

Three equivalent definitions of the ML-degree $\phi(n, d)$

- $\phi(n,d)$ is the maximum likelihood degree of the linear concentration model defined by a generic d-dimensional linear subspace of $\operatorname{Sym}^2 \mathbb{R}^n$.
- $\phi(n,d)$ is the degree of the variety obtained by inverting all matrices in a general *d*-dimensional linear subspace of $\operatorname{Sym}^2 \mathbb{C}^n$.
- $\phi(n,d)$ is the number smooth quadric hypersurfaces in \mathbb{P}^{n-1} containing $\binom{n+1}{2} d$ given points and are tangent to (d-1) given hyperplanes.

$$\psi_{\lambda} = \sum_{\nu} \begin{vmatrix} \lambda_{1}+k-1\\ \nu_{1}+k-1\\ \lambda_{2}+k-2\\ \nu_{1}+k-1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{1}+k-1\\ \nu_{2}+k-2\\ \lambda_{2}+k-2\\ \nu_{2}+k-2 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{1}+k-1\\ \nu_{k}\\ \lambda_{2}+k-2\\ \nu_{k} \end{vmatrix} \\ \mathbf{I} \qquad \mathbf{I} \qquad \mathbf{I} \qquad \mathbf{I} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{k}\\ \nu_{1}+k-1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{k}\\ \nu_{2}+k-2 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{k}\\ \nu_{k} \end{pmatrix} \end{vmatrix}$$

Idea of the proof

- Degeneration class $\delta_k := [S_k] \in A^1(\Phi)$, where $S_k := \{ (M_1, \dots, M_{n-1}) \in \Phi \mid \operatorname{rk}(M_k) = 1 \}.$
- Using $2\mu_k = \mu_{k-1} + \delta_k + \mu_{k+1}$: suffices to compute $\mu_1^a \mu_{n-1}^b \delta_k$ for $a + b = \binom{n+1}{2} 2$.
- The Chow ring A(Gr(k, n)) is a quotient of the ring of symmetric functions.

Complete quadrics and algebraic statistics

Tim Seynnaeve

Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in Sciences, Leipzig

A formula for

Define ψ_{λ} as the coefficients in the Schur decom $H_{\ell}(x_i + x_j \mid 1 \le i \le j \le k) =$

where H_{ℓ} is the complete homogeneous symmet

$$\phi(n,d) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} k\left(\sum_{\lambda} \psi_{\lambda} \psi_{\widetilde{\lambda}}\right),$$

where $\lambda \vdash d$

• Pushforward along $\pi: S_k \to Gr(k, V)$: suffices to compute $\pi_*(\mu_1^a \mu_{n-1}^b) \in A(Gr(k, n))$.

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Complete quadrics

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Polynomiality and computations

Using our formula, and recursive relations between the ψ_{λ} , we can prove the following: For fixed d, $\phi(n, d)$ is a polynomial in n, of degree d - 1. Moreover, we have an algorithm for computing these polynomials. While previously, only the cases $d \leq 5$ were known, our algorithm can compute $\phi(n, d)$ for $d \leq 47$ in ≤ 5 minutes. For instance:



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Complete quadrics and algebraic statistics

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A formula for $\phi(n, d)$

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where H_{ℓ} is the complete homogeneous symmetric polynomial of degree ℓ . Then

$$\phi(n,d) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} k\left(\sum_{\lambda} \psi_{\lambda} \psi_{\widetilde{\lambda}}\right),$$

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