \sqrt{\frac{\rho - k - \left(\frac{16}{75\sqrt{5}}\right)^2}{\rho - k}} \quad (3)$$

**Proof.** The proof is deferred to Appendix A.3. ■

**Lemma 6.** Frame the same hypothesis as Lemma 5, it then follows for a failure probability  $\delta \in (0, 1)$

$$\|A - \hat{Q}\hat{Q}^H A\|_F \leq$$

**Proof.** We have with probability almost surely 1 ■

It is clear to see in Equation (2) the strength of our near-optimal sampling described in Algorithm 1 when there is sufficient singular value gap. We will now extend our theory to capture the error bounds of Algorithm 1.

**Theorem 7** (Sufficient Singular Value Gap). If  $\|A - QQ^H A\|_F \leq C\sigma_{k+1}$  and  $\|A - QQ^H A\|_2 \leq c\sigma_{k+1}$  for positive constants  $c, C > 0$  where  $C \geq c$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}_k = c_4\sigma_k$ , then we have with probability  $1 - \delta$  Bayesian near-optimal sampling described in Section 3 decreases the low-rank approximation error faster than a normal vector sample when

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_{k+1}}{\sigma_k}\right) \leq \Xi$$

**Proof.** The proof follows from algebraic manipulations relating Equation (2) and Equation (3) from Lemma 4 and Lemma 5, respectively. ■

The constant  $c_4$  defined in Theorem 7 is nearly zero as it is the smallest non-zero eigenvalue of the low-rank matrix approximation  $Q^{(k)}(Q^{(k)})^H A$ .

**Lemma 8.** Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , and  $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  be an orthonormal matrix representing the basis of the subspace of  $Y \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$ . Let  $\mathbf{v}^{(i)}$  for  $i \in [k]$  represent the vector-queries from Algorithm 1. It then follows,

$$\|A - QQ^H A\|_F^2 \leq \Xi$$

## 5 Numerical Experiments

In this section we will test various Synthetic Matrices and Differential Operators in real-world applications with our framework and compare against the state of the art non-adaptive approaches for low-rank matrix approximation. In our first experiment we attempt to learn the discretized  $250 \times 250$  matrix of the inverse of the following differential operator:

$$\mathcal{L}u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - 100 \sin(5\pi x) u, \quad x \in [0, 1] \quad (4)$$

Learning the inverse operator of a PDE is equivalent to learning the Green's Function of a PDE. This has been theoretically proven for certain classes of PDEs (Linear Parabolic [BKST22, BT23]) as the inverse Differential operator is compact and there are nice theoretical properties, such as data efficiency.

In Figure 1(Right), note if the Covariance Matrix has eigenvectors orthogonal to the left singular vectors of  $A$ , then the randomized SVD will not perform well. Furthermore, in fig. 1(Left), we can note even without knowledge of the Green's Function, our method achieves lower error than with the Prior Covariance. We also test our algorithm against various Sparse Matrices in the Texas A& M Sparse Matrix Suite, [DH11]. In fig. 2 (Left), we choose a fluid dynamics problem due to its relevance in low-rank approximation [BNK20].

