

When Random Tensors meet Random Matrices

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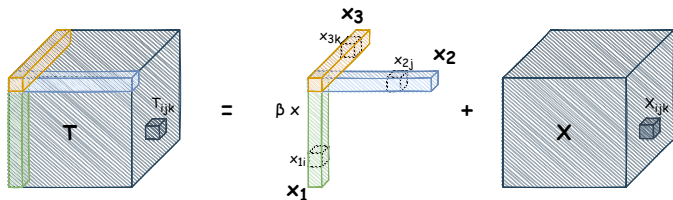
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Introduction: Asymmetric Spiked Tensor Model



We consider the following model: $(x_1 \otimes x_2 \otimes x_3)_{ijk} = x_{1i}x_{2j}x_{3k}$

$$\mathbf{T} = \underbrace{\beta \mathbf{x}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{x}_d}_{\text{signal}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \underbrace{\mathbf{X}}_{\text{bruit}} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times \cdots \times n_d}$$

where $\beta \geq 0$, $\|\mathbf{x}_i\| = 1$, $X_{i_1 \dots i_d} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ i.i.d. and $n = \sum_{i=1}^d n_i$.

- ▶ Is it possible to recover the signal in theory? for which **critical** value of β ?
- ▶ What **alignment** $\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \rangle$ between the signal and an estimator $\mathbf{u}_i(\mathbf{T})$?
- ▶ Is there an algorithm that can recover the signal in **polynomial time**?

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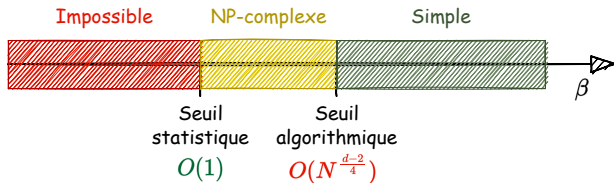
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Related Works: Symmetric Case

Introduced initially by (Montanari & Richard, 2014)

$$\mathbf{Y} = \beta \mathbf{x}^{\otimes d} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times \dots \times N}$$

where $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$ and \mathbf{W} has random Gaussian entries and is **symmetric**. This is a natural extension of the classical spiked matrix model $\mathbf{Y} = \beta \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \mathbf{W}$.



Other works in the literature include: (Montanari et al., 2015), (Hopkins et al., 2020), (Kim et al., 2017), (Ben Arous et al., 2019), (Jagannath et al, 2020), (Perry et al., 2020), (Ros et al., 2020), (Goulart et al., 2021).

Of which **Goulart et al. "A random matrix perspective on random tensors", 2021.**

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Random Matrix Approach (Goulart et al., 2021)

The optimization problem of maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) for $d = 3$:

$$\min_{\lambda > 0, \|\mathbf{u}\|=1} \left\| \mathbf{Y} - \lambda \mathbf{u}^{\otimes 3} \right\|_F^2 \Leftrightarrow \max_{\|\mathbf{u}\|=1} \langle \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u} \rangle$$

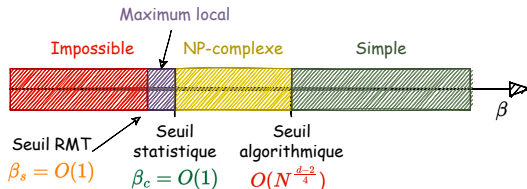
The critical points satisfy (Lim, 2005) :

$$\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) = \lambda \mathbf{u} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{u})\mathbf{u} = \lambda \mathbf{u}, \quad \|\mathbf{u}\| = 1$$

where $(\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}))_i = \sum_{j,k} u_j u_k Y_{ijk}$ et $(\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{u}))_{ij} = \sum_k u_k Y_{ijk}$. The MLE $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ corresponds to the dominant eigenvector of $\mathbf{Y}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})$: $\mathbf{Y}(\hat{\mathbf{x}})\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \|\mathbf{Y}\|\hat{\mathbf{x}}$.

