Sparse change detection in high-dimensional linear regression

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Departmental Research Day

Jun 2022

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• Observations $(x_t, y_t) \in \mathbb{R}^p \times \mathbb{R}$ for $t = 1, \dots, n$ generated from

$$y_t = x_t^\top \beta_t + \epsilon_t,$$

where $\epsilon_t \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2)$.

• Coefficients β_1, \ldots, β_n piecewise constant with changepoints at z_1, \ldots, z_{ν}

$$\beta_t = \beta^{(r)}$$
 for $z_{r-1} < t \le z_r, 1 \le r \le \nu + 1$.

- **Goal**: estimate the changepoint locations z_1, \ldots, z_{ν} .
- Key challenge: we only assume sparsity of $\beta^{(r)} \beta^{(r-1)}$ but not $\beta^{(r)}$ themselves.



- High dimensional linear regression: one of the most fruitful area of statistical research in the past twenty years (Tibshrani, 1996; Fan and Lv, 2010; Bühlmann and van de Geer, 2011; etc)
- Data heterogeneity in high-dimensional linear models (Städler et al., 2010; Krishnamurthy et al., 2019).



- High dimensional linear regression: one of the most fruitful area of statistical research in the past twenty years (Tibshrani, 1996; Fan and Lv, 2010; Bühlmann and van de Geer, 2011; etc)
- Data heterogeneity in high-dimensional linear models (Städler et al., 2010; Krishnamurthy et al., 2019).
- Changepoint analysis: a useful framework for analysing data with temporal heterogeneity (Page, 1955)
- High-dimensional mean change estimation (Cho and Fryzlewicz, 2015; Jirak, 2015; W. and Samworth, 2018; Enikeeva and Harchaoui, 2019; etc)
- Multivariate change in regression (Bai and Perron, 1998; Fryzlewicz, 2021; etc)
- High-dimensional change in regression (Lee et al., 2015; Leonardi and Bühlmann, 2016; Rinaldo et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2021)



 Many changepoint procedures are constructed from two-sample testing statistics (e.g. CUSUM statistics for change-in-mean problems)



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▶ Two samples $(X^{(1)}, Y^{(1)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times p} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_1}$ and $(X^{(2)}, Y^{(2)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times p} \times \mathbb{R}^{n_2}$, generated from the linear models:

$$\begin{cases} Y^{(1)} = X^{(1)}\beta^{(1)} + \epsilon^{(1)} \\ Y^{(2)} = X^{(2)}\beta^{(2)} + \epsilon^{(2)}, \end{cases}$$

where $\epsilon^{(1)} \sim N_{n_1}(0, \sigma^2 I_{n_1})$ and $\epsilon^{(2)} \sim N_{n_2}(0, \sigma^2 I_{n_2})$ are independent. \blacktriangleright Given $(X^{(1)}, Y^{(1)})$ and $(X^{(2)}, Y^{(2)})$, we want to test

$$H_0: \beta^{(1)} = \beta^{(2)} \quad \text{vs} \quad H_1: \|\beta^{(1)} - \beta^{(2)}\|_2 \ge \rho \text{ and } \|\beta^{(1)} - \beta^{(2)}\|_0 \le k.$$

Two sample testing of regression coefficients



- Existing works mostly assume sparsity on both $\beta^{(1)}$ and $\beta^{(2)}$ (e.g. Xia, Cai and Cai, 2018)
- But parameter of interest is really

$$\theta := \frac{\beta^{(1)} - \beta^{(2)}}{2}$$

and $\gamma:=(\beta^{(1)}+\beta^{(2)})/2$ is a possibly dense nuisance parameter.

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- Application: testing whether two networks formulated by Gaussian graphical models are the same.
 - Gene-gene interaction network
 - Foreign exchange network model



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Bansal et al. (Sci. Adv. 2019)

Chen et al. (PLOS ONE, 2015)

Complementary sketching

▶ Procedure: Given data $X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, Y^{(1)}, Y^{(2)}$, set $m := n_1 + n_2 - p$

Construct A₁ ∈ ℝ^{n₁×m} and A₂ ∈ ℝ^{n₂×m} such that (A₁/A₂) has orthonormal columns orthogonal to the column space of (X⁽¹⁾/X⁽²⁾).
Compute



Similar to orthogonal sketching, but sketches the covariate matrix and the response vector in opposite ways in the second block.



