

# Expectation-Maximization Bernoulli-Gaussian Approximate Message Passing

Asilomar 2011

Jeremy Vila and Philip Schniter

The Ohio State University  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
vilaj@ece.osu.edu and schniter@ece.osu.edu

November 8th, 2011

This work has been supported in part by NSF-I/UCRC grant IIP-0968910, by NSF grant CCF-1018368, and by DARPA/ONR grant N66001-10-1-4090.

- Recover a signal from undersampled measurements

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N \quad \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^M \quad M < N$$

where  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $K$ -sparse (or compressible) with  $K < M$ .

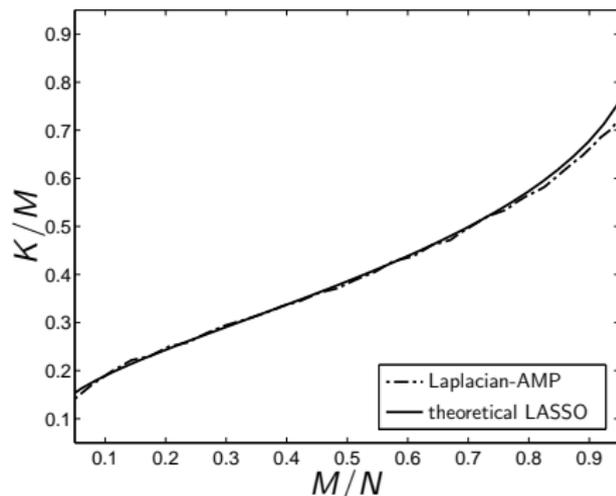
- With sufficient sparsity and appropriate conditions on the mixing matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  (e.g. RIP, nullspace), signal recovery is possible.
- Common approach (LASSO) is to solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 + \alpha \|\mathbf{x}\|_1.$$

where  $\alpha$  must be tuned in accordance with sparsity and SNR.

# LASSO Phase Transition

- Region beneath the curve shows  $(M, N, K)$  combinations where LASSO can perfectly recover a noiseless signal.
- If the true pdf of  $\mathbf{x}$  is i.i.d.  
 $p(x_n) = \lambda f(x_n) + (1 - \lambda)\delta(x_n)$ ,  
and  $\lambda \triangleq \frac{K}{N}$ , then the LASSO PTC is unaffected by  $f(\cdot)$ .
- This implies LASSO is robust to signal distribution, but it cannot benefit when  $\mathbf{x}$  belongs to an “easier” class.



Empirical noiseless Bernoulli-Gaussian PTCs

# Bayesian Interpretation

- The sparse signal recovery problem can be interpreted through a Bayesian framework.
- Minimizing the LASSO criterion  $\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{Ax}\|_2^2 + \alpha\|\mathbf{x}\|_1$  is equivalent to finding the MAP estimate from  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{w}$  when  $\mathbf{w}$  is i.i.d. Gaussian and  $\mathbf{x}$  is i.i.d. Laplacian.
- Alternative Bayesian approaches to the CS problem follow from different assumptions on the signal and noise priors, and/or from seeking the MMSE rather than MAP estimate of  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- MAP estimation using assumed i.i.d. signal/noise priors has the form

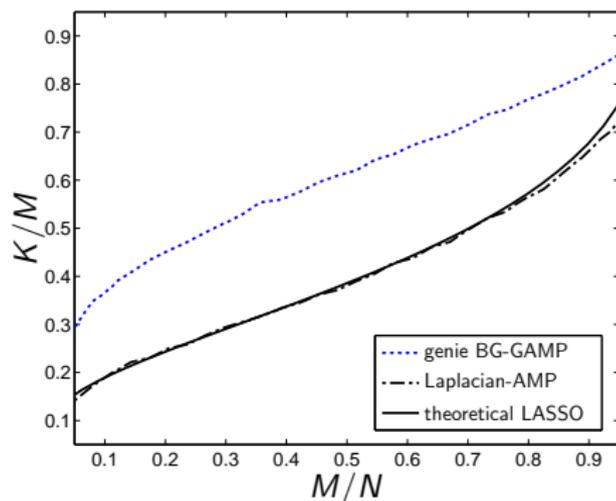
$$\max_{\mathbf{x}} \sum_{m=1}^M \ln p(y_m | \mathbf{a}_m^T \mathbf{x}) + \sum_{n=1}^N \ln p(x_n).$$

