

# Statistical analysis of low-rank binary tensor regression

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## 1 Preliminaries

We use lower-case letters  $(a, b, \dots)$  for scalars and vectors, upper-case boldface letters  $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \dots)$  for matrices, and calligraphy letter  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \dots)$  for tensors of order 3 or greater. Let  $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_K}$  denote an order- $K$   $(d_1, \dots, d_K)$ -dimensional tensor. We say that an event  $A$  occurs “with very high probability” if  $\mathbb{P}(A)$  tends to 1 faster than any polynomial of  $d_{\min} = \min\{d_1, \dots, d_K\}$ . We use  $\mathbf{S}^{d-1} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = 1\}$  to denote the Euclidean sphere in dimension  $d$ .

**Property 1.** *Let  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times p}$  be a full-rank matrix, where  $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = p \leq d$ . The SVD of  $\mathbf{X}$  can be expressed as  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{P}\Delta\mathbf{Q}^T$ , where  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times p}$  and  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  consist of, respectively, the left and right singular vectors, and  $\Delta \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$  is the diagonal matrix consisting of non-zero singular values. The following properties hold:*

1.  $(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1/2} = \mathbf{Q}\Delta^{-1}$ .
2. Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1/2}$ . Then  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{P}$ .
3.  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{X} = \Delta\mathbf{Q}^T$ .

## 2 Results

Suppose we observe an order- $K$  binary tensor  $\mathcal{Y} \in \{0, 1\}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_K}$ , along with a set of covariate matrices  $\mathbf{X}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k \times p_k}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ . Consider a tensor regression model:

$$\text{logit}(\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{Y})) = \mathcal{B} \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \dots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_1 \times \dots \times p_K}$  is a coefficient tensor of interest. Furthermore, the tensor  $\mathcal{B}$  is assumed to (i) be entrywise bounded, and (ii) admit a low-rank Tucker decomposition; that is,  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{B}) = \mathbf{r} \equiv (r_1, \dots, r_K)^T$ , where  $r_k \leq p_k \leq d_k$ . The parameter space we consider is

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r}, \alpha) = \{\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_1 \times \dots \times p_K} : \text{rank}(\mathcal{B}) \leq \mathbf{r}, \text{ and } \|\mathcal{B}\|_\infty \leq \alpha\}.$$

In the following analysis, we assume both the multilinear rank  $\mathbf{r}$  and entrywise bound  $\alpha$  are known. The adaptation of unknown rank will be addressed in the next note.

**Remark 1.** Model (1) incorporates the following examples as special cases:

(1) **Binary tensor decomposition.** In the absence of side information, set  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{I}_k$  to be identity matrix and  $p_k = d_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ . Then the model (1) reduces to unsupervised binary tensor

decomposition.

(2) **Network link prediction model.** Suppose  $K = 2$  and  $\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{X}_2$ . Then the model (1) reduced to the matrix logistic model [Baldin and Berthet, 2018] that is commonly used in the network analysis:

$$\text{logit}(\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{Y})) = \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{B} \mathbf{X}, \quad \text{where} \quad \text{rank}(\mathbf{B}) \leq r.$$

(3) **Semi-supervised decomposition.** Suppose the covariate information is available only for a subset of modes. Without loss of generality, suppose the covariates  $\mathbf{X}_k \neq \mathbf{I}$  are available in modes  $1, \dots, L$ , where  $L < K$ . Then the model (1) reduces to a semi-supervised decomposition model:

$$\text{logit}(\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{Y})) = \underbrace{\mathcal{B}}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{p_1 \times \dots \times p_L \times d_{L+1} \times \dots \times d_K}} \times_1 \underbrace{\mathbf{X}_1}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times p_1}} \times_2 \dots \times_L \underbrace{\mathbf{X}_L}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{d_L \times p_L}}.$$

For parsimony, we do not distinguish modes with available side information from those without side information. We focus on the general tensor regression model (1) with mild assumption on  $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}$ . Specifically, the covariates  $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}$  are assumed to satisfy the following restricted isometry property (RIP) assumption.

**Assumption 1** (Restricted Isometry Property). *Let  $d = \prod_k d_k$ . The covariates  $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}$  are called to satisfy the RIP condition if there exists a positive constant  $\delta_{\mathbf{r}, \alpha} \in (0, 1)$  such that*

$$d(1 - \delta_{\mathbf{r}, \alpha}) \|\mathcal{B}\|_F^2 \leq \|\mathcal{B} \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \dots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K\|_F^2 \leq d(1 + \delta_{\mathbf{r}, \alpha}) \|\mathcal{B}\|_F^2,$$

*holds for all tensors  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r}, \alpha)$  in the parameter space.*

**Remark 2.** The RIP assumption requires the covariates at each of the modes are nearly orthonormal, at least when restricted to the desired parameter space.