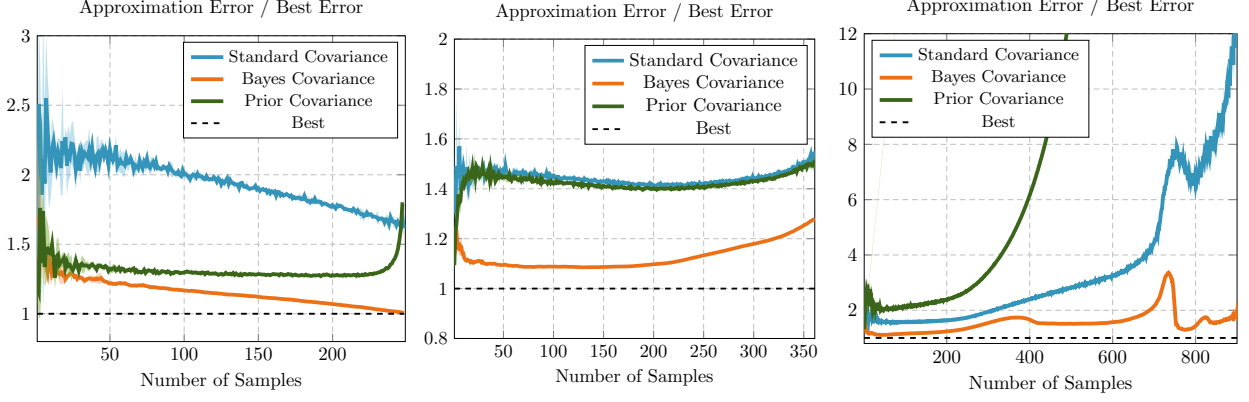


Figure 1: Low Rank Approximation for the Inverse Differential Operator given in Equation (4) (Left), Differential Operator Matrix `Poisson2D` [DH11] (Center), and Differential Operator Matrix `DK01R` [DH11] (Right). The experiment on the left is from [BT22, Figure 2]. We use the discretized Green’s Function as the prior covariance matrix. In this set of experiments, we learn a low rank approximation of the inverse operator.

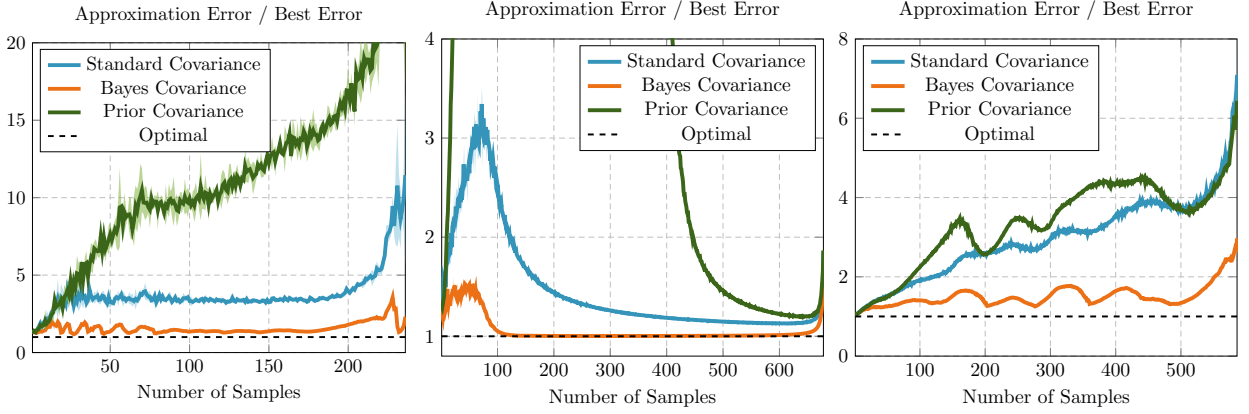


Figure 2: Low Rank Approximation for a matrix for a Computational Fluid Dynamics Problem, `saylr1` (Left) from [DH11]. Subsequent 2D/3D Problem `fs-680-2` (Center) from [DH11]. Differential Stiffness Matrix from a Nastran Buckling Problem, `bcsstk34` (Right) from [DH11].

**Singular Value Decay.** Our first synthetic matrix is developed in the following scheme:

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} \frac{100i^{\ell}}{n} U_{(:,i)} V_{(:,i)}^H, \quad U \in \mathbb{O}_{m,k}, V \in \mathbb{O}_{n,k} \quad (5)$$

We will experiment with linear decay,  $\ell = 1$ , quadratic decay,  $\ell = 2$ , and cubic decay,  $\ell = 3$ . We see adaptive sampling is as good as the Randomized SVD when there is linear decay, however, when there is quadratic decay or greater, we see that there is significant improvement when using adaptive sampling. This is corroborated in our theory, where the bounds are dependent on the ratios between the singular values. Our second synthetic matrix is developed in the following scheme:

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} (1 - \delta)^i U_{(:,i)} V_{(:,i)}^H, \quad U \in \mathbb{O}_{m,k}, V \in \mathbb{O}_{n,k} \quad (6)$$

We observe when there exists exponential decay of the singular values in Figure 4, adaptive sampling in



