

# Eigenvalue-free risk bounds for PCA projectors

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joint work with many people (G. Biau, E. Brunel, C. Crambes, N.  
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# Random Projections vs PCA

Two kinds of projections usually encountered in ML :

- Principal components/PCA and variants : projection space depends on the data. Real projections i.e.  $P^2 = P$ .

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- Principal components/PCA and variants : projection space depends on the data. Real projections i.e.  $P^2 = P$ .
- “Random projections” (RP) : projection space independent from the data. Not real projections but rectangle matrices with  $n_{\text{rows}} < n_{\text{cols}}$  filled with i.i.d. (Gaussian/Rademacher) entries.

RP are used in **sparse recovery, compressed sensing, etc.** Allow effective dimension reduction for sparse signals through Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma and Restricted Isometry Property.

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- Numerous variants in ML : sparse PCA, kernel/non linear PCA...

# Notations and Set-up

$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{L}^2([0, 1])$  or  $\mathbf{W}^{2,m}([0, 1])$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and norm  $\|\cdot\|$   
 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  sample of i.i.d random elements with values in  $\mathbf{H}$  and  $\mathbb{E}X_1 = 0$  :

$$\Sigma = \mathbb{E}(X_1 \otimes X_1) = \mathbb{E} \langle X_1, \cdot \rangle X_1 = \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \lambda_k (\varphi_k \otimes \varphi_k),$$

$$\Sigma_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n X_k \otimes X_k \quad \Sigma_n \hat{\varphi}_i = \hat{\lambda}_i \hat{\varphi}_i$$

- $(\lambda_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}^*} \in l_1^+, \text{ with } \lambda_1 > \dots > \lambda_k > \dots > 0$
- Rank one projector :  $\pi_i = \varphi_i \otimes \varphi_i$ .
- Projection onto  $\text{span}\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_k\}$  :  $\mathbf{P}_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \pi_i$ .
- Empirical counterparts :  $\hat{\pi}_i = \hat{\varphi}_i \otimes \hat{\varphi}_i$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{P}}_k = \sum_{i=1}^k \hat{\pi}_i$ .

# Smoothness of processes and eigenvalues decay

Karhunen-Loeve development :  $X = \sum_{j=1}^{+\infty} \sqrt{\lambda_j} \xi_j \varphi_j$   
[Kind of random generalized Fourier series]

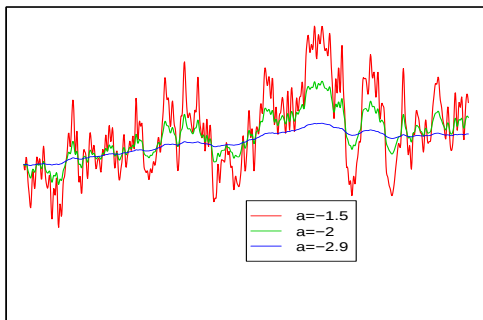


Figure: Three examples of random curves with  $\lambda_j = j^a$  and the same  $\xi_j$ 's.

# Motivation-Goals

- $\Sigma \approx$  infinite size matrix,  $\Sigma$  trace-class,  $\Sigma^{-1}$  unbounded (not coercive)
- No specific model on  $X$  (e.g: signal+ noise) or  $\Sigma$  (spiked covariance structure not suited to functional setting)

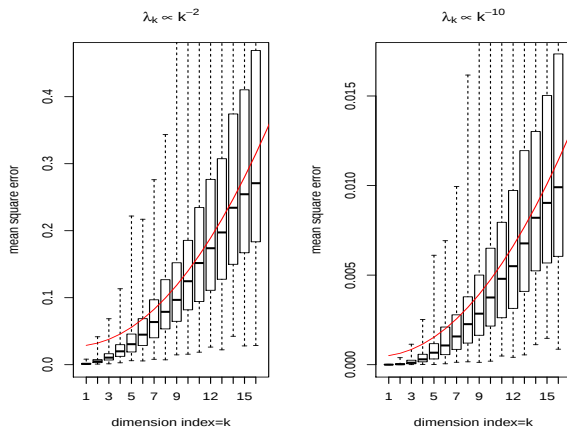
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- Usually upper bounds are (roughly)  $\|\hat{\pi}_i - \pi_i\|_\infty^2 \prec 1/(n\lambda_i)$  or  $1/(n\delta_i)$  with  $\delta_i = \min(|\lambda_i - \lambda_{i+1}|, |\lambda_{i-1} - \lambda_i|)$
- Previous bound degenerates if  $\lambda_i = e^{-mi}$  or  $\lambda_i = i^{-\alpha}$  for large  $\alpha$
- Not that shocking if eig.vec. estimation seen as fixed point pb  $\Sigma_n \hat{\varphi}_i / \hat{\lambda}_i = \hat{\varphi}_i$ . If  $i \uparrow \infty$  pb no more well posed  $\mapsto$  price to pay...

