

Large random matrices with given margins

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Based on joint work with Sumit Mukherjee (Columbia)

Jan. 16, 2016

Introduction

Contingency tables and Phase transition

Static Schrödinger bridge

Random graphs with given degree sequences

Statement of Results

Open problems

Dual formulation and Sinkhorn algorithm

- ▶ (*Base model*) μ = probability measure on $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, and let

$$A := \inf\{\text{supp}(\mu)\} \leq \sup\{\text{supp}(\mu)\} =: B.$$

$X \sim \mu^{\otimes (m \times n)}$: $(m \times n)$ random matrix with i.i.d. entries drawn from μ

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- (*Margins*) For a matrix $\mathbf{x} = (x_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $(r(\mathbf{x}), c(\mathbf{x}))$ = margin of \mathbf{x} :

$$r(\mathbf{x}) := (r_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, r_m(\mathbf{x})); \quad r_i(\mathbf{x}) := x_{i1} + \dots + x_{in} \quad (\triangleright \text{row margin of } \mathbf{x})$$

$$c(\mathbf{x}) := (c_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, c_n(\mathbf{x})); \quad c_j(\mathbf{x}) := x_{1j} + \dots + x_{mj} \quad (\triangleright \text{column margin of } \mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) := \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} : r(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{r}, c(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{c} \}$$

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- (*Main question*)

If we condition $X \sim \mu^{\otimes (m \times n)}$ on being in $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})$, how does it look like?

- This question still makes sense if μ is not a probability measure (i.e., counting measure on $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$)

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► High-level answer:

- (*Minimum Relative Entropy Perspective*): The expectation of the minimum **relative entropy** random matrix from the base model constrained to have expected margin (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})
- (*Maximum Likelihood Perspective*): The expectation of the **maximum likelihood** entrywise **exponential tilting** of the base model for margin (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})

- ▶ $\mu_\theta :=$ exponentially tilted probability measure given by

$$\frac{d\mu_\theta}{d\mu}(x) = e^{\theta x - \psi(\theta)}, \quad \psi(\theta) := \log \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{\theta x} d\mu(x) = \log \text{partition function}$$

- Set of all allowed tilting parameters:

$$\Theta^\circ := \text{Interior} \left(\left\{ \theta \in \mathbb{R} : \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{\theta x} d\mu(x) < \infty \right\} \right) = \text{Nonempty interval}$$

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- ▶ Elementary facts: For $\theta \in \Theta^\circ$,

$$\mathbb{E}_{X \sim \mu_\theta}[X] = \psi'(\theta), \quad \text{Var}_{X \sim \mu_\theta}(X) = \psi''(\theta) > 0.$$

- $\psi' : \Theta^\circ \rightarrow (A, B)$ is strictly increasing (▶ `tilt2mean` function)
- $\phi = (\psi')^{-1} : (A, B) \rightarrow \Theta^\circ$ is strictly increasing (▶ `mean2tilt` function)

- ▶ For $\theta \in \Theta^\circ$, the **relative entropy** from the base measure μ to the tilted probability measure μ_θ is

$$D(\mu_\theta \| \mu) := \int_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \log \left(\frac{d\mu_\theta}{d\mu}(x) \right) d\mu_\theta(x) = \theta \psi'(\theta) - \psi(\theta).$$

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- ▶ Fix a $m \times n$ margin $(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^n$. The **typical table** Z for margin (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) is

$$Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} := \arg \min_{X \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) \cap (A, B)^{m \times n}} \sum_{i, j} \underbrace{D(\mu_{\phi(x_{ij})} \| \mu)}_{f(x) := D(\mu_{\phi(x)} \| \mu) = x \phi(x) - \psi(\phi(x))}$$

- Strictly convex objective since $f(x) = \phi(x)$, $f'(x) = \phi'(x) = \frac{1}{\text{Var}(\mu_{\phi(x)})} > 0$
- So the typical table $Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}$ is unique if it exists

