# ALORA: Affine low-rank approximation 

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- The SVD approximation can be constructed iteratively as (affine) subspace fitting of a set of columns.
- Matrix (hierarchical) structure must be exploited to increase precision with small cost.
- Black-box fast solvers can efficiently replace classical solvers for PDE's and integral equations.


## Truncated SVD

Given $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, m \geq n$, there exits orthogonal matrices $U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ and $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$
A=U \Sigma V^{T}=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
u_{1} & \cdots & u_{m}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\sigma_{1} & & \\
& \ddots & \\
& & \sigma_{n}
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{lll}
v_{1} & \cdots & v_{n}
\end{array}\right]^{T}
$$

where $\sigma_{1} \geq \sigma_{2} \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_{n} \geq 0$ are the singular values and $u_{j}$ and $v_{j}$ are the left and right singular vectors associated to $\sigma_{j}$.

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The truncated SVD decomposition is defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{T}_{k}(A):=U_{k} \Sigma_{k} V_{k}^{T} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $U_{k}:=\left[u_{1} \cdots u_{k}\right], \Sigma_{k}:=\operatorname{diag}\left(\sigma_{1}, \ldots, \sigma_{k}\right)$ and $V_{k}:=\left[\begin{array}{lll}v_{1} & \cdots & v_{k}\end{array}\right]$.

## Error of TSVD approximation

For the spectral and Frobenius norms it holds

$$
\left\|\mathcal{T}_{k}(A)-A\right\|_{2}=\sigma_{k+1}, \quad\left\|\mathcal{T}_{k}(A)-A\right\|_{F}=\sqrt{\sigma_{k+1}^{2}+\cdots+\sigma_{n}^{2}} .
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Theorem (Eckart and Young)
Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, then

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\begin{equation*}
\left\|\mathcal{T}_{k}(A)-A\right\|=\min \left\{\|A-B\|: B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text { has at most rank } k\right\} \tag{2}
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holds for any unitarily invariant norm.

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Remark

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Remark

- Problem (2) has a unique solution when the Frobenius norm is used, provided all $\sigma_{j}$ are different.
- If the spectral norm is used, the solutions are not unique since, e.g. for any $0 \leq \theta \leq 1, B=\mathcal{T}_{k}(A)-\theta \sigma_{k+1} U_{k} V_{k}^{T}$ is a solution, [Gu, M., 2014].


## Householder reflections

Definition (Householder reflector)
It is s a linear transformation that describes a reflection about an hyperplane containing the origin and orthogonal to $\mathbf{u}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{u}}:=I-\frac{2}{\|\mathbf{v}\|^{2}} \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}^{T} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathbf{v}=\mathbf{u}-\|\mathbf{u}\| \mathbf{e}$ is the Householder vector and $\mathbf{e}=(1,0, \cdots, 0)^{T}$.

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where $\mathbf{v}=\mathbf{u}-\|\mathbf{u}\| \mathbf{e}$ is the Householder vector and $\mathbf{e}=(1,0, \cdots, 0)^{T}$.
Since $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{u})=\|\mathbf{u}\| \mathbf{e}$, a complete pivoted QR factorization can be constructed via Householder reflections, this is

$$
\begin{equation*}
A \Pi=\underbrace{Q_{1} \cdots Q_{n}}_{=: Q} R=Q R, \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\Pi$ is a permutation, $Q_{1}=\mathcal{H}_{1}$ and for $j=\{2 \cdots n\}$

$$
Q_{j}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
I_{j} & 0 \\
0 & \mathcal{H}_{j}
\end{array}\right]
$$

$I_{j}$ : Identity matrix of size $(j-1) \times(j-1)$.

## Error of QR approximation

For a rank- $k$ QR approximation only consider the first $k$ reflections as follows

$$
\begin{aligned}
A=Q R \Pi^{T} & \left.=\begin{array}{cc}
k & r-k
\end{array} \begin{array}{cc} 
\\
m & {\left[\begin{array}{ll}
Q_{11} & Q_{12}
\end{array}\right]}
\end{array} \begin{array}{c}
k \\
r-k
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\\
r-k-k \\
R_{11} & R_{12} \\
0 & R_{22}
\end{array}\right] \Pi^{T} \\
& =\underbrace{Q_{11}\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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\end{array}\right] \Pi^{T}}_{\text {"residual" }}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $Q=Q_{1} \cdots Q_{k}$, and

$$
\left\|A-A_{k}\right\|=\left\|Q_{12}\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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- Computing $A_{k}$ is typically faster than computing the TSVD.
- The choice of $\Pi$ is of great importance to control the error.
- Note that $\sigma_{k}(A)=\sigma_{k}(R)$.

