

Weak and strong moments of l_r -norms of log-concave vectors

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A measure μ on a locally convex linear space F is called *logarithmically concave* (*log-concave* in short) if for any compact nonempty sets $K, L \subset F$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$,

$$\mu(\lambda K + (1 - \lambda)L) \geq \mu(K)^\lambda \mu(L)^{1-\lambda}.$$

A random vector with values in F is called log-concave if its distribution is logarithmically concave.

By the result of Borell an n -dimensional vector with a full dimensional support is log-concave iff it has a log-concave density, i.e. a density of the form e^{-h} , where h is a convex function with values in $(-\infty, \infty]$.

Log-concave measures/vectors

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Examples of log-concave vectors

- Gaussian vectors
- Vectors with independent log-concave coordinates (in particular vectors with product exponential distribution)
- Vectors uniformly distributed on convex bodies
- Affine images of log-concave vectors
- Sums of independent log-concave vectors
- Weak limits of log-concave vectors

It may be shown that the class of log-concave distributions on \mathbb{R}^n is the smallest class that contains uniform distributions on convex bodies and is closed under affine transformations and weak limits.

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Isotropic vectors

Let $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random vector in \mathbb{R}^n such that $\mathbb{E}|X|^2 < \infty$. We say that the distribution of X is *isotropic*, if

$$\mathbb{E}X_i = 0 \text{ and } \mathbb{E}X_i X_j = \delta_{i,j} \text{ for all } 1 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

If $\mathbb{E}|X|^2 < \infty$ and X has a full dimensional support then there exists an affine transformation T such that TX is isotropic.

Here and in the sequel $|x| = \|x\|_2$, where

$$\|x\|_r = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^r \right)^{1/r} \text{ for } x \in \mathbb{R}^d, r \geq 1.$$

Remark. By the result of Borell, for any log-concave vector X and any seminorm $\|\cdot\|$, $\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p < \infty$. Moreover

$$(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \leq C \frac{p}{q} (\mathbb{E}\|X\|^q)^{1/q} \text{ for } p \geq q \geq 1.$$

By C we denote universal constants (that may differ from line to line).

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Paouris inequality

One of the fundamental properties of log-concave vectors is the Paouris inequality.

Theorem (Paouris'06)

For any log-concave vector X in \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$(\mathbb{E}|X|^p)^{1/p} \leq C \left((\mathbb{E}|X|^2)^{1/2} + \sigma_X(p) \right) \quad \text{for } p \geq 1,$$

where

$$\sigma_X(p) := \sup_{\|t\|_2 \leq 1} \left(\mathbb{E} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n t_i X_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p}.$$

Equivalently, in terms of tails we have

$$\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq Ct\mathbb{E}|X|) \leq \exp\left(-\sigma_X^{-1}(t\mathbb{E}|X|)\right) \quad \text{for } t \geq 1,$$

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Paouris inequality in the isotropic case

For an isotropic vector X ,

$$\mathbb{E}|X| \leq (\mathbb{E}|X|^2)^{1/2} = \sqrt{n}, \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_X(2) = 1.$$

So if X is isotropic log-concave then

$$\sigma_X(p) \leq p \quad \text{for} \quad p \geq 1.$$

Hence we have the following weaker form of the Paouris inequality.

Corollary

For any isotropic log-concave vector X in \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$(\mathbb{E}|X|^p)^{1/p} \leq C(\sqrt{n} + p) \quad \text{for } p \geq 1.$$

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$$\mathbb{P}(|X| \geq Ct\sqrt{n}) \leq \exp(-t\sqrt{n}) \quad \text{for } t \geq 1.$$

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Example

Let $Y = \sqrt{n}gU$, where U has a uniform distribution on S^{n-1} and g is the standard normal $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ r.v., independent of U . Then it is easy to see that Y is isotropic, rotationally invariant and for any seminorm on \mathbb{R}^n

$$(\mathbb{E}\|Y\|^p)^{1/p} = \sqrt{n}(\mathbb{E}|g|^p)^{1/p}(\mathbb{E}\|U\|^p)^{1/p} \sim \sqrt{pn}(\mathbb{E}\|U\|^p)^{1/p} \text{ for } p \geq 1.$$

