# Learning Coordinate Covariances via Gradients

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Motivation of problem

- Motivation of problem
- Tikhonov regularization





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- A representer theorem
- A reduced matrix algorithm
- Convergence of the estimate of the gradient
- Applications to simulated and real data





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Classification and regression of high dimensional data given few samples.

The "large p, small n" paradigm.

Tikhonov regularization/shrinkage estimators (for example SVMs) have been successful.

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However in the "large p, small n" paradigm.

We formulate the problem of learning coordinate covariation and relevance in the framework of Tikhonov regularization or shrinkage estimation.

 $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is a compact metric space and  $Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  a sample  $\mathbf{z} = \left\{ (x_i, y_i) \right\}_{i=1}^m \in (X \times Y)^m$ 

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a hypothesis space  $\mathcal{H}$  is a set of functions  $f:X \to Y \subset {\rm I\!R}$ 

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$$f_{\mathbf{z}}^{V} = \arg\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \left\{ \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} V(y_i, f(x_i)) + \lambda \Omega(f) \right\}$$

where  $\lambda > 0$ 

 $K: X \times X \to {\rm I\!R}$  be continuous, symmetric and positive semidefinite is a Mercer kernel, for example

$$K(w, v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-\|u - v\|^2 / 2\sigma^2)$$

RKHS is the linear span

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$$f_{\mathbf{z}}^{V}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} c_i K(x_i, x)$$

optimization over  $\{c_i\}_{i=1}^m \in \mathbb{R}^m$ 

### The regression function

the joint

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Convergence: as  $\lambda = \lambda(m) \to 0$  as  $m \to \infty$ 

$$||f_{\mathbf{z}}^V - f_{\rho}||_{\rho} \to 0$$

#### Classification

$$\begin{split} Y &= \{-1,1\} \text{ and } \mathrm{sgn}(f): X \to Y \\ \text{loss function: } V(f(x),y) &= \phi(yf(x)) := \log \left(1 + e^{-yf(x)}\right) \\ f^V_{\mathbf{z}} &= \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}_K} \left\{ \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \log \left(1 + e^{-y_i f(x_i)}\right) + \lambda \|f\|_K^2 \right\} \end{split}$$

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classification error

$$\mathcal{R}(\operatorname{sgn}(f)) = \operatorname{Prob}\{\operatorname{sgn}(f(x)) \neq y\}$$

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$$\mathcal{R}(\operatorname{sgn}(f_{\mathbf{z}}^V)) \to \mathcal{R}(\operatorname{sgn}(f_\rho))$$

# Learning the gradient

 $x=(x^1,x^2,\ldots,x^n)^T\in {\rm I\!R}^n$  and the gradient of  $f_
ho$ 

$$\nabla f_{\rho} = \left(\frac{\partial f_{\rho}}{\partial x^{1}}, \dots, \frac{\partial f_{\rho}}{\partial x^{n}}\right)^{T}$$

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use of the gradient

- lacksquare variable selection:  $\left\|rac{\partial f_{
  ho}}{\partial x^i}
  ight\|$
- **•** coordinate covariation:  $\left\langle \frac{\partial f_{\rho}}{\partial x^{i}}, \frac{\partial f_{\rho}}{\partial x^{j}} \right\rangle$



## Formulating the algorithm

Taylor expanding f(u) around x

$$f(u) \approx f(x) + \int_{\Delta x \in \Gamma_x} \langle \nabla f, \Delta x \rangle,$$

where the inner product and neighborhood  $\Gamma_x$  depend on the problem setting

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$$f(u) \approx f(x) + \int_{\Delta x \in \mathcal{M}_x} \langle \nabla_{\mathcal{M}} f, \Delta x \rangle,$$

where  $\Delta x \in \mathcal{M}_x$  and the inner product is  $L_2$  over the manifold

