- The size of this image is 1000×1000 pixels.

- The color of each pixel is represented by an integer between 0 (black) and 255 (white).

- The whole image is described by a (symmetric) matrix A consisting of $1000 \times 1000 = 1,000,000$ numbers

- Each number is stored in 1 byte, so the image file size is $1,000,000$ bytes ($\approx$ 1 MB).

How to make the image file smaller:

1) Find the spectral decomposition of the matrix A:
$$A = \lambda_1(\mathbf{u}_1\mathbf{u}_1^T) + \lambda_2(\mathbf{u}_2\mathbf{u}_2^T) + \ldots + \lambda_{1000}(\mathbf{u}_{1000}\mathbf{u}_{1000}^T)$$
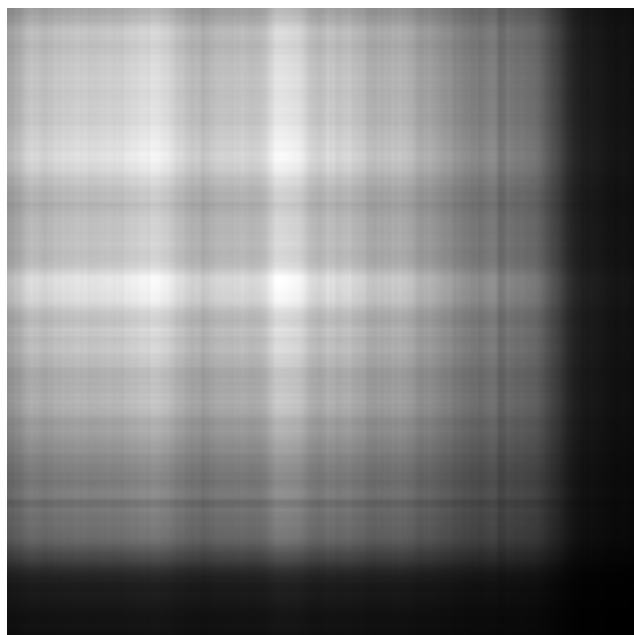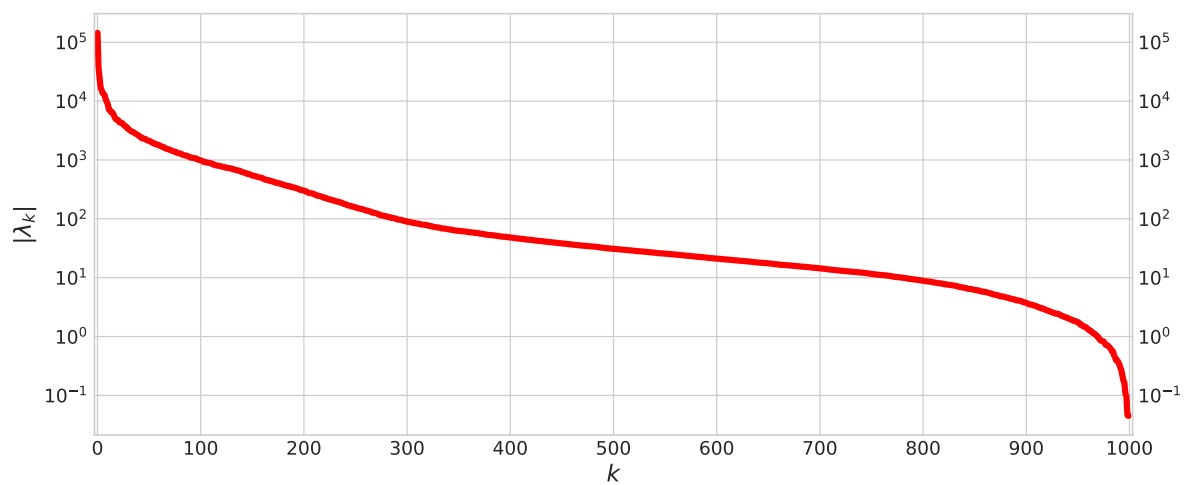where $|\lambda_1| \geq |\lambda_2| \geq \ldots \geq |\lambda_{1000}|$.
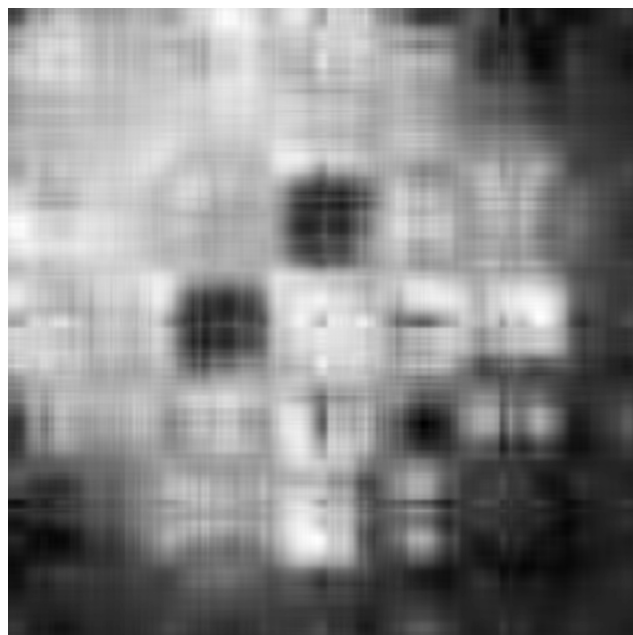
2) For $k = 1, \ldots, 1000$ define:
$$B_k = \lambda_1(\mathbf{u}_1\mathbf{u}_1^T) + \lambda_2(\mathbf{u}_2\mathbf{u}_2^T) + \ldots + \lambda_k(\mathbf{u}_k\mathbf{u}_k^T)$$
This matrix approximates the matrix A and can be stored using $k \cdot (1000 + 1)$ numbers (i.e. $k \cdot (1000 + 1)$ bytes).
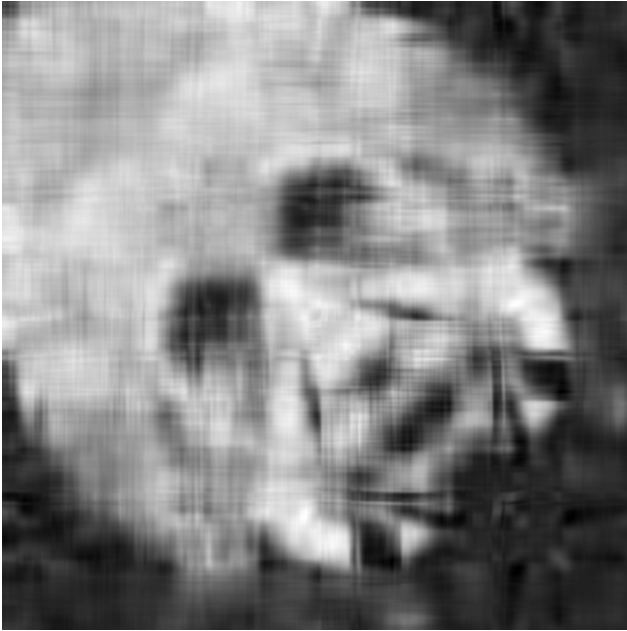
Eigenvalues of the matrix A
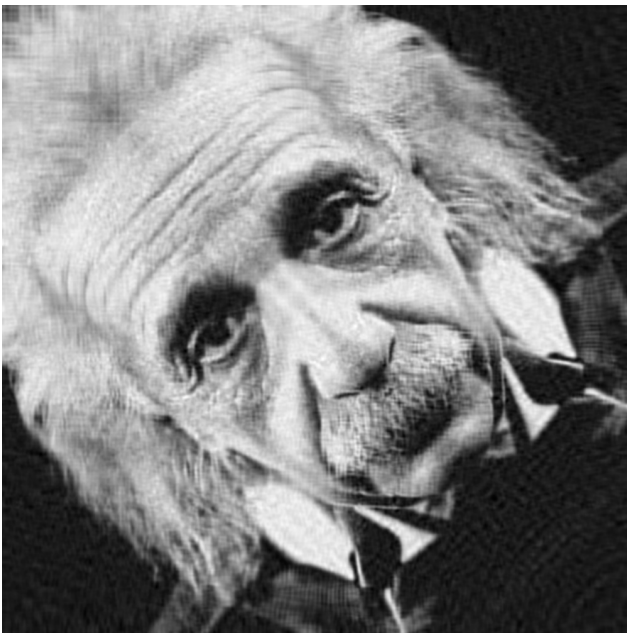

