

# Exact Low Tubal Rank Tensor Recovery from Gaussian Measurements

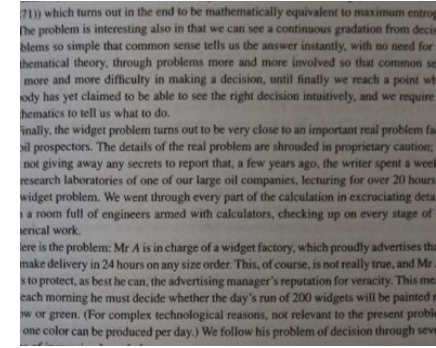
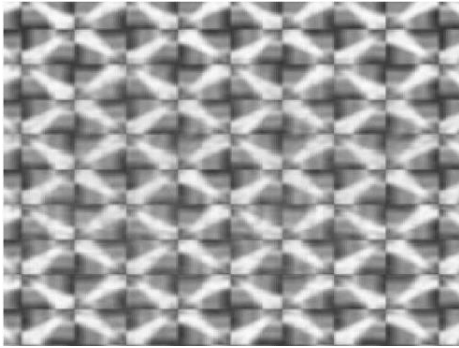
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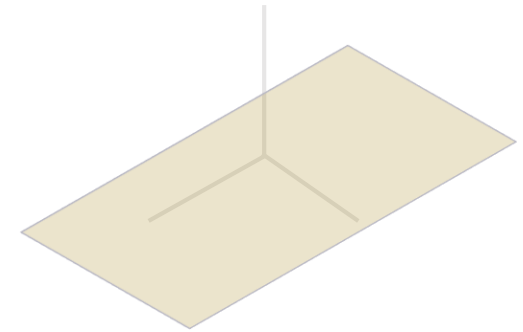
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# Low dimensional structures in visual data



Learning by using the underlying low dimensional structure of data is important.



# Compressive Sensing

- Compressive sensing: learning by using **sparse vector** structure

$$\min \|x\|_1, \text{ s.t. } y = Ax$$

- Face recognition (J. Wright, et al., TPAMI, 2009)

The diagram illustrates the compressive sensing model for face recognition. It shows the equation:

$$y = Ax + e$$

where:

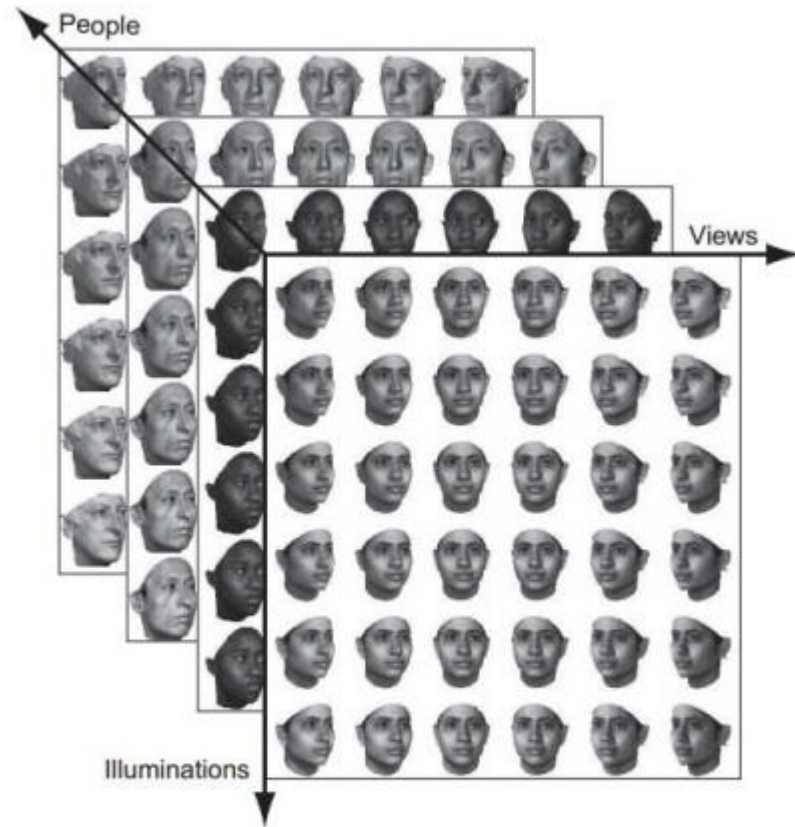
- $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the **Test image**, shown as a grayscale image of a person wearing sunglasses.
- $A = [A_1 | A_2 | \dots | A_k]$  is the **Combined training dictionary**, shown as a grid of 16 small grayscale face images.
- $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  are the **coefficients**, shown as a sparse vector plot with a few non-zero entries (one large red spike and several small blue spikes).
- $e \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the **corruption, occlusion**, shown as a grayscale image of a person's face with some parts obscured.

