Statistical Inference with Multi-layered Graphical Models

Subhabrata Majumdar Joint work with George Michailidis University of Florida Informatics Institute

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- Estimation of graphs from high-dimensional data is of importance for *biological processes, financial systems or social interactions*;
- Nodes in such data can have a *natural hierarchical structure*, e.g. Genes affecting proteins affecting metabolites, or macroeconomic indicators like interest rates or price indices affecting stock prices;
- There are *within layer and between-layer connections* in such structures.





Summary

These connections can be different inside different organs, experimental conditions, or for different subtypes of the same disease;









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Connection to precision medicine



Connection to precision medicine

The connections between layers can be different for different patient profiles.



Statistical inference for hierarchical graphical models.

In this work we propose a general statistical framework based on graphical models for *horizontal* (i.e. across conditions or subtypes) *and vertical* (i.e. across different layers containing data on molecular compartments) *integration of information* in data from such complex biological structures.

Specifically, we perform *joint estimation and hypothesis testing* for all the connections in these structures.

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2 Preliminaries

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- 4 Hypothesis testing in multi-layer models
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Gaussian Graphical models

$$\mathbb{X} = (X_1, \ldots, X_p)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_x)$$

Non-zero entries in the precision matrix $\Omega_x = \Sigma_x^{-1}$ gives edges of the network.



Sparse estimation of Ω_x : Meinshausen and Bühlmann (2006) Multiple testing and error control: Drton and Perlman (2007).

Multiple Gaussian Graphical models

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{X}^k &= (X_1^k, \dots, X_p^k)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_x^k); \quad \Omega_x^k = (\Sigma_x^k)^{-1} \\ k &= 1, 2, \dots, K \end{aligned}$$



- Joint estimation of $\{\Omega_x^k\}$: Guo et al. (2011); Ma and Michailidis (2016)
- Difference and similarity testing with FDR control: Liu (2017)

Multi-layered Graphical Models

- $\Omega_x, \Omega_y, \Omega_z$ give undirected within-layer edges, while **B**, **C** gives directed between-layer edges.
- Sparse estimation of the components: Lin et al. (2016).
- Testing: ??



$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E} &= (E_1, \dots, E_q)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_q(0, \Sigma_y); \\ \mathbb{F} &= (F_1, \dots, F_r)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_r(0, \Sigma_z); \\ \Omega_y &= (\Sigma_y)^{-1}, \Omega_z = (\Sigma_z)^{-1} \\ \mathbb{Y} &= \mathbb{X}^T \mathbf{B} + \mathbb{E}, \\ \mathbb{Z} &= \mathbb{Y}^T \mathbf{C} + \mathbb{F}. \end{split}$$

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Multiple Multi-layered Gaussian Graphical models



k = 1



k = 3

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}^{k} &= (E_{1}^{k}, \dots, E_{q}^{k})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{q}(0, \Sigma_{y}^{k}); \quad \Omega_{y}^{k} = (\Sigma_{y}^{k})^{-1} \\ \mathbb{F}^{k} &= (F_{1}^{k}, \dots, F_{r}^{k})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{r}(0, \Sigma_{z}^{k}); \quad \Omega_{y}^{k} = (\Sigma_{y}^{k})^{-1} \\ \mathbb{Y}^{k} &= (\mathbb{X}^{k})^{T} \mathbf{B}^{k} + \mathbb{E}^{k}, \\ \mathbb{Z}^{k} &= (\mathbb{Y}^{k})^{T} \mathbf{C}^{k} + \mathbb{F}^{k}; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \end{split}$$

Multiple Multi-layered Gaussian Graphical models



k = 2

k = 3

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}^{k} &= (E_{1}^{k}, \dots, E_{q}^{k})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{q}(0, \Sigma_{y}^{k}); \quad \Omega_{y}^{k} = (\Sigma_{y}^{k})^{-1} \\ \mathbb{F}^{k} &= (F_{1}^{k}, \dots, F_{r}^{k})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{r}(0, \Sigma_{z}^{k}); \quad \Omega_{y}^{k} = (\Sigma_{y}^{k})^{-1} \\ \mathbb{Y}^{k} &= (\mathbb{X}^{k})^{T} \mathbf{B}^{k} + \mathbb{E}^{k}, \\ \mathbb{Z}^{k} &= (\mathbb{Y}^{k})^{T} \mathbf{C}^{k} + \mathbb{F}^{k}; \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K \end{split}$$

