

# t-SNE Notes

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## Abstract

t-distributed Stochastic Neighborhood Embedding (t-SNE) is a widely used dimensionality reduction technique, that is particularly well suited for visualization of high-dimensional datasets. On this diploma thesis we introduce a high performance GPU-accelerated implementation of the t-SNE method in CUDA. We base our approach on the work “Spaceland Embedding of Sparse Stochastic Graphs, HPEC 2019”. Obtaining an embedding essentially requires two steps, namely a dense and a sparse computation. One of the main bottlenecks is that usually sparse computation does not scale well in GPU’s because of the irregularity of the memory accesses. To overcome this problem, we use a fast data translocation technique, that leads to locally dense data, which are better suited for GPU processing. The dense computation is performed with an interpolation-based fast Fourier Transform accelerated method. Finally, for datasets that cannot be loaded into the memory, we use randomized and distributed principal component analysis variants, so that the top principal components are used without fully loading the dataset, hence allowing our implementation to be executed by personal computers with superior efficiency.

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# 1 Introduction

t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (t-SNE) is a technique for dimensionality reduction that is particularly well suited for the visualization of high-dimensional datasets.

Let  $x_i \in \mathbf{R}^d, i = 1, \dots, n$  be the data samples in high dimensional space and  $y_i \in \mathbf{R}^s, i = 1, \dots, n$  be the data samples in low dimensional space,  $s$  is usually 2 or 3. The goal of t-SNE is to preserve local structure, points that are similar (close) in the high dimensional space are mapped to similar (close) points in the low dimensional space. This is achieved by minimizing the divergence between similarity weights that are defined in the high and low dimensional space.

More specifically from the distances  $d_{ij}$  of  $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$  we define

$$p_{i|j} = \frac{e^{-d_{ij}^2/2\sigma_i^2}}{\sum_{l \neq i} e^{-d_{il}^2/2\sigma_i^2}} \quad \text{and} \quad p_{ij} = \frac{p_{i|j} + p_{j|i}}{2N}$$

as the similarity weights in the high dimensional space. The value  $p_{j|i}$  is interpreted as the distribution of the other points given  $x_i$  or the probability that point  $j$  is a neighbor of point  $i$ . The parameters  $N$  and  $\sigma_i$  are chosen (more detail in the next paragraphs). For the low dimensional space we define

$$q_{ij} = \frac{(1 + \|y_i - y_j\|^2)^{-1}}{\sum_{k \neq l} (1 + \|y_k - y_l\|^2)^{-1}}$$

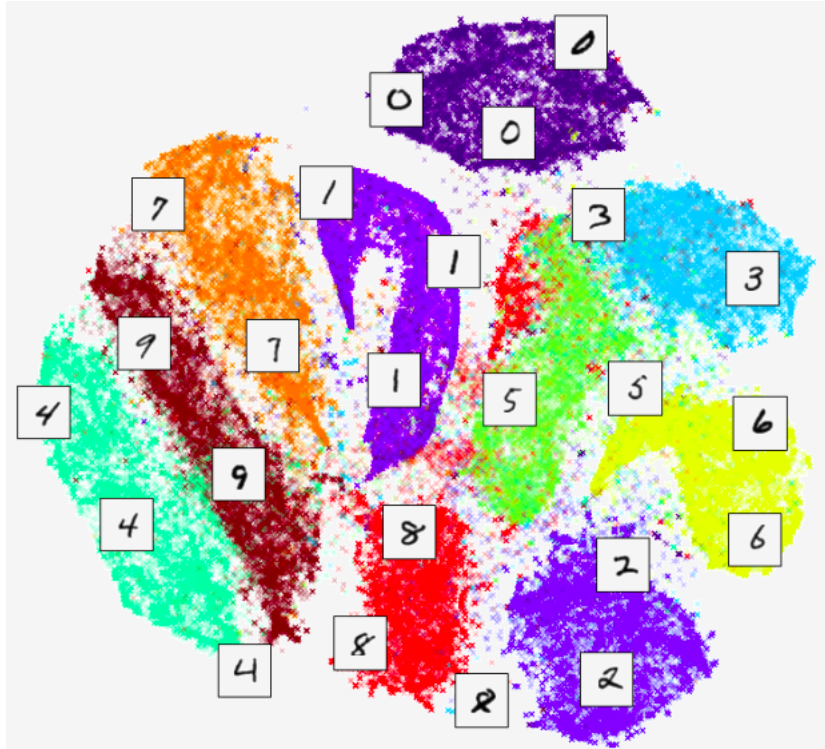
as similarity weights but this time we use the t-distribution. We use the t-distribution instead of Gaussian in embedding space to avoid the problem of overcrowding. For notation purposes let  $P = \{p_{ij}\}$ ,  $Q = \{q_{ij}\}$   $n \times n$  matrices and  $X = [x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $Y = [y_1, \dots, y_n]$   $d \times n$  and  $s \times n$  matrices respectively.

And then we take KL divergence

$$C(Y) = KL(P \mid Q) = \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log \frac{p_{ij}}{q_{ij}}.$$

Minimization can be done with gradient descent. Note that this function is non convex and hence we will halt at a local minimum. But the method still gives great results and even has theoretical guaranties about the output embedding despite the fact that is based on a non convex optimization problem. In figure 1 we see the result of embedding the MNIST Dataset in a two dimensional space with the t-SNE method.

Figure 1: Embedding the MNIST Dataset.



### 1.1 Deriving the Gradient

Here with straight calculations we compute the gradient. First of all:

$$\begin{aligned}
 C(Y) &= \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log \frac{p_{ij}}{q_{ij}} \\
 &= \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log p_{ij} - \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log q_{ij} \\
 &= \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log p_{ij} + \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log f_{ij} + \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log Z \\
 &= \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log p_{ij} + \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log f_{ij} + \log Z.
 \end{aligned}$$

Where  $f_{ij} = 1 + \|y_i - y_j\|^2$  and  $Z = \sum_{k \neq l} (1 + \|y_k - y_l\|^2)^{-1}$ .

With some computation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \sum_{i \neq j} p_{ij} \log f_{ij}}{\partial y_m} &= \sum_{i \neq m} p_{im} \frac{\partial \log f_{im}}{\partial y_m} + \sum_{i \neq m} p_{mi} \frac{\partial \log f_{mi}}{\partial y_m} \\
 &= 2 \sum_{i \neq m} p_{mi} \frac{\partial \log f_{mi}}{\partial y_m} \\
 &= 2 \sum_{i \neq m} p_{mi} \frac{1}{f_{mi}} \frac{\partial f_{mi}}{\partial y_m} \\
 &= 2 \sum_{i \neq m} p_{mi} \frac{2(y_m - y_i)}{1 + \|y_m - y_i\|^2} \\
 &= 4 \sum_{i \neq m} p_{mi} \frac{Z(y_m - y_i)}{Z(1 + \|y_m - y_i\|^2)} \\
 &= 4 \sum_{i \neq m} p_{mi} q_{mi} Z(y_m - y_i).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \log Z}{\partial y_m} &= \frac{\partial Z}{\partial y_m} \frac{1}{Z} \\
 &= \frac{2}{Z} \sum_{i \neq m} \frac{\partial (1 + \|y_m - y_i\|^2)^{-1}}{\partial y_m} \\
 &= -\frac{2}{Z} \sum_{i \neq m} \frac{(y_m - y_i)}{(1 + \|y_m - y_i\|^2)^2} \\
 &= -\frac{2}{Z} \sum_{i \neq m} \frac{2(y_m - y_i)}{1 + \|y_m - y_i\|^2} \\
 &= -4 \sum_{i \neq m} q_{mi}^2 Z(y_m - y_i).
 \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\frac{\partial C(Y)}{\partial y_i} = 4 \sum_{j \neq i} p_{ij} q_{ij} Z(y_i - y_j) - 4 \sum_{j \neq i} q_{ij}^2 Z(y_i - y_j)$$

Also we can make same the calculation so that it generalizes more easily to changes in the objective function or the similarity weights. Observe how the objective function  $C$  depends on the embedded points. Let more general  $q_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{\sum_{kl} w_{kl}}$  where  $w_{ij}$  is the similarity weight of  $y_i$  and  $y_j$  depended on their distance  $d_{ij}$ .

So when computing the gradient we:

1. The distances  $d_{ij}$  are generated from the coordinates,  $y_i, y_j$ .
2. The similarity weights  $w_{ij}$  are generated as a function of the distances,  $d_{ij}$ .
3. The output probabilities,  $q_{ij}$ , are normalized versions of the similarity weights,  $w_{ij}$ .
4. The cost function,  $C$  is normally a divergence of some kind, and hence expressed in terms of the output probabilities,  $q_{ij}$ .

