

Slides available:

<http://www.ibis.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp/ryotat/tensor12kyoto.pdf>

# Statistical Performance of Convex Tensor Decomposition

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Perspectives in Informatics 4B

Collaborators: Taiji Suzuki, Kohei Hayashi, Hisashi Kashima

# Netflix challenge (2006-2009)

- \$1,000,000 prize
- Goal: Improve the performance of a [video recommendation system](#)  
(predict who likes which movies)
- Example:



Likes “Star Wars” and “E.T.”,  
Doesn’t like “Minority Report”.

Does he like “Blade Runner”?

# Matrix completion view

	Star Wars	E.T.	Minority Report	Blade Runner	Monsters Inc.
User A	+1	+1	-1	?	?
User B	+1	?	?	+1	?
User C	?	+1	-1	?	+1
User D	+1	?	?	?	+1
.	.	.	.	.	.
.	.	.	.	.	.

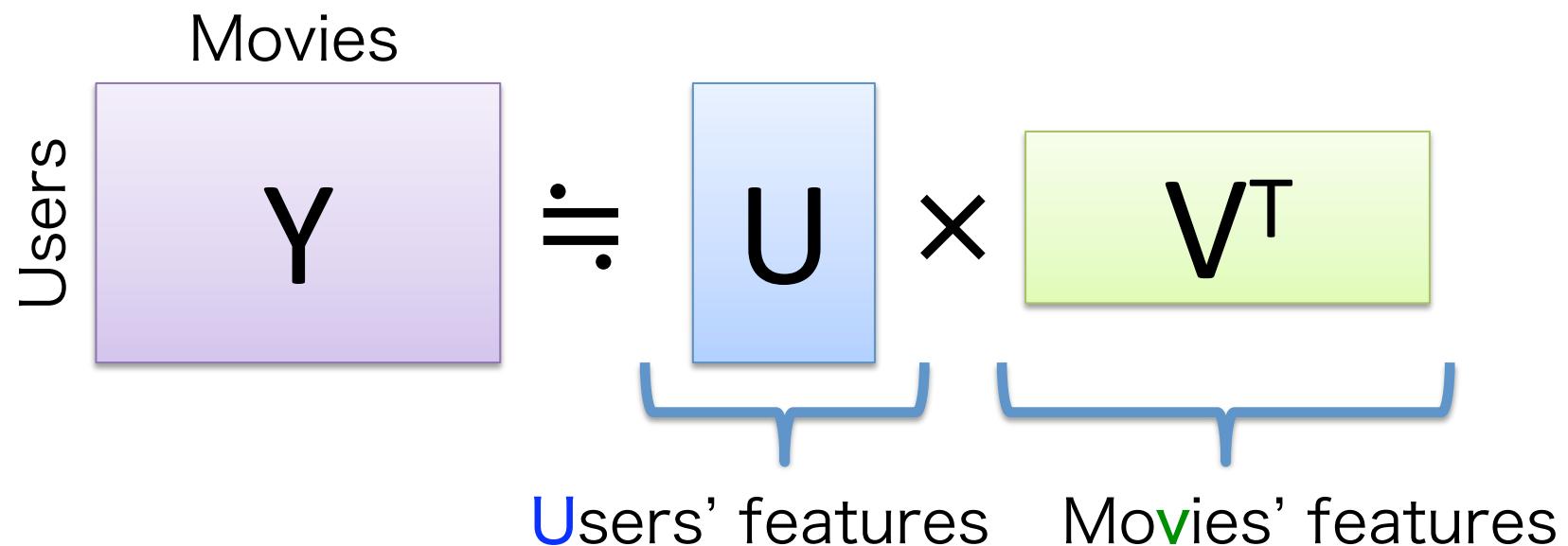
Goal: fill the missing entries!

# Matrix completion

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- Impossible without an assumption. (Missing entries can be arbitrary) --- problem is ill-posed
- Most common assumption:

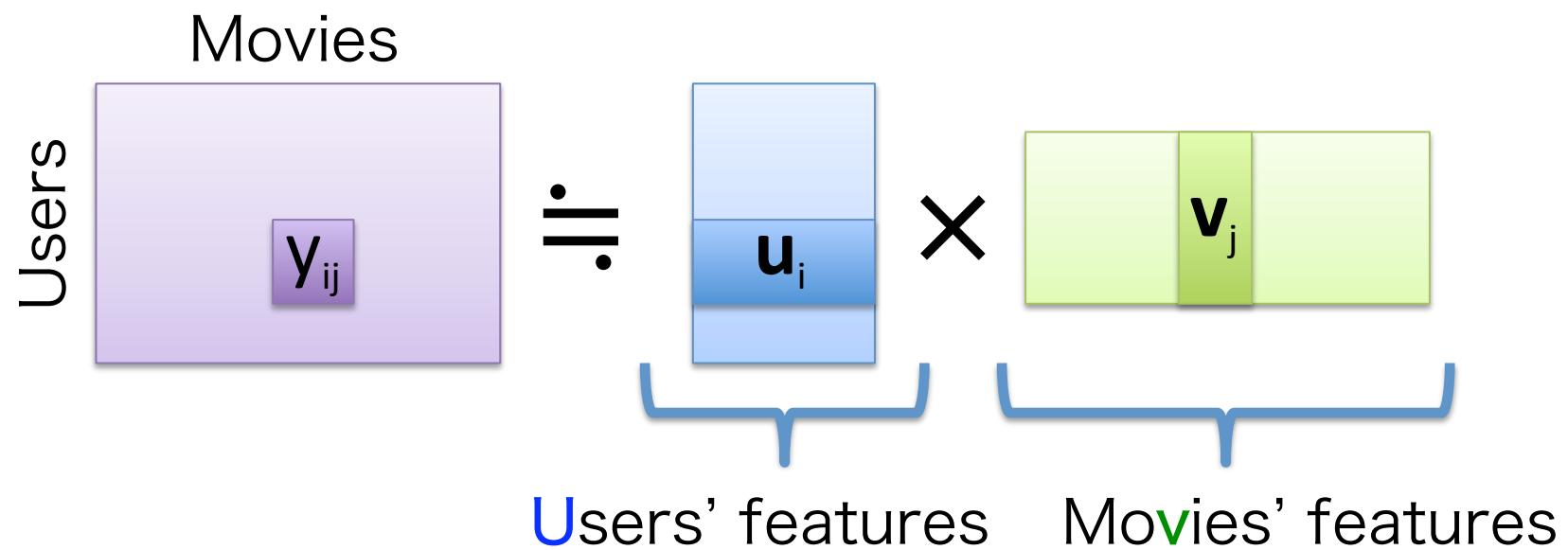
Low-rank decomposition



# Matrix completion

- Most common assumption:

Low-rank decomposition (rank r)