# Approximate Message Passing (AMP)

- Efficient algorithms for Bayesian CS can be constructed using loopy belief propagation using carefully constructed message approximations:
  - The “original” AMP [Donoho, Maleki, Montanari '09] solves the LASSO problem (i.e., Laplacian MAP) under i.i.d. matrices  $\mathbf{A}$ .
  - The “Bayesian” AMP [Donoho, Maleki, Montanari '10] framework tackles MMSE inference under generic signal priors.
  - The “generalized AMP” [Rangan '10] framework tackles MAP or MMSE inference under generic signal and noise priors and generic matrices  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- All of these AMP algs are sophisticated iterative thresholding algs, thus complexity is dominated by two applications of  $\mathbf{A}$  per iteration and  $\approx 15$  iterations (for any  $M$  and  $N$ ).

# Bernoulli-Gaussian GAMP

- Suppose the signal is known to be i.i.d Bernoulli Gaussian. That is,  $p(x_n) = \lambda \mathcal{N}(x_n; \theta, \phi) + (1 - \lambda) \delta(x_n)$ , where a genie supplies us with the true parameters  $(\lambda, \theta, \phi)$
- For such signals, the PT improves:



Empirical noiseless Bernoulli-Gaussian PTCs

# Expectation-Maximization BG-GAMP (EM-BG-GAMP)

- In practice, the pdf parameter values  $\mathbf{q} = (\lambda, \theta, \phi, \psi)$  are unknown. Thus, we propose to learn them via the EM algorithm while simultaneously recovering  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- In our EM algorithm, we treat both  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  as missing data, and perform element-wise incremental updates.
- The update of  $\lambda$  equates to solving the E and M steps

$$\text{(E-step)} \quad Q(\lambda|\lambda^i) = \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{E} \{ \ln p(x_n; \lambda, \theta^i, \phi^i) | \mathbf{y}; \mathbf{q}^i \}$$

$$\text{(M-step)} \quad \lambda^{i+1} = \arg \max_{\lambda \in (0,1)} Q(\lambda|\lambda^i).$$

Updates of  $(\theta, \phi, \psi)$  have a similar form.

- All quantities required to compute the EM conditional expectation are provided by GAMP!

# Parameter Initialization

Smart initialization is critical since the EM algorithm can converge to local maxima of the likelihood function.

- Set the sparsity  $\lambda^0 = \frac{M}{N} \rho_{\text{SE}}(\frac{M}{N})$ , where  $\rho_{\text{SE}}(\frac{M}{N})$  is the theoretical LASSO PTC.
- Assume signal prior is symmetric and initialize the active mean  $\theta^0 = 0$ .
- Given a hypothesis  $\text{SNR}^0$  we find that the active variance  $\phi$  and noise variance  $\psi$  can be initialized based on the energy of the measurements  $\|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2$ .

$$\psi^0 = \frac{\|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2}{(\text{SNR}^0 + 1)M}, \quad \phi^0 = \frac{\|\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - M\psi^0}{\text{tr}(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})\lambda^0}$$

# EM-BG-GAMP Algorithm

Initialize EM parameters  $(\lambda^0, \theta^0, \phi^0, \psi^0)$  and GAMP mean/variance  $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^0, \nu^0)$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ , max EM iters

  for  $t = 1, 2, \dots$ , max GAMP iters

    Update soft signal estimates  $(\hat{\mathbf{x}}^t, \nu^t)$  assuming prior params  $q^{i-1}$