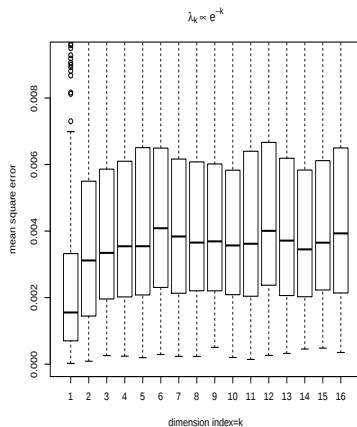
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- But paradox ?  $X$  may be concentrated on low dimensional space  $\rightarrow$  convergence of  $\hat{\pi}_i$  could be slow even for  $i$  in low dimensions.
- Why not some simulations now ?

# Some simulations before theory...



MC simulation of  $\mathbb{E} \|\hat{\pi}_k - \pi_k\|_\infty^2$  with  $M = 500$  replications, sample size  $n = 500$  and  $X = \sum_{j=1}^{kmax} \sqrt{\lambda_j} \xi_j e_j$  with  $kmax = 20$ ,  $\xi_j$  Gaussian,  $e_j$  Fourier basis and  $\text{tr}\Sigma = 1$ . Red curve :  $k^2$  fit

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# From covariance to projectors : perturbation theory and functional calculus

Notice  $\left| \hat{\lambda}_k - \lambda_k \right| \leq \|\Sigma_n - \Sigma\|_\infty \leq \|\Sigma_n - \Sigma\|_2$ .

- Is it possible to get  $\hat{\pi}_k = f_k(\Sigma_n)$  and  $\pi_k = f_k(\Sigma)$  ?
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Functional calculus defines  $f(M)$  where  $M$  and  $f(M)$  matrices or operators for certain classes of functions  $f$ . Two kinds:

- **Spectral FC**  $\diamond M$  selfadjoint  $\diamond f$  Borel bounded on  $\mathbb{R}$   $\diamond$  **Main tool** : Resolution of the identity (Spectral Theorem)
- **Perturbation FC**  $\diamond$  any  $M$   $\diamond f$  holomorphic  $\diamond$  **Main tool** : Resolvent (Kato's theory)

# Projection via perturbation in a nutshell

- Take  $\lambda_k \in \mathbb{C}$  and let  $\Omega_k$  a closed oriented contour around  $\lambda_k$  (say a circle) separating  $\lambda_k$  from the other eigenvalues
- Use Cauchy integral properties to compute :

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Omega_k} \frac{dz}{z - \lambda_l} = \begin{cases} 1 & k = l \\ 0 & k \neq l \end{cases}$$

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- *Switch from scalar to operator form* and apply eigenvectors :

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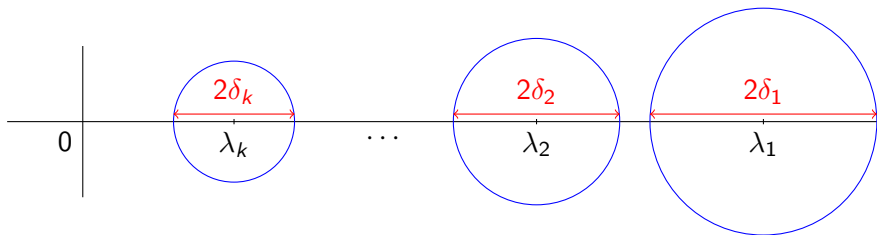
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!!!  $\hat{\Omega}_k$  is a random contour of  $\mathbb{C}$ . Control of the location of eigenvalues (concentration inequalities) then  $\hat{\pi}_k = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Omega_k} (zI - \Sigma_n)^{-1} dz + r_n$



