

# Concise Tensors of Minimal Border Rank

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# Definitions

Let  $T \in A \otimes B \otimes C$ .

$T$  can be seen as a linear map  $T_A : A^* \rightarrow B \otimes C$ . Similarly  $T_B$  and  $T_C$ .

## Definition

The *rank* of a tensor  $T$ , denoted  $\mathbf{R}(T)$ , is the smallest  $r$  such that  $T = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i \otimes b_i \otimes c_i$ .

## Definition

The *border rank* of a tensor  $T$ , denoted  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}(T)$ , is the smallest  $r$  such that  $T = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} T_\epsilon$  where  $\mathbf{R}(T_\epsilon) = r$ .

## Definition

The tensor  $T$  is called *concise* if  $T_A$ ,  $T_B$  and  $T_C$  are of full rank.

# Questions

Assume  $\dim(A) = \dim(B) = \dim(C) = m$  and  $T \in A \otimes B \otimes C$ .

## Question 1

Find equations for the set of border rank at most  $m$  tensors.

Question 1 is answered up to dimension  $m=4$ . [Friedland]

Assuming  $T$  is concise, minimal possible border rank for  $T$  is  $m$ .

## Question 2

Find equations for the set of concise minimal border rank tensors.

Under a natural genericity condition this question is same as characterizing the closure of simultaneously diagonalizable matrices.

# Questions

$B \otimes C$  is identified with linear maps from  $B^*$  to  $C$ ,  $\text{Hom}(B^*, C)$ .

## Definition

$T$  is called  $1_A$ -generic (similarly  $1_B$  and  $1_C$ ) if there exist  $x \in A^*$  such that  $T_A(x)$  is invertible.  $T$  is called  $1_*$ -generic if it is  $1_A$ ,  $1_B$  or  $1_C$ -generic.

If  $T$  is  $1_*$ -generic then we reduce to a classical problem of classifying the closure of simultaneously diagonalizable matrices.

## Question 3

Find equations for the set of concise,  $1_*$ -generic, minimal border rank tensors.

Question 3 is answered for  $m = 5$ . [Landsberg, Michalek]

# Simultaneously Diagonalizable Matrices

Let  $M_1, \dots, M_m$  be  $m$  simultaneously diagonalizable  $m \times m$  matrices.

## Classical Problem

Characterize the closure of the space of a finite number of simultaneously diagonalizable matrices.

## Known Results

- End Closed Condition: Known since 1960.[Gerstenhaber]
- Flag Condition: Appeared in 1997.[ Burgisser, Clausen, Shokrollahi]

# Motivation

- Question 1 is finding equations for the secant variety,  $\sigma_m(\mathbb{CP}^{m-1} \times \mathbb{CP}^{m-1} \times \mathbb{CP}^{m-1})$ .
- Complexity Theory: Latest bound on the exponent of matrix multiplication is achieved through Coppersmith-Winograd tensor. Which is a concise minimal border rank tensor.
- Classical Linear Algebra: Closure of simultaneously diagonalizable matrices.
- Algebraic Geometry: Hilbert schemes and Quot Schemes.

# Strassen's Equations

Simultaneously diagonalizable  $\implies$  Commuting.

## Theorem ([Strassen])

*Let  $X_1, X_2$  and  $Y$  be in  $T_A(A^*)$ . If  $T$  is of minimal border rank then  $\text{adj}(Y)X_1\text{adj}(Y)X_2 - \text{adj}(Y)X_2\text{adj}(Y)X_1 = 0$ .*

Assuming  $T$   $1_*$ -generic, we can take  $Y$  to be of full rank and in particular identity matrix. Then Strassen's Equations precisely reduces to commuting criterion of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

These are necessary conditions a tensor must satisfy in order to be of minimal border rank.

# 111-test

A concise tensor  $T$  is said to pass 111-test if

$$\dim((T_A(A^*) \otimes A) \cap (T_B(B^*) \otimes B) \cap (T_C(C^*) \otimes C)) \geq m.$$

## Definition

If  $T$  satisfies the above inequality then  $T$  is called 111-abundant and if it satisfies without excess, i.e. the above inequality becomes equality then we say  $T$  is 111-sharp.



# Towards $m=5$ and 6, $1_A$ -generic case

In this case  $T$  is  $1_A$ -generic and concise.

