

# Spectral Approximate Inference

Speaker: Sejun Park<sup>1</sup>

Joint work with Eunho Yang<sup>1,2</sup>, Se-Young Yun<sup>1</sup> and Jinwoo Shin<sup>1,2</sup>

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# Goal: Partition Function Approximation in GMs

Pairwise binary graphical model (GM) is a joint distribution, factorized by

- computer vision [Freeman et al., 2000], social science [Scott, 2017] and deep learning [Hinton et al., 2006]

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x}) \quad \mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n, \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^n, A \in \mathbb{S}^{n \times n}$$

Partition function  $Z$  is essential for inference, but it is **NP-hard even to approximate** [Jerrum, 1993]

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In theory,  $Z$  of only a few restricted classes of GM can be **approximated in polynomial time**

1. **Structured GMs:** e.g.,  $A$  is an adjacency matrix of tree/planar graphs [Temperley et al., 1961; Pearl, 1982]
2. **GMs with homogeneous parameters:** e.g.,  $A, \theta \geq 0$  [Jerrum, 1993; Li et al., 2013; Liu, 2018]
3. **GMs under correlation decay/tree uniqueness:** e.g.,  $\tanh |A_{ij}| \leq \frac{1}{\max_i |\{A_{ij} : A_{ij} \neq 0\}| - 1}$  [Li et al., 2013]

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$$Z = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x})$$

In practice, approximation algorithms **based on certain local structures/consistency** have been used

1. **Markov chain Monte Carlo**: e.g., annealed importance sampling [Neal, 2001]
2. **Variational inference**: e.g., belief propagation [Pearl, 1982], mean-field approximation [Parisi, 1988]
3. **Variable elimination**: e.g., minibucket [Dechter et al., 2003], weighted minibucket [Lie et al., 2011]

However, due to their local nature, they often **fails under large global correlation** (i.e., large  $A$ )

# Goal: Partition Function Approximation in GMs

Pairwise binary graphical model (GM) is a joint distribution, factorized by

- computer vision (Freeman et al., 2000), social science (Duch et al., 2011) and deep learning (Foster et al., 2008)

We study the **spectral properties** of the **parameter matrix  $A$**  for more robust approximate inference

1. **Markov chain Monte Carlo**: e.g., annealed importance sampling (Neal, 2001)
2. **Variational inference**: e.g., belief propagation (Pearl, 1982), mean-field approximation (Parisi, 1988)
3. **Variable elimination**: e.g., minbucket (Dechter et al., 2003), weighted minbucket (Liu et al., 2011)


However, due to their local nature, they often **fails under large global correlation** (i.e., large  $A$ )

# Spectral Approximate Inference for Low-Rank GMs

Provable approximate inference algorithm for low-rank GMs (low-rank  $A$ )

# Spectral Approximate Inference for Low-Rank GMs

Proposed algorithm using spectral properties of  $\mathbf{A}$  ( $\theta = 0, \text{rank}(A) = 1, A = \lambda \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T$ )


$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\lambda \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2) \end{aligned}$$


