

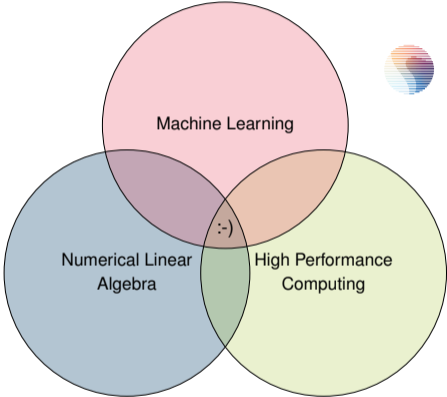
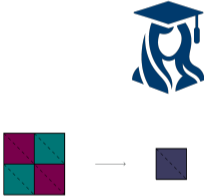


# openGPT-X

## Efficient Computation of Low-Rank Representations to Reduce Memory Requirements in LLM Training

November 27, 2024 | Carolin Penke | Jülich Supercomputing Centre

# MY RESEARCH INTERESTS



# OPENGPT-X (01/2022 - 03/2025)



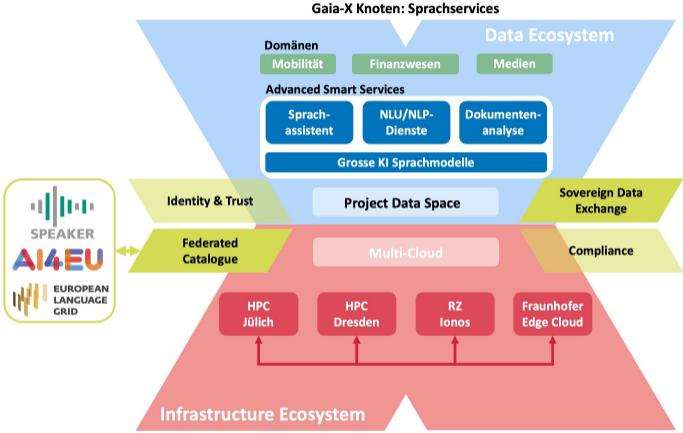
Multilingual. Open. European.  
OpenGPT-X develops large AI language models that enable new data-driven business solutions and specifically address European needs.

<https://opengpt-x.de/en/>



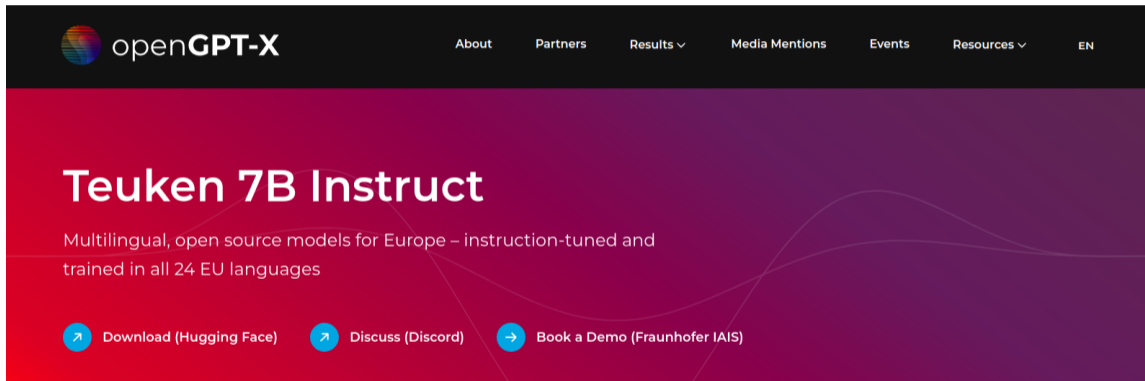
Funded by German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK).

# OPENGPT-X (01/2022 - 03/2025)



# MODEL RELEASE

Our model was released yesterday (2024/11/26)!