# Low-rank Matrix Recovery

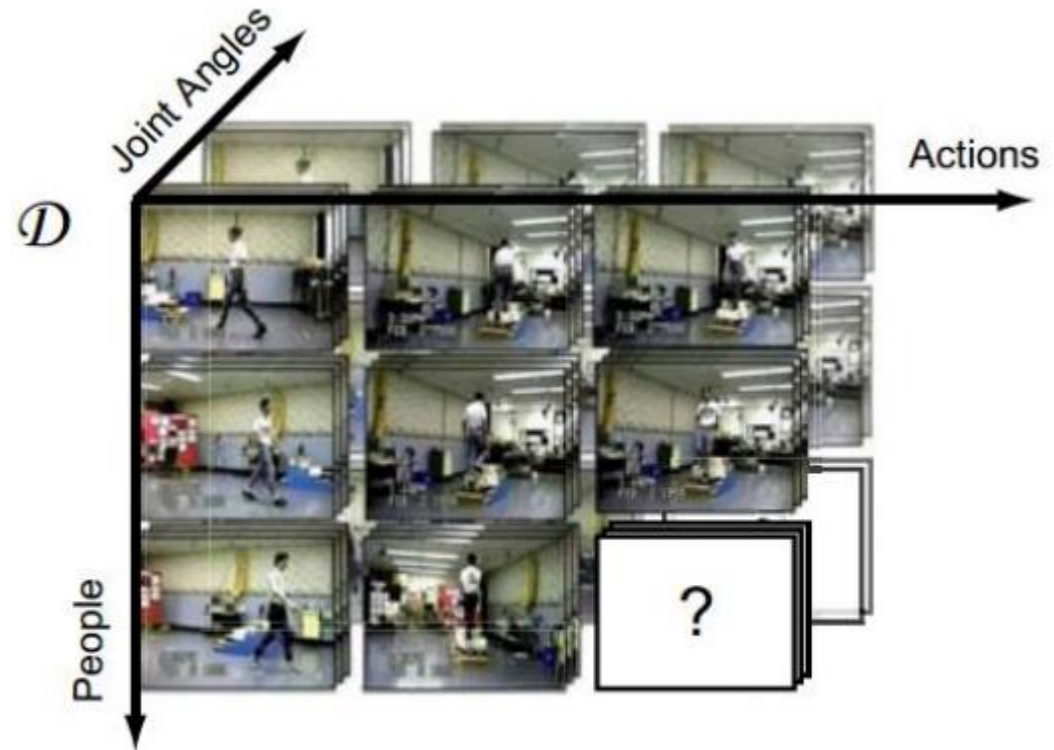
- Low-rank matrix: **sparse** singular values
- Low-rank structure is common in visual data
- Low-rank models, e.g., robust PCA, and matrix completion, have many applications
  - Background modeling
  - Removing shadows from face images
  - Image alignment
  - Many others...



