

Sparsity in imaging: Compressed sensing

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January, 2019

Compressed sensing

Candés, Romberg & Tao (2006); Donoho (2006)

Task: Given $y_0 = Ax_0$ where $A : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ with $N \gg m$, recover x_0 .

In general, this is impossible, since we have more unknowns than knowns.

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$$y = Af = A \circ \Psi x_0 = \Phi x_0.$$

Solve instead

$$\min_x \|x\|_0 \text{ subject to } \Phi x = y$$

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- Naively, we can attempt to solve $A_S u = y$ for all subsets S of size s . However, it is unpractical to check all $\binom{N}{s}$ such subsets! E.g. if $N = 1000$, $s = 10$, then there are $\binom{1000}{10} \geq (1000/10)^{10} = 10^{20}$ linear systems of size 10×10 . Even if each system is solved in 10^{-10} s, this approach requires 10^{10} s > 300 years.

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- In general, the ℓ^0 problem can be transposed into an NP-hard problem.

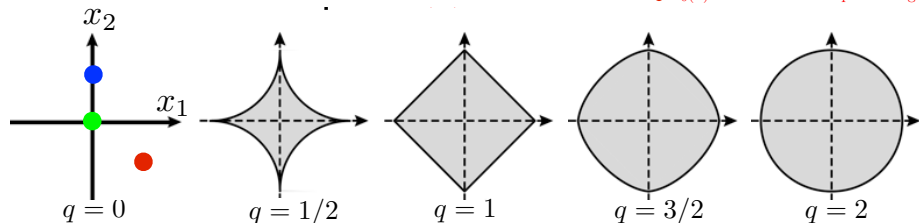
Compressed sensing

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Let $\|x\|_q^q = \sum_j |x_j|^q$. Convex when $q \geq 1$ and “close to” ℓ_0 for small q .

$$\min_x \|x\|_p \text{ subject to } \Phi x = y$$

- $J_0(x) = 0$ → null image.
- $J_0(x) = 1$ → sparse image.
- $J_0(x) = 2$ → non-sparse image.



Compressed sensing

Candés, Romberg & Tao (2006); Donoho (2006)

Key outcome of compressed sensing:

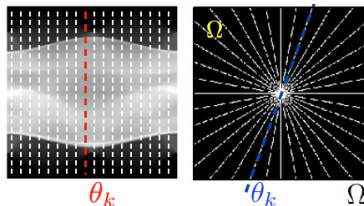
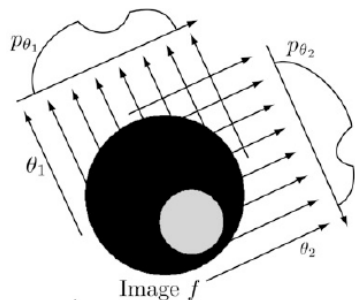
We can recover **sparse** vectors of length N from $m \ll N$ **randomised** linear measurements by solving the following **convex** optimisation problem:

$$\min_x \|x\|_1 \quad \text{subject to } \Phi x = y. \quad (\text{BP})$$

Applications of compressed sensing – Fourier measurements

Many imaging devices can be seen as providing pointwise samples of the Fourier transform.

- Magnetic resonance imaging
- Radio interferometry
- Electron microscopy
- Tomography.



For tomography, if p_θ is the Radon projection of f at angle θ , then the Fourier splice theorem says:

$$\hat{p}_\theta(t) = \hat{f}(t \cos(\theta), t \sin(\theta)).$$

We therefore are interested in $y = P_\Omega \mathcal{F} W x$.

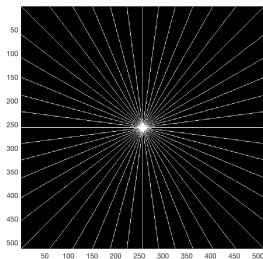
The matlab phantom experiment [Candès, Romberg and Tao '06]

Let $P_{\Omega}\mathcal{F}x = (\hat{x}_j)_{j \in \Omega}$. Given observations $y_0 = P_{\Omega}\mathcal{F}x_0$, take the reconstruction z as

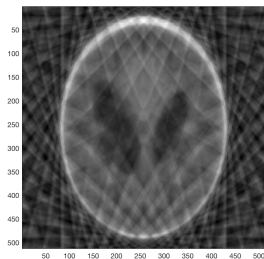
$$\operatorname{argmin}_x \|Wx\|_1 \text{ subject to } P_{\Omega}\mathcal{F}x = y_0$$

If W is invertible, this is equivalent to

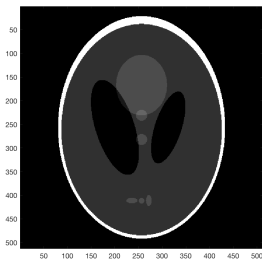
$$\operatorname{argmin}_x \|x\|_1 \text{ subject to } P_{\Omega}\mathcal{F}W^{-1}x = y_0$$



Sampling map Ω



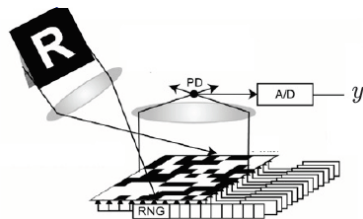
$\mathcal{F}^{-1}P_{\Omega}y_0$



Sparse reconstruction

The single pixel camera [Duarte, Davenport, Takhar, Laska, Sun, Kelly, Baraniuk '08]

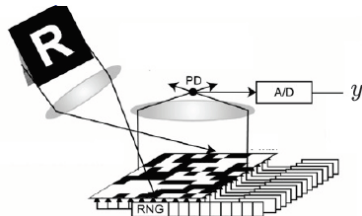
- Let $z = \mathbb{R}^N$.
- The single pixel camera is a microarray consisting of N mirrors, each of which can be switched on or off individually.
- The light from the image is reflected on the micro array, and a lens then combines all reflected beams in one sensor.



