

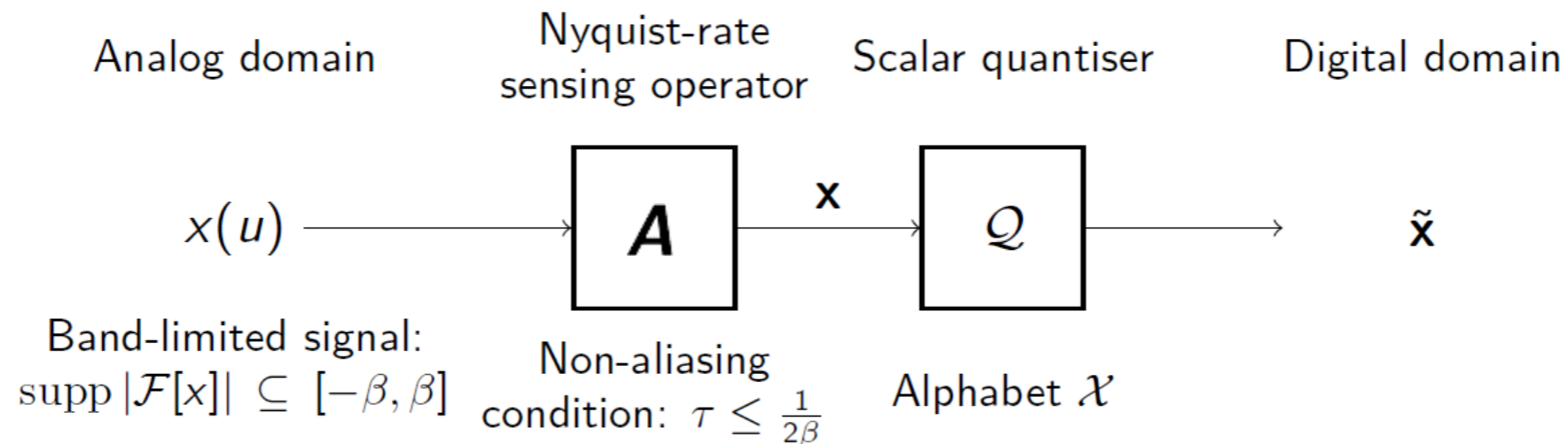
# Compressive Classification: A Guided Tour

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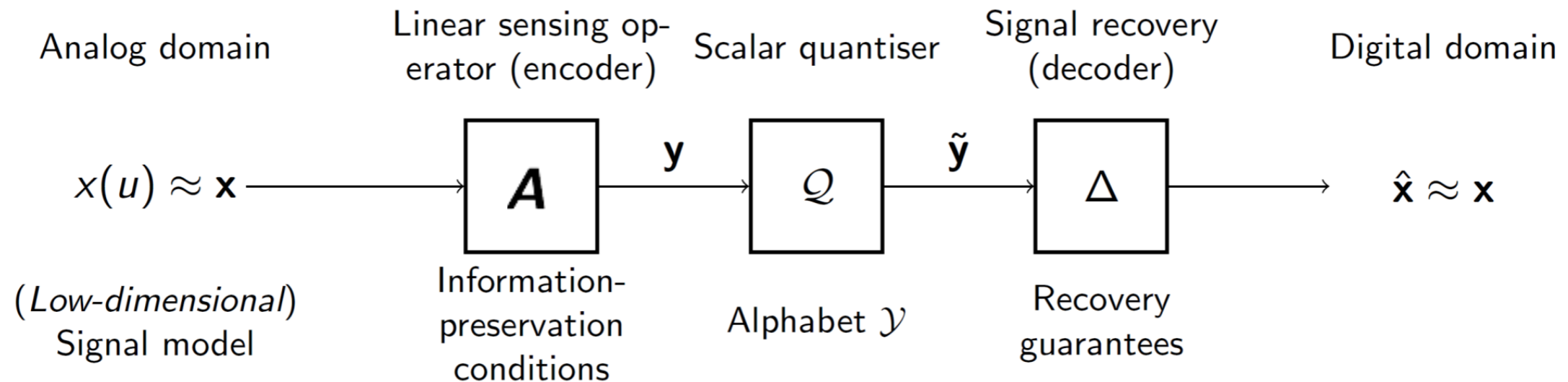
Image and Signal Processing Seminars,  
Thursday, 24th September 2015

- M.Sc. in Electronic Engineering (2011), Univ. of Bologna, IT.
- Ph.D. in Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technologies (2012 - mid-2015; advisors: Prof. R. Rovatti, Prof. G. Setti), Univ. of Bologna, IT.
  - Thesis: *“Matrix Designs and Methods for Secure and Efficient Compressed Sensing”*.
  - Sensing matrix adaptation for Compressed Sensing of (wide-sense cyclostationary) correlated and compressible signals (e.g., ECG).
  - Security analysis of Compressed Sensing: statistical and computational attacks; application-level analysis for private tele-monitoring (e.g., ECG).
  - Design of a compressive hyperspectral imager (joint with IMEC and UCLouvain, BE).
- Postdoctoral researcher (mid-2015 - now; under FRS-FNRS Project “AlterSense”; P.I.: Prof. L. Jacques), UCLouvain, BE.
  - Blind calibration via non-convex optimisation (e.g., for unmatched compressive sensor arrays).
  - Compressive classification with quantisation: theory and prospective applications.

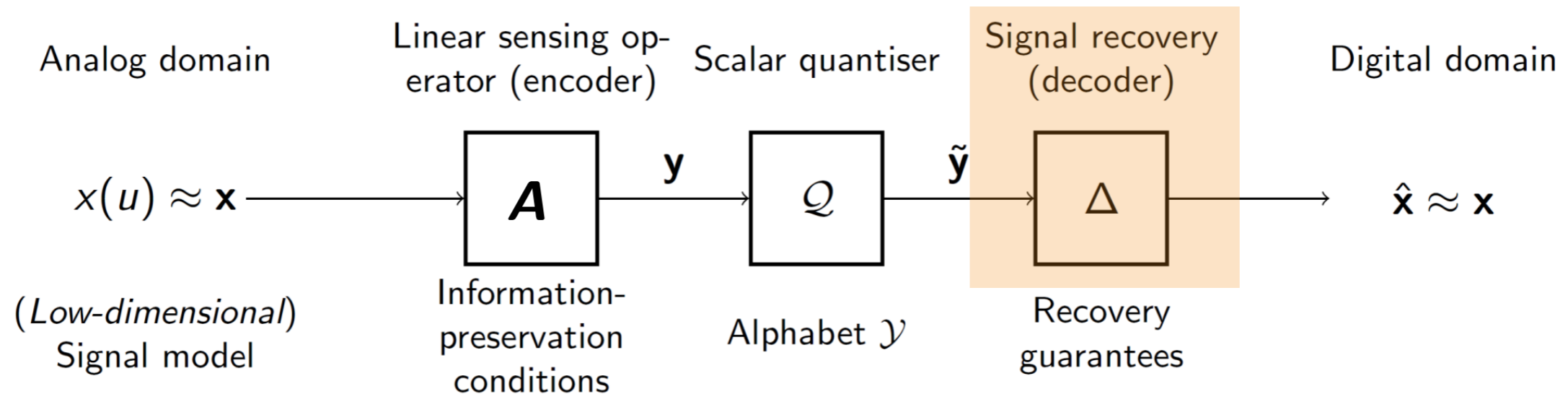
- **Introduction:** from Compressed Sensing to Compressive Classification
- **Compressive classification of finite sets** (*from M. Davenport et al., 2010*)
  - Random matrices and stable embeddings
  - Compressive classification via  $p$ -ary hypothesis testing
- **Compressive classification of disjoint convex sets** (*from A. Bandeira et al., 2014*)
  - Compressive classification of linearly separable classes
    - The Gaussian width of a set: a measure of “intrinsic complexity”
    - “Escape through a mesh”: Gordon’s theorem
    - Minimum projection rank (for linear separability)
  - The case of two disjoint Euclidean balls
  - The case of two disjoint ellipsoids
  - A comparison with PCA: adaptive *versus* non-adaptive dimensionality reduction
- **Conclusion**



- **Compressed Sensing (CS)**, ca. 2005: a mature framework [1] for non-adaptive acquisition of analog signals (“analog-to-information conversion”).
  - The sensing interface is implemented and modelled as a *dimensionality reduction* w.r.t. the  $n$ -dim. Nyquist-rate representation  $\mathbf{x}$  of an analog signal.
  - From the  $m$ -dim. *compressive measurements*  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$ , recover an approximation by means of an optimisation algorithm enforcing a *low-complexity* (low-dimensional) *prior model*,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K}$ . Example:  $k$ -sparse signals,  $\mathcal{K} = \Sigma_k \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .
  - If  $\mathbf{x}$  complies with such prior model (and its complexity is *sufficiently low*, e.g., very sparse), then *exact signal recovery* is possible.



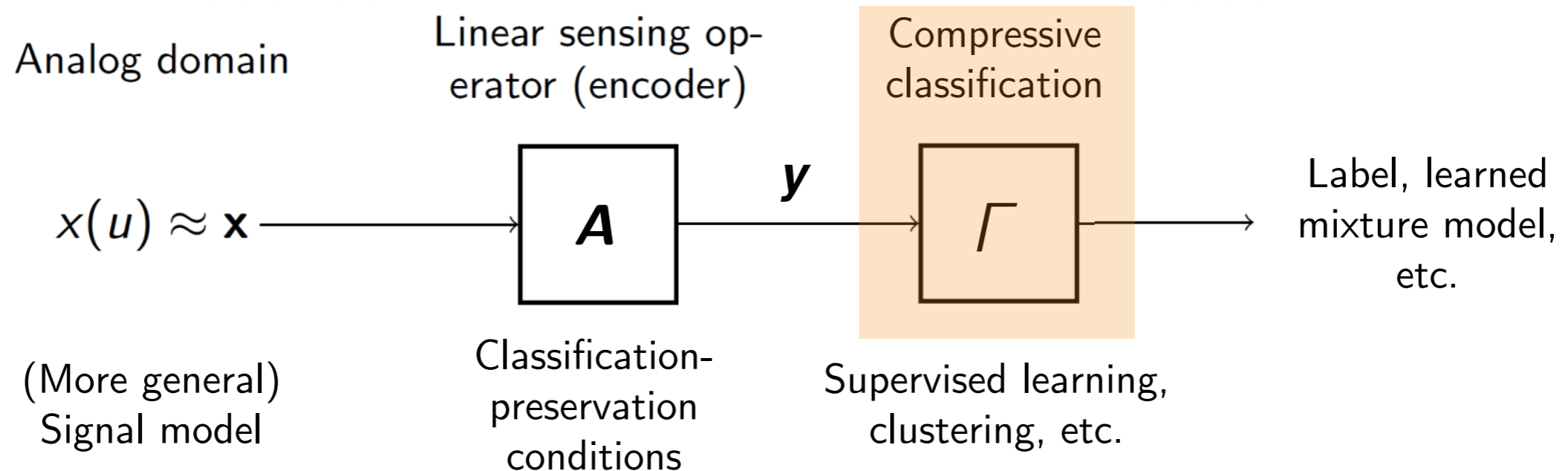
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**Proposition** (Exact signal recovery, loosely based on Corollary 3.3 [2]).

