

Sub-Gaussianity of GLM tensor with bounded variance

Miaoyan Wang, Jan 26, 2021

Assumption 1 (GLM tensor). We call the tensor $\mathcal{Y} = \llbracket y_\omega \rrbracket$ is exponential family tensor with bounded variance, if the following two assumptions are met.

1. [GLM density] Conditional on canonical parameter tensor $\Theta = \llbracket \theta_\omega \rrbracket$, the tensor entries y_ω 's are independent of each other, and $y_\omega | \theta_\omega$ follows a generalized linear model (GLM) with density

$$p(y_\omega | \theta_\omega) = c(y_\omega, \phi) \exp \left(\frac{y_\omega \theta_\omega - b(\theta_\omega)}{\phi} \right),$$

where $b(\cdot)$ is a known function depending on the distribution family of y_ω , $\phi > 0$ is the dispersion parameter, and $c(\cdot)$ is a known normalizing function.

2. [Boundedness] The parameter tensor Θ is bounded, i.e, $\|\Theta\|_\infty \leq \alpha$ for some constant $\alpha > 0$.

Proposition 1 (sub-Gaussian residuals under bounded variance). Let \mathcal{Y} be a GLM data tensor, and $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{Y} - b'(\Theta)$ be the residual tensor, where $b'(\cdot)$ denotes the first-order derivative. Under Assumption 1, the entries of \mathcal{E} are independent sub-Gaussian entries with parameter (ϕU) , where $U = \max_{|\theta| \leq \alpha} b''(\theta) < \infty$ and $\phi > 0$ is the dispersion parameter in the GLM density.

Proof. It is easy to see that the entries of $\mathcal{E} = \llbracket \varepsilon_\omega \rrbracket$ are independent conditional on $\Theta = \llbracket \theta_\omega \rrbracket$. Furthermore, we show that ε_ω is a sub-Gaussian random variable under the boundedness condition on θ_ω . For notational convinene, we drop the subscript ω , and simply write ε and θ . By the definition of sub-Gaussian random variable, it suffices to show

$$\mathbb{E} [\exp(t\varepsilon | \theta)] \leq \exp \left(\frac{\phi U t^2}{2} \right), \quad \text{for all } t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

By the definition of GLM density, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\exp(t\varepsilon | \theta)] &= \int c(y, \phi) \exp \left(\frac{y\theta - b(\theta)}{\phi} \right) \exp [t(y - b'(\theta))] dy \\ &= \int c(y, \phi) \exp \left(\frac{y(\theta + \phi t) - b(\theta + \phi t) + b(\theta + \phi t) - b(\theta) - \phi t b'(\theta)}{\phi} \right) dy \\ &= \exp \left(\frac{b(\theta + \phi t) - b(\theta) - \phi t b'(\theta)}{\phi} \right) \\ &\leq \exp \left(\frac{\phi U t^2}{2} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows from Taylor expansion and the definition of U . Therefore, ε is sub-Gaussian- (ϕU) . \square