
Network Extraction and Modelling

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Networks and Connectedness in Economics and Finance

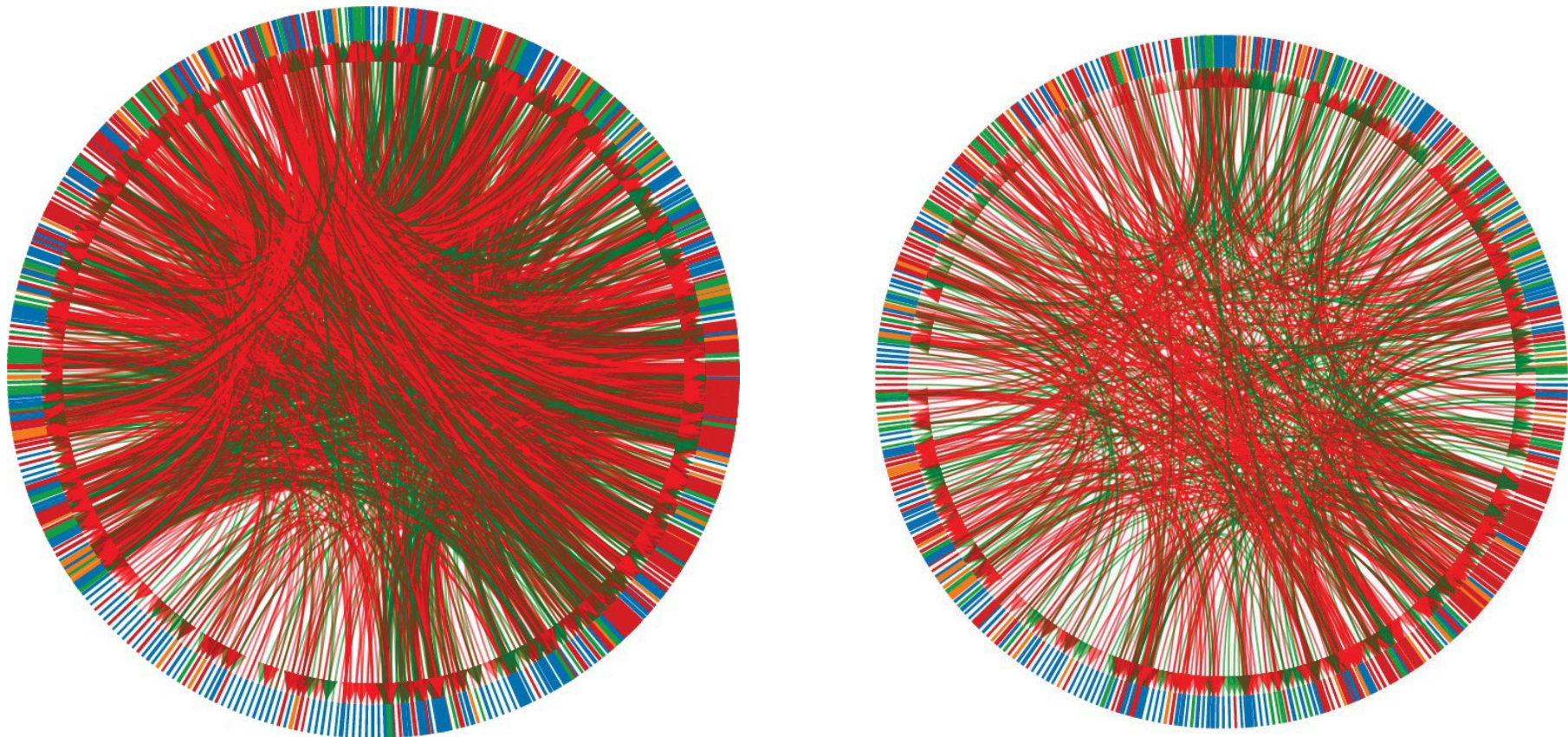


Figure: Example of a financial network in crisis and non-crisis periods.

Billio, Getmansky, Lo, Pelizzon (2012), Econometric Measures of Connectedness and Systemic Risk in the Finance and Insurance Sectors, [Journal of Financial Economics](#), 104, 535-559

Networks @ Ca' Foscari

Better statistical tools to extract networks

Sparsity

- Ahelegbey, Billio, Casarin (2016a), "Bayesian Graphical Models for Structural Vector Autoregressive Processes" [Journal of Applied Econometrics](#), 31(2), 357-386.
- Ahelegbey, Billio, Casarin (2016b), "**Sparse** Graphical Vector Autoregression: A Bayesian Approach", [Annals of Economics and Statistics](#), 123/124, 1-30.
- Billio, Casarin, Rossini (2019), "Bayesian nonparametric **sparse** VAR models", [Journal of Econometrics](#), 212(1), 97-115.

Breaks and regimes

- Bianchi, Billio, Casarin, Guidolin (2019), "Modelling Systemic Risk with Markov **Switching** Graphical SUR Models" [Journal of Econometrics](#), 210(1), 58-74.
- Ahelegbey, Billio, Casarin (2024), "Modeling **Turning Points** in the Global Equity Market", [Econometrics and Statistics](#), 30, 60-75.

Networks @ Ca' Foscari

Impact of network connectivity

Impact of connectivity

- Billio, Caporin, Panzica, Pelizzon (2023), "The impact of network **connectivity** on factor exposures, asset pricing, and portfolio diversification" [International Review of Economics and Finance](#), 84, 196-223.
- Billio, Pelizzon, Frattarolo (2023), "**Networks** in risk spillovers: A multivariate GARCH perspective", [Econometrics and Statistics](#), 28, 1-29.
- Agudze, Billio, Casarin, Ravazzolo (2022), Markov Switching Panel with Endogenous **Synchronization** Effects, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 230(2), 281-298.
- Baltodano, Billio, Casarin, Costola (2025), Compounding Geopolitical and Energy Risks: A clustered stochastic multi-COVOL model, [Energy Economics](#), 149.

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New network connectivity and complexity measures

Entropy

- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Pasqualini (2016), "An **entropy**-based early warning indicator for systemic risk" *Journal of International Financial Markets, Institutions and Money*, 45, 42-59.
- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Frattarolo (2019), "Contagion dynamics on financial networks", in J. Chevallier, S. Goutte, D. Guerreiro, S. Saglio and B. Sanhaji (Eds.) *International Financial Markets (Vol 1)*, Routledge Advances in Applied Financial Econometrics.

Opinion Dynamics

- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Frattarolo (2018), "**Disagreement** in Signed Financial Networks", in M. Corazza, M. Durbán, A. Grané, C. Perna and M. Sibillo (Eds.) *Mathematical and Statistical Methods for Actuarial Sciences and Finance*, Springer Verlag.
- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Frattarolo (2019), Opinion Dynamics and **Disagreements** on Financial Networks, *Advances in Decision Sciences*, 23(4), 1-27.

Networks @ Ca' Foscari

From **network extraction** to **modelling** temporal sequences of networks

General research questions

- Q:** how to design suitable model for random networks?
- Q:** how to measure the impact of randomness on standard network statistics?
- Q:** how to model and forecast temporal networks?

Challenges

- guarantee model parsimony
- extend standard econometric models to network data (preserve interpretability)
- allow for model flexibility (exploit data structure)
- develop feasible inference methods
- deal with the computational cost

⇒ **New models for networks and temporal networks**

Networks @ Ca' Foscari

New models for networks and temporal networks

Matrix models

- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Iacopini (2024), "COVID-19 spreading in financial networks: A semiparametric **matrix** regression model", *Econometrics and Statistics*, forthcoming
- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Iacopini (2021) "A **matrix-variate** t model for networks", *Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence*, 4, 49.
- Billio, Casarin, Costola, Iacopini (2022), "**Matrix-variate** Smooth Transition Models for Temporal Networks", *Innovations in Multivariate Statistical Modeling*, Springer, 1, 137-167

Tensor models

In this presentation

- Billio, Casarin, Iacopini, Kaufmann (2023), "Bayesian Dynamic **Tensor** Regression" *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, 41(2), 429-439.
- Billio, Casarin, Iacopini (2024), "Bayesian Markov switching **Tensor** regression for time-varying networks" *Journal of the American Statistical Association (Theory & Methods)*, 119 (545), 109-121.

New time varying dynamic networks

Contributions

- ▶ methods & models $\Rightarrow$ **array** data
- ▶ application $\Rightarrow$ **network** data

Proposals for **dynamic network** modelling of **edge** information:

- **[BDTR]** Billio, Casarin, Iacopini, Kaufmann (2023), "*Bayesian Dynamic Tensor Regression*" (**more details**)
 - $\Rightarrow$ multi-layer networks with **dynamic**, **real-valued edges**
 - $\Rightarrow$ **smooth dynamics**
- **[BMSTR]** Billio, Casarin, Iacopini (2024), "*Bayesian Markov Switching Tensor Regression for Time Varying Networks*"
 - $\Rightarrow$ multi-layer networks with **dynamic**, **binary edges**
 - $\Rightarrow$ discrete **switching dynamics**

Questions and aims

Research questions:

- Q:** possible to exploit information from the structure of data?
- Q:** how to model a time series of **tensor data**?
- Q:** more data, few relevant $\Rightarrow$ how to account for **sparsity**?

Goals:

- (i) propose **dynamic models** for tensors of data
- (ii) account for **different types** of **data** and **dynamics**
- (iii) explore dynamics of shock propagation (**impulse-response**) on real-valued networks

Our proposal:

- 1) use **tensors** $\Rightarrow$ operations and representations
- 2) use **global-local hierarchical prior** distributions $\Rightarrow$ sharing of information and sparsity recovery

Motivations

Q: why not vectorize?

- X estimation is **infeasible**
- X requires **unclear restrictions** on coefficients
- X **disregards** topological information in the structure of data

Q: why use **tensors**?

- ✓ estimation is **feasible**
- ✓ preserve and **exploit data structure** information
- ✓ powerful **decompositions** and **operators**

General model formulation and parametrisation allows:

- **generalisation** of linear regression models to tensor framework
- **parsimonious** model specification
- **learn sparsity** patterns from data
- allows for flexible prior definition and efficient posterior computation

Bayesian Tensor Autoregressive Models

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27 August 2025



Motivation

Availability of data:

- (i) increasing size $\Rightarrow$ high dimensionality
 - (ii) multiple data sources $\Rightarrow$ multiple “layers” (e.g., cross section, time, space, ...)
- $\Rightarrow$ gathered or meaningfully rearranged into **multidimensional arrays (tensors)**.