Let  $w(\mathcal{K})$  denote a *measure of complexity* of the prior model; let the random sensing matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \sim \mathcal{D}$  follow a suitable distribution  $\mathcal{D}$ ; then  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \Delta(\mathbf{y}, \mathcal{K}) \equiv \mathbf{x}$  provided that  $m \geq m^*$ ,  $m^* = O(w(\mathcal{K})^2)$ .

- Is (exact) signal recovery *really* required?
- If signal processing in the digital domain amounts to *detection, estimation, classification or filtering*, can we perform analogous operations on  $\mathbf{y}$  rather than  $\mathbf{x}$  with compatible results?



- With which accuracy can we perform *classification in the compressed domain* ? How does  $m$  affect the classification error?
- How does a random matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  differ w.r.t. classical dimensionality reduction (e.g., PCA)? ( $\mathbf{A}$  is a non-adaptive, *universal* dimensionality reduction method.)
- What models of  $\mathbf{x}$  can be **provably** classified with high probability in the compressed domain?
  - Finite sets [3,4], disjoint spheres and ellipsoids [5], mixtures of sufficiently separated Gaussians [6,7], ...

- The classic framework of CS leverages *stable embeddings* to construct *distance-preserving mappings* w.r.t. the chosen signal set (*i.e.*, RIP for sparse signals [8]).
- The following Definition and Lemma summarise Johnson-Lindenstrauss [9], consequent proofs and applications [10,11] in the fashion of [3,8].

## Definition ( $\varepsilon$ -stable embedding).

Let  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}'' \in \mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ;  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is a  $\varepsilon$ -stable embedding of  $\mathcal{S}$  if,  $\forall \mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}'' \in \mathcal{S}$ ,

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|\mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{x}''\|_2^2 \leq \|\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{x}'')\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \|\mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{x}''\|_2^2$$

## Lemma (Johnson-Lindenstrauss [9-11]).

Let  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $p = |\mathcal{S}|$ ; let  $\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{m})$  and  $\varepsilon, \eta \in (0, 1)$ . If  $m \geq m^*$ ,

$$m^* = c\varepsilon^{-2} \left( \log(p) + \log\left(\frac{2}{\eta}\right) \right), c > 0$$

then  $\mathbf{A}$  is a  $\varepsilon$ -stable embedding of  $\mathcal{S}$  with probability  $1 - \eta$ .



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## Definition ( $\varepsilon$ -stable embedding).

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 There is *always* a rank  $m = O(\log(p))$  linear transformation  $\mathbf{A}$  (in particular, random matrices with i.i.d. (sub-)Gaussian entries) that is a stable embedding of a high-dimensional finite set of size  $p$ .

then  $\mathbf{A}$  is a  $\varepsilon$ -stable embedding of  $\mathcal{S}$  with probability  $1 - \eta$ .

- Using stable embeddings and a standard  $p$ -ary hypothesis testing framework, Davenport *et al.* [3] establish a bound on the probability of error of a simple compressive classifier.
- Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{s}_i\}_{i=1}^p$  be a set of reference vectors; let  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{s}_i + \boldsymbol{\nu}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\nu} \sim \mathcal{N}(0_n, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$
- For  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}$  we form  $p$  equal-probability hypotheses:

$$H_i : \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{s}_i + \boldsymbol{\nu}), \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

$$f_{\mathbf{y}|H_i, \mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{y}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^m \det \sigma^2 \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^*}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i)^* (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^*)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

- The *sufficient statistic* for our test is therefore:

$$t_i = (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i)^* (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^*)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

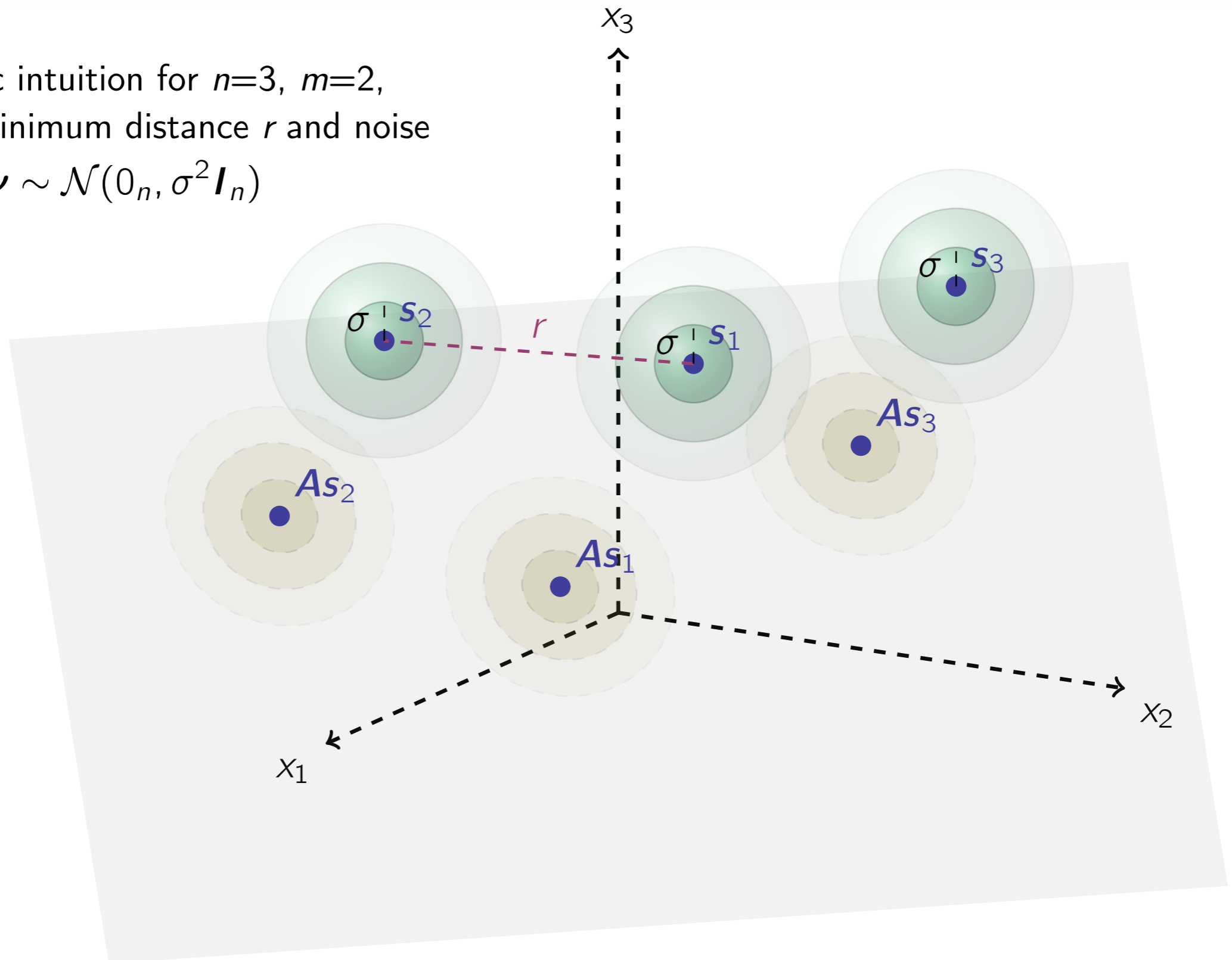
so we classify  $\mathbf{y}$  according to the maximum likelihood, *i.e.* (this case),

$$\hat{i} = \underset{i \in [p]}{\operatorname{argmin}} t_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

- Note that, asymptotically,  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^* \simeq \mathbf{I}_m \Rightarrow t_i \simeq \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i\|_2^2 = \|\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{s}_i)\|_2^2$

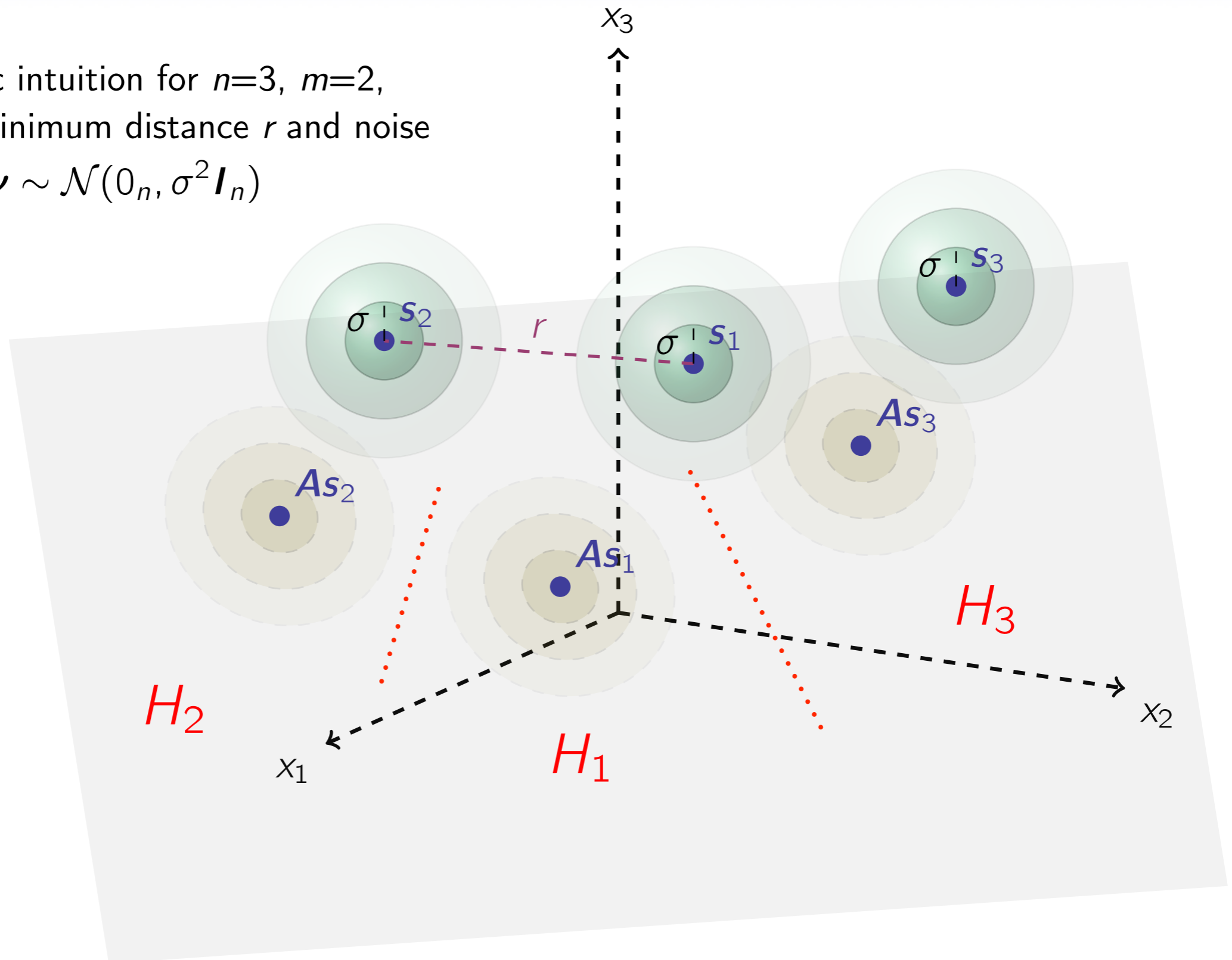
- Geometric intuition for  $n=3$ ,  $m=2$ ,  $p=3$  at minimum distance  $r$  and noise

$$\nu \sim \mathcal{N}(0_n, \sigma^2 I_n)$$



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**Theorem** (Compressive classification of finite sets, Theorem 3 in [3]).

