

Analysis of Network Flow Data

Gonzalo Mateos

Dept. of ECE and Goergen Institute for Data Science

University of Rochester

gmateosb@ece.rochester.edu

<http://www.ece.rochester.edu/~gmateos/>

April 26, 2016

Network flows, measurements and statistical analysis

Gravity models

Traffic matrix estimation

Case study: Internet traffic matrix estimation

Estimation of network flow costs

Case study: Dynamic delay cartography

- ▶ Networks often serve as conduits for **traffic flows**

Example

- ▶ Commodities and people flow over transportation networks;
- ▶ Data flows over communication networks; and
- ▶ Capital flows over networks of trade relations

- ▶ Flow-related questions on network design, provisioning and routing
 - ⇒ Solutions involve tools in optimization and algorithms

- ▶ **Our focus:** statistical analysis and modeling of network flow data
 - ⇒ Regression-based prediction of unknown flow characteristics

- ▶ Let $G(V, E)$ be a digraph. Flows are directed: origin \rightarrow destination
 - \Rightarrow Directed edges (arcs) here referred to as **links**
 - \Rightarrow Number of flows is N_f , typically have $N_f = O(N_v^2)$
 - \Rightarrow Flows traverse multiple links en route to their destinations
- ▶ **Routing matrix** $\mathbf{R} \in \{0, 1\}^{N_e \times N_f}$ states incidence of routes with links

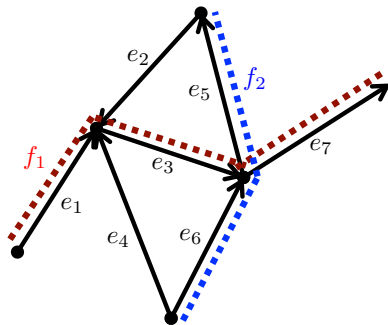
$$r_{e,f} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if flow } f \text{ routed via link } e, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Assumed flows follow a single route from origin to destination

Example: Routing of two flows

Ex: Consider a digraph with $N_e = 7$ links and $N_f = 2$ active flows

$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



- **Strongly connected digraph:** flows can be as many as $N_v(N_v - 1)$

- ▶ Central to study of network flows is the **traffic matrix** $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_v \times N_v}$
 - ▶ Entry z_{ij} is total volume of flow from origin vertex i to destination j
- ▶ **Ex:** net out-flow from i and net in-flow to j given by

$$z_{i+} = \sum_j z_{ij} \quad \text{and} \quad z_{+j} = \sum_i z_{ij}$$

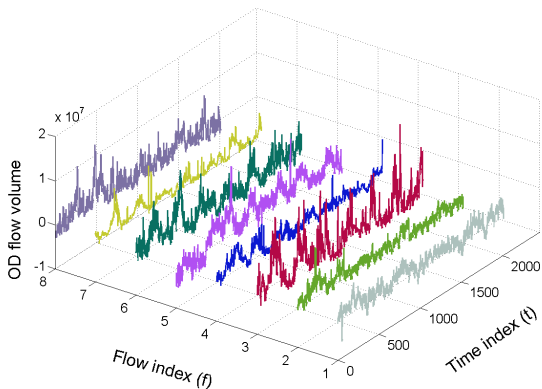
- ▶ Link-level aggregate traffic vector $\mathbf{x} := [x_1, \dots, x_{N_e}]^T$ related to \mathbf{Z} as

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{z}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{z} := \text{vec}(\mathbf{Z})$$

⇒ Link counts x_e equal the sum of flow volumes routed through e

- ▶ Notion of **cost** c associated with paths or links also important
 - Ex: generalized socioeconomic cost for transportation analysis
 - ⇒ Study choices made by consumers of transportation resources
 - Ex: quality of service (QoS) in network traffic analysis
 - ⇒ Monitor delays to unveil congestion or anomalies
- ▶ Implicitly assumed a static snapshot taken of the network flows
 - ⇒ **Flows dynamic in nature.** Time-varying models more realistic
 - ⇒ When appropriate will denote $\mathbf{x}(t)$, $\mathbf{Z}(t)$ or $\mathbf{R}(t)$
- ▶ Common assumption to treat routing matrix \mathbf{R} as being fixed
 - ⇒ Routing changes at slower time scale than flow dynamics

Example: Internet2 traffic matrix



- ▶ Internet2 backbone: $N_f = 110$ flows (8 shown) over a week
⇒ Temporal periodicity and “spatial” correlation apparent

- ▶ Roadmap dictated by types of measurement and analysis goal
- ▶ **Measure:** origin-destination (OD) flow volumes z_{ij} in full
- ▶ **Goal:** model flows to understand and predict future traffic
 - ⇒ Gravity models
- ▶ **Measure:** link counts x_e , flow volumes unavailable
- ▶ **Goal:** traffic matrix estimation, i.e., predict unobserved OD flows z_{ij}
 - ⇒ Gaussian and Poisson models, entropy minimization
- ▶ **Measure:** OD costs c_{ij} for a subset of paths
- ▶ **Goal:** predict unobserved OD and link costs
 - ⇒ Active network tomography and network kriging

Network flows, measurements and statistical analysis

Gravity models

Traffic matrix estimation

Case study: Internet traffic matrix estimation

Estimation of network flow costs

Case study: Dynamic delay cartography

- ▶ **Gravity models** originate in the social sciences [Stewart '41]
 - ⇒ Describe aggregate level of interactions among populations
- ▶ **Ex:** geography, economics, sociology, hydrology, computer networks
- ▶ **Newton's law of gravitation** for masses m_1 , m_2 separated by d_{12}

$$F_{12} = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{d_{12}^2}$$

- ▶ **Gravity models** specify interactions among populations vary:
 - ⇒ In direct proportion to the population's sizes; and
 - ⇒ Inversely with some measure of their separation
- ▶ **Intuition:** OD flows as “population interactions”, makes sense!

- ▶ Sets of origins \mathcal{I} and destinations \mathcal{J} . Flows Z_{ij} from $i \in \mathcal{I}$ to $j \in \mathcal{J}$
- ▶ **Gravity models** state Z_{ij} are independent, Poisson, with mean

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_{ij}] = h_O(i)h_D(j)h_S(\mathbf{c}_{ij})$$

- ⇒ Origin $h_O(\cdot)$, destination $h_D(\cdot)$, and separation function $h_S(\cdot)$
- ⇒ “Distance” between i, j captured by separation attributes \mathbf{c}_{ij}

- ▶ **Ex:** Stewart’s theory of **demographic gravitation** specifies

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_{ij}] = \gamma\pi_{O,i}\pi_{D,j}d_{ij}^{-2}$$

- ⇒ Population sizes measured by $\pi_{O,i}$ and $\pi_{D,j}$, distance by d_{ij}
 - ⇒ Demographic gravitational constant γ
- ▶ **Unlike Netwon’s law, no empirical or theoretical support here**

- ▶ Multiple origin, destination and separation functions proposed
⇒ Motivated from sociophysics and economic utility theory

- ▶ Ex: **power functions** for $h_O(i)$ and $h_D(j)$, where for $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$

$$h_O(i) = (\pi_{O,i})^\alpha \quad \text{and} \quad h_D(j) = (\pi_{D,j})^\beta$$

- ▶ Ex: power function $h_S(c_{ij}) = c_{ij}^{-\theta}$, $\theta \geq 0$. General **exponential form**

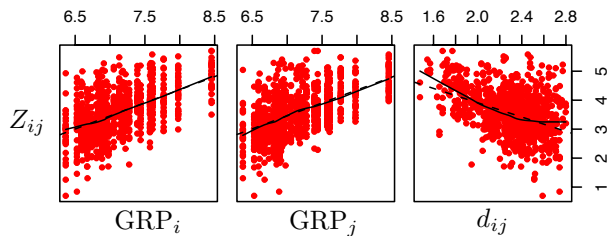
$$h_S(\mathbf{c}_{ij}) = \exp(\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{c}_{ij}), \quad \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{c}_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^K$$

- ▶ Convenient for inference of model parameters, since

$$\log \mathbb{E}[Z_{ij}] = \log \gamma + \alpha \log \pi_{O,i} + \beta \log \pi_{D,j} + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{c}_{ij}$$

⇒ **Log-linear form facilitates standard regression software**

- ▶ **Q:** Structure of telecommunication interactions among populations?
 - ⇒ Planning for government (de)regulation of the sector
 - ⇒ Predict influence of technologies in regional development
- ▶ **Gravity models** to model telecommunication patterns as flows
- ▶ Data for **phone-call traffic** among 32 Austrian districts in 1991
 - ⇒ $32 \times 31 = 992$ flow measurements $z_{ij}, i \neq j = 1, \dots, 32$
 - ⇒ Gross regional product (GRP) per region → Size proxy
 - ⇒ Road-based distance among regions → Separation proxy



- ▶ Data (in \log_{10} scale) suggest a gravity model of the form

$$\mathbb{E}[Z_{ij}] = \gamma(\pi_{O,i})^\alpha(\pi_{D,j})^\beta(c_{ij})^{-\theta}$$

$\Rightarrow \pi_{O,i} = GRP_i, \pi_{D,j} = GRP_j, c_{ij} = d_{ij}$ i - j 's road-based distance

- ▶ Typical that **flow volumes vary widely in scale**

- ▶ Specified Z_{ij} as independent Poisson RVs, with means $\mu_{ij} = \mathbb{E}[Z_{ij}]$
⇒ ML for **statistical inference** in the general gravity model

