



# Numerical Linear Algebra for data-related applications

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## *Introduction: a historical perspective*

In 1953, George Forsythe published a paper titled:  
“Solving linear systems can be interesting”.



- Survey of the state of the art linear algebra at that time: direct methods, iterative methods, conditioning, preconditioning, The Conjugate Gradient method, acceleration methods, ....
- An amazing paper in which the author was urging researchers to start looking at solving linear systems

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- An amazing paper in which the author was urging researchers to start looking at solving linear systems
- 66 years later – we can certainly state that:  
“Linear Algebra problems in Machine Learning can be interesting”

## Focus of numerical linear algebra changed many times over the years

- This is because linear algebra is a key tool when solving challenging new problems in various disciplines

**1940s–1950s:** Major issue: the flutter problem in aerospace engineering → eigenvalue problem [cf. Olga Taussky Todd]

- Then came the discoveries of the LR and QR algorithms. The package EISPACK followed a little later

**1960s:** Problems related to the power grid promoted what we would call today general sparse matrix techniques

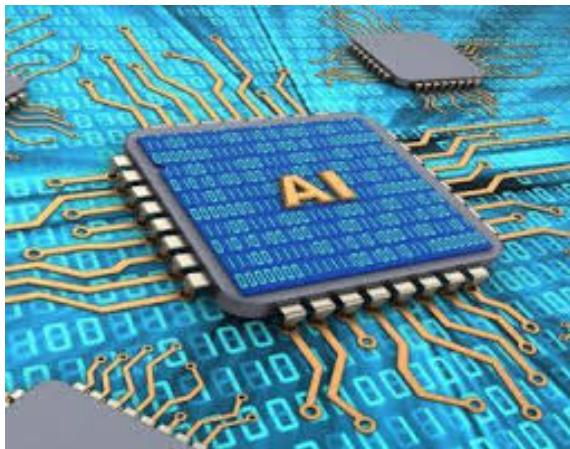
**Late 1980s:** Thrust on parallel matrix computations.

**Late 1990s:** Spur of interest in “financial computing”

*Solution of PDEs (e.g., Fluid Dynamics) and problems in mechanical eng. (e.g. structures) major force behind numerical linear algebra algorithms in the past few decades.*

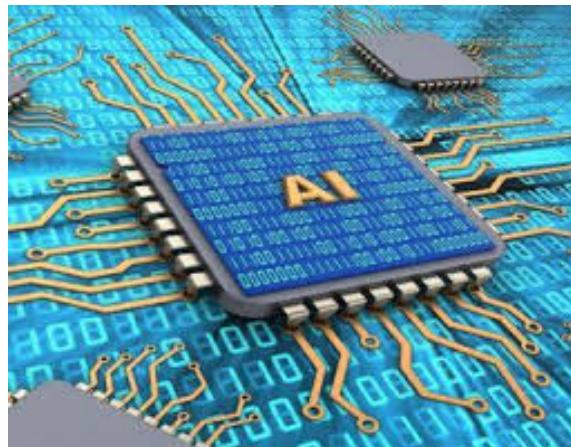
- Strong new forces are now reshaping the field today: Applications related to the use of “data”
- Machine learning is appearing in unexpected places:
  - design of materials
  - machine learning in geophysics
  - self-driving cars, ..
  - ....

## *Big impact on the economy*



- New economy driven by Google, Facebook, Netflix, Amazon, Twitter, Ali-Baba, Tencent, ..., and even the big department stores (Walmart, ...)
- Huge impact on **Jobs**

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➤ In contrast: Old economy [driven by Boeing, GM, Ford, Mining industry, US Steel, Aerospatiale, ...] does not have as much to offer...



➤ Imperative to look at what you we do under new lenses:  
**DATA**

$$Ax=b$$

$$-\Delta u = f$$

Graph  
Partitioning

Preconditioning

Model reduction

$$A x = \lambda x$$

Domain  
Decomposition

H2 / HSS matrices

LARGE SYSTEMS

Sparse matrices

*Translate*

$$Ax=b$$

$$-\Delta u = f$$

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## LARGE SYSTEMS

Sparse matrices

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

PCA

Clustering

Dimension  
Reduction

Semi-Supervised  
Learning

Graph  
Laplaceans

Divide &  
Conquer

Regression  
LASSO

Data Sparsity

## BIG DATA!

## *Introduction, background, and motivation*

Common goal of data mining & machine learning: to extract meaningful information or patterns from data. Very broad area – includes: data analysis, pattern recognition, information retrieval, ...

- Main tools used: linear algebra; Statistics; Optimization; graph theory; approximation theory; ...

## *A few sample (classes of) problems & methods:*

- Classification: 'Benign – Malignant', 'Dangerous-Safe', Face recognition, digit recognition, pattern recognition, ..
- Graphs/ networks analysis: Pagerank, communicability, node centrality, ...
- Matrix completion: Recommender systems
- Projection type methods: PCA, LSI, Clustering, Eigenmaps, LLE, Isomap, ...
- (Deep) Neural Networks: Convolutional Neural Networks; Image recognition; Speech recognition; ...
- Computational statistics: [ Diag(inv(Cov)), Log det (A), ...]

- Two broad classes methods: *supervised* and *unsupervised* learning.
- General approach in both methods: Reduce dimension first then tackle task in lower dimension space.

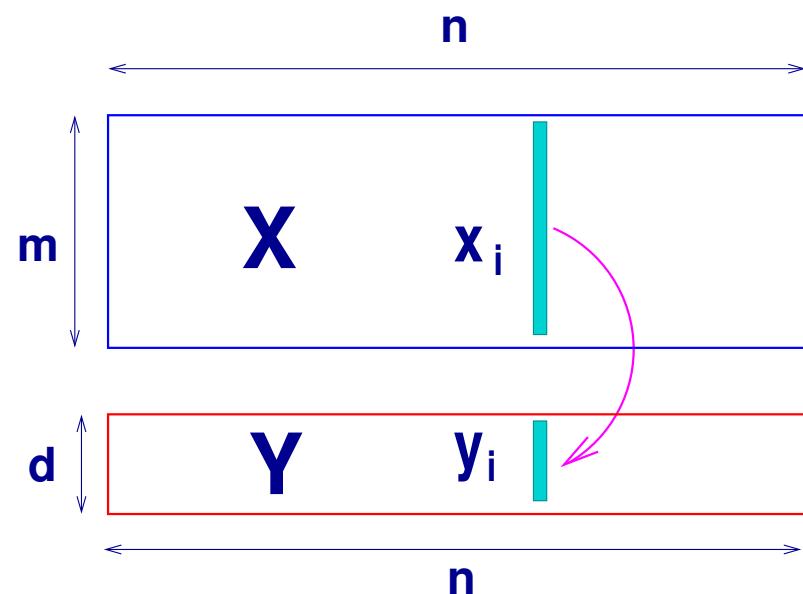
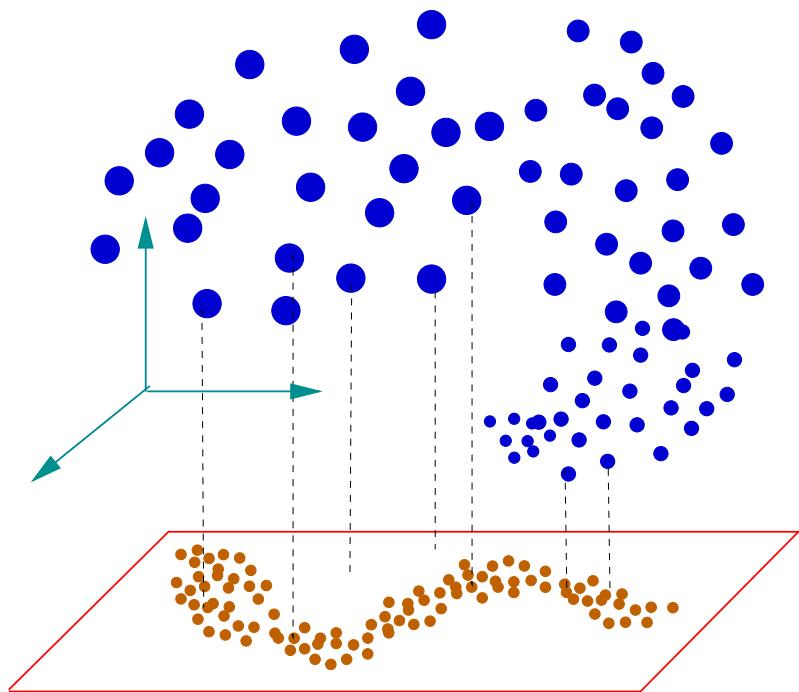
## *Major tool of Data Mining: Dimension reduction*

- Goal is not as much to reduce size (& cost) but to:
  - Reduce noise and redundancy in data before performing a task [e.g., classification as in digit/face recognition]
  - Discover important ‘features’ or ‘parameters’

*The problem:* Given:  $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , find a low-dimens. representation  $\mathbf{Y} = [\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$  of  $\mathbf{X}$

- Achieved by a mapping  $\Phi : \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m \longrightarrow \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  so:

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}_i) = \mathbf{y}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$



- $\Phi$  may be linear :  $y_j = W^\top x_j, \forall j$ , or,  $Y = W^\top X$
- ... or nonlinear (implicit).
- Mapping  $\Phi$  required to: Preserve proximity? Maximize variance? Preserve a certain graph?