**Figure:** Contour made of disjoint circles (court. A. Roche)

Typical contour to define one or more  $\pi_k$ 's

# Two examples of classical contours

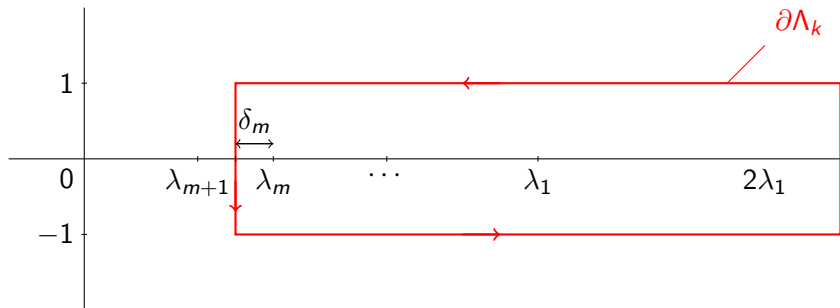


Figure: Rectangular contour (court. A. Roche)

Typical contour to define  $P_m$ , projector associated with the  $m$  first eigenvalues.

# Main results 1/2:

Let  $\mathbf{a}_k = \sum_{i \neq k} \frac{\lambda_i}{|\lambda_i - \lambda_k|} + \frac{\lambda_k}{\delta_k}$ .

**Theorem (lower bound)** Take  $X$  Gaussian and  $\mathbf{a}_k/\sqrt{n} < 0.5$  then :

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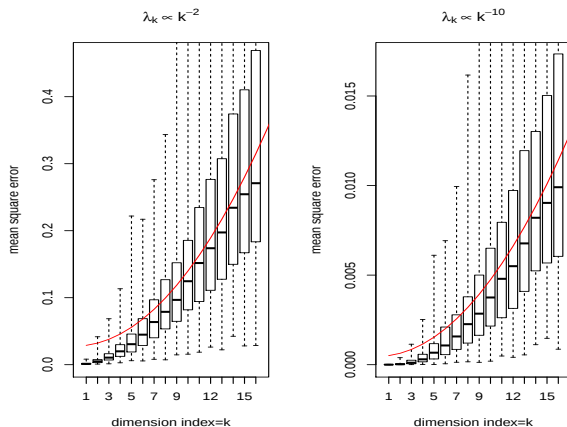
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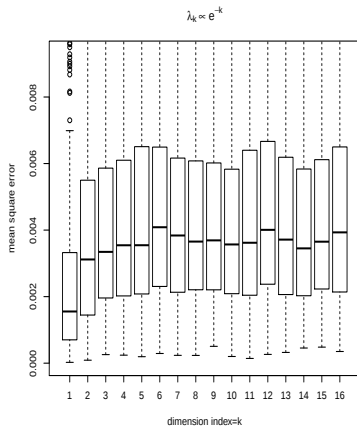
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- N.B.1 : the constants depend on the eigenvalues, the rate *not really*.
- N.B.2 : If  $\exists \gamma > 0, j \lambda_j \log^{1+\gamma}(j) \downarrow 0$ , then  $\mathbf{a}_k \leq c(\gamma) k \log k$ .

# Back to simulations



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**Theorem (Upper bound for reconstruction)** : Take  $\mathbf{u} = X_i$  or  $\mathbf{u} = X_{n+1}$  or  $\mathbf{u}$  nonrandom with  $\sup_i |\langle \mathbf{u}, \varphi_i \rangle|^2 / \lambda_i < 1$  then for all  $n \geq 2$  and  $k \geq 2$ :

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- Same kind of bounds for  $\mathbb{E} \|\hat{\pi}_k - \pi_k\|_\infty^2$  and for  $\mathbb{E} \|\hat{\varphi}_k - \varphi_k\|^2$
- Previous rates may be improved with projection MS error:

$$\underbrace{\|P_k - P_k\|_\infty}_{\text{uniform}} \gg \underbrace{\|(P_k - P_k) u\|}_{\text{strong}} \gg \underbrace{\langle (P_k - P_k) u, v \rangle}_{\text{weak}}$$

