

# A non-monotone alternating updating method for a class of matrix factorization problems

Ting Kei Pong  
Department of Applied Mathematics  
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
Hong Kong

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(Joint work with Xiaojun Chen and Lei Yang)  
Slides largely adapted from Lei Yang's previous talk

# Motivating applications

Factorization-related optimization problems:

- Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) (Paatero, Tapper, '94; Lee, Seung, '99)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X, Y} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|XY^T - M\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & X \geq 0, \quad Y \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$  and  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$ ,  $r \leq \min\{m, n\}$ .

- Matrix Completion (MC) (Shang, Liu, Cheng, '16)

$$\min_{X, Y} \quad \eta \|X\|_* + \eta \|Y\|_* + \|\mathcal{P}_\Omega(XY^\top - M)\|_F^2,$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_*$  is the nuclear norm.

- Other matrix completion models (Wen, Yin, Zhang, '12; Sun, Luo, '16)

## General model

$$\min_{X,Y} \mathcal{F}(X, Y) := \Psi(X) + \Phi(Y) + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{A}(XY^T) - \mathbf{b}\|^2,$$

where:

- $X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$  and  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times r}$  with  $r \leq \min\{m, n\}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^q$ ;
- $\Psi, \Phi : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{\infty\}$  are proper closed and level-bounded, and are **continuous on their domain**;
- $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^q$  is a linear map with  $q \leq mn$  and  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{A}^* = \mathcal{I}$ .

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**Idea:** Adapt techniques in NMF to deal with  $XY^T$ ?

**Not trivial!** The product  $XY^T$  is coupled with  $\mathcal{A}$ ... Can we “split” them?

# Key ideas I

Perform “**lifting**”: Consider

$$\Theta_{\alpha,\beta}(X, Y, Z) = \Psi(X) + \Phi(Y) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|XY^\top - Z\|_F^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathcal{A}(Z) - \mathbf{b}\|^2.$$

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**Fact 1:** (Yang, P., Chen '17)

If  $\alpha\mathcal{I} + \beta\mathcal{A}^*\mathcal{A} \succ 0$  and  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 1$ , then

$\min_{X, Y} \{\mathcal{F}(X, Y)\}$  is equivalent to  $\min_{X, Y, Z} \{\Theta_{\alpha,\beta}(X, Y, Z)\}$ .

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**Conceptual algorithm 1:** In the  $k$ -th iteration,

- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $Z$  to get  $Z^k$ .
- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $X$  to get  $X^{k+1}$ .
- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $Y$  to get  $Y^{k+1}$ .

Globalize using suitable line-search techniques.

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In our tests, requiring  $\alpha\mathcal{I} + \beta\mathcal{A}^*\mathcal{A} \succ 0$  leads to slow convergence. ☺

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**Fact 2:** (Yang, P., Chen '17)

Suppose that  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 1$ .

- If  $0 \in \partial\Theta_{\alpha,\beta}(X^*, Y^*, Z^*)$ , then  $0 \in \partial\mathcal{F}(X^*, Y^*)$ ;
- If  $0 \in \partial\mathcal{F}(X^*, Y^*)$ , then  $0 \in \partial\Theta_{\alpha,\beta}(X^*, Y^*, Z^*)$ , where

$$Z^* = \left( \mathcal{I} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathcal{A} \right) (X^* (Y^*)^T) + \frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathbf{b}.$$

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**Conceptual algorithm 2:** In the  $k$ -th iteration,

- Obtain  $Z^k$  by solving  $\nabla_Z \Theta_{\alpha,\beta}(X^k, Y^k, Z) = 0$ .
- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $X$  to get  $X^{k+1}$ .
- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $Y$  to get  $Y^{k+1}$ .

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**Conceptual algorithm 2:** In the  $k$ -th iteration,

- Obtain  $Z^k$  by solving  $\nabla_Z \Theta_{\alpha,\beta}(X^k, Y^k, Z) = 0$ . **Not a descent step!**
- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $X$  to get  $X^{k+1}$ .
- Approx. minimize  $\Theta$  w.r.t  $Y$  to get  $Y^{k+1}$ .