# Multi-dimensional Data: Tensor

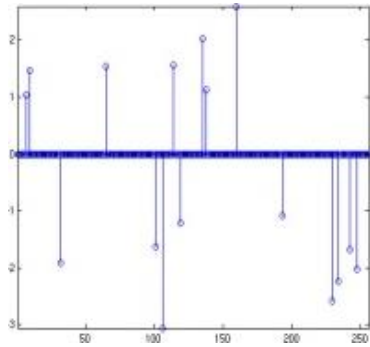


(a) Face images

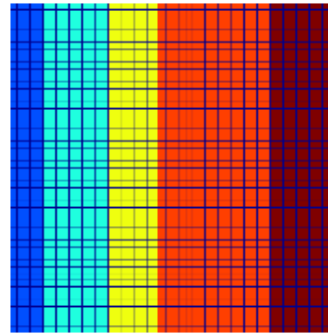


(b) Videos

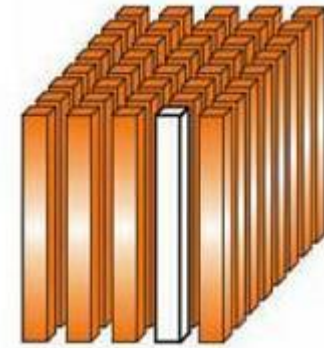
# Structured Sparsity



Sparse vector



Low rank matrix



Low rank tensor

This work



# Low-rank Tensor Learning Is Challenging

- The tensor rank and tensor nuclear norm are not well defined
  - Tensor CP-rank and its convex envelop are NP-hard to compute

$$\text{rank}_{cp}(\mathcal{X}) = \min_R \{R \mid \mathcal{X} = \sum_{i=1}^R \mathbf{a}_i^{(1)} \circ \mathbf{a}_i^{(2)} \circ \dots \circ \mathbf{a}_i^{(N)}\}.$$

- Tucker rank and Sum of Nuclear Norm (SNN)

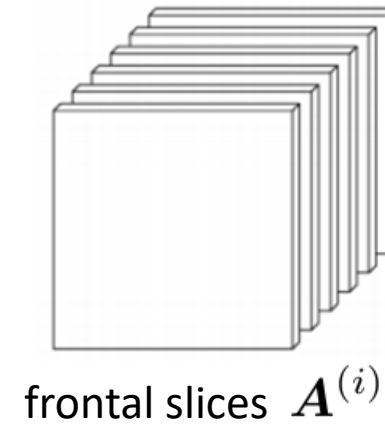
$$\text{rank}_{tc}(\mathcal{X}) = \left( \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^{(1)}), \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^{(2)}), \dots, \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}^{(k)}) \right) \quad \sum_{i=1}^k \|\mathbf{X}^{(i)}\|_*$$

- SNN is a loose convex surrogate of Tucker rank
- Recently, we propose a new tensor nuclear norm induced by tensor-tensor product for low tubal rank recovery

# Notations

- Block circulant matrix of  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$

$$\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{A}) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}^{(1)} & \mathbf{A}^{(n_3)} & \dots & \mathbf{A}^{(2)} \\ \mathbf{A}^{(2)} & \mathbf{A}^{(1)} & \dots & \mathbf{A}^{(3)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}^{(n_3)} & \mathbf{A}^{(n_3-1)} & \dots & \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$$



- Two operators

$$\text{unfold}(\mathcal{A}) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \\ \mathbf{A}^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}^{(n_3)} \end{bmatrix}, \text{fold}(\text{unfold}(\mathcal{A})) = \mathcal{A}.$$



# Tensor-Tensor Product

- Tensor-tensor product is a natural extension of matrix-matrix product.

**Definition 1. (*t-product*)** [Kilmer and Martin, 2011] Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  and  $\mathcal{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times l \times n_3}$ . Then the *t-product*  $\mathcal{A} * \mathcal{B}$  is defined to be a tensor  $\mathcal{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times l \times n_3}$ ,

$$\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{A} * \mathcal{B} = \text{fold}(\text{bcirc}(\mathcal{A}) \cdot \text{unfold}(\mathcal{B})).$$

**Definition 2. (*Conjugate transpose*)** [Lu et al., 2016; 2018a] The conjugate transpose of a tensor  $\mathcal{A}$  of size  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3$  is the  $n_2 \times n_1 \times n_3$  tensor  $\mathcal{A}^*$  obtained by conjugate transposing each of the frontal slice and then reversing the order of transposed frontal slices 2 through  $n_3$ .

**Definition 3. (*Identity tensor*)** [Kilmer and Martin, 2011] The identity tensor  $\mathcal{I} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n \times n_3}$  is the tensor whose first frontal slice is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix, and other frontal slices are all zeros.

**Definition 4. (*Orthogonal tensor*)** [Kilmer and Martin, 2011] A tensor  $\mathcal{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n \times n_3}$  is orthogonal if it satisfies

$$\mathcal{Q}^* * \mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{Q} * \mathcal{Q}^* = \mathcal{I}.$$

**Definition 5. (*F-diagonal Tensor*)** [Kilmer and Martin, 2011] A tensor is called *f-diagonal* if each of its frontal slices is a diagonal matrix.