- ▶ Let $\alpha_i = \log h_O(i)$, $\beta_j = \log h_D(j)$ and $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^K$. Will focus on

$$\log \mu_{ij} = \alpha_i + \beta_j + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{c}_{ij}$$

⇒ Log-linear model \in class of **generalized linear models**

- ▶ P. McCullagh and J. Nedler, *Generalized Linear Models*. CRC, 1989
- ▶ Given flow observations $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{z}$, the **Poisson log-likelihood for $\boldsymbol{\mu}$** is

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{i,j \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{J}} z_{ij} \log \mu_{ij} - \mu_{ij}$$

⇒ Substitute the gravity model and maximize $\ell(\boldsymbol{\mu})$ for MLE

- ▶ MLEs $\hat{\alpha} := \{\hat{\alpha}_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{I}}$, $\hat{\beta} := \{\hat{\beta}_j\}_{j \in \mathcal{J}}$ and $\hat{\theta}$ satisfy

$$\log \hat{\mu}_{ij} = \hat{\alpha}_i + \hat{\beta}_j + \hat{\theta}^T \mathbf{c}_{ij}, \quad i, j \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{J} \Rightarrow \log \hat{\mu} = \mathbf{M} \hat{\gamma}$$

- ▶ Defined $\hat{\gamma} := [\hat{\alpha}^T \hat{\beta}^T \hat{\theta}^T]^T$, mean flow estimates $\hat{\mu}_{ij}$ solve

$$\sum_j \hat{\mu}_{ij} = z_{i+}, \quad i \in \mathcal{I} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_i \hat{\mu}_{ij} = z_{+j}, \quad j \in \mathcal{J}$$

$$\sum_{i,j} \mathbf{c}_{ij}(k) \hat{\mu}_{ij} = \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{c}_{ij}(k) z_{ij}, \quad k = 1, \dots, K$$

- ▶ **Unique MLE $\hat{\theta}$ under mild conditions**, e.g., $\text{rank}(\mathbf{M}) = I + J + K - 1$
 \Rightarrow Values $\hat{\alpha}_i$, $\hat{\beta}_j$ unique only up to a constant
- ▶ A. Sen, "Maximum likelihood estimation of gravity model parameters," *J. Regional Science*, vol. 26, pp. 461-474, 1986

- ▶ LS procedures the norm early on, based on models

$$\log Z_{ij} \approx \alpha_i + \beta_j + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{c}_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij}, \quad i, j \in \mathcal{I} \times \mathcal{J}$$

- ▶ **Beware:** ordinary LS estimation doomed to yield poor results

⇒ Biased estimates, $\mathbb{E}[\log Z_{ij}] \leq \log \mu_{ij}$ by Jensen's inequality

⇒ Variance not constant, $\text{var}[\log Z_{ij}]$ depends on μ_{ij}

- ▶ **Corrective measures:** replace $\log Z_{ij} \leftrightarrow \tilde{Z}_{ij} := \log(Z_{ij} + 1/2)$

⇒ $\mathbb{E}[\tilde{Z}_{ij}] = \log \mu_{ij}$ and $\text{var}[\tilde{Z}_{ij}] = \mu_{ij}^{-1}$ up to $O(\mu_{ij}^{-2})$ terms

⇒ Use weighted LS with $w_{ij} \propto \mu_{ij}^{1/2}$ (start with $z_{ij}^{1/2}$, then $\hat{\mu}_{ij}^{1/2}$)

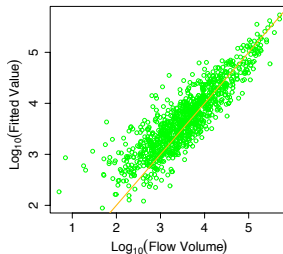
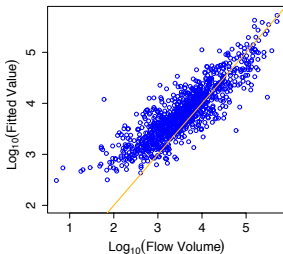
- ▶ LS is simple, but **all things being equal ML is preferable**

Example: Analysis of Austrian phone-call data

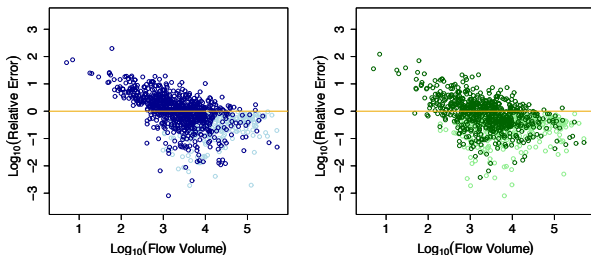
- ▶ Given phone-call data, form MLEs of parameters in two models

Standard gravity model: $\mu_{ij} = \gamma(\pi_{O,i})^\alpha(\pi_{D,j})^\beta(c_{ij})^{-\theta}$

General gravity model: $\log \mu_{ij} = \alpha_i + \beta_j - \theta c_{ij}$

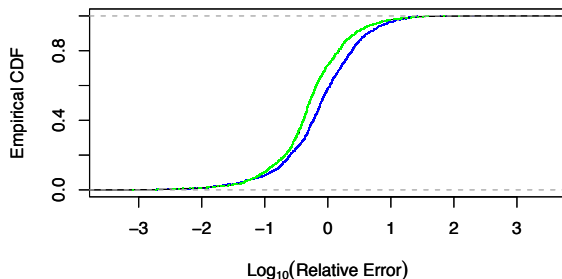


- ▶ **Prediction of traffic flows.** Plot $\hat{\mu}_{ij}$ vs z_{ij} in log-log scale
 - ⇒ Fairly linear trend for both gravity models
 - ⇒ **Standard model** tends to over-estimate low-volume flows



- ▶ **Relative prediction error.** Plot $(z_{ij} - \hat{\mu}_{ij})/z_{ij}$ vs z_{ij} in log-log scale
 - ⇒ For both models error varies widely in magnitude
 - ⇒ Roughly, error decreases with flow volume
 - ⇒ Tendency to over- (under)-estimate low (high) volumes

- ▶ Plot empirical CDF of models' relative prediction errors



- ▶ **General model's** CDF lies to the left of that for the **standard model**
 - ⇒ The **general model** dominates in terms of accuracy
- ▶ **Ex: Standard model** errors $\leq z_{ij}$ for 58% of the OD pairs
 - ⇒ Compare with 72% under the **general model**

Network flows, measurements and statistical analysis

Gravity models

Traffic matrix estimation

Case study: Internet traffic matrix estimation

Estimation of network flow costs

Case study: Dynamic delay cartography

- ▶ Monitoring OD flow volumes Z_{ij} fundamental to:
 - ⇒ Traffic management
 - ⇒ Network provisioning
 - ⇒ Planning for network growth
- ▶ Often difficult (even impossible) to measure the Z_{ij} ...
 - Ex: large-scale surveys prohibitive in transportation networks
 - Ex: flow sampling, storing, transmission affects Internet user QoS
- ▶ ...but relatively easy to acquire link counts X_e
 - Ex: highway networks, place sensors in on- and off-ramps
 - Ex: routers monitor data on incident links (e.g., SNMP)

Traffic matrix estimation

Given \mathbf{R} and link counts $\{X_e\}_{e \in E}$, predict flows Z_{ij} (or estimate μ_{ij})

- ▶ Highly underdetermined inverse problem. “Invert” known fat \mathbf{R} in

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{RZ}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{R} \in \{0, 1\}^{N_e \times N_f} \text{ and } N_e \ll N_f = O(N_v^2)$$

⇒ Leverage side information to constrain the solution set

- ▶ Also dubbed **network tomography**. Taxonomy of methods:
 - ⇒ **Static**: estimate \mathbf{Z} for a single time period
 - ⇒ **Dynamic**: estimate \mathbf{Z} successively over multiple time periods
- ▶ Y. Vardi, “Network tomography: Estimating source-destination traffic intensities from traffic counts,” *JASA*, vol. 91, pp. 365-377, 1996

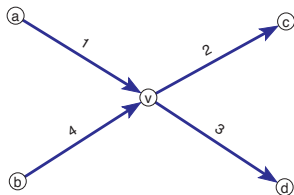
- ▶ Traffic often has units of “counts” e.g., cars per hour or Mbps
⇒ Still, early approaches based on **LS** and **Gaussian models**
- ▶ Simple linear model for observed link counts $\mathbf{X} = \{X_e\}_{e \in E}$

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

- ▶ $\mathbf{R} \in \{0, 1\}^{N_e \times N_f}$ is the known routing matrix
 - ▶ $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}_+^{N_f}$ is vector of expected OD flow volumes
 - ▶ $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ is a $N_e \times 1$ vector of i.i.d. zero-mean errors, with variance σ^2
- ▶ Formulation suggests **estimating $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ via ordinary LS**
⇒ Gaussian $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ reasonable in high-count settings (LS \Leftrightarrow ML)
⇒ However, typically $N_e \ll N_f$ and **LS is poorly posed**

Example: Toy network

- Graph $G(V, E)$ with $N_v = 5$ and $N_e = 4$, OD pairs $\{ac, ad, bc, bd\}$



$$\begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \\ X_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_{ac} \\ \mu_{ad} \\ \mu_{bc} \\ \mu_{bd} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 \\ \varepsilon_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Although $N_e = N_f = 4$, $\text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) = 3$ and $\mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R}$ not invertible
 \Rightarrow For link counts $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$, there are infinite solutions $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$ to

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu}\|^2$$

- ▶ Suppose we have initial OD flow volume measurements $\mathbf{Z}_0 = \mathbf{z}_0$
⇒ **Historical data**, maybe even rough and inaccurate
- ▶ Use \mathbf{z}_0 to constrain the LS problem. Consider the model

