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**ALS Algorithms**  
for the  
**Nonnegative Matrix Factorization**  
in  
**Text Mining**

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# Outline

- ✦ Nonnegative Matrix Factorization replaces LSI
- ✦ Alternating Least Squares Algorithm
- ✦ Multiplicative Update Algorithms
- ✦ Our ALS Algorithms: ACLS and AHCLS

# SVD

$\mathbf{A}_{m \times n}$ : rank  $r$  term-by-document matrix

- SVD:  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^T = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$
- LSI: use  $\mathbf{A}_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^T$  in place of  $\mathbf{A}$
- Why?
  - reduce storage when  $k \ll r$  (but, not true in practice, since even though  $\mathbf{A}$  is sparse,  $\mathbf{u}_i$ 's,  $\mathbf{v}_i$ 's are dense)
  - filter out uncertainty, so that performance on text mining tasks (e.g., query processing and clustering) improves

# What's Really Happening?

## Change of Basis

using truncated SVD  $\mathbf{A}_k = \mathbf{U}_k \Sigma_k \mathbf{V}_k^T$

- Original Basis: docs represented in Term Space using Standard Basis  $S = \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_m\}$
- New Basis: docs represented in smaller Latent Semantic Space using Basis  $B = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_k\}$  ( $k \ll \min(m, n)$ )

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{nonneg.} \\ \text{entries} \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} \text{doc}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}_{*1} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}_{m \times 1} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \sigma_1 v_{11} + \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \sigma_2 v_{12} + \dots + \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_k \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \sigma_k v_{1k}$$

# Properties of SVD

- basis vectors  $\mathbf{u}_i$  are orthogonal

- $u_{ij}, v_{ij}$  are mixed in sign

$$\mathbf{A}_k = \mathbf{U}_k \Sigma_k \mathbf{V}_k^T$$

*nonneg*      *mixed*    *nonneg*    *mixed*

- $\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}$  are dense

- *uniqueness*—while there are many SVD algorithms, they all create the same (truncated) factorization

- of all rank- $k$  approximations,  $\mathbf{A}_k$  is optimal (in Frobenius norm)

$$\|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}_k\|_F = \min_{\text{rank}(\mathbf{B}) \leq k} \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\|_F$$

- sequential buildup of essential components of  $\mathbf{A}$

⇒ computing  $\mathbf{A}_{100}$  means you also have  $\mathbf{A}_k$  for  $k < 100$

# Better Basis for Text Mining

## Change of Basis

using NMF  $\mathbf{A}_k = \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{H}_k$ , where  $\mathbf{W}_k, \mathbf{H}_k \geq 0$

- Use of NMF: replace  $\mathbf{A}$  with  $\mathbf{A}_k = \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{H}_k$  ( $\mathbf{W}_k = [\mathbf{w}_1 | \mathbf{w}_2 | \dots | \mathbf{w}_k]$ )
- New Basis: docs represented in smaller Topic Space using Basis  $B = \{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \dots, \mathbf{w}_k\}$  ( $k \ll \min(m, n)$ )

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{nonneg.} \\ \text{entries} \end{array} \begin{pmatrix} \text{doc}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}_{*1} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}_{m \times 1} \approx \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_1 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} h_{11} + \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} h_{21} + \dots + \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_k \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} h_{k1}$$

# Properties of NMF

- basis vectors  $\mathbf{w}_i$  are not  $\perp \Rightarrow$  can have overlap of topics
- can restrict  $\mathbf{W}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}$  to be sparse
- $\mathbf{W}_k, \mathbf{H}_k \geq 0 \Rightarrow$  immediate interpretation (additive parts-based rep.)

