

# Lower Bounds for Quantized Matrix Completion

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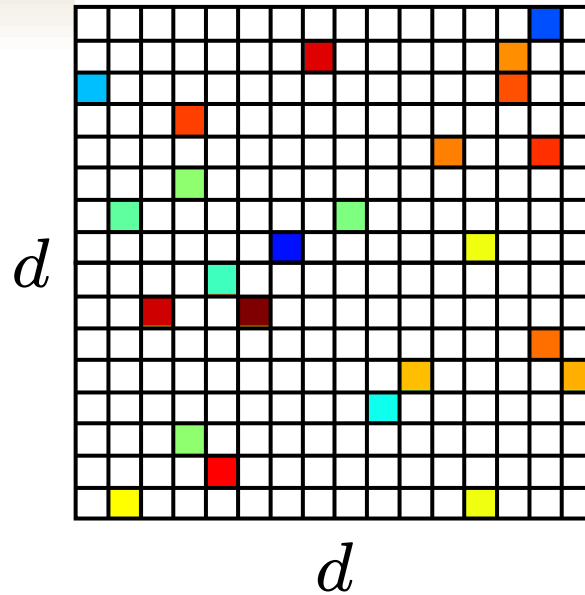
Yaniv Plan



Ewout van den Berg

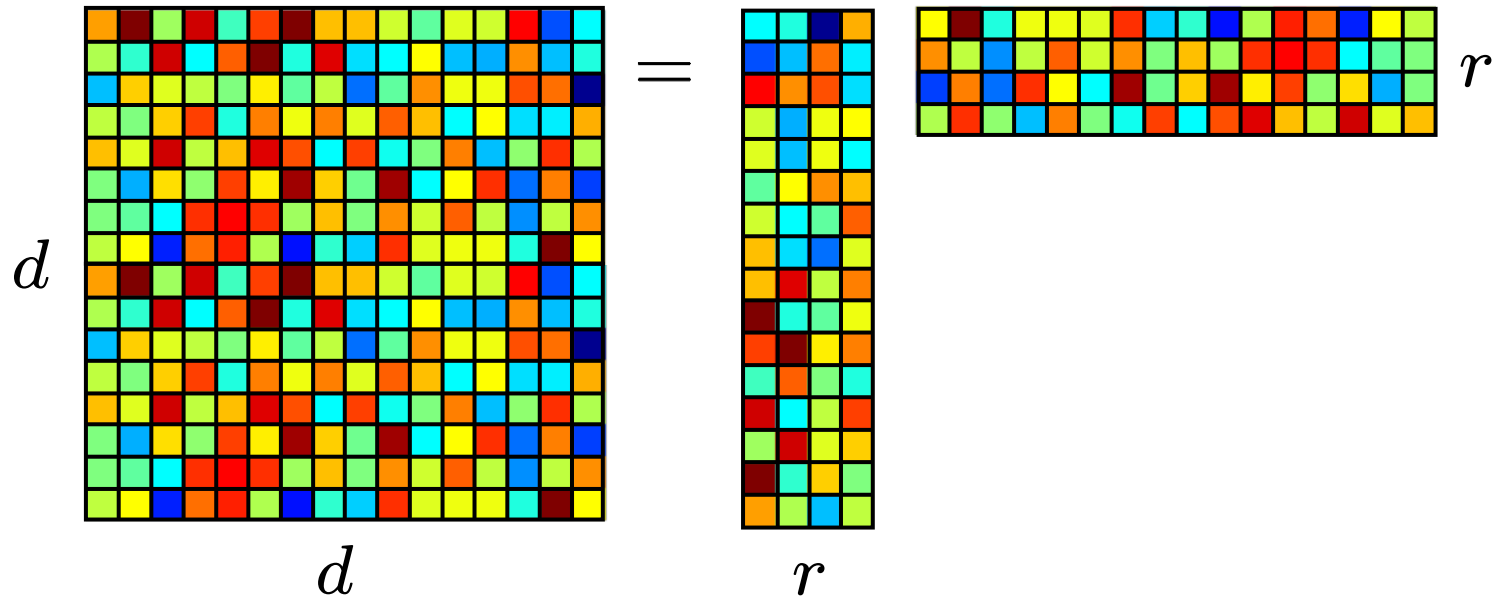


# Matrix Completion



- When is it possible to recover the original matrix?
- How can we do this efficiently?
- How many samples will we need?

# Low-Rank Matrices



Singular value decomposition:

$$M = U\Sigma V^*$$



$$\approx dr \ll d^2$$

degrees of freedom

# Low-Rank Matrix Recovery

Given:

- a  $d \times d$  matrix  $M$  of rank  $r$
- samples of  $M$  on the set  $\mathcal{X} : Y = M$

How can we recover  $M$ ?

$$\widehat{M} = \arg \inf_{X: X = Y} \text{rank}(X)$$

Can we replace this with something computationally feasible?

# Nuclear Norm Minimization

*Convex relaxation!*

Replace  $\text{rank}(X)$  with  $\|X\|_* = \sum_{j=1}^d |\sigma_j|$

$$\widehat{M} = \arg \inf_{X: X = Y} \|X\|_*$$

If  $\|Y\|_* = O(r d \log d)$ , this procedure can recover  $M$  !

# Applications

- Collaborative Filtering (aka the “Netflix Problem”)
- Recovery of incomplete survey data
- Analysis of voting data
- Sensor localization
- Quantum state tomography
- ...