Choosing the pivot using the maximal volume criteria

Theorem (Goreinov and Tyrtyshnikov, 2001)
Let us consider

$$
R=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
R_{11} & R_{12} \\
R_{21} & R_{22}
\end{array}\right]
$$

where $R_{11} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ has maximal volume (i.e., maximum determinant in absolute value) among all $k \times k$ submatrices of $R$. Then

$$
\left\|R_{22}-R_{21} R_{11}^{-1} R_{12}\right\|_{\max } \leq(k+1) \sigma_{k+1}(R)
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where $\|M\|_{\max }:=\max _{i, j}|M(i, j)|$.

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Good news: Since for a low-rank QR factorization we have $R_{21}=0$, then

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Bad news: Finding a submatrix of maximum volume has been proven to be NP-hard, Civril and Magdon-Ismail (2011).

Choosing the pivot using the classical column pivoting QRCP
QRCP takes as pivot the column of largest norm at each step, the error is bounded as

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\begin{equation*}
\left\|R_{22}\right\|_{2} \leq 2^{k} \sqrt{n-k} \sigma_{k+1}(A) . \tag{6}
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In general, $\left\|R_{22}\right\|_{2} \leq g(k, n) \sigma_{k+1}(A)$,

## Choosing the pivot using the classical column pivoting QRCP

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In general, $\left\|R_{22}\right\|_{2} \leq g(k, n) \sigma_{k+1}(A)$,

| Method | Reference | $\mathrm{g}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{n})$ | Time |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pivoted QR | [Golub, 1965] | $\sqrt{(n-k)}{ }^{k}$ | $O(m n k)$ |
| High RRQR | [Foster, 1986] | $\sqrt{n(n-k) 2^{n-k}}$ | $O\left(m n^{2}\right)$ |
| High RRQR | [Chan, 1987] | $\sqrt{n(n-k) 2^{2-k}}$ | $O\left(m n^{2}\right)$ |
| RRQR | [Hong and Pan, 1992] | $\sqrt{k(n-k)+k}$ | - |
| Low RRQR | [Chan and Hansen, 1994] | $\sqrt{(k+1) n 2^{k+1}}$ | $O\left(m n^{2}\right)$ |
| Hybrid-I RRQR | [Chandr. and Ipsen, 1994] | $\sqrt{(k+1)(n-k)}$ | - |
| Hybrid-II RRQR |  | $\sqrt{(k+1)(n-k)}$ | - |
| Hybrid-III RRQR |  | $\sqrt{(k+1)(n-k)}$ | - |
| Algorithm 3 | [Gu and Eisenstat, 1996] | $\sqrt{k(n-k)+1}$ | - |
| Algorithm 4 |  | $\sqrt{f^{2} k(n-k)+1}$ | $O\left(k m n \log _{f}(n)\right)$ |
| DGEQPY | [Bischof and Orti, 1998] | $O\left(\sqrt{(k+1)^{2}(n-k)}\right)$ | - |
| DGEQPX |  | $O(\sqrt{(k+1)(n-k))}$ | - |
| SPQR | [Stewart, 1999] | - | - |
| PT Algorithm 1 | [Pan and Tang, 1999] | $O(\sqrt{(k+1)(n-k))}$ | - |
| PT Algorithm 2 |  | $O\left(\sqrt{\left.(k+1)^{2}(n-k)\right)}\right.$ | - |
| PT Algorithm 3 |  | $O\left(\sqrt{\left.(k+1)^{2}(n-k)\right)}\right.$ | - |
| Pan Algorithm 2 | [Pan, 2000] | $O(\sqrt{k(n-k)+1)}$ | - |

Figure: Different algorithms for low-rank QR approximation, Mahoney et al. (2010).

Low rank approximation using subspace iteration

The following algorithm is the basic subspace iteration method,

## Algorithm $1\left[A_{k}\right]=\operatorname{SubspaceIter}(A, \Omega, k, q)$

Requires: $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times l}$, with $l \geq k$.
Returns: rank- $k$ approximation of $A$.
1: Perform $Y=\left(A A^{T}\right)^{q} A \Omega$.
2: Compute (economic) QR decomposition $Y=Q R$.
3: Form $B=Q^{T} A$.
4: Set $A_{k}:=Q \mathcal{T}_{k}(B)$.

