

# BINARY MATRIX FACTORISATIONS

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” In the sleepy days when the provinces of France were still quietly provincial, matrices with Boolean entries were a favored occupation of aging professors at the universities of Bordeaux and Clermont-Ferrand. But one day...

Gian-Carlo Rota  
Foreword to Boolean matrix  
theory and applications by K. H. Kim, 1982



# PART I

# DEFINITIONS AND THEORY



# CONTENTS

- 1. Motivating example
- 2. Matrix factorisations
- 3. Binary matrix factorisations
- 4. Different views of binary data
- 5. Tiling and clustering as matrix factorisations
- 6. Matrix ranks
- 7. Different views on Boolean rank
- 8. A note on inverses
- 9. Computational complexity
- 10. Open problems



# MOTIVATING EXAMPLE



Images by John Tenniel, openclipart.org, and Wikipedia



# TABLE OF FEATURES



long-haired  
well-known  
male

✓	✓	✗
✓	✓	✓
✗	✓	✓



# BINARY MATRIX



long-haired  
well-known  
male



# BOOLEAN MATRIX FACTORIZATION

**Alice & Bob:** long-haired and well-known  
**Bob & Charles:** well-known males

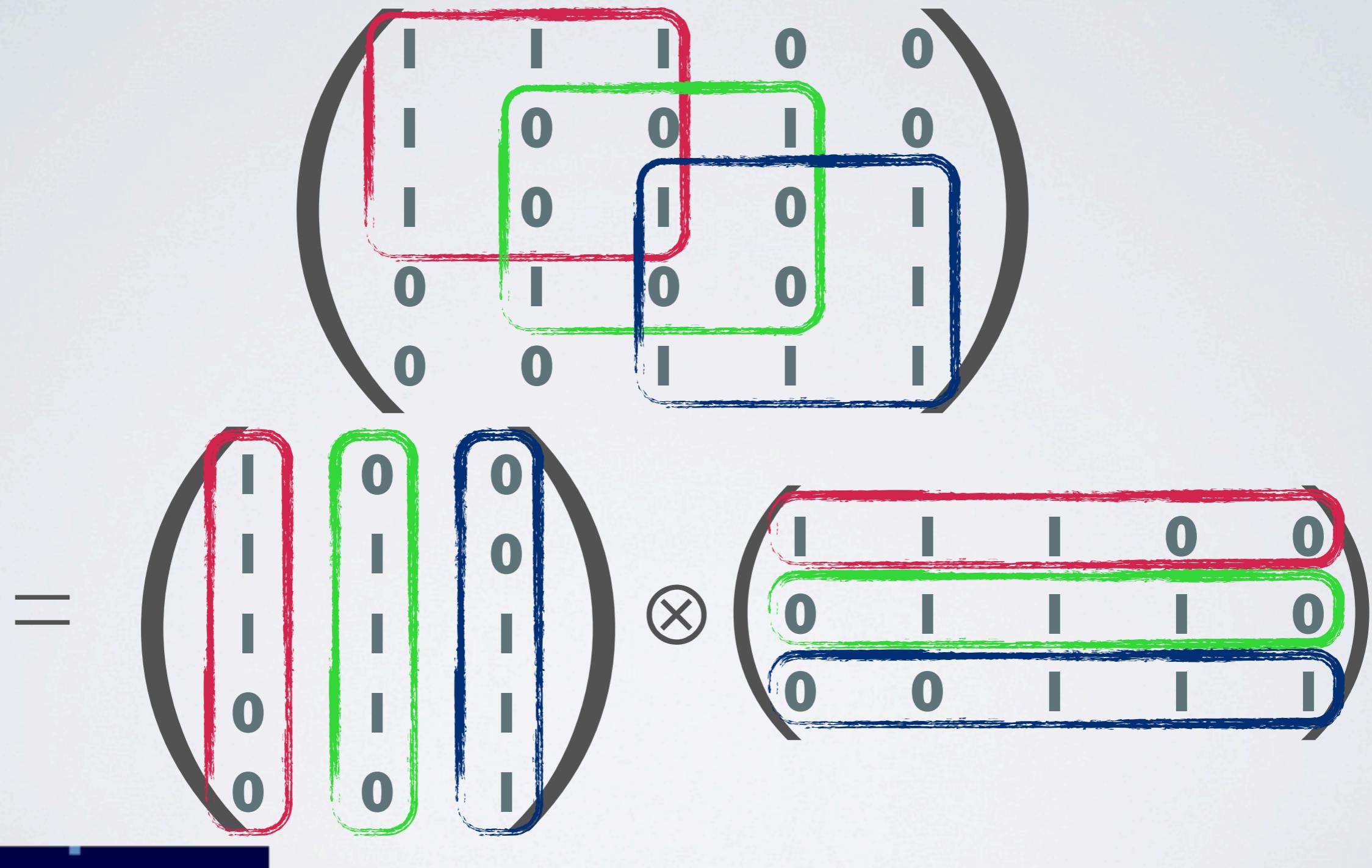
(  
0 | 1 | 0  
| 1 | 1  
0 | 1 | 1  
)

long-haired  
well-known  
male

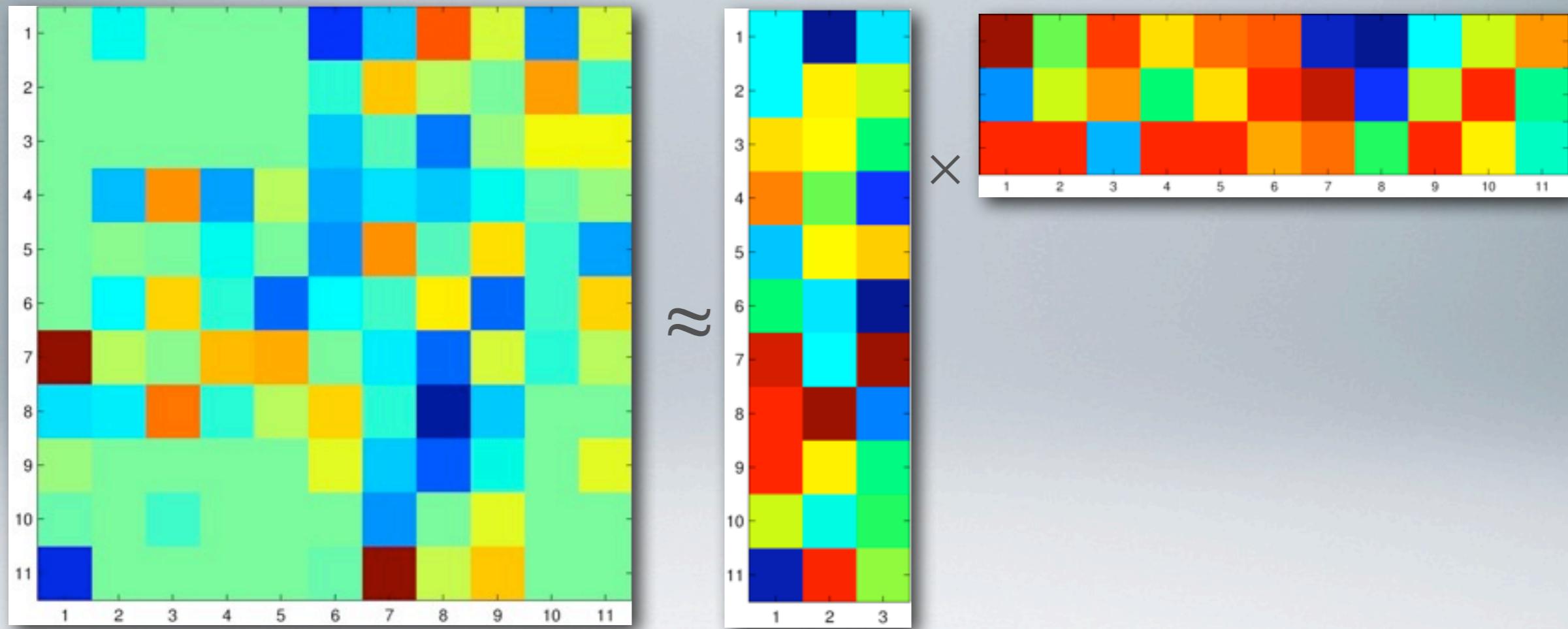
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} A & B & C \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



# MODULO-2 EXAMPLE



# MATRIX FACTORISATIONS



# DEFINITION

- A **factorisation** of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  represents it as a product of two (or more) **factor matrices**:  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{BC}$
- $\mathbf{A}$  is  $n$ -by- $m$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$  is  $n$ -by- $k$ , and  $\mathbf{C}$  is  $k$ -by- $m$ 
  - $k$  is the **size** (or **rank**) of the factorisation
- Factorisation can be **exact** ( $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{BC}$ ) or **approximate** ( $\mathbf{A} \approx \mathbf{BC}$ )

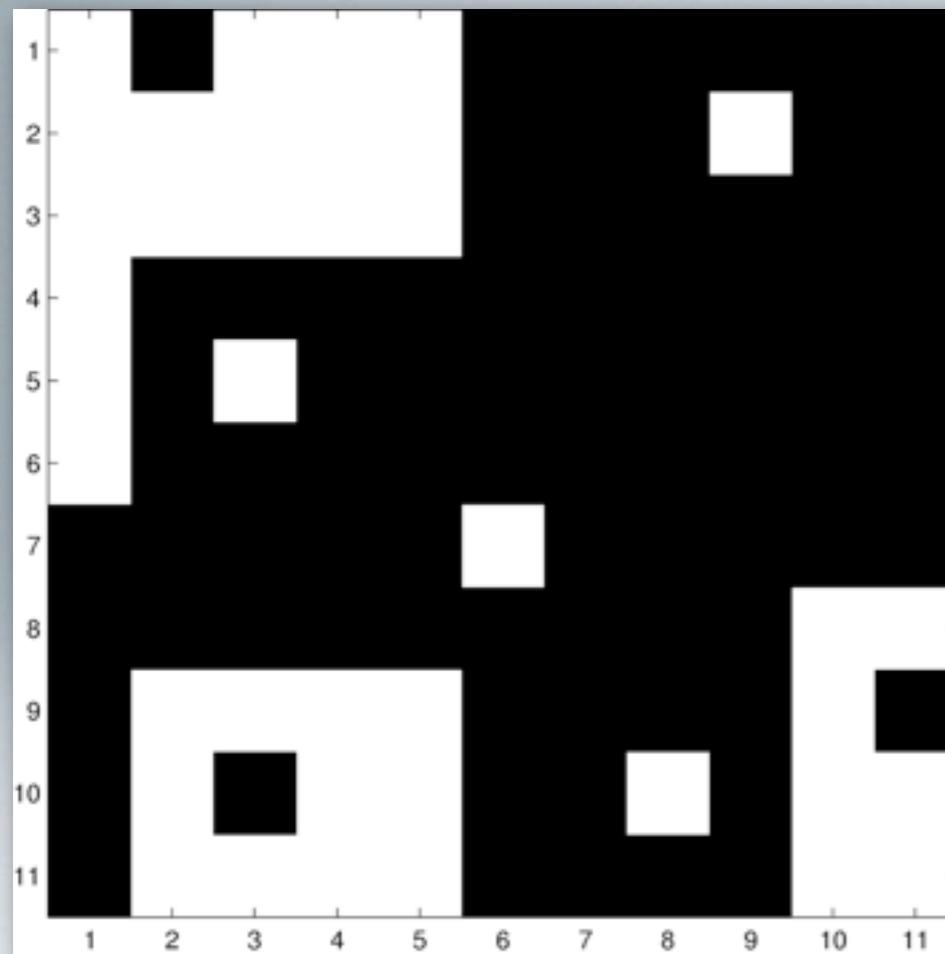


# K RANK-1 FACTORISATIONS

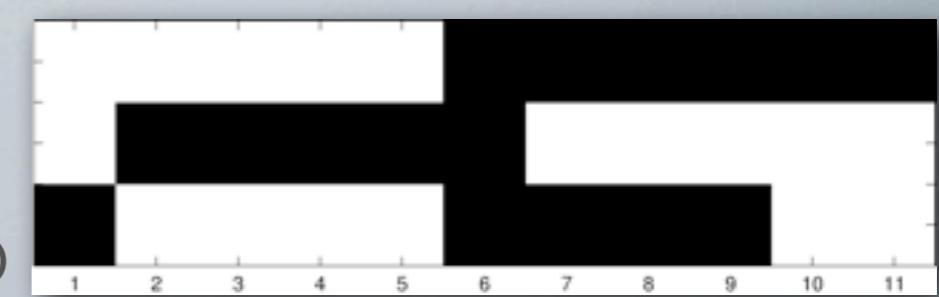
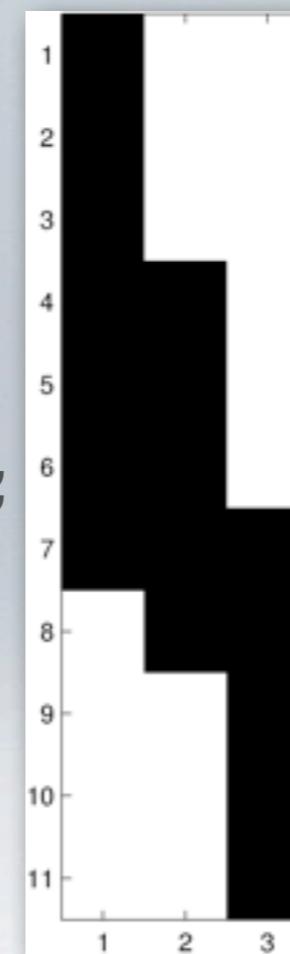
$$\mathbf{A} \approx \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{c}_1 + \mathbf{b}_2 \mathbf{c}_2 + \dots + \mathbf{b}_k \mathbf{c}_k$$



# BINARY MATRIX FACTORISATIONS



$\approx$



# BINARY MATRIX FACTORISATIONS

- All involved matrices (**A**, **B**, and **C**) are binary (0/1)
- Loss function is sum of absolute differences
$$|A - B \times C| = \sum_{ij} |a_{ij} - (B \times C)_{ij}|$$
- Or squared Frobenius
- The **algebra** is different for different factorisations
  - We consider normal, modulo-2, and Boolean algebras



# NORMAL ALGEBRA

## Binary matrix factorisation under $\mathbb{R}$ (RMF).

Given an  $n$ -by- $m$  binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and integer  $k$ , find  $n$ -by- $k$  and  $k$ -by- $m$  binary matrices  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  such that  $|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}|$  is minimised.

- Algebra is normal ( $I + I = 2$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{C}$  is not necessarily binary



# BOOLEAN ALGEBRA

## Boolean matrix factorisation (BMF).

Given an  $n$ -by- $m$  binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and integer  $k$ , find  $n$ -by- $k$  and  $k$ -by- $m$  binary matrices  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  such that  $|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \odot \mathbf{C}|$  is minimised.

- Algebra is Boolean ( $I + I = I$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \odot \mathbf{C}$  is always binary



# MODULO-2 ALGEBRA

## Binary matrix factorisation under modulo-2 algebra (**XMF**).

Given an  $n$ -by- $m$  binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and integer  $k$ , find  $n$ -by- $k$  and  $k$ -by- $m$  binary matrices  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  such that  $|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{C}|$  is minimised.

