

# Computing Tensor Eigenvalues: Theory and Practice

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# Real Tensor Eigenpairs

Qi (2005), Lim (2005)

$\mathcal{A}$  = symmetric  $m^{\text{th}}$  order  $n$ -dimensional real-valued tensor

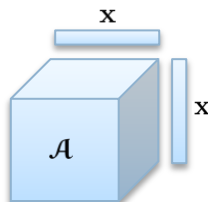


For  $m = 3$ , symmetry means  $a_{ijk} = a_{jik} = a_{ikj} = a_{jki} = a_{kij} = a_{kji}$

We say that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is an **eigenvalue** if there exists  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{x} = 1.$$

The vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is called the **eigenvector**.



$$\text{For } m = 3, \quad (\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1})_i = \sum_{jk} a_{ijk} x_j x_k$$

# Number of Eigenpairs

Cartwright & Sturmfels 2010

For a symmetric  $m^{\text{th}}$  order  $n$ -dimensional real-valued tensor, the # of distinct eigenpairs (real and complex) is  $((m-1)^n - 1)/(m-2)$

Note: For  $m$  odd,  $(-\lambda, -\mathbf{x})$  is also an eigenpair.  
For  $m$  even,  $(\lambda, -\mathbf{x})$  is also an eigenpair.  
*These are not considered distinct.*

Example:  $\mathcal{A}$  is of size  $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$  ( $m = 4$  and  $n = 2$ )  
with  $a_{ijkl} = 0$  except  $a_{1111} = 1$  and  $a_{2222} = -1$

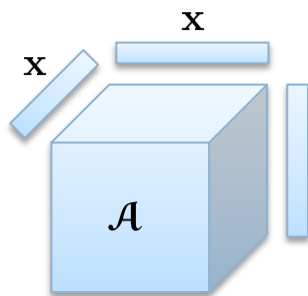
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{x} = 1 \end{array} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \begin{array}{l} x_1^3 = \lambda x_1 \\ -x_2^3 = \lambda x_2 \\ x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\quad} \begin{array}{l} \lambda = 1, \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{or} \\ \lambda = -1, \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \\
 & & \text{[up to 4 solutions]} \qquad \qquad \text{[2 real solutions]}
 \end{array}$$

# Eigenpairs Correspond to Extrema of the Homogeneous Form

Lim (2005)

$$\begin{aligned} \max \text{ or } \min \quad & f(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \frac{1}{2}(\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 - 1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

*A real eigenpair is any KKT point of the constrained homogeneous form.  
(Analogous to the matrix case.)*



For  $m = 3$ ,

$$\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m = \sum_{ijk} a_{ijk} x_i x_j x_k$$

KKT Conditions:

$$m\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} + \mu\mathbf{x} = 0 \text{ and } \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$$



Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mu) = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m + \mu \frac{1}{2}(\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 - 1)$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mu) = m\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} + \mu\mathbf{x}$$

Eigenpair:

$$\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \text{ and } \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$$

(with  $\lambda = -\mu/m$ )

# Eigenpairs Correspond to Best Symmetric Rank-1 Approximation

## *Eigenvalue Problem*

$$\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{x} = 1$$



## *Extrema of Constrained Homogenous Form*

$$\max f(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m$$

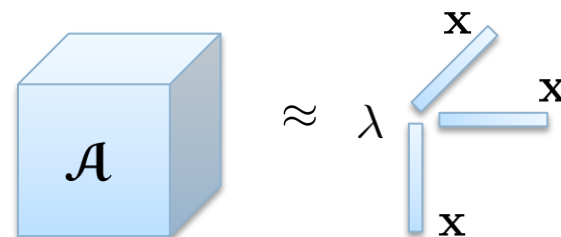
$$\text{s.t. } \frac{1}{2}(\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 - 1) = 0$$



## *Best Rank-1 Approximation*

$$\min \|\mathcal{A} - \lambda\mathbf{x} \circ \mathbf{x} \circ \dots \circ \mathbf{x}\|^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \lambda = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m, \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$$



# Symmetric Higher-Order Power Method (S-HOPM)

De Lathauwer, De Moor, Vandewalle 2000

## S-HOPM

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

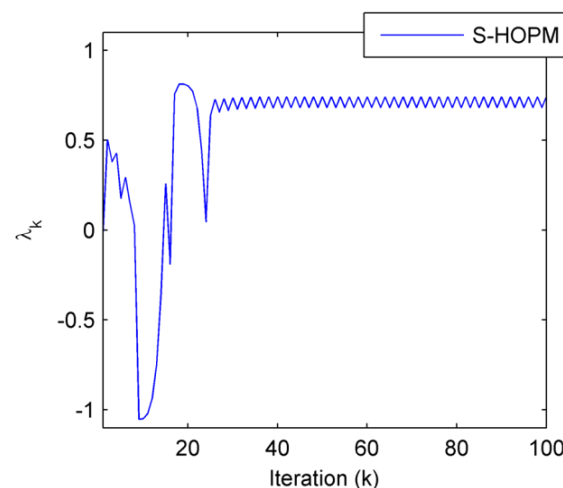
$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathcal{A} \mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} / \|\mathcal{A} \mathbf{x}_k^{m-1}\|$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathcal{A} \mathbf{x}_{k+1}^m$$

- Symmetric analogue of convergent Higher-Order Power Method
- Not guaranteed to converge
  - May diverge
  - May have chaotic behavior
  - *But sometimes works really well!*

## Failure Example [Kofidis & Regalia 2002]

- $3 \times 3 \times 3$  Symmetric Tensor
  - $a_{1111} = 0.2883, a_{1112} = -0.0031, a_{1113} = 0.1973,$
  - $a_{1122} = -0.2485, a_{1123} = -0.2939, a_{1133} = 0.3847,$
  - $a_{1222} = 0.2972, a_{1223} = 0.1862, a_{1233} = 0.0919,$
  - $a_{1333} = -0.3619, a_{2222} = 0.1241, a_{2223} = -0.3420,$
  - $a_{2233} = 0.2127, a_{2333} = 0.2727, a_{3333} = -0.3054.$
- Optimum:  $|\lambda| = 1.09$
- S-HOPM fails on this problem for every starting point we tried



# Shifted S-HOPM (SS-HOPM) is Convergent

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m$$



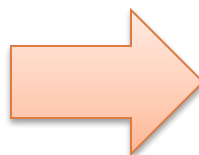
$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \equiv f(\mathbf{x}) + \alpha(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{x})^{m/2}$$

## S-HOPM

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \frac{\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1}}{\|\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1}\|}$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^m$$



## SS-HOPM

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \frac{\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}_k}{\|\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}_k\|}$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^m$$

In the context of ICA, using a shift has previously been proposed by Regalia and Kofidis (2005) and Erdogun (2009).

