# High-dimensional Gaussian graphical models on network-linked data (Li et al., JMLR 2020)

Hugues Van Assel 05/2021 Description of the model

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# Description of the model

Networks provide **relational information** that most traditional multivariate analysis methods are not designed to use.

This paper develops an analog to the widely used **Gaussian graphical model** for network-linked data.

We consider the problem of estimating a graphical model with **heterogeneous mean vectors** when a network connecting the observations is available<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Tianxi Li et al. "High-dimensional Gaussian graphical models on network-linked data.". In: *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 21.74 (2020), pp. 1–45.

$$X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \Sigma), \quad \mu_i \in \mathbb{R}^p \quad \Sigma \in \mathcal{S}^p_+ \quad i = 1, 2, ..., n$$

In what follows :  $M = (\mu_1, \mu_2, ..., \mu_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$  and  $\Theta = \Sigma^{-1} \in \mathcal{S}^p_+$ .

#### Log Likelihood:

$$I(M,\Theta) = \log \det(\Theta) - \frac{1}{n} (\Theta(X - M)^{T} (X - M))$$

Maximizing the above with respect to M leads to  $\widehat{M} = X$ .

A network connecting the observations is available.

Regularization : connected nodes should have similar mean vectors.

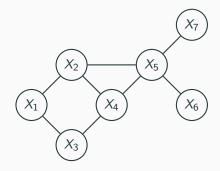
Given a network  $\mathcal{G}$ , we define:

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \sim j \\ \mathcal{G} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$D = \operatorname{diag}(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$$

where  $d_i = \sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{ij}$  is the degree of node *i*.

Example: nearest neighbor graph in spatial transcriptomics.



### **Graph Laplacian**

The graph Laplacian is defined as follows :

$$L = D - A$$

For any vector  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\mu^{T} L \mu = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mu_{i}^{2} D_{ii} - 2 \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \mu_{i} \mu_{j} A_{ij}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mu_{i}^{2} \sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{ij} - 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \mu_{i} \mu_{j} A_{ij}$$
$$= \sum_{i < j}^{n} (\mu_{i} - \mu_{j})^{2} A_{ij} = \sum_{\substack{i < j \\ \mathcal{G}}}^{n} (\mu_{i} - \mu_{j})^{2} A_{ij}$$

For  $M = (\mu_1, \mu_2, ..., \mu_n)^T$ ,  $tr(M^T L M) = \sum_{\substack{i \ge j \\ \mathcal{G}}} ||\mu_i - \mu_j||_2^2$ .

The discrete graph approximates a low dimensional manifold  $\mathcal{M}^2$ .

$$\operatorname{tr}(M^T L M) \xrightarrow{n \to \infty} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \|\nabla \mu(x)\|^2 dx$$

This quantity is called the Dirichlet Energy.

Applications in semi-supervised learning<sup>3</sup>.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Matthias Hein, Jean-Yves Audibert, and Ulrike von Luxburg. "Graph laplacians and their convergence on random neighborhood graphs.". In: *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 8.6 (2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Andreas Argyriou, Mark Herbster, and Massimiliano Pontil. "Combining graph laplacians for semi-supervised learning". In: *NIPS*. vol. 5. Citeseer. 2005, pp. 67–74.

Regularized Mean estimation problem:

$$\widehat{M}_{\alpha} = \underset{M}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|X - M\|_{F}^{2} + \alpha \operatorname{tr}(M^{T} \mathcal{L}_{S} M)$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}} = rac{D-A}{rac{1}{n}\sum_{i}d_{i}}$ 

The above problem has the closed form solution:

$$\widehat{M}_{\bullet j} = (I_n + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}})^{-1} X_{\bullet j}$$

Maximizing the log likelihood:

$$\begin{split} \widehat{\Theta}_{\alpha} &= \operatorname*{argmin}_{\substack{\Theta \in \mathcal{S}_{+}^{p}}} \log \det(\Theta) - \operatorname{tr}(\Theta \widehat{S}) \\ \end{split}$$
 where  $\widehat{S}_{\alpha} &= \frac{1}{n} (X - \widehat{M}_{\alpha})^{T} (X - \widehat{M}_{\alpha})$ 

#### Difficulty in high dimension:

Let us consider M = 0 and  $\Sigma = I_p$ , the above problem is solved for  $\Theta^* = \frac{X^T X}{n}$  $\nabla \left( -\frac{\gamma_{\max}(X)}{n} + \frac{\sqrt{p}}{n} + \frac{\sqrt{p}}{n} \right) = e^{-\frac{p^2}{2}}$ 

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\underbrace{\frac{\gamma_{\max}(X)}{\sqrt{n}}}_{\sqrt{\sigma_{\max}(\frac{X^T X}{n})}} \ge 1 + \sqrt{\frac{p}{n}} + \delta\right) \le e^{-n\frac{\delta^2}{2}}$$

#### Graphical lasso:<sup>4</sup>

$$\widehat{\Theta}_{\alpha,\lambda} = \underset{\Theta \in \mathcal{S}_{+}^{p}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \log \det(\Theta) - \operatorname{tr}(\Theta \widehat{S}) - \lambda \|\Theta\|_{1,off}$$

where  $\widehat{S}_{\alpha} = \frac{1}{n} (X - \widehat{M})^T (X - \widehat{M})$ 

The above estimator is twice regularized.