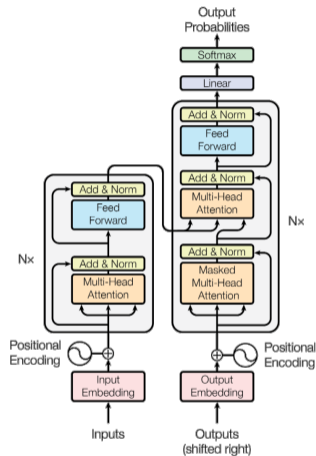


The screenshot shows the openGPT-X website. The header is dark with the logo on the left and navigation links: About, Partners, Results, Media Mentions, Events, Resources, and EN. The main content area has a red-to-purple gradient background. The title 'Teuken 7B Instruct' is prominently displayed in white. Below it, a subtitle reads 'Multilingual, open source models for Europe – instruction-tuned and trained in all 24 EU languages'. At the bottom, there are three circular buttons: 'Download (Hugging Face)', 'Discuss (Discord)', and 'Book a Demo (Fraunhofer IAIS)'.

<https://opengpt-x.de/en/models/teuken-7b/>

# TRANSFORMER-BASED LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS

- Transformers are the dominant neural network architecture for language models.
- Become large by increasing number of transformer layers or hidden dimension.
- General trend: More parameters → more capabilities, given enough data and compute resources.



Attention is all you need, A. Vaswani, N. Shazeer, N. Parmar, J. Uszkoreit, L. Jones, A. N. Gomez, L. Kaiser, I. Polosukhin

# TRAINING LARGE MODELS

Training these large models needs

- Lots of computational resources (GPUs!),
- Lots of data.

Pretraining happens on supercomputers.



(R-U. Limbach / Forschungszentrum Jülich)

Finetuning of smaller models happens on workstations.



NVIDIA

**In both settings, you want to use limited resources efficiently.**

# JUPITER: EXASCALE IN EUROPE

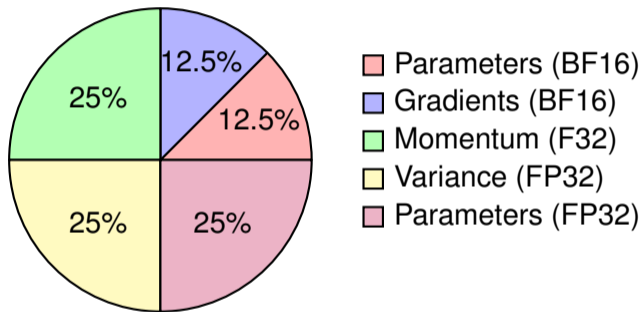


- New supercomputer, currently being installed at Jülich Supercomputing Centre, fully operational in 2025.
- ~ 6000 nodes with 4 NVIDIA Grace-Hopper superchips each.
- $10^{18}$  floating point operations per second (double precision).
- 20× faster than current #1 in Germany (JUWELS Booster)



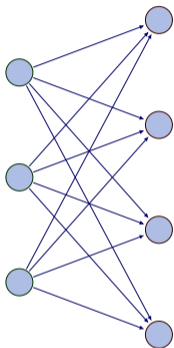
# GPU MEMORY REQUIREMENTS DURING TRAINING

Using the mixed-precision Adam optimizer.



- + Activations, depending on sequence length and batch size.
  - Activations can be reduced using activation checkpointing.

# MATRICES EVERYWHERE



**Parameter matrix**

0.23	-0.15	0.5
0.1	0.45	-0.35
-0.2	0.3	0.25
0.4	-0.1	-0.05

**Gradient matrix**

-0.05	0.2	-0.1
0.15	-0.25	0.05
0.1	-0.15	0.3
-0.05	0.4	-0.2

**Momentum matrix**

0.01	0.02	-0.01
-0.03	0.04	-0.02
0.05	-0.01	0.06
-0.04	0.03	-0.05

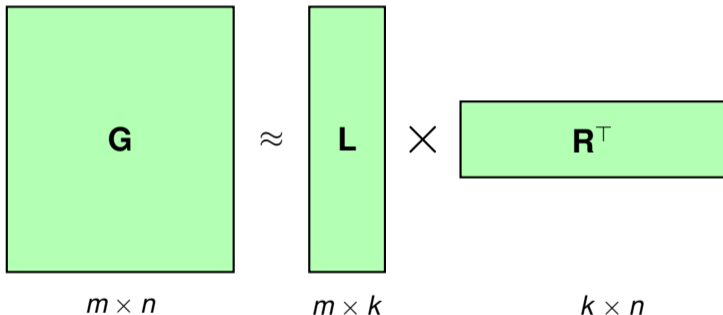
**Variance matrix**

0.1	0.15	0.2
0.05	0.12	0.18
0.22	0.25	0.3
0.08	0.1	0.13

A layer in a neural network is represented by matrices.

