

# LASSO-Patternsearch for Multivariate Bernoulli (MVB) Observations with Applications

Bin Dai

Department of Statistics,  
University of Wisconsin Madison

September 16th 2010

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion

## Why we need LASSO for multivariate Bernoulli

- Correlated Bernoulli outcomes come from many applications, such as systolic blood pressure (BP) and intraocular pressure (IOP) in medical studies.
- Both biological variables (SNPs) and environmental variables (smoke, age) were proved to be important in a sparse manner so variable selection approach is of great need.
- LASSO is a powerful and efficient variable selection tool, and it has been already applied to various models.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion

- Let  $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_K)$  be a  $K$ -dimensional vector of possibly correlated Bernoulli random variables (binary outcomes) and let  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_K)$  be a realization of  $Y$ . The most general form  $p(y_1, \dots, y_K)$  of the joint density is (Whittaker, 1990)

$$p(y_1, \dots, y_K) = p(0, 0, \dots, 0)^{[\pi_{j=1}^K(1-y_j)]} p(1, 0, \dots, 0)^{[y_1 \pi_{j=2}^K(1-y_j)]} \dots p(1, 1, \dots, 1)^{[\pi_{j=1}^K y_j]} \quad (1)$$

or we can write this in a simpler form

$$p(y) = p_{0,0,\dots,0}^{[\pi_{j=1}^K(1-y_j)]} p_{1,0,\dots,0}^{[y_1 \pi_{j=2}^K(1-y_j)]} \dots p_{1,1,\dots,1}^{[\pi_{j=1}^K y_j]} \quad (2)$$

- The special form of  $K = 2$  can be written as

$$p(y_1, y_2) = p_{00}^{(1-y_1)(1-y_2)} p_{01}^{(1-y_1)y_2} p_{10}^{y_1(1-y_2)} p_{11}^{y_1 y_2} \quad (3)$$

- Let the probabilities depend on some attribute vector  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_p)$ , which is a subset of  $\mathcal{R}^p$ . By using the natural parameters, the negative log likelihood can be written as

$$-L(y, \mathbf{f}(x)) = -\left[\sum_{j=1}^K f^j(x) B_j(y) + \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 \leq K} f^{j_1 j_2}(x) B_{j_1 j_2}(y) + \dots + f^{12 \dots K}(x) B_{12 \dots K}(y) - b(\mathbf{f}(x))\right] \quad (4)$$

where  $B_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(y) = y_{j_1} y_{j_2} \dots y_{j_r}$  and  $\mathbf{f} = (f^1, f^2, \dots, f^{12 \dots K})^T$ .

$$b(\mathbf{f}(x)) = \log\left(1 + \sum_j e^{S^j(x)} + \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 \leq K} e^{S^{j_1 j_2}(x)} + \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < j_3 \leq K} e^{S^{j_1 j_2 j_3}(x)} + \dots + e^{S^{12 \dots K}(x)}\right)$$

where

$$S^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(x) = \sum_{1 \leq s \leq r} f^{j_s}(x) + \sum_{1 \leq s < t \leq r} f^{j_s j_t}(x) + \dots + f^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(x)$$

LEMMA (Parameter transformation). *For multivariate Bernoulli model, the general parameters and natural parameters have the following relationship.*

$$\exp(f^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}) = \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\prod p(\text{even number zeros among } j_1, \dots, j_r \text{ positions and other } K-r \text{ positions are all zero})}{\prod p(\text{odd number zeros among } j_1, \dots, j_r \text{ positions and other } K-r \text{ positions are all zero})}$$

in addition

$$\exp(S^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}) = \frac{p(j_1, \dots, j_r \text{ positions are one, others are zero})}{p(0, 0, \dots, 0)} \quad (6)$$



- PROPOSITION (Conditional Covariance). *In the multivariate Bernoulli model,  $f^{jk}$  is related to the conditional variance of two outcomes, without loss of generality, just take  $j = 1$  and  $k = 2$*

$$\exp(f^{12}) = \text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2 | Y_3 = 0, \dots, Y_K = 0) \quad (7)$$

- What's more in the bivariate Bernoulli,  
COROLLARY *When  $K = 2$  for multivariate Bernoulli distribution*

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(f^{12}) &= p_{11}p_{00} - p_{01}p_{10} \\ &= \text{cov}(Y_1, Y_2) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

and  $f^{12} = 0$  if and only if  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are uncorrelated.