# Matrix Completion in Practice

- Noise

$$Y = (M + Z)$$

- ***Quantization***

- Netflix: Ratings are integers between 1 and 5
- Survey responses: True/False, Yes/No, Agree/Disagree
- Voting data: Yea/Nay
- Quantum state tomography: Binary outcomes

Extreme quantization *destroys low-rank structure*

# 1-Bit Matrix Completion

Extreme case

$$Y = \text{sign}(M)$$

Claim: Recovering  $M$  from  $Y$  is impossible!

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \\ \lambda & \lambda & \lambda & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

No matter how many samples we obtain, all we can learn is whether  $\lambda > 0$  or  $\lambda < 0$



# Is There Any Hope?

If we consider a noisy version of the problem, recovery becomes feasible!

$$Y = \text{sign}(M + Z)$$

$$M + Z = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda + Z_{1,1} & \lambda + Z_{1,2} & \lambda + Z_{1,3} & \lambda + Z_{1,4} \\ \lambda + Z_{2,1} & \lambda + Z_{2,2} & \lambda + Z_{2,3} & \lambda + Z_{2,4} \\ \lambda + Z_{3,1} & \lambda + Z_{3,2} & \lambda + Z_{3,3} & \lambda + Z_{3,4} \\ \lambda + Z_{4,1} & \lambda + Z_{4,2} & \lambda + Z_{4,3} & \lambda + Z_{4,4} \end{bmatrix}$$

Fraction of positive/negative observations tells us something about  $\lambda$

Example of the power of *dithering*

# Observation Model

For  $(i, j) \in \mathcal{I}$  we observe

$$Y_{i,j} = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{with probability } f(M_{i,j}) \\ -1 & \text{with probability } 1 - f(M_{i,j}) \end{cases}$$

If  $f$  behaves like a CDF, then this is equivalent to

$$Y_{i,j} = \text{sign}(M_{i,j} + Z_{i,j})$$

where  $Z_{i,j}$  is drawn according to a suitable distribution

We will assume that  $Z_{i,j}$  is drawn uniformly at random

# Examples

- Logistic regression / Logistic noise

$$f(x) = \frac{e^x}{1 + e^x}$$

$Z_{i,j} \sim$  logistic distribution

- Probit regression / Gaussian noise

$$f(x) = \Phi(x/\sigma)$$

$Z_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Log-likelihood function:

$$F(X) = \sum_{(i,j) \in +} \log(f(X_{i,j})) + \sum_{(i,j) \in -} \log(1 - f(X_{i,j}))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{M} &= \arg \max_X F(X) \\ \text{s.t. } & \frac{1}{d\alpha} \|X\|_* \leq \sqrt{r} \\ & \|X\|_\infty \leq \alpha \end{aligned}$$

# Recovery of the Matrix

*Theorem (Upper bound achieved by convex ML estimator)*

Assume that  $\frac{1}{d^\alpha} \|M\|_* \leq \sqrt{r}$  and  $\|M\|_\infty \leq \alpha$ . If  $x$  is chosen at random with  $\mathbb{E}|x| = m > d \log d$ , then with high probability

$$\frac{1}{d^2} \|\widehat{M} - M\|_F^2 \leq C \alpha L_\alpha \beta_\alpha \sqrt{\frac{rd}{m}}$$

where

$$L_\alpha := \sup_{|x| \leq \alpha} \frac{|f'(x)|}{f(x)(1-f(x))} \quad \beta_\alpha := \sup_{|x| \leq \alpha} \frac{f(x)(1-f(x))}{(f'(x))^2}$$

Is this bound tight?

# Recovery of the Matrix

**Theorem (Upper bound achieved by convex ML estimator)**

Assume that  $\frac{1}{d^\alpha} \|M\|_* \leq \sqrt{r}$  and  $\|M\|_\infty \leq \alpha$ . If  $\mathcal{S}$  is chosen at random with  $|\mathcal{S}| = m > d \log d$ , then with high probability

$$\frac{1}{d^2} \|\widehat{M} - M\|_F^2 \leq C \alpha L_\alpha \beta_\alpha \sqrt{\frac{rd}{m}}$$

**Theorem (Lower bound on any estimator)**

For any recovery algorithm  $\widehat{M}$  there exist  $M$  satisfying the assumptions above such that for any set  $\mathcal{S}$  with  $|\mathcal{S}| = m$ , we have (under mild technical assumptions) that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d^2} \|\widehat{M} - M\|_F^2 \right] \geq c \alpha \sqrt{\beta_{\frac{3}{4}\alpha}} \sqrt{\frac{rd}{m}}$$

# Proof Outline

- Construct a set  $\mathcal{X}$  of low-rank, bounded matrices with the properties that
  - $|\mathcal{X}|$  is large
  - For any  $X_i, X_j \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $\|X_i - X_j\|_F$  is relatively large
- Apply Fano's inequality to show that given observations of a particular  $X_i$ , there is a lower bound on how well we can correctly identify the chosen  $X_i$
- If we cannot identify the chosen  $X_i$ , then we cannot estimate it very accurately either
- Randomized construction of  $\mathcal{X}$

# Conclusions

- Lower bounds can also be stated for
  - How well can we recover low-rank matrices in the presence of Gaussian noise?
  - How well can we recover the *distribution*  $f(M)$
- Quantized (especially 1-bit) matrix completion is difficult
  - Naïve approaches don't work well
  - We have algorithms that are near-optimal
  - Seems to work well in practice



**Thank You!**