Each measurement is $\langle z, b \rangle$ where b is a vector consisting of 1's at locations where the mirrors are 'on' and 0 where the mirrors are 'off'.

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$$m/N = 1$$



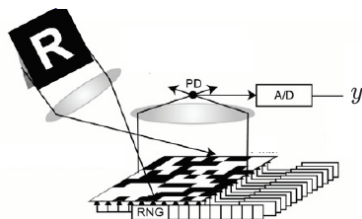
$$m/N = 0.16$$



$$m/N = 0.02$$

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Link to Bernoulli measurements

We can think of this as recovering sparse x from $y = Az = AW^*x$, where $A \in \{-1, 1\}^{m \times N}$ a Bernoulli random matrix (entries take values ± 1 with equal probability: if $a \in \{-1, 1\}^N$ is a Bernoulli sequence, then

$$b_j^1 = \begin{cases} 1 & a_j = 1 \\ 0 & a_j = -1 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad b_j^2 = \begin{cases} 1 & a_j = -1 \\ 0 & a_j = 1 \end{cases}$$

we have $\langle z, a \rangle = \langle z, b^1 \rangle - \langle z, b^2 \rangle$. So, $2m$ measurements is equivalent to taking m Bernoulli measurements.

Outline

- 1 Minimal number of measurements
- 2 Conditions for uniform recovery of sparse vectors via ℓ^1 minimisation
- 3 Recovery with incoherent bases
 - Theoretical results - Non-uniform recovery

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Lower bound on sampling complexity

Task 1: Find $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$ and recovery maps $\Delta : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$ such that $\Delta(Ax) = x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ s -sparse.

In general, we need $m \geq 2s$.

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In general, we need $m \geq 2s$.

Task 2: Find $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$ and recovery maps $\Delta : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^N$ such that

$$\|x - \Delta(Ax)\|_2 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \sigma_s(x)_1, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{C}^N.$$

In order for (A, Δ) to be stable of order s , we need $m \geq Cs \ln(eN/s)$.

Gelfand widths

Given $K \subset X$ where X is a normed space, the Gelfand m -width are:

$$d^m(K, X) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \inf \left\{ \sup_{x \in K \cap L^m} \|x\| ; L^m \subset X, \quad \text{codim}(L^m) \leq m \right\}$$

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Measures the extent to which one can determine elements of K from m linear measurements.

[Kashin '77, Garnaev & Gluskin '84] proved

$$d^m(B_1^N, \ell_2^N) \asymp \min \left(1, \sqrt{\frac{\ln(eN/m)}{m}} \right).$$

where B_1^N is the ℓ^1 ball and ℓ_2^N is the N -dimensional vector space with norm $\|\cdot\|_2$.

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Consequence of $d^m(B_1^N, \ell_2^N) \gtrsim \sqrt{\frac{\ln(eN/m)}{m}}$ is $m \gtrsim s \ln(eN/s)$.

If (A, Δ) is stable of order s , then for $v \in \mathcal{N}(A) \cap B_1^N$, stable recovery of v_S and v_{S^c} respectively means:

$$\begin{aligned} \|-v_S - \Delta(A(-v_S))\| \leq 0 &\implies -v_S = \Delta(A(-v_S)) = \Delta(Av_{S^c}) \\ \|v_{S^c} - \Delta(Av_{S^c})\| \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \sigma_s(v_{S^c})_1 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \|v\|_1 &\implies \|v\|_2 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \end{aligned}$$

So, we have $d^m(B_1^N, \ell_2^N) \leq C/\sqrt{s}$ which implies that $m \gtrsim s \ln(eN/m)$.

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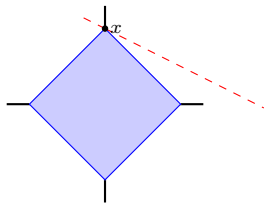
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Null space property

Note that x uniquely minimises

$$\min_z \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } Az = Ax$$

if and only if $\mathcal{F}_x \cap \mathcal{B}_x = \{x\}$ where $\mathcal{F}_x \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \{z ; Az = Ax\}$ and $\mathcal{B}_x \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \{z ; \|z\|_1 \leq \|x\|_1\}$



Null space property

$A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$ is said to satisfy the NSP relative to a set $S \subset [N]$ if

$$\|v_S\|_1 < \|v_{S^c}\|_1, \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{N}(A) \setminus \{0\}$$

It is said to satisfy the NSP of order s if this holds for all $S \subset [N]$ with $|S| \leq s$.

