# DETECTION THRESHOLD IN VERY SPARSE MATRIX COMPLETION 

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# Matrix estimation 

## Matrix estimation

Let $P \in M_{n, m}(\mathbb{R})$ be a large rectangular matrix $n=\Theta(m)$.

We observe each entry independently with probability $d / n$. The other entries remain hidden.
$d=$ average number of observed entries per row.

We assume that the matrix $P$ has a simple structure: notably small rank and some spectral incoherence.

## Completion and estimation

Matrix completion: can we reconstruct exactly $P$ thanks to this observation?

Possible in the regime $d \geqslant C \log n$.

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Matrix estimation: we look for a matrix with a small mean square error

$$
\operatorname{MSE}(\widehat{P})=\sum_{i, j}\left|\widehat{P}_{i j}-P_{i j}\right|^{2}=\|\widehat{P}-P\|_{F}^{2}
$$

Best bounds for $d \ll \log n$ : $\operatorname{MSE}(\widehat{P})=O(m n / d)$.

Candès-Tao 09, Candès-Recht 10, Keshavan-Montanari-Oh $09 \ldots$

## Principal component analysis

Singular value decomposition of $P \in M_{n, m}(\mathbb{C})$ :

$$
P=U D V^{*}=\sum_{k=1}^{n} s_{k} u_{k} v_{k}^{*}
$$

where $D=\operatorname{diag}\left(s_{1}, \ldots, s_{n}\right) \in M_{n, m}(\mathbb{C})$ and $s_{1} \geqslant \ldots \geqslant s_{n} \geqslant 0$ are the singular values de $P$.


$$
\|P\|_{F}^{2}=\sum_{k} s_{k}^{2}
$$

## Matrix detection

$\star$ Above which value of $d$ can we reconstruct a consistent estimator of $s_{k}$ ?

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$\star$ Fix $0<\gamma<1$. Find the smallest $d$ such that there is with high probability an estimator $\hat{P}$ of $P$ with

$$
\operatorname{MSE}(\hat{P})=\|P-\hat{P}\|_{F}^{2} \geqslant \gamma\|P\|_{F}^{2} .
$$

## Applications

Numerous applications in global positioning, remote sensing, signal processing, computer vision, ... but the most famous is collaborative filtering.

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Guess what a user likes even before she knows it. The Netflix prize launched in 2006 consisted in minimizing the MSE (on a sample) with respect to the matrix:

$$
P_{i j}=\text { mark given by user } i \text { on movie } j
$$

Estimation of a symmetric matrix

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Let $P \in M_{n}(\mathbb{R})$ be a symmetric matrix.

Let $M=\left(M_{i j}\right) \in M_{n}(\mathbb{R})$ with $M_{i j} \in\{0,1\}$ iid Bernoulli with parameter $d / n$.

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We have $\mathbb{E} A=\mathbb{E} H=P$, i.e. $A$ and $H$ are noisy unbiased observations of $P$.

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Benefits of asymmetry: in some situations, the spectrum of a matrix $P$ is much less perturbed by a random asymmetric noise than by a random symmetric noise.

## Detection threshold

We set

$$
Q_{i j}=n\left|P_{i j}\right|^{2} \quad \text { and } \quad \rho=\|Q\| .
$$

The detection threshold is defined as

$$
\theta=\max \left(\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{d}}, \frac{L}{d}\right)
$$

with

$$
L=n \max _{i, j}\left|P_{i j}\right| .
$$

## Incoherence

We order the real eigenvalues of $P$,

$$
\left|\mu_{1}\right| \geqslant \cdots \geqslant\left|\mu_{r_{0}}\right|>\theta \geqslant\left|\mu_{r_{0}+1}\right| \geqslant \cdots \geqslant\left|\mu_{n}\right| .
$$

In an ON basis of eigenvectors of $P$, for all $1 \leqslant k \leqslant r_{0}$,

$$
\left\|\varphi_{k}\right\|_{\infty}=\max _{i}\left|\varphi_{k}(i)\right| \leqslant \frac{b}{\sqrt{n}}
$$

## Stable numerical Rank

The stable numerical rank is

$$
r=\frac{\sum_{k} \mu_{k}^{2}}{\mu_{1}^{2}} \leqslant \operatorname{rank}(P)
$$

In this talk, we assume that $r, b, L, d, r_{0}$ are $n^{o(1)}$. All results are quantitative but will be stated in an asymptotic way.