**EX:** large  $w_{ij}$ 's  $\Rightarrow$  basis vector  $\mathbf{w}_i$  is mostly about terms  $j$

**EX:**  $h_{i1}$  how much  $doc_1$  is pointing in the “direction” of topic vector  $\mathbf{w}_i$

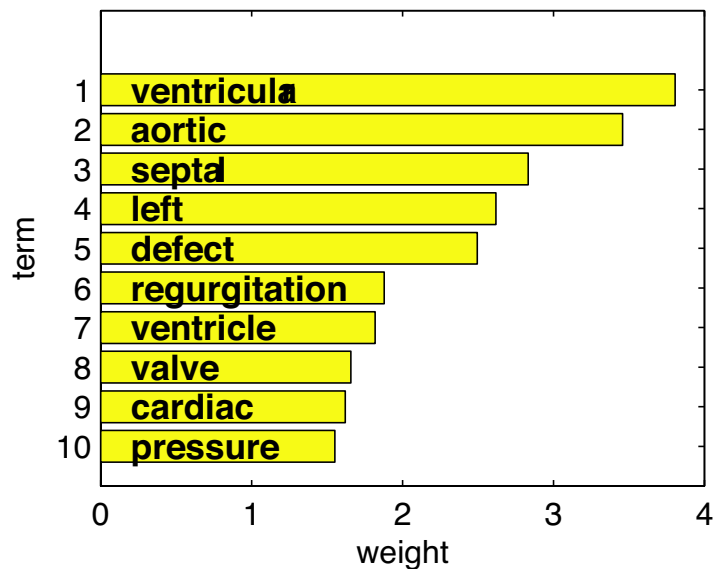
$$\mathbf{A}_k \mathbf{e}_1 = \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{H}_{*1} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_1 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} h_{11} + \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} h_{21} + \cdots + \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \mathbf{w}_k \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} h_{k1}$$

- NMF is algorithm-dependent:  $\mathbf{W}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}$  not unique

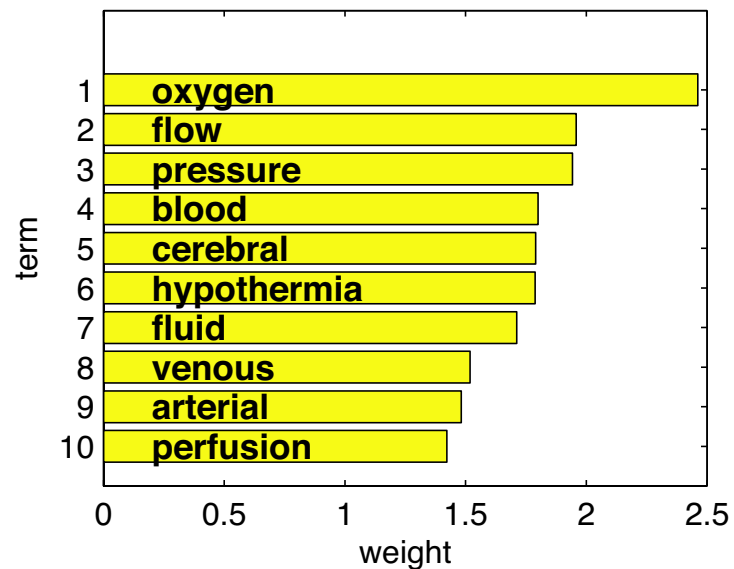
# Interpretation of Basis Vectors

MED dataset ( $k = 10$ )

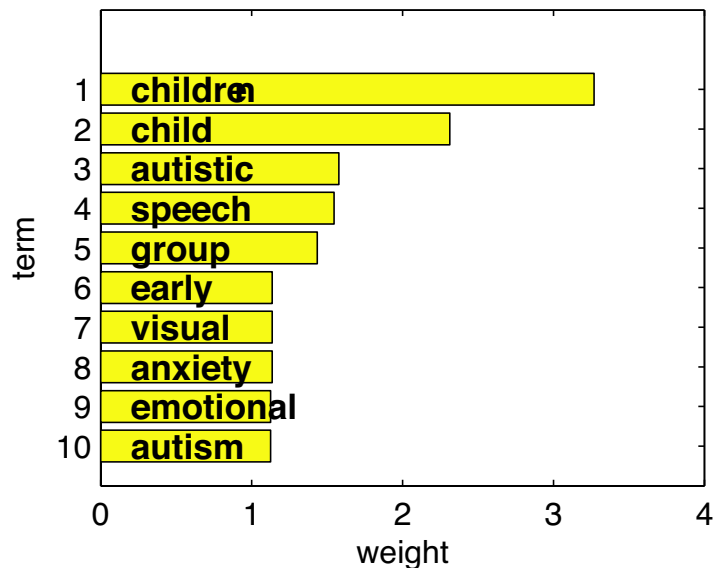
Highest Weighted Terms in Basis Vector  $W_1$