Low rank approximation using subspace iteration

The following algorithm is the basic subspace iteration method,

## Algorithm $2\left[A_{k}\right]=\operatorname{SubspaceIter}(A, \Omega, k, q)$

Requires: $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times l}$, with $l \geq k$.
Returns: rank- $k$ approximation of $A$.
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- Note that setting $k=l=1$ then Algorithm 1 is the classical power method.


## Low rank approximation using subspace iteration

The following algorithm is the basic subspace iteration method,

## Algorithm $3\left[A_{k}\right]=\operatorname{SubspaceIter}(A, \Omega, k, q)$

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4: Set $A_{k}:=Q \mathcal{T}_{k}(B)$.

- Note that setting $k=l=1$ then Algorithm 1 is the classical power method.
- If $\Omega$ is a random Gaussian matrix, then setting $l=2 k$ and $q=0$, we get the expected error [Halko, N. et al, 2014]

$$
\mathbb{E}\left\|A-A_{k}\right\|_{2} \leq\left(2+4 \sqrt{\frac{2 \min \{m, n\}}{k-1}}\right) \sigma_{k+1}
$$

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To find the error of approximation, consider the SVD of $A=U \Sigma V^{T}$ and the partition

$$
\widehat{\Omega}:=V^{T} \Omega=\begin{gathered}
l-p \\
n-l+p
\end{gathered}\left[\begin{array}{c}
\widehat{\Omega}_{1} \\
\widehat{\Omega}_{2}
\end{array}\right], \quad 0 \leq p \leq l-k .
$$

If $\widehat{\Omega}_{1}$ is full row rank, then the error is bounded as ([Gu, M., 2014])

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|A-A_{k}\right\|_{2} \leq \sqrt{\sigma_{k+1}^{2}+\omega^{2}\left\|\widehat{\Omega}_{2}\right\|_{2}^{2}\left\|\widehat{\Omega}_{1}^{\dagger}\right\|_{2}^{2}} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\omega=\sqrt{k} \sigma_{l-p+1}\left(\frac{\sigma_{l-p+1}}{\sigma_{k}}\right)^{2 q}$ and $\widehat{\Omega}_{1} \widehat{\Omega}_{1}^{\dagger}=I$.

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Remark
If $G$ is $a(l-p) \times l$ is a Gaussian matrix, then $\operatorname{rank}(G)=l-p$ with probability 1 .

How do the singular vectors converge?
(1) We need to investigate the rate at which we are approaching to a best fitting subspace.

How do the singular vectors converge?
(1) We need to investigate the rate at which we are approaching to a best fitting subspace.
(2) How do we measure the distance between subspaces?

- Consider $W_{1}, W_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k}$ with orthogonal columns.
- Let let $S_{1}:=\operatorname{ran}\left(W_{1}\right)$ and $S_{2}:=\operatorname{ran}\left(W_{2}\right)$, then

$$
\operatorname{dist}\left(S_{1}, S_{2}\right):=\left\|W_{1} W_{1}^{T}-W_{2} W_{2}^{T}\right\|_{2}
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Theorem (Ayala et al., 2017)
Using the notation from Algorithm 1, Let $S_{u}=\operatorname{ran}\left(\left[u_{1} \cdots u_{l}\right]\right)$ and $S_{q}=\operatorname{ran}(Q)$, considering $\widehat{\Omega}_{1}$ nonsingular and $p=0$, then

$$
\operatorname{dist}\left(S_{u}, S_{q}\right) \leq\left(\frac{\sigma_{l+1}}{\sigma_{l}}\right)^{2 q+1}\left\|\widehat{\Omega}_{2}\right\|_{2}\left\|\widehat{\Omega}_{1}^{-1}\right\|_{2}
$$

provided $\sigma_{l+1}>\sigma_{l}$.

## Finding a good Householder vector

When choosing the pivot as one of the columns of $A$ the questions that arise are: How close the error is with respect to the truncated SVD?, Which choice of pivot is the optimal?.

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Given $A=\left[\begin{array}{llll}a_{1} & a_{2} & \cdots & a_{n}\end{array}\right]$, let $u \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$ be any unitary vector, then

$$
\mathcal{H}_{u} A=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
h_{a_{1}} & h_{a_{2}} & \cdots & h_{a_{n}}
\end{array}\right] .
$$



Figure: Householder reflection: $p_{j}$ and $d_{j}$ denote the projections of $a_{j}$ along and orthogonal to $u$ respectively.