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Z}_0 \\ \mathbf{X} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{R} \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\xi} \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ Independent errors $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ have covariance matrices $\boldsymbol{\Psi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$
- ▶ **Generalized LS estimator**

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{z}_0 - \boldsymbol{\mu} \\ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{z}_0 - \boldsymbol{\mu} \\ \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu} \end{bmatrix}$$

⇒ From likelihood-based perspective a Gaussian model implicit

- ▶ Generalized LSE is a linear combination of \mathbf{z}_0 and \mathbf{x} , namely

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = (\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{-1} + \mathbf{R}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{R})^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{-1} \mathbf{z}_0 + \mathbf{R}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{x})$$

- ▶ Model is linear so $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$ is **unbiased** and a **MVUE**, with

$$\text{var}[\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}] = (\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{-1} + \mathbf{R}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{R})^{-1}$$

- ▶ Typically $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is diagonal and $\boldsymbol{\Psi}$ depends on sampling of \mathbf{z}_0
⇒ Estimate from historical data $\{\mathbf{z}_0\}$ or previous estimates $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$
- ▶ Likely to obtain **negative** $\hat{\mu}_{ij}$ if link counts are low. **Constrain** $\mu_{ij} \geq 0$
- ▶ M. Bell, "The estimation of OD matrices by constrained generalized least squares," *Transportation Research*, vol. 25B, pp. 13-22, 1991

- ▶ Instead of historical data, regularize with prior $\boldsymbol{\mu} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_0, \tau^2 \mathbf{I})$
- ▶ Suppose $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$, with $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$. **MAP estimator**

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} := \mathbb{E} [\boldsymbol{\mu} \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] = \boldsymbol{\mu}_0 + \mathbf{R}^T (\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu}_0)$$

⇒ Correction of $\boldsymbol{\mu}_0$ driven by error in predicting \mathbf{x} as $\mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu}_0$

- ▶ Uncertainty in the estimate assessed via the covariance matrix

$$\text{var} [\boldsymbol{\mu} \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] = \tau^2 [\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{R}^T (\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{R}]$$

- ▶ Smoothing parameter $\lambda := \sigma^2 / \tau^2$. **Limiting cases:**
 - ⇒ As $\lambda \rightarrow 0$ enforce $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{R}\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$
 - ⇒ As $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ then $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\mu}_0$

- ▶ Gaussian model inappropriate even if few $\{\mu_{ij}\}$ are small
- ▶ **Independent, Poisson OD flows** modeled as

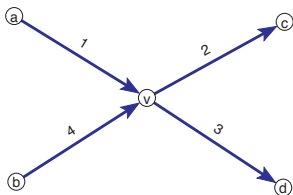
$$P(\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \prod_{ij} P(Z_{ij} = z_{ij}; \mu_{ij}) = \prod_{ij} \frac{e^{-\mu_{ij}} \mu_{ij}^{z_{ij}}}{z_{ij}!}$$

- ▶ Consider error-free observations $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{RZ}$
 - ⇒ Distribution of \mathbf{X} induced by that of \mathbf{Z} above
 - ⇒ Elements of \mathbf{X} not independent in general
 - ⇒ Multiple \mathbf{z} solve $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{Rz}$, for observed $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ Still **$\boldsymbol{\mu}$ identifiable** if columns of \mathbf{R} all distinct and nonzero [Vardi '96]

$$P(\mathbf{X}; \boldsymbol{\mu}) = P(\mathbf{X}; \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\mu} = a\tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$$

Example: Toy network (encore)

- ▶ Subgraph induced by $V' = \{a, v, c\}$, OD pairs $\{av, vc, ac\}$



$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ Observe link counts $\mathbf{x} = [1, 2]^T$
- ▶ Two consistent flow sets
 $\mathbf{z}_1 = [0, 1, 1]^T$ and $\mathbf{z}_2 = [1, 2, 0]^T$

- ▶ Data likelihood $\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}; \mathbf{x}) = P(\mathbf{X} = [1, 2]^T; \boldsymbol{\mu})$ is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}; \mathbf{x}) &= P(\mathbf{Z} = [0, 1, 1]^T; \boldsymbol{\mu}) + P(\mathbf{Z} = [1, 2, 0]^T; \boldsymbol{\mu}) \\ &= (\mu_{ac}\mu_{vc} + \mu_{av}\mu_{vc}^2/2) \exp(-\mu_{ac} - \mu_{av} - \mu_{vc}) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **Q:** What is the MLE $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\mu} \succeq \mathbf{0}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}; \mathbf{x})$?

$$\text{Solve } \max_{\boldsymbol{\mu} \succeq \mathbf{0}} (\mu_{ac}\mu_{vc} + \mu_{av}\mu_{vc}^2/2) \exp(-\mu_{ac} - \mu_{av} - \mu_{vc})$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}^*; \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0} \text{ for } \boldsymbol{\mu}^* = [1, 2, 0]^T, \text{ but } \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = [0, 1, 1]^T$$

- ▶ **Paradox?** No, solution in the boundary of the feasible set
- ▶ For Poisson models $\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}; \mathbf{x})$ not concave in general [Vardi '96]
 - \Rightarrow **Asymptotically concave** for i.i.d. $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ if $\boldsymbol{\mu} \succ \mathbf{0}$
- ▶ EM-based MLE solver impractical ($\mathbb{E} [\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\mu}]$ tricky)
 - \Rightarrow **Workaround:** approximate $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{R}\text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\mu})\mathbf{R}^T)$
 - \Rightarrow Resort to a method-of-moments estimator

- ▶ **Goal:** inference based on the posterior $P(\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{X})$
⇒ Requires a prior $P(\mathbf{Z})$ and the model $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{RZ}$
- ▶ **Prior specification:** \mathbf{Z} independent, $\text{Poisson}(\boldsymbol{\mu})$; along prior $P(\boldsymbol{\mu})$

$$P(\mathbf{Z}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = P(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \prod_{ij} P(Z_{ij} | \mu_{ij}) = P(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \prod_{ij} \frac{e^{-\mu_{ij}} \mu_{ij}^{z_{ij}}}{z_{ij}!}$$

- ▶ Observe link counts \mathbf{X} , conduct inference based on $P(\mathbf{Z}, \boldsymbol{\mu} | \mathbf{X})$
⇒ Simulate from the posterior via **Gibbs sampler**
⇒ Iteratively resample from $P(\mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X})$ and $P(\boldsymbol{\mu} | \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})$
- ▶ C. Tebaldi and M. West, “Bayesian inference on network traffic using link count data,” *JASA*, vol. 93, pp. 557-573, 1998

- ▶ $P(\boldsymbol{\mu} | \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})$: Independent μ_{ij} priors, i.e., $P(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \prod_{ij} P(\mu_{ij})$, yields

$$P(\boldsymbol{\mu} | \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \equiv P(\boldsymbol{\mu} | \mathbf{Z}) = \prod_{ij} P(\mu_{ij} | Z_{ij}) \propto \prod_{ij} \frac{e^{-\mu_{ij}} \mu_{ij}^{Z_{ij}}}{Z_{ij}!} P(\mu_{ij})$$

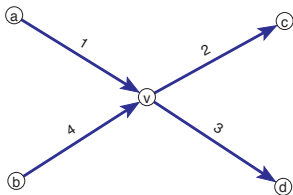
⇒ Given \mathbf{Z} , easy to simulate $\{\mu_{ij}\}$ from univariate posteriors

⇒ **Ex:** If $P(\mu_{ij})$ uniform or Gamma $\rightarrow P(\mu_{ij} | Z_{ij})$ also Gamma

- ▶ $P(\mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X})$: Model $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{RZ}$ constrains \mathbf{Z} given $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$
 - ⇒ Condition algebraically, rather than using Bayes' rule
- ▶ Illustrate through an example, then give general form of $P(\mathbf{Z} | \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X})$

Example: Toy network (second encore)

- ▶ Subgraph induced by $V' = \{a, v, c\}$, OD pairs $\{av, vc, ac\}$



$$\mathbf{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ Given $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}$ and Z_{ac}
 \Rightarrow Know Z_{av} and Z_{vc} since
 $Z_{av} = X_1 - Z_{ac}$ and $Z_{vc} = X_2 - Z_{ac}$

- ▶ Simulate from the full joint conditional posterior $P(\mathbf{Z} \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X})$ by:
 - (i) Drawing z_{ac} from the marginal posterior

$$P(Z_{ac}=z_{ac} \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) \propto \frac{\mu_{ac}^{z_{ac}}}{z_{ac}!} \frac{\mu_{av}^{x_1 - z_{ac}}}{(x_1 - z_{ac})!} \frac{\mu_{vc}^{x_2 - z_{ac}}}{(x_2 - z_{ac})!}$$

- (ii) Evaluating $z_{av} = x_1 - z_{ac}$ and $z_{vc} = x_2 - z_{ac}$

- ▶ If $\text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) = N_e$, write $\mathbf{R} = [\mathbf{R}_1 \ \mathbf{R}_2]$ with $\mathbf{R}_1 \in \{0, 1\}^{N_e \times N_e}$ invertible
 \Rightarrow Can split flows $\mathbf{Z}^T = [\mathbf{Z}_1^T, \mathbf{Z}_2^T]^T$, where $\mathbf{Z}_1 = \mathbf{R}_1^{-1}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{R}_2\mathbf{Z}_2)$
- ▶ The sought conditional posterior has the form

$$P(\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{z} \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = P(\mathbf{Z}_1 = \mathbf{z}_1 \mid \mathbf{Z}_2 = \mathbf{z}_2, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) P(\mathbf{Z}_2 = \mathbf{z}_2 \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\mathbf{Z}_1 = \mathbf{z}_1 \mid \mathbf{Z}_2 = \mathbf{z}_2, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{I}\{\mathbf{z}_1 = \mathbf{R}_1^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_2\mathbf{z}_2)\}$$

