

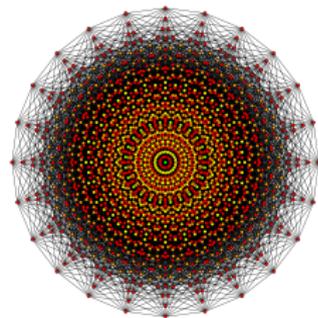
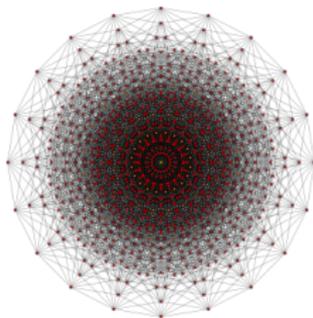
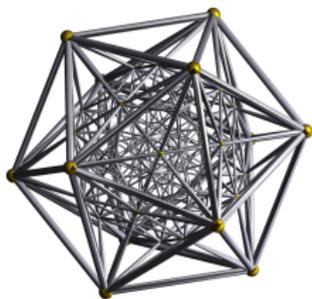
Computational Principles for High-dim Data Analysis

(Lecture Nine)

Yi Ma and Jiantao Jiao

EECS Department, UC Berkeley

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Convex Methods for Low-Rank Matrix Recovery (Random Measurements)

- 1 Motivating Examples
- 2 Representing Low-Rank Matrix via SVD
- 3 Recovering a Low-Rank Matrix

“Mathematics is the art of giving the same name to different things.”
– Henri Poincaré

Problem

Recovering a sparse signal x_o :

$$\underset{\text{observation}}{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{A} \underset{\text{unknown}}{x_o}, \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is a linear map.

Recovering a low-rank matrix X_o :

$$\underset{\text{observation}}{\mathbf{y}} = \mathcal{A} \left[\underset{\text{unknown}}{X_o} \right], \quad (2)$$

where, $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a linear map.

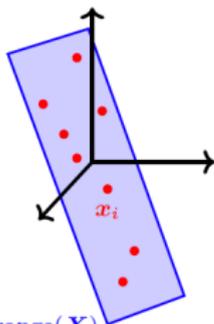
Examples of Low-rank Modeling

Multiple images of a Lambertian object with different light:

$$Y = \mathcal{P}_\Omega[NL].$$

$X = NL$ has rank 3.
(Details in Chapter 14)

Data space \mathbb{R}^{n_1}

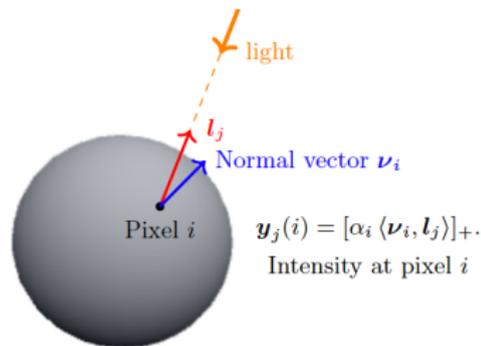
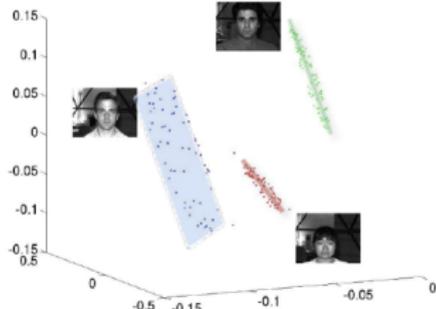


range(X)
dimension = rank(X)

Images y_j under different lighting l_j



Object shape and albedo



Examples of Low-rank Modeling

Recommendation Ratings:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Users} \\ \begin{matrix} \text{User 1} \\ \text{User 2} \\ \vdots \\ \text{User } n \end{matrix} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & \dots & ? \\ ? & 2 & \dots & 4 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 5 & ? & \dots & ? \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{P}_\Omega \left(\begin{array}{c} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & \dots & 5 \\ 4 & 2 & \dots & 4 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 5 & 5 & \dots & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{Complete Ratings } \mathbf{X} \end{array} \right)$$

Items
Observed (Incomplete) Ratings \mathbf{Y}

We observe:

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{Y} \\ \text{Observed ratings} \end{array} = \mathcal{P}_\Omega \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{X} \\ \text{Complete ratings} \end{array} \right],$$

where $\Omega \doteq \{(i, j) \mid \text{user } i \text{ has rated product } j\}$.

