

Guaranteed Learning of Latent Variable Models through Spectral and Tensor Methods

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U.C. Irvine

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- When can model be identified (given **infinite computation and data**)?
- Does identifiability also lead to **tractable algorithms**?

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- **Maximum likelihood** is NP-hard.
- Practice: **EM, Variational Bayes** have no consistency guarantees.
- Efficient **computational** and **sample complexities**?

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In this series: guaranteed and efficient learning through spectral methods

Probabilistic Models

Latent Variable Models

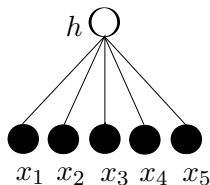
- Concise statistical description through graphical modeling
- Conditional independence relationships or hierarchy of variables.



Probabilistic Models

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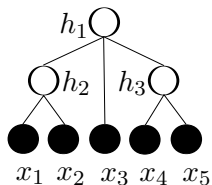
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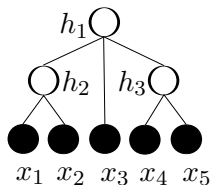
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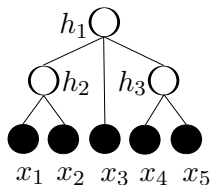
Maximum Likelihood vs. Moment method

- Finding MLE is NP-hard in general.
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Maximum Likelihood vs. Moment method

- Finding MLE is NP-hard in general.
- **Expectation maximization (EM)** converges to a local optimum.
- Moment estimate: polynomial computational & sample complexity.
- **Le Cam theory**: Newton-Raphson on moment estimate leads to efficient estimator asymptotically.
- Scalable implementation: linear and multilinear algebraic operations.

Game Plan: In this talk

Recall Yesterday's Talk

- Gaussian mixtures and (single) topic models.
- Analysis of third order moments.
- Tensor decomposition method: whitening and power method.

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- Moments for various latent variable models.
- Analysis of tensor power method.

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Tomorrow's talk

- Implementation of tensor method.

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Latent Variable Models and Moments**
- 3 Community Detection in Graphs
- 4 Analysis of Tensor Power Method
- 5 Advanced Topics
- 6 Conclusion

Recap: Gaussian Mixtures and (single) Topic Models

(spherical) Mixture of Gaussian:

- k means: a_1, \dots, a_k
- Component $h = i$ with prob. w_i
- observe x , with spherical noise,

$$x = a_i + z, \quad z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i^2 I)$$

(single) Topic Models

- k topics: a_1, \dots, a_k
- Topic $h = i$ with prob. w_i
- observe l (exchangeable) words

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l \text{ i.i.d. from } a_i$$

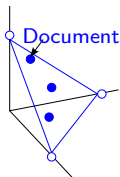
- Unified Linear Model: $\mathbb{E}[x|h] = Ah$
- Gaussian mixture: single view, spherical noise.
- Topic model: multi-view, heteroskedastic noise.

$$M_3 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i, \quad M_2 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i.$$

Recap: Geometric Picture for Topic Models

- Topic models are exchangeable multiview models.
- $M_2 = \mathbb{E}[x_1 \otimes x_2]$. $M_3 = \mathbb{E}[x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes x_3]$.

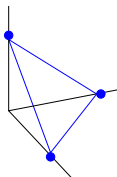
Topic proportions vector (h)



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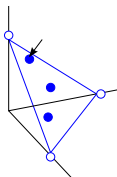
Single topic (h)



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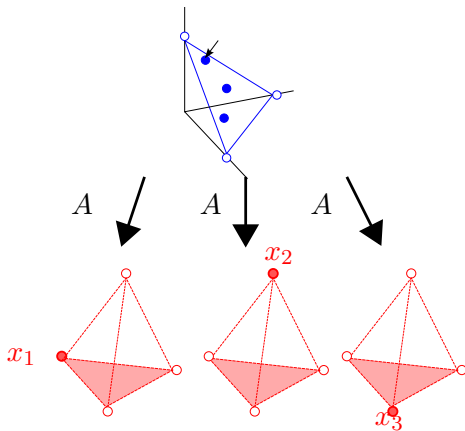
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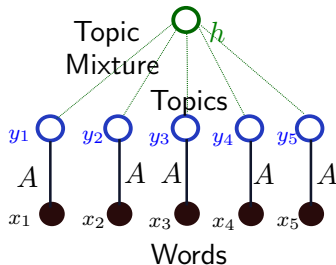
Topic proportions vector (h)



Word generation (x_1, x_2, \dots)

Latent Dirichlet Allocation

- l words in a document x_1, \dots, x_l .
- Word x_i generated from topic y_i .
- Exchangeability: $x_1 \perp\!\!\!\perp x_2 \perp\!\!\!\perp \dots | h$
- $A(i, j) := \mathbb{P}[x_m = i | y_m = j]$:
topic-word matrix.



