

# Sum-of-Squares and Spectral Algorithms

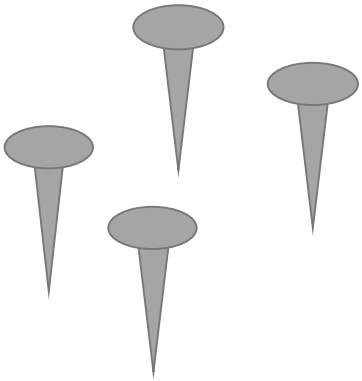
Tselil Schramm

June 23, 2017

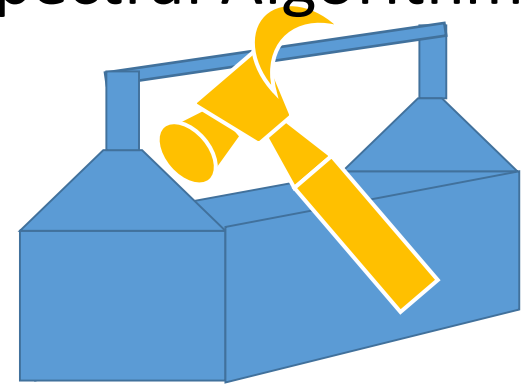
Workshop on SoS @ STOC 2017

# Spectral algorithms as a tool for analyzing SoS.

SoS Semidefinite Programs

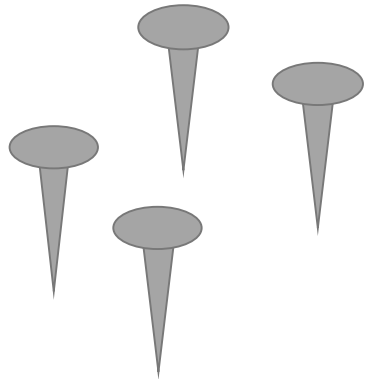


Spectral Algorithms

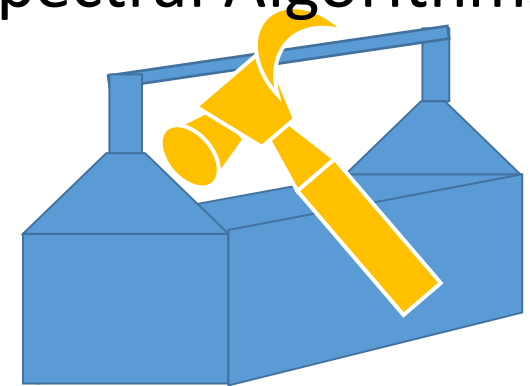


# SoS suggests a new family of spectral algorithms!

SoS Semidefinite Programs



Spectral Algorithms



Average-Case &  
Structured Instances

# Average Case SoS/Spectral Algorithms

- Tensor Decomposition/Dictionary Learning  
[Barak-Kelner-Steurer'14, Ge-Ma'15, Ma-Shi-Steurer'16]
- Planted Sparse Vector [Barak-Brandão-Harrow-Kelner-Steurer-Zhou'12, Barak-Kelner-Steurer'14]
- Tensor Completion [Barak-Moitra'16, Potechin-Steurer'17]
- Refuting Random CSPs [Allen-O'Donnell-Witmer'15, Raghavendra-Rao-S'17]
- Tensor Principal Components Analysis  
[Hopkins-Shi-Steurer'15, Bhattiprolu-Guruswami-Lee'16, Raghavendra-Rao-S'17]

# Average Case SoS/Spectral Algorithms

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# Tensor Principle Components Analysis (TPCA)

$$T = \begin{array}{c} \text{3D grid} \\ n \times n \times n \end{array}$$

Want “max tensor singular value/vector”:

$$\sigma^* = \max_{x \in \mathcal{S}_{n-1}} \langle T, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x \in \mathcal{S}_{n-1}} \langle T, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle$$

NP-hard in worst case.

# This $\otimes$ notation...

## Definition

Kronecker/tensor product:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \square & \square & \dots & \square \\ \square & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \square \\ \square & & & \square \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow m \\ \rightarrow n \end{matrix}$$
$$B = \begin{bmatrix} \square & \square & \dots & \square \\ \square & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \square \\ \square & & & \square \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow k \\ \rightarrow \ell \end{matrix}$$
$$A \otimes B = \begin{bmatrix} A_{1,1} B & A_{1,2} B & \dots & A_{1,m} B \\ A_{2,1} B & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ A_{n,1} B & & & A_{n,m} B \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \leftarrow mk \\ \rightarrow n\ell \end{matrix}$$

e.g. tensor power of  $x$ :

$$x = \begin{matrix} 1 \\ \downarrow n \\ \end{matrix} \quad \rightarrow \quad x^{\otimes 3} = \begin{matrix} 1 \\ \downarrow n^3 \\ \end{matrix}$$

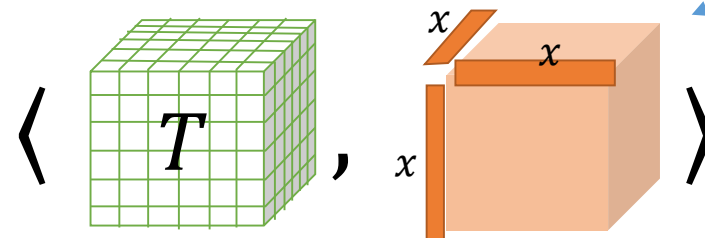
$\leftarrow x_i x_j x_k$

# Tensor Principle Components Analysis (TPCA)

$$T = \begin{array}{c} \text{[3D grid of green cubes]} \\ n \times n \times n \end{array}$$

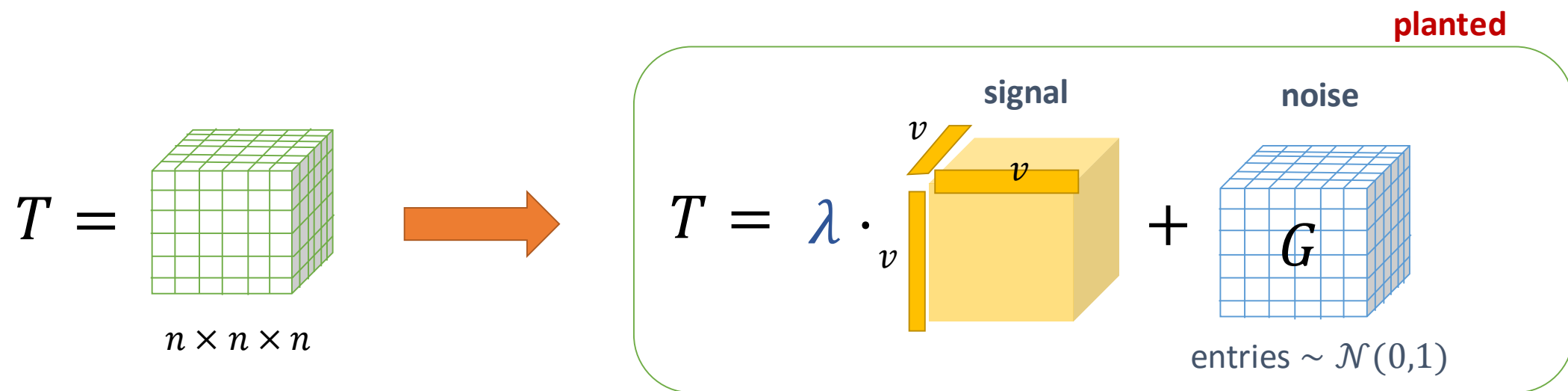
Want "max tensor singular value/vector": **NP-hard in worst case.**

$$\sigma^* = \max_{x \in \mathbb{S}_{n-1}} \langle T, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad x^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{x \in \mathbb{S}_{n-1}} \langle T, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle$$





