# Provable Sparse Tensor Decomposition for Personalized Recommendation and High-dimensional Latent Variable Models

Wei Sun Yahoo Labs

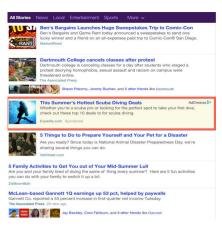
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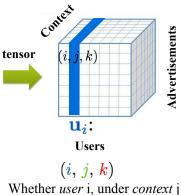
Joint work with Junwei Lu (Princeton), Han Liu (Princeton), Guang Cheng (Purdue)

#### Outline

- Motivation Examples
- Sparse Tensor Decomposition
- Local and Global Convergence Analysis
- Experiments
- Future Work on Statistical-and-Computational Tradeoffs

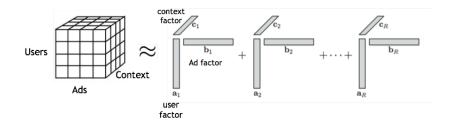
#### Motivation: Personalized Recommendation





will click ad k?

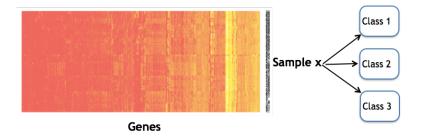
#### Motivation: Personalized Recommendation



- Goal: Given the observed tensor, compute the factors to recover the whole tensor.
- Difficulty: the tensor is sparse and the factors are sparse.



#### Motivation: High-dimensional Latent Variable Model



■ Gaussian mixture:  $\mathbf{x} \sim \sum_{k=1}^{K} w_k N(\mu_k, \sigma^2 \mathbb{1})$ 

#### Motivation: High-dimensional Latent Variable Model

(Hsu and Kakade, 2013) Define

$$\mathcal{M} := \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x} \otimes \mathbf{x} \otimes \mathbf{x}] - \sigma^2 f(\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}]),$$

then

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \mu_k \otimes \mu_k \otimes \mu_k.$$

- Goal: Recover  $w_k$  and  $\mu_k$  from empirical tensor  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$ .
- Difficulty: many genes contain no information about clustering structure. Require sparse  $\mu_k$ 's!



#### Sparse Tensor Decomposition

■ Assume tensor  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2 \times d_3}$  to be sparse and have rank K,

$$\mathcal{T} = \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \mathbf{a}_i \otimes \mathbf{b}_i \otimes \mathbf{c}_i,$$

where  $w_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$ ,  $\mathbf{c}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_3}$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{c}_i \in \mathcal{S}_{d_0} := \{\mathbf{v} : \|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1, \|\mathbf{v}\|_0 \le d_0\}$  for any i.

It generalizes matrix SVD to tensor. For a matrix A

$$A = UDV = \sum_{i} \sigma_{i} \mathbf{u}_{i} \otimes \mathbf{v}_{i}.$$



#### Existing Tensor Decomposition Methods

■ Allen (2012) imposed an lasso penalty on **a**, **b**, **c** for rank-1 tensor recovery, but without theoretical guarantees,

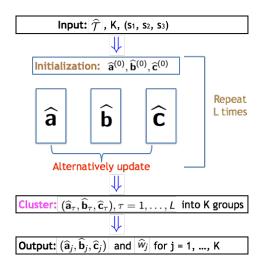
$$\min_{\|\mathbf{a}\| = \|\mathbf{b}\| = \|\mathbf{c}\| = 1} \|\mathcal{T} - w\mathbf{a} \otimes \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{c}\|_F + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{a}\|_1 + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{b}\|_1 + \lambda_3 \|\mathbf{c}\|_1.$$

Anandkumar et al. (2014) proposed a non-sparse tensor decomposition method with guaranteed rates of convergence.

Our focus: propose a sparse tensor decomposition via  $l_0$  optimization with theoretical guarantees of estimation accuracy.