Hence, the approach from (Goulart et al., 2021) consists in studying:

$$\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{u}) = \beta \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u} \rangle \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{u}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$



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The optimization problem of MLE for $d = 3$:

$$\min_{\lambda > 0, \|\mathbf{u}_i\|=1} \|\mathbf{T} - \lambda \mathbf{u}_1 \otimes \mathbf{u}_2 \otimes \mathbf{u}_3\|_F^2 \Leftrightarrow \prod_{i=1}^3 \max_{\|\mathbf{u}_i\|=1} \langle \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1 \otimes \mathbf{u}_2 \otimes \mathbf{u}_3 \rangle$$

The critical points satisfy (Lim, 2005) :

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{I}_{n_1}, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3) = \lambda \mathbf{u}_1, \quad \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{I}_{n_2}, \mathbf{u}_3) = \lambda \mathbf{u}_2, \quad \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{I}_{n_3}) = \lambda \mathbf{u}_3$$

where $\|\mathbf{u}_i\| = 1$ for all $i \in [3]$ and $(\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{I}_{n_1}, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3))_i = \sum_{j,k} u_{2j} u_{3k} T_{ijk}$.

- ▶ In contrast to the symmetric case, the choice of the associated *contraction* matrix is not straightforward. For instance:

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_3) \equiv \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{I}_{n_1}, \mathbf{I}_{n_2}, \mathbf{u}_3) = \beta \langle \mathbf{x}_3, \mathbf{u}_3 \rangle \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_2^\top + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{I}_{n_1}, \mathbf{I}_{n_2}, \mathbf{u}_3) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$$

Objectives:

- ▶ Evaluate the asymptotic limits of λ^* and $\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i^* \rangle$ associated (a priori) to the MLE when $n_i \rightarrow \infty$.
- ▶ Define a *symmetric* random matrix that is equivalent to \mathbf{T} .

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Associated Random Matrix to \mathbf{T}

Stein's Lemma: Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, then $\mathbb{E}[Xf(X)] = \mathbb{E}[f'(X)]$.

Recall $\lambda = \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{ijk} u_{1i} u_{2j} u_{3k} X_{ijk} + \beta \prod_{i=1}^3 \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \rangle$.

$$\mathbb{E}[\lambda] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{ijk} \mathbb{E} \left[u_{2j} u_{3k} \frac{\partial u_{1i}}{\partial X_{ijk}} \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[u_{1i} u_{3k} \frac{\partial u_{2j}}{\partial X_{ijk}} \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[u_{1i} u_{2j} \frac{\partial u_{3k}}{\partial X_{ijk}} \right] + \dots$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial X_{ijk}} \\ \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial X_{ijk}} \\ \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial X_{ijk}} \end{bmatrix} \approx -\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_{n_1 \times n_1} & \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_3) & \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_2) \\ \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_3)^\top & \mathbf{0}_{n_2 \times n_2} & \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1) \\ \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_2)^\top & \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1)^\top & \mathbf{0}_{n_3 \times n_3} \end{bmatrix}}_{\Phi_3(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n \right)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} u_{2j} u_{3k} e_i^{n_1} \\ u_{1i} u_{3k} e_j^{n_2} \\ u_{1i} u_{2j} e_k^{n_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

The resolvent matrix: $\mathbf{R}(z) = (\Phi_3(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3) - z\mathbf{I}_n)^{-1}$.

When $n_i \rightarrow \infty$, the non-vanishing terms involve the **trace** of $\mathbf{R}(z)$,

$$\lambda + \frac{1}{n} \text{tr} \mathbf{R}(\lambda) = \beta \prod_{i=1}^3 \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \rangle$$

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Spectral Measure of $\Phi_d(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$

Stieltjes Transform: The Stieltjes transform of a probability measure ν is $g_\nu(z) = \int \frac{d\nu(\lambda)}{\lambda - z}$, $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{S}(\nu)$.

