

# Blind Signal Separation (BSS) Problem solved with NMF.

In this exercise, you are given a file named **SoundSourceData.mat**, contained into the folder **data**. You are asked to apply NMF to that problem.

We want to use NMF to solve the so-called Blind Signal Separation (BSS) Problem. In particular, we will consider the two dimensional case in which we have  $m$  sound sources inside a unit disc. The position of the sources are given by the two dimensional vectors

$$y^{(1)} = (y_1^{(1)}, y_2^{(1)}), y^{(2)} = (y_1^{(2)}, y_2^{(2)}), \dots, y^{(m)} = (y_1^{(m)}, y_2^{(m)})$$

The emitted sound is collected by a series of  $n$  microphones, located at certain coordinates

$$x^{(1)} = (x_1^{(1)}, x_2^{(1)}), x^{(2)} = (x_1^{(2)}, x_2^{(2)}), \dots, x^{(m)} = (x_1^{(m)}, x_2^{(m)})$$

positioned at the boundary of the unit disc.

Each microphone measures the sound it receives at  $p$  different amount of time, and the sound collected by the  $l$ -th microphone at time  $t_i$  is named  $b_l(t_i)$ .

Consider the data matrix  $X$  such that  $X_{i,j} = b_i(t_j)$ , of shape  $n \times p$ . We will suppose that the sound measured by each microphone is corrupted by noise.

Both the data matrix  $X$  of dimension  $n \times p$  and the true sound source (in our example, there are  $m = 4$  sound sources), are collected into the file **SoundSourceData.mat**.

1. Import the needed libraries (remember the function **scipy.io.loadmat** to load **.mat** files).
2. Use the functions of **scipy.io** to load the content of **SoundSourceData.mat**, and use it to identify the dataset  $X$  and the true sound source matrix  $F$ . Use those matrix to find the values for  $n$  and  $p$  in this case (remember that  $n \times p$  is the shape of  $X$ ).
3. To solve convergence problems, set equals to 0 the values contained in  $X$  which are strictly negative (those values exists because of the presence of noise).

4. Import the utility function NMF contained into the **folder ./utils/NMF.py** and use it to compute the Non-Negative Matrix Factorization for the matrix  $X$ . Try different values for the number of iterations. Remember that the NMF of a positive matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times p}$  is the matrix decomposition

$$X = WH \quad \text{where } W \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times m}, H \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m \times p}$$

that minimizes the error measured in Frobenius norm

$$\|X - WH\|_F$$

among the set of positive matrices.

Below you will find the documentation on how to use the utility function NMF of NMF.py.

*The NMF function takes as input:*

*X: the data matrix.*

*m: the number of source (known in advance).*

*T (optional): the number of iterations of the algorithm. The Default value is T=1000*

*tau (optional): the stopping criterion. The Default value is tau=1e-2.*

*return\_error (optional): a boolean variable. if True, also returns the error vector. The Default value is False.*

*And returns:*

*(W, H): tuple containing the NMF decomposition of X, where the shape of W is n x m, while the shape of H is m x p.*

*err (only if return\_error = True): an array of length T (the number of iterations) that contains the behavior of the error during the iterations.*

5. Using a subplot, show a  $2 \times 4$  table of plots, where in the first line the rows of  $F$  are shown (the true sound sources), while in the second one, you show the rows of  $H$  (the

approximated sound sources).

