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# When "Exact Recovery" is Exact Recovery in Compressed Sensing Simulation

#### Bob L. Sturm<sup>1</sup>

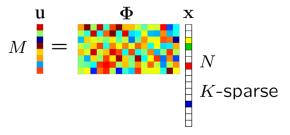
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### Setup

Measurements  ${\bf u}$  come from sensing  ${\bf x}$  by sensing matrix  ${\bf \Phi}$ :  ${\bf u}={\bf \Phi}{\bf x}+{\bf n}$ . We use a recovery algorithm to build  $\hat{\bf x}$  given  ${\bf u}$  and  ${\bf \Phi}$ , e.g., OMP, BP.



#### **Exact Recovery**

- In theory, we have no trouble asking  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \stackrel{?}{=} \mathbf{x}$ .
- In practice, we must use a different criterion.
- At least two different criteria have been used in the simulation of compressed sensing recovery algorithms.

Let  $\Omega$  index the columns of  $\Phi$ , and define the support of x as

$$S(\mathbf{x}) := \{ i \in \Omega : x_i \neq 0 \}.$$

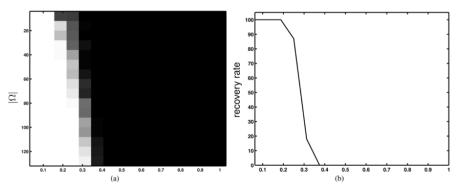
x is exactly recovered with respect to support if

$$S(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = S(\mathbf{x}). \tag{SC}$$

This has been used in simulations of CS recovery in, e.g.,

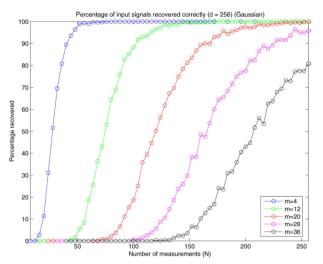
- E. Candès, J. Romberg, and T. Tao, "Robust uncertainty principles: Exact signal reconstruction from highly incomplete frequency information," IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. 52, no. 2, pp. 489-509, Feb. 2006.
- J. Tropp and A. C. Gilbert, "Signal recovery from random measurements via orthogonal matching pursuit," IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. 53, no. 12, pp. 4655-4666, Dec. 2007.
- A. K. Fletcher, S. Rangan, and V. K. Goyal, "Necessary and sufficient conditions for sparsity pattern recovery," IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. 55, no. 12, pp. 5758-5772, Dec. 2009.

E. Candès, J. Romberg, and T. Tao, "Robust uncertainty principles: Exact signal reconstruction from highly incomplete frequency information," IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. 52, no. 2, pp. 489-509, Feb. 2006.



For N=512. (a) Empirical prob. exact recovery as fun. of M (ord.), K/M (abs.). White is 1.0. (b) Empirical prob. of exact recovery for M=64 as function of K/M.

J. Tropp and A. C. Gilbert, "Signal recovery from random measurements via orthogonal matching pursuit," IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. 53, no. 12, pp. 4655-4666, Dec 2007



/ 25 Fig. 1. The percentage of 1000 input signals correctly recovered as a function of the number N of measurements for different sparsity levels m in dimension d = 256.

A. K. Fletcher, S. Rangan, and V. K. Goyal, "Necessary and sufficient conditions for sparsity pattern recovery," IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. 55, no. 12, pp. 5758-5772, Dec. 2009.

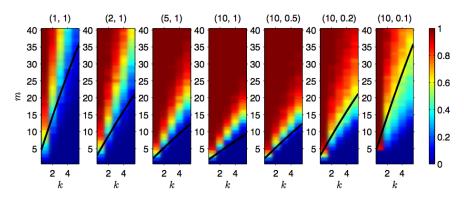


Fig. 1. Simulated success probability of ML detection for n=20 and many values of k, m, SNR, and MAR. Each subfigure gives simulation results for  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, 5\}$  and  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, 40\}$  for one (SNR, MAR) pair. Each subfigure heading gives (SNR, MAR). Each point represents at least 500 independent trials. Overlaid on the color-intensity plots is a black curve representing (6).