**Proposition 1** (Random design). *Suppose  $\mathbf{X}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k \times p_k}$  consists of i.i.d. standard Gaussian entries for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ . Then with very high probability,  $\mathbf{X}_k$  satisfies the RIP condition with  $\delta = 2$ .*

**Theorem 1** (Main Results). *Consider a tensor regression model (1) with  $\mathcal{Y} \in \{0, 1\}^{d_1 \times \dots \times d_K}$  the response and  $\mathbf{X}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k \times p_k}$  the mode- $k$  covariates. Let  $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{MLE}$  be the restricted rank- $\mathbf{r}$  maximum likelihood estimate of the coefficient tensor, where  $\mathbf{r} = (r_1, \dots, r_K)'$ ,*

$$\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{MLE} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{B}: \text{rank}(\mathcal{B}) = \mathbf{r}, \|\mathcal{B}\|_\infty \leq \alpha} \text{Log-lik}(\mathcal{B}; \mathcal{Y}, \{\mathbf{X}_k\}).$$

*Suppose the covariates  $\mathbf{X}_k$  are full rank and satisfy the RIP condition with RIP constant  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . Then, with very high probability,*

$$\|\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{MLE} - \mathcal{B}_{true}\|_F \leq \frac{C_\alpha}{\prod_k d_k} \sqrt{\frac{(1 + \delta_{2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha}) \prod_{k=1}^K r_k}{(1 - \delta_{2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha})^2 r_{\max}} \sum_{k=1}^K p_k},$$

*where  $C_\alpha > 0$  is a constant independent of the tensor dimension or rank.*

**Theorem 2** (KL-Divergence and Hellinger Loss). *See Zhuoyan’s note “Evidence theory on prediction error” (08/09) and Jiaxin’s note “Boundaries for different prediction error metrics” (08/09).*

### 3 Proofs

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Following the similar argument as in [Wang and Li, 2019], we have  $\text{Log-lik}(\mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}) \leq \text{Log-lik}(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}})$ . By Taylor expansion,

$$\|(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}) \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K\|_F^2 \leq C_\alpha \langle \mathcal{S}, (\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}) \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K \rangle, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \cdots \times d_K}$  is a random tensor consisting of i.i.d. bounded random entries. Applying the RIP condition to  $(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}) \in \mathcal{P}(2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha)$  in the inequality (2) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - \delta_{2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha}) \|(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}})\|_F^2 \\ & \leq \|(\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}) \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K\|_F^2 \\ & \leq C_\alpha \times \|\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}\|_F \times \sqrt{(1 + \delta_{2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha}) \frac{\prod_k r_k}{r_{\max}} \sum_k p_k}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last line uses the Lemma 2. Therefore,

$$\|\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{MLE}} - \mathcal{B}_{\text{true}}\|_F \leq C_\alpha \sqrt{\frac{(1 + \delta_{2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha})}{(1 - \delta_{2\mathbf{r}, 2\alpha})^2} \frac{\prod_k r_k}{r_{\max}} \sum_k p_k}.$$

□

**Lemma 1.** *Suppose the matrices  $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}$  satisfy the RIP condition with constant  $\delta_{\mathbf{r}, \alpha} \in (0, 1)$ . Then the matrices  $\{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k^T \mathbf{X}_k\}$  also satisfy the RIP condition with the same RIP constant.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{X}_k = \mathbf{P}_k \Delta_k \mathbf{Q}_k^T$  be the SVD of  $\mathbf{X}_k$ , and by Property 1,  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k^T \mathbf{X}_k = \Delta_k \mathbf{Q}_k^T \in \mathbb{R}^{p_k \times p_k}$ . Note that the F-norm is invariant under orthonormal transformation. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{B} \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K\|_F &= \|\mathcal{B} \times_1 (\mathbf{P}_1 \Delta_1 \mathbf{Q}_1^T) \times_2 \cdots \times_K (\mathbf{P}_K \Delta_K \mathbf{Q}_K^T)\|_F \\ &= \|\mathcal{B} \times_1 (\Delta_1 \mathbf{Q}_1^T) \times_2 \cdots \times_K (\Delta_K \mathbf{Q}_K^T)\|_F \\ &= \|\mathcal{B} \times_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1 \mathbf{X}_1^T)^{1/2} \times_2 \cdots \times_K (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K \mathbf{X}_K^T)^{1/2}\|_F. \end{aligned}$$