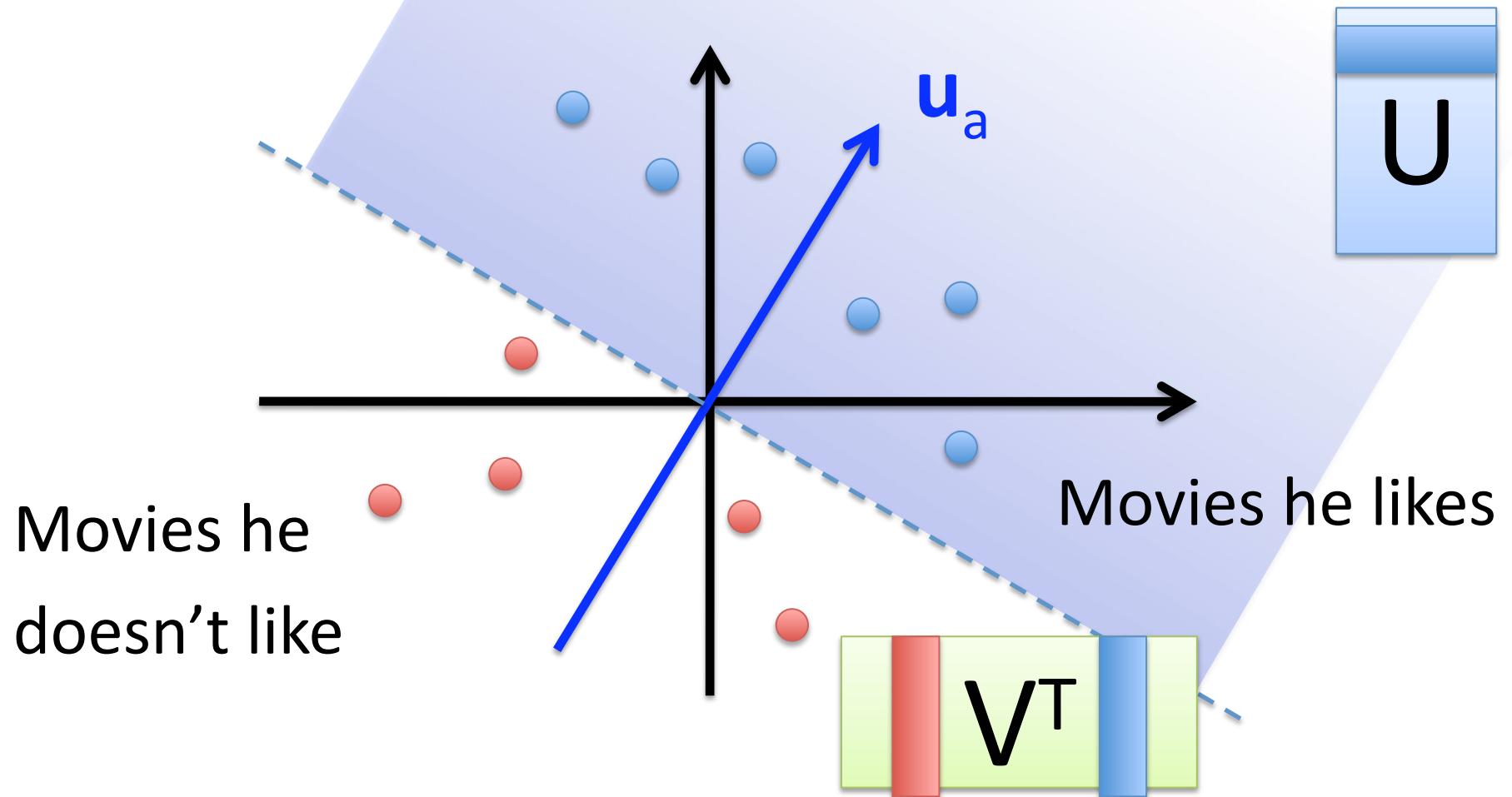


$$y_{ij} = \mathbf{u}_i^\top \mathbf{v}_j \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{dot product} \\ \text{in r-dim space} \end{array} \right)$$

# Geometric Intuition

r-dimensional space

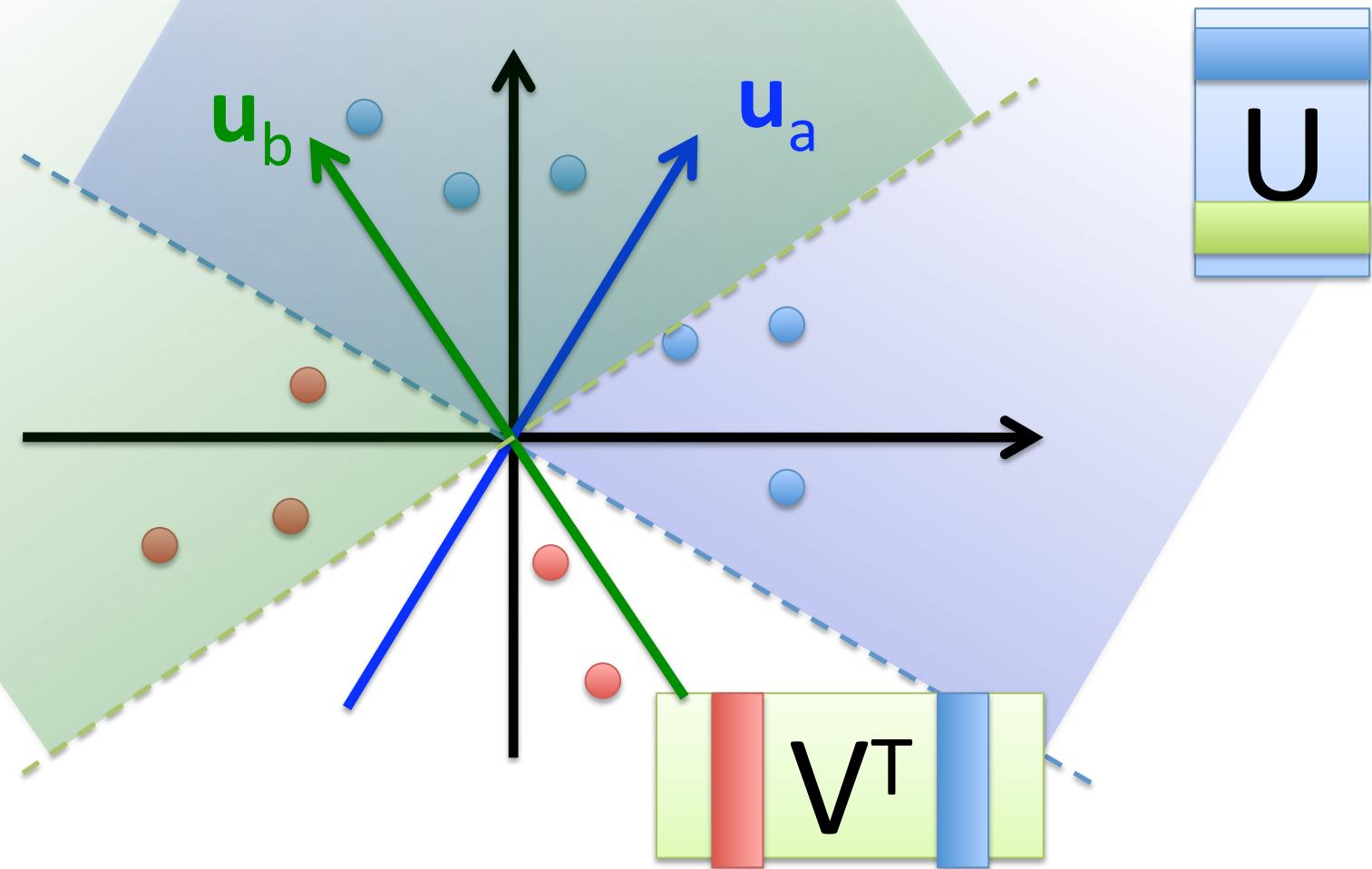
(r: the rank of the decomposition)



# Geometric Intuition

r-dimensional space

(r: the rank of the decomposition)

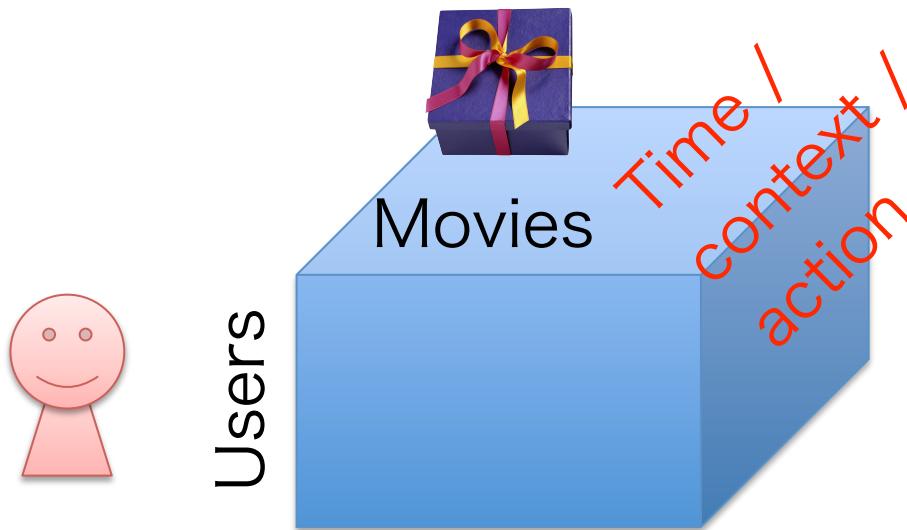


# Tensor data completion

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- Tensor = Multi-dimensional array
- Beyond 2D

Movie preference  
+ time / context / action



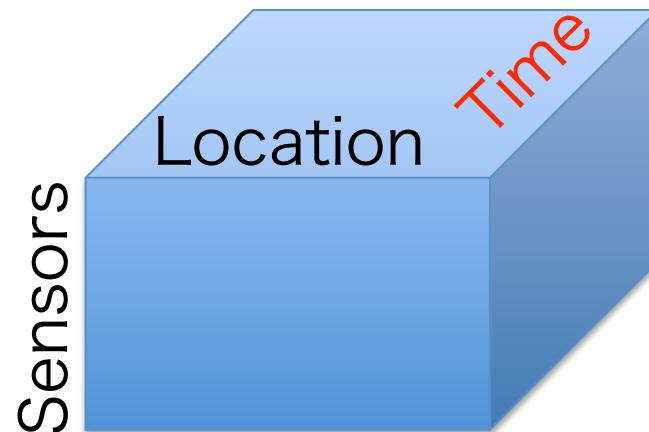
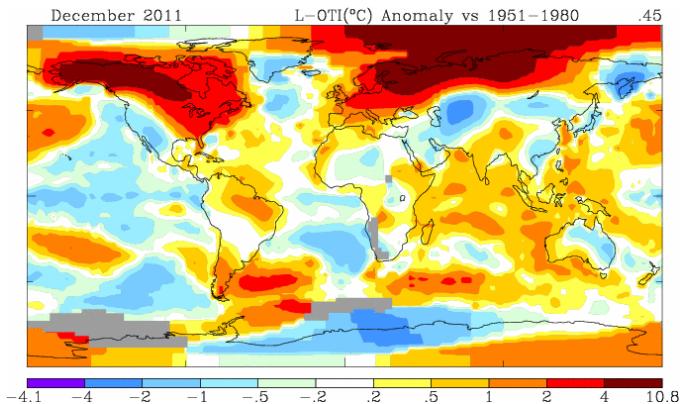
# Tensor data completion