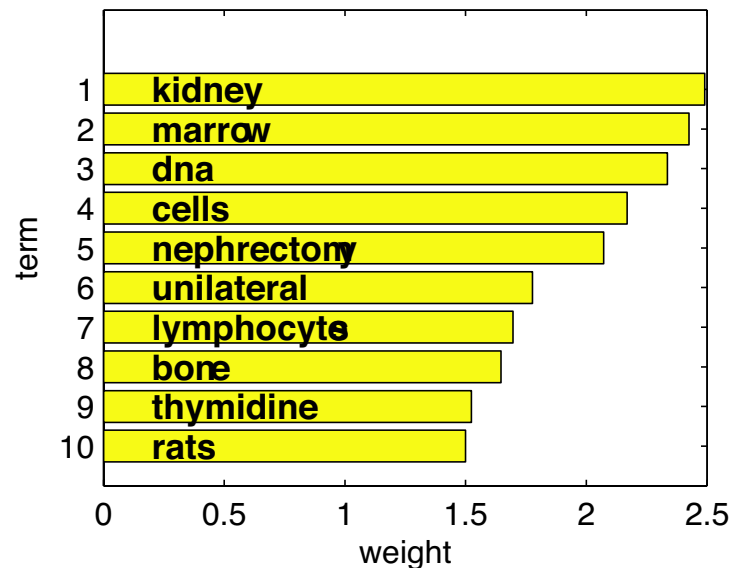
Highest Weighted Terms in Basis Vector  $W_2$



Highest Weighted Terms in Basis Vector  $W_5$



Highest Weighted Terms in Basis Vector  $W_6$





# Interpretation of Basis Vectors

MED dataset ( $k = 10$ )

$$\mathbf{doc}_5 \approx \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{w}_9 \\ \text{fatty} \\ \text{glucose} \\ \text{acids} \\ \text{ffa} \\ \text{insulin} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} .1646 + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{w}_6 \\ \text{kidney} \\ \text{marrow} \\ \text{dna} \\ \text{cells} \\ \text{neph.} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} .0103 + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{w}_7 \\ \text{hormone} \\ \text{growth} \\ \text{hgh} \\ \text{pituitary} \\ \text{mg} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} .0045 + \dots$$

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# NMF Literature

Papers report NMF is

$\cong$  LSI for query processing

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Papers report NMF is

- ≈ LSI for query processing
- ≈ LSI for document clustering

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# NMF Literature

Papers report NMF is

- ≈ LSI for query processing
- ≈ LSI for document clustering
- > LSI for interpretation of elements of factorization
- > LSI potentially in terms of storage (sparse implementations)
- most NLP algorithms require  $O(kmn)$  computation per iteration

# Computation of NMF

(Lee and Seung 2000)

MEAN SQUARED ERROR OBJECTIVE FUNCTION

$$\min \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{WH}\|_F^2 \quad s.t. \quad \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq 0$$

## Nonlinear Optimization Problem

- convex in  $\mathbf{W}$  or  $\mathbf{H}$ , but not both  $\Rightarrow$  tough to get global min
- huge # unknowns:  $mk$  for  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $kn$  for  $\mathbf{H}$   
(EX:  $\mathbf{A}_{70K \times 1K}$  and  $k=10$  topics  $\Rightarrow$  800K unknowns)
- above objective is one of many possible
- convergence to local min only guaranteed for some algorithms

# NMF Algorithms

- Alternating Least Squares
  - Paatero 1994
- Multiplicative update rules
  - Lee-Seung 2000
  - Hoyer 2002
- Gradient Descent
  - Hoyer 2004
  - Berry-Plemmons 2004



# PMF Algorithm: Paatero & Tapper 1994

MEAN SQUARED ERROR—ALTERNATING LEAST SQUARES

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \|\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{WH}\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

---

$\mathbf{W} = \text{abs}(\text{randn}(m,k));$

for  $i = 1 : \text{maxiter}$

  LS for  $j = 1 : \#docs$ , solve

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \quad & \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{WH}_{*j}\|_2^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

  LS for  $j = 1 : \#terms$ , solve

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{W}_{j*}} \quad & \|\mathbf{A}_{j*} - \mathbf{W}_{j*}\mathbf{H}\|_2^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{W}_{j*} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

end

---

# ALS Algorithm

---

**W** = abs(randn(m,k));

for i = 1 : maxiter

LS solve matrix equation  $\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{A}$  for **H**

