

Graphic Lasso: Self-Consistency

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February 16, 2021

1 Noiseless case

Consider the noiseless case

$$\mathcal{Y} = f(\Theta),$$

where $\Theta = \mathcal{C} \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K$, and $f(\cdot)$ is an entry-wise link function. Suppose we have the following optimization problem.

$$\max_{\Theta = \mathcal{C} \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}(\Theta) = \langle \mathcal{Y}, \Theta \rangle - \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_K} g(\Theta_{i_1, \dots, i_K}). \quad (1)$$

Lemma 1 (Noiseless estimation). *Let $\{\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}_k\}$ denote the true parameters and $\{\hat{\mathcal{C}}, \hat{\mathbf{M}}_k\}$ are the estimation which maximizes the loss function. Suppose $g(\cdot)$ is a convex function with bounded second derivative $\sup_x g''(x) \leq a$, and $\max_{r_1, \dots, r_K} |(g')^{-1}(f(c_{r_1, \dots, r_K}))| \leq C$, where C is a positive constant depends on \mathcal{C} . Assume the minimal gap between blocks is strictly larger than 0, i.e., $\delta > 0$. Then, for any $\epsilon > 0$, we have*

$$\mathbb{P}(MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon) = 0.$$

Proof. We prove the accuracy in following steps.

1. With given membership matrix $\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k$, the estimate $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$ is

$$\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) = (g')^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\prod_k d_k \prod_k \hat{p}_{r_k}^{(k)}} [f(\mathcal{C}) \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \hat{\mathbf{M}}_1^T \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K \mathbf{M}_K^T]_{r_1, \dots, r_K} \right).$$

Note that the estimation $\hat{\mathcal{C}}$ depends on $\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k$. Therefore, we denote the estimation as $\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) = \llbracket \hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) \rrbracket$.

2. We define some useful functions. First, we define

$$F(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) = \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}(\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k), \hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) = \sum_{r_1, \dots, r_K} \prod_k d_k \prod_k \hat{p}_{r_k}^{(k)} h(g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k))),$$

where $h(x) = x(g')^{-1}(x) - g((g')^{-1}(x))$.

Note that $\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k)$ does not include the randomness. Thus, we have $g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k)) = \mathbb{E} \left[g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k)) \right]$, and

$$G(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) = \sum_{r_1, \dots, r_K} \prod_k d_k \prod_k \hat{p}_{r_k}^{(k)} h(\mathbb{E} \left[g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k)) \right]) = F(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k),$$

which implies that there does not exist the estimation error.

Note that for true membership, we have

$$F(\mathbf{M}_k) = G(\mathbf{M}_k) = \mathcal{L}_Y(\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k), \mathbf{M}_k),$$

where $\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k) = (g')^{-1}(f(\mathcal{C}))$ **is not equal to the true core tensor \mathcal{C} .**

3. We only need to consider the classification error. Under the assumptions of the positive minimal gap and the boundedness of the second derivative of g , when $MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon$ for any $\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$G(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - G(\mathbf{M}_k) \leq -\frac{\epsilon}{4a} \tau^{K-1} \delta.$$

4. Since $\{\hat{\mathcal{C}}\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \hat{\mathbf{M}}_k\}$ is the maximizer of the loss function, we have

$$0 \leq F(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - F(\mathbf{M}_k) = G(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - G(\mathbf{M}_k).$$

Therefore, we obtain that

$$\mathbb{P}(MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon) = \mathbb{P}(G(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - G(\mathbf{M}_k) \leq -\frac{\epsilon}{4a} \tau^{K-1} \delta) = 0.$$

□

Remark 1. The lemma 1 implies that the true membership \mathbf{M}_k is the maximizer of the function $G(\mathbf{M}'_k)$. Due to the noiselessness, $G(\mathbf{M}'_k) = \mathcal{L}_Y(\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}'_k), \mathbf{M}'_k)$, and $\{\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k), \mathbf{M}_k\}$ is the maximizer of the noiseless loss function. However, the true parameter $\{\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}_k\}$ is not the maximizer of the noiseless loss function, since $\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k) \neq \mathcal{C}$. Therefore, we conclude that the loss function (1) is **self-consistent to $\{\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k), \mathbf{M}_k\}$ but not self-consistent to Θ .**

Remark 2. Define

$$\hat{\Theta} = \hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k) \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \times_1 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K.$$

Then, $\hat{\Theta}$ is an unbiased estimate of Θ if and only if $g' = f$.

