

## Dimension Reduction

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## 1 Introduction

In this lecture, we will

- continue our discussion of Laplacian Eigenmap from last time;
- introduce a similar dimensionality reduction algorithm *Diffusion Map*;
- discuss some convergence results of eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the graph Laplacian  $L$  to the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the *Laplace-Beltrami operator* when the data points are sampled according to some distribution on the embedded manifold;
- introduce our last dimensionality reduction algorithm for this topic *tSNE*.

## 2 Laplacian Eigenmap

We recall from last time that given a point cloud  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , the Laplacian Eigenmap algorithm first constructs a heat kernel  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , where  $W_{ij} = \begin{cases} e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2}{\epsilon}} & \text{if } i \text{ and } j \text{ are connected} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$ . The

connectedness between  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\mathbf{x}_j$  is defined on the knn graph or  $\epsilon$  graph (notice here this  $\epsilon$  need not be the same  $\epsilon$  used in  $w_{ij}$ 's computation) induced by the pairwise distances between the points. A simpler alternative is to use the adjacency matrix  $A_{ij}$  of the knn or  $\epsilon$  graph as the  $W_{ij}$ .

Then we create a diagonal "degree" matrix  $D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , where  $D_{ii} = \sum_{j=1}^n W_{ij}$ . For simplicity, we will use  $d_i$  in place of  $D_{ii}$  for the following discussion. For practical cases, we will assume  $D$  has full rank, i.e. no  $d_i = 0$ , from here.

The *graph Laplacian* is then defined as  $L = D - W$ , and the *normalized graph Laplacian* defined as  $L_{rw} = D^{-1}L = D^{-1}(D - W) = I - D^{-1}W$ . We define matrix  $P = D^{-1}W$  and we can think of  $P$  as the probability transition matrix of a random walk on the graph  $Pr[X_{t+1} = j | X_t = i] = P_{ij} = W_{ij}/d_i, \forall t$ . So the transition probability is affected by the proximity of neighbors: the closer you are to your neighbor, the more probable you'll transition to it in the next state. We also see now  $L_{rw} = I - P$ .

Before we dive more into the dimensionality reduction algorithm, let's look into some properties and relationships of the matrices we just defined.

**Proposition 1.**  $L$  is positive semidefinite.

*Proof.*

$$\forall \mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \mathbf{f}^T L \mathbf{f} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} W_{ij} (f_i - f_j)^2 \geq 0, \quad \text{where } f_i \text{ is the } i\text{th coordinate of } \mathbf{f}.$$

□

**Proposition 2.** For any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $P$ ,  $\lambda$  is real and  $|\lambda| \leq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $A_s = D^{-1/2}WD^{-1/2}$ . We see  $A_s$  is a symmetric matrix because  $D^{-1/2}$  and  $W$  are symmetric. Thus by spectral theorem,  $A_s$  has all real eigenvalues. We also observe that  $P = D^{-1}W = D^{-1/2}D^{-1/2}WD^{-1/2}D^{1/2} = D^{-1/2}A_sD^{1/2}$ , so  $P$  is similar to  $A_s$ . Because similar matrices have the exact same set of eigenvalues, all the eigenvalues of  $P$  must also be real.

Suppose  $\psi$  is an eigenvector of  $P$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . We choose  $i$  s.t.  $|\psi_i| \geq |\psi_j|$ ,  $\forall j = 1, \dots, n$ . Here  $\psi_i$  means the  $i$ th coordinate of vector  $\psi$ .

$\lambda\psi_i = (P\psi)_i = \sum_{j=1}^n P_{ij}\psi_j$ . Taking the absolute value of both sides and using triangle inequality, we have  $|\lambda||\psi_i| = |\sum_j P_{ij}\psi_j| \leq \sum_j P_{ij}|\psi_j| \leq \sum_j P_{ij}|\psi_i| = |\psi_i|$ . Since  $\psi_i$  is the largest in absolute value,  $\psi_i \neq 0$ . Thus  $|\lambda| \leq 1$ .  $\square$

**Remark 1.** (by the Scriber)  $P$  is a right stochastic matrix. The right spectral radius of any right stochastic matrix is at most 1. But a matrix being right stochastic does not always imply all its

eigenvalues are real. For example,  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $P$  has all eigenvalues real specifically because of the symmetricity of  $W$ .

After obtaining the normalized graph Laplacian  $L_{rw}$ , we compute its eigendecomposition. This is achievable because we have just proved that  $P$  is similar to a symmetric matrix  $A_s$  that is eigendecomposable by the spectral theorem. Since  $L_{rw} = I - P$ , we know  $L_{rw}$  is decomposable. Let  $\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n$  be the  $n$  eigenvectors of  $L_{rw}$  with their corresponding eigenvalues  $0 = \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . Then to compress the point clouds  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  into  $d$ -dimension, the eigenmap is defined as  $\Psi(\mathbf{x}_i) = (\psi_2(i), \psi_3(i), \dots, \psi_{d+1}(i)) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , where  $\psi_j(i)$  means the  $i$ th coordinate of the vector  $\psi_j$ .

