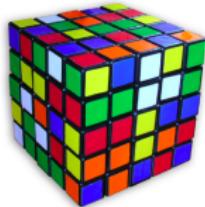


Beyond the signs: Nonparametric tensor completion via sign series

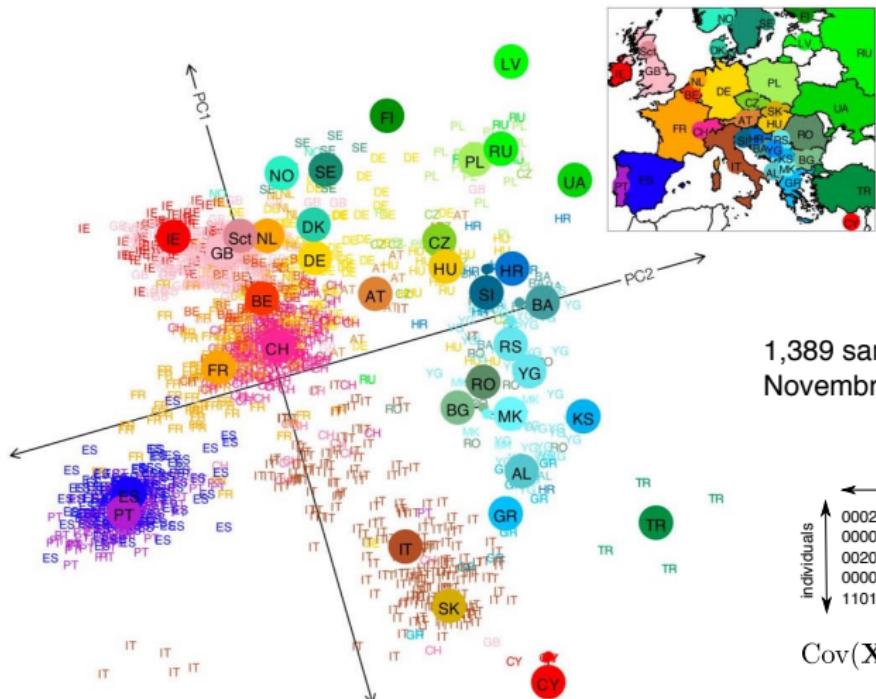
Miaoyan Wang

Department of Statistics, UW-Madison

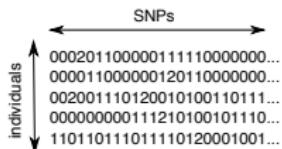
Joint work with Chanwoo Lee (3rd-year PhD student)



A successful story: PCA of Europeans

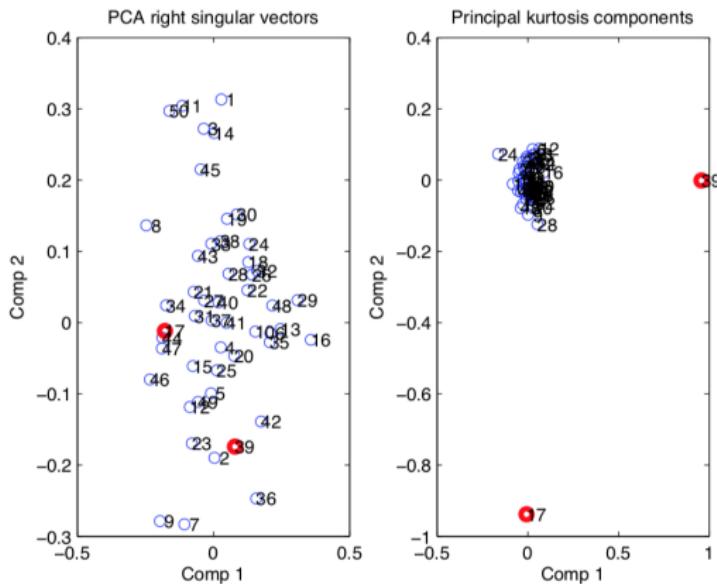


1,389 samples, ~ 200k SNPs
Novembre et al. (2008)



$$\text{Cov}(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T$$

Matrix methods are powerful, however...



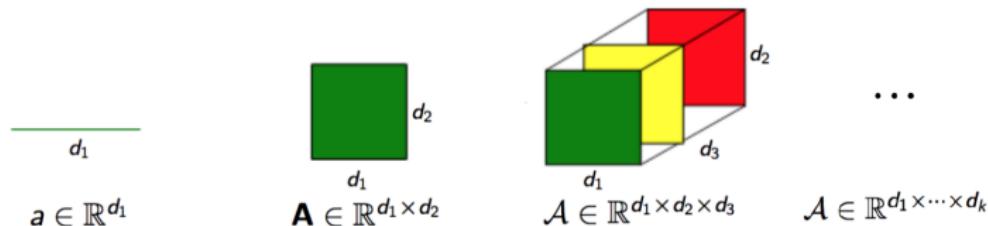
All Gaussian except points 17 and 39.

left: matrix PCA; right: principal components of kurtosis.

Figure credit: Jason Morton and Lek-Heng Lim (2009/2015).

What is a tensor?

- ▶ Tensors are generalizations of vectors and matrices:



- ▶ An order- k tensor $\mathcal{A} = [[a_{i_1 \dots i_k}]] \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$ is a hypermatrix with dimensions (d_1, \dots, d_k) and entries $a_{i_1 \dots i_k} \in \mathbb{R}$.
- ▶ This talk will focus on tensor of order 3 or greater, also known as **higher-order tensors**.

Tensors in statistical modeling

“Tensors are the new matrices” that tie together a wide range of areas:

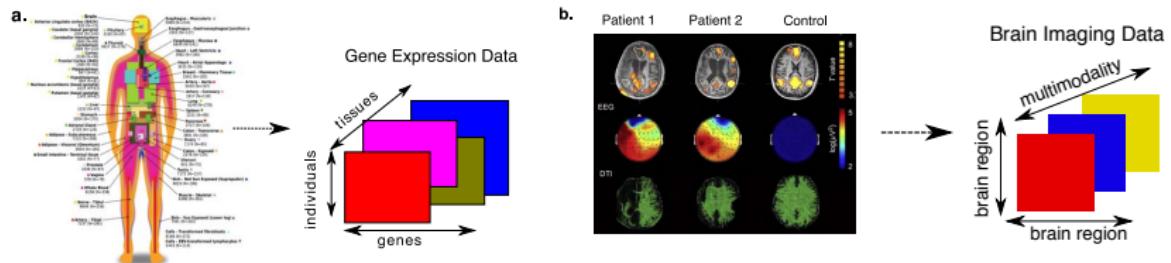
- ▶ Longitudinal social network data $\{\mathbf{Y}_t : t = 1, \dots, n\}$
- ▶ Spatio-temporal transcriptome data
- ▶ Joint probability table of a set of variables $\mathbb{P}(X_1, X_2, X_3)$
- ▶ Higher-order moments in topic models
- ▶ Markov models for the phylogenetic tree

W & Song 2017, P. Hoff 2015, Montanari & Richard 2014

Anandkumar et al 2014, Mossel et al 2004, P. McCullagh 1987

Tensors in biomedical science

- ▶ Many datasets come naturally in a multiway form.
- ▶ Multi-tissue, multi-individual gene expression data could be organized as an order-3 tensor $\mathcal{Y} = \llbracket y_{ijk} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{n_I \times n_G \times n_T}$.
- ▶ Multi-individual, multi-modal brain connectivity data could be organized as an order-4 tensor $\mathcal{Y} = \llbracket y_{ijkl} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{n_I \times n_b \times n_b \times n_m}$.

