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Article Talk

Self-organizing map

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A self-organizing map (SOM) or self-organizing feature map

(SOFM) is an unsupervised machine learning technique used to

representation of a higher-dimensional data set while preserving

the topological structure of the data. For example, a data set with

 $m{p}$ variables measured in $m{n}$ observations could be represented as

clusters of observations with similar values for the variables.

These clusters then could be visualized as a two-dimensional

"map" such that observations in proximal clusters have more

high-dimensional data easier to visualize and analyze.

similar values than observations in distal clusters. This can make

An SOM is a type of artificial neural network but is trained using

competitive learning rather than the error-correction learning

produce a low-dimensional (typically two-dimensional)

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Part of a series on **Machine learning** and data mining **Paradigms Problems Supervised learning** (classification • regression)

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(e.g., backpropagation with gradient descent) used by other artificial neural networks. The SOM was introduced by the

Self-organizing maps, like most artificial neural networks,

In most cases, the goal of training is to represent an input

space with *p* dimensions as a map space with two dimensions.

Finnish professor Teuvo Kohonen in the 1980s and therefore is sometimes called a Kohonen map or Kohonen network. [1][2] The Kohonen map or network is a computationally convenient abstraction building on biological models of neural systems from the 1970s^[3] and morphogenesis models dating back to Alan Turing in the 1950s.^[4] SOMs create internal representations reminiscent of the cortical homunculus, [5] a distorted representation of the human body, based on a neurological "map" of the areas and proportions of the human brain dedicated to processing sensory functions, for different parts of the body.

operate in two modes: training and mapping. First, training uses an input data set (the "input space") to generate a lowerdimensional representation of the input data (the "map space"). Second, mapping classifies additional input data using the generated map.

Overview [edit]

Specifically, an input space with *p* variables is said to have *p* dimensions. A map space consists of components called "nodes" or "neurons", which are arranged as a hexagonal or rectangular grid with two dimensions.^[6] The number of nodes and their arrangement are specified beforehand based on the larger goals of the analysis and exploration of the data.

Each node in the map space is associated with a "weight" vector, which is the position of the node in the input space. While nodes in the map space stay fixed, training consists in moving weight vectors toward the input data (reducing a distance metric such as Euclidean distance) without spoiling the topology induced from the map space. After training, the map can be used to classify additional observations for the input space by finding the node with the closest weight vector (smallest distance metric) to the input space vector.

Learning algorithm [edit] The goal of learning in the self-organizing map is to cause different parts of the network to respond similarly to certain input patterns. This is partly motivated by how visual, auditory or other sensory information is handled in separate parts of the cerebral cortex in the human brain.^[7] The weights of the neurons are initialized either to small random values or sampled evenly from the subspace spanned by the two largest principal component

Congress voting patterns. The input data was a table with a row for each member of Congress, and columns for certain votes containing each member's yes/no/abstain vote. The SOM algorithm arranged these members in a two-dimensional grid placing similar members closer together. **The first plot** shows the grouping when the data are split into two clusters. **The second plot** shows average distance to neighbours: larger distances are darker. The third plot predicts Republican (red) or Democratic (blue) party membership. The other plots each overlay the resulting map with predicted values on an input dimension: red means a predicted 'yes' vote on that bill, blue means a 'no' vote. The plot was created in Synapse.

distribution of the training data, and the small white disc is the current training because the initial weights already datum drawn from that distribution. At first (left) the SOM nodes are arbitrarily give a good approximation of SOM positioned in the data space. The node (highlighted in yellow) which is nearest weights.[8] to the training datum is selected. It is moved towards the training datum, as (to a lesser extent) are its neighbors on the grid. After many iterations the grid tends to approximate the data distribution (right). The network must be fed a large

represent, as close as possible, the kinds of vectors expected during mapping. The examples are usually administered several times as iterations. The training utilizes competitive learning. When a training example is fed to the network, its Euclidean distance to all weight vectors is computed. The neuron whose weight vector is most similar to the input is called the

towards the input vector. The magnitude of the change decreases with time and with the grid-distance from the

best matching unit (BMU). The weights of the BMU and neurons close to it in the SOM grid are adjusted

functional form, the neighborhood function shrinks with time. [7] At the beginning when the neighborhood is

and the neighborhood function θ decrease steadily with increasing s, in others (in particular those where t

scans the training data set) they decrease in step-wise fashion, once every T steps.

This process is repeated for each input vector for a (usually large) number

of cycles λ . The network winds up associating output nodes with groups or

patterns in the input data set. If these patterns can be named, the names

During mapping, there will be one single winning neuron: the neuron

whose weight vector lies closest to the input vector. This can be simply

determined by calculating the Euclidean distance between input vector and

can be attached to the associated nodes in the trained net.

1. Randomize the node weight vectors in a map

(BMU). Denote it by \boldsymbol{u}

1. Randomly pick an input vector D(t)

The variable names mean the following, with vectors in bold,

t is the index of the target input data vector in the input data set D

so that the map updates are large at the start, and gradually stop updating.

