# CS 598 EVS: Tensor Computations Tensor Eigenvalues

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# Matrix Eigenvalues

- The eigenvalue and singular value decompositions of matrices enable not only low-rank approximation (which we can get for tensors via decomposition), but also describe important properties of the matrix M and associated linear function  $f^{(M)}(x) = Mx$ 
  - Eigenvalues and eigenvectors can be used to characterize eigenfunctions of differential operators
  - Eigenvalues describe powers of the matrix and its limiting behavior

$$M = XDX^{-1} \Rightarrow M^2 = XD^2X^{-1}$$

if there is a unique largest eigenvalue  $\lambda$  with associated left/right eigenvectors are  $\pmb{x}, \pmb{y}$  then

$$\lim_{k\to\infty} \boldsymbol{M}^k / \|\boldsymbol{M}^{k-1}\| = \lambda \boldsymbol{x} \boldsymbol{y}$$

 They can be used to find stationary states of statistical processes and to find low-cut partitions in graphs

### **Tensor Eigenvalues**

- Tensor eigenvalues and singular values can be defined based on the function  $f^{(T)}$  by analogy from the role of matrix eigenvalues on  $f^{(M)}$ 
  - Matrix eigenpairs  $(\lambda, x)$  satisfy  $f^{(M)}(x) = \lambda x$ , while for an order d symmetric tensor, we may define<sup>1,2</sup>

$$\underbrace{f^{(\mathcal{T})}(x,\ldots,x)=\lambda x}_{\textbf{Z-eigenpair}}\quad \underbrace{f^{(\mathcal{T})}(x,\ldots,x)=\lambda x^{d-1}}_{\textbf{H-eigenpair}}\quad \underbrace{f^{(\mathcal{T})}(x,\ldots,x)=\lambda x^{p-1}}_{l^p\text{-eigenpair}}$$

where  $oldsymbol{x}^p = [x_1^p \dots x_n^p]^T$ 

- For matrices, Z-eigenpairs ( $l^p$ -eigenpairs with p = 1) and H-eigenpairs ( $l^p$ -eigenpairs with p = d 1) are the same
- Singular value/vector pairs can be defined by a tuple  $(\sigma, x_1, \ldots, x_d)$  that satisfies d equations like  $f^{(T)}(x_2, \ldots, x_d) = \sigma x_1^p$ , e.g., for d = 3, p = 1,

$$oldsymbol{T}_{(1)}(oldsymbol{x}_2\otimesoldsymbol{x}_3)=\sigmaoldsymbol{x}_1, \quad oldsymbol{T}_{(2)}(oldsymbol{x}_1\otimesoldsymbol{x}_3)=\sigmaoldsymbol{x}_2, \quad oldsymbol{T}_{(3)}(oldsymbol{x}_1\otimesoldsymbol{x}_2)=\sigmaoldsymbol{x}_3$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Liqun Qi, "Eigenvalues of a Real Supersymmetric Tensor", 2005

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Lek-Heng Lim, "Singular Values and Eigenvalues of Tensors: A Variational Approach", 2005

#### Matrix Eigenvalues and Critical Points

- The eigenvalues/eigenvectors of a matrix are the critical values/points of its Rayleigh quotient<sup>3</sup>
  - The Lagrangian function of  $f(x) = x^T A x$  subject to  $\|x\|_2^2 = \|x\|_2 \|x\|_2 = 1$  is

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}, \lambda) = \boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x} - \lambda (\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_2^2 - 1)$$

• The first-order optimality condition are  $\| m{x} \|_2 = 1$  and

$$rac{d\mathcal{L}}{doldsymbol{x}}(oldsymbol{x},\lambda) = oldsymbol{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad oldsymbol{A}oldsymbol{x} = \lambdaoldsymbol{x}$$

- Singular vectors and singular values of matrices may be derived analogously
  - The Lagrangian function of  $f({m x},{m y})={m x}^T{m A}{m y}$  subject to  $\|{m x}\|_2\|{m y}\|_2=1$  is

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{y}, \sigma) = \boldsymbol{x}^T \boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{y} - \sigma(\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_2 \|\boldsymbol{y}\|_2 - 1)$$