For $S \in \text{Sym}_n$ with λ_i its eigenvalues, the empirical spectral measure (ESM) of S and its associated Stieltjes transform are:

$$\nu_S = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{\lambda_i}, \quad g_{\nu_S}(z) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i - z} = \frac{1}{n} \text{tr} \mathbf{R}_S(z), \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{S}(\nu_S)$$

where $\mathbf{R}_S(z) = (S - z\mathbf{I}_n)^{-1}$ is the resolvent of S .

Theorem 1. When $n_i \rightarrow \infty$ with $\sum_j \frac{n_i}{n_j} \rightarrow c_i \in [0, 1]$, the ESM of $\Phi_d(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$ converges to a **deterministic measure** ν having as Stieltjes transform $\frac{1}{n} \text{tr} \mathbf{R}(z) \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} g(z) = \sum_{i=1}^d g_i(z)$ verifying $\Im[g(z)] > 0$ for $\Im[z] > 0$, where

$$\frac{1}{n} \text{tr} \mathbf{R}^{ii}(z) \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} g_i(z) = \frac{g(z) + z}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{4c_i + (g(z) + z)^2}}{2}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{S}(\nu)$$

Remark: $(\lambda, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$ must satisfy $\lambda \notin \mathcal{S}(\nu)$ and $|\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \rangle| > 0$.

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Spectral Measure of $\Phi_d(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$

Corollary 1. When $c_i = \frac{1}{d}$ for all $i \in [d]$, the ESM of $\Phi_d(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$ converges to a **semi-circle law** ν of compact support $\left[-2\sqrt{\frac{d-1}{d}}, 2\sqrt{\frac{d-1}{d}}\right]$, where

$$\nu(dx) = \frac{d}{2(d-1)\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{4(d-1)}{d} - x^2\right)^+}, \quad g(z) = \frac{-zd + d\sqrt{z^2 - \frac{4(d-1)}{d}}}{2(d-1)}$$

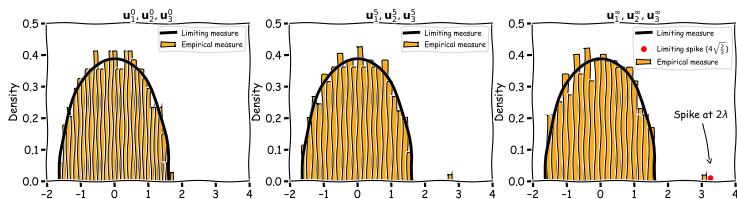


Figure: Spectrum of $\Phi_3(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)$ at iterations 0, 5, ∞ of the tensor power iteration algorithm applied on \mathbf{T} . $n_1 = n_2 = n_3 = 100$ and $\beta = 0$.

$$\mathbf{u}_1 \leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{I}_{n_1}, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)}{\|\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{I}_{n_1}, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3)\|}, \quad \mathbf{u}_2 \leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{I}_{n_2}, \mathbf{u}_3)}{\|\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{I}_{n_2}, \mathbf{u}_3)\|}, \quad \mathbf{u}_3 \leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{I}_{n_3})}{\|\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{I}_{n_3})\|}$$

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$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3) = \lambda \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{u}_1 \rangle \underbrace{\Rightarrow}_{\text{Stein}}$$

$$[\lambda + g_2(\lambda) + g_3(\lambda)] \langle \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{u}_1 \rangle = \beta \prod_{i=2}^3 \langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \rangle$$

