Refinement of Gaussian concentration of norms - Tuesday 14th November, 2017

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Remark: These are supplementary to the lecturers notes, which diverge from the actual lectures in some points. The references can be found in the Arxive papers cited below. We refer to the arxive papers instead of the ultimately published ones.

Main references: Arxiv paper by Paouris and Valettas: "Dichotomies, structure, and concentration results". https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.05149 Arxiv paper by Paouris and Valettas: "On Dvoretzkys theorem for subspaces of L_p ". https://arxiv.org/pdf/1510.07289.pdf

Arxiv paper by Paouris and Valettas: "Variance Estimates and Almost Euclidean Structure". https://arxiv.org/pdf/1703.10244.pdf

Arxiv paper by Paouris, Valettas and Zinn: "Random version of Dvoretzkys theorem in $\ell_p^{n"}$. https://arxiv.org/pdf/1510.07284.pdf

For the more detailed references below, consult the above papers, especially the first and second ones.

1 Introductory

Throughout this note $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ will be a bounded (compact) convex set. By B_p^n we denote the unit ball with respect to the ℓ_p^n -metric.

Definition: We say that K is in John's position if the Euclidean unit ball $B_2^n \subset K$ and for any ellipsoid $\mathcal{E} \subset K$ we have $|\mathcal{E}| \leq |B_2^n|$, i.e. the unit ball is maximal in volume among the inscribed ellipsoids.

Some historical results. (For a more detailed discussion see the first paper in the main references). The idea of all of these is that one can find large dimensional subsets where the restricted convex slice can be efficiently sandwiched between two known shapes.

- 1. Dvoretzky-Rogers 1950: $\exists F$ with $\dim(F) = \sqrt{m}$ and $B_2^F \subset K \cap F \subset \sqrt{3}B_{\infty}^F$, where B_p^F is unit ball in the ℓ_n^p metric with respect to some basis.
- 2. Grothendick asked in 1953, if for every $\epsilon > 0$ we can find a large dimensional F with $(1 \epsilon)B_2^F \subset K \cap F \subset (1 + \epsilon)B_2^F$
- 3. Shown to hold in 1961 by Dvoretzky, where $k = \dim(F) \sim \frac{\epsilon \sqrt{\log(n)}}{\log \log(n)}$. Sharp?
- 4. '71 Milman: $k \sim \frac{\epsilon^2 \log(n)}{\log(\epsilon)}$. This is sharp in terms of the dependence in n, for fixed ϵ , as seen by $K = B_{\infty}^n$. However, not sharp with respect to ϵ .
- 5. '85 Gordon $k \sim \epsilon^2 \log(n)$
- 6. '87 Schechtman $k \sim \epsilon^2 \log(n)$
- 7. Both Gordon and Schechtman show that a randomized subspace will do.
- 8. 2009 Schechtman $k \sim \frac{\epsilon \log(n)}{\log(1/\epsilon)^2}$. Existential, not random. In fact, these are different questions. Here focus on random.

At the core, many of these results rely on Concentration of measure.

Theorem 1 (Concentration of Measure, Milman). Let $(\mathbb{R}^n, || \cdot ||_2, \gamma_n)$ be Gauss space and f an L-Lipschitz function on \mathbb{R}^n , then for all t > 0

$$\P(|f(Z) - \mathbb{E}(f(Z))| > t) \le 2e^{-t^2/(2L^2)}$$

Sharp for linear functions, but far from sharp for others. Here interest is in the observation that for some norms the inequality is not sharp and they are so called super concentrated. Consider now for K the Minkowski functional $|| \cdot ||_{K}$. Let $X = (\mathbb{R}^{n}, || \cdot ||_{K})$, and $b(X) = \text{Lip}_{||\cdot||_{2}}(|| \cdot ||_{K}) = \max_{\theta \in S^{n-1}} ||\theta||_{K}$. Then the concentration of measure gives

$$\P(||Z||_{K} - \mathbb{E}(||Z||_{K})| > t\mathbb{E}(||Z||_{K}))) \le 2e^{-ct^{2}k(X)},$$

where $k(X) \sim \frac{\mathbb{E}(||Z||_K)^2}{b(X)^2}$. This is however not sharp.

Example: Let $K = B_{\infty}^n$, then

$$A(K,\epsilon) = \P(||Z||_{K} - \mathbb{E}(||Z||_{K})| > \epsilon \mathbb{E}(||Z||_{K}))),$$

and we have by Schechtman 2006 that

$$C'e^{-c'\epsilon\log(n)} \le A(K,\epsilon) \le Ce^{-c\epsilon\log(n)}$$

that is we only have an ϵ , and not ϵ^2 .

