

# One-Bit Phase Retrieval: Optimal Rates and Efficient Algorithms

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# Outline

**Introduction**

Optimal Rates

Efficient Algorithms

Simulations

Open Questions

# 1-Bit Compressed Sensing

- ▶ Compressed sensing: recover  $k$ -sparse  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  from

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \text{ with } m \ll n.$$

- ▶ 1-bit compressed sensing: recover  $k$ -sparse  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  from

$$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}); \quad (2)$$

we assume  $\mathbf{A} \sim \mathcal{N}^{m \times n}(0, 1)$

- ▶ Optimal  $\ell_2$  error rate is  $\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{k}{m})$  [JLBB13]<sup>1</sup> (upper bound achieved by infeasible program). Two downsides:

- ▶ Issue 1: Signal norm recovery is not possible (we assume  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ )
- ▶ Issue 2: In general hard to go beyond Gaussian design [ALPV14]<sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Using dithers  $\boldsymbol{\tau} \sim \text{Unif}([- \lambda, \lambda]^m)$  addresses both issues [DM21]<sup>3</sup>:

$$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\tau}) \quad (3)$$

- ▶ Signals with bounded  $\ell_2$  norm
- ▶  $\mathbf{A}$  has independent sub-Gaussian rows

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<sup>1</sup>Robust 1-Bit Compressive Sensing via Binary Stable Embeddings of Sparse Vectors

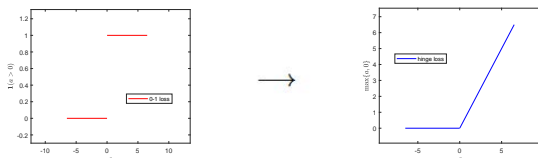
<sup>2</sup>One-bit compressed sensing with non-Gaussian measurements

<sup>3</sup>Non-Gaussian hyperplane tessellations and robust one-bit compressed sensing

# 1-Bit Compressed Sensing

- ▶ **Normalized Binary Iterative Hard Thresholding** — an efficient algorithm to achieve  $\tilde{O}(\frac{k}{m})$  [MM24]<sup>4</sup>
- ▶ Hamming distance loss  $\mathcal{L}_{hd}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}(\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \neq y_i)$   
 $= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}(-y_i \mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u} \geq 0) \rightarrow$  Hinge loss

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (-y_i \mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u} + |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}|) \quad (4)$$



- ▶ NBIHT starts with *arbitrary*  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  and produces

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \frac{\mathbb{T}_{(k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}))}{\|\mathbb{T}_{(k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}))\|_2}, \quad t = 0, 1, \dots \quad (5)$$

where  $\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) - \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{x})) \mathbf{a}_i$

<sup>4</sup>Binary iterative hard thresholding converges with optimal number of measurements for 1-bit compressed sensing

# Phase Retrieval

- ▶ In many applications we only observe the magnitude  $|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{x}|$  [SECCMS15]<sup>5</sup>
- ▶ Phase retrieval: the recovery of  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  from  $\mathbf{y} = |\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}|$

Similarity to solving linear systems (solve  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  from  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ ):

- ▶ All  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  can be exactly recovered to  $\{\pm\mathbf{x}\}$  from generic  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{(2n-1) \times n}$  [BCE06];<sup>6</sup>
- ▶ All  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  can be recovered to  $\{e^{i\theta}\mathbf{x} : \theta \in \mathbb{R}\}$  from generic  $\mathbb{C}^{(4n-4) \times n}$  [BCE06];
- ▶  $\mathbf{x}$  can be recovered from many efficient algorithms such as (truncated) Wirtinger flow [CLS15],<sup>7</sup> [CC17]<sup>8</sup> from  $O(n)$  Gaussian measurements;
- ▶ Randomized Kaczmarz also works for phase retrieval [TV19];<sup>9</sup>
- ▶ Sparse phase retrieval resembles compressed sensing in terms of sample complexity  $\tilde{O}(k \log \frac{n}{k})$  [EM14],<sup>10</sup> with a major difference on sample complexity for efficient algorithm  $\tilde{O}(k^2)$

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<sup>5</sup>Phase Retrieval with Application to Optical Imaging: A contemporary overview

<sup>6</sup>On signal reconstruction without phase

<sup>7</sup>Phase retrieval via Wirtinger flow: Theory and algorithms

<sup>8</sup>Solving random quadratic systems of equations is nearly as easy as solving linear systems

<sup>9</sup>Phase retrieval via randomized Kaczmarz: theoretical guarantees

<sup>10</sup>Phase retrieval: Stability and recovery guarantees

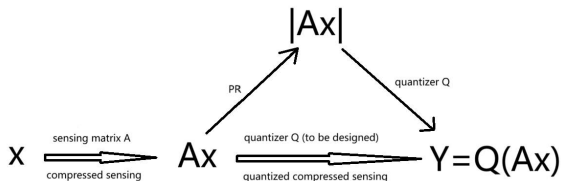
# 1-Bit Phase Retrieval

Question:

How to achieve phase retrieval from *quantized* measurements?

Why is this interesting?

- ▶ The loss of phase and quantization are both ubiquitous;
- ▶ Quantized phase retrieval is not theoretically well understood [DB22];<sup>11</sup>
- ▶ Is quantized phase retrieval *similar* to quantized compressed sensing in some sense?
- ▶ New contributions to the well-developed area of quantized compressed sensing.