If there are k topics, distribution of h over the simplex Δ^{k-1}

$$\Delta^{k-1} := \{h \in \mathbb{R}^k, h_i \in [0, 1], \sum_i h_i = 1\}.$$

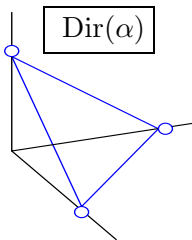
Latent Dirichlet Allocation: h is drawn from a Dirichlet distribution.

Dirichlet Distribution

$$\mathbb{P}[h] \propto \prod_{j=1}^k h(j)^{\alpha_j-1}, \quad \sum_{j=1}^k h(j) = 1$$

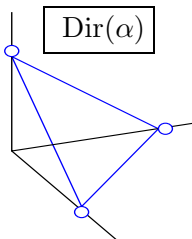
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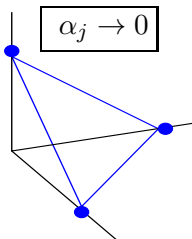
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- Dirichlet concentration parameter $\alpha_0 := \sum_j \alpha_j$
- Sparsity level in h is $O(\alpha_0)$.

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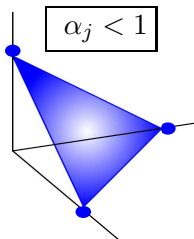
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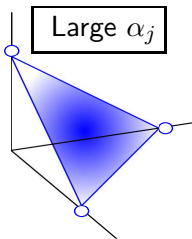
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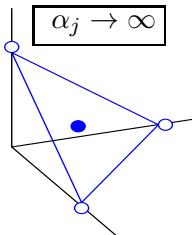
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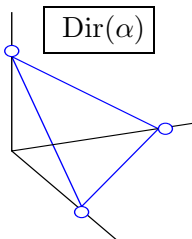
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Moments under LDA

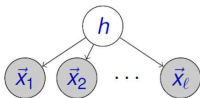
$$\begin{aligned}M_2 &:= \mathbb{E}[x_1 \otimes x_2] && - \frac{\alpha_0}{\alpha_0 + 1} \mathbb{E}[x_1] \otimes \mathbb{E}[x_1] \\M_3 &:= \mathbb{E}[x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes x_3] && - \frac{\alpha_0}{\alpha_0 + 2} \mathbb{E}[x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes \mathbb{E}[x_1]] - \text{more stuff...}\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}M_2 &= \sum \tilde{w}_i a_i \otimes a_i \\M_3 &= \sum \tilde{w}_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i.\end{aligned}$$

- Three words per document suffice for learning LDA.

General Multiview Mixtures (Naive Bayes)



$$h \in [k],$$

$$\vec{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}, \vec{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}, \dots, \vec{x}_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^{d_\ell}.$$

$k = \#$ components, $\ell = \#$ views (e.g., audio, video, text).



View 1: $\vec{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$



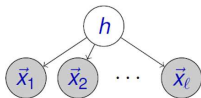
View 2: $\vec{x}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$



View 3: $\vec{x}_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_3}$

- $\mathbb{E}[x_i|h] = A_i h$ and multiple views.

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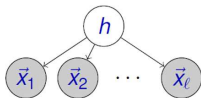
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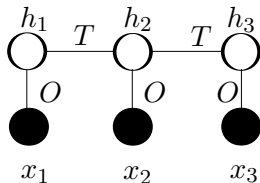
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$$M_2 = \sum_i w_i a_{3,i} \otimes a_{3,i}, \quad M_3 = \sum_i w_i a_{3,i} \otimes a_{3,i} \otimes a_{3,i}.$$

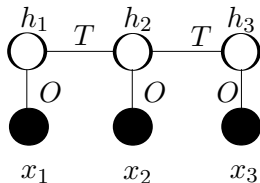
Hidden Markov Models

- $\mathbb{P}[h_{t+1} = i | h_t = j] = T_{i,j}$.
- $\mathbb{E}[x_t | h_t = j] = Oe_j$.
- π : Initial distribution (of x_1).



