

# "Sparse Subspace Clustering Algorithm, Theory and Applications"

Report by :

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- Subspace clustering problem:

given points  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  lying in subspaces

$S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_L$ , find:

- Basis for each subspace
- clustering of the data

Challenges:

- do not know subspace bases
- do not know membership of points
- ~~the~~ data points ~~may~~ may be corrupted by noise, missing entries, outliers, ...

⇒ Self expressiveness property of the data is:

"each data point in a union of subspaces can be efficiently reconstructed by a combination of other points in the dataset."

or each data point  $y_i \in \bigcup_{l=1}^L S_l$  can be written as:

all data points  $\leftarrow$   $[Y]_{i \times N}$   $\leftarrow$  one data point  $\leftarrow$   $[y_i]_{n \times 1}$

$$[y_i]_{n \times 1} = [Y]_{n \times N} [c_i]_{N \times 1}, \quad c_{ii} = 0 \quad c_i \triangleq [c_{i1}, c_{i2}, \dots, c_{iN}]^T$$

since for  $[Y]_{n \times N}$ ,  $N > n$ ,  $[Y]_{n \times N}$  is a fat

matrix and therefore  $y_i = Y C_i$  has many

solutions. however:

"there exist a sparse solution  $C_i$ , whose nonzero entries correspond to data points from the same subspace as  $y_i$ . we refer to such a solution as a subspace-sparse representation."

Thus, from the system of eq<sup>s</sup>  $y_i = Y C_i$ , with infinitely many solutions, one can restrict set of solution by

$$\min \overset{l_q\text{-norm}}{\|C_i\|_q} \text{ s.t. } y_i = Y C_i, C_{ii} = 0$$

$q \downarrow$  sparsity of  $C_i \uparrow$

extreme case  $q=0 \Rightarrow$  NP-hard

So we use tightest convex relaxation of  $l_0$ -norm:

$$\min \|C_i\|_1 \text{ s.t. } y_i = Y C_i, C_{ii} = 0 \quad (I)$$



writing (I) for all data points  $i=1, \dots, N$  :

$$\min \|C\|_1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad Y = YC, \quad \text{diag}(C) = 0 \quad (\text{II})$$

Clustering using sparse coefficients:

after solving II, we obtained sparse  $C$ .

now we have to ~~diffuse~~ cluster the data points.

So we build a weighted graph  $G = (V, E, W)$

where  $V$  denotes the set of  $N$  nodes ( $N$  data points),

$E \subseteq V \times V$ , set of edges between nodes and

$W \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ , a symmetric similarity matrix representing the weights of the edges.  $W$  is defined as:

$$W = |C| + |C^T| \quad \text{or} \quad w_{ij} = |C_{ij}| + |C_{ji}|$$

By forming graph  $G$ , we use spectral clustering to cluster data points.

## Sparse Subspace Clustering (SSC) (Algorithm I)

input: A set of points  $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^N$  lying in a union of  $n$  linear subspace  $\{S_i\}_{i=1}^n$ .

1) Solve the sparse optimization  $\Pi \Rightarrow C \checkmark$

2) Normalize  $C$  by columns

3) Form similarity graph with  $N$  nodes.

$$W = |C| + |C^T|$$

4) Apply spectral clustering

output: segmentation of the data:  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_n$

Dealing with noise and sparse Outlying Entries:

$$y_i = y_i^0 + e_i^0 + z_i^0 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{ith data points} & \text{error free point} & \text{sparse outlying entry} & \text{noise} \end{matrix} \quad \|e_i^0\|_0 \leq k$$

self expressive ness property:  $y_i^0 = \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ij} y_j^0$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} e_i &\triangleq e_i^0 - \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ij} e_j^0 \\ z_i &\triangleq z_i^0 - \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ij} z_j^0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow y_i = \sum_{j \neq i} c_{ij} y_j + e_i + z_i$$

for all data points:

$$Y = YC + E + Z \quad \text{diag}(C) = 0$$



⇒ So we modify (II) to:

$$\begin{cases} \min \|C\|_1 + \lambda_e \|E\|_1 + \frac{\lambda_z}{2} \|Z\|_F^2 \\ \text{s.t. } Y = YC + E + Z \end{cases} \quad (\text{III})$$

suggestions:  $\lambda_z = \frac{\alpha_z}{\mu_z}$        $\lambda_e = \frac{\alpha_e}{\mu_e}$        $\alpha_z, \alpha_e > 1$

$$\mu_z \triangleq \min_i \max_{j \neq i} |y_i^T y_j| \quad \mu_e \triangleq \min_i \max_{j \neq i} \|y_i\|_1$$

So with this  $l_1$  minimization in III we are able to find  $((C, E, Z))$  and therefore clustering  $\underline{\subseteq}$ .