Example 1.

Tensor-valued data:

- multi-country panel: m variables, n countries, t times $\rightarrow$ 3-order tensor (e.g., Hoff (2015), Canova and Ciccarelli (2004)).
- temporal networks: relations between n subjects, observed t times $\rightarrow$ 3-order tensor (e.g., financial networks Billio et al. (2012)).
- medical data: sequence of $n \times m$ brain images $\rightarrow$ 3-order tensor (e.g., Zhou et al. (2013), Li and Zhang (2017)).
- **multi-layer networks**: relations between n subjects, d attributes, observed t times $\rightarrow$ 4-order tensor (e.g., social networks Hoff et al. (2002), Hoff (2011), Hoff (2015))

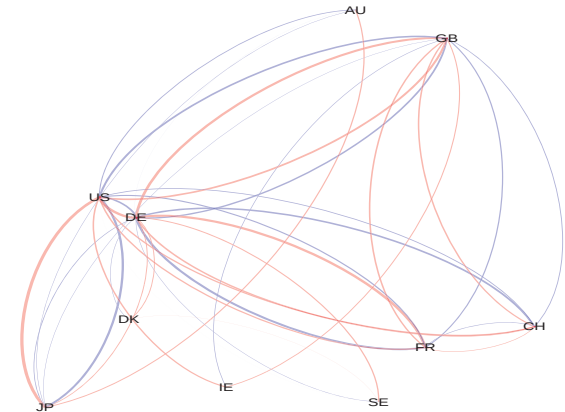
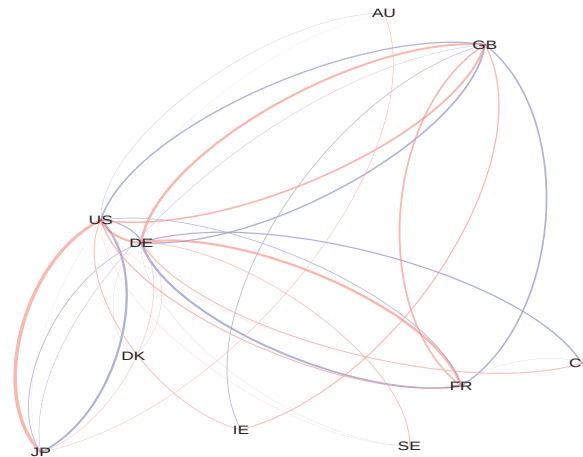
Motivation: COMTRADE & BIS Multi-Layer Networks

Layer/Time

(2004)

(2016)

Trade
(layer 1)



Financial
(layer 2)

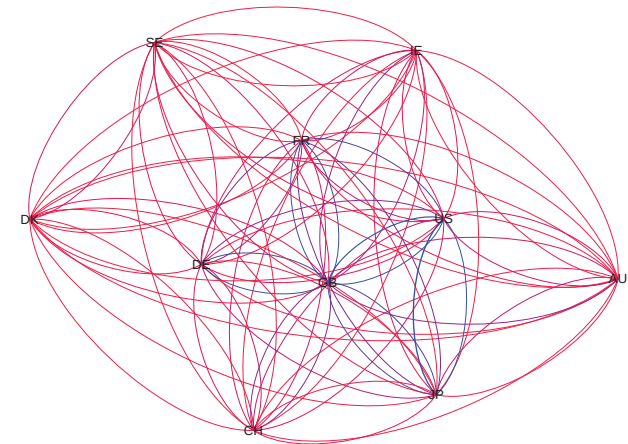
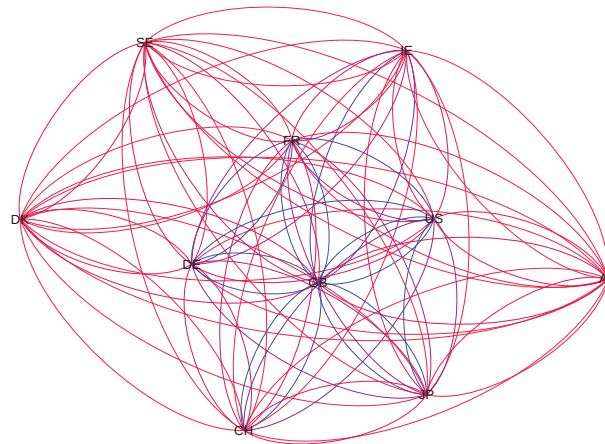


Figure: International trade and financial networks. Nodes: countries. Edges: flows.

Motivation: COMTRADE & BIS Multi-Layer Networks

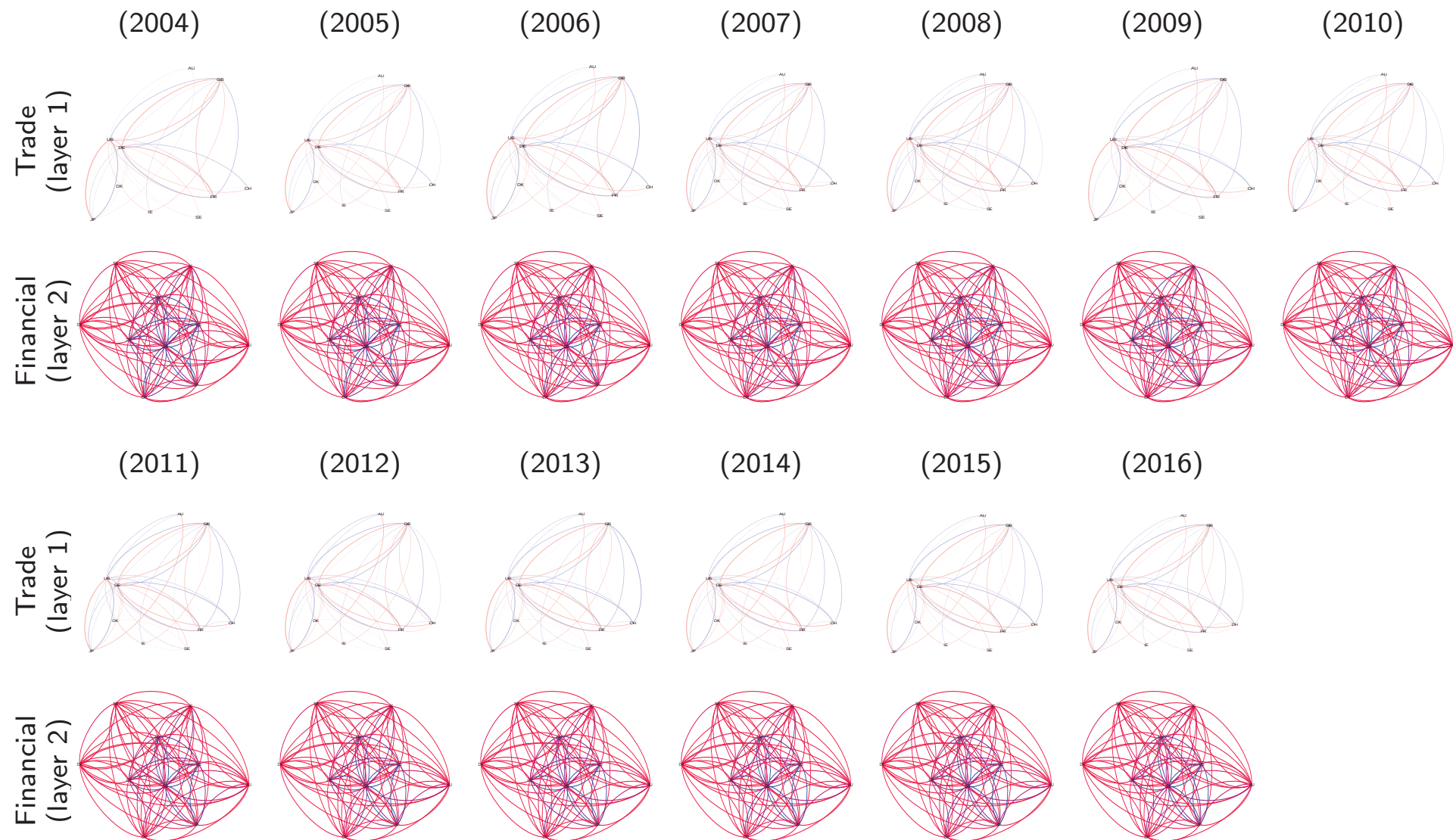


Figure: International trade and financial **temporal networks**. Nodes: countries. Edges: flows.

Questions and Aims

Research questions:

- Q:** how to model a time series of **tensor-valued data**?
- Q:** many variables, few relevant $\Rightarrow$ how to account for **sparsity**?
- Q:** possible to exploit information from the **structure of the data**?

Goals:

- G:** provide a **dynamic model** for tensor-valued data
- G:** explore dynamics of (**shock propagation**) on tensors

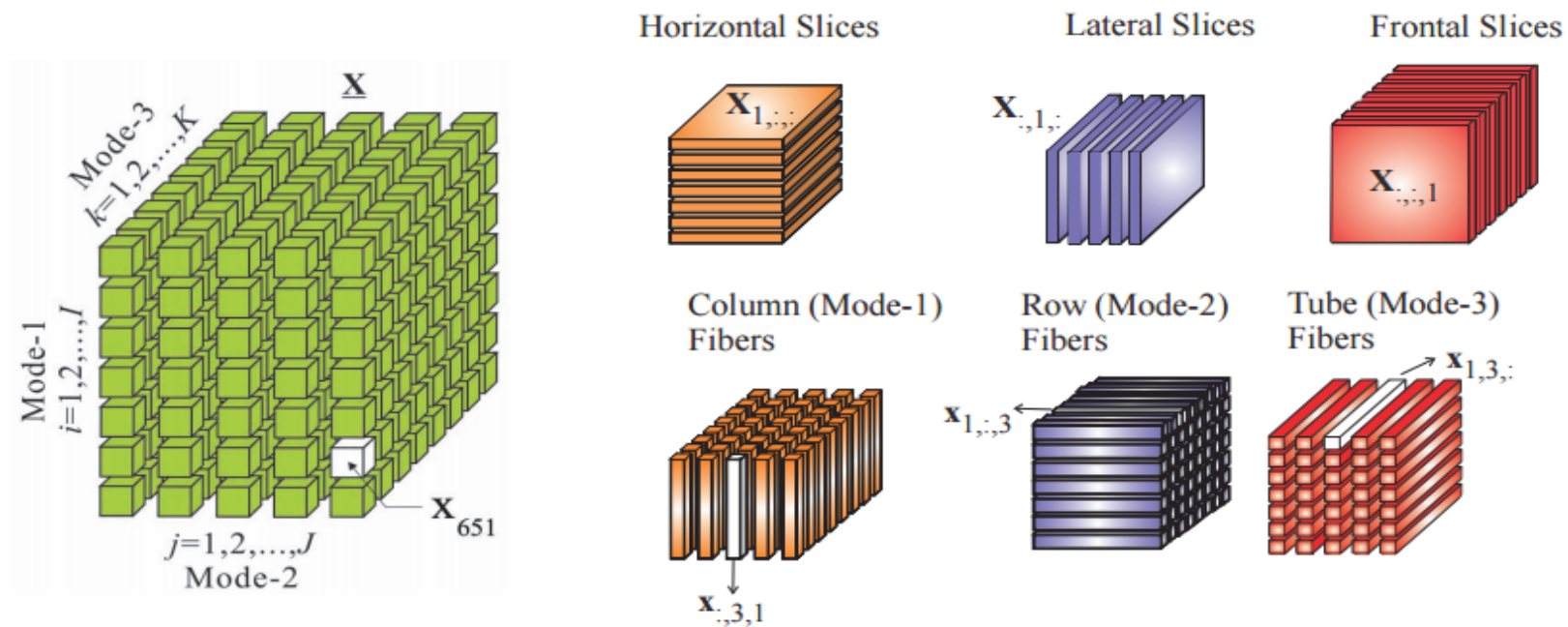
Our contribution:

- C1:** use **tensors algebra** (spaces, operations and representations)
- C2:** use **global-local hierarchical prior** distributions (information sharing, sparsity)
- C3:** extend to **tensor dynamic models** the **impulse response analysis**

Tensors

Definition 1 (Tensor).

A real valued order- D tensor is an array $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1 \times \dots \times I_N}$.



- ✓ Tensor algebra generalizes matrix algebra to multiple dimensions

Tensors Operations

Definition 2 (Matricisation).

Let $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1 \times \dots \times I_N}$ be a order- N tensor. The **mode- k matricisation** mat_k is the operator defined as:

$$\text{mat}_k : \mathbb{R}^{I_1 \times \dots \times I_N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{I_k \times I_{-k}}$$

which maps a tensor $\mathcal{X}$ of dimensions $(I_1, \dots, I_N)$ into a matrix X of size $(I_k \times I_{-k})$, where $I_{-k} = \prod_{j \neq k} I_j$.

Remarks:

- ▶ “cut” the tensor into slices of I_k rows $\rightarrow$ stack slices horizontally
- ▶ $\text{vec}(\mathcal{X}) = \text{mat}_{I^*}(\mathcal{X})$, with $I^* = \prod_j I_j$

Tensors Operations

Definition 3 (Mode- n product).

Let $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1 \times \dots \times I_N}$ be a order- N tensor, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{J \times I_n}$ and $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_n}$.

The **mode- n product** $\times_n$ is defined as follows:

$$(\mathcal{X} \times_n A)_{i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}, j, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_N} := \sum_{i_n=1}^{I_n} x_{i_1, \dots, i_n, \dots, i_N} a_{j, i_n}$$

$$(\mathcal{X} \times_n \mathbf{v})_{i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}, i_{n+1}, \dots, i_N} := \sum_{i_n=1}^{I_n} x_{i_1, \dots, i_n, \dots, i_N} v_{i_n}$$

Idea: compute the inner product of each mode- n fiber with the matrix/vector.

Effect: change n -th dimension of the tensor or reduces its order by one.

- Some operations performed in usual way (e.g., inner/Hadamard product, ... - see also [Kolda and Bader \(2009\)](#), [Cichocki et al. \(2016\)](#))

Tensors Operations

Definition 4 (Contracted product).

The contracted product $\mathcal{X} \bar{\times}_N \mathcal{Y}$ between the $(K + N)$ -order tensor $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{J_1 \times \dots \times J_K \times I_1 \times \dots \times I_N}$ and the $(N + M)$ -order tensor $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1 \times \dots \times I_N \times H_1 \times \dots \times H_M}$ is a $(K + M)$ -order tensor defined as

$$(\mathcal{X} \bar{\times}_N \mathcal{Y})_{j_1, \dots, j_K, h_1, \dots, h_M} = \sum_{i_1=1}^{I_1} \dots \sum_{i_N=1}^{I_N} \mathcal{X}_{j_1, \dots, j_K, i_1, \dots, i_N} \mathcal{Y}_{i_1, \dots, i_N, h_1, \dots, h_M}.$$

- It has the mode- n product as special case when $N = 1$ and $M = 0$ (i.e. $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbf{y}$).

Tensors Representations

Powerful tool: several **tensor representations/decompositions** available (Tucker, PARAFAC, ...)

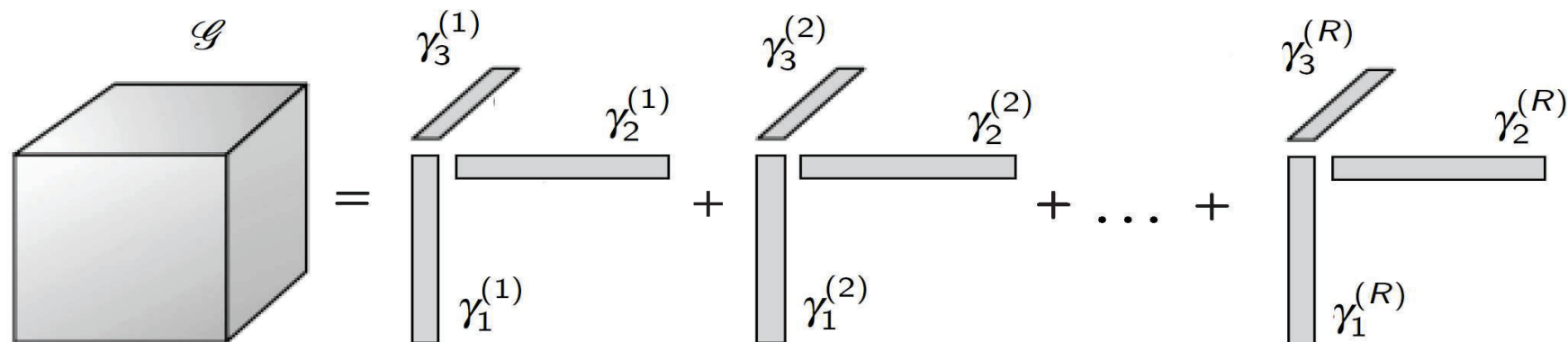
Definition 5 (PARAFAC(R) decomposition).

Let $\mathcal{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_1 \times \dots \times I_N}$ and let $R \in \mathbb{N}$ be the rank of $\mathcal{G}$. It holds:

$$\mathcal{G} = \sum_{r=1}^R \gamma_1^{(r)} \circ \dots \circ \gamma_N^{(r)}, \quad \gamma_j^{(r)} \in \mathbb{R}^{I_j}. \quad (1)$$

where $\circ$ is the outer product: $(\gamma_1 \circ \dots \circ \gamma_N)_{i_1, \dots, i_N} = \gamma_{1, i_1} \cdots \gamma_{N, i_N}$

Remark: multi-dimensional analogue of **matrix low rank** decomposition.



A Tensor Model - Idea

Tensor Regression

For each entry of the response tensor:

$$y_{\mathbf{i},t} = \beta'_{\mathbf{i}} \text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) + \epsilon_{\mathbf{i},t}, \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{i} := (i_1, \dots, i_N)$. Compactly:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Y}_t &= \mathcal{B} \times_{N+1} \text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) + \mathcal{E}_t \\ \mathcal{E}_t &\sim \mathcal{N}_{I_1, \dots, I_N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_N) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

- $\mathcal{Y}_t, \mathcal{X}_t$: response and regressor **tensors**, with possibly different order and/or size
- $\mathcal{B}$: coefficient **tensor**, with $N + 1$ dimensions
- $\mathcal{E}_t$ noise, with tensor Normal distribution (see [Ohlson et al. \(2013\)](#))
- straightforward inclusion of other regressors: scalars, vectors, matrices, ...

A Tensor Model - Idea

Tensor regression - Vectorised form

Given the **tensor** model

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \mathcal{B} \times_{N+1} \text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) + \mathcal{E}_t, \quad \mathcal{E}_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{I_1, \dots, I_N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_N) \quad (3)$$

the corresponding **vectorised** model is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vec}(\mathcal{Y}_t) &= \text{mat}_{N+1}(\mathcal{B}) \text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) + \text{vec}(\mathcal{E}_t) \\ \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y}_t &= \mathbf{B}'_{N+1} \mathbf{x}_t + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_N \otimes \dots \otimes \Sigma_1), \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where $\text{mat}_k(\cdot)$ is the mode- k *matricization* operator mapping to a matrix of size $d_k \times d_{-k}$ (where $d_{-k} = \prod_{i \neq k} d_i$).

Remarks:

- ▶ Kronecker structure of vectorised model's covariance matrix
- ▶ parametrisation for $\mathcal{B}$ mapped to parametrisation for $\mathbf{B}_{N+1}$

Existing Special cases

Univariate regression

If $l_j = 1, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$, then model (3) reduces to:

$$y_t = \beta' \text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) + \epsilon_t = \beta' \mathbf{x}_t + \epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) \quad (5)$$

Multivariate regression

If $l_j = 1, \forall j \in \{2, \dots, N\}$, then model (3) reduces to:

$$\mathbf{y}_t = B \times_2 \text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) + \epsilon_t = B \mathbf{x}_t + \epsilon_t, \quad \epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{l_1}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma) \quad (6)$$

Examples:

- **SUR**, when $\mathcal{X}_t = (I_{nm} \otimes X)$ with $X = [X_1, \dots, X_n]$, $X_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times k_i}$, $\mathbf{y}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{nm}$
- **VAR, VECM, MAI**, when $\mathcal{X}_t = \mathbf{y}_{t-1}$
- **Panel VAR**, when $\mathbf{y}_t = [\mathbf{y}_{1t}, \mathbf{y}_{2t}]$ and $\text{vec}(\mathcal{X}_t) = \mathbf{x}_t = g(\mathbf{y}_{t-1})$

New Special cases - Tensor Autoregressive

Matrix autoregressive model

A particular case of model (3) is a MAR(1), when $\mathcal{Y}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{I \times J}$ and $\mathcal{X}_t = \mathcal{Y}_{t-1}$

$$Y_t = \mathcal{B} \times_3 \text{vec}(Y_{t-1}) + E_t, \quad E_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{I,J}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2). \quad (7)$$