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- Tensor = Multi-dimensional array
- Beyond 2D

Climate monitoring

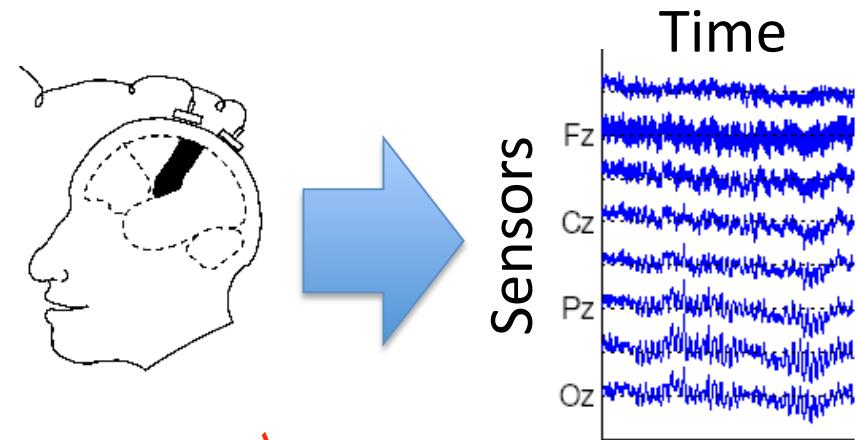
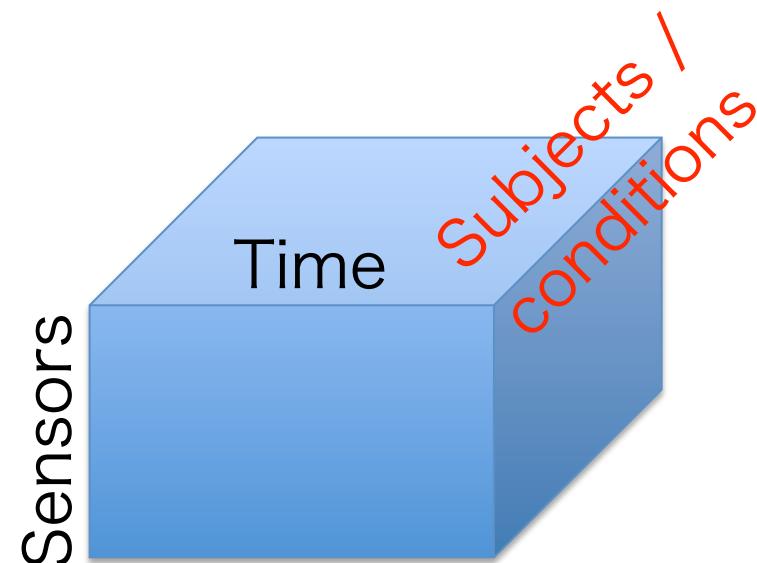
- temperature
- humidity
- rainfall



# Tensor data completion

- Tensor = Multi-dimensional array
- Beyond 2D

Neuroscience  
(brain imaging)



# Rest of this talk

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- Computing low-rank matrix decomposition
- Generalizing from matrix to tensor
- Analyzing the performance
  - Statistical learning theory

# Computing low-rank matrix decomposition

# Computing low-rank decomposition

- If all entries are observed (no missing entries)
  - Given  $\mathbf{Y}$ , compute singular value decomposition (SVD)

$$\underset{m \times n}{\textcolor{purple}{\mathbf{Y}}} \doteq \underset{m \times r}{\mathbf{U}} \underset{r \times r}{\textcolor{red}{\Sigma}} \underset{r \times n}{\mathbf{V}^T}$$

where  $\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}$ : Orthogonal ( $\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}$ ,  $\mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}$ )

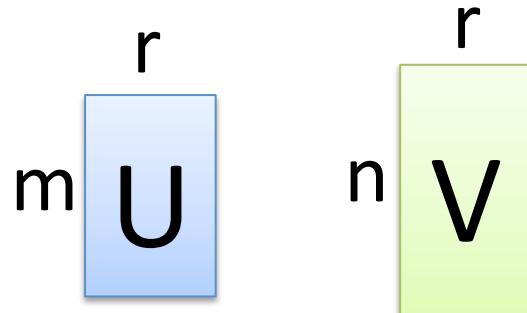
$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_r \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_j: j\text{th largest singular value}$$

# Tolerating missings

Optimization problem

$$\underset{U, V}{\text{minimize}} \sum_{(ij) \in \Omega} (y_{ij} - u_i^\top v_j)^2$$

Users'      Movies'  
features    features



Set of observed  
index pairs

# Tolerating missings

Optimization problem

Non-convex!

$$\underset{U, V}{\text{minimize}} \sum_{(ij) \in \Omega} (y_{ij} - u_i^\top v_j)^2$$

Users' features

r

m

**U**

Movies' features

r

n

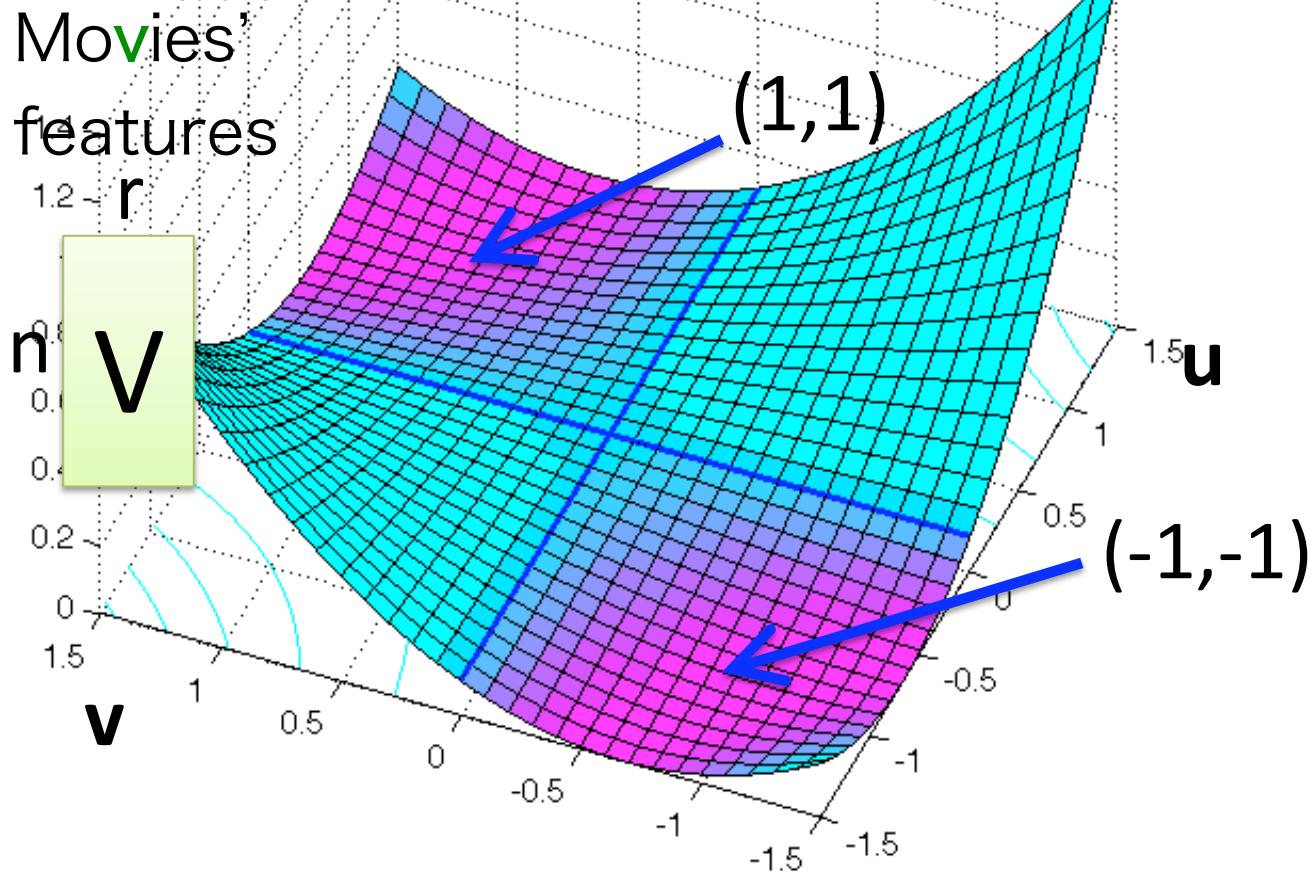
**V**

**v**

(1,1)

**u**

(-1,-1)