## Estimation of eigenvalues

Recall:

$$
A_{i j}=\frac{n}{d} P_{i j} M_{i j} \quad \text { and } \quad \theta=\max \left(\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{d}}, \frac{L}{d}\right)
$$

Eigenvalues of $P$ :

$$
\left|\mu_{1}\right| \geqslant \cdots \geqslant\left|\mu_{r_{0}}\right|>\theta \geqslant\left|\mu_{r_{0}+1}\right| \geqslant \cdots \geqslant\left|\mu_{n}\right| .
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$$

Theorem
With high probability, there exists an ordering of the eigenvalues $\lambda_{1}, \ldots, \lambda_{n}$ of $A$ such that

$$
\max _{1 \leqslant k \leqslant r_{0}}\left|\lambda_{k}-\mu_{k}\right|=o(1) \quad \text { and } \quad \max _{r_{0}+1 \leqslant k \leqslant n}\left|\lambda_{k}\right| \leqslant(1+o(1)) \theta .
$$

## Simulation

For $n=2000$ and $P=3 \varphi_{1} \varphi_{1}^{*}+2 \varphi_{2} \varphi_{2}^{*}+\varphi_{3} \varphi_{3}^{*}$ with $\varphi_{k}$ uniform.


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A_{i j}=\frac{n}{d} P_{i j} M_{i j} \quad \text { and } \quad \theta=\max \left(\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{d}}, \frac{L}{d}\right)
$$

We assume that the large eigenvalues of

$$
P=\sum_{k} \mu_{k} \varphi_{k} \varphi_{k}^{*}
$$

are well separated:

$$
\left|1-\frac{\mu_{k}}{\mu_{l}}\right| \geqslant \frac{\log d}{\log n} \quad \text { for all } \quad 1 \leqslant k \neq l \leqslant r_{0}
$$

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## Theorem

Let $\psi_{k}$ be a unit eigenvector associated to $k$-th eigenvalue of $A$. There exists $\gamma_{k}>0$ such that, with high probability, for $1 \leqslant k \leqslant r_{0}$,

$$
\left|\left\langle\psi_{k}, \varphi_{k}\right\rangle\right|=\gamma_{k}+o(1)
$$

## Estimation of eigenvectors

The asymptotic scalar product $\gamma_{k}=\left|\left\langle\psi_{k}, \phi_{k}\right\rangle\right|+o(1)$ has an explicit formula:

$$
\gamma_{k}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{\Gamma_{k, k}}}
$$

with, for $1 \leqslant k, l \leqslant r_{0}$,

$$
\Gamma_{k, l}=\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{k, l}(i) \varphi_{k}(i) \varphi_{l}(i)
$$

and

$$
w_{k, l}(i)=\sum_{j}\left(I-\frac{Q}{\mu_{k} \mu_{l} d}\right)_{i, j}^{-1}
$$

Remark: $\left|\left\langle\psi_{k}, \psi_{l}\right\rangle\right|=\left|\Gamma_{k, l}\right| / \sqrt{\Gamma_{k, k} \Gamma_{l, l}}+o(1)$ is non-zero for $k \neq l$ if $\mathbf{1}$ is not an eigenvector of $Q$.

## Rank one projector

If $P=\varphi \varphi^{*}$, we find

$$
\begin{gathered}
\theta=\sqrt{\frac{n \sum_{i}|\varphi(i)|^{4}}{d}} \\
\gamma=\sqrt{1-\frac{n \sum_{i}|\varphi(i)|^{4}}{d}}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Estimation of eigenvectors

It is also possible to compute the scalar between the left $\psi_{k}^{\prime}$ and right $\psi_{k}$ unit eigenvectors of the $k$-th eigenvalue of $A$ :

$$
\left\langle\psi_{k}^{\prime}, \psi_{k}\right\rangle=\gamma_{k}^{2}+o(1)=\frac{1}{\Gamma_{k, k}}+o(1)
$$

We get an estimator

$$
\hat{\varphi}_{k}=\frac{\psi_{k}+\psi_{k}^{\prime}}{\left\|\psi_{k}+\psi_{k}^{\prime}\right\|_{2}}
$$

such that

$$
\left|\left\langle\varphi_{k}, \hat{\varphi}_{k}\right\rangle\right|=\sqrt{\frac{2 \gamma_{k}^{2}}{1+\gamma_{k}^{2}}}+o(1)
$$

## Simulation

For $n=6000$ and $P=\varphi \varphi^{*}$ with $\varphi$ uniform on the sphere.


# Improved estimation with NON-BACKTRACKING MATRICES 

## Put some symmetry back

We can improve the factor $d$ in $2 d$ in the detection threshold:

$$
\theta=\max \left(\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{d}}, \frac{L}{d}\right)
$$

We have not taken into account the information

$$
P_{i j}=P_{j i} .
$$

There is in fact an average of $2 d$ observed entries per row.