More generally, a MAR(p) for $p \in \mathbb{N}$ is given by

$$Y_t = \sum_{i=1}^p \mathcal{B}_i \times_3 \text{vec}(Y_{t-i}) + E_t, \quad E_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{I,J}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2). \quad (8)$$

Use of matrix variate models/distributions:

- state space time series models [Harrison and West \(1999\)](#)
- Gaussian graphical models [Carvalho et al. \(2007\)](#)
- dynamic linear models [Carvalho and West \(2007\)](#), [Wang and West \(2009\)](#)
- longitudinal data classification and modelling [Viroli \(2011\)](#), [Viroli and Anderlucci \(2013\)](#)
- matrix regression [Viroli \(2012\)](#), [Ding and Cook \(2018\)](#)

New special cases - Tensor Autoregressive

Tensor autoregressive of order 1

When $\mathcal{Y}_t$ is an order- N tensor and $\mathcal{X}_t = \mathcal{Y}_{t-1}$, then we get as particular case of model (3), a **tensor autoregressive model** ART(1):

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \mathcal{B} \times_{N+1} \text{vec}(\mathcal{Y}_{t-1}) + \mathcal{E}_t, \quad \mathcal{E}_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{I_1, \dots, I_N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_N). \quad (9)$$

Tensor autoregressive of order p

More generally, we can define a ART(p), for $p \in \mathbb{N}$, as:

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \sum_{i=1}^p \mathcal{B}_i \times_{N+1} \text{vec}(\mathcal{Y}_{t-i}) + \mathcal{E}_t, \quad \mathcal{E}_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{I_1, \dots, I_N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_N). \quad (10)$$

Proposed Parametrization

Parsimonious Parametrization of the Covariances

unrestricted VAR(1)	ART(1)
$\underbrace{\prod_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j}_{\text{coeff}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \prod_{j=1}^N l_j \prod_{j=1}^N (l_j + 1)}_{\text{covariance}}$	$\underbrace{\prod_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j}_{\text{coeff}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N l_i (l_i + 1)}_{\text{covariance}}$

Parsimonious Parametrization of the Coefficients

PARAFAC(R) decomposition for $\mathcal{B}$

$$\mathcal{B} = \sum_{r=1}^R \beta_1^{(r)} \circ \dots \circ \beta_N^{(r)}$$

Restricted ART(1): $R \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j + \sum_{j=1}^N l_j (l_j + 1)/2 \implies$ estimation **feasible**

Proposed Parametrization

Parsimonious Parametrization

unrestricted VAR(1)

$$\prod_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j + \frac{1}{2} \prod_{j=1}^N l_j \prod_{j=1}^N (l_j + 1)$$

ART(1) with PARAFAC(R)

$$R \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N l_j (l_j + 1)$$

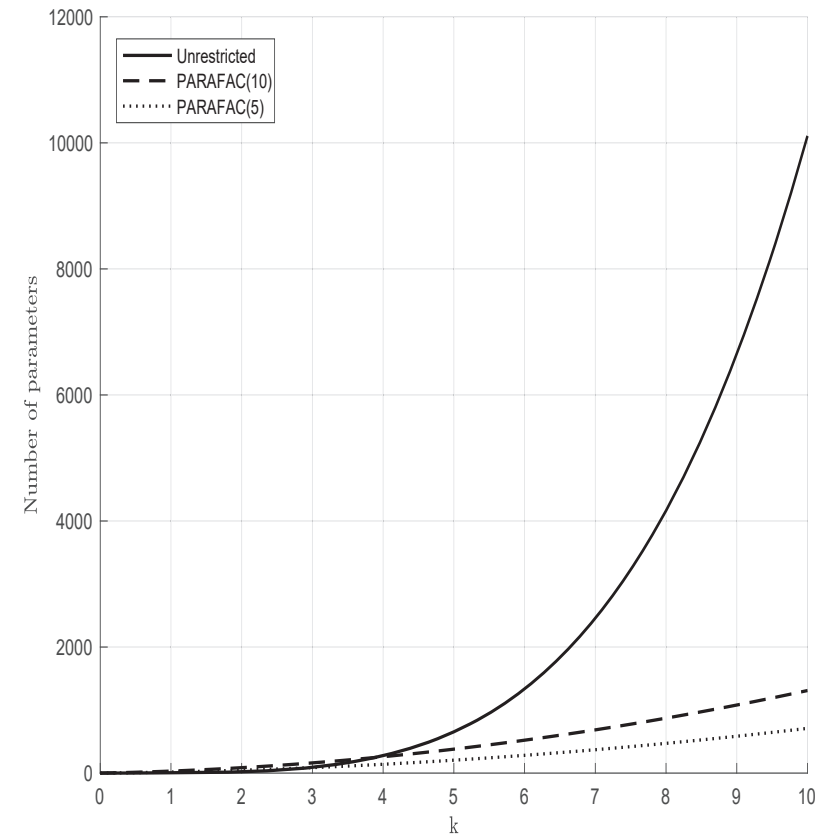


Figure: parameter reduction.

Parametrization Issues

Q: Identification of PARAFAC marginals $\beta_h^{(r)}$?

(i) scale invariance

$$\lambda_{1r}\beta_1^{(r)} \circ \dots \circ \lambda_{Nr}\beta_N^{(r)} = \beta_j^{(r)} \circ \beta_i^{(r)}, \quad \forall \lambda_{jr} : \prod_j \lambda_{jr} = 1$$

(ii) permutation invariance

$$\beta_1^{\pi(r)} \circ \dots \circ \beta_N^{\pi(r)} = \beta_1^{(r)} \circ \dots \circ \beta_N^{(r)}, \quad \forall \text{ permutation } \pi(\cdot)$$

(iii) (if $N = 2$) invariance up to multiplication by orthonormal vectors

$$\left(\beta_j^{(r)} \mathbf{c}'\right) \circ \left(\beta_i^{(r)} \mathbf{c}'\right) = \beta_j^{(r)} \circ \beta_i^{(r)}, \quad \forall \mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_j} : \mathbf{c}'\mathbf{c} = 1$$

Remark 1 (PARAFAC Parametrisation).

- ▶ reduces the size of parameter space
- ▶ coefficient tensor $\mathcal{B}$ always identified
- ▶ no interest in marginals $\beta_j^{(r)}$

Prior Specification

Hierarchical **global-local** shrinkage prior for tensor marginals:

$$\pi(\beta_h^{(r)} | \tau, \phi_r, W_{h,r}) \sim \mathcal{N}_{I_h}(\mathbf{0}, \underbrace{\tau}_{\text{global}} \underbrace{\phi_r}_{\text{comp}} \underbrace{W_{h,r}}_{\text{local}}) \quad \forall h, r$$

- **global** and **component** parts

$$\pi(\tau) \sim \mathcal{Ga}(\bar{a}_\tau, \bar{b}_\tau), \quad \pi(\phi) \sim \mathcal{Dir}(\bar{\alpha})$$

- **local** part

$$\pi(\lambda_{h,r}) \sim \mathcal{Ga}(\bar{a}_\lambda, \bar{b}_\lambda), \quad \pi(w_{h,r,k} | \lambda_{h,r}) \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_{h,r}^2/2)$$

Noise covariances

$$\pi(\gamma) \sim \mathcal{Ga}(\bar{a}_\gamma, \bar{b}_\gamma), \quad \pi(\Sigma_h | \gamma) \sim \mathcal{IW}_{I_h}(\bar{\nu}_h, \gamma \bar{\Psi}_h)$$

Prior Specification

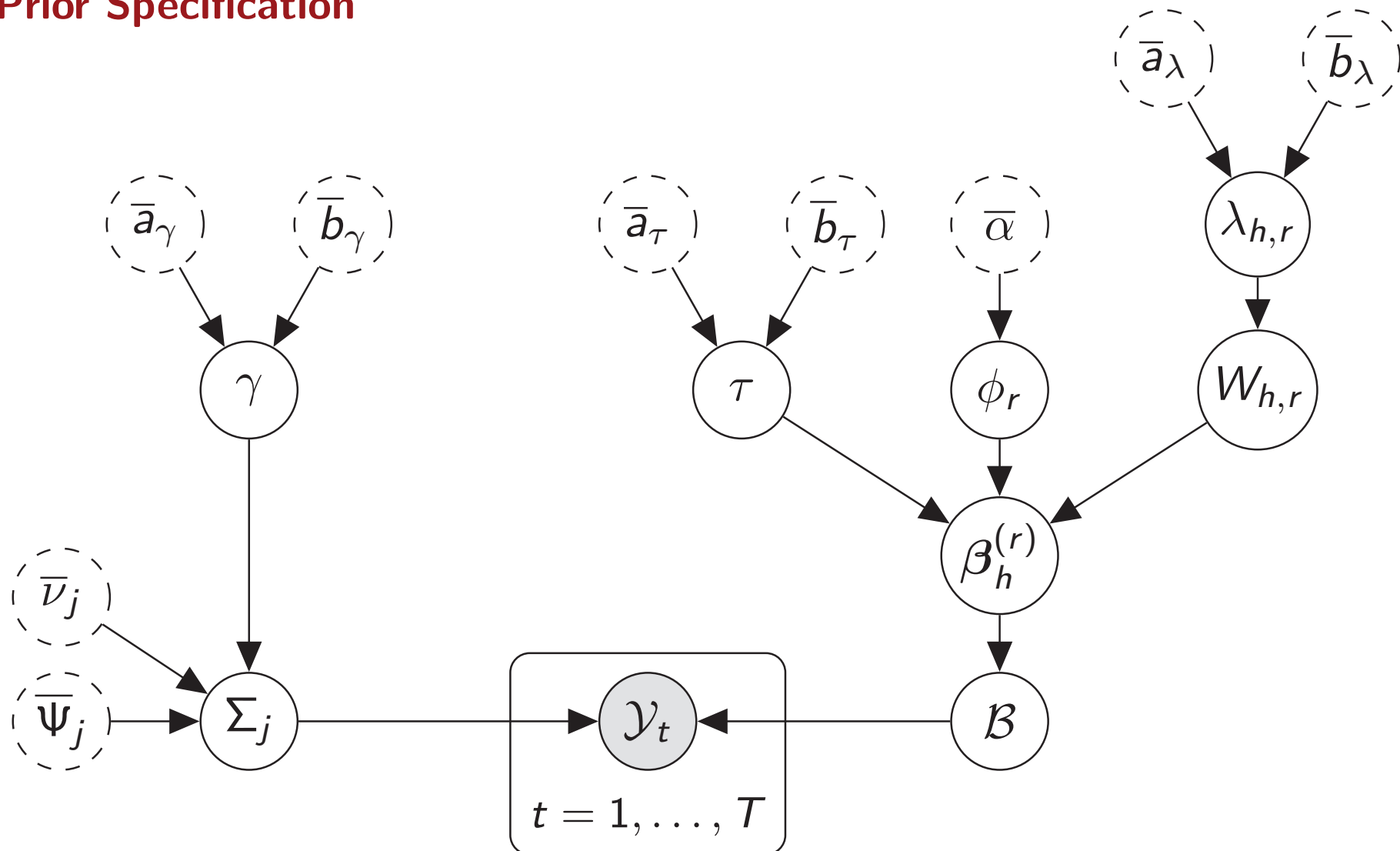


Figure: DAG of prior structure and model.