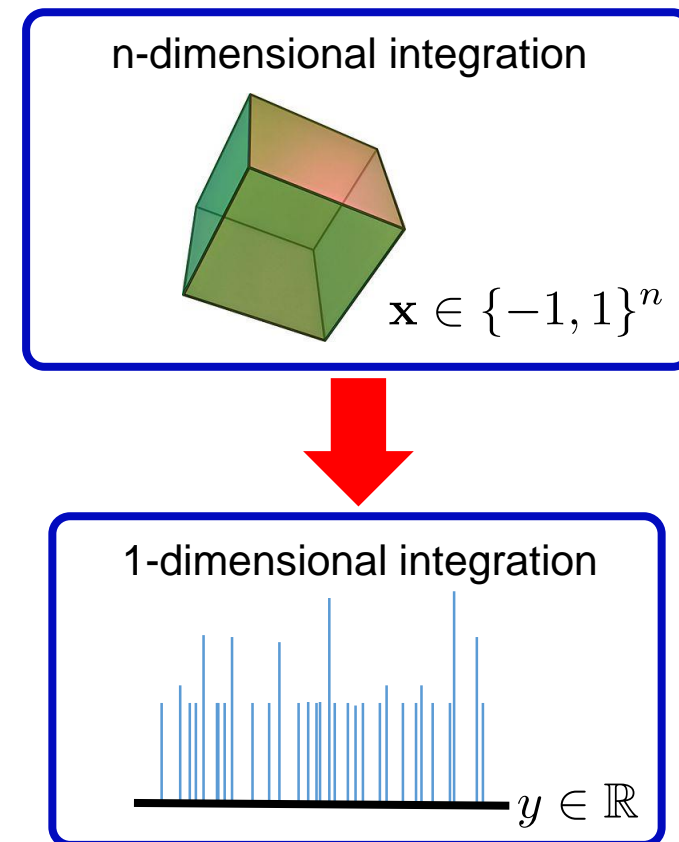
Eigenvalue decomposition

# Spectral Approximate Inference for Low-Rank GMs

Proposed algorithm using spectral properties of  $\mathbf{A}$  ( $\theta = 0, \text{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = 1, \mathbf{A} = \lambda \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}^T$ )

1. Transform the domain of integration from  $\mathbf{x}$  to  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle$  using the identity  $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \lambda \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2$

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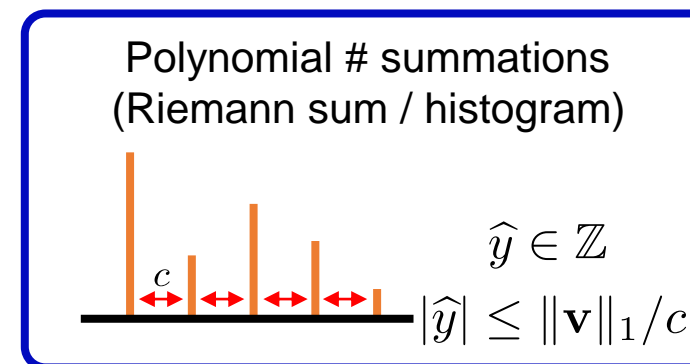
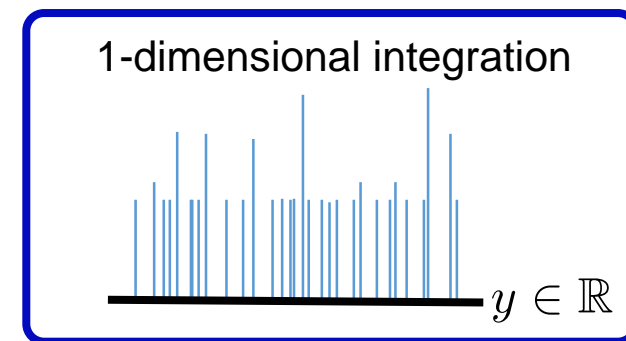


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2. Approximate 1-dimensional integration into a **polynomial number of summations** using histogram

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\lambda \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2) \\ &= \sum_{y = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle} |\{\mathbf{x} : y = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}| \exp(\lambda y^2) \\ &\approx \sum_{\hat{y} \in \mathbb{Z}: |\hat{y}| \leq \|\mathbf{v}\|_1 / c} |\{\mathbf{x} : c \cdot \hat{y} \approx \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}| \exp(\lambda \hat{y}^2) \end{aligned}$$




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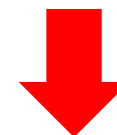
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2. Approximate 1-dimensional integration into a polynomial number of summations using histogram
3. Compute the weight of the histogram recursively

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\lambda \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2) \\ &= \sum_{y = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle} |\{\mathbf{x} : y = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}| \exp(\lambda y^2) \\ &\approx \sum_{\hat{y} \in \mathbb{Z}: |\hat{y}| \leq \|\mathbf{v}\|_1 / c} \underbrace{|\{\mathbf{x} : c \cdot \hat{y} \approx \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}|}_{\text{Weight of histogram}} \exp(\lambda \hat{y}^2) \end{aligned}$$