6. Comment the obtained results.

```
In [1]: import scipy.io
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

data = scipy.io.loadmat('./data/SoundSourceData.mat')

# Split the acquired data into F and X.
F = data['F']
X = data['X']

# Variables
def _NMF(m,T):

    # sound sources

    np.random.seed(42)

    print("hypothesized sources: ",m, "real sources: ", 4, "Iterations: ",T)
    # microphones, times
    n, p = X.shape
    print("microphones: ",n, "times: ",p)
    X[X<0] = 0 # Set equal to zero, all negative elements of X

    from utils import NMF

    # NMF Algorithm
    (W, H), err = NMF.NMF(X, m, T, return_error=True )

    # Visualize the Results (since you don't know how to use matplotlib, the
    # following part of the code is already complete).

    plt.figure(figsize=(50, 10))
    for i in range(m):
        plt.subplot(2, m, i+1)
        plt.plot(H[i, :])
        plt.grid()
    for i in range(4):
        plt.subplot(2, 4, 4+i+1)
        plt.plot(F[i, :])
        plt.grid()
    plt.show()
```

```
In [2]: T1 = 2
T2 = 1000
T3 = 2000

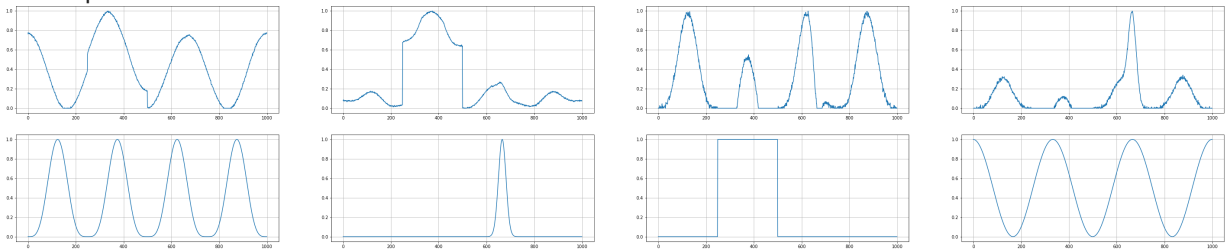
x = [T1, T2, T3]

err4 = []

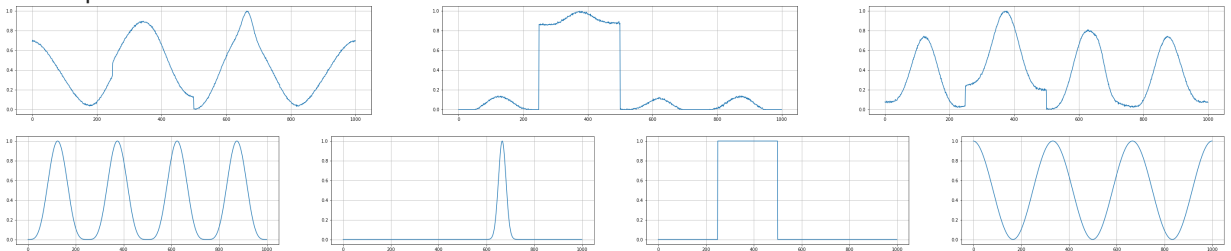
print("##### Hypotizing right number of sources (4=4) #####")
err4.append(_NMF(4,T1))
print("##### Hypotizing less sources (3<4) #####")
_NMF(3,T1)
```

```
print("##### Hypotizing more sources (5>4) #####")
_NMF(5,T1)
```

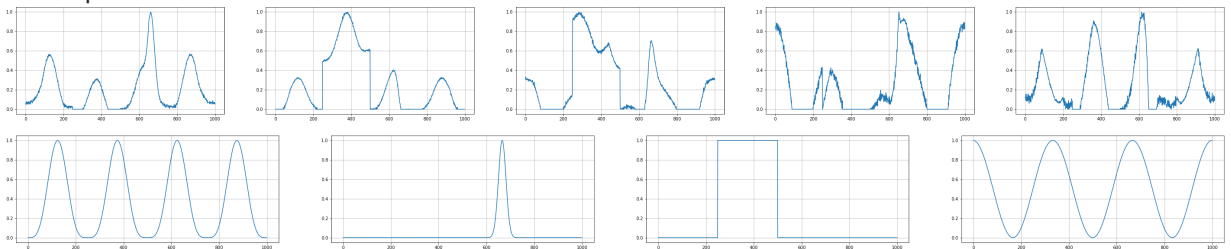
```
##### Hypotizing right number of sources (4=4) #####
hypothesized sources: 4 real sources: 4 Iterations: 2
microphones: 20 times: 1000
```



```
##### Hypotizing less sources (3<4) #####
hypothesized sources: 3 real sources: 4 Iterations: 2
microphones: 20 times: 1000
```



