

# Tensor Applications

Betty Shea

UBC MLRG 2020 Winter Term 1

30-Sept-2020

# Today

## 1 Introduction and Motivation

- What is a tensor?
- Examples

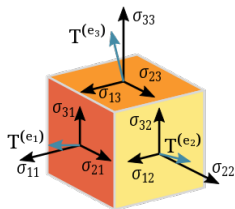
## 2 MLRG

- Overview
- What this term's MLRG is and is not about

## 3 Papers and Signup

- List of papers
- Acknowledgements and references

# What is a tensor?



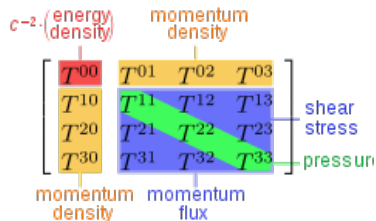
- Wikipedia: “an algebraic object that describes a relationship between sets of algebraic objects related to a vector space”



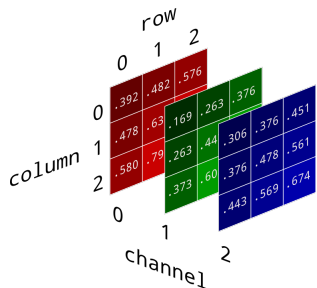
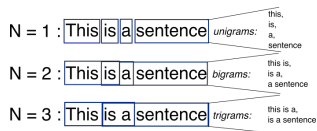
- Multi-dimensional array
- Linear operator

# Where are tensors used: broad areas

- Statistics: Joint probability tensors
- Physics: Einstein field equations
- Material science: stress tensors, strain tensors and elasticity



# Where are tensors used: machine learning

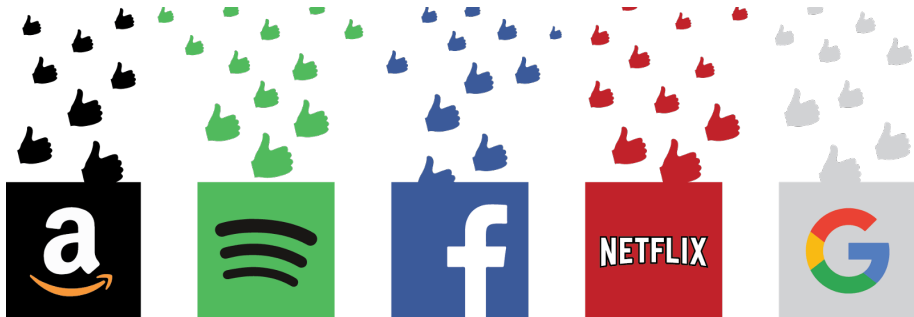


- Natural language processing: Topic models, n-grams
- Image processing: A colour image is three matrices of pixels corresponding to red, green and blue.

# Example 1: Recommender systems

Very big and sparse matrix  $Y$

- Netflix: rows are content viewers, columns are movies
- Amazon: rows are shoppers, columns are items for sale



# Collaborative filtering

“Regularized PCA on the available entries of  $Y$ ”

$Y \approx ZW$  where  $Z$  represents user features and  $W$  movie features

Matrix factorization produces a latent factor model of types of users and movies.

# Collaborative filtering

“Regularized PCA on the available entries of  $Y$ ”

$Y \approx ZW$  where  $Z$  represents user features and  $W$  movie features

Matrix factorization produces a latent factor model of types of users and movies.

Issues with matrix factorization

- Solutions are not unique
- Feedback from user may not just be a single number



# Collaborative filtering

“Regularized PCA on the available entries of  $Y$ ”

$Y \approx ZW$  where  $Z$  represents user features and  $W$  movie features

Matrix factorization produces a latent factor model of types of users and movies.