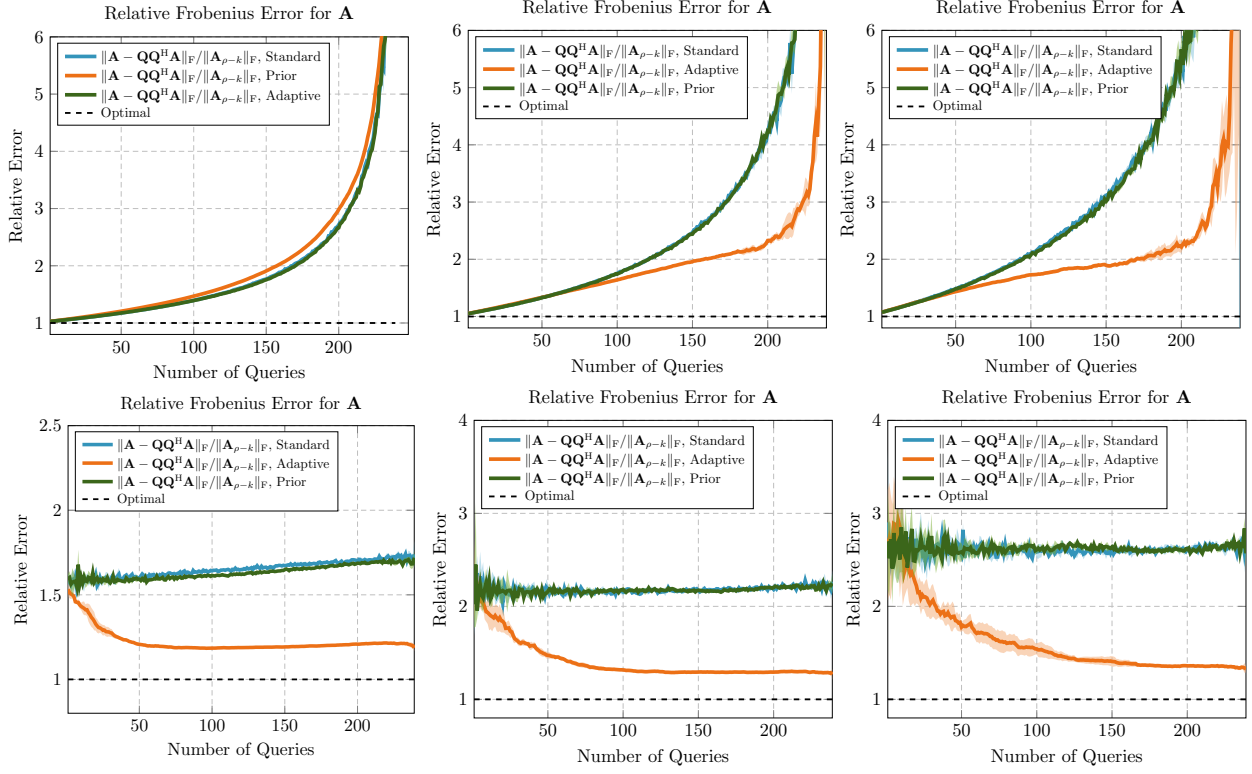


Figure 3: Low Rank Approximation for synthetic matrices with decay described in Equation (5). In (Top Left),  $\ell = 1$ , in (Top Center),  $\ell = 2$ , and in (Top Right),  $\ell = 3$ . In (Bottom Left),  $\ell = -1$ , in (Bottom Center),  $\ell = -2$ , and in (Bottom Right),  $\ell = -3$ . We use the Gram matrix with Gaussian Kernel and  $\gamma = 0.01$  for the Prior Covariance Matrix.