## Basics: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

In *Principal Component Analysis*  $W$  is computed to maximize variance of projected data:

$$\max_{W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}; W^\top W = I} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| y_i - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \right\|_2^2, \quad y_i = W^\top x_i.$$

► Leads to maximizing

$$\text{Tr} [W^\top (X - \mu e^\top)(X - \mu e^\top)^\top W], \quad \mu = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

► Solution  $W = \{ \text{dominant eigenvectors} \}$  of the covariance matrix  $\equiv$  Set of left singular vectors of  $\bar{X} = X - \mu e^\top$

## SVD:

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{U}\Sigma\mathbf{V}^\top, \quad \mathbf{U}^\top\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}, \quad \mathbf{V}^\top\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}, \quad \Sigma = \text{Diag}$$

- Optimal  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{U}_d \equiv$  matrix of first  $d$  columns of  $\mathbf{U}$
- Solution  $\mathbf{W}$  also minimizes ‘reconstruction error’ ..

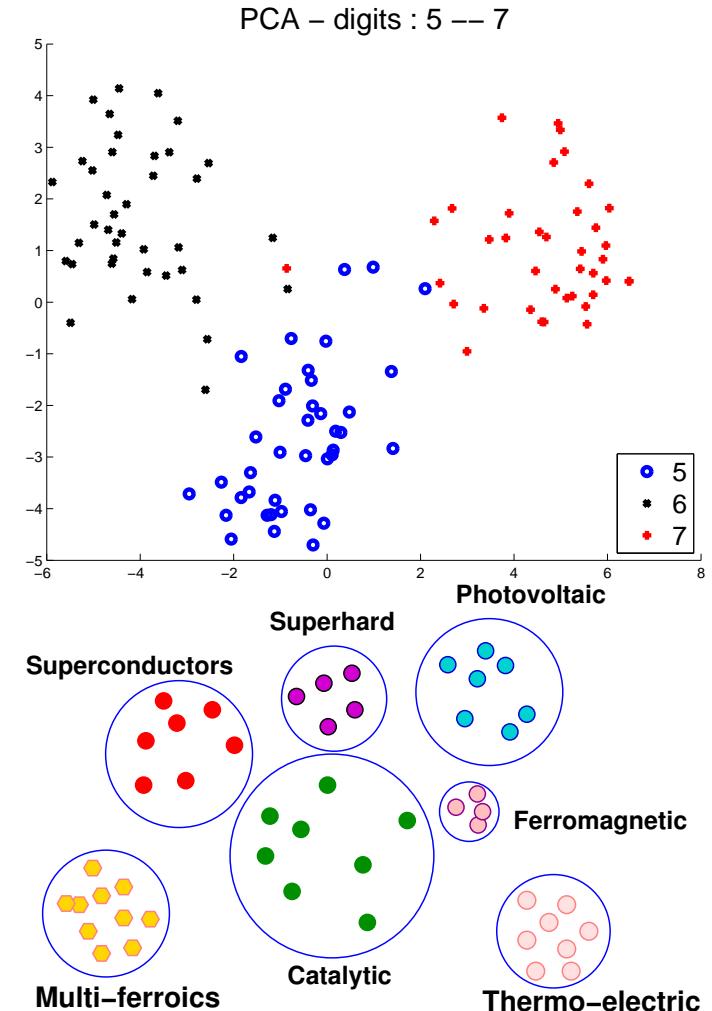
$$\sum_i \|x_i - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T x_i\|^2 = \sum_i \|x_i - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_i\|^2$$

- In some methods recentering to zero is not done, i.e.,  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}$  replaced by  $\mathbf{X}$ .

