

GD and Large Linear Regression

Concentration and Asymptotics for a Spiked Model

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Motivation: Curse of Dimensionality

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High-dimensional data \Leftrightarrow large number of **features** and **samples**

\Leftrightarrow sparseness in the data

\Leftrightarrow fall in **accuracy**

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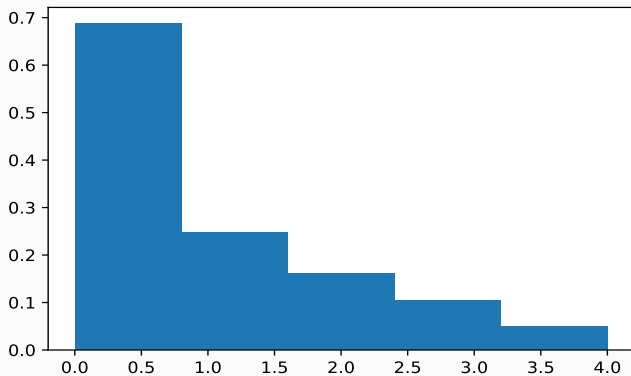
\Leftrightarrow deterioration in **performance**

Solution: Random Matrix Theory!

Spectrum of Random Matrix

Let M be a 4000×4000 random matrix.

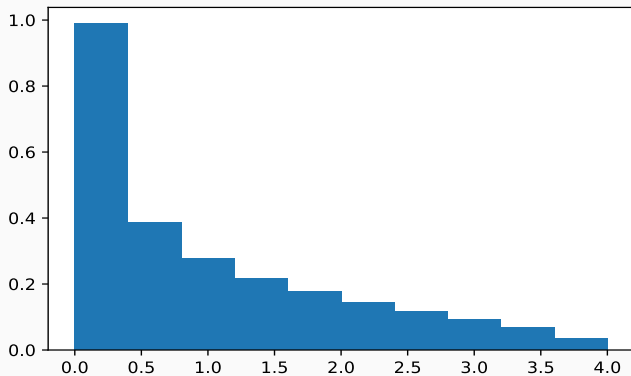
Spectra of $\frac{MM^T}{4000}$ with 5 bins



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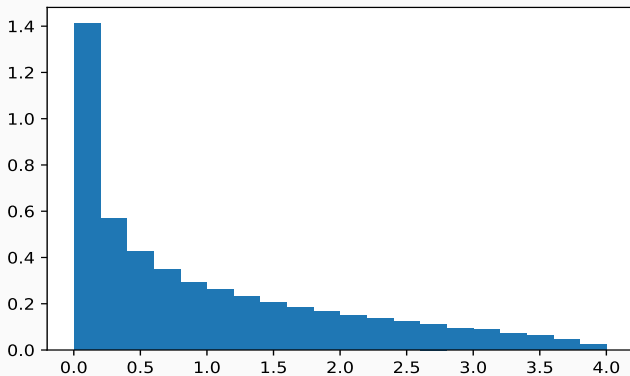
Spectra of $\frac{MM^T}{4000}$ with 10 bins



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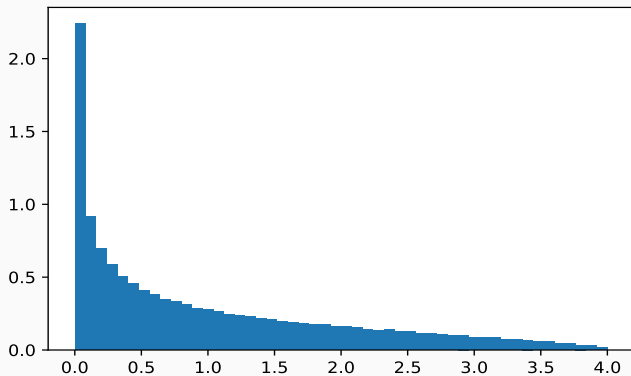
Spectra of $\frac{MM^T}{4000}$ with 20 bins



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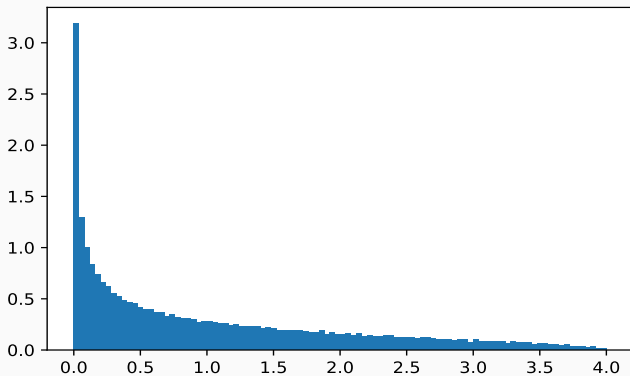
Spectra of $\frac{MM^T}{4000}$ with 50 bins



Spectrum of Random Matrix

Let M be a 4000×4000 random matrix.

