

# From local to global in clustering and dimension reduction

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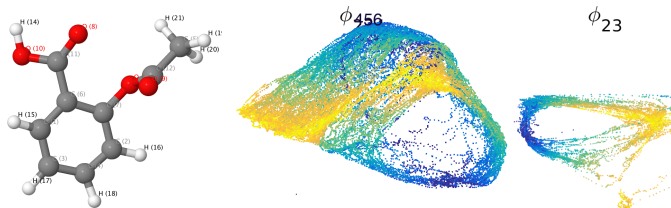
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with the [Geometric Data Analysis Group](#)

Marina Meila, Dominique Perrault-Joncas, James McQueen, Yu-chia Chen, Samson Koelle

From Local to Global Information Research Workshop 2/6/2020

## A motivating example: embedding of MD simulation data of aspirin



- ▶ local to global in clustering and dimension reduction.
- ▶ Clustering: local similarity to find groups.
- ▶ Manifold Learning: local neighborhood to find global embedding.

# Unsupervised learning for scientific data

- ▶ Understanding **structure of data** is typical for science.
- ▶ Unsupervised learning aims to find structure in data: **clusters**, **low dimensionality**, sparsity, causality, etc.
- ▶ Find knowledge that is **non-specific** to task or current query.
  
- ▶ Think as a scientist, answers cannot be crowdsourced:
  - ▶ In the least, should be free of artifacts
  - ▶ Ideally, should have guarantees without untestable model assumptions

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- ▶ **THIS TALK**
- ▶ Data driven methods to make **unsupervised learning** more reproducible, trustworthy and free of artifacts
  - ▶ want **stability** and **interpretability**
  - ▶ through **geometry**

# Geometry Data Analysis (GDA) for unsupervised learning

- ▶ Unsupervised learning aims to find structure in data: clusters, low dimensionality, sparsity, causality, etc
- ▶ Convex analysis for clustering.
  - ▶ Local optimum to guarantee global optimality
- ▶ Differential geometry for Manifold Learning (ML)
  - ▶ Local metric to preserve geometry
  - ▶ Local tangent space to find global coordinates with physical meaning
- ▶ (Not discussed) topological data analysis

Stability guarantees for clustering [M NeurIPS 2018]  
provable “correctness” for the practitioner

Metric manifold learning [Perrault-Joncas,M arXiv:1305.7255]  
“coordinate independent” geometric recovery

Manifold coordinates with physical meaning [M,Koelle,Zhang  
arXiv:1811.11891,...]

interpretability in the language of the problem

# Outline

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## For the practitioner of clustering

- ▶ Clustering algorithm e.g. **K-means**, **Spectral clustering** produces clustering  $\mathcal{C}$  with  $K$  clusters



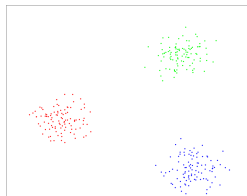
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- ▶ IDEALLY WANTED: guarantee that  $\mathcal{C}$  is correct/optimal
- ▶ WHAT WE CAN DO: guarantee that  $\mathcal{C}$  is **approximately** correct/optimal

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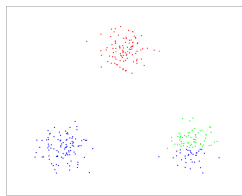
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- ▶ WHEN  $\mathcal{C}$  is **good** and **stable**

Good, stable



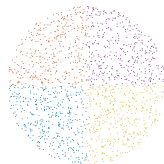
SS output:  $OI=1e^{-4}$

Bad



no guarantee

Unstable

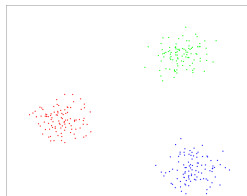


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## For the practitioner of clustering