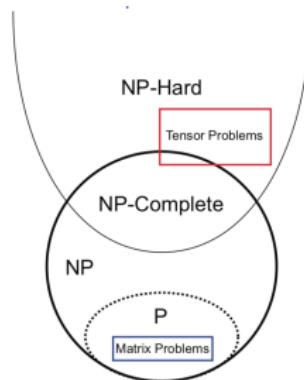


W., Fischer, et al, 2019, W. & Li, 2020

Talk outline

Prohibitive Computational Complexity

Most higher-order tensor problems are NP-hard [Hillar & Lim, 2013].



Fortunately, tensors sought in statistical and machine learning applications are often **specially structured**:

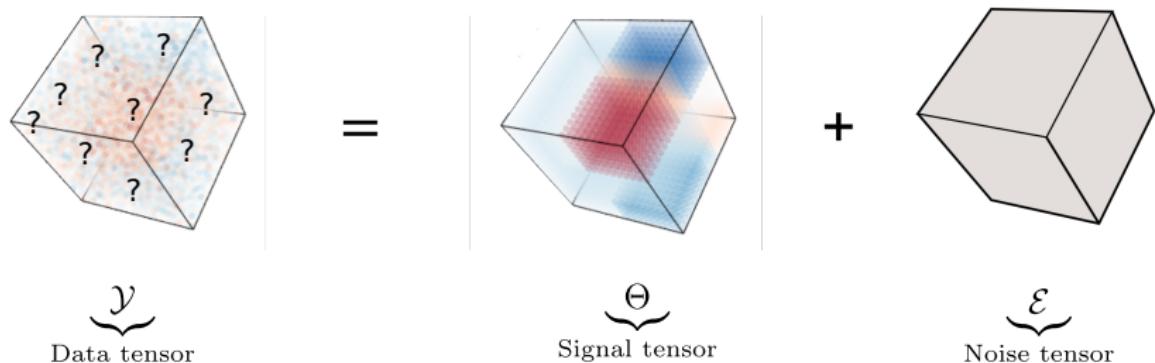
- ▶ Low-rankness
- ▶ Sparsity
- ▶ Non-negativity
- ▶ ...

This talk is based on

Beyond the Signs: Nonparametric Tensor Completion via Sign Series. Lee and W. 2021

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2102.00384.pdf>

Setup: signal plus noise model



We focus on two problems:

- ▶ Nonparametric tensor estimation: How to estimate the signal tensor Θ under **a wide range of structures?**
- ▶ Tensor completion: How many **observed tensor entries** do we need in order for consistent recovery?

Various notions of low-rankness

- Canonical polyadic (CP) low-rankness [Kolda & Bader '09]: $\Theta = \sum_{r=1}^R \lambda_r \mathbf{s}_r \otimes \mathbf{g}_r \otimes \mathbf{t}_r \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2 \times d_3}$.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{tissue} \\ \text{individual} \\ \text{gene} \end{array} \Theta = \lambda_1 \mathbf{s}_1 \mathbf{t}_1 + \dots + \lambda_r \mathbf{s}_r \mathbf{t}_r \mathbf{g}_r$$

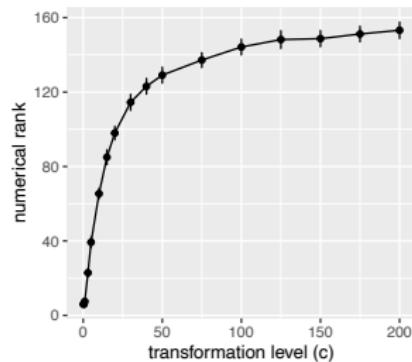
- Tucker low-rankness [Lathauwer '00]: $\Theta = \mathcal{C} \times_1 \mathbf{S} \times_2 \mathbf{G} \times_3 \mathbf{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2 \times d_3}$.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{tissue} \\ \text{individual} \\ \text{gene} \end{array} \Theta = \mathbf{S} \mathcal{C} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{T}$$

- Others: tensor train model [Oseledet '11], tensor block model [W. & Zeng '19; Han, Luo, W. et al '20], etc.

Inadequacies of low-rank models

- ▶ Tensor rank is sensitive to order-preserving transformation.



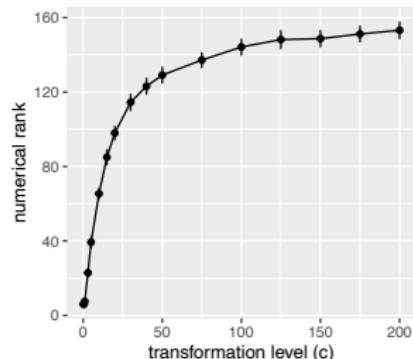
$$\Theta = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-c\mathcal{Z})}, \quad \text{where}$$

$$\mathcal{Z} = \mathbf{a}^{\otimes 3} + \mathbf{b}^{\otimes 3} + \mathbf{c}^{\otimes 3}$$

⇒ Θ is high-rank but \mathcal{Z} is low-rank.

Inadequacies of low-rank models

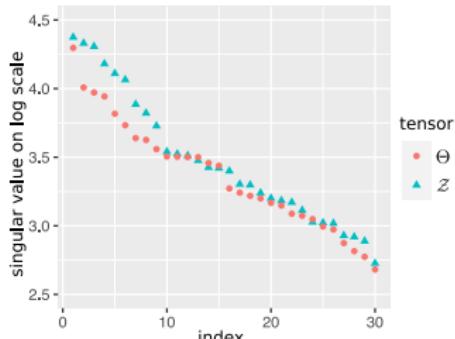
- ▶ Tensor rank is sensitive to order-preserving transformation.



$$\Theta = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-c\mathcal{Z})}, \quad \text{where}$$
$$\mathcal{Z} = \mathbf{a}^{\otimes 3} + \mathbf{b}^{\otimes 3} + \mathbf{c}^{\otimes 3}$$

⇒ Θ is high-rank but \mathcal{Z} is low-rank.

- ▶ Low-rank model fails to address several important structures.