# SS-HOPM Finds Real Eigenpairs

*100 Random Starting Points*

S-HOPM

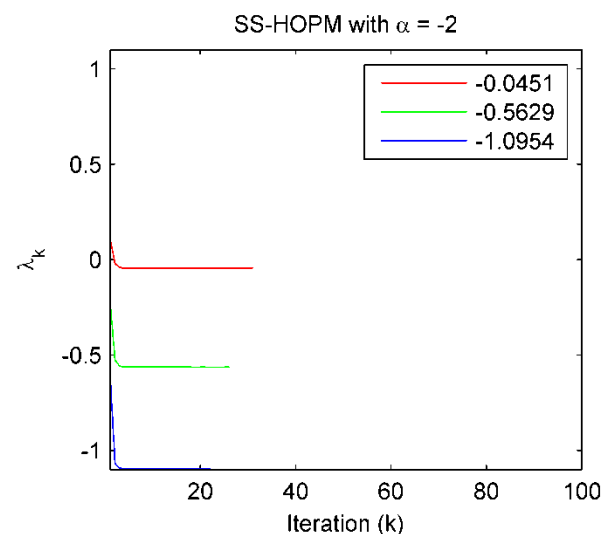
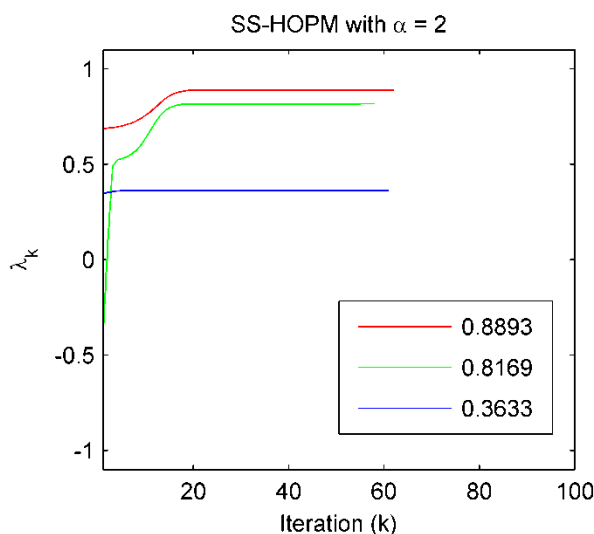
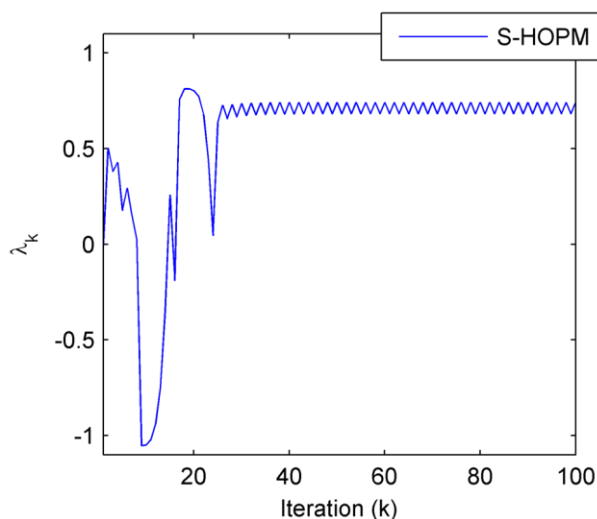
SS-HOPM with  $\alpha = 2$

SS-HOPM with  $\alpha = -2$

No Convergence

Occurrences	$\lambda$	Median Its.
46	0.8893	63
24	0.8169	52
30	0.3633	65

Occurrences	$\lambda$	Median Its.
15	-0.0451	35
40	-0.5629	23
45	-1.0954	23





# SS-HOPM as a Fixed Point Iteration

## SS-HOPM

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \frac{\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}_k}{\|\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}_k\|}$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^m$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}; \alpha) = \frac{\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}\|}$$

*For our problem, any fixed point is an eigenvector and vice versa.*

Fixed Point of  $\phi$ :  $\phi(\mathbf{x}; \alpha) = \mathbf{x}$

Let  $J(\mathbf{x}; \alpha)$  denote the  $n \times n$  Jacobian of  $\phi(\mathbf{x}; \alpha)$ .

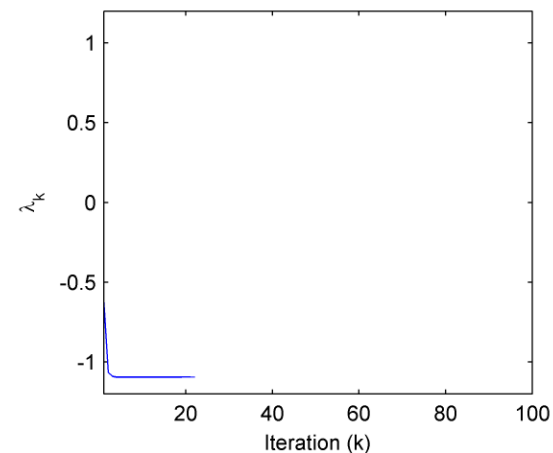
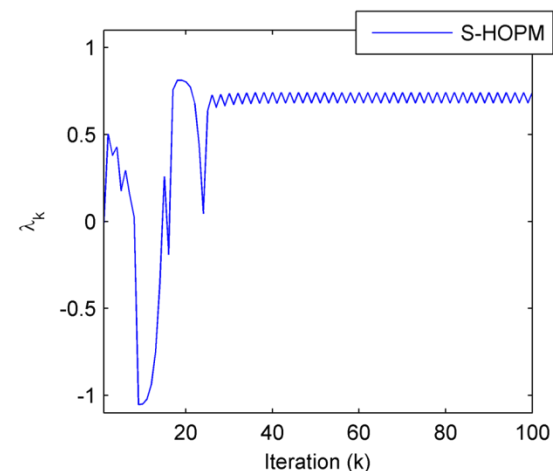
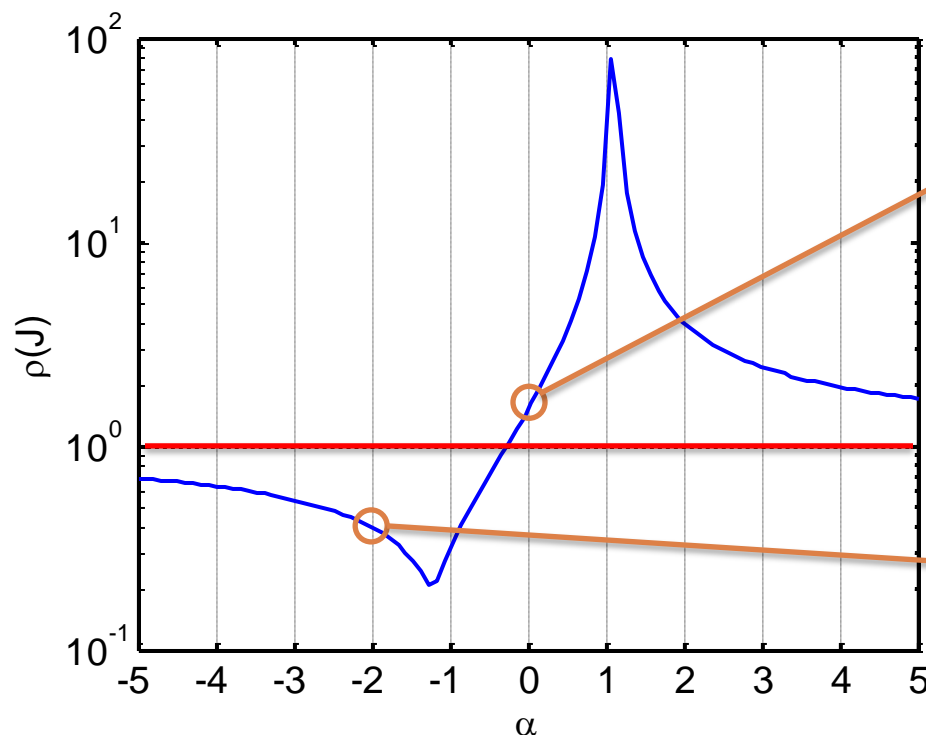
Fact 1:  $\mathbf{x}$  is an **attracting** fixed point if  $\sigma \equiv \rho(J(\mathbf{x}; \alpha)) < 1$ .

Fast 2: The convergence is linear with rate  $\sigma$  (smaller is faster).