Issues with matrix factorization

- Solutions are not unique
- Feedback from user may not just be a single number

Why we may want to go to tensor factorization

- Tensor factorization often give unique solutions
- Can learn all dimensions of the feedback simultaneously

# Collaborative filtering

“Regularized PCA on the available entries of  $Y$ ”

$Y \approx ZW$  where  $Z$  represents user features and  $W$  movie features

Matrix factorization produces a latent factor model of types of users and movies.

Issues with matrix factorization

- Solutions are not unique
- Feedback from user may not just be a single number

Why we may want to go to tensor factorization

- Tensor factorization often give unique solutions
- Can learn all dimensions of the feedback simultaneously

Tensor factorization is NP-hard in general.

## Example 2: The complexity of matrix multiplication

Consider multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices. Standard algorithm takes  $n^3$  multiplications.

## Example 2: The complexity of matrix multiplication

Consider multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices. Standard algorithm takes  $n^3$  multiplications.

For example, there are 8 multiplications in the  $n = 2$  case

$$C = A \times B = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

- 1  $A_{11} \times B_{11}$
- 3  $A_{21} \times B_{11}$
- 5  $A_{11} \times B_{12}$
- 7  $A_{21} \times B_{12}$

- 2  $A_{12} \times B_{21}$
- 4  $A_{22} \times B_{21}$
- 6  $A_{12} \times B_{22}$
- 8  $A_{22} \times B_{22}$

## Example 2: The complexity of matrix multiplication

Consider multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices. Standard algorithm takes  $n^3$  multiplications.

For example, there are 8 multiplications in the  $n = 2$  case

$$C = A \times B = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

- 1  $A_{11} \times B_{11}$
- 3  $A_{21} \times B_{11}$
- 5  $A_{11} \times B_{12}$
- 7  $A_{21} \times B_{12}$

- 2  $A_{12} \times B_{21}$
- 4  $A_{22} \times B_{21}$
- 6  $A_{12} \times B_{22}$
- 8  $A_{22} \times B_{22}$

From CPSC221, we know that it is possible to use 7 instead of 8 multiplications.

# Strassen's algorithm

$$C = A \times B = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Define 7 new quantities

$$\textcircled{1} M_1 = (A_{11} + A_{22}) \times (B_{11} + B_{22})$$

$$\textcircled{3} M_3 = A_{11} \times (B_{12} - B_{22})$$

$$\textcircled{5} M_5 = (A_{11} + A_{12}) \times B_{22}$$

$$\textcircled{7} M_7 = (A_{12} - A_{22}) \times (B_{21} + B_{22})$$

$$\textcircled{2} M_2 = (A_{21} + A_{22}) \times B_{11}$$

$$\textcircled{4} M_4 = A_{22} \times (B_{21} - B_{11})$$

$$\textcircled{6} M_6 = (A_{21} - A_{11}) \times (B_{11} + B_{12})$$

And then these additions give you the answer

$$\textcircled{1} C_{11} = M_1 + M_4 - M_5 + M_7$$

$$\textcircled{3} C_{21} = M_2 + M_4$$

$$\textcircled{2} C_{12} = M_3 + M_5$$

$$\textcircled{4} C_{22} = M_1 - M_2 + M_3 + M_6$$

# Strassen's algorithm

$$C = A \times B = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Define 7 new quantities

$$\textcircled{1} M_1 = (A_{11} + A_{22}) \times (B_{11} + B_{22})$$

$$\textcircled{3} M_3 = A_{11} \times (B_{12} - B_{22})$$

$$\textcircled{5} M_5 = (A_{11} + A_{12}) \times B_{22}$$

$$\textcircled{7} M_7 = (A_{12} - A_{22}) \times (B_{21} + B_{22})$$

$$\textcircled{2} M_2 = (A_{21} + A_{22}) \times B_{11}$$

$$\textcircled{4} M_4 = A_{22} \times (B_{21} - B_{11})$$

$$\textcircled{6} M_6 = (A_{21} - A_{11}) \times (B_{11} + B_{12})$$

And then these additions give you the answer

$$\textcircled{1} C_{11} = M_1 + M_4 - M_5 + M_7$$

$$\textcircled{3} C_{21} = M_2 + M_4$$

$$\textcircled{2} C_{12} = M_3 + M_5$$

$$\textcircled{4} C_{22} = M_1 - M_2 + M_3 + M_6$$

Also works if the entries are matrices instead of scalars.