Θ = entrywise polynomial of $\mathcal{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d \times d}$

$$\mathcal{Z} = [\frac{1}{d} \max(i, j, k)] =$$

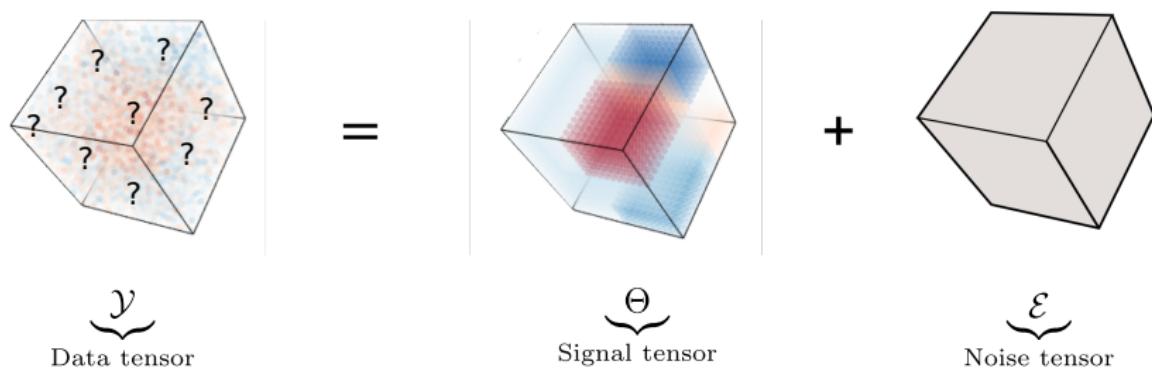
⇒ Both Θ and \mathcal{Z} are full rank.

Why sign matters?

For a bounded tensor $\Theta \in [-1, 1]^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_K}$,

$$\Theta \approx \frac{1}{|\mathcal{H}|} \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{H}} \text{sgn}(\Theta - \pi), \quad \text{where } \mathcal{H} = \left\{ -1, \dots, -\frac{1}{H}, 0, \frac{1}{H}, \dots, 1 \right\}.$$

- ▶ We do not observe Θ ; instead, we observe a noisy incomplete version \mathcal{Y} .
- ▶ How to estimate the signal tensor Θ given data tensor \mathcal{Y} ?



Sign rank

- ▶ Key ideas: we use a local (nonparametric) notion of “low-rankness” to allow a broad family of signal tensors.
- ▶ Two tensors are sign equivalent, denoted $\Theta \simeq \Theta'$, if $\text{sgn}(\Theta) = \text{sgn}(\Theta')$.
- ▶ Define the **sign rank** by

$$\text{srank}(\Theta) = \min\{\text{rank}(\Theta') : \Theta' \simeq \Theta, \Theta' \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_K}\}.$$

Sign rank

- ▶ Key ideas: we use a local (nonparametric) notion of “low-rankness” to allow a broad family of signal tensors.
 - ▶ Two tensors are sign equivalent, denoted $\Theta \simeq \Theta'$, if $\text{sgn}(\Theta) = \text{sgn}(\Theta')$.
 - ▶ Define the **sign rank** by

$$\text{srank}(\Theta) = \min\{\text{rank}(\Theta'): \Theta' \simeq \Theta, \Theta' \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_K}\}.$$

$$\Theta = \begin{matrix} \text{Blue} \\ \text{Light Blue} \\ \text{White} \\ \text{Red} \\ \text{Dark Red} \end{matrix}, \quad \text{sgn}(\Theta) = \begin{matrix} \text{Blue} \\ \text{Dark Blue} \end{matrix} \implies \text{rank}(\Theta) = d, \quad \text{srank}(\Theta) = 2$$

- ▶ For any strictly monotonic function $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $g(0) = 0$,

$$\text{srank}(\Theta) \leq \text{rank}(g(\Theta)).$$

Sign representable tensors

Sign representable tensors

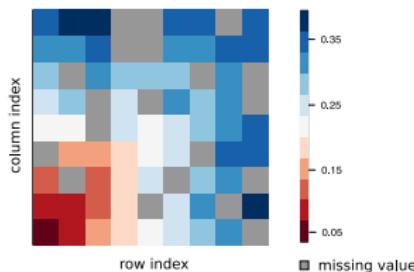
A tensor Θ is called ***r*-sign representable** if the tensor $(\Theta - \pi)$ has sign rank bounded by r for all $\pi \in [-1, 1]$.

- ▶ Most existing structured tensors belong to sign representable family:
 - ▶ **Low-rank** CP tensors, Tucker tensors, stochastic tensor block models.
 - ▶ **High-rank** tensors from GLM, single index models.
 - ▶ **Tensors with repeating patterns**, e.g. earlier max/min hypergraphon model $\Theta(i_1, \dots, i_K) = \log(1 + \max(i_1, \dots, i_K))$ is 2-sign representable.
- ▶ We propose the signal tensor family

$$\Theta \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r) := \{\Theta : \text{srank}(\Theta - \pi) \leq r \text{ for all } \pi \in [-1, 1]\}.$$

Our solution: sign signal helps!

