

# Phase Diagram of Extensive-Rank Matrix Denoising beyond Rotational Invariance

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LiCA 2025 – Matrix Institute

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Based on three joint papers with:

1. PRX 2025: Jean Barbier (ICTP), Francesco Camilli (ICTP), Koki Okajima (University of Tokyo)
2. IZS 2024: Jean Barbier (ICTP), Anas Rahman (Hong Kong University)
3. PTRF 2025: Jonathan Husson (Université Clermont-Auvergne)

August 10, 2025

# Spiked Wigner Matrix: Johnstone '00

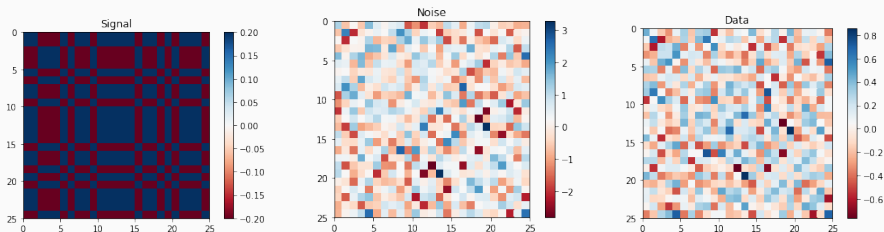
Infer matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$  from the noisy matrix  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$

Structure:  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$  matrix with i.i.d. entries from a known (centered) prior  $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{X}}$ .

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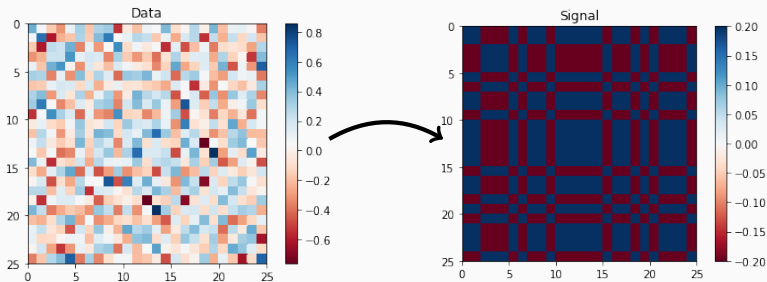


$$\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{\sqrt{N}} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T + \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{Y}$$

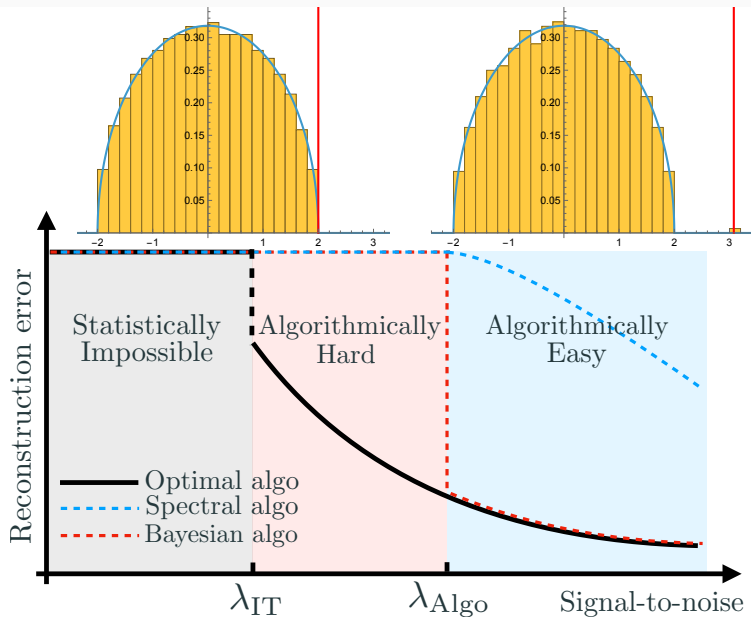
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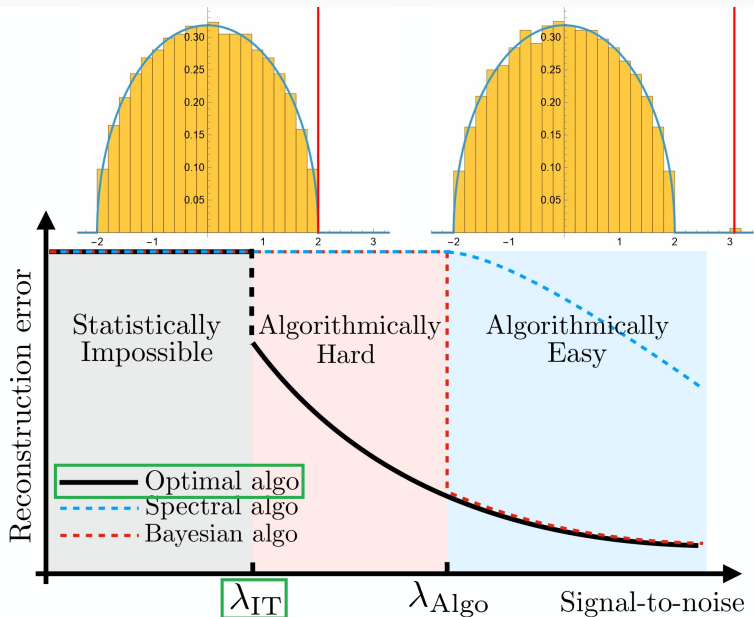
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# Main Question: Phase Diagram



