

# Cumulant Signal Processing, Tensors and some Recurring Problems

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# Outline

- 1 Multilinear Product
- 2 An “Easy” Problem
- 3 Symmetric Case
- 4 Rank  $r$  Approximation
- 5 Displacement Structure

# Multilinear Product

Given  $N$  matrices  $\mathbf{A}^{(n)}$ , the  $N$ -way (a.k.a. Tucker) product is

$$\mathcal{T}_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_N} = \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \star \mathbf{A}^{(2)} \star \dots \star \mathbf{A}^{(N)} = \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{A}_{j_1, k}^{(1)} \mathbf{A}_{j_2, k}^{(2)} \dots \mathbf{A}_{j_N, k}^{(N)}$$

With a core  $N$ -dimensional tensor  $\mathcal{S}$ , the weighted product is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T} &= \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \overset{\mathcal{S}}{\star} \mathbf{A}^{(2)} \overset{\mathcal{S}}{\star} \dots \overset{\mathcal{S}}{\star} \mathbf{A}^{(N)} \\ &= \sum_{k_1=1}^{K_1} \sum_{k_2=1}^{K_2} \dots \sum_{k_N=1}^{K_N} \mathbf{A}_{j_1, k_1}^{(1)} \mathbf{A}_{j_2, k_2}^{(2)} \dots \mathbf{A}_{j_N, k_N}^{(N)} \mathcal{S}_{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N} \end{aligned}$$

and is equivalent to

$$\text{vec}(\mathcal{T}) = \left( \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \otimes \mathbf{A}^{(2)} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{A}^{(N)} \right) \text{vec}(\mathcal{S})$$

Reduces to unweighted product when  $\mathcal{S}_{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N} = \delta(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N)$ .

# An “Easy” Approximation Problem

Let  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{(N)}$  be a collection of unit-norm column vectors.

## Problem

Find unit-norm vectors  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{(N)}$  and scalar  $\sigma$  to minimize Frobenius norm of

$$\mathcal{S} - \underbrace{\sigma \cdot \mathbf{u}^{(1)} \star \mathbf{u}^{(2)} \star \dots \star \mathbf{u}^{(N)}}_{\text{rank one}}$$

Equivalent problem: Find unit norm vectors to maximize the functional

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{u}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{(N)}) &= (\mathbf{u}^{(1)})^T \star (\mathbf{u}^{(2)})^T \star \dots \star (\mathbf{u}^{(N)})^T \mathcal{S} \\ &= \sum_{k_1} \sum_{k_2} \dots \sum_{k_N} \mathbf{u}_{k_1}^{(1)} \mathbf{u}_{k_2}^{(2)} \dots \mathbf{u}_{k_N}^{(N)} \mathcal{S}_{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N} \end{aligned}$$

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# Simple iterative scheme

Can write

$$f = \langle \nabla_1 f, \mathbf{u}^{(1)} \rangle,$$

Thus, given unit-norm vectors  $\mathbf{u}^{(1,i)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{(N,i)}$  at iteration  $i$ , update  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v} &= \nabla_1 f = \sum_{k_2} \cdots \sum_{k_N} \mathbf{u}_{k_2}^{(2,i)} \cdots \mathbf{u}_{k_N}^{(N,i)} \mathcal{S}_{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N} \\ &= \mathbf{I} \star \mathcal{S} (\mathbf{u}^{(2,i)})^T \star \mathcal{S} \cdots \star \mathcal{S} (\mathbf{u}^{(N,i)})^T \\ \mathbf{u}^{(1,i+1)} &= \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} \end{aligned}$$

and likewise for  $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}, \mathbf{u}^{(3)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{(N)}$ , and repeat.

Each update gives an increase in  $f(\mathbf{u}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{(N)})$ , so functional converges monotonically to a local maximum.

## Symmetric case

Applications in blind deconvolution, source separation, or independent component analysis have a symmetric tensor:

$$\mathcal{S}_{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N} = \text{cum}(x_{k_1}, x_{k_2}, \dots, x_{k_N})$$

One seeks to maximize  $N$ -th order cumulant of  $\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}$  with  $\|\mathbf{u}\| = 1$ :

$$f(\mathbf{u}) = \text{cum}_N(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\mathbf{u}^T \star \mathcal{S} \star \dots \star \mathcal{S} \star \mathbf{u}^T}_{N \text{ terms}}$$

Symmetric version of previous algorithm gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v} &= \sum_{k_2} \dots \sum_{k_N} \mathbf{u}_{k_2}^{(i)} \dots \mathbf{u}_{k_N}^{(i)} \mathcal{S}_{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_N} \\ \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} &= \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} \end{aligned}$$

Sometimes converges, sometimes not ...

