

# Deterministic Conditions for Subspace Identifiability from Incomplete Sampling

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Nigel Boston and Robert Nowak

University of Wisconsin-Madison

ISIT, 2015

# Outline

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ What changes with missing data?
- ▶ Subspace Identifiability Problem
- ▶ Setup
- ▶ The Answer
- ▶ Application
- ▶ Conclusions



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# Introduction

We have lots of data



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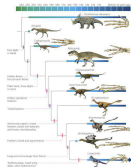
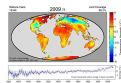
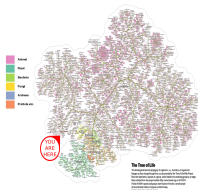
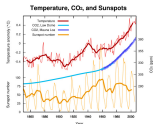
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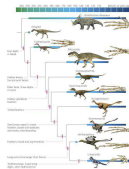
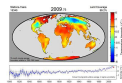
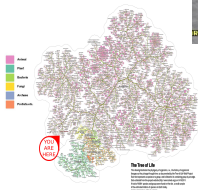
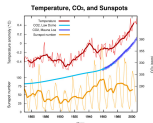
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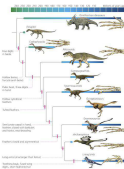
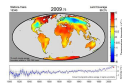
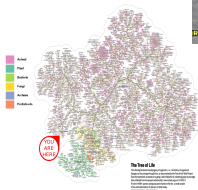
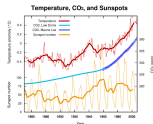
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We have lots of data



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We have lots of data



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And we want to analyze it.

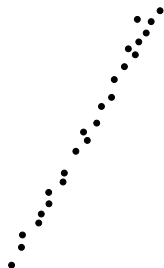
# Introduction

Linear Algebra is one of our favorite tools.

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- ▶ Because data is often well-modeled by linear structures.

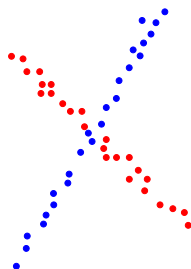


$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & 9 & 6 & 3 & 9 & 3 & 6 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & 9 & 6 & 3 & 9 & 3 & 6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Introduction

Linear Algebra is one of our favorite tools.

- ▶ Because data is often well-modeled by linear structures.
- ▶ Or unions of linear structures.



1	4	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	1
2	4	2	6	3	2	2	2	4	1
3	4	3	9	3	3	2	3	6	1
1	8	1	3	6	1	4	1	2	2
2	8	2	6	6	2	4	2	4	2
3	8	3	9	6	3	4	3	6	2

# Introduction

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- Example: Vision.

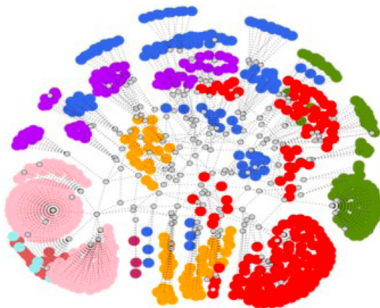


Image: Hopkins 155 Dataset

# Introduction

Often data is missing!

- Other example: Network topology estimation

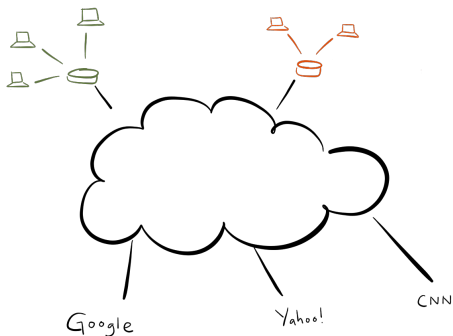




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$$\text{monitors} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 1 & 2 & \cdot \\ 2 & \cdot & 2 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & 4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & \cdot & 9 & \cdot & 3 & 6 & \cdot \\ 1 & \cdot & 1 & 3 & 6 & \cdot & 4 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ \cdot & 8 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 4 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & 8 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 4 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right.$$

IP's

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- ▶ Other example: Network topology estimation

$$\text{monitors} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 1 & 2 & \cdot \\ 2 & \cdot & 2 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & 4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & \cdot & 9 & \cdot & 3 & 6 & \cdot \\ 1 & \cdot & 1 & 3 & 6 & \cdot & 4 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ \cdot & 8 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 4 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & 8 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 4 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right.$$

IP's

- ▶ We still want to analyze these datasets.

