# Statistical rank selection for incomplete low-rank matrices 

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## Low-rank matrix completion

- Incomplete and noisy observations

$$
Y_{i, j}=X_{i, j}+\epsilon_{i, j}, \quad(i, j) \in \Omega \subset\left[m_{1}\right] \times\left[m_{2}\right]
$$

- Recommender systems



## Example: Determine the number of sources from incomplete observations

$$
Y_{i, j}=X_{i, j}+\epsilon_{i, j}, \quad(i, j) \in \Omega \subset\left[m_{1}\right] \times\left[m_{2}\right]
$$



(Chen, Mitra '17)

## Low-rank models

$$
Y_{i, j}=\underbrace{X_{i, j}}_{\text {low-rank }}+\epsilon_{i, j}, \quad(i, j) \in \Omega \subset\left[m_{1}\right] \times\left[m_{2}\right]
$$


low-rank

high-rank

## Prior work

- Convex relaxation: noiseless
(Candes, Recht '08, Candes, Tao '08, Gross '09)

$$
\min _{Z}\|Z\|_{*} \text { subject to } Y_{i j}=Z_{i j},(i, j) \in \Omega
$$

- Convex relaxation robustness to noise (Candes, Plan '09, Negahban, Wainwright '10, Koltchinskii et al. '10)

$$
\min _{Z} \underbrace{f(Z ; Y)}_{\text {empirical loss }}+\lambda\|Z\|_{*}
$$

- Non-convex optimization

Burer, Monteiro '03, Rennie Srebro '05, Jain, Netrapalli, Sanghavi '12, Ma, Wang, Chi, Chen '17 ...

$$
\min _{U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r}, V \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r}} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega}\left[\left(U V^{T}\right)_{i j}-Y_{i j}\right]^{2}+\text { regularizer }
$$

## Motivation

- Select "rank" parameter in algorithm

$$
\min _{U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r}, V \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r}} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega}[\underbrace{\left(U V^{T}\right)_{i j}}_{\text {low-rank } X}-Y_{i j}]^{2}+\text { regularizer }
$$

- Determine "true" rank when the underlying matrix is low-rank

$$
Y_{i, j}=\underbrace{X_{i, j}}_{\text {low-rank }}+\epsilon_{i, j}, \quad(i, j) \in \Omega \subset\left[m_{1}\right] \times\left[m_{2}\right]
$$

## Problem formulation

Noisy and possibly biased observations of a subset of matrix entries

$$
Y_{i j}=X_{i j}^{*}+N^{-1 / 2} \Delta_{i j}+\varepsilon_{i j}, \quad(i, j) \in \Omega
$$

- $X^{*} \in \mathcal{M}_{r^{*}}$ low-rank matrix
- $N$ effective sample size
- $\Delta_{i j}$ deterministic bias term
- $N^{1 / 2} \varepsilon_{i j} \xrightarrow{\text { in dist }} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sigma_{i j}^{2}\right)$ variance can be different

Goal: determine $r^{*}$ using statistical test procedure

## Assumptions

Typical assumptions

- Non-adaptive, random sampling: each $(i, j) \in \Omega$ independently with probability $p$
- Random noise: i.i.d. sub-Gaussian noise
- Ground truth: $M^{*}$ is low-rank

Here

- $\Omega$ is deterministic



## Our contribution

- Develop a new statistical test procedure to determine the rank
- Solve a sequence of "fitting" problems with different $r$

$$
\min _{U \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r}, V \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{1} \times r}} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega}\left[\left(U V^{T}\right)_{i j}-Y_{i j}\right]^{2}
$$

- Examine residuals to decide Example: true rank is 6 .

Table: sequential rank test

| rank | p -value | $\hat{\sigma}^{2}(=Z)$ | rank | p -value | $\hat{\sigma}^{2}(=Z)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0.82 | 34995.5 | 5 | 0.84 | 5050.63 |
| 2 | 0.86 | 26751.3 | $\mathbf{6}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 4 3}$ | $\mathbf{9 7 . 7}$ |
| 3 | 0.92 | 18719.6 | 7 | 0.76 | 96.6 |
| 4 | 0.62 | 11231.8 | 8 | 0.96 | 96.7 |

