

# Approximating scalable frames

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# Outline

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  - Scalable frames
  - Characterization of scalable frames
- 2 Measures of scalability
  - Fritz John's ellipsoid theorem and scalable frames
  - Distance to the cone of nonnegative diagonal matrices
  - Distance to the set of scalable frames
- 3 Two applications
- 4 References

# Definition

## Definition

Let  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$ . A set of vectors  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^M \subset \mathbb{K}^N$  is called a *finite frame for  $\mathbb{K}^N$*  if there are two constants  $0 < A \leq B$  such that

$$A\|x\|^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^M |\langle x, \varphi_i \rangle|^2 \leq B\|x\|^2, \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{K}^N. \quad (1)$$

If the frame bounds  $A$  and  $B$  are equal, the frame  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^M \subset \mathbb{K}^N$  is called a *finite tight frame for  $\mathbb{K}^N$* .

# Frames in applications

## Example

- Quantum computing: construction of POVMs
- Spherical  $t$ -designs
- Classification of hyper-spectral data
- Quantization
- Phase-less reconstruction
- Compressed sensing.

# Main question

## Question

*Given a (non-tight) frame  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  can one transform  $\Phi$  into a tight frame? If yes can this be done algorithmically and can the class of all frames that allow such transformations be described?*

## Solution

- 1 *If  $\Phi$  denotes again the  $N \times M$  synthesis matrix, a solution to the above problem is the associated canonical tight frame*

$$\{(\Phi\Phi)^{-1/2}\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M.$$

*Involves the inverse frame operator.*

- 2 *What “transformations” are allowed?*

# Choosing a transformation

## Question

Given a (non-tight) frame  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  can one find nonnegative numbers  $\{c_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset [0, \infty)$  such that  $\tilde{\Phi} = \{c_k \varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M$  becomes a tight frame?

# Definition

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Let  $M, N$  be given such that  $N \leq M$ . A frame  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M$  in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  is *scalable* if there exists nonnegative scalars  $\{x_k\}_{k=1}^M$  such that the system  $\widetilde{\Phi}_I = \{x_k \varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M$  is a tight frame for  $\mathbb{R}^N$ .

If all the coefficients can be chosen to be positive, then we say that the frame is *strictly scalable*.

# An extension of scalable frame

## Definition

Let  $M, m, N$  be given such that  $N \leq m \leq M$ . A frame  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M$  in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  is *m-scalable* if there exist a subset  $\Phi_I = \{\varphi_k\}_{k \in I}$  with  $\#I = m$ , and nonnegative scalars  $\{x_k\}_{k \in I}$  such that the system  $\widetilde{\Phi}_I = \{x_k \varphi_k\}_{k \in I}$  is a tight frame for  $\mathbb{R}^N$ .



# A geometric characterization of scalable frames

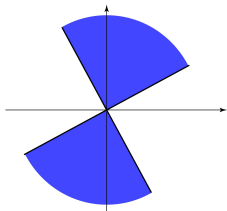
Theorem (G. Kutyniok, F. Philipp, K. Tuley, K.O. (2012))

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N \setminus \{0\}$  be a frame for  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.

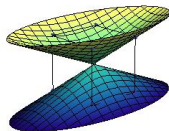
- (i)  $\Phi$  is not scalable.
- (ii) There exists a symmetric  $M \times M$  matrix  $Y$  with  $\text{trace}(Y) < 0$  such that  $\langle \varphi_j, Y\varphi_j \rangle \geq 0$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, M$ .
- (iii) There exists a symmetric  $M \times M$  matrix  $Y$  with  $\text{trace}(Y) = 0$  such that  $\langle \varphi_j, Y\varphi_j \rangle > 0$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, M$ .

# Scalable frames in $\mathbb{R}^2$ and $\mathbb{R}^3$

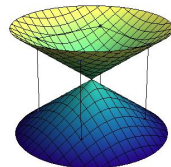
Figures show sample regions of vectors of a non-scalable frame in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .



(a)



(b)



(c)

**Figure :** (a) shows a sample region of vectors of a non-scalable frame in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .  
 (b) and (c) show examples of sets in  $\mathcal{C}_3$  which determine sample regions in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

# Scalable frames and Farkas's lemma

## Setting

Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d := (N - 1)(N + 2)/2$ , defined by

$$F(x) = \begin{pmatrix} F_0(x) \\ F_1(x) \\ \vdots \\ F_{N-1}(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$F_0(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 - x_2^2 \\ x_1^2 - x_3^2 \\ \vdots \\ x_1^2 - x_N^2 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, F_k(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x_k x_{k+1} \\ x_k x_{k+2} \\ \vdots \\ x_k x_N \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $F_0(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{N-1}$ ,  $F_k(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{N-k}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$ .

# Scalable frames and Farkas's lemma

Theorem (G. Kutyniok, F. Philipp, K.O. (2013))

$\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is scalable if and only if  $F(\Phi)u = 0$  has a nonnegative non trivial solution, where  $F(\Phi)$  is the  $d \times M$  matrix whose  $k^{\text{th}}$  row is  $F(\varphi_k)$ . This is equivalent to 0 being in the relative interior of the convex polytope whose extreme points are  $\{F(\varphi_k)\}_{k=1}^M$ .

# Some questions

## Question

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be a frame.

- 1 If  $\Phi$  is scalable, how to find the corresponding weights?
- 2 Can one find “intrinsic measures of scalability”?
- 3 In particular, if a frame is not scalable, how “far” it is to be so?

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- 3 In particular, if a frame is not scalable, how “far” it is to be so?

# Fritz John's Theorem

## Theorem (F. John (1948))

Let  $K \subset B = B(0, 1)$  be a convex body with nonempty interior. There exists a unique ellipsoid  $\mathcal{E}_{min}$  of minimal volume containing  $K$ .

Moreover,  $\mathcal{E}_{min} = B$  if and only if there exist  $\{\lambda_k\}_{k=1}^m \subset (0, \infty)$  and  $\{u_k\}_{k=1}^m \subset \partial K \cap S^{N-1}$ ,  $m \geq N + 1$  such that

$$(i) \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k u_k = 0$$

$$(ii) x = \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k \langle x, u_k \rangle u_k, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

where  $\partial K$  is the boundary of  $K$  and  $S^{N-1}$  is the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . In particular, the points  $u_k$  are contact points of  $K$  and  $S^{N-1}$ .



## F. John's characterization of scalable frames

### Setting

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset S^{N-1}$  be a frame for  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . We apply F. John's theorem to the convex body  $K = P_\Phi = \text{conv}(\{\pm\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M)$ . Let  $\mathcal{E}_\Phi$  denote the ellipsoid of minimal volume containing  $P_\Phi$ , and  $V_\Phi = \text{Vol}(\mathcal{E}_\Phi)/\omega_N$  where  $\omega_N$  is the volume of the euclidean unit ball.

Theorem (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2014))

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset S^{N-1}$  be a frame. Then  $\Phi$  is scalable if and only if  $V_\Phi = 1$ . In this case, the ellipsoid  $\mathcal{E}_\Phi$  of minimal volume containing  $P_\Phi = \text{conv}(\{\pm\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M)$  is the euclidean unit ball  $B$ .

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# Reformulating the scalability problem

## Setting

$$\Phi = \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^M \text{ is scalable} \iff \exists \{c_i\}_{i=1}^M \subset [0, \infty) : \Phi C \Phi^T = I,$$

where  $C = \text{diag}(c_i)$ .

$$C_\Phi = \left\{ \Phi C \Phi^T = \sum_{i=1}^M c_i \varphi_i \varphi_i^T : c_i \geq 0 \right\}$$

is the (closed) cone generated by  $\{\varphi_i \varphi_i^T\}_{i=1}^M$ .

$$\Phi = \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^M \text{ is scalable} \iff I \in C_\Phi.$$

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# Comparing $D_\Phi$ to the frame potential

Proposition (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2014))

- (a)  $\Phi$  is scalable if and only if  $D_\Phi = 0$ .
- (b) If  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a unit norm frame we have

$$D_\Phi^2 \leq N - \frac{M^2}{\text{FP}(\Phi)},$$

where  $\text{FP}(\Phi)$  is the frame potential of  $\Phi$ .