# LOW-RANK APPROXIMATIONS

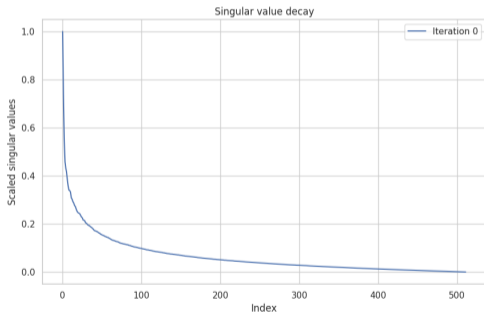
- When a matrix has (numerical) low rank, it can be approximated well by smaller matrices.



- Numerical low rank can be observed for **gradients**, momentum and variance.  
→ These matrices can be compressed.

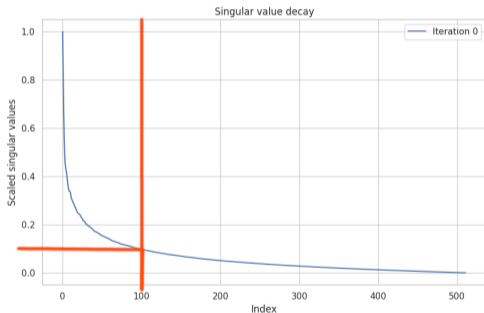
# OBSERVING LOW RANK

The singular values of a matrix describe, how well a matrix can be approximated with a low-rank decomposition.



# OBSERVING LOW RANK

The singular values of a matrix describe, how well a matrix can be approximated with a low-rank decomposition.



Here, a low rank decomposition with  $k = 100$  (instead of  $n = 512$ ) has an approximation quality of 90%.

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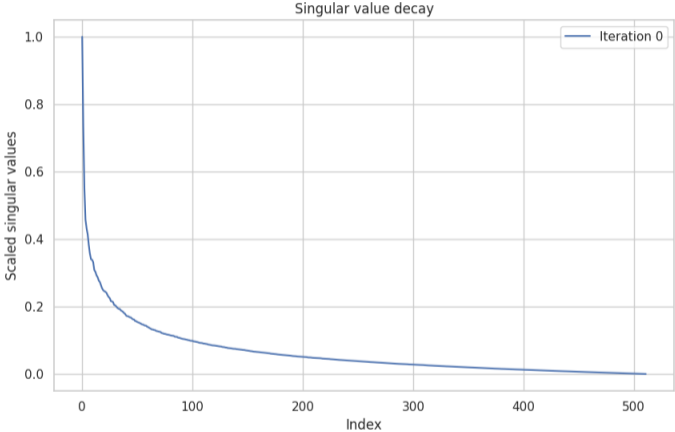


Figure: Singular value decay of gradient for first layer in pre-training 60M Llama model after various iterations.

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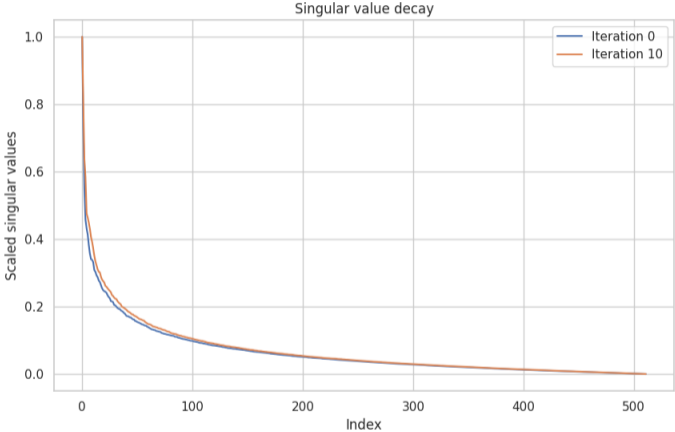


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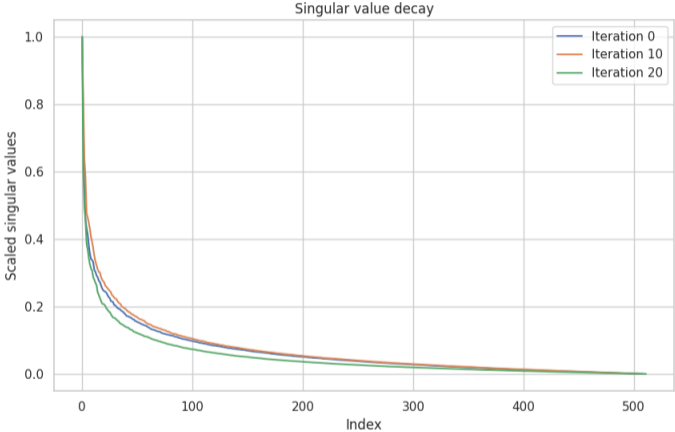