- We decompose the multi-layer problem into a series of two layer problems.
- We estimate $\{\Omega_x^k, \Omega_y^k, \mathbf{B}^k\}$ jointly for all *k* from a single model;
 - Incorporate structural informartion using group sparsity,
 - Propose algorithm to compute solutions, derive their convergence properties.
- Devise a full pairwise testing procedure for rows of B^k;
 - For K = 2, propose a test for row-wise differences $\mathbf{b}_i^1 \mathbf{b}_i^2$;
 - Perform multiple testing for elementwise differences b¹_{ij} = b²_{ij}, j = 1, 2, ..., q within a row.
- Use simulations for performance evaluation.

What we do

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Multiple multi-level graphical models

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Future work

•
$$\mathcal{Y} = \{\mathbf{Y}^1, \dots, \mathbf{Y}^K\}, \mathcal{X} = \{\mathbf{X}^1, \dots, \mathbf{X}^K\};$$

• $\Omega_x = \{\Omega_x^1, \dots, \Omega_x^K\}, \Omega_y = \{\Omega_y^1, \dots, \Omega_y^K\}, \mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{B}^1, \dots, \mathbf{B}^K\};$

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Linear model: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$, with $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}, \boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^{p}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^{2}\mathbf{I})$ with $\sigma > 0$;

 $\textbf{Lasso:} \ \widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \| \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta} \|^2 / n + \lambda \| \boldsymbol{\beta} \|_1;$

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Group lasso:

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \frac{1}{n} \| \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta} \|^2 + \lambda \sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} \| \boldsymbol{\beta}_g \|$$

where \mathcal{G} is a *partition* of $\{1, 2, \dots, p\}$.

Example: $p = 7, G = \{[1, 2], [3, 4], [5, 6, 7]\}$. Then

$$\sum_{g \in \mathcal{G}} \|\beta_g\| = \sqrt{\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2} + \sqrt{\beta_3^2 + \beta_4^2} + \sqrt{\beta_5^2 + \beta_6^2 + \beta_7^2}$$

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6) Future work

Estimation of X-network

- Trick: Take a node- figure out who its neighbors are. Repeat this for all nodes. This infers the full graph structure.
- Estimate neighborhood coefficients of each X-node, say ζ_i = (ζ¹_i,...,ζ^K_i) using the group information on the X-network:

$$\widehat{\zeta}_{i} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\zeta_{i}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{n_{k}} \| \mathbf{X}_{i}^{k} - \mathbf{X}_{-i}^{k} \zeta_{i}^{k} \|^{2} + \nu_{n} P(\zeta) \right\}$$

Non-zero supports of ζ_i, i = 1, ..., p give a skeleton set for the corresponding graphs. *Recover precision matrices* as maximum likelihood estimates over these restricted skeleton sets.

Joint Structural Estimation Method (JSEM) Ma and Michailidis (2016)

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Joint Structural Estimation Method (JSEM) Ma and Michailidis (2016)

Estimating XY and Y-networks: the objective function



Estimating XY and Y-networks: the objective function





$$\mathbf{E}^k = \mathbf{Y}^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}^k$$



 $\mathbf{E}^{k} = \mathbf{Y}^{k} - \mathbf{X}^{k} \mathbf{B}^{k}$



$$\sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{j=1}^{q} \left\| \mathbf{Y}_j^k - (\mathbf{Y}_{-j}^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}_{-j}^k) \boldsymbol{\theta}_j^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}_j^k \right\|^2$$



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$$+ \lambda_n \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \|\mathbf{B}^{[h]}\|$$



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$$+ \lambda_n \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \|\mathbf{B}^{[h]}\| + \gamma_n \sum_{j' \neq j, g \in \mathcal{G}_{jj'}} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{jj'}^{[g]}\|$$