• The first-order optimality conditions are  $\|m{x}\|_2 \|m{y}\|_2 = 1$  and

$$\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\boldsymbol{x}}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\sigma) = \boldsymbol{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{y}}{\|\boldsymbol{y}\|} = \frac{\sigma\boldsymbol{x}}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|}, \qquad \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\boldsymbol{y}}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\sigma) = \boldsymbol{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}}{\|\boldsymbol{x}\|} = \frac{\sigma\boldsymbol{y}}{\|\boldsymbol{y}\|}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Lek-Heng Lim, "Singular Values and Eigenvalues of Tensors: A Variational Approach", 2005

#### **Tensors Eigenvalues**

- The Lagrangian approach to matrix eigenvalues generalizes naturally to symmetric tensors
  - The symmetric tensor is associated with a multilinear scalar-valued function  $f^{(\mathcal{T})}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{i_1,...,i_d} t_{i_1,...,i_d} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_d}$  as well as the vector valued function  $f^{(\mathcal{T})}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{i_1,...,i_{d-1}} t_{i_1,...,i_{d-1}} x_{i_1} \cdots x_{i_{d-1}} = \frac{1}{d} \nabla f^{(\mathcal{T})}(\boldsymbol{x})$
  - We consider its Lagrangian subject to a normalization condition ||x||<sub>p</sub><sup>d</sup> = 1 (for matrices p = 2, so for order d tensors natural to pick either p = 2 or p = d),

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}, \lambda) = f(\boldsymbol{x}) - \lambda(\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_p^d - 1)$$

• The first order optimality conditions for p = 2 is  $\|\boldsymbol{x}\|_2 = 1$  and

$$rac{d\mathcal{L}}{doldsymbol{x}}(oldsymbol{x},\lambda) = oldsymbol{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad oldsymbol{f}^{(oldsymbol{ au})}(oldsymbol{x}) = \lambda oldsymbol{x}$$

• The analogous first order optimality condition for p = d and even p is

$$rac{d\mathcal{L}}{dm{x}}(m{x},\lambda) = m{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad m{f}^{(m{ au})}(m{x}) = \lambda m{x}^{d-1}$$

is scale invariant (if  $(x*, \lambda)$  minimizes  $\mathcal{L}$  so does  $(\alpha x^*, \lambda)$ )

### **Tensor Singular Values and Singular Vectors**

- Tensor singular values again can be viewed as critical points of the Lagrangian function of the multilinear map given by a tensor
  - An order *d* tensor is associated with a multilinear scalar-valued function

$$f^{(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)},\ldots,\boldsymbol{x}^{(d)}) = \sum_{i_1,\ldots,i_d} t_{i_1,\ldots,i_d} x_{i_1}^{(d)}\cdots x_{i_d}^{(d)}$$

as well as d vector valued functions

$$m{f}_i^{(m{ au})}(m{x}^{(1)},\ldots,\hat{m{x}}^{(i)},\ldots,m{x}^{(d)}) = rac{df^{(m{ au})}(m{x}^{(1)},\ldots,m{x}^{(d)})}{dm{x}^{(i)}}(m{x}^{(1)},\ldots,\hat{m{x}}^{(i)},\ldots,m{x}^{(d)})$$

e.g., 
$$f_1^{(\mathcal{T})}(x^{(2)}, x^{(3)}) = T_{(1)}(x^{(2)} \otimes x^{(3)})$$

• We consider its Lagrangian subject to a normalization condition  $\|x_1\|_p \cdots \|x_d\|_p = 1$ 

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{x}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{x}_d,\sigma) = f(\boldsymbol{x}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{x}_d) - \sigma(\|\boldsymbol{x}_1\|_p\cdots\|\boldsymbol{x}_d\|_p - 1)$$

• The first order optimality conditions for even p are, for all i in  $\{1, \ldots, d\}$ ,

$$rac{d\mathcal{L}}{dm{x}_i}(m{x}_1,\ldots,m{x}_d,\sigma)=m{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad m{f}_i^{(m{ au})}(m{x}_1,\ldots,\hat{m{x}}_i,\ldots,m{x}_d)=\sigmam{x}_i^p$$

