

Multidimensional Scaling with Distance Bounds

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Abstract

We give an algorithm, with R code, to minimize the multidimensional scaling stress loss function under the condition that some or all of the fitted distances are between given positive upper and lower bounds. This paper combines theory, algorithms, code, and results of De Leeuw (2017b) and De Leeuw (2017a).

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Note: This is a working paper which will be expanded/updated frequently. All suggestions for improvement are welcome. The directory deleeuwpxd.net/pubfolders/updown has a pdf version, the complete Rmd file with all code chunks, the bib file, and the R source code.

1 Introduction

In this paper we study the minimization of *stress*, defined as

$$\mathbf{stress}(X) := \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n w_{ij} (\delta_{ij} - d_{ij}(X))^2$$

over $n \times p$ configuration matrices X . Here $W = \{w_{ij}\}$ and $\Delta = \{\delta_{ij}\}$ are given symmetric, hollow, and non-negative matrices of, respectively, *weights* and *dissimilarities*. The $d_{ij}(X)$ are Euclidean distances between the points with coordinates in the rows of X . Thus

$$d_{ij}^2(X) := (x_i - x_j)'(x_i - x_j) = (e_i - e_j)'XX'(e_i - e_j) = \mathbf{tr} X'A_{ij}X.$$

Here e_i and e_j are unit vectors, with all elements equal to zero except for the single element i or j , which is equal to one. Also $A_{ij} := (e_i - e_j)(e_i - e_j)'$.

The problem of minimizing **stress** is well-studied (see, for example, Borg and Groenen (2005)). In this paper we analyze the problem of minimizing **stress** over all configurations X for which $\alpha_{ij} \leq d_{ij}(X) \leq \beta_{ij}$ for some or all pairs i, j , where the α_{ij} and β_{ij} are given bounds satisfying $0 \leq \alpha_{ij} < \beta_{ij} \leq +\infty$. We suppose the constraints are strongly consistent, i.e. there is at least one $n \times p$ configuration matrix X such that $\alpha_{ij} < d_{ij}(X) < \beta_{ij}$.

These optimization problems are non-standard in various ways. Although the set of X such that $d_{ij}(X) \leq \beta_{ij}$ is convex, the constraints $d_{ij}(X) \geq \alpha_{ij}$ define a *reverse convex set* (Meyer (1970)) in configuration space. The loss function **stress** is neither convex nor concave. We can, however, use basic **smacof** theory (De Leeuw (1977)) to majorize stress by a convex quadratic and to majorize the constraints by linear or convex quadratic functions. Majorization can be used to define a simple iterative algorithm. In each iteration we majorize stress and the constraints, and then minimize the convex quadratic majorizer over configurations satisfying the majorized constraints using quadratic programming with quadratic constraints or QPQC (De Leeuw (2017c)). Compute a new majorization at the minimizer of the majorized problem, and so on. These are the two steps in the majorization or MM approach to optimization (De Leeuw (1994), Lange (2016)).

1.1 Simplifying stress

A simplified expression for stress, first used in De Leeuw (1993), is

$$\mathbf{stress}(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^K w_k (\delta_k - \sqrt{x'A_k x})^2.$$

We have put the elements below the diagonal of W and Δ in a vector of length $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$. Also $x := \mathbf{vec}(X)$ and the A_k are the direct sums of p copies of the corresponding A_{ij} . Now expand the square, and assume without loss of generality that $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \delta_k^2 = 1$. Then

$$\mathbf{stress}(x) = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \delta_k \sqrt{x' A_k x} + \frac{1}{2} x' V x,$$

with $V := \sum_{k=1}^K w_k A_k$.

Suppose $V = K \Lambda^2 K'$ is a complete eigen-decomposition of V . Some care is needed to handle the fact that V is singular, but under the assumption of irreducibility (De Leeuw (1977)) this is easily taken care of. Change variables with $z = \Lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} K' x$. Then

$$\mathbf{stress}(z) = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \delta_k \sqrt{z' \tilde{A}_k z} + \frac{1}{2} z' z,$$

with $\tilde{A}_k = \Lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}} K' A_k K \Lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, so that $\sum_{k=1}^K w_k \tilde{A}_k = I$.

1.2 Smacof Notation and Theory

We have seen in the previous section that we can write

$$\mathbf{stress}(x) = 1 - \rho(x) + \frac{1}{2} x' x,$$

where

$$\rho(x) := \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \delta_k d_k(x),$$

with distances $d_k(x) := \sqrt{x' A_k x}$, and the A_k positive semi-definite matrices that add up to the identity. By Cauchy-Schwarz,

$$\rho(x) = x' B(x) x \geq x' B(y) y,$$

where

$$B(x) := \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \frac{\delta_k}{d_k(x)} A_k.$$

If we define the *Guttman transform* of x as $\Gamma(x) := B(x)x$, then for all x

$$(\mathbf{stress})(x) = 1 - x' \Gamma(x) + \frac{1}{2} x' x = (1 - \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(x)' \Gamma(x)) + \frac{1}{2} (x - \Gamma(x))' (x - \Gamma(x)),$$

and for all x, y

$$(\mathbf{stress}) \leq 1 - x' \Gamma(y) + \frac{1}{2} x' x = (1 - \frac{1}{2} \Gamma(y)' \Gamma(y)) + \frac{1}{2} (x - \Gamma(y))' (x - \Gamma(y)),$$

In this notation a **smacof** iteration is $x^{(k+1)} = \Gamma(x^{(k)})$.

