

CCA: all the math here

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1 Formulation

CCA (Canonical Correlation Analysis) has the following training objective:

$$(w_1^*, w_2^*) = \operatorname{argmax}_{w_1, w_2} \frac{w_1' \Sigma_{12} w_2}{\sqrt{w_1' \Sigma_{11} w_1 \cdot w_2' \Sigma_{22} w_2}}$$

Which could be easily turned into the following since we could scale w_1, w_2 however we want.

$$\begin{aligned} (w_1^*, w_2^*) &= \operatorname{argmax}_{w_1, w_2} w_1' \Sigma_{12} w_2 \\ \text{s.t. } w_1' \Sigma_{11} w_1 &= 1; \quad w_2' \Sigma_{22} w_2 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Also, we need some sort of orthogonality

$$\begin{aligned} w_1^{i'} \Sigma_{11} w_1^j &= 0 \quad \forall i \neq j \\ w_2^{i'} \Sigma_{22} w_2^j &= 0 \quad \forall i \neq j \end{aligned}$$

where w_1^i is the i^{th} vector retrieved.

The orthogonality constraints are annoying, but luckily we can find all w_1, w_2 we care to find in one go with the orthogonality constraints preserved.

Say we want k pairs of w_1, w_2 .

Let's bundle the k vectors of w_1 into columns of $A_1 = [w_1^{(1)}, w_1^{(2)}, \dots, w_1^{(k)}]$ and do the same for A_2 .

The training objective could then be formulated as:

$$\begin{aligned} A_1^*, A_2^* &= \operatorname{argmax} \operatorname{tr}(A_1' \Sigma_{12} A_2) \\ &= \operatorname{argmax} \sum_{i=1}^k w_1^{i'} \Sigma_{12} w_2^i \\ \text{s.t. } A_1' \Sigma_{11} A_1 &= I \\ A_2' \Sigma_{22} A_2 &= I \end{aligned}$$

And some really smart people showed that:

$$\begin{aligned} T &\triangleq \Sigma_{11}^{-1/2} \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1/2} \\ T &= U D V^T \\ A_1^* &= \Sigma_{11}^{-1/2} U_k \\ A_2^* &= \Sigma_{22}^{-1/2} V_k \end{aligned}$$

where U_k, V_k are top k left and right singular vectors of T .

And to train a neural network, we could simply maximize the empirical correlation:

$$\max \text{corr}(H_1, H_2) = \text{tr}(\sqrt{T'T})$$

which is basically the trace norm of T .

Well, we are technically done. But importantly, we need to show *why* $\text{tr}(\sqrt{T'T})$ is the empirical correlation at all: it doesn't look like one, does it?

To establish connection between the two, we just need to show that:

$$\bullet (A_1^* = \Sigma_{11}^{-1/2} U_k; A_2^* = \Sigma_{22}^{-1/2} V_k) \rightarrow \text{maximized}(\text{tr}(\sqrt{T'T}))$$

Let's just set $k = o$, for cleaner math. Also, remember $T \stackrel{svd}{=} U D V^T$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(A_1' \Sigma_{12} A_2) &= \text{tr}(U^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1/2} \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1/2} V) \\ &= \text{tr}(U^T T V) \\ &= \text{tr}(D) \\ &= \text{tr}(\sqrt{T'T}) \end{aligned}$$