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# General Framework

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## Non-monotone Alternating Updating Method (NAUM)

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**Step 1.** Compute  $Z^k$  by

$$Z^k = \left( \mathcal{I} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathcal{A} \right) \left( X^k (Y^k)^T \right) + \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathbf{b}.$$

**Step 2.** Perform non-monotone line search:

- (2a) Compute  $U$  by “Prox”, “Prox-linear” or “Hi-prox”.
- (2b) Compute  $V$  by “Prox”, “Prox-linear” or “Hi-prox”.
- (2c) If a certain line search criterion is satisfied, go to **Step 3**.
- (2d) Update related parameters

**Step 3.** Set  $(X^{k+1}, Y^{k+1}) \leftarrow (U, V)$ ,  $k \leftarrow k + 1$  and go to **Step 1**.

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# The Complete NAUM

## Non-monotone Alternating Updating Method (NAUM)

**Input.**  $(X^0, Y^0), \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \rho, \tau > 1, c > 0, \mu^{\min} > 0, \sigma^{\max} > \sigma^{\min} > 0, N \geq 0$ , where  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 1$ ,  
 $\rho = \|\mathcal{I} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathcal{A}\|^2$  and  $(\alpha + \gamma) \mathcal{I} + \beta \mathcal{A}^* \mathcal{A} \succeq 0$ .

**Step 1.** Compute  $Z^k$  by

$$Z^k = \left( \mathcal{I} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathcal{A} \right) (X^k(Y^k)^\top) + \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \mathcal{A}^* \mathbf{b}.$$

**Step 2.** Choose  $\mu_k^0 \geq \mu^{\min}$  and  $\sigma_k^0 \in [\sigma^{\min}, \sigma^{\max}]$  arbitrarily. Set  $\tilde{\mu}_k = \mu_k^0$ ,  $\sigma_k = \sigma_k^0$  and  $\mu_k^{\max} = (\alpha + 2\gamma\rho) \|Y^k\|^2 + c$ .

(2a) Set  $\mu_k \leftarrow \min \{\tilde{\mu}_k, \mu_k^{\max}\}$ . Compute  $U$  by “Prox”, “Prox-linear” or “Hi-prox”.

(2b) Compute  $V$  by “Prox”, “Prox-linear” or “Hi-prox”.

(2c) If  $\mathcal{F}(U, V) - \max_{[k-N]_+ \leq i \leq k} \mathcal{F}(X^i, Y^i) \leq -\frac{c}{2} (\|U - X^k\|_F^2 + \|V - Y^k\|_F^2)$ , is satisfied, go to **Step 3**.

(2d) If  $\mu_k = \mu_k^{\max}$ , set  $\sigma_k^{\max} = (\alpha + 2\gamma\rho) \|U\|^2 + c$ ,  $\sigma_k \leftarrow \min \{\tau \sigma_k, \sigma_k^{\max}\}$  and then, go to step (2b); otherwise, set  $\tilde{\mu}_k \leftarrow \tau \mu_k$  and  $\sigma_k \leftarrow \tau \sigma_k$  and then, go to step (2a).

**Step 3.** Set  $(X^{k+1}, Y^{k+1}) \leftarrow (U, V)$ ,  $k \leftarrow k + 1$  and go to **Step 1**.

# Updating Schemes of $U$

Let  $\mathcal{H}_\alpha(X, Y, Z) := \frac{\alpha}{2} \|XY^\top - Z\|_F^2$ . Compute a candidate  $U$  of  $X^{k+1}$ :

- **Prox:**  $U \in \operatorname{Argmin}_X \Psi(X) + \mathcal{H}_\alpha(X, Y^k, Z^k) + \frac{\mu_k}{2} \|X - X^k\|_F^2$ .

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- **Prox-linear:**

$$U \in \operatorname{Argmin}_X \Psi(X) + \langle \nabla_X \mathcal{H}_\alpha(X^k, Y^k, Z^k), X - X^k \rangle + \frac{\mu_k}{2} \|X - X^k\|_F^2.$$

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If  $\Psi(X) = \sum_{i=1}^r \psi_i(\mathbf{x}_i)$  with  $X = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_r]$ , update  $U$  columnwise<sup>1</sup>:

- **Hi-prox:**

$$\mathbf{u}_i \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\mathbf{x}_i} \psi_i(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mathcal{H}_\alpha(\mathbf{u}_{j < i}, \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{j > i}^k, Y^k, Z^k) + \frac{\mu_k}{2} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_i^k\|^2.$$

