



L1 Regression

with Lewis Weights Subsampling

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APPROX/RANDOM 2021

- Linear ℓ_1 regression

$$\beta^* = \arg \min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|X\beta - y\|_1$$

- **Active** Linear ℓ_1 regression

$$\hat{\beta} := \arg \min \|SX\beta - Sy\|_1.$$

Sampling matrix



Such that the following holds with probability at least $1 - \delta$

$$\|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1 \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \min_{\beta} \|X\beta - y\|_1.$$

Definition 2.1 (Subspace Embeddings). *A subspace embedding for the column space of the matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ is a matrix S such that for all $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d$,*

$$\|SX\beta\| = (1 \pm \varepsilon)\|X\beta\|$$

- **If we had access to all of y , we can find a subspace Embedding S for the combined matrix $[X \ y]$ to solve the problem**

$$\begin{aligned}\|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1 &\leq \frac{1}{1 - \varepsilon} \|SX\hat{\beta} - Sy\|_1 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{1 - \varepsilon} \|SX\beta^* - Sy\|_1 \\ &\leq \frac{1 + \varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon} \|X\beta^* - y\|_1 \\ &\leq (1 + 4\varepsilon) \|X\beta^* - y\|_1.\end{aligned}$$

Definition 2.5 (Lewis Weights). *The ℓ_1 Lewis weights of a matrix X are the unique weights $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^n$ that satisfy $w_i^2 = x_i^\top (\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{w_j} x_j x_j^\top)^{-1} x_i$ for all i .*

Definition 2.3 (Sampling and Reweighting with $\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n$). *For any sequence $\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n$, let $N = \sum_i p_i$. Then, the sampling-and-reweighting distribution $\mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ over the set of matrices $S \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$ is such that each row of S is independently the i th standard basis vector with probability $\frac{p_i}{N}$, scaled by $\frac{1}{p_i}$. For any $k \in [N]$, let i_k denote the index such that $S_{k,i_k} = \frac{1}{p_{i_k}}$.*

Theorem 2.6 ([CP15] Theorem 2.3). *Sampling at least $O(\frac{d \log d}{\epsilon^2})$ rows according to the ℓ_1 Lewis weights $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^n$ of a matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ results in a subspace embedding for X with at least some constant probability. If at least $O(\frac{d \log \frac{d}{\epsilon \delta}}{\epsilon^2})$ rows are sampled, then we have a subspace embedding with probability at least $1 - \delta$.*

- The problem is: **we do not have access to all of y**

the Lewis weight sampling-and-embedding matrix S preserves $\|X\beta\|_1$ for all β , **but it doesn't preserve $\|X\beta - y\|_1$**

- **Solution**

estimate $\|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1 - \|X\beta^* - y\|_1$ with $\|SX\hat{\beta} - Sy\|_1 - \|SX\beta^* - Sy\|_1$

Lemma 4.1. *Let $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ have ℓ_1 Lewis weights $\{w_i\}_{i \in [n]}$. Then, for any N that is at least $O\left(\frac{d}{\varepsilon^2} \log \frac{d}{\varepsilon \delta}\right)$, there is a sampling-and-reweighting distribution $\mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ satisfying $\sum_i p_i = N$ such that for all y , if $S \sim \mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ and $\beta^* = \arg \min \|X\beta - y\|_1$, we have for all β*

$$(\|SX\beta^* - Sy\|_1 - \|SX\beta - Sy\|_1) - (\|X\beta^* - y\|_1 - \|X\beta - y\|_1) \leq \varepsilon \cdot \|X\beta^* - X\beta\|_1 \quad (9)$$

with probability at least $1 - \delta$. Further, for constant δ , $m = O(d \log d / \varepsilon^2)$ rows suffice.

Lemma 4.1. *Let $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ have ℓ_1 Lewis weights $\{w_i\}_{i \in [n]}$. Then, for any N that is at least $O\left(\frac{d}{\varepsilon^2} \log \frac{d}{\varepsilon \delta}\right)$, there is a sampling-and-reweighting distribution $\mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ satisfying $\sum_i p_i = N$ such that for all y , if $S \sim \mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ and $\beta^* = \arg \min \|X\beta - y\|_1$, we have for all β*

$$(\|SX\beta^* - Sy\|_1 - \|SX\beta - Sy\|_1) - (\|X\beta^* - y\|_1 - \|X\beta - y\|_1) \leq \varepsilon \cdot \|X\beta^* - X\beta\|_1 \quad (9)$$

with probability at least $1 - \delta$. Further, for constant δ , $m = O(d \log d / \varepsilon^2)$ rows suffice.

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Applying Lemma 4.1 to $\hat{\beta} := \arg \min \|SX\beta - Sy\|_1$, we get

$$\left(\|SX\beta^* - Sy\|_1 - \|SX\hat{\beta} - Sy\|_1\right) \leq \left(\|X\beta^* - y\|_1 - \|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1\right) + \varepsilon \cdot \|X\beta^* - X\hat{\beta}\|_1$$

Since $\hat{\beta}$ is the minimizer of $\|SX\beta - Sy\|_1$, the left side is non-negative. So,

$$\begin{aligned} \|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1 &\leq \|X\beta^* - y\|_1 + \varepsilon \cdot \|X\beta^* - X\hat{\beta}\|_1 \\ &\leq \|X\beta^* - y\|_1 + \varepsilon \cdot (\|X\beta^* - y\|_1 + \|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1) \end{aligned}$$

Rearranging, and assuming $\varepsilon < 1/2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1 &\leq \frac{1 + \varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon} \|X\beta^* - y\|_1 \\ &\leq (1 + 4\varepsilon) \|X\beta^* - y\|_1 \end{aligned}$$

Using $\varepsilon' = \varepsilon/4$ proves the theorem.

Theorem 3.1. Let $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$ have ℓ_1 Lewis weights $\{w_i\}_{i \in [n]}$, and let $0 < \varepsilon, \delta < 1$. Then, for any N that is at least $O\left(\frac{d}{\varepsilon^2} \log \frac{d}{\varepsilon \delta}\right)$, there is a sampling-and-reweighting distribution $\mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ satisfying $\sum_i p_i = N$ such that for all y , if $S \sim \mathcal{S}(\{p_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ and $\hat{\beta} = \arg \min \|SX\beta - Sy\|_1$, we have

$$\|X\hat{\beta} - y\|_1 \leq (1 + \varepsilon) \min_{\beta} \|X\beta - y\|_1$$

with probability $1 - \delta$. If $\delta = O(1)$ is some constant, then N at least $O\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} d \log d\right)$ rows suffice.

Theorem 3.5. For any $d \geq 2$, $\epsilon < \frac{1}{10}$, $\delta < \frac{1}{4}$, there exist sets $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{R}$ of inputs and labels, and a distribution P on $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ such that any algorithm which solves Problem 2, with $\varepsilon = 1$, requires at least $m = \Omega\left(\frac{d}{\epsilon^2} + \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} \log \frac{1}{\delta} + d \log \frac{1}{\delta}\right)$ samples.

- which indicates that the proposed method is near optimal



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THANKS