Can Random Matrices Change the Future of Machine Learning?
Digicosme "Junior Conference on Wireless and Optical Communications 2020"

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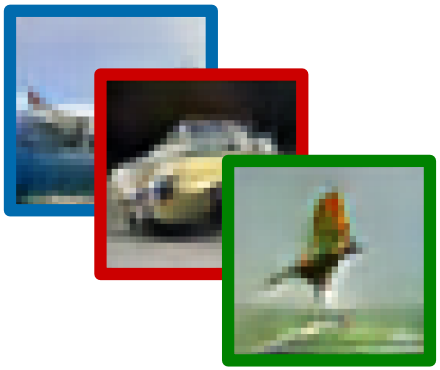
December 3, 2020

A long story short...



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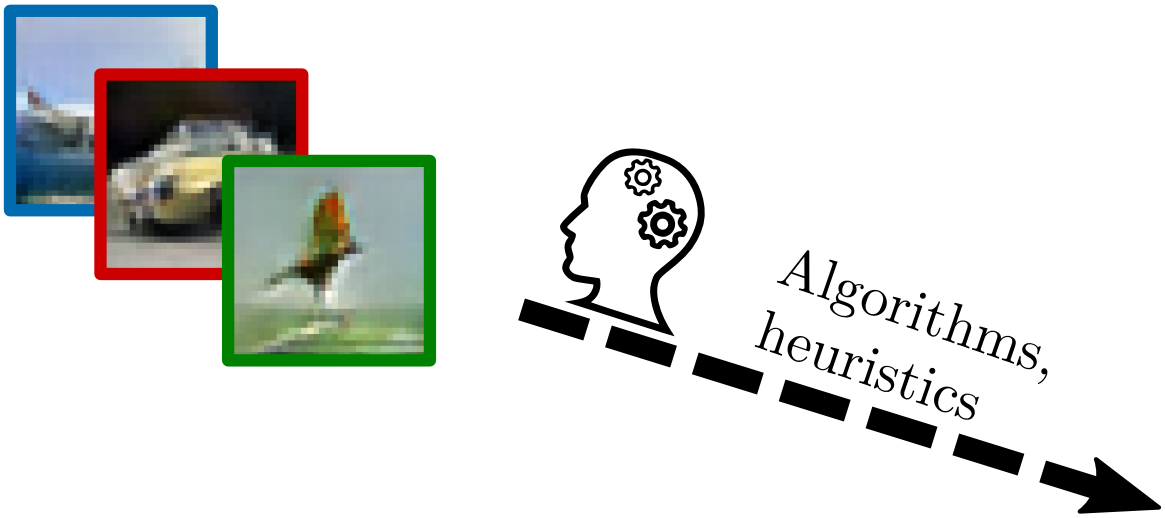

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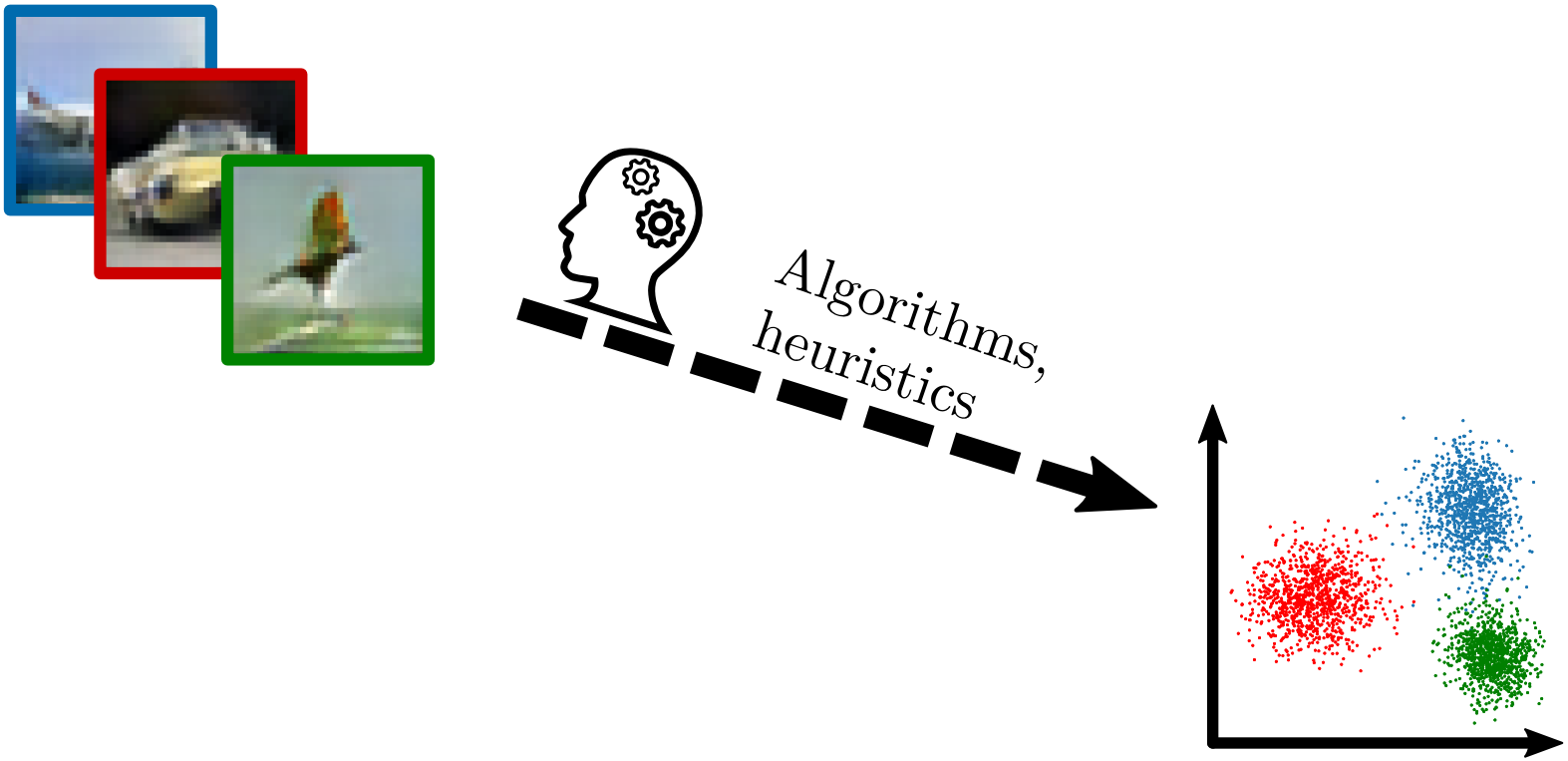

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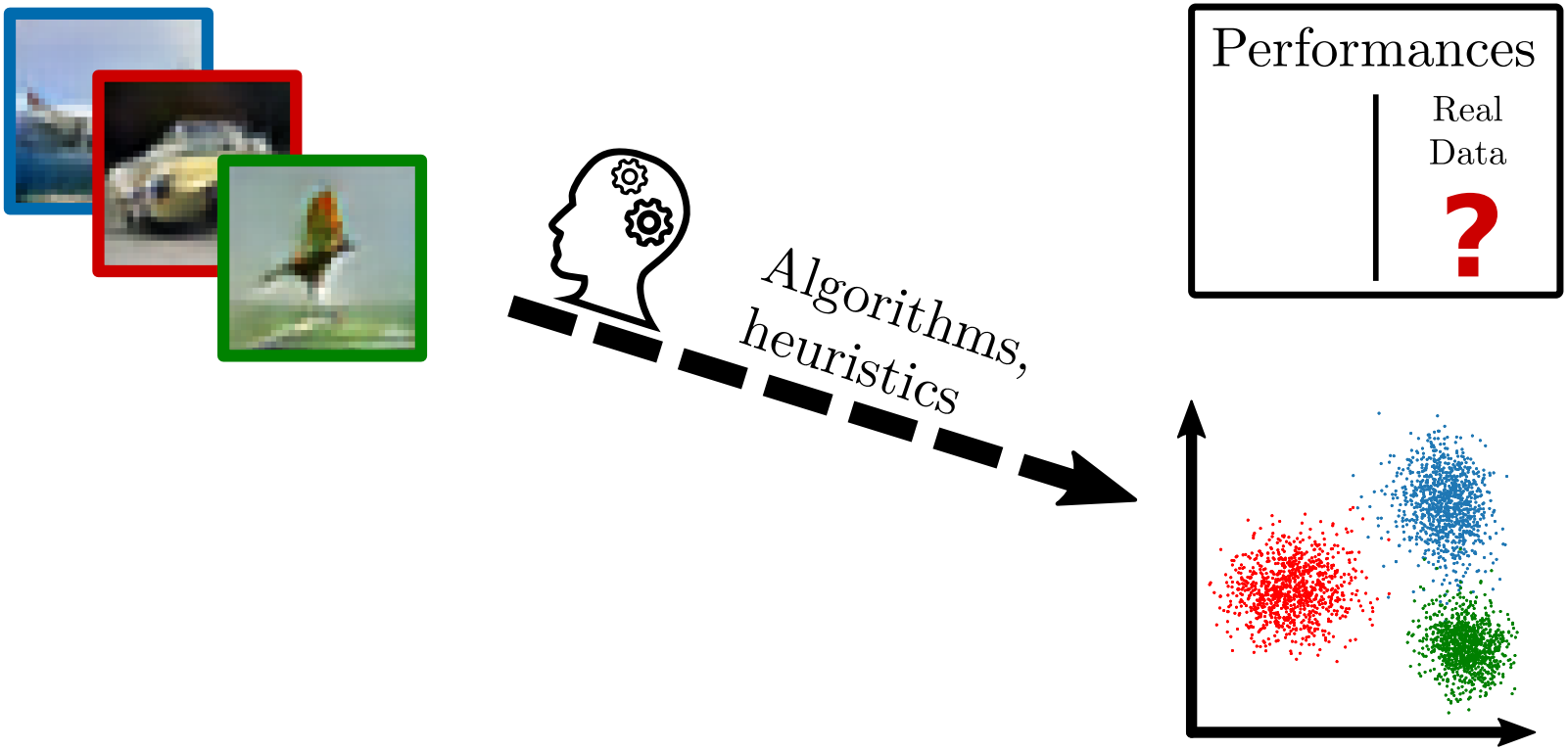

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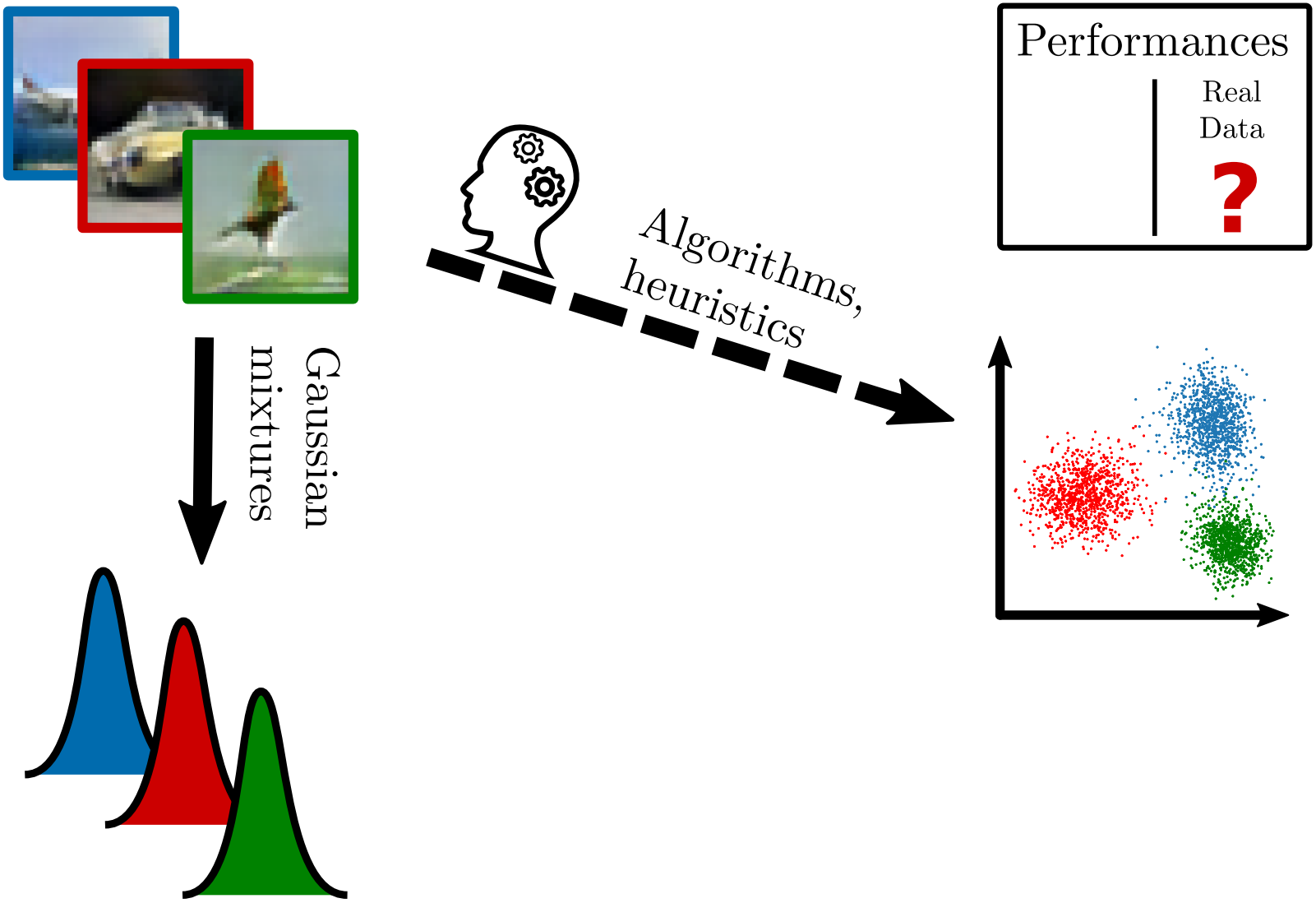

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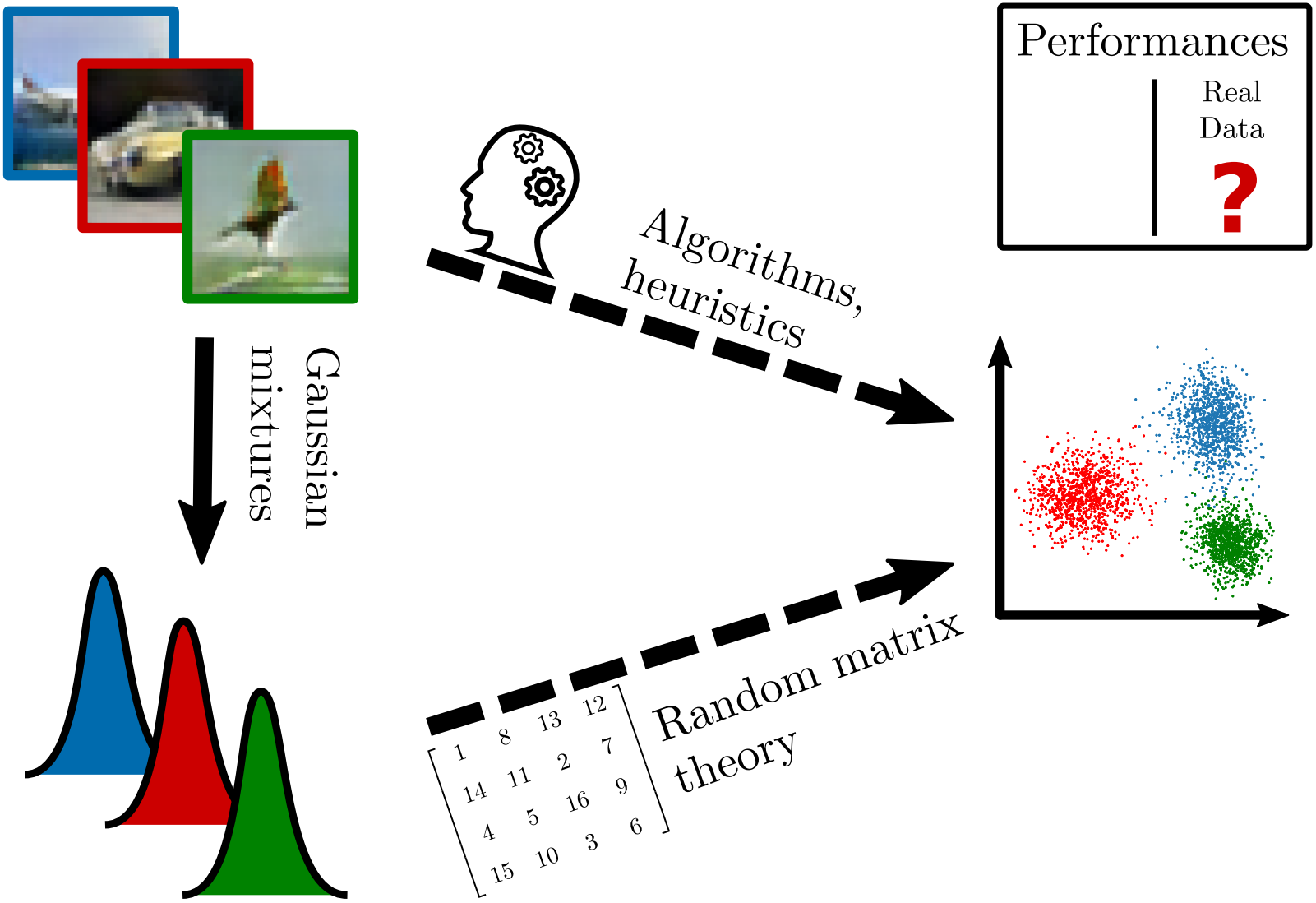

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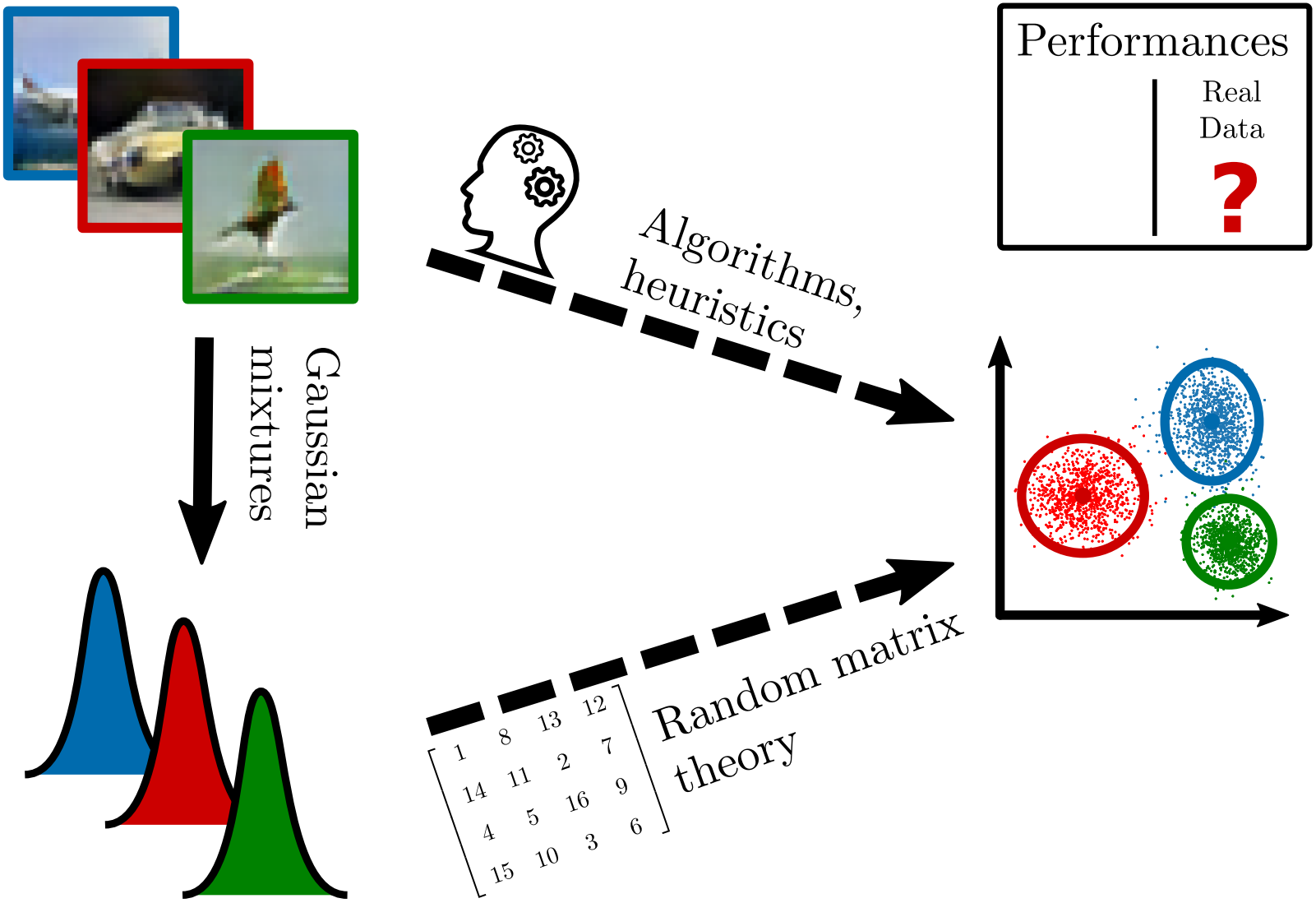

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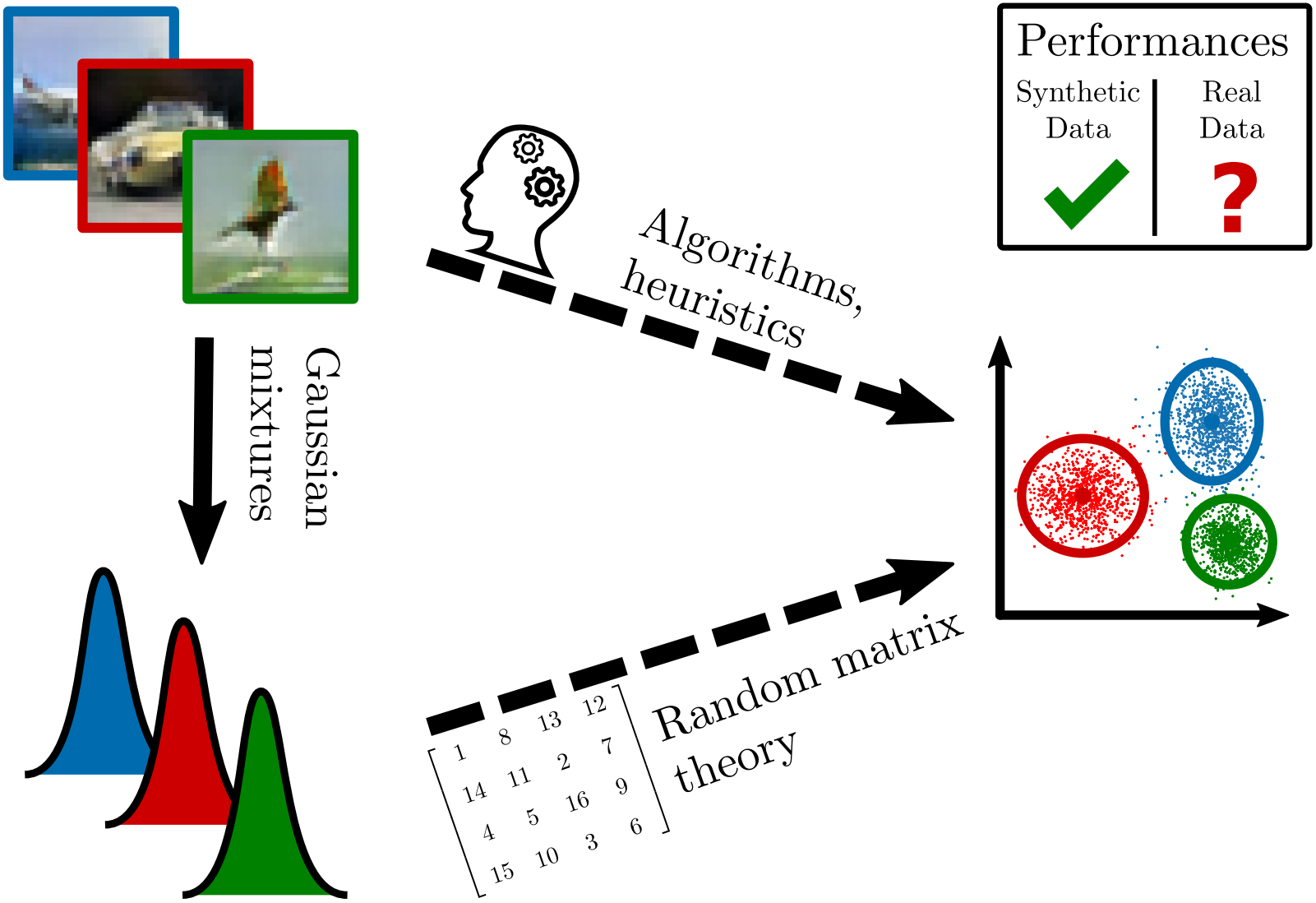

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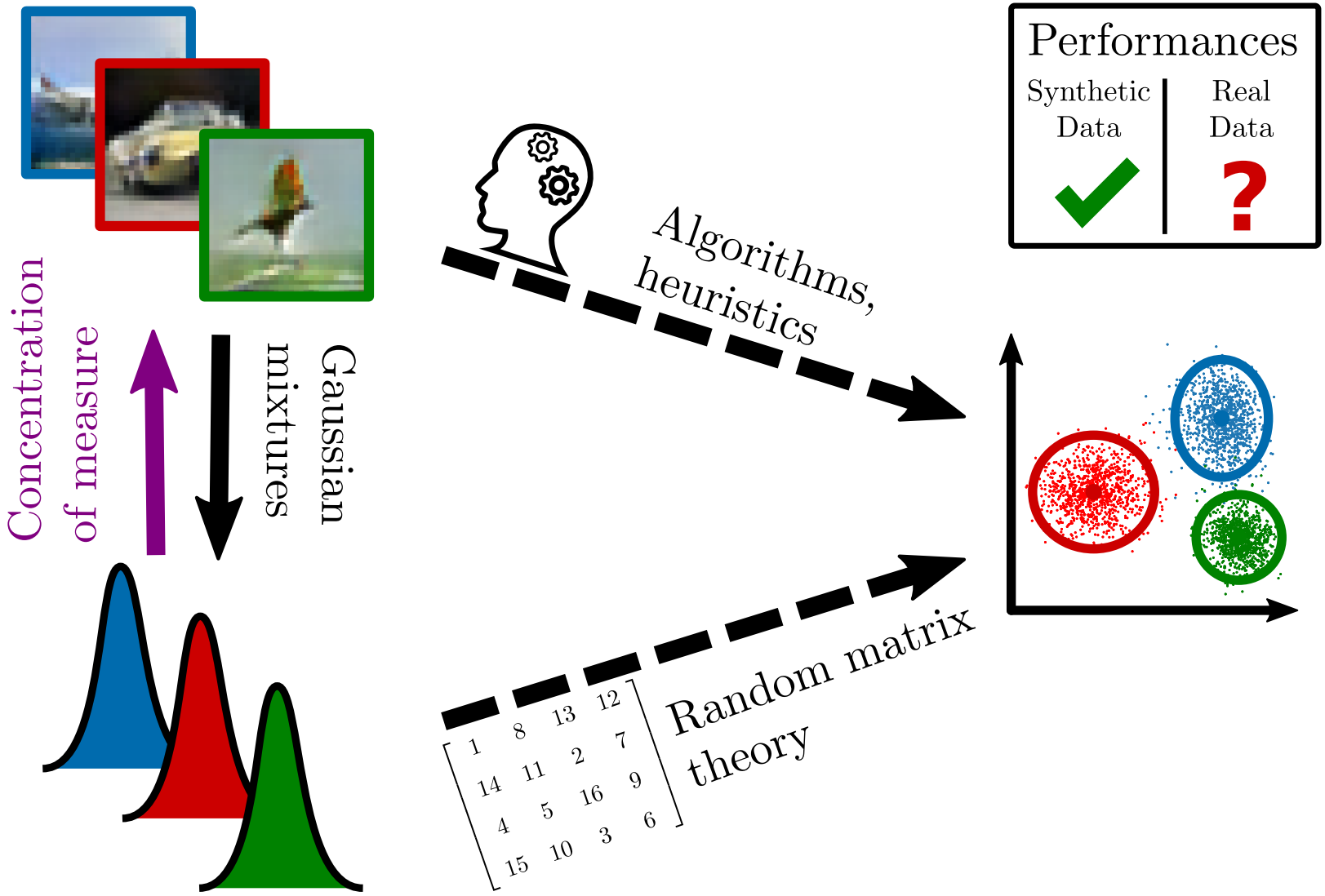