#### **Gaussian Graphical Model**

$$X_i \perp X_j \mid \mathbf{X} / \{X_i, X_j\} \iff \Theta_{ij} = 0$$

Hence we make the assumption of a sparse conditional dependence graph.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Pradeep Ravikumar et al. "High-dimensional covariance estimation by minimizing *l*1-penalized log-determinant divergence". In: *Electronic Journal of Statistics* 5 (2011), pp. 935–980.

# Mean estimation error bound

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}} = U \Lambda U^{\mathcal{T}}$$
 where  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\tau_1, ..., \tau_n), \ \tau_1 \ge ... \ge \tau_n = 0$ 

Given a network A and a vector v, let  $v = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_i u_i$  be the expansion of v in th basis of eigenvectors of  $L_S$ .

v is cohesive on A with rate  $\delta > 0$  if for all i:

(1) 
$$\frac{\tau_i^2 |\beta_i|^2}{\|\beta\|_2^2} \le n^{-\frac{2(1+\delta)}{3}-1}$$

which implies:

(2) 
$$\frac{\|\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}}v\|_{2}^{2}}{\|v\|_{2}^{2}} \le n^{-\frac{2(1+\delta)}{3}}$$

A matrix M is cohesive on A if all of its columns are cohesive on A.

The mean matrix M is cohesive over the network A with rate  $\delta$ . Moreover,  $||M_j||_2^2 \le b^2 n$  for every j for some positive constant b.

Our goal is to obtain a bound on the difference between M and  $\widehat{M}$  under the above assumptions.

#### Error Bound Estimation of M

The optimization problem on M has a closed form solution:

$$\widehat{M}_{\bullet j} = (I_n + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{S}})^{-1} X_{\bullet j}$$

Let  $\widehat{B} = U^T \widehat{M}$ :

$$\widehat{B}_{\bullet j} = (I_n + \alpha \Lambda)^{-1} B_{\bullet j} + (I_n + \alpha \Lambda)^{-1} \underbrace{U^T E_{\bullet j}}_{\widetilde{E}_{\bullet j}}$$

 $\tilde{E}_{\bullet j}$  can be bounded in magnitude by  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)$  where  $\sigma^2 = \max_j \Sigma_{jj}$ . Let us now write:

$$\widehat{B}_{ij} - B_{ij} = \underbrace{\frac{\alpha \tau_i}{1 + \alpha \tau_i} B_{ij}}_{Q_i^j} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{1 + \alpha \tau_i} \widetilde{E}_{ij}}_{R_i^j}$$

and:

$$\left\|\widehat{B} - B\right\|_{2}^{2} \le \sum_{j} \left\|Q^{j}\right\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{j} \left\|R^{j}\right\|_{2}^{2}$$

### Error Bound Estimation of M

$$\sum_{j} \|Q^{j}\|_{2}^{2} = \sum_{j} \sum_{i} \frac{\alpha^{2} \tau_{i}^{2} |B_{ij}|^{2}}{(1 + \alpha \tau_{i})^{2}}$$
$$\leq \sum_{j} \left( \sum_{i \leq n-m_{A}} |B_{ij}|^{2} + \sum_{i > n-m_{A}} \frac{\alpha^{2} \tau_{i}^{2}}{(1 + \alpha \tau_{i})^{2}} |B_{ij}|^{2} \right)$$

where  $m_A = \inf\{m : 0 \le m \le n-1, \tau_{n-m} \ge \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}\}$  is the **effective dimension**.

$$\leq b^{2} \sum_{j} \left( \frac{n - m_{A}}{\tau_{n - m_{A}}^{2}} n^{-\frac{2(1 + \delta)}{3}} + \sum_{i > n - m_{A}} \left( \frac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha \tau_{n - 1}} \right)^{2} n^{-\frac{2(1 + \delta)}{3}} \right)$$
  
$$\leq b^{2} p \left( (n - m_{A}) m_{A} n^{-\frac{2(1 + \delta)}{3}} + \frac{m_{A}}{(1 + \Delta)^{2}} + 1 \right)$$

where  $\Delta = n^{\frac{1+o}{3}} \tau_{n-1}$  and  $\alpha = n^{\frac{1+o}{3}}$ .

