

# Low-Distortion Embeddings II

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Lecture 20: Low-Distortion  
Embeddings II

# In the previous episode

- Definition of embedding  $f:M \rightarrow M'$  with distortion  $c$
- Isometric embedding of  $l_1^d$  into  $l_\infty^{2^d}$ 
  - $l_\infty^{d'}$  diameter in  $O(nd')$  time
  - $l_1^d$  diameter in  $O(n2^d)$  time
- Mentioned  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -distortion embedding of  $l_2^d$  into  $l_1^{d'}$ , where  $d' = O(d/\varepsilon^2 \log(1/\varepsilon))$ 
  - $f(u) = Au$ , where  $A$  is a “random” matrix
- Embedding of  $M=(X,D)$  into  $l_\infty^d$ 
  - Isometry for  $d=|X|$
  - Distortion  $O(c)$  for  $d=|X|^{1/c}$

# Today

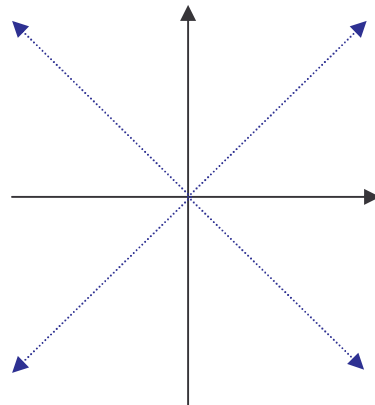
- $(1+\varepsilon)$ -distortion embedding of  $l_2$  into  $l_\infty$ 
  - Approximate diameter in  $l_2$
- $(1+\varepsilon)$ -distortion embedding of  $(X, l_2)$ ,  $X$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , into  $l_2^{d'}$ , where  $d' = O(\log |X| / \varepsilon^2)$ 
  - $(1+\varepsilon)$ -approximate Near Neighbor in  $l_2^d$
  - Query time:  $O(d \log n / \varepsilon^2)$
  - Space:  $n^{O(\log(1/\varepsilon)/\varepsilon^2)}$

# $(1+\varepsilon)$ -embedding of $l_2$ into $l_\infty$

- We know:
  - $(1+\varepsilon)$ -embedding of  $l_2^d$  into  $l_1^{O(d/\varepsilon^2 \log(1/\varepsilon))}$
  - Isometry of  $l_1^d$  into  $l_\infty^{2^d}$
  - Therefore:  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -embedding of  $l_2^d$  into  $l_\infty^{d'}$ ,  
where  $d' = 2^{O(d/\varepsilon^2 \log(1/\varepsilon))}$
- We will improve  $d'$  to  $O(1/\varepsilon)^{(d-1)/2}$

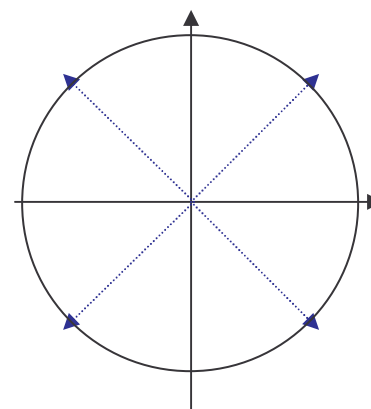
# Consider $d=2$

- For embedding into  $l_1$  we used  $f(x,y)=[x+y,x-y,-x+y,-x-y]$ 
  - Since  $f$  linear, we have  $\|f(p)-f(q)\|=\|f(p-q)\|$
  - $\|(x,y)\|_1 = |x|+|y| = \max[ x+y , x-y , -x+y , -x-y ]$



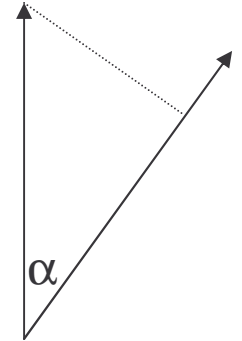
# Embedding of $l_2$

- Again, use projections
  - Onto unit ( $l_2$ ) vectors  $v_1 \dots v_k$
  - Requirement: vectors are “densely” spaced
  - I.e., for any  $u$  there is  $v_i$  such that  $u^*v_i \geq \|u\|_2 / (1+\epsilon)$
  - Can assume  $\|u\|_2=1$
- How big is  $k$  ?



# Lemma

- Consider two unit vectors  $u$  and  $v$ , such that the  $\text{angle}(u,v)=\alpha$ .  
Then  $u \cdot v \geq 1 - O(\alpha^2)$
- Proof:  $u \cdot v = \cos(\alpha)$   
 $\approx 1 + \alpha \cos'(\alpha) + \alpha^2 \cos''(\alpha)/2$   
 $\approx 1 - \alpha^2/2$
- Therefore, suffices to use  $2\pi/\varepsilon^{1/2}$  vectors to get distortion  $1 + O(\varepsilon)$



# Higher Dimensions

- For  $d=2$  we get  $d'=O(1/\varepsilon^{1/2})$
- For any  $d$  we get  $d'=O(1/\varepsilon)^{(d-1)/2}$ 
  - Can “cover” a unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with  $O(1/\alpha)^{d-1}$  vectors so that any  $v$  has angle  $<\alpha$  with at least one of the vectors
  - The remainder is the same
- Yields an  $O(1/\varepsilon)^{(d-1)/2}n$  – time algorithm for approximate diameter in  $l_2$



# Dimensionality Reduction

[Johnson-Lindenstrauss'85]: For any  $X$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $|X|=n$ , there is a  $(1+\varepsilon)$ -distortion embedding of  $(X, l_2)$ , into  $l_2^{d'}$ , where  $d'=O(\log n / \varepsilon^2)$