- Algebra is modulo-2 ( $1 + 1 = 0$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{C}$  is always binary



# OTHER OPTIONS

- Other definitions of underlying algebra are possible
- Example: define addition to be logical implication
  - Non-commutative
    - $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \neq \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A}$
    - $(\mathbf{AB})^T \neq \mathbf{B}^T \mathbf{A}^T$

	0	I
0	I	I
I	0	I

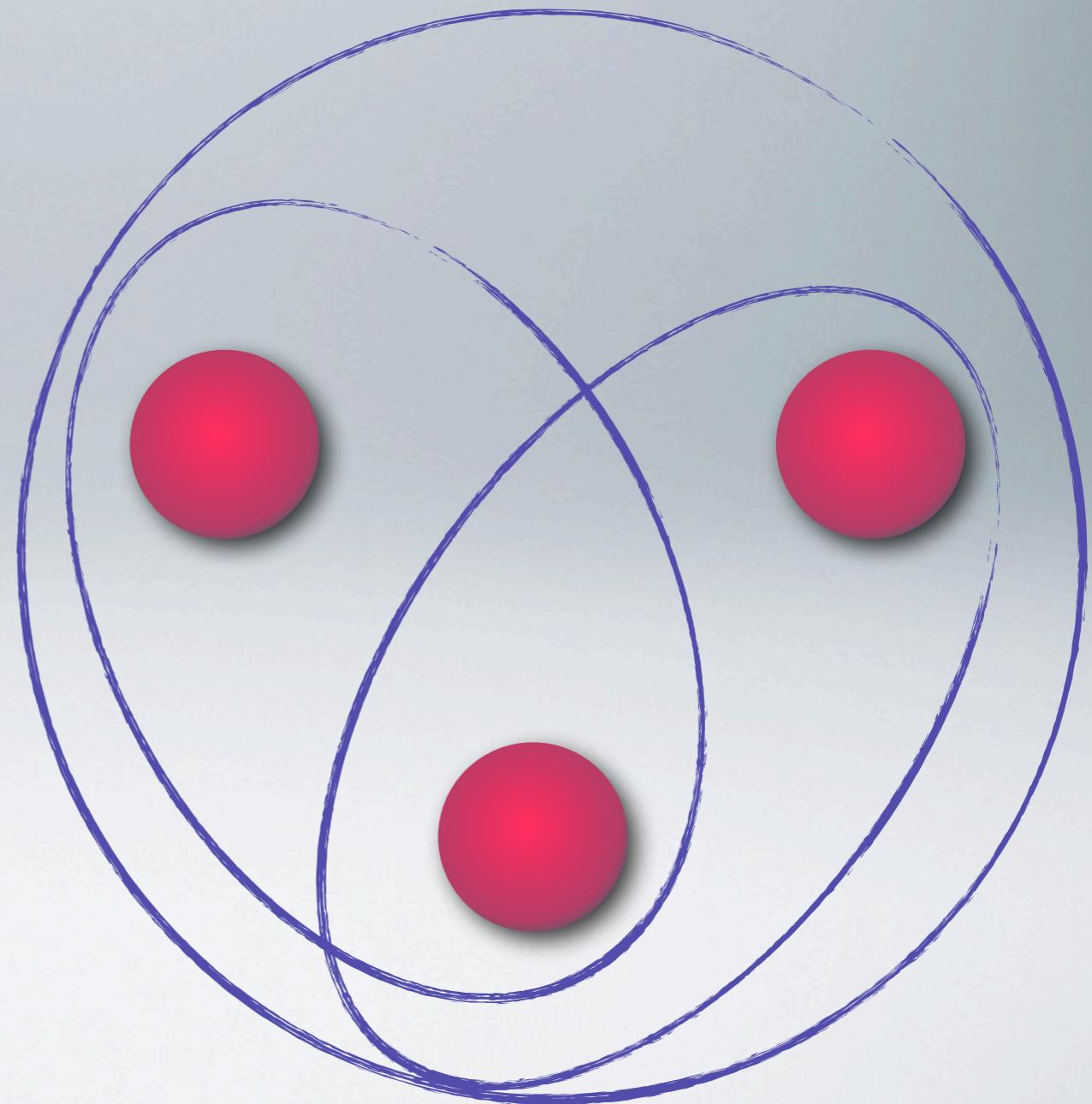
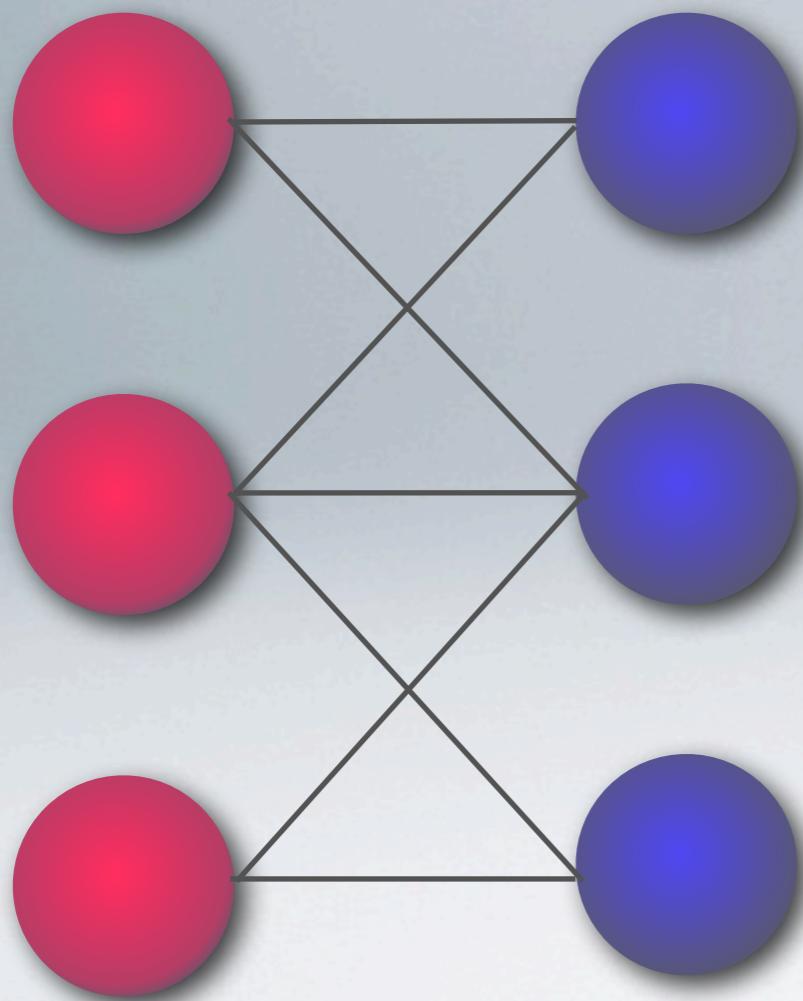


# COMPARISON

	<b>RMF</b>	<b>BMF</b>	<b>XMF</b>
<b>Addition</b>	$ + =2$	$ + = $	$ + =0$
<b>Algebra</b>	semi-ring	semi-ring	field
<b>Closed?</b>	not closed	closed	closed



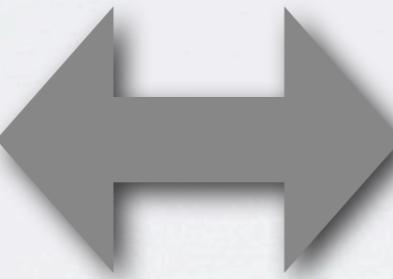
# DIFFERENT VIEWS OF BINARY DATA



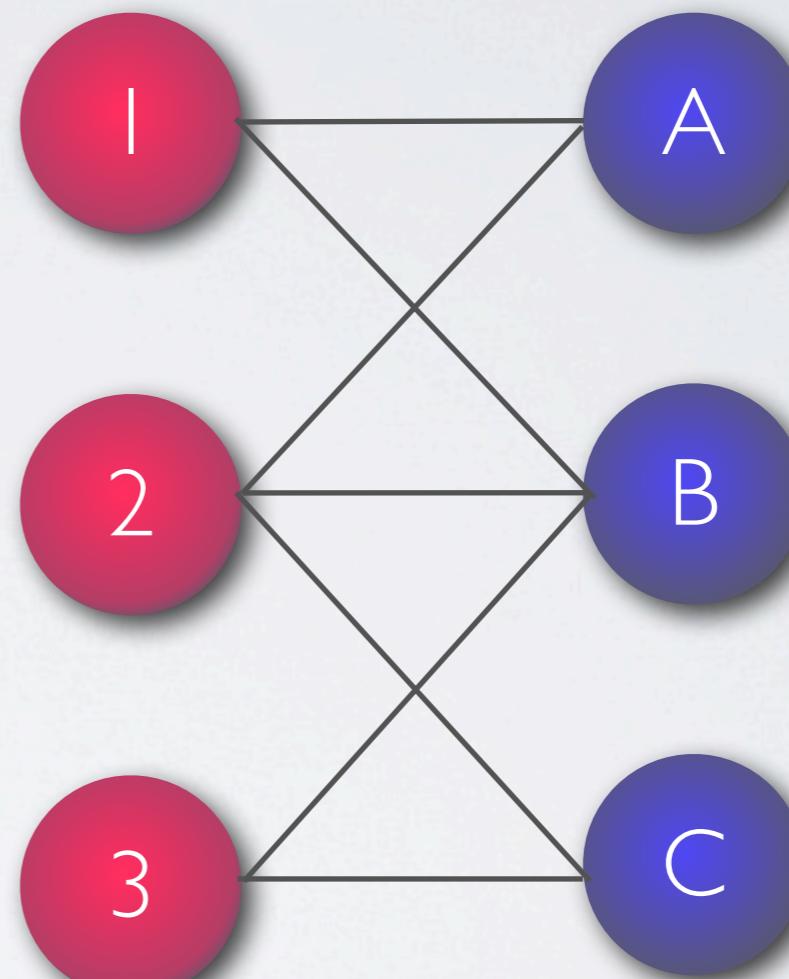
# BIPARTITE GRAPHS

**A**

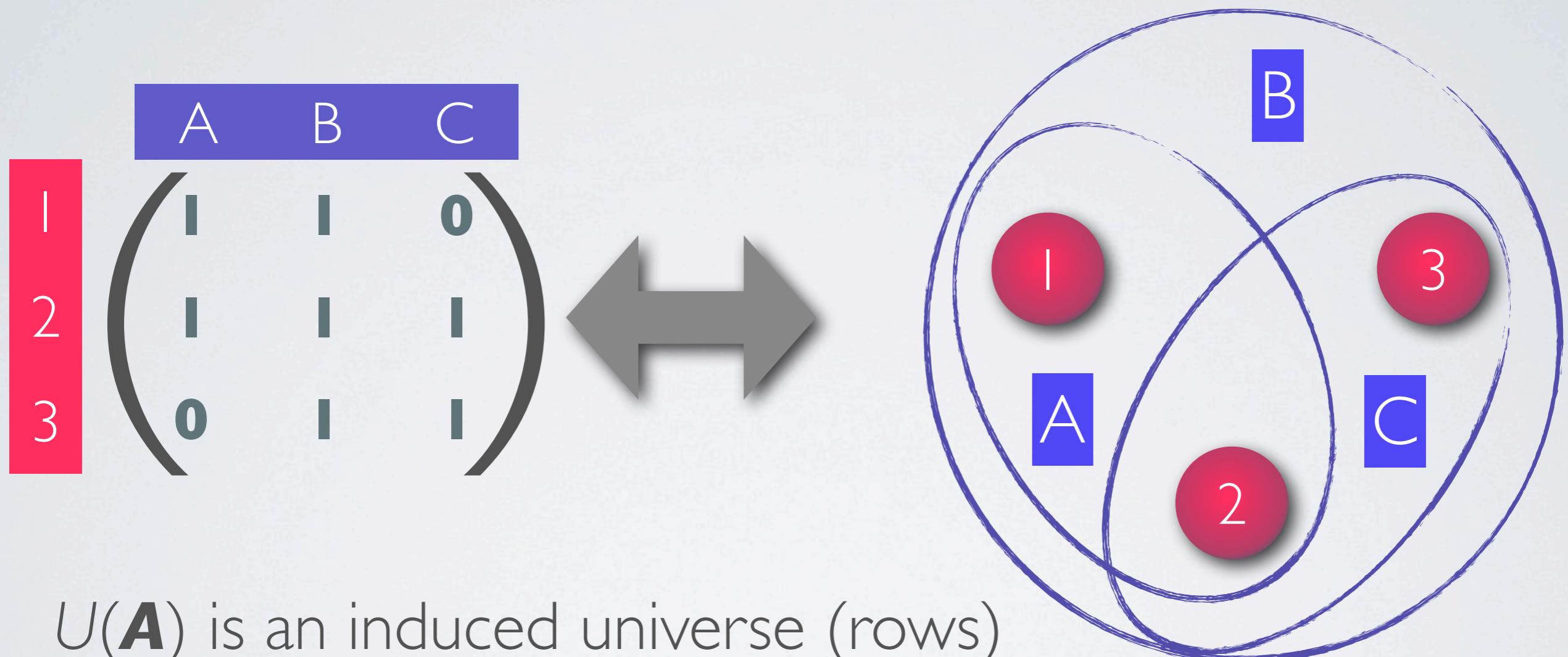
	A	B	C
I	1		
2		1	
3	0		1



$G(\mathbf{A})$



# SETS AND COLLECTIONS



$U(\mathbf{A})$  is an induced universe (rows)

$C(\mathbf{A})$  is an induced collection of sets (columns)



# TILING & CLUSTERING AS MATRIX FACTORISATIONS



Image by Wikipedia user PJM



# K-MEANS AS MATRIX FACTORISATION

- Given  $m$  data points (in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ), partition them in  $k$  clusters such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{x_j \in C_i} \|x_j - \mu_i\|_2^2$$

is minimised

- Equivalently, minimise  $\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{MC}\|^2$ , where

- $\mathbf{X}$  is the data ( $n$ -by- $m$ ),  $\mathbf{M}$  ( $n$ -by- $k$ ) has the centroids as its columns, and  $\mathbf{C}$  ( $k$ -by- $m$ ) is a **cluster assignment matrix**
  - Each column of  $\mathbf{C}$  has exactly one 1, and rest is 0s



# TILING AS MATRIX FACTORISATION

- Maximum  $k$ -tiling: find at most  $k$  **tiles** such that the tiling has maximum area [I]
  - Data is binary matrix, tiles are submatrices full of 1s
  - Area of a tiling is the number of 1s in the data that belong to at least one tile
- We turn this to *minimum-error tiling*
  - Minimise the number of 1s in the data that do not belong to any tile

[I] F. Geerts et al., Tiling databases, in: DS '04, 77–122.



# TILING AS MATRIX FACTORISATION

- We want to find factor matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  such that  $(\mathbf{AB})_{ij} = 1$  iff element  $(i,j)$  belongs to at least one tile
  - Minimise  $|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{AB}|$
  - Single tile is an outer product of two binary vectors:  $\mathbf{ab}^T$ 
    - $b_j = 1$  if an item  $j$  belongs to the tile;  $a_i = 1$  if a transaction  $i$  belongs to the tile
  - But how to combine the tiles?



# COMBINING THE TILES

- The problem:  $\sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{a}_i \mathbf{b}_i^T$  is not necessarily binary
  - RMF:  $|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{AB}|$  will add an error every time  $x_{ij} = 1$  belongs to more than one tile
  - BMF: don't count multiplicity ( $1+1=1$ )
  - XMF: consider parity ( $1+1=0$ )



# RNF, BMF, AND XMF AS TILING

- Unlike tiling, all methods allow holes in the tiles
- BMF is otherwise like tiling
- RMF penalises for overlapping tiles
- XMF removes the overlapping part of pairs of tiles
  - For nested tiles, this would be removing exceptional areas



# MATRIX RANKS

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



# DEFINITIONS

## Normal matrix rank.

The **rank** of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A})$ , is the least integer  $k$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  can be expressed exactly with a decomposition of size  $k$ .

## Boolean matrix rank.

The **Boolean rank** of a binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A})$ , is the least integer  $k$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  can be expressed exactly with a Boolean decomposition of size  $k$ .



# DEFINITIONS

## Boolean matrix rank.

The **Boolean rank** of a binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A})$ , is the least integer  $k$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  can be expressed exactly with a Boolean decomposition of size  $k$ .

## Modulo-2 matrix rank.

The **modulo-2 rank** of a binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_X(\mathbf{A})$ , is the least integer  $k$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  can be expressed exactly with a modulo-2 decomposition of size  $k$ .



# DEFINITIONS

## Modulo-2 matrix rank.

The **modulo-2 rank** of a binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_X(\mathbf{A})$ , is the least integer  $k$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  can be expressed exactly with a modulo-2 decomposition of size  $k$ .

## Binary matrix rank over normal algebra.

The **binary rank** of a binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_N(\mathbf{A})$ , is the least integer  $k$  such that  $\mathbf{A}$  can be expressed exactly with a binary decomposition (with normal algebra) of size  $k$ .



# EXAMPLE OF BOOLEAN RANK

$$\text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A}) = 2$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

The diagram illustrates the calculation of the Boolean rank. It shows two 3x3 matrices. The first matrix has a '0' at its bottom-left position and '1's elsewhere in its first two columns. The second matrix has a '0' at its top-right position and '1's elsewhere in its last two rows. Red arrows point from the bottom-left '0' of the first matrix to the top-right '0' of the second matrix, highlighting that these are the only non-zero elements that contribute to the product. The result of the multiplication is a 3x3 matrix where all entries are '0'.



# EXAMPLE OF XOR RANK

$$\text{rank}_X(\mathbf{A}) = 3$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



# EXAMPLE OF BINARY RANK

$$\text{rank}_N(\mathbf{A}) = 2$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & 0 \\ 0 & & & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & & & 0 \\ 0 & \vdots & & \\ 0 & & \vdots & \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$




# COMPARISON OF RANKS

- How do these ranks compare?
  - Is one always the smallest?
  - Is one always the largest?
  - How big the differences can be?
  - How about the normal rank?