Null space property

Theorem

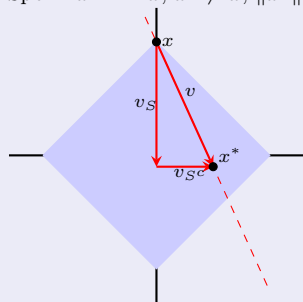
Given $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$, every $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ supported on $S \subset [N]$ is the unique solution to (BP) if and only if A satisfies the NSP relative to set S .

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Spe. $Ax^* = Ax$, $x^* \neq x$, $\|x^*\|_1 \leq \|x\|_1$



$v \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} x^* - x \in \mathcal{N}(A) \setminus \{0\}$ satisfies:

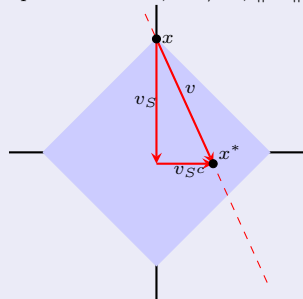
$$\begin{aligned} \|v_{S^c}\|_1 &= \|x_{S^c}^*\|_1 \\ &= \|x_{S^c}^*\|_1 - \|x\|_1 + \|x - x_S^* + x_S^*\|_1 \\ &\leq \|x_{S^c}^*\|_1 - \|x\|_1 + \|v_S\|_1 + \|x_S^*\|_1 \\ &\leq \|v_S\|_1 \end{aligned}$$

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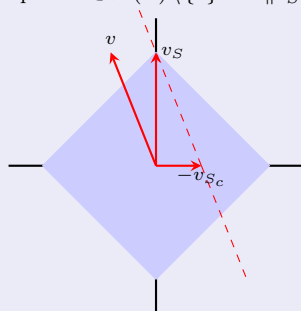
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Spe. $\exists v \in \mathcal{N}(A) \setminus \{0\}$ s.t. $\|v_S\|_1 \geq \|v_{S^c}\|_1$



Let $x \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} v_S$. Then, $Av_S = -Av_{S^c}$ but x is not the unique solution to (BP).

$\mathcal{F}_x = \{z; Az = Ax\}$ is the dotted red line.

Robust and stable recovery

Let $y = Ax + e$ with $\|e\| \leq \eta$. What conditions should we impose on A such that

$$\Delta_{BP}^\eta(y) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \operatorname{argmin} \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } \|Az - y\|_2 \leq \eta.$$

satisfies $\|x - \Delta_{BP}^\eta(y)\|_2 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \sigma_s(x)_1 + D\eta$ for some $C, D > 0$?

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Robust null space property

We say that A satisfies the robust NSP with constant $\rho, \tau > 0$ if

$$\|v_S\|_2 \leq \frac{\rho}{\sqrt{s}} \|v_{S^c}\|_1 + \tau \|Av\|_2, \quad \forall v \in \mathbb{C}^N.$$

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- robust NSP with $\rho < 1$ implies the NSP.
- If A satisfies the robust NSP with $\rho < 1$, then this is **sufficient** for robust and stable recovery.
- If we have stable and robust recovery, then setting $x \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} v \in \mathbb{C}^N$, $e = -Av$ and $\eta = \|Av\|_2$, we have $\Delta_{BP}^\eta(Ax + e) = 0$ and $\|v\|_2 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \sigma_s(v)_1 + D \|Av\|_2$. So, this condition is **necessary**.

The restricted isometry property

This is one way to assess the quality of the matrix A for recovering s -sparse vectors.

The RIP

The s th restricted isometry constant δ_s of a matrix A is the smallest $\delta > 0$ such that

$$(1 - \delta) \|x\|_2^2 \leq \|Ax\|_2^2 \leq (1 + \delta) \|x\|_2^2,$$

for all s -sparse vectors $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$.

- $\delta_s = \max_{|S| \leq s} \|A_S^* A_S - \text{Id}\|$.
- All singular values of A_S are restricted to $[1 - \delta_s, 1 + \delta_s]$.

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Theorem (RIP \implies robust NSP \implies robust and stable recovery)

If $\delta_{2s} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, then A satisfies the robust NSP of order s with $\rho \in (0, 1)$ and $\tau > 0$ dependent only on δ_{2s} . So, the RIP implies that $\|x - \Delta_{BP}^\eta(Ax + e)\|_2 \leq \frac{C}{\sqrt{s}} \sigma_s(x)_1 + D\eta$ for some $C, D > 0$ which depend only on δ_{2s} .

Theorem

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N}$ with entries as iid $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Let $\tilde{A} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} A$. Then, provided that $m \geq C\delta^{-2}s \ln(eN/s)$, w.p. $\geq 1 - 2 \exp\left(-\frac{m\delta^2}{128}\right)$, \tilde{A} has RIP constant $\delta_s \leq \delta$.