- Already solved, Question 3 for  $m=5$ . [Landsberg, Michalek]
- Known answer: Strassen's equations together with end closed condition.

## Theorem (J. Jelisiejew, K. Sivic)

*The closure of the space of 4-tuple of  $5 \times 5$  commuting matrices is not irreducible and has exactly two components.*

*The principal component is the closure of simultaneously diagonalizable matrices and one other bad component.*

**Upshot:** This extends to  $m = 6$  and the same remains true!

## Theorem (Jelisiejew, Landsberg, P)

Let  $T \in \mathbb{C}^m \otimes \mathbb{C}^m \otimes \mathbb{C}^m$ , where  $m = 5, 6$ , be a concise  $1_*$ -generic tensor. Then the following subsets coincide.

- 1 The zero set of Strassen's equations and End-closed equations.
- 2 111-abundant tensors.
- 3 111-sharp tensors.
- 4 Minimal border rank tensors.

# Towards $m=5$ , 1-degenerate

## Theorem (Jelisiejew, Landsberg, P)

Let  $T \in \mathbb{C}^5 \otimes \mathbb{C}^5 \otimes \mathbb{C}^5$  be a concise tensor. Then the following subsets are equal.

- 1 111-abundant tensors.
- 2 Minimal border rank tensors.

# Thank you

**Thank you!**

# References



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# Explanation

Let  $T$  be concise,  $1_A$ -generic, and  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  be a basis of  $A^*$  with  $T_A(\alpha_1)$  full rank. Consider  $Id_{B^*}, T_A(\alpha_1)^{-1}T_A(\alpha_2), \dots, T_A(\alpha_1)^{-1}T_A(\alpha_m) \in \text{Hom}(B^*, B^*)$ .

If  $T$  is of rank  $m$  then note that  $T_A(\alpha_1)^{-1}T_A(\alpha_2), \dots, T_A(\alpha_1)^{-1}T_A(\alpha_m)$  needs to be simultaneously diagonalizable matrices. This is basically consequence of Strassen's equations.

Thus if  $T$  is of border rank  $m$  then  $T_A(\alpha_1)^{-1}T_A(\alpha_2), \dots, T_A(\alpha_1)^{-1}T_A(\alpha_m)$  has to be in the closure of the space of simultaneously diagonalizable tuple of matrices.

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# End Closed Condition

## End Closed Condition

Let  $T \in A \otimes B \otimes C$  be a concise  $1_A$ -generic tensor and  $\alpha \in A^*$  such that  $T_A(\alpha)$  has full rank. Then  $T(\alpha)^{-1}T_A(A^*)$  is a subalgebra of  $\text{Hom}(B^*, B^*)$ .

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# Flag Condition

## Flag Condition

Let  $T \in A \otimes B \otimes C$  be a concise tensor. Then if  $\underline{R}(T) = m$  there exist  $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \cdots \subset A_m = A^*$  such that  $\dim(A_i) = i$  and  $\mathbb{P}T_A(A_i) \subset \sigma_i(\mathbb{P}B \times \mathbb{P}C)$ .

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# Friedland's Normal Form

## Theorem ([Friedland], Thm 3.1)

Let  $T \in A \otimes B \otimes C$  be  $1_A$ -degenerate and rank of elements of  $T_A(A^*)$  are bounded by  $m - 1$  but not by  $m - 2$ . Then there exist bases of  $A, B, C$  such that, letting  $X_1, \dots, X_m$  be a basis of  $T_A(A^*)$  as a space of matrices,

$$\textcircled{1} X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} Id_{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{2} X_m = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_m & \omega \\ \alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{8} \text{ For all } 2 \leq s \leq m - 1, X_s = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here  $\omega \in \mathbb{C}^{m-1}$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}^{(m-1)*}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_m, \mathbf{x}_s \in \text{Mat}_{(m-1) \times (m-1)}$ .

Moreover,  $\alpha \mathbf{x}_m^j \omega = 0$  for all  $j$ , and letting  $U_R = \langle \mathbf{x}_m^j \omega \mid j \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}^{m-1}$  and  $U_L = \langle \alpha \mathbf{x}_m^j \mid j \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \rangle \subset \mathbb{C}^{(m-1)*}$ . Then  $\mathbf{x}_s U_R = 0 = U_L \mathbf{x}_s$  for  $2 \leq s \leq m - 1$ .

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