

# Bayesian constrained-based structure learning

## Background

### 1. Multivariate Gaussian data

$$\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n | \Sigma \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} N_q(\underline{\omega}, \Sigma^{-1}) \quad \Sigma \in \mathcal{P} \quad \text{s.p.d. matrices}$$
$$\Sigma \sim W_q(a, U)$$

$$p(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n | \Sigma) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{np}{2}} |\Sigma|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(S\Sigma)\right\}$$

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n \underline{x}_i \underline{x}_i^T$$

$$p(\Sigma) = c(a, U) |\Sigma|^{\frac{a-p-1}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(U\Sigma)\right\}$$

$$c(a, U) = \frac{|U|^{\frac{a}{2}}}{2^{\frac{aq}{2}} \Gamma_q\left(\frac{a}{2}\right)}$$

prior  
normalizing  
constant

$\hookrightarrow$  multivariate

The marginal data distribution (i.e. the marginal likelihood) is :

$$p(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n) = \int p(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n | \Omega) p(\Omega) d\Omega$$

$$= \frac{c(a, U)}{c(a+n, U+S)} \cdot (2\pi)^{-\frac{nq}{2}} := p(X)$$

$c(a+n, U+S)$  posterior normalizing constant

Now consider  $A \subseteq \{1, \dots, q\}$ . We have:

$$\underline{x}_1^A, \dots, \underline{x}_n^A \mid \Omega_{A|\bar{A}} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N_{|A|} (\underline{\mu}, (\Omega_{A|\bar{A}})^{-1})$$

$$\Omega_{A|\bar{A}} \sim W_{|A|} (a - |\bar{A}|, U_{AA})$$

with  $\underline{x}_i^A = (x_{ij})_{j \in A} \quad U_{AA} = [U_{jj}]_{j \in A}$

$$\Omega_{A|\bar{A}} = \Omega_{AA} - \Omega_{A\bar{A}} (\Omega_{\bar{A}\bar{A}})^{-1} \Omega_{\bar{A}A}$$

$$= (\Sigma_{AA})^{-1} \quad \text{i.e. } (\Omega_{A|\bar{A}})^{-1} = \Sigma_{AA}$$

the marginal  
covariance matrix



Therefore we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} p(\underline{x}_1^A, \dots, \underline{x}_n^A) &= \int p(\underline{x}_1^A, \dots, \underline{x}_n^A | \Omega_{A|\bar{A}}) p(\Omega_{A|\bar{A}}) \\ &\quad d\Omega_{A|\bar{A}} \\ &= \frac{c(a - |\bar{A}|, U_{AA})}{c(a - |\bar{A}| + n, U_{AA} + S_{AA})} \cdot (2\pi)^{-\frac{n|\bar{A}|}{2}} \\ &:= p(X_A) \quad \text{④} \end{aligned}$$

Refs : Press (1982) "Applied Multivariate Analysis"  
Consonni & La Rocca (2012, SJS)

## 2. Bayesian DAG-model selection

$$D = (V, E) \quad \text{a DAG with} \quad V = \{1, \dots, p\}$$
$$E \subseteq V \times V$$

$$pa_D(j) = \{u : (u, j) \in E\} \quad \text{parents of } j \text{ in } D$$

$$fa_D(j) = j \cup pa_D(j) \quad \text{family of } j \text{ in } D$$

Under  $D$  we have :

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_p | D) = \prod_{j=1}^p p(x_j | z_{pa_D(j)})$$

In a Gaussian DAG model :

$$\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n | \Omega_D \sim N_p(\underline{0}, \Omega_D^{-1})$$

$$\Omega_D \sim p(\Omega_D)$$

$\Omega_D \in \mathcal{P}_D$  precision matrices Markov w.r.t.  $D$

Which prior for  $\Omega_D$  ?

If the goal is to compute the DAG marginal likelihood

$$p(X|D) = \int p(\underline{x}_1, \dots, \underline{x}_n | \Omega_D) p(\Omega_D) d\Omega_D$$

then there is no need to specify "directly"  $p(\Omega_D)$  but rather a prior on  $\Omega$  just s.p.d. and some assumptions under which we recover  $p(X|D)$  as :

$$p(X|D) = \prod_{j=1}^q \left\{ \frac{p(x_{f_{AD}(j)})}{p(x_{p_{AD}(j)})} \right\}$$

and  $p(x_{f_{AD}(j)})$ ,  $p(x_{p_{AD}(j)})$  are as in

with  $A = f_{AD}(j)$ ,  $A = p_{AD}(j)$  (✓)

Refs : Geiger & Heckerman (2002, AOS)

Cousonni & La Rocca (2012, SJS)

### 3. The PC Algorithm for DAG estimation

Refs : Kalish & Buhlmann (2007, JMLR)  
Slides on Graphical Models

Idea in PC Algorithm is to recover a CPDAG  
(Completed Partially DAG)  
through a sequence of Conditional  
Independence (CI) tests

Specifically, in Step 1 (skeleton estimation)  
the PC algorithm remove an edge  $u-v$  if

$$X_u \perp\!\!\!\perp X_v \mid X_S \quad \text{for some } S \subseteq V \setminus \{u, v\}$$

i.e. for at least one set  $S$  not including  
 $u$  and  $v$

Idea in practice is to start from a set  $S$   
of size 0 (i.e.  $\emptyset$ ), then increase it by one  
and so on; we stop when we find a set  $S$   
for which  $X_u \perp\!\!\!\perp X_v \mid X_S$ .



Which CI test?

For Gaussian data, a test based on partial correlation coefficients  $\rho_{uv|s}$ .

What is  $\rho_{uv|s}$ ?

