



Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

AI4PDE

A Bit Of Differential Geometry and Manifold Learning

Yunfeng Liao

23 August, 2024



Presentation Overview

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Differential Geomtry

Definition: Manifold, Tangent Space, Tangent Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on Manifolds

PDEs on Manifolds

Manifold Learning

Global Methods
Local Methods



Tutorials about Solving PDEs on manifolds

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Tutorials: Differential Geometry

- An Introduction to Manifolds. Loring W. Tu.
- Differential Geometry. Loring W. Tu.

Tutorials: Geometric Analysis

- Riemannian geomeotry and geometric analysis. Jurgen Jost.
- Notes for Analysis on Manifolds via the Laplacian. Yaiza Canzani.

Tutorials:Variation

- Introductory Variational Calculus on Manifolds. Ivo Terek.

Numerical Methods

- (ODE)Solving Differential Equations on Manifolds. Ernst Hairer.



Section Overview

Differential Geomtry

Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on Manifolds

PDEs on Manifolds

Manifold Learning

Differential Geomtry

Definition: Manifold, Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric



Manifold

Differential
Geomtry

Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

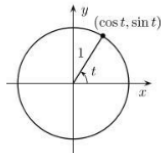
Manifold
Learning

Definition

A **n-dimension manifold** \mathcal{M} is a Hausdorff topological space that **locally looks like** \mathbb{R}^n . It has a set of one-to-one **coordinate mappings**, $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$.

Example

A circle in \mathbb{R}^2 is a 1d manifold. It can be equipped with two coordinates map:
 $\phi_1: (x) \rightarrow (x, y), y \geq 0$ $\phi_2: (x) \rightarrow (x, y), y \leq 0$





Sorts of Manifold

Differential
Geomtry

Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Intuitive Manifolds

A sphere S^2 , any graph of a smooth two variables function $\{(x, y, f(x, y))\}$, any curve or surface and so on are manifolds. These topology can be embedded into an Euclidean space, which are studied in **extrinsic geometry**.

Somewhat *Weird* Manifolds

- Many **matrix groups** can be viewed as a manifold. For instance, the n -d general linear group:

$$GL(\mathbb{R}^n) := \{A \in M_n : \det A \neq 0\} \quad (1)$$

It can be showed that it is a n^2 -d manifold.

- Level set.** Sometimes a system parametrized with θ satisfies $f(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) = 0$, then the solution of θ 's is termed the **zero level set**, which also constitutes a manifold.



What is Tangent Space

Differential
Geomtry

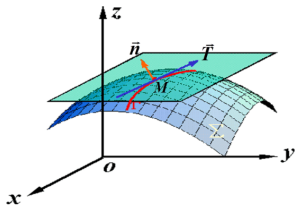
Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Locally looks like \mathbb{R}^n ? For a 2d surface manifold embedded in \mathbb{R}^3 , its tangent space **at a point** $p \in$ can be imagined as its **tangent plane**. One can easily find two basis vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 , which is $\mathbf{e}_1 = (a, b, 0)^T$, $\mathbf{e}_2 = (c, d, 0)^T$ after a proper coordinates transformation.



Since its tangent space is simply 2d, it is enough to write $\mathbf{e}_1 = (a, b)^T$, $\mathbf{e}_2 = (c, d)^T$. To jump out of what the Euclidean space limits, we use $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}$ as the basis vectors, i.e.

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = a \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \equiv a \partial_x + b \partial_y; \mathbf{e}_2 = c \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + d \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \equiv c \partial_x + d \partial_y \quad (2)$$



Notations

Differential
Geomtry

Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Definition

A n-d \mathcal{M} at any $x \in \mathcal{M}$ has a n-d **tangent vector space** $T_x \mathcal{M}$. Assembly these spaces and yield the tangent bundle $T\mathcal{M} : \mathcal{M} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ with a natural projection $\pi : T\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$.

Einstein Summation Convention

$$a_i c_j d_k b^i := \left(\sum_i a_i b^i \right) c_j d_k \quad (3)$$

Definition

A **function** or **scalar field** on \mathcal{M} is a map $f : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. A **vector field** on \mathcal{M} is a map $X : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow T\mathcal{M}$. A **curve** on \mathcal{M} is a map $\gamma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$



Riemannian Manifold

Differential
Geomtry

Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field

Riemannian Metric

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Definition

If we endow those tangent spaces with an inner product, i.e. ,assume them **Hilbert**, then we write $(x, y) = x^T G_p y, x, y \in T_p M, p \in M$. If $\forall p, G_p$ is **positive-definite**, such $G_p := g(p)$ is called a **Riemannian metric** on M .

