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### A geometric (and partial) introduction to Dimensionality Reduction F. Chazal Geometrica Group INRIA Saclay

To download these slides:

http://geometrica.saclay.inria.fr/team/Fred.Chazal/Teaching/Dim\_Reduction.pdf

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## Introduction



- More and more available data represented by point clouds in high dimensional spaces:
  - measurement and data storage capacities are growing very fast,
  - e.g. images databases, astronomic data,...
- Data often depends upon a small numbers of "independant" parameters (e.g. number of degrees of freedom of an observed system):
   - data sampled around low dimensional shapes (manifolds).
  - underlying manifolds may be highly non linear.

## Introduction



- Need to analyze and visualize these data.
- Dimensionality reduction methods intend to embedded the data in low dimensional spaces while preserving as well as possible (some of) their geometric properties. ⇒ many different approaches that gave rise to a huge literature in the last decade...
- In this talk:
  - a very incomplete and partial introduction to dimensionality reduction,
  - a focus on a small set of geometric-motivated methods (trying to avoid as most as possible technical details).

### Preliminaries and notations

The following notations and assumptions are used all along the talk.

• Data:  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \cdots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  a finite point cloud with mean vector

$$\overline{x} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$$
$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1D} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2D} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{N1} & x_{N2} & \dots & x_{ND} \end{pmatrix}$$

- N: number of data points
- D: ambient dimension
- Underlying/latent manifold:  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  is a *d*-dimensional submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^D$ . The points of X are assumed to be sampled on or around M.

#### Preliminaries and notations

Different "equivalent" points of view:

- 1.  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  is a submanifold and one intends to find an embedding Y of X in some low dimensional space such that the "geometry" of Y is as similar as possible as the one of M in some sense,
- 2. M = f(N) where N is some d-dimensional manifold (the latent manifold - in general N is expected to be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ) and  $f : N \to \mathbb{R}^D$  an embedding with some specified properties (isometry, conformal,...). One then intends to find Y such that X = f(Y). The coordinates of Y are known as the latent variables.
- 3. In some statistical/probabilistic approaches (not considered in this talk):  $X = f(Y) + \varepsilon(Y)$  where  $\varepsilon$  is some noise model.

Find the *d*-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^D$ that best approximates X in a least square sense (and then project X on this subspace)

Α



Let V be a d-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^D$  and let  $\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_D$  be an orthonormal basis s.t.  $\mathbf{u}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{u}_d$  is a basis of  $\vec{V}$ .

pproximate each point 
$$x_n$$
 by  $\tilde{x}_n = \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_{ni} \mathbf{u}_i + \sum_{i=d+1}^D \mathbf{b}_i \mathbf{u}_i$   
Minimize  $E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N ||x_n - \tilde{x}_n||^2$  Independent of  $n$ 



Minimizing E with respect to  $\alpha_{ni}$  and  $b_i$  leads to

$$x_n - \tilde{x}_n = \sum_{i=d+1}^D \{ (x_n - \overline{x})^T \mathbf{u}_i \} \mathbf{u}_i$$

 $\Rightarrow$  Given  $\vec{V}$  the best affine subspace V is the one passing through  $\overline{x}$  and  $\tilde{x}_n$  is the orthogonal projection on V.

$$E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} ||x_n - \tilde{x}_n||^2$$
$$x_n - \tilde{x}_n = \sum_{i=d+1}^{D} \{(x_n - \overline{x})^T \mathbf{u}_i\} \mathbf{u}_i$$



Now E only depends on  $\mathbf{u}_i$ :

$$E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{i=d+1}^{D} (x_n^T \mathbf{u}_i - \overline{x}^T \mathbf{u}_i)^2 = \sum_{i=d+1}^{D} \mathbf{u}_i^T C \mathbf{u}_i$$

where

$$C = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} (x_n - \overline{x}) (x_n - \overline{x})^T$$
 is the covariance matrix of X

Find the *d*-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^D$ that best approximates X in a least square sense (and then project X on this subspace)



**Solution:** the space spanned by the d eigenvectors corresponding to the d largest eigenvalues of the covariance matrix

$$C = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} (x_n - \overline{x})(x_n - \overline{x})^T$$

## PCA: example





3D-proj: light



2D-proj: pose 1

Dimension: 64 \* 64 = 4096. N = 698

- 3 free parameters:
- left-right pose,
- up-down pose,
- light pose.



Find a low dimensional "projection"  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  of the data X such as to preserve, as closely as possible, the pairwise distances between data points.

Without loss of gen. we assume that  $\overline{x} = 0$  (and  $\overline{y} = 0$ ).