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- ▶ By multivariate Lagrange multipliers, there are 'dual variables' $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^n$ s.t.

$$Z_{ij}^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} = \psi'(\alpha(i) + \beta(j)) \quad \text{for all } i, j.$$

- Dual variable (α, β) determined by the margin condition:

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \psi'(\alpha(i) + \beta(j)) = \mathbf{r}(i), \quad \sum_{j=1}^n \psi'(\alpha(i) + \beta(j)) = \mathbf{c}(j) \quad \forall i, j$$

- $\mu = \text{Gaussian}$

$$\Theta = \mathbb{R}, \quad (A, B) = (-\infty, \infty), \quad \psi(\theta) = \frac{\theta^2}{2}, \quad \psi'(\theta) = \theta, \quad \phi(x) = x$$

$$f(x) = x\phi(x) - \psi(\phi(x)) = \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$Z_{ij}^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} = \frac{\mathbf{r}(i)}{n} + \frac{\mathbf{c}(j)}{m} - \frac{N}{mn} \quad (N = \sum_i \mathbf{r}(i) = \sum_j \mathbf{c}(j))$$

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► $\mu = \text{Poisson}$

$$\Theta = \mathbb{R}, \quad (A, B) = (0, \infty), \quad \psi(\theta) = e^\theta, \quad \psi'(\theta) = e^\theta, \quad \phi(x) = \log x$$

$$f(x) = x\phi(x) - \psi(\phi(x)) = x \log x - x$$

$$Z_{ij}^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} = e^{\alpha(i) + \beta(j)} = \mathbf{r}(i)\mathbf{c}(j)/N \quad (\triangleright \text{Fisher-Yates table})$$

- ▶ $\mu = \text{Bernoulli}$

$$\Theta = \mathbb{R}, \quad (A, B) = (0, 1), \quad \psi(\theta) = \log \frac{1 + e^\theta}{2}, \quad \psi'(\theta) = \frac{e^\theta}{1 + e^\theta}, \quad \phi(x) = \log \frac{x}{1 - x}.$$

$$f(x) = x\phi(x) - \psi(\phi(x)) = x \log x + (1 - x) \log(1 - x) \quad \triangleright -\text{Entropy}(\text{Ber}(x))$$

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- ▶ $\mu = \text{Counting}(\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0})$

$$\Theta = (-\infty, 0), \quad \psi(\theta) = -\log(1 - e^\theta), \quad \psi'(\theta) = \frac{e^\theta}{1 - e^\theta}, \quad \phi(x) = -\log(1 + x^{-1})$$

$$f(x) = x\phi(x) - \psi(\phi(x)) = x \log x - (1 + x) \log(1 + x) \quad \triangleright -\text{Entropy}(\text{Geom}(x))$$

$$Z_{ij}^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} = \frac{1}{\exp(-\alpha(i) - \beta(j)) - 1} \quad \text{s.t. } Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})$$

► $\mu = \text{Lebesgue}(\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0})$

$$\Theta = (-\infty, 0), \quad \psi(\theta) = -\log(-\theta), \quad \psi'(\theta) = -\frac{1}{\theta}, \quad \phi(x) = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$f(x) = x\phi(x) - \psi(\phi(x)) = -1 - \log x$$

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- $\mu = \text{Gamma } (\mu(dx) = x^{\gamma-1} dx)$

$$\Theta = (-\infty, 0), \quad \psi(\theta) = \log \Gamma(\gamma) - \gamma \log(-\theta), \quad \psi'(\theta) = -\frac{\gamma}{\theta}, \quad \phi(x) = -\frac{\gamma}{x}$$

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- ▶ (*Informal result I: Minimum relative entropy perspective*)

$X \sim \mu^{\otimes(m \times n)}$ **conditioned on being in $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})$ concentrates around $Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}$,
where $Z_{ij}^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} = \psi'(\alpha(i) + \beta(j))$ for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^m, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^n$**

