

Hierarchical Joint Effects Selection in Mixed Models

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Aims of this talk:

- **Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMMs)**
- **Penalized Likelihood Methods**
 - What's been done for penalized variable selection in GLMMs?
- **The CREPE Estimator for Joint Selection in GLMMs**
 - Hui et al. *Composite Effects Selection in Mixed Models using CREPE*. Stat Sinica: In review.

Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMMs)



Over many years...



Has tree experienced defoliation?
1 = yes; 0 = no



Physical characteristics, soil chemistry, weather etc...

→ Longitudinal dataset

Response matrix

	Year 1	Year 2	...	Year 20
Tree 1	y_{11}	y_{12}	...	y_{1m}
Tree 2	y_{21}	y_{22}	...	y_{2m}
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
Tree 100	y_{n1}	y_{n2}	...	y_{nm}

Covariates for tree $i = 1, \dots, n$

	Year 1	Year 2	...	Year 20
Rainfall	1.34	1.48	...	0.79
Fertilization	0	1	...	0
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
Inclination	62	62	...	62

Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMMs)

→ Longitudinal dataset

- Has there been a change in forest health over time?
- What are the important predictors of forest health?



→ Generalized Linear Mixed models

$$g(\mu_{ij}) = \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{z}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_i; \quad i = 1, \dots, n; \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

Population averaged response

Between-cluster variability

$$\mathbf{b}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^T)$$

Cholesky decomposition or
eigendecomposition

Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMMs)

→ Longitudinal dataset

- What are the important predictors of forest health?



→ Joint variable selection of fixed and random effects

$$g(\mu_{ij}) = \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{z}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_i; \quad i = 1, \dots, n; \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

Select these two things!

$$\mathbf{b}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^T)$$

→ Some complications...

- Lots of candidate models 🤖
- How to select the elements of the covariance matrix 😊
- There's a hierarchical structure there: **“we usually only consider time-varying covariates that have been included in the fixed effects”** (Cheng et al., 2010) 😊

The CREPE estimator is designed to resolve the three problems above!

Penalized likelihood methods

- “Lots” of candidate models 🤖
 - Well, at least more than the $2^p - 1$ in GLMs
- One solution: Add a penalty to the likelihood

$$\hat{\beta} = \arg \max_{\beta} \ell(\Psi) - p_{\lambda}(\beta),$$

← Tuning parameter

- Choose a penalty that is non-differentiable at zero => induces sparsity
 - lasso; adaptive lasso; SCAD etc...

Penalized likelihood methods

→ What's been done for penalized likelihood in GLMMs?

$$g(\mu_{ij}) = \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{z}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_i; \quad i = 1, \dots, n; \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$

Penalize these two things!

$$\mathbf{b}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^T)$$

→ LMMs:

- M-ALASSO (Bondell et al., 2010)

$$p_\lambda(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = \lambda \sum_k \tilde{w}_k |\beta_k| + \lambda \sum_k \tilde{v}_k |[\boldsymbol{\Gamma}]_{kk}|$$

“additive” penalty

Penalized likelihood methods

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$$\text{Stage 1: } p_\lambda(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = \lambda_1 \sum_k \tilde{v}_k |[\boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^T]_{kk}|; \quad \text{Stage 2: } p_\lambda(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = \lambda_2 \sum_k \tilde{w}_k |\beta_k|$$

Do random effects, then fixed effects

Penalized likelihood methods

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- SCAD-P (Fan and Li, 2012); Iterative (Peng and Lu, 2012)
 - Both two stage process like ALASSO

→ GLMMs:

- Tweak the M-ALASSO for GLMMs (Ibrahim et al., 2011)

Penalized likelihood methods

→ A basic problem:

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- ALASSO (Lin et al., 2013)

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All the penalties above treat the selection of fixed and random effects as **separate** processes.



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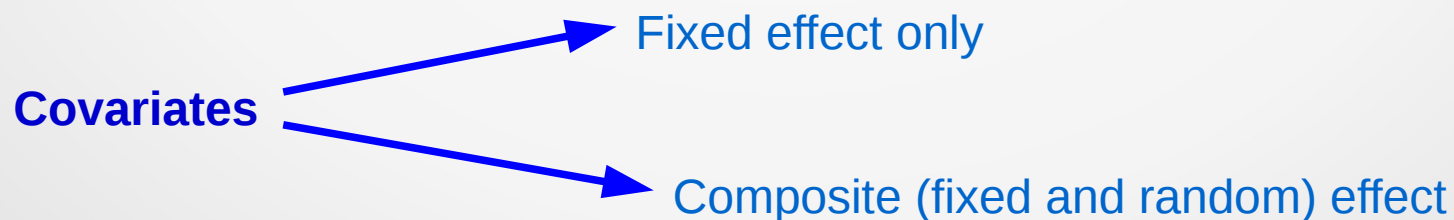
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There's a hierarchical structure for longitudinal GLMMs!