- The  $N \times N$  matrix of squared pairwise distance:  $D = D_X = (||x_i x_j||^2)$
- Relationship between D and the Gram matrix:  $G = G_X = (x_i^T x_j) = X X^T$ :

$$G = -\frac{1}{2}JDJ \quad \text{where} \quad J = Id_N - \frac{1}{N}\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T = (\delta_{ij} - \frac{1}{N})$$

• Goal: Find  $Y = \{y_1, \cdots y_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  minimizing

$$\rho(D_X, D_Y) = \|G_X - G_Y\|_2^2 = \|\frac{1}{2}J(D_X - D_Y)J\|_2^2$$

Find a low dimensional "projection"  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  of the data X such as to preserve, as closely as possible, the pairwise distances between data points.

Without loss of gen. we assume that  $\overline{x} = 0$  (and  $\overline{y} = 0$ ).



#### Solution:

- Let  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_N \geq 0$  be the eigenvalues of  $G_X$  and  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \cdots, \mathbf{v}_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  an orthonormal eigenbasis.
- $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  minimizing  $\rho(D_X, D_Y)$  is given by the columns of the  $d \times N$  matrix

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\lambda_1} \mathbf{v}_1^T \\ \sqrt{\lambda_2} \mathbf{v}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \sqrt{\lambda_d} \mathbf{v}_d^T \end{pmatrix}$$

**Justification:** 

$$\begin{split} \min_{Y} \|G_X - G_Y\|_2^2 &= \min_{Y} \|XX^T - YY^T\|^2 \\ &= \min_{Y} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N (x_i^T x_j - y_i^T y_j)^2 \\ &= \min_{Y} Tr((XX^T - YY^T)^2) \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} XX^T \text{ and } YY^T \text{ are semidefinite positive: } XX^T &= V\Lambda V^T \text{ and } YY^T &= W\Lambda' W^T \text{ where} \\ - VV^T &= WW^T &= Id_N, \\ - \Lambda &= Diag(\lambda_1, \cdots, \lambda_N) \text{ is diagonal with } \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \cdots \geq \lambda_N, \\ - \Lambda' &= Diag(\lambda_1', \cdots \lambda_d', 0, \cdots, 0) \text{ is diagonal with } \lambda_1' \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_d' \geq 0 \text{ because } Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d. \\ \min_Y Tr((XX^T - YY^T)^2) &= \min_{W,\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda - V^TW\Lambda' W^TV)^2 \quad (\text{use } Tr(AB) = Tr(BA)) \\ &= \min_{Q,\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda - Q\Lambda' Q^T)^2 \text{ with } Q = V^TW \\ &= \min_{Q,\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda^2) + Tr(Q\Lambda' Q^TQ\Lambda' Q^T) - 2Tr(\Lambda Q\Lambda' Q^T) \end{split}$$

Justification:

$$\begin{split} \min_{Y} Tr((XX^{T} - YY^{T})^{2}) &= \min_{W,\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda - V^{T}W\Lambda'W^{T}V)^{2} \quad (\text{use } Tr(AB) = Tr(BA)) \\ &= \min_{Q,\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda - Q\Lambda'Q^{T})^{2} \quad \text{with} \quad Q = V^{T}W \\ &= \min_{Q,\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda^{2}) + Tr(Q\Lambda'Q^{T}Q\Lambda'Q^{T}) - 2Tr(\Lambda Q\Lambda'Q^{T}) \\ &= \min_{\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda^{2} + \Lambda'^{2} - 2\Lambda\Lambda') \\ &= \min_{\Lambda'} Tr(\Lambda - \Lambda')^{2} \end{split}$$

- The minimum is thus obtain for  $\Lambda' = Diag(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d, 0, \dots, 0)$  and one can choose  $Q = V^T W = Id_N \ (\Rightarrow W = V).$
- Since  $YY^T = W\Lambda'W^T$ , one has  $Y = W\Lambda'^{\frac{1}{2}} = V\Lambda'^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

### MDS: example



Dimension: 64 \* 64 = 4096. N = 698

- 3 free parameters:
- left-right pose,
- up-down pose,
- light pose.



#### MDS: remarks

• Let  $v \in \mathbb{R}^D$  be an eigenvector of C with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . One has

$$GXv = XX^TXv = XCv = \lambda Xv$$

so  $Xv \in \mathbb{R}^N$  is an eigenvector of G with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Equivalently if  $w \in \mathbb{R}^N$  is an eigenvector of G with eigenvalue  $\mu$ ,  $X^Tw \in \mathbb{R}^D$  is an eigenvector of C with eigenvalue  $\mu$ .

