

## 1. Background and Setup

Let  $Z \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  denote the latent space of a pretrained generative model  $G: Z \rightarrow X$ , where  $X$  is the data space (e.g.

Let  $\{z_i\}$  for  $i = 1$  to  $N$  be a finite set of latent vectors. These may correspond to real images or synthetic data.

We are given a target latent vector  $z \in Z$ . Our goal is to interpolate or reconstruct  $z$  as a linear combination of the

$$\hat{z} = \sum (\alpha_i * z_i), \text{ where } \sum \alpha_i = 1, \text{ and } \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

with indices corresponding to the  $k$  nearest neighbors to  $z$ .

## 2. Nearest Neighbor Selection

Define a distance metric  $d: Z \times Z \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . We use the Euclidean distance:

$$d(z, z_i) = \|z - z_i\|$$

Let  $I(z) \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$  denote indices of the  $k$  closest latent vectors to  $z$ :

$$I(z) = \operatorname{argmin}_{I: |I| = k} \sum \|z - z_i\| \text{ for } i \text{ in } I$$

## 3. Linear Reconstruction via Least Squares

We want to find weights  $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , for  $i \in I(z)$ , such that:

$$\hat{z} = \sum \alpha_i * z_i \approx z, \text{ with } \sum \alpha_i = 1$$

Define matrix  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  with columns  $z_i$  and let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^k$  be the weights. Then:

$$\text{minimize } \|Z\alpha - z\|^2 \text{ subject to } \mathbf{1}^T \alpha = 1$$

## 4. Solution via Lagrange Multipliers

Form the Lagrangian:

$$L(\alpha, \lambda) = \|Z\alpha - z\|^2 + \lambda(\mathbf{1}^T \alpha - 1)$$

Set gradients to zero:

$$\nabla_{\alpha} L = 2 Z^T (Z\alpha - z) + \lambda \mathbf{1} = 0$$

$$\partial L / \partial \lambda = \mathbf{1}^T \alpha - 1 = 0$$

This gives a system of  $k+1$  equations solvable with standard methods.

## 5. Reconstruction and Interpolation

The solution  $\hat{z} = Z\alpha^*$  is a convex (if  $\alpha_i \geq 0$ ) or affine (if some  $\alpha_i < 0$ ) combination of the nearest latent vectors.

This is a locally linear approximation similar to Locally Linear Embedding (LLE).

## 6. Summary

- Nearest neighbors are chosen by Euclidean distance.
- Linear model with weights summing to 1 approximates  $z$ .
- Reconstruction lies in a local linear manifold in latent space.
- Final  $\hat{z}$  can be passed to  $G$  to approximate  $G(z)$ .