- Direct calculation or shows that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial -l(y, \mathbf{f}(x))}{\partial f^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(x)} &= -B_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(y) + \frac{\sum_{\tau \in \mathcal{T}(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r)} e^{S^\tau(x)}}{e^{b(\mathbf{f}(x))}} \\ &= -B_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(y) + \mu^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(x)\end{aligned}\quad (9)$$

where  $\mathcal{T}(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r)$  is the collection of interaction indexes which include  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r$  and  $\mu^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(x) = E(B_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(Y) | \mathbf{f}(x))$ , which is the conditional mean.

- For instance in  $K = 2$ , the first derivative with respect to  $f^1$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial -l(y, \mathbf{f}(x))}{\partial f^1(x)} &= -B_1(y) + \frac{e^{S^1} + e^{S^{12}}}{e^{b(\mathbf{f}(x))}} \\ &= -y_1 + \frac{e^{f^1} + e^{f^1 + f^2 + f^{12}}}{e^{b(\mathbf{f}(x))}}\end{aligned}\quad (10)$$

- From the first order derivative, we can derive that

$$\frac{\partial^2 -l(y, \mathbf{f}(x))}{\partial f^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(x) \partial f^{h_1 h_2 \dots h_s}(x)} = \text{Cov}(B_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_r}(Y), B_{h_1 h_2 \dots h_s}(Y) \mid \mathbf{f}(x)) \quad (11)$$

Hence the Hessian with respect to  $f$  is

$$\frac{\partial^2 -l(y, \mathbf{f}(x))}{\partial \mathbf{f}(x) \partial \mathbf{f}(x)^T} = \text{Var}(B(Y) \mid \mathbf{f}(x)) \quad (12)$$

which is exactly the conditional covariance matrix.

The negative log-likelihood for Bivariate Bernoulli log linear model can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} L(y, f) &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ y_1(i) f^1(x(i)) + y_2(i) f^2(x(i)) + y_1(i) y_2(i) f^{12}(x(i)) - b(f(x(i))) \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \sum_{\tau=1,2,12} f^\tau(x(i)) B^\tau(y(i)) - b(f(x(i))) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

here the index  $i$  refers to the subjects, with range  $1, \dots, n$ . The  $f$  functions are formulated as the so-called linear predictors, for instance the  $f^1$  function can be represented by:

$$f^1(x) = c_0^1 + x_1 c_1^1 + \dots + x_p c_p^1 \quad (14)$$

# The target function

In most cases of real applications, the dimension of the genetic data  $p$  is large but only a small portion of covariates have important effects on the responses, so the  $l_1$  penalty can be applied to impose sparsity. The target function can be formulated as:

$$\mathcal{I}_\lambda(y, f) = L(y, f) + J_\lambda(f), \quad (15)$$

where the penalty function is defined to be sum of  $l_1$  penalty:

$$J_\lambda(f) = \lambda_1 \sum_{j=1}^p |c_j^1| + \lambda_2 \sum_{j=1}^p |c_j^2| + \lambda_{12} \sum_{j=1}^p |c_j^{12}|, \quad (16)$$

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm**
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion

The basic (first-order) step at iteration  $k$  is obtained by forming a simple model of the objective by expanding around current iterate  $\mathbf{c}^k$  ( $\mathbf{c}$  is the coefficients vector) as follows:

$$\mathbf{d}^k = \arg \min_{\mathbf{d}} L(\mathbf{c}^k) + \nabla L(\mathbf{c}^k)^T \mathbf{d} + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_k \mathbf{d}^T \mathbf{d} + \lambda^T \|\mathbf{c}^k + \mathbf{d}\|_1 \quad (17)$$

where  $\alpha_k$  is a positive scalar and  $\mathbf{d}^k$  is the proposed step. The subproblem (17) is separable in the components of  $\mathbf{d}$  and therefore trivial to solve in closed form, in  $O(3p)$  operations.