Weight of histogram

For  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'$  differing only at  $x_i = 1, x'_i = -1$

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle + 2v_i$$



$$t_i(\hat{y}) = t_{i-1}(\hat{y}) + t_{i-1}(\hat{y} - \lfloor 2v_i/c \rfloor)$$

$$t_i(\hat{y}) = |\{\mathbf{x} : c \cdot \hat{y} \approx \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle, x_j = -1 \forall j > i\}|$$

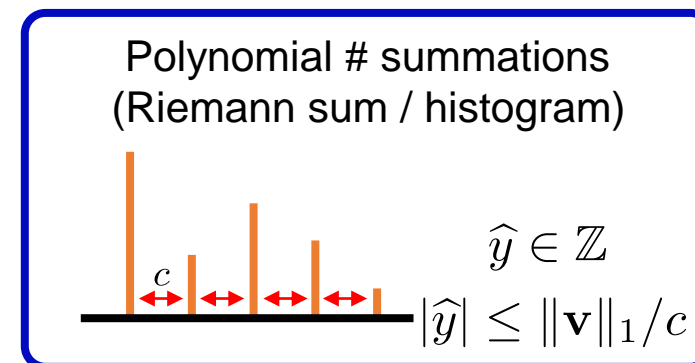
$$t_n(\hat{y}) = |\{\mathbf{x} : c \cdot \hat{y} \approx \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}|$$

# Spectral Approximate Inference for Low-Rank GMs

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2. Approximate 1-dimensional integration into a **polynomial number of summations** using histogram
3. Compute the **weight of the histogram recursively**
4. Compute the **approximated  $Z$**  from using the histogram

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1, 1\}^n} \exp(\lambda \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2) \\ &= \sum_{y = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle} |\{\mathbf{x} : y = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}| \exp(\lambda y^2) \\ &\approx \sum_{\hat{y} \in \mathbb{Z}: |\hat{y}| \leq \|\mathbf{v}\|_1 / c} |\{\mathbf{x} : c \cdot \hat{y} \approx \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{x} \rangle\}| \exp(\lambda \hat{y}^2) = \hat{Z} \end{aligned}$$



# Spectral Approximate Inference for Low-Rank GMs

## Proposed algorithm using spectral properties of $A$

- The procedure for rank-1 GMs **generalizes to arbitrary GMs** by considering the histogram of  $\text{rank}(A)$ -dimension

Theorem [Park et al., 2019]

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the algorithm outputs  $\hat{Z}$  such that

$$(1 - \varepsilon)Z \leq \hat{Z} \leq (1 + \varepsilon)Z$$

in  $(n/\varepsilon)^{O(\text{rank}(A))}$  time

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- The proposed algorithm is a **fully polynomial-time approximation scheme (FPTAS)** for  $\text{rank}(A) = O(1)$
- However, it is hard to use the algorithm for general GMs due to its complexity, exponential to  $\text{rank}(A)$

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**Next:** we propose an algorithm for **general high-rank GMs**

# Spectral Approximate Inference for High-Rank GMs

Approximation algorithm for general high-rank GMs

# Spectral Approximate Inference for High-Rank GMs

## Mean-field approximation

$$Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array}\right)_A \stackrel{\text{mean-field approximation}}{\approx} Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{red diagonal} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{red horizontal} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{yellow vertical} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{yellow horizontal} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \square \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{green vertical} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times Z\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{green horizontal} \\ \hline \end{array}\right)$$

rank-1 matrices



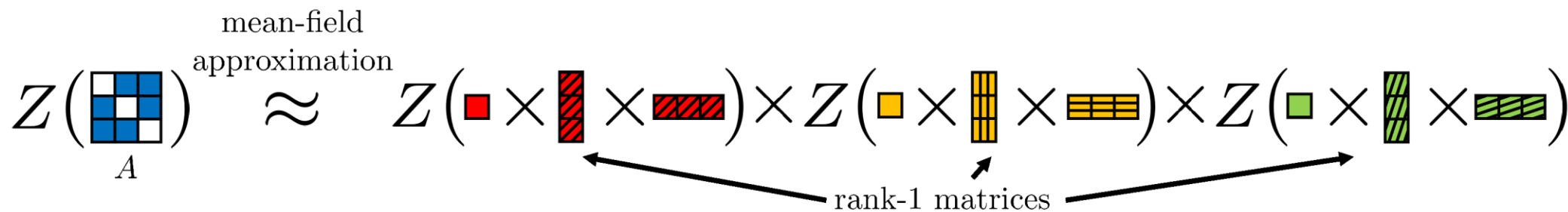
# Spectral Approximate Inference for High-Rank GMs