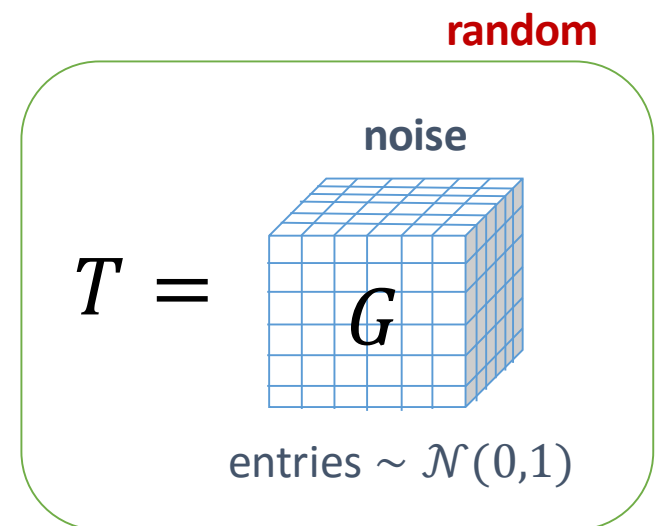
# “Spiked” tensor model for TPCA [Montanari-Richard’14]



**Search:** find  $v$  in planted case

**Distinguishing:** planted or random case?

**Refutation:** certify upper bound on  $\max_x \langle T, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle$  in random case



# The Plan

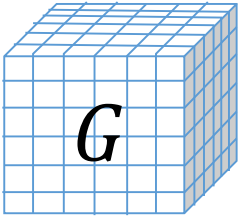
**Refutation:** certify upper bound on  $\max_x \langle T, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle$  in random case

1. SoS suggests a family of spectral algorithms
2. Naïve spectral algorithm
3. Improving with SoS spectral algorithms

**Search:** find  $v$  in planted case

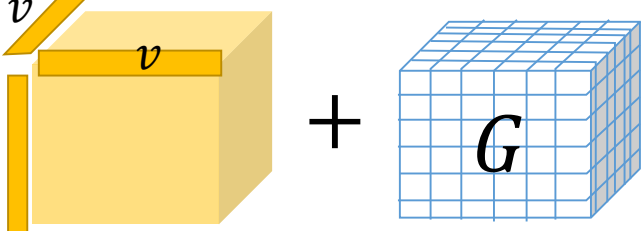
4. Use SoS analysis to get fast algorithms

random

$$T = G$$


entries  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

planted

$$T = \lambda \cdot v \cdot v \cdot v + G$$


entries  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

# Degree- $D$ SoS

Solve for

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}: p(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$\deg(p) \leq D$   
 $n$  variables

Linearity:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[a \cdot p(\mathbf{x}) + b \cdot q(\mathbf{x})] = a \cdot \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[p(\mathbf{x})] + b \cdot \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[q(\mathbf{x})]$$

Fixed Scalars:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[1] = 1$$

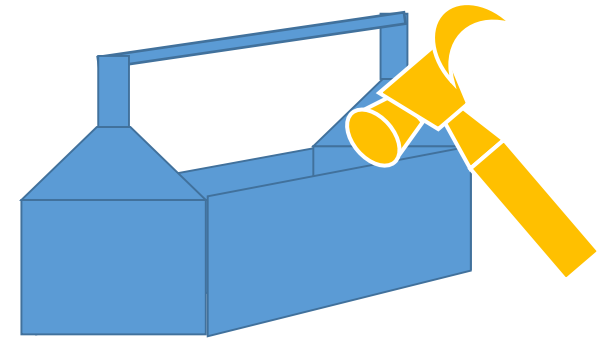
Non-negative squares:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[q(\mathbf{x})^2] \geq 0 \quad \deg(q) \leq \frac{D}{2}$$

+ problem-specific constraints, e.g.

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\|\mathbf{x}\|^2] = 1$$

# SoS suggests spectral algorithms



If we want to bound  $f(x)$ ... associate some matrix with  $f$  and then

Rearrange entries along “monomial symmetries”

Apply degree- $D$  SoS polynomial inequalities

Cauchy-Schwarz,  
Jensen's Inequality (for squares), ...

Use problem-specific constraints (e.g.  $x_i^2 = 1$ )

# SoS captures spectral algorithms

## Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] \leq \lambda_{\max}(f)$$

## Definition

$$\lambda_{\max}(f) = \operatorname{argmin} \{ \lambda_{\max}(F) \}$$

$F$  symmetric

$$f(x) = \langle F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle$$

symmetric  
matrix representation  
of  $f(x)$



$$f(x) = \langle F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle$$

e.g.  $x_1^2 + 4x_1x_2 + x_2^2 = \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 & x_1x_2 \\ x_1x_2 & x_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$

# SoS captures spectral algorithms

## Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] \leq \lambda_{\max}(f)$$

## Proof

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\langle F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle]$$

symmetric  
matrix representation  
of  $f(x)$

$$0 \preceq \lambda \cdot Id - F = \sum \sigma_i u_i u_i^T$$

$\lambda = \lambda_{\max}(F)$

$\geq 0$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle \lambda \cdot Id - F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \underbrace{\sum (\sqrt{\sigma_i} \cdot \langle u_i, x^{\otimes d} \rangle)^2}_{\text{sum of degree-}d \text{ squares}} \geq 0$$

if  $2d \leq D$

sum of degree- $d$  squares

# SoS captures spectral algorithms

## Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] \leq \lambda_{\max}(f)$$

## Proof

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\langle F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle]$$

$$\text{if } 2d \leq D \leq \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\langle F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle] + \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\langle \lambda \cdot Id - F, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle]$$

$$\text{By linearity} = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\langle \lambda \cdot Id, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle]$$

$$= \lambda \cdot \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\|x\|^{2d}]$$

sum of degree- $d$  squares

squares on diagonal

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 & x_1 x_2 \\ x_1 x_2 & x_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# What kind of spectral algorithms?