Remark

g can be viewd as a matrix, whose (i, j) element g_{ij} , are all functions on M . Its **inverse matrix** is g^{ij} s.t. $g_{ij} g^{jk} = \delta_i^k$.

Remark

All basis vectors $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$ on a smooth manifold can constitute n vector fields with a proper permutation.



Christoffel Symbol

Differential Geometry

Definition: Manifold,
Tangent Space, Tangent
Bundle, Vector Field
Riemannian Metric

ODEs on Manifolds

PDEs on Manifolds

Manifold Learning

Since the basis vectors in each tangent space will vary, we must use Christoffel symbols to depict such changes.

$$\partial_{x^j} \mathbf{e}_i = \Gamma_{ij}^k \mathbf{e}_k \quad (4)$$

or equivalently, where $g_{mk,l} := \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} g_{mk}$

$$\Gamma_{ij}^k = \frac{1}{2} g^{im} (g_{mk,l} + g_{ml,k} - g_{kl,m}) \quad (5)$$

The **connection**, i.e., the generalized version of the **gradient** ∇ is unique in the sense of being compatible with Riemannian manifold (M, g) . So the Christoffel symbol is somewhat the components of a *directional derivative*.

Here $\nabla : T_x M \times T_x M \rightarrow T_x M, \nabla_X Y \mapsto Z$

$$\nabla_{\partial_i} \mathbf{e}_j = \Gamma_{ij}^k \mathbf{e}_k \quad (6)$$



Section Overview

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

ODEs on Manifolds



Problem Settings

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Usually, the solution of an ODE on a manifold is a **curve**(also **flow** in some literature) $\gamma(t)$.

Example

Geodesic. $\gamma(t)$ where $\dot{\gamma} := \frac{d\gamma^i}{dt} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}$ is a geodesic iff

$$\nabla_{\dot{\gamma}(t)} \dot{\gamma}(t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \gamma^i + \Gamma_{jk}^i \frac{d\gamma^j}{dt} \frac{d\gamma^k}{dt} = 0 \quad (7)$$

A more generalized version is:

$$\dot{y} = f(y), y(0) = y_0 \quad (8)$$

where $y \in M, f : M \rightarrow T_x M$



FDM with Projection

If the manifold is embedded in \mathbb{R}^n , then one can take the tangent space on M as a subspace in \mathbb{R}^n and use FDM directly.

$$\dot{y} = f(y) \Rightarrow y^{n+1} - y^n = f(y^n)h \quad (9)$$

However, since it always happens that the obtained $y^{n+1} \notin M$ even if $y^n \in M$, a projection step is required.

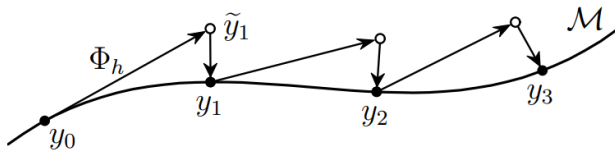


Fig. 1: Naive FDM



Section Overview

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

PDEs on Manifolds



Generalized Grad, Div, LBO on Manifolds

Use the generalizations below and one can develop the corresponding PDE on manifolds, where u, X are a function and a vector field on M , resp.

$$\nabla u := g^{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j} \quad (10)$$

$$\operatorname{div}_g X := \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\det g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} (b^i \sqrt{|\det g|}), X = b^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \quad (11)$$

$$\Delta_g u := \operatorname{div}_g \nabla u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\det g|}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} (g^{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x^j} \sqrt{|\det g|}) \quad (12)$$

Example

The eigenproblems of Laplacian-Beltramin Operator.

$$\Delta_g u(x) = \lambda u, x \in M; u(x) = 0, x \in \partial M \quad (13)$$



A Possible Task Scenario

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Point Clouds On a Manifold.

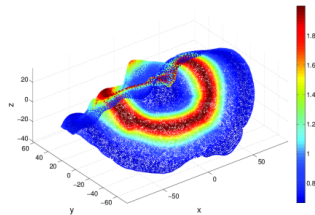
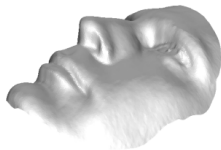


Fig. 2: Solving The Possion Equation On A Point Cloud



Challenges

- How to find a proper chart(or more exactly, the coordinate system) for the manifold?
- How to reconstruct the manifold by the point cloud?
- How to solve the PDE given a manifold?
- Another way: can we solve u without estimating g directly?
- Difference(or derivative) is not easily to realize on a point cloud, but integral is much easier.