Spectra of $\frac{MM^T}{4000}$ with 100 bins



Marchenko-Pastur Law: $\mu_{MP}(\lambda) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \underbrace{\nu_{MP}(\lambda)}_{\text{density}} + \underbrace{\omega_0 \delta_0(\lambda)}_{\text{pointmass}}$

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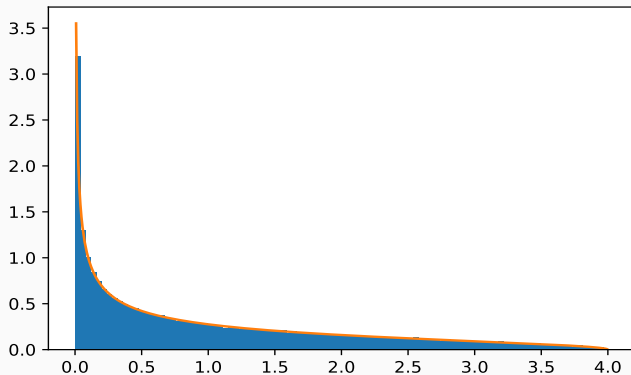
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Spectra of large random matrix \implies Marchenko-Pastur Law

Convergence to MP

Spectra of $\frac{MM^T}{4000}$ vs Marchenko-Pastur Law ($r=1$)



MNIST Database

- Database of handwritten digits
- 60,000 training samples
- Each sample is 28 by 28

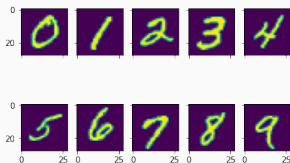
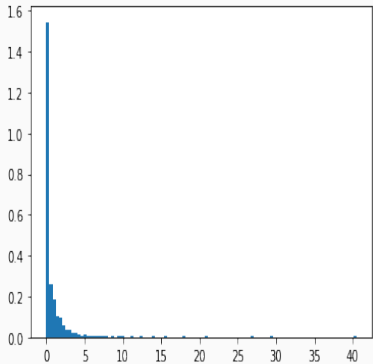


Figure 1: Example of MNIST samples

The database is (relatively) huge! What part of the data is interesting?

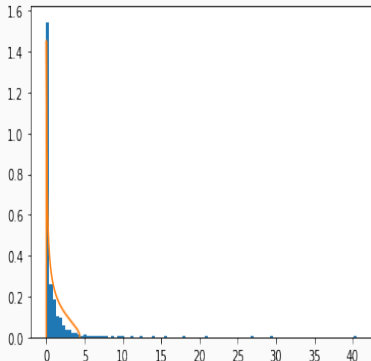
Spectral Distribution of MNIST



Let $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{60000 \times 784}$ represents the MNIST database.

- Plot the **spectrum** of $\frac{\mathcal{M}^T \mathcal{M}}{60000}$

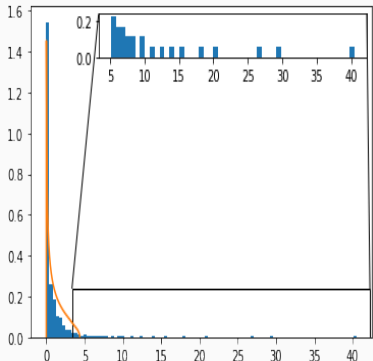
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- Plot the **spectrum** of $\frac{\mathcal{M}^T \mathcal{M}}{60000}$
- Overlap the **Marchenko-Pastur Law**
- Large sets of data are interesting in the way they **do not** look random

Random least squares

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{Ax} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2, \quad \text{with data matrix } \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}, \quad \text{target vector } \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