# Convergence Explained via Fixed Point Analysis

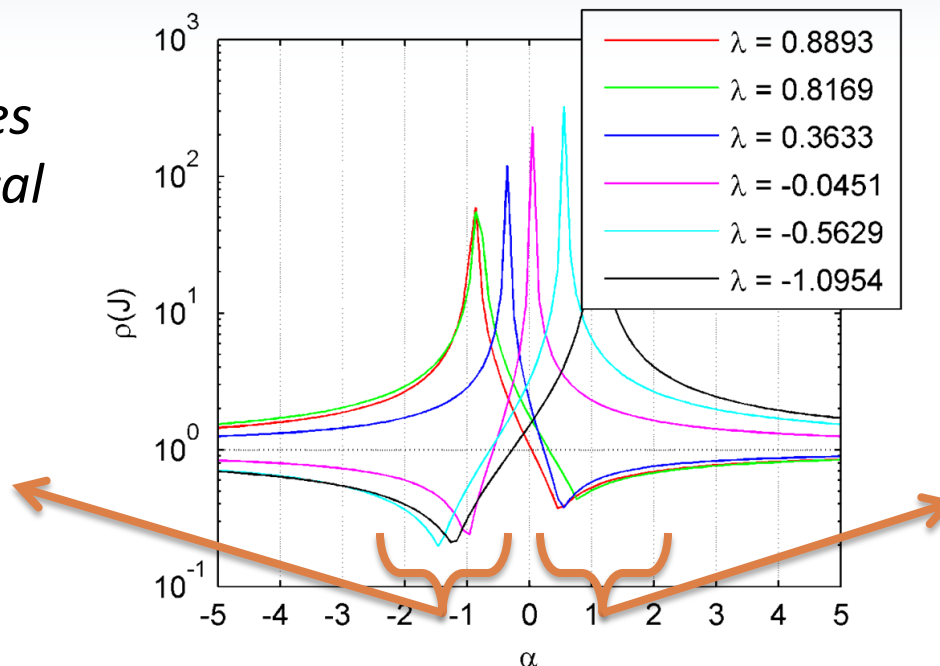
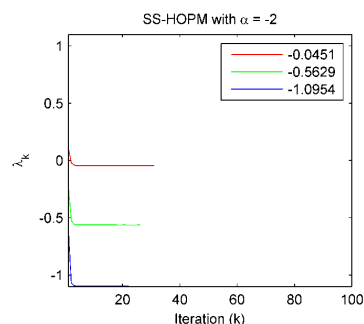
At eigenpair  $(\lambda, \mathbf{x})$ : 
$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}; \alpha) = \frac{(m-1)(\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-2} - \lambda\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^T) + \alpha(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^T)}{\lambda + \alpha}$$

Spectral radius of Jacobian for  
eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda = -1.09$

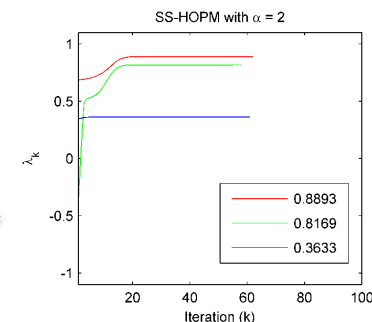


# How Choice of $\alpha$ Impacts SS-HOPM

*Negative values of  $\alpha$  lead to local minima.*



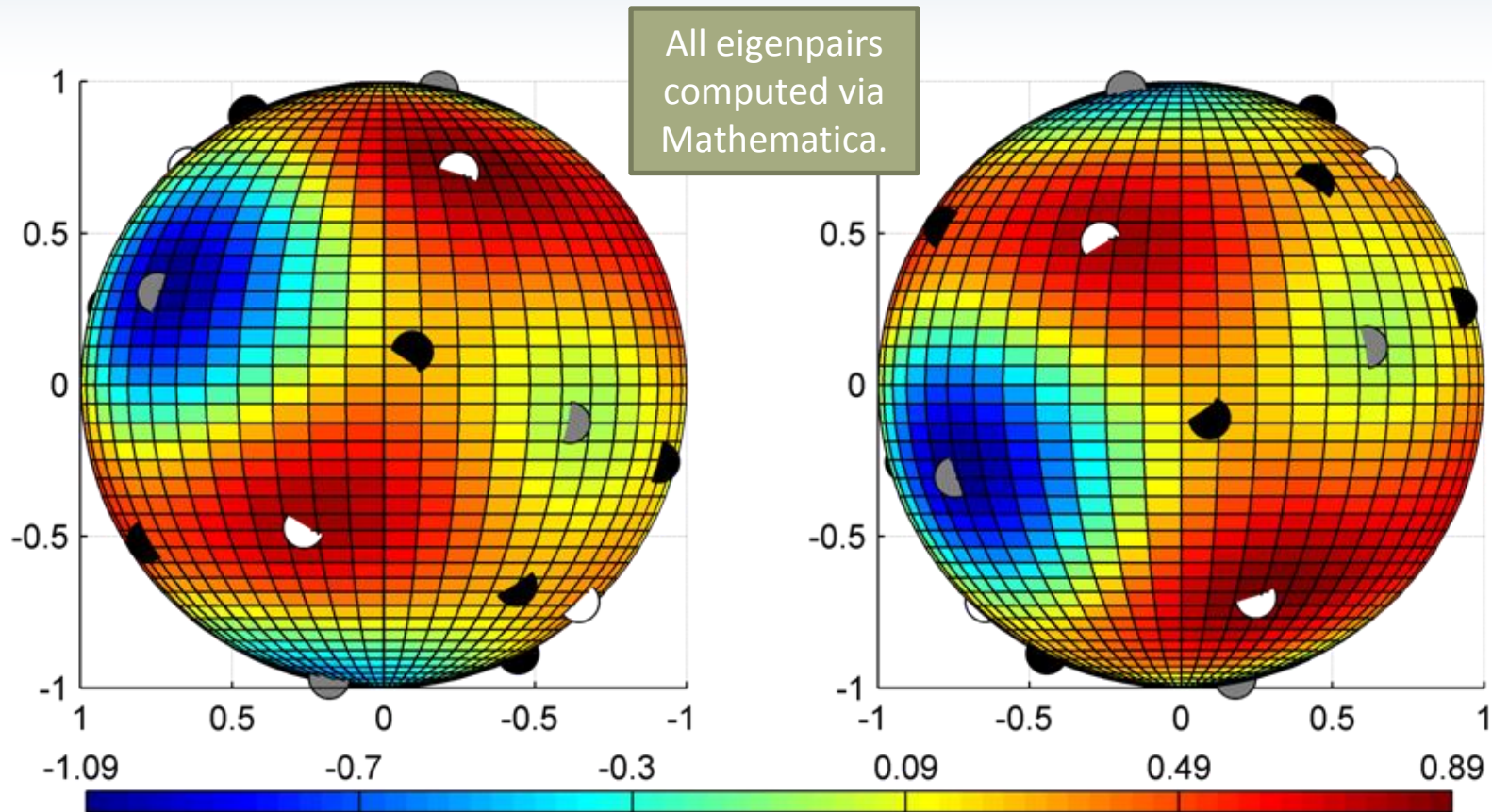
*Positive values of  $\alpha$  lead to local minima.*



*Larger values of  $\alpha$  slow convergence.*

*Some eigenvectors never have a spectral radius less than one;  
SS-HOPM cannot find those eigenvectors.*

