

A Random Matrix Theory Analysis of Linear Generative Models

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- ▶ LLMs became popular due to assistant chatbots (e.g., chatGPT).
- ▶ Rely on foundational models through **self-supervised pre-training**.

Given a corpus of vocabulary size k :

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, \phi} -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{y}_i^\top \log \sigma(\mathbf{W}^\top \phi(\mathbf{X}_i)) \quad \sigma(v) = \frac{\exp(v)}{\sum_{j=1}^k \exp(v_j)}$$

- ▶ $\mathbf{X}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell_i}$ is a context sequence (of *embeddings*).
- ▶ $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$ is a canonical vector encoding the next *token*.
- ▶ $\phi: \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is a sequence encoder (*transformer architecture*).

NLP terminology:

- ▶ *Tokenization*: breaking down text into smaller units "tokens".
- ▶ *Embedding*: convert tokens into high-dimensional vectors.

"Mathematics is the giving of the same name to different things." HP.

[2118, 8991, 34805, 374, 279, 7231, 315, 279, 1890, 836, 311, 2204, 2574, 2029, 12478, 13]¹

¹<https://platform.openai.com/tokenizer>

Transformers: The Core Mechanism

Let $\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell}$ be an input sequence of ℓ embeddings of dimension d .

The unmasked self-attention² layer $g_l : \mathbf{X}_l \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell} \mapsto \mathbf{X}_{l+1} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell}$ is:

$$\mathbf{Y}_l = \underbrace{\mathbf{W}_v \mathbf{X}_l}_{\text{value}} \underbrace{\mathbf{A}_l}_{\text{attention}} + \mathbf{X}_l \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{A}_l = \sigma \left(d^{-\frac{1}{2}} \underbrace{(\mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{X}_l)^T}_{\text{key}} \underbrace{\mathbf{W}_q \mathbf{X}_l}_{\text{query}} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times \ell}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_{l+1} = \mathbf{W}_2^T f \left(\mathbf{W}_1^T \mathbf{Y}_l \right) + \mathbf{Y}_l$$

A transformer is a composition of D layers and $\phi : \mathbb{R}^{d \times \ell} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is:

$$\phi(\mathbf{X}) = [g_D \circ \dots \circ g_1(\mathbf{X})]_{:,i}$$

where $[\mathbf{M}]_{:,i}$ is the i -th column of \mathbf{M} .

Attention Is All You Need

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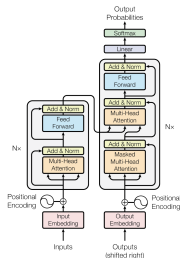
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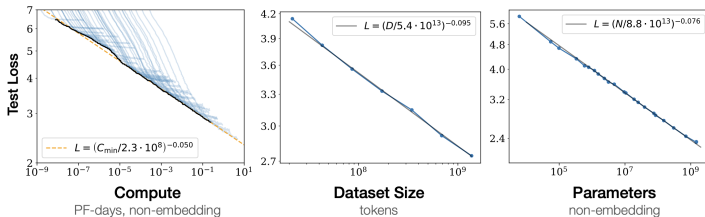
²Ashish Vaswani, et al. "Attention is all you need", Neurips 2017.

Ultimately:

- ▶ Understand generalization: Express **test loss** in terms of hyperparameters.
- ▶ Uncertainty estimation: Control output model **bias** and **variance**.
- ▶ Predict **scaling laws**³ theoretically:

$$\mathcal{L}(d, n) = \left[\left(\frac{d_c}{d} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_d}{\alpha_n}} + \frac{n_c}{n} \right]^{\alpha_n}$$

where d is number of parameters and n is dataset size.



³Jared Kaplan, et al. "Scaling laws for neural language models", arXiv:2001.08361 (2020).

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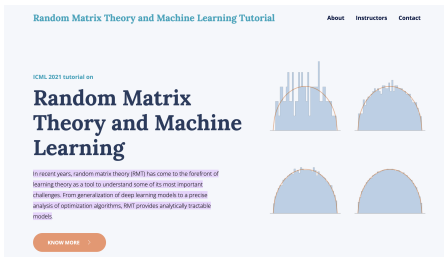
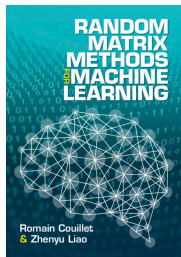
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Why RMT?