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**Goals:** Compute the matrix mean squared error of the matrix  $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{MMSE}_N(\lambda) &= \frac{1}{NM^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^N \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}[(X_i \cdot X_j - \theta_{i,j}(\mathbf{Y}))^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{NM^2} \mathbb{E} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top - \langle \mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\top \rangle\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$

where  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  denotes the average with respect to the posterior.

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**Posterior:**

$$d\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{Y}) = \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{4} \|\mathbf{Y} - \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{N} \mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\top\|_2^2)}{C(\mathbf{Y})} d\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{X}}^{\otimes N \times M}(\mathbf{x}).$$

Connection: IMMSE — Relation

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \frac{1}{NM} I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) = \frac{1}{4} \text{MMSE}_N(\lambda)$$

Mutual Information: Compute the mutual information

$$I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) := \frac{\lambda \|\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X}]\|_2^2}{4} - \frac{1}{NM} \mathbb{E}_{Z, X} \ln Z_{N, M} \quad (1)$$

where

$$\frac{1}{NM} \mathbb{E}_{Z, X} \ln Z_{N, M}$$

is the *free entropy*.

Goals: Compute the free entropy

$$F_{N,M}(\lambda) := \frac{1}{NM} \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N,M}$$

where

$$Z_{N,M} := \int_{\mathbb{R}^{N \times M}} \exp(H_N(x)) \, d\mathbb{P}_X^{\otimes NM}(x)$$

denotes the partition function associated with the Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} H_N(x) &:= -\frac{1}{2} \left\| \mathbf{Y} - \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{N}} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top \right\|_2^2 + \text{cons} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{N}} \mathbf{Z} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top + \frac{\lambda}{N} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top - \frac{\lambda}{2N} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}^\top \right). \end{aligned}$$

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We want to study the *free entropy* for different ranks with both rotationally invariant and non-rotationally invariant priors:

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Extensive Rank Setting: Understand extensive-width shallow neural networks (Barbier et al.), Matrix least squares (Ma-Fan)

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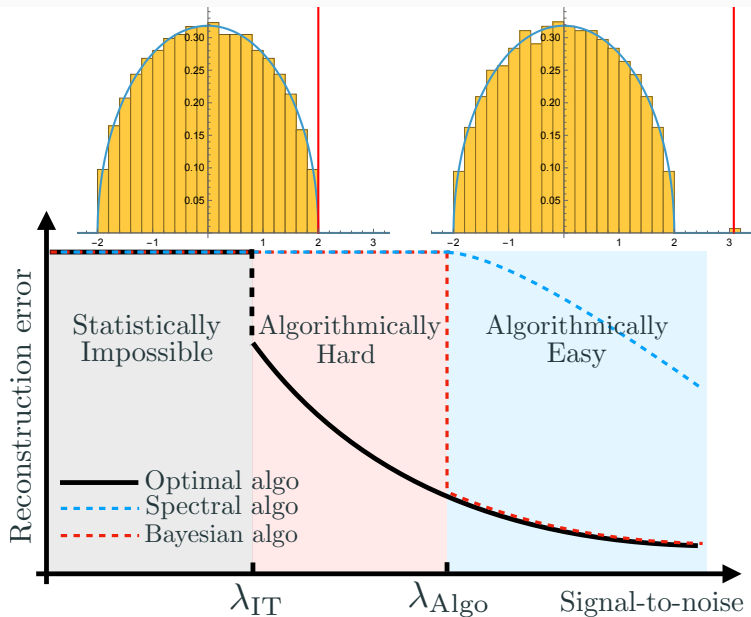
Finite Rank Case

Sublinear Rank Case

Extensive Rank Case

Comments on the Proof

# Rank 1: Phase Diagram



## Known Results: Rank 1 Case

Consider the scenario where  $M = 1$ .