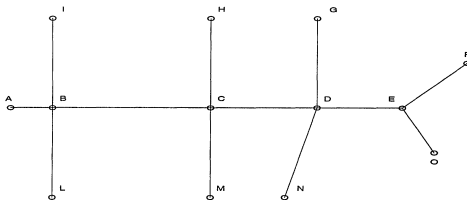
\Rightarrow The “independent flows” \mathbf{Z}_2 have distribution

$$P(\mathbf{Z}_2 = \mathbf{z}_2 \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) \propto \prod_{ij} \frac{\mu_{ij}^{z_{ij}}}{z_{ij}!}$$

- ▶ Amenable to drawing entries of \mathbf{Z}_2 via a Gibbs sampler

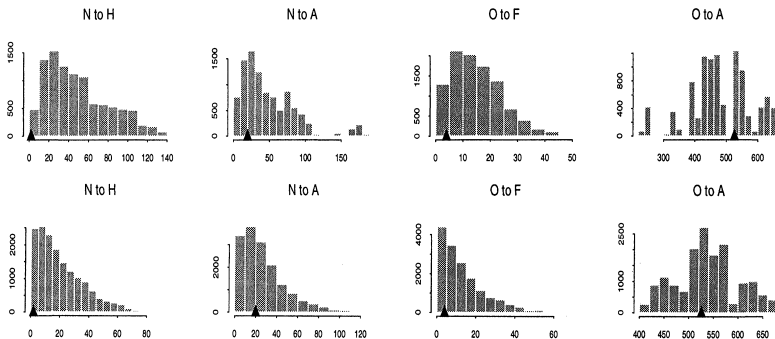
Example: North Carolina road network

- ▶ **Monroe, NC road network:** $N_e = 20$ links and $N_f = 64$ flows
⇒ Studied by transportation engineers at NC State University



- ▶ Network fed to the traffic simulator *Integration* [Van Aerde et al '96]
⇒ **Modeled delays:** congestion, traffic lights, turns, lanes merging
- ▶ Data (OD flows and link counts) for 2-hour morning period

- ▶ Estimated marginal posteriors for 8 of the 64 OD flows (\blacktriangle = true)
 - ⇒ Uniform priors (top), and “informed” Gamma priors (bottom)



- ▶ Tend to overestimate smaller flows with a uniform prior
 - ⇒ Gamma priors based on recent data remove ambiguities

- ▶ Consider a prior guess $\mu^{(0)}$ of μ , normalized such that

$$\sum_{ij} \mu_{ij}^{(0)} = \sum_{ij} \mu_{ij} =: \mu_{++}$$

- ▶ **Relative entropy** “distance” between μ and $\mu^{(0)}$ given by

$$D(\mu \parallel \mu^{(0)}) = \sum_{ij} \frac{\mu_{ij}}{\mu_{++}} \log \left(\frac{\mu_{ij}}{\mu_{ij}^{(0)}} \right)$$

- ▶ Remarks

- Also known as **Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence**
- Dissimilarity between “distributions” $\{\mu_{ij}/\mu_{++}\}$ and $\{\mu_{ij}^{(0)}/\mu_{++}^{(0)}\}$
- $D(\mu \parallel \mu^{(0)}) \geq 0$ always, and $D(\mu \parallel \mu^{(0)}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \mu = \mu^{(0)}$

- ▶ **Traffic matrix estimation:** minimize $D(\boldsymbol{\mu} \parallel \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)})$ subject to $\mathbf{x} \approx \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu}$
- ▶ Dualize constraints via **Lagrange multipliers** $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e}$, solve

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\lambda}} D(\boldsymbol{\mu} \parallel \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)}) + \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\boldsymbol{\mu})$$

- ▶ Given $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$, optimality condition yields the estimator ($\mathbf{R} = [\mathbf{r}_{11}, \dots, \mathbf{r}_{IJ}]$)

$$\hat{\mu}_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \mu_{ij}^{(0)} \exp\left(-1 - \boldsymbol{\lambda}^T \mathbf{r}_{ij}\right)$$

- ⇒ Multiplicative perturbation of $\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)}$, $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ obtained numerically
- ⇒ Specify $\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)}$ from historical data \mathbf{z}_0 , or prior estimates $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$
- ⇒ Non-negative solution guaranteed if $\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)} \succeq \mathbf{0}$

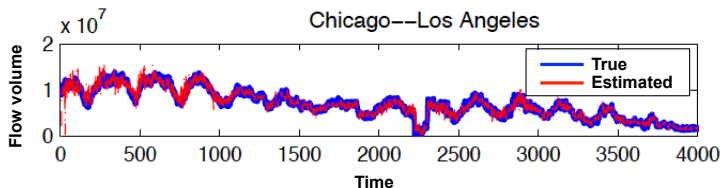
- ▶ Can view $D(\boldsymbol{\mu} \parallel \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)})$ as regularizer for $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{z} \rightarrow$ **Penalized LS**

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\mu} \succeq \mathbf{0}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\mathbf{x}\|^2 + \lambda D(\boldsymbol{\mu} \parallel \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)})$$

\Rightarrow Convex problem, λ chosen via cross validation

- ▶ Couple interpretations:
 - (i) Entropy minimization with relaxed constraint $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}\mathbf{x}\|^2 \leq \tau$
 - (ii) MAP for Gaussian model and prior $f(\boldsymbol{\mu})$ s. t. $\log f(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \propto D(\boldsymbol{\mu} \parallel \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(0)})$
 - \Rightarrow View as $f(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \approx$ multinomial, with probabilities $\propto \mu_{ij}^{(0)}$
- ▶ **Ex: simple gravity model** prior $\mu_{ij}^{(0)} \propto \mu_{i+}^{(0)} \mu_{+j}^{(0)}$ (more soon)
- ▶ Y. Zhang et al, "An information-theoretic approach to traffic matrix estimation," *SIGCOMM*, pp. 301-312, 2003

- ▶ **Q:** Traffic matrix estimation over time periods $t = 1, \dots, \tau$?
- ▶ **Given:** link counts $\mathbf{x}_{1:\tau} := \{\mathbf{x}(t)\}_{t=1}^{\tau}$ and routing $\mathbf{R}_{1:\tau} := \{\mathbf{R}(t)\}_{t=1}^{\tau}$
- ▶ **Determine:** OD flows $\mathbf{z}_{1:\tau} := \{\mathbf{z}(t)\}_{t=1}^{\tau}$, where $\mathbf{x}(t) \approx \mathbf{R}(t)\mathbf{z}(t)$



- ▶ Dynamic methods categorization: **simultaneous** or **sequential**
- ▶ A. Soule et al, "Traffic matrices: Balancing measurements, inference and modeling," *SIGMETRICS*, pp. 362-373, 2005

- ▶ **Simultaneous methods** mostly based on the linear model

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{R}(t)\boldsymbol{\mu}(t) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(t), \quad t = 1, \dots, \tau$$

- ▶ Penalized LS criteria employed to form $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{1:\tau}$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{1:\tau} := \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\mu}_{1:\tau}} \sum_{t=1}^{\tau} \|\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{R}(t)\boldsymbol{\mu}(t)\|^2 + \lambda J(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{1:\tau})$$

- ▶ Separable penalty $J(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{1:\tau}) = \sum_t J_t(\boldsymbol{\mu}(t))$ not uncommon
- ▶ **Ex:** $J_t(\cdot)$ based on independent Gaussian or entropy-based priors
- ▶ Temporal correlations in $\mathbf{x}_{1:\tau}$ ignored $\rightarrow \tau$ **decoupled static problems**
- ▶ Over short spans can assume $\boldsymbol{\mu}(t) = \boldsymbol{\mu}$, treat $\mathbf{x}_{1:\tau}$ as replicates
 \Rightarrow LS ill-posed in general, but Poisson likelihood well behaved

- ▶ **Sequential methods** leverage time correlations via **Kalman filtering**
- ▶ State $\boldsymbol{\mu}(t)$ and link count (measurement) $\mathbf{X}(t)$ equations

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\mu}(t+1) &= \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\boldsymbol{\mu}(t) + \boldsymbol{\eta}(t) \\ \mathbf{X}(t) &= \mathbf{R}(t)\boldsymbol{\mu}(t) + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(t)\end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\eta}(t), \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(t)$ are zero-mean, white, with covariances $\boldsymbol{\Psi}(t), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(t)$

- ▶ Kalman filter (KF) in a nutshell
 - ▶ **Prediction step**: form prediction $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t}$ of $\boldsymbol{\mu}(t+1)$ using $\mathbf{x}_{1:t}$
 - ▶ **Correction step**: Update $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t+1}$ based on $\mathbf{x}(t+1) - \mathbf{R}(t+1)\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t}$
- ▶ Also update recursively the **error covariance matrix**

$$\mathbf{M}_{t:t} := \mathbb{E} [(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t:t} - \boldsymbol{\mu}(t))(\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t:t} - \boldsymbol{\mu}(t))^T]$$

- ▶ Initialize $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0$, $\mathbf{M}_{0:0}$ and run for $t = 0, \dots, \tau$