# Immediate Properties of Tensor Eigenvectors and Singular Vectors

- When the tensor order d is odd, H-eigenvectors (l<sup>d</sup>-eigenvectors) and singular vectors must be defined with additional care
  - Let  $\phi_p(\boldsymbol{x}) = [sgn(x_1)x_1^p, \dots, sgn(x_n)x_n^p]^T$  then can generally write

$$abla \|oldsymbol{x}\|_p = \phi_{p-1}(oldsymbol{x}) / \|oldsymbol{x}\|_p^{p-2}$$

when p is even,  $\phi_{p-1}({m x})={m x}^{p-1}$ 

• The eigenvalue equations can then be we written for general p as

$$rac{d\mathcal{L}}{doldsymbol{x}}(oldsymbol{x},\lambda) = oldsymbol{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad oldsymbol{f}^{(oldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(oldsymbol{x}) = \lambda \phi_d(oldsymbol{x}^{d-1})$$

- The largest tensor singular value is the operator/spectral norm of the tensor
  - Recall we defined the operator norm of the tensor as

$$\|\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}}\| = \max_{\boldsymbol{x}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{x}_d \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}} |f^{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}}}(\boldsymbol{x}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{x}_d)|$$

where  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  is the unit sphere (norm-1 vectors)

 This value corresponds to the largest l<sup>2</sup> tensor singular value, or in the symmetric case, the largest magnitude of any of the tensor Z-eigenvalues

### **Eigenvalues of Nonsymmetric Tensors**

- For nonsymmetric matrices case, the Lagrangian approach used above cannot be used to describe the eigenvalues
  - The eigenvalues of a real nonsymmetric matrix may be complex
  - For tensors, we can still define the eigenvalue equations in a consistent way with respect to matrices,

$$oldsymbol{f}_i^{(oldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(oldsymbol{x},\ldots,oldsymbol{x}) = \lambda \phi_p(oldsymbol{x})$$

so that  $\lambda, x$  are the mode-*i* an  $l^p$ -eigenpair

For matrices, the mode-1 and mode-2 l<sup>2</sup>-eigenvectors are the left/right eigenvectors

#### **Connection Between Decomposition and Eigenvalues**

- In the matrix-case, the largest magnitude eigenvalue and singular value may be associated with a rank-1 term that gives the best rank-1 decomposition of a matrix
  - ▶ For symmetric matrices, it suffices to consider the dominant eigenpair
  - For nonsymmetric matrices, a rank-1 truncated SVD gives the largest singular vector/value pair and associated rank-1 approximation
- In the tensor case, the rank-1 approximation problem corresponds to a maximization problem<sup>4</sup>
  - $\blacktriangleright$  Given a nonsymmetric tensor  ${\mathcal T}$  the rank-1 tensor decomposition objective is

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)},\ldots,\boldsymbol{u}^{(d)}\in\mathbb{S}^{n-1}}\|\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}}-\sigma\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)}\otimes\cdots\otimes\boldsymbol{u}^{(d)}\|_F^2$$

ullet The problem is equivalent to the maximum  $l^2$ -singular value problem for  ${oldsymbol {\mathcal T}}$ 

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)},\ldots,\boldsymbol{u}^{(d)}\in\mathbb{S}^{n-1}}\sigma\quad \text{s.t.}\quad \forall_i \ \boldsymbol{f}_i^{(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)},\ldots,\hat{\boldsymbol{u}}^{(i)},\ldots,\boldsymbol{u}^{(d)})=\sigma\boldsymbol{u}^{(i)},$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>L. De Lathauwer, B. De Moor, and J. Vandewalle, "On the best rank-1 and rank- $(R_1, R_2, ..., R_n)$  approximation of higher-order tensors", 2000

### **Derivation of Equivalence**

- The singular value problem can be derived from decomposition via the method of Lagrange multipliers
  - In general, consider the Lagrangian function

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)},\ldots,\boldsymbol{u}^{(d)},\sigma,\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \|\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}} - \sigma\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes \boldsymbol{u}^{(d)}\|_{F}^{2} + \sum_{i} \lambda_{i} (\sum_{j} (\|\boldsymbol{u}_{j}^{(i)}\|_{2}^{2} - 1))$$

