



Abstract

High-order interactions between multiple objects are common in real-world applications. Although tensor decomposition is a popular framework for high-order interaction analysis and prediction, most methods cannot well exploit the valuable timestamp information in data. The existent methods either discard the timestamps or convert them into discrete steps or use over-simplistic decomposition models. As a result, these methods might not be capable enough of capturing complex, fine-grained temporal dynamics or making accurate predictions for long-term interaction results. To overcome these limitations, we propose a novel Temporal High-order Interaction decomposition model based on Ordinary Differential Equations (THIS-ODE). We model the time-varying interaction result with a latent ODE. To capture the complex temporal dynamics, we use a neural network (NN) to learn the time derivative of the ODE state. We use the representation of the interaction objects to model the initial value of the ODE and to constitute a part of the NN input to compute the state. In this way, the temporal relationships of the participant objects can be estimated and encoded into their representations. For tractable and scalable inference, we use forward sensitivity analysis to efficiently compute the gradient of ODE state, based on which we use integral transform to develop a stochastic mini-batch learning algorithm. We demonstrate the advantage of our approach in simulation and four real-world applications.

Introduction

High-order interactions in real-world:

- *Customers* purchase *items* at different *grocery stores*
- *People* take outdoor *exercises* at various *places*



Conventional Tensor Decomposition:

- Internal structure
- Compact representation
- Infer the missing values

$$\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{W} \times_1 \mathbf{U}^1 \times_2 \dots \times_K \mathbf{U}^K$$

$d_1 \times \dots \times d_K$

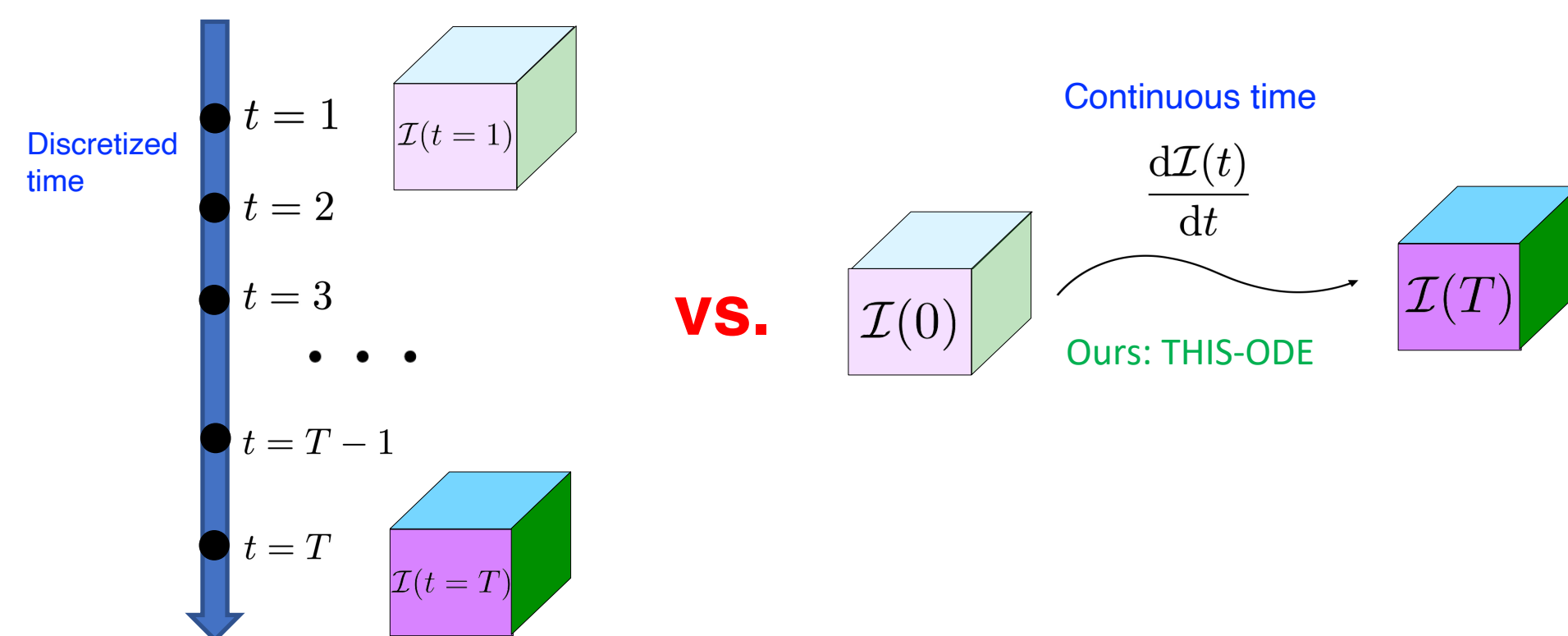
$$\mathcal{I} = \sum_{j=1}^r \lambda_j \cdot \mathbf{U}^1[:, j] \circ \dots \circ \mathbf{U}^K[:, j]$$