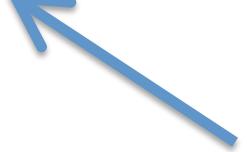


# Tolerating missings

Optimization problem Still non-convex!

$$\underset{W}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{(ij) \in \Omega} (y_{ij} - w_{ij})^2,$$

subject to  $\text{rank}(W) \leq r$

 Rank constraint  
is NP hard

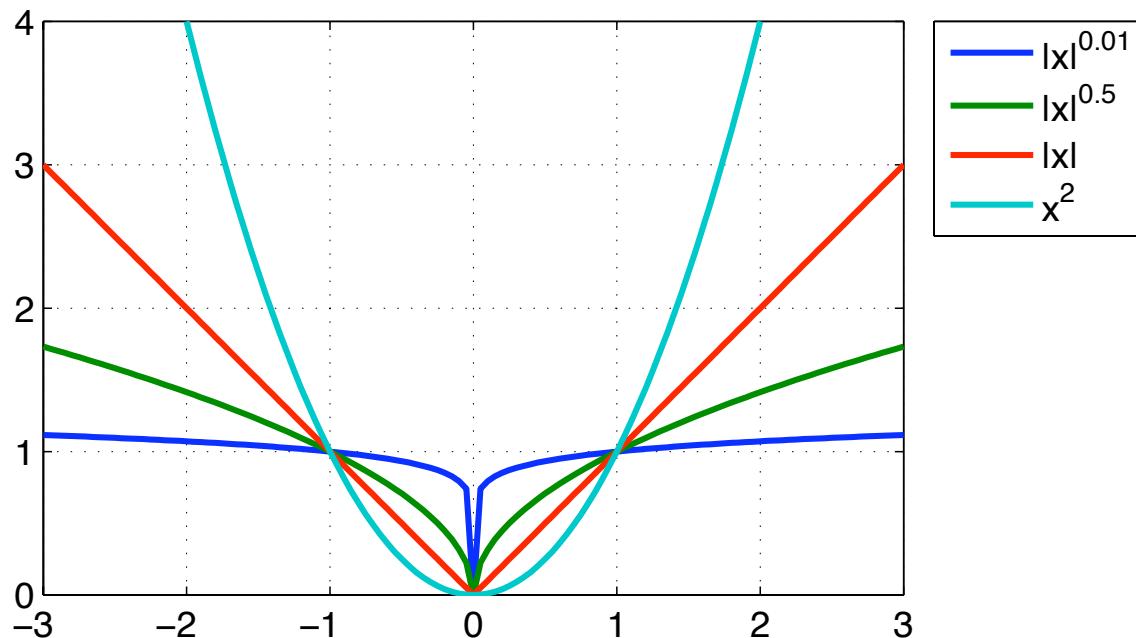
# Convex relaxation of rank

Schatten  $p$ -norm  
(to the  $p$ th power)

$$\|\mathbf{W}\|_{S_p}^p := \sum_{j=1}^r \sigma_j^p(\mathbf{W})$$

$\sigma_j(\mathbf{W})$ :  $j$ th largest singular value

$$\|\mathbf{W}\|_{S_p}^p \xrightarrow{p \rightarrow 0} \text{rank}(\mathbf{W})$$



$p=1$  is the tightest convex relaxation  
(also known as trace norm / nuclear norm)

# Tolerating missings

Optimization problem

Convex relaxation

$$\underset{\mathbf{W}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \sum_{(ij) \in \Omega} (y_{ij} - w_{ij})^2,$$

subject to  $\|\mathbf{W}\|_{S_1} \leq \tau$

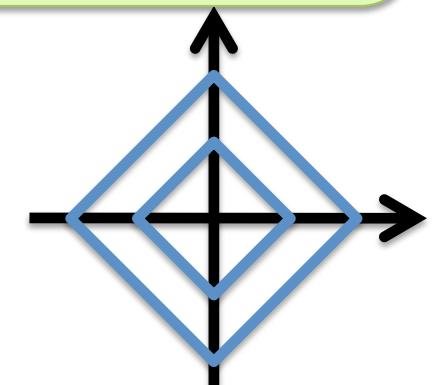
Schatten 1-norm  
(nuclear norm,  
trace norm)

$$\|\mathbf{W}\|_{S_1} = \sum_{j=1}^r \sigma_j(\mathbf{W})$$

$\sigma_j(\mathbf{W})$ :  $j$ th largest singular value

Cf. Lasso ( $L_1$  norm) for variable selection

= linear sum of abs. coefficients



# Take home messages

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- Rank constrained minimization is hard to solve  
(non-convex and NP hard)
- Can be relaxed into a tractable convex problem  
using Schatten 1-norm.

# How about tensors?

- How to define tensor rank?
- How related to matrix rank?

# Rank of a tensor

Definition. Let  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times \cdots \times n_K}$  ( $K$ th order tensor)

The smallest number  $R$  such that the given tensor  $X$  is written as

$$\mathcal{X} = \sum_{r=1}^R \mathcal{A}_r \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{A}_r = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \text{is rank one.}$$

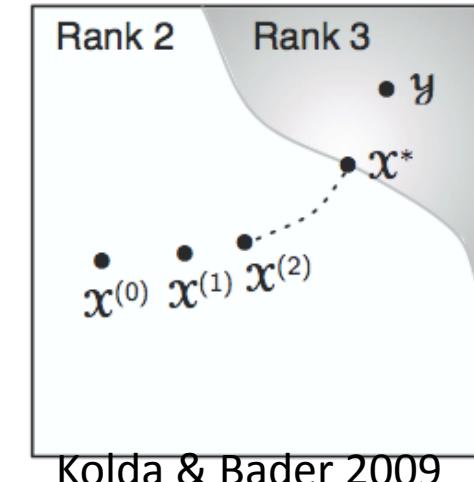
(can be written as an outer product of  $K$  vectors)

- Called CP (CANDECOMPO/PARAFAC) decomposition
- Bad news: NP hard to compute the rank  $R$  even for a fully observed  $X$ .

# Bad news 2: Tensor rank is not closed

X is rank 3

$$\mathcal{X} = a_1 \circ b_1 \circ c_2 + a_1 \circ b_2 \circ c_1 + a_2 \circ b_1 \circ c_1$$

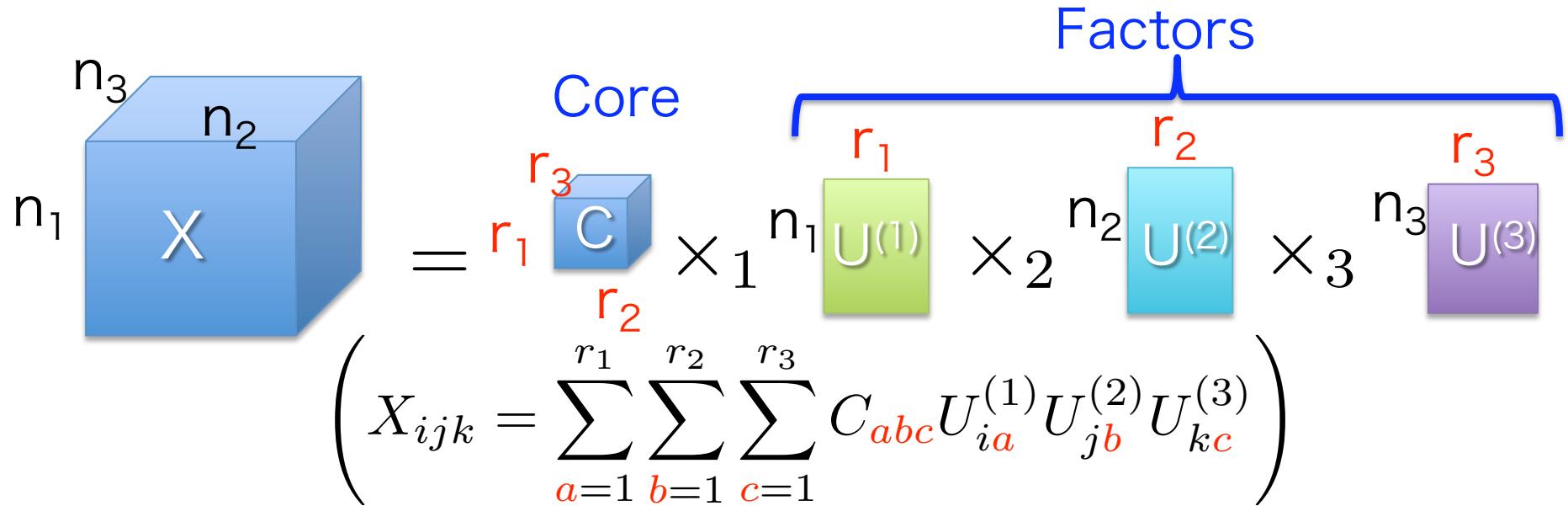


Y is rank 2

$$\mathcal{Y} = \alpha \left( a_1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} a_2 \right) \circ \left( b_1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} b_2 \right) \circ \left( c_1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} c_2 \right) - \alpha a_1 \circ b_1 \circ c_1$$

$$\|\mathcal{X} - \mathcal{Y}\|_F \rightarrow 0 \quad (\alpha \rightarrow \infty)$$