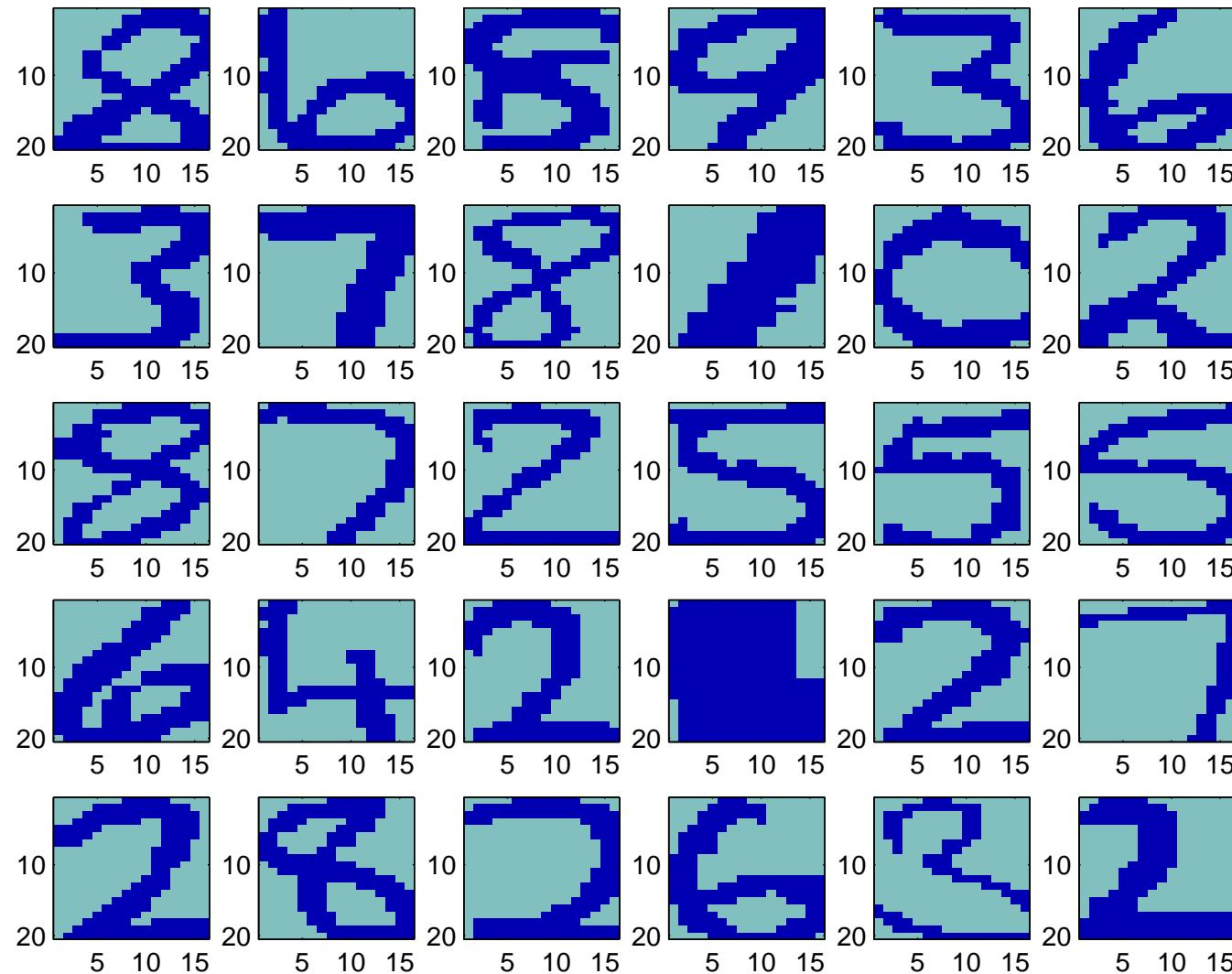
# *Unsupervised learning*

**“Unsupervised learning”** : methods do not exploit labeled data

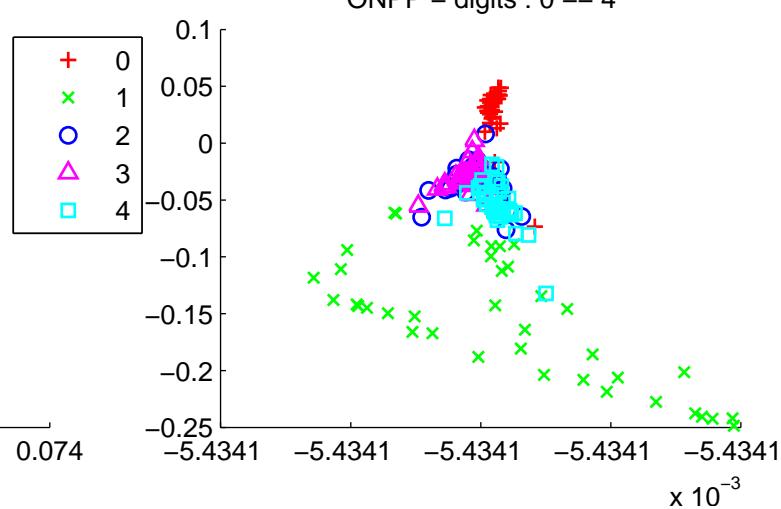
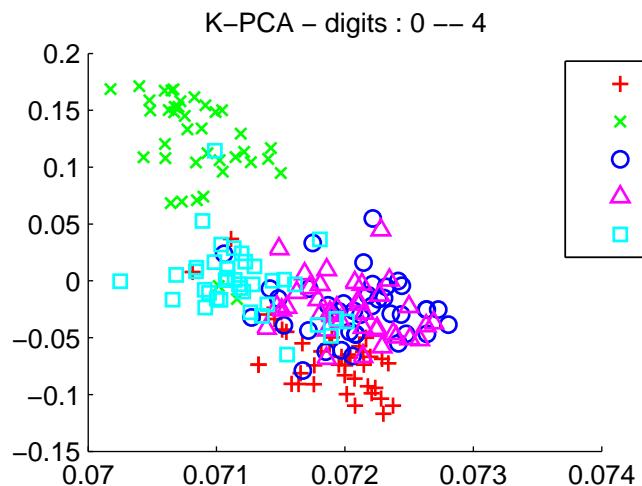
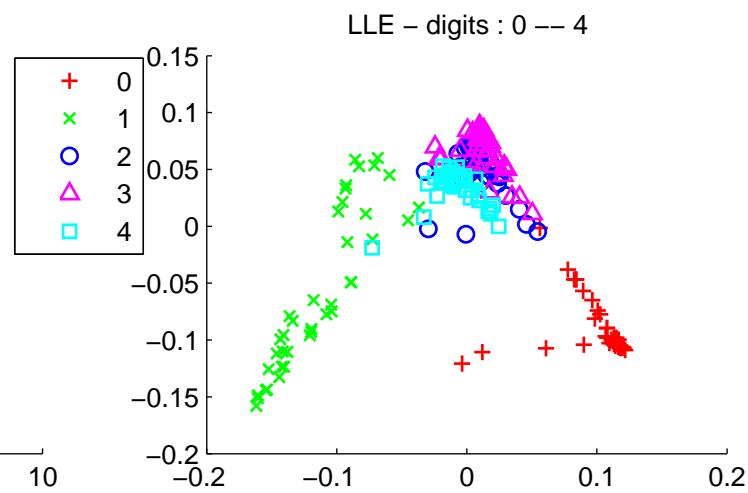
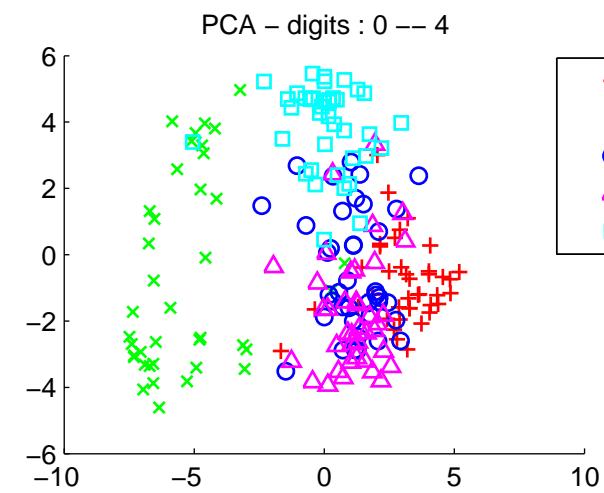
- Example of digits: perform a 2-D projection
- Images of same digit tend to cluster (more or less)
- Such 2-D representations are popular for visualization
- Can also try to find natural clusters in data, e.g., in materials
- Basic clustering technique: K-means



## *Example: Digit images (a random sample of 30)*



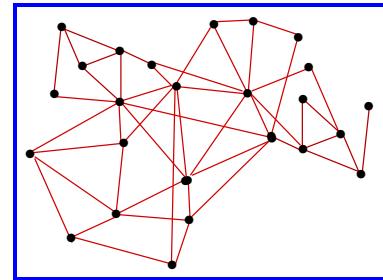
## 2-D 'reductions':



**GRAPH PARTITIONING → CLUSTERING**

## Graph Laplaceans - Definition

- “Laplace-type” matrices associated with general undirected graphs –



$$\longrightarrow \mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} ? \end{bmatrix}$$

- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  define

- A matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  of weights  $w_{ij}$  for each edge with:

$$w_{ij} \geq 0, \quad w_{ii} = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad w_{ij} = w_{ji} \quad \forall(i, j)$$

- The diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{D} = \text{diag}(d_i)$  with  $d_i = \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ij}$

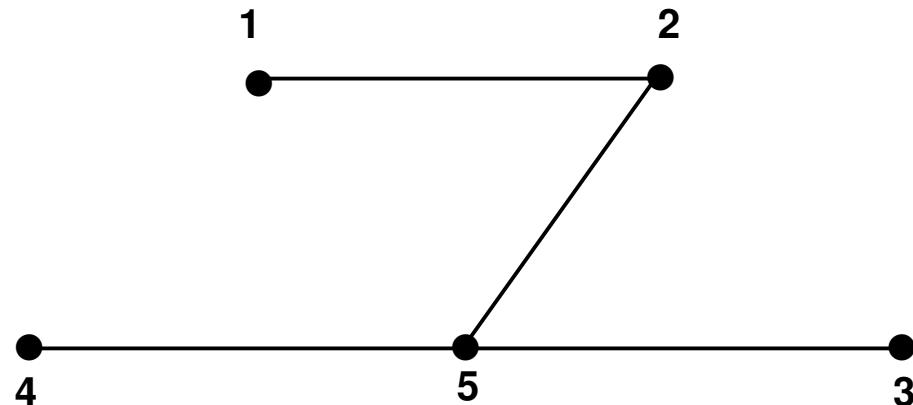
- Corresponding *graph Laplacean* of  $G$  is:

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{W}$$

- Gershgorin's theorem  $\rightarrow L$  is positive semidefinite.
- One eigenvalue equal to zero
- Simplest case:

$$w_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (i, j) \in E \text{ & } i \neq j \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} \quad d_i = \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ij}$$

**Example:** Consider the graph



$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

## *Basic results on graph Laplaceans*

*Proposition:*

- (i)  $L$  is symmetric semi-positive definite.
- (ii)  $L$  is singular with  $\mathbf{1}$  as a null vector.
- (iii) If  $G$  is connected, then  $\text{Null}(L) = \text{span}\{\mathbf{1}\}$
- (iv) If  $G$  has  $k > 1$  connected components  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k$ , then the nullity of  $L$  is  $k$  and  $\text{Null}(L)$  is spanned by the vectors  $z^{(j)}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, k$  defined by:

$$(z^{(j)})_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in G_j \\ 0 & \text{if not.} \end{cases}$$

## A few properties of graph Laplaceans

**Define:** oriented incidence matrix  $H$ : (1)First orient the edges  $i \sim j$  into  $i \rightarrow j$  or  $j \rightarrow i$ . (2) Rows of  $H$  indexed by vertices of  $G$ . Columns indexed by edges. (3) For each  $(i, j)$  in  $E$ , define the corresponding column in  $H$  as  $\sqrt{w(i, j)}(e_i - e_j)$ .

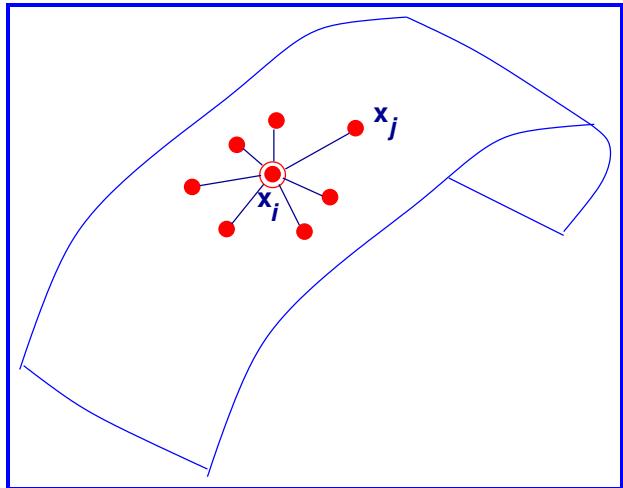
**Example:** In previous example, orient  $i \rightarrow j$  so that  $j > i$  [lower triangular matrix representation].  
Then matrix  $L$  is:  $\longrightarrow$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Property 1**

$$L = HH^T$$

## A few properties of graph Laplaceans



Strong relation between  $x^T L x$  and local distances between entries of  $x$

► Let  $L$  = any graph Laplacean

Then:

*Property 2:* for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  : [Recall  $L = D - W$ ]

$$x^T L x = \sum_{j>i} w_{ij} |x_i - x_j|^2$$

*Property 3:* (generalization) for any  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$  :

$$\text{Tr} [\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{Y}^\top] = \sum_{j>i} w_{ij} \|y_i - y_j\|^2$$

- Note:  $y_j$  =  $j$ -th column of  $\mathbf{Y}$ . Usually  $d < n$ . Each column can represent a data sample.

*Property 4:* For the particular  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^\top$

$$\mathbf{X} \mathbf{L} \mathbf{X}^\top = \bar{\mathbf{X}} \bar{\mathbf{X}}^\top == n \times \text{Covariance matrix}$$

*Property 5:*  $\mathbf{L}$  is singular and admits the null vector

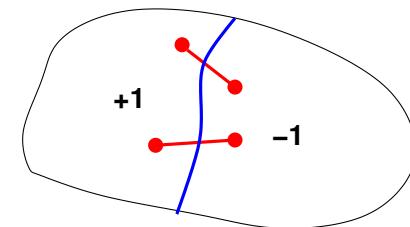
$$\mathbf{1} = \text{ones}(n, 1)$$

**Property 6:** (Graph partitioning) Consider situation when  $w_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$ . If  $x$  is a vector of signs ( $\pm 1$ ) then

$$x^\top L x = 4 \times (\text{'number of edge cuts'})$$

... where edge-cut = pair  $(i, j)$  with  $x_i \neq x_j$

➤ Consequence: Can be used to partition graphs....