Define a  $0 \le \epsilon^2 \le 1$ .

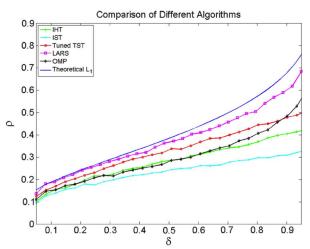
 ${\bf x}$  is exactly recovered with respect to normalized squared error if

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} \le \epsilon^2 \tag{}{\epsilon^2 C}$$

This has been used in simulations of CS recovery in, e.g.,

- A. Maleki and D. L. Donoho, "Optimally tuned iterative reconstruction algorithms for compressed sensing," IEEE J. Sel. Topics Signal Process., vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 330-341, Apr. 2010.
- J. Vila and P. Schniter, "Expectation-maximization Bernoulli-Gaussian approximate message passing," in Proc. Asilomar Conf. Signals, Syst., Comput., Pacific Grove, CA, Nov. 2011.
- Y. Wang and W. Yin, "Sparse signal reconstruction via iterative support detection," SIAM J. Imaging Sciences, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 462-491, 2010.

A. Maleki and D. L. Donoho, "Optimally tuned iterative reconstruction algorithms for compressed sensing," IEEE J. Sel. Topics Signal Process., vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 330-341, Apr. 2010. ( $\epsilon=0.01$ .)



J. Vila and P. Schniter, "Expectation-maximization Bernoulli-Gaussian approximate message passing," in Proc. Asilomar Conf. Signals, Syst., Comput., Pacific Grove, CA, Nov. 2011. ( $\epsilon=0.01$ .)

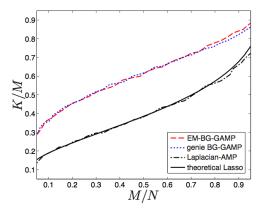
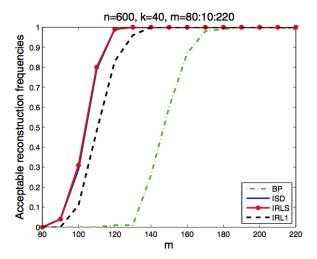


Fig. 1. Empirical noiseless PTCs for Bernoulli-Gaussian signals and theoretical PTC for Lasso.

Y. Wang and W. Yin, "Sparse signal reconstruction via iterative support detection," SIAM J. Imaging Sci., vol. 3, no. 3, 2010. ( $\epsilon$  =?.)



# Two Criteria for Exact Recovery

 $oldsymbol{0}$   $\mathbf{x}$  is exactly recovered with respect to support if

$$S(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = S(\mathbf{x}) \tag{SC}$$

 $oldsymbol{2}$   $\mathbf{x}$  is exactly recovered with respect to normalized squared error if

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} \le \epsilon^2 \tag{\epsilon^2 C}$$

One does not necessarily imply the other. There are instances, however, when one must be true if the other is true.

#### My Aims

With regards to running and comparing simulations of CS recovery:

- Given a pair  $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{x})$ , when does "exact recovery" occur with respect to only one or both criteria?
- What is the role of  $\epsilon^2$ , and how should we define it?

