

# Twice-Ramanujan Sparsifiers

Joshua Batson [-> MIT]

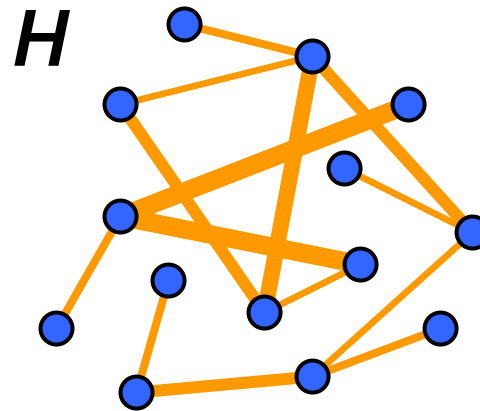
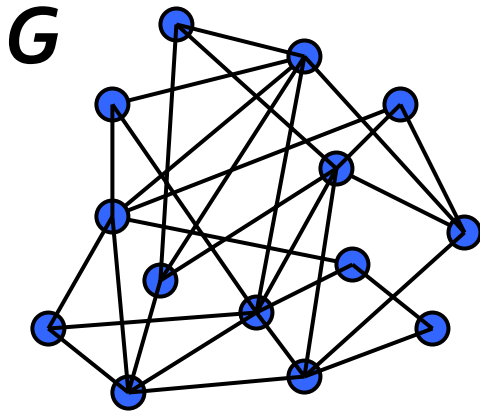
Daniel Spielman

Nikhil Srivastava

Yale

# Sparsification

Approximate any graph  $G$  by a sparse graph  $H$ .



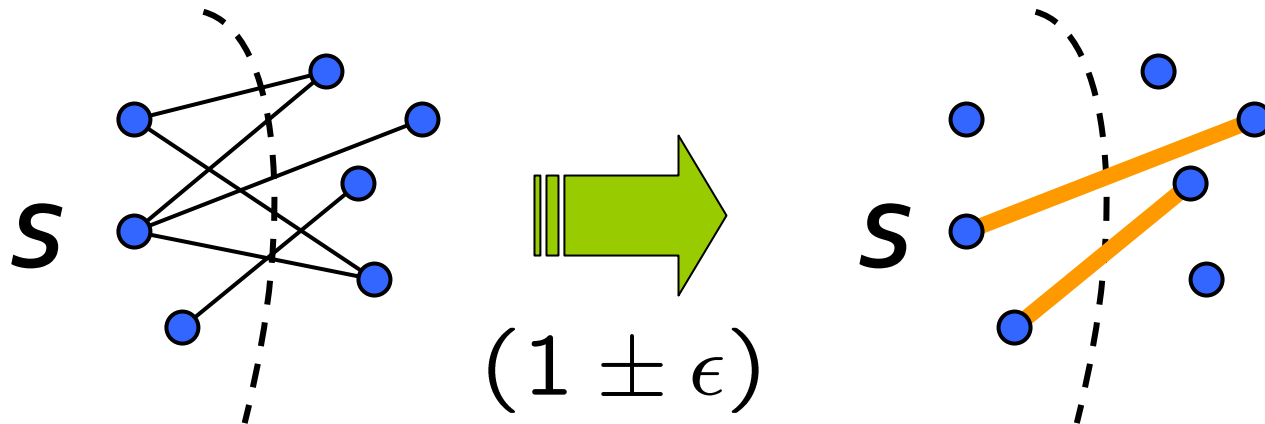
- Nontrivial statement about  $G$
- $H$  is faster to compute with than  $G$

# Cut Sparsifiers [Benczur-Karger'96]

$H$  approximates  $G$  if

for every cut  $S \subset V$

sum of weights of edges leaving  $S$  is preserved



Can find  $H$  with  $O(n \log n / \epsilon^2)$  edges in  $\tilde{O}(m)$  time

# The Laplacian (quick review)

$$L_G = D_G - A_G = \sum_{ij \in E} c_{ij} (\delta_i - \delta_j) (\delta_i - \delta_j)^T$$

Quadratic form

$$x : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$x^T L_G x = \sum_{ij \in E} c_{ij} (x(i) - x(j))^2$$

Positive semidefinite

$\text{Ker}(L_G) = \text{span}(\mathbf{1})$  if  $\mathbf{G}$  is connected

# Cuts and the Quadratic Form

For characteristic vector  $x_S \in \{0, 1\}^n$  of  $S \subseteq V$

$$\begin{aligned}x_S^T L_G x_S &= \sum_{ij \in E} c_{ij} (x(i) - x(j))^2 \\ &= \sum_{ij \in (S, \bar{S})} c_{ij} \\ &= wt_G(S, \bar{S})\end{aligned}$$

So BK says:

$$1 - \epsilon \leq \frac{x^T L_H x}{x^T L_G x} \leq 1 + \epsilon \quad \forall x \in \{0, 1\}^n$$

# A Stronger Notion

For characteristic vector  $x_S \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ,  $S \subseteq V$

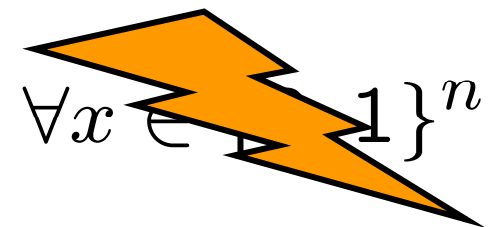
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So BK says:

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$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$\forall x \in \{0, 1\}^n$



Why?

# 1. All eigenvalues are preserved

By Courant-Fischer,

$$(1 - \epsilon)\lambda_i(G) \leq \lambda_i(H) \leq (1 + \epsilon)\lambda_i(G)$$

***G*** and ***H*** have similar eigenvalues.

For spectral purposes, ***G*** and ***H*** are equivalent.

$(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x}$  says a lot)

2. Behavior of electrical flows.

$(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L} \mathbf{x} = \text{“energy”}$  for potentials  $\mathbf{x}: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ )

3. Behavior of random walks: commute times, mixing time, etc.

4. ‘Relative condition number’ in lin-alg.

5. Fast linear system solvers.

*strong notion of approximation.*

Examples

# Example: Sparsify Complete Graph by Ramanujan Expander

$G$  is complete on  $n$  vertices.  $\lambda_i(L_G) = n$

$H$  is  $d$ -regular Ramanujan graph.  $\lambda_i(L_H) \sim d$   
 $\lambda_i(\frac{n}{d}L_H) \sim n$

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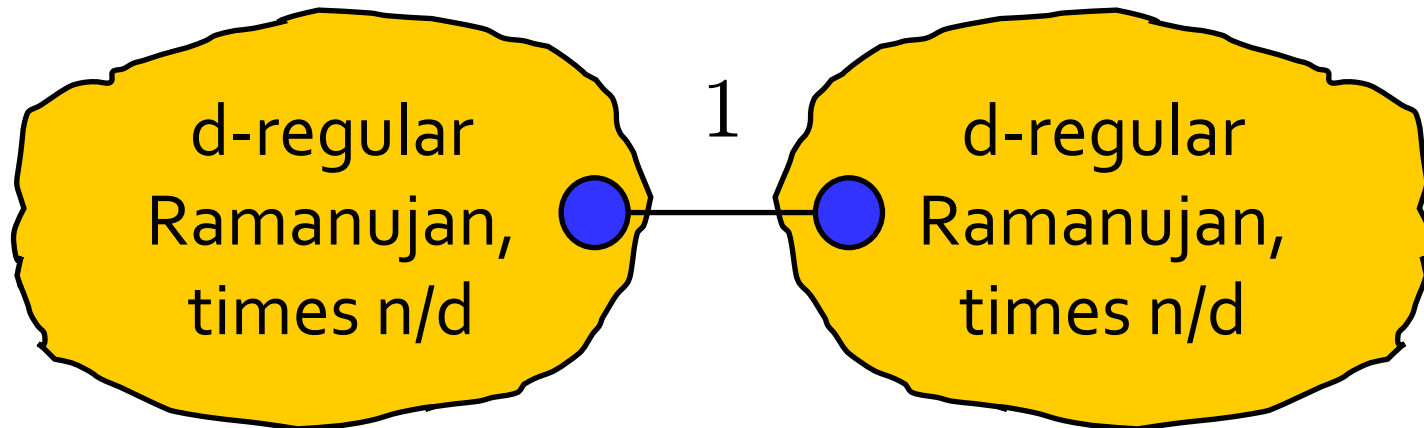
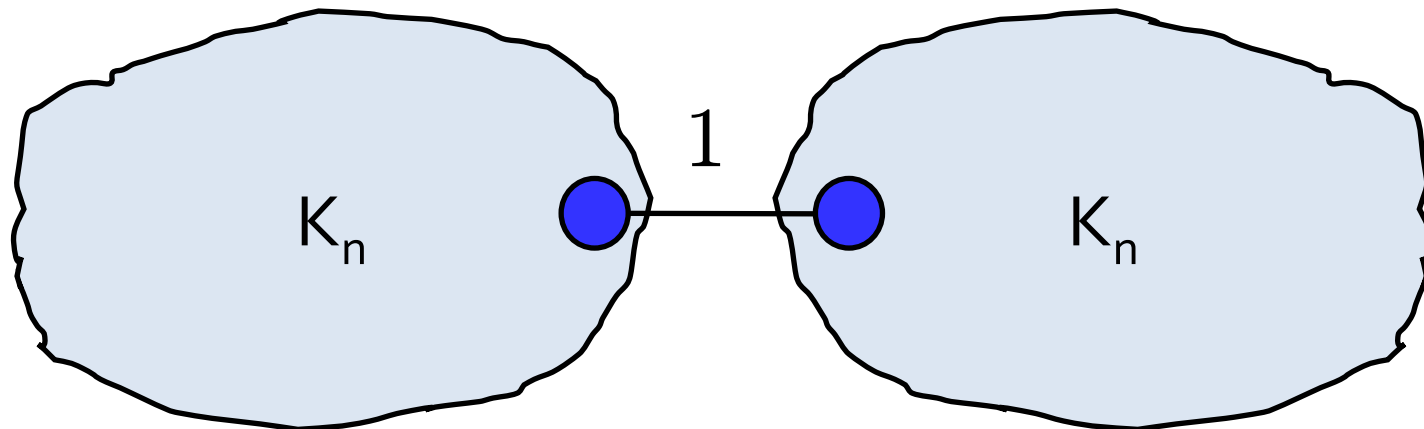
$$\lambda_i\left(\frac{n}{d}L_H\right) \sim n$$

$$\frac{x^T \left(\frac{n}{d}L_H\right)x}{x^T L_G x} \sim 1$$

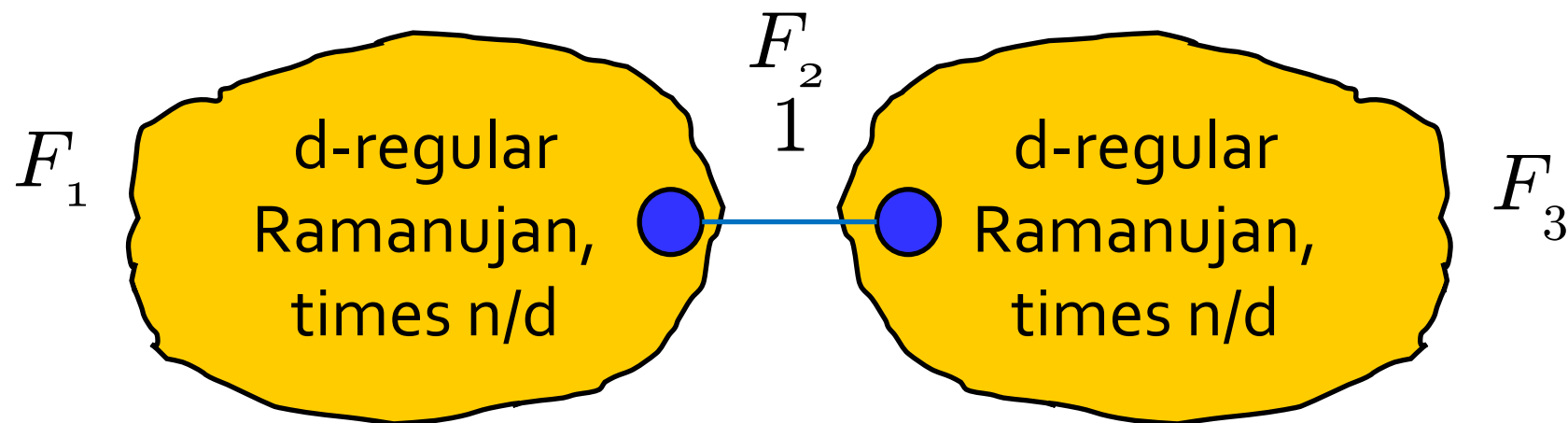
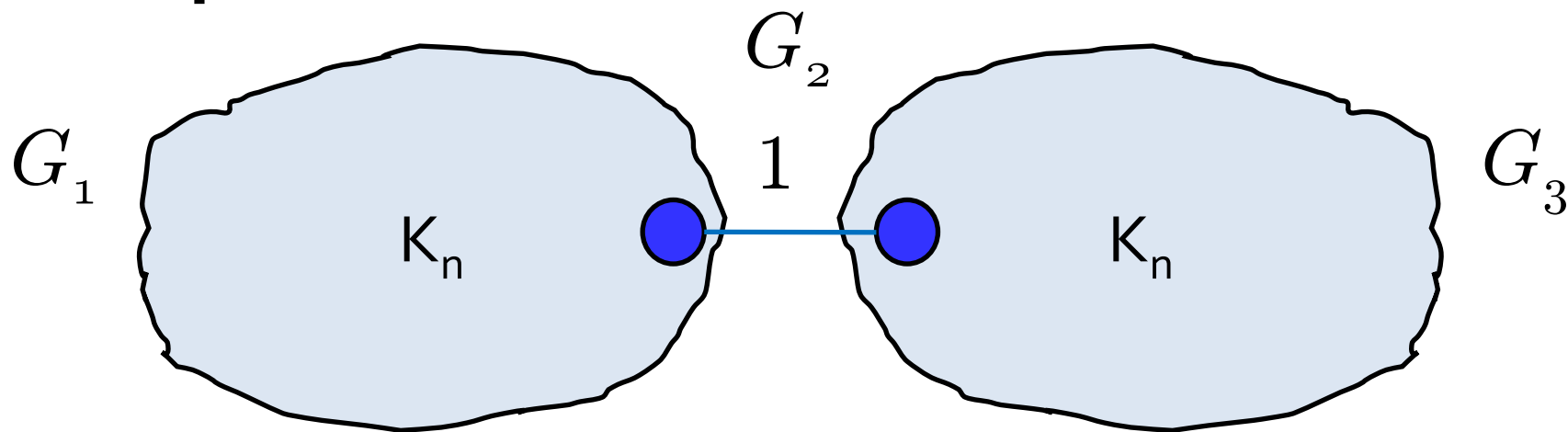
*Each edge has weight  $(n/d)$*

So,  $\frac{n}{d}H$  is a good sparsifier for  $G$ .

# Example: Dumbbell



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$$G = G_1 + G_2 + G_3$$

$$x^T G x = x^T G_1 x + x^T G_2 x + x^T G_3 x$$

# Results

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*We can do this well for every  $G$ .*

*(upto a factor of 2)*

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Expanders/Ramanujan graphs exist:

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# New Result

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Sparsifiers exist:

“There are very sparse  $H$  that look like *any graph*  $G$ .”

avg. degree  $2d$

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weighted subgraph

deterministic  
 $O(dmn^3)$   
algorithm

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# Ways to look at this

- **Generalization** of (Ramanujan) expanders
- New **explicit** construction of expanders
- Improves  $O(dn \log n)$  edges [SS'08, BK'96]  
in fact, **optimal** upto small constants.
- First **deterministic** algorithm for sparsification.

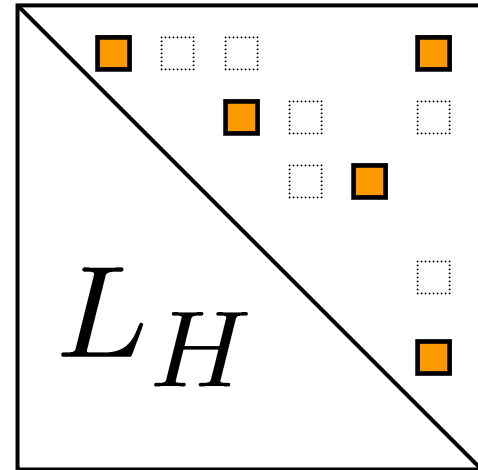
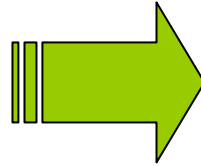
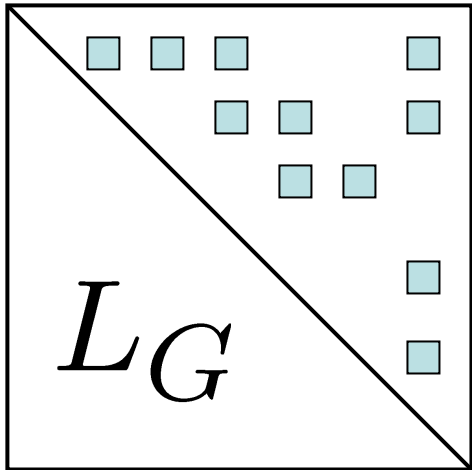
# The Method

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(13-approximation with  $6n$  edges.)

# Step 1: Reduction to Linear Algebra

# Goal



$$1 \leq \frac{x^T L_H x}{x^T L_G x} \leq 13 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

# Outer Product Expansion

Recall:

$$L_G = \sum_{ij \in E} (\delta_i - \delta_j)(\delta_i - \delta_j)^T = \sum_{e \in E} b_e b_e^T.$$

# Outer Product Expansion

Recall:

$$L_G = \sum_{ij \in E} (\delta_i - \delta_j)(\delta_i - \delta_j)^T = \sum_{e \in E} b_e b_e^T.$$

For a weighted subgraph  $H$ :

$$L_H = \sum_{e \in E} s_e b_e b_e^T$$

where  $s_e = \text{wt}(e)$  in  $H$ .

$$1 \leq \frac{x^T L_H x}{x^T L_G x} \leq 13 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

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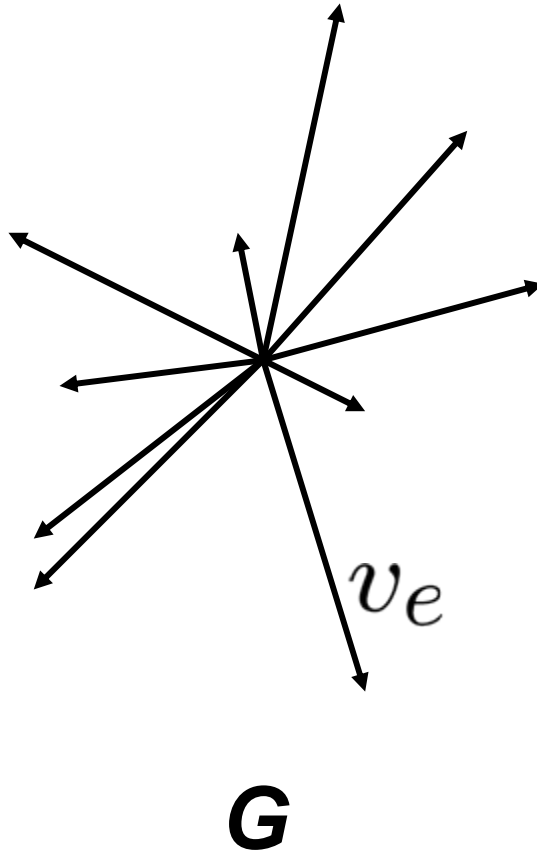
$$1 \leq \lambda \left( \sum_{e \in E} s_e L_G^{-1/2} b_e b_e^T L_G^{-1/2} \right) \leq 13.$$

$$1 \leq \lambda \left( \sum_{e \in E} s_e v_e v_e^T \right) \leq 13$$

with  $v_e = L_G^{-1/2} b_e$ .

