Random Matrix Advances in Machine Learning

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Basics of Random Matrix Theory Motivation: Large Sample Covariance Matrices Spiked Models

Outline

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Baseline scenario: $y_1, \ldots, y_n \in \mathbb{C}^p$ (or \mathbb{R}^p) i.i.d. with $E[y_1] = 0$, $E[y_1y_1^*] = C_p$:

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or equivalently, in spectral norm

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(Y_p = [y₁,..., y_n] ∈ C^{p×n}).
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For practical p, n with p ≃ n, leads to dramatically wrong conclusions
 Even for p = n/100.



Figure: Histogram of the eigenvalues of \hat{C}_p for c = 1/4, $C_p = I_p$.



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Definition (Empirical Spectral Density)

Empirical spectral density (e.s.d.) μ_p of Hermitian matrix $A_p \in \mathbb{C}^{p imes p}$ is

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Theorem (Marčenko–Pastur Law [Marčenko,Pastur'67]) $X_p \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times n}$ with i.i.d. zero mean, unit variance entries. As $p, n \to \infty$ with $p/n \to c \in (0, \infty)$, e.s.d. μ_p of $\frac{1}{n}X_pX_p^*$ satisfies

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weakly, where

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• on $(0,\infty)$, μ_c has continuous density f_c supported on $[(1-\sqrt{c})^2,(1+\sqrt{c})^2]$

$$f_c(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi cx} \sqrt{(x - (1 - \sqrt{c})^2)((1 + \sqrt{c})^2 - x)}.$$



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Small rank perturbation: $C_p = I_p + P$, P of low rank.



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Theorem (Eigenvalues [Baik,Silverstein'06]) Let $Y_p = C_p^{\frac{1}{2}} X_p$, with X_p with i.i.d. zero mean, unit variance, $E[|X_p|_{ij}^4] < \infty$. $C_p = I_p + P$, $P = U\Omega U^*$, where, for K fixed,

 $\Omega = \operatorname{diag} \left(\omega_1, \ldots, \omega_K \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times K}, \text{ with } \omega_1 \geq \ldots \geq \omega_K > 0.$

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 $\textit{Then, as } p,n \to \infty, \ p/n \to c \in (0,\infty), \textit{ denoting } \lambda_m = \lambda_m (\tfrac{1}{n} Y_p Y_p^*) \ (\lambda_m > \lambda_{m+1}),$

$$\lambda_m \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \begin{cases} 1 + \omega_m + c \frac{1 + \omega_m}{\omega_m} > (1 + \sqrt{c})^2 &, \ \omega_m > \sqrt{c} \\ (1 + \sqrt{c})^2 &, \ \omega_m \in (0, \sqrt{c}]. \end{cases}$$

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Then, as $p, n \to \infty$, $p/n \to c \in (0, \infty)$, for $a, b \in \mathbb{C}^p$ deterministic and \hat{u}_i eigenvector of $\lambda_i(\frac{1}{n}Y_pY_p^*)$,

$$a^*\hat{u}_i\hat{u}_i^*b - \frac{1 - c\omega_i^{-2}}{1 + c\omega_i^{-1}}a^*u_iu_i^*b \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\omega_i > \sqrt{c}} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$$

In particular,

$$|\hat{u}_i^* u_i|^2 \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{1 - c\omega_i^{-2}}{1 + c\omega_i^{-1}} \cdot 1_{\omega_i > \sqrt{c}}.$$



Population spike ω_1

Figure: Simulated versus limiting $|\hat{u}_1^{\mathsf{T}}u_1|^2$ for $Y_p = C_p^{\frac{1}{2}}X_p$, $C_p = I_p + \omega_1 u_1 u_1^{\mathsf{T}}$, p/n = 1/3, varying ω_1 .



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Similar results for multiple matrix models:

▶
$$Y_p = \frac{1}{n}(I+P)^{\frac{1}{2}}X_pX_p^*(I+P)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

▶ $Y_p = \frac{1}{n}X_pX_p^* + P$
▶ $Y_p = \frac{1}{n}X_p^*(I+P)X$
▶ $Y_p = \frac{1}{n}(X_p+P)^*(X_p+P)$
▶ etc.
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Application to Machine Learning

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What can we say about those?:

Much more than we think, and actually much more than has been said so far!

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- Key observation 2: In these "non-trivial" settings, RMT explains a lot of things and can improve algorithms!

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- Key observation 1: In "non-trivial" (not so) large dimensional settings, machine learning intuitions break down!
- Key observation 2: In these "non-trivial" settings, RMT explains a lot of things and can improve algorithms!
- Key observation 3: Universality goes a long way...: RMT findings are compliant with real data observations!

Takeaway Message 1

"RMT Explains Why Machine Learning Intuitions Collapse in Large Dimensions"

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- Non-trivial task:

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Why? Finite-dimensional intuition

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} \kappa(x,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \\ \gg 1 & \ll 1 & \ll 1 \\ \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \\ \approx 1 & \gg 1 & \ll 1 \\ \hline \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \\ \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) & \kappa(x_i,x_j) \\ \approx 1 & \ll 1 & \gg 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{C}_1 \\ \mathcal{C}_2 \\ \mathcal{C}_3 \\ \mathcal{C}_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

In reality, here is what happens...

