

# Sparse and Low-Rank Tensor Decomposition: Supplementary Material

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## 1 Leurgans' Algorithm

For the sake of completeness, we present Leurgans' algorithm for tensor decomposition. The algorithm essentially uses simultaneous diagonalization (Lemma 2.2) at its core.

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**Algorithm 2** Leurgans' algorithm for tensor decomposition

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- 1: **Input:** Tensor  $\mathbf{X}$
- 2: Generate contraction vectors  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^{n_3}$ ,  $c, d \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1}$  uniformly randomly distributed on the unit sphere.
- 3: Compute mode 3 contractions  $X_a^3$  and  $X_b^3$  respectively.
- 4: Compute eigen-decomposition of  $M_1 := X_a^3(X_b^3)^\dagger$  and  $M_2 := (X_b^3)^\dagger X_a^3$ . Let  $U$  and  $V$  denote the matrices whose columns are the eigenvectors of  $M_1$  and  $M_2^T$  respectively corresponding to the non-zero eigenvalues, in sorted order. (Let  $r$  be the (common) rank of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ .) The eigenvectors, thus arranged are denoted as  $\{u_i\}_{i=1,\dots,r}$  and  $\{v_i\}_{i=1,\dots,r}$ .
- 5: Compute mode 1 contractions  $X_c^1$  and  $X_d^1$  respectively.
- 6: Compute eigen-decomposition of  $M_3 := X_c^1(X_d^1)^\dagger$  and  $M_4 := (X_d^1)^\dagger X_c^1$ . Let  $\tilde{V}$  and  $\tilde{W}$  denote the matrices whose columns are the eigenvectors of  $M_3$  and  $M_4^T$  respectively corresponding to the non-zero eigenvalues, in sorted order. (Let  $r$  be the (common) rank of  $M_3$  and  $M_4$ .)
- 7: Simultaneously reorder the columns of  $\tilde{V}$ ,  $\tilde{W}$ , also performing simultaneous sign reversals as necessary so that the columns of  $V$  and  $\tilde{V}$  are equal, call the resulting matrix  $W$  with columns  $\{w_i\}_{i=1,\dots,r}$ .
- 8: Solve for  $\lambda_i$  in the linear system

$$\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i.$$

- 9: **Output:** Decomposition  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i$ .
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## 2 Proofs

Since our algorithmic approach reduces the tensor decomposition problem to that of sparse and low-rank matrix decomposition, some of the proofs of the lemmas below reuse existing results. Rather than re-proving the intermediate results here, we simply refer the reader to the appropriate references.

Our first lemma establishes that given information about two contractions of a tensor, one may recover the tensor via linear algebraic operations.

**Lemma 2.2.** [4, 19] Suppose we are given an order 3 tensor  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i$  of size  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3$  satisfying the conditions of Assumption 1.1. Suppose the contractions  $X_a^3$  and  $X_b^3$  are computed with respect to unit

vectors  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^{n_3}$  distributed independently and uniformly on the unit sphere  $\mathbb{S}^{n_3-1}$  and consider the matrices  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  formed as:

$$M_1 = X_a^3 (X_b^3)^\dagger \quad M_2 = (X_b^3)^\dagger X_a^3.$$

Then the eigenvectors of  $M_1$  (corresponding to the non-zero eigenvalues) are  $\{u_i\}_{i=1,\dots,r}$ , and the eigenvectors of  $M_2^T$  are  $\{v_i\}_{i=1,\dots,r}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose we are given an order 3 tensor  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . From the definition of contraction (2), it is straightforward to see that

$$X_a^3 = U D_a V^T \quad D_a = \text{diag}(\lambda_1 a^T w_1, \dots, \lambda_r a^T w_r)$$

$$X_b^3 = U D_b V^T \quad D_b = \text{diag}(\lambda_1 b^T w_1, \dots, \lambda_r b^T w_r).$$

In the above decompositions,  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times r}$ ,  $V \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times r}$ , and the matrices  $D_a, D_b \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}$  are diagonal and non-singular almost surely (since  $a, b$  are random). Now,

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &:= X_a^3 (X_b^3)^\dagger \\ &= U D_a V^T (V^\dagger)^T D_b^{-1} U^\dagger \\ &= U D_a D_b^{-1} U^\dagger \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

and similarly we obtain

$$M_2^T = V D_b^{-1} D_a V^\dagger. \tag{8}$$

Since we have  $M_1 U = U D_a D_b^{-1}$  and  $M_2^T V = V D_b^{-1} D_a$ , it follows that the columns of  $U$  and  $V$  are eigenvectors of  $M_1$  and  $M_2^T$  respectively (with corresponding eigenvalues given by the diagonal matrices  $D_a D_b^{-1}$  and  $D_b^{-1} D_a$ ).  $\square$

**Theorem 3.1.** Suppose  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ , where  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i$ , has rank  $r \leq n_1$  and such that the factors satisfy Assumption 1.1. Suppose  $\mathbf{Y}$  has support  $\Omega$  and the following condition is satisfied.

$$\mu(\Omega^{(3)}) \zeta(U, V) \leq \frac{1}{6} \quad \mu(\Omega^{(1)}) \zeta(V, W) < \frac{1}{6}.$$

