



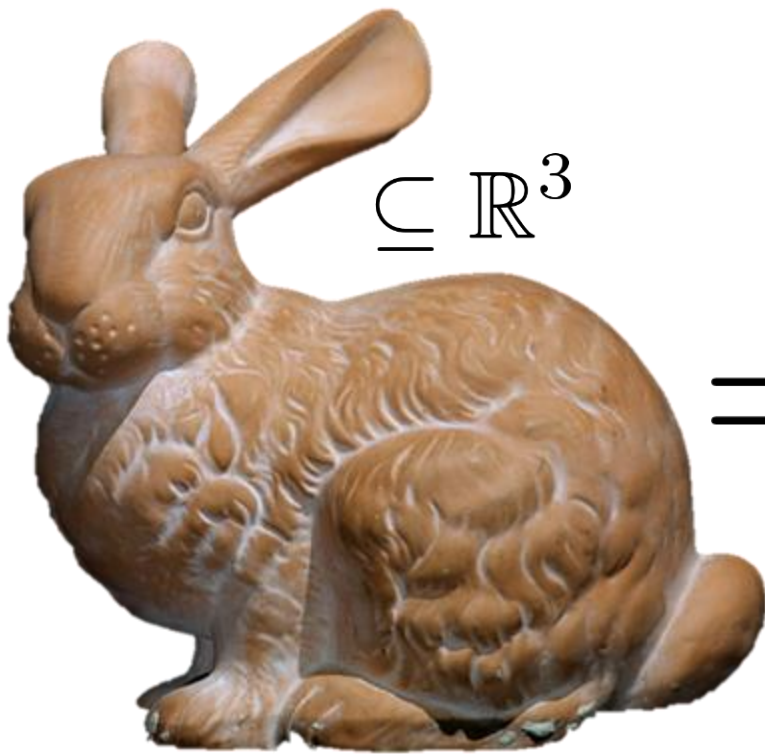
Inverse Distance Problems

Justin Solomon

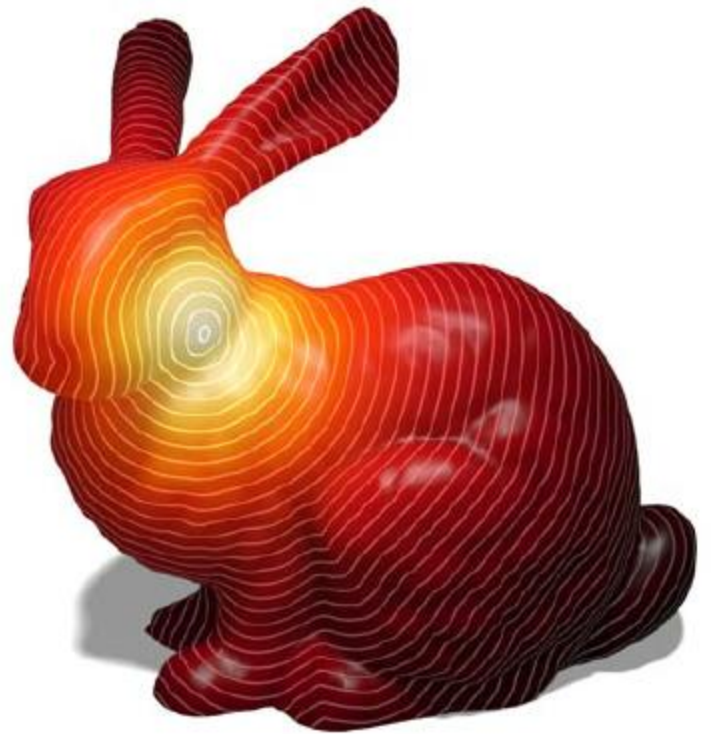
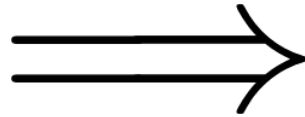
MIT, Spring 2017