## Non-BACKTRACKING MATRIX

The set of symmetric observed entries is

$$
E=\{(i, j):(i, j) \text { or }(j, i) \text { is observed }\}
$$

We have $|E| \sim 2 d n$.

We consider the non-symmetric matrix $B \in M_{E}(\mathbb{C})$ defined for all $(i, j),(k, l)$ in $E$ by

$$
B_{(i, j),(k, l)}=\frac{n P_{k l}}{2 d} \mathbf{1}(j=k, l \neq i)
$$



## NON-BACKTRACKING MATRIX

A vector $\varphi \in \mathbb{C}^{n}$ is lifted in $\mathbb{C}^{E}$ as

$$
\varphi^{+}(i, j)=\varphi(j)
$$

## Theorem

The preceding results on $A$ are true for the matrix $B$ (with minor extra changes) with $d$ replaced by $2 d$.

## Simulation

For $n=5000$ and $P=\varphi \varphi^{*}$ with $\varphi$ uniform on the sphere.


The detection threshold

$$
\theta=\max \left(\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{d}}, \frac{L}{d}\right)
$$

## Lift of a matrix

Fix $j_{0} \in[n]=\{1, \ldots, n\}$. Let $V$ be the set of finite integer sequences in $[n],\left(j_{0}, j_{1}, \ldots, j_{k}\right)$ starting with $j_{0}$.

We build an infinite matrix $\mathcal{P}=\left(\mathcal{P}_{u v}\right)_{u, v \in V}$ by setting $u=\left(j_{0}, \ldots, j_{k}\right) \in V$ and $j \in[n]$

$$
\mathcal{P}_{u,(u, j)}=P_{j_{k}, j} .
$$

Otherwise $\mathcal{P}_{u v}=0$.


This defines a non-symmetric bounded operator on $\ell^{2}(V)$ build on an infinite $n$-ary tree.

## LIft of a matrix

If $P \varphi=\mu \varphi$ then $\Phi$ defined on $V$ as

$$
\Phi\left(j_{0} \cdots j_{k}\right)=\varphi\left(j_{k}\right)
$$

satisfies

$$
\mathcal{P} \Phi=\mu \Phi
$$



The function $\Phi$ is not in $\ell^{2}(V)$.

## Percolation on the lift

We keep each edge with probability $d / n$.


We denote by $\mathcal{P}_{\text {perc }}$ the corresponding operator and set

$$
\mathcal{A}=\frac{n}{d} \mathcal{P}_{\text {perc }}
$$

The operator $\mathcal{A}$ is a local approximation of the matrix $A=(n / d) P \odot M$.

## Percolation on the lift

$$
\mathcal{A}=\frac{n}{d} \mathcal{P}_{\text {perc }}
$$



Since $\mathcal{P} \Phi=\mu \Phi$, for all $v \in V$, the process in $t \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$
\Psi_{t}(v)=\mu^{-t}\left(\mathcal{A}^{t} \Phi\right)(v)
$$

is a discrete martingale for the filtration of the successive generations in the tree.

## Percolation on the lift

The bracket of the martingale can be computed and we find:

$$
\mathbb{E}\left|\Psi_{t+1}(v)-\Psi_{t}(v)\right|^{2}=\frac{Q^{t}\left(\varphi^{2}\right)(v)}{\left(\mu^{2} d\right)^{t}}
$$

Recall: $Q_{i j}=n\left|P_{i j}\right|^{2}$ and $\rho=\|Q\|$.

Hence $\Psi_{t}(v)=\mu^{-t}\left(\mathcal{A}^{t} \Phi\right)(v)$ converges a.s. and in $L^{2}$ toward $\Psi(v)$ if

$$
|\mu|>\sqrt{\frac{\rho}{d}} .
$$

This is called the Kesten-Stigum threshold.

## Percolation on the lift

If $|\mu|>\sqrt{\rho / d}$, then $\Psi_{t}(v)=\mu^{-t}\left(\mathcal{A}^{t} \Phi\right)(v)$ converges a.s. and in $L^{2}$ toward $\Psi(v)$.

Since

$$
\mathcal{A} \Psi_{t}=\mu \Psi_{t+1}
$$

we can define a.s. a random eigenwave $\Psi$ on $V$ which satisfies

$$
\mathcal{A} \Psi=\mu \Psi
$$

## BACK to finite dimension

This analysis and concentration inequalities allow to show that if $t \gg 1$ but not too large,

$$
\left\|A^{t+1} \varphi_{k}-\mu_{k} A^{t} \varphi_{k}\right\|_{2}=o\left(\left\|A^{t} \varphi_{k}\right\|_{2}\right)
$$

Similarly $\varphi_{k}^{*} A^{t}$ is an approximate left eigenvector.

