

## Lecture 18 — 03-25

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## 1 Leverage scores and coherence

Recall the definition of row leverage scores of a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ . If  $\mathbf{U}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\text{span}(\mathbf{A})$ , then the  $i$ th leverage score is given by

$$\ell_i(\mathbf{A}) = \sup_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{(\mathbf{A}_{i:}\mathbf{x})^2}{\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|^2} = \|\mathbf{U}_{i:}\|^2, \quad i \in [n]. \quad (1)$$

One can then sample rows according to probabilities  $p_i = \ell_i/r$ . It is also possible to approximately compute leverage scores at a reduced complexity.

The coherence of  $\mathbf{A}$ , denoted by  $\mu(\mathbf{A})$  is the *maximum leverage score*, that is,

$$\mu(\mathbf{A}) = \max_{i \in [n]} \ell_i(\mathbf{A}). \quad (2)$$

Coherence obeys the following inequalities:  $\frac{r}{n} \leq \mu(\mathbf{A}) \leq 1$ . The first follows from  $1 = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \Rightarrow r = \sum_{i=1}^n \ell_i \Rightarrow r \leq n\mu(\mathbf{A})$ ; the second follows from  $\ell_i = \|\mathbf{U}_{i:}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{e}_i \mathbf{U}\|^2 \leq 1^2 \cdot 1^2$  by submultiplicativity. We say  $\mathbf{A}$  is **incoherent** if  $\mu(\mathbf{A}) \approx \frac{r}{N}$ .

One can use leverage scores to sample linear least squares problems, getting approximate solutions at a reduced cost.

**Proposition 1.** Given a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$  and a fixed vector  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $\mathbf{x}^* = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_2$ . Let  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a sampling matrix with probabilities  $p_i = \ell_i/r$ , and  $\mathbf{S}_{i*} = \mathbf{e}_j / \sqrt{mp_j}$  with  $\mathbb{P}(j = i) = p_i$ . If  $m = O(r \log(r/\delta)/\varepsilon)$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})\|_2$ , then, with high probability,

$$\|\mathbf{A}\tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{b}\|_2 \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* - \mathbf{b}\|_2.$$

## 2 Leverage score sampling for CP-ALS

Our goal is to accelerate CP-ALS by using leverage score sampling on the least squares subproblems that arise for the approximate CP factor matrices of tensor  $\mathcal{X}$  (here order 3)

$$\min_{\mathbf{A}_1} \|(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)\mathbf{A}_1^T - \mathbf{X}_{(1)}^T\|_F^2. \quad (3)$$

However, even approximately computing the leverage scores for  $(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)$  can be prohibitively expensive. But we can estimate/bound the leverage scores for this Khatri-Rao structured matrix in terms of the leverage scores of the matrices  $\mathbf{A}_2$  and  $\mathbf{A}_3$ .

**Lemma 1** (Cheng, et al.: Theorem 3.2).  $\mu(\mathbf{A} \odot \mathbf{B}) \leq \mu(\mathbf{A})\mu(\mathbf{B})$

This implies that if two matrices  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}$  are incoherent, then their Khatri-Rao product  $\mathbf{A} \odot \mathbf{B}$  is also incoherent.

Motivated by Lemma ??, instead of sampling according to  $p_k = \ell_k(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)/r$  we will instead use  $p_k = \ell_i(\mathbf{A}_3)\ell_j(\mathbf{A}_2)/r^2$ , which requires only  $\mathcal{O}((n_2 + n_3)r)$  work. Specifically, we'll use the following procedure:

- choose  $i \sim p_i = \ell_i(\mathbf{A}_3)/r$
- choose  $j \sim p_j = \ell_j(\mathbf{A}_2)/r$
- select row  $k = i + (j - 1)n_3$ .

The guarantee for this procedure is as follows.

**Theorem 1** (Larsen and Kolda: Theorem 6). *Let  $\mathbf{A}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times r}$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 n_3 \times n_1}$  and consider the linear least squares problem*

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{A}_1} \|(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)\mathbf{A}_1^T - \mathbf{X}_{(1)}^T\|_F^2.$$

*with optimal solution  $\mathbf{A}_1^*$ . Now let  $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_1$  be the optimal solution to the problem*

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{A}_1} \|(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)\mathbf{A}_1^T - \mathbf{S}\mathbf{X}_{(1)}^T)\|_F^2.$$

*where  $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times n_2 n_3}$  is the leverage score sampling matrix which samples according to the procedure described above.*

*If  $s = r^4 \max\{1700 \log(r/\delta), 1/(\delta\epsilon)\}$ , then*

$$\Pr \left[ \|(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_1^T - \mathbf{X}_{(1)}^T\|_F^2 \leq (1 + \epsilon) \|(\mathbf{A}_3 \odot \mathbf{A}_2)(\mathbf{A}_1^*)^T - \mathbf{X}_{(1)}^T\|_F^2 \right] \geq 1 - \delta.$$

Larsen and Kolda also suggest additional practical tips for efficient implementation:

- **hybrid approach:** deterministically include all rows whose leverage scores/probabilities are above some threshold and randomly sample from the remaining rows; using the hybrid strategy, they demonstrate equally good or better decompositions with the same number of total samples
- **unfoldings:** never form  $\mathbf{X}_{(i)}^T$  explicitly if  $\mathcal{X}$  is sparse, instead precompute linear indices for every nonzero for each mode to directly form a sparse unfolding/right hand side; this requires  $3\text{nnz}(\mathcal{X})$  extra memory
- **estimate residual:** calculating the residual is necessary to determine when the approximation is sufficiently converged, but computing the residual can take many times longer than updating all three factor matrices; therefore, as a *practical hack* with no theoretical guarantees the authors suggest estimating the residual based on a random sample of tensor elements (using a stratified sampling to correct for problems introduced by sparsity)

We conclude this discussion by comparing the complexities of the two main kernels in CP-ALS: computation of the residual and the formation and solution of (one) linear least squares problem. Here  $s_{fit}$  is the user specified number of elements used to sample and estimate the residual and  $j$  corresponds to the mode being updated by the least squares subproblem.

operation	sparse/dense	complexity (big $\mathcal{O}$ )	sampled complexity
residual	dense	$rn_1n_2n_3$	$rs_{fit}$
	sparse	$rnnz(\mathcal{X})$	$rs_{fit}$
least squares (mode $j$ )	dense	$rn_1n_2n_3$	$3sr + sr^2 + srn_j$
	sparse	$rn_1n_2n_3$	$3sr + sr^2 + rnnz(\mathbf{X}_{(j)})$

### 3 Troubles with CP decomposition

Finally, we summarize some mathematical troubles that plague the CP decomposition, stressing that these are independent of algorithm.

- **ill-posedness:** from de Silva and Lim there is no guarantee that the best rank  $k$  approximation exists; for example no rank 3  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  tensor has a best rank 2 approximation, and a random  $m \times n \times p$  tensor has no best rank 2 approximation with probability 1; in general this rules out the possibility of a theorem like Eckart-Young-Mirsky for tensors
- **complexity of determining rank:** given a tensor  $\mathcal{T}$ , determining its real rank is NP hard (and so are many other tensor problems, see Lim)
- **many local minima:** the best rank  $k$  approximation problem is non-convex and non-linear, and so may have many local minima; no known results suggest that the standard algorithms frequently find “good” local minima