

# Weighted Block Sparse Bayesian Learning for Basis Selection

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## Introduction

- In block sparse signals groups of entries are active simultaneously.
- Block sparse signal recovery can be formulated as finding the signal with the minimum number of active groups that describes the observation.
- In general, this is a complex problem. A relaxation is to find the signal with the smallest sum of group energies.
- Bayesian approaches have also been proposed for group sparse problems by generalizing Sparse Bayesian Learning (SBL).
- In this paper, a Weighted Block Sparse Bayesian Learning is proposed for sparse vector recovery.

## Block Sparse Bayesian Learning (BSBL)

- Consider the system  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$ ,  $\mathbf{n} \sim N(0, \sigma^2\mathbf{I})$ ,  $\mathbf{G} \in R^{m \times n}$ , and  $\mathbf{x} \in R^n$ .
- Assume each block  $\mathbf{x}_i \in R^{d_i \times 1}$  in  $\mathbf{x}$  follows a parametrized multivariate Gaussian distribution, i.e.,

$$p(\mathbf{x}_i; g_i, \mathbf{B}_i) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, g_i\mathbf{B}_i), \quad (1)$$

where  $g_i \geq 0$  controls the block sparsity of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

- Assuming independence between the blocks,  $p(\mathbf{x})$  can be written as  $p(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_0)$ , where  $\Sigma_0 = \text{diag}\{g_1\mathbf{B}_1, \dots, g_m\mathbf{B}_m\}$ .
- The posterior of  $\mathbf{x}$  is [1]

$$p(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y}, \sigma^2, \{g_i, \mathbf{B}_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x, \Sigma_x), \quad (2)$$

where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_x = \Sigma_0\mathbf{G}^T(\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}\Sigma_0\mathbf{G}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{y}, \quad (3)$$

and

$$\Sigma_x = (\Sigma_0^{-1} + \sigma^{-2}\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{G})^{-1}. \quad (4)$$

- Given the parameters  $\sigma^2$  and  $\{g_i, \mathbf{B}_i\}_{i=1}^m$ , the Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) estimate of  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_x$ .
- The parameters can be estimated by minimizing

$$L(\sigma^2, \{g_i, \mathbf{B}_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \log|\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}\Sigma_0\mathbf{G}^T| + \mathbf{y}^T(\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}\Sigma_0\mathbf{G}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{y}. \quad (5)$$

- Differentiating  $L$  w.r.t.  $g_i$ ,  $\sigma^2$ , and  $\mathbf{B}_i$ , and equating to zero we get

$$g_i = \frac{1}{d_i} \text{Tr}[\mathbf{B}_i^{-1}(\Sigma_x^i + \boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i)^T)], \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \quad (6)$$

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{G}\boldsymbol{\mu}_x\|_2 + \text{Tr}[\Sigma_x\mathbf{G}^T\mathbf{G}]}{M}, \quad (7)$$

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- Differentiating  $L$  w.r.t.  $\mathbf{B}_i$ , and equating to zero we get

$$\mathbf{B}_i = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\Sigma_x^i + \boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i)^T}{g_i}, \quad (8)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  block in  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_x$ ,  $\Sigma_x^i$  is the corresponding  $i^{\text{th}}$  principal diagonal block in  $\Sigma_x$ , and  $d_i$  is the length of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  block.

## The Proposed Weighted Block Sparse Bayesian (WBSBL) Approach

- Consider  $\alpha_i = \frac{1}{g_i} \sim \text{Gamma}(a_i, b_i)$
- Using a Type II maximum likelihood procedure as in BSBL, the cost function to be minimized is

$$L(\sigma^2, \{g_i, \mathbf{B}_i\}_{i=1}^m) = \log|\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}\Sigma_0\mathbf{G}^T| + \mathbf{y}^T(\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G}\Sigma_0\mathbf{G}^T)^{-1} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{b_i}{g_i} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^m a_i \log(g_i). \quad (9)$$

- Differentiating w.r.t.  $g_i$ ,  $\sigma^2$ , and  $\mathbf{B}_i$ , we get

$$g_i = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{B}_i^{-1}(\Sigma_x^i + \boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i)^T)] + 2b_i}{d_i + 2a_i} \quad (10)$$

and  $\sigma^2$  and  $\mathbf{B}_i$  are as described in (7) and (8), respectively.