Last Time

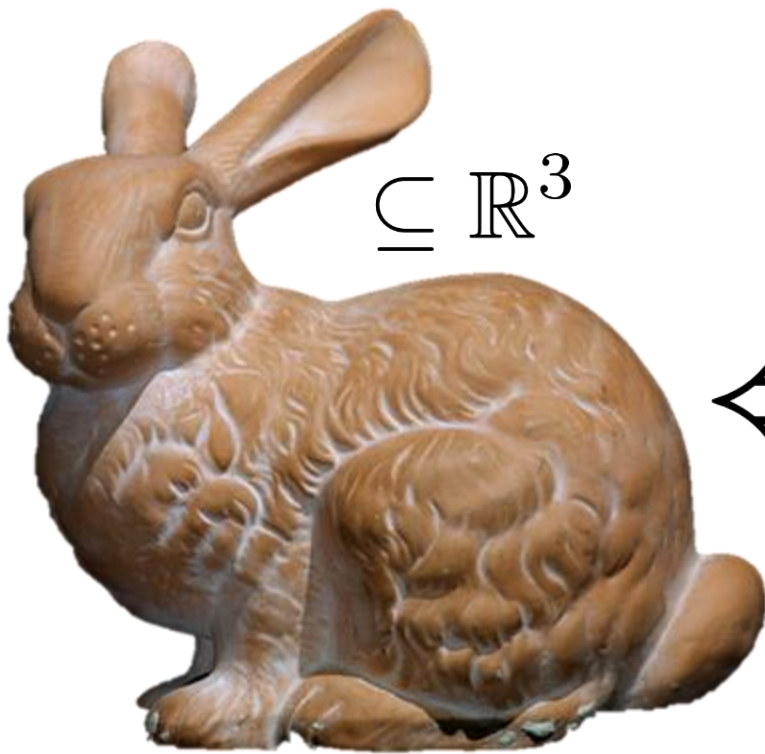


Embedding



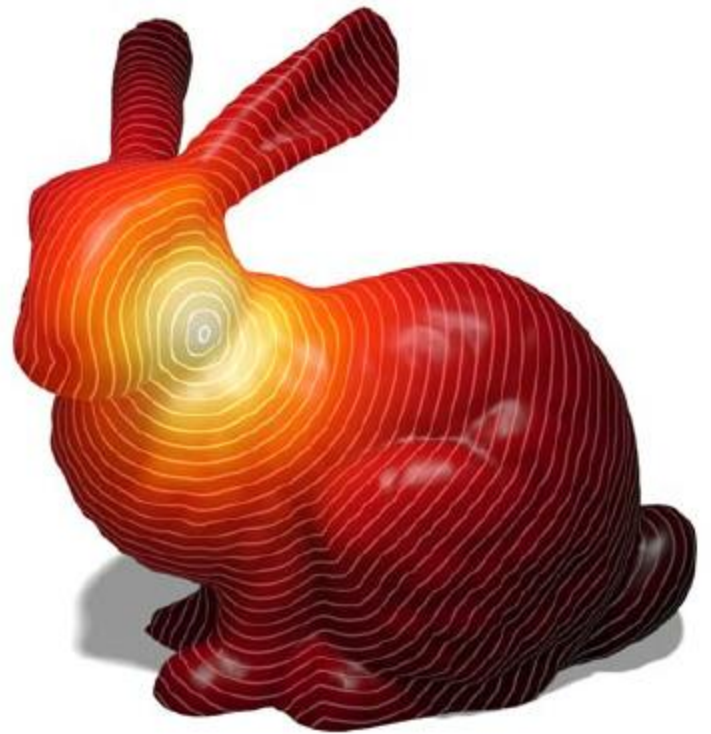
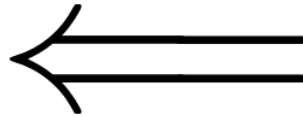
Geodesic distance

Today



$\subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$

Embedding



Geodesic distance

Many Names

- Dimensionality reduction
 - Embedding
- Multidimensional scaling
 - Manifold learning

...

Basic Task

Given pairwise distances
extract an embedding.

Is it always possible?
What dimensionality?

Metric Space

Ordered pair (M, d) where M is a set and $d: M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies

$$d(x, y) \geq 0$$

$$d(x, y) = 0 \iff x = y$$

$$d(x, y) = d(y, x)$$

$$d(x, z) \leq d(x, y) + d(y, z)$$

$$\forall x, y, z \in M$$

Many Examples of Metric Spaces

$$\mathbb{R}^n, d(x, y) := \|x - y\|_p$$

$$S \subset \mathbb{R}^3, d(x, y) := \text{geodesic}$$

$$C^\infty(\mathbb{R}), d(f, g)^2 := \int_{\mathbb{R}} (f(x) - g(x))^2 dx$$

Isometry [ahy-som-i-tree]:

A map between metric spaces
that preserves pairwise
distances.





Can you **always embed**
a metric space
isometrically in \mathbb{R}^n ?



Can you always embed
a **finite** metric space
isometrically in \mathbb{R}^n ?

Disappointing Example

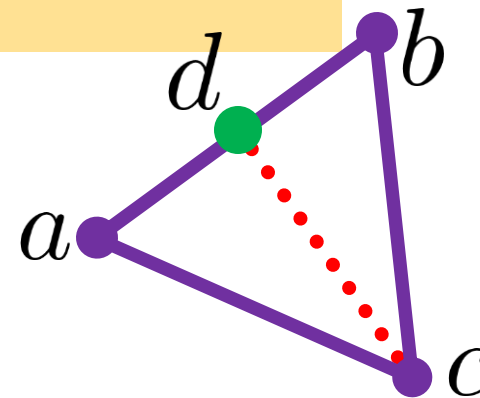
$$X := \{a, b, c, d\}$$

$$d(a, d) = d(b, d) = 1$$

$$d(a, b) = d(a, c) = d(b, c) = 2$$

$$d(c, d) = 1.5$$

Cannot be embedded in Euclidean space!



Approximate Embedding

$$\text{expansion}(f) := \max_{x,y} \frac{\mu(f(x), f(y))}{\rho(x, y)}$$

$$\text{contraction}(f) := \max_{x,y} \frac{\rho(x, y)}{\mu(f(x), f(y))}$$

$$\text{distortion}(f) := \text{expansion}(f) \times \text{contraction}(f)$$

Well-Known Result

Theorem (Bourgain, 1985).

Let (X, d) be a metric space on n points. Then,

$$(X, d) \xrightarrow{O(\log n)} \ell_p^{O(\log^2 n)}$$

```
m := 576 log n
for j = 1 to log n do           /* levels of density */
  for i = 1 to m do             /* repeat for high probability */
    choose set Sij by sampling each node in X
    independently with probability 2-j
  end
end
fij(x) := d(x, Sij)
f(x) := ⊕j=1log n ⊕i=1m fij(x)
```

Of mostly
theoretical
interest

Euclidean Case

$$D_{ij} = \|x_i - x_j\|_2^2, D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

Proposition. $\text{Rank}(D) \leq \min(n, m + 2)$.

Proof:

$$D = -2X^\top X + \text{diag}(X^\top X)\mathbf{1}^\top + \mathbf{1}\text{diag}(X^\top X)^\top$$

Embedding via eigenvalue problem (take $x_1 = 0$):

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_i - x_j\|_2^2 &= \|x_i\|_2^2 + \|x_j\|_2^2 - 2x_i \cdot x_j \\ \implies x_i \cdot x_j &= \frac{1}{2} [\|x_i\|_2^2 + \|x_j\|_2^2 - \|x_i - x_j\|_2^2] \end{aligned}$$

Gram Matrix [gram mey-triks]:

A matrix of inner products

$$X^T X$$



Classical Multidimensional Scaling

1. Double centering: $B := -\frac{1}{2}JDJ$
Centering matrix $J := I - \frac{1}{n}\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top$
2. Find m largest eigenvalues/eigenvectors
3. $X = E_m\Lambda_m^{1/2}$

"MDS"

Stress Majorization

$$\min_X \sum_{ij} \left(d_{ij}^0 - \|x_i - x_j\|_2 \right)^2$$

Nonconvex!

