Tensors of Minimal Border Rank

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Simultaneously Diagonalizable Matrices

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

Classical Problem

Characterizing 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]

Definitions

Let $T \in A \otimes B \otimes C$.
T can be seen as a linear map $T_A : A^* \to B \otimes C$. 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 $T = \lim\limits_{\epsilon \to 0} T_\epsilon$ 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, $\mathrm{Hom}(B^*, C)$.

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 the previous 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]

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 $X_1 \mathit{adj}(Y) X_2 - X_2 \mathit{adj}(Y) X_1 = 0$.

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.

Koszul Flattenings

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

$$T^{\wedge p} : B^* \otimes \bigwedge^p A \xrightarrow{T_B \otimes Id} A \otimes \bigwedge^p A \otimes C \xrightarrow{\pi \otimes Id} \bigwedge^{p+1} A \otimes C$$

Theorem ([Landsberg, Ottaviani], Thm 2.1)

$\underline{R}(T) \geq \frac{rank(T^{\wedge p})}{\binom{m-1}{p}}$

Remark: $p = 1$ Koszul flattening equations are stronger than Strassen's equations.

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 5×5 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!

Towards m=5, 1-degenerate

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 $X_1, \cdots, X_m$ be a basis of $T_A(A^*)$ as a space of matrices,

1. $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathit{Id}_{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$
2. $X_m = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_m & \omega \\ \alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix}$
3. *For all* $2 \leq s \leq m-1$, $X_s = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

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

Consequences:(Work in progress)

- Insisting $\mathbf{x}_5$ has distinct eigenvalues, gives three cases, almost done investigating them.
- Only a few cases arise depending on Jordan decomposition of $\mathbf{x}_5$.

Expectation: $p = 1$ Koszul flattening equations will be sufficient.

This is joint work(in progress) with Prof. JM Landsberg and Prof. Joachim Jelisiejew.

Thank you

Thank you!

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