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# Appendix for "Federated Learning Empowered Neural Tensor Completion for Accurate IoT Data Recovery"

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#### **Abstract**

This document is the appendix file for the IEEE INFOCOM 2023 paper titled "Federated Learning Empowered Neural Tensor Completion for Accurate IoT Data Recovery".

# I. PROOF OF MATROID BASE CONSTRAINT IN MODEL (20)

Lemma A1: Given  $\mathcal{M} := \{(s,u) | \forall s \in \mathcal{S}, u \in \mathcal{U}\}$ , the pair  $\mathcal{A} := \{\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{I}\}$  is a matroid, where  $\mathcal{I}$  is a collection of independent sets, that is,  $\mathcal{I} := \{\mathcal{V} | \mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{G}, \forall v_1 = (s_1, u_1), v_2 = (s_2, u_2) \in \mathcal{V}, v_1 \neq v_2\}$ . The constraint in **P1** corresponds to a matroid base constraint, i.e.,  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{V} \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{A})$ , where  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{A})$  is the set of bases of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Proof A1: First, the nonempty property of  $\mathcal{I}$  is obvious due to  $U \geq 2$  and  $S \geq 2$ . Second, if  $\mathcal{V}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{V}_2 \in \mathcal{I}$ , then  $\mathcal{V}_1 \in \mathcal{I}$ . If not, there exist at least two different elements  $v_1, v_2 \in \mathcal{V}_1$  that share the same second component. Since  $\mathcal{V}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{V}_2$  holds,  $v_1, v_2 \in \mathcal{V}_2$ , which contradicts  $\mathcal{V}_2 \in \mathcal{I}$ . Lastly, suppose  $\mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2 \in \mathcal{I}$  and  $|\mathcal{V}_1| < |\mathcal{V}_2|$ , if there does not exist an element  $v \in \mathcal{V}_2 \setminus \mathcal{V}_1$  such that  $\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \{v\} \in \mathcal{I}$ , then for any element  $e \in \mathcal{V}_2 \setminus \mathcal{V}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \{v\} \notin \mathcal{I}$ . Since  $\mathcal{V}_1 \in \mathcal{I}$ , each element in  $\mathcal{V}_2 \setminus \mathcal{V}_1$  has the same UE in  $\mathcal{V}_1$ . Due to  $|\mathcal{V}_1| < |\mathcal{V}_2|$ , there exist at least two elements in  $\mathcal{V}_2 \setminus \mathcal{V}_1$  with the same UE in  $\mathcal{V}_1$ . This implies the two elements sharing the same UE are also in  $\mathcal{V}_2$  that contradicts with  $\mathcal{V}_2 \in \mathcal{I}$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{A} := \{\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{I}\}$  is a matroid.

According to the construction of  $\mathcal{A}$ , it is easy to obtain that the size of the matroid  $\mathcal{A}$  is U because there are U UEs. Considering the constraint in  $\mathbf{P1}$ ,  $\forall u \in \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} z_{su} = 1$  means finding an edge association strategy for every UE. It is equal to find a set  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$ , which constitutes a base of  $\mathcal{A}$ , that is,  $\mathcal{V} \in B(\mathcal{A})$ . The lemma is thus proved.

# II. Proof of the properties of $\widetilde{J}$ in ${f P3}$

$$\begin{split} \tilde{J}_{t}(\mathcal{V}) &= \mu_{t} \tilde{T}|_{\forall (s,u) \in \mathcal{V}, z_{su} = 1; \text{ otherwise } z_{su} = 0} \\ &= \mu_{t} \max_{(s,u) \in \mathcal{V}} \{ \gamma(\epsilon) t_{train}^{s} ) \} + 2 \mu_{t} \max_{(s,u) \in \mathcal{V}} \{ \tau_{su} \} |\mathcal{V}|, \end{split} \tag{1}$$

$$J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}) = \mu_{\ell} \mathcal{L}|_{\forall (s,u) \in \mathcal{V}, z_{su} = 1; otherwise \ z_{su} = 0}$$

$$= \frac{\mu_{\ell}}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{(s,u) \in \mathcal{V}} (||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \lambda_{k}^{s} ||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}).$$

$$(2)$$

*Proof A2*: According to the definition in Eq. (1) and (2), all coefficients in NTC-FL model are non-negative and then  $\tilde{J}$  is nonnegative.