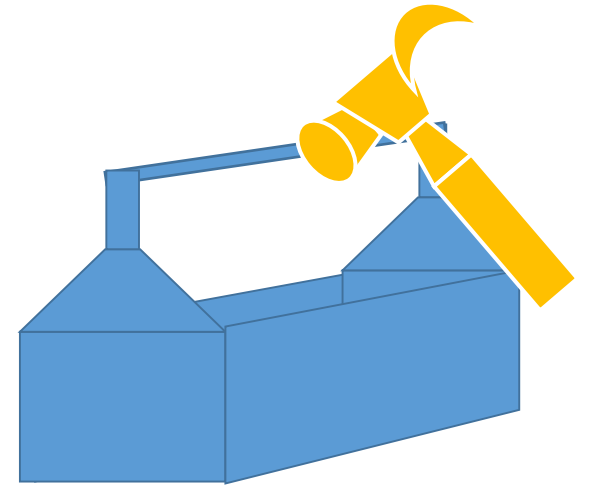
Choose best matrix representation  $F$  by:

Rearranging entries along “symmetries” of  $x^{\otimes d}$

Applying degree- $D$  SoS polynomial inequalities

Cauchy-Schwarz,  
Jensen’s Inequality (for squares), ...

Problem-specific constraints (e.g.  $x_i^2 = 1$ )





# What kind of spectral algorithms?

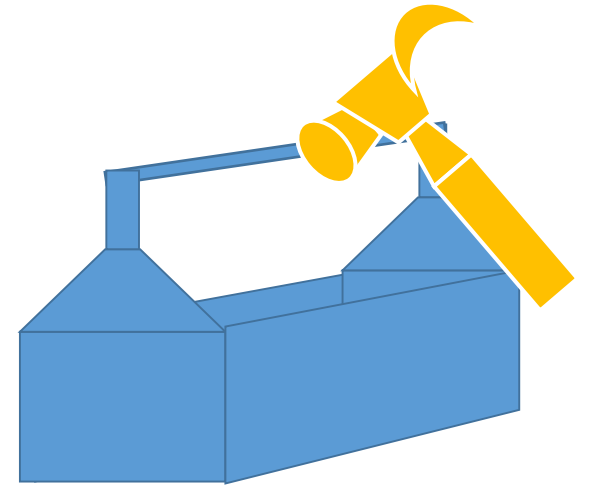
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SoS suggests *several* spectral algorithms

*matrix representation  
of  $f(x)$*

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] = \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\langle \underset{\downarrow}{F}, x^{\otimes 2d} \rangle] \leq \lambda \cdot \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[\|x\|^{2d}]$$

choice of  $F$  may affect  $\lambda$ !

# SoS suggests *several* spectral algorithms

## Claim

There exist  $f(x)$  with representations  $F_1, F_2$  such that  $f(x) = \langle F_1, x^{\otimes d} \rangle = \langle F_2, x^{\otimes d} \rangle$  but  $\lambda(F_1) \gg \lambda(F_2)$ .

$$f(x) = \mathbb{E}_{g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Id)} [\underbrace{\langle x, g \rangle}_{\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)}^4] = 3$$

unit vector  
↓

# SoS suggests *several* spectral algorithms

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There exist  $f(x)$  with representations  $F_1, F_2$  such that  $f(x) = \langle F_1, x^{\otimes d} \rangle = \langle F_2, x^{\otimes d} \rangle$  but  $\lambda(F_1) \gg \lambda(F_2)$ .

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unit vector  
↓

$$\mathbb{E}[(g \otimes g)(g \otimes g)^T]_{ij, k\ell} = \mathbb{E}[g_i g_j g_k g_\ell] = \begin{cases} 3 & i = j = k = \ell \\ 1 & i, j, k, \ell \text{ two distinct pairs} \\ 0 & \text{any index with odd multiplicity} \end{cases}$$

# SoS suggests *several* spectral algorithms

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$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \mathbb{E}_{g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Id)} [\langle x, \underbrace{g}_{\text{unit vector}} \rangle^4] \\
 &= \langle \mathbb{E}[g^{\otimes 4}], x^{\otimes 4} \rangle \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[(g \otimes g)(g \otimes g)^T] =$$

eigenvalue is  $n \gg 3$

		$\overset{n}{\longleftrightarrow}$		
		$ii$	$jj$	
				$ij$ $ji$
$\overset{n}{\updownarrow}$	$ii$	3	1	
	$jj$	1	3	0
				0
	$ij$	0		$\ddots$
	$ji$			1   1
				$\ddots$
				1   1

# Rearranging entries along “symmetries” of $x^{\otimes d}$

## Claim

There exist  $f(x)$  with representations  $F_1, F_2$  such that  $f(x) = \langle F_1, x^{\otimes d} \rangle = \langle F_2, x^{\otimes d} \rangle$  but  $\lambda(F_1) \gg \lambda(F_2)$ .

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 \end{aligned}$$

The diagram illustrates the decomposition of a symmetric matrix into two parts. The left matrix (blue) is symmetric and has a block structure. The right matrix (orange) is also symmetric and has a similar block structure. The two matrices are added together.

The left matrix (blue) is symmetric and has a block structure. The top-left block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $3$  and  $1$  on the diagonal and  $1$  and  $3$  off-diagonal. The top-right block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The bottom-left block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The bottom-right block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $1$  and  $1$  on the diagonal and  $1$  and  $1$  off-diagonal. The matrix is symmetric across the main diagonal.

The right matrix (orange) is symmetric and has a block structure. The top-left block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $-1$  and  $-1$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The top-right block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The bottom-left block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The bottom-right block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The matrix is symmetric across the main diagonal.

The two matrices are added together, resulting in a matrix with a block structure. The top-left block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $2$  and  $1$  on the diagonal and  $1$  and  $2$  off-diagonal. The top-right block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The bottom-left block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $0$  and  $0$  on the diagonal and  $0$  and  $0$  off-diagonal. The bottom-right block is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with entries  $1$  and  $1$  on the diagonal and  $1$  and  $1$  off-diagonal. The matrix is symmetric across the main diagonal.

# Rearranging entries along “symmetries” of $x^{\otimes d}$

## Claim

There exist  $f(x)$  with representations  $F_1, F_2$  such that  $f(x) = \langle F_1, x^{\otimes d} \rangle = \langle F_2, x^{\otimes d} \rangle$  but  $\lambda(F_1) \gg \lambda(F_2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= \mathbb{E}_{g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Id)} [\langle x, \underbrace{g}_{\text{unit vector}} \rangle^4] \\
 &= \langle \mathbb{E}[g^{\otimes 4}], x^{\otimes 4} \rangle \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

