

Lecture 15. CGMT and LASSO Asymptotics.

[Stojnic, 2013]

[Thrampoulidis,  
Oymak,  
Hassibi, 2015].

① Convex Gaussian minimax theorem.

Thm(CGMT). Let  $S_u \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $S_v \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be compact sets,  $\psi$  be continuous on  $S_u \times S_v$ , and  $G \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $g \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $h \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , with  $G_{ij}, g_j, h_i \sim \text{i.i.d } N(0, 1)$ .

$$\text{Define } \underline{\Phi}(G) = \min_{u \in S_u} \max_{v \in S_v} \langle u, Gv \rangle + \psi(u, v) \quad (\text{PO})$$

$$\phi(g, h) = \min_{u \in S_u} \max_{v \in S_v} \|u\|_2 \langle g, v \rangle + \|u\|_2 \langle h, u \rangle + \psi(u, v) \quad (\text{AO})$$

(a)  $\forall \tau \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbb{P}(\underline{\Phi}(G) \leq \tau) \leq 2 \mathbb{P}(\phi(g, h) \leq \tau).$$

(b) Further assume that  $S_u, S_v$  are convex set

and  $\psi$  is convex-concave on  $S_u \times S_v$  (Strong duality hold)

Then for all  $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$\mathbb{P}(\underline{\Phi}(G) \geq \tau) \leq 2 \mathbb{P}(\phi(g, h) \geq \tau).$$

In particular,  $\forall \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $t > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}(|\underline{\Phi}(G) - \mu| > t) \leq 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(|\phi(g, h) - \mu| \geq t).$$

Steps to apply CGMT.

(A) Figure out how to transform the original problem to primary problem.

(B) Write down the auxiliary optimization problem.

(C) Analyze the auxiliary problem.

(D) Extract information from the auxiliary problem.  $\leftarrow$  Derivation of formula.

(E) Proof.

## ② The LASSO risk

Signal:  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , Noise:  $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , Sensing matrix:  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ .

Response:  $y = Ax_0 + w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A_{ij} \sim \text{iid } N(0, \frac{1}{n})$ ,  $w_i \sim \text{iid } N(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $x_{0,j} \sim \text{iid } P_0$

LASSO estimator:  $\hat{x} = \arg \min_x \left[ \frac{1}{2n} \|y - Ax\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{n} \|x\|_1 \right]$ ,

We have seen in the replica derivation:  $\psi: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \psi(\hat{x}_j, x_{0,j}) \right] = \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, \alpha) \sim P_0 \times N(0,1)} [\psi(\eta(x_0 + T_\alpha G; \alpha, T_\alpha), x_0)]$$

where  $(T_\alpha, \alpha)$  solves some self-consistent equations.

Denote  $\hat{\mu}_\lambda = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \delta_{(\hat{x}_{j,\lambda}, x_{0,j})}$ ,  $\bar{\mu}_\lambda$  be the distribution of  $(\eta(x_0 + T_\lambda G; \alpha, T_\lambda), x_0)$  when  $(x_0, \alpha) \sim P_0 \times N(0,1)$ .

Then  $\hat{\mu}_\lambda \rightarrow \bar{\mu}_\lambda$  in some weak sense.

Definition: (Wasserstein-2 distance).  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^k)$ .

$$W_2(\mu, \nu) = \left[ \inf_{r \in \mathcal{C}(\mu, \nu)} \int \|x - y\|_2^2 r(dx dy) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Remark: ①  $\lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} W_2(\mu_d, \mu_\infty) = 0 \iff \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \int f(x) \mu_d(dx) = \int f(x) \mu_\infty(dx)$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \forall |f(x) - f(y)| \leq L \cdot (1 + |x| + |y|) |x - y|$ .

$$\textcircled{2} \quad W_2\left(\frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \delta_{x_j}, \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \delta_{y_j}\right) \leq \|x - y\|_2^2 / d$$

A control of Euclidean distance gives a control of  $W_2$ .

Theorem ([Miolane, Montanari, 2018])

$$0 < \lambda_{\min} < \lambda_{\max} < \infty, \quad N/n = 8, \quad B < \infty,$$

$\exists c, C$  constants depending on  $(\delta, \sigma^2, B, \lambda_{\min}, \lambda_{\max})$ , s.t.

$$\sup_{\substack{\|x_0\|_2^2 \leq B \\ d}} \mathbb{P} \left( \sup_{\lambda \in [\lambda_{\min}, \lambda_{\max}]} W_2(\hat{\mu}_\lambda, \bar{\mu}_\lambda)^2 \geq \varepsilon \right) \leq \frac{C}{\varepsilon^2} \exp \left[ -c d \varepsilon^3 / \log(\varepsilon) \right].$$

Benefit: Non-asymptotic, uniform in  $x_0$  and  $\lambda$ .

A asymptotic formula is still correct when  $\lambda$  is adaptively chosen.

### ③ Derivation of the LASSO risk (Calculation instead of proof).

Goal: derive  $m_* = \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \psi(\hat{x}_i, x_{0,i}) \right]$ . when  $n/d \rightarrow \delta$ .