# Tensor-SVD

**Theorem 1. (T-SVD)** [Lu et al., 2018a; Kilmer and Martin, 2011] Let  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . Then it can be factored as

$$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^*,$$

where  $\mathcal{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_1 \times n_3}$ ,  $\mathcal{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  are orthogonal, and  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  is a  $f$ -diagonal tensor.

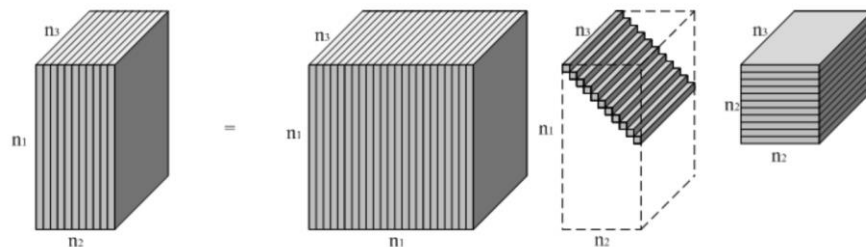


Fig. 2: The t-SVD of an  $n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3$  tensor.

**Definition 6. (Tensor tubal rank)** [Lu et al., 2018a] For  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ , the tensor tubal rank, denoted as  $\text{rank}_t(\mathcal{A})$ , is defined as the number of nonzero singular values of  $\mathcal{S}$ , where  $\mathcal{S}$  is from the t-SVD of  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^*$ . We can write

$$\text{rank}_t(\mathcal{A}) = \#\{i, \mathcal{S}(i, i, 1) \neq 0\} = \#\{i, \mathcal{S}(i, i, :) \neq 0\}.$$

**Definition 7. (Tensor nuclear norm)** [Lu et al., 2018a] Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^*$  be the t-SVD of  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$ . The tensor nuclear norm of  $\mathcal{A}$  is defined as the sum of the tensor singular values, i.e.,  $\|\mathcal{A}\|_* = \sum_{i=1}^r \mathcal{S}(i, i, 1)$ , where  $r = \text{rank}_t(\mathcal{A})$ .

# Problem I: Low-rank Tensor Recovery from Gaussian Measurements

- Given a linear map  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  and the observations  $\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathcal{M})$  for  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  with tubal rank  $r$ .
- Goal: to recover the low-rank tensor  $\mathcal{M}$  from the observations  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- Method: recovery by convex optimization

$$\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathcal{X}).$$

- Question: what is the number of measurements  $m$  required for exact recovery, i.e.,  $\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \mathcal{M}$ ?

# Main Result: Low-rank Tensor Recovery from Gaussian Measurements

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a random map with i.i.d. zero-mean Gaussian entries having variance  $\frac{1}{m}$  and  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  be a tensor of tubal rank  $r$ . Then, with high probability, we have:

- (1) **exact recovery:**  $\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \mathcal{M}$ , where  $\hat{\mathcal{X}}$  is the unique optimum of (3), provided that  $m \geq 3r(n_1 + n_2 - r)n_3 + 1$ ;
- (2) **robust recovery:**  $\|\hat{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{M}\|_F \leq \frac{2\delta}{\epsilon}$ , where  $\hat{\mathcal{X}}$  is optimal to

$$\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(\mathcal{X})\|_2 \leq \delta, \quad (7)$$

provided that  $m \geq \frac{3r(n_1 + n_2 - r)n_3 + 3/2}{(1-\epsilon)^2}$ .

- For Gaussian measurements, the recovery is exact by convex optimization.
- The required number of measurements is  $O(r(n_1 + n_2 - r)n_3)$  which is order optimal.

# Problem II: Low-rank Tensor Completion

- Given an incomplete tensor  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  with tubal rank  $r$ .
- Goal: to recover the low-rank tensor  $\mathcal{M}$  from partial observations  $\mathcal{P}_\Omega(\mathcal{M})$ .
- Method: recovery by convex optimization

$$\min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{P}_\Omega(\mathcal{X}) = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(\mathcal{M}),$$

- Question: any exact recovery guarantee by convex optimization?