# Application to high-dimensional kernel estimation

Take  $X$  in high dim. space,  $Y \in \mathbb{R}$  and consider modified non parametric regression :  $r_k(x) = \mathbb{E}(Y | \mathbf{P}_k X = x)$  with  $x \in \text{Im}(\mathbf{P}_k)$

$$\hat{r}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i K\left(\left\|\hat{\mathbf{P}}_k(X_i - x)\right\|/h\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\left\|\hat{\mathbf{P}}_k(X_i - x)\right\|/h\right)}.$$

$$r^*(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i K(\|\mathbf{P}_k(X_i - x)\|/h)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K(\|\mathbf{P}_k(X_i - x)\|/h)}.$$

**Question :** is it possible to get  $\mathbb{E}[\hat{r}(x) - r^*(x)]^2 \prec \tau(n, k)$  ? with  $\tau(n, k)$  = Minimax rate in NP regression in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  (and with an almost free choice of  $h$ , please)

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**Prop :** Non asymptotic bound for all  $h$  and  $k$  subject to  $k > 2$ ,  
 $0 \leq h \leq h_{\max} < 1$

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{r}(x) - r^*(x)]^2 \leq c_6 \frac{k^4}{nh^2} \log^2 n \log\left(\frac{h\sqrt{n}}{k^2}\right).$$

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- Main goal not  $\beta_n$  but predictor  $\langle \beta_n, X_{n+1} \rangle$

# Why PCA ?

- Consider bias=approx error for prediction after projection with  $\mathcal{P}_k$  (which is any  $k$ -dimensional projector)

$$\mathbb{E} \langle \mathcal{P}_k \beta - \beta, X \rangle^2 = \mathbb{E} \langle \beta, (I - \mathcal{P}_k) X \rangle^2 \leq \|\beta\|^2 \mathbb{E} \|(I - \mathcal{P}_k) X\|^2$$

- PCA: good candidate for projection basis with no prior on  $\beta$

# Why PCA ?

- Consider bias=approx error for prediction after projection with  $\mathcal{P}_k$  (which is any  $k$ -dimensional projector)

$$\mathbb{E} \langle \mathcal{P}_k \beta - \beta, X \rangle^2 = \mathbb{E} \langle \beta, (I - \mathcal{P}_k) X \rangle^2 \leq \|\beta\|^2 \mathbb{E} \|(I - \mathcal{P}_k) X\|^2$$

- PCA: good candidate for projection basis with no prior on  $\beta$
- Avoids decoupling assumptions : smoothness of  $X$  / smoothness of  $\beta$
- Provide minimax adaptive estimators
- Allows minimax adaptive testing as well
- Mean Square Pred. Risk :  $\log n/n$  even if eigenvalues AND  $\beta$  Fourier coeff decay at exponential rate  $\approx$  highly ill-posed.

**Example of estimation results** : Set  $L = \|\Sigma^{1/2}\beta\|$ ,

$\varphi(j) = \lambda_j \langle \beta, \varphi_j \rangle^2 / L^2$  and  $k_n^*$  as the integer part of the unique solution of the integral equation (in  $x$ ) :

$$\frac{1}{x} \int_x^{+\infty} \varphi(x) dx = \frac{1}{n} \frac{\sigma_\varepsilon^2}{L^2}. \quad (1)$$

then with  $\mathcal{R}_n(L, \varphi) = \sup_{\Sigma^{1/2}\beta \in \mathcal{L}_2(L, \varphi)} \mathbb{E} \langle \beta_n - \beta, X_{n+1} \rangle^2$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \frac{n}{k_n^*} \mathcal{R}_n(L, \varphi) = 2\sigma_\varepsilon^2$$

If  $\varphi_a(j) \propto (j^{2+\alpha} (\log j)^\beta)^{-1}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_n(L, \varphi_a) \propto \frac{(\log n)^{\beta/(2+\alpha)}}{n^{(1+\alpha)/(2+\alpha)}}$ ,

If  $\varphi_b(j) \propto \exp(-\alpha j)$ ,  $\mathcal{R}_n(L, \varphi_b) \leq \frac{\log n}{\alpha n}$ .

Besides  $\inf_{\hat{T}} \sup_{\Sigma^{1/2}\beta \in \mathcal{L}_2(\varphi, L)} \mathbb{E} \left\| \hat{T}(X_{n+1}) - S(X_{n+1}) \right\|^2 \asymp \frac{k_n^*}{n}$

**Thank you for your attention.**