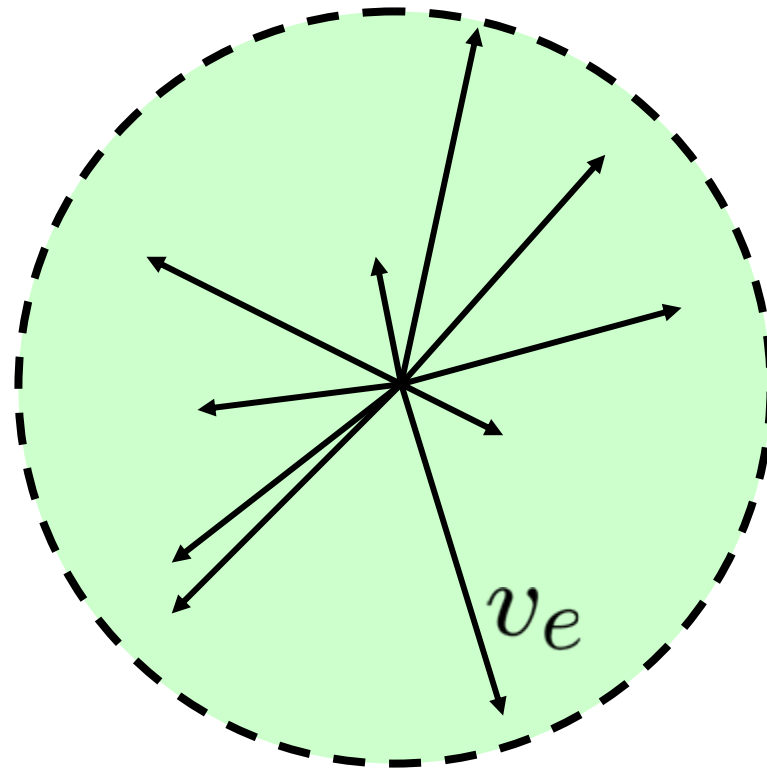
# A closer look at $\mathbf{v}_e$

$$\mathbf{v}_e = L_G^{-1/2} \mathbf{b}_e.$$



**$m$  vectors  
in  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$**

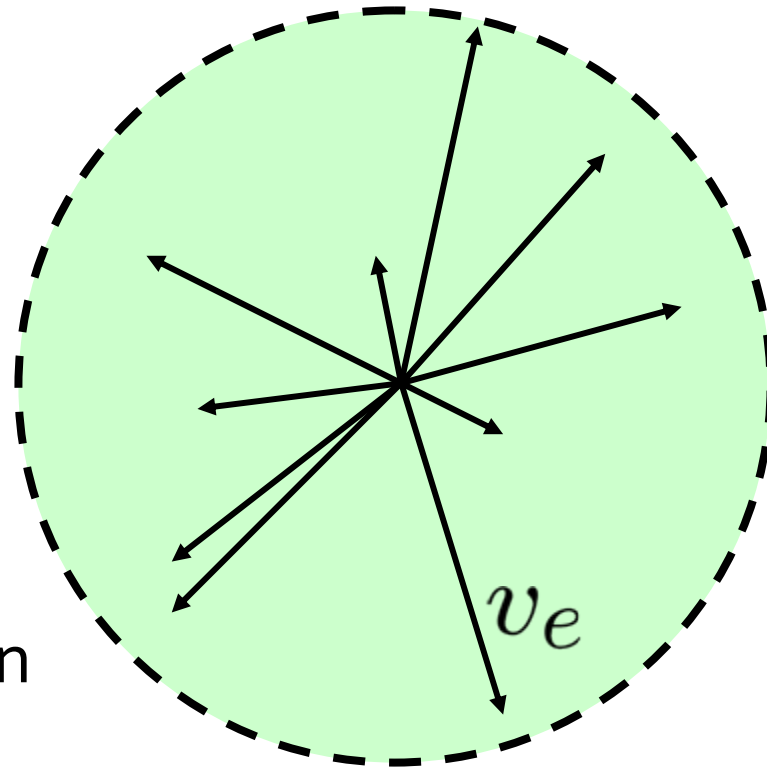
# A closer look at $\mathbf{v}_e$



**$m$  vectors  
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$$\sum_e \mathbf{v}_e \mathbf{v}_e^T = L_G^{-1/2} \left( \sum_e b_e b_e^T \right) L_G^{-1/2} = I$$

# A closer look at $v_e$

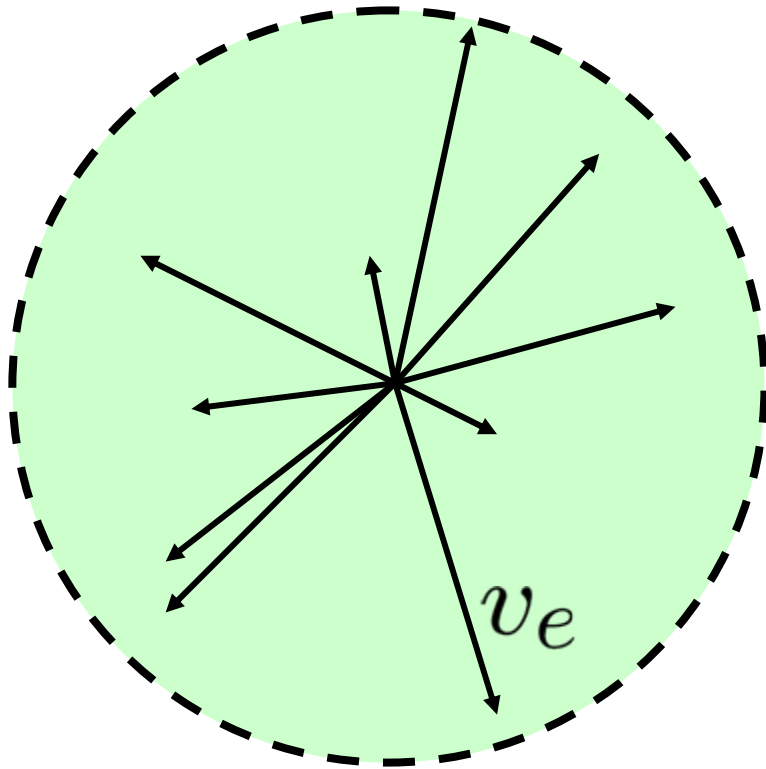


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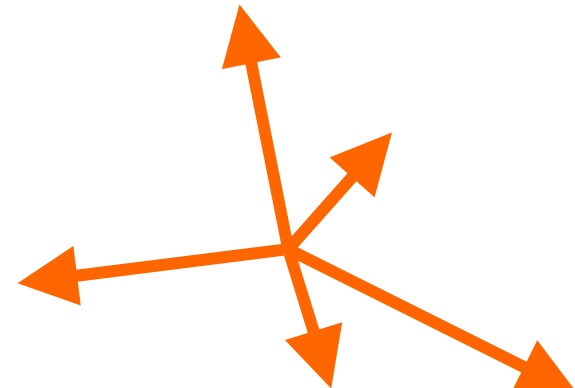
“decomposition  
of identity”

$$\forall u \quad \sum_e \langle u, v_e \rangle^2 = 1$$

# Choosing a Subgraph

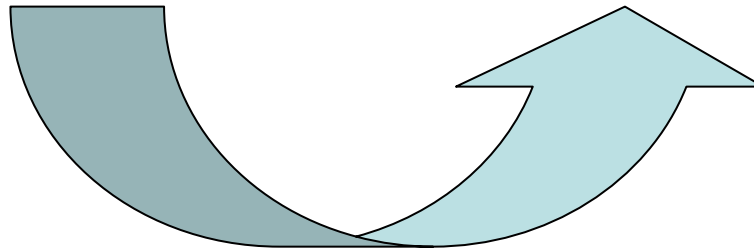


**$G$**



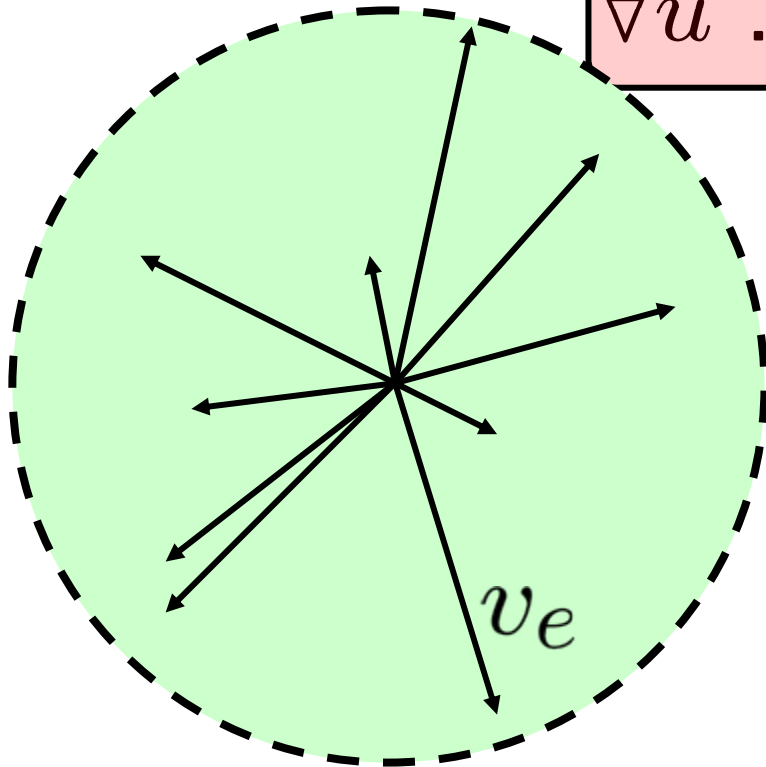
$s_e v_e$

**$H$**

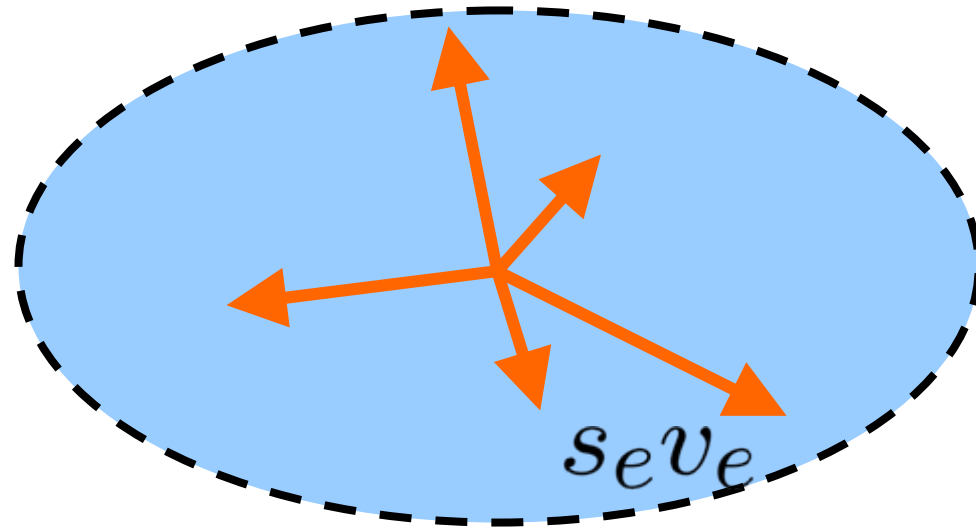


# New Goal

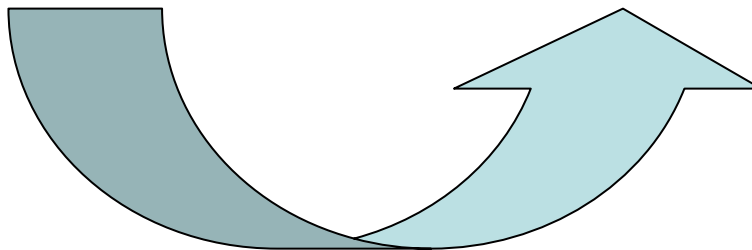
$$\forall u : 1 \leq \sum_e s_e \langle u, v_e \rangle^2 \leq 13$$



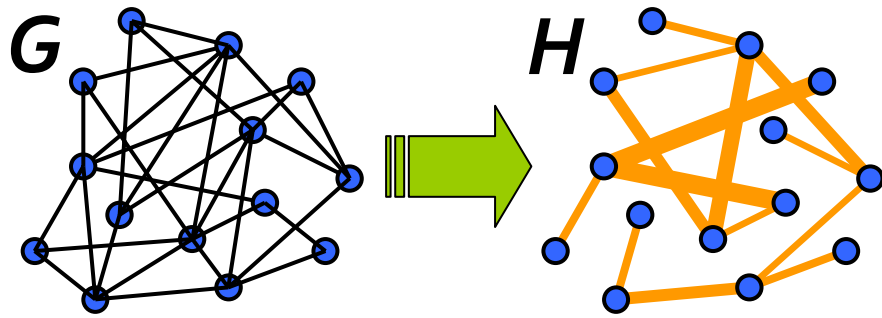
**G**



**H**

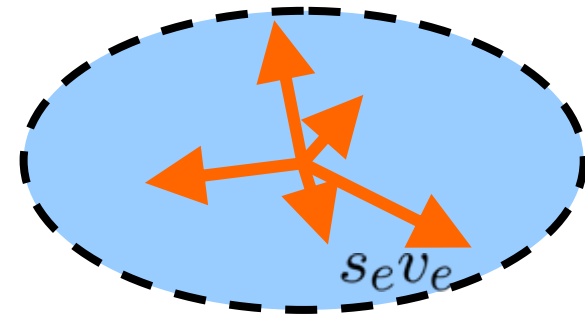
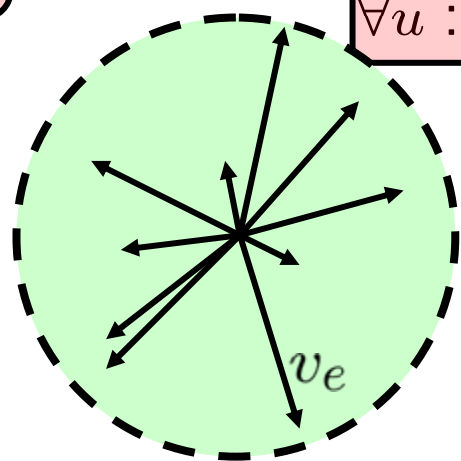
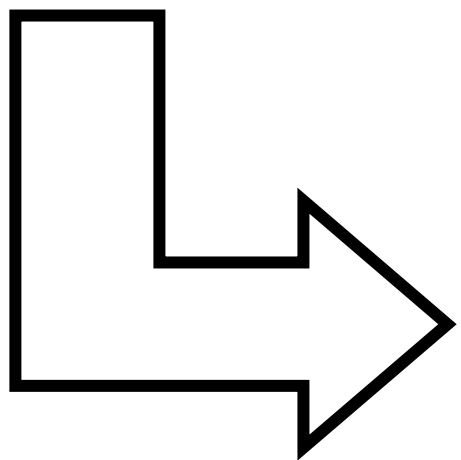


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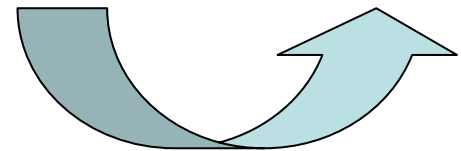


$$1 \leq \frac{x^T L_H x}{x^T L_G x} \leq 13 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\forall u : 1 \leq \sum_e s_e \langle u, v_e \rangle^2 \leq 13$$



**G**



**H**

# Main theorem

If

$$\sum_e v_e v_e^T = I_n$$

then there are scalars  $s_e \geq 0$  with

$$1 \leq \lambda\left(\sum_e s_e v_e v_e^T\right) \leq 13$$

and  $|\{s_e \neq 0\}| \leq 6n$ .

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Step 2: Intuition for the  
proof

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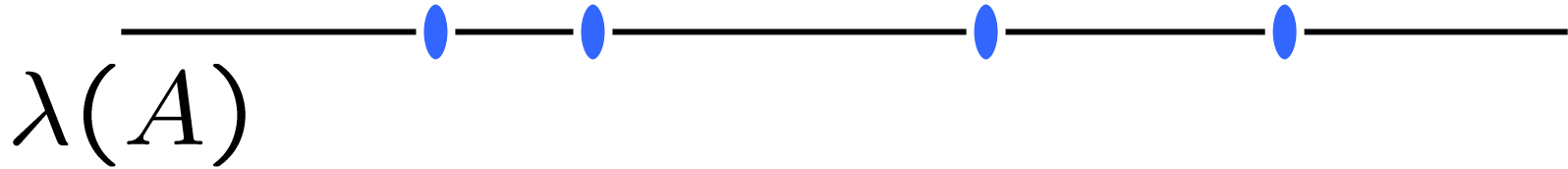
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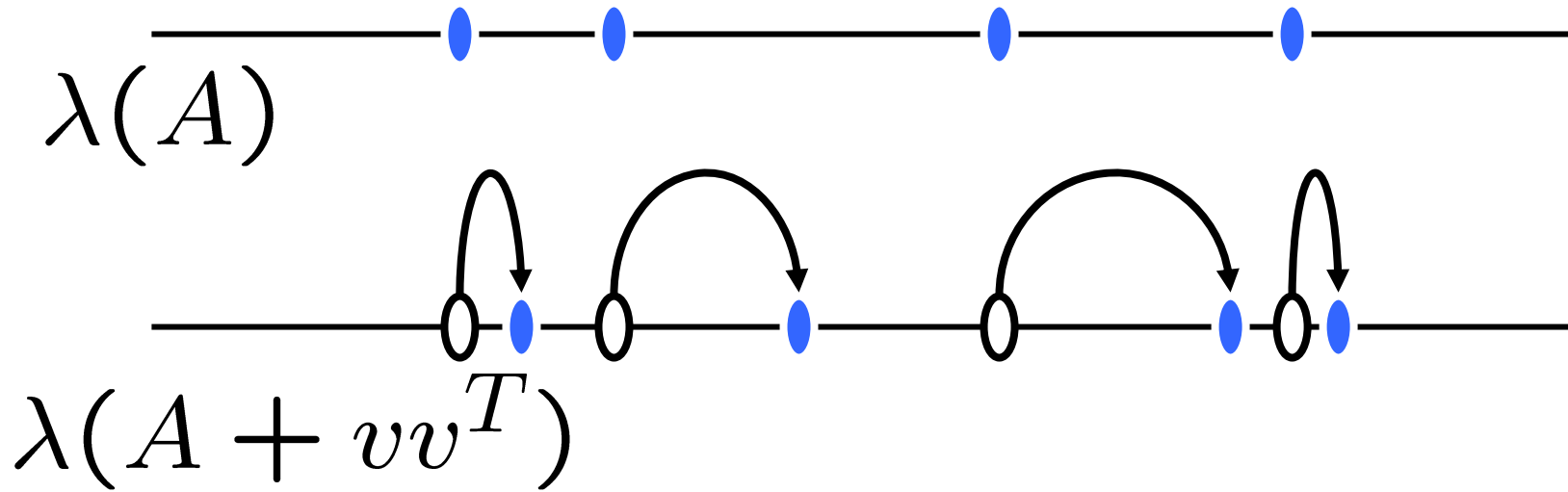
and  $|\{s_e \neq 0\}| \leq 6n$

will build this  
one vector at a  
time.

What happens when we add a vector?



# Interlacing



# More precisely

Characteristic Polynomial:

$$p_A(x) = \det(xI - A)$$

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Matrix-Determinant Lemma:

$$p_{A+vv^T} = p_A \left( 1 + \sum_i \frac{\langle v, u_i \rangle^2}{\lambda_i - x} \right)$$

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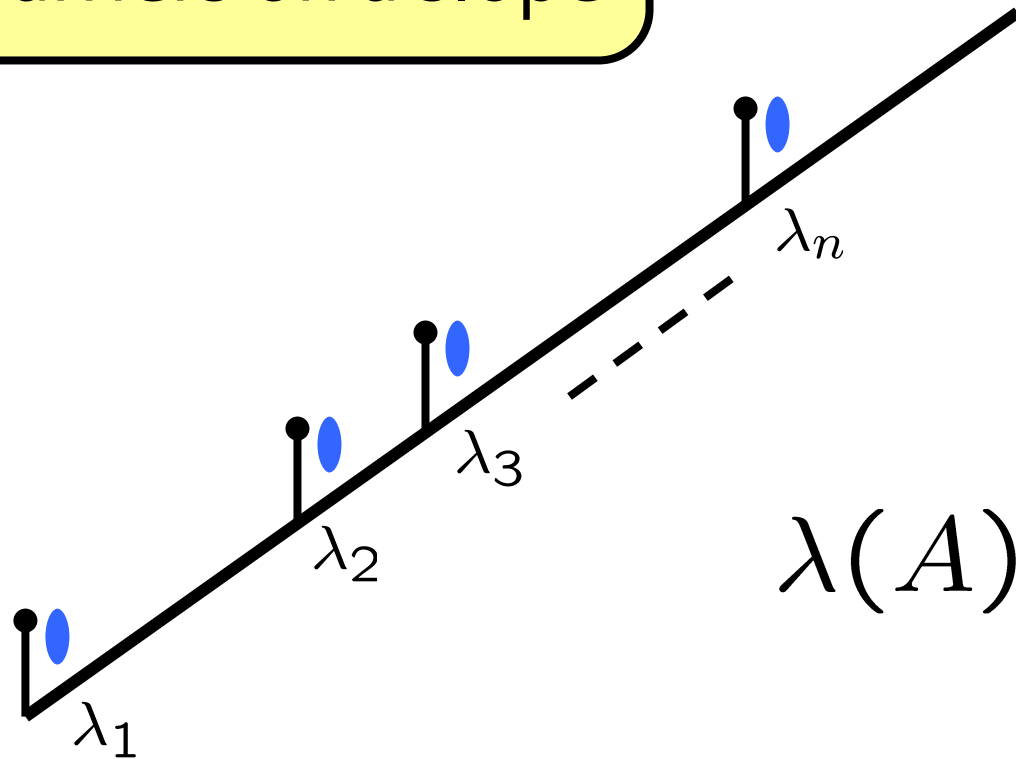
Matrix-Determinant L

$\lambda(A + vv^T)$   
are zeros of this.

$$p_{A+vv^T} = p_A \left( 1 + \sum_i \frac{\langle v, u_i \rangle^2}{\lambda_i - x} \right)$$