#### Main Algorithm: Outline



#### **Tensor Operations**

■ For  $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2 \times d_3}$  and  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_3}$ , define

$$\mathcal{T} \times_2 \mathbf{v} \times_3 \mathbf{w} := \sum_{j,l} \mathbf{v}_j \mathbf{w}_l[\mathcal{T}]_{:,j,l}$$

$$\mathcal{T} \times_1 \mathbf{u} \times_2 \mathbf{v} \times_3 \mathbf{w} := \sum_{i,j,l} \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_j \mathbf{w}_l[\mathcal{T}]_{i,j,l}$$

- Define  $Norm(\mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{v}/\|\mathbf{v}\|$ .
- Define a truncation operator as

$$[\text{Truncate}(\mathbf{v}, s)]_i = \begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_i, & \text{if } i \in \text{supp}(\mathbf{v}, s) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

■ Truncate  $(\underbrace{(0.1, 0.3, -0.2, -0.6)}_{}, 2) = (0, 0.2, 0, -0.6).$ 



#### Main Algorithm: Continued

■ Key: alternative update steps

$$\begin{split} & \bar{\boldsymbol{a}} = \operatorname{Norm} \left( \widehat{\mathcal{T}} \times_2 \widehat{\boldsymbol{b}} \times_3 \widehat{\boldsymbol{c}} \right); \ \ \boldsymbol{\check{\boldsymbol{a}}} = \operatorname{Truncate} (\bar{\boldsymbol{a}}, s_1); \ \ \boldsymbol{\widehat{\boldsymbol{a}}} = \operatorname{Norm} (\boldsymbol{\check{\boldsymbol{a}}}) \\ & \bar{\boldsymbol{b}} = \operatorname{Norm} \left( \widehat{\mathcal{T}} \times_1 \widehat{\boldsymbol{a}} \times_3 \widehat{\boldsymbol{c}} \right); \ \ \boldsymbol{\check{\boldsymbol{b}}} = \operatorname{Truncate} (\bar{\boldsymbol{b}}, s_2); \ \ \boldsymbol{\widehat{\boldsymbol{b}}} = \operatorname{Norm} (\boldsymbol{\check{\boldsymbol{b}}}) \\ & \bar{\boldsymbol{c}} = \operatorname{Norm} \left( \widehat{\mathcal{T}} \times_1 \widehat{\boldsymbol{a}} \times_2 \widehat{\boldsymbol{b}} \right); \ \ \boldsymbol{\check{\boldsymbol{c}}} = \operatorname{Truncate} (\bar{\boldsymbol{c}}, s_3); \ \ \boldsymbol{\widehat{\boldsymbol{c}}} = \operatorname{Norm} (\boldsymbol{\check{\boldsymbol{c}}}) \end{split}$$

■ Initialization: Random (fast) or via sparse SVD (provable)



#### **Tuning Procedure**

- Find exact tensor rank is an NP hard problem (Kolda, 2009).
- Tune  $(K, s_1, s_2, s_3)$  by minimizing BIC (Allen, 2012),

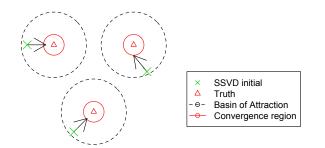
$$\mathrm{BIC} := \underbrace{\log \left( \frac{\|\widehat{\mathcal{E}}\|_F^2}{d_1 d_2 d_3} \right)}_{\textit{Model fitting}} + \underbrace{\frac{\log (d_1 d_2 d_3)}{d_1 d_2 d_3} \left[ \textit{K} (\textit{s}_1 + \textit{s}_2 + \textit{s}_3) \right]}_{\textit{Sparsity control}}$$

with 
$$\widehat{\mathcal{E}} = \widehat{\mathcal{T}} - \sum_{i=1}^K \widehat{w}_i \widehat{\mathbf{a}}_i \circ \widehat{\mathbf{b}}_i \circ \widehat{\mathbf{c}}_i$$
.