- ▶ The problem involves high-dimensions: both d and n are large!
- ▶ Estimating test loss: a scalar quantity function of a random matrix (e.g. data matrix).

RMT has been applied to analyze a wide range of ML problems⁴⁵:

- ▶ Kernel Methods.
- ▶ Large Neural Networks & NTKs.
- ▶ Implicit Convex Optimization Problems.
- ▶ Unsupervised, Semi-supervised, Transfer and Multi-task Learning.



⁴Romain Couillet and Zhenyu Liao, "Random matrix methods for machine learning", Cambridge University Press, 2022.

⁵<https://random-matrix-learning.github.io/>

Example: Large Sample Covariance Matrices

Let $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$ with $\mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$.

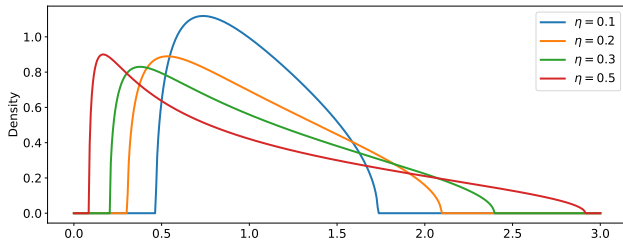
- ▶ Classical statistics: when $n \rightarrow \infty$ and d is **fixed**, with maximum likelihood:

$$\hat{\mathbf{C}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \Sigma$$

- ▶ RMT regime: both $d, n \rightarrow \infty$, curse of dimension occurs:

$$\|\hat{\mathbf{C}} - \Sigma\| \not\rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad \frac{d}{n} \rightarrow \eta \in (0, \infty)$$

- ▶ Marchenko-Pastur Law (1967): when $\Sigma = \mathbf{I}_d$:



$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{(\lambda_+ - x)(x - \lambda_-)}}{2\pi\eta x} \mathbf{1}_{x \in [\lambda_-, \lambda_+]} \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda_{\pm} = (1 \pm \sqrt{\eta})^2$$

- ▶ Let $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ some **symmetric** random matrix and λ_i its eigenvalues.
- ▶ Originally, RMT is about characterizing the **spectrum** of \mathbf{S} when $d \rightarrow \infty$.
- ▶ Under control of the moments of the entries of \mathbf{S} :

$$\nu_d = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \delta_{\lambda_i} \xrightarrow[d \rightarrow \infty]{w} \nu \quad (\text{in the weak sense})$$

where ν is a **deterministic** probability measure.

- ▶ **Stieltjes Transform** of a probability measure ν is:

$$g_\nu(z) = \int \frac{d\nu(\lambda)}{\lambda - z} \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \text{Supp}(\nu)$$

- ▶ **Equivalence:** Let $(\nu_d)_{d \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of probability measures. Then:

$$\nu_d \xrightarrow[d \rightarrow \infty]{w} \nu \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad g_{\nu_d}(z) \xrightarrow[d \rightarrow \infty]{\text{a.s.}} g_\nu(z) \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \text{Supp}(\nu)$$

- ▶ **Resolvent:** Let $\mathbf{Q}(z) = (\mathbf{S} + z\mathbf{I}_d)^{-1}$, we have:

$$g_{\nu_d}(z) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{1}{\lambda_i - z} = \frac{1}{d} \text{Tr} \mathbf{Q}(-z)$$

- ▶ $g_{\nu_d}(z)$ is a linear form of $\mathbf{Q}(-z)$.

Concentration (Trace Lemma):

- ▶ $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ random with finite $2m$ order moment and let $\Sigma = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}^\top]$.
- ▶ $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ independent of $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ and $\|\mathbf{A}\|, \|\Sigma\| < \infty$.