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Relax unit norm constraint to unit ball:

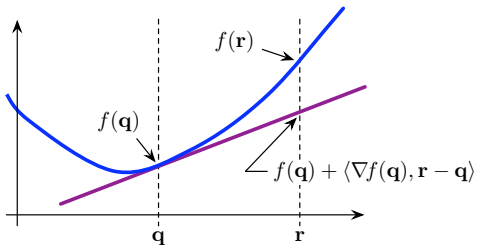
$$\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{u} : \|\mathbf{u}\| \leq 1\}.$$

Special case:  $f(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}^T \overset{S}{\star} \dots \overset{S}{\star} \mathbf{u}^T$  is convex (or concave) over  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Gradient inequality:

$$f(\mathbf{r}) \geq f(\mathbf{q}) + \langle \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{q}, \nabla f(\mathbf{q}) \rangle$$

for all  $\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{B}$ .



This applies, therefore, to successive iterates:  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{u}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)}$ .

From gradient inequality,

$$f(\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)}) - f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}) \geq \langle \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} - \mathbf{u}^{(i)}, \nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}) \rangle$$

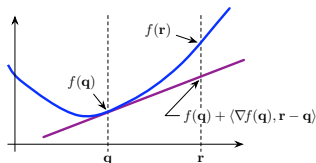
and since  $\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} = \nabla f / \|\nabla f\|$ , we have

$$\langle \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)}, \nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}) \rangle = \|\nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)})\| > \langle \mathbf{u}^{(i)}, \nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}) \rangle, \quad \text{if } \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} \neq \mathbf{u}^{(i)},$$

so that  $f(\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)}) > f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)})$ .

**Remark:** The discrepancy

$$D_f(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{q}) = f(\mathbf{r}) - f(\mathbf{q}) - \langle \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{q}, \nabla f(\mathbf{q}) \rangle \geq 0$$

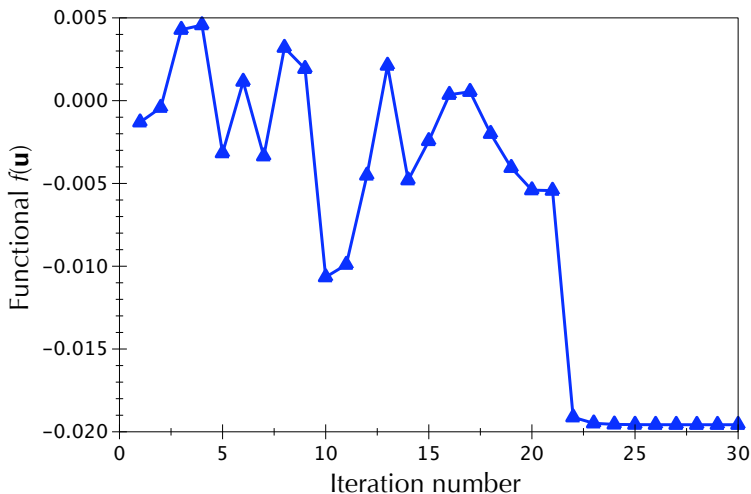


is the **Bregman distance** induced by  $f$ . If  $f$  is **strongly convex**, i.e.,

$$D_f(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{q}) \geq \alpha \|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{q}\|^2, \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{B},$$

then local convergence rate is at least linear.

What if  $f(\mathbf{u})$  is not convex over  $\mathcal{B}$ ?



# Gradient interpretation

Rewrite the functional as a “Rayleigh quotient” over  $\mathcal{B}$ :

$$J(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{f(\mathbf{u})}{\|\mathbf{u}\|^N}, \quad \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{B} \setminus \mathbf{0}$$

and consider a gradient ascent algorithm:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mu_i \nabla J(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}) \\ &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mu_i [\nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}) - \beta_i \mathbf{u}^{(i)}] \\ \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} &= \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|} \end{aligned}$$

with  $\beta_i = \langle \nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)}), \mathbf{u}^{(i)} \rangle$ .