Posterior Computation - Gibbs sampler

Step 1. sample global and component variance hyper-parameters from

- collapsed Gibbs: $p(\psi_r | \mathcal{B}, \mathbf{W}) \sim \text{GiG}(\alpha - d_0/2, 2b_\tau, 2C_r)$ then $\phi_r = \psi_r / \sum_l \psi_l$
- $p(\tau | \phi, \mathcal{B}, \mathbf{W}) \sim \text{GiG}(a_\tau - Rd_0/2, 2b_\tau, 2 \sum_r N_r)$

Step 2. sample local variance hyper-parameters and tensor marginals from

- $p(\lambda_{h,r} | \phi_r, \tau, \beta_h^{(r)}) \sim \mathcal{Ga} \left(a_\lambda + l_h, b_\lambda + \left\| \beta_h^{(r)} \right\|_1 / \sqrt{\tau \phi_r} \right)$
- $p(w_{h,r,k} | \lambda_{h,r}, \phi_r, \tau, \beta_h^{(r)}) \sim \text{GiG} \left(\frac{1}{2}, \lambda_{h,r}^2, \beta_{h,k}^{(r)^2} / (\tau \phi_r) \right) \quad \forall k \in [1, l_h]$
- $p(\beta_h^{(r)} | \beta_{-h}^{(r)}, \mathcal{B}_{-r}, \phi, \tau, \mathbf{Y}, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3, \Sigma_4) \sim \mathcal{N}_{l_h}(\mu_{\beta_h}, \Sigma_{\beta_h})$

Step 3. sample noise covariance matrices from

- $p(\gamma | \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3, \Sigma_4) \sim \mathcal{Ga}(\bar{a}_\gamma + (\sum_{h=1}^4 \bar{\nu}_h + Tl_h)/2, \bar{b}_\gamma + \text{tr}(\sum_{h=1}^4 \bar{\Psi}_h \Sigma_h^{-1})/2)$
- $p(\Sigma_h | \gamma, \Sigma_{-h}, \mathcal{B}, \mathbf{Y}) \sim \mathcal{IW}_{l_h}(\bar{\nu}_h + Tl_h, \gamma \bar{\Psi}_h + S_h)$

Application I - COMTRADE data

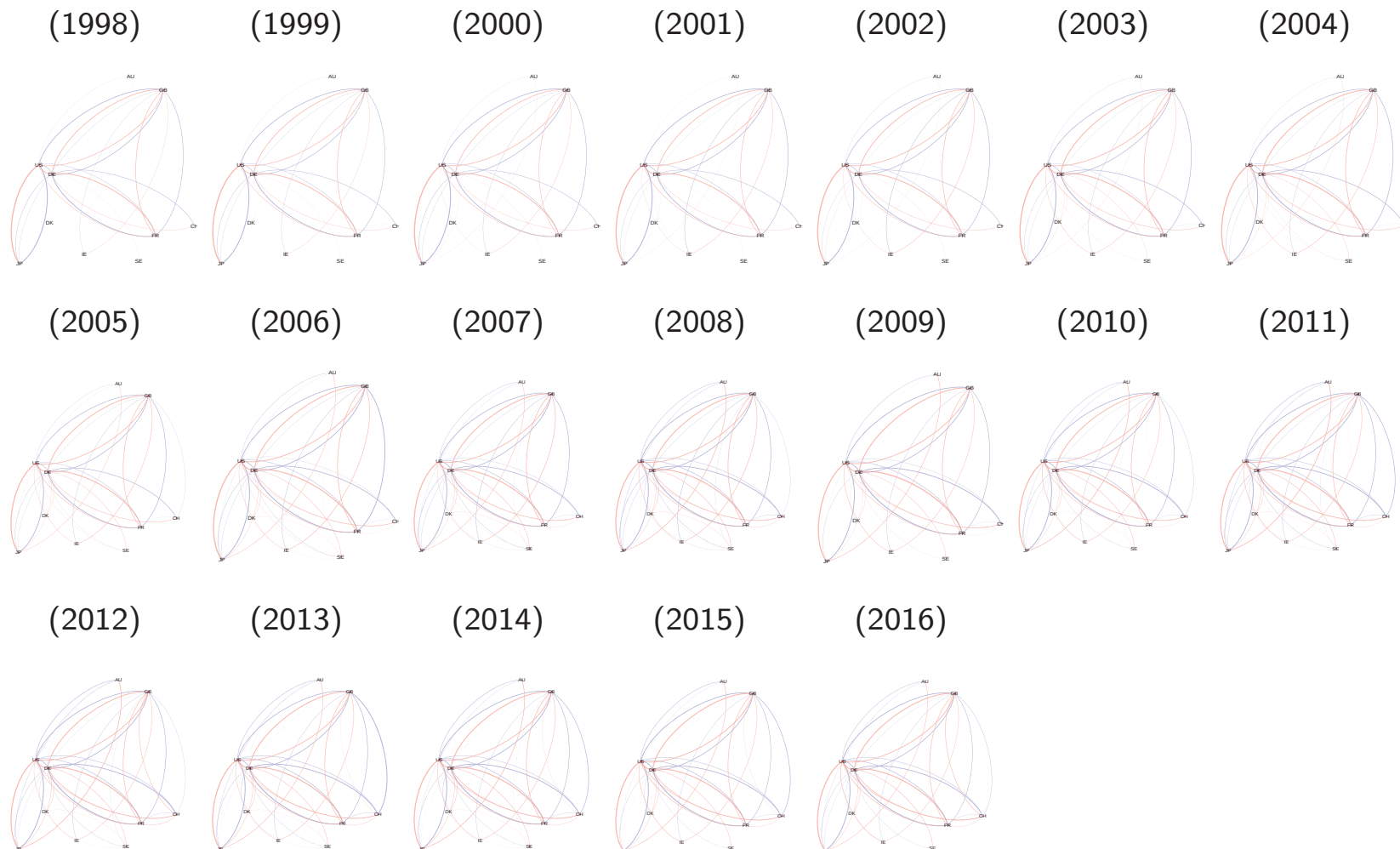


Figure: Trade network from 1998 (*top left*) to 2016 (*bottom right*). Nodes are countries, red and blue edges stand for exports and imports between two countries. Edge thickness represents flow magnitude.

Empirical Application - Single layer network

Matrix autoregressive model - MAR(1)

$$Y_t = \mathcal{B} \times_3 \text{vec}(Y_{t-1}) + E_t, \quad E_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{10,10}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2) \quad (14)$$

- ▶ mode-3 matricized tensor:
 $\text{mat}_3(\mathcal{B})' = B'_3 =$
 $[\text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::1}), \text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::2}), \dots, \text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::100})]$
- ▶ entry (i, j) of B'_3 :
 impact edge j $[t-1] \rightarrow i$ $[t]$

Note: vertical regularities =
 transaction at $t-1$ having similar
 impact on *all* transactions at t

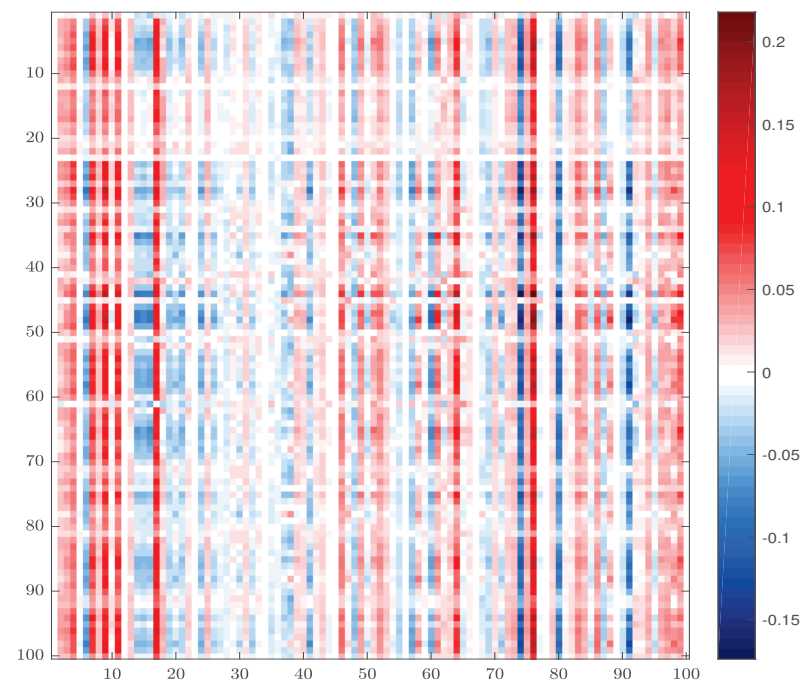


Figure: Estimated $\hat{B}'_3$.

Properties of ART(1) - Impulse Response Function

Definition 2 (Block-orthogonalized IRF for tensor models).

