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Fixing  $\|v\|_2$ , sparse vectors have small  $\|v\|_1$  norm, dense ones have big  $\|v\|_1$  norm.

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Linear Program! Exercise.

## Restricted Isometry Property (RIP) matrices.

**Definition:** A matrix  $A$  is RIP for  $\delta_k$  if any  $k$ -sparse vector  $x$

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**Theorem [Candes-Tao]:** For any matrix RIP matrix  $A$  with  $\delta_{2k} + \delta_{3k} < 1$ , for  $Ax = b$  with a  $k$ -sparse solution, then the solution to  $\min \|y\|_1, Ay = b$ , has  $y = x$ .

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**Theorem:** For a random  $\pm 1$ ,  $d \times n$  matrix  $A$ , and for any  $x$  in  $\ker(A)$  some  $d = \Omega(k \log \frac{n}{k})$  rows, has for any  $T \subset [n]$  that

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That is, random  $A$  has no sparse vectors in null-space.

## Almost Euclidean Nullspace.

**Theorem:** For a random  $\pm 1$ ,  $d \times n$  matrix  $A$ , and for any  $x$  in  $\ker(A)$  some  $d = \Omega(k \log \frac{n}{k})$  rows, has for any  $T \subset [n]$  that

$$\|x\|_2 < \frac{\sqrt{1}}{\sqrt{16k}} \|x\|_1. (*)$$

Intuition: “Mass in  $x$  is spread out over  $k$  entries.”

The nullspace of  $A$ , is almost euclidean.

Typical vectors are spread out: every vector is kind of spread out.

The  $\ell_1$  ball is closer to scaling of  $\ell_2$  ball for vectors in the null-space.

Idea: Consider random  $r \times n$  matrix  $A$  over  $GF(2)$ .

For a vector  $x$  in  $GF(2)$ .

$A \cdot x = 0$ , with probability  $(1/2)^r$  if  $r$  rows.

There are  $< X = 2 \binom{n}{k}$  vectors  $x$  with fewer than  $k$  zeros.

If  $r > \log(2 \binom{n}{k}) = \Theta(k \log \frac{n}{k})$ , plus union bound.

$\implies Ax \neq 0$  for all vectors that are  $k$ -sparse.

That is, random  $A$  has no sparse vectors in null-space.

Note: Parity check matrix of linear code!

## Small projection onto small set of coordinates.

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See Jame Lee, TCS Blog, May 2008 for proof of Almost Euclidean Nature of random subspaces.

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