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Step 1, Concentration inequality: For fixed $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $t > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|\|\tilde{A}x\|_2^2 - \|x\|_2^2\right| > t\|x\|_2^2\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{mt^2}{16}\right).$$

- Note that $(\tilde{A}x)_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \sum_{j=1}^N A_{ij}x_j = \frac{\|x\|_2}{\sqrt{m}} g_i$ where $g_i = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.
- $\mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\tilde{A}x\right\|^2 > (1+t)\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i g_i^2 > (1+t)\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\exp\left(u \sum_i g_i^2\right) > \exp\left(um(1+t)\right)\right)$
- By Markov's inequality *, this is upper bounded by

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}\left(\exp\left(u \sum_i g_i^2\right)\right)}{\exp\left(um(1+t)\right)} \underbrace{=}_{\text{indep.}} \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{\mathbb{E}\left(\exp\left(ug_i^2\right)\right)}{\exp\left(u(1+t)\right)} \underbrace{=}_{\text{moment gen. fn.}^\dagger} \left(\frac{1/\sqrt{1-2u}}{\exp(u(1+t))}\right)^m$$

- Choosing $u = t/8 < 1/4$, this is exponentially decaying in t , in particular, upper bounded by $\exp(-mt^2/16)$.

* $\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq t) \leq \mathbb{E}|X|/t$

† For $a < 1/2$, $\mathbb{E}[\exp(ag^2)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-2a}}$

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Step 2: Fix $S \subset [N]$ with $|S| = s$. Then $\left\| \tilde{A}_S^* \tilde{A}_S - \text{Id} \right\| \leq \delta$ whp.

- The unit sphere of \mathbb{R}^s can be covered by $n \leq (1 + 2/\rho)^s$ balls of radius ρ .
- Let $\Sigma_S \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \{z \in \mathbb{R}^N; \text{Supp}(z) \subseteq S\}$. There exists ℓ_2 normalised $u_1, \dots, u_n \in \Sigma_S$, $n \leq (1 + 2/\rho)^s$ s.t. for all $x \in \Sigma_S$ with $\|x\| = 1$, there exists k s.t. $\|x - u_k\| \leq \rho$.
- Let $B \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \tilde{A}_S^* \tilde{A}_S - \text{Id}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\exists k \in [n], |\langle Bu_k, u_k \rangle| > t) &= \mathbb{P}(\exists k \in [n], \left| \left\| \tilde{A}u_k \right\|_2^2 - \|u_k\|_2^2 \right| > t) \\ &\leq 2n \exp\left(-\frac{mt^2}{16}\right) \leq 2(1 + 2/\rho)^s \exp\left(-\frac{mt^2}{16}\right) = 2 \exp\left(\ln(9)s - \frac{m\delta^2}{64}\right) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

if $\rho = 1/4$ and $t = \delta/2$.

- This means that w.p. $1 - \varepsilon$, $\|B\| \leq \delta$:

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle Bx, x \rangle| &= |\langle Bu_k, u_k \rangle + \langle B(x + u_k), (x - u_k) \rangle| \leq \frac{\delta}{2} + \|B\| \|x + u_k\| \|x - u_k\| \\ &\leq \frac{\delta}{2} + 2\rho \|B\| = \frac{\delta}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \|B\|. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times N}$ with entries as iid $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Let $\tilde{A} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}A$. Then, provided that $m \geq C\delta^{-2}s \ln(eN/s)$, *wp* $\geq 1 - 2 \exp\left(-\frac{m\delta^2}{128}\right)$, \tilde{A} has RIP constant $\delta_s \leq \delta$.

Step 3, Union bound: There are $\binom{N}{s} \leq (eN/s)^s$ subsets of size s in $[N]$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\delta_s > \delta) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\left\|\tilde{A}_S^* \tilde{A}_S - \text{Id}\right\| > \delta \text{ for some } S \subset [N], |S| = s\right) \\ &\leq 2(eN/s)^s \exp\left(\ln(9)s - \frac{m\delta^2}{64}\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{m\delta^2}{128}\right) \end{aligned}$$

provided that $\ln(9e)s \ln(eN/s) \leq m\delta^2/128$, i.e. $m \geq C\delta^{-2}s \ln(eN/s)$.

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Remarks:

- Similar result of random Bernoulli matrices.
- Let $U \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ be unitary. Then, $\delta_s(\tilde{A}U^*) \leq \delta$ with the same probability, since given any $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$, let $x' \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} U^*x$:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|\left\|\tilde{A}U^*x\right\|_2^2 - \|x\|^2\right| > t\|x\|_2^2\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\left\|\tilde{A}x'\right\|_2^2 - \|x'\|^2\right| > t\|x'\|_2^2\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(\frac{-mt^2}{16}\right).$$

Summary

Compressed sensing allows for the recovery of **s-sparse** vectors $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ from **randomised** linear measurements $Ax \in \mathbb{C}^m$ with $m \ll N$ via **ℓ^1 -minimisation**.

- To guarantee the stable recovery of s -sparse signals, we need at least $m = \mathcal{O}(s \log(N/s))$ measurements (for **any** method).
- the NSP is a necessary and sufficient condition for the recovery of s -sparse signals.
- the robust NSP is a sufficient (and almost necessary) condition for the stable and robust recovery of s -sparse signals.
- if a matrix has sufficiently small RIP constant δ_s , then it satisfies the robust-NSP.
- random Gaussian/random Bernoulli matrices satisfy the RIP with $m = \mathcal{O}(s \log(N/s))$.