Then:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}} \left[\left| \frac{1}{d} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \frac{1}{d} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \mathbf{A}) \right|^m \right] \leq C d^{-\frac{m}{2}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\frac{1}{d} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{1}{d} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \mathbf{A})}$$

Deterministic Equivalent:

- ▶ **Definition:** $\mathbf{Q} \leftrightarrow \bar{\mathbf{Q}}$ if $u(\mathbf{Q} - \bar{\mathbf{Q}}) \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$ for any bounded linear form $u : \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Let $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_d] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$ with $\mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ and independent, then⁶:

$$\boxed{\mathbf{Q}(z) = \left(\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top + z \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1} \leftrightarrow \bar{\mathbf{Q}}(z) = \left(\frac{\Sigma}{1 + \delta(z)} + z \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1}}$$

where $\delta(z) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \bar{\mathbf{Q}}(z))$.

- ▶ **Limiting Stieltjes transform** is given by $g_\nu(z) = \frac{1}{d} \text{Tr} \bar{\mathbf{Q}}(-z)$.

⁶Cosme Louart and Romain Couillet, "Concentration of measure and large random matrices with an application to sample covariance matrices", arXiv:1805.08295 (2018).

Let $\mathbf{Q}_{-i} = \left(\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top - \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top + z \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{Q}} = (\mathbf{F} + z \mathbf{I}_d)^{-1}$, with:

$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Q}_{-i} - \frac{\mathbf{Q}_{-i} \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{Q}_{-i}}{1 + \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{Q}_{-i} \mathbf{x}_i} \quad \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x}_i = \frac{\mathbf{Q}_{-i} \mathbf{x}_i}{1 + \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{Q}_{-i} \mathbf{x}_i}$$

and $\mathbf{A}^{-1} - \mathbf{B}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B}^{-1}$.

\mathbf{Q} concentrates around $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Q}]$ in the sense of deterministic equivalents⁷, and:

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Q} - \bar{\mathbf{Q}}] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{Q}_{-i} \left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_i \mathbf{x}_i^\top}{1 + \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{Q}_{-i} \mathbf{x}_i} - \mathbf{F} \right) \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \right] + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1})$$

By trace lemma:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{Q}_{-i} \mathbf{x}_i &\xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Q}_{-i}]) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \bar{\mathbf{Q}}) + \mathcal{O}(n^{-1}) \\ \Rightarrow \bar{\mathbf{Q}} &= \left(\frac{\Sigma}{1 + \delta} + z \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1} \quad \text{with} \quad \delta = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(\Sigma \bar{\mathbf{Q}}) \end{aligned}$$

► **Remark:** $\delta \rightarrow 0$ if $n \rightarrow \infty$ with d fixed.

⁷Walid Hachem, Philippe Loubaton and Jamal Najim, "Deterministic equivalents for certain functionals of large random matrices", (2007): 875-930.

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Statistical Data Model:

- ▶ Denote k vocabulary size and ℓ context length (possible contexts $c = k^\ell$).
- ▶ n context representations $\mathbf{x}_i = \phi(\mathbf{X}_i) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and next tokens $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$:

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{z}_a \sim \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbb{P}\{\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{z}_a\} = \alpha_a/c \quad a \in [c]$$

$$\mathbf{y}_i \sim \mathbb{P}\{\cdot \mid \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{z}_a\} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad p_{aj} = \mathbb{P}\{y_{ij} = 1 \mid \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{z}_a\}$$

- ▶ We want a generative model to learn:

$$\mathbf{p}_a = (p_{aj})_{j \in [k]} \in \mathbb{R}^k \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{P} = [\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_c] \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times c}$$

- ▶ From data matrix and labels:

$$\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Y} = [\mathbf{y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n] \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times n}$$

Linear Generative Model:

- ▶ Consider a *linear Ridge generative model*:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{W}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 + \gamma \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2$$

- ▶ For a given context $a \in [c]$, forward pass is:

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}_a = \mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{z}_a \in \mathbb{R}^k \quad \mathbf{W} = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{Q}(\gamma) \mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}^\top, \quad \mathbf{Q}(z) = \left(\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top + z \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1}$$