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various algorithms can be realized by a robust minimization of the error  $f(\boldsymbol{u})$  and its expansion

$$f(x) + \int_{\Delta x \in \Gamma_x} \langle \nabla f, \Delta x \rangle \approx f(x) + \nabla f(x) \cdot (u - x) \text{ for } u \approx x$$

loss function for regression: on sample points  $x = x_i, u = x_j$ 

$$(f(u) - f(x) - \nabla f(x) \cdot (u - x))^2 := (y_i - y_j + \vec{f}(x_i) \cdot (x_j - x_i))^2$$
 for  $x_i \approx x_j$ 

where  $x_i \approx x_j$  given by weights:  $w_{i,j} > 0$ 

loss function for classification: on sample points  $x=x_i, u=x_j$  and convex function  $\phi$  (logistic)

$$\phi\left(y_i\left(y_j+\vec{f}(x_i)\cdot(x_i-x_j)\right)\right)$$
 for  $x_i\approx x_j$ 

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weights: a natural choice is a Gaussian

$$w_{i,j} = w_{i,j}^{(s)} = \frac{1}{s^{n+2}} e^{-\frac{|x_i - x_j|^2}{2s^2}} = w(x_i - x_j), \quad i, j = 1, \dots, m$$

loss function for regression: on sample points  $x = x_i, u = x_j$ 

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regularization:  $\mathcal{H}_K^n$  is an n-fold of  $\mathcal{H}_K$  and  $\vec{f}=(f_1,f_2,\ldots,f_n)^T$  with  $f_\ell\in\mathcal{H}_K$ 

$$\langle \vec{f}, \vec{g} \rangle_K = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \langle f_\ell, g_\ell \rangle_K \text{ and } \|\vec{f}\|_K^2 = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \|f_\ell\|_K^2$$

# **Gradient algorithms**

**Definition 1**. The least-square type learning algorithm is defined for the sample  $\mathbf{z} \in Z^m$  as

$$\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda} := \arg\min_{\vec{f} \in \mathcal{H}_K^n} \left\{ \frac{1}{m^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m w_{i,j}^{(s)} \left( y_i - y_j + \vec{f}(x_i) \cdot (x_j - x_i) \right)^2 + \lambda ||\vec{f}||_K^2 \right\},\,$$

where  $\lambda$ , s are two positive constants called the regularization parameters.

# **Gradient algorithms**

**Definition 2.** The least-square type learning algorithm is defined for the sample  $\mathbf{z} \in Z^m$  as

$$\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda} := \arg\min_{\vec{f} \in \mathcal{H}_K^n} \left\{ \frac{1}{m^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m w_{i,j}^{(s)} \left( y_i - y_j + \vec{f}(x_i) \cdot (x_j - x_i) \right)^2 + \lambda ||\vec{f}||_K^2 \right\},\,$$

where  $\lambda$ , s are two positive constants called the regularization parameters.

**Definition 3.** The regularization scheme for classification is defined for the sample  $\mathbf{z} \in Z^m$  as

$$\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda} = \arg\min_{\vec{f} \in \mathcal{H}_K^n} \left\{ \frac{1}{m^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m w_{i,j}^{(s)} \phi \left( y_i (y_j + \vec{f}(x_i) \cdot (x_i - x_j)) \right) + \lambda ||\vec{f}||_K^2 \right\}.$$

### Remark

Why not estimate  $f_{\rho}$  and then take partial derivatives ?

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When we obtain an approximation of  $f_{\rho}$  it is in a particular RKHS.

However, its partial derivatives are not.

Hence, there is no natural ways to find the correlations.

For example for the Gaussian kernel, there are no natural inner products among its partial derivatives, especially when there are no natural coordinates for the underlying manifold.

### Representer theorems

For both classification and regression

$$\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} c_{i,\mathbf{z}} K(x_i, x),$$

where  $c_{i,\mathbf{z}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

### Representer theorems

#### For regression

Theorem 1. For  $i=1,\ldots,m,$  let  $B_i$ 

$$B_i = \sum_{j=1}^m w_{i,j} (x_j - x_i) (x_j - x_i)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}, \quad Y_i = \sum_{j=1}^m w_{i,j} (y_j - y_i) (x_j - x_i) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Then

$$\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} c_{i,\mathbf{z}} K(x_i, x)$$

with  $c_{\mathbf{z}}=(c_{1,\mathbf{z}}^T,\dots,c_{m,\mathbf{z}}^T)^T\in\mathbb{R}^{mn}$  satisfying the linear system

$$\left\{m^2 \lambda I_{mn} + \operatorname{diag}\{B_1, B_2, \cdots, B_m\} \left[K(x_i, x_j) I_n\right]_{i,j=1}^m \right\} c = (Y_1^T, Y_2^T, \dots, Y_m^T)^T.$$

The above is a linear system of size  $mn \times mn$  which is prohibitive if n >> m.