Examples of Low-rank Modeling

Many other examples:

- Euclidean Distance Matrix Embedding
- Latent Semantic Indexing
- ...

Singular Value Decomposition

Theorem (Compact SVD)

Let $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$ be a matrix, and $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{X})$. Then there exist $\mathbf{\Sigma} = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r)$ with numbers $\sigma_1 \geq \sigma_2 \geq \dots \geq \sigma_r > 0$ and matrices $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times r}$, $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times r}$, such that $\mathbf{U}^* \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}$, $\mathbf{V}^* \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}$ and

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{V}^* = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^*. \quad (3)$$

Properties of the SVD:

- The left (or right) singular vectors \mathbf{u}_i are the eigenvectors of $\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^*$ (or $\mathbf{X}^* \mathbf{X}$).
- The nonzero singular values σ_i are the positive square roots of the positive eigenvalues λ_i of $\mathbf{X}^* \mathbf{X}$ (or $\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^*$).

Singular Vectors via Nonconvex Optimization

To compute singular vector, say \mathbf{u}_1 , consider the optimization problem:

$$\min \varphi(\mathbf{q}) \equiv -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{q}^*\mathbf{\Gamma}\mathbf{q} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{q}\|_2^2 = 1 \quad (4)$$

with $\mathbf{\Gamma} \doteq \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^*$.

\mathbf{q} is a critical point of $\varphi(\mathbf{q})$ over the sphere \mathbb{S}^{n-1} if and only if (**why?**):

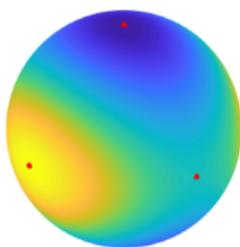
$$\nabla\varphi(\mathbf{q}) \propto \mathbf{q}. \quad (5)$$

The critical points are precisely the eigenvectors $\pm\mathbf{u}_i$ of $\mathbf{\Gamma}$:

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}\mathbf{q} = \lambda\mathbf{q} \quad \text{for some } \lambda. \quad (6)$$

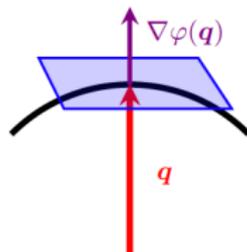
All $\pm\mathbf{u}_i$ are unstable critical points of φ over \mathbb{S}^{n-1} except $\pm\mathbf{u}_1$!

Singular Vectors via Nonconvex Optimization



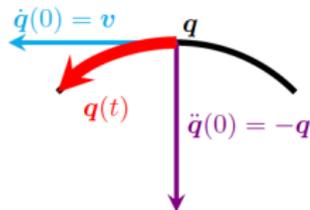
Objective:

$$\varphi(\mathbf{q}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{q}^*\mathbf{\Gamma}\mathbf{q}$$



Critical point:

$$\nabla\varphi(\mathbf{q}) = \lambda\mathbf{q}$$



Curvature:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d^2}{dt^2}\varphi(\mathbf{q}(t))\Big|_{t=0} \\ &= \mathbf{v}^*\nabla^2\varphi(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{v} \\ &+ \langle \nabla\varphi(\mathbf{q}), -\mathbf{q} \rangle \|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

A great circle (a *geodesics*) on \mathbb{S}^{n-1} : $\mathbf{q}(t) = \mathbf{q} \cos(t) + \mathbf{v} \sin(t)$ with $\mathbf{v} \perp \mathbf{q}$ and $\|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1$. The 2nd directional derivative of $\varphi(\mathbf{q}(t))$ at $\bar{\mathbf{q}} = \pm\mathbf{u}_i$:

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2}\varphi(\mathbf{q}(t))\Big|_{t=0} = \underbrace{\mathbf{v}^*\nabla^2\varphi(\mathbf{q})\mathbf{v}}_{\text{Curvature of } \varphi} - \underbrace{\langle \nabla\varphi(\mathbf{q}), \mathbf{q} \rangle \mathbf{v}^*\mathbf{v}}_{\text{Curvature of the sphere}} = \mathbf{v}^*(-\mathbf{\Gamma} + \lambda_i\mathbf{I})\mathbf{v}.$$

"Hessian"

Best Low-Rank Matrix Approximation

Theorem (Best Low-rank Approximation)

Let $\mathbf{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$, and consider the following optimization problem

$$\min \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \leq r. \quad (7)$$

The optimal solution $\hat{\mathbf{X}}$ has the form $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = \sum_{i=1}^r \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^*$, where $\mathbf{Y} = \sum_{i=1}^{\min(n_1, n_2)} \sigma_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{v}_i^*$ is the singular value decomposition of \mathbf{Y} .

The same solution (truncating the SVD) applies to minimizing the rank of the unknown matrix \mathbf{X} , subject to a data fidelity constraint:

$$\min \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F \leq \epsilon. \quad (8)$$

General Rank Minimization

Problem: recover a low-rank matrix \mathbf{X} from linear measurements:

$$\min \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{y} \quad (9)$$

where $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ is an observation and $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a linear map:

$$\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] = (\langle \mathbf{A}_1, \mathbf{X} \rangle, \dots, \langle \mathbf{A}_m, \mathbf{X} \rangle), \quad \mathbf{A}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}. \quad (10)$$

Since $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) = \|\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{X})\|_0$, the problem is equivalent to the (NP-hard) ℓ^0 minimization:

$$\min \|\boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{X})\|_0 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{y}. \quad (11)$$

Convex Relaxation of Rank Minimization

Replace the rank, which is the ℓ^0 norm $\sigma(\mathbf{X})$ with the ℓ^1 norm of $\sigma(\mathbf{X})$:

$$\text{Nuclear norm: } \|\mathbf{X}\|_* \doteq \|\sigma(\mathbf{X})\|_1 = \sum_i \sigma_i(\mathbf{X}). \quad (12)$$

This is also known as the *trace norm* (for symmetric positive semidefinite matrices), the *Schatten 1-norm*, or the *Ky-Fan k-norm*.

Nuclear norm minimization problem:

$$\min \|\mathbf{X}\|_* \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{y}. \quad (13)$$

Nuclear Norm – Convex Envelope of Rank

Why $\|X\|_*$ is a norm (hence convex)?

Theorem

For $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$, let $\|M\|_* = \sum_{i=1}^{\min\{n_1, n_2\}} \sigma_i(M)$. Then $\|\cdot\|_*$ is a norm. Moreover, the nuclear norm and the spectral norm are dual norms:

$$\|M\|_* = \sup_{\|N\| \leq 1} \langle M, N \rangle, \quad \text{and} \quad \|M\| = \sup_{\|N\|_* \leq 1} \langle M, N \rangle. \quad (14)$$

Why $\|X\|_*$ is tight to approximate $\text{rank}(X)$?

Theorem

$\|M\|_*$ is the convex envelope of $\text{rank}(M)$ over

$$B_{op} \doteq \{M \mid \|M\| \leq 1\}. \quad (15)$$

Nuclear Norm – Variational Forms

How to compute besides SVD?

$\|\mathbf{X}\|_*$ is equivalent to the following variational forms:

- ① $\|\mathbf{X}\|_* = \min_{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}} \frac{1}{2} (\|\mathbf{U}\|_F^2 + \|\mathbf{V}\|_F^2), \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV}^*.$
- ② $\|\mathbf{X}\|_* = \min_{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}} \|\mathbf{U}\|_F \|\mathbf{V}\|_F, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV}^*.$
- ③ $\|\mathbf{X}\|_* = \min_{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V}} \sum_k \|\mathbf{u}_k\|_2 \|\mathbf{v}_k\|_2, \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{UV}^* \doteq \sum_k \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{v}_k^*.$

These are useful in parameterizing low-rank matrices and finding them numerically, say via optimization.