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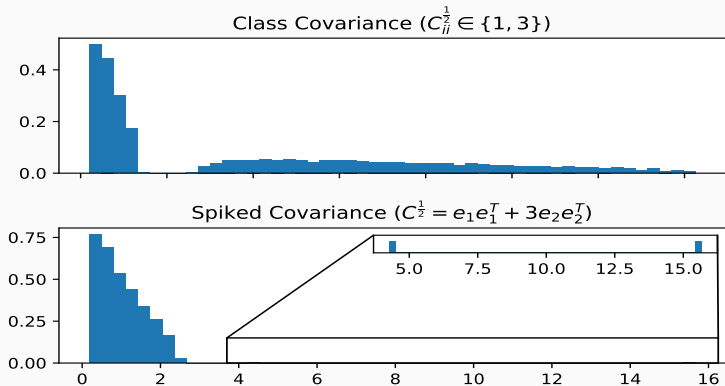
What structure should we assume for \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{b} to accurately model real world large instances?

$\mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{C}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{Z}$ is a **sample covariance matrix**

- $\mathbf{C} \succeq 0$ is $n \times n$ **covariance matrix**
- \mathbf{Z} is $n \times d$ **standardized random matrix**
- independent features with covariance between samples

Covariance matrices

Many types of covariance matrices.



We will assume that $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} = \mathbf{I}_n + \sum_{i=1}^{\xi} s_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T$ is a **low rank perturbation of the identity** ($\xi \ll n$).

Target vector

$$\mathbf{b} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left(\mathbf{C}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{I}_n \right) \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}$$

- \mathbf{y} is a **signal** vector in the direction of the low rank perturbation
- $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ is a **noise** vector

Note: Since $\mathbb{E}[\|\boldsymbol{\eta}\|_2^2] = n$, we need $\mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{b}\|_2^2] \approx n$ to be competitive!

$$\text{GD} \quad \mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k - \gamma \nabla f(\mathbf{x}_k)$$

- Fixed step size γ
- Fixed initialization $\mathbf{x}_0 = 0$
- Guarantees convergence to local minimum

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} f(\mathbf{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{2n} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2, \quad \mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{C}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{Z}, \quad \mathbf{b} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left(\mathbf{C}^{\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{I}_n \right) \mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\eta}$$

Teacher-Student Model

- \mathbf{A} is $n \times d$ data matrix
 - \mathbf{Z} is $n \times d$ random matrix, standardized
 - $\mathbf{C} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbf{I}_n + \sum_{i=1}^{\xi} s_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T$ is $n \times n$ a covariance matrix, $\mathbf{C} \succeq 0$
- \mathbf{b} is a target vector
 - $\mathbf{y} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\frac{nR}{\xi}} \sum_{i=1}^{\xi} \mathbf{u}_i$ is a signal vector in the direction of the spikes, competitive in norm with the noise
 - $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ is noise vector
- $n = \text{samples}$, $d = \text{model size or features}$, $\frac{n}{d} \rightarrow r \in (0, \infty)$

Spikeless model:

- Marchenko-Pastur law
- no stray eigenvalues

Spiked model:

- Limiting empirical distribution is still Marchenko-Pastur
- But there **may** be some stray eigenvalues

Spiked models

- Assume the 4th moment is finite
- Population eigenvalues within $[(1 - \sqrt{r})^2, (1 + \sqrt{r})^2]$ have no effect on the sample eigenvalues
- # stray sample eigenvalue = # population eigenvalues outside $[(1 - \sqrt{r})^2, (1 + \sqrt{r})^2]$

Theorem (Baik-Silverstein '06)

If $s_1 \geq s_2 \geq \dots \geq s_\xi$ and $\lambda_1(\frac{1}{d}AA^T) \geq \lambda_2(\frac{1}{d}AA^T) \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n(\frac{1}{d}AA^T)$,

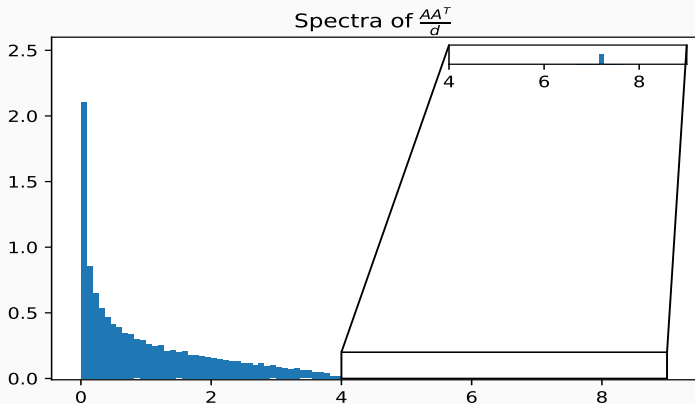
$$\lambda_i(\frac{1}{d}AA^T) \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \begin{cases} \lambda_{loc}^{(i)} > \lambda_+, & s_i > \sqrt{r} \\ \lambda_+, & s_i \leq \sqrt{r} \end{cases}$$

for all $1 \leq i \leq \xi$.