For order 3, we have

 $\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{w}, \sigma, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \|\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}} - \sigma \boldsymbol{u} \otimes \boldsymbol{v} \otimes \boldsymbol{w}\|_F^2 + \lambda_1 (\boldsymbol{u}^T \boldsymbol{u} - 1) + \lambda_2 (\boldsymbol{v}^T \boldsymbol{v} - 1) + \lambda_3 (\boldsymbol{w}^T \boldsymbol{w} - 1)$ 

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The optimality conditions give

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\lambda} &= \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} = 1, \quad \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{v} = 1, \quad \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} = \\ \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\sigma} &= \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad f^{(\mathcal{T})}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = \sigma \\ \frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\mathbf{u}} &= \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma \mathbf{f}_1^{(\mathcal{T})}(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = (\sigma^2 + \lambda_1) \mathbf{u} \end{aligned}$$

and similar for  $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\boldsymbol{v}}$ ,  $\frac{d\mathcal{L}}{d\boldsymbol{w}}$ . Premultiplying the last condition by  $\boldsymbol{u}^T$ , gives the second modulo  $\lambda_1$ , so  $\lambda_1 = 0$ , giving the singular value equation  $\boldsymbol{f}_1^{(\mathcal{T})}(\boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{w}) = \sigma \boldsymbol{u}$ .

### Hardness of Eigenvalue Computation

- Like rank-1 approximation, computing eigenvalues of singular values of a tensor is NP-hard, which can be demonstrated by considering the tensor bilinear feasibility problem<sup>5</sup>
  - Restricting the tensor to be symmetric still leads to NP-hard problems, the largest singular vector will be the largest eigenvector a result of Banach<sup>6</sup>

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{z}\in\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} f^{(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{y},\boldsymbol{z}) = \max_{\boldsymbol{x}\in\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} f^{(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{x})$$

• The tensor bilinear feasibility problem associated with an order 3 tensor  ${\cal T}$  is defined by the set of equations

$$f_1^{(\mathcal{T})}(v,w) = \mathbf{0}, \quad f_2^{(\mathcal{T})}(u,w) = \mathbf{0}, \quad f_3^{(\mathcal{T})}(u,v) = \mathbf{0}$$

where we seek solutions  $u, v, w \neq 0$ 

• This problem is a special case of the  $l^p$  singular value problem for any choice of p with  $\sigma = 0$ 

<sup>6</sup>S. Banach. "On homogeneous polynomials in  $L^2$ ". 1938

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>C.J. Hillar and L.-H. Lim. "Most tensor problems are NP-hard". 2013

### Hardness of Eigenvalue Computation

- NP-hardness of the tensor bilinear feasibility problem can be demonstrated by reduction from 3-colorability
  - The 3-coloring problem seeks to find (if possible) an assignment of one of 3 colors to each vertex of a graph that is different from the color of any of its neighbors
  - We define an optimization problem over a set of variables  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$  that describe the color (each will take on a power of the third root of unity), as well as auxiliary variables  $y \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $z \min \mathbb{C}$ , then define the bilinear equations

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \quad x_i y_i - z^2 = 0, \quad y_i z - x^2 = 0, \quad x_i z - y_i^2 = 0$$
$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \quad \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in E}} \underbrace{\frac{x_i^2 + x_i x_j + x_j^2}{\frac{x_i^3 - x_j^3}{x_i - x_j}}}_{\frac{x_i^3 - x_j^3}{x_i - x_j}}$$

- Assume (normalize) so that z = 1, then the first set of equations implies  $y_i = 1/x_i$  and further  $x_i^3 = 1$ , so labels are cubic roots of unity
- For the second set of equations, we then must have  $x_i \neq x_j$  if  $(i, j) \in E$

# Power Method for Singular Value Computation

- The high-order power method (HOPM) can be used to compute the largest singular value<sup>7</sup>
  - The algorithm updates factors in an alternating manner until convergence, with the *i*th factor matrix updated as

1. 
$$\boldsymbol{v}^{(i)} = \boldsymbol{f}_i^{(\mathcal{T})}(\boldsymbol{u}^{(1)}, \dots, \hat{\boldsymbol{u}}^{(i)}, \dots, \boldsymbol{u}^{(d)}),$$
  
2.  $\sigma = \|\boldsymbol{v}^{(i)}\|_2$   
3.  $\boldsymbol{u}_{new}^{(i)} = \boldsymbol{v}^{(i)}/\sigma$ 