 $heta((i,j),(i',j'),s) = rac{1}{2^{|i-i'|+|j-j'|}} = \left\{egin{array}{ll} 1/2 & ext{if } |i-i'|+|j-j'|=1 \ 1/4 & ext{if } |i-i'|+|j-j'|=2 \ \dots & \dots \end{array}
ight.$

And we can use a simple linear learning rate schedule $lpha(s)=1-s/\lambda$.

update in half, and their neighbors update in half again, etc.

2. For $s=0,1,2,\ldots,\lambda$

• **s** is the current iteration

• λ is the iteration limit

update in similar ways.

broad, the self-organizing takes place on the global scale. When the neighborhood has shrunk to just a couple

of neurons, the weights are converging to local estimates. In some implementations, the learning coefficient α

BMU. The update formula for a neuron v with weight vector $\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{s})$ is $W_v(s+1) = W_v(s) + heta(u,v,s) \cdot lpha(s) \cdot (D(t) - W_v(s)),$ jackknifing).

weight vector.

eigenvectors. With the latter

alternative, learning is much faster

number of example vectors that

where s is the step index, t is an index into the training sample, u is the index of the BMU for the input vector $\mathbf{D}(t)$, $\alpha(s)$ is a monotonically decreasing learning coefficient; $\theta(u, v, s)$ is the neighborhood function which gives the distance between the neuron u and the neuron v in step s. Depending on the implementations, t can scan the training data set systematically (t is 0, 1, 2...T-1, then repeat, T being the training sample's size), be randomly drawn from the data set (bootstrap sampling), or implement some other sampling method (such as The neighborhood function $\theta(u, v, s)$ (also called *function of lateral interaction*) depends on the grid-distance between the BMU (neuron u) and neuron v. In the simplest form, it is 1 for all neurons close enough to BMU and 0 for others, but the Gaussian and Mexican-hat^[10] functions are common choices, too. Regardless of the

An illustration of the training of a self-organizing map. The blue blob is the

Training process of SOM on a While representing input data as vectors has been emphasized in this two-dimensional data set article, any kind of object which can be represented digitally, which has an appropriate distance measure associated with it, and in which the necessary operations for training are possible can be used to construct a self-organizing map. This includes matrices, continuous functions or even other self-organizing maps. Algorithm [edit]

3. For each node v, update its vector by pulling closer to the input vector:

 $W_v(s+1) = W_v(s) + heta(u,v,s) \cdot lpha(s) \cdot (D(t) - W_v(s))$

2. Find the node in the map closest to the input vector. This node is the **best matching unit**

• D(t) is a target input data vector $oldsymbol{v}$ is the index of the node in the map ullet $oldsymbol{W}_v$ is the current weight vector of node v• *u* is the index of the best matching unit (BMU) in the map • $\theta(u,v,s)$ is the neighbourhood function, • $\alpha(s)$ is the learning rate schedule.

The key design choices are the shape of the SOM, the neighbourhood function, and the learning rate

For example, if we want to learn a SOM using a square grid, we can index it using (i,j) where both

schedule. The idea of the neighborhood function is to make it such that the BMU is updated the most, its

immediate neighbors are updated a little less, and so on. The idea of the learning rate schedule is to make it

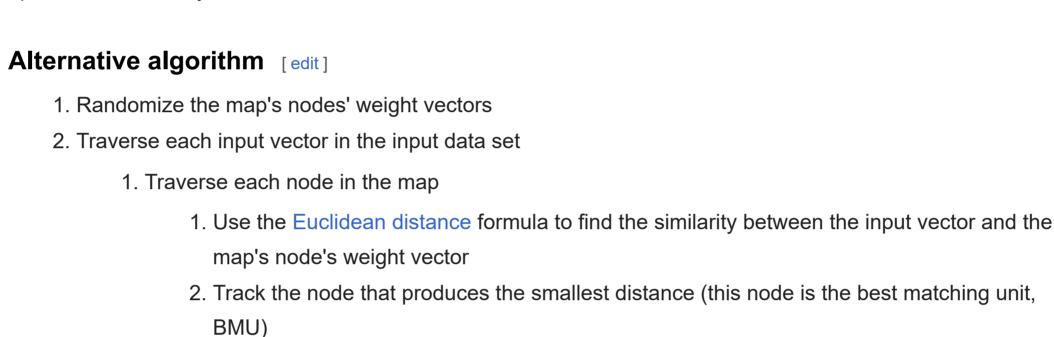
 $i,j \in 1:N$. The neighborhood function can make it so that the BMU updates in full, the nearest neighbors

Notice in particular, that the update rate does *not* depend on where the point is in the Euclidean space, only on

where it is in the SOM itself. For example, the points (1,1),(1,2) are close on the SOM, so they will always

(1,1),(1,100) end up overlapping each other (such as if the SOM looks like a folded towel), they still do not

update in similar ways, even when they are far apart on the Euclidean space. In contrast, even if the points



closer to the input vector

Initialization options [edit]

performed better.[13]

SOM.^{[15][16][17]}

Interpretation [edit]

3. Increase s and repeat from step 2 while $s < \lambda$

advantages of principal component initialization are not universal. The best

initialization method depends on the geometry of the specific dataset.

map) when the principal curve approximating the dataset could be

univalently and linearly projected on the first principal component

(quasilinear sets). For nonlinear datasets, however, random initiation

There are two ways to interpret a SOM. Because in the training phase

weights of the whole neighborhood are moved in the same direction,

similar items tend to excite adjacent neurons. Therefore, SOM forms a

semantic map where similar samples are mapped close together and

dissimilar ones apart. This may be visualized by a U-Matrix (Euclidean

The other way is to think of neuronal weights as pointers to the input

samples. More neurons point to regions with high training sample

concentration and fewer where the samples are scarce.