<sup>11</sup>Phase Retrieval by Binary Questions: Which Complementary Subspace is Closer? ▶

# 1-Bit Phase Retrieval

Our problem setup:

- ▶ We deal with 1-bit phase retrieval
- ▶  $\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{x}|) = 1 \rightarrow$  no information!
- ▶ We use positive quantization threshold  $\tau > 0$  and observe

$$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}| - \tau) \quad (6)$$

- ▶ We assume  $\mathbf{A} \sim \mathcal{N}^{m \times n}(0, 1)$  and for some  $\beta \geq \alpha > 0$ :

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta := \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \alpha \leq \|\mathbf{u}\|_2 \leq \beta\} \quad (7)$$

- ▶ We study two cases:
  - ▶ 1-bit phase retrieval (1bPR):  $\mathbf{x}$  is unstructured
  - ▶ 1-bit sparse phase retrieval (1bSPR):  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $k$ -sparse

## Overview of this Talk

This talk demonstrates that:

Major findings in 1bCS theory, including *hyperplane tessellation*, *optimal rates* and *efficient algorithms*, can also be established in phase retrieval

In other words,

In some sense, phase information is inessential for 1bCS

Model	$\mathbf{y}$	$\mathbf{x}$	opti. rate	opti. alg sample
1bCS	$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x})$	$\Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$	$\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{k}{m})$	$\tilde{O}(k)$
D1bCS	$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\tau})$	$\Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{B}_2^n$	$\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{k}{m})$	$\tilde{O}(k)$
1bPR	$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}( \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}  - \tau)$	$\mathbb{A}_{1/2}^1$	$\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{n}{m})$	$\tilde{O}(n)$
1bSPR	$\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}( \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}  - \tau)$	$\Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{A}_{1/2}^1$	$\tilde{\Theta}(\frac{k}{m})$	$\tilde{O}(k^2)$



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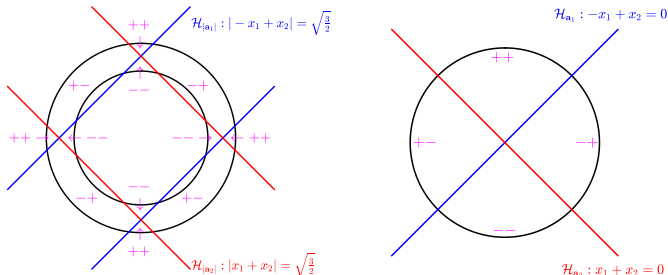
Open Questions

# Ideal Program & Tessellation

- ▶ The best program is to minimize hamming distance loss over signal set:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{hdm} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u} \in A_{\alpha}^{\beta}(\cap \Sigma_k^n)} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}(\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^{\top} \mathbf{u}| - \tau) \neq y_i) \quad (8)$$

- ▶ In the noiseless case with  $y_i = \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^{\top} \mathbf{x}| - \tau)$ , (8) returns estimates having same measurements as  $\mathbf{x}$ :  $\text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{hdm}| - \tau) = \text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}| - \tau)$
- ▶  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{a}_i, \tau} := \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{a}_i^{\top} \mathbf{u} = \tau\} \rightarrow$   
 $\mathcal{H}_{|\mathbf{a}_i|, \tau} := \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^n : |\mathbf{a}_i^{\top} \mathbf{u}| = \tau\} = \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{a}_i, \tau} \cup \mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{a}_i, -\tau}$
- ▶ Geometric interpretation:



## Local Tessellation (Local Binary Embedding)

- ▶ *Arbitrary* signal set:  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta \xrightarrow{\text{localize}} \mathcal{K}_{(r)} := (\mathcal{K} - \mathcal{K}) \cap \mathbb{B}_2^n(r)$
- ▶ Gaussian width  $\omega(\mathcal{K}) := \mathbb{E} \sup_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{K}} |\langle \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{u} \rangle|$  where  $\mathbf{g} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_n)$
- ▶ Covering number  $\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{K}, r)$ ; metric entropy  $\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{K}, r) = \log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{K}, r)$
- ▶  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \min\{\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2, \|\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\|_2\}$

### Theorem 2.1: Phaseless Gaussian Hyperplane Tessellation

Under Gaussian design and any positive  $\beta \geq \alpha$  and  $\tau$ , for small enough  $r > 0$  we let  $r' = \frac{c_1 r}{\log^{1/2}(r^{-1})}$  (for some small  $c_1$ ). If

$$m \gtrsim \frac{\omega^2(\mathcal{K}_{(3r'/2)})}{r^3} + \frac{\log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{K}, r')}{r} \quad (9)$$

then w.p.  $\geq 1 - \exp(-\Omega(rm))$  we have:

- ▶ Any  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{K}$  obeying  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \leq \frac{r'}{2}$  satisfy

$$m^{-1} d_H(\text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}| - \tau), \text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}| - \tau)) \leq C_2 r \quad (10)$$

- ▶ Any  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{K}$  obeying  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \geq 2r$  satisfy

$$m^{-1} d_H(\text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}| - \tau), \text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}| - \tau)) \geq c_3 \text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \quad (11)$$

# Implications

Information-theoretic recovery guarantees:

► If

$$m \gtrsim \frac{\omega^2(\mathcal{K}_{(3r'/2)})}{r^3} + \frac{\log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{K}, r')}{r}, \quad (12)$$

then

$$\text{dist}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{hdm}, \mathbf{x}) < 2r, \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K} \quad (13)$$

► If  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{C}$  for a cone  $\mathcal{C}$ ,

$$m = \tilde{O} \left( \frac{\omega^2((\mathcal{C} - \mathcal{C}) \cap \mathbb{B}_2^n) + \log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{K}, r')}{r} \right) \quad (14)$$

implies uniform recovery accuracy of  $2r$ .