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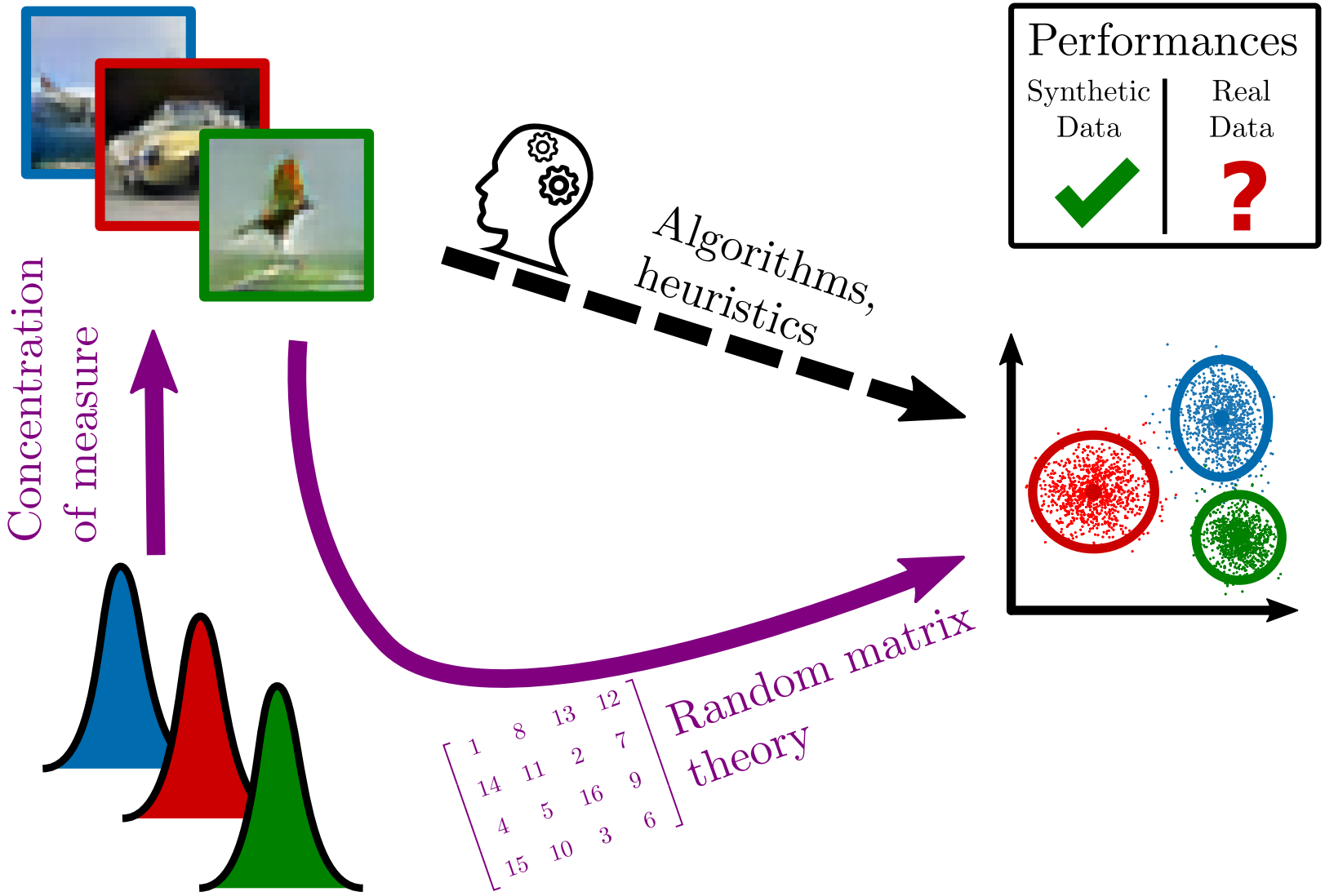

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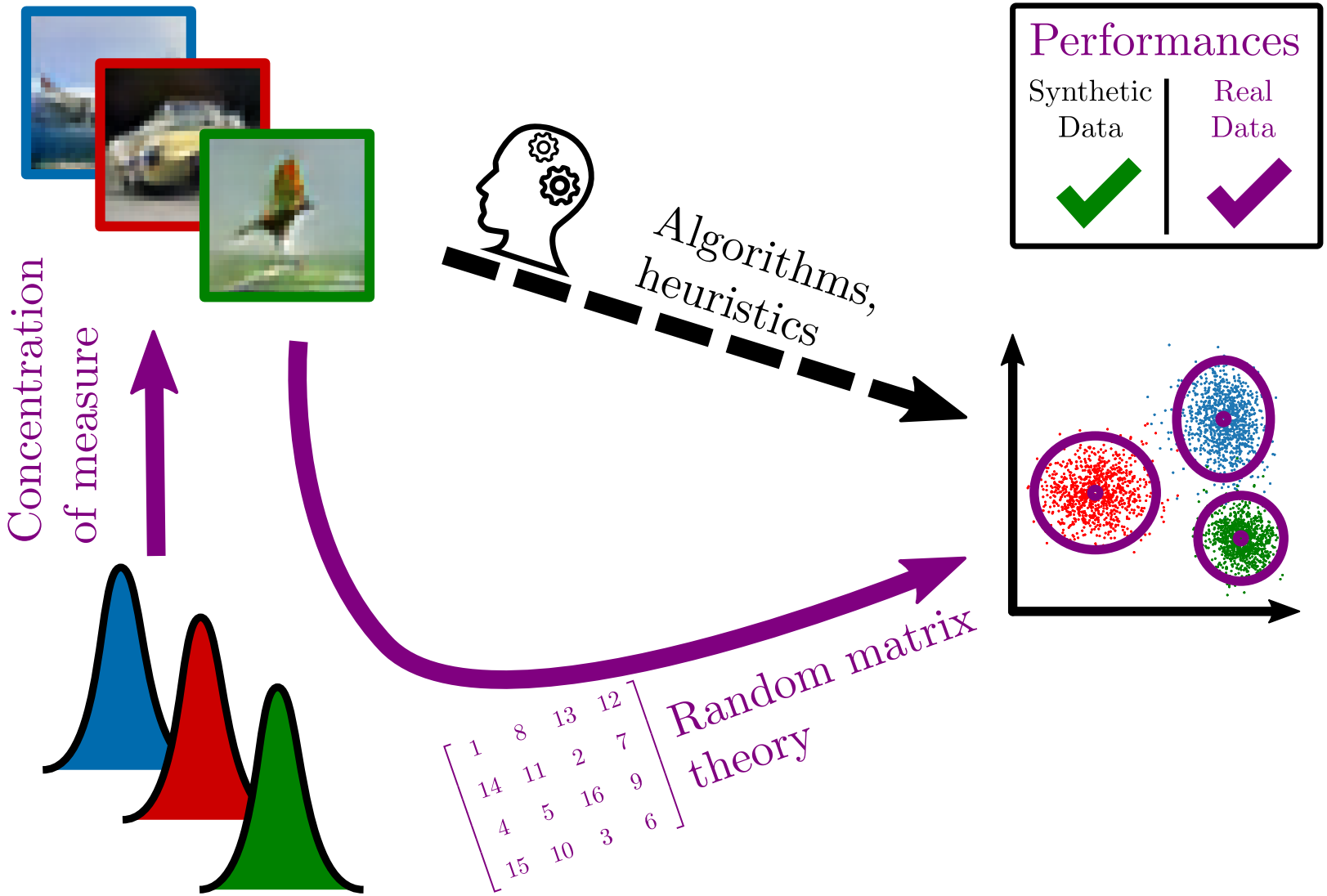

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Context

Baseline scenario: $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in \mathbb{C}^p$ (or $\mathbb{R}^p$) i.i.d. with $E[y_1] = 0$, $E[y_1 y_1^*] = C_p$:

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- If $y_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, C_p)$, ML estimator for C_p is the sample covariance matrix (SCM)

$$\hat{C}_p = \frac{1}{n} Y_p Y_p^* = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i y_i^*$$

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- **Even for** $p = n/100$.

The Marčenko–Pastur law

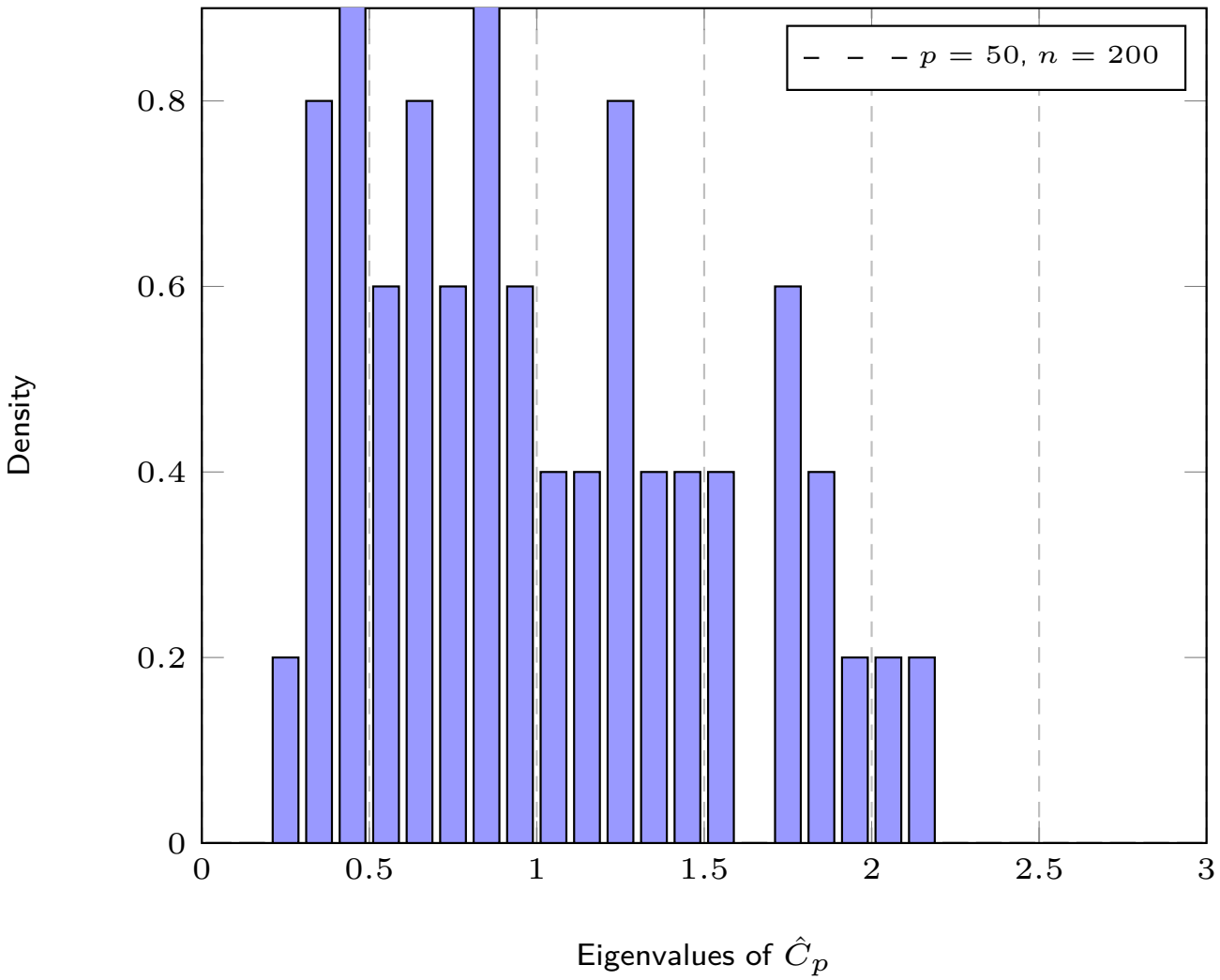

Figure: Histogram of the eigenvalues of $\hat{C}_p$ for $c = 1/4$, $C_p = I_p$.

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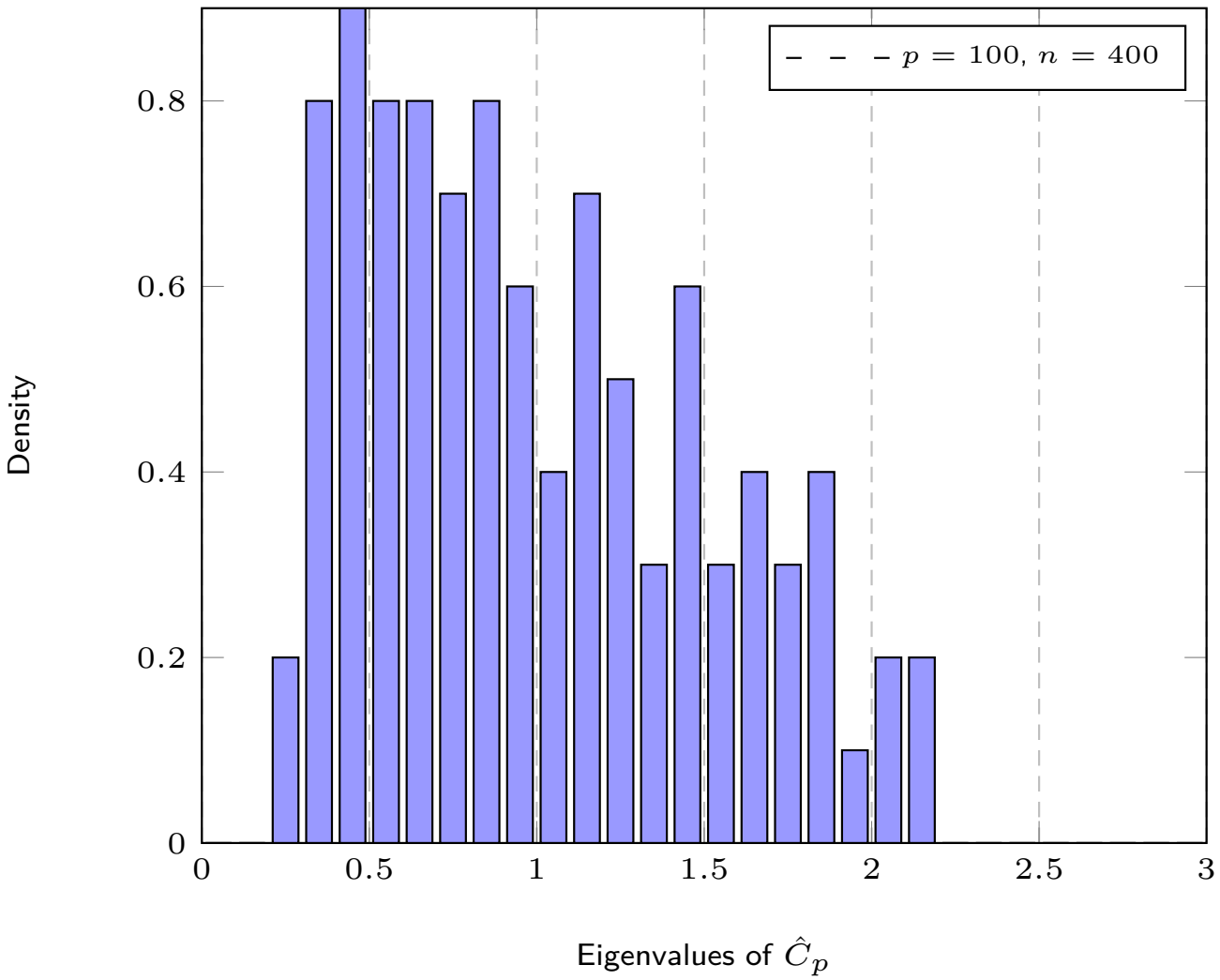

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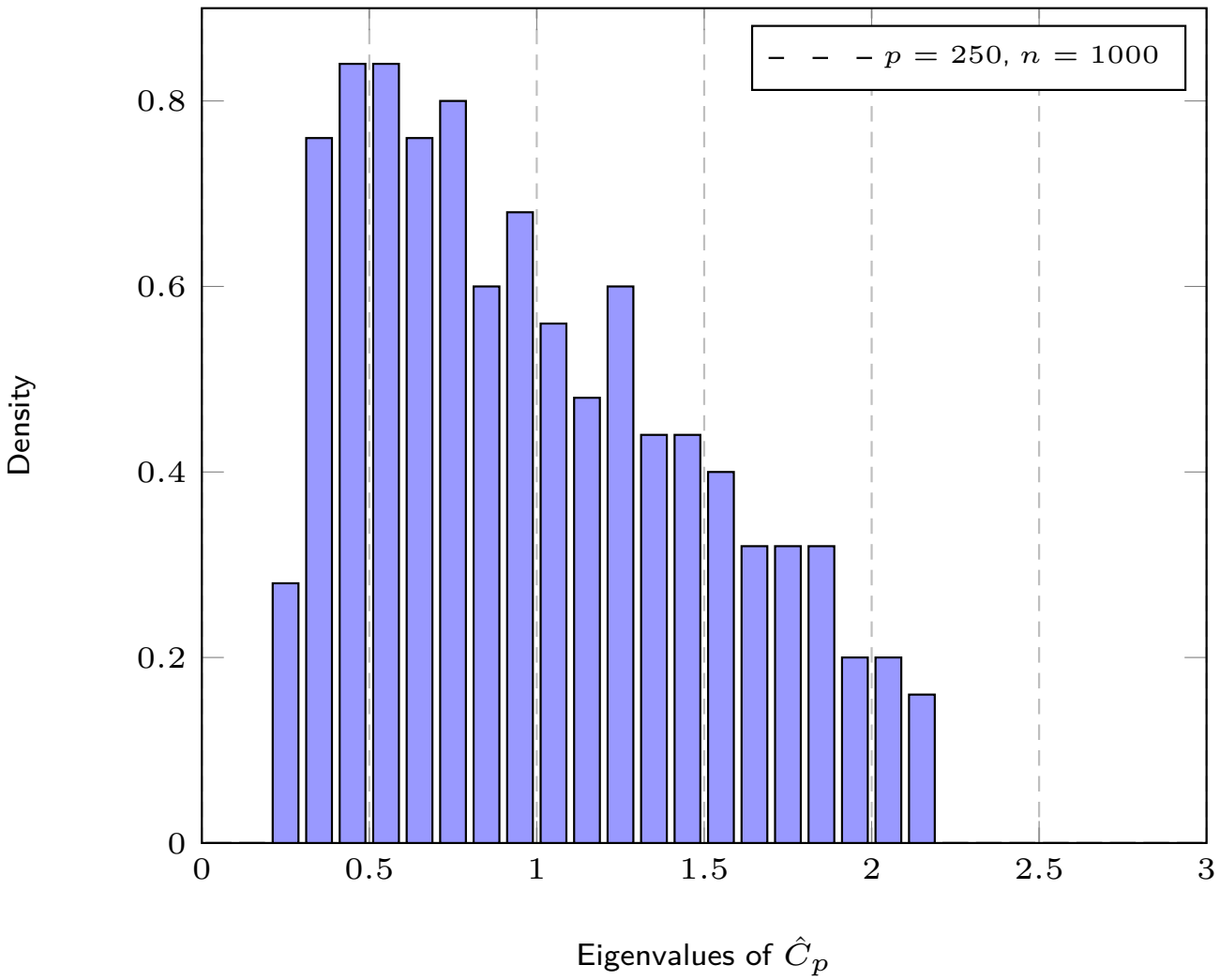

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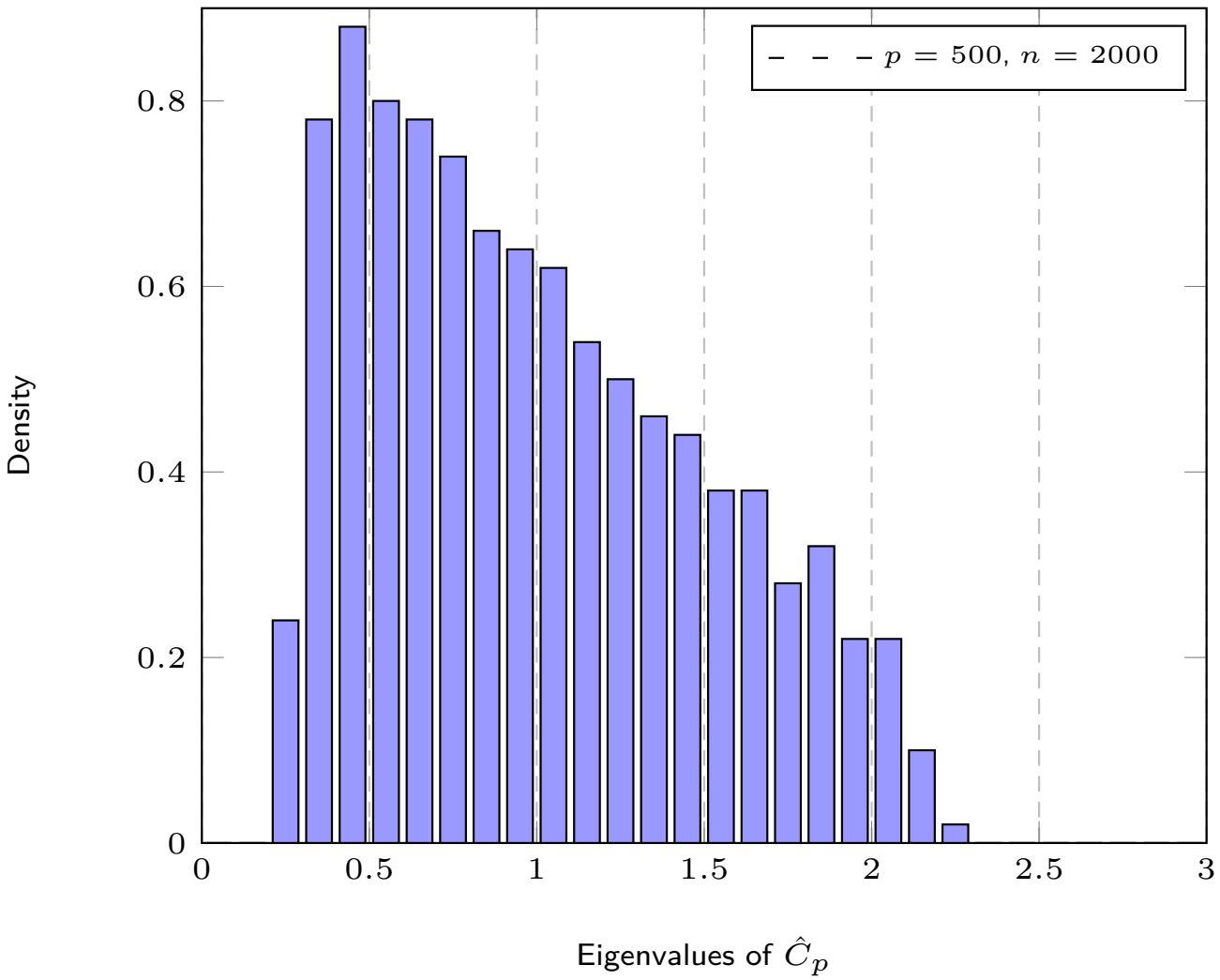

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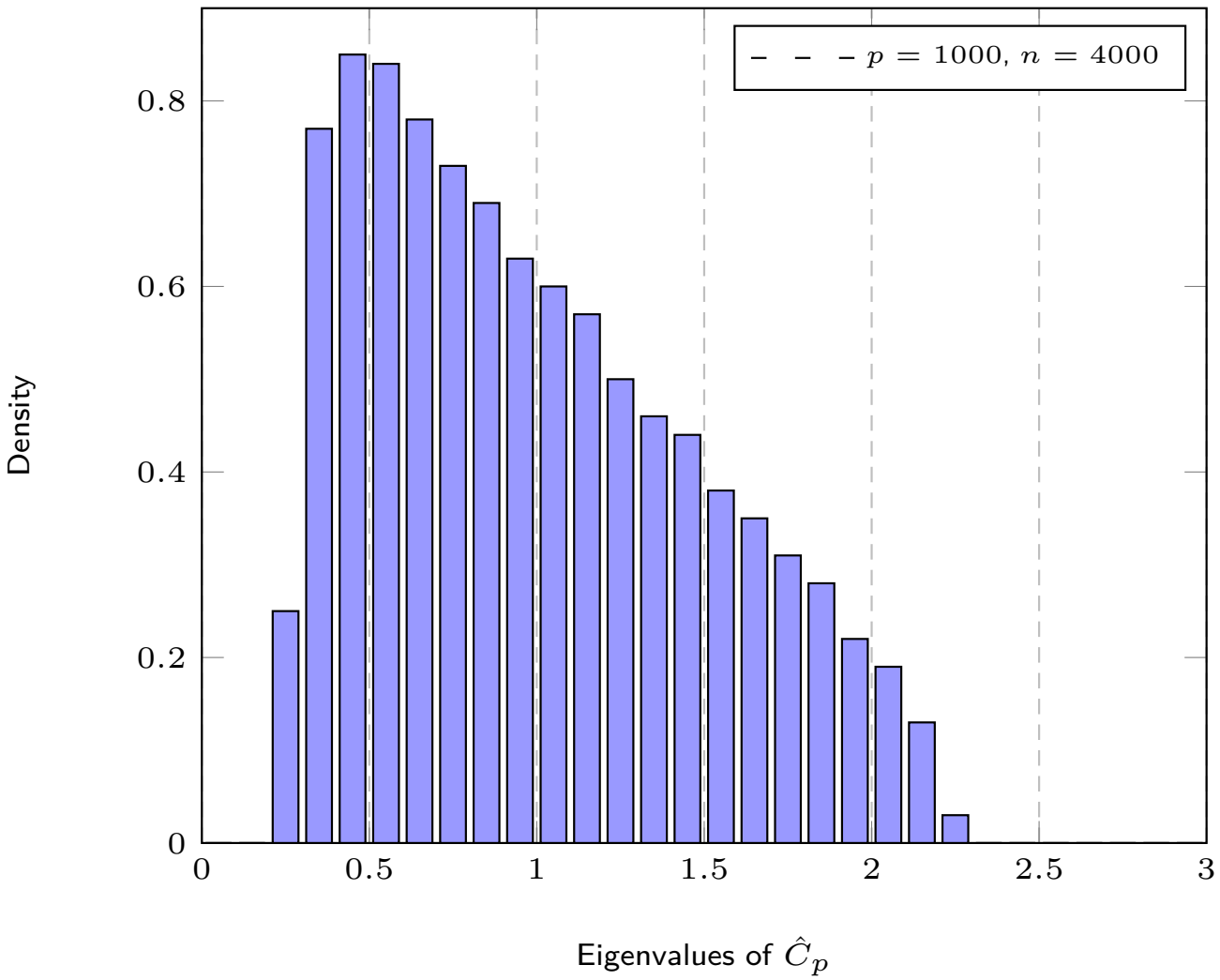

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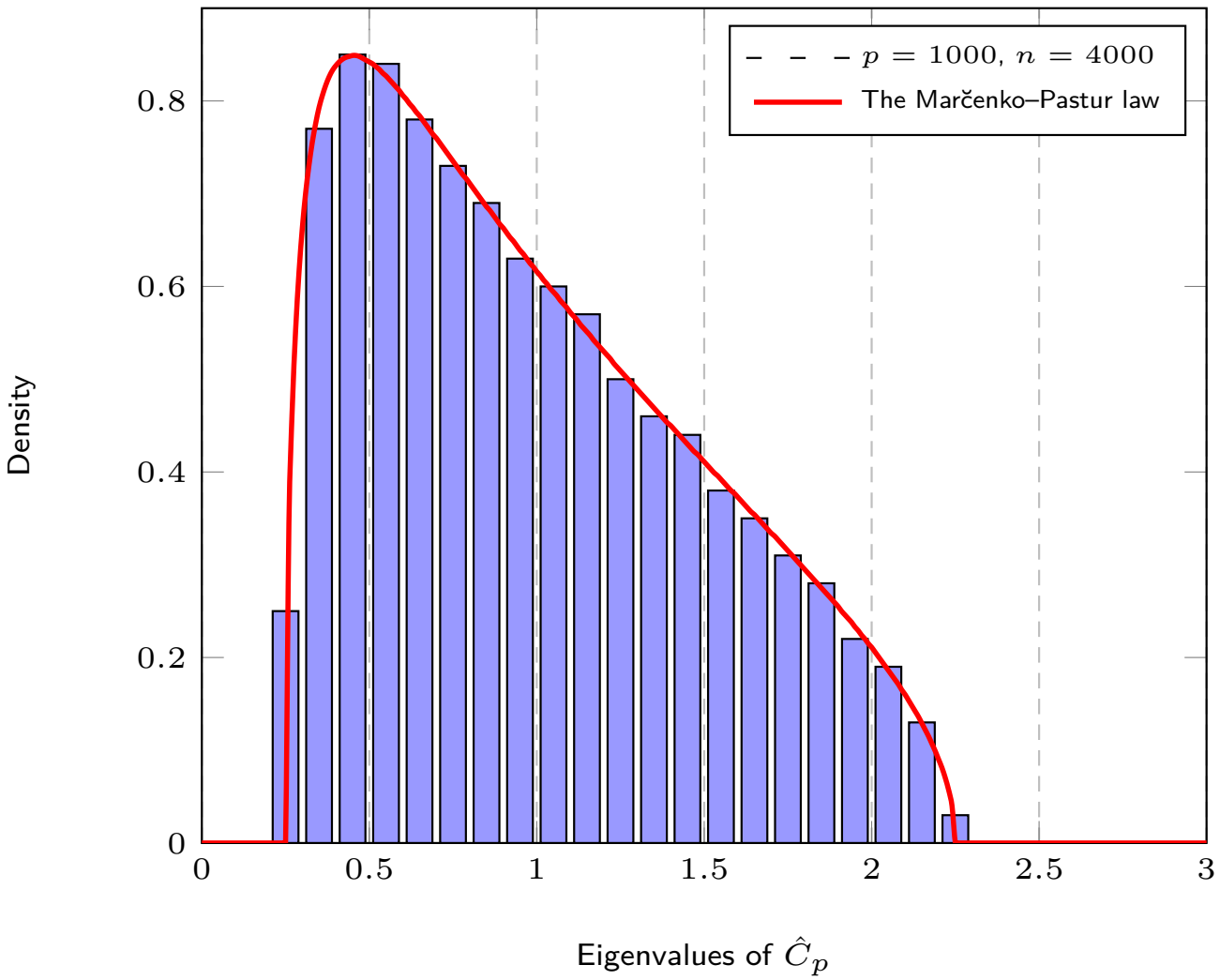

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Empirical spectral density (e.s.d.) μ_p of Hermitian matrix $A_p \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times p}$ is

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Theorem (Marčenko–Pastur Law **[Marčenko,Pastur'67]**)

$X_p \in \mathbb{C}^{p\times n}$ with i.i.d. zero mean, unit variance entries.
As $p, n \to \infty$ with $p/n \to c \in (0,\infty)$, e.s.d. μ_p of $\frac{1}{n}X_pX_p^*$ satisfies

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- $\mu_c(\{0\}) = \max\{0, 1 - c^{-1}\}$

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- $\mu_c(\{0\}) = \max\{0, 1 - c^{-1}\}$
- *on $(0,\infty)$, μ_c has continuous density f_c supported on $[(1-\sqrt{c})^2, (1+\sqrt{c})^2]$*

$$f_c(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi c x}\sqrt{(x-(1-\sqrt{c})^2)((1+\sqrt{c})^2 - x)}.$$

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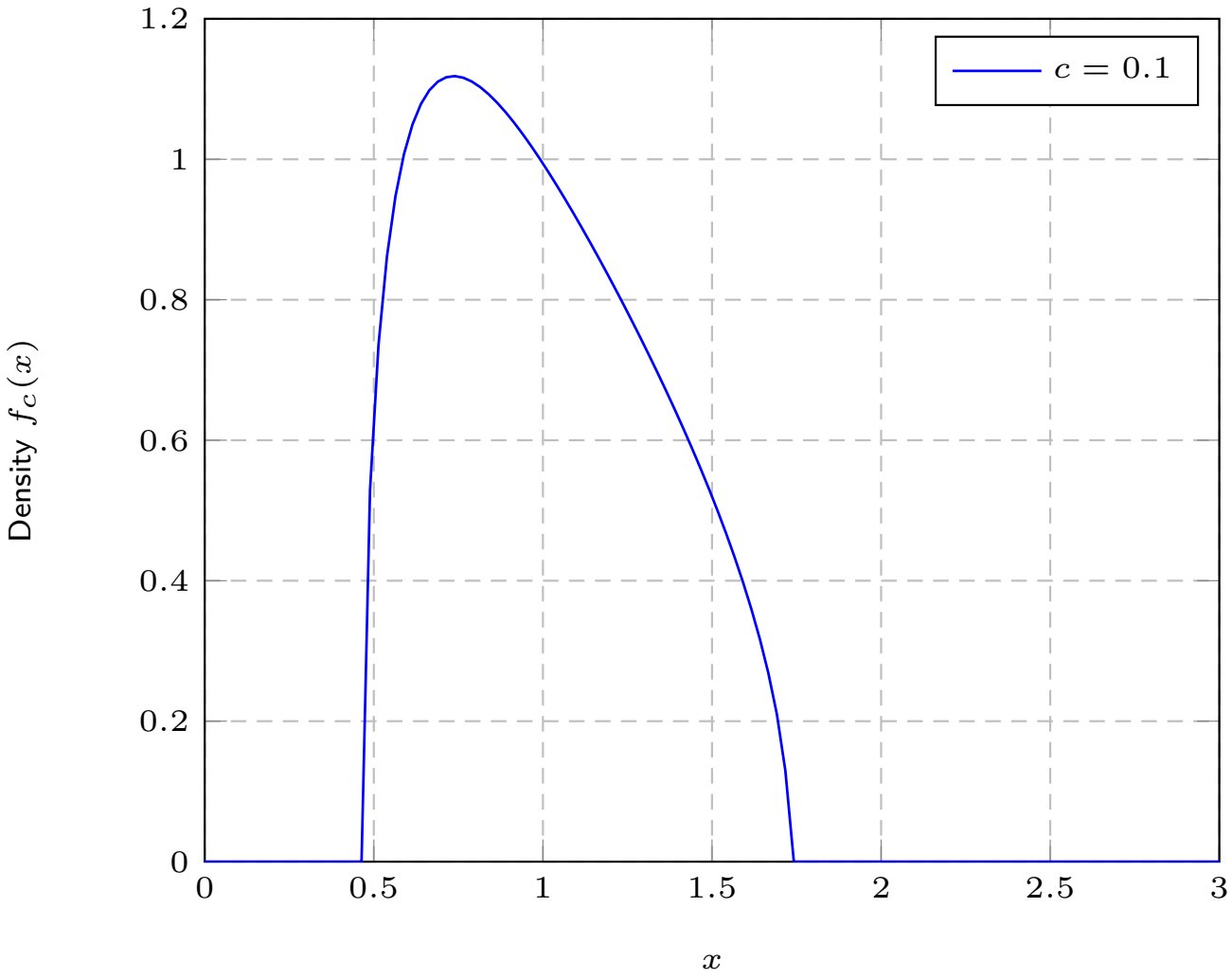

Figure: Marčenko-Pastur law for different limit ratios $c = \lim_{p\to\infty} p/n$.