# Introduction

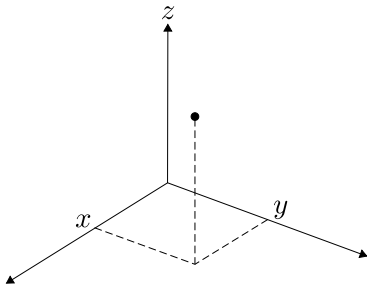
- ▶ We want to understand how things change when data is missing.

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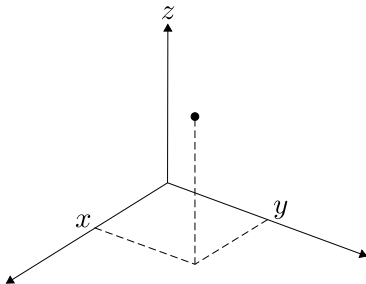
# What changes with missing data?

Say I give you one datapoint.



# What changes with missing data?

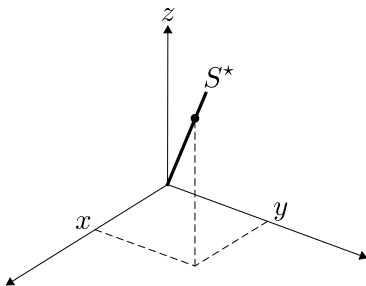
Say I give you one datapoint.



And I tell you it lies in a 1-dimensional subspace  $S^*$ .

## What changes with missing data?

Then you can uniquely identify  $S^*$ .





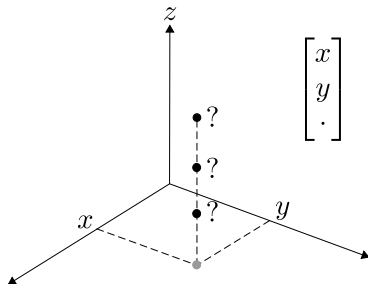
# What changes with missing data?

But what if data is missing?

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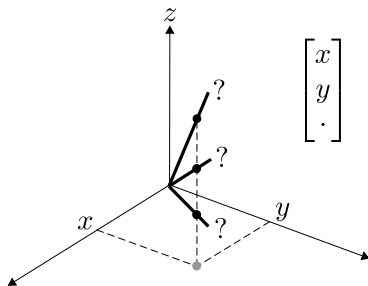
But what if data is missing?

- Say I give you a point *without* the  $z$  coordinate.



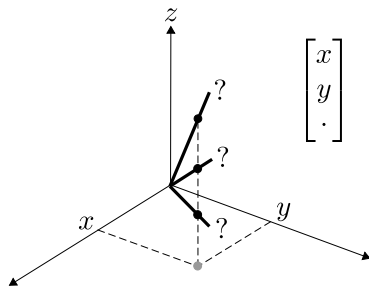
## What changes with missing data?

Then we cannot uniquely identify  $S^*$ .



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Then we cannot uniquely identify  $S^*$ .



There are infinitely many *possible* subspaces.

## What changes with missing data?

Nevertheless, all those *possible* subspaces must satisfy one very important condition!

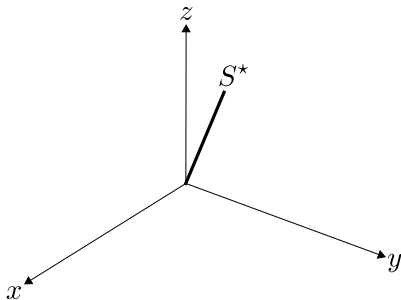


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# Subspace Identifiability Problem

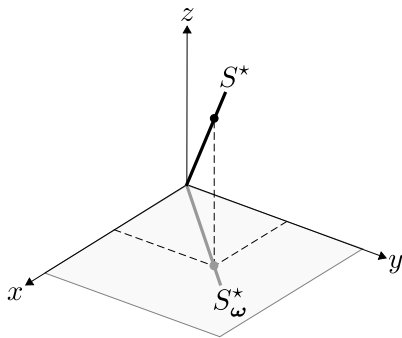
$S^* := r$ -dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $r < d$ .





# Subspace Identifiability Problem

$S_{\omega}^* :=$  Canonical projection of  $S^*$ .