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- ▶ (Informal result II: Maximum likelihood perspective)

$\left[X \sim \mu^{\otimes(m \times n)} \text{ conditioned on being in } \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) \right] \approx Y,$

where Y has independent entries $Y_{ij} \sim \mu_{\alpha(i) + \beta(j)}$ and $\mathbb{E}[Y] = Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}$

- ▶ A **continuum margin** (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) = integrable functions $\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c} : (0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\int_0^1 \mathbf{r}(x) dx = \int_0^1 \mathbf{c}(y) dy$

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- ▶ For a $m \times n$ discrete margin $(\mathbf{r}_m, \mathbf{c}_n)$, define the corresponding **continuum step margin** $(\bar{\mathbf{r}}_m, \bar{\mathbf{c}}_n)$ as

$$\bar{\mathbf{r}}_m(t) := n^{-1} \mathbf{r}_m(\lceil mt \rceil), \quad \bar{\mathbf{c}}_n(t) := m^{-1} \mathbf{c}_n(\lceil nt \rceil).$$

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- ▶ For $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $W_A :=$ corresponding **step kernel** on unit square:

$$W_A(x, y) := A_{ij} \text{ if } (x, y) \in \left(\frac{i-1}{m}, \frac{i}{m}\right] \times \left(\frac{j-1}{n}, \frac{j}{n}\right]$$

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- ▶ A seq. of $m \times n$ margins $(\mathbf{r}_m, \mathbf{c}_n)$ **converges in L^1** to a continuum margin (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) if

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- ▶ (*Informal result III*)

For $(\mathbf{r}_m, \mathbf{c}_n) \rightarrow (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})$ in L^1 and $X \sim \mu^{\otimes(m \times n)}$ **conditioned on $\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}_m, \mathbf{c}_n)$,**

$W_X \rightarrow W^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}$ **w.h.p. in ‘cut norm’**

where $W^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}(x, y) = \psi'(\alpha(x) + \beta(y))$ for some $\alpha, \beta \in [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

1. Connection to Contingency tables and Phase transition
2. Connection to Relative entropy minimization and Schrödinger bridge
3. Connection to Random graphs with given degree sequence
4. Dual formulation and generalized Sinkhorn algorithm
5. Formal statement of results and some Key ideas
6. Open problems

Introduction

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Dual formulation and Sinkhorn algorithm

- **Contingency tables** = matrices with non-negative integer entries with fixed row and column margins

<i>Data</i>							
1	0	3	2	0	7		13
1	2	0	4	3	0		10
7	5	2	1	0	0		15
0	0	3	1	3	9		16
0	3	1	8	0	2		14
5	3	0	3	5	3		19
9	13	9	19	11	21		

v. s.

<i>Null model</i>							
$X = (X_{ij})$							13
							10
							15
							16
							14
							19
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- Contingency tables are fundamental tools in statistics for studying dependence structure between two or more variables
- Uniform contingency table $X = (X_{ij})$ serves as the maximum entropy null model given margins

Conjecture (Independence heuristic, Good '50)

$$|\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})| \approx G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})$$

where

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) := \binom{N + mn - 1}{mn - 1}^{-1} \prod_{i=1}^m \binom{\mathbf{r}(i) + n - 1}{n - 1} \prod_{j=1}^n \binom{\mathbf{c}(j) + m - 1}{m - 1}.$$