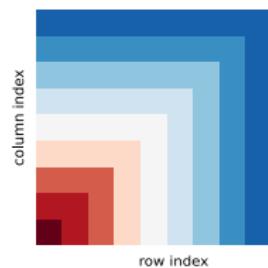
a



noisy and incomplete observation

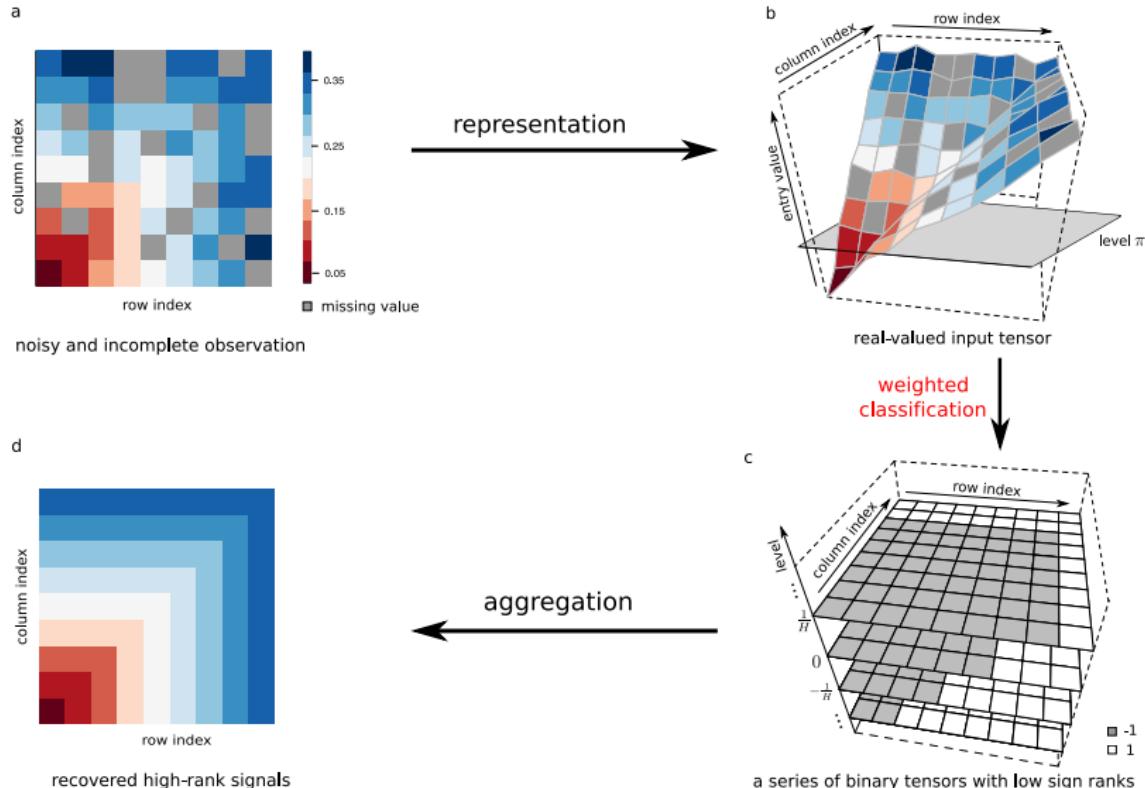


d



recovered high-rank signals

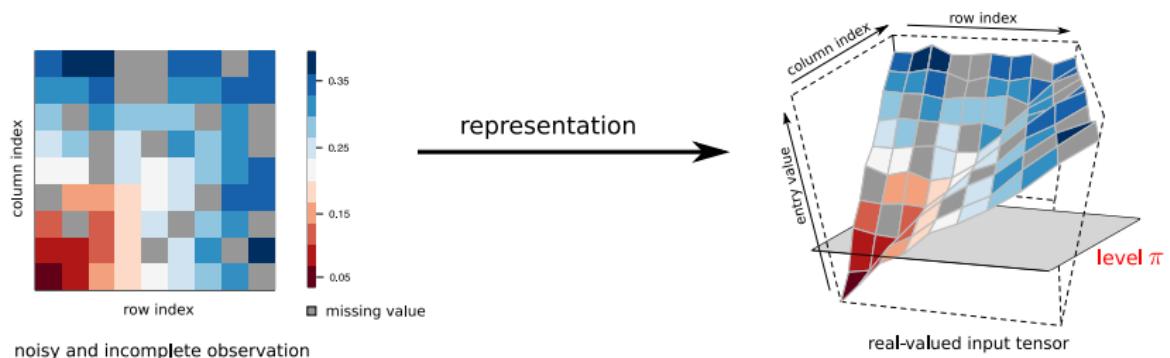
Our solution: sign signal helps!



Sign representation

- ▶ We observe **a noisy incomplete tensor** \mathcal{Y}_Ω with observed index set $\Omega \in [d_1] \times \cdots \times [d_K]$ under uniform sampling scheme.
- ▶ We dichotomize the data into **a series of sign tensors**:

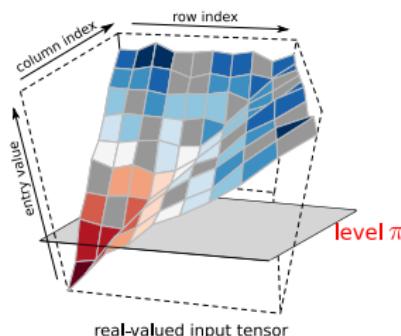
$$\{\text{sgn}(\mathcal{Y}_\Omega - \pi)\}_{\pi \in \mathcal{H}}, \quad \text{where } \mathcal{H} = \left\{-1, \dots, -\frac{1}{H}, 0, \frac{1}{H}, \dots, 1\right\}.$$



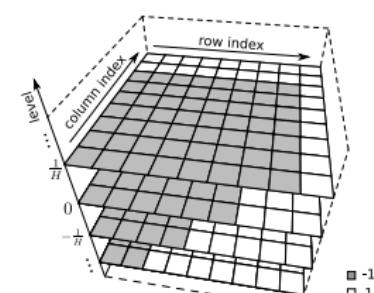
Sign estimation via weighted classification

- ▶ We estimate $\text{sgn}(\Theta - \pi)$ through $\text{sgn}(\mathcal{Y}_\Omega - \pi)$ via weighted classification.
- ▶ Objective function of weighted classification is

$$L(\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{Y}_\Omega - \pi) = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \underbrace{|\mathcal{Y}(\omega) - \pi|}_{\text{weight}} \times \underbrace{|\text{sgn}(\mathcal{Z}(\omega)) - \text{sgn}(\mathcal{Y}(\omega) - \pi)|}_{\text{classification loss}}$$



weighted classification



a series of binary tensors with low sign ranks

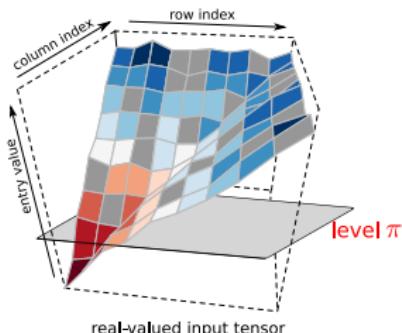
Identification for sign tensor estimation

- If $\Theta \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r)$ is (locally) α -smooth ($\alpha \neq 0$) at π , we have a unique optimizer such that

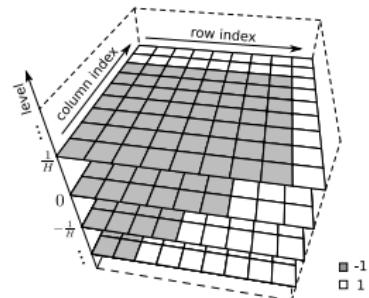
$$\text{sgn}(\Theta - \pi) = \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}: \text{rank}(\mathcal{Z}) \leq r} \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}_\Omega} L(\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{Y}_\Omega - \pi).$$

- We obtain a series of optimizers $\{\hat{\mathcal{Z}}_\pi\}_{\pi \in \mathcal{H}}$ as

$$\hat{\mathcal{Z}}_\pi = \arg \min_{\mathcal{Z}: \text{rank}(\mathcal{Z}) \leq r} L(\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{Y}_\Omega - \pi).$$



weighted classification →



a series of binary tensors with low sign ranks

* Uniqueness up to sign equivalence, meaning the optimizer $\Theta_{\text{opt}} \simeq \text{sgn}(\Theta - \pi)$.

