

Problem Setup

Given a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ with observed entries $\Omega \subseteq [m] \times [m]$
 Goal: Fill in the unobserved entries.

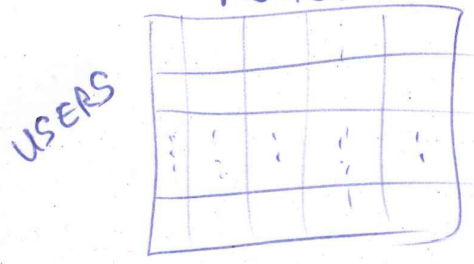
What makes it possible?

Assume: there exists representations of the rows and the columns that require less than $m \times m$ parameters. "collaborative filtering"
 (in other words: "there is something to learn")

Examples

① recommender systems

e.g. the Netflix contest MOVIES



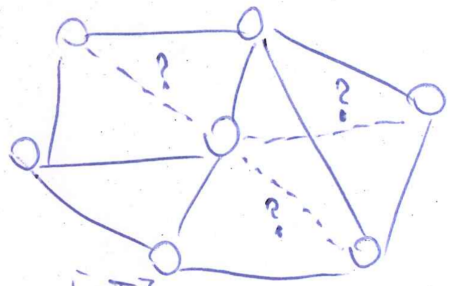
$$\Omega = \{(i, j) \mid \text{user } i \text{ rated movie } j\}$$

② sensor localization

\rightarrow m sensors: points $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^3, i=1, \dots, m$
 \rightarrow observe partial info about pairwise distances

$$D_{ij} = \|x_i - x_j\|^2 = \|x_i\|^2 + \|x_j\|^2 - 2x_i^T x_j$$

\rightarrow want to infer distances between all pairs of points.



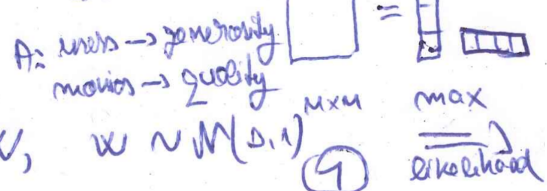
Objectives

① minimize $\|A - X\|_F^2$
 $X \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$
 subject to $\text{rank}(X) \leq k$ (NP-hard!)
 "Is there a solution that achieves loss C ?"
 Notation: $\|X\|_F^2 = \sum_{i,j \in \Omega} x_{ij}^2$
Low-rank matrix recovery

② minimize $\text{rank}(X)$
 X
 subject to $\|A - X\|_F = 0$ Exact matrix recovery

"simplest explanation"

Q: Interpretation for the case $k=1$?



Statistical models?

Single-spike model

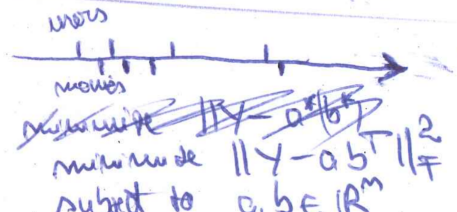
$$Y = a^*(b^*)^T + W$$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ \vdots \\ x_m^T \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 3}, \quad d = [\|x_1\|^2, \dots, \|x_m\|^2]$$

$$e = [1, \dots, 1]^T$$

$$\Rightarrow D = de^T + ed^T - 2XX^T$$

low rank (!)



Recall

If $A = [m] \times [n]$ (full matrix observed)

Then problem ① has a closed-form solution:

with $A = U \Sigma V^T$ and $A_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \sigma_i u_i v_i^T$
 $= \sum_{i=1}^{\min(m,n)} \sigma_i u_i v_i^T$ (for $k \leq \text{rank}(A)$) (Eckart-Young Theorem)

then $\min_{\text{rank}(X)=k} \|A - X\|_F^2 = \|A - A_k\|_F^2 = \sum_{\sigma_i > \sigma_{k+1}} \sigma_i^2$

Q: How many degrees of freedom in a rank- r matrix $\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$?
 $nm + (m-r)r$

Back to problem ①

~~$\min_{\text{rank}(A), \text{rank}(B)} \|A+B\|_F$~~ $\text{rank}(A+B) \leq \text{rank}(A) + \text{rank}(B)$

$\min_{X: \text{rank}(X) \leq k} \|A - X\|_F^2$

Attempt I: Optimize approximately with gradient descent + projections.
 Can we project onto $\{X: \text{rank}(X) \leq k\}$? (Yes, see above)

In practice, the steps are too chaotic. (Should round for/with: PCA)

Attempt II: Manifold optimization: take steps u on the manifold?