Outline

- 1 Minimal number of measurements
- 2 Conditions for uniform recovery of sparse vectors via ℓ^1 minimisation
- 3 Recovery with incoherent bases
 - Theoretical results - Non-uniform recovery

Setup

Suppose that $V = [v_1 | \dots | v_N] \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ and $W = [w_1 | \dots | w_N] \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times N}$ are unitary matrices. Let $z \in \mathbb{C}^N$ be the signal of interest.

- Observe $\langle z, w_j \rangle$ for $j \in \Omega$ where $\Omega \subseteq [N]$ is a randomly chosen set of indices.
- z is s -sparse in V , that is, $z = Vx$ where $x \in \Sigma_s$.

Therefore, we want to recover x from

$$y = P_\Omega Ux, \quad \text{where } U = W^*V.$$

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Definition

The *coherence* of V and W is $\mu \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \max_{k,\ell} |\langle v_\ell, w_k \rangle|$. In the following, let $K \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sqrt{N}\mu$.

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Clearly, $\mu \leq 1$, and since W and V are unitary, we have

$$1 = \|w_k\|^2 = \sum_{\ell=1}^N |\langle w_k, v_\ell \rangle|^2 \leq N\mu^2$$

so $\mu \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$. When $\mu = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$, we say that V and W are maximally incoherent. So,

$$\mu \in \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}, 1 \right] \quad \text{and} \quad K \in [1, \sqrt{N}]$$

Examples

- The Fourier transform $W = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left(e^{i2\pi(\ell-1)(k-1)/N} \right)_{k,\ell=1}^N$ is maximally incoherent with the canonical basis $V = \text{Id}_N$, with $\mu = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$.

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- The Hadamard transform is maximally incoherence with the canonical basis, where the Hadamard transform is $H \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} H_n \in \mathbb{R}^{2^n \times 2^n}$ is defined recursively by

$$H_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} H_{n-1} & H_{n-1} \\ H_{n-1} & -H_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_0 = 1.$$

It can be computed in $\mathcal{O}(N \log(N))$ time and is useful in modelling systems where there are ‘on/off’ measurements, such as the single-pixel camera, or Fluorescence microscopy.

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Uniform recovery guarantee

If

$$m \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} |\Omega| \gtrsim K^2 \delta^{-2} s \ln^4(N),$$

then $\sqrt{\frac{N}{m}} U$ satisfies $\delta_s \leq \delta$ with probability at least $1 - N^{-\ln^3(N)}$. This guarantees uniform recovery of all s -sparse vectors.

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Note that $\log(N)^4$ is not so small... for $N = 1000$, $\log(N) \approx 6.9$ but $\log^4(N) > 2N!$.

Uniform vs nonuniform guarantees

So far, we have seen that NSP, robust NSP, RIP guarantee recovery of all s -sparse vectors. In particular, we have seen the following **uniform** recovery guarantee:

$$\mathbb{P}(\forall x \in \Sigma_s, \Delta_{BP}(Ax + e) \text{ recovers } x) \geq 1 - \varepsilon$$

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In this section, we shall derive nonuniform recovery statements when $m \gtrsim K^2 s \ln(N)$.

Remark

Recall that stable recovery requires $m \gtrsim s \ln(N/s)$, and random Gaussian matrices achieve this optimal rate.

However, one can show that for subsampled orthonormal systems, if we want

$$\|\Delta_{BP}(x) - x\|_1 \lesssim \sigma_s(x)_1$$

to hold for all vectors x , then necessarily, $m \gtrsim s \ln(N)$.

Non-universal recovery and dual certificates

RIP and NSP are concerned with the recovery of **all** s -sparse vectors or all vectors supported on some $S \subset [N]$. What if we are only interested in the recovery of **one** vector x ?

Theorem

Given $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$, $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ with support S is the unique minimiser of BP with $y = Ax$ if either

(a) $|\langle \text{sign}(x)_S, v \rangle| < \|v_{S^c}\|_1$ for all $v \in \mathcal{N}(A) \setminus \{0\}$,

(b) A_S is injective and $\exists h \in \mathbb{C}^m$ s.t.

$$(A^*h)_S = \text{sign}(x_S) \quad \text{and} \quad \|(A^*h)_{S^c}\|_\infty < 1$$

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- (a) and (b) are equivalent.
- The null space property relative to S implies (a).
- A^*h is called a **dual certificate**.
- The converse is also true in the real setting, but false in general.

Dual certificates guarantee robust and stable recovery

Theorem (Dual certificate)

Suppose that ^a

$$\|A_S^* A_S - \text{Id}\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{\ell \in S^c} \|A_S^* A_{\{\ell\}}\|_2 \leq 1,$$

and there exists $u = A^* h$ such that

$$u_S = \text{sign}(x_S) \quad \text{and} \quad \|u_{S^c}\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \|h\|_2 \leq 2\sqrt{s}.$$

Then any minimizer x^* to $\min_z \|z\|_1$ subject to $\|Az - y\|_2 \leq \eta$ where $y = Ax + e$ with $\|e\| \leq \eta$ satisfies

$$\|x - x^*\|_2 \lesssim \sigma_s(x)_1 + \sqrt{s}\eta.$$

^aFor simplicity, I have made constants in the upper bounds explicit here.