Tucker, 1966

CANDECOMP/PARAFAC (CP), Harshman, 1970

Temporal Interactions: $\mathcal{I}(t)$

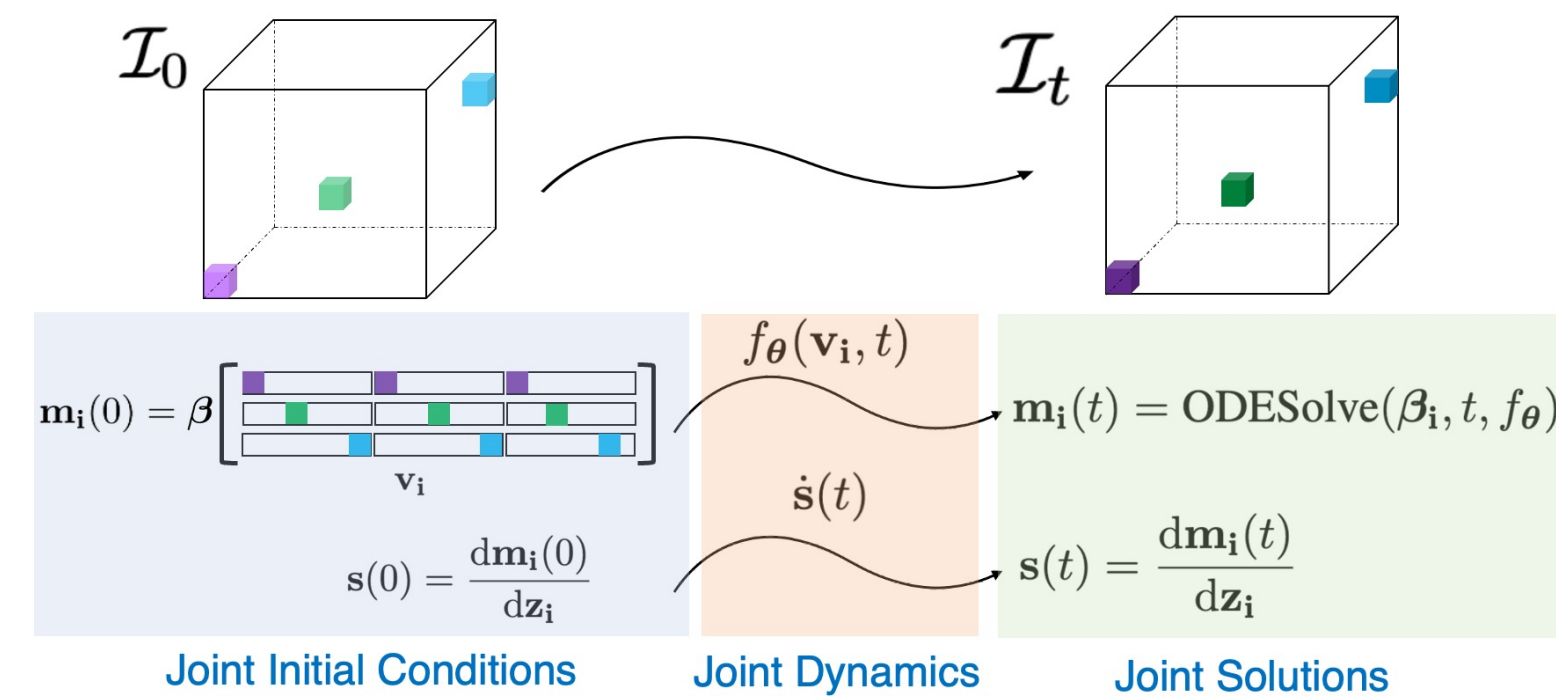
- Interactions are functions of time (complex temporal dynamics)
- Current methods: Discretize the timestamps or simply ignore temporal information for interactions