Previous algorithm is obtained using  $\mu_i = 1/\beta_i$ .

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## A simple "trick"

Consider "regularized" functional

$$g(\mathbf{u}) = f(\mathbf{u}) + \frac{\gamma}{2}(\mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{u} - 1), \quad \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{B},$$

with  $\gamma$  a free parameter, so that  $g(\mathbf{u}) = f(\mathbf{u})$  for  $\mathbf{u} \in \partial\mathcal{B}$ .

Now,

$$g(\mathbf{u}) \text{ is convex over } \mathcal{B} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \nabla^2 g(\mathbf{u}) \geq 0 \text{ over } \mathcal{B}.$$

The Hessians are related as

$$\nabla^2 g(\mathbf{u}) = \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{u}) + \gamma \mathbf{I}$$

so with

$$\lambda_* \triangleq \min_{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{B}} \left[ \lambda_{\min}(\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{u})) \right]$$

choose  $\gamma \geq -\lambda_*$ .

Gradient ascent algorithm for "regularized" functional is no different:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mu_i [\nabla g_i - \alpha_i \mathbf{u}^{(i)}] & \alpha_i &= \langle \nabla g_i, \mathbf{u}^{(i)} \rangle \\
 &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mu_i [\nabla f_i + \gamma \mathbf{u}^{(i)} - \beta_i \mathbf{u}^{(i)} - \gamma \mathbf{u}^{(i)}] \\
 &= \mathbf{u}^{(i)} + \mu_i [\nabla f_i - \beta_i \mathbf{u}^{(i)}] \\
 \mathbf{u}^{(i+1)} &= \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\|\mathbf{v}\|}
 \end{aligned}$$

This gives  $f(\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)}) > f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)})$  if  $\mu_i = 1/\alpha_i = 1/(\beta_i + \gamma)$ .

Theorem (R. & Kofidis, 2003)

If  $\mathbf{u}^{(i)}$  is not a stationary point, then  $f(\mathbf{u}^{(i+1)}) > f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)})$  whenever

$$0 < \mu_i < \frac{2(\beta_i - \lambda_*)}{\beta_i^2 + (\beta_i - \lambda_*)^2 - \|\nabla f(\mathbf{u}^{(i)})\|^2}$$

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# PARAFAC Decomposition

When a (symmetric or not) tensor *can* be Tucker factored as

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \star \mathbf{A}^{(2)} \star \dots \star \mathbf{A}^{(N)}$$

uniqueness is addressed by Kruskal ( $N = 3$ ; 1977) and Bro & Sidiropoulos ( $N > 3$ ; 1998), using “ $k$ -rank” concepts. (Not always “robust”).

**Rank- $r$  Approximation:** Find rank  $r$  matrices  $\mathbf{U}^{(i)}$ , with  $[\mathbf{U}^{(i)}]^T \mathbf{U}^{(i)} = \mathbf{I}_r$ , and “core” tensor  $\mathcal{T}$  (of size  $r \times r \times \dots \times r$ ), to minimize Frobenius norm of

$$\mathcal{S} - \mathbf{U}^{(1)} \overset{T}{\star} \mathbf{U}^{(2)} \overset{T}{\star} \dots \overset{T}{\star} \mathbf{U}^{(N)}$$

- In matrix case, same as  $r$  applications of rank-one problem.
- In tensor case, no longer true, unless  $\mathcal{T}$  happens to be diagonal.
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# Symmetric Rank- $r$ Approximation

When  $\mathcal{S}$  is symmetric, of dimensions  $d \times d \times \cdots d$ , introduce tensor

$$\mathcal{R}^{(i)} = \mathbf{I} \star \underbrace{[\mathbf{U}^{(i)}]^T \star \mathcal{S} \star \cdots \star \mathcal{S} \star [\mathbf{U}^{(i)}]^T}_{N-1 \text{ terms}} \quad (\text{size } d \times r \times \cdots \times r)$$

Its unfolded matrix is (of size  $d \times r^{N-1}$ )

$$\mathbf{R}_{j,k}^{(i)} = \mathcal{R}_{j,k_2,\dots,k_N}^{(i)} \quad \text{with} \quad k = k_2 r + k_3 r^2 + \cdots + k_N r^{N-1}$$

Then choose for  $\mathbf{U}^{(i+1)}$  (size  $d \times r$ ) the  $r$  dominant left singular vectors of  $\mathbf{R}^{(i)}$ , and iterate.