We're going to chain those individual bits together via the chain rule for partial derivatives. The chain of variable dependencies is  $C \rightarrow q \rightarrow w \rightarrow d \rightarrow y$ . So

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} = \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \sum_{kl} \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{kl}} \sum_{pq} \frac{\partial w_{kl}}{\partial d_{pq}} \frac{\partial d_{pq}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m}$$

In the relationship between  $w$ , and  $d$  is such that any cross terms are 0, i.e. unless  $k = p$  and  $l = q$  those derivatives evaluate to 0. Also, either  $k = m$  or  $l = m$ , otherwise  $\partial d_{kl} / \partial \mathbf{y}_m = 0$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial C}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} &= \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \sum_{kl} \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{kl}} \sum_{pq} \frac{\partial w_{kl}}{\partial d_{pq}} \frac{\partial d_{pq}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} \\ &= \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \sum_{kl} \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{kl}} \frac{\partial w_{kl}}{\partial d_{kl}} \frac{\partial d_{kl}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} \\ &= \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \sum_l \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{ml}} \frac{\partial w_{ml}}{\partial d_{ml}} \frac{\partial d_{ml}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} + \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \sum_k \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{km}} \frac{\partial w_{km}}{\partial d_{km}} \frac{\partial d_{km}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} \end{aligned}$$

Exchanging the summations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial C}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} &= \sum_l \left( \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{ml}} \right) \frac{\partial w_{ml}}{\partial d_{ml}} \frac{\partial d_{ml}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} + \sum_k \left( \sum_{ij} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{km}} \right) \frac{\partial w_{km}}{\partial d_{km}} \frac{\partial d_{km}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} \\ &= \sum_l f_{ml} \frac{\partial w_{ml}}{\partial d_{ml}} \frac{\partial d_{ml}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} + \sum_k f_{km} \frac{\partial w_{km}}{\partial d_{km}} \frac{\partial d_{km}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} \\ &= \sum_k f_{mk} \frac{\partial w_{km}}{\partial d_{km}} \frac{\partial d_{km}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} + \sum_k f_{km} \frac{\partial w_{km}}{\partial d_{km}} \frac{\partial d_{km}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m}, \text{ Assume } w \text{ and } d \text{ are symmetric} \\ &= \sum_k \left( f_{mk} + f_{km} \right) \frac{\partial w_{km}}{\partial d_{km}} \frac{\partial d_{km}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\frac{\partial d_{ij}}{\partial \mathbf{y}_i} = \frac{1}{d_{ij}} (\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{y}_j) \text{ for } d_{ij} = \left[ \sum_l (y_{il} - y_{jl})^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

And

$$\frac{\partial w_{ij}}{\partial d_{ij}} = -\frac{2d_{ij}}{(1 + d_{ij}^2)} \text{ for } w_{ij} = \frac{1}{(1 + d_{ij}^2)^2}$$

So

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial \mathbf{y}_m} = -2 \sum_k \left( f_{mk} + f_{km} \right) \frac{(y_m - y_k)}{(1 + d_{km}^2)^2}$$

And for specifically the KL divergence:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial C}{\partial q_{ij}} &= -\frac{p_{ij}}{q_{ij}} \\ \frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{km}} &= -\frac{w_{ij}}{(\sum_{lt} w_{lt})^2} = -\frac{q_{ij}}{Z} \end{aligned}$$

While

$$\frac{\partial q_{ij}}{\partial w_{ij}} = -\frac{w_{ij}}{(\sum_{lt} w_{lt})^2} + \frac{1}{\sum_{lt} w_{lt}} = -\frac{q_{ij}}{Z} + \frac{1}{Z}$$

Ending

$$f_{km} = -\frac{p_{km}}{Z q_{km}} + \sum_{ij} \frac{p_{ij}}{Z}$$

And as a result we get the same gradient expression.

$$\frac{\partial C(Y)}{\partial y_i} = 4 \sum_{j \neq i} p_{ij} q_{ij} Z (y_i - y_j) - 4 \sum_{j \neq i} q_{ij}^2 Z (y_i - y_j)$$

## 1.2 Gradient Interpretation

The t-SNE gradient computation can be reformulated as an N-body simulation problem:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{attr,i} &= \sum_{j \neq i} p_{ij} q_{ij} Z (y_i - y_j) \\ F_{rep,i} &= \sum_{j \neq i} q_{ij}^2 Z (y_i - y_j) \\ \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial C(Y)}{\partial y_i} &= F_{attr,i} - F_{rep,i} \end{aligned}$$

The forces can be also viewed with matrix-vector computations in the following ways:

•

$$\begin{aligned} F_{attr} &= (P \odot Q) O \odot Y - (P \odot Q) Y \\ F_{rep} &= (Q \odot Q) O \odot Y - (Q \odot Q) Y \end{aligned}$$

Where  $Y$  is the  $N \times 2$  matrix of embedded points,  $O$  is an  $N \times 2$  matrix of ones.

•

$$F_{attr} = (\text{diag}(\text{sum}((P \odot Q), 1)) - (P \odot Q)) * Y$$

This is justified because the actual weights decrease exponentially with the square of the distance. So after a t

$$F_{rep} = (\text{diag}(\text{sum}((Q \odot Q), 1)) - (Q \odot Q)) * Y$$

in matlab notation (`diag` creates a diagonal matrix with an input vector and `sum(,1)` sums across the rows).

### 1.3 Choosing Hyperparameters

### 1.4 First Complexity Discussion

What is the complexity of this algorithm. First of all we perform gradient descent on a non-convex function so we cannot have an accurate analysis about convergence and conditioning of the problem. But there are theoretical guaranties and t-SNE works surprisingly well. What we will be concerned in this paragraph is the complexity of one step of gradient descent.

To perform gradient descent we need to compute the derivative. By the above computation we have that computing the attractive and repulsive term takes  $O(n^2)$ . But this is infeasible in the following paragraphs we will try to reduce this time by approximating the derivative taking advantage of the structure of  $P \odot Q$  and  $Q \odot Q$ .

## 2 Attractive Term approximation

In practice computing the weights for all pairs of points in the high dimensional space ( $P$ ) is too expensive. Instead will approximate this computation by using for every point only the weights of it's  $k$  nearest neighbors. This is justified because the actual weights decrease exponentially with the square of the distance. So after a threshold distance we will have weights very close to zero and dropping them will not change significantly the output embedding. In other words the nearest neighbors capture the local structure of the dataset.

This leads to our new  $P$  and hence  $P \odot Q$  matrix being sparse. And so we can accelerate the computation of the attractive forces by using only the non-zero elements. The computation of the attractive forces resembles a sparse matrix vector product. Computing the  $k$  nearest neighbours can be implemented by the use of kd or vantage point trees also we can compute approximate nearest neighbours with the ANNOY method. The resulting complexity for computation of the attractive term is  $O(k \cdot n)$

## 3 Repulsive Term approximation

Computing the repulsive term is vastly different than the attractive term. The matrix  $Q \odot Q$  can't be approximated to a sparse matrix as it's elements are the weights of the embedded points and change in every iteration. Also the t-distribution has a longer tail (thing that gives us greater results solving the Crowding problem) than the normal distribution we couldn't do this approximation. So we need to approach the computation for  $Q \odot Q$  being dense likely we have methods from numerical analysis that can handle this problem.

Now we will express the Repulsive forces term in the way that we will use in the next paragraphs. Remember that we have:

$$F_{rep,i} = \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \frac{y_i - y_j}{(1 + \|y_j - y_i\|^2)^2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sum_{k \neq l} (1 + \|y_k - y_l\|^2)^{-1}}$$

We can compute this expression by computing sums of the form:

$$u_i = \sum_{j=1}^N G(y_i, y_j) v_j$$



where  $G$  is either  $G_1(y_i, y_j) = \frac{1}{1+\|y_i-y_j\|^2}$  or  $G_2(y_i, y_j) = \frac{1}{(1+\|y_i-y_j\|^2)^2}$ .

More precisely for a 2-dimensional embedding we can compute  $F_{rep}$  from:

$$\begin{aligned} h_{1,i} &= \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N G_1(y_i, y_j) \\ h_{2,i} &= \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N G_2(y_i, y_j) y_j(1) \\ h_{3,i} &= \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N G_2(y_i, y_j) y_j(2) \\ h_{4,i} &= \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^N G_2(y_i, y_j) \end{aligned}$$

Then at each step of the gradient descent, the repulsive forces can then be expressed in terms of these 4 sums as follows:

$$F_{rep,i}(1) = (h_{2,i} - y_i(1)h_{4,i})/Z$$

$$F_{rep,i}(2) = (h_{3,i} - y_i(2)h_{4,i})/Z$$

and

$$Z = \sum_{j=1}^N h_{1,i}.$$

### 3.1 Fast Multipole Methods

Essentially a subproblem of computing the gradient is to compute sums of the form:

$$u_i = \sum_{j=1}^N G(y_i, y_j) v_j$$

in our case for computing the repulsive forces  $G(y_i, y_j) = \frac{1}{1+\|y_i-y_j\|^2}$ . More generally the fast multipole methods are constructed to compute sums of the form:

$$u_i = \sum_{j=1}^N G(t_i, y_j) v_j$$

the points  $\{t_i\}_1^M$  are called targets and  $\{y_i\}_1^N$  are called sources, both of dimension  $s$ . While the kernel  $G(t_i, y_j)$  depends on the distance of  $t_i$  and  $y_j$ . Notice that computing these sums naively takes  $O(NM)$  (quadratic) time.

Putting all evaluations of the kernel in a matrix  $A : A_{ij} = G(t_i, y_j)$  we can see that  $u = Ax$ . It is known that if the domain of  $T$  is different than the domain of  $Y$  then we can separate the variables and have  $A \approx B(X)C(Y)$ , let  $B$  be  $M \times P$  and  $C$  be  $P \times N$  matrices.

This is true because if the kernel have separate domains (does not blow up) then  $A$  can be efficiently approximated by a low rank matrix.

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_i &= \sum_{j=1}^N G(t_i, y_j) v_j \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^P B_{ik} C_{kj} v_j \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^P B_{ik} \left( \sum_{j=1}^N C_{kj} v_j \right) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^P B_{ik} m_k
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $m_k$  is only computed once for all  $i$ , meaning that the sums can be computed in  $P \cdot (N + M)$  computations—a dramatic improvement over  $M \cdot N$ .

