Intrinsic Dimension for continuous data

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A. Durer, 1514

synthesis of Earth and Heaven, search for the intrinsic dimension of all things



Interdisciplinary: statistics + physics + domain experts 2019 - ongoing:

> ✤ 5 (SISSA + USI) ✤ 2 (QUT + USI)

✤ 2 (USI)

Quote / Quiz

"The non-mathematician, is seized by a mysterious shuddering when (s)he hears of 'four-dimensional' things, (s)he is seized by a feeling, which is very similar to the thoughts awakened by the occult."

Albert Einstein, 1920

Classical mechanics:

space and time = separate entities

Special relativity: space and time = interwoven into a four dimensional

Unified construct known as "space-time"

From physics to statistics / DS / ML

Dimension expansion

- data: EM, ABC, Knockoffs, LLM ...
- parameter: hybrid MCMC, Slice sampler, mixture models

Dimension reduction

- data:
 - Kernel PCA, Canonical Correlation Analysis, Clustering,
 - VAE, t-SNE, Isomap, manifold learning, scketching,
 - random projections, projection pursuit
- parameter:
 - Variable / feature selection, Factor analysis

Focus on dimension reduction

Open questions

A subset of the variables or non-linear combinations thereof are often sufficient to describe a real-world data set

How many (and which) variables are needed to summarize a data set without significant information loss?

What is the appropriate scale at which one should analyze data?

Two questions, often considered unrelated, but strongly entangled, can be addressed within a unified "scale-dimension" framework

We introduce an approach in which the optimal number of variables and the optimal scale are determined self-consistently, bypassing the scale at which data are affected by noise

A matter of perspective



Can you guess the dimension of the support of the data generating process, d?

Motivation: dimensionality reduction

In the Swissroll example D = 3 and d = 2

d, is called the intrinsic dimension (ID) of the data

ID = needed for manifold learning (D. Dunson et al.)

ID = regression with covariates on a manifold (J. Rousseau et al.)

ID = key concept in unsupervised learning and feature selection

ID = lower bound to number of variables needed to describe a system

PROBLEM 1: Noise makes the identification of the ID har



PROBLEM 2: Sometimes the ID can vary within the same dataset

5 x1000 observations generated from 5 Gaussians of dimensions 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9, partially overlapping: 3 dim projection



Data matrix = 5000 x 9

PROBLEM 3: data can be discrete or continuous



D. Dunson et al. GP on contrained domains, JRSS B, 2019

A - a test function increases smoothly within a U-shaped boundary B - remote sensed chlorophyll data in the Aral sea

100

C - a spiralling band in a three-dimensional Euclidean space + data D - Bitten torus + data on the surface

Regions with the same ID host points differing in core properties:

- folded vs unfolded state in protein configurations
- active vs non-active regions in brain imaging data
- patients vs controls in gene expression data
- firms with different financial risk in balance sheets data
- winning vs losing teams in **basketball** data (AoAS)
- country specific NPI in pandemic evolution (Sci. Rep.)
- ID of an undirected unweighted network (Sci. Rep.)
- Identified vs unidentified models via ID in MCMC
- ID of layers in a CNN and transformes in LLM

A simple topological feature uncovers a rich data structure

What is the Intrinsic Dimension (ID)?

Dimension of the support of the data generating distribution Different estimation approaches:

projective, topological, Nearest-Neighbours (NN) ... Lack of statistically sound estimation procedures Aim: directly target the ID as a parameter to estimate Fundamental issue: scale dependence Goal: statistical guarantees

- Allow for uncertainty quantification
- Rely on exact or asymptotic distributional results

NN based ID estimators: 2 classes

For each point *i* in the data set

• NN order class

fix two NN orders: $n_2 > n_1$ find distance from *i* to the two NN: $r_{i,n_2} > r_{i,n_1}$ statistics: $\mu_i = r_{i,n_2}/r_{i,n_1}$

NN distance class

fix two distances: $r_2 > r_1$ count points within that distance from *i*: $n_{i,r_2} > n_{i,r_1}$ statistics: $n_{i,r_1}|n_{i,r_2}$

We find the distribution of the two statistics = function (d)

CLASS I: ID Estimators based on fixing NN order:

- TWO-NN = ratios of distances 2nd to 1st NN
- GRIDE = Generalized Ratios ID Estimator
- Hidalgo = Finite Mixture of TWO-NN ratios
- BNP Hidalgo = Infinite Mixture of TWO-NN ratios

CLASS II: ID Estimators based on fixing NN distance:

- I3D = ID for Discrete Data
- BIDE = Binomial ID Estimator
- ABIDE = Adaptive BIDE
- BABIDE = Bayesian ABIDE