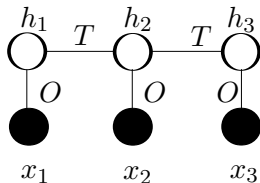
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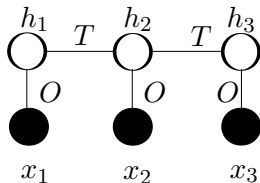
$$\mathbb{E}[x_1 | h_2] = O \text{Diag}(\pi) T^\top \text{Diag}(w)^{-1} h_2$$

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$$\mathbb{E}[x_3 | h_2] = O T h_2.$$

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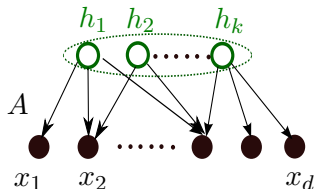
$$\mathbb{E}[x_3 | h_2] = O T h_2.$$

Condition for non-degeneracy

- $O \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$ has full column rank.
- T is invertible, π and $T\pi$ have positive entries.

Independent Component Analysis

- Independent sources, unknown mixing.
- **Blind** source separation.
- Application: speech, image, video..
- k sources. d dimensions.



- $x = Ah + z$. $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)$. Sources h_i are independent.
- Form **cumulant** tensor

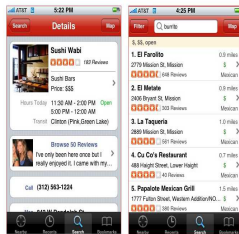
$$\begin{aligned} M_4 &:= \mathbb{E}[x^{\otimes 4}] - \mathbb{E}[x_{i_1} x_{i_2}] \mathbb{E}[x_{i_3} x_{i_4}] \dots \\ &= \sum_i \kappa_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i. \end{aligned}$$

- Kurtosis: $\kappa_i := \mathbb{E}[h_i^4] - 3$.
- Assumption: sources have non-zero kurtosis ($\kappa_i \neq 0$).

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Social Networks & Recommender Systems



Social Networks

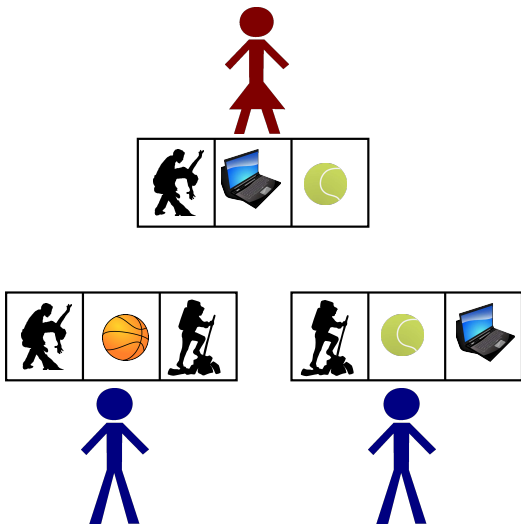
- Network of social ties, e.g. friendships, co-authorships
- **Hidden:** communities of actors.

Recommender Systems

- **Observed:** Ratings of users for various products.
- **Goal:** New recommendations.
- **Modeling:** User/product groups.

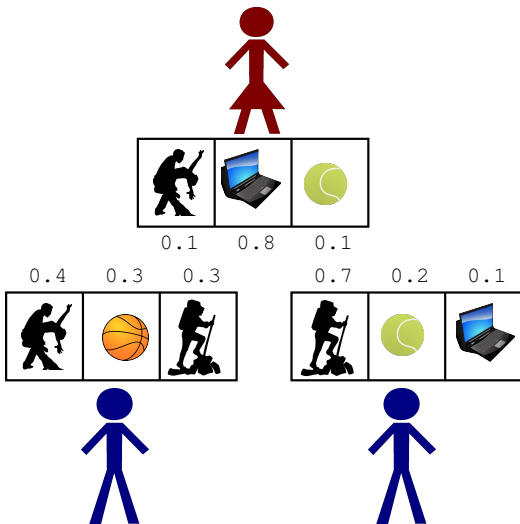
Network Community Models

- How are communities formed? How do communities interact?