► (1bPR)  $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{K} = \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta \rightarrow r = \tilde{O}(\frac{n}{m})$

► (1bSPR)  $\mathcal{C} = \Sigma_k^n, \mathcal{K} = \Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta \rightarrow r = \tilde{O}(\frac{k}{m})$

## Proof Sketch

- ▶ Similar results appeared in 1bCS literature [OR15],<sup>12</sup> [DM21], built upon a covering argument along with the well-known probabilistic observation ( $\forall \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ )

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \neq \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v})\right) = \frac{\arccos(\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle)}{\pi} \asymp \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2. \quad (15)$$

- ▶ We largely follow their arguments but need a novel relation ( $\forall \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta$ )

$$P_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} := \mathbb{P}\left(\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau)\right) \asymp \text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \quad (16)$$

- ▶ Actually, to get similar results under sub-Gaussian design, we only need


$$P_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}} \gtrsim \text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}), \quad (17)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau| \leq r) \lesssim r, \quad (18)$$

see the unified framework in [CY24b]<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup>Near-optimal bounds for binary embeddings of arbitrary sets

<sup>13</sup>Optimal quantized compressed sensing via projected gradient descent  13/45

## Lower Bounds

Is the upper bounds  $\tilde{O}(\frac{n}{m})$  and  $\tilde{O}(\frac{k}{m})$  tight? Yes — up to log!

### Theorem 2.2: Lower Bounds for 1-Bit (Sparse) PR

For arbitrary known  $(\mathbf{A}, \tau)$  we have the following:

- ▶ Any estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  for recovering  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{A}_1^2$  from  $\text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}| - \tau)$  obeys  $\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{A}_1^2} \text{dist}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{x}) \gtrsim \frac{n}{m}$
- ▶ Any estimator  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  for recovering  $\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{A}_1^2$  from  $\text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}| - \tau)$  obeys  $\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{A}_1^2} \text{dist}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{x}) \gtrsim \frac{k}{m}$

Counting argument: let  $V_d$  be a  $d$ -dimensional space in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

- ▶ Number of  $\mathbf{y}$ :  $|\{\text{sign}(|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}| - \tau) : \mathbf{x} \in V_d\}|$   
 $\leq |\{\text{sign}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \tau) : \mathbf{x} \in V_d\}| + |\{\text{sign}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \tau) : \mathbf{x} \in V_d\}| \leq 2\left(\frac{em}{d}\right)^d \ll 2^m$
- ▶ An  $\epsilon$ -packing of  $V_d \cap \mathbb{A}_1^2$  with cardinality greater than  $\left(\frac{2}{\epsilon}\right)^d$
- ▶ Thus

$$2\left(\frac{em}{l}\right)^d \geq \left(\frac{2}{\epsilon}\right)^d \quad \rightarrow \quad \epsilon \gtrsim \frac{d}{m}. \quad (19)$$

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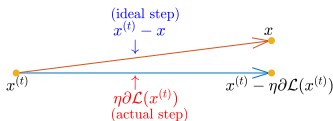
**Efficient Algorithms**

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- ▶ Hinge loss  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (-y_i \mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u} + |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}|)$  with (sub-)gradient  $\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) - \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{x})) \mathbf{a}_i := \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x})$
- ▶ NBIHT:  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(t+1)} = \mathsf{T}_{(k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \eta \cdot \partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}))$ ,  $\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(t+1)} / \|\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^{(t+1)}\|_2$
- ▶ Optimization:  $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq 4 \|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{x} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, \mathbf{x})\|_{(\Sigma_{2k}^{n,*})^\circ}$
- ▶ HD Probability  $\rightarrow$  **Restricted Approximate Invertibility Condition (RAIC)** [FJPY21],<sup>14</sup> [MM24],  $\forall \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \Sigma_k^{n,*}$ ,

$$\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \cdot \partial \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})\|_{(\Sigma_{2k}^{n,*})^\circ} \leq \tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{m}\right) + \sqrt{\tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{m}\right) \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2} \quad (20)$$



- ▶ Optimization:  $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t+1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{m}\right) + \sqrt{\tilde{O}\left(\frac{k}{m}\right) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2}$   
 $\rightarrow$  fast *quadratic* convergence taking  $O(\log(\log(m/k)))$  steps



## Our Algorithm

- ▶ Hamming distance loss:  $\mathcal{L}_{hd}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}(\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) \neq y_i)$   
 $= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{1}(-y_i(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) \geq 0)$
- ▶ Use the same idea  $\mathbb{1}(u \geq 0) \rightarrow \max\{u, 0\} = \frac{u+|u|}{2}$  to get (nonconvex)  
Hinge loss  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m [||\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau| - y_i(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau)]$ , with

$$\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{x}| - \tau)) \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{a}_i$$

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) := \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau)) \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{a}_i$$

- ▶ 1bPR:
  - ▶ Spectral initialization  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ : leading eigenvector of  $\hat{\mathbf{S}} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m y_i \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{a}_i^\top$
  - ▶ GD:  $\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \eta \cdot \partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)})$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- ▶ 1bSPR:
  - ▶ Spectral initialization  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ : leading eigenvector of a submatrix of  $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$
  - ▶ PGD:  $\mathbf{x}^{(t)} = \mathcal{T}_{(k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \eta \cdot \partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)}))$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