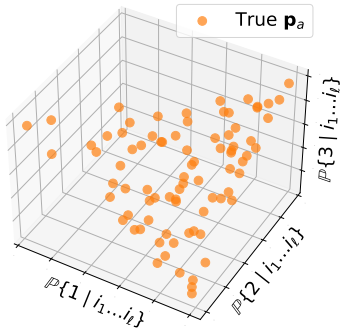
Example: $k = 3$ & $\ell = 4$

A toy model for p_{aj} is:

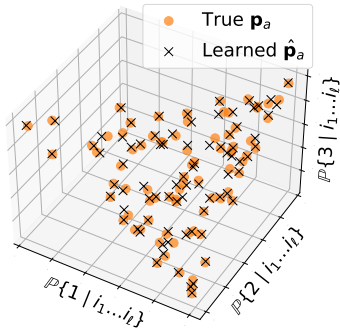
$$p_{aj} = \frac{\exp(G_{aj}/\rho)}{\sum_{b=1}^k \exp(G_{ab}/\rho)}$$

where $\mathbf{G} = (G_{ab}) \in \mathbb{R}^{c \times k}$ is random with $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ i.i.d. entries and $\rho > 0$.

$k = 3, \ell = 4, \rho = 0.9, d = k^\ell$



$k = 3, \ell = 4, \rho = 0.9, d = k^\ell$



Proposition: As $d, c \rightarrow \infty$ with $\frac{d}{c} \rightarrow \eta \in (0, \infty)$, for all $a \in [c]$:

$$\|\mathbb{E}[\hat{\mathbf{p}}_a] - \mathbf{m}_a\| \leq \mathcal{O}(d^{-\frac{1}{2}}) \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbb{E}[\hat{\mathbf{p}}_a \hat{\mathbf{p}}_a^\top] - \mathbf{C}_a\| \leq \mathcal{O}(d^{-\frac{1}{2}})$$

where:

$$\mathbf{m}_a = \frac{\alpha_a \delta}{1 + \alpha_a \delta} \mathbf{p}_a, \quad \mathbf{C}_a = \left(\frac{\alpha_a \delta}{1 + \alpha_a \delta} \right)^2 \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_a + \frac{\frac{\kappa}{c} \sum_{b \neq a}^c \frac{\alpha_b^2}{(1 + \alpha_b \delta)^2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_b}{(1 + \alpha_a \delta)^2 (1 - \beta \kappa)}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_a = \frac{c}{\alpha_a n} \text{Diag}(\mathbf{p}_a) + \left(1 - \frac{c}{\alpha_a n}\right) \mathbf{p}_a \mathbf{p}_a^\top$ and

$$\delta = \frac{\eta}{\alpha + \gamma}, \quad \alpha = \frac{1}{c} \sum_{a=1}^c \frac{\alpha_a}{1 + \alpha_a \delta}, \quad \kappa = \frac{\eta}{(\alpha + \gamma)^2}, \quad \beta = \frac{1}{c} \sum_{a=1}^c \left(\frac{\alpha_a}{1 + \alpha_a \delta} \right)^2$$

Some remarks:

- ▶ If $\alpha_a = 1$ then $\delta = \frac{\eta - \gamma - 1 + \sqrt{(\eta - \gamma - 1)^2 + 4\gamma}}{2\gamma}$ (Marchenko-Pastur result).
- ▶ The model is unbiased if δ is large.
- ▶ Variance reduces if n is large ($n \gg c$).
- ▶ The model has a larger variance on unrepresented contexts (small α_a).

