



Quasi-Bayesian Learning

An application to NMF

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Batch Learning in a Nutshell

Collect a sample $\mathcal{D}_n = (\mathbf{X}_i, \mathbf{Y}_i)_{i=1}^n$ of i.i.d replications of some random variable $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$.

Goal: use \mathcal{D}_n to build up $\hat{\phi}$ such that $\hat{\phi}(\mathbf{X})$ is an "acceptable" prediction of \mathbf{Y} .

For some loss function ℓ , let

$$R: \hat{\phi} \mapsto \mathbb{E} \ell \left(\hat{\phi}(\mathbf{X}), \mathbf{Y} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad R_n: \hat{\phi} \mapsto \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell \left(\hat{\phi}(\mathbf{X}_i), \mathbf{Y}_i \right)$$

denote the risk and empirical risk, respectively.

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$$\hat{\rho}_{\lambda}(\cdot) \propto \exp(-\lambda R_n(\cdot)) \pi(\cdot).$$

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In general, $\exp(-\lambda R_n(\cdot))$ is not a likelihood (hence the term quasi-Bayesian).

A variational perspective

With the classical quadratic loss $\ell: (a, b) \mapsto (a - b)^2$,

$$\hat{\rho}_\lambda \in \arg \inf_{\rho \ll \pi} \left\{ \int_{\mathcal{F}} R_n(\phi) \rho(d\phi) + \frac{\mathcal{K}(\rho, \pi)}{\lambda} \right\},$$

where \mathcal{K} is the Kullback-Leibler divergence

$$\mathcal{K}(\rho, \pi) = \begin{cases} \int_{\mathcal{F}} \log \left(\frac{d\rho}{d\pi} \right) d\rho & \text{when } \rho \ll \pi, \\ +\infty & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Typical quasi-Bayesian estimators

MAQP

$$\hat{\phi}_\lambda \in \arg \max_{\phi \in \mathcal{F}} \hat{\rho}_\lambda(\phi).$$

Mean

$$\hat{\phi}_\lambda = \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\rho}_\lambda} \phi = \int_{\mathcal{F}} \phi \hat{\rho}_\lambda(d\phi).$$

Realization

$$\hat{\phi}_\lambda \sim \hat{\rho}_\lambda.$$

And so on.

Statistical aggregation revisited

Assume that \mathcal{F} is finite.

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The mean of the quasi-posterior $\hat{\rho}_\lambda$ amounts to the celebrated exponentially weighted aggregate (EWA)

$$\hat{\phi}_\lambda = \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\rho}_\lambda} \phi = \sum_{i=1}^{\#\mathcal{F}} \omega_{\lambda,i} \phi_i$$

where

$$\omega_{\lambda,i} = \frac{\exp(-\lambda R_n(\phi_i)) \pi(\phi_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^{\#\mathcal{F}} \exp(-\lambda R_n(\phi_j)) \pi(\phi_j)}.$$

 G. (2013). Agrégation d'estimateurs et de classificateurs : théorie et méthodes, *Ph.D. thesis, Université Pierre & Marie Curie*

Probably Approximately Correct (PAC) oracle inequalities

Let R^* denote the Bayes risk and set $\lambda \propto n$. For any $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\mathbb{P} \left(R(\hat{\phi}_\lambda) - R^* \leq \spadesuit \inf_{\phi \in \mathcal{F}} \left\{ R(\phi) - R^* + \frac{\Delta(\phi, \epsilon)}{n^\alpha} \right\} \right) \geq 1 - \epsilon,$$

where $\spadesuit \geq 1$.

Key argument: concentration inequalities (e.g., Bernstein) + duality formula (Csiszár, Catoni).

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Typical regimes in the literature

- ▶ $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ (slow rate)
- ▶ $\alpha = 1$ (fast rate)

$d := \dim(\mathcal{X})$

- ▶ $\Delta(\phi, \epsilon) \propto d + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}$
- ▶ $\Delta(\phi, \epsilon) \propto \log d + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon}$

Lemma (Catoni, 2004)

Let (A, \mathcal{A}) be a measurable space. For any probability μ on (A, \mathcal{A}) and any measurable function $h : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\int (\exp \circ h) d\mu < \infty$,

$$\log \int (\exp \circ h) d\mu = \sup_{m \in \mathcal{M}_\pi(A, \mathcal{A})} \left\{ \int h dm - \mathcal{K}(m, \mu) \right\},$$

with the convention $\infty - \infty = -\infty$. Moreover, as soon as h is upper-bounded on the support of μ , the supremum with respect to m on the right-hand side is reached for the Gibbs distribution g given by

$$\frac{dg}{d\mu}(a) = \frac{\exp \circ h(a)}{\int (\exp \circ h) d\mu}, \quad a \in A.$$



