

Implicit Regularization in Matrix Factorization and Neural Networks with Diagonal Layers

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Matrix Factorization

① Motivation

Matrix Sensing Problem:

- Recover a *Positive Semidefinite* (PSD) matrix $X \in \mathbb{S}_+^{d \times d}$.
- Symmetric measurement matrices $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \in \mathbb{S}^{d \times d}$
- $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and $n \ll d^2$
- $b = \mathcal{A}(X) = [\langle A_1, X \rangle \cdots \langle A_n, X \rangle]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$

⇔ Rank-Constrained Optimization Problem:

$$\min_{X \in \mathbb{S}_+^{d \times d}} f(X) := \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{A}(X) - b\|_2^2 \text{ s.t. rank}(X) \leq r$$

② Problem Formulation & Methods

Conventional Method: *Burer-Monteiro (BM) Factorization*

- Reparametrize $X = UU^T$, and formulate the problem:

$$\min_{U \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times r}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{A}(UU^T) - b\|_2^2$$

- Update by gradient descent:

$$U_{k+1} = U_k - \eta \nabla_U f(U_k U_k^T)$$

$$\nabla_U f(UU^T) = 2 \nabla f(UU^T) U = 2 \mathcal{A}^T(\mathcal{A}(UU^T) - b) U$$

- Iteration $k = 1, 2, \dots$; Step-size $\eta > 0$.

Proposed Method:

- Reparametrize $X = UDU^T$ with constraints, and formulate the problem:

$$\min_{\substack{U \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times r} \\ D \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{A}(UDU^T) - b\|_2^2$$

$$\text{s.t. } \|U\|_F \leq 1, D_{ii} \geq 0, D_{ij} = 0, \forall i \text{ and } \forall j \neq i$$

- Update by projected-gradient descent:

$$U_{k+1} = \Pi_U (U_k - \eta \nabla_U f(U_k D_k U_k^T))$$

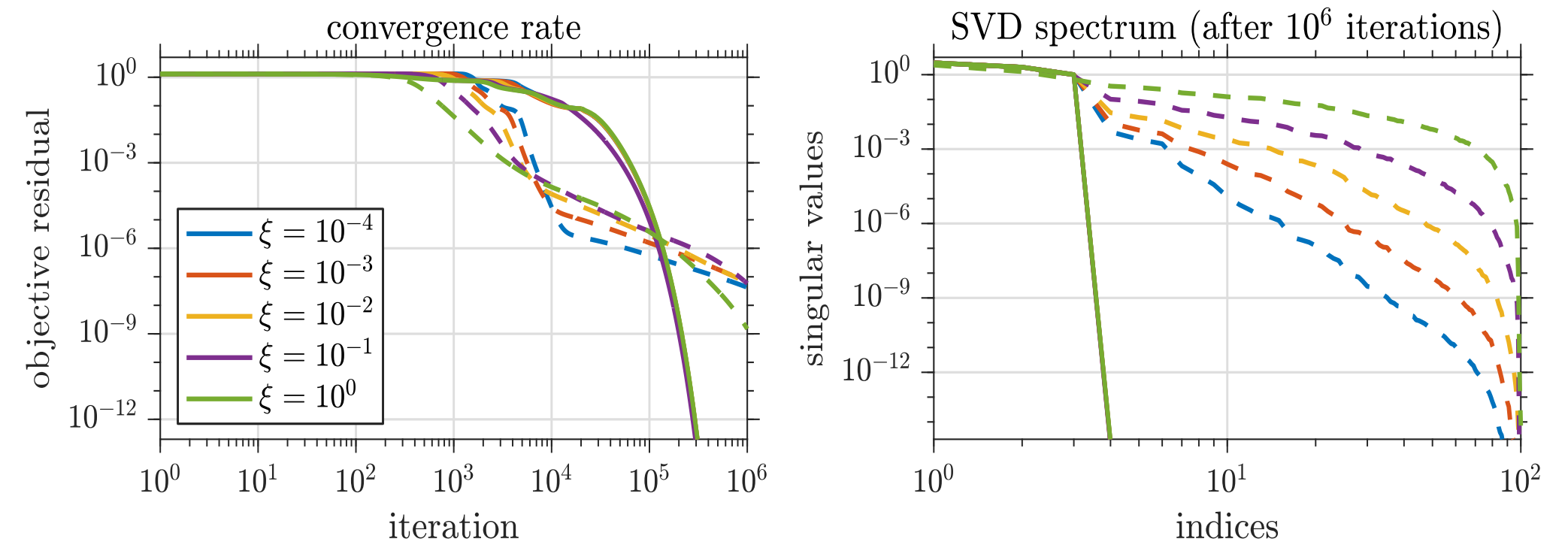
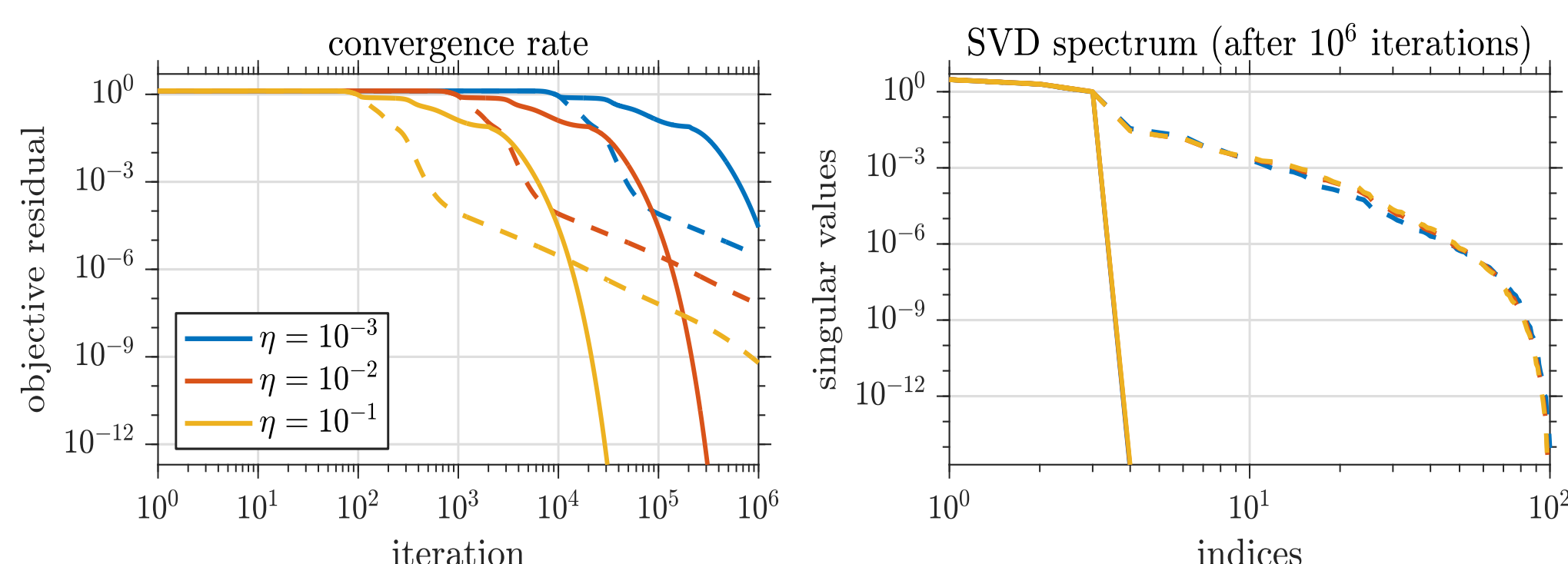
$$D_{k+1} = \Pi_D (D_k - \eta \nabla_D f(U_k D_k U_k^T))$$

$$\nabla_U f(UDU^T) = 2 \nabla f(UDU^T) U D, \quad \nabla_D f(UDU^T) = U^T \nabla f(UDU^T) U$$

③ Numerical Experiments & Results

- Recover a PSD matrix $X_{\mathfrak{h}} = U_{\mathfrak{h}} U_{\mathfrak{h}}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 100}$ from $b \in \mathbb{R}^{900}$
- Initialization: $U_{\mathfrak{h}} \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 3}$, $\hat{U}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 100}$, $U_0 = \xi \frac{\hat{U}_0}{\|\hat{U}_0\|_F}$
- Noise setting: $b = b_{\mathfrak{h}} + \omega$; Noiseless if $\omega = 0$
- Impact of initialization $\xi > 0$ and step-size $\eta > 0$

- ★ A strong implicit bias toward truly low-rank solution
- ★ Regardless of initialization and step-size, both in the settings with consistent and inconsistent measurements.



