

# Estimation Lasso et interactions poissoniennes sur le cercle

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# Motivation

- Estimation in **Hawkes model** (Reynaud-Bouret and Schbath 2010, Hansen *et al.* 2012, ...) and for **Poissonian interactions** (Sansonnnet 2014) needs the knowledge of an a priori bound on the support of interaction fonctions.

# Motivation

- Estimation in **Hawkes model** (Reynaud-Bouret and Schbath 2010, Hansen *et al.* 2012, ...) and for **Poissonian interactions** (Sansonnnet 2014) needs the knowledge of an a priori bound on the support of interaction fonctions.
- **Aim:** Overcome knowledge of this bound in a high-dimensional discrete setting.
  - A discrete version of the Poissonian interactions model that is in the heart of my PhD thesis.
  - A circular model: to avoid boundary effects and also to reflect a certain biological reality.

## Poissonian discrete model

- Parents:  $n$  i.i.d. uniform random variables  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  on the set  $\{0, \dots, p-1\} \rightarrow$  points on a circle (we work modulus  $p$ ).

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- Children:
  - Each  $U_i$  gives birth independently to some Poisson variables.
  - If  $x^* = (x_0^*, \dots, x_{p-1}^*)^H \in \mathbb{R}_+^p$ , then  $N_{U_i+j}^i \sim \mathcal{P}(x_j^*)$  independent of anything else.
  - The variable  $N_{U_i+j}^i$  represents the number of children that a certain individual  $U_i$  has at distance  $j$ .
  - We set  $Y_k = \sum_{i=1}^n N_k^i$  the total number of children at position  $k$  whose distribution conditioned on the  $U_i$ 's is given by

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**Aim:** Estimate  $x^*$  with the observation of the  $U_i$ 's and the  $Y_k$ 's.

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is a  $p \times p$  circulant matrix, with

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**Aim:** Recover  $x^* \Leftrightarrow$  solve an inverse problem (potentially ill-posed)  
where the operator  $A$  is random and depends on the  $U_i$ 's.

## RIP property I

- The eigenvalues of  $A$  are given by  $\sigma_k = \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-2\pi i k U_i / p}$ , for  $k$  in  $\{0, \dots, p-1\}$ . In particular,

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- So, with high probability, many eigenvalues of  $A$  may be close to zero. For these reasons, our problem is potentially ill-posed, which justifies the use of nonparametric procedures, such as the Lasso, even if  $p$  is not large with respect to  $n$ .

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- We first focus on proving a **Restricted Isometry Property** (Candès and Tao, 2005): there exist positive constants  $r$  and  $R$  such that with high probability, for any  $K$ -sparse vector  $x$  (i.e. with at the most  $K$  non-zero coordinates)

$$r\|x\|^2 \leq \|Ax\|^2 \leq R\|x\|^2,$$

with  $R$  as close to  $r$  as possible.

## RIP property II

- Under conditions, a RIP is satisfied by  $\tilde{A} = A - \frac{n-\sqrt{n}}{p} \mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^H$ :

$$\frac{n}{2} \|x\|_2^2 \leq \|\tilde{A}x\|_2^2 \leq \frac{3n}{2} \|x\|_2^2.$$

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- We obtain also a classical **Restricted Eigenvalue (RE)** type condition (see Bickel 2009) on an event of probability larger than  $1 - 5.54 pe^{-\theta}$  s.t. for all  $d \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$ ,

$$|\mathbb{U}(d)| \leq \kappa \left( \frac{n}{\sqrt{p}} \theta + \theta^2 \right) =: n\xi(\theta),$$

with  $\mathbb{U}(d) = \sum_{u=0}^{p-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i, j=1}^n \left( \mathbf{1}_{U_i=u} - \frac{1}{p} \right) \left( \mathbf{1}_{U_j=u+d[p]} - \frac{1}{p} \right)$  and for  $p$  and  $n$  be fixed integers larger than 1 and for all  $\theta > 1$ .

## Lasso estimator by using a weighted penalty I

- $\tilde{A} = A - \frac{n-\sqrt{n}}{p} \mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^H$  and  $\tilde{Y}_k = Y_k - \frac{n-\sqrt{n}}{p} \bar{Y}$ , with  $\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} Y_k$ .
- $\mathbb{E}(\bar{Y}) = \|x^*\|_1$  and conditionally on the  $U_i$ 's,  $\tilde{Y}$  is an unbiased estimate of  $\tilde{A}x^*$ :

$$\mathbb{E}(\tilde{Y} | U_1, \dots, U_n) = \tilde{A}x^*.$$

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We first introduce the following **Lasso estimate** for some  $\gamma > 0$ :

$$\hat{x} := \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \|\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}x\|_2^2 + \gamma \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} d_k |x_k| \right\},$$

which is based on **random and data-dependent weights**  $d_k$ .



