

LA-UR-21-27108

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Title: Tropical Matrix Factorization

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Intended for: HPC Showcase, 2021-07-22 (Online, New Mexico, United States)

Issued: 2021-07-21

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Tropical Matrix Factorization

Jose Ortiz



Kansas State University

Introduction

- Replacing addition with maximum (or minimum) and swapping multiplication with addition gives the **tropical numbers** $\mathbb{T} = (\overline{\mathbb{R}}, \oplus, \odot)$.

Classical Setting



Tropical Setting

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

$$1 + 2 = 3$$

$$1 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

$$3 \cdot 3 = 9$$

$$1 \oplus 0 := \max(1, 0) = 1$$

$$1 \oplus 1 := \max(1, 1) = 1$$

$$1 \oplus 2 := \max(1, 2) = 2$$

$$1 \odot 0 := 1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 \odot 1 := 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$3 \odot 3 := 3 + 3 = 6$$

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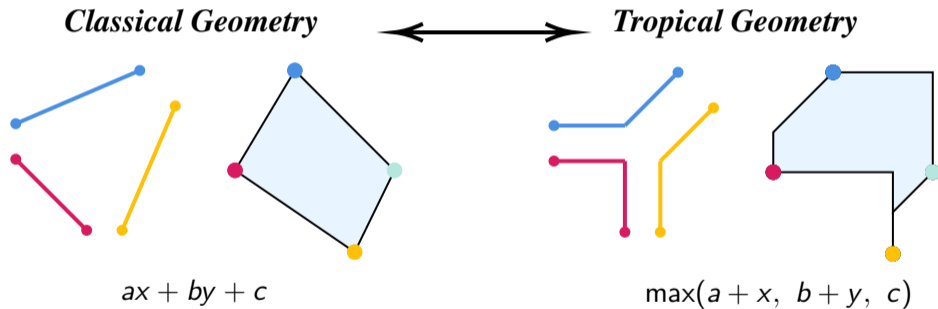
- Compared to addition and multiplication, comparison and addition are **faster**.
- Comparison and addition are **robust** operations.
- Moving between classical and tropical settings is often **reversible**.
 - Classical \rightarrow Tropical: *Easy*
 - Classical \leftarrow Tropical: *Harder*

Introduction

- **Tropical geometry** deals with how this change in arithmetic affects the underlying geometry and related structures.

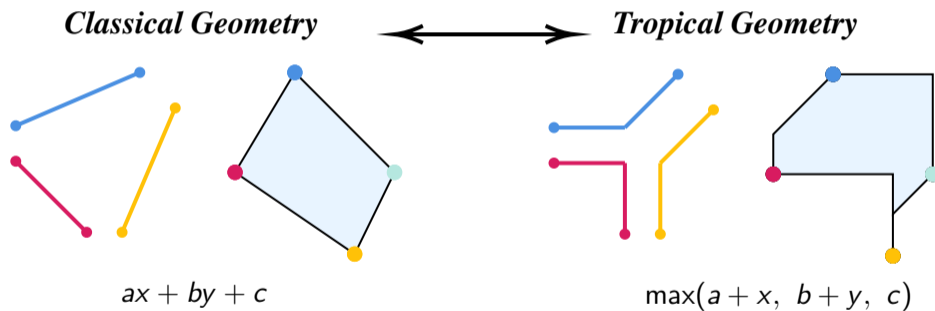
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- This project was an exploration of how tropical methods could be applied to inexact computing.

Tropical Matrices

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$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{2} \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \odot \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{5} & 3 \\ \mathbf{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{\max(1 + 5, 2 + 2)} & \max(1 + 3, 2 + 0) \\ \max(3 + 5, 4 + 2) & \max(3 + 3, 4 + 0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{6} & 4 \\ 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- *Many* entries could be changed without affecting the product.
- The usual factorization techniques **don't work here**.

