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Take home message

Introducing **nmf_audio_benchmark** [1], an open-source toolbox for benchmarking NMF algorithms and variants on audio tasks.

github.com/ax-le/nmf_audio_benchmark/

NMF - Nonnegative Matrix Factorization

NMF is an unsupervised learning technique that factorizes a matrix V into two nonnegative matrices W and H, such that [2]:

 $V \approx WH$

(1)

(2)

This is obtained by minimizing some distance function d() between V and WH:

$$\underset{W,H \ge 0}{\arg\min} d(V, WH)$$

For instance, using the Euclidean distance, the optimization problem becomes: $\arg \min_{W,H \ge 0} \sum_{i,j} (V_{ij} - (WH)_{ij})^2$



Why this toolbox?

TL;DR: help researchers in MIR to easily use NMF / help researchers in numerical optimization to test their new NMF models on audio.

1. NMF models still constitute an active research domain

Goal: easy and consistent tool to evaluate a new the model. In particular, avoid having to re-implement the evaluation process for a standard task.

2. Bridge (again) Audio and Low-Rank Factorization communities.

Goal: reinvigorate the use of NMF in audio processing (long-standing method [4, 5, 6], still used recently [3, 7, 8])

3. In some contexts, NMF is still relevant

It may help when dealing with a limited set of data (common in Ecoacoustics), or "Out-of-distribution" data (NMF is unsupervised). In addition, NMF is a frugal and interpretable method!



What is the state of the toolbox now?

Toolbox details

The toolbox is fragmented in **algorithms**, where NMF models are defined, **tasks**, defining how to post-process W and H and defining metrics, and **datasets**, defining the dataloaders. The toolbox relies on the *doce* [12] package to run experiments. It is developed in Python.

Future work	
Audio Processing:	Low-Rank Factorizations:
 Enhanced tasks (in particular, the Transcription task). 	 Constrained models (minimum-volume, simplex-structured, sparse, orthogonal, · · ·)
Adding new tasks (ex: sound event detection).	Coupled NMF & tensor models (ex: CP decomposition for multichannel processing).
 Expand datasets. 	 Computing NMF on GPUs instead of CPUs.

Off-topic, for ATIAM students: Internship proposal

I propose an internship directly based on this toolbox for the ATIAM students that may be in this room. The idea will be to use coupled NMF models in a multi-channel context, with different features (ex: factorizing simultaneously STFT, CQT, Mel, ···). Come talk to me or reach me at axel.marmoret@imt-atlantique.fr if interested!

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