



# New Directions in Bayesian Shrinkage for Sparse and Structured Data

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September 14, 2021

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## New Directions in Bayesian Shrinkage for Sparse and Structured Data

### Part I: Global-Local Shrinkage: Overview

1. Sparse signal recovery
2. Horseshoe prior
3. Optimality properties
4. Global-local family

### Part II: New Directions

1. Grouped sparsity/shrinkage
2. Precision matrix estimation
3. Future directions

# **Global-Local Shrinkage: A Brief Overview**

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## **Common Theme: High-dimensional Data**

Sparsity: Needles in haystack !

# High-dimensional Inference

Normal Means:  $(Y_i | \theta_i) \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\theta_i, \sigma^2), i = 1, \dots, n,$

Regression:  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, p \gg n, \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2\mathbf{I}).$

Sparsity:  $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \ell_0[p_n] \equiv \{\boldsymbol{\theta} : \#(\theta_i \neq 0) \leq p_n\}, p_n/n \rightarrow 0$



Theoretical Model

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_p X_p + \epsilon$$

Fitted Model

$$\hat{y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_1 + \dots + \hat{\beta}_p X_p$$

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Fitted Model

$$\hat{y} = \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 X_1 + \dots + \hat{\beta}_p X_p$$

**Grouped covariates:**  $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \sum_{g=1}^G \mathbf{X}_g \boldsymbol{\beta}_g, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n)$  where  $g = 1, \dots, G$  indexes the groups.

**Precision matrix:**  $\mathbf{X}^{(n)} \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}),$  Estimate  $\boldsymbol{\Omega} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}.$

## Goals:

1. Recovery: provide estimator  $\hat{\theta}$  or  $\hat{\Omega}$ .
2. Multiple Testing: Test whether each  $\theta_i$  (or  $\omega_{ij}$ ) is zero or non-zero.
3. Variable selection.
4. Prediction.

# The Two-groups Model i

- Natural hierarchical Bayesian solution : two-groups model.
  1. Assume each  $\theta_i$  is non-zero with a prior probability  $\pi$ , and the non-zero  $\theta_i$ 's come from a common density  $f_A(\cdot)$ .
  2. Use Bayes' rule to calculate posterior probabilities that each  $\theta_i \sim f_A(\cdot)$ .
- Automatically adjusts for multiplicity and sparsity without any regularization.
- Carry out tests using the posterior inclusion probabilities (PIP).

$$\text{Posterior Inclusion Probability} = \omega_i = P(\theta_i \neq 0 \mid y_i)$$

- Induce sparsity through a 'spike and slab' prior.



## The Two-groups Model ii

- Spike & Slab

$$Y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta_i, \sigma^2), \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$\theta_i \sim (1 - p) \underbrace{\delta_{\{0\}}}_{\text{Spike}} + p \overbrace{\mathcal{N}(0, \psi^2)}^{\text{Slab}}$$

Multiple testing:

$$H_{0i} : \theta_i = 0 \text{ vs. } H_{Ai} : \theta_i \neq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- Need (latent) indicators for MCMC:

$$\gamma_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \theta_i = 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \theta_i \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

- $\gamma$  indexes  $2^{\text{model dimension}}$  possible models: exploring the full posterior is computationally expensive.

## Towards the one-group model i

- The two-groups model leads to a shrinkage rule linear in  $y_i$ .
- If  $\theta_i \sim (1 - p)\delta_{\{0\}} + p\mathcal{N}(0, \psi^2)$ , the posterior mean is:

$$\mathbb{E}(\theta_i | y_i) = \omega_i \frac{\psi^2}{1 + \psi^2} y_i = \omega_i^* y_i \quad (1)$$

where  $\omega_i$  is the posterior inclusion probability  $P(\theta_i \neq 0 | y_i)$ .

- If  $\psi^2 \rightarrow \infty$  as the number of tests  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\boxed{E(\theta_i | y_i) \approx \omega_i y_i} \quad (\text{linear in } y_i)$$

- The one-group model takes a different route :
- *Directly models the posterior inclusion probability  $\omega_i$*

# The One-group model

Global-local shrinkage priors: Horseshoe [Carvalho et al., 2010]

$$Y_i | \theta_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta_i, \sigma^2); \quad \theta_i | \lambda_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda_i^2 \tau^2);$$

$$\underbrace{\lambda_i}_{\text{local}} \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \mathcal{C}^+(0, 1), \quad \underbrace{\tau}_{\text{global}} \sim \mathcal{C}^+(0, \sigma) \quad (\text{Heavy-tailed prior})$$

**Posterior mean:**

$$\mathbb{E}(\theta_i | y_i) = \{1 - \mathbb{E}(1/1 + \lambda_i^2 \tau^2 | y_i)\} y_i \doteq (1 - \mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i)) y_i.$$

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$$\mathbb{E}(\theta_i | y_i) = \{1 - \mathbb{E}(1/(1 + \lambda_i^2 \tau^2) | y_i)\} y_i \doteq (1 - \mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i)) y_i.$$

Two-groups Model	One-group Model
$\mathbb{E}(\theta_i   y_i) \approx \omega_i y_i, \omega_i = \text{PIP}$	$\mathbb{E}(\theta_i   Y_i) = \{1 - \mathbb{E}(\kappa_i   y_i)\} y_i$

$1 - \mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i)$  mimics the posterior inclusion probability  $\omega_i$ .