### 3.2 Separation of Variables

But how can we find such a separation the variables. First we will discuss the optimal separation (optimal in terms of accuracy). Assume the Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) of  $A$ ,  $A \approx U \Sigma V^T$  taking the  $p$  highest singular values. Let  $u_i, v_i$  be the columns of  $U$  and  $V$  while  $\sigma_i$  be the singular values. Notice that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &\approx U \Sigma V^T = \sum_{k=1}^p \sigma_k u_k v_k^T \\
 \implies A_{ij} &= \sum_{k=1}^p \sigma_k u_k(i) v_k^T(j)
 \end{aligned}$$

This is a separation of variables like what described above. But how is it's properties in terms of accuracy? The SVD for the  $p$  highest singular values is the optimal approximation of the matrix in terms of the  $L_2$  norm (Eckart-Young-Minsky theorem). The error is given in terms of the singular that we didn't consider. In our case because of our kernel such low rank approximation is very accurate.

Also notice that because in our case the set of targets and sources it the same we have  $U = V$  and so:

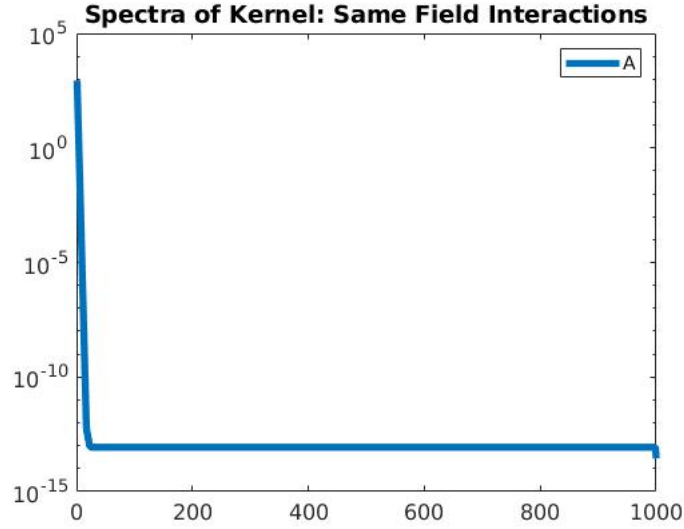
$$A = V \Sigma V^T$$

### 3.3 Interpolative Separation of Variables

But finding the SVD of a matrix even approximately is slow (for  $p$  largest singular values:  $O(N \cdot M \cdot p)$ ). So we need an other way to separate variables. We will use an interpolation based technique. Starting let  $s = 1$  (1-dimensional embedding space) and then we will generalize. Instead of the Kernel we use the Lagrange interpolation polynomial for the Kernel defined by equidistant points in the target and source fields.

Let  $R_y$  and  $R_z$  the intervals denoting the ranges of the source and target points,  $y_i \in R_y, \forall i = 1, \dots, N$  and  $z_i \in R_z, \forall i = 1, \dots, M$ . Now suppose that  $\tilde{z}_1, \dots, \tilde{z}_p$  are equidistant

Figure 2: Singular values of the Kernel for 1000 random points.



points in  $R_z$  and  $\tilde{y}_1, \dots, \tilde{y}_p$  are equidistant points in  $R_y$ , the number of points  $p$  will control the error of our approximation method. The importance of the points being equidistant will be explored in the next paragraph. Let  $L_{l,\tilde{y}}$  and  $L_{l,\tilde{z}}$  be the Lagrange polynomials :

$$L_{l,\tilde{y}}(y) = \frac{\prod_{j \neq l}^p (y - \tilde{y}_j)}{\prod_{j \neq l}^p (\tilde{y}_l - \tilde{y}_j)} \text{ and } L_{l,\tilde{z}}(z) = \frac{\prod_{j \neq l}^p (z - \tilde{z}_j)}{\prod_{j \neq l}^p (\tilde{z}_l - \tilde{z}_j)}$$

With these polynomials we can make an interpolation polynomial  $G_p$  for the Kernel.

$$G_p(z, y) = \sum_{l=1}^p \sum_{j=1}^p G(\tilde{z}_l, \tilde{y}_j) L_{l,\tilde{z}}(z) L_{j,\tilde{y}}(y)$$

Now with the use of the approximation of  $G$  with  $G_p$  we can approximate the

$$u_i = \sum_{j=1}^N G(t_i, y_j) v_j$$

by

$$\tilde{u}_i = \sum_{j=1}^N G_p(t_i, y_j) v_j.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{u}_i &= \sum_{j=1}^N G_p(t_i, y_j) v_j \\
 &= \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{l=1}^p \sum_{m=1}^p G(\tilde{z}_l, \tilde{y}_m) L_{l,\tilde{z}}(z_i) L_{m,\tilde{y}}(y_j) v_j \\
 &= \sum_{l=1}^p L_{l,\tilde{z}}(z_i) \left( \sum_{m=1}^p G(\tilde{z}_l, \tilde{y}_m) \left( \sum_{j=1}^N L_{m,\tilde{y}}(y_j) v_j \right) \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

By this separation we can compute the values using three convolutions (by the nested parentheses) of  $\{\tilde{u}_i\}_1^M$  in  $O((M+N)p + p^2)$  time.

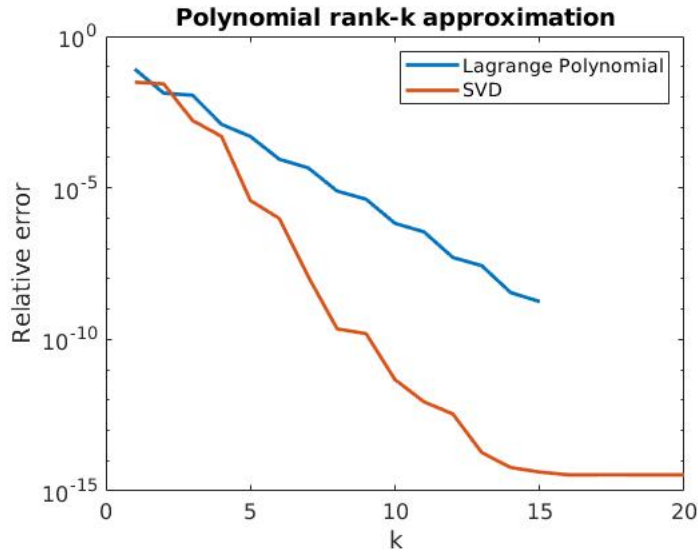
But what are the accuracy properties of this method. The error

$$\begin{aligned}
 |u_i - \tilde{u}_i| &= \left| \sum_{j=1}^N (G(z_i, y_j) - G_p(z_i, y_j)) \cdot v_j \right| \\
 &\leq \sum_{j=1}^N |G(z_i, y_j) - G_p(z_i, y_j)| \cdot |v_j| \\
 &\leq \epsilon \sum_{j=1}^N |v_j|.
 \end{aligned}$$

Provided that the polynomial uniformly approximates the kernel in the ranges. That is:

$$\exists \epsilon : \sup |G(z, y) - G_p(z, y)| \leq \epsilon$$

Figure 3: Relative Error of SVD and Lagrange approximations.



### 3.4 Use of the FFT

For the following text we will consider the case where the targets and the sources are the same set. In computing the convolution  $\sum_{m=1}^p G(\tilde{y}_l, \tilde{y}_m) w_m$  notice that can be expressed as a matrix vector product  $K \cdot w$  where  $K$  the matrix of evaluations of the kernel and  $w$  the vector of the values  $\{w_m\}_1^p$ . But because the points  $\tilde{y}_l$  are equidistributed the matrix  $K$  is Toeplitz and hence the product can be computed efficiently with the FFT in time  $O(p \log p)$ . Note that a matrix vector product takes  $O(p^2)$  but here we can use the FFT to exploiting the structure of a Toeplitz matrix.

The FFT can be used in the following manner. First of all let

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} t_0 & t_1 & \dots & t_{p-1} \\ t_1 & t_0 & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & t_1 \\ t_{p-1} & \dots & t_1 & t_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

we construct the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} K & B \\ B & K \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & t_{p-1} & \dots & t_1 \\ t_{p-1} & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & t_{p-1} \\ t_1 & \dots & t_{p-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The matrix  $C$  is circulant and so we can compute its matrix vector products with the FFT. Now zero padding the vector  $w$  and performing the product should give us the answer.

$$C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} w \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Kw \\ Bw \end{bmatrix}$$

```

1  %FFT matrix-vector product of a Toeplitz matrix
2  p=1024;
3  y = randn(p,1) ;
4  w = randn(p,1) ;
5  K=toeplitz(y);
6
7  z=K*w;
8
9  a=[0;y(p:-1:2)];
10 B=toeplitz(a);
11 C2=[K B;B K];
12
13 w2=[w;zeros(p,1)];
14
15 b=C2*w2;
16 b_fft=ifft(fft(w2).*fft(C2(1,:))');
17 disp(norm(b_fft(1:p)-z));

```

### 3.5 Improving Accuracy

The procedure above is not numerically stable, and given the equispaced interpolation points, it also will suffer from the Runge phenomenon as  $p$  increases. So, instead of using  $p$  interpolation points for the whole interval, we split the interval into  $N_{int}$  sub-intervals, each with  $p$  interpolation points.