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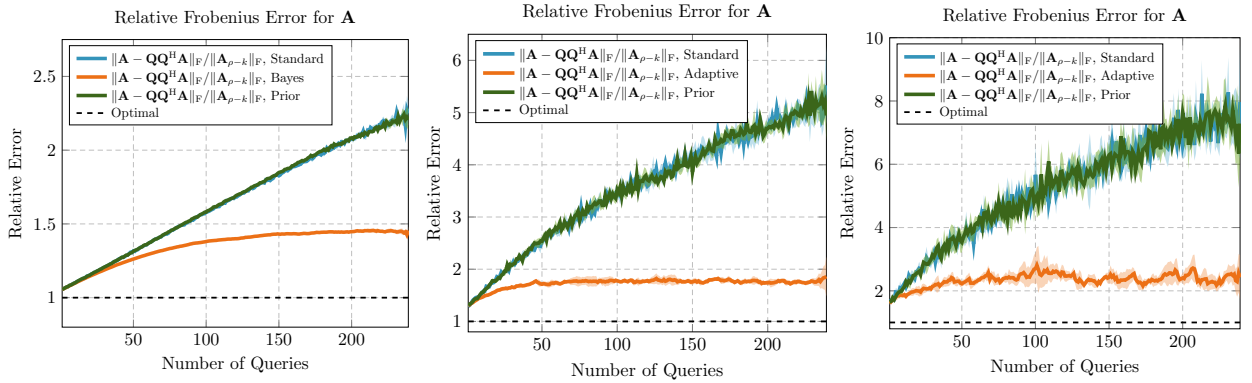


Figure 4: Low Rank Approximation for synthetic matrices with exponential decay described in Equation (6). In (Left),  $\delta = 0.01$ , in (Center),  $\delta = 0.05$ , and in (Right),  $\delta = 0.1$ . We use the Gram matrix with Gaussian Kernel and  $\gamma = 0.01$  for the Prior Covariance Matrix.



## 6 Conclusions

We have theoretically and empirically analyzed a novel Covariance Update to iteratively construct the sampling matrix,  $\Omega$  in the Randomized SVD algorithm. We introduce a new adaptive sampling framework for low-rank matrix approximation when the matrix is only accessible by matrix-vector products by giving the algorithm access to intermediate low-rank matrix approximations. Our covariance update for generating sampling vectors and functions can find use various PDE learning applications, [BET22, BNK20]. Numerical Experiments indicate without prior knowledge of the matrix, we are able to obtain superior performance to the Randomized SVD and generalized Randomized SVD with covariance matrix utilizing prior information of the PDE. Theoretically, we provide an analysis of our update extended to  $k$ -steps and show in expectation, under certain singular value decay conditions, we obtain better performance expectation.

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## A Proofs

In this section we give proofs for results we deferred from the main text.

### A.1 Proof of Lemma 1

**Proof.** We have  $\mathbf{Q}$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times k}$  where  $\mathbf{Y} \triangleq \mathbf{A}\mathbf{\Omega}$  for  $\mathbf{\Omega} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times k}$  is an arbitrary test matrix. Then let us denote  $\hat{\mathbf{Q}} \triangleq \text{orth}([\mathbf{Y} \ \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}])$  where  $\mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{Q}} \triangleq \text{orth}([\mathbf{Y} \ \mathbf{A}\tilde{\mathbf{v}}])$  where  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}$  is the  $k$ th right singular vector of  $\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}$ . Note  $\mathbf{Q}_- \in \text{Span}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A})$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}_+\mathbf{Q}_+^H\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 &= \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}_-\mathbf{Q}_-^H\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 \\ &= \text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}^H\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^H\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^H\mathbf{Q}_-\mathbf{Q}_-^H\mathbf{A}) \\ &= \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 - \|\mathbf{Q}_-^H\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Let us note for any column  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , we have

$$((\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v})^H\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{v}^H\mathbf{A}^H - \mathbf{v}^H\mathbf{A}^H\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v})^H\mathbf{w} - (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v})^H\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0} \quad (8)$$

Since we have  $\mathbf{Q}_-, \tilde{\mathbf{w}} \in \text{Span}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A})$ , then from our formulation in Equation (7), we want to our sampled vector to be in the dominant singular space of the span of the singular vectors of  $\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}$ . We first require the following supplementary result for any matrix projector,  $\mathbf{P}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Null}((\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})\mathbf{A}) &= \{\mathbf{y} \in \text{Range}(\mathbf{A}) : (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P})\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}\} \cup \{\mathbf{y} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{A})\} \\ &= \{\mathbf{y} \in \text{Range}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \text{Range}(\mathbf{P})\} \cup \{\mathbf{y} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{A})\} \\ &= \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \in \text{Range}(\mathbf{P}) \cup \{\mathbf{0}\}\} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Now we can calculate the optimal sampling vector.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_{\text{OPT}} &\stackrel{(8)}{=} \arg \max_{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^n} \frac{\|\mathbf{A}^H(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|}{\|(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}\|} \\ &= \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \in \text{Range}((\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{A})} \frac{\|\mathbf{A}^H\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \\ &\stackrel{(9)}{=} \arg \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{Null}(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A})} \frac{\|\mathbf{A}^H\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. ■