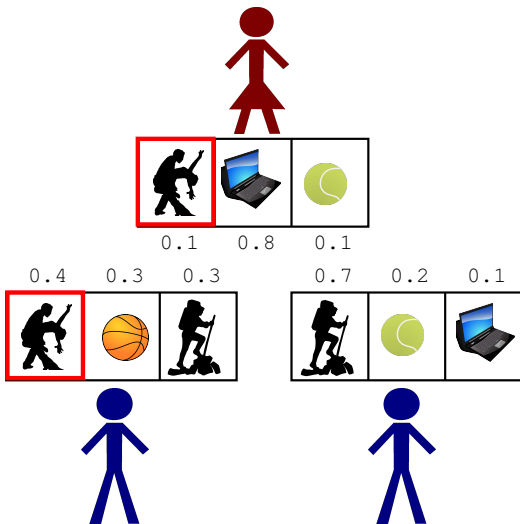
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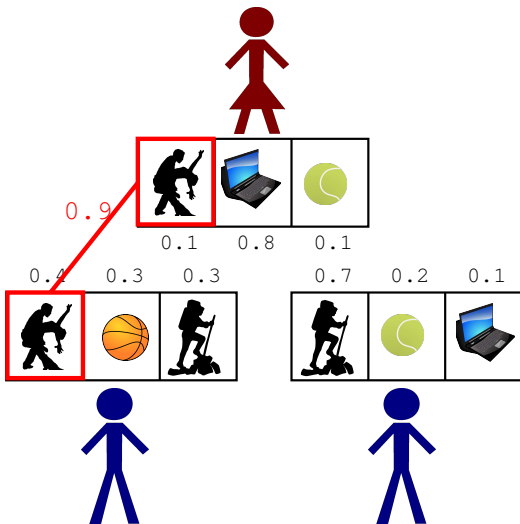
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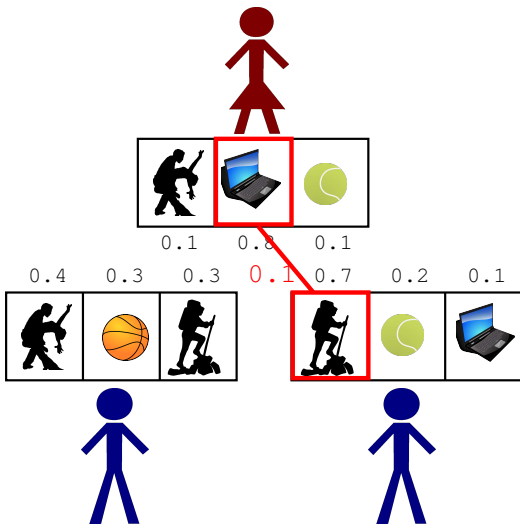
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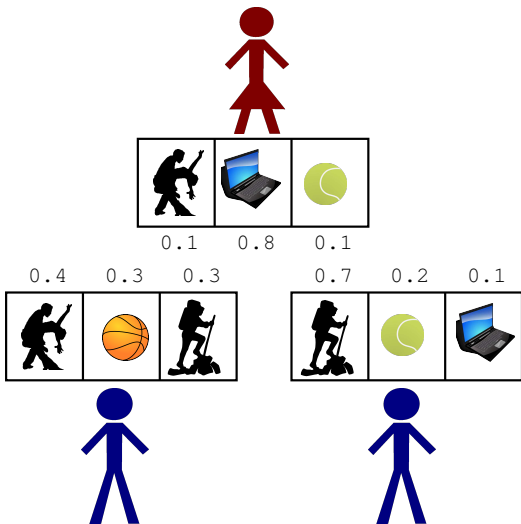
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Mixed Membership Model (Airoldi et al)

- k communities and n nodes. Graph $G \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ (adjacency matrix).
- Fractional memberships: $\pi_x \in \mathbb{R}^k$ membership of node x .

$$\Delta^{k-1} := \{ \pi_x \in \mathbb{R}^k, \pi_x(i) \in [0, 1], \sum_i \pi_x(i) = 1, \quad \forall x \in [n] \}.$$

- Node memberships $\{\pi_u\}$ drawn from **Dirichlet** distribution.

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- Edges **conditionally independent** given community memberships:
 $G_{i,j} \perp\!\!\!\perp G_{a,b} | \pi_i, \pi_j, \pi_a, \pi_b.$
- Edge probability **averaged** over community memberships

$$\mathbb{P}[G_{i,j} = 1 | \pi_i, \pi_j] = \mathbb{E}[G_{i,j} | \pi_i, \pi_j] = \pi_i^\top P \pi_j.$$

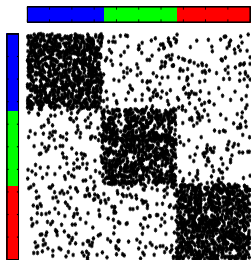
- $P \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$: average edge connectivity for pure communities.