Application to our problem

Our aim: recover x from $y = P_{\Omega} U x + e$, where U is a unitary matrix and $\Omega \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \{k_{\ell}\}_{\ell=1}^m$ are chosen iid unif. rand.

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Key question: How large does m need to be such that with probability at least $1 - \rho$,

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Let $\eta \geq \|e\|$. This would guarantee that any solution \tilde{x} to

$$\min \|z\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|P_\Omega U z - y\| \leq \eta$$

satisfies

$$\|\tilde{x} - x\|_2 \lesssim \sigma_s(x)_1 + \sqrt{s}\eta.$$

Existence of dual certificates

A natural candidate of a certificate is the Fuchs certificate:

$$u = A^* A_S (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} \text{sign}(x_S).$$

Note that $u_S = \text{sign}(x_S)$ and we simply need to check that $|u_{S^c}| < 1$. Therefore,

- we simply need to control $A_{S^c}^* A_S$ and $(A_S^* A_S)^{-1}$.
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Probabilistic bounds (proved using Bernstein concentration inequalities).

With probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$,

- (I) $\|A_S^* A_S - \text{Id}\| \leq \delta$ if $m \gtrsim K^2 \delta^{-2} s \ln(2s\varepsilon^{-1})$.
- (II) $\max_{j \in S^c} \|A_S^* a_j\| \leq t$ if $m \gtrsim K^2 \max(\ln^2(N\varepsilon^{-1}), st^{-2})$.
- (III) $\max_{j \in S^c} |\langle \text{sign}(x_S), A_S^* a_j \rangle| \leq r$ if $m \gtrsim K^2 sr^{-2} \ln(N\varepsilon^{-1})$.

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* (III) comes from the stronger result “For a fixed vector v , with probability at least $1 - \delta$, $\max_{j \in S^c} |\langle v, A_S^* a_j \rangle| \leq \frac{r\|v\|}{\sqrt{s}}$ if $m \gtrsim K^2 sr^{-2} \ln(N\varepsilon^{-1})$ ”

Naive approaches

To control $u_j = (A^* A_S (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} \text{sign}(x_S))_j$ for $j \notin S \dots$

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Naive approach:

$$|u_j| = |\langle (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} A_S^* a_j, \text{sign}(x_S) \rangle| \leq \|A_S^* a_j\| \|(A_S^* A_S)^{-1}\| \sqrt{s} < 1$$

if $\|(A_S^* A_S)^{-1}\| < 2$ and $\|A_S^* a_j\| < \frac{1}{2\sqrt{s}}$ for all $j \in S^c$.

This holds with probability at least ε if

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$$m \gtrsim K^2 \max(s \ln(2s/\varepsilon), \ln^2(N/\varepsilon), s^2).$$

Slightly less naive approach:

$$\begin{aligned} |u_j| &= |\langle (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} A_S^* a_j, \text{sign}(x_S) \rangle| \\ &\leq |\langle ((A_S^* A_S)^{-1} - \text{Id}) A_S^* a_j, \text{sign}(x_S) \rangle| + |\langle A_S^* a_j, \text{sign}(x_S) \rangle| \\ &\leq \underbrace{\|(A_S^* A_S)^{-1} - \text{Id}\|}_{< \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sqrt{s}}}} \underbrace{\|A_S^* a_j\|}_{< \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sqrt{s}}}} \sqrt{s} + \underbrace{|\langle A_S^* a_j, \text{sign}(x_S) \rangle|}_{< \frac{1}{2}} < 1 \end{aligned}$$

holds provided that

$$m \gtrsim K^2 \max(s^{3/2} \ln(s/\varepsilon), s \ln(N/\varepsilon), \ln^2(N/\varepsilon)).$$

Lemma (Hoeffding's inequality)

Given $v \in \mathbb{C}^s$, if $\alpha \geq \|v\|$ and σ is a Rademacher sequence,

$$\mathbb{P}(\langle v, \sigma \rangle \geq w) \leq 2 \exp(-w^2/(2\alpha^2)).$$

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$$\|v_j\|^2 \leq \|(A_S^* A_S)^{-1}\|^2 \|A_S^* a_j\|^2 \leq \frac{t^2}{(1-\delta)^2} = 2t^2 \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \alpha^2.$$

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Assume that $\text{sign}(x_S)$ is a Rademacher sequence and recall that $|u_j| = |\langle v_j, \text{sign}(x_S) \rangle|$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\exists j \in S^c, |u_j| > \frac{1}{2}) &\leq N \mathbb{P}(|u_j| > \frac{1}{2} \mid \|v_j\| \leq \alpha) + \mathbb{P}(\exists j \in S^c \|v_j\| > \alpha) \\ &\leq N \exp(-1/(16t^2)) + \varepsilon' \leq \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

if $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon/2$ and $t^2 = (16 \ln(2N/\varepsilon))^{-1}$.

