

Note: The tensor product is denoted by \otimes . In other words, for vectors $\underline{a}, \underline{b}, \underline{c}$ we have that $\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b}$ is the square array $a^\alpha b^\beta$ where the superscript denotes the components, and $\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b} \otimes \underline{c}$ is the cubic array $a^\alpha b^\beta c^\gamma$. We often denote components by superscripts because we need the lower index to label vectors themselves.

Problem 1: Moments of Gaussian mixture model (GMM)

Consider the following mixture of Gaussians (we look at the special case where all the covariance matrices are isotropic, equal to $\sigma^2 I_{D \times D}$):

$$p(\underline{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{\frac{D}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\underline{x} - \underline{a}_i\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

where $\underline{x}, \underline{a}_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$ are column vectors and the weights $w_i \in (0, 1]$ satisfy $\sum_{i=1}^K w_i = 1$.

- 1) For $j \in [D]$, \underline{e}_j is the j^{th} canonical basis vector of \mathbb{R}^D . Prove the following identities for the mean vector, the second moment matrix and the third moment tensor:

$$\mathbb{E}[\underline{x}] = \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \underline{a}_i \quad ;$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\underline{x} \underline{x}^T] = \sigma^2 I_{D \times D} + \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \underline{a}_i \underline{a}_i^T \quad ;$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\underline{x} \otimes \underline{x} \otimes \underline{x}] = \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \underline{a}_i \otimes \underline{a}_i \otimes \underline{a}_i + \sigma^2 \sum_{j=1}^D \sum_{i=1}^K w_i (\underline{a}_i \otimes \underline{e}_j \otimes \underline{e}_j + \underline{e}_j \otimes \underline{e}_j \otimes \underline{a}_i + \underline{e}_j \otimes \underline{a}_i \otimes \underline{e}_j).$$

- 2) Let R be a $K \times K$ orthogonal (rotation) matrix. Define the matrix \tilde{R} whose entries are $\tilde{R}_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{w_i}} R_{ij} \sqrt{w_j}$, as well as the transformed vectors

$$\underline{a}'_i = \sum_{j=1}^K \tilde{R}_{ij} \underline{a}_j.$$

Show that the mixture of Gaussians

$$p(\underline{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^K w_i \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{\frac{D}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\underline{x} - \underline{a}'_i\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

has the same second moment matrix as the previous one.

Problem 2: Examples of tensors and their rank

We recall that the rank of a tensor is the minimum possible number of terms in a decomposition of a tensor as a sum of rank-one tensors. Let $e_0^T = (1, 0)$ and $e_1^T = (0, 1)$. Consider the following second-order tensors (also called mode-2 or 2-way tensors):

$$\begin{aligned} B &= e_0 \otimes e_0 + e_1 \otimes e_1 \\ P &= e_0 \otimes e_0 + e_1 \otimes e_1 + e_0 \otimes e_1 + e_1 \otimes e_0 \\ E &= e_0 \otimes e_0 + e_1 \otimes e_1 + e_0 \otimes e_1 \end{aligned}$$

as well as the third-order tensors (mode-3 or 3-way):

$$\begin{aligned} G &= e_0 \otimes e_0 \otimes e_0 + e_1 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_1 \\ W &= e_0 \otimes e_0 \otimes e_1 + e_0 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_0 + e_1 \otimes e_0 \otimes e_0 . \end{aligned}$$

- 1) Draw the two and three-dimensional multiarrays for all these tensors.
- 2) Determine the rank of each tensor (and justify your answer).
- 3) Let $\epsilon > 0$ and

$$D_\epsilon = \frac{1}{\epsilon} (e_0 + \epsilon e_1) \otimes (e_0 + \epsilon e_1) \otimes (e_0 + \epsilon e_1) - \frac{1}{\epsilon} e_0 \otimes e_0 \otimes e_0$$

Check that $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} D_\epsilon = W$. In other words, the rank-3 tensor W can be obtained as a limit of a sum of two rank-one tensors: W is on the “boundary” of the space of rank-2 tensors.

Problem 3: Frobenius norm minimizations: matrix versus tensors.

The Frobenius norm $\|\cdot\|_F$ of a tensor is defined as the Euclidean norm of the multi-array:

$$\|T\|_F^2 = \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma} |T^{\alpha\beta\gamma}|^2 .$$

We recall the following important theorem for matrices.