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▣ Shawe-Taylor and Williamson (1997). A PAC analysis of a Bayes estimator, *COLT*

▣ McAllester (1998). Some PAC-Bayesian theorems, *COLT*

▣ McAllester (1999). PAC-Bayesian model averaging, *COLT*

▣ Catoni (2004). Statistical Learning Theory and Stochastic Optimization, Springer

▣ Audibert (2004). Une approche PAC-bayésienne de la théorie statistique de l'apprentissage, *Ph.D. thesis, Université Pierre & Marie Curie*

▣ Catoni (2007). PAC-Bayesian Supervised Classification: The Thermodynamics of Statistical Learning, IMS

▣ Dalalyan and Tsybakov (2008). Aggregation by exponential weighting, sharp PAC-Bayesian bounds and sparsity, *Machine Learning*

A flexible and powerful framework

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Numerous models addressed by the PAC-Bayes literature

- Alquier and Wintenberger (2012). Model selection for weakly dependent time series forecasting, *Bernoulli*
- Seldin, Laviolette, Cesa-Bianchi, Shawe-Taylor and Auer (2012). PAC-Bayesian inequalities for martingales, *IEEE Transactions on Information Theory*
- Alquier and Biau (2013). Sparse Single-Index Model, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*
- G. and Alquier (2013). PAC-Bayesian Estimation and Prediction in Sparse Additive Models, *Electronic Journal of Statistics*
- G. and Robbiano (2015). PAC-Bayesian High Dimensional Bipartite Ranking, *arXiv preprint*
- Li, G. and Loustau (2016). A Quasi-Bayesian perspective to Online Clustering, *arXiv preprint*
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Towards (almost) no assumptions to derive powerful results

- Bégin, Germain, Laviolette and Roy (2016). PAC-Bayesian bounds based on the Rényi divergence, *AISTATS*
 - Alquier and G. (2016). Simpler PAC-Bayesian bounds for hostile data, *arXiv preprint*
- (PAC inequalities for heavy-tailed time series)

In practice...

Previous instantiations of $\hat{\phi}_\lambda$ are not tractable.

Instead of an infinite-dimensional functional space \mathcal{F} , we often resort to some projection onto \mathbb{R}^d .

Sampling from a d -dimensional non-standard distribution is still an algorithmic challenge.

Existing implementation

► (Transdimensional) MCMC

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► Variational Bayes

▣ Alquier, Ridgway and Chopin (2016). On the properties of variational approximations of Gibbs posteriors, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*

Bridging the gap between theory and implementation

Goal: PAC oracle inequalities for approximations of $\hat{\rho}_\lambda$ (echoes the celebrated statistical / computational tradeoff).

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Let $\tilde{\rho}_\lambda$ denote a VB approximation of $\hat{\rho}_\lambda$. The rate of convergence in PAC inequalities is of analogous magnitude for $\tilde{\rho}_\lambda$ and $\hat{\rho}_\lambda$.

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▣ Alquier, Ridgway and Chopin (2016). On the properties of variational approximations of Gibbs posteriors, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*

MCMC for online (sequential) quasi-Bayesian learning: the stationary distribution of the Markov Chain is indeed $\hat{\rho}_\lambda$.

▣ Li, G. and Loustau (2016). A Quasi-Bayesian perspective to Online Clustering, *arXiv preprint*

Quasi-Bayesian Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

Alquier and G. (2017)

An Oracle Inequality for Quasi-Bayesian Non-Negative Matrix Factorization

Mathematical Methods of Statistics

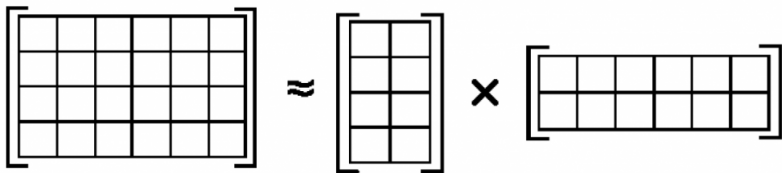
NMF

NMF amounts to decompose an $m_1 \times m_2$ matrix M as a product of two low rank matrices with non-negative entries.