$\mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i) \approx 0$  for large  $y_i$  (signal),  $\mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i) \approx 1$  for small  $y_i$  (noise).

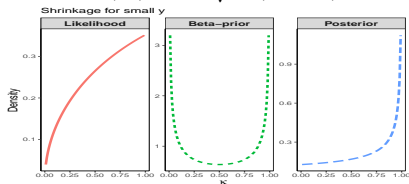
Why not use the two-groups model directly?

# How to Build a Sparsity Prior

- $\mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i) \approx 0$  for large  $y_i$ ,  $\mathbb{E}(\kappa_i | y_i) \approx 1$  for small  $y_i$ .

$$\kappa\text{-scale: } \underbrace{p(\kappa_i | y_i)}_{\text{posterior}} \propto \underbrace{p(y_i | \kappa_i)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\kappa_i)}_{\text{prior}} \propto \kappa_i^{\frac{1}{2}} \exp \left\{ -\kappa_i \frac{y_i^2}{2} \right\} p(\kappa_i)$$

- Likelihood doesn't concentrate near 1 for  $y_i \approx 0$ .
- Horseshoe: Push density towards 1  $\rightarrow$  replace  $\kappa_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$  with  $(1 - \kappa_i)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .
- Achieved by 'horseshoe':  $p(\kappa_i) \propto 1/\sqrt{\kappa_i(1 - \kappa_i)}$ .



$$\lambda_i^2 \sim C^+(0, 1) \equiv \kappa_i \sim \text{Be}\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \Rightarrow \text{"Horseshoe"}.$$

## Global-Local priors

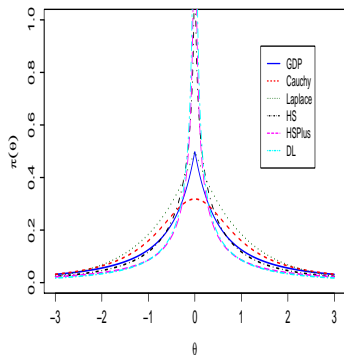
Global-local scale mixtures [Polson and Scott, 2010b]:

$$(\mathbf{y} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\theta}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}); \theta_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda_i^2 \tau^2)$$
$$\lambda_i^2 \sim \pi(\lambda_i^2); (\tau^2) \sim \pi(\tau^2), i = 1, \dots, n.$$

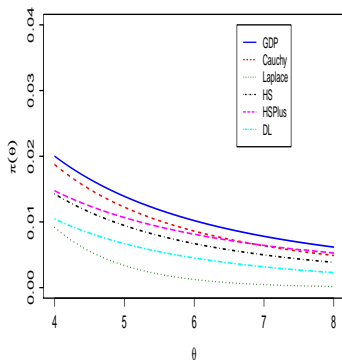
$\lambda_i$ : local shrinkage - tags signal,  $\tau$ : global shrinkage - adjusts to sparsity.

Global-local shrinkage priors	Authors
Normal Exponential Gamma <b>Horseshoe</b>	Griffin and Brown [2010] Carvalho et al. [2010, 2009]
Hypergeometric Inverted Beta	Polson and Scott [2010a]
Generalized Double Pareto	Armagan et al. [2011]
Generalized Beta	Armagan et al. [2013]
<b>Dirichlet-Laplace</b>	Bhattacharya et al. [2015]
<b>Horseshoe+</b>	Bhadra et al. [2017b]
<b>Horseshoe-like</b>	Bhadra et al. [2017a]
Spike-and-Slab Lasso	Ročková and George [2016]
R2-D2	Zhang et al. [2016]
<b>Inverse-Gamma-Gamma</b>	Bai and Ghosh [2017]
Heavy-tailed Horseshoe	Womack and Yang [2019]
<b>Log-adjusted prior</b>	Hamura et al. [2020]
<b>Gauss-Hypergeometric</b>	Datta and Dunson [2016]
Extremely heavy-tailed (EH) prior	Hamura et al. [2019]

# Shape of G-L priors



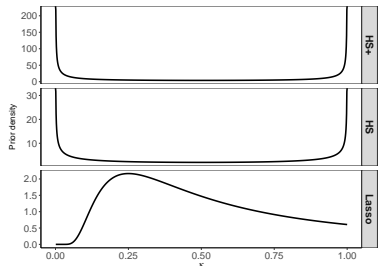
(a) Prior densities near origin



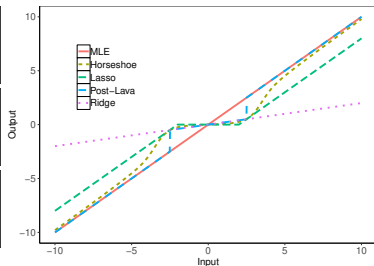
(b) Tails of prior densities

**Need: Spike at zero and Heavy-tails**

# Horseshoe > Bayesian Lasso



(a) Shrinkage profile for Horseshoe, Horseshoe+, and Laplace prior.