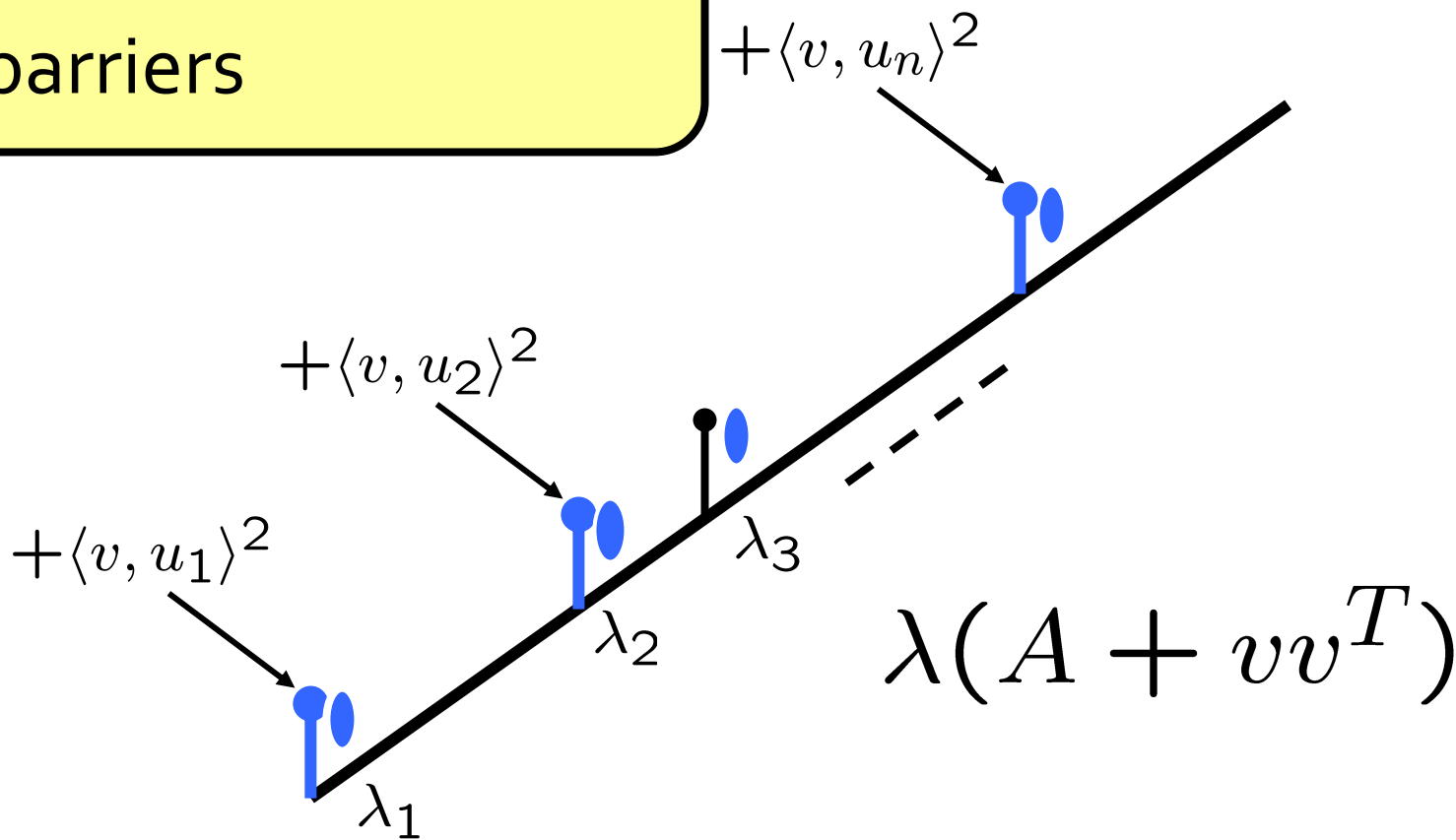
# Physical model of interlacing

$\lambda_i$  = positive unit charges  
resting at barriers on a slope



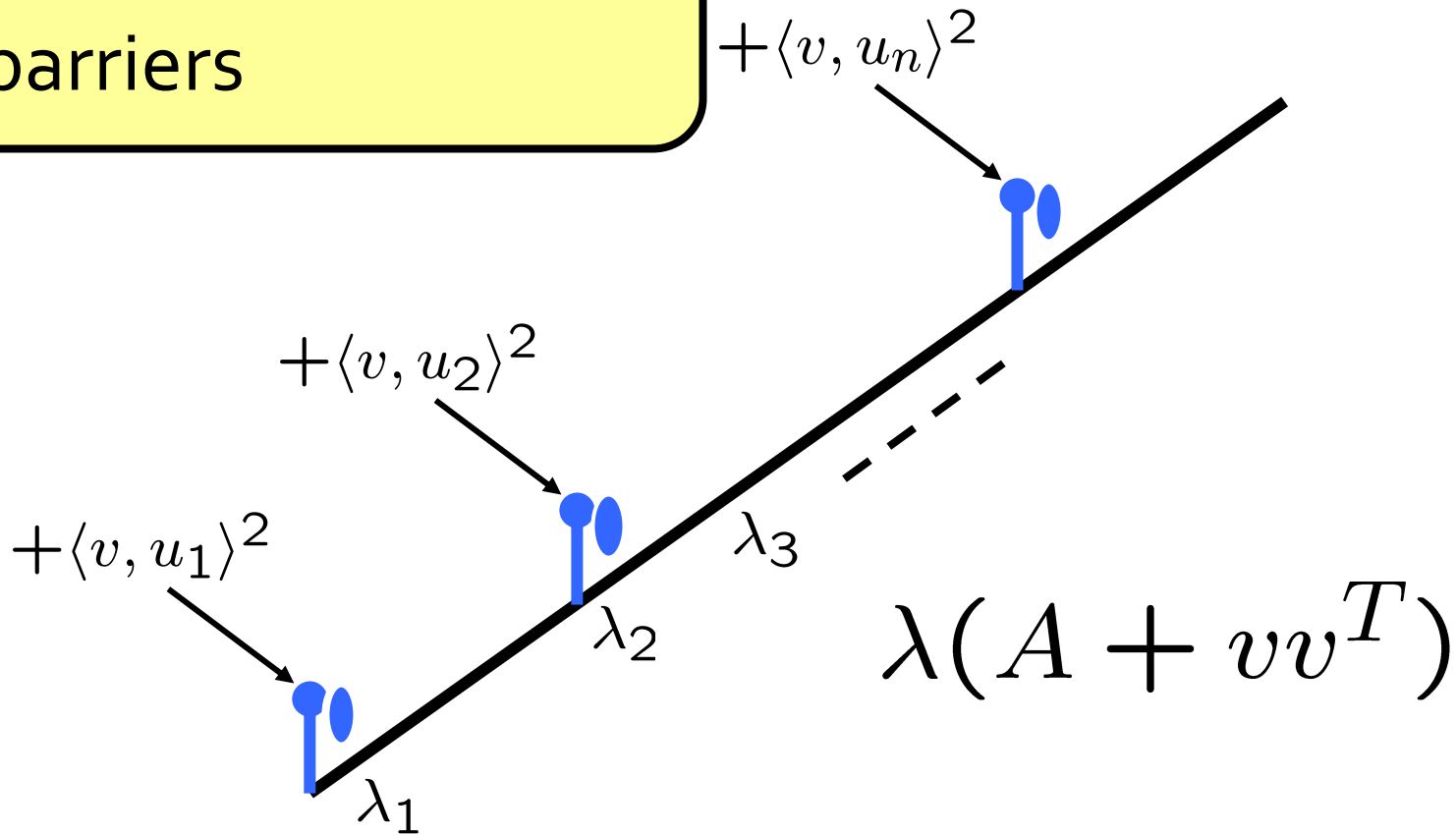
# Physical model of interlacing

$\langle v, u_i \rangle^2 =$  charges added  
to barriers



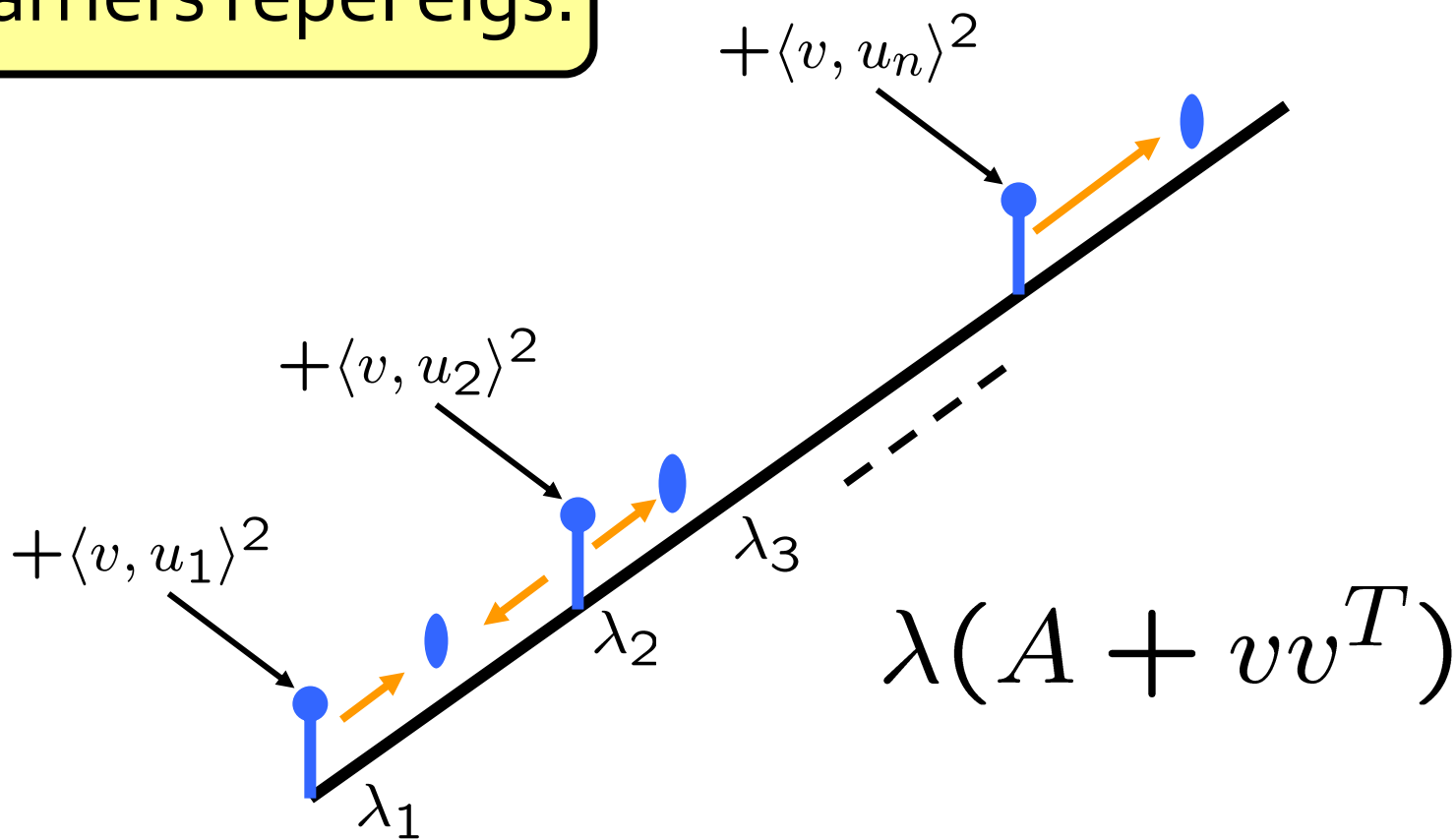
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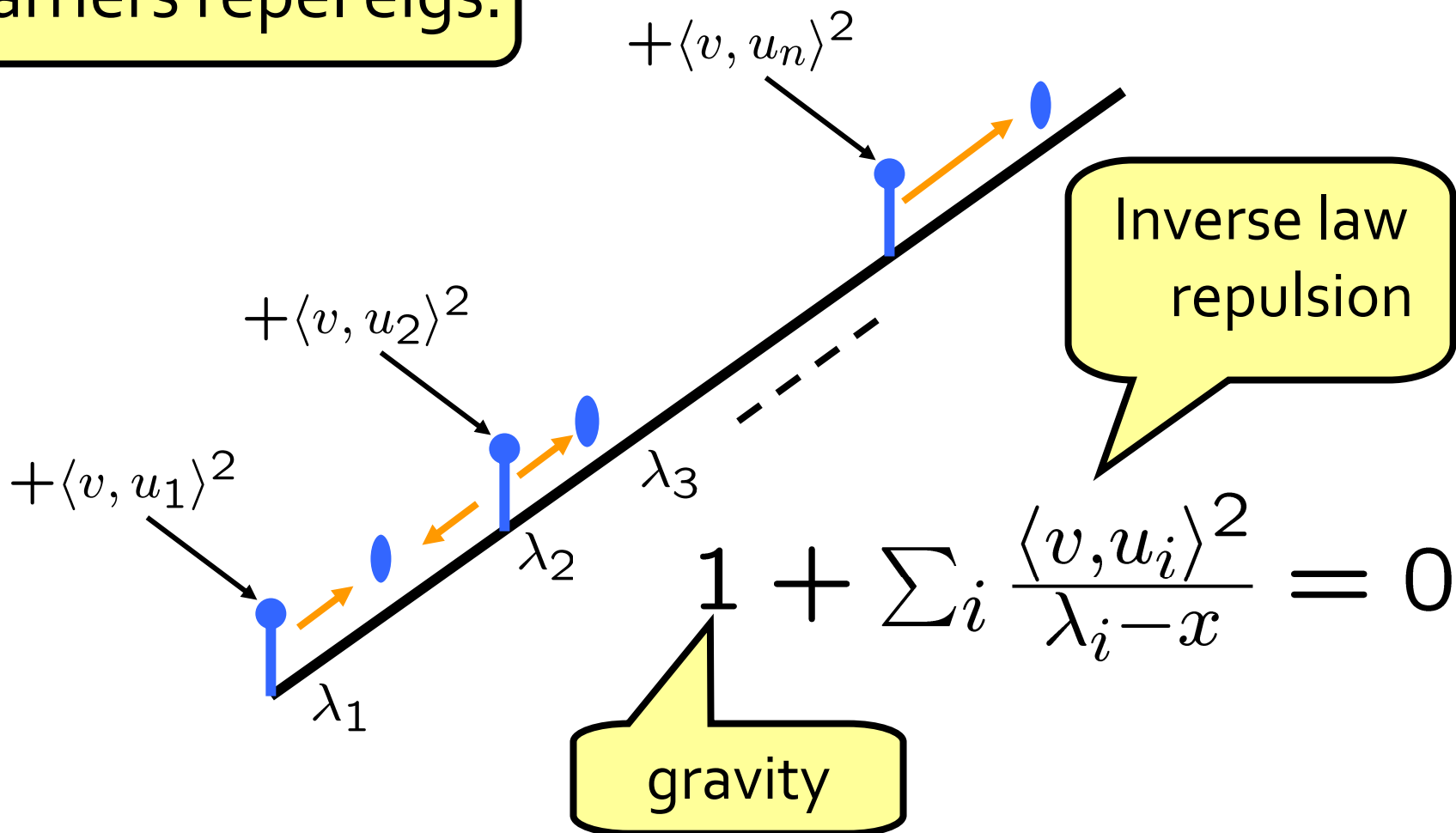
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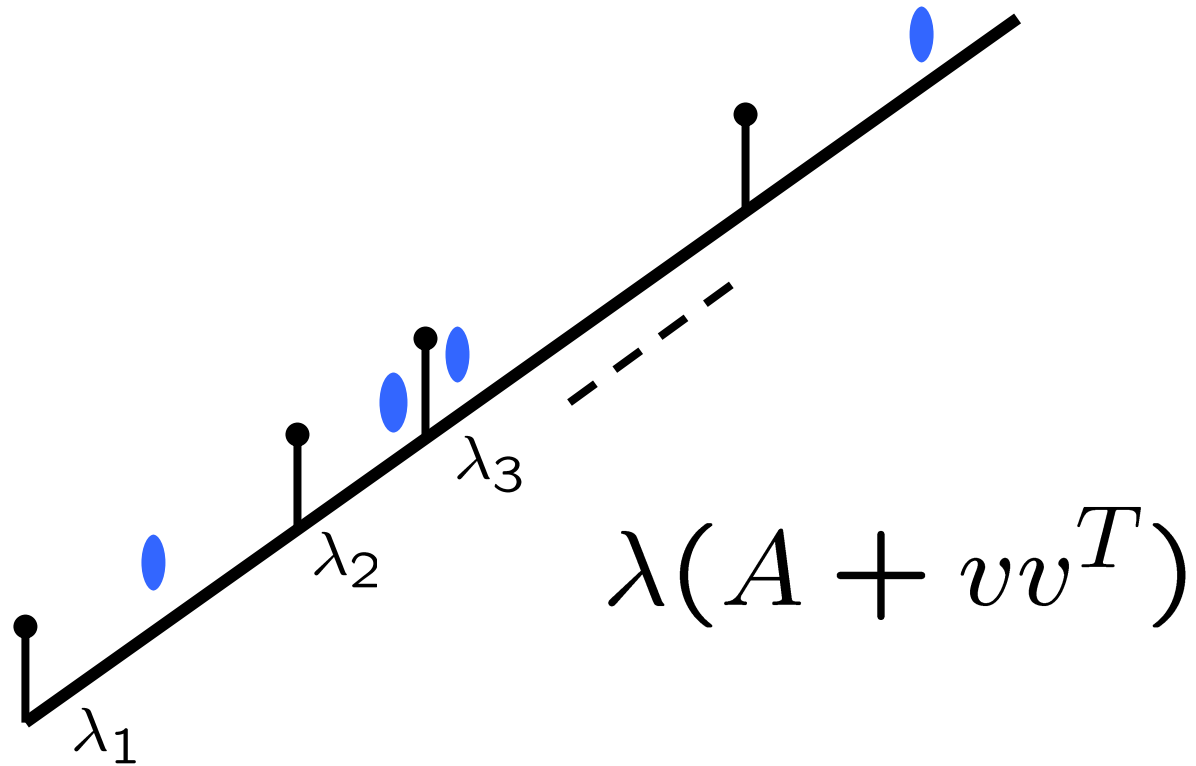
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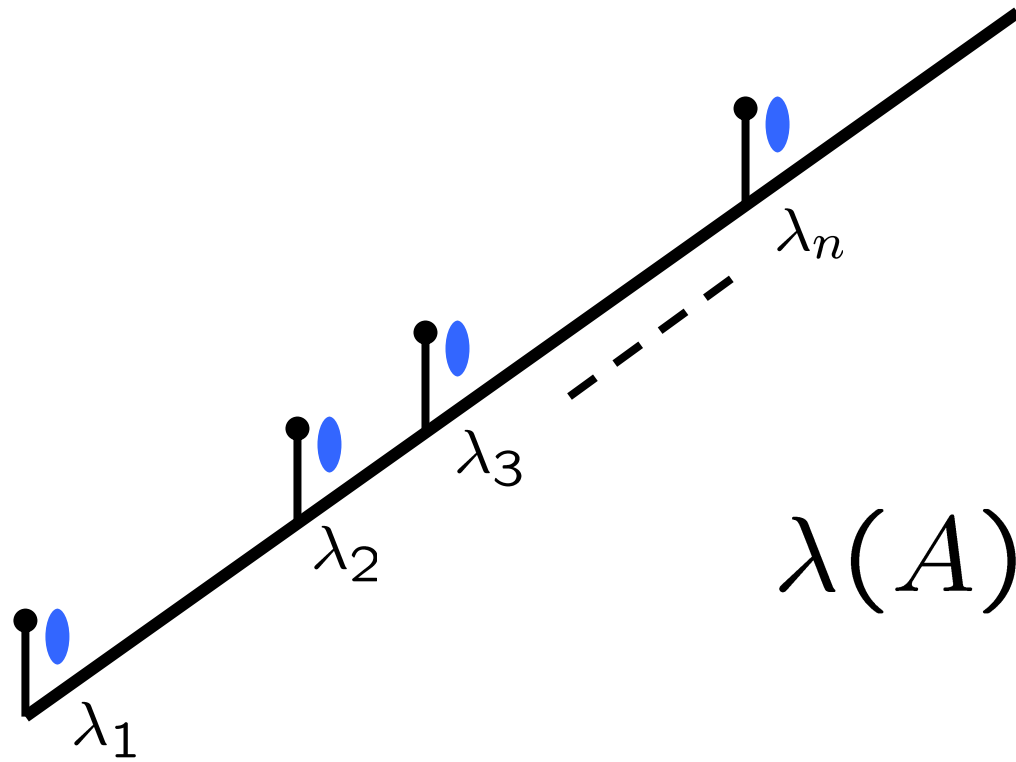


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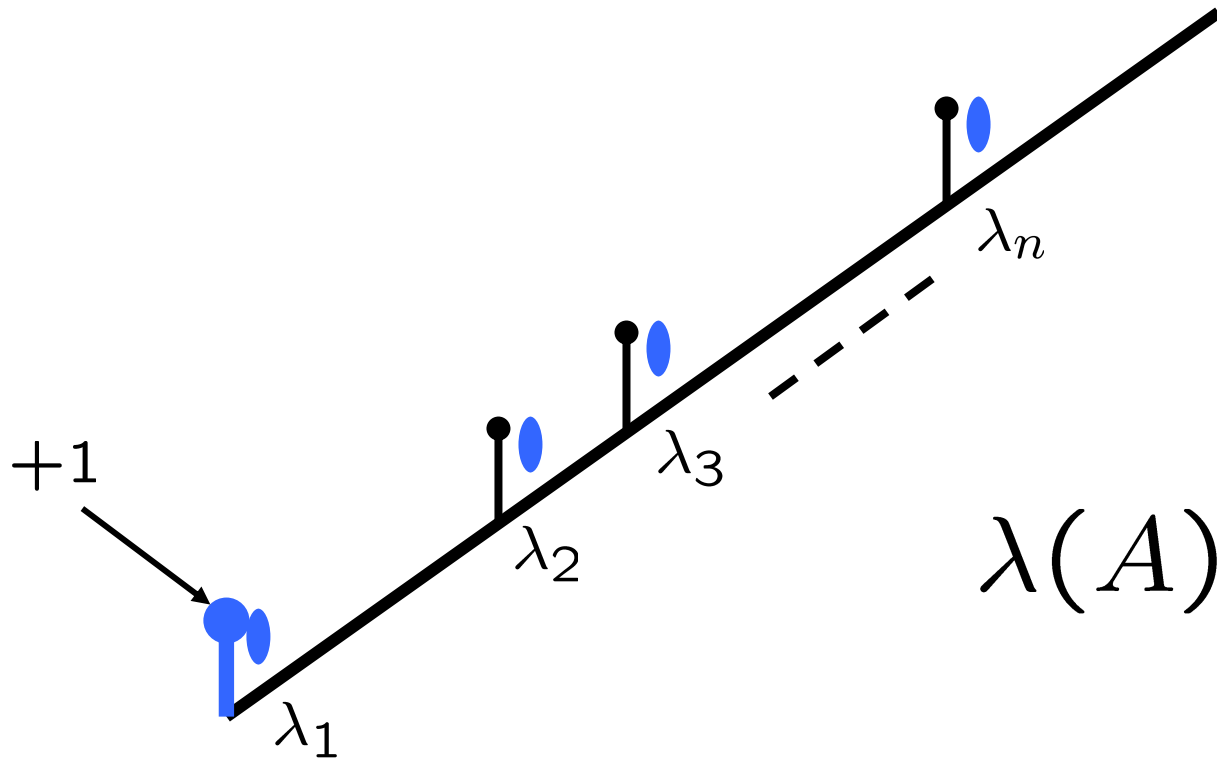
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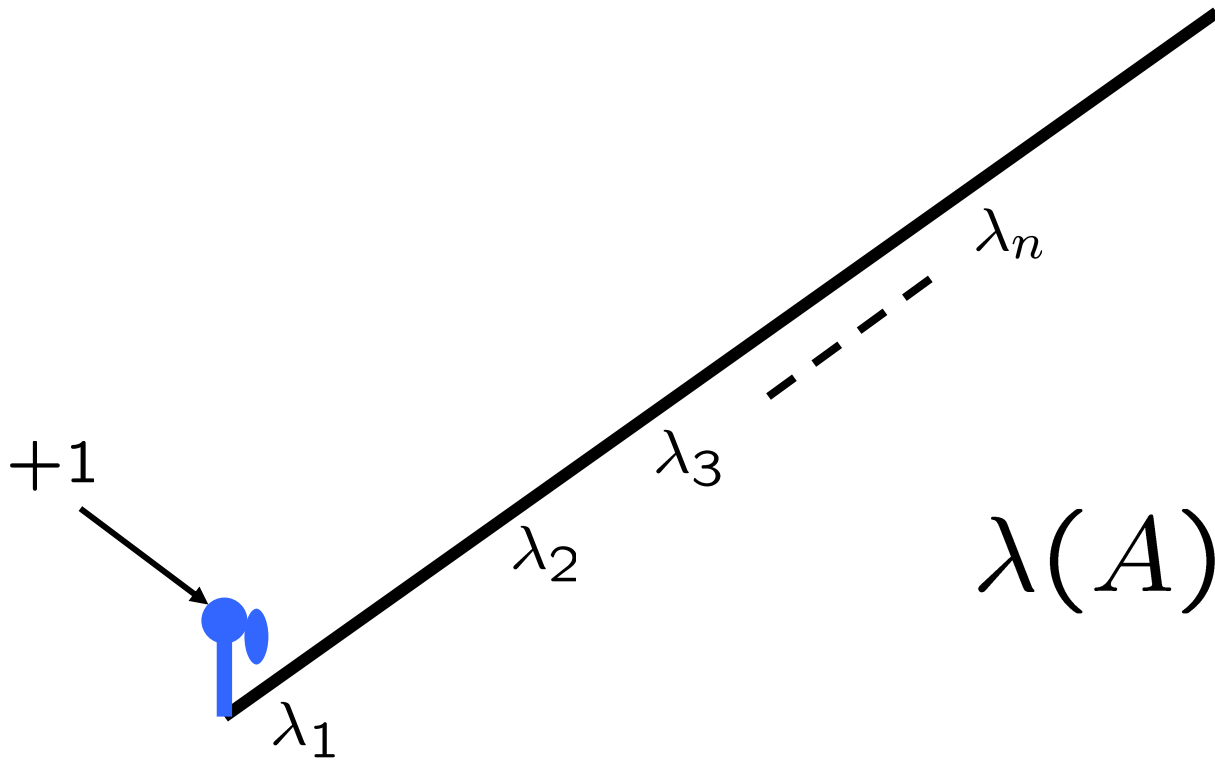
# Examples