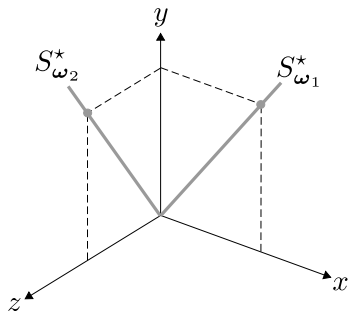


# Subspace Identifiability Problem

Suppose I don't tell you  $S^*$ ...

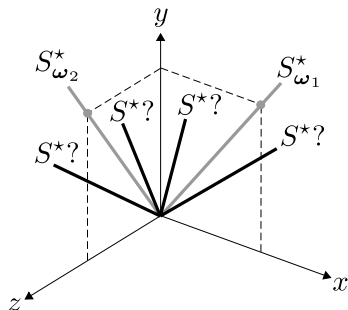
# Subspace Identifiability Problem

Suppose I don't tell you  $S^*$ ... but I give you a set of canonical projections of  $S^*$ .



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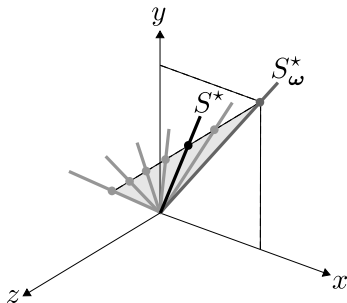


Can you uniquely determine  $S^*$  from this set of projections?

# Subspace Identifiability Problem

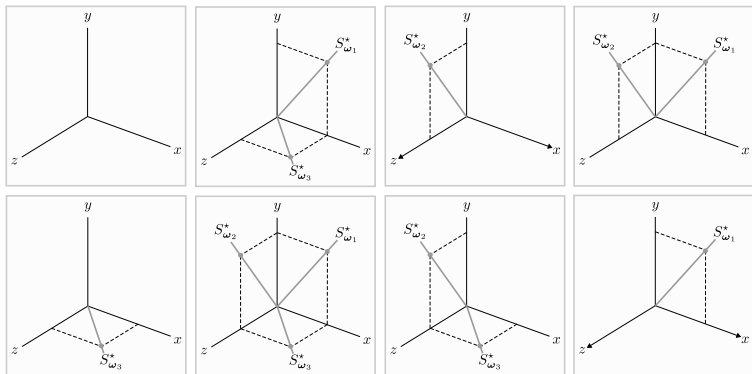
Is this even possible?

- There might be many subspaces that agree with the projections.



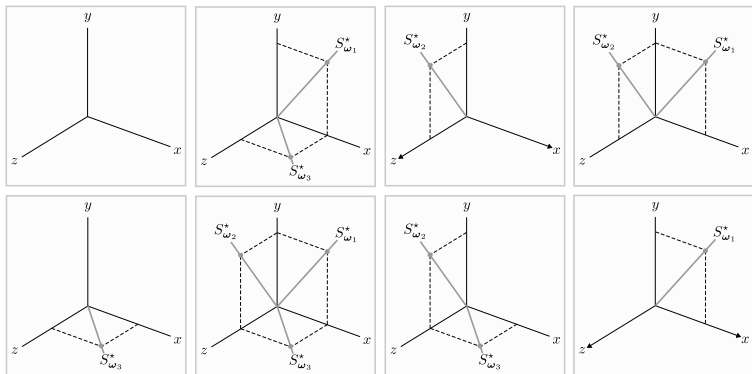
# Subspace Identifiability Problem

Well... sometimes you can, sometimes you can't.



# Subspace Identifiability Problem

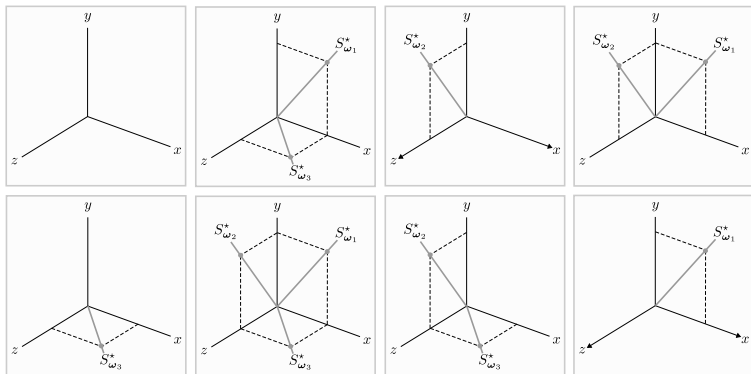
Well... sometimes you can, sometimes you can't.



Can you tell when?