# Strassen's algorithm

$$C = A \times B = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Define 7 new quantities

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 $M_1 = (A_{11} + A_{22}) \times (B_{11} + B_{22})$ | 2 $M_2 = (A_{21} + A_{22}) \times B_{11}$            |
| 3 $M_3 = A_{11} \times (B_{12} - B_{22})$            | 4 $M_4 = A_{22} \times (B_{21} - B_{11})$            |
| 5 $M_5 = (A_{11} + A_{12}) \times B_{22}$            | 6 $M_6 = (A_{21} - A_{11}) \times (B_{11} + B_{12})$ |
| 7 $M_7 = (A_{12} - A_{22}) \times (B_{21} + B_{22})$ |  |

And then these additions give you the answer

- |                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 $C_{11} = M_1 + M_4 - M_5 + M_7$ | 2 $C_{12} = M_3 + M_5$             |
| 3 $C_{21} = M_2 + M_4$             | 4 $C_{22} = M_1 - M_2 + M_3 + M_6$ |

Also works if the entries are matrices instead of scalars.

For the general  $n \times n$  case, takes  $n^{\log_2 7}$  multiplications.



# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

The natural question is then can we do better than  $n^{\log_2 7} \approx n^{2.81}$ ?

# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

The natural question is then can we do better than  $n^{\log_2 7} \approx n^{2.81}$ ?

The more interesting question is how much better can we do?

# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

The natural question is then can we do better than  $n^{\log_2 7} \approx n^{2.81}$ ?

The more interesting question is how much better can we do?

The *exponent*  $\omega$  of matrix multiplication is the lowest real-valued  $h$  where two  $n \times n$  matrices may be multiplied using  $O(n^h)$  arithmetic operations.

# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

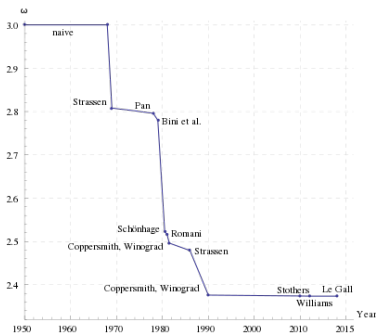
The natural question is then can we do better than  $n^{\log_2 7} \approx n^{2.81}$ ?

The more interesting question is how much better can we do?

The *exponent*  $\omega$  of matrix multiplication is the lowest real-valued  $h$  where two  $n \times n$  matrices may be multiplied using  $O(n^h)$  arithmetic operations.

For Strassen's algorithm,  $\omega = \log_2 7$ .

Since then... (chart from Wikipedia)



# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

Understanding the complexity of matrix multiplication has to do with understanding  $\omega$ .

# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

Understanding the complexity of matrix multiplication has to do with understanding  $\omega$ .

And tensors provide a way to understand  $\omega$ .

# Matrix multiplication exponent $\omega$

Understanding the complexity of matrix multiplication has to do with understanding  $\omega$ .

And tensors provide a way to understand  $\omega$ .

Like matrices, tensors could also be viewed as both

- structures containing data, i.e. a  $d$ -way array and
- linear operators, i.e. can multiply vectors, matrices and tensors

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

Vector spaces  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  with  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$  and  $c \in C$ .

- define  $A^* = \{f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is linear}\}$



# Tensor rank and $\omega$

Vector spaces  $A, B$ , and  $C$  with  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$  and  $c \in C$ .