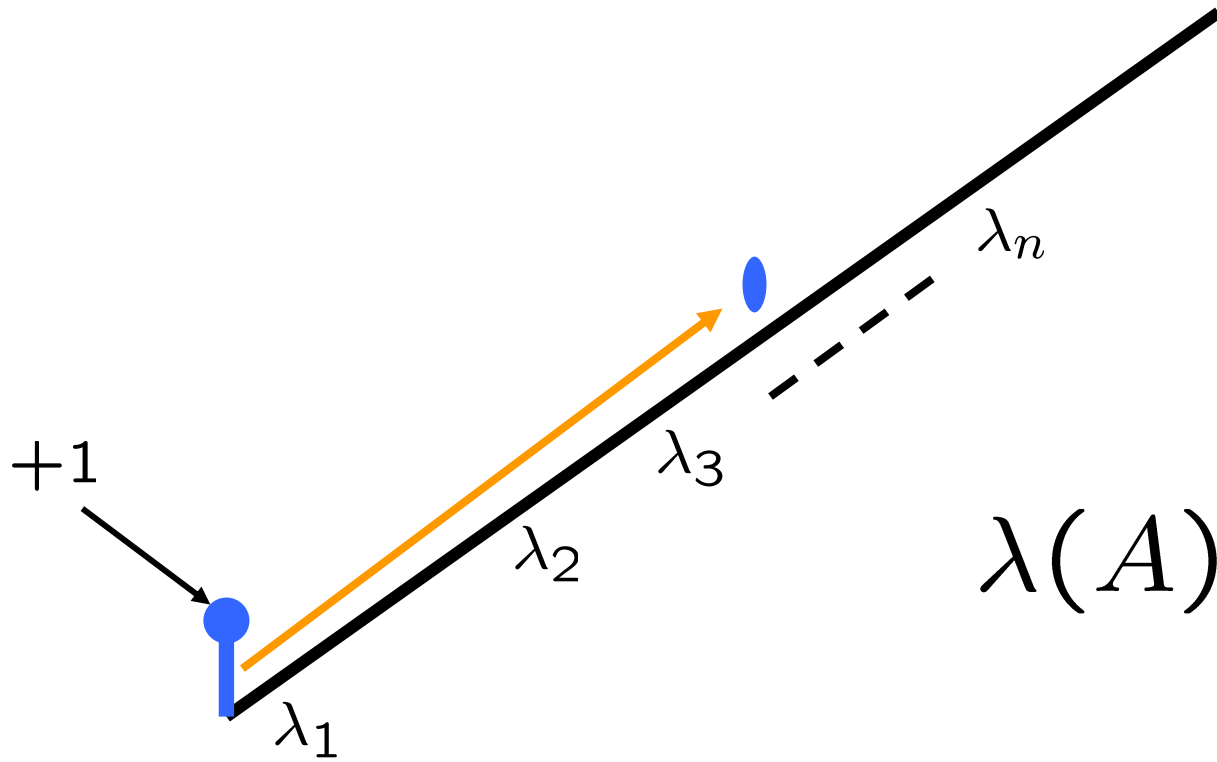
Ex1: All weight on  $u_1$



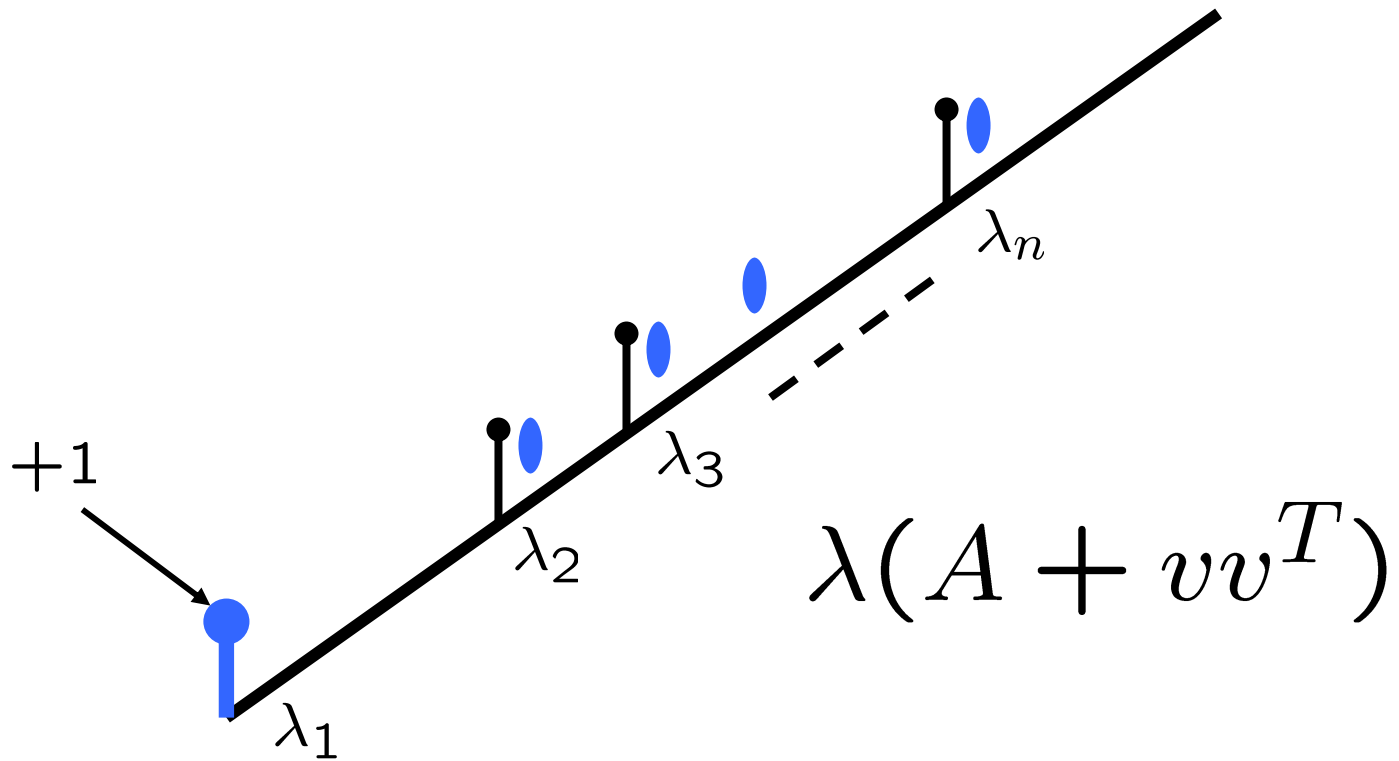
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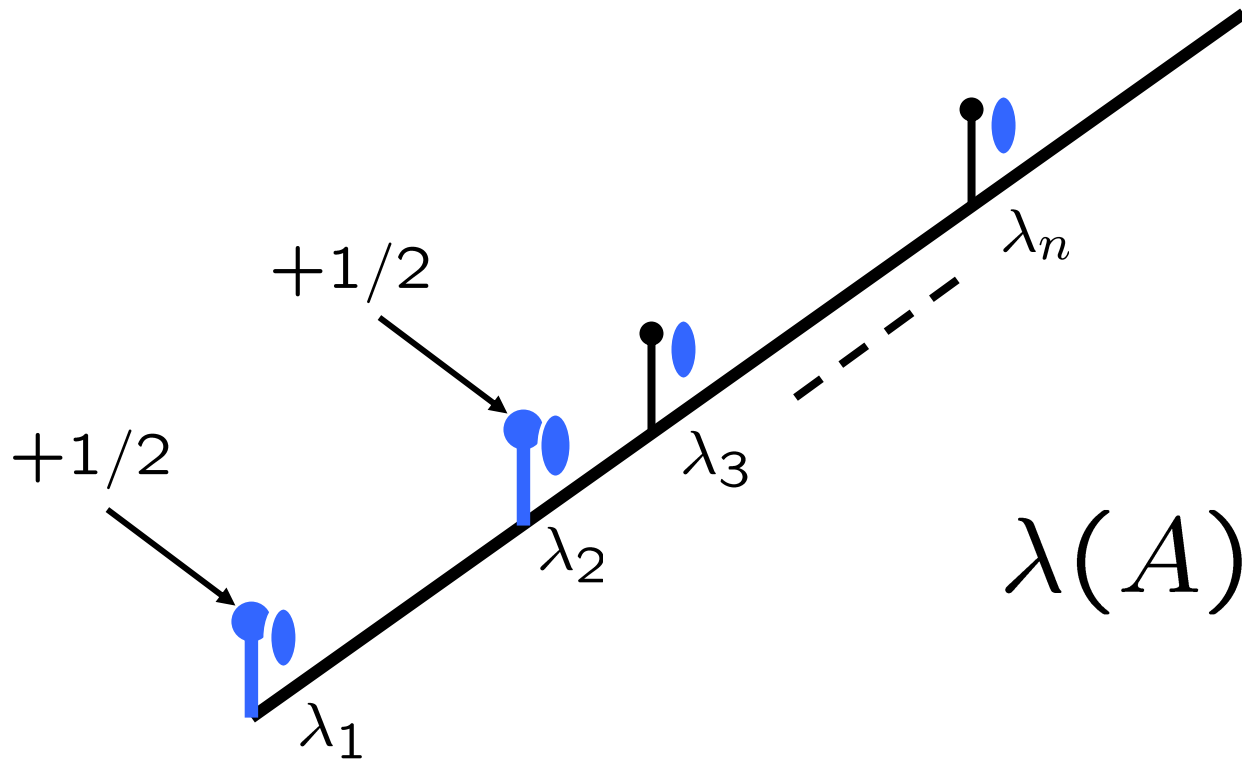
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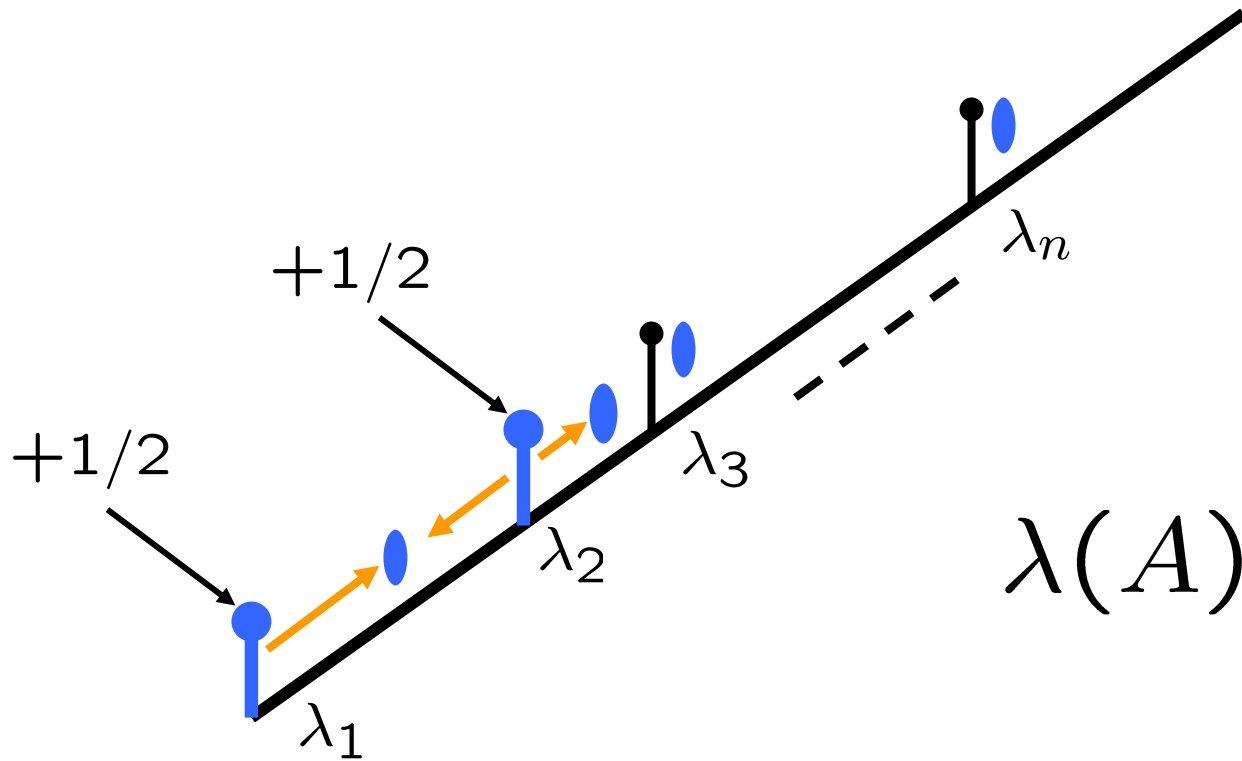
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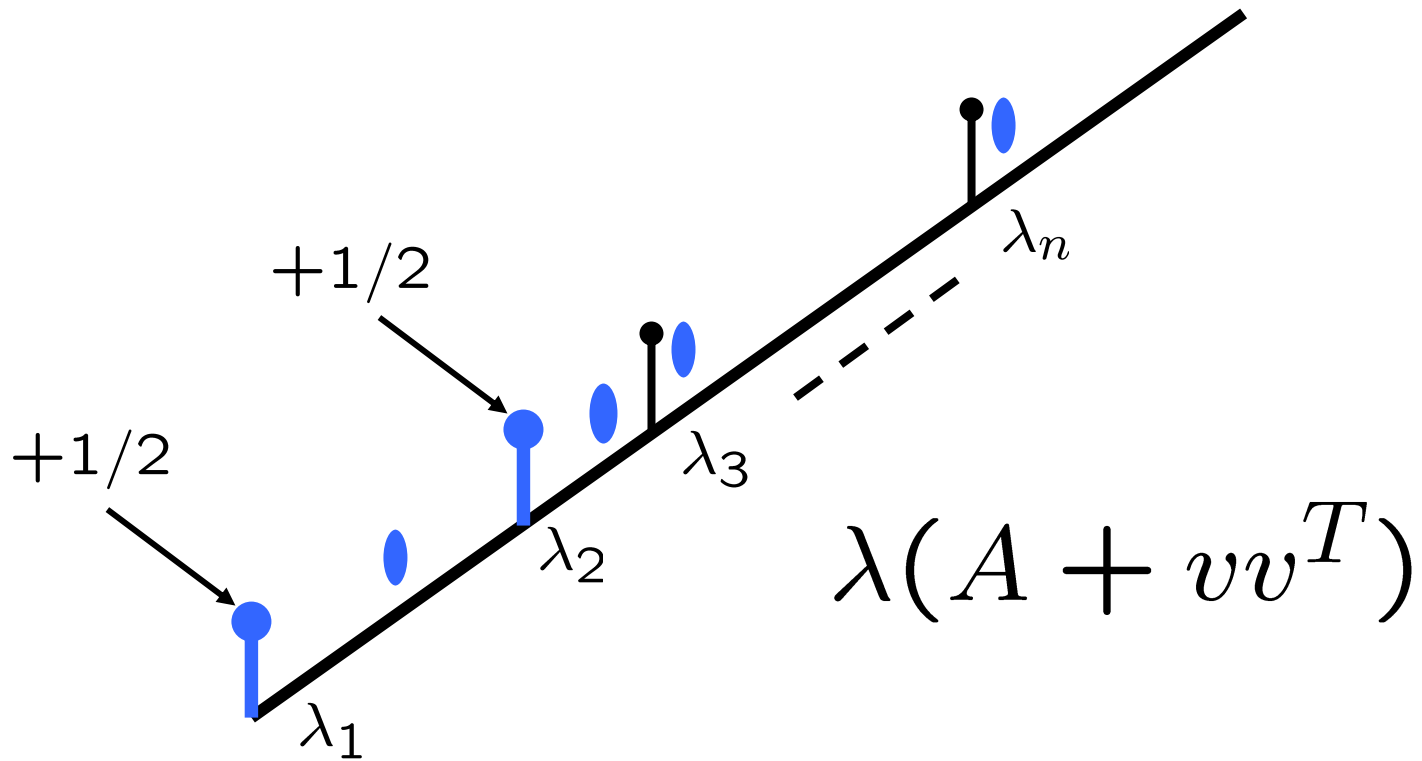
# Ex2: Equal weight on $u_1, u_2$



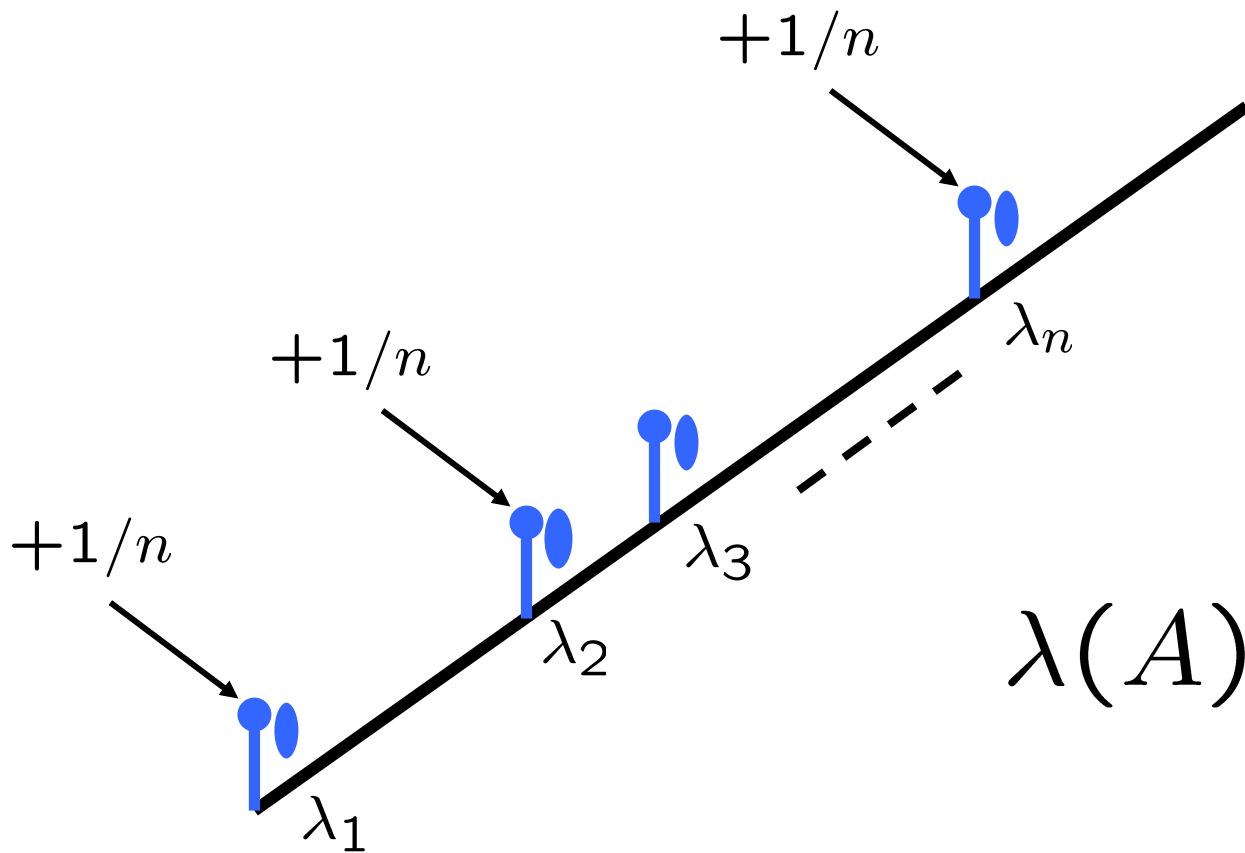
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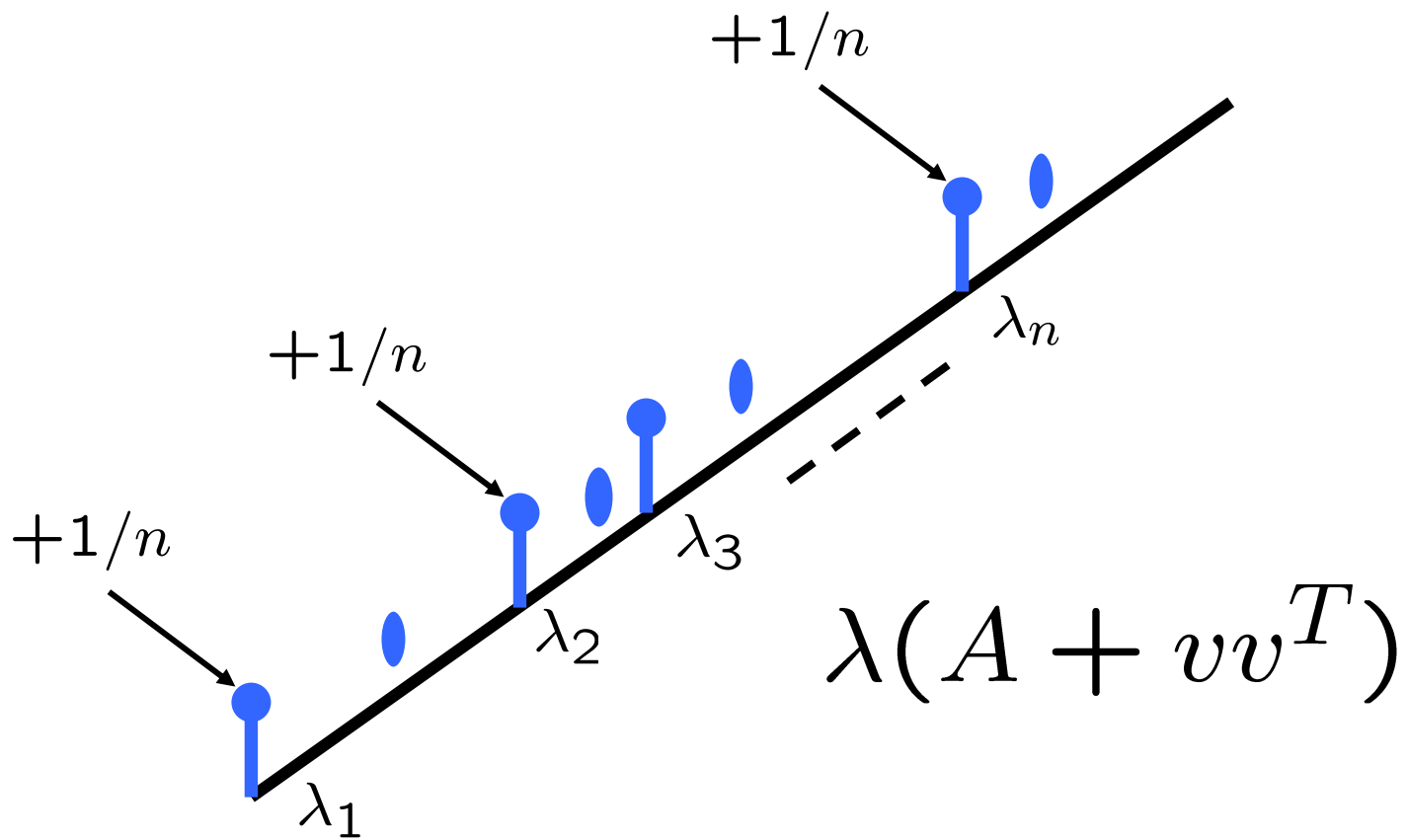
# Ex2: Equal weight on $u_1, u_2$



Ex3: Equal weight on all  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$



Ex3: Equal weight on all  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$



# Adding a balanced vector

$$\begin{aligned} p_{A+vv^t} &= p_A \left( 1 + \sum_i \frac{\langle v, u_i \rangle^2}{\lambda_i - x} \right) \\ &= p_A \left( 1 + \sum_i \frac{1}{\lambda_i - x} \right) \\ &= p_A - p'_A \end{aligned}$$

Consider a random vector

If

$$\sum_e v_e v_e^T = I$$

For every  $u_i$  :  $\sum_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1$ .

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If

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For every  $u_i$  :  $\sum_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1$ .

thus a 'random' vector has the same expected projection in *every* direction!