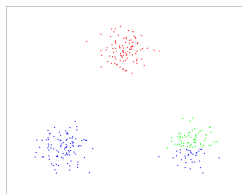
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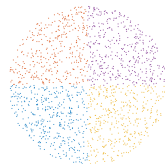
SS output:  $OI=1e^{-4}$   
 $OI = \text{Optimality Interval}$

Bad



no guarantee

Unstable



no guarantee

## Convex relaxations

**Clustering problem** Given data,  $K$ , **loss function**  $\text{Loss}(\mathcal{C})$

$$L^* = \min_{\mathcal{C} \in \mathbf{C}_k} \text{Loss}(\mathcal{C}), \text{ with solution } \mathcal{C}^* \text{ *Hard!*} \quad (1)$$

**Convex relaxation** of problem (1).

▶ clustering  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow$  matrix  $X(\mathcal{C}) \in \mathcal{X}$

where  $\mathcal{X}$  is convex set

and  $\text{Loss}(X)$  **convex** in  $X$

▶ solve

$$L^* = \min_{X \in \mathcal{X}} \text{Loss}(X), \text{ with solution } X^* \quad (2)$$

## Mapping a clustering to a matrix

$$n = 5, \mathcal{C} = (1, 1, 1, 2, 2),$$

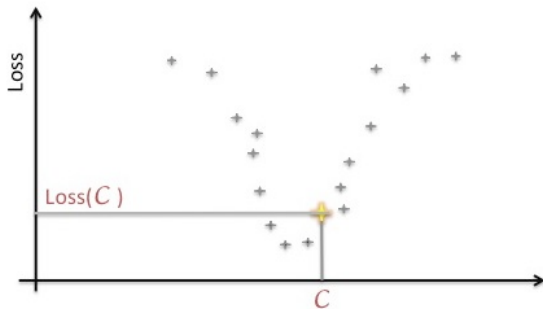
$$X(\mathcal{C}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

1.  $X(\mathcal{C})$  is symmetric, positive definite,  $\geq 0$  elements
2.  $X(\mathcal{C})$  has row sums equal to 1
3.  $\text{trace} X(\mathcal{C}) = K$

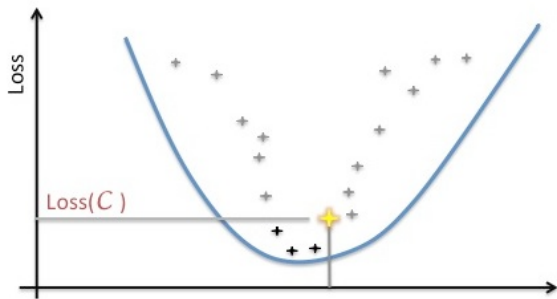
Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be the space  $n \times n$  of matrices with Properties 1, 2, 3 above

- ▶  $X(\mathcal{C})$  are **extreme points** of  $\mathcal{X}$

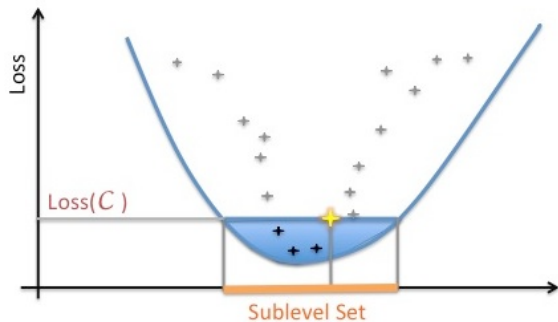
## The Sublevel Set (SS) method



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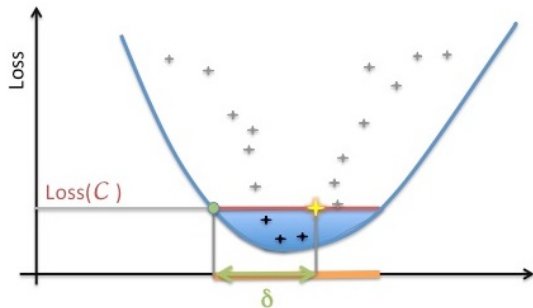