Since the expansion of any set  $\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$  will relax item  $\mathcal{U}^s$  and increase the optimal objective value potentially. For example, when adding one element  $v=(s_v,u_v)$  in  $\mathcal{V}$ , it is equal to associate UE  $u_v$  with edge server  $s_v$ , which possibly induces more loss and increases the system latency as well. Then,  $\forall \mathcal{V}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{V}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\tilde{J}(\mathcal{V}_1) \leq \tilde{J}(\mathcal{V}_2)$  holds, that is,  $\tilde{J}$  is monotone.

Next, to prove  $\tilde{J}$  is supermodular, we just need prove  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  and  $J_\ell(\mathcal{V})$  are supermodular.

According to the definition of super-modular, i.e., for a given finite ground set  $\mathcal{M}$  and a real-valued set function defined as  $J: 2^{\mathcal{M}} \to \mathbb{R}$ , J is super-modular if and only if  $J(\mathcal{V}_1) + J(\mathcal{V}_2) \leq J(\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \mathcal{V}_2) + J(\mathcal{V}_1 \cap \mathcal{V}_2)$  for  $\forall \mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ . Then, for  $J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V})$ , we have

$$J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}) = \mu_{\ell} \mathcal{L}|_{\forall (s,u) \in \mathcal{V}, z_{su} = 1; otherwise z_{su} = 0}$$

$$= \frac{\mu_{\ell}}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{(s,u) \in \mathcal{V}} (||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \lambda_{k}^{s} ||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}).$$
(3)

For two given sets  $\forall \mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , let  $J_\ell^l = J_\ell(\mathcal{V}_1) + J_\ell(\mathcal{V}_2)$  and  $J_\ell^r = J_\ell(\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \mathcal{V}_2) + J_\ell(\mathcal{V}_1 \cap \mathcal{V}_2)$ , then we have

$$J_{\ell}^{l} = J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{1}) + J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{2})$$

$$= \mu_{\ell}/|\mathcal{S}|(\sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}}(||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n}\alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}) + \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{2}}(||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n}\alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}))$$
(4)

$$J_{\ell}^{r} = J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{1} \cup \mathcal{V}_{2}) + J(\mathcal{V}_{\ell} \cap \mathcal{V}_{2})$$

$$= \mu_{\ell}/|\mathcal{S}|(\sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cup\mathcal{V}_{2}}(||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n}\alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}) + \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cap\mathcal{V}_{2}}(||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n}\alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}))$$
(5)

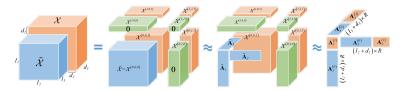


Fig. 1. An illustration of the partitioning property of CP decomposition.

Then.

$$J_{\ell}^{l} - J_{\ell}^{r} = J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{1}) + J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{2}) - (J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{1} \cup \mathcal{V}_{2}) + J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_{1} \cap \mathcal{V}_{2}))$$

$$= \mu_{\ell}/|\mathcal{S}|(\sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}} (||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}) + \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{2}} (||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2})$$

$$- \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cup\mathcal{V}_{2}} (||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2}) - \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cap\mathcal{V}_{2}} (||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2})$$

$$= \mu_{\ell}/|\mathcal{S}|(\sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}} ||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{2}} ||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} - \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cup\mathcal{V}_{2}} ||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2} - \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cap\mathcal{V}_{2}} ||\mathcal{T}^{s} - \mathcal{X}^{s}||_{F}^{2})$$

$$+ \mu_{\ell}/|\mathcal{S}|\sum_{k=1}^{n} (\sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2} + \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{2}} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2} - \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cup\mathcal{V}_{2}} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2} - \sum_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}_{1}\cap\mathcal{V}_{2}} \alpha_{k}^{s}||\mathbf{A}_{k}^{s}||_{F}^{2})$$

$$\triangleq \mu_{\ell}/|\mathcal{S}|(f_{1} + f_{2})$$
(6)

**Theorem 1 [1].** (the partitioning property of CP decomposition) For a given streaming tensor sequence  $\{\mathcal{X}^{(t)}\}_{t=1}^T$ , if it could be approximated by  $[\![\mathbf{A}_1,\cdots,\mathbf{A}_N]\!]$ , and its sub-tensor  $\{\mathcal{X}^{(t)}\}_{t=1}^{T-1}$  could be approximated by  $[\![\mathbf{A}_1,\cdots,\mathbf{A}_N]\!]$ , then  $\{\tilde{\mathbf{A}}_n\}_{n=1}^N$  are the sub-matrix of  $\{\mathbf{A}_n\}_{n=1}^N$ , respectively.