# Proof

- Need to show that for any vector  $p, q$  in  $X$ , we have  $\|f(p)-f(q)\| \approx S \|p-q\|$
- Our mapping:  $f(u)=Au$ ,  $A$  “random”
- Sufficient to show that for a *fixed*  $u=p-q$ , where  $p, q$  in  $X$ , we have  $\|Au\| \approx S\|u\|$  with probability at least  $1-1/n^2$
- In fact, by linearity of  $A$  we can assume  $\|u\|=1$ , so we just need to show  $\|Au\| \approx S$

# Normal Distribution

- Normal distribution:
  - Range:  $(-\infty, \infty)$
  - Density:  $f(x) = e^{-x^2/2} / (2\pi)^{1/2}$
  - Mean=0, Variance=1
  - If  $X$  and  $Y$  independent r.v. with normal distribution, then  $X+Y$  has normal distribution
- Basic facts:
  - $\text{Var}(cX) = c^2 \text{Var}(X)$
  - If  $X, Y$  independent, then  $\text{Var}(X+Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$

# Back to embedding

- We map  $f(u)=Au=[a^1*u,\dots,a^{d'}*u]$  , where each entry of  $A$  has normal distribution
- Consider  $Z=a^i*u = a^*u=\sum_i a_i u_i$
- Each term  $a_i u_i$ 
  - Has normal distribution
  - With variance  $u_i^2$
- Thus,  $Z$  has normal distribution with variance  $\sum_i u_i^2 = 1$
- This holds for each  $a^j$

# What is $\|Au\|_2$

- $\|Au\|^2 = (a^1 * u)^2 + \dots + (a^{d'} * u)^2 = Z_1^2 + \dots + Z_{d'}^2$   
where:

- All  $Z_i$ 's are independent
- Each has normal distribution with variance=1

- Therefore,  $E[\|Au\|^2] = d' * E[Z_1^2] = d'$

- By Chernoff-like bound

$$\Pr[|\|Au\|^2 - d'| > \epsilon d'] < e^{-B d' \epsilon^2} < 1/n^2$$

for some constant  $B$

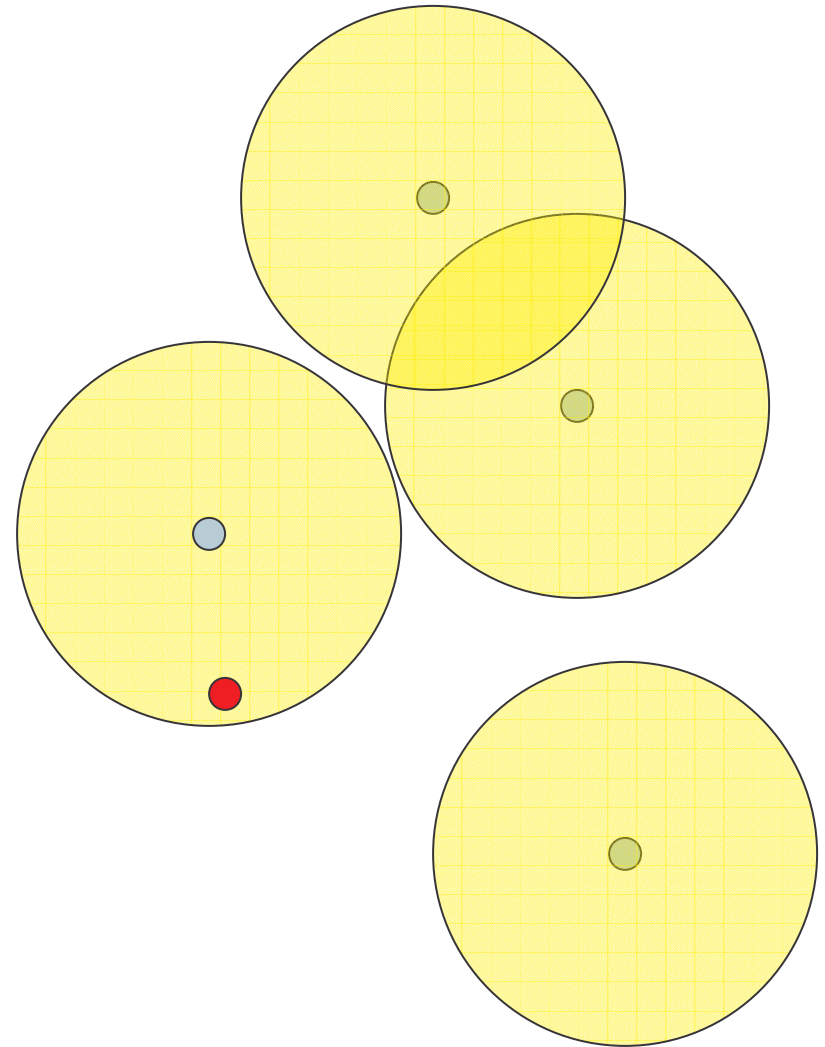
- So,  $\|Au\|_2 \approx (d')^{1/2}$  with probability  $1 - 1/n^2$

# Application to Near Neighbor

- Suppose we have an algorithm with:
  - $O(d)$  query time
  - $O(1/\epsilon)^d$  n space
- Then we get:
  - $O(d \log n / \epsilon^2)$  query time
  - $n^{O(\log(1/\epsilon)/\epsilon^2)}$  space

# $O(1/\epsilon)^d$ n space NN

- Assume  $r=1$



# Grid

- Impose a grid with side length= $\epsilon/d^{1/2}$
- Parameters:
  - Cell diameter:  $\epsilon$
  - #cells/ball:  $O(1/\epsilon)^d$
- Store all cells touching a ball

