# Singular value shrinkage priors and empirical Bayes matrix completion 

Takeru Matsuda

The University of Tokyo

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## Abstract

Efron-Morris estimator (Efron and Morris, 1972)

$$
\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}(X)=X\left(I_{q}-(p-q-1)\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1}\right)
$$

minimax estimator of a normal mean matrix natural extension of the James-Stein estimator
$\downarrow$
Singular value shrinkage prior (M. and Komaki, 2015)

$$
\pi_{\mathrm{SVS}}(M)=\operatorname{det}\left(M^{\top} M\right)^{-(p-q-1) / 2}
$$

superharmonic ( $\Delta \pi_{\text {svs }} \leq 0$ ), natural generalization of the Stein prior works well for low-rank matrices $\rightarrow$ reduced-rank regression

Empirical Bayes matrix completion (M. and Komaki, 2019) estimate unobserved entries of a matrix by exploting low-rankness

## Efron-Morris estimator (Efron and Morris, 1972)

## Note: singular values of matrices

- Singular value decomposition of $p \times q$ matrix $M(p \geq q)$

$$
\begin{gathered}
M=U \Lambda V^{\top} \\
U: p \times q, \quad V: q \times q, \quad U^{\top} U=V^{\top} V=I_{q} \\
\Lambda=\operatorname{diag}\left(\sigma_{1}(M), \ldots, \sigma_{q}(M)\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

- $\sigma_{1}(M) \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_{q}(M) \geq 0$ : singular values of $M$
- $\operatorname{rank}(M)=\#\left\{i \mid \sigma_{i}(M)>0\right\}$


## Estimation of normal mean matrix

$$
X_{i j} \sim \mathrm{~N}\left(M_{i j}, 1\right) \quad(i=1, \cdots, p ; j=1, \cdots, q)
$$

- estimate $M$ based on $X$ under Frobenius loss $\|\hat{M}-M\|_{F}^{2}$
- Efron-Morris estimator (= James-Stein estimator when $q=1$ )

$$
\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}(X)=X\left(I_{q}-(p-q-1)\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1}\right)
$$

## Theorem (Efron and Morris, 1972)

When $p \geq q+2, \hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}$ is minimax and dominates $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{MLE}}(X)=X$.

- Stein (1974) noticed that it shrinks the singular values of the observation to zero.

$$
\sigma_{i}\left(\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}\right)=\left(1-\frac{p-q-1}{\sigma_{i}(X)^{2}}\right) \sigma_{i}(X)
$$

## Numerical results

- Risk functions for $p=5, q=3, \sigma_{1}=20, \sigma_{3}=0$ (rank 2)
- black: $\hat{M}_{\text {MLE }}$, blue: $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{JS}}$, red: $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}$

- $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}$ works well when $\sigma_{2}$ is small, even if $\sigma_{1}$ is large.
- $\hat{M}_{\text {JS }}$ works well when $\|M\|_{F}^{2}=\sigma_{1}^{2}+\sigma_{2}^{2}+\sigma_{3}^{2}$ is small.


## Numerical results

- Risk functions for $p=5, q=3, \sigma_{2}=\sigma_{3}=0($ rank 1)
- black: $\hat{M}_{\text {MLE }}$, blue: $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{JS}}$, red: $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}$

- $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}$ has constant risk reduction as long as $\sigma_{2}=\sigma_{3}=0$, because it shrinks singular values for each.
- Therefore, it works well when $M$ has low rank.


## Singular value shrinkage prior

 (Matsuda and Komaki, 2015)
## Superharmonic prior for estimation

$$
X \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p}\left(\mu, I_{p}\right)
$$

- estimate $\mu$ based on $X$ under the quadratic loss
- superharmonic prior

$$
\Delta \pi(\mu)=\sum_{i=1}^{p} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \mu_{i}^{2}} \pi(\mu) \leq 0
$$

- the Stein prior $(p \geq 3)$ is superharmonic:

$$
\pi(\mu)=\|\mu\|^{2-p}
$$

- Bayes estimator with the Stein prior shrinks to the origin.


## Theorem (Stein, 1974)

Bayes estimators with superharmonic priors dominate MLE.