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(Ask me what they are later)

Majumdar and Michailidis

Multi-layered Graphical Models

Joint Multiple Multi-Level Estimation (JMMLE)

Joint Multiple Multi-Level Estimation (JMMLE)

• Solve for $\{B, \Theta\}$:

$$\{\widehat{\mathcal{B}}, \widehat{\Theta}\} = \underset{\mathcal{B}, \Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{j=1}^{q} \left\| \mathbf{Y}_j^k - (\mathbf{Y}_{-j}^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}_{-j}^k) \boldsymbol{\theta}_j^k - \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}_j^k \right\|^2 + \lambda_n \sum_{\boldsymbol{h} \in \mathcal{H}} \left\| \mathbf{B}^{[h]} \right\| + \gamma_n \sum_{j' \neq j, g \in \mathcal{G}_{jj'}} \left\| \boldsymbol{\theta}_{jj'}^{[g]} \right\| \right\}$$

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Precover Y-precision matrices as MLE over the Y-network skeleton sets

$$\{\widehat{\mathcal{B}}, \widehat{\Theta}\} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\mathcal{B}, \Theta} \{f(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}, \Theta) + \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{B}) + \mathcal{Q}(\Theta)\}$$

The objective function is biconvex, so we solve the above by the following alternating iterative algorithm:

Start with initial estimates of \mathcal{B} and Θ , say $\mathcal{B}^{(0)}, \Theta^{(0)}$.

Iterate:

$$\mathcal{B}^{(t+1)} = \underset{\mathcal{B}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ f(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}, \Theta^{(t)}) + \mathcal{Q}(\mathcal{B}) \right\}$$
$$\Theta^{(t+1)} = \underset{\Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ f(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{B}^{(t+1)}, \Theta) + \mathcal{P}(\Theta) \right\}$$

Ontinue till convergence.

For $\lambda_n \ge 4\sqrt{|h_{\max}|}\mathbb{R}_0\sqrt{\frac{\log(pq)}{n}}$, the following hold with probability approaching 1 as $n \to \infty$,

$$egin{aligned} \|\widehat{oldsymbol{eta}}-oldsymbol{eta}_0\|_1 &\leq rac{48\sqrt{|h_{ extsf{max}}|}oldsymbol{s}_eta\lambda_n}}{\psi^*} \ \|\widehat{oldsymbol{eta}}-oldsymbol{eta}_0\| &\leq rac{12\sqrt{s_eta}\lambda_n}{\psi^*} \ &\sum_{ar{eta}}\|oldsymbol{eta}^{[h]}-oldsymbol{eta}_0^{[h]}\| &\leq rac{48s_eta\lambda_n}{\psi^*} \end{aligned}$$

with ψ^* , \mathbb{R}_0 being constants, and $\beta = (\operatorname{vec}(\mathbf{B}^1)^T, \dots, \operatorname{vec}(\mathbf{B}^K)^T)^T$, $|h_{\max}|$ the maximum group size in β_0 (the true β) and s_β the sparsity of β_0 .

For $\gamma_n = 4\sqrt{|g_{\max}|}\mathbb{Q}_0\sqrt{\frac{\log(pq)}{n}}$, the following hold with probability approaching 1 as $n \to \infty$,

$$egin{aligned} \|\widehat{\Theta}_j - \Theta_{0,j}\|_F &\leq rac{12\sqrt{s_j}\gamma_n}{\psi} \ &\sum_{j
eq j',g\in\mathcal{G}_y^{jj'}} \|\widehat{ heta}_{jj'}^{[g]} - heta_{0,jj'}^{[g]}\| &\leq rac{48s_j\gamma_n}{\psi} \ &rac{1}{K}\sum_{k=1}^K \|\widehat{\Omega}_y^k - \Omega_y^k\|_F &\leq O\left(rac{\sqrt{s}\gamma_n}{\sqrt{K}}
ight) \end{aligned}$$

with ψ , \mathbb{Q}_0 being constants, $|g_{\max}|$ the maximum group size in Θ_0 , s_j the sparsity of Θ_j and $S = \sum_j s_j$.

