

# Shifting Inequality and Recovery of Sparse Signals

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# Introduction

- The problem of recovering a high dimensional sparse signal based on a small number of measurements has attracted much attention recently.
- Model selection.
- Construction approximation.
- Compressive sensing.

# Introduction

- Main model:

$$y = F\beta + z$$

- $F$  is an  $n$  by  $p$  matrix, where  $n$  could be much less than  $p$ .
- $Z$  is the vector of measurement error.
- $\beta$  is the unknown vector of coefficients, our goal is to reconstruct  $\beta$ .

# Introduction

- The error vector  $z$  can either be zero (noiseless case), bounded, or Gaussian (i.i.d. standard normal).
- $\beta$  is assumed to be sparse, usually in terms of  $L_0$  norm (number of nonzero coefficients).
- $L_0$  minimization is computationally undoable.

# Methods

- In many cases the sparse solution can be found through  $L_1$  minimization.
- This  $L_1$  minimization problem has been studied, for example, in Fuchs (2004), Candes and Tao (2005) and Donoho (2006).

$$(P) \quad \min \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad F\gamma = y.$$

# Methods

- Noisy case, two  $L_1$  minimization methods.
- Under  $L_2$  constraint of residuals.

$$\min \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|y - F\gamma\|_2 \leq \epsilon.$$

- Dantzig selector, by Candes and Tao

$$\min_{\gamma} \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|F^T(y - F\gamma)\|_{\infty} \leq \lambda.$$

# Conditions

- It is clear that regularity conditions are needed in order for these methods to be well behaved. Near orthogonal condition.
- Restricted Isometry Property (RIP).
- Candes and Tao considered sparse recovery problems in the RIP framework .

# Conditions

- k-restricted isometry constant  $\delta_k$  of F

$$\sqrt{1 - \delta_k} \|c\|_2 \leq \|Fc\|_2 \leq \sqrt{1 + \delta_k} \|c\|_2$$

for any k sparse vector c.

- k k'-restricted orthogonality constant  $\theta_{k,k'}$

$$|\langle Fc, Fc' \rangle| \leq \theta_{k,k'} \|c\|_2 \|c'\|_2$$

for any k and k' sparse vectors c, c' with disjoint support.



# Conditions

- Different conditions on  $\delta$  and  $\theta$  have been used in the literature. For example, Candes and Tao (2007) imposes

$$\delta_{2k} + \theta_{k,2k} < 1$$

- Candes (2008) uses

$$\delta_{2k} < \sqrt{2} - 1.$$

- Actually, the second condition is stronger.

# Noiseless Case

- Understanding the noiseless case is not only of interest on its own right, it also provides deep insight into the problem of reconstructing sparse signals in the noisy case.
- In this case, we need to recover the sparse signal exactly.

# Noiseless Case

- (Candes and Tao) Let  $F$  be an  $n \times p$  matrix. Suppose  $k > 1$  satisfies

$$\delta_k + \theta_{k,k} + \theta_{k,2k} < 1.$$

- Let  $\beta$  be a  $k$ -sparse vector and  $Y = F \beta$ . Then  $\beta$  is the unique minimizer to

$$\min \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad F\gamma = y.$$

# Unified Argument

- We found that all those results can be derived from the following elementary inequality (called shifting inequality):
- Suppose  $r \leq q \leq 3r$ , and

$$a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \cdots \geq a_r \geq b_1 \geq \cdots \geq b_q \geq c_1 \geq \cdots \geq c_r \geq 0$$

then

$$\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^q b_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^r c_i^2} \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^r a_i + \sum_{i=1}^q b_i}{\sqrt{q+r}}.$$

# Noiseless Case

- Our result:
- Let  $F$  be an  $n \times p$  matrix. Suppose  $k > 1$  satisfies

$$\delta_{1.25k} + \theta_{1.25k,k} < 1.$$

and  $Y = F \beta$ . Then, the minimizer to

$$\min \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad F\gamma = y$$

satisfies

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta\|_2 \leq C_0 k^{-\frac{1}{2}} \|\beta_{-\max(k)}\|_1$$

# Noiseless Case

- Suppose the largest  $k$  element of  $\beta$  are the first  $k$  elements. Suppose  $h = \hat{\beta} - \beta$

$$h_0 = (h(1), h(2), \dots, h(k))$$

$$|h(k+1)| \geq |h(k+2)| \geq \dots \geq |h(p)|$$

- We will use the following simple result:

$$\|h_0\|_1 \geq \|h_0^c\|_1.$$

# Cutting the error into pieces

$h = \hat{\beta}_q - \beta:$	$h_0$	$h_*$	$h_1$	$h_2$	$h_3$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$
Length:	$k$	$\frac{k}{4}$	$k$	$k$	$k$	$k$	$k$	