Let  $\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{m})$  be a  $\varepsilon$ -stable embedding of  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $p = |\mathcal{S}|$ . Define

$$r = \min_{i \neq j} \|\mathbf{s}_i - \mathbf{s}_j\|_2$$

and assume the measurements are produced by the  $i^*$ -th hypothesis,

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{s}_{i^*} + \boldsymbol{\nu}), \boldsymbol{\nu} \sim \mathcal{N}(0_n, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$$

Then the classification error probability  $P_e = \mathbb{P}[\hat{i} \neq i^*]$  of the classifier

$$\hat{i} = \operatorname{argmin}_{i \in [p]} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i)^* (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^*)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}_i)$$

is bounded by

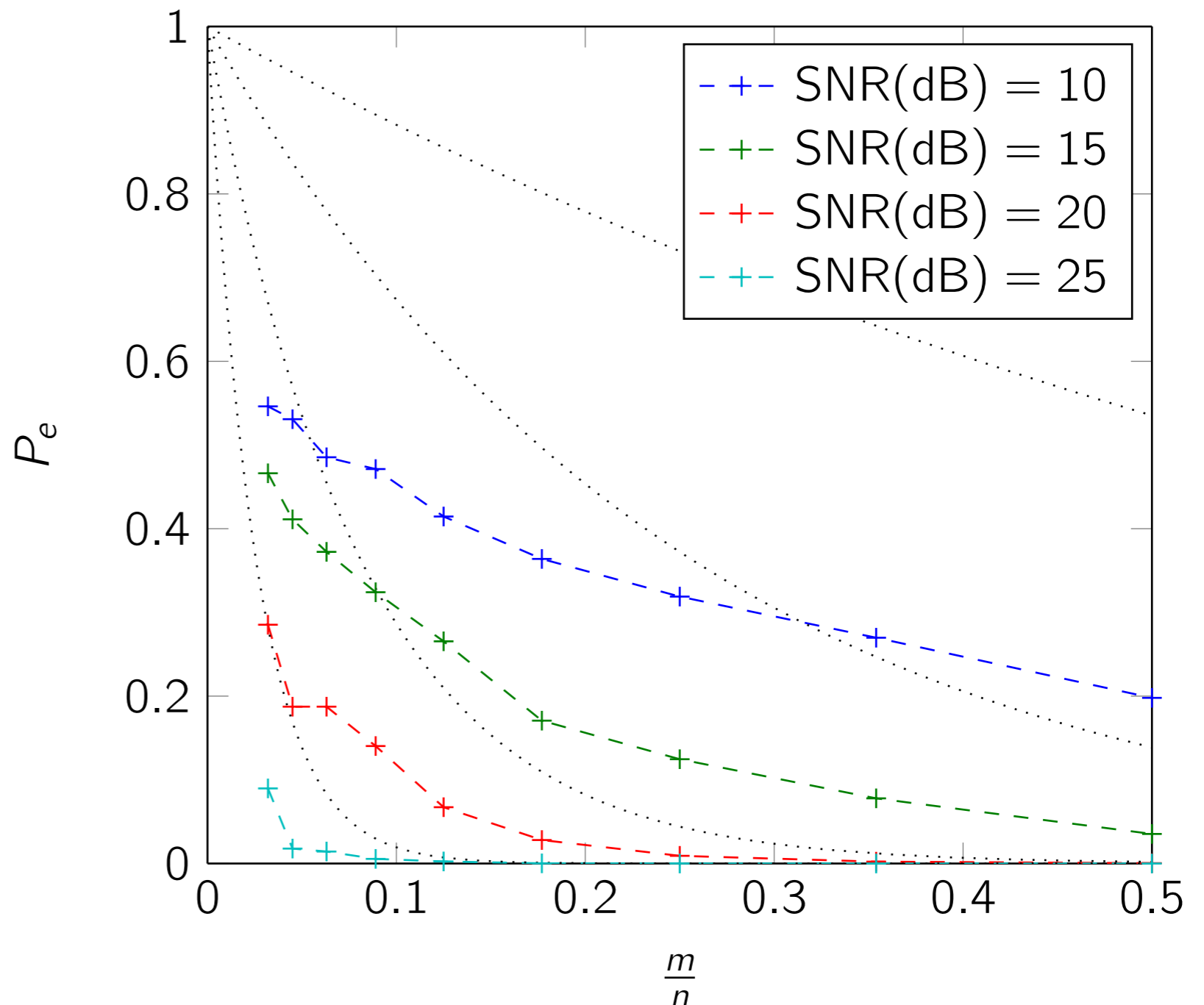
$$P_e \leq \frac{p-1}{2} e^{-\frac{r^2}{\sigma^2} \frac{m}{n} \frac{1-\varepsilon}{8}}$$

- The above bound is proved in [3] by simple inequalities using: the stable embedding assumption; the minimum distance  $r$ ; a tail bound of the normal distribution; a union bound.

- Set  $n = 1000$  and draw  $p = 3$  random points in  $S$  at fixed minimum distance  $r$ .
- Generate random instances of  $(S, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{y})$  according to the  $p$ -hypotheses model.
- Classify  $\mathbf{y}$  with
 
$$\hat{i} = \operatorname{argmin}_{i \in [p]} t_i$$
 and evaluate  $P_e(\frac{m}{n}, \sigma^2)$ .
- Note that the noise variance fixes:

$$\text{SNR(dB)} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{r^2}{\sigma^2}$$

(Depends on *separation* between the hypotheses.)





- Assume now that  $\mathbf{x}$  is drawn from a mixture of classes  $\{C_i\}_{i=1}^p$ .

- If the classes are not closed convex sets, we take as classes their *convex hulls*:

$$\{S_i\}_{i=1}^p, S_i = \text{Hull}(C_i), S_i \cap S_j = \emptyset$$

- The classes (or their hulls) are assumed as disjoint closed convex sets, i.e.,  $\forall j \neq i, C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$
- The classes are assumed *pairwise linearly separable* (by a hyperplane), i.e.,

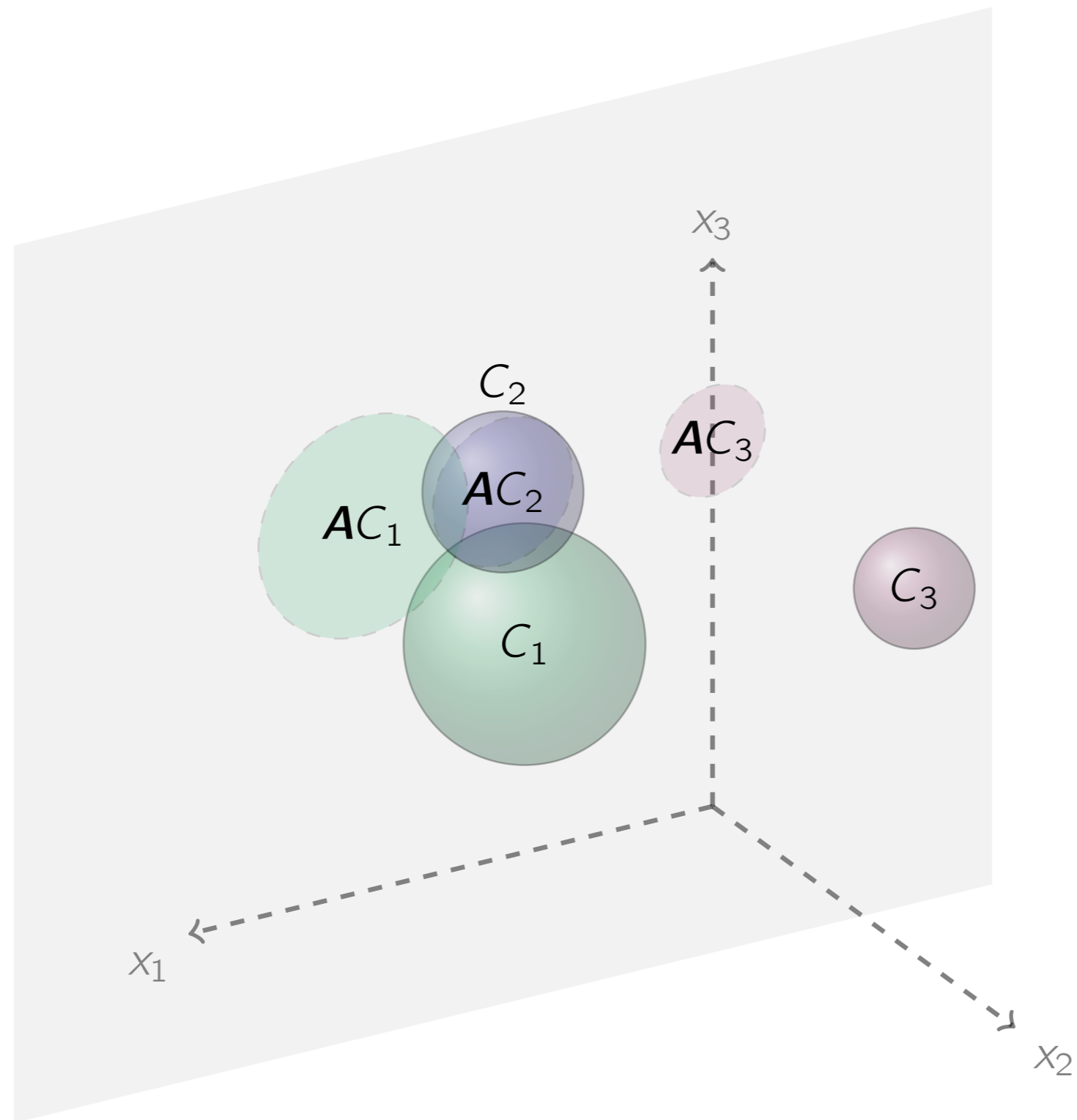
$$\forall j \neq i, \exists \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times n}, \boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^q, q < n : \begin{cases} \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\beta} \geq 0_q, & \forall \mathbf{x} \in C_i \\ \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\beta} < 0_q, & \forall \mathbf{x} \in C_j \end{cases}$$