- ▶ Prediction step:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t} = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t:t}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{t+1:t} = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{M}_{t:t}\boldsymbol{\Phi}^T(t) + \boldsymbol{\Psi}(t)$$

- ▶ Kalman gain update:

$$\mathbf{K}_{t+1} = \mathbf{M}_{t+1:t}\mathbf{R}^T(t+1) [\mathbf{R}(t+1)\mathbf{M}_{t+1:t}\mathbf{R}^T(t+1) + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}(t+1)]^{-1}$$

- ▶ Correction step:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t+1} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t} + \mathbf{K}_{t+1} [\mathbf{x}(t+1) - \mathbf{R}(t+1)\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t+1:t}]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}_{t+1:t+1} &= [\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_{t+1}\mathbf{B}(t+1)]\mathbf{M}_{t+1:t}[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}_{t+1}\mathbf{B}(t+1)]^T \\ &\quad + \mathbf{K}_{t+1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}(t+1)\mathbf{K}_{t+1}^T \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Model matrices $\Phi(t)$, $\Psi(t)$ and $\Sigma(t)$ must be determined
 - ⇒ Often **assumed time-invariant**, and estimated from data
- ▶ Estimation depends on the model and data available
 - ⇒ Given $\mathbf{x}_{1:\tau}$, use variant of the EM algorithm
 - ⇒ Given flows $\mathbf{z}_{1:\tau}$, use AR(1) fitting techniques
- ▶ Z. Ghahramani and G. Hinton, “Parameter estimation for linear dynamical systems,” *Tech. Rep. CRG-TR-96-2*, U. of Toronto, 1996
- ▶ KF should be **periodically recalibrated** → readjust Φ , Ψ and Σ
 - Monitor the error process $\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{R}(t)\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{t:t}$
 - Check if some entry e exceeds e.g., $3\sigma_e$ for few periods
 - Obtain σ_e^2 from diagonal of $\mathbf{R}(t)\mathbf{M}_{t:t}\mathbf{R}^T(t) + \Sigma$

Network flows, measurements and statistical analysis

Gravity models

Traffic matrix estimation

Case study: Internet traffic matrix estimation

Estimation of network flow costs

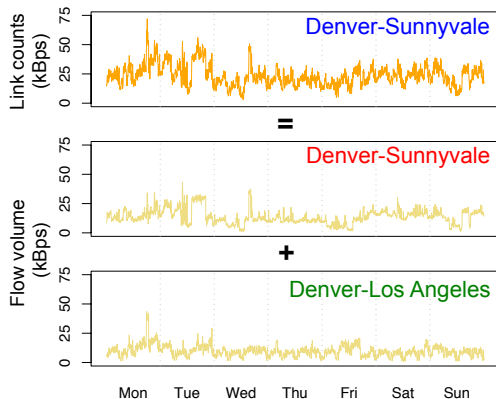
Case study: Dynamic delay cartography

- ▶ **Q:** Why do **ISPs** monitor their networks routinely?
 - R1) Identify network (e.g., link) failures, their extent, and reasons
 - R2) Adjust routing → control congestion → optimize QoS
 - R3) Traffic engineering and management → capacity planning
 - R4) Security policies against cyber-attacks (e.g., worms, DoS)
- ▶ Availability of traffic matrices $\mathbf{Z}(t)$ key to traffic monitoring
- ▶ While possible, rarely measure Internet flows $Z_{ij}(t)$ at ISP level
 - ⇒ Concern on the volume of data generated
 - ⇒ Potential to adversely affect end-user QoS
- ▶ Limited $\mathbf{z}(t)$ to calibrate **Internet traffic matrix estimation methods**

- ▶ **Abilene backbone:** $N_V = 11$ PoPs, $N_e = 30$ links, $N_f = 110$ flows



- ▶ Measure flows $\mathbf{z}_{1:\tau}$ for $\tau = 12 \times 24 \times 7 = 2,016$ time slots
⇒ Router sampling every 5 mins., week of Dec. 22, 2003
- ▶ Abilene routing matrix $\mathbf{R} \in \{0, 1\}^{30 \times 110}$ given, time invariant
⇒ **Pseudo-measurements:** link counts $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{Rz}(t)$, $t = 1, \dots, \tau$



- ▶ Few flow patterns discernible in the aggregate (link count) data
⇒ OD flow recovery impossible in the absence of side information

- ▶ Compare static and dynamic methods for traffic matrix estimation
- ▶ **Method 1:** entropy-based approach termed **tomogravity**

$$\min_{\mathbf{z} \geq \mathbf{0}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{Rz}\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{ij} \frac{z_{ij}}{z_{++}^{(0)}} \log \left(\frac{z_{ij}}{z_{ij}^{(0)}} \right), \quad \text{where } z_{ij}^{(0)} = z_{i+}^{(0)} z_{+j}^{(0)}$$

⇒ Simple gravity model prior adopted for $\mathbf{z}^{(0)}$, $\lambda = 0.01$

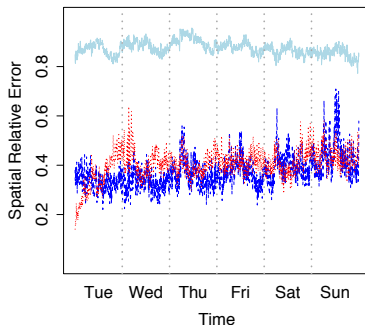
- ▶ **Method 2:** **KF** with state and measurement equations

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Z}(t+1) &= \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{Z}(t) + \boldsymbol{\eta}(t) \\ \mathbf{X}(t) &= \mathbf{Rz}(t)\end{aligned}$$

⇒ No error injected to the pseudo-measurements $\mathbf{x}(t)$

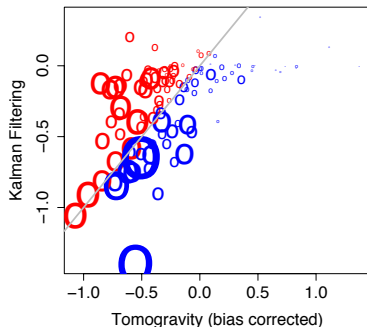
⇒ Matrices $\mathbf{\Phi}$ and $\mathbf{\Psi}$ estimated from $\mathbf{z}_{1:288}$ (Monday's flows)

- ▶ Relative error averaged over OD pairs, as a function of time
 - ⇒ Compare **KF**, **tomogravity** and **bias-compensated tomogravity**



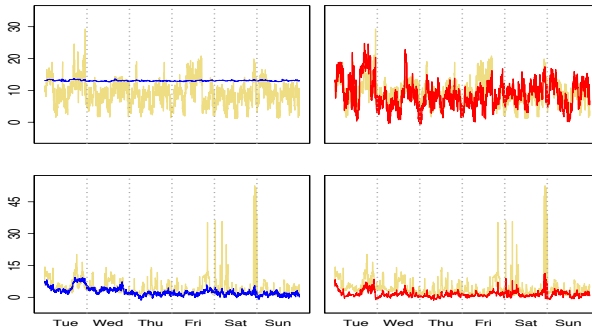
- ▶ **Tomogravity** overestimates, after **bias-correction** comparable to **KF**
 - ⇒ **KF** performs better early in the week, then degrades

- ▶ Relative error averaged over time, for each OD pair in log-log scale
 - ⇒ Symbol area \propto mean volume of the flow
 - ⇒ Color code: **KF had higher error**, **tomogravity had higher error**



- ▶ KF mostly outperforms tomogravity for high- and low-volume flows

- ▶ True flows superimposed with tomography and KF predictions



- ▶ Tomography completely misses the dynamics of the first flow
⇒ But outperforms KF for the second flow

Network flows, measurements and statistical analysis

Gravity models

Traffic matrix estimation

Case study: Internet traffic matrix estimation

Estimation of network flow costs

Case study: Dynamic delay cartography

- ▶ Consider a network graph $G(V, E)$. Let P be the set of **paths** in G
 - ⇒ Path i - j has origin vertex $i \in \mathcal{I}$ and destination $j \in \mathcal{J}$
- ▶ **Network flows costs** at two levels of granularity: **paths** and **links**
 - ⇒ Path costs $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_p}$ and link costs $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e}$ related via

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{x}$$

- ▶ Cost associated to **path** = sum of the costs of the **links** traversed
- ▶ **Ex:** end-to-end delay is the sum of the delays in intermediate links
- ▶ **Our focus:** a particular class of problems involving inference of costs
 - ⇒ Given data are limited (path) **end-to-end measurements**

Active network tomography

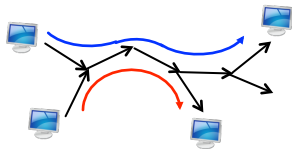
Given \mathbf{c}^{obs} in paths $P^{obs} \subset P$, infer some characteristic of \mathbf{x}

- ▶ **Actively** inject traffic to measure \mathbf{c}^{obs} , e.g., multicast probing
⇒ Traffic matrix estimation → observe link counts passively
- ▶ **Tomography**: unveil “internal” network characteristics
⇒ Infer summands $\{x_e\}_{e \in P_{ij}}$ from aggregate c_{ij}
- ▶ **Ex**: determine link loss rates from packet loss measurements
- ▶ M. Coates et al, “Internet tomography,” *IEEE Signal Processing Magazine*, vol. 19, pp. 47-65, 2002

Network kriging

Given \mathbf{c}^{obs} in paths $P^{obs} \subset P$, predict \mathbf{c}^{miss} in $P^{miss} = P \setminus P^{obs}$

- ▶ **Kriging** coined in geosciences for spatial interpolation or smoothing
- ▶ **Key:** exploit redundancies among links used by various paths