Airoldi, Blei, Fienberg, and Xing. Mixed membership stochastic blockmodels. J. of Machine Learning Research, June 2008.

Networks under Community Models

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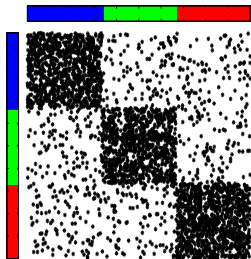
Stochastic Block Model



$$\alpha_0 = 0$$

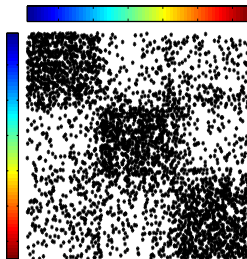
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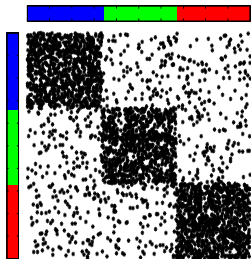
Mixed Membership Model



$$\alpha_0 = 1$$

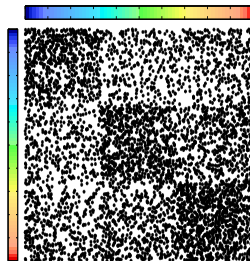
Networks under Community Models

Stochastic Block Model



$$\alpha_0 = 0$$

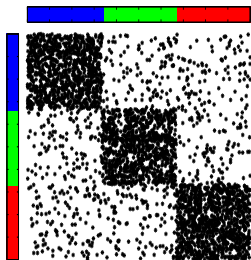
Mixed Membership Model



$$\alpha_0 = 10$$

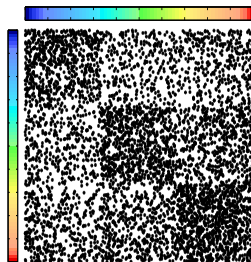
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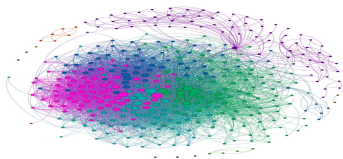


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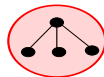
Unifying Assumption

- Edges conditionally independent given community memberships

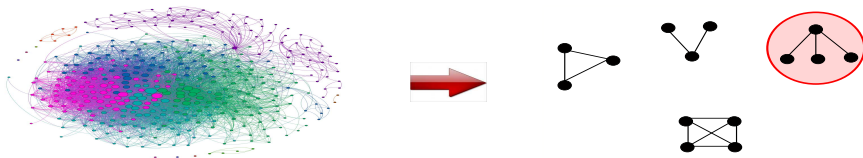
Subgraph Counts as Graph Moments



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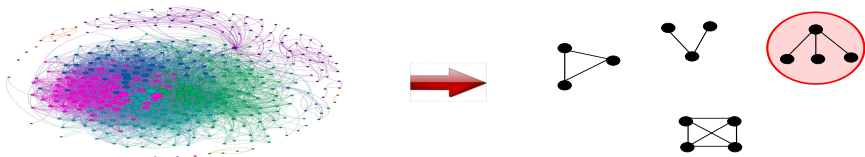


Subgraph Counts as Graph Moments



3-star counts sufficient for identifiability and learning of MMSB

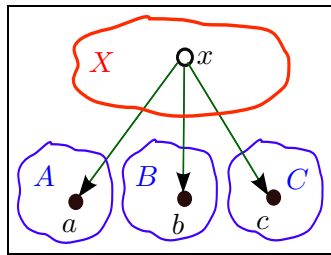
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3-Star Count Tensor

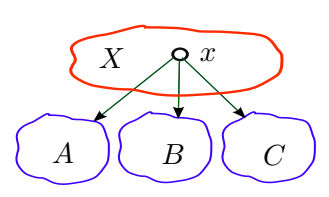
$$\begin{aligned} M_3(a, b, c) &= \frac{1}{|X|} \# \text{ of common neighbors in } X \\ &= \frac{1}{|X|} \sum_{x \in X} G(x, a) G(x, b) G(x, c). \\ M_3 &= \frac{1}{|X|} \sum_{x \in X} [G_{x,A}^\top \otimes G_{x,B}^\top \otimes G_{x,C}^\top] \end{aligned}$$



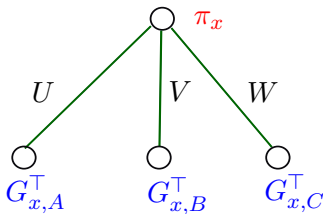
Multi-view Representation

- **Conditional independence** of the three views
- π_x : community membership vector of node x .