One way to find the eigenvectors for  $L_{rw}$  is to find the eigenvectors of  $P$  ( $P$  and  $L_{rw}$  have the same eigenvectors) through the eigendecomposition of  $A_s$ . Because  $A_s$  is symmetric and have the same eigenvalues as  $P$  due to similarity, we can find an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  with corresponding eigenvalues  $1 = \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq -1$ . We write this succinctly as  $A_s = U\Lambda U^T$ , where  $U$  is an orthogonal square matrix whose  $i$ th column is  $\mathbf{u}_i$  and  $\Lambda$  is a diagonal matrix with decreasing eigenvalues on the diagonal. We let matrix  $\Psi = D^{-1/2}U$  and see that

$$P\Psi = D^{-1/2}A_sD^{1/2}D^{-1/2}U = D^{-1/2}U\Lambda U^T U = D^{-1/2}U\Lambda = \Psi\Lambda \quad (1)$$

We see from Equation 1 that every column of  $\Psi$  must be an eigenvector of  $P$  and the set of all column vectors forms an eigenbasis of  $P$ .

$$L_{rw}\Psi = (I - P)\Psi = (I - \Lambda)\Psi \quad (2)$$

shows that the columns of  $\Psi$  are already sorted increasingly according to their corresponding eigenvalues in  $L_{rw}$ . So  $\Psi$  gives us the eigenvectors we want in the algorithm.

**Remark 2.** We can similarly define a matrix  $\Phi = D^{1/2}U$  and see that the following is true:

$$\Phi = D\Psi \quad (3)$$

$$\Phi^T\Psi = I \quad (4)$$

$$\Phi\Psi^T = I \quad (5)$$

$$P = \Psi\Lambda\Phi^T \quad (6)$$

$$\Psi^TD\Psi = I \quad (7)$$

$$P^T\Phi = \Phi\Lambda \quad (8)$$

We see from Equation 8 that the columns of  $\Phi$  are the eigenvectors of  $P^T$ . Then the first column of  $\Phi$ ,  $\phi_1$ , is an eigenvector of  $P^T$  with eigenvalue 1. From Equation 3 we see that  $\phi_1 = D\psi_1$ . Because  $P$  is a right stochastic matrix, the first eigenvector of  $P$ ,  $\psi_1$ , must have all the coordinates the same, i.e.

$$\psi = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ c \end{bmatrix}. \text{ As a result, } \phi_1 = c \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ d_n \end{bmatrix}. \text{ This implies that the invariant measure (stationary distribution)}$$

$\pi$  of the random walk specified by  $P$  satisfies that  $\pi_j = \frac{d_j}{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i}$  due to a normalization of  $\phi_1$ .

### 3 Diffusion Map

Diffusion Map [CLL<sup>+</sup>05][CL06] is a similar dimensionality reduction algorithm as Laplacian Eigenmap. For some fixed  $t > 0$ , the diffusion map  $\Psi_t^d(x_i) = (\lambda_2^t \phi_2(i), \dots, (\lambda_{d+1})^t \phi_{d+1}(i))$  compresses every  $x_i$  to a  $d$ -dimensional vector.  $\phi_j$  denotes the same vector as in the previous section, and  $\lambda_j$  is the  $j$ th largest eigenvalues of  $P$ , i.e.  $1 = \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ .

**Definition 1.** The diffusion distance between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  is defined as  $D_t(x_i, x_j)$ , where  $D_t^2(x_i, x_j) = \|\Psi_t^{n-1}(x_i) - \Psi_t^{n-1}(x_j)\|^2$

**Remark 3.** Suppose  $|\lambda_k| \searrow 0$  as  $k \uparrow$ , then when  $t$  is large,  $D_t^2(x_i, x_j) \approx \|\Psi_t^d(x_i) - \Psi_t^d(x_j)\|^2$

**Proposition 3.** If we think of  $P$  as the transition probability matrix for the random walk  $\{X_t\}_{t=1}^\infty$  on the graph indices, meaning  $(P^t)_{ij} = Pr[X_{s+t} = j | X_s = i]$ ,  $\forall s$ , then  $D_t^2(x_i, x_j) = \|(P^t)_{i,:} - (P^t)_{j,:}\|_w^2$ , where  $(P^t)_{i,:}$  means the  $i$ th row vector of  $P^t$  and the squared norm on the right hand side is a weighted  $L^2$  norm where  $w_k = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i}{d_k}$ ,  $\forall k$ .