# BOOLEAN VS NORMAL

- Incommensurable [1]
  - For some  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A}) < \text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A})$
  - For some  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A}) > \text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A})$
- Extrema:
  - Exists  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ :  $\text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A}) = \log_2(\text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A}))$  [1]
  - Exists  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :  $\text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A}) = \text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A}) / 2$  [2]

As good as it gets



- [1] S.D. Monson et al., A Survey of Clique and Biclique Coverings and Factorizations of (0,1)-Matrices, *Bull. ICA*. 14 (1995), 17–86.  
[2] P. Kaski, personal communication.



# BINARY VS THE OTHERS

- Binary rank is always the biggest
  - $\text{rank}_N(\mathbf{A}) \geq \text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A})$  for all  $\mathbf{A}$  [I]
  - $\text{rank}_N(\mathbf{A}) \geq \text{rank}_X(\mathbf{A})$  for all  $\mathbf{A}$ 
    - All use binary numbers and binary doesn't allow overlap
  - $\text{rank}_N(\mathbf{A}) \geq \text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A})$  for all  $\mathbf{A}$  [I]
  - Both use the same arithmetic

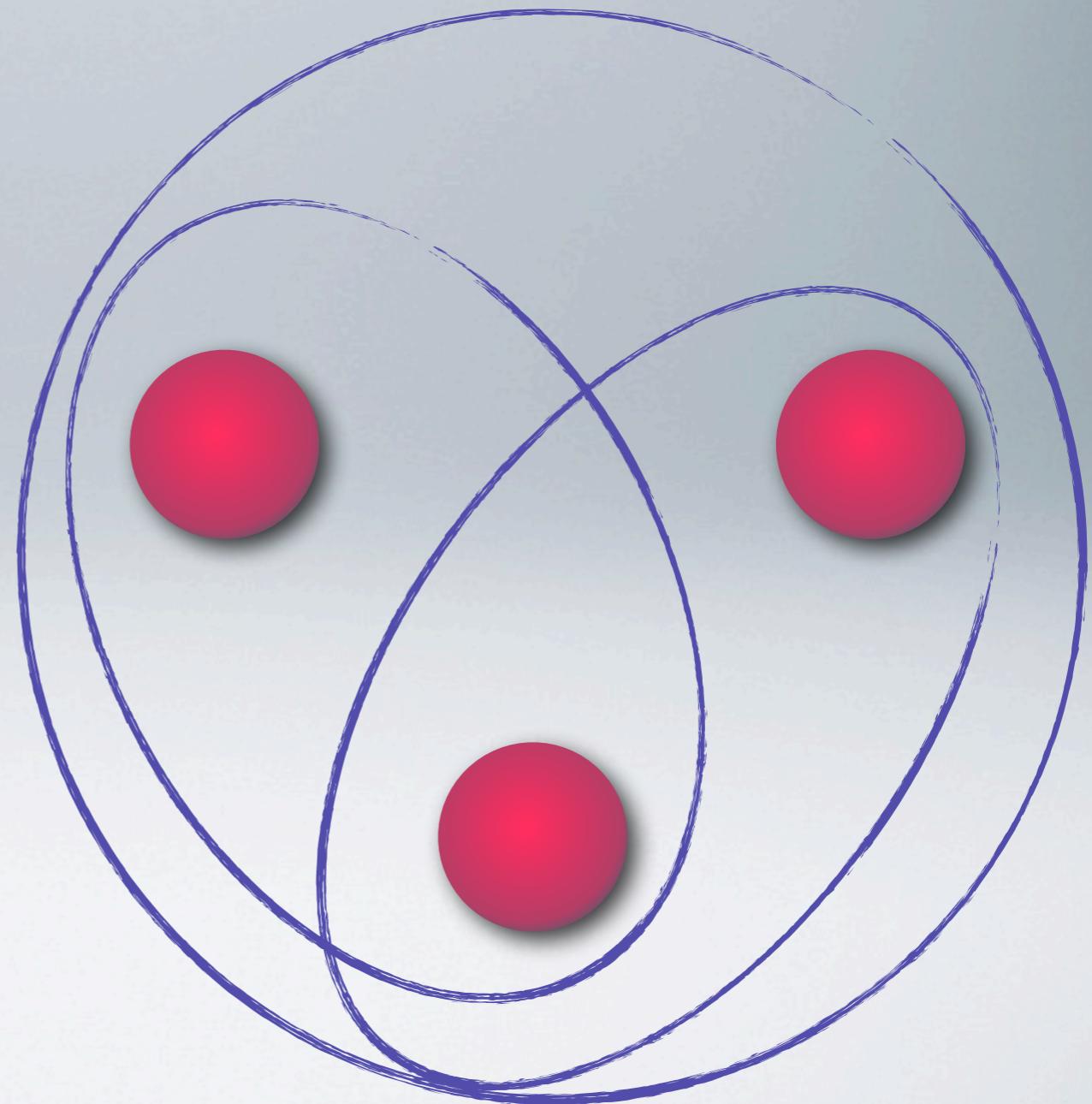
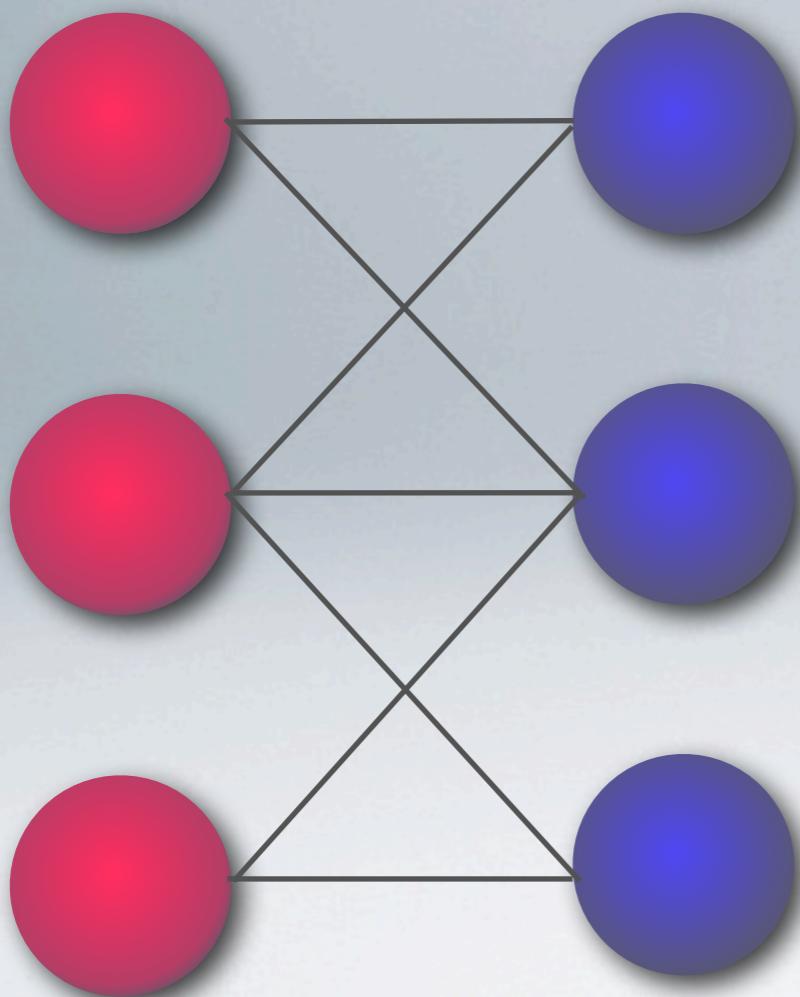


# SUMMARY

	Normal	Boolean	XOR	Binary
Normal	=	$\wedge\vee$	$\wedge\vee$	$\leq$
Boolean	$\wedge\vee$	=	$\wedge\vee$	$\leq$
XOR	$\wedge\vee$	$\wedge\vee$	=	$\leq$
Binary	$\geq$	$\geq$	$\geq$	=

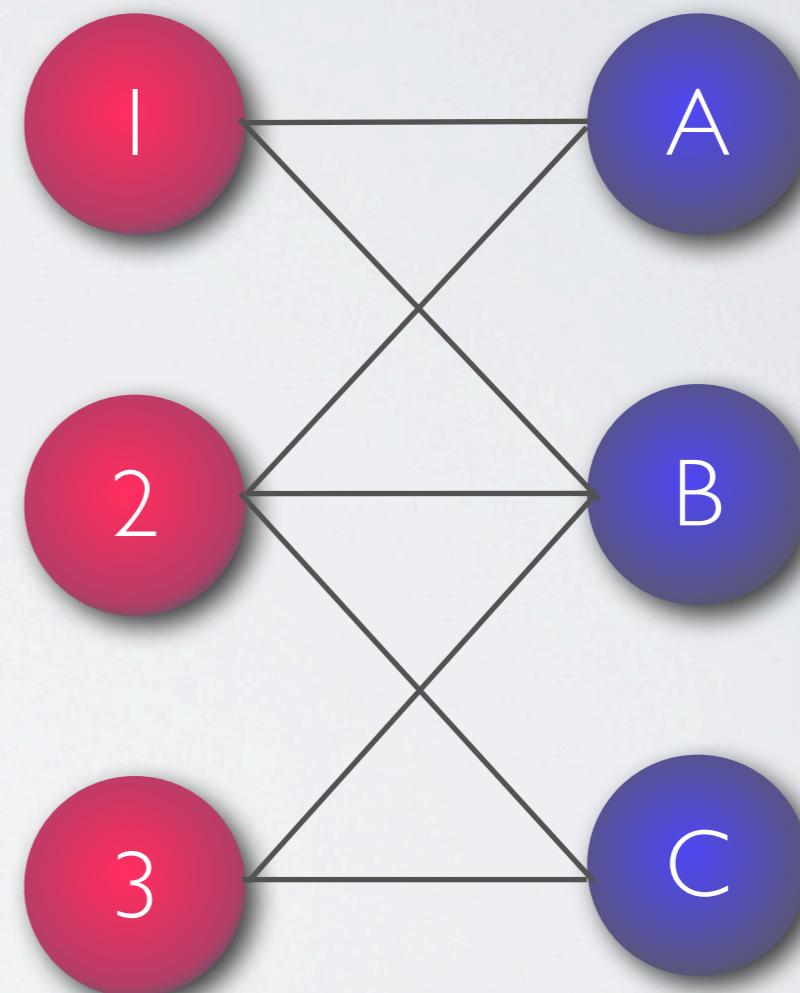


# DIFFERENT VIEWS TO THE BOOLEAN RANK

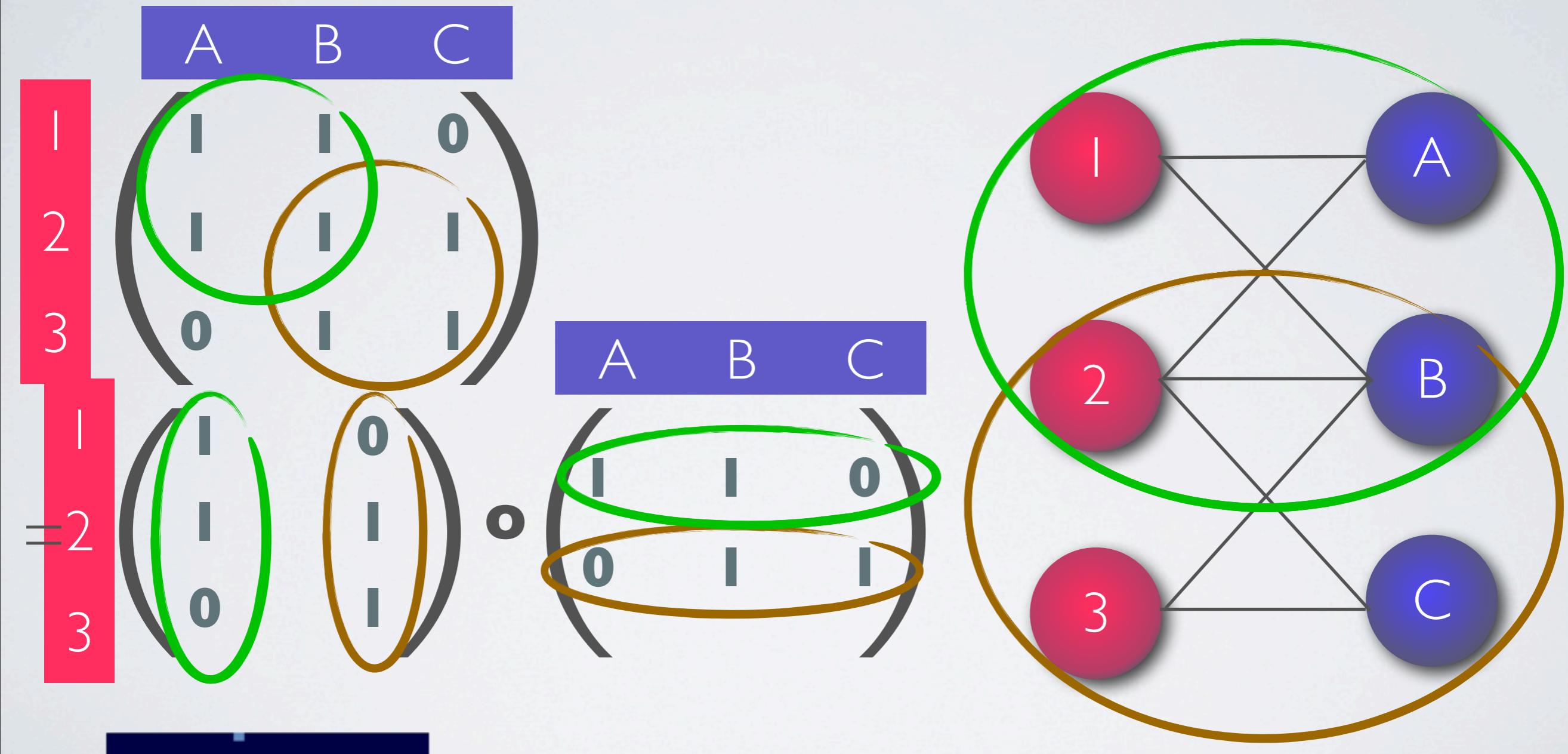


# BOOLEAN RANK AND BICLIQUES

- The Boolean rank of a matrix  $A$  is **the least number of complete bipartite subgraphs needed to cover every edge** of the induced bipartite graph  $G(A)$