Eigenvalues isolate from support of MP

Let $n = d = 2000$ ($r = 1$), $s_1 = 0.5$, $s_2 = 1.5$. Then,

- $s_1 \leq r \implies$ **does not** isolate
- $s_2 > r \implies$ **does** isolates



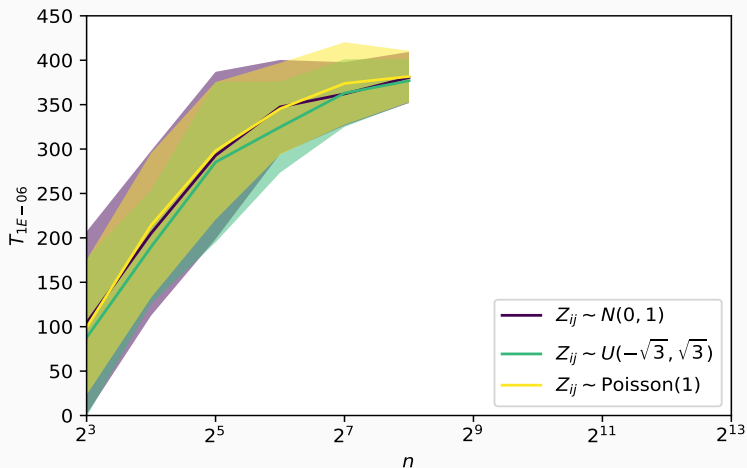
Main results: Concentration

Theorem (Fertout-Latourelle-Yu '21)

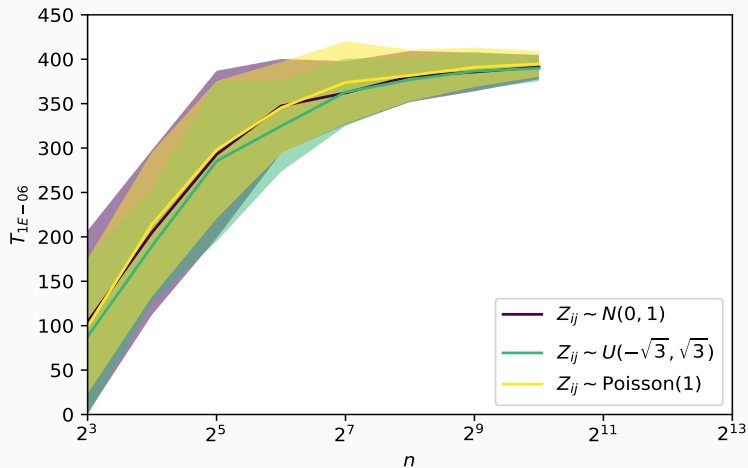
$$f(\mathbf{x}_k) \xrightarrow[n, d \rightarrow \infty]{\frac{n}{d} \rightarrow r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}} \frac{1}{2} \int \left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{r} \lambda\right)^{2k} \mu(d\lambda) + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{r} \lambda\right)^{2k} \mu_{MP}(d\lambda)$$

- $\mu(d\lambda) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \underbrace{\nu(\lambda)}_{\text{density}} d\lambda + \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{\xi} \omega_i \delta_{\lambda_{loc}^{(i)}}(\lambda)}_{\text{spikes}} + \underbrace{\omega_0 \delta_0(\lambda)}_{\text{rank deficiency}}$
 - $\text{supp } \nu = \text{supp } \nu_{MP} = [\lambda_-, \lambda_+]$
 - $\omega_i \neq 0 \iff$ i th dominant eigenvalue separates from the support of MP
 - $\omega_0 \neq 0 \iff \mathbf{A}$ is skinny ($\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T$ is rank deficient)
- μ_{MP} is the **Marchenko-Pastur law**