➤ ...by minimizing  $(Lx, x)$  subject to  $x \in \{-1, 1\}^n$  and  $1^T x = 0$  [balanced sets]

$$\min_{x \in \{-1, 1\}^n; \quad 1^T x = 0} \frac{(Lx, x)}{(x, x)}$$

➤ This problem is hard [combinatorial] →

- Instead we solve a relaxed form of this problem :

$$\min_{x \in \{-1,1\}^n; \ 1^T x = 0} \frac{(Lx, x)}{(x, x)} \rightarrow \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n; \ 1^T x = 0} \frac{(Lx, x)}{(x, x)}$$

- Define  $v = u_2$  then  $lab = sign(v - med(v))$

*Background:*

- Consider any symmetric (real) matrix  $A$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$  and eigenvectors  $u_1, \dots, u_n$

- Recall that:  
(Min reached for  $x = u_1$ )

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{(Ax, x)}{(x, x)} = \lambda_1$$

- In addition:  
(Min reached for  $x = u_2$ )

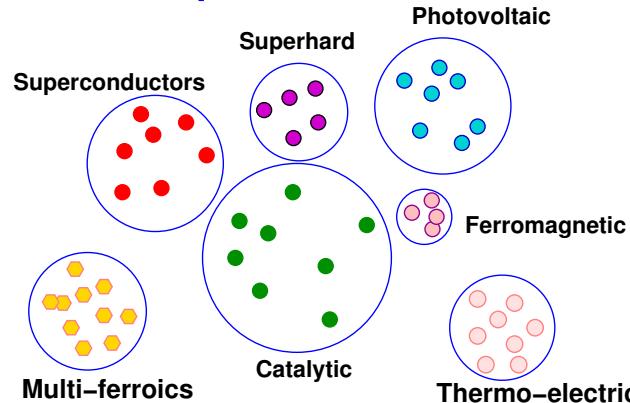
$$\min_{x \perp u_1} \frac{(Ax, x)}{(x, x)} = \lambda_2$$

- For a graph Laplacean  $u_1 = \mathbf{1}$  = vector of all ones and
- ...vector  $u_2$  is called the **Fiedler vector**. It solves the **relaxed** optimization problem -

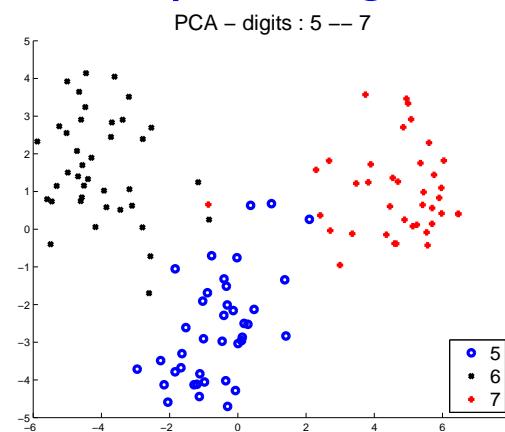
# Clustering

➤ Problem: we are given  $n$  data items:  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . Would like to ‘cluster’ them, i.e., group them so that each group or cluster contains items that are similar in some sense.

➤ Example: materials



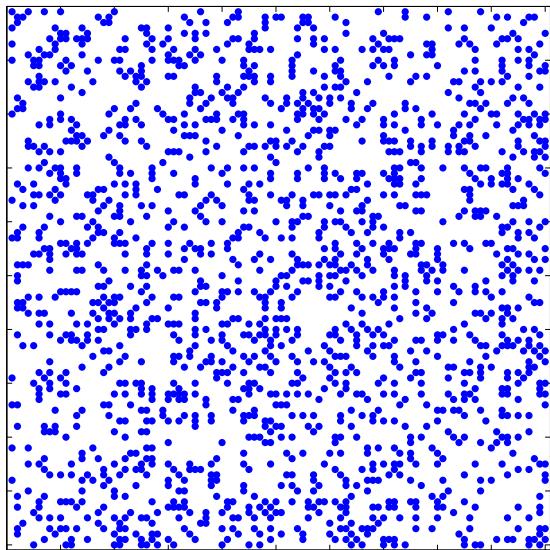
➤ Example: Digits



- Refer to each group as a ‘cluster’ or a ‘class’
- Unsupervised learning

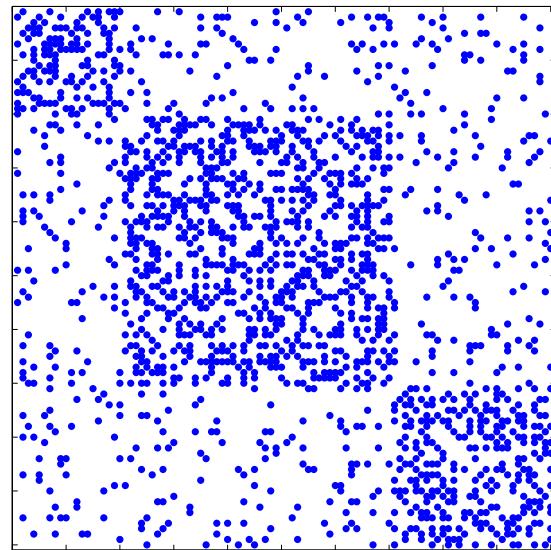
## *Example: Block structure detection → Community Detection*

- Communities modeled by an ‘affinity’ graph [e.g., ‘user *A* sends frequent e-mails to user *B*’]
- Adjacency Graph represented by a sparse matrix



← Original  
matrix

*Goal:* Find  
ordering so  
blocks are  
as dense as  
possible →



- Use ‘blocking’ techniques for sparse matrices
- Advantage of this viewpoint: need not know # of clusters.

[data: [www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/netdata/](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/netdata/)]

## *Example of application*

Data set from :

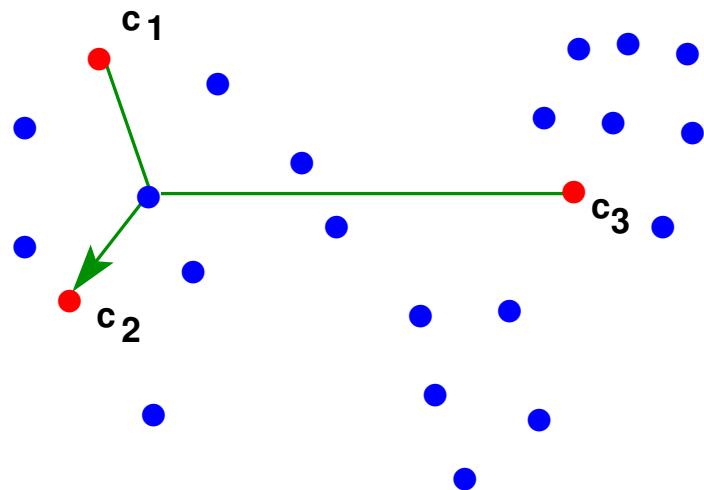
<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~mejn/netdata/>

- Network connecting bloggers of different political orientations [2004 US presidential election]
- ‘Communities’: liberal vs. conservative
- Graph: 1,490 vertices (blogs): 758 liberal, 732 conservative. Edge:  $i \rightarrow j$  : a citation between blogs  $i$  and  $j$
- Used blocking algorithm (Density threshold=0.4): subgraphs [note: density =  $|E|/|V|^2$ .]
- Details in [J. Chen & YS, IEEE TKDE (24), 2012]

## A basic clustering method: K-means (Background)

- A basic algorithm that uses Euclidean distance

- 1 Select  $p$  initial centers:  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_p$  for classes  $1, 2, \dots, p$
- 2 For each  $x_i$  do: determine class of  $x_i$  as  $\operatorname{argmin}_k \|x_i - c_k\|$
- 3 Redefine each  $c_k$  to be the centroid of class  $k$
- 4 Repeat until convergence



- Simple algorithm
- Works well (gives good results) but can be slow
- Performance depends on initialization

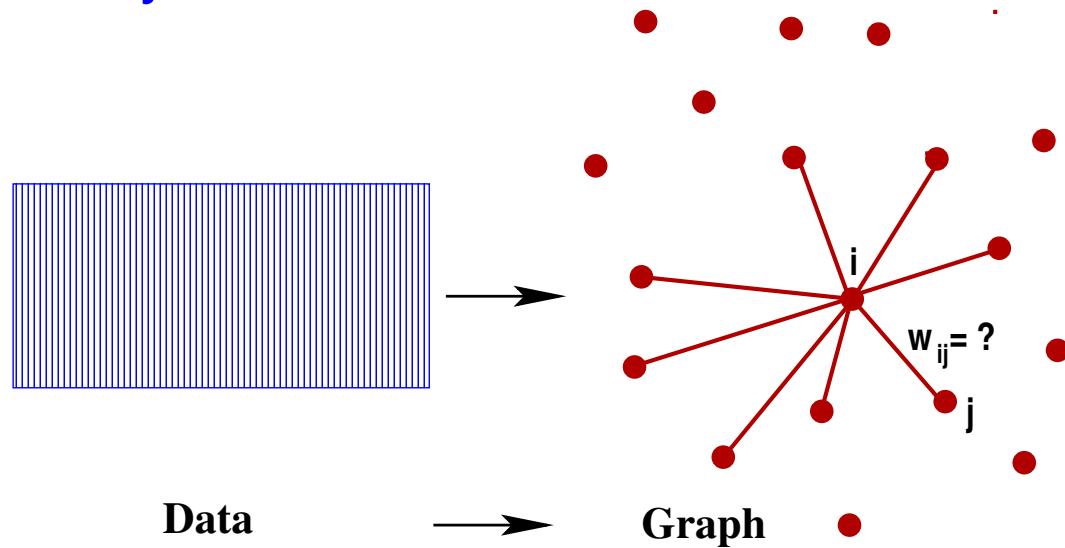
## *Clustering methods based on similarity graphs*

- Perform clustering by exploiting a graph that describes the similarities between any two items in the data.
- Need to:
  1. decide what nodes are in the neighborhood of a given node
  2. quantify their similarities - by assigning a weight to any pair of nodes.