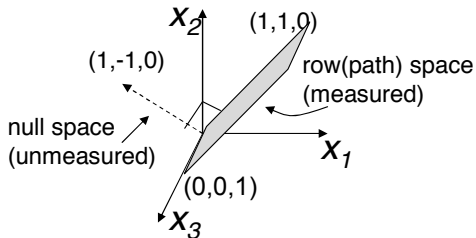
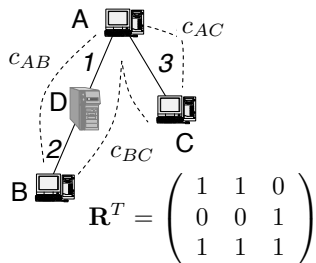


- ▶ D. Chua et al, "Network kriging," *IEEE J. Selected Areas in Communications*, vol. 24, pp. 2263-2276, 2006

- ▶ Number of paths N_p is much larger than N_e . **Interpolation idea:**
 - (i) Select only N_e paths P^{obs} to monitor
 - (ii) Use $\mathbf{c}^{obs} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e}$ to determine link costs \mathbf{x}
 - (iii) Since $\mathbf{R} = [\mathbf{R}_o \ \mathbf{R}_m]$, recover $\mathbf{c}^{miss} = \mathbf{R}_m^T \mathbf{x}$
- ▶ But in general $r := \text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) < N_e$, so **\mathbf{x} not identifiable**
 - ⇒ Cannot find $x_{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{R}^T)} \in \text{null}(\mathbf{R}^T)$ from $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{x}$
 - ⇒ Only vectors $x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)} \in \text{range}(\mathbf{R}^T)$ can be identified in (ii)
- ▶ Of course do not need \mathbf{x} to recover $\mathbf{c}^{miss} \Rightarrow x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)}$ suffices
- ▶ Y. Chen et al, "An algebraic approach to practical and scalable overlay network monitoring," *SIGCOMM*, vol. 34, pp. 55-66, 2004

Example: Unidentifiable link costs

- ▶ Graph $G(V, E)$ with $N_v = 4$ and $N_e = 3$, paths $\{AB, AC, BC\}$



- ▶ Cannot identify x_1 and $x_2 \rightarrow$ Always show up summed in paths

- ▶ **Key:** monitor $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$ independent paths to recover $x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)}$
⇒ Choose paths via QR decomposition of \mathbf{R} with column pivoting

Interpolation algorithm:

- (1) Select $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) < N_e$ independent paths to monitor
- (2) Use $\mathbf{c}^{obs} \in \mathbb{R}^r$ to solve for $x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)}$ from $\mathbf{c}^{obs} = \mathbf{R}_o^T x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)}$

Least norm solution: $x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)} = (\mathbf{R}_o^T)^\dagger \mathbf{c}^{obs} = \mathbf{R}_o (\mathbf{R}_o^T \mathbf{R}_o)^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{obs}$

- (3) Recover the unknown path costs as

$$\mathbf{c}^{miss} = \mathbf{R}_m^T x_{\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{R}^T)} = \mathbf{R}_m^T \mathbf{R}_o (\mathbf{R}_o^T \mathbf{R}_o)^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{obs}$$

- ▶ For $N_p = N_v^2$, conjecture $\text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) = O(N_v \log N_v)$ [Chen et al '04]
⇒ Almost order of magnitude savings in measurement overhead

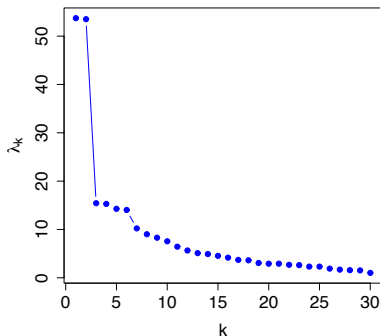
- ▶ Interpolation appealing if we can monitor $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$ paths
⇒ Cannot recover \mathbf{c}^{miss} if a single measurement is missing
- ▶ **Network kriging**: recast problem as one of statistical prediction
⇒ Accurate even with $s \ll \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$ measurements. **How?**
- ▶ Since $r = \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$, can write the SVD of \mathbf{R}^T as

$$\mathbf{R}^T = \sum_{k=1}^r \sigma_k \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{v}_k^T \approx \sum_{k=1}^{s \ll r} \sigma_k \mathbf{u}_k \mathbf{v}_k^T$$

- ▶ **Observation**: often most of the smaller σ_k are close to zero
⇒ We say \mathbf{R} is effectively of lower rank than r
⇒ **Intuition**: dependencies among links used by various paths

- ▶ Singular values of the Abilene routing matrix \mathbf{R}

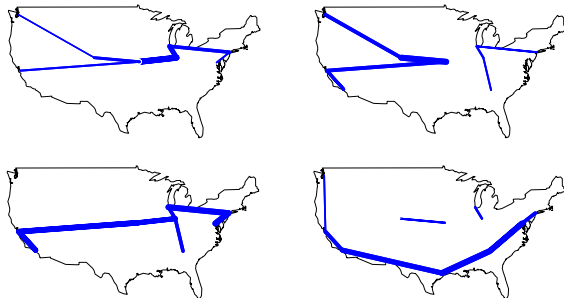
⇒ $N_e = 30$ links and $N_p = 110$ paths. Plot shows $\text{rank}(\mathbf{R}) = 30$



- ▶ Spectral gap apparent. Effective rank $s \in \{5, 10\}$, even $s = 2$?

⇒ Recover useful information about \mathbf{c} from couple measurements

- ▶ Visualize top right singular vectors $\{\mathbf{v}_k\}_{k=1}^4$ of \mathbf{R}^T (evecs. of $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}^T$)
 - ⇒ Linearly independent “meta-paths” in “link space”
 - ⇒ **Intuition:** shared patterns of links common to paths in \mathbf{R}



- ▶ Northern E-W meta-path $\{\mathbf{v}_k\}_{k=1}^3$, and southern E-W meta-path \mathbf{v}_4

- ▶ Consider predicting an arbitrary **linear summary** $\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{c}$ of \mathbf{c}
- ▶ **Ex:** network-wide average path cost $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{1}/N_p$, or c_{ij} where $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{e}_{ij}$
- ▶ Let \mathbf{x} be a realization of \mathbf{X} , with mean $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\text{var}[\mathbf{X}] = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$
 - ⇒ Because $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{X}$, then $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{C}] = \mathbf{R}^T \boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\text{var}[\mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{R}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{R}$
- ▶ Given $s \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$ measured path costs \mathbf{c}^{obs} , find

$$\hat{p}(\mathbf{c}^{obs}) = \arg \min_p \mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{C} - p(\mathbf{C}^{obs}))^2]$$

⇒ **Minimum mean-squared error (MMSE) predictor**, given by

$$\hat{p}(\mathbf{c}^{obs}) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{C} \mid \mathbf{C}^{obs} = \mathbf{c}^{obs}] = \mathbf{a}_o^T \mathbf{c}^{obs} + \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{C}^{miss} \mid \mathbf{C}^{obs} = \mathbf{c}^{obs}]$$

- ▶ Restrict attention to **linear (L)MMSE predictors** $\hat{\rho}(\mathbf{c}^{obs}) = \hat{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{c}^{obs}$

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{c}^{obs} = \mathbf{a}_o^T \mathbf{c}^{obs} + \mathbf{a}_m^T \boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{V}_{mo} \mathbf{V}_o^{-1} (\mathbf{c}^{obs} - \mathbf{R}_o^T \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

⇒ Used (cross-)covariances $\mathbf{V}_o = \mathbf{R}_o^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{R}_o$ and $\mathbf{V}_{mo} = \mathbf{R}_m^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{R}_o$

- ▶ Estimate $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ from the data via generalized LS, i.e.,

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = (\mathbf{R}_o \mathbf{V}_o^{-1} \mathbf{R}_o^T)^\dagger \mathbf{R}_o \mathbf{V}_o^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{obs}$$

- ▶ Substitution of $\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}$ yields the **network kriging predictor** [Chua et al '06]

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{c}^{obs} = \mathbf{a}_o^T \mathbf{c}^{obs} + \mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{V}_{mo} \mathbf{V}_o^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{obs}$$

- ▶ SVD-based **path selection** to minimize $\mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{C} - \hat{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{C}^{obs})^2]$

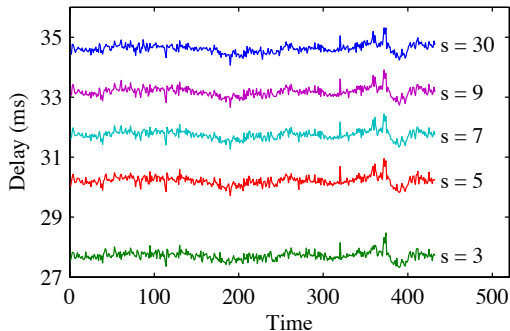
⇒ Like the QR decomposition with pivoting in [Chen et al '04]

- ▶ **Abilene backbone:** $N_v = 11$ PoPs, $N_e = 30$ links, $N_p = 110$ paths
- ▶ Measure link delays $\mathbf{x}_{1:\tau}$ for $\tau = 6 \times 24 \times 3 = 432$ time slots
 - ⇒ Router sampling every 10 mins., three days in 2003
- ▶ Abilene routing matrix $\mathbf{R} \in \{0, 1\}^{30 \times 110}$ given, time invariant
 - ⇒ **Pseudo-measurements:** path costs $\mathbf{c}(t) = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{x}(t)$, $t = 1, \dots, \tau$
- ▶ Applied the **network kriging predictor** to a subset $\mathbf{c}^{obs}(t)$