## Theorem 3.1: GD is Optimal for 1bPR

If  $m \gtrsim n$ , then w.h.p., running GD with spectral initialization and  $\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\pi e}{2}} \tau$  uniformly recovers all  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta$  to

$$\text{dist}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, \mathbf{x}) \lesssim \frac{n}{m} \log^2 \left( \frac{m}{n} \right), \quad \forall t \gtrsim \log \left( \frac{m}{n} \right). \quad (21)$$

## Theorem 3.2: PGD is Optimal for 1bSPR

If  $m \gtrsim k^2 \log(n) \log^2 \left( \frac{m}{k} \right)$ ,  $\frac{\tau}{\alpha} \leq C_1$ ,  $\frac{\beta}{\tau} \leq C_2$ , then w.h.p., running PGD with spectral initialization and  $\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\pi e}{2}} \tau$  recovers a  $\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma_k^n \cap \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta$  to

$$\text{dist}(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, \mathbf{x}) \lesssim \frac{k}{m} \log \left( \frac{mn}{k^2} \right) \log \left( \frac{m}{k} \right), \quad \forall t \gtrsim \log \left( \frac{m}{k} \right). \quad (22)$$

- ▶  $\tilde{O}(k^2)$  in sparse case is needed in initialization (a widely existing gap)
- ▶ Need  $\tilde{O}(k^3)$  to ensure uniform recovery

## Proof: What to Bound

▶ Spectral method  $\rightarrow \|\mathbf{x}^{(0)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \delta_4$

▶ Per-iterate analysis:

▶ 1bPR:

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 &= \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x} - \eta \cdot \partial\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)})\|_2 \\ &= \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)}, \mathbf{x})\|_2\end{aligned}$$

▶ 1bSPR:

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 &\leq 2\|\mathcal{T}_{(2k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x} - \eta \cdot \partial\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)}))\|_2 \\ &= 2\|\mathcal{T}_{(2k)}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)}, \mathbf{x}))\|_2\end{aligned}$$

▶ For cone  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $\mathcal{C}_- = \mathcal{C} - \mathcal{C}$ , we want to bound

$$\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2, \quad \forall \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{C}_{\alpha, \beta} := \mathcal{C} \cap \mathbb{A}_{\alpha}^{\beta},$$

## Definition 3.1: Phaseless Local AIC (PLL-AIC)

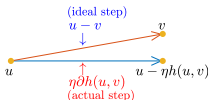
Given  $\beta_1 \geq \alpha_1 > 0$  and  $\tau > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1^\top, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m^\top]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , a cone  $\mathcal{C}$ , a step size  $\eta$ , and certain non-negative scalars  $\boldsymbol{\delta} = (\delta_1, \delta_2, \delta_3, \delta_4)^\top$ , we say  $(\mathbf{A}, \tau, \mathcal{C}, \eta)$  respects  $(\alpha_1, \beta_1, \boldsymbol{\delta})$ -PLL-AIC if

$$\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2 \leq \delta_1 \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 + \sqrt{\delta_2 \cdot \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2} + \delta_3,$$

$$\forall \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{C}_{\alpha_1, \beta_1} \text{ obeying } \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq \delta_4,$$

where  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$  denotes the subgradient at  $\mathbf{u}$  when  $\mathbf{v}$  is underlying signal:  
 $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau)) \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{a}_i$

- ▶ The linear term ' $\delta_1 \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|$ ' is necessary if  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta$  with  $\beta > \alpha$
- ▶ Local:  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq \delta_4 \leftarrow$  spectral method;
- ▶ Meaning:  $\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2 = \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})\|_{(\mathcal{C}_- \cap \mathbb{S}^{n-1})^\circ}$



- ▶ Phaseless: it holds for  $\mathbf{v} \iff$  it holds for  $-\mathbf{v}$

## Proof: PLL-AIC $\rightarrow$ Convergence

Why is AIC useful? Prove  $\delta_2, \delta_3 = \tilde{O}(\text{optimal rate})$ ,  $\delta_1 \approx F(\eta)$ ,  $\delta_4 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{\log^*}}$

►  $\|\mathbf{x}^{(0)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \delta_4$  ensured by spectral method

► 1bPR ( $\mathcal{C} = \mathbb{R}^n$ ): if  $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\| \gg \tilde{O}(n/m)$

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 &\stackrel{raic}{\leq} \delta_1 \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 + \sqrt{\tilde{O}(n/m) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2} + \tilde{O}(n/m) \\ &\leq (\delta_1 + \epsilon_1) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq (1 - \epsilon_2) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2\end{aligned}$$

► 1bSPR ( $\mathcal{C} = \Sigma_k^n$ ): if  $\|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \gg \tilde{O}(k/m)$

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{x}^{(t)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 &\stackrel{raic}{\leq} 2\delta_1 \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 + \sqrt{\tilde{O}(k/m) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2} + \tilde{O}(k/m) \\ &\leq (2\delta_1 + \epsilon_1) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq (1 - \epsilon_2) \|\mathbf{x}^{(t-1)} - \mathbf{x}\|_2\end{aligned}$$