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Future work

- Find out if an upper layer variable has a significant downstream effects, e.g. if a gene influences the activity of *any* protein.
- How does this downstream effect vary across different horizontal category, e.g. gene has downstream effect on patient profile 1 but not on profile 2.
- Which of the downstream effects are significant? How do they differ across subtypes? e.g. which exact proteins does the gene affect for each patient profile

Motivation

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• Lasso:
$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \| \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta} \|^2 / n + \lambda \| \boldsymbol{\beta} \|_1$$
;

- Lasso: $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \| \mathbf{y} \mathbf{X} \boldsymbol{\beta} \|^2 / n + \lambda \| \boldsymbol{\beta} \|_1$;
- Debiased estimator:

$$\hat{\beta}_{j}^{(\mathsf{deb})} = \hat{\beta}_{j} + \frac{\mathbf{z}_{j}^{\mathsf{T}}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{X}\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}})}{\mathbf{z}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x}_{j}},$$

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The debiasing factor for the j^{th} coefficient is obtained by taking residuals from the regularized regression and scale them using the *projection of* \mathbf{x}_j *onto a space approximately orthogonal to it.*

- We propose a debiased estimator for **b**^k_i that makes use of already computed model quantities, and establish asymptotic properties of its scaled version,
- We assume K = 2, and propose an asymptotic test for detecting differential effects of a variable in the upper layer, i.e. testing for the null hypothesis H_0 : $\mathbf{b}_{0i}^1 = \mathbf{b}_{0i}^2$,
- We also propose pairwise simultaneous tests with False Discovery Rate (FDR) control across j = 1, ..., q for detecting the elementwise differences $b_{0ij}^1 = b_{0ij}^2$.

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5 Numerical experiments

5 Future work

Simulation setup

- Number of categories (K) = 5;
- Structured $\{\Omega_x\}, \{\Omega_y\}, \mathcal{B};$
- Groups in B, Ω_x are non-zero with probability 5/p, and their elements come from Unif[-1, -0.5] ∪ [0.5, 1];
- Groups in Ω_y are non-zero with probability 5/q, and their elements come from Unif[-1, -0.5] ∪ [0.5, 1];
- We generate size-*n* i.i.d. samples \mathbf{X}^k from $\mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_x^k)$, and \mathbf{E}^k from $\mathcal{N}_p(0, \Sigma_y^k)$, then obtain $\mathbf{Y}^k = \mathbf{X}^k \mathbf{B}^k + \mathbf{E}^k$;
- 50 Replications.
- Tuning parameters:

$$\gamma_n \in \{0.3, 0.4, ..., 1\} \sqrt{\frac{\log q}{n}}, \lambda_n \in \{0.4, 0.6, ..., 1.8\} \sqrt{\frac{\log p}{n}}$$

Evaluation metrics

True positive Rate-

$$\mathsf{TPR}(\widehat{\mathcal{B}}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{K}} \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{K}} \frac{|\operatorname{supp}(\widehat{\mathbf{B}}^k) \cup \operatorname{supp}(\mathbf{B}_0^k)|}{|\operatorname{supp}(\mathbf{B}_0^k)|}$$



$$\mathsf{TNR}(\widehat{\mathcal{B}}) = \frac{1}{\mathcal{K}} \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{K}} \frac{|\operatorname{supp}^{c}(\widehat{\mathbf{B}}^{k}) \cup \operatorname{supp}^{c}(\mathbf{B}_{0}^{k})|}{|\operatorname{supp}^{c}(\mathbf{B}_{0}^{k})|}$$



Relative error in Frobenius norm-

$$\mathsf{RF}(\widehat{\mathcal{B}}) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{\|\widehat{\mathbf{B}}^k - \mathbf{B}_0^k\|_F}{\|\mathbf{B}_0^k\|_F}$$

Matthews correlation coefficient (MCC).

Same metrics are used for $\widehat{\Theta}$.