    Break if early convergence

  end;

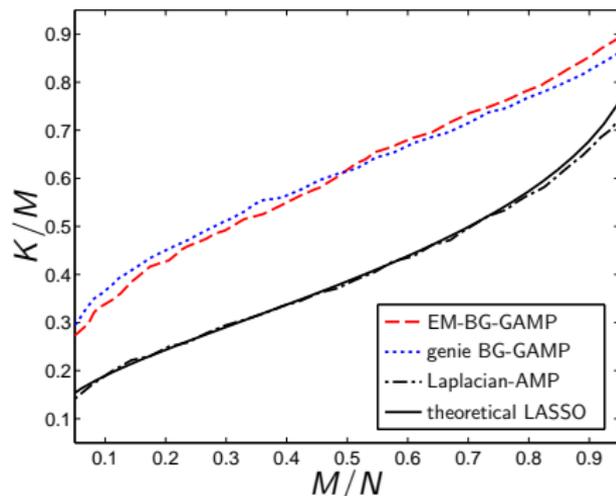
  Update prior parameters  $(\lambda^i, \theta^i, \phi^i, \psi^i)$  using GAMP outputs.

  Break if early convergence

end;

# EM-BG-GAMP Phase Transition Curve

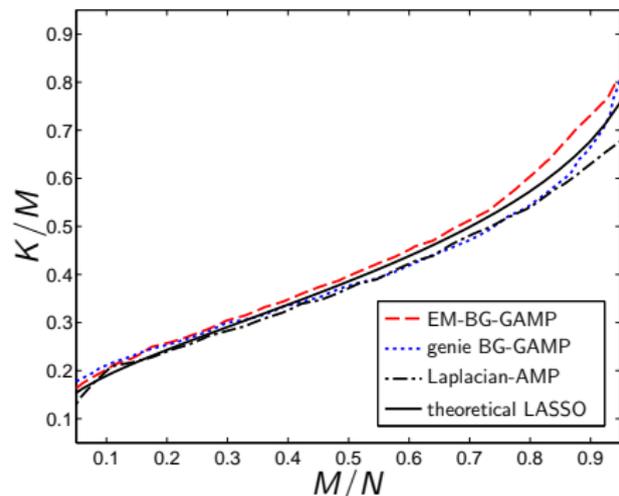
- We now demonstrate EM-BG-GAMP performance for noiseless BG signals.
- As shown, EM-BG-GAMP learns the signal prior parameters well enough to perform as good as genie BG-AMP!
- EM-BG-GAMP performs significantly better than LASSO for this signal class.



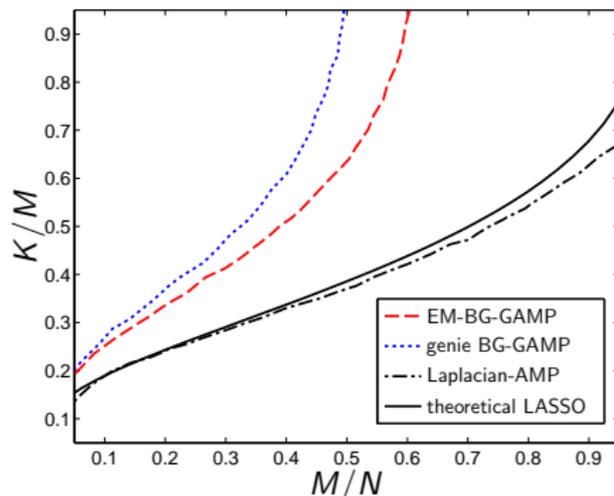
Empirical noiseless Bernoulli-Gaussian PTCs

# EM-BG-GAMP PTC (cont.)

- The good performance of EM-BG-AMP is not limited to BG signals.