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<sup>1</sup>thanks to  $XY^\top = \sum_{i=1}^r \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{y}_i^\top$

# Updating Schemes of $V$

After computing  $U$ , we compute a candidate  $V$  of  $Y$ :

- **Prox:**  $V \in \operatorname{Argmin}_Y \Phi(Y) + \mathcal{H}_\alpha(U, Y, Z^k) + \frac{\sigma_k}{2} \|Y - Y^k\|_F^2$

- **Prox-linear:**

$$V \in \operatorname{Argmin}_Y \Phi(Y) + \langle \nabla_Y \mathcal{H}_\alpha(U, Y^k, Z^k), Y - Y^k \rangle + \frac{\sigma_k}{2} \|Y - Y^k\|_F^2.$$

If  $\Phi(Y) = \sum_{i=1}^r \phi_i(\mathbf{y}_i)$  with  $Y = [\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_r]$ , update  $V$  columnwise:

- **Hi-prox:**

$$\mathbf{v}_i \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\mathbf{y}_i} \phi_i(\mathbf{y}_i) + \mathcal{H}_\alpha(U, \mathbf{v}_{j < i}, \mathbf{y}_i, \mathbf{y}_{j > i}^k, Z^k) + \frac{\sigma_k}{2} \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_i^k\|^2.$$

## Potential Advantages of 'Hi-prox'

The associated subproblems can be reduced to proximal mapping computations:

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{u}_i \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\mathbf{x}_i} \left\{ \psi_i(\mathbf{x}_i) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{y}_i^\top - P_i^k\|_F^2 + \frac{\mu_k}{2} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_i^k\|^2 \right\}, \\ \mathbf{v}_i \in \operatorname{Argmin}_{\mathbf{y}_i} \left\{ \phi_i(\mathbf{y}_i) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{y}_i^\top - Q_i^k\|_F^2 + \frac{\sigma_k}{2} \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_i^k\|^2 \right\}, \end{cases}$$

where

$$P_i^k := Z^k - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \mathbf{u}_j (\mathbf{y}_j^k)^\top - \sum_{j=i+1}^r \mathbf{x}_j^k (\mathbf{y}_j^k)^\top,$$

$$Q_i^k := Z^k - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{v}_j^\top - \sum_{j=i+1}^r \mathbf{u}_j (\mathbf{y}_j^k)^\top.$$

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No need to form  $P_i^k$  and  $Q_i^k$  explicitly: only need  $P_i^k \mathbf{y}_i^k$  and  $(Q_i^k)^\top \mathbf{x}_i^k$ .

# Convergence Analysis

**Theorem 1.** (Yang, P., Chen '17)

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Let  $\{X^k\}$ ,  $\{Y^k\}$  and  $\{Z^k\}$  be the sequences generated by NAUM.  
Then

2. The sequence  $\{(X^k, Y^k)\}$  is bounded;
3.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|X^{k+1} - X^k\|_F + \|Y^{k+1} - Y^k\|_F = 0$ ;
4. Any cluster point  $(X^*, Y^*)$  of  $\{(X^k, Y^k)\}$  is a stationary point of  $\mathcal{F}$ , i.e.,

$$0 \in \partial\mathcal{F}(X^*, Y^*).$$

# Non-negative Matrix Factorization

- NMF model:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X,Y} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|XY^T - M\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq X, \quad 0 \leq Y. \end{aligned}$$

# Non-negative Matrix Factorization

- NMF model: Add upper bound

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X,Y} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|XY^T - M\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq X \leq 10^{16}, 0 \leq Y \leq 10^{16}. \end{aligned}$$

# Non-negative Matrix Factorization

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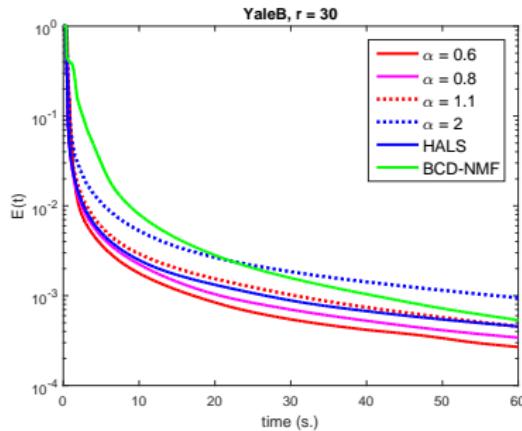
$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X,Y} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|XY^T - M\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & 0 \leq X \leq 10^{16}, \quad 0 \leq Y \leq 10^{16}. \end{aligned}$$