- IMPORTANT: MDS does not require the knowledge of the coordinates of the points of X. If only the matrix D of the pairwise squared distances between the data points is known, one can still apply MDS by first "double centering" D: G = -<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>JDJ.
- IMPORTANT: If D is not obtained from a point cloud  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ , one can still apply MDS but G may have negative eigenvalues (indeed negative eigenvalues signify that D is non Euclidean). The d-dimensional embedding  $Y_{MDS}$  given by MDS is the one that have the Gram matrix that best approximates  $G = -\frac{1}{2}JDJ$  (Eckart and Young '36): for any  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\|Y_{MDS}Y_{MDS}^T - G\| \le \|YY^T - G\|$$

## Turning non linear



- (Classical) PCA and MDS become inefficient when the data is located around highly non linear manifolds.
- From now on, we assume that the observed data lie on or are close to a d-dimensional submanifold  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ .

### Turning non linear



A subset  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  is a submanifold of dimension d (of class  $\mathcal{C}^k$ ) if for any  $p \in M$ , there exist a neighborhood U of p in  $\mathbb{R}^D$ , a diffeomorphism  $\phi$  (of classe  $\mathcal{C}^k$  between U and an open set V and an affine subspace A in  $\mathbb{R}^D$  such that

 $\phi(U \cap M) = A \cap V$ 

• (Classical) PCA and MDS become inefficient when the data is located around highly non linear manifolds.

From now on, we assume that the observed data lie on or are close to a d-dimensional submanifold  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$ .



- Preservation of the local geometry of the data: LLE intends to find an embedding of the data  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  such that
  - nearby points remain nearby in the target low dimensional space,
  - nearby points remain similarly co-located in the target low dimensional space.

- 1. Build a neighborhood graph  $\mathcal{G}$  with vertex set X.
- 2. Compute weights  $w_{ij}$  that best reconstruct each data point  $x_i$  from its neighbors by minimizing the cost function

$$E(W) = \sum_{i} ||x_{i} - \sum_{j} w_{ij} x_{j}||^{2}$$



3. Compute the vectors  $y_i$  minimizing the quadratic cost

$$\Phi(Y) = \sum_{i} \|y_{i} - \sum_{j} w_{ij} y_{j}\|^{2}$$



1. Build a neighborhood graph  $\mathcal{G}$  with vertex set X.

- k-NN graph (depends on an integer parameter k):  $x_i x_j$  is an edge of  $\mathcal{G}$  iff  $x_j$  is one of the k nearest neighbours of  $x_i$  (and vice-versa).

- **Rips graph** (depends on a real parameter  $\varepsilon > 0$ ):  $x_i x_j$  is an edge of  $\mathcal{G}$  iff  $d(x_i, x_j) \leq \varepsilon$ .



Warning: The choice of the neighborhood graph may be critical!



N quadratic minimizations (with contraints), each involving the local Gram matrix  $G^i = (G^i_{jk}) = ((x_i - x_j)^T (x_i - x_k))$ 

Let  $x \in X$ , let  $x_j$  be its neighbors in  $\mathcal{G}$  and let  $w_j = w_{ij}$ :

$$\varepsilon = \|x - \sum_{j \in N_{\mathcal{G}}(x)} w_j x_j\|^2 = \|\sum_j w_j (x - x_j)\|^2 = \sum_{j,k} w_j w_k G_{jk}$$

where  $G = (G_{jk}) = ((x - x_j)^T (x - x_k))$  is the "local" Gram matrix.

G being semipositive definite, the minimization of  $\varepsilon$  admits a closed form solution:

- Solve the linear system  $G\mathbf{w} = (1, 1, \cdots, 1)^T$
- Rescale the  $w_j$  such that they sum to 1.



Warning: if G is singular or nearly singular (e.g. if the number of neighbors is greater than D), it may need to be regularized by adding a small multiple of the identity matrix ( $\Rightarrow$  penalize large weigths).

#### constraints:

- remove translational degree of freedom:  $\overline{y} = \sum_i y_i = 0$
- remove rotational degree of freedom:  $\frac{1}{N}\sum_i y_i y_i^T = Id_d$

#### Solution:

- $M = (I W)^T (I W)$  with  $W = (w_{ij})$
- compute the (d+1) eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_0, \cdots \mathbf{v}_d$  of M corresponding to the (d+1) smallest eigenvalues  $\lambda_0 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_d$  and discard  $\mathbf{v}_0$ .
- the  $y_i$  are given by the lines of the matrix  $(\mathbf{v}_1\mathbf{v}_2\cdots\mathbf{v}_d)$ .



## LLE: examples



# LLE: examples



### LLE: example



-0.5

-1.5

- 3 free parameters:
- left-right pose,
- up-down pose,
- light pose.



#### ISOMAP (de Silva, Tenenbaum, Langford '00)



Variant of MDS where the matrix of Euclidean distances between data points is replaced by the matrix of the geodesic distances between data points.

