Introduction

Geometry of Data

August 27, 2024

CIFAR-10

airplane automobile bird cat deer dog frog horse ship truck

 $32\times32\times3=3{,}072$ dimensions 10 classes



















just kidding!

Manifold Hypothesis

Real data lie near lower-dimensional manifolds



Learn a model/representation for the data manifold

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- Often involves finding a flat coordinate chart

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Manifold Learning with 1000 points, 10 neighbors

From scikit-learn.org



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 $V \approx 2.0 \times 10^{-670}$

Distances in High Dimensions

Sample two points uniformly from the unit *d*-cube: $X, Y \sim \text{Unif}([0, 1]^d)$

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What is the distribution of the distance between them? D = ||X - Y||





















d = 1



d = 100

d = 10





$$d = 2$$











$$d = 2$$









d = 10,000

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Distances in Real Data



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- Manifold already known, not learned
- Manifold arises from natural non-linear constraints on data
- Linear data analyses (in fact, vector space operations) violate these constraints

Data living on a circle (S^1) or sphere (S^2) , etc.

Orientation of molecules in protein structure

Directional Data

- Orientation of molecules in protein structure
- Direction of robot or autonomous vehicle

Directional Data

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- Motion capture: orientation of joints
- Time (time of day, day of the year, etc.)

Directional Data: Diffusion MRI



Voxel features are directions of axons in brain











A metric space structure provides a comparison between two shapes.

Shape Statistics: Averages



Shape Statistics: Averages



Shape Statistics: Variability





Shape priors in segmentation

Shape Application: Bird Identification

American Crow



Common Raven



Shape Statistics: Classification

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Information Geometry

Parameters of a probability model live on manifolds

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Parameters of a probability model live on manifolds

Example: covariance matrix of a 2D Gaussian distribution:



 $\Sigma \in \mathrm{PD}(2)$ is of the form

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix},$$

 $ac - b^2 > 0, \quad a > 0.$

(positive-definite constraint)

Deep Generative Models



Input: $z \in \mathbb{R}^d$ $z \sim N(0, I)$

$$\xrightarrow{g=g_L \circ g_{L-1} \circ \cdots \circ g_1}$$

-

Output: $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$

 $d \ll D$









Generative Models as Immersed Manifolds



Shao, Kumar, Fletcher, The Riemannian Geometry of Deep Generative Models, DiffCVML 2018.