

# Supplementary of “Model Selection for High Dimensional Quadratic Regression via Regularization”

## Supplementary A: Theorem 2

In this supplementary to our paper, we show a generalized version of Theorem 1 without Gaussian assumption. Similar as in our paper, constants  $C_1, C_2, \dots$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots$  are locally defined and may take different values in different sections. We start with a brief review of definition of a subgaussian random variable and its properties.

A random variable  $X$  is called  $b$ -subgaussian if for some  $b > 0$ ,  $E(e^{tX}) \leq e^{b^2 t^2 / 2}$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . The set of all subgaussian random variables is closed under linear operation by the following proposition.

**Proposition 1** *Let  $X_i$  be  $b_i$ -subgaussian for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then  $a_1 X_1 + \dots + a_n X_n$  is  $B$ -subgaussian with  $B = \sum_{i=1}^n |a_i| b_i$ . Moreover, if  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independent,  $a_1 X_1 + \dots + a_n X_n$  is  $B$ -subgaussian with  $B = (\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 b_i^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .*

Moreover, the tail probability of a subgaussian variable can be well controlled.

**Proposition 2** *If  $X$  is  $b$ -subgaussian, then  $\mathbf{P}(|X| > t) \leq 2e^{-\frac{t^2}{2b^2}}$  for all  $t > 0$ . Moreover, there exists a positive constant, say  $a = 1/6b^2$ , such that  $Ee^{aX^2} \leq 2$ .*

These well-known results can be found, e.g., in Rivasplata (2012).

**Condition (SG)**  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  are IID random vectors from an elliptical distribution with marginal  $b$ -subgaussian distribution. Moreover,  $\{\varepsilon_i\}_{i=1}^n$  are IID with  $b$ -subgaussian distribution.

We still use  $\Sigma$  and  $\Sigma_{\mathcal{AB}}$  denote the covariance matrix of  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and its submatrix corresponding to index sets  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathbf{B} = (B_{jk})$  is the coefficient matrix for interaction effects with  $B_{jk} = \beta_{j,k}/2$ , ( $j \neq k$ ) and  $B_{jj} = \beta_{j,j}$ .  $\Lambda_{\min}(\mathbf{A})$  and  $\Lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{A})$  denote the smallest and largest eigenvalues of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . We need the following technical conditions:

(C1) (Irrepresentable Condition)  $\|\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}^c\mathcal{S}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}})^{-1}\|_{\infty} \leq 1 - \gamma$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$ .

(C2) (Eigenvalue Condition)  $\Lambda_{\min}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}}) \geq C_{\min} > 0$ .

(C3) (Dimensionality and Sparsity)  $s \log p = o(n)$  and  $s(\log s)^{\frac{1}{2}} = o(n^{\frac{1}{3}})$ .

(C4) (Coefficient Matrix)  $\mathbf{B}$  is sparse and supported in a submatrix  $\mathbf{B}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}}$ .  $\Lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{B}^2) = \Lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{B}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}}^2) \leq C_{\mathbf{B}}^2$  for a positive constant  $C_{\mathbf{B}}$ .

Condition (C3) is employed to replace (6) in Theorem 1. Similar conditions are standard in the literature. Condition (C4) on  $\mathbf{B}$  is used to control the overall interaction effect, which is treated as noise in stage one.  $\Lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{B})$  can be bounded, e.g., by  $\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_1$ .

**Theorem 2** *Suppose that conditions (SG), (C1)-(C4) hold. For  $\lambda_n \gg \tau (\log p/n)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , with probability tending to 1, the LASSO has a unique solution  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_L$  with support contained within  $\mathcal{S}$ . Moreover, if  $\beta_{\min} = \min_{j \in \mathcal{S}} |\beta_j| > 2(s^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2/s + \lambda_n s^{\frac{1}{2}})/C_{\min}$ , then  $\text{sign}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_L) = \text{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{M}})$ .*

Note that  $\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2 = \text{tr}(B^2) \leq sC_{\mathbf{B}}^2$ , so  $\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2/s \leq C_{\mathbf{B}}s^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

## Supplementary B: Proof of Theorem 2

Recall that we use (W1), (W2),... to denote the formula (1), (2),... in Wainwright (2009). The  $n$ -vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is the imaginary noise at Stage 1, which is the sum of the subgaussian noise  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$  and the interaction effects  $(\mathbf{u}_1^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n^{\top} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}})^{\top}$ .