#### Algorithm:

- 1. Build a neighborhood graph  $\mathcal{G}$  with vertex set X such that the *geodesic* distances on  $\mathcal{G}$  approximates the *geodesic* distances on M.
- 2. Build the matrix  $D_{\mathcal{G}} = (d_{\mathcal{G}}^2(x_i, x_j))$  of the pairwise squared distances in  $\mathcal{G}$ .
- 3. Apply MDS to  $D_{\mathcal{G}}$ .

#### Geodesic distance approximation

The geodesic distance between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ 

$$d_M(x_i, x_j) = \inf\{l(\gamma) | \gamma : [0, 1] \to M, \gamma(0) = x_i, \gamma(1) = x_j\}$$

in the manifold M is approximated by the length  $d_{\mathcal{G}}(x_i, x_j)$  of the shortest path between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

for all 
$$y \in M$$
 there exists  $x \in X$   
s.t.  $d_M(x, y) < \delta$ .

**Theorem:** [Bernstein & al'00] Let  $\lambda > 0$ . For some small enough  $\delta, \varepsilon > 0$  ( $\delta < \varepsilon$ ), if X is a  $\delta$ -sample of M and if  $\mathcal{G}$  is such that  $(d(x_i, x_j) < \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow (x_i x_j) \text{ is an edge of } \mathcal{G})$  then for all  $x_i, x_j$ 

$$1 - \lambda < \frac{d_{\mathcal{G}}(x_i, x_j)}{d_M(x_i, x_j)} < 1 + \lambda$$

### Geodesic distance approximation

#### Sketch of proof:

Let 
$$d_S(x, x') = \min_P \sum_{j=0}^{p-1} d_M(x_j, x_{j+1})$$
 where  $P = (x_{i_0} = x, x_{i_1}, \dots x_{i_p} = x') \subset X.$ 

 From a distance function property (Federer):

$$\frac{R-\varepsilon}{R}d_S \le d_{\mathcal{G}} \le d_S, \ R = reach(M)$$

• Using that X is a  $\delta\text{-sample}$  of M one "approximately" gets

$$d_M \le d_S \le \frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon - 2\delta} d_M$$

## Theoretical guarantees of ISOMAP



ISOMAP intends to map X into  $Y \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  in such a way that the pairewise geodesic distances in X are as close as possible to the pairwise euclidean distances in Y

 $\implies M$  has to be isometric to a convex open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , i.e. there exists a convex open  $\Omega$  domain in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and an embedding  $f: \Omega \to \mathbb{R}^d$  s.t.  $f(\Omega) = M$  and for all  $y, y' \in \Omega$ ,  $d_M(f(y), f(y')) = ||x - x'||$ .

#### ISOMAP: examples



-20

-30

-40

2D-proj: pose 2

- 3 free parameters:
- left-right pose,
- up-down pose,
- light pose.

## ISOMAP: examples







## ISOMAP: remarks

#### Advantages:

- intend to preserve the "intrinsic metric" of the data.
- come with geometric guarantees

#### Drawbacks:

- ISOMAP is a global method: as in MDS, if the size of the data is very large, the computations of the eignevalues/eigenvectors of G = −0.5JDJ is an issue.
  ⇒ Landmark ISOMAP
- Assuming that  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  is isometric to a convex open set of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is rather restrictive.
  - $\implies$  Conformal ISOMAP
  - $\implies$  Hessian eigenmaps (HLLE)

#### Landmark ISOMAP (de Silva, Tenebaum)

Select n > d landmarks among the data points and compute the  $n \times N$  matrix  $D_{n,N}$  of the squared distances from each data point to the landmarks.

Replace classical MDS by a Landmark-MDS:

- Compute the matrix  $D_n$  of the squared distances between the landmarks and  $G_n = -\frac{1}{2}JD_nJ$ .
- The embedding of the landmarks in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is given by (classical) MDS, i.e. by the  $n \times d$  matrix  $Y_n^T = (\sqrt{\lambda_1} \mathbf{v}_1 \sqrt{\lambda_2} \mathbf{v}_2 \cdots \sqrt{\lambda_d} \mathbf{v}_d)$  where  $\lambda_i$  and  $\mathbf{v}_i$  are the largest eigenvalues/vectors of  $G_n$ .
- Embed the remaining points in the following way: for  $x \in X$ , let  $D_x$  be the vector of the distances between x and the n landmarks and let  $\overline{D}_n$  be the vector of the mean of the columns of  $D_n$ . Then x is sent to

$$y = \frac{1}{2} L^{\#}(\overline{D}_n - D_x) \text{ where } L^{\#} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1^T / \sqrt{\lambda_1} \\ \mathbf{v}_2^T / \sqrt{\lambda_2} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_d^T / \sqrt{\lambda_d} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Landmark ISOMAP: example