Empirical noiseless Bernoulli-Rademacher PTCs

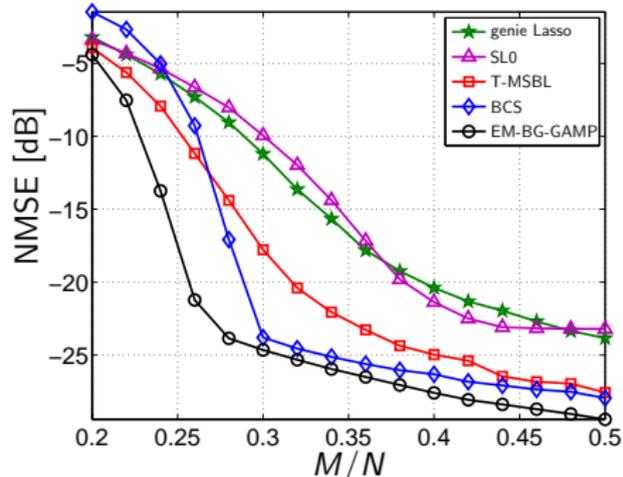


Empirical noiseless Bernoulli PTCs

- For Bernoulli distributions, EM-BG-GAMP was able to recover nearly all signal realizations (99.8%) when  $M/N > 0.65$ !

# Noisy Signal Recovery

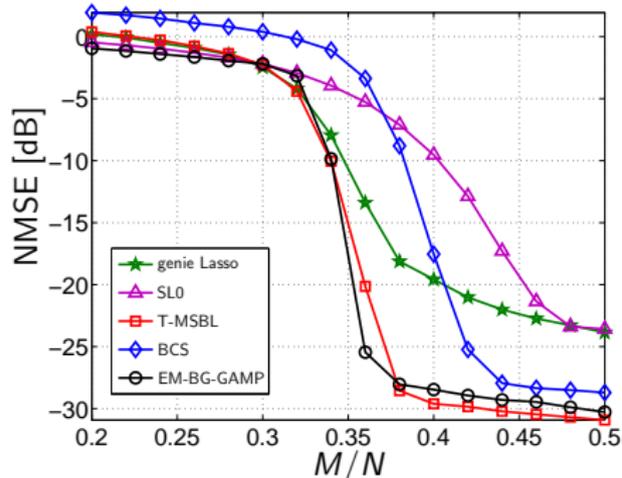
- We now compare EM-BG-GAMP to state-of-the-art CS algorithms for noisy signal recovery using normalized MSE.
- For BG signals, fix  $N = 1000$ ,  $K = 100$ ,  $\text{SNR} = 25\text{dB}$  and vary  $M$ .
- EM-BG-GAMP outperforms the other algorithms for all meaningful  $M/N$ .
- The other “Bayesian” approaches, BCS and SBL, exhibit the next best performance.



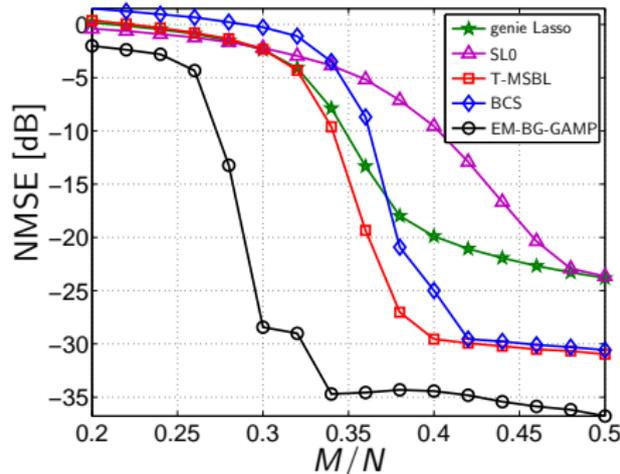
Noisy Bernoulli-Gaussian recovery NMSE.

# Noisy Signal Recovery (cont.)

- We also see excellent NMSE for other  $K$ -sparse distributions:



Noisy Bernoulli-Rademacher recovery NMSE.