- define  $A^* = \{f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is linear}\}$
- define a *linear map*  $\alpha \otimes b : A \rightarrow B$  by

$$a \mapsto \alpha(a)b \text{ where } \alpha \in A^*$$

(This is equivalently a matrix, e.g., permutation matrices, reflection matrices, etc.)

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

Vector spaces  $A, B$ , and  $C$  with  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$  and  $c \in C$ .

- define  $A^* = \{f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is linear}\}$
- define a *linear map*  $\alpha \otimes b : A \rightarrow B$  by

$$a \mapsto \alpha(a)b \text{ where } \alpha \in A^*$$

(This is equivalently a matrix, e.g., permutation matrices, reflection matrices, etc.)

- define a *bilinear map*  $\alpha \otimes \beta \otimes c : A \times B \rightarrow C$  by

$$(a, b) \mapsto \alpha(a)\beta(b)c \text{ where } \alpha \in A^* \text{ and } \beta \in B^*$$

This is equivalently a tensor, which can be decomposed into a sum of rank 1 tensors.

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

Vector spaces  $A, B$ , and  $C$  with  $a \in A$ ,  $b \in B$  and  $c \in C$ .

- define  $A^* = \{f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is linear}\}$
- define a *linear map*  $\alpha \otimes b : A \rightarrow B$  by

$$a \mapsto \alpha(a)b \text{ where } \alpha \in A^*$$

(This is equivalently a matrix, e.g., permutation matrices, reflection matrices, etc.)

- define a *bilinear map*  $\alpha \otimes \beta \otimes c : A \times B \rightarrow C$  by

$$(a, b) \mapsto \alpha(a)\beta(b)c \text{ where } \alpha \in A^* \text{ and } \beta \in B^*$$

This is equivalently a tensor, which can be decomposed into a sum of rank 1 tensors.

- So, we can write a bilinear map  $T : A \times B \rightarrow C$  as

$$T(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha^i(a)\beta^i(b)c_i \text{ for some } r \text{ where } \alpha^i \in A^*, \beta^i \in B^*, c_i \in C$$

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

The *rank* of a bilinear map  $T : A \times B \rightarrow C$ , denoted  $R(T)$ , is the minimal number  $r$  over all possible ways of writing  $T$  in the form

$$T(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^r \alpha^i(a) \beta^i(b) c_i$$

If  $T$  has rank  $r$ , its complexity in terms of multiplications is  $r$ .

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

- Matrix multiplication of square matrices is a bilinear map of the form

$$M_{n,n,n} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \times \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$$

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

- Matrix multiplication of square matrices is a bilinear map of the form

$$M_{n,n,n} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \times \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$$

- The smallest number of multiplications for multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices is given by  $R(M_{n,n,n})$ . This is the minimum  $r$  over all possible ways to write  $M_{n,n,n}$  as a sum of rank 1 tensors.

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

- Matrix multiplication of square matrices is a bilinear map of the form

$$M_{n,n,n} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \times \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$$

- The smallest number of multiplications for multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices is given by  $R(M_{n,n,n})$ . This is the minimum  $r$  over all possible ways to write  $M_{n,n,n}$  as a sum of rank 1 tensors.
- The lowest achievable matrix multiplication exponent is in fact the rank of a bilinear map

$$\omega = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \log_n (R(M_{n,n,n}))$$

# Tensor rank and $\omega$

- Matrix multiplication of square matrices is a bilinear map of the form

$$M_{n,n,n} : \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \times \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$$

- The smallest number of multiplications for multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices is given by  $R(M_{n,n,n})$ . This is the minimum  $r$  over all possible ways to write  $M_{n,n,n}$  as a sum of rank 1 tensors.
- The lowest achievable matrix multiplication exponent is in fact the rank of a bilinear map

$$\omega = \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \log_n (R(M_{n,n,n}))$$

- And the complexity of matrix multiplication is determined by our ability to find explicit equations for the set of tensors in  $\mathbb{R}^{n^2} \otimes \mathbb{R}^{n^2} \otimes \mathbb{R}^{n^2}$  of rank at most  $r$ .



