

Appendix A: Proof of proposition 1

Proof. By the property of Kronecker products, we only need to show that $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_t}$, $\mathbf{R}_B$, and $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_y}$ are all positive definite. First, since $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_t}$ is the exponential of a symmetric matrix, it is positive definite.

Second, denote the basis matrix as $\mathbf{B}$ where

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} B_1(1) & B_1(2) & \cdots & B_1(T) \\ B_2(1) & B_2(2) & \cdots & B_2(T) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ B_K(1) & B_K(2) & \cdots & B_K(T) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $\mathbf{R}_B$ can be written as $\mathbf{R}_B = \mathbf{B}'\mathbf{B}$. Since $\mathbf{B}$ is a basis matrix (which is full rank), we can conclude that $\mathbf{R}_B$ is positive definite since for any non-zero vector $\mathbf{x}$,

$$\mathbf{x}'\mathbf{R}_B\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{B}'\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x})'(\mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}) > 0.$$

Third, for $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_y}$, denote $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_y} = \boldsymbol{\sigma} \circ \mathbf{P}$, where $P_{j_1, j_2} = \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_{j_1} - \mathbf{y}_{j_2}|^2\}$ is the (j_1, j_2) element of $\mathbf{P}$ and the operation “ $\circ$ ” is the entrywise matrix product. Suppose $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ is a block diagonal binary matrix with the form after permutation

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \sigma_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \sigma_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then a corresponding permutation of $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_y}$ can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{P}_1 & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{P}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{P}_n \end{pmatrix},$$

where $\mathbf{P}_j$ ($j = 1, \dots, n$) is a diagonal submatrix of $\mathbf{P}$ with the same dimension as σ_j . It can be observed that each submatrix $\mathbf{P}_j$ is an exponential of a symmetric matrix and is thus positive definite. Therefore, $\mathbf{R}_{\theta_y}$ is also positive definite. Hence, we have proved proposition 1.

Appendix B: Metropolis-Hastings algorithm in the E-step.

Metropolis-Hasting algorithms for sampling $\mathbf{u}_i$:

Steps:

Choose $\mathbf{u}_i^{(0)}$ as initial value, and let $v \leftarrow 1$;

While $v < m$ do

Draw a candidate $\mathbf{u}_i^*$ from $g(\mathbf{u}_i^* | \mathbf{u}_i^{(v-1)}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(s)})$;

$$\alpha \leftarrow \min \left(\frac{f(\mathbf{u}_i^*)/g(\mathbf{u}_i^* | \mathbf{u}_i^{(v-1)}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(s)})}{f(\mathbf{u}_i^{(v-1)})/g(\mathbf{u}_i^{(v-1)} | \mathbf{u}_i^*, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(s)})}, 1 \right);$$

Draw a uniform random number w on $[0, 1]$;

If $w \leq \alpha$,

$$\mathbf{u}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{u}_i \cup \mathbf{u}_i^{(v)};$$

$$v = v + 1;$$

End

End

Return $\{\mathbf{u}_i^{(1)}, \mathbf{u}_i^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_i^{(m)}\}$.

Here $g(\mathbf{u}^* | \mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(s)})$ is the density function of the proposal distribution; and $f(\mathbf{u}^*) = p(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{N} | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(s)})$.

Chib et al. (1998) discussed possible options to select a proposal distribution to reduce the burn-in time of the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm. It is advised in the literature to use a tailored normal distribution (Chib et al., 1998, Wu et al., 2018) that targets the modal value $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_i = \underset{\mathbf{u}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ln p(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{N}_i | \boldsymbol{\Theta}^{(s)})$, where the distribution parameters can be derived as $N(\boldsymbol{\kappa}_i, c\mathbf{H}_i)$ and

$$\kappa_i = \left[\text{diag}(\mathbf{N}_i) + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(s)-1} \right]^{-1} \left(\text{diag}(\mathbf{N}_i) \log \mathbf{N}_i + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(s)-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(s)} \right),$$

$$\mathbf{H}_i = (\text{diag}(e^{\kappa_i}) + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1})^{-1}.$$

Here c is a tuning parameter and $\mathbf{H}_i$ can be replaced by its nearest positive semidefinite matrix if it is not positive semidefinite (Wu et al., 2018).

Appendix C: Algorithm to determine $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ in the M-step.

Algorithm to determine $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ in the M-step:

Input: estimated covariance matrix $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$, estimated parameters at the previous iteration

$\theta_y^{(s)}, \tau^{(s)}$.

Output: estimation of $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(s+1)}$ at iteration $s + 1$.