An illustration of the above property (in a three-way case) is demonstrated in Fig. 1. A given T-MUST tensor can be reconstructed into a corresponding multi-aspect streaming tensor described in [2], [3] by zero-padding (the green part).

For  $f_1$ , according to the definition of Frobenius norm, i.e., the square root of the sum of the absolute squares of tensor's elements, it can be seen that  $f_1 = 0$ . According to the partitioning property of CP decomposition, we can analyze the property of  $f_2$  from two perspectives:

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \mathcal{V}_2 = \emptyset$ . In this case, we can deduce that  $f_2 = 0$  according to the partitioning property of CP decomposition. Therefore,  $J_\ell^l J_\ell^r = \mu_\ell/|\mathcal{S}|(f_1 + f_2) = 0$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \mathcal{V}_2 \neq \emptyset$ . In this case, according to the partitioning property of CP decomposition, we can deduce that  $f_2 \leq 0$ . Therefore,  $J_\ell^l J_\ell^r = \mu_\ell/|\mathcal{S}|(f_1 + f_2) \leq 0$ .

In conclusion,  $J_{\ell}^l - J_{\ell}^r \leq 0$ , that is, for  $\forall \mathcal{V}_1, \mathcal{V}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ , we have  $J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_1) + J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_2) \leq J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_1 \cup \mathcal{V}_2) + J_{\ell}(\mathcal{V}_1 \cap \mathcal{V}_2)$ , which means the first component  $J_{\ell}$  is supermodular.

In addition, for any adding new element  $v=(s_v,u_v)$  to  $\mathcal V$  which means  $z_{s_vu_v}=1$ , it incurs the constant marginal increment  $2\mu_t\max_{(s,u)\in\mathcal V}\{\tau_{su}\}$  referring to the definition in Eq. (1)). Naturally,  $\tilde J_t(\mathcal V)$  is a linear increasing function which can be regarded as a monotone supermodular function as well.

Consequently, 
$$\tilde{J}(\mathcal{V}) = \tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V}) + J_\ell(\mathcal{V})$$
 is supermodular.

### III. PROOF OF LEMMA 1

Proof A3: When find the gap between  $\tilde{J}(\mathcal{V})$  and  $J(\mathcal{V})$ , we only need compare  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  with  $J_t(\mathcal{V})$ . Without loss of generality, we present the function curve of both  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  and  $J_t(\mathcal{V})$  in Fig. 2. Recall the expression for  $J_t(\mathcal{V})$  and  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$ , we can easily derive  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V}) \geq J_2(\mathcal{V})$  for any input  $\mathcal{V}$ . This is because  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  always has the maximal computation and model transfer latency  $\xi_{max}$  in the first component, and has the maximal communication latency  $2\mu_t \max_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\}|\mathcal{V}|$  for any input  $\mathcal{V}$  in the second

component. Thus, we can always have  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V}) \geq J_t(\mathcal{V})$  and  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  has a faster increasing speed than  $J_t(\mathcal{V})$ .

 $\xi_{max} = \mu_t \max_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \max_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \{ \gamma(\epsilon) t_{train}^s \}$  When  $\mathcal{V} = \emptyset$ , that is,  $|\mathcal{V}| = 0$ , the difference between  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  and  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  is

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{V}} = \tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})_{|\mathcal{V}|=0} - J_t(\mathcal{V})_{|\mathcal{V}|=0}$$
  
=  $\mu_t \max_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \max_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \{ \gamma(\epsilon) t_{train}^s \} = \xi_{max}.$ 

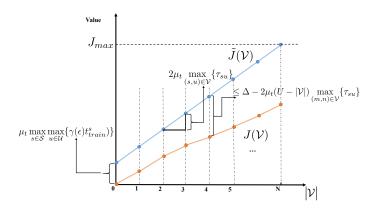


Fig. 2. Gap Analysis Between  $J(\mathcal{V})$  and  $\tilde{J}(\mathcal{V})$ .

