# Implicit Regularization in Deep Matrix Factorization 

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## Deep matrix factorization

- Def of Deep matrix factorization

Since standard matrix factorization can be viewed as a two-layer neural network, a natural extension is to consider deeper models. A deep matrix factorization of $\mathrm{W} \in \mathrm{R}^{d \times d^{\prime}}$, with hidden dimensions $d_{1}, \ldots, d_{N-1} \in \mathbb{N}$ is the parameterization:

$$
W=W_{N} W_{N-1} \cdots W_{1}
$$

where $W_{j} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{j} \times d_{j-1} j}=1, \ldots ., N$ with $d_{N}=d, d_{0}=d^{\prime}$.

## Conjecture 1 from former papar

With small enough learning rate and initialization close enough to the origin, gradient descent on a full-dimensional matrix factorization converges to the minimum nuclear norm solution.

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## Can the implicit regularization be captured by norms?




## Can the implicit regularization be captured by norms?

- Hypothesis:
gradient descent on a depth- N matrix factorization implicitly minimizes some norm that approximates rank, with the approximation being more accurate the larger N is.
- Schatten-p quasi-norm $\|W\|_{S_{p}}^{p}=\sum_{r=1}^{\min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)} \sigma_{r}^{p}(W)$ where $\sigma_{i}(W)$ : singular value of $W$.


## Current theory does not distinguish depth-N from depth-2

- Implicit regularization and matrix sensing former paper studied implicit regularization in shallow matrix factorization by considering recovery of a positive semidefinite matrix from sensing via symmetric measurements.
$\min _{W \in S_{+}^{d}} I(W)=\min _{W \in S_{+}^{d}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(y_{i}-<A_{i}, W>\right)^{2} \ldots$ (2)
where $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m} \in \mathbb{R}^{d, d}$ are symmtric and linearly independent
- Thm 1:

Assume the measurement matrices $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}$ commute. Then, if $\bar{W}_{\text {sha }}:=\lim _{\alpha \rightarrow 0} W_{\text {sha, } \infty}(\alpha)$ exists and is a global optimum for (2) with $I\left(\bar{W}_{\text {sha }}\right)=0$, it holds that $\bar{W}_{\text {sha }} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{W \in S_{+}^{d}, l(W)=0}\|W\|_{*}$ i.e $\bar{W}_{\text {sha }}$ is a global optimum with minimal nuclear norm.

- $W_{\text {sha, }}(\alpha)$ : The final solution $W=Z Z^{T}$ obtained from running gradient flow on $I\left(Z Z^{\top}\right)$ with initialization $\alpha I$


## Extend to depth-N

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \min _{W \in S_{+}^{d}} I(W) \\
& =\min _{W \in S_{+}^{d}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(y_{i}-<A_{i}, W_{N} W_{N-1} \ldots W_{1}>\right)^{2} \ldots \text { (3) }
\end{aligned}
$$

- Thm 2

Suppose $N \geq 3$, and that the matrices $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m}$ commute. Then if $\bar{W}_{\text {deep }}:=\lim _{\alpha \rightarrow 0} W_{\text {deep, } \infty}(\alpha)$ exists and is a global optimum for (3) with $I\left(\bar{W}_{\text {deep }}\right)=0$, it holds that $\bar{W}_{\text {deep }} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{W \in S_{+}^{d}, l(W)=0}\|W\|_{*}$ i.e $\bar{W}_{\text {deep }}$ is a global optimum with minimal nuclear norm.

- Proposition 1

For any dimension $d \geq 3$, there exist linearly independent symmetric and commutable measurement matrices $A_{1}, \ldots, A_{m} \in \mathbb{R}^{d, d}$, and corresponding labels $y_{1}, . ., y_{m} \in \mathbb{R}$, such that the limit solution defined in Thm 2 which has been shown to satisfy $\bar{W}_{\text {deep }} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{W \in S_{+}^{d}, l(W)=0}\|W\|_{*}$ is not a local minimum of the following program for any $0<p<1$

$$
\min _{W \in S_{+}^{d}, l(W)=0}\|W\|_{S_{p}}
$$

## Experiment




rank-10 matrix completion




## Experiment

- Compare minimum nuclear norm solution to those brought forth by running gradient descent on matrix factorization of different depths.
- When there are less entries observed, neither shallow nor deep factorization minimize nuclear norm.
- $\operatorname{erank}(A)=\exp \left(H\left(p_{1}, \ldots, p_{Q}\right)\right)$
where $\sigma_{1}, \ldots, \sigma_{Q}: \mathrm{A}$ 의 singular values, $p_{k}=\frac{\sigma_{k}}{\|\sigma\|_{1}}$ $H\left(p_{1}, \ldots, p_{Q}\right)=-\sum_{k=1}^{Q} p_{k} \log p_{k}$


## Hypothesis

- Capturing implicit regularization in matrix factorization through a single mathematical norm may not be posiible.