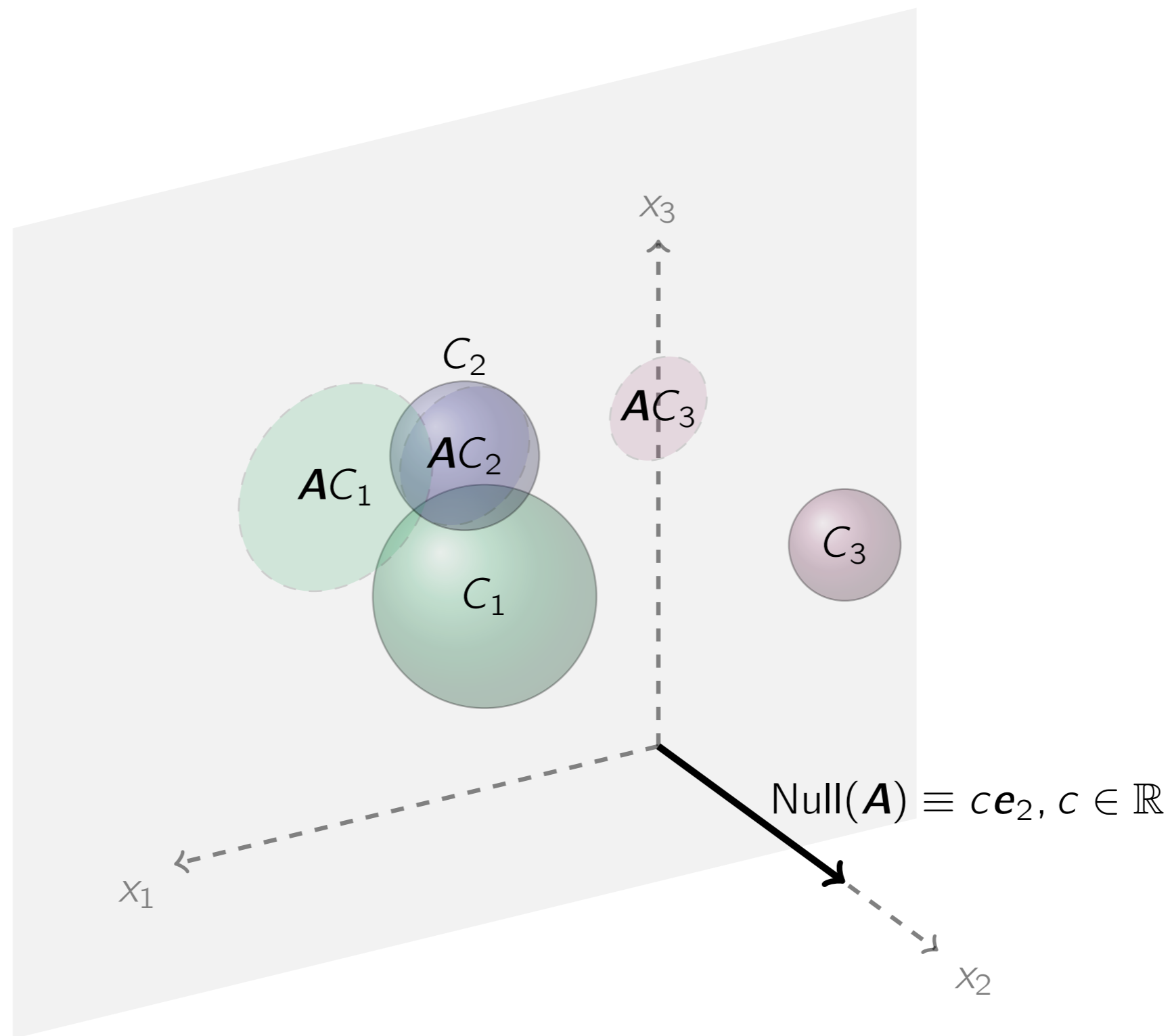
(This setting strongly reminds *linear support vector machines*!)

- We want to assess whether a random projection is capable of preserving *linear separability*, that is assumed as critical event for compressive classification:

$$\forall j \neq i, \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}, \exists \mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times m}, \boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^q, q < m : \begin{cases} \mathbf{B}\mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\beta} \geq 0_q, & \forall \mathbf{x} \in C_i \\ \mathbf{B}\mathbf{y} + \boldsymbol{\beta} < 0_q, & \forall \mathbf{x} \in C_j \end{cases}$$

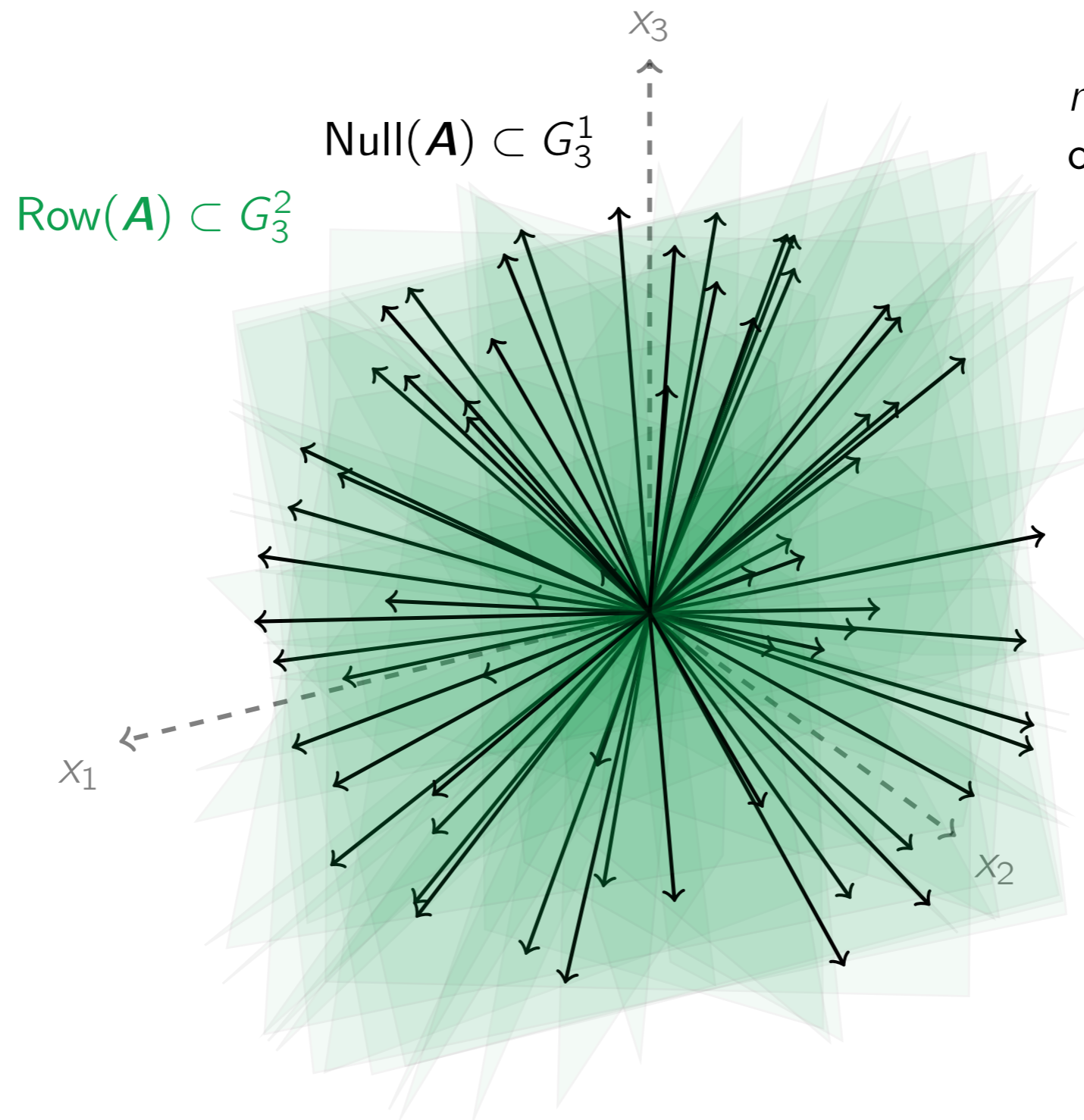
- This notion is quite different (somewhat loose) w.r.t. stable embeddings. It does not measure *how* the distances between projected points of different classes are distorted *as long as their separability is maintained*.





$$\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \Rightarrow \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}) \sim \mathcal{U}(G_n^{n-m})$$

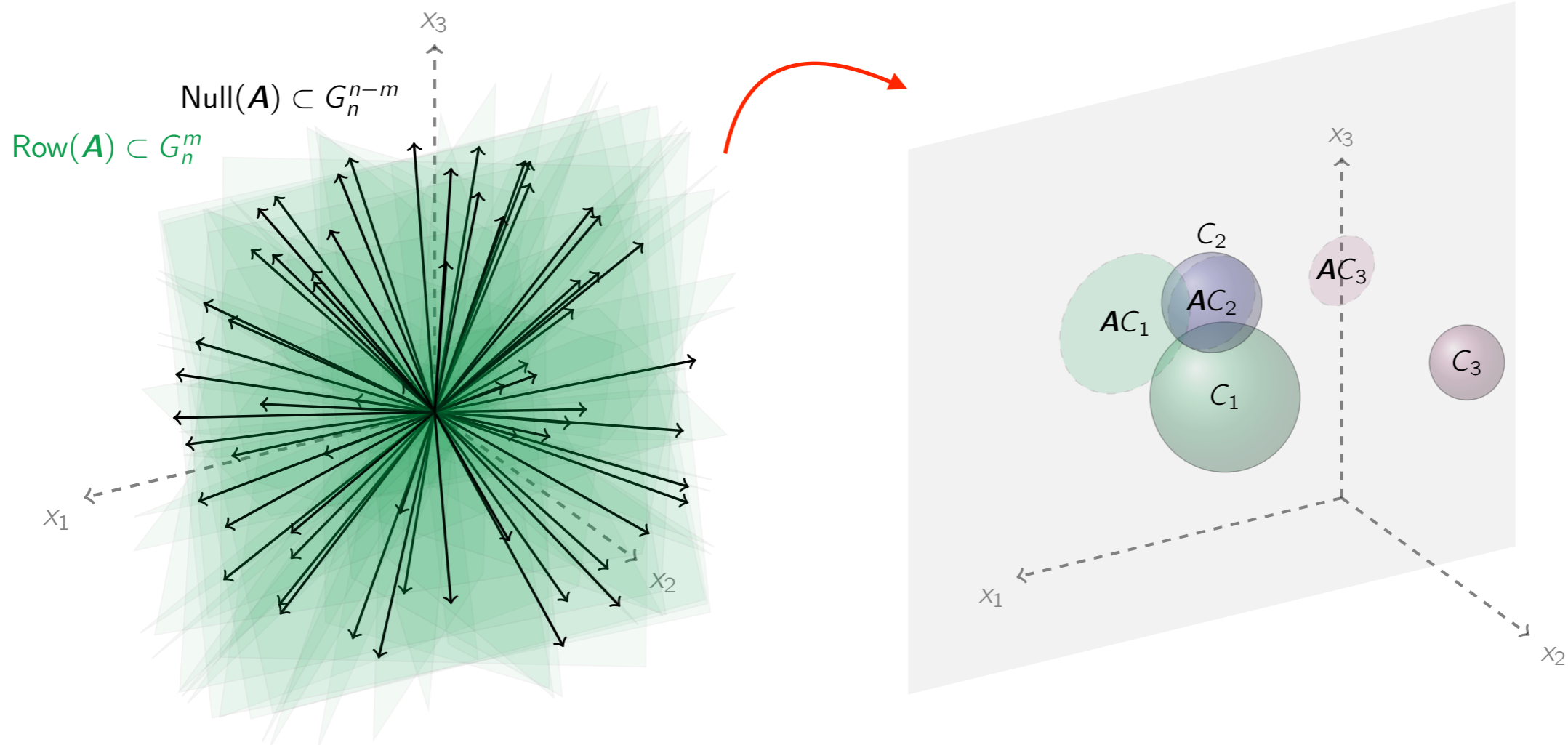
$G_n^m$ : manifold of all  $m$ -dimensional subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (through the origin)