Our Contribution:

- **THIS-ODE**: A novel decomposing model of temporal high-order interactions.
- Leverage **continuous** timestamps, capture **all kinds of complex temporal dynamics** within interactions.
- Tractable inference with **forward sensitivity analysis** and **time alignment/integral transform** tricks.

Methods



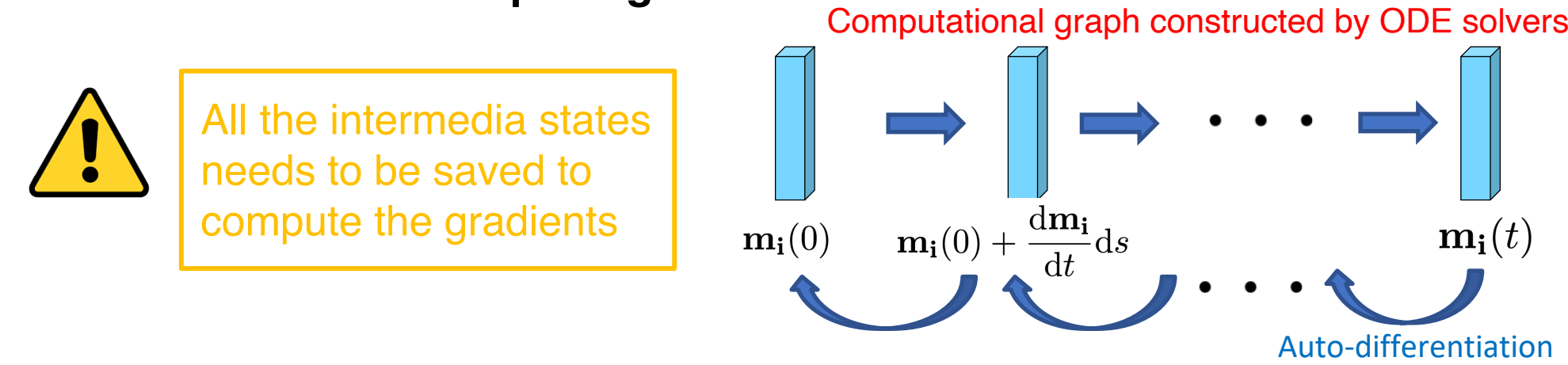
Temporal interaction as parametric ODE

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dm_i(t)}{dt} = f(m_i(t), \mathbf{v}_i, t) \\ m_i(0) = \beta(\mathbf{v}_i) \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{ODEsolve}} m_i(t) = m_i(0) + \int_0^t f_\theta(m_i(s), \mathbf{v}_i, s) ds$$

Joint probability given observations $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{i}_1, t_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{i}_N, t_N, y_N)\}$

$$p(\mathcal{U}, \nu, \mathcal{D} | \theta) = \prod_{k=1}^K \prod_{j=1}^{d_k} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}_j^k | \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}) \cdot \text{Gam}(\nu | a_0, b_0) \cdot \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y_n | m_{\mathbf{i}_n}(t_n), \nu^{-1})$$

Auto-differentiation or explicit gradients?