**Theorem 1 (Barbier et al, Lelarge - Miolane, El Alaoui-Krzakala)**

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} \mathbb{E}_{Z, X} \ln Z_{N,1}(\lambda) = \sup_q \varphi_1(q).$$

**Replica Symmetric Functional:**

$$\varphi_1(q) = -\frac{\lambda q^2}{4} + \mathbb{E} \ln \left[ \int \exp \left( \sqrt{\lambda q} z x + \lambda q x X - \frac{\lambda q^2 x^2}{2} \right) d\mathbb{P}_X(x) \right].$$

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**Overlap Concentration (Barbier):** Nishimori identity

$$\mathbb{E} \left\langle \left( \frac{x \cdot X}{N} - q \right)^2 \right\rangle \rightarrow 0$$

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$$q = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} N^{-1} \mathbb{E} \langle \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{X} \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$$

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**Phase Diagram:** Analyzing the maximizer (Lesieur et al.)

## Known Results: Rank $k$ Case

Consider the scenario where  $M = k < \infty$ .

**Theorem 2 (Lelarge - Miolane, Barbier - K - Rahman)**

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{Nk} \mathbb{E}_{Z, X} \ln Z_{N,k}(\lambda) = \sup_{\mathbf{Q}} \frac{1}{k} \varphi_k(\mathbf{Q}) = \sup_q \varphi_1(q).$$

**Replica Symmetric Functional:** Let  $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_k(\mathbf{Q}) = & -\frac{\lambda \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Q}^2)}{4} \\ & + \mathbb{E} \ln \left[ \int \exp \left( \sqrt{\lambda} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \lambda \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} - \frac{\lambda \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}}{2} \right) d\mathbb{P}_X^{\otimes k}(x) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

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Comments on the Proof

## Known Results: Sublinear Rank Case

**Intermediate Problem:** Consider the scenario where  $M = o(N)$ .

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2. Concentration stills holds if  $M$  grows slowly.
3. The order parameters will be independent of  $N$  due to symmetries.

# Main Result

Consider the scenario where  $M = \log(N)$ .

## **Theorem 3 (Limiting Free Energy (Barbier - K - Rahman))**

*If  $\mathbf{X}$  has i.i.d. from a bounded centered distribution and  $\varphi$  is sufficiently regular in  $\lambda$ , then*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} F_{NM}(\lambda) = \sup_q \varphi_1(q).$$

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**Spherical priors / Rotational Invariant Priors:** Husson-Ko for  $M = o(N)$

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# Extensive Rank Case

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# Extensive Rank Case

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1. Configurations  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$  now grow simultaneously in both coordinates.
2. Concentration fails because  $M$  grows too fast.
3. There is no good notion of the order parameters  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$  in the limit.

## Known Results: Rotational Invariant Prior

**Gaussian Prior (Unstructured):**  $X_{ij} \sim N(0, 1)$

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**Mutual Information:** Using HCIZ integrals,

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{MN} I(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) = \frac{1}{8\alpha} + \frac{1}{2\alpha} \int \rho_Y(x) \rho_Y(y) \ln |x - y| dx dy.$$

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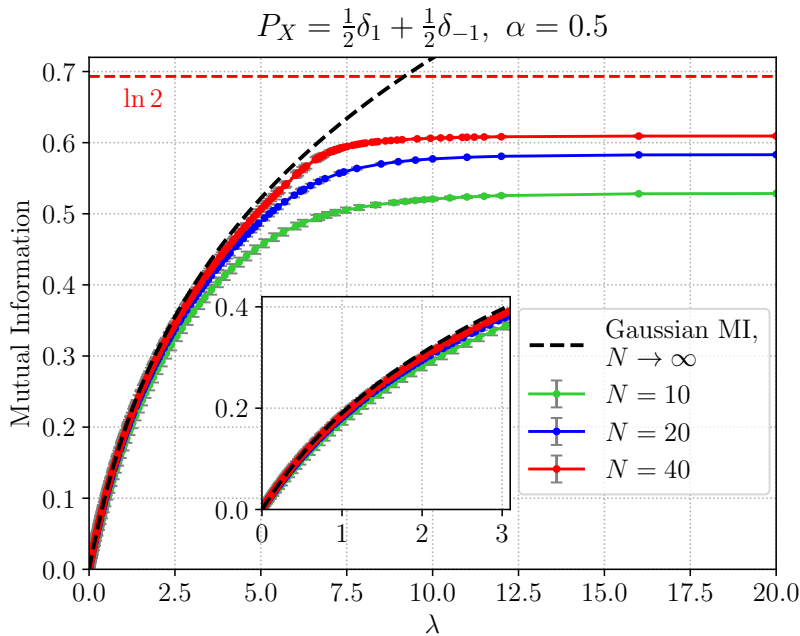
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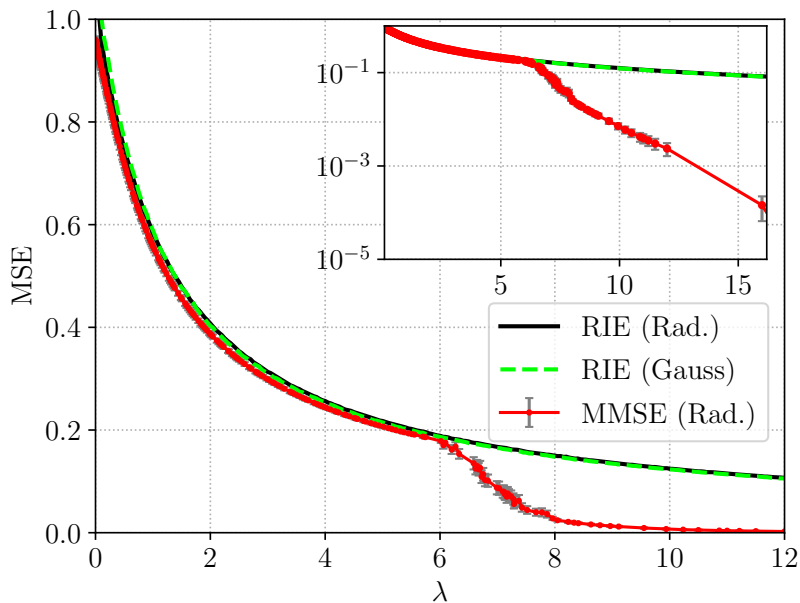
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**Conjecture:** This is correct for all priors (e.g.  $\mathbb{P}_X$  is Rademacher) (Semerjian).

