COMPSCI 514: ALGORITHMS FOR DATA SCIENCE

Andrew McGregor Lecture 17



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Today: Spectral Graph Theory & Spectral Clustering.

- Low-rank approximation on graph adjacency matrix for non-linear dimensionality reduction.
- Eigendecomposition to partition graphs into clusters.

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Usual Approach: Convert each item into a high-dimensional feature vector and then apply low-rank approximation.









• If the error $\|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Z}^T\|_F$ is small, then on average,

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• I.e., $\langle \vec{y_i}, \vec{z_a} \rangle \approx 1$ when doc_i contains $word_a$.

If doc_i and doc_j both contain $word_a$, $\langle \vec{y_i}, \vec{z_a} \rangle \approx 1$ and $\langle \vec{y_j}, \vec{z_a} \rangle \approx 1$ and so $\langle \vec{y_i}, \vec{z_a} \rangle \approx \langle \vec{y_j}, \vec{z_a} \rangle$. Similarly if both don't contain $word_a$, $\langle \vec{y_i}, \vec{z_a} \rangle \approx \langle \vec{y_j}, \vec{z_a} \rangle$



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Another View: Column of **Y** represent 'topics'. $\vec{y_i}(j)$ indicates how much doc_i belongs to topic j. $\vec{z_a}(j)$ indicates how much *word_a* associates with topic j.



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- Many ways to measure similarity: number of sentences both occur in, number of times both appear in the same window of *w* words, in similar positions of documents in different languages, etc.
- Replacing X^TX with these different metrics (sometimes appropriately transformed) leads to popular word embedding algorithms: word2vec, GloVe, fastText, etc.

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Note: word2vec is typically described as a neural-network method, but it is really just low-rank approximation of a specific similarity matrix. *Neural word embedding as implicit matrix factorization*, Levy and Goldberg.

GRAPH EMBEDDINGS

NON-LINEAR DIMENSIONALITY REDUCTION



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A common way of automatically identifying this non-linear structure is to connect data points in a graph. E.g., a *k*-nearest neighbor graph.

• Connect items to similar items, possibly with higher weight edges when they are more similar.

Once we have connected *n* data points x_1, \ldots, x_n into a graph, we can represent that graph by its (weighted) adjacency matrix.

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For any vector \vec{v} , its 'smoothness' over the graph is given by:

$$\sum_{(i,j)\in E} (\vec{v}(i) - \vec{v}(j))^2 = \vec{v}^T \mathsf{L} \vec{v}.$$

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• If
$$e = (i, j)$$
, then $\vec{v}^T \mathbf{L}_e \vec{v} = (v(i) - v(j))^2$

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- Similar vertices (close with regards to graph proximity) should have similar embeddings since

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where we showed the equality in Lecture 14.







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Step 2: Apply low-rank approximation to the graph adjacency matrix to produce embeddings in \mathbb{R}^k . Step 3: Work with the data in the embedded space. Where distances approximate distances in your original 'non-linear space.'