(b) Shrinkage Profiles

## Lasso overshrinks, Horseshoe doesn't

Castillo et al. [2015]: the full Lasso posterior distribution does not contract **at the same speed as the posterior mode**  $\Rightarrow$  Poor uncertainty quantification.



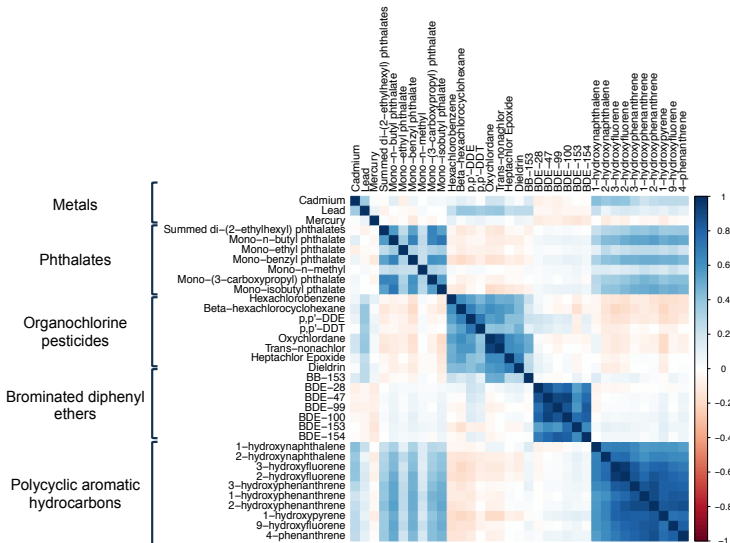
$$\theta_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda_i^2 \tau^2), \lambda_i^2 \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \pi_1(\lambda_i^2); (\tau^2) \sim \pi_2(\tau^2), i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- Ghosh et al. [2016]: Bayes oracle for G-L priors.
- Ghosh and Chakrabarti [2017]: Asymptotic Minimavity for G-L priors.
- Key idea: local shrinkage priors should have regularly varying tails.
- Up to  $O(1)$  can be relaxed: G-L priors can be exactly minimax and ABOS [Ghosh et al., 2016, Bai and Ghosh, 2017].

## Grouped shrinkage

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# Exposure Correlation Structure (NHANES 2003-2004)



Source: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).

## Simple multipollutant model

- Consider a Bayesian sparse linear regression model

$$[\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2] \sim N\left(\mathbf{C}\boldsymbol{\alpha} + \sum_{g=1}^G \mathbf{X}_g \boldsymbol{\beta}_g, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n\right), \quad \pi(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \propto 1, \quad \boldsymbol{\beta} \sim \pi(\boldsymbol{\beta}), \quad (2)$$

where  $g = 1, \dots, G$  indexes the groups,  $\mathbf{y}$  is an  $n \times 1$  vector of centered continuous responses,  $\mathbf{C}$  is a matrix of adjustment covariates,

- and ...  $\mathbf{X}_g$  is an  $n \times p_g$  matrix of standardized covariates in the  $g$ -th group,  $\boldsymbol{\beta}_g = (\beta_{g1}, \dots, \beta_{gp_g})^\top$  is a  $p_g \times 1$  vector of regression coefficients corresponding to the  $g$ -th group,
- and ...  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\boldsymbol{\beta}_1^\top, \dots, \boldsymbol{\beta}_G^\top)^\top$  is a  $p \times 1$  vector of regression coefficients to employ shrinkage on.

# Group Inverse-Gamma Gamma (GIGG) Shrinkage

## Global-Group-Local Shrinkage Priors [Xu et al., 2016]

$$[y_{gj} | \beta_{gj}, \sigma^2] \sim N(\beta_{gj}, \sigma^2), \quad [\beta_{gj} | \tau^2, \gamma_g^2, \lambda_{gj}^2] \sim N(0, \tau^2 \gamma_g^2 \lambda_{gj}^2),$$

where  $gj$  indexes the  $j$ -th mean in the  $g$ -th group,  $\lambda_g^2 = (\lambda_{g1}^2, \dots, \lambda_{gp_g}^2)$ , and  $p_g$  denotes the number of observations in the  $g$ -th group.