Attempt III: Reparametrize:

$\min_{\substack{U \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m} \\ V \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}}} \|A - UV^T\|_F^2$

$U = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_m \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times m}$
 $V = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$

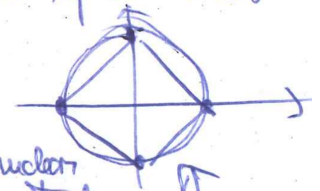
→ Regularized loss function:

$L(U, V) = \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{I}} (a_{ij} - u_i^T v_j)^2 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^m \|u_i\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{j=1}^n \|v_j\|^2$

Why regularize?

↳ Avoid overfitting. For instance, all user and item representations are constrained to a ball: (similar to ridge regression)

$\|u\|_F \leq R$
 $\|v\|_F \leq R$



Could try ~~sparsity~~ nuclear norm regularization for sparsity?

→ "Solve" it optimistically with gradient descent? Fix one, backprop for the other?

↳ Notice that we have closed form solution when one argument is fixed.

Solution problem 2

1. $L(u, v)$ is not convex!

Counter example: $m = n = 1$
 $u \neq 0, v \neq 0$ (can be higher dimensions)

$$L(u, v) = (a - uv)^2 + \lambda u^2 + \lambda v^2$$

Support to show $L(u, v) = (a - uv)^2$ is not convex. (for simplicity) a

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} u & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}; V = \begin{bmatrix} v & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla^2 L(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} 2v^2 & 4uv \\ 4uv & 2u^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

First: check twice-differentiability.

$$|\nabla^2 L(u, v)| = 4u^2v^2 - 16u^2v^2 = -12u^2v^2 < 0$$

$$(4uv - 2a)^2 = 4[-3(uv)^2 + 4a(uv) - a^2] < 0 \text{ for } uv \notin \left[\frac{a}{3}, a\right]$$

Sylvester's criterion: a symmetric matrix is positive definite if and only if all leading principal minors have positive determinant.

In our case: $|2v^2| = 2v^2 > 0$ (as a 1×1 matrix) but $|\nabla^2 L(u, v)| < 0$ (whole matrix)

$\Rightarrow L(u, v)$ is not convex.

2. $g(u) = L(u, v)$ is convex (think: ridge regression)

3. Update rule for u_i :

$$\frac{\partial L(u, v)}{\partial u_i} = -2 \sum_{j: (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} (a_{ij} - u_i^T v_j) v_j + 2 \lambda u_i \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sum_{j: (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} a_{ij} v_j &= \sum_{j: (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} (u_i^T v_j) v_j + \lambda u_i = \\ &= \sum v_j (v_j^T u_i) + \lambda u_i = \\ &= \left(\sum v_j v_j^T + \lambda I_k \right) u_i \end{aligned}$$

Can easily be used to embed new users and movies.

$$\Rightarrow u_i = \left(\sum_{j: (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} v_j v_j^T + \lambda I_k \right)^{-1} \sum_{j: (i, j) \in \mathcal{E}} a_{ij} v_j$$

$m_i k^2 + k^3$ inverse + $m_i k + k^2$ product $\Rightarrow O(m_i k^2 + k^3)$

4. Complexity:

3 product

⑤ The update rule looks like

$$u_i = (V_{i:j}^T V_{i:j})^{-1} V_{i:j}^T a_{i:j}$$

if $\lambda = 0$, which is the solution to OLS.

$$V_{i:j} = \begin{bmatrix} \dots & V_{j(i,1)} & \dots \\ \dots & V_{j(i,2)} & \dots \\ \dots & \vdots & \dots \\ \dots & V_{j(i,m_j)} & \dots \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_j \times K}$$

Interpretation: • given the representation of the items, compute the representation of the users independently, based on their ~~observed~~ "ratings".

• the "ratings" $\{a_{i,j}\}$ are orthogonally projected on the column space of $V_{i:j}$.

• the user representation u_i is given by the "indices" in the orthogonal projection.

Recall $\hat{\beta}_{OLS} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$, $X \hat{\beta}(y) = Id_X y$, where $Id_X = X(X^T X)^{-1} X^T$ is the orthogonal projector on the column space of X .

→ How to use the representations?

$$o_{p,2} = u_p^T v_2 \quad \text{for } (p,2) \notin \mathcal{I}$$

Promis: we have representations of both "movies" and "users" in the same space, so we can compute similarities between movies, distances between users and movies etc.

