

Beyond matrices: tensor decompositions and applications

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My research

Statistical machine learning:

- structured tensor decomposition, latent factor models

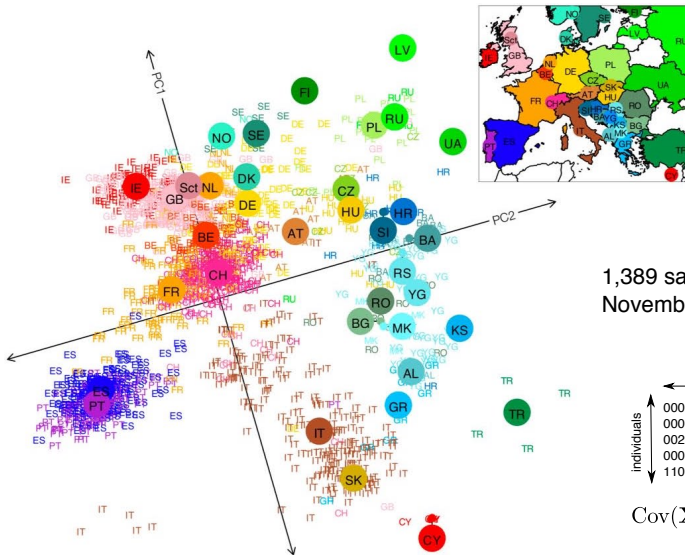
Genetics and genomics:

- gene expression analyses, genetic association studies

Computational foundations of data science:

- algorithm development for big data analytics

A successful story: PCA of Europeans



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

SNPs

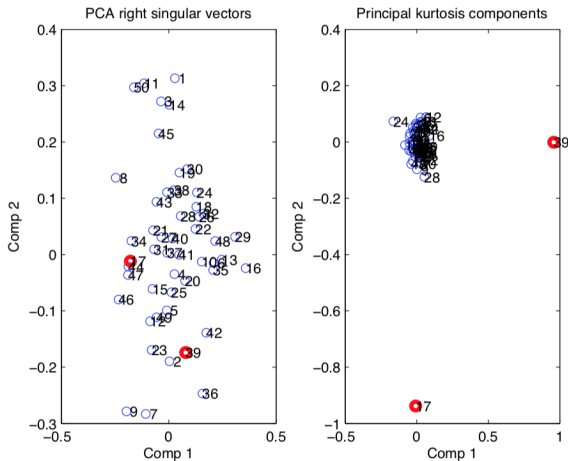
individuals

```

000201100000111110000000...
000011000000120110000000...
002001110120010100110111...
000000000111210100101110...
110110111011110120001001...
    
```

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

Matrix methods are powerful, however...



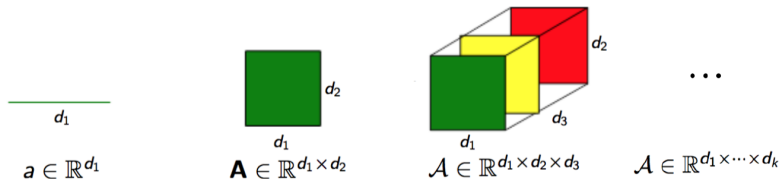
All Gaussian except points 17 and 39.

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 $\mathcal{A} = \llbracket a_{i_1 \dots i_k} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$ 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

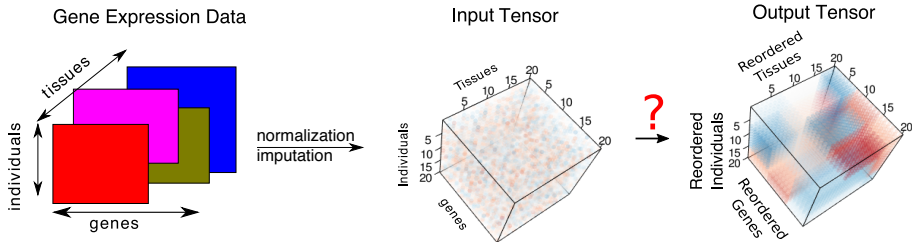
“Tensors are the new matrices” that tie together a wide range of areas:

- 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 single topic models
- Markov models for the phylogenetic tree $K_{1,3}$

Yuan 2017, Dunson 2016, P. Hoff 2015, Montanari-Richard 2014
Anandkumar et al 2014, Mossel et al 2004, P. McCullagh 1987

Tensors in genomics

- Many biomedical datasets come naturally in a multiway form.
- Multi-tissue multi-individual gene expression measures could be organized as a multiarray dataset $\mathcal{A} = [a_{git}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n_G \times n_I \times n_T}$.



Multi-way Clustering

To identify subsets of genes that are similarly expressed within subsets of individuals and tissues, we seek **local blocks** in the expression tensor.