## Superharmonic prior for prediction

$$
X \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p}(\mu, \Sigma), \quad Y \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p}(\mu, \widetilde{\Sigma})
$$

- We predict $Y$ from the observation $X(\Sigma, \widetilde{\Sigma}$ : known $)$
- Bayesian predictive density with prior $\pi(\mu)$

$$
\hat{p}_{\pi}(y \mid x)=\int p(y \mid \mu) \pi(\mu \mid x) \mathrm{d} \mu
$$

- Kullback-Leibler loss

$$
D(p(y \mid \mu), \hat{p}(y \mid x))=\int p(y \mid \mu) \log \frac{p(y \mid \mu)}{\hat{p}(y \mid x)} \mathrm{d} y
$$

- Bayesian predictive density with the uniform prior is minimax


## Superharmonic prior for prediction

$$
X \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p}(\mu, \Sigma), \quad Y \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p}(\mu, \widetilde{\Sigma})
$$

Theorem (Komaki, 2001)
When $\Sigma \propto \widetilde{\Sigma}$, the Stein prior dominates the uniform prior.
Theorem (George, Liang and Xu, 2006)
When $\Sigma \propto \widetilde{\Sigma}$, superharmonic priors dominate the uniform prior.
Theorem (Kobayashi and Komaki, 2008; George and Xu, 2008)
For general $\Sigma$ and $\widetilde{\Sigma}$, superharmonic priors dominate the uniform prior.

## Motivation

| vector | James-Stein estimator <br> $\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{JS}}=\left(1-\frac{p-2}{\\|x\\|^{2}}\right) x$ | Stein prior <br> $\pi_{\mathrm{S}}(\mu)=\\|\mu\\|^{-(p-2)}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| matrix | Efron-Morris estimator | $?$ |
|  | $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}=X\left(I_{q}-(p-q-1)\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1}\right)$ |  |

- note: JS and EM are not generalized Bayes.


## Singular value shrinkage prior

$$
\pi_{\mathrm{SVS}}(M)=\operatorname{det}\left(M^{\top} M\right)^{-(p-q-1) / 2}=\prod_{i=1}^{q} \sigma_{i}(M)^{-(p-q-1)}
$$

- We assume $p \geq q+2$.
- $\pi_{\text {svs }}$ puts more weight on matrices with smaller singular values, so it shrinks singular values for each.
- When $q=1, \pi_{\text {SvS }}$ coincides with the Stein prior.


## Theorem (M. and Komaki, 2015)

$\pi_{\mathrm{SVS}}$ is superharmonic: $\Delta \pi_{\mathrm{SVS}} \leq 0$.

- Therefore, the Bayes estimator and Bayesian predictive density with respect to $\pi_{\text {svs }}$ are minimax.


## Comparison to other superharmonic priors

- Previously proposed superharmonic priors mainly shrink to simple subsets (e.g. point, linear subspace).
- In contrast, our priors shrink to the set of low rank matrices, which is nonlinear and nonconvex.


## Theorem (M. and Komaki, 2015) <br> $\Delta \pi_{\mathrm{svs}}(M)=0$ if $M$ has full rank.

- Therefore, superharmonicity of $\pi_{\text {svs }}$ is strongly concentrated in the same way as the Laplacian of the Stein prior becomes a Dirac delta function.


## An observation

- James-Stein estimator

$$
\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{JS}}=\left(1-\frac{p-2}{\|x\|^{2}}\right) x
$$

- the Stein prior

$$
\pi_{\mathrm{S}}(\mu)=\|\mu\|^{-(p-2)}
$$

- Efron-Morris estimator

$$
\hat{\sigma}_{i}=\left(1-\frac{p-q-1}{\sigma_{i}^{2}}\right) \sigma_{i}
$$

- Singular value shrinkage prior

$$
\pi_{\mathrm{SvS}}(M)=\prod_{i=1}^{q} \sigma_{i}(M)^{-(p-q-1)}
$$

## Numerical results

- Risk functions of Bayes estimators
- $p=5, q=3$
- dashed: uniform prior, solid: Stein's prior, dash-dot: our prior

- $\pi_{\text {Svs }}$ works well when $\sigma_{2}$ is small, even if $\sigma_{1}$ is large.
- Stein's prior works well when $\|M\|_{F}^{2}=\sigma_{1}^{2}+\sigma_{2}^{2}+\sigma_{3}^{2}$ is small.


## Numerical results

- Risk functions of Bayes estimators
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- $\pi_{\text {SVs }}$ has constant risk reduction as long as $\sigma_{2}=\sigma_{3}=0$, because it shrinks singular values for each.
- Therefore, it works well when $M$ has low rank.