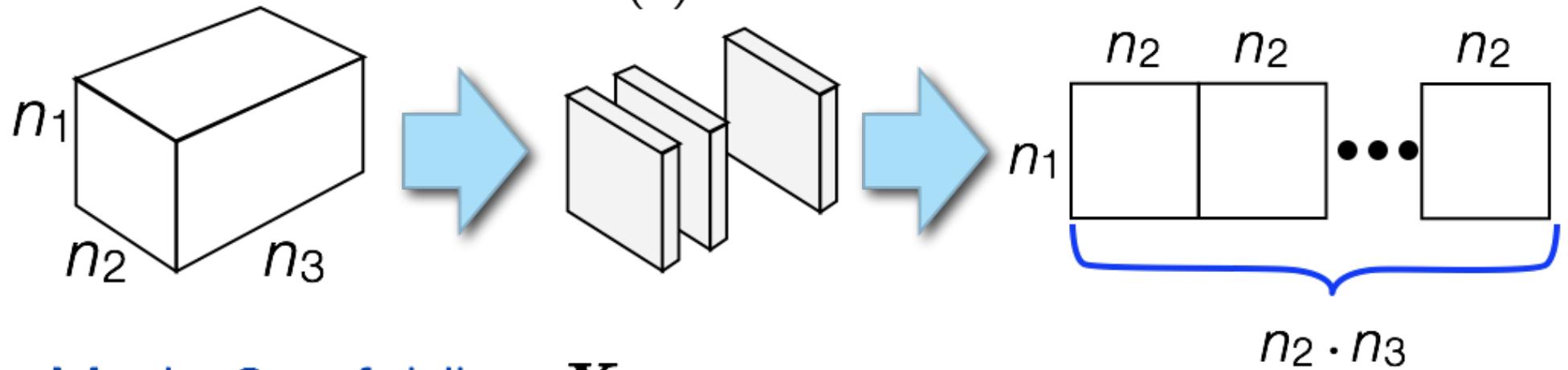
# Tucker decomposition [Tucker 66]



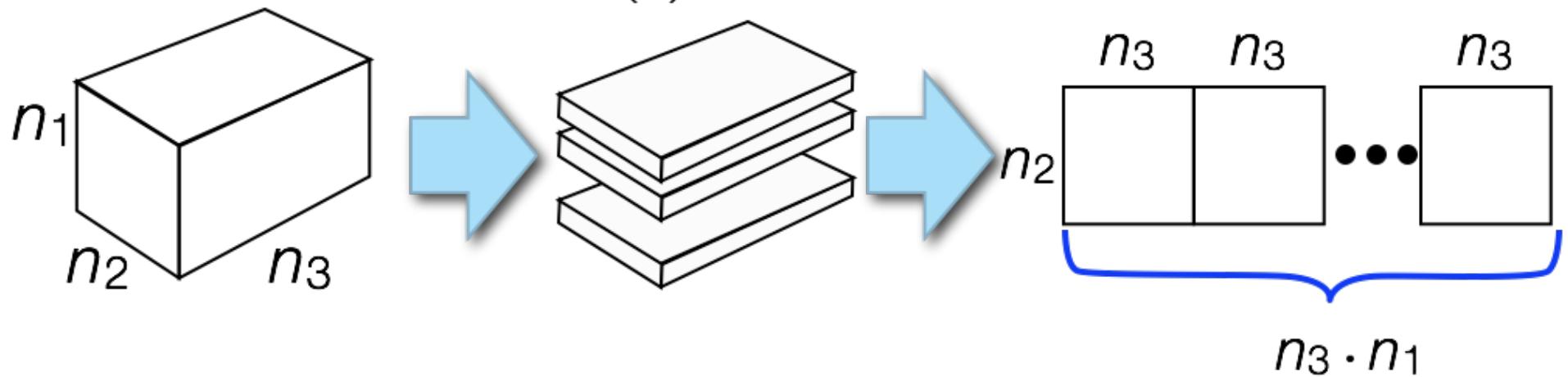
- Also known as higher-order SVD [De Lathauwer+00]
- Rank  $(r_1, r_2, r_3)$  can be computed in polynomial time using unfolding operations.

# Mode-k unfoldings (matricization)

Mode-1 unfolding  $\mathbf{X}_{(1)}$



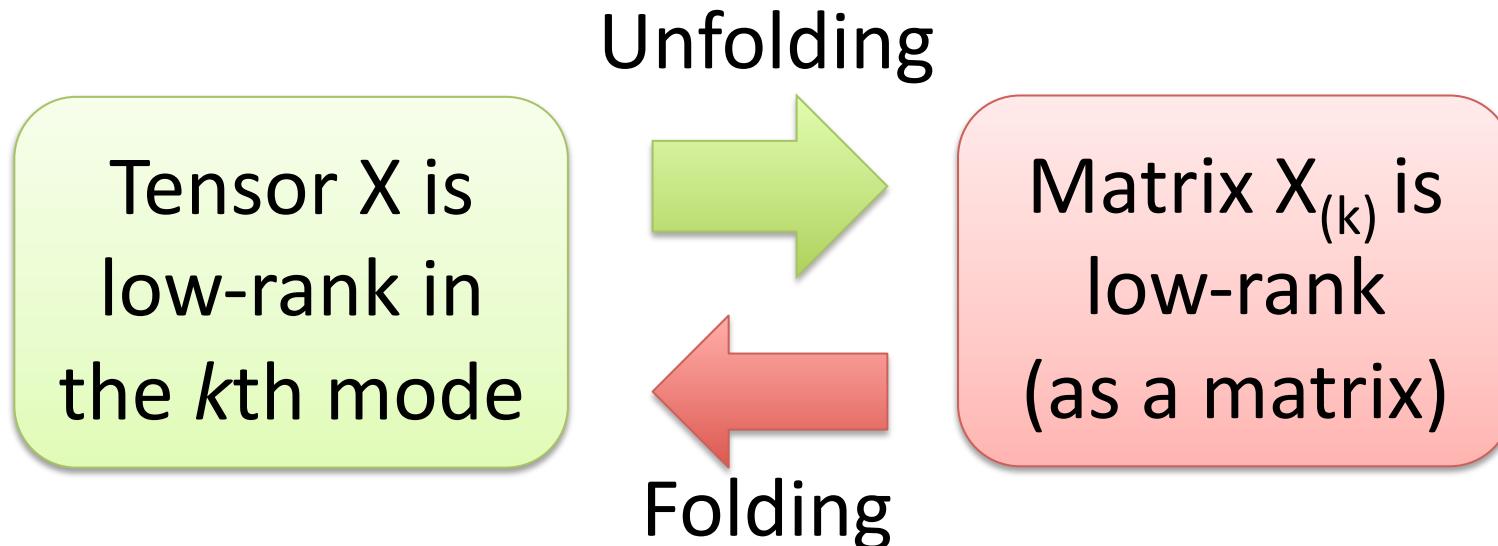
Mode-2 unfolding  $\mathbf{X}_{(2)}$



# Computing Tucker rank

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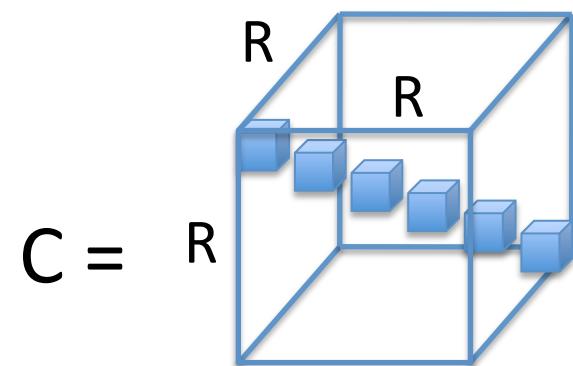
- For each  $k=1, \dots, K$ 
  - Compute the mode- $k$  unfolding  $X_{(k)}$
  - Compute the (matrix) rank of  $X_{(k)}$ 
$$r_k = \text{rank}(X_{(k)})$$



# Computing Tucker rank

---

- For each  $k=1, \dots, K$ 
  - Compute the mode- $k$  unfolding  $X_{(k)}$
  - Compute the (matrix) rank of  $X_{(k)}$
$$r_k = \text{rank}(X_{(k)})$$
- Difference between Tensor rank and Tucker rank
  - Tensor rank is a single number  $R$  (may not be easy to compute)
  - Tucker rank is defined for each mode (easy to compute)
- CP decomp is a special case of Tucker decomp with  $R=r_1=r_2=\dots=r_K$  and diagonal core



# Basic idea

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- We know how to do matrix completion with Schatten 1-norm (tractable convex optimization)
- We know how to compute Tucker rank (=the rank of the mode-k unfolding)