matrix B$_1$
1001 bytes
compression 1000:1
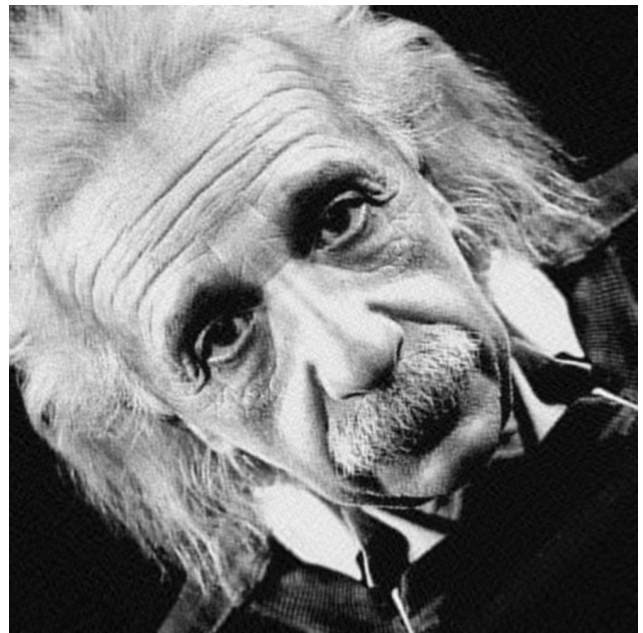
matrix B$_5$
5005 bytes
compression 200:1

matrix B_{10}
10,010 bytes
compression 100:1

matrix B_{20}
20,020 bytes
compression 50:1

matrix B_{50}
50,050 bytes
compression 20:1

matrix B_{100}
100,100 bytes
compression 10:1