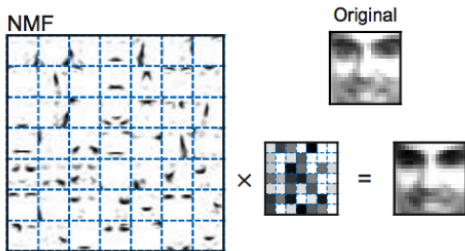
$$M \simeq UV^{\top},$$

where U is $m_1 \times K$ and V is $m_2 \times K$, and $K \ll m_1 \wedge m_2$.

$$M_{:,j} \simeq \sum_{\ell=1}^K V_{j,\ell} U_{:, \ell}.$$



Wide range of applications (image processing, separation of sources in audio and video files, topics extraction in text, recommender systems...)



Separation of audio sources [Demo, courtesy of C. Févotte]

Setting

We observe an $m_1 \times m_2$ matrix Y and we assume

$$Y = M + \mathcal{E}$$

with $\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{E}) = 0$ and $\mathbb{V}(\mathcal{E}) = \sigma^2 \text{Id}$.

Our goal is to find a "good" factorization of M .

Notation

Frobenius norm

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\langle A, A \rangle_F},$$

$$\langle A, B \rangle_F = \text{Tr}(AB^\top) = \sum_{i=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^q A_{i,j} B_{i,j}.$$

For any $r \in \{1, \dots, K\}$, $\mathcal{M}_r(L)$ is the set of matrices U^0 with non-negative entries bounded by L such that

$$U^0 = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11}^0 & \dots & U_{1r}^0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ U_{m_1 1}^0 & \dots & U_{m_1 r}^0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Assumption

The entries of \mathcal{E} are i.i.d and $\mathbb{E}\mathcal{E}_{i,j} = 0$. Let $m(x) = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}_{i,j}\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{E}_{i,j}\leq x}]$ and $F(x) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{E}_{i,j} \leq x)$.

There exists a nonnegative and bounded function g such that $\|g\|_{\infty} \leq 1$ and

$$\int_u^v m(x)dx = \int_u^v g(x)dF(x).$$

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This assumption is met whenever $\mathcal{E}_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ ($\|g\|_{\infty} = \sigma^2$) or $\mathcal{E}_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{U}(-b, b)$ ($\|g\|_{\infty} = b^2/2$).

Prior

For any $a, x > 0$, $g_a(x) = \frac{1}{a} f\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)$.

$$\forall \ell = 1, \dots, K, \quad \gamma_\ell \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{\sim} h,$$

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, m_1, j = 1, \dots, m_2, \quad U_{i,\ell}, V_{j,\ell} \stackrel{\text{ind.}}{\sim} g_{\gamma_\ell},$$

$$\pi(U, V, \gamma) = \prod_{\ell=1}^K \left(\prod_{i=1}^{m_1} g_{\gamma_\ell}(U_{i,\ell}) \right) \left(\prod_{j=1}^{m_2} g_{\gamma_\ell}(V_{j,\ell}) \right) h(\gamma_\ell),$$

and

$$\pi(U, V) = \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^K} \pi(U, V, \gamma) d\gamma.$$

Prior (continued)

The idea behind this prior is that under h , many γ_ℓ should be small and lead to non-significant columns $U_{\cdot,\ell}$ and $V_{\cdot,\ell}$ (sufficient probability mass for h , around zero and elsewhere).

This is achieved by assuming¹

1. $\exists 0 < \alpha < 1, \beta \geq 0$ and $\delta > 0$ such that for any $0 < \epsilon \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2S_f}}$,

$$\int_0^\epsilon h(x)dx \geq \alpha\epsilon^\beta \quad \text{and} \quad \int_1^2 h(x)dx \geq \delta.$$

2. \exists a non-increasing density \tilde{f} and $C > 0$ such that for any $x > 0$, $f(x) \geq C\tilde{f}(x)$.

¹ $S_f := \max\left(1, \int_0^\infty x^2 f(x)dx\right)$

Popular choices for f :

1. Exponential prior $f(x) = \exp(-x)$.
2. Truncated Gaussian prior $f(x) \propto \exp(2ax - x^2)$ with $a \in \mathbb{R}$.
3. Heavy-tailed prior $f(x) \propto \frac{1}{(1+x)^\zeta}$ with $\zeta > 1$.

The heavier the tails, the better the performance of QBNMF. But computational cost arises!

Popular choices for h :

1. Uniform distribution on $[0, c]$.
2. Inverse gamma prior $h(x) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} \frac{1}{x^{a+1}} \exp\left(-\frac{b}{x}\right)$.
3. Gamme $\Gamma(a, b)$ prior for $a, b > 0$.