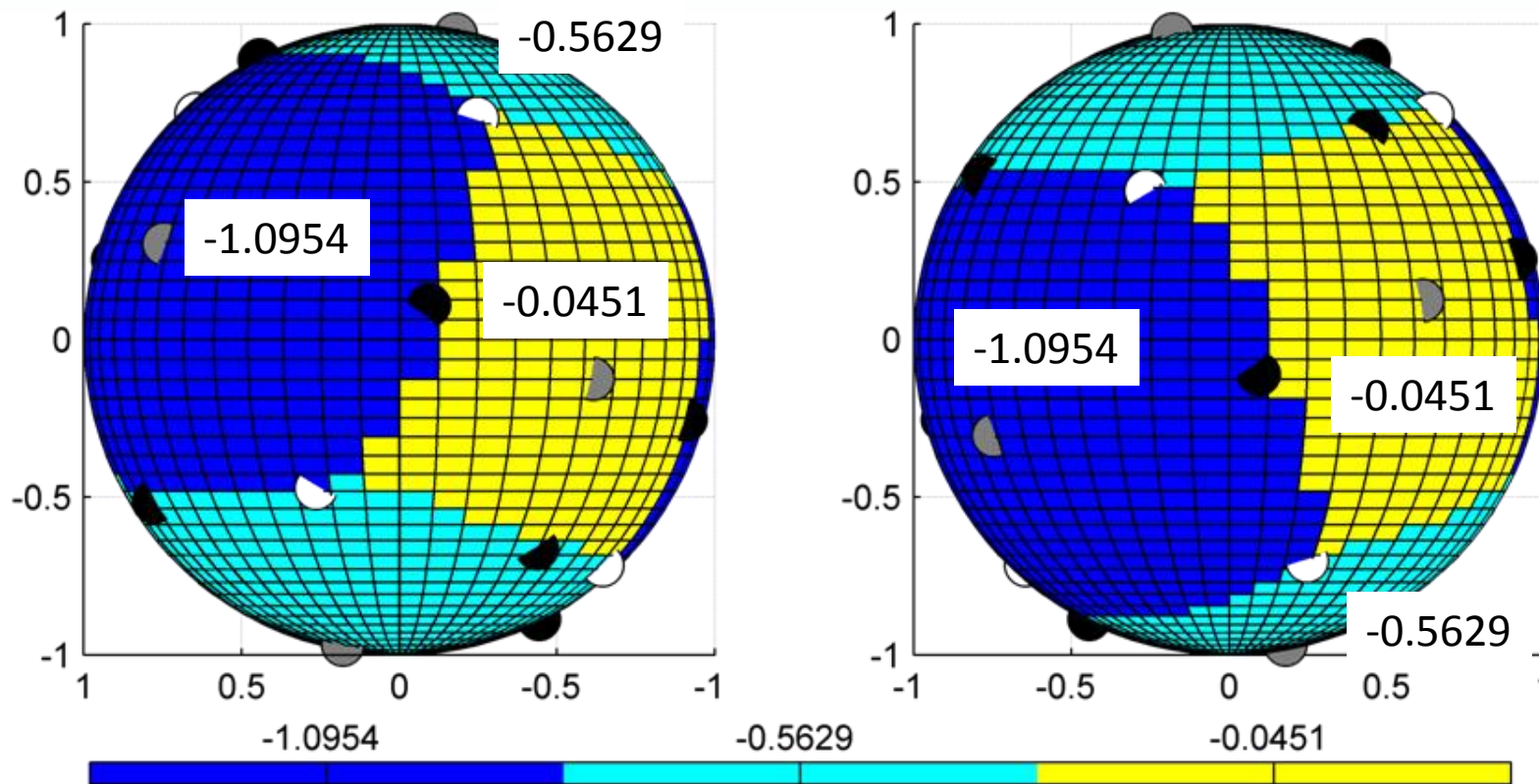
# Visualization of Eigenvectors



White = Local Max, Gray = Local Min, Black = Saddle Point

# Basins of Attraction for $\alpha = -2$

Limit points correspond to local minima of function.



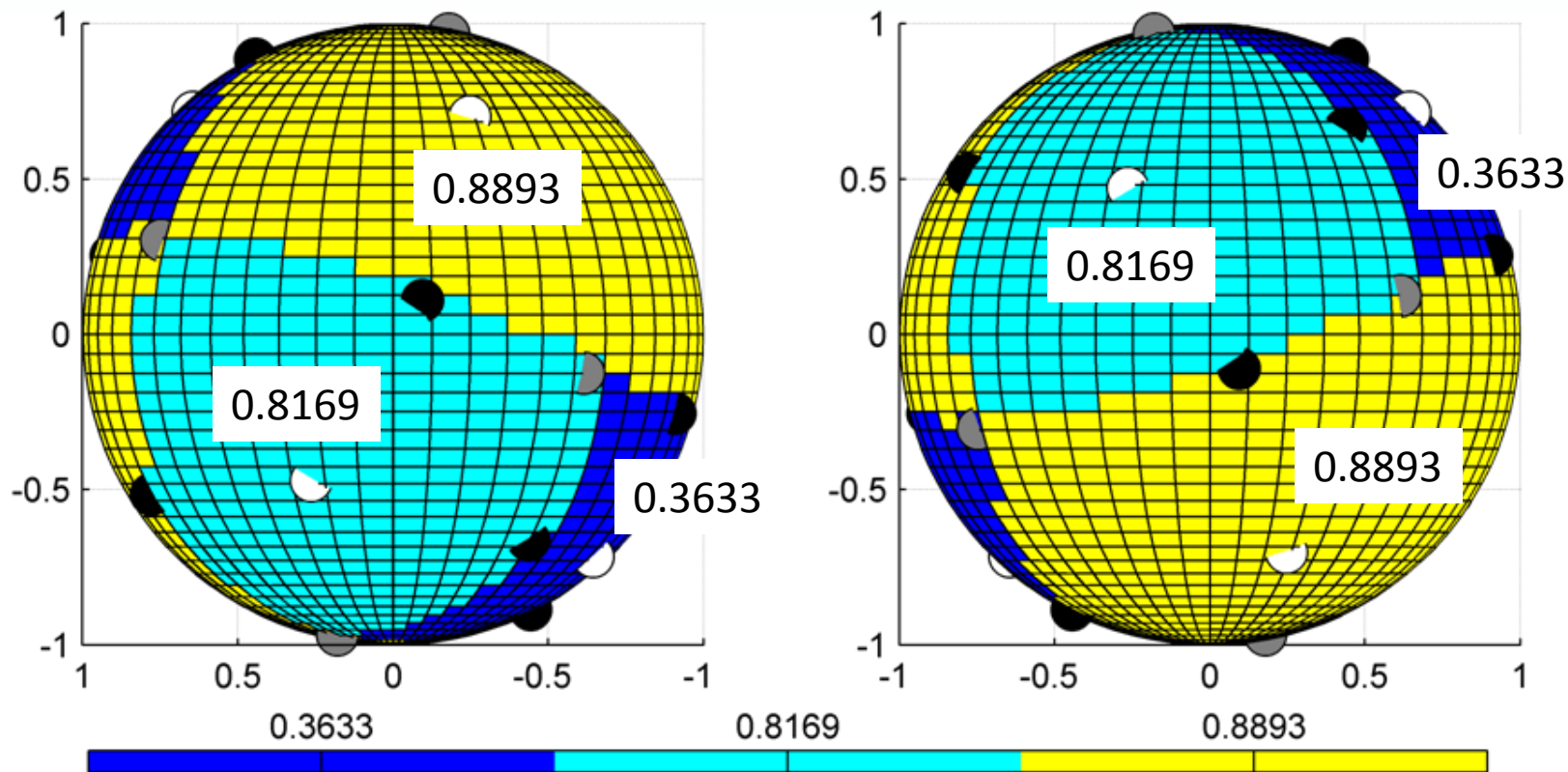
White = Local Max, Gray = Local Min,  
Black = Saddle Point

Occurrences	$\lambda$
15	-0.0451
40	-0.5629
45	-1.0954



# Basins of Attraction for $\alpha = 2$

Limit points correspond to local maxima of function.

