Generalization in high-dimensional factor models

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Modern massive data = modern massive headache?

Cluster headache: PET functional imaging shows activation of specific brain areas during pain

“Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full.”
OUTLINE

• Motivation
• Definition of generalizability
  – Operational definitions
  – Theory: Universality of learning curves

• Understanding the limits to learning in high-dimensional data
  – SVD/PCA: simple subspace models are well understood
  – “Retarded” learning
  – What about ICA, NMF, Kmeans clustering, etc?

• Heuristics to heal bad factors in poor SNR’s
  – Re-scaling projections
Factor models

- Represent a datamatrix by a low-dimensional approximation

\[ V(i,n) \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} W(i,k)H(k,n) \]
Many high-dimensional problems are analysed in pipelines with an initial dimension reduction step (SVD, NMF, ICA, VQ/kmeans, PLS, kOPLS etc).

Unsupervised methods are less committed than supervised counterparts for exploratory investigations in eg.

fMRI based ‘mind reading’

(McKeown, Hansen, Sejnowski, 2003)
Matrix factorization: SVD/PCA, NMF, Clustering

Figure 1 Non-negative matrix factorization (NMF) learns a parts-based representation of faces, whereas vector quantization (VQ) and principal components analysis (PCA) learn holistic representations. The three learning methods were applied to a database of \( m = 2,429 \) facial images, each consisting of \( n = 19 \times 19 \) pixels, and constituting an \( n \times m \) matrix \( \mathbf{V} \). All three find approximate factorizations of the form \( \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{WH} \), but with three different types of constraints on \( \mathbf{W} \) and \( \mathbf{H} \), as described more fully in the main text and methods. As shown in the \( 7 \times 7 \) montages, each method has learned a set of \( r = 49 \) basis images. Positive values are illustrated with black pixels and negative values with red pixels. A particular instance of a face, shown at top right, is approximately represented by a linear superposition of basis images. The coefficients of the linear superposition are shown next to each montage, in a \( 7 \times 7 \) grid, and the resulting superpositions are shown on the other side of the equality sign. Unlike VQ and PCA, NMF learns to represent faces with a set of basis images resembling parts of faces.

Learning the parts of objects by non-negative matrix factorization

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Probabilistic interpretation

(Gaussier, Goutte: Relation between PLSA and NMF.., 2005)

Multinomial mixture model, \( V \) is a matrix of 'counts'

\[
\frac{V(i,j)}{\sum_{i',j'} V(i',j')} \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} W(i,k)H(k,j)
\]

\[
\frac{V(i,j)}{\sum_{i',j'} V(i',j')} \approx P(i, j) \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} P(i,k)P(j,k)P(k)
\]

Fig. 1. The system setup. The audio stream is first processed using audio segmentation. Segments are then using an automatic speech recognition (ASR) system to produce text segments. The text is then processed using a vector representation of text and apply non-negative matrix factorization (NMF) to find a topic space.

Fig. 3. Figure 3(a) shows the manual segmentation of the news show into 7 classes. Figure 3(b) shows the distribution \( p(k|i) \) used to do the actual segmentation shown in figure 3(c). The NMF-segmentation is in general consistent with the manual segmentation. Though, the segment that is manually segmented as "crime" is labeled "other" by the NMF-segmentation.

(Mølgaard, Jørgensen, Hansen, ICASSP, 2007)
Generalizability

- Generalizability is defined as the expected performance on a random new sample
  - the av. performance of a model on a “fresh” test data set is an unbiased estimate of generalization
  - in simulations how similar are estimated parameters to the “true” values

- Typical loss functions (supervised/unsupervised):
  \[ \langle -\log p(c \mid \nu, \theta) \rangle, \quad \langle -\log p(\nu \mid \theta) \rangle, \]
  \[ \langle (c - \hat{c})^2 \rangle, \quad \log \left( \frac{p(c, \nu \mid \theta)}{p(c \mid \theta)p(\nu \mid \theta)} \right) \]

- Results can be presented as “bias-variance trade-off curves” or “learning curves”
NPAI RS: Reproducibility of parameters

Rich physics literature on “retarded” learning

**Universality**

- Generalization for a “single symmetry breaking direction” is a function of ratio of N/D and signal to noise S
- For subspace models-- a bit more complicated -- depends on the component SNR’s and eigenvalue separation
- For a single direction, the mean squared overlap $R^2 = \langle (u_1^T u_0)^2 \rangle$ is computed for N,D $\rightarrow \infty$

\[
R^2 = \begin{cases} 
\frac{\alpha S^2 - 1}{S(1 + \alpha S)} & \alpha > 1/S^2 \\
0 & \alpha \leq 1/S^2 
\end{cases}
\]

$\alpha = N/D \quad S = 1/\sigma^2 \quad N_c = D/S^2$

SVD of movie actor network ->
"eigencasts, eigengenre"

D = 128.000 movies
N = 400.000 actors
Universality in PCA, NMF, Kmeans

- Looking for universality by simulation
  - learning two clusters in white noise.
- Train K=2 component factor models.
- Measure overlap between line of sight and plane spanned by the two factors.

Experiment
Variable: N, D
Fixed: SNR
Now what happens if you are on the slope of generalization, i.e., N/D is just beyond the transition to retarded learning?

The estimated projection is offset, hence, future projections will be too small!

...problem if discriminant is optimized for unbalanced classes in the training data!
Heuristic: Leave-one-out re-scaling of SVD test projections

Kjems, Hansen, Strother: “Generalizable SVD for Ill-posed data sets” NIPS (2001)

N=72, D=2.5 $10^4$
Re-scaling the component variances

- Possible to compute the new scales by leave-one-out doing N SVD’s of size $N \ll D$

Compute $U_0 \Lambda_0 V_0^T = \text{svd}(X)$ and $Q_0 = [q_j] = \Lambda_0 V_0^T$

foreach $j = 1...N$

$$\bar{q}_{-j} = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{j' \neq j} q_{j'}$$

Compute $B_{-j} \Lambda_{-j} V_{-j}^T = \text{svd}(Q_{-j} - \bar{Q}_{-j})$

$z_j = B_{-j} B_{-j}^T (q_j - \bar{q}_{-j})$

$\hat{\lambda}_i^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_j z_{ij}^2$

Kjems, Hansen, Strother: NIPS (2001)
Re-scaling for other factorizations: NMF?

- Test projections are obtained by running the factorization alg with $W$ fixed.
- NMF suffers from the same distributional problem as SVD.
- Simple scaling can fail because of non-normal distributions.
- Use histogram equalization for re-mapping the densities of the factors.
- Implicit hypothesis:
  - NMF factors are approx independent.

NMF: TRAINING SET 0.002

NMF: TEST SET 0.05

NMF–COR: TEST SET 0.002
• Evidence of universality in SVD/PCA, NMF, Kmeans,

• Evidence for “phase transition”-like learning curves in high-dimensional unsupervised learning

• Working heuristic for re-scaling of projection on test set
  – Linear scaling in SVD/PCA
  – Non-linear scaling in NMF

• More formal investigation of NMF, Kmeans, higher order factorizations, etc – how universal are the learning curves

• Structured/sparse matrices?
  – How do priors shift the phase transition?
  – Multiple order parameters: Sequence of phase transitions ala fractal structure in disordered systems
Thanks and ... a little add placement

BCFinder: Tool for bi-clique community detection

http://www2.imm.dtu.dk/~mhs/bcfinder/

Sponsors

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