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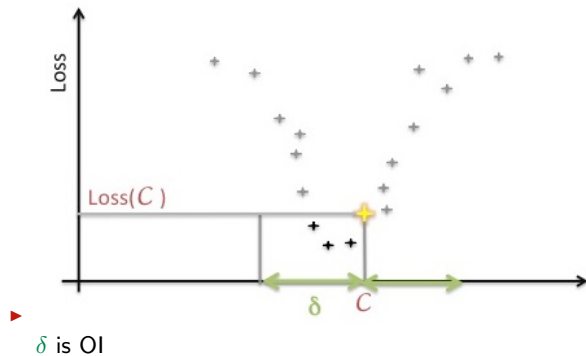


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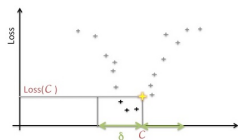


- ▶ a convex optimization problem

## The Sublevel Set (SS) method



# The Sublevel Set (SS) method



$\delta$  is OI

**Step 0** Cluster data, obtain a clustering  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Step 1** Define convex optimization problem

$$\text{(SS)} \quad \delta = \max_{X' \in \mathcal{X}} \|X(\mathcal{C}) - X'\|_F, \quad \text{s.t. } \text{Loss}(X') \leq \text{Loss}(\mathcal{C}).$$

**Step 2** Prove that  $\|X(\mathcal{C}) - X(\mathcal{C}')\|_F \leq \delta \Rightarrow d^{EM}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}') \leq \epsilon$   
E.g. by [M, MLJ 2012]

**Done:**  $\epsilon$  is a **Optimality Interval (OI)** for  $\mathcal{C}$ .

## Two technical bits

1. SS is **convex** only if  $\|X' - X(\mathcal{C})\|$  **concave**
  - ▶ Use  $\|\cdot\|_F$  Frobenius norm.  $\|X(\mathcal{C})\|_F^2 = K$  for any clustering.

## Two technical bits

1. SS is **convex** only if  $\|X' - X(C)\|$  **concave**
  - ▶ Use  $\|\cdot\|_F$  Frobenius norm.  $\|X(C)\|_F^2 = K$  for any clustering.
2. Relating  $\|\cdot\|_F$  to distance between clusterings.

$$\|X(C) - X(C')\|_F^2 \leq \delta \quad \Rightarrow \quad d^{EM}(C, C') \leq \epsilon$$

distance between matrices                      “misclassification error” metric  
between clusterings

- ▶ Theorem proved in [M, Machine Learning Journal, 2012] with  $\epsilon = 2\delta\rho_{\max}$ .
- ▶ The tightest result known. Upper/lower bounds between  $d^{EM}$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_F$  and Rand
- ▶ Proofs use geometry of convex sets + refined analysis for small distances
- ▶ Example from [Wan, M NIPS16] OI by existing results [] OI by our method

## K-means Sublevel Set problem

$$\text{Loss}(\mathcal{C}) = \langle D, X(\mathcal{C}) \rangle, \quad D = \text{squared distance matrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

$$\text{SS}_{K_m} \quad \delta = \min_{X' \in \mathcal{X}} \langle X(\mathcal{C}), X' \rangle \quad \text{s.t.} \langle D, X' \rangle \leq \text{Loss}(\mathcal{C})$$

a Semi-Definite Program (SDP).