Theorem 1 (Eckart-Young-Mirsky theorem). *Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times N}$ be a rank- R matrix whose singular value decomposition is given by $U\Sigma V^*$ where $U \in \mathbb{C}^{M \times M}$, $V \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ are both unitary matrices and $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is a diagonal matrix with real nonnegative diagonal entries. Without loss of generality we assume that the singular values are arranged in decreasing order, i.e., $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_{\min\{M, N\}}$ (where $\sigma_i = \Sigma_{ii}$). Then, the best rank- k ($k \leq R$) approximation of A is given by the truncated SVD $\hat{A} = U\tilde{\Sigma}V^*$ with $\tilde{\Sigma}$ the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are $\tilde{\Sigma}_{ii} = \sigma_i$ if $1 \leq i \leq k$, $\tilde{\Sigma}_{ii} = 0$ otherwise. More precisely:*

$$\|A - \hat{A}\|_F = \min_{S: \text{rank}(S) \leq k} \|A - S\|_F .$$

1) Do you think the analogous problem for tensors is well posed? In other words, given a tensor T of order $p \geq 3$ and rank R , can we always find a order- p tensor \hat{T} whose rank is strictly smaller than R and that achieves the minimum of $\|T - S\|_F$ over all the order- p tensors S of rank $k < R$?

2) We wish to come back to the interesting phenomenon observed in question 4) of Problem 2. In this question we saw that an order-3 rank-3 tensor could be obtained as the limit of a sequence of rank-2 tensors. Use the Eckart-Young theorem to show that a rank $R+1$ matrix cannot be obtained as a limit of a sum of R rank-one matrices. Can we obtain a rank- $(R-1)$ matrix as the limit of a sequence of rank- R matrices? And what about tensors?

3) *Independent question on the Frobenius norm.* The multilinear transformation of a tensor is the new tensor $T(R_1, R_2, R_3)$ with components

$$T(R_1, R_2, R_3)^{\alpha\beta\gamma} = \sum_{\delta, \epsilon, \zeta} R_1^{\alpha\delta} R_2^{\beta\epsilon} R_3^{\gamma\zeta} T^{\delta\epsilon\zeta}.$$

Check that if R_1, R_2, R_3 are unitary matrices then the Frobenius norm is invariant, i.e., $\|T\|_F = \|T(R_1, R_2, R_3)\|_F$. You can limit your proof to real-valued tensors if you wish¹.

Problem 4: Kronecker and Khatri-Rao products

The *Kronecker product* \otimes_{Kro} of two vectors $\underline{a} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1}$ and $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_2}$ is a vectorization of the tensor (or outer) product. This amounts to take the $I_1 \times I_2$ array $a^\alpha b^\beta = (\underline{a} \otimes \underline{b})^{\alpha\beta}$ and view it as a vector of size $I_1 I_2$. More precisely, we define the Kronecker product as the column vector:

$$\underline{a} \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \underline{b} = \begin{bmatrix} a^1 \underline{b}^T & \cdots & a^{I_1} \underline{b}^T \end{bmatrix}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1 I_2}.$$

Let $A = [\underline{a}_1 \ \cdots \ \underline{a}_R]$ and $B = [\underline{b}_1 \ \cdots \ \underline{b}_R]$ be matrices of dimensions $I_1 \times R$ and $I_2 \times R$. We define the *Khatri-Rao* product as the $I_1 I_2 \times R$ matrix

$$A \odot_{\text{KhR}} B = [\underline{a}_1 \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \underline{b}_1 \ \cdots \ \underline{a}_R \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \underline{b}_R].$$

- 1) Assume that both A and B are full column rank. Prove that the Khatri-Rao product $A \odot_{\text{KhR}} B$ is also full column rank.

Problem 5: Check useful identities

Besides the tensor product (ntroduced in class), and the Kronecker and Khatri-Rao products (introduced in the previous exercise), we also introduce the Hadamard product. The Hadamard product of two matrices (of same dimensions) is the matrix given by the point-wise product of components, i.e, if A, B have matrix elements a_{ij} and b_{ij} then the Hadamard product $A \circ B$ has matrix elements $a_{ij} b_{ij}$.

¹In this case R_1, R_2, R_3 are orthogonal matrices.

Let $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^I$ and $\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{R}^J$ be column vectors. Let $B, D \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times R}$ and $C, E \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times R}$ be four matrices. Check the following identities that will be used in class:

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{c} \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \mathbf{b})^T &= \mathbf{c}^T \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \mathbf{b}^T ; \\(\mathbf{e} \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \mathbf{d})^T (\mathbf{c} \otimes_{\text{Kro}} \mathbf{b}) &= (\mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{c})(\mathbf{d}^T \mathbf{b}) ; \\(E \otimes_{\text{Khr}} D)^T (C \otimes_{\text{Khr}} B) &= (E^T C) \circ (D^T B) .\end{aligned}$$