

CSE 392: Matrix and Tensor Algorithms for Data

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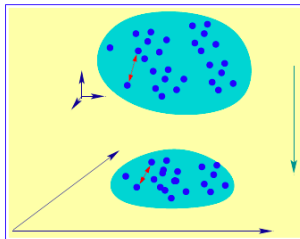
Lecture 7: JL Lemma and subspace embedding

Outline

- 1 Near orthogonal vectors and ϵ -Net
- 2 Gaussian matrix properties
- 3 Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma
- 4 Subspace embedding

High-dimensional vectors

- Often we deal with data vectors that are high-dimensional.
- **Dimensionality reduction:** One popular approach is to embed these vectors on a low-dimensional space.
- What criteria should we use to compute this low-dimensional embedding? What properties of the data do we wish to preserve?



Near-orthogonal vectors

Given a d -dimensional space, what is the largest set of *mutually orthogonal* unit vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_t$ we can have? I.e. with the inner products

$$|\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j| = 0 \quad \forall i, j$$

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Given a d -dimensional space, what is the largest set of nearly orthogonal unit vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_t$? I.e. with the inner products

$$|\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j| \leq \epsilon \quad \forall i, j$$

Suppose ϵ is a constant. E.g. $\epsilon = 1/10$.

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Answer: $2^{\Theta(d)}$

Near-orthogonal vectors

Claim: There is an exponential number of nearly orthogonal unit vectors in d -dimensional space ($\sim 2^d$).

Proof approach: One approach is to use *Probabilistic Argument*. For $t = 2^{\Theta(d)}$, define a random process which generates random vectors $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_t$ that are unlikely to have large inner product

- Show that, with high probability, $|\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j| \leq \epsilon \quad \forall i, j$.
- Hence, there must exist some set of unit vectors with all pairwise inner-products bounded by ϵ .

Proof: Let $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_t$ be normalized Radmacher vectors, i.e., have independent random entries, each set to $\pm 1/\sqrt{d}$ with equal probability.

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j] = ?$$

Let $S = \mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{i=1}^d c_i$, where c_i is random $\pm 1/d$.

S is sum of i.i.d random variables. Lets use Hoeffding's inequality:

Hoeffding Inequality

Let c_1, \dots, c_d be independent random variables with each $c_i \in [a_i, b_i]$. Let $\mathbb{E}[c_i] = \mu_i$ and $\text{Var}[c_i] = \sigma_i^2$. Let $\mu = \sum_i \mu_i$ and $\sigma^2 = \sum_i \sigma_i^2$. Then, for and $\alpha > 0$, $S = \sum_i c_i$ satisfies

$$\Pr[|S - \mu| \geq \alpha] \leq 2e^{-\frac{2\alpha^2}{\sum_i (a_i - b_i)^2}}.$$

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Here, $a_i = 1/d, b_i = -1/d$. $\mu_i = ?$

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We have

$$\Pr[|\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j| \geq \epsilon] \leq 2e^{-\epsilon^2 d/2}$$

For any pair i, j , we have $\Pr[|\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j| < \epsilon] > 1 - 2e^{-\epsilon^2 d/2}$. Taking union bound over all possible pairs, we get

$$\Pr[|\mathbf{x}_i^\top \mathbf{x}_j| < \epsilon] > 1 - \binom{t}{2} 2e^{-\epsilon^2 d/2}$$

Near-orthogonal vectors

- **Result:** In d -dimensional space, there are $t = 2^{\Theta(\epsilon^2 d)}$ unit vectors with all pairwise inner products $\leq \epsilon$.
- **Alternate point of view :** Random vectors tend to be far apart (and roughly equidistant) in high-dimensions.
- **Curse of dimensionality:** If our data distribution is truly random, suppose we want to use say k -nearest neighbors to learn a function or classify points in \mathbb{R}^d , we typically need an exponential amount of data.
- Hope is that there exists low dimensional structure in our data.

Alternate approach: ϵ -Nets

Some definitions:

- **Unit sphere:** Let $\mathcal{S}_p^{d-1} \equiv \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_p = 1\}$.

We will omit p , when $p = 2$, and d when in context.