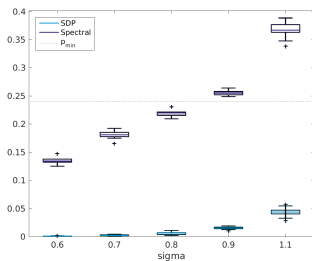
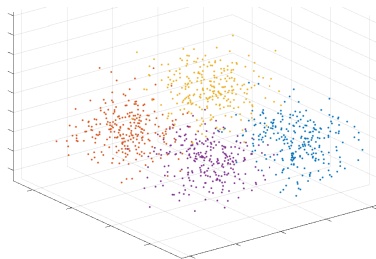
### Algorithm

**Input** Matrix of squared distances  $D$ , clustering  $\mathcal{C}$

1. Solve  $\text{SS}_{K_m}$ , get optimal value  $\delta$ .
2. **If**  $\epsilon = (K - \delta)p_{\max} \leq p_{\min}$  **then**  $\mathcal{C}$  **is stable**  
**else** no guarantee.

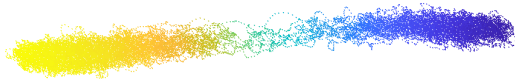
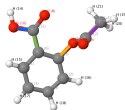
## Results for K-means clusterings

$K = 4$  equal Gaussian clusters,  $n = 1024$ ,  $\|\mu_k - \mu_l\| = 4\sqrt{2} \approx 5.67$   
data for  $\sigma = 0.9$  Values of  $\epsilon$  vs cluster spread  $\sigma$



Spectral=[M ICML06], SDP=[M NeurIPS 2018]

Aspirin ( $C_9O_4H_8$ ) molecular simulation data [Chmiela et al. 2017]

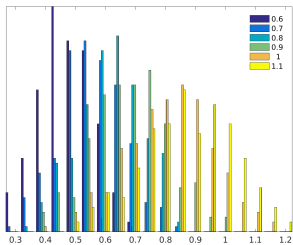


$K = 2$   
 $p_{\min} = .26$   
 $p_{\max} = .74$

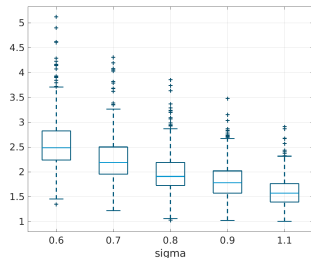
$n = 2118$   $\epsilon = 0.065$

# Separation statistics

distance to own center over min center separation, colored by  $\sigma$ .



distance to second closest center over distance to own center, versus  $\sigma$





## For what clustering paradigms can we obtain OI's?

“All” ways to map  $\mathcal{C}$  to a matrix

space	matrix	definition	size
$\mathcal{X}$	$X(\mathcal{C})$	$X_{ij} = 1/n_k$ iff $i, j \in C_k$	$n \times n$ , block-diagonal
$\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$	$\tilde{X}(\mathcal{C})$	$\tilde{X}_{ij} = 1$ iff $i, j \in C_k$	$n \times n$ , block-diagonal
$\mathcal{Z}$	$Z(\mathcal{C})$	$Z_{ik} = 1/\sqrt{n_k}$ iff $i \in C_k$	$n \times K$ , orthogonal

### Theorem

[M NeurIPS 2018] If Loss has a convex relaxation involving one of  $X, \tilde{X}, Z$ , then

(1) There exists a convex SS problem

$$\text{SS } \delta = \min_{X' \in \mathcal{X}_{\leq c}} \langle X(\mathcal{C}), X' \rangle \quad (\text{similarly for } \tilde{X}, Z).$$

(2) From optimal  $\delta$  an OI  $\epsilon$  can be obtained, valid when  $\epsilon \leq \rho_{\min}$ .

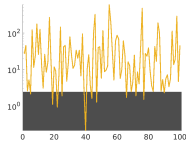
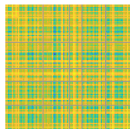
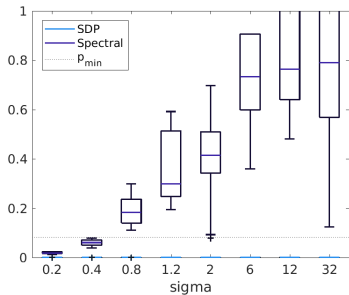
$$\begin{aligned} X : X_{ij} = 1/n_k \text{ iff } i, j \in C_k & \quad \epsilon = (K - \delta)\rho_{\max} \\ \tilde{X} : \tilde{X}_{ij} = 1 \text{ iff } i, j \in C_k & \quad \epsilon = \frac{\sum_{k \in [K]} n_k^2 + (n - K + 1)^2 + (K - 1) - 2\delta}{2\rho_{\min}} \\ Z : Z_{ik} = 1/\sqrt{n_k} \text{ iff } i \in C_k & \quad \epsilon = (K - \delta^2/2)\rho_{\max} \end{aligned}$$