The solution  $\mathbf{d}^k$  can be examined to obtain an estimate of the active set:

$$\mathcal{A}_k = \{j = 1, 2, \dots, 3p | (\mathbf{c}^k + \mathbf{d}^k)_j = 0\} \quad (18)$$

The definition of the "inactive set" estimate  $\mathcal{I}_k$  is the complement of the active set estimate, that is:

$$\mathcal{I}_k = \{1, 2, \dots, 3p\} \setminus \mathcal{A}_k \quad (19)$$



We enhance the step by computing the restriction of the Hessian  $\nabla^2 L(\mathbf{c}^k)$  to the set  $\mathcal{I}_k$  (denoted by  $\nabla_{\mathcal{I}_k \mathcal{I}_k}^2 L(\mathbf{c}^k)$ ) and then computing a Newton-like step in the  $\mathcal{I}_k$  components as follows:

$$(\nabla_{\mathcal{I}_k \mathcal{I}_k}^2 L(\mathbf{c}^k) + \delta_k I) \mathbf{p}_{\mathcal{I}_k}^k = -\nabla_{\mathcal{I}_k} L(\mathbf{c}^k) - \lambda^T \omega_{\mathcal{I}_k} \quad (20)$$

where  $\delta_k$  is a small damping parameter that goes to zero as  $\mathbf{c}^k$  approaches the solution, and  $\omega_{\mathcal{I}_k}$  captures the gradient of the term  $\|\mathbf{c}\|_1$  at the nonzero components of  $\mathbf{c}^k + \mathbf{d}^k$ .

The first-order step is cheaper to calculate than the Newton step, the general iterative steps of the algorithm therefore can be summarized as follows:

- 1 Evaluate the current first-order step  $\mathbf{d}^k$  with a proper  $\alpha_k$ .
- 2 Calculate the Newton step  $\mathbf{p}_{\mathcal{I}_k}^k$ , only if the inactive size is less than a predefined threshold.
- 3 Take the better step between first-order and Newton.
- 4 Check optimal condition, repeat if not satisfied.

There are some improvement to the algorithm omitted here.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning**
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion

So far, all smoothing parameters are considered fixed. However, the choice of the tuning parameters is crucial and 4 different criterion are considered

- AIC, aimed at prediction, and the degrees of freedom can be approximated by the number of nonzero coefficients.
- BIC, used for variable selection, is the Bayesian version of AIC but achieving more sparsity.
- GACV (generalized approximate cross-validation) used to minimize the comparative Kullback-Leibler (CKL) distance.
- BGACV the Bayesian version of GACV criteria, analogous to BIC.

The augmented response for the  $i$ th subject  $y(i) = (y_1(i), y_2(i))$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{Y}(i) = (y_1(i), y_2(i), y_1(i)y_2(i))^T \quad (21)$$

the augmented covariate  $\mathcal{X}$  can be similarly defined, then the vector form can be constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{f}(x) &= (f^1(x(1)), f^2(x(1)), \dots, f^{12}(x(n)))^T \\ \vec{\mathcal{Y}} &= (\mathcal{Y}(1), \mathcal{Y}(2), \dots, \mathcal{Y}(n))^T \end{aligned}$$

For fixed  $i$  and a new augmented response  $\tilde{\mathcal{Y}}$ , let  $h_\lambda[i, \tilde{\mathcal{Y}}]$  be the minimizer of

$$-\sum_{k \neq i} l(y(k), \mathbf{f}(x(k))) - \tilde{\mathcal{Y}}^T \mathbf{f}(x(i)) + b(\mathbf{f}(x(i))) + n\mathbf{J}_\lambda(\mathbf{f}) \quad (22)$$

Then  $h_\lambda \left[ i, \mu_\lambda^{[-i]}(x(i)) \right] = \mathbf{f}_\lambda^{[-i]}$ . Here  $\mu_\lambda^{[-i]}(x(i)) = E[\mathcal{Y} | \mathbf{f}_\lambda^{[-i]}(x(i))]$ .

