Graphic Lasso: Accuracy with intercept

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1 Problem statement

1.1 Original problem

Consider the model

$$\Omega_k = \Theta_0 + u_k\Theta_1, \quad k \in [K]. \tag{1}$$

Let $u = [\![u_k]\!]$. The parameters $\{\Theta_0, \Theta_1, u\}$ should satisfy the following conditions for identifiability.

1. Θ_0, Θ_1 are positive definite and $\tau_1 < \min\{\varphi_{\min}(\Theta_0), \varphi_{\min}(\Theta_1)\} \leq \max\{\varphi_{\max}(\Theta_0), \varphi_{\max}(\Theta_1)\} < \tau_2, \tau_1, \tau_2 > 0$;

2. $\Theta_0 \neq C\Theta_1$ for all $C \in \mathbb{R}$;

3. $\|u\|_F = 1$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{K} u_k = 0$.

Consider the MLE $\{\hat{\Theta}_0, \hat{\Theta}_1, \hat{u}\}$ which is the solution (local minimizer) to the following optimization program.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\min_{\{U,\Theta\}} \quad & \mathcal{L}(U, \Theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{K}\langle S^k, \Omega^k\rangle - \log\det(\Omega^k), \\
s.t. \quad & \Omega^k = \Theta_0 + u_k\Theta_1, \quad k \in [K], \\
& \{\Theta_0, \Theta_1, u\} \text{ satisfy the identifiability conditions.}
\end{aligned}
$$

Let $\Delta_k = \hat{\Omega}_k - \Omega_k = \hat{\Theta}_0 + \hat{u}_k\hat{\Theta}_1 - \Theta_0 - u_k\Theta_1$.

Goal: Our goal is to find the accuracy rate for the Frobenius norm $\sum_{k=1}^{K} \|\Delta_k\|_F$.

1.2 Equivalent matrix decomposition problem

Rewrite the model (1) into the matrix form. We have the equivalent model

$$\Omega = \Theta U^T,$$

where

$$\Omega = [\text{vec}(\Omega_1), ..., \text{vec}(\Omega_K)]_{p^2 \times K}, \quad \Theta = [\text{vec}(\Theta_0), \text{vec}(\Theta_1)]_{p^2 \times 2}, \quad U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & u_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & u_K \end{bmatrix}_{K \times 2}.$$

Consider the same MLE $\{\hat{\Theta}_0, \hat{\Theta}_1, \hat{u}\}$ estimate. Note that

$$\left\| \Omega - \hat{\Omega} \right\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^{K} \|\Delta_k\|_F^2}.$$

By Cauchy-Schwartz, we have $\sum_{k=1}^{K} \|\Delta_k\|_F^2 \geq \frac{1}{K} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \|\Delta_k\|_F \right)^2$. Then, we know that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \|\Delta_k\|_F \leq \sqrt{K} \left\| \Omega - \hat{\Omega} \right\|_F.$$

Goal: Our goal is to find the accuracy rate for the Frobenius norm $\sqrt{K} \left\| \Omega - \hat{\Omega} \right\|_F$.

1.3 What we already know

From Soloveychik's paper, we know the following things.

1. Let $\Sigma = [\text{vec}(\Omega_1^{-1}), ..., \text{vec}(\Omega_k^{-1})]$. We already know the accuracy rate of $\left\| \Sigma - \tilde{\Sigma} \right\|_F$, where $\tilde{\Sigma}$ is the least-square estimate of Σ under the assumptions

$$\frac{\sigma_1(\Sigma)}{\sigma_2(\Sigma)} \leq \kappa\sqrt{K}, \quad \sigma_2(\Sigma) \geq \epsilon > 0.$$

2. Let $S = [\text{vec}(S_1), ..., \text{vec}(S_K)]$ and $R = S - \Sigma$. We know the bound for the residual

$$\|R\|_2 \leq \max_k \sigma_{\max}(\Sigma_k) \left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{n}} + C\sqrt{\frac{p^2}{nK}} \right).$$

This lemma (Lemma 6 in the paper) may help the previous conjectured lemma 1.

1.4 Problems

1. Soloveychik's paper estimates the covariance matrices while we estimate the precision matrices. Though our precision matrices and covariance matrices both are structured, we can not apply the covariance estimation results to precision matrices. Hence, we can not apply the Theorem 1, Lemma 3,4,5 under our model.

2. Soloveychik's paper seems do not worry about the identifiability. In the proof of Lemma 5, they use bounds for $\left\| \hat{U} - U \right\|_F, \left\| \hat{W} - W \right\|_F$, where $U, \hat{U}, W, \hat{W}$ are SVD components. Though the SVD in the paper requires the descent order of the singular values, the paper does not consider the rotation issues when there are singular values with multiple singular vectors.

3. Should we stick to the previous proof? Or should we give up previous proof and try to find similar proof in Soloveychik's paper?

2 Conjectures

Lemma 1 (Conjecture)**.** *Consider the random variables $Z_i^k \sim_{i.i.d.} \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_1), i = [n], k \in [K]$, where Σ_1 are positive definite with bounded singular values. Then for a non-negative sequence $c_k \geq 0, k \in [K]$, we have*

$$P\left(\left|\sum_{k=1}^{K}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left[c_k Z_{ij}^k Z_{il}^k - c_k \Sigma_{1,jl}\right]\right| \geq nK\nu\right) \leq C_1 \exp\left(-C_2 nK v^2\right),$$

for some v small enough.