Existence of guarantee depends only on space of convex relaxation.

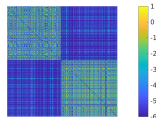
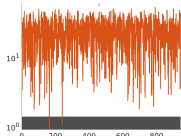
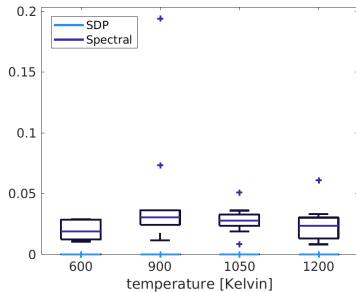
# Results for Spectral Clustering by Normalized Cut

Spectral=[M AISTATS05], SDP=[M NeurIPS 2018]

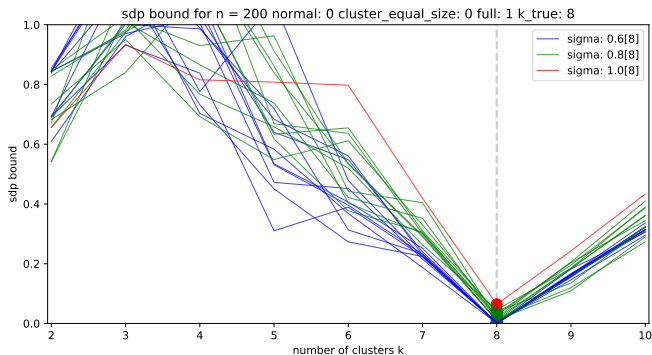
## Synthetic $S$ , $n = 100$



## Chemical reaction data, $n \approx 1000$



# Stability and the selection of $K$ [Cheng,M,Harchaoui (in preparation)]



## Summary of SS method

1. Cluster data
  2. Set up and solve SS problem
  3. If solution  $\epsilon$  small enough, **guarantee**  $\mathcal{C}$  is approximately optimal and all other good clusterings are near it
- ▶ **without any model assumptions**, practically applicable
  - ▶ not all  $\mathcal{C}$  can have guarantees

# Outline

Stability guarantees for clustering [M NeurIPS 2018]  
provable “correctness” for the practitioner

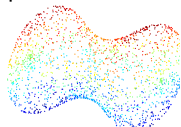
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# Brief intro to manifold learning algorithms

## ALL ML Algorithms

- ▶ **Input** Data  $p_1, \dots, p_n$ , embedding dimension  $m$ , neighborhood scale parameter  $\epsilon$



$$p_1, \dots, p_n \subset \mathbb{R}^D$$

# Brief intro to manifold learning algorithms

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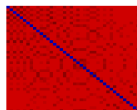
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- ▶ Construct a  $n \times n$  sparse distance matrix

$$D = [\|p - p'\|]_{p, p' \text{ neighbors}}$$



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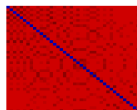
- ▶ Optional: construct **kernel** matrix, .e.g

$$S = [S_{pp'}]_{p, p' \in \mathcal{D}} \quad \text{with} \quad S_{pp'} = e^{-\frac{1}{\epsilon} \|p - p'\|^2} \quad \text{iff } p, p' \text{ neighbors}$$

and **Laplacian** matrix



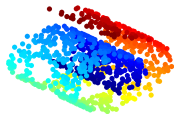
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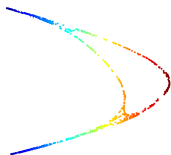