► We obtain (at least) linear convergence to optimal error rates

## Proof: Gaussian $\mathbf{A}$ Respects RAIC

### Theorem 3.3: Gaussian $\mathbf{A}$ Respects PLL-AIC

Suppose  $\mathbf{A} \sim \mathcal{N}^{m \times n}(0, 1)$ ,  $\beta \geq \alpha > 0$ ,  $\tau > 0$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  is a cone. For some constants  $c_i$ 's and  $C_i$ 's depending on  $(\alpha, \beta, \tau)$ , if  $r \in (0, c_1)$ ,

$$m \geq \frac{C_2[\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha, \beta}, r) + \omega^2(\mathcal{C}_{(1)})]}{r}, \quad (23)$$

then with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-c_3 \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha, \beta}, r))$ ,  $(\mathbf{A}, \tau, \mathcal{C}, \eta)$  respects  $(\alpha, \beta, \delta)$ -PLL-AIC with

$$\delta_1 = \sup_{a^2 + b^2 \in [\alpha^2, \beta^2]} \sqrt{|1 - \eta g_\eta(a, b)|^2 + |\eta h_\eta(a, b)|^2} + c_3 \log^{-1/8}(r^{-1})$$
$$\delta_2 = C_4 r, \quad \delta_3 = C_5 r \log(r^{-1}), \quad \delta_4 = \frac{c_5}{\log^{1/2}(r^{-1})}$$

where  $g_\eta(a, b) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau^2}{2(a^2 + b^2)}\right) \frac{\tau^2 a^2 + b^2 (a^2 + b^2)}{(a^2 + b^2)^{5/2}}$  and  $h_\eta(a, b) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau^2}{2(a^2 + b^2)}\right) \frac{ab(a^2 + b^2 - \tau^2)}{(a^2 + b^2)^{5/2}}$ .

## Proof: Covering Framework

The goal is to bound  $\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2$  for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{C}_{\alpha_1, \beta_1}$  obeying  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq \delta_4$ . We use a covering argument:

- ▶ Let  $\mathcal{N}_r$  be a minimal  $r$ -net of  $\mathcal{C}_{\alpha, \beta}$
- ▶  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1 \in \mathcal{N}_r$  closest to  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$ , respectively,  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_1\|_2, \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \leq r$
- ▶  $\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v} - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2 \leq 2r + \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2$
- ▶ Large-distance regime ( $\|\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \geq r$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2 & (24) \\ & \leq \underbrace{\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2}_{\text{discrete AIC}} + \eta \underbrace{\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2}_{\text{gradient mismatch}} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Small-distance regime ( $\|\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 < r$ ):

$$\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2 \leq r + \eta \cdot \underbrace{\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2}_{\text{gradient}} \quad (25)$$

## Proof: Simplify the Gradient

$$\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m (\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau)) \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{a}_i$$

- ▶ Introduce two index sets

$$\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} = \{i \in [m] : \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q}| - \tau)\} \quad (26)$$

$$\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} = \{i \in [m] : \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}) \neq \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q})\} \quad (27)$$

- ▶ Then we find  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) + \mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$  where

$$\mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}} \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q})) \mathbf{a}_i, \quad (28)$$

$$\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}} [\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})) - \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}))] \mathbf{a}_i \quad (29)$$

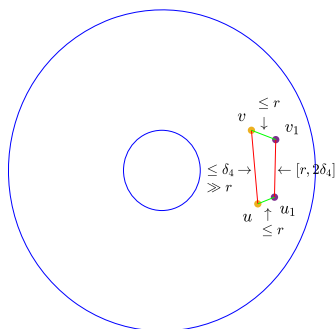
- ▶  $\mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$  is the main term and close to 1bCS gradient

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}} \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q})) \mathbf{a}_i$$

- ▶  $\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$  is a negligible higher-order term



## Proof: Large-distance Regime



From (24), we need to bound

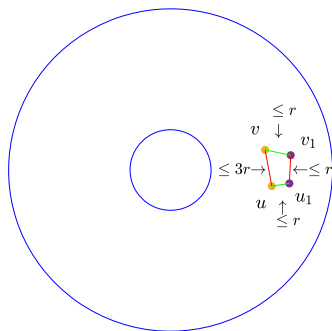
- ▶  $\|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 - \eta \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2$  uniformly over  $\mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)} := \{(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \in \mathcal{N}_r \times \mathcal{N}_r : \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2 \in [r, 2\delta_4]\}$ , and by  $\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{h}_1 + \mathbf{h}_2$  we only need to bound

**Term1:**  $\|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1 - \eta \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2, \quad (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1) \in \mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$

**Term2:**  $\eta \|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2, \quad (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1) \in \mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$

- ▶ **Term3:**  $\eta \|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2$

## Proof: Small-distance Regime



From (25) we need to bound

- ▶ **Term4:**  $\eta \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2$  uniformly over all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{C}_{\alpha, \beta}$  obeying  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq 3r$ .