**Key Idea:** Need  $\pi(\gamma_g^2, \lambda_g^2)$  such that

$$\gamma_g^2 \lambda_{gj}^2 \sim \beta'(a_g, b_g), \quad \forall j \in \{1, \dots, p_g\}.$$

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**Key Idea:** Need  $\pi(\gamma_g^2, \lambda_g^2)$  such that

$$\gamma_g^2 \lambda_{gj}^2 \sim \beta'(a_g, b_g), \quad \forall j \in \{1, \dots, p_g\}.$$

**Proposition:** If  $U \sim G(a, \eta)$  and  $V \sim IG(b, \eta)$  are independent, then

$$UV \sim \beta'(a, b).$$

# Group Inverse-Gamma Gamma (GIGG) Prior [Boss, Datta, Wang, Park, Kang, and Mukherjee, 2021]

## Formulation

$$[\beta_{gj} | \tau^2, \gamma_g^2, \lambda_{gj}^2] \sim N(0, \tau^2 \gamma_g^2 \lambda_{gj}^2), \quad \gamma_g^2 \sim G(a_g, 1), \quad \lambda_{gj}^2 \sim IG(b_g, 1)$$

Here, the index  $gj$  refers to the  $j$ -th mean in the  $g$ -th group.

## Posterior Distribution of Shrinkage Factors

$$\pi(\kappa_{g1}, \dots, \kappa_{gp_g} | y_{g1}, \dots, y_{gp_g}, \tau^2, \sigma^2, a_g, b_g) \propto$$

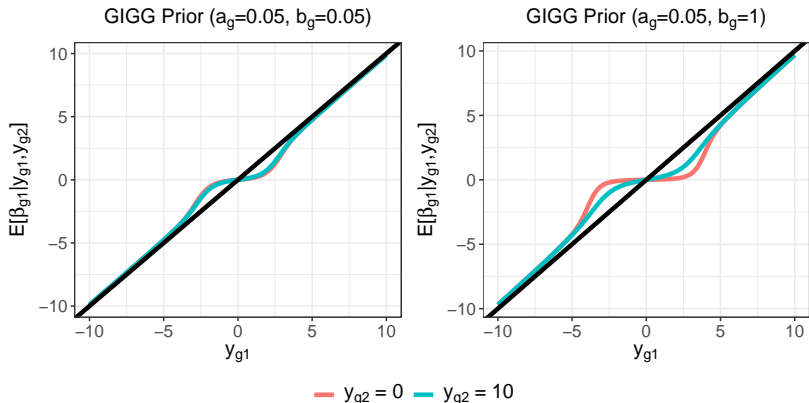
$$\left( 1 + \frac{\tau^2}{\sigma^2} \sum_{j=1}^{p_g} \frac{\kappa_{gj}}{1 - \kappa_{gj}} \right)^{-(a_g + p_g b_g)} \left( \prod_{j=1}^{p_g} \kappa_{gj}^{b_g - 1/2} (1 - \kappa_{gj})^{-(b_g + 1)} e^{-\frac{y_{gj}^2}{2\sigma^2} \kappa_{gj}} \right),$$

where  $0 < \kappa_{gj} < 1$  for all  $1 \leq j \leq p_g$  ( $p_g$  is the size of the  $g$ -th group).

Reduces to usual horseshoe prior for  $p_g = 1$  (groups of size 1).

# Posterior Mean (GIGG Prior)

**Illustrative Model:**  $[y_{g1} | \beta_{g1}] \sim N(\beta_{g1}, 1)$ ,  $[y_{g2} | \beta_{g2}] \sim N(\beta_{g2}, 1)$



Here  $a_g$  effectively controls the overall strength of the shrinkage, whereas  $b_g$  generally controls the dependence of the within-group shrinkage.



## Posterior Concentration (Sparse Normal Means)

- $|y_{gj}| \rightarrow \infty \implies$  posterior distribution of  $\kappa_{gj}$  concentrates near 0.
- $\tau \rightarrow 0 \implies$  posterior distribution of  $\kappa_{gj}$  concentrates near 1.

## Posterior Concentration (Linear Regression with $p < n$ )

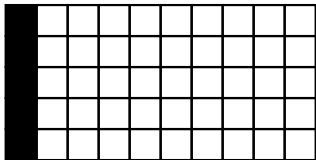
- $\tau \rightarrow 0 \implies$  posterior distribution of  $\|\hat{\beta}^{OLS} - E[\beta | \cdot]\|_2$  concentrates near  $\|\hat{\beta}^{OLS}\|_2$  ( $E[\beta | \cdot]$  is the full conditional mean).
- For block diagonal correlation structure,  $b_g \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\tau^2/\sigma^2$  small  $\implies$  shrinkage of  $g$ -th group close to zero.

## Posterior Consistency (Linear Regression)

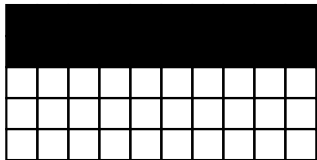
- Assumes that  $p = o(n)$  and fixed values of  $a_g$  and  $b_g$ .

# Simulations ( $n = 500$ , $p = 50$ )

## Simulation Settings



(a) Concentrated Signal



(b) Distributed Signal

In the diagram, the  $gj$ -th box is the  $j$ -th exposure in the  $g$ -th group. The boxes corresponding to non-null regression coefficients are filled in.