It is the  $\text{Corr}(X_u, X_v | X_s)$  that is the correlation coefficient between  $X_u$  and  $X_v$  in the joint, conditional distribution

$$(X_u, X_v) | X_s$$

Start from  $X_A = (X_j)_{j \in A}$  with  $A = \{u, v, s\}$

for which we know that

$$X_A | \Omega_{A|\bar{A}} \sim N_{|A|} (\boldsymbol{\mu}, (\Omega_{A|\bar{A}})^{-1})$$

$$\text{and } \Omega_{A|\bar{A}}^{-1} = \Sigma_{AA}$$

Then, we partition A into  $\{u, v\}$  and  $s$

and  $\Sigma_{AA}$  accordingly

We consider the conditional distribution  
of  $X_{\{u,v\}}$  given  $X_s$ :

$$X_{\{u,v\}} | X_s \sim N_2 (\mu_{\{u,v\}|s}, \Sigma_{\{u,v\}|s})$$

with  $\mu_{\{u,v\}|s} = \sum_{s,\{u,v\}} (\Sigma_{\{u,v\}\{u,v\}})^{-1} \Sigma_{\{u,v\},s}$

$$\Sigma_{\{u,v\}|s} = \Sigma_{\{u,v\}\{u,v\}} - \Sigma_{\{u,v\},s} (\Sigma_{s,s})^{-1} \Sigma_{s,\{u,v\}}$$

Remark: the out-diagonal element of  $\Sigma_{\{u,v\}|s}$   
is the covariance between  $X_u$  and  $X_v$   
in the conditional distribution of  
 $(X_u, X_v)$  given  $X_s$ :  $\text{Cov}(X_u, X_v | X_s)$

The partial correlation coefficient is then:

$$\text{Corr}(X_u, X_v | X_s) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \frac{\left[ \Sigma_{\{u,v\}|s} \right]_{u,v}^{1,2}}{\sqrt{\left[ \Sigma_{\{u,v\}|s} \right]_{u,u}^{1,1} \left[ \Sigma_{\{u,v\}|s} \right]_{v,v}^{2,2}}}$$

$\rho_{\{u,v\}|s}$



$$\rho_{\{u,v\}|s} = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad X_u \perp\!\!\!\perp X_v | X_s$$

$$\text{and } \rho_{\{u,v\}|s} = 0 \quad \text{iff} \quad [\sum_{\{u,v\}|s}]_{u,v} = 0$$

Now, the joint distribution of  $X_{\{u,v\}} | X_s$   
can be equivalently parameterize as:

$$\sum_{\{u,v\}|s} \mapsto \{L_{u|v,s}; D_{u|v,s}, D_{v|s}\}$$

where  $L_{u|v,s}$  is the regression coefficient in the regression of  $X_u$  on  $X_v \cup X_s$ , while  $D_{u|v,s}$  and  $D_{v|s}$  are the conditional variances.

$$L_{u|v,s} = [\sum_{\{u,v\}|s}]_{u,\{v,s\}} [\sum_{\{u,v\}|s}^{\{v,s\}}]_{\{v,s\}}^{-1}$$

This should be equivalent as doing the following.

Consider



$$BF_{01} = \frac{m(X | D_0)}{m(X | D_1)} = \frac{p(\cancel{X_u} | X_s) p(X_v | X_s) p(\cancel{X_s})}{p(\cancel{X_u} | X_s) p(X_v | X_u, X_s) p(\cancel{X_s})} =$$

$$= \frac{p(X_v, X_s) / p(X_s)}{p(X_v, X_u, X_s) / p(X_u, X_s)} =$$

$$= \frac{p(X_{fa_{D_0}(v)}) / p(X_{pa_{D_0}(v)})}{p(X_{fa_{D_1}(v)}) / p(X_{pa_{D_1}(v)})}$$

Similarly to what is given in Geiger & Heckerman (2002)  
it should coincide with the ratio of two marginal likelihoods  
of two complete DAGs.

## Uncertainty quantification

PCalg does not allow for uncertainty quantification underlying the estimated graphical structure.

Here instead we have  $p(u \rightarrow v | X)$

Let  $p(u \rightarrow v)$  and  $p(u \not\rightarrow v)$  be prior probabilities of having or not an edge between  $u$  and  $v$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(u \rightarrow v | X) &= \frac{\cancel{m(X|u \rightarrow v)} p(u \rightarrow v)}{\cancel{m(X|u \rightarrow v)} p(u \rightarrow v) + \cancel{m(X|u \not\rightarrow v)} p(u \not\rightarrow v)} \times \frac{m(X|u \rightarrow v) p(u \rightarrow v)}{\cancel{m(X|u \not\rightarrow v)} p(u \rightarrow v)} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{\frac{m(X|u \rightarrow v) p(u \rightarrow v) + m(X|u \not\rightarrow v) p(u \not\rightarrow v)}{m(X|u \rightarrow v) p(u \rightarrow v)}} = \\
 &= \frac{1}{1 + BF_{01} \frac{p(u \not\rightarrow v)}{p(u \rightarrow v)}} \quad \text{ie given prior probabilities} \\
 &\quad \text{of edges and the BF} \\
 &\quad \text{we can compute } p(u \rightarrow v | X)
 \end{aligned}$$

If :  $\bullet \text{ } BF_{01} = 0 \Rightarrow m(X|\mathcal{D}_0) = 0 \Rightarrow p(u \rightarrow v | X) = 1$

$\bullet \text{ } BF_{01} \rightarrow +\infty \Rightarrow m(X|\mathcal{D}_1) = 0 \Rightarrow p(u \rightarrow v | X) = 0$