#### Presentation Outline

- Noiseless Case
  - $f x \sim$  Bernoulli-Rademacher sparse signals
  - $oldsymbol{ iny x} \sim \mathsf{Bernoulli\text{-}Gaussian}$  sparse signals
  - Simulations
- Noisy Case
  - $f x \sim$  Bernoulli-Rademacher sparse signals
  - Simulations
- Conclusions

#### Noiseless Case

Measurements  ${\bf u}$  come from sensing  ${\bf x}$  by the sensing matrix  ${\bf \Phi}$ ,  $\|{\bf n}\|=0$ :

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}.$$

 $\bullet$  Given  $\hat{\mathbf{x}},$  the weights minimizing the measurement modeling error are

$$\mathbf{y}_{\mathrm{ls}} := \arg\min_{\mathbf{y}'} \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\hat{\mathbf{x}})}\mathbf{y}'\|_2^2 = \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\hat{\mathbf{x}})}^{\dagger}\mathbf{u}.$$

With  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  composed of  $\mathbf{y}_{ls}$ , if (SC) then for any  $\epsilon^2 \in [0,1]$  ( $\epsilon^2$ C).

• If, however,  $(\epsilon^2 C)$  for  $\epsilon^2 = 0$  then necessarily (SC).

Now we analyze the behavior of these criteria for signals distributed Bernoulli-Rademacher, Gaussian, and empirically in other ways.

#### Noiseless Case

Consider the **best case scenario** for sparsity s

- $S(\mathbf{x}) = \{1, 2, \dots, s\};$
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  lacks the first 0 < k < s elements, i.e., for  $n \in \{1, \dots, k\} (\hat{x}_n = 0)$ ;
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  has all the others, i.e.,  $n \in \Omega \backslash \{1, \dots, k\} (\hat{x}_n = x_n)$ .

This means that

- $S(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \subset S(\mathbf{x})$ , i.e.,  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  has no false detections;
- the missed detections do not influence our estimation of the values of the recovered support.

In this case, ( $\epsilon^2$ C) and not (SC) becomes for  $1 \le k \le s$ 

$$\frac{1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} \sum_{n=1}^k x_n^2 \le \epsilon^2. \tag{1}$$

## Bernoulli-Rademacher Signals

If  $\mathbf{x} \sim$  Bernoulli-Rademacher, its non-zero elements are iid equiprobable in  $\{-1,1\}$ . In this case,  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 = s$ , so

$$P\{(\epsilon^2 \mathbf{C}) \land \neg(\mathbf{SC})\} = \begin{cases} 1, & k/s \le \epsilon^2 \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$
 (2)

For Bernoulli-Rademacher sparse signals in the best case scenario:

The parameter  $\epsilon^2$  limits the number of missed detections k for a sparsity s.

- As long as  $s < \epsilon^{-2}$  for  $\mathbf{x} \sim$  Bernoulli-Rademacher,  $(\epsilon^2 \mathsf{C}) \to (\mathsf{SC})$ .
- In Maleki et al. 2010, where s < 800 and  $\epsilon^2 = 10^{-4}$ ,  $(\epsilon^2 \text{C}) \to (\text{SC})$ . However, if for this  $\epsilon^2$  the sparsity s > 10000, then the two conditions are no longer equivalent.

# Bernoulli-Gaussian Signals

Let the s non-zero elements of  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y^2)$  with variance  $\sigma_y^2 > 0$ . Define the independent chi-squared rvs

$$Y_k := \sum_{n=1}^k [x_n/\sigma_y]^2 \sim \chi^2(k), \quad Z_{s-k} := \sum_{n=k+1}^s [x_n/\sigma_y]^2 \sim \chi^2(s-k)$$

Since  $Y_k$  and  $Z_{s-k}$  are independent,  $F_{k,s-k} := [Y_k/k]/[Z_{s-k}/(s-k)]$  $\sim \mathcal{F}(k, s-k)$ . Thus, in the best case scenario

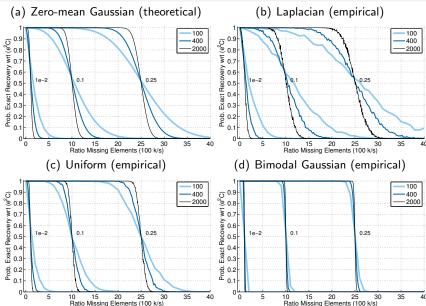
$$P\{(\epsilon^2 \mathbf{C}) \land \neg(\mathbf{SC})\} = P\left\{F_{k,s-k} < \frac{\epsilon^2}{1 - \epsilon^2} \frac{1 - k/s}{k/s}\right\}.$$
 (3)

If  $k/s > \epsilon^2$ , then, for  $s \ge 2k$ ,  $P\{F_{k,s-k} < 1 + \delta\} > 0.5$  for  $\delta > 0$ .