Talk outline

Prohibitive Computational Complexity

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

Topics I will address:

- Tensor decomposition method
- Theoretical results on tensor spectral norm
- Multi-way clustering of gene expression data

Review of matrix eigendecomposition

Matrix perturbation theorem (Davis–Kahan 1970)

Let A and E be symmetric matrices, and $\tilde{A} = A + E$. Let $\mathbf{u}_i, \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i$ denote the i th eigenvectors of A and \tilde{A} , respectively. Then

$$\sin \Theta(\mathbf{u}_i, \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i) \leq \frac{2 \|E\|_2}{\min_{j \neq i} |\lambda_j - \lambda_i|}.$$

$$\boxed{A} = \lambda_1 \begin{bmatrix} \color{blue}{\rule{1cm}{0.4pt}} \\ \color{red}{\mathbf{u}_1} \end{bmatrix} + \lambda_2 \begin{bmatrix} \color{green}{\rule{1cm}{0.4pt}} \\ \color{red}{\mathbf{u}_2} \end{bmatrix} + \lambda_3 \begin{bmatrix} \color{red}{\rule{1cm}{0.4pt}} \\ \color{red}{\mathbf{u}_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{A} = \lambda_1 \begin{bmatrix} \color{teal}{\rule{1cm}{0.4pt}} \\ \color{red}{\frac{(\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2)}{\sqrt{2}}} \end{bmatrix} + \lambda_2 \begin{bmatrix} \color{purple}{\rule{1cm}{0.4pt}} \\ \color{red}{\frac{(\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2)}{\sqrt{2}}} \end{bmatrix} + \lambda_3 \begin{bmatrix} \color{red}{\rule{1cm}{0.4pt}} \\ \color{red}{\mathbf{u}_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

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- Does there exist a tensor analogue of matrix eigendecomposition?
How about perturbation analysis?

Symmetric tensors

Definition (Symmetric tensors)

A tensor $\mathcal{A} = \llbracket a_{i_1 \dots i_k} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$ is called symmetric if $d_1 = \dots = d_k$ and

$$a_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_k} = a_{\sigma(i_1) \sigma(i_2) \dots \sigma(i_k)},$$

for all permutations σ of $[k]$.

- By the spectral theorem, every symmetric matrix A admits an eigendecomposition,

$$A = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes 2} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes 2} + \dots + \lambda_r \mathbf{u}_r^{\otimes 2}.$$

- Does not hold for general symmetric tensors.

example

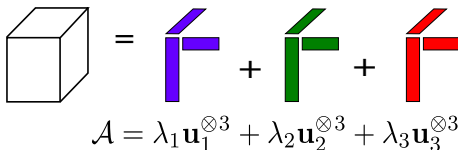
SOD tensors

- A tensor \mathcal{A} is called **symmetric and orthogonally decomposable** (SOD) if

$$\mathcal{A} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k},$$

where $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ are orthonormal vectors in \mathbb{R}^d and $\{\lambda_i\}$ are non-zero scalars.

- For example, $k = 3$ and $r = 3$:


$$\mathcal{A} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes 3} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes 3} + \lambda_3 \mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes 3}$$

- Kruskal's theorem implies that $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ is **unique** even in the case of degenerate λ_i s.
- Eigen-components of a 3rd cumulant tensor are closely related to parameter estimation in **latent variable models** [Anandkumar et al 2014].

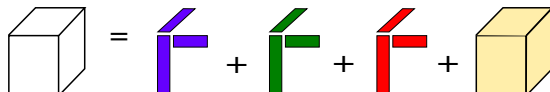
Tensor decomposition

- Nearly SOD tensors:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k} + \mathcal{E},$$

where $\mathcal{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \dots \times d}$ is a **symmetric but otherwise arbitrary** tensor with $\|\mathcal{E}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$.

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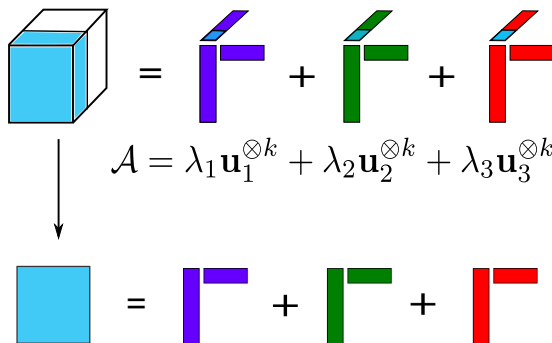

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes 3} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes 3} + \lambda_3 \mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes 3} + \mathcal{E}$$

Key question

Can we recover the vectors $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ from the noisy observation $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$?

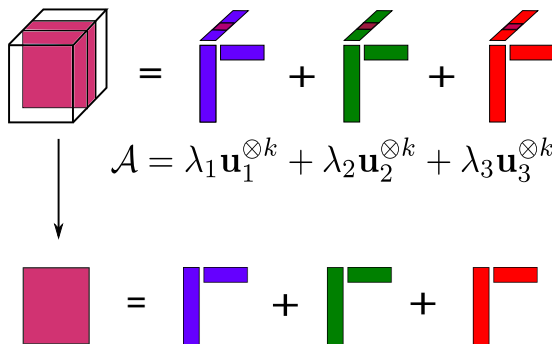
Decomposition of SOD tensors: noiseless case

- The structure of $\mathcal{A} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k}$ implies a common eigenspace for all matrix slices.