NONNEG **H** = **H**. \* (**H** >= 0)

LS solve matrix equation  $\mathbf{H} \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{W}^T = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{A}^T$  for **W**

NONNEG **W** = **W**. \* (**W** >= 0)

end

---

# ALS Summary

## Pros

- + fast
- + works well in practice
- + speedy convergence
- + only need to initialize  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$
- + 0 elements not *locked*

## Cons

- no sparsity of  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$  incorporated into mathematical setup
- ad hoc nonnegativity: negative elements are set to 0
- ad hoc sparsity: negative elements are set to 0
- no convergence theory

# Alternating LP

Alternating Least Squares (one column at a time)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \quad & \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

“Linear L1 minimization can be solved by LP”—Warren Sarle, SAS

Alternating Linear Programming

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \quad & \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_1^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}, \mathbf{r}} \quad & \mathbf{r}^T \mathbf{e} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & -r_i \leq \mathbf{A}_{ij} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j} \leq r_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m \\ & \mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

# Alternating LP

Considering entire matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  at once...

## Alternating Least Squares

solve matrix equation  $\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{A}$  for  $\mathbf{H}$

( $\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W}$  is small  $k \times k$  matrix.)

## Alternating Linear Programming

$$\min_{\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{R}} \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{R} \mathbf{e}$$

$$\text{s.t. } -\mathbf{R} \leq \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{W} \mathbf{H} \leq \mathbf{R}$$

$$\mathbf{H}, \mathbf{R} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

( $\mathbf{H}$  is  $k \times n$  and  $\mathbf{R}$  is  $m \times n$ .)

- ALP has  $mn$  more variables than ALS
- not easy to add in sparsity rewards
- + no ad-hoc enforcement of nonnegativity

# NMF Algorithm: Lee and Seung 2000

MEAN SQUARED ERROR OBJECTIVE FUNCTION

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \| \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{WH} \|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

---

```
W = abs(randn(m,k));  
H = abs(randn(k,n));  
for i = 1 : maxiter  
    H = H .* (WTA) ./ (WTWH + 10-9);  
    W = W .* (AHT) ./ (WHHT + 10-9);  
end
```

---

(proof of convergence to local min based on E-M convergence proof)

(objective function tails off after 50-100 iterations)

# NMF Algorithm: Lee and Seung 2000

DIVERGENCE OBJECTIVE FUNCTION

$$\min \sum_{i,j} (\mathbf{A}_{ij} \log \frac{\mathbf{A}_{ij}}{[\mathbf{WH}]_{ij}} - \mathbf{A}_{ij} + [\mathbf{WH}]_{ij})$$

*s.t.*  $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{H} \geq 0$

---

$\mathbf{W} = \text{abs}(\text{randn}(m,k));$

$\mathbf{H} = \text{abs}(\text{randn}(k,n));$

for  $i = 1 : \text{maxiter}$

$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H} .* (\mathbf{W}^T (\mathbf{A} ./ (\mathbf{WH} + 10^{-9}))) ./ \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{e} \mathbf{e}^T;$

$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} .* ((\mathbf{A} ./ (\mathbf{WH} + 10^{-9})) \mathbf{H}^T) ./ \mathbf{e} \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{H}^T;$

end

---

(proof of convergence to local min based on E-M convergence proof)

(objective function tails off after 50-100 iterations)

# Multiplicative Update Summary

## Pros

- + convergence theory: guaranteed to converge to local min, but possibly poor local min
- + good initialization  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}^{(0)}$  speeds convergence and gets to better local min

## Cons

- good initialization  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}^{(0)}$  speeds convergence and gets to better local min
- slow: many M-M multiplications at each iteration
- hundreds/thousands of iterations until convergence
- no sparsity of  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$  incorporated into mathematical setup
- 0 elements *locked*



# Multiplicative Update and Locking

*During iterations of mult. update algorithms, once an element in  $\mathbf{W}$  or  $\mathbf{H}$  becomes 0, it can never become positive.*

- Implications for  $\mathbf{W}$ : In order to improve objective function, algorithm can only take terms out, not add terms, to topic vectors.
- Very inflexible: once algorithm starts down a path for a topic vector, it must continue in that vein.
- ALS-type algorithms do not *lock* elements, greater flexibility allows them to escape from path heading towards poor local min