### **Error Bound Estimation of** *M*

$$\begin{split} \sum_{j} \|R^{j}\|_{2}^{2} &\leq \sum_{j} \left( \sum_{i \leq n-m_{A}} \left( \frac{1}{1+\alpha\tau_{i}} \right)^{2} |\tilde{E}_{ij}|^{2} + \sum_{i > n-m_{A}} \left( \frac{1}{1+\alpha\tau_{i}} \right)^{2} |\tilde{E}_{ij}|^{2} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\tau_{n-m_{A}}^{2}} n^{-\frac{2(1+\delta)}{3}} \sum_{i \leq n-m_{A}} \sum_{j} |\tilde{E}_{ij}|^{2} + \sum_{n-m_{A} < i < n} \sum_{j} \frac{|\tilde{E}_{ij}|^{2}}{(1+\Delta)^{2}} \\ &+ \sum_{j} |\tilde{E}_{nj}|^{2} \\ &\leq m_{A} n^{-\frac{2(1+\delta)}{3}} \sum_{i \leq n-m_{A}} \|\tilde{E}_{i.}\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{n-m_{A} < i < n} \frac{\|\tilde{E}_{i.}\|_{2}^{2}}{(1+\Delta)^{2}} \\ &+ \|\tilde{E}_{n.}\|_{2}^{2} \end{split}$$

For  $x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ ,  $\phi_{\max}(\Sigma)$  the largest eigenvalue of  $\Sigma$ , by applying a Lipschitz function of a sub-Gaussian random vector, we get:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|\|\mathbf{x}\|_{2}^{2} - \operatorname{tr}(\Sigma)| > t\right) \leq 2\exp\left(-c\frac{t}{\phi_{\max}(\Sigma)}\right)$$

and by applying Bernstein's inequality with  $t = n tr(\Sigma)$ :

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i}^{n} \|x_{i}\|_{2}^{2} > 2n \operatorname{tr}(\Sigma)\right) \leq 2\exp\left(-cnr(\Sigma)\right)$$

where  $r(\Sigma) = \frac{\|\Sigma\|_F^2}{\|\Sigma\|_2^2}$  is the stable rank of  $\Sigma$ .

### Concentration of norm multivariate Gaussian

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{i\leq n-m_A} \left\|\tilde{E}_{i\cdot}\right\|_2^2 > 2(n-m_A)p\sigma^2\right) \leq 2\exp\left(-c(n-m_A)r(\Sigma)\right)$$

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\sum_{n-m_A < i < n} \left\|\tilde{E}_{i.}\right\|_2^2 > 2m_A p\sigma^2\right) \le 2\exp\left(-cm_A r(\Sigma)\right)$$

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\tilde{E}_{n}\right\|_{2}^{2} > 2(n-m_{\mathcal{A}})p\sigma^{2}\right) \leq 2\exp\left(-c\frac{p\sigma^{2}}{\phi_{\max}(\Sigma)}\right)$$

$$\begin{split} \left\| \hat{M} - M \right\|_{F}^{2} &= \left\| \hat{B} - B \right\|_{F}^{2} \\ &\leq \sum_{j} \left\| Q^{j} \right\|_{2}^{2} + \sum_{j} \left\| R^{j} \right\|_{2}^{2} \\ &\leq (b^{2} + 2\sigma^{2}) p \left( (n - m_{A}) m_{A} n^{-\frac{2(1 + \delta)}{3}} + \frac{m_{A}}{(1 + \Delta)^{2}} + 1 \right) \end{split}$$

with probability at least:  $1 - 2\exp(-c(n - m_A)r(\Sigma)) - 2\exp(-cm_Ar(\Sigma)) - 2\exp(-c\frac{p\sigma^2}{\phi_{\max}(\Sigma)})$ 

Therefore the mean estimation error is vanishing with high probability as long as  $m_A = o(n^{-\frac{2(1+\delta)}{3}})$  (for a lattice  $m_A \le n^{\frac{2}{3}}$ ).

With the previous findings one can prove that, under classical hypothesis for graphical lasso, if  $m_A$  is bounded:

$$\left\|\widehat{\Theta} - \Theta\right\|_{F}^{2} \leq \propto 2(1 + \frac{8}{\rho})\sqrt{\frac{\log p}{n}}n^{\frac{\max(1-2\delta)}{6}}$$

In particular, if  $\delta \geq \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\widehat{\Theta}$  is consistent as long as  $\log p = o(n)$ .

Therefore we have consistent estimations of M and  $\Theta$  in high dimension under controlled effective dimension of the network and network-cohesion of M.

# References

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