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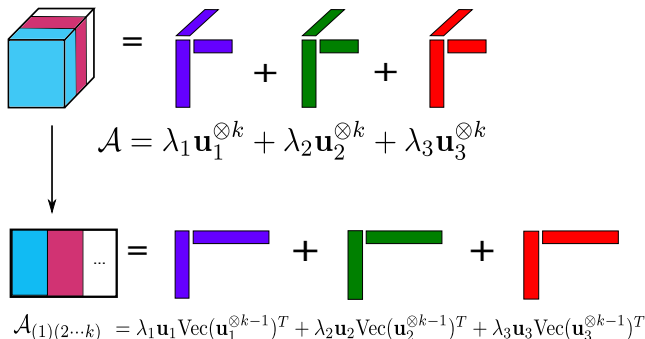
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Decomposition of SOD tensors: noiseless case

- The structure of $\mathcal{A} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k}$ implies the one-mode unfolding $\mathcal{A}_{(1)(2\dots k)} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k-1})^T$:



$$\mathcal{A} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes k} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes k} + \lambda_3 \mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes k}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{(1)(2\dots k)} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes k-1})^T + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes k-1})^T + \lambda_3 \mathbf{u}_3 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes k-1})^T$$

- Is it possible to recover $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}_{i \in [r]}$ using the **left singular vectors** of the 1-mode unfolding, $\mathcal{A}_{(1)(2\dots k)}$?

Matrix vs. tensor decompositions



$$\boxed{} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{purple bar} \\ \hline \end{array} \text{---} + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{green bar} \\ \hline \end{array} \text{---} + \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{red bar} \\ \hline \end{array} \text{---}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{(1)(2\dots k)} = \lambda_1 \mathbf{u}_1 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes k-1})^T + \lambda_2 \mathbf{u}_2 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes k-1})^T + \lambda_3 \mathbf{u}_3 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes k-1})^T$$

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$$\mathcal{A}_{(1)(2\dots k)} = \lambda_1 \frac{\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{u}_2}{\sqrt{2}} \mathbf{a}^T + \lambda_1 \frac{\mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2}{\sqrt{2}} \mathbf{b}^T + \lambda_3 \mathbf{u}_3 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes k-1})^T$$

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Caveats:

- A rank $r > 1$ matrix can be decomposed in **multiple ways** as a sum of order-product terms **in the case of degenerate λ_i s**.
- Kruskal's theorem guarantees that the set of vectors $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}_{i \in [r]}$ of an SOD tensor is **unique up to signs** even when some λ_i s are degenerate.

Two-mode HOSVD via rank-1 matrix pursuit

Key idea: Instead of $\mathcal{A}_{(1)(2\dots k)}$, we consider the two-mode unfolding $\mathcal{A}_{(12)(3\dots k)}$.

Two-mode unfolding

$\mathcal{A}_{(12)(3\dots k)}$ is a $d^2 \times d^{k-2}$ matrix obtained by grouping the first 2 indices of \mathcal{A} as the **row index** and the remaining $(k - 2)$ indices as the **column index**.

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$$\mathcal{A}_{(12)(3\dots k)} = \lambda_1 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes 2}) \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes k-2})^T + \lambda_2 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes 2}) \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes k-2})^T + \lambda_3 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes 2}) \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes k-2})^T$$

rank-1 matrices

$$\mathcal{A}_{(12)(3\dots k)} = \lambda_1 \text{Vec}\left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes 2} + \mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes 2}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \mathbf{c}^T + \lambda_1 \text{Vec}\left(\frac{\mathbf{u}_1^{\otimes 2} - \mathbf{u}_2^{\otimes 2}}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \mathbf{d}^T + \lambda_3 \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes 2}) \text{Vec}(\mathbf{u}_3^{\otimes k-2})^T$$

Our results

Given an order- k nearly SOD tensor $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \dots \times d}$,

$$\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k} + \mathcal{E}, \quad \text{where} \quad \|\mathcal{E}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon.$$

Goal: recover $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ from $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$.

- Noiseless case:

Every **rank-1 matrix** in the left singular space of $A_{(12)(3\dots k)}$ is (up to a scalar) the Kronecker square of some robust tensor eigenvector \mathbf{u}_i .

- Noisy case:

If $\varepsilon/|\lambda|_{\min} \lesssim d^{-(k-2)/2}$, we can recover $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ up to error $O(\varepsilon)$ in polynomial time.

Wang, M. and Song, Y.S., Journal of Machine Learning Research W&CP, Vol. 54 (2017) 614-622.

[details](#)

Comparison of tensor decomposition algorithms

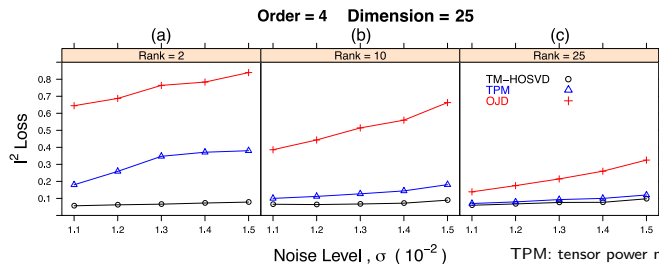
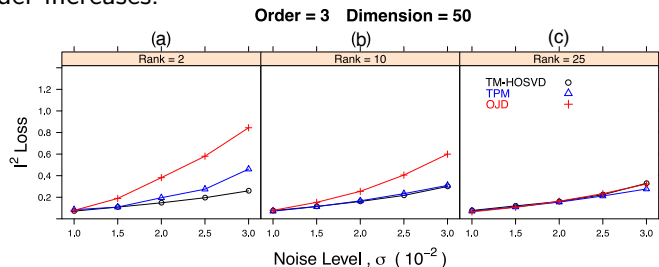
- The error bound in tensor decomposition does not depend on the eigenvalue gap \Rightarrow more stable than matrix decomposition.

