

On rank and subrank of the  
matrix multiplication tensors


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- characterize computational complexity of multiplying matrices
- for this we need to understand tensor rank and subrank  
  
helps
- these tensors are highly structured  
  
closed under powering

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## Exponent

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} R(MM_2^{\otimes m})^{1/m} = 2^{\omega}$$



Tensor rank  $R$

Create tensor from small diagonal tensor

Subrank  $Q$

Create large diagonal tensor from  
tensor

## Tensor rank $R$

Create tensor from small diagonal tensor

smallest  $\rightarrow$

$$T = U \otimes V \otimes W \cdot \sum_{i=1}^r e_i \otimes e_i \otimes e_i$$

$\uparrow$  find

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## Subrank $Q$

Create large diagonal tensor from tensor

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Applications:

- matrix multiplication
- circuit complexity [Raz]

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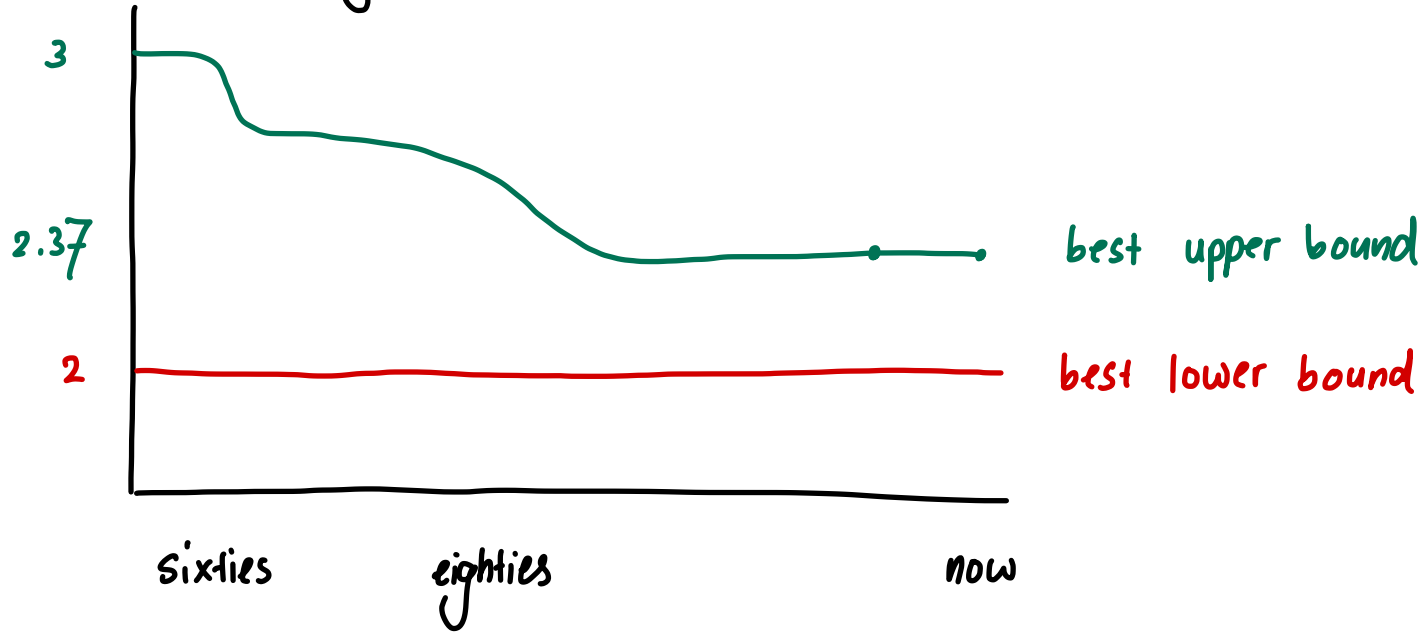
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- Matrix multiplication (also!)
- Additive combinatorics