In particular this implies that for any $t \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\left(\mathbb{E} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n t_i Y_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p} \leq C \frac{p}{q} \left(\mathbb{E} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n t_i Y_i \right|^q \right)^{1/q} \text{ for } p \geq q \geq 1.$$

Therefore

$$(\mathbb{E}|Y|^p)^{1/p} \sim \sqrt{pn}, \quad (\mathbb{E}|Y|^2)^{1/2} = \sqrt{n}, \quad \sigma_Y(p) \leq Cp$$

and for $1 \ll p \ll n$, $(\mathbb{E}|Y|^p)^{1/p} \gg (\mathbb{E}|Y|^2)^{1/2} + \sigma_Y(p)$.

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Conjecture about weak and strong moments

It is natural to ask whether the Paouris inequality may be generalized to non-Euclidean norms. One may risk the following conjecture.

Conjecture

There exists a universal constant C such that for any log-concave vector X with values in a normed space $(F, \| \cdot \|)$,

$$(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \leq C \left(\mathbb{E}\|X\| + \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \right) \quad \text{for } p \geq 1.$$

Remark. Obviously for $p \geq 1$, $(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \geq \mathbb{E}\|X\|$ and strong moments dominate weak moments, i.e.

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Main result

Theorem

Let X be a log-concave vector with values in a normed space $(F, \| \cdot \|)$ which may be isometrically embedded in l_r for some $r \in [2, \infty)$. Then for $p \geq 1$,

$$(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \leq Cr \left(\mathbb{E}\|X\| + \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \right).$$

Remark. Let X and F be as above. Then by Chebyshev's inequality we obtain large deviation estimate for $\|X\|$:

$$\mathbb{P}(\|X\| \geq Crt\mathbb{E}\|X\|) \leq \exp\left(-\sigma_{X,F}^{-1}(t\mathbb{E}\|X\|)\right) \quad \text{for } t \geq 1,$$

where

$$\sigma_{X,F}(p) := \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \quad \text{for } p \geq 1$$

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Remark. If $i: F \rightarrow I_r$ is an isomorphic embedding and $\lambda = \|i\|_{F \rightarrow I_r} \|i^{-1}\|_{i(F) \rightarrow F}$, then we may define another norm on F by $\|x\|' := \|i(x)\| / \|i\|_{F \rightarrow I_r}$. Obviously $(F, \|\cdot\|')$ isometrically embeds in I_r , moreover $\|x\|' \leq \|x\| \leq \lambda \|x\|'$ for $x \in F$. Hence the previous theorem gives

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} &\leq \lambda (\mathbb{E}\|X\|'^p)^{1/p} \\ &\leq Cr\lambda \left(\mathbb{E}\|X\|' + \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \right) \\ &\leq Cr\lambda \left(\mathbb{E}\|X\| + \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Reduction to finite dimension

Since log-concavity is preserved under linear transformations and, by Hahn-Banach theorem, any linear functional on a subspace of l_r is a restriction of a functional on the whole l_r with the same norm, it is enough to prove Theorem 2 for $F = l_r$. An easy approximation argument shows that we may consider finite dimensional spaces l_r^n . To simplify the notation for an n -dimensional vector X and $p \geq 1$ we write

$$\sigma_{r,X}(p) := \sup_{\|t\|_{r'} \leq 1} \left(\mathbb{E} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n t_i X_i \right|^p \right)^{1/p},$$

where r' denotes the Hölder's dual of r , i.e. $r' = \frac{r}{r-1}$.

Theorem

Let X be a log-concave vector in \mathbb{R}^n and $r \in [2, \infty)$. Then

$$(\mathbb{E} \|X\|_r^p)^{1/p} \leq Cr (\mathbb{E} \|X\|_r + \sigma_{r,X}(p)) \quad \text{for } p \geq 1.$$

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Modified bound for l_r -norms

Proof of the main result is based on the following estimate.