Denote Σ the covariance matrix of the vectorised tensor autoregressive model ART(1). We propose the **block-orthogonalised** *impulse response function* from the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vec}(\mathcal{Y}_t) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \Phi_i \epsilon_{t-i} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (\Phi_i L)(L^{-1} \epsilon_{t-i}) \quad \epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (\Phi_i L) \eta_{t-i} \quad \eta_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, D) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

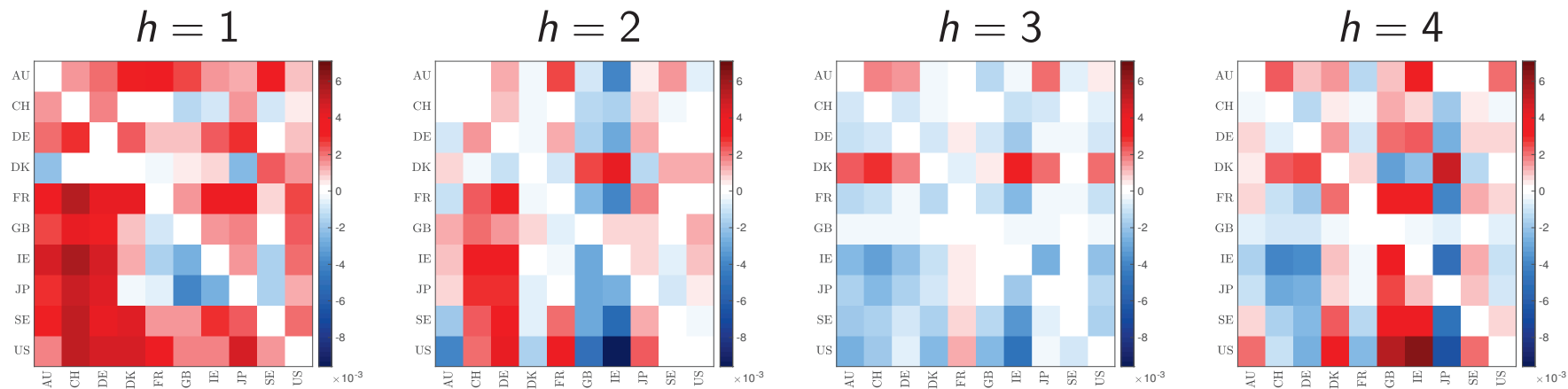
where

$$D = L^{-1} \cdot \Sigma \cdot (L')^{-1} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} A & \mathbf{0} \\ \hline \mathbf{0} & S \end{array} \right], \quad \Phi_0 = I, \quad \Phi_i = B_4' \Phi_{i-1}, \quad (16)$$

and A is a square matrix of size k equal to the number of entries to be shocked.

Single layer network - block OIRF

DE exports +1%



US exports +1%

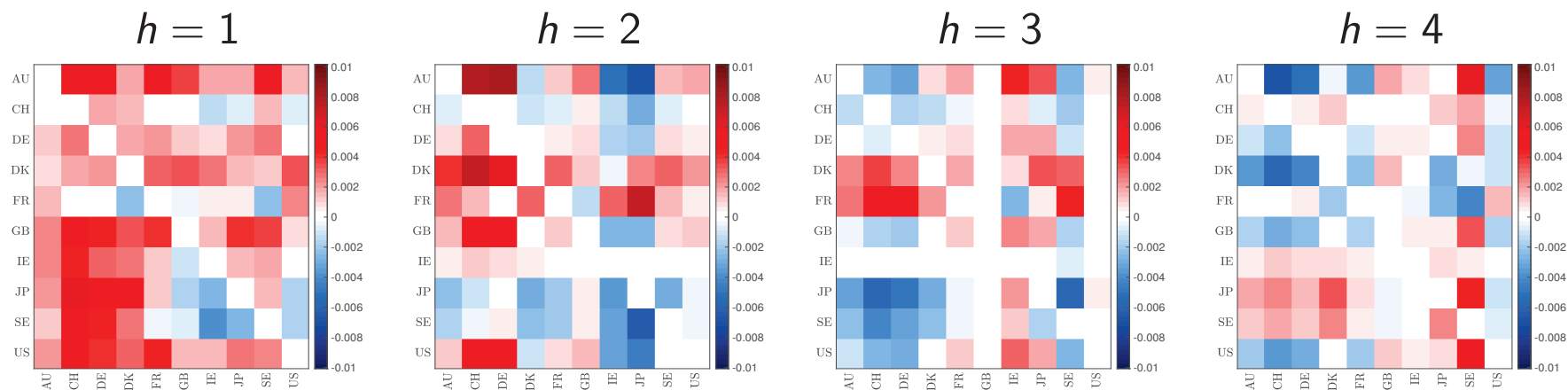
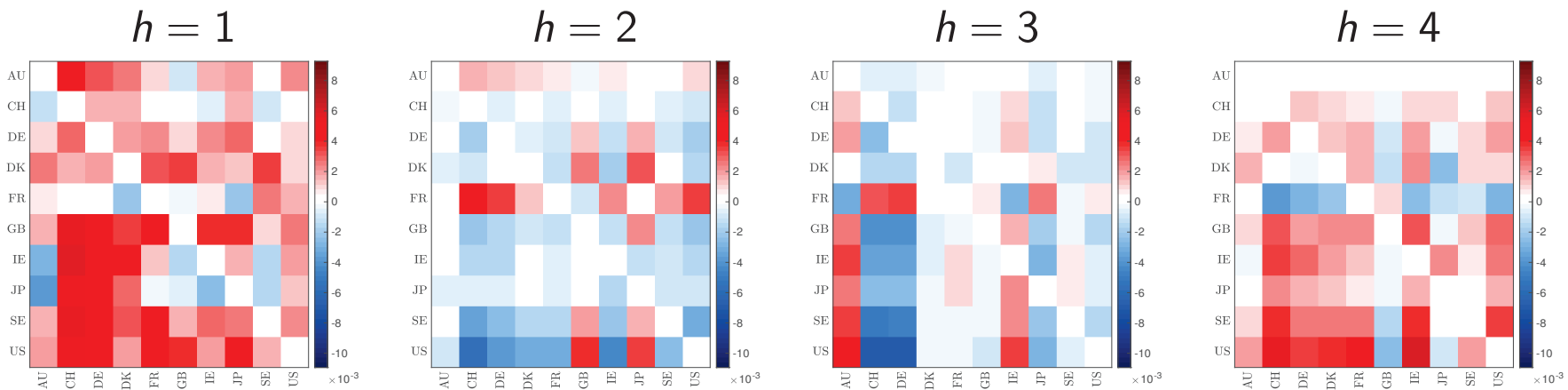


Figure: Positive effects in red, negative effects in blue.

Single layer network - block OIRF

UK exports +1%



DE imports -1%

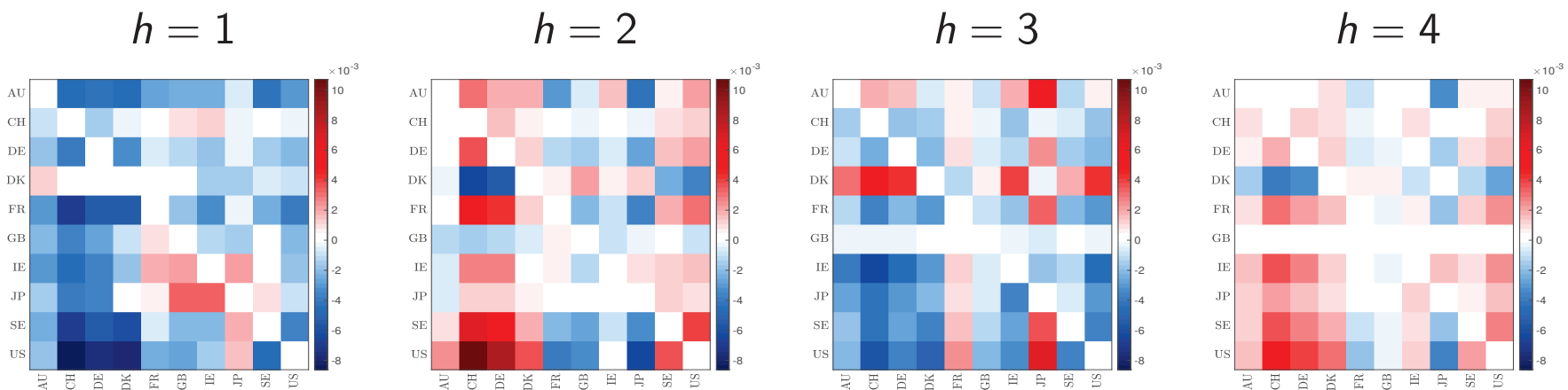


Figure: Positive effects in red, negative effects in blue.

Single layer network - IRF analysis

Comments on positive shock to US,DE,UK exports

- pos shock to US exports more effective on the network (higher average magnitude) than to DE or UK
- all cases: overall positive effect on network $\Rightarrow$ stimulus to international trade
- all cases: immediate boost to imports of Switzerland, Germany and Austria

Comments on negative shock DE imports

- overall negative effect on international trade
 - one lag - mostly affected: imports Austria, Switzerland, Germany and France
 - more lags: alternating sign decay
- shock persistence $\Rightarrow$ slow decay in all cases (similar decay pattern)