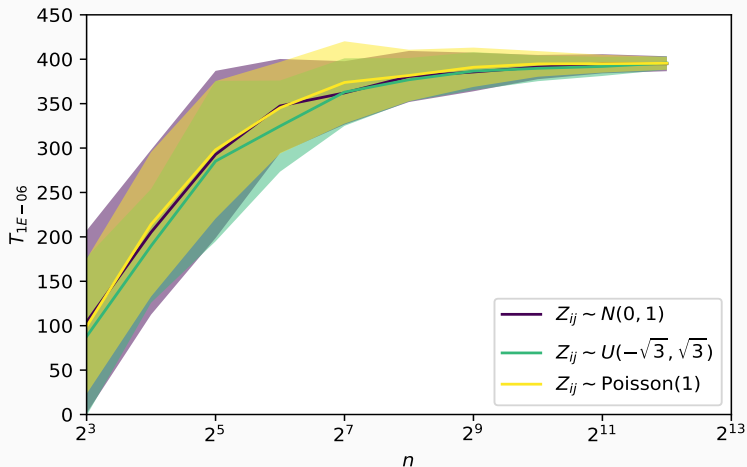
Halting time is predictable



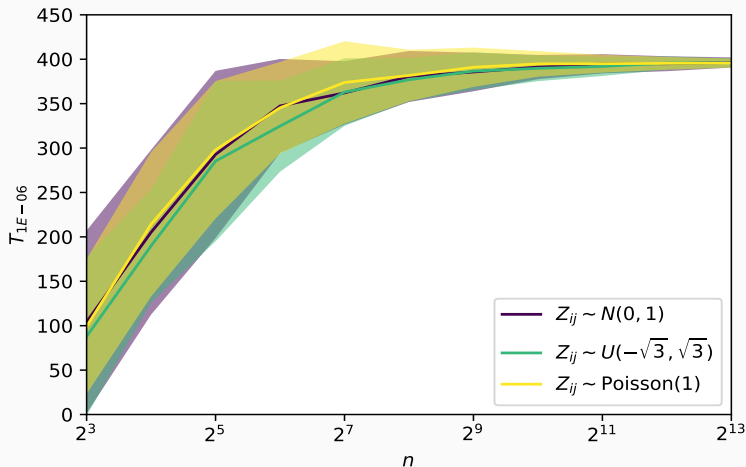
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We observe **universality**: halting time independent of distributions!

Main results: Asymptotics

Let $\Psi(k; \gamma) := \frac{1}{2} \int (1 - \frac{\gamma}{r} \lambda)^{2k} \mu(d\lambda) + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (1 - \frac{\gamma}{r} \lambda)^{2k} \mu_{MP}(d\lambda)$.

Theorem (Fertout-Latourelle-Yu '21)

If $r \neq 1$ (strongly convex) and $0 < \gamma \leq \frac{r}{\lambda_+ + \frac{1}{2} \max\{0, s_{\max} - (3+2\sqrt{2})\sqrt{r}\}}$

$$\Psi(k; \gamma) - \Psi^* \sim \rho \frac{\sqrt{r(\lambda_+ - \lambda_-)}}{16\sqrt{2\pi}\lambda_- \gamma^{\frac{3}{2}} k^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{r} \lambda_-\right)^{2k + \frac{3}{2}}$$

for some $\rho \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$.

Theorem (Fertout-Latourelle-Yu '21)

If $r = 1$ (non strongly convex) and $0 < \gamma \leq \frac{2}{4 + \max\{0, s_{\max} - 1\}}$,

$$\Psi(k; \gamma) - \Psi^* \sim \rho \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}\gamma k}$$

for some $\rho \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$.