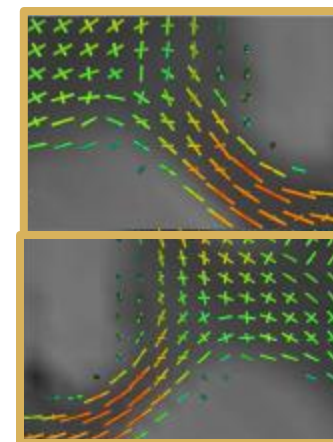
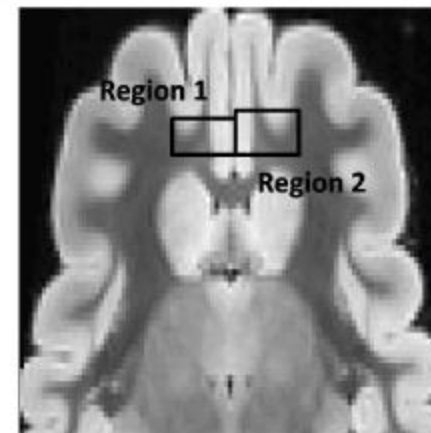


White = Local Max, Gray = Local Min,  
Black = Saddle Point

Occurrences	$\lambda$
46	0.8893
24	0.8169
30	0.3633

# Application to Brain Imaging

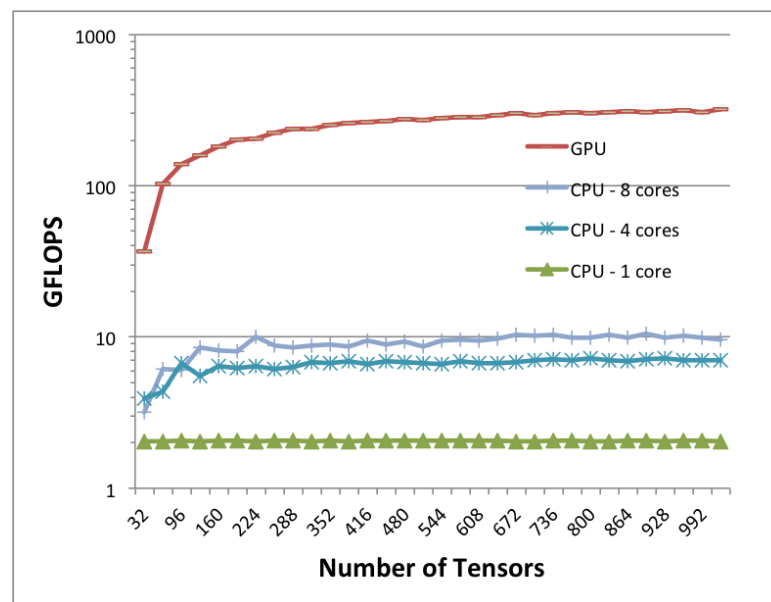
- Diffusion Tensor MRI (DT-MRI) is generally used to infer white matter connectivity in the brain
  - Limited resolution
  - Reduces to an eigenproblem
- High Angular Resolution Diffusion Imaging (HARDI)
  - Higher resolution
  - Reduces to a tensor problem
- U. Utah: F. Jiao, Y. Gur, C. Johnson, S. Joshi, *Detection of Crossing White Matter Fibers with High-Order Tensors and Rank-k Decompositions*, In Proc. Information Processing in Medical Imaging (IPMI), 2011
  - Focus on challenge of small crossing angle, a.k.a., high congruence
- Thanks to Yaniv Gur and Fiang Jiao for providing us sample data



# SS-HOPM on a GPU gets 317 Gflops/s

- Motivating application
  - Diffusion-weighted MRI
  - Need to solve millions of 3x3x3 tensor eigen-problems
  - Use 128 starting vectors per tensor
- New storage format for symmetric tensors
  - Storage  $\sim (n^m) / m!$
  - Cost of  $\mathbf{Ax}^m \sim (n^m) / (m-1)!$
  - Cost of  $\mathbf{Ax}^{(m-1)} \sim (mn^m) / (m-1)!$
- GPU implementation
  - One “thread block” per tensor
  - One “thread” per starting point
  - Loop unrolling gives up to 20x speed-up

Compute Engine	Gflops/s
Intel Nahelem (1 core)	2.05 (9% peak)
Intel Nahelem (4 cores)	7.07 (8% peak)
nVidia Tesla 2050 (Fermi) 16 streaming multiprocessors (SMPs) 32 cores per SMP	317.83 (31% peak)

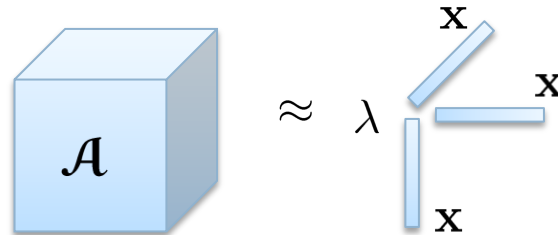




# But... Brain Imaging Application Actually Needs Best Sym. Rank- $K$ Approximation

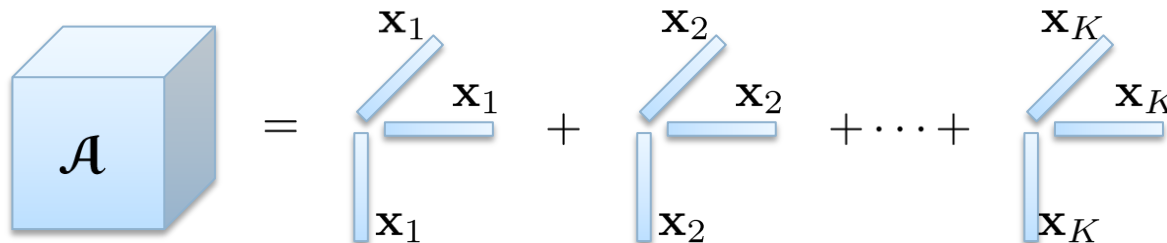
## Best Symmetric Rank-1 Approximation

$$\min \|\mathcal{A} - \lambda \mathbf{x} \circ \mathbf{x} \circ \cdots \circ \mathbf{x}\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$$



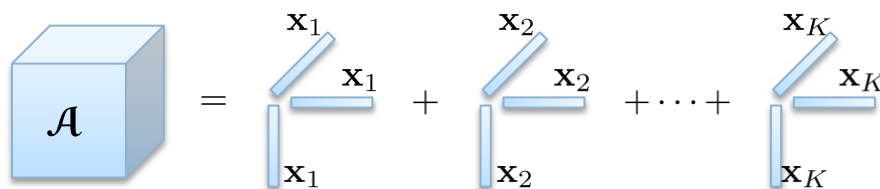
## Best Symmetric Rank- $K$ Approximation

$$\min \|\mathcal{A} - \sum_k \lambda_k \mathbf{x}_k \circ \mathbf{x}_k \circ \cdots \circ \mathbf{x}_k\|^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{x}_k\| = 1 \forall k$$



# Optimization Formulation

$$\mathcal{A} = \sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{x}_k \circ \mathbf{x}_k \circ \mathbf{x}_k = [\![\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}]\!]$$