## Lasso estimator by using a weighted penalty II

The Lasso estimate satisfies

$$\begin{cases} (\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}\hat{X}))_k = \frac{\gamma d_k}{2} \text{sign}(\hat{x}_k) & \text{for } k \text{ s.t. } \hat{x}_k \neq 0 \\ |\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}\hat{X})|_k \leq \frac{\gamma d_k}{2} & \text{for } k \text{ s.t. } \hat{x}_k = 0 \end{cases},$$

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- Our approach where **weights are random** is similar to Zou 2006, Bertin *et al.* 2011, Hansen *et al.* 2012, ...: in some sense, the weights play the same role as the **thresholds** in the estimation procedure proposed in Donoho and Johnstone 1994, Reynaud-Bouret and Rivoirard 2010, Sansonnet 2014, ...

## Lasso estimator by using a weighted penalty III

The double role of the weights:

- They have to control the random fluctuations of  $\tilde{A}^H \tilde{Y}$  around its mean conditionally on the  $U_i$ 's due to the Poisson setting:

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$$|\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}x^*)|_k \leq d_k.$$

*Remark: If  $\gamma \geq 2$ ,  $x^*$  will also satisfy  $|\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}\hat{x}^*)|_k \leq \frac{\gamma d_k}{2}$ . This is a key technical point to prove optimality of our approach.*

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- They need to be high enough, so that they work **even if  $A$  is not invertible enough**.

## How to choose the $d_k$ 's?

### Proposition 1

For any  $\theta > 0$ , there exists an event  $\Omega_v(\theta)$  of probability larger than  $1 - 2pe^{-\theta}$  on which, for all  $k$  in  $\{0, \dots, p-1\}$ ,

$$|\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}x^*)|_k \leq \sqrt{2v_k\theta} + \frac{B\theta}{3},$$

where

$$B = \max_{u \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}} \left| \mathbb{N}(u) - \frac{n-1}{p} \right|$$

and

$$v_k = \sum_{u=0}^{p-1} w(k-u)x_u^*,$$

with  $w(d) = \sum_{u=0}^{p-1} \left( \mathbb{N}(u) - \frac{n-1}{p} \right)^2 \mathbb{N}(u+d)$  for all  $d$  in  $\{0, \dots, p-1\}$ .

## Derivation of constant weights

$$v_k \leq W \|x^*\|_1,$$

where

- $W := \max_d w(d) = \max_{u \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}} \sum_{\ell=0}^{p-1} \left( \mathbb{N}(\ell + u) - \frac{n-1}{p} \right)^2 \mathbb{N}(\ell)$  is observable, and
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### Constant weights

$$d := \sqrt{2W\theta} \left[ \sqrt{\bar{Y} + \frac{5\theta}{6n}} + \sqrt{\frac{\theta}{2n}} \right] + \frac{B\theta}{3}$$

satisfies  $|\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}x^*)|_k \leq d_k = d$  on an event of probability larger than  $1 - (2p+1)e^{-\theta}$ .



## Derivation of non constant weights

We reestimate the  $v_k$ 's:

$$\hat{v}_k = \sum_{\ell=0}^{p-1} \left( \mathbb{N}(\ell - k) - \frac{n-1}{p} \right)^2 Y_{\ell}.$$

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### Non constant weights

$$\tilde{d}_k = \sqrt{2\theta} \left[ \sqrt{\hat{v}_k + \frac{5\theta B^2}{6}} + \sqrt{\frac{\theta B^2}{2}} \right] + \frac{B\theta}{3}$$

satisfies  $|\tilde{A}^H(\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}x^*)|_k \leq d_k = \tilde{d}_k$  on an event of probability larger than  $1 - 3pe^{-\theta}$ .

## Control of the weights I

We consider the following special relationships between  $n$ ,  $p$  and  $\theta$ . For any integers  $n$ ,  $p$  and for any  $\theta > 1$ ,

$$\kappa' \sqrt{p} \theta \leq n \leq \kappa'' p \theta^{-1},$$

where  $\kappa' := \max(2\kappa, 1)$  and  $\kappa''$  is an absolute constant small enough.

- In particular, if we choose  $\theta$  proportional to  $\log p$  (which is natural to have results on events with large probability), then the regime becomes

$$\sqrt{p} \log(p) \ll n \ll p \log^{-1}(p).$$

## Control of the weights II

### Theorem

- On a event of probability larger than  $1 - (2 + 8.54p)e^{-\theta}$

$$\bar{c} (n\theta\|x^*\|_{\ell_1} + \theta^2) \leq d^2 \leq c (n\theta\|x^*\|_{\ell_1} + \theta^4).$$

- On a event of probability larger than  $1 - 10.54pe^{-\theta}$ , for any  $k \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & c'' \left( n\theta x_k^* + n^2\theta p^{-1} \sum_{u \neq k} x_u^* + \theta^2 \right) \\ & \leq \tilde{d}_k^2 \leq c' \left( n\theta x_k^* + n^2\theta^2 p^{-1} \sum_{u \neq k} x_u^* + \theta^4 \right). \end{aligned}$$

## Control of the weights II

For instance, in the asymptotic regime

$$n\theta = o(p) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta^2 = o(n^2 \|x^*\|_1/p),$$

then if  $x_k^* = 0$ ,

$$\tilde{d}_k^2 = O(n^2 \theta^2 p^{-1} \|x^*\|_1) = o(n\theta \|x^*\|_1).$$

Therefore

$$\tilde{d}_k^2 = o(d^2),$$

i.e.  $\tilde{d}_k$  can be much more smaller than  $d$ .

# Oracle inequalities for the lasso estimate with $d$

## Theorem

Let  $\gamma > 2$  and  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . Let  $s$  a positive integer satisfying

$$\frac{3\gamma + 2}{\gamma - 2} s \xi(\theta) \leq 1 - \varepsilon.$$

Then, there exists a constant  $C_{\gamma, \varepsilon}$  depending on  $\gamma$  and  $\varepsilon$  such that on an event of probability larger than  $1 - (1 + 7.54\rho)e^{-\theta}$ , the lasso estimate  $\hat{x}$  satisfies

$$\|\tilde{A}\hat{x} - \tilde{A}x^*\|_2^2 \leq C_{\gamma, \varepsilon} \inf_{x: |\text{supp}(x)| \leq s} \left\{ \|\tilde{A}x - \tilde{A}x^*\|_2^2 + \frac{sd(\theta)^2}{n} \right\}.$$

And if  $x^*$  is  $s$ -sparse, under the same assumptions, we get that

$$\|\tilde{A}\hat{x} - \tilde{A}x^*\|_2^2 \leq \frac{C_{\gamma, \varepsilon} sd(\theta)^2}{n}.$$

*Remark : We also obtain oracle inequalities for the  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_\infty$ -losses.*

# Oracle inequalities for the lasso estimate with $\tilde{d}_k$

## Theorem

Let  $\gamma > 2$  and  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . Let  $s$  be a positive integer and assume that we are on an event  $\mathcal{S}$ .

$$\frac{\max_{1 \leq k \leq p} \tilde{d}_k(\theta)}{\min_{1 \leq k \leq p} \tilde{d}_k(\theta)} \leq \frac{((1 - \varepsilon)s^{-1}\xi(\theta)^{-1} - 1)(\gamma - 2)}{2(\gamma + 2)}.$$

Then, there exists a constant  $C_{\gamma, \varepsilon}$  depending on  $\gamma$  and  $\varepsilon$  such that on an event of probability larger than  $1 - 8.54pe^{-\theta}$ , the lasso estimate  $\hat{x}$  satisfies

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## And what happens next?

- We will consider a second alternative consisting in assuming that  $x^*$  is supported by  $S^*$  with  $|S^*| = o(p)$ . We then introduce the pseudo-estimate  $\hat{x}^{(S^*)}$  defined by

$$\hat{x}^{(S^*)} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathbb{R}^p: \operatorname{supp}(x) \subseteq S^*} \left\{ \|\tilde{Y} - \tilde{A}x\|_2^2 + \gamma \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} d_k |x_k| \right\}.$$

In this case, we shall see that under some conditions the support of  $\hat{x}$  is included into  $S^*$  (support property), enabling us to derive oracle inequalities quite easily.



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**Merci pour votre attention !**