### A.2 Proof of Lemma 4

**Proof.** Our first key note is that adaptive low rank matrix approximation is equivalent to performing one sample of the generalized rSVD to the residual  $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}$ . Let  $\mathbf{Q} = \text{orth}(\mathbf{Y})$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_+ = \text{orth}([\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}])$  for a sample vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , and  $\mathbf{Q}_-\mathbf{Q}_-^H = \mathbf{Q}_+\mathbf{Q}_+^H - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H$ , then we have

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}) - \mathbf{Q}_-\mathbf{Q}_-^H(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}_-\mathbf{Q}_-^H\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}_+\mathbf{Q}_+^H\mathbf{A} \quad (10)$$

We first give the factorization  $\mathbf{A} \triangleq \tilde{\mathbf{A}} + \hat{\mathbf{A}} \triangleq (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H\mathbf{A}$ , it then follows  $\mathbf{Q}_- = \text{orth}((\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^H)\mathbf{A}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{orth}(\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \triangleq \text{orth}(\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_-)$ . Then, we factorize the residual term as follows,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_k & \tilde{\mathbf{U}}_{\rho-k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\Sigma}_k & \tilde{\Sigma}_{\rho-k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{V}}_k^H \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}_{\rho-k}^H \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} k \\ \rho-k \end{matrix}$$

Defining  $\tilde{\Omega}_1 \triangleq \tilde{V}_1^H \hat{\mathbf{x}}$  and  $\tilde{\Omega}_2 \triangleq \tilde{V}_2^H \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ . We then have,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} \|A - Q_+ Q_+^H A\|_F &\stackrel{(10)}{=} \mathbf{E} \|\tilde{A} - Q_- Q_-^H \tilde{A}\|_F \stackrel{(\zeta_1)}{\leq} \left( \mathbf{E} \|\tilde{A} - Q_- Q_-^H \tilde{A}\|_F^2 \right)^{1/2} \\ &\stackrel{(\zeta_2)}{\leq} \left( \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2\|_F^2 + \mathbf{E} \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{\Omega}_2 \tilde{\Omega}_1^+\|_F^2 \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

where  $(\zeta_1)$  follows from Jensen's Inequality and  $(\zeta_2)$  follows from [HMT11, Theorem 9.1]. Term by term, we have

$$\|\tilde{\Sigma}_2\|_F^2 = \|\tilde{A}\|_F^2 - \|\tilde{A}\|_2^2 = \|A - Q Q^H A\|_F^2 - \|A - Q Q^H A\|_2^2 \stackrel{(\zeta_3)}{\geq} \|A - Q Q^H A\|_F^2 - \sigma_{k+1}^2$$

where in  $(\zeta_3)$  we used the following,

$$\|A - Q Q^H A\|_2^2 \geq \min_{\substack{\Pi \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m} \\ \text{rank}(\Pi)=k \\ \Pi^2=\Pi}} \|A - \Pi A\|_2^2 \stackrel{(\zeta_4)}{\geq} \min_{\substack{B \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n} \\ \text{rank}(B)=k}} \|A - B\|_2^2 = \sigma_{k+1}^2$$

where  $(\zeta_4)$  follows from the Eckart-Young-Mirsky Theorem [EY36, Mir60]. We thus have, for any algorithm we can always improve the approximation by  $\sigma_{k+1}^2$  with some approximation error under the condition that  $\text{rank}(Q) = k$  and  $\text{rank}(Q_+) = k + 1$ . From Algorithm 1, we have  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \hat{V} \hat{\Sigma}^+ \mathbf{x}$  for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$ .