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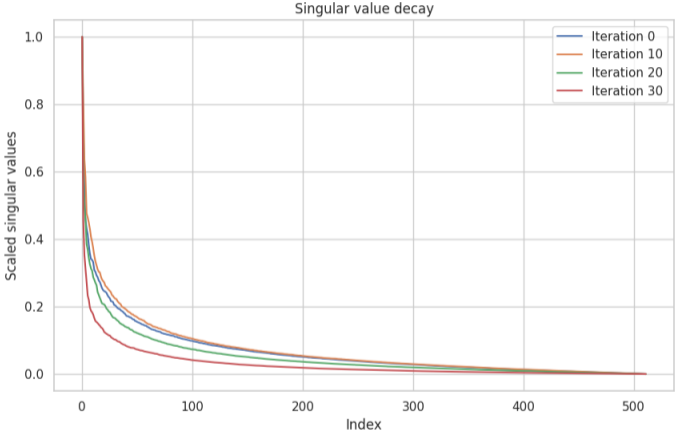


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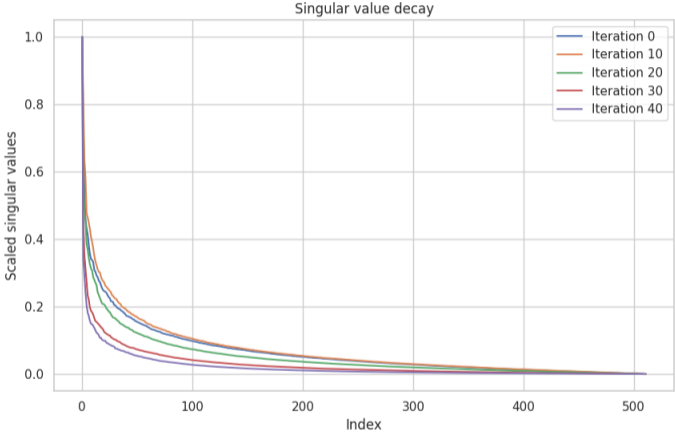


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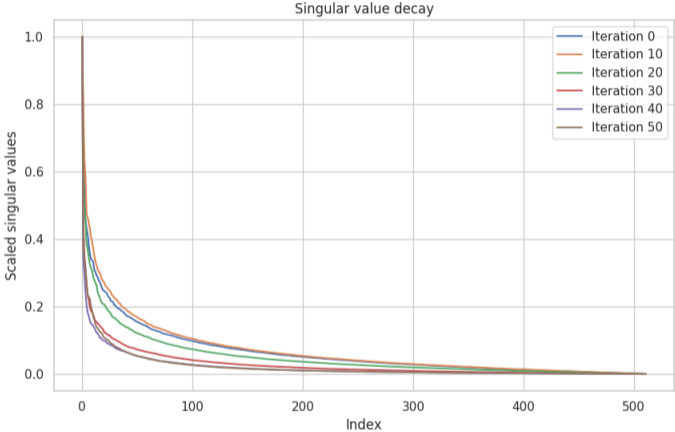


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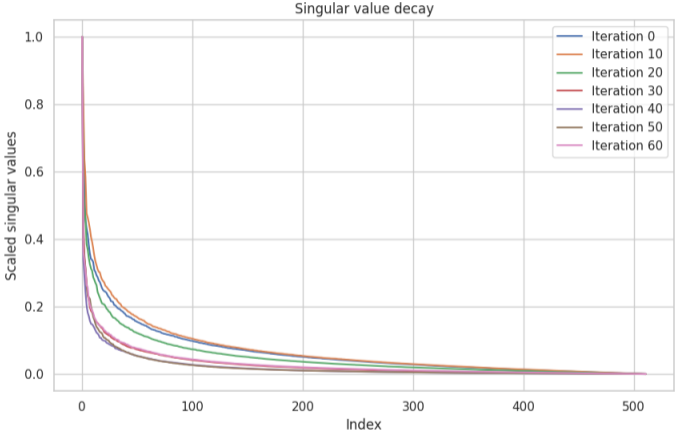


