

## Topic 18: Eigenvalue and Spike Models

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**Key points:** .**Disclaimer:** *The note is built on Prof. [Jinchi Lv](#)'s lectures of the course at USC, DSO 607, High-Dimensional Statistics and Big Data Problems.*

## 18.1 Motivation

Consider a  $n \times p$  matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  with the covariance matrix  $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} \sim \mathbf{W}(n, \mathbf{\Sigma})$  where  $\mathbf{W}$  denotes the Wishart distribution. Then  $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$  can be decomposed as

$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{U}' = \sum l_j \mathbf{u}_j \mathbf{u}_j'$$

## References