Free energy approach ( $\beta = \infty$ ): the perturbed LASSO objective.

$$f(h) = \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \min_{\mathbf{x}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2d} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{d} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 + h \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \psi(x_i, x_{0,i}) \right\} \right].$$

(need to argue why limit and derivative can be exchanged)

$$\Rightarrow f'(0) = \lim_{d \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \psi(\hat{x}_i, x_{0,i}) \right].$$

Derivation:

$$f(h) \underset{①}{=} \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \|Au + w\|_2^2 + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1 + h \sum_{j=1}^d \psi(x_j, x_{0,j}) \right]$$

① : take  $u = x - x_0$ .

$$\underset{②}{=} \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left[ \langle v, Au \rangle + \underbrace{\langle v, w \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \|v\|_2^2}_{Q(u,v)} + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1 + h \sum_{j=1}^d \psi(x_j, x_{0,j}) \right] \quad \text{in CGMT}$$

② :  $\frac{1}{2} \|z\|_2^2 = \sup_v [\langle v, z \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \|v\|_2^2]$ ,  $z = Au + w$

$$\underset{③}{\approx} \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \max_{v \in \mathbb{R}^n} \left[ \|u\|_2 \langle g, v \rangle / \sqrt{n} + \|v\|_2 \langle h, u \rangle / \sqrt{n} + \langle v, w \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \|v\|_2^2 + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1 + h \cdot M \right] \quad M = \sum_{j=1}^d \psi(x_j, x_{0,j})$$

③ : CGMT with  $G = \sqrt{n} \times A$ ,  $\psi(u, v) = \sqrt{n} \times Q(u, v)$ . Need truncation argu.

$$\underset{④}{=} \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \max_{\beta \geq 0} \left[ (\|u\|_2 g + \sqrt{n} \cdot \sigma \bar{w})_+ + \langle h, u \rangle \times \beta - \frac{n}{2} \beta^2 + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1 + h \cdot M \right]. \quad \begin{aligned} w &= \sigma \bar{w} \\ \bar{w} &\sim N(0, I_d) \end{aligned}$$

④ :  $\max_v f(v) = \max_{\beta \geq 0} \max_{\|v\|_2 = \beta} f(v)$

$$\stackrel{(5)}{\approx} \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \max_{\beta \geq 0} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\|u\|_2^2}{n} + \sigma^2} \times n + \langle h, u \rangle \right] \times \beta - \frac{n}{2} \beta^2 + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1 + hM.$$

$$(5) : \left\| \frac{\|u\|_2}{\sqrt{n}} g + \sigma \bar{w} \right\|_2 \stackrel{d}{=} \left\| N(0, (\frac{\|u\|_2^2}{n} + \sigma^2) I_n) \right\|_2 \approx \sqrt{n}.$$

$$\stackrel{(6)}{=} \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \max_{\beta \geq 0} \min_{\tau \geq \sigma} \left\{ n \times \left[ \frac{\tau}{2} + \frac{1}{2\tau} (\frac{\|u\|_2^2}{n} + \sigma^2) \right] + \langle h, u \rangle \right\} \times \beta - \frac{n}{2} \beta^2 + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1 + hM$$

$$(6) : \sqrt{a} = \min_{\tau \geq 0} \left\{ \frac{1}{2}\tau + \frac{a}{2\tau} \right\}, \quad a = \frac{\|u\|_2^2}{n} + \sigma^2$$

Why this transformation? We hope the objective function to be a separable function of  $u$ , so that the high dim opt. can be done coordinatewisely. Like delta identity formula + saddle point approx

Alternative equivalent approach: Legendre transform

$$f\left(\sum_{j=1}^d \phi(u_j)\right) = \underset{u, m}{\text{ext}} \left[ f(m) + \mu \left( \sum_{j=1}^d \phi(u_j) - m \right) \right] = \underset{\mu}{\text{ext}} \left[ \mu \sum_{j=1}^d \phi(u_j) - f^*(\mu) \right]$$

$$\stackrel{(7)}{=} d \times \max_{\beta \geq 0} \min_{\tau} \left\{ \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau} + \tau \right) \frac{\beta s}{2} - \frac{s}{2} \beta^2 + \min_u \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \left( \frac{\beta}{2\tau} u_j^2 + \beta h_j u_j + \lambda |u_j + x_{0,j}| + h4(u_j + x_{0,j}, x_{0,j}) \right) \right] \right\}$$

(7) : Exchange "min" with "max min" by strong duality.

Thm B.2 in  
[Midlane,  
Montanari  
2018].

Don't bother changing "min" "max" during derivation!