## Proof: Bounding Term 1

Bound  $\|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} - \eta \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2$  for all  $(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \in \mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$ :

- ▶  $|\mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}| \leq |\mathcal{N}_r|^2 = [\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha, \beta}, r)]^2$
- ▶ Only need to bound it for fixed  $(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$  — followed by union bound

Orthogonal decomposition:

- ▶ Useful parameterization: we can find orthonormal  $\beta_1 = \frac{\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2}$  and  $\beta_2$  such that

$$\mathbf{p} = u_1 \beta_1 + u_2 \beta_2, \quad \mathbf{q} = v_1 \beta_1 + u_2 \beta_2$$

for some  $u_1, u_2, v_1$  obeying  $u_1 > v_1$  and  $u_2 \geq 0$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) &= \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_1 \rangle \beta_1 + \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_2 \rangle \beta_2 \\ &\quad + \underbrace{\left\{ \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) - \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_1 \rangle \beta_1 - \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_2 \rangle \beta_2 \right\}}_{:= \mathbf{h}_1^\perp(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶  $\langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_1 \rangle \beta_1$  is the main term to cancel out  $\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}$
- ▶ We need to control the effect of  $\langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_2 \rangle \beta_2$  and  $\mathbf{h}_1^\perp(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q})$

## Proof: Bounding Term 1

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} - \eta \cdot \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2 \\ & \leq \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q} - \eta \cdot \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_1 \rangle \beta_1 - \eta \cdot \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_2 \rangle \beta_2\|_2 + \eta \cdot \|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}_1^\perp(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2 \\ & \leq \left( \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2 - \eta \cdot \left\langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \frac{\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}}{\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2} \right\rangle \right)^2 + \eta^2 \cdot |\langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_2 \rangle|^2 \Big)^{1/2} \\ & \quad + \eta \cdot \|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}_1^\perp(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2 \tag{30} \\ & := ((T_1^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}})^2 + \eta^2 \cdot |T_2^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}|^2)^{1/2} + \eta \cdot T_3^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$T_1^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} := \left| \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2 - \eta \cdot \left\langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \frac{\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}}{\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2} \right\rangle \right|, \tag{31}$$

$$T_2^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} := \langle \mathbf{h}_1(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}), \beta_2 \rangle, \quad T_3^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} := \|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}_1^\perp(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2 \tag{32}$$

- ▶ Need to separately bound  $T_1^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}, T_2^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}, T_3^{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}$

## Proof: Bounding Term 1 (Example: Bound $T_1^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$ )

The ideas in bounding  $T_i^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  are similar. Use  $T_1^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$  as an example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_1^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} &= \left\| \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2 - \frac{\eta}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}} |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| \right\| \\
 &\leq \underbrace{\eta \left\| \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}} |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| - \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}(i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}) |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| \right] \right\|}_{\text{Concentration term}} + \underbrace{\left\| \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2 - \eta \mathbb{E} \left[ \mathbb{1}(i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}) |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| \right] \right\|}_{\text{Deviation}}
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Careful calculation shows: Deviation =  $\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2(1 - \eta f(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) + o(1))$
- ▶ Conditioning on  $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$  with cardinality  $r_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}} |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| \sim \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{r_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}} Z_i^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} \quad (33)$$

where we let  $a_1, a_2 \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z_i^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} &\stackrel{iid}{\sim} |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| \left\{ \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q}| - \tau) \right\} \\
 &\sim |\mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1| \left\{ \text{sign}(|u_1 \mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + u_2 \mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_2| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|v_1 \mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 + u_2 \mathbf{a}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_2| - \tau) \right\} \\
 &\sim |a_1| \left\{ \text{sign}(|u_1 a_1 + u_2 a_2| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|v_1 a_1 + u_2 a_2| - \tau) \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Proof: Bounding Term 1 (Example: Bound $T_1^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$ )

- ▶ Show that  $Z_i^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$  are sub-Gaussian:
  - ▶ Write down the P.D.F. of  $Z_i^{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}$ ;
  - ▶ Show the tail of P.D.F. is bounded by some Gaussian tail (tedious!);
- ▶ This shows conditional concentration: conditioning on  $\{|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}| = r_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}\}$ , with prob.  $\geq 1 - 2 \exp(-4 \log \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha,\beta}, r))$ ,

$$\text{concentration term} \leq \frac{|r_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} - mP_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}| + \sqrt{r_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha,\beta}, r)}}{m}$$

- ▶ Remains to analyze  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}| \sim \text{Bin}(m, P_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}})$ . By Chernoff bound, with prob.  $\geq 1 - 2 \exp(-4 \log \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha,\beta}, r))$ ,

$$||\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}| - mP_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}| \leq \sqrt{12mP_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha,\beta}, r)}$$

- ▶ Final bound: Concentration term  $\lesssim \sqrt{\frac{\|\mathbf{p}-\mathbf{q}\|_2 \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{C}_{\alpha,\beta}, r)}{m}}$

## Proof: Bounding Terms 2, 3, 4

$$\text{Term 2: } \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2, \quad \forall (\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \in \mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$$

$$\text{Term 3: } \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2, \quad \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_1\|_2, \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \leq r$$

$$\text{Term 4: } \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2, \quad \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq 3r,$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}} (\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau)) \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{a}_i$$

$$\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}} [\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})) - \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}))] \mathbf{a}_i$$

- ▶ Idea: *If the number of contributors is small enough, then we can get tight enough bound*  $\rightarrow$  we shall look at the number of summands
- ▶ Challenge: Terms 3, 4 involve infinitely many points  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$
- ▶ Remedy: **local binary embedding!** [OR15], [DM21]; see also (10)

## Proof: Bounding Terms 2, 3, 4

### Lemma 3.1: Uniform Bound on Partial Sum of Squares (e.g., [DM21])

Let  $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m$  be independent random vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying  $\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{a}_i^\top) = \mathbf{I}_n$  and  $\max_i \|\mathbf{a}_i\|_{\psi_2} \leq L$ . For some given  $\mathcal{W} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $1 \leq \ell \leq m$ , there exist constants  $C_1, c_2$  depending only on  $L$  such that the event

$$\sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{W}} \max_{\substack{I \subset [m] \\ |I| \leq \ell}} \left( \frac{1}{\ell} \sum_{i \in I} |\langle \mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{x} \rangle|^2 \right)^{1/2} \leq C_1 \left( \frac{\omega(\mathcal{W})}{\sqrt{\ell}} + \text{rad}(\mathcal{W}) \sqrt{\log \left( \frac{em}{\ell} \right)} \right)$$

holds with probability at least  $1 - 2 \exp(-c_2 \ell \log(\frac{em}{\ell}))$ .