Observe that

$$\begin{split} Z &= A_1^\top Y^{(1)} + A_2^\top Y^{(2)} = A_1^\top X^{(1)} \beta^{(1)} + A_2^\top X^{(2)} \beta^{(2)} + A_1 \epsilon^{(1)} + A_2 \epsilon^{(2)} \\ &= A_1^\top X^{(1)} \theta + \underline{A_1^\top} X^{(1)} \overline{\gamma} - A_2^\top X^{(2)} \theta + \underline{A_2^\top} X^{(2)} \overline{\gamma} + A_1 \epsilon^{(1)} + A_2 \epsilon^{(2)} \\ &= W \theta + \xi, \end{split}$$

where $\xi \sim N_m(0, \sigma^2 I_m)$.

We have reduced the two-sample testing problem to a one-sample problem of sample size m without the nuisance parameter.



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where $\xi \sim N_m(0, \sigma^2 I_m)$.

- ▶ We have reduced the two-sample testing problem to a one-sample problem of sample size *m* without the nuisance parameter.
- \blacktriangleright Let \tilde{W} be W with columns normalised to have unit ℓ_2 norms. If θ is sparse, then the test

$$\psi_{\lambda,\tau} := \mathbb{1}\{\|\mathbf{hard}(\tilde{W}^{\top}Z,\lambda)\|_2^2 \ge \tau\},\$$

with suitably chosen tuning parameters can be shown to be minimax rate optimal (Gao and W., 2021).

Single changepoint estimation

- ► Inspired by the two-sample testing problem, we construct A ∈ D^{n×(n-p)} whose columns span the orthogonal complement of the column space of X.
- For any $t \in [n-1]$, form sketched design matrx

$$W_t := A_{(0,t]}^{\top} X_{(0,t]} - A_{(t,n]}^{\top} X_{(t,n]} = 2A_{(0,t]}^{\top} X_{(0,t]} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times p}$$

The sketched response is

$$Z := A^{\top}Y = A_{(0,z]}^{\top}(X_{(0,z]}\beta^{(1)} + \epsilon_{(0,z]}) + A_{(z,n]}^{\top}(X_{(z,n]}\beta^{(2)} + \epsilon_{(z,n]})$$
$$= A_{(0,z]}^{\top}X_{(0,z]}(\theta + \gamma) - A_{(z,n]}^{\top}X_{(z,n]}(\theta - \gamma) + \xi = W_{z}\theta + \xi,$$

Reduced to finding t such that W_t forms a 'best' sparse linear approximation of Z.





▶ Let $Q = (Q_1, ..., Q_{n-1})^{\top}$ be defined such that $Q_t := \tilde{W}_t^{\top} Z \propto \operatorname{Corr}(W_t, Z),$ where $\tilde{W}_t := W_t \{ \operatorname{diag}(W_t^{\top} W_t) \}^{-1/2}$. Estimate changepoint by

$$\hat{z}^{\operatorname{corr}} := \underset{t}{\operatorname{argmax}} \|\operatorname{soft}(Q_t, \lambda)\|_2^2.$$

Algorithm 1: Pseudocode for change-point estimation

Input: $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}, Y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ satisfying $n > p, \lambda \ge 0, \alpha > 0$

- 1 Set $m \leftarrow n p$;
- **2** Form $A \in \mathbb{O}^{n \times m}$ with columns orthogonal to the column space of X;
- **3** Compute $Z \leftarrow A^{\top}Y$;
- 4 Set $W_0 = \mathbf{0}_{m \times p};$
- 5 for $1 \le t \le n 1$ do
- **6** Compute $W_t \leftarrow W_{t-1} + 2a_t x_t^\top$;
- 7 Compute $Q_t = \{ \operatorname{diag}(W_t^\top W_t) \}^{-1/2} W_t^\top Z;$
- **s** Compute $H_t \leftarrow \|\operatorname{soft}(Q_t, \lambda)\|_2$;

Output: $\hat{z} := \arg \max_{\alpha n < t < (1-\alpha)n} H_t.$



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Alternatively, let \hat{v} be the leading left singular vector of **soft** (Q, λ) , estimate

$$\hat{z}^{\text{proj}} := \underset{t}{\operatorname{argmax}} (\hat{v}^{\top} Q_t).$$