## Problem (Rare Eclipse [5]).

Let  $\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{m}\right)$  and two convex sets  $C_i, C_j \subset \mathbb{R}^n, C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$ ; find the smallest  $m < n, \eta \in [0, 1)$  such that their images under  $\mathbf{A}$  remain disjoint, *i.e.*,

$$\mathbb{P}[\mathbf{A}C_i \cap \mathbf{A}C_j = \emptyset] \geq 1 - \eta$$



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- Let’s elaborate this requirement:

$$\mathbf{A}C_i \cap \mathbf{A}C_j = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \forall \mathbf{x}' \in C_i, \mathbf{x}'' \in C_j, \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{x}'' - \mathbf{x}') \neq 0$$

- Define the Minkowski difference of the two sets:

$$C_i - C_j = \{\mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{x}'' \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbf{x}' \in C_i, \mathbf{x}'' \in C_j\}$$

- Thus:

$$\mathbf{A}C_i \cap \mathbf{A}C_j = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}) \cap C_i - C_j = \emptyset$$

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Let  $\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{m})$  and two convex sets  $C_i, C_j \subset \mathbb{R}^n, C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset$ ; find the smallest  $m < n, \eta \in [0, 1)$  such that their images under  $\mathbf{A}$  remain disjoint, *i.e.*,

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- Finally, since  $\text{Null}(\mathbf{A})$  is closed w.r.t. scalar multiplication, we can take the smallest cone that contains the Minkowski difference, *i.e.*,

$$C^- = \text{Cone}(C_i - C_j), \bar{C}^- = \text{Cone}(C_i - C_j) \cap \mathcal{S}^{n-1}$$

- Thus, the problem is mapped to evaluating the probability that

$$\mathbf{A}C_i \cap \mathbf{A}C_j = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}) \cap C^- = \emptyset$$

that is the probability that  $\text{Null}(\mathbf{A})$  “avoids” the above cone.

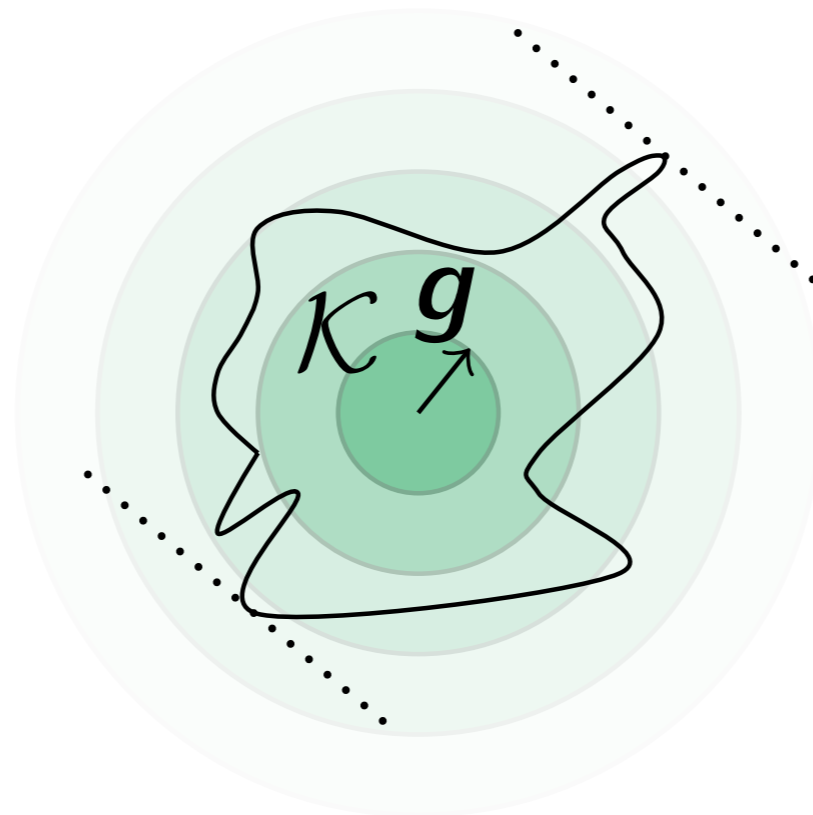
- We need a notion of “size” to measure the probability of this event.
- Analogous concept in sparse signal recovery literature: the *null space property* [12].

**Definition** (Gaussian width of a set [2]).

Let  $\mathbf{g} \sim \mathcal{N}(0_n, I_n)$ ; the Gaussian (mean) width of a set  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is

$$w(\mathcal{K}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{g}} \left[ \max_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{K}} \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{g} \rangle \right]$$

$w(\mathcal{K})$  is invariant under translations, orthogonal transformations, and convex hulls of the set  $\mathcal{K}$ .



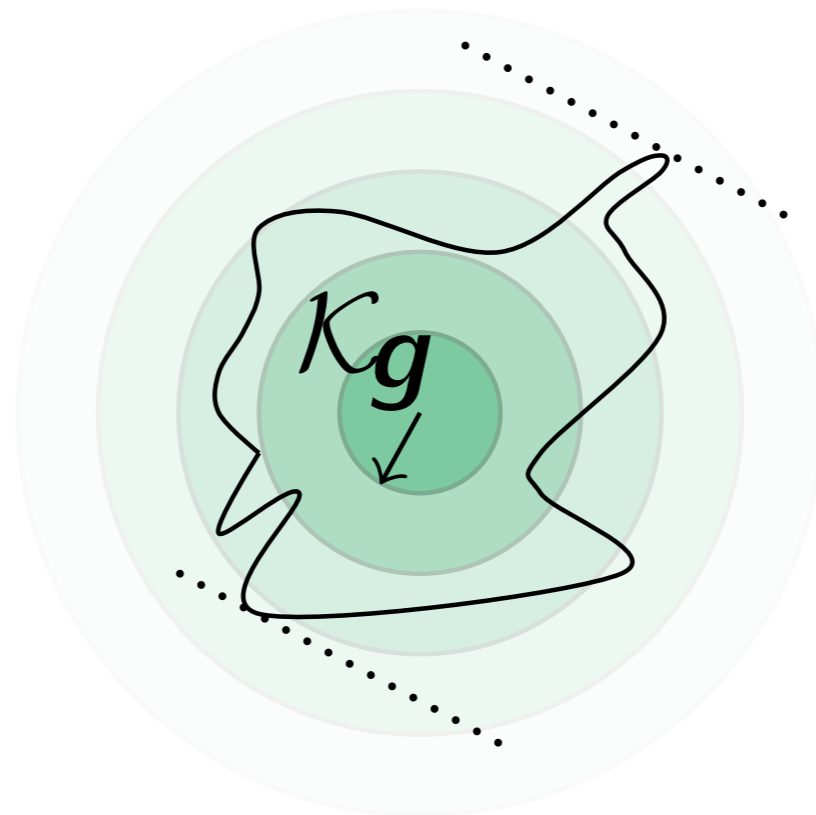


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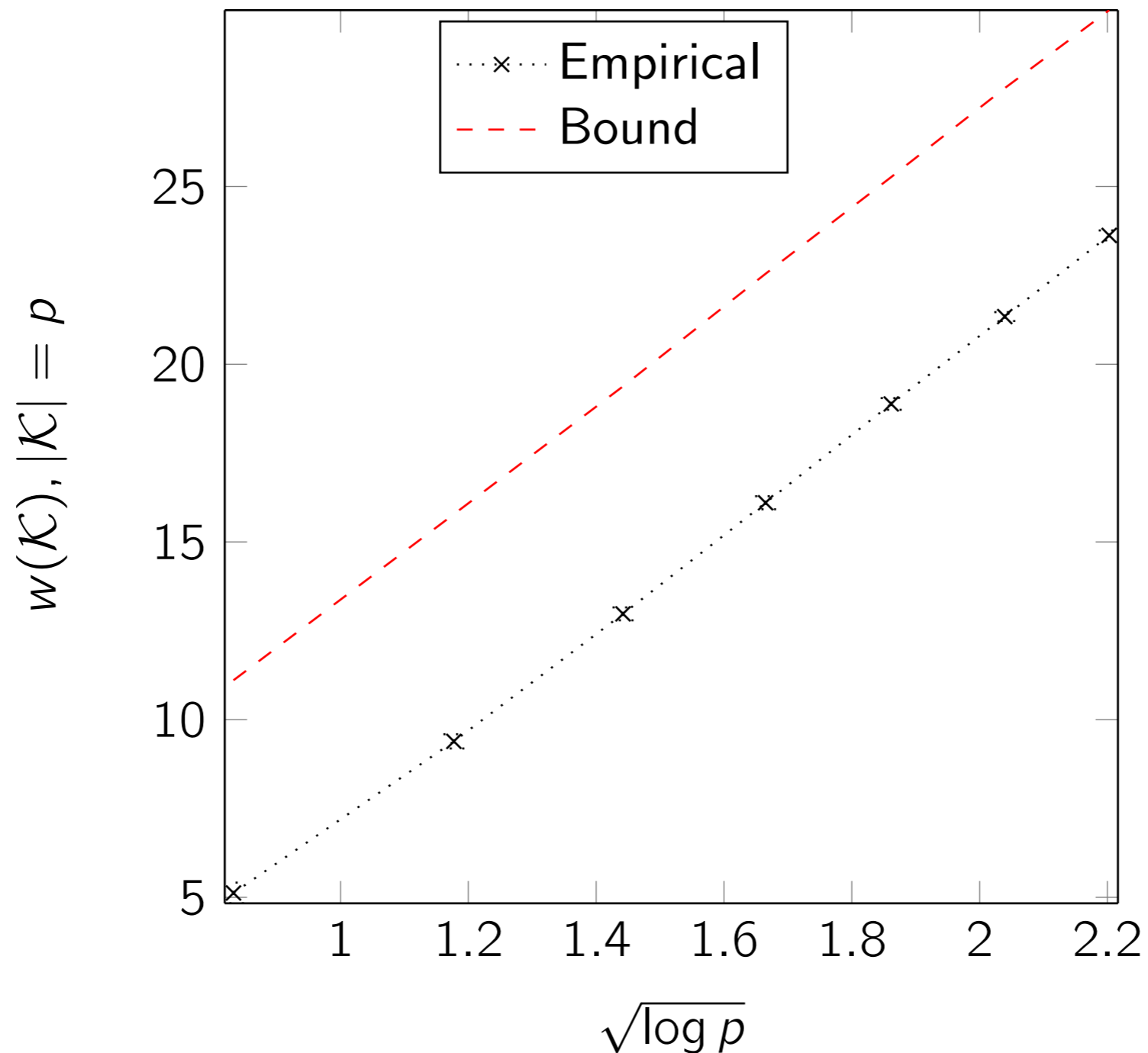
- Some relevant examples in the literature [14]:
  - $k$ -sparse signals:

$$\mathcal{K} = \Sigma_k, \quad w(\Sigma_k) \lesssim \sqrt{k \log \frac{n}{k}}$$

- $p$ -cardinality sets of vectors:

$$\mathcal{K} = \{\mathbf{s}_i\}_{i=1}^p, \quad w(\mathcal{K}) \leq \sqrt{2 \log p} \max_{i \in [p]} \|\mathbf{s}_i\|_2$$