$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

# Ideal proof




$$A^{(0)} = 0$$

$$p^{(0)} = x^n$$

# Ideal proof

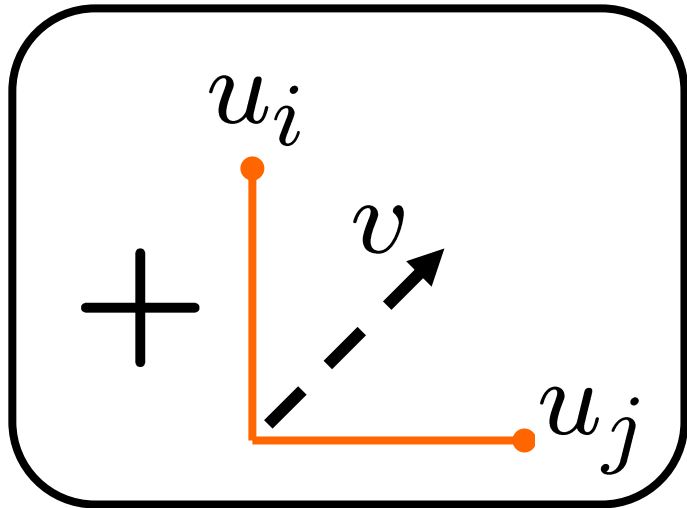
$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

---


$$A^{(0)} = 0$$

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# Ideal proof



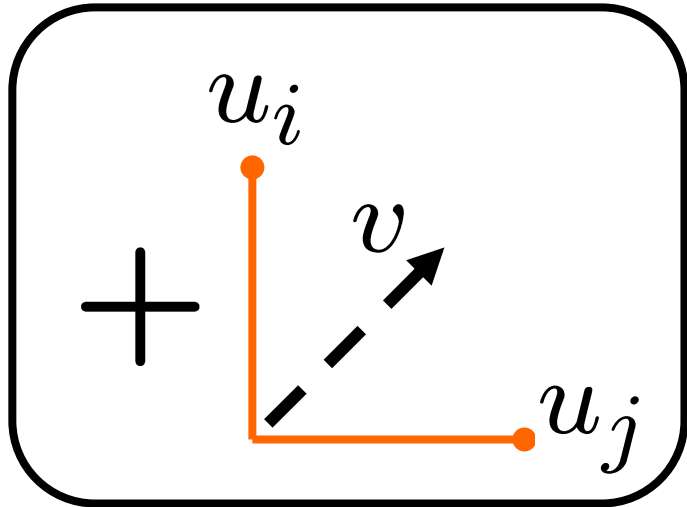
$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$



$$A^{(1)} = 0 + vv^T$$

$$p^{(1)} = x^n - nx^{n-1}$$

# Ideal proof



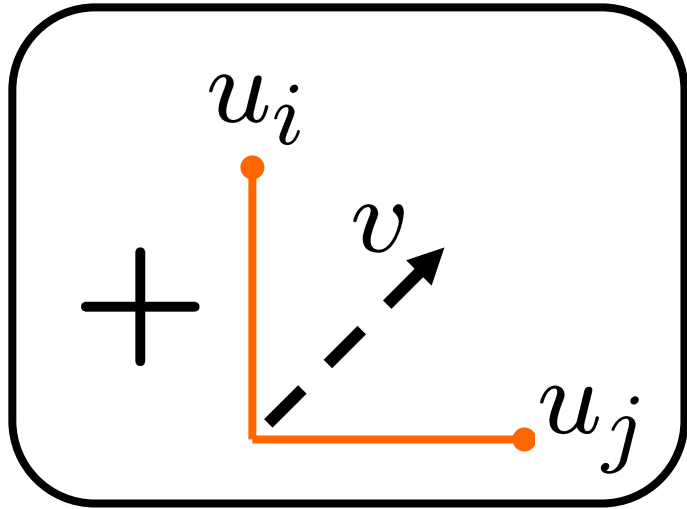
$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$



$$A^{(2)} = A^{(1)} + vv^T$$

$$p^{(2)} = x^n - 2nx^{n-1} + n(n-1)x^{n-2}$$

# Ideal proof

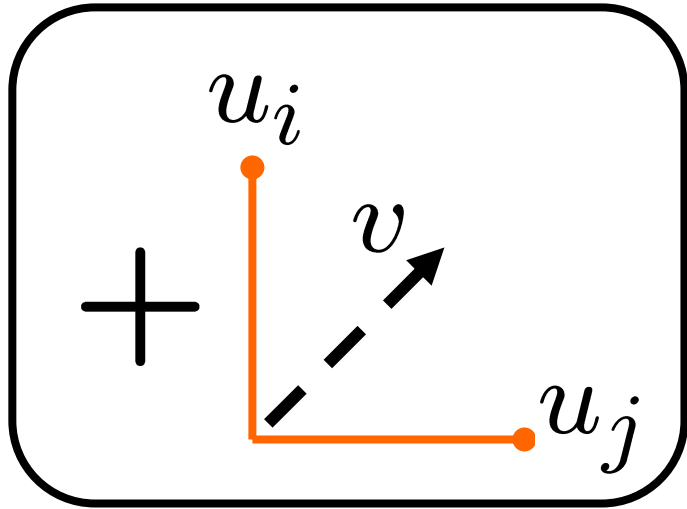


$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

$$A^{(3)} = A^{(2)} + vv^T$$

$$p^{(3)} = p^{(2)} - p^{(2)'}$$

# Ideal proof

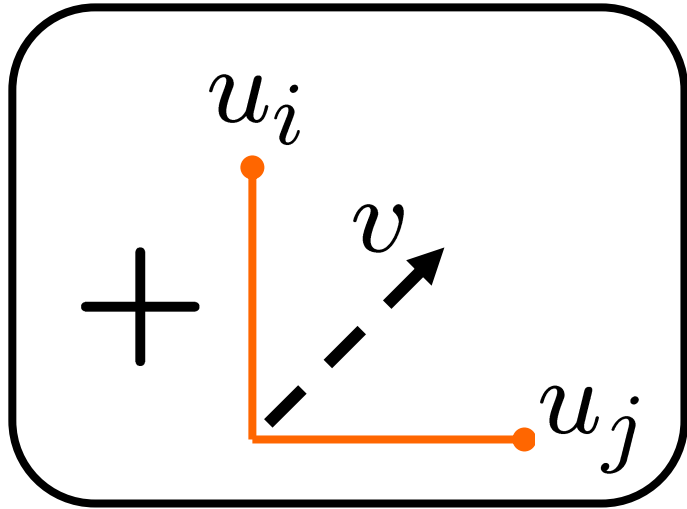


$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

$$A^{(i+1)} = A^{(i)} + vv^T$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

# Ideal proof

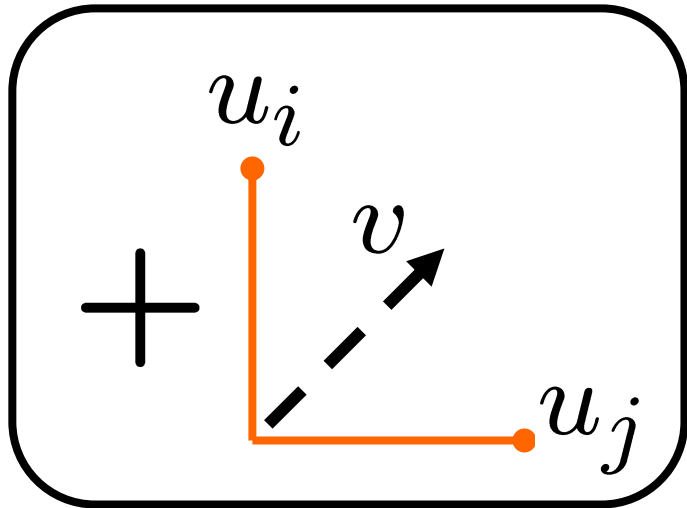


$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

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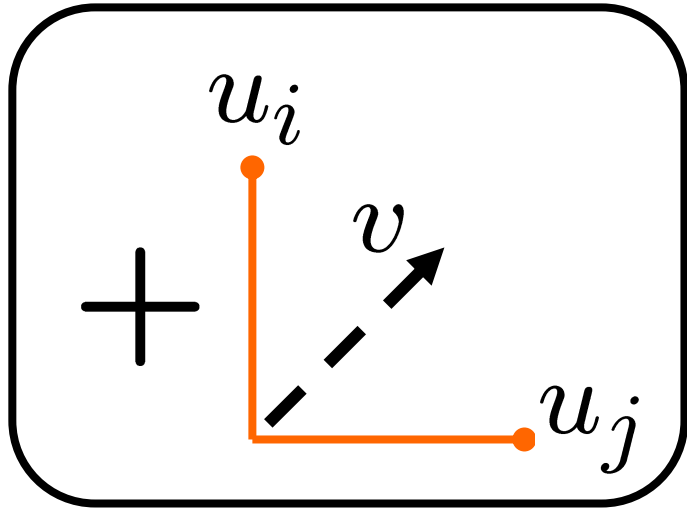
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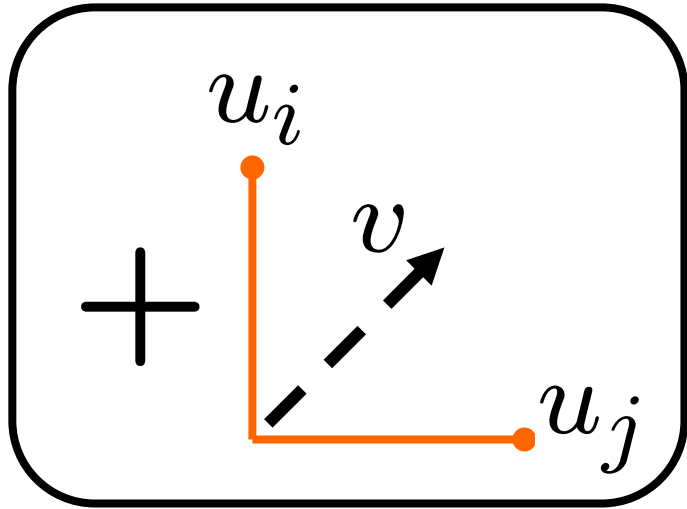


$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

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# Ideal proof



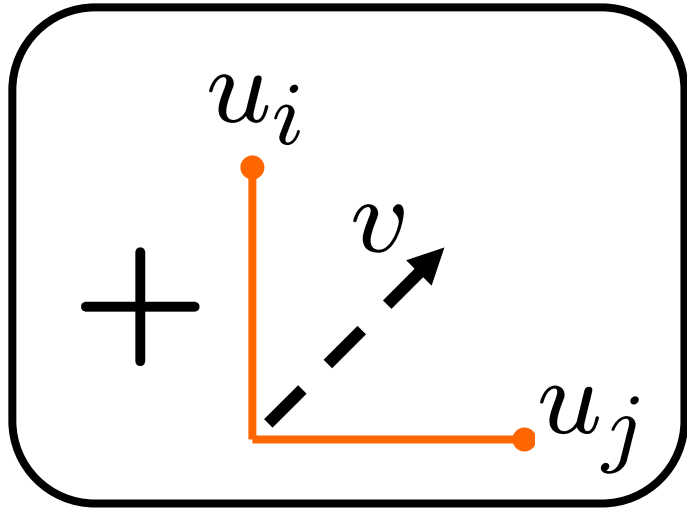
$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

---

$$A^{(i+1)} = A^{(i)} + vv^T$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

# Ideal proof



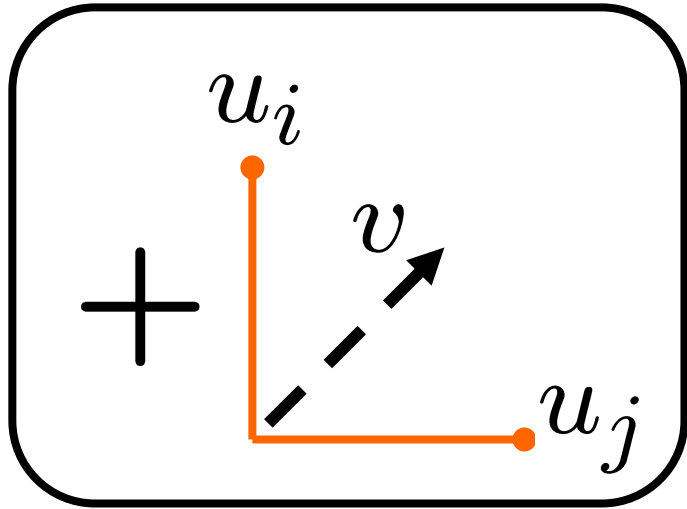
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$$A^{(i+1)} = A^{(i)} + vv^T$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

# Ideal proof



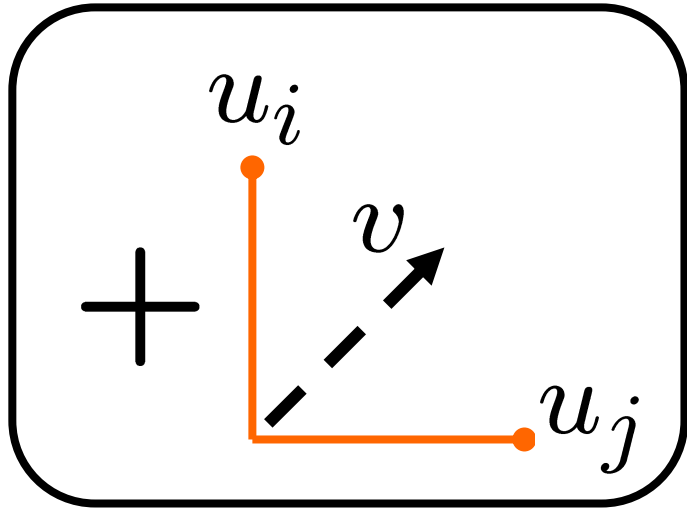
$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$



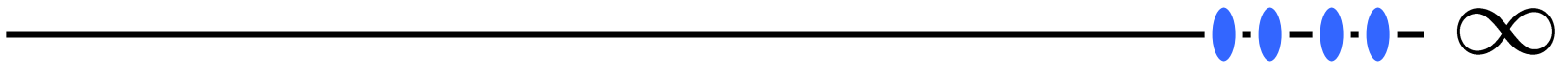
$$A^{(i+1)} = A^{(i)} + vv^T \quad \dots$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

# Ideal proof



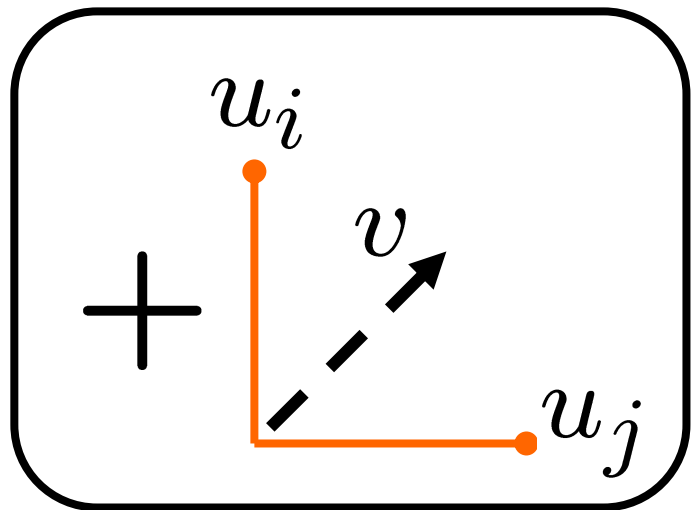
$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$



$$A^{(i+1)} = A^{(i)} + vv^T \quad \dots \dots$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

# Ideal proof



$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$



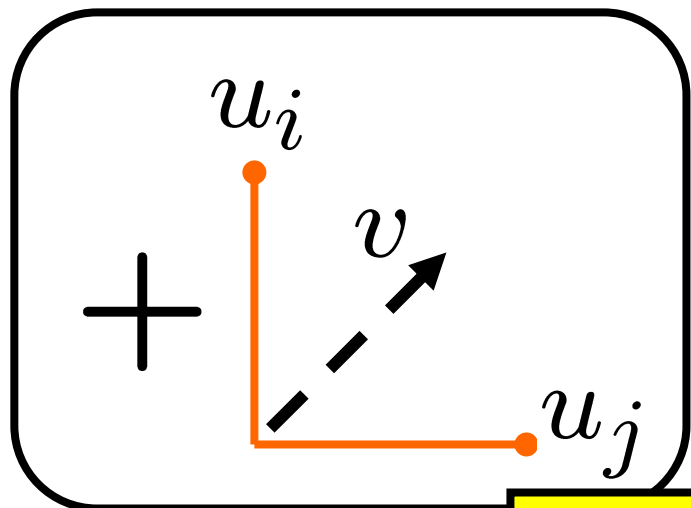
$$A^{(i+1)} = A^{(i)} + vv^T$$

.....

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

$$\frac{\lambda_n(A)}{\lambda_1(A)} \leq 13?$$

# Punch Line



$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

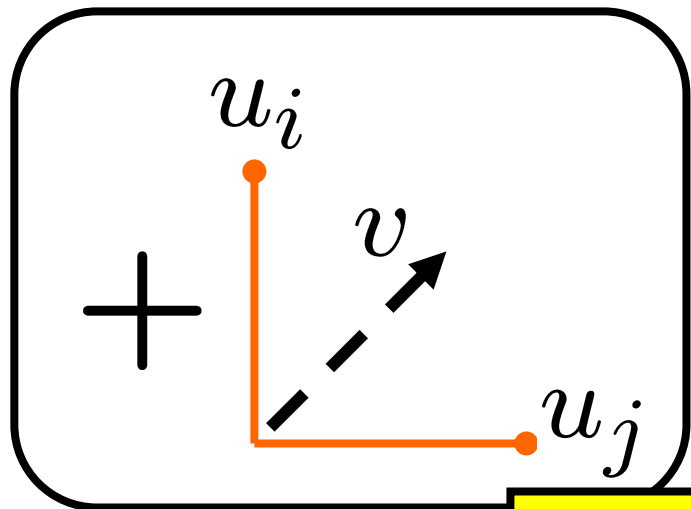
$$A^{(i+1)} =$$

$$p^{(i)} = \text{Laguerre}^{(i)}$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

$$\frac{\lambda_n(A)}{\lambda_1(A)} \leq 13?$$

# Punch Line



$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

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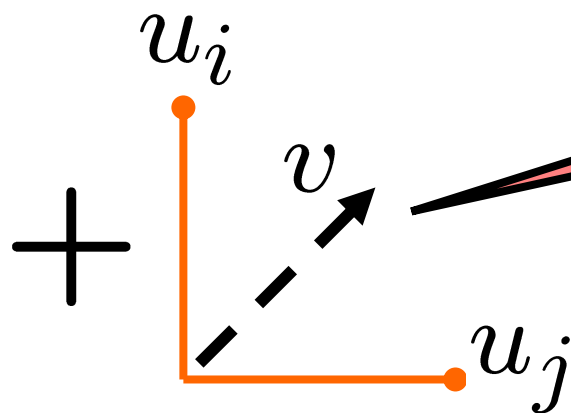
$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

$$\lambda_n(A) < 1.32$$

$$\text{In } dn \text{ steps: } \frac{\lambda_n(A)}{\lambda_1(A)} \leq \frac{d+2\sqrt{d-1}}{d-2\sqrt{d-2}}$$

# Punch Line

find actual vectors that realize this ideal behavior.



$$\mathbb{E}_e \langle v_e, u_i \rangle^2 = 1/m$$

$$A^{(i+1)} =$$

$$p^{(i)} = \text{Laguerre}^{(i)}$$

$$p^{(i+1)} = p^{(i)} - p^{(i)'}$$

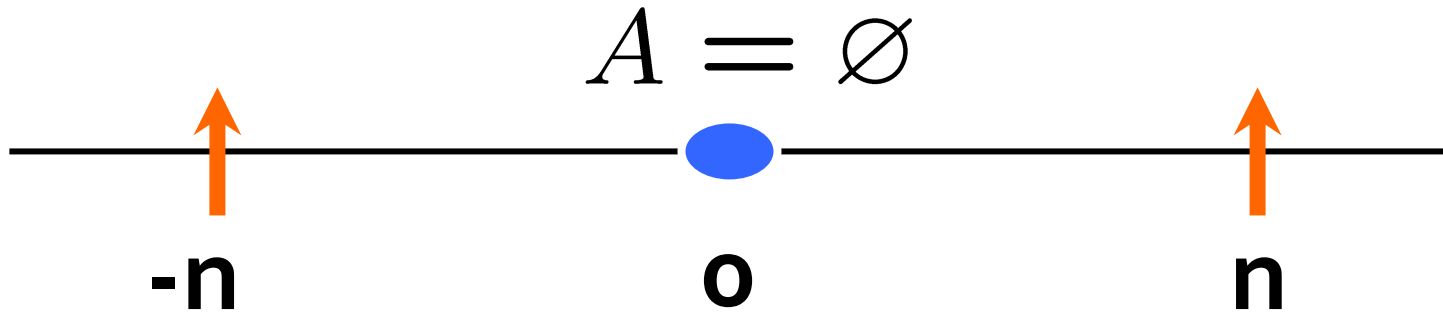
$$\lambda_n(A) < 1.32$$

$$\text{In } dn \text{ steps: } \frac{\lambda_n(A)}{\lambda_1(A)} \leq \frac{d+2\sqrt{d-1}}{d-2\sqrt{d-2}}$$

# Step 3: Actual Proof

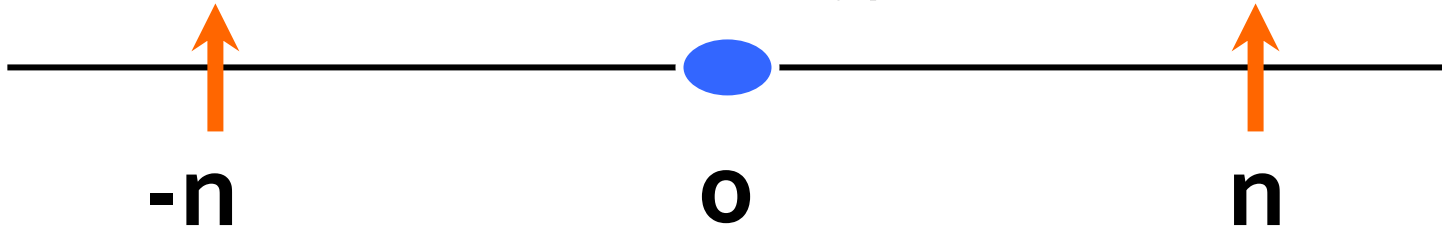
(for  $6n$  vectors, 13-approx)