By the above Lemma, it suffices to show the number of summands in Terms 2,3,4 are fewer than  $\tilde{O}(mr)$ , for instance:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2 &= \sup_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{C}_- \cap \mathbb{B}_2^n} \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \rangle \\ &= \sup_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{C}_- \cap \mathbb{B}_2^n} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}} [\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q})) - \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top (\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}))] \mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{w} \\ &\leq \sup_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{C}_- \cap \mathbb{B}_2^n} \max_{\substack{S \subset [m] \\ |S| = \tilde{O}(mr)}} \frac{2|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{w}|}{m} \quad \blacktriangleright \text{number of summands is uniformly small} \\ &= \tilde{O}(r) \quad \blacktriangleright \text{By Lemma 3.1} \end{aligned}$$

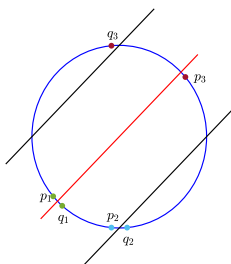


## Number of Summands in Term 2: $\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}_2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}))\|_2$ , $(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \in \mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$

- ▶ Control  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}|$  over  $\mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$
- ▶  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}| \sim \text{Bin}(m, P_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}^{(2)})$ , where

$$P_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}^{(2)} := \mathbb{P}(i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}) = \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q}| - \tau) \\ \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}) \neq \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q}) \end{array} \right)$$

- ▶  $P_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}^{(2)} \leq 4 \exp(-\frac{\tau^2}{2\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2^2})$ , in stark contrast to:
    - ▶  $P_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} = \mathbb{P}(\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}| - \tau) \neq \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q}| - \tau)) \asymp \text{dist}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2$
    - ▶  $\mathbb{P}(i \in \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}) = \mathbb{P}(\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{p}) \neq \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{q})) \asymp \|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2$
  - ▶  $P_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}^{(2)} \ll P_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}$  as  $\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2 \leq \delta_4 \asymp \frac{1}{\log^{1/2}(r-1)} = o(1)$
- $\rightarrow |\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}} \cap \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}}| \lesssim \frac{mr}{\log^{1/2}(r-1)}, \forall (\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) \in \mathcal{N}_{r, \delta_4}^{(2)}$



$\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{q}_1}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_i \notin \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{q}_1}$

$\mathbf{a}_i \notin \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{q}_2}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{q}_2}$

$\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{q}_3}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{q}_3}$

Double separation is much more stringent for small  $\|\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}\|_2$

## Number of Summands in Terms 3, 4

- ▶ Recall that Term 3 is

$$\|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2, \quad (\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_1\|_2, \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \leq r)$$

Term 4 is

$$\|\mathcal{P}_{C_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}))\|_2, \quad (\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq 3r)$$

- ▶ How can we bound number of separations over infinite set?  
→ [Local binary embedding!](#) [OR15], [DM21]

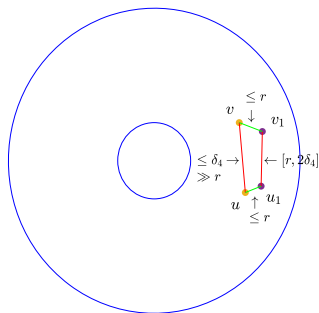
### Theorem 3.4: Local Binary Embedding

For small enough  $r > 0$  and  $r' = \frac{c_1 r}{\log^{1/2}(r-1)}$  for some small  $c_1$ . If  $m \gtrsim \frac{\omega^2(\mathcal{K}_{(3r'/2)})}{r^3} + \frac{\log \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{K}, r')}{r}$ , then with prob.  $\geq 1 - \exp(-\Omega(rm))$  we have:

- ▶ (1bPR embedding; This work) Any  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{K} \subset \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta$  obeying  $\text{dist}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \leq \frac{r'}{2}$  satisfy  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}| \lesssim mr$
- ▶ (1bCS embedding; [OR15]) Any  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{K} \subset \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  obeying  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq r'$  satisfy  $|\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}| \lesssim mr$

## Number of Summands in Terms 3, 4

- ▶ It directly works out for Term 4:
  - ▶ No more than  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}}|$  summands;  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq 3r$
- ▶ Issue with Term 3 —  $\|\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_-}(\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1))\|_2$ :
  - ▶ No more than  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}}| + |\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{u}_1,\mathbf{v}_1}|$  summands
  - ▶ However, we do not have tight enough bound on  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{u},\mathbf{v}}|$  and  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{u}_1,\mathbf{v}_1}|$ , as  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ , and  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_1$ , are not close enough.
  - ▶ More precisely,  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2$  and  $\|\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2$  are not on a scale of  $\tilde{O}(r)$



Large-distance regime:  $\|\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \geq r$   
 $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \leq \delta_4$ , most likely  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}\|_2 \gg r$   
so most likely,  $\|\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \gg r$

## Number of Summands in Terms 3, 4

- ▶ We need a rearrangement of  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1)$  to get tighter bound

