

Foundations of compressed sensing for learning sparsity of high-dimensional problems

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Introduction

Why do we care about "sparse" signals?

Example: We often represent images by expansions like

$$u(\mathbf{y}) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j \Psi_j(\mathbf{y})$$

where, e.g., $\mathbf{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\{\Psi_j\}_{j=1}^N$ are wavelets.



Figure **Left:** Original image. **Right:** Image obtained after setting **99.98%** of the coefficients c_j in the biorthogonal wavelet transform to 0. Preserves **97.87%** of energy.

Takeaway: **Sparse approximations** can provide good solutions to real problems.

Motivation: Parameterized PDE models

Deterministic and stochastic coefficients

parameters
 $y \in \mathcal{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$

→

PDE model:
 $\mathcal{F}(a(y))[u(y)] = 0$
in $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $n = 1, 2, 3$

→

quantity of
interest $Q[u(y)]$

- The operator \mathcal{F} , linear or nonlinear, depends on a **vector of d parameters** $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_d) \in \mathcal{U} = \prod_{i=1}^d \mathcal{U}_i$, which can be deterministic or stochastic.
- **Deterministic setting:** y are known or controlled by the user.
 - **Goal:** a query $y \in \mathcal{U}$, quickly approximation the solution map $y \mapsto u(y) \in \mathcal{V}$.
- **Stochastic setting:** y may be affected by **uncertainty** and are modeled as a **random vector** $y : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ with joint PDF $\varrho : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ s.t. $\varrho(y) = \prod_{i=1}^d \varrho_i(y_i)$.
 - **Goal:** Uncertainty quantification of u or some statistical QoI depending on u , i.e.,
$$\mathbb{E}[u], \text{Var}[u], \mathbb{P}[u > u_0] = \mathbb{E}[1_{\{u > u_0\}}].$$

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UQ for parameterized PDE models

Some assumptions

Continuity and coercivity (CC)

For all $x \in \bar{D}$ and $y \in \mathcal{U}$, $0 < a_{\min} \leq a(x, y) \leq a_{\max}$.

Analyticity (AN)

The complex continuation of a , represented as the map $a : \mathbb{C}^d \rightarrow L^\infty(D)$, is an $L^\infty(D)$ -valued *analytic* function on \mathbb{C}^d .

Existence and uniqueness of solutions (EU)

For all $y \in \mathcal{U}$ the PDE problem admits an unique solution $u \in \mathcal{V}$, where \mathcal{V} is a suitable finite or infinite dimensional Hilbert or Banach space. In addition

$$\forall y \in \mathcal{U}, \exists C(y) > 0 \text{ such that } \|u(y)\|_{\mathcal{V}} \leq C(y)$$

Some simple consequences:

- The PDE induces a map $u = u(y) : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$.
- If $\int_{\mathcal{U}} C(y)^p \varrho(y) dy < \infty$ then $u \in L^p_{\varrho}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$.

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A simple illustrative example

Parameterized elliptic problems: $\mathcal{U} = [-1, 1]^d$, $\mathcal{V} = H_0^1(D)$, $\varrho = 1/2^d$

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (a(x, y) \nabla u(x, y)) = f(x) & x \in D, y \in \mathcal{U} \\ u(x, y) = 0 & x \in \partial D, y \in \mathcal{U} \end{cases}$$

Assume $a(x, y)$ satisfies (CC) and (AN), and that $f \in L^2(D)$, then:

$$\forall y \in \mathcal{U}, \quad u(y) \in H_0^1(D) \equiv \mathcal{V} \quad \text{and} \quad \|u(y)\|_{\mathcal{V}} \leq \frac{C_P}{a_{\min}} \|f\|_{L^2(D)}$$

- Lax-Milgram ensures the existence and uniqueness of solution $u \in L^2_{\varrho}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$.

Affine and non-affine coefficients:

- 1 $a(x, y) = a_0(x) + \sum_{i=1}^d y_i \psi_i(x)$.
- 2 $a(x, y) = a_0(x) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^d y_i \psi_i(x) \right)^q$, $q \in \mathbb{N}$.
- 3 $a(x, y) = a_0(x) + \exp \left(\sum_{i=1}^d y_i \psi_i(x) \right)$ (e.g., truncated KL expansion in the log scale).

Remark. In what follows - can be extended to nonlinear elliptic (u^k), parabolic, and some hyperbolic PDEs, all defined on **unbounded** high-dimensional domains.