# Subspace Identifiability Problem

Well... sometimes you can, sometimes you can't.



Can you tell when?

This is what we focused on: characterizing when can you identify  $S^*$  from its canonical projections.

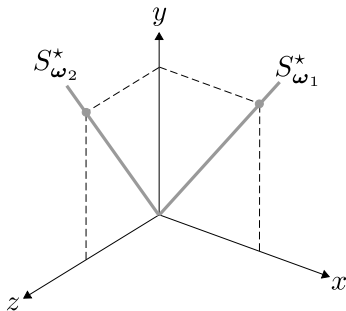


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## Setup

The columns of  $\Omega$  will index the given projections.



$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 & \omega_2 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Setup

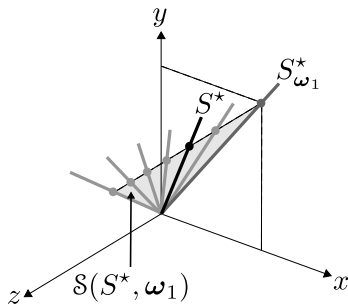
- ▶  $\text{Gr}(r, \mathbb{R}^d) :=$  Grassmannian manifold of  $r$ -dimensional subspaces in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

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## Setup

- For any matrix  $\Omega'$  formed with a subset of the columns in  $\Omega$ :

$$\Omega' = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{n(\Omega') := \# \text{columns}} \left. \vphantom{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}} \right\} m(\Omega') := \# \text{nonzero rows}$$

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- $d - r$  projections are *necessary*, so we will assume w.l.o.g.

$$n(\Omega) = d - r.$$

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# The Answer

## Theorem (P.-A., Nowak, Boston, ISIT '15)

*For almost every  $S^*$ , with respect to the uniform measure over  $\text{Gr}(r, \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $S^*$  is the only subspace in  $\mathcal{S}(S^*, \mathbf{\Omega})$  if and only if for every matrix  $\mathbf{\Omega}'$  formed with a subset of the columns in  $\mathbf{\Omega}$ ,*

$$m(\mathbf{\Omega}') \geq n(\mathbf{\Omega}') + r.$$

## The Answer

For **almost every**  $S^\star$ , with respect to the uniform measure over  $\text{Gr}(r, \mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $S^\star$  is the only subspace in  $\mathcal{S}(S^\star, \Omega)$  if and only if for every matrix  $\Omega'$  formed with a subset of the columns in  $\Omega$ ,

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There is a set of measure zero of *bad* subspaces that we wouldn't identify.

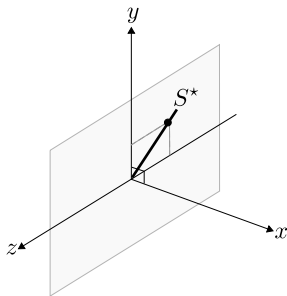
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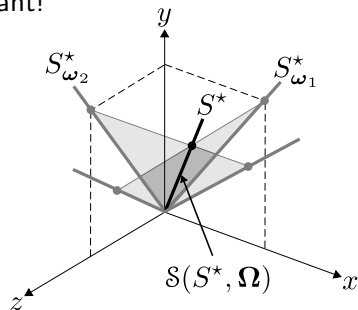
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---

This is what we want!



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Every subset of  $n$  columns of  $\Omega$  has at least  $n + r$  nonzero rows.

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This is the answer!

Every subset of  $n$  columns of  $\Omega$  has at least  $n + r$  nonzero rows.

$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{Check: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Application

Low-Rank Matrix Completion (LRMC)

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- ▶ Given a subset of entries in a rank  $r$  matrix, exactly recover *all* of the missing entries.

$$\mathbf{X}_{\Omega} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdot & 3 & \cdot \\ 1 & 2 & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & 2 & 3 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- ▶  $\sim$  Identifying the subspace spanned by the columns,  $S^*$ . Here

$$S^* = \text{span} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- Maybe the real completion is:

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And the real subspace is

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  - ▶ Sufficient, but not necessary condition.



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How do we know we got the right completion (subspace)?

Known results (e.g. Candès and Recht, '09)

- ▶ Require random observed entries.
  - ▶ May not be justified.
- ▶ Require incoherence
  - ▶ Sufficient, but not necessary condition.
  - ▶ Generally unverifiable or unjustified in practice.

# Application

How do we know we got the right completion (subspace)?