# Broad outline: moving barriers



Step 1

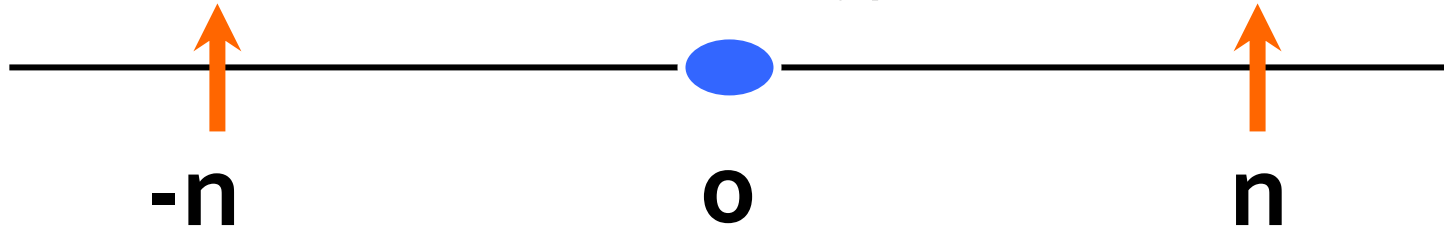
$$A = \emptyset$$



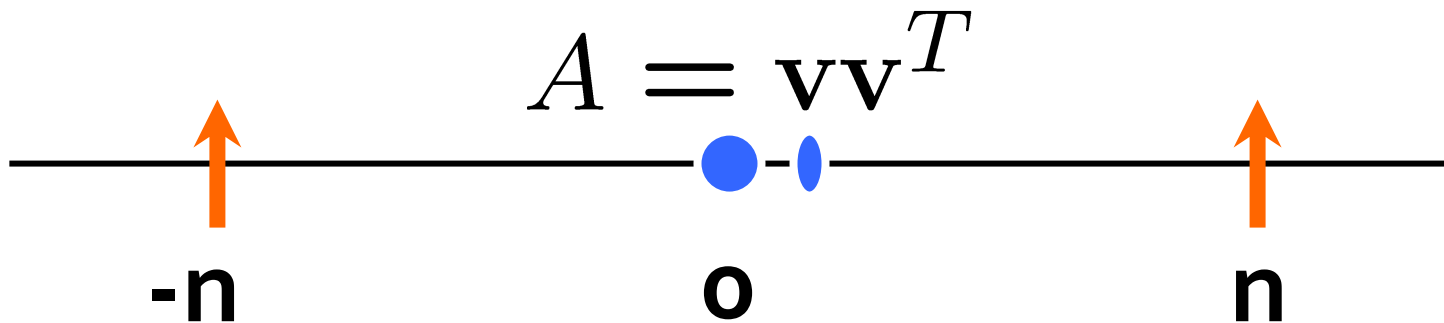
$$+vv^T \quad v \in \{v_e\}$$

# Step 1

$$A = \emptyset$$

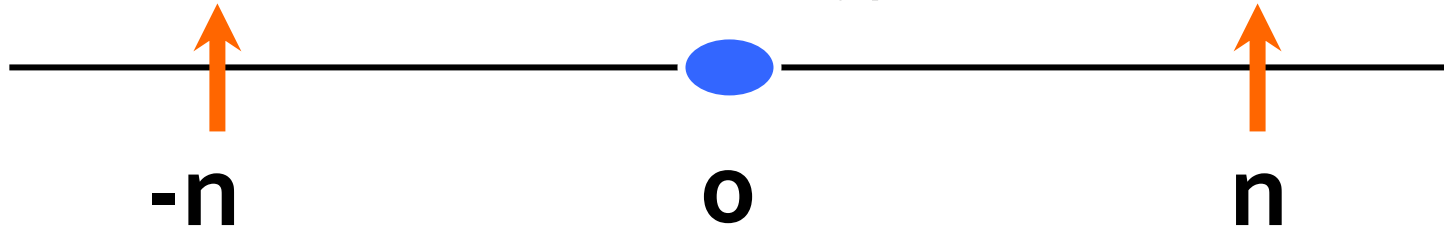


$$+vv^T \quad v \in \{v_e\}$$

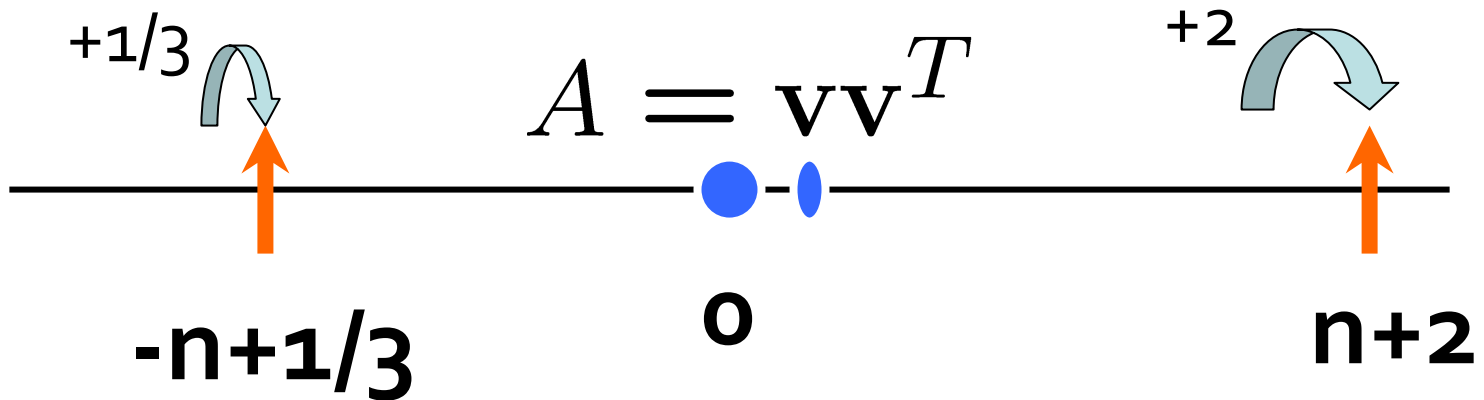


# Step 1

$$A = \emptyset$$



$$+vv^T \quad v \in \{v_e\}$$



# Step 1

$$A = \emptyset$$

$$0$$

$$v \in \{v_e\}$$

$$A = vv^T$$

$$0$$

tighter constraint

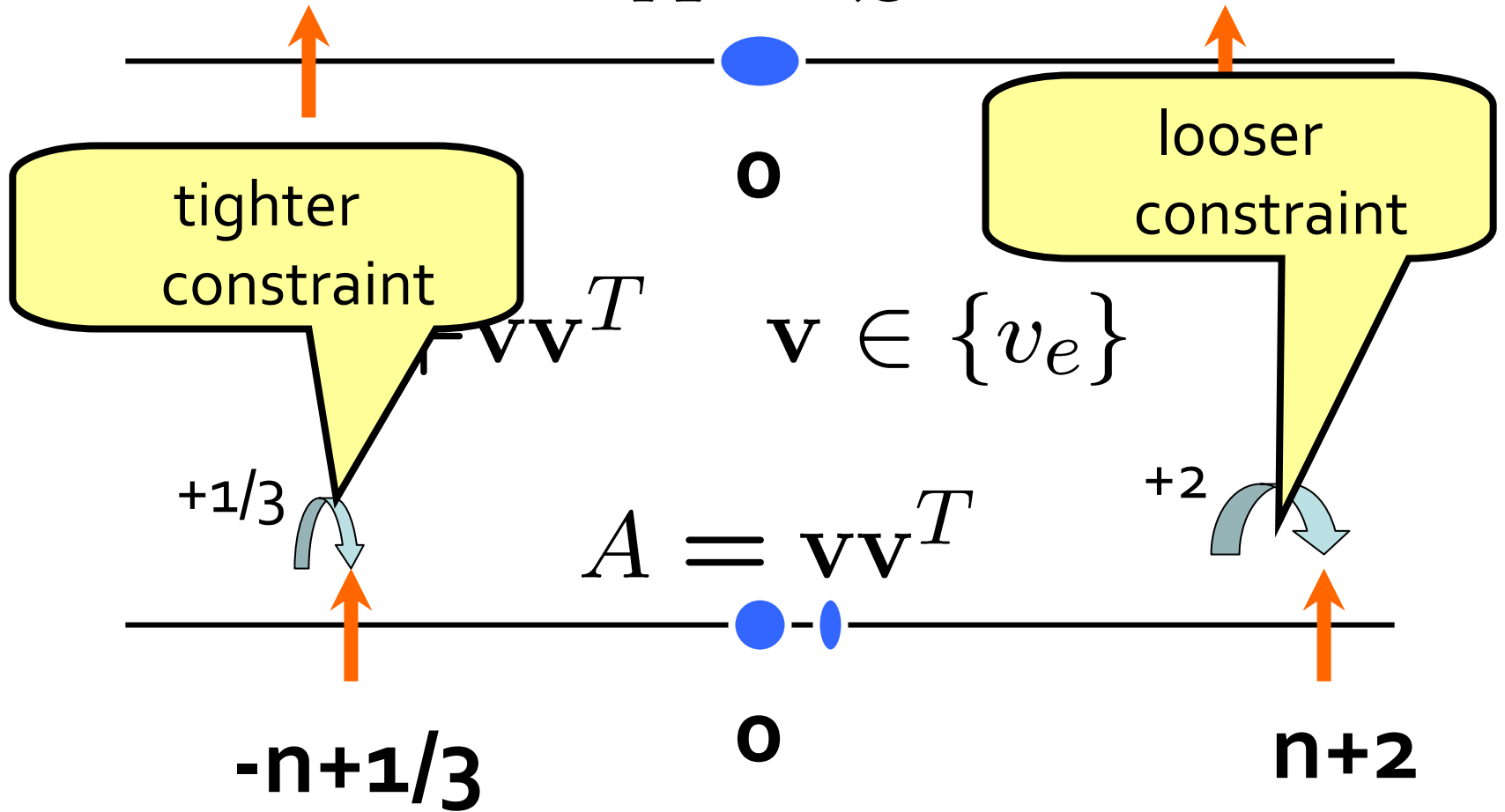
+1/3

$-n+1/3$

looser constraint

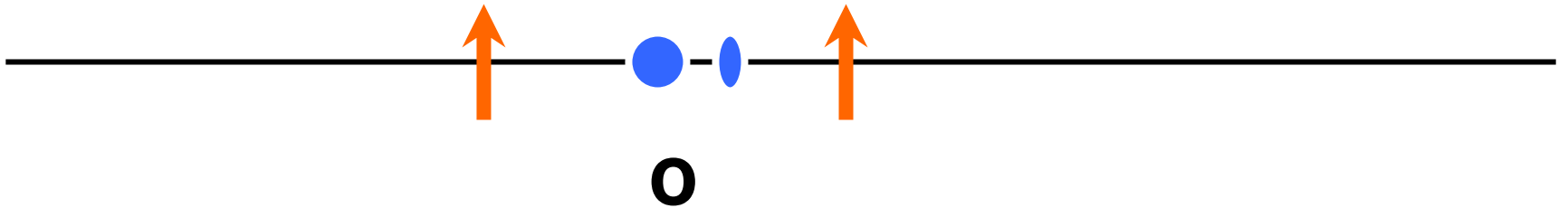
+2

$n+2$



# Step $i+1$

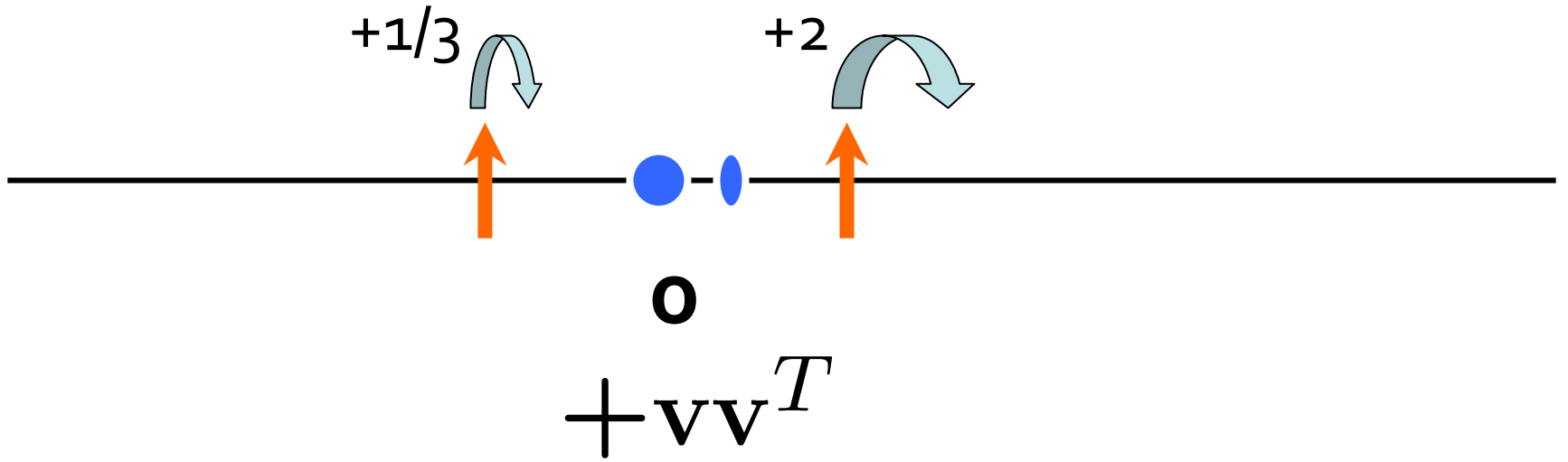
$A^{(i)}$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

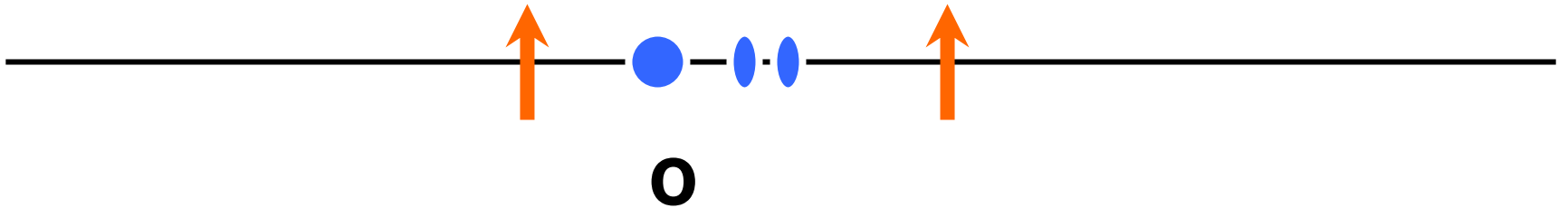
# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}$



# Step $i+1$

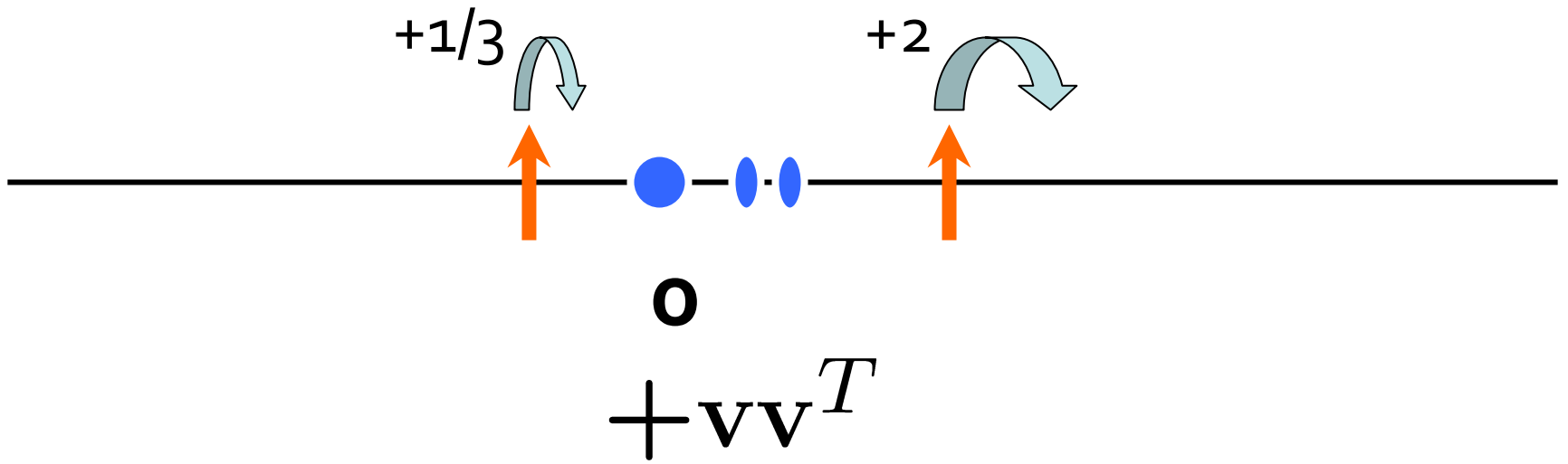
$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

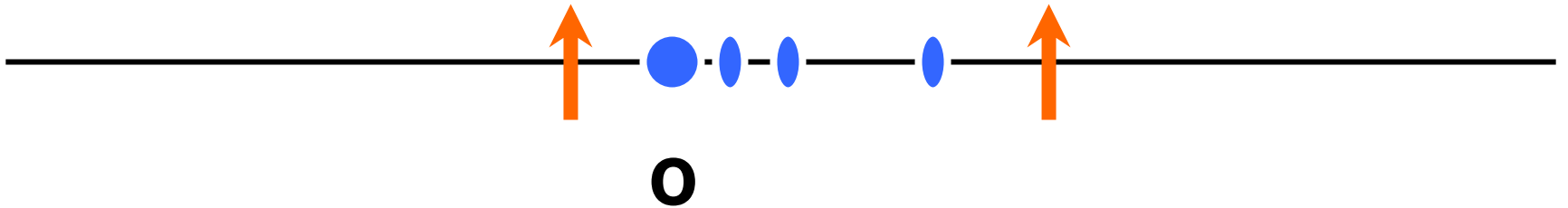
# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}$



# Step $i+1$

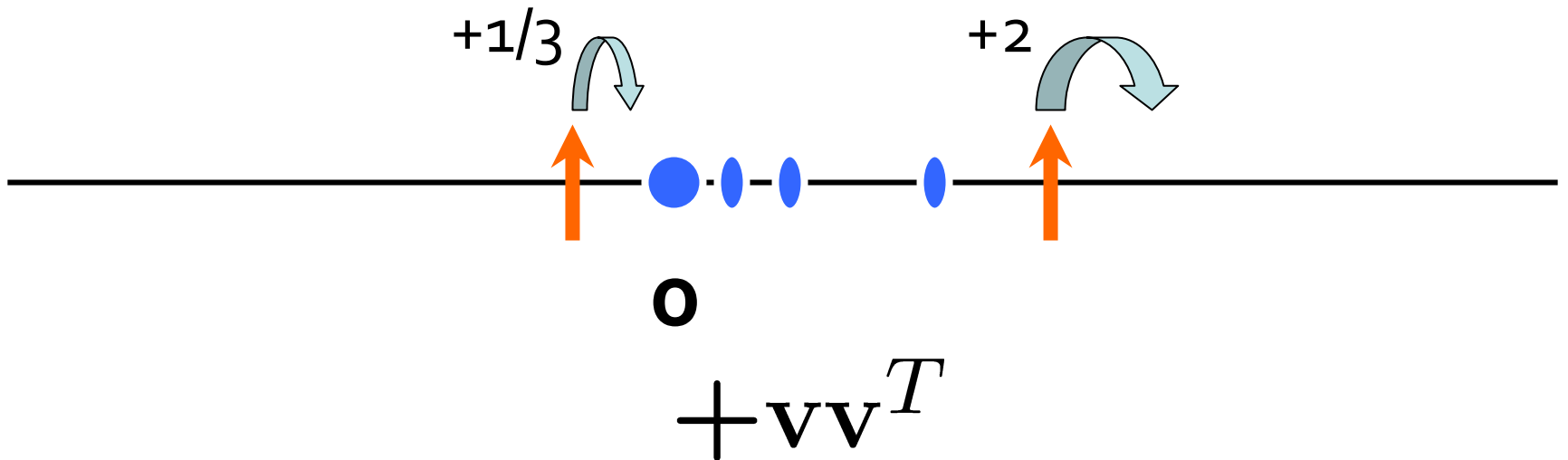
$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

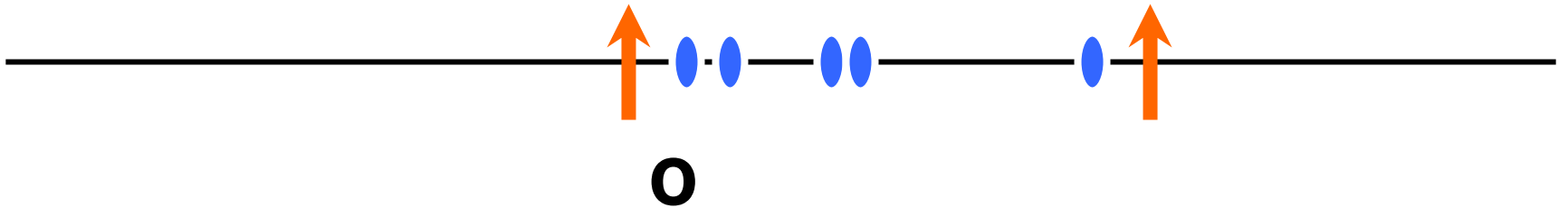
# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}$



# Step $i+1$

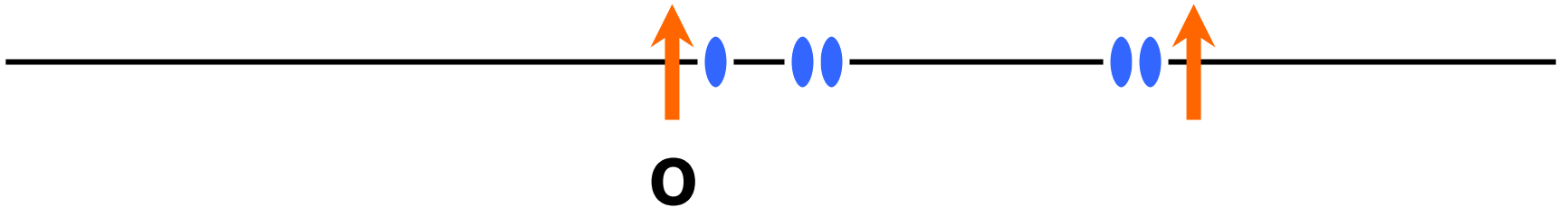
$$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}$$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

# Step $i+1$

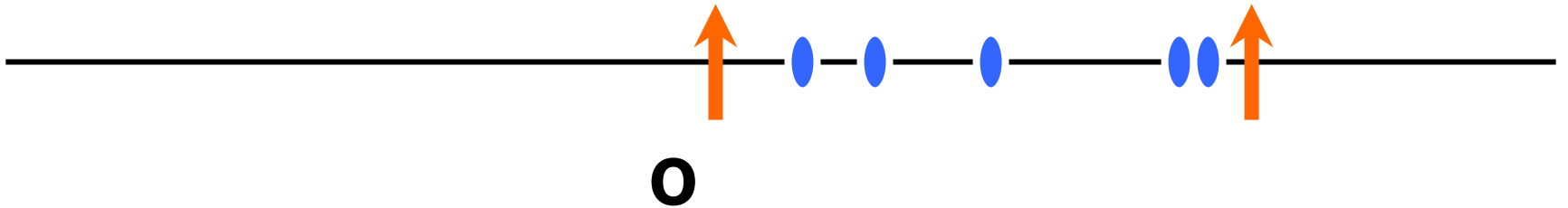
$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