# Sparsity Measures

- Berry et al.  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$

- Hoyer  $spar(\mathbf{x}_{n \times 1}) = \frac{\sqrt{n} - \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 / \|\mathbf{x}\|_2}{\sqrt{n} - 1}$

- Diversity measure  $E^{(p)}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p, \mathbf{0} \leq p \leq 1$   
 $E^{(p)}(\mathbf{x}) = - \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^p, p < \mathbf{0}$

Rao and Kreutz-Delgado: algorithms for minimizing  $E^{(p)}(\mathbf{x})$   
s.t.  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ , but expensive iterative procedure

- Ideal  $nnz(\mathbf{x})$  not continuous, NP-hard to use this in optim.

# NMF Algorithm: Berry et al. 2004

GRADIENT DESCENT-CONSTRAINED LEAST SQUARES

---

**W** = abs(randn(m,k)); (scale cols of **W** to unit norm)

**H** = zeros(k,n);

for i = 1 : maxiter

**CLS** for j = 1 : #docs, solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq 0$$

**GD** **W** = **W** .\* (**AH**<sup>T</sup>) ./ (**WHH**<sup>T</sup> + 10<sup>-9</sup>); (scale cols of **W**)

end

---

# NMF Algorithm: Berry et al. 2004

GRADIENT DESCENT-CONSTRAINED LEAST SQUARES

$\mathbf{W} = \text{abs}(\text{randn}(m,k));$  (scale cols of  $\mathbf{W}$  to unit norm)

$\mathbf{H} = \text{zeros}(k,n);$

for  $i = 1 : \text{maxiter}$

    CLS for  $j = 1 : \#docs$ , solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq 0$$

    solve for  $\mathbf{H}$ :  $(\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W} + \lambda \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{A}$ ; (small matrix solve)

    GD  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} .* (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{H}^T) ./ (\mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}\mathbf{H}^T + 10^{-9});$  (scale cols of  $\mathbf{W}$ )

end

(objective function tails off after 15-30 iterations)

# Berry et al. 2004 Summary

## Pros

- + fast: less work per iteration than most other NMF algorithms
- + fast: small # of iterations until convergence
- + sparsity parameter for  $\mathbf{H}$

## Cons

- 0 elements in  $\mathbf{W}$  are *locked*
- no sparsity parameter for  $\mathbf{W}$
- ad hoc nonnegativity: negative elements in  $\mathbf{H}$  are set to 0, could run `lsqnonneg` or `snnls` instead
- no convergence theory

# Alternating Constrained Least Squares

If the very fast ALS works well in practice and the only NMF algorithms guaranteeing convergence to local min are slow multiplicative update rules, why not use ALS?

---

**W** = abs(randn(m,k));

for i = 1 : maxiter

**CLS** for j = 1 : #docs, solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2 + \lambda_H \|\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2$$

s.t.  $\mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq 0$

**CLS** for j = 1 : #terms, solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}_{j*}} \|\mathbf{A}_{j*} - \mathbf{W}_{j*}\mathbf{H}\|_2^2 + \lambda_W \|\mathbf{W}_{j*}\|_2^2$$

s.t.  $\mathbf{W}_{j*} \geq 0$

end

---

# Alternating Constrained Least Squares

If the very fast ALS works well in practice and the only NMF algorithms guaranteeing convergence to local min are slow multiplicative update rules, why not use ALS?

---

```
W = abs(randn(m,k));
```

```
for i = 1 : maxiter
```

```
    CLS    solve for H:  $(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{W} + \lambda_H \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{A}$ 
```

```
    NONNEG H = H. * (H >= 0)
```

```
    CLS    solve for W:  $(\mathbf{H} \mathbf{H}^T + \lambda_W \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{W}^T = \mathbf{H} \mathbf{A}^T$ 
```

```
    NONNEG W = W. * (W >= 0)
```

```
end
```

---

# ACLS Summary

## Pros

- + fast: 6.6 sec vs. 9.8 sec (gd-cl)
- + works well in practice
- + speedy convergence
- + only need to initialize  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$
- + 0 elements not *locked*
- + allows for sparsity in both  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$

## Cons

- ad hoc nonnegativity: after LS, negative elements set to 0, could run `lsqnonneg` or `snnls` instead (doesn't improve accuracy much)
- no convergence theory