Efficient computation of gradients with **Forward Sensitivity**

$$J(m_{\mathbf{i}_n}(t_n)) = \log p(y_n | m_{\mathbf{i}_n}(t_n)) \xrightarrow{\text{Chain rule}} \frac{dJ}{d\eta} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial \eta} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_n}(t)} \cdot \frac{dm_{\mathbf{i}_n}(t)}{d\eta}$$

Sensitivities of the system

$$\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t) = \frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial \mathbf{z}_i} = \left[\frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}^0}; \frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial \eta} \right]$$

Def aux state $\mathbf{z}_i = [m_{\mathbf{i}_i}^0; \eta]$

$$\frac{dm_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{d\eta} = \frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial \eta} + \frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}^0} \cdot \frac{dm_{\mathbf{i}_i}^0}{d\eta}$$

Easy to compute

Now to derive the dynamics of the sensitivity

Take time derivative again on sensitivity

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial \mathbf{z}_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{z}_i} \frac{dm_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)} \frac{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{\partial \mathbf{z}_i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{z}_i}$$

ODE of system sensitivity

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)} \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{z}_i} \\ \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(0) = \frac{dm_{\mathbf{i}_i}^0}{d\mathbf{z}_i} \end{cases}$$

- Depends on current state solution only $\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t) = [m_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t); \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t)]$
- Jointly solved with the system state with **and forward pass only one ODE solver**

Time alignment for efficient stochastic mini-batch optimization

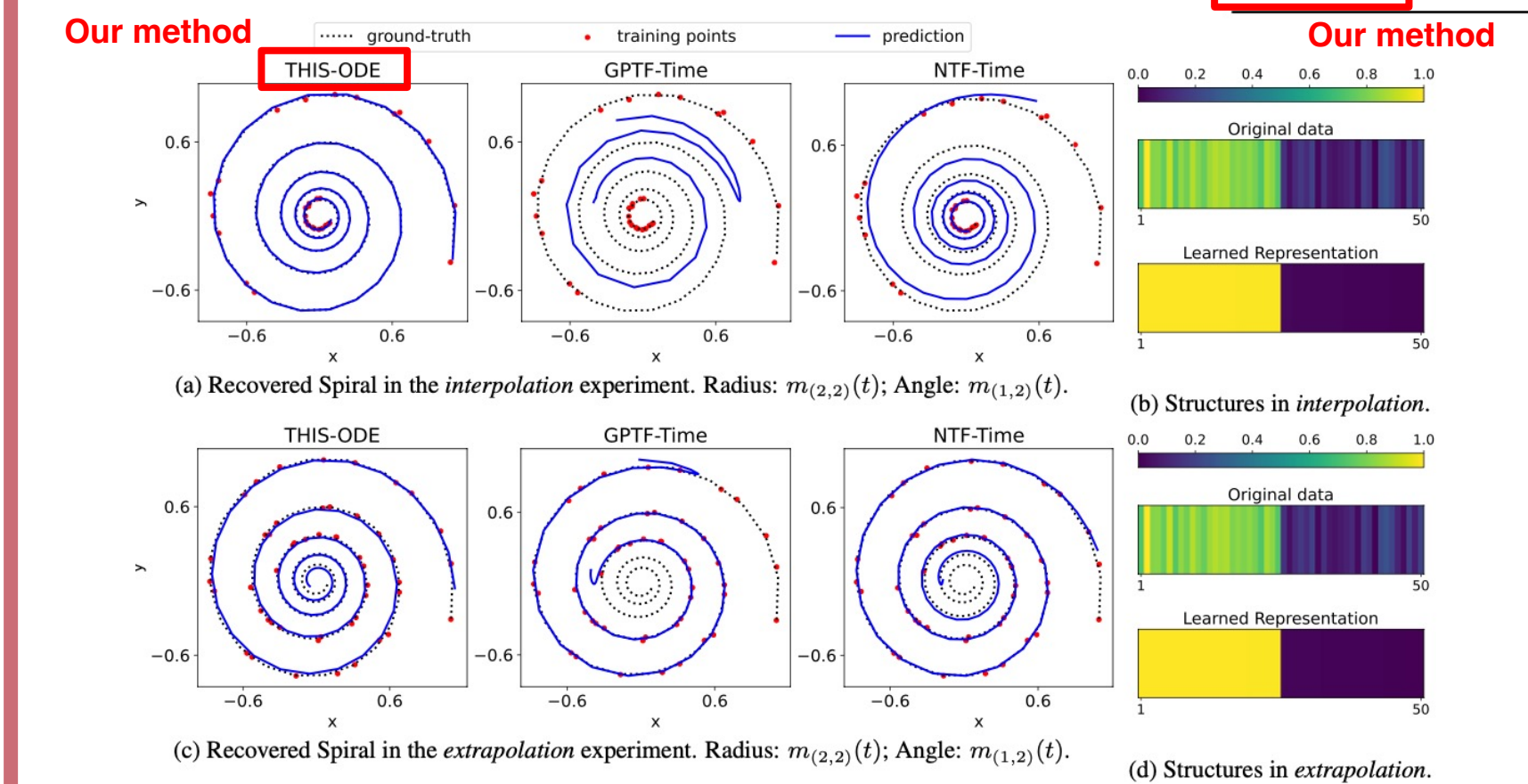
$$\hat{\mathcal{L}} = \log(\text{Prior}) + \frac{N}{B} \sum_{j=1}^B J(m_{\mathbf{i}_{n_j}}(t_{n_j}))$$