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i.e. $\mathbb{P}(\exists j \in S^c, |u_j| > 1) \leq \varepsilon$ provided that

$$m \gtrsim K^2 \max(s \ln(N/\varepsilon), \ln^2(N/\varepsilon)).$$

Recovery statement

Let U be an unitary matrix, $\mu \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \max_{k,j} |U_{k,j}|$ and $K \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sqrt{N}\mu$. We want to recover $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ from $y = P_\Omega Ux + e$ where Ω consists of m indices chosen uniformly at random.

We have so far shown:

Theorem

Suppose that $\text{sign}(x)$ is a Rademacher sequence and $m \gtrsim K^2 \max(s \ln(N/\varepsilon), \ln^2(N/\varepsilon))$. Let $\eta \geq \|e\|$. Then, with probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$, any solution \tilde{x} to

$$\min \|z\|_1 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \|P_\Omega Uz - y\| \leq \eta$$

satisfies

$$\|\tilde{x} - x\|_2 \lesssim \sigma_s(x)_1 + \sqrt{s}\eta.$$

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The assumptions in red can be replaced by

$$m \gtrsim K^2 s \ln(N) \ln(\varepsilon^{-1}).$$

using the idea of **inexact dual certificates** and a **golfing scheme** dual certificate construction (which constructs a different certificate to the Fuchs certificate).

Optimal sampling complexity without the random signs assumption

Recall that

Theorem (Dual certificate)

Suppose that ^a

$$\|A_S^* A_S - \text{Id}\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{\ell \in S^c} \|A_S^* A_{\{\ell\}}\|_2 \leq 1,$$

and there exists $u = A^* h$ such that

$$u_S = \text{sign}(x_S) \quad \text{and} \quad \|u_{S^c}\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \|h\|_2 \leq 2\sqrt{s}.$$

Then any minimizer x^* to $\|z\|_1$ subject to $\|Az - y\|_2 \leq \eta$ where $y = Ax + e$ with $\|e\| \leq \eta$ satisfies

$$\|x - x^*\|_2 \lesssim \sigma_s(x)_1 + \sqrt{s}\eta.$$

^aFor simplicity, I have made constants in the upper bounds explicit here.

Optimal sampling complexity without the random signs assumption

Theorem (Inexact Dual certificate)

Suppose that ^a

$$\|A_S^* A_S - \text{Id}\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \max_{\ell \in S^c} \|A_S^* A_{\{\ell\}}\|_2 \leq 1,$$

and there exists $u = A^* h$ such that

$$\|u_S - \text{sign}(x_S)\| \leq \frac{1}{8} \quad \text{and} \quad \|u_{S^c}\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad \|h\|_2 \leq 2\sqrt{s}.$$

Then any minimizer x^* to $\|z\|_1$ subject to $\|Az - y\|_2 \leq \eta$ where $y = Ax + e$ with $\|e\| \leq \eta$ satisfies

$$\|x - x^*\|_2 \lesssim \sigma_s(x)_1 + \sqrt{s}\eta.$$

^aFor simplicity, I have made constants in the upper bounds explicit here.

Proof: Inexact dual certificate implies dual certificate.

Let $v \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} u + \tilde{u}$ where $\tilde{u} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} A^* A_S (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} w$ and $w = \text{sign}(x_S) - u_S$.

Note that

$$\|\tilde{u}_{S^c}\|_\infty \leq \|A_{S^c}^* A_S\|_{2 \rightarrow \infty} \|(A_S^* A_S)^{-1}\|_{2 \rightarrow 2} \|w\|_2 \leq \frac{1}{4}.$$

Therefore, $v_S = u_S + w_S = \text{sign}(x_S)$ and $\|v_{S^c}\|_\infty \leq \|u_{S^c}\|_\infty + \|\tilde{u}_{S^c}\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{2}$. □

Golfing Scheme [Gross '11, Candès & Plan '11]

The golfing scheme shows that with probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$, there exists an inexact dual certificate when $m \gtrsim K^2 s \log(N/\varepsilon)$.

First observe that the Fuchs precertificate is

$$\begin{aligned} u &= A^* A_S (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} \text{sign}(x_S) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A^* A_S (\text{Id} - A_S^* A_S)^{n-1} \text{sign}(x_S) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A^* A_S w_{n-1}, \quad \text{where } w_n \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} (\text{Id} - A_S^* A_S) w_{n-1}, \quad w_0 = \text{sign}(x_S). \end{aligned}$$

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Recall that $A = \sqrt{\frac{N}{m}} P_{\Omega} U$, where $\Omega = \{k_{\ell}\}_{\ell=1}^m$. Partition into L subsets $\Omega = \bigcup_{\ell=1}^L \Omega_{\ell}$, where Ω_{ℓ} consists of m_{ℓ} indices. Define $A^{(\ell)} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sqrt{\frac{N}{m_{\ell}}} P_{\Omega_{\ell}} U$.

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Consider the function

$$\tilde{u}^{(L)} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sum_{\ell=1}^L (A^{(\ell)})^* A_S^{(\ell)} \tilde{w}_{\ell-1}$$

where $\tilde{w}_{\ell} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} (\text{Id} - (A_S^{(\ell)})^* A_S^{(\ell)}) \tilde{w}_{\ell-1}$, $\tilde{w}_0 = \text{sign}(x_S)$.

