

Addendum:

Two short proofs regarding the logarithmic least squares optimality in Chen, K., Kou, G., Tarn, J.M., Song, J. (2015): Bridging the gap between missing and inconsistent values in eliciting preference from pairwise comparison matrices, *Annals of Operations Research* 235(1):155-175

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The incomplete logarithmic least squares (LLS) problem has been solved in [1, Section 4]. Theorems 1 and 2 in [2] are special cases, and short proofs can be given with the help of the Laplacian matrix.

Proof of Theorem 2 in [2]: We can assume without loss of generality that $i = 1, j = 2$ and elements a_{1k}, a_{2k} and their reciprocals are known for $k = 3, 4, \dots, n - m$, and the remaining elements a_{12}, a_{21} as well as a_{1k}, a_{2k} and their reciprocals are unknown for $k = n - m + 1, \dots, n$. Let us write the conditions of LLS optimality, a system of linear equations (30) in [1], it is sufficient to detail the first two rows of the matrix of coefficients.

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|cccc|ccc} n-m-2 & 0 & -1 & -1 & \dots & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & n-m-2 & -1 & -1 & \dots & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \end{array} \right) \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \vdots \\ y_{n-m} \\ y_{n-m+1} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \log \prod_{k=3}^{n-m} a_{1k} \\ \log \prod_{k=3}^{n-m} a_{2k} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix},$$

where $y_i = \log w_i$. The first two equations are

$$(n-m-2)y_1 - (y_3 + \dots + y_{n-m}) = \log \prod_{k=3}^{n-m} a_{1k},$$

$$(n-m-2)y_2 - (y_3 + \dots + y_{n-m}) = \log \prod_{k=3}^{n-m} a_{2k},$$

and their difference results in

$$y_1 - y_2 = \frac{\log \prod_{k=3}^{n-m} a_{1k} - \log \prod_{k=3}^{n-m} a_{2k}}{n-m-2},$$

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or equivalently,

$$\frac{w_1}{w_2} = \left(\prod_{k=3}^{n-m} \frac{a_{1k}}{a_{2k}} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-m-2}}. \quad \square$$

Proof of **Theorem 1** in [2]: Apply the previous proof with $m = 0$. \square

References

- [1] Bozóki, S., Fülöp, J., Rónyai, L. (2010): On optimal completion of incomplete pairwise comparison matrices, *Mathematical and Computer Modelling*, 52(1-2):318–333
- [2] Chen, K., Kou, G., Tarn, J.M., Song, J. (2015): Bridging the gap between missing and inconsistent values in eliciting preference from pairwise comparison matrices, *Annals of Operations Research* 235(1):155–175