Application II: COMTRADE & BIS Multi-Layer Networks

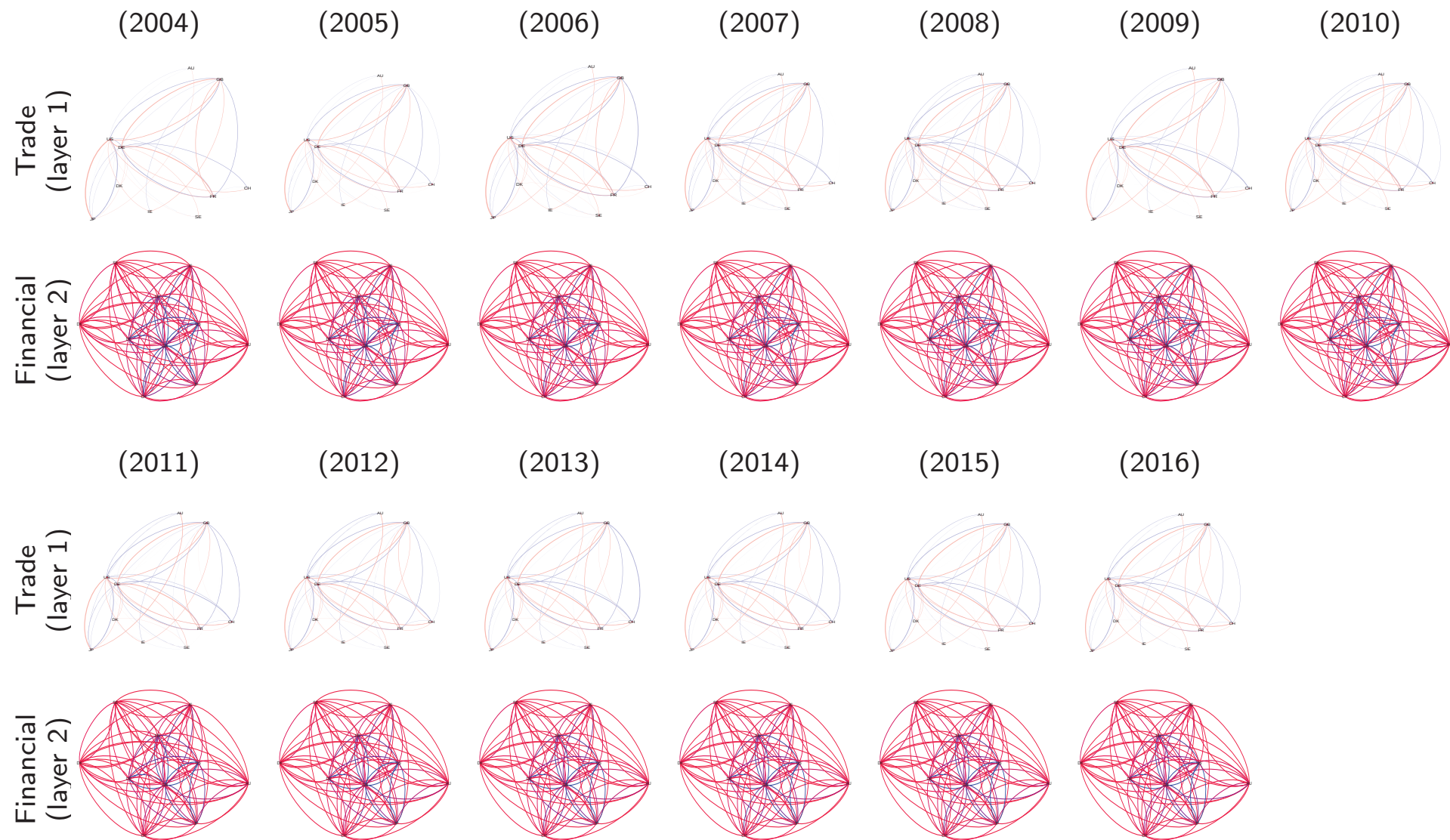


Figure: International trade and financial networks. Nodes: countries. Edges: flows.

Empirical Application - multi-layer networks

Tensor autoregressive model ART(1)

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \mathcal{B} \times_4 \text{vec}(\mathcal{Y}_{t-1}) + \mathcal{E}_t, \quad \mathcal{E}_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{10,10,2}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3) \quad (17)$$

Parameters

unrestricted VAR(1)

$$\prod_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j + \frac{1}{2} \prod_{j=1}^N l_j \left(\prod_{j=1}^N l_j + 1 \right)$$

ART(1) with PARAFAC(R)

$$R \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} l_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N l_j (l_j + 1)$$

Empirical Application - multi-layer networks

Tensor autoregressive model ART(1)

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \mathcal{B} \times_4 \text{vec}(\mathcal{Y}_{t-1}) + \mathcal{E}_t, \quad \mathcal{E}_t \sim \mathcal{N}_{10,10,2}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1, \Sigma_2, \Sigma_3) \quad (17)$$

- mode-4 matricized:

$$B'_4 = \begin{bmatrix} \text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::1,1}), \text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::2,1}), \dots, \\ \dots, \text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::1,200}), \text{vec}(\mathcal{B}_{::2,200}) \end{bmatrix}$$

- entry (i, j) of B'_4 :

impact of edge j $[t-1] \rightarrow i$ $[t]$

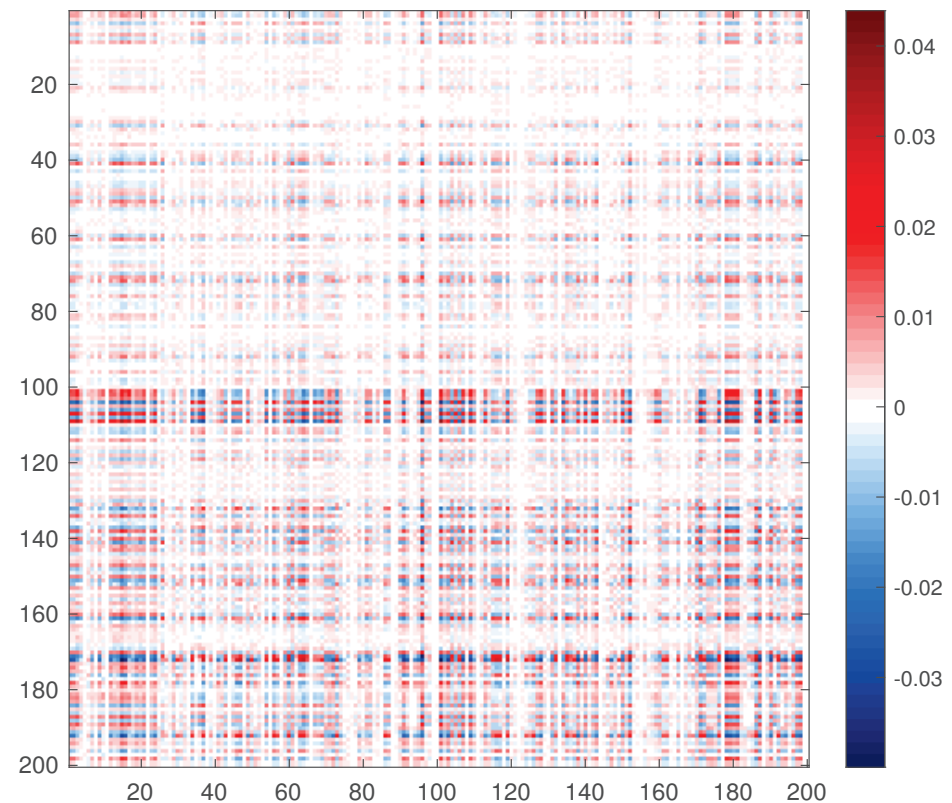


Figure: Estimated $\hat{B}'_4$.

Empirical Application - multi-layer networks

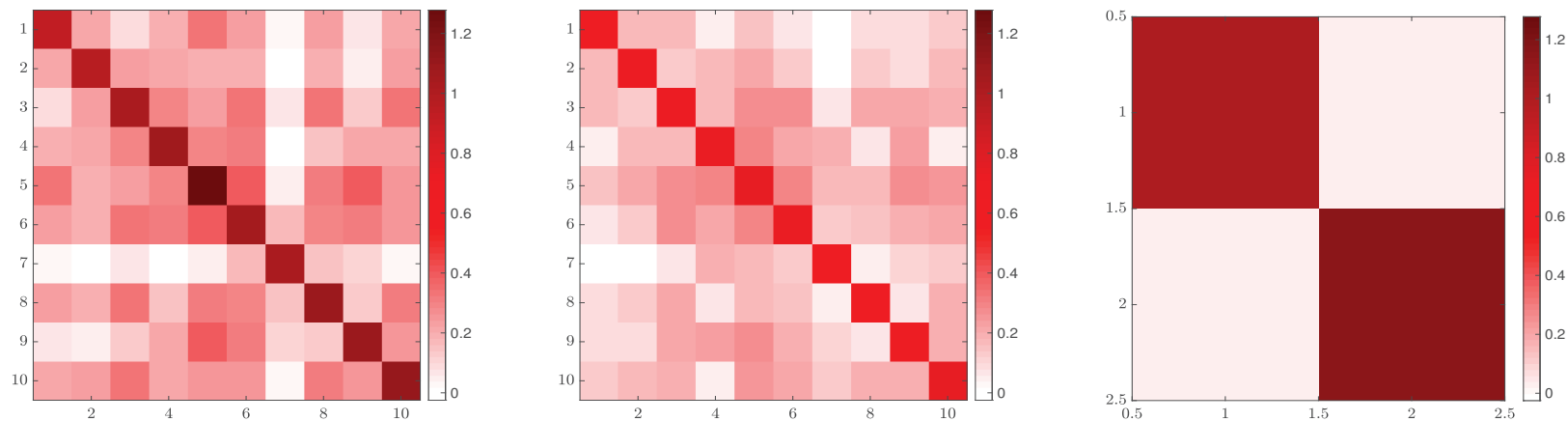


Figure: Estimated covariance matrices: $\hat{\Sigma}_1$ (*left*), $\hat{\Sigma}_2$ (*center*), $\hat{\Sigma}_3$ (*right*).

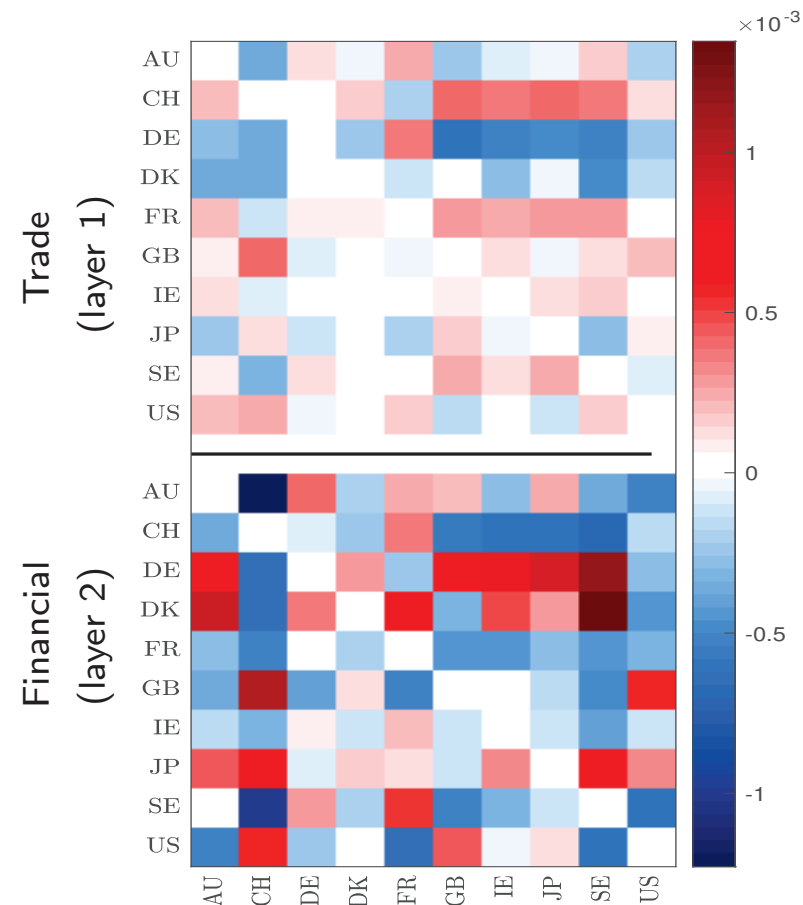
- higher values for individual variances
- mostly positive correlations