Results from V. de Silva, J.B. Tenenbaum, NIPS 15, 2003
## Hessian eigenmaps (HLLE) (D. Donoho, C. Grimes '03)



A "proven" method for isometric embeddings of open sets of euclidean spaces:

- $M = \psi(\Omega), \ \psi : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^d$  isometry and  $\Omega$  does not need to be convex....
- Rely on a (nice) property of a Hessian operator defined on the space of  $\mathcal{C}^2$  functions on M.
- ... but it involves the estimation of  $2^{nd}$  order differential quantities.

## HLLE

 $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be an open connected set and let  $\psi:\Omega \to M$  be a smooth locally isometric embedding.



• Let  $m \in M$ , let  $(x_1, \dots, x_d)$  be an orthonormal coordinate system on  $T_m M$ . The projection  $p_{T_m M}$  of M on  $T_m M$  is well- defined on a neighborhood of m in M. For any  $f \in C^2(M, \mathbb{R})$ , the Hessian of f at m in tangent coordinates is defined by

$$(H_f^{tan}(m))_{ij} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} f(p_{T_m M}^{-1}(x))|_{x=0}$$

• Consider the quadratic form on  $\mathcal{C}^2(M,\mathbb{R})$  defined by

$$\mathcal{H}(f) = \int_M \|H_f^{tan}(m)\|^2 dm$$

#### HLLE



**Theorem [Donoho et al. '03]:** Assume that  $M = \psi(\Omega)$  where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is an open connected set and  $\psi$  is a locally isometric embedding of  $\Omega$ . Then the null-space of the quadratic form

$$\mathcal{H}(f) = \int_M \|H_f^{tan}(m)\|^2 dm$$

is (d + 1)-dimensional and generated by the constant functions and the d original isometric coordinates  $pr_i \circ \psi^{-1}$  where  $pr_i : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$  is the linear projection on the  $i^{th}$  coordinate in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

#### HLLE



#### sketch of proof:

- $H_f^{iso} = H_{f \circ \psi}^{euc} \Rightarrow \mathcal{H}^{iso}(f) = \mathcal{H}^{euc}(f \circ \psi)$ ,  $\forall f \in \mathcal{C}^2(M, \mathbb{R})$ .
- The null-space of  $\mathcal{H}^{euc}$  is the (d+1)-dimensional space of affine functions on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
- $H_f^{tan}(m) = H_f^{iso}(m)$ : - let  $v \in T_m M$  and let  $\gamma_v : [0, \varepsilon) \to M$  a unit speed geodesic s.t.  $\gamma_v(0) = m$  and  $\gamma'_v(0) = v$ . Then  $(f \circ \gamma_v)''(0) = v^T H_f^{iso}(m)v$ . - let  $\delta_v : [0, \varepsilon) \to M$  defined by  $\delta_v(t) = p_{T_m M}^{-1}(tv)$ . Then  $(f \circ \delta_v)''(0) = v^T H_f^{tan}(m)v$ . - the accelerations of  $\gamma_v$  and  $\delta_v$  at 0 are normal to  $T_m M \Rightarrow |\gamma_v(t) - \delta_v(t)| =$

- the accelerations of  $\gamma_v$  and  $\delta_v$  at 0 are normal to  $T_m M \Rightarrow |\gamma_v(t) - \delta_v(t)| = o(t^2) \Rightarrow (f \circ \gamma_v)''(0) = (f \circ \delta_v)''(0).$ 

#### HLLE: examples



#### HLLE: examples



#### Laplacian eigenmaps (M. Belkin, P. Niyogi '02)



[from Belkin et al, Neural Computation, 2003; 15 (6):1373-1396]

- Laplacian eigenmaps intend to embed the data X in a d-dimensional in such a way that close/similar points in X remain close in the low dimensional space.
- Analogy with harmonic analysis on the underlying manifold.

#### **Overview of the method:**

- 1. Build a neighborhood graph  $\mathcal{G}$  (e.g. k-NN or Rips).
- 2. Assign weights  $w_{ij}$  to the edges of  $\mathcal{G}$  representing the "similarity" between the nodes:
  - Heat kernel: if  $(x_i x_j)$  is an edge of  $\mathcal{G}$  then

$$w_{ij} = e^{-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{t}}$$

 $w_{ij} = 0$  otherwise.