## Formal results: How to select $r$ ?

- Solve a sequence of weighted least squares test statistic

$$
T_{N}(r):=N \min _{Y \in \mathcal{M}_{r}} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega} w_{i j}\left(M_{i j}-Y_{i j}\right)^{2}
$$

$w_{i j}:=1 / \hat{\sigma}_{i j}^{2}$ with $\hat{\sigma}_{i j}^{2}$ being consistent estimates of $\sigma_{i j}^{2}$
$\mathcal{M}_{r}$ : (manifold) of all rank- $r$ matrices

- $\mathrm{m}=|\Omega|$ number of measurements


## Asymptotic properties of test statistic

$$
T_{N}(r) \Rightarrow \chi^{2}\left(d f_{r}, \delta_{r}\right)
$$

1. degrees of freedom

$$
\mathrm{df}_{r}=|\Omega|-\operatorname{dim}\left(\mathcal{M}_{r}\right)=\mathrm{m}-r\left(n_{1}+n_{2}-r\right)
$$

2. noncentrality parameter

$$
\delta_{r}=\min _{H \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{M}_{r}}\left(Y^{*}\right)} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega} \sigma_{i j}^{-2}\left(\Delta_{i j}-H_{i j}\right)^{2} .
$$



## Sequential test procedures

- Sequentially test $r=1,2,3, \ldots$ using $T_{N}(r)$
- "null" hypothesis that the "true" rank is $r^{*}$
- null hypothesis is rejected if
$T_{N}(r)$ is large enough on the scale of the $\chi^{2}$ distribution
- perform such tests sequentially for increasing values of $r$

Table: sequential rank test

| rank | p -value | $\hat{\sigma}^{2}(=\bar{Z})$ | rank | p -value | $\hat{\sigma}^{2}(=\bar{Z})$ |
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## Additional comments

- Role of values $\Delta_{i j}$ : suggest that "true" model is true only approximately
- noncentrality parameter

$$
\delta_{r}=\min _{H \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{M}_{r}}\left(Y^{*}\right)} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega} \sigma_{i j}^{-2}\left(\Delta_{i j}-H_{i j}\right)^{2} .
$$

indicates the deviation from the exact rank $r$ model.
"Single" matrix observation

- Suppose $N=1, \Delta_{i j}=0$ and $\varepsilon_{i j} \stackrel{i . i . d .}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \sigma^{2}\right)$.
- Consider a sequence of index set

$$
\Omega_{0} \supset \Omega_{1} \supset \Omega_{2} \supset \cdots \supset \Omega_{K}
$$

$$
\left|\Omega_{k-1}\right|-\left|\Omega_{k}\right|=L, \forall k=1 \cdots K
$$

- Let

$$
\begin{aligned}
X_{i} & =\min _{Y \in \mathcal{M}_{r}} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega_{i}}\left(M_{i j}-Y_{i j}\right)^{2}, \\
Z_{i} & =\left(X_{i-1}-X_{i}\right) / L
\end{aligned}
$$

- $\sqrt{K}\left(\bar{Z}-\sigma^{2}\right)$ converge in distribution to $\mathcal{N}\left(0,2 \sigma^{4} / L\right)$


## Example: Determine the number of sources




| rank | p-value | rank | p-value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 0.00 | 4 | 1.00 |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 1 5}$ | 5 | 1.00 |
| 3 | 0.98 | 6 | 1.00 |

## Summary

$$
Y_{i j}=X_{i j}^{*}+N^{-1 / 2} \Delta_{i j}+\varepsilon_{i j},(i, j) \in \Omega
$$

- How to select rank $r$ ? Sequential $\chi^{2}$ test
- Test statistic

$$
T_{N}(r):=N \min _{Y \in \mathcal{M}_{r}} \sum_{(i, j) \in \Omega} w_{i j}\left(M_{i j}-Y_{i j}\right)^{2} \Rightarrow \chi^{2}\left(d f_{r}, \delta_{r}\right)
$$

| rank | p-value | rank | p-value |
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| 1 | 0.00 | 4 | 1.00 |
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- Role of values $\Delta_{i j}$ : suggest that "true" model is true only approximately; non-central parameter $\delta_{r}$ indicates so


## Thank you!

## References

1. Matrix completion with deterministic pattern - a geometric perspective. A. Shapiro, Y. Xie, and R. Zhang. IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing. Volume: 67, Issue: 4, Feb.15, 152019