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Theorem 2. For all $d \geq 3$, when $n_i \rightarrow \infty$ with $\frac{n_i}{\sum_j n_j} \rightarrow c_i \in (0, 1)$, there exists $\beta_s > 0$ such that for all $\beta > \beta_s$

$$\lambda^* \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \lambda^\infty, \quad |\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i^* \rangle| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} q_i(\lambda^\infty, \beta) = \sqrt{1 - \frac{g_i^2(\lambda^\infty)}{c_i}}$$

where λ^∞ satisfies $f(\lambda^\infty, \beta) = 0$ with $f(z, \beta) = z + g(z) - \beta \prod_{i=1}^d q_i(z, \beta)$, and

$$q_i(z, \beta) = \left(\frac{\alpha_i(z, \beta)^{d-3}}{\prod_{j \neq i} \alpha_j(z, \beta)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2d-4}}, \quad \alpha_i(z, \beta) = \frac{\beta}{z + g(z) - g_i(z)}$$

for $\beta \in [0, \beta_s]$, λ^∞ is bounded and $|\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i^* \rangle| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$.

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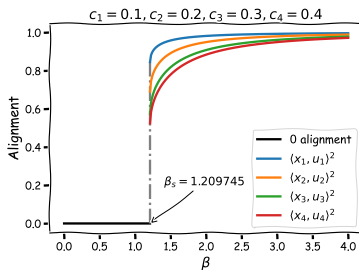
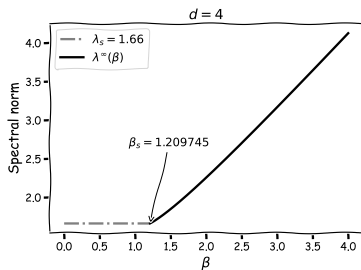
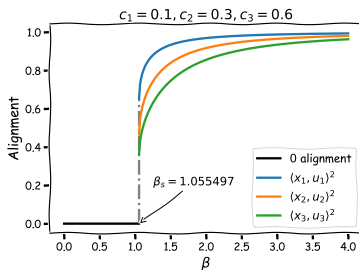
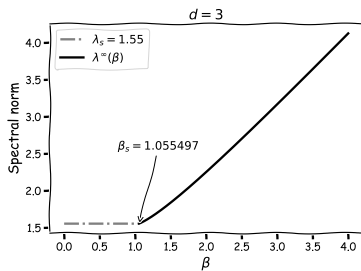
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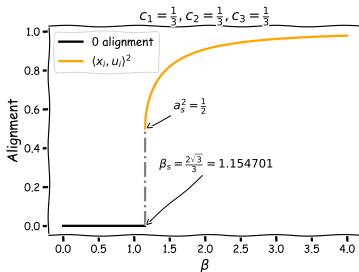
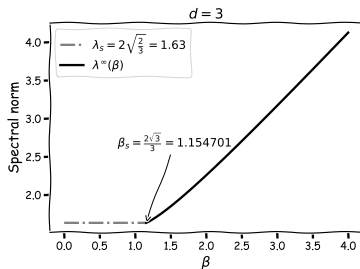
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Corollary 2. If $d = 3$ with $c_i = \frac{1}{3}$, then for all $\beta > \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda^* \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \sqrt{\frac{\beta^2}{2} + 2 + \frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{(3\beta^2-4)^3}}{18\beta}} \\ |\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i^* \rangle| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{\sqrt{9\beta^2-12 + \frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{(3\beta^2-4)^3}}{\beta}} + \sqrt{9\beta^2+36 + \frac{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{(3\beta^2-4)^3}}{\beta}}}{6\sqrt{2}\beta} \end{array} \right.$$



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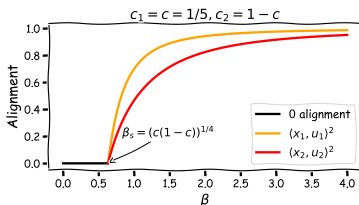
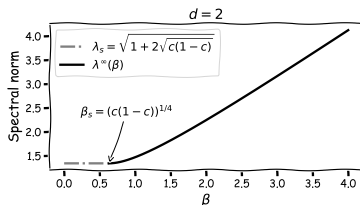
$$\text{For } d = 3, n_3 = 1 \Rightarrow M = \beta \mathbf{x} \mathbf{y}^\top + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_1 + n_2}} \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$$

Corollary 3. If $d = 3$ with $c_1 = c$ et $c_2 = 1 - c$ for $c \in [0, 1]$, the spiked tensor model becomes a **spiked matrix model** (i.e. $c_3 = 0$).