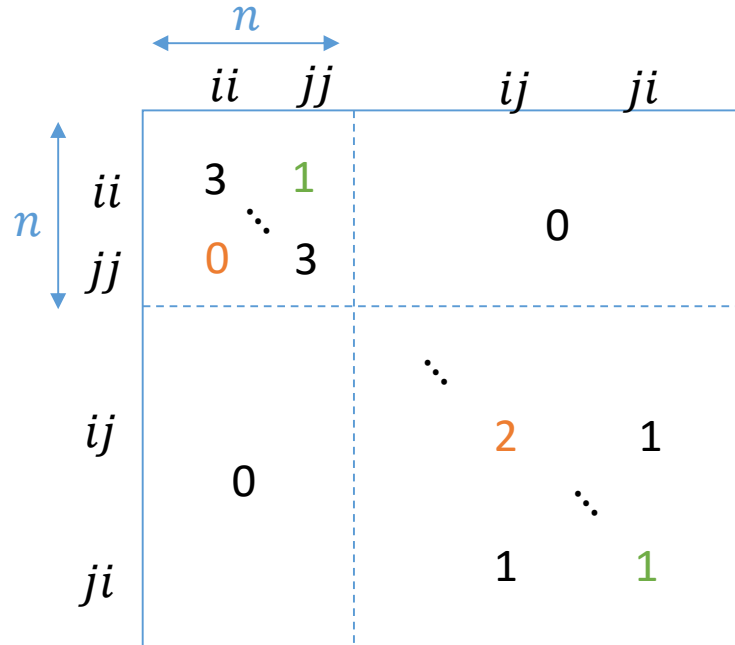
		$\longleftrightarrow n$			
		$ii$	$jj$	$ij$	$ji$
$\updownarrow n$	$ii$	3	1	0	
	$jj$	0	3		
	$ij$	0		2	1
	$ji$			1	1

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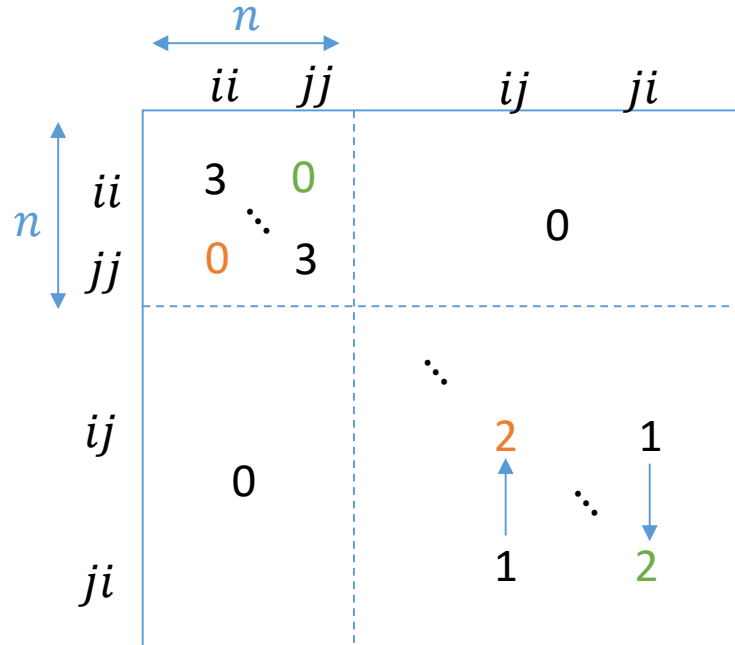


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 \end{aligned}$$

		$\longleftrightarrow n$			
		$ii$	$jj$	$ij$	$ji$
$n$	$ii$	3	0	0	
	$jj$	0	3		
		$\vdots$			
	$ij$	0	$\vdots$ 3    0		
	$ji$	0			0

$$= 3 \cdot Id$$

eigenvalues are 3!

# Rearranging entries along “symmetries” of $x^{\otimes d}$

## Claim

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$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \mathbb{E}_{g \sim \mathcal{N}(0, Id)} [\langle x, \overset{\text{unit vector}}{\downarrow} g \rangle^4] \\ &= \langle \mathbb{E}[g^{\otimes 4}], x^{\otimes 4} \rangle \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1) \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = \langle \mathbb{E}[g^{\otimes 4}], x^{\otimes 4} \rangle = \langle 3 \cdot Id, x^{\otimes 4} \rangle = 3 \quad \text{😊}$$

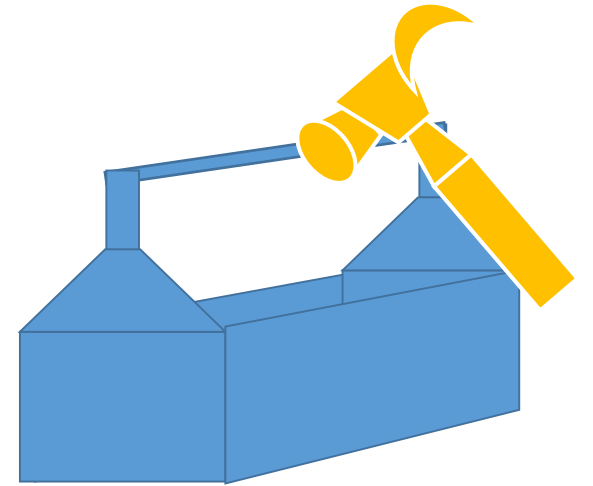
# What kind of spectral algorithms?

Choose best matrix representation by:

- Rearranging entries along “symmetries” of  $x^{\otimes d}$

Applying degree- $D$  SoS polynomial inequalities

Cauchy-Schwarz,  
Jensen’s Inequality (for squares), ...



# Tensor Norm Refutation

random case, noise only

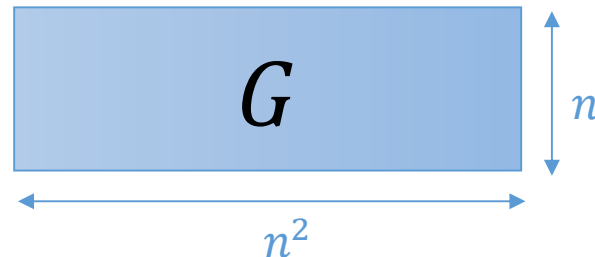
$$\max_{x \in \mathbb{S}_n} \langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq O(\sqrt{n}) \text{ with high probability over } G$$

Claim

“Simple” spectral algorithm can only certify  $O(n)$ .

Proof:

$$\langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq \sigma_{\max}(F_G)$$



Representations all the same because  $G$  is symmetric with iid entries

Gordon's Theorem  $\rightarrow \sigma_{\max}(G) \approx n$

# SoS Cauchy-Schwarz

Claim

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\langle f, g \rangle \leq (\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\|g\|^2)^{1/2} (\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\|f\|^2)^{1/2} \text{ if } D \geq 2\deg(f), 2\deg(g).$$

Proof:

$$\mathbb{E}\langle f, g \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}\|f\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}\|g\|^2 \qquad \tilde{\mathbb{E}}\langle f, g \rangle \leq \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathbb{E}}\|f\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\mathbb{E}}\|g\|^2$$

degree  $\leq D$  square

$$0 \leq \frac{1}{2} \|f - g\|^2$$

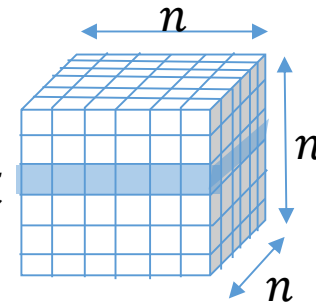
# Cauchy-Schwarz for Tensor PCA Refutation

## Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq n^{3/4}$$

unit vector  
noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

$$G_i$$



Proof:

$$\langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle = \sum_i x_i \cdot x^T G_i x$$

Cauchy-Schwarz

$$\leq \|x\| \sqrt{\sum_i (x^T G_i x)^2} \leq \|x\| \sqrt{\sum_i (x^{\otimes 2})^T (G_i \otimes G_i) x^{\otimes 2}}$$

# Cauchy-Schwarz for Tensor PCA Refutation

## Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq n^{3/4}$$

unit vector  
noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

SoS analysis  $\rightarrow$  spectral algorithm  
for refutation!