Specifically we subdivide the interval in  $N_{int}$  intervals of equal length  $I_j, j = 1, \dots, N_{int}$ . Let  $y_{j,l}$  denote the  $j$ 'th point in the interval  $I_l$ .

$$y_{j,l} = \frac{h}{2} + ((j-1) + (l-1) \cdot p) \cdot h$$

where  $h = 1/(N_{int} \cdot p)$  the length of an interval.

The algorithm for computing is the same as described in the previous paragraphs but for approximating the kernel we use piecewise polynomial interpolants from the corresponding intervals, we interpolate each point using the interpolation points within its interval. Summarizing:

**Step 1** For each interval  $I_l, l = 1, \dots, N_{int}$  we compute the coefficients  $w_{m,l}$  defined by the formula:

$$w_{m,l} = \sum_{y_j \in I_l} L_{m,l}(y_j) v_j$$

**Step 2** Compute the values  $u_{m,n}$  at the equispaced points  $y_{m,n}$  defined by the formula:

$$u_{m,n} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{int}} \sum_{j=1}^p G(y_{m,n}, y_{l,j}) w_{l,j}$$

**Step 3**

For each point  $y_i$  we compute the output by the interval that it belongs if  $y_i \in I_l$  then:

$$f(y_i) = \sum_{j=1}^p L_{j,l}(y_j) u_{j,l}$$

Because all the interpolation points are also equispaced in the hole Range step 2 can be computed with the FFT.

```

1  %% FLT SNE with improved accuracy through subintervals
2  clear all;
3  rng(1)
4  a = 0; b=1; n = 1000;
5  [locs,-] = sort(rand(n,1)*(b-a));
6  distmatrix = squareform(pdist(locs));
7  kernel = 1./(1+distmatrix.^2);
8
9  v = sin(10*locs) + cos(2000*locs); %Anything could be used here
10
11 f = kernel*v;%Result
12
13 %% Number of Nint intervals k interpolation points per interval h interval
14 %length

```

```

15 k = 2;
16 Nint = 5;
17 h = 1/(Nint *k);
18
19
20 %k interpolation points in each interval
21 interp_points = zeros(k,Nint);
22 for j=1:k
23     for int=1:Nint
24         interp_points(j,int) = h/2 + ((j-1)+(int-1)*k)*h;
25     end
26 end
27
28
29 %% We need to be able to look up which interval each point belongs to
30 int_lookup = zeros(n,1);
31 current_int = 0;
32 for i=1:n
33     if (k*h*(current_int) < locs(i))
34         current_int = current_int +1;
35     end
36     int_lookup(i) = current_int;
37 end
38
39
40 %% Make V, which is now n rows by Nint*k columns
41 V = zeros(n,Nint*k);
42 for ti=1:k
43     for yj=1:n
44         current_int = int_lookup(yj);
45         num = 1;
46         denom = 1;
47         for tii=1:k
48             if (tii ≠ ti)
49                 denom = denom*(interp_points(ti,current_int) ...
50                     -interp_points(tii,current_int));
51                 num= num*(locs(yj) - interp_points(tii,current_int));
52             end
53         end
54         V(yj,(current_int-1)*k+ti) = num/denom;
55     end
56 end
57
58 %% Make S, which is k*Nint by k*Nint
59 S = ones(k*Nint,k*Nint);
60 for int1=1:Nint
61     for i=1:k
62         for int2=1:Nint
63             for j=1:k
64                 S((int1-1)*k+i,(int2-1)*k+j) = ...
65                     1/(1+norm(interp_points(i,int1)-interp_points(j,int2))^2);
66             end
67         end
68     end
69 end
70 %% FLT SNE
71 f_poly_approx=V'*v;
72 a=[0;S(k*Nint:-1:2,1)];

```

```

73 B=toeplitz(a);
74 C2=[S B;B S];
75
76 v2=[f_poly_approx;zeros(k*Nint,1)];
77
78 b_fft=ifft(fft(v2).*fft(C2(1,:))');
79 b_fft=b_fft(1:k*Nint);
80 f_poly_approx = V*b_fft;
81
82 relativeError=norm(f_poly_approx-f)/norm(f);

```

### 3.6 Generalizing to Higher Dimensions

Here we will describe how we can use the same methods as described above when the embedding space is 2 dimensional further generalization is obvious. To use this interpolation process over a embedding space we will must have an equispaced grid of interpolation points. Lets say we have  $p$  points per row of the grid and  $p^2$  total. We take the approximation.

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{u}_i &= \sum_{j=1}^N G_p(y_i, y_j) v_j \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{l=1}^{p^2} \sum_{m=1}^{p^2} G(\tilde{y}_l, \tilde{y}_m) L_{l,\tilde{y}}(y_i) L_{m,\tilde{y}}(y_j) v_j \\
&= \sum_{l=1}^{p^2} L_{l,\tilde{y}}(y_i) \left( \sum_{m=1}^{p^2} G(\tilde{y}_l, \tilde{y}_m) \left( \sum_{j=1}^N L_{m,\tilde{y}}(y_j) v_j \right) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Mind that  $u_i$  and  $v_j$  are 2 dimensional vectors.  $L_m$  is the Lagrange polynomial in the  $m$ 'th interpolation point.

$$L_m = L_{xm} L_{ym}$$

Where  $L_{xm}, L_{ym}$  the interpolation polynomials over the  $x$  and  $y$  direction.

We will perform the same algorithm described in the above paragraph computing the sum with the order specified by the parentheses. But in these case the matrix  $S$ ,  $S_{ij} = G(\tilde{y}_i, \tilde{y}_j)$  is not Toeplitz as in the one dimensional case and can not use the same procedure to perform the product with the use of the FFT.

Instead, we observe that the matrix of evaluations of the kernel is a block-Toeplitz matrix with Toeplitz blocks (BTBT). Example for a grid of four points:

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} s_0 & s_1 & s_1 & s_2 \\ s_1 & s_0 & s_2 & s_1 \\ s_1 & s_2 & s_0 & s_1 \\ s_2 & s_1 & s_1 & s_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_0 & S_1 \\ S_1 & S_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So what we need is a fast matrix vector product for matrices of this structure. We can compute this product with the use of the FFT as the output elements can be expressed as a convolution of the non-redundant elements of  $S$  and the vector zero padded.

But writing and processing the full BTBT matrix is terribly inefficient (especially in memory). An other way to use the FFT in order to make this product is to construct a matrix of the form.



$$S' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & s_2 & s_1 & s_2 \\ 0 & s_1 & s_0 & s_1 \\ 0 & s_2 & s_1 & s_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

or in general:

$$S' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & s_{0,(p^2-1)} & \dots & s_{0,(p \cdot (p-1)+1)} & s_{0,p \cdot (p-1)} & s_{0,(p \cdot (p-1)+1)} & \dots & s_{0,(p^2-1)} \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & s_{0,(p-1)} & \dots & s_{0,1} & s_{0,0} & s_{0,1} & \dots & s_{0,(p-1)} \\ 0 & s_{0,(2p-1)} & \dots & s_{0,(p+1)} & s_{0,p} & s_{0,(p+1)} & \dots & s_{0,(2p-1)} \\ 0 & s_{0,(p-1)} & \dots & s_{0,1} & s_{0,0} & s_{0,1} & \dots & s_{0,(p-1)} \\ 0 & s_{0,(2p-1)} & \dots & s_{0,(p+1)} & s_{0,p} & s_{0,(p+1)} & \dots & s_{0,(2p-1)} \\ 0 & s_{0,(p^2-1)} & \dots & s_{0,(p \cdot (p-1)+1)} & s_{0,p \cdot (p-1)} & s_{0,(p \cdot (p-1)+1)} & \dots & s_{0,(p^2-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $s_{0,i}$  is the evaluation of the kernel between the 0'th and the  $i$ 'th point in the interpolation grid (these are all the non redundant values of S). To perform the multiplication  $S \cdot v$  with the use of  $S'$  and the FFT we compute:

$$R = \text{ifft2}\left(\text{fft2}(S') \odot \text{fft2}(V)\right)$$

where

$$V = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} O_{p \times p} & O_{p \times p} \\ \hline O_{p \times p} & \begin{bmatrix} v(1:p)^T \\ v(p+1:2p)^T \\ \dots \\ v(p(p-1)+1:p^2)^T \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \right]$$

Our end result will be the  $R(1:p, 1:p)$  row major order. Why does this work?

Let's take the same one dimensional procedure for the BTBT matrix S. Let

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} B & S \\ S & B \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & S_1 \\ S_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The matrix C exhibits a Block circulant structure and hence we could use a block FFT to accelerate the computation of the product.

$$C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0_{2 \times 2} \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

Essentially this block FFT is the column transform that is part of the 2 dimensional FFT. Note that the 2 dimensional dft can be written as a column and a row dft:

$$\text{fft2}(X) = \text{fft}(\text{fft}(X, [], 2), [], 1) = W^*(xW^*)$$

This explains the column structure of S'. And the row transform computes the matrix vector products of the individual blocks in the block matrix multiplication.

This procedure doesn't change when we partition our domain into blocks because all the points across the blocks form an equispaced grid. Also it easily generalizes into higher dimensions.

**Theorem 1** (FFT-formula). *Let  $S$  a  $k$ -level BTTB matrix and  $v$  a vector. Then we can perform matrix vector product with the following computation:*

$$S \cdot v = iFFTk (FFTk (S') \odot FFK (V))$$

Where  $S'$  and  $V$  are computed from  $S$  and  $v$  as described above.

*Proof.* We will use induction on  $k$ .