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_1) - \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m [\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}_1| - \tau)] \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{a}_i \\ &+ \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m [\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}_1| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau)] \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}_1) \mathbf{a}_i \\ &+ \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^m [\text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}) - \text{sign}(\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}_1)] [\text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{v}| - \tau) - \text{sign}(|\mathbf{a}_i^\top \mathbf{u}| - \tau)] \mathbf{a}_i, \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ No more than  $|\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v}_1}| + |\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}_1}| + |\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}_1}|$  summands
- ▶  $\|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_1\|_2, \|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1\|_2 \leq r \longrightarrow$  no more than  $\tilde{O}(mr)$  summands

# Outline

Introduction

Optimal Rates

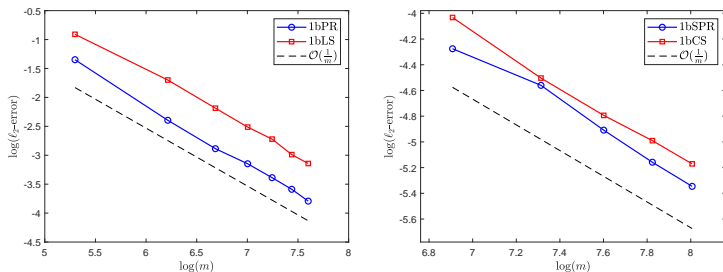
Efficient Algorithms

**Simulations**

Open Questions

# Synthetic Data

We test the case of  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1$  :



**Figure:** Phases are non-essential in solving 1-bit linear system (Left;  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{S}^{29}$ ) and in 1-bit compressed sensing (Right;  $\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma_3^{500,*}$ ).

# Synthetic Data

We test the case of  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{A}_\alpha^\beta$  ( $\beta \geq \alpha$ ):

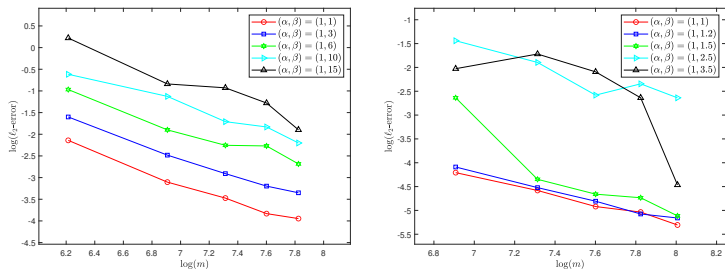


Figure: Full Signal Reconstruction over  $\mathbb{A}_{\alpha,\beta}$  in 1-bit phase retrieval (Left;  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{30}$ ) and 1-bit sparse phase retrieval (Right;  $\mathbf{x} \in \Sigma_3^{500}$ ).

## Real Images



(a) Original image: Milky Way Galaxy.



(b) Recovered image after SI-1bPR ( $L = 64$ ): relative error = 0.270, PSNR = 25.14.



(c) Recovered image after GD-1bPR ( $L = 64$ ): relative error = 0.029, PSNR = 44.65.

**Figure:** Recovering the  $1080 \times 1980 \times 3$  Milky Way Galaxy image from phaseless bits produced by CDP with  $L = 64$  random patterns.



# Outline

Introduction

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**Open Questions**

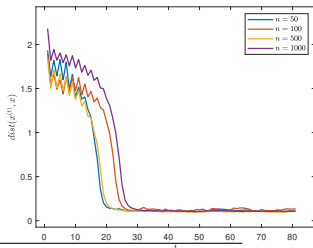
## Random Initialization

Question:

For 1bPR, can gradient descent start from *random initialization*?

Literature (phase retrieval):

- ▶ Optimization landscape (no polynomial time algorithm): [SQW18]<sup>15</sup>
- ▶ No sample splitting: [CCFM19]<sup>16</sup>
- ▶ Sample splitting with sharp rate [CPD23]<sup>17</sup>
- ▶ Stochastic GD: [TV23]<sup>18</sup>



Simulations:  $m = 10n$   
Start with a slower convergence  
[CCFM19]

<sup>15</sup> A geometric analysis of phase retrieval

<sup>16</sup> Gradient descent with random initialization: Fast global convergence for nonconvex phase retrieval

<sup>17</sup> Sharp global convergence guarantees for iterative nonconvex optimization with random data

<sup>18</sup> Online stochastic gradient descent with arbitrary initialization solves non-smooth, non-convex phase retrieval

## Other Questions

- ▶ Can we extend to complex case  $\mathbf{y} = \text{sign}(|\Phi\mathbf{x}| - \tau)$  where  $\Phi \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  and  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ?
  - ▶ Randomized Kaczmarz;
  - ▶ Random initialization;
- ▶ Can we go beyond Gaussian design?
  - ▶ Sub-Gaussian matrix [KL17];<sup>19</sup>
  - ▶ Structured sensing matrix;
- ▶ Can we extend the results to multi-bit?
  - ▶ This relies on *dithering* in compressed sensing [XJ20].<sup>20</sup>
- ▶ Can we precisely compare the errors in 1-bit sensing and 1-bit phase retrieval?
  - ▶ Precise bounds are lacking in nonlinear structured problems;
  - ▶ See [CPD23] for unstructured case with sample splitting.
- ▶ Can we develop some practical applications?

# Thank You

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<sup>19</sup>Phase retrieval without small-ball probability assumptions

<sup>20</sup>Quantized compressive sensing with rip matrices: The benefit of dithering

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