## Archetype Analysis: a framework for selecting representative objects

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## Machine Learning: Supervised Setting



## Machine Learning: Uncertain Labels

Sometimes even the best experts make errors.
Labels might be uncertain or missing...


## Machine Learning: Unsupervised Setting



## A Repeated Pattern: Search for Representative Observations


"most perfect possible form"

(Cluster-)Prototypes
"an attempt at something"



## Archetype Analysis: Biological Motivation

Is there a theoretical foundation of the "archetype concept"?
$~$ O. Shoval, H. Sheftel, G. Shinar, Y. Hart, O. Ramote, A. Mayo, E. Dekel, K. Kavanagh, U. Alon: Evolutionary Trade-Offs, Pareto Optimality, and the Geometry of Phenotype Space. Science, 2012

## Archetypes and Evolutionary Trade-offs




Trait 3
B 3 tasks


C 4 tasks



## Gene Expression Space

Human colon crypt cells fall in a tetrahedron in gene expression space.


The four vertices of this tetrahedron are each enriched with genes for a specific task related to stemness and early differentiation.

## Computational Archetype Selection

Cutler \&Breiman, Archetypal Analysis, Technometrics 1994.

- $n$ observations $\left\{\boldsymbol{x}_{1}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{x}_{n}\right\} \in \mathbb{R}^{p}$, as rows of data matrix $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times p}$
- Aim: find $K$ archetypes $\Rightarrow Z \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times p} ; K \ll n$ fixed.
- Observations are convex mixtures of archetypes

$$
\boldsymbol{x}_{i}=Z^{t} \boldsymbol{a}_{i}+\epsilon_{i}, \quad a_{i j} \geq 0 \quad \text { and } \quad \sum_{j=1}^{K} a_{i j}=1
$$



## Computational Archetype Selection

- Archetypes themselves are convex mixtures of observations: $\boldsymbol{z}_{i}=\sum_{j=1}^{n} b_{i j} \boldsymbol{x}_{j}, \quad$ where $b_{i j} \geq 0 \quad$ and $\quad \sum_{j=1}^{n} b_{i j}=1$

Archetypes approximate the convex hull!

- Constrained optimization problem involving two sets of coefficients $\left\{a_{i j}\right\}$ and $\left\{b_{i j}\right\}$ : iteratively minimize sum of squares

$$
(\hat{A}, \hat{B})=\operatorname{argmin}_{A, B}\|X-A Z\|^{2}=\|X-A B X\|^{2} .
$$

## Basic Algorithm

1. Given $K$ archetypes $Z_{K \times p}$, update the compositions $\boldsymbol{a}_{i}$ of the $i$-th object (a QP):

$$
\boldsymbol{a}_{i}=\arg \min _{\boldsymbol{a} \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{p}: \boldsymbol{a}^{t} \mathbf{1}=1}\left\|\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-Z^{t} \boldsymbol{a}\right\|^{2}
$$

2. Given compositions $A_{n \times K}$, update archetypes by solving the least-squares problem

$$
Z=\arg \min _{Z \in \mathbb{R}^{K \times p}}\|X-A Z\|^{2}
$$

3. Move ATs back to the convex hull (also a QP):

$$
\boldsymbol{b}_{k}=\arg \min _{\boldsymbol{b} \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{n_{1}}: \boldsymbol{b}^{t_{1_{n}}=1}}\left\|\boldsymbol{z}_{k}-X^{t} \boldsymbol{b}\right\|^{2}
$$



## Computational Archetype Selection

Problems:

- High computational complexity,
- Solution heavily depends on initialization of archetypes,
- Have to fix the number of archetypes $K$ a priori.
- Assume that we have a suitable representation such that it makes sense to search for "triangles"...


# Archetype Analysis: Model Selection 

How many archetypes?

## Model selection: how many archetypes?

- Solve for all numbers and choose "best"
$\sim$ Bayesian model comparison.
- A clever way for looking at all nubers?
- Initialize all observations as archetypes, apply sparse regression methods to shrink most archetypes to zero.

Sparsity constraint


## Sparse Regression via the Group-Lasso

Least-squares: $\min _{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\|X \boldsymbol{\beta}-\boldsymbol{y}\|^{2}$.
Treat regression coefficients $\beta_{i}$ as resources needed for optimization. Idea: limit resources $\sim$ model must concentrate on important features.


$$
\|\boldsymbol{\beta}\|_{1} \leq \kappa \quad \sum_{j=1}^{K}\left\|\boldsymbol{\beta}_{j}\right\|_{2} \leq \kappa
$$

## Automatic detection of archetypes

Rewrite $\|X-A Z\|$ as $\left\|\vec{x}-\left(A \otimes I_{p}\right) \vec{z}\right\|$, where $\vec{x}$ means column-wise vectorization of $X$ and use $\ell_{1,2}$ block-norm constraint: $\sum_{j=1}^{K}\left\|\boldsymbol{z}_{j}\right\| \leq \kappa$.