Missing Entries



Consider a collection  $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^N \in \mathbb{R}^D$

let  $J_i \subset \{1, \dots, D\}$  denote indices of known entries of  $y_i$ .

$$\text{let } J \triangleq \bigcap_{i=1}^N J_i$$

if  $|J|$  is not small relative to  $D$ , then (Next Page)



We can implement SSC algorithm on

$\bar{Y} \in \mathbb{R}^{|J| \times N}$ , where  $\bar{Y}$  is data points where

~~from~~  $Y$  where all entries are known.  
<sup>reduced</sup>  
<sup>dim</sup>

However if  $|J|$  is ~~so~~ very small or  $\approx$  zero  
 this algorithm does not hold.

Theoretical Analysis:

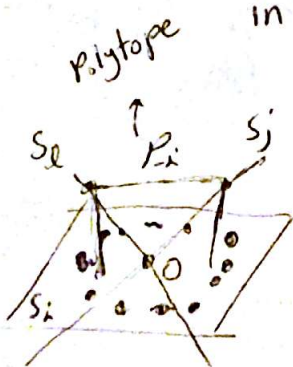
$\Delta$  SSC succeeds when:

- $\Delta$  selects points from the correct subspace  
 or (no false discovery)

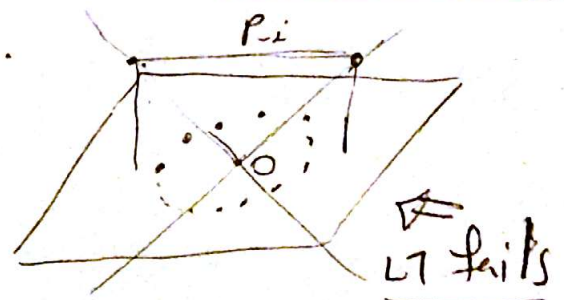
~~SSC~~ SSC has zero false discovery for any  $y \in S_i$

if  $\max_{j \neq i} C_s(\theta_{ij}) < \max_{\text{rank}(Y_i') = d_i} \sigma_{d_i}(Y_i') / \sqrt{d_i}$

in other words: Need a few but well distributed  
 no need to many points.



$\Leftarrow$  L1  
 Success



So the success of  $l_1$ -minimization for subspace-sparse recovery depends on the principal angle between subspaces and the distribution of the data in each subspace.

### Experimental Results :

① Synthetic data:

Create 3 disjoint subspaces  $\{S_i\}_{i=1}^3$  same dimension  $d$ . such that smallest principal angle is  $\theta = \theta_{12} = \theta_{23}$

also in each subspace, we put  $N_g$  random data points.

we end up with :

|  |                     |               |         |   |                                |
|--|---------------------|---------------|---------|---|--------------------------------|
|  | increasing $\theta$ | $\Rightarrow$ | reduces | { | Subspace sparse recovery error |
|  | increasing $N_g$    |               |         |   | Subspace clustering error      |



imagine that for  $y_i$ , following sparse representation is

Computed:  $y_i \rightarrow C_i^T = [C_{i1}^T \ C_{i2}^T \ C_{i3}^T]$

⇒ Subspace-sparse recovery error is defined as follows:

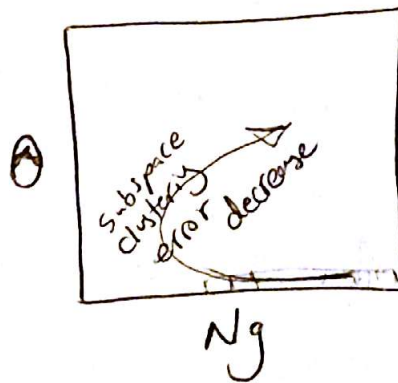
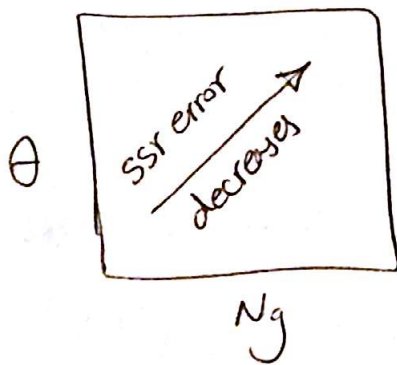
$$\text{ssr error} = \frac{1}{3 N_g} \sum_{i=1}^{3 N_g} \left( 1 - \frac{\|C_i k_i\|_1}{\|C_i\|_1} \right) \in [0, 1]$$

$$\text{Subspace clustering error} = \frac{\# \text{ of misclassified points}}{\text{total \# of points}}$$