Model Output: Simulations

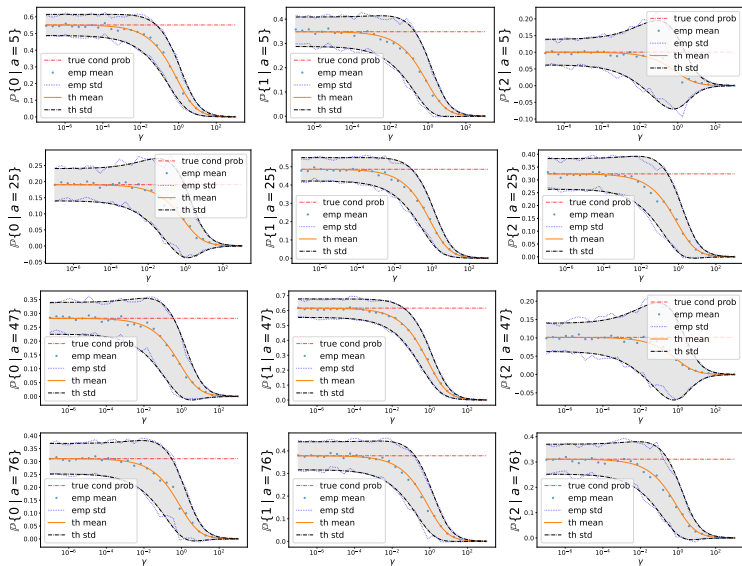
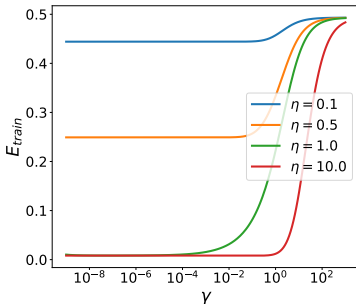
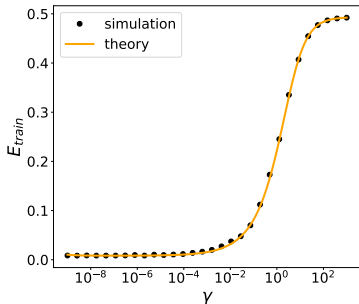


Figure: $k = 3$, $\ell = 4$, $d = k^\ell = 81$, $\rho = .9$, $\alpha_a = 1$ and $n = 5000$.

Training Error (Coincides with Test Error)

Let $\mathbf{Z} = [z_1, \dots, z_c] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times c}$ and $\mathbf{D} = \text{Diag} \left(\frac{\alpha_a \delta}{1 + \alpha_a \delta} \mid a \in [c] \right)$, then:

$$E_{\text{train}} = \frac{1}{c} \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{Z}\|_F^2 \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \frac{1}{c} \text{Tr} [\mathbf{P} (\mathbf{I}_c - 2\mathbf{D}) \mathbf{P}^\top] + \frac{1}{c} \sum_{a=1}^c \text{Tr} (\mathbf{C}_a)$$



- ▶ The model learns with high-dimensional embeddings ($\eta = \frac{d}{c} \geq 1$).
- ▶ The statistical model does not allow us to understand generalization!

Statistical Data Model:

- ▶ Denote k vocabulary size and c possible contexts.
- ▶ n context representations $\mathbf{x}_i = \phi(\mathbf{X}_i) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and next tokens $\mathbf{y}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$:
$$\mathbf{x}_i = \boldsymbol{\mu}_a + \mathbf{z}_i \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{z}_i \sim \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_d) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}\{\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{C}_a\} = \pi_a, \quad a \in [c]$$
$$\mathbf{y}_i \sim \mathbb{P}\{\cdot \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{C}_a\} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad p_{aj} = \mathbb{P}\{y_{ij} = 1 \mid \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{C}_a\}$$
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- ▶ For $a \in [c]$, forward pass for $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_a = \boldsymbol{\mu}_a + \tilde{\mathbf{z}}_a$ with $\tilde{\mathbf{z}}_a$ independent of \mathbf{X} :

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}_a = \mathbf{W}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_a \in \mathbb{R}^k \quad \mathbf{W} = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{Q}(\gamma) \mathbf{X} \mathbf{Y}^\top, \quad \mathbf{Q}(z) = \left(\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^\top + z \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1}$$

Let $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = [\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_c] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times c}$ and denote $E_{\text{test}} = \frac{1}{c} \|\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{W}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{X}}\|_F^2$.

