

Topics in Tensors II

A set theoretic solution of the salmon conjecture

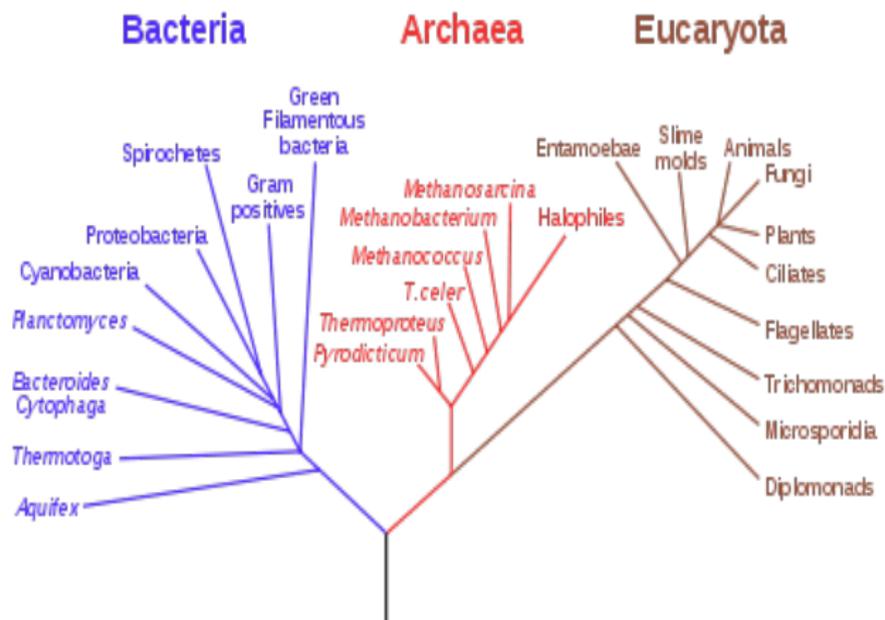
A Summer School by Shmuel Friedland¹
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given in Department of Mathematics
University of Coimbra, Portugal

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Summary

- 1 Phylogenetic trees and their invariants
- 2 Statement of the problem
- 3 Border rank
- 4 Known results
- 5 New conditions
- 6 Outline of the complete solution

Phylogenetic Tree of Life



Reconstruction of the Phylogenetic tree with n taxa

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Basic problem of algebraic statistics:

Characterize the variety which is a closure of all \mathcal{T} corresponding to a given tree

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Main technical assumption on the joint distribution of X, Y, Z

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$\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4 \times 4}$ has a border at most k
if it is a limit of tensors of rank k at most

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Reason: A generic space $\mathbf{W} \subset \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$, $\dim \mathbf{W} = (m-1)(n-1) + 1$ intersects the variety of all matrices of rank 1: $\mathbb{C}^m \times \mathbb{C}^n \subset \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ at least at $(m-1)(n-1) + 1$ linearly independent rank one matrices

Ranks of tensors 2

Generic subspace $\mathbf{W} \subset S(m, \mathbb{C})$, $\dim \mathbf{W} = \frac{m(m-1)}{2} + 1$ intersects variety of symmetric matrices of rank 1 at least at $\frac{m(m-1)}{2} + 1$ lin. ind. mat.

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b. variety of all tensors in $\mathbb{C}^{3 \times 3 \times 3}$ of at most rank 4 is a hypersurface of degree 9

$$\frac{1}{\det Z} \det (X(\text{adj } Z)Y - Y(\text{adj } Z)X) = 0$$

X, Y, Z are three sections of \mathcal{T}

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[3] one needs equations of degree 16

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$$\exists 0 \neq S, T \in \mathbb{C}^{3 \times 3} \text{ s.t. } SW, WT \subset S(3, \mathbb{C})$$

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expressing all possible solutions S, T in terms of 8×8 minors of coefficient matrices, the conditions $ST = TS = \lambda I$ are given by vanishing of the corresponding 16 – th degree polynomials

Sufficiency of all conditions

If $\mathbf{W} \subset \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4}$, $\dim \mathbf{W} = 4$ contains an invertible matrix then commutativity conditions $X(\operatorname{adj} Z)Y - Y \operatorname{adj}(Z)X = 0$ imply that border rank of $\mathcal{T} \in \mathbb{C}^{4 \times 4 \times 4}$ at most 4.

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If S, T singular, analyze different cases to show that $\text{brank } \mathcal{T} \leq 4$.
Some of them use the 16 degree condition

5, 6, 9 degree equations suffice: Friedland-Gross

Degree 16 needed in condition A.I.3 to eliminate the case:

R, L rank one and either $R^T L \neq 0$ or $LR^T \neq 0$

FG: after change of bases in \mathbb{C}^3 frontal section of \mathcal{T} $L = \mathbf{e}_3 \mathbf{e}_3^T$

$R \in \{\mathbf{e}_3 \mathbf{e}_3^T, \mathbf{e}_3 \mathbf{e}_2^T, \mathbf{e}_2 \mathbf{e}_3^T\}$

For $R = \mathbf{e}_3 \mathbf{e}_2^T, \mathbf{e}_2 \mathbf{e}_3^T$ border rank $\mathcal{T} \leq 4$.

For $R = \mathbf{e}_3 \mathbf{e}_3^T$ 4 frontal section of \mathcal{T} are $\begin{bmatrix} * & * & 0 \\ * & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$

$$T_{k,3} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11,k} & x_{12,k} & 0 \\ x_{21,k} & x_{22,k} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_{33,k} \end{bmatrix} = \text{diag}(X_k, x_{33,k}) \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4$$

10 invariant pol. degree 6: $\det(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4) x_{33,p} x_{33,q} \quad 1 \leq p \leq q \leq 4$

Their vanishing yields $\text{bd } \mathcal{T} \leq 4$.

1. [3]: Thm. 4.5
2. [4]: §3
3. [3] §5, §3

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