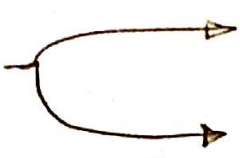
in experiment, dimension of ambient space =  $D = 50$


$$\theta \in [6, 60] \quad N_g \in [d+1, 32d]$$

result of  $d=4$  is provided.




# Experiment with real data


- Two problems  segmenting multiple motions in video.  
clustering images of human faces.
- Compare SCC with :

 LSA , SCC , LRIR , LRSC  
state-of-the-art  
subspace clustering  
algorithms.

- for motion segmentation : — Hopkins 155 dataset which  
consist of 155 video sequences of 2 or 3 motions corresponding  
to 2 or 3 low dimensional subspaces in each video.

- for Extended Yale B data set, ~~38~~ 38 humans

angles between subspaces :  $\theta$    $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Hopkin} \rightarrow \theta \leq 10 \\ \text{Yale} \rightarrow 10 \leq \theta \leq 20 \end{array} \right\}$

$k$  nearest neighbors   $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Hopkin} \rightarrow \text{almost all} \\ \text{data points} \\ k \text{ nearest neighbors belong} \\ \text{to same cluster} \\ \text{Yale} \rightarrow \text{not good, } k \uparrow \text{ worse} \end{array} \right\}$

# Motion Segmentation:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} N \text{ Feature points} \\ \text{through frames } f=1, \dots, F \end{array} \right\} y_i \triangleq [x_{1i}^T, x_{2i}^T, \dots, x_{Fi}^T] \in \mathbb{R}^{2F}$$

120 videos  $\xrightarrow{\text{frames}}$  2 motions

$N = 266$  30 frames

35 "  $\Rightarrow$  3 "

$N = 398$  29 "

## result

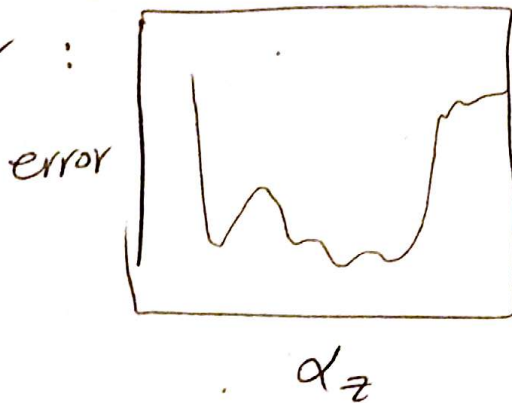
| Algo                 | LSA | SCC | LRN | LRN-H | LRSC | SCC  |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|------|------|
| 2 motion error       |     |     |     |       |      | 1.52 |
| 3 motion error       |     |     |     |       |      | 4.40 |
| together (All) error |     |     |     |       |      | 2.18 |

- Table 1 shows SCC is the most successful in identifying subspaces in comparison with others.
- dividing into 2 motions & 3 motions, improved accuracy for 2 motion.



- Same observations happens when we use ~~RPCA~~ 4n dimensional data points obtained by applying PCA (Table 2)

Fig 11 also shows the effect of regularization parameter :



$$\lambda_z = \frac{\alpha_z}{\mu_z}$$

## Face Clustering

Table 3 : after applying RPCA separately to the data points in each subjects

⇒ LRSC is the best  
SSC is 2nd best  
(best: lowest clustering error)

Table 4 : apply RPCA simultaneously to all ~~data~~ data in each trial

⇒ SSC has lowest clustering error in all ~~each trial~~ trials  
2, 3, 5, 8 & 10 subjects.

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Table 5 : No preprocessing  $\Rightarrow$  SSC has the lowest clustering error in all trials:  
2, 3, 5, 8 & 10 subjects.

### Computational Time :

average computational time plotted on Yale-B dataset as a function of the number of subjects :

