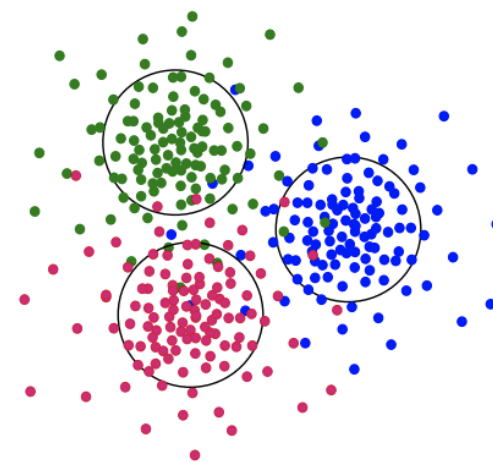


# Lecture 11 CMS 165

Spectral Methods: Tensor methods

# Recap: PCA on Gaussian Mixtures

- $k$  Gaussians: each sample is  $x = Ah + z$ .
- $h \in [e_1, \dots, e_k]$ , the basis vectors.  $\mathbb{E}[h] = w$ .
- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ : columns are component means.
- Let  $\mu := Aw$  be the mean.
- $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)$  is white Gaussian noise.



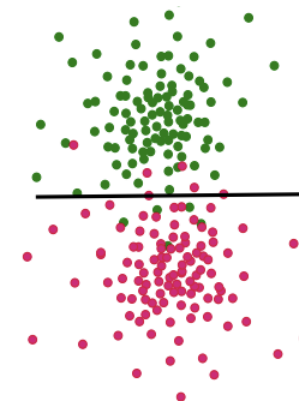
$$\mathbb{E}[(x - \mu)(x - \mu)^\top] = \sum_{i \in [k]} w_i (a_i - \mu)(a_i - \mu)^\top + \sigma^2 I.$$

Can obtain  $\text{span}(A)$ .  
But what about columns of  $A$ ?

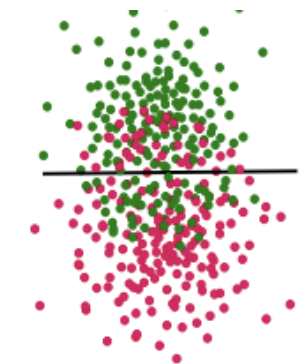
# Learning Gaussian mixtures through clustering

## Learning $A$ through Spectral Clustering

- Project samples  $x$  on to  $\text{span}(A)$ .
- Distance-based clustering (e.g.  $k$ -means).
- A series of works, e.g. Vempala & Wang.



Failure to cluster under large variance.



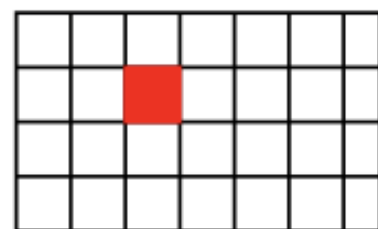
Learning Gaussian Mixtures Without Separation Constraints?

# Tensor Notation for Higher Order Moments

- Multi-variate higher order moments form **tensors**.
- Are there **spectral** operations on tensors akin to PCA?

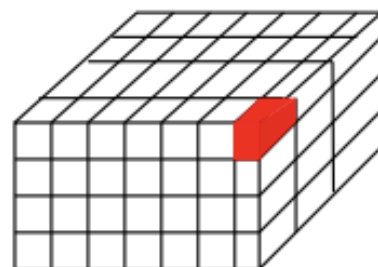
## Matrix

- $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is a second order tensor.
- $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x]_{i_1, i_2} = \mathbb{E}[x_{i_1} x_{i_2}]$ .
- For matrices:  $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x] = \mathbb{E}[xx^\top]$ .



## Tensor

- $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d \times d}$  is a third order tensor.
- $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x]_{i_1, i_2, i_3} = \mathbb{E}[x_{i_1} x_{i_2} x_{i_3}]$ .



# Third order moment for Gaussian mixtures

- Consider mixture of  $k$  Gaussians: each sample is  $x = Ah + z$ .
- $h \in [e_1, \dots, e_k]$ , the basis vectors.  $\mathbb{E}[h] = w$ .
- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ : columns are component means.  $\mu := Aw$  be the mean.
- $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)$  is white Gaussian noise.

$$\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x] = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i + \sigma^2 \sum_i (\mu \otimes e_i \otimes e_i + \dots)$$

Intuition behind equation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x] &= \mathbb{E}[(Ah) \otimes (Ah) \otimes (Ah)] + \mathbb{E}[(Ah) \otimes z \otimes z] + \dots \\ &= \sum_i w_i \cdot a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i + \sigma^2 \sum_i \mu \otimes e_i \otimes e_i + \dots\end{aligned}$$

How to recover parameters  $A$  and  $w$  from third order moment?