**Example:** For text data: Can decide that any columns  $i$  and  $j$  with a cosine greater than 0.95 are ‘similar’ and assign that cosine value to  $w_{ij}$

## *First task: build a ‘similarity’ graph*

**Need:** a similarity graph, i.e., a graph that captures the similarity between any two items



- For each data item find a small number of its nearest neighbors

- Two techniques are often used:

*$\epsilon$ -graph:* Edges consist of pairs  $(x_i, x_j)$  such that  $\rho(x_i, x_j) \leq \epsilon$

*$kNN$  graph:* Nodes adjacent to  $x_i$  are those nodes  $x_\ell$  with the  $k$  with smallest distances  $\rho(x_i, x_\ell)$ .

- $\epsilon$ -graph is undirected and is geometrically motivated. Issues: 1) may result in disconnected components 2) what  $\epsilon$ ?
- $kNN$  graphs are directed in general (can be trivially fixed).
- $kNN$  graphs especially useful in practice.
- See [J. Chen, H-R Fang, YS, JMLR, 2009] for algorithms.

## *Similarity graphs: Using ‘heat-kernels’*

Define weight between  $i$  and  $j$  as:

$$w_{ij} = f_{ij} \times \begin{cases} e^{\frac{-\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{\sigma_X^2}} & \text{if } \|x_i - x_j\| < r \\ 0 & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

- Note  $\|x_i - x_j\|$  could be any measure of distance...
- $f_{ij}$  = optional = some measure of similarity - other than distance
- Only nearby points kept.
- Sparsity depends on parameters

## *Edge cuts, ratio cuts, normalized cuts, ...*

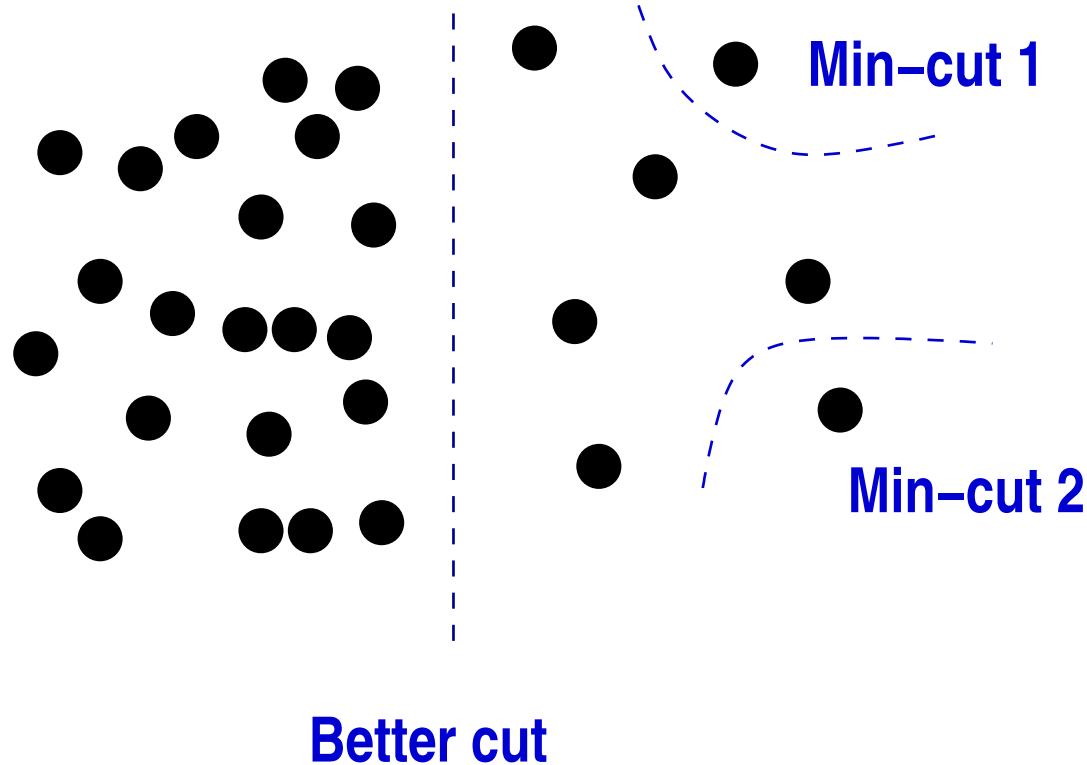
- Assume now that we have built a ‘similarity graph’
- Setting is identical with that of graph partitioning.
- Need a Graph Laplacean:  $L = D - W$  with  $w_{ii} = 0$ ,  $w_{ij} \geq 0$  and  $D = \text{diag}(W * \text{ones}(n, 1))$  [matlab]
- Partition vertex set  $V$  in two sets  $A$  and  $B$  with

$$A \cup B = V, \quad A \cap B = \emptyset$$

- Define

$$\boxed{\text{cut}(A, B) = \sum_{u \in A, v \in B} w(u, v)}$$

- Naive approach: use this measure to partition graph, i.e.,  
... Find  $A$  and  $B$  that minimize  $\text{cut}(A, B)$ .
- Issue: Small sets, isolated nodes, big imbalances,



## Normalized cuts [Shi-Malik,2000]

- Recall notation  $w(X, Y) = \sum_{x \in X, y \in Y} w(x, y)$  - then define:

$$\text{ncut}(A, B) = \frac{\text{cut}(A, B)}{w(A, V)} + \frac{\text{cut}(B, A)}{w(B, V)}$$

- Goal is to avoid small sets  $A, B$
- Let  $x$  be an indicator vector:

$$x_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in A \\ 0 & \text{if } i \in B \end{cases}$$

- Recall that:  $x^T L x = \sum_{(i,j) \in E} w_{ij} |x_i - x_j|^2$  (note: each edge counted once)

- Let

$$\beta = \frac{w(A, V)}{w(B, V)} = \frac{x^T D \mathbf{1}}{(\mathbf{1} - x)^T D \mathbf{1}}$$

$$y = x - \beta(\mathbf{1} - x)$$

- Then we need to solve:

$$\min_{y_i \in \{0, -\beta\}} \frac{y^T L y}{y^T D y}$$

Subject to  $y^T D \mathbf{1} = 0$

- + Relax → need to solve Generalized eigenvalue problem

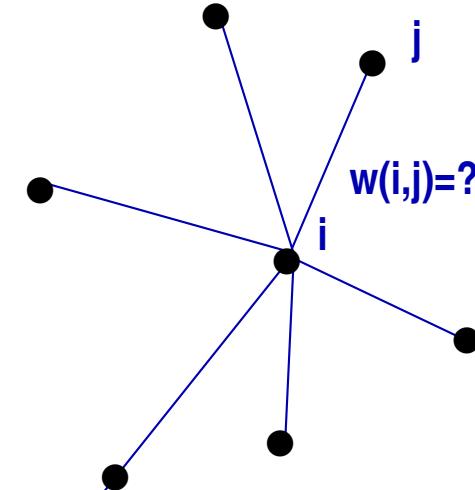
$$Ly = \lambda Dy$$

- $y_1 = \mathbf{1}$  is eigenvector associated with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 0$
- $y_2$  associated with second eigenvalue solves problem.