## Exposure Correlation Structure

- Correlations within exposure class are  $\rho = 0.8$ .
- Correlations between exposure classes are 0.2.

# Mean-Squared Error

$\rho = 0.8$ Method	Concentrated		Distributed	
	Null	Non-Null	Null	Non-Null
Ordinary Least Squares	3.74	0.41	8.09	2.03
Horseshoe	0.51	0.41	0.85	2.14
GIGG ( $a_g = 1/n, b_g = 1/n$ )	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.30</b>	0.03	3.59
GIGG ( $a_g = 1/2, b_g = 1/n$ )	<b>0.11</b>	<b>0.30</b>	0.04	3.56
GIGG ( $a_g = 1/n, b_g = 1/2$ )	0.29	0.39	<b>0.03</b>	<b>1.57</b>
*GIGG ( $a_g = 1/2, b_g = 1/2$ )	0.33	0.40	0.24	1.70
GIGG ( $a_g = 1/n, b_g = 1$ )	0.53	0.49	<b>0.03</b>	<b>1.43</b>
GIGG ( $a_g = 1/2, b_g = 1$ )	0.58	0.49	0.26	1.43
GIGG (MMLE)	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>1.42</b>
Group Half Cauchy	0.30	0.39	0.08	1.64
Spike-and-Slab Lasso	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.33</b>	0.21	4.27
BGL-SS	2.01	0.80	<b>0.04</b>	<b>1.31</b>
BSGS-SS	0.23	0.42	0.04	1.84

\*GIGG ( $a_g = 1/2, b_g = 1/2$ ) is equivalent to group horseshoe.

\*\*Bolted entries indicate the top four performers.

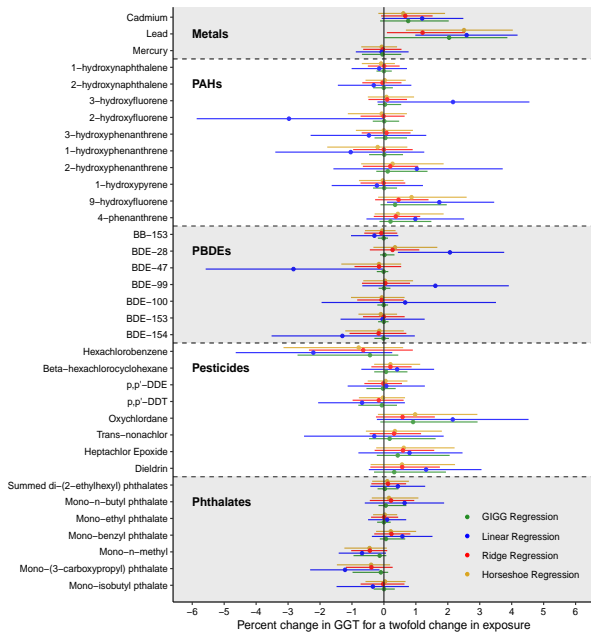
## Study Details

- 990 adults with 35 measured environmental contaminants.
- Outcome of interest is Gamma-Glutamyl Transferase (GGT).

## Exposure Classes

- 3 Metals (cadmium, lead, and mercury)
- 7 Phthalates
- 8 Organochlorine Pesticides
- 7 Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers (PBDEs)
- 10 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

# Illustrative Example from NHANES 2003-2004



## Precision matrix estimation

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- Gaussian graphical model (GGM) remains popular as a fundamental building block for network estimation because of the ease of interpretation of the resulting precision matrix estimate:
- An inferred off-diagonal zero corresponds to conditional independence of the two corresponding nodes given the rest [see, e.g., [Lauritzen, 1996](#)].
- There are both Bayesian and frequentist approaches to this, it is difficult to obtain good Bayesian and frequentist properties under the same prior–penalty dual, complicating justification.
- Our contribution is a **novel prior–penalty dual** that closely approximates the popular graphical horseshoe prior and penalty, and performs well in both Bayesian and frequentist senses.

- $\mathbf{X}^{(n)} = (\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n)^T \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$ .
- The corresponding precision matrix:  $\mathbf{\Omega} = ((\omega_{ij}))$  is defined as  $\mathbf{\Omega} = \Sigma^{-1}$ .
- Assume that  $\mathbf{\Omega}$  is sparse, in the sense that the number of non-zero off-diagonal elements is small.
- Goal: fully Bayesian inference on  $\mathbf{\Omega}$ , we need a suitable sparsity-favoring prior that also results in a penalty function with good frequentist properties.



# Horseshoe Regularization <sup>1</sup>

- Horseshoe prior:  $p(\omega)$  not analytically tractable !

$$\frac{1}{\tau(2\pi)^{3/2}} \log \left( 1 + \frac{4\tau^2}{\omega^2} \right) < p_{HS}(\omega | \tau) < \frac{2}{\tau(2\pi)^{3/2}} \log \left( 1 + \frac{2\tau^2}{\omega^2} \right),$$

- Hindrance in learning via EM-type algorithms.