# ACLS + spar(x)

Is there a better way to measure sparsity and still maintain speed of ACLS?

$$\text{spar}(\mathbf{x}_{n \times 1}) = \frac{\sqrt{n} - \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 / \|\mathbf{x}\|_2}{\sqrt{n} - 1} \Leftrightarrow ((1 - \text{spar}(\mathbf{x}))\sqrt{n} + \text{spar}(\mathbf{x}))\|\mathbf{x}\|_2 - \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 = 0$$
$$(\text{spar}(\mathbf{W}_{j*}) = \alpha_W \text{ and } \text{spar}(\mathbf{H}_{*j}) = \alpha_H)$$

**W** = abs(randn(m,k));

for i = 1 : maxiter

**CLS** for j = 1 : #docs, solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{H}_{*j}} \|\mathbf{A}_{*j} - \mathbf{W}\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2 + \lambda_H(((1 - \alpha_H)\sqrt{k} + \alpha_H)\|\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_2^2 - \|\mathbf{H}_{*j}\|_1^2)$$

s.t.  $\mathbf{H}_{*j} \geq 0$

**CLS** for j = 1 : #terms, solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}_{j*}} \|\mathbf{A}_{j*} - \mathbf{W}_{j*}\mathbf{H}\|_2^2 + \lambda_W(((1 - \alpha_W)\sqrt{k} + \alpha_W)\|\mathbf{W}_{j*}\|_2^2 - \|\mathbf{W}_{j*}\|_1^2)$$

s.t.  $\mathbf{W}_{j*} \geq 0$

end

# AHCLS

$$(\text{spar}(\mathbf{W}_{j*})=\alpha_W \text{ and } \text{spar}(\mathbf{H}_{*j})=\alpha_H)$$

$\mathbf{W} = \text{abs}(\text{randn}(m,k));$

for  $i = 1 : \text{maxiter}$

$$\beta_H = ((1 - \alpha_H)\sqrt{k} + \alpha_H)^2$$

CLS solve for  $\mathbf{H}$ :  $(\mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{W} + \lambda_H\beta_H \mathbf{I} - \lambda_H\mathbf{E}) \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{W}^T\mathbf{A}$

NONNEG  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H} . * (\mathbf{H} \geq 0)$

$$\beta_W = ((1 - \alpha_W)\sqrt{k} + \alpha_W)^2$$

CLS solve for  $\mathbf{W}$ :  $(\mathbf{H}\mathbf{H}^T + \lambda_W\beta_W \mathbf{I} - \lambda_W\mathbf{E}) \mathbf{W}^T = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{A}^T$

NONNEG  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} . * (\mathbf{W} \geq 0)$

end

# AHCLS Summary

## Pros

- + fast: 6.8 sec vs. 9.8 sec (gd-cl)
- + works well in practice
- + speedy convergence
- + only need to initialize  $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$
- + 0 elements not *locked*
- + allows for *more explicit* sparsity in both  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$

## Cons

- ad hoc nonnegativity: after LS, negative elements set to 0, could run `lsqnonneg` or `snnls` instead (doesn't improve accuracy much)
- no convergence theory

# Initialization of $W$

- Random initialization: done by most NMF algorithms
- Centroid initialization: shown by Wilds to converge to better local min., but expensive
- SVD-centroid initialization: run kmeans to cluster rows of  $V_{n \times k}$  from SVD and form cheap centroid decomposition.  
 $W^{(0)}$  = Centroid vectors  $\Rightarrow$  shown to converge to better local min.
- **Random Acol initialization**: works better than Random init., not as good as SVD-Centroid initialization. Very inexpensive.

EX: ( $k=3$ )  $W^{(0)} = [ \sum_{i \in \{1,4,10,12\}} \mathbf{A}_{*i} \mid \sum_{i \in \{2,3,9,11\}} \mathbf{A}_{*i} \mid \sum_{i \in \{5,6,7,8\}} \mathbf{A}_{*i} ]$

# Remaining Work

- Other Sparsity Measures
- Nonnegativity Enforcement
  - add negativity penalty to ALS objective
  - ex:  $\min$  error + density + negativity, where negativity =  $\sum e^{-x_i}$
- Basis-constrained problem: user with dataset knowledge sets some basis vectors (cols of  $\mathbf{W}$ ), NMF algorithm must converge to solution that contains these vectors.
- Duality theory