## Objective Function

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{X}) &= \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{A} - [\![\mathbf{X}, \dots, \mathbf{X}]\!]\|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{A}\|^2 - \sum_{k=1}^K \mathcal{A} \mathbf{x}_k^m + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^K (\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j)^m \end{aligned}$$

## Gradient

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}_k} = -m \mathcal{A} \mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} + m \sum_{i=1}^K (\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_k)^{(m-1)} \mathbf{x}_i$$

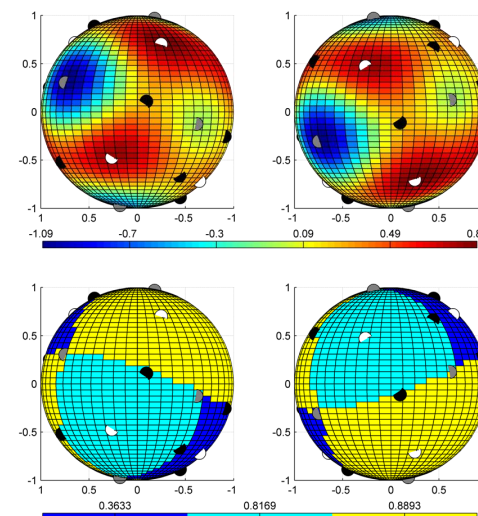
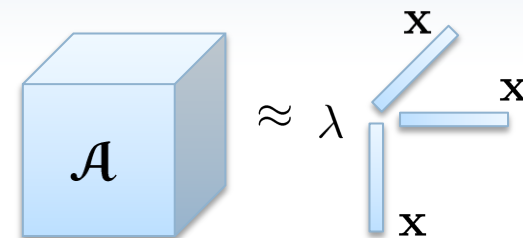
## Gradient in Matrix Format

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{X}) = -m \mathbf{A}_{(1)} \underbrace{(\mathbf{X} \odot \mathbf{X} \odot \dots \odot \mathbf{X})}_{(m-1) \text{ times}} + m \mathbf{X} (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X})^{[m-1]}$$

- Direct optimization
  - Motivated by CP-OPT and similar approaches
- Benefits
  - Can use any optimization method (we use NCG)
  - Extensible to higher-order methods
- Disadvantages
  - Can require extensive parameter tuning
  - May converge to local minimum

# Conclusions and Future Work

- SS-HOPM is a convergent method for finding tensor eigenvalues
  - Corresponds to best symmetric rank-1 approximation problem
  - There is also a version for finding complex eigenpairs
  - **PROS**: Easily implemented, parallelized
  - **CONS**: Cannot find *all* real eigenpairs
- More generally interested in best symmetric rank- $K$  approximation
  - See talk from Householder 2011



For more info: Tammy Kolda, [tgkolda@sandia.gov](mailto:tgkolda@sandia.gov)

Kolda and Mayo, *Shifted Power Method for Computing Tensor Eigenpairs*, SIMAX (to appear)  
 Ballard, Kolda, and Plantenga, *Efficiently Computing Tensor Eigenvalues on a GPU*, PDSEC-11

# Backup Slides

Interesting result  
because operating on  
unit sphere which is  
not convex.

# S-HOPM Analysis

Kofidis and Regalia (2002)

- Theorem: S-HOPM  $\lambda_k$  converges to eigenvalue if  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is convex or concave on unit ball
- Key Lemma: Assume  $f(\mathbf{x})$  convex on unit ball and let  $\mathbf{v}$  be such that  $\|\mathbf{v}\|=1$ .
  - If  $\mathbf{w} = \nabla f(\mathbf{v}) / \|\nabla f(\mathbf{v})\|$
  - Then  $f(\mathbf{w}) \geq f(\mathbf{v})$
- Importance: If  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is convex, then S-HOPM has  $\lambda_{k+1} \geq \lambda_k$  for all  $k$

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & f(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1 \end{aligned}$$

## S-HOPM

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} / \|\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1}\|$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^m$$

Assumes  $m$  even.

Let  $l = m/2$ .

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^m = \underbrace{(\mathbf{x} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{x})}_{l \text{ times}}^T \mathbf{A} \underbrace{(\mathbf{x} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{x})}_{l \text{ times}}$$

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{I} \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{x} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{x}}_{l-1 \text{ times}})^T \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{I} \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{x} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{x}}_{l-1 \text{ times}})$$


# Forcing Convexity with a Shift

A quadratic function is convex if all the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$  are positive (and concave if all are negative).

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & f(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} & \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1 \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ll} \max & \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathbf{x}^T (\mathbf{A} + \alpha \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{x} \\ \text{s.t.} & \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1 \end{array}$$

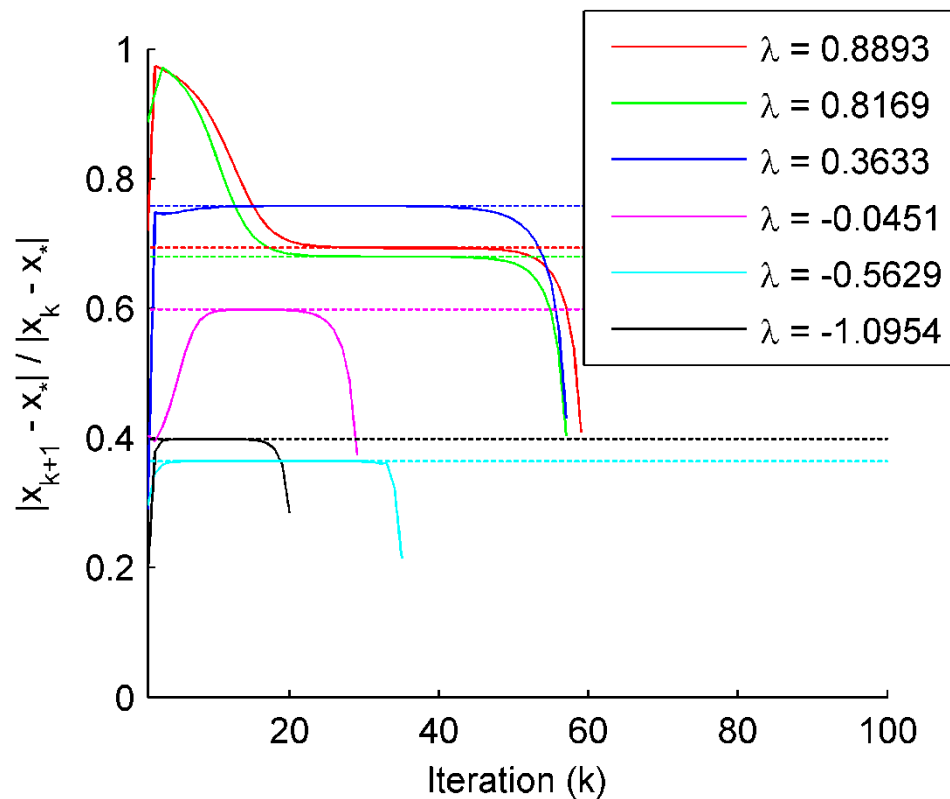
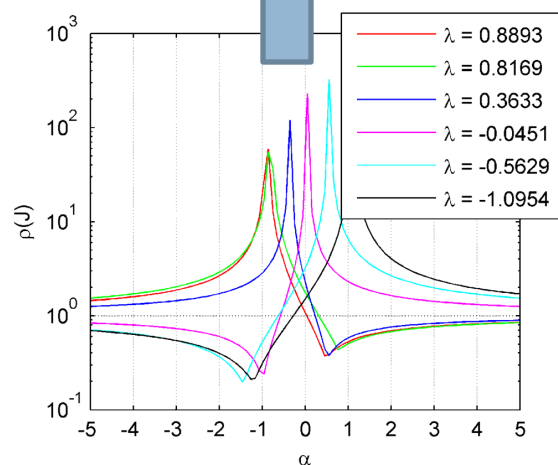
An analogue for even-order tensors:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & f(\mathbf{x}) \equiv \mathcal{A} \mathbf{x}^m \\ \text{s.t.} & \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1 \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{ll} \max & \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \equiv (\mathcal{A} + \alpha \mathcal{E}) \mathbf{x}^m \\ \text{s.t.} & \|\mathbf{x}\| = 1 \end{array}$$