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## Dynamical analysis

- We derive differential equations governing the dynamics of singular values and singular vectors for the product matrix W .
- Evolution rates of singular values turn out to be proportional to their size exponentiated by $2-2 / \mathrm{N}$, where N is the depth of the factorization.
- We explain how our findings imply a tendency towards low-rank solutions, which intensifies with depth.


## Dynamical analysis

- $\phi\left(W_{1}, \ldots, X_{N}\right)=I\left(W_{N} \ldots W_{1}\right)$, where $I$ : general analytic loss
- gradient flow over factorization:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \dot{W}_{j}(t):=\frac{d}{d t} W_{j}(t)=-\frac{d}{d W_{j}} \phi\left(W_{1}(t), \ldots, W_{N}(t)\right), \\
& j=1, \ldots, N, t \geq 0
\end{aligned}
$$

## Dynamical analysis

- Lemma:

The product matrix $W(t)$ can be expressed as: $W(t)=U(t) S(t) V^{T}(t)$
where $U(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{d, \min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)}, S(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{\min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right), \min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)}, V(t) \in$ $\mathbb{R}^{d^{\prime}, \min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)}$ are analytic functions of t

## Dynamical analysis

- The diagonal elements of $S(t)$, which we denote by $\sigma_{1}(t), \ldots, \sigma_{\min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)}(t)$ are signed singular values of $\mathrm{W}(\mathrm{t})$
- The columns of $\mathrm{U}(\mathrm{t})$ and $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{t})$, denoted $u_{1}(t), \ldots, u_{\min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)}(t)$ and $v_{1}, \ldots, v_{\min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)}(t)$ are the corresponding left and right singular vectors


## Dynamical analysis

- Thm3

The signed singular values of the product matrix $W(t)$ evolve by:
$\dot{\sigma}_{r}(t)=-N\left(\sigma_{r}^{2}(t)\right)^{1-\frac{1}{N}}<\nabla \mathrm{I}(W(t)), u_{r}(t) v_{r}^{T}(t)>$,
$r=1, \ldots, \min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right)$

If the matric factorization is non-degenerate, i.e has depth $N \geq 2$, the singular values need not be signed(we may assume $\sigma_{r}(t) \geq 0$ for all $t$

## Dynamical analysis

- Lemma

Assume that at initialization, the singular values of the product matirx $W(t)$ are distinct and different from zero. Then, its singular vectors evolve by:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\dot{U}(t)= & -U(t)\left(F(t) \odot\left[U^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell(W(t)) V(t) S(t)+S(t) V^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell^{\top}(W(t)) U(t)\right]\right) \\
& -\left(I_{d}-U(t) U^{\top}(t)\right) \nabla \ell(W(t)) V(t)\left(S^{2}(t)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{N}} \\
\dot{V}(t)= & -V(t)\left(F(t) \odot\left[S(t) U^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell(W(t)) V(t)+V^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell^{\top}(W(t)) U(t) S(t)\right]\right) \\
& -\left(I_{d^{\prime}}-V(t) V^{\top}(t)\right) \nabla \ell^{\top}(W(t)) U^{\top}(t)\left(S^{2}(t)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{N}},
\end{aligned}
$$

where $I_{d}$ and $I_{d^{\prime}}$ are the identity matrices of sizes $d \times d$ and $d^{\prime} \times d^{\prime}$ respectively, $\odot$ stands for the Hadamard product, and the matrix $F(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{\min \left(d, d^{\prime}\right.}$ is skew-symmetric with $\left(\left(\sigma_{r^{\prime}}^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{n}}-\left(\sigma_{r}^{2}(t)\right)^{\frac{1}{n}}\right)^{-1}$ in its $\left(r, r^{\prime}\right)^{\prime}$ th entry, $r \neq r^{\prime}$

## Dynamical analysis

- Corollary 1 :

Assume the conditions of Lemma, and the matrix factorization is non-degenerative i.e has depth $N \geq 2$. Then, for any time $t$ such that the singular vectors of the product matrix $W(\mathrm{t})$ are stationary, i.e $\dot{W}(t)=0$ and $\dot{V}(t)=0$, it holds that $U^{T}(t) \nabla I(W(t)) V(t)$ is diagonal, meaning they align with the singular vectors of $\nabla I(W(t))$

## Dynamical analysis

- Lemma and Corollary suggests that a "goal" of gradient flow on a deep matrix factorization is to align singular vectors of the product matrix with those of the gradient.


## Empirical demonstration



## Interpretation

- It shows that for a non-degenerate deep matrix factorization, i.e one with depth $N \geq 2$, under gradient descent with small learning rate and near-zero initialization, singular values of the product matrix are subject to an enhancement/attenuation effect as described above.
- Singular value is an implicit regularization towards low rank, which intensifies with depth.


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## Conclusion

- Through theory and experiments, we questioned prevalent norm-based explanations for implicit regularization in matrix factorization, and offered an alternative, dynamical approach.