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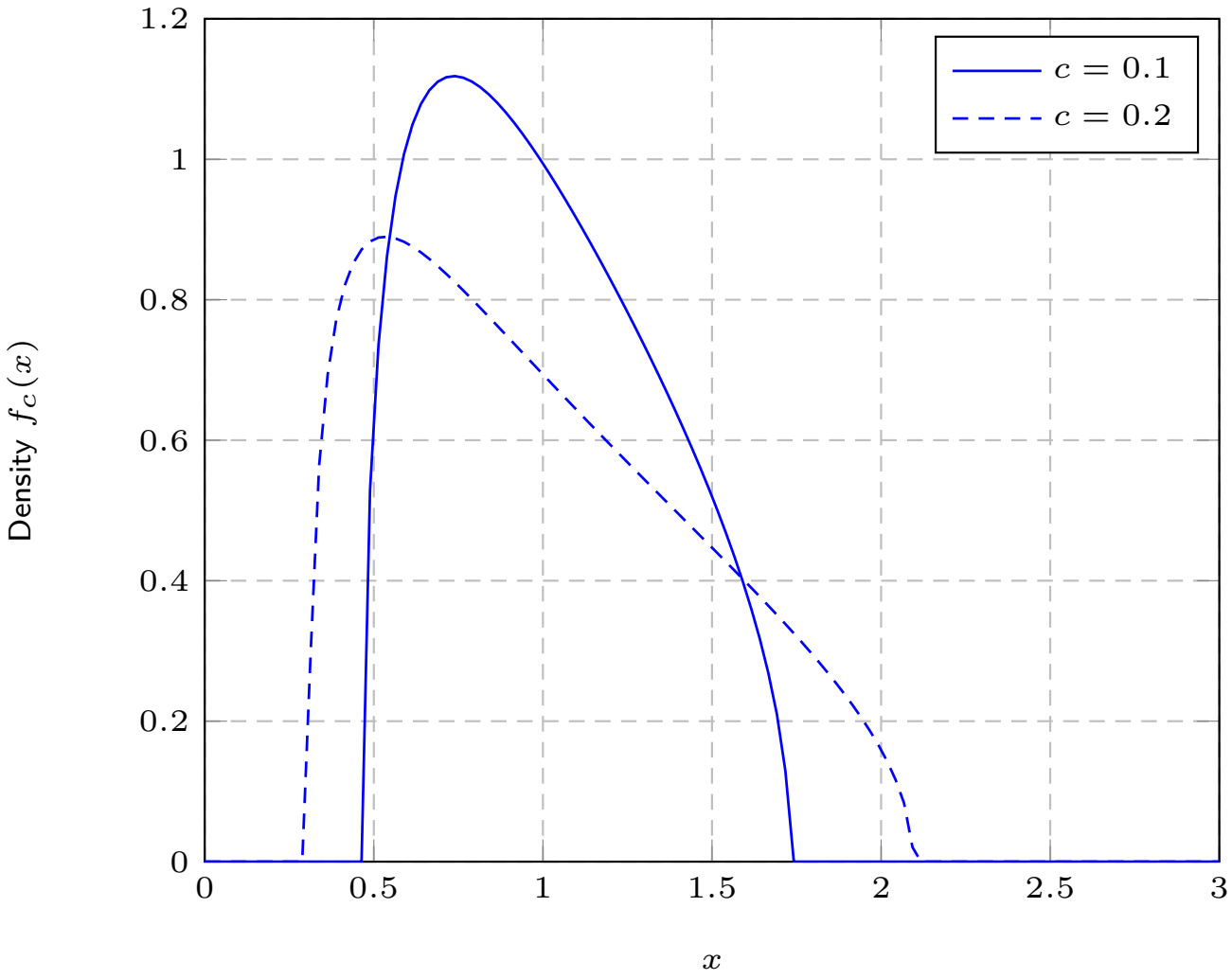

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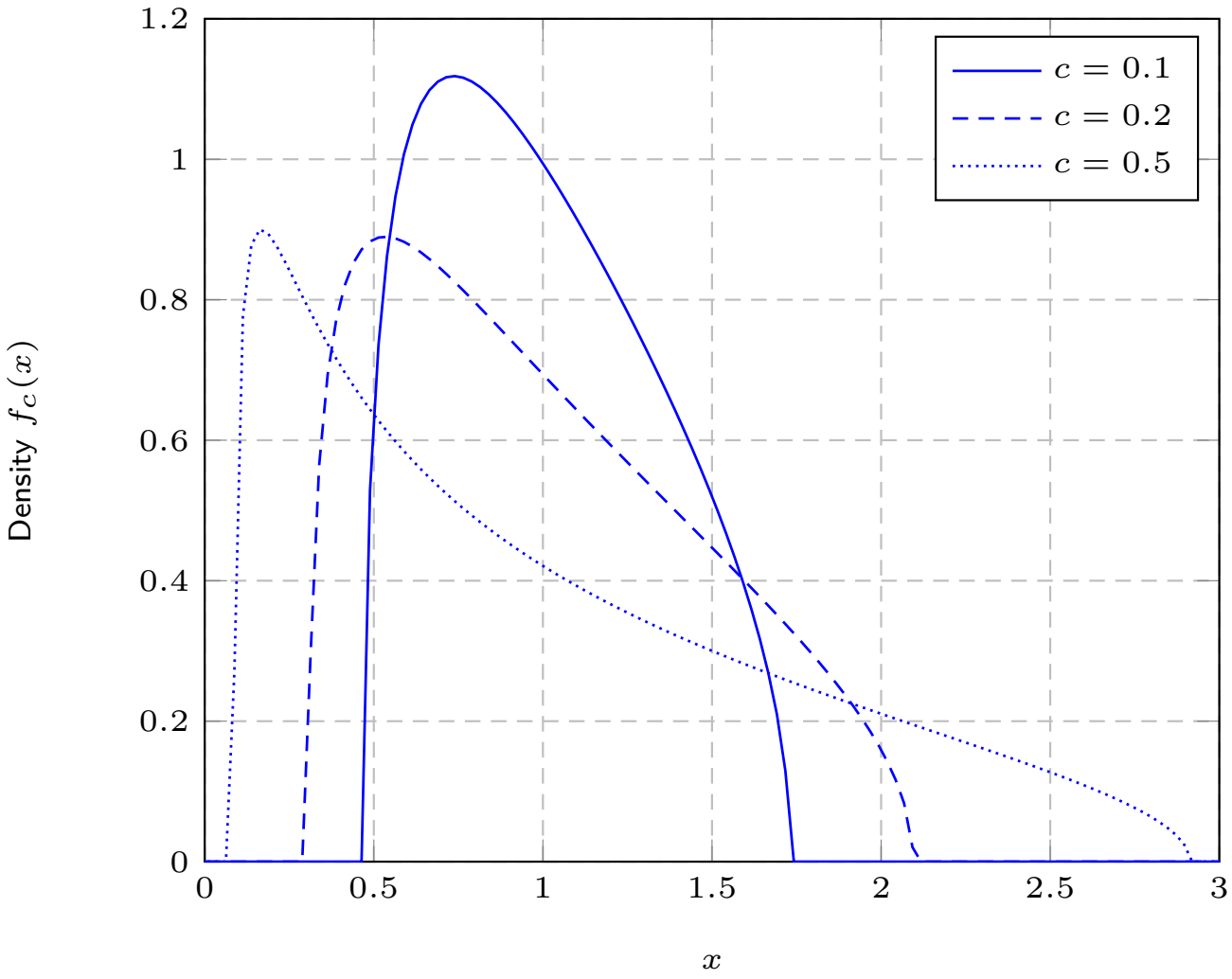

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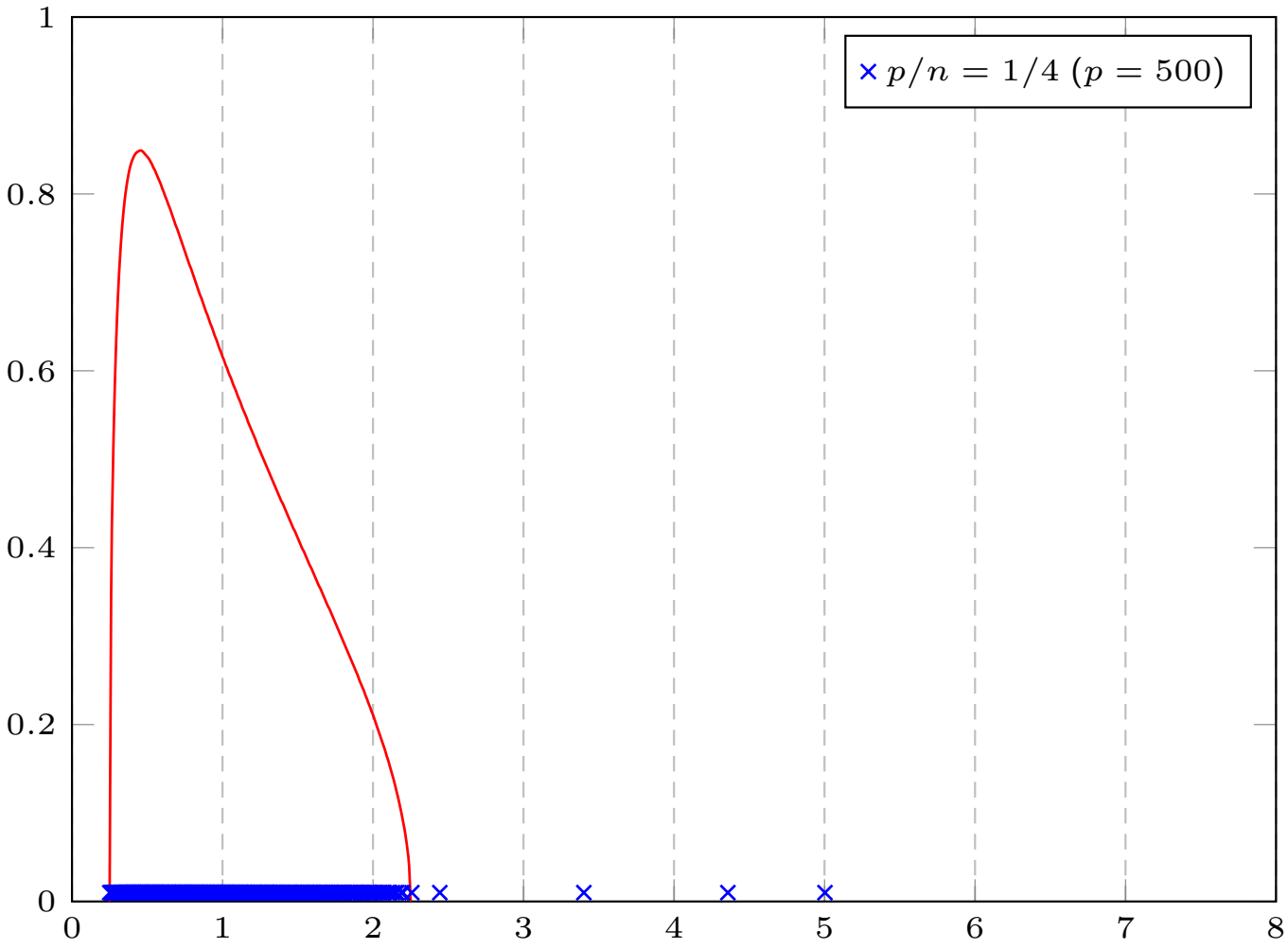
Small rank perturbation: $C_p = I_p + P$, P of low rank.



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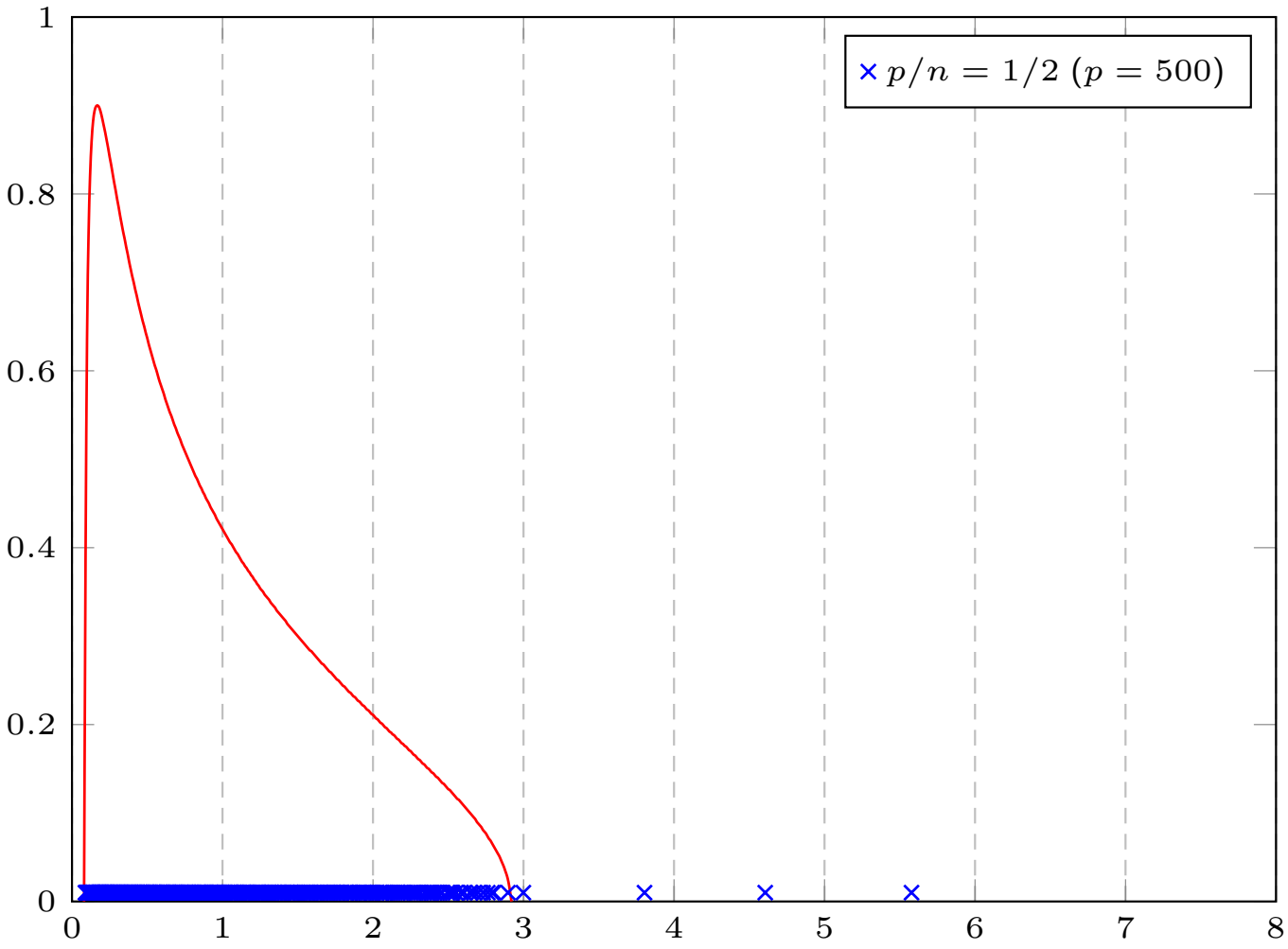

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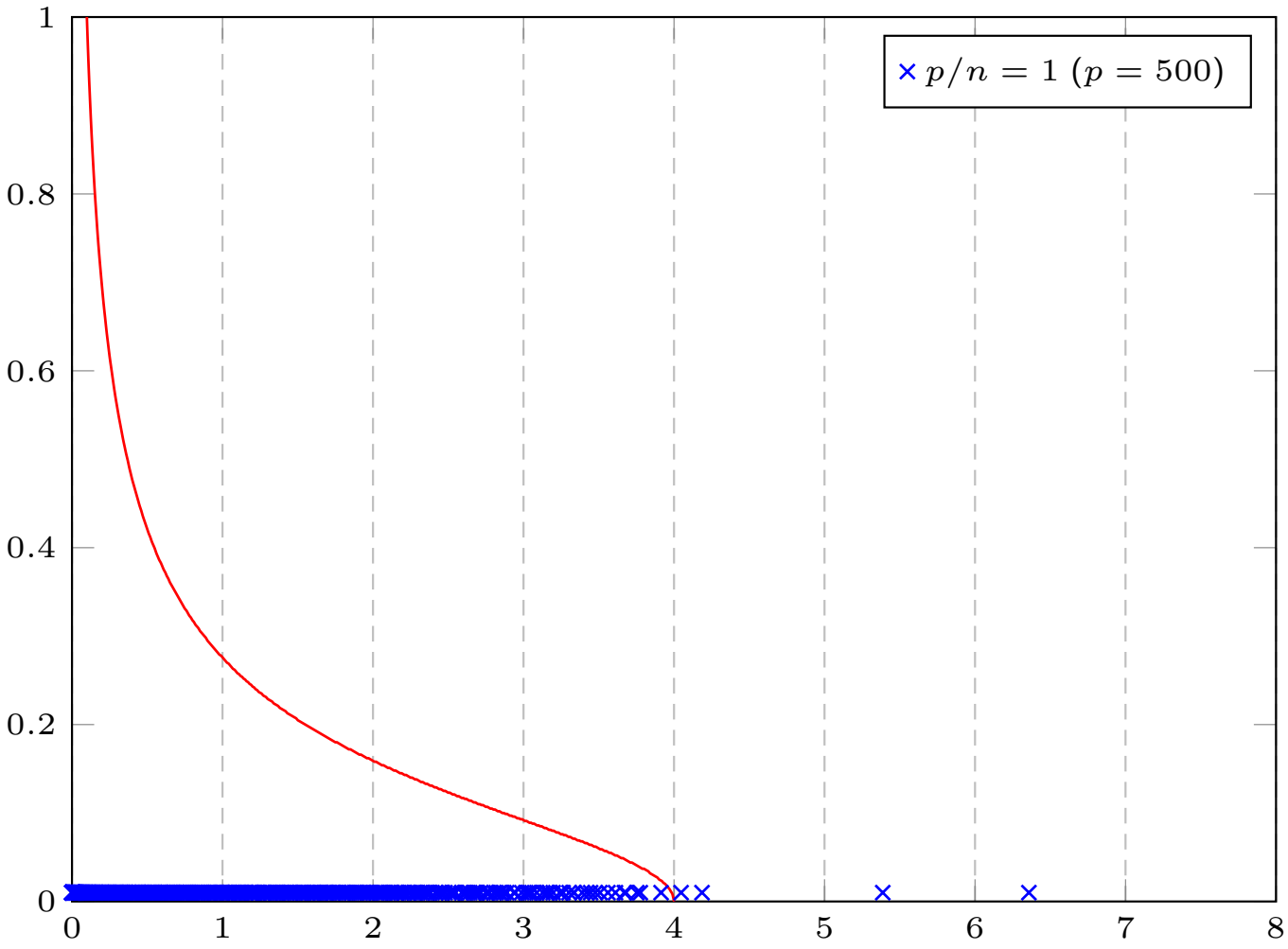

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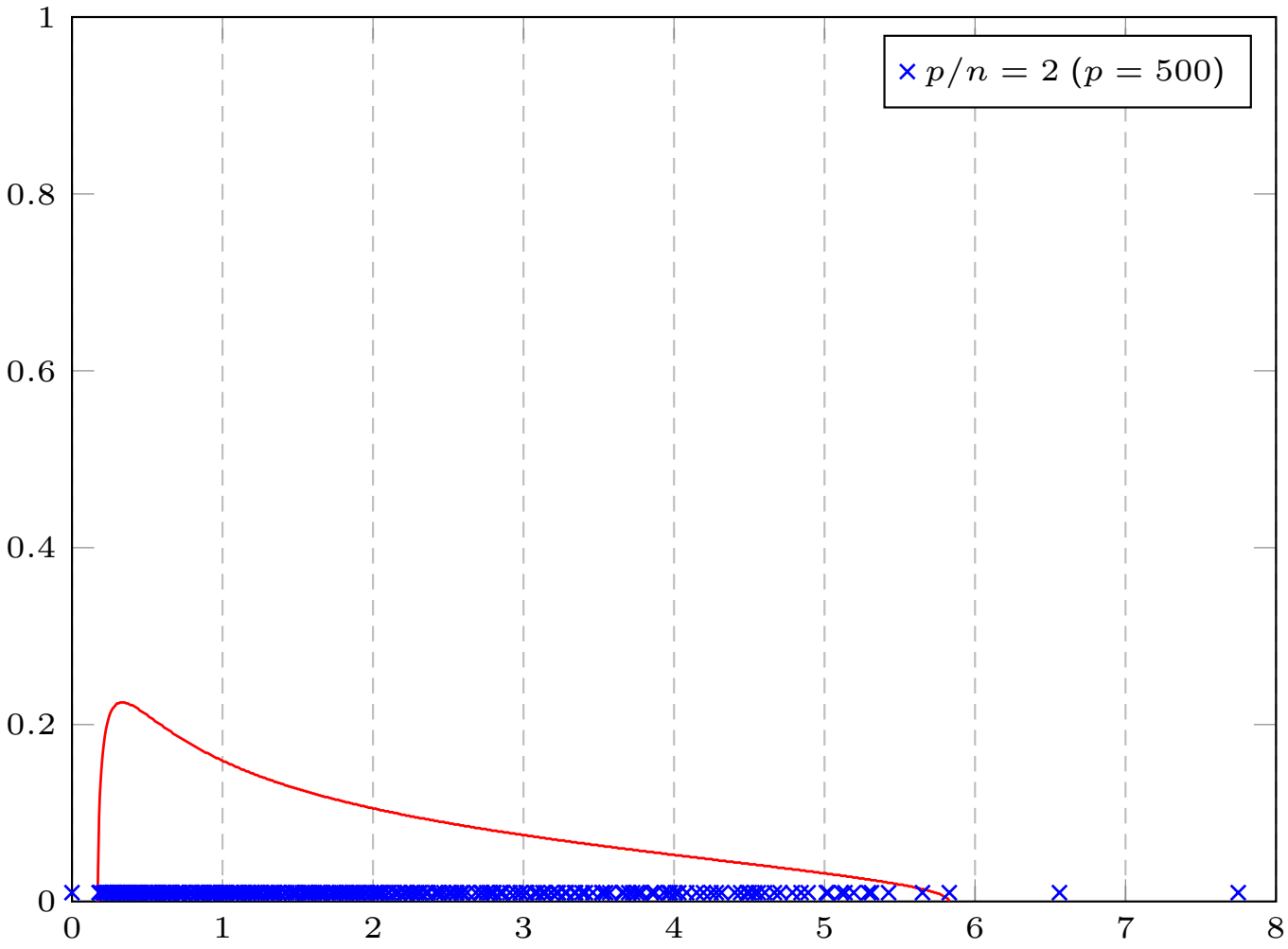

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Theorem (Eigenvalues [Baik,Silverstein'06])

Let $Y_p = C_p^{\frac{1}{2}} X_p$, *with*

- X_p *with i.i.d. zero mean, unit variance,* $E[|X_p|_{ij}^4] < \infty$.
- $C_p = I_p + P$, $P = U\Omega U^*$, *where, for* K *fixed,*

$$\Omega = \mathrm{diag}\,(\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_K) \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}, \text{ with } \omega_1 \geq \ldots \geq \omega_K > 0.$$

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Then, as $p, n \to \infty$, $p/n \to c \in (0, \infty)$, *denoting* $\lambda_m = \lambda_m(\frac{1}{n} Y_p Y_p^*)$ $(\lambda_m > \lambda_{m+1})$,

$$\lambda_m \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \begin{cases} 1 + \omega_m + c\frac{1+\omega_m}{\omega_m} > (1+\sqrt{c})^2 & , \ \omega_m > \sqrt{c} \\ (1+\sqrt{c})^2 & , \ \omega_m \in (0, \sqrt{c}]. \end{cases}$$

Theorem (Eigenvectors [Paul'07])

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Then, as $p, n \to \infty$, $p/n \to c \in (0, \infty)$, *for* $a, b \in \mathbb{C}^p$ *deterministic and* $\hat{u}_i$ *eigenvector of* $\lambda_i(\frac{1}{n} Y_p Y_p^*)$,

$$a^* \hat{u}_i \hat{u}_i^* b - \frac{1 - c\omega_i^{-2}}{1 + c\omega_i^{-1}} a^* u_i u_i^* b \cdot 1_{\omega_i > \sqrt{c}} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$$

In particular,

$$|\hat{u}_i^* u_i|^2 \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{1 - c\omega_i^{-2}}{1 + c\omega_i^{-1}} \cdot 1_{\omega_i > \sqrt{c}}.$$

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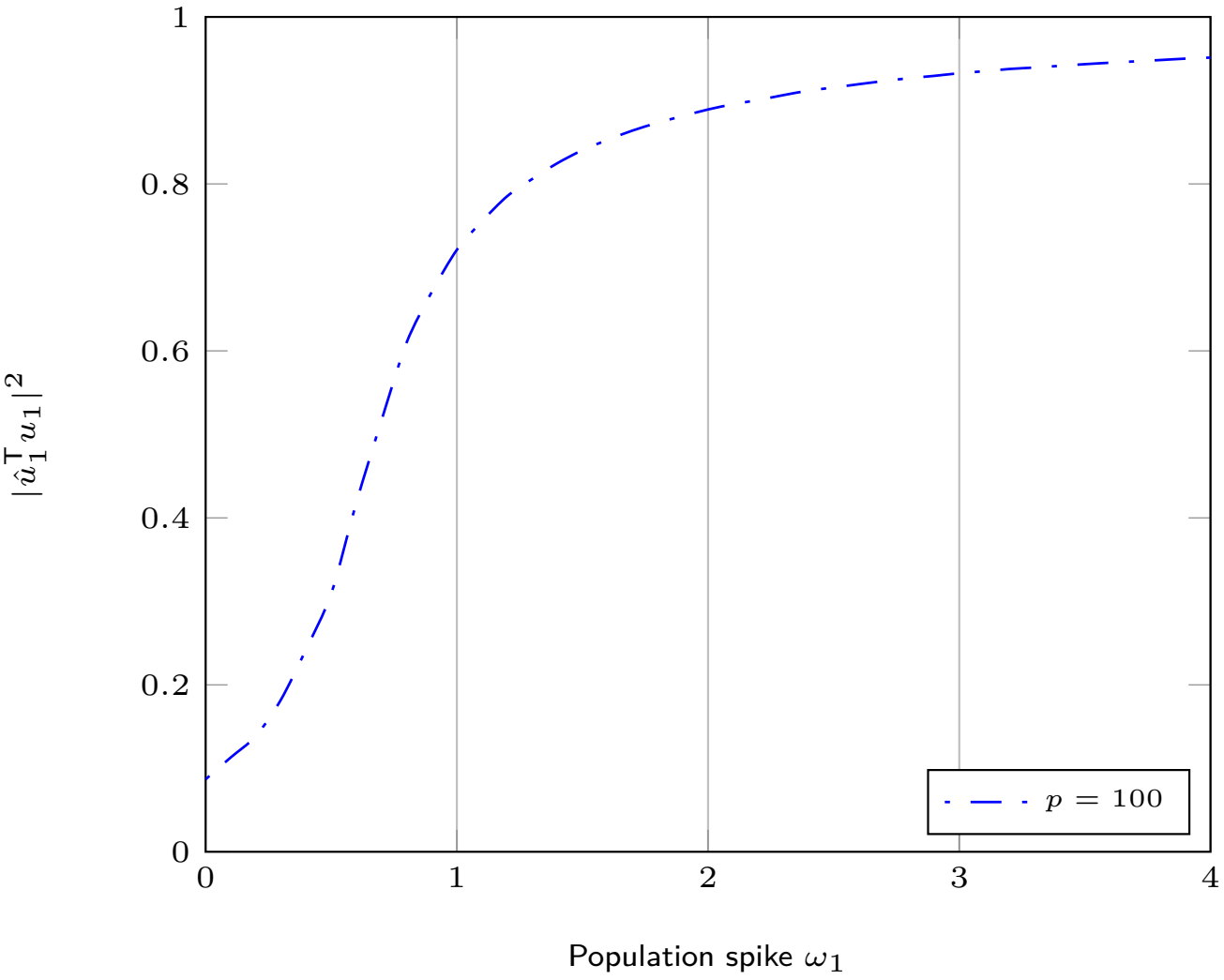

Figure: Simulated versus limiting $|\hat{u}_1^\mathsf{T} u_1|^2$ for $Y_p = C_p^{\frac{1}{2}} X_p$, $C_p = I_p + \omega_1 u_1 u_1^\mathsf{T}$, $p/n = 1/3$, varying ω_1.