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- Hindrance in learning via EM-type algorithms.
- Solution: normalize the tight bounds: 'horseshoe-like' [Bhadra et al., 2017a].

$$p_{\widetilde{HS}}(\omega | a) = \frac{1}{2\pi a^{1/2}} \log \left( 1 + \frac{a}{\omega^2} \right).$$

- Extend this for precision matrix estimation (Sagar, Banerjee, D., & Bhadra, 2021).

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<sup>1</sup><https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.10750>

## Normal Scale Mixture Representation!

- Frullani's identity [Jeffreys and Swirles, 1972, pp. 406–407]:

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{f(ax) - f(bx)}{x} dx = \{f(0) - f(\infty)\} \log(b/a),$$

- $f(x) = \exp(-x)$  yields a latent variable representation:

$$\frac{1}{2\pi a^{1/2}} \log\left(1 + \frac{a}{\omega^2}\right) = \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{u\omega^2}{a}\right) \frac{(1 - e^{-u})}{2\pi a^{1/2}u} du$$

- Normal scale mixture:

$$(\omega \mid u, a) \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{a}{2u}\right), \quad p(u) = \frac{1 - e^{-u}}{2\pi^{1/2}u^{3/2}}$$

- Reparametrize ( $t^2 = 2u$  and  $\tau^2 = a$ ):

$$(\omega \mid i, \tau) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{\tau^2}{t^2}\right), \quad p(t) = \frac{(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2})}{\sqrt{2\pi}t^2}$$

- This  $p(t)$  is the standard Slash-Normal density that can be written as a Normal variance mixture with a Pareto( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mixing density.

## Details

- For the fully Bayesian model, the element-wise prior specification induced by the horseshoe-like prior is,

$$\omega_{ij} | a \sim \pi(\omega_{ij} | a), \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq p; \quad \omega_{ii} \propto 1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq p,$$

where  $\pi(\omega_{ij} | a)$  is the density of the horseshoe-like prior.

- The horseshoe-like prior above can be expressed as a Gaussian scale-mixture [Bhadra et al., 2017a], thus giving us a global-local shrinkage prior:

$$\omega_{ij} | v_{ij}, a \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{a}{2v_{ij}}\right), \quad \pi(v_{ij}) \sim \frac{1 - \exp(-v_{ij})}{2\pi^{1/2}v_{ij}^{3/2}}. \quad (3)$$

- Only  $v_{ij}$  is considered to be latent and the global scale parameter  $a$  is considered to be fixed.
- Can estimate  $a$  by the effective model size approach of Piironen et al. [2017] to avoid it collapsing to zero.

- We restrict the prior on a subspace of symmetric positive definite matrices,  $\mathcal{M}_p^+(L)$ , where

$$\mathcal{M}_p^+(L) = \{\mathbf{\Omega} \in \mathcal{M}_p^+ : 0 < L^{-1} \leq \text{eig}_1(\mathbf{\Omega}) \leq \dots \leq \text{eig}_p(\mathbf{\Omega}) \leq L < \infty\}. \quad (4)$$

- Only necessary for arriving at the theoretical results involving the posterior convergence rate of  $\mathbf{\Omega}$ . We assume that  $L$  is a fixed constant, which can be large.
- However, this condition does not affect the practical implementation of our proposed method, and is used purely as a technical requirement.
- Beyond this, no structural assumption (e.g., decomposability) is placed on either  $\mathbf{\Omega}$  or  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ .

- Combining the unrestricted prior as in (3) and (3), along with the prior space restriction as in (4), the joint prior distribution on  $\mathbf{\Omega}$  is given by,

$$\pi(\mathbf{\Omega} \mid \nu, a)\pi(\nu) \propto \prod_{i,j:i < j} (1 - \exp(-\nu_{ij})) \nu_{ij}^{-1} \exp\left(\frac{-\nu_{ij}\omega_{ij}^2}{a}\right) \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{M}_p^+(L)}(\mathbf{\Omega}). \quad (5)$$

- With the prior specification as in (5), the log-posterior  $\mathcal{L}$  thus becomes,

$$\mathcal{L} \propto \frac{n}{2} \log |\mathbf{\Omega}| - \frac{n}{2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{S}\mathbf{\Omega}) + \sum_{i,j:i < j} \left\{ \log(1 - \exp(-\nu_{ij})) - \log \nu_{ij} - \frac{\nu_{ij}\omega_{ij}^2}{a} \right\} \quad (6)$$

## Estimation

- Utilize the Gaussian mixture representation to devise an Expectation Conditional Maximization (ECM) [Meng and Rubin, 1993] approach to MAP estimation.
- For updating the elements of the precision matrix, we use the coordinate descent technique proposed by Wang [2014].
- **E Step:** Following Bhadra et al. [2017a], we calculate the conditional expectation of the latent variable  $v_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i < j \leq p$ , at current iteration ( $t$ ) as follows:

$$\mathbb{E}(v_{ij} \mid \omega_{ij}^{(t)}, a) = \left\{ \log\left(1 + \frac{a}{(\omega_{ij}^{(t)})^2}\right) \right\}^{-1} \frac{a^2}{((\omega_{ij}^{(t)})^2 + a)((\omega_{ij}^{(t)})^2)}. \quad (7)$$

- **CM Steps:** Having updated the latent parameters in the E-Step, the coordinate descent approach of Wang [2014] is used to update one column of the precision matrix at a time.