For Bernoulli-Gaussian signals in the best case scenario:

The parameter  $\epsilon^2$  limits the number of missed detections k before  $((\epsilon^2 C) \land \neg (SC))$  is false in a majority sense.

# Experiments for several $\epsilon^2$ (labeled) & sparsities (legend)



# Noisy Case (assuming (SC))

Measurements  ${\bf u}$  come from sensing  ${\bf x}$  by the sensing matrix  ${\bf \Phi}$ ,  $\|{\bf n}\|>0$ :

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{n}$$

Assume (SC), and  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  is built from  $\Phi_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger}\mathbf{u}$ . The weights in real solution are

$$\mathbf{y} := \arg\min_{\mathbf{y}'} \|\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})} \mathbf{y}'\|_2^2 = \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger} (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{n}).$$

Then,  $(\epsilon^2 C)$  becomes

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger} \mathbf{u}\|_{2}^{2}}{\|\mathbf{y}\|_{2}^{2}} = \frac{\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger} (\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{n}) - \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger} \mathbf{u}\|_{2}^{2}}{\|\mathbf{y}\|_{2}^{2}} = \frac{\|\mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger} \mathbf{n}\|_{2}^{2}}{\|\mathbf{y}\|_{2}^{2}} \le \epsilon^{2}. \quad (4)$$

Hence, for any  $\epsilon^2 \in (0,1]$  we can find an  $\mathbf{n}$  such that ((SC)  $\land \neg$  ( $\epsilon^2$ C)). This is different from noiseless case.

# Bernoulli-Rademacher Signals Given (SC)

Define  $\mathbf{v} := \mathbf{\Phi}_{S(\mathbf{x})}^{\dagger} \mathbf{n}$ , and assume its  $|S(\mathbf{x})|$  elements are iid  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_v^2)$  and independent of y. Define the chi-squared-distributed rv

$$V_s := \sum_{n=1}^{3} [v_n/\sigma_v]^2 \sim \chi^2(s).$$
 (5)

If s elements of  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathsf{Rademacher}$ , the probability of  $(\epsilon^2 \mathsf{C})$  given (SC)

$$P\{(\epsilon^2 C)|(SC)\} = P\left\{V_s < \frac{\epsilon^2 s}{\sigma_v^2}\right\}.$$
 (6)

Note  $P\{V_s < s + \delta\} > 0.5 \text{ for } \delta > 0.$ 

For Bernoulli-Rademacher signals, in the best case scenario:

Given (SC), if  $\epsilon^2 \geq \sigma_v^2$  then ( $\epsilon^2$ C) in a majority sense.

# Bernoulli-Gaussian Signals Given (SC)

Assume s non-zero elements of  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_y^2)$ , independent of  $\mathbf{v}$ . Define

$$X_s := \sum_{n=1}^{s} [x_n/\sigma_y]^2 \sim \chi^2(s).$$
 (7)

The ratio  $V_s/X_s$  is an F-distributed rv  $W_{s,s}:=V_s/X_s\sim \mathcal{F}(s,s)$ . Thus, the probability of  $(\epsilon^2\mathsf{C})$  given (SC) is