Remark 3. Which assumption in the noisy case corresponds to the self-consistency of \mathbf{M}_k ?

Note that in the noisy case, we have

$$\begin{aligned} G_{noise}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) &= \sum_{r_1, \dots, r_K} \prod_k d_k \prod_k \hat{p}_{r_k}^{(k)} h(\mathbb{E} [g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k))]) \\ &= \langle f(\mathcal{C}) \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \hat{\mathbf{M}}_1^T \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K \mathbf{M}_K^T, (g')^{-1} [f(\mathcal{C}) \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \hat{\mathbf{M}}_1^T \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K \mathbf{M}_K^T] \rangle \\ &\quad - \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_K} g \left((g')^{-1} \left[f(\mathcal{C}) \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \hat{\mathbf{M}}_1^T \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K \mathbf{M}_K^T \right] \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K \right)_{i_1, \dots, i_K} \\ &= F_{noiseless}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we use the self-consistency when we derive the misclassification error. Note that the result that when $MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon$,

$$G_{noise}(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - G_{noise}(\mathbf{M}_k) \leq -\frac{\epsilon}{4a} \tau^{K-1} \delta \tag{2}$$

implies the self-consistency of \mathbf{M}_k . To obtain the result (2), we require

1. the convexity of g and $\sup_x g''(x) \geq a$;
2. minimal gap strictly larger than 0, i.e., $\delta > 0$.

2 General loss function

Consider the model

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{Y}] = f(\Theta), \quad \text{where } \Theta = \mathcal{C} \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \times_2 \cdots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K.$$

Theorem 2.1 (General property for loss function to guarantee the clustering accuracy). *Let $\{\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}_k\}$ denote the true parameters, and $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}(\mathcal{C}', \mathbf{M}'_k)$ denote the sample-based loss function. Define the sample-based loss function with respect to \mathbf{M}'_k as*

$$F(\mathbf{M}'_k) = \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}(\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}'_k), \mathbf{M}'_k),$$

where

$$\hat{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}'_k) = \arg \max_{\mathcal{C}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}'_k).$$

Correspondingly, define the population-based loss function with respect to \mathbf{M}'_k as

$$G(\mathbf{M}'_k) = l(\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}'_k), \mathbf{M}'_k),$$

where

$$l(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}_k) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{Y}}[\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}_k)], \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}'_k) = \arg \max_{\mathcal{C}} l(\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}'_k).$$

Suppose the loss function satisfies the following properties

1. (Self-consistency to \mathbf{M}_k) Suppose $MCR(\mathbf{M}'_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon$ for $\epsilon > 0$. We have

$$G(\mathbf{M}'_k) - G(\mathbf{M}_k) \leq -C(\epsilon), \tag{3}$$

where $C(\cdot)$ takes positive values.

2. (Bounded difference between sample- and population-based loss) The difference between sample-based and population-based loss function is bounded in probability, i.e.,

$$p(t) = \mathbb{P}(|F(\mathbf{M}'_k) - G(\mathbf{M}'_k)| \geq t) \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty. \tag{4}$$

Let $\{\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k\}$ be the maximizer of $F(\mathbf{M}_k)$. Then, we have the following clustering accuracy, for any $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}(MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon) \leq p\left(\frac{C(\epsilon)}{2}\right).$$

Proof. Since $\{\hat{\mathcal{C}}, \hat{\mathbf{M}}_k\}$ is the maximizer of the population-based objective function $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{Y}}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq F(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - F(\mathbf{M}_k) \\ &= F(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - G(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) + G(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k) - G(\mathbf{M}_k) + G(\mathbf{M}_k) - F(\mathbf{M}_k). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon$. By the property (3), we have

$$0 \leq 2r - C(\epsilon),$$

where $r = \sup_{\mathbf{M}'_k} |F(\mathbf{M}'_k) - G(\mathbf{M}'_k)|$. Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}(MCR(\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k, \mathbf{M}_k) \geq \epsilon) &= \mathbb{P}(G(\mathbf{M}'_k) - G(\mathbf{M}_k) \leq -C(\epsilon)) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(C(\epsilon) \leq 2r) \\ &= p\left(\frac{C(\epsilon)}{2}\right),\end{aligned}$$

