



# Multi-Label Ranking Loss Minimization for Matrix Completion

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## Background: Matrix Completion

Given an incomplete matrix  $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ , the completed matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  should have two properties:

- 1) consistency:  $\mathbf{X}$  should be as close as possible to  $\mathbf{Y}$  in those entries that can be observed.
- 2) dependency:  $\mathbf{X}$  should be in low-rank as  $\mathbf{Y}$  can be completed only if it is redundant.

To summarize, the objective function can be formulated as:

$$\min_{\mathbf{X}} \lambda \|\mathbf{X}\|_* + \|\mathcal{R}_\Omega(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y})\|_F^2$$

with

$$\mathcal{R}_\Omega(\mathbf{Y}_{ij}) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{Y}_{ij}, & (i, j) \in \Omega \\ 0, & (i, j) \notin \Omega \end{cases}$$

where  $\Omega \subset \{(1, \dots, n) \times (1, \dots, m)\}$  is the index set of unobserved entries,  $\|\mathbf{X}\|_*$  is the nuclear norm (a derivable surrogate of matrix rank),  $\|\mathcal{R}_\Omega(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y})\|_F^2$  is a surrogate for Hamming loss,  $\lambda$  is a balance parameter.

In real world applications, matrix may be measured by additional information, i.e., the features of customers and films for a film rating matrix. To consider such side information matrices  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_1 \times n}$ ,  $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_2 \times m}$  for the rows and columns of  $\mathbf{Y}$ , the inductive mode of matrix completion can be summarized as:

$$\min_{\mathbf{X}} \lambda \|\mathbf{X}\|_* + \|\mathcal{R}_\Omega(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{C}^T - \mathbf{Y})\|_F^2$$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  has  $r_1$  features and  $\mathbf{C}$  has  $r_2$  features.

Furthermore, matrix factorization techniques can be taken to improve performance. For example, FNNM [1] takes  $\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{C}^T$  to approximate the matrix to be completed:

$$\min_{\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{N}} \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{M}\|_* + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{N}\|_1 + \|\mathcal{R}_\Omega(\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{C}^T - \mathbf{Y})\|_F^2$$

where  $\mathbf{M}$  aims at maintaining low-rank property and  $\mathbf{N}$  is a sparse interaction matrix associating with the side information.

## Motivation: Multi-Label Learning

Multi-label learning deals with the problem where each instance is associated with a multiple labels.

That is, in multi-label learning, label matrix with multiple instances and multiple labels should be fitted and predicted. Suppose that  $\mathbf{X}$  is feature matrix and  $\mathbf{Y}$  is label matrix, a common multi-label learning objective is:

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}} \|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{W}\|$$

where  $\mathbf{W}$  is the coefficient matrix to be learned.

Apparently, multi-label techniques can be used to cope with matrix completion.

## Multi-Label Ranking Loss (MLR)

Multi-label ranking loss evaluate the proportion of label pairs that are inversely ranked:

$$RL = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|\{(p, q) | \mathbf{Y}_{ip} = 1, \mathbf{Y}_{iq} = -1, \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{ip} < \hat{\mathbf{Y}}_{iq}\}|}{|\mathbf{Y}_i| \cdot |\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_i|}$$

where  $\mathbf{Y} \in \{0, 1\}^{n \times m}$  is the real label matrix and  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}$  is the predicted one,  $|\mathbf{Y}_i|$ ,  $|\bar{\mathbf{Y}}_i|$  denote the number of positive and negative labels in  $i$ -th instance.

## MLR for Matrix Completion

Advantages of MLR derive from its considering on the ranking relation between  $\mathbf{Y}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}$ ,

- It incorporates the relative relation in addition to linear relation among matrix vectors.
- It incorporates the pairwise correlation (local correlation, multi-label ranking loss minimization) in addition to matrix-wise correlation (global correlation, matrix rank minimization) and element-wise correlation (non correlation, Hamming loss minimization).

Weakness: It is hard to directly optimize the ranking loss between  $\mathbf{Y}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}$ , due to different instances being differently labeled.

## Relaxed MLR

To enable multi-label ranking loss minimization (MLRM), MLR is relaxed into the comparisons between every two columns:

$$\mathbf{R}_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \mathbf{Y}_{ip} > \mathbf{Y}_{iq} \\ -1, & \mathbf{Y}_{ip} < \mathbf{Y}_{iq} \\ 0, & \mathbf{Y}_{ip} = \mathbf{Y}_{iq} \end{cases}$$

where  $1 \leq p, q \leq c$  are column index in original matrix  $\mathbf{Y}$ , and  $1 \leq j \leq \frac{c(c-1)}{2}$  is the column index in transformed matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ .

A more general method:

$$\mathbf{R}_{ij} = \mathbf{Y}_{ip} - \mathbf{Y}_{iq}$$

which can be formulated as:

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{L}$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} (1, 2) & (1, 3) & \cdots & (1, m) & (2, 3) & \cdots & (2, m) & \cdots & (m-1, m) \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ \vdots \\ m-1 \\ m \end{matrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 & & & & & \\ -1 & & & & 1 & \cdots & 1 & & \\ & -1 & & & -1 & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & \\ & & & -1 & & & -1 & & 1 \\ & & & & & & & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

## Method: MLRM

The matrix to be approximated can be shifted form  $\mathbf{Y}$  to  $\mathbf{R}$ . MLRM essentially proposes a novel loss function for matrix completion can be expressed as several patterns, e.g.:

➤ transductive pattern

$$\min_{\mathbf{M}} \lambda \|\mathbf{M}\|_* + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{M} - \mathbf{R}\|_F^2$$

➤ inductive pattern with matrix factorization:

$$\min_{\mathbf{M}} \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{M}\|_* + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{N}\|_1 + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{M} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{B}^T - \mathbf{R}\|_F^2$$

where  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{C}$

➤ inductive pattern with matrix factorization in global pattern:

$$\min_{\mathbf{M}} \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{M}\|_* + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{N}\|_1 + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{N}\mathbf{B}^T - \mathbf{M}\|_F^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{M} - \mathbf{R}\|_F^2$$

Above objectives can be solved by alternating minimization [2] as Alg. 1, and the final prediction will be:

$$\hat{\mathbf{Y}} = (\hat{\mathbf{M}} + \hat{\mathbf{A}}\hat{\mathbf{N}}\mathbf{B}^T)\mathbf{L}^-$$

where  $\mathbf{L}^-$  can be viewed as the pseudoinverse of  $\mathbf{L}$ .

MLRM converts the incomplete matrix  $\mathbf{Y}$  into the pairwise matrix  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{L}$ , and thus is able to avoid the handle on function  $\mathcal{R}_\Omega$ . As a result, MLRM obtains longer strides and fewer iterations.

Algorithm 1: Framework of MLRM.

**Input:** Side matrices  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{C}$ , the matrix to be completed  $\mathbf{Y}$ .

**Parameter:** Hyper-parameters  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ .

**Output:**  $\mathbf{M}$ ,  $\mathbf{N}$ .

- 1: Calculate convert matrix  $\mathbf{L}$ .
- 2: Calculate pairwise ranking matrix  $\mathbf{R} = \mathcal{R}_\Omega(\mathbf{Y})\mathbf{L}$ .
- 3: Update right side information matrix  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{L}^T \mathbf{C}$ .
- 4: **while** not converged **do**
- 5:    $\mathbf{E}_k \leftarrow \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{N}_k\mathbf{B}^T$ ;
- 6:    $\mathbf{M}_{k+1} \leftarrow \mathcal{D}_{\lambda_1}(\mathbf{E}_k)$ ;
- 7:    $\mathbf{F}_k \leftarrow \mathbf{N}_k - \frac{1}{L_p} \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{M}_{k+1} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{N}_k\mathbf{B}^T - \mathbf{R})\mathbf{B}$ ;
- 8:    $\mathbf{N}_{k+1} \leftarrow \mathcal{S}_{\lambda_2}(\mathbf{F}_k)$ ;
- 9:    $k \leftarrow k + 1$ ;
- 10: **end while**
- 11:  $\mathbf{M} \leftarrow \mathbf{M}_k$ ,  $\mathbf{N} \leftarrow \mathbf{N}_k$ ;
- 12: **return**  $\mathbf{M}$ ,  $\mathbf{N}$ .

## References:

- [1] Yang, M.; Li, Y.; and Wang, J. 2020. Feature and nuclear norm minimization for matrix completion. IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering, 34(5): 2190–2199.
- [2] Beck, A. 2015. On the convergence of alternating minimization for convex programming with applications to iteratively reweighted least squares and decomposition schemes. SIAM Journal on Optimization, 25(1): 185–209.

**Codes:** <https://github.com/JiaxuanGood/MLRM.git>

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