## Mean-field approximation

$$Z = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1,1\}^n} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x})$$

$$= 2^n \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \text{Uniform}(\{-1,1\}^n)} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x})$$

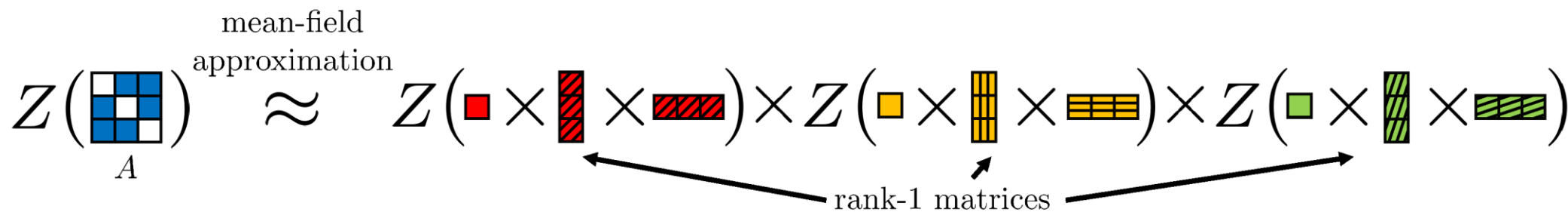
Transform summation into **expectation**



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# Spectral Approximate Inference for High-Rank GMs

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Mean-field approximation

$$\approx 2^n \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \text{Uniform}(\{-1,1\}^n)} \exp\left(\lambda_i \langle \mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2\right)$$

Product of rank-1 expectations

mean-field approximation

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rank-1 matrices

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Mean-field approximation

Product of rank-1 expectations

Controlling the mean-field approximation by varying the spectral property

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Mean-field approximation

Product of rank-1 expectations

## Controlling the mean-field approximation by varying the spectral property

Free parameter: diagonal matrix  $D$

$$Z(A) = \exp(-\text{trace}(D)) Z(A + D)$$

# Spectral Approximate Inference for High-Rank GMs

## Mean-field approximation with a diagonal matrix $D$

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= \exp(-\text{trace}(D)) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \{-1,1\}^n} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T (A + D)\mathbf{x}) \\ &= 2^n \exp(-\text{trace}(D)) \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \text{Uniform}(\{-1,1\}^n)} \exp(\mathbf{x}^T (A + D)\mathbf{x}) \\ &= 2^n \exp(-\text{trace}(D)) \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \text{Uniform}(\{-1,1\}^n)} \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i^D \langle \mathbf{v}_i^D, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2\right) \\ &\approx 2^n \exp(-\text{trace}(D)) \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \text{Uniform}(\{-1,1\}^n)} \exp\left(\lambda_i^D \langle \mathbf{v}_i^D, \mathbf{x} \rangle^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

**Goal: Reduce the error by choosing proper  $D$**

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**Goal: Reduce the error by choosing proper  $D$**

## Optimizing diagonal matrix $D$ for reducing the approximation error

Semi-definite programming

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{maximize}_D \quad \text{trace}(D) \\ &\text{subject to} \quad A + D \preceq 0 \end{aligned}$$