Asymptotic convergence analysis

The general abstract setting

Main Theorem. [Tran, W., Zhang '16]

Let $b : [0, \infty)^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and Λ_s^{Qopt} be the set of indices corresponding to s largest $e^{-b(\nu)}$. Then, for any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $s_\varepsilon > 0$ s.t. for all $s > s_\varepsilon$:

$$\sum_{\nu \notin \Lambda_s^{\text{Qopt}}} e^{-b(\nu)} \leq C_u(\varepsilon) s \exp\left(-\left(\frac{s}{|\mathcal{P}|(1+\varepsilon)}\right)^{1/d}\right)$$

Here, $C_u(\varepsilon) = (4e + 4\varepsilon e - 2) \frac{\varepsilon}{e-1}$ is independent of s and d .

- Achieve sub-exponential convergence rates $s \exp(-(\kappa s)^{1/d})$, with optimal κ .
- $|\mathcal{P}|$ can be determined computationally
 - 1 $\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \nu \in [0, \infty)^d : \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \nu_i \leq 1 \right\}$, for $B(\nu) = \rho^{-\nu} \prod_{i=1}^d \sqrt{2\nu_i + 1}$.
 - 2 $\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \nu \in [0, \infty)^d : \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \nu_i \leq 1 \quad \forall (\rho, \delta) \in \mathcal{A} \right\}$, for $B(\nu) = \inf_{\rho, \delta} C_\delta \rho^{-\nu}$.
 - 3 $\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \nu \in (0, \infty)^d : \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \nu_i - \log \frac{|\nu|^{|\nu|}}{\prod_{i=1}^d \nu_i^{\nu_i}} < 1 \right\}$, for $B(\nu) = \rho^{-\nu} \frac{|\nu|!}{\nu!}$.
- Faster rates are realized at larger cardinality.

Asymptotic convergence analysis

Comparisons to previous rates using Taylor polynomials in total degree subspaces

Proposition. [Tran, W., Zhang '16]

Consider the Taylor series $\sum_{\nu \in \mathbb{N}^d} t_\nu y^\nu$ of u . Assume that

$$\|t_\nu\|_\nu \leq C\rho^{-\nu}, \quad \forall \nu \in \mathbb{N}^d. \quad (1)$$

Denote by Λ_s^{Qopt} the set of indices corresponding to s largest bounds in (1). For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $s_\varepsilon > 0$ depending on ε such that, for all $s > s_\varepsilon$:

$$\sup_{y \in \mathcal{U}} \left\| u(y) - \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_s^{\text{Qopt}}} t_\nu y^\nu \right\|_\nu \leq C_u(\varepsilon) s \exp \left(- \left(\frac{s d! \prod_{i=1}^d \lambda_i}{(1 + \varepsilon)} \right)^{1/d} \right).$$

Previous rates:

- Applying Stechkin estimate in [CDS '11] to our setting: $\left(\prod_{i=1}^d \frac{1}{1 - e^{-p\lambda_i}} \right)^{1/p} s^{1 - \frac{1}{p}}$.
Rate is non-asymptotic and applicable for infinite dimensional parameter space.
- Optimization of Stechkin rate [BNTT '14]: $s \exp \left(-\frac{1}{e} \left(s \prod_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \right)^{1/d} d\xi \right)$.