SMACOF:

Scaling by **M**ajorizing a **C**omplicated **F**unction

de Leeuw, J. (1977), "Applications of convex analysis to multidimensional scaling" *Recent developments in statistics*, 133–145.

SMACOF Potential Terms

$$\min_X \sum_{ij} (d_{ij}^0 - \|x_i - x_j\|_2)^2$$

$$\sum_{ij} (d_{ij}^0)^2 = \text{const.}$$

$$\sum_{ij} \|x_i - x_j\|_2^2 = \text{tr}(XVX^\top), \text{ where } V = 2nI - \mathbf{211}^\top$$

$$\sum_{ij} d_{ij}^0 \|x_i - x_j\|_2 = \text{tr}(XB(X)X^\top)$$

$$\text{where } b_{ij}(X) := \begin{cases} -\frac{2d_{ij}^0}{\|x_i - x_j\|_2} & \text{if } x_i \neq x_j, i \neq j \\ 0 & \text{if } x_i = x_j, i \neq j \\ -\sum_{j \neq i} b_{ij} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

SMACOF Lemma

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{ij} (d_{ij}^0)^2 &= \text{const.} \\ \sum_{ij} \|x_i - x_j\|_2^2 &= \text{tr}(XVX^\top) \\ \sum_{ij} d_{ij}^0 \|x_i - x_j\|_2 &= \text{tr}(XB(X)X^\top) \\ \text{where } b_{ij}(X) &:= \begin{cases} -\frac{2d_{ij}^0}{\|x_i - x_j\|_2} & \text{if } x_i \neq x_j, i \neq j \\ 0 & \text{if } x_i = x_j, i \neq j \\ -\sum_{j \neq i} b_{ij} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

Lemma. Define

$$\tau(X, Z) := \text{const.} + \text{tr}(XVX^\top) - 2\text{tr}(XB(Z)Z^\top)$$

Then,

$$\tau(X, X) \leq \tau(X, Z) \quad \forall Z$$

with equality exactly when $X=Z$.

Proof on board using Cauchy-Schwarz.

SMACOF: Single Step

$$X^{k+1} \leftarrow \min_X \tau(X, X^k)$$

$$\tau(X, Z) := \text{const.} + \text{tr}(XVX^\top) - 2\text{tr}(XB(Z)Z^\top)$$

$$\implies 0 = \nabla_X [\tau(X, X^k)]$$

$$= 2XV - 2X^k B(X^k)$$

$$\implies X^{k+1} = X^k B(X^k) V^+$$

$$V^+ = (2nI - 2\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top)^+$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} \left(I - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top}{n} \right)^+$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n} \left(I - \frac{\mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^\top}{n} \right)$$

**Majorization-
Minimization
algorithm**

Objective convergence:
 $\tau(X^{k+1}, X^{k+1}) \leq \tau(X^k, X^k)$

Recent SMACOF Application

DOI: 10.1111/cgf.12558

EUROGRAPHICS 2015 / O. Sorkine-Hornung and M. Wimmer
(Guest Editors)

Volume 34 (2015), Number 2

Shape-from-Operator: Recovering Shapes from Intrinsic Operators

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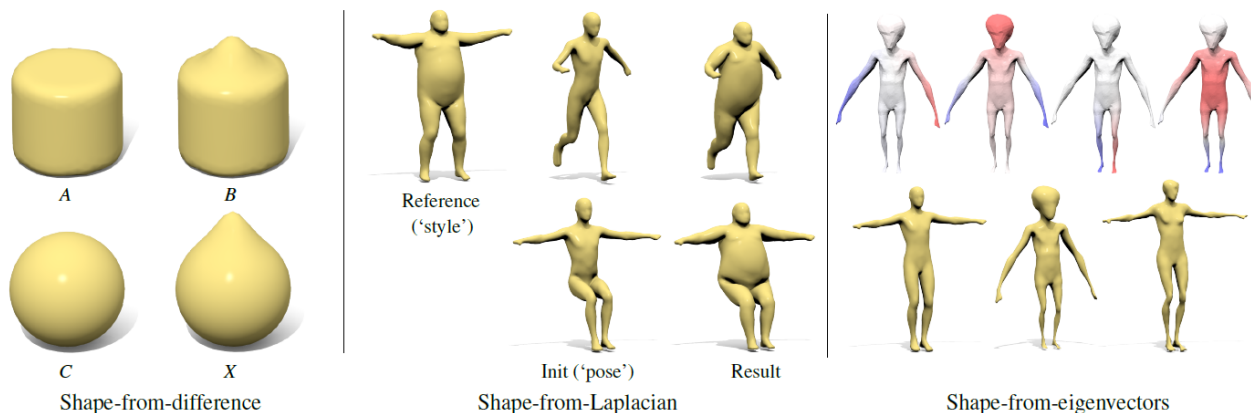
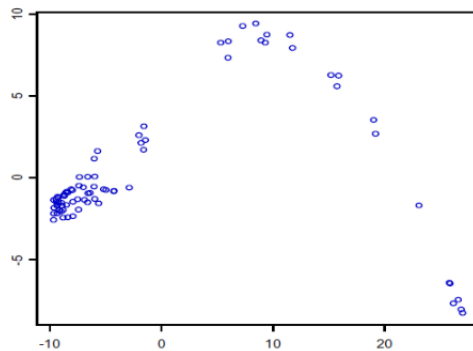