# Overlapped Schatten 1-norm for Tensors

$$\|\mathcal{W}\|_{S_1} := \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \|W_{(k)}\|_{S_1}$$

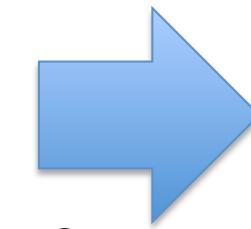
Schatten 1-norm of  
the mode-k unfolding

Measures the overall low-rank-ness  
(not just a single mode)

# Convex Tensor Estimation

## Matrix

Estimation of *low-rank* matrix  
(hard)

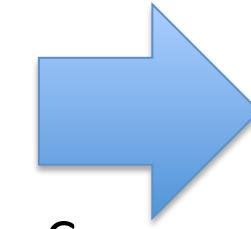


Convex  
relaxation

Schatten 1-norm  
minimization  
(tractable)  
[Fazel, Hindi, Boyd  
01]

## Tensor

Estimation of *low-rank* tensor  
(hard)

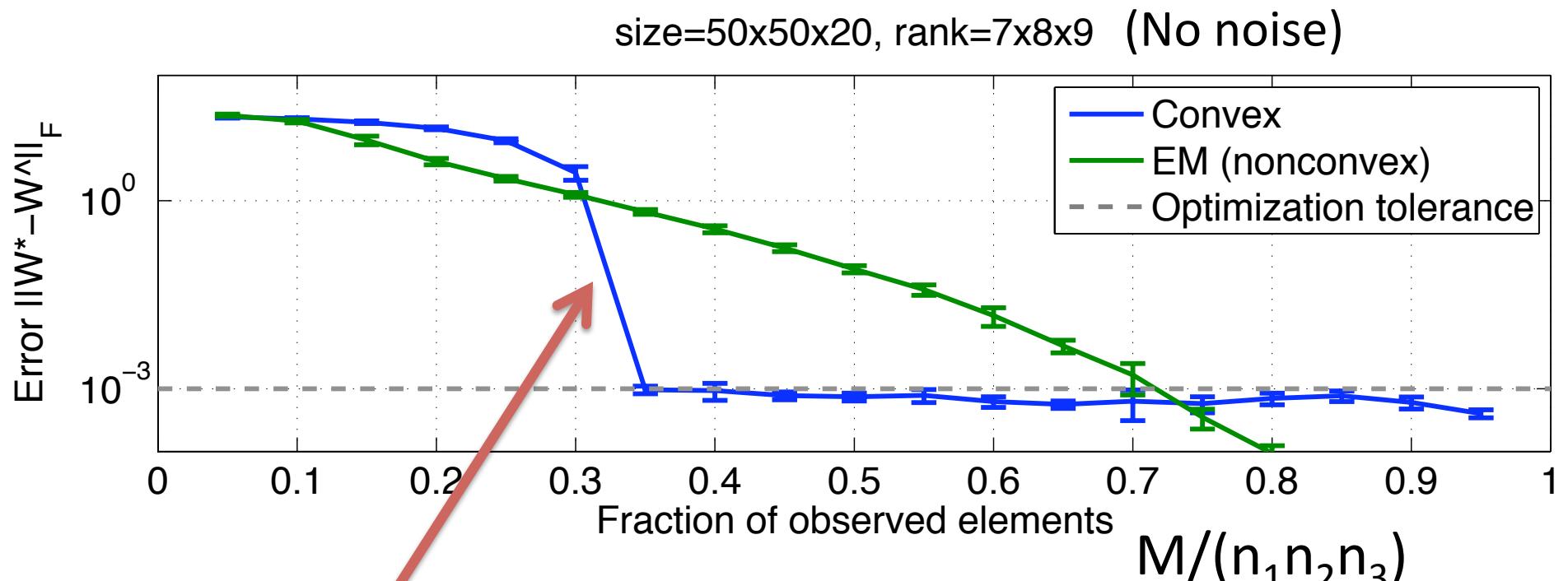


Convex  
relaxation

Generalize  
**Overlapped**  
Schatten 1-norm  
minimization  
[Liu+09, Signoretto+10,  
Tomioka+10, Gandy+11]

# Empirical performance

Tensor completion result [Tomioka et al. 2010]



Phase transition!!

Can we predict this theoretically?

Analyzing the performance of  
convex tensor decomposition

# Problem setting

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## Observation model

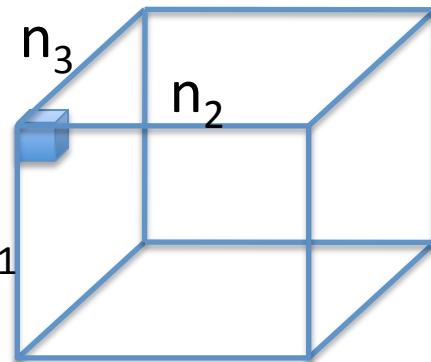
$$y_i = \langle \mathcal{X}_i, \mathcal{W}^* \rangle + \epsilon_i \quad (i = 1, \dots, M)$$

$\mathcal{W}^*$  true tensor rank-( $r_1, \dots, r_K$ )

$\epsilon_i$  Gaussian noise

## Example (tensor completion)

$$\mathcal{X}_1 =$$



# Problem setting

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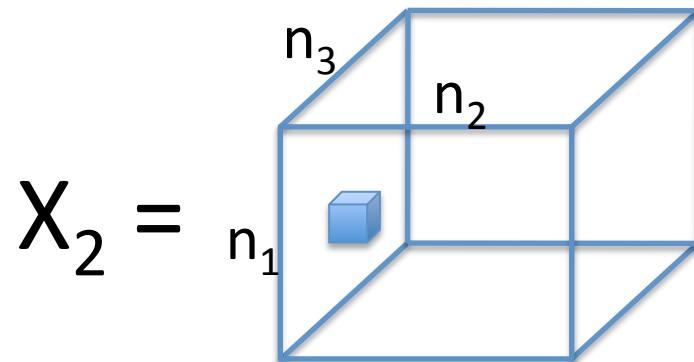
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## Example (tensor completion)



# Problem setting

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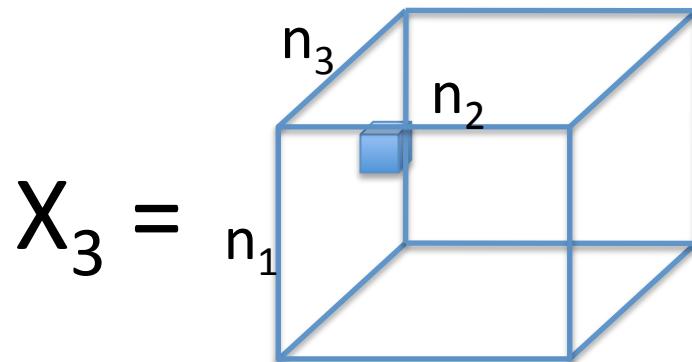
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## Example (tensor completion)



# Problem setting

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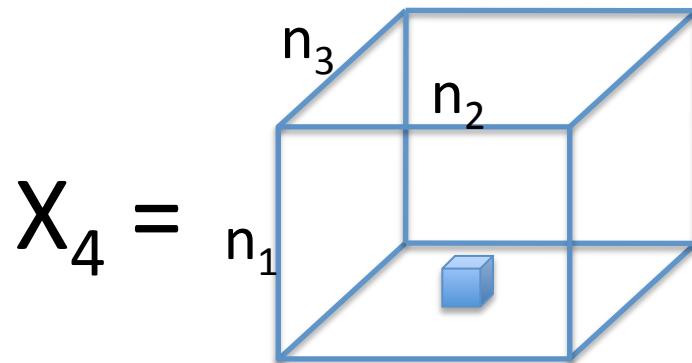
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$\mathcal{W}^*$  true tensor rank-( $r_1, \dots, r_K$ )

$\epsilon_i$  Gaussian noise

## Example (tensor completion)



and so on...