## *Spectral clustering: General approach*

1 Given: Collection of data samples  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$

2 Build a similarity graph between items



3 Compute (smallest) eigenvector (s) of resulting graph Laplacean

4 Use k-means on eigenvector (s) of Laplacean

- For normalized cuts solve generalized eigen problem.
- Application: Image segmentation

**DEMO**

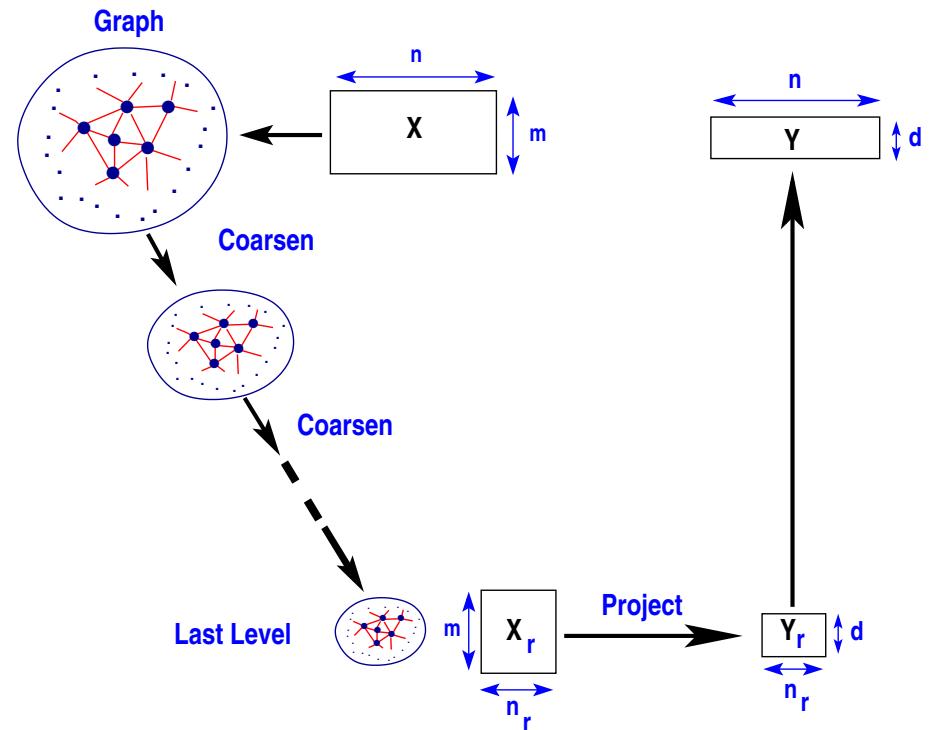
**AMG → DATA COARSENING**

## *Multilevel techniques in brief*

- Divide and conquer paradigms as well as multilevel methods in the sense of ‘domain decomposition’
- Main principle: very costly to do an SVD [or Lanczos] on the whole set. Why not find a smaller set on which to do the analysis – without too much loss?
- Tools used: graph coarsening, divide and conquer –
- For text data we use hypergraphs

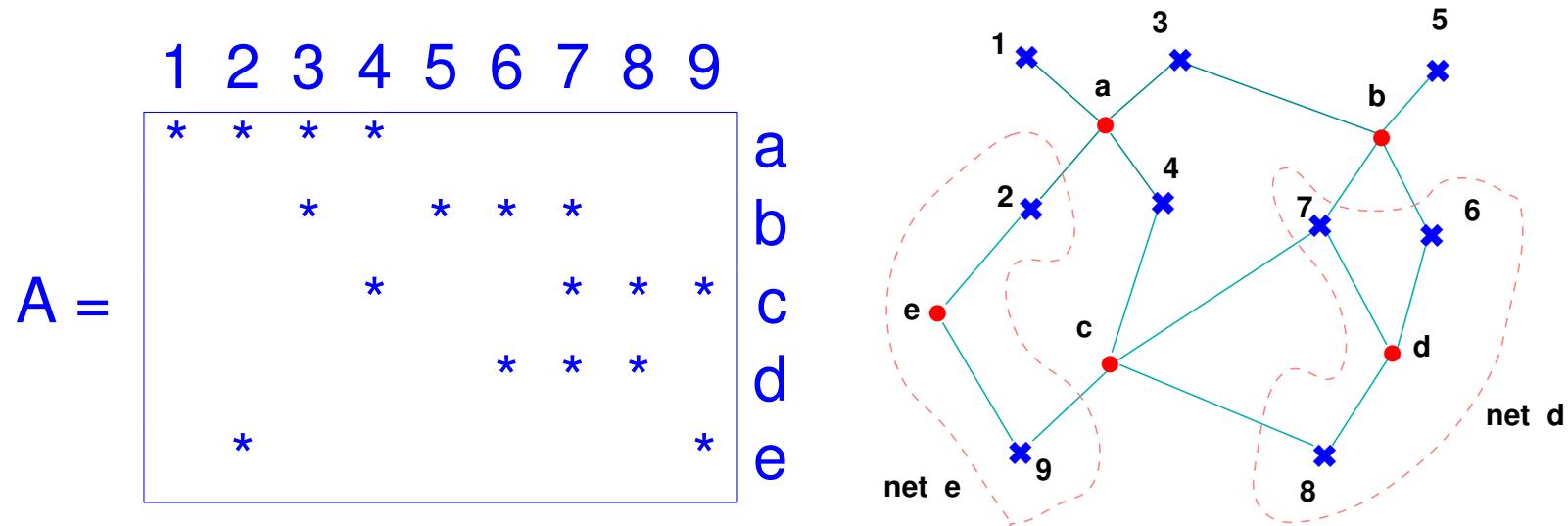
# Multilevel Dimension Reduction

**Main Idea:** coarsen for a few levels. Use the resulting data set  $\hat{X}$  to find a projector  $P$  from  $\mathbb{R}^m$  to  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .  $P$  can be used to project original data or new data



- Gain: Dimension reduction is done with a much smaller set.  
Hope: not much loss compared to using whole data

## Making it work: Use of Hypergraphs for sparse data



Left: a (sparse) data set of  $n$  entries in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  represented by a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

Right: corresponding hypergraph  $H = (V, E)$  with vertex set  $V$  representing to the columns of  $A$ .

- Hypergraph Coarsening uses *column matching* – similar to a common one used in graph partitioning
- Compute the non-zero inner product  $\langle \mathbf{a}^{(i)}, \mathbf{a}^{(j)} \rangle$  between two vertices  $i$  and  $j$ , i.e., the  $i$ th and  $j$ th columns of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- Note:  $\langle \mathbf{a}^{(i)}, \mathbf{a}^{(j)} \rangle = \|\mathbf{a}^{(i)}\| \|\mathbf{a}^{(j)}\| \cos \theta_{ij}$ .

**Modif. 1:** Parameter:  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ . Match two vertices, i.e., columns, only if angle between the vertices satisfies:

$$\tan \theta_{ij} \leq \epsilon$$

**Modif. 2:** Scale coarsened columns. If  $i$  and  $j$  matched and if  $\|\mathbf{a}^{(i)}\|_0 \geq \|\mathbf{a}^{(j)}\|_0$  replace  $\mathbf{a}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{a}^{(j)}$  by

$$\mathbf{c}^{(\ell)} = \left( \sqrt{1 + \cos^2 \theta_{ij}} \right) \mathbf{a}^{(i)}$$

- Call  $C$  the coarsened matrix obtained from  $A$  using the approach just described

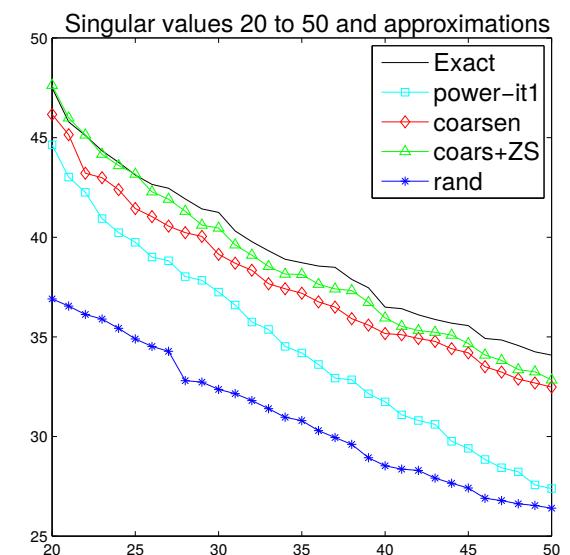
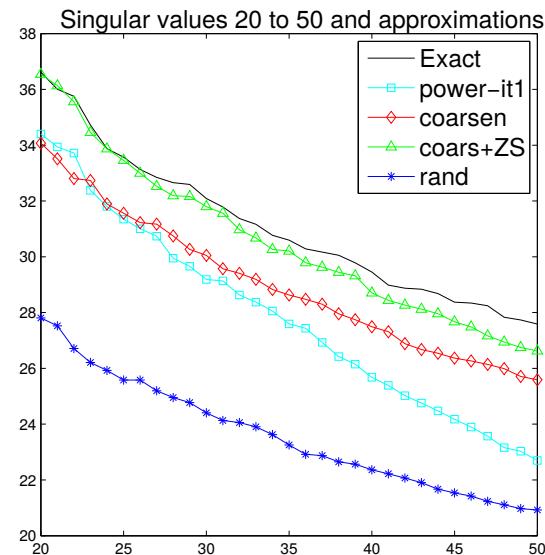
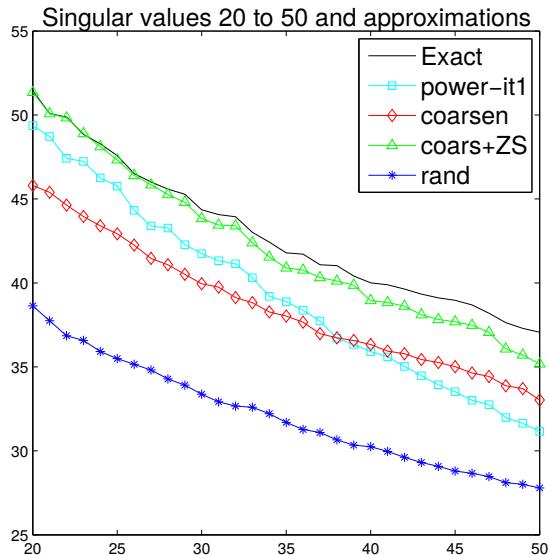
*Lemma:* Let  $C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times c}$  be the coarsened matrix of  $A$  obtained by one level of coarsening of  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , with columns  $a^{(i)}$  and  $a^{(j)}$  matched if  $\tan \theta_i \leq \epsilon$ . Then

$$|x^T A A^T x - x^T C C^T x| \leq 3\epsilon \|A\|_F^2,$$

for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$  with  $\|x\|_2 = 1$ .

