# Compressed sensing of low-rank plus sparse matrices

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# Compressed sensing of low-rank plus sparse matrices

Consider the following problem:

 $\circ$   $M = L_0 + S_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{m imes n}$  such that rank $(L_0) \leq r$  and  $\|S_0\|_0 \leq s$ ,

 $\circ b = \mathcal{A}(M) \in \mathbb{R}^p$  be a vector of p < mn linear measurements from  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \to \mathbb{R}^p$ .

The question is:

Can we recover  $L_0$  and  $S_0$  only from the subsampled information  $b = \mathcal{A}(M)$  and  $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$ ?



# Subsampled dynamic-foreground/static-background seperation



**Figure 1:** Recovery of a  $190 \times 140 \times 150$  video sequence. The video is shaped into  $26600 \times 150$  and recovered using FJLT from  $\delta = 1/3$  using r = 1 and s = 197505.

# Computable solution under conditions on identifiability and recoverability

Under some conditions on

- the structure of the matrix matrix  $M = L_0 + S_0$  (idenitifiability) and
- the linear subsampling  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \to \mathbb{R}^{p}$  (recoverability),

we can retrieve L and S from the subsampled measurement vector b = A(M), either by solving the convex optimization problem

$$(L^*, S^*) = \underset{L, S \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}}{\arg\min} \|L\|_* + \lambda \|S\|_1, \qquad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{A}(L+S) = b, \tag{(\star)}$$

or by solving the following non-convex optimization problem

$$\min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}} \| \mathcal{A}(X) - b \|_{F}, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad X \in \mathsf{LS}_{m,n}(r,s), \tag{**}$$

where

$$\mathsf{LS}_{m,n}(r,s) = \left\{ L + S \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} : \operatorname{rank}(L) \le r, \, \|S\|_0 \le s \right\}.$$
(1)

# Identifiability: Which matrices (L, S) can we hope to identify?

We wish to avoid cases of  $X_0 = L_0 + S_0$  which is simultaneously low-rank <u>and</u> sparse. In linearized form this requires that the tangent spaces  $T(L_0)$  and  $\Omega(S_0)$  intersect transversally

$$T(L_0) \cap \Omega(S_0) = \{0\}.$$
 (2)

#### Incoherence of the low-rank component (Candès & Recht, 2009):

Correlation of the singular vectors of the rank-r matrix  $L = U\Sigma V^T \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and the canonical basis with the coherence parameter  $\mu \in \left[1, \sqrt{mn/r}\right]$ 

$$\max_{i \in \{1,...,r\}} \| U^{\mathsf{T}} e_i \|_2 \le \sqrt{\frac{\mu r}{m}}, \qquad \max_{i \in \{1,...,r\}} \| V^{\mathsf{T}} e_i \|_2 \le \sqrt{\frac{\mu r}{n}}.$$
 (3)

#### Sparsity pattern of the sparse component (Chandrasekaran et al., 2011):

$$\exists \alpha \in [0,1): \quad \|S^{\mathsf{T}} e_i\|_0 \le \alpha n, \qquad \|S e_j\|_0 \le \alpha m, \tag{4}$$

### Non-closedness: a simple example

Consider the best  $LS_{3,3}(1,1)$  approximation to M

$$\min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{3\times 3}} \|X - M\|_{F}, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad X \in \mathsf{LS}_{3,3}(1,1),$$
with  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \varepsilon & \varepsilon \\ 1 & \varepsilon & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix}}_{X_{\varepsilon} \in \mathsf{LS}_{3,3}(1,1)} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1/\varepsilon & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \varepsilon & \varepsilon \\ 1 & \varepsilon & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix}}_{L_{\varepsilon}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1/\varepsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{S_{\varepsilon}}.$ 



- As  $\varepsilon o 0$ , the error  $\|X_{\varepsilon} M\|_{F} = 2\varepsilon o 0$ .
- However,  $X_{\varepsilon}$  converges to M which is outside of the feasible set LS<sub>3,3</sub>(1, 1).
- As  $\varepsilon \to 0 \ \|L_{\varepsilon}\|_F$  and  $\|S_{\varepsilon}\|_F$  become unbounded.

# Non-closedness generalization

Theorem  $(\mathsf{LS}_{n,n}(r,s) \text{ is not closed for a range of } r, s \in \mathbb{N})^1$ 

The set of low-rank plus sparse matrices  $LS_n(r, s)$  is not closed for  $r \ge 1$ ,  $s \ge 1$  provided  $(r+1)(s+2) \le n$ , or provided  $(r+2)^{3/2}s^{1/2} \le n$  where s is of the form  $s = p^2r$  for an integer  $p \ge 1$ .