• We can also simply run Lasso on (W_t, Z) to find the best fit

$$\hat{z}^{\text{lasso}} := \underset{t}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|Z - W_t \hat{\theta}_t(\lambda)\|_2^2,$$

where $\hat{\theta}_t(\lambda) := \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \{ \frac{1}{2m} \| Z - W_t \theta \|_2^2 + \lambda \| \theta \|_1 \}.$

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Empirical performances



- Gaussian Orthogonal Ensemble design matrices
- $\theta^{(1)}$ sampled as a Gaussian vector
- ▶ $\theta^{(2)} \theta^{(1)}$ randomly generated *k*-sparse vector with ℓ_2 norm ρ .



Figure: Left: n = 600, p = 200, z = 180; Right: n = 1200, p = 1000, z = 120

Empirical performances





Figure: $n = 600, p = 200, z = 180, k = 14, \rho = 2$

Empirical performances





Figure: $n = 1200, p = 1000, z = 120, k = 31, \rho = 8$

Theoretical analysis



- $\blacktriangleright \quad \tilde{W}_t^\top Z = \{ \operatorname{diag}(W_t^\top W_t) \}^{-1/2} \left(W_t^\top W_z \theta + W_t^\top \xi \right)$
- Key step: show that $W_t^{\dagger}W_z$ is close to $4t(n-z)(n-p)n^{-2}I_p$ in *k*-operator norm uniformly over *t*.
- ► Hence $H_t := \|\mathbf{soft}(\tilde{W}_t^\top Z, \lambda)\|_2$ is close to $\tilde{H}_t := \|(\tilde{W}_t^\top W_z)_{S,S} \theta_S\|_2$, which can be in turn shown to be approximately

$$h_t := \frac{4(n-p)}{n} \bigg\{ \sqrt{\frac{t}{n(n-t)}} (n-z) \mathbb{1}_{\{t \le z\}} + \sqrt{\frac{n-t}{nt}} z \mathbb{1}_{\{t > z\}} \bigg\}.$$



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Assumptions

- (A1) Random design: $x_t \sim N_p(0, I_p)$ independently for $t = 1, \ldots, n$
- (A2) Asymptotic regime: n, z, p satisfies p < n and $z/n \rightarrow \tau \in (0, 1)$ and $(n-p)/n \rightarrow \eta \in (0, 1)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Theorem. Assume Conditions (A1) and (A2). Suppose that $\|\theta\|_2 \le 1$, $k \le p/2$. There exists c, C > 0, depending only on τ, η , such that if $\lambda > c\sigma \log p$, then asymptotically with probability 1, for all but finitely many *n*'s, we have

$$\frac{|\hat{z}^{\text{corr}} - z|}{n} \le \frac{C\lambda\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{n}\|\theta\|_2}$$



Theorem. Under the same condition as above, There exists c, C > 0, depending only on τ, η , such that if $\lambda > c\sigma \log p$, then asymptotically with probability 1, for all but finitely many n's, we have

$$\sin \angle (\hat{v}^{\text{proj}}, \theta) \le \frac{C\lambda\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{n}\|\theta\|_2}.$$

Hence, \hat{z}^{proj} satisfies

$$\frac{|\hat{z} - z|}{n} \le \frac{C\lambda^2\sqrt{k}\log p}{\sqrt{n}\|\theta\|_2^2}.$$



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$$\sin \angle (\hat{v}^{\text{proj}}, \theta) \le \frac{C\lambda\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{n}\|\theta\|_2}.$$

Hence, a sample-splitting variant of \hat{z}^{proj} satisfies

$$\frac{|\hat{z} - z|}{n} \le \frac{C\lambda\sqrt{k}\log p}{\sqrt{n}\|\theta\|_2}$$

Summary



- It is possible to estimate sparse changes in high-dimensional regression coefficients, even if the coefficients themselves are dense.
- Use complementary sketching to eliminate nuisance parameter.
- Future work
 - Multiple changepoints / non-GOE design
 - Can the rate of convergence be improved?
 - Theory for \hat{z}^{lasso} ?

Summary



- It is possible to estimate sparse changes in high-dimensional regression coefficients, even if the coefficients themselves are dense.
- Use complementary sketching to eliminate nuisance parameter.
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Main references:

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Thank you!



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