- NAUM with **Hi-prox**:

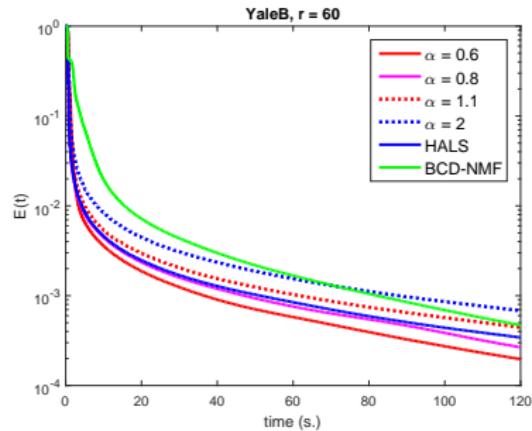
$$\begin{cases} Z^k = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} X^k (Y^k)^\top + \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} M, \\ \boldsymbol{u}_i = \max \left\{ 0, \min \left\{ 10^{16}, \frac{\alpha P_i^k \boldsymbol{y}_i^k + \mu_k \boldsymbol{x}_i^k}{\alpha \|\boldsymbol{y}_i^k\|^2 + \mu_k} \right\} \right\}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, r, \\ \boldsymbol{v}_i = \max \left\{ 0, \min \left\{ 10^{16}, \frac{\alpha (Q_i^k)^\top \boldsymbol{u}_i + \sigma_k \boldsymbol{y}_i^k}{\alpha \|\boldsymbol{u}_i\|^2 + \sigma_k} \right\} \right\}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, r. \end{cases}$$

# Evolution for Face Dataset ‘YaleB’

$E(t)$ : a normalized measure of function value reduction w.r.t. time.



(a)  $T^{\max} = 60$



(b)  $T^{\max} = 120$

Figure: Average  $E(t)$  of 20 indep. trials on ‘YaleB’ ( $32256 \times 2414$ , dense).

# Evolution for Text Dataset ‘sports’

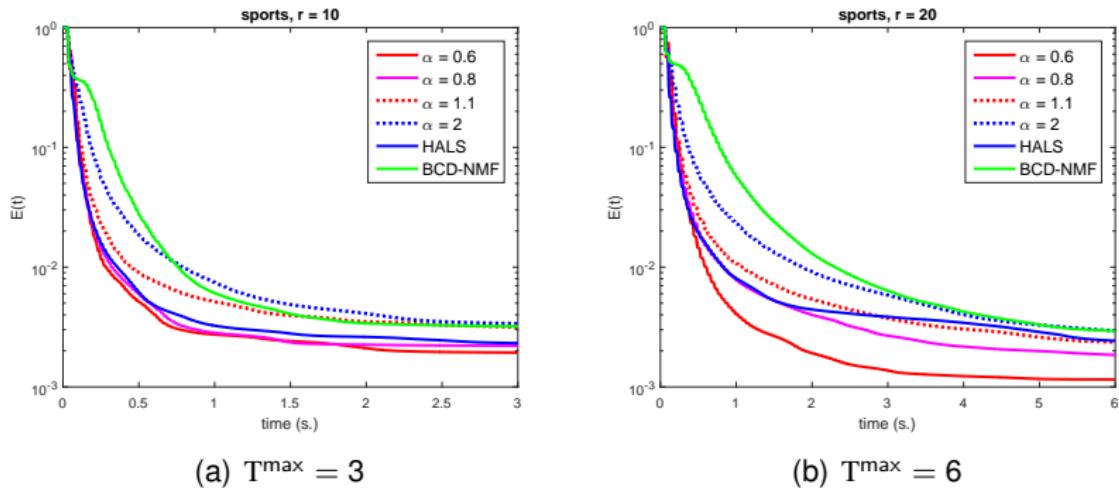


Figure: Average  $E(t)$  of 20 indep. trials on ‘sports’ ( $8580 \times 14870$ , sparse).

