

## Case Study 3: fMRI Prediction

# Coping with Large Covariances: Latent Factor Models

Machine Learning for Big Data  
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## Multivariate Normal Models

- So far, we looked at univariate multiple regression

$$y^i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1^i + \dots + \beta_p x_p^i + \epsilon^i \quad \epsilon^i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) \quad y^i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$= \beta^T x^i + \epsilon^i$$

$$\Rightarrow y^i \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta^T x^i, \sigma^2)$$

- If one has a multivariate response  $y^i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  ← # of semantic features

Assuming independence between dimensions

so far

$$y^i \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \beta^{(1)T} \\ \beta^{(2)T} \\ \vdots \\ \beta^{(d)T} \end{bmatrix} x^i, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma^2 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$\beta^{(l)}$  are coeff. for the  $l^{\text{th}}$  semantic feature

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## Multivariate Normal Models

- If one has a multivariate response  $y^i \in \mathbb{R}^d$

□ Assuming correlation between the output dimensions

← "dog" and "furry"

$$y^i \sim N(B^T x^i, \Sigma)$$

recall :  $\text{cov}(y_s, y_t) = \Sigma_{st}$

- Assume linear (or other mean regression) is removed and focus on the correlation structure

$$y^i \sim N(0, \Sigma) \quad \Sigma \text{ sym. pos. def.}$$

- Matrix valued parameter!

see more on matrix valued params in Case Study 4

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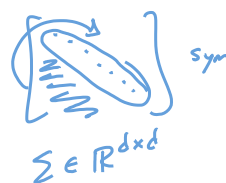
## High-Dimensional Covariance

- What if  $d$  is large?

$$\# \text{ params } (\Sigma) = \frac{d(d+1)}{2}$$

Again, consider  $d \gg N$

but  $O(d^2)$  params to est.



- A few common approaches:

□ Low-rank approximations

□ Sparsity assumptions

← this lecture

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## Low-Rank Approximations

- In general, assume some matrix parameter

$$\Theta = A B' \quad \begin{matrix} d \times m & d \times k & m \times k \\ \text{square} & & \end{matrix} \quad k \ll d, m$$

we will see this again in case study!

- Here,  $\Sigma$  must be a symmetric, positive definite matrix

$$\Sigma = \underbrace{\Lambda \Lambda^T}_{\text{sym. + square}} + \Sigma_0 \quad \begin{matrix} \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_d^2 \end{array} \right] \\ \text{pos. def.} \end{matrix}$$

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## Low-Rank Approximations

- In pictures...

$$\Sigma = \Lambda \Lambda' + \Sigma_0 \quad \Sigma_0 = \text{diag}(\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_d^2)$$

- Number of parameters:

$$dk + d = d(k+1) \ll \frac{d(d+1)}{2}$$

sig. reduction in param. for  $k \ll d$

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## Latent Factor Models

- Original multivariate regression here: assume linear term is removed

$$\mathbf{y}^i = B^T \mathbf{x}^i + \epsilon^i, \quad \epsilon^i \sim N(0, \Sigma)$$

- Latent factor model assumption:  $\Sigma = \Lambda \Lambda' + \Sigma_0$
- Low-rank approximation arises from a latent factor model

$$\mathbf{y}^i = \Lambda \boldsymbol{\eta}^i + \tilde{\epsilon}^i$$

obs.
"factor loadings"
"latent factors"

$\boldsymbol{\eta}^i \sim N_k(0, \mathbf{I})$   
 $\tilde{\epsilon}^i \sim N_d(0, \Sigma_0)$  diag.

- Proof:

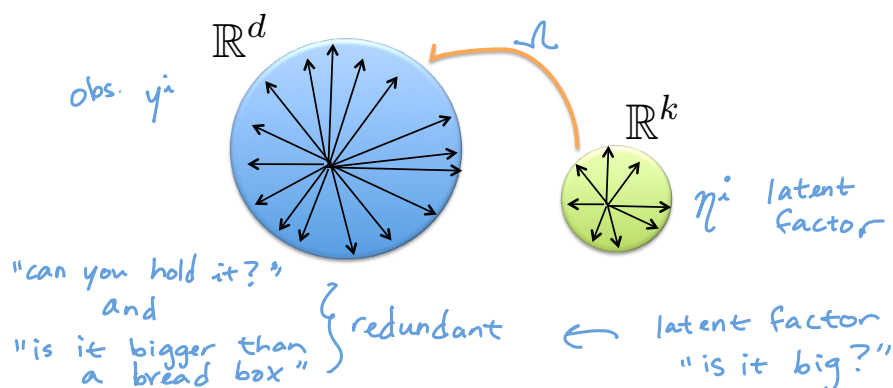
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Cov}(\mathbf{y}, \Lambda, \Sigma_0) &= E[(\mathbf{y} - E[\mathbf{y}]) (\mathbf{y} - E[\mathbf{y}])^T] = E[\mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T] \\
 &= E[(\Lambda \boldsymbol{\eta} + \tilde{\epsilon}) (\Lambda \boldsymbol{\eta} + \tilde{\epsilon})^T] = \Lambda E[\boldsymbol{\eta} \boldsymbol{\eta}^T] \Lambda^T \\
 &\quad + 2 E[\boldsymbol{\eta} \tilde{\epsilon}^T] + E[\tilde{\epsilon} \tilde{\epsilon}^T] \\
 &= \Lambda \mathbf{I} \Lambda^T + \Sigma_0
 \end{aligned}$$

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## Lower-dim Embeddings

### Sharing information in *low-dim subspace*



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