Challenge I: Find a proper coordinate system

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Possible coordinate systems are:

- The original coordinate system. Not recommended. i) Nobody know how to **segment** an unknown manifold properly; ii) it can be ill-conditioned;
- If M is known of $n-1$ -dimension, i.e., a **hyper surface**, then one may compute its normal vector field via **SVD**. A simple BFS can generate a set of well-behaved coordinates.
- **Harmonic Coordinates**. Widely utilized in harmonic analysis and determined only by the metric itself.
- **Coordinates used in manifold learning**. However, these coordinates don't seem to involve much useful geometric info about the manifold.



Find An Euclidean Chart Of A Hypersurface N

Algorithm 1: Find An Euclidean Chart Of A Hypersurface N

```
1 Find  $k$ -nearest neighbors of each point  $k > n - 1$ 
2 for Each Point  $\mathbf{x}_i$  do
3   displacement  $\mathbf{u}_j = \mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_i \in N(\mathbf{x}_j)$ 
4    $A = \text{concat}(\mathbf{u}_j)$ 
5    $U, \Sigma, V^T = \text{SVD}(A)$ 
6   normal vector  $\mathbf{n}_i = \text{lastRowOf}(V^T)$ 
7 while Not All Points Have A Coordinate System do
8   Choose a uncoordinated point  $\mathbf{x}_i$  with  $\mathbf{n}_i$ .
9   Establish an Euclidean coordinates using projection orthogonal to  $\mathbf{n}_i$ .
10  repeat
11    BFS, add new neighboring point  $\mathbf{x}_j$ 
12  until  $\mathbf{n}_i \cdot \mathbf{n}_j > \epsilon$ ;
```



Harmonic Coordinates

The harmonic coordinate (x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n) on manifold M is n linearly independent harmonic functions $x^{1:n}$ s.t.

$$\Delta_g x_i = 0 \quad (14)$$

Equivalently

$$2g^{ij}g_{jk,i} = g^{ij}g_{ij,k} \quad (15)$$

Fortunately, it can be showed that:

$$-\int_M \Delta_g u(y) R'_t(x, y) d\mu_y \approx \frac{1}{t} \int_M R_t(x, y) (u(x) - u(y)) d\mu_y - 2 \int_{\partial M} R'_t(x, y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(y) d\tau_y \quad (16)$$

where R_t is Gaussian kernel and R'_t is its error function, i.e.

$$R_t(x, y) = C_t R\left(\frac{|x - y|^2}{4t}\right), R'_t(x, y) = C_t \int_{\frac{|x - y|^2}{4t}}^{+\infty} R(s) ds \quad (17)$$

$R(s)$ has a compact support within $[0, 1]$ and is usually chosen as $\exp -s^2$ in engineering.



Section Overview

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

**Manifold
Learning**

Global Methods

Local Methods

Manifold Learning

Global Methods

Local Methods



Overview

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

**Manifold
Learning**

Global Methods

Local Methods

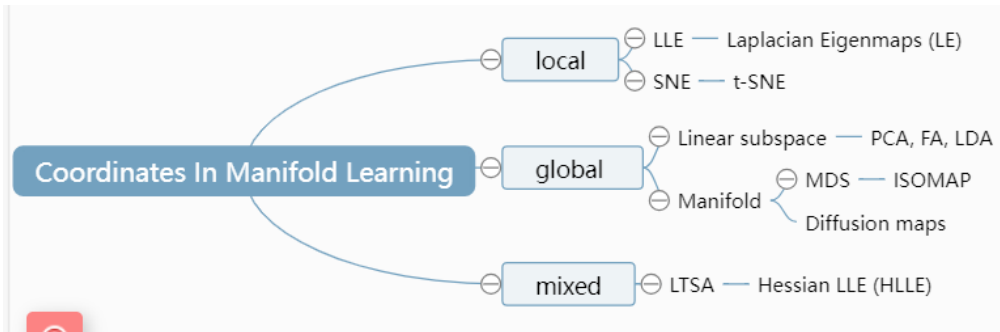
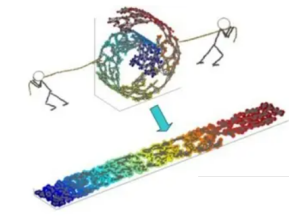


Fig. 3: Coordinate Representation Methods

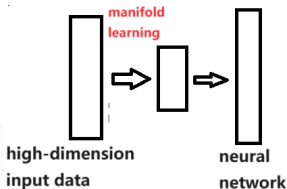


Why Manifold Learning?