Proof:

$$\langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle = \sum_i x_i \cdot x^\top G_i x$$

Cauchy-Schwarz

$$\leq \|x\| \sqrt{\left\langle \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i, x^{\otimes 4} \right\rangle} \leq \|x\|^3 \left\| \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right\|^{1/2}$$

eigenvalues are  $\approx n^{3/2}$



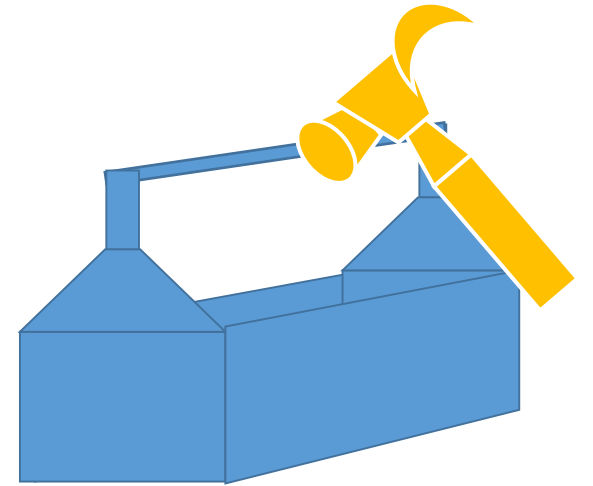
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# Better Approx (in more time)

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, \overset{\text{unit vector}}{x}^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq n^{3/4}$$

noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, \overset{\text{unit vector}}{x}^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq O\left(\frac{n^{3/4}}{D^{1/4}}\right) \quad (\text{in time } n^D)$$

noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

But actually,  $\max_{x \in \mathbb{S}_n} \langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq O(\sqrt{n})$ .

Information-theoretically, can certify  $\leq O(\sqrt{n})$  in time  $2^n$  (epsilon net).

# Better Approx (in more time)

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, \overset{\text{unit vector}}{x}^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq n^{3/4}$$

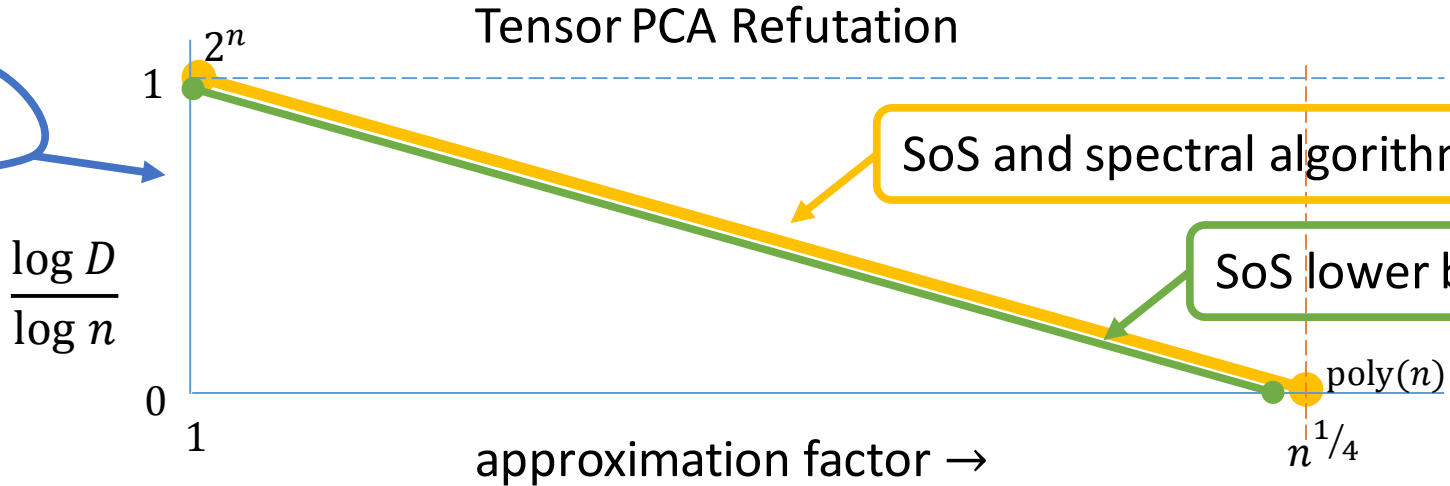
noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, \overset{\text{unit vector}}{x}^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq O\left(\frac{n^{3/4}}{D^{1/4}}\right) \quad (\text{in time } n^D)$$

noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

$\varepsilon \leftrightarrow D = n^\varepsilon$



[Hopkins-Kothari-Potechin-Raghavendra-S-Steurer'17]

# Jensen's Inequality

For  $d$  a power of 2,  $D \geq d \cdot \deg(f)$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] \leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^d] \right)^{1/d}$$

Proof by induction on  $d$ ...

$$0 \leq \tilde{\mathbb{E}}(f(x)^d - \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^d])^2$$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^d]^2 \leq \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^{2d}]$$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^d] \leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^{2d}] \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{apply inductive hypothesis}$$

# Jensen's Inequality

For  $d$  a power of 2,  $D \geq d \cdot \deg(f)$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)] \leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}}[f(x)^d] \right)^{1/d}$$

We can take advantage of increased symmetry  
in higher-degree polynomials  
(more matrix representations)

# Better Approximation

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle \underbrace{G}_{\text{noise} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)}, \underbrace{x^{\otimes 3}}_{\text{unit vector}} \rangle \leq O \left( \frac{n^{3/4}}{D^{1/4}} \right) \quad (\text{in time } n^D)$$

Proof:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \sum_i x_i \cdot x^\top G_i x \leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left\langle x^{\otimes 4}, \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right\rangle \right)^{1/2}$$

Jensen's inequality for  $d$  some power of 2

$$\leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left\langle x^{\otimes 4}, \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right\rangle^d \right)^{1/2d}$$

# Better Approximation

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, \overset{\text{unit vector}}{x}^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq O \left( \frac{n^{3/4}}{D^{1/4}} \right) \quad (\text{in time } n^D)$$

noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

Proof:

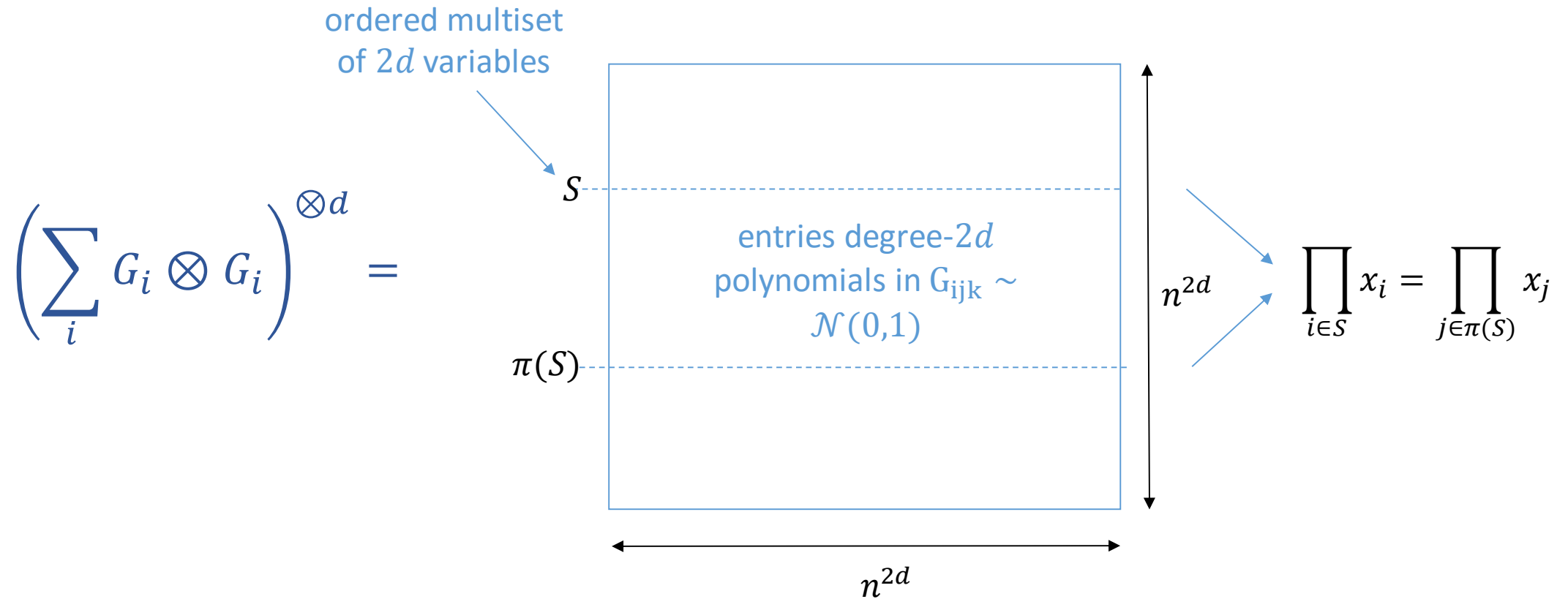
$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle = \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \sum_i x_i \cdot x^\top G_i x \leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left\langle x^{\otimes 4}, \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right\rangle \right)^{1/2}$$

Jensen's inequality for  $d$  some power of 2

$$\leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left\langle x^{\otimes 4d}, \left( \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right)^{\otimes d} \right\rangle \right)^{1/2d}$$

# Symmetrize to improve eigenvalue

Taking the average of row  $S$  and  $\pi(S)$  fixes the polynomial

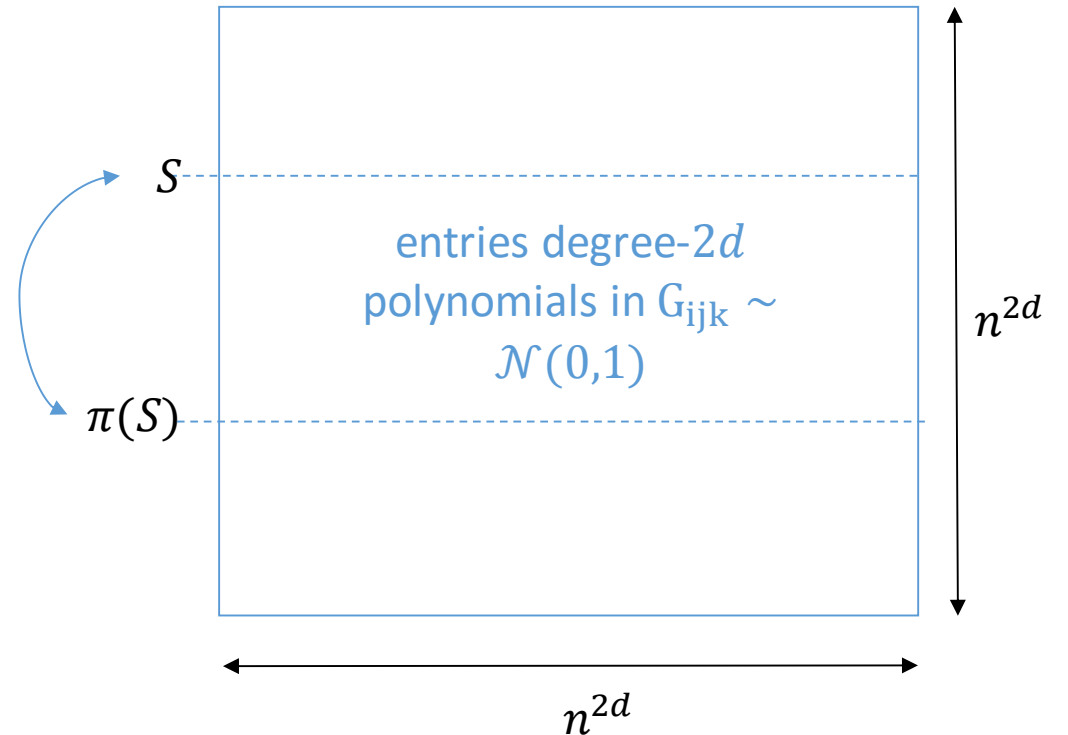




# Symmetrizing to improve eigenvalue

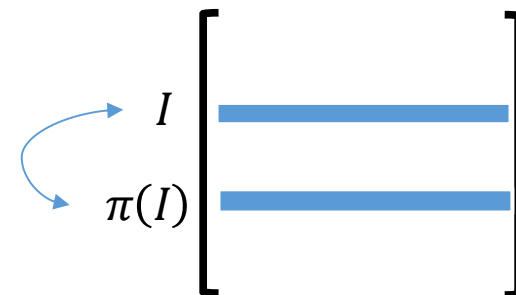
Taking the average of row  $S$  and  $\pi(S)$  fixes the polynomial

$$M_{S,T}^{(d)} = \text{Avg}_{\pi} \left[ \left( \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right)_{\pi(S),T}^{\otimes d} \right]$$



$$M_{abcd,ijkl}^{(2)} := \frac{1}{4!} \left( (\sum G_i \otimes G_i)_{abij} (\sum G_i \otimes G_i)_{cdkl} + (\sum G_i \otimes G_i)_{acij} (\sum G_i \otimes G_i)_{bdkl} + \dots \right)$$

# Heuristic spectral norm calculation



Spectral norm?