Neural Network Application

① Problem Formulation & Methods

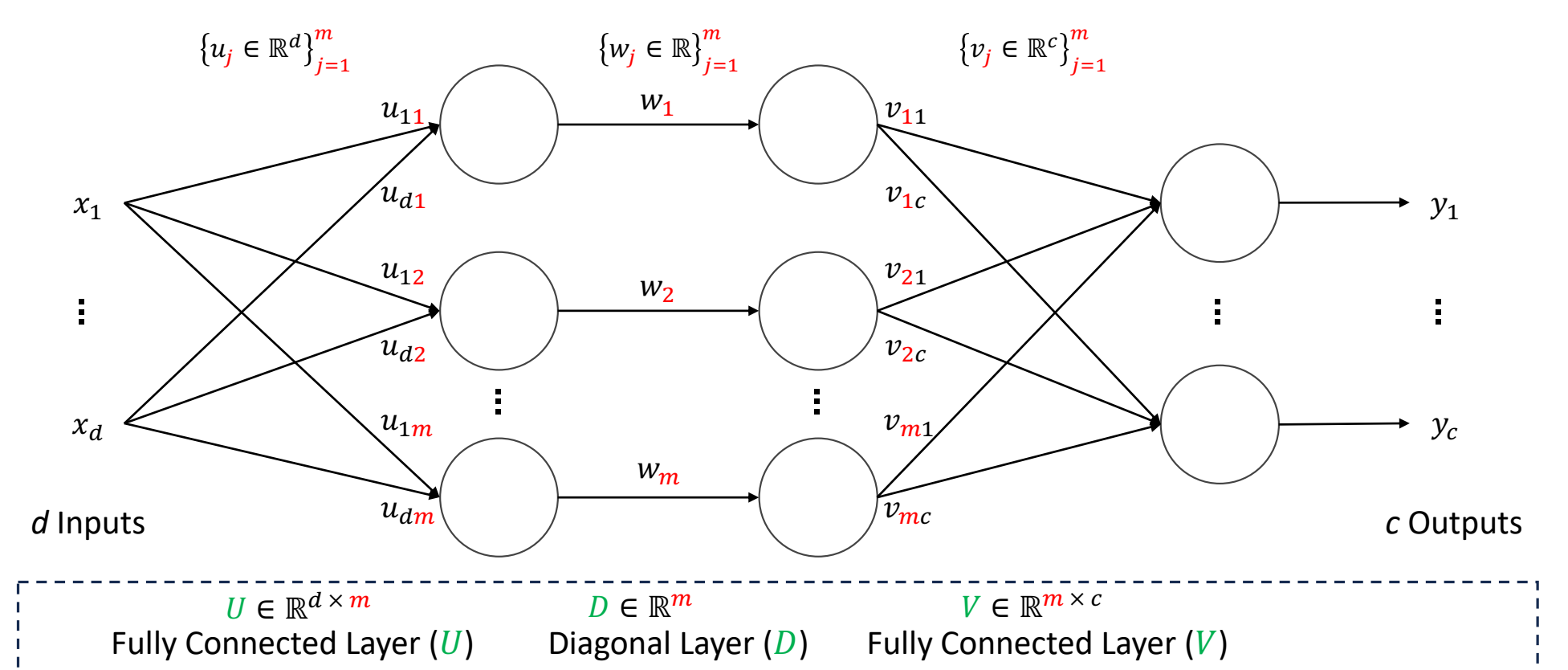
Training Problem:

- Generalize $UDU^T \Rightarrow UDV$:

$$\min_{u_j \in \mathbb{R}^d, v_j \in \mathbb{R}^c, w_j \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \sum_{j=1}^m v_j w_j u_j^T x_i - y_i \right\|_2^2$$

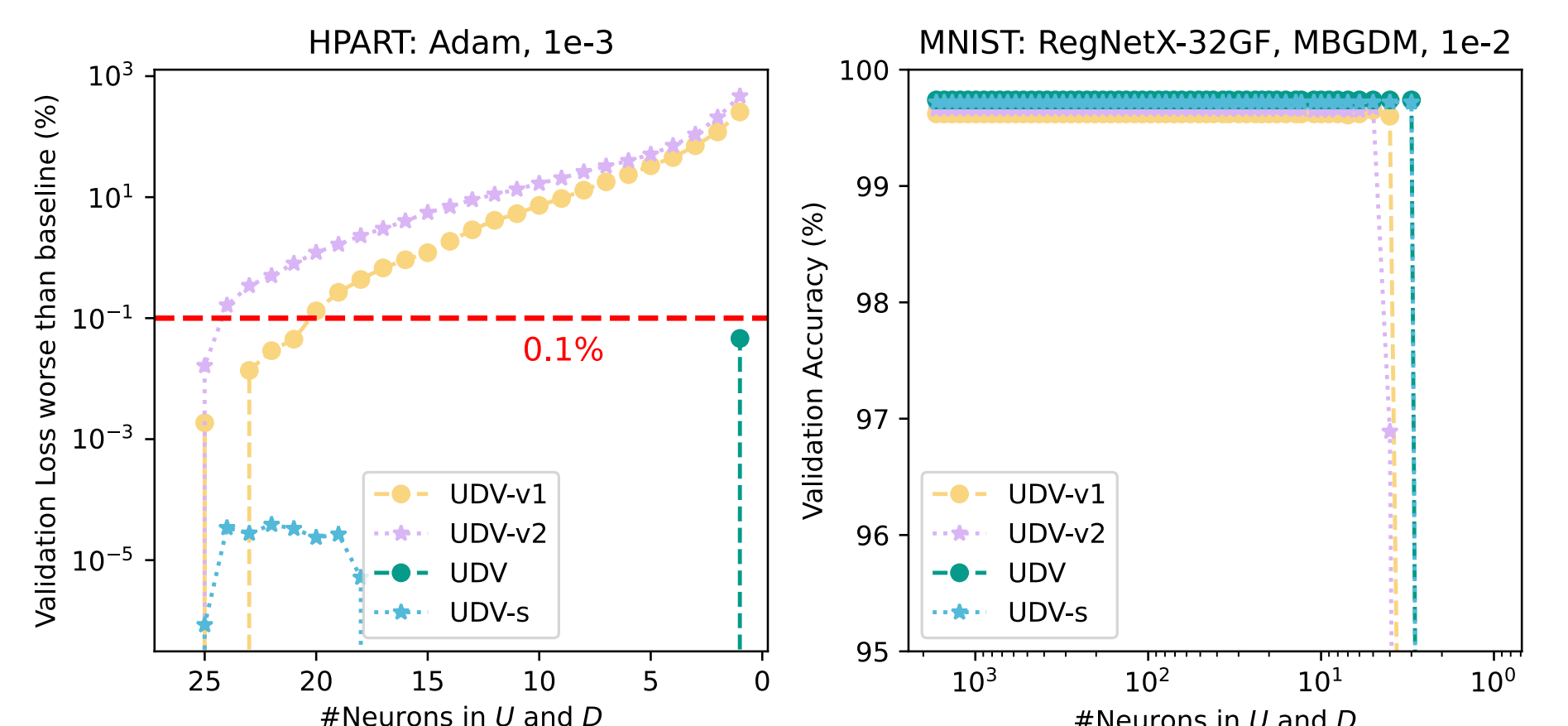
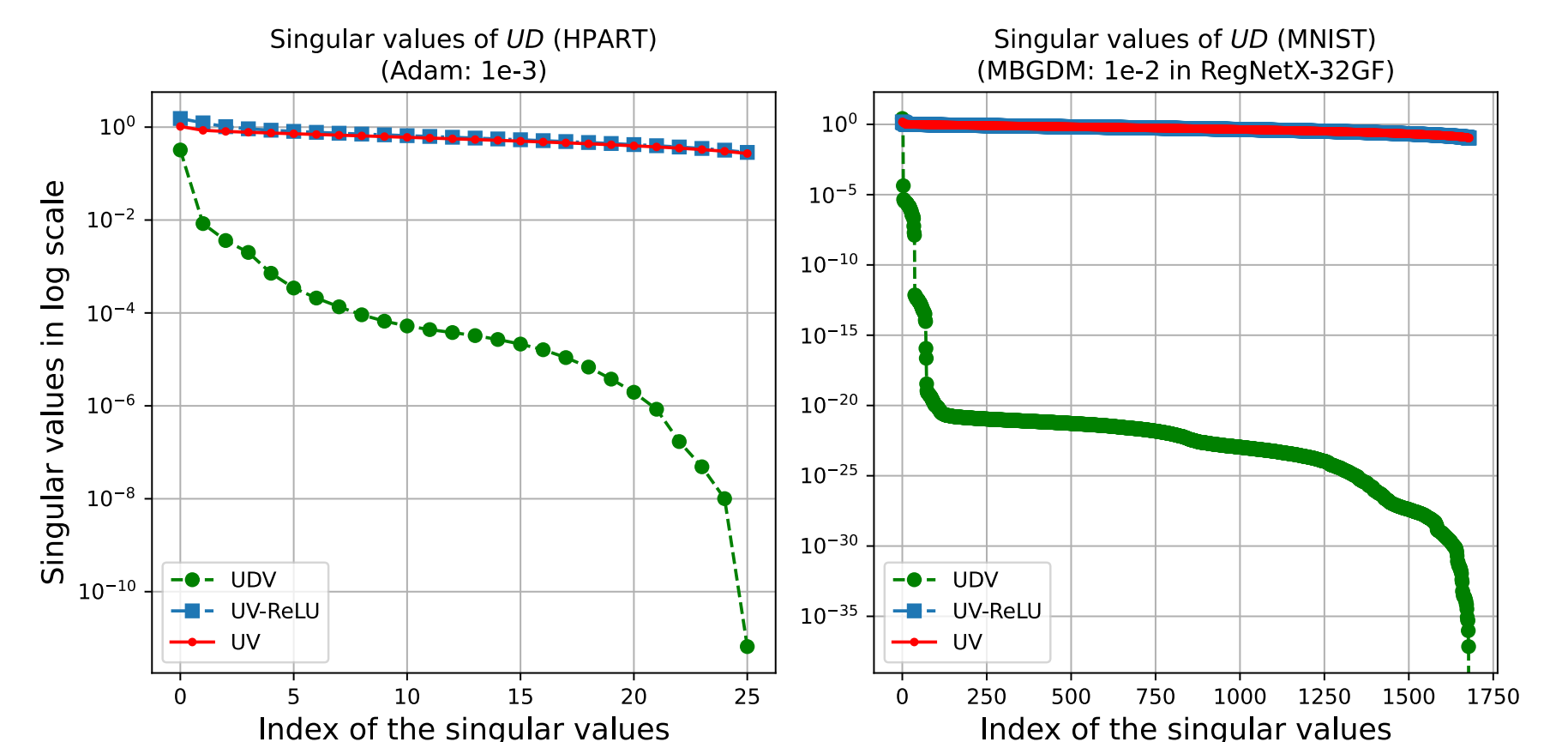
$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j=1}^m \|u_j\|_2^2 \leq 1, \sum_{j=1}^m \|v_j\|_2^2 \leq 1, \text{ and } w_j \geq 0; j = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

- UDV classifier in neural networks



② Numerical Experiments & Results

- Regression / Classification*
- Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) based pruning



- ★ Low-rank solution leads compact and lightweight networks
- ★ Competitive performance compared to ReLU networks