

# Review of Independent Component Analysis

Element of Statistical Learning Book, Chapter 14

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## 1 Latent Variables an Factor Analysis

The singular decomposition

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T \quad (1)$$

We can write  $\mathbf{S} = \sqrt{N}\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{A}^T = \frac{\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T}{\sqrt{N}}$   
and we have

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{S}\mathbf{A}^T = \sqrt{N}\mathbf{U}\frac{\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T}{\sqrt{N}} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{V}^T \quad (2)$$

Where  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{X}$  have mean 0, and  $\mathbf{U}$  is an orthogonal matrix. We can interpret the SVD or the corresponding principal component analysis as an estimate of a latent variable model.

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= a_{11}S_1 + a_{12}S_2 + \cdots + a_{1p}S_p \\ X_2 &= a_{21}S_1 + a_{22}S_2 + \cdots + a_{2p}S_p \\ &\vdots \\ X_p &= a_{p1}S_1 + a_{p2}S_2 + \cdots + a_{pp}S_p \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

However, for any orthogonal matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X} &= \mathbf{A}\mathbf{S} \\ &= \mathbf{A}\mathbf{R}^T\mathbf{R}\mathbf{S} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^*\mathbf{S}^* \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Hence there are many such decompositions and it is therefore impossible to identify any particular latent variable as unique underlying sources. The classical factor analysis model has the form ( $q < p$ )

$$\begin{aligned}
X_1 &= a_{11}S_1 + a_{12}S_2 + \cdots + a_{1q}S_q + \varepsilon_1 \\
X_2 &= a_{21}S_1 + a_{22}S_2 + \cdots + a_{2q}S_q + \varepsilon_2 \\
&\vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
X_p &= a_{p1}S_1 + a_{p2}S_2 + \cdots + a_{pq}S_q + \varepsilon_p
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

or

$$X = \mathbf{A}S + \varepsilon \tag{6}$$

Typically the  $S_j$  and  $\varepsilon_j$  are modeled as Gaussian random variables and the model is fit by maximum likelihood.

## 2 Independent Component Analysis

The ICA model has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
X_1 &= a_{11}S_1 + a_{12}S_2 + \cdots + a_{1p}S_p \\
X_2 &= a_{21}S_1 + a_{22}S_2 + \cdots + a_{2p}S_p \\
&\vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
X_p &= a_{p1}S_1 + a_{p2}S_2 + \cdots + a_{pp}S_p
\end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

or

$$X = \mathbf{A}S \tag{8}$$

where the  $S_i$  are assumed to be statistically independent rather than uncorrelated. Intuitively, uncorrelated determines the second cross moment  $\text{Cov}(X)$ , and statistically independent determines all cross moments.

We wish to recover the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  in  $X = \mathbf{A}S$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $X$  has already been whitened to have  $\text{Cov}(X) = \mathbf{I}$ , which implies that  $\mathbf{A}$  is orthogonal. Solving the ICA problem amounts to finding an orthogonal  $\mathbf{A}$  such that the components of the vector random variables  $S = \mathbf{A}^T X$  are independent and non-Gaussian.

Many of the popular approaches to ICA are based on entropy. The differential entropy  $H$  of a random variable  $Y$  with density  $g(y)$  is given by

$$H(Y) = E[-\log g(Y)] = - \int g(y) \log g(y) dy \tag{9}$$

The quantity  $I(Y)$  is called the *Kullback-Leibler* distance or *mutual information*

$$I(Y) = \sum_{j=1}^p H(Y_j) - H(Y) \tag{10}$$

This is the measurement of *Kullback-Leibler* distance between the density  $g(y)$  of  $Y$  and its independence version  $\prod_{j=1}^p g_j(y_j)$ , where  $g_j(y_j)$  is the marginal density of  $Y_j$ . Now, if  $X$  has covariance  $\mathbf{I}$ , and  $Y = \mathbf{A}^T X$  with  $\mathbf{A}$  orthogonal, then we will have

$$I(Y) = \sum_{j=1}^p H(Y_j) - H(Y) \quad (11)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p H(Y_j) - H(X) - \log |\det \mathbf{A}| \quad (12)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p H(Y_j) - H(X) \quad (13)$$

#### *Kullback Leibler Divergence*

$I(Y)$  is a measurement of how one probability distribution is different from another probability distribution. In our case, the two distribution is  $P = g_Y(y)$  and  $Q = \prod_{j=1}^p g_j(y_j)$