Then Algorithm 1 succeeds in exactly recovering the component tensors, i.e.  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = (\hat{\mathbf{X}}, \hat{\mathbf{Y}})$  whenever  $\nu_k$  are picked so that  $\nu_3 \in \left( \frac{\zeta(U, V)}{1 - 4\zeta(U, V)\mu(\Omega^{(3)})}, \frac{1 - 3\zeta(U, V)\mu(\Omega^{(3)})}{\mu(\Omega^{(3)})} \right)$  and  $\nu_1 \in \left( \frac{\zeta(V, W)}{1 - 4\zeta(V, W)\mu(\Omega^{(1)})}, \frac{1 - 3\zeta(V, W)\mu(\Omega^{(1)})}{\mu(\Omega^{(1)})} \right)$ . Specifically, choice of  $\nu_3 = \frac{(3\zeta(U, V))^p}{(\mu(\Omega^{(3)}))^{1-p}}$  and  $\nu_1 = \frac{(3\zeta(V, W))^p}{(\mu(\Omega^{(1)}))^{1-p}}$  for any  $p \in [0, 1]$  in these respective intervals guarantees exact recovery.

*Proof.* Since  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ , we have  $Z_a^3 = X_a^3 + Y_a^3$ . By Lemma 2.1  $X_a^3$  is a low-rank matrix with row space  $\text{span}(U)$  and column space  $\text{span}(V)$ . Hence the incoherence parameter for  $X_a^3$  is precisely  $\zeta(U, V)$ . Since  $\mathbf{Y}$  is sparse with support  $\Omega$ ,  $Y_a^3$  is sparse with support  $\Omega^{(3)}$ . By assumption,  $\mu(\Omega^{(3)}) \zeta(U, V) \leq \frac{1}{6}$ . By [10, Theorem 2], the convex relaxation (6) with the prescribed regularization parameter exactly recovers the unique low-rank and sparse components, i.e.  $X_a^3, Y_a^3$ . Similarly, the procedure repeated with respect to the contraction vector  $b$  recovers  $X_b^3$ . By Lemma 2.2, step 6 of Algorithm 1 exactly recovers the  $U, V$ . The same procedure repeated with contractions along the first mode with respect to  $c, d$  ensures recovery of  $V, W$ . Note that in Step 12 of Algorithm 1, the linear system is full rank (since the factors are linearly independent by Assumption 1.1), overdetermined and thus has a unique and correct solution.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** We have:

$$\mu(\Omega^{(k)}) \leq \deg(\mathbf{Y}), \text{ for all } k.$$

*Proof.* Given a tensor  $\mathbf{Y}$  with support  $\Omega$ , the sparsity pattern of  $Y_a^3$  is contained within  $\Omega^{(3)}$ . By the definition of the degree of  $\mathbf{Y}$ , we have  $\deg(Y_a^3) \leq \deg(\mathbf{Y})$ . By [10, Proposition 3] the result follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *We have*

$$\zeta(U, V) \leq 2\text{inc}(\mathbf{X}) \quad \zeta(V, W) \leq 2\text{inc}(\mathbf{X}).$$

*Proof.* From [10, Proposition 4], we have  $\zeta(U, V) \leq 2 \max\{\beta(\text{span}(U)), \beta(\text{span}(V))\}$ . Similarly, we have  $\zeta(V, W) \leq 2 \max\{\beta(\text{span}(V)), \beta(\text{span}(W))\}$ . The result follows by applying the definition of  $\text{inc}(\mathbf{X})$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ , with  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i$  and rank  $r \leq n_1$ , the factors satisfy Assumption 1.1 and incoherence  $\text{inc}(\mathbf{X})$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{Y}$  is sparse and has degree  $\text{deg}(\mathbf{Y})$ . If the condition*

$$\text{inc}(\mathbf{X})\text{deg}(\mathbf{Y}) < \frac{1}{12}$$

*holds then Algorithm 1 successfully recovers the true solution, i.e.  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = (\hat{\mathbf{X}}, \hat{\mathbf{Y}})$  when the parameters*

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_3 &\in \left( \frac{2\text{inc}_3(\mathbf{X})}{1 - 8\text{deg}_3(\mathbf{Y})\text{inc}_3(\mathbf{X})}, \frac{1 - 6\text{deg}_3(\mathbf{Y})\text{inc}_3(\mathbf{X})}{\text{deg}_3(\mathbf{Y})} \right) \\ \nu_1 &\in \left( \frac{2\text{inc}_1(\mathbf{X})}{1 - 8\text{deg}_1(\mathbf{Y})\text{inc}_1(\mathbf{X})}, \frac{1 - 6\text{deg}_1(\mathbf{Y})\text{inc}_1(\mathbf{X})}{\text{deg}_1(\mathbf{Y})} \right). \end{aligned}$$

*Specifically, a choice of  $\nu_3 = \frac{(6\text{inc}_3(\mathbf{X}))^p}{(2\text{deg}_3(\mathbf{Y}))^{1-p}}$ ,  $\nu_1 = \frac{(6\text{inc}_1(\mathbf{X}))^p}{(2\text{deg}_1(\mathbf{Y}))^{1-p}}$  for any  $p \in [0, 1]$  is a valid choice that guarantees exact recovery.*

*Proof.* Follows immediately from Lemma 3.2, Lemma 3.3, and the conditions of Theorem 3.1 being satisfied.  $\square$

We consider, for the sake of simplicity, tensors of uniform dimension, i.e.  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n \times n}$ . We define the *random sparsity* model to be one where each entry of the tensor  $\mathbf{Y}$  is non-zero independently and with identical probability  $\rho$ . We make no assumption about the magnitude of the entries of  $\mathbf{Y}$ , only that its non-zero entries are thus sampled.