# Step $i+1$

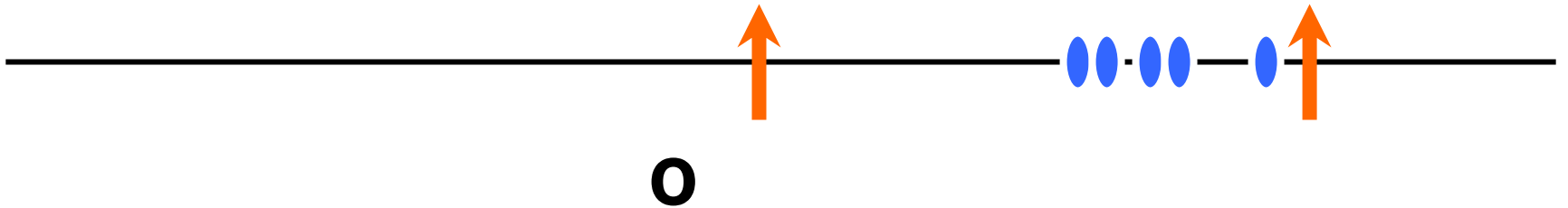
$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

# Step $i+1$

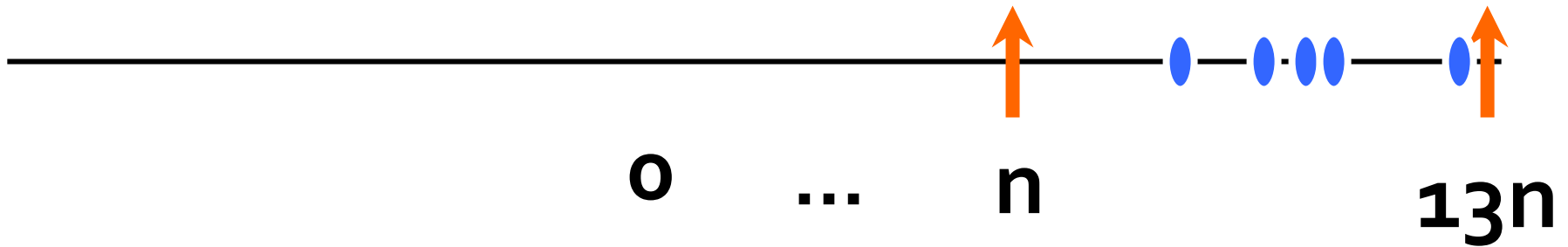
$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$



$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

# Step 6n

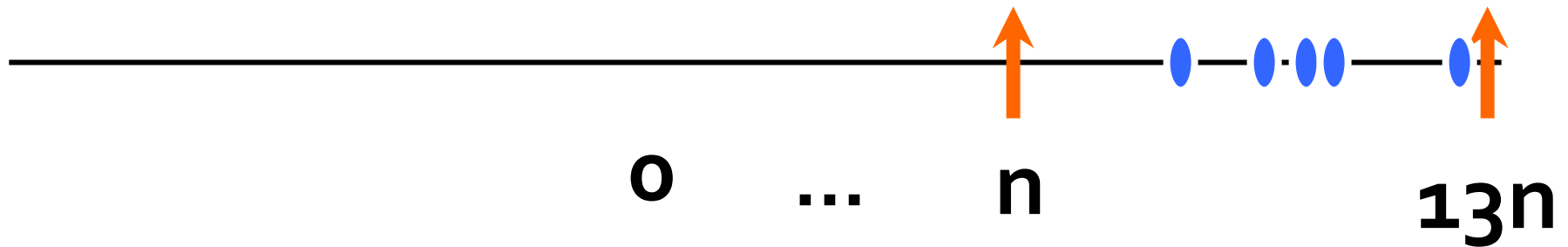
$$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots, A^{(6n)}$$



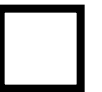
$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

# Step 6n

$$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots, A^{(6n)}$$



13-approximation with 6n vectors.



# Problem

need to show that an appropriate

$$v_e v_e^T$$

always exists.

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$v_e v_e^T$   
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$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

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# Problem

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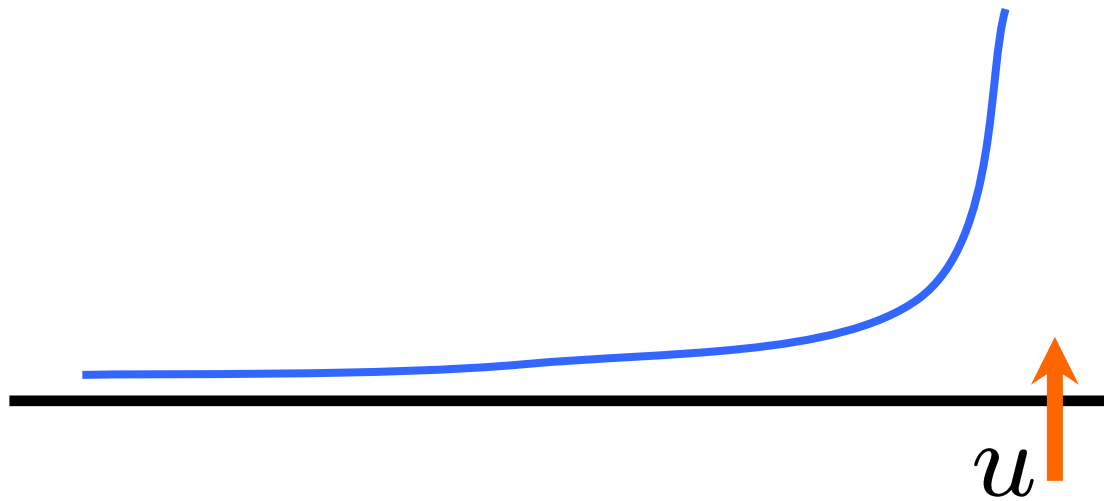
need a better way to measure  
quality of eigenvalues.

$$\uparrow \leq \lambda_i \leq \uparrow$$

is not strong enough to do the induction.

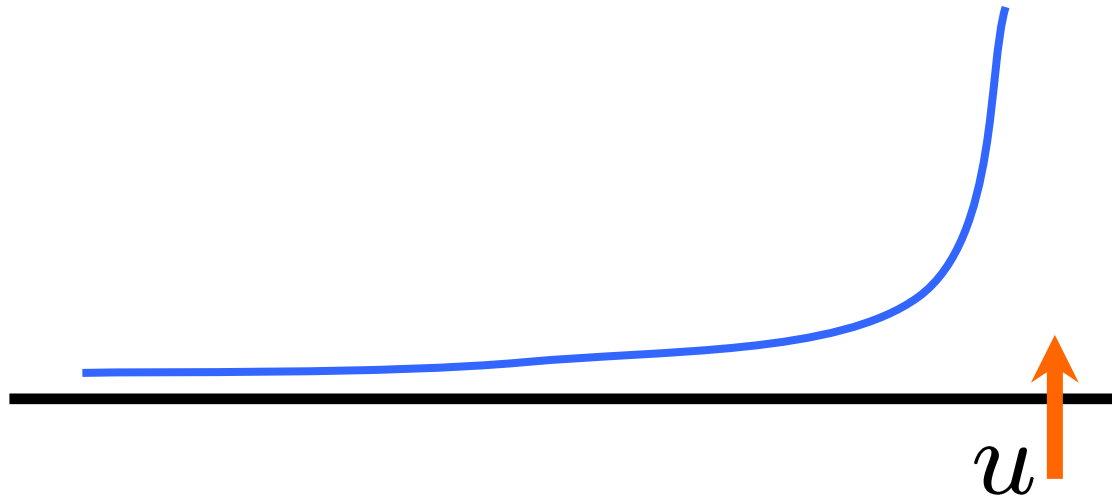
# The Upper Barrier

$$\Phi^u(A) = \text{Tr}(uI - A)^{-1} = \sum_i \frac{1}{u - \lambda_i}$$



# The Upper Barrier

$$\Phi^u(A) = \text{Tr}(uI - A)^{-1} = \sum_i \frac{1}{u - \lambda_i}$$



$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1 \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max}(A) \ll u$$

# The Upper Barrier

$$\Phi^u(A) = \text{Tr}(uI - A)^{-1} = \sum_i \frac{1}{u - \lambda_i}$$

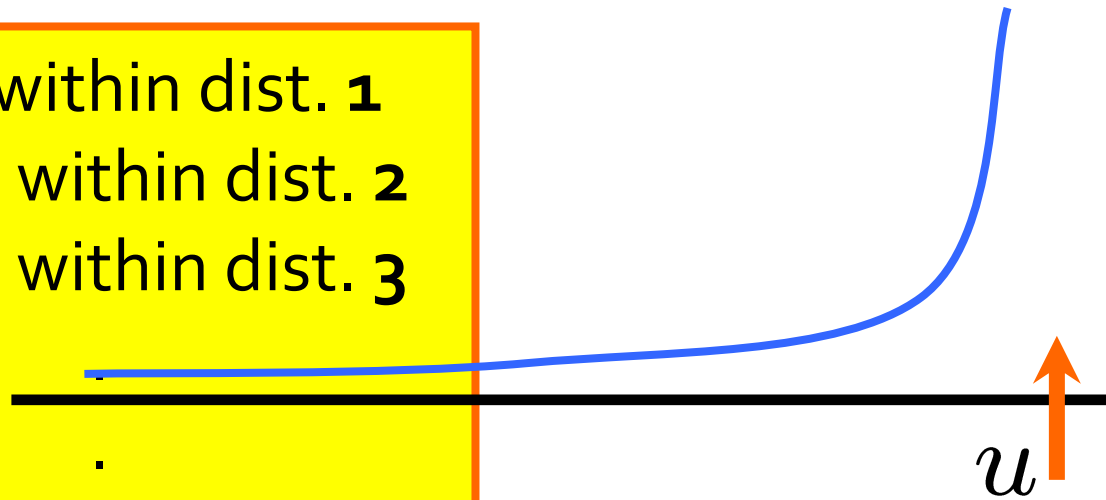
No  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **1**

No **2**  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **2**

No **3**  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **3**

No **k**  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **k**

$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1 \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max}(A) \ll u$$



'Total repulsion' in  
physical model

## Power Barrier

$$\Phi^u(A) = \text{Tr}(uI - A)^{-1} = \sum_i \frac{1}{u - \lambda_i}$$

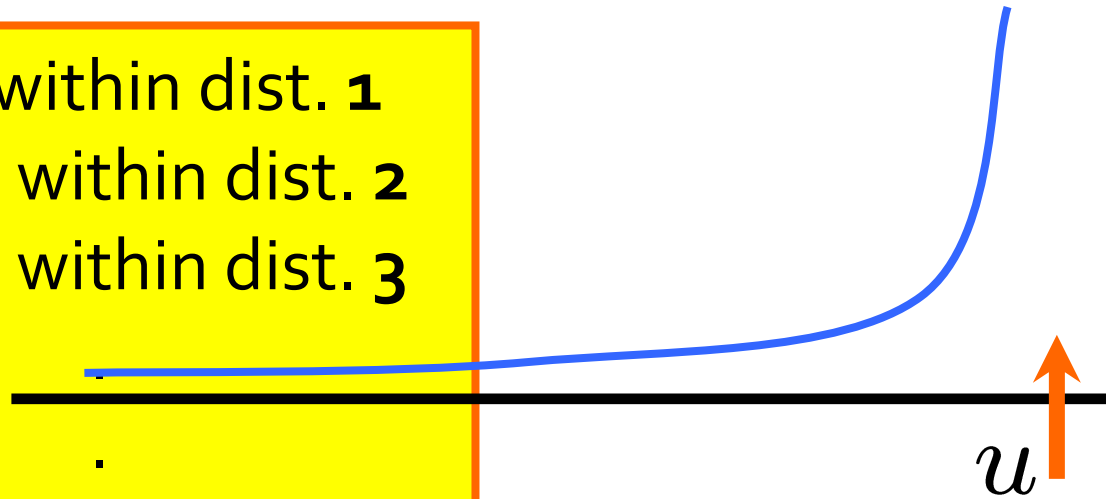
No  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **1**

No **2**  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **2**

No **3**  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **3**

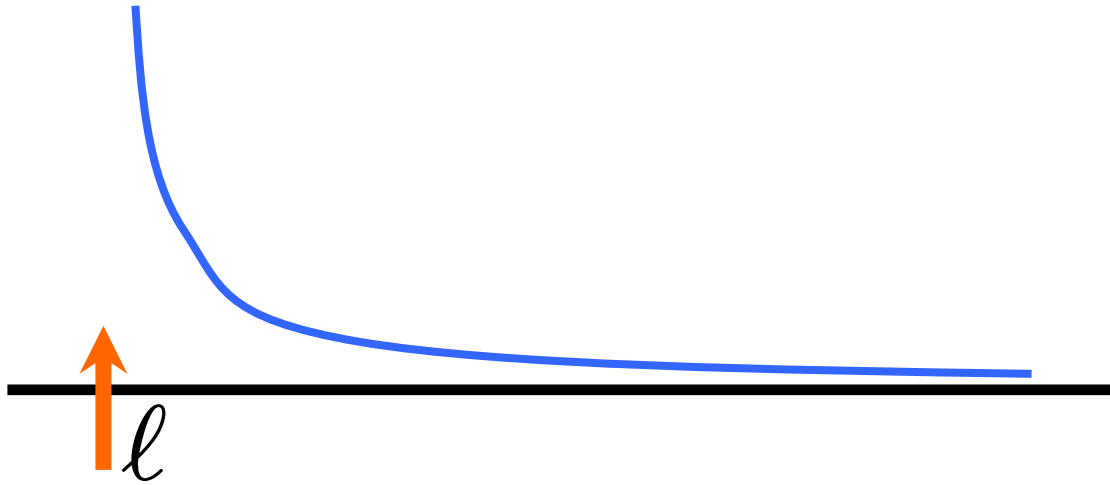
No **k**  $\lambda_i$  within dist. **k**

$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1 \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max}(A) \ll u$$



# The Lower Barrier

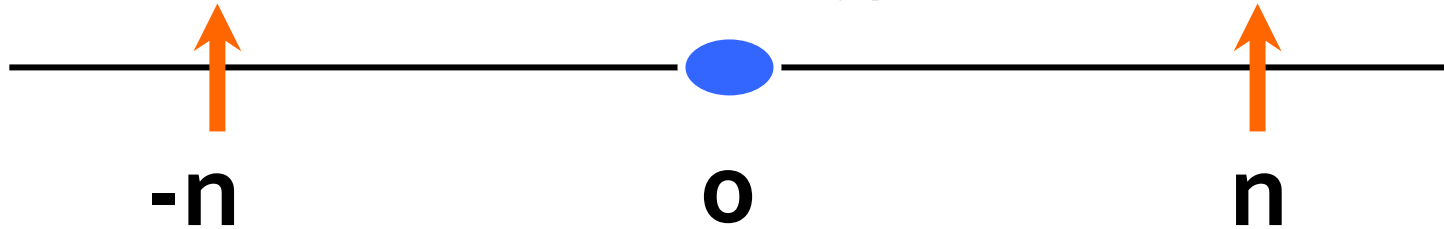
$$\Phi_\ell(A) = \text{Tr}(A - \ell I)^{-1} = \sum_i \frac{1}{\lambda_i - \ell}$$



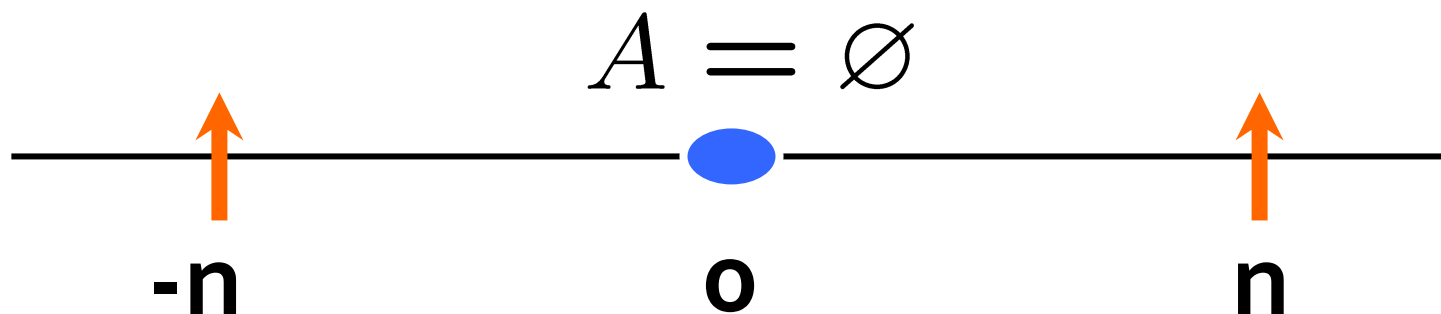
$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1 \Rightarrow \lambda_{\min}(A) \gg \ell$$

# The Beginning

$$A = \emptyset$$



# The Beginning

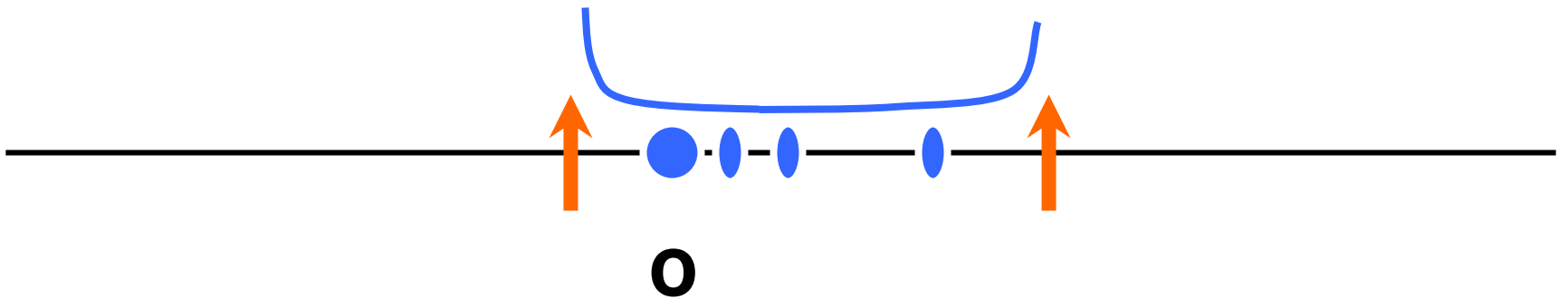


$$\Phi^n(\emptyset) = \text{Tr}(nI)^{-1} = 1$$

$$\Phi_{-n}(\emptyset) = \text{Tr}(nI)^{-1} = 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}$

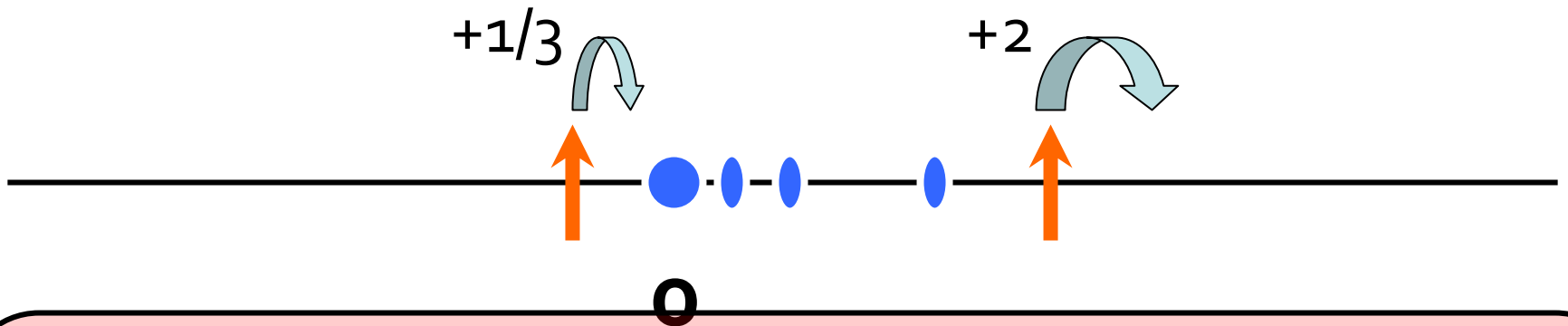


$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}$



**Lemma.**

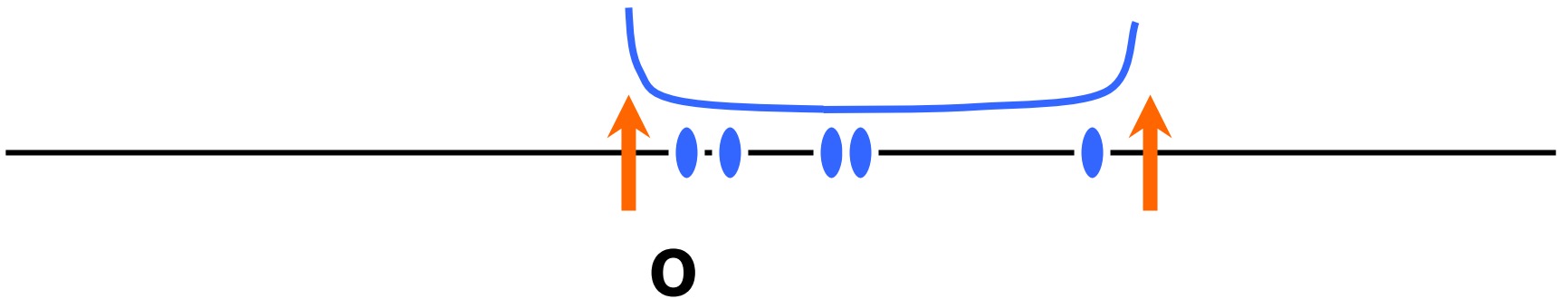
can always choose  $+s\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$   
so that potentials do not increase.