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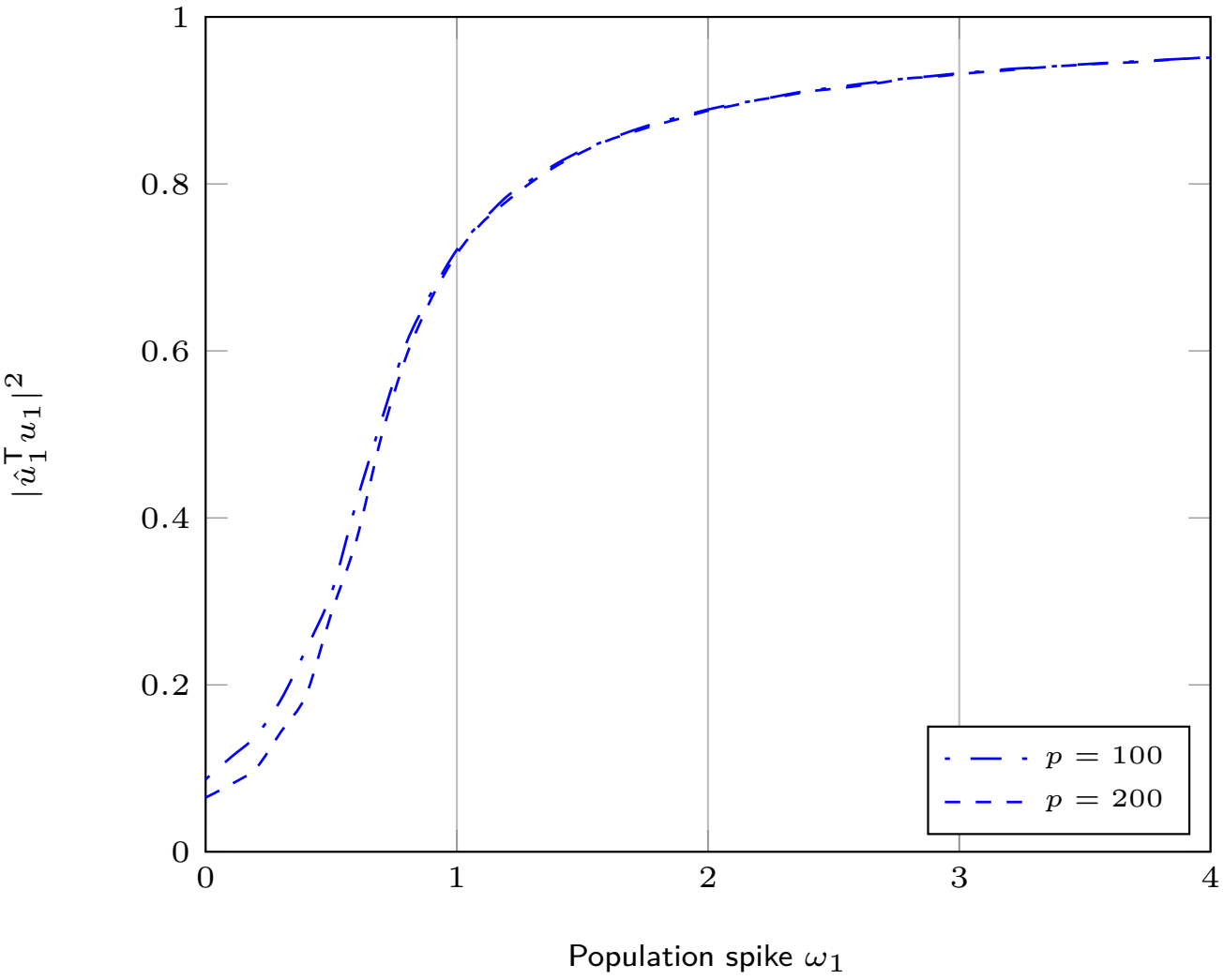

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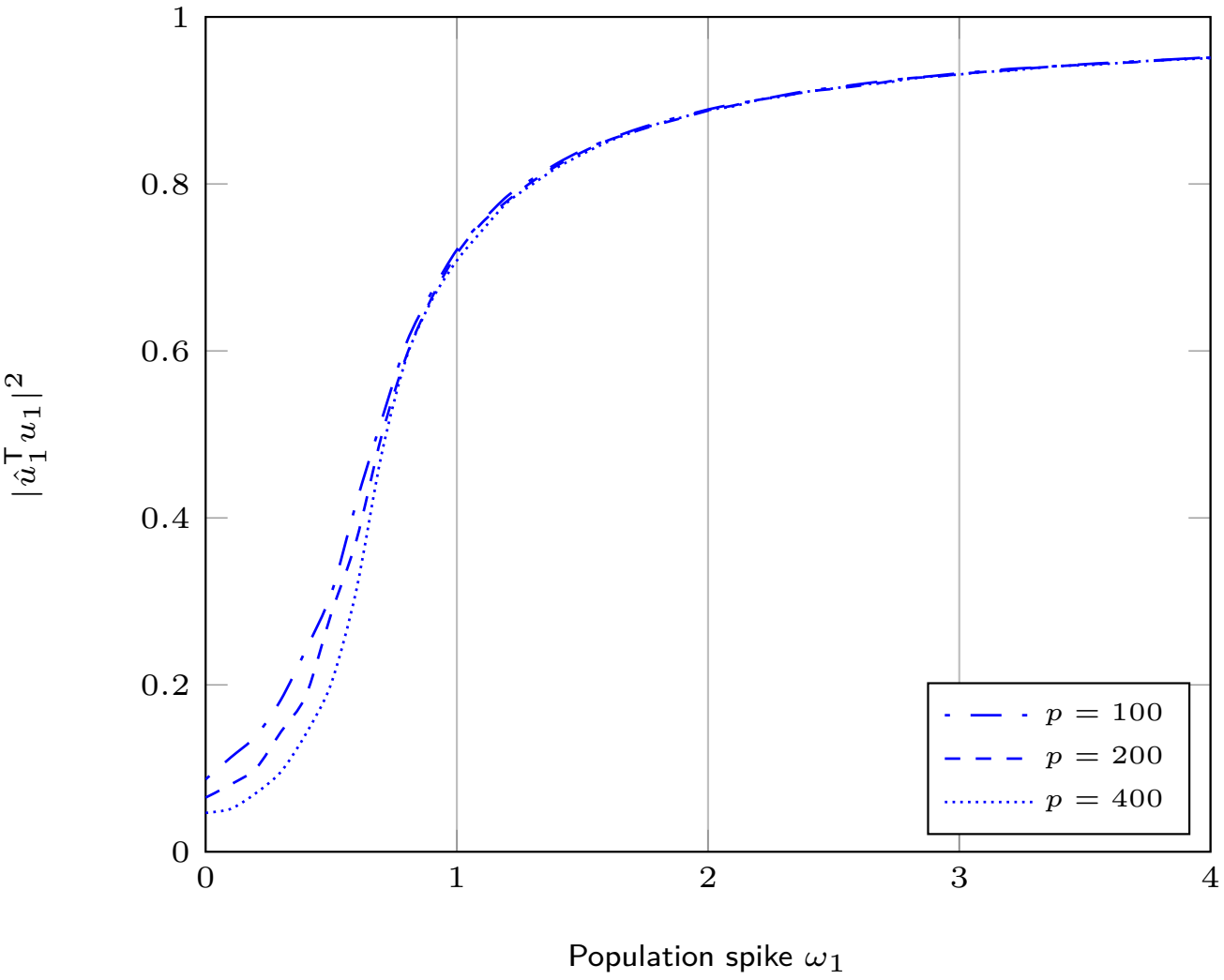

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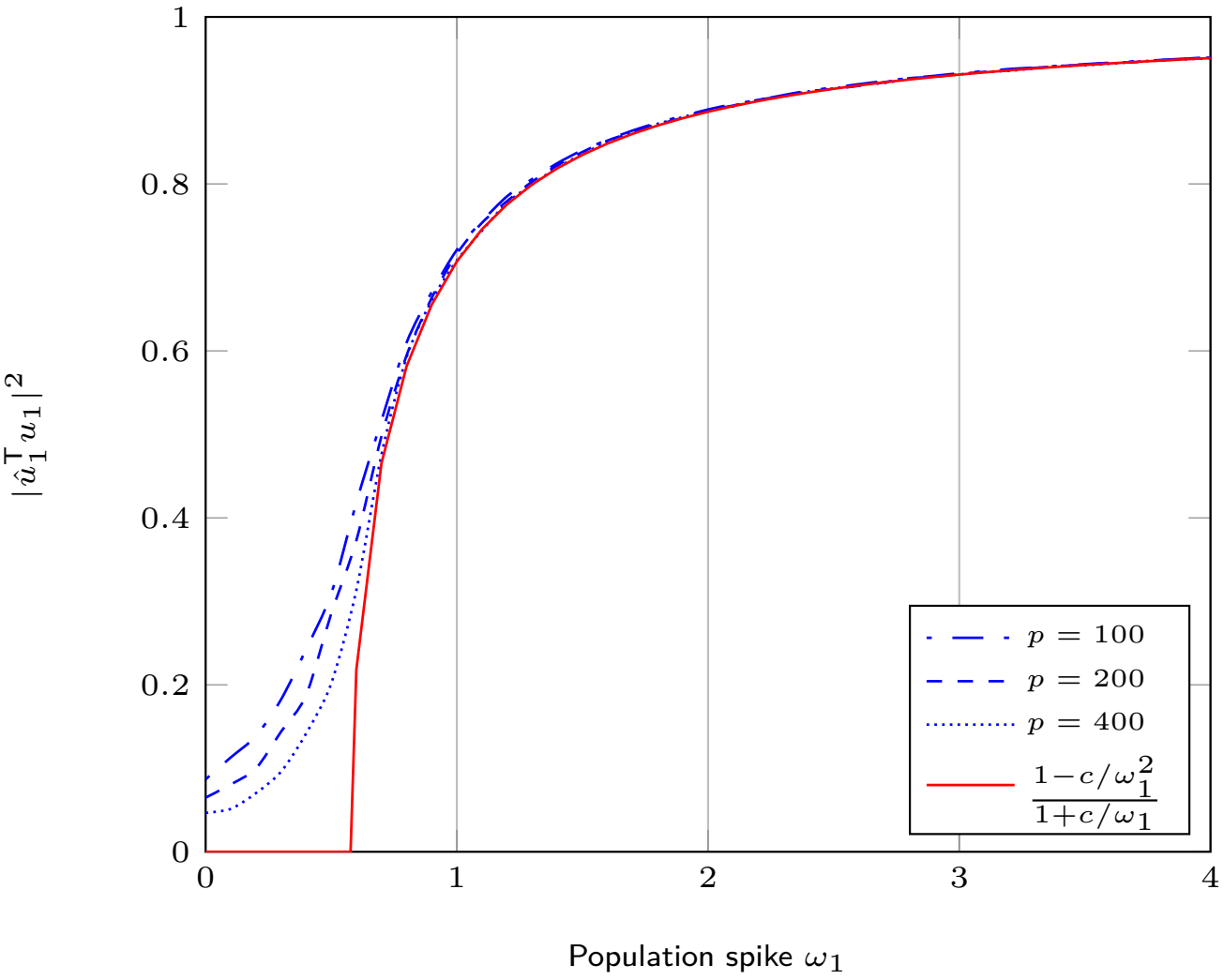

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Other Spiked Models

Similar results for multiple matrix models:

- $Y_p = \frac{1}{n}(I+P)^{\frac{1}{2}} X_p X_p^* (I+P)^{\frac{1}{2}}$
- $Y_p = \frac{1}{n} X_p X_p^* + P$
- $Y_p = \frac{1}{n} X_p^* (I+P) X$
- $Y_p = \frac{1}{n}(X_p + P)^*(X_p + P)$
- etc.

Outline

Takeaway Message 1

"RMT Explains Why Machine Learning Intuitions Collapse in Large Dimensions"

The curse of dimensionality and its consequences

Clustering setting in (not so) large n, p:

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- Why? **Finite-dimensional intuition**

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(x_i,x_j) \gg 1 & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \ll 1 & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \ll 1 \\ \kappa(x_i,x_j) \ll 1 & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \gg 1 & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \ll 1 \\ \kappa(x_i,x_j) \ll 1 & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \ll 1 & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \gg 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{C}_1 \\ \mathcal{C}_2 \\ \mathcal{C}_3 \end{array}$$

The curse of dimensionality and its consequences (2)

In reality, here is what happens...

Kernel $K_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{1}{2p}\|x_i - x_j\|^2)$ and second eigenvector v_2 ($x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\pm\mu, I_p)$, $\mu = (2, 0, \ldots, 0)^\mathsf{T} \in \mathbb{R}^p$).

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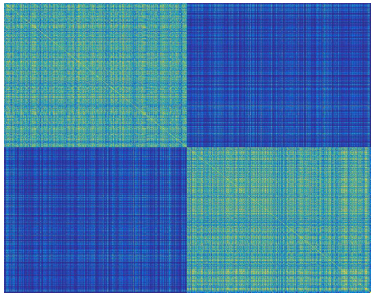
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

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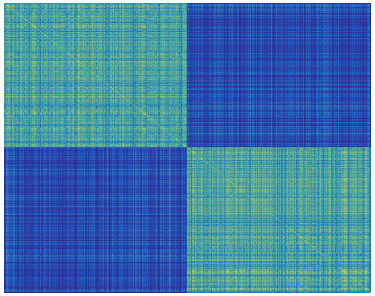
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

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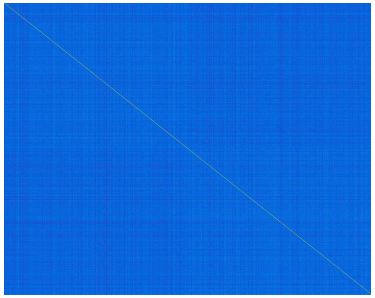
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

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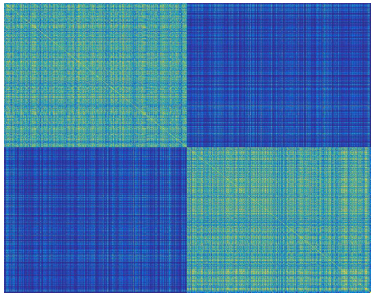
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

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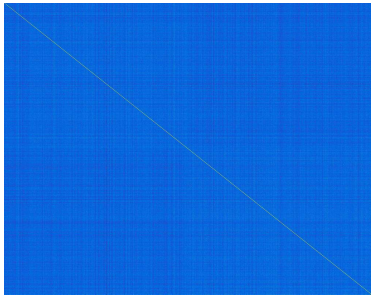
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

Key observation: Under growth rate assumptions,

$$\boxed{\max_{1 \le i \ne j \le n} \left\{ \left| \frac{1}{p} \|x_i - x_j\|^2 - \tau \right| \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0}, \quad \tau = \frac{2}{p} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \mathsf{tr}\, \frac{n_a}{n} C_a.$$

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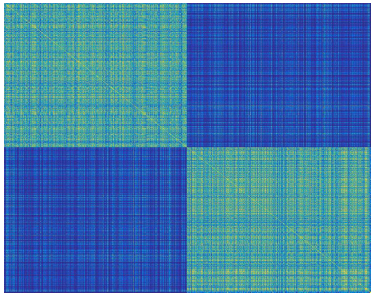
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

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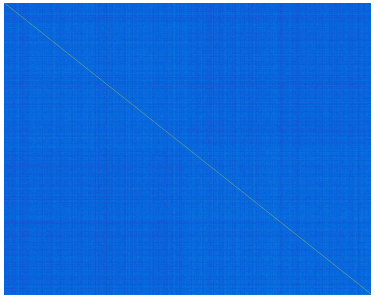
$K =$  $v_2 =$ 

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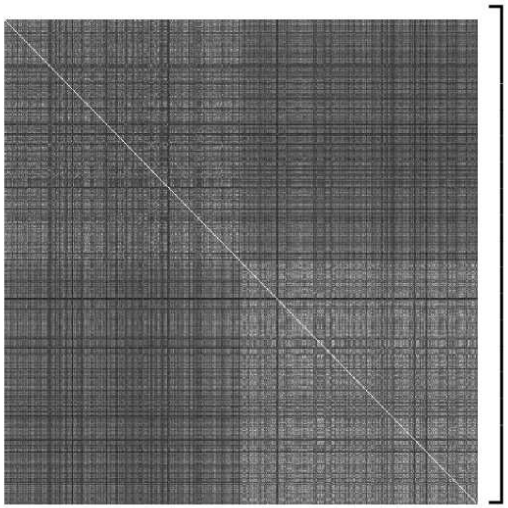
- this suggests $K \simeq f(\tau) 1_n 1_n^\mathsf{T}$!

The curse of dimensionality and its consequences (3)

MNIST
raw
$p = 784,\ n = 500$
$\downarrow$

$\mathbf{K} =$



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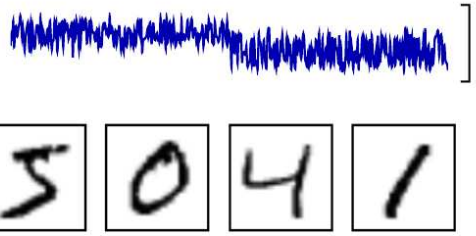
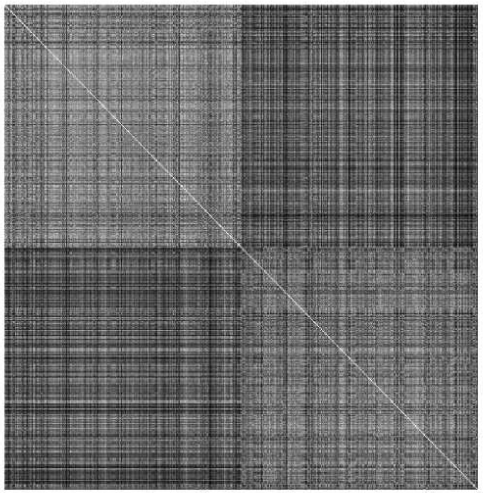


(ici, classes “5” et “0”)

ImageNet
VGG-features
$p = 3084,\ n = 500$
$\downarrow$

$\mathbf{K} =$

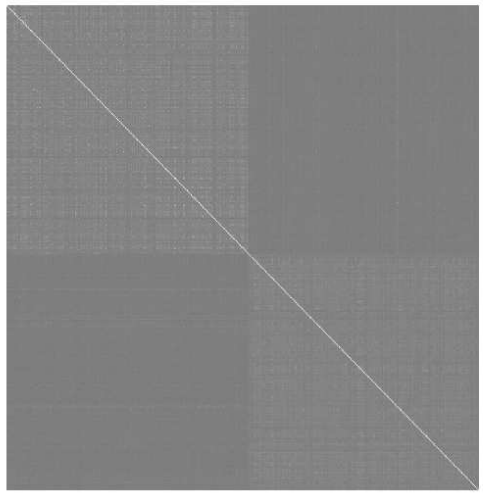


$\mathbf{v}_2 =$

(ici, classes “bird” et “plane”)

20NewsGroup
BERT embedding
$p = 300,\ n = 500$
$\downarrow$

$\mathbf{K} =$



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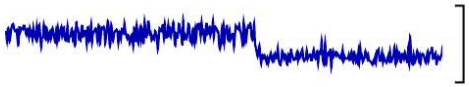

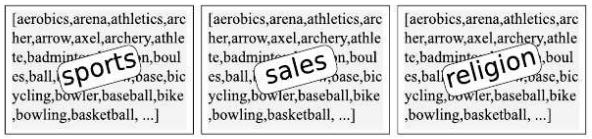

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(Major) consequences:

- Most **machine learning intuitions collapse**

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Under growth rate assumptions, as $p, n \to \infty$,

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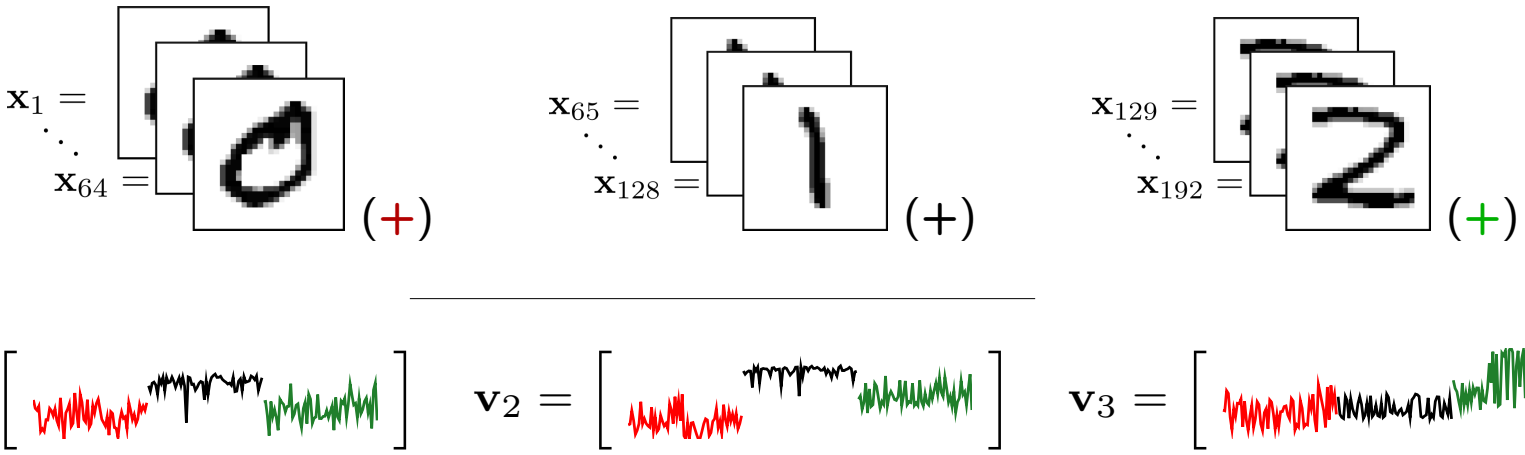
➪ **This is a spiked model! We can study it fully!**

Performance prediction: spectral clustering

- **Asymptotic analysis of eigenvectors of** K: (MNIST, $p = 28 \times 28 (= 784)$)



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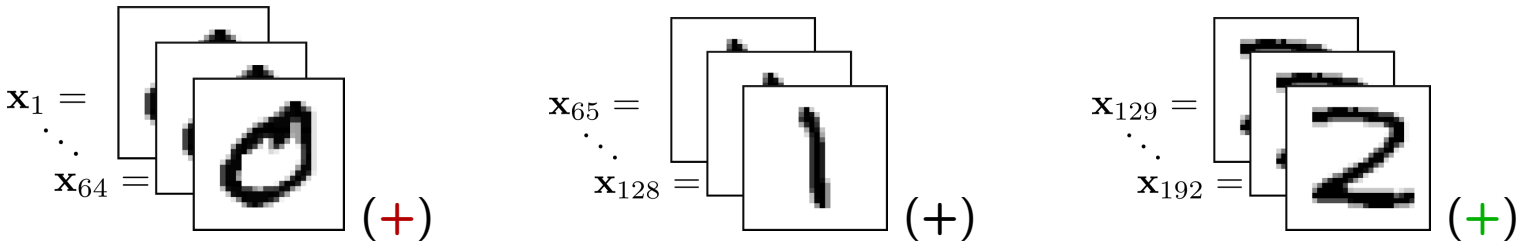

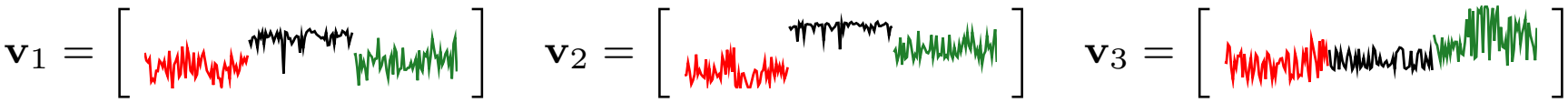

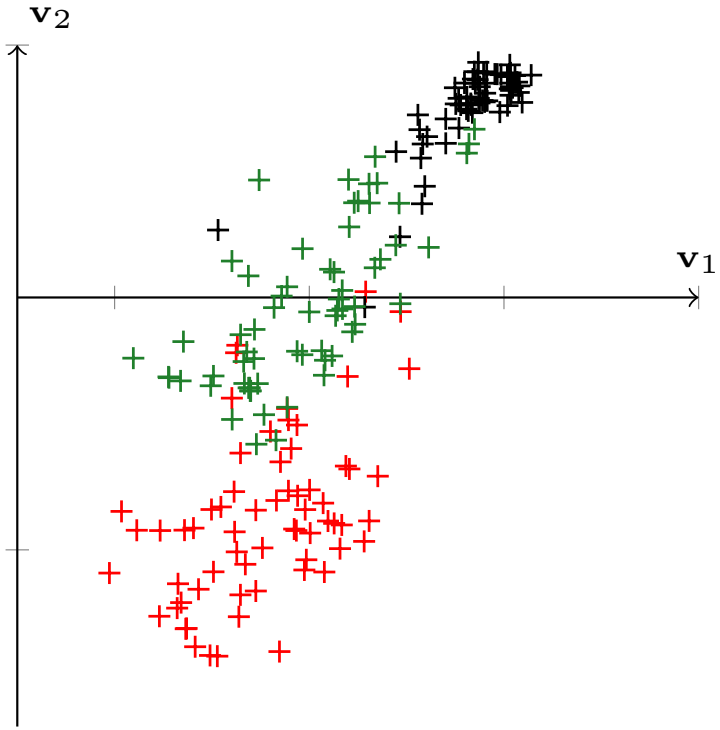

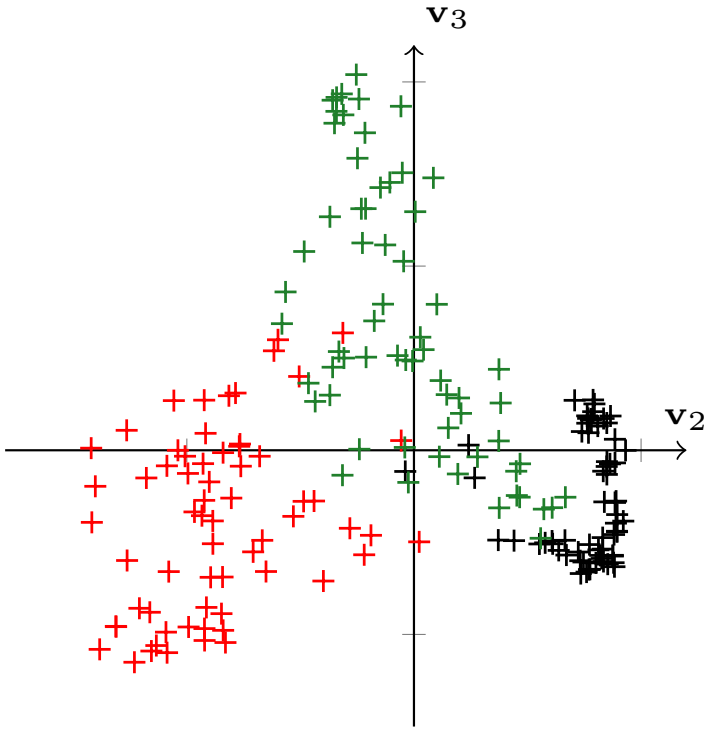

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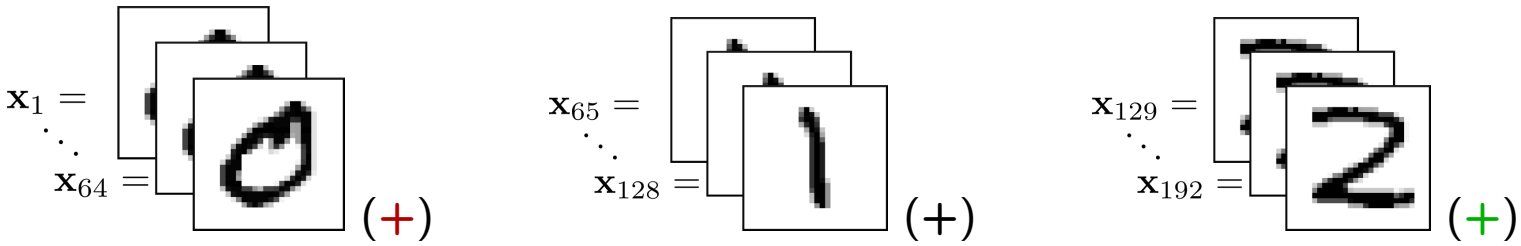