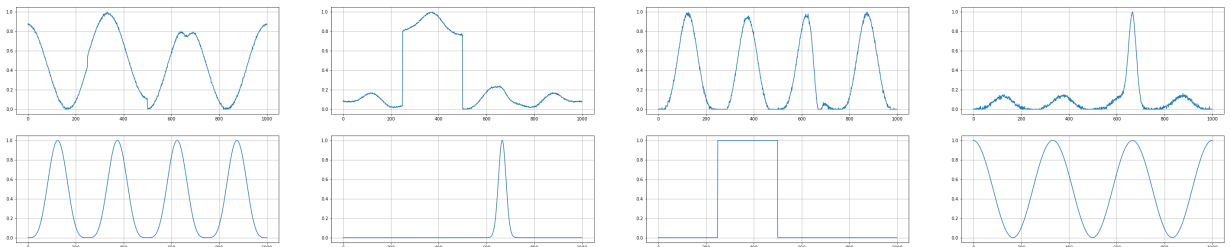
```
##### Hypotizing more sources (5>4) #####
hypothesized sources: 5 real sources: 4 Iterations: 2
microphones: 20 times: 1000
```



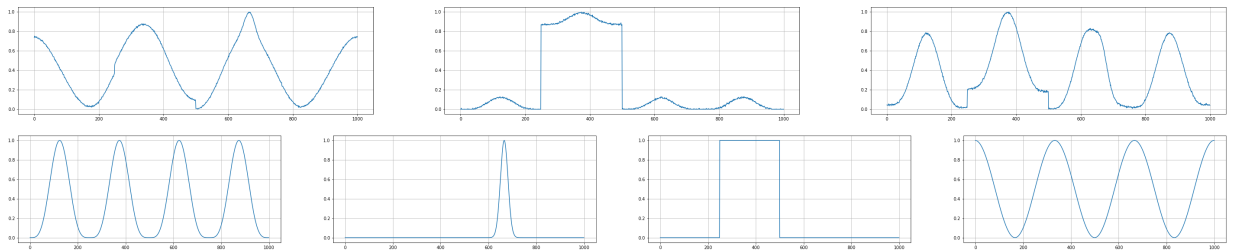
In [3]:

```
print("##### Hypotizing right number of sources (4=4) #####")
err4.append(_NMF(4,T2))
print("##### Hypotizing less sources (3<4) #####")
_NMF(3,T2)
print("##### Hypotizing more sources (5>4) #####")
_NMF(5,T2)
```

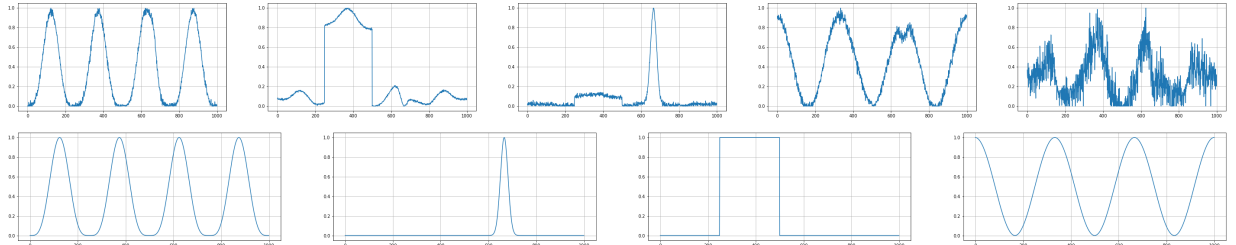
```
##### Hypotizing right number of sources (4=4) #####
hypothesized sources: 4 real sources: 4 Iterations: 1000
microphones: 20 times: 1000
Correct!
```



```
##### Hypotizing less sources (3<4) #####
hypothesized sources: 3 real sources: 4 Iterations: 1000
microphones: 20 times: 1000
Correct!
```



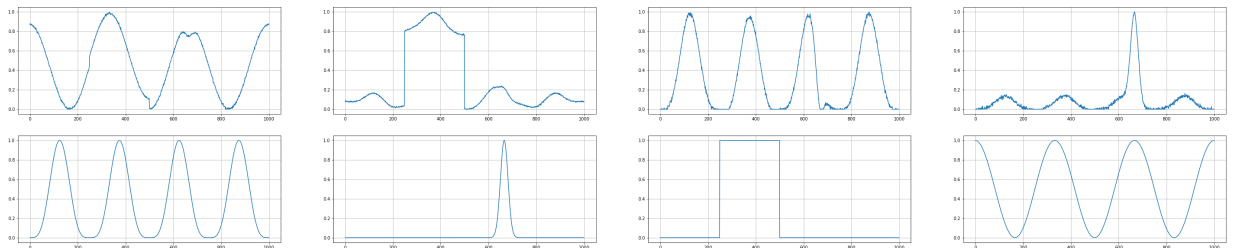
```
##### Hypotizing more sources (5>4) #####
hypothesized sources: 5 real sources: 4 Iterations: 1000
microphones: 20 times: 1000
Correct!
```