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i u_i \otimes v_i \otimes w_i$ , where  $u_i, v_i, w_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are uniformly randomly distributed on the unit sphere  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ . Then the incoherence of the tensor  $\mathbf{X}$  satisfies:*

$$\text{inc}(\mathbf{X}) \leq c_1 \sqrt{\frac{\max\{r, \log n\}}{n}}$$

*for some constants  $c_1, c_2$ , with probability exceeding  $1 - c_2 n^{-3} \log n$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $u_i$  are picked uniformly randomly on the unit sphere, the subspace  $\text{span}(U)$  is a uniformly random subspace. Equivalently,  $\text{span}(U) = \text{span}(\tilde{U})$  for some random matrix  $\tilde{U}$  which is uniformly distributed with respect to the set of partial isometries in  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ . By [7, Lemma 2.2] we have that

$$\beta(\text{span}(U)) \leq c_1 \sqrt{\frac{\max\{r, \log n\}}{n}}$$

with probability exceeding  $1 - k_0 n^{-3} \log n$  for some constant  $k_0$ . The same results hold for the incoherences of  $\text{span}(V)$ ,  $\text{span}(W)$ . By the definition of  $\text{inc}(\mathbf{X})$ , we have the required result.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.6.** *Suppose the entries of  $\mathbf{Y}$  are sampled according to the random sparsity model, and*

$$\rho = O\left(\left(n^{\frac{3}{2}} \max(\log n, r)\right)^{-1}\right).$$

*Then the tensor  $\mathbf{Y}$  satisfies:*

$$\text{deg}(\mathbf{Y}) \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{12c_1 \max(\log n, r)}$$

*with probability exceeding  $1 - \exp\left(-c_3 \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\max(\log n, r)}\right)$  for some constant  $c_3 > 0$ .*

*Proof.* To bound  $\deg(\mathbf{Y})$  we must bound the degree of any matrix supported on  $\Omega^{(k)}$  for  $k = 1, 2, 3$ . To this end we introduce the following sets of random variables:

- Let  $B_{ijk} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\rho)$  be the random variable such that  $B_{ijk} = 1$  when  $(i, j, k) \in \Omega$  and 0 otherwise.
- Let  $C$  be a matrix such that  $C_{ij} = 1$  if  $(i, j) \in \Omega^{(3)}$  and 0 otherwise.

We have that

$$C_{ij} \leq \sum_{k=1}^n B_{ijk}.$$

Hence, for any column of  $C$  (say  $j^{\text{th}}$  column), we have that the number of non-zeroes in the column (let us denote this by  $\deg(C_j)$ ) is given by:

$$\deg(C_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n C_{ij} \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n B_{ijk}. \quad (9)$$

Since (9) is a sum of *i.i.d.* Bernoulli random variables, we have by the (multiplicative form of) Chernoff-Hoeffding inequality:

$$\mathbb{P}(\deg(C_j) > 2n^2\rho) \leq \exp\left(-c_0 \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\max(\log n, r)}\right)$$

for some constant  $c_0$ . In other words,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\deg(C_j) > \frac{\sqrt{n}}{12c_1 \max(\log n, r)}\right) \leq \exp\left(-c_0 \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\max(\log n, r)}\right).$$

The same argument applies for all the rows and columns of  $C$ , and thus the same bound applies. By taking a union bounds over these rows and columns we have that:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\deg(C) > \frac{\sqrt{n}}{12c_1 \max(\log n, r)}\right) \leq 2n \exp\left(-c_2 \frac{\sqrt{n}}{\max(\log n, r)}\right)$$

for some constant  $c_2$ . Note that  $\deg(C)$  is an upper bound on  $\deg_3(\mathbf{X})$ . In an identical manner, we can bound the degrees along the first and second mode, and taking union bounds over the three modes we get the result.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$  where  $\mathbf{X}$  is low rank with random factors as per the conditions of Lemma 3.5 and  $\mathbf{Y}$  is sparse with random support as per the conditions in Lemma 3.6. Provided  $r \sim o\left(n^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)$ , Algorithm 1 successfully recovers the correct decomposition, i.e.  $(\hat{\mathbf{X}}, \hat{\mathbf{Y}}) = (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$  with probability exceeding  $1 - n^{-\alpha}$  for some  $\alpha > 0$ .*

*Proof.* The result follows immediately from Lemma 3.5, Lemma 3.6, and Corollary 3.4.  $\square$

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