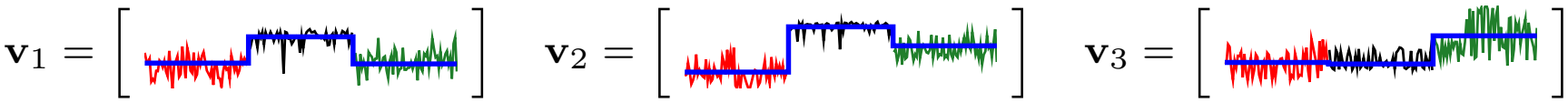

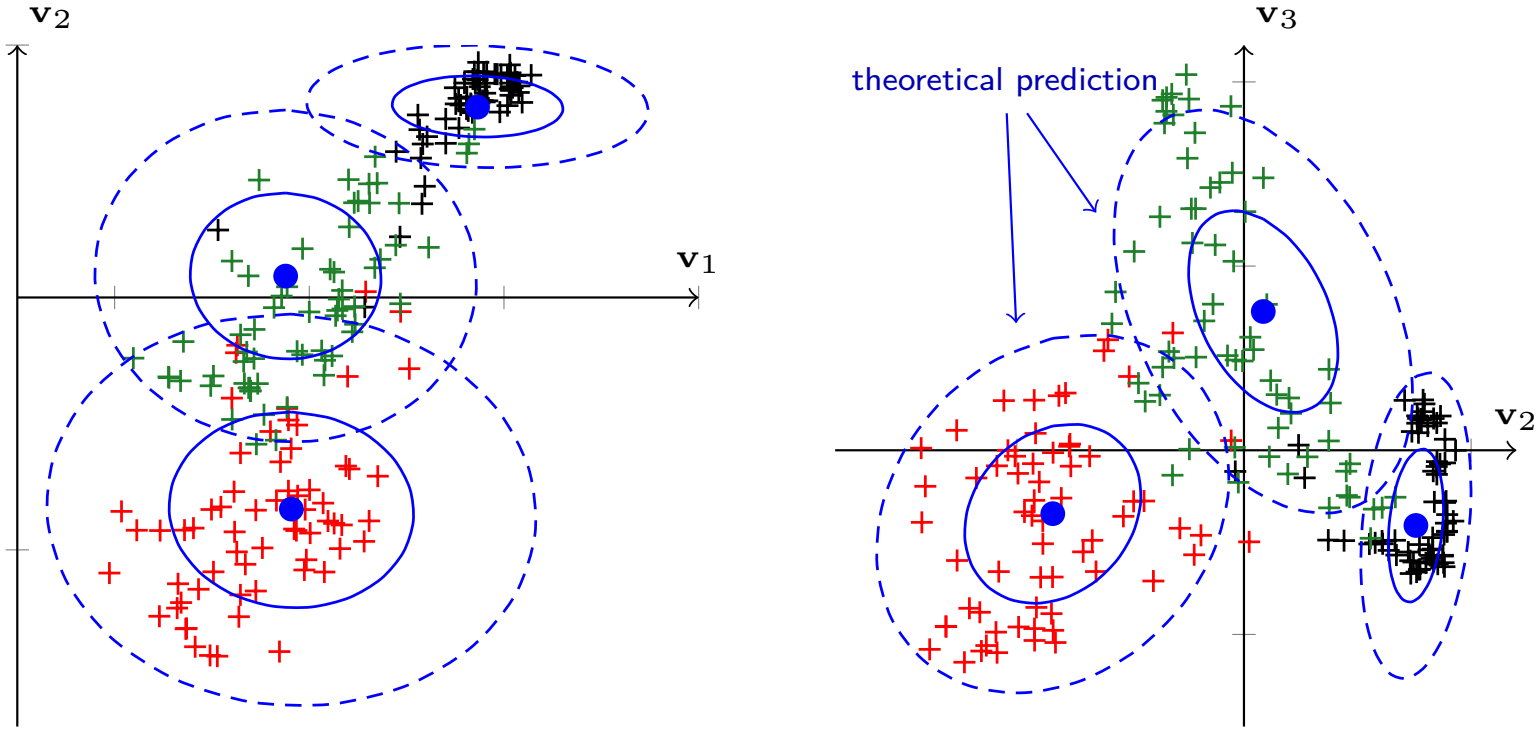

Takeaway Message 2

"RMT Reassesses and Improves Data Processing"

Improving Kernel Spectral Clustering

- **Going further than ([Kammoun,Couillet'17])**,

$$K \simeq \underbrace{f(\tau)1_n 1_n^\mathsf{T}}_{O_{\|\cdot\|}(n)} + f'(\tau)\frac{1}{p}ZZ^\mathsf{T} + JAJ^\mathsf{T}, \text{ avec } A = F\left(\begin{array}{c} f(\tau), f'(\tau), f''(\tau) \\ \|\mu_a - \mu_b\|, \mathsf{tr}\,(C_a - C_b), \ldots \end{array}\right).$$

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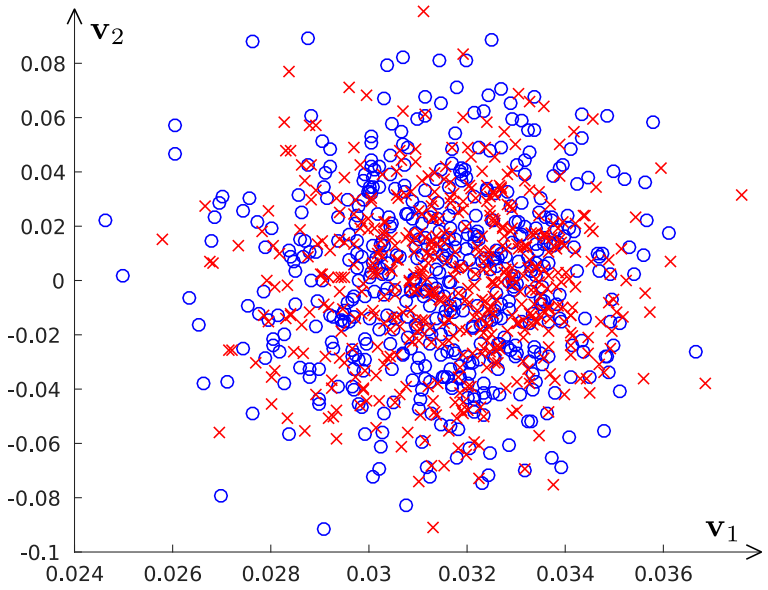
- **Gaussian case**: $\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{C}_1)$ vs. $\mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{C}_2)$



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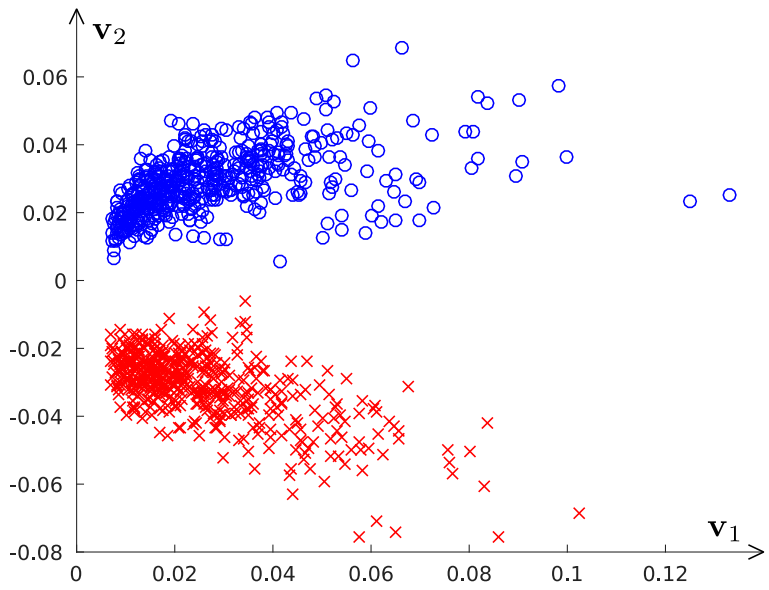

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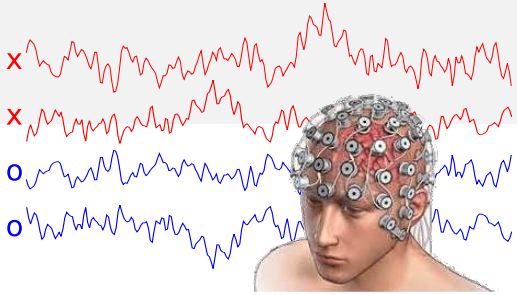

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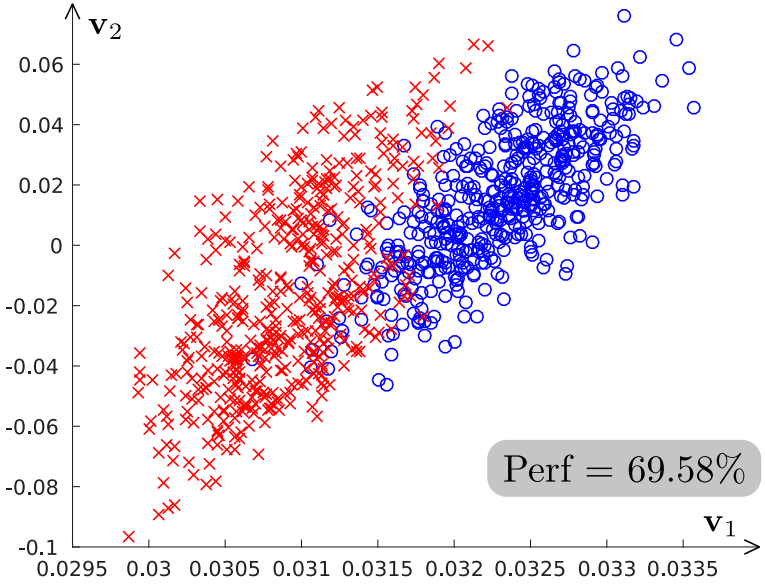

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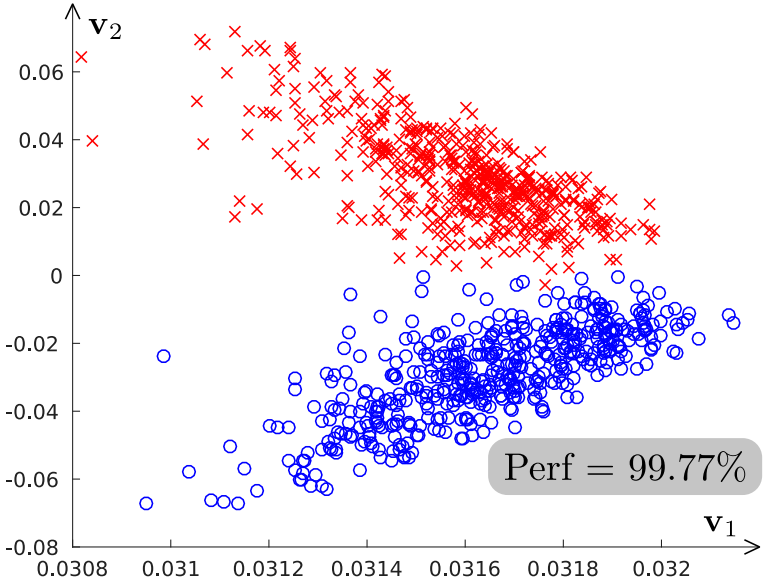

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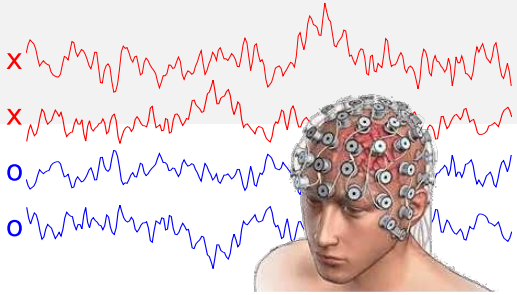

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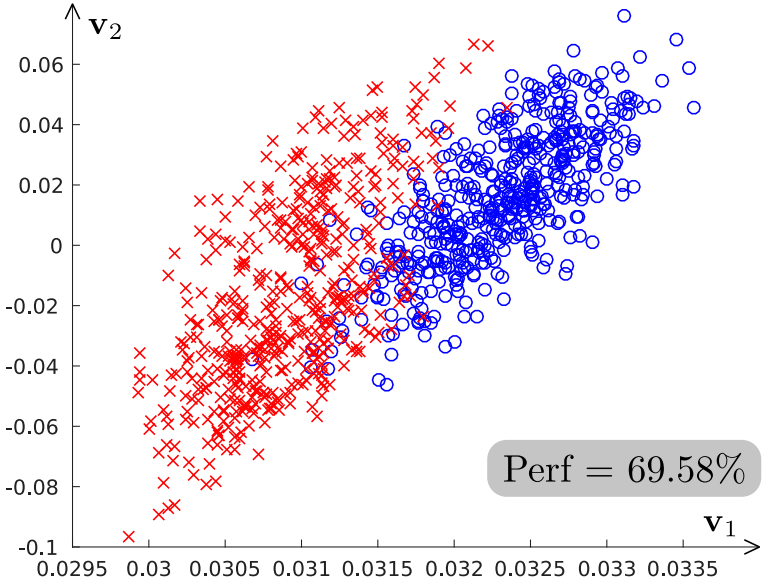
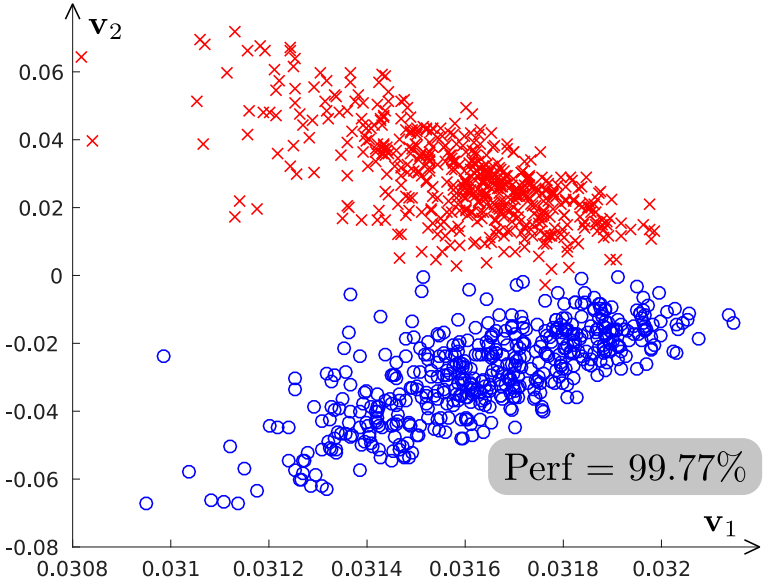
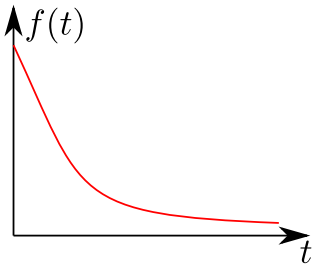


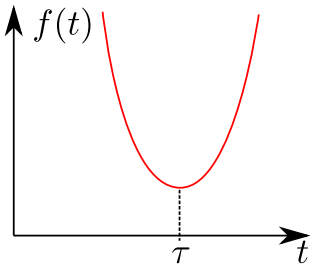


Kernel $K_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{1}{2p}\|x_i - x_j\|^2)$

Kernel $K_{ij} = (\frac{1}{p}\|x_i - x_j\|^2 - \tau)^2$

→ ***Remark***: *highly counter-intuitive kernel!*





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Semi-supervised learning: a great idea that never worked!

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- **Explicit solution**:

$$F^{[u]} = \left(I_{n_{[u]}} - D_{[u]}^{-1-\alpha} K_{[uu]} D^{\alpha}{}_{[u]} \right)^{-1} D_{[u]}^{-1-\alpha} K_{[ul]} D^{\alpha}{}_{[l]} F^{[l]}$$

where $D = \operatorname{diag}(K 1_n)$ (degree matrix) and $[ul]$, $[uu]$, ... blocks of **l**abeled/**u**nlabeled data.

The finite-dimensional case: What we expect

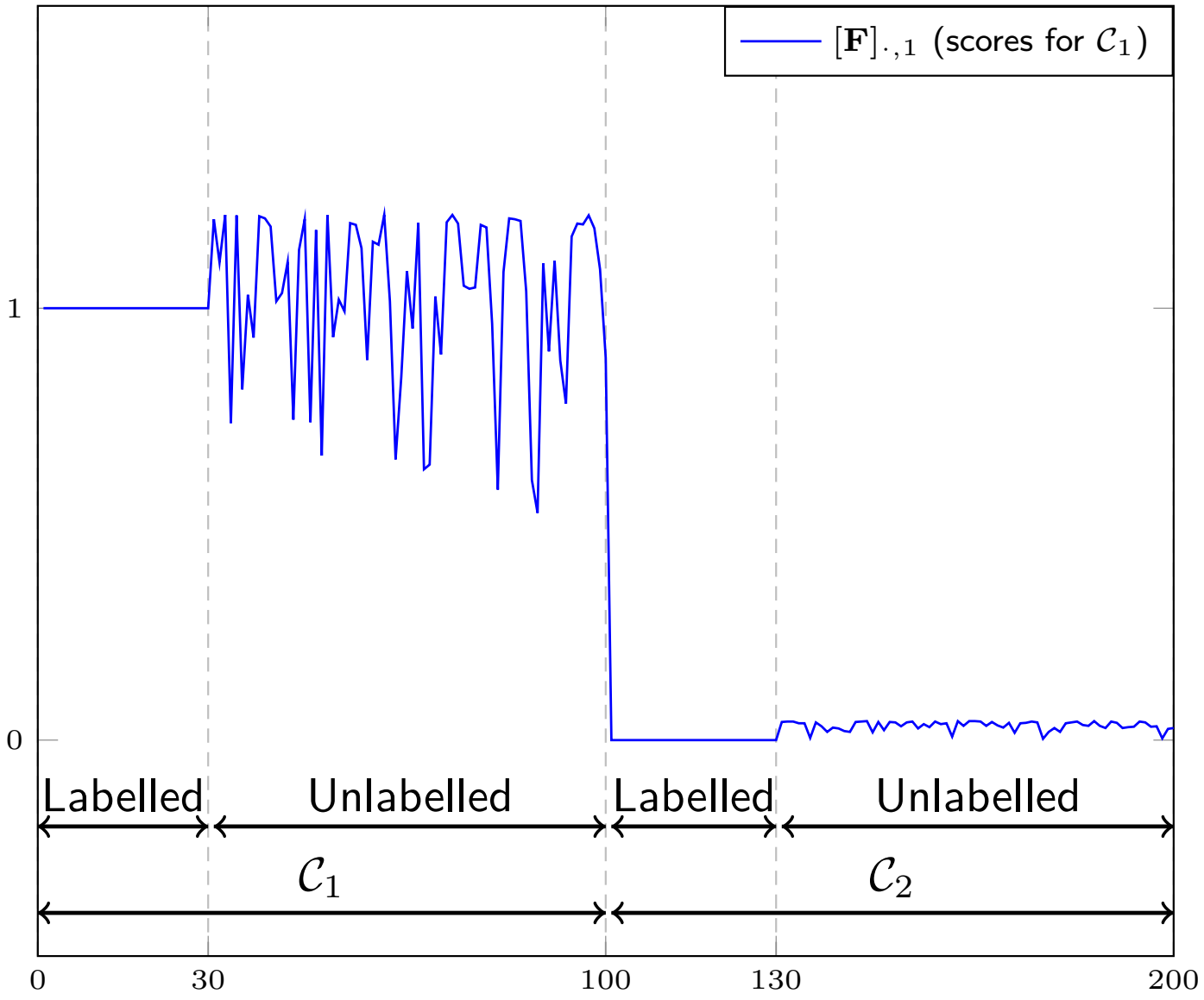

Figure: Outcome $\mathbf{F}$ of Laplacian algorithms ($\alpha = -1$) for $\mathcal{N}(\pm\mu, I_p)$ with $p = 1$.

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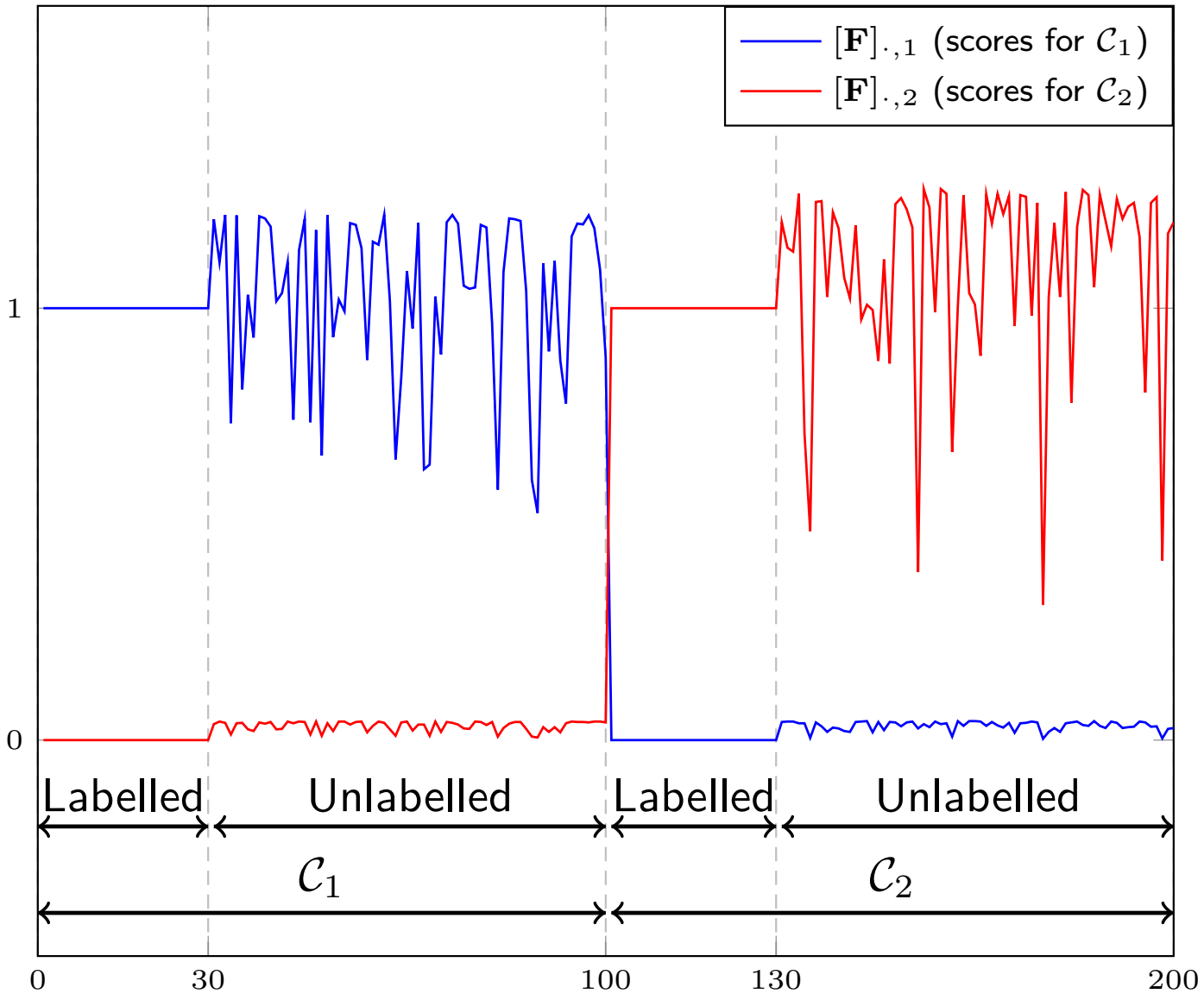

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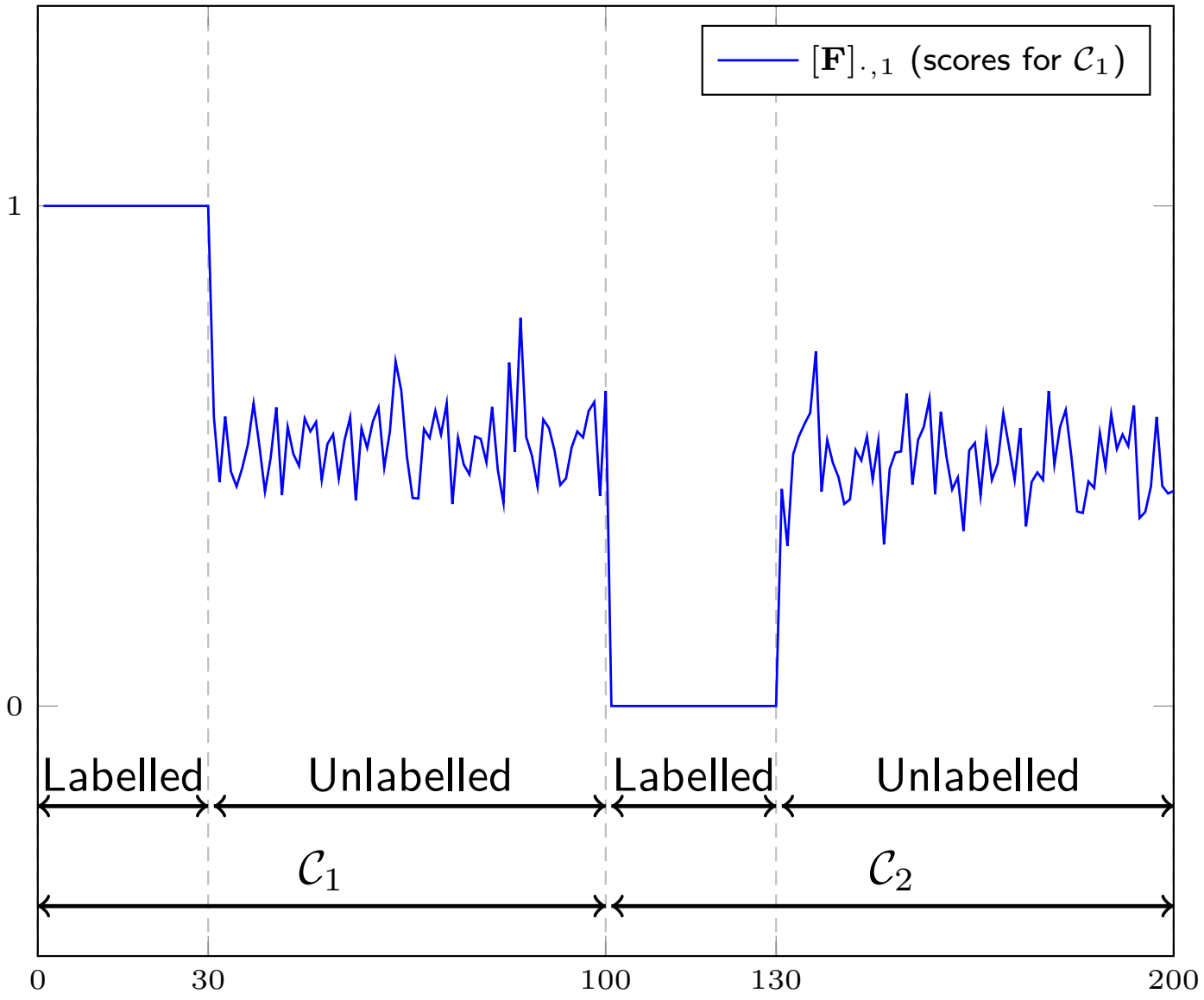

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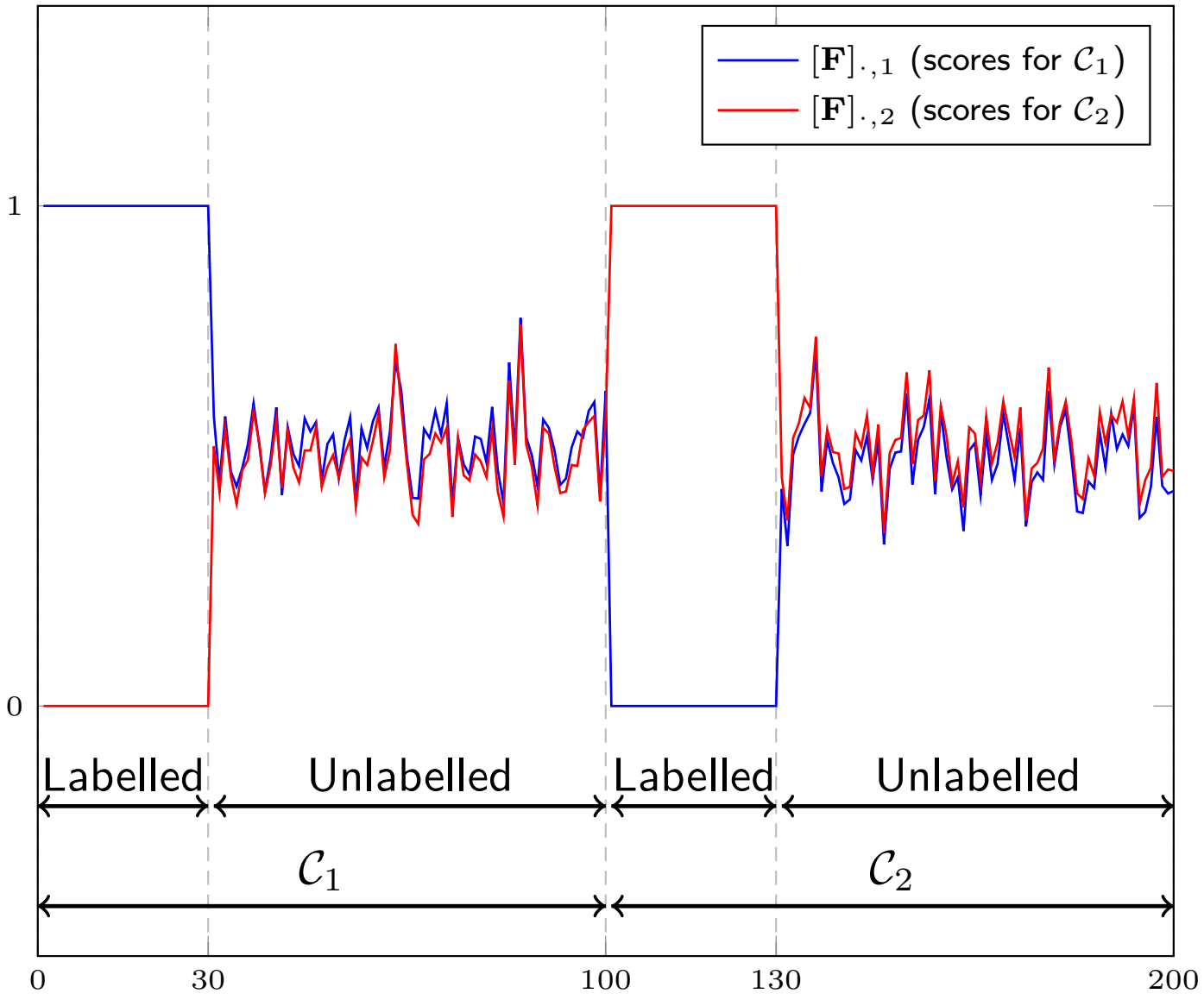