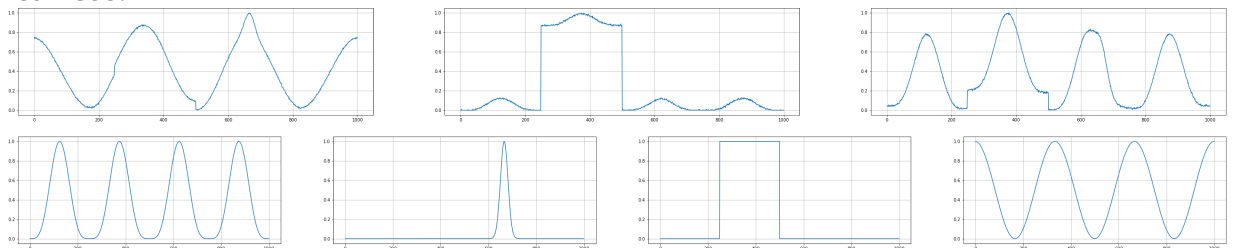
In [4]:

```
print("##### Hypotizing right number of sources (4=4) #####")
_NMF(4,T3)
print("##### Hypotizing less sources (3<4) #####")
_NMF(3,T3)
print("##### Hypotizing more sources (5>4) #####")
_NMF(5,T3)
```

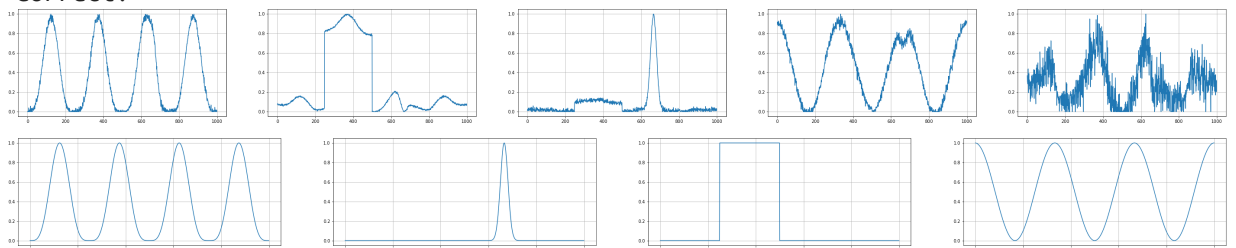
```
##### Hypotizing right number of sources (4=4) #####
hypothesized sources: 4 real sources: 4 Iterations: 2000
microphones: 20 times: 1000
Correct!
```



```
##### Hypotizing less sources (3<4) #####
hypothesized sources: 3 real sources: 4 Iterations: 2000
microphones: 20 times: 1000
Correct!
```



```
##### Hypotizing more sources (5>4) #####
hypothesized sources: 5 real sources: 4 Iterations: 2000
microphones: 20 times: 1000
Correct!
```



We can observe that if we use the right number of sources, there's a 1-to-1 correspondency between the original and the recovered sounds, even with a low noise. If, instead, we try to recover less/more signals we get signals that are a mixture between the original tracks. If we try to recover more tracks than the original ones, then we can easily see an oscillating behavior. The number of iterations doesn't make a big difference in the results, unless it is really small (just 2-3 iteration).

With respect to the *SVD*, the *NMF*

1. works just with matrixes of positive numbers
2. has just positive numbers in  $W$  and  $H$  (here we used just  $H$ )
2. is an iterative algorithm
3. *SVD* is a more 'insightful' factorization technique - *NMF* gives only  $U$  and  $V$  matrices, but *SVD* gives a  $\Sigma$  matrix also along with these two.  $\Sigma$  gives us insights into the amount of information each eigen vector holds. Such info is not available in *NMF*.

In [ ]: