# Statistical Learning with Sparsity

Graphs, Signal Approximation and Compressed Sensing

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#### Graphical Model with Sparsity

- Basics of graphical models.
  - Factorization property
  - Markov property
- Gaussian graphical models.
- Graph selection
  - Graphical lasso algorithm
  - Theoretical guarantees for graphical lasso
  - Neighborhood selection algorithm

## **Undirected Graphs**

- Do not focus on DAG.
- Graph G = (V, E) consists of a set of vertices V and a set of edges E.
- We focus exclusively on undirected graphs.
- We can associate a collection of random variables  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_p)$  with the vertex set  $V = \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$  of some underlying graph.
- Idea: see the structure of the underlying graph as a visual representation of the joint distribution of the random variables.

## Factorization Property

- Let  $\mathcal C$  be the set of all cliques in the graph G.
- For a clique  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  a compatibility function  $\psi_C$  is a function of the subvector  $x_C := (x_s, s \in C)$  taking positive real values.
- ullet Given a collection of compatibility functions we say that a probability distribution P factorizes over G if and only if

$$P(x_1,\ldots,x_p) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{C \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_C(x_C)$$

where  $Z = \sum_{x \in \chi^p} \prod_{c \in C} \psi_C(x_C)$  ensures that P is properly normalized.

• Such a factorization can lead to savings in storage and computation if the clique sizes are not too large.

## Factorization Property

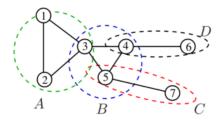


Figure: Source: fig 9.1(a) from SLS.

• P factorizes over this graph if it has the form

$$P(x_1,...,x_7) = \frac{1}{Z} \psi_A(x_1,x_2,x_3) \psi_B(x_3,x_4,x_5) \psi_D(x_4,x_6) \psi_C(x_5,x_7)$$

For some choice of compatility functions  $\{\psi_A, \psi_B, \psi_C, \psi_D\}$ .

## Markov Property

- Let S denote a cut set disconnectiong the graph into components A and B.
- We say that a random vector X is Markov with respect to the graph
   G if

$$X_A \perp \!\!\! \perp X_B \mid X_S$$
 for all cut sets  $S \subset V$ 

 The same as the stochastic process version of the Markov property, which states that the future is independent of the past given the present.

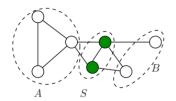


Figure: Source: fig 9.1(b) from SLS.

## Hammersley-Clifford Theorem

This is the fundamental theorem of random fields and gives necessary and sufficient conditions under which a strictly positive probability distribution can be represented as a Markov network.

#### Hammersley-Clifford Theorem

For a strictly positive probability distribution P of a random vector X the two characterizations are equivalent; the distribution of X factorizes according to the graph G if and only if it is Markov with respect to G.

## Gaussian Graphical Models

• Given a p dimensional Gaussian distribution with mean vector  $\mu$  and covariance matrix  $\Sigma$  :

$$P_{\mu,\Sigma}(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{\rho}{2}} \det(\Sigma)^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)}.$$

• This can equivalently be formulated as

$$P_{\gamma,\Theta}(x) = \exp\left\{\sum_{s=1}^{p} \gamma_s x_s - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s,t=1}^{p} \theta_{st} x_s x_t - A(\Theta)\right\}$$

where  $\pmb{\Theta} = \pmb{\Sigma}^{-1}$  the precision matrix,  $\gamma = \pmb{\Theta}\mu$  and  $\pmb{A}(\pmb{\Theta}) = -\frac{1}{2}\log\det(\pmb{\Theta}/(2\pi)).$ 

## Gaussian Graphical Models

- This new representation allows us to discuss factorization properties in terms of the sparsity pattern of  $\Theta$ .
- If X factorizes according to the graph G then for  $(s,t) \notin E$  we must have that  $\theta_{st} = 0$ . (Property of multivariate Gaussian distributions and HC theorem)

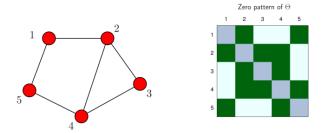


Figure: Source: fig 9.3 from SLS.

#### **Graph Selection**

Given a collection of samples X from a graphical model, where the underlying graph structure is unknown. How can we find the correct graph with high probability?  $\rightsquigarrow \ell_1$  regularization.

- Suppose  ${\bf X}$  represents samples from a zero-mean multivariate Gaussian distribution with unknown precision matrix  $\Theta$ .
- Log-likelihood of this distribution takes the form

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\Theta}, \mathbf{X}) \propto \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \log P_{\boldsymbol{\Theta}}(x_i) \propto \log \det \boldsymbol{\Theta} - \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{S}\boldsymbol{\Theta})$$

where 
$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i x_i^T$$
 the empirical covariance matrix and

$$\log \det(\mathbf{\Theta}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \sum_{j=1}^p \log \left(\lambda_j(\mathbf{\Theta})\right) & \text{ if } \mathbf{\Theta} \succ 0, \lambda_j(\mathbf{\Theta}) \text{ is the j-th eval.} \\ -\infty & \text{ otherwise.} \end{array} \right.$$

#### Graph Selection for Gaussian Graphical Models

- $\log \det$  function is strictly concave, so that if the maximum is achieved it must be unique and defines the MLE  $\hat{\Theta}$ .
- If we let  $N \to \infty$ ,  $\hat{\Theta}$  converges to the true precision matrix.
- But if N < p, no maximum likelihood estimator exists and we need to consider suitably constrained or regularized forms.
- If we are seeking Graphical models based on sparse graphs we could consider the following convex optimization problem

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}} \in \underset{\substack{\boldsymbol{\Theta} \succeq \boldsymbol{0} \\ \rho_0(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) \leq k}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \{ \log \det(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) - \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{S}) \}$$

where 
$$\rho_0(\Theta) = \sum_{s \neq t} \mathbb{I}\left[\theta_{st} \neq 0\right]$$
.

## From $\ell_0$ to $\ell_1$

- Unfortunately, the  $\ell_0$ -based constraint defines a highly nonconvex constraint set, essentially formed as the union over all  $\binom{\binom{p}{2}}{k}$  possible subsets of k edges.
- It is natural to consider the convex relaxation obtained by replacing the  $\ell_0$  constraint with the corresponding  $\ell_1$ -based constraint. Doing so leads to the following convex program

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\Theta}} \in \arg\max_{\boldsymbol{\Theta} \succeq 0} \left\{ \log \det \boldsymbol{\Theta} - \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{S}\boldsymbol{\Theta}) - \lambda \rho_1(\boldsymbol{\Theta}) \right\}$$

where 
$$ho_1(\mathbf{\Theta}) = \sum_{\mathbf{s} 
eq t} |oldsymbol{ heta}_{\mathbf{s}t}|.$$

• This is often referred to as the **graphical lasso** problem.

 By taking subgradients of the objective function, the subgradient equation corresponding to this problem is given by

$$\mathbf{\Theta}^{-1} - \mathbf{S} - \lambda \mathbf{\Psi} = \mathbf{0}$$

where  $\Psi$  has diagonal entries  $0, \psi_{jk} = \operatorname{sign}(\theta_{jk})$  if  $\theta_{jk} \neq 0$  and  $\psi_{jk} \in [-1, 1]$  if  $\theta_{jk} = 0$ .

 To solve this problem via blockwise coordinate descent we partition the matrices into (last) one column versus the rest:

$$\mathbf{\Theta} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{\Theta}_{11} & \boldsymbol{\theta}_{12} \\ \boldsymbol{\theta}_{12}^{\mathsf{T}} & \boldsymbol{\theta}_{22} \end{array} \right], \mathbf{S} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{S}_{11} & \mathbf{s}_{12} \\ \mathbf{s}_{12}^{\mathsf{T}} & \mathbf{s}_{22} \end{array} \right].$$

ullet By the formula of inverse of a block matrix,  ${f W}={f \Theta}^{-1}=$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{W}_{11} & \mathbf{W}_{12} \\ \mathbf{W}_{21} & \mathbf{w}_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left( \mathbf{\Theta}_{11} - \frac{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{12} \boldsymbol{\theta}_{21}}{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{22}} \right)^{-1} & -\mathbf{W}_{11} \frac{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{12}}{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{22}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix}.$$

• So for the last column (without the last row) of our subgradient equation we get:

$$\mathbf{w}_{12} - \mathbf{s}_{12} + \lambda \psi_{12} = \mathbf{W}_{11} \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{s}_{12} + \lambda \psi_{12} = 0$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = -\boldsymbol{\theta}_{12}/\theta_{22}$ .

• It can be seen (next slide) that this is equivalent to a modified version of the estimating equations for a lasso regression.

- Recall that in the usual regression setup with outcome y and predictor matrix  $\mathbf{Z}$  the lasso minimizes  $\frac{1}{N} \|\mathbf{y} \mathbf{Z}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_1$ .
- This has the subgradient equations  $\frac{1}{N}\mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{Z}\boldsymbol{\beta} \frac{1}{N}\mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{y} + \lambda\operatorname{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \mathbf{0}.$
- $\mathbf{W}_{11}\boldsymbol{\beta} \mathbf{s}_{12} + \lambda \psi_{12} = 0.$
- Comparing to the last column of our subgradient equation shows that  $\frac{1}{N}\mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{y}$  corresponds to  $\mathbf{s}_{12}$  and  $\frac{1}{N}\mathbf{Z}^T\mathbf{Z}$  corresponds to  $\mathbf{W}_{11}$ .
- $\bullet$  If  $W_{11}$  full-rank, then we want to minimize

$$\frac{1}{2} \left\| \mathbf{W}_{11}^{\frac{1}{2}} \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{W}_{11}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{s}_{12} \right\|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{1}.$$

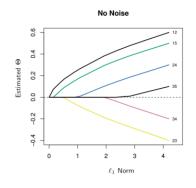
#### Algorithm 9.1 GRAPHICAL LASSO.

- 1. Initialize  $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{S}$ . Note that the diagonal of  $\mathbf{W}$  is unchanged in what follows.
- 2. Repeat for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, p, 1, 2, \dots, p, \dots$  until convergence:
  - (a) Partition the matrix  $\mathbf{W}$  into part 1: all but the  $j^{th}$  row and column, and part 2: the  $j^{th}$  row and column.
  - (b) Solve the estimating equations  $\mathbf{W}_{11}\boldsymbol{\beta} \mathbf{s}_{12} + \lambda \cdot \operatorname{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = 0$  using a cyclical coordinate-descent algorithm for the modified lasso.
  - (c) Update  $\mathbf{w}_{12} = \mathbf{W}_{11}\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$
- 3. In the final cycle (for each j) solve for  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{12} = -\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \cdot \hat{\theta}_{22}$ , with  $1/\hat{\theta}_{22} = w_{22} \mathbf{w}_{12}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ .

- If we repeat the algorithm for a range of different values for  $\lambda$  we can plot the estimates for the entires of the precision matrix against  $\rho_1(\Theta)$ .
- Example: Here the true precision matrix is

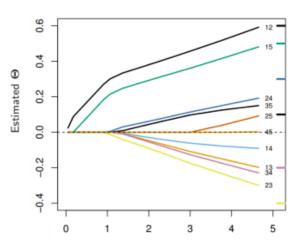
$$\boldsymbol{\Theta} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0.6 & 0 & 0 & 0.5 \\ 0.6 & 2 & -0.4 & 0.3 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.4 & 2 & -0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.3 & -0.2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

 If we simulate data from the multivariate gaussian with Θ the true values are achieved at the right side of the plot.



• However if we add some standard Gaussian noise to each column the true edge set is not recovered for any value of  $\lambda$ .

#### With Noise



#### Theoretical Guarantees for Graphical Lasso

- Plot of the operator norm  $\|\hat{\Theta} \Theta\|_2$  versus the sample size N for three different graph sizes where  $\lambda_N = 2\sqrt{\frac{\log p}{N}}$  was used as the regularization parameter.
- We see that larger graphs require more samples for a consistent estimation.

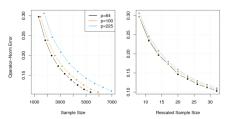
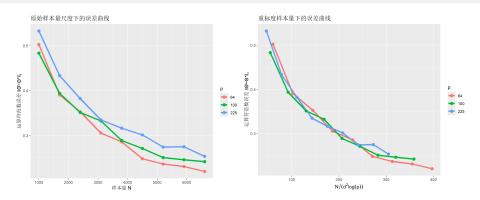


Figure 9.5 Plots of the operator-norm error  $\|\widehat{\Theta} - \Theta^*\|_2$  between the graphical lasso estimate  $\widehat{\Theta}$  and the true inverse covariance matrix. Left: plotted versus the raw sample size N, for three different graph sizes  $p \in \{64, 100, 225\}$ . Note how the curves shift to the right as the graph size p increases, reflecting the fact that larger graphs require more samples for consistent estimation. Right: the same operator-norm curves plotted versus the rescaled sample size  $\frac{1}{24\log p}$  for three different graph sizes  $p \in \{64, 100, 225\}$ . As predicted by theory, the curves are now quite well-ellipse.

#### Theoretical Guarantees for Graphical Lasso



This figure illustrates the theoretical guarantees

$$\left\|\widehat{\Theta} - \Theta^* \right\|_2 \lesssim \sqrt{\frac{d^2 \log p}{N}},$$

where d is the maximum degree of the graph,  $\Theta^*$  is the true precision matrix, and  $\widehat{\Theta}$  is the estimated precision matrix from the graphical lasso.

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## Neighborhood Selection

- High-dimensional Graphs and Variable Selection with the Lasso;
   (Meinshausen and Buhlmann, 2006)
- It is an alternative method for graph selection that is computationally efficient and consistent for high dimensional graphs.
- For a random vector  $X=(X_1,\ldots,X_p)$  consider the conditional distribution of  $X_s$  given the random vector  $X_{\backslash \{s\}}=(X_1,\ldots,X_{s-1},X_{s+1},\ldots,X_p).$
- By the properties of a graphical model the only relevant variables are those in the neighborhood set  $\mathcal{N}(s)$ .

$$\mathcal{N}(s) = \{ t \in V \mid (s, t) \in E \}$$

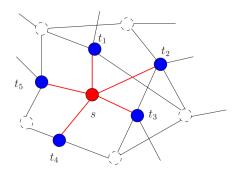


Figure 9.6 The dark blue vertices form the neighborhood set  $\mathcal{N}(s)$  of vertex s (drawn in red); the set  $\mathcal{N}^+(s)$  is given by the union  $\mathcal{N}(s) \cup \{s\}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{N}(s)$  is a cut set in the graph that separates  $\{s\}$  from  $V \setminus \mathcal{N}^+(s)$ . Consequently, the variable  $X_s$  is conditionally independent of  $X_{V \setminus \mathcal{N}^+(s)}$  given the variables  $X_{\mathcal{N}(s)}$  in the neighborhood set. This conditional independence implies that the optimal predictor of  $X_s$  based on all other variables in the graph depends only on  $X_{\mathcal{N}(s)}$ .

#### Remarks on multivariate Gaussian

- Partitioning  $\{X_1, ..., X_p\}$  into  $(X_1, X_T)$  where  $T = \{2, 3, ..., p\}$  and  $X_T$  is the vector of all variables except  $X_1$ .
- By the distribution of a conditional Gaussian,

$$\mathbb{E}\left[X_1 \mid X_T\right] = \Sigma_{1T} \Sigma_{TT}^{-1} X_T, \quad \operatorname{Var}\left(X_1 \mid X_T\right) = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{1T} \Sigma_{TT}^{-1} \Sigma_{T1}.$$

By letting

$$\theta = \Sigma_{TT}^{-1} \Sigma_{T1}, \quad W = X_1 - \theta^T X_T$$

• Then for the BLUP  $Z = \theta^{\top} X_T + W$ , we have

$$\theta = \Sigma_{TT}^{-1} \Sigma_{T1}, \quad \textit{W} \sim \textit{N}_1(0, \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{1T} \Sigma_{TT}^{-1} \Sigma_{T1}).$$

• It can be shown that:  $\theta_j = 0$  (the entry of coefficient)  $\iff$   $j \notin \mathcal{N}(1) \iff \Theta_{1,k} = 0$ , for  $k \in \mathcal{T} = \{2, 3, \dots, p\}$ .

#### Remarks on multivariate Gaussian

ullet By the definition of the precision matrix  $\Theta$  we have that

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc} \Sigma_{11} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1T} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{T1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{TT} \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{cc} \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{11} & \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{1T} \\ \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{T1} & \boldsymbol{\Theta}_{TT} \end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{cc} 1 & \boldsymbol{0}^T \\ \boldsymbol{0} & \boldsymbol{I} \end{array}\right)$$

• First consider the top right block of the product:

$$\Sigma_{11}\mathbf{\Theta}_{1T} + \mathbf{\Sigma}_{1T}\mathbf{\Theta}_{TT} = \mathbf{0}^T$$

Bottom right block of the product gives us the following equation:

$$\mathbf{\Sigma}_{T1}\mathbf{\Theta}_{1T} + \mathbf{\Sigma}_{TT}\mathbf{\Theta}_{TT} = \mathbf{I} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{\Theta}_{TT} = \mathbf{\Sigma}_{TT}^{-1}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{\Sigma}_{T1}\mathbf{\Theta}_{1T})$$

#### Remarks on multivariate Gaussian

 Take the first equation and substitute the second equation into it, we get

$$\Sigma_{11}\Theta_{1\mathcal{T}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1\mathcal{T}} \left[ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}}^{-1} (\mathbf{I} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{T}1}\Theta_{1\mathcal{T}}) \right] = \boldsymbol{0}^{\mathcal{T}}$$

Rearranging gives us the following equation:

$$\underbrace{\left(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{1T}\Sigma_{TT}^{-1}\Sigma_{T1}\right)}_{\frac{1}{\Theta_{11}}}\Theta_{1T} = -\underbrace{\Sigma_{1T}\Sigma_{TT}^{-1}}_{\theta^{\top}}$$

• Then for any  $j \in T = \{2, ..., p\}$ ,

$$\Theta_{1j} = -\Theta_{11}\theta_j$$

• The regression coefficient vector  $\theta$  satisfies the property that  $\operatorname{supp}(\theta) = \mathcal{N}(1)$ , i.e., the support of the regression coefficient vector is equal to the neighborhood set of the variable  $X_1$ .

## Neighborhood Selection for Gaussians

• In the case of a multivarite Gaussian the conditional distribution of  $X_s$  given  $X_{\setminus \{s\}}$  is (BLUP)

$$X_s = X_{\setminus \{s\}} \beta^s + W_{\setminus \{s\}}$$

where  $W_{\backslash \{s\}}$  corresponds to a prediction error independent of  $X_{\backslash \{s\}}$ .

- $\operatorname{Var}(W_{\{s\}}) = \operatorname{Var}(X_s | X_{\{s\}}).$
- The key property is that the regression vector  $\beta^s$  satisfies  $\operatorname{supp}(\beta^s) = \mathcal{N}(s)$ .
- It is natural to estimate  $\beta$  via the lasso.

## Neighborhood Selection

# Algorithm 9.2 NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED GRAPH SELECTION FOR GAUSSIAN GRAPHICAL MODELS.

- 1. For each vertex  $s = 1, 2, \ldots, p$ :
  - (a) Apply the lasso to solve the neighborhood prediction problem:

$$\widehat{\beta}^{s} \in \underset{\beta^{s} \in \mathbb{R}^{p-1}}{\min} \left\{ \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( x_{is} - x_{i,V \setminus \{s\}}^{T} \beta^{s} \right)^{2} + \lambda \|\beta^{s}\|_{1} \right\}.$$
 (9.25)

- (b) Compute the estimate  $\widehat{\mathcal{N}}(s) = \operatorname{supp}(\widehat{\beta}^s)$  of the neighborhood set  $\mathcal{N}(s)$ .
- 2. Combine the neighborhood estimates  $\{\widehat{\mathcal{N}}(s), s \in V\}$  via the AND or OR rule to form a graph estimate  $\widehat{G} = (V, \widehat{E})$ .

## Ising Models

- Discrete graphical models
  - variables  $X_s$  at each vertex  $s \in V$  take values in a discrete space  $\mathcal{X}_s$ . The simplest example is the binary case, say with  $\mathcal{X}_s = \{-1, +1\}$ .
- Given a graph G = (V, E), one might consider the family of probability distributions

$$\mathbb{P}_{\theta}\left(x_{1},\ldots,x_{p}\right) = \exp\left\{\sum_{s \in V} \theta_{s} x_{s} + \sum_{(s,t) \in E} \theta_{st} x_{s} x_{t} - A(\theta)\right\},\,$$

parametrized by the vector  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{|V|+|E|}$ .

- Generate: Gibbs sampling.
- With the exception of some special cases, computing the value of  $A(\theta)$  is computationally intractable in general.

$$A(\theta) = \log \left[ \sum_{x \in \{-1, +1\}^p} \exp \left\{ \sum_{s \in V} \theta_s x_s + \sum_{(s, t) \in E} \theta_{st} x_s x_t \right\} \right].$$

## Extensions of a Ising Model

• Edge relations (clique = 2)  $\rightsquigarrow$  larger cliques

$$\mathbb{P}_{\theta}(x) = \exp \left\{ \sum_{s \in V} \theta_s x_s + \sum_{(s,t) \in E} \theta_{st} x_s x_t + \sum_{(s,t,u) \in E_3} \theta_{stu} x_s x_t x_u - A(\theta) \right\}.$$

where  $E_3$  is some subset of vertex triples.

• Binary outcomes  $\rightsquigarrow$  multinomial outcomes  $X_s \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$  for some m > 2.

$$\mathbb{P}_{\theta}\left(x_{1},\ldots,x_{p}\right) = \exp\left\{\sum_{s\in V}\sum_{j=1}^{m-1}\theta_{s,j}\mathbb{I}\left[x_{s}=j\right] + \sum_{(s,t)\in E}\theta_{st}\mathbb{I}\left[x_{s}=x_{t}\right] - A(\theta)\right\}$$

where the indicator function  $\mathbb{I}\left[x_{s}=j\right]$  takes the value 1 when  $x_{s}=j$ , and 0 otherwise. When the weight  $\theta_{st}>0$ , the edge-based indicator function

## Neighborhood Selection for Ising Models

Note that for Ising model,

$$\mathbb{P}_{\theta}(x) \propto \exp \left(\theta_{s} x_{s} + \sum_{t \neq s} \theta_{t} x_{t} + \sum_{t \neq s} \theta_{st} x_{s} x_{t} + \sum_{\substack{u < v \\ u, v \neq s}} \theta_{uv} x_{u} x_{v}\right).$$

Thus

$$\mathbb{P}_{\theta}\left(X_{s} = x_{s} \mid X_{V \setminus \{s\}} = x_{\setminus s}\right) \propto \exp\left(\theta_{s} x_{s} + \sum_{t \neq s} \theta_{st} x_{s} x_{t}\right)$$

## Neighborhood Selection for Ising Models

• Thus for  $x_s \in \{-1, +1\}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_{s} = x_{s} \mid X_{\setminus s}\right) = \frac{\exp\left(x_{s}\eta^{s}\left(x_{\setminus s}\right)\right)}{\exp\left(+\eta^{s}\left(x_{\setminus s}\right)\right) + \exp\left(-\eta^{s}\left(x_{\setminus s}\right)\right)},$$

- $\eta^{s}(x_{s}) := \theta_{s} + \sum_{t \neq s} \theta_{st} x_{t}$ .
- In particular, the log-odds are

$$\log \frac{\mathbb{P}\left(X_{s}=+1\mid X_{\backslash s}\right)}{\mathbb{P}\left(X_{s}=-1\mid X_{\backslash s}\right)}=2\eta^{s}\left(x_{\backslash s}\right)=2\theta_{s}+\sum_{t\neq s}2\theta_{st}x_{t}$$

#### Connections to logistic lasso

Hence if we set

$$\beta_{s0} = 2\theta_s, \quad \beta_{st} = 2\theta_{st}$$

and write the observed pairs  $\left\{\left(x_{i,s}, x_{i, \setminus s}\right)\right\}_{i=1}^{N}$ , we see that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i,s} = 1 \mid \mathbf{x}_{i, s}\right) = \frac{\exp\left(\beta_{s0} + \sum_{t \neq s} \beta_{st} \mathbf{x}_{i,t}\right)}{1 + \exp\left(\beta_{s0} + \sum_{t \neq s} \beta_{st} \mathbf{x}_{i,t}\right)}$$

which is exactly the logistic-regression model. Consequently, fitting each node-wise neighborhood via  $\widehat{\beta}^{\it s}=$ 

$$\arg \min_{\beta^{s} \in \mathbb{R}^{p}} \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ -x_{i,s} \left( \beta_{s0} + x_{i, \setminus s}^{T} \beta_{s, -0} \right) + \log \left( 1 + \exp \left( \beta_{s0} + x_{i, \setminus s}^{T} \beta_{s, -0} \right) \right) \right] + \lambda \sum_{t \neq s} |\beta_{st}|$$

is precisely lasso-penalized logistic regression, with  $\beta_{st}$  encoding the edges.

#### Pseudo-likelihood for Mixed models

- Mixed models:
  - continuous and discrete variables
  - e.g., a mixture of Gaussian and Ising models
- Markov random field model:
  - X: p continuous variables,
  - Y: q discrete variables,
- $P_{\Omega}(x,y) \propto$

$$\exp\left\{\sum_{s=1}^{p} \gamma_{s} x_{s} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s=1}^{p} \sum_{t=1}^{p} \theta_{st} x_{s} x_{t} + \sum_{s=1}^{p} \sum_{j=1}^{q} \rho_{sj} [y_{j}] x_{s} + \sum_{j=1}^{q} \sum_{r=1}^{q} \psi_{jr} [y_{j}, y_{r}] \right\}.$$

- $\rho_{sj}$  represents an edge between continuous  $X_s$  and discrete  $Y_j$ .
- If  $Y_j$  has  $L_j$  possible states or levels, then  $\rho_{sj}$  is a vector of  $L_j$  parameters, and  $\rho_{sj}[y_j]$  references the  $y_i^{th}$  value.
- Likewise  $\psi_{jr}$  will be an  $L_j \times L_r$  matrix representing an edge between discrete  $Y_j$  and  $Y_r$ , and  $\psi_{jr}[y_j, y_r]$  references the element in row  $y_j$  and column  $y_r$ .

#### Pseudo-likelihood for Mixed models

• The pseudo-log-likelihood is defined to be

$$\ell^{p}(\mathbf{\Omega}; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ \sum_{s=1}^{p} \log \mathbb{P}\left(x_{is} \mid x_{i \setminus \{s\}}, y_{i}; \mathbf{\Omega}\right) \sum_{j=1}^{q} \log \mathbb{P}\left(y_{ij} \mid x_{i}, y_{i \setminus \{j\}}; \mathbf{\Omega}\right) \right]$$

ullet Continuous: The conditional distribution for each of the p continuous variables is Gaussian, with mean linear in the conditioning variables.

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_{s} \mid X_{\setminus \{s\}}, Y; \mathbf{\Omega}\right) = \left(\frac{\theta_{ss}}{2\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{\theta_{ss}}{2}\left(X_{s} - \frac{\gamma_{s} + \sum_{j} \rho_{sj}[Y_{j}] - \sum_{t \neq s} \theta_{st} X_{t}}{\theta_{ss}}\right)^{2}}$$

• Discrete: The conditional distribution for each of the *q* discrete variables is multinomial, with log-odds linear in the conditioning variables.

$$\mathbb{P}\left(Y_j \mid X, Y_{\setminus \{j\}}; \Omega\right) = \frac{e^{\psi_{jj}[Y_j, Y_j] + \sum_s \rho_{sj}[Y_j]X_s + \sum_{r \neq j} \psi[Y_j, Y_i]}}{\sum_{\ell=1}^{L_j} e^{\psi_{jj}[\ell, \ell] + \sum_s \rho_{sj}[\ell]X_s + \sum_{r \neq j} \psi[\ell, Y_i]}}$$

#### Graphical Models with Hidden Variables

Letting  $\mathbf{K}_O = \mathbf{\Theta}$ , the idea is to write

$$\tilde{\mathbf{K}}_O = \mathbf{\Theta} - \mathbf{L}$$

where  ${\bf L}$  is assumed to be low rank, with the rank at most the number of hidden variables. We then solve the problem

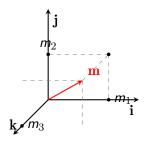
$$\underset{\boldsymbol{\Theta}, \mathbf{L}}{\operatorname{minimize}} \left\{ \operatorname{trace}[\mathbf{S}(\boldsymbol{\Theta} - \mathbf{L})] - \log[\det(\boldsymbol{\Theta} - \mathbf{L})] + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\Theta}\|_1 + \operatorname{trace}(\mathbf{L}) \right\}$$

over the set  $\{\Theta - L \succ 0, L \succeq 0\}$ .

# Signal Approximation and Compressed Sensing

- Signals and sparse representation
  - orthogonal bases
  - approximation in orthogonal bases
  - reconstruction in overcomplete bases
- Random projection and approximation
  - Johnson-Lindenstrauss approximation
  - compress sensing
- ullet Equivalence between  $\ell_0$  and  $\ell_1$  recovery
  - restricted nullspace property and geometric intuition
  - restricted isometry property

# Toy example: Cartesian coordinates



- $\bullet \mathbf{m} = m_1 \mathbf{i} + m_2 \mathbf{j} + m_3 \mathbf{k}$
- $m_1 = \langle \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{i} \rangle$ ,  $m_2 = \langle \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{j} \rangle$ ,  $m_3 = \langle \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{k} \rangle$

### Orthogonal Bases

- Signal
  - data such as sea water levels, audio recordings, photographic images, video data, and financial data
  - · vectorize signal if it is a matrix or tensor
- represent the signal by a vector  $\theta^* \in R^p$ .
- Orthogonal bases
  - A basis with finite dimension whose vectors are all unit vectors and orthogonal to each other.
- $\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^p$  orthonormal basis of  $R^p \leadsto \Psi := [\psi_1 \ \psi_2 \ \dots \ \psi_p]$  is a  $p \times p$  matrix with orthonormality condition  $\Psi^T \Psi = I_{p \times p}$ .

### Orthogonal Bases

• Given an orthonormal basis, any signal  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  can be expanded in the form

$$\theta^* := \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^* \psi_j$$

where the *j*-th basis coefficient  $\beta_j^* := \langle \theta^*, \psi_j \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^p \theta_i^* \psi_{ij}$  is obtained by projecting the signal onto the *j*-th basis vector  $\psi_j$ .

• Equivalently, we can write the transformation from signal  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  to basis coefficient vector  $\beta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  as the matrix-vector product  $\beta^* = \Psi^T \theta^*$ .

### Orthogonal Bases

#### Example: wavelet transform

Consider the following matrix

$$\Psi := \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0\\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

The Haar transform matrix is real and orthogonal:

$$\mathbf{\Psi} = \mathbf{\Psi}^*, \quad \mathbf{\Psi}^{-1} = \mathbf{\Psi}^T, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \mathbf{\Psi}^T \mathbf{\Psi} = \mathbf{I}_{4 \times 4}$$

### Remarks on Haar Transform

 In general, the Haar transform is defined recursively. Consider the following matrices:

$$\mathbf{H}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{H}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• General way to generate the Haar transform:

$$\mathbf{H}_{2\textit{N}} = \left[ egin{array}{c} \mathbf{H}_N \otimes [1,1] \\ \mathbf{I}_N \otimes [1,-1] \end{array} 
ight] \qquad ext{where} \, \otimes \, ext{means the Kronecker product}.$$

ullet Then, normalize the rows of  $\mathbf{H}_{2N}$  to obtain the orthonormal Haar transform matrix  $oldsymbol{\Psi}_{2N}^{ op}$ .

### Illustration of sparsity in time series data

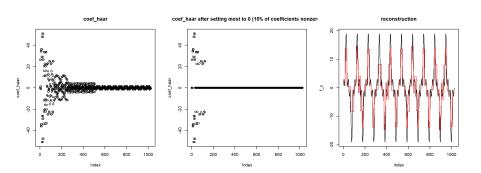


Figure: The signal (right panel, black) is generated as  $x_t = 10\sin(20\pi t/\textit{N}) - 5\sin(60\pi t/\textit{N}) + 4\sin(100\pi t/\textit{N})$  for  $t = 1, \ldots, \textit{N}$  with N = 1024. The Haar transform (right panel, red) is applied to the "sparsed" signal. The 972 of 1024 Haar coefficients are set to be zero, hence sparse.

### Approximation via Orthogonal Bases

- Goal of signal compression: represent signal  $\theta^* \in R^p$  using  $k \ll p$  coefficients.
- Use only sparse subset of the orthogonal vectors  $\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^p$  for  $k\in\{1,\ldots,p\}$ : consider reconstruction

$$\Psi eta = \sum_{j=1}^p eta_j \psi_j, \quad ext{ such that } \|eta\|_0 := \sum_{j=1}^p \mathbb{I}\left[eta_j 
eq 0
ight] \le k$$

- Here, we introduce the  $\ell_0$  "norm", which counts the number of non-zero entries in the vector  $\beta$ . This is not a true norm, but it is useful for sparsity.
- Doesn't satisfy the positively homogeneous property.

### Optimal k-sparse Approximation

- $\bullet \ \, \mathsf{Compute:} \ \, \widehat{\beta}^k \in \argmin_{\beta \in \mathbb{P}^p} \|\theta^* \Psi\beta\|_2^2 \quad \ \, \mathsf{such that} \ \, \|\beta\|_0 \leq k.$
- Reconstruction:  $\theta^k := \sum_{i=1}^p \widehat{\beta}_j^k \psi_j$ .
  - ullet defines the best least-squares approximation to  $heta^*$  based on k terms
  - non-convex and combinatorial problem
- Solve by taking first k coefficients with largest absolute values:
  - we order the vector  $\beta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  of basis coefficients in terms of their absolute values, thereby defining the order statistics

$$\left|\beta_{(1)}^*\right| \ge \left|\beta_{(2)}^*\right| \ge \ldots \ge \left|\beta_{(p)}^*\right|$$

• For any given integer  $k \in \{1, 2, ..., p\}$ , it can be shown that the optimal k-term approximation is given by

$$\widehat{\theta}^k := \sum_{i=1}^k \beta_{(j)}^* \psi_{\sigma(j)}$$

where  $\sigma(j)$  denotes the basis vector associated with the *j*-th basis.

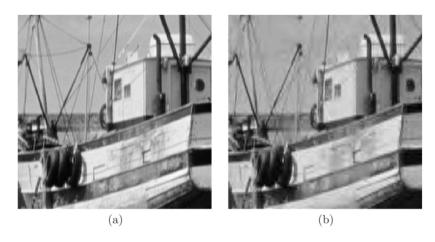


Figure 10.3 Illustration of image compression based on wavelet thresholding. (a) Zoomed portion of the original "Boats" image from Figure 10.2(a). (b) Reconstruction based on retaining 5% of the wavelet coefficients largest in absolute magnitude. Note that the distortion is quite small, and concentrated mainly on the fine-scale features of the image.

# Approximation in Orthogonal Bases: Procedure

- Compute basis coefficients  $\beta_j^* = \langle \theta^*, \psi_j \rangle$  for j = 1, ..., p or in matrix:  $\beta^* = \Psi^\top \theta^* \leadsto O(p^2)$  complexity (matrix-vector products).
- ② Sort coefficients in terms of absolute values  $\rightsquigarrow O(p \log p)$
- Extract the first k coefficients
- **Outpute** the best *k*-term approximation:

$$\widehat{\theta}^k := \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_{(j)}^* \psi_{\sigma(j)}$$

### Reconstruction in Overcomplete Bases

- Shortcomings of orthonormal bases: only limited class of signals has sparse representations in ANY orthonormal bases.
  - Certain signals are sparse in one orthonormal basis, but not in another.
- Solution: combine different orthonormal bases  $\leadsto$  use subsets of vectors from both bases simultaneously.

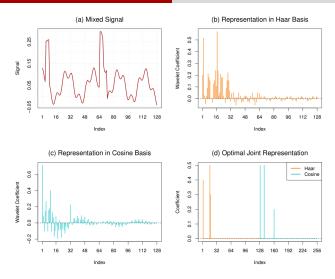


Figure 10.4 (a) Original signal  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  with p = 128. (b) Representation  $\Psi^T \theta^*$  in the Haar basis. (c) Representation  $\Phi^T \theta^*$  in the discrete cosine basis. (d) Coefficients  $(\widehat{\alpha}, \widehat{\beta}) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}^p$  of the optimally sparse joint representation obtained by solving basis pursuit linear program (10.11).

### Reconstruction in Overcomplete Bases

- two pairs of orthonormal bases:  $\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^p$ ,  $\{\phi_j\}_{j=1}^p$ .
- reconstruction of the form:

$$\underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^{p}\alpha_{j}\phi_{j}}_{\Phi\alpha} + \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^{p}\beta_{j}\psi_{j}}_{\Psi\beta} \quad \text{ such that } \|\alpha\|_{0} + \|\beta\|_{0} \leq k$$

optimization problem:

$$\underset{(\alpha,\beta)\in\mathbb{R}^p\times\mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \|\theta^* - \Phi\alpha - \Psi\beta\|_2^2 \quad \text{ such that } \|\alpha\|_0 + \|\beta\|_0 \leq \textit{k}.$$

- Note that this is a non-convex and combinatorial problem, as it involves the  $\ell_0$  norm.
- Nonetheless, we can resort to our usual relaxation of the  $\ell_0$ -"norm," and consider the following convex program

$$\underset{(\alpha,\beta)\in\mathbb{R}^p\times\mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \|\theta^* - \Phi\alpha - \Psi\beta\|_2^2 \quad \text{ such that } \|\alpha\|_1 + \|\beta\|_1 \leq R$$

where R > 0 is a user-defined radius.

# Compressed Sensing with random basis projections

- We discussed approximating a signal by computing its projection onto each of a fixed set of basis functions.
- ullet A random projection of a signal  $heta^*$  is a measurement of the form

$$y_i = \langle z_i, \theta^* \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^p z_{ij}\theta_j^*$$

where  $z_i \in \mathbb{R}^p$  is a random vector.

### Johnson-Lindenstrauss Approximation

#### Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma, 1984

Given  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , a set X of N points in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and an integer  $k > 8(\ln N)/\varepsilon^2$ , there is a linear map  $f \colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^k$  such that

$$(1 - \varepsilon) \|u - v\|^2 \le \|f(u) - f(v)\|^2 \le (1 + \varepsilon) \|u - v\|^2$$

for all  $u, v \in X$ . This map can be found in randomized polynomial time.

# Remarks on JL's lemma (Exercise 10.1)

Let's start with the chernoff bound for the chi-square distribution:

Let

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^{N} Y_i^2$$

where  $Y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$  are independent.

•

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^{\lambda Y_i^2}\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2} e^{\lambda y^2} dy = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int e^{-\frac{1}{2}(1-2\lambda)y^2} dy = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-2\lambda}}$$

valid for  $1 - 2\lambda > 0$ . Hence,

• 
$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(\lambda(Z-d))] = \left[\frac{e^{-\lambda}}{\sqrt{1-2\lambda}}\right]^d$$
, for all  $\lambda < 1/2$ .

For any  $0 < \lambda < 1/2$ , we use the Markov inequality to obtain

$$\mathbb{P}[Z - N \ge tN] \le \inf_{\lambda > 0} e^{-\lambda tN} \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\lambda(Z - N)}\right]$$
$$= \inf_{\lambda > 0} e^{-\lambda tN} \left[\frac{e^{-\lambda}}{\sqrt{1 - 2\lambda}}\right]^{N} = \inf_{\lambda > 0} \left[\frac{e^{-\lambda(1 + t)}}{\sqrt{1 - 2\lambda}}\right]^{N}$$

Then we want to find the optimal  $\lambda$  that minimizes the right-hand side. We can do this by taking the logarithm and let

$$f(\lambda) = -\lambda(1+t) - \frac{1}{2}\ln(1-2\lambda)$$

Simply set  $\lambda = \frac{t}{8}$  gives the desirable result. Or we can also set the derivative to be zero, this gives

$$\lambda = \frac{t}{2(1+t)}$$

Let  $h(t)=-\frac{t}{2}+\frac{1}{2}\ln(1+t)$ . We need to show that  $h(t)\leq -\frac{t^2}{32}$  for  $t\in (0,1/2)$ . Consider the function  $k(t)=h(t)+\frac{t^2}{32}$ . We have k(0)=0. The derivative is:

$$k'(t) = h'(t) + \frac{2t}{32} = \frac{-t}{2(1+t)} + \frac{t}{16} = t\left(\frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{2(1+t)}\right).$$

For  $t\in(0,1/2)$ , we have 1<1+t<3/2, so  $1/3<\frac{1}{2(1+t)}<1/2$ . Since 1/16<1/3, the term in the parenthesis is negative. Thus, k'(t)<0 for  $t\in(0,1/2)$ . As k(0)=0 and k(t) is decreasing,  $k(t)\leq0$  on this interval. This proves  $h(t)\leq-\frac{t^2}{32}$ . Therefore:

$$\mathbb{P}[Z - N \ge tN] \le e^{Nh(t)} \le e^{-\frac{Nt^2}{32}}$$

# Remarks on JL's lemma (Exercise 10.2)

For an RM  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$ , where entries  $Z_{ij}$  are i.i.d. N(0,1), define

$$f(u) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} Zu$$

and we have the transformed data  $\{f(u_1), f(u_2), ..., f(u_N)\}$ . Then the random variable  $N||f(u)||_2^2$  follows a chi-squared distribution with N degrees of freedom (sum of i.i.d. standard normal).

We want to find a lower bound for the probability of the event  $\mathcal{E}(\delta)$ , where

$$\mathcal{E}(\delta) := \left\{ \frac{\|f(u_i) - f(u_j)\|_2^2}{\|u_i - u_j\|_2^2} \in [1 - \delta, 1 + \delta] \quad \text{ for all pairs } i \neq j \right\}.$$

#### Remark

The event in  $\mathcal{E}(\delta)$  is the statement of the Johnson-Lindenstrauss lemma.

- We will bound the probability of the complement event,  $\mathcal{E}(\delta)^c$ , using the union bound. Let  $\mathcal{E}_{ij}$  be the event that the distance is preserved for a single pair (i,j). Then  $\mathcal{E}(\delta)^c = \bigcup_{i < j} \mathcal{E}^c_{ij}$ .
- By the union bound,  $\mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}(\delta)^c\right] \leq \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}_{ij}^c\right]$ . The number of pairs is

$$\binom{\textit{M}}{2} = \frac{\textit{M}(\textit{M}-1)}{2}.$$

• Let's analyze the probability for a single pair,  $\mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}_{ij}^c\right]$ . Let  $u=\dfrac{u_i-u_j}{\|u_i-u_j\|_2}$ . This is a unit vector. The ratio of squared norms can be written as:

$$\frac{\|f(u_i) - f(u_j)\|_2^2}{\|u_i - u_j\|_2^2} = \frac{\|f(u_i - u_j)\|_2^2}{\|u_i - u_j\|_2^2} = \left\|f\left(\frac{u_i - u_j}{\|u_i - u_j\|_2}\right)\right\|_2^2 = \|f(u)\|_2^2$$

- We know that  $Z := N ||F(u)||_2^2$  follows a  $\chi_N^2$  distribution. Thus,  $||F(u)||_2^2 = Z/N$ .
- Then

$$\mathcal{E}_{ij}^{c} = \left\{ \frac{Z}{N} \notin [1 - \delta, 1 + \delta] \right\} = \left\{ \left| \frac{Z}{N} - 1 \right| > \delta \right\} = \{ |Z - N| > \delta N \}$$

By the chernoff bound for the chi-square distribution, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}_{ii}^{c}\right] = \mathbb{P}[|Z - N| \ge \delta N] \le 2e^{-\frac{N\delta^{2}}{32}}$$

Union bound:

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}(\delta)^{c}\right] \leq \sum_{i \leq i} \mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}_{ij}^{c}\right] = \binom{M}{2} \cdot 2e^{-\frac{N\delta^{2}}{32}} = M(M-1)e^{-\frac{N\delta^{2}}{32}}$$

• We can use the looser inequality  $M(M-1) < M^2$ :

$$\mathbb{P}\left[\mathcal{E}(\delta)^{c}\right] < M^{2}e^{-\frac{N\delta^{2}}{32}}$$

Thus

$$\Pr[\mathcal{E}(\delta)] = 1 - \Pr\left[\mathcal{E}(\delta)^{c}\right] \ge 1 - M^{2}e^{-N\delta^{2}/32}$$

•  $\Pr[\mathcal{E}(\delta)] = 1$  when  $N > \frac{64}{\delta^2} \log M$ .

### Johnson-Lindenstrauss Approximation

- establish the existence of distance-preserving dimension reduction projection
  - $||f(u_i) f(u_j)||_2 \approx ||u_i u_j||_2$
- provide an explicit bound on the dimension required for approximate distance preserving
  - $N > \frac{c}{\delta^2} \log M$
- provide an explicit construction of the random projection
  - $f(u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} Zu$

### **Compressed Sensing**

- Motivation: In previous orthonormal bases algorithm we discard most  $\beta_i^*$  's, so do we really need to calculate them all?
  - select only the k largest coefficients  $\beta_{(1)}^*, \ldots, \beta_{(k)}^*$  and discard the rest.
- Oracle technique: if we know which subset of k coefficients will be retained for sparse approximation → only need to compute this subset of basis coefficients
- Compressed sensing
  - Instead of precomputing all coefficients  $\beta^* = \Psi^T \theta^*$ , we compute N random projections  $y = Z_{N \times p} \theta$  (with  $N \ll p$ ), i.e.,  $y_i = \langle z_i, \theta \rangle$ ,  $i = 1, ..., N, z_i \in \mathbb{R}^p$ .
  - Z: design matrix
  - Mimics behaviour of the oracle technique with only little computational overhead.

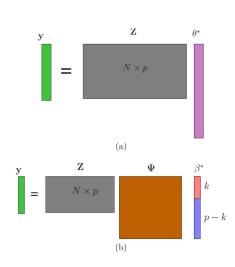
### Compressed Sensing v.s. regression

- Given:  $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$ : Vector of random projections of signal  $\theta^*$
- Given:  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$ : Design matrix used to compute random projections
- Goal: Recover signal  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$
- Problem:  $y = Z\theta$  is highly underdetermined as  $N \ll p$

### Example

$$y = x_1 + x_2$$
 if  $y = 1$ :  
 $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_2 = 0$   
 $x_1 = 0.5$  and  $x_2 = 0.5$   
etc...

# Compressed Sensing



$$\begin{split} & \underset{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \left\| \Psi^T \theta \right\|_0 \text{ such that } y = Z \theta \\ & \downarrow \quad I_1 \text{ -relaxation} \\ & \underset{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \left\| \Psi^T \theta \right\|_1 \text{ such that } y = Z \theta \end{split}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \beta^* & \text{Equivalently we can write:} \\ k & \underset{\beta \in R^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \|\beta\|_1 \text{ such that } y = \widetilde{Z}\beta \\ p_{-k} & \text{where } \widetilde{Z} = Z\Psi \ \big(\beta = \Psi^\top \theta\big). \end{array}$$

### **Compressed Sensing**

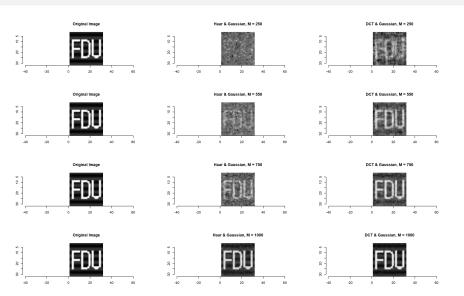
The method of compressed sensing operates as follows:

- **1** For given sample size N, compute random projections  $y_i = \langle z_i, \theta^* \rangle$  (Or ideally measure the random projections y instead of full signal  $\theta^*$ )
- ② Estimate  $\theta^*$  by solving linear program:  $\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \|\Psi^T \theta\|_1$  such that  $y = Z\theta$ , to obtain  $\hat{\theta}$ .

Other random sensing matrices  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$ 

- Gaussian random matrix:  $z_{ij} \in N(0, 1/N)$
- Bernoulli random matrix:  $z_{ij} \in \{-1/\sqrt{N}, 1/\sqrt{N}\}$  with probability p.

# Cases study: image reconstruction



# Equivalence between $\ell_0$ and $\ell_1$ Recovery

Given  $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$ :

- ullet  $\ell_0$  problem:  $\displaystyle \min_{eta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \|eta\|_0 \quad ext{ such that } \mathbf{X}eta = \mathbf{y}$ ,
- $\ell_1$  problem:  $\underset{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \|\beta\|_1$  such that  $\mathbf{X}\beta = \mathbf{y}$ .

Example: compressed sensing:  $X = \tilde{Z} = Z\Psi$ .

### Restricted Nullspace Property

An  $N \times p$  matrix X satisfies the restricted nullspace property for a set  $S \subseteq \{1,\dots,p\}$  if

$$\|\beta_{\mathcal{S}}\|_1 < \|\beta_{\mathcal{S}^c}\|_1 \text{ for all } \beta \in \ker(\mathbf{X}) \backslash \{0\}$$

It is said to satisfy the null space property of order k if it satisfies the Nullspace property for any set S with  $\operatorname{card}(S) \leq k$ .

#### RN(S)

For a given subset  $S \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ , it is stated in terms of the set

$$\mathbb{C}(S) := \{ \beta \in \mathbb{R}^p \mid \|\beta_{S^c}\|_1 \le \|\beta_S\|_1 \}.$$

For a given subset  $S \subseteq \{1, 2, ..., p\}$ , we say that the design matrix  $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$  satisfies the restricted nullspace property over S, denoted by  $\mathrm{RN}(S)$ , if

$$\ker(\mathbf{X}) \cap \mathbb{C}(S) = \{0\}$$

# Equivalence between $\ell_0$ and $\ell_1$ Recovery

#### Theorem 10.1

If a given matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times p}$  satisfies the null space property for a set S (RN(S)), every vector  $\beta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  supported on this set S is the unique solution of the  $\ell_1$ -problem with  $y = X\beta^*$ .

- $\ell_1$  problem:  $\underset{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p}{\operatorname{minimize}} \|\beta\|_1$  such that  $\mathbf{X}\beta = \mathbf{y}$ .
- ullet First, suppose that  ${f X}$  satisfies the  ${
  m RN}({\it S})$  property.
- Let  $\widehat{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^p$  be any optimal solution to the basis pursuit LP ( $\ell_1$  optimization problem), and define the error vector  $\Delta := \widehat{\beta} \beta^*$ .
- Our goal is to show that  $\Delta = 0$ .
- It suffices to show that  $\Delta \in \ker(\mathbf{X}) \cap \mathbb{C}(S)$ .

### Proof of Theorem 10.1

- On the one hand, since  $\beta^*$  and  $\widehat{\beta}$  are optimal (and hence feasible) solutions to the  $\ell_0$  and  $\ell_1$  problems, respectively, we are guaranteed that  $\mathbf{X}\beta^* = \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\widehat{\beta}$ , showing that  $\mathbf{X}\Delta = 0$ , namely,  $\Delta \in \ker(\mathbf{X})$ .
- On the other hand, since  $\beta^*$  is also feasible for the  $\ell_1$ -based problem, the optimality of  $\widehat{\beta}$  implies that  $\|\widehat{\beta}\|_1 \leq \|\beta^*\|_1 = \|\beta^*_S\|_1$  ( $\beta^*$  is supported on S,  $\beta^*_{Sc} = 0$ ). Note that for any vector v,

$$||v||_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{p} |v_i| = \sum_{i \in S} |v_i| + \sum_{i \in S^c} |v_i| = ||v_S||_1 + ||v_{S^c}||_1.$$

Writing  $\widehat{\beta} = \beta^* + \Delta$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \|\beta_{S}^{*}\|_{1} &\geq \|\widehat{\beta}\|_{1} = \|\beta_{S}^{*} + \Delta_{S}\|_{1} + \|\Delta_{S^{c}}\|_{1} \\ &\geq \|\beta_{S}^{*}\|_{1} - \|\Delta_{S}\|_{1} + \|\Delta_{S^{c}}\|_{1} \end{split}$$

where the final bound follows by triangle inequality. Rearranging terms, we find that  $\Delta \in \mathbb{C}(S)$ .

#### Pairwise incoherence

$$\nu(\mathbf{X}) := \max_{\substack{j,j'=1,2,\ldots,p\\j\neq j'}} \frac{\left|\left\langle \mathbf{x}_{j},\mathbf{x}_{j'}\right\rangle\right|}{\left\|\mathbf{x}_{j}\right\|_{2}\left\|\mathbf{x}_{j'}\right\|_{2}}.$$

• For centered  $x_i$  this is the maximal absolute pairwise correlation.

### Pairwise Incoherence $\implies$ RN(S) (Proposition 10.1)

Suppose that for some integer  $k \in \{1,2,\ldots,p\}$ , the pairwise incoherence satisfies the bound  $\nu(\mathbf{X}) < \frac{1}{3k}$ . Then  $\mathbf{X}$  satisfies the uniform RN property of order k, and hence, the basis pursuit LP is exact for all vectors with support at most k.

• Easy to verify: time complexity  $O(Np^2)$ .

### Proof of Proposition 10.1

- WLOG,  $\|\mathbf{x}_j\|_2 = 1$  for all  $j = 1, 2, \ldots, p$ . To simplify notation, let us assume an incoherence condition of the form  $\nu(\mathbf{X}) < \frac{\delta}{k}$  for some  $\delta > 0$ .
- Want to show: for an arbitrary subset S of cardinality k, suppose that  $\beta \in \mathbb{C}(S) \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $\|\mathbf{X}\beta\|_2^2 > 0$ , which means  $\beta \notin \operatorname{Ker} X$ .
- To begin with,

$$\|\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{2}^{2} \geq \|\mathbf{X}_{S}\boldsymbol{\beta}_{S}\|_{2}^{2} + 2\boldsymbol{\beta}_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S^{c}}\boldsymbol{\beta}_{S^{c}}$$

• Then let's dive into the cross term.

### Proof of Proposition 10.1

By definition:

$$\beta_{S}^{T} X_{S}^{T} X_{S^{c}} \beta_{S^{c}} = \sum_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S^{c}} \beta_{i} \beta_{j} \langle x_{i}, x_{j} \rangle.$$
 (1)

Then by absolute value inequality, we have

$$2\left|\beta_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S^{c}}\beta_{S^{c}}\right| \leq 2\sum_{i \in S}\sum_{i \in S^{c}}\left|\beta_{i}\right| \cdot \left|\beta_{j}\right| \cdot \left|\left\langle\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j}\right\rangle\right|$$

Note that

$$\sum_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S^c} |\beta_i| \, |\beta_j| = \left(\sum_{i \in S} |\beta_i|\right) \left(\sum_{j \in S^c} |\beta_j|\right) = \|\beta_S\|_1 \, \|\beta_{S^c}\|_1.$$

### Proof of Proposition 10.1

• Then by the definition of pairwise incoherence, we have  $|\langle \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j \rangle| \leq \nu(\mathbf{X}) \leq \frac{\delta}{\nu}, \forall i \neq j.$ 

• By Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\|\beta_{S}\|_{1}^{2} \le |S| \|\beta_{S}\|_{2}^{2} \le k \|\beta_{S}\|_{2}^{2}$$

Together, we obtain

$$\|\mathbf{X}\beta\|_{2}^{2} \ge \|\mathbf{X}_{S}\beta_{S}\|_{2}^{2} - 2\delta \|\beta_{S}\|_{2}^{2} = \beta_{S}^{\top} [I + (X_{S}^{\top}X_{S} - I)]\beta_{S} - 2\delta \|\beta_{S}\|_{2}^{2}.$$

Note that

$$\|\mathbf{X}_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S} - \mathbf{I}_{k \times k}\|_{op} \le \max_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S \setminus \{i\}} |\langle x_{i}, x_{j} \rangle| \le k \frac{\delta}{k} = \delta$$

• Then  $\|\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_2^2 > (1-3\delta) \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathbf{S}}\|_2^2$ , let  $\delta = 1/3$  completes the proof.

### Restricted Isometry Property

#### **RIP**

For tolerance  $\delta \in (0,1)$  and  $2k \in \{1,\ldots,p\}$  we say that  $RIP(2k,\delta)$  holds if  $\frac{\|X_{\mathcal{S}}u\|_2^2}{\|u\|_2^2} \in [1-\delta,1+\delta]$  for all  $u \in \mathbb{R}^k \setminus \{0\}$  for all subsets  $S \subset \{1,\ldots,p\}$  of cardinality 2k.

#### Intuition:

- RIP holds if  $X_{\mathcal{S}}$  changes length of vectors very little, eigenvalues close to 1.
- Every set of columns of size at most 2k approximatly behaves like orthonormal system.

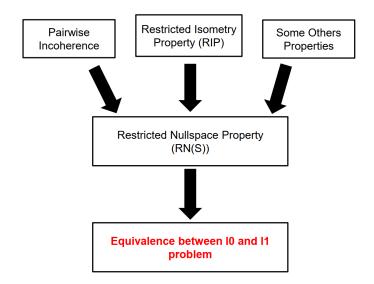
$$\left\|\mathbf{X}_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S} - \mathbf{I}_{k \times k}\right\|_{\mathsf{op}} = \sup_{\|u\|_{2} = 1} \left|u^{T}\left(\mathbf{X}_{S}^{T}\mathbf{X}_{S} - \mathbf{I}_{k \times k}\right)u\right| = \sup_{\|u\|_{2} = 1} \left|\|\mathbf{X}_{S}u\|_{2}^{2} - 1\right|.$$

# RIP implies RN(S)

#### Proposition 10.2

If  $\mathrm{RIP}(2k,\delta)$  holds with  $\delta<1/3$ , then the uniform RN property of order k holds, and hence the  $\ell_1$  relaxation is exact for all vectors supported on at most k elements.

- Advantage: RIP constant  $\delta$  does not depend on k.
- Problem: constraint on a huge number of submatrices,  $\binom{p}{2k}$  in total.
- Various choices of random projection matrix X satisfy RIP with high probability as long as  $N \gtrsim k \log \frac{ep}{k}$ .



#### References

- ISLR, SLS and ESL,
- 36-708 Statistical Methods for Machine Learning, CMU
- Time-Frequency Analysis and Wavelet Transform, TFW\_Write6, NTHU
- Sparse learning slides, ETHZ

# Questions or comments?