2 Some Majorization Theory

Suppose the problem we are interested in is to minimize a real-valued f_0 over all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that satisfy $f_j(x) \leq 0$ for all $j = 1, \dots, m$. We call this problem \mathcal{P} .

Now suppose $g_j : \mathbb{R}^n \otimes \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ majorizes f_j , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} f_j(x) &\leq g_j(x, y) \text{ for all } x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n, \\ f_j(y) &= g_j(y, y) \text{ for all } y \in \mathbb{R}^n. \end{aligned}$$

To simplify matters we suppose all f_j and g_j are continuously differentiable, and all g_j are convex in their first argument. Define problem \mathcal{P}_k as the problem of minimizing $g_0(x, x^{(k-1)})$ over the $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ that satisfy $g_j(x, x^{(k-1)}) \leq 0$. Define a sequence $x^{(k)}$ with $x^{(0)}$ feasible for \mathcal{P} , and with $x^{(k)}$ for $k \geq 1$ a solution of \mathcal{P}_k .

Theorem 1: [Convergence]

1. $x^{(k)}$ is feasible for \mathcal{P} for all $k \geq 1$.
2. $f_0(x^{(k)}) \leq f_0(x^{(k-1)})$ for all $k \geq 1$.

Proof: For the first part $f_j(x^{(k)}) \leq g_j(x^{(k)}, x^{(k-1)})$ by majorization, and $g_j(x^{(k)}, x^{(k-1)}) \leq 0$ by feasibility for \mathcal{P}_k . For the second part $f_0(x^{(k)}) \leq g_0(x^{(k)}, x^{(k-1)})$ by majorization. Because $x^{(k)}$ solves \mathcal{P}_k we have $g_0(x^{(k)}, x^{(k-1)}) \leq g_0(x^{(k-1)}, x^{(k-1)})$ if $x^{(k-1)}$ is feasible for \mathcal{P}_k , i.e. if $g_j(x^{(k-1)}, x^{(k-1)}) \leq 0$. But $g_j(x^{(k-1)}, x^{(k-1)}) = f_j(x^{(k-1)}) \leq 0$ by the first part of the theorem. **QED**

2.1 Fixed Points

By theorem 1 we have a sequence of points with decreasing function values that are all feasible for \mathcal{P} . We can say a bit more about accumulation points of this sequence. Define $\mathcal{P}(y)$ as the convex problem of minimizing $g_0(x, y)$ over $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $g_j(x, y) \leq 0$.

Theorem 2: [Necessary]

If x solves $\mathcal{P}(x)$ then x satisfies the first order necessary conditions for a local minimum of \mathcal{P} .

Proof: The necessary and sufficient conditions for x to be a minimum of $\mathcal{P}(y)$ are that there exists $\lambda \geq 0$ such that

$$\mathcal{D}_1 g_0(x, y) + \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j \mathcal{D}_1 g_j(x, y) = 0,$$

with in addition $g_j(x, y) \leq 0$ and $\lambda_j g_j(x, y) = 0$.

The first order necessary conditions for x to be a local minimum of \mathcal{P} are that there exists $\lambda \geq 0$ such that

$$\mathcal{D} f_0(x) + \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j \mathcal{D} f_j(x) = 0,$$

with in addition $f_j(x) \leq 0$ and $\lambda_j f_j(x) = 0$.

But if the f_j and g_j are differentiable, we know from majorization theory (De Leeuw (2021), Lange (2016)) that $\mathcal{D}f_j(x) = \mathcal{D}_1 g_j(x, x)$ for all x .

QED

It follows that if we define $\mathcal{F}(y)$ as the solution of $\mathcal{P}(y)$ then fixed points of \mathcal{F} are local minimizers of \mathcal{P} . Thus if $x^{(k)}$ converges to a fixed point of \mathcal{F} , it converges to a local minimizer of \mathcal{P} , and $f_0(x^{(k)})$ converges to a local minimum.

3 MDS with Distance Bounds

There are two types of constraints. The first are $\sqrt{x' A_k x} \leq \beta_k$, which we transform simply to

$$x' A_k x \leq \beta_k^2 \quad (1)$$

and otherwise leave undisturbed. No majorization is required.

The second set of constraints is $\sqrt{x' A_k x} \geq \alpha_k$ or $\alpha_k - \sqrt{x' A_k x} \leq 0$. We majorize at $x^{(k-1)}$, using Cauchy-Schwarz, to

$$\alpha_k - \frac{1}{d_k(x^{(k-1)})} x' A_k x^{(k-1)} \leq 0 \quad (2)$$

Thus the QPQC problem we have to solve in each bounded **smacof** iteration, a.k.a. problem \mathcal{P}_k , is minimization of the quadratic $1 - x' \Gamma(x^{(k-1)}) + \frac{1}{2} x' x$ over x satisfying the quadratic constraints (1) and the linear constraints (2).