# Reducing the matrix size

Each term in the summation defining  $B_i$  is a rank one matrix.

Hence the rank of the  $n \times n$  matrix  $B_i$  is at most m.

This allows us to reduce the system to  $(dm) \times (dm)$  with  $d \leq m - 1$ .

Denote  $V_{\mathbf{x}} = \operatorname{span}\{x_j - x_m\}_{j=1}^{m-1}$ , the subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  generated by the vectors  $\{x_j - x_m\}$ .

### Reducing the matrix size

**Theorem 2.** Let an  $n \times d$  matrix  $V = (V_1, \dots, V_d)$  have linearly independent column vectors and its column space span $\{V_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^d$  contains  $V_{\mathbf{x}}$ . Write

$$x_j - x_m = \sum_{\ell=1}^d \widetilde{x}_j^{\ell} V_{\ell} = V \widetilde{x}_j$$

with  $\widetilde{x}_j \in \mathbb{R}^d$  for each j . Then

$$\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \{ \sum_{\ell=1}^{d} \widetilde{c}_{i,\mathbf{z}}^{\ell} V_{\ell} \} K(x_{i}, x)$$

with  $\widetilde{c}_{\mathbf{z}}=(\widetilde{c}_{1,\mathbf{z}}^T,\ldots,\widetilde{c}_{m,\mathbf{z}}^T)^T\in\mathbb{R}^{md}$  satisfying

$$\left\{m^2\lambda I_{md} + \operatorname{diag}\{\widetilde{B}_1,\widetilde{B}_2,\cdots,\widetilde{B}_m\}\big[K(x_i,x_j)I_d\big]_{i,j=1}^m\right\}\widetilde{c} = (\widetilde{Y}_1^T,\widetilde{Y}_2^T,\ldots,\widetilde{Y}_m^T)^T.$$

where

$$\widetilde{B}_i = \sum_{j=1}^m w_{i,j} (\widetilde{x}_j - \widetilde{x}_i) (x_j - x_i)^T V \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}, \quad \widetilde{Y}_i = \sum_{j=1}^m w_{i,j} (y_j - y_i) (\widetilde{x}_j - \widetilde{x}_i) \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

# Convergence to the gradient

**Proposition 1.** Assume  $|y| \leq M$  almost surely. Suppose that for some  $0 < \tau \leq 2/3, c_{\rho} > 0$ , the marginal distribution  $\rho_X$  satisfies

$$\rho_X(\lbrace x \in X : \inf_{u \notin X} |u - x| \le s \rbrace) \le c_\rho^2 s^{4\tau}, \quad \forall s > 0,$$

and the density p(x) of  $d\rho_X(x)$  exists and satisfies

$$\sup_{x \in X} p(x) \le c_{\rho}, \quad |p(x) - p(u)| \le c_{\rho} |u - x|^{\tau}, \qquad \forall u, x \in X.$$

Choose  $\lambda=\lambda(m)=m^{-\frac{\tau}{n+2+3\tau}}$  and  $s=s(m)=(\kappa c_\rho)^{\frac{2}{\tau}}m^{-\frac{1}{n+2+3\tau}}$ . If  $\nabla f_\rho\in\mathcal{H}_K^n$  and the kernel K is  $C^3$ , then there is a constant  $C_{\rho,K}$  such that for any  $0<\delta<1$  and  $m\geq 1$ , with confidence  $1-\delta$ , we have

$$\|\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda} - \nabla f_{\rho}\|_{\rho} \le C_{\rho,K} \log\left(\frac{2}{\delta}\right) \left(\frac{1}{m}\right)^{\frac{\tau}{2(n+2+3\tau)}}.$$