# BOOLEAN RANK AND BICLIQUES

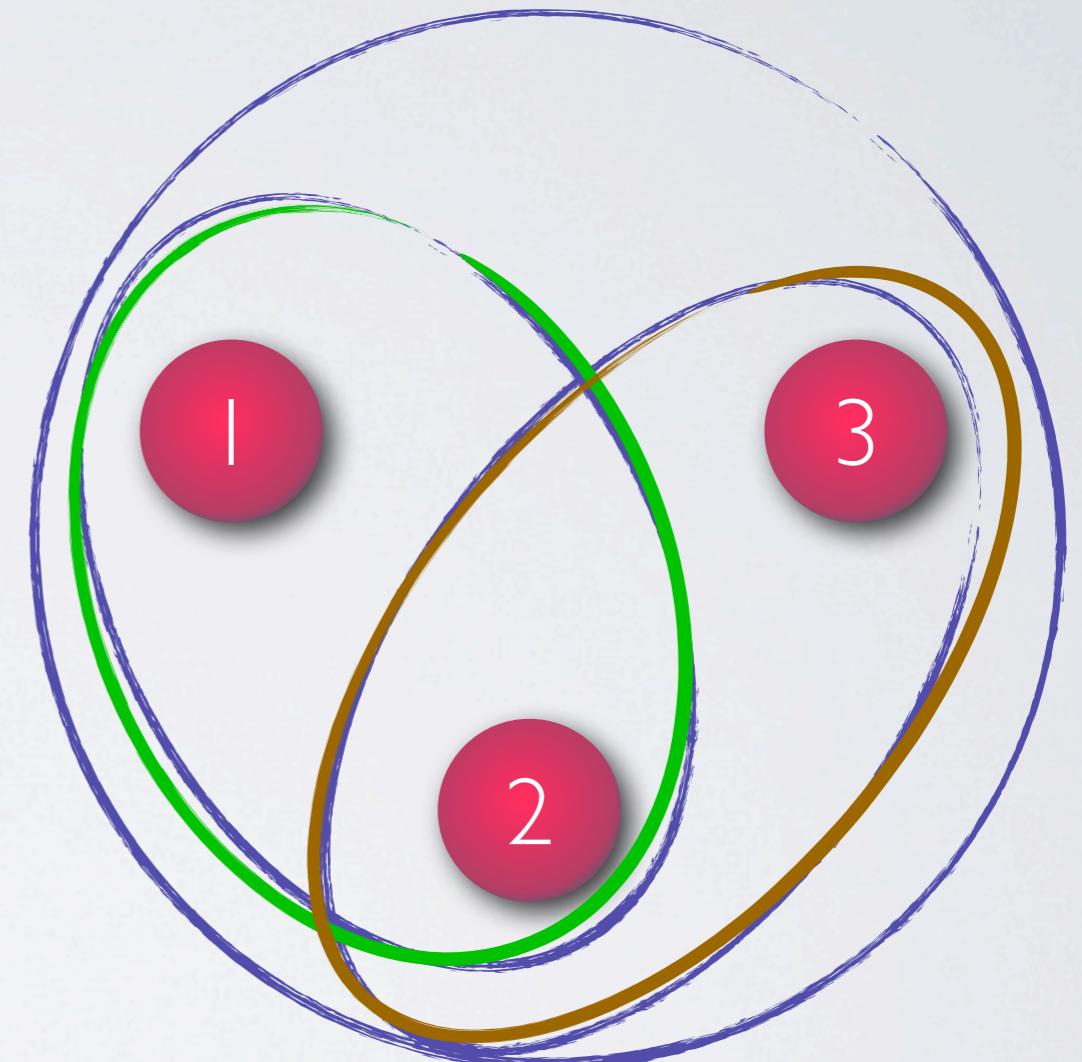


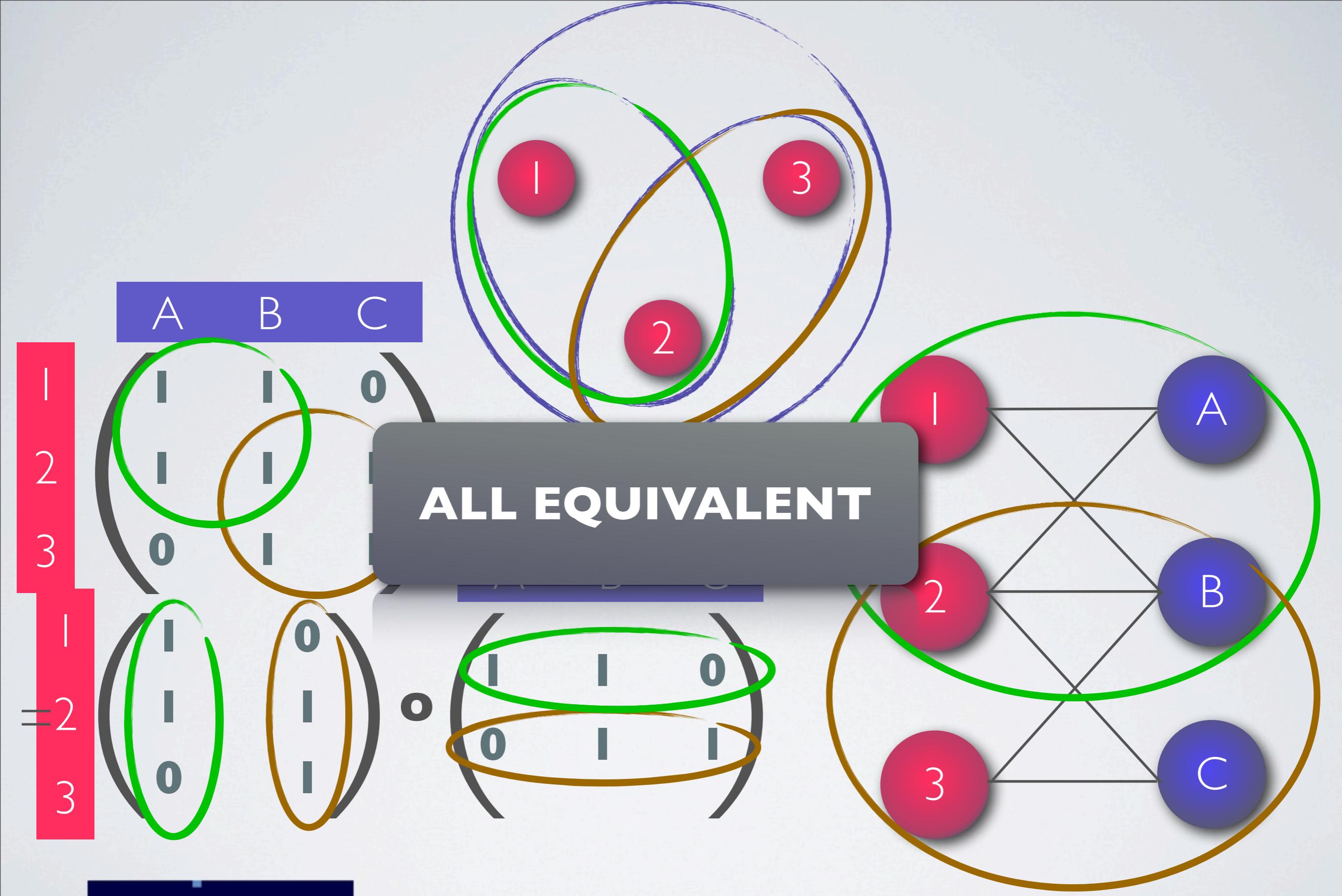
# BOOLEAN RANK AND SETS

- The Boolean rank of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is **the least number of subsets of  $U(\mathbf{A})$  needed to cover every set** of the induced collection  $C(\mathbf{A})$

- For every  $C$  in  $C(\mathbf{A})$ , if  $S$  is the collection of subsets, have subcollection  $S_C$  such that

$$\bigcup_{S \in S_C} S = C$$



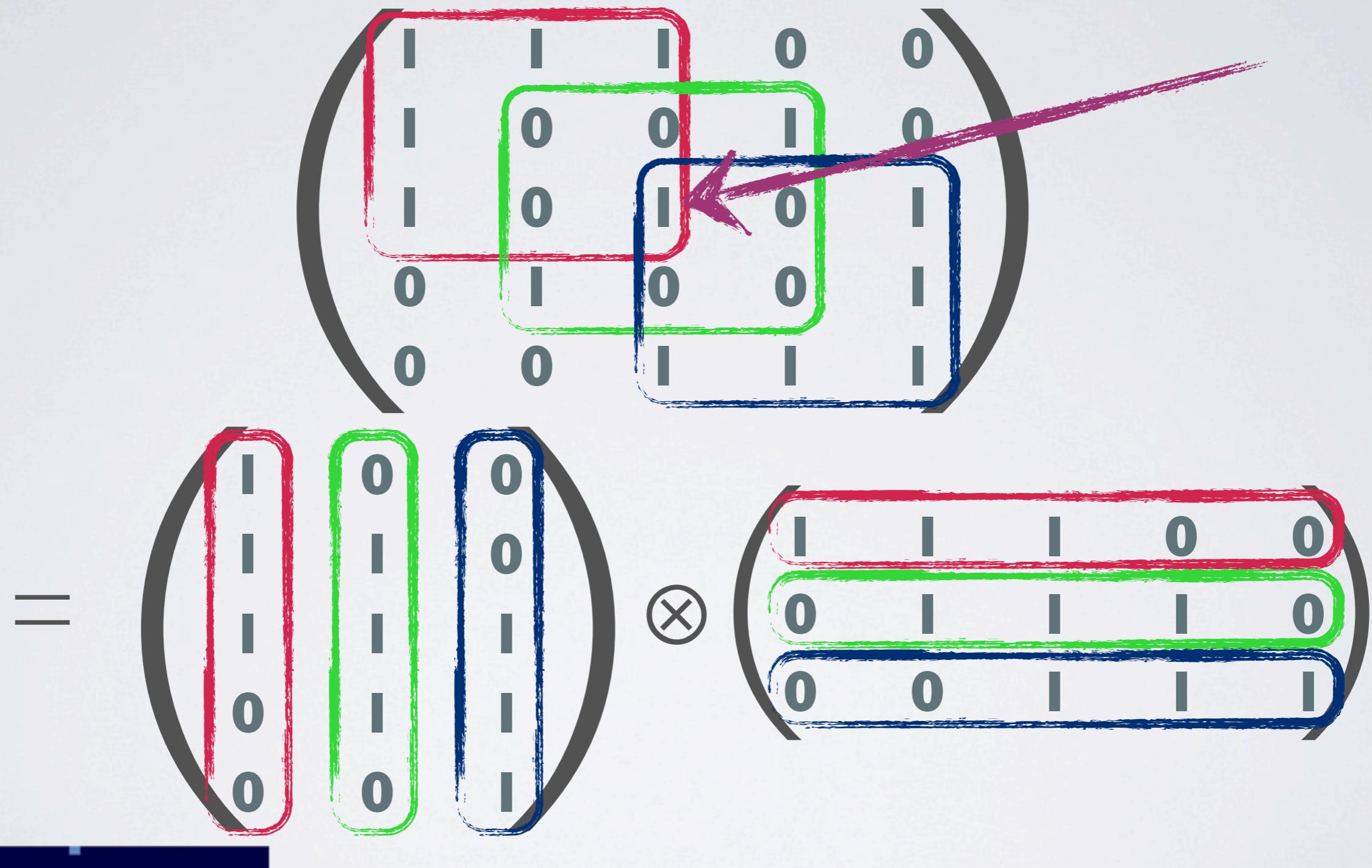


# XOR AND BINARY

- XOR rank
  - Replace set union with symmetric difference and covering with parity
- Binary rank
  - Non-overlapping subsets / bicliques are sufficient, not necessary
    - Clustering



# XOR RANK EXAMPLE



# BINARY RANK EXAMPLE

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \vdots & & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & 0 \\ 0 & & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# A NOTE ON INVERSES

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & & \mathbf{0} \\ & \ddots & \\ \mathbf{0} & & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & & \mathbf{I} \\ & \ddots & \\ \mathbf{I} & & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix}$$



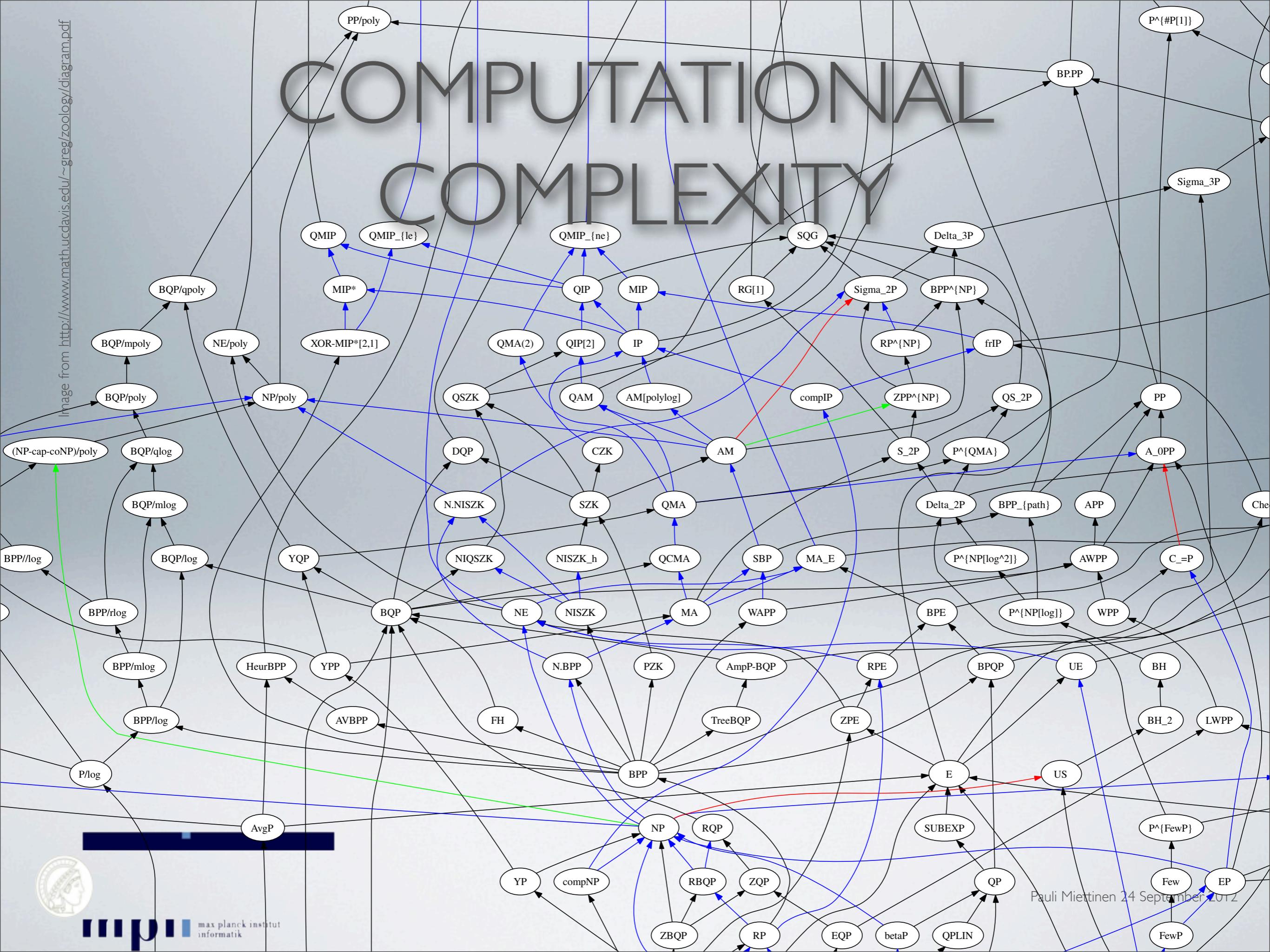
# A NOTE ON INVERSES

- Every full-XOR-rank matrix has an inverse
  - Can be found e.g. using Gauss–Jordan elimination
- Only permutation matrices have an inverse in Boolean algebra  
[I]
- Only permutation matrices have **binary** inverses under normal algebra



# COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY

Image from <http://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~greg/zooology/diagram.pdf>



# FINDING THE RANKS

- XOR rank: polynomial time
  - Standard Gaussian elimination over modulo-2 arithmetic
- Boolean rank: NP-hard [1]
  - As hard to approximate as the clique ( $\Omega(n^{1-\epsilon})$  for all  $\epsilon > 0$ ) [2]
- Binary rank: Unknown
  - Restriction to non-overlapping factors is NP-hard (clustering) [3]

[1] D.S. Nau et al., A Mathematical Analysis of Human Leukocyte Antigen Serology, *Math. Biosci.* 40 (1978) 243–270.

[2] H.U. Simon, On approximate solutions for combinatorial optimization problems, *SIAM J. Discrete Math.* 3 (1990) 294–310.

[3] M. et al., The Discrete Basis Problem, *IEEE Trans. Knowl. Data En.* 20 (2008) 1348–1362.



# BOOLEAN RANK AND TILING

- The Boolean rank of a matrix also tells us the minimum number of tiles needed to completely cover the matrix
- Minimum number of tiles can be approximated within  $O(\log nm)$  [I,Thm. 2]
  - This requires an oracle that gives the largest-area tile [I]
- Without the oracle, the reduction requires exponential time
  - Except for certain sparse matrices...