(π_x,π_y)	(p, q, n)	Method	TPR	TNR	MCC	RF
(5/p, 5/q)	(60,30,100)	JMMLE	0.97(0.02)	0.99(0.003)	0.96(0.014)	0.24(0.033)
		Separate	0.96(0.018)	0.99(0.004)	0.93(0.014)	0.22(0.029)
	(30,60,100)	JMMLE	0.97(0.013)	0.99(0.002)	0.96(0.008)	0.27(0.024)
		Separate	0.99(0.009)	0.99(0.003)	0.93(0.017)	0.18(0.021)
	(200,200,150)	JMMLE	0.98(0.011)	1.0(0)	0.99(0.005)	0.16(0.025)
		Separate	0.99(0.001)	0.99 (0.001)	0.88(0.009)	0.18(0.007)
	(300,300,150)	JMMLE	1.0(0.001)	1.0(0)	0.99(0.001)	0.14 (0.015)
		Separate	1.0(0.001)	0.99(0.001)	0.84(0.01)	0.21(0.007)
(30/p, 30/q)	(200,200,100)	JMMLE	0.97(0.017)	1.0(0)	0.98(0.008)	0.21(0.032)
		Separate	0.32(0.01)	0.99(0.001)	0.49(0.009)	0.85(0.06)
	(200,200,200)	JMMLE	0.99(0.006)	1.0(0)	0.99(0.007)	0.13(0.016)
		Separate	0.97(0.004)	0.98(0.001)	0.93(0.002)	0.19(0.07)

Table of outputs for estimation of regression matrices, giving empirical mean and standard deviation (in brackets) of each evaluation metric over 50 replications.
Results

(π_x,π_y)	(p, q, n)	Method	TPR	TNR	MCC	RF
(5/p, 5/q)	(60,30,100)	JMMLE	0.76(0.018)	0.90(0.006)	0.61(0.024)	0.32(0.008)
		Separate	0.77(0.031)	0.92(0.007)	0.56(0.03)	0.51(0.017)
		JSEM	0.24(0.013)	0.8(0.003)	0.05(0.015)	1.03(0.002)
	(30,60,100)	JMMLE	0.7(0.018)	0.94(0.002)	0.55(0.018)	0.3(0.005)
		Separate	0.76(0.041)	0.89(0.015)	0.59(0.039)	0.49(0.014)
		JSEM	0.13(0.005)	0.9(0.001)	0.03(0.007)	1.04(0.001)
	(200,200,150)	JMMLE	0.68(0.017)	0.98(0)	0.48(0.013)	0.26(0.002)
		Separate	0.78(0.019)	0.97(0.001)	0.55(0.012)	0.6(0.007)
		JSEM	0.05(0.002)	0.97(0)	0.02(0.002)	1.01(0)
	(300,300,150)	JMMLE	0. 71(0.014)	0.98(0)	0.44(0.008)	0.25(0.002)
		Separate	0.71(0.017)	0.98(0.001)	0.51(0.011)	0.59(0.005)
		JSEM	0.04(0.002)	0.98(0)	0.02(0.002)	1.01(0)
(30/p, 30/q)	(200,200,100)	JMMLE	0.77(0.016)	0.98(0)	0.46(0.013)	0.31(0.003)
		Separate	0.57(0.027)	0.44(0.007)	0.04(0.008)	0.84(0.002)
		JSEM	0.05(0.002)	0.97(0)	0.01(0.002)	1.01(0)
	(200,200,200)	JMMLE	0.76(0.018)	0.98(0)	0.55(0.015)	0.27(0.004)
		Separate	0.73(0.023)	0.94(0.003)	0.39(0.017)	0.62(0.011)
		JSEM	0.05(0.002)	0.97(0)	0.03(0.003)	1.01(0)

Table of outputs for estimation of lower layer precision matrices over 50 replications.