Success of Nuclear Norm – Geometric Intuition

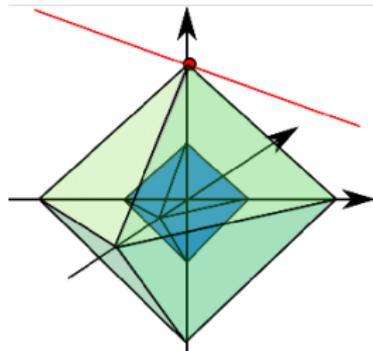
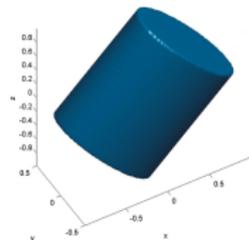
Nuclear norm ball: consider the set of 2×2 symmetric matrices, parameterized as

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ y & z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}.$$

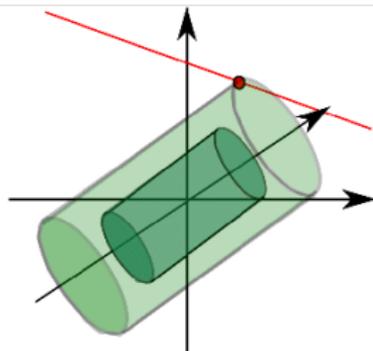
The nuclear norm (unit) ball

$$B_* = \{M \mid \|M\|_* \leq 1\}$$

is a cylinder in \mathbb{R}^3 . The two circles at both ends of the cylinder correspond to matrices of rank 1.



(a)



(b)

Rank-RIP

Definition (Rank-Restricted Isometry Property)

The operator \mathcal{A} has the rank-restricted isometry property of rank r with constant δ , if $\forall \mathbf{X}$'s that satisfy $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \leq r$, we have

$$(1 - \delta)\|\mathbf{X}\|_F^2 \leq \|\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}]\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \delta)\|\mathbf{X}\|_F^2. \quad (16)$$

The rank- r restricted isometry constant $\delta_r(\mathcal{A})$ is the smallest δ such that the above property holds.

Theorem (Uniqueness)

If $\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}_o]$, with $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}_o)$ and $\delta_{2r}(\mathcal{A}) < 1$, then \mathbf{X}_o is the unique optimal solution to the rank minimization problem

$$\min \text{rank}(\mathbf{X}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{y}. \quad (17)$$

Rank-RIP for Nuclear Norm Minimization

Theorem (Nuclear Norm Minimization Success)

Suppose that $\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}_o]$ with $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}_o) \leq r$, and that $\delta_{4r}(\mathcal{A}) \leq \sqrt{2} - 1$. Then \mathbf{X}_o is the unique optimal solution to the nuclear norm minimization problem

$$\min \|\mathbf{X}\|_* \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{y}. \quad (18)$$

Let $\mathbf{X}_o = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^*$ be the SVD of the true solution \mathbf{X}_o .

“Support” of \mathbf{X}_o (compared to \mathbf{l} of \mathbf{x}_o):

$$\mathbb{T} \doteq \{\mathbf{U}\mathbf{R}^* + \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{V}^* \mid \mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times r}, \mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times r}\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}. \quad (19)$$

“Sign” of \mathbf{X}_o (compared to σ of \mathbf{x}_o):

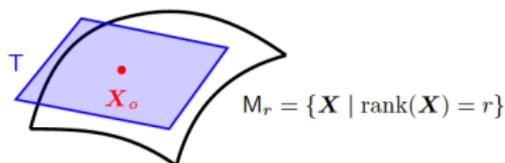
$\mathbf{U}\mathbf{V}^*$ plays the role of the “signs” of \mathbf{X}_o since $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{V}^* \in \mathbb{T}$ and

$$\langle \mathbf{X}_o, \mathbf{U}\mathbf{V}^* \rangle = \|\mathbf{X}_o\|_*. \quad (20)$$

Rank-RIP for Nuclear Norm Minimization

Proof Ideas: very similar to certifying optimality of \mathbf{x}_o for the ℓ^1 minimization.