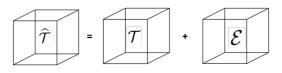


#### Theoretical Analysis: Local and Global Convergence

■ Goal: Quantify the rates of convergence of the estimators  $\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_j$ ,  $\widehat{\mathbf{b}}_j$ ,  $\widehat{\mathbf{c}}_j$ , and  $\widehat{w}_j$  for each  $j = 1, \dots, K$ .



#### Theoretical Analysis: Noisy Tensor Decomposition



 $\blacksquare$  Observe the noisy tensor  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}=\mathcal{T}+\mathcal{E}$  where

$$\mathcal{T} = \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \mathbf{a}_i \otimes \mathbf{b}_i \otimes \mathbf{c}_i$$

lacktriangle Require assumptions on true tensor  ${\mathcal T}$  and error tensor  ${\mathcal E}$ .



#### Theoretical Analysis: Key Assumptions

(A1) **Incoherence:** The decomposition components are incoherent s.t.

$$\max_{i\neq j}\{|\langle \mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{a}_j\rangle|, |\langle \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{b}_j\rangle|, |\langle \mathbf{c}_i, \mathbf{c}_j\rangle|\} \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{d_0}},$$

for some constant C.

(A2) Bounded error: Define the sparse norm of  ${\mathcal E}$  as

$$\rho(\mathcal{E},m) := \sup_{\substack{\|\mathbf{u}\| = \|\mathbf{v}\| = \|\mathbf{w}\| = 1 \\ \|\mathbf{u}\|_0 \le m, \|\mathbf{v}\|_0 \le m, \|\mathbf{w}\|_0 \le m}} \left| \mathcal{E} \times_1 \mathbf{u} \times_2 \mathbf{v} \times_3 \mathbf{w} \right|.$$

Let  $s = \max\{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$ . For some constant  $C_0$ , assume

$$\rho(\mathcal{E}, d_0 + s) \leq \min \left\{ \frac{w_{\mathsf{min}}}{6}, \frac{w_{\mathsf{min}} \sqrt{\log K}}{C_0 \sqrt{d_0}} \right\}.$$



#### Theoretical Analysis: Local Convergence Analysis

$$\epsilon_R := \underbrace{\mathcal{C}_1 \rho(\mathcal{E}, d_0 + s)}_{Sample \ error} + \underbrace{\mathcal{C}_2 \frac{\sqrt{K}}{d_0}}_{Model \ error}$$

#### Theorem

If the initializations  $\hat{a}^{(0)}, \hat{b}^{(0)}, \hat{c}^{(0)}$  satisfy

$$\max \left\{ \mathit{dist}(\widehat{a}^{(0)}, a_j), \mathit{dist}(\widehat{b}^{(0)}, b_j) \right\} = O\Big(\frac{w_{\mathsf{min}}}{w_{\mathsf{max}}}\Big),$$

then our algorithm with  $s \ge d_0$  satisfies w.h.p., for some  $j \in [K]$ ,

$$\max \left\{ \operatorname{dist}(\widehat{a}, a_j), \operatorname{dist}(\widehat{b}, b_j), \operatorname{dist}(\widehat{c}, c_j) \right\} \leq O(\epsilon_R)$$
$$|\widehat{w} - w_j| \leq O(\epsilon_R).$$



#### Theoretical Analysis: Global Convergence Analysis

$$\epsilon_R := \underbrace{C_1 \rho(\mathcal{E}, d_0 + s)}_{Sample \ error} + \underbrace{C_2 \frac{\sqrt{K}}{d_0}}_{Model \ error}$$

#### Theorem

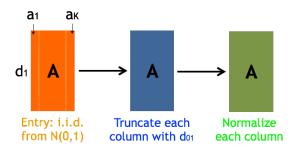
For any  $j \in [k]$ , the output of our algorithm with  $s \ge d_0$  using sparse SVD initialization satisfies, w.h.p.,

$$\max \left\{ \operatorname{dist}(\widehat{a}_j, a_j), \operatorname{dist}(\widehat{b}_j, b_j), \operatorname{dist}(\widehat{c}_j, c_j) \right\} \leq O(\epsilon_R), \\ |\widehat{w} - w_j| \leq O(\epsilon_R).$$

- Non-sparse tensor decomposition (Anandkumar et al., 2014) obtained an estimation error  $O(\rho(\mathcal{E},d) + \sqrt{K}/d)$ .
- In high-dim regime, it is slower than ours.