Method	Noise threshold ($\varepsilon/ \lambda _{\min} \leq$)	Recovery accuracy ($\ \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i - \mathbf{u}_i\ _2 \leq$)
Power iteration (Anandkumar et al, 2014)	$O(d^{-1})$ for order 3	$\frac{8\varepsilon}{\lambda_i}$
Joint diagonalization (Kuleshov et al, 2015)	—	$\frac{2\varepsilon\sqrt{\ \lambda\ _1\lambda_{\max}}}{\lambda_i^2} + o(\varepsilon)$
Our method (W. and Song 2017b)	$O(d^{-1/2})$ for order 3 $O(d^{-(k-2)/2})$ for order k	$\frac{2\varepsilon}{\lambda_i} + o(\varepsilon)$

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Numerical experiments

Our method achieves a higher estimation accuracy and performs favorably as the order increases.



TPM: tensor power method, JMLR 2014
OJD: Orthogonal joint diagonalization, AISTATS 2015

Example

A symmetric tensor but not orthogonally decomposable:

$$\mathcal{A}(:, :, 1) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathcal{A}(:, :, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

back

Orthogonality

Definition (π -orthogonally decomposable)

A tensor $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$ is called π -OD with partition $\pi = \{B_1, \dots, B_\ell\}$ if it admits the decomposition

$$\mathcal{A} = \lambda_1 \underbrace{\mathbf{a}_1^{(1)} \otimes \mathbf{a}_2^{(1)}}_{B_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{a}_k^{(1)}}_{B_\ell} + \dots + \lambda_r \underbrace{\mathbf{a}_1^{(r)} \otimes \mathbf{a}_2^{(r)}}_{B_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{a}_k^{(r)}}_{B_\ell},$$

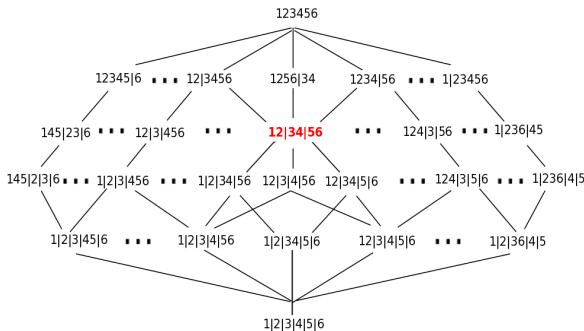
where the set of vectors $\{\mathbf{a}_i^{(n)}\}$ satisfies

$$\langle \bigotimes_{i \in B} \mathbf{a}_i^{(n)}, \bigotimes_{i \in B} \mathbf{a}_i^{(m)} \rangle = \delta_{nm},$$

for all $B \in \pi$ and all $n, m \in [r]$.

π -OD tensors and norm-preserving cones

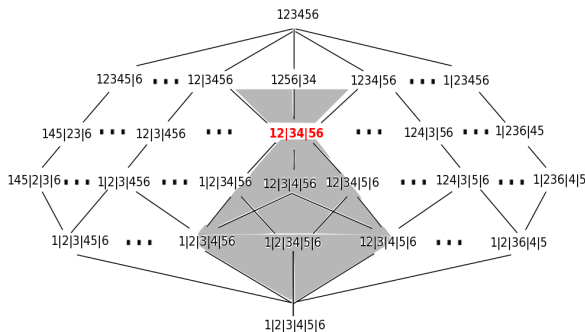
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π -OD tensors and norm-preserving cones

Suppose \mathcal{A} is a π -OD tensor and define $c \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \|\mathcal{A}\|_2$.

- $\|\text{Unfold}_\tau(\mathcal{A})\|_2 = c$ for all $\tau \in C_\pi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\tau: \tau \geq \pi\} \cup \{\tau: \tau \leq \pi\} \setminus \mathbf{1}_{[k]}$



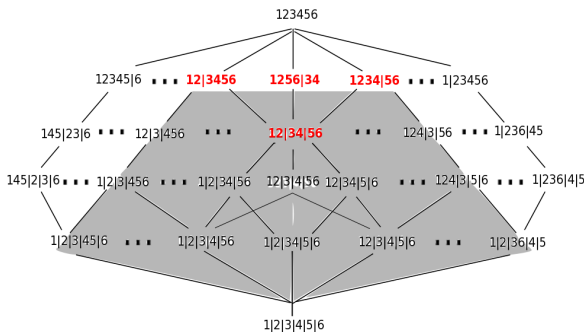
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- π -OD implies π' -OD for all $\pi' \geq \pi$. \Rightarrow

$$\|\text{Unfold}_\tau(\mathcal{A})\|_2 = c \text{ for all } \tau \in C_{\pi_1} \cup \dots \cup C_{\pi_s},$$

where π_1, \dots, π_s are **matricizations** obtained by merging blocks of π .