# Embedding in 2 dimensions by different manifold learning algorithms

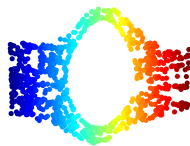
Original data  
(Swiss Roll with hole)



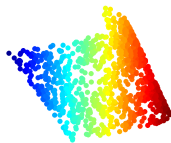
Laplacian Eigenmaps  
(LE)



Isomap



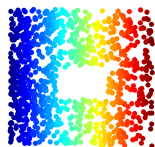
Hessian Eigenmaps (HE)



Local Linear Embedding  
(LLE)



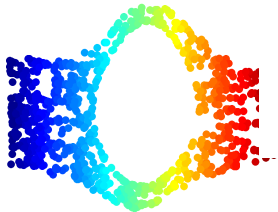
Local Tangent Space  
Alignment (LTSA)



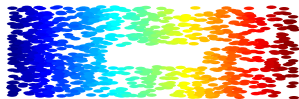
## Preserving topology vs. preserving (intrinsic) geometry

- ▶ Algorithm maps data  $p \in \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \phi(p) = x \in \mathbb{R}^m$
- ▶ Mapping  $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \phi(\mathcal{M})$  is diffeomorphism
  - preserves topology
  - often satisfied by embedding algorithms
- ▶ Mapping  $\phi$  preserves
  - ▶ distances along curves in  $\mathcal{M}$
  - ▶ angles between curves in  $\mathcal{M}$
  - ▶ areas, volumes
  - ... i.e.  $\phi$  is **isometry**
  - For most algorithms, in most cases,  $\phi$  is not isometry

Preserves topology



Preserves topology + intrinsic geometry



# Our approach: Metric Manifold Learning

[Perrault-Joncas, M 10]

Given

- ▶ mapping  $\phi$  that preserves topology  
true in many cases

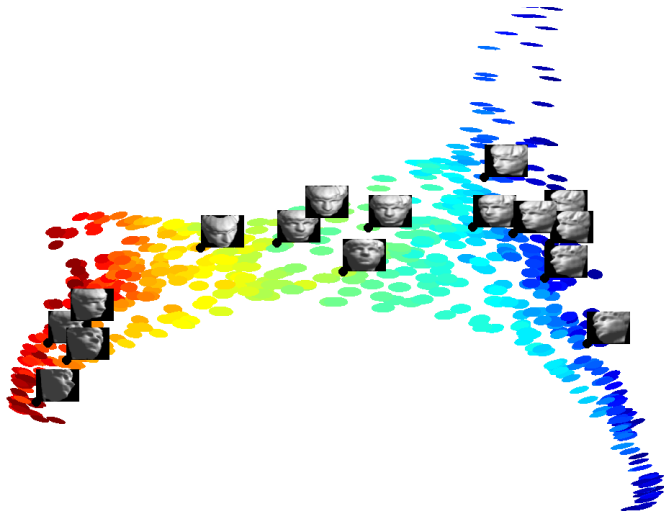
Objective

- ▶ augment  $\phi$  with geometric information  $g$   
so that  $(\phi, g)$  preserves the geometry

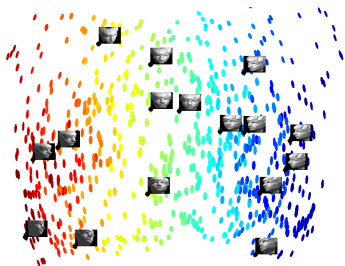
$g$  is the Riemannian metric.