# MLRG

---

# Main themes, structure and schedule

- Anticipated to run between 30-Sep to 9-Dec

# Main themes, structure and schedule

- Anticipated to run between 30-Sep to 9-Dec
- 10 papers
  - ▶ Two papers on tensor basics, definitions, operations, theory, complexity
  - ▶ A paper on link prediction and knowledge graphs that uses tensor factorization
  - ▶ Two papers on latent models
  - ▶ Three papers on higher order optimization methods
  - ▶ A paper each on tensors in deep neural networks and in visual data

# Things that are relevant to this MLRG

- **Read papers that use tensors in one form or another.**
- Understanding when it makes sense to increase the complexity of our models and methods.
  - ▶ Matrices  $\rightarrow$  tensors
  - ▶ First-order methods  $\rightarrow$  higher-order methods
- Understanding the hidden assumptions in our simpler methods that no longer apply.
- Generalization.

# Things that are not the main focus

- A thorough and rigorous understanding of tensors and tensor decompositions.

**Elina Robeva's MATH 605D** would be much better for this.

## Papers and Signup

---

# Papers 1 and 2: Background

## 1. Kolda and Bader (2009) Tensor decompositions and applications

- <http://www.kolda.net/publication/TensorReview.pdf>
- Sections 1 to 3.3 (and more if you feel like it)

*Additional resources:*

- Ankur Moitra. (2014) *Algorithmic Aspects of Machine Learning*, sections 3.1-3.2  
<http://people.csail.mit.edu/moitra/docs/bookeæ.pdf>
- Previous MLRG talks: [https://www.cs.ubc.ca/labs/lci/mlrg/slides/Spectral\\_Methods.pdf](https://www.cs.ubc.ca/labs/lci/mlrg/slides/Spectral_Methods.pdf),  
[https://www.cs.ubc.ca/labs/lci/mlrg/slides/MLRG\\_Tensor\\_Talk.pdf](https://www.cs.ubc.ca/labs/lci/mlrg/slides/MLRG_Tensor_Talk.pdf)
- Survey paper: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=7891546>

## 2. Hillar and Lim (2013) Most tensor problems are NP-hard

- <https://arxiv.org/abs/0911.1393>

# Papers 3: Knowledge graphs

## 3. Kazemi and Poole (2018) Simple embedding for link prediction in knowledge graphs

- <https://papers.nips.cc/paper/7682-simple-embedding-for-link-prediction-in-knowledge-graphs.pdf>



# Papers 4 and 5: Latent models

## 4. Hsu and Kakade. (2013) Learning mixtures of spherical Gaussians: moment methods and spectral decompositions

- <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1206.5766.pdf>

Additional resources:

- Anandkumar et al. (2014) Tensor decompositions for learning latent variable models  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1210.7559.pdf>
- MLSS slides: <http://newport.eecs.uci.edu/anandkumar/pubs/MLSS-part1.pdf>
- 540 slides: <https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~schmidtm/Courses/540-W20/L7.pdf>

## 5. Anandkumar et al. (2012) A spectral algorithm for latent Dirichlet allocation

- <https://papers.nips.cc/paper/4637-a-spectral-algorithm-for-latent-dirichlet-allocation>

Additional resources:

- Anandkumar et al. (2014) Tensor decompositions for learning latent variable models  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1210.7559.pdf>
- MLSS slides: <http://newport.eecs.uci.edu/anandkumar/pubs/MLSS-part2.pdf>
- 540 slides: <https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~schmidtm/Courses/540-W20/L29.pdf>
- Ankur Moitra. (2014) Algorithmic Aspects of Machine Learning, section 3.5  
<http://people.csail.mit.edu/moitra/docs/bookeæ.pdf>