π -OD tensors and norm-preserving cones

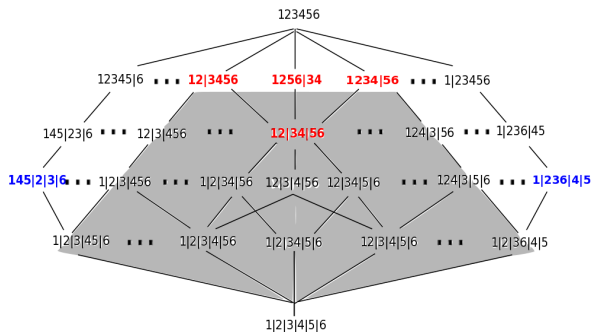
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- Can obtain **sharper bounds** for spectral norm landscape.



π -OD tensors and norm-preserving cones

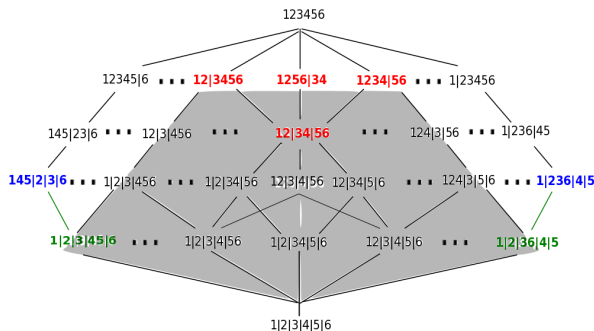
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Unfolding of an order- k tensor

- **General Unfolding.** The set of all possible unfoldings of an order- k tensor is in **one-to-one correspondence with** the set $\mathcal{P}_{[k]}$ of all partitions of $[k] = \{1, \dots, k\}$.
- For $\pi = \{B_1, \dots, B_\ell\} \in \mathcal{P}_{[k]}$, $\text{Unfold}_\pi(\mathcal{A})$ is obtained by combining the modes in each block B_n into a single mode.

Example. An order-4 tensor $\mathcal{A} = \llbracket a_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2}$ with

$$a_{i_1 i_2 i_3 i_4} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i_1 = i_2 = i_3 = i_4 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{can be matricized into}$$

- 2×2^3 matrix: $\text{Unfold}_{[1|234]}(\mathcal{A}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

- $2^2 \times 2^2$ matrix: $\text{Unfold}_{[12|34]}(\mathcal{A}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

Definition (Inner product)

For any two tensors $\mathcal{A} = \llbracket a_{i_1 \dots i_k} \rrbracket$, $\mathcal{B} = \llbracket b_{i_1 \dots i_k} \rrbracket \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$ of identical order and dimensions, their inner product is defined as

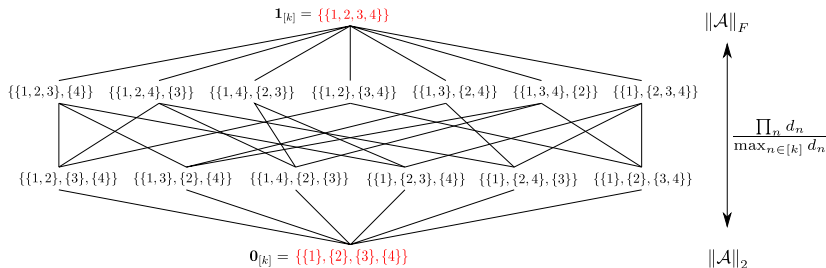
$$\langle \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \rangle = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_k} a_{i_1 \dots i_k} b_{i_1 \dots i_k}.$$

The tensor Frobenius norm of \mathcal{A} is defined as $\|\mathcal{A}\|_F = \sqrt{\langle \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{A} \rangle}$.

Frobenius norm vs. spectral norm

$$\|\mathcal{A}\|_F = \max_{\pi \in \mathcal{P}_{[k]}} \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi}(\mathcal{A})\|_2, \quad \|\mathcal{A}\|_2 = \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{P}_{[k]}} \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi}(\mathcal{A})\|_2,$$

$$\|\mathcal{A}\|_F \leq \left[\frac{\prod_n d_n}{\max_{n \in [k]} d_n} \right]^{1/2} \|\mathcal{A}\|_2.$$



This bound improves over the recent result found by Friedland and Lim [Lemma 5.1, 2016], namely, $\|\mathcal{A}\|_F \leq (\prod_n d_n)^{1/2} \|\mathcal{A}\|_2$.