- Suppose we have access to a weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$ , which contains large values corresponding to active  $\mathbf{x}_i$  blocks, and low values corresponding to non active blocks in  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- Set  $a_i = \frac{1}{w_i}$  and  $b_i = w_i$ . Assuming that  $w_i \neq 0$ , update the rule for  $g_i$  as

$$g_i = \frac{\text{Tr}[\mathbf{B}_i^{-1}(\Sigma_x^i + \boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x^i)^T)] + 2w_i}{d_i + 2/w_i}. \quad (11)$$

## Simulation Results

- 1000 Monte Carlo simulations are performed. In each trial, a matrix  $\mathbf{G}$  with entries following  $N(0, 1)$  is constructed.
- $k$  indices are randomly selected as the locations of the non-zero active blocks.
- The values of the non-zero entries in all the blocks are taken from  $N(5, 0.25)$ .
- Additive white Gaussian noise is added to  $\mathbf{G}\mathbf{x}$  with SNR equal to 5 dB, 2 dB, and 0 dB.

## Simulation Results

- MUSIC based on 100 snapshots is used to construct the weighting vector  $\mathbf{w}$ .

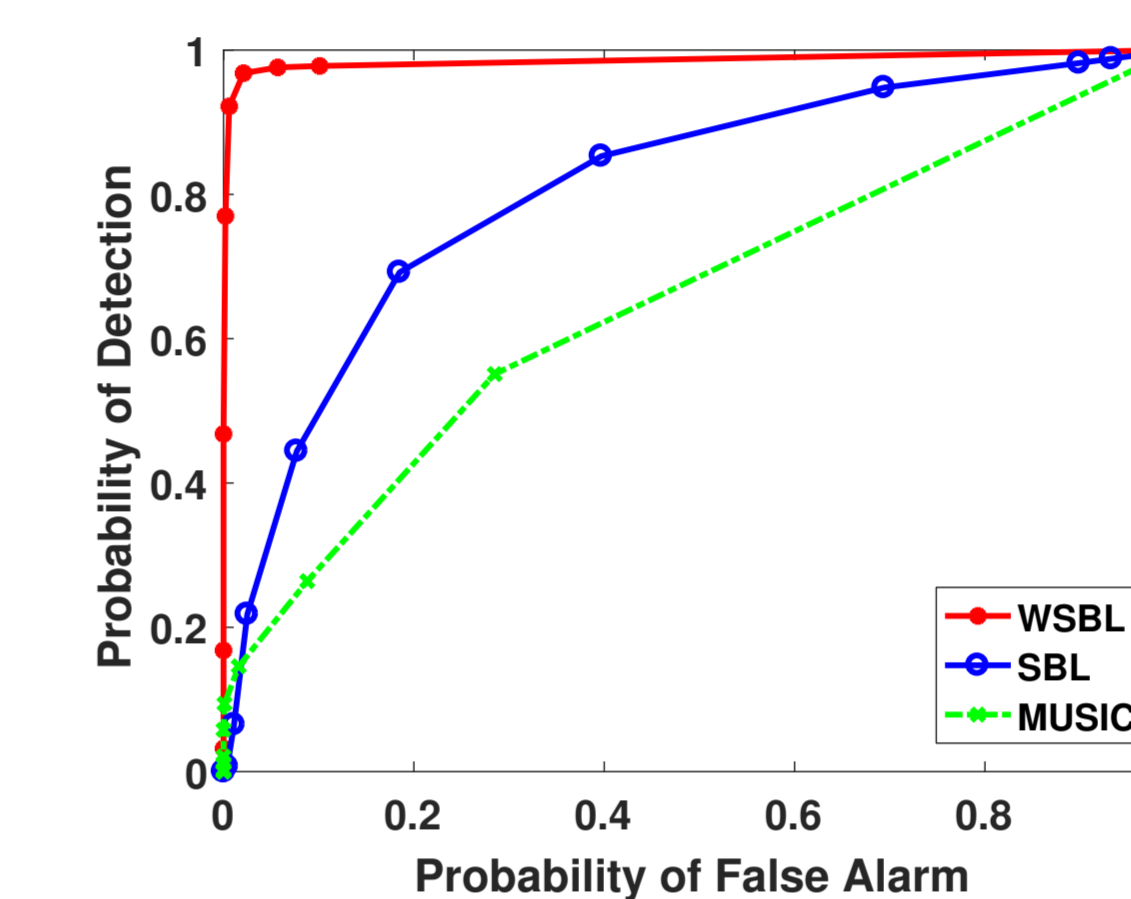