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- $X \sim \text{Uniform}(\mathcal{S}_N)$, $\mathcal{S}_N := \{\text{CT's with total sum } N = \sum \mathbf{r}(i) = \sum \mathbf{c}(j)\}$
- $\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r}) := \{X \text{ has row margins } \mathbf{r}\}$, $\mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c}) := \{X \text{ has column margins } \mathbf{c}\}$.
- $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r}) \cap \mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c})) = \frac{|\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})|}{|\mathcal{S}_N|}$, $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r})) = \frac{|\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r})|}{|\mathcal{S}_N|}$, $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c})) = \frac{|\mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c})|}{|\mathcal{S}_N|}$
- $|\mathcal{S}_N| = \binom{N + mn - 1}{mn - 1}$, $|\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r})| = \prod_{i=1}^m \binom{\mathbf{r}(i) + n - 1}{n - 1}$, $|\mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c})| = \prod_{j=1}^n \binom{\mathbf{c}(j) + m - 1}{m - 1}$
- $$\frac{\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r}) \cap \mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c}))}{\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{R}_n(\mathbf{r})) \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{C}_m(\mathbf{c}))} = \frac{|\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})|}{G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})}$$

History of the Independence Heuristic (IH) $|\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})| \approx G(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$:

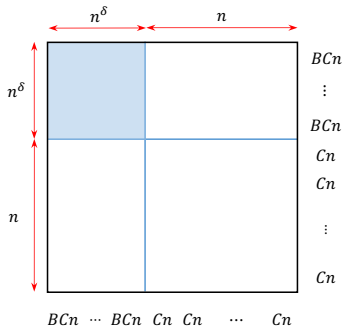
- Given implicitly by Good in 1963 [14] and later formally in 1963 [12] and 1976 [13]
- Experimentally verified by Good and Crook [11] in 1977 and Diagonis and Gangolli [8] in 1995
- Canfield and McKay '10 [5]: For $m = n$ and $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{c} = (\lfloor Cn \rfloor, \dots, \lfloor Cn \rfloor)$,

$$\begin{aligned}\log |\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})| &= [(1 + C) \log(1 + C) - C \log(C)]n^2 - n \log n \\ &\quad - n \log 2\pi C(1 + C) + \log n + O(1) \\ &\sim \log \sqrt{e} G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})\end{aligned}$$

- In 2008, Greenhill and McKay [15] proved same asymptotics for **uniform but sparse margins**: $\max(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \max(\mathbf{c}) = O(N^{2/3})$

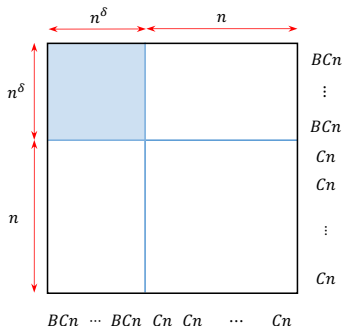
But what about non-uniform margins?

- 2×2 block (Barvinok) margins: $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{c} = (\overbrace{BCn, \dots, BCn}^{n^\delta}, \overbrace{Cn, \dots, Cn}^{(n-n^\delta)}), 0 \leq \delta \leq 1$



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- 2×2 block (Barvinok) margins: $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{c} = (\overbrace{BCn, \dots, BCn}^{n^\delta}, \overbrace{Cn, \dots, Cn}^{(n-n^\delta)}), 0 \leq \delta \leq 1$



- **IH undercounts:** For $\delta = 1$, Barvinok [1] shows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \log |\mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})| > \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \log G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}).$$

In other words, the rows and columns of CTs **attract** each other

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 Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} &:= \arg \max_{X \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})} \underbrace{\sum_{i,j} (x_{ij} + 1) \log(x_{ij} + 1) - x_{ij} \log(x_{ij})}_{=g(X)} \\
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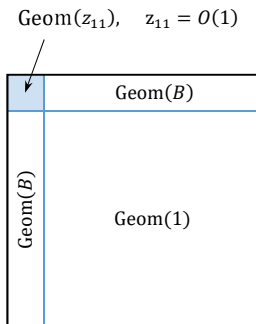
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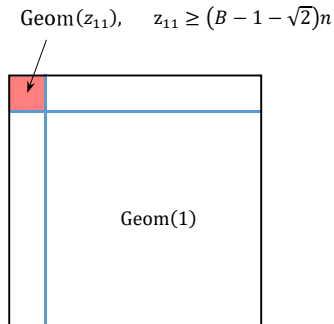
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- ▶ In 2010, Barvinok conjectured that there is a phase transition in $\text{Uniform}(\mathcal{T}(\text{Barv. margin}))$ as B increases