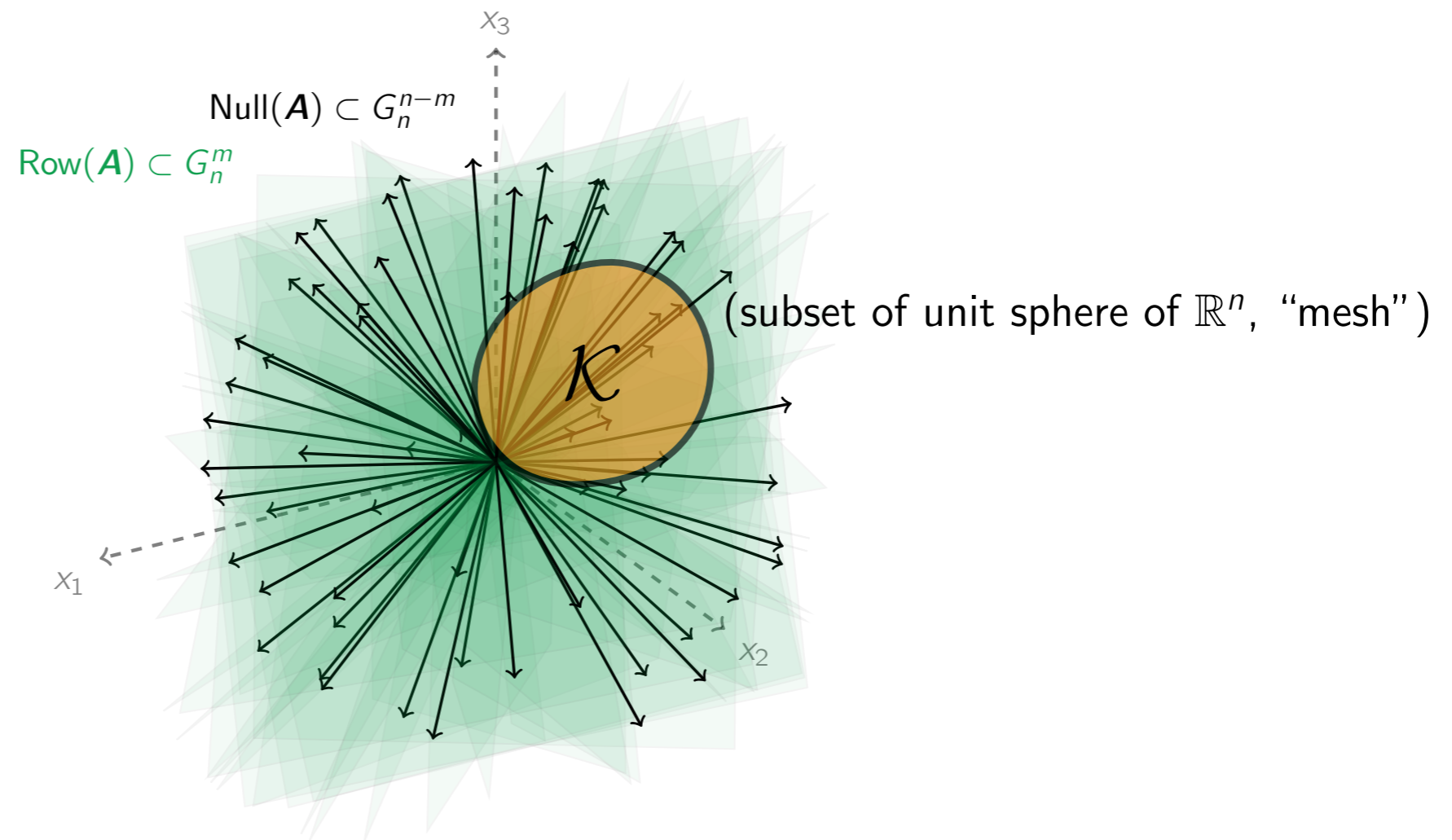
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**Theorem** (Gordon’s Escape through a Mesh Theorem [13]).

Let  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{S}^{n-1}$  and  $\mathbf{g} \sim \mathcal{N}(0_m, \mathbf{I}_m)$ ; denote  $\lambda_m = \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{g}\|_2]$ . If  $w(\mathcal{K}) \leq \lambda_m$ , then any uniformly drawn  $Y \in G_m^{n-m}$  satisfies

$$\mathbb{P}[Y \cap \mathcal{K} = \emptyset] \geq 1 - e^{(-\frac{1}{2}(\lambda_m - w(\mathcal{K}))^2)}$$



**Corollary** (“Escape through a Minkowski difference”, Corollary 3.1 in [5]).

Let  $C_i, C_j \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be disjoint convex sets;  $\bar{C}^- = \text{Cone}(C_i - C_j) \cap \mathcal{S}^{n-1}$ ;  $w_\eta = w(\bar{C}^-)$ . Let  $\mathbf{A}_{m \times n} \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  and  $\eta \in (0, 1)$ . Then for  $m \geq m^*$ ,

$$m^* = \left( w_\eta + \sqrt{2 \log \frac{1}{\eta}} \right)^2 + 1 \Rightarrow \mathbb{P}[\mathbf{A}C_i \cap \mathbf{A}C_j = \emptyset] \geq 1 - \eta$$

- This corollary is simply obtained by taking in Gordon’s Theorem:

$$Y := \text{Null}(\mathbf{A}), \mathcal{K} := \bar{C}^-, \lambda_m \leq \sqrt{m}$$

$$\eta = e^{(-\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{m} - w(\bar{C}^-))^2)}$$

and by fixing the last quantity to an arbitrary probability value.

- The rest of Bandeira *et al.* [5] is simply concerned with *finding closed-form expressions for the Gaussian width* of the cone that encloses the Minkowski difference of special convex sets.
- Spheres (simple) and ellipsoids (much harder) lend themselves to this calculation.

**Lemma** ( $C^-$  of two balls is a circular cone, Lemma 3.3 in [5]).

Let  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $C_i = \rho_i \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}_i : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{B}_{\ell_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  of centers  $\mathbf{s}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and radii  $\rho_i > 0$ ; assume that  $\rho_1 + \rho_2 < \|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\|_2$ . Then the  $\text{Cone}(C_1 - C_2) = \text{Circ}(\alpha)$ , that is the *circular cone* of aperture  $\alpha$

$$\text{Circ}(\alpha) = \left\{ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \frac{\langle \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2 \rangle}{\|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\|_2} \geq \cos \alpha \right\}$$

for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ ,  $\sin \alpha = \frac{\rho_1 + \rho_2}{\|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\|_2}$ .

- The proof entails showing:

$$\text{Cone}(C_1 - C_2) \subseteq \text{Circ}(\alpha) \text{ and } \text{Circ}(\alpha) \subseteq \text{Cone}(C_1 - C_2)$$

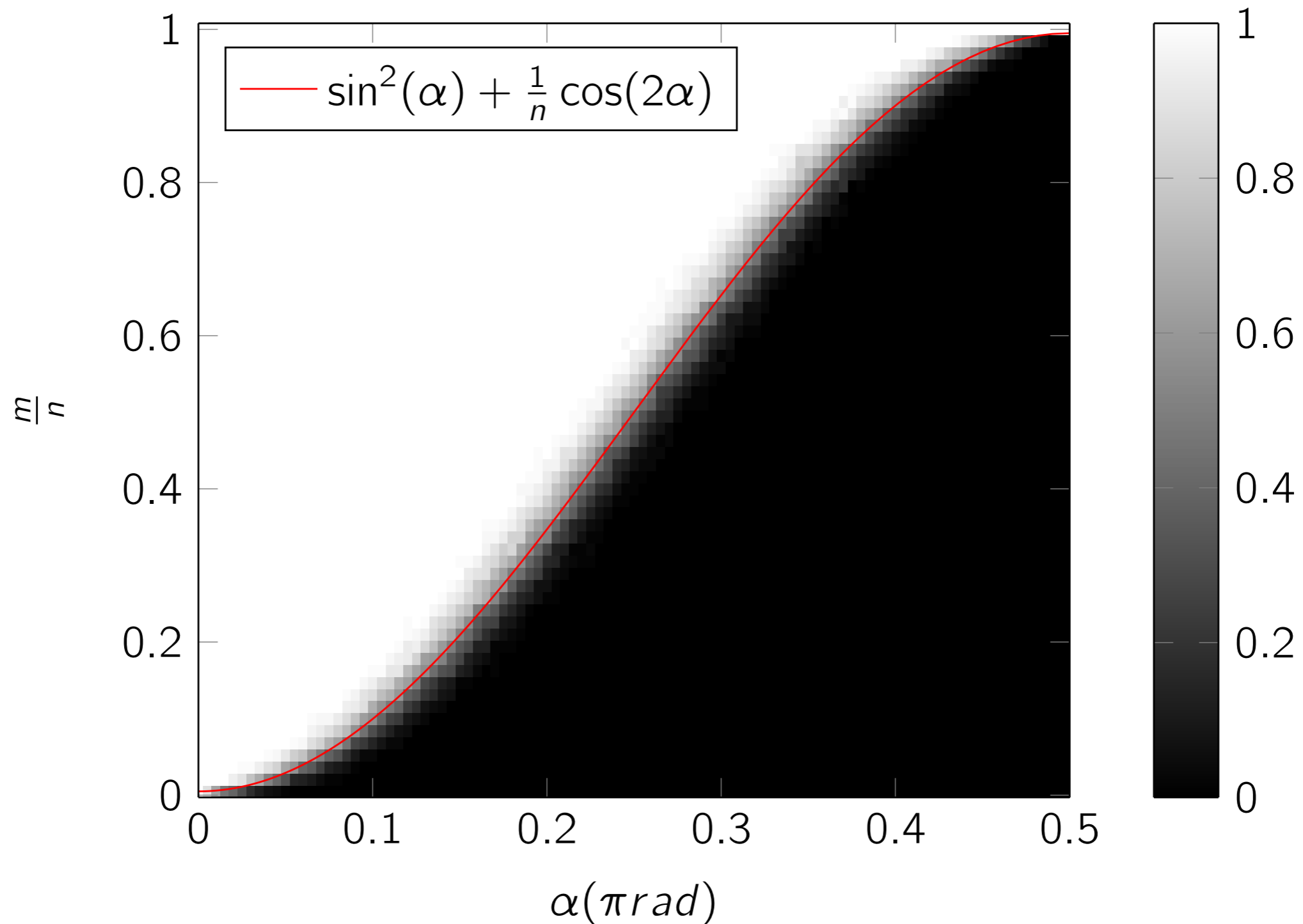
- Since the Gaussian width of the circular cone is known,

$$w_n^2 = w(\text{Circ}(\alpha) \cap \mathcal{S}^{n-1})^2 = n \sin^2 \alpha + O(1)$$

plugging this into the previous Corollary yields:

$$m^* = n \left( \frac{\rho_1 + \rho_2}{\|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\|_2} \right)^2 + O(\sqrt{n})$$