- Simple-minded  $(t = +\infty)$ :  $w_{ij} = 1$  if  $(x_i x_j)$  is an edge of  $\mathcal{G}$ ;  $w_{ij} = 0$  otherwise.
- 3. Find  $Y = \{y_1, \cdots y_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  that minimizes

$$E = \sum_{i,j} \|y_i - y_j\|^2 w_{ij}$$

1-dimensional case: find  $\mathbf{y}^T = (y_1, \cdots, y_N)$  of X in  $\mathbb{R}$  that minimize

 $E = \sum_{i,j} (y_i - y_j)^2 w_{ij} \quad \text{(with somme additional constraints - see below)}$ Heavy penalty if close points in X are mapped far away

$$E = \sum_{i,j} (y_i^2 + y_j^2 - 2y_i y_j) w_{ij} = \sum_i y_i^2 D_{ii} + \sum_j y_j^2 D_{jj} - 2\sum_{i,j} y_i y_j w_{ij} = 2\mathbf{y}^T L \mathbf{y}$$

with L = D - W positive semidefinite.

- ⇒ add a constraint to remove a scaling factor (and avoid obvious solution):  $\mathbf{y}^T D \mathbf{y} = 1$  (use *D* rather than *Id* to reflect the respective importance of the vertices in  $\mathcal{G}$ ).
- ⇒ y minimizing E is given by the smallest non zero eigenvalue solution to the generalized eigenvalue problem  $Ly = \lambda Dy$  (note that the eigenfunction corresponding to the eigenvalue 0 is the constant function  $(1, \dots, 1)$  mapping all the data points on a single point - corresponding constraint:  $y^T D(1, \dots, 1)^T = 0$ ).

**General case** - **Minimization of** *E*:

$$E = \sum_{i,j} \|y_i - y_j\|^2 w_{ij} = ?$$

**General case** - Minimization of *E*:

$$E = \sum_{i,j} \|y_i - y_j\|^2 w_{ij} = Tr(Y^T L Y)$$

where D is diagonal with  $D_{ii} = \sum_j w_{ij}$  and L = D - W is the matrix of the Laplacian operator on  $\mathcal{G}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{f}_0, \dots, \mathbf{f}_d$  be the solutions of the generalized eigenvector problem

 $L\mathbf{f} = \lambda D\mathbf{f}$ 

ordered according to increasing eigenvalues:

$$L\mathbf{f}_0 = \lambda_0 D\mathbf{f}_0, \cdots L\mathbf{f}_d = \lambda_d \mathbf{f}_d, \quad 0 = \lambda_0 \le \lambda_1 \le \cdots \le \lambda_d$$

The embedding  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$  of  $x_i$  is given by  $y_i = (\mathbf{f}_1(x_i), \cdots, \mathbf{f}_d(x_i))$  (Note that  $\mathbf{f}_0$  corresponding to the eigenvalue 0 is discarded).

#### Laplacian eigenmaps: examples







Dimension: 64 \* 64 = 4096. N = 698

- 3 free parameters:
- left-right pose,
- up-down pose,
- light pose.



k = 12 NN, t = 1

2D-proj: pose 2

#### Laplacian eigenmaps: examples





Swiss Roll

k = 12





x 10<sup>-1</sup>







k = 12

k = 30

k = 50

#### Analogy with the Laplace-Beltrami operator

**Problem:** Let M be a compact Riemannian d-manifold. Find the "best" map  $f: M \to \mathbb{R}$  such that the points that are close together on M are mapped close together on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Assuming that f is smooth, the way how close points are mapped far away by f is given by  $\|\nabla f\|$ . So the problem can be stated as find

$$argmin_{\{\|f\|_{L^{2}(M)}=1\}} \int_{M} \|\nabla f(m)\|^{2} dm$$

Stokes' formula: for any vector field X on M,  $\int_M \langle \mathbf{X}, \nabla f \rangle = -\int_M div(\mathbf{X}) f$ 

$$\Rightarrow \quad \int_{M} \|\nabla f(m)\|^2 = -\int_{M} \underbrace{\operatorname{div}(\nabla f)}_{M} f = \int_{M} \mathcal{L}(f) f$$

 $\frown$  Laplace-Beltrami operator on M:  $\mathcal{L}f := -div\nabla(f)$ .

The solution is then given by the eigenfunction  $f_1$  corresponding to the first non zero eigenvalue of  $\mathcal{L}$ .

Belkin, Niyogi'08: the analogy can be turned into a convergence result...

#### Choice of the weights

- Heat flow:  $f : M \subset \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}$  initial heat distribution, u(x,t) heat distribution at time t (u(x,0) = f(x)).
- Heat equation:  $(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathcal{L})u = 0$  has solution given by  $u(x,t) = \int_M H_t(x,y)f(y)$ ,  $H_t$  being the heat kernel.