PROBLEM SOLVING

TWO-NN requires a weaker local homogeneity assumption

GRIDE is more robust to noise in the data

Hidalgo and BNP Hidalgo robust if more than one ID exists

Adaptive ID estimators allow to escape the noise

Adaptive I3D for discrete data





K_A = number of points in ball A A KA X, (日) (日) (日) (日)

NN distance class



• Let n_1 , n_2 be two positive integers with $n_2 > n_1$ and define the ratio $\mu_{i,n_1,n_2} = r_{i,n_2}/r_{i,n_1}$ which is a.s. well defined for continuous data

Theorem

 μ_{i,n_1,n_2} has density

$$f\mu_{i,n_1,n_2}(\mu) = \frac{d(\mu^d - 1)^{n_2 - n_1 - 1}}{\mu^{d(n_2 - 1) + 1} B(n_2 - n_1, n_1)}, \quad \mu > 1$$
(1)

where $B(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the Beta function and d is the id.

The proof (F. Denti) follows from the PPP local homegeneity assumption that implies that the volumes of the shell $v_{i,j}$ between the *i*-th and the *j*-th NN have an exponential distribution with parameter ρ_i

- Take $n_1 = 1$ and $n_2 = 2$, the density in (1) reduces to a *Pareto*(1, *d*).
- TWO-NN MLE estimator is given by

$$\widehat{d} = \frac{n-1}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log(\mu_i)},\tag{2}$$

with
$$1 - \alpha$$
 confidence interval $\tau_{1-\alpha} = \left[\frac{\widehat{d}}{q_{IG_{n,n-1}}^{1-\alpha/2}}, \frac{\widehat{d}}{q_{IG_{n,n-1}}^{\alpha/2}}\right].$

• TWO-NN Bayesian estimator: prior $d \sim Gamma(a, b)$

$$d|\mu_1,\ldots,\mu_n\sim Gamma\Big(a+n,b+\sum_{i=1}^n\log(\mu_i)\Big),$$
 (3)

whose mean is asymptotically equivalent to (2)

• **GRIDE**: $n_1 = n_2/2$

D = 3 = embedding dimension d = 2 = intrinsic dimension

Heterogeneous ID algorithm - Hidalgo model allows for the possibility that the ID may not be uniform in the dataset.

Under some assumptions the distribution of $\mu_i = r_{i2}/r_{i1}$ is a mixture of Pareto distributions

$$f(\mu_i) = \sum_{k=1}^{K} p_k \frac{d_k \mu_i^{-d_k - 1}}{d_k \mu_i^{-d_k - 1}}$$

Likelihood and Estimation

The likelihood of the data is

$$\mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\mu}|\mathbf{d},\mathbf{p}) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{K} p_k d_k \mu_i^{-d_k-1}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_1 \dots \mu_N)$ Then we can again estimate

$$\mathbf{d} = (d_1 \dots d_K), \quad \mathbf{p} = (p_1 \dots p_K)$$

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Fix $P_{prior}(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p})$ and compute the posterior means $P_{post}(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p}) \propto \mathcal{L}(\mu | \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p}) P_{prior}(\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{p})$

Priors

Independent priors on **d** and **p**

Prior on **d** : $d_k \sim Gamma(a_0, b_0), \quad k = 1, \ldots, K$

Prior on $\mathbf{p} \sim Dir(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_K)$

Prior on Z $|\mathbf{p} \sim$ discrete distribution on $(1, \ldots, K)$ w.p. \mathbf{p}

- To adopt a full Bayesian approach, we need to address the uncertainty on the number of mixture components K
- Instead of making K stochastic, we adopt a Bayesian nonparametric approach, letting $K \to \infty$

We now model μ_i as a infinite mixture of Pareto distributions:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} p_i \cdot \mathcal{P}(\mu_i | d_i)$$

We adopt a Dirichlet process prior for the parameters that model the ID

Three types of Iris flowers

N = 50

	Petal length	Petal width	Sepal length	Sepal width	D = 4
Flower 1					
Flower 2					
Flower 3					
Flower 4					
: Flower 50					

3 clusters almost coincident with the flower species



Simulated data

Data matrix = 5000 x 9

5 x1000 observations generated from 5 Gaussians of dimensions 1, 2, 4, 5 and 9, partially overlapping: 3 dim projection



EX.