- Very simple bound for Rayleigh quotients for any  $x$ .
- Implies some bounds on singular values and norms - skipped.

## Tests: Comparing singular values



Results for the datasets CRANFIELD (left), MEDLINE (middle), and TIME (right).

► See [S. Ubaru, YS. NLAA, 2018]

**LANCZOS FOR EIGENVALUES → LANCZOS FOR DIM. REDUCTION**

## *IR: Use of the Lanczos algorithm (J. Chen, YS '09)*

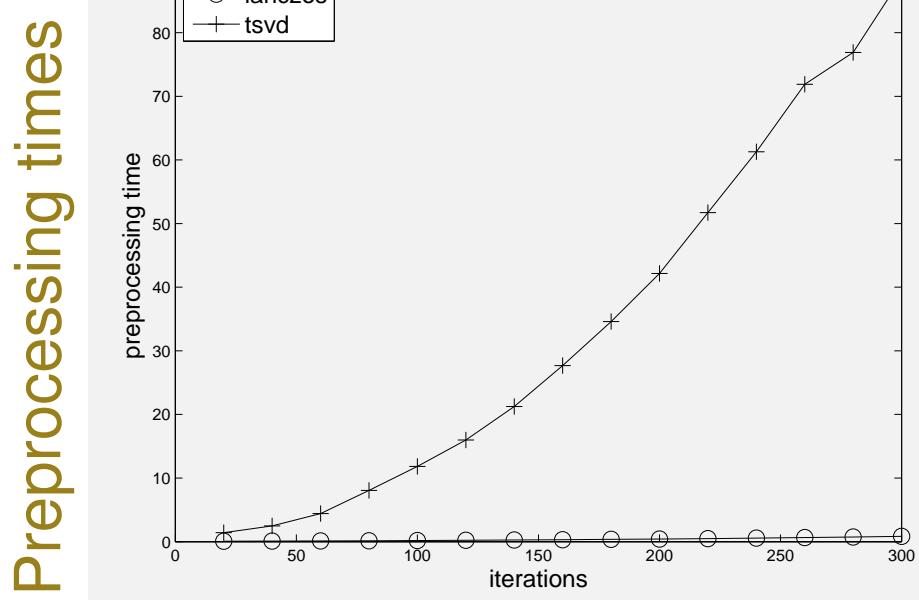
- Lanczos algorithm = Projection method on Krylov subspace  $\text{Span}\{v, Av, \dots, A^{m-1}v\}$
  - Can get singular vectors with Lanczos, & use them in LSI
  - Better: Use the Lanczos vectors directly for the projection
  - K. Blom and A. Ruhe [SIMAX, vol. 26, 2005] perform a Lanczos run for each query [expensive].
- Proposed: One Lanczos run- random initial vector. Then use Lanczos vectors in place of singular vectors.
- In short: Results comparable to those of SVD at a much lower cost.

## Tests: IR

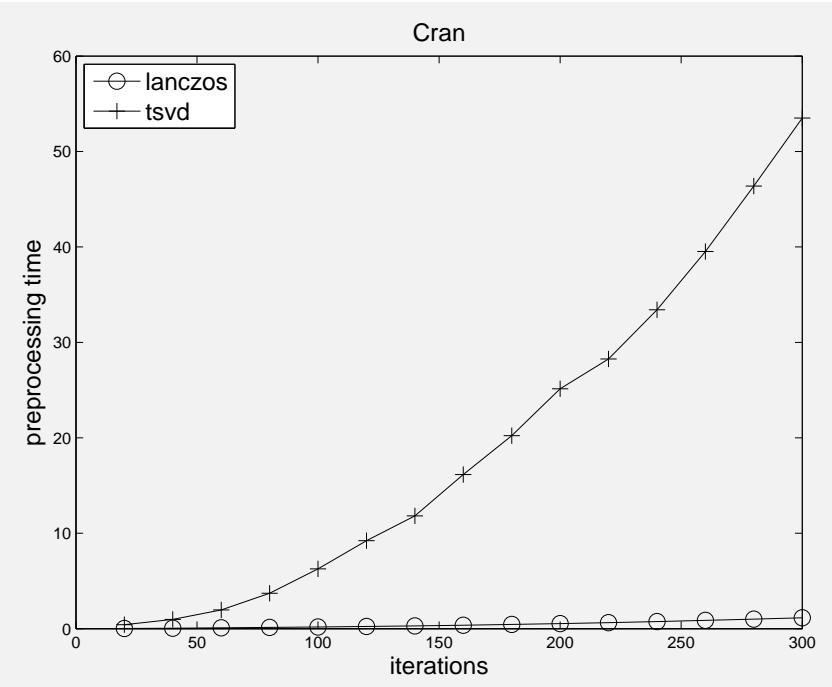
Information retrieval datasets

	# Terms	# Docs	# queries	sparsity
MED	7,014	1,033	30	0.735
CRAN	3,763	1,398	225	1.412

Med dataset.

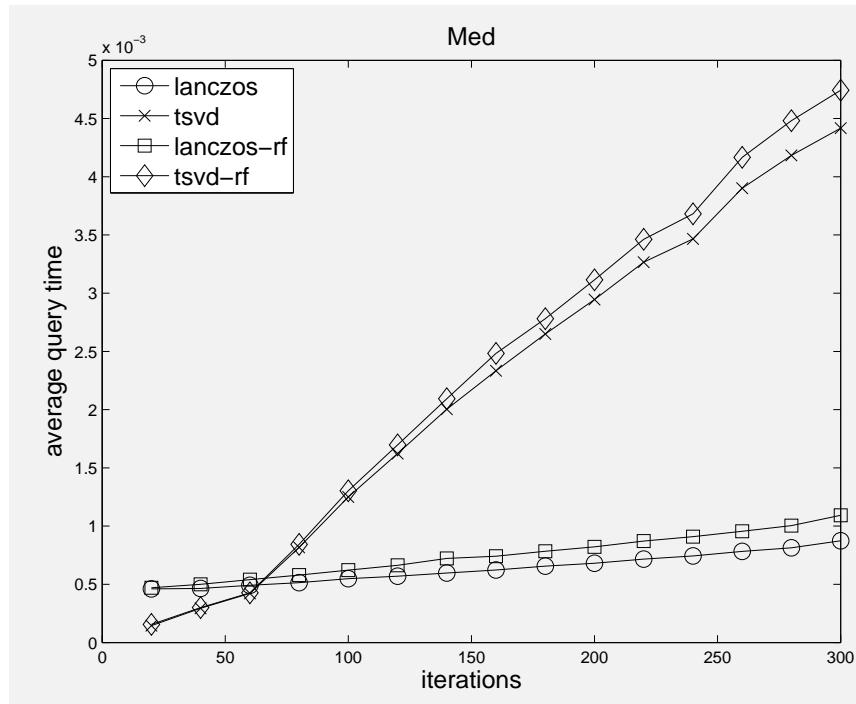


Cran dataset.