# Main Result: Low-rank Tensor Completion

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$  with  $\text{rank}_t(\mathcal{M}) = r$  and the skinny  $t$ -SVD be  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{U} * \mathcal{S} * \mathcal{V}^*$ . Suppose that the indices  $\Omega \sim \text{Ber}(p)$  and the tensor incoherence conditions (9)-(10) hold. There exist universal constants  $c_0, c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that if*

$$p \geq \frac{c_0 \mu r \log^2(n_{(1)} n_3)}{n_{(2)} n_3},$$

*then  $\mathcal{M}$  is the unique solution to (8) with probability at least  $1 - c_1(n_1 + n_2)^{-c_2}$ .*

- Exact recovery when the sampling complexity is of the order  $O(r n_{(1)} n_3 \log^2(n_{(1)} n_3))$ .



# Experiment: recovery from Gaussian measurements

$$\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathcal{X}).$$

$r = \text{rank}_t(\mathcal{X}_0) = 0.2n$				
$n$	$\text{rank}_t(\mathcal{X}_0)$	$m$	$\text{rank}_t(\hat{\mathcal{X}})$	$\frac{\ \hat{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{X}_0\ _F}{\ \mathcal{X}_0\ _F}$
10	2	541	2	1.2e-9
20	4	2161	4	1.6e-9
30	6	4861	6	1.5e-9
$r = \text{rank}_t(\mathcal{X}_0) = 0.3n$				
$n$	$\text{rank}_t(\mathcal{X}_0)$	$m$	$\text{rank}_t(\hat{\mathcal{X}})$	$\frac{\ \hat{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{X}_0\ _F}{\ \mathcal{X}_0\ _F}$
10	3	766	3	1.6e-9
20	6	3061	6	1.2e-9
30	9	6886	9	1.2e-9

Table 1: Exact low tubal rank tensor recovery from Gaussian measurements with sufficient number of measurements.

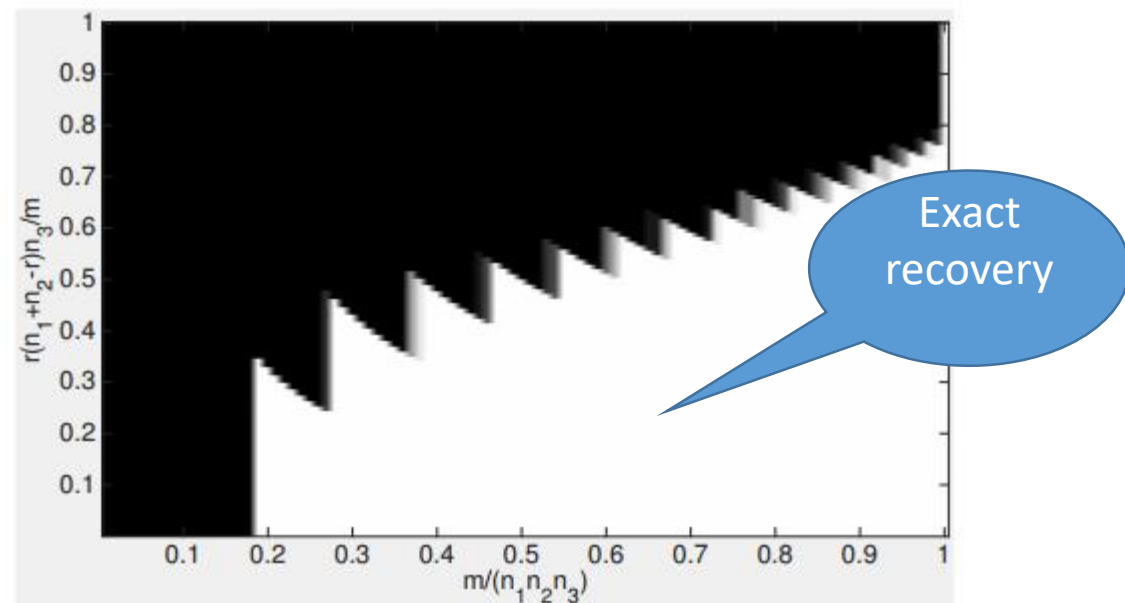


Figure 2: Phase transitions for low tubal rank tensor recovery from Gaussian measurements. Fraction of correct recoveries is across 10 trials, as a function of  $\frac{r(n_1+n_2-r)n_3}{m}$  (y-axis) and sampling rate  $\frac{m}{n_1 n_2 n_3}$ . In this test,  $n_1 = n_2 = 30, n_3 = 5$ .