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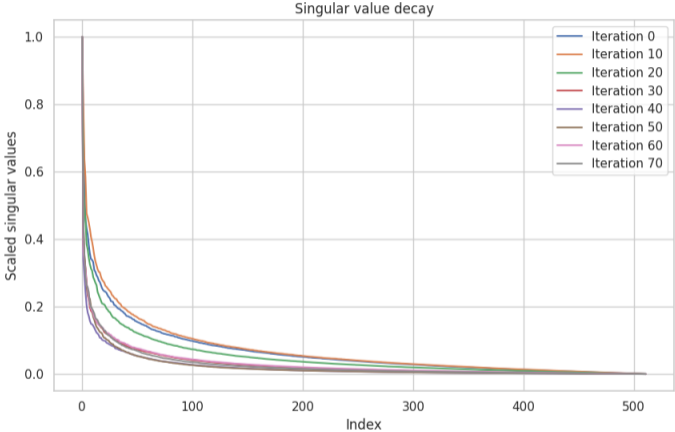


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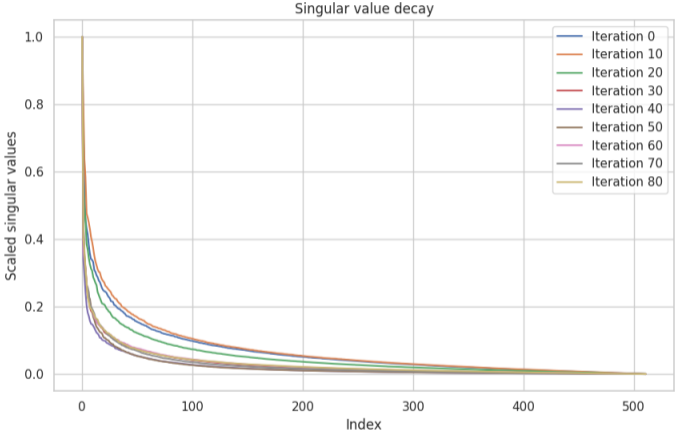


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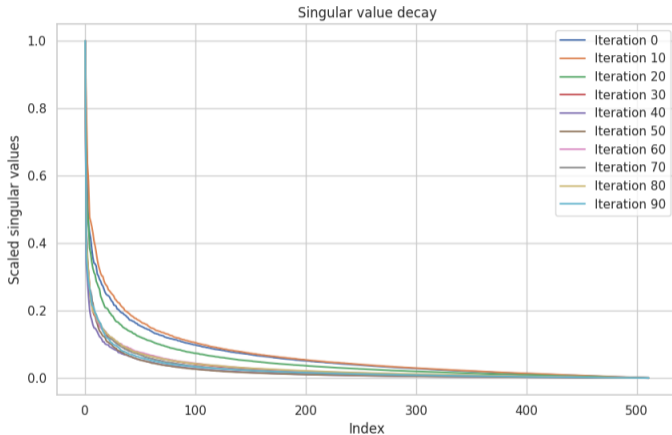


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# EXPLOITING LOW-RANK

## LoRA: Low-Rank Adaptation of Large Language Models

- The weight updates of each layer are accumulated in two low-rank matrices.
- Multiple LoRA adapters possible for multiple fine-tuned models from one base model.
- $r$  is chosen a priori (as a hyperparameter).
- Not suited for pre-training.

E. J. Hu, Y. Shen, P. Wallis, Z. Allen-Zhu, Y. Li, S. Wang, L. Wang, and W. Chen. "LoRA: Low-Rank Adaptation of Large Language Models", 2021.

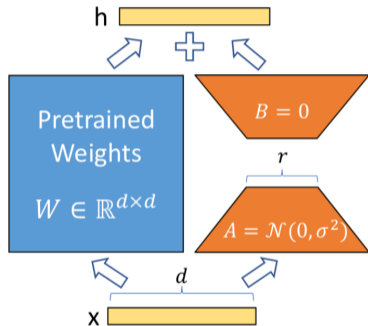


Figure 1: Our reparametrization. We only train  $A$  and  $B$ .



