## Deep Learning Project: Causal Representation Learning via WAE

노요한\* 이현종\* 정승필<sup>†</sup>

November 11, 2022

## 1 Proof of Theorem 1

**Theorem 1.** Let  $d(x,y) = ||x-y||_2$  for  $x,y \in \mathcal{X}$ . If  $P_X$  has a density with respect to the Lebesgue measure, and the measurable function  $g: \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{X}$  is injective, then

$$W_2^2(P_X, g_{\sharp}P_Z) = \inf_{f \in \mathcal{Q}} \mathbb{E}_{P_X} d^2(X, g(f(X))),$$
 (1)

where Q is the set of all measurable functions from X to Z such that  $f_{\sharp}P_{X}=P_{Z}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $P_G = g_{\sharp} P_Z$ . Under the conditions of the theorem, the Monge-Kantorovich equivalence holds:

$$W_2^2(P_X, P_G) = \inf_{T: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X}: T_t P_X = P_G} \mathbb{E}_{P_X} d^2(X, T(X)).$$

Hence it suffices to show that

$$\inf_{f:\mathcal{X}\to\mathcal{Z}:f_{\sharp}P_{X}=P_{Z}}\int_{\mathcal{X}}d^{2}(x,g(f(x)))dP_{X}=\inf_{T:\mathcal{X}\to\mathcal{X}:T_{\sharp}P_{X}=P_{G}}\int_{\mathcal{X}}d^{2}(x,T(x))dP_{X}$$

or equivalently

$$\{g \circ f : f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Z}, f_{\dagger}P_X = P_Z\} = \{T : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X} : T_{\dagger}P_X = P_G\}.$$

First,

$$\{g\circ f:f:\mathcal{X}\to\mathcal{Z},f_\sharp P_X=P_Z\}\subset \{T:\mathcal{X}\to\mathcal{X}:T_\sharp P_X=P_G\}$$

since for any measurable  $f: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Z}$  such that  $f_{\sharp}P_X = P_X f^{-1} = P_Z$  we have  $g \circ f: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X}$  measurable and for any Borel set  $E \subset \mathcal{X}$ 

$$(q \circ f)_{\sharp} P_X(E) = P_X(q \circ f)^{-1}(E) = P_X(f^{-1} \circ q^{-1})(E) = P_Z(q^{-1}(E)) = q_{\sharp} P_Z(E) = P_G(E).$$

Second, suppose  $T: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X}$  is measurable and satisfies  $T_{\sharp}P_X = P_G$ . There exists a set  $A \subset \mathcal{X}$  with  $P_X(A) = 1$  such that  $g: \mathcal{Z} \to T(A)$  is surjective. Otherwise, there exists  $B \subset \mathcal{X}$  with  $P_X(B) > 0$  and  $\tilde{g}^{-1}(T(B)) = \emptyset$ , and hence  $0 = \tilde{g}_{\sharp}P_Z(T(B)) = T_{\sharp}P_X(T(B)) = P_X(B) > 0$  that is a contradiction. In addition, since  $g: \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{X}$  is injective, there exists a left inverse  $g^{\dagger}: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Z}$ . Note that  $g^{\dagger}|_{T(A)}: T(A) \to \mathcal{Z}$  is an inverse function of  $g: \mathcal{Z} \to T(A)$ . Let  $f = g^{\dagger} \circ T$ . Then  $g \circ f = g \circ g^{\dagger} \circ T = T$  almost surely in  $P_X$  and also for any Borel set  $F \subset \mathcal{Z}$ 

$$\begin{split} f_{\sharp}P_X(F) &= P_X(g^{\dagger} \circ T)^{-1}(F) \\ &= P_X(T^{-1}(g^{\dagger})^{-1}(F)) \\ &= P_G((g^{\dagger})^{-1}(F)) \\ &= P_Z(g^{-1}((g^{\dagger})^{-1}(F))) \\ &= P_Z((g^{\dagger} \circ g)^{-1}(F)) = P_Z(F). \end{split}$$