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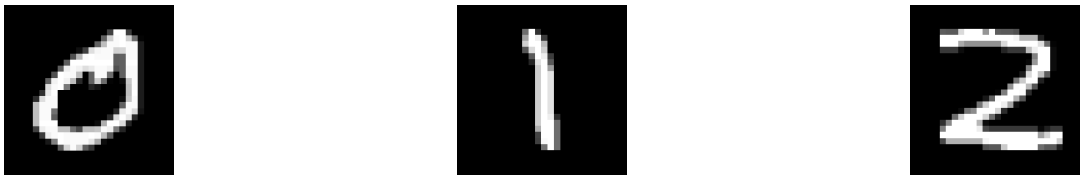

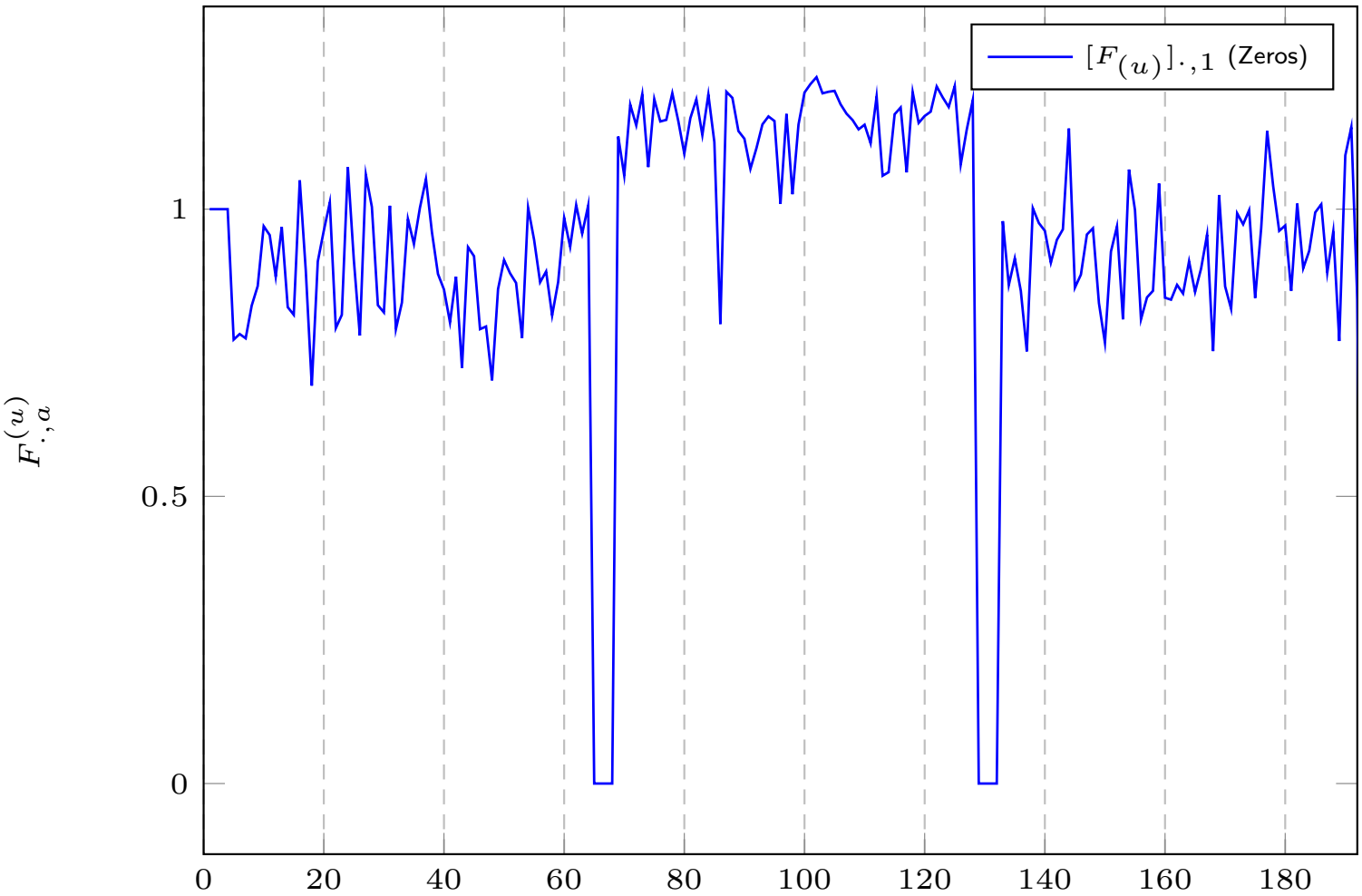

Figure: Vectors $[F^{(u)}]_{\cdot,a}$, $a = 1, 2, 3$, for 3-class MNIST data (zeros, ones, twos), $n = 192$, $p = 784$, $n_l/n = 1/16$, Gaussian kernel.

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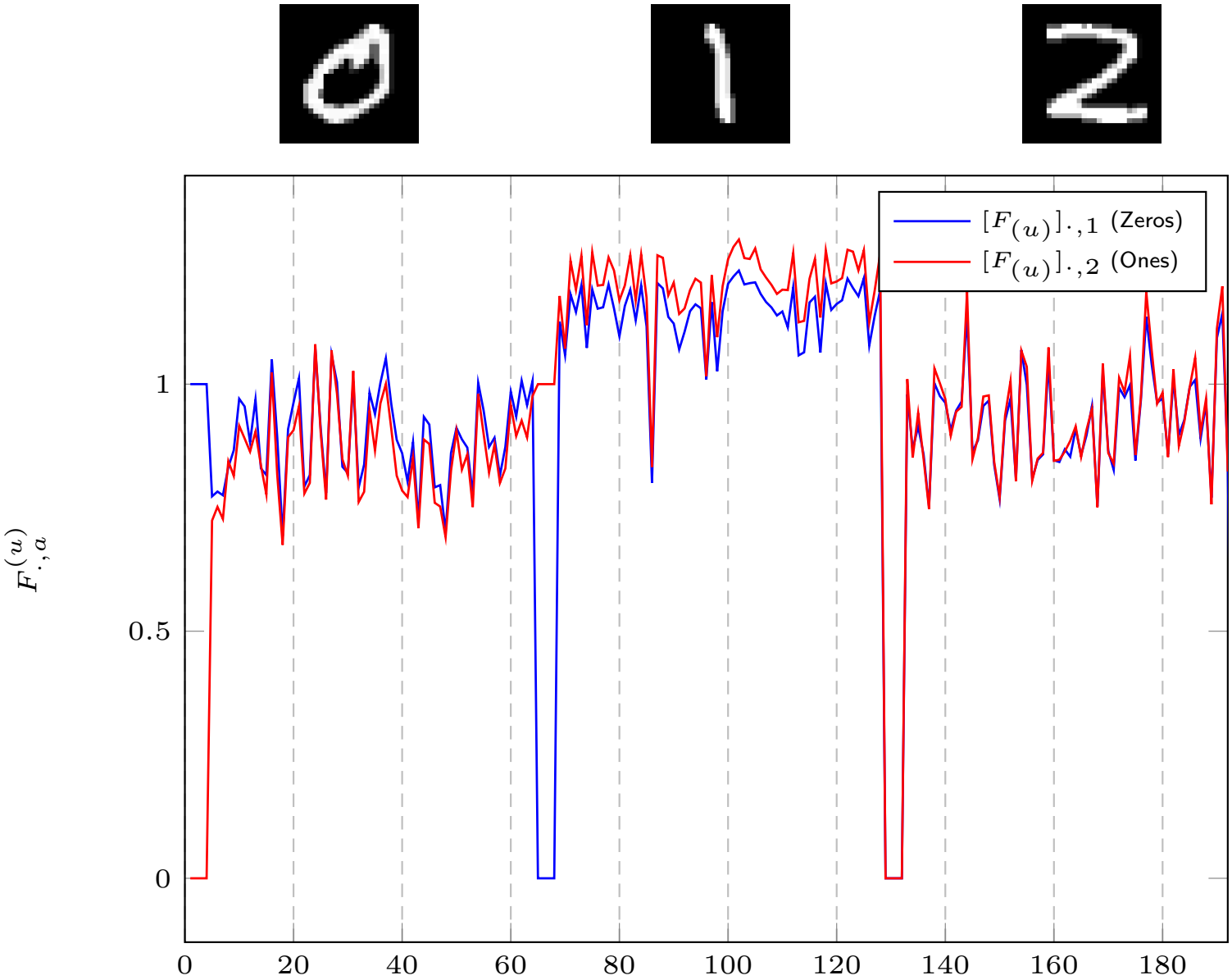

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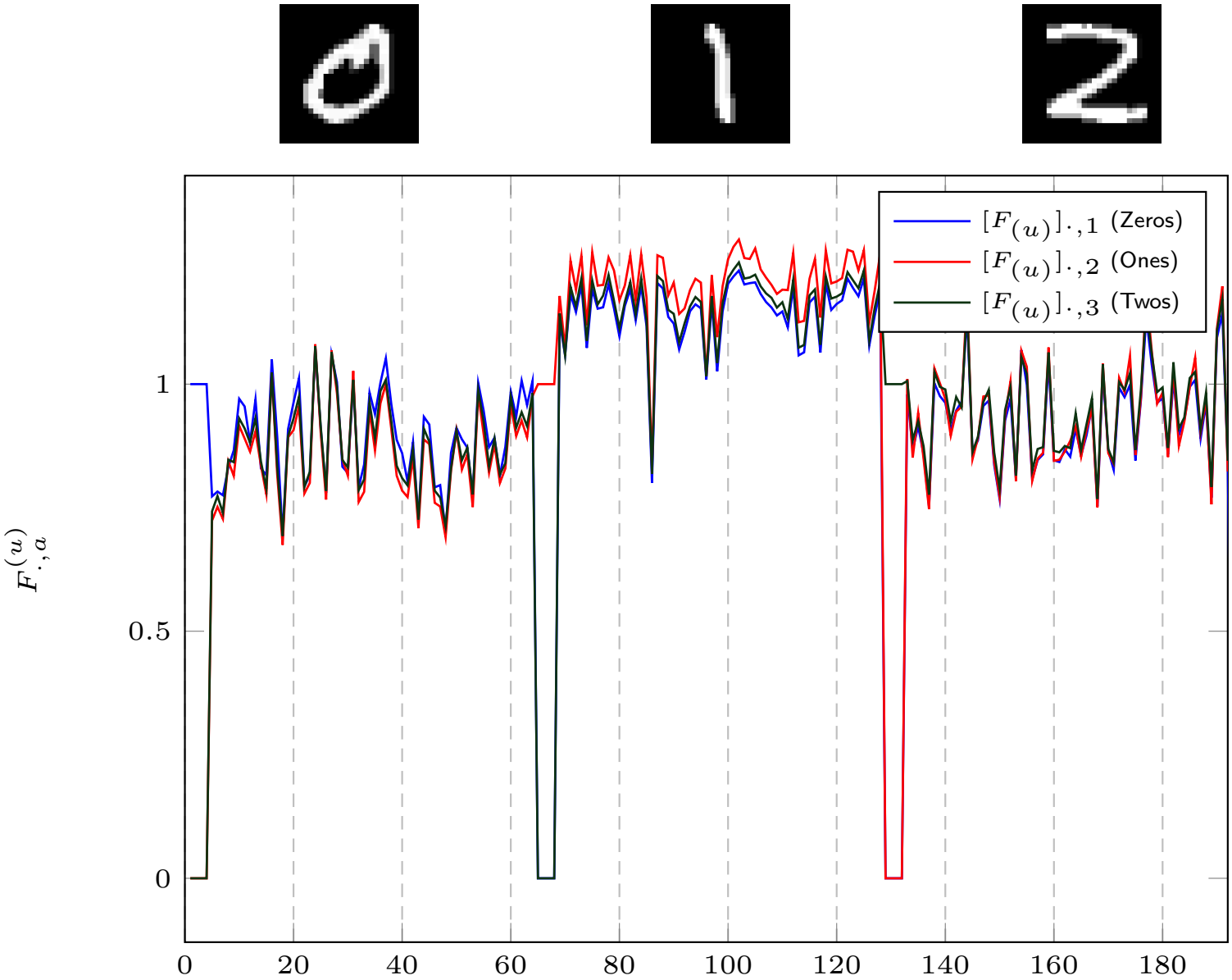

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Exploiting RMT to resurrect SSL

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Chapelle, Schölkopf, Zien, "**Semi-Supervised Learning**", Chapter 4, 2009.

Our concern is this: it is frequently the case that we would be better off just discarding the unlabeled data and employing a supervised method, rather than taking a semi-supervised route. Thus ***we worry about the embarrassing situation where the addition of unlabeled data degrades the performance*** *of a classifier.*

Asymptotic Performance Analysis

Theorem ([Mai,C'18] Asymptotic Performance of SSL)

For $x_i \in \mathcal{C}_b$ unlabelled, score vector $F_{i,\cdot} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ satisfies:

$$F_{i,\cdot} - G_b \to 0, \; G_b \sim \mathcal{N}(m_b, \Sigma_b)$$

with $m_b \in \mathbb{R}^k$, $\Sigma_b \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ function of

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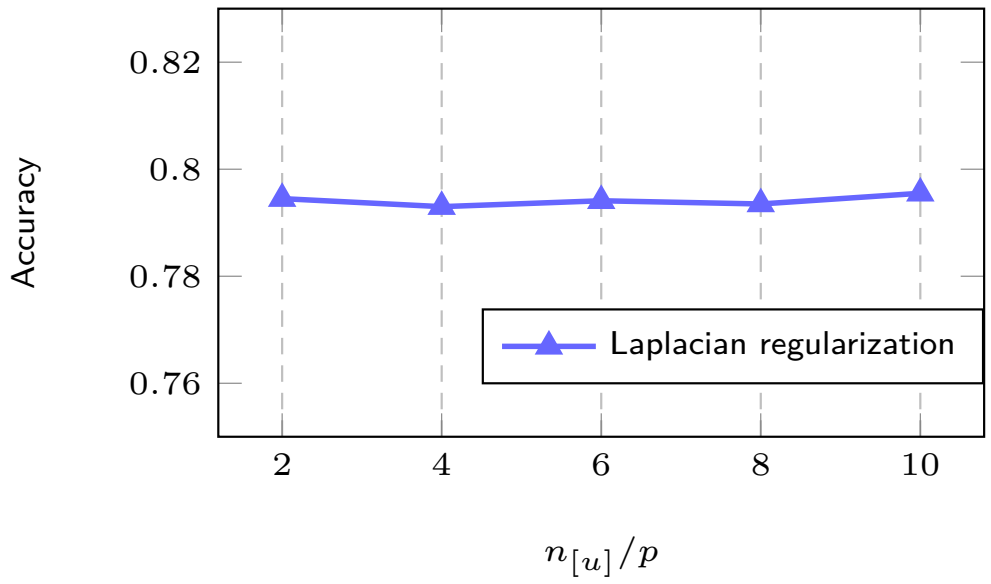

Figure: Accuracy as a function of $n_{[u]}/p$ with $n_{[l]}/p = 2$, $c_1 = c_2$, $p = 100$, $-\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = [1; \mathbf{0}_{p-1}]$, $\{\mathbf{C}\}_{i,j} = .1^{|i-j|}$. Graph constructed with $K_{ij} = e^{-\|x_i - x_j\|^2/p}$.

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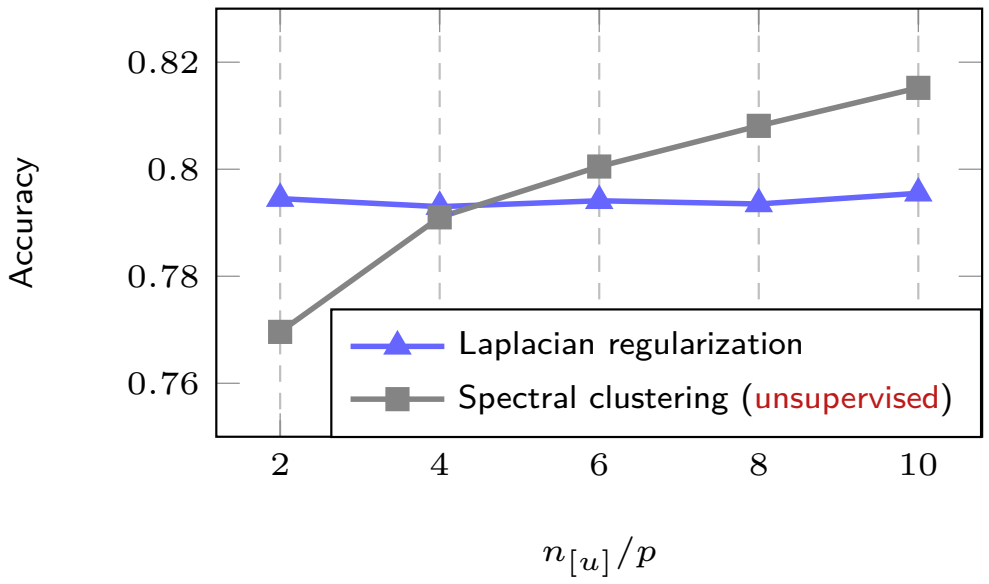

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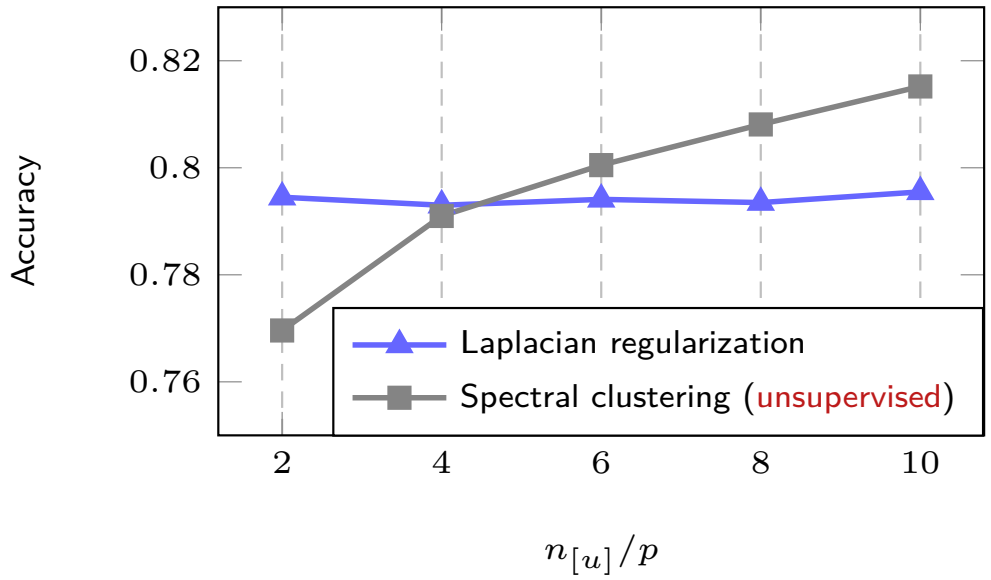

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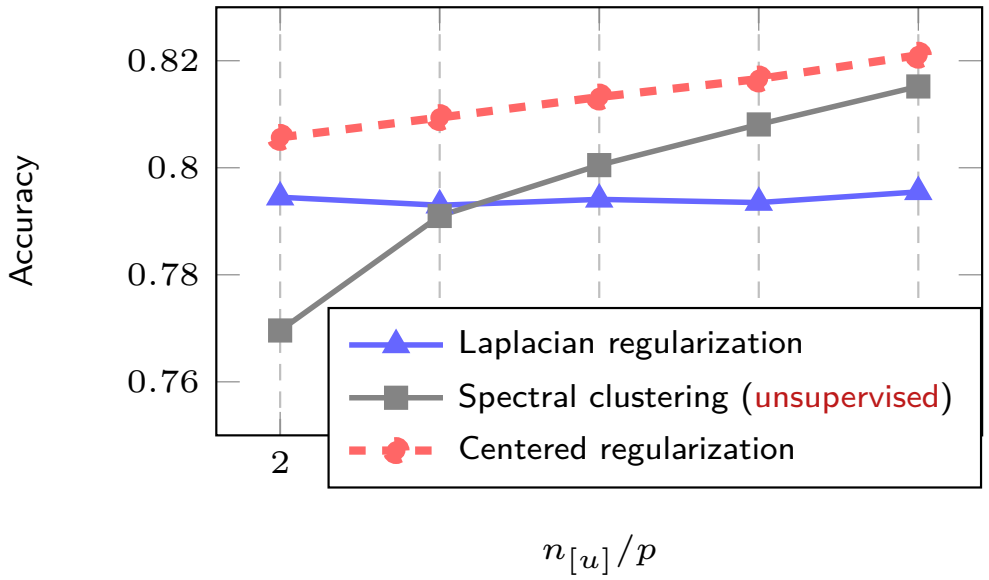

What about real data?

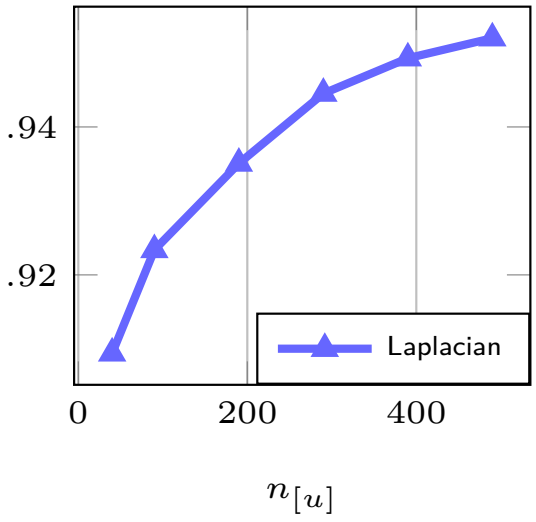

Figure: **Top**: distribution of normalized pairwise distances for noisy MNIST data (8,9). **Bottom**: average accuracy as a function of $n_{[u]}$ with $n_{[l]} = 10$, computed over 1000 random realizations.

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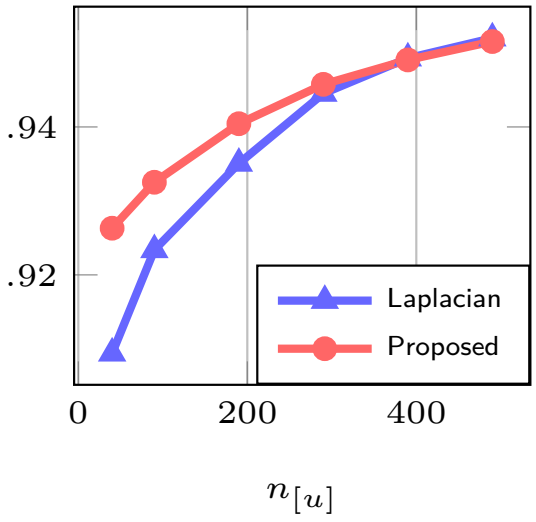

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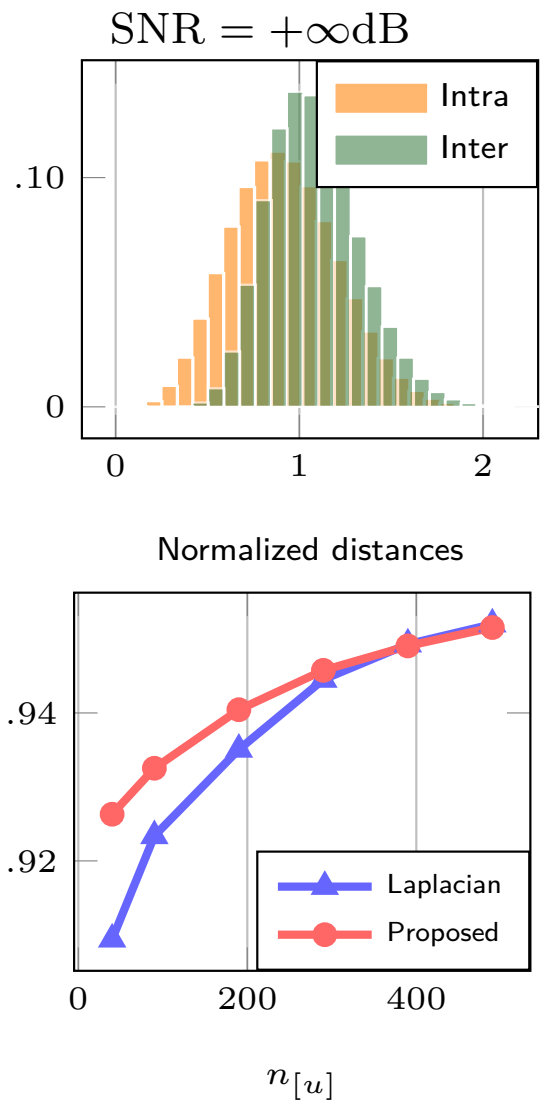

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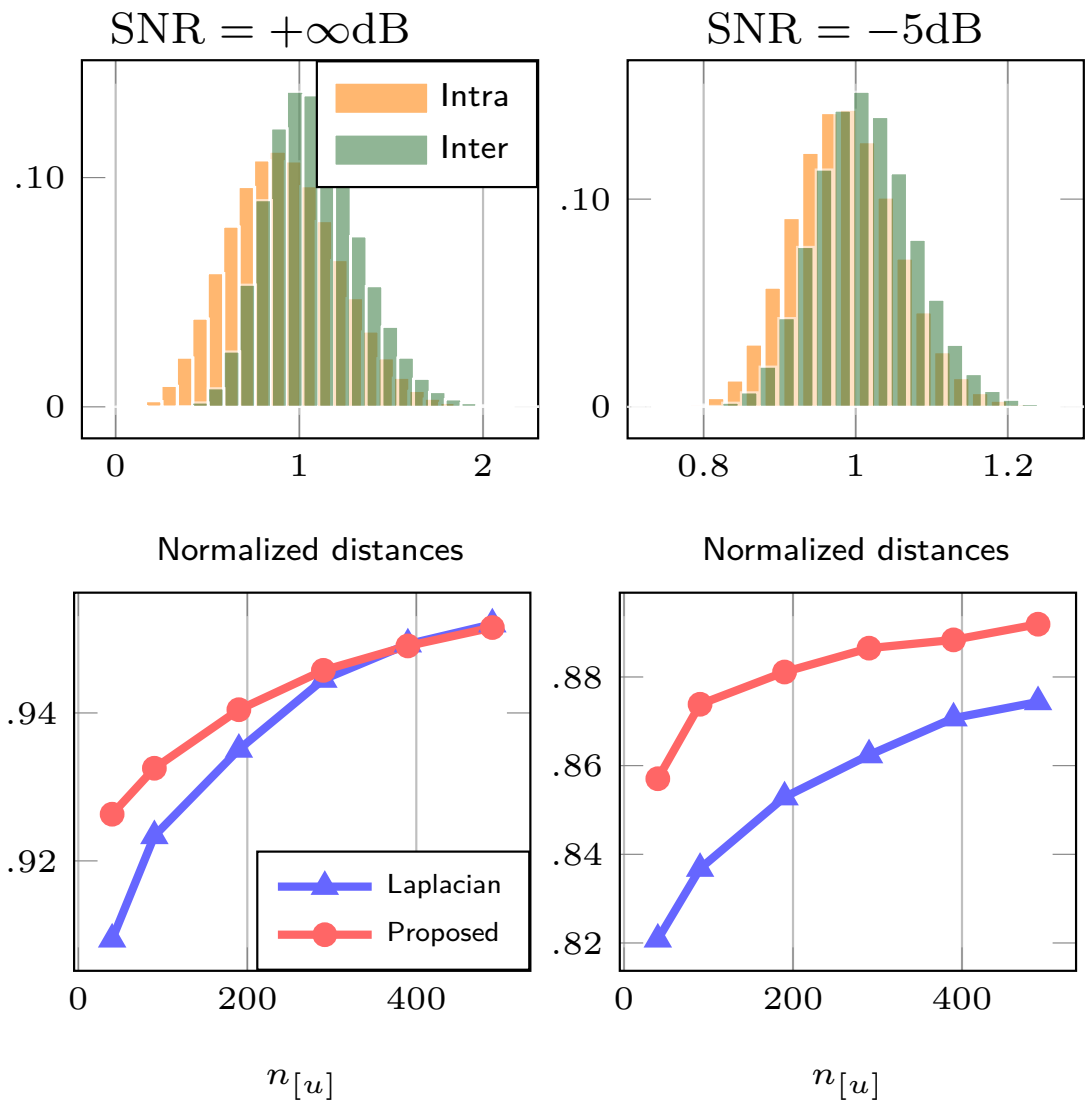