Figure 1: Examples of three different shape-from-operator problems considered in the paper. Left: shape analogy synthesis as shape-from-difference operator problem (shape X is synthesized such that the intrinsic difference operator between C, X is as close as possible to the difference between A, B). Center: style transfer as shape-from-Laplacian problem. The Laplacian of the

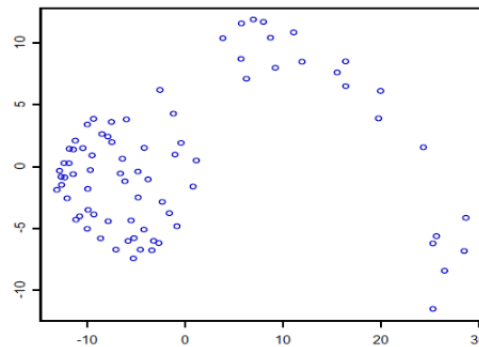
Related Method

$$\min_X \sum_{ij} \frac{(d_{ij}^0 - \|x_i - x_j\|_2)^2}{d_{ij}^0}$$

Cares more about preserving small distances



Classical MDS



Sammon

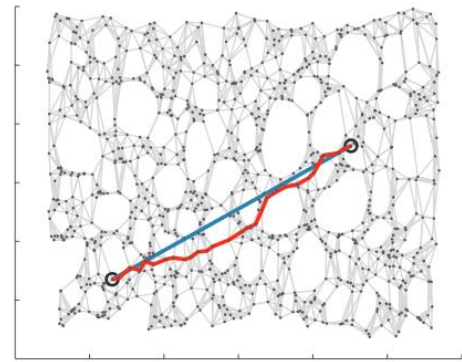
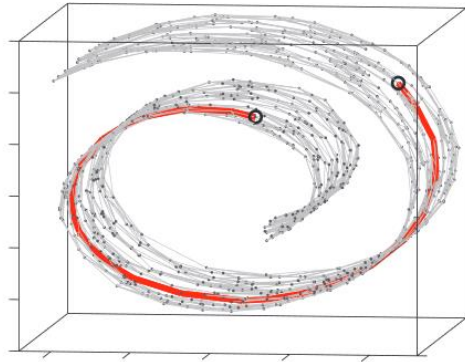
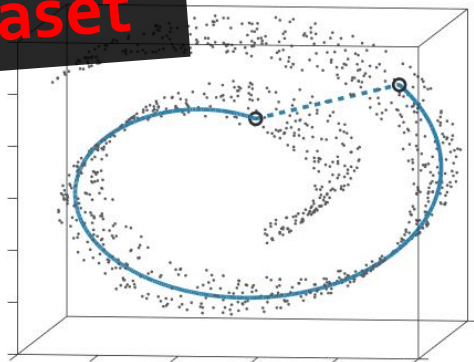
“Sammon mapping”

Sammon (1969). “A nonlinear mapping for data structure analysis.” IEEE Transactions on Computers 18.

Intrinsic-to-Extrinsic: ISOMAP

- **Construct neighborhood graph**
 k -nearest neighbor graph or ε -neighborhood graph
- **Compute shortest-path distances**
Floyd-Warshall algorithm or Dijkstra
- **Classical MDS**
Eigenvalue problem

Swiss roll
dataset



Tenenbaum, de Silva, Langford.

"A Global Geometric Framework for Nonlinear Dimensionality Reduction." Science (2000).

Floyd-Warshall Algorithm

```
let dist be a  $|V| \times |V|$  array of minimum distances initialized to  $\infty$  (infinity)
for each vertex  $v$ 
     $\text{dist}[v][v] \leftarrow 0$ 
for each edge  $(u, v)$ 
     $\text{dist}[u][v] \leftarrow w(u, v)$  // the weight of the edge  $(u, v)$ 
for  $k$  from 1 to  $|V|$ 
    for  $i$  from 1 to  $|V|$ 
        for  $j$  from 1 to  $|V|$ 
            if  $\text{dist}[i][j] > \text{dist}[i][k] + \text{dist}[k][j]$ 
                 $\text{dist}[i][j] \leftarrow \text{dist}[i][k] + \text{dist}[k][j]$ 
            end if
```

Landmark ISOMAP

- **Construct neighborhood graph**

k -nearest neighbor graph or ε -neighborhood graph

- **Compute some shortest-path distances**

Dijkstra: $O(kn N \log N)$, n landmarks, N points

- **MDS on landmarks**

Smaller $n \times n$ problem

- **Closed-form embedding formula**

$\delta(x)$ vector of squared distances from x to landmarks

$$\text{Embedding}(x)_i = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{v_i^\top}{\sqrt{\lambda_i}} (\delta(x) - \delta_{\text{average}})$$

Projection

Locally Linear Embedding (LLE)

- **Construct neighborhood graph**

k -nearest neighbor graph or ε -neighborhood graph

- **Compute weights W_{ij}**

$$\min_{\mathbf{1}^\top W_i = 1} \left\| x_i - \sum_{x_j \in \mathcal{N}(x_i)} W_{ij} x_j \right\|_2^2$$