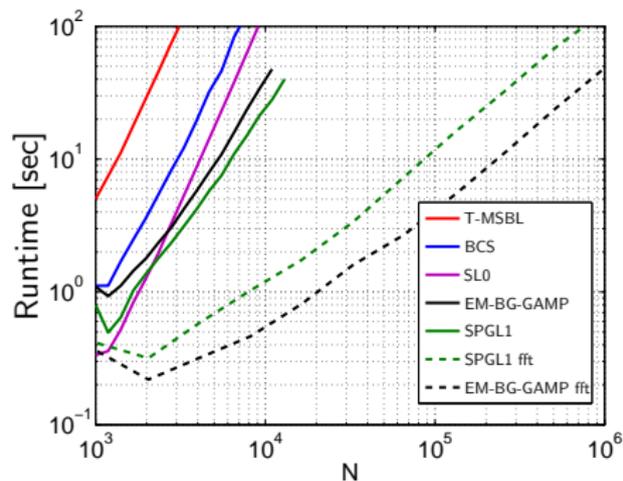


Noisy Bernoulli recovery NMSE.

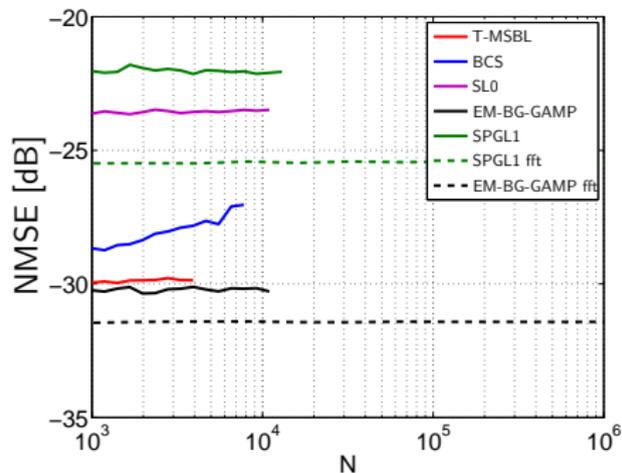
- For Bernoulli signals especially, EM-BG-GAMP exhibits a huge improvement over the other algorithms.

# Algorithm Complexity

- We now compare algorithm complexity. Fix  $M = 0.5N$ ,  $K = 0.1N$ ,  $\text{SNR} = 25\text{dB}$ , and vary  $N$ . Results averaged over 50 iterations.



Noisy Bernoulli-Rademacher recovery time.

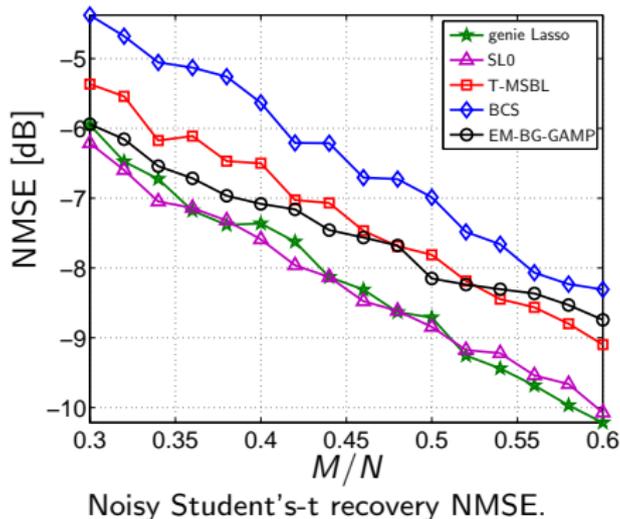


Noisy Bernoulli-Rademacher recovery NMSE.

- For large  $N$ , EM-BG-AMP has state-of-the-art complexity.