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) = -\mathcal{L}u(x,0) = -\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\int_{M}H_{t}(x,y)f(y)\right)_{t=0}$$

 $\bullet~{\rm for}~x,y$  close and t small,

$$H_t(x,y) \approx \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{m}{2}}} e^{-\frac{\|x-y\|^2}{4t}} \text{ and } \lim_{t \to 0} \int_M H_t(x,y) f(y) = f(x)$$

• Therefore, for t small,

$$\mathcal{L}f(x) \approx \frac{1}{t} \left( f(x) - \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{m}{2}}} \int_{M} e^{-\frac{\|x-y\|^2}{4t}} f(y) dy \right)$$

#### Choice of the weights

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$$\mathcal{L}f(x) \approx \frac{1}{t} \left( f(x) - \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{m}{2}}} \int_{M} e^{-\frac{\|x-y\|^2}{4t}} f(y) dy \right)$$

• For  $x_i \in X$ ,

t

$$\mathcal{L}f(x_i) \approx \frac{1}{t} \left( f(x_i) - \frac{1}{N} (4\pi t)^{\frac{m}{2}} \sum_{j, \|x_i - x_j\| < \varepsilon} e^{-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{4t}} f(x_j) \right)$$

• note that 
$$\mathcal{L}c^{te} = 0 \Rightarrow (\frac{1}{N}(4\pi t)^{\frac{m}{2}})^{-1} = \sum_{j,\|x_i - x_j\| < \varepsilon} e^{-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{4t}}$$
 and  $\frac{1}{t}$  does not affect the eigendecomposition of the discrete laplacian.

 $\Rightarrow$  Choice of the weights:  $w_{ij} = e^{-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{4t}}$  if  $\|x_i - x_j\| < \varepsilon$ ;  $w_{ij} = 0$ otherwise.

**Input:**  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^D$  and a weight function  $w(x_i, x_j) = w_{ij}$  such that the matrix  $W = (w_{ij})$  is symmetric and semi-definite positive.

- Let d<sub>i</sub> = ∑<sub>j</sub> w<sub>ij</sub> and let p<sub>ij</sub> = p(x<sub>i</sub>, x<sub>j</sub>) = <sup>w<sub>ij</sub></sup>/<sub>d<sub>i</sub></sub> = probability for a random walker on X to make a step from x<sub>i</sub> to x<sub>j</sub> (note that ∑<sub>j</sub> p<sub>ij</sub> = 1). The iterates P<sup>t</sup> = (p<sub>t</sub>(x<sub>i</sub>, x<sub>j</sub>)) of P = (p<sub>ij</sub>) can be seen as the probabilities of going from x<sub>i</sub> to x<sub>j</sub> in t time steps.
- Diffusion operator:

$$Pf(x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} p_{ij}f(x_j)$$

It can be seen as an operator acting on the probability distributions  $\mu^T = (\mu(x_1), \cdots \mu(x_N))$  on X

$$\mu^T P(x_j) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mu(x_i) p_{ij} \text{ with unique stationary dist. } \mu_0(x_i) = \frac{d_i}{\sum_k d_k}$$

• The unique stationary distribution  $\mu_0(x_i) = \frac{d_i}{\sum_k d_k}$  satisfies

$$\mu_0(x_i)p_{ij} = \mu_0(x_j)p_{ji}$$

- Idea: for a fixed time t, define a metric such that two points  $x_i$ ,  $x_j$  are close if the conditional probability distributions  $p_t(x_i, .)$  and  $p_t(x_j, .)$  are close.
- Diffusion distance:

$$D_t^2(x_i, x_j) = \|p_t(x_i, .) - p_t(x_j, .)\|_{\frac{1}{\mu_0}}^2 = \sum_k \frac{(p_t(x_i, x_k) - p_t(x_j, x_k))^2}{\mu_0(x_k)}$$

 $\rightarrow$  Close connection with the spectral theory of the random walk.

• Left and right eigenvectors of P:  $1 = |\lambda_0| \ge |\lambda_1| \ge \cdots \ge \lambda_{N-1}$ 

$$\mu_j^T P = \lambda_j \mu_j^T$$
 and  $P f_j = \lambda_j f_j$  with  $f_j = \frac{\mu_j}{\mu_0}$ 

- Choose normalized  $\mu_j, f_j$ :  $\|\mu_j\|_{\frac{1}{\mu_0}}^2 = 1$  and  $\|f_j\|_{\mu_0}^2 = \sum_k f_j(x_k)^2 \mu_0(x_k) = 1.$
- Biorthogonal decomposition of  $P^t$ :

$$p_t(x_i, x_j) = \sum_k \lambda_k^t f_k(x_i) \mu_k(x_j)$$

• This implies

$$D_t^2(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k^{2t} (f_k(x_i) - f_k(x_j))^2$$
  
Note that since  $f_0 \equiv 1$ , it does not enter into the sum.

