

CCA scribe

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Canonical correlation analysis

A method to identify and measure the associations between two sets of variables. Its biggest difference from PCA is that it operates on 2 axes instead of 1.

Two Examples

1. two types (sets) of measurements on students:
 - Academic: maths, reading, etc
 - Psychological: motivation, self concept, etc
2. mouse
 - Genetic: set of genes
 - Physiological: level of lipid expression

Notations X = feature matrix 1 $\in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D_1}$

Y = feature matrix 2 $\in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D_2}$

N = # of observations

The Problem The first pair of canonical variates

$v_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{D_1}$

$w_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{D_2}$

are defined so that

$\text{cor}(X_i^T v_1, Y_i^T w_1)$ is as large as possible

Large negative correlation is just as good (aka indicative) as large positive correlation, because they are the same thing once you flip the direction of the vector.