

Introduction to Audio Content Analysis

module 3.6: learned features

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introduction overview



corresponding textbook section

section 3.6

lecture content

- introduction to the concept of feature learning
- quick overview of important methods

learning objectives

- describe the advantages and disadvantages of feature learning
- give examples of approaches to feature learning



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introduction feature learning vs. traditional features



hand-crafted features:

- arbitrary definitions
- simple to compute
- mostly focus on one technical property
- provide limited information

■ feature learning:

- automatically learn features from data-set
- meaning not obvious, can combine multiple properties

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introduction feature learning vs. traditional features



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overview general properties



principle

- 1 put (a lot of) raw data at input
- 2 learn a way of reducing dimensionality while keeping as much information as possible

advantages

- features might contain more useful information than provided by hand-crafted features
- no expert knowledge required

disadvantages

- usually time consuming
- limited ways of controlling the type of information learned

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approaches dictionary learning



■ dictionary learning (sparse coding, non-negative matrix factorization)

$$X = B \cdot A$$

X: input signal to be modeled (often spectrogram)

B: dictionary/template matrix (often set of single spectra that comprise the basic building blocks of X)

A: activation matrix indicating the weight and superposition of templates

- derive B,A, by minimizing a cost function, e.g. $||X BA||_2$
- → templates are trained, activations are used as feature vector (length: number of templates)

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clustering

- find clusters in data set (e.g., from magnitude spectra or simple features)
- store median of clusters (compare: template matrix)
- \rightarrow features:
 - binary vector (length: number of clusters, zero except for closest cluster)
 - distance vector (distance to each cluster)

neural networks and deep architectures

- stack multiple layers of simple learning blocks
- each layer uses the output of the previous layer as input
- → feature: output of the highest layer
- task-dependency:
 - independent: use auto-encoder structure to maximize encoded information
 - dependent: train for specific task(s) (cf. multi-task learning) and use representation for other tasks (cf. transfer learning)

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summary lecture content



learned features

- not designed but learn from data
 - ▶ no hand-designed features ⇒ no expert knowledge needed
 - requires large amounts of data and computational resources
- not interpretable
- potentially more powerful as it contains all relevant information



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