# Comparing the measures of scalability

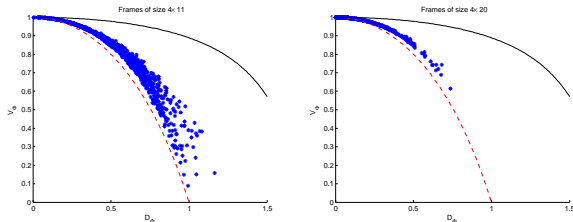
Theorem (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2014))

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a unit norm frame, then

$$\frac{N(1 - D_\Phi^2)}{N - D_\Phi^2} \leq V_\Phi^{4/N} \leq \frac{N(N - 1 - D_\Phi^2)}{(N - 1)(N - D_\Phi^2)} \leq 1,$$

where the leftmost inequality requires  $D_\Phi < 1$ . Consequently,  $V_\Phi \rightarrow 1$  is equivalent to  $D_\Phi \rightarrow 0$ .

Values of  $V_\Phi$  and  $D_\Phi$  for randomly generated frames of  $M$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .



**Figure :** Relation between  $V_\Phi$  and  $D_\Phi$  with  $M = 11, 20$ . The black line indicates the upper bound in the last theorem, while the red dash line indicates the lower bound.



# Projecting a frame onto the scalable frames

## Setting

We denote the set of scalable frames of  $M$  vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  by  $\mathcal{Sc}(M, N)$ .  
 Given a unit norm frame  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ , let

$$d_\Phi := \inf_{\Psi \in \mathcal{Sc}(M, N)} \|\Phi - \Psi\|_F.$$

Proposition (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2014))

If  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a unit norm frame such that  $d_\Phi < 1$  then there exists  $\hat{\Phi} \in \mathcal{Sc}(M, N)$  such that  $\|\Phi - \hat{\Phi}\|_F = d_\Phi$ .

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# Comparing the measures of scalability

Theorem (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2014))

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a unit norm frame and assume that  $d_\Phi < 1$ .  
 Then with  $K := \min\{M, \frac{N(N+1)}{2}\}$  and  $\omega := D_\Phi + \sqrt{K}$  we have

$$\frac{D_\Phi}{\omega + \sqrt{\omega^2 - D_\Phi^2}} \leq d_\Phi \leq \sqrt{KN \left(1 - V_\Phi^{2/N}\right)}.$$

Consequently, we can bound  $d_\Phi$  below and above by expressions of  $D_\Phi$  or expressions of  $V_\Phi$ .

# Approximating with scalable frames

Theorem (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2014))

Let  $\Phi = \{\varphi_k\}_{k=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a unit norm frame and assume that  $d_\Phi \leq \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{K})^{-1}$ . Let  $\hat{\Phi}$  be given by ,  
 $\hat{\Phi} = \arg \inf_{\Psi \in \mathcal{S}_c(M, N)} \|\Phi - \Psi\|_F$ , and let  $E_\Phi = E(X)$  be the minimal ellipsoid of  $\Phi$ , where  $X^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^M \rho_i \varphi_i \varphi_i^T$ . Then there exists a (constructible) scalable frame  $\tilde{\Phi} = \{\tilde{\varphi}_i\}_{i=1}^M$  which is a good approximation to  $\Phi$  in the following sense:

$$\|\tilde{\Phi} - \Phi\|_F = K\sqrt{N}O(d_\Phi),$$

where  $K = \min\{M, \frac{N(N+1)}{2}\}$ .

# Probability of a frame to be scalable

Theorem (X. Chen, R. Wang, K.O. (2013))

Given  $\Phi = \{\varphi_i\}_{i=1}^M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ , be a frame such that each frame vector  $\varphi_i$  is drawn independently and uniformly from  $S^{N-1}$ , if  $P_{M,N}$  indicates the probability of  $\Phi$  being scalable, then

- (a)  $P_{M,N} = 0$ , when  $M < \frac{N(N+1)}{2}$ ,
- (b)  $P_{M,N} > 0$ , when  $M \geq \frac{N(N+1)}{2}$ ,
- (c)

$$1 - C(N) (1 - A_\alpha^{N-1})^M \leq P_{M,N} \leq 1 - \left(1 - A_{\arccos(1/\sqrt{N})}^{N-1}\right)^{M-N},$$

where  $C(N)$  is the number of caps with angular radius  $\frac{1}{2} \arccos \sqrt{\frac{N-1}{N}}$  needed to cover  $S^{N-1}$ . Consequently,  $\lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} P_{M,N} = 1$ .

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Thank You!

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