For Dvoretzky's theorem we can take $k \sim \epsilon \log(n) / \log(1/\epsilon)$ (Schechtman 2007, Tikhomirov 2014) (with a net argument).

2 Main Question

Is it true that if $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ there always exists $T \in GL_n$ such that

$$A(TK,\epsilon) \le A(B_{\infty}^n,\epsilon)?$$

Or that

$$\frac{\operatorname{Var}(||TZ||_K)}{(\mathbb{E}(||Z||_K))^2} \le \frac{\operatorname{Var}(||Z||_{\infty})}{(\mathbb{E}(||Z||_{\infty}))^2},$$

where Z is a standard Gaussian in \mathbb{R}^n .

Bad news:

1. T'17: No to main question when K in John's position. $\exists K$ such that $A(K, \epsilon) \sim e^{-\epsilon^2 \log(n)}$. In fact, can take K = ball times a cube.

2. V'17: $\forall K \exists K_1$ such that

$$||\cdot||_{K_1} \le ||\cdot||_K \le 4||\cdot||_{K_1}$$

and $A(K_1, \epsilon) \sim e^{-\epsilon^2 k(X)}$ and $\operatorname{Var}(||Z||_K) \sim Lip(||\cdot||_K)^2$. In other words, can always perturb to fail.

3 Main results and computation

Computational result For norms of ℓ_p^n , corresponding to $K = B_p^n$, we have

$$\operatorname{Var}(||Z||_p) \sim \frac{2^p}{pn^{1-2/p}}$$

for $1 \le p \le c_0 \log(n)$, and

$$\operatorname{Var}(||Z||_p) \sim \frac{1}{\log(n)}$$

for $p \ge c_1 \log(n)$. In between a complicated regime. This is discussed in detail in the main references, where the result of the computation is written somewhat differently.

This estimate was found using functional inequalities and the so called $L_1 - L_2$ -Talagrand inequalities.

Remark: The asymptotics are very sensitive, by varying the norm a little the result can change a lot.

Good news:

- 1. P,V '15: If $X \subset L_p$ is a finite dimensional subspace an if K is in Lewis position in X then $A(K, \epsilon) \leq A(l_p^n, \epsilon)$ for all $p \leq c_0 \log(n)$
- 2. T'17. K is 1-unconditional if K is in *l*-position, then $A(K, \epsilon) \leq A(B_{\infty}^{n}, \epsilon)$.

Intuition, despite the bad news several positive results hold.

4 Some Proof Ideas

Why is concentration of measure not enough. It gives for an L-Lipschitz f that

$$\operatorname{Var} f(Z) \le \mathbb{E}(||\nabla f||_2)^2 \le L^2$$

For small p, the second inequality is not sharp, and for large p the first one. For the large p we say that f(Z) is super concentrated. This indicates that standard concentration of measure is not enough and other techniques are needed.

Another main result

Theorem 2 $(L_1 - L_2 - Talagrand)$. With respect to Gaussian measure γ_n on \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$\operatorname{Var}(f) \le C \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{||\partial_i f||_{L_2(\gamma_n)}}{1 + \log(\frac{||\partial_i f||_{L_2(\gamma_n)}}{||\partial_i f||_{L_1(\gamma_n)}})}$$

Remark: Left hand rotationally invariant, but right not, and this can be used to our advantage.

In applying Talagrand, we want each term to contribute roughly the same. This need not hold, but can be attained by a linear transformation.

Lemma 1. Assume f smooth. Then there exists $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n > 0$ and $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$, with property

$$||\partial_i (f \circ \Lambda)|| \le \frac{a_\Lambda}{n}$$

where we denote $a_{\Lambda} = Lip_{||\cdot||_{\infty}}(f \circ \Lambda)$ and $b_{\Lambda} = Lip_{||\cdot||_{2}}(f \circ \Lambda)$.

The proof is based on Borsuk-Ulam/a topological argument. No classical position seems to work. Due to the proof technique very little or no direct control is given for λ_i . This is relevant for other parts of the proof.

Using $L_1 - L_2$ -Talagrand and the previous Lemma, we get

$$\operatorname{Var}(f \circ \Lambda) \le C \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{||\partial_i f||_{L_2(\gamma_n)}}{1 + \log(\frac{||\partial_i f||_{L_2(\gamma_n)}}{||\partial_i f||_{L_1(\gamma_n)}})} \le C \frac{b_{\Lambda}^2}{1 + \log(nb_{\Lambda}/a_{\Lambda})}.$$

The ratio in the logarithm can be bounded by

$$\frac{a_{\Lambda}}{b_{\Lambda}} = \max_{\epsilon_i = \pm 1} || \sum_{i=1}^{n} \epsilon_i \lambda_i e_i ||$$
(1)

$$= \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon} || \sum \epsilon_i \lambda_i e_i || \tag{2}$$

$$\leq LC\mathbb{E}||\sum g_i\lambda_i e_i|| = C\sqrt{K(X)}L, \qquad (3)$$

where L = d(K, Unc) (see paper for proper definition and calculation). This gives the desired variance estimate, and the final proposition.