Posterior medians of d_i









Intrinsic dimension estimation on noisy datasets

• The estimated intrinsic dimension is a **scale dependent** quantity







• The scale dependence of the intrinsic dimension can be probed with an higher order ratio approach



• The scale dependence of the intrinsic dimension can be probe with an **higher order ratio approach**



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Generalized ratios ID estimator (GRIDE)

Homogeneous Poisson process assumption:

The number of points k(A₁), k(A₂) falling in two non overlapping regions A1, A2 are independent random variables

1. The **number of points** k in a region of volume V is a **Poisson random variable**:

$$P(k,V) = \frac{(\rho V)^k}{k!} e^{-\rho V}$$

Generalized ratios ID estimator (GRIDE)



Generalized ratios ID estimator (GRIDE)

TwoNN

Likelihood variance decreases increasing k



Scale analysis of the ID on synthetic datasets



Scale analysis of the ID on synthetic datasets





Scale analysis of the ID on synthetic datasets





We define the scale with N/k

→ It works better when the data are high dimensional







Scale analysis of the ID on real data sets: unknown intrinsic dimension



Scale analysis of the ID on real data sets: unknown intrinsic dimension





Computational efficiency of GRIDE

Dataset CIFAR10: 32 x 32 color images



ID ~ 30

Computational efficiency of GRIDE

Dataset CIFAR10: 32 x 32 color images



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Computational efficiency of GRIDE

Dataset CIFAR10: 32 x 32 color images



ID ~ 30



A simple topological feature uncovers a rich data structure

Folded vs unfolded state in protein configurations

Active vs non-active regions in brain imaging data

Patients vs controls in gene expression data

Firms with different financial risk in balance sheets data

Other applications:

Winning vs losing teams in basketball data

Country specific NPI in Covid-19 pandemic evolution

Identified vs unidentified models in MCMC simulation

Layers in a Deep Neural Network

Communities in Network data

Molecular dynamics



. consider a MD of unfolding/refolding villing headpiece

for each of the N ~ 32000 configurations, D=32 dihedral angles.

We find four manifolds

• d=12 d=13 d=23



The folded state is recognized from its higher ID!

fMRI time series of BOLD signal

$N \sim 30'000$ voxels with D = 202 scans

We find two manifolds d1 = 16 and d2 = 32

Task-relevant voxels are in the manifold with higher ID

Low-dimensional manifold mostly includes "noise" voxels





Red: high-ID voxels Blue: task relevant voxels Green: intersections



Firms from Compustat

consider ~8000 firms in the Compustat Database

. for each of the firms, D=31 balance sheet variables

We find four manifolds: d=5, d=6, d=7, d=9

We compute S&P ratings for the different manifolds



Lower dimension tends to have lower ratings!



Curtesy of Edgar Santos-Fernando

Gene expression data

Joint work with Luciano Cascione, Institute of Oncology Research, USI

 $D \approx 16.900$ genes expressions N = 69 tissue samples

The first 38 samples are CASES affected by Diffuse large B-cell lymphoma - DLBCL

The last 31 constitute the CONTROL group

69 tissues colored by cell typology The vertical line divides case / control groups The y-axis: posteriori medians of the ID for each tissue sample



Binomial Intrinsic Dimension Estimator (BIDE) ... and its Bayesian counterpart

BIDE (MLE):

$$\widehat{d} = \frac{\log\left(\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} k_{A,i}/\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} k_{B,i}\right)}{\log(\tau)}$$

BBIDE Bayesian estimator:

- Prior: $p = \tau^d \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha_0, \beta_0)$
- Posterior:

$$p|k_{B,1},\ldots,k_{B,n} \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha,\beta)$$

where $\alpha = \alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} k_{A,i}$ and $\beta = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} (k_{B,i} - k_{A,i})$.

• Posterior expectation and variance:

$$\mathsf{E}[d] = \frac{\psi_0(\alpha) - \psi_0(\alpha + \beta)}{\log(\tau)}, \quad \mathsf{Var}[d] = \frac{\psi_1(\alpha) - \psi_1(\alpha + \beta)}{\log(\tau)^2}$$

Adaptive BIDE (ABIDE) and its Bayesian twin

Algorithm Adaptive-BIDE

1: $d_{\text{current}} \leftarrow \text{ID from Two-NN}$ 2: $d_{\text{next}} \leftarrow 0$ 3: for $it < max_iter$ do 4: $\tau = 0.2032^{1/d_{current}}$ 5: for i < n do 6: compute k_i^* (using d_{current}) and set $k_{B,i}^* = k_i^*$ **7**: $t_{B,i}(k_i^*) = r_{ik_i^*}$ $t_{A,i}(k_i^*) = \tau t_{B,i}(k_i^*)$ 8: 9: $k_{A,i}^* = \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{1}\{t_{A,i}(k_i^*) - r_{i,j} > 0\}$ 10: end for $d_{\text{next}} = \frac{\log\left(\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} k_{A,i}^* / \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} k_{B,i}^*\right)}{\log(\tau)} \quad \text{or} \quad d_{\text{next}} = \frac{\psi_0(\alpha^*) - \psi_0(\alpha^* + \beta^*)}{\log(\tau)},$ 11: 12: if then $|d_{\text{current}} - d_{\text{next}}| < \delta$ break 13: end if 14: $d_{\text{current}} = d_{\text{next}}$ 15: end for 16: $d^* = d_{next}$ 17: for i < n do 18: compute k_i^* (using d^*) 19: end for 20: return d^* , k_i^*