Figure 1: 3 sources, 2 dB SNR, block size of 2

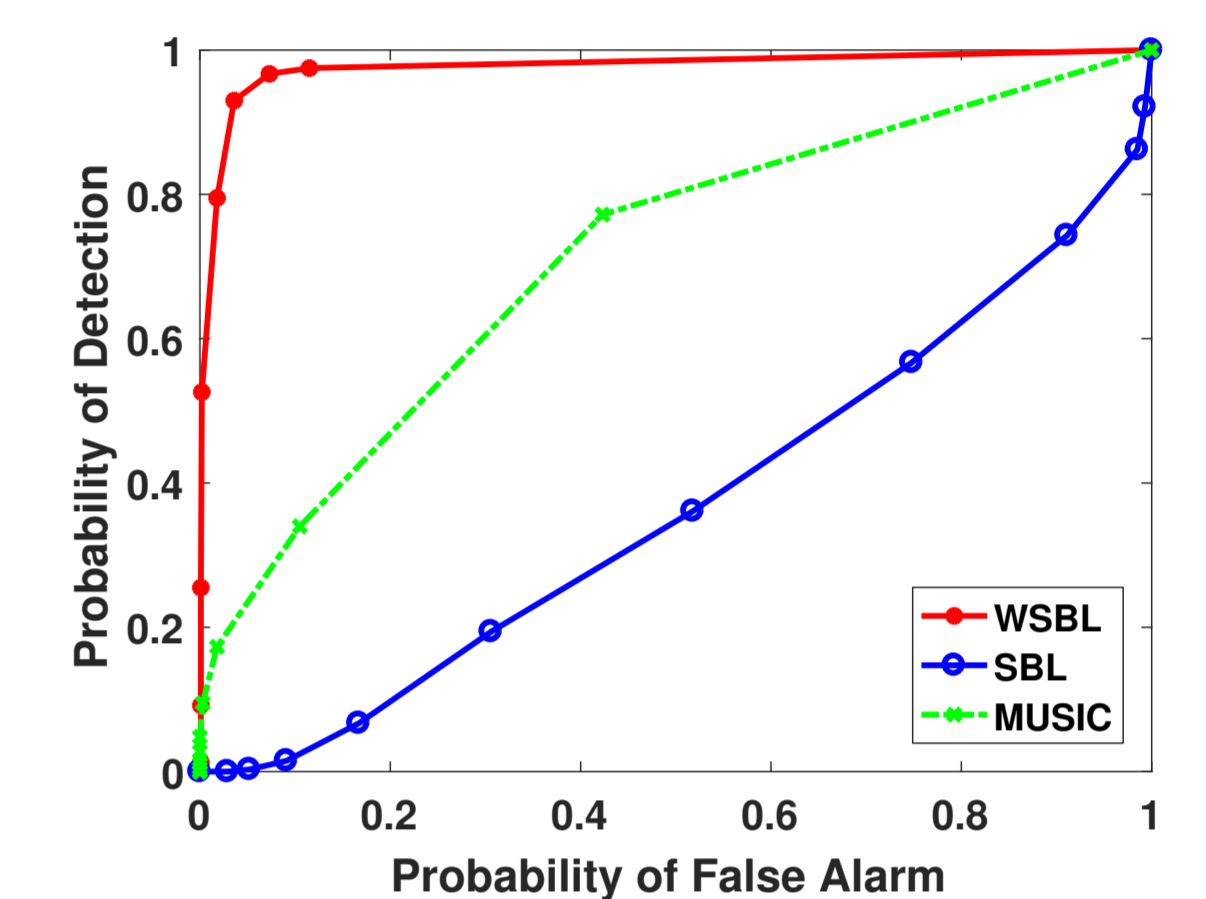


Figure 2: 3 sources, 0 dB SNR, block size of 2

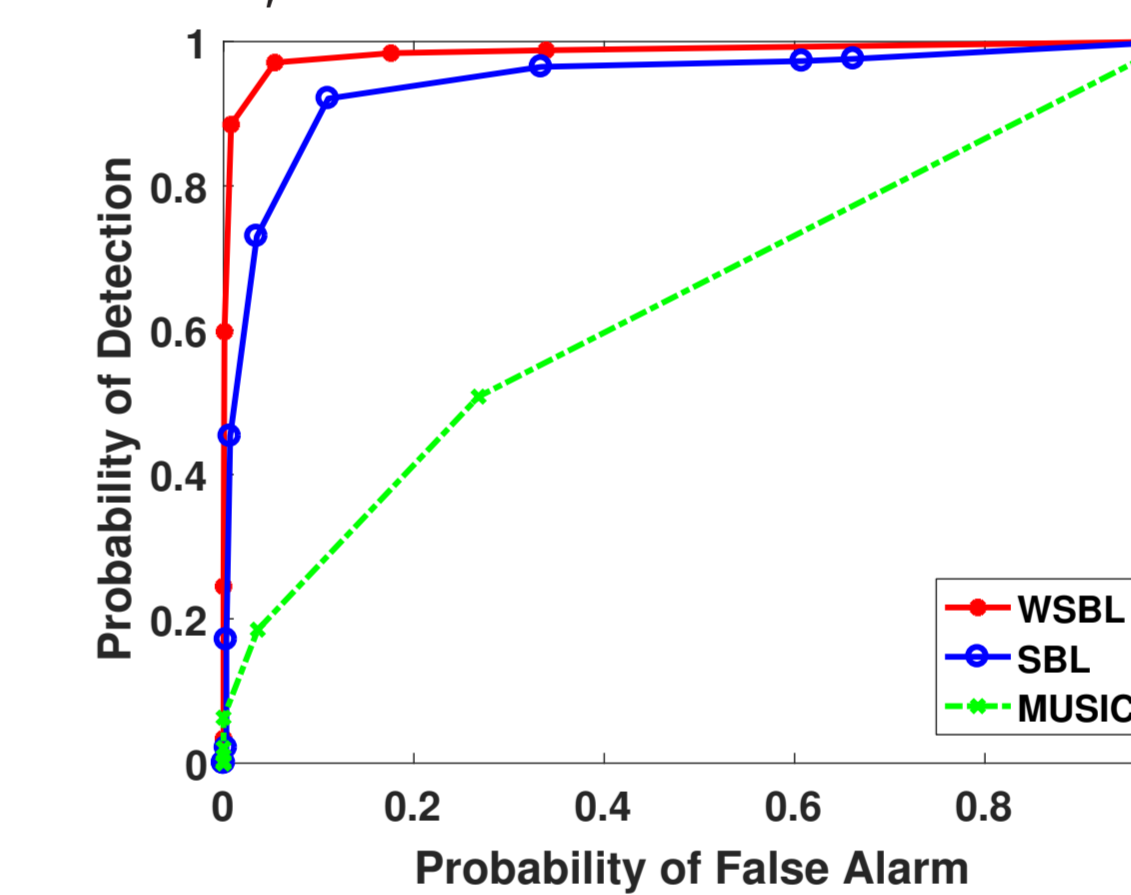


Figure 3: 5 sources, 5 dB SNR, block size of 2

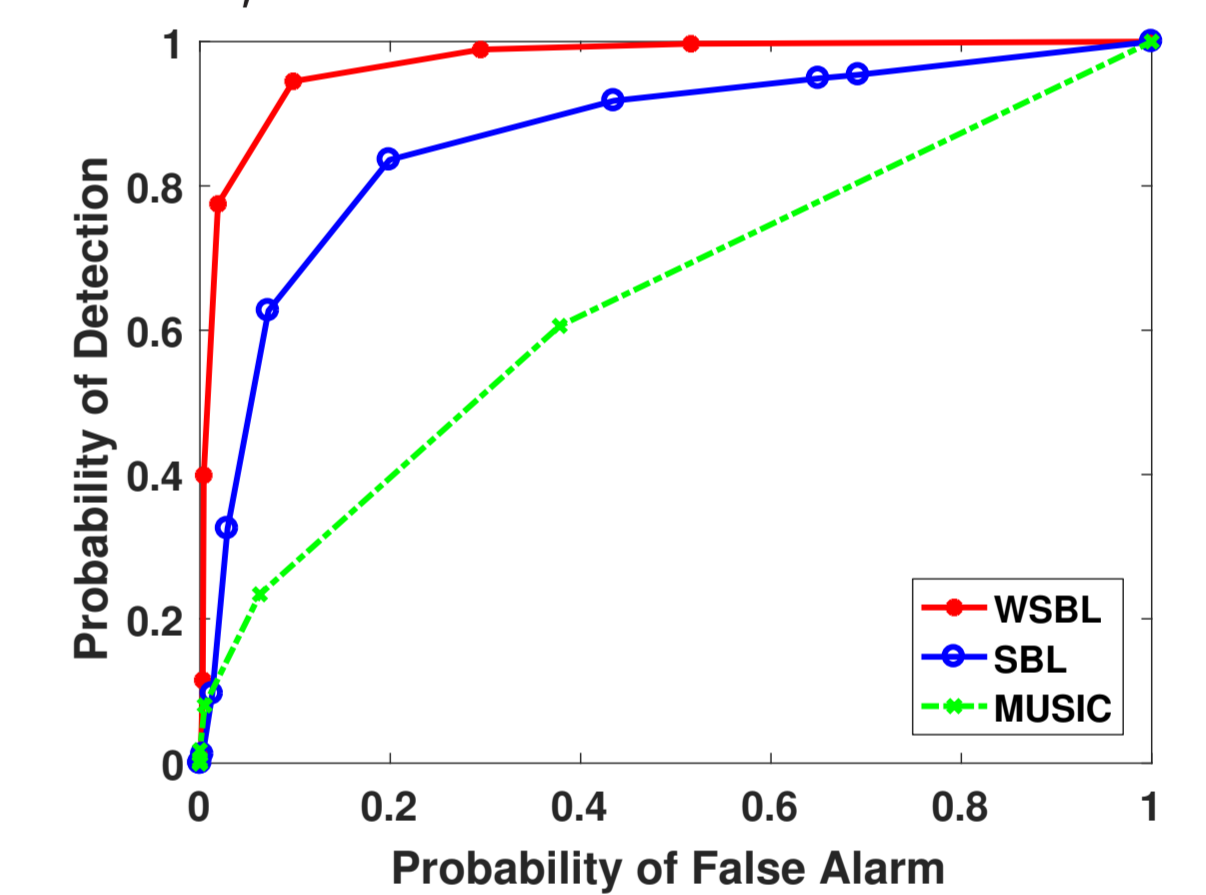


Figure 4: 6 sources, 5 dB SNR, block size of 2

## Conclusion

- Weighted Block Sparse Bayesian Learning approach has been proposed, which assigns distinct variance priors to each block, giving some hyperparameters more importance over the others.
- The importance of a specific parameter is obtained based on a rough estimate of the underlying block sparse vector, obtained via a methods that does encourage sparsity.
- Simulations have shown significant improvement in terms of probability of detection and false alarm, especially at low SNR scenarios.
- WBSBL degrades slower as the number of active block increased, as compared to BSBL.

## References

- [1] Zhang, Zhilin, and Bhaskar D. Rao. "Extension of SBL algorithms for the recovery of block sparse signals with intra-block correlation." IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing 61.8 (2013): 2009-2015.