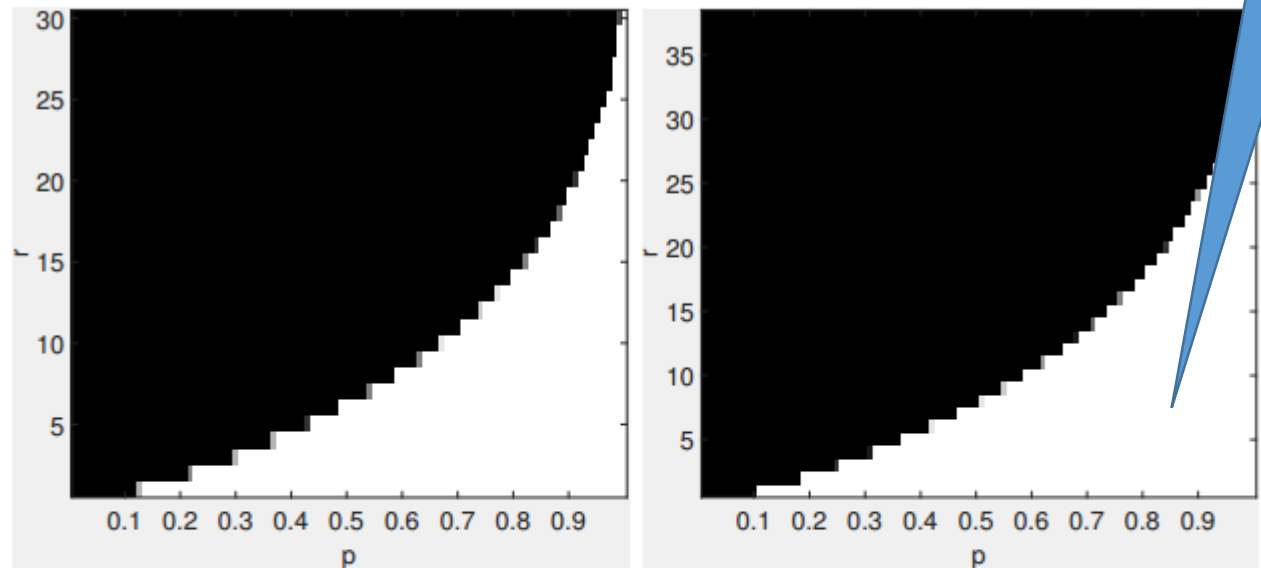
# Experiment: low-rank tensor completion

$$\min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{X}) = \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{M}),$$

$$\mathcal{X}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n \times n}, r = \text{rank}_t(\mathcal{X}_0), m = pn^3, d_r = r(2n - r)$$

$n$	$r$	$\frac{m}{d_r}$	$p$	$\text{rank}_t(\hat{\mathcal{X}})$	$\frac{\ \hat{\mathcal{X}} - \mathcal{X}\ _F}{\ \mathcal{X}\ _F}$
50	3	4	0.47	3	3.9e-7
50	5	3	0.57	5	3.5e-7
50	10	2	0.72	10	4.1e-7
100	5	4	0.39	5	1.4e-6
100	10	3	0.57	10	9.2e-7
100	15	2	0.56	15	8.4e-7
200	5	4	0.20	5	4.2e-6
200	10	3	0.29	10	3.2e-6
200	20	2	0.38	20	3.1e-6
300	10	4	0.26	10	5.1e-6
300	20	3	0.39	20	4.2e-6
300	30	3	0.57	30	2.9e-6

Table 2: Exact tensor completion on random data.



(a)  $n = 40$

(b)  $n = 50$

Figure 3: Phase transitions for tensor completion. Fraction of correct recoveries is across 10 trials, as a function of tubal rank  $r$  (y-axis) and sampling rate  $p$  (x-axis). The results are shown for different sizes of  $\mathcal{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n \times n}$ : (a)  $n = 40$ ; (b)  $n = 50$ .