- The algorithm can be derived from the Lagrangian and converges to a local minimum
- Effective initialization can be achieved by HOSVD and the algorithm is equivalent to the rank-1 version of the HOOI procedure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>L. De Lathauwer, B. De Moor, and J. Vandewalle, "On the best rank-1 and rank- $(R_1, R_2, ..., R_n)$  approximation of higher-order tensors", 2000

# Power Method for Symmetric Eigenvalue Problems

- The HOPM algorithm can be adapted to symmetric tensors
  - The aforementioned Banach's polynomial maximization theorem implies HOPM will converge to symmetric solution even if intermediate results are nonsymmetric
  - If symmetry is enforced on the iterates, so that

$$oldsymbol{v} = oldsymbol{f}^{(oldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(oldsymbol{u}) = oldsymbol{f}^{(oldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}_i(oldsymbol{u},\ldots,oldsymbol{u}), \quad oldsymbol{u}^{( extsf{new})} = oldsymbol{v}/\|oldsymbol{v}\|,$$

the algorithm is no longer guaranteed to converge (it does if the tensor order is even and the underlying function is convex)

• The shifted symmetric HOPM method<sup>8</sup> alleviates this problem and enables convergence to other eigenvalues by adding a shift so as to minimize  $f^{(\mathcal{T})}(u) + \alpha(u^T u)^{d/2}$  for order d tensor  $\mathcal{T}$ , yielding to updates such as

$$oldsymbol{v} = oldsymbol{f}^{(oldsymbol{\mathcal{T}})}(oldsymbol{u}) + lpha oldsymbol{u}, \quad oldsymbol{u}^{(\textit{new})} = oldsymbol{v} / \|oldsymbol{v}\|,$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>T.G. Kolda and J.R. Mayo, "Shifted Power Method for Computing Tensor Eigenpairs", 2011

# Perron-Frobenius Theorem for Tensor Eigenvalues

- The Perron-Frobenius theorem states that positive matrices have a unique real eigenvalue and the associated eigenvector is positive
  - Can be extended to nonnegative matrices so long as matrix in not reducible, i.e., cannot be put into the form

$$oldsymbol{P} oldsymbol{A} oldsymbol{P}^{-1} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{E} & oldsymbol{F} \ oldsymbol{0} & oldsymbol{G} \end{bmatrix}$$

where P is a permutation matrix and G has at least 1 row

- This theorem is prominent in the study of nonsymmetric matrices
- Its applications include analysis of stochastic processes and algebraic graph theory
- Tensor eigenvalues satisfy a generalized Perron-Frobenius theorem
  - If tensor is positive, the eigenvector with the largest eigenvalue is positive
  - A nonnegative order d tensor is irreducible if there is no d-dimensional blocking into  $2^d$  blocks that yields an off-diagonal zero block
  - For further properties, see LH Lim, "Singular Values and Eigenvalues of Tensors: A Variational Approach", 2005 and Q Yang, Y Yang, "Further results for Perron–Frobenius theorem for nonnegative tensors II", 2011

# Tensor Eigenvalues and Hypergraphs

- Matrix eigenvalues are prominent in algebraic graph theory
  - For an unweighted graph we typically consider a binary adjacency matrix A or the Laplacian matrix D A where D is a diagonal degree matrix
  - The eigenvector with the second smallest eigenvalue can be used to find a partitioning of verticies with a provably small cut value
  - Clustering can be done via constrained low-rank approximations methods
- Tensor eigenvalues can be used to understand partitioning/clustering properties of uniform hypergraphs<sup>9</sup>
  - A uniform hypergraph H = (V, E) is described by a set of vertices V and a set of hyperedges E, each of which is a subset of r vertices in E
  - Each hyperedge  $(v_i, v_j, v_k) \in E$  may be associated with a tensor entry  $t_{ijk}$
  - Laplacian-like choice of  $t_{ijk}$  yields symmetric and semidefinite tensor
  - The tensor must have a zero eigenvalue and the multiplicity of the zero eigenvalue is the number of components in the hypergraph
  - The second smallest eigenvalue lower bounds the minimum cut of H

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>J. Chang, Y. Chen, L. Qi, H. Yan, "Hypergraph Clustering Using a New Laplacian Tensor with Applications in Image Processing", 2019