Error for a rank-one approximation with arbitrary Householder vector.

$$
\mathcal{H}_{u} A=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
\left\|a_{1}\right\|_{2} \cos \left(\varphi_{1}\right) & \left\|a_{2}\right\|_{2} \cos \left(\varphi_{2}\right) & \cdots & \left\|a_{n}\right\|_{2} \cos \left(\varphi_{n}\right)  \tag{8}\\
r_{1} & r_{2} & \cdots & r_{n}
\end{array}\right],
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where $r_{j} \in \mathbb{R}^{m-1}$.

Error for a rank-one approximation with arbitrary Householder vector.

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\begin{equation*}
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\end{equation*}
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approximates $A$ with an error given by the norm of the residual matrix $E:=\left[r_{1} \cdots r_{n}\right]$. By the Pythagorean theorem $\left\|r_{j}\right\|_{2}=\left\|a_{j}\right\|_{2} \sin \left(\varphi_{j}\right)$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|A-A_{1}\right\|_{F}^{2}=\|E\|_{F}^{2}=\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left\|r_{j}\right\|_{2}^{2}=\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left\|a_{j}\right\|_{2}^{2} \sin ^{2}\left(\varphi_{j}\right) \tag{10}
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Which choice of $u$ minimizes this error?

## Solving the optimization problem

We seek the hyperline in the $m$ dimensional space that minimizes the sum of squared orthogonal distances from the points $a_{j}$ 's to itself. This is the total least-square problem.

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Define the matrix

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\begin{equation*}
Y:=\left[a_{1}-g \cdots a_{n}-g\right] . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
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- The best fitting line of the points $\left\{a_{j}\right.$ 's $\}$ is given by

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\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{L}:=\{g+u \tau \quad \mid \quad \tau \in \mathbb{R}\} . \tag{13}
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where $g:=(1 / n) \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{j}$ and $u=u_{1}(Y)$, [Schneider et al., 2003].

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- If we impose the condition that the line passes through the origin, then the solution would be

$$
\begin{equation*}
\tilde{\mathcal{L}}:=\{\tilde{u} \tau \quad \mid \quad \tau \in \mathbb{R}\} . \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\tilde{u}=u_{1}(A)$.

Best fitting (affine) subspace.


Figure: Solution of the total least-square problem (left) and its solution by imposing the condition to pass through the origin $O$ (right).

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Figure: Solution of the total least-square problem (left) and its solution by imposing the condition to pass through the origin $O$ (right).

- To approximate $u_{1}(Y)$ we can use the fact that it is the principal component of $C=Y Y^{T}$, the covariance matrix.
- There exists work on PCA on trimming around affine subspaces [Croux et al., 2014].

Error approximation for ALORA
Consider $c=[1, \cdots, 1]^{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{m}$. Let $u=u_{1}(Y)=u_{1}(A-g c)$ and define

$$
\begin{equation*}
B=A-T, \quad T=(g-\alpha u) c, \tag{15}
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where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

- Considering $g_{B}=(1 / n) \sum_{j=1}^{n} b_{j}$, then clearly $g_{B}=u$.


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$$
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Lemma
Let $r=\operatorname{rank}(Y) \alpha \in R$, then $\operatorname{rank}(B)=r$ and

$$
\begin{gathered}
u_{j}(B)=u_{j}(Y) \quad \forall j \in\{1 \cdots r\} \\
\sigma_{1}(B)=\sqrt{\sigma_{1}(Y)^{2}+n \alpha^{2}} \quad \text { and } \quad v_{1}(B)=\left(\alpha c+\sigma_{1}(Y) v_{1}(Y)\right) / \sigma_{1}(B) . \\
\sigma_{j}(B)=\sigma_{j}(Y) \quad \text { and } \quad v_{j}(B)=v_{j}(Y) \quad \forall j \in\{2 \cdots r\} .
\end{gathered}
$$

## Lemma

Let $B_{k}$ be a rank- $k$ approximation of $B$ such that

$$
\left\|B-B_{k}\right\|_{2} \leq g(k, n) \sigma_{k+1}(B)
$$

where $g$ is a function of $k$ and $n$. Define $A_{k+1}=B_{k}+T$, then

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Corollary

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{k+1}(B) \leq \sigma_{k+1}(A) \leq \sigma_{k}(B) \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Error approximation for ALORA

Lemma
Consider $A_{l}=B_{l-1}+T$, where $B_{l-1}$ is a rank $l-1$ approximation of $B$, then

$$
\left\|A-A_{l}\right\|_{2} \leq g(l, n, C) \sigma_{l+1}(A)
$$

where $C=(A-g)(A-g)^{T}$ is the covariance matrix and

$$
g(l, n, C)=\sqrt{\frac{r+s \sqrt{\frac{n-l}{l}}}{r-s \sqrt{\frac{l}{n-l}}}}
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with $r=\frac{\operatorname{tr}(C)}{n}$ and $s=\sqrt{\frac{\operatorname{tr}\left(C^{2}\right)}{n}-r^{2}}$.