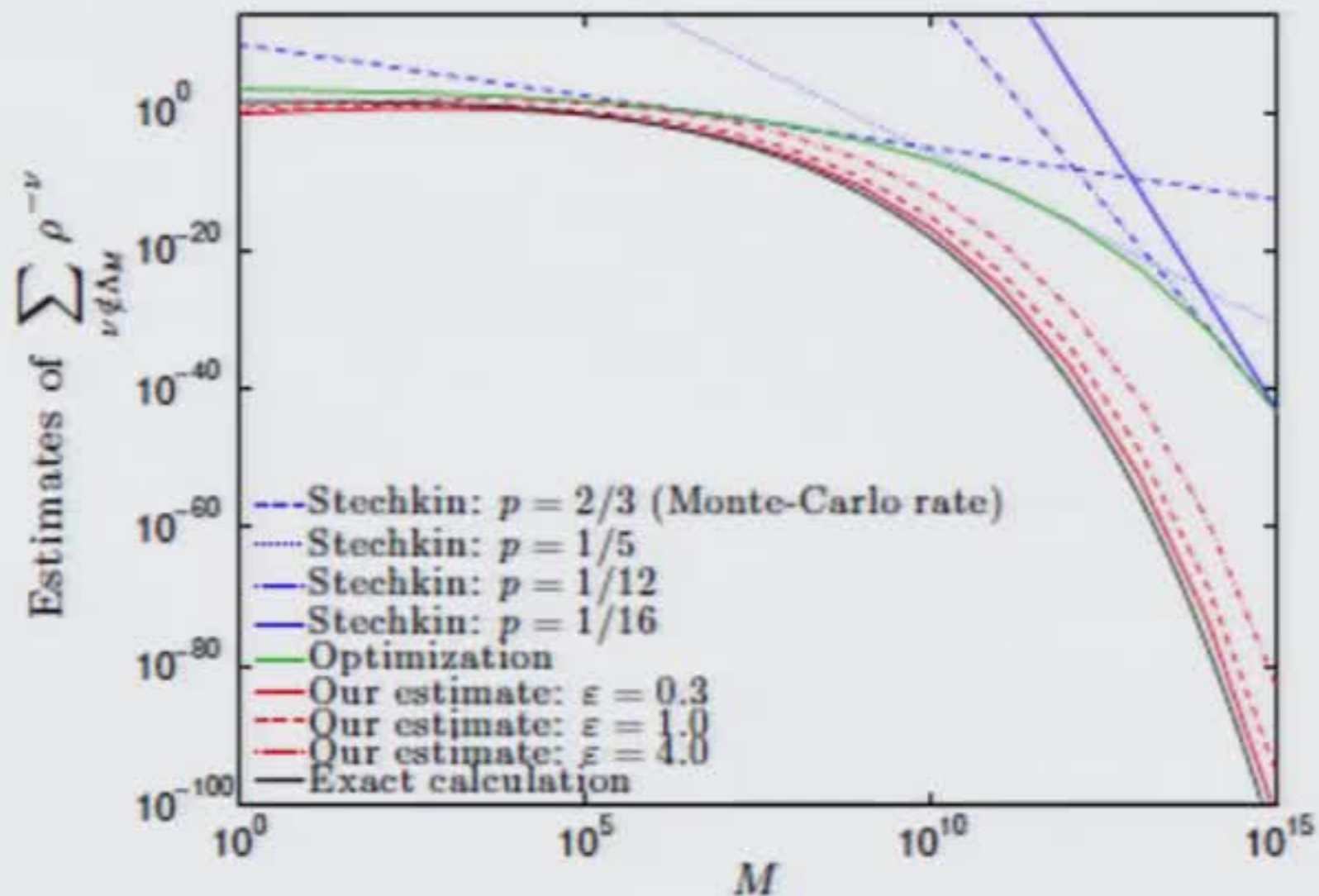
$$\xi \nearrow \frac{e-1}{e} \simeq 0.63 \text{ as } s \nearrow \infty.$$

Asymptotic convergence analysis

Numerical illustration II

Example 2: Isotropic 8-dimensional parametric domain

Estimate the truncation error of $\sum_{\nu \in \mathbb{R}^8} \rho^{-\nu}$, where $\rho_i = 2, \forall 1 \leq i \leq 8$.



Forward-backward iterations for joint sparse recovery

A new theory to guarantee strong convergence

An operator $T : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$ is said to be **firmly nonexpansive (FNE)** if

$$\|Tx - Ty\|_{2,2}^2 \leq \|x - y\|_{2,2}^2 - \|(I - T)x - (I - T)y\|_{2,2}^2 \quad \forall x, y \in \mathcal{V}.$$

Lemma. [Bauschke, Combettes 2010]. Let $\tau > 0$. Then J_τ is row-wise firmly nonexpansive.

Proof.

Since $B_2(\mathbf{0}, 1)$ is a nonempty, closed, convex set, and $J_\tau = (I - \mathcal{P}_\tau)$ where \mathcal{P}_τ is a projection, we have

$$\langle \mathcal{P}_\tau v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j, w_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j \rangle_2 \leq 0$$

$$\langle \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau v_j, v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau v_j \rangle_2 \leq 0$$

for every $v_j, w_j \in \mathbb{C}^\Omega$. Adding, we obtain $\langle \mathcal{P}_\tau v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j, v_j - w_j \rangle_2 \geq \|\mathcal{P}_\tau v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j\|_2^2$. It follows

$$\begin{aligned} \|J_\tau(v_j) - J_\tau(w_j)\|_2^2 &= \|(I - \mathcal{P}_\tau)v_j - (I - \mathcal{P}_\tau)w_j\|_2^2 \\ &= \|v_j - w_j\|_2^2 + \|\mathcal{P}_\tau v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j\|_2^2 - 2\langle v_j - w_j, \mathcal{P}_\tau v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j \rangle_2 \\ &\leq \|v_j - w_j\|_2^2 - \|\mathcal{P}_\tau v_j - \mathcal{P}_\tau w_j\|_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

which implies J_τ is firmly nonexpansive since $(I - J_\tau) = (I - I + \mathcal{P}_\tau) = \mathcal{P}_\tau$. □

Forward-backward iterations for joint sparse recovery

A new theory to guarantee strong convergence

Theorem. [Dexter, Tran, W. '17].