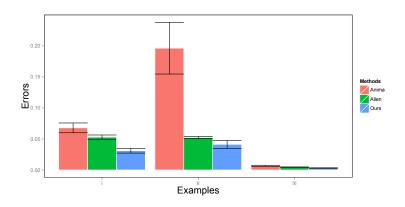
#### Simulation 1: Sparse Tensor Recovery



- lacksquare Generate  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}=\mathcal{T}+\mathcal{E}$
- $\bullet$   $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (1000, 100, 10)$  and  $d_{0j} = 0.2 * d_j$ .
  - **Example I:**  $[\mathcal{E}]_{i,j,k} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1), \quad K=1;$
  - **Example II:**  $[\mathcal{E}]_{i,j,k} \sim N(0,1), \quad K=2;$
  - **Example III:**  $[\mathcal{E}]_{i,j,k} \sim N(0,0.1), K = 1.$



### Simulation 1: Estimation Accuracy



$$\epsilon_R := \underbrace{C_1 \rho(\mathcal{E}, d_0 + s)}_{Sample \ error} + \underbrace{C_2 \sqrt{K}/d_0}_{Model \ error}$$



#### Simulation 1: Variable Selection

Examples	Methods	TPR	FPR
I	Anima	10	10
	Allen	10	$0.003_{0.0022}$
	Ours	10	$0.016_{0.0130}$
П	Anima	10	10
	Allen	10	$0.002_{0.0016}$
	Ours	10	$0.067_{0.0311}$
Ш	Anima	10	10
	Allen	10	$0.002_{0.0022}$
	Ours	10	00

# Simulation 2: Sparse Gaussian Mixture Model

- **a**  $\mathbf{x}_i \sim \sum_k w_k N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, 0.1 * 1) : n = 1000, d = 10, K = 4, w_k = \frac{1}{4}$   $\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = \mathbf{e}_1 + 0.2\mathbf{e}_2, \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = \mathbf{e}_2 + 0.2\mathbf{e}_3$  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_3 = \mathbf{e}_3 + 0.2\mathbf{e}_4, \boldsymbol{\mu}_4 = \mathbf{e}_4 + 0.2\mathbf{e}_1$
- Step 1: Estimate  $\mathbb{E}[x \otimes x \otimes x]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[x]$  to obtain  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$  for

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x} \otimes \mathbf{x} \otimes \mathbf{x}] - \sigma^2 f(\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}])$$

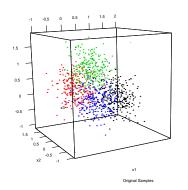
■ Step 2: Apply sparse tensor decomposition on  $\widehat{\mathcal{M}}$  to solve

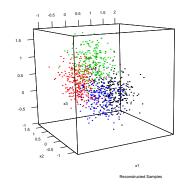
$$\widehat{\mathcal{M}} \approx \sum_{k=1}^K \widehat{w}_k \widehat{\mu}_k \otimes \widehat{\mu}_k \otimes \widehat{\mu}_k.$$



#### Simulation 2: Reconstruction Performance

■ Left: original samples; Right: reconstructed samples.





#### Real Application 1: Click-through Rate Prediction

Nov. 1: Training

CTR

100

Ads

2 Devices

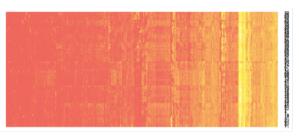
5 User groups



Methods	Training error	Testing error
Linear regression	0.189	0.534
Gradient boosting machine	0.190	0.533
Ours	0.141	0.511

# Real Application 2: High-dim Gene Clustering

■ Leukemia data: cluster samples into 2 groups.