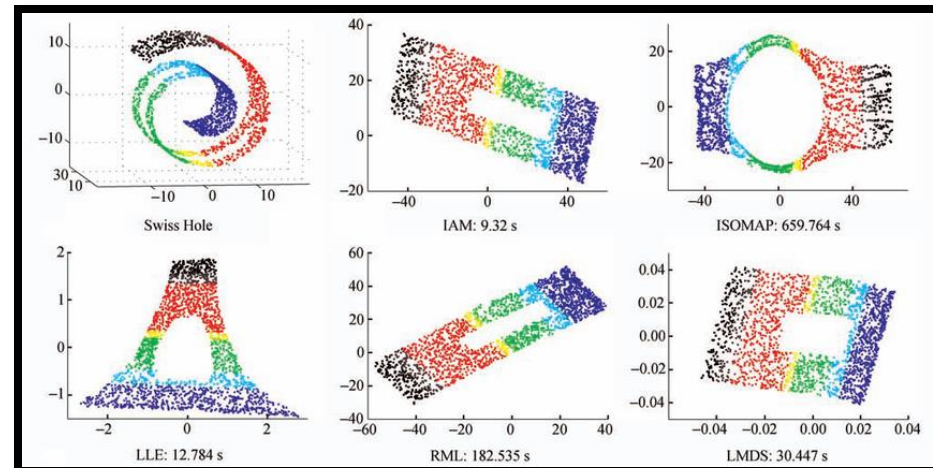
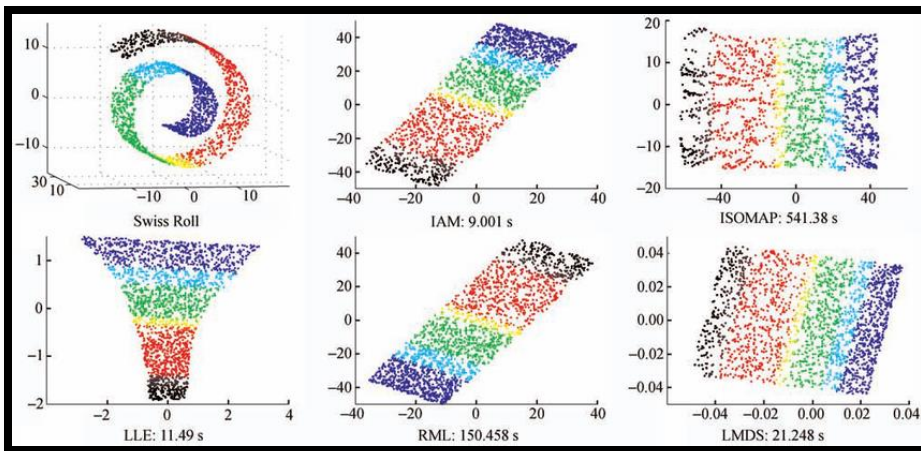
- **Minimum eigenvalue problem**

$$\min_{Y Y^\top = I} \left\| y_i - \sum_{x_j \in \mathcal{N}(x_i)} W_{ij} y_j \right\|_2^2$$

Derive on board

Comparison: ISOMAP vs. LLE

ISOMAP	LLE
Global distances	Local averaging
k -NN graph distances	k -NN graph weighting
Largest eigenvectors	Smallest eigenvectors
Dense matrix	Sparse matrix



Other option:

Diffusion Maps

- **Construct similarity matrix**

Example: $K(x, y) := e^{-\|x-y\|^2/\varepsilon}$

- **Normalize rows**

$$M := D^{-1}K$$

- **Embed from k largest eigenvectors**

$$(\lambda_1\psi_1, \lambda_2\psi_2, \dots, \lambda_k\psi_k)$$

(more later)

Coifman, R.R.; S. Lafon. (2006). "Diffusion maps." *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis*. 21: 5–30.

Embedding from Geodesic Distance

On reconstruction of non-rigid shapes with intrinsic regularization

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Abstract

Shape-from-X is a generic type of inverse problems in computer vision, in which a shape is reconstructed from some measurements. A specially challenging setting of this problem is the case in which the reconstructed shapes are non-rigid. In this paper, we propose a framework for intrinsic regularization of such problems. The assumption is that we have the geometric structure of a shape which is intrinsically (up to bending) similar to the one we would like to reconstruct. For that goal, we formulate a variation with respect to vertex coordinates of a triangulated mesh approximating the continuous shape. The numerical core of the proposed method is based on differentiating the fast marching update step for geodesic distance computation.

1. Introduction

In many tasks, both in human and computer vision, one tries to deduce the shape of an object given an observa-

many other problems, in which an object is reconstructed based on some measurement, are known as *shape reconstruction problems*. They are a subset of what is called *inverse problems*. Most such inverse problems are under-determined, in the sense that measuring different objects may yield similar measurements. Thus, in the above illustration, the essence of the shadow theater is that it is hard to distinguish between shadows cast by an animal and shadows cast by hands. Therefore prior knowledge about the unknown object is needed.

Of particular interest are reconstruction problems involving non-rigid shapes. The world surrounding us is full with objects such as live bodies, paper products, plants, clothes etc., which may be deformed to different postures. These objects may be deformed to an infinite number of different postures. While bending, though, objects tends to preserve their internal geometric structure. Two objects differing by a bending are said to be *intrinsically similar*. In many cases, while we do not know the measured object, we have a prior on its intrinsic geometry. For example, in the shadow theater, though we do not know which exact posture of the hand

Take-Away

Huge zoo of embedding techniques.

Each with different theoretical properties: Try them all!

But what if the distance matrix is incomplete or noisy?

Euclidean Matrix Completion

$$\begin{aligned} \min_G \quad & \|H \circ (\mathcal{D}(G) - D_{\text{input}})\|_{\text{Fro}}^2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & G \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Convex program

Related method: "Maximum variance unfolding"

Alfakih, Khandani, and Wolkowicz. "Solving Euclidean distance matrix completion problems via semidefinite programming." *Comput. Optim. Appl.*, 12 (1999).