$$M^{(d)} = \text{Avg}_{\pi} \left[ \left( (\sum G_i \otimes G_i)^{\otimes d} \right)_{\pi} \right]$$

$$\|(\sum G_i \otimes G_i)^{\otimes d}\| = (n^{3/2})^d$$

each entry is average of  $\sim d!$  "i.i.d. uniform" randomly signed variables

avg. entry  
magnitude  
 $m \rightarrow \approx \frac{m}{\sqrt{d!}}$

$$\|M^{(d)}\| \leq \frac{n^{3d/2}}{d^{d/2}}$$

# Improving Tensor PCA noise parameter

Theorem

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left\langle x^{\otimes 4}, \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right\rangle \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}\langle G, x^{\otimes 3} \rangle \leq O\left(\frac{n^{3/4}}{D^{1/4}}\right)$$

unit vector  
noise  $\sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

Jensen's inequality for  $d$  some power of 2 (if  $D \geq 4d$ )

$$\leq \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \left\langle x^{\otimes 4d}, \left( \sum_i G_i \otimes G_i \right)^{\otimes d} \right\rangle \right)^{1/2d}$$

Average over symmetries of  $x^{\otimes 2d}$  to reduce matrix representation eigenvalues

$$= \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}} \langle x^{\otimes 4d}, M^{(d)} \rangle \right)^{1/2d} \leq \|M^{(d)}\|^{1/2d} \leq \frac{n^{3/4}}{d^{1/4}} \text{ w.h.p.}$$

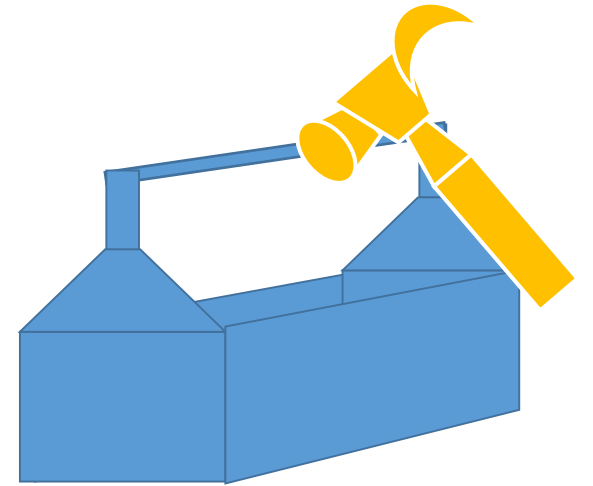
# What kind of spectral algorithms?

Choose best matrix representation by:

Rearranging entries along “symmetries” of  $x^{\otimes d}$

Applying degree- $D$  SoS polynomial inequalities

- Cauchy-Schwarz,
- Jensen’s Inequality (for squares), ...



# Other SoS (via Spectral) Algorithms

- **Tensor Decomposition:** symmetry, Cauchy-Schwarz, *constant- $d$  Jensen's*
- **Dictionary Learning:** symmetry + tensor decomposition  
[Barak-Kelner-Steurer'14, Ge-Ma'15, Ma-Shi-Steurer'16]
- **Planted Sparse Vector:** symmetry  
[Barak-Brandão-Harrow-Kelner-Steurer-Zhou'12, Barak-Kelner-Steurer'14]
- **Tensor Completion:** symmetry, Cauchy-Schwarz [Barak-Moitra'16, Potechin-Steurer'17]
- **Refuting Random CSPs:** symmetry, Cauchy-Schwarz, Jensen's,  $(x_i^2 = 1)$  constraints  
[Allen-O'Donnell-Witmer'15, Raghavendra-Rao-S'17]
- **Polynomial Maximization over  $\mathbb{S}_n$ :** symmetry, Cauchy-Schwarz, Jensen's, *worst case*  
[Bhattiprolu-Ghosh-Guruswami-E.Lee-Tulsiani'16]

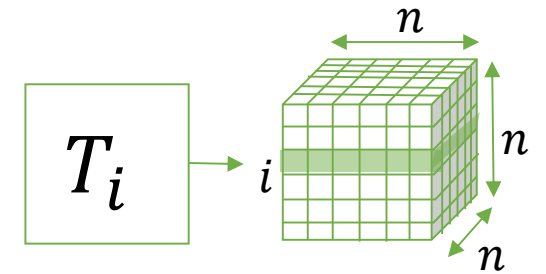
# Fast spectral algorithms from SoS Analyses

[Hopkins-S-Shi-Steurer'16]

# SoS Gives Spectral Search Algorithm

$$T = G + \lambda \cdot v^{\otimes 3}$$

$$\sum_{i \in [n]} \begin{matrix} \boxed{\begin{matrix} T_i \otimes T_i \\ \leftarrow n^2 \rightarrow \\ \leftarrow n^2 \rightarrow \end{matrix}} \end{matrix}$$

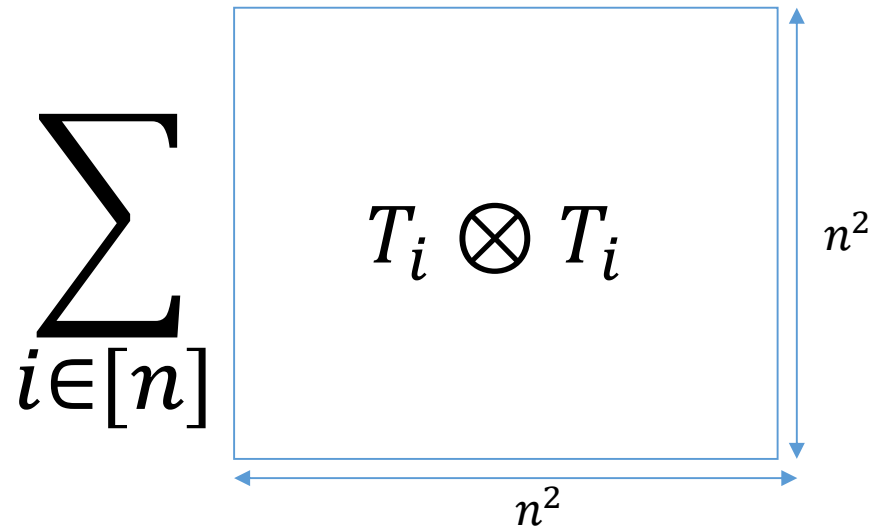


$$T_i = G_i + \lambda v_i \cdot v v^T$$

$$\sum v_i^2 = 1$$

$$= \underbrace{\sum G_i \otimes G_i}_{\text{eigenvalue} \leq n^{3/2}} + \text{cross-terms} + \underbrace{\sum \lambda^2 \cdot v_i^2 \cdot v v^T \otimes v v^T \otimes v v^T}_{\text{eigenvalue} = \lambda^2}$$

Running in  $O(n^5)$ ....



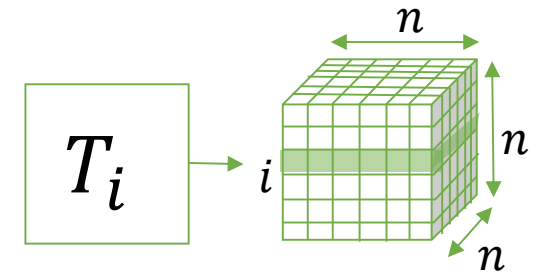
sum of  $n$  matrices of  
size  $n^2 \times n^2$   $\longrightarrow$

$$\text{time} = n^5 + n^4 \log n$$

build  
matrix

compute top  
eigenvalue

$$T = G + \lambda \cdot v^{\otimes 3}$$



*practical spectral algorithm?*

Theorem

Can compress to get an  
 $O(n^3)$ -time algorithm.