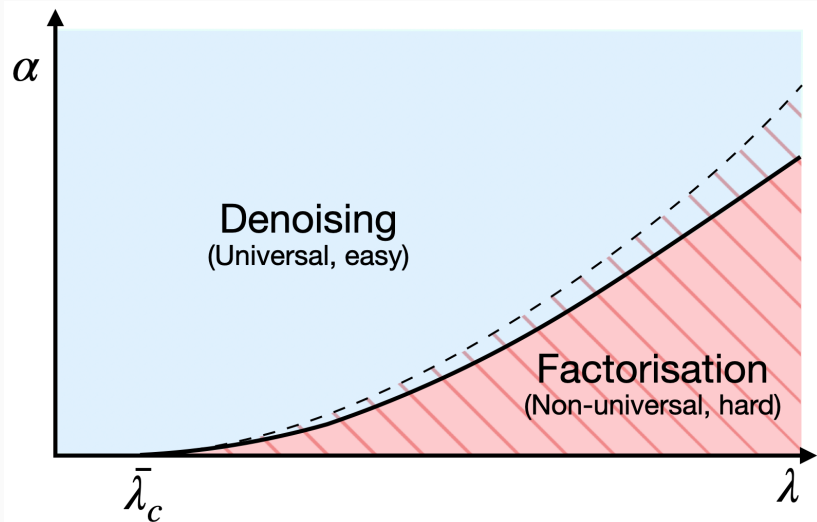
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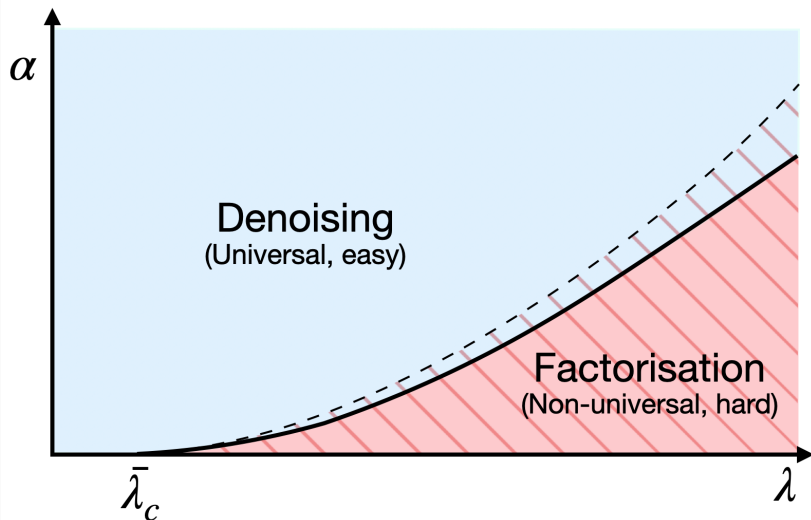
## Numerical Results: Non-Rotational Invariant Prior