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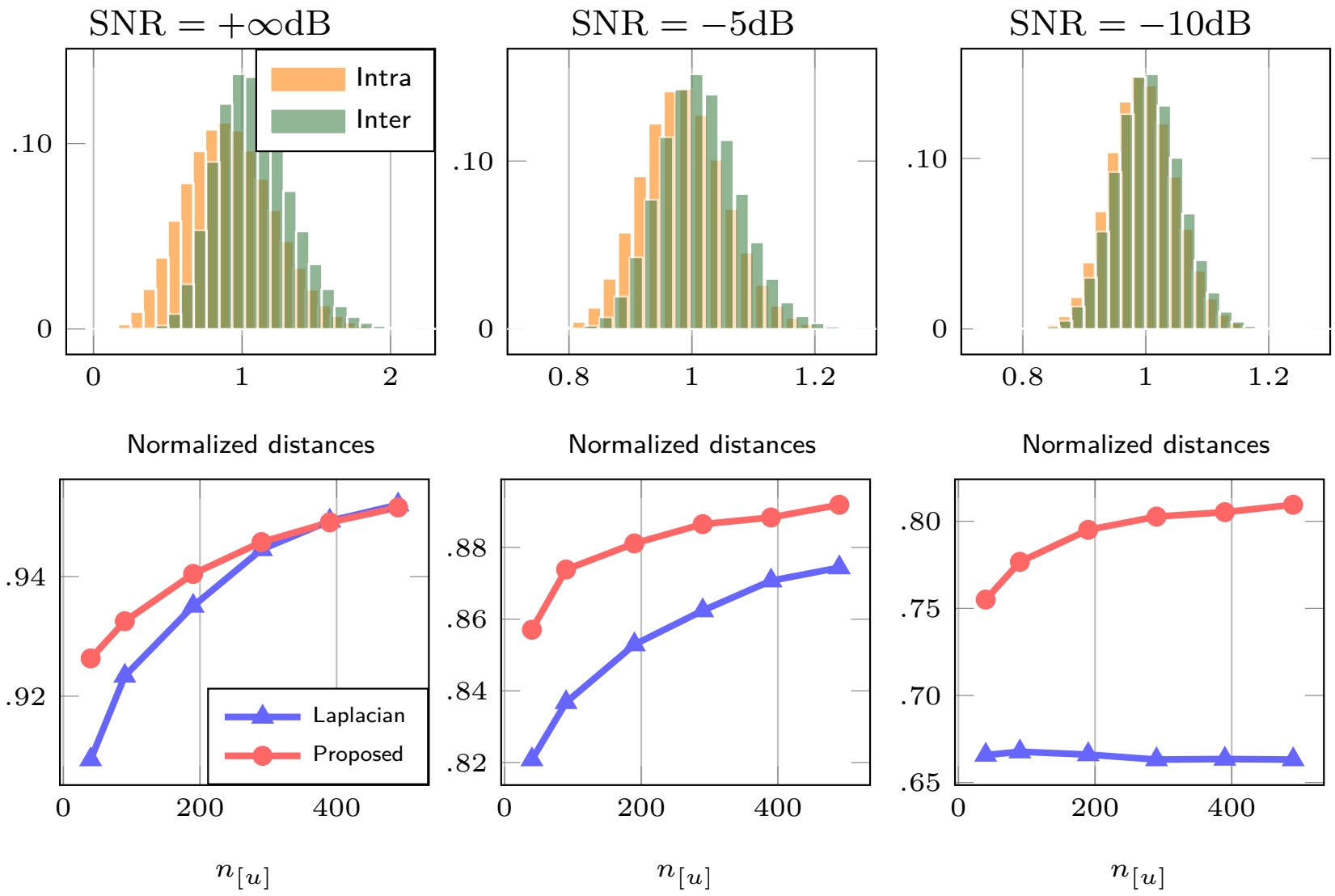

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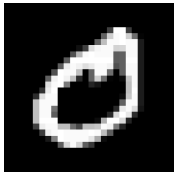
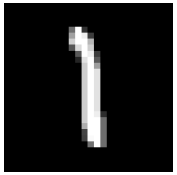
Experimental evidence: MNIST


Digits	(0,8)	(2,7)	(6,9)
$n_u = 100$			
Centered kernel **(RMT)**	**89.5±3.6**	**89.5±3.4**	**85.3±5.9**
Iterated centered kernel **(RMT)**	**89.5±3.6**	**89.5±3.4**	**85.3±5.9**
Laplacian	75.5±5.6	74.2±5.8	70.0±5.5
Iterated Laplacian	87.2±4.7	86.0±5.2	81.4±6.8
Manifold	88.0±4.7	88.4±3.9	82.8±6.5
$n_u = 1000$			
Centered kernel **(RMT)**	92.2±0.9	92.5±0.8	92.6±1.6
Iterated centered kernel **(RMT)**	**92.3±0.9**	**92.5± 0.8**	**92.9±1.4**
Laplacian	65.6±4.1	74.4±4.0	69.5±3.7
Iterated Laplacian	**92.2±0.9**	92.4±0.9	92.0±1.6
Manifold	91.1±1.7	91.4±1.9	91.4±2.0

Table: Comparison of classification accuracy (%) on MNIST datasets with $n_l = 10$. Computed over 1000 random iterations for $n_u = 100$ and 100 for $n_u = 1000$.

Experimental evidence: Traffic signs (HOG features)

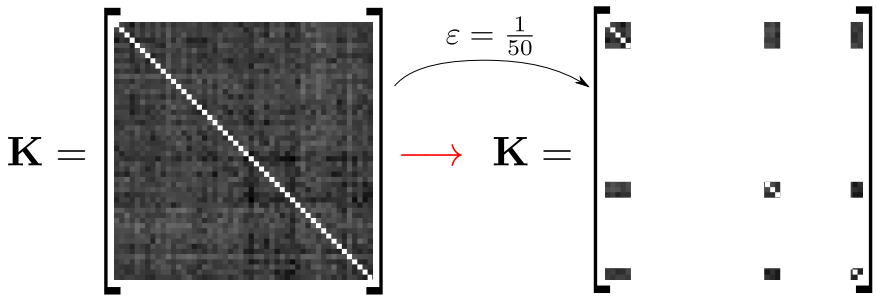
Class ID	(2,7)	(9,10)	(11,18)
$n_u = 100$			
Centered kernel **(RMT)**	79.0±10.4	77.5±9.2	78.5±7.1
Iterated centered kernel **(RMT)**	**85.3±5.9**	**89.2±5.6**	**90.1±6.7**
Laplacian	73.8±9.8	77.3±9.5	78.6±7.2
Iterated Laplacian	83.7±7.2	88.0±6.8	87.1±8.8
Manifold	77.6±8.9	81.4±10.4	82.3±10.8
$n_u = 1000$			
Centered kernel **(RMT)**	83.6±2.4	84.6±2.4	88.7±9.4
Iterated centered kernel **(RMT)**	**84.8±3.8**	**88.0±5.5**	**96.4±3.0**
Laplacian	72.7±4.2	88.9±5.7	95.8±3.2
Iterated Laplacian	83.0±5.5	88.2±6.0	92.7±6.1
Manifold	77.7±5.8	85.0±9.0	90.6±8.1

Table: Comparison of classification accuracy (%) on German Traffic Sign datasets with $n_l = 10$. Computed over 1000 random iterations for $n_u = 100$ and 100 for $n_u = 1000$.

Even more striking: new intuitions and cheap algorithms

- **Computation cost reduction**: $(p, n \gg 1)$

  $\rightarrow$ ε-subsampling $K \in \mathbb{R}^{n\varepsilon \times n\varepsilon}$



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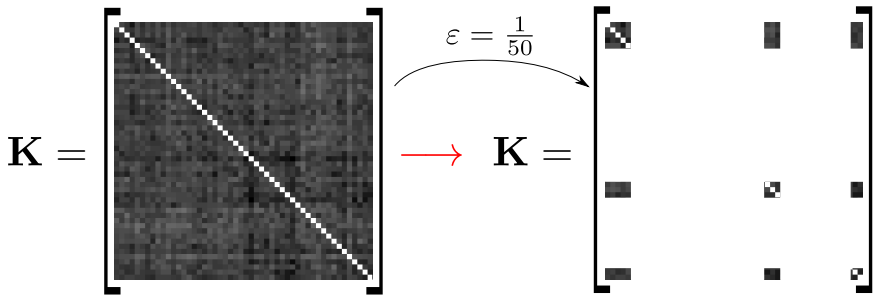
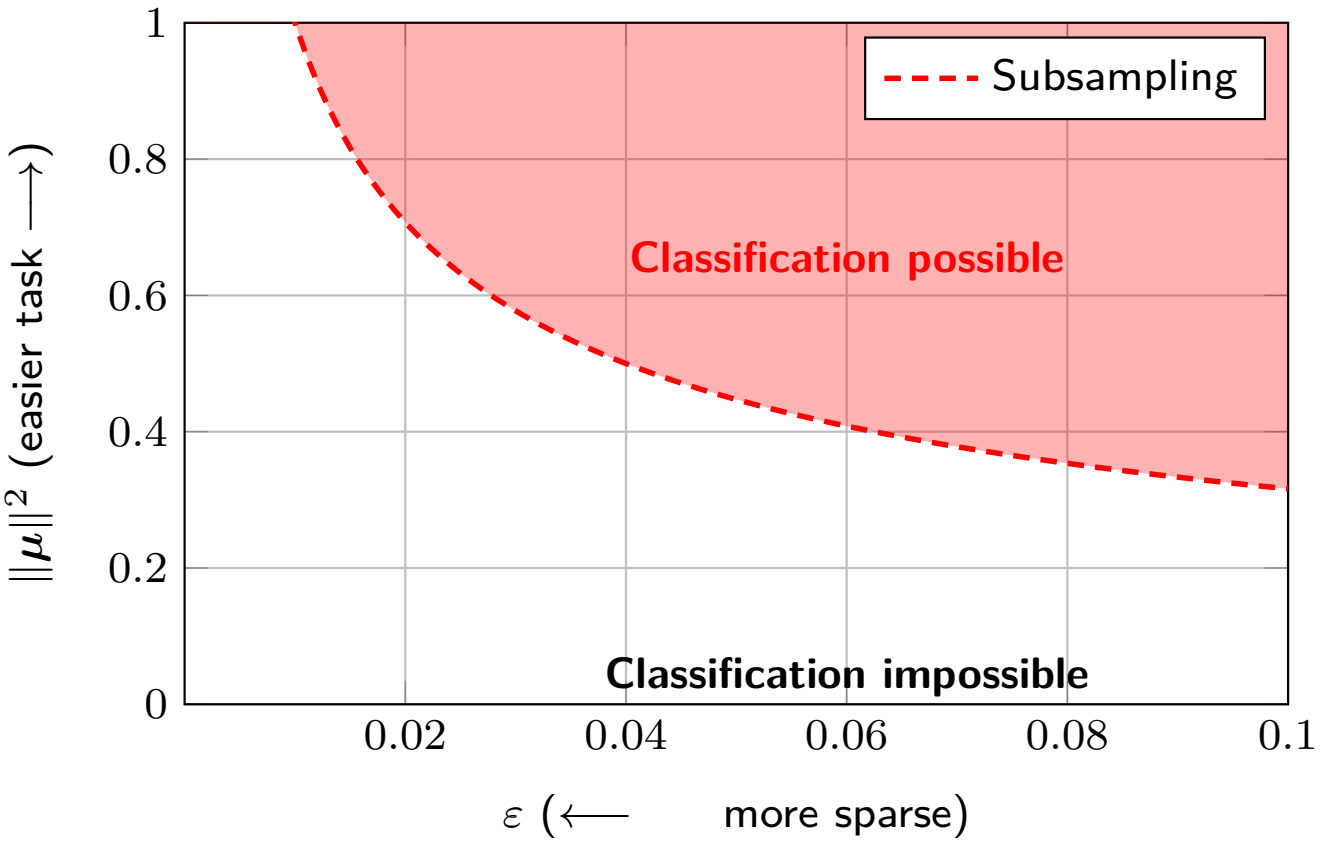


- **Phase transition of spectral clustering**: $(x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\pm\mu, I_p),\ n/p = 100)$,



Even more striking: new intuitions and cheap algorithms

- **Computation cost reduction**: $(p, n \gg 1)$

  $\rightarrow$ ε-subsampling $K \in \mathbb{R}^{n\varepsilon \times n\varepsilon}$

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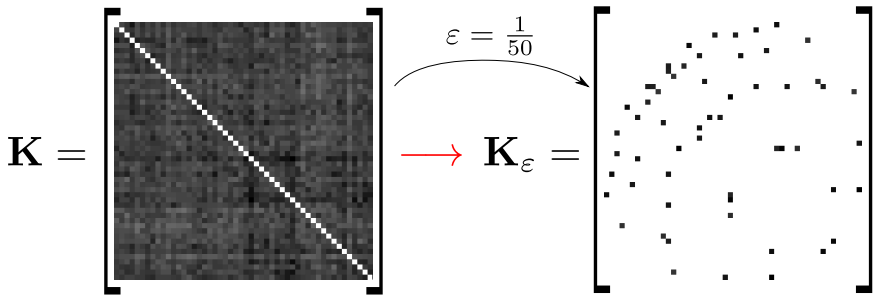

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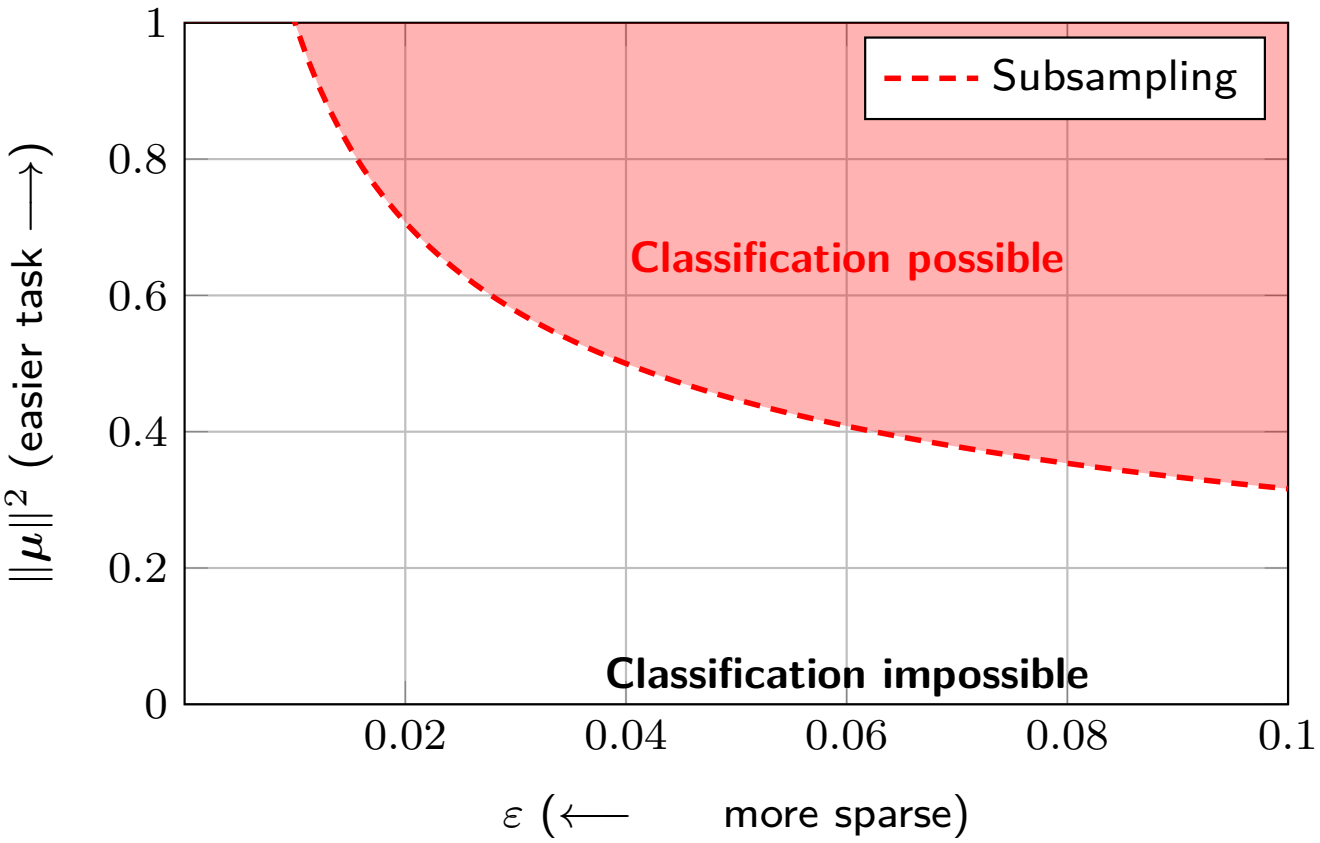

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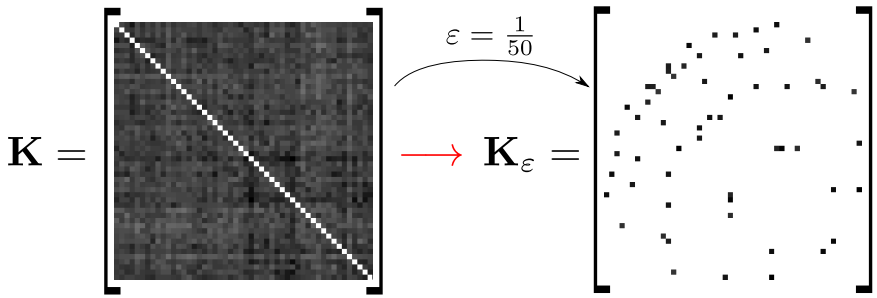

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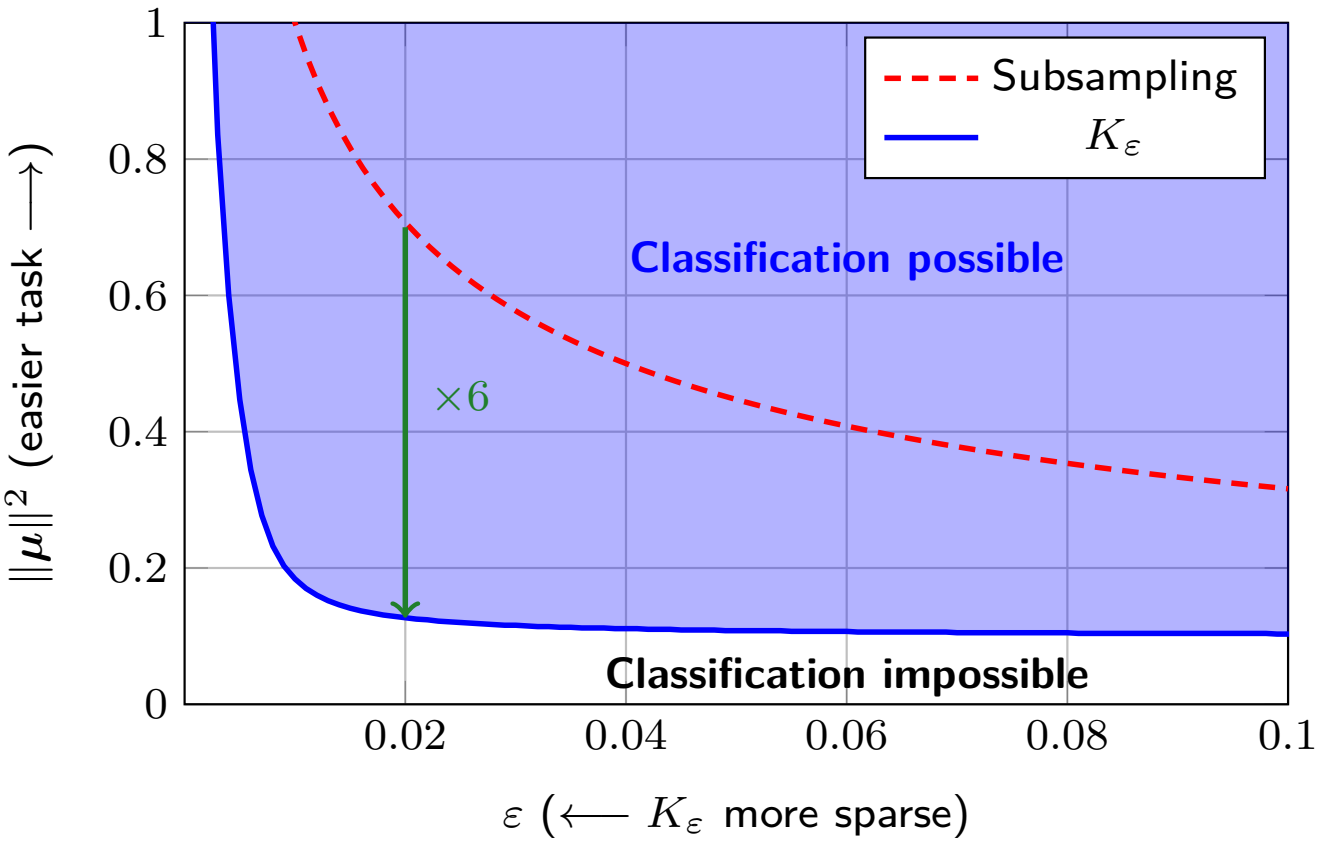

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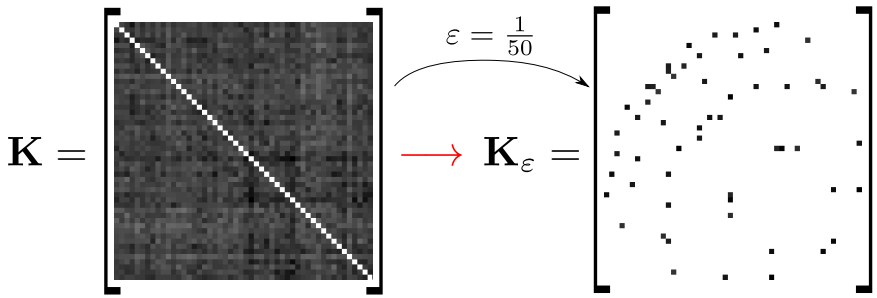

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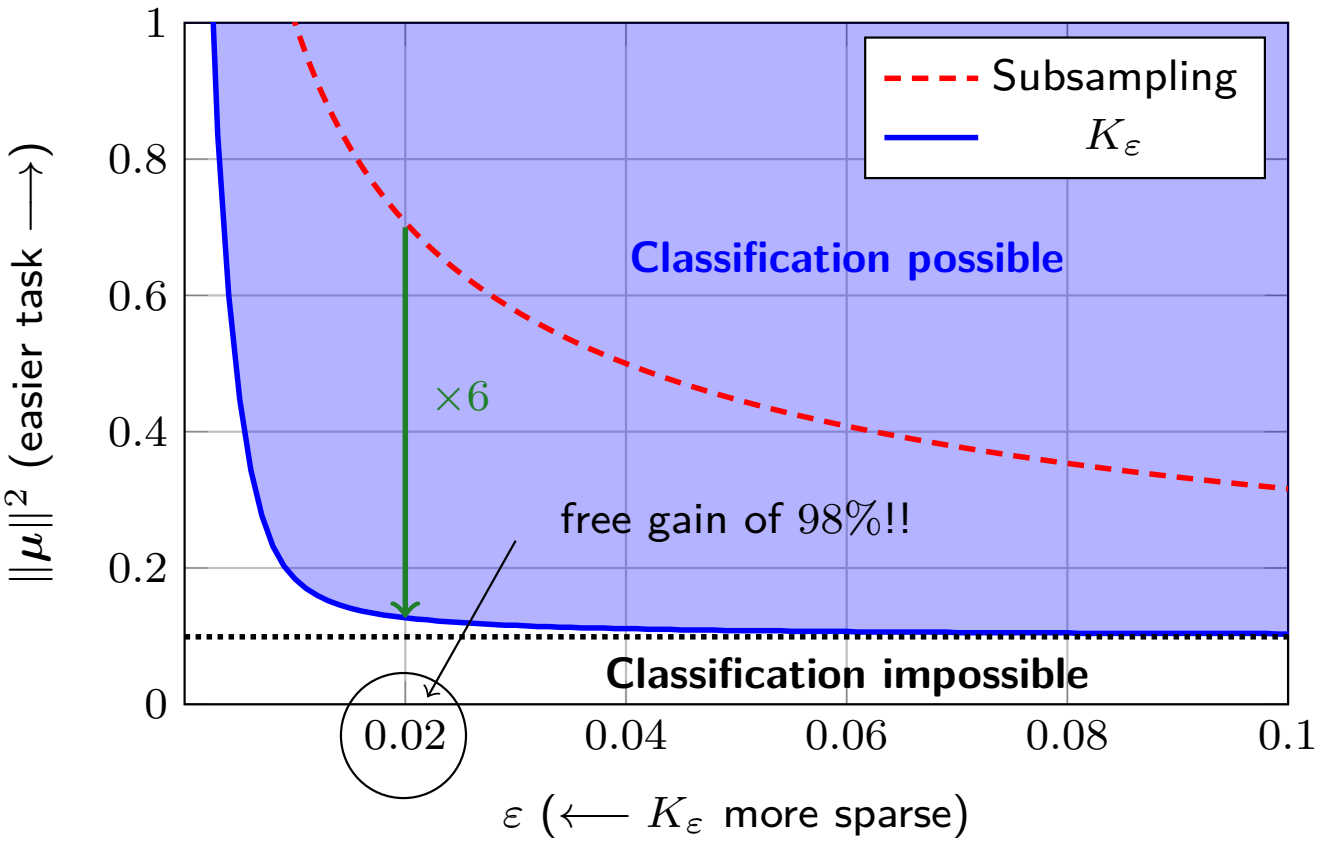

Takeaway Message 3

"RMT Also Grasps 'Real Data' Processing"

From i.i.d. to concentrated random vectors

Beyond Gaussian Mixtures: results still valid for **concentrated random vectors.**

From i.i.d. to concentrated random vectors

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Definition (Concentrated Random Vector)

$x \in \mathbb{R}^p$ is concentrated if, for all Lipschitz $f : \mathbb{R}^p \to \mathbb{R}$, there exists $m_f \in \mathbb{R}$, such that

$$P\left(|f(x) - m_f| > \varepsilon\right) \leq e^{-g(\varepsilon)}, \quad g \text{ increasing function.}$$

From i.i.d. to concentrated random vectors

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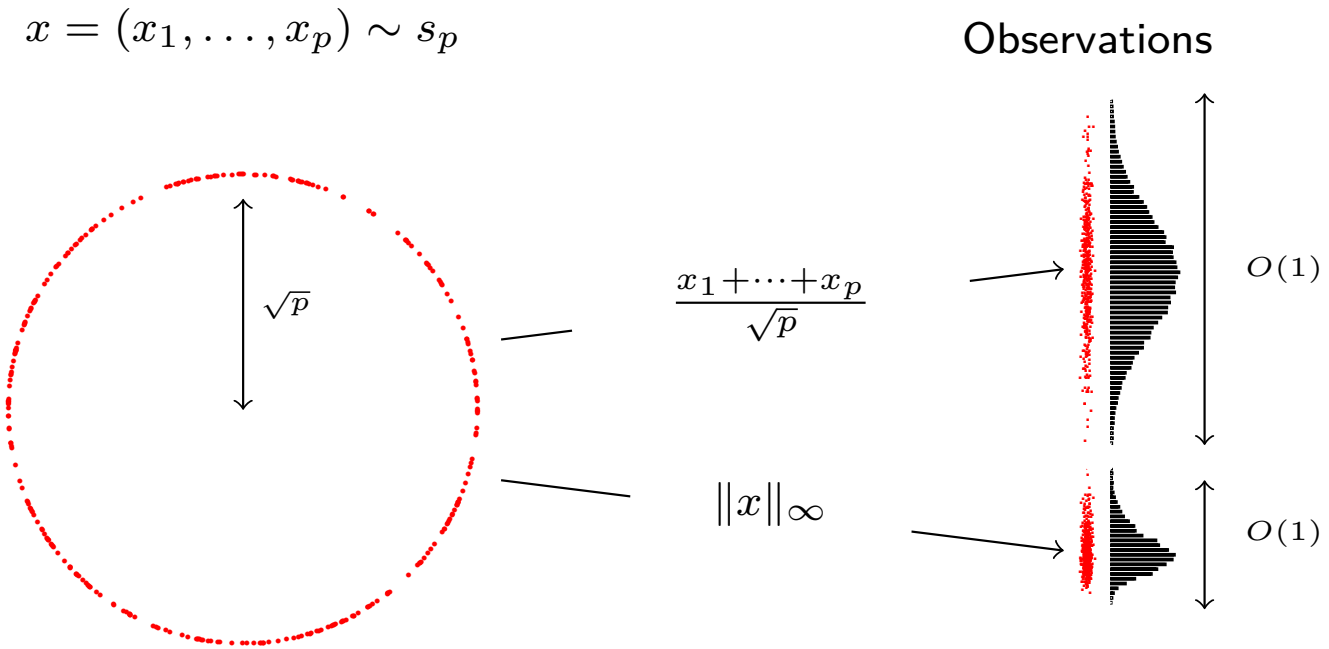

From i.i.d. to concentrated random vectors

Theorem ([Louart,C'18] [Seddik,C'19] Kernel Universality)

For $x_i \sim \mathcal{L}(\mu_a, C_a)$ **concentrated random vector**, *under the conditions of [C-Benaych'16],*

$$\|K - \hat{K}\| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0, \quad \hat{K} = f(\tau) 1_n 1_n^\mathsf{T} + \frac{1}{p} Z Z^\mathsf{T} + JAJ^\mathsf{T} + *$$

with A only dependent on $f(\tau), f'(\tau), f''(\tau)$, $\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_k$, $C_1, \ldots, C_k$.

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➪ **Same result as [C-Benaych'16]... Universality of first two moments!**

Ok. . . so what?