GroupLasso constraint will shrink some archetypes $\boldsymbol{z}_{j}$ to zero, depending on constraint value $\kappa$.

## A solution for the model selection problem

- Use GL algorithm that approximates the whole solution path on a fine grid of $\kappa$ values

- For every $\kappa$-value, use BIC score

$$
\operatorname{BIC}(\hat{\mu})=\frac{\|\vec{x}-\hat{\mu}\|^{2}}{n \sigma^{2}}+\frac{\log (n)}{n} \cdot \hat{d f}(\hat{\mu}),
$$

and select the best scoring model.

## Archetype Analysis: Algorithms

Will it work for huge datasets?

## Efficient algorithms

(Bauckhage et al., 2015):
Solve step 1 and combined (2,3)-step with Frank-Wolfe algorithm Idea: use linear optimization oracle over constraint set.

- Linear minimization oracle

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\Delta(\boldsymbol{x})=\underset{\boldsymbol{z}}{\operatorname{argmin}}\langle\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{z}\rangle, \\
\text { s.t. } g(\boldsymbol{z}) \leq \kappa
\end{array}
$$

- Update $\boldsymbol{x} \leftarrow(1-\gamma) \boldsymbol{x}+\gamma \Delta\left(\nabla_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})\right)$
- Decrease $\gamma$

M. Jaggi, 2015

Pros: Highly efficient for one fixed value of $\kappa$
Cons: Not efficient for the whole solution path $\sim$ model selction trick does not work well.

## Alternative: Forward stagewise

## Technically similar to Frank-Wolfe:

- Linear minimization oracle (LMO)

$$
\begin{aligned}
\Delta(\boldsymbol{x})= & \underset{\boldsymbol{z}}{\operatorname{argmin}}\langle\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{z}\rangle \\
& \text { s.t. } g(\boldsymbol{z}) \leq \epsilon \ll \kappa
\end{aligned}
$$

- Update $\boldsymbol{x} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{x}+\Delta\left(\nabla_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})\right)$

...but very different behaviour:
- incremental path following behaviour
$\leadsto$ efficient for computing the whole solution path
- built-in monotonicity "regularization" $\sim$ very stable, can be extended to non-convex "norms" for increased sparsity.


## Forward stagewise

Consider step 1 in AT analysis:
Given $K$ archetypes $Z_{K \times p}$, update the compositions $\boldsymbol{a}_{i}$ of the $i$-th object $\boldsymbol{x}_{i}$ under convexity constraints:

$$
\boldsymbol{a}_{i}=\arg \min _{\boldsymbol{a} \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{p}: \boldsymbol{a}^{t} \mathbf{1}=1}\left\|\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-Z^{t} \boldsymbol{a}\right\|^{2}
$$

This is a non-negative lasso estimate

$$
\begin{array}{cl}
\min _{\boldsymbol{a}} & \left\|\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-Z^{t} \boldsymbol{a}\right\|^{2} \\
\text { s.t. } & \|\boldsymbol{a}\|_{1}=1, a_{j} \geq 0
\end{array}
$$

Use projected gradient:
$\boldsymbol{a} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{a}+\Delta\left(\nabla_{f}^{+}(\boldsymbol{a})\right)$


## Forward stagewise

- Useful if LMO can be computed easily: all norms, block-norms etc.
- NN lasso: LMO is intersection of simplex and linear function $\sim$ find best vertex $l$, update $l$-th component of $\boldsymbol{a}$ as $a_{l} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{a}_{l}+\epsilon$ $\sim \boldsymbol{a}$ is monotone increasing in every component.
- Simple and efficient: iterate until $\|\boldsymbol{a}\|_{1}=1 \sim 1 / \epsilon$ iterations needed.
- Conceptually the same behaviour for group-lasso estimate in step 2.



## Further algorithmic tricks

- Pre-select candidate points on convex hull:
- Points on convex hull in any linear projection are also on the "full" convex hull.
- Convex hull computation very efficient in 2D: $O(n \log n)$
- Randomly project data to planes, compute points on convex hull, aggregate.
- Alternative to random projections: use pairwise PCA projections.
- PCA is a good preprocessing step anyway, since convex polygon with $K$ vertices can be embedded in a space with $<K$ dimensions.
- We can easily solve AT problems with $>100$ millions of objects.


## Archetype Analysis: Data representation

How to encode the data such that we can see "triangles"?