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}^T \mathbf{c}^{obs}(t) = \mathbf{a}_o^T \mathbf{c}^{obs}(t) + \mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{V}_{mo} \mathbf{V}_o^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{obs}(t), \quad t = 1, \dots, \tau$$

- ⇒ Various choices of $s \leq \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$, SVD-based path selection
- ⇒ Covariance $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ assumed diagonal, estimated from data

- ▶ Average path delay in Abilene predicted with $s = 3, 5, 7,$ or 9 paths
⇒ Actual delay via interpolation of $s = 30 = \text{rank}(\mathbf{R})$ paths



- ▶ **Biased predictions**, missing link information in approximated \mathbf{R}
⇒ Can be compensated if allowed to measure 30 paths once
- ▶ **Predictions capture well the delay dynamics**, for all s

Network flows, measurements and statistical analysis

Gravity models

Traffic matrix estimation

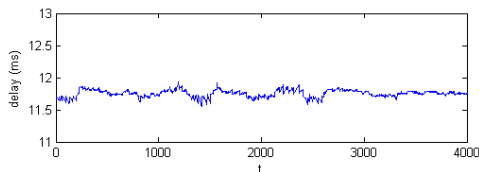
Case study: Internet traffic matrix estimation

Estimation of network flow costs

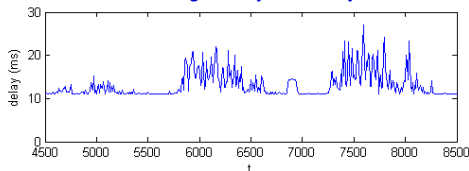
Case study: Dynamic delay cartography

- ▶ Motivating reasons
 - ▶ Assess network health
 - ▶ Fault diagnosis
 - ▶ Network planning
- ▶ Application domains
 - ▶ Old 8-second rule for WWW
 - ▶ Content-delivery networks
 - ▶ Peer-to-peer networks
 - ▶ Multiuser games
 - ▶ Dynamic server selection

Low delay variability

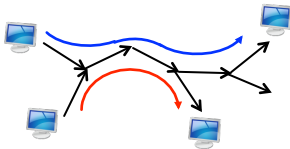


High delay variability



- ▶ **Goal:** infer **path delays** from limited end-to-end measurements

- ▶ Consider a network graph $G(V, E)$. Let P be the set of paths in G
- ▶ Several challenges in measuring **all** end-to-end path delays
 - ⇒ Overhead: number of paths $N_p = O(N_v^2)$
 - ⇒ Congested routers may drop packets
- ▶ **Q:** Can fewer measurements suffice?
- ▶ **A:** Yes! Most paths share multiple links ⇒ Correlations [Chua'06]



- ▶ **End-to-end delay prediction problem:** Given delay measurements \mathbf{c}^{obs} in paths $P^{obs} \subset P$, predict \mathbf{c}^{miss} in $P^{miss} = P \setminus P^{obs}$

- ▶ Given (cross-)covariances $\mathbf{V}_o = \text{cov}[\mathbf{c}^{obs}]$ and $\mathbf{V}_{mo} = \text{cov}[\mathbf{c}^{miss}, \mathbf{c}^{obs}]$
- ▶ The **universal kriging predictor** is

$$\hat{\mathbf{c}}^{miss} = \mathbf{V}_{mo} \mathbf{V}_o^{-1} \mathbf{c}^{obs}$$

⇒ To obtain \mathbf{V}_o and \mathbf{V}_{mo} , adopt a **linear model for the path delays**

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{x}, \quad [\mathbf{G}]_{pl} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{link } l \in \text{path } p \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Link delays $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_e}$ and $\mathbf{\Sigma} = \text{cov}[\mathbf{x}] \Rightarrow$ From model $\text{cov}[\mathbf{c}]$ is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}^{obs} \\ \mathbf{c}^{miss} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}_o \\ \mathbf{S}_m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}\mathbf{x} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}_o & \mathbf{V}_{om} \\ \mathbf{V}_{mo} & \mathbf{V}_m \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}_o \\ \mathbf{S}_m \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{G}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{G}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}_o \\ \mathbf{S}_m \end{bmatrix}^T$$

⇒ Sampling matrix $\mathbf{S} = [\mathbf{S}_o^T, \mathbf{S}_m^T]^T$ known, selected heuristically

- ▶ **Network kriging prediction** for a single temporal snapshot of delays
- ▶ D. Chua et al, "Network kriging," *IEEE J. Sel. Areas Communications*, vol. 24, pp. 2263-2272, 2006
- ▶ **Wavelet-based approach** for spatio-temporal delay prediction
 - ▶ Diffusion wavelet matrix constructed from the topology of G
 - ▶ Can capture temporal correlations, up to τ time slots
 - ▶ High complexity $O(\tau^3 P^3) \Rightarrow$ Challenging for $\tau > 10$
- ▶ M. Coates et al, "Compressed network monitoring for IP and all-optical networks," *Proc. ACM Internet Measurement Conference*, 2007
- ▶ **Q:** Should the same set of paths be measured every time slot?
 - \Rightarrow Low balancing? Effectiveness of random path selection?
- ▶ **Low-complexity spatio-temporal inference with online path selection**

- ▶ Model delay $c_p(t)$ measured on path $p \in P$ at time t as

$$c_p(t) = \chi_p(t) + \nu_p(t) + \epsilon_p(t)$$

- ▶ Component $\chi_p(t)$ captures queuing delays, traffic dependent
 - ▶ **Nonstationary:** Random walk with driving noise covariance \mathbf{C}_η

$$\chi(t) = \chi(t-1) + \eta(t)$$

- ▶ Component $\nu_p(t)$ lumps propagation, transmission, processing delays
 - ▶ Traffic independent, **temporally white** with covariance $\mathbf{C}_\nu = \alpha \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^\top$
- ▶ Measurement noise $\epsilon_p(t)$ i.i.d. over paths and time, $\text{var}[\epsilon_p(t)] = \sigma^2$

- ▶ Paths measured on subset $P^{obs} \subset P$, use sampling matrix $\mathbf{S}_o(t)$

$$\mathbf{c}^{obs}(t) = \mathbf{S}_o(t)\boldsymbol{\chi}(t) + \boldsymbol{\nu}^{obs}(t) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}(t), \quad \boldsymbol{\nu}^{obs}(t) := \mathbf{S}_o(t)\boldsymbol{\nu}(t)$$

- ▶ **Kriged Kalman filter (KKF)** state and measurement equations

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\chi}(t) &= \boldsymbol{\chi}(t) + \boldsymbol{\eta}(t) \\ \mathbf{c}^{obs}(t) &= \mathbf{S}_o(t)\boldsymbol{\chi}(t) + \boldsymbol{\nu}^{obs}(t) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}(t)\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **Goal:** given historical data $\mathcal{H}(t) = \{\mathbf{c}^{obs}(\tau)\}_{\tau=1}^t$, predict $\mathbf{c}^{miss}(t)$
- ▶ K. Rajawat et al, "Dynamic network delay cartography," *IEEE Trans. Info. Theory*, vol. 60, pp. 2910-2920, 2014

- ▶ State and covariance update recursions

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\chi}(t) &:= \mathbb{E} [\chi(t) \mid \mathcal{H}(t)] \\ &= \hat{\chi}(t-1) + \mathbf{K}(t)[\mathbf{c}^{obs}(t) - \mathbf{S}_o(t)\hat{\chi}(t-1)]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{M}(t) &:= \mathbb{E} [(\hat{\chi}(t) - \chi(t))(\hat{\chi}(t) - \chi(t))^\top] \\ &= [\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{K}(t)\mathbf{S}_o(t)][\mathbf{M}(t-1) + \mathbf{C}_\eta]\end{aligned}$$

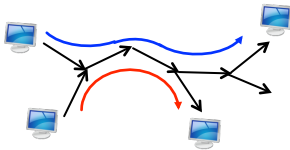
- ▶ KKF gain

$$\mathbf{K}(t) = [\mathbf{M}(t-1) + \mathbf{C}_\eta] \mathbf{S}_o^\top(t) [\mathbf{S}_o(t)(\mathbf{M}(t-1) + \mathbf{C}_\eta + \mathbf{C}_\nu) \mathbf{S}_o^\top(t) + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1}$$

- ▶ Kriging predictor $\hat{\mathbf{c}}^{miss}(t) = \mathbf{S}_m(t)\hat{\chi}(t) + \hat{\nu}^{miss}(t)$, where

$$\hat{\nu}^{miss}(t) := \mathbf{S}_m(t) \mathbf{C}_\nu \mathbf{S}_o^\top(t) [\mathbf{S}_o(t) \mathbf{C}_\nu \mathbf{S}_o^\top(t) + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} (\mathbf{c}^{obs}(t) - \mathbf{S}_o(t)\hat{\chi}(t))$$

- ▶ **Q:** How do we find the spatial covariance \mathbf{C}_ν ?
- ▶ **Idea:** paths sharing multiple links should be highly correlated
 - ⇒ Linear model: $\mathbf{C}_\nu = \alpha \mathbf{G} \mathbf{G}^\top$
 - ⇒ Graph Laplacian model: $\mathbf{C}_\nu = \mathbf{L}^\dagger$



- ▶ Similar principles used to define graph kernels
- ▶ Can also handle route changes, especially incremental changes