Just think about them as "ext"

Explaining why is the task during proof, not derivation.

$$\stackrel{(8)}{=} d \times \max_{\beta \geq 0} \min_{\tau} \left\{ \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau} + \tau \right) \frac{\beta s}{2} - \frac{s}{2} \beta^2 + \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, G) \sim P_0 \times N(0, 1)} \left[ \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{\beta}{2\tau} u^2 - \beta Gu + \lambda |u + x_0| + h4(u + x_0, x_0) \right) \right] \right\}$$

⑧: Uniform law of large number

$$\frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \phi(x_{0,j}, h_j) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\phi(x_0, G)]$$

$$\phi(x, h) = \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{\beta}{2\tau} u^2 + \beta h u + \lambda |u + x_0| + h \psi(u + x_0, x_0) \right).$$

Uniform over  $\beta$  and  $\tau$ .

Need concentration

inequality and truncation argument

$$\Rightarrow f(h) \rightarrow \max_{\beta \geq 0} \min_{\tau} \left\{ \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau} + \tau \right) \frac{\beta \delta}{2} - \frac{\delta}{2} \beta^2 \right.$$

$$+ \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, G) \sim P_0 \times N(0, 1)} \left[ \min_u \left( \frac{\beta}{2\tau} u^2 - \beta G u + \lambda |u + x_0| + h \psi(u + x_0, x_0) \right) \right].$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \psi(\hat{x}_j, x_{0,j}) \right] \stackrel{(9)}{\approx} f'(0) = \mathbb{E}_{(x_0, G)} [\psi(\hat{X}, X_0)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{X} &= \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left( \frac{\beta}{2\tau} u^2 - \beta G u + \lambda |u + x_0| \right) + x_0 \\ &= \eta(x_0 + \tau_* G; \frac{\tau_* \lambda}{\beta_*}). \end{aligned}$$

$\tau_*$ ,  $\beta_*$  solves

$$\begin{cases} \tau^2 = \sigma^2 + \delta^{-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ (\eta(x_0 + \tau G; \tau \frac{\lambda}{\beta}) - x_0)^2 \right], \\ \beta = \tau \left( 1 - \delta^{-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \eta' (x_0 + \tau G; \tau \frac{\lambda}{\beta}) \right] \right). \end{cases}$$

Coincide with the replica prediction.

Remark: 1) CGMT only handles optimization problem

where Replica method can handle Bayes inference problem.

2) CGMT analysis is rigorous, and non-asymptotic.

#### ④ $W_2$ convergence.

$\underbrace{\textcircled{3}, \textcircled{5}, \textcircled{7}, \textcircled{8}}_{\text{Straight-forward}}, \textcircled{9}$   
 ↑  
 Need careful treatment.

Problem of ⑨:

We need  $W_2$  convergence (uniform for all pseudo-Lipschitz test)  
 instead of looking at a specific test function  $\psi$ .

A few steps in showing  $W_2$  convergence:

Denote

Original problem:  $\Phi(u) = \frac{1}{2d} \|Au + w\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{d} \|u + x_0\|_1$

Gordon problem:  $I^*(u) = \left[ \frac{\delta}{2} \left( I_* + \frac{\zeta^2}{I_*} \right) + \frac{\|u\|_2^2}{2I_* d} + \frac{\langle h, u \rangle}{d} \right] \beta_* - \frac{\delta}{2} \beta_*^2 + \lambda \|x_0 + u\|_1$   
 after simplification

CCMT gives

$\underline{\Phi}_*$  = asymptotic LASSO risk.

1)  $\forall S$  (almost compact)

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\min_{u \in S} \Phi(u) \leq \underline{\Phi}_* + \varepsilon\right) \lesssim \mathbb{P}\left(\min_{u \in S} I^*(u) \leq \underline{\Phi}_* + \varepsilon\right)$$

2) When  $T$  is convex (almost compact)

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\left|\min_{u \in T} \Phi(u) - \underline{\Phi}_*\right| \geq \varepsilon\right) \lesssim \mathbb{P}\left(\left|\min_{u \in T} I^*(u) - \underline{\Phi}_*\right| \geq \varepsilon\right).$$

\* Take  $T = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $S = S_\delta = \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{W_2(\hat{\mu}_{(x_0+u, x_0)}, \bar{\mu}_\lambda) \geq \delta\}$

Suppose we show  $\mathbb{P}\left(\min_{u \in S_\delta} I^*(u) \leq \underline{\Phi}_* + \varepsilon\right) \rightarrow 0$ . \*

then  $\mathbb{P}\left(\min_{u: W_2(\hat{\mu}_{(u+x_0, x_0)}, \bar{\mu}_\lambda) \geq \varepsilon} \Phi(u) \leq \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \Phi(u) + \varepsilon\right) \rightarrow 0$

$\Rightarrow$  For  $\hat{u} = \arg \min_{u \in \mathbb{R}^d} \Phi(u) \Rightarrow W_2(\hat{x}\hat{\mu}_{(x_0+\hat{u}, x_0)}, \bar{\mu}_\lambda) \leq \delta$  w.h.p

To show \* , suffice to show the strong convexity  
of  $I(u)$  near global min, since

$$W_2(\hat{u}_{(u+x_0, x_0)}, \bar{u}_x) \lesssim \|u - \hat{u}_x\|_2^2/d$$

where  $\hat{u}_x = \underset{u}{\operatorname{argmin}} I(u).$