# MINIMUM-ERROR BMF

- NP-hard to approximate within any polynomially computable function [I]
  - Because it's NP-hard to recognise the zero-error case
- NP-hard to approximate within additive factor of  $\max\{\sqrt[4]{n}, \sqrt[4]{m}\}$  [I]



# MINIMUM-ERROR PROJECTIONS

- **Problem:** Given the data matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and one factor matrix ( $\mathbf{B}$ ), find the other factor matrix ( $\mathbf{C}$ ) that minimises the error
  - Per column: given a column vector  $\mathbf{a}$  and a matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ , find a column vector  $\mathbf{c}$  such that  $\mathbf{a} \approx \mathbf{Bc}$
  - "Binary programming"
  - Needed for alternating projections type algorithms (ALS)



# BOOLEAN PROJECTION, OR $\pm$ PSC

- The minimum-error projection under Boolean algebra is equivalent to the following problem

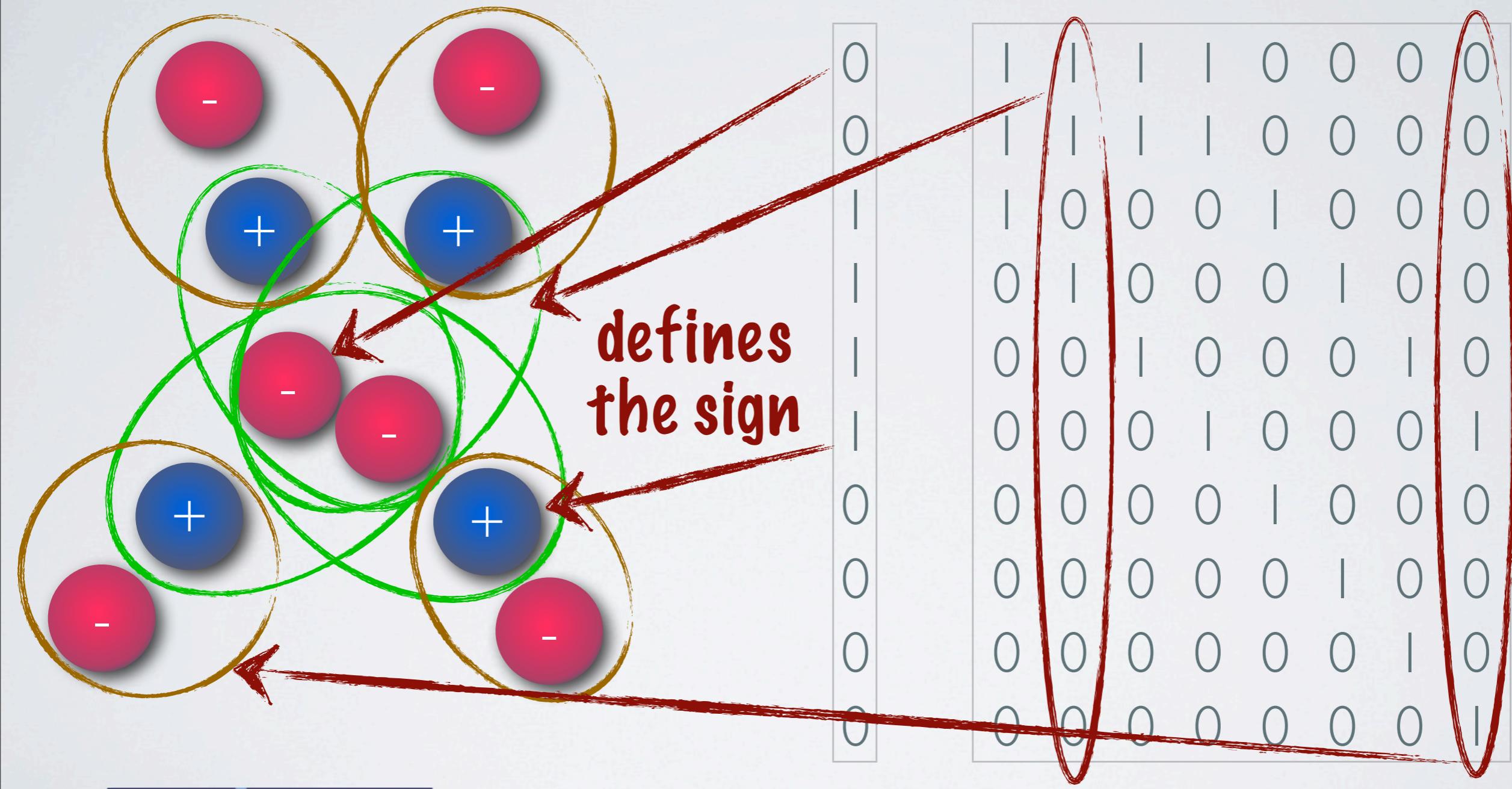
## **Positive-Negative Partial Set Cover ( $\pm$ PSC).**

Given a triple  $(P, N, Q)$ , where  $P$  and  $N$  are disjoint sets and  $Q \subseteq 2^{P \cup N}$ , find a subcollection  $\mathcal{D} \subseteq Q$  that minimises  $|P \setminus (\cup \mathcal{D})| + |N \cap (\cup \mathcal{D})|$ .



# EXAMPLE

defines  
the sets



# COMPLEXITY OF $\pm$ PSC

- NP-hard to approximate within  $\Omega(2^{\log^{1-\epsilon}|P|})$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$  [1]
- There exists a polynomial-time approximation algorithm that achieves  $2\sqrt{(|Q|+|P|) \log |P|}$  approximation ratio [1,2]  
⇒ In Boolean case, even simple projections are hard



# THE BINARY CASE

- The zero-error case is NP-hard
  - Simple reduction from Exact Cover by 3-sets (X3C)
- A variant is the Closest Vector problem (CVP), where columns of  $\mathbf{B}$  have to be linearly independent and the vectors take integer values
  - CVP is NP-hard to approximate within  $n^{1/\log\log n}$  [I]



# THE MODULO-2 CASE

- The problem of finding binary vector  $\mathbf{x}$  such that, for given  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ , the Hamming distance between  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{x}$  is minimised, is known as the Closest Codeword problem
- NP-hard to approximate to within any constant factor [1]
  - And quasi-NP-hard to approximate within  $2^{\log \varepsilon n}$  for  $0 < \varepsilon < 1/2$
- Admits polynomial-time  $n/\log(n)$  factorisation [2]

[1] S.Arora et al., The Hardness of Approximate Optima in Lattices, Codes, and Systems of Linear Equations, in: FOCS '93, 724–733.

[2] N.Alon et al., Deterministic Approximation Algorithms for the Nearest Codeword Problem, in: APPROX RANDOM '09, 339–351.



# SUMMARY

	<b>RMF</b>	<b>BMF</b>	<b>XMF</b>
<b>Rank</b>	?	NP-hard even to approximate	Polynomial
<b>Min. error decomp.</b>	?	NP-hard even to approximate	?
<b>Closest projection</b>	NP-hard	NP-hard to approx. $\Omega(2^{\log^{1-\epsilon} P })$	NP-hard to approx. w/ constant factor
<b>Projection approx.</b>	?	$2\sqrt{( Q + P ) \times \log  P }$	$O(n/\log(n))$



# OPEN PROBLEMS



# RANKS

- **P1.1** What is the largest possible ratio  $\text{rank}_B(\mathbf{A})/\text{rank}_R(\mathbf{A})$ 
  - Best known is 2
- **P1.2** What are the extrema of the XOR rank w.r.t. the other ranks?
  - It's incommensurable to normal and Boolean rank



# COMPLEXITY

- **PI.3** Is binary rank NP-hard to compute?
- **PI.4** Is RMF NP-hard?
  - Probably, given that NMF is [I]
- **PI.5** Is XMF NP-hard?
- **PI.6** What's the approximability of binary projections?
- **PI.7** What's the approximability of maximum similarity problems?



# MISCELLANEOUS

- **P1.8** Are there meaningful (in data mining) definitions of the addition (or multiplication) not covered here?



# PART II

# ALGORITHMS AND

# EXTENSIONS

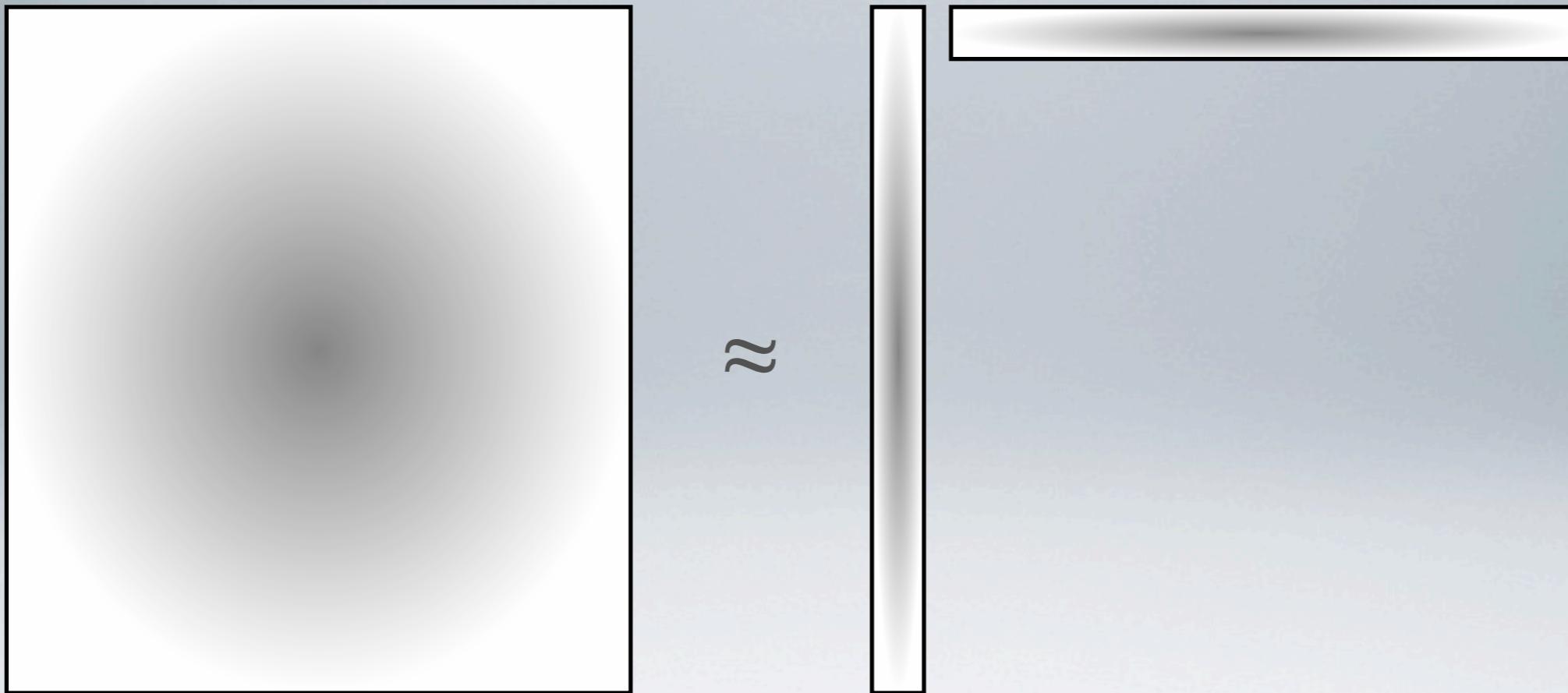


# CONTENTS

- 1. Rank-1 factorisations
- 2. Algorithms for RMF
- 3. Algorithms for BMF
- 4. Algorithms for XMF
- 5. Selecting the rank
- 6. Sparse matrices
- 7. Open problems



# RANK-1 DECOMPOSITIONS



# RANK-1 DECOMPOSITIONS

- In rank-1 decompositions, addition doesn't matter
  - We can also use squared Frobenius for distance
- One could hope to use rank-1 approximations as building blocks for higher-rank decompositions
  - Problem: good rank-1 decomposition does not need to be a part of any good rank-2 decompositions



# EXAMPLE

$$\begin{pmatrix} & & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & & & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & & \vdots \\ q & & 1 & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$



# PROXIMUS

- The PROXIMUS algorithm [I] finds the binary rank-1 factorisation using iterative updates

- To find  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  such that  $\mathbf{A} \approx \mathbf{bc}^T$ , fix  $\mathbf{c}$  and set

$$\mathbf{b}_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 2(\mathbf{Ac})_i \geq \|\mathbf{c}\|_2^2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and similarly for  $\mathbf{b}$  fixed

- Proper initialisation is important

[I] M. Koyutürk, A. Grama, PROXIMUS: a framework for analyzing very high dimensional discrete-attributed datasets, in: KDD '03, 147–156.



# IP, LP, AND MAX FLOW ALGORITHMS

- Minimum-error rank-1 binary factorisation can be presented as an integer programming
- Can be relaxed to a linear program that gives an upper bound for the error
  - This LP is totally unimodular  $\Rightarrow$  solution is binary
  - The solution is a 2-approximation
- A regularised version can be approximated with a max flow algorithm



# NORMAL ALGEBRA

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad J(B, C) &= \sum_{i,j} (A_{ij} - (BC)_{ij})^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad B_{ij}^2 - B_{ij} &= 0 \\ C_{ij}^2 - C_{ij} - (\theta(\bar{B} - b)\theta(C - c))_{ij} &\\ \sum_{i,j} (A_{ij} - & \end{aligned}$$



# PROXIMUS

- PROXIMUS uses rank-1 factorisations to make a hierarchical factorisation of the full data
  - Matrix rows are divided into two sets based on the column factor
  - Rank-1 decomposition is applied to those two sets separately (or recursion is stopped)
- Ensures that columns of **B** don't overlap  $\Rightarrow$  representation is binary



# RMF AND NMF

**Boundedness [1]**. If  $\mathbf{X}$  is a matrix taking values from  $[0, 1]$  and if  $\mathbf{X}$  admits a rank- $k$  factorisation to nonnegative matrices, then there exists a nonnegative rank- $k$  factorisation such that no value in the factor matrices is larger than 1.



# NON-LINEAR PROGRAMMING

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & J(B, C) = \sum_{i,j} (A_{ij} - (BC)_{ij})^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & B_{ij}^2 - B_{ij} = 0 \\ & C_{ij}^2 - C_{ij} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solved by minimising (alternatively for  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$ ):

$$\sum_{i,j} (A_{ij} - (BC)_{ij})^2 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda((B_{ij}^2 - B_{ij}) + (C_{ij}^2 - C_{ij}))$$



# THRESHOLD METHOD

- Change the objective to  $\sum_{i,j} (\mathbf{A}_{ij} - (\theta(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{b})\theta(\mathbf{C} - \mathbf{c}))_{ij})^2$
- $\theta(\mathbf{X})$  is the (element-wise) Heaviside function
- Can be optimised using gradient descent after the Heaviside is replaced with  $\phi(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-\lambda x})$



# BOOLEAN ALGEBRA



Images by Wikipedia users Arab Ace and Sheilalau



# THE BOOLEAN PROJECTION

- Peleg's algorithm approximates within  $2\sqrt{[k+a(\log a)]}$  [1]
  - $a$  is the maximum number of 1s in **A**'s columns
- Optimal solution
  - Either an  $O(2^k n m)$  exhaustive search [1], or an integer program [2]
- Greedy algorithm: select each column of **B** if it improves the residual error [1]

[1] M., Matrix Decomposition Methods for Data Mining: Computational Complexity and Algorithms, PhD thesis, U. Helsinki, 2009.

[2] H. Lu et al., Optimal Boolean Matrix Decomposition: Application to Role Engineering, in: ICDE '08, 297–306.

Pauli Miettinen 24 September 2012



# THE ASSO ALGORITHM

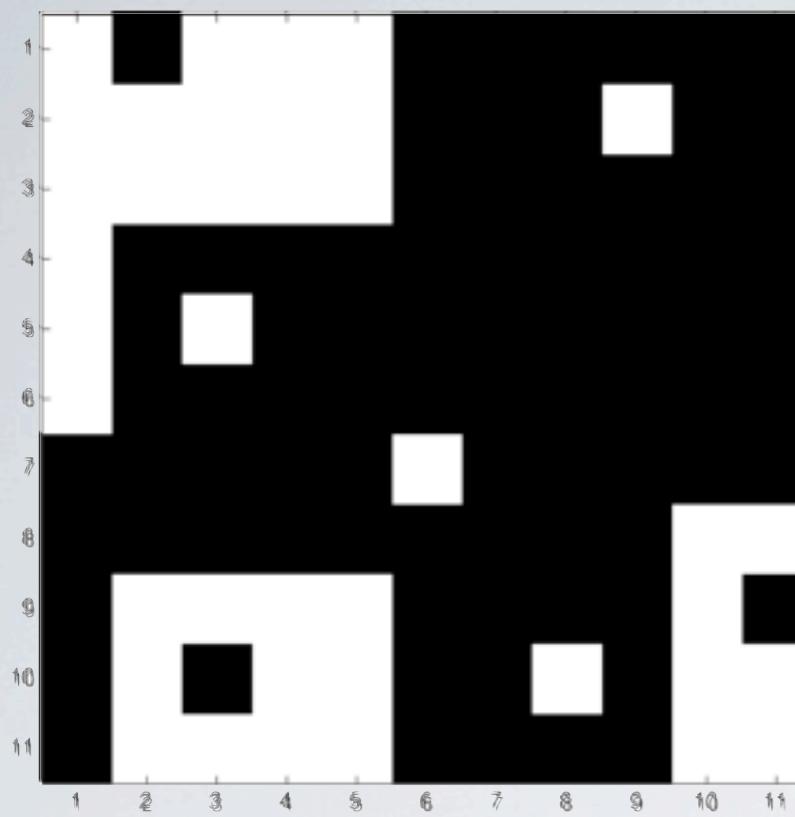
- Heuristic – too many hardness results to hope for good provable results in any case
- **Intuition:** If two columns share a factor, they have 1s in same rows
  - Noise makes detecting this harder
  - Pairwise row association rules reveal (some of) the factors