- Set K = 2, then randomly assign each element of B¹₀ as non-zero w.p. π, then draw their values from Unif{[−1, −0.5] ∪ [0.5, 1]} independently.
- Generate a matrix of differences **D**, where $(\mathbf{D})_{ij}$ takes values -1, 1, 0 w.p. 0.1, 0.1 and 0.8, respectively. Finally set $\mathbf{B}_0^2 = \mathbf{B}_0^1 + \mathbf{D}$.
- Identical sparsity structures for the pairs of X- and Y-precision matrices.
- Type-I error set at 0.05, FDR controlled at 0.2.
- Empirical sizes of global tests are calculated from estimators obtained from a separate set of data generated by setting all elements of D to 0.

Results

(π_x,π_y)	(p, q)	n	Global test		Simultaneous tests	
			Power	Size	Power	FDR
(5/p, 5/q)	(60,30)	100	0.977 (0.018)	0.058 (0.035)	0.937 (0.021)	0.237 (0.028)
		200	0.987 (0.016)	0.046 (0.032)	0.968 (0.013)	0.218 (0.032)
	(30,60)	100	0.985 (0.018)	0.097 (0.069)	0.925 (0.022)	0.24 (0.034)
		200	0.990 (0.02)	0.119 (0.059)	0.958 (0.024)	0.245 (0.041)
	(200,200)	150	0.987 (0.005)	0.004 (0.004)	0.841 (0.13)	0.213 (0.007)
	(300,300)	150	0.988 (0.002)	0.002 (0.003)	0.546 (0.035)	0.347 (0.017)
		300	0.998 (0.003)	0.000 (0.001)	0.989 (0.003)	0.117 (0.006)
(30/p, 30/q)	(200,200)	100	0.994 (0.005)	0.262 (0.06)	0.479 (0.01)	0.557 (0.006)
		200	0.998 (0.004)	0.020 (0.01)	0.962 (0.003)	0.266 (0.007)
		300	0.999 (0.002)	0.011 (0.008)	0.990 (0.004)	0.185 (0.009)

Table of outputs for hypothesis testing.

• Application to multi-omics data;

- Beyond pairwise testing: global and simultaneous tests for K > 2;
- Multi-level estimation and testing for model assumptions other than structured sparsity;
- Hypothesis testing for complex high-dimensional models;
- Non-gaussian data;
- Graphical models with non-linear interactions.

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Graphical models with non-linear interactions

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- Take the multi-layer structure as a *generative model*.
- Only the top layer is observed, other layers are composed of latent variables.



Graphical models with non-linear interactions

- Take the multi-layer structure as a *generative model*.
- Only the top layer is observed, other layers are composed of latent variables.

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{L}_{1} &= (L_{11}, \dots, L_{1r})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{r}(0, \Sigma_{1}); \\ \mathbb{L}_{2} &= \phi (\mathbb{L}_{2}^{T} \mathbf{B}) + \mathbb{E}, \\ \mathbb{X} &= \phi (\mathbb{L}_{2}^{T} \mathbf{C}) + \mathbb{F}, \\ \mathbb{E} &= (E_{1}, \dots, E_{q})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{q}(0, \Sigma_{2}); \\ \mathbb{F} &= (F_{1}, \dots, F_{p})^{T} \sim \mathcal{N}_{p}(0, \Sigma_{x}). \end{split}$$



where ϕ is a known activation function.

- Non-linear generalization of a factor model.
- A general version: L₂ = f₁(L₁) + E etc. for unknown function f₁, has been proposed as Deep Latent Gaussian Model (Rezende et al., 2014).
- The choice φ(L^TB) ≡ φ(L)^TB corresponds to Non-linear Gaussian belief networks (Frey and Hinton, 1999).

Our plan

Incorporate *sparse* estimation of the model parameters to model non-linear interactions.



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Incorporate *sparse* estimation of the model parameters to model non-linear interactions.



• Monte-Carlo EM to maximize a variational lower bound of the likelihood,

Theoretical properties of estimates

- We proposed a general framework to model data in *complex hierarchical* structures, with a focus on multi-level biological Omics datasets;
- We provide an *estimation algorithm* and *testing methodology* for the parameters involved, with theoretical results ensuring the validity of the methods;
- The general nature of the work leaves many *directions for future developments*.

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Preprint available at: https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.03348

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THANK YOU!