# EXPLOITING LOW-RANK ANOTHER WAY

## GaLore: Memory-Efficient LLM Training by Gradient Low-Rank Projection

---

### Algorithm 2: Adam with GaLore

---

**Input:** A layer weight matrix  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  with  $m \leq n$ . Step size  $\eta$ , scale factor  $\alpha$ , decay rates  $\beta_1, \beta_2$ , rank  $r$ , subspace change frequency  $T$ .

Initialize first-order moment  $M_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r} \leftarrow 0$

Initialize second-order moment  $V_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r} \leftarrow 0$

Initialize step  $t \leftarrow 0$

**repeat**

$G_t \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \leftarrow -\nabla_W \varphi_t(W_t)$

**if**  $t \bmod T = 0$  **then**

$U, S, V \leftarrow \text{SVD}(G_t)$

$P_t \leftarrow U[:, :r]$       {Initialize left projector as  $m \leq n$ }

**else**

$P_t \leftarrow P_{t-1}$       {Reuse the previous projector}

**end if**

$R_t \leftarrow P_t^\top G_t$       {Project gradient into compact space}

---

**UPDATE( $R_t$ ) by Adam**

$M_t \leftarrow \beta_1 \cdot M_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_1) \cdot R_t$

$V_t \leftarrow \beta_2 \cdot V_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_2) \cdot R_t^2$

$\tilde{M}_t \leftarrow M_t / (1 - \beta_1^t)$

$\tilde{V}_t \leftarrow V_t / (1 - \beta_2^t)$

$N_t \leftarrow M_t / (\sqrt{V_t} + \epsilon)$

---

$\tilde{G}_t \leftarrow \alpha \cdot P N_t$       {Project back to original space}

$W_t \leftarrow W_{t-1} + \eta \cdot \tilde{G}_t$

$t \leftarrow t + 1$

**until** convergence criteria met

**return**  $W_t$

---

J. Zhao, Z. Zhang, B. Chen, Z. Wang, A. Anandkumar, Y. Tian. "GaLore: Memory-Efficient LLM Training by Gradient Low-Rank Projection", 2024.

- Compute projection subspace every couple of iterations
  - Compute full-rank gradient, then project it
  - Update optimizer states (Momentum, Variance) with projected gradient.
- $M_t, V_t \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times \ell}, \ell \ll n$
- Lower memory footprint than LoRA.
  - Better suited for pre-training.

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Computing the whole SVD is horribly inefficient, when all you want is an approximate basis of  $\text{range}(G_t)$ .

# THE RANDOMIZED RANGE FINDER

## The right tool for the job

### ALGORITHM 4.1: RANDOMIZED RANGE FINDER

*Given an  $m \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , and an integer  $\ell$ , this scheme computes an  $m \times \ell$  orthonormal matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  whose range approximates the range of  $\mathbf{A}$ .*

- 1 Draw an  $n \times \ell$  Gaussian random matrix  $\mathbf{\Omega}$ .
- 2 Form the  $m \times \ell$  matrix  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{\Omega}$ .
- 3 Construct an  $m \times \ell$  matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  whose columns form an orthonormal basis for the range of  $\mathbf{Y}$ , e.g., using the QR factorization  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}$ .

N. Halko, P.-G. Martinsson, J. A. Tropp. "Finding structure with randomness: Probabilistic algorithms for constructing approximate matrix decompositions", 2010.

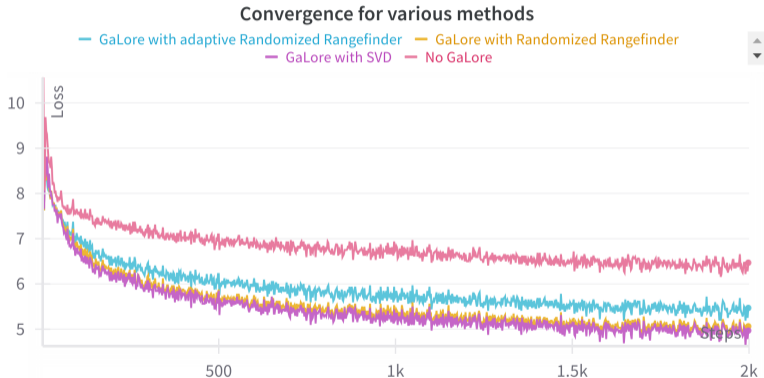
For an oversampling parameter  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $0 \leq p \leq r$ , we have

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}^T\mathbf{A}\|_2 \leq \left(1 + 11\sqrt{r} \cdot \sqrt{\min\{m, n\}}\right) \sigma_{r-p+1}$$

with a probability of at least  $1 - 6 \cdot p^{-p}$  under mild assumptions on  $p$ .