# Problem setting

## Observation model

$$y_i = \langle \mathcal{X}_i, \mathcal{W}^* \rangle + \epsilon_i \quad (i = 1, \dots, M)$$

$\mathcal{W}^*$  true tensor rank-( $r_1, \dots, r_K$ )

$\epsilon_i$  Gaussian noise  $N(0, \sigma^2)$

## Optimization

$$\hat{\mathcal{W}} = \underset{\mathcal{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times \dots \times n_K}}{\operatorname{argmin}}$$

## Empirical error

$$\left( \frac{1}{2M} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{W})\|_2^2 + \lambda_M \|\mathcal{W}\|_{S_1} \right)$$

Observation  
model

## Regularization

$$\|\mathcal{W}\|_{S_1}$$

Reg. Const.

$$(N = \prod_{k=1}^K n_k)$$

$$\mathfrak{X} : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$$

$$\mathfrak{X}(\mathcal{W}) = (\langle \mathcal{X}_1, \mathcal{W} \rangle, \dots, \langle \mathcal{X}_M, \mathcal{W} \rangle)^\top$$

# Analysis objective

- We would like to show something like

Mean squared error

Estimated tensor      True low-rank tensor

$$\frac{\|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F^2}{N} \leq O_p\left(\frac{c(n, r)}{M}\right)$$

The size  $n = (n_1, \dots, n_K)$

The rank  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_K)$

Number of samples  $M$

# Theorem: random Gauss design

---

Assume elements of  $X_i$  are drawn iid from standard normal distribution. Moreover

$$\frac{\text{#samples } (M)}{\text{#variables } (N)} \geq c_1 \underbrace{\|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}}_{\text{Normalized rank}} \approx \frac{r}{n}$$

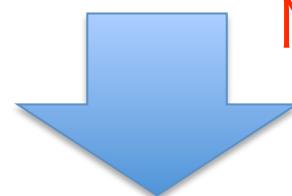
$$\|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} := \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{1/n_k} \right)^2, \quad \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2} := \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{r_k} \right)^2$$

# Theorem: random Gauss design

Assume elements of  $X_i$  are drawn iid from standard normal distribution. Moreover

$$\frac{\text{#samples } (M)}{\text{#variables } (N)} \geq c_1 \underbrace{\|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}}_{\text{Normalized rank}} \approx \frac{r}{n}$$

Convergence!



Normalized rank

$$\frac{\|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F^2}{N} \leq O_p \left( \frac{\sigma^2 \|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}}{M} \right)$$

$$\|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} := \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{1/n_k} \right)^2, \quad \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2} := \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{r_k} \right)^2$$

# Proof idea

Since  $\hat{\mathcal{W}}$  minimizes the objective,

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\text{Obj}(\hat{\mathcal{W}}) \leq \text{Obj}(\mathcal{W}^*)$$

It is not so hard to see:

$$\mathfrak{X}^*(\epsilon) = \sum_{i=1}^M \epsilon_i \mathcal{X}_i$$

$$\frac{1}{2M} \|\mathfrak{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_2^2 \leq \langle \mathfrak{X}^*(\epsilon)/M, \hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^* \rangle + \lambda_M \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1}$$

What we want to derive:

$$\frac{\|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F^2}{N} \leq O_p \left( \frac{c(n, r)}{M} \right)$$

# Proof outline (1/3)

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\frac{1}{2M} \|\mathfrak{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_2^2 \leq \langle \mathfrak{X}^*(\epsilon)/M, \hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^* \rangle + \lambda_M \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1}$$

Inequality 1: upper-bound the dot product

$$\langle \mathfrak{X}^*(\epsilon)/M, \hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^* \rangle \leq O_p \left( \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2}}{M}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1} \right)$$

(optimization duality / random matrix theory)

# Proof outline (1/3)

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\frac{1}{2M} \|\mathfrak{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_2^2 \leq \left( \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2}}{M}} + \lambda_M \right) \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1}$$

Inequality 1: upper-bound the dot product

$$\langle \mathfrak{X}^*(\epsilon)/M, \hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^* \rangle \leq O_p \left( \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2}}{M}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1} \right)$$

Trade-off between  $\sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2}}{M}}$  and  $\lambda_M$

Optimal reg. const  $\lambda_M \simeq O_p \left( \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2}}{M}} \right)$

# Proof outline (2/3)

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\frac{1}{2M} \|\mathcal{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_2^2 \leq \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2}}{M}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1}$$

Inequality 2: relate the schatten 1-norm  
with the Frobenius norm

$$\|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_{S_1} \leq \sqrt{\|r\|_{1/2}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F$$

(relation between L1- and L2-norm)

# Proof outline (2/3)

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\frac{1}{2M} \|\mathfrak{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_2^2 \leq \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|r\|_{1/2}}{M}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F$$

Inequality 2: relate the schatten 1-norm  
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(relation between L1- and L2-norm)

# Proof outline (3/3)

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\frac{1}{2M} \|\mathcal{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_F^2 \leq \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}}{M}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F$$

Inequality 3: lower-bound the left hand-side

$$\kappa \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F^2 \leq \frac{1}{M} \|\mathcal{X}(\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*)\|_F^2$$

If  $\frac{\#\text{samples } (M)}{\#\text{variables } (N)} \geq c_1 \|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}$

(Gordon-Slepian Theorem in Gaussian process theory)

# Proof outline (3/3)

Estimated  
tensor

True low-  
rank tensor

$$\kappa \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F^2 \leq \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2 N \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|r\|_{1/2}}{M}} \|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F$$

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If  $\frac{\#\text{samples } (M)}{\#\text{variables } (N)} \geq c_1 \|n^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|r\|_{1/2}$

(Gordon-Slepian Theorem in Gaussian process theory)

# Back to the theorem statement

Assume elements of  $X_i$  are drawn iid from standard normal distribution. Moreover

$$\frac{\text{#samples } (M)}{\text{#variables } (N)} \geq c_1 \underbrace{\|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}}_{\text{Normalized rank}} \approx \frac{r}{n}$$

Convergence!

$$\frac{\|\hat{\mathcal{W}} - \mathcal{W}^*\|_F^2}{N} \leq O_p \left( \frac{\sigma^2 \|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2}}{M} \right)$$

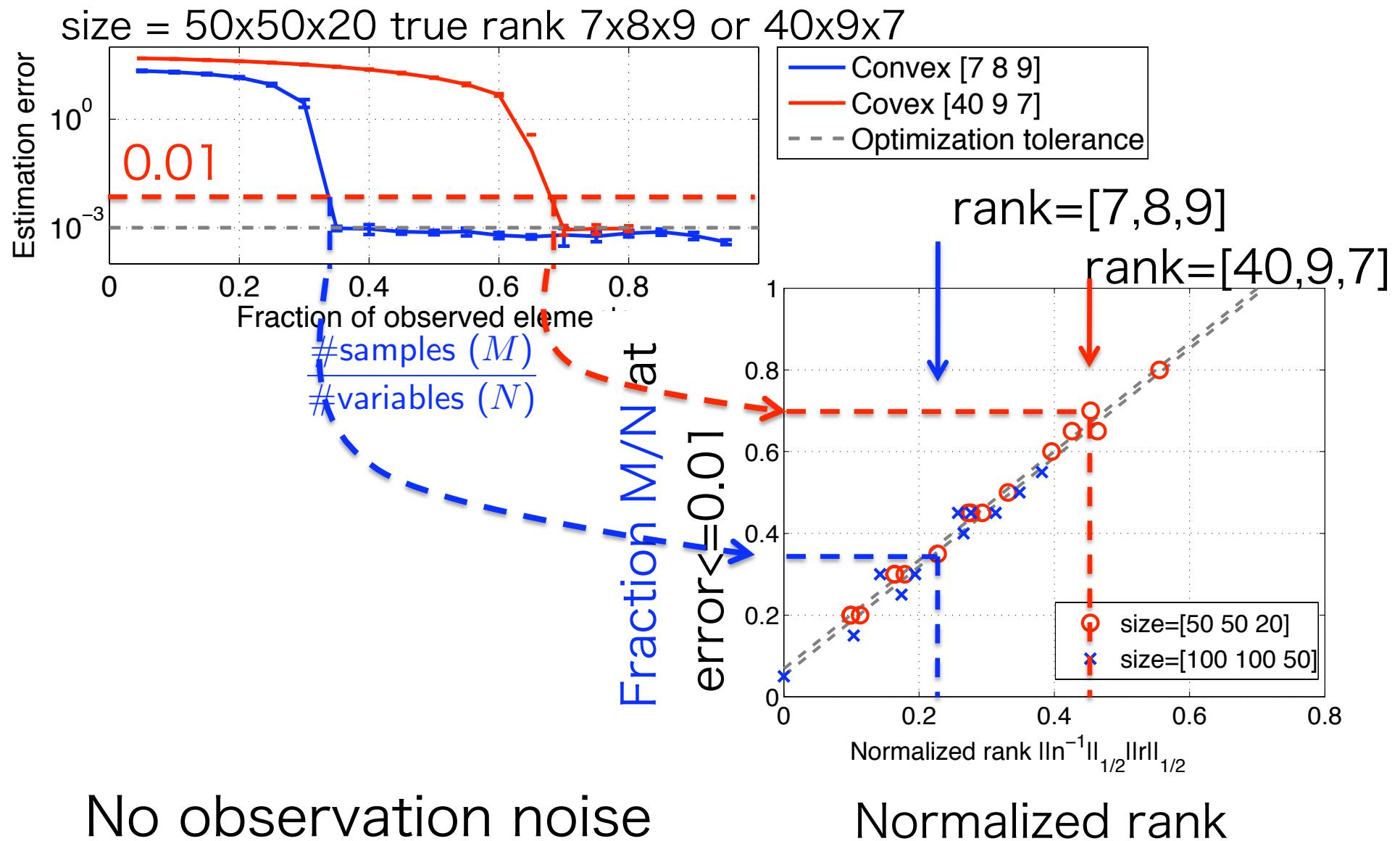
$$\|\mathbf{n}^{-1}\|_{1/2} := \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{1/n_k} \right)^2, \quad \|\mathbf{r}\|_{1/2} := \left( \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sqrt{r_k} \right)^2$$