## Posterior sampling

- Posterior sampling strategy combines ideas from [Bhadra et al., 2017a] and [Li et al., 2017].
- With substitutions  $2\nu_{ij} \mapsto t_{ij}^2$  and  $a \mapsto \tau^2$ , the prior can be written as:

$$\omega_{ij} \mid \nu_{ij}, \tau \sim \mathcal{N}\left(0, \tau^2 / t_{ij}^2\right), \quad \pi(t_{ij}) = \frac{1 - \exp\left(-t_{ij}^2/2\right)}{(2\pi)^{1/2} t_{ij}^2}, \quad t_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \tau^2 > 0,$$

where  $\pi(t_{ij})$  above is known as the slash normal density, expressed as  $(\phi(0) - \phi(t_{ij})) / t_{ij}^2$  [Bhadra et al., 2017a].

- Introducing a further local latent variable  $r_{ij}$ , the density for  $t_{ij}$  can also be written as a normal scale mixture, where the scale follows a Pareto distribution, that is,

$$t_{ij} \mid r_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, r_{ij}), \quad r_{ij} \sim \text{Pareto}(1/2).$$

- Remaining steps are similar to the graphical horseshoe sampler of Li et al. [2017].



## Posterior consistency

- Posterior contraction rate of the precision matrix  $\Omega$  around the true precision matrix  $\Omega_0$  with respect to the Frobenius norm under the graphical horseshoe-like prior.
- We make certain assumptions on the true precision matrix, the dimension and sparsity, and the prior space.
- **Assumptions:** True underlying graph is sparse, effective dimension of the parameter  $\Omega_0$ ,  $p + s$  satisfies  $(p + s) \log p / n = o(1)$ , the prior space contains the true precision matrix, and the prior puts sufficient mass around the true zero elements in the precision matrix.

### Theorem

*The posterior distribution of  $\Omega$  satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E}_0 \left[ P \{ \|\Omega - \Omega_0\|_2 > M\epsilon_n \mid \mathbf{X}^{(n)} \} \right] \rightarrow 0,$$

for  $\epsilon_n = n^{-1/2}(p + s)^{1/2}(\log p)^{1/2}$  and a sufficiently large constant  $M > 0$ .

## MAP estimator

- We can prove that the extended real-valued penalty function  $pen_a(x) = -\log \log(1 + a/x^2)$ ,  $a > 0$ , is strongly concave, and hence strictly concave, for all  $x \in \text{dom}(pen_a)$ , separately for  $x > 0$  and  $x < 0$ .
- Strict concavity of penalty function guarantees that the LLA algorithm will satisfy an ascent property, that is,  $Q(\Omega^{(t+1)}) > Q(\Omega^{(t)})$ .

### Theorem

*Under the conditions of Theorem 1, the MAP estimator of  $\Omega$ , given by  $\hat{\Omega}^{\text{MAP}}$  is consistent, in the sense that*

$$\|\hat{\Omega}^{\text{MAP}} - \Omega_0\|_2 = O_P(\epsilon_n),$$

*where  $\epsilon_n$  is the posterior convergence rate as defined in Theorem 1.*

- Converges to the true precision matrix  $\Omega_0$  at the same rate as the posterior convergence rate in the Frobenius norm.

## Simulation: selected

*Hubs*. The rows/columns are partitioned into  $K$  disjoint groups  $G_1, \dots, G_K$ . The off-diagonal entries  $\omega_{ij}^0$  are set to 0.25 if  $i \neq j$  and  $i, j \in G_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ . In our simulations we consider  $p/10$  groups with equal number of elements in each group.

**Table 1:** 50 data sets generated with precision matrix  $\Omega_0$ , where  $n = 120$  and  $p = 100$ . Candidates: frequentist graphical lasso with penalized diagonal elements (GL1) and with unpenalized diagonal elements (GL2), graphical SCAD (GSCAD), Bayesian graphical lasso (BGL), the graphical horseshoe (GHS), graphical horseshoe-like ECM (ECM) and graphical horseshoe-like MCMC (MCMC).