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Proof.
Use Theorem 3.1 from [Merikosky et al., 1983] on matrix $C$.

## Affine low rank approximation (ALORA)

## Algorithm $4\left[A_{k+1}\right]=\operatorname{ALORA}(A, k)$

Require: $A=\left[\begin{array}{llll}a_{1} & a_{2} & \cdots & a_{n}\end{array}\right] \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$.
Returns: rank $k+1$ approximation of $A$.
1: $g=(1 / n) \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{j}, c=[1 \cdots 1] \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times n}$.
2: $u:=$ first singular vector of $Y$.
3: $\alpha=g(1) / u(1)$.
4: $T=(g-\alpha u) c$.
5: Compute $B_{k}$ : a rank- $k$ approximation of $B=Y+\alpha u c$.
6: $A_{k+1}=T+B_{k}$
Ensure: $\left\|A-A_{k+1}\right\|_{2} \leq \sigma_{k}(A)$

Note that if the directions of the fitting lines are computed using a rank-revealing QR algorithm, then ALORA will produce a translated QR factorization.

## Approximation error using ALORA with QRCP

- Using QRCP to approximate the direction of the best fitting line, then ALORA yields a QRCP factorization plus a rank-one translation matrix.



Figure: Low-rank approximation of a random matrix with slowly decreasing singular values (left), and the Kahan matrix (right), size $m=n=256$.

## ALORA with QRCP

- For matrices with slowly decreasing singular values, typically the first part of the spectrum is better approximated by ALORA.



Figure: Low-rank approximation of matrices GKS (left), and Baart1 (right), size $m=n=256$.

## Approximation error using ALORA with Subspace Iteration

- Using Subspace iteration (Alg. 1 with $p=2, q=1$ ), to approximate the direction of the best fitting line, then ALORA improves the convergence error.
- The error get smaller while increasing $p$ or $q$ in Alg. 1 .



Figure: Low-rank approximation of matrices GKS (left), and Baart1 (right), size $m=n=256$.

## Approximation of singular values



- For QRCP (top) we plot $\frac{\lfloor R(i, i) \mid}{\sigma_{i}}$.
- For ALORA (bottom) we plot $\frac{\left|R^{(B)}(i, i)\right|}{\sigma_{i}}$.


## Reduction with tournament pivoting



- Tournament pivoting scheme (CARRQR, [Demmel et al., 2015]) on a $m$-by-10 matrix using 3 processors.


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- Tournament pivoting scheme (CARRQR, [Demmel et al., 2015]) on a $m$-by-10 matrix using 3 processors.
- The umber of messages (two) is independent of the number of columns and it is obviously optimal.
- We use this reduction to in general select approximative directions instead of pivot columns.
- PALORA: Parallel ALORA using QRCP.
- CALRQR: Low-rank version of CARRQR.
- PDGEKQP: A low-rank version of the ScaLapack routine PDGEQP.



Figure: Low-rank approximation of matrices GKS (left), and Phillips (right), size $m=n=512$.

## ALORA_IE: modified ALORA for integral equations

- We create a (hierarchical) partition of the domain.
- In such a way that the matrix corresponding to each subdomain has a best fitting line which direction can be approximated with its gravity center.
- Take advantage of the rapidly decreasing singular values.
- Construct a linear cost Householder reflection.
- Example: Consider the inner Dirichlet problem $\mathcal{A} u=f$

$$
\mathcal{A} u(x)=\frac{1}{4 \pi} \int_{\Gamma} \frac{u(y)}{|x-y|} d s_{y} .
$$

Defined over a 3D domain $\Gamma$.
(1) Discretize the equation by the classical Boundary element method and get the linear system $A x=b$.
(2) Factorize $A$ using QRCP, ALORA_IE, and the Adaptive Cross Approximation (ACA) algorithm.


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