First remember the base case let  $S$   $n \times n$  Toeplitz and  $v$   $n \times 1$  vector.

We can take the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} B & S \\ S & B \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } B = \text{Toeplitz}(S(1, n : -1 : 2))$$

Then

$$C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S \cdot v \\ B \cdot v \end{bmatrix}$$

But  $C$  is a circulant matrix and so it is diagonalizable by the DFT matrices  $F, F^{-1}$ . So

$$C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S \cdot v \\ B \cdot v \end{bmatrix} = F^{-1} \cdot \text{diag}(\text{DFT}(C(1,:))) \cdot F \cdot V = \text{ifft}(\text{fft}(S') \odot \text{fft}(V))$$

Now let the statement for  $k+1$  let  $l \times l$  be the  $k+1$ -level block size. Then take

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} B & S \\ S & B \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } B = \text{Toeplitz}(S(1:l, n : -1 : 2))$$

$C$  is block circulant so if we use the block DFT matrices  $F_b, F_b^{-1}$  we get.

$$C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S \cdot v \\ B \cdot v \end{bmatrix} = F_b^{-1} \text{Diag}(\text{DFT}(C(1:l,:))) F_b \cdot V$$

Now we can use the inductive step because  $\text{blockDiag}(\text{DFT}(C(1:l,:))) \cdot V$  is a product of  $k$ -level BTTB matrices and the column-vector of  $V$ . So:

$$\begin{aligned} C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{bmatrix} &= F_b^{-1} \cdot iFFTk (FFTk (\text{Diag}(\text{DFT}(C(1:l,:))))' \odot FFK ((F_b \cdot V)')) \\ &= iFFT(k+1) (FFT(k+1) (S') \odot FFT(k+1) (V')) \end{aligned}$$

□

Snippet below performs the 3 dimensional computation.

```

1 kernel_tilde=zeros(2*N1d,2*N1d,2*N1d);
2 for i = 0:N1d-1
3     for j =0:N1d-1
4         for z=0:N1d-1
5             tmp=kernel([y_tilde(1,1) y_tilde(1,2) y_tilde(1,3) ...
6                         ],[y_tilde(i+1,1) y_tilde(j+1,2) y_tilde(z+1,3)],squared);
7             for signi=-1:2:1
8                 for signj=-1:2:1
9                     for signz=-1:2:1
```

```

10
11             kernel_tilde((N1d +signi*i)+1 , (N1d + ...
                signj*j)+1,(N1d + signz*z)+1 ) = tmp;
12         end
13     end
14 end
15 end
16 end
17 end
18
19 fft_kernel=fftn(kernel_tilde);
20
21
22 b=zeros(N1d^3,nsums);
23 for nterms=1:nsums
24     fa=zeros(2*N1d,2*N1d,2*N1d);
25     for(i=1:N1d)
26         for(j=1:N1d)
27             for(z=1:N1d)
28                 fa(i+N1d,j+N1d,z+N1d)=w((i-1)*N1d+j+(z-1)*N1d^2,nterms);
29             end
30         end
31     end
32     result=ifftn(fftn(fa).*fft_kernel);
33
34     result= result(1:N1d,1:N1d,1:N1d);
35     for(i=1:N1d)
36         for(j=1:N1d)
37             for(z=1:N1d)
38                 b((i-1)*N1d+(z-1)*N1d^2+j,nterms)=result(i,j,z);
39             end
40         end
41     end
42
43 end

```

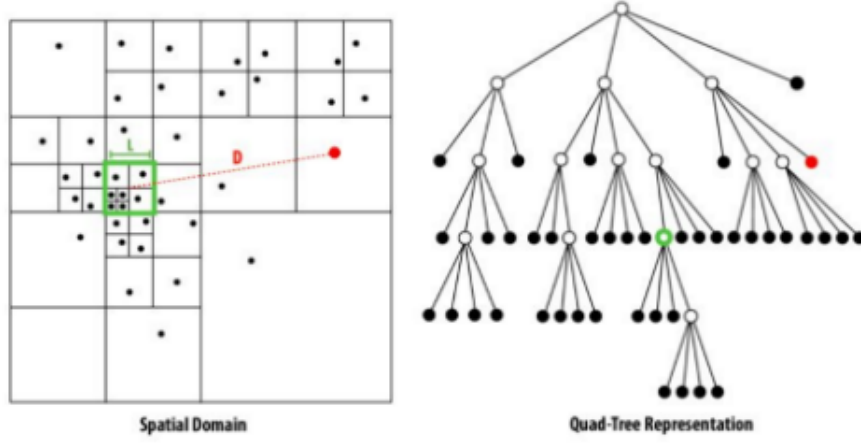
### 3.7 Accuracy Comments

### 3.8 Barnes–Hut

The Barnes–Hut simulation is an approximation algorithm for performing an  $n$ -body simulation. It is notable for having order  $O(n \log n)$  compared to a direct-sum algorithm which would be  $O(n^2)$ . The space is hierarchically divided into cells (rectangular or cubic), so that only points from nearby cells need to be treated individually, and points in distant cells can be treated as a single large point centered at the cell's center of mass. This can dramatically reduce the number of particle pair interactions that must be computed.

More specifically the Barnes–Hut algorithm constructs a octtree or quadtree and for each point it does a depth first search on that tree at each node testing a condition that says if the approximation for this cell is valid.

Figure 4: Barnes-Hut quad-tree representation.



### 3.9 Barnes-Hut an algebraic interpretation

It is clear that given a constructed space tree we can reorder the matrix  $A = \{q_{ij}^2\}$  to a matrix  $A'$  that has the recursive partition:

$$A' = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

for a binary tree  $y \in \mathbf{R}$  or

$$A' = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & A_{14} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} & A_{24} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & A_{34} \\ A_{41} & A_{42} & A_{43} & A_{44} \end{bmatrix}$$

for a quadtree  $y \in \mathbf{R}^2$  similarly for an octtree.

Then for the computation for

$$u = A'v = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{near} \\ v_{far} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}v_{near} + A_{12}v_{far} \\ A_{21}v_{near} + A_{22}v_{far} \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}v_{near} + a_1 \\ a_2 + A_{22}v_{far} \end{bmatrix}$$

$a_1$  and  $a_2$  represent the approximation of the the terms of the cells with the combined force from the center of mass. This approximation can be done recursively at any level.

## 4 Starting Matlab Implementation

### 4.1 Accuracy Analysis

The overall error of the implementation can be measured as an error from the attractive and repulsive term approximation. We will look at both of them to determine the effectiveness of the implementation as well as the total error. We know that the total error would be bounded by the sum of the other two due to the triangle inequality.

#### 4.1.1 1 Dimension

First we consider the Repulsive error for embedding in 1 dimension 500 randomly sampled points of the MNIST dataset. Here we measure the Relative Square Root Error (RSRE) between the exact repulsive term and the interpolation-based approximation (using  $L_2$ ):

$$error = \frac{\|exact - aprox\|}{\|exact\|}.$$

It is expected the error will increase for a wider dataset with the same interpolation parameters. So we will change our interpolation parameters according to the difference  $width = \max(y_i) - \min(y_i)$ . More specifically we set the number of interpolation points in each interval to 3 or 5 and the number of interpolation intervals to:

$$\max(20, \lceil width \rceil).$$

In the graph below we see the Repulsive error graph for 5 interpolation points per interval.

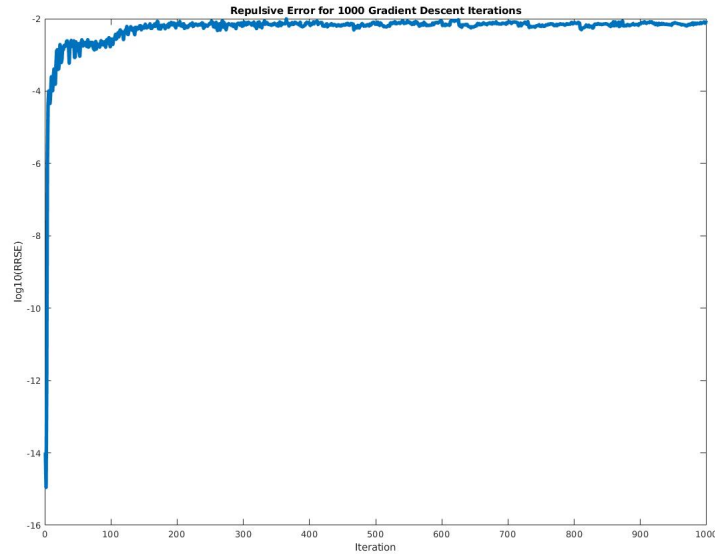


Figure 5: RSRE for 100 gradient descent iterations 5 points per interval.

Next we graph the error for different interpolation parameters at the 800 iteration, an iteration that the width of the embedding has essentially stop growing. We see that we can reach great precision for 3 and 5 interpolation points per interval and almost exact approximation for 10 points, even though choosing very large numbers can result to time consuming execution.