Notice:

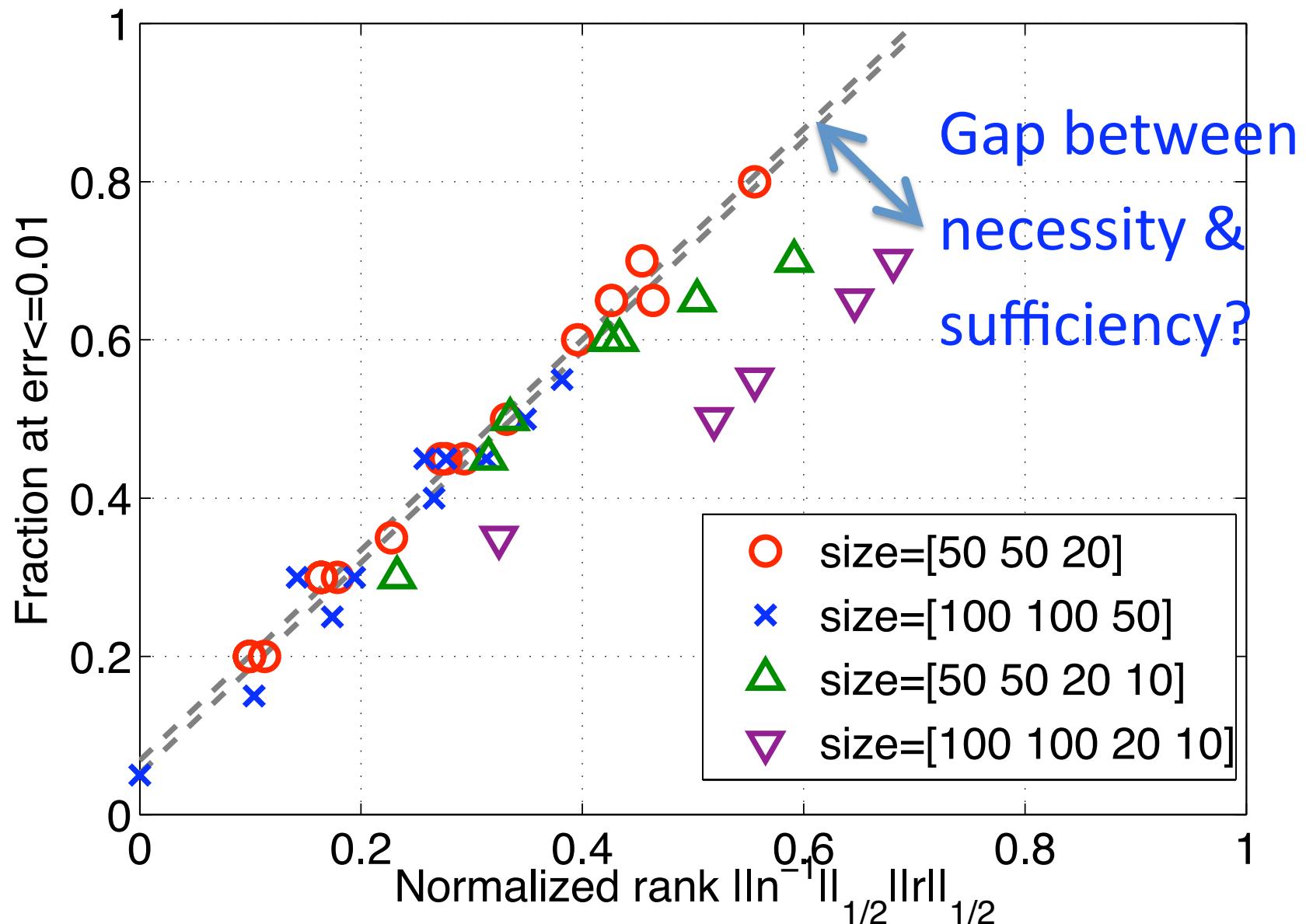
- Sample-size condition independent of noise  $\sigma^2$ .
- Bound RHS proportional to  $\sigma^2$ .

Threshold behavior in the limit  $\sigma^2 \rightarrow 0$

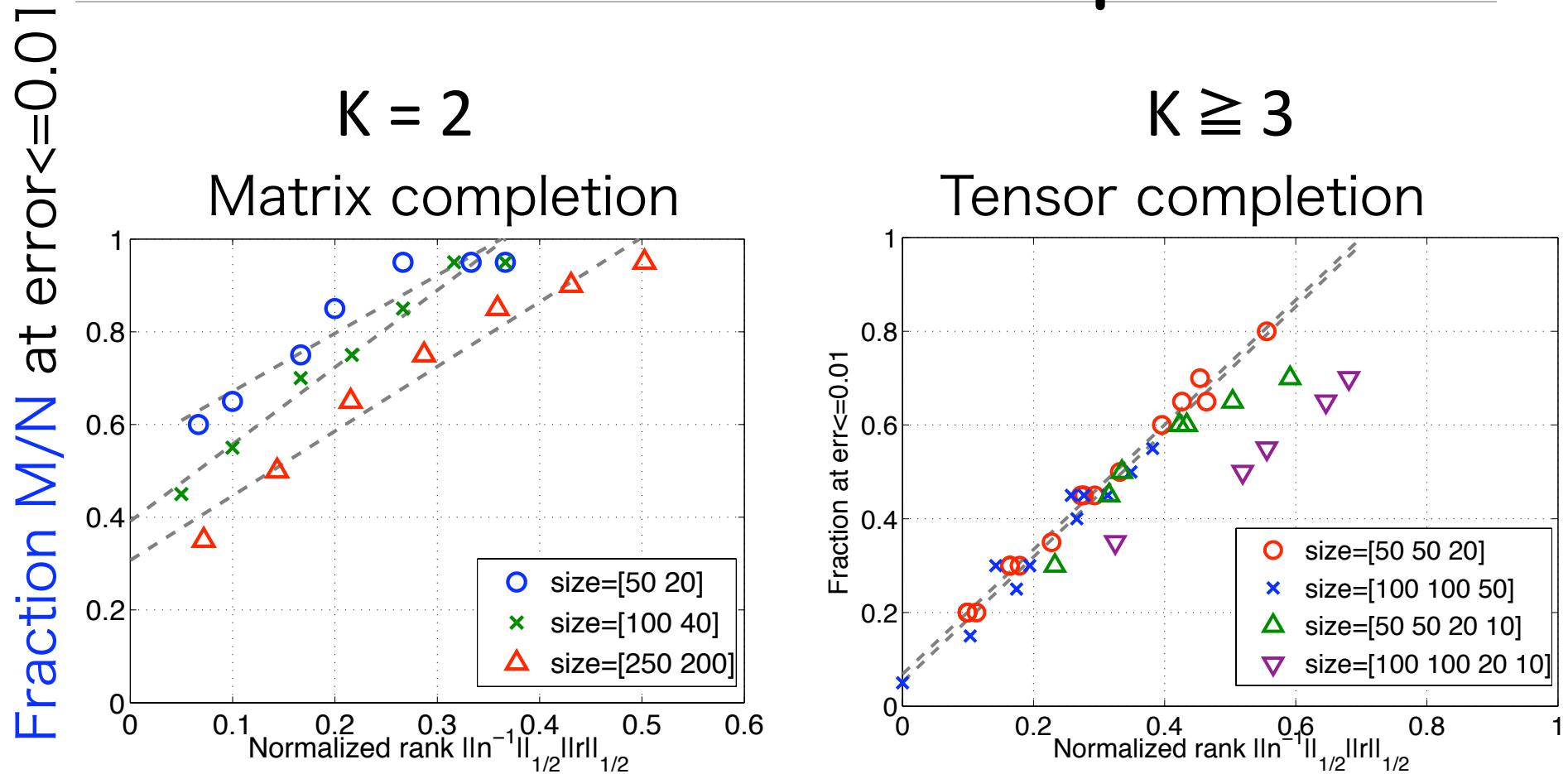
# Tensor completion results



# Including 4<sup>th</sup> order tensors



# Matrix / tensor completion



Tensor completion *easier* than matrix completion!?

# Conclusion

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- Many real world problems can be cast into the form of tensor data analysis.
- Convex optimization is a useful tool also for the analysis of higher order tensors.
- Proposed a convex tensor decomposition algorithm **with performance guarantee**
- **Normalized rank** predicts empirical scaling behavior well

# Issues

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- Why matrix completion more difficult than tensor completion?
- How big the gap between necessity and sufficiency?
- Random Gaussian design  $\neq$  tensor completion
  - ⇒ Incoherence (Candes & Recht 09)
  - ⇒ Spikiness (Negahban et al 10)
- When only some modes are low-rank
  - Schatten 1-norm is too strong ⇒ Mixture approach
  - E.g. Mode 1, 4 is low rank but the rest is not (combinatorial problem)

T h a n k y o u !