More General: Metric Nearness

$$\min_{X \in \mathcal{M}_{N \times N}} \|X - D\|_{\text{Fro}}^2$$

TRIANGLE_FIXING(D, ϵ)

Input: Input dissimilarity matrix D , tolerance ϵ

Output: $M = \operatorname{argmin}_{X \in \mathcal{M}_N} \|X - D\|_2$.

for $1 \leq i < j < k \leq n$

$(z_{ijk}, z_{jki}, z_{kij}) \leftarrow 0$

for $1 \leq i < j \leq n$

$e_{ij} \leftarrow 0$

$\delta \leftarrow 1 + \epsilon$

while $(\delta > \epsilon)$ {convergence test}

foreach triangle (i, j, k)

$b \leftarrow d_{ki} + d_{jk} - d_{ij}$

$\mu \leftarrow \frac{1}{3}(e_{ij} - e_{jk} - e_{ki} - b)$

$\theta \leftarrow \min\{-\mu, z_{ijk}\}$ {Stay within half-space of constraint}

$e_{ij} \leftarrow e_{ij} - \theta, e_{jk} \leftarrow e_{jk} + \theta, e_{ki} \leftarrow e_{ki} + \theta$

$z_{ijk} \leftarrow z_{ijk} - \theta$ {Update correction term}

end foreach

$\delta \leftarrow$ sum of changes in the e

end while

return $M = D + E$

In other words, the vector e is projected orthogonally onto the constraint set $\{e' : e'_{ij} - e'_{jk} - e'_{ki} \leq b_{ijk}\}$. This is tantamount to solving

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{e'} \quad & \frac{1}{2} [(e'_{ij} - e_{ij})^2 + (e'_{jk} - e_{jk})^2 + (e'_{ki} - e_{ki})^2], \\ \text{subject to} \quad & e'_{ij} - e'_{jk} - e'_{ki} = b_{ijk}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

It is easy to check that the solution is given by

$$e'_{ij} \leftarrow e_{ij} - \mu_{ijk}, \quad e'_{jk} \leftarrow e_{jk} + \mu_{ijk}, \quad \text{and} \quad e'_{ki} \leftarrow e_{ki} + \mu_{ijk}, \quad (3.3)$$

where $\mu_{ijk} = \frac{1}{3}(e_{ij} - e_{jk} - e_{ki} - b_{ijk}) > 0$.

**Iterative
projection**

Dhillon, Sra, Tropp. "Triangle Fixing Algorithms for the Metric Nearness Problem." NIPS.

Challenging Computational Problems

- Is my data **embeddable**?
- Can you compute intrinsic **dimensionality**?
- Are two metric spaces **isometric**?
- How **similar** are two metric spaces?
- What is the **average** of two metric spaces?
- Can I embed into **non-Euclidean** spaces?

NP-Hardness Result

Robust Euclidean Embedding

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Abstract

We derive a robust Euclidean embedding procedure based on semidefinite programming that may be used in place of the popular classical multidimensional scaling (cMDS) algorithm. We motivate this algorithm by arguing that cMDS is not particularly robust and has several other deficiencies. General-purpose semidefinite programming solvers are too memory intensive for medium to large sized applications, so we also describe a fast subgradient-based implementation of the robust algorithm. Additionally, since cMDS is often used for dimensionality reduction, we provide an in-depth look at reducing dimensionality with embedding procedures. In particular, we show that it is NP-hard to find optimal low-dimensional embeddings under a variety of cost functions.

choice for embedding seems to be classical multidimensional scaling (cMDS). Its popularity stems from being relatively fast, parameter-free, and optimal for its cost function. We look carefully at the algorithm and find that it has some problematic features as well as some desirable features. We argue that the cost function is conceptually awkward.

We propose a robust alternative to cMDS, called Robust Euclidean Embedding (REE), that retains the desirable features of cMDS, but avoids its pitfalls. We show that the global REE cost function can be found by solving a semidefinite program (SDP). Though this is not standard SDP-solvers can only manage to solve a program for around 100 points. So we use REE on more reasonably sized data sets, and compare it to a subgradient-based implementation.

Dimensionality reduction is an important part of many data analysis applications. cMDS is the standard algorithm for this, but it is not particularly robust. We show that it is NP-hard to find optimal low-dimensional embeddings under a variety of cost functions.

ℓ_1 EUCLIDEAN EMBEDDING

Input: A dissimilarity matrix $D = (d_{ij})$.

Output: An embedding into the line: $x_1, x_2, \dots \in \mathbb{R}$

Goal: Minimize $\sum_{i,j} |d_{ij} - |x_i - x_j||$.

We show that this problem is NP-hard by reducing from a variant of not-all-equal 3SAT.

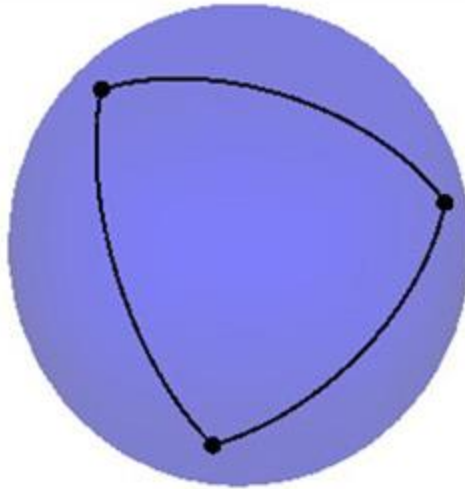
The hardness result can be extended to distortion functions of the form $\sum_{i,j} g(f(d_{ij}) - f(|x_i - x_j|))$. We assume that f, g are

1. symmetric;
2. monotonically increasing in the absolute values of their arguments;
3. Lipschitz on $[0, 1]$ with constant λ_U , that is, for $x, y \in [0, 1]$, $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \lambda_U |x - y|$; and
4. similarly lower-bounded: for some $\lambda_L > 0$, for any $x, y \in [0, 1]$, $|f(x) - f(y)| \geq \lambda_L |x - y| \max\{x, y\}$.