The proof is complete by invoking the Assumption 1. □

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r}, \alpha)$  be a fixed tensor in the parameter space  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r}, \alpha)$  and  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times \cdots \times d_K}$  be a random tensor with i.i.d. bounded random entries. Suppose  $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}$  satisfy the RIP condition with*

RIP constant  $\delta_{\mathbf{r},\alpha}$ . Then, with very high probability,

$$\langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{B} \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K \rangle \leq \|\mathcal{B}\|_F \times \sqrt{(1 + \delta_{\mathbf{r},\alpha}) \frac{\prod_{k=1}^K r_k}{r_{\max}} \sum_{k=1}^K p_k}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k = \mathbf{X}_k(\mathbf{X}_k^T \mathbf{X}_k)^{-1/2} = \mathbf{P}_k$ , where  $\mathbf{P}_k$  consists of left singular vectors of  $\mathbf{X}_k$ . By the definition of inner product,

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{B} \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K \rangle \\ &= \left\langle \underbrace{\mathcal{S} \times_1 \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1^T \times_2 \cdots \times_K \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K^T}_{:= \mathcal{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_1 \times \cdots \times p_K} \text{ is a sub-Gaussian(1) tensor by Lemma 3}}, \mathcal{B} \times_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1^T \mathbf{X}_1) \times_2 \cdots \times_K (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K^T \mathbf{X}_K) \right\rangle. \\ &\leq \|\mathcal{E}\|_\sigma \times \left\| \mathcal{B} \times_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1^T \mathbf{X}_1) \times_2 \cdots \times_K (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K^T \mathbf{X}_K) \right\|_* \\ &\leq \|\mathcal{E}\|_\sigma \times \sqrt{\frac{\prod_k r_k}{r_{\max}}} \times \left\| \mathcal{B} \times_1 (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1^T \mathbf{X}_1) \times_2 \cdots \times_K (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K^T \mathbf{X}_K) \right\|_F \\ &\leq \sqrt{\frac{\prod_k r_k}{r_{\max}}} \times \|\mathcal{E}\|_\sigma \times \sqrt{1 + \delta_{\mathbf{r},\alpha}} \|\mathcal{B}\|_F, \end{aligned}$$

where the last line comes from the RIP condition of  $\{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k^T \mathbf{X}_k\}$  by Lemma 1. Combining with the fact that  $\|\mathcal{E}\|_\sigma \asymp \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{\sum_k p_k})$  (c.f. Theorem 1 in Tommioka and Suzuki, 2014], we have

$$\langle \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{B} \times_1 \mathbf{X}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{X}_K \rangle \leq \|\mathcal{B}\|_F \times \sqrt{(1 + \delta_{\mathbf{r},\alpha}) \frac{\prod_k r_k}{r_{\max}} \sum_k p_k}.$$

□

**Lemma 3.** Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be an  $sG(\sigma)$  tensor of dimension  $(d_1, \dots, d_K)$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k \times p_k}$  be column-wise orthogonal matrices. Then  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{S} \times_1 \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1^T \times_2 \cdots \times_K \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K^T$  is an  $sG(\sigma)$  tensor of dimension  $(p_1, \dots, p_K)$ .

*Proof.* (Extended from Zhuoyan's note version 4.0) To show  $\mathcal{E}$  is an sG tensor, it suffices to show that the  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_K) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle \mathcal{E}, \mathbf{u}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{u}_K \rangle$  is a sub-Gaussian random variable with parameter  $\sigma$ , where  $\mathbf{u}_k \in \mathcal{S}^{p_k-1}$  for all  $k = 1, \dots, K$ .

Note that,

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_K) = \mathcal{S}(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1 \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K \mathbf{u}_K).$$

Because  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times p}$  are column-wise orthogonal matrices, so  $\|\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_k \mathbf{u}_k\|_2 = \|\mathbf{u}_k\|_2 = 1$ . By definition of sub-Gaussian tensor,  $\mathcal{S}(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1 \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_K \mathbf{u}_K)$  is a sub-Gaussian random variable with parameter  $\sigma$ , so is the  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_K)$ . □