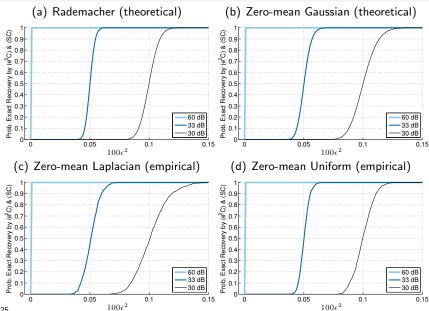
$$P\{(\epsilon^2 C)|(SC)\} = P\left\{W_{s,s} < \frac{\sigma_y^2}{\sigma_v^2}\epsilon^2\right\}.$$
 (8)

Note  $P\{W_{s,s} < 1 + \delta\} > 0.5 \text{ for } \delta > 0.$ 

For Bernoulli-Gaussian signals, in the best case scenario:

Given (SC), if  $\epsilon^2 \geq \sigma_v^2/\sigma_u^2$  then ( $\epsilon^2$ C) in a majority sense.

# Experiments for several SNR (legend) given (SC)



# Noisy Case (assuming not (SC))

Consider ( $\epsilon^2$ C) is true but not (SC), and best case scenario for sparsity s:

- $S(\mathbf{x}) = \{1, 2, \dots, s\};$
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  lacks the first 0 < k < s elements, i.e., for  $n \in \{1, \dots, k\} (\hat{x}_n = 0)$ ;
- $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  has the others perturbed by  $\mathbf{v}$ :  $n \in \Omega \setminus \{1, \dots, k\} (\hat{x}_n = x_n + v_n)$ .

This means that:

- $S(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \subset S(\mathbf{x})$ , i.e.,  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  has no false detections;
- missed detections do not influence estimations of support recovered;
- values of true detections perturbed only by the noise.

Assume  ${\bf x}$  and  ${\bf v}$  are independent,  $(\epsilon^2{\sf C})$  given not (SC) becomes

$$\frac{1}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_{2}^{2}} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{k} x_{n}^{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{s-k} v_{n}^{2} \right] \le \epsilon^{2}.$$
 (9)

# Bernoulli-Rademacher Signals (assuming not (SC))

Define the rv

$$G_{s-k} := \sum_{n=1}^{s-k} \left[ v_n / \sigma_v \right]^2 \sim \chi^2(s-k). \tag{10}$$

When the non-zero elements of  ${\bf x}$  are distributed Rademacher, and  $v_n \sim \mathcal{N}(0,\sigma_v^2)$ ,  $(\epsilon^2 {\rm C})$  given not (SC) becomes

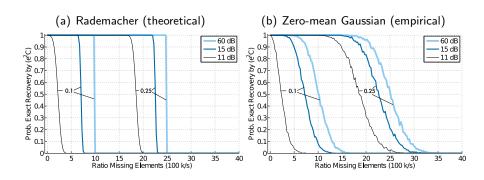
$$P\{(\epsilon^2 \mathbf{C}) \land \neg(\mathbf{SC})\} = P\left\{G_{s-k} < \frac{\epsilon^2 s - k}{\sigma_v^2}\right\}.$$
 (11)

Note  $P\{G_{s-k} < s - k + \delta\} > 0.5 \text{ for } \delta > 0.$ 

For Bernoulli-Rademacher signals in the best case scenario:

If  $\frac{\epsilon^2 s - k}{\sigma^2} < s - k$ , then  $(\epsilon^2 C)$  is false in a majority sense.

# Experiments for several $\epsilon^2$ (labeled) & SNR (legend)



# Summary and Conclusion

- In theory, we can test for exact recovery with  $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \stackrel{?}{=} \mathbf{x}$ .
- In practice (finite precision), we must use a different criterion.
- In the simulation of compressed sensing recovery algorithms, two different exact recovery criteria have been used:
  - ① x is exactly recovered with respect to support if

$$S(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = S(\mathbf{x}) \tag{SC}$$

2 x is exactly recovered with respect to normalized squared error if

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}\|_2^2}{\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} \le \epsilon^2. \tag{} \epsilon^2 C$$

We have shown that

each does not necessarily imply the other

 $\epsilon^2$  limits the acceptable number of missed detections.

See the paper for more useful tips!