$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}$

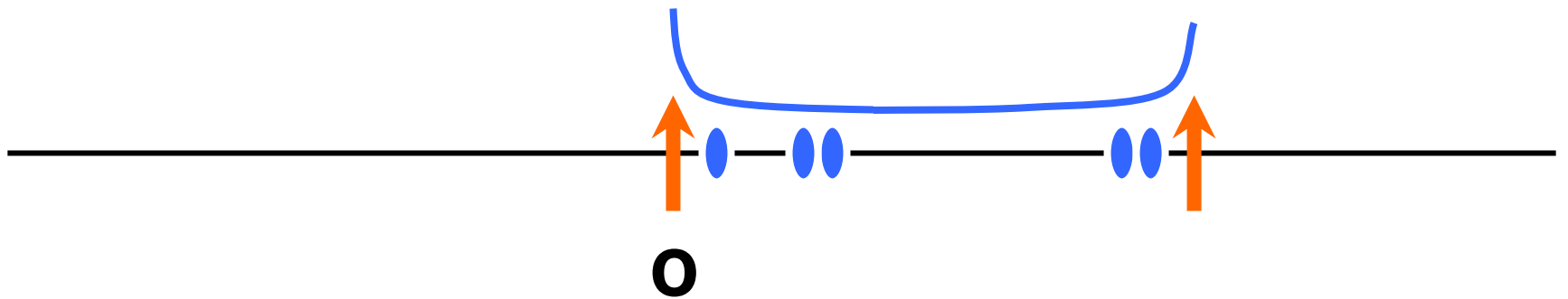


$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$

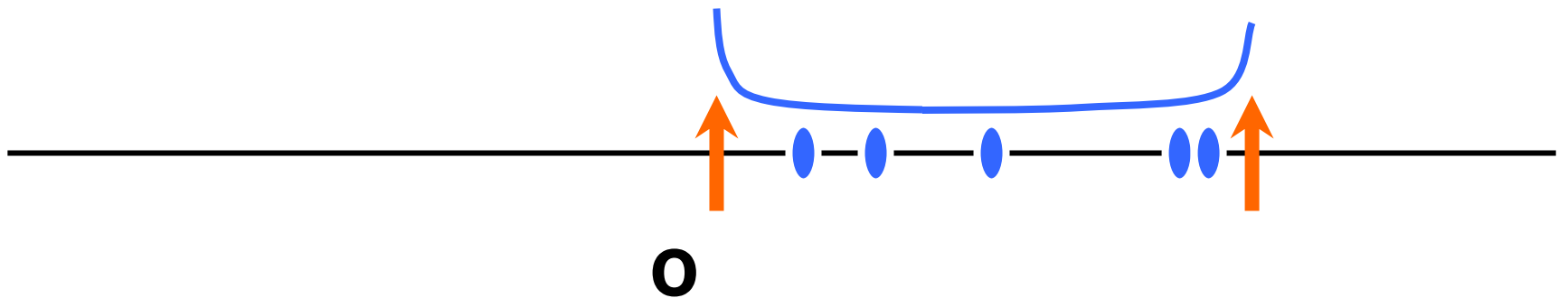


$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$

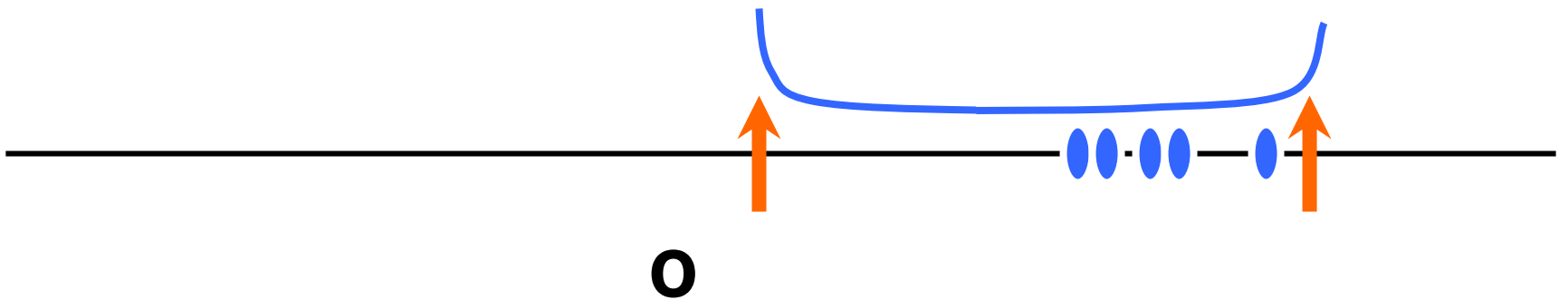


$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$



$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step 6n

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots, A^{(6n)}$



$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

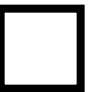
$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step 6n

$$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots, A^{(6n)}$$



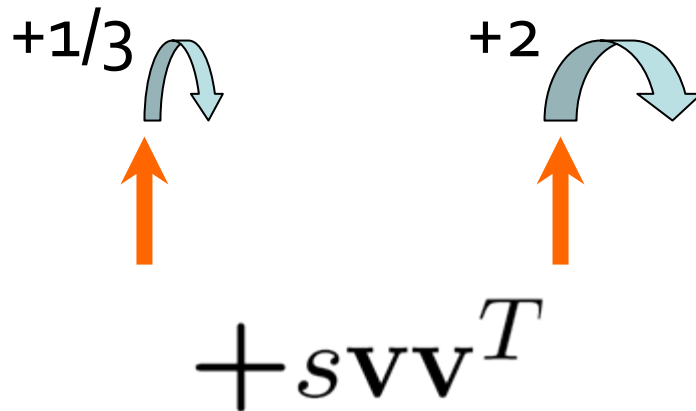
13-approximation with 6n vectors.



# Goal

## Lemma.

can always choose  $+s\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$  so  $\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$   
that *both* potentials do not increase.  $\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$



# The Right Question

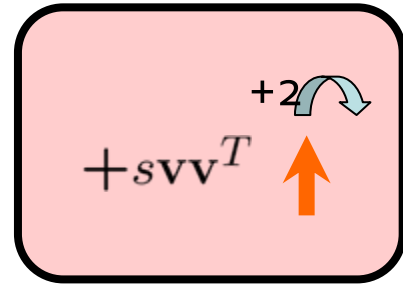
“Which vector should we add?”

# The Right Question

~~“Which vector should we add?”~~

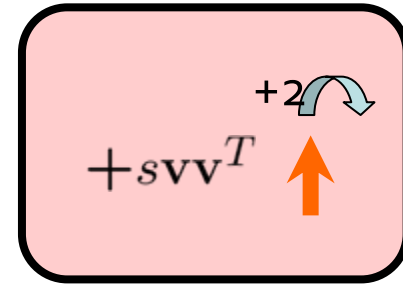
“Given a vector, how much of it can we add?”

# Upper Barrier Update



**Add**  $svv^T$  & **set**  $u' \leftarrow u + 2$ .

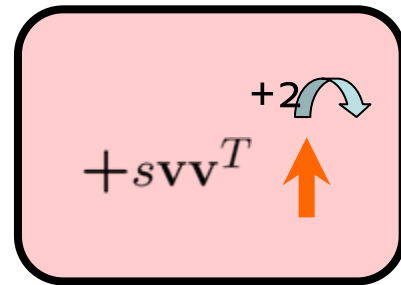
# Upper Barrier Update



**Add**  $svv^T$  & **set**  $u' \leftarrow u + 2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi^{u'}(A + svv^T) \\ &= \text{Tr}(u'I - A - svv^T)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

# Upper Barrier Update



**Add**  $svv^T$  & **set**  $u' \leftarrow u + 2$ .

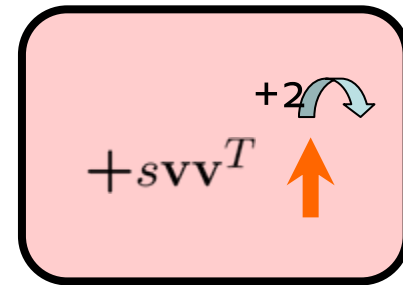
$$\Phi^{u'}(A + svv^T)$$

$$= \text{Tr}(u'I - A - svv^T)^{-1}$$

$$\text{Tr}(A + vv^T)^{-1} = \text{Tr}A^{-1} - \frac{v^T A^{-2}v}{1 + v^T A^{-1}v}$$

Sherman-Morrisson

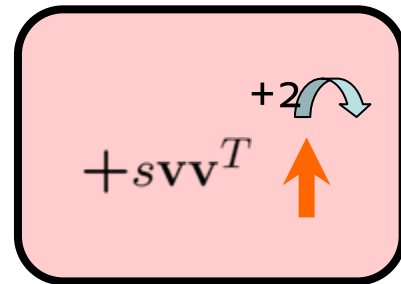
# Upper Barrier Update



**Add**  $svv^T$  & **set**  $u' \leftarrow u + 2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi^{u'}(A + svv^T) \\ &= \text{Tr}(u'I - A - svv^T)^{-1} \\ &= \Phi^{u'}(A) + \frac{v^T(u'I - A)^{-2}v}{1/s - v^T(u'I - A)^{-1}v} \end{aligned}$$

# Upper Barrier Update



**Add**  $svv^T$  & **set**  $u' \leftarrow u + 2$ .

$$\Phi^{u'}(A + svv^T)$$

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$$= \Phi^{u'}(A) + \frac{v^T (u'I - A)^{-2} v}{1/s - v^T (u'I - A)^{-1} v}$$

want  $\leq \Phi^u(A)$ .

How much of  $\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$  can we add?

Rearranging:

$$\Phi^{u'}(A + s\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T) \leq \Phi^u(A)$$

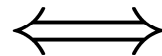
$$\iff$$

$$\frac{1}{s} \geq \mathbf{v}^T \left( \frac{(u'I - A)^{-2}}{\Phi^u(A) - \Phi^{u'}(A)} + (u'I - A)^{-1} \right) \mathbf{v}$$

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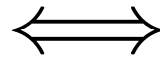
$$\frac{1}{s} \geq \mathbf{v}^T \left( \frac{(u'I - A)^{-2}}{\Phi^u(A) - \Phi^{u'}(A)} + (u'I - A)^{-1} \right) \mathbf{v}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{s} \geq U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}$$

# The Lower Barrier

Similarly:

$$\Phi_{\ell'}(A + s\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T) \leq \Phi_{\ell}(A)$$

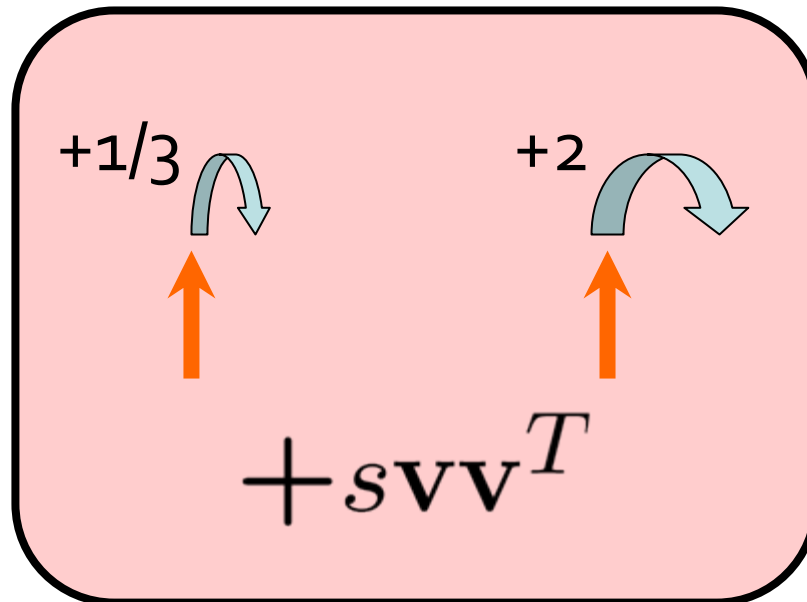


$$\frac{1}{s} \leq \mathbf{v}^T \left( \frac{(A - \ell' I)^{-2}}{\Phi_{\ell'}(A) - \Phi_{\ell}(A)} - (A - \ell' I)^{-1} \right) \mathbf{v}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{s} \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}$$

# Goal

Show that we can always add some vector while respecting *both* barriers.



# Both Barriers

There is always a vector with

$$U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

# Both Barriers

There is always a vector with

$$U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

Then, can squeeze scaling factor in between:

$$U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq \frac{1}{s} \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

# Taking Averages

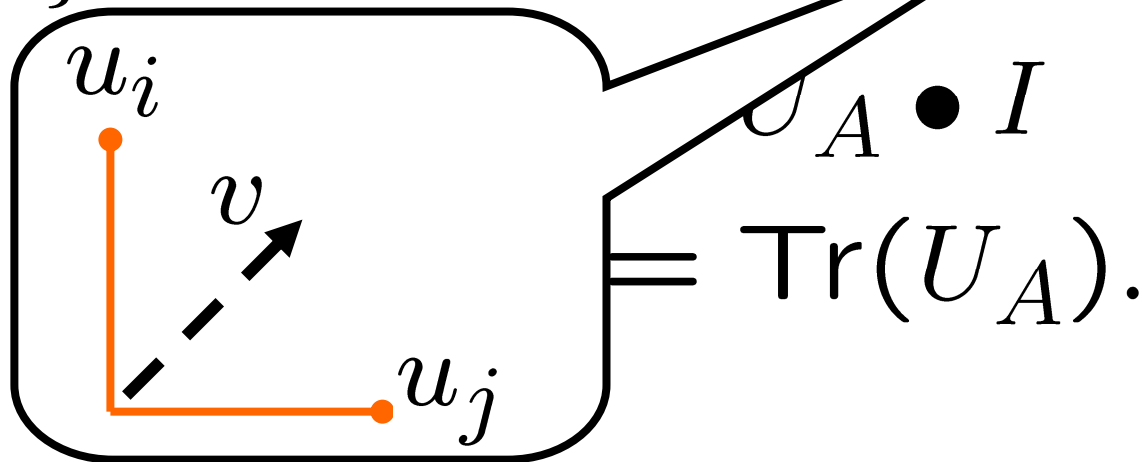
$$\exists \mathbf{v}, U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T &= U_A \bullet \left( \sum_e v_e v_e^T \right) \\ &= U_A \bullet I \\ &= \text{Tr}(U_A). \end{aligned}$$

# Taking Averages

$$\exists \mathbf{v}, U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T = U_A \bullet \left( \sum_e v_e v_e^T \right)$$



# Bounding $\text{Tr}(U_A)$

$$\frac{\text{Tr}(u'I - A)^{-2}}{\Phi^u(A) - \Phi^{u'}(A)} + \text{Tr}(u'I - A)^{-1}$$

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$$\frac{\text{Tr}(u'I - A)^{-2}}{\Phi^u(A) - \Phi^{u'}(A)} + \boxed{\leq 1}$$

induction

# Bounding $\text{Tr}(U_A)$

$$\frac{-\frac{\partial}{\partial u'} \Phi^{u'}(A)}{\Phi^u(A) - \Phi^{u'}(A)} + \boxed{\leq 1}$$

induction

(Recall  $\Phi^u(A) = \text{Tr}(uI - A)^{-1}$ .)

# Bounding $\text{Tr}(U_A)$

$$\begin{aligned} & -\frac{\partial}{\partial u'} \Phi^{u'}(A) \\ & \geq \delta_u \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial u'} \Phi^{u'}(A) \right) \quad \text{convexity} \\ & \quad + \leq 1 \quad \text{induction} \end{aligned}$$

(Recall  $\Phi^u(A) = \text{Tr}(uI - A)^{-1}$ .)

# Bounding $\text{Tr}(U_A)$

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial u'} \Phi^{u'}(A)$$

$$\geq \delta_u \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial u'} \Phi^{u'}(A) \right)$$

convexity

+

$$\leq 1$$

induction

$$\text{Tr}(U_A) \leq \frac{1}{\delta_u} + 1$$

# Taking Averages

$$\exists \mathbf{v}, U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq \frac{1}{\delta_u} + 1.$$

# Taking Averages

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$$\sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq \frac{1}{\delta_u} + 1.$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \geq \frac{1}{\delta_\ell} - 1.$$

# Taking Averages

$$\exists \mathbf{v}, U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} U_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \leq \frac{1}{2} + 1. \quad = 3/2$$

$$\sum_{\mathbf{v} \in \{v_e\}} L_A \bullet \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T \geq \frac{1}{\delta_\ell} - 1.$$

# Taking Averages

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# Taking Averages

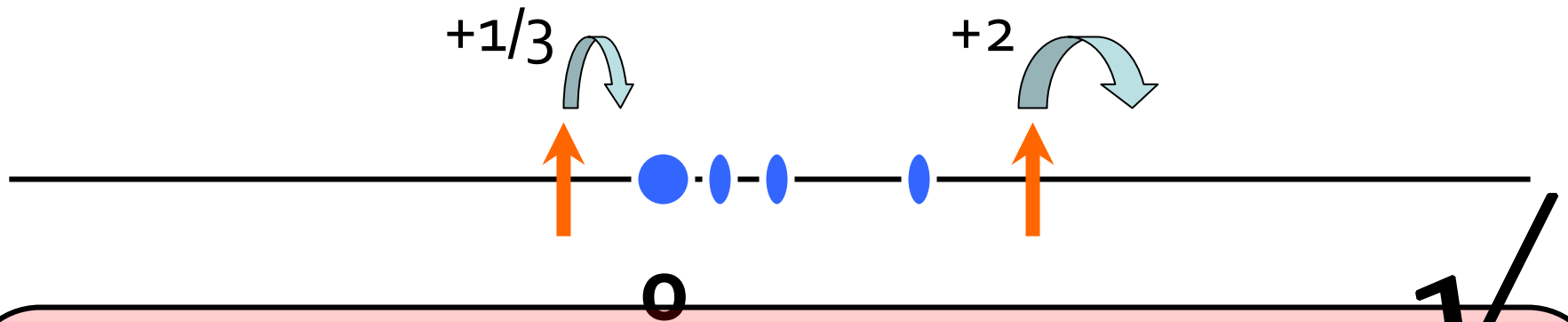
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# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}$



**Lemma.**

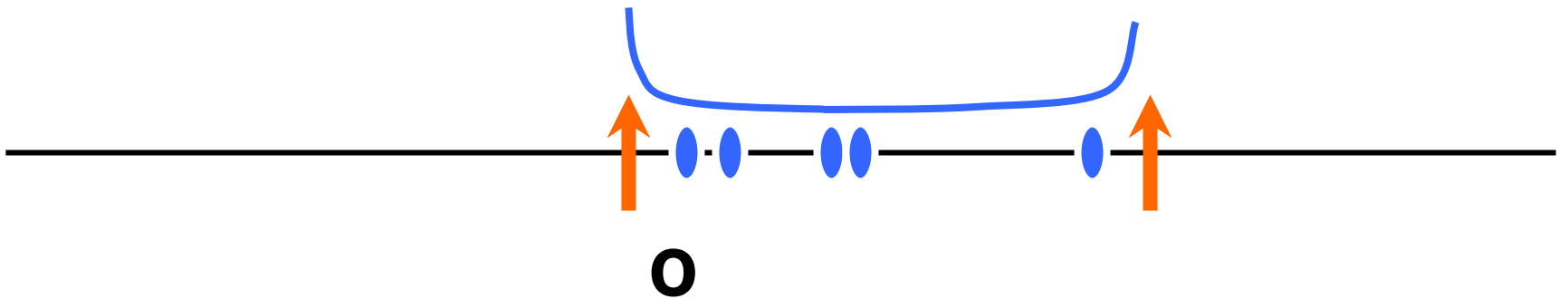
can always choose  $+s\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$   
so that potentials do not increase.

$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}$

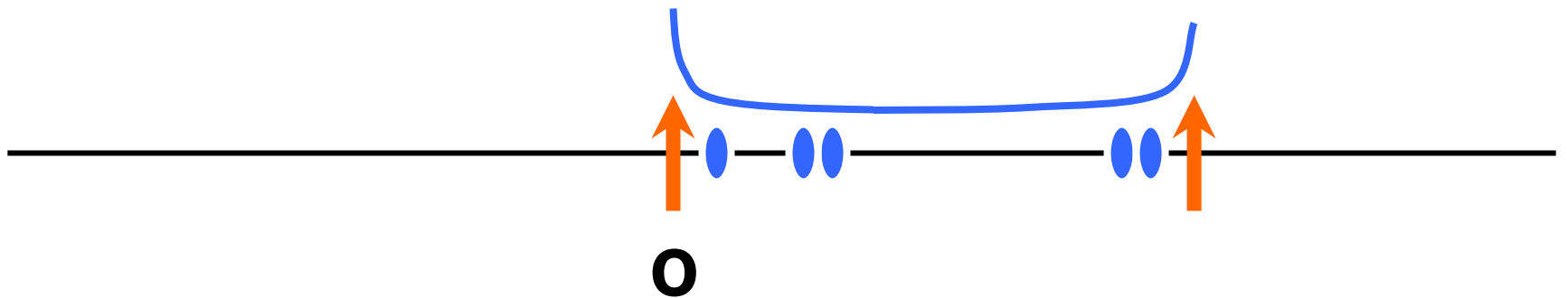


$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$

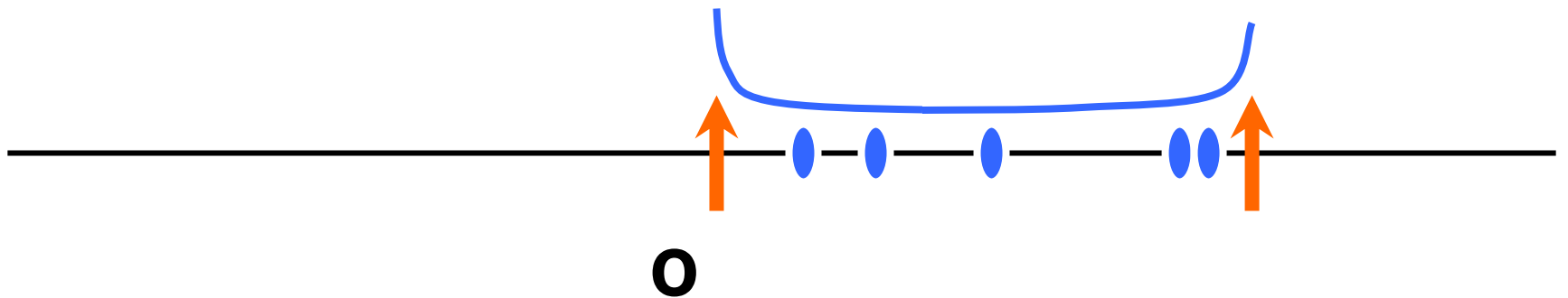


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$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$

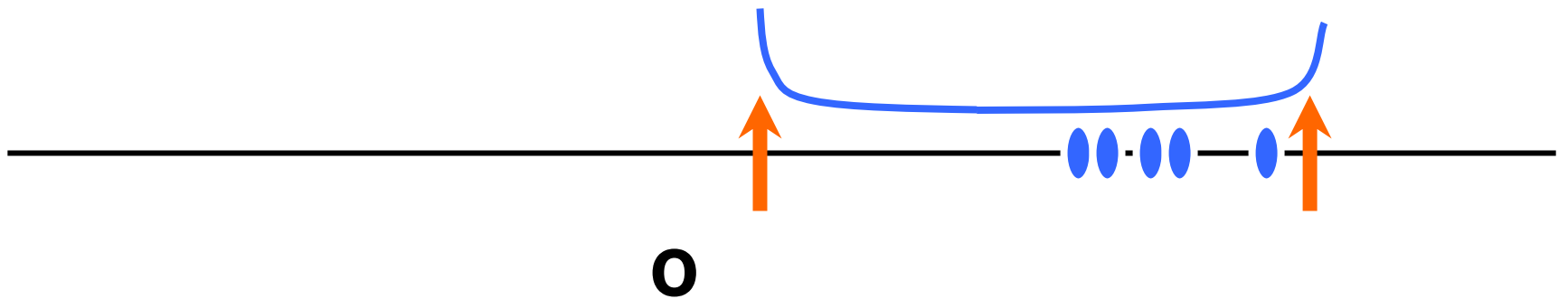


$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step $i+1$

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots$



$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step 6n

$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots, A^{(6n)}$



$$\Phi^u(A) \leq 1$$

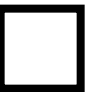
$$\Phi_\ell(A) \leq 1.$$

# Step 6n

$$A^{(i)}, A^{(i+1)}, A^{(i+2)}, A^{(i+3)}, \dots, A^{(6n)}$$



13-approximation with 6n vectors.



# Twice-Ramanujan

Fixing  $dn$  steps and tightening parameters  
gives

$$\frac{d+1+2\sqrt{d}}{d+1-2\sqrt{d}}.$$

(zeros of Laguerre polynomials).



# Open Questions

- The Ramanujan bound
- Unweighted sparsifiers / expanders
- A faster algorithm
- The Kadison-Singer Conjecture

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