4 Software

Minimizing a convex quadratic under convex quadratic constraints has been implemented in the R function **qpqc**, described in De Leeuw (2017c). It dualizes the problem and then uses the **nnnewtin** function for Newton's method with non-negativity constraints. We apply **qpqc** to solve our problems \mathcal{P}_k , using the fact that the linear constraints (2) are just quadratic constraints with a zero quadratic component.

The **smacofUpDown** function has two arguments without default values, a vector **delta** of length $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$ with dissimilarities (lower-diagonal, columnwise, same ordering as a **dist** object) and an $n \times p$ matrix **xini** with an initial configuration.

```
args(smacofUpDown)
```

```
## function (delta, xini, w = rep(1, length(delta)), bndlw = rep(0,
##     length(delta)), bndup = rep(Inf, length(delta)), itmax = 1000,
##     eps = 1e-10, verbose = FALSE)
## NULL
```

The arguments `bndl` and `bndup` are vectors of length $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)$, with default values 0 and $+\infty$. Thus, by default, `smacofUpDown` computes an unconstrained weighted least squares multidimensional scaling solution, where the weights in `w` are by default all equal to +1.

There is no default value for `xini`, and the user must make sure that the distances of the initial configuration are between the bounds (are feasible). This is easy enough to do if there are only lower bounds (take any configuration and make it big enough) or only upper bounds (make it small enough). If there are both upper and lower bounds then feasibility should be checked, because `smacofUpDown` will refuse to start if the initial configuration has any infeasible distances.

5 Examples

5.1 Equidistances

Our first example has $n = 10$ with all δ_{ij} equal. The optimal `smacof` solution in two dimensions needs 435 iterations to arrive at stress 0.1098799783. We reanalyze the data with the constraint that the distance between the first point and all nine others is at least one. The algorithm incorporating these bounds, implemented in the function `smacofAbove`, uses 99 iterations and finds stress 0.1340105192. The two configurations are in figure 1. There are five active constraints, i.e. distances equal to one, indicated by lines in the plot.

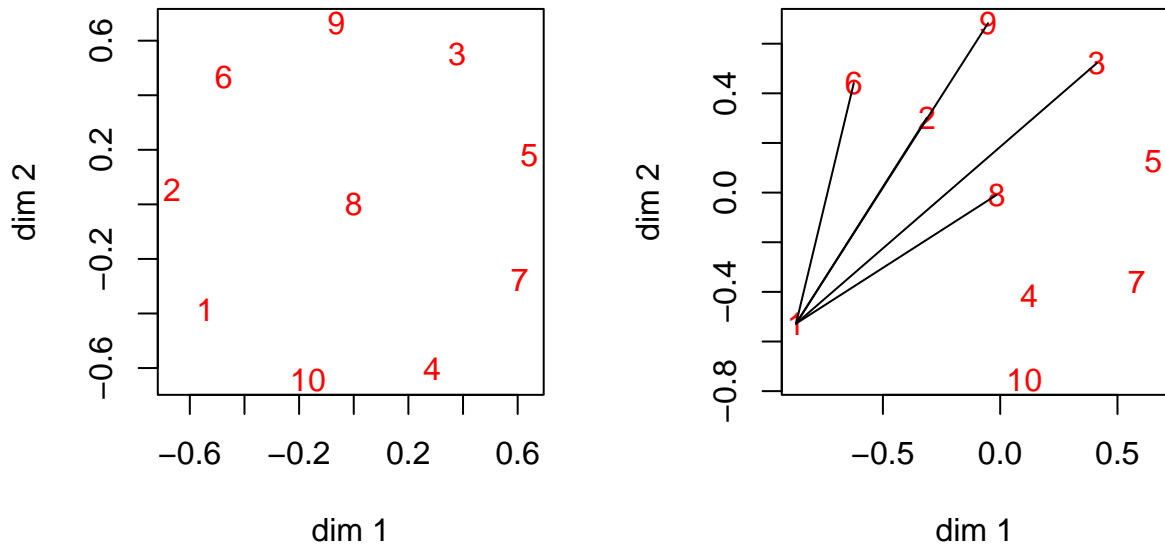


Figure 1: Equidistance Data, Unconstrained Left, Lower Bounds Right

In the second analysis, now using eight objects with equal dissimilarities, we require $d_{ij}(X) \geq 1$ for all i, j with $|i - j| = 1$, and $d_{ij}(X) \leq 2$ for all i, j with $|i - j| = 2$.

In the unconstrained case we find **stress** equal to 0.0973520592 after 132 iterations, in the constrained case we find 0.1183956858 after 360 iterations. The lower bound constraints are

all active, which means the distances between successive points are all one (indicated with lines in figure 2. The upper bound constraints are all inactive.