Known results (e.g. Candès and Recht, '09)

- ▶ Require random observed entries.
  - ▶ May not be justified.
- ▶ Require incoherence
  - ▶ Sufficient, but not necessary condition.
  - ▶ Generally unverifiable or unjustified in practice.
- ▶ Work with high probability (if assumptions are met).

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What if these assumptions are not met? How can we validate a completion?

# Application

Then we use our theorem!

- ▶ It can be used to validate the output of *any* LRMC algorithm!

# Application

Say we have:

$$\mathbf{X}_{\Omega} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & 2 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 4 & \cdot \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 9 & 3 & \cdot & 6 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 3 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 2 & \cdot \\ 2 & 4 & \cdot & 6 & 4 & 2 & 6 & \cdot & 4 & 4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Application

Split  $\mathbf{X}_\Omega$  into:

$$\mathbf{X}_\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & 2 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 4 & \cdot \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 9 & 3 & \cdot & 6 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 3 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 2 & \cdot \\ 2 & 4 & \cdot & 6 & 4 & 2 & 6 & \cdot & 4 & 4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_1}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_2}}$

# Application

Split  $\mathbf{X}_\Omega$  into:

$$\mathbf{X}_\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} \color{red}{1} & \color{red}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{2} & \color{red}{1} & \cdot & \cdot & \color{blue}{2} & \color{blue}{2} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \color{blue}{4} & \cdot \\ \color{red}{3} & \color{red}{6} & \color{red}{3} & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \color{red}{9} & \color{blue}{3} & \cdot & \color{blue}{6} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{1} & \color{red}{3} & \cdot & \color{red}{1} & \cdot & \color{blue}{1} & \color{blue}{2} & \cdot \\ \color{red}{2} & \color{red}{4} & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \color{red}{4} & \color{red}{2} & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \color{blue}{4} & \color{blue}{4} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{3} & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \color{blue}{6} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\color{red}{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_1}}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\color{blue}{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_2}}}$

Such that  $\Omega_2$  satisfies the subspace identifiability condition.

## Application

Use  $\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_1}$  to identify a candidate subspace  $\hat{S}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \color{red}{1} & \color{red}{2} & \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{2} & \color{red}{1} & \cdot & \cdot & \color{blue}{2} & \color{blue}{2} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \color{blue}{4} & \cdot \\ \color{red}{3} & \color{red}{6} & \color{red}{3} & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \color{red}{9} & \color{blue}{3} & \cdot & \color{blue}{6} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{1} & \color{red}{3} & \cdot & \color{red}{1} & \cdot & \color{blue}{1} & \color{blue}{2} & \cdot \\ \color{red}{2} & \color{red}{4} & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \color{red}{4} & \color{red}{2} & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \color{blue}{4} & \color{blue}{4} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \color{red}{3} & \cdot & \color{red}{6} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \color{blue}{6} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\color{red}{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_1}}}$   
 $\Downarrow$   
 $\color{red}{\hat{S}}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\color{blue}{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_2}}}$



# Application

If  $\hat{S}$  is compatible with  $\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_2}$ , then  $\hat{S} = S^*$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccccccccc} 1 & 2 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & 1 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & 2 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 4 & \cdot \\ 3 & 6 & 3 & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & 9 & 3 & \cdot & 6 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 1 & 3 & \cdot & 1 & \cdot & 1 & 2 & \cdot \\ 2 & 4 & \cdot & 6 & 4 & 2 & 6 & \cdot & 4 & 4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & 3 & \cdot & 6 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 6 \end{array} \right]$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_1}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\mathbf{X}_{\Omega_2}}$

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- ▶ Work for arbitrary observation schemes.
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  - ▶ No incoherence assumption required.
- ▶ Hold with probability 1.

# Outline

- ▶ Introduction ✓
- ▶ What changes with missing data? ✓
- ▶ Subspace Identifiability Problem ✓
- ▶ Setup ✓
- ▶ The Answer ✓
- ▶ Application ✓
- ▶ Conclusions

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Now we know that:

- ▶ It is possible to uniquely identify an  $r$ -dimensional subspace  $S^*$  from its projections onto  $\Omega$ .



# Conclusions

Now we know that:

- ▶ It is possible to uniquely identify an  $r$ -dimensional subspace  $S^*$  from its projections onto  $\Omega$ .
- ▶ If and only if every subset of  $n$  columns of  $\Omega$  has at least  $n + r$  nonzero rows.

Thanks.