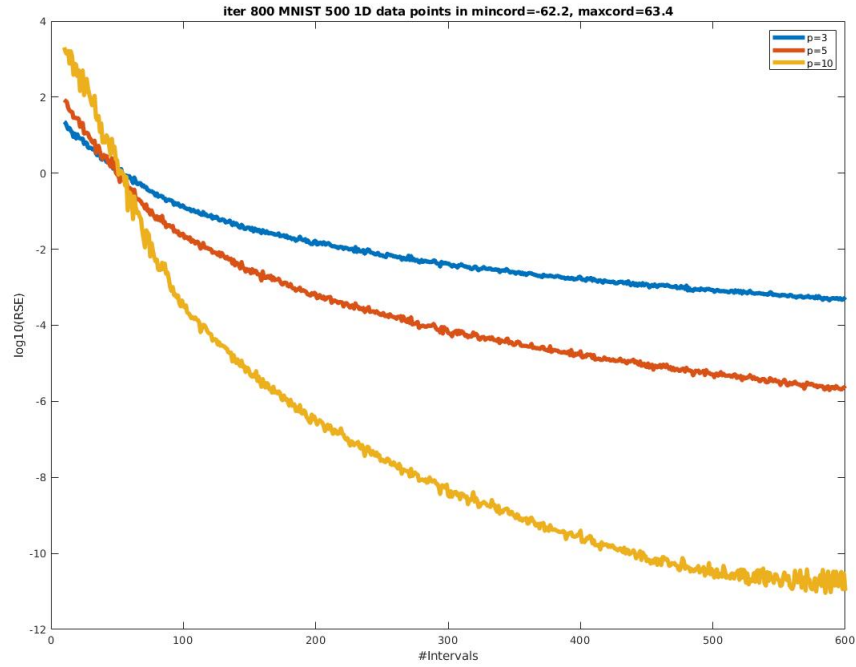


Figure 6: RSRE for the 800 iteration of 1D embedding MNIST using different parameters.

Next comparing the 2 embeddings. We see that there is no essential difference as they capture the same characteristics of the dataset. Clustering nicely same labeled points and having almost the same relative position between clusters.

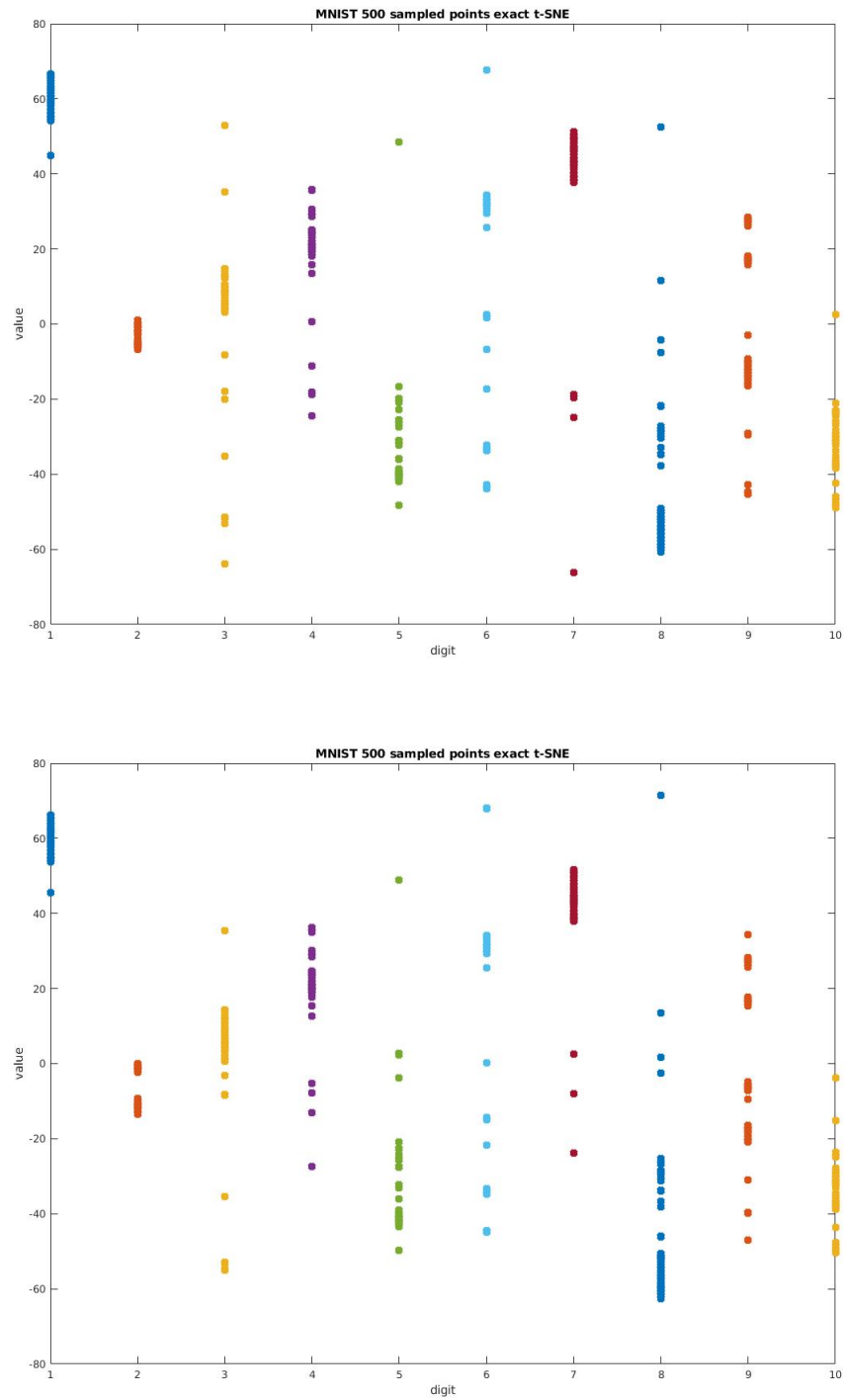


Figure 7: Exact (top) and approximate (bellow) embeddings.

#### 4.1.2 2 Dimensions

Now we do the same experiments for 2 dimensional embeddings for 2000 points of the MNIST dataset. Here we use a different rule for updating the number of intervals. Specifically:

$$N_{int} = \max(20, 1.4 \cdot \lceil width \rceil) \text{ where } width = \max_{i,k}(y_i(k)) - \min_{i,k}(y_i(k))$$

Keeping in mind that in two dimension we would have lower accuracy for the same interpolation parameters and width. Below we see the same graph for RSRE using 5 interpolation points per interval ( 25 per box) and the above rule for computing  $N_{int}$ .

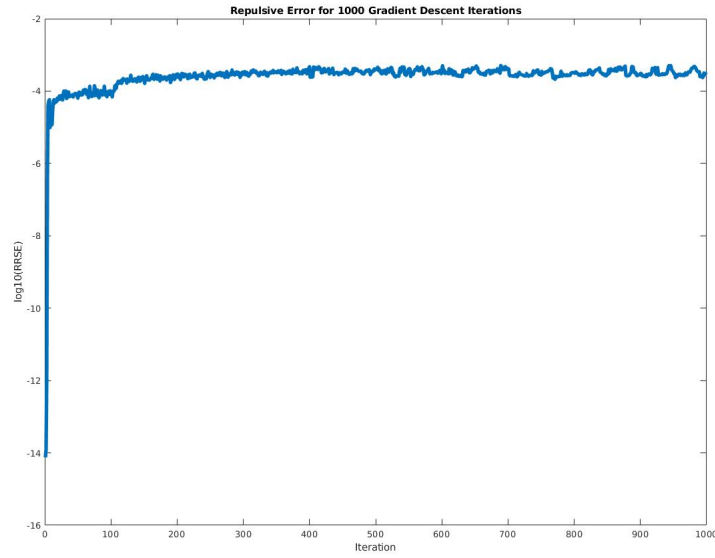


Figure 8: RSRE of Repulsive Forces for 1000 gradient descent iterations 5 points per interval.

We see that we have great accuracy properties. Keep in mind that the 1.4 constant makes for quite an intensive computation, lowering it decreases the accuracy and the time you need to compute the embedding. Next we graph the error of computing the repulsive forces for an iteration for different interpolation parameters.



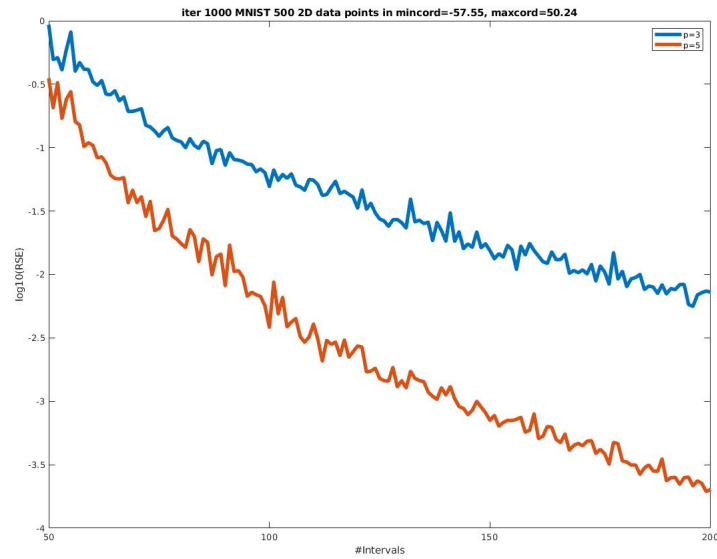


Figure 9: RSRE of Repulsive Forces for the 1000 iteration of 2D embedding MNIST using different parameters.

Also we see the attractive and total gradient RSRE for using 60 nearest neighbours and 30 perplexity.