## $g$ for Sculpture Faces

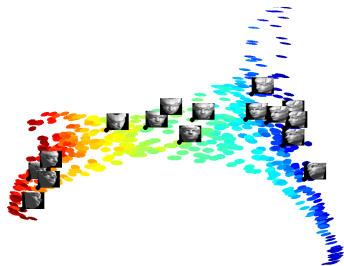
- ▶  $n = 698$  gray images of faces in  $D = 64 \times 64$  dimensions
  - ▶ head moves up/down and right/left



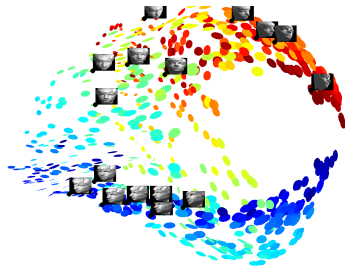
LTSA Algorithm



Isomap



LTSA



Laplacian Eigenmaps

## Relation between $g$ and $\Delta$

- ▶  $\Delta =$  Laplace-Beltrami operator on  $\mathcal{M}$ 
  - ▶  $\Delta = \text{div} \cdot \text{grad}$
  - ▶ on  $C^2$ ,  $\Delta f = \sum_j \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j^2}$
  - ▶ on weighted graph with similarity matrix  $S$ , and  $t_p = \sum_{pp'} S_{pp'}$ ,  
 $\Delta = \text{diag}\{t_p\} - S$

### Proposition 1 (Differential geometric fact)

$$\Delta f = \sqrt{\det(G)} \sum_l \frac{\partial}{\partial x^l} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(G)}} \sum_k (G^{-1})_{lk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} f \right),$$

# Estimation of $g$

## Proposition

Let  $\Delta$  be the Laplace-Beltrami operator on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then

$$h_{kl}(p) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta(\phi_k - \phi_k(p))(\phi_l - \phi_l(p))|_{\phi_k(p), \phi_l(p)}$$

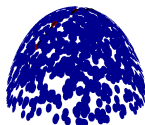
where  $h = g^{-1}$  (matrix inverse) and  $k, l = 1, 2, \dots, m$  are embedding dimensions

## Intuition:

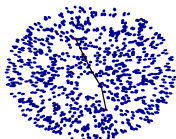
- ▶ at each point  $p \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $G(p)$  is a  $d \times d$  matrix
- ▶ apply  $\Delta$  to embedding coordinate functions  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m$
- ▶ this produces  $G^{-1}(p)$  in the given coordinates
- ▶ our algorithm implements matrix version of this operator result
- ▶ consistent estimation of  $\Delta$  is well studied [Coifman&Lafon 06, Hein&al 07]

## Calculating distances in the manifold $\mathcal{M}$

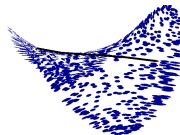
Original



Isomap



Laplacian Eigenmaps



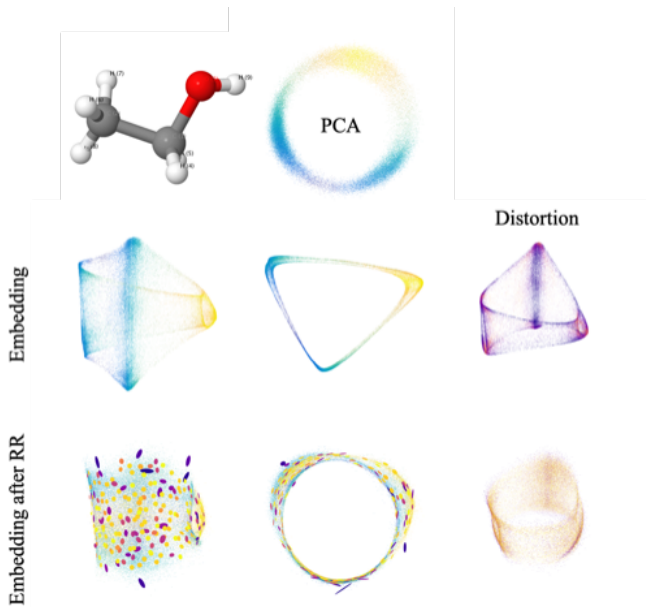
true distance  $d = 1.57$

Embedding	$\ f(p) - f(p')\ $	Shortest Path $d$	Metric $\hat{d}$	Rel. error
Original data	1.41	1.57	1.62	3.0%
Isomap $s = 2$	1.66	1.75	1.63	3.7%
LTSA $s = 2$	0.07	0.08	1.65	4.8%
LE $s = 2$	0.08	0.08	1.62	3.1%