# Qualitative Phase Diagram



# Qualitative Phase Diagram



Random Matrix Theory  $\longrightarrow$  Spin Glass Theory

# Results: Prediction of the MI

## Result 1 ( Barbier - Camilli - K - Okajima)

*If the prior is factorized there exists a  $\lambda_c > 0$  such that for all  $\lambda > \lambda_c$ ,*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) = \text{extr}_- \{ \iota(r, q; \alpha, \lambda) \}$$

*where*

$$\begin{aligned} \iota(r, q; \alpha, \lambda) = & \frac{rq}{2} + \frac{1}{4\alpha} \ln(1 + \lambda\alpha(1 - q^2)) \\ & - \mathbb{E} \ln \left[ \int \exp \left( \sqrt{\lambda} r z x + \lambda r x X - \frac{\lambda r^2 x^2}{2} \right) d\mathbb{P}_X(x) \right] \end{aligned}$$

# Results: Prediction of the MI

## Result 2 ( Barbier - Camilli - K - Okajima)

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**Remark:** Same result if you use the replica trick assuming a Gaussian ansatz in Sakata–Kabashima.

## Rotationally Invariant Mutual Information:

$$\iota_D(\lambda) = \frac{1}{8\alpha} + \frac{1}{2\alpha} \int \rho_Y(x) \rho_Y(y) \ln |x - y| \, dx dy$$

## Non-Rotationally Invariant Mutual Information:

$$\iota_F(\lambda) = \text{extr}_- \{ \iota(r, q; \alpha, \lambda) \}.$$

# Results: Prediction of the Denoising–Factorization Transition

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$$\iota_F(\lambda) = \text{extr}_- \{ \iota(r, q; \alpha, \lambda) \}.$$

## Result 3 (Barbier - Camilli - K - Okajima)

*If the prior is factorized then for all  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,*

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} I(\mathbf{X}; \mathbf{Y}) = \min(\iota_D, \iota_F).$$

# Results: Prediction of the Denoising–Factorization Transition

## Rotationally Invariant Mutual Information:

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## Non-Rotationally Invariant Mutual Information:

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## Result 4 (Barbier - Camilli - K - Okajima)

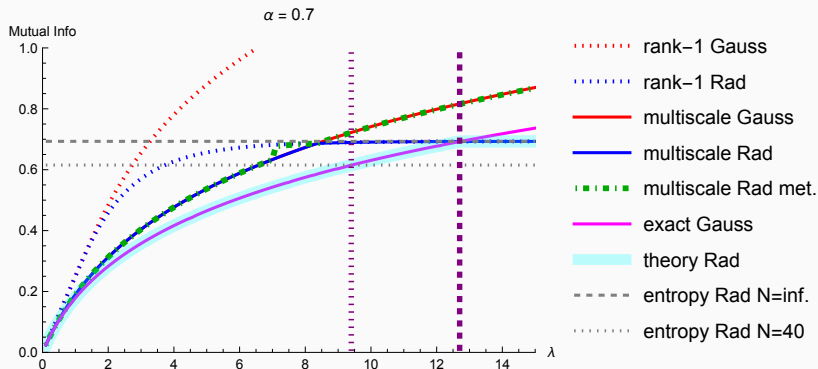
*If the prior is factorized then for all  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,*

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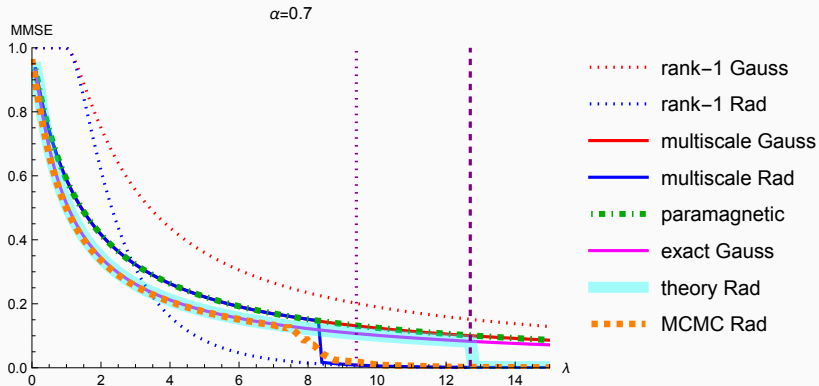
## Critical $\lambda$ :

$$\lambda_c = \sup \{ \lambda \geq 0 \mid \iota_D \leq \iota_F \}.$$

# Results: Comparison with Simulations



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## Challenges: Extensive Rank Case

**Goal:** Compute the theoretical curve for the MI when  $\lambda$  is large.

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**Goal:** Compute the theoretical curve for the MI when  $\lambda$  is large.