- **Semi-norms from sets:** For symmetric matrix $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ and non-empty $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, let

$$\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}} \equiv \sup\{|\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x}| / \|\mathbf{x}\|^2 \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{N}, \mathbf{x} \neq 0\}$$

so when $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{S}$, $\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}} \equiv \sup_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{N}} |\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x}|$.

- **Embedding of \mathcal{N} :** For $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $\mathbf{B} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$, and $\beta \in (0, 1]$, $\|\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{I}\|_{\mathcal{N}} \leq \beta \implies \mathbf{B}$ is a β -embedding of \mathcal{N} .
- $\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{I}$ is called the centered Grammian of \mathbf{B} .
- If $\|\mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{I}\|_{\mathcal{S}} \leq \beta$, then \mathbf{B} is a β -embedding of \mathbb{R}^d .

- $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}(\epsilon)$ is an ϵ -net of set \mathcal{P} if it is both:

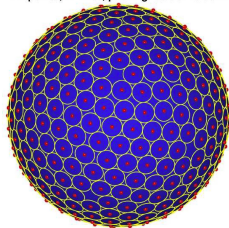
- ▶ ϵ -packing: all $p \in \mathcal{N}$ at least ϵ from \mathcal{N}

$$d(p, \mathcal{N} \setminus \{p\}) \geq \epsilon \text{ for } p \in \mathcal{N}$$

- ▶ ϵ -covering: all $p \in \mathcal{P}$ at most ϵ from \mathcal{N}

$$d(p, \mathcal{N}) \leq \epsilon \text{ for } p \in \mathcal{P}$$

PK points, N = 400, packing radius = 0.0924



Sphere covering number

The unit sphere \mathcal{S} in \mathbb{R}^d has an ϵ -net of size at most $(1 + 2/\epsilon)^d$.

Proof is through a volume argument. Since the points in $\mathcal{N}(\epsilon)$ are ϵ -separated, the balls of radii $\epsilon/2$ centered at the points in $\mathcal{N}(\epsilon)$ are disjoint. Also, all such balls lie in $(1 + \epsilon/2)B_2^d$ where B_2^d denotes the unit Euclidean ball centered at the origin. So, we have

$$\text{vol}(\frac{\epsilon}{2}B_2^d) \cdot |\mathcal{N}(\epsilon)| \leq \text{vol}((1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2})B_2^d)$$

Since, $\text{vol}(rB_2^d) = r^d \text{vol}(B_2^d)$, we get

$$|\mathcal{N}(\epsilon)| \leq (1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2})^d / (\frac{\epsilon}{2})^d = (1 + \frac{2}{\epsilon})^d.$$

ϵ -Net bound

For \mathcal{N}_ϵ an ϵ -net of unit sphere \mathcal{S} in \mathbb{R}^d and $\epsilon < 1$, if matrix \mathbf{W} is symmetric, then

$$(1 - 2\epsilon)\|\mathbf{W}\|_2 \leq \|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}_\epsilon} \leq \|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{S}} = \|\mathbf{W}\|_2$$

and so if \mathbf{B} is a β -embedding of \mathcal{N}_ϵ , then
it is a $\beta/(1 - 2\epsilon)$ - embedding of \mathcal{S} , and so of \mathbb{R}^d .

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Proof: Let unit \mathbf{y} be such that $|\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}| = \|\mathbf{W}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{S}}$.
Since \mathcal{N}_ϵ is an ϵ -net, there is \mathbf{z} with $\|\mathbf{z}\| \leq \epsilon$ and $(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}) \in \mathcal{N}_\epsilon$.
Next,

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{W}\|_2 &= |\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}| = |(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})^\top \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})| \\ &\leq |(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})^\top \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})| + |\mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}| + |\mathbf{z}^\top \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})| \\ &\leq \|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}_\epsilon} + \|\mathbf{z}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}\| + \|\mathbf{z}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z})\| \\ &\leq \|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}_\epsilon} + 2\epsilon \|\mathbf{W}\|_2.\end{aligned}$$

Independent Gaussians

Recall the norm estimation random vectors.