Impulse Response: US import

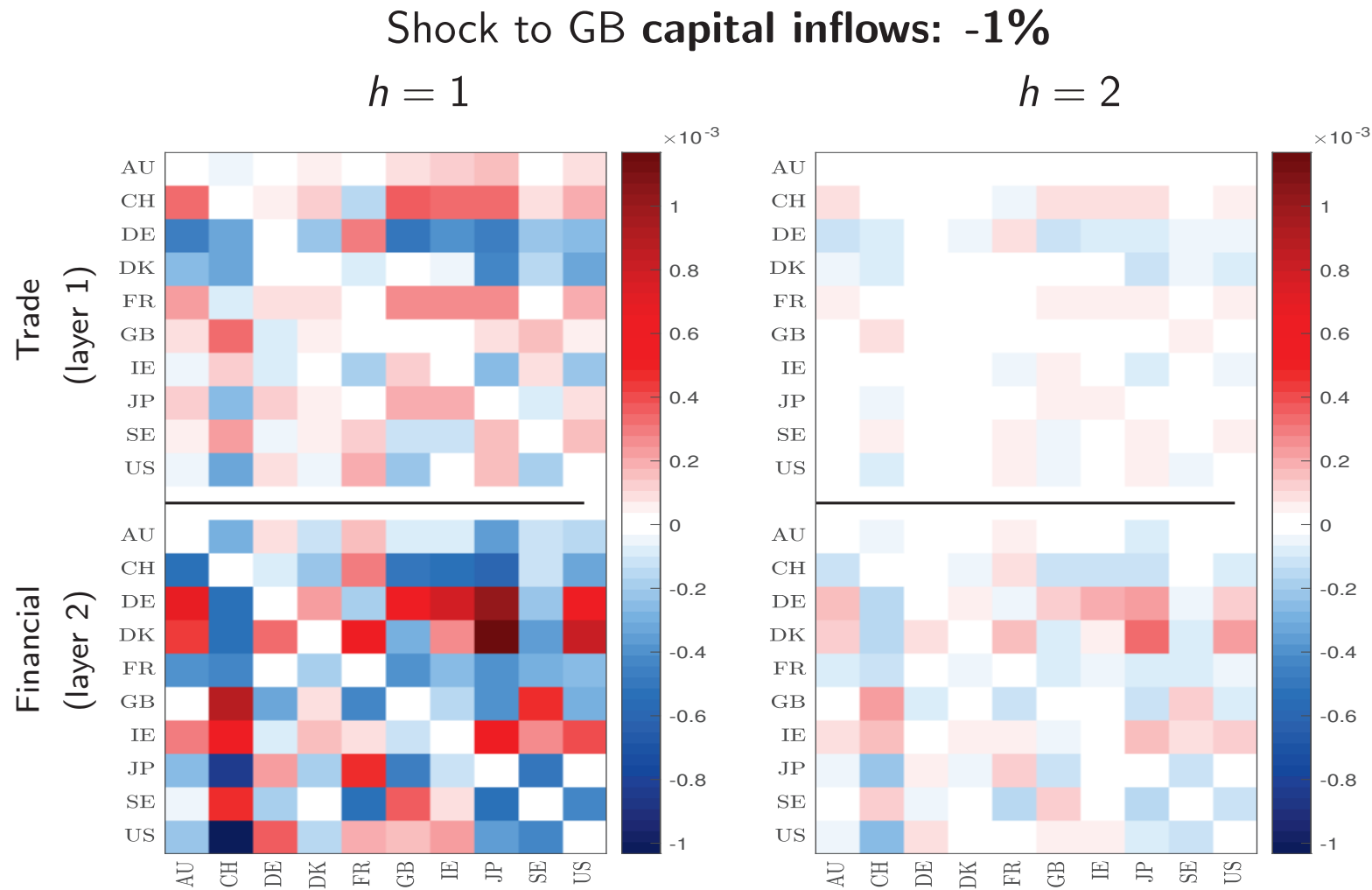
- overall slightly **negative effect** on both **layers** (trade and financial) of the network
- reaction of the financial layer is higher in magnitude $\Rightarrow$ **higher responsiveness of capital flows** w.r.t. trade goods flows
- most affected real goods transactions are between Switzerland, Germany and France (the exporters) vis-à-vis UK, Ireland, Sweden and Japan (the importers)
- same relation occurs on the financial layer of the network, with opposite sign and greater magnitude
- proposed interpretation: kind of “**substitution effect**”
- **fast decay**

Shock to US imports: **-1%**

$h = 1$



Impulse Response: UK financial flows

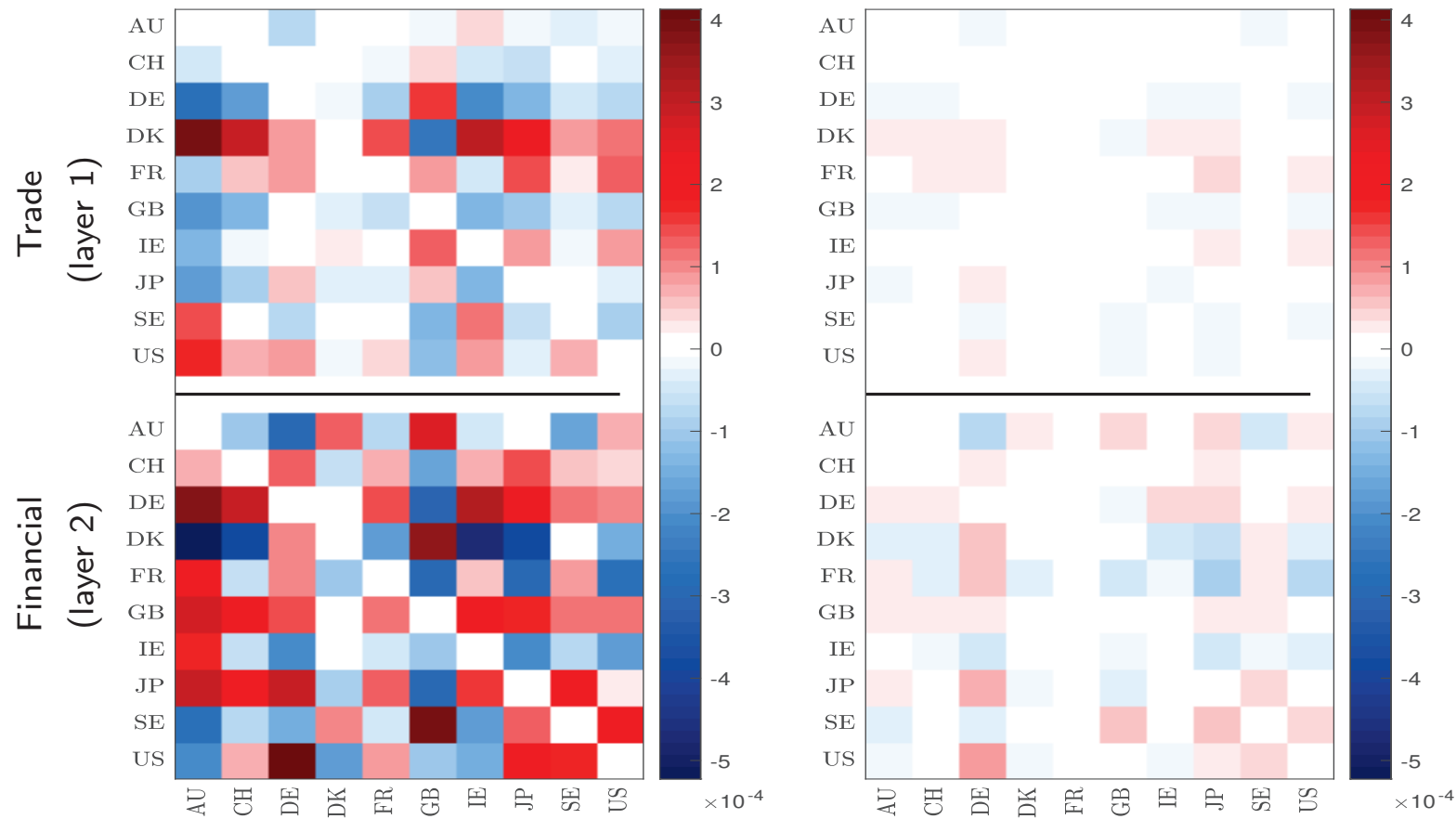


Impulse Response: UK financial flows

Shock to GB capital inflows: -1% and outflows +1%

$h = 1$

$h = 2$



shock capital inflows

- overall slightly **negative effect** on the capital (in- and out-) flows between the countries
- Austria and Japan (among the top capital exporters) $\Rightarrow$ overall reduction of capital outflows
- Ireland and Germany (among the least capital exporting countries) $\Rightarrow$ positive effect on outflows
- **substitution** effect between Switzerland and Germany
- **trade** layer: overall positive effect, with **smaller magnitude** than that on the financial layer

shock capital inflows + outflows

- one lag: **positive average impact** on capital flows, both in- and out- (in particular, Japan, UK, Switzerland and Denmark)
- impact on Denmark and Germany $\Rightarrow$ moving in **opposite directions**, both on from the financial and the commercial (similar in previous case)
- overall total impact of shock is greater than in the previous two situations $\Rightarrow$ due to the magnitude of the shock
- **increase in UK capital outflows** $\Rightarrow$ overall **positive cascade** effect (stimulates the outflows from other countries). Impact on trade network is smaller

► Both cases: **persistence of a financial** shock **greater** than that of trade shock

Conclusions

Proposal: linear, dynamic tensor regression model

- ▶ generalises linear regression models to multi-dimensional regression
 - ▶ PARAFAC tensor decomposition for parsimony
 - ▶ hierarchical global-local shrinkage prior for sparse coefficients
 - ▶ good performance against synthetic data up to 50×50
-
- ❖ application to COMTRADE network (**matrix AR(1)** model):
 - ✓ impact of trade links is heterogeneous and sparse
 - ✓ heterogeneous magnitude and persistence of shock propagation
 - ✓ role of network topology in shock propagation
 - ❖ application to COMTRADE+BIS 2-layer networks (**tensor AR(1)** model):
 - ✓ impact of trade and financial links are heterogeneous and sparse
 - ✓ financial shock propagation has higher magnitude
 - ✓ block-orthogonal tensor IRF
 - ✓ within + between layer shock propagation
 - ✓ meaningful country-specific IRF results

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