# **Quantities of interest**

**Definition 4.** The relative magnitude of the norm for the variables is defined as

$$s_{\ell}^{\rho} = \frac{\|(\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda})_{\ell}\|_{K}}{\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} \|(\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda})_{j}\|_{K}^{2}\right)^{1/2}}, \qquad \ell = 1, \dots, n.$$

### **Quantities of interest**

**Definition 5.** The relative magnitude of the norm for the variables is defined as

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**Definition 6.** The empirical gradient matrix (EGM),  $F_{\mathbf{z}}$ , is the  $n \times m$  matrix whose columns are  $\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}(x_j)$  with  $j=1,\ldots,m$ . The empirical covariance matrix (ECM),  $\Xi_{\mathbf{z}}$ , is the  $n \times n$  matrix of inner products of the gradient between two coordinates

$$\operatorname{Cov}(\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}) := \left[ \langle \left(\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}\right)_p, \left(\vec{f}_{\mathbf{z},\lambda}\right)_q \rangle_K \right]_{p,q=1}^n = \sum_{i,j=1}^m c_{i,\mathbf{z}} c_{j,\mathbf{z}}^T K(x_i,x_j).$$

Construct a function in an n=80 dimensional space which consists of three linear functions over different partitions of the space. So  $\{(x_i,y_i)\}_{i=1}^{30}$  with  $y\in\mathbb{R}$  and  $x\in\mathbb{R}^{80}$ .

 $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^{30}$  partition the space

1. For samples  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^{10}$ 

$$x^{j} = \mathcal{N}(1, \sigma_{x}), \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, 10; \qquad x^{j} = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{x}), \text{ for } j = 11, \dots, 80.$$

2. For samples  $\{x_i\}_{i=11}^{20}$ 

$$x^{j} = \mathcal{N}(1, \sigma_{x}), \text{ for } j = 11, \dots, 20; \qquad x^{j} = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{x}), \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, 10, 21, \dots, 80.$$

3. For samples  $\{x_i\}_{i=21}^{30}$ 

$$x^{j} = \mathcal{N}(-1, \sigma_{x}), \text{ for } j = 41, \dots, 50; \qquad x^{j} = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{x}), \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, 40, 51, \dots, 80.$$

Vectors corresponding to different linear functions over partitions

```
w_1 = 2 + .5\sin(2\pi i/10) for i = 1, ..., 10 and 0 otherwise, w_2 = -2 - .5\sin(2\pi i/10) for i = 11, ..., 20 and 0 otherwise, w_3 = -2 - .5\sin(2\pi i/10) for i = 41, ..., 50 and 0 otherwise.
```