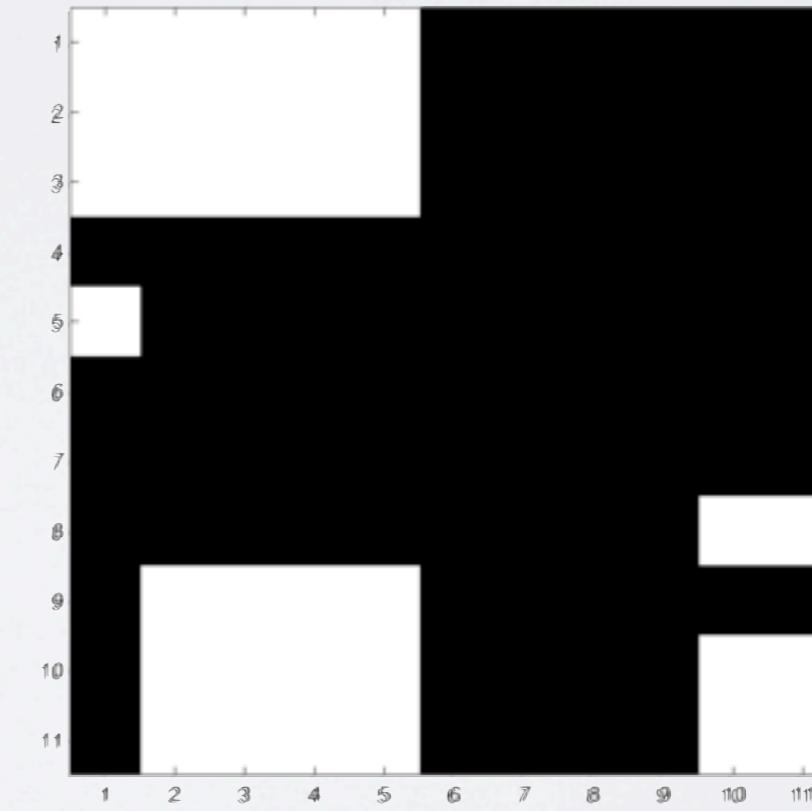
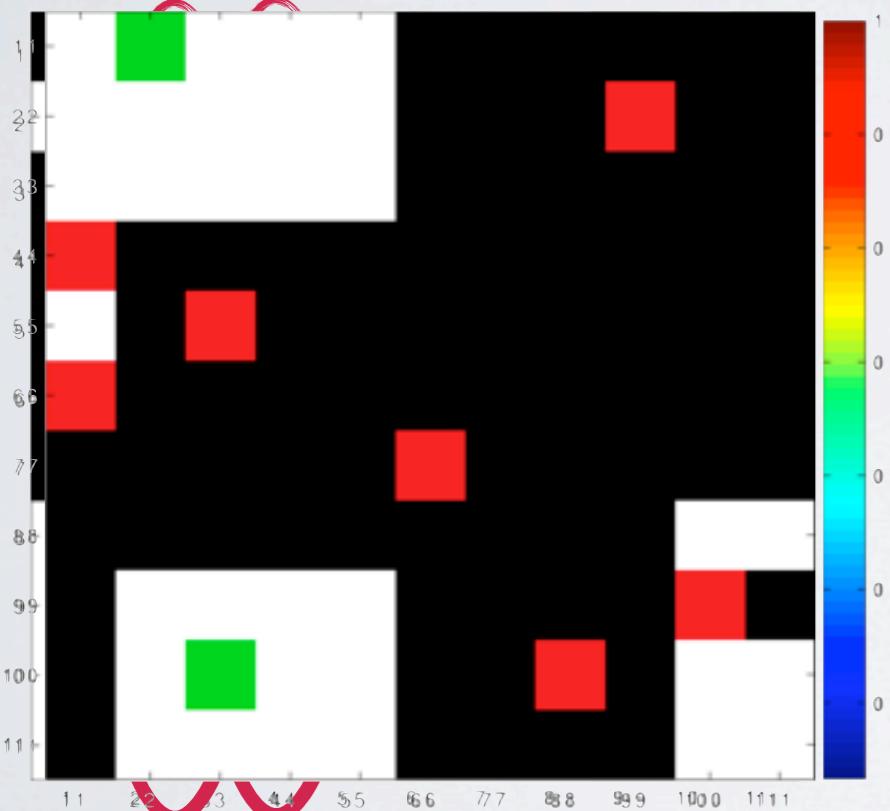
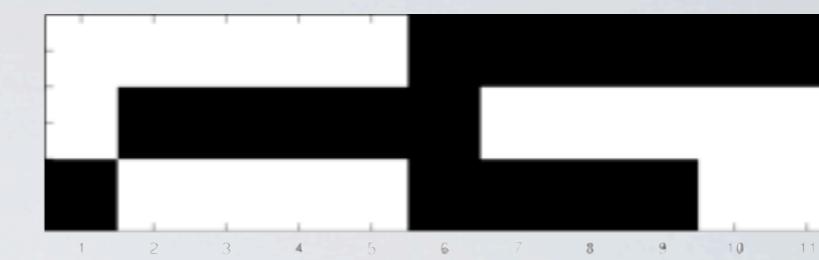
# THE ASSO ALGORITHM

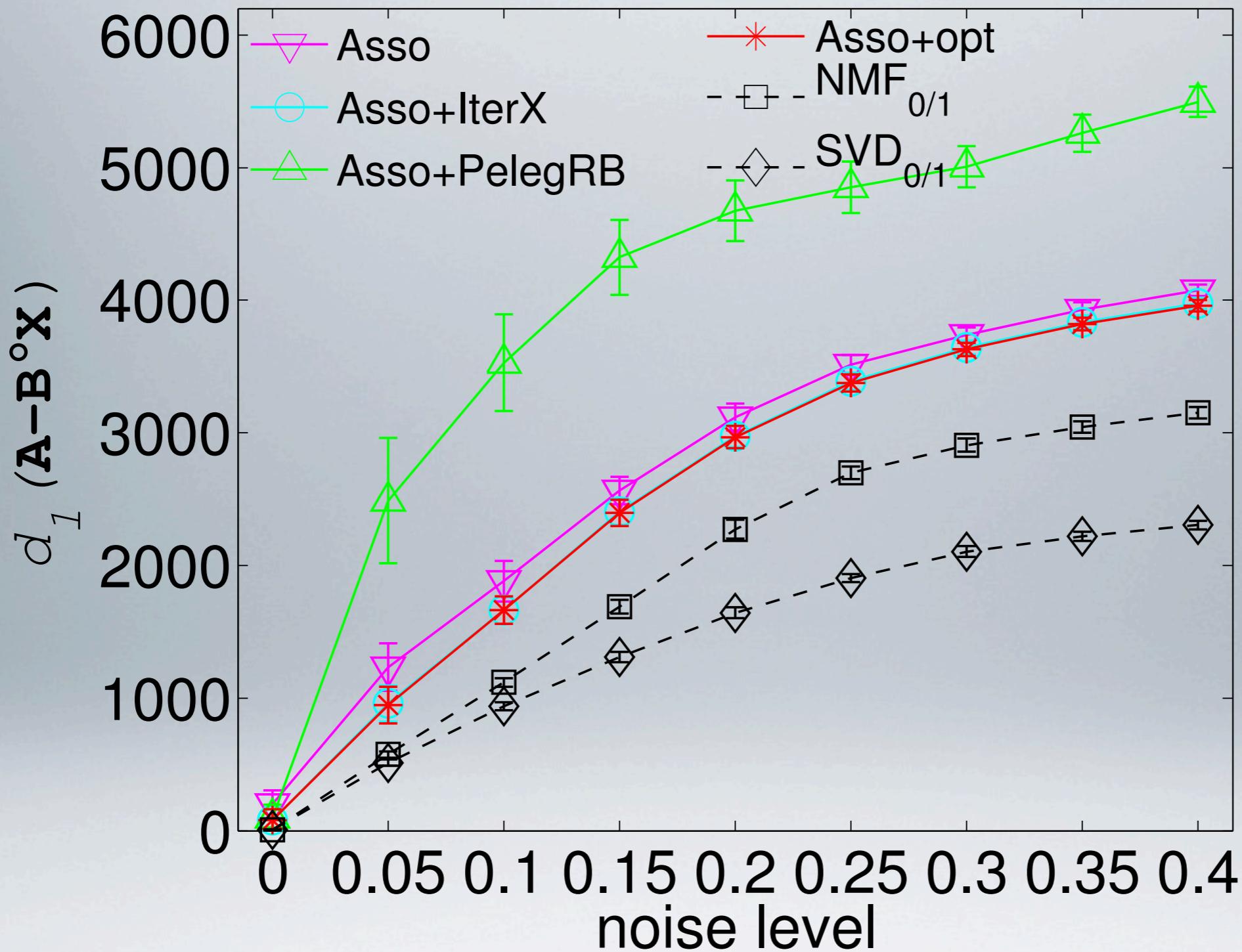
1. Compute pairwise association accuracies between rows of **A**
2. Round these (from a user-defined point  $t$ ) to get a binary  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix of candidate columns
3. Select greedily the candidate column that covers most of the not-yet covered 1s of **A**
4. Mark the 1s covered by the selected vector and return to 3 or quit if enough factors have been selected





$\approx$





# THE PANDA ALGORITHM

- **Intuition:** every good factor has a noise-free core
- Two-phase algorithm:
  1. Find error-free core pattern (maximum area itemset/tile)
  2. Extend the core with noisy rows/columns
- The core patterns are found using a greedy method
  - The  $l_s$ s already belonging to some factor/tile are removed from the residual data where the cores are mined



# EXTENDING CORES IN PANDA

- The cores are extended in a greedy manner
  - A new column is added to a row factor in **c**
  - All rows not yet in the corresponding column factor **b** are tried
- As extending a core always covers some 0s, the quality is decided by trying to minimise the number of 1s in factors **b** and **c** plus the noise

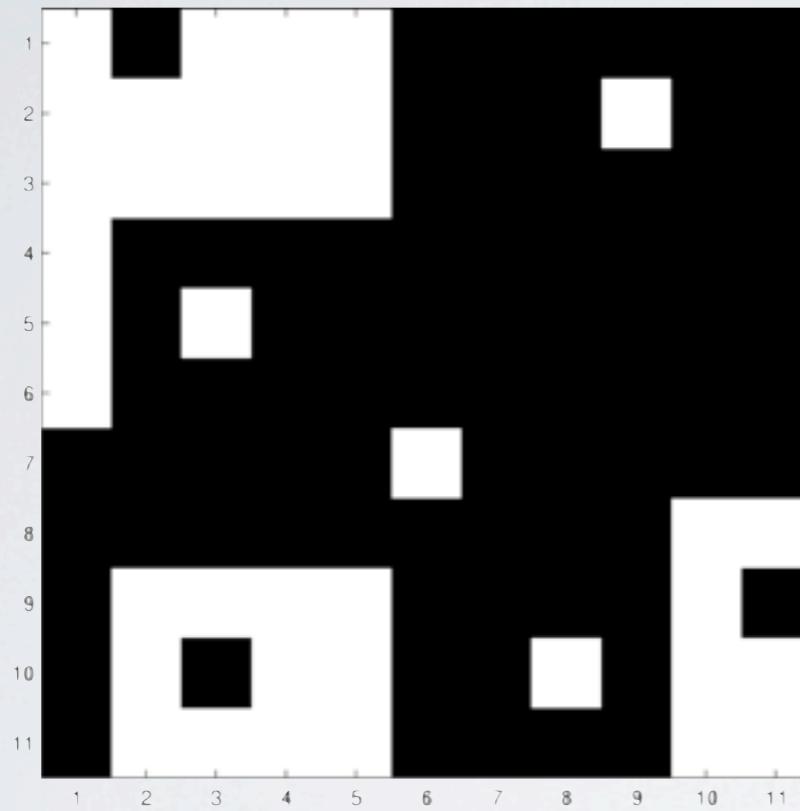


# NOTES ON PANDA

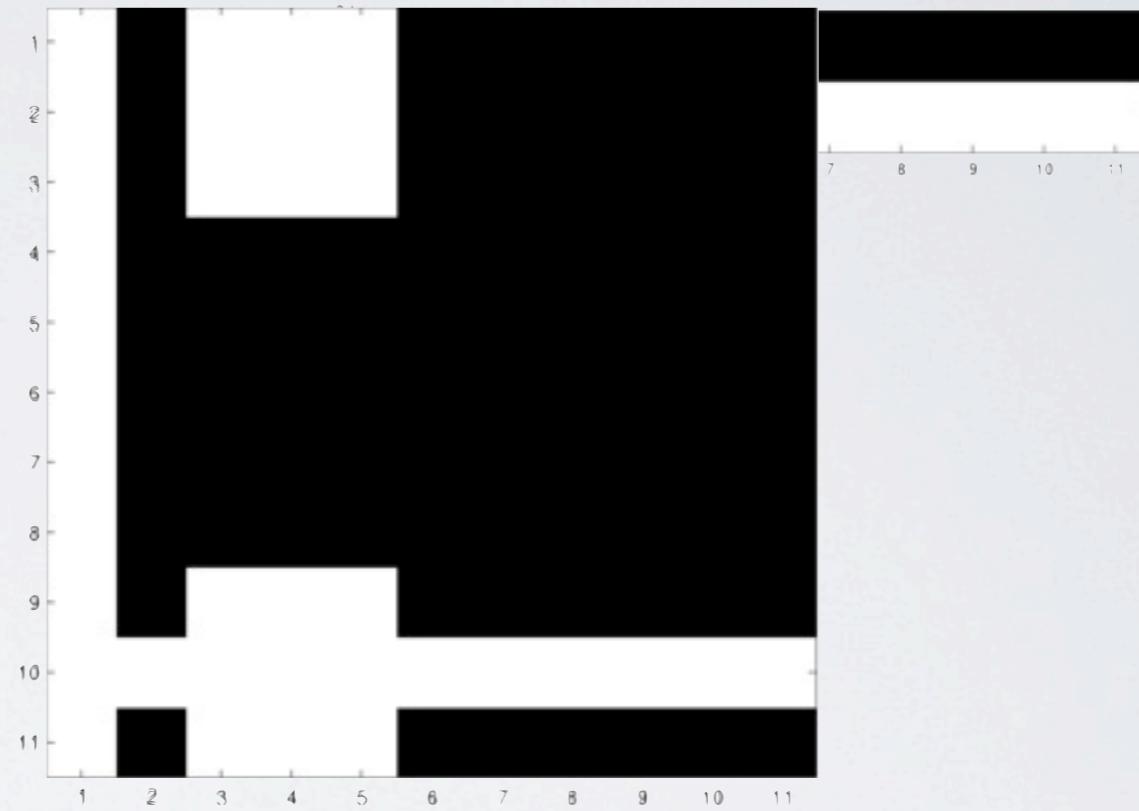
- Can automatically choose the rank of the decomposition
  - Parameter-free
- Uses sorting to speed up the computation
  - Consider the most promising candidates first
- Can be randomised