Norm inequalities between any two tensor unfoldings

Given $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$, we define the map $\dim_{\mathcal{A}}: \mathcal{P}_{[k]} \times \mathcal{P}_{[k]} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_+$ as :

$$\dim_{\mathcal{A}}(\pi_1, \pi_2) = \prod_{B \in \pi_1} \left[\max_{B' \in \pi_2} \left(\prod_{n \in B \cap B'} d_n \right) \right], \quad \text{where } \pi_1, \pi_2 \in \mathcal{P}_{[k]}.$$

Theorem (p -norm inequalities)

Let $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_k}$ be an arbitrary order- k tensor, and π_1, π_2 any two partitions in $\mathcal{P}_{[k]}$. Define $\dim(\mathcal{A}) = \prod_{i=1}^k d_i$. Then,

(a) For any $1 \leq p \leq 2$,

$$\frac{[\dim(\mathcal{A})]^{-1/p}}{[\dim_{\mathcal{A}}(\pi_1, \pi_2)]^{-1/2}} \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi_1}(\mathcal{A})\|_p \leq \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi_2}(\mathcal{A})\|_p \leq \frac{[\dim(\mathcal{A})]^{1/p}}{[\dim_{\mathcal{A}}(\pi_2, \pi_1)]^{1/2}} \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi_1}(\mathcal{A})\|_p.$$

(b) For any $2 \leq p \leq \infty$,

$$\frac{[\dim(\mathcal{A})]^{\frac{1}{p}-1}}{[\dim_{\mathcal{A}}(\pi_1, \pi_2)]^{-1/2}} \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi_1}(\mathcal{A})\|_p \leq \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi_2}(\mathcal{A})\|_p \leq \frac{[\dim(\mathcal{A})]^{1-\frac{1}{p}}}{[\dim_{\mathcal{A}}(\pi_2, \pi_1)]^{1/2}} \|\text{Unfold}_{\pi_1}(\mathcal{A})\|_p.$$

Two-mode HOSVD algorithm for tensors with noise

Rank-1 matrices in $\mathcal{LS}^{(r)}$ are sufficient to find $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$.

- Define the two-mode left singular space by

$$\mathcal{LS}^{(r)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Span}\{\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d^2} : \mathbf{a}_i \text{ is the } i\text{th left singular vector of } \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{(12)(3\dots k)}\}.$$

- Look for “nearly” rank-1 matrix $\hat{\mathbf{M}}^{(r)}$ in the linear space $\mathcal{LS}^{(r)}$:

$$\underset{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}}{\text{maximize}} \|\mathbf{M}\|_2,$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{LS}^{(r)} \text{ and } \|\mathbf{M}\|_F = 1.$$

Justification of the optimization: $\|\mathbf{M}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{M}\|_F \leq \sqrt{\text{rank } \mathbf{M}} \|\mathbf{M}\|_2$.

- Apply eigendecomposition on the matrix $\hat{\mathbf{M}}^{(r)}$ to recover \mathbf{u}_i .

back

Exact Recovery for SOD Tensors in the noiseless case

Optimization to recover the desired factors $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ of \mathcal{A} :

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}}{\text{maximize}} \quad \|\mathbf{M}\|_2, \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{LS}_0 \text{ and } \|\mathbf{M}\|_F = 1. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Theorem (W. and Song, 2017)

The optimization problem (??) has *exactly r pairs of local maximizers* $\{\pm \mathbf{M}_i^* : i \in [r]\}$. Furthermore, they satisfy the following three properties:

- 1 $\|\mathbf{M}_i^*\|_2 = 1$ for all $i \in [r]$.
- 2 $|\langle \text{Vec}(\mathbf{M}_i^*), \text{Vec}(\mathbf{M}_j^*) \rangle| = \delta_{ij}$ for all $i, j \in [r]$, where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the inner product.
- 3 There exists a permutation π on $[r]$ such that $\mathbf{M}_i^* = \pm \mathbf{u}_{\pi(i)}^{\otimes 2}$ for all $i \in [r]$.

Two-mode HOSVD algorithm for tensors with noise

Optimization to recover the desired factors $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ of $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}}{\text{maximize}} \quad \|\mathbf{M}\|_2, \\ & \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{LS}_r \text{ and } \|\mathbf{M}\|_F = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm 1 Two-mode HOSVD

Input: Noisy tensor $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}$ where $\tilde{\mathcal{T}} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k} + \mathcal{E}$, number of factors r .

Output: r pairs of estimators $(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \hat{\lambda}_i)$.

Two-Mode HOSVD	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1: \text{Reshape the tensor } \tilde{\mathcal{T}} \text{ into a } d^2\text{-by-}d^{k-2} \text{ matrix } \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(12)(3\dots k)}; \\ 2: \text{Find the top } r \text{ left singular vectors of } \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(12)(3\dots k)}, \text{ denoted } \{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_r\}; \\ 3: \text{Initialize } \mathcal{LS}^{(r)} = \text{Span}\{\mathbf{a}_i : i \in [r]\}; \\ 4: \text{for } i=1 \text{ to } r \text{ do} \end{array} \right.$
Nearly Rank-1 Matrix	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 5: \text{Solve } \hat{\mathbf{M}}_i = \underset{\mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{LS}^{(r)}, \ \mathbf{M}\ _F=1}{\arg \max} \ \mathbf{M}\ _\sigma \text{ and } \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i = \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{S}^{d-1}}{\arg \max} \mathbf{u}^T \hat{\mathbf{M}}_i \mathbf{u} ; \end{array} \right.$
Post-Processing	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 6: \text{Update } \hat{\mathbf{M}}_i \leftarrow \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{(1)(2)(3\dots k)}(\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{I}, \text{Vec}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i^{\otimes(k-2)})) \text{ and } \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i \leftarrow \underset{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{S}^{d-1}}{\arg \max} \mathbf{u}^T \hat{\mathbf{M}}_i \mathbf{u} ; \\ 7: \text{Return } (\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \hat{\lambda}_i) \leftarrow (\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \hat{\mathcal{T}}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i)); \end{array} \right.$
Deflation	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 8: \text{Set } \mathcal{LS}^{(r)} \leftarrow \mathcal{LS}^{(r)} \cap [\text{Vec}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i^{\otimes 2})]^\perp; \\ 9: \text{end for} \end{array} \right.$