Theorem

Suppose that $r \in [2, \infty)$ and X is a log-concave n -dimensional random vector. Let

$$d_i := (\mathbb{E}X_i^2)^{1/2}, \quad d := \left(\sum_{i=1}^n d_i^r \right)^{1/r}. \quad (1)$$

Then for $p \geq r$ and $t \geq Cr \log \left(\frac{d}{\sigma_{r,X}(p)} \right)$,

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n |X_i|^r \mathbb{1}_{\{|X_i| \geq td_i\}} \right)^{p/r} \leq (Cr \sigma_{r,X}(p))^p.$$

Modified bound implies comparison of weak and strong moments in l_r^n .

Since $(\mathbb{E}\|X\|_r^p)^{1/p} \leq Cp\mathbb{E}\|X\|_r$, we may assume that $p \geq r$. Let d_i and d be defined by (1). Then

$$d^2 = \|(\mathbb{E}X_i^2)\|_{r/2} \leq \mathbb{E}\|(X_i^2)\|_{r/2} = \mathbb{E}\|X\|_r^2 \leq (C\mathbb{E}\|X\|_r)^2.$$

Set

$$\tilde{p} := \inf\{q \geq p : \sigma_{r,X}(q) \geq d\}.$$

Modified bound applied with \tilde{p} instead of p and $t = 0$ yields

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbb{E}\|X\|_r^p)^{1/p} &\leq (\mathbb{E}\|X\|_r^{\tilde{p}})^{1/\tilde{p}} \leq Cr\sigma_{r,X}(\tilde{p}) = Cr \max\{d, \sigma_{r,X}(p)\} \\ &\leq Cr(\mathbb{E}\|X\|_r + \sigma_{r,X}(p)). \end{aligned}$$

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Idea of the proof of the modified bound

Random vector $-X$ is also log-concave, has the same values of d_i and $\sigma_{r,-X} = \sigma_{r,X}$. Hence it is enough to show that

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^r \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i \geq td_i\}} \right)^{p/r} \leq (Cr\sigma_{r,X}(p))^p$$

for $t \geq Cr \log(d/\sigma_{r,X}(p))$.

It is easy to reduce to the case when $t \geq Cr$ and $l = p/r$ is a positive integer. For $l = 1, 2, \dots$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^r \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i \geq td_i\}} \right)^l &\leq \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{(k+1)r} (td_i)^r \mathbb{1}_{\{X_i \geq 2^k td_i\}} \right)^l \\ &= (2t)^{rl} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_l=1}^n \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_l=0}^{\infty} 2^{(k_1 + \dots + k_l)r} d_{i_1}^r \dots d_{i_l}^r \mathbb{P}(B_{i_1, k_1, \dots, i_l, k_l}), \end{aligned}$$

where

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Idea of the proof of modified bound II

So we are to show that

$$\begin{aligned} m(l) &:= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_l=1}^n 2^{(k_1 + \dots + k_l)r} d_{i_1}^r \dots d_{i_l}^r \mathbb{P}(B_{i_1, k_1, \dots, i_l, k_l}). \\ &\leq \left(\frac{Cr \sigma_{r, X}(rl)}{t} \right)^{rl} \end{aligned}$$

for $t \geq Cr \max \left\{ 1, \log \left(\frac{d}{\sigma_{r, X}(rl)} \right) \right\}$.

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Proposition

Let X , r , d_i and d be as before and $A := \{X \in K\}$, where K is a convex set in \mathbb{R}^n satisfying $0 < \mathbb{P}(A) \leq 1/e$. Then for every $t \geq r$,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}|X_i|^r \mathbb{1}_{A \cap \{X_i \geq td_i\}} \leq C^r \mathbb{P}(A) \left(r^r \sigma_{r,X}^r (-\log(\mathbb{P}(A))) + (dt)^r e^{-t/C} \right).$$

The proof is based on the fact that vector Y distributed as X conditioned on the set $A = \{X \in K\}$, i.e.

$$\mathbb{P}(Y \in B) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(X \in B)}{\mathbb{P}(X \in B \cap K)},$$

is again log-concave if K is convex. To see that $\mathbb{E}Y_i^2$ cannot be large for too many i 's we use the Paouris inequality for X .