## Papers 6 to 8: Higher order methods

### 6. Baes, Michel. (2009) Estimate sequence methods: extensions and approximations

- [http://www.optimization-online.org/DB\\_FILE/2009/08/2372.pdf](http://www.optimization-online.org/DB_FILE/2009/08/2372.pdf)
- “the modern view on what can be gained by higher-order methods”

### 7. Nesterov, Yurii. (2020) Inexact accelerated high-order proximal-point methods

- <https://dial.uclouvain.be/pr/boreal/object/boreal:227219>
- Bi-level Unconstrained Minimization framework, pth-order proximal point operation

### 8. Cartis et al. (2018) Sharp worst-case evaluation complexity bounds for arbitrary-order nonconvex optimization with inexpensive constraints

- <https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.01220>
- ARqp framework,  $\epsilon$ -approximate  $q$  order necessary minimizers for  $p$  order problems. Upper bounding the complexity of the tensor step in the previous paper.

# Papers 9 and 10: Neural networks and visual data

## 9. Novikov et al. (2015) Tensorizing Neural Networks

- <https://papers.nips.cc/paper/5787-tensorizing-neural-networks>
- Tensors in deep neural networks

## 10. Liu et al. (2012) Tensor completion for estimating missing values in visual data

- <https://www.cs.rochester.edu/u/jliu/paper/Ji-ICCV09.pdf>

# Signup sheet

| Winter term 1 2020 - Tensor basics and applications |           | Every Wednesday at 1:00 PM Online   |
|---|-----------|---|
| Date  | Presenter | Topic   |
| Sep 30  | Betty     | Motivation  |
| Oct 7   |           | Tensor basics: Notation, operations, etc. (Kolda and Bader 2009)          |
| Oct 14  |           | Tensor basics: Complexity (arXiv ID: 0911.1393)                           |
| Oct 21  | Bahare    | Tensor factorization: Knowledge graphs (Kazemi and Poole 2018)            |
| Oct 28  |           | Latent models: Gaussian mixture models (arXiv ID: 1206.5766)              |
| Nov 4   |           | Latent models: Topic models (arXiv ID: 1204.6703)                         |
| Nov 11  |           | Higher order methods: Estimate sequence methods (Baes 2009)               |
| Nov 18  |           | Higher order methods: Bi-level unconstrained minimization (Nesterov 2020) |
| Nov 25  |           | Higher order methods: ARqp framework (arXiv ID: 1811.01220)               |
| Dec 2   |           | Other appl: Tensors in deep neural networks (arXiv ID: 1509.06569)        |
| Dec 9   |           | Other appl: Tensor completion in visual data (Liu et al. 2013)            |

# Acknowledgements

- I used the first few lectures from **Elina Robeva's MATH 605D Fall 2020 Tensor decompositions and their applications**  
<https://sites.google.com/view/ubc-math-605d/class-overview>
- The collaborative filtering example is taken from Mark Schmidt's CPSC 340 slides  
<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~schmidtm/Courses/340-F19/L30.pdf>
- The Strassen's algorithm example is taken from Landsberg's book *Tensors: Geometry and Applications*

# References

- Landsberg, J.M. *Tensors: Geometry and Applications*  
The introduction chapter is available here.
- Robeva, Elina. MATH605D Fall 2020 Tensor decomposition and their applications  
<https://sites.google.com/view/ubc-math-605d/class-overview>
- Strang, G. *Linear Algebra and Learning From Data*

Thank you

# Bonus

“The workhorse of scientific computation is matrix multiplication.”

– *J.M. Landsberg, Tensors: Geometry and Applications*

It's been shown that  $R(M_{2,2,2})$  is exactly 7 but not much else is known about  $R(M_{n,n,n})$  except that

- $R(M_{3,3,3})$  is somewhere between 19 and 23.
- Best asymptotic lower bound:  $\frac{5}{2}n^2 - 3n \leq R(M_{n,n,n})$