*Part I: Verifying strict dual feasibility.*

We show that inequality  $|Z_j| < 1$  holds for each  $j \in \mathcal{S}^c$ , with overwhelming probability, where  $Z_j$  is defined in (W10). For every  $j \in \mathcal{S}^c$ , conditional on  $\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}$ , (W37) gives a

decomposition  $Z_j = A_j + B_j$  where

$$\begin{aligned} A_j &= \mathbf{E}_j^\top \left\{ \mathbf{X}_S (\mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{X}_S)^{-1} \check{\mathbf{z}}_S + \Pi_{\mathbf{X}_S^\perp} \left( \frac{\boldsymbol{\omega}}{\lambda_n n} \right) \right\} \\ B_j &= \Sigma_{jS} (\Sigma_{SS})^{-1} \check{\mathbf{z}}_S, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{E}_j^\top = \mathbf{X}_j^\top - \Sigma_{jS} (\Sigma_{SS})^{-1} \mathbf{X}_S^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with entries  $E_{ij}$  that is  $2b$ -subgaussian by Proposition 1 and condition (C1).

Condition (C1) implies

$$\max_{j \in \mathcal{S}^c} |B_j| \leq 1 - \gamma.$$

Conditional on  $\mathbf{X}_S$  and  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ ,  $A_j$  is  $2bM_n^{\frac{1}{2}}$ -subgaussian, where

$$M_n = \frac{1}{n} \check{\mathbf{z}}_S^\top \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{X}_S}{n} \right)^{-1} \check{\mathbf{z}}_S + \left\| \Pi_{\mathbf{X}_S^\perp} \left( \frac{\boldsymbol{\omega}}{\lambda_n n} \right) \right\|_2^2.$$

We need the following lemma that is proved in Supplementary C.

**Lemma 2** For any  $\epsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$ , define the event  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}(\epsilon) = \{M_n > \overline{M}_n(\epsilon)\}$ , where

$$\overline{M}_n(\epsilon) = \frac{2s}{C_{\min} n} + \frac{4(\sigma^2 + \tau^2)}{\lambda_n^2 n}.$$

Then  $\mathbf{P}(\overline{\mathcal{T}}(\epsilon)) \leq C_1 s^2 \exp(-C_2 n^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon^2)$  for some  $C_1, C_2 > 0$ .

By Lemma 2,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P} \left( \max_{j \in \mathcal{S}^c} |Z_j| \geq 1 \right) &\leq \mathbf{P} \left( \max_{j \in \mathcal{S}^c} |A_j| \geq \gamma \right) \\ &\leq \mathbf{P} \left( \max_{j \in \mathcal{S}^c} |A_j| \geq \gamma \mid \overline{\mathcal{T}}^c(\epsilon) \right) + C_1 s^2 \exp(-C_2 n^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon^2). \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Conditional on  $\overline{\mathcal{T}}^c(\epsilon)$ ,  $A_j$  is  $2b\overline{M}_n^{\frac{1}{2}}(\epsilon)$ -subgaussian, so by Proposition 2

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \max_{j \in \mathcal{S}^c} |A_j| \geq \gamma \mid \overline{\mathcal{T}}^c(\epsilon) \right) \leq 2(p-s) \exp \left( -\frac{\gamma^2}{8b^2 \overline{M}_n(\epsilon)} \right),$$

where the right hand side goes to 0 by condition (C3). Therefore,  $\max_{j \in \mathcal{S}^c} |Z_j| < 1$  holds with probability tending to 1.

*Part II: Sign consistency.*

In order to show sign consistency, by Lemma 3 in Wainwright (2009) it is sufficient to show

$$\text{sign}(\beta_j + \Delta_j) = \text{sign}(\beta_j), \quad \text{for all } j \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (21)$$

where

$$\Delta_j = \mathbf{e}_j^\top \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{X}_S}{n} \right)^{-1} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_S^\top \boldsymbol{\omega} - \lambda_n \text{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_S) \right].$$