3-stars



Graphical model



- Linear Multiview Model:

$$\mathbb{E}[G_{x,A}^\top | \Pi] = \Pi_A^\top P^\top \pi_x = U \pi_x.$$

Subgraph Counts as Graph Moments

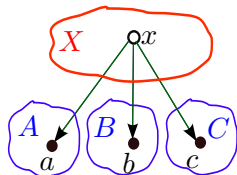
Second and Third Order Moments

- $$M_2 := \frac{1}{|X|} \sum_x Z_C G_{x,C}^\top G_{x,B} Z_B^\top - \text{shift}$$

- $$M_3 := \frac{1}{|X|} \sum_x \left[G_{x,A}^\top \otimes Z_B G_{x,B}^\top \otimes Z_C G_{x,C}^\top \right] - \text{shift}$$

Symmetrize Transition Matrices

- $\text{Pairs}_{C,B} := G_{X,C}^\top \otimes G_{X,B}^\top$
- $Z_B := \text{Pairs}(A, C) (\text{Pairs}(B, C))^\dagger$
- $Z_C := \text{Pairs}(A, B) (\text{Pairs}(C, B))^\dagger$
- Linear Multiview Model:** $\mathbb{E}[G_{x,A}^\top | \Pi] = U \pi_x.$



$$\mathbb{E}[M_2 | \Pi_{A,B,C}] = \sum_i \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_0} u_i \otimes u_i, \quad \mathbb{E}[M_3 | \Pi_{A,B,C}] = \sum_i \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_0} u_i \otimes u_i \otimes u_i.$$

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Latent Variable Models and Moments
- 3 Community Detection in Graphs
- 4 Analysis of Tensor Power Method**
- 5 Advanced Topics
- 6 Conclusion

Recap of Tensor Method

$$M_2 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i, \quad M_3 = \sum_i w_i a_i \otimes a_i \otimes a_i.$$

- Whitening matrix W from SVD of M_2 .



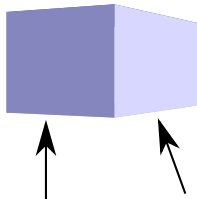
- Multilinear transform: $T = M_3(W, W, W)$. Tensor M_3 Tensor T
- Eigenvectors of T through power method and deflation.

$$v \mapsto \frac{T(I, v, v)}{\|T(I, v, v)\|}.$$

Orthogonal Tensor Eigen Decomposition

$$T = \sum_{i \in [k]} \lambda_i v_i \otimes v_i \otimes v_i, \quad \langle v_i, v_j \rangle = \delta_{i,j}, \quad \forall i, j.$$

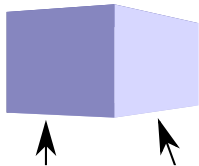
- $T(I, v_1, v_1) = \sum_i \lambda_i \langle v_i, v_1 \rangle^2 v_i = \lambda_1 v_1.$
- v_i are **eigenvectors** of tensor T .



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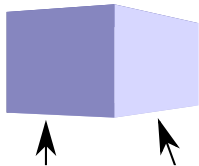
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Questions

- Is there convergence? Does the convergence depend on initialization?
- What about performance under noise?

Recap of Matrix Eigen Analysis

- For symmetric $M \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$, eigen decomposition: $M = \sum_i \lambda_i v_i v_i^\top$.
- Eigen vectors are fixed points: $Mv = \lambda v$.
 - ▶ In our notation: $M(I, v) = \lambda v$.

Uniqueness (Identifiability): Iff. λ_i are distinct.

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- Let $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 \dots > \lambda_d$. $\{v_i\}$ form a basis.
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Perturbation analysis (Davis-Kahan): $T + E$

Require $\|E\| < \min_{i \neq j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|$.

Optimization viewpoint of matrix analysis

- $M = \sum_{i \in [k]} \lambda_i v_i \otimes v_i, \quad \lambda_1 > \lambda_2 \dots$

- Rayleigh quotient at v :

$$M(v, v) = v^\top M v = \sum_i \lambda_i \langle v_i, v \rangle^2.$$

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What are the local optimizers?