$$\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(t_l) = \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(0) + \int_0^{t_l} \alpha(\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(\tau), \tau) d\tau = \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{i}_i}(0) + \int_0^{t_e} \frac{t_l}{t_e} \alpha\left(\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{i}_i}\left(\frac{t_l}{t_e} s\right), \frac{t_l}{t_e} s\right) ds$$

Experiment

Ablation Study: Spiral Interactions

	Interpolation	Extrapolation
GPTime	0.5557	0.9032
NFTTime	0.1004	0.3656
THIS-ODE	0.0148	0.0746



Ablation Study: Spiral Interactions: *Beijing Air, Indoor Condition, Fit Record, Server Room ...*

	Beijing Air		Indoor Condition		Extrapolation	
CP-Time	0.897 ± 0.012	0.780 ± 0.012	0.863 ± 0.022	0.867 ± 0.010		
CP-DTL	0.898 ± 0.015	0.842 ± 0.003	0.553 ± 0.005	0.527 ± 0.006		
CP-DTN	0.833 ± 0.003	0.889 ± 0.005	0.557 ± 0.004	0.584 ± 0.009		
GPTime	0.711 ± 0.011	0.849 ± 0.005	0.527 ± 0.018	0.489 ± 0.011		
GPTime-DTL	0.686 ± 0.045	0.852 ± 0.004	0.577 ± 0.035	0.506 ± 0.013		
GPTime-DTN	0.670 ± 0.062	0.713 ± 0.104	0.511 ± 0.002	0.489 ± 0.003		
NFTTime	0.745 ± 0.095	0.800 ± 0.009	0.537 ± 0.002	0.510 ± 0.027		
NFT-DTL	0.757 ± 0.006	0.777 ± 0.018	0.512 ± 0.009	0.593 ± 0.079		
NFT-DTN	0.686 ± 0.011	0.665 ± 0.004	0.513 ± 0.003	0.484 ± 0.011		
PTucker	0.959 ± 0.015	0.806 ± 0.027	0.522 ± 0.022	0.749 ± 0.006		
THIS-ODE	0.624 ± 0.008	0.618 ± 0.007	0.498 ± 0.013	0.460 ± 0.004		