Project prioritization and selection^[23]

• Failure mode and effects analysis^[25]

Alternative approaches [edit]

Finding representative data in large datasets

• Seismic facies analysis for oil and gas exploration^[24]

representative species for ecological communities^[26]

• The generative topographic map (GTM) is a potential alternative to SOMs. In the sense that a GTM

• The growing self-organizing map (GSOM) is a growing variant of the self-organizing map. The GSOM

preserving. However, in a practical sense, this measure of topological preservation is lacking. [28]

explicitly requires a smooth and continuous mapping from the input space to the map space, it is topology

representative days for energy system models^[27]

space. They form a discrete approximation of the distribution of training

distance between weight vectors of neighboring cells) of the

Principal component initialization was preferable (for a one-dimensional

methods of artificial neural networks, including self-organizing maps. Kohonen originally proposed random initiation of weights.^[11] (This approach is reflected by the algorithms described above.) More recently, principal component initialization, in which initial map weights are chosen from the space of the first principal components, has become popular due to the exact reproducibility of the results. [12] A careful comparison of random initialization to principal component initialization for a one-dimensional map, however, found that the

Selection of initial weights as good approximations of the final weights is a well-known problem for all iterative

2. Update the nodes in the neighborhood of the BMU (including the BMU itself) by pulling them

1. $W_v(s+1) = W_v(s) + heta(u,v,s) \cdot lpha(s) \cdot (D(t) - W_v(s))$

SOM may be considered a nonlinear generalization of Principal components analysis (PCA).[18] It has been shown, using both artificial and real geophysical data, that SOM has many advantages^{[19][20]} over the conventional feature extraction methods such as Empirical Orthogonal Functions (EOF) or PCA. Originally, SOM was not formulated as a solution to an optimisation problem. Nevertheless, there have been several attempts to modify the definition of SOM and to formulate an optimisation problem which gives similar results.^[21] For example, Elastic maps use the mechanical metaphor of elasticity to approximate principal manifolds: [22] the analogy is an elastic membrane and plate. Examples [edit]

was developed to address the issue of identifying a suitable map size in the SOM. It starts with a minimal number of nodes (usually four) and grows new nodes on the boundary based on a heuristic. By using a value called the *spread factor*, the data analyst has the ability to control the growth of the GSOM.^[29] • The conformal map approach uses conformal mapping to interpolate each training sample between grid nodes in a continuous surface. A one-to-one smooth mapping is possible in this approach. [30][31] • The time adaptive self-organizing map (TASOM) network is an extension of the basic SOM. The TASOM employs adaptive learning rates and neighborhood functions. It also includes a scaling parameter to make the network invariant to scaling, translation and rotation of the input space. The TASOM and its variants have been used in several applications including adaptive clustering, multilevel thresholding, input space approximation, and active contour modeling. [32] Moreover, a Binary Tree TASOM or BTASOM, resembling a binary natural tree having nodes composed of TASOM networks has been proposed where the number of its levels and the number of its nodes are adaptive with its environment. [33] • The elastic map approach borrows from the spline interpolation the idea of minimization of the elastic energy. In learning, it minimizes the sum of quadratic bending and stretching energy with the least squares

Cartographical representation of a self-organizing map (U-

Matrix) based on Wikipedia

frequency). Distance is inversely

"mountains" are edges between clusters. The red lines are links

One-dimensional SOM versus principal component analysis

(PCA) for data approximation.

SOM is a red broken line with

principal component is presented

by a blue line. Data points are the

fraction of variance unexplained in

this example is 23.23%, for SOM

it is 6.86%.^[14]

small grey circles. For PCA, the

squares, 20 nodes. The first

proportional to similarity. The

featured article data (word

between articles.

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Thus one can specify the orientation either in the map space or in the data space. SOM has a fixed scale (=1), so that the maps "optimally describe the domain of observation". But what about a map covering the domain twice or in n-folds? This entails the conception of scaling. The OS-Map regards the scale as a statistical description of how many best-matching nodes an input has in the map. See also [edit] • Deep learning Hybrid Kohonen self-organizing map Learning vector quantization Liquid state machine

approximation error.[34] The oriented and scalable map (OS-Map) generalises the neighborhood function and the winner selection.^[35] The homogeneous Gaussian neighborhood function is replaced with the matrix exponential.

 Sparse coding Sparse distributed memory Topological data analysis Further reading [edit]

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