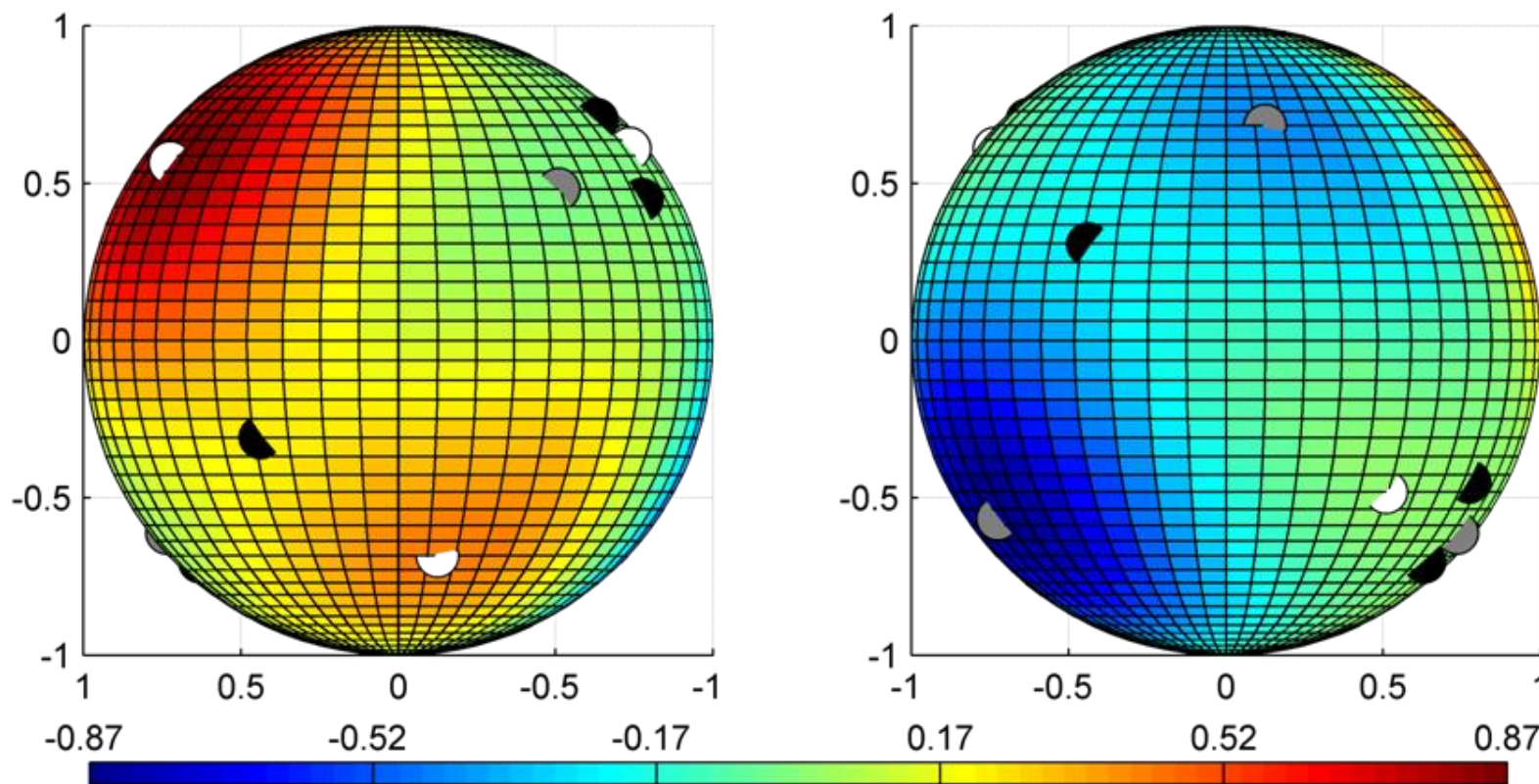
 Identity Tensor  
 $\mathcal{E} \mathbf{x}^{m-1} = \mathbf{x} \quad \forall \mathbf{x}$

# Rate of Convergence

The rate of convergence is given by the spectral radius of the Jacobian.