# Experiment: tensor completion for image recovery

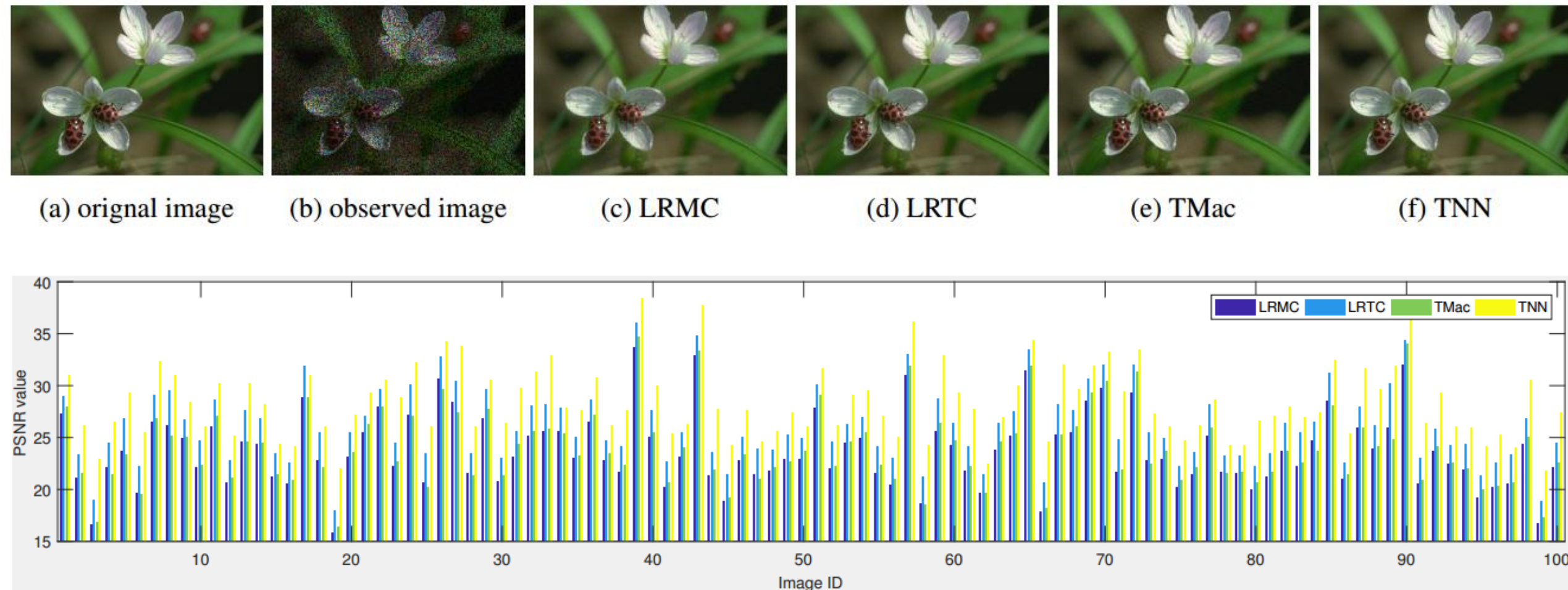


Figure 6: Comparison of the PSNR values obtained by using LRMC, LRTC, TMac and TNN. The rate of observed entries is  $p = 0.3$ .