Effects of r and spike strengths on halting time

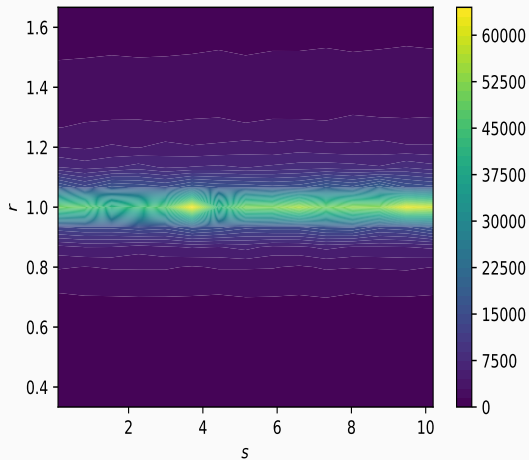


Figure 2: Halting time ($T_{0.001}$) w.r.t. s and r

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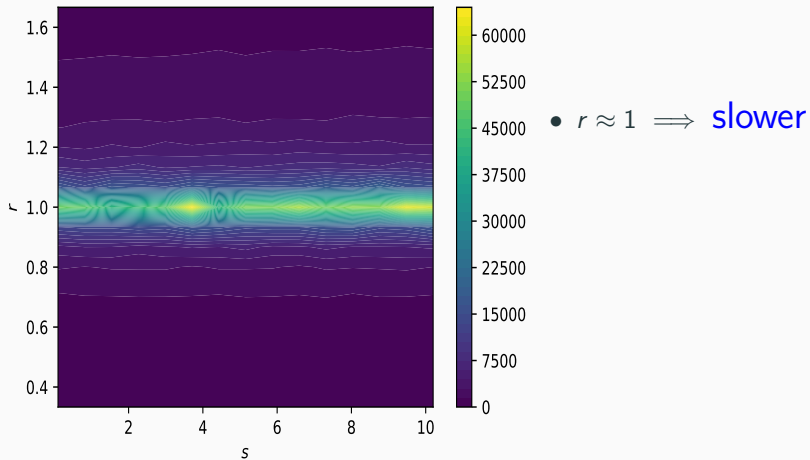


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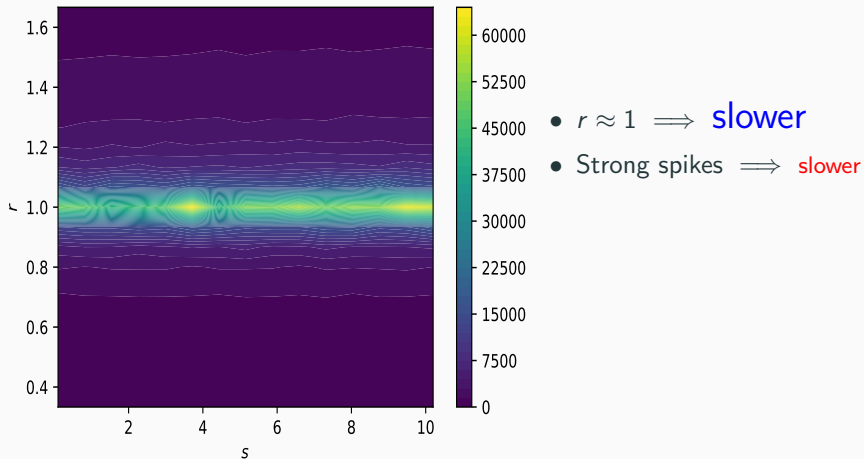
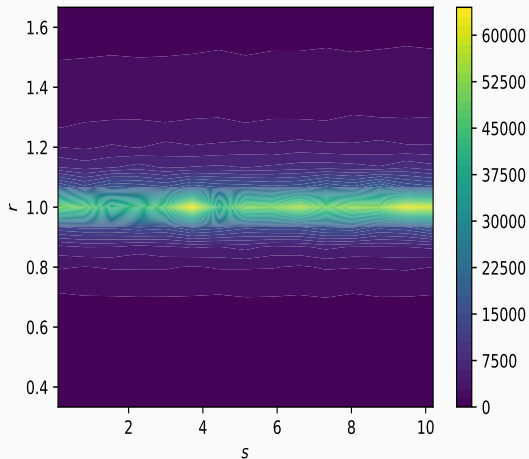


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Effects of r and spike strengths on halting time



- $r \approx 1 \implies$ slower
- Strong spikes \implies slower
- **Caveat:** Step size depend on r AND spikes
 - \uparrow spike $\implies \downarrow \gamma \implies \downarrow$ speed
 - $\downarrow r \implies \downarrow \gamma \implies \downarrow$ speed

Figure 2: Halting time ($T_{0.001}$) w.r.t. s and r

Open Problems

- Analyzing feature covariance models that may more accurately represent some real world instances
- Extensions beyond gradient descent to other algorithm

The end!

C. Paquette, B. van Merriënboer, E. Paquette, F. Pedregosa. *Halting Time is Predictable for Large Models: Universality Property and Average-case Analysis*, arxiv.org/pdf/2006.04299.pdf

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