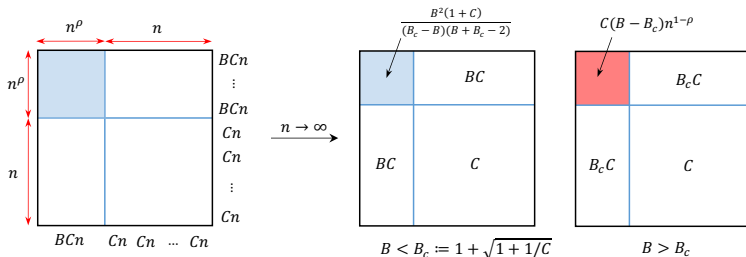


$$B < 2$$

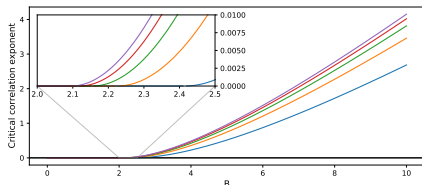


$$B > 1 + \sqrt{2} \approx 2.414$$

- Typical tables can change drastically by a small change in the margin!
 - For $0 \leq \delta < 1$, Dittmer, Lyu, and Pak [9] show that $Z^{r,c}$ undergoes a **sharp phase transition** at $B_c = 1 + \sqrt{1 + C^{-1}}$:



- This result was used to obtain a second-order phase transition in the number of CTs with Barvinok margin by Lyu and Pak '22 [17]



Asymptotic independence $\xrightarrow{B \nearrow}$ Positive correlation

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Dual formulation and Sinkhorn algorithm

- ▶ Given a base probability measure \mathcal{R} on \mathbb{R}^2 and marginal distributions μ_1 and μ_2 ,

$$(**) \quad \min_{\mathcal{H} \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2)} D_{KL}(\mathcal{H} \parallel \mathcal{R})$$

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$$\min_{\mathcal{H} \in \Pi(\mu_1, \mu_2)} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \gamma(x, y) \mathcal{H}(dx, dy) + \varepsilon D_{KL}(\mathcal{H} \parallel \mu_1 \otimes \mu_2),$$

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This is in fact the **typical table** problem with $\mu = \text{Poisson}(1)$!

- $x_{ij} \log x_{ij} = D(\mu_{\phi(x_{ij})} \parallel \mu) + x_{ij} - 1$

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- ▶ (Question)

How does a uniformly random graph with degree sequence \mathbf{d} look like?

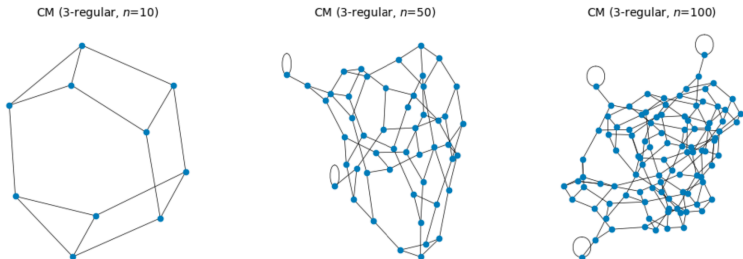


Figure: Random 3-regular graphs generated by the configuration model (allowing loops)

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- Then there exists a limiting 'continuum dual variable' $\beta^* : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that the corresponding graphon

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- $A^n = \text{Adj mx of the uniformly random graph with degree seq. } \mathbf{d}^n$. Then

$$W_{A^n} \rightarrow W^{\beta^*} \quad \text{in weak cut distance,}$$

(W_{A^n} : step function corresponding to the adj mx A^n)