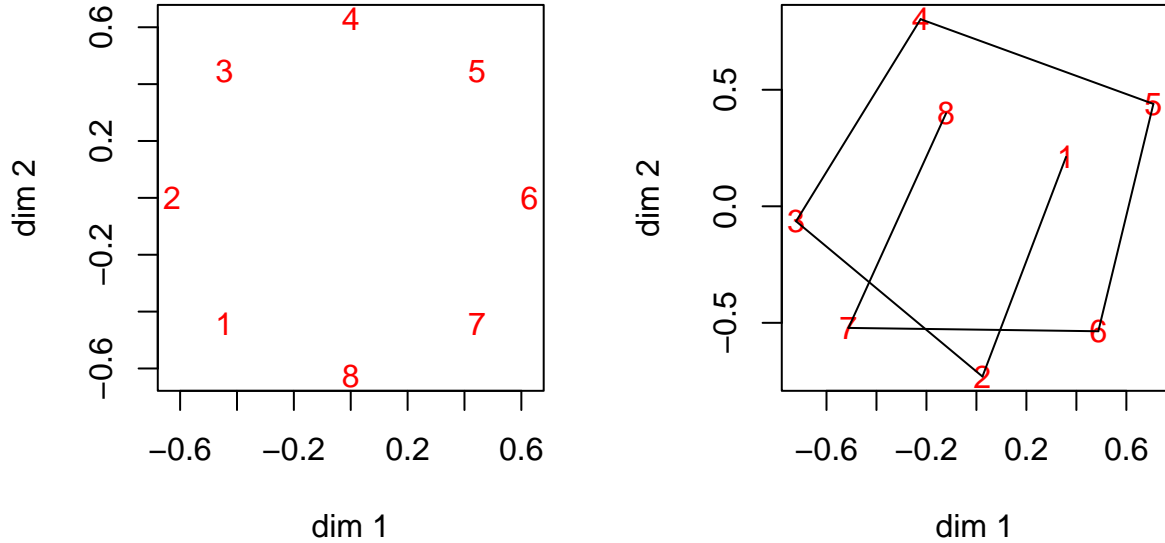


Figure 2: Equidistance Data, Unconstrained Left, Lower Bounds Right

So far we have assumed $\alpha_{ij} < \beta_{ij}$ for all i, j . It is possible, however, to let $\alpha_{ij} = \beta_{ij}$, which means we require $d_{ij}(X) = \alpha_{ij} = \beta_{ij}$. Note the complete set of constraints still needs to be consistent, and the initial configuration must still be feasible. In our example we require all seven distances between successive points to be equal to one.

Our algorithm in this case becomes extremely slow. It stops at the upper bound of 2000 iterations, with **stress** 0.145422981. Of course all constraints are now active. The Lagrange multipliers are large, serving as penalty parameters to force the equality constraints.

```
## [1] 607.206662 798.640208 184.410283 470.470611 837.258090 684.250855
## [7] 342.484286 607.724599 799.263512 184.916436 470.877554 838.697049
## [13] 685.015222 342.475953
```

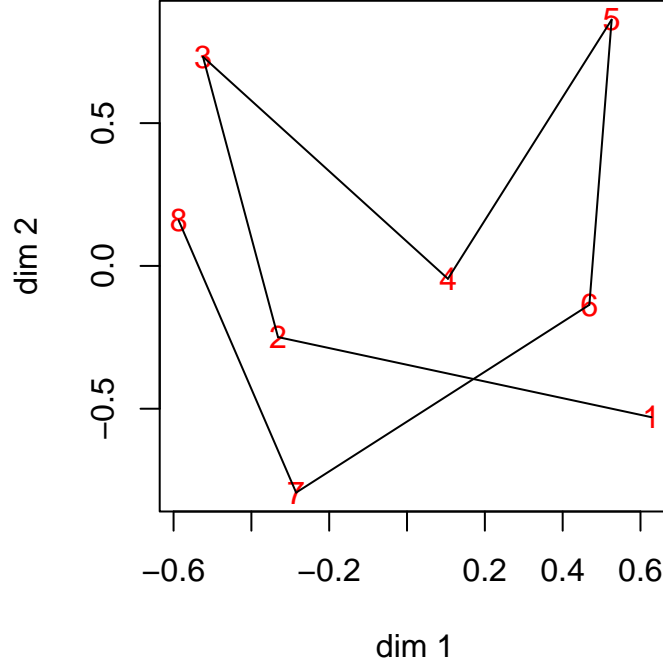


Figure 3: Equidistance Data, Distances Constrained to One

Note, however, that the previous analysis where we merely required $d_{ij}(X) \geq 1$ for $|i - j| = 1$ produced a solution feasible for the current problem with **stress** equal to 0.1183956858. This makes it interesting see what goes on if we increase the upper bound of the number of iterations even more, say, to 10000.