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$$\text{Lagrangian: } L(v, \lambda) := M(v, v) - \lambda(v^\top v - 1).$$

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Power method recovers v_1 when initialization v satisfies $\langle v, v_1 \rangle \neq 0$.

Analysis of Tensor Power Method

$$T = \sum_{i \in [k]} \lambda_i v_i \otimes v_i \otimes v_i.$$

Bad news about tensors

- Decomposition may not always exist for general tensors.
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How do we avoid spurious solutions (not part of decomposition)?

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For an orthogonal tensor, no spurious local optima!

Review: matrix power iteration

Recall matrix power iteration for matrix $M := \sum_i \lambda_i v_i v_i^\top$:

Start with some v , and for $j = 1, 2, \dots$:

$$v \mapsto Mv = \sum_i \lambda_i (v_i^\top v) v_i.$$

i.e., component in v_i direction is scaled by λ_i .

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If $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 \geq \dots$, then in t iterations,

$$\frac{(v_1^\top v)^2}{\sum_i (v_i^\top v)^2} \geq 1 - k \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \right)^{2t}.$$

Converges *linearly* to v_1 **assuming gap** $\lambda_2/\lambda_1 < 1$.

Tensor power iteration convergence analysis

Let $c_i := v_i^\top v$ **initial component in v_i direction**; assume WLOG

$$\lambda_1 |c_1| > \lambda_2 |c_2| \geq \lambda_3 |c_3| \geq \cdots .$$

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Then

$$v \mapsto \sum_i \lambda_i (v_i^\top v)^2 v_i = \sum_i \lambda_i c_i^2 v_i$$

i.e., component in v_i direction is **squared** then scaled by λ_i .

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By induction, in t iterations

$$v = \sum_i \lambda_i^{2^t-1} c_i^{2^t} v_i,$$

so

$$\frac{(v_1^\top v)^2}{\sum_i (v_i^\top v)^2} \geq 1 - k \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\max_{i \neq 1} \lambda_i} \right)^2 \left| \frac{v_2 c_2}{v_1 c_1} \right|^{2^{t+1}} .$$

Matrix vs. tensor power iteration

Matrix power iteration:

Tensor power iteration:

Matrix vs. tensor power iteration

Matrix power iteration:

- 1 Requires gap between largest and second-largest eigenvalue.
Property of the matrix only.

Tensor power iteration:

- 1 Requires gap between largest and second-largest $\lambda_i |c_i|$.
Property of the tensor and initialization v .

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- 2 Converges to v_i for which $v_i |c_i| = \max!$ could be any of them.

Matrix vs. tensor power iteration

Matrix power iteration:

- 1 Requires gap between largest and second-largest eigenvalue.
Property of the matrix only.
- 2 Converges to **top** eigenvector.
- 3 **Linear** convergence. Need $O(\log(1/\epsilon))$ iterations.

Tensor power iteration:

- 1 Requires gap between largest and second-largest $\lambda_i |c_i|$.
Property of the tensor and initialization v .
- 2 Converges to v_i for which $v_i |c_i| = \max!$ **could be any of them.**
- 3 **Quadratic** convergence. Need $O(\log \log(1/\epsilon))$ iterations.

Perturbation Analysis

$$\hat{T} = T + E, \quad T = \sum_i \lambda_i v_i \otimes v_i \otimes v_i, \quad \|E\| := \max_{x: \|x\|=1} |E(x, x, x)| \leq \epsilon.$$

Theorem: Let N be number of iterations. If

$$N \geq \log k + \log \log \frac{\lambda_{\max}}{\epsilon}, \quad \epsilon < \frac{\lambda_{\min}}{k},$$

then output (v, λ) (after **polynomial restarts**) satisfies

$$\|v - v_1\| \leq O\left(\frac{\epsilon}{\lambda_1}\right), \quad \|\lambda - \lambda_1\| \leq O(\epsilon),$$

where v_1 is s.t. $\lambda_1 |c_1| > \lambda_2 |c_2| \dots$, $c_i := \langle v_i, v \rangle$, and v is the (successful) initializer.

- Careful analysis of deflation: avoid buildup of errors.
- Implies **polynomial sample complexity** for learning.