Kernel $K_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{1}{2p}||x_i - x_j||^2)$ and second eigenvector v_2 $(x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\pm \mu, I_p), \ \mu = (2, 0, \dots, 0)^{\mathsf{T}} \in \mathbb{R}^p).$



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Key observation: Under growth rate assumptions,

$$\boxed{\max_{1 \le i \ne j \le n} \left\{ \left| \frac{1}{p} \| x_i - x_j \|^2 - \tau \right| \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0}, \quad \tau = \frac{2}{p} \sum_{i=1}^k \operatorname{tr} \frac{n_a}{n} C_a.$$

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• this suggests
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more importantly, in non-trivial settings, data are neither close, nor far!

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Theorem ([C-Benaych'16] Asymptotic Kernel Behavior)

Under growth rate assumptions, as $p, n \to \infty$,

$$\left\| K - \hat{K} \right\| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0, \quad \hat{K} \simeq \frac{1}{p} Z Z^{\mathsf{T}} + J A J^{\mathsf{T}} + *$$

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- $\blacktriangleright f(\tau), f'(\tau), f''(\tau)$
- $\|\mu_a \mu_b\|$, $tr(C_a C_b)$, $tr((C_a C_b)^2)$, for $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$.

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- ▶ $\|\mu_a \mu_b\|$, tr($C_a C_b$), tr($(C_a C_b)^2$), for $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$.

This is a spiked model! We can study it fully!

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- This is where RMT kicks back in!

Theorem ([C-Benaych'16] Asymptotic Kernel Behavior)

Under growth rate assumptions, as $p, n \to \infty$,

$$\left\| K - \hat{K} \right\| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0, \quad \hat{K} \simeq \frac{1}{p} Z Z^{\mathsf{T}} + J A J^{\mathsf{T}} + *$$

with $J = [j_1, \ldots, j_k] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$, $j_a = (0, 1_{n_a}, 0)^{\mathsf{T}}$ (the clusters!) and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ function of:

- $\blacktriangleright f(\tau), f'(\tau), f''(\tau)$
- ▶ $\|\mu_a \mu_b\|$, tr($C_a C_b$), tr($(C_a C_b)^2$), for $a, b \in \{1, \dots, k\}$.

This is a spiked model! We can study it fully!

RMT can explain tools ML engineers use everyday.



Figure: Eigenvalues of K (red) and (equivalent Gaussian model) \hat{K} (white), MNIST data, p=784, n=192.



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Figure: Leading four eigenvectors of K for MNIST data (red) and theoretical findings (blue).



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Theoretical Findings versus MNIST



Figure: 2D representation of eigenvectors of K, for the MNIST dataset. Theoretical means and 1and 2-standard deviations in **blue**. Class 1 in **red**, Class 2 in **black**, Class 3 in green.

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Takeaway Message 2

"RMT Reassesses and Improves Data Processing"

Thanks to [C-Benaych'16]: Possibility to improve kernels:

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Semi-supervised learning: a great idea that never worked!

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$$\begin{array}{l} \bullet \ x_1^{(a)},\ldots,x_{n_a,[l]}^{(a)} \text{ already labelled (few),} \\ \bullet \ x_{n_a,[l]+1}^{(a)},\ldots,x_{n_a}^{(a)} \text{ unlabelled (a lot).} \end{array}$$

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• Machine Learning original idea: find "scores" F_{ia} for x_i to belong to class a

$$F = \operatorname{argmin}_{F \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}} \sum_{a=1}^{k} K_{ij} \left(F_{ia} - F_{jb} \right)^{2}, \quad F_{ia}^{[l]} = \delta_{\{x_{i} \in \mathcal{C}_{a}\}}.$$

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Explicit solution:

$$F^{[u]} = \left(I_{n_{[u]}} - D_{[u]}^{-1} K_{[uu]}\right)^{-1} D_{[u]}^{-1} K_{[ul]} F^{[l]}$$

where $D = \text{diag}(K1_n)$ (degree matrix) and [ul], [uu], ... blocks of labeled/unlabeled data.

The finite-dimensional intuition: What we expect



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The reality: What we see!

Setting. p = 400, n = 1000, $x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\pm \mu, I_p)$. Kernel $K_{ij} = \exp(-\frac{1}{2p} ||x_i - x_j||^2)$. Display. Scores F_{ik} (left) and $F_{ik}^{\circ} = F_{ik} - \frac{1}{2}(F_{i1} + F_{i2})$ (right).



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Score are almost all identical... and do not follow the labelled data!

MNIST Data Example



Figure: Vectors $[F^{(u)}]_{\cdot,a}, a=1,2,3,$ for 3-class MNIST data (zeros, ones, twos), n=192, p=784, $n_l/n=1/16,$ Gaussian kernel.

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What RMT can do about it

- Asymptotic performance analysis: clear understanding of what we see!
- Update the algorithm and provably improve unlabelled data use.