- **Gaussians are stable:** Given $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, if $\mathbf{g} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ has entries i.i.d $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, then

$$\mathbf{g}^\top \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \|\mathbf{y}\|^2)$$

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- A sum of independent Gaussians is Gaussian, and a scalar multiple of a Gaussian is Gaussian.
- **Vector embedding:** Given a unit vector $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\epsilon \in (0, 1]$. If $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ has independent entries $g_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$, then

$$\Pr\{|\|\mathbf{G}\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - 1| \geq \epsilon\} \leq 2 \exp(-\epsilon^2 m / 16).$$

We know $\sqrt{m}\mathbf{G}\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and squared norm is a χ_m^2 distribution. Using the standard bounds for concentration of a χ_m^2 , we get the above.

- With high probability, \mathbf{G} ϵ -embeds unit vectors $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Also, for any fixed $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

- **Gaussian width:** Given $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, the Gaussian width of \mathcal{R} is

$$w(\mathcal{R}) \equiv \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{g} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})} \left[\sup_{\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}} \mathbf{g}^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}) \right].$$

- Alternatively, the Gaussian width of \mathcal{R} is

$$w(\mathcal{R}) \equiv \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{g} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})} \left[\sup_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{R}} \mathbf{g}^\top \mathbf{y} / \|\mathbf{y}\| \right].$$

- Gaussian widths:
 - ▶ $w(\mathbb{R}^d) \leq \sqrt{d}$
 - ▶ $w(\mathcal{L}) \leq \sqrt{k}$ for \mathcal{L} a k -dimensional subspace.
 - ▶ $w(\mathcal{R}) \leq \sqrt{2 \log |\mathcal{R}|}$ for finite \mathcal{R} .

Gordon's theorem

Gordon's theorem [G88]

For given $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, if $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ has independent entries $g_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$, then

$$\Pr\{\|\mathbf{G}^\top \mathbf{G} - \mathbf{I}\|_{\mathcal{R}} \geq 2\beta + \beta^2\} \leq 2 \exp(-t^2/2),$$

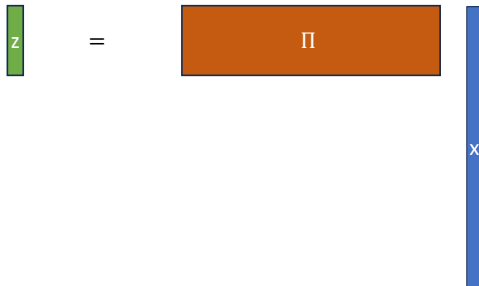
where $\beta \equiv \frac{w(\mathcal{R})+1+t}{\sqrt{m}}$.

Euclidean dimensionality reduction

Johnson-Lindenstrauss, 1984

For any set of n data points $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ there exists a *linear map* $\Pi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ where $m = O(\frac{\log n}{\epsilon^2})$ such that for all i, j ,

$$(1 - \epsilon)\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2 \leq \|\Pi\mathbf{x}_i - \Pi\mathbf{x}_j\|_2 \leq (1 + \epsilon)\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|_2$$



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Proof:

- We show that for a Gaussian matrix $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$ has independent entries $g_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1/m)$, the result holds.
- Use the vector embedding result from before (squared norm $\|\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)\|^2$ is χ_m^2 distribution with mean $\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2$).
- Set the probability to $1/n^2$. Since we have $< n^2$ possible pairs i, j , using union bound, we get the result.
- For vectors in finite $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, we can use Gordon's theorem to prove similar result.

Original result used rows of a random orthogonal matrix. Random sign matrix, where rows are Radamacher vectors, is an example.

Oblivious subspace embedding

- For real \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} and ϵ , by $\mathbf{x} = (1 \pm \epsilon)\mathbf{y}$ we mean that $|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| \leq \epsilon|\mathbf{y}|$.
- **Embedding:** A matrix $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is an ϵ -embedding of set $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ if, for all $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{P}$,

$$\|\mathbf{S}\mathbf{y}\|_2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)\|\mathbf{y}\|_2.$$

We will call \mathbf{S} a “sketching matrix”.