We now find **stress** 0.1016650356 after 4638 iterations. The Lagrange multipliers for this solution are much smaller (first seven correspond with upper bounds, second seven with lower bounds). What basically happens is that for each (i, j) with $|i - j| = 1$ either the upper or the lower constraint is seen to be violated and gets a zero Lagrange multiplier. The corresponding Lagrange multiplier for the corresponding other constraint is positive, because it is interpreted as being satisfied. This is a consequence of using floating point with limited precision, and the difference between $\alpha_{ij} = 0.99 \dots$ and $\beta_{ij} = 1.00 \dots$.

```
## [1] 0.1769950771 0.0000000000 0.2256752734 0.0000000002 0.0000009264
## [6] 0.0000000018 0.0707713017
```

```
## [1] 0.0000159157 0.2413717400 0.0000033204 0.0233523409 0.1287325657
## [6] 0.1247717152 0.0000000004
```

The successive distances are

```
## [1] 0.9999999556 1.0000000047 1.0000000305 1.0000000183 0.9999999783
## [6] 0.9999999707 0.9999999577
```

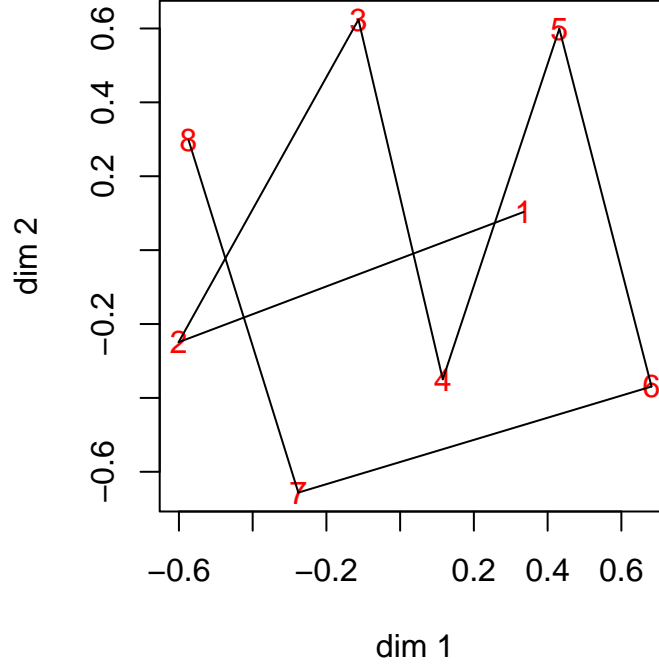



Figure 4: Equidistance Data, Distances Constrained to One

5.2 Dutch Political Parties 1967

As the next illustration we use data from De Gruijter (1967), with average dissimilarity judgments between Dutch political parties in 1967. The data are

```
##      KVP PvdA  VVD  ARP  CHU  CPN  PSP   BP
## PvdA 5.63
## VVD  5.27 6.72
## ARP  4.60 5.64 5.46
## CHU  4.80 6.22 4.97 3.20
## CPN  7.54 5.12 8.13 7.84 7.80
## PSP  6.73 4.59 7.55 6.73 7.08 4.08
## BP   7.18 7.22 6.90 7.28 6.96 6.34 6.88
## D66  6.17 5.47 4.67 6.13 6.04 7.42 6.36 7.36
```

First, three different but comparable analyses are done. The first does not impose restriction, the second is *MDS from below*, which requires $d_{ij}(X) \leq \delta_{ij}$ for all i, j . And the third is *MDS from above*, for which $d_{ij}(X) \geq \delta_{ij}$ for all i, j . The configurations are quite similar, except for the position of D'66, which at the time was a novelty in Dutch politics. The value of **stress** at the solutions is, respectively, 0.044603386, 0.0752702106, and 0.280130691.

