

36-755, Fall 2016
Homework 5

Due Mon Oct 31 by 5:00pm in Jisu's mailbox

1. Matrix Algebra Problems. We have used these facts in class. Now it is time to prove them.

- (a) Problem 8.3 (You may assume the result of Problem 8.1 as given).
- (b) Recall the spiked covariance model: $\Sigma = \theta vv^\top + I_d$, where $\theta > 0$ and $v \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$. Let \hat{v} be another unit vector in \mathbb{S}^{d-1} . Show that

$$v^\top \Sigma v - \hat{v}^\top \Sigma \hat{v} = \theta \sin^2(\angle(v, \hat{v}))$$

where $\angle(v, \hat{v}) = \cos^{-1}(|v^\top \hat{v}|)$

- (c) Show that

$$\left\| \hat{v} \hat{v}^\top - v v^\top \right\|_F^2 = 2 \sin^2(\angle(v, \hat{v})),$$

where, for a matrix $A = (A_{i,j})$, $\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j} A_{i,j}^2}$.

2. Reading exercise. Skim through the article “Models as Approximations A Conspiracy of Random Regressors and Model Deviations Against Classical Inference in Regression”, available here:

http://www-stat.wharton.upenn.edu/~buja/PAPERS/Buja_et_al_A_Conspiracy-rev1.pdf

- (a) Prove equations (7) and (8) in the paper. That is, prove the following. Let X be a zero mean d -dimensional vector and Y a random variable. The joint distribution of (X, Y) is P . Let $\Sigma = \mathbb{E}[XX^\top]$ and $\alpha = \mathbb{E}[Y \cdot X]$. Show that $\beta = \Sigma^{-1}\alpha$ is the solution to

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{E} \left[(Y - X^\top \beta)^2 \right]$$

and to

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{E} \left[(\mu(X) - X^\top \beta)^2 \right],$$

where $\mu(X) = \mathbb{E}[Y|X]$.

- (b) Did this article contain results that were surprising to you? Think about fitting a linear regression model to a model where $\mu(X)$ is non-linear: what happens? Write no more than 2 paragraphs.

3. Exercise 4.3.

4. Massart's finite class Lemma Let \mathcal{A} be a finite subset of \mathbb{R}^n and let $\epsilon = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)$ be a vector of i.i.d. Rademacher variables. Show that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sup_{a \in \mathcal{A}} a^\top \epsilon \right] \leq D \frac{\sqrt{2 \log |\mathcal{A}|}}{n}$$

where $D = \max_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \|a\|$. Use this result to prove Lemma 4.1 of Chapter 4. (In proving both claims it will be OK to get different constants).

5. **Another symmetrization inequality**

Let \mathcal{A} be a countable class of sets in \mathbb{R}^d and $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} P$. Let P_n^X be the empirical measure corresponding to the sample X . Let $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n) \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} P$ be a ghost sample, independent of X , and P_n^Y the corresponding empirical measure. Prove that

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\sup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} |P_n^X(A) - P(A)| > \epsilon \right) \leq 2\mathbb{P} \left(\sup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} |P_n^X(A) - P_n^Y(A)| > \epsilon/2 \right),$$

for $n\epsilon^2 \geq 2$.

Proceed as follows:

- (a) Show that, if $n\epsilon^2 \geq 2$, for all $A \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\mathbb{P} (|P_n^X(A) - P(A)| > \epsilon) \leq 1/2.$$

- (b) Prove the following claim: let $(Z_k, k = 1, 2, \dots)$ be a sequence (finite or infinite) of random variables and $(Z'_k, k = 1, 2, \dots)$ be a ghost sequence with the same distribution and independent of it. Suppose that $\mathbb{P}(|Z_k| > \epsilon/2) = \mathbb{P}(|Z'_k| > \epsilon/2) \leq 1/2$ for all k . Then

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\sup_k |Z_k| > \epsilon \right) \leq 2\mathbb{P} \left(\sup_k |Z_k - Z'_k| > \epsilon/2 \right).$$

Hint: Define the events: $A_1 = \{|Z_1| > \epsilon\}$ and for $k \geq 2$,

$$A_k = \{|Z_1| \leq \epsilon, \dots, |Z_{k-1}| \leq \epsilon, |Z_k| > \epsilon\}.$$

Then,

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathbb{P} \left(\max_k |Z_k| > \epsilon \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_k \mathbb{P}(A_k).$$

Proceed...

6. Exercise 4.10.

7. Exercise 4.13.