Let $\kappa(\beta, c) = \beta \sqrt{\frac{\beta^2(\beta^2+1)-c(c-1)}{(\beta^4+c(c-1))(\beta^2+1-c)}}$, for $\beta > \beta_s = \sqrt[4]{c(1-c)}$

$$\lambda^* \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \sqrt{\beta^2 + 1 + \frac{c(1-c)}{\beta^2}}, \quad |\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i^* \rangle| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{1}{\kappa(\beta, c_i)}, \quad i \in \{1, 2\}$$

while for $\beta \in [0, \beta_s]$, $\lambda^* \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \sqrt{1 + 2\sqrt{c(1-c)}}$ et $|\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i^* \rangle| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$.



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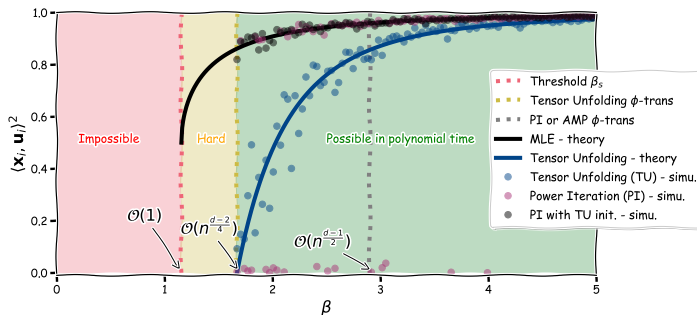
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$$\min_{\lambda > 0, \|\mathbf{u}_i\|=1} \|\mathbf{T} - \lambda \mathbf{u}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{u}_d\|_F^2 \Rightarrow \text{NP-hard (Hillar et al., 2013)}$$

- ▶ Tensor unfolding: $\mathcal{M}_i(\mathbf{T}) = \beta \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{y}_i^\top + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \mathcal{M}_i(\mathbf{X}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_i \times \prod_{j \neq i} n_j}$.
- ▶ Using Corollary 3, we find $\beta_a = (\prod_i n_i)^{1/4} / \sqrt{\sum_i n_i}$.
- ▶ Coincides with $O\left(N^{\frac{d-2}{4}}\right)$ of (Ben Arous et al, 2021) for $n_i = N$.
- ▶ Same threshold for tensor power iteration initialized with tensor unfolding (Auddy et al., 2021).



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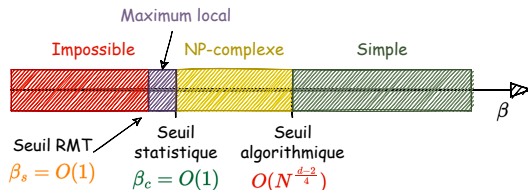
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Take Away Messages

- ▶ The RMT approach allows the study of asymmetric spiked tensor models.
- ▶ The obtained results characterize the performance of the MLE for β large enough (i.e., $\beta \geq \beta_c$).



Open questions:

- ▶ Still unclear how to characterize the **phase transition** of the MLE with the RMT approach.
- ▶ Is it possible to find a **polynomial time algorithm** that is consistent below the computational threshold β_a ?
- ▶ **Universality** and generalization to **higher-ranks**.

Thank you for your attention!

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.12348>

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When Random
Tensors meet Random
Matrices

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Introduction

Asymmetric Spiked Tensor
Model

Related Works

Random Matrix Approach

Analysis of the
Asymmetric Spiked
Tensor Model

Tensors Singular Values and
Vectors

Associated Random Matrix

Asymptotic Spectral Norm
and Alignments

Decomposition
Algorithms and
Complexity