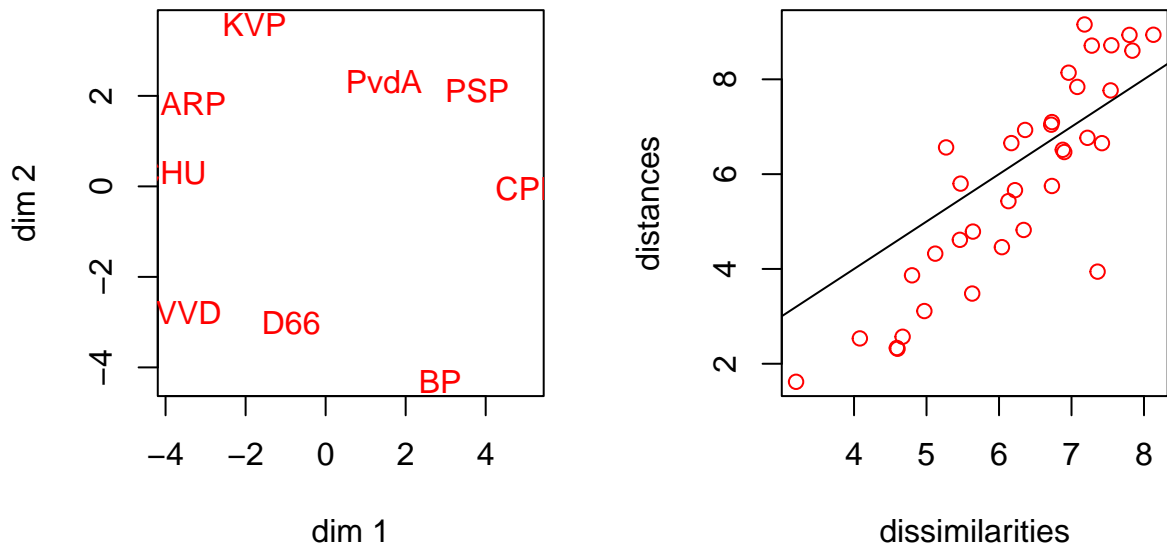


Figure 5: De Gruijter Data, Unconstrained Solution

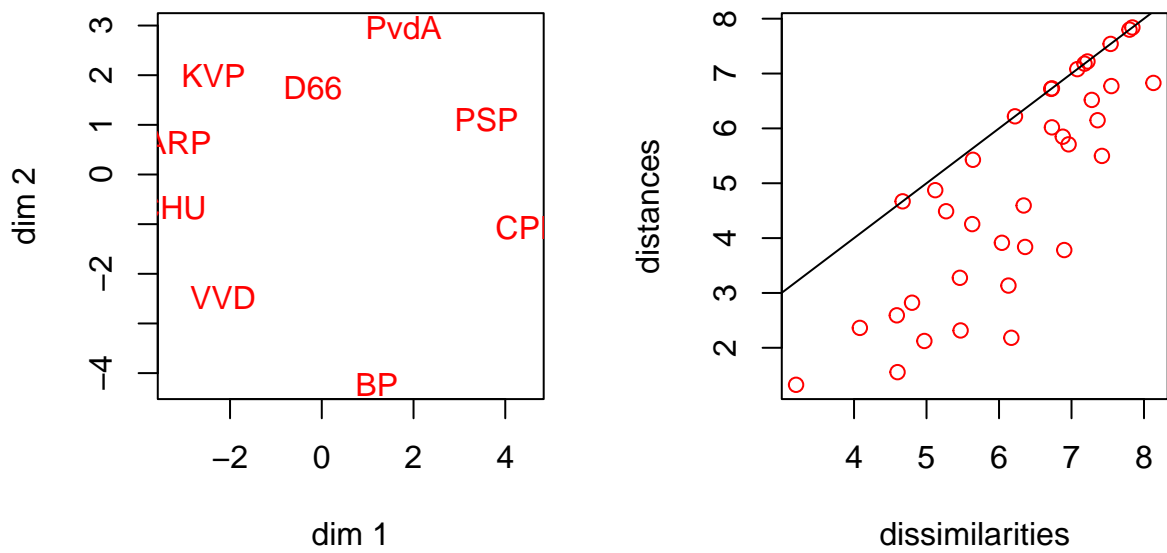


Figure 6: De Gruijter Data, MDS from Below

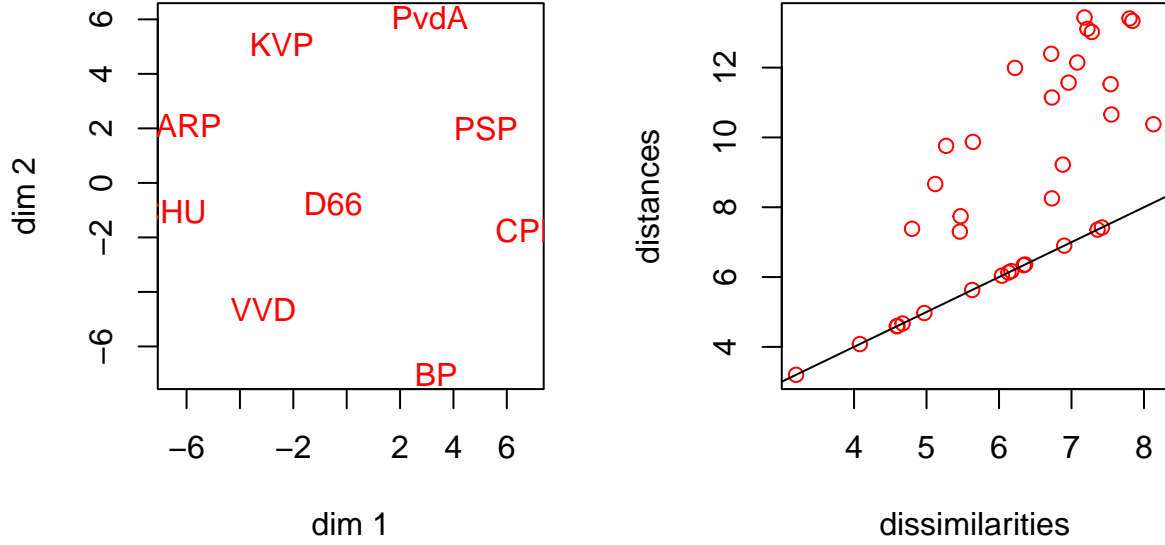


Figure 7: De Gruijter Data, MDS from Above

The same data are used in the next analysis, which requires $2 \leq d_{ij}(X) \leq 8$ for all i, j . We converge to **stress** 0.0668519523 in 119 iterations. There are eight active constraints, with four distances equal to the lower bound and four equal to the upper bound. The configuration in figure 8 shows the distances equal to the lower bound in blue and those equal to the upper bound in red. The active constraints are also clearly visible in the Shepard plot in figure 8.