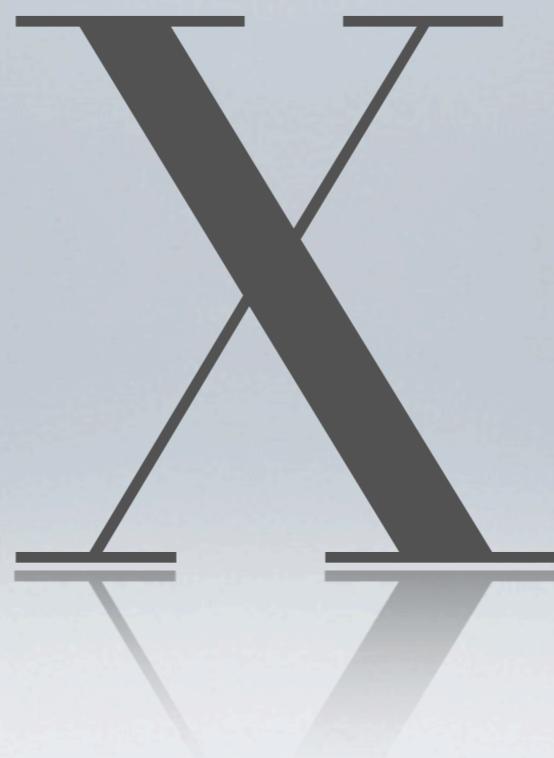
# EXAMPLE



$\approx$



# MODULO-2 ALGEBRA

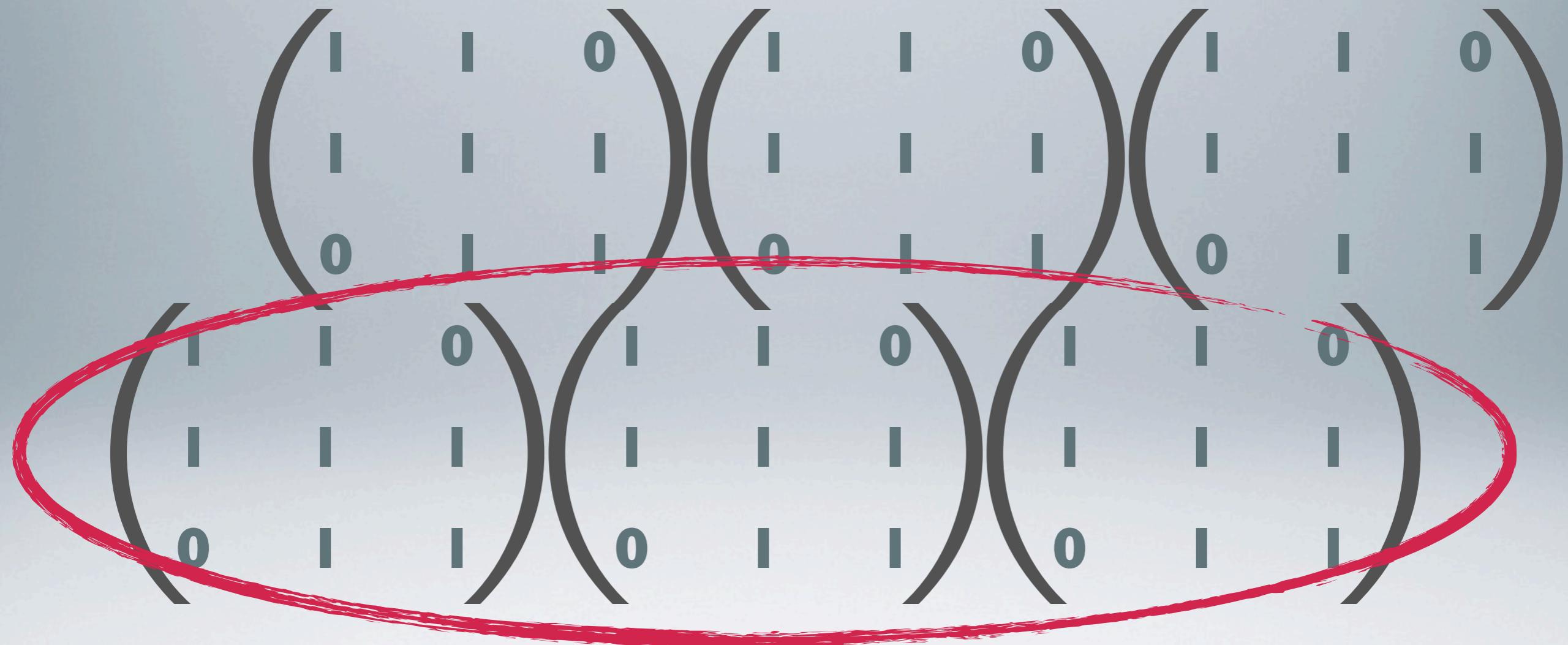


# NO SPECIAL ALGORITHMS

- That I'm aware of, at least
- One could truncate any rank- $k$  decomposition
  - No guarantees on quality, might cause more error than the trivial decomposition
  - No Eckart–Young theorem



# SELECTING THE RANK



# PRINCIPLES OF GOOD K

- **Goal:** Separate noise from structure
- We assume data has correct type of structure
  - There are  $k$  factors explaining the structure
  - Rest of the data does not follow the structure (noise)
- But how to decide where structure ends and noise starts?



# WHAT HAS BEEN DONE BEFORE?

- Model order selection for matrix factorisations is studied before (mostly with SVD/PCA)
- Methods such as Guttman–Kaiser criterion [see 1] or Cattell's scree test [2] are not very good
- Poor performance and need for subjective decisions

[1] K.A.Yeomans, P.A. Golder, The Guttman–Kaiser criterion as a predictor of the number of common factors, *The Statistician* 31 (1982) 221–229.

[2] R.B. Cattell, The Scree Test For The Number Of Factors, *Multivar. Behav. Res.* 1 (1966) 245–276.



# CROSS VALIDATION

- Idea: hold part of the data, learn a model on the remaining, and fit the model to the withheld data
- Problems with matrix factorisations:
  - If we hold out only rows (or columns), no cost for fitting higher-order factorisations
  - If we hold out both, fitting the model becomes hard
  - Bi-cross-validation [1] does that, but requires singular data matrix and optimal projections



# MINIMUM TRANSFER COST PRINCIPLE

- A variation of cross validation
- The withheld rows are mapped to their closest pairs in training data
  - For evaluation, the rows are represented using the representation of their pairs in training data  
⇒ Penalises for over-fitting



# MINIMUM DESCRIPTION LENGTH PRINCIPLE

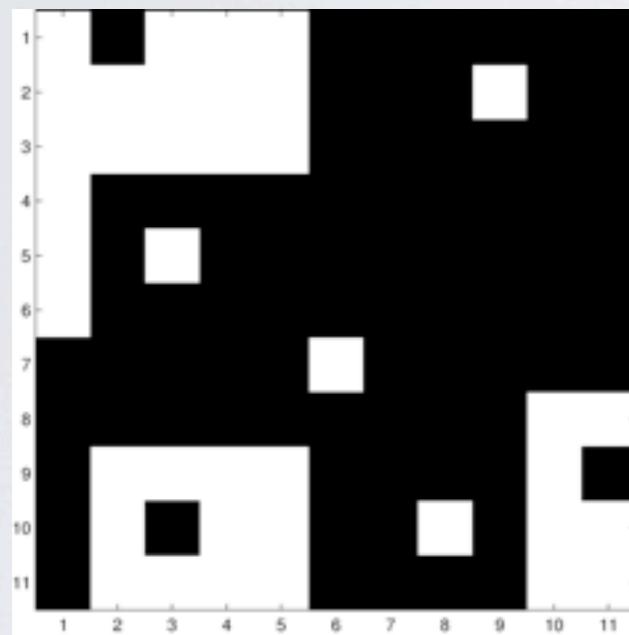
- The best model (order) is the one that allows you to explain your data with least number of bits
  - Two-part (crude) MDL: the cost of model  $L(\mathcal{H})$  plus the cost of data given the model  $L(D | \mathcal{H})$
- Problem: how to do the encoding
  - Has been done for BMF [I], similar encodings work for other binary factorisations

[I] M., J.Vreeken, Model Order Selection for Boolean Matrix Factorization, in: KDD '11, 51–59.