# “Compressing” the matrix

Theorem

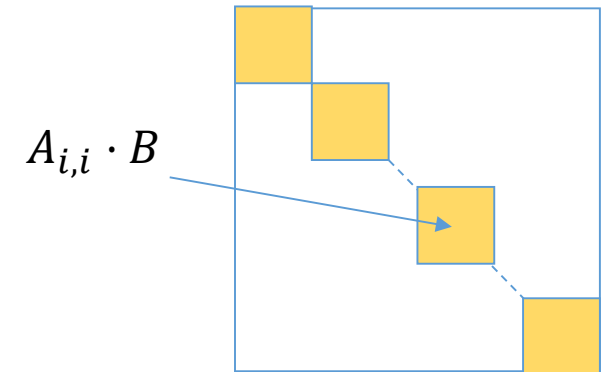
There is an  $O(n^3)$ -time algorithm.

$$\sum T_i \otimes T_i = \underbrace{\sum G_i \otimes G_i}_{\text{eigenvalue} \leq n^{3/2}} + \text{crossterms} + \underbrace{\lambda^2 \cdot vv^T \otimes vv^T}_{\text{eigenvalue} = \lambda^2}$$

How to reduce dimension but preserve signal-to-noise ratio?

$A, B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices

Partial Trace:  $\text{Tr}_{par}(A \otimes B) = \text{Tr}(A) \cdot B$



$$\text{Tr}_{par}(\lambda^2 vv^T \otimes vv^T) = \lambda^2 \|v\|^2 \cdot vv^T = \lambda^2 vv^T$$

$$\text{Tr}_{par}(\sum G_i \otimes G_i) = \underbrace{\sum \text{Tr}(G_i)}_{\approx \pm n^{1/2}} \cdot \underbrace{G_i}_{\text{eigenvalues} \approx \pm n^{1/2}} \rightarrow \text{eigs } n^{3/2}$$

signal-to-noise  
ratio preserved!

# “Compressing” the matrix

Theorem

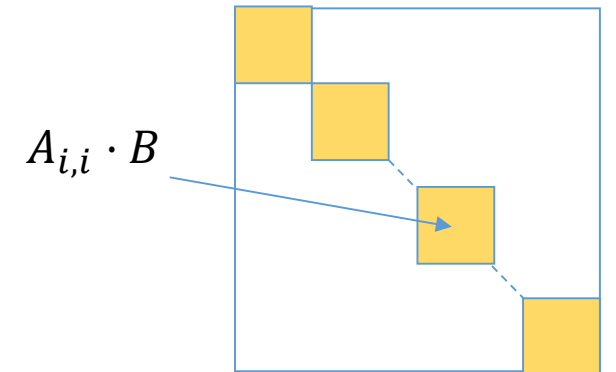
There is an  $O(n^3)$ -time algorithm.

$$\sum T_i \otimes T_i = \underbrace{\sum G_i \otimes G_i}_{\text{eigenvalue} \leq n^{3/2}} + \text{crossterms} + \underbrace{\lambda^2 \cdot vv^T \otimes vv^T}_{\text{eigenvalue} = \lambda^2}$$

How to reduce dimension but preserve signal-to-noise ratio?

$A, B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices

$$\text{Partial Trace: } \text{Tr}_{par}(A \otimes B) = \text{Tr}(A) \cdot B$$



$$\text{Tr}_{par}(\sum T_i \otimes T_i) = \sum \text{Tr}(T_i) \cdot T_i$$

computing all  $\text{Tr}(T_i)$  :  $n^2$  time

runtime?

each of the  $n^2$  entries is sum of  $n$  numbers:  $n^3$  time

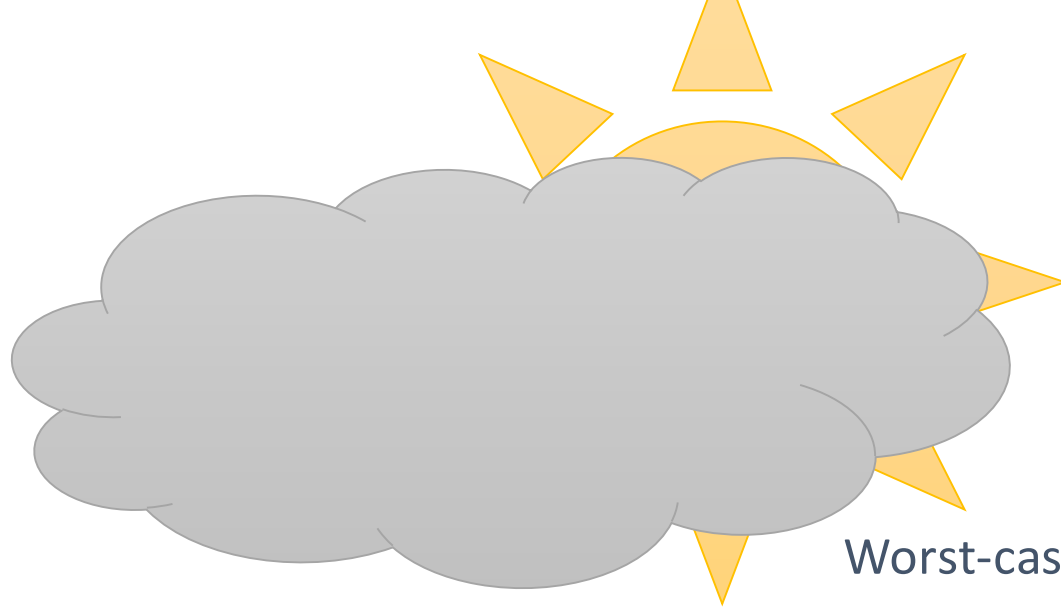
computing top eigenvector/eigenvalue of  $n \times n$  matrix:  $n^2 \log n$  time

linear in input!

# *Fast Spectral Algorithms via SoS*

Secret Sauce: apply partial trace to SoS matrix (in a way that enables fast power iteration)

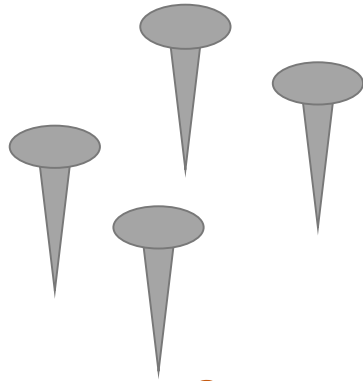
- Tensor PCA [Hopkins-S-Shi-Steurer'16]
- Tensor decomposition [Hopkins-S-Shi-Steurer'16, S-Steurer'17]
- Planted Sparse Vector [Hopkins-S-Shi-Steurer'16]
- Tensor Completion [Montanari-Sun'17]



SoS perspective gives new spectral algorithms  
Spectral techniques let us analyze SoS

Worst-case problems?

## Spectral Algorithms



Average-Case &  
Structured Instances

## Sum-of-Squares Algorithms