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$$\mathbb{P}_\beta(i \sim j) \propto \exp(\beta(i) + \beta(j))$$

= exponential tilting of $\text{Uniform}(\{0, 1\})$ by $\beta(i) + \beta(j)$

Expected adjacency matrix:

$$\mathbb{E}[A^\beta(i, j)] := \frac{e^{\beta(i) + \beta(j)}}{1 + e^{\beta(i) + \beta(j)}} = \psi'(\beta(i) + \beta(j)),$$

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- (The MLE equation) $\frac{d\ell(\beta)}{d\beta} = 0 \iff \mathbb{E}[\text{degree seq.}] = \mathbf{d}$:

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{j=1}^n A^\beta(i, j) \right] = d_i \quad \text{for all } 1 \leq i \leq n$$

► **Sketch of proof:**

- Find MLE β^n for the β -model to the target degree sequence \mathbf{d}^n
- Show that the MLEs β^n converge (after scaling) to some $\beta^* : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ in L^1
- Show that the expected adjacency matrices of the ML β -model converges to the limiting graphon:

$$W_{\mathbb{E}[A^{\beta^n}]} \rightarrow W^{\beta^*}$$

- Show that the β^n -model concentrates around its mean (in weak cut distance)

$$W_{A^{\beta_n}} \approx W_{\mathbb{E}[A^{\beta_n}]}$$

- Show that the β^n -model as the target deg. seq. \mathbf{d}^n with prob.
 $\geq \exp(-o(n^{2/3+\varepsilon}))$
- Putting things together:

$$W_{A^{\beta_n}} \overset{\text{weak cut}}{\approx} W_{\mathbb{E}[A^{\beta^n}]} = W^{\beta^*} + o(1)$$

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1. Sharp sufficient conditions for the ‘subcritical regime’
2. Concentration of margin-constrained random matrices around the typical table
3. Cut-norm scaling limit of a sequence of margin-constrained random matrices to the typical kernel
4. (Optional) Linear convergence of generalized Sinkhorn algorithm

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 - $Y = (Y_{ij}) \sim \mu_{\alpha \oplus \beta}$: independent entries $Y_{ij} \sim \mu_{\alpha(i) + \beta(j)}$
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- How do we compute MLE??

- ▶ When does the typical table/MLE exists?

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Furthermore, when is the MLE **uniformly bounded**? ('Subcritical Regime')

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- For $\mu = \text{Bernoulli}(1/2)$ and $sn \leq \mathbf{r} = \mathbf{c} \leq tn$, Barvinok and Hartigan '10 [2]:

$$\text{tame} \iff (s + t)^2 < 4s$$

$$\exists \text{ non-tame margins} \iff (s + t)^2 > 4s$$

Theorem (L-Mukherjee '24+)

If ψ'' is non-decreasing (necessarily unbounded support for μ), then for arbitrary margin (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) with $s \leq \mathbf{r}/n$, $\mathbf{c}/m \leq t$,

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Theorem (Stability of Schrödinger Bridge and Potentials; L-Mukherjee '24+)

$(\mathbf{r}_m, \mathbf{c}_n) = \text{seq. of } m \times n \text{ } \delta\text{-tame margins} \rightarrow \text{continuum margin } (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) \text{ in } L^1.$

(i) \exists bounded measurable $\alpha, \beta : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that the kernel

$$W^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}(x, y) := \psi'(\alpha(x) + \beta(y))$$

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(ii)
$$\begin{aligned} \|W^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}} - W_{\mathbf{Z}^m, \mathbf{c}_n}\|_2^2 &\leq C_\delta \|(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) - (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_m, \bar{\mathbf{c}}_n)\|_1 \\ \|\alpha - \bar{\alpha}_m\|_2^2 + \|\beta - \bar{\beta}_n\|_2^2 &\leq C_\delta \|(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) - (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_m, \bar{\mathbf{c}}_n)\|_1. \end{aligned}$$

$$\|W\|_{\square} := \sup_{S, T \subseteq [0,1]} \left| \int_{S \times T} W(x, y) \, dx \, dy \right|$$