# Convergence

With

$$\mathcal{T} = \underbrace{\mathbf{U}^T \overset{S}{\star} \cdots \overset{S}{\star} \mathbf{U}^T}_{N \text{ terms}}$$

Can show that

$$\mathcal{T}^{(i+1)} > \mathcal{T}^{(i)}$$

in the sense that

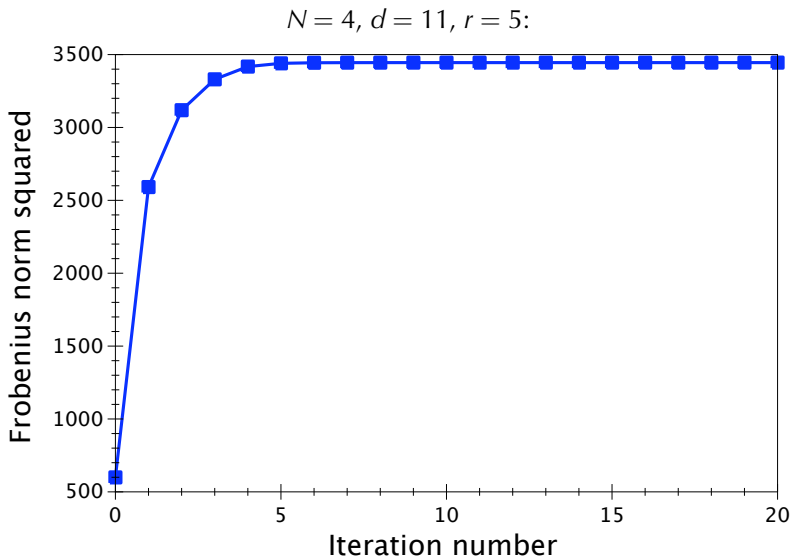
$$\mathbf{v}^T \overset{\mathcal{T}^{(i+1)}}{\star} \cdots \overset{\mathcal{T}^{(i+1)}}{\star} \mathbf{v}^T > \mathbf{v}^T \overset{\mathcal{T}^{(i)}}{\star} \cdots \overset{\mathcal{T}^{(i)}}{\star} \mathbf{v}^T, \quad \forall \mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$$

provided

$$f(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}^T \overset{S}{\star} \cdots \overset{S}{\star} \mathbf{u}^T$$

is convex for  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{B}$ .

# Typical simulation example



A stationary stochastic process:  $r_{|k-l|} = E(x_{i-k} x_{i-l}) = E(x_i x_{i+k-l})$  can be modeled as a *linear process*, i.e.,  $x_i = \sum_j h_j \epsilon_{i-j}$  with  $\{\epsilon_i\}$  i.i.d, iff

$$\mathbf{R}_N = \begin{bmatrix} r_0 & r_1 & \cdots & r_N \\ r_1 & r_0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & r_1 \\ r_N & \cdots & r_1 & r_0 \end{bmatrix} > 0, \quad \text{for all } N$$

Displacement structure:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{R}_N - \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{R}_N\mathbf{Z}^T &= \begin{bmatrix} r_0 & r_1 & \cdots & r_N \\ r_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ r_N & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{r_0} \\ r_1/\sqrt{r_0} \\ \vdots \\ r_N\sqrt{r_0} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{a}} [\cdot]^T - \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ r_1/\sqrt{r_0} \\ \vdots \\ r_N\sqrt{r_0} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{b}} [\cdot]^T \end{aligned}$$

using shift matrix

$$\mathbf{Z} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots \\ 1 & 0 & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & 1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

Generator formulation: With  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  two complex variables

$$[1 \ z_1 \ z_1^2 \ \cdots] \mathbf{R}_\infty \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ z_2 \\ z_2^2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \frac{a(z_1) a(z_2) - b(z_1) b(z_2)}{1 - z_1 z_2}$$

and  $\mathbf{R}_\infty \succeq 0$  if and only if there exists a Schur function  $S(z)$  for which

$$b(z) = S(z) a(z)$$

**Interpolation problem:** Given  $n$  points  $\{z_i\}$  in unit disk, find  $S(z)$  such that

$$b(z_i) = S(z_i) a(z_i), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Underlies spectral factorization:

$$H(z) = \frac{zQ(z)}{1 - zS(z)}, \quad \text{with} \quad Q(z)Q(z^{-1}) + S(z)S(z^{-1}) = 1,$$

gives linear model  $H(z) = \sum_{k \geq 1} h_k z^k$  which generates the correlation data.