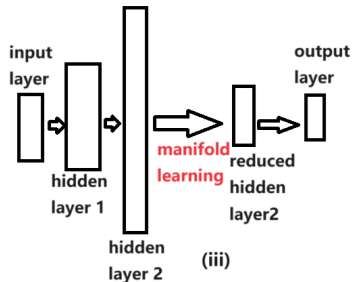
The essential spirit of manifold learning is **dimension reduction**(RD), or namely **feature extraction** to be high-brow. It helps to avoid **curse of dimensionality**.



(i)



(ii)



(iii)

How to use manifolds? **Coordinates is all you need .**



The Powerful SVD Technique

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Global Methods
Local Methods

For any matrix $A_{d \times D}$, we have:

$$A = U_{d \times d} \Sigma_{d \times D} V_{D \times D}^T \quad (18)$$

where $UU^T = I$, $VV^T = I$, Σ without the last $(D-d)$ columns is diagonal, denoted by $\text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d\}$. It is of great use in the following aspects:

- **Dimension Reduction.** SVD induces [low-rank decomposition](#), since $A = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i u_i v_i^T$. One can cast away terms where the corresponding λ_i is too small.
- **As the optimization solution.** The optimization target $\min_{X^T X = I} \text{tr} X^T A X$ is often met in manifold learning. Its solution is just about the eigenpairs (the eigenvalue and eigenvector) of A .
- **Discrete spectral method.** We use its eigenvectors to generate the coordinates.



If the manifold is assumed to be a vector subspace...

Then we have classical dimension-reduction methods, like PCA, LDA and FA. LDA turns out to be linear in the end and FA only differs a little bit from eq.(20)

PCA: Principal component analysis

It has two equivalent optimization target: **minimize reconstruction error** and **maximize the principal variance**. $X, P_{d \times D}, Y = PX$ denotes the input data matrix, output matrix and linear transformation. In the sense of **maximize the principal variance**, $\text{Cov } Y := \frac{1}{n} YY^T$ and we wish to maximize $\text{tr Cov } Y$, i.e.

$$\max_P \text{tr}(P \text{Cov}[X] P^T) \quad (19)$$

Apply SVD on $\text{Cov}[X]$ and X is the first d columns of V . It is equivalent to minimize reconstruction error by

$$\min_P \|Y' - X\|^2 \quad (20)$$



Now the manifold is a non-trivial manifold

MDS: Multidimensional Scaling [1]

MDS gives a framework for ISOMAP. Given the distance matrix $L_{ij} := d(x_i, x_j)$, d here can be any distance function. Let d be l_2 and yield

$$G := XX^T \equiv -\frac{1}{2}JLJ, J = I_n - \frac{1}{n}11^T \quad (21)$$

Notice that G is symmetric, positive semi-definite (p.s.d.), so \sqrt{G} is well-defined.

$$G = (\sqrt{\Lambda}P)^T \sqrt{\Lambda}P, X \approx \sqrt{G} := \sqrt{\Lambda}P \quad (22)$$

SVD here acts as low-rank decomposition. One can cast away small eigenvalues in Λ for RD.

What if d is the [geodesic distance](#)? It is followed with [ISOMAP](#).



ISOMAP [2]

Suppose the manifold M is given in the form of **point cloud**. One can construct a KNN(k-nearest neighbors graph) onwards.

Spirit

It is unrealistic to solve a geodesic on M . Instead, we use the virtue of M that

- It looks locally like \mathbb{R}^d
- Its parameter space is Euclidean.
- Geodesic is the shortest curve on M .

ISOMAP: Isometric Mapping

- Approximate geodesic distance via Euclidean distance.
$$d(x_i, x_j) := \|x_i - x_j\|_2, x_i \in N(x_j)$$
- Evaluate the distance matrix L_{ij} by a shortest path algorithm.



Local Embedding Methods:LLE/Eigenmaps

Since M **looks locally like** \mathbb{R}^d , the linear approximation holds water:

$$x_i = \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ij} x_j, x_j \in N(x_i) \quad (23)$$

Thus the embedded coordinate Y also enjoys:

$$y_i = \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ij} y_j, y_j \in N(y_i) \quad (24)$$

Generally, we require Y to be translation-invariant and orthogonal normal:

$$Y\mathbf{1} = 0, Y^T Y = I \quad (25)$$

LLE only gives the relative coordinates.