**Strategy:** Adapt the techniques from spin glasses (Guerra, Aizenman–Sims–Starr, Talagrand, Panchenko, Lelarge–Miolane)

**Lower Bound - Guerra's Interpolation:** Gaussian interpolation with the replica symmetric functional.

## Review: Rank $k$ Case

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Write

$$\limsup \frac{1}{Nk} \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N,k}(\lambda) \leq \limsup \frac{1}{k} \left( \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N+1,k}(\lambda) - \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N,k}(\lambda) \right)$$

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Split into cavity fields  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times k} \times \mathbb{R}^k$

$$H_{N+1}(\mathbf{x}) = z_N(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}) + H'_N(\mathbf{x}), \quad H_N(\mathbf{x}) = y_N(\mathbf{x}) + H'_N(\mathbf{x}).$$

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$$\limsup \frac{1}{Nk} \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N,k}(\lambda) \leq \limsup \frac{1}{k} \left( \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N+1,k}(\lambda) - \mathbb{E}_{Z,X} \ln Z_{N,k}(\lambda) \right)$$

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Consider the case where  $M = o(N)$ .

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# Technique 1: Multiscale Cavity Method

## Theorem 4 (Barbier – K – Rahman)

For scaling parameters  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\gamma \geq 0$ , and  $M_N = \lfloor \alpha N^\gamma \rfloor$ , we have

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**Discovered jointly with:** Barbier, Rahman, Camilli, Okajima

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**Row Cavity Method:** Reduce the problem from  $NM$  dimensions to  $M = 1$  dimensions.

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$$= \sup_q \varphi_1(q)$$

## Technique 2: Rank Dependent Concentration

### Theorem 5 (Barbier – K – Rahman)

Let  $\mathbb{P}_X$  be a centered distribution with bounded fourth moment and  $s_N$  a constant going to 0. There exists a perturbation of the posterior and a finite positive constant  $C$  independent of  $M, N$  and depending only on properties of  $\mathbb{P}_X$  such that

$$\frac{1}{s_N} \int_{s_N}^{2s_N} \mathbb{E} \langle \|\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} - \langle \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} \rangle_{N,\epsilon}\|_{\mathbb{F}}^2 \rangle_{N,\epsilon} d\epsilon \leq \Gamma(N, M) := \frac{CM^2}{\sqrt{Ns_N}},$$

where the expectation  $\mathbb{E}[\cdot]$  is taken over  $\tilde{Z}, X$  and the randomness in  $\mathbb{P}_{\text{out}}(\cdot \mid \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top)$  and  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  is the average with respect to a perturbed posterior.

## Technique 3: Rank 1 Equivalence

### Theorem 6 (Barbier - K - Rahman)

*Under some regularity hypothesis on the replica symmetric formula. For all SNR  $\lambda \geq 0$*

$$\sup_{\mathbf{Q}} \frac{1}{k} \varphi_k(\mathbf{Q}) = \sup_q \varphi_1(q). \quad (6)$$

Remember that

$$\varphi_1(q) = -\frac{\lambda q^2}{4} + \mathbb{E} \ln \left[ \int \exp \left( \sqrt{\lambda q} z x + \lambda q x X - \frac{\lambda q^2 x^2}{2} \right) d\mathbb{P}_X(x) \right].$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_k(\mathbf{Q}) = & -\frac{\lambda \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{Q}^2)}{4} \\ & + \mathbb{E} \ln \left[ \int \exp \left( \sqrt{\lambda \mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \lambda \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} - \frac{\lambda \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}}{2} \right) d\mathbb{P}_X^{\otimes k}(x) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Need to compute

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{N} (\mathbb{E}_{Z, X} \ln Z_{N, M_N+1} - \mathbb{E}_{Z, X} \ln Z_{N, M_N})$$

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If  $N$  is sufficiently large and  $M$  grows sufficiently slowly, then

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Careful proof: We can use the cavity computations again to reduce it to the finite rank cases

## Predictions: Extensive Rank Case

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**Random Linear Estimation:** Cavity fields can be written as a RLE problem

$$\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}(\lambda) = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{N}} \bar{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{H} + \tilde{\mathbf{Z}} \quad (7)$$

$$Y'_{ij}(\zeta) = \sqrt{\frac{\zeta}{N}} \mathbf{X}_i^{\top} \mathbf{X}_j + Z_{ij}, \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq N-1. \quad (8)$$

**Goal:** Infer the cavity vector  $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbb{R}^M$  given the side information on the bulk matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{X}} \in \mathbb{R}^{N-1 \times M}$ .