## Additional shrinkage

- Efron and Morris (1976) proposed an estimator that further dominates $\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}$ by additional shrinkage to the origin

$$
\hat{M}_{\mathrm{MEM}}=X\left\{I_{q}-(p-q-1)\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1}-\frac{q^{2}+q-2}{\operatorname{tr}\left(X^{\top} X\right)} I_{q}\right\}
$$

- Motivated from this estimator, we propose another shrinkage prior

$$
\pi_{\mathrm{MSVS}}(M)=\pi_{\mathrm{SVS}}(M)\|M\|_{\mathrm{F}}^{-\left(q^{2}+q-2\right)}
$$

## Theorem (M. and Komaki, 2017)

The prior $\pi_{\text {Msvs }}$ asymptotically dominates $\pi_{\text {svs }}$ in both estimation and prediction.

## Numerical results

- $p=10, q=3, \sigma_{2}=\sigma_{3}=0($ rank 1$)$
- black: $\pi_{\mathrm{I}}$, blue: $\pi_{\mathrm{S}}$, green: $\pi_{\mathrm{SVS}}$, red: $\pi_{\mathrm{MSVS}}$

- Additional shrinkage improves risk when $\|M\|_{\mathrm{F}}$ is small.


## Admissibility results

## Theorem (M. and Strawderman)

The Bayes estimator with respect to $\pi_{\text {svs }}$ is inadmissible. The Bayes estimator with respect to $\pi_{\mathrm{MSvs}}$ is admissible.

- Proof: use Brown's condition


## Addition of column-wise shrinkage

$$
\pi_{\mathrm{MSVS}}(M)=\pi_{\mathrm{SVS}}(M) \prod_{j=1}^{q}\left\|M_{\cdot j}\right\|^{-q+1}
$$

- $M_{. j}$ : $j$-th column vector of $M$


## Theorem (M. and Komaki, 2017)

The prior $\pi_{\text {MSvs }}$ asymptotically dominates $\pi_{\text {svs }}$ in both estimation and prediction.

- This prior can be used for sparse reduced rank regression.

$$
\begin{gathered}
Y=X B+E, \quad E \sim \mathrm{~N}_{n, q}\left(0, I_{n} \otimes \Sigma\right) \\
\rightarrow \hat{B}=\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1} X^{\top} Y \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, q}\left(B,\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1} \otimes \Sigma\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Empirical Bayes matrix completion (Matsuda and Komaki, 2019)

## Empirical Bayes viewpoint

- Efron-Morris estimator was derived as an empirical Bayes estimator.

$$
\begin{gathered}
M \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, q}\left(0, I_{p} \otimes \Sigma\right) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad M_{i .} \sim \mathrm{N}_{q}(0, \Sigma) \\
Y \mid M \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, q}\left(M, I_{p} \otimes I_{q}\right) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad Y_{i j} \sim \mathrm{~N}\left(M_{i j}, 1\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

- Bayes estimator (posterior mean)

$$
\hat{M}^{\pi}(Y)=Y\left(I_{q}-\left(I_{q}+\Sigma\right)^{-1}\right)
$$

- Since $Y^{\top} Y \sim W_{q}\left(I_{q}+\Sigma, p\right)$ marginally,

$$
\mathrm{E}\left[\left(Y^{\top} Y\right)^{-1}\right]=\frac{1}{p-q-1}\left(I_{q}+\Sigma\right)^{-1}
$$

$\rightarrow$ Replace $\left(I_{q}+\Sigma\right)^{-1}$ in $\hat{M}^{\pi}(Y)$ by $(p-q-1)\left(Y^{\top} Y\right)^{-1}$
$\rightarrow$ Efron-Morris estimator

## Matrix completion

- Netflix problem
- matrix of movie ratings by users

|  | movie 1 | movie 2 | movie 3 | movie 4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| user 1 | 4 | 7 | ? | 2 |
| user 2 | 6 | ? | 3 | 8 |
| user 3 | ? | 1 | 9 | ? |
| user 4 | 4 | 5 | ? | 3 |

- We want to estimate unobserved entries for recommendation. $\rightarrow$ matrix completion
- Many studies investigated its theory and algorithm.


## Matrix completion

- Low-rankness of the underlying matrix is crucial in matrix completion.
- Existing algorithms employ low rank property.
- SVT, SOFT-IMPUTE, OPTSPACE, Manopt, ...
- e.g. SVT algorithm
- $\|A\|_{*}$ : nuclear norm (sum of singular values)

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\underset{\hat{M}}{\operatorname{minimize}} & \|\hat{M}\|_{*} \\
\text { subject to } & \left|Y_{i j}-\hat{M}_{i j}\right| \leq E_{i j}, \quad(i, j) \in \Omega
\end{array}
$$

$\rightarrow$ sparse singular values (low rank)

## EB algorithm

- We develop an empirical Bayes (EB) algorithm for matrix completion.
- EB is based on the following hierarchical model
- Same with the derivation of the Efron-Morris estimator
- $C$ : scalar or diagonal matrix (unknown)

$$
\begin{gathered}
M \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, q}\left(0, I_{p} \otimes \Sigma\right) \\
Y \mid M \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, q}\left(M, I_{p} \otimes C\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

- Goal: estimate $M$ from observed entries of $Y$
- If $Y$ is fully observed, it reduces to the previous problem.
$\rightarrow$ EM algorithm !!