# Matrix Completion

- An alternative MC model (Shang, Liu, Cheng '16):

$$\min_{X,Y} \eta \|X\|_* + \eta \|Y\|_* + \left\| \mathcal{P}_\Omega(XY^T - M) \right\|_F^2.$$

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- NAUM with **Prox-linear**:

$$\begin{cases} Z^k = X^k(Y^k)^\top + \frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta} \mathcal{P}_\Omega \left( M - X^k(Y^k)^\top \right), \\ U = S_{\eta/(2\mu_k)} \left( X^k - \mu_k^{-1} \alpha (X^k(Y^k)^\top - Z^k) Y^k \right), \\ V = S_{\eta/(2\sigma_k)} \left( Y^k - \sigma_k^{-1} \alpha (U(Y^k)^\top - Z^k)^\top U \right). \end{cases}$$

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- Proximal Alternating Linearized Minimization (PALM) (Bolte, et al '14):

$$\begin{cases} X^{k+1} = S_{\frac{\eta}{2\|Y^k\|^2}}(X^k - \|Y^k\|^{-2} [\mathcal{P}_\Omega(X^k(Y^k)^\top - M)] Y^k), \\ Y^{k+1} = S_{\frac{\eta}{2\|X^{k+1}\|^2}}(Y^k - \|X^{k+1}\|^{-2} [\mathcal{P}_\Omega(X^{k+1}(Y^k)^\top - M)]^\top X^{k+1}). \end{cases}$$

# Numerical Results for MC on Face Dataset

$\eta$	data	$sr$	$r$	$\alpha = 0.4$	$\alpha = 0.6$	$\alpha = 1.1$	PALM	$\alpha = 0.4$	$\alpha = 0.6$	$\alpha = 1.1$	PALM
				iter				Normalized fval <sup>2</sup>			
5	CBCL	0.5	30	780	1189	3320	3306	1.13e-01	7.50e-02	4.52e-01	1
		0.5	60	921	1218	3850	4654	3.24e-02	5.10e-02	3.85e-01	1
		0.2	30	1174	2366	4767	3573	8.01e-03	2.21e-01	6.87e-01	9.60e-01
		0.2	60	1577	1919	5360	5037	1.03e-02	8.95e-02	8.08e-01	8.86e-01
	ORL	0.5	30	1218	1243	1241	1468	0	2.94e-01	5.06e-01	1
		0.5	60	1049	1051	1051	1327	0	1	4.00e-01	7.73e-01
		0.2	30	2074	325	385	2691	2.59e-03	7.01e-01	1	1.31e-01
		0.2	60	1551	1551	356	2222	0	3.82e-01	1	2.12e-01
				CPU time				RecErr			
5	CBCL	0.5	30	35.56	54.14	151.23	119.05	1.05e-01	1.05e-01	1.06e-01	1.08e-01
		0.5	60	57.66	76.09	240.19	206.47	8.81e-02	9.02e-02	9.04e-02	8.99e-02
		0.2	30	34.04	68.57	137.97	75.56	1.37e-01	1.37e-01	1.38e-01	1.43e-01
		0.2	60	72.01	87.82	245.21	147.08	1.34e-01	1.35e-01	1.35e-01	1.36e-01
	ORL	0.5	30	294.20	300	300	300	1.72e-01	1.84e-01	2.01e-01	2.12e-01
		0.5	60	300	300	300	300	1.66e-01	2.11e-01	2.05e-01	2.11e-01
		0.2	30	300	47.35	55.86	300	2.08e-01	3.04e-01	3.81e-01	2.24e-01
		0.2	60	300	300	69.21	300	2.16e-01	2.35e-01	3.49e-01	2.61e-01

<sup>2</sup>Normalized fval:  $(\mathcal{F}(X^*, Y^*) - \mathcal{F}_{\min}) / (\mathcal{F}_{\max} - \mathcal{F}_{\min})$

# Conclusion

- A potential function is introduced for designing a new algorithm for a class of matrix factorization problems.
- Our approach **decouples** the linear map from the product  $XY^T$ , and hence allows adaptation of efficient techniques in NMF.
- We established convergence of our NAUM, even though the Z-update **may not induce a descent** in general.

## Reference:

- Lei Yang, Ting Kei Pong and Xiaojun Chen.  
*A non-monotone alternating updating method for a class of matrix factorization problems*  
Available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.06499>.

Thanks for coming! 😊