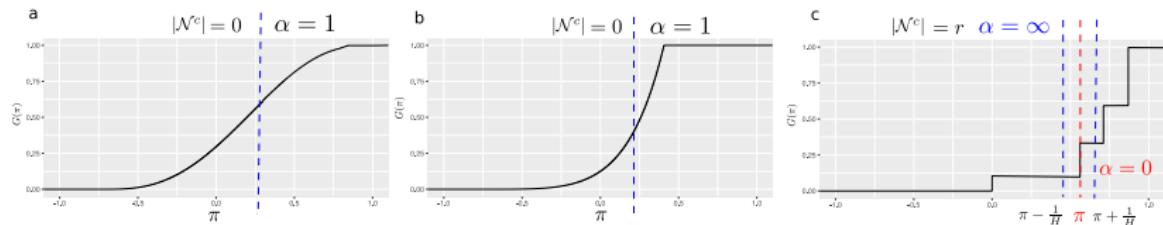
Identification for sign tensor estimation

We quantify smoothness of Θ using CDF $G(\pi) = \mathbb{P}_{\omega \sim \Pi}(\Theta(\omega) \leq \pi)$ and the induced pseudo density (i.e., histogram with bin size $\Delta s = d^{-K}$).

Identification for sign tensor estimation

We quantify smoothness of Θ using CDF $G(\pi) = \mathbb{P}_{\omega \sim \Pi}(\Theta(\omega) \leq \pi)$ and the induced pseudo density (i.e., histogram with bin size $\Delta s = d^{-K}$).

Intuition: **sign recovery** is harder at levels where point mass concentrates.



α -smoothness of signal tensor

- ▶ Partition $[-1, 1] = \mathcal{N} \cup \mathcal{N}^c$, where \mathcal{N} consists of levels whose pseudo density based on Δs -bin is uniformly bounded, and \mathcal{N}^c otherwise.
- ▶ $G(\pi)$ is (globally) **α -smooth** in that for all $\pi \in \mathcal{N}$,

$$\sup_{\Delta s \leq t < \rho(\pi, \mathcal{N}^c)} \frac{G(\pi + t) - G(\pi - t)}{t^\alpha} \leq c$$

for two constants $\alpha > 0, c > 0$, where $\rho(\pi, \mathcal{N}^c) = \min_{\pi' \in \mathcal{N}^c} |\pi - \pi'| + \Delta s$.



Sign tensor estimation error

- ▶ For two tensors Θ_1, Θ_2 , define $\text{MAE}(\Theta_1, \Theta_2) = \mathbb{E}_{\omega \in \Pi} |\Theta_1(\omega) - \Theta_2(\omega)|$.

Sign tensor estimation for $\pi \in \mathcal{N}$ (Lee and W. 2021)

Suppose $\Theta \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r)$ is α -smooth. Let $d_{\max} = \max_{k \in [K]} d_k$. Then, with very high probability over \mathcal{Y}_Ω , we have uniform error bound over $\pi \in \mathcal{N}$,

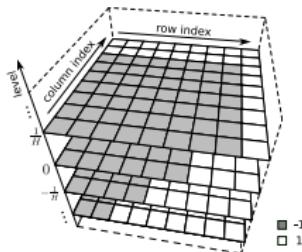
$$\text{MAE}(\text{sgn} \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_\pi, \text{sgn}(\Theta - \pi)) \lesssim C(\pi) \left(\frac{d_{\max} r}{|\Omega|} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+2}}.$$

- ▶ Sign estimation error shows a polynomial decay with $|\Omega|$.
- ▶ Best rate is attained at $\alpha = \infty$ for stochastic tensor block models.

From sign to signal estimation

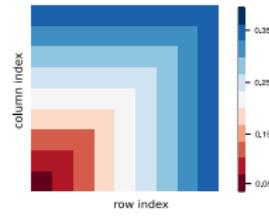
- ▶ Aggregation of sign tensors from weighted classification yields our signal tensor estimate:

$$\hat{\Theta} = \frac{1}{2H+1} \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{H}} \text{sgn} \hat{\mathcal{Z}}_\pi.$$



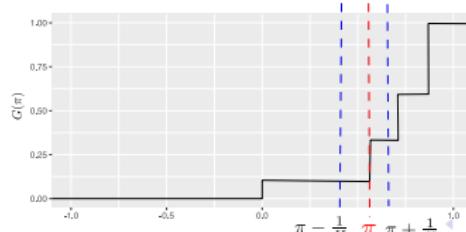
a series of binary tensors with low sign ranks

aggregation →



recovered high-rank signals

- ▶ Signal tensor estimation is robust to a few off-target classifications.



Signal tensor estimation error

Tensor estimation error (Lee and W. 2021)

Suppose $\Theta \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r)$ is α -smooth with bounded $|\mathcal{N}^c|$. Then, with very high probability over \mathcal{Y}_Ω ,

$$\text{MAE}(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta) \lesssim \underbrace{\left(\frac{d_{\max} r}{|\Omega|} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+2}}}_{\text{Error inherited from sign estimation}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{H}}_{\text{Bias}} + \underbrace{\frac{H d_{\max} r}{|\Omega|}}_{\text{Variance}}.$$

In particular, setting $H \asymp \left(\frac{|\Omega|}{d_{\max} r} \right)^{1/2}$ yields the error bound

$$\text{MAE}(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta) \lesssim \left(\frac{d_{\max} r}{|\Omega|} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+2} \wedge \frac{1}{2}}.$$

- ▶ See papers for general results that allow unbounded $|\mathcal{N}^c|$ and sub-Gaussian noise.

extension

Comparison to existing results

- ▶ Sample requirement for tensor completion:

$$\text{MAE}(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta) \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } \frac{|\Omega|}{d_{\max} r} \rightarrow \infty.$$

- ▶ Special case with full observation and equal dimension $d_1 = \dots = d_K = d$:

Model	Our rate (power of d)	Previous results
Tensor block model	$-(K-1)/2$	$\alpha = \infty$; minimax rate in W. & Zeng '19
Single index model	$-(K-1)/3$	$\alpha = 1$; conjecture on the optimality; matrix rate $d^{-1/3}$ improves $\mathcal{O}(d^{-1/4})$ by Ganti et al. '18.
Rader type tensor	$-(K-2)/2$	close to parametric rate
α -smooth $\mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r)$	$-(K-1) \min(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+2} \wedge \frac{1}{2})$	faster rate as α increases

Our contributions and related work

Our contributions

- ▶ We develop a new model called **sign representable tensors** to fill the gap between parametric (low-rank) and nonparametric (high-rank) tensors.

Our contributions and related work

Our contributions

- ▶ We develop a new model called **sign representable tensors** to fill the gap between parametric (low-rank) and nonparametric (high-rank) tensors.
- ▶ Our tensor estimate is **provably reducible** to a series of classifications. \Rightarrow computationally efficient via a divide-and-conquer algorithm.