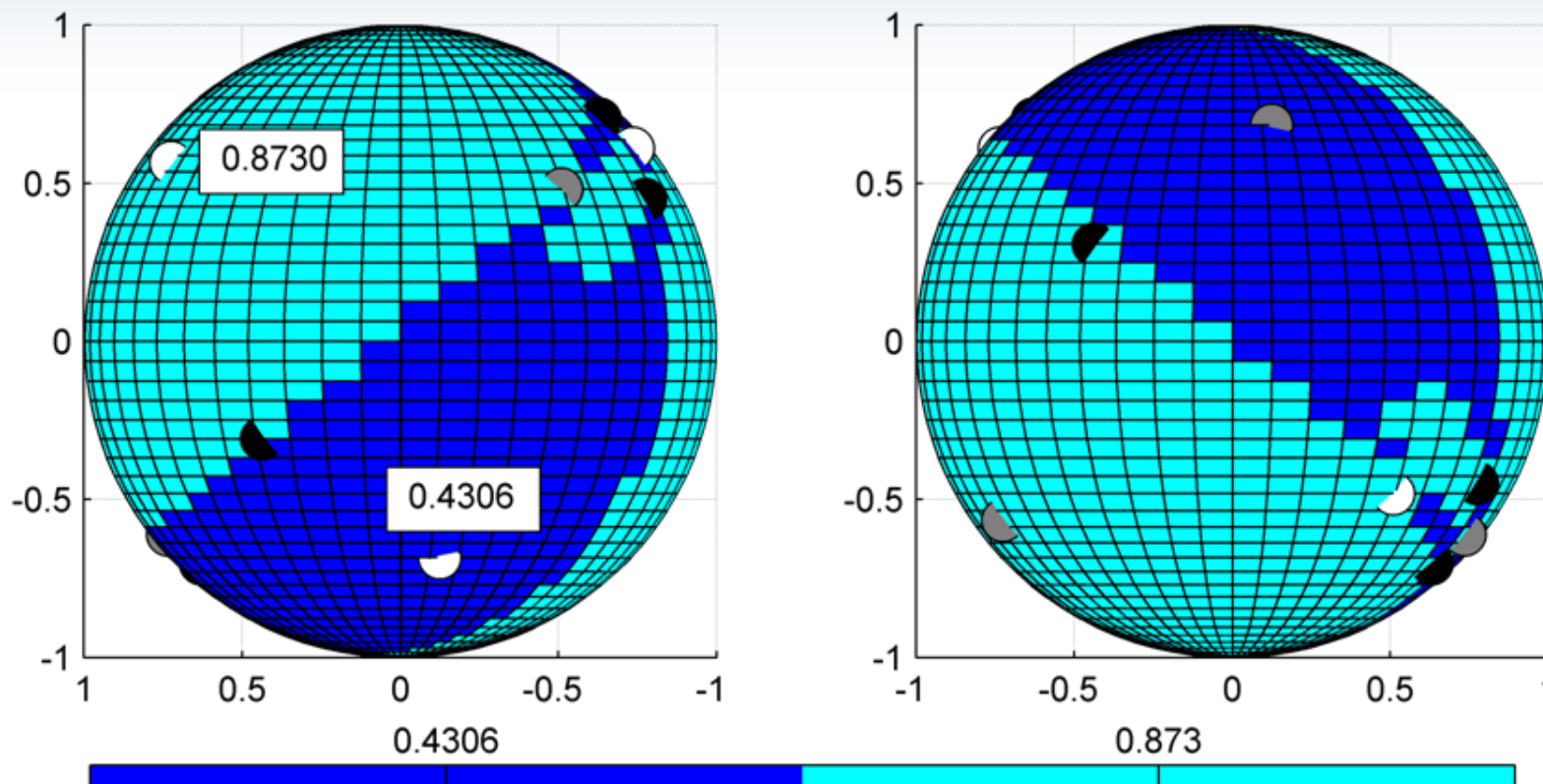
# Third-Order Example



White = Local Max, Gray = Local Min, Black = Saddle Point



# Jacobian explains Convergence

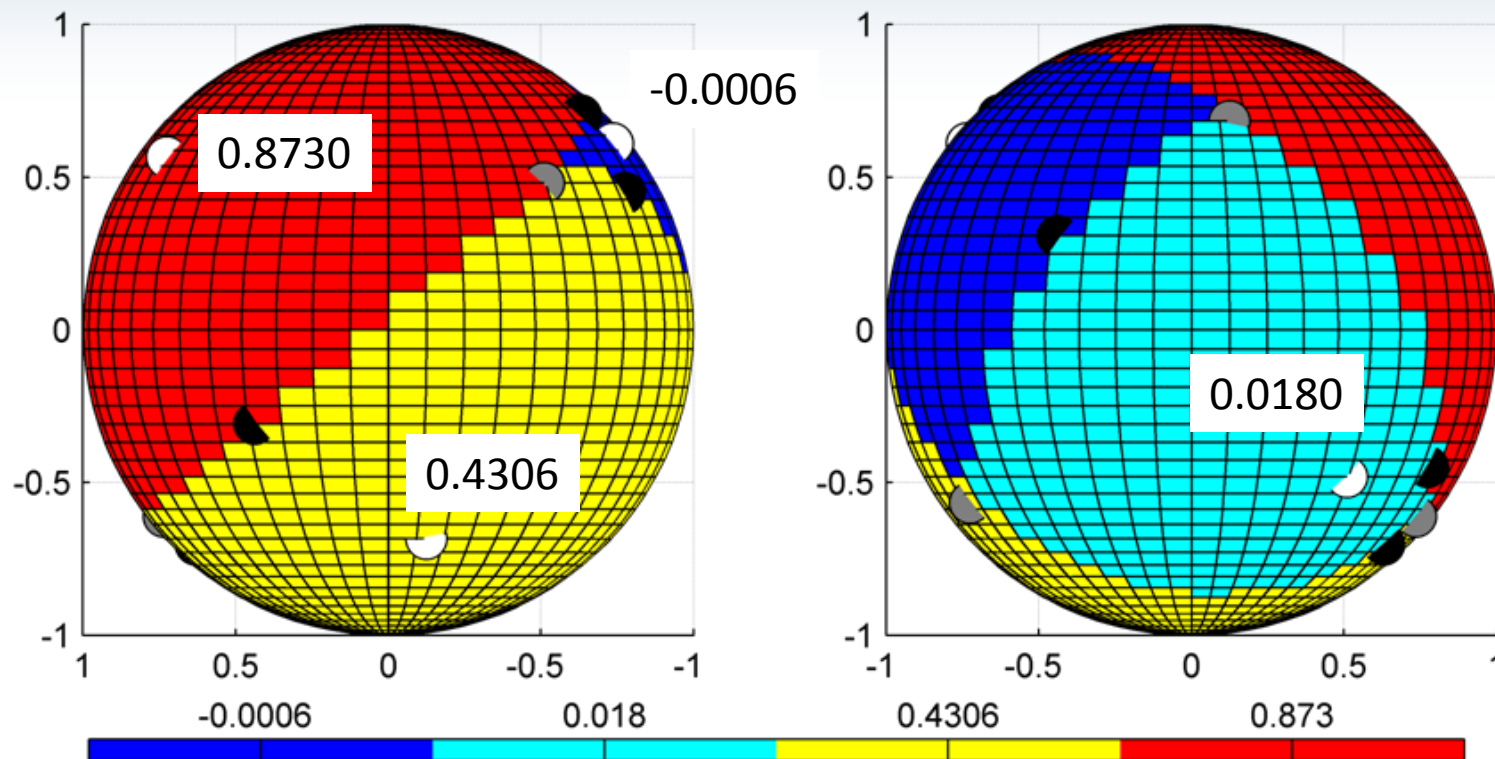


White = Local Max,  
Gray = Local Min,  
Black = Saddle Point

## 100 Random Starts

Occurrences	Lambda	Median Its.
62	0.8730	19
38	0.4306	184

# Basins of Attraction for $\alpha = 1$



White = Local Max,  
Gray = Local Min,  
Black = Saddle Point

100 Random Starts

Occurrences	Lambda	Median Its
40	0.8730	32
29	0.4306	48
18	0.0180	116
13	-0.0006	145

# Relationship to Matrix Power Method

## Symmetric Power Method

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k / \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_k\|$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_{k+1}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{k+1}$$

Adding a shift moves the eigenvalues, potentially altering which eigenvalue is largest in magnitude.

$$\mathbf{A} \leftarrow \mathbf{A} + \alpha \mathbf{I}$$

$$\lambda_j \leftarrow \lambda_j + \alpha$$

Jacobian of fixed point operator at  $(\lambda_j, \mathbf{x}_j)$  has eigenvalues:

$$\{0\} \cup \left\{ \frac{\lambda_i + \alpha}{\lambda_j + \alpha} : 1 \leq i \leq n \text{ with } i \neq j \right\}$$

Can only possibly have spectral radius less than one for largest or smallest eigenvalue.

# Complex Tensor Eigenpairs

Qi (2005), Lim (2005)

Definition: Assume  $\mathcal{A}$  is a symmetric  $m^{\text{th}}$  order  $n$ -dimensional real-valued tensor. We say that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  is an **eigenvalue** if there exists  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  such that

$$\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}^\dagger \mathbf{x} = 1.$$

The vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is called the **eigenvector**.

*Eigenpairs are not “unique” but define an equivalence class:*

$$\mathcal{A}(e^{i\varphi}\mathbf{x})^{m-1} = e^{i(m-1)\varphi}\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}^{m-1} = e^{i(m-1)\varphi}\lambda\mathbf{x} = (e^{i(m-2)\varphi}\lambda)(e^{i\varphi}\mathbf{x})$$

Theorem: # of distinct eigenvalues (real and complex) is exactly  $((m-1)^n - 1)/(m-2)$   
Cartwright/Sturmfels 2010

For  $m = 3$  and  $n = 4$ , we should have 7 distinct eigenvalues.

# Complex SS-HOPM

## Complex SS-HOPM

For  $k = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1} = \frac{\mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_k^{m-1} + \alpha\mathbf{x}_k}{\lambda_k + \alpha}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1}}{\|\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{k+1}\|}$$

$$\lambda_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_{k+1}^\dagger \mathcal{A}\mathbf{x}_{k+1}^{m-1}$$

$ \lambda $	$\alpha = 2$	$\alpha = 2^{1/2}(1+i)$
1.0954	18	22
0.8893	18	15
0.8169	21	12
0.6694	1	4
0.5629	22	16
0.3633	8	9
0.0451	12	20