The definition of *Kullback Leibler divergence* is

$$D_{KL}(P||Q) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(x) \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} dx \quad (14)$$

which in our case becomes

$$D_{KL}(P||Q) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} dx = \int_{\mathcal{X}} \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} dP = \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \log \frac{g(y)}{\prod_{j=1}^p g_j(y_j)} dG \quad (15)$$

$$= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left[ \log g(y) - \sum_{j=1}^p \log g_j(y_j) \right] dG \quad (16)$$

$$= -E[-\log g(y)] + \sum_{j=1}^p E[-\log g_j(y_j)] \quad (17)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^p H(Y_j) - H(Y) \quad (18)$$

since we have  $Y \sim f_Y(y)$ , and  $Y = \mathbf{A}^T X$ , where we can get  $X = \mathbf{A}Y$ , and the *PDF* of  $X$  is  $f_X(x) = f_Y(x) \|\mathbf{A}\|$

$$H(X) = E[-\log g_X(x)] = -E \left[ \log (\|\mathbf{A}\| \cdot g_Y(x)) \right] \quad (19)$$

$$= -E \left[ \log \|\mathbf{A}\| + \log g_Y(x) \right] \quad (20)$$

$$= -\log \|\mathbf{A}\| - E[-\log g_Y(x)] \quad (21)$$

$$= -\log \|\mathbf{A}\| + H[Y] \quad (22)$$

$$= H[Y] \quad (23)$$

For convenience, rather than using the entropy  $H(Y_j)$ , Hyvarinen and Oja (2000) uses the negentropy measure  $J(Y_j)$  defined by

$$J(Y_j) = H(Z_j) - H(Y_j) \quad (24)$$

where  $Z_j$  is a Gaussian random variable with the same variance as  $Y_j$ . They proposed simple approximations to negentropy which can be computed and optimized on the data.

$$J(Y_j) \approx \left( E[G(Y_j)] - E[G(Z_j)] \right)^2 \quad (25)$$

where  $G(u) = \frac{1}{a} \log \cosh(au)$  for  $1 < a < 2$ .

With pre-whitened data, this amounts to looking for components that are as independent as possible.

### 3 Direct Approach of Independent Component Analysis by a Joint Product Density

Independent component have by definition a joint product density

$$f_S(s) = \prod_{j=1}^p f_j(s_j) \quad (26)$$

And in the spirit of representing departures from Gaussianity, we represent each  $f_j$  as

$$f_j(s_j) = \phi(s_j) \exp\{g_j(s_j)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}s_j^2\right\} \cdot \exp\{g_j(s_j)\} \quad (27)$$

the log-likelihood for the observed data  $X = \mathbf{A}S$  is

$$\ell(\mathbf{A}\{g_j\}_{j=1}^p; \mathbf{X}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^p [\log \phi_j(a_j^T x_i) + g_j(a_j^T x_i)] \quad (28)$$

which we want to maximize subjected to  $\mathbf{A}$  orthogonal and  $g_j$  result in density function. So, we instead maximize a regularized version

$$\sum_{j=1}^p \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N [\log \phi_j(a_j^T x_i) + g_j(a_j^T x_i)] - \underbrace{\int \phi(t) e^{g_j(t)} dt}_{\text{density}} - \lambda_j \underbrace{\int \{g_j'''(t)\}^2(t) dt}_{\text{splines penalty}} \right] \quad (29)$$

The first integral that controls for density is problematic and requires an approximation. We construct a fine grid of  $L$  values  $s_\ell^*$  in increments  $\Delta$  covering the observed value  $s_i$  and count the number of  $s_i$  in the resulting bins:

$$y_\ell^* = \frac{\#s_i \in (s_i^* - \frac{\Delta}{2}, s_i^* + \frac{\Delta}{2})}{N} \quad (30)$$

Step 2 (a), we can then approximate the penalized likelihood by

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^L \left\{ y_i^* [\log(\phi(s_\ell^*)) + g(s_\ell^*)] - \Delta \phi(s_\ell^*) e^{g(s_\ell^*)} \right\} - \lambda \int g'''(s) ds \quad (31)$$

and in practice, we set all  $\lambda_j$  to the same.

Step 2(b), we optimize the  $\mathbf{A}$  with respect to the penalized likelihood function. Only the first terms in the sum involve  $\mathbf{A}$ , and since  $\mathbf{A}$  is orthogonal,  $\phi$  do not depend on  $\mathbf{A}$ . Hence, we need to maximize

$$C(\mathbf{A}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{g}_j(a_j^T x_i) = \sum_{j=1}^p C_j(a_j) \quad (32)$$

1. for each  $j$  update

$$a_j \leftarrow E \left\{ X \hat{g}'_j(a_j^T X) - E[g''_j(a_j^T X)] a_j \right\} \quad (33)$$

2. Orthogonalize  $\mathbf{A}$  using the symmetric square-root transformation  $(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T)^{\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{A}$ . Let  $UDV^T$  be the singular decomposition of  $\mathbf{A}$ , we will have

$$(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^T)^{\frac{1}{2}}\mathbf{A} = (UDV^T V D^T U^T)^{\frac{1}{2}}UDV^T \quad (34)$$

$$= (UD^2 U^T)^{\frac{1}{2}}UDV^T \quad (35)$$

$$= D^{-1}UDV^T \quad (36)$$

$$\mathbf{A} \leftarrow UV^T \quad (37)$$