Theorem (W. and Song, 2017b)

Let $\tilde{\mathcal{A}} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i^{\otimes k} + \mathcal{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \dots \times d}$, where $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}_{i \in [r]}$ are orthonormal vectors, $\lambda_i > 0$ for all $i \in [r]$, and $\|\mathcal{E}\|_2 \leq \varepsilon$. Suppose $\varepsilon \leq |\lambda|_{\min} / [c_0 d^{(k-2)/2}]$, where $c_0 > 0$ is a sufficiently large constant that does not depend on d . Let $\{(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \hat{\lambda}_i)\}_{i \in [r]}$ be the output of Algorithm 1 for inputs $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ and r . Then, there exists a permutation π on $[r]$ such that for all $i \in [r]$,

$$\text{Loss}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i, \mathbf{u}_{\pi(i)}) \leq \frac{2\varepsilon}{\lambda_{\pi(i)}} + o(\varepsilon), \quad \text{Loss}(\hat{\lambda}_i, \lambda_{\pi(i)}) \leq 2\varepsilon + o(\varepsilon),$$

and

$$\left\| \tilde{\mathcal{A}} - \sum_{i=1}^r \hat{\lambda}_i \hat{\mathbf{u}}_i^{\otimes k} \right\|_2 \leq C\varepsilon + o(\varepsilon),$$

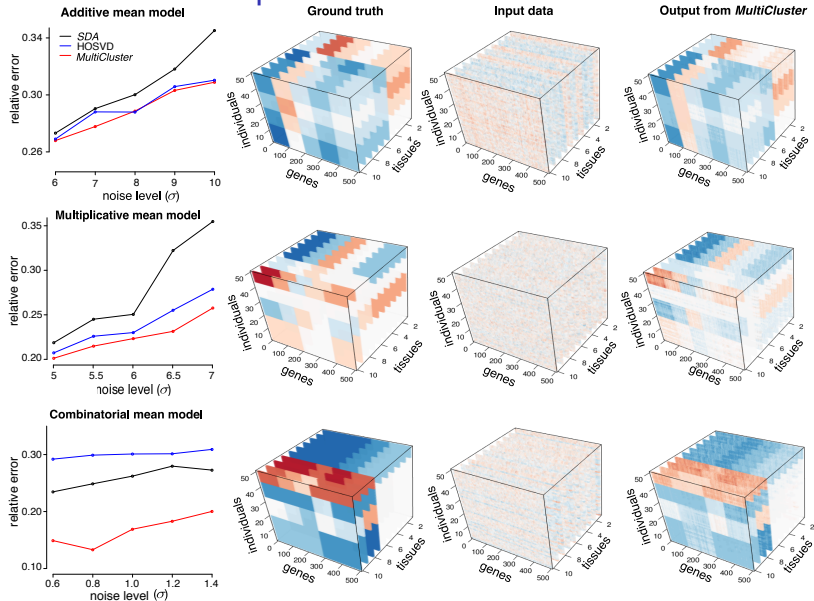
where $C = C(k) > 0$ is a constant that only depends on k .

For two unit vectors $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, define

$$\text{Loss}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \min(\|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\|_2, \|\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}\|_2).$$

If a, b are two scalars in \mathbb{R} , we define $\text{Loss}(a, b) = \min(|a - b|, |a + b|)$.

Robustness to misspecified models



Run time comparison

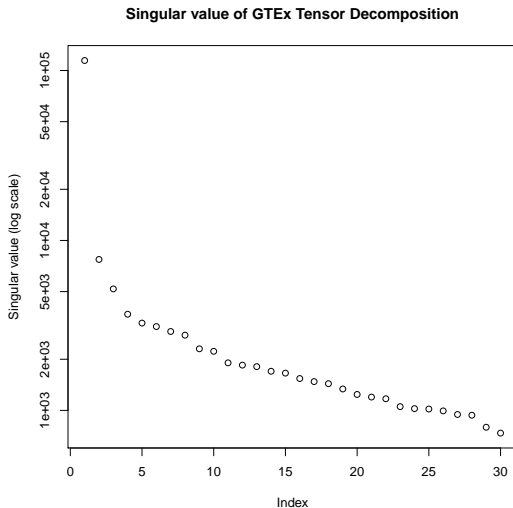
Complexity (for order-3 tensors):

- TPM (Anandkumar et al., 2014): $O(d^3 M)$ per iteration, where M is the number of restarts.
- OJD (Kuleshov et al., 2015): $O(d^3 L)$ per iteration, where L is the number of projected matrices.
- Our method (W. and Song 2017b): $O(d^3)$ per iteration.