We decompose $A^{t}$ in

$$
A^{t}=\sum_{k=1}^{r_{0}} \mu_{k}^{t} u_{k} v_{k}^{*}+R_{t}
$$

with $u_{k}=A^{t} \varphi_{k} / \mu_{k}^{t}$ and $v_{k}=\left(A^{t}\right)^{*} \varphi_{k} / \mu_{k}^{t}$. We have

$$
\left\langle u_{k}, v_{l}\right\rangle=\delta_{k l}+o(1)
$$

## Proof strategy

For $t=c \ln n / \log d$ well chosen,

$$
A^{t}=\sum_{k=1}^{r_{0}} \mu_{k}^{t} u_{k} v_{k}^{*}+R_{t}
$$

* Compute the inner products between these $r_{0}^{2}$ vectors;
* Show that the Gram matrix is well-conditioned;
* Show that $\left\|R_{t}\right\| \leqslant(\log n)^{c} \theta^{t}$;
$\star$ Use an ad-hoc spectral perturbation theorem of a non-symmetric matrix of Bauer-Fike type.

B-Lelarge-Massoulié 18.

# Rectangular matrices 

## Linearization trick

If $P \in M_{m, n}(\mathbb{C})$, the matrix

$$
\widetilde{P}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
0 & P \\
P^{*} & 0
\end{array}\right)
$$

is of size $(m+n) \times(m+n)$ and is Hermitian.

The singular value decomposition of $P=\sum_{k} s_{k} u_{k} v_{k}^{*}$ is equivalent to the diagonalization of $\widetilde{P}$ :

$$
\widetilde{P}=\sum_{k} s_{k} w_{k}^{+}\left(w_{k}^{+}\right)^{*}-s_{k} w_{k}^{-}\left(w_{k}^{-}\right)^{*}
$$

with $w_{k}^{ \pm}=\left(u_{k}, \pm v_{k}\right)^{\prime} / \sqrt{2}$.

## A RANDomized asymmetric SVD

Recall

$$
P=\sum_{k} s_{k} u_{k} v_{k}^{*}
$$

Consider $Z=\left(Z_{i j}\right) \in M_{m, n}(\mathbb{R})$ with iid $\{0,1\}$-Bernoulli entries with parameter $1 / 2$ and define

$$
P_{1} P_{2}^{*} \quad \text { with } \quad P_{1}=P \odot Z, P_{2}=P-P_{1}
$$

The $k$-th largest eigenvalue, say $\lambda_{k}$, of $P_{1} P_{2}^{*}$ is a proxy for $s_{k}^{2} / 4$.

The average of the left and right eigenvectors associated to $\lambda_{k}$ is a proxy for the left singular vector $u_{k}$.

## Matrix Completion

Let $M=\left(M_{i j}\right) \in M_{m, n}(\mathbb{R})$ with iid $\{0,1\}$-Bernoulli entries with parameter $d / n$.

The observed matrix is

$$
A=\frac{n}{d} P \odot M
$$

We perform the randomized asymmetric SVD on $A$.

At a higher computational cost, we may also consider the non-backtracking matrix associated to the linearized matrix $\widetilde{A}$.

In either case, if $n \asymp m$, we have explicit detection thresholds and formulas for the asymptotic inner products.

## Matrix Completion

Recall

$$
P=\sum_{k} s_{k} u_{k} v_{k}^{*}
$$

Once we have estimators $\hat{u}_{k}, \hat{v}_{k}$ of $u_{k}$ and $v_{k}$, it is possible to design an estimator of $P$ :

$$
\hat{P}=\sum_{k=1}^{r_{0}} x_{k} \hat{u}_{k} \hat{v}_{k}^{*}
$$

for some vector $x=\left(x_{k}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{r_{0}}$ which asymptotically minimizes

$$
\|\hat{P}-P\|_{F}
$$

and compute an explicit asymptotic formula for

$$
\operatorname{MSE}(\hat{P})=\|\hat{P}-P\|_{F}^{2}
$$

Nadakuditi 14.

## Simulation

We take $d=9.7,(m, n)=(2000,3000)$ and $P=u v^{*}$ with $u, v$ independent standard Gaussian vectors.


Concluding words

## Conclusion

Spectral analysis methods on random non-symmetric matrices can be very efficient, Chen-Cheng-Fan 18.

Numerous possible extensions, for example include some extra noise, or models where the probability of observing an entry depends on the entry, Stephan-Massoulié 20.

There is nowadays a lot of activities on tensor completion.

Thank you for your attention!