Let $0 < \tau < 2/\|H\|_2$. Then the iterations $x^{k+1} := J_\tau \circ G_\tau(x^k)$ converge strongly to an element $x^* \in X^*$ from any $x^0 \in \mathbb{C}^{N \times \Omega}$.

Sketch of proof: First-order optimality conditions imply $\|(A^*(Ax^* - u))_j\|_2 \leq 1$ for all $j \in [N]$ and $x^* \in X^*$. Therefore, we partition the index set into

$$L := \{ j : \|(A^*(Ax^* - u))_j\|_2 < 1 \} \quad E := \{ j : \|(A^*(Ax^* - u))_j\|_2 = 1 \}.$$

Easy to see: $L \subset (\text{supp}(x^*))^c$, $\text{supp}(x^*) \subseteq E$, & $L \cup E = [N] \quad \forall x^* \in X^*$.

- 1 **Finite convergence** for $j \in L$ follows arguments from [Hale, Yin, Zhang '08]
- 2 We show “angular convergence” for $j \in E$ using the firmly nonexpansive property
- 3 Weak convergence has been shown in more general setting, see, e.g., [Daubechies, et al '04], [Combettes '04], via Opial's Theorem and “asymptotic regularity” of S_τ
- 4 Combine the weak and angular convergence to obtain strong convergence

Sum over $j \in [N]$ with $\bar{c}^k := \sum_{j=1}^N c_j^k$, apply the nonexpansiveness of G_τ and iterate:

$$\begin{aligned} \|x^{k+1} - x^*\|_2^2 &\leq \|G_\tau(x^k) - G_\tau(x^*)\|_2^2 - \bar{c}^k \\ &\leq \|x^k - x^*\|_2^2 - \bar{c}^k \leq \underbrace{\dots}_{k\text{-times}} \leq \|x^0 - x^*\|_2^2 - \sum_{\ell=0}^k \bar{c}^\ell. \end{aligned}$$

Rearrange: $\sum_{\ell=0}^k \bar{c}^\ell \leq \underbrace{\|x^0 - x^*\|_2^2}_{\text{independent of } k} \implies \bar{c}^k \rightarrow 0$, and hence $c_j^k \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Collinearity & $c_j^k \rightarrow 0 \implies \theta_j^k := \angle(x_j^k, x_j^*) := \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{\langle x_j^k, x_j^* \rangle_2}{\|x_j^k\|_2 \|x_j^*\|_2} \right) \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Weak convergence $\implies \|x_j^k\|_2 \cos \theta_j^k \equiv \langle x_j^k, x_j^* \rangle / \|x_j^*\|_2 \rightarrow \langle x_j^*, x_j^* \rangle / \|x_j^*\|_2 \equiv \|x_j^*\|_2$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$ (also works when $x_j^* = 0$, slight change) and x_j^k are bounded

Use weak and angular convergence to show

$$\|x_j^k\|_2 - \|x_j^*\|_2 = \underbrace{\left(\|x_j^k\|_2 - \|x_j^k\|_2 \cos \theta_j^k \right)}_{\text{angular convergence \& boundedness}} + \underbrace{\left(\|x_j^k\|_2 \cos \theta_j^k - \|x_j^*\|_2 \right)}_{\text{weak convergence}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty$$

Strong convergence follows since

$$\|x_j^k - x_j^*\|_2^2 = \|x_j^k\|_2^2 + \|x_j^*\|_2^2 - 2\langle x_j^k, x_j^* \rangle_2 \rightarrow 2\|x_j^*\|_2^2 - 2\|x_j^*\|_2^2 = 0 \text{ as } k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Concluding remarks

- ① Certified recovery guarantees that **combat** the curse of dimensionality through new weighted ℓ_1 minimization and **iterative hard thresholding approaches**:
 - Exploit the structure of the sets of best s -terms.
 - Established through a **improved** estimate of restricted isometry property (RIP), and proved for general bounded orthonormal systems.
 - Can recover the “true” best s -term approximation and not a best weighted s -term (which requires a weighted version of Stechkin’s estimate).
- ② Joint-sparse recovery enables the simultaneous reconstruction of a set of sparse vectors with common support, from measurements.
 - Derived the forward-backward splitting method in this setting
 - More work to be done in the **convergence theory** of these methods
 - Recently shown **strong convergence** for the forward-backward splitting method
 - Would like to show **strong convergence** for Bregman iterations
 - Showed connection between joint-sparse recovery problem and parameterized PDEs
 - Need more **numerical experiments**
 - Nonlinear parameterized PDEs
 - Linear vs. nonlinear stochastic parameterization
 - Can be improved with the introduction of a weighted ℓ_1 regularization (similar to previous work).
- ③ An unified NSP based-condition for a general class of nonconvex minimizations showing that they are at least as good as ℓ_1 minimization in exact recovery of sparse signals.