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Null}(\mathbf{A}) \cap C^- = \emptyset)$$



- A naive approach would be taking the *radii* as the largest semi-axes (*i.e.*, maximum singular values) of the symmetric PSD matrices defining the ellipsoids, *i.e.*, taking the smallest balls that enclose them.
  - Implicitly assumes that the bounding balls do not intersect.
  - This would lead to an *extremely loose* bound.
- Bandeira *et al.* [5] take a step further and arrive to the following statement (proof is less intuitive):

**Theorem** (Gaussian width of  $C^-$  of two ellipses, Theorem 3.5 in [5]).

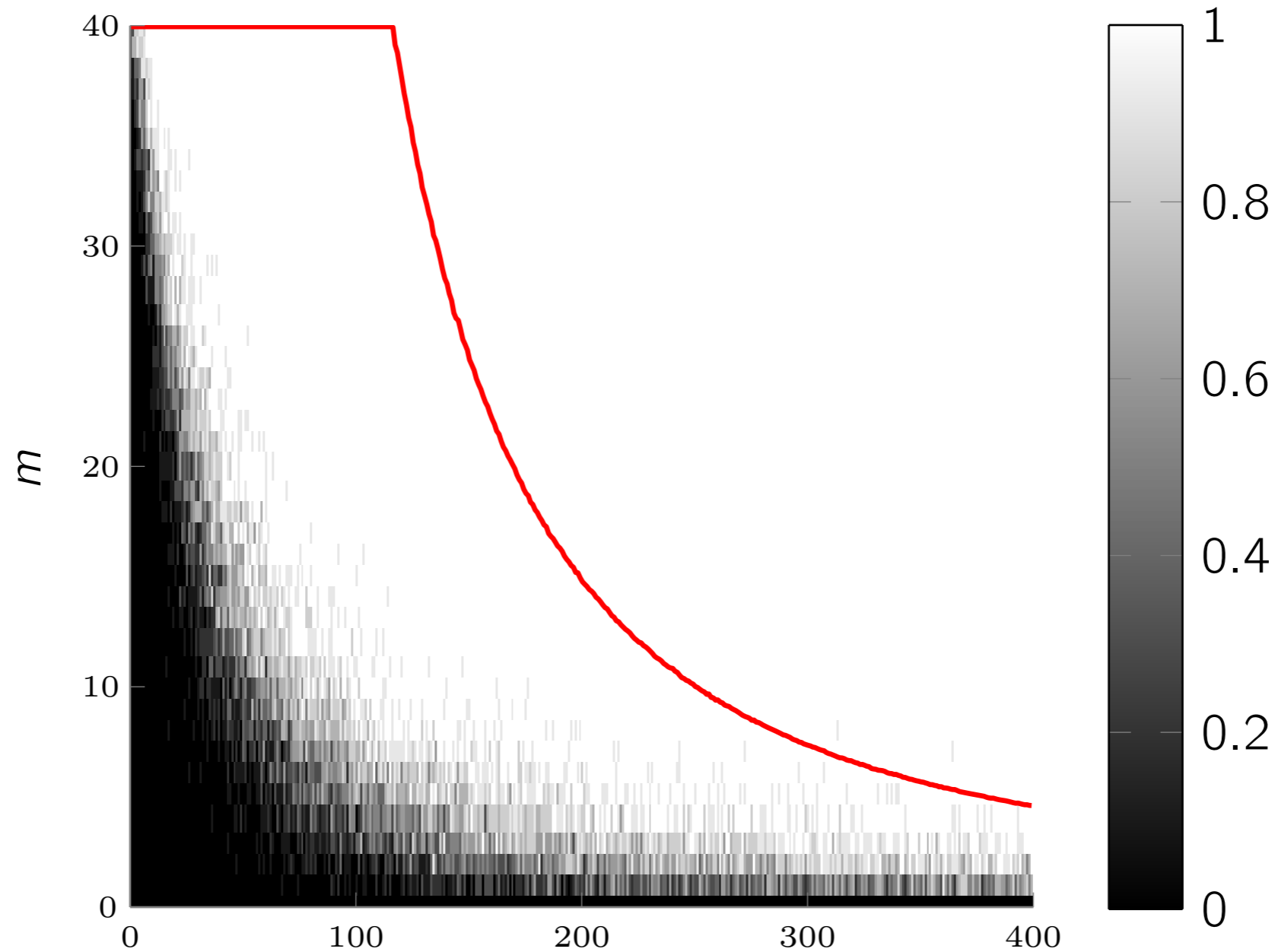
Let  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $\Gamma_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  symmetric PSD,  $C_i = \{\Gamma_i \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}_i : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{B}_{\ell_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)\}$  of centers  $\mathbf{s}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

$$w_n \leq \frac{\|\Gamma_1\|_F + \|\Gamma_2\|_F}{\zeta - (\|\Gamma_1 \boldsymbol{\xi}\|_2 + \|\Gamma_2 \boldsymbol{\xi}\|_2)}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\xi} = \frac{\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2}{\|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\|_2}$ ,  $\zeta = \|\mathbf{s}_1 - \mathbf{s}_2\|_2 > \|\Gamma_1 \boldsymbol{\xi}\|_2 + \|\Gamma_2 \boldsymbol{\xi}\|_2$ .



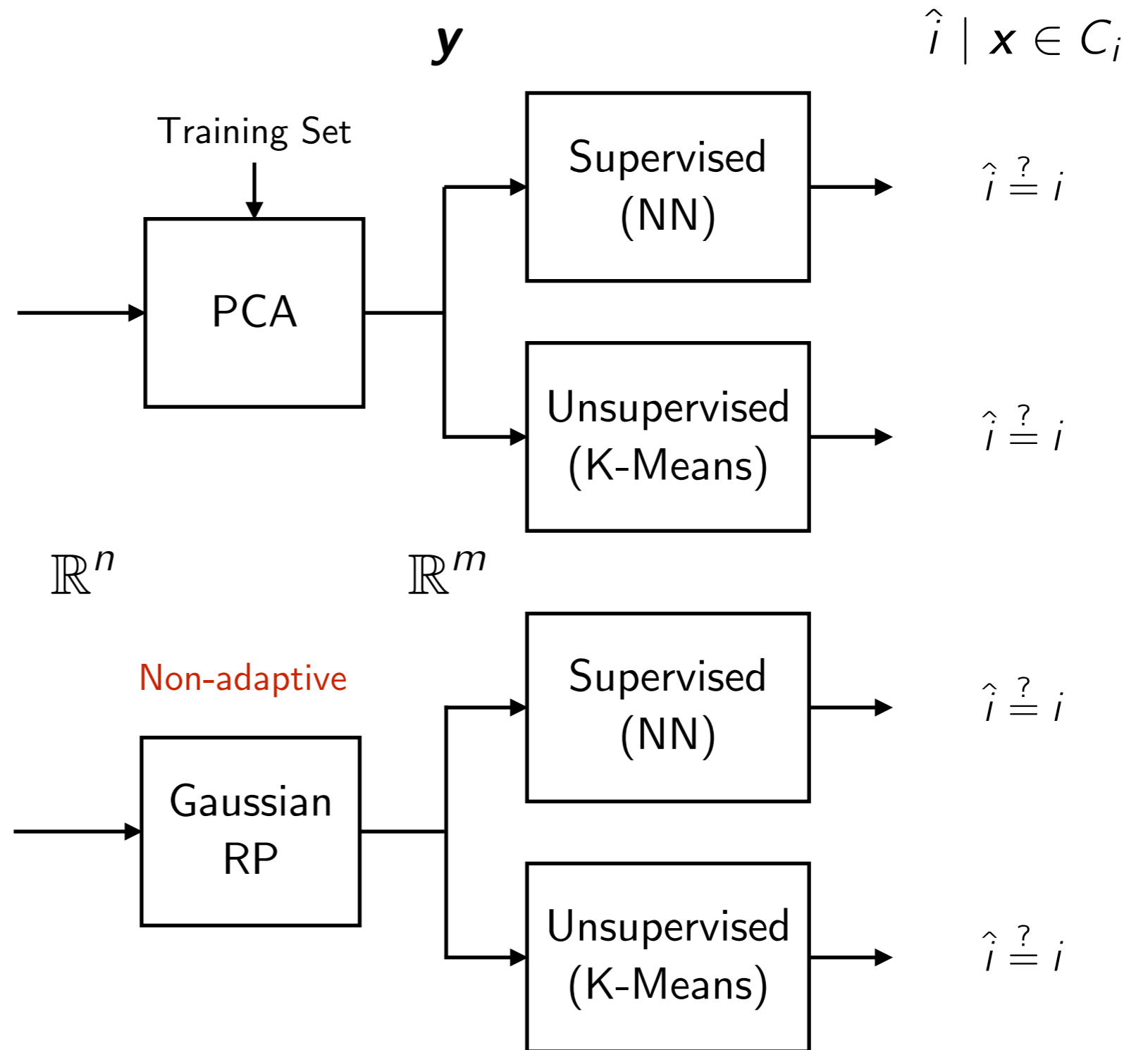
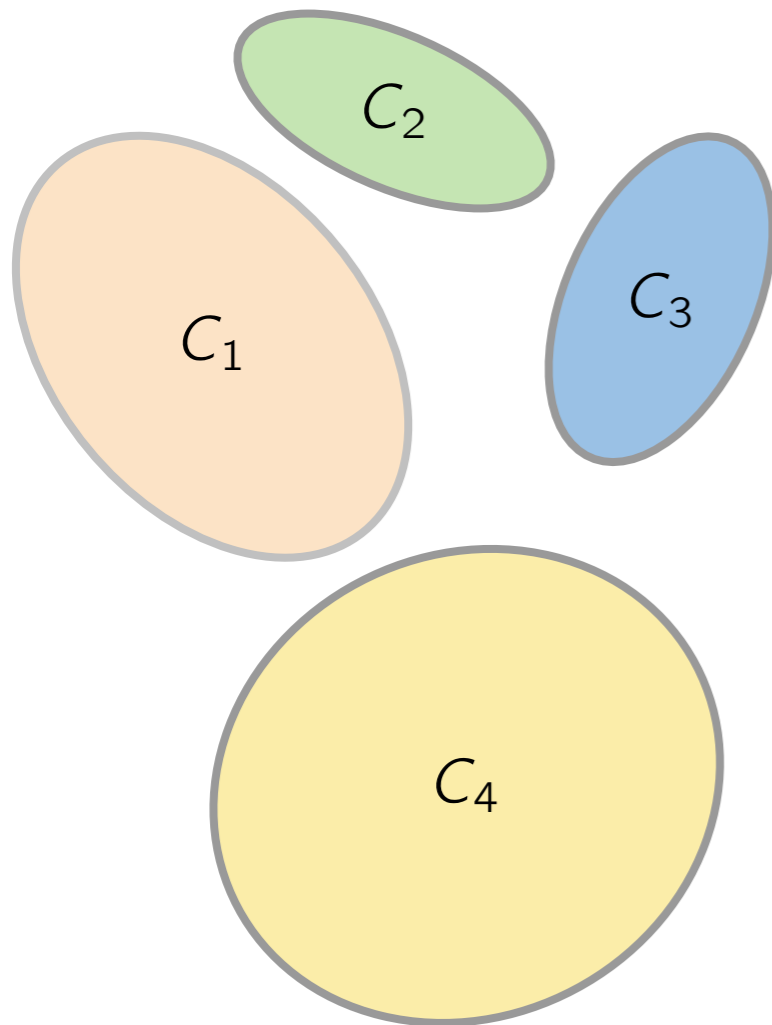
$$\mathbb{P}(\text{Null}(\mathbf{A}) \cap \mathcal{C}^- = \emptyset)$$