# Tensor Slices

$$M_3 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i, \quad M_2 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i.$$

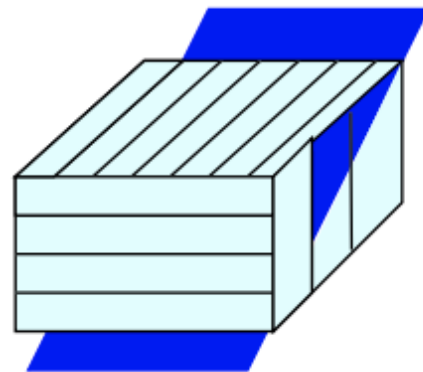
Multilinear transformation of tensor

$$M_3(B, C, D) := \sum_i w_i (B^\top a_i) \cdot (C^\top a_i) \cdot (D^\top a_i)$$

Slice of a tensor

$$M_3(I, I, r) = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i \langle a_i, r \rangle = A \text{Diag}(w) \text{Diag}(A^\top r) A^\top$$

$$M_3(I, I, r) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \text{Diag}(w) \text{Diag}(A^\top r) \cdot \mathbf{A}^\top$$
$$M_2 = \mathbf{A} \cdot \text{Diag}(w) \cdot \mathbf{A}^\top$$



# Eigen-decomposition

$$M_3(I, I, r) = A \cdot \text{Diag}(w) \text{Diag}(A^\top r) \cdot A^\top, \quad M_2 = A \cdot \text{Diag}(w) \cdot A^\top.$$

Assumption:  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  has full column rank.

- $M_2 = U \Lambda U^\top$  be eigen-decomposition.  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ .
- $U^\top M_2 U = \Lambda \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$  is invertible.

$$X = (U^\top M_3(I, I, r) U) (U^\top M_2 U)^{-1} = V \cdot \text{Diag}(\tilde{\lambda}) \cdot V^{-1}.$$

- Substitution:  $X = (U^\top A) \text{Diag}(A^\top r) (U^\top A)^{-1}$ .
- We have  $v_i \propto U^\top a_i$ .

## Technical Detail

$r = U\theta$  and  $\theta$  drawn uniformly from sphere to ensure **eigen gap**.

## Shortcomings

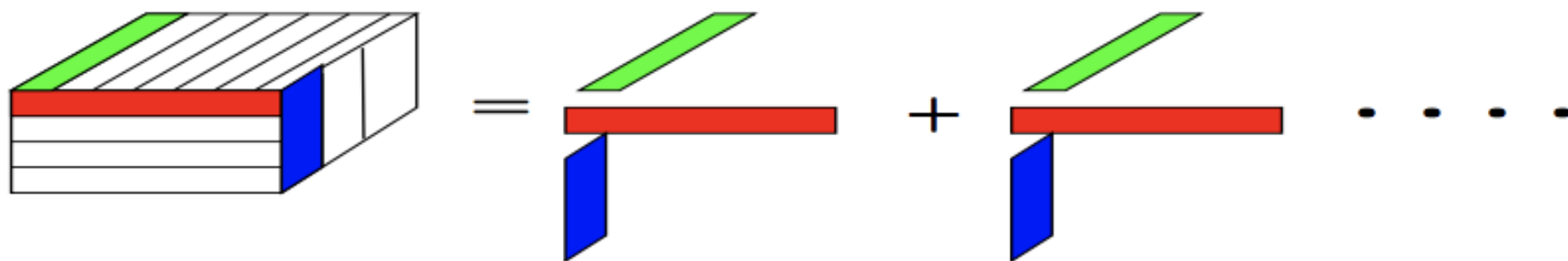
- The resulting product is not symmetric. Eigen-decomposition  $V \text{Diag}(\tilde{\lambda}) V^{-1}$  does not result in **orthonormal**  $V$ . More involved in practice.
- Require good **eigen-gap** in  $\text{Diag}(\tilde{\lambda})$  for recovery. For  $r = U\theta$ , where  $\theta$  is drawn uniformly from unit sphere, gap is  $1/k^{2.5}$ . Numerical instability in practice.
- $M_3(I, I, r)$  is only a (random) **slice** of the tensor. Full information is not utilized.



# Tensor Factorization

- Recover  $A$  and  $w$  from  $M_2$  and  $M_3$ .

$$M_2 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i, \quad M_3 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i.$$



Tensor  $M_3$

$w_1 \cdot a_1 \otimes a_1 \otimes a_1$

$w_2 \cdot a_2 \otimes a_2 \otimes a_2$

- $a \otimes a \otimes a$  is a rank-1 tensor since, its  $(i_1, i_2, i_3)^{\text{th}}$  entry is  $a_{i_1} a_{i_2} a_{i_3}$ .
- $M_3$  is a sum of rank-1 terms.
- When is it the most compact representation? (Identifiability).
- Can we recover the decomposition? (Algorithm?)

# References

- Monograph on spectral learning on matrices and tensors (preprint available on Piazza)
- Slides from MLSS: available on <http://tensorlab.cms.caltech.edu/users/anima/>