Next time

$$\text{rank}(X) = \dim(\text{span}(X)) = \#\{v_i > 0\}$$

$$\begin{cases} \min_x \text{rank}(X) \\ \text{s.t. } \|A - X\|_F = 0 \end{cases}$$

↳ gets related to:

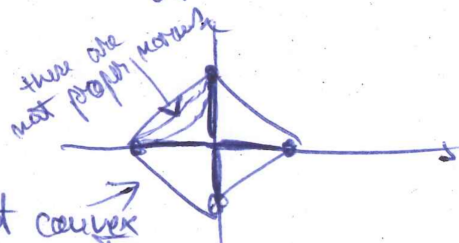
$$\begin{cases} \min \|X\|_* \\ \text{s.t. } \|A - X\|_F = 0 \end{cases}$$

nuclear norm

$$\|X\|_* = \sum_i \sigma_i(X)$$

↑ should remind of the "0-norm"

↑ should remind of the L1-norm



④

best convex approximation.

Problem 1

$$\begin{cases} \text{maximize } \langle x, Ax \rangle = x^T Ax =: f(x) & \text{with } A \text{ an } n \times n \text{ symmetric matrix} \\ \text{s.t. } \|x\|^2 - 1 = 0 \\ g(x) \end{cases}$$

① $v_1 = \arg \max_{\|x\|^2=1} x^T Ax$ and $f(v_1) = \lambda_1$

Prove $Av_1 = \lambda_1 v_1$.

Lagrange multiplier theory: $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\nabla(f - \lambda g)(v_1) = 0$

We have: $\nabla g(x) = 2x$

$\nabla f(x) = 2Ax$

Thus: $2Av_1 = 2\lambda v_1 \Rightarrow Av_1 = \lambda v_1 \mid v_1^T(\cdot) \Rightarrow v_1^T Av_1 = \lambda v_1^T v_1 \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow f(v_1) = \lambda$ (we also know $f(v_1) = \lambda_1$)

Hence: $Av_1 = \lambda_1 v_1$.

② $v_2 = \arg \max_{\|x\|^2=1} f(x)$ and $f(v_2) = \lambda_2$

$g(x) = \|x\|^2 - 1 = 0$
 $h(x) = x^T v_1 = 0$

S^{n-2}
 (the $(n-2)$ -dimensional sphere)

Prove: $Av_2 = \lambda_2 v_2$

As before: $\exists \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $\nabla(f - \lambda g - \mu h)(v_2) = 0$

$\nabla h(x) = v_1$

$\nabla f(x) = 2x$

$\nabla g(x) = 2Ax$

So we have: $2Av_2 = 2\lambda v_2 + \mu v_1 \mid v_1^T(\cdot) \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow 2 v_1^T Av_2 = 2\lambda \underbrace{v_1^T v_2}_0 + \mu \underbrace{v_1^T v_1}_1$

$x^T y = y^T x \Rightarrow 2 v_2^T Av_1 = \mu$

$A = A^T \Rightarrow 2 v_2^T Av_1 = \mu$

$\Rightarrow 2 v_2^T v_1 = \mu$

$\Rightarrow 0 = \mu$

$\Rightarrow Av_2 = \lambda v_2 \mid \cdot v_2^T(\cdot)$

$\Rightarrow f(v_2) = \lambda$ (we also have $f(v_2) = \lambda_2$)

$\Rightarrow Av_2 = \lambda_2 v_2$

③ $v_3 = \arg \max f(x)$ and $f(v_3) = \lambda_3$
 $g(x) = \|x\|^2 - 1 = 0$
 $h(x) = x^T v_1 = 0$
 $l(x) = x^T v_2 = 0$
 Prove: $A v_3 = \lambda_3 v_3$

Introduce a new Lagrange multiplier:

$$\nabla (f - \lambda g - \mu h - \nu l)(v_3) = 0$$

which yields

$$2A v_3 = 2\lambda v_3 + \mu v_1 + \nu v_2$$

$$\rightarrow \text{multiply by } v_1 \Rightarrow \mu = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \text{multiply by } v_2 \Rightarrow \nu = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A v_3 = \lambda v_3 \quad | \quad v_3^T(v_1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f(v_3) = \lambda \quad \boxed{f(v_3) = \lambda_3} \Rightarrow A v_3 = \lambda_3 v_3$$

NOTE: By construction: $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3$.

④ Iterate the above procedure:

$$\langle v_j, A v_m \rangle = \langle A v_j, v_m \rangle = \lambda_j \langle v_j, v_m \rangle = 0, \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, m-1$$

$$\text{So } A v_m = \lambda_m v_m$$

The vectors $\{v_1, \dots, v_m\}$ form an orthonormal basis

$$\text{and } \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_m$$

⑤ In PCA, this is applied on the ~~matrix~~ empirical covariance matrix $\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i x_i^T = \Sigma$