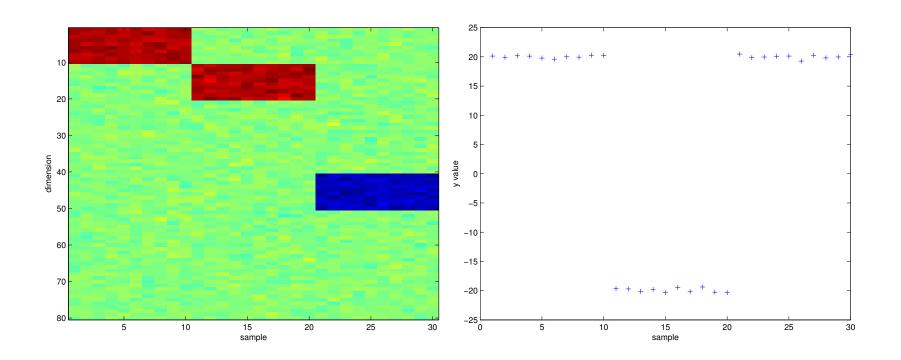
$$\{y_i\}_{i=1}^{30}$$

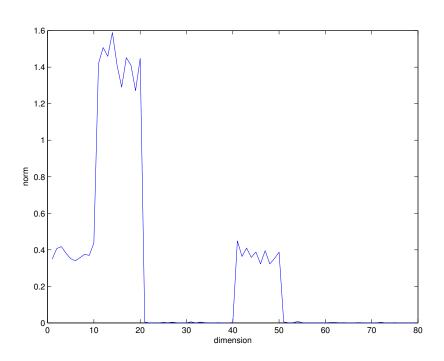
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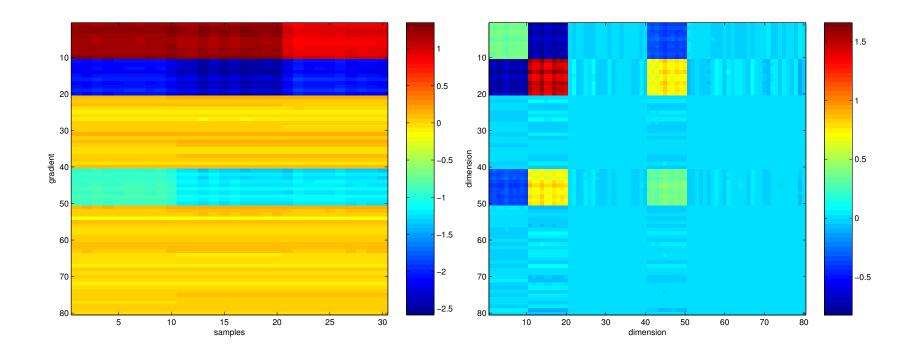
$$y_i = x_i \cdot w_1 + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y),$$

$$y_i = x_i \cdot w_2 + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y),$$

$$y_i = x_i \cdot w_3 + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y).$$







# Gene expression data

Expression (number of copies of mRNA) for 7,129 genes and ESTs were measured over 73 patients with either AML (myeloid leukemia) or ALL (lymphoblastic leukemia)

$$\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^{73}$$
 with  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{7129}$  and  $y \in \{-1, 1\}$ 

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| genes (S)   | 5 | 55 | 105 | 155 | 205 | 255 | 305 | 355 | 405 | 455 |
|-------------|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| test errors | 1 | 3  | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   |

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| genes (S)   | 5 | 55 | 105 | 155 | 205 | 255 | 305 | 355 | 405 | 455 |
|-------------|---|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| test errors | 1 | 3  | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   |

# **Decay of norms**

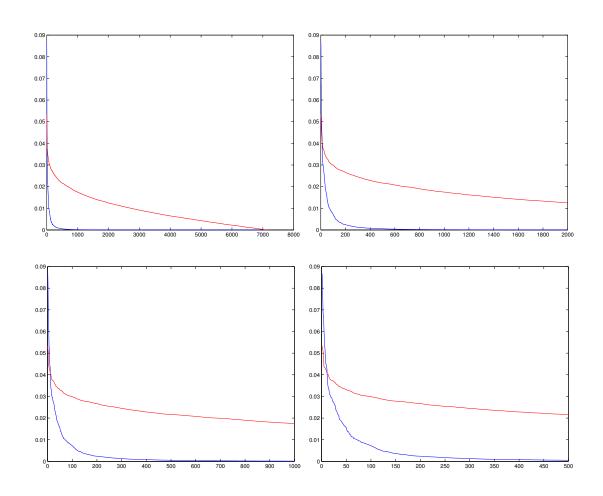
The decay of  $s^{\rho}_{(\ell)}$  is a measure of how many features are significant

# **Decay of norms**

Fisher score:

$$t_{\ell} = \frac{|\hat{\mu}^{\mathsf{AML}}_{\ell} - \hat{\mu}^{\mathsf{ALL}}_{\ell}|}{\hat{\sigma}^{\mathsf{AML}}_{\ell} + \hat{\sigma}^{\mathsf{ALL}}_{\ell}},$$
 
$$s^{F}_{\ell} = \frac{t_{\ell}}{\left(\sum_{p=1}^{n} t_{p}^{2}\right)^{1/2}}$$

# **Decay of norms**



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# Acknowledgements

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