Steps:

Get a direct estimation $\boldsymbol{\pi}$ based on $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$ where

$$\pi_{i,j} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{l=1}^T \left(\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l} / \exp \left\{ -\theta_y^{(s)} |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2 \right\} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l)^2 + (\tau^{(s)})^2 \right) \right);$$

Initialize $\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(1)} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\pi}$, $\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\pi}$, $\epsilon \leftarrow \text{average}(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(1)} \setminus \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(1)}))$, list $\mathbf{L} \leftarrow \emptyset$, and scalar

$q \leftarrow 1$, where “ $\setminus$ ” represents the set operation of difference.

Determine the index of the largest element of $\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)}$: $(i_1, i_2) \leftarrow \arg \max(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)})$, and let

$$\pi_{i_1, i_2}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty, \pi_{i_2, i_1}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty, L_q \leftarrow \{i_1, i_2\}, q \leftarrow q + 1.$$

Determine the value and index of the next largest element: $m \leftarrow \max(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)})$, $(i_1, i_2) \leftarrow$

$\arg \max(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)})$, and let $\pi_{i_1, i_2}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty, \pi_{i_2, i_1}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty$.

While $m > \epsilon$,

Let $\text{flag} = 0$;

For $l = 1, \dots, q - 1$,

 If $i_1 \in L_l$,

 If $\text{average}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{L_l \cup \{i_2\}, L_l \cup \{i_2\}}^{(1)}) > \epsilon$,

 Let $L_l \leftarrow L_l \cup \{i_2\}$, $\boldsymbol{\pi}_{L_l \cup \{i_2\}, L_l \cup \{i_2\}}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty$, $\text{flag} = 1$;

 End

 Else if $i_2 \in L_l$

 If $\text{average}(\boldsymbol{\pi}_{L_l \cup \{i_1\}, L_l \cup \{i_1\}}^{(1)}) > \epsilon$,

 Let $L_l \leftarrow L_l \cup \{i_1\}$, $\boldsymbol{\pi}_{L_l \cup \{i_1\}, L_l \cup \{i_1\}}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty$, $\text{flag} = 1$;

 End

 End

End

 If $\text{flag} = 0$,

$L_q \leftarrow \{i_1, i_2\}$, $q \leftarrow q + 1$.

 End

$m \leftarrow \max(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)})$, $(i_1, i_2) \leftarrow \arg \max(\boldsymbol{\pi}^{(2)})$, and let $\pi_{i_1, i_2}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty$, $\pi_{i_2, i_1}^{(2)} \leftarrow -\infty$

End

Let $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(s+1)} \leftarrow \mathbf{I}_n$ ($n \times n$ identity matrix).

For $l = 1, \dots, q - 1$,

 Let $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{L_l, L_l}^{(s+1)} = 1$;

End

End

Return $\sigma^{(s+1)}$

Please note that π is a direct estimation of σ based on the traffic network information and the estimation of other parameters in the previous step. Then we estimate the clusters of routes denoted as the lists $\{L_1, L_2, \dots, L_{q-1}\}$, where the routes in the same cluster are highly correlated. After the evaluation of clusters, we set the submatrices corresponding to all clusters as all-one matrices. In this way, it is naturally guaranteed that the output $\sigma^{(s+1)}$ is equivalent to a block diagonal matrix with regard to permutation. Since this algorithm is based on thresholding of the estimator $\pi_{i,j}$, we establish a proposition that shows the consistency of this estimator.

Proposition 2. For $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$, the thresholding estimator $\Phi_\epsilon(\pi_{i,j})$ is a consistent estimator of σ_{ij} , where $\pi_{i,j} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{l=1}^T \left(\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l} / \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l)^2 + \tau^2) \right)$, and $\Phi_\epsilon(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < \epsilon \\ 1, & x \geq \epsilon \end{cases}$.

Proof. According to the property of the MLE for covariance matrix, $\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l}$ converges to $\Sigma_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l}$ in probability as sample size $m \rightarrow \infty$. Note that $\sigma_{i,j} \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l)^2 + \tau^2) = \Sigma_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l}$, for $l = 1, 2, \dots, T$. We can then derive that

$$\begin{aligned} |\pi_{ij} - \sigma_{ij}| &= \frac{1}{T} \left| \sum_{l=1}^T \left((\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l} - \Sigma_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l}) / \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l)^2 + \tau^2 \right) \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{T \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (B_m + \tau^2)} \sum_{l=1}^T |\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l} - \Sigma_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l}| \end{aligned}$$

where $B_m = \max_l \sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l)^2$. According to the convergence of the sample covariance, for any $\delta > 0$, there exists a large enough M_1 such that when $m > M_1$, $|\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l} - \Sigma_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+l}| \leq \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (B_m + \tau^2) \delta$ holds. Then

$$|\pi_{ij} - \sigma_{ij}| \leq \frac{1}{T \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (B_m + \tau^2)} T \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (B_m + \tau^2) \delta = \delta.$$