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With probability at least $1 - \exp(-(m+n) \log mn)$,

$$\|W_X - W^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}\|_{\square} \leq C_1 \sqrt{(m^{-1} + n^{-1}) \log mn} + C_2 \sqrt{\|(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) - (\bar{\mathbf{r}}_m, \bar{\mathbf{c}}_n)\|_1};$$

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- (i) when $\mu = \text{Counting}([0, B] \cap \mathbb{Z})$ or $\text{Lebesgue}(\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0})$
- (ii) If μ admits a positive density w.r.t. the measure in (i), similar result holds but with slightly worse rate.

$$\mathcal{T}_\rho(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) := \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} : \|\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{r}\|_\infty \leq \rho \text{ and } \|\mathbf{c}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{c}\|_\infty \leq \rho \right\}$$

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Theorem (Concentration; L-Mukherjee '24+)

$(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) = (m \times n)$ δ -tame margin, $Z = Z^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}$, $(\alpha, \beta) = \text{MLE}$, $X = (X_{ij}) \sim \mu^{\otimes(m \times n)}$.
Let $Y = (Y_{ij}) \sim \mu_{\alpha \oplus \beta}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P} \left(\|W_X - W_Z\|_\square \geq t \mid X \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) \right) \\ & \leq \mathbb{P}(Y \in \mathcal{T}_\rho(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}))^{-1} \exp \left(C(m+n)(1+\rho) - \frac{t^2 mn}{2C} \right). \end{aligned}$$

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Lemma

Let $Y \sim \mu_{\alpha \oplus \beta}$ be as above. Then for fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\forall m, n \geq N(\varepsilon)$,

$$\mathbb{P}(Y \in \mathcal{T}_\rho(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})) \geq \begin{cases} \Omega(1) & \text{if } \rho = \Omega(\sqrt{(m+n) \log(m+n)}) \\ \Omega(\exp(-(m+n) \log(m+n))) & \text{if } \rho = 0, \mu = \text{Counting or Leb.} \\ \exp(-mn^{1/2+\varepsilon} - nm^{1/2+\varepsilon}) & \text{if } \rho \ll 1 \text{ and } \mu \ll \text{Counting or Leb.} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ (Approximation by ML parametric model)

$$X \approx Y \sim \mu_{\alpha \oplus \beta}$$

That is,

- (1) Conditional on $Y \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})$, $Y \stackrel{d}{=} X$
- (2) $\mathbb{P}(Y \in \mathcal{T}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c})) \gg (m+n) \log(m+n)$

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$$\min_{\mathcal{H} \in \Pi(\nu_1, \nu_2)} D_{KL}(\mathcal{H} \parallel e^{-\gamma/\varepsilon} \mu_1 \otimes \mu_2)$$

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- ▶ Condition on other statistics than row/column margin?
 - Ongoing work with William Powell (grad student)

Thank you very much!

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- Strictly concave maximization in two variables α, β
→ **Alternating Maximization!** (a.k.a. Nonlinear Gauss-Seidel or BCD)

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_k \leftarrow \arg \max_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^m} g^{r, c}(\alpha, \beta_{k-1}) \\ \beta_k \leftarrow \arg \max_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^n} g^{r, c}(\alpha_k, \beta). \end{cases}$$

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- Finding critical points for the marginal problems, it reduces to

$$\begin{cases} \text{For } 1 \leq i \leq m, \alpha_k(i) \leftarrow \text{unique } \alpha \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{r}(i) = \sum_{j=1}^n \psi'(\alpha + \beta_{k-1}(j)), \\ \text{For } 1 \leq j \leq n, \beta_k(j) \leftarrow \text{unique } \beta \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{c}(j) = \sum_{i=1}^m \psi'(\alpha_k(i) + \beta). \end{cases}$$