Theorem 3. For any convex K there exists Λ a linear map such that

$$\frac{\operatorname{Var}(||\Lambda Z||_K)}{\mathbb{E}(||\Lambda Z||_K)^2} \le \frac{c}{(\log(n/L^2))^2}.$$

and

$$A(\Lambda K, \epsilon) \le C e^{-c\epsilon \log(n/L^2)}.$$

Useful if L can be controlled. In the worst case though $L \leq \sqrt{n}$. But by Figiel-Johnson, there exists a subspace F of dim(F) = n/2 with better bounds for $d(K \cap F, Unc)$.

Using the following theorem by Alon-Milman one can further get a slight improvement for the Dvoretzkys theorem.

Theorem 4. K in John position, $\exists e_i \text{ orthonormal basis with } 1/4 \leq ||e_i||_K \leq 1 \text{ and } k(X) = \mathbb{E}||\sum g_i e_i||$. Either this is big, or if it small, then there exists a subspace F of dimension similar to \sqrt{n} where $d(K \cap F, B^n_{\infty})$ is small (in a controlled way).

Gives slight improvement (due to P.,V.) for the existential version of Dvoretzkys theorem of the dimension of the almost-Euclidean subspace of the form $k \sim \epsilon \frac{\epsilon \log(n)}{\log(1/\epsilon)}$.

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Droretzky Theorem 1. Introduction Birthe point: Dronetzky-Rogers Lennen (1950) If By is the ellipsoid of mere rol in Bx then there exists x_1 , x_m , $m \simeq \sqrt{n}$ st. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \max |\alpha_i| \le || \sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_i x_i|| \le (\sum_{i=1}^{m} |\alpha_i|^2)^{1/2}$ Geometrically 3 F will diver F= m ~ m of. BF = BX 7 F = J3 QF Grothendieck Com we replace the cube by the ball and still the dur F-so with n? ? N(LE) ~ SB , oo at kyoo Y BEG, I), YKXI J N(BE) s.t. Droretely 361 forg any nomed space X with dim X = n≥N there exists subspace F ≤ X with dun F=k and d(F, lg) < 1+2 or J T: l, - X s.t. $\forall x \in l_2$ Moreover, N(K, e) > exp (E 2 k logk) or equil. ×n 3 K ≤ cE Jøgn / loglogn s.t. lg C→X. V. Milman '71 kré célogn/logi (é k) Roudom approach Concentration of Gordon '85, Sch '87 kscelogn 23 Measure k s celogn/ (log2) -> Sch '06 · • * •

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(3)
3. Concentration of measure due V. Milman
Gauss' space:
$$(\mathbb{R}^{n}, \| \|_{2}, \delta_{n})$$
 f L-hipsduis ow \mathbb{R}^{n}
(2) $\mathbb{P}(|f(z) - \mathbb{E}f(z)| > t) \leq 3e^{-t^{n}/\delta_{1} \cdot z}$, two.
Applying (2) for f=1:11 and t= $\varepsilon \mathbb{E}f(z)$, we get
(2) $\mathbb{P}(|\| n Z \|| - \mathbb{E}\| Z \||) \geq S \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \varepsilon^{2} k(X))$
Alter $k(X) := (\frac{\mathbb{E}\| Z \|}{Lp(\| n)})^{2}$, Lip (11) = max $\| \delta \|$
Wells=1
L critical dimension
Note - In the large deviation regime, $1e^{-\varepsilon} \varepsilon > L$ (2) is tight.
- Diorecting for $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}$ is shamp the new formulation is sharp up
to $k(X)$; that is
- Choose the linear structure to as to make $k(X)$ large
In John's position $k(X) > clogn$
However, for the cube the concentration in sharp for elle cube
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 $\frac{n^{\prime}}{n^{\prime}\epsilon^{2}} < e^{-\epsilon \log n}$ 3) $\exists \text{TeGh(m) st}$ $P(--) = A(TK, e) \leq Ce^{-ce}\log(n/2)$ 0 < 6 < 1 where is L^{2} $(L \leq d(X, l_{0}^{n}))$ Tools. (a) Tologrand's Ly-L2 (b) Borsuk-Ulann Thun. - Dioy. to los-structure E) Existential form of Dvoretzky's builds in the approach arises noturally builds in the opproach in a natural way dece to the use of Talagraced's Li-L, Besterkoet bands on More precisely alle the Ly norms of the Oif com be equily. interpreted as the Lipschitz conditions with to - metric via duality. dias in turn yields. a deviation estimates. which takes into account weekend do Lipe the located withinto lende to the store Contempretion !! the Lipschitz condition in book Is and to sense Withich leads to the above an centration

