Approximate Support Recovery of Atomic Line Spectral Estimation

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Motivations and Basic Ideas

Signal Model: Superposition of parameterized atoms/building-blocks

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_{k=1}^{r} c_k \mathbf{a}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_k)$$

Different atoms correspond to different applications

- Radar/Seismology/Microscope/MRI
- Ultrasound imaging/Array proc./Dictionary learning/Neural networks



Line Spectral Estimation

- ▶ $\mathbf{a}(f) = [e^{j2\pi(-n)f}, e^{j2\pi(-n+1)f}, \dots, e^{j2\pi(n-1)f}, e^{j2\pi nf}]^T, f \in [0, 1)$ 2n+1 equspaced samples of a normalized band limited complex sinusoid
- Sparse recovery problem with a continuous DFT dictionary $\mathcal{A} = {\mathbf{a}(f)}$
- ▶ Infer the frequencies of a mixture of r complex sinusoids in white noise

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}^{\star} + \mathbf{w} = \sum_{k=1}^{r} c_{k}^{\star} \mathbf{a}(f_{k}^{\star}) + \mathbf{w}$$

Parameter estimation/Support recovery is very important here!!!

e.x., in radar, parameters correspond to the **position** and **velocity** information of the targets!



The Atomic Norm Minimization Algorithm I



A hyperplane will most likely touch the ℓ_1 norm ball at spiky points.



The Atomic Norm Minimization Algorithm II

✓ Atomic norm: $\|\mathbf{x}\|_{\mathcal{A}} = \inf\{\sum_k |c_k| : \mathbf{x} = \sum_k c_k \mathbf{a}(f_k)\}$ which has an equivalent SDP characterization.

1. Solve **ALASSO** for unique primal solution $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$:

$$\left(\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\hat{r}} \hat{c}_k \mathbf{a}(\hat{f}_k)\right) = \operatorname{argmin} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_W^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|_{\mathcal{A}} \quad \text{(ALASSO)}$$

whose dual optimal solution is

$$\hat{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{W(\mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{x}})}{\lambda}$$

2. Extract the frequencies $\{\hat{f}_k\}$ by solving dual polynomial equation $|\hat{Q}(f)| := |\langle \hat{\mathbf{q}}, \mathbf{a}(f) \rangle| = 1$ as long as we can show the **BIP**

$$\begin{split} |\hat{Q}(f)| < 1, \ f \notin \{\hat{f}_k\} & (\text{Boundedness}) \\ \hat{Q}(\hat{f}_k) = \text{sign}(\hat{c}_k), k \in [\hat{r}] & (\text{Interpolation}) \end{split}$$

The Atomic Norm Minimization Algorithm III

- 1. How well can **ALASSO** localize the frequencies?
- 2. Does **ALASSO** recovers exactly r frequencies?



V. Duval, G. Peyré. "Exact support recovery for sparse spikes deconvolution."

C. Fernandez-Granda. "Support detection in super-resolution."

G. Tang, B. Bhaskar, B. Recht. "Near minimax line spectral estimation."

The Atomic Norm Minimization Algorithm IV

- 1. Error bound matches CRB
- 2. Recover exactly r frequencies



Q. Li, G. Tang. "Approximate support recovery of atomic line spectral estimation: A tale of resolution and precision."

Main Contributions I

• Noise is Gaussian with variance σ^2

• Noise level is measured by $\gamma_0 := \sigma \sqrt{rac{\log n}{n}}$

Theorem (Li & Tang, 2016)

Suppose

- SNR as measured by $|c_{\min}|/\gamma_0$ is large.
- The dynamic range of the coefficients is small.
- Regularization parameter λ is large compared to γ_0 .
- The frequencies are well-separated.

Then w.h.p. we can extract exactly r parameters from $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ or $\hat{\mathbf{q}}$, which satisfy

$$\max |c_k^\star| |\hat{f}_k - f_k^\star| = O(\gamma_0/n) = O(\frac{\sqrt{\log n}}{n^{3/2}}\sigma)$$
$$\max |\hat{c}_k - c_k^\star| = O(\lambda) = O(\sqrt{\frac{\log n}{n}}\sigma)$$

Main Contributions II

Comparison with CRB, MUSIC, and MLE.

- Only asymptotic bounds available when the snapshots number $T \to \infty$.
- Our algorithm: work for single snapshot, i.e., T = 1.

► CRB:
$$O(\frac{\sigma^2}{T|c|^2n^3})$$

► Atomic: $O(\frac{\sigma^2 \log n}{|c|^2n^3})$
► MLE: $O(\frac{\sigma^2}{T|c|^2n^3} + \frac{\sigma^4}{T|c|^4n^4})$
► MUSIC: $O(\frac{\sigma^2}{T|c|^2n^3} + \frac{\sigma^4}{T|c|^4n^4})$

P. Stoica, A. Nehorai. "MUSIC, maximum likelihood, and Cramer-Rao bound."

Proof by Primal-Dual Witness Construction

- The unique primal optimal solution is $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\hat{r}} \hat{c}_k \mathbf{a}(\hat{f}_k)$.
- The unique dual optimal solution is $\hat{\mathbf{q}} = W(\mathbf{y} \hat{\mathbf{x}})/\lambda$ satisfying **BIP**.
- They certify the optimality of each other.

1. Fix $\hat{r} = r$ and construct the primal candidate solution by solving

$$\{\hat{f}_k\}, \{\hat{c}_k\} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\{f_k\}, \{c_k\}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \sum_{k=1}^r c_k \mathbf{a}(f_k)\|_W^2 + \lambda \sum_{k=1}^r |c_k|.$$
 (NLASSO)

- 2. Run gradient descent initialized by true parameters $\{f_k^{\star}\}, \{c_k^{\star}\}$.
- 3. Construct the primal candidate $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{k=1}^{\hat{r}} \hat{c}_k \mathbf{a}(\hat{f}_k)$ by $\{\hat{f}_k\}, \{\hat{c}_k\}$
- 4. Show $W(\mathbf{y} \hat{\mathbf{x}})/\lambda$ satisfies **BIP**.

M. Wainwright. "Sharp thresholds for high-dimensional and noisy sparsity recovery using constrained quadratic programming (Lasso)"

Numerical Experiment

- 1. SNR as measured by $|c_{\min}|/\gamma_0$ is large.
- 2. The dynamic range of the coefficients is small.
- 3. Regularization parameter λ is large compared to γ_0 .
- 4. The frequencies are well-separated.



Setup:

$$\blacktriangleright |c_k^\star| = 1$$

• Separation
$$\geq 2.5/n$$

Success means:

$$\blacktriangleright \max_k |\hat{c}_k - c_k^\star| \le 2\lambda$$

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► arXiv version: https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.01459.pdf