$$\mathbf{E} \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{\Omega}_2 \tilde{\Omega}_1^+\|_F^2 = \mathbf{E} \left( \mathbf{E} \left[ \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{\Omega}_2 \tilde{\Omega}_1^+\|_F^2 \mid \tilde{\Omega}_1 \right] \right) \stackrel{(\zeta_5)}{=} \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{V}_2^H \hat{V} \hat{\Sigma}^+\|_F^2 \cdot \mathbf{E} \|(\tilde{V}_1^H \hat{V} \hat{\Sigma}^+ \mathbf{x})^+\|_F^2$$

where  $(\zeta_5)$  follows from [HMT11, Proposition 10.1]. Now, we expand the first term,

$$\|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{V}_2^H \hat{V} \hat{\Sigma}^+\|_F^2 = \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{V}_2^H (Q Q^H A)^+\|_F^2 = \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{V}_2^H A^+ (Q Q^H)^+\|_F^2 = \|\tilde{\Sigma}_2 \tilde{V}_2^H A^+ Q\|_F^2$$

■

### A.3 Proof of Lemma 5

We will lower bound  $c_2$  as defined in Equation (7).

$$c_2 \triangleq \|Q_-^H A\|_F^2 \stackrel{(8)}{=} \frac{\|A^H (I - Q Q^H) A \hat{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2}{\|(I - Q Q^H) A \hat{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2}$$

For shorthand, let  $\tilde{A} \triangleq A^H (I - Q Q^H) A$ . Note, we have  $\|(I - Q Q^H) A\|_F$  is given. Let us note the fact

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} \|\tilde{A} \mathbf{x}\|^2 &= \mathbf{E} \mathbf{x}^H \tilde{A}^H \tilde{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{E} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{x}^H \tilde{A}^H \tilde{A} \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{E} \text{Tr}(\mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^H \tilde{A}^H \tilde{A}) = \text{Tr} \left( \mathbf{E} [\mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^H \tilde{A}^H \tilde{A}] \right) \\ &= \text{Tr}(\mathbf{E} [\mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^H] \tilde{A}^H \tilde{A}) = \text{Tr}(\tilde{A}^H \tilde{A}) = \|\tilde{A}\|_F^2 \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

Let us also note the following fact for a rank- $k$  semi-orthonormal matrix,  $Q$ , and rank- $r$  matrix  $A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|(I - Q Q^H) A\|_F^2 &= \text{Tr}(A(I - Q Q^H)(I - Q Q^H) A^H) \\ &= \text{Tr}(A(I - Q Q^H) A^H) \\ &\stackrel{(\zeta_1)}{\leq} \sqrt{\rho - k} \|A(I - Q Q^H) A^H\|_F \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

where  $(\zeta_1)$  follows from the relation of the  $\|\cdot\|_1$  and  $\|\cdot\|_2$  norm and assuming  $\text{rank}(A) = \rho$ . Now we can calculate the expectation. We then note  $\mathbf{E} \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2$  is the expectation of  $n$ -degree of freedom Chi-squared variable and thus is equal to  $n$ , then

$$\mathbf{E} \left[ \frac{\|A(I - Q Q^H) A \hat{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2}{\|(I - Q Q^H) A \hat{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2} \right] \stackrel{(\zeta_2)}{\geq} (\mathbf{E} \|\hat{\mathbf{v}}^H A^H (I - Q Q^H) A\|_2^2 \mathbf{E} [\|(I - Q Q^H) A \hat{\mathbf{v}}\|_2^2])^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \stackrel{(\zeta_3)}{\geq} \left( \frac{16}{75\sqrt{5}} \right)^2 \left\| A^H (I - QQ^H) A \right\|_F^2 \left\| (I - QQ^H) A \right\|_F^{-2} \\
& \stackrel{(12)}{\geq} \left( \frac{16}{75\sqrt{5}} \right)^2 \frac{\left\| (I - QQ^H) A \right\|_F^4}{(\rho - k) \left\| (I - QQ^H) A \right\|_F^2} \\
& \gtrsim \left( \frac{1}{\rho - k} \right) \left\| (I - QQ^H) A \right\|_F^2
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

( $\zeta_2$ ) follows from the Reverse Hölder Inequality [H89]. ( $\zeta_3$ ) follows from an application of Jensen's Inequality. Combining Equation (13) and Equation (11) we thus have in expectation we have

$$\mathbb{E} c_2 = \Omega \left( \frac{1}{\rho - k} \right) \left\| (I - QQ^H) A \right\|_F^2$$

This completes our proof of Claim (ii). ■