Let $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{X}_o + \mathbf{H}$ be any optimal solution to our problem (18). Then $\mathbf{H} = \hat{\mathbf{X}} - \mathbf{X}_o \in \text{null}(\mathcal{A})$ must satisfy the following **cone restriction**:



$$\|\mathcal{P}_{T^\perp}[\mathbf{H}]\|_* \leq \|\mathcal{P}_T[\mathbf{H}]\|_* . \quad (21)$$

Rank-RIP for Nuclear Norm Minimization

Definition (Matrix Restricted Strong Convexity)

The linear operator \mathcal{A} satisfies the matrix *restricted strong convexity* (RSC) condition of rank r with constant α if for the support T of every matrix of rank r and for all nonzero \mathbf{H} satisfying

$$\|\mathcal{P}_{T^\perp}[\mathbf{H}]\|_* \leq \alpha \cdot \|\mathcal{P}_T[\mathbf{H}]\|_* . \quad (22)$$

with some constant $\alpha \geq 1$, we have

$$\|\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{H}]\|_2^2 > \mu \cdot \|\mathbf{H}\|_F^2, \quad \text{for some } \mu > 0. \quad (23)$$

Rank-RIP for Nuclear Norm Minimization

Theorem (Rank-RIP Implies Matrix RSC)

If a linear operator \mathcal{A} satisfies rank-RIP with $\delta_{4r} < \frac{1}{1+\alpha\sqrt{2}}$, then \mathcal{A} satisfies the matrix-RSC condition of rank r with constant α .

Theorem (Rank-RIP of Gaussian Measurements)

If the measurement operator \mathcal{A} is a random Gaussian map with entries i.i.d. $\mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{m})$, then \mathcal{A} satisfies the rank-RIP with constant $\delta_r(\mathcal{A}) \leq \delta$ with high probability, provided $m \geq Cr(n_1 + n_2) \times \delta^{-2} \log \delta^{-1}$, where $C > 0$ is a numerical constant.

Proofs precisely emulate those of ℓ^1 minimization for sparsity!

Matrices with Rank-RIP

Theorem

Let us assume $\{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n\} \subset \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ be a unitary basis for the matrix space $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ and with $\|U_i\| \leq \zeta/\sqrt{n}$ for some constant ζ . Let \mathcal{A} consists of m randomly selected $A_i = \frac{n}{\sqrt{m}}U_i$. Then if

$$m \geq C\zeta^2 \cdot rn \log^6 n, \quad (24)$$

then w.h.p., \mathcal{A} satisfies the rank-RIP over the set of all rank- r matrices.

Example: Pauli observables of quantum states.

$U_i = P_1 \otimes \dots \otimes P_k$ where \otimes is the tensor (Kronecker) product and each $P_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sigma$ where σ is a 2×2 matrix of the four possibilities:

$$\sigma_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Noisy Measurements - Worst Case

Theorem (Stable Low-rank Recovery via BPDN)

Suppose that $\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}_o] + \mathbf{z}$, with $\|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \leq \epsilon$, and let $\text{rank}(\mathbf{X}_o) = r$. If $\delta_{4r}(\mathcal{A}) < \sqrt{2} - 1$, then any solution $\hat{\mathbf{X}}$ to the optimization problem

$$\min \|\mathbf{X}\|_* \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|\mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}] - \mathbf{y}\|_2 \leq \epsilon. \quad (25)$$

satisfies

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{X}} - \mathbf{X}_o\|_F \leq C\epsilon \quad (26)$$

for some numerical constant $C > 0$.