	Hubs						
	90 nonzero pairs out of 4950 nonzero elements = 0.25						
	GL1	GL2	GSCAD	BGL	GHS	ECM	MCMC
Stein's loss	5.255 (0.263)	6.328 (0.414)	5.213 (0.261)	43.042 (0.802)	5.101 (0.455)	<b>4.22</b> (0.369)	5.310 (0.485)
F norm	3.018 (0.091)	3.432 (0.112)	3.003 (0.093)	4.295 (0.156)	2.544 (0.126)	<b>2.415</b> (0.103)	2.687 (0.141)
TPR	.995 (.007)	.986 (.017)	<b>.998</b> (.002)	.995 (.008)	.872 (.04)	0.985 (.014)	0.754 (0.004)
FPR	.101 (.016)	.045 (.008)	.983 (.012)	.186 (.007)	<b>.003</b> (.001)	.062 (0.005)	<b>0.003</b> (0.001)
MCC	0.373 (.027)	0.523 (.039)	0.016 (.006)	0.27 (.006)	<b>0.85</b> (.027)	0.458 (.015)	0.775 (.033)
Avg CPU time	1.739	1.76	48.54	549.196	252.94	5.811	537.604

## Summary and Scopes (Part I)

- Global-local priors: state-of-the-art Bayesian tool for sparse signal recovery.
- Can be extended to sparse + structured covariates: GIGG and graphical-horseshoe.
- Scale mixture: allows for MCMC + EM and LLA algorithms.
- Can be interpreted as non-convex penalty (horseshoe-like)
- Scopes:
  1. Selection for bi-level sparsity (still Oracle?)
  2. Multiple graphical models.
  3. Extend beyond Gaussian set-up (e.g. [Datta and Dunson, 2016]).
  4. An appealing new direction is Bayesian neural net, e.g. [Ghosh and Doshi-Velez, 2017] ['Model selection in Bayesian neural networks via horseshoe priors']

## References

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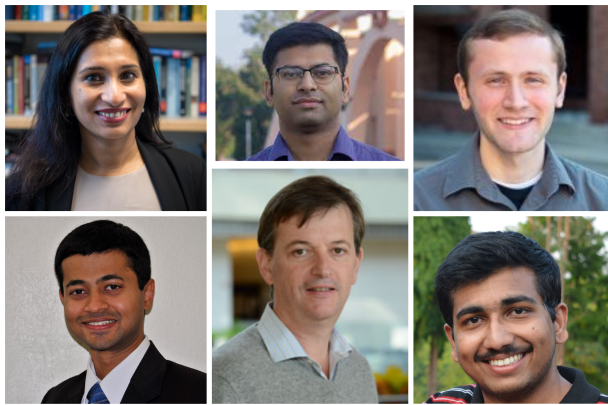
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# Thank you!





## Resources for Horseshoe Prior

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## Learning $\tau$

1. Maximum marginal likelihood estimator (MMLE)
2. Full Bayes estimator: half-Cauchy prior truncated to the interval  $[1/n, 1]$ .
3. Cross-validation.
4. By studying the prior for  $m_{\text{eff}} = \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - \kappa_i)$  [Piironen and Vehtari, 2016]
  - MMLE beats simple thresholding:

$$\hat{\tau}_s(c_1, c_2) = \max \left\{ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}\{|y_i| \geq \sqrt{c_1 \log(n)}\}}{c_2 n}, \frac{1}{n} \right\}.$$

- Empirical Bayes estimate of  $\tau$  can replace a full Bayes estimate of  $\tau$ .
- Caution to prevent the estimator from getting too close to zero.

## Computation for Horseshoe

1. MCMC : block-updating  $\theta$ ,  $\lambda$  and  $\tau$  using either a Gibbs or parameter expansion or slice sampling strategy.
2. [Makalic and Schmidt \[2016\]](#): Inverse-gamma scale mixture for Gibbs sampling scheme for horseshoe and horseshoe+ prior for linear regression and logistic and negative binomial regression.
3. [Hahn et al. \[2016\]](#): Elliptical slice sampler – wins over Gibbs strategies!
4. [Bhattacharya et al. \[2016\]](#): Gaussian sampling alternative to the naïve Cholesky decomposition to reduce the computational burden from  $O(p^3)$  to  $O(n^2p)$ .

# Implementation

Table 2: Implementations of Horseshoe and Other Shrinkage Priors

Implementation (Package/URL)	Authors
R package: <a href="#">monomvn</a> R code in paper R package: <a href="#">horseshoe</a> R package: <a href="#">fastHorseshoe</a> <a href="#">MATLAB code</a> GPU accelerated Gibbs sampling <a href="#">bayesreg</a> + <a href="#">MATLAB code</a> in paper <a href="#">MATLAB code</a>	<a href="#">Gramacy and Pantaleo [2010]</a> <a href="#">Scott [2010]</a> <a href="#">van der Pas et al. [2016]</a> <a href="#">Hahn et al. [2016]</a> <a href="#">Bhattacharya et al. [2016]</a> <a href="#">Terenin et al. [2016]</a> <a href="#">Makalic and Schmidt [2016]</a> <a href="#">Johndrow and Orenstein [2017]</a>