When  $\mathcal{V}$  is not an empty set that  $|\mathcal{V}| > 0$ ,  $\mathcal{V} \in B(\mathcal{A})$ , we have  $J_t(\mathcal{V})_{|\mathcal{V}|=N} \geq \xi_{min} + 2\mu_t \min_{(s,u) \in \mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\}$  and

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{V}} = \tilde{J}_{t}(\mathcal{V}) - J_{t}(\mathcal{V}) 
\leq \xi_{max} + 2\mu_{t} \max_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\} |\mathcal{V}| - (\xi_{min} + 2\mu_{t} \min_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\} 
= \xi_{max} - \xi_{min} + 2\mu_{t}(|\mathcal{V}| \max_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\} - \min_{(s,u)\in\mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\}) 
= \Delta - 2\mu_{t}(U - |\mathcal{V}|) \max_{(m,n)\in\mathcal{V}} \{\tau_{su}\}.$$
(7)

Obviously, when  $|\mathcal{V}| = U$ , the different between  $\tilde{J}_t(\mathcal{V})$  and  $J_t(\mathcal{V})$  is bounded by  $\Delta$ . Therefore, we can achieve  $\tilde{J}(\mathcal{V}) \leq J(\mathcal{V}) + \Delta$  for any  $\mathcal{V} \in B(\mathcal{A})$ .

## IV. THE EDGE ASSOCIATION STRATEGY OF NTC-FL AND BASELINES ON THE TWO DATASETS

Table I and Table II show the edge association strategy of NTC-FL and baselines on Abilene and TaxiBJ-14, respectively. All UEs of the centralized baselines are associated with the default parameter server (*i.e.*, '#2' edge server).

 $\label{thm:table in the UE-Server Association Strategy on Abilene.}$  The UE-Server Association Strategy on Abilene.

UEs	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12
NTC-FL	#3	#2	#1	#2	#2	#1	#2	#3	#3	#3	#2	#1
NTC-FL/R	#1	#1	#1	#1	#1	#2	#2	#2	#3	#1	#1	#2
CP-WOPT	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
SPC	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
CoSTCo	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
NTC	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2

TABLE II
THE UE-SERVER ASSOCIATION STRATEGY ON TAXIBJ-14.

UEs	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12	#13	#14	#15	#16
NTC-FL	#3	#7	#4	#8	#7	#4	#7	#6	#5	#2	#8	#2	#1	#6	#7	#5
NTC-FL/R	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#3	#3	#4	#6	#2	#1	#4	#3	#7	#5	#1
CP-WOPT	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
SPC	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
CoSTCo	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
NTC	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2	#2
1110				""												
UEs	#17	#18	#19	#20	#21	#22	#23	#24	#25	#26	#27	#28	#29	#30	#31	#32
UEs	#17	#18	#19	#20	#21	#22	#23	#24	#25	#26	#27	#28	#29	#30	#31	#32
UEs NTC-FL	#17	#18	#19 #1	#20	#21 #6	#22	#23	#24	#25 #4	#26 #8	#27	#28	#29	#30	#31	#32
UEs NTC-FL NTC-FL/R	#17 #8 #6	#18 #3 #1	#19 #1 #6	#20 #2 #2	#21 #6 #5	#22 #6 #2	#23 #4 #1	#24 #1 #1	#25 #4 #2	#26 #8 #8	#27 #3 #1	#28 #5 #8	#29 #5 #2	#30 #7 #8	#31 #3 #3	#32 #5 #8
UEs NTC-FL NTC-FL/R CP-WOPT	#17 #8 #6 #2	#18 #3 #1 #2	#19 #1 #6 #2	#20 #2 #2 #2	#21 #6 #5 #2	#22 #6 #2 #2	#23 #4 #1 #2	#24 #1 #1 #2	#25 #4 #2 #2	#26 #8 #8 #2	#27 #3 #1 #2	#28 #5 #8 #2	#29 #5 #2 #2	#30 #7 #8 #2	#31 #3 #3 #2	#32 #5 #8 #2

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