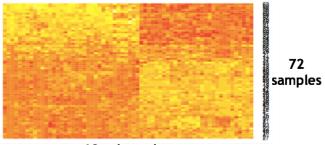


**3571 Genes** 

72 samples

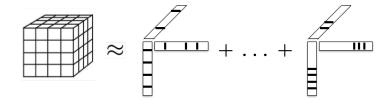
# Real Application 2: High-dim Gene Clustering

Methods	No. genes	cluster error
K-means	3571	2/72
Reg. k-means (S. et al., 2012)	211	2/72
Ours	60	2/72



60 selected genes

#### Summary

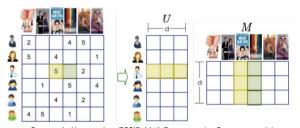


- lacktriangle new sparse tensor decomposition algorithm via  $\ell_0$  truncation
- local/global rates of convergence, faster than non-sparse one
- personalized recommendation, high-dim latent variable models

#### Future Work: Statistical-and-Computational Tradeoffs

- A function  $g(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} \to \mathbb{R}$  is biconvex if  $g(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$  is convex in  $\mathbf{a}$  for fixed  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}$ , and convex in  $\mathbf{b}$  for fixed  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}$ .
- Biconvex optimization:

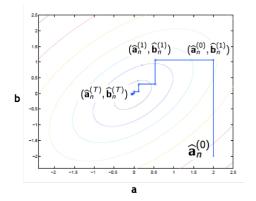
min 
$$g(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$$
  
s.t.  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}$ 



Source: A. Karatzoglou, ESSIR 2013 Recommender Systems tutorial

#### Statistical-and-Computational Tradeoffs: Problem

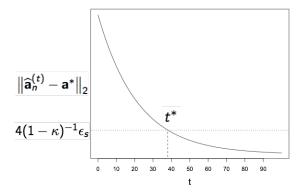
- Population version:  $(\mathbf{a}^*, \mathbf{b}^*) = \arg\min_{\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}} g(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$
- Goal: Find  $(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}, \widehat{\mathbf{b}})$  via sample  $g_n(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$  s.t.  $\|\widehat{\mathbf{a}} \mathbf{a}^*\|_2$  and  $\|\widehat{\mathbf{b}} \mathbf{b}^*\|_2$  are small given limited computational resources.



#### Statistical-and-Computational Tradeoffs: Main Result

$$\left\|\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{n}^{(t)} - \mathbf{a}^{*}\right\|_{2} \leq \underbrace{2(1-\kappa)^{-1}\epsilon_{s}}_{\text{Statistical Error}} + \underbrace{\kappa^{t}\epsilon_{0}}_{\text{Optimization Error}}$$

- $\epsilon_s$ : error due to sample function;  $\epsilon_0$ : initialization error.
- Constant  $\kappa$  < 1.



# Sparse Tensor Graphical Model (S. et al., 2015, NIPS)

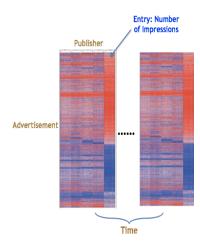


Figure: Tensor data



Figure: Advertisement network



Figure: Publisher network

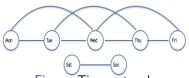


Figure: Time network



Wei Sun Yahoo Labs sunweisurrey@yahoo-inc.com

#### Backup Slides

■ Backup slides start from here!

#### Initalization via Sparse SVD

```
Input: tensor \widehat{\mathcal{T}}, cardinality parameter (s_1, s_2, s_3)
```

Step 1: Generate a  $d_3$ -dim standard Gaussian vector  $\theta$ .

