

1 We would like to thank the reviewers for their thorough reading of the article and their many pertinent remarks, which  
 2 help to improve the clarity. In the final version, we will address all comments on form. To address the reviewers' main  
 3 concerns and better show the extent and feasibility of our methodology, we respond by adding an application on a  
 4 recommendation system data. We consider the Jester dataset [2] of 5000 users who rated jokes, with 27% of missing  
 5 values. The low-rank assumption for the loading matrix (allowed by Assump. 1) makes sense: any variable (i.e. user  
 6 preferences) can be expressed as a linear combination of  $r$  latent variables<sup>1</sup> (hence, a "fully connected PPCA"). The  
 7 first latent variable opposes individuals who like jokes about physics but dislike jokes about sexuality, and conversely.

8 **MNAR mechanism. (R1, R3)** Considering MNAR and self-masking values is plausible because users only rate  
 9 jokes they like or dislike strongly or might be ashamed to assume their taste for sexual jokes. Note that the **self-masked**  
 10 **assumption** is required only for the identifiability but the estimation strategy is also derived for **general MNAR**  
 11 **mechanisms** (allowed by Assump. A2) where the missingness may depend on other missing variables. Assump. A2  
 12 means that a user's non-response for the sexual joke given all jokes may depend on the scores of the sexual and physical  
 13 jokes but not on the musical and computer jokes.

14 **Selecting the number  $r$  of latent variables and estimating the noise variance. (R1)** To select  $r$ , one could use  
 15 complete observations only but this is not possible when the number of features is large. As an alternative, we used  
 16 both a cross-validation strategy assuming M(C)AR mechanism as detailed in [3] and also a beta implementation (that  
 17 we coded) of a CV assuming MNAR mechanism. The second one is dependent on the chosen mechanism. As noted by  
 18 the reviewers, Algorithm 1 is robust to a misspecification of the rank and thus a reasonable heuristic may already be  
 19 enough. Both approaches estimate  $r = 5$ . CV was also used for Traumabase where oracle values were only used for  
 20 synthetic data. With  $r$  at hand, the noise variance is obtained directly using weighted residual sum of squares as in [3].

21 **Selecting the  $r$  pivot variables. (R1,R3)** The next step consists in selecting  $r$  (M(C)AR) pivot variables (observed  
 22 or M(C)AR variables imply Assump. A4) on which regressions<sup>2</sup> are performed<sup>3</sup>. Here, because we do not have further  
 23 information on the missing mechanisms, we select the variables with the lowest missing rate. In Traumabase, the  
 24 selection was discussed with experts (doctors) who identified M(C)AR variables. To reduce the error committed by a  
 25 wrong selection of pivot variables, we suggest selecting a bigger set ( $> 5$ ) and computing the final estimator with the  
 26 median of the estimators over all possible combinations. In Fig. 2, by discarding outliers, this **aggregation approach**  
 27 is more robust than selecting only  $r$  pivot variables.

28 **Additional experiments. (R1,R4)** Then, we test our method by introducing additional MNAR values on one variable  
 29 (containing 33% NA) using a self-masked mechanism leading to 65% NA. In Fig. 1, **our method (MNAR) outperforms**  
 30 **all the others on rating data** including Deep [1] which imputes MNAR values using deep generative models (R4)<sup>4</sup>.  
 31 The parametric method MNARparam is not displayed as it does not scale on such large data. The code for the whole  
 32 methodology was already available, but now recast as a **beta version of package (R1)** and submitted soon on CRAN.

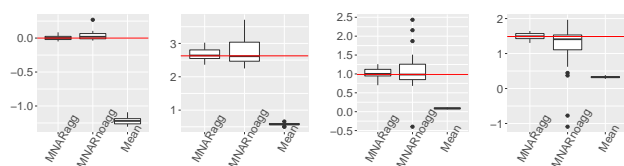
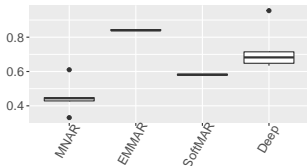


Fig. 1: Prediction error (difference between true values and predicted ones) for the Jester dataset, the mean imputation corresponding to an error of 1. The process of drawing additional MNAR values and predicting them is repeated 10 times which gives the stochasticity.

Fig. 2: Synthetic data from Section 4.1, with Algorithm 1 performed with aggregation (MNARagg) or not (MNARnoagg). True values in red, estimated values (means, variance, cov) in boxplot. For a given set of PPCA parameter, the stochasticity comes from the process of drawing 20 times the latent variables, the additive noise and the missing-data pattern (R3).

34 **Comparison with Miao et al. [4] (R2,R3)** For one variable  $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , Miao et al. prove identifiability of the  
 35 variance and the absolute value of the mean, assuming a self-masked mechanism with a known strictly monotone form  
 36 (including classical Probit and Logit). They cannot get identifiability for the mean (not the absolute value) with Logit.  
 37 We have used their result to prove variance identifiability in PPCA and provide a genuine proof for the mean without  
 38 discarding Logit. Secondly, for a specific setting of an heteroscedastic regression model with missing values only in  $Y$ ,  
 39 where the variance of  $Y$  given the observed covariates is injective, they provide identifiability results for the conditional  
 40 distribution with general MNAR. This setting and the proof are too restricted to be considered in PPCA.

41 **Supervised learning task on Traumabase. (R3)** To predict the administration or not of  
 42 the tranexomic acid (binary variable), we impute explanatory variables before proceeding  
 43 to the classification task. In Tab. 1, our method gives the smallest prediction error.

MNAR	5.06%
EMMAR	5.82%
SoftMAR	5.45%
MNARparam	5.39%
Mean	5.27%

Tab. 1: Mean of prediction error over 10 repetitions.

<sup>1</sup> It does not require that the linear combination coefficients are non zero. <sup>2</sup> assumed to be consistent by Assump. A3, which holds as the noise tends to 0. (R1) <sup>3</sup> Note that our method is not based on the complete-case of the dataset but on the complete-case of the  $r$  ( $\ll p$ ) pivot variables (R3). <sup>4</sup> Note that this method requires to be trained on a complete dataset.