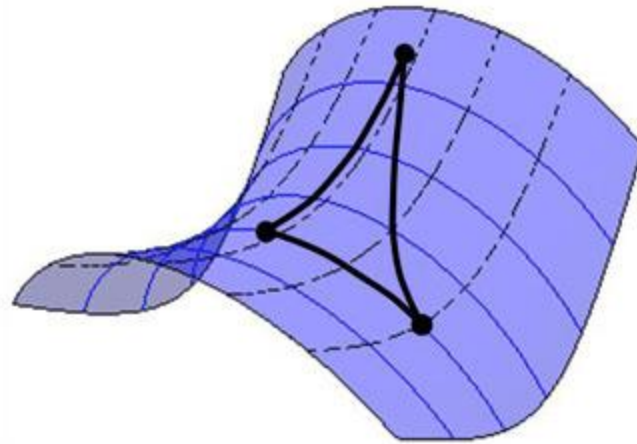
Notice that $f(x), g(x) \in \{x, x^2\}$ satisfy these conditions with $\lambda_U = 2, \lambda_L = 1$, meaning that $\|D - D^*\|_1$ and $\|D - D^*\|_2$ are both hard to minimize over one-dimensional embeddings.

Preview:

Dependence on Curvature



positively curved space
sphere



negatively curved space
saddle



What are some
applications of this
machinery?

Applications

- Reduce algorithmic runtime
 - Compression
 - Visualize data
 - Interpolate
 - Sample
 - ...

Visualization Examples

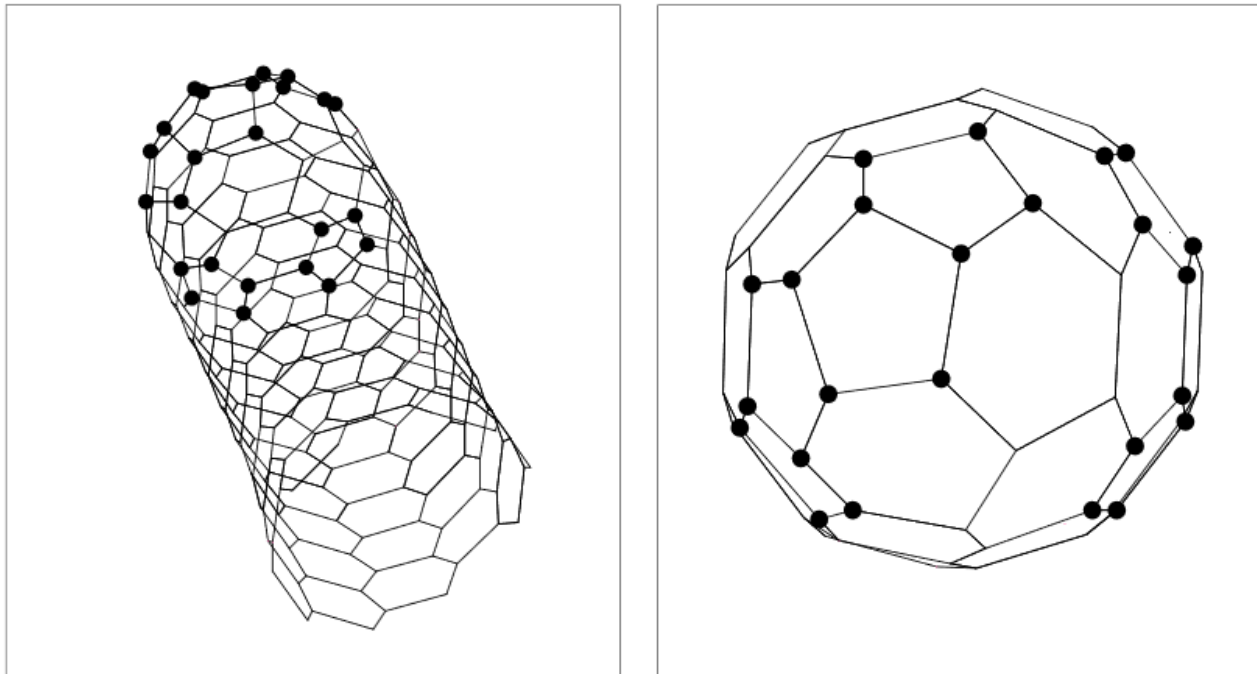


Figure 10: *Nanotube Embedding.* One of Asimov's graphs for a nanotube is rendered with MDS in 3-D (Stress=0.06). The nodes represent carbon atoms, the lines represent chemical bonds. The right hand frame shows the cap of the tube only. The highlighted points show some of the pentagons that are necessary for forming the cap.