Key Finding. GAN-generated data **are concentrated random vectors!**

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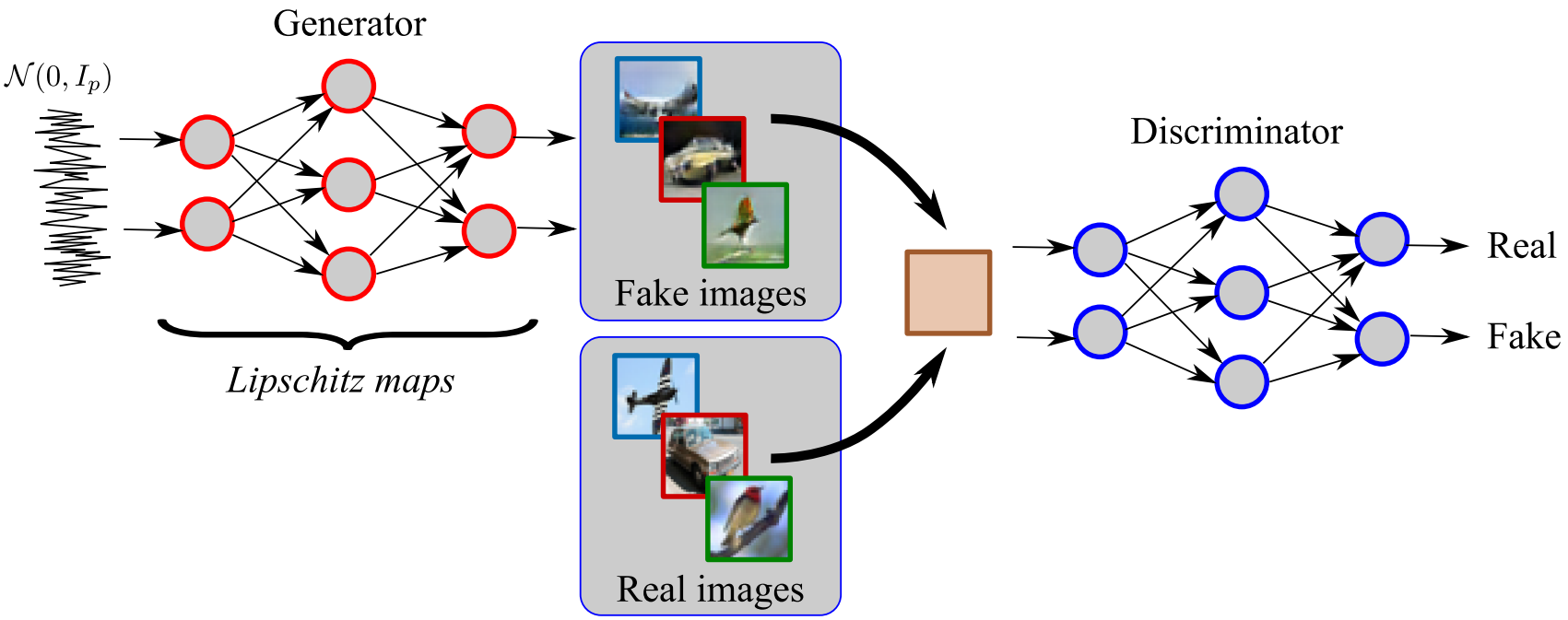

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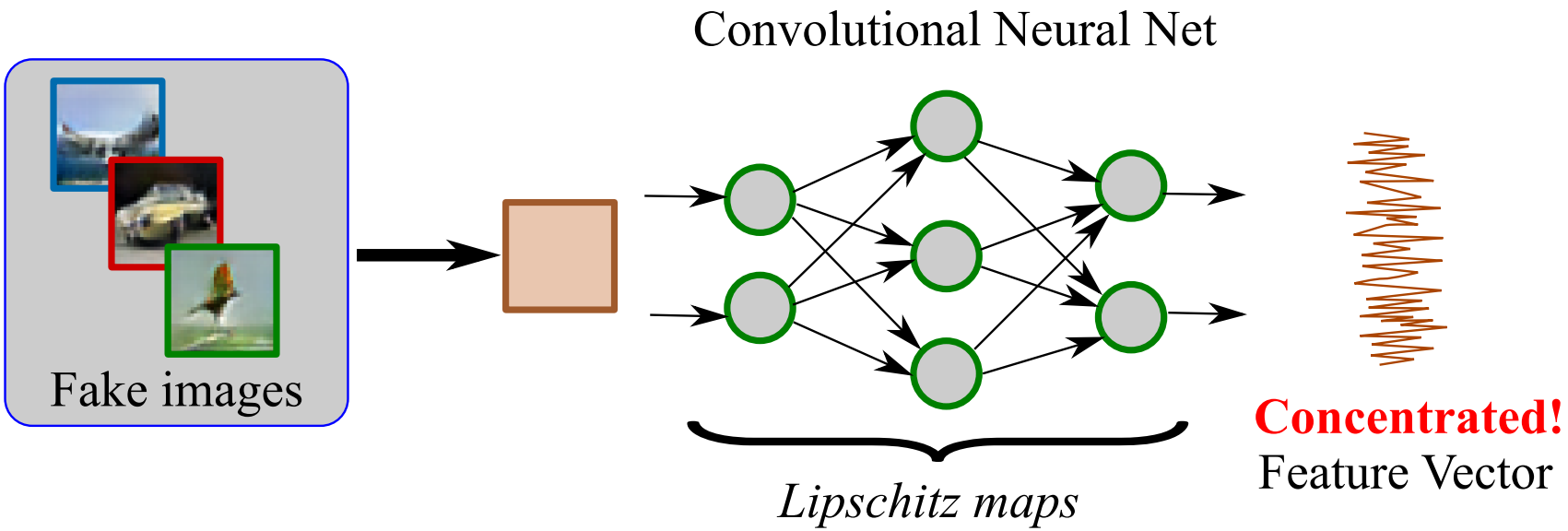
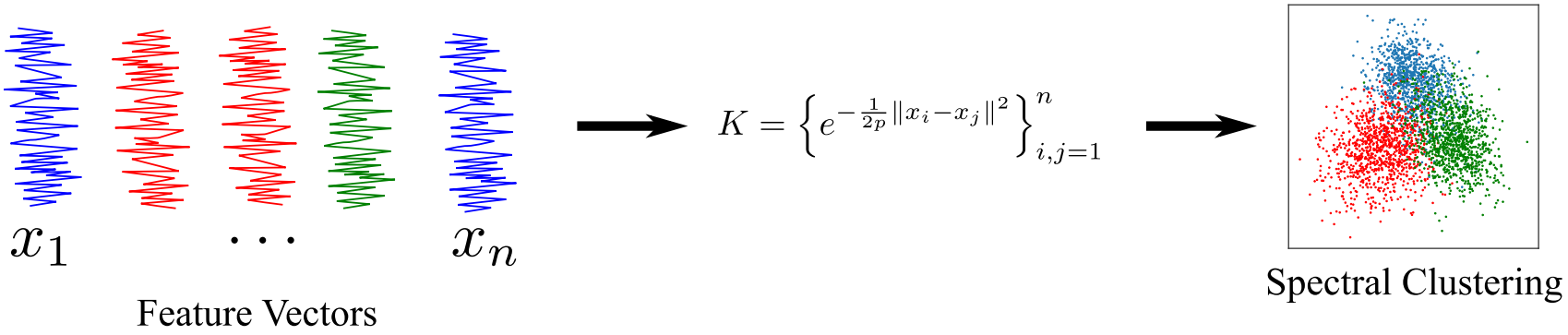

Convolutional Neural Net
Fake images
Lipschitz maps
Concentrated!
Feature Vector

Ok. . . so what?

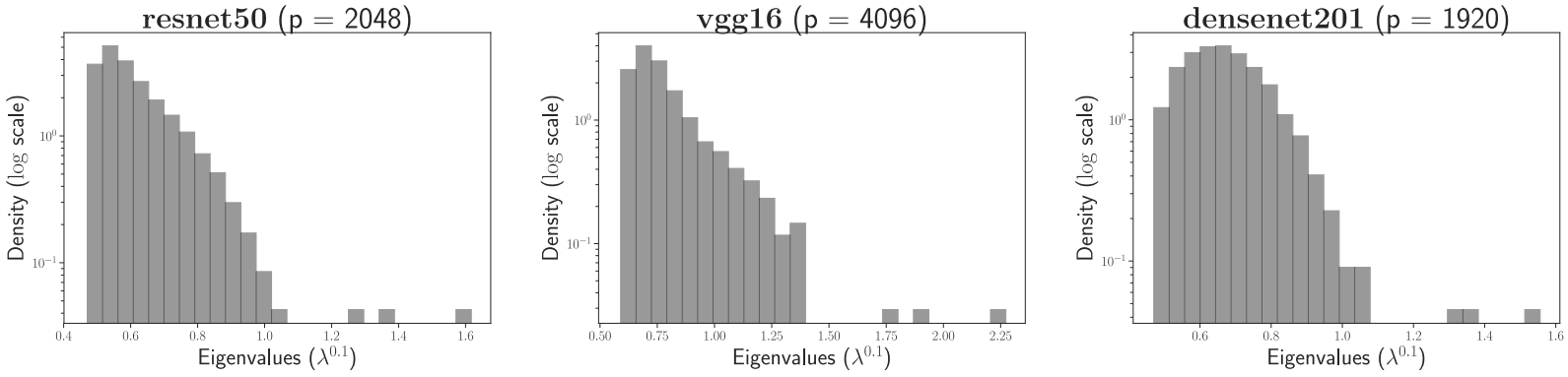

x_1
$\cdots$
x_n
Feature Vectors
$K = \left\{ e^{-\frac{1}{2p}\|x_i - x_j\|^2} \right\}_{i,j=1}^{n}$
Spectral Clustering

Gaussian, GAN, and real data

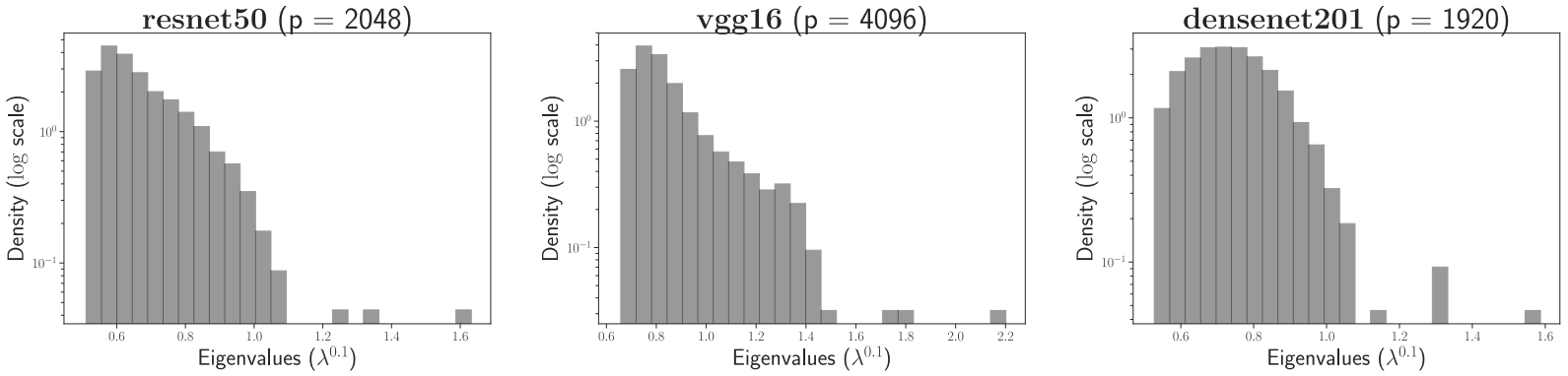
Results. **[Seddik,C'19]**

Gaussian, GAN, and real data

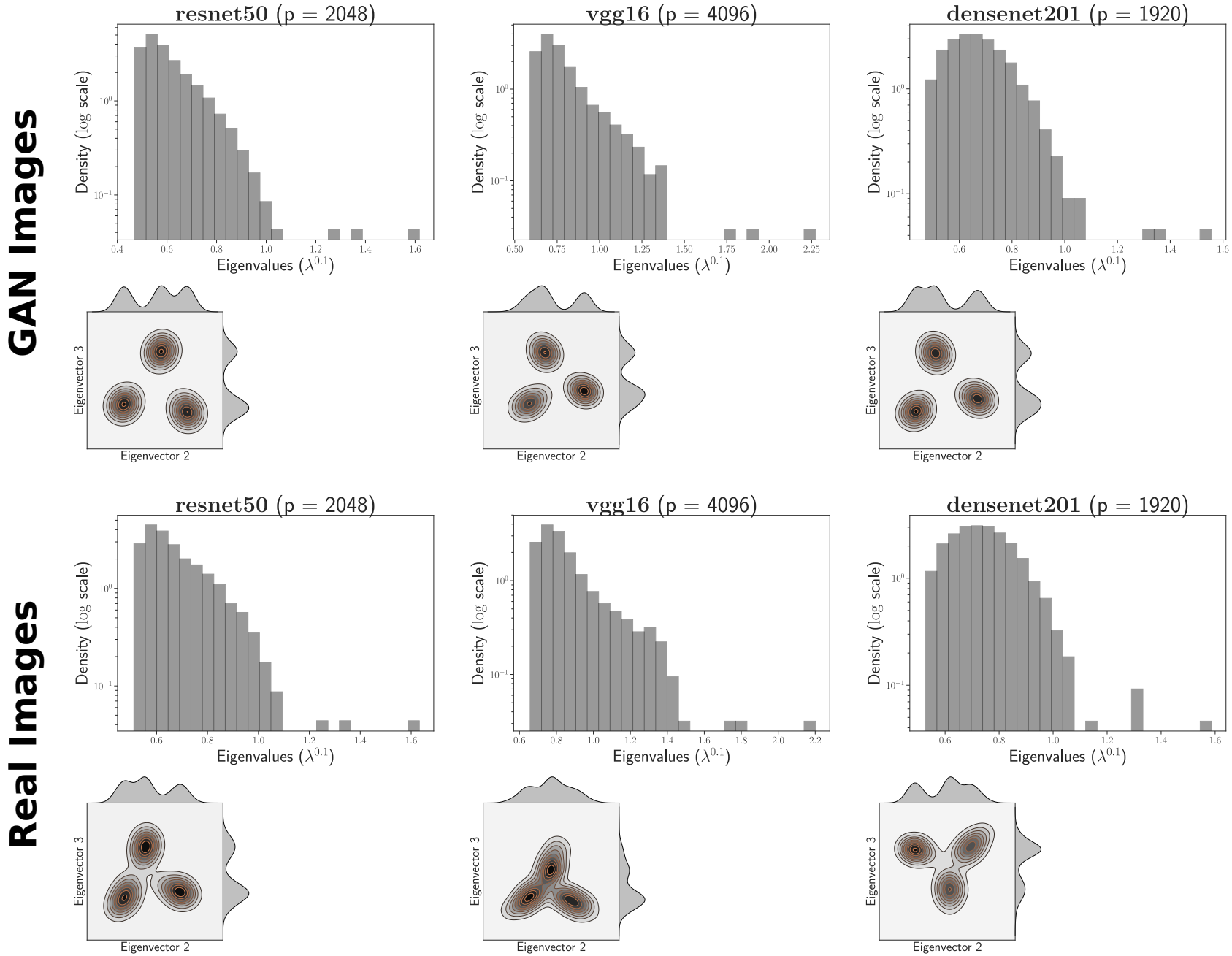
GAN Images



Real Images



Gaussian, GAN, and real data



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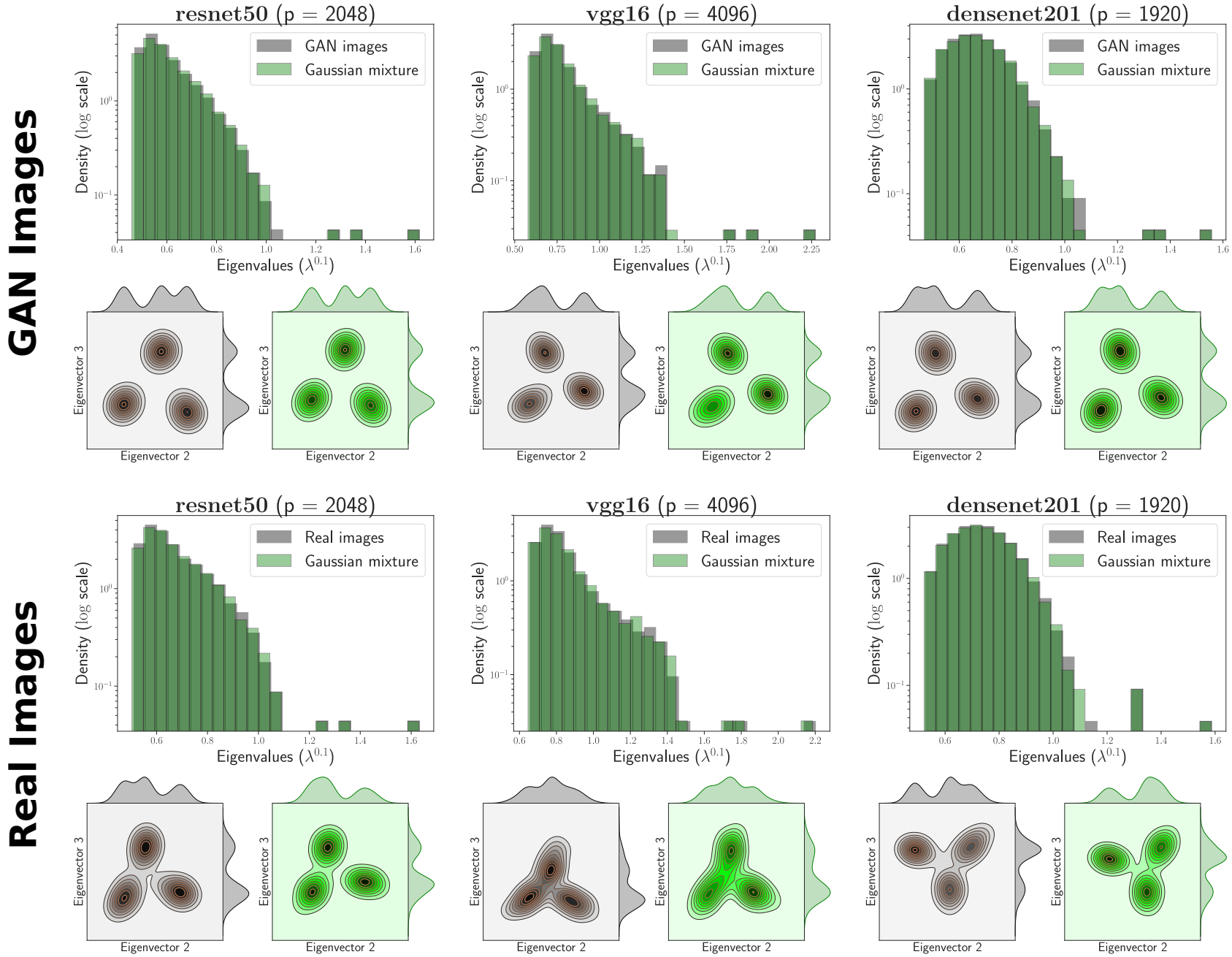

Conclusion

Our Research Activities:

Conclusion

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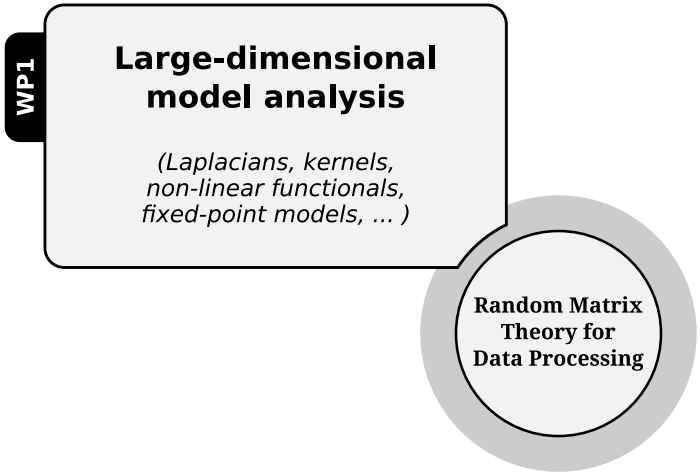

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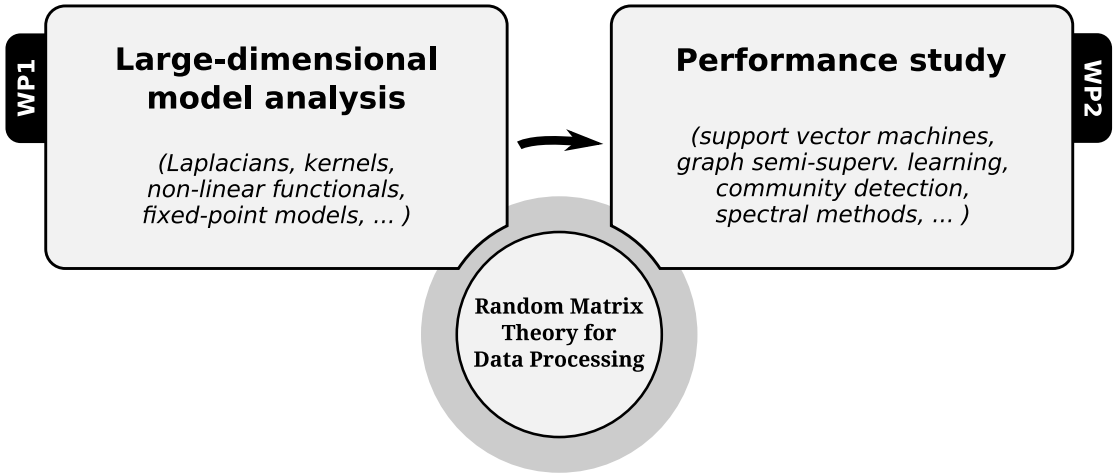

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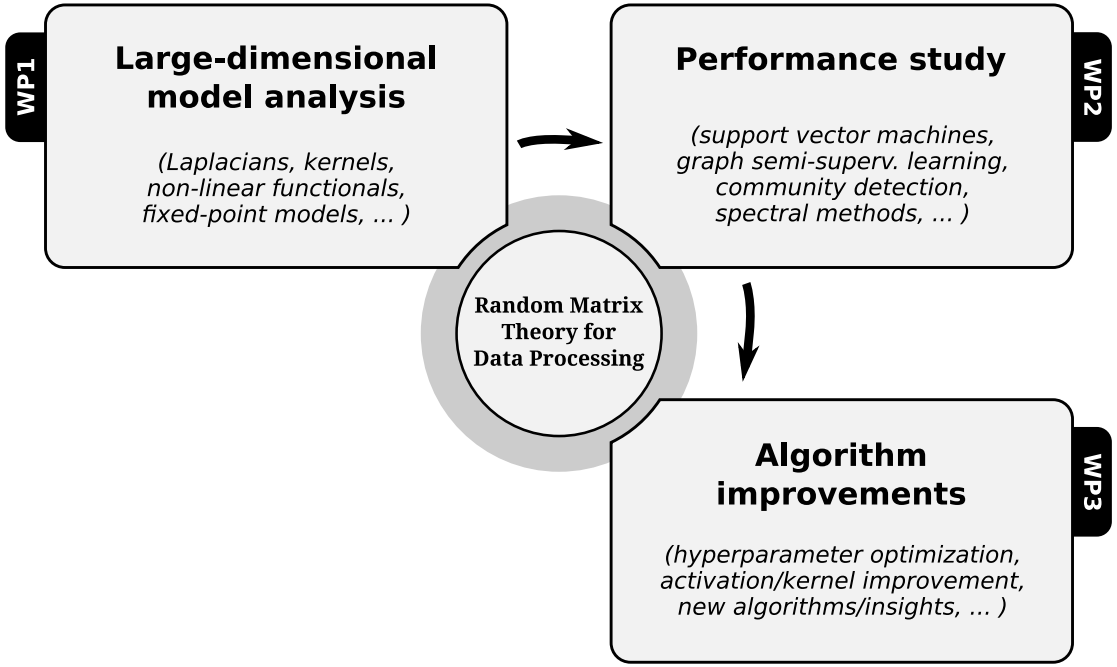

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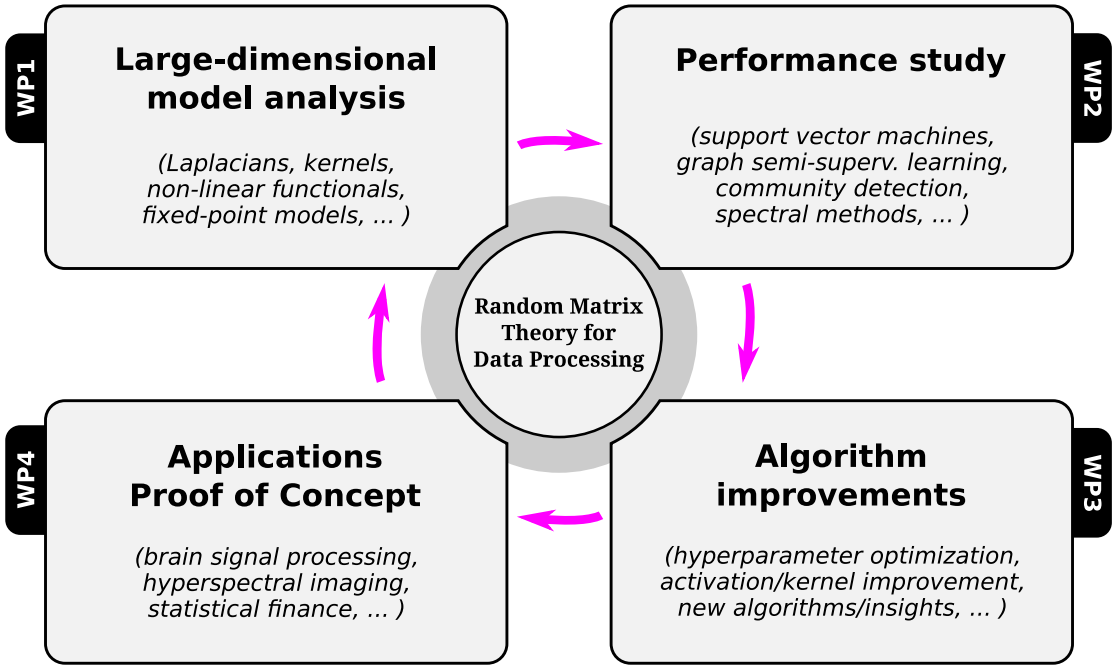

Our Team: the MIAI “LargeDATA” chair @ University Grenoble-Alpes

G. Besson — *Institut Fourier, géométrie*
F. Chatelain — *GIPSA, statistiques*
P. Comon — *GIPSA, tenseurs*
E. Gaussier — *LIG, traitement langage*
N. Le Bihan — *GIPSA, stats, physique*
N. Tremblay — *GIPSA, graphes*
S. Zozor — *GIPSA, théorie de l'info*
O. Michel — *GIPSA, signal, physique*

M. Seddik — *Apprentissage, applis vision*
L. Dall'Amico — *Physique Stats, graphes*
C. Louart — *Mathématiques, concentration*
M. Tiomoko — *Apprentissage, transfer, SSL*
H. Chakroun — *Mathématiques, géométrie*
C. Doz — *Apprentissage, RMT et radar*
T. Zarrouk — *Apprentissage, RMT structuré*
C. Séjourné — *Apprentissage, RMT non convexe*
B. Nabet — *Finance, ML & fi-stats*
H. Goulart — *Trait. signal, tenseurs*

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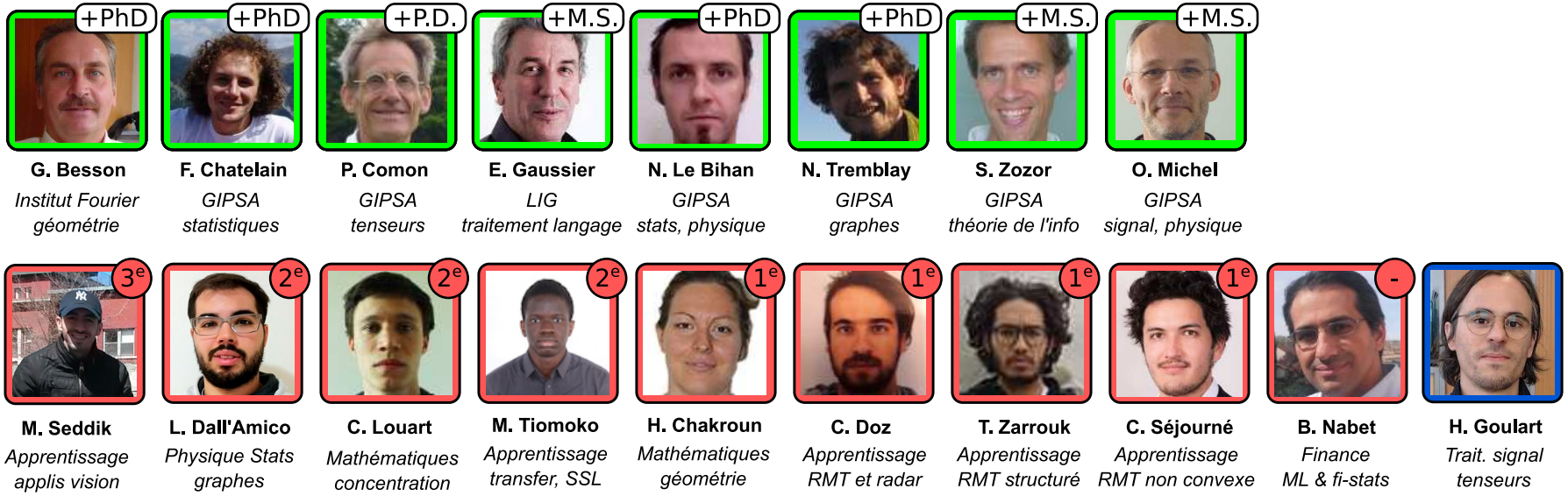

Join us !

Thank you!

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