We still have $\tilde{u}^{(L)} \in \text{Im}(A^*)$. The idea is that we have now decoupled the randomness.

Golfing Scheme

We have

$$\tilde{w}^{(\ell)} = \text{sign}(x_S) - \tilde{u}_S^{(\ell)}.$$

If

$$(I) \quad \left\| \left(\text{Id} - (A_S^{(\ell)})^* A_S^{(\ell)} \right) \tilde{w}_{\ell-1} \right\|_2 \leq r_\ell \|\tilde{w}_{\ell-1}\|_2$$

$$(II) \quad \left\| (A_{S^c}^{(\ell)})^* A_S^{(\ell)} \tilde{w}_{\ell-1} \right\|_\infty \leq \frac{t_\ell}{\sqrt{s}} \|\tilde{w}_{\ell-1}\|_2,$$

then

$$\left\| \text{sign}(x_S) - \tilde{u}_S^{(L)} \right\| \leq \left\| \tilde{w}^{(L)} \right\| \leq \sqrt{s} \prod_{n=1}^L r_n$$

$$\left\| \tilde{u}_{S^c}^{(L)} \right\|_\infty \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^L \left\| (A_{S^c}^{(\ell)})^* A_S^{(\ell)} \tilde{w}_{\ell-1} \right\|_\infty \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{t_\ell}{\sqrt{s}} \left\| \tilde{w}^{(\ell-1)} \right\|_2 \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^L t_\ell \prod_{j=1}^{\ell-1} r_j.$$

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- The idea is that by choosing r_ℓ , t_ℓ and L appropriately, one is guaranteed an inexact dual certificate with probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$ when

$$m = \sum_{\ell} m_\ell \gtrsim K^2 s (\ln(N) \ln(\varepsilon^{-1}) + \ln(s) \ln(s\varepsilon^{-1})).$$

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then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \text{sign}(x_S) - \tilde{u}_S^{(L)} \right\| &\leq \left\| \tilde{w}^{(L)} \right\| \leq \sqrt{s} \prod_{n=1}^L r_n \\ \left\| \tilde{u}_{S^c}^{(L)} \right\|_\infty &\leq \sum_{\ell=1}^L \left\| (A_{S^c}^{(\ell)})^* A_S^{(\ell)} \tilde{w}_{\ell-1} \right\|_\infty \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^L \frac{t_\ell}{\sqrt{s}} \left\| \tilde{w}^{(\ell-1)} \right\|_2 \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^L t_\ell \prod_{j=1}^{\ell-1} r_j. \end{aligned}$$

- The idea is that by choosing r_ℓ , t_ℓ and L appropriately, one is guaranteed an inexact dual certificate with probability at least $1 - \varepsilon$ when

$$m = \sum_{\ell} m_\ell \gtrsim K^2 s (\ln(N) \ln(\varepsilon^{-1}) + \ln(s) \ln(s\varepsilon^{-1})).$$

- A slightly more refined argument where one is allowed to ‘make mistakes’ by choosing L slightly larger and throwing away the draws which violate (I) and (II) gives the optimal sampling complexity $m \gtrsim K^2 s \ln(N) \ln(\varepsilon^{-1})$.

Summary

Compressed sensing allows for the recovery of **s-sparse** vectors $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ from **randomised** linear measurements $Ax \in \mathbb{C}^m$ with $m \ll N$ via **ℓ^1 -minimisation**.

- To guarantee the stable recovery of s -sparse signals, we need at least $m = \mathcal{O}(s \log(N/s))$ measurements (for **any** method).
- the NSP is a necessary and sufficient condition for the recovery of s -sparse signals.
- the robust NSP is an almost necessary and sufficient condition for the stable and robust recovery of s -sparse signals.
- if a matrix has sufficiently small RIP constant δ_s , then it satisfies the robust-NSP.
- random Gaussian/random Bernoulli matrices satisfy the RIP with $m = \mathcal{O}(s \log(N/s))$.

We considered the recovery of x from $P_\Omega W^* V x$, with $K = \sqrt{N} \cdot \max_{i,j} |\langle v_j, w_i \rangle|$.

- NSP, robust NSP and RIP are conditions for uniform recovery. They can be hard to establish. For non-uniform recovery results, we look to the construction of dual certificates.
- A dual certificate is an element of $\text{Im}(A^*)$ which interpolates $\text{sign}(x_0)$ exactly.
- The Fuchs certificate $A^* A_S (A_S^* A_S)^{-1} \text{sign}(x_0)$ is a natural candidate for a dual certificate. We can prove that this is indeed a dual certificate provided that $\text{sign}(x_0)$ is a **Rademacher** sequence when $m = \mathcal{O}(sK^2 \log(N))$.
- The **golfing scheme** provides another construction of a dual certificate, and allows us to remove the random signs assumption while retaining the optimal sampling complexity.

Sources

- “A Mathematical Introduction to Compressive Sensing” by Simon Foucart & Holger Rauhut.
- “Flavors of Compressive Sensing” by Simon Foucart.