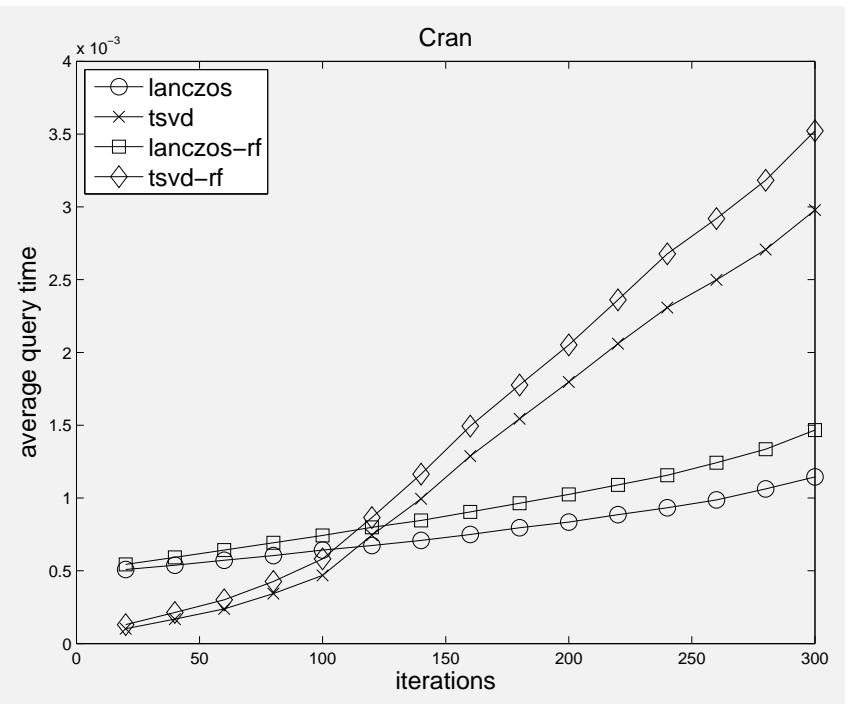


## Average query times

Med dataset

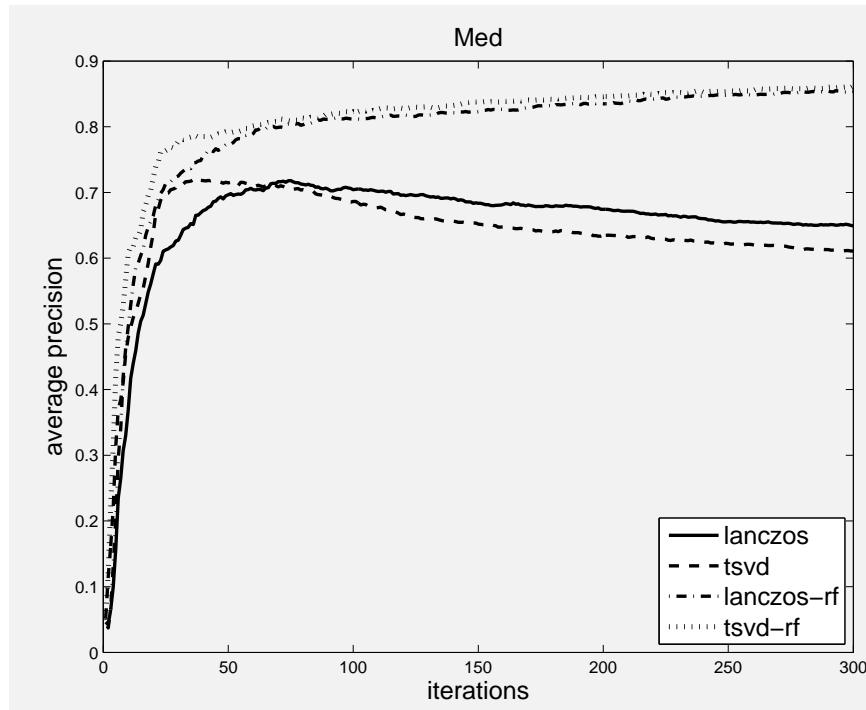


Cran dataset.

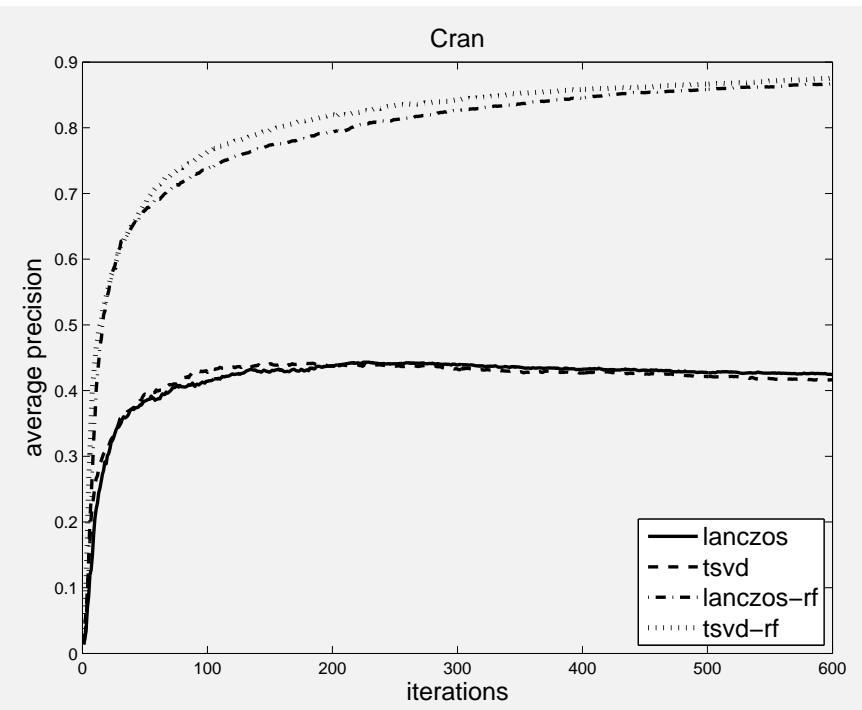


## Average retrieval precision

Med dataset



Cran dataset

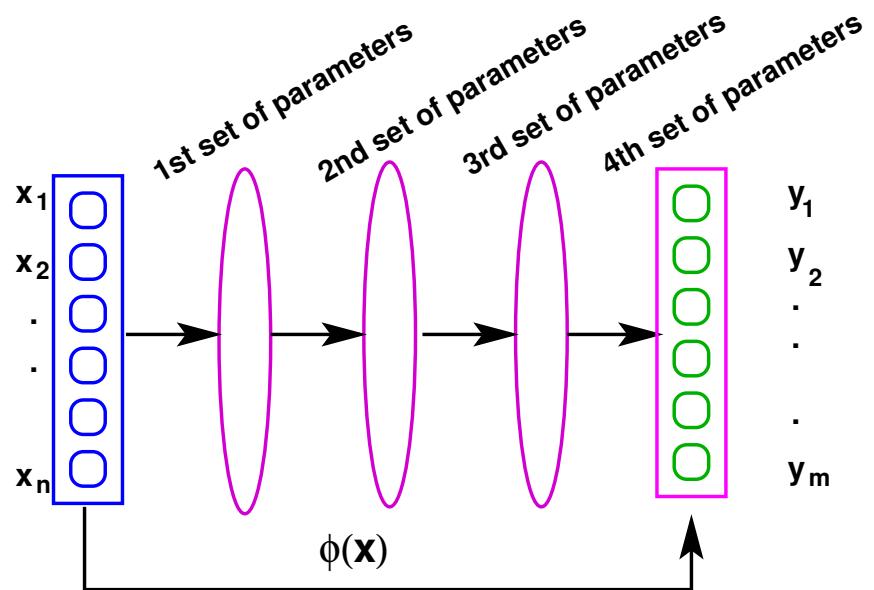


Retrieval precision comparisons

## *A few words on Deep Neural Networks (DNNs)*

- Ideas of neural networks goes back to the 1960s - were popularized in early 1990s – then laid dormant until recently.
- Two reasons for the come-back:
  - DNN are remarkably effective in some applications
  - big progress made in hardware [→ affordable ‘training cost’]

- Training a neural network can be viewed as a problem of approximating a function  $\phi$  which is defined via sets of parameters:



**Problem:** find sets of parameters such that  $\phi(x) \approx y$

**Input:**  $x$ , **Output:**  $y$

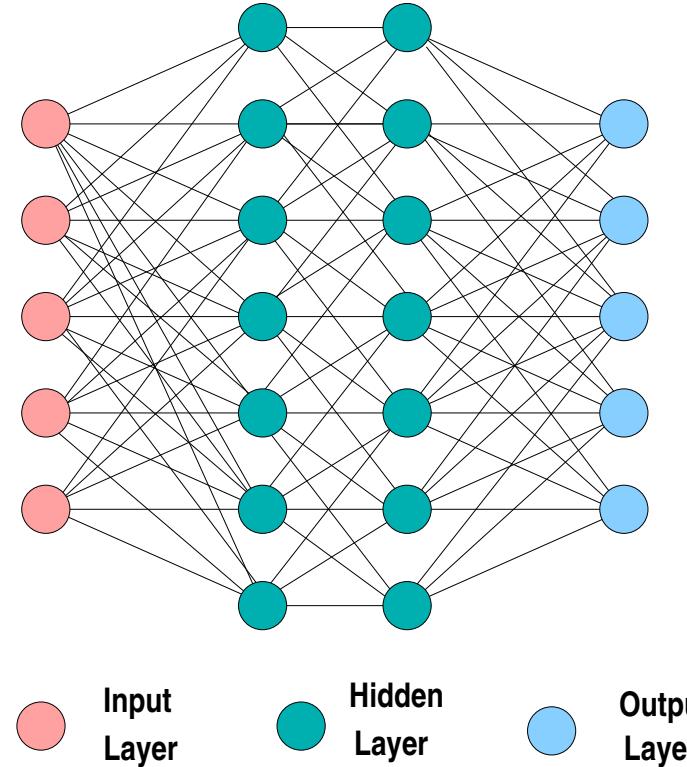
**Set:**  $z_0 = x$

**For**  $l = 1 : L+1$  **Do:**

$$z_l = \sigma(W_l^T z_{l-1} + b_l)$$

**End**

**Set:**  $y = \phi(x) := z_{L+1}$



- layer # 0 = input layer
- layer # ( $L + 1$ ) = output layer

➤ A matrix  $W_l$  is associated with layers 1,2,  $L + 1$ .

➤ Problem: Find  $\phi$  (i.e., matrices  $W_l$ ) s.t.  $\phi(x) \approx y$

## *DNN (continued)*

- Problem is not convex, highly parameterized, ...,
- .. Main method used: Stochastic gradient descent [basic]
- It all looks like alchemy... but it works well for certain applications
- Training is still quite expensive – GPUs can help
- **\*Very\*** active area of research

## *Conclusion*

- \*Many\* interesting **new matrix problems** in areas that involve the effective mining of data
- Among the **most pressing issues** is that of reducing computational cost - [SVD, SDP, ..., too costly]
- Many online resources available
- Huge potential in areas like materials science though inertia has to be overcome
- To a researcher in computational linear algebra : Tsunami of change on types or problems, algorithms, frameworks, culture,..
- But change should be welcome :

In the words of “Who Moved My Cheese?” [ Spencer Johnson, 2002]

*“If you do not change, you can become extinct !”*

- In the words of Einstein:

*“Life is like riding a bicycle: To keep your balance you need to keep moving”*

**Thank you !**

- Visit my web-site at [www.cs.umn.edu/~saad](http://www.cs.umn.edu/~saad)