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- Strictly concave maximization in two variables α, β
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- For $\mu = \text{Poisson}(1)$ (Schrödinger bridge), $\psi'(x) = e^x$, so

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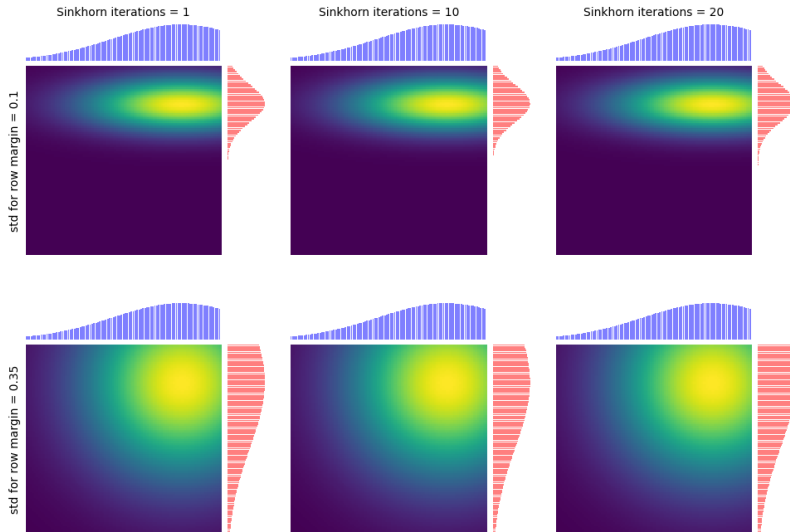
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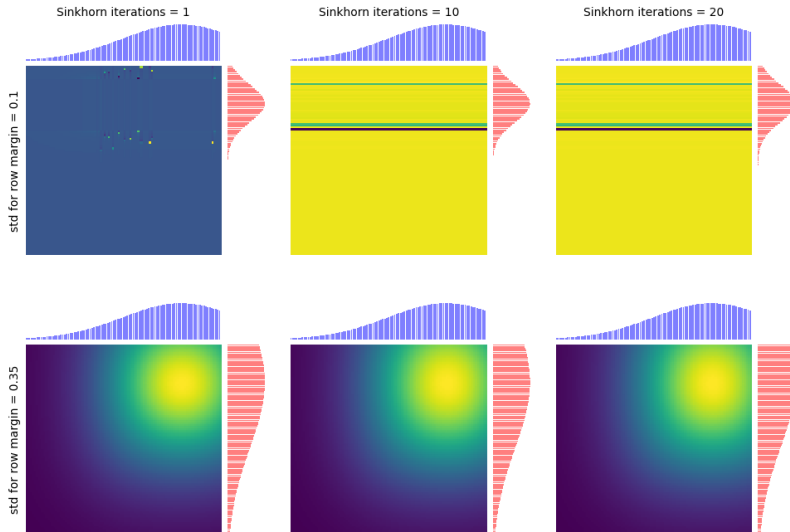
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Poisson typical tables



Counting typical tables



Theorem (Linear convergence of generalized Sinkhorn; L-Mukherjee '24+)

Fix μ arbitrary. Let $(\alpha_k, \beta_k) =$ generalised Sinkhorn iterates. Fix an MLE (α^*, β^*) for δ -tame (\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}) and denote $\Delta_k := g^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}(\alpha^*, \beta^*) - g^{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{c}}(\alpha_k, \beta_k)$. Suppose ψ'' is monotonic and $\alpha_0 = \mathbf{0}$ or μ admits arbitrary tilting ($\Theta = \mathbb{R}$). Then

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- Solution: We show the ℓ^∞ -distance between the iterates and the set of MLEs does not expand