For the thresholding estimator $\Phi_\epsilon(\pi_{i,j})$, it can be easily observed that $\Phi_\epsilon(\pi_{i,j}) = \sigma_{ij}$ when $|\pi_{ij} - \sigma_{ij}| < \min(\epsilon, 1 - \epsilon)$. By the same argument above, we can show there exists a large enough M_2 such that when $m > M_2$, $|\pi_{ij} - \sigma_{ij}| < \min(\epsilon, 1 - \epsilon)$. Therefore, we have demonstrated that when $m > M_2$, $|\Phi_\epsilon(\pi_{i,j}) - \sigma_{ij}| = 0$. This shows the consistency of the thresholding estimator $\Phi_\epsilon(\pi_{i,j})$.

Appendix D: First-order descent method to estimate the parameters in the M-step.

Recall that the optimization problem is formulated as follows:

$$(\theta_y^{(s+1)}, \theta_t^{(s+1)}, \tau^{(s+1)}) = \arg \min_{\theta_y, \theta_t, \tau} (\|\hat{\Sigma}^\Theta - \hat{\Sigma}\|_F^2) = \arg \min_{\theta_y, \theta_t, \tau} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{JT} \sum_{j=1}^{JT} (\hat{\Sigma}_{i,j}^\Theta - \hat{\Sigma}_{i,j})^2 \right).$$

The objective function can be further derived as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F} &= \|\hat{\Sigma}^\Theta - \hat{\Sigma}\|_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{JT} \sum_{j=1}^{JT} (\hat{\Sigma}_{i,j}^\Theta - \hat{\Sigma}_{i,j})^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T \left[\sigma_{i,j} \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} \left(\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l) B_k(p) + \tau^2 \exp\{-\theta_t |t_l - t_p|\} \right) - \hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+p} \right]^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T g(i, j, l, p)^2, \end{aligned}$$

where $g(i, j, l, p) = \sigma_{i,j} \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} (\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l) B_k(p) + \tau^2 \exp\{-\theta_t |t_l - t_p|\}) -$

$\hat{\Sigma}_{T(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+p}$. Then the derivative of the objective function with regard to the parameters

$\nabla \mathcal{F}(\theta_y, \theta_t, \tau) = \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \theta_y}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \theta_t}, \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \tau} \right)$ can be derived as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \theta_y} &= \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T \frac{\partial g^2(i, j, l, p)}{\partial \theta_y} = -2 \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T g(g + \hat{\Sigma}_{n(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+p}) |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \theta_t} &= \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T \frac{\partial g^2(i, j, l, p)}{\partial \theta_t} \\ &= -2 \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T \frac{\tau^2 g(g + \hat{\Sigma}_{n(i-1)+l, T(j-1)+p}) \exp\{-\theta_t |t_l - t_p|\} |t_l - t_p|}{\sum_{k=1}^K B_k(l) B_k(p) + \tau^2 \exp\{-\theta_t |t_l - t_p|\}}, \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \tau} &= \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T \frac{\partial g^2(i, j, l, p)}{\partial \tau} = 4 \sum_{i=1}^J \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{l=1}^T \sum_{p=1}^T g \sigma_{i,j} \exp\{-\theta_y |\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j|^2\} \exp\{-\theta_t |t_l - t_p|\} \tau. \end{aligned}$$

Then the gradient descent method searches the optimal parameters iteratively, and at step $v + 1$,

$$\left(\theta_y^{(v+1)}, \theta_t^{(v+1)}, \tau^{(v+1)} \right) = \left(\theta_y^{(v)}, \theta_t^{(v)}, \tau^{(v)} \right) - \alpha \cdot \nabla \mathcal{F}(\theta_y^{(v)}, \theta_t^{(v)}, \tau^{(v)}).$$

Here, α is the step length, the value of which is determined by a backtracking line search method.

References

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- Wu, H., Deng, X., and Ramakrishnan, N. (2018), “Sparse Estimation of Multivariate Poisson Log-Normal Models From Count Data,” *Statistical Analysis and Data Mining: The ASA Data Science Journal*, 11, 66–77.