**Remark 4.** When the graph is connected,  $\lambda = 1$  is of multiplicity 1. From Equation 6 and 4, we know  $P^t = \Psi\Lambda^t\Phi^T$ . As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , only the first eigenvalue which is equal to 1 survives in  $\Lambda^t$ . As a result,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P^t = \psi_1\phi_1^T$ . Because every coordinate in  $\psi_1$  is the same, by the Proposition above, the diffusion distance would become zero for any pair of  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof of Proposition 3.*

$$(P^t)_{il} = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k^t \psi_k(i) \phi_k(l) = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k^t \psi_k(i) \psi_k(l) d_l \quad (9)$$

$$\sum_{l=1}^n ((P^t)_{il} - (P^t)_{jl})^2 w_l = \dots = \sum_{l,l'} [\lambda_l^t \lambda_{l'}^t (\psi_l(i) - \psi_l(j)) (\psi_{l'}(i) - \psi_{l'}(j)) \sum_k \psi_l(k) \psi_{l'}(k) d_k] \quad (10)$$

We see from Equation 7 that  $\psi_l^T D \psi_{l'} = \delta_{ll'}$ . Therefore,

$$\sum_{l=1}^n ((P^t)_{il} - (P^t)_{jl})^2 w_l = \sum_{l=1}^n \lambda_l^{2t} (\psi_l(i) - \psi_l(j))^2 = D_t^2(x_i, x_j) \quad (11)$$

□

## 4 Convergence of Eigenmap

**Definition 2.** Let  $(M, g)$  be a compact Riemannian manifold with no boundary, the *Laplace-Beltrami operator* on  $M$  is defined as:  $\Delta_M : C^2(M) \rightarrow L^2(M)$ ,  $\Delta_M(f) = -\text{div}(\nabla f)$ .

**Remark 5.** We state some properties of the Laplace-Beltrami operator:

- $\Delta_M$  is a linear operator that is positive semidefinite with a discrete spectrum of eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_k\}, 0 \leq \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$ ;
- all eigenfunctions of  $\Delta_M$  are in  $C^\infty(M)$ .
- the operator is "intrinsic" – it only sees the Riemannian metric tensor  $g$  but not the specific embedding in the high-dimensional ambient space.

**Theorem 4.** [BN07] If the point cloud  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$  are i.i.d. sampled uniformly from manifold  $M$  and  $\epsilon_n$  properly set so that  $\epsilon_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

then for each  $k$ ,  $\hat{\lambda}_k \rightarrow \lambda_k$  and  $\hat{\psi}_k \rightarrow \psi$  in probability as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\hat{\lambda}_k$  and  $\hat{\psi}_k$  are the  $k$ th eigenvalue-eigenvector pair of the normalized graph Laplacian, while  $\lambda_k$  and  $\psi_k$  are the  $k$ th eigenvalue-eigenfunction pair of the Laplace-Beltrami operator. More precisely,  $\hat{\psi}_k \rightarrow \psi$  means  $\hat{\psi}_k(i) \rightarrow \psi_k(x_i), \forall i = 1, \dots, n$ .

**Remark 6.** When the point cloud is not uniformly sampled from  $M$  but instead sampled from a distribution  $p$ , the convergence result is as follows:

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon} L_{n,\epsilon} = -\frac{1}{2} (\Delta_M + 2 \frac{\nabla p}{p} \cdot \nabla) + O(\epsilon) \quad (12)$$

, when  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

## 5 tSNE

*t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbor Embedding* (tSNE) [MH08] is the last dimensionality reduction technique we will introduce in this topic. It can achieve good results on real-life datasets such as MNIST. However, there is not a lot of theoretical result behind this method.

tSNE works as follows: for a point cloud  $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ ,

Step 1: For  $i \neq j$ , let  $W_{ij} = e^{-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\sigma_i^2}}$ , where  $\sigma_i$  is tuned for each  $x_i$ . For  $i = j$ ,  $W_{ii} = 0$ .

Let  $P$  be such that  $P_{ij} = \frac{W_{ij}}{\sum_{j'=1}^n W_{ij'}}$ , and initialize  $\bar{P} = \frac{P+P^T}{2}$ . Now  $\bar{P}$  is symmetric.

Step 2: We want to fit  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$ , whose  $i$ th column is  $y_i$ , to have the same transition probability matrix  $Q_{ij}[Y]$  as  $\bar{P}_{ij}$ , where  $Q_{ij}[Y] = \frac{k(\|y_i - y_j\|)}{\sum_{i' \neq j'} k(\|y_{i'} - y_{j'}\|)}$ ,  $k(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ .

The loss function  $C(Y)$  is formulated using KL-divergence and the optimization for  $Y$  is as follows:

$$\min_Y C(Y) = \sum_{i \neq j} \bar{P}_{ij} \log \frac{\bar{P}_{ij}}{Q_{ij}}$$

The gradient of  $C(Y)$  with respect to each  $y_i$  is given by

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial y_i} = 4 \sum_{j=1}^n (\bar{P}_{ij} - Q_{ij})(y_i - y_j)(1 + \|y_i - y_j\|^2)^{-1}$$

The gradient descent update step introduced in [MH08] uses a momentum term to reduce the number of iterations required and works best if the momentum term is small until the map points have become moderately well organized:

$$Y^{(t+1)} = Y^{(t)} + \eta \frac{\partial C}{\partial Y} + \alpha(t)(Y^{(t)} - Y^{(t-1)})$$

, where  $\eta$  is the learning rate and  $\alpha(t)$  is the momentum.

## References

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