Subrank application: Matrix multiplication barriers

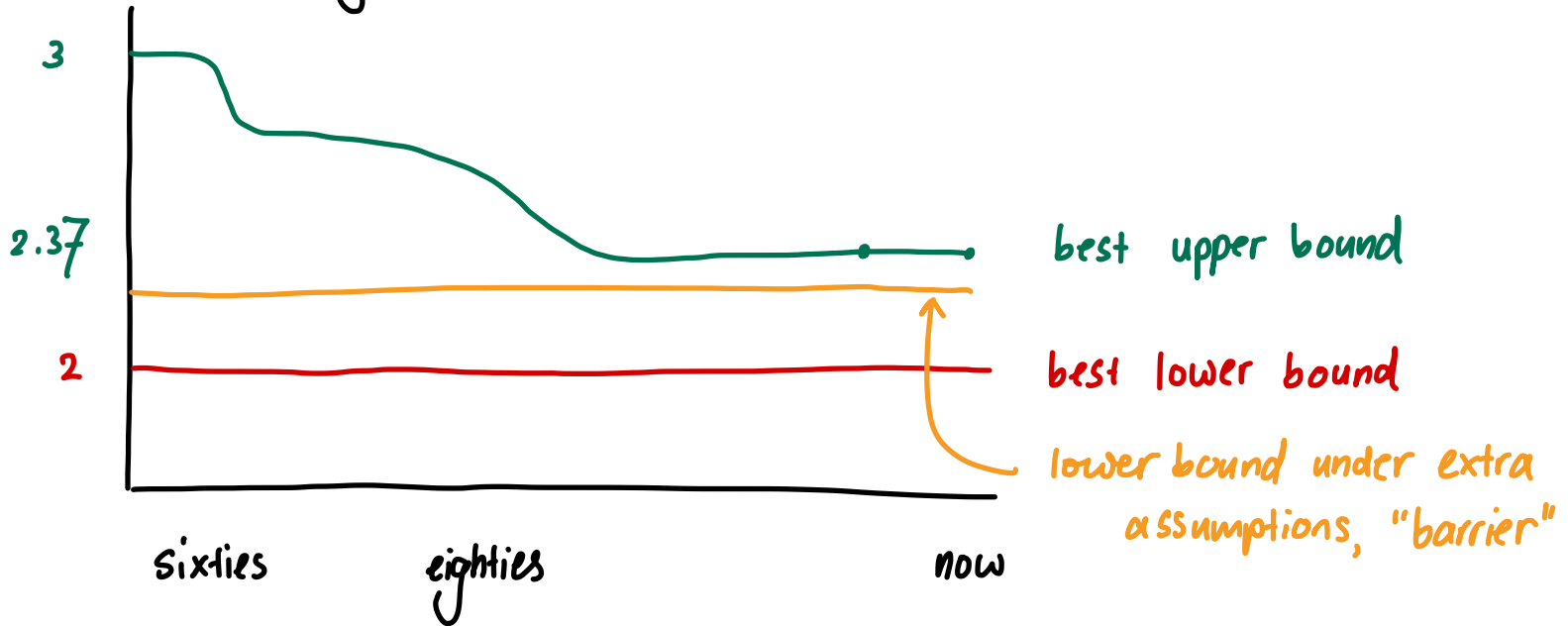
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History of bounds on exponent  $\omega$



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Barrier Theorem (CvZ) small subrank of  $T^{\otimes n}$  implies barrier

Two directions in the rest of the talk:

- ① How to upper bound subrank?  
for barriers and other applications
- ② How to circumvent these barriers  
and improve upper bound on  $\omega$ ?

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- G-stable rank [Derksen] one-parameter subgroups, invariant theory  
related  $\rightarrow$  Quantum functionals [Christandl-Vrana-Z] moment polytopes

Geometric rank  $GR(T)$

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- invariant under permuting  $x, y$  and  $z$
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Theorem [Moshkovitz-Cohen]  $GR$  equals  $SR$  up to constant!

Theorem [Derksen-Makam-Z] Huge gap between  $Q$  and  $GR$ .

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### Traditional

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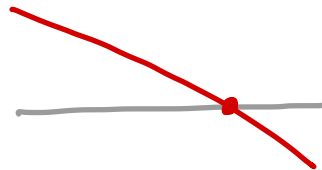
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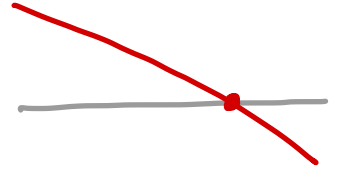
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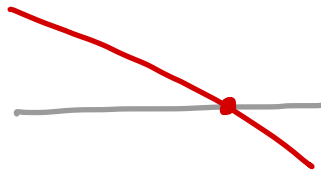
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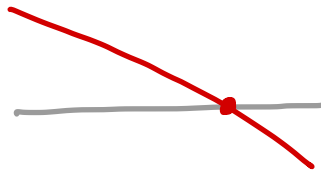
Positivstellensatz

Tensor inequalities  $\iff$  Real geometry

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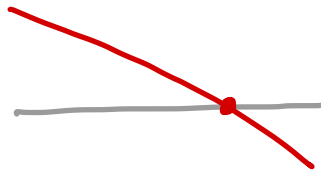
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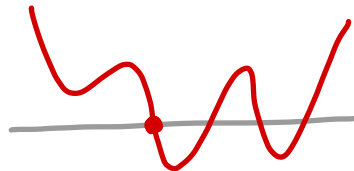
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Upcoming paper with Wigderson: survey, exposition, extensions