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**Compute and Optimize:** This choice makes the row cavity computable, and we pick  $\sigma$  to satisfy some self consistency criteria to conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{M} \mathbb{E}_{\tilde{Y}(\lambda), Y'(\zeta)} \ln \left\langle \int_{\mathbb{R}^M} \exp(H_{N,M}^{\text{row}}(\boldsymbol{\eta}; \bar{\mathbf{X}}, \lambda)) d\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right\rangle_{\text{eff}} \\ & = \text{extr}_- \{ \iota(r, q; \alpha, \lambda) \} \end{aligned}$$

## Towards a Rigorous Result: Behavior of the Overlaps

**Key Assumption:** The bulk measure is equivalent to the posterior sample from the model

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## Rotationally Invariant I.I.D. Priors:

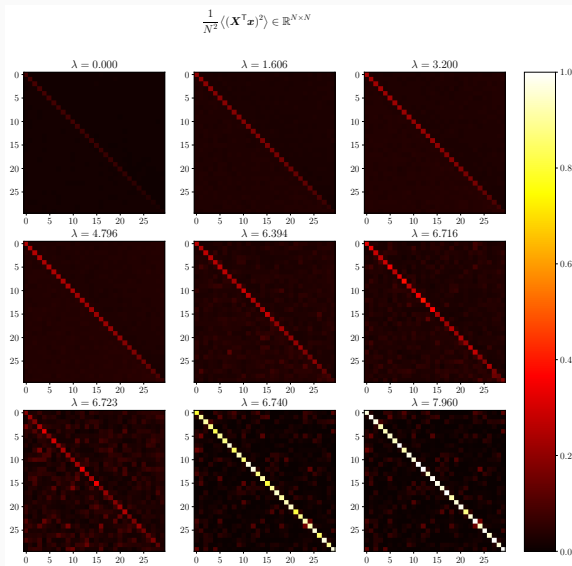
Finite Rank	Sublinear Rank	Extensive Rank
MI proved for all $M < \infty$	MI proved for $M = o(N)$	Explicit

## Non-Rotationally Invariant I.I.D. Priors:

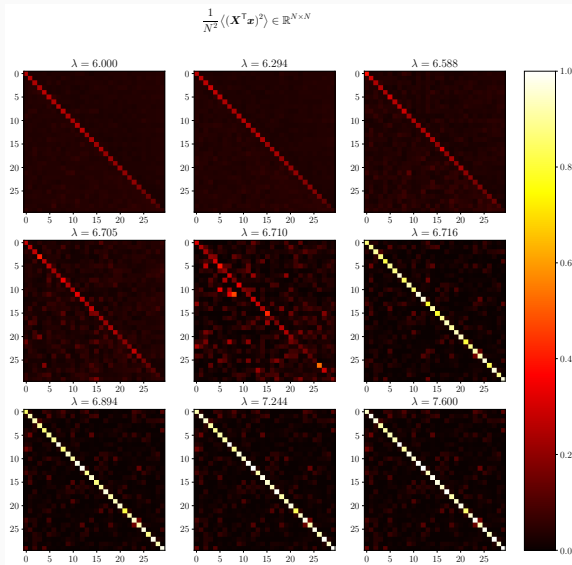
Finite Rank	Sublinear Rank	Extensive Rank
MI proved for all $M < \infty$	MI proved for $M = \log N$	Predictions

**Thank you!**

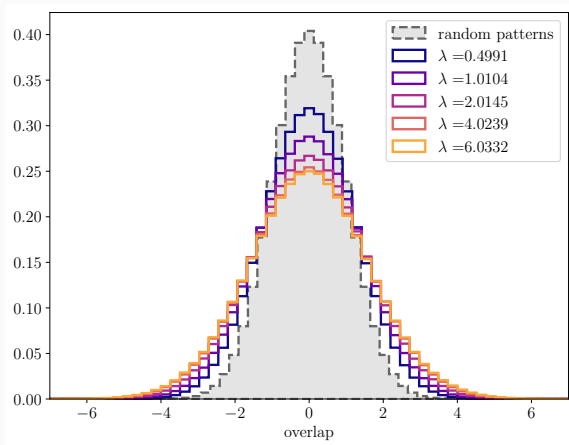
# Numerical Results: Behavior of the Overlaps



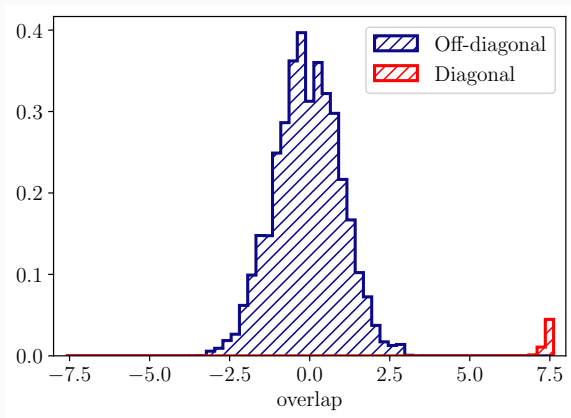
# Numerical Results: Behavior of the Overlaps