# Experiment: tensor completion for video recovery

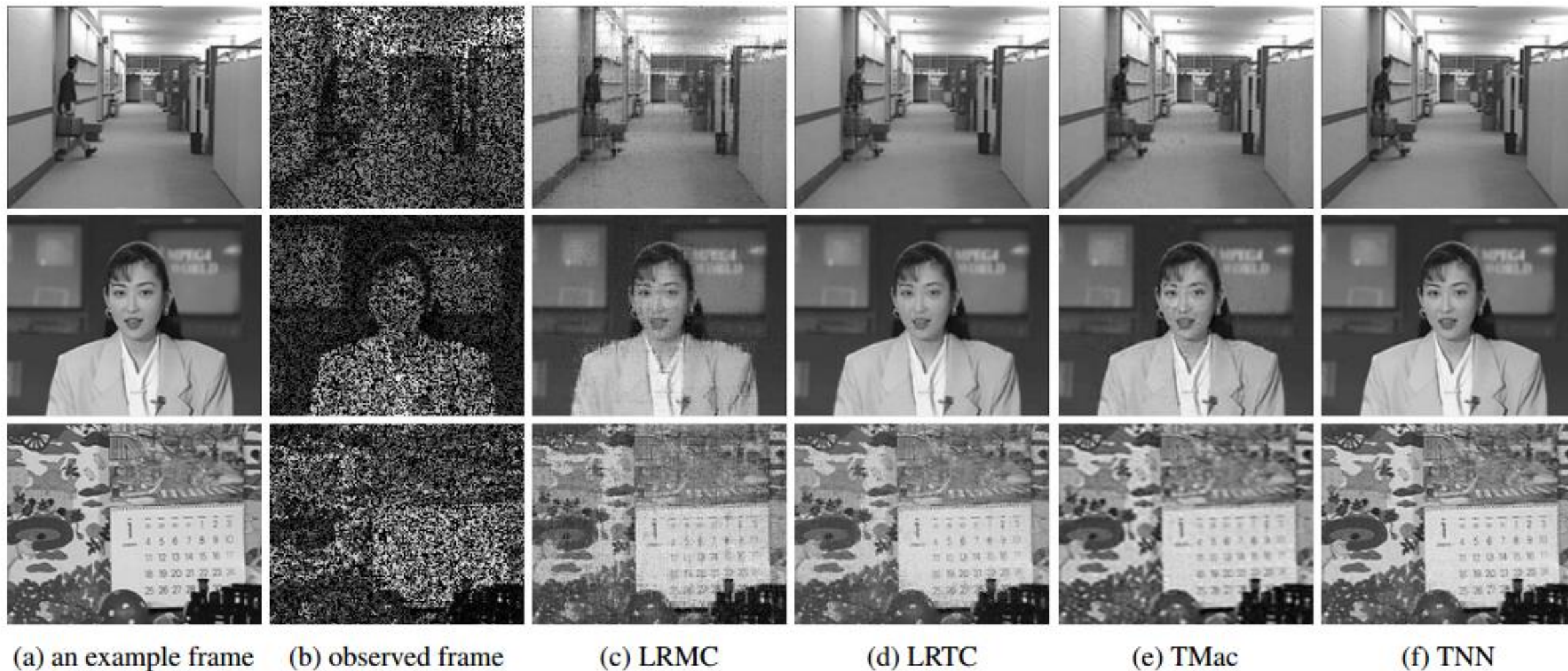


Figure 9: Examples for video recovery performance comparison. (a) Example frames from the sequences Coastguard, Hall, Akiyo and Mobile; (b) frames with partially observed entries (the rate is  $p = 0.5$ ); (c)-(f) recovered frames by LRMC, LRTC, TMac and TNN, respectively.



# Experiment: tensor completion for video recovery

Table 3: PSNR values of the compared methods.

ID	Videos	LRMC	LRTC	TMac	TNN
1	Highway	13.8	18.0	19.2	<b>20.8</b>
2	Coastguard	9.6	11.2	13.1	<b>17.5</b>
3	Hall	9.3	17.4	18.7	<b>22.0</b>
4	Carphone	10.9	16.7	18.3	<b>20.3</b>
5	Bridge (close)	10.5	17.8	17.6	<b>20.9</b>
6	News	8.6	15.4	16.7	<b>20.3</b>
7	Grandma	11.2	20.1	20.2	<b>25.7</b>
8	Suzie	14.5	17.4	19.9	<b>19.7</b>
9	Miss America	15.8	21.4	24.8	<b>25.7</b>
10	Container	8.4	17.8	17.3	<b>29.0</b>
11	Foreman	9.3	14.0	16.1	<b>18.6</b>
12	Mother-daughter	12.7	18.8	19.8	<b>22.9</b>
13	Silent	11.5	17.6	19.1	<b>22.9</b>
14	Akiyo	11.2	20.2	20.4	<b>27.0</b>
15	Claire	14.5	23.2	25.7	<b>27.4</b>

# Conclusions

- Tensor nuclear norm is a recently proposed convex surrogate for the pursuit of tensor tubal rank induced by the tensor-tensor product
- Theoretical guarantee for low tubal rank tensor recovery from Gaussian measurements

$$\hat{\mathcal{X}} = \arg \min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathcal{X}).$$

- Theoretical guarantee for low tubal rank tensor completion

$$\min_{\mathcal{X}} \|\mathcal{X}\|_*, \text{ s.t. } \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{X}) = \mathcal{P}_{\Omega}(\mathcal{M}),$$