$$l(c) = \int_a^b \sqrt{\sum_{ij} G_{ij} \frac{dx^i}{dt} \frac{dx^j}{dt}} dt,$$



# Riemannian Relaxation for Ethanol molecular configurations



## Metric Manifold Learning summary

**Metric Manifold Learning** = estimating (pushforward) Riemannian metric  $G_i$  along with embedding coordinates

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 $G_i = I_d$  when no distortion at  $p_i$

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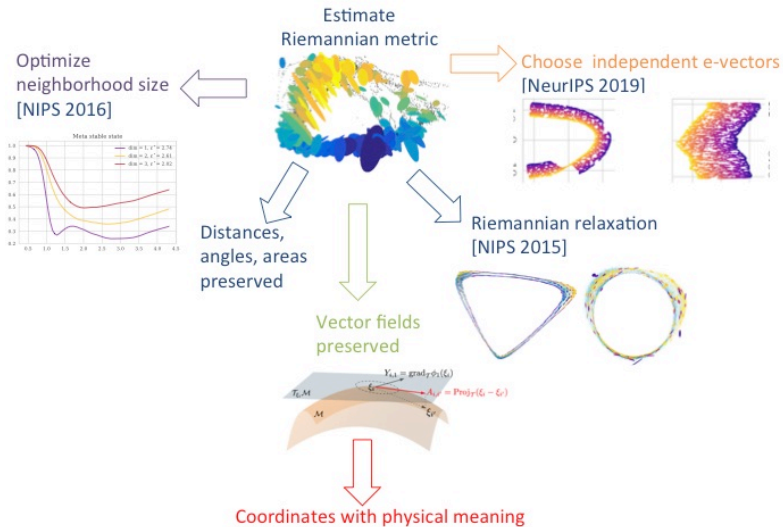
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## Applications

- ▶ Estimating distortion
- ▶ Correcting distortion
  - ▶ Integrating with the local volume/length units based on  $G_i$
  - ▶ Riemannian Relaxation [McQueen, M, Perrault-Joncas NIPS16]
- ▶ Estimation of neighborhood radius [Perrault-Joncas, M, McQueen NIPS17] and of intrinsic dimension  $d$  (variant of [Chen, Little, Maggioni, Rosasco ])
- ▶ Accelerating Topological Data Analysis (in progress), selecting eigencoordinates [Chen, M NeurIPS19]



# Outline

Stability guarantees for clustering [M NeurIPS 2018]  
provable “correctness” for the practitioner

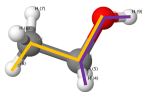
Metric manifold learning [Perrault-Joncas,M arXiv:1305.7255]  
“coordinate independent” geometric recovery

Manifold coordinates with physical meaning [M,Koelle,Zhang  
arXiv:1811.11891,...]  
interpretability in the language of the problem

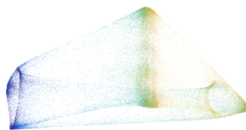


# Motivation

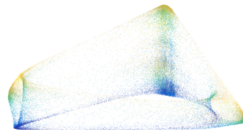
ethanol



torsion 1



torsion 2



- ▶ 2 rotation angles parametrize this manifold
- ▶ Can we discover these features automatically? Can we select these angles from a larger set of features with physical meaning?

# Problem formulation

- ▶ **Given**
  - ▶ data  $\xi_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $i \in 1 \dots n$
  - ▶ embedding of data  $\phi(\xi_{1:n})$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