Figure: Consider $\mathcal{N}(\frac{\pi}{2}, 1)$ and $\mathcal{N}(\frac{5}{3}\pi, 0.5^2)$, sample X_1, \ldots, X_{1000} points, 500 from each one of the two. Then map the points on a curved manifold by adding a second coordinate given by $Y_i = \sin(X_i)$.

Locally Linear Embedding - LLE

LLE: unsupervised learning algorithm that computes low dimensional, neighborhood preserving embeddings

TS Roweis and LK Saul, Science, 2000, \sim 20.000 citations

LLE: eigenvector method for nonlinear dimensionality reduction

Given a dataset $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n \subset \mathbb{R}^D$, LLE finds low dimensional embedding vectors $\{\mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^n \subset \mathbb{R}^d$

Given inputs: k and d

1. Compute the k neighbors of each data point x_i

Compute the weights that best reconstruct each data point from its neighbors, minimizing the reconstruction error
Compute the vectors y_i best reconstructed by the weights by minimizing a cost function


Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma - DLBCL

 $D \approx 16.900$ genes expressions recorded on N = 69 tissues

38 patients with DLBCL with different variants of lymphoma Activated B-Cell-like - ABC Germinal Center B-Cell-like - GCB 31 healthy donors of B-cell samples at various stages of maturation Naive B Cell - NB CentroBlast - CB CentroCyte - CC Memory B Cell - MEM Transitional Plasma Cells - TCP Advanced-stage Plasma Cells in Bone Marrow - APC / BMPC TPC and APC, being plasma cells, represent the most advanced

stage of B-cell maturation



TPC and APC cells

are in the most advanced stages of maturation consistent with their nature as plasma cells

0.0

-0.1

-0.15

-0.10







0.00

-0.05

0.05

0.10

0.15



Joint with

A. Varghese, E. Santos-Fernandez, F. Denti, Kerrie Mengersen



MAIN CONCLUSION

high-income countries are more likely to lie on low-dimensional manifolds,

likely arising from aging populations and comorbidities,

causing increased per capita mortality from COVID-19

1st Mar 2020 to 29th May 2021







ID manifold d₁ = 12 d₂ = 9 NA





ID manifold 1 2 NA



ID manifold 📕 1 🚺 2 🔜 3 📗 NA

Ansuini, Laio, Macke, Zoccolan, Advances in NIPS, 2019

- Study the ID of data representations in CNN
- In a trained CNN, the ID is orders of magnitude smaller than the number of units in each layer
- Across layers, the ID first increases then decreases
- The ID of the last hidden layer predicts classification accuracy on the test set in CNN to classify images
- Not true for untrained networks
 Not true for networks trained on randomized labels

Conclusion: NN that can generalize are those that transform the data into low-dimensional, but not necessarily flat manifolds

ID exploitation for selecting CNN architectures and training procedures

Hidden representations of convolutional networks



Hidden representations of convolutional networks



Hidden representations of convolutional networks



1 https://github.com/vdumoulin/conv_arithmetic





2x speed-up wrt TwoNN





2x speed-up wrt TwoNN



Evolution of the ID during training 140 epochs 120 **----** 90 100 --- 55 **---** 13 ≙ 80 8 60 **---** 5 40 **---** 1 20 **---** 0 34 142 151 152 153 10 0 1 layers input output





2x speed-up wrt TwoNN



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90 epochs Greatest change of the ID in the first 10 epochs



2x speed-up wrt TwoNN



Evolution of the ID during training 140 epochs 120 **----** 90 100 --- 55 80 **---** 13 ≙ 8 60 --- 5 40 20 0 34 142 151 152 153 10 0 1 layers input output

90 epochs Greatest change of the ID in the first 10 epochs

CNN architectures: AlexNet, Vgg, Resnet pretrained on ImageNet 50 samples of \sim 2000 images

ID computed as function of the NN layer depth



R package by F. Denti Cattolica University, Italy

Python suite by SISSA, Trieste, Italy





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