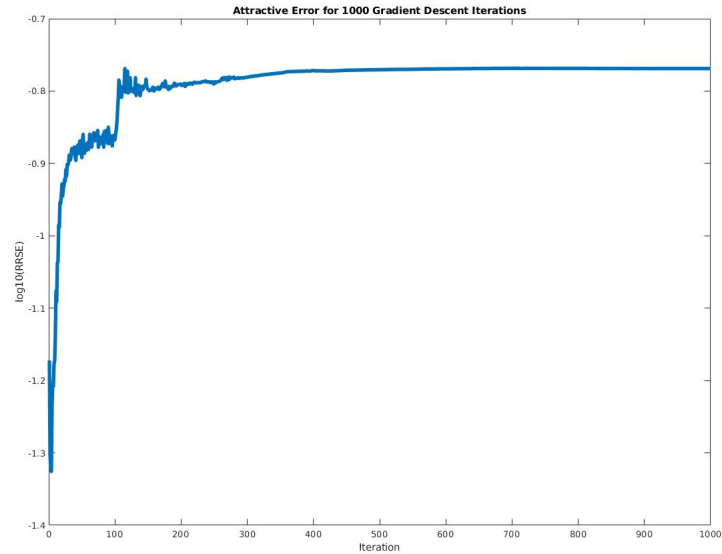


Figure 10: RSRE of the Attractive Forces term for 1000 iterations of 2D embedding MNIST.

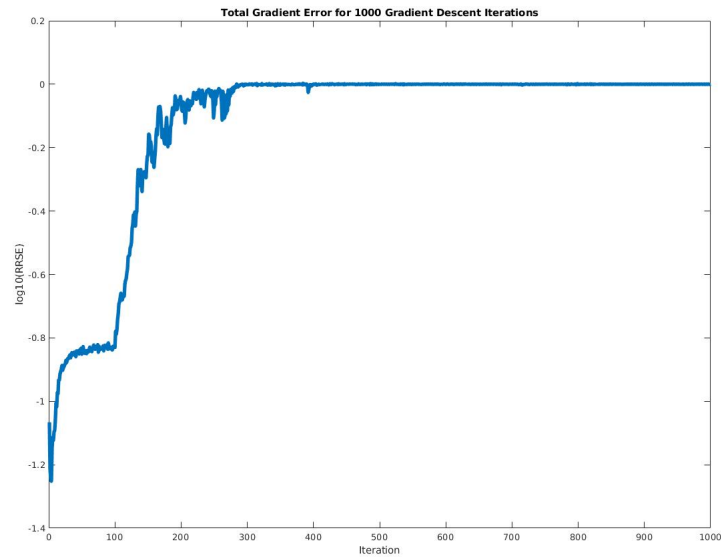


Figure 11: RSRE of Gradient approximation for the 1000 iteration of 2D embedding MNIST.

Finally we need to compare the output embeddings using the exact and approximate methods for the same initial conditions. From the images below we see that the embeddings are extremely visually similar. Except the 5 and 6 labeled points.

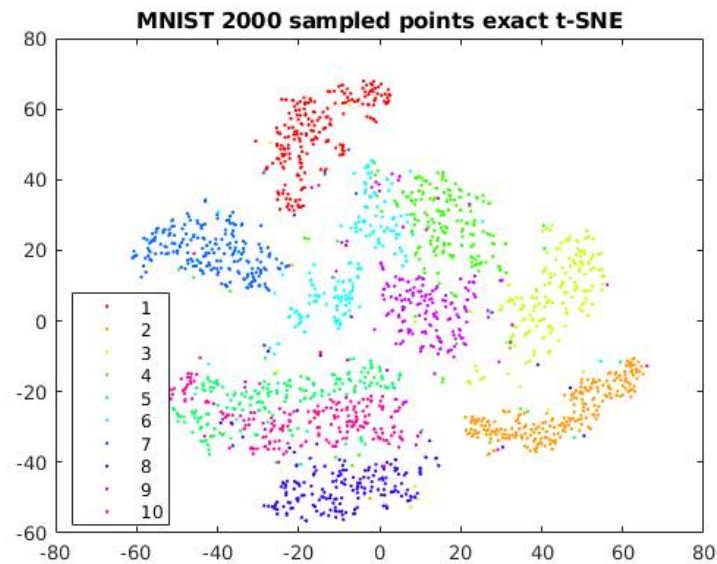


Figure 12: Exact embedding for 2000 MNIST points.

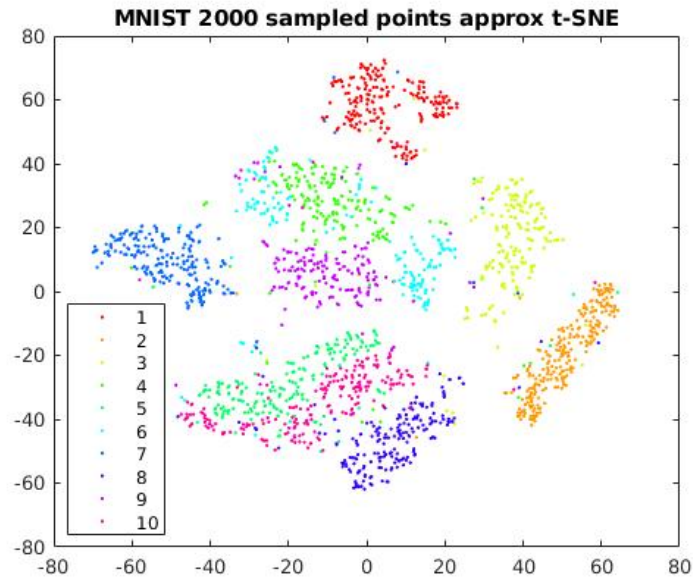


Figure 13: Approximate embedding for 2000 MNIST points.

Ending we note that as the width of the dataset gets larger (greater than 142) we change to 3 interpolation points per interval in the computation of the repulsive forces to speed up the computation and use less memory. Now we see the approximate embedding of a bigger example for 10000 points.

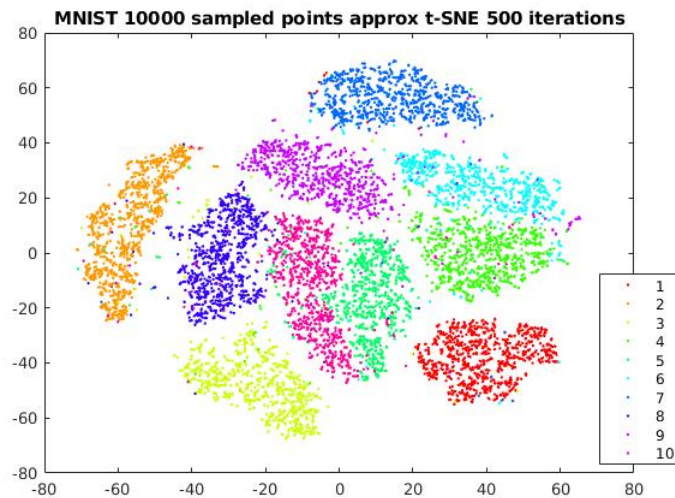


Figure 14: 10000 points of MNIST embedded in 2D.

### 4.1.3 3 Dimensions

Here we have the challenge that the kernel matrix we need to do the FFT accelerated method is of size

$$2^3 \cdot (p \cdot Nint)^3.$$

And so we can run out of memory. Using the matlab limit for defining array we can have an array of maximum size about  $2^{24}$ . We need to incorporate this limit to the update rule for the number of intervals. So as an update rule for 3 points per interval we use:

$$Nint = \min(\text{limit}, \max(14, 1.3 \cdot \lceil \text{width} \rceil)) \text{ where limit} = 35.$$

Below we present the RSRE graphs. Notice that the Repulsive term error is increasing because of our memory limitations. Also it can saturate as the width of the dataset increases very slowly after a high number of iterations.

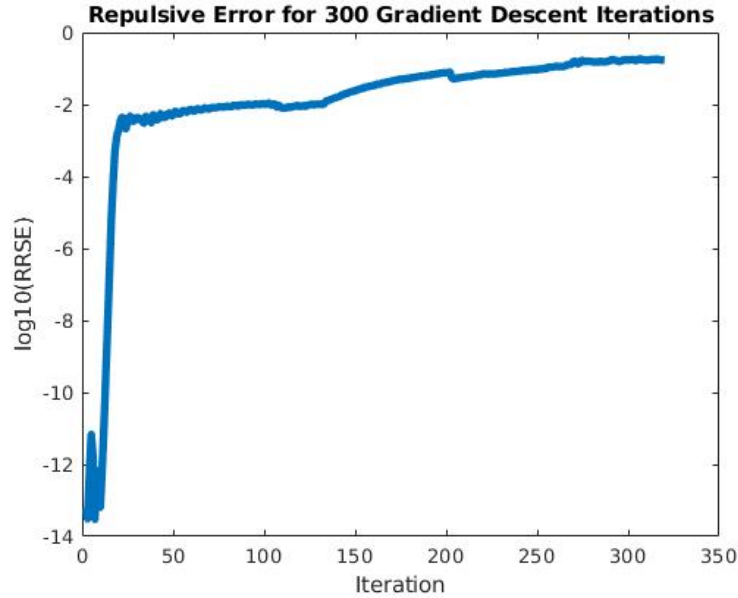


Figure 15: RSRE of Repulsive Forces for 300 gradient descent iterations.