It is straightforward that

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{j \in \mathcal{S}} |\Delta_j| &\leq \left\| \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{X}_S}{n} \right)^{-1} \right\|_2 \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_S^\top \boldsymbol{\omega} - \lambda_n \text{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_S) \right\|_2 \\ &\leq \left\| \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{X}_S}{n} \right)^{-1} \right\|_2 \left( \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_S^\top \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \right\|_2 + \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{y}_I \right\|_2 + \|\lambda_n \text{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_S)\|_2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3,

$$\left\| \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{X}_S}{n} \right)^{-1} \right\|_2 < 2/C_{\min},$$

with probability at least  $1 - s^2 C_3 \exp(-C_4 n/s^2)$ . Moreover,

$$\|\lambda_n \text{sign}(\boldsymbol{\beta}_S)\|_2 \leq \lambda_n s^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

$$\left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_S^\top \mathbf{y}_I \right\|_2 \leq \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_I\|_2 \max_{j,k,\ell \in \mathcal{S}} \left\{ \left| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_j^\top (\mathbf{X}_k \star \mathbf{X}_\ell) \right| \right\},$$

where  $\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_j^\top (\mathbf{X}_k \star \mathbf{X}_\ell)$  is a sample third moment. By Remark B.2 and Lemma B.5 in Hao & Zhang (2014),

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_j^\top (\mathbf{X}_k \star \mathbf{X}_\ell) \right| > \epsilon \right) \leq c_1 \exp(-c_2 n^{\frac{2}{3}} \epsilon^2).$$

Because  $|\mathcal{S}| = s$ , we have

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}} \right\|_2 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2 \epsilon \right) \leq s^3 c_1 \exp(-c_2 n^{\frac{2}{3}} \epsilon^2).$$

which, with  $\epsilon = 1/s$  leads to

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}} \right\|_2 \geq \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2 s^{-1} \right) \leq s^3 c_1 \exp(-c_2 n^{\frac{2}{3}} / s^2).$$

Similarly,

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \right\|_2 > s^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon \right) < s c_3 \exp(-c_4 n \epsilon^2),$$

which, with  $\epsilon = 1/s$  leads to

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left\| \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \right\|_2 > s^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) < s c_3 \exp(-c_4 n / s^2).$$

Overall, with probability greater than  $1 - c_5 s^3 \exp(-c_6 n^{\frac{2}{3}} / s^2)$ ,

$$\max_{j \in \mathcal{S}} |\Delta_j| \leq 2 \left( s^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2 s^{-1} + \lambda_n s^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) / C_{\min} = g(\lambda_n).$$

Therefore (21) holds when  $\beta_{\min} > g(\lambda_n)$ .  $\square$

### Supplementary C: Proof of Lemma 2.

The first summand of  $M_n$  can be bounded as

$$\frac{1}{n} \check{\mathbf{z}}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}}{n} \right)^{-1} \check{\mathbf{z}}_{\mathcal{S}} \leq \frac{2s}{nC_{\min}}$$

with probability at least  $1 - s^2 C_3 \exp(-C_4 n / s^2)$ , where  $C_3, C_4$  are positive constants. It directly follows the fact  $\|\check{\mathbf{z}}_{\mathcal{S}}\|_2^2 \leq s$  and Lemma 3 in Supplementary D, which says the largest eigenvalue of  $\left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}}{n} \right)^{-1}$  can be controlled by  $2/C_{\min}$ .

For the second summand, because  $\Pi_{\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\perp}}$  is an orthogonal projection matrix and  $\boldsymbol{\omega} = \boldsymbol{\epsilon} + \mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}$ , we have

$$\left\| \Pi_{\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\perp}} \left( \frac{\boldsymbol{\omega}}{\lambda_n n} \right) \right\|_2^2 \leq \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\omega}\|_2^2}{\lambda_n^2 n^2} \leq \frac{2}{\lambda_n^2 n} \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}\|_2^2 + \|\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2^2}{n}.$$

As  $\{\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  are IID subgaussian, by Proposition 2, and Lemma B.4 in Hao & Zhang (2014), we have

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \frac{\|\boldsymbol{\epsilon}\|_2^2}{n} \leq (1 + \epsilon)\sigma^2 \right) \leq c_1 \exp(-c_2 n \epsilon^2). \quad (22)$$

On the other hand,

$$\|\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2^2 - n\tau^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{u}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}})^2 - \tau^2,$$

is a sum of mean zero independent random variables.