Our contributions and related work

Our contributions

- ▶ We develop a new model called **sign representable tensors** to fill the gap between parametric (low-rank) and nonparametric (high-rank) tensors.
- ▶ Our tensor estimate is **provably reducible** to a series of classifications. \Rightarrow computationally efficient via a divide-and-conquer algorithm.
- ▶ **Low-rank tensor estimation** (Anandkumar et al. '14; Montanari & Sun '18; Cai et al. '19) \Rightarrow **low-rank assumption is often violated** in practice.

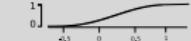
Our contributions and related work

Our contributions

- ▶ We develop a new model called **sign representable tensors** to fill the gap between parametric (low-rank) and nonparametric (high-rank) tensors.
 - ▶ Our tensor estimate is **provably reducible** to a series of classifications. \Rightarrow computationally efficient via a divide-and-conquer algorithm.
-
- ▶ **Low-rank tensor estimation** (Anandkumar et al. '14; Montanari & Sun '18; Cai et al. '19) \Rightarrow **low-rank assumption is often violated** in practice.
 - ▶ **High-rank matrix estimation** was studied under nonlinear models (Ganti et al. '15), permutation rank (Shah et al. '18), and other shape constraints (Chatterjee et al. '19) \Rightarrow tensors are more challenging because **tensor rank may exceed dimension**.

Comparison of estimation error versus dimension

- We simulate signal tensors under a wide range of complexity.

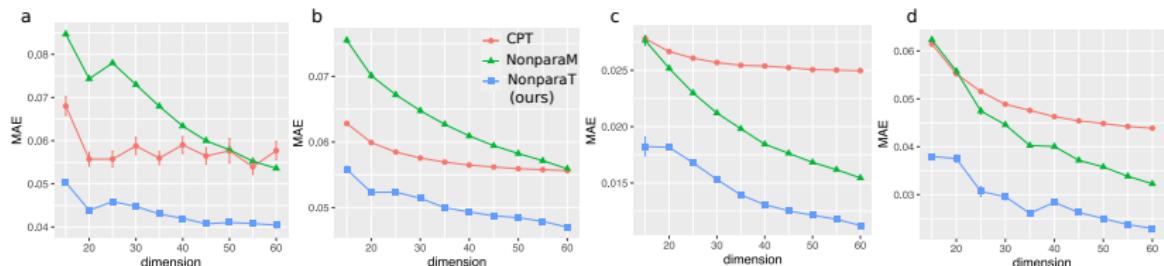
Simulation	Signal Tensor Θ	Rank	Sign Rank	α	$ \mathcal{N}^c $	CDF	Noise
1	$\mathcal{C} \times M_1 \times M_2 \times M_3$	3^3	$\leq 3^3$	∞	$\leq 3^3$		Uniform $[-0.3, 0.3]$
2	$ \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{1} $	d	≤ 3	1	0		Normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.15)$
3	$\log(0.5 + Z_{\max})$	$\geq d$	2	∞	d		Uniform $[-0.1, 0.1]$
4	$2.5 - \exp(\mathcal{Z}_{\min}^{1/3})$	$\geq d$	2	∞	d		Normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.15)$

Comparison of estimation error versus dimension

- We simulate signal tensors under a wide range of complexity.

Simulation	Signal Tensor Θ	Rank	Sign Rank	α	$ \mathcal{N}^c $	CDF	Noise
1	$\mathcal{C} \times M_1 \times M_2 \times M_3$	3^3	$\leq 3^3$	∞	$\leq 3^3$		Uniform $[-0.3, 0.3]$
2	$ \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{1} $	d	≤ 3	1	0		Normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.15)$
3	$\log(0.5 + Z_{\max})$	$\geq d$	2	∞	d		Uniform $[-0.1, 0.1]$
4	$2.5 - \exp(Z_{\min}^{1/3})$	$\geq d$	2	∞	d		Normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.15)$

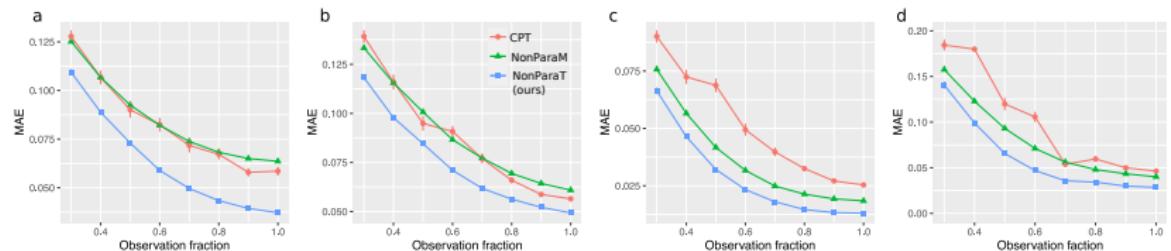
- Our method (**NonparaT**) achieves the best performance, whereas the second best method is low-rank CP tensor (**CPT**) for models 1-2, and matrix nonparametric method (**NonParaM**) for models 3-4.



Estimation error versus observation fraction

Simulation	Signal Tensor Θ	Rank	Sign Rank	α	$ \mathcal{N}^c $	CDF	Noise
1	$\mathcal{C} \times M_1 \times M_2 \times M_3$	3^3	$\leq 3^3$	∞	$\leq 3^3$		Uniform $[-0.3, 0.3]$
2	$ \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{1} \otimes \mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{1} $	d	≤ 3	1	0		Normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.15)$
3	$\log(0.5 + Z_{\max})$	$\geq d$	2	∞	d		Uniform $[-0.1, 0.1]$
4	$2.5 - \exp(\mathcal{Z}_{\min}^{1/3})$	$\geq d$	2	∞	d		Normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 0.15)$

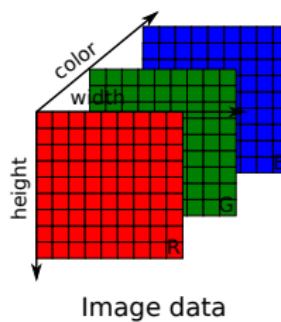
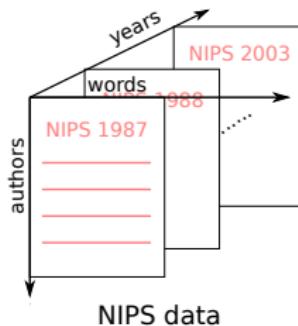
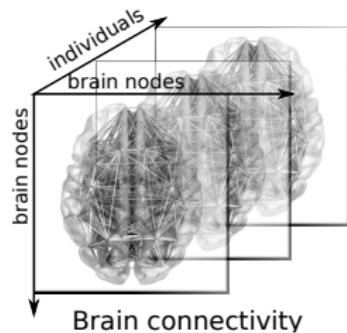
- Our method (NonparaT) achieves the best performance in completion.