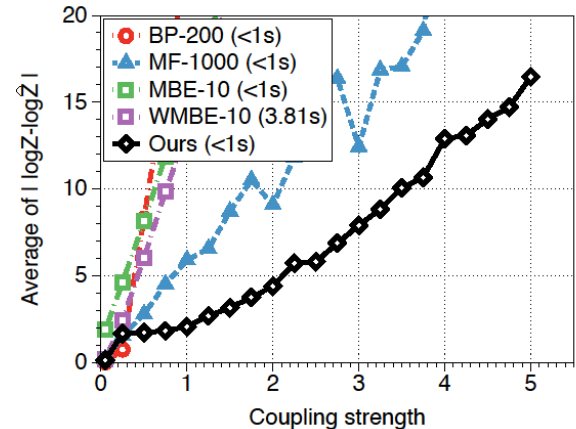
# Experiments

Comparing our algorithm with popular approximate inference algorithms

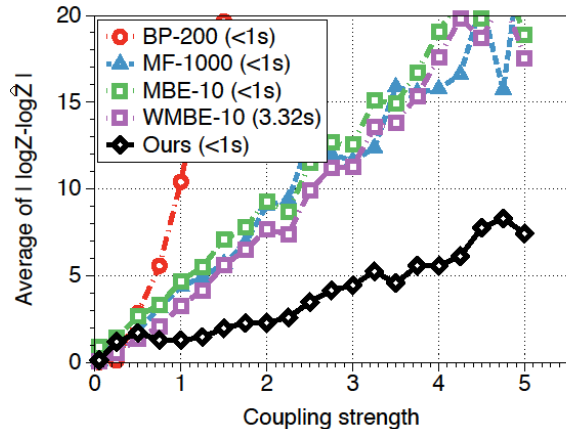
- **Compared algorithms:** Belief propagation [Pearl, 1982], mean-field approximation [Parisi, 1988], minibucket [Dechter et al., 2003], weighted elimination [Liu et al., 2011]
- **Synthetic dataset:** Generated by varying the absolute magnitude of A (coupling strength)
- **UAI grid dataset:** Indices 1-4 are GMs on 10x10 grid graph and indices 5-8 are GMs on 20x20 grid graph

Our algorithm **outperforms others even under large global correlation (i.e., large A)**

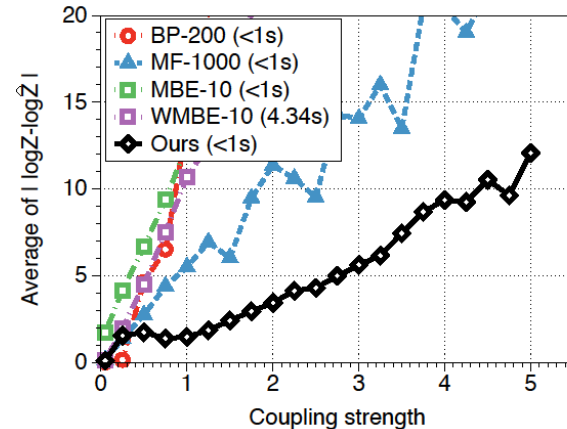
Complete graph on 20 vertices



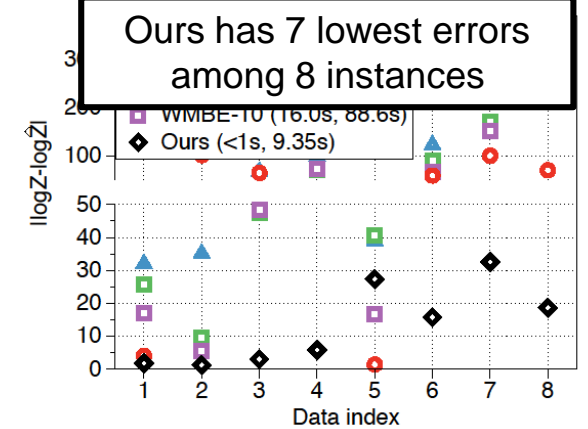
ER graph on 20 vertices: p=0.5



ER graph on 20 vertices: p=0.7



UAI grid dataset





# Conclusion

We develop partition function approximation algorithms using **spectral properties of the parameter matrix**

- For low-rank GMs, we propose a **provable** algorithm
- For high-rank GMs, we propose a **mean-field type** algorithm

Poster #2 | 3 Today  
@ Pacific Ballroom