Regularized covariance matrix estimation

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Abstract

I'll review and discuss some of the different themes of regularized estimation of the population covariance matrix:

- 1. Why estimate it and in what norm?
- 2. Pathologies of the empirical covariance matrix.
- 3. Notions of sparsity and methods of regularization.
- 4. Results of Bickel and Levina (2004,2006).
- 5. Some future directions.

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