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Consider higher order tensor

$$\mathcal{R}_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_N} = \text{cum}_N(x_{i-j_1}, \dots, x_{i-j_N})$$

which is "Toeplitz" whenever  $\{x_i\}$  is stationary. Process is "linear" if we can find factorization

$$\mathcal{R} = \gamma_N \underbrace{\mathbf{H} \star \mathbf{H} \star \dots \star \mathbf{H}}_{N \text{ terms}} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & h_1 & h_2 & h_3 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & h_1 & h_2 & \ddots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & h_1 & \ddots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear or not, the displacement structure

$$\mathcal{S} \triangleq \mathcal{R} - \mathbf{Z} \star \mathcal{R} \star \mathbf{Z} \star \mathcal{R} \star \dots \star \mathcal{R} \star \mathbf{Z}$$

vanishes except along its faces.

Consider Hankel matrix

$$\mathbf{\Gamma} = \begin{bmatrix} h_1 & h_2 & h_3 & \cdots \\ h_2 & h_3 & h_4 & \ddots \\ h_3 & h_4 & h_5 & \ddots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow H(z) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h_k z^k$$

and the identity

$$\mathcal{G} \triangleq \underbrace{\mathbf{\Gamma} \star \cdots \star \mathbf{\Gamma}}_{N \text{ terms}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{H} \star \cdots \star \mathbf{H}}_{\mathcal{R}/\gamma_N} - \mathbf{H}^T \star \cdots \star \mathbf{H}^T$$

$\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{R}/\gamma_N$  agree on faces, and:

$$\mathcal{G} - \mathbf{Z} \overset{\mathcal{G}}{\star} \cdots \overset{\mathcal{G}}{\star} \mathbf{Z} = \mathcal{S}/\gamma_N - \mathbf{h} \star \cdots \star \mathbf{h}$$

with  $\mathbf{h} = [0 \ h_1 \ h_2 \ h_3 \ \cdots]^T$ .

Let  $\mathbf{z}_i = [1 \ z_i \ z_i^2 \ z_i^3 \ \dots]$ , and introduce generator function

$$S(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_N) \triangleq \mathbf{z}_1 \star \mathbf{z}_2 \star \dots \star \mathbf{z}_N$$

Setting  $z_N = 1/(z_1 \cdots z_{N-1})$  gives the polyspectrum:

$$\begin{aligned} & S(z_1, \dots, z_{N-1}, (z_1 \cdots z_{N-1})^{-1}) \\ &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_{N-1}} \text{cum}_N(x_n, x_{n-k_1}, \dots, x_{n-k_{N-1}}) z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_{N-1}^{k_{N-1}} \quad (\text{general case}) \\ &= \gamma_N H(z_1) \cdots H(z^{N-1}) H\left((z_1 \cdots z_{N-1})^{-1}\right) \quad (\text{when linear}) \end{aligned}$$

**Open problem:** Given specific evaluation points  $\{\alpha_j\}$  in unit disk, when can we find an  $H(z)$  whose output cumulants replicate the values<sup>1</sup>

$$S(\alpha_{i_1}, \alpha_{i_2}, \dots, \alpha_{i_N}) \quad ?$$

<sup>1</sup>V. S. Grigorascu and P. R., "Tensor displacement structures..." in *Fast Algorithms for Matrices w/ Structure*, T. Kailath & A Sayed, eds. SIAM, 1999.

## Concluding remarks

- Rank one tensor approximation follows easily from matrix case, *except* that it need not lead to a “fundamental” decomposition.
- Symmetric version is convergent if a relaxed function is convex or concave.
- If not, reduce step size (bound obtained analytically).
- Higher-order factorization/interpolation not always so well defined, and offers open terrain.