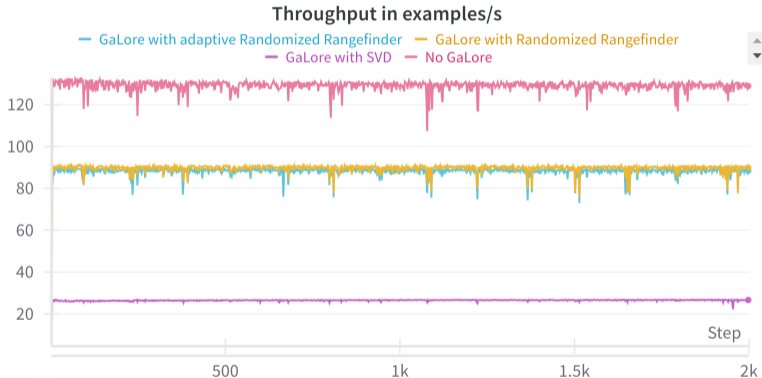
# PRELIMINARY RESULTS

- Training a 60M Llama model, using rank 128, subspace computation in every step.



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# THE ADAPTIVE RANDOMIZED RANGE FINDER

- In later iterations, lower rank suffices for same approximation quality.
- Idea: **Fix tolerance** for subspace approximation and compute basis vectors iteratively.

N. Halko, P.-G. Martinsson, J. A. Tropp. "Finding structure with randomness: Probabilistic algorithms for constructing approximate matrix decompositions", 2010.