Matrix Factorization

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- Sparse Tropical Matrix Factorization (2021) [3]:

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- Both are *very* slow, but great at capturing non-linear structures.

Benefits of Working in This Setting

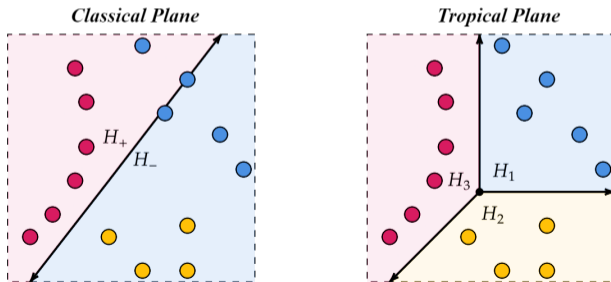
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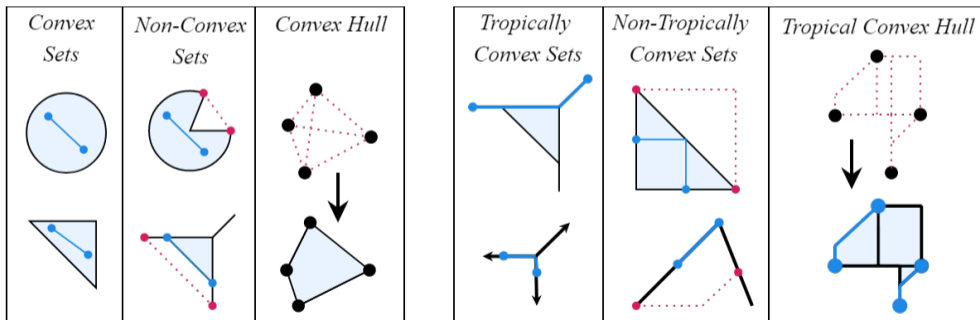
Benefits of Working in This Setting

- Tropical arithmetic is **fast** and **robust**.
- Tropical methods can **encode data with 'extreme' values**.
- Tropical hyperplanes separate the ambient space into $n + 1$ regions—**encoding more information with fewer parameters**.



A Geometric Approach to Matrix Factorization

- Key observation:
 - *The columns (or rows) of M can be identified with points that generate a **tropical convex hull** $tconv(M)$.*



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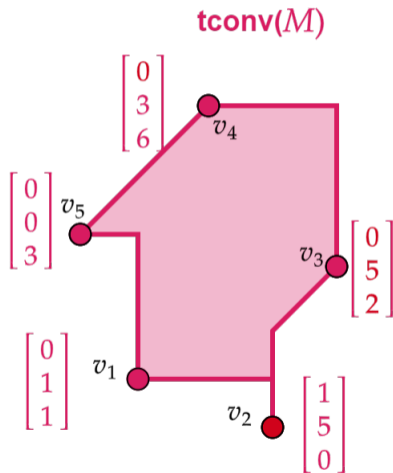
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- The left factor A that results from this method is **stable under translations** of M ; only B varies as M is perturbed.
- This approach **can be modified** such as with STMF in order to be applied to prediction tasks.
- This approach has a clear **geometric interpretation**.

Overview of the Geometric Method

- The columns of M can be identified with the tropical convex hull $\text{tconv}(M)$.

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 5 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



Overview of the Geometric Method

- The columns of M can be identified with the tropical convex hull $\text{tconv}(M)$.
- Which is contained in some $\text{tconv}(A)$.