- Cutting the error vector into pieces.
- Bound  $\|h\|_2$  by  $h(1)^2 + \dots + h(k+r)^2$
- Bound  $h(1)^2 + \dots + h(k+r)^2$  by calculating  $\langle Fh, F(h(1), h(2), \dots, h(k+r), 0, \dots, 0) \rangle$

# Cutting the error into pieces

- First

$$\langle Fh, F(h(1), h(2), \dots, h(k+r), 0, \dots, 0) \rangle = 0$$

- On the other hand

$$\langle Fh, F(h(1), h(2), \dots, h(k+r), 0, \dots, 0) \rangle$$

$$\geq \|F(h_0 + h_*)\|_2^2 - \sum_{i \geq 1} |\langle F(h_0 + h_*), Fh_i \rangle|$$

$$\geq \|h_0 + h_*\|_2^2 \left(1 - \delta_{k+r} - \theta_{k,k+r} \frac{\sum \|h_i\|_2}{\|h_0 + h_*\|_2}\right)$$



# Bounded Noise Case

- Suppose  $y = F\beta + z$  and  $z$  belongs to some bounded set  $B$ .

$$\min \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad y - F\gamma \in B.$$

1.  $B = \{z : \|F'z\|_\infty \leq \eta\}$
2.  $B = \{z : \|z\|_2 \leq \eta\}$

# Bounded Noise Case

- Our results improve Candes and Tao (2005, 2007) in the first case.

$$\|\hat{\beta}^{DS} - \beta\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{10}}{1 - \delta_{1.25k} - \theta_{k,1.25k}} \cdot \sqrt{k}\eta.$$

- And improve Donoho, Elad and Temlyakov (2006) in the second case.

$$\|\hat{\beta}^{\ell_2} - \beta\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2(1 + \delta_{1.25k})}}{1 - \delta_{1.25k} - \theta_{k,1.25k}} \cdot \eta.$$

# Gaussian Noise Case

- We can apply the previous results to the Gaussian noise case.
- With high probability, the Gaussian noise vector belongs to  $\{z : \|F^T z\|_\infty \leq \lambda\}$  with  $\lambda = \sigma \sqrt{2 \log p}$
- With high probability, the Gaussian noise vector belongs to  $\{z : \|z\|_2 \leq \epsilon\}$  with  $\epsilon = \sigma \sqrt{n + 2\sqrt{n \log n}}$  .

# Gaussian Noise Case

- We have the following results:
- With probability  $P \geq 1 - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi \log p}}$ .

$$\|\hat{\beta}^{DS} - \beta\|_2 \leq \frac{\sqrt{10}}{1 - \delta_{1.25k} - \theta_{k,1.25k}} \sqrt{k} \sigma \sqrt{2 \log p}$$

- With probability  $1 - \frac{1}{n}$

$$\|\hat{\beta}^{\ell_2} - \beta\|_2 \leq \frac{2\sqrt{2(1 + \delta_{1.25k})}}{1 - \delta_{1.25} - \theta_{k,1.25k}} \sigma \sqrt{n + 2\sqrt{n \log n}}.$$

# Oracle Inequality

- We can also derive the oracle type of results.

$$y = X\beta + z \text{ with } \|X'z\|_\infty \leq \sqrt{2 \log p},$$

- Suppose  $\hat{\beta}$  is the minimizer to

$$\min \|\gamma\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|X'(X\gamma - y)\|_\infty \leq \lambda_p$$

# Oracle Inequality

- Then with high probability

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta\|_2^2 \leq C^2 \lambda_p^2 \left( \sigma^2 + \sum_{i=1}^p \min(\beta^2(i), \sigma^2) \right)$$

- The idea of the proof is still the same, the application of our elementary inequality.

# MIC

- Mutual Incoherent

$$\mu = \max |\langle F_i, F_j \rangle|$$

- Instead of using RIC, we can put conditions on mutual incoherent. This type of condition is generally stronger, but much easier to check.

# MIC

This type of conditions has been studied.  
For example, In Donoho, Elad, and Temlyakov (2006),

$$k < \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{\mu} + 1 \right)$$

In Tseng (2009),

$$k < \left( \frac{1}{2} - O(\mu) \right) \frac{1}{\mu} + 1.$$



# MIC

We can improve the condition to

$$k < \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\mu} + 1 \right)$$

For the  $L_2$  bounded noise case

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta\|_2 \leq C(\eta + \epsilon), \quad \text{where } C = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{1 - (2k-1)\mu}.$$

For the  $L_\infty$  bounded noise case

$$\|\hat{\beta} - \beta\|_2 \leq C(\eta + \epsilon), \quad \text{where } C = \frac{\sqrt{2k+1}}{1 - (2k-1)\mu}.$$

# Future Work

- Further improve the condition, what is the best?
- For MIC, without any other constraint on  $F$ , our condition cannot be improved.
- For RIC, there is still room for improvement.
- Other type of conditions.