Theorem ([Mai,C'18] Asymptotic Performance of SSL) For $x_i \in C_b$ unlabelled, score vector $F_{i,\cdot} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ satisfies:

 $F_{i,\cdot} - G_b \to 0, \ G_b \sim \mathcal{N}(m_b, \Sigma_b)$

with $m_b \in \mathbb{R}^k$, $\Sigma_b \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$ function of $f(\tau), f'(\tau), f''(\tau), \mu_1, \ldots, \mu_k, C_1, \ldots, C_k$.

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Performances:

Experimental evidence: MNIST

O	١	ĺ	2				
Digits	(0,8)	(2,7)	(6,9)				
	$n_u = 100$						
Centered kernel (RMT)	89.5±3.6	89.5±3.4	85.3±5.9				
Iterated centered kernel (RMT)	89.5±3.6	89.5±3.4	85.3±5.9				
Laplacian	$75.5 {\pm} 5.6$	74.2 ± 5.8	$70.0 {\pm} 5.5$				
Iterated Laplacian	87.2±4.7	86.0 ± 5.2	$81.4{\pm}6.8$				
Manifold	88.0±4.7	88.4±3.9	$82.8{\pm}6.5$				
n_u	$n_u = 1000$						
Centered kernel (RMT)	92.2±0.9	92.5±0.8	92.6±1.6				
Iterated centered kernel (RMT)	92.3±0.9	92.5 ± 0.8	92.9±1.4				
Laplacian	$65.6 {\pm} 4.1$	74.4 ± 4.0	69.5±3.7				
Iterated Laplacian	92.2±0.9	92.4±0.9	92.0±1.6				
Manifold	$91.1 {\pm} 1.7$	$91.4 {\pm} 1.9$	$91.4{\pm}2.0$				

Table: Comparison of classification accuracy (%) on MNIST datasets with $n_l = 10$. Computed over 1000 random iterations for $n_u = 100$ and 100 for $n_u = 1000$.

Experimental evidence: Traffic signs (HOG features)

S	0	5		30
E	3		30	
70	Ø		0	C

Class ID	(2,7)	(9,10)	(11,18)			
$n_u = 100$						
Centered kernel (RMT)	79.0±10.4	77.5±9.2	78.5±7.1			
Iterated centered kernel (RMT)	85.3±5.9	89.2±5.6	90.1±6.7			
Laplacian	73.8±9.8	77.3±9.5	78.6±7.2			
Iterated Laplacian	83.7±7.2	88.0±6.8	87.1±8.8			
Manifold	77.6±8.9	$81.4{\pm}10.4$	$82.3{\pm}10.8$			
$n_u = 1000$						
Centered kernel (RMT)	83.6±2.4	84.6±2.4	88.7±9.4			
Iterated centered kernel (RMT)	84.8±3.8	$88.0{\pm}5.5$	96.4±3.0			
Laplacian	72.7±4.2	88.9±5.7	95.8±3.2			
Iterated Laplacian	$83.0 {\pm} 5.5$	88.2±6.0	$92.7{\pm}6.1$			
Manifold	77.7±5.8	$85.0{\pm}9.0$	$90.6{\pm}8.1$			

Table: Comparison of classification accuracy (%) on German Traffic Sign datasets with $n_l = 10$. Computed over 1000 random iterations for $n_u = 100$ and 100 for $n_u = 1000$.

Takeaway Message 3

"RMT Also Grasps 'Real Data' Processing"
Current Problem. Data models based on vectors of i.i.d. entries (or even only Gaussian).

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Good news. In RMT, exploitation of time **and** feature dimensions brings **universality**!, i.e., only first moments matter irrespective of distribution.

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Definition (Concentrated Random Vector)

 $x\in\mathbb{R}^p$ is a concentrated random vector if, for all Lipschitz $f:\mathbb{R}^p\to\mathbb{R},$ there exists $m_f\in\mathbb{R},$ wuch that

 $P\left(|f(x)-m_f|>\varepsilon\right)\leq e^{-g\left(\varepsilon\right)},\quad g \text{ increasing function}.$

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Theorem ([Louart,C'18] [Seddik,C'19] Kernel Universality) For $x_i \sim \mathcal{L}(\mu_a, C_a)$ concentrated random vector, under the conditions of [C-Benaych'16],

$$||K - \hat{K}|| \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0, \quad K\hat{K} \simeq \frac{1}{p}ZZ^{\mathsf{T}} + JAJ^{\mathsf{T}} + *$$

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Same result as [C-Benaych'16]... Universality of first two moments!

Ok...so what?

Key Finding. Real images are "almost" concentrated random vectors!

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Example: GAN-generated images are concentrated random vectors!

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Ok...so what? (2)

Results. [Seddik,C'19]



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Reminder of Takeaway messages:



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The road ahead:

- getting away from GMM models and show universality results (concentration of measure arguments)
- generalize the approach to problems having non-explicit solutions (such as convex optim problems)
- deep learning, recurrent neural nets... are a very different story!

The End

Thank you!



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