# EM-BG-GAMP Limitations

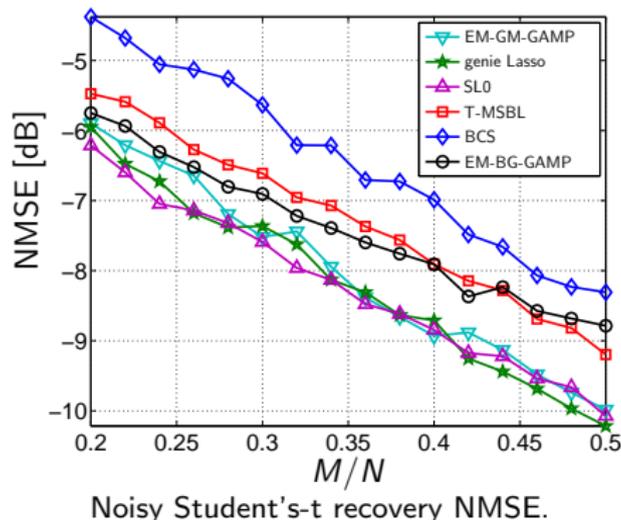
- EM-BG-GAMP is outperformed by genie-LASSO and SL0 with a *non-compressible* Student's-t signal.



- Interestingly, the algorithms that performed best for sparse signals performed the worse for the Student's-t.

- We proposed an extension of BG-AMP wherein the signal and noise distributional parameters were automatically learned via the EM algorithm.
- Advantages of EM-BG-AMP
  - State-of-the-art NMSE performance for a wide class of signal/matrix types.
  - State-of-the-art complexity scaling as problem dimensions get large.
  - No tuning parameters.
- Limitations of EM-BG-AMP
  - If the true signal/noise pdfs cannot be well matched by BG/Gaussian priors, then performance may suffer.
- To address this limitation, we are working on a Gaussian-Mixture version (EM-GM-AMP) with automatic selection of the mixture order.

- Our new EM-GM-GAMP algorithm may alleviate the shortcomings seen in recovering a *non-compressible* Student's-t signal.



- Details coming soon.

Matlab code is publicly available at  
<http://ece.osu.edu/~vilaj/EMBGAMP/EMBGAMP.html>

Thanks!

# Explicit Results

- GAMP outputs:

$$\hat{x} = \pi(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}) \gamma(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q})$$

$$\nu^x = \pi(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}) (\beta(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}) + |\gamma(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q})|^2) - (\pi(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}))^2 |\gamma(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q})|^2,$$

where

$$\rho(s = 1|y) \triangleq \pi(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}) \triangleq \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{\lambda}{1-\lambda} \frac{\mathcal{N}(\hat{r}; \theta, \phi + \nu^r)}{\mathcal{N}(\hat{r}; 0, \nu^r)}\right)^{-1}}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[x|y, s = 1] \triangleq \gamma(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}) \triangleq \frac{\hat{r}/\nu^r + \theta/\phi}{1/\nu^r + 1/\phi}$$

$$\text{var}(x|y, s = 1) \triangleq \beta(\hat{r}, \nu^r; \mathbf{q}) \triangleq \frac{1}{1/\nu^r + 1/\phi}.$$

- EM updates:

$$\lambda^{i+1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \pi(\hat{r}_n, \nu_n^r; \mathbf{q}^i). \quad \theta^{i+1} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{i+1} N} \sum_{n=1}^N \pi(\hat{r}_n, \nu_n^r; \mathbf{q}^i) \gamma(\hat{r}_n, \nu_n^r; \mathbf{q}^i)$$

$$\phi^{i+1} = \frac{1}{\lambda^{i+1} N} \sum_{n=1}^N \pi(\hat{r}_n, \nu_n^r; \mathbf{q}^i) \left( |\theta^i - \gamma(\hat{r}_n, \nu_n^r; \mathbf{q}^i)|^2 + \beta(\hat{r}_n, \nu_n^r; \mathbf{q}^i) \right)$$