LLE: Local Linear Embedding [3]

- Yield weights W by minimizing $|x_i - \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ij} x_j|^2 + \alpha \sum_j w_{ij}^2$
- Yield $Y = \arg \min_{Y^T Y = I} |Y - WY|^2 = \arg \min_{Y^T Y = I} Y^T [(I - W)^T (I - W)] Y$ by SVD.



Laplacian LE/Laplacian Eigenmaps

What if we wanna get something like harmonic coordinates? i.e. $\Delta f = 0$. We may not as well impose the homogenous Neumann condition on M . Then by Green's first equation

$$f = \arg \min_f \int_M |\nabla f|^2 = \arg \min_f \int_M f \Delta f \quad (26)$$

Use the integration where G_t is the Neumann heat kernel

$$e^{-t\Delta} = \int_M G_t(x, y) f(y), G_t(x, y) \approx (4\pi t)^{-\frac{d}{2}} e^{-\frac{|x-y|^2}{4t}} \quad (27)$$

Given $\Delta = -\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{I - e^{-t\Delta}}{t}$, a discretized version is:

$$\Delta f(x_i) = \frac{1}{t} (f(x_i) - (4\pi t)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \sum_{x_j \in N(x_i)} \exp -\frac{|x_i - x_j|^2}{4t} f(x_j)) =: \frac{1}{t} (d_i f(x_i) - \sum_j w_{ij} f(x_j)) \quad (28)$$

Whence here comes the graph Laplacian matrix $L := D - W$, the approximation of Δ .



Laplacian LE/Laplacian Eigenmaps

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Global Methods

Local Methods

Normalize L symmetrically as what we do in GNN, $\mathcal{L} := D^{-\frac{1}{2}} L D^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

Laplacian Eigenmaps [4],chap. 12

As required in LLE,

$$Y\mathbf{1} = 0, Y^T Y = I \quad (29)$$

The variation and SVD gives Y :

$$\arg \min_f \int_M f \Delta f \approx \arg \min_Y \text{tr } Y^T \mathcal{L} Y =: Y \quad (30)$$



LTSA:Local Tangent Space Alignment

There is a mapping between the coordinates on the manifold and in the Euclidean space, $f(y) = x$. Hence we have a push-forward df s.t.

$$x_j - \bar{x} = df(\bar{y})(y_j - \bar{y}) \quad (31)$$

Hence its inverse $dh := df^{-1}$ gives:

$$y_j - \bar{y} = dh(\bar{x})(x_j - \bar{x}) \quad (32)$$

H denotes the centralized matrix, and we have:

$$Y_i H = dh(\bar{x}) X_i H = dh(\bar{x}) U \Sigma V^T \quad (33)$$

Then we have:

$$Y_i H (I - V V^T) = O \quad (34)$$

Define $W_i = H(I - V V^T)$ and we have $Y_i W_i = O$. Extend W_i, Y_i to the whole graph and yield W^i, Y . And it is expected that

$$Y W^i = O, \forall i \Rightarrow Y K = O, K = \sum W^i \quad (35)$$



Since K is s.p.d. , the optimization problem can be:

$$Y = \arg_Y \min_{Y^T Y = I} \text{tr } Y^T K Y \quad (36)$$

The solution is the 2nd to $(n+1)st$ eigenvectors because K has a trivial eigenvector $\mathbf{1}$ s.t. $K\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}$.

HLLE: Hessian LLE [4],chap.13

We may define the **Hessian operator** $H[f] := \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^i \partial y^j} f$ and must have:

$$H[y^i] = 0, H[c] = 0 \quad (37)$$

where c is the constant function on M . If we can find an approximation of H at x_i and replace the W_i in LTSA, then we have the so-called HLLE.



Ref.

Differential
Geomtry

ODEs on
Manifolds

PDEs on
Manifolds

Manifold
Learning

Global Methods

Local Methods

- 1 <https://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/guangliang.chen/Math253S20/lec9mds.pdf>
- 2 <https://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/guangliang.chen/Math253S20/lec10ISOmap.pdf>
- 3 <https://www.stat.cmu.edu/~cshalizi/350/lectures/14/lecture-14.pdf>
- 4 Geometric Structure of High-Dimensional Data and Dimensionality Reduction, Jianzhong Wang.
- 5 Manifold Learning: What, How, and Why. Marina Meila and Hanyu Zhang. Annual Review of Statistics and Its Applications.