where the last equation follows the second property (4). \square

Remark 4. For the model in Tensor Block model, we have

$$C(\epsilon) = \frac{\epsilon}{4a} \tau^{K-1} \delta,$$

where a is the upper bound of $g''(x)$, τ is minimal proportion of the cluster, and δ is the minimal gap between blocks. By the sub-Gaussianity of \mathcal{Y} and Hoeffding's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}p(t) &\leq \mathbb{P}(C_1 \|g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K}) - \mathbb{E}[g'(\hat{c}_{r_1, \dots, r_K})]\|_{\max} \geq t) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{I_{r_1, \dots, r_K}} \frac{|\sum_{(i_1, \dots, i_K) \in I_{r_1, \dots, r_K}} \mathcal{Y}_{i_1, \dots, i_K} - \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{Y}_{i_1, \dots, i_K}]|}{|I_{r_1, \dots, r_K}|} \geq \frac{t}{C_1}\right) \\ &\leq 2^{1+\sum_k d_k} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2 L}{C_1^2}\right),\end{aligned}$$

where C_1 is a positive constant related to the true core tensor \mathcal{C} , I_{r_1, \dots, r_K} is the index set of the block (r_1, \dots, r_K) based on the estimate membership $\hat{\mathbf{M}}_k$, and $L = \inf |I_{r_1, \dots, r_K}| \geq \tau^K \prod_k d_k$.

Remark 5. When $\tilde{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{M}_k) = \mathcal{C}$, i.e., $g' = f$ in the tensor block model, the self-consistency to \mathbf{M}_k implies the self-consistency to $\{\mathcal{C}, \mathbf{M}_k\}$ or $\Theta = \mathcal{C} \times_1 \mathbf{M}_1 \times_2 \dots \times_K \mathbf{M}_K$.

3 Precision matrix model

The precision model is stated as

$$\mathbb{E}[S^k] = \Omega^k = \sum_{l=1}^r u_{kl} \Theta^l, \quad k \in [K].$$

Without the sparsity penalty, we consider the optimization problem

$$\max_{\mathbf{U}, \Theta^l} \mathcal{L}_S(\mathbf{U}, \Theta^l) = - \sum_{k=1}^K \text{tr}(S^k \Omega^k) + \log \det(\Omega^k),$$

where \mathbf{U} is a membership matrix, and $\{\Theta^l\}$ are irreducible and invertible.

Proposition 1. *The loss function \mathcal{L}_S satisfies the conditions for Theorem 2.1, and thus the clustering accuracy for precision matrix model is guaranteed.*

Proof. First, we define the functions $F(\cdot)$ and $G(\cdot)$ in the Theorem 2.1 under the precision matrix context.

Given the membership matrix \mathbf{U}' , we want to find the estimate $\hat{\Theta}^l(\mathbf{U}') = \arg \max_{\Theta^l} \mathcal{L}_S(\mathbf{U}', \Theta^l)$. Note that the $\mathcal{L}_S(\mathbf{U}', \Theta^l)$ is concave respect to Θ^l . Then, by the first order condition, we have

$$\hat{\Theta}^l = \left(\frac{\sum_{k \in I'_l} S^k}{|I'_l|} \right)^{-1}, \quad \text{With penalty, hat Theta has no closed form.}$$

Does the subsequent calculation still go through

where $I'_l = \{k : u_{kl} = 1\}, l \in [r]$. Thus, we obtain the function $F(\mathbf{U}') = \mathcal{L}_S(\mathbf{U}', \hat{\Theta}^l(\mathbf{U}'))$, which is

$$F(\mathbf{U}') = - \sum_{l=1}^r |I'_l| p + |I'_l| \log \det \left(\frac{\sum_{k \in I'_l} S^k}{|I'_l|} \right)^{-1}.$$

Note that

$$l(\mathbf{U}', \Theta^l) = \mathbb{E}_S[\mathcal{L}_S(\mathbf{U}', \Theta^l)] = - \sum_{k=1}^K \text{tr}(\Sigma^k \Omega^k) + \log \det(\Omega^k).$$

Therefore, we have

$$\tilde{\Theta}^l(\mathbf{U}') = \left(\frac{\sum_{k \in I'_l} \Sigma^k}{|I'_l|} \right)^{-1},$$

and

$$G(\mathbf{U}') = l(\mathbf{U}', \tilde{\Theta}^l(\mathbf{U}')) = - \sum_{l=1}^r |I'_l| p + |I'_l| \log \det \left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al} \Sigma^a}{|I'_l|} \right)^{-1},$$

where D_{al} is the elements of the confusion matrix.

Next, we verify the functions $F(\cdot)$ and $G(\cdot)$ satisfy the conditions in the Theorem 2.1. Let $\{\mathbf{U}, \Theta^l\}$ denote the true membership and precision matrices, and $\hat{\mathbf{U}}$ denote the estimated \mathbf{U} which maximizes $F(\mathbf{U})$.

1. (Self-consistency to \mathbf{U})

Consider the subtraction

$$G(\hat{\mathbf{U}}) - G(\mathbf{U}) = - \sum_{l=1}^r \log \det \left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al} \Sigma^a}{|\hat{I}_l|} \right) + \sum_{l=1}^r \left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al} \log \det(\Sigma^a)}{|\hat{I}_l|} \right).$$

Since $MCR(\hat{\mathbf{U}}, \mathbf{U}) \geq \epsilon$, there exist $l, k \neq k' \in [r]$ such that $\min\{D_{kl}, D_{k'l}\} \geq \epsilon$. Let $\tilde{\Sigma} = \frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al} \Sigma^a}{|\hat{I}_l|}$. Consider the function $f(t) = \log \det(\tilde{\Sigma} + t\Delta)$, where $\Delta = \Sigma - \tilde{\Sigma}$. By Taylor Expansion, we have

$$\log \det(\Sigma) - \log \det(\tilde{\Sigma}) = f(1) - f(0) = f'(0) + \frac{f''(\xi)}{2}, \quad \text{for some } \xi \in [0, 1],$$

where

$$f'(0) = \langle (\tilde{\Sigma})^{-1}, \Delta \rangle, \quad \text{and} \quad f''(\xi) = -\text{vec}(\Delta)^T (\tilde{\Sigma} + \xi\Delta)^{-1} \otimes (\tilde{\Sigma} + \xi\Delta)^{-1} \text{vec}(\Delta) \leq -s \|\Delta\|_F^2, \quad (5)$$

where s is a positive constant which $s \leq \varphi_{\max}^{-2}(\tilde{\Sigma} + \xi\Delta)$.

Let $\Delta^l = \Sigma^l - \tilde{\Sigma}, l \in [r]$. With the Taylor Expansion (5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al} \log \det(\Sigma^a)}{|\hat{I}_l|} \right) - \log \det(\tilde{\Sigma}) &= \sum_{a=1}^l \frac{D_{al}}{|\hat{I}_l|} \left[\log \det(\Sigma^a) - \log \det(\tilde{\Sigma}) \right] \\
&\leq \sum_{a=1}^r \frac{D_{al}}{|\hat{I}_l|} \left(\langle (\tilde{\Sigma})^{-1}, \Delta^a \rangle - \frac{1}{2} s \|\Delta^a\|_F^2 \right) \\
&\leq -\frac{D_{kl}}{2|\hat{I}_l|} s \|\Delta^k\|_F^2 - \frac{D_{k'l}}{2|\hat{I}_l|} s \|\Delta^{k'}\|_F^2,
\end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows by the fact that $\sum_{a=1}^r \frac{D_{al}}{|\hat{I}_l|} \langle \tilde{\Sigma}, \Delta^a \rangle = 0$. By the inequality $\frac{1}{2} \|A + B\|_F^2 \leq \|A\|_F^2 + \|B\|_F^2$, we obtain that

$$\left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al} \log \det(\Sigma^a)}{|\hat{I}_l|} \right) - \log \det(\tilde{\Sigma}) \leq -\frac{\min\{D_{kl}, D_{k'l}\} s}{|\hat{I}_l|} \|\Sigma^k - \Sigma^{k'}\|_F^2 \leq -\frac{\epsilon}{4s|\hat{I}_l|} \delta.$$

For other $l' \in [r]/l$, since $-\log \det(\cdot)$ is a convex function, by Jensen's inequality, we have

$$\left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al'} \log \det(\Sigma^a)}{|\hat{I}_{l'}|} \right) - \log \det \left(\frac{\sum_{a=1}^r D_{al'} \Sigma^a}{|\hat{I}_{l'}|} \right) \leq 0.$$

Then, we have

$$G(\hat{\mathbf{U}}) - G(\mathbf{U}) \leq -\frac{\epsilon}{4s} \delta,$$

which implies the self-consistency holds.

2. (Bounded difference between sample- and population-based loss)

For arbitrary \mathbf{U} , consider the absolute subtraction

$$|F(\mathbf{U}) - G(\mathbf{U})| \leq \sum_{l=1}^r |I_l| \left| \log \det \left(\frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} \right) - \log \det \left(\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} \right] \right) \right|.$$

Consider the function $f(t) = -\log \det \left(\frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} + t\Delta \right)$, where $\Delta = \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} \right] - \frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|}$.

By the previous calculation (5), we know that $f(t)$ is a convex function. Then, the function is locally Lipschitz with $L = \sup_t |f'(t)|$. Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|F(\mathbf{U}) - G(\mathbf{U})| &\leq \sum_{l=1}^r |I_l| |f(1) - f(0)| \\
&\leq \sum_{l=1}^r |I_l| |f'(1)| \\
&\leq K \sup \left| \left\langle \left(\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} \right] \right)^{-1}, \frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} - \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\sum_{k \in I_l} S^k}{|I_l|} \right] \right\rangle \right| \\
&\leq K p^2 \max_{l \in [r]} \|\Theta^l\| \max_{k, (i,j)} |S_{(i,j)}^k - \mathbb{E}[S_{(i,j)}^k]|.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by Lemma 2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
p(t) &= \mathbb{P}(|F(\mathbf{U}) - G(\mathbf{U})| \geq t) \\
&\leq \mathbb{P}\left(Kp^2 \max_{l \in [r]} \|\Theta^l\| \max_{k, (i,j)} |S_{(i,j)}^k - \mathbb{E}[S_{(i,j)}^k]| \geq t\right) \\
&\leq C_1 \exp\left(-C_2 \frac{\min_{k \in [K]} n_k t^2}{Kp \max_{l \in [r]} \|\Theta^l\|_{\max}^2}\right),
\end{aligned}$$

My conjecture: “yellow statement” holds only when penalty rho is small, say $<$ (some function of n, d , etc).
Initiatively, this is how rho in Ji Zhu’s Theorem arises. So, the key is to find this threshold for rho.

where C_1, C_2 are two constants.

A counter example. What if the penalty dominates the log-likelihood (blue part)? Do we still have self-consistency? (my answer is no, because the population optimizer becomes hat Omega = zero.) \square

Remark 6. The above proof does not consider the sparsity constraints. Recall the general tensor block model. The convexity of g and boundedness of g'' (as well as irreducibility of \mathcal{C}) ensures the self-consistency of \mathbf{M}_k . In precision matrix model, if we add a convex sparsity penalty $R(\Theta^l)$ (e.g. L_1, L_0 norm) to the objective function, the nonlinear term $-\log \det(\Omega^k) + R(\Theta^l)$ still keeps convex, which can be considered as the function “ g ” in the precision matrix context. Therefore, my conjecture is that **the sparsity penalty to the objective function won’t affect the self-consistency to \mathbf{U}** . Meanwhile, the difference between sample- and population-based is independent with the penalty. Thus, the loss function with sparsity penalty guarantees the clustering accuracy. **L0 is a nonconvex norm; L1 is convex.**

Lemma 2. Let $Z_i \sim_{i.i.d.} \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$ and $\varphi_{\max}(\Sigma) \leq \tau < \infty$. Let $\Sigma = \llbracket \Sigma_{ij} \rrbracket$, then

$$P\left(\left|\sum_{i=1}^n Z_{ij} Z_{ik} - n \Sigma_{jk}\right| \geq n\nu\right) \leq c_1 e^{-c_2 n \nu^2}, \quad \text{for } |\nu| \leq \delta,$$

where c_1, c_2, δ depends on τ only.

Proof. See Lemma 1 of Rothman et.al. \square