The vector form of the linear predictor  $\vec{f}(x)$  can be formulated as:

$$\vec{f}(x) = \mathcal{D}\beta$$

where the corresponding design matrix and the coefficients to be estimated are

$$\mathcal{D} = \begin{pmatrix} x(1) & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & x(1) & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & x(1) \\ x(2) & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & x(n) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\beta = \left( c_1^1, c_2^1, \dots, c_n^{12} \right)^T$$

- Let  $\hat{\beta}_\lambda$  be the estimated  $\beta$  for a specific tuning parameter  $\lambda$ , and denote the number of nonzero elements in  $\hat{\beta}_\lambda$  to be  $s$  and  $\mathcal{D}^*$  is the sub-matrix of  $\mathcal{D}$  with columns corresponding to nonzero elements in  $\hat{\beta}_\lambda$ . Define the  $H$  matrix

$$H = \mathcal{D}^{*T} \left( \mathcal{D}^* W(f_\lambda) (\mathcal{D}^*)^T \right)^{-1} \mathcal{D}^*$$

where  $W(f_\lambda) = \text{Var}(\mathcal{Y} | \vec{f}_\lambda)$ .

- The GACV score can therefore be evaluated:

$$\text{GACV}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ -\mathcal{Y}(i)^T f_\lambda(x(i)) + b(f_\lambda(x(i))) \right] + \frac{\text{tr}(H)}{n} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{Y}(i)^T (\mathcal{Y}(i) - \vec{\mu})}{n - s} \quad (23)$$

here  $\vec{\mu} = E[\mathcal{Y} | \mathbf{f}(x)]$



- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation**
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion

- In this simulation, the sample size is set to 500 ( $n = 25$ ), and 25 ( $p = 25$ ) independent binary predictor variables ( $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{25}$ ) are generated. The true model is

$$f^1(X) = -4 + 2X_1 + 2X_2 + 1.5X_6$$

$$f^2(X) = -3 + 2X_3 + 1.5X_4 + 1.5X_7$$

$$f^{12}(X) = -3 + 2X_5$$

- Thus there are in total 78 candidate patterns in the model and only 10 of them are nonzero patterns in the true model.
- 100 independent data sets were generated and fitted by the LASSO in bivariate Bernoulli model.

$f^1$	-4	$2X_1$	$2X_2$	$1.5X_6$
GACV	100	100	100	87
BGACV	100	95	94	69
AIC	100	100	100	85
BIC	100	100	100	82
$f^2$	-3	$2X_3$	$1.5X_4$	$1.5X_7$
GACV	100	100	80	88
BGACV	100	99	57	66
AIC	100	100	65	77
BIC	100	98	65	70
$f^{12}$	-3	$2X_5$	Average Noise	
GACV	100	100	19.15	
BGACV	100	98	9.34	
AIC	100	99	16.3	
BIC	100	87	2.56	

Table: The number of true patterns captured in 100 simulations.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis**
- 7 Conclusion

## Introduction to the data set

- The Beaver Dam Eye Study (BDES) is an ongoing population-based study of age-related ocular disorders including cataract, age-related macular degeneration, visual impairment and refractive errors.
- 2061 patient with 4886 SNPs information with missing observations.
- Pedigree information available for a few families
- Measurements of environmental variables (blood pressure, intraocular pressure, etc.) as follow-up data collected every 4 to 5 years.

## What do we want to find

- Both continuous and discrete variables that contribute to main effects and interactions of BP and IOP
- Whether the influence of the continuous variables is linear to the outcomes
- The improvement of the accuracy of the model with pedigree information.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Multivariate Bernoulli Observations and the LASSO
- 3 Algorithm
- 4 Parameter Tuning
- 5 Simulation
- 6 Real Data Analysis
- 7 Conclusion**

- 1 LASSO penalty is a powerful tool in model selection, it can be applied to multivariate Bernoulli models.
- 2 The LASSO-Patternsearch algorithm can efficiently handle large scale convex problems with  $l_1$  penalty.
- 3 The tuning scores such as GACV, BGACV, AIC and BIC has superior performance than 10-fold cross validation in terms of runtime and achieving sparsity.

- $n$  gets larger.
- $p$  gets larger.
- $K$  gets larger.
- Relax linearity assumption of  $f$ .