Noisy Measurements - High Probability

Theorem (Stable Low-rank Recovery via Lasso)

Suppose that $\mathcal{A} \sim_{iid} \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{m})$, and $\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}_o] + \mathbf{z}$, with \mathbf{X}_o of rank r and $\mathbf{z} \sim_{iid} \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{\sigma^2}{m})$. Solve the matrix Lasso

$$\min \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}]\|_2^2 + \lambda_m \|\mathbf{X}\|_*, \quad (27)$$

with regularization parameter $\lambda_m = c \cdot 2\sigma \sqrt{\frac{(n_1+n_2)}{m}}$ for a large enough c . Then with high probability,

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{X}} - \mathbf{X}_o\|_F \leq C' \sigma \sqrt{\frac{r(n_1 + n_2)}{m}}. \quad (28)$$

Inexact Low Rank

Theorem (Inexact Low-rank Recovery)

Let $\mathbf{y} = \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}_o] + \mathbf{z}$, with $\|\mathbf{z}\|_2 \leq \epsilon$. Let $\hat{\mathbf{X}}$ solve the denoising problem

$$\min \|\mathbf{X}\|_* \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|\mathbf{y} - \mathcal{A}[\mathbf{X}]\|_2 \leq \epsilon. \quad (29)$$

Then for any r such that $\delta_{4r}(\mathbf{A}) < \sqrt{2} - 1$,

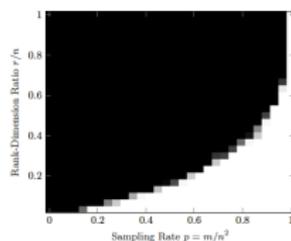
$$\left\| \hat{\mathbf{X}} - \mathbf{X}_o \right\|_2 \leq C \frac{\|\mathbf{X}_o - [\mathbf{X}_o]_r\|_*}{\sqrt{r}} + C' \epsilon \quad (30)$$

for some constants C and C' .

Phase Transition

Let D be the descent cone of the nuclear norm at $\mathbf{X}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times n_2}$ of rank r :

$$D \doteq \{\mathbf{H} \mid \|\mathbf{X}_o + \mathbf{H}\|_* \leq \|\mathbf{X}_o\|_*\}. \quad (31)$$



Theorem (Phase Transition in Low-rank Recovery)

Let \mathbf{G} be an $(n_1 - r) \times (n_2 - r)$ matrix with entries i.i.d. $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Set

$$\psi(n_1, n_2, r) = \inf_{\tau \geq 0} \{r(n_1 + n_2 - r + \tau^2) + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{G}} \left\{ \|\mathcal{D}_\tau[\mathbf{G}]\|_F^2 \right\}\}. \quad (32)$$

Then there is a phase transition at $m^* = \delta(D)$:

$$\psi(n_1, n_2, r) - 2\sqrt{n_2/r} \leq \delta(D) \leq \psi(n_1, n_2, r). \quad (33)$$

Summary

Parallel developments for sparse vectors and low-rank matrices.

Sparse v.s. Low-rank	Sparse Vector	Low-rank Matrix
Low-dimensionality of	individual signal \mathbf{x}	a set of signals \mathbf{X}
Compressive sensing	$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$	$\mathbf{Y} = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X})$
Low-dim measure	ℓ^0 norm $\ \mathbf{x}\ _0$	$\text{rank}(\mathbf{X})$
Convex surrogate	ℓ^1 norm $\ \mathbf{x}\ _1$	nuclear norm $\ \mathbf{X}\ _*$
Success conditions (RIP)	$\delta_{2k}(\mathbf{A}) \geq \sqrt{2} - 1$	$\delta_{4r}(\mathbf{A}) \geq \sqrt{2} - 1$
Random measurements	$m = O(k \log(n/k))$	$m = O(nr)$
Stable/Inexact recovery	$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{z}$	$\mathbf{Y} = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{Z}$
Phase transition at	Stat. dim. of descent cone: $m^* = \delta(\mathbf{D})$	

Assignments

- Reading: Sections 4.1-4.3 of Chapter 4.
- Programming Homework # 2.