Visualization Examples

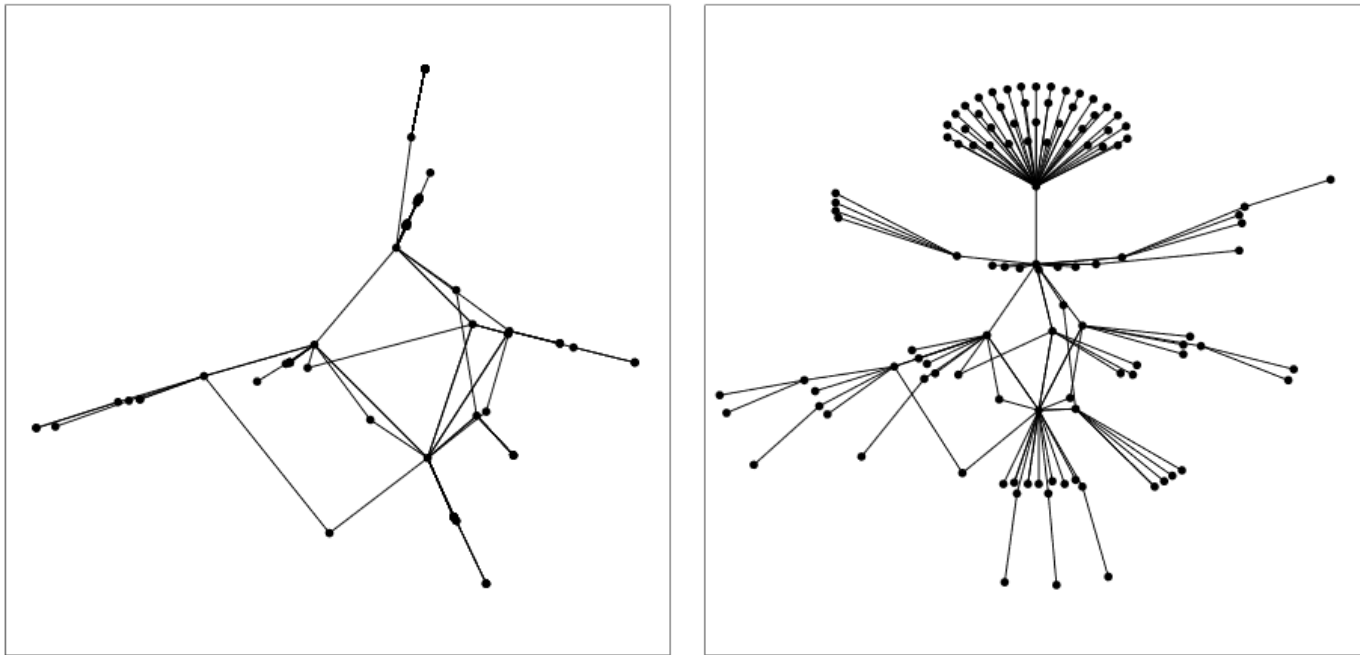


Figure 9: A Telephone Call Graph, Layed Out in 2-D. Left: classical scaling ($\text{Stress}=0.34$); right: distance scaling ($\text{Stress}=0.23$). The nodes represent telephone numbers, the edges represent the existence of a call between two telephone numbers in a given time period.

Visualization Examples

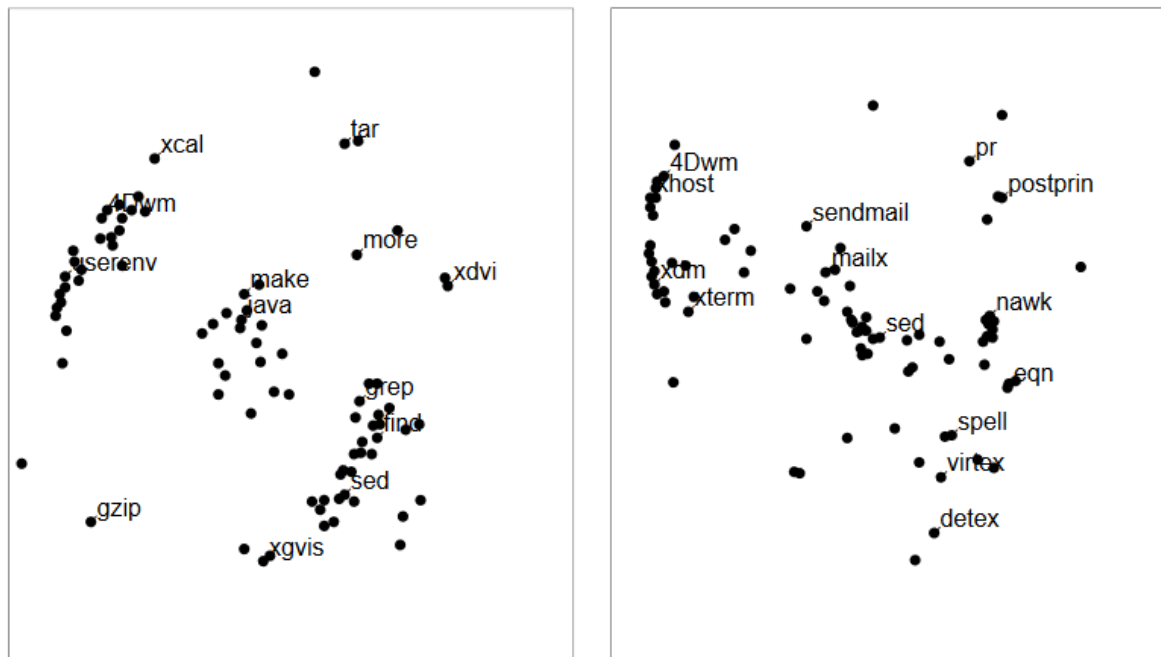
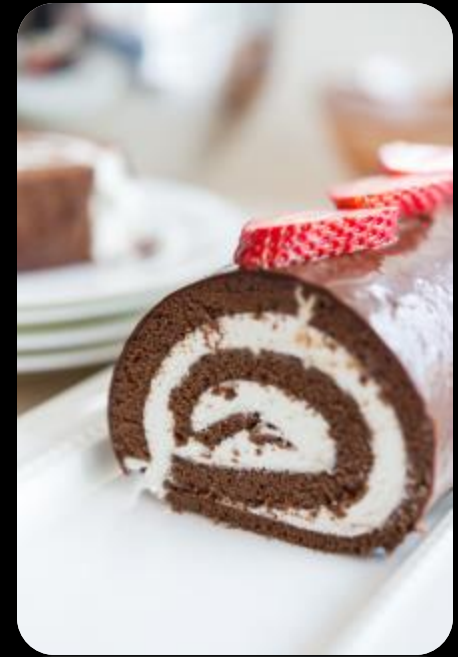


Figure 7: *Maps of Computer Commands for Two Individuals.*

Left: a member of technical staff who programs and manipulates data (Stress=0.29).

Right: an administrative assistant who does e-mail and word processing (Stress=0.34).

The labels show selected operating system commands used by these individuals.



Inverse Distance Problems

Justin Solomon

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