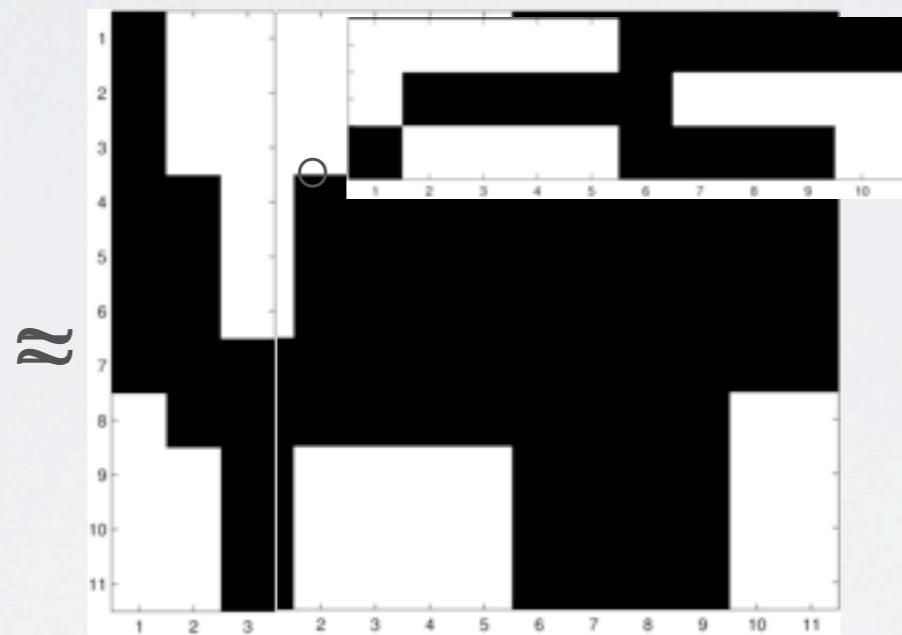


# FITTING BMF TO MDL

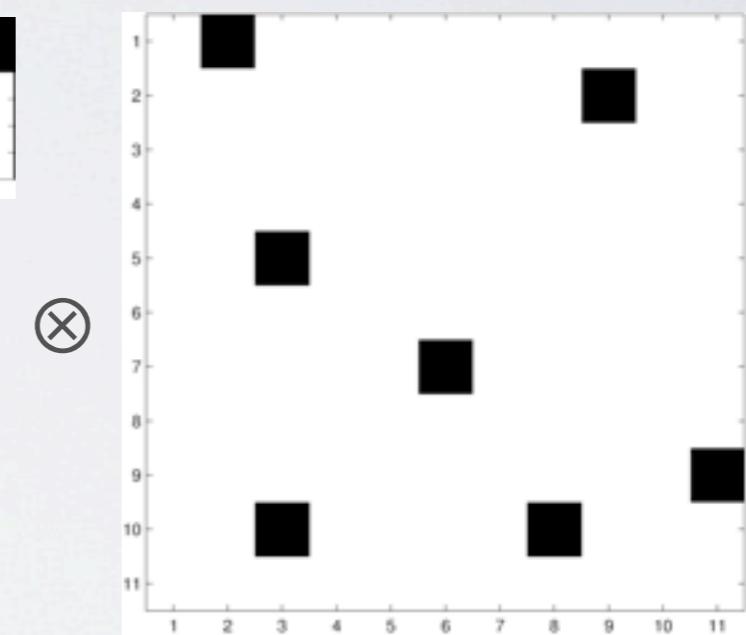
- MDL requires exact representation



A



B  $\circ$  C

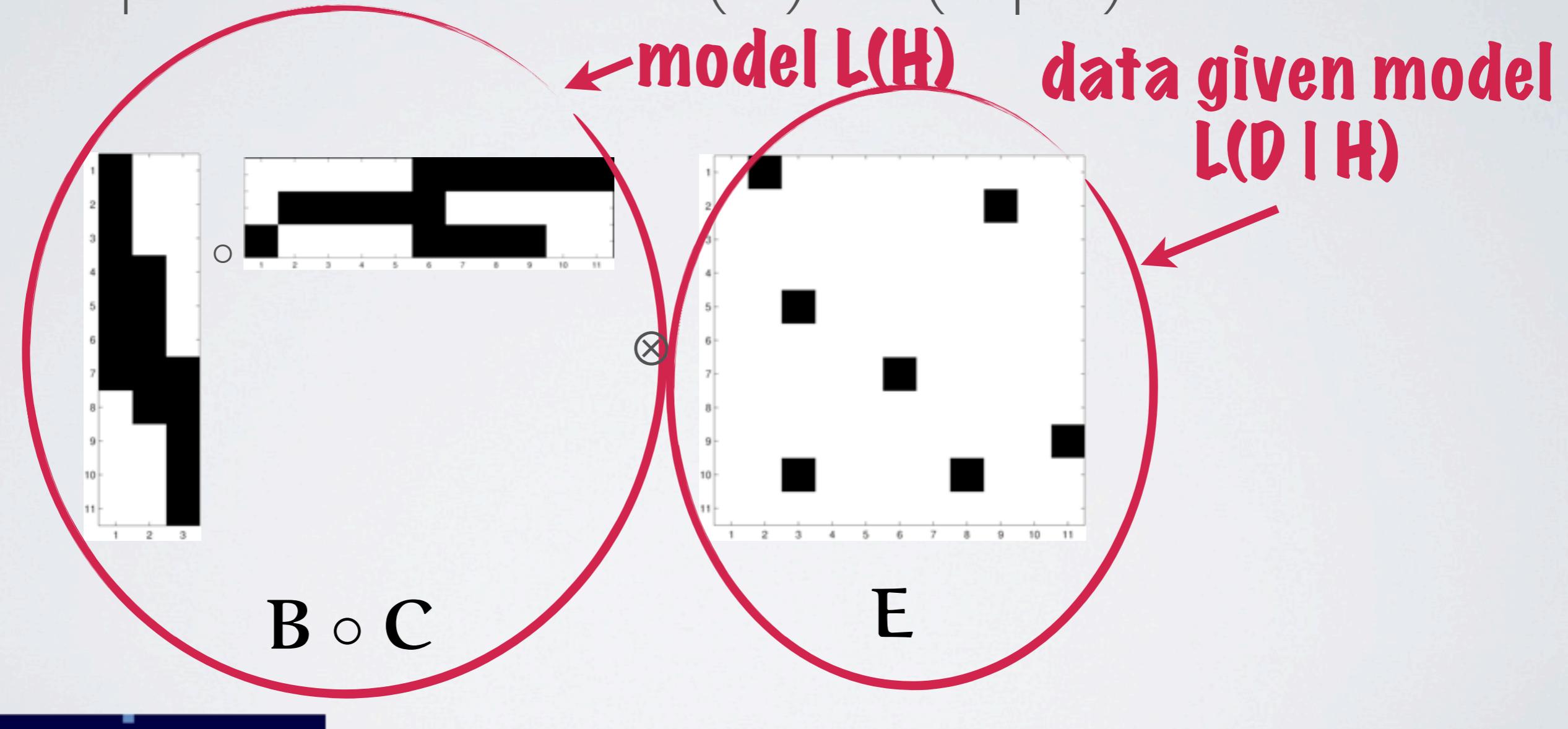


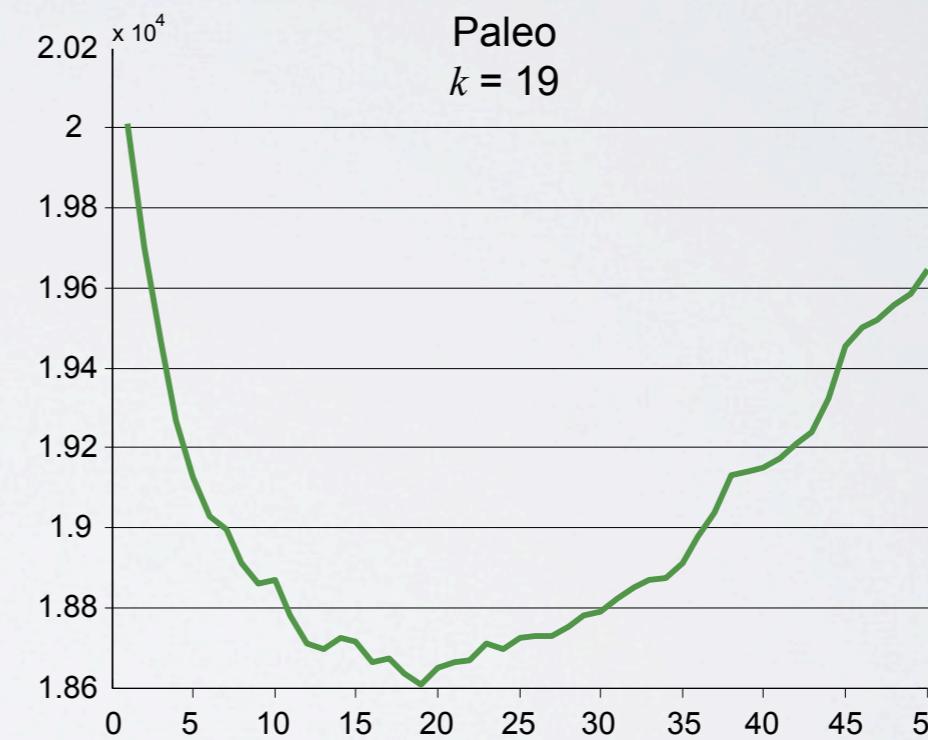
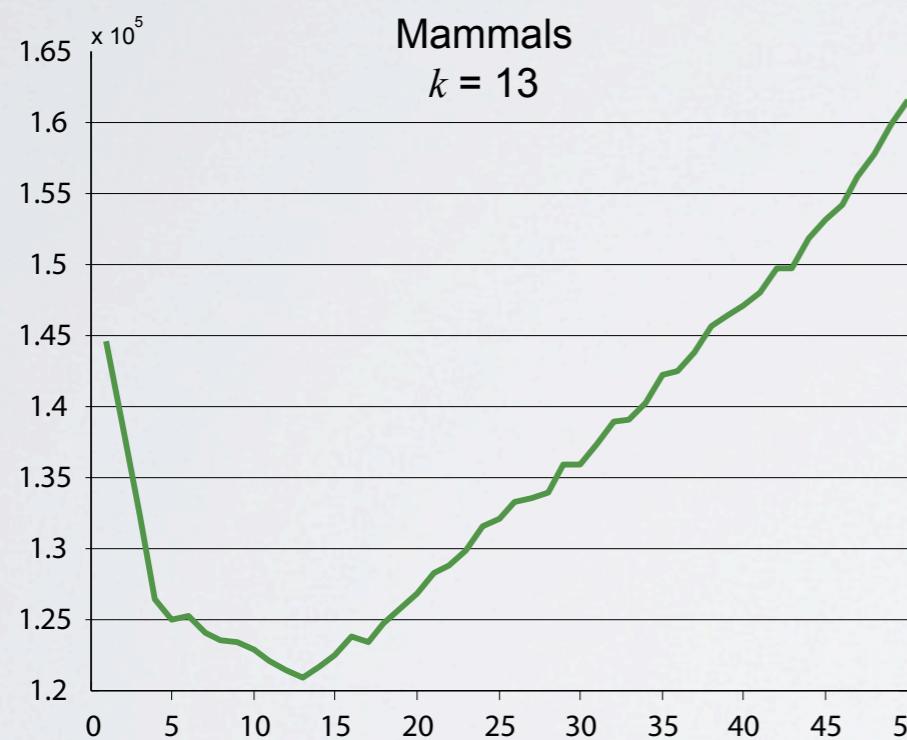
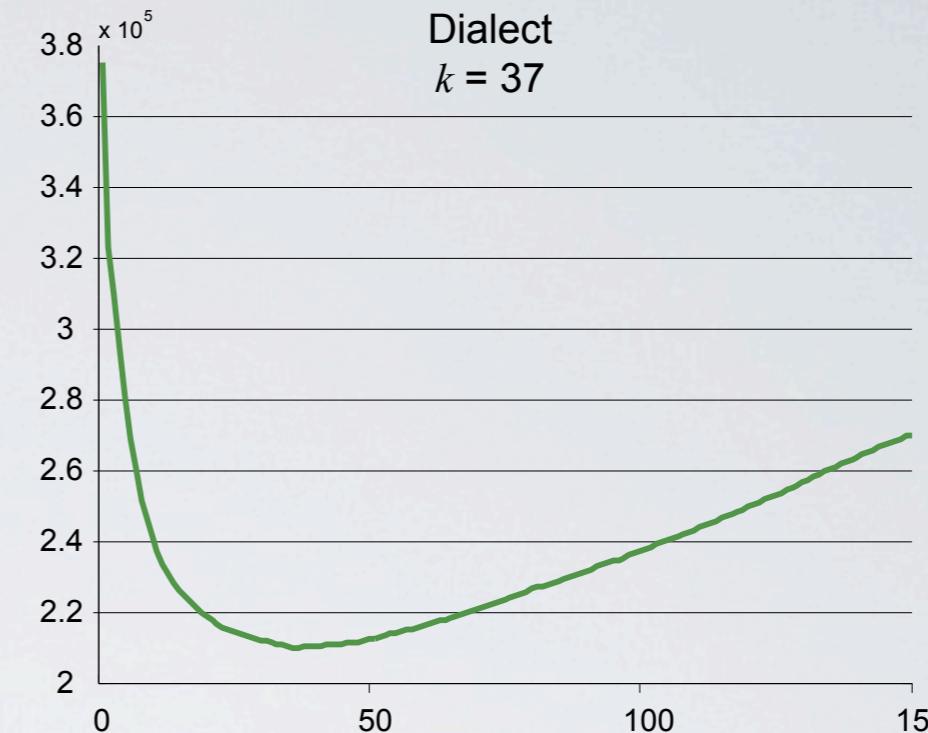
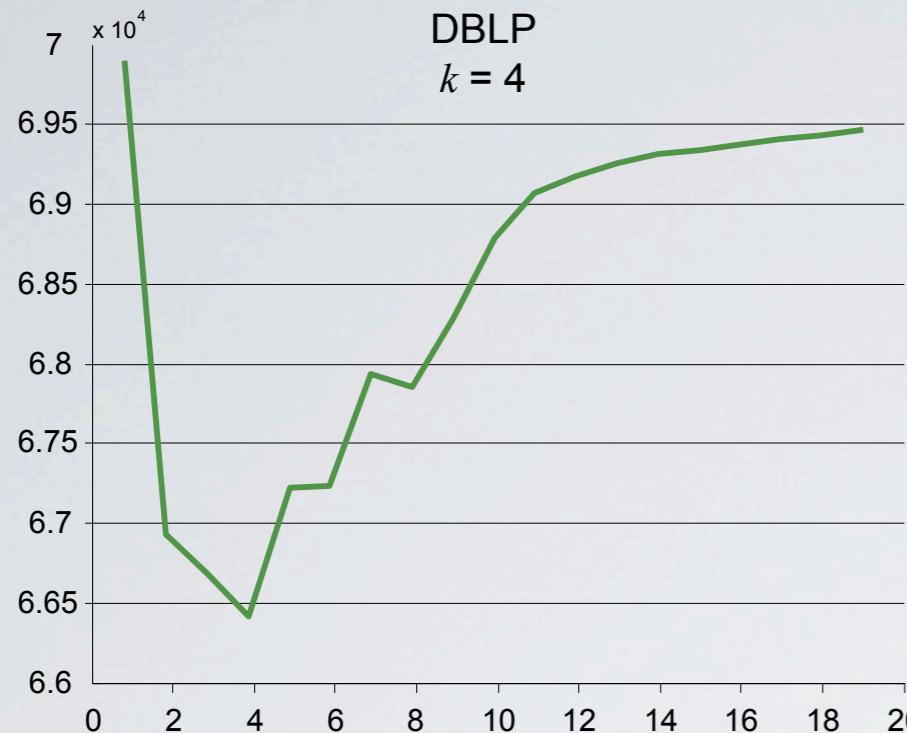
E



# FITTING BMF TO MDL

- Two-part MDL: minimise  $L(\mathcal{H}) + L(D \mid \mathcal{H})$

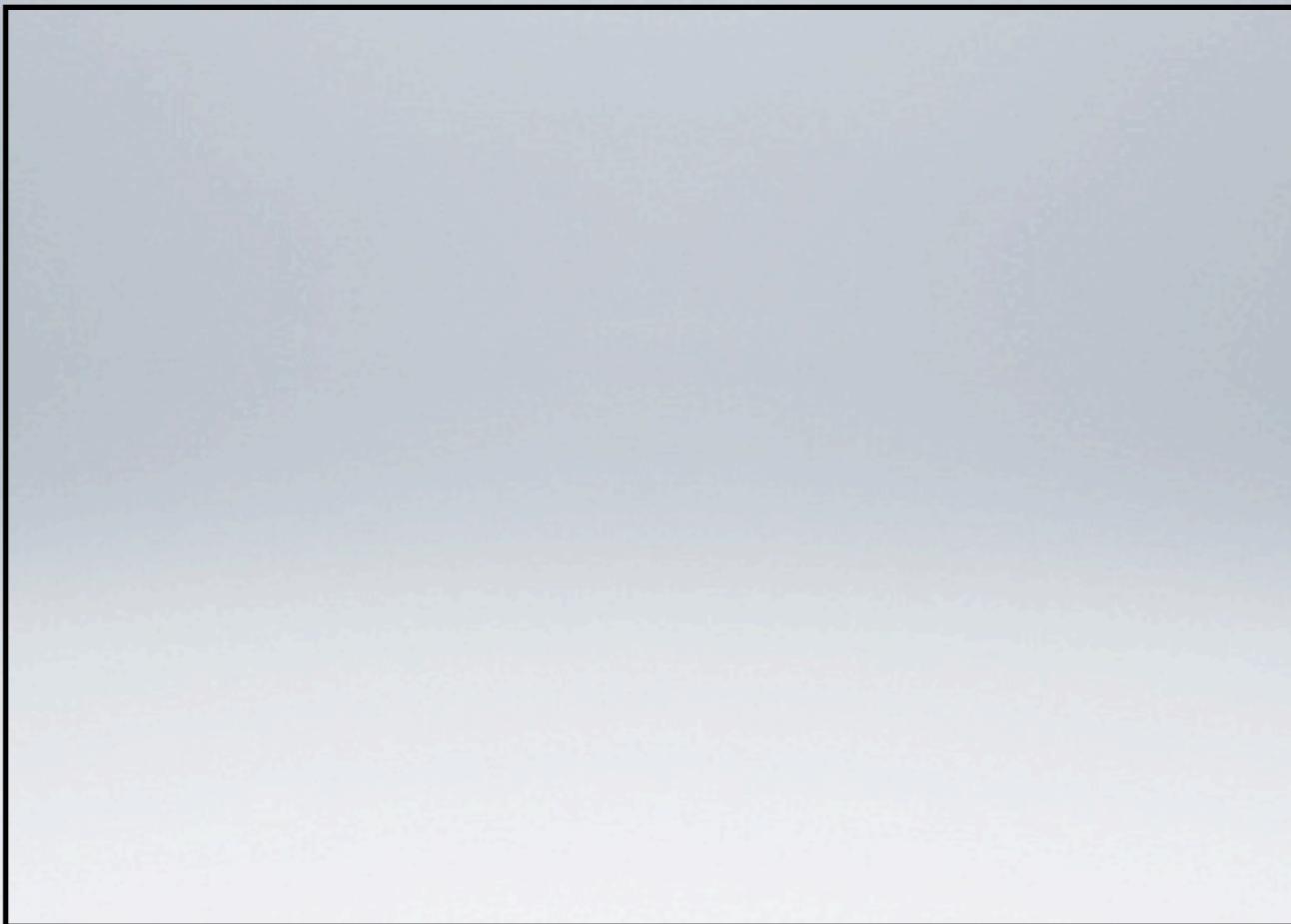




# EXAMPLE: ASSO & MDL



# SPARSE MATRICES



# MOTIVATION

- Many real-world binary matrices are sparse
- Representing sparse matrices with sparse factors is desirable
  - Saves space, improves usability, ...
- Sparse matrices should be computationally easier



# SPARSE FACTORISATIONS

- Any binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  that admits rank- $k$  BMF has factorisation to matrices  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  such that the total number of 1s in  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  is at most twice that of  $\mathbf{A}$  [I]
- Can be extended to approximate factorisations
- Tight result (consider a case when  $\mathbf{A}$  has exactly one 1)
- Holds also for exact RMF factorisations



# APPROXIMATING THE BOOLEAN RANK

- Recall: we have  $\log(n)$  approximation given an oracle
- We say  $n$ -by- $m$  binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is  $\log(n)$  uniformly sparse if each column of  $\mathbf{A}$  has at most  $\log(n)$  1s

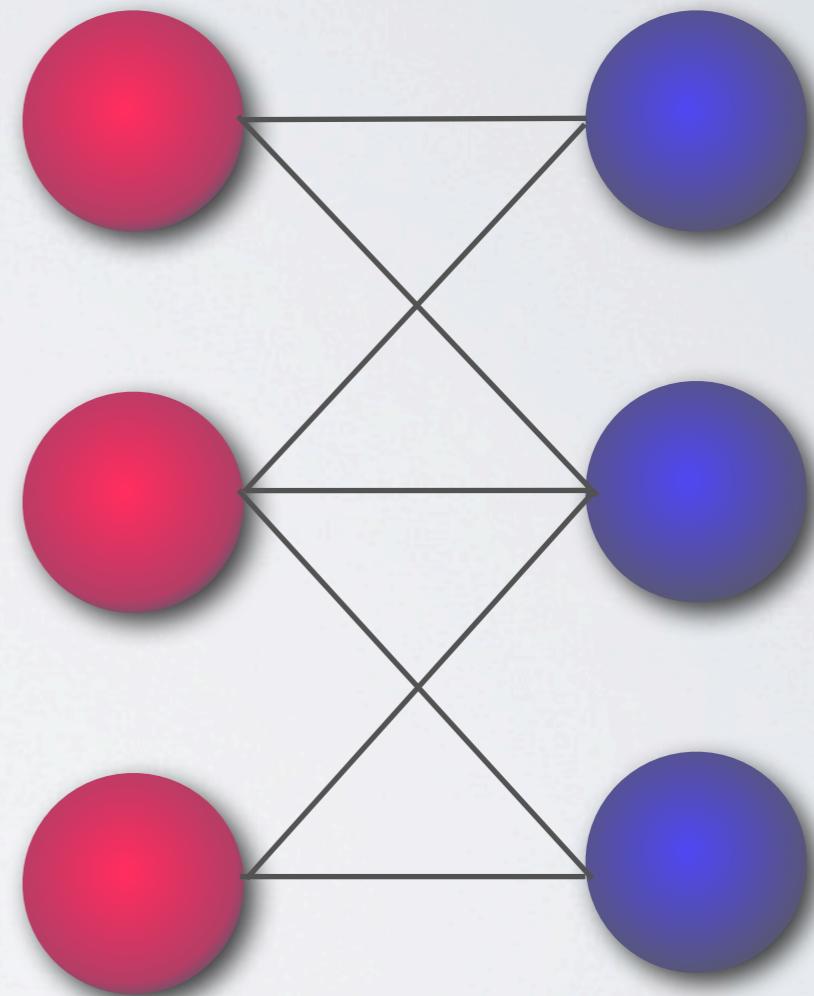
**Theorem [1].** The Boolean rank of a  $\log(n)$  uniformly sparse binary matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  can be approximated within  $\log(n)$ .



# PROOF

- Each RHS node has  $\leq \log(n)$  neighbours  
⇒ Optimum solution needs  
 $\geq n/\log(n)$  bicliques
- If we use  $n$  bicliques we get  
 $n/\text{OPT} \leq n/(n/\log(n))$   
 $= \log(n)$

□



# EXTENSIONS

- We can approximate the Maximum  $k$ -tiling for  $\log(n)$  uniformly sparse matrices within  $e/(e - 1)$
- If we have at most  $\log(n)$  columns that have more than  $\log(n)$  1s, we can still approximate the rank within  $\log^2(n)$ 
  - Both results require more complex reduction to the Set Cover problem [1]
  - Will also work on dense matrices, but will take exponential time

[1] R. Bělohlávek, V. Vychodil, Discovery of optimal factors in binary data via a novel method of matrix decomposition, *J. Comput. Syst. Sci.* 76 (2010) 3–20.



# OPEN PROBLEMS



# ALGORITHMS

- **P2.1** Are there good algorithms for XMF?
- **P2.2** Can we use the sparsity to really help us?

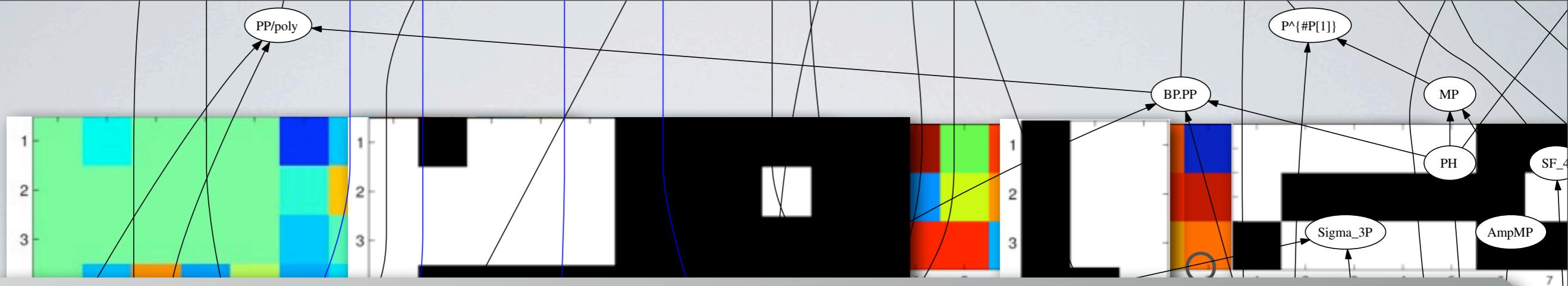
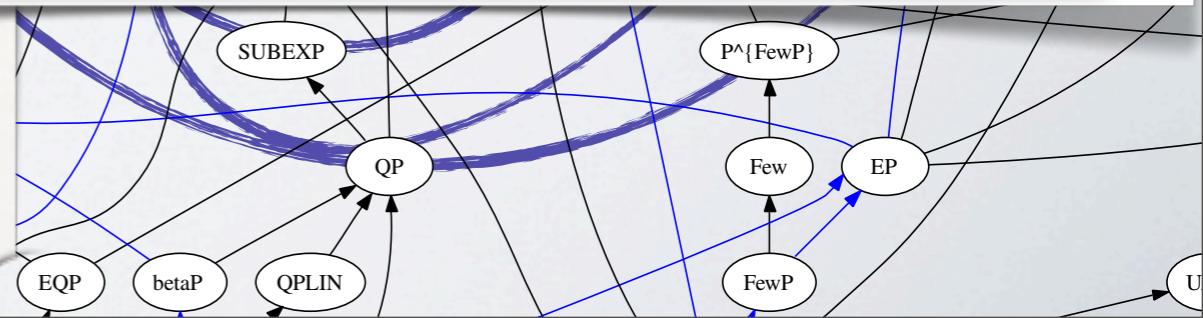


# MODEL ORDER SELECTION

- **P2.3** How hard is it to minimise the MDL score directly?
  - Depends on the encoding, obviously
- **P2.4** Can we use binary methods to predict missing values and would these be better than continuous methods?



# The end



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Image by Lars Aronsson, Wikipedia



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