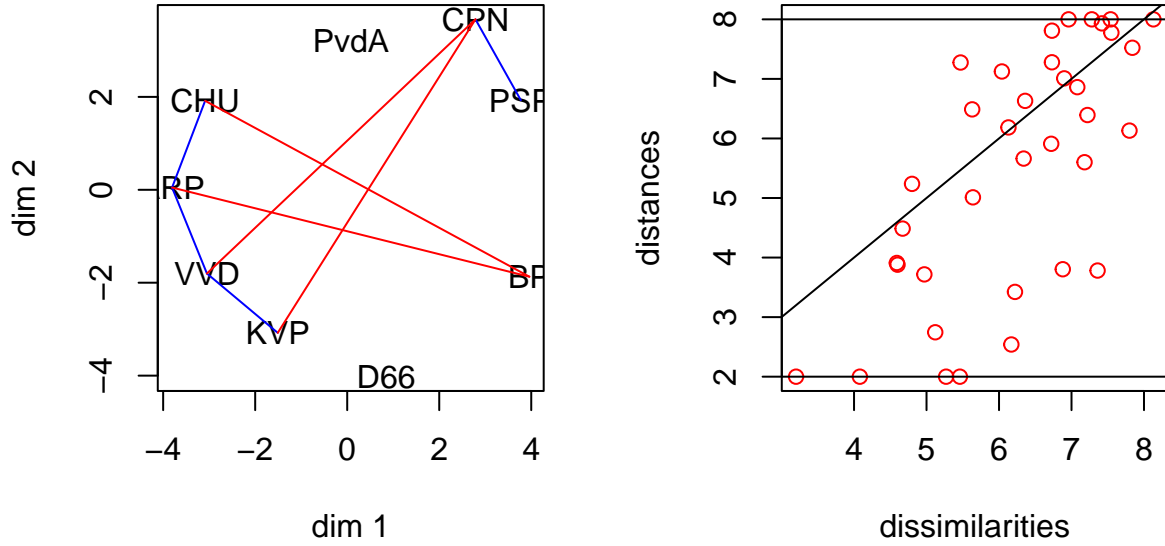


Figure 8: De Gruijter Data, Distance Intervals

6 Appendix: Code

6.1 updown.R

```
suppressPackageStartupMessages (library (mgcv, quietly = TRUE))
suppressPackageStartupMessages (library (MASS, quietly = TRUE))
suppressPackageStartupMessages (library (lsei, quietly = TRUE))
suppressPackageStartupMessages (library (numDeriv, quietly = TRUE))
source("auxiliary.R")
source("mdsUtils.R")
source("nnnewton.R")
source("qpqc.R")
source("smacofUpDown.R")
```

6.2 auxiliary.R

```
mprint <- function (x,
                    d = 6,
                    w = 8,
                    f = "") {
  print (noquote (formatC (
    x,
    di = d,
    wi = w,
    fo = "f",
    flag = f
  )))
}

directSum <- function (x) {
  m <- length (x)
  nr <- sum (sapply (x, nrow))
  nc <- sum (sapply (x, ncol))
  z <- matrix (0, nr, nc)
  kr <- 0
  kc <- 0
  for (i in 1:m) {
    ir <- nrow (x[[i]])
    ic <- ncol (x[[i]])
    z[kr + (1:ir), kc + (1:ic)] <- x[[i]]
    kr <- kr + ir
  }
}
```

```

    kc <- kc + ic
  }
  return (z)
}

repList <- function(x, n) {
  z <- list()
  for (i in 1:n)
    z <- c(z, list(x))
  return(z)
}

shapeMe <- function (x) {
  m <- length (x)
  n <- (1 + sqrt (1 + 8 * m)) / 2
  d <- matrix (0, n, n)
  k <- 1
  for (i in 2:n) {
    for (j in 1:(i - 1)) {
      d[i, j] <- d[j, i] <- x[k]
      k <- k + 1
    }
  }
  return (d)
}

symmetricFromTriangle <- function (x, lower = TRUE, diagonal = TRUE) {
  k <- length (x)
  if (diagonal)
    n <- (sqrt (1 + 8 * k) - 1) / 2
  else
    n <- (sqrt (1 + 8 * k) + 1) / 2
  if (n != as.integer (n))
    stop ("input error")
  nn <- 1:n
  if (diagonal && lower)
    m <- outer (nn, nn, ">=")
  if (diagonal && (!lower))
    m <- outer (nn, nn, "<=")
  if ((!diagonal) && lower)
    m <- outer (nn, nn, ">")
  if ((!diagonal) && (!lower))
    m <- outer (nn, nn, "<")
  b <- matrix (0, n, n)

```

```

b[m] <- x
b <- b + t(b)
if (diagonal)
  diag (b) <- diag(b) / 2
return (b)
}

triangleFromSymmetric <- function (x, lower = TRUE, diagonal = TRUE) {
  n <- ncol (x)
  nn <- 1:n
  if (diagonal && lower)
    m <- outer (nn, nn, ">=")
  if (diagonal && (!lower))
    m <- outer (nn, nn, "<=")
  if ((!diagonal) && lower)
    m <- outer (nn, nn, ">")
  if ((!diagonal) && (!lower))
    m <- outer (nn, nn, "<")
  return (x[m])
}