# Numerical Results: Entries of the Overlaps



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# Conjecture: Overlap Structure

Denoising Phase:

- Diagonal and offdiagonals are on the same order

Factorization Phase:

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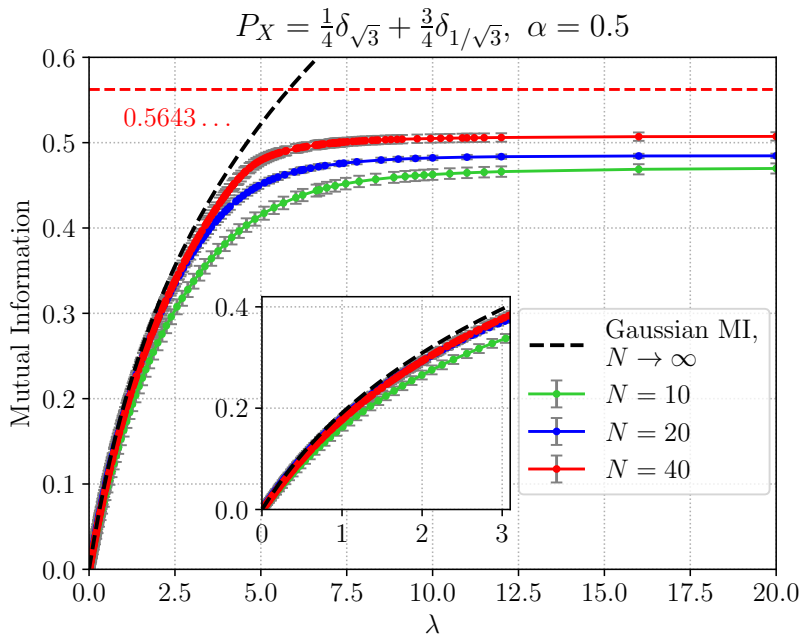
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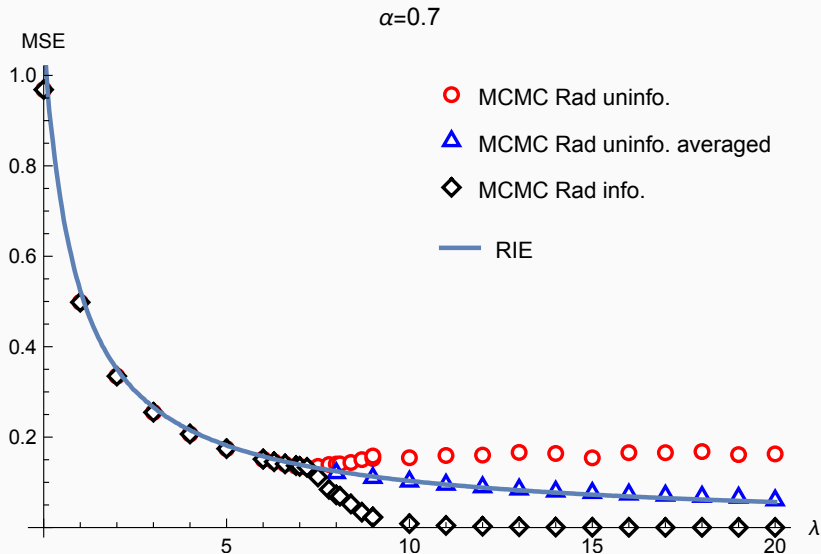
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Goal: Prove that the overlaps have this asymptotic structure.

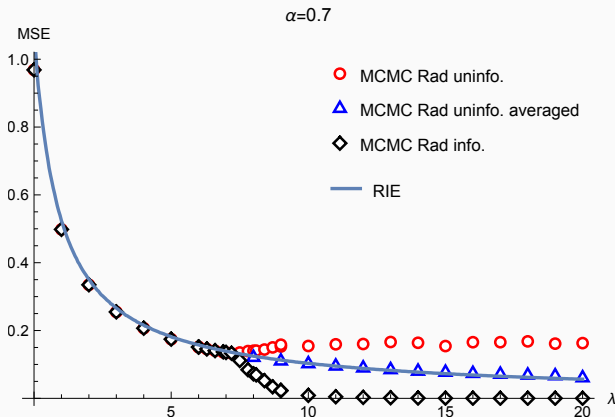
# Numerical Results: Non-Rotational Invariant Prior



# Algorithmic Phase Transition



# Algorithmic Phase Transition



**Statistical-to-Computational Gap:** Need a strong informative initialization to beat the RIE