## ALGORITHM 4.2: ADAPTIVE RANDOMIZED RANGE FINDER

Given an  $m \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , a tolerance  $\varepsilon$ , and an integer  $r$  (e.g.  $r = 10$ ), the following scheme computes an orthonormal matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  such that (4.2) holds with probability at least  $1 - \min\{m, n\}10^{-r}$ .

```
1 Draw standard Gaussian vectors  $\omega^{(1)}, \dots, \omega^{(r)}$  of length  $n$ .
2 For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ , compute  $\mathbf{y}^{(i)} = \mathbf{A}\omega^{(i)}$ .
3  $j = 0$ .
4  $\mathbf{Q}^{(0)} = [ ]$ , the  $m \times 0$  empty matrix.
5 while  $\max\{\|\mathbf{y}^{(j+1)}\|, \|\mathbf{y}^{(j+2)}\|, \dots, \|\mathbf{y}^{(j+r)}\|\} > \varepsilon/(10\sqrt{2/\pi})$ ,
6      $j = j + 1$ .
7     Overwrite  $\mathbf{y}^{(j)}$  by  $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}^{(j-1)}(\mathbf{Q}^{(j-1)})^*)\mathbf{y}^{(j)}$ .
8      $\mathbf{q}^{(j)} = \mathbf{y}^{(j)} / \|\mathbf{y}^{(j)}\|$ .
9      $\mathbf{Q}^{(j)} = [\mathbf{Q}^{(j-1)} \ \mathbf{q}^{(j)}]$ .
10    Draw a standard Gaussian vector  $\omega^{(j+r)}$  of length  $n$ .
11     $\mathbf{y}^{(j+r)} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{Q}^{(j)}(\mathbf{Q}^{(j)})^*)\mathbf{A}\omega^{(j+r)}$ .
12    for  $i = (j + 1), (j + 2), \dots, (j + r - 1)$ ,
13        Overwrite  $\mathbf{y}^{(i)}$  by  $\mathbf{y}^{(i)} - \mathbf{q}^{(j)}\langle \mathbf{q}^{(j)}, \mathbf{y}^{(i)} \rangle$ .
14    end for
15 end while
16  $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Q}^{(j)}$ .
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# THE ADAPTIVE RANDOMIZED RANGE FINDER

- In later iterations, lower rank suffices for same approximation quality.
- Idea: **Fix tolerance** for subspace approximation and compute basis vectors iteratively.
- Variant of classical Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization.

N. Halko, P.-G. Martinsson, J. A. Tropp. "Finding structure with randomness: Probabilistic algorithms for constructing approximate matrix decompositions", 2010.

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# GPU-OPTIMIZED VERSION

- In deep learning, matrices reside on GPUs, we want to use them.
- Divide matrices into blocks to exploit memory locality and tensor cores.
- Inspiration from GPU-accelerated QR decomposition.
- Goal: Compute  $A = QB$  factorization, where  $Q$  comes from  $A\Omega = QR$ , store Householder vectors, i.e.  $Q = \prod_i (I - V_i T_i V_i^T)$ .



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$$V = \begin{bmatrix} | & & \\ V_1 & & \\ | & & \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} - & B_1 & - \\ & & \\ & & \end{bmatrix},$$
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & & \\ & & \\ & & \end{bmatrix}$$

- $V$  (lower triangular): contains Householder vectors
- $A$ : Used to store  $B$ .
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$$T = [T_1 \quad T_2 \quad \cdots \quad T_k]$$

- $V$  (lower triangular): contains Householder vectors
- $A$ : Used to store  $B$ .
- $T$ : Contains triangular blocks of storage-efficient QR decomposition of block reflectors

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## Algorithm 1 Householder Block Adaptive Randomized Range Finder

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**Require:** A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , a tolerance  $\epsilon$ , and a block size  $b$ .

- 1:  $E \leftarrow \|A\|_F$
- 2:  $B \leftarrow A$
- 3:  $i \leftarrow 0$
- 4: **while**  $E > \epsilon$  **do**
- 5:     Fill  $\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times b}$  with values from a standard Gaussian distribution.
- 6:      $(V_{i:j,i}, T_i) \leftarrow \text{qr}(B_{i:j,0:k}\Omega)$      ▷ Storage-efficient QR decomposition, geqrt
- 7:      $B_{i:k} \leftarrow (I - V_i T_i V_i^T) B_{i:k}$
- 8:      $E \leftarrow E - \|B_i\|_F$
- 9:      $i \leftarrow i + 1$
- 10: **end while**
- 11:  $V \leftarrow V_{:,0:i-1}$
- 12:  $B \leftarrow B_{0:i-1,:}$
- 13:  $r \leftarrow (i - 1) \cdot b$

**Ensure:** Rank  $r$ , Householder vectors  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$ ,  $T_0, \dots, T_{i-1} \in \mathbb{R}^{b \times b}$  such that  $\|A - QB\|_{\text{Fro}} \leq \epsilon$ , where  $Q = \prod_{l=0}^{i-1} (I - V_l T_l V_l^T)$ .

# OVERLAP COMMUNICATION, COMPUTATION AND RANDOM GENERATION

Queue 1	Queue 2	Queue 3
		Create $\Omega_1$
	$V_1 \leftarrow A\Omega_1$	Create $\Omega_2$
$V_1, T_1 \leftarrow qr(V_1)$	$V_2 \leftarrow A\Omega_2$	
$V_2 \leftarrow (I - V_1 T_1 V_1^T) V_2$	$A \leftarrow (I - V_1 T_1 V_1^T) A$	Create $\Omega_3$
$V_2, T_2 \leftarrow qr(V_2)$	$V_3 \leftarrow A\Omega_3$	
$V_3 \leftarrow (I - V_2 T_2 V_2^T) V_3$	$A \leftarrow (I - V_2 T_2 V_2^T) A$	Create $\Omega_4$
$V_3, T_3 \leftarrow qr(V_3)$	$V_4 \leftarrow A\Omega_4$	
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$

- More operations (explicit panel update) in favor of exposed parallelism.

# FUTURE WORK

- Experiments and results.
- How to deal with tensor parallelism?
- Other use cases for randomized rangefinder.
- Relative vs. absolute stopping criterion?
- How do stability results translate to randomized setting?
- Two-sided projections?
- Mix Gram-Schmidt and Householder?
- Cholesky QR.
- Other decompositions from Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra.
- Extend to higher dimensional tensors.

The diagram shows three matrices: a square matrix  $G$  of size  $m \times n$ , a tall rectangular matrix  $L$  of size  $m \times k$ , and a wide rectangular matrix  $R^T$  of size  $k \times n$ . An approximation symbol  $\approx$  is between  $G$  and  $L$ , and a multiplication symbol  $\times$  is between  $L$  and  $R^T$ .

Thank you for your  
attention!

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