```

6.3 mdsUtils.R

```

library (mgcv)

torgerson <- function (delta, p = 2) {
  z <- slanczos(-doubleCenter((delta ^ 2) / 2), p)
  w <- matrix (0, p, p)
  v <- pmax(z$values, 0)
  diag (w) <- sqrt (v)
  return(z$vectors %*% w)
}

basisPrep <- function (n, p, w) {
  m <- n * (n - 1) / 2
  v <- -symmetricFromTriangle (w, diagonal = FALSE)
  diag (v) <- -rowSums(v)
  ev <- eigen (v)
  eval <- ev$values[1:(n - 1)]
  evec <- ev$vectors[, 1:(n - 1)]
  z <- evec %*% diag (1 / sqrt (eval))
  a <- array (0, c(n - 1, n - 1, m))
}

```

```

k <- 1
for (j in 1:(n-1)) {
  for (i in (j+1):n) {
    dif <- z[i,] - z[j,]
    a[, , k] <- outer (dif, dif)
    k <- k + 1
  }
}
return (list (z = z, a = a))
}

center <- function (x) {
  return (apply (x, 2, function (z) z - mean (z)))
}

doubleCenter <- function (x) {
  n <- nrow (x)
  j <- diag(n) - (1 / n)
  return (j %*% x %*% j)
}

squareDist <- function (x) {
  d <- diag (x)
  return (outer (d, d, "+") - 2 * x)
}

```

6.4 smacofUpDown.R

```

smacofUpDown <-
function (delta,
  xini,
  w = rep (1, length (delta)),
  bndl = rep (0, length (delta)),
  bndup = rep (Inf, length (delta)),
  itmax = 1000,
  eps = 1e-10,
  verbose = FALSE) {
  m <- length (delta)
  p <- dim (xini)[2]
  n <- (1 + sqrt (1 + 8 * m)) / 2
  dini <- as.vector (dist (xini))
  if (any (dini > bndup) || any (dini < bndl))

```

```

    stop ("initial estimate not feasible")
  wndup <- which (bndup < Inf)
  lup <- length (wndup)
  wndlw <- which (bndlwlw > 0)
  llw <- length (wndlw)
  ltt <- lup + llw
  r <- p * (n - 1)
  yold <- rep (0, ltt)
  h <- basisPrep (n, p, w)
  xold <- rep (0, r)
  for (s in 1:p) {
    k <- (s - 1) * (n - 1) + 1:(n - 1)
    xold[k] <-
      crossprod (h$z, xini[, s]) / diag (crossprod (h$z))
  }
  d <- rep (0, m)
  itel <- 1
  sold <- Inf
  ssq <- sum (w * delta ^ 2)
  repeat {
    xmid <- rep (0, r)
    xx <- matrix (xold, n - 1, p)
    t <- 1
    bcomp <- matrix (0, r, ltt + 1)
    for (k in 1:m) {
      ak <- h$a[, , k]
      ax <- ak %*% xx
      d[k] <- sqrt (sum (xx * ax))
      if (!is.na (match (k, wndlw))) {
        bcomp[, 1 + lup + t] <- -ax / d[k]
        t <- t + 1
      }
      xmid <- xmid + w[k] * (delta[k] / d[k]) * ax
    }
    if (ltt > 0) {
      ccomp <- c(c(ssq, -bndup[wndup] ^ 2) / 2, bndlwlw[wndlw])
      bcomp[, 1] <- -xmid
      acomp <- array (0, c(r, r, ltt + 1))
      acomp[, , 1] <- diag (r)
      t <- 1
      for (k in wndup) {
        ak <- directSum (repList (h$a[, , k], p))
        acomp[, , t + 1] <- ak
        t <- t + 1
      }
    }
  }

```



```

    }
    v <- qpqc (yold, acomp, bcomp, ccomp, verbose = FALSE)
    snew <- 2 * v$f / ssq
    xnew <- v$xmin
    ynew <- v$multipliers
    cons <- v$constraints
  }
  else {
    xnew <- xmid
    snew <- sum (w * (delta - d) ^ 2) / ssq
    ynew <- NULL
    cons <- NULL
  }
  if (verbose)
    cat(
      "Iteration: ",
      formatC (itel, width = 3, format = "d"),
      "sold: ",
      formatC (
        sold,
        digits = 8,
        width = 12,
        format = "f"
      ),
      "snew: ",
      formatC (
        snew,
        digits = 8,
        width = 12,
        format = "f"
      ),
      "\n"
    )
  if ((itel == itmax) || ((sold - snew) < eps))
    break
  xold <- xnew
  sold <- snew
  yold <- ynew
  itel <- itel + 1
}
xconf <- matrix (0, n, p)
for (s in 1:p) {
  k <- (s - 1) * (n - 1) + 1:(n - 1)
  xconf[, s] <- h$z %*% xnew[k]
}

```

```

}
return (
  list (
    delta = delta,
    dist = d,
    x = xconf,
    multipliers = ynew,
    constraints = cons,
    itel = itel,
    stress = sum (w * (delta - d) ^ 2) / ssq
  )
)
}

```

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