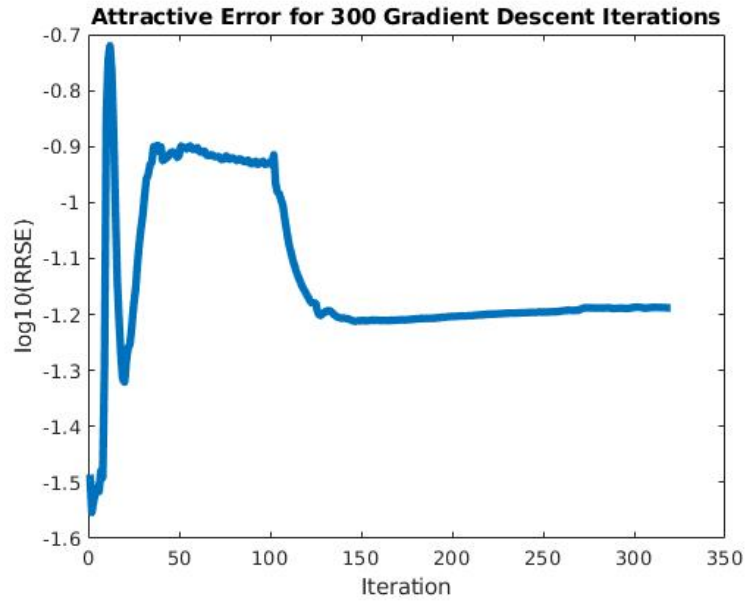


Figure 16: RSRE of Attractive Forces for 300 gradient descent iterations 60 nearest neighbours.

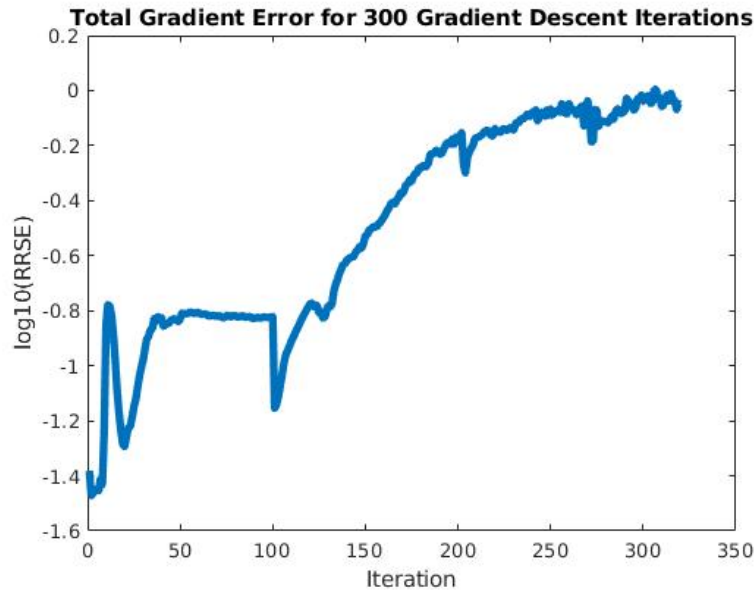


Figure 17: RSRE of the Gradient approx for 300 gradient descent iterations.

Finally we compare the resulting exact and approximate embeddings for the same initial conditions. We observe that the embeddings are very similar. Note that we have

$\frac{\|Y - Y_{approx}\|}{\|Y\|} = 0.6$  using the  $L_2$  norm,  $Y$  and  $Y_{approx}$  the  $N \times 3$  matrices of embedded points.

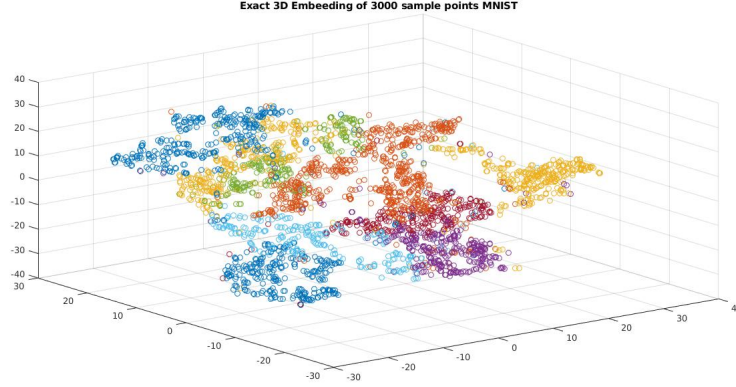


Figure 18: Exact 3D embedding.

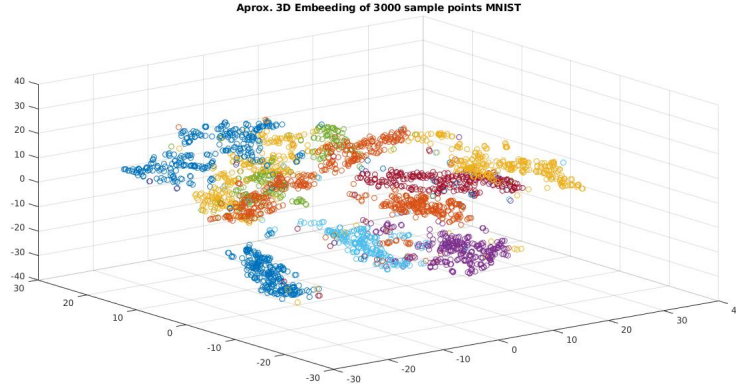


Figure 19: Approximate 3D embedding.

#### 4.1.4 4 Dimensions

In this case we must define an array of size  $2^4 \cdot (p \cdot Nint)^4$  in order to do the Repulsive approximation. So we choose the update rule for 3 points per interval:

$$Nint = \min(\text{limit}, \max(14, 1.3 \cdot \lceil \text{width} \rceil)) \text{ where } \text{limit} = 9.$$

Here we see the error graphs for 100 gradient descent iterations on 500 MNIST points.

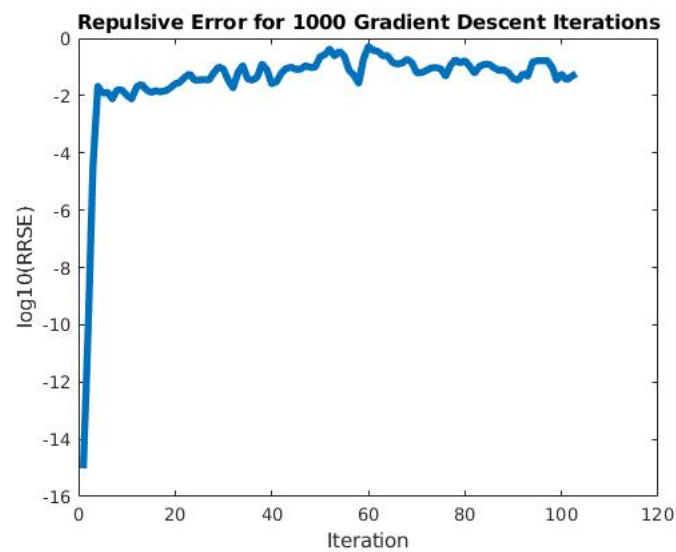


Figure 20: Repulsive Forces RSRE graph.

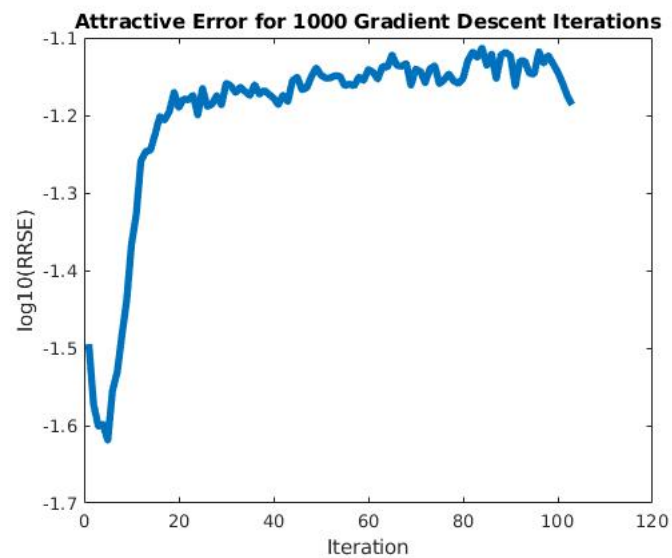


Figure 21: Attractive Forces RSRE graph.

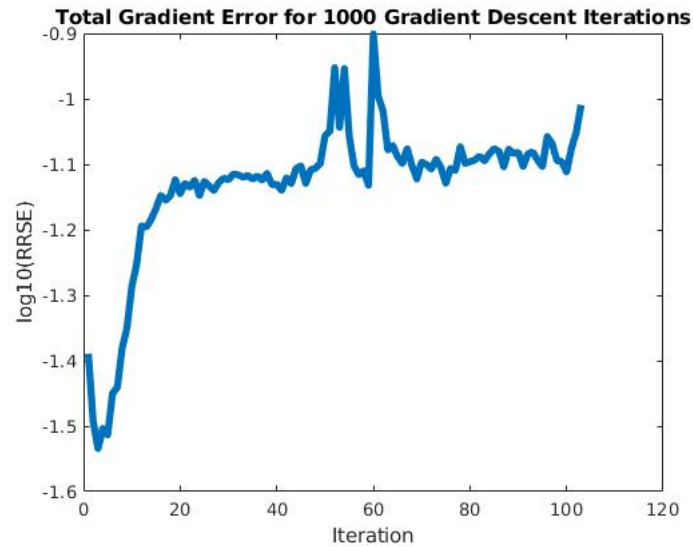


Figure 22: Gradient Error graph.

#### 4.2 GPU-Implementation thoughts

#### 5 FIt-SNE

#### 6 SG-SNE

#### 7 Out of core PCA

#### 8 Method Comparisons

#### 9 GPU implementation