ECON 425 HW9 Solutions

March 5, 2024

Due Thu, March 14, 6pm in Bruinlearn

Problem 1 (PC1 is the direction of maximal variation) Prove that the first principal component w_1 of the centered data $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ is the direction of maximum variance in the sense that

$$w_1 = \arg\max_{w \in \mathbb{R}^k} \widehat{\operatorname{Var}}\left[w'x\right] \text{ s.t. } \|w\| = 1,$$

where $\|\cdot\|$ is the Euclidean norm and

$$\widehat{\text{Var}}[w'x] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (w'x_i)^2.$$

Hint. Set the derivative of the Lagrangian to zero and use this equality to prove that the Lagrange multiplier is the largest eigenvalue of the sample covariance matrix $\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} X' X$.

Solution

Rewrite $(w'x_i)^2 = w'x_i \cdot x_i'w$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n (w'x_i)^2 = w'X'Xw$. Also rewrite the constraint $\|w\|^2 = w'w = 1$ and set up the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(w,\lambda) = w' \frac{1}{n} X' X w + \lambda \left(1 - w'w\right).$$

Taking the derivative w.r.t. w yields

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(w,\lambda)}{\partial w} = 2w' \frac{1}{n} X' X - 2\lambda w'.$$

Transposing and setting to zero yields

$$\frac{1}{n}X'Xw = \lambda w,$$

i.e. w is an eigenvector of the sample covariance matrix $\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n}X'X$ corresponding to some eigenvalue λ . Pre-multiplying this equality by w' shows that we can rewrite the objective function as

$$\widehat{\operatorname{Var}}[w'x] = w' \frac{1}{n} X' X w = \lambda w' w = \lambda.$$

Hence, the objective function is maximized by picking λ to be the largest eigenvalue, and the optimal w is the corresponding eigenvector, which is exactly the first principal component.

Problem 2 (K-means clustering)

In this problem, you will perform K-means clustering manually, with K=2, on a small example with n=6 observations and p=2 features. The data matrix is

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 \\ 5 & 1 \\ 6 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Plot the observations.
- (b) Randomly assign a cluster label to each observation. You can use the np.random.choice() function to do this. Report the cluster labels for each observation.
- (c) Compute the centroid for each cluster.
- (d) Assign each observation to the centroid to which it is closest, in terms of Euclidean distance. Report the cluster labels for each observation.
- (e) Repeat (c) and (d) until the answers obtained stop changing.
- (f) In your plot from (a), color the observations according to the cluster labels obtained.

```
[45]: import numpy as np
      import pandas as pd
      import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
      X = pd.DataFrame([[1,4], [1,3], [0,4], [5,1], [6,2], [4,0]], columns=['x1', ]
       n, k = X.shape
      # (a)
      plt.figure()
      plt.scatter(X['x1'], X['x2'])
      plt.title('Original data')
      plt.show()
      # (b)
      cluster_labels = [0, 1]
      np.random.seed(0)
      clusters = np.random.choice(cluster_labels, size=n, replace=True)
      print('Initial cluster assignment:', clusters)
      # (c), (d), (e)
      clusters_prev = np.empty((2,))
      while not np.array_equal(clusters_prev, clusters):
          print('=== Iteration', i, '===')
```


Clusters: [1 1 1 0 0 1] === Iteration 2 === Centroids: x1 x2

0 5.5 1.50 1 1.5 2.75

Clusters: [1 1 1 0 0 0] === Iteration 3 ===

Centroids: x1 x2

0 5.000000 1.000000 1 0.666667 3.666667 Clusters: [1 1 1 0 0 0]

Problem 3 (PCA on Olivetti faces)

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Use the Olivetti faces dataset available through sklearn to do the following.

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- (a) Fetch and load the data with the fetch_olivetti_faces method from sklearn.datasets.
- (b) Demean each face in the data set (no need to divide by standard deviation as every dimension is a number between a fixed range representing a pixel).

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(c) Compute and display the first 9 eigenfaces. The k-th eigenface of a given face is an image based on the first k principal components only.

(d) Any given face in the data set can be represented as a linear combination of the eigenfaces. For any face in the data set, show how it progresses as we combine 1,51,101,... eigenfaces, until the full image is recovered.

Solution

```
[46]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from sklearn.datasets import fetch_olivetti_faces
from sklearn.decomposition import PCA
```

0.1 Set plotting parameters and function

```
[48]: N_SUBPLOTS = 9
```

0.2 Set up data

```
[50]: centered_faces = faces - faces.mean(axis=0)
```

0.3 Run PCA and extract eigenfaces

```
[51]: pca = PCA()
   pca.fit(centered_faces)
   eigenfaces = pca.components_
   eigenweights = pca.transform(centered_faces)
```

```
[52]: plt.gcf().clear()
    plot_gallery("First 9 Eigenfaces", eigenfaces[:N_SUBPLOTS])
    plt.show()
```

<Figure size 640x480 with 0 Axes>

First 9 Eigenfaces



0.4 Construct and plot progressing faces

```
[53]: progressing_idx = list(range(1, n_faces, n_faces // (N_SUBPLOTS-1)))
progressing_idx.append(n_faces)
```

<Figure size 640x480 with 0 Axes>

plt.show()

Progressing Faces