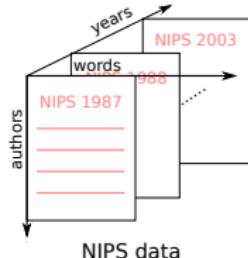
Data application

We apply our method to three datasets:

- ▶ The NIPS dataset (Globerson et al '07) consists of word occurrence counts in papers published from 1987 to 2003.
- ▶ The human brain connectivity data (Want et al '17) consists of 68 brain regions for 114 individuals along with their IQ scores.
- ▶ The 3-channel image data is from licensed google image file.

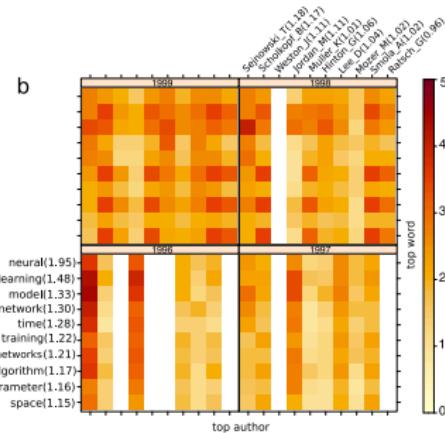


Data application: NIPS



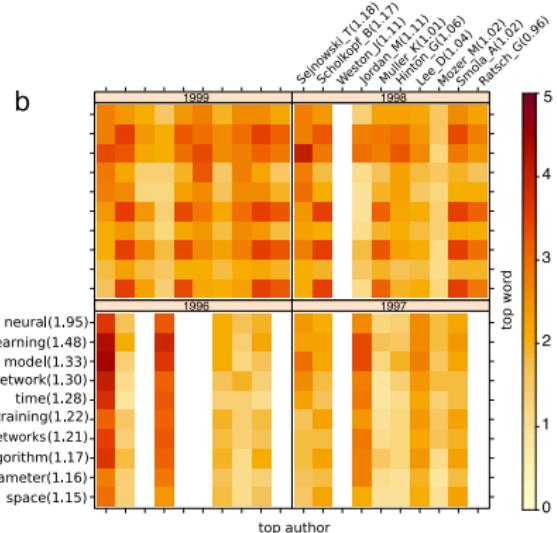
- ▶ The NIPS dataset consists of word occurrence counts in papers published from 1987 to 2003.
- ▶ Data tensor $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 200 \times 17}$.

- ▶ We examine the estimated signal tensor $\hat{\Theta}$.
- ▶ Most frequent words are consistent with active topics in NIPS conference.
- ▶ Strong heterogeneity among word occurrences across authors and years.



Data application: NIPS

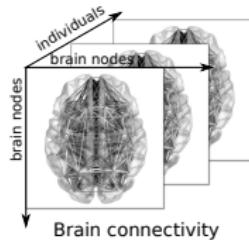
- ▶ Top words: *neural* (1.95), *learning* (1.48), *network* (1.21), *training* (1.22), *parameter* (1.16).
- ▶ Top authors: *T. Sejnowski* (1.18), *B. Schölkopf* (1.17), *M. Jordan* (1.11), and *G. Hinton* (1.06),
- ▶ Top combinations:
 $(\text{training}, \text{algorithm}) \times (\text{B. Schölkopf}, \text{A. Smola})$
 $\times (1998, 1999)$,
 $(\text{model}) \times (\text{M. Jordan}) \times (1996)$.
- ▶ Similar word patterns in 1998-1999:
 $(\text{B. Schölkopf}, \text{K-R Möller}, \text{A. Smola}, \text{G. Rätsch}, \text{J. Weston}) \Rightarrow \text{Co-authors}$.



Numbers in parentheses denote marginal averages based on $\hat{\Theta}$

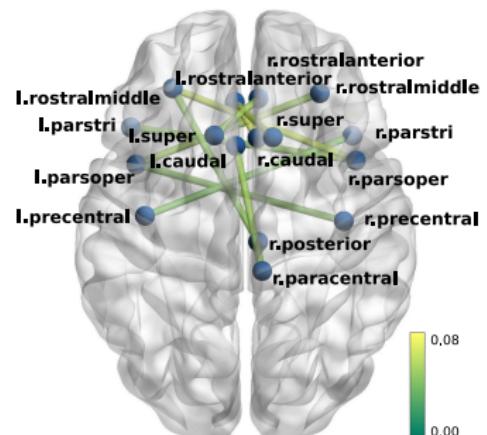
details

Data application: Brain connectivity



- ▶ The human brain connectivity data consists of 68 brain regions for 114 individuals along with their IQ scores.
- ▶ Data tensor $\mathcal{Y} \in \{0, 1\}^{68 \times 68 \times 114}$.

- ▶ We examine the estimated signal tensor $\hat{\Theta}$.
- ▶ Top 10 brain edges based on regression analysis show inter-hemisphere connections.



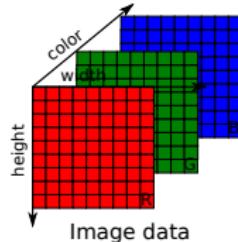
Data application: Brain connectivity + NIPS

- ▶ Our method achieves better test performance than low-rank methods.

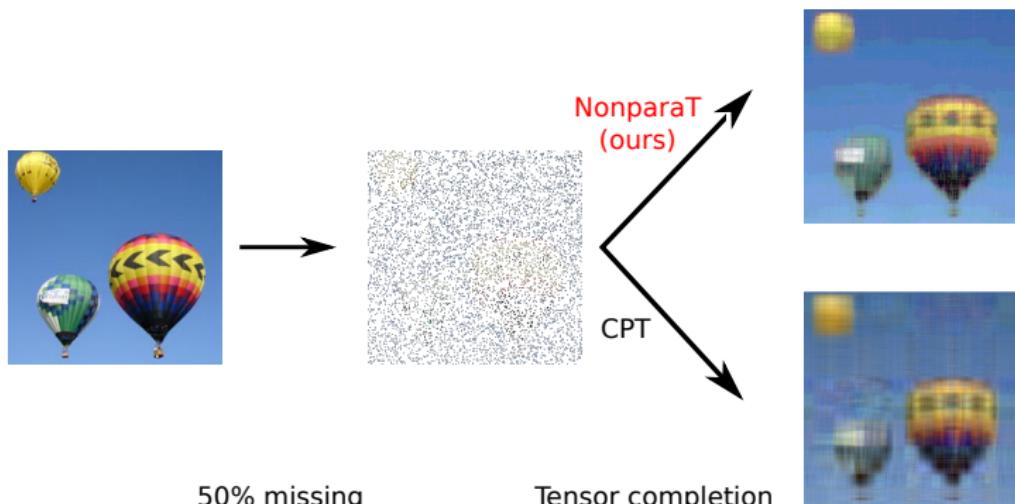
MRN-114 brain connectivity dataset					
Method	$r = 3$	$r = 6$	$r = 9$	$r = 12$	$r = 15$
NonparaT (Ours)	0.18(0.001)	0.14(0.001)	0.12(0.001)	0.12(0.001)	0.11(0.001)
Low-rank CPT	0.26(0.006)	0.23(0.006)	0.22(0.004)	0.21(0.006)	0.20(0.008)
NIPS word occurrence dataset					
Method	$r = 3$	$r = 6$	$r = 9$	$r = 12$	$r = 15$
NonparaT (Ours)	0.18(0.002)	0.16(0.002)	0.15(0.001)	0.14(0.001)	0.13(0.001)
Low-rank CPT	0.22(0.004)	0.20(0.007)	0.19(0.007)	0.17(0.007)	0.17(0.007)
Naive imputation (Baseline)			0.32(.001)		

Table: MAE comparison in the brain data and NIPS data based on 5-folded cross-validations.
Standard errors are reported in parenthesis.