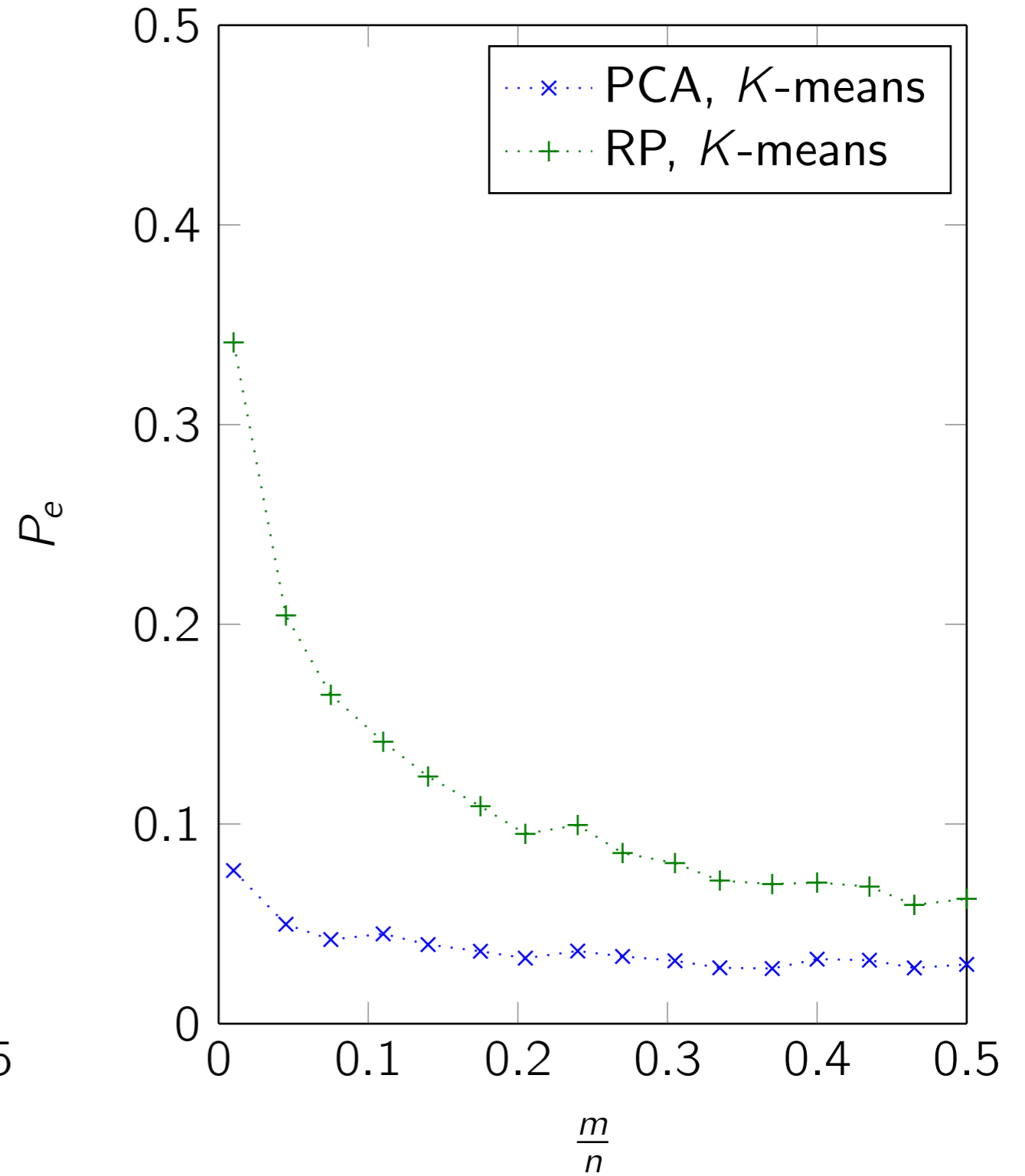
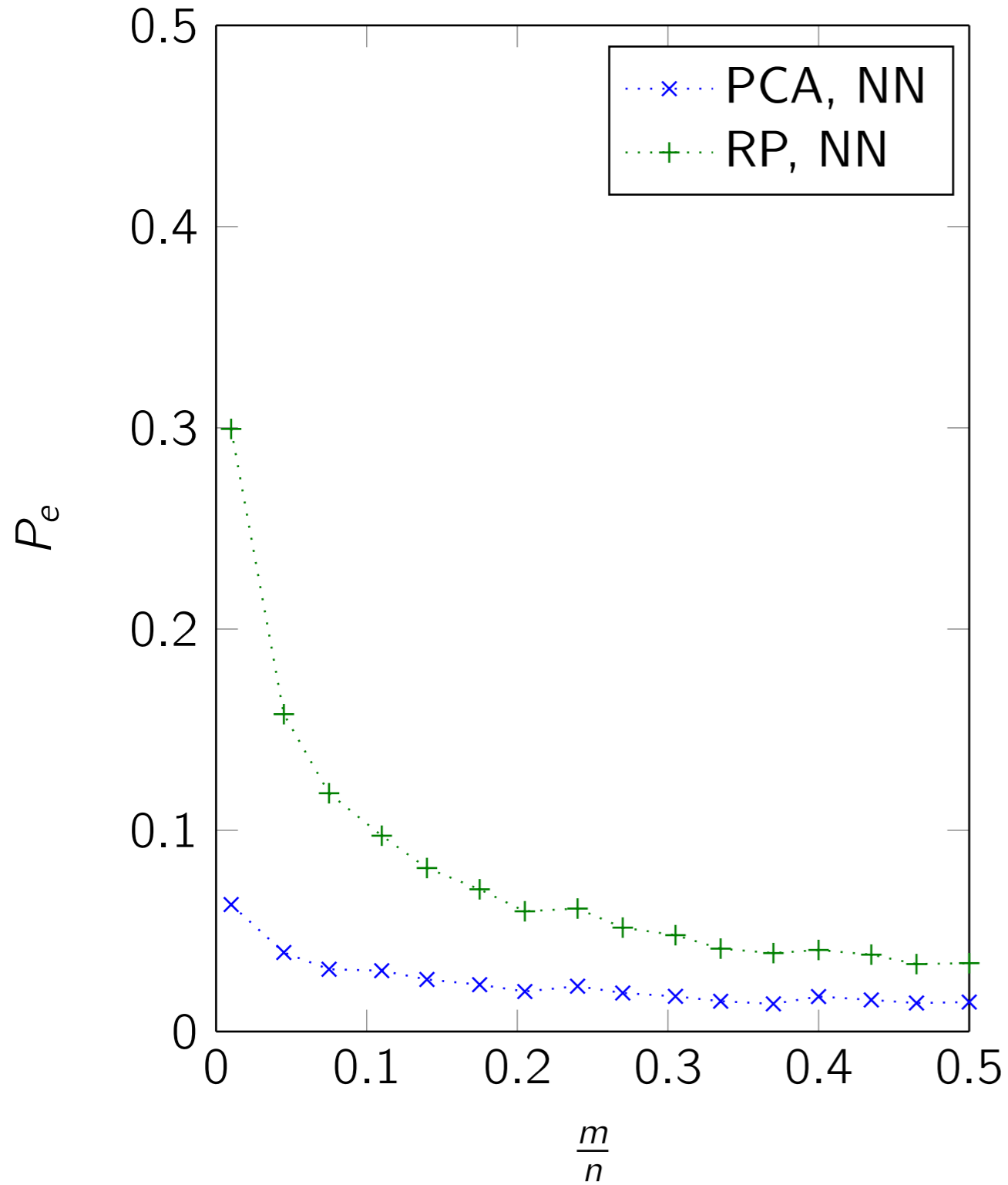


$\zeta$ : Distance between ellipsoid centers

$\mathbf{x}$

$i = 1, 2, \dots, p, \Gamma_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  symmetric PSD,  
 $C_i = \{\Gamma_i \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}_i : \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{B}_{\ell_2}(\mathbb{R}^n)\}$  of centers  $\mathbf{s}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$





- Emphasis of this talk was on assessing whether it is (theoretically) possible to distinguish *linearly separable classes* after random projection.
  - This ensures that even the simplest classification algorithm will succeed.
  - Ideally, *unsupervised* learning will yield separated clusters after a non-adaptive dimensionality reduction.
  - Application: compressive classification “right after” the sensing interface, with minimum computational and hardware complexity requirements.
- Open questions:
  - How does (1 to  $q$ )-bit quantisation affect compressive classification? By how much the requirements on  $m$  will be increased? Can we characterise:

$$\mathbb{P} [Q_q (\mathbf{AC}_i) \cap Q_q (\mathbf{AC}_j) = \emptyset] \geq 1 - \eta$$

- Study of different models for other disjoint convex sets of interest
- Application to classification of very high-dimensional (e.g., volumetric) data

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Thank you for your attention.

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