<sup>\*</sup>Department of Statistics, SNU

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>Graduate School of Public Health, SNU

Therefore,

$$\{g \circ f : f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Z}, f_{\sharp}P_X = P_Z\} \supset \{T : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X} : T_{\sharp}P_X = P_G\}$$

2 Decoder of CausalVAE

[1]의 decoder 구조를 살펴보면, p개의 특성을 나타내는 causal representation  $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ 를 생각하자. [1]에서는 다음과 같은 linear Structured Causal Model(SCM)을 고려하고 있다.

$$\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{z} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}^T)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$
 (2)

여기서,  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$ 는 특성 사이의 directed acyclic graph(DAG) 구조를 나타내는 가중치 인접행렬을 나타낸다. 행렬  $\mathbf{A}$ 는 모른다고 가정하고 학습되는 파라미터이다. SCM을 고려하여 Causal representation,  $\mathbf{z}$ 를 학습하기 위해 Figure 1과 같은 generative model을 제시하였다.

$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon} | \mathbf{u}) = p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{u}) p_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{z} | \mathbf{u})$$
$$p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{u}) = p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}), \quad p_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{z} | \mathbf{u}) = p(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}) p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{u})$$

이를 정리하면,

$$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}), \quad z_{1i} | u_i \overset{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\lambda_1(u_i), \lambda_2^2(u_i)), \ i = 1, \dots, p$$
  
$$\mathbf{z}_2 = g(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{z}_1) + \epsilon \approx \mathbf{z}_1, \quad \mathbf{x} \sim p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}_2)$$

g는 Mask layer [2]를 의미하고,  $\mathbf{u}$ 는 실제 얼굴 사진의 attribute을 나타내는 범주형 변수이며 모델의 identifiability를 보장하기 위해 도입된다([1, Theorem 1]).

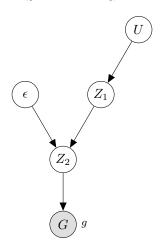


Figure 1: CausalVAE Decoder Structure

앞서 특성  $\mathbf{z}$  사이의 관계를 나타내는 DAG의 인접행렬  $\mathbf{A}$ 는 학습되는 파라미터라고 했는데,  $\mathbf{A}$ 는 다음과 같은 제약 조건을 만족하도록 학습된다.

$$\mathbb{E}_{P_X} \|\mathbf{u} - \sigma(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u})\|_2^2 \le \kappa \tag{3}$$

$$tr\left[\left(\mathbf{I} + \frac{c}{p}\mathbf{A} \circ \mathbf{A}\right)^{p}\right] - p = 0 \tag{4}$$

 $\sigma$ 는 logit 함수를 나타내고,  $\kappa$ 는 충분히 작은 양수, c는 임의의 양수를 나타낸다. Equation 3는 identifiability를 보장하고, 특성 사이의 관계를 A가 나타내도록 하는 조건이고, equation 4는 DAG의 가중치 인접행렬이 가져야하는 조건을 의미한다.

## 3 Applying Theorem 1 to the CausalVAE

Injective한 decoder를 생각하기 위해  $\mathbf{u}$ 를 도입하자. Figure 1으로부터 decoder  $g: \mathcal{Z} \times \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{X}$ 를 다음과 같이 정의하자.

$$g(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{u}) = g_3(g_2(\mathbf{A}^T g_1(\mathbf{u})) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon})$$

여기서,  $g_1: \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{Z}$ ,  $g_3: \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{X}$ 는 각각 neural network를 나타내고,  $g_2: \mathcal{Z} \to \mathcal{Z}$ 는 mask layer[2]이다. 특히  $g_3$ 는 leakyReLU 또는 sigmoid와 같은 injective activation을 사용한 neural network를 가정한다. Decoder g를 확장시켜  $\tilde{g}: \mathcal{Z} \times \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\tilde{g}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{u}) = (g(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \mathbf{u}), \mathbf{u})$ 를 생각하면,  $\tilde{g}$ 는 단사 함수(injective function)이다.