Step 2:  $\check{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \operatorname{Truncate}(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \max\{s_1, s_2, s_3\}).$ 

Step 3: Calculate top left (right) singular vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1$  ( $\mathbf{v}_1$ ) of  $\widehat{\mathcal{T}} \times_3 \widecheck{\theta}$ .

Step 4:  $\check{\mathbf{u}}_1 = \operatorname{Truncate}(\mathbf{u}_1, s_1)$  and  $\check{\mathbf{v}}_1 = \operatorname{Truncate}(\mathbf{v}_1, s_2)$ .

Step 5:  $\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{\tau}^{(0)} = \operatorname{Norm}(\check{\mathbf{u}}_1), \ \widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{\tau}^{(0)} = \operatorname{Norm}(\check{\mathbf{v}}_1), \ \text{and update} \ \widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{\tau}^{(0)}.$ 

Output:  $(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{\tau}^{(0)}, \widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{\tau}^{(0)}, \widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{\tau}^{(0)})$ .

#### Intuition:

$$\mathcal{T} \times_3 \check{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \sum_{i \in [K]} \underbrace{w_i(\boldsymbol{c}_i^{\top} \check{\boldsymbol{\theta}})}_{\textit{singular value singular vectors}} \underbrace{\boldsymbol{a}_i \boldsymbol{b}_i^{\top}}_{\textit{singular value singular vectors}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times d_2}$$



#### Clustering Procedure

```
Input: tensor \widehat{\mathcal{T}}, set \left\{(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{\tau},\widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{\tau},\widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{\tau}), \tau \in [L]\right\}.

For j=1 to K Do

Step 1: Find (\widehat{\mathbf{a}},\widehat{\mathbf{b}},\widehat{\mathbf{c}}) = \arg\max_{(\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b},\mathbf{c})\in S} |\widehat{\mathcal{T}} \times_1 \mathbf{a} \times_2 \mathbf{b} \times_3 \mathbf{c}|.

Step 2: Perform alternative update steps with initialization (\widehat{\mathbf{a}},\widehat{\mathbf{b}},\widehat{\mathbf{c}}).

Step 3: Output the cluster center as the final update in Step 2.

Step 4: Remove tupes with \min\{\|\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{\tau}\pm\widehat{\mathbf{a}}\|,\|\widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{\tau}\pm\widehat{\mathbf{b}}\|,\|\widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{\tau}\pm\widehat{\mathbf{c}}\|\} \leq 0.5.

End For

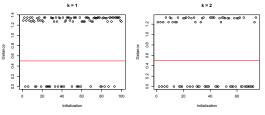
Output: \{(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{i},\widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{i},\widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{i}), j \in [K]\}.
```

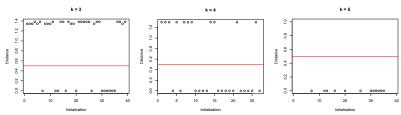
- Intuition 1: if  $|\widehat{\mathcal{T}} \times_1 \mathbf{a} \times_2 \mathbf{b} \times_3 \mathbf{c}|$  is large for some  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$ , then it is close to some  $(\mathbf{a}_j, \mathbf{b}_j, \mathbf{c}_j)$ .
- Intuition 2: if  $(\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{\tau}, \widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{\tau}, \widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{\tau})$  is close to  $(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$ , then their distance is *very* small; otherwise their distance is *very* large.



# Illustration of Clustering Procedure

- $d_1 = d_2 = d_3 = 100, d_{01} = d_{02} = d_{03} = 50, K = 5.$
- Distance:  $\min\{\|\widehat{\mathbf{a}}_{\tau} \pm \widehat{\mathbf{a}}\|, \|\widehat{\mathbf{b}}_{\tau} \pm \widehat{\mathbf{b}}\|, \|\widehat{\mathbf{c}}_{\tau} \pm \widehat{\mathbf{c}}\|\}.$





# Illustration of Tuning Procedure

 $\bullet$   $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (40, 30, 20), d_{0j} = 0.2 * d_j, and K = 3$ 