Data application: Image



- ▶ The original data is from licensed google image file.
- ▶ Data tensor $\mathcal{Y} \in [0, 1]^{217 \times 217 \times 3}$.
- ▶ We assess completion performance by sampling 50% entries in the original image tensor.



Summary

Tensor analysis provides a rich source of

- ▶ fundamental problems in data science.
- ▶ new tools for long-standing questions.
- ▶ potentials for new applications.

Our general strategy is to develop efficient statistical methods for analyzing a broad range of **specially-structured tensors** that are useful in practice.

References:

- ▶ Beyond the signs: nonparametric tensor completion from sign series. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2102.00384.pdf>

Acknowledgment: NSF DMS-1915978, DMS-2023239, and Grant from Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.

Appendix

Algorithm 1 Nonparametric tensor completion

Input: Noisy and incomplete data tensor \mathcal{Y}_Ω , rank r , resolution parameter H .

```
1: for  $\pi \in \mathcal{H} = \{-1, \dots, -\frac{1}{H}, 0, \frac{1}{H}, \dots, 1\}$  do
2:   Random initialization of tensor factors  $\mathbf{A}_k = [\mathbf{a}_1^{(k)}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_r^{(k)}] \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k \times r}$  for all  $k \in [K]$ .
3:   while not convergence do
4:     for  $k = 1, \dots, K$  do
5:       Update  $\mathbf{A}_k$  while holding others fixed:
6:        $\mathbf{A}_k \leftarrow \arg \min_{\mathbf{A}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k \times r}} \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} |\mathcal{Y}(\omega) - \pi| F(\mathcal{Z}(\omega) \text{sgn}(\mathcal{Y}(\omega) - \pi)),$ 
7:       where  $F(\cdot)$  is the large-margin loss, and  $\mathcal{Z} = \sum_{s \in [r]} \mathbf{a}_s^{(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{a}_s^{(K)}$  is a rank- $r$  tensor.
8:     end for
9:   end while
10:  Return  $\mathcal{Z}_\pi \leftarrow \sum_{s \in [r]} \mathbf{a}_s^{(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{a}_s^{(K)}$ .
11: end for
```

Output: Estimated signal tensor $\hat{\Theta} = \frac{1}{2H+1} \sum_{\pi \in \mathcal{H}} \text{sgn}(\mathcal{Z}_\pi)$.

Paper titles in NIPS dataset

1998:

- ▶ Kernel PCA and De-Noising in Feature Spaces. Sebastian Mika, **B. Schölkopf**, **A. Smola**, **K. Müller**, M. Scholz, **G. Rätsch**
- ▶ Shrinking the Tube: A New **Support Vector Regression Algorithm**. **B. Schölkopf**, P. Bartlett, **A. Smola**, R. C. Williamson
- ▶ Semiparametric **Support Vector** and Linear Programming Machines. **A. Smola**, T-T. Frieb, **B. Schölkopf**
- ▶ Regularizing AdaBoost. **G. Rätsch**, T. Onoda, **K. Müller**

1999:

- ▶ v-Arc: Ensemble Learning in the Presence of Outliers. **G. Rätsch**, **B. Schölkopf**, **A. Smola**, **K. Müller**, T. Onoda, S. Mika
- ▶ Invariant Feature Extraction and Classification in Kernel Spaces. S. Mika, **G. Rätsch**, J. Weston, **B. Schölkopf**, **A. Smola**, K Müller
- ▶ **Support Vector Method** for Novelty Detection. **B. Schölkopf**, R. C. Williamson, **A. Smola**, J. S. Taylor, J. Platt.

1996:

- ▶ A Variational Principle for **Model**-based Morphing. L. Saul, **M. Jordan**
- ▶ Hidden Markov Decision Trees. **M. Jordan**, Z. Ghahramani, L. Saul
- ▶ Triangulation by Continuous Embedding. M. Meila, **M. Jordan**
- ▶ Recursive Algorithms for Approximating Probabilities in Graphical **Models**. T. Jaakkola, **M. Jordan**

[Back to NIPS analysis](#)

Extension to sub-Gaussian noise

Consider the signal plus noise model

$$\mathcal{Y} = \Theta + \mathcal{E},$$

where $\Theta \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r)$ is an α -smooth tensor with $\|\Theta\|_\infty \leq \beta$, and \mathcal{E} consists of independent sub-Gaussian noise with variance proxy σ^2 .

Nonparametric tensor estimation with sub-Gaussian noise

With high probability over \mathcal{Y}_Ω , we have

$$\text{MAE}(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta) \lesssim \left(\frac{(\sigma^2 + \beta^2)rd_{\max} \log d_{\max}}{|\Omega|} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+2} \vee \frac{1}{2}}.$$

[Back to bounded result](#)

Tensor estimation error (Lee and W. 2021)

Consider a signal plus noise model with α -smooth signal $\Theta \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{sgn}}(r)$. Let $\hat{\Theta}$ be the our nonparametric estimate, and $|\mathcal{N}^c|$ the covering number of \mathcal{N}^c with Δs -bin's, i.e, $|\mathcal{N}^c| = \text{Leb}(\mathcal{N}^c)/\Delta s$. Write $t_d = d_{\max} r / |\Omega|$. With very high probability over \mathcal{Y}_Ω ,

$$\text{MAE}(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta) \lesssim \underbrace{(t_d)^{\alpha/(\alpha+2)}}_{\text{Error inherited from sign estimation}} + \underbrace{\frac{1 + |\mathcal{N}^c|}{H}}_{\text{Bias}} + \underbrace{H t_d}_{\text{Bariance}}.$$

In particular, setting $H \asymp ((1 + |\mathcal{N}^c|)/t_d)^{1/2}$ yields the error bound

$$\text{MAE}(\hat{\Theta}, \Theta) \lesssim \max \left(t_d^{2\alpha/(\alpha+2)}, t_d(1 + |\mathcal{N}^c|) \right)^{1/2}.$$

[Back to bounded result](#)