Define  $W_i = \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}})^2}{\tau^2} - 1$ , then  $\mathbf{E}(W_i) = 0$ . By condition (C4),

$$\mathbf{u}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{B} \mathbf{x}_i) = (\mathbf{x}_i)_{\mathcal{S}}^\top \mathbf{B}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}_i)_{\mathcal{S}} - \mathbf{E}((\mathbf{x}_i)_{\mathcal{S}}^\top \mathbf{B}_{\mathcal{S}\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}_i)_{\mathcal{S}}).$$

So  $W_i$  is a degree 4 polynomial of subgaussian variables dominated by  $[C_{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{x}_i)_{\mathcal{S}}^\top (\mathbf{x}_i)_{\mathcal{S}}]^2$ , which is, up to the constant  $C_{\mathbf{B}}^2$ , a summation of at most  $s^2$  degree 4 monomials of subgaussian variables. The tail probability of each of these monomials can be bounded as in Lemma B.5 in Hao & Zhang (2014). Therefore, we have

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left| \sum_{i=1}^n W_i \right| > n\epsilon \right) \leq c_3 s^2 \exp(-c_4 n^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon^2),$$

for some positive constants  $c_3, c_4$ . That is

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left| \|\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2^2 - n\tau^2 \right| \geq \tau^2 n \epsilon \right) \leq c_3 s^2 \exp(-c_4 n^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon^2),$$

which implies

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \frac{\|\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}\|_2^2}{n} \leq (1 + \epsilon)\tau^2 \right) \leq c_3 s^2 \exp(-c_4 n^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon^2). \quad (23)$$

(22) and (23) imply

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \left\| \Pi_{\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{S}}^\perp} \left( \frac{\boldsymbol{\omega}}{\lambda_n n} \right) \right\|_2^2 \geq (1 + \epsilon) \frac{2(\sigma^2 + \tau^2)}{\lambda_n^2 n} \right) \leq c_5 s^2 \exp(-c_6 n^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon^2),$$

for some positive constants  $c_5, c_6$ . With  $\epsilon = 1$ , the conclusion of Lemma 2 follows.  $\square$

**Supplementary D: Lemma 3 and its proof.**

**Lemma 3** Under conditions (SG) and (C3), we have

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \Lambda_{\min} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}}{n} \right) > C_{\min}/2 \right) > 1 - s^2 C_3 \exp(-C_4 n/s^2) \rightarrow 1,$$

where  $C_{\min} = \Lambda_{\min}(\Sigma_{SS})$ ,  $C_3 > 0$ ,  $C_4 > 0$ .

**Proof.** We need bound

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \sup_{\|\mathbf{v}\|_2=1} |\mathbf{v}^{\top} (\Sigma_{SS} - \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}/n) \mathbf{v}| > \epsilon \right). \quad (24)$$

For easy presentation, we assume that the  $s$ -vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is indexed by  $\mathcal{S}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & |\mathbf{v}^{\top} (\Sigma_{SS} - \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}/n) \mathbf{v}| \\ & \leq \sum_{j,k \in \mathcal{S}} |v_j v_k| |\Sigma_{jk} - \mathbf{X}_j^{\top} \mathbf{X}_k/n| \\ & \leq \|\mathbf{v}\|_1^2 \max_{j,k \in \mathcal{S}} |\Sigma_{jk} - \mathbf{X}_j^{\top} \mathbf{X}_k/n| \\ & \leq s \max_{j,k \in \mathcal{S}} |\Sigma_{jk} - \mathbf{X}_j^{\top} \mathbf{X}_k/n| \end{aligned}$$

So (24) is bounded from above by

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \max_{j,k \in \mathcal{S}} |\Sigma_{jk} - \mathbf{X}_j^{\top} \mathbf{X}_k/n| > \epsilon/s \right) \quad (25)$$

Following Remark B.2 and Lemma B.5 in Hao & Zhang (2014), it is easy to derive

$$\mathbf{P} (|\Sigma_{jk} - \mathbf{X}_j^{\top} \mathbf{X}_k/n| > \epsilon) < C_3 \exp(-C_5 n \epsilon^2),$$

for constants  $C_3 > 0$ ,  $C_5 > 0$  under subgaussian assumption. Therefore, (25) is further bounded by  $s^2 C_3 \exp(-C_5 n \epsilon^2/s^2)$ . Take  $\epsilon = \min\{C_{\min}/2, 1/2\}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{P} \left( \Lambda_{\min} \left( \frac{\mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}^{\top} \mathbf{X}_{\mathcal{S}}}{n} \right) > C_{\min}/2 \right) > 1 - s^2 C_3 \exp(-C_4 n/s^2) \rightarrow 1,$$

by condition (C3), where  $C_4 = C_5(\min\{C_{\min}/2, 1/2\})^2$ .

## References

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