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### ▶ To cite this version:

François Malgouyres, Joseph Landsberg. Stable recovery of the factors from a deep matrix product. Signal Processing with Adaptive Sparse Structured Representations (SPARS) , 2017, Lisbonne, Portugal. hal-01417943v2

## HAL Id: hal-01417943 https://hal.science/hal-01417943v2

Submitted on 20 Mar 2017  $\,$ 

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## Stable recovery of the factors from a deep matrix product

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Abstract—We study a deep matrix factorization problem. It takes as input the matrix X obtained by multiplying K matrices (called factors) and aims at recovering the factors. When K = 1, this is the usual compressed sensing framework; K = 2: Examples of applications are dictionary learning, blind deconvolution, self-calibration;  $\tilde{K} \ge 3$ : can be applied to many fast transforms (such as the FFT). In particular, we apply the theorems to deep convolutional network.

Using a Lifting, we provide : a necessary and sufficient conditions for the identifiability of the factors (up to a scale indeterminacy); an analogue of the Null-Space-Property, called the Deep-Null-Space-Property which is necessary and sufficient to guarantee the stable recovery of the factors.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Let  $K \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,  $m_1 \dots m_{K+1} \in \mathbb{N}$ , write  $m_1 = m$ ,  $m_{K+1} = n$ . We impose the factors to be structured matrices defined by a (typically small) number S of unknown parameters. More precisely, for k = $1 \dots K$ , let

$$M_k : \mathbb{R}^S \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m_k \times m_{k+1}}$$
$$h \longmapsto M_k(h)$$

be a linear map.

We assume that we know the matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  which is provided by

$$X = M_1(\mathbf{h}_1) \cdots M_K(\mathbf{h}_K) + e, \qquad (1)$$

for an unknown error term e and parameters  $\mathbf{h} = (\mathbf{h}_k)_{1 \le k \le K} \in$  $\mathcal{M}^{\overline{L}} \subset \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}$  for some  $\overline{L}$ , where we assume that we know a collection of models  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{M}^L)_{L \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that, for every L,  $\mathcal{M}^L \subset \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}.$ 

This work investigates models/constraints imposed on (1) for which we can (up to obvious scale rearrangement) identify or stably recover the parameters  $\mathbf{h}$  from X. A preliminary version of this work is presented in [1].

Set 
$$\mathbb{N}_K = \{1, \dots, K\}$$
 and  
 $\mathbb{R}^{S \times K}_* = \{\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_K, \|\mathbf{h}_k\| \neq 0\}$ 

Define an equivalence relation in  $\mathbb{R}^{S \times K}_*$ : for any  $\mathbf{h}, \mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}$ ,  $\mathbf{h} \sim \mathbf{g}$  if and only if there exists  $(\lambda_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_K} \in \mathbb{R}^K$  such that

$$\prod_{k=1}^{K} \lambda_k = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_K, \mathbf{h}_k = \lambda_k \mathbf{g}_k.$$

Denote the equivalence class of  $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}_*$  by [h]. We consider a

metric denoted  $d_p$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{S \times K}_* / \sim$ . It is based on the  $l^p$  norm. We say that a tensor  $T \in \mathbb{R}^{S^K}$  is of *rank* 1 if and only if there exists a collection of vectors  $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}$  such that T is the outer product of the vectors  $\mathbf{h}_k$ , for  $k \in \mathbb{N}_K$ , that is, for any  $\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{N}_S^K$ ,

$$T_{\mathbf{i}} = \mathbf{h}_{1,i_1} \dots \mathbf{h}_{K,i_K}$$

The set of all the tensors of rank 1 is denoted by  $\Sigma_1$ .