Simulation study: decompose $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{18000 \times 500 \times 40}$ into 10 components.

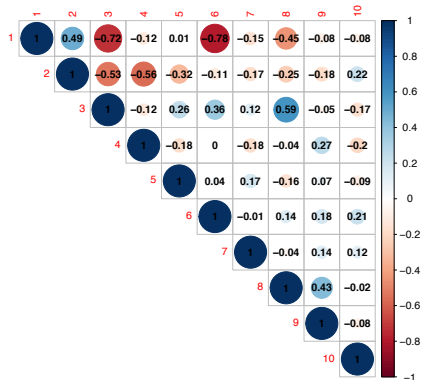
- SDA (Hore et al., 2016): 73,989 seconds (~ 20.1 hrs)
- HOSVD (Ombert et al., 2007): 5,849 seconds
- Our method (W. et al., 2017c): 6,047 seconds (~ 1.7 hrs)

Decay of singular values in GTEx



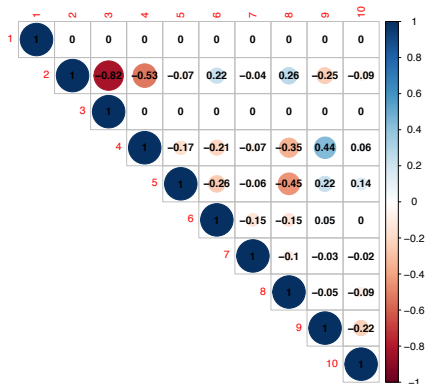
a

Correlation between eigen-tissues



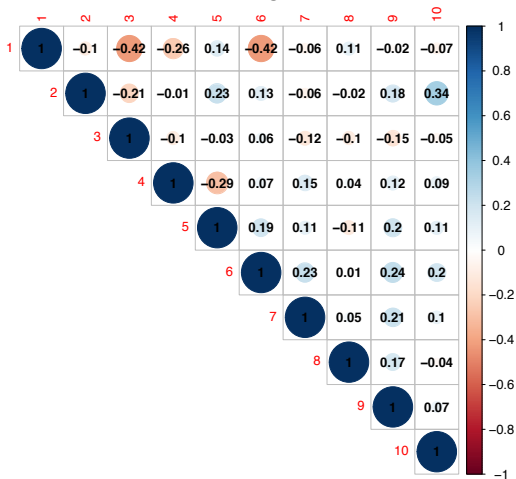
b

Correlation between eigen-genes



C

Correlation between eigen-individuals



Theorem

Let $\mathbf{A} \in \otimes^k \mathbb{R}^d$ be an order- k dim- d random tensor with i.i.d. standard Gaussian entries, then

$$d^{1/2} < \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{A}\|_2 < kd^{1/2}.$$

Further, $\|\mathbf{A}\|_2$ concentrates tightly around its expectation. Namely, for any $s \geq 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(|\|\mathbf{A}\|_2 - \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{A}\|_2| \geq s) \leq 2e^{-s^2/2}.$$

With little modification, the above result can be generalized to order- k , dimensional- (d_1, \dots, d_k) tensors. Specifically, we have

$$\sqrt{d_{\max}} < \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{A}\|_2 < \sum_{i=1}^k \sqrt{d_i}.$$

This implies, $\|\mathbf{A}\|_2 \asymp \mathcal{O}_p(\sqrt{d_{\max}})$ asymptotically for large d and fixed k .

Theorem (Non-Asymptotic Chain)

Let $\mathbf{A} \in \otimes^k \mathbb{R}^d$ be an order- k dim- d random tensor with i.i.d. standard Gaussian entries. Then for any $d \geq 4$ and $k \geq 2$,

$$\mathbb{E} \|\text{Mat}_1(\mathbf{A})\|_2 > \mathbb{E} \|\text{Mat}_2(\mathbf{A})\|_2 > \cdots > \mathbb{E} \|\text{Mat}_{\lfloor k/2 \rfloor}(\mathbf{A})\|_2.$$

Further, for any $1 \leq p \leq \lfloor k/2 \rfloor$,

$$d^{(k-p)/2} < \mathbb{E} \|\text{Mat}_p(\mathbf{A})\| < d^{(k-p)/2} + d^{p/2}.$$

The following inequality chain holds almost surely as $d \rightarrow \infty$ at any fixed k :

$$\|\text{Mat}_1(\mathbf{A})\|_2 > \|\text{Mat}_2(\mathbf{A})\|_2 > \cdots > \|\text{Mat}_{\lfloor k/2 \rfloor}(\mathbf{A})\|_2,$$

Further, for any $1 \leq p \leq \lfloor k/2 \rfloor$,

$$\|\text{Mat}_p(\mathbf{A})\|_2 \rightarrow_{\text{a.s.}} (1 + \mathbf{1}_{\{p=k-p\}}) d^{(k-p)/2} \quad \text{as } d \rightarrow \infty.$$