As a consequence, there are matrices  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  for which Robust PCA and low-rank matrix completion are ill-posed in the sense that they have no global minimum.



 $^1 {\rm Tanner, \ Thompson}$  & Vary. (2019). Matrix rigidity and the ill-posedness of Robust PCA and matrix completion

# Closing the set and making the pair (L, S) identifiable

#### Restrict the incoherence of the low-rank component

$$\mathsf{LS}_{m,n}(r,s,\mu) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{rank}(L) \le r, \, \|S\|_0 \le s \\ L + S \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} : & \max_{i \in \{1,...,m\}} \|U^T e_i\|_2 \le \sqrt{\frac{\mu r}{m}} \\ & \max_{i \in \{1,...,n\}} \|V^T f_i\|_2 \le \sqrt{\frac{\mu r}{n}} \end{array} \right\}$$

This also guarantees that  $\|L\|_F \leq (1 - \gamma_{r,s,\mu}^2)^{-1/2} \|X\|_F$  with  $\gamma_{r,s,\mu} := \mu \frac{r\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{mn}}$ . As a consequence the set  $\mathrm{LS}_{m,n}(r,s,\mu)$  is closed when  $\mu < \sqrt{mn}/(r\sqrt{s}) = 1/(\alpha r)$ .

#### The fully observed case: Robust PCA

The solution to the convex problem (\*) with A = Id identifies (L, S) from M when

$$\mu < \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{mn}/(r\sqrt{s}) = 1/(\alpha r)\right), \qquad (\mathsf{Hsu et al., 2011}) \tag{5}$$

and there exists an algorithm for the non-convex problem  $(\star\star)$  when

$$\mu < \mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{mn}/(r^{1.5}\sqrt{s}) = 1/(\alpha r^{1.5})\right)$$
(Yi et al., 2016; Wei et al., 2019). (6)  
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**Recoverability:** For which  $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$  can we recover (L, S) from  $b = \mathcal{A}(b)$ ?

#### **Definition (Restricted isometry constants for** $LS_{m,n}(r, s, \mu)$ ):

For every pair of integers (r, s) and every  $1 \le \mu \le \sqrt{mn}/r$ , define the  $(r, s, \mu)$ -restricted isometry constant to be the smallest  $\Delta_{r,s,\mu} > 0$  such that

$$(1 - \Delta_{r,s,\mu}) \|X\|_F^2 \le \|\mathcal{A}(X)\|_2^2 \le (1 + \Delta_{r,s,\mu}) \|X\|_F^2, \tag{7}$$

for all matrices  $X \in LS_{m,n}(r, s, \mu)$ .

Suppose that  $\Delta_{2r,2s,\mu}(\mathcal{A}) < 1$  for some integers  $r, s \geq 1$  and  $\mu \geq 1$ 

Let  $X_0, X_1 \in \mathsf{LS}_{m,n}(r,s,\mu)$  and  $b_0 = \mathcal{A}(X_0)$ ,  $b_1 = \mathcal{A}(X_1)$ . Then

$$(1 - \Delta_{2r,2s,\mu}) \|X_0 - X_1\|_F^2 \le \|\mathcal{A}(X_0 - X_1)\|_2^2 \le (1 + \Delta_{2r,2s,\mu}) \|X_0 - X_1\|_F^2,$$
(8)

since  $X_0 - X_1 \in LS_{m,n}(2r, 2s, \mu)$ .

**Recoverability:** For which  $\mathcal{A}(\cdot)$  can we recover (L, S) from  $b = \mathcal{A}(b)$ ?

#### **Theorem (Bound on the RICs for** $LS_{m,n}(r, s, \mu)$ )<sup>2</sup>:

For a given  $m, n, p \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Delta \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\mu < \frac{\sqrt{mn}}{r\sqrt{s}}$ , and a random Gaussian subsampling transform  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \to \mathbb{R}^p$  there exist constants  $c_0, c_1 > 0$  such that the RIC for  $\mathsf{LS}_{m,n}(r, s, \mu)$  is upper bounded with  $\Delta_{r,s,\mu} \leq \Delta$  provided

$$p > c_0 \left( r(m+n-r) + s \right) \log \left( \left( 1 - \gamma^2 \right)^{-1/2} \frac{mn}{s} \right), \tag{9}$$

with probability at least  $1 - \exp(-c_1 p)$ , where  $c_0, c_1$  are constants that depend only on  $\Delta$  and  $\gamma := \mu \frac{r\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{mn}} \leq \mu r \alpha$ .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Tanner & Vary. (2020). Compressed sensing of low-rank plus sparse matrices