Proposition: As $d, n \rightarrow \infty$ with $\frac{d}{n} \rightarrow \eta \in (0, \infty)$ and $c, \|\boldsymbol{\mu}_a\| = \mathcal{O}(1)$:

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \quad n^{\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon} (E_{\text{test}} - \bar{E}_{\text{test}}) \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} 0$$

where, for $\pi_a = \frac{1}{c}$ and $\mathbf{M} = [\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{\mu}_c] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times c}$, \bar{E}_{test} is:

$$\bar{E}_{\text{test}} = \frac{1}{c} \text{Tr} \left[\mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^\top \left(\mathbf{I}_c - \frac{2\mathbf{M}^\top \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{M}}{(1+\delta)c} \right) \right] + \frac{1}{c} \sum_{a=1}^c \text{Tr}(\mathbf{C}_a)$$

$$\mathbf{C}_a = \frac{\tau \sum_{b=1}^c \text{Diag}(\mathbf{p}_b)}{(1+\delta)^2 c} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{M}^\top \left(\frac{\bar{\mathbf{Q}} \boldsymbol{\mu}_a \boldsymbol{\mu}_a^\top \bar{\mathbf{Q}} + \mathbf{R}}{(1+\delta)^2 c^2} - \frac{2\tau \bar{\mathbf{Q}}}{(1+\delta)^3 c^2} \right) \mathbf{M} \mathbf{P}^\top$$

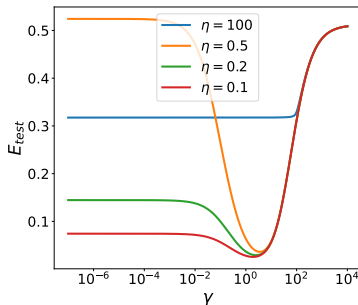
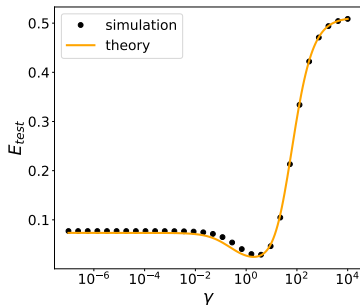
with $\delta = \frac{\eta - \gamma - 1 + \sqrt{(\eta - \gamma - 1)^2 + 4\gamma}}{2\gamma}$, $\zeta = \gamma + \frac{1}{1+\delta}$, $\tau = \frac{\eta(1+\delta)^2}{\zeta^2(1+\delta)^2 - \eta}$, $\kappa = \frac{\eta}{\zeta^2}$

$$\bar{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{1}{\zeta} \mathbf{I}_p - \frac{1}{\zeta^2} \mathbf{M} \left((1+\delta)c \mathbf{I}_c + \frac{1}{\zeta} \mathbf{M}^\top \mathbf{M} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{M}^\top, \quad \mathbf{R} = \frac{\bar{\mathbf{Q}}^2 + \frac{\kappa \bar{\mathbf{Q}} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{M}^\top \bar{\mathbf{Q}}}{(1+\delta)^2 c}}{1 - \frac{\kappa}{(1+\delta)^2}}$$

Recall

$$\mathbf{W} = \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top + \gamma \mathbf{I}_d \right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^\top$$

- ▶ Large γ yields **simple** model: $\mathbf{W} \approx \frac{1}{n\gamma} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^\top$.
- ▶ Small γ yields **complex** model: $\mathbf{W} \approx (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top)^{-1} \mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}^\top$.



- ▶ Generalization depends on **optimal** γ and for small $\eta = \frac{d}{n}$.

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Linear Generative Models

Simple Setting

Understanding Generalization

Take Away Messages

Outline

Large Language Models

General Principle

Transformers

Motivation for a Theoretical Framework

Random Matrix Theory

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**A Random Matrix
Theory Analysis of
Linear Generative
Models**

Mohamed Seddik

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Take Away Messages

- ▶ RMT provides tools to assess ML performance when both **sample size and data dimension are large**.
- ▶ In this talk, we used these tools for a simple **linear generative model**.
- ▶ Provided exact characterization of **train and test errors**.

Limitations:

- ▶ Considered square loss, but an **extension**⁸ is possible with:

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}} -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{y}_i^\top \log \sigma(\mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{x}_i) + \gamma \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2$$

- ▶ Extension beyond **convex** problems is required.
- ▶ Include **attention** mechanism to understand **feature learning**.

Thank you for your attention!
[melaseddik.github.io](https://github.com/melaseddik)

⁸Mohamed El Amine Seddik, et al. "The unexpected deterministic and universal behavior of large softmax classifiers" AISTATS, PMLR, 2021.