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Moreover, we parametrize  $\Sigma_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^{S^K}$  by the Segre embedding

$$P: \mathbb{R}^{S \times K} \longrightarrow \Sigma_1 \subset \mathbb{R}^{S^K}$$
  

$$\mathbf{h} \longmapsto (\mathbf{h}_{1,i_1} \mathbf{h}_{2,i_2} \dots \mathbf{h}_{K,i_K})_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{N}_S^K}$$

Following [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7] where problems such that K =2 are studied, we can *lift* the problem and show that the map

$$(\mathbf{h}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{h}_K)\longmapsto M_1(\mathbf{h}_1)M_2(\mathbf{h}_2)\ldots M_K(\mathbf{h}_K),$$

uniquely determines a linear map

$$\mathcal{A}: \mathbb{R}^{S^K} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}.$$

such that for all  $\mathbf{h} \in \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}$ 

$$M_1(\mathbf{h}_1)M_2(\mathbf{h}_2)\dots M_K(\mathbf{h}_K) = \mathcal{A}P(\mathbf{h}).$$

When ||e|| = 0, we can prove that every element of  $\mathbf{h} \in \mathcal{M}$  is identifiable (i.e. the elements of  $[\mathbf{h}]$  are the only solutions of (1)) if and only if for any L and  $L' \in \mathbb{N}$ 

$$\operatorname{Ker} \left( \mathcal{A} \right) \cap \left( P(\mathcal{M}^{L}) - P(\mathcal{M}^{L'}) \right) = \{ 0 \}.$$

When  $||e|| \leq \delta$ , we further assume that we have a way to find  $L^*$  and  $\mathbf{h}^* \in \mathcal{M}^{L^*}$  such that, for some parameter  $\eta > 0$ ,

$$\left\|\mathcal{A}P(\mathbf{h}^*) - X\right\|^2 \le \eta.$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

#### **Definition 1. Deep-Null Space Property**

Let  $\gamma > 0$ , we say that Ker (A) satisfies the deep-Null Space Property (deep-NSP) with respect to the model collection  $\mathcal{M}$  with constant  $\gamma$  if there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that for any L and  $L' \in \mathbb{N}$ , any  $T \in P(\mathcal{M}^L) - P(\mathcal{M}^{L'})$  satisfying  $||\mathcal{A}T|| \leq \varepsilon$  and any  $T' \in$ Ker  $(\mathcal{A})$ , we have

$$\|T\| \le \gamma \|T - T'\|$$

#### Theorem 1. Sufficient condition for stable recovery

Assume Ker  $(\mathcal{A})$  satisfies the deep-NSP with respect to the collection of models  $\mathcal{M}$  and with the constant  $\gamma > 0$ . For any  $\mathbf{h}^*$  as in (2) with  $\eta$  and  $\delta$  sufficiently small, we have

$$||P(\mathbf{h}^*) - P(\overline{\mathbf{h}})|| \le \frac{\gamma}{\sigma_{min}} \ (\delta + \eta),$$

where  $\sigma_{min}$  is the smallest non-zero singular value of A. Moreover, if  $\overline{\mathbf{h}} \in \mathbb{R}^{S \times K}_*$ 

$$d_p([\mathbf{h}^*], [\overline{\mathbf{h}}]) \le \frac{7(KS)^{\frac{1}{p}} \gamma}{\sigma_{min}} \min\left( \|P(\overline{\mathbf{h}})\|_{\infty}^{\frac{1}{K}-1}, \|P(\mathbf{h}^*)\|_{\infty}^{\frac{1}{K}-1} \right) (\delta + \eta)$$

We also prove that the deep-NSP condition is necessary for the stable recovery of the factors. We detail how these results can be applied to obtain sharp conditions for the stable recovery of deep convolutional network as depicted on Figure 1.

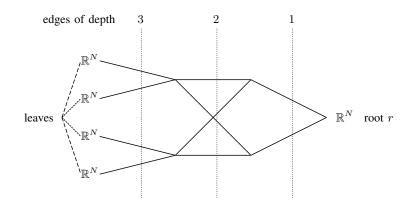


Fig. 1. Example of the considered convolutional network. To every edge is attached a convolution kernel. The network does not involve non-linearities or sampling.

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