### Recovery by the convex relaxation

Recall the convex optimization problem

$$(L^*, S^*) = \underset{L,S \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}}{\arg \min} \|L\|_* + \lambda \|S\|_1, \qquad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{A}(L+S) = b. \tag{(\star)}$$

#### Theorem (Guaranteed convex recovery):

Let  $b=\mathcal{A}(X_0)$  and suppose that  $r,s\in\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mu<1/\left(4\sqrt{3}rlpha
ight)$  are such that the RICs satisfy

$$\Delta_{4r,3s,\mu} \le \frac{1}{5} - 12\mu r\alpha,\tag{10}$$

and  $X_* = L_* + S_*$  be the solution of the convex relaxation with  $\lambda = \sqrt{r/s}$ , then  $X_* = X_0$ .

Recall the non-convex optimization:

$$\min_{X\in \mathsf{LS}_{m,n}(r,s,\mu)} \| \mathcal{A}(X) - b \|_F. \quad (\star\star$$

#### Algorithm 1 NAHT

1: while not converged do Compute the residual  $R_i^j = \mathcal{A}^* \left( \mathcal{A}(X^j) - b \right)$ 2: 3: Set  $V^j = L^j - \alpha_i^L R_I^j$ Set  $L^{j+1} = \operatorname{HT}(V^j; r)$ 4: Set  $X^{j+\frac{1}{2}} = I^{j+1} + S^{j}$ 5. Compute the residual  $R^j_{\mathcal{S}} = \mathcal{A}^*\left(\mathcal{A}(X^{j+rac{1}{2}}) - b
ight)$ 6: Set  $W^j = S^j - \alpha_i^S R_s^j$ 7: Set  $S^{j+1} = \operatorname{HT}(W^j; s)$ 8: Set  $X^{j+1} = I^{j+1} + S^{j+1}$ Q٠ 10: i = i + 111: end while

#### Incorrect theorem ((Not yet) guaranteed recovery by NAHT):

Suppose that  $r, s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mu < \sqrt{mn}/(3r\sqrt{3s})$  are such that the restricted isometry constant

$$\Delta_3 := \Delta_{3r,3s,\mu} < \frac{1}{9} - 3\mu \frac{r\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{mn}},\tag{11}$$

then NAHT applied to  $b = \mathcal{A}(X_0)$  as described in NAHT Algorithm will linearly converge to  $X_0 = L_0 + S_0$  as

$$\left\|L^{j+1} - L_{0}\right\|_{F} + \left\|S^{j+1} - S_{0}\right\|_{F} \le \frac{6\Delta_{3} + \frac{9}{2}\gamma_{2}}{1 - 3\Delta_{3} - \frac{9}{2}\gamma_{2}}\left(\left\|L^{j} - L_{0}\right\|_{F} + \left\|S^{j} - S_{0}\right\|_{F}\right),$$
(12)

where  $\gamma_2 := \frac{2r\sqrt{2s}}{\sqrt{mn}}$ .

## Numerical phase transition: Convex relaxation and NAHT

Phase transition  $\delta^*$  above which recovery is possible, where



(a) Convex recovery for 30  $\times$  30 matrix,  $\mu \approx$  3. (b) NAHT recovery for 100  $\times$  100 matrix,  $\mu \approx$  3.

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### Linear convergence of non-convex recovery



**Figure 3:** Relative error in the approximate  $||X^{\ell}||$  for m = n = 100 and  $p = (1/2)100^2$ ,  $\delta = 1/2$  and Gaussian A, and  $\mu \approx 3$ . In (b), SpaRCS (Waters et al., 2011) converged in 171 sec. (45 iterations).

Thank you for your attention.

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## Problems with convex Robust PCA and non-closedness

 $\min_{L \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}} \|L\|_* + \lambda \|S\|_1, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad M = L + S,$ 

where  $\|\cdot\|_*$  is the nuclear norm (sum of the singular values of *L*) and  $\|\cdot\|_1$  denotes the  $\ell_1$ -norm (sum of the absolute values of the entries of *S*).



# Divergence of non-convex low-rank matrix completion

We are given only entries of M at indices  $\Omega$  in the form of  $b = P_{\Omega}(M)$ . Solving

$$\min_{X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}} \|P_{\Omega}(X) - b\|_{F}, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \operatorname{rank}(X) \leq r$$

recovers M for many r and an entry-wise subsampling operator  $P_{\Omega} : \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \to \mathbb{R}^{p}$ .