• The diffusion distance is then approximated by

$$D_t^2(x_i, x_j) \approx \sum_{k=1}^d \lambda_k^{2t} (f_k(x_i) - f_k(x_j))^2$$

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• Embedding of the data in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ :

$$x_i \mapsto y_i = (\lambda_1^t f_1(x_i), \cdots \lambda_d^t f_d(x_i))$$

The (approximated) diffusion metric becomes the euclidean metric between the data points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

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# Two related geometric problems of fundamental importance

#### • Nearest neighbors search:

- most of the previously presented methods rely on the construction of a neighborhood graph  $\rightarrow$  being able to compute nearest neighbors is mandatory!

- a fundamental problem for many applications.

#### • Landmark selection/downsampling (quantization):

- when the size of the data becomes too large, it becomes necessary to subsample.

- landmark selection must "preserve" the geometric structure of the data.

#### Widely studied problems (huge litterature)!

 $\Rightarrow$  Many theoretical and practical results. Here we just quickly give a few hints on the subject and on existing methods.

**Input:** A point cloud X



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**Query input:** A point q



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**Goal:** Find the nearest neighbor of q in X.





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#### Variants:

- given an integer k, find the first k nearest neighbors of q in X.
- given r > 0, find the points of X at distance at most r from q.

**Input:** A point cloud X, a positive real  $\varepsilon > 0$ 



**Input:** A point cloud X, a positive real  $\varepsilon > 0$ **Query input:** A point q









Same variant with k approximate nearest neighbors: find  $x_1, \dots x_k \in X$  s.t. for any  $i = 1, \dots k$ ,  $d(q, x_i) \leq d(q, x^k(q))$  where  $x^k(q)$  is the  $k^{th}$  nearest neighbor of q.

Many approaches and variants:

- the naive algorithm (brute force): linear size, linear query time
- kd-trees: linear size,  $O(\log n)$  query time (under some restrictive conditions
- fat cells)
- BBD trees: linear size,  $O((\frac{d}{\varepsilon})^d \log n)$  query time
- Voronoï diagrams:  $n^{O(d)}$  size,  $O(\log n)$  query time
- etc....

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Non longer true if one consideres the ANN prob-

In the following of this course ANN or NN search will be considered as a "black box". In practice, you can use for example the ANN library developed by D. Mount : http://www.cs.umd.edu/mount/ANN

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Not canonically defined!

# Landmark selection



Many methods:

- $\bullet\,$  random sampling in X
- k-means algorithm and variants
- furthest point sampling
- etc ...



**Input:** A (large) set of N points X and an integer k < N.

**Goal:** Find a set of k points  $L = \{y_1, \dots, y_k\}$  that minimizes

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{N} d(x_i, L)^2$$



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**Goal:** Find a set of k points  $L = \{y_1, \dots, y_k\}$  that minimizes

$$E = \sum_{i=1}^{N} d(x_i, L)^2$$
This is a NP-hard problem!

The Lloyd's algorithm: a very simple local search algorithm  $\rightarrow$  local minimum.

- Select  $L^1 = \{y_1^1, \dots y_k^1\}$  initial "seeds"; - i = 1;
- Repeat
  - For  $(j = 1; j \le k; j + +) S_j^i = \{x \in X : d(x, y_j^i) = d(x, L^i)\};$
  - For  $(j = 1; j \le k; j + +)$

$$y_j^{i+1} = \frac{1}{|S_j^i|} \sum_{x \in S_j^i} x$$

- *i*++;
- Until convergence

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# the k-means algorithm The Lloyd's algorithm - Select $L^1 = \{y_1^1, \dots, y_k^1\}$ initial "seeds";



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• *i*++;

-i=1;

- Repeat

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### Warnings:

- Lloyd's algorithm does not ensure convergence to a global minimum!
- The speed of convergence is not guaranteed.
- the choice of the initial seeds may be critical (but there exists some strategies  $\rightarrow$  k-means++).



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  - $y_i = \operatorname{argmax}_{x \in X} d(x, L);$
  - $L = L \cup \{y_i\}$



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#### Warning:

• Sensitive to outliers!

# Perspectives: topological and geometric data analysis

Previous methods usually comes with theoretical guarantees when M is a smooth manifold with trivial topology.



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Previous methods usually comes with theoretical guarantees when M is a smooth manifold with trivial topology.



 Geometric structures underlying data sets may carry complex topology/geometry.

 What is the relevant topology/geometry of a point cloud data set?  A recent and fastly growing
 fields based upon topology and geometric measure tools