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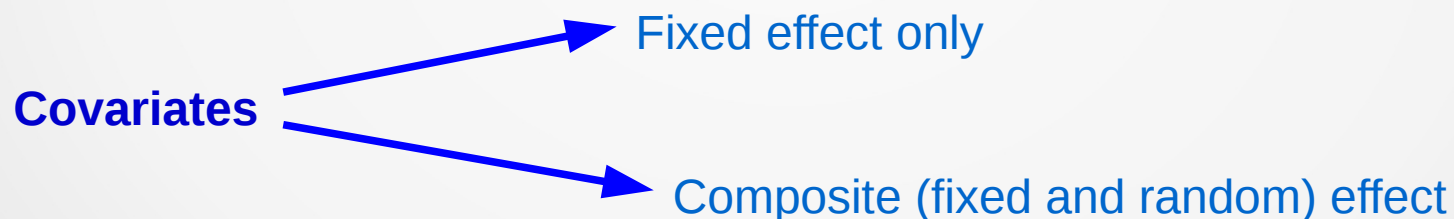
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All the penalties above treat the selection of fixed and random effects as **separate** processes.

There's a hierarchical structure for longitudinal GLMMs!



→ Design and use a penalty that automatically incorporates this structure!



The CREPE Estimator...ingredients

→ GLMMs $g(\mu_{ij}) = \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{z}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_i; \quad i = 1, \dots, n; \quad j = 1, \dots, m$

$$\mathbf{b}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^T)$$

→ Fixed effects

- Adaptive lasso

$$p_\lambda(\boldsymbol{\beta}) = \sum_k \tilde{w}_k |\beta_k| \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{w}_k = \tilde{\beta}_k^{-\gamma},$$

→ Random effects ☺

- Adaptive group lasso

$$p_\lambda(\boldsymbol{\gamma}_k) = \sum_k \tilde{v}_k \|\boldsymbol{\gamma}_k\| \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{v}_k = \|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\gamma}}_k\|^{-\gamma},$$

Shrinking all elements in row k of the eigendecomposition to zero simultaneously

The CREPE Estimator...ingredients

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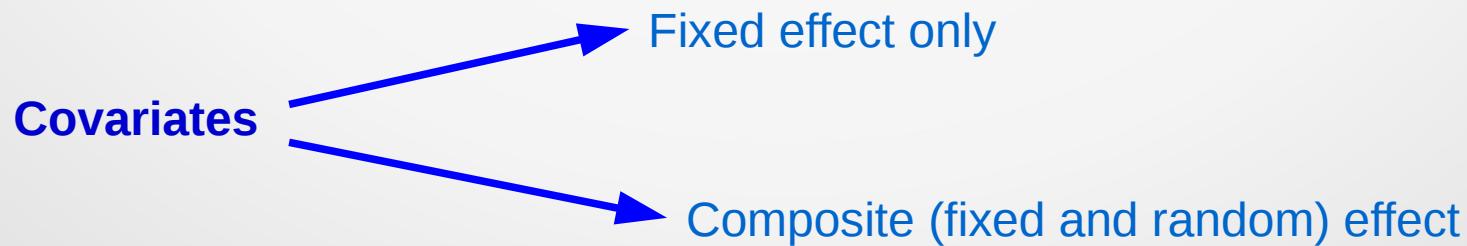
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→ One more thing... ☺



The CREPE Estimator

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$$\mathbf{b}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^T)$$

→ CREPE (Composite Random Effects PEalty)



Was the covariate included as a composite effect?

$$\ell_{pen}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) = \ell(\boldsymbol{\Psi}) - \lambda \sum_{k=1}^p \tilde{w}_k \sqrt{\beta_k^2 + \mathbb{1}_{\{k \in \alpha_c\}} \tilde{v}_k \|\boldsymbol{\gamma}_k\|},$$

The CREPE Estimator

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→ If the covariate is included as a purely fixed effect, CREPE => Adaptive lasso

→ CREPE incorporates the hierarchical nature of the covariates:

- By design, you're either a fixed effect or composite effect...can't be purely a random effect!!!

CREPE Sims

→ Linear Mixed Models (Gaussian responses)

→ Methods to compare: 1) CREPE, 2) M-ALASSO (Bondell et al., 2010), 3) ALASSO (Lin et al., 2013)

→ $p = \dim(\mathbf{x}_{ij}) = \lceil 7n^{1/4} \rceil$

\mathbf{z}_{ij} = equals first 8 elements of \mathbf{x}_{ij}

$y_{ij} = \mathbf{x}_{ij}^T \boldsymbol{\beta}_0 + \mathbf{z}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_i + \epsilon_{ij}$

$\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 = (-1, 3, 1.5, 0, 0, 2, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, -1, \dots)$

$$\boldsymbol{\Gamma}_0 \boldsymbol{\Gamma}_0^T = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 4.8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4.8 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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FP = # of false positives for fixef (overfitting)

FN = # of false negatives for fixef (underfitting)

%RE = percentage of datasets with correct ranef structure

%S = percentage of datasets where non-hierarchical shrinkage occurred

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$\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 = (1, 2, 15, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, \dots)$

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n	m	CREPE			M-ALASSO				ALASSO			
		FP	FN	%RE	FP	FN	%RE	%S	FP	FN	%RE	%S
30 ($p_f = 17$)	10	0.65	0	54	1.45	0.45	1	25	1.86	5.31	2	85
	20	0.31	0.01	94	0.98	0.16	2	2	1.04	4.13	8	62
60 ($p_f = 20$)	10	0.46	0	64	1.05	0.05	0	11	0.25	8.12	1	70
	20	0.12	0	98	0.71	0.03	0	13	0.04	7.79	11	66

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Thanks that was delicious!

- For longitudinal GLMMs, CREPE builds in the hierarchical structure that covariates should end up as either fixed or composite effects.
- Outperform the limited stuff that is currently out there

Thanks to everyone for listening 😊