- ▶ KKF can model and track network wide delays given sample paths
- ▶ **Q:** Practical sampling of paths? Optimal measurements? Criterion?
- ▶ **Error covariance matrix** (define $\Phi(t) = [\mathbf{M}(t-1) + \mathbf{C}_\nu + \mathbf{C}_\eta] / \sigma^2$)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{M}^{miss}(t) &= \mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{c}^{miss}(t) - \hat{\mathbf{c}}^{miss}(t))(\mathbf{c}^{miss}(t) - \hat{\mathbf{c}}^{miss}(t))^\top] \\ &= \sigma^2 \mathbf{I} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{S}_m(t) [\Phi^{-1}(t) + \mathbf{S}_o^\top(t) \mathbf{S}_o(t)]^{-1} \mathbf{S}_m^\top(t)\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ **Optimal experimental design**

$$\hat{P}^{obs}(t) := \arg \min_{P^{obs} \subset P} \log \det(\mathbf{M}^{miss}(t)), \quad \text{s. to } |P^{obs}| = N_p^{obs}$$

- ▶ **Criterion:** D-optimal design, i.e., entropy of a Gaussian RV
⇒ Cost depends on P^{obs} via sampling matrix $\mathbf{S}_o(t)$ in $\mathbf{M}^{miss}(t)$

- ▶ Simple **greedy algorithm** to select observed paths P^{obs}
- ▶ Repeat $|P^{obs}|$ times: $P^{obs} \leftarrow P^{obs} \cup \arg \max_{p \notin P^{obs}} \delta_{P^{obs}}(p)$, where

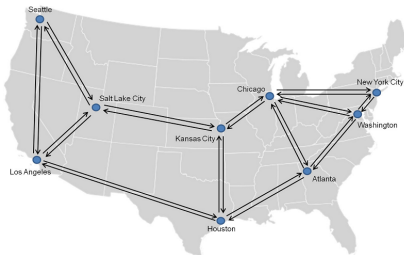
$$\delta_{\emptyset}(p) = -\log(1 + [\mathbf{M}(t-1) + \mathbf{C}_{\eta} + \mathbf{C}_{\nu}]_{p,p})$$

$$\delta_{P^{obs}}(p) = -\log\left(1 + [((\mathbf{M}(t-1) + \mathbf{C}_{\eta} + \mathbf{C}_{\nu})^{-1} + \mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{S})^{-1}]_{p,p}\right)$$

\Rightarrow Submodular, monotonic \rightarrow Greedy solution $(1 - e^{-1})$ optimal

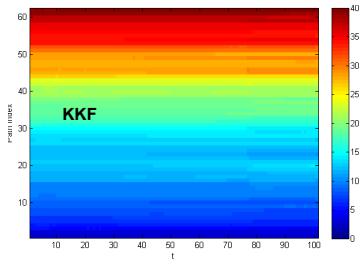
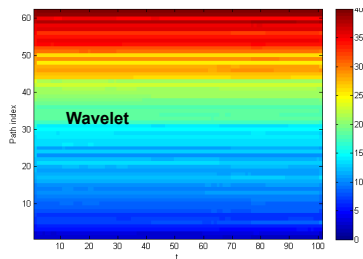
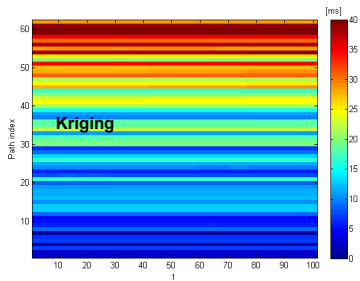
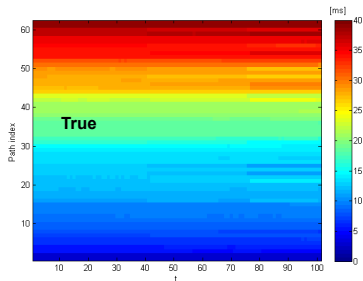
- ▶ Increments $\delta_{P^{obs}}(p)$ efficiently evaluated in $O(|P||P^{obs}|^3)$
 - \Rightarrow Operational complexity can be reduced further [Krause'11]
- ▶ Can be modified to handle cases when
 - (i) Few nodes measure delays on all paths. Which nodes to choose?
 - (ii) All nodes measure delay on only one path. Which paths to choose?

- ▶ **Internet2 backbone:** 72 paths, lightly loaded network



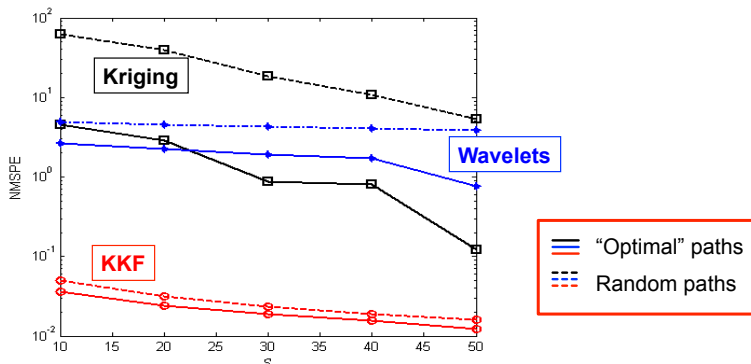
- ▶ One-way delay measurements collected using OWAMP
 - ⇒ Every minute for 3 days in July 2011 ~ 4500 samples
- ▶ **Training phase** employed to estimate \mathbf{C}_η, α [Myers'76]
 - ▶ Modified estimators to handle measurements on subsets of paths
 - ▶ First 1000 samples on 50 random paths used for training

Network delay cartography: Internet2

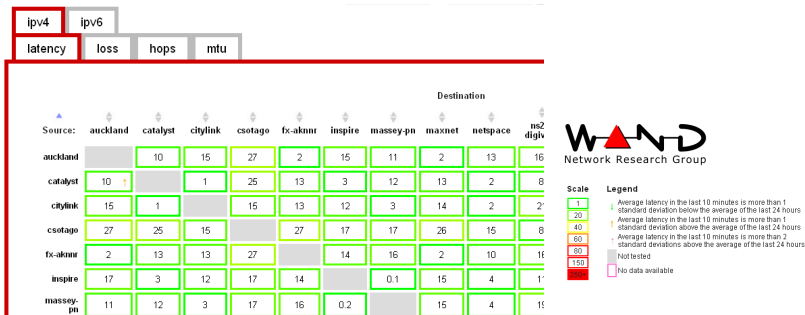


- ▶ Normalized mean-square prediction error as figure of merit

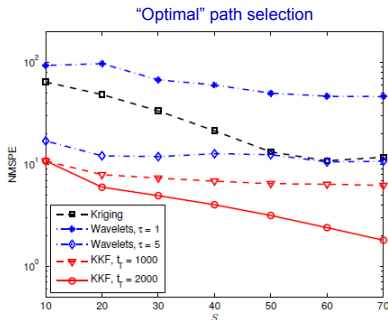
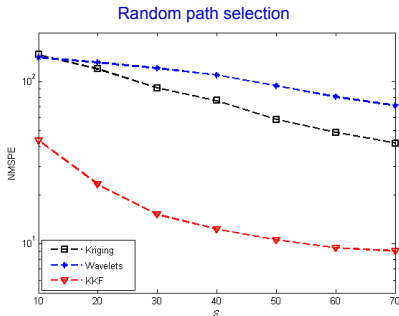
$$\text{NMSPE} = \frac{1}{T|P^{\text{miss}}|} \sum_{t=1}^T \|\hat{\mathbf{c}}^{\text{miss}}(t) - \mathbf{c}^{\text{miss}}(t)\|^2$$



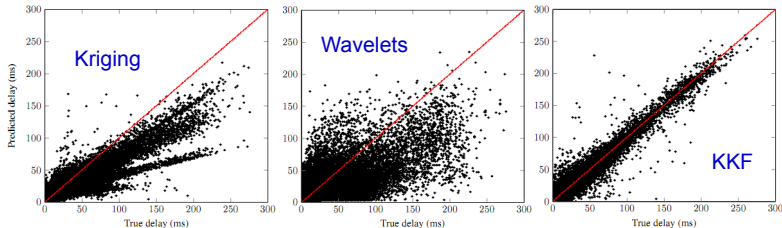
- NZ-AMP delay dataset: 186 paths, heavily loaded network



- Round-trip-times measured using ICMP, paths via scamper
 - ⇒ Every 10 minutes in August 2011 ~ 4500 samples



- ▶ NMSPE order of magnitude larger than for the Internet2 data
⇒ Attributed to the markedly higher delay variability here



- ▶ **Prediction of path delays.** Plot \hat{c}_{ij}^{miss} vs c_{ij}^{miss}
 - ⇒ Fairly linear trend for KKF, variability ↗ for short delays
 - ⇒ Network kriging and diffusion wavelets **biased down**

- ▶ Network traffic flows
- ▶ Routing matrix
- ▶ Traffic matrix
- ▶ Link counts
- ▶ Network flow costs
- ▶ Network monitoring
- ▶ Gravity model
- ▶ Generalized linear model
- ▶ Traffic matrix estimation
- ▶ Network tomography
- ▶ Poisson traffic models
- ▶ Entropy minimization
- ▶ Tomogravity
- ▶ Kalman filter
- ▶ End-to-end measurements
- ▶ Active network tomography
- ▶ Network kriging
- ▶ Path-cost interpolation
- ▶ Identifiability
- ▶ Effective rank
- ▶ (L)MMSE predictor
- ▶ Path selection
- ▶ Diffusion wavelets
- ▶ Kriged Kalman filter
- ▶ Optimal experimental design
- ▶ Submodular function