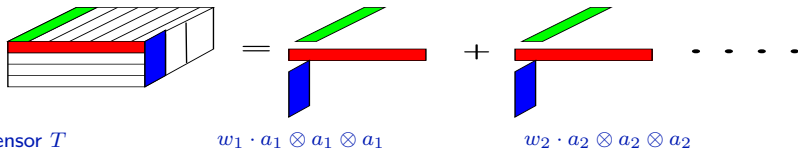
Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Latent Variable Models and Moments
- 3 Community Detection in Graphs
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- 5 Advanced Topics**
- 6 Conclusion

Beyond Orthogonal Tensor Decomposition

- $a \otimes a \otimes a$ is a **rank-1** tensor whose i^{th} entry is $a(i_1) \cdot a(i_2) \cdot a(i_3)$.
- For tensor T , find decomposition into **rank one** terms

$$T = \sum_{j \in [k]} w_j a_j \otimes a_j \otimes a_j, \quad a_j \in \mathcal{S}^{d-1}.$$



- k : tensor rank, d : ambient dimension. $k > d$: **overcomplete**.
- A is **incoherent**: $\langle a_i, a_j \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}}$ for $i \neq j$.
- Guaranteed Recovery when $k = o(d^{1.5})$.

“Guaranteed Non-Orthogonal Tensor Decomposition via Alternating Rank-1 Updates” by A., R. Ge, M. Janzamin. Preprint, Feb. 2014.

“Provable Learning of Overcomplete Latent Variable Models: Semi-supervised & Unsupervised”.

Semi-supervised Learning of Gaussian Mixtures

- n unlabeled samples, m_j : samples for component j .
- No. of mixture components: $k = o(d^{1.5})$
- No. of labeled samples: $m_j = \tilde{\Omega}(1)$.
- No. of unlabeled samples: $n = \tilde{\Omega}(k)$.

Our result: achieved error with n unlabeled samples

$$\max_i \|\hat{a}_i - a_i\| = \tilde{O}\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{n}}\right) + \tilde{O}\left(\frac{\sqrt{k}}{d}\right)$$

- Can handle (polynomially) **overcomplete** mixtures.
- Extremely small number of **labeled** samples: **polylog**(d).
- **Sample complexity** is tight: need $\tilde{\Omega}(k)$ samples!
- **Approximation error**: decaying in high dimensions.

Unsupervised Learning of Gaussian Mixtures

Conditions for recovery

- No. of mixture components: $k = C \cdot d$
- No. of unlabeled samples: $n = \tilde{\Omega}(k \cdot d)$.
- Computational complexity: $\tilde{O}(e^{C^2})$

Our result: achieved error with n unlabeled samples

$$\max_i \|\hat{a}_i - a_i\| = \tilde{O}\left(\sqrt{\frac{k}{n}}\right) + \tilde{O}\left(\frac{\sqrt{k}}{d}\right)$$

- **Error:** same as before, for semi-supervised setting.
- **Sample complexity:** **worse** than semi-supervised, but better than previous works (no dependence on **condition number** of A).
- **Computational complexity:** **polynomial** when $k = \Theta(d)$.

Learning Overcomplete Dictionaries

$$Y \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n} = A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k} X \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$$

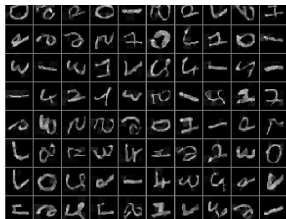
- **Linear model:** $Y = AX$, both A, X unknown.
- **Sparse** X : each column is randomly s -sparse
- Overcomplete dictionary $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$: $k \geq d$.
- **Incoherence:** $\max_{i \neq j} |\langle a_i, a_j \rangle| \approx 0$. (satisfied by random vectors)

Experiments on MNIST

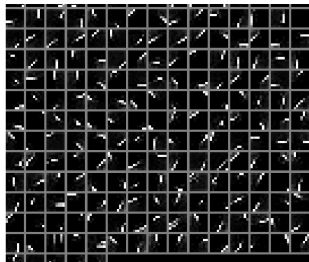
Original



Reconstruction



Learnt Representation



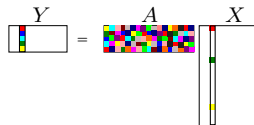
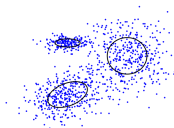
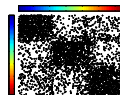
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Conclusion

Guaranteed Learning of Latent Variable Models

- Guaranteed to recover correct model
- Efficient **sample** and **computational** complexities
- Better performance compared to **EM**, **Variational Bayes** etc.
- **Tensor** approach: mixed membership communities, topic models, latent trees...
- **Sparsity**-based approach: overcomplete models, e.g sparse coding and topic models.



Tomorrow's lecture

- Implementation of tensor approaches.