Subspace embedding

For $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, a matrix $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is a subspace ϵ -embedding for \mathbf{A} if \mathbf{S} is an ϵ -embedding for $\text{span}(\mathbf{A}) = \{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$. I.e., for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$,

$$\|\mathbf{S}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2 = (1 \pm \epsilon)\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2.$$

We will call $\mathbf{S}\mathbf{A}$ a “sketch”.

Obliviousness

An *Oblivious* subspace embedding is:

- A probability distribution \mathcal{D} over matrices $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, so that
- For any unknown but fixed matrix \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{S} is a subspace ϵ -embedding for \mathbf{A} with high probability.

Advantages:

- Distribution \mathcal{D} does not depend on input data. Construct \mathbf{S} without knowing \mathbf{A} .
- *Streaming*: when entries of \mathbf{A} change, $\mathbf{S}\mathbf{A}$ is easy to update.
- *Distributed*: If each p processor has matrix $\mathbf{A}^{(p)}$ and $\mathbf{A} = \sum_p \mathbf{A}^{(p)}$, compute sketch at each processor.
- *Analysis*: If \mathbf{U} has $\text{span}(\mathbf{U}) = \text{span}(\mathbf{A})$, then the embedding condition holds for $\text{span}(\mathbf{A})$ iff it holds for $\text{span}(\mathbf{U})$. So, we can assume \mathbf{A} is orthonormal.

Subspace embedding

Given $\epsilon, \delta > 0$, $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, and unit vector $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. There is $m = O(\frac{d \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2})$ so that if $\mathbf{S} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ is randomly chosen from a fixed (oblivious to \mathbf{A}) distribution with the property that \mathbf{S} is an $\epsilon/6$ -embedding of \mathbf{y} (JL property) with failure probability $\delta' = K_1 \exp(-K_2 \epsilon^2 m)$, for some $K_1, K_2 > 0$, then \mathbf{S} is a *subspace* ϵ -embedding for \mathbf{A} with failure probability δ .

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Proof: We will use the ϵ -net argument with the ϵ -embedding (JL) property.

- Since \mathbf{S} is oblivious, assume \mathbf{A} has orthonormal columns.
- For some $\epsilon_0 > 0$ (to be determined), we pick an ϵ_0 -net $\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0} \subset \mathcal{S}$.
- For $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0}$, $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} \in \text{span}(\mathbf{A})$ is a unit vector.
- Let $\mathbf{W} := \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I}$.
- Note that, for any $\beta \in (0, 1]$, $(1 + \beta)^2 \leq (1 + 3\beta)$ and $(1 - \beta)^2 \geq (1 - 3\beta)$.

So, we have $|\|\mathbf{S}\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - 1| \leq \epsilon/2$. Also,

$$|\|\mathbf{S}\mathbf{y}\|_2^2 - 1| = |\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{y}| = |\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{S}^\top \mathbf{S} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}| = |\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x}| \leq \epsilon/2$$

with failure probability δ' .

Applying this to all vectors in \mathcal{N}_{ϵ_0} , and union bound,

$$\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0}} \leq \epsilon/2 \text{ with failure probability } \leq \delta' |\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0}|$$

Using the relation between $\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{S}}$ and $\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0}}$ and the bound on net size $|\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0}|$,

$$\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{S}} \leq \epsilon/2/(1 - \epsilon_0) \text{ with failure probability } \leq \delta' |\mathcal{N}_{\epsilon_0}| \leq (1 + \frac{2}{\epsilon_0})^d K_1 \exp(-K_2 \epsilon^2 m).$$

For fixed ϵ_0 , there is $m = O(\frac{d \log(1/\delta)}{\epsilon^2})$, so that this is at most δ .

For $\epsilon_0 \leq 1/2$, we have $\|\mathbf{W}\|_{\mathcal{S}} \leq \epsilon$.

Further Reading

- Woodruff, David P. “Sketching as a tool for numerical linear algebra.” Foundations and Trends® in Theoretical Computer Science 10.1–2 (2014): 1-157.
- Martinsson, P. G., and Tropp, J. “Randomized numerical linear algebra: foundations and algorithms”. arXiv preprint arXiv:2002.01387 (2020).

Questions?