## EB algorithm

## EB algorithm

- E step: estimate ( $\Sigma, C$ ) from $\hat{M}$ and $Y$
- M step: estimate $M$ from $Y$ and $(\hat{\Sigma}, \hat{C})$
- Iterate until convergence
- Both steps can be solved analytically.
- Sherman-Morrison-Woodbery formula
- We obtain two algorithms corresponding to $C$ is scalar or diagonal.
- EB does not require heuristic parameter tuning other than tolerance.


## Simulation setting

- We compare EB to existing algorithms (SVT, SOFT-IMPUTE, OPTSPACE, Manopt)
- data generation

$$
\begin{gathered}
U \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, r}\left(0, I_{p} \otimes I_{r}\right), \quad V \sim \mathrm{~N}_{r, q}\left(0, I_{r} \otimes I_{q}\right) \\
M=U V, \quad Y=M+E, \quad E \sim \mathrm{~N}_{p, q}\left(0, I_{p} \otimes R\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

- Observed entries $\Omega \subset\{1, \cdots, p\} \times\{1, \cdots, q\}$ : uniformly random
- We evaluate the accuracy by the normalized error for the unobserved entries.

$$
\text { error }:=\frac{\left(\sum_{(i, j) \notin \Omega}\left(\hat{M}_{i j}-M_{i j}\right)^{2}\right)^{1 / 2}}{\left(\sum_{(i, j) \notin \Omega} M_{i j}^{2}\right)^{1 / 2}}
$$

## Numerical results

- Results on simulated data
- 1000 rows, 100 columns, rank $=30,50 \%$ entries observed
- observation noise: homogeneous ( $R=I_{q}$ )

|  | error | time |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| EB (scalar) | 0.26 | 4.33 |
| EB (diagonal) | 0.26 | 4.26 |
| SVT | 0.48 | 1.44 |
| SOFT-IMPUTE | 0.50 | 3.58 |
| OPTSPACE | 0.89 | 67.74 |
| Manopt | 0.89 | 0.17 |

- EB has the best accuracy.


## Numerical results: heterogeneity

- Results on simulated data with heterogeneity
- 1000 rows, 100 columns, rank = 30, $50 \%$ entries observed
- observation noise: heterogeneous ( $R=\operatorname{diag}(0.05,0.1, \cdots, 5)$ )

|  | error | time |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| EB (scalar) | 0.27 | 3.94 |
| EB (diagonal) | 0.24 | 3.12 |
| SVT | 0.43 | 1.59 |
| SOFT-IMPUTE | 0.37 | 2.10 |
| OPTSPACE | 0.28 | 7.46 |
| Manopt | 0.28 | 0.12 |

- EB (diagonal) has the best accuracy.
- accounts for heterogeneity


## Numerical results: rank

- Performance with respect to rank
- 1000 rows, 100 columns, $50 \%$ entries observed
- observation noise: unit variance

- EB has the best accuracy when $r \geq 20$.


## Application to real data

- Mice Protein Expression dataset
- expression levels of 77 proteins measured in the cerebral cortex of 1080 mice
- from UCI Machine Learning Repository

|  | error | time |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| EB (scalar) | 0.12 | 2.90 |
| EB (diagonal) | 0.11 | 3.35 |
| SVT | 0.84 | 0.17 |
| SOFT-IMPUTE | 0.29 | 2.14 |
| OPTSPACE | 0.33 | 12.39 |
| Manopt | 0.64 | 0.19 |

- EB attains the best accuracy.


## Summary

Efron-Morris estimator (Efron and Morris, 1972)

$$
\hat{M}_{\mathrm{EM}}(X)=X\left(I_{q}-(p-q-1)\left(X^{\top} X\right)^{-1}\right)
$$

minimax estimator of a normal mean matrix natural extension of the James-Stein estimator
$\downarrow$
Singular value shrinkage prior (M. and Komaki, 2015)

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superharmonic ( $\Delta \pi_{\text {svs }} \leq 0$ ), natural generalization of the Stein prior works well for low-rank matrices $\rightarrow$ reduced-rank regression

Empirical Bayes matrix completion (M. and Komaki, 2019) estimate unobserved entries of a matrix by exploting low-rankness