Quasi-Bayesian estimator

$$\hat{\rho}_\lambda(U, V, \gamma) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[-\lambda \|Y - UV^\top\|_F^2 \right] \pi(U, V, \gamma),$$

where

$$Z := \int \exp \left[-\lambda \|Y - UV^\top\|_F^2 \right] \pi(U, V, \gamma) d(U, V, \gamma).$$

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$$\hat{M}_\lambda = \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\rho}_\lambda} UV^\top = \int UV^\top \hat{\rho}_\lambda(U, V, \gamma) d(U, V, \gamma).$$

Bayesian \subset Quasi-Bayesian (\subset PAC-Bayesian)

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The specific choice $\varepsilon_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1/(2\lambda))$ (or rather, $\varepsilon_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ and $\lambda = 1/(2\sigma^2)$) turns our procedure fully Bayesian!

In this case the likelihood is written with the Frobenius norm, acting as a fitting criterion (other choices in the literature: Poisson likelihood, Itakura-Saito divergence).

Main result: sharp oracle inequality (simplified)

Fix $\lambda = 1/4$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left(\|\widehat{M}_\lambda - M\|_F^2 \right) &\leq \inf_{1 \leq r \leq K} \inf_{(U^0, V^0) \in \mathcal{M}_r(L)} \left\{ \|U^0 V^{0\top} - M\|_F^2 \right. \\ &\quad + r \left[8(m_1 \vee m_2) \log \left(\frac{2(L+1)^2 m_1 m_2}{C\tilde{f}(L+1)} \right) + 8 + \log \frac{1}{\delta} \right] \\ &\quad \left. + K \left[4\beta \log (2S_f(L+1)^2 m_1 m_2) + 4 \log \frac{1}{\alpha} \right] \right\} + 4 \log 4. \end{aligned}$$

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$$r(m_1 \vee m_2) \log \left(\frac{L^2 m_1 m_2}{\widetilde{C} f(L+1)} \right) = \begin{cases} r(m_1 \vee m_2) \log(m_1 m_2) & \text{if } L^2 = \mathcal{O}(1), \\ r(m_1 \vee m_2) L^2 \log(L m_1 m_2) & \text{if } f(x) \propto \exp(2ax - x^2) \\ r(m_1 \vee m_2) (\zeta + 2) \log(L m_1 m_2) & \text{if } f(x) \propto (1+x)^{-\zeta} \end{cases}$$

Gibbs sampler

Input Y, λ .

Initialization $U^{(0)}, V^{(0)}, \gamma^{(0)}$.

For $k = 1, \dots, N$:

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For $k = 1, \dots, N$:

For $i = 1, \dots, m_1$: draw

$$U_{i,\cdot}^{(k)} \sim \hat{\rho}_{\lambda}(U_{i,\cdot} | V^{(k-1)}, \gamma^{(k-1)}, Y).$$

For $j = 1, \dots, m_2$: draw

$$V_{j,\cdot}^{(k)} \sim \hat{\rho}_{\lambda}(V_{j,\cdot} | U^{(k)}, \gamma^{(k-1)}, Y).$$

For $\ell = 1, \dots, K$: draw

$$\gamma_{\ell}^{(k)} \sim \hat{\rho}_{\lambda}(\gamma_{\ell} | U^{(k)}, V^{(k)}, Y).$$

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For the exponential prior, $\hat{\rho}_{\lambda}(U_{i,\cdot} | V, \gamma, Y)$ amounts to a truncated Gaussian distribution.

Block coordinate descent

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While not converged, $k := k + 1$:

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$$U^{(k)} := \arg \min_U \left\{ \lambda \|Y - U(V^{(k-1)})^\top\|_F^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{m_1} \sum_{\ell=1}^K \log[g_{\gamma_\ell^{(k-1)}}(U_{i,\ell})] \right\}$$

$$V^{(k)} := \arg \min_V \left\{ \lambda \|Y - U^{(k)} V^\top\|_F^2 - \sum_{j=1}^{m_2} \sum_{\ell=1}^K \log[g_{\gamma_\ell^{(k-1)}}(V_{j,\ell})] \right\}$$

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Public python library + demo USPS data (LeCun et al., 1990)



Take-home messages

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- ▶ First sharp oracle inequality in the literature for (QB-)NMF, showing adaptation to the rank.

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Long Beach Convention Center, California

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Ongoing projects:

{active, agnostic/objective, deep, representation} learning
(mostly with some PAC-Bayes)

<https://bguedj.github.io>

<https://bguedj.github.io/nips2017/50shadesbayesian.html>