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Case $r = \infty$

Recall the general conjecture about comparison of weak and strong moments

$$(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \leq C \left(\mathbb{E}\|X\| + \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \right) \quad \text{for } p \geq 1. \quad (2)$$

Since every separable Banach space embeds in l_∞ it is enough to prove (2) in l_∞^n . It is known, but under the additional assumption that X is isotropic.

Theorem

Let X be an isotropic log-concave vector in \mathbb{R}^n . Then for any a_1, \dots, a_n and $p \geq 1$,

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Exponential concentration

Let μ be a measure on \mathbb{R}^n . We say that μ satisfies the exponential concentration with constant α if for any Borel set A ,

$$\mu(A) \geq \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \mu(A + \alpha t B_2^n) \geq 1 - e^{-t} \text{ for } t \geq 0.$$

The fundamental open problem (Kannan-Lovász-Simonovits conjecture) states that every isotropic log-concave measure satisfies exponential concentration with universal α .

Klartag proved it with $\alpha \leq Cn^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ with $\varepsilon \geq 1/30$. This was improved by Eldan (with the use of the result of Guédon-E.Milman) to $\alpha \leq Cn^{1/3} \log^{1/2}(n+1)$.

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Optimal concentration inequalities

For a probability measure μ on \mathbb{R}^n define

$$\Lambda_\mu(y) = \log \int e^{\langle y, z \rangle} d\mu(z), \quad \Lambda_\mu^*(x) = \sup_y (\langle y, x \rangle - \Lambda_\mu(y))$$

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If the law of an n -dimensional random vectors X satisfies the optimal concentration inequality with constant α then

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Example - Talagrand's two level concentration

In the case when $\mu = \nu^n$ is the product exponential measure (i.e. the measure with the density $2^{-n} \exp(-\sum_{i \leq n} |x_i|)$) it is easy to check that for $t \geq 1$,

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Optimal concentration inequalities - examples

Examples of vectors that satisfy the optimal concentration inequality with universal constant

- Gaussian vectors
- vectors with independent log-concave coordinates
- rotationally invariant log-concave vectors
- uniform distributions on B_r^n -balls
- log-concave vectors with densities of the form $\exp(-g(\|x\|_r))$, $1 \leq r < \infty$, $g: [0, \infty) \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty]$ convex increasing.

Corollary

For all random vectors listed above

$$(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \leq \mathbb{E}\|X\| + C \sup_{\varphi \in F^*, \|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \quad \text{for } p \geq 1.$$

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Unconditional vectors

We say that a random vector $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ has *unconditional distribution* if the distribution of $(\eta_1 X_1, \dots, \eta_n X_n)$ is the same as X for any choice of signs η_1, \dots, η_n .

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Let X be an n -dimensional isotropic, unconditional, log-concave vector and $Y = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$, where Y_i are independent symmetric exponential r.v.'s with variance 1 (i.e. with the density $2^{-1/2} \exp(-\sqrt{2}|x|)$). Then for any norm $\|\cdot\|$ on \mathbb{R}^n and $p \geq 1$,

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The Maurey-Pisier result implies $\mathbb{E}\|Y\| \leq C\mathbb{E}\|X\|$ in spaces with nontrivial cotype.

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Let X be as above, $2 \leq q < \infty$ and $F = (\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|)$ has a q -cotype constant bounded by $\beta < \infty$.

$$(\mathbb{E}\|X\|^p)^{1/p} \leq C(q, \beta) \left(\mathbb{E}\|X\| + \sup_{\|\varphi\|_* \leq 1} (\mathbb{E}|\varphi(X)|^p)^{1/p} \right).$$

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seems to be rather hard in full generality. One may try to consider first some simpler open cases:

- l_r -norms with $1 \leq r \leq 2$
- Orlicz norms or more general unconditional norms
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Thank you for your attention!