Talagrand's LI-L2 estimate $\begin{array}{c} \text{Talagrand.} > \\ \text{Var}(f) \leq C \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\|\partial if\|_{L_{2}}^{2}}{1 + \log\left(\frac{\|\partial if\|_{L_{2}}}{\|\partial if\|_{L_{1}}}\right)} \end{array}$ Recall that I for - fay > = M 11x-y !! equiv. Hence, Maif III, IIA; FIL, "indicate" hip. inditions wrt. l2 and lo metric respectency e.g. Say that we want to achive the right fluctuations Using Borouk we "balance" the the the loif 11 L. They, $\operatorname{Var}(\operatorname{fon}) \leq C \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\|\operatorname{Oi}(\operatorname{fon})\|_{L_{2}}^{2}}{\operatorname{It}\log\left(\operatorname{nu}\cdot \|_{L_{2}}\right)}$ $\frac{t^2}{1+\log\left(\frac{t}{u}\right)} \quad \frac{1+\log\left(\frac{nb_{h}^2}{u}\right)}{\frac{1+\log\left(\frac{nb_{h}^2}{u}\right)}{\frac{nb_{h}^2}{u^2}}$ Bup - 7 1: Var. (Pon) & C IE(Pon) - log(n/2) L = d (11/2, 2/2). Figiel - Kupian- Pic Figical - Johnson,

JT Therem At (TK, E) 5 exp(- E lug(1/2)) Cormon - Milman Alon-Milman (Tulugam) Gren $x_1., x_n$ in $X = (IR^n, II.II)$ we can extract $a \leq InI$. Uxill>1 such (Xi)ies BMy-equivalent. to natural bordsof lo a Sodi oplok podoy (ei):=, ory dioy John 42 12112ill 21 Toir Eine k(X) = IEII Igieill Jurpixo" was reference J' k(X) error "priceo" was no Alon - Milmon rice ni 3 160 = M] "province" pr (ei); es Vk(X) - 1600 ages prove your loss => 1 (mande: real) = 1 (1) =) L (spour dei: 2'ed?) K < Viel

 $b = Lip_{11:11_2}(n.11)$ $T_{a}lagnenl', L_{1}-L_{2} \qquad a$ $Nar(f) \leq C \sum_{L=1}^{n} \frac{|| J_{1}f||^{2}}{1+log(e \frac{|| J_{1}f||_{L_{2}}}{1|J_{1}f||_{L_{1}}})}$ a = Lip (11. 11.) $\begin{pmatrix} \leq G & \frac{\left\| \nabla F \right\|_{L_{2}}^{2}}{1 + \log\left(n \frac{\left\| \nabla F \right\|_{L_{2}}^{2}}{\left\| \nabla F \right\|_{L_{2}}^{2}}\right)} \\ \leq G & \frac{b^{2}}{1 + \log\left(n \frac{b^{2}}{\left\| \nabla F \right\|_{L_{2}}^{2}}\right)} \\ \leq C & \frac{b^{2}}{1 + \log\left(\frac{n b^{2}}{a^{2}}\right)} \\ \leq C & \frac{b^{2}}{1 + \log\left(\frac{n b^{2}}{a^{2}}\right)}$ Lemma & is a smooth Lipschitz. Cat construct on any proper of then. 7 1:20 Esi=1 and 11 di (for) 11, 5 th an = 1 Lipun (11/1). A= drag (si) -inl. Proof Borsut-Ulam. by = 1 Lip 11.112 (11/1/01) $\leq C \sum_{l=1}^{n} \frac{\|\partial_{l} \cdot f_{l}\|_{L^{2}}^{2}}{1 + \log\left(e^{n} \frac{\|\partial_{h} f_{l}\|_{L^{2}}^{2}}{a_{h}}\right)} \leq C \frac{|b_{n}|^{2}}{1 + \log\left(n \frac{|b_{n}|^{2}}{a_{h}|^{2}}\right)}$ Remark If 11.11 1-uncal with respect G. $a_n = \max_{\epsilon_z=\pm 1} \left\| \sum_{\epsilon_z=\pm 1}^{\infty} || \left\|$ If L=d(K,Un). L $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{A}})) \leqslant C_{\overline{K}} \frac{1}{1 + \log_{2}(\frac{1}{K})}$ Proposition IF K J A such Hunt .var (IIA.GII) : C (VE IIAGII)² (log ($\frac{n}{L^2}$)² Morever AKK, E) SCEXP (-GElog ("12)) Et (0,1)

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