## Representation issues

## Representations

- different domains
( $p$-values, body size, weight)
- monotone transformations (e.g. log)

Problem: archetypal analysis is sensitive to choice of representation

Solution: Copula extension

- representation independence
- robust against outliers
- mixed data \& missing values



## Copula

## Copula density

- $p$-dim pdf on $[0,1]^{p}$
- uniform marginals
- defines dependency structure


## Property

- construct arbitrary multivariate distribution

$$
y_{j}=F_{j}^{-1}\left(u_{j}\right)
$$

(Sklar 1959)

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(Sklar 1959)


## Semi-parametric Gaussian Copula

- Idea: reconstruct latent space

$$
x_{j}=\left(\Phi^{-1} \circ F_{j}\right)\left(y_{j}\right)
$$

- Use empirical cdf's $\hat{F}_{j}=\frac{\operatorname{ranks}(Y[\cdot, j])}{n+1}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \boldsymbol{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, R) \\
& y_{i}=f_{i}\left(x_{i}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

- ATs invariant against monotone marginal transformations
- ATs depend only on ranks
$\sim$ insensitive to outliers.



## Mixed Continous / Discrete Data

Problem with discrete data: ties, empirical copula no longer uniform

Extended rank likelihood (Hoff, 2007):
stochastic associationpreserving mapping
Algorithm: Gibbs sampler

1. sample latent variables
$\boldsymbol{x}, R \mid \boldsymbol{x}$
2. compute archetypes $z$


## Artificial Data

- Monotone transformation with beta marginals
- Variables quantised to 5 levels




## Why use the Gaussian copula?

## Generative model

$$
\begin{gathered}
\boldsymbol{a}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Dir}_{K}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \\
\boldsymbol{x}_{i} \mid Z, \boldsymbol{a}_{i} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(Z^{t} \boldsymbol{a}_{i}, \eta I_{p}\right) \\
X \mid Z, A \sim \mathcal{M N}(\overbrace{A Z}^{M}, I, \eta I) \\
X^{t} X \sim \mathcal{W}_{\mathrm{nc}}\left(n, n I, M^{t} M\right) \\
\approx \mathcal{W}_{\mathrm{c}}\left(n, \frac{1}{n} M^{t} M+\eta I\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

(Steyn and Roux, 1972)


Under the assumed generative model,
a Gaussian covariance structure is plausible.

## Archetype Analysis: Applications

What is it good for?

## Analysis of E.coli Data



## Identified Archetypes



## Archetypical Chemical Compounds

Idea: find ATs in list of compounds identified in an AIDS antiviral screen performed by the Developmental Therapeutics Program of the NCI/NIH, enriched with all available anti-HIV drugs


## Archetypical Chemical Compounds



## Archetypical Chemical Compounds



## Compounds explained by AT 5



AZT It is of the nucleoside reverse-transcriptase inhibitor (NRTI) class. It inhibits the enzyme (reverse transcriptase) that HIV uses to synthesize DNA.

## Compounds explained by AT 7



HIV protease inhibitors (they block a peptide cleaving enzyme).

## Compounds explained by AT 10



Calanolide A is an experimental non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI).

## Compounds explained by AT 18



## Text categorization

- Reuters Corpus Volume 1 (RCV1): an archive of news documents
- 4 categories: Economics, Government, Corporate, Markets
- 23149 documents, vocabulary of 57180 words.
- Documents represented by word frequencies: Term frequency (TF) times Inverse Document Frequency (IDF).
- Automatically detect "pure" or archetypical documents (which might represent "pure" topics)



## Text categorization



## Text categorization



## Text categorization



## Text categorization



## Text categorization




## Text categorization

```
                                    gmt institut
                            rise
season lowdoldrum %
```

washington
milit northerndemo faction rival arbil confirm clash forc KO tehr party kurdist war attack iran wiv war heavy talaban accus

immedirna
enclav ceasefir shell protect
react barzanguerrill
massoud invitat

## Pose analysis



Fig. 5. (a) 2 D projection of the Weizman set containing 5.000 body poses; points on the convex hull are shown as pictures. (b) 6 archetypal poses extracted from the data.

## Image Encoding



Fig. 3: Image patches ( $16 \times 16$ pixels) for archetypal autoencoding experiments.


(a) $k=4$ archetypes

(d) $k=64$ archetypes

(b) $k=9$ archetypes

(e) $k=256$ archetypes

(c) $k=16$ archetypes

(f) $k=1024$ archetypes

## Conclusion

- Archetype analysis is a powerful tool identifying representative objects in large data collections.
- Many technical challenges:
- data types, representation
$\sim$ invariances due to semi-parametric copula construction
- computational/memory complexity
$~$ stagewise forward algorithms, convex hull approximations, etc.
- Many application areas: objects can be bacteria, genes, documents, chemical compounds, images, etc. etc.
- Open questions: AT analysis essentially is an auto-encoding technique $\sim$ neural implementations,
$\sim$ use as building-blocks in deep belief networks, etc.


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