 $\tilde{g}$ 에 대해 Theorem 1을 적용하기 위해 U 공간에 거리 d'을 생각하자. 이때,  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{U}$  공간에서의 거리를  $\tilde{d} = \sqrt{d^2 + {d'}^2}$ 로 정의하자. 이제  $P_{XU}$ 와  $P_{\epsilon} \otimes P_{U}$ ,  $\tilde{g}$ 에 대해 Theorem 1을 적용하면,

$$W_{2}^{2}(P_{XU}, \tilde{g}_{\sharp}(P_{\epsilon} \otimes P_{U})) = \inf_{\tilde{f} \in \tilde{\mathcal{F}}} \mathbb{E}_{P_{XU}} \tilde{d}^{2} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ U \end{pmatrix}, \tilde{g}(\tilde{f}(X, U)) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E}_{P_{XU}} \tilde{d}^{2} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ U \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} g_{3}(g_{2}(\mathbf{A}^{T}g_{1}(U)) + f(X, U)) \\ U \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \mathbb{E}_{P_{XU}} d^{2}(X, g_{3}(g_{2}(\mathbf{A}^{T}g_{1}(U)) + f(X, U))),$$

 $\tilde{\mathcal{F}}=\{\tilde{f}:\mathcal{X}\times\mathcal{U}\to\mathcal{Z}\times\mathcal{U}|\tilde{f}_{\sharp}P_{XU}=P_{\epsilon}\otimes P_{U})\},\ \mathcal{F}=\{f:\mathcal{X}\times\mathcal{U}\to\mathcal{Z}|(f,\Pi_{U})_{\sharp}P_{XU}=P_{\epsilon}\otimes P_{U}\},\ \Pi_{U}(X,U)=U$ 를 의미한다. 두 번째 등호는  $\tilde{f}(X,U)=(f(X,U),\Pi_{U}(X,U))$ 를 생각하면 성립함을 알수 있다.  $\mathcal{F}$ 의 조건은

$$f(X, U) \stackrel{d}{=} \epsilon, \quad f(X, U) \perp \!\!\!\perp U,$$

2가지 조건으로 생각할 수 있다.

두 분포가 얼마나 다른지 측정하는  $\mathcal{D}$ 와 독립성을 측정하는  $\mathcal{H}$ 에 대해 위의 2가지 조건을 패널티 항으로 추가하여 WAE objective를 정리하면,

$$\min_{q} \min_{f} \mathbb{E}_{P_{XU}} d^2(X, g_3(g_2(\mathbf{A}^T g_1(U)) + f(X, U))) + \lambda_1 \mathcal{D}(f_{\sharp} P_{XU} || P_{\epsilon})) + \lambda_2 \mathcal{H}(f(X, U), U). \tag{5}$$

예를 들어,  $\mathcal{D}$ 는 [3]에서처럼 MMD 또는 GAN loss를 사용할 수 있고,  $\mathcal{H}$ 는 HSIC(Hilbert-Schmidt Independence Criterion) [4]를 사용할 수 있다.

## References

- [1] Mengyue Yang, Furui Liu, Zhitang Chen, Xinwei Shen, Jianye Hao, and Jun Wang. Causalvae: Disentangled representation learning via neural structural causal models. In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, pages 9593–9602, 2021.
- [2] Ignavier Ng, Shengyu Zhu, Zhuangyan Fang, Haoyang Li, Zhitang Chen, and Jun Wang. Masked gradient-based causal structure learning. In *Proceedings of the 2022 SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM)*, pages 424–432. SIAM, 2022.
- [3] Ilya Tolstikhin, Olivier Bousquet, Sylvain Gelly, and Bernhard Schoelkopf. Wasserstein autoencoders. arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.01558, 2017.
- [4] Romain Lopez, Jeffrey Regier, Michael I Jordan, and Nir Yosef. Information constraints on auto-encoding variational bayes. Advances in neural information processing systems, 31, 2018.