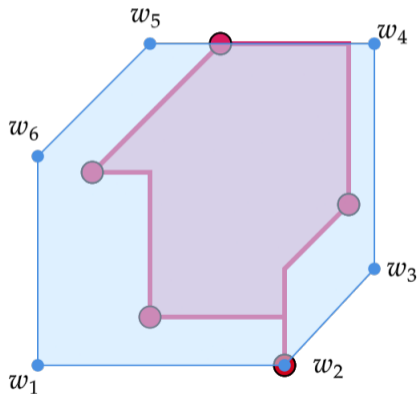
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$$A = [w_1 \quad w_2 \quad \cdots \quad w_6]$$



$$\text{tconv}(A) \supseteq \text{tconv}(M)$$



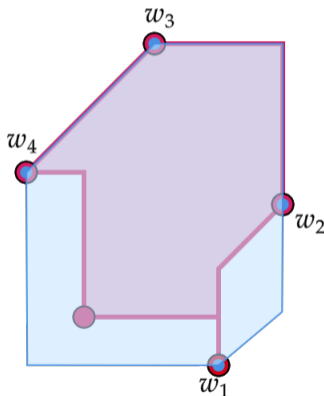
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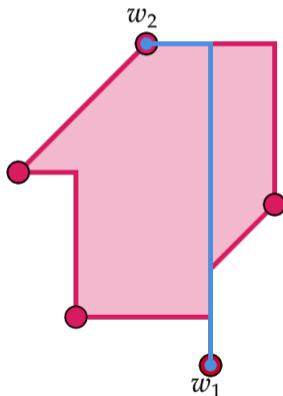
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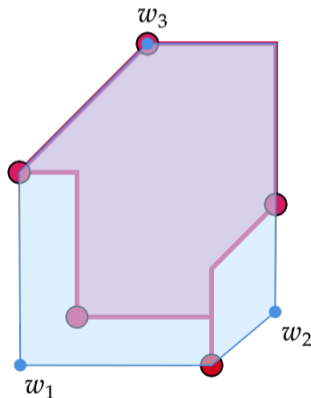
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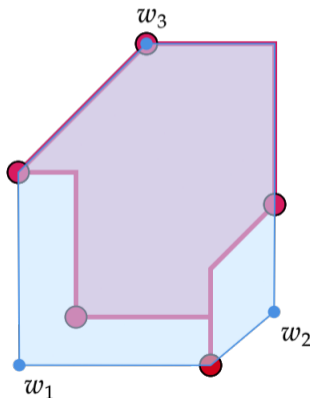
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$$A \odot B = M$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \odot [b_1 \quad \dots \quad b_5] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 5 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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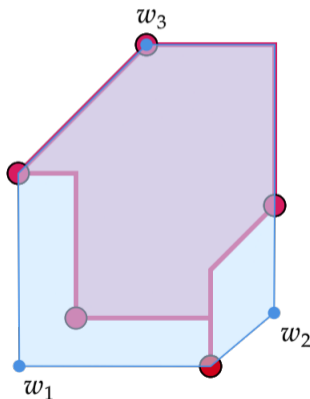
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$$\begin{array}{c}
 A \odot B = M \\
 \left[\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{array} \right] \odot \left[\begin{array}{ccccc} -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -5 \\ -5 & -6 & -4 & 0 & -3 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 5 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 6 & 3 \end{array} \right] \\
 w_1 w_2 w_3 \qquad \qquad \qquad v_1 v_2 v_3 v_4 v_5
 \end{array}$$

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Performance Results

- Running TMF and GTMF 100 times on random 6×6 matrices:

	TMF	GTMF
Time	3.68884	0.00168
Error	5.18909	$1.21192 \cdot 10^{-14}$
Added Error	0.69285	0.00039
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- Questions?


Thank You!

Thanks to my mentor Laura Monroe for her guidance and to team members Vanessa Job, Nathan Kodama, Andrew Alexander, and Matthew Broussard for their helpful suggestions and questions that led me to this problem.

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 P. Maragos, E. Theodosis, *Tropical Geometry and Piecewise-Linear Approximation of Curves and Surfaces on Weighted Lattices*, 2019, arXiv: 1912.03891 [cs.LG].

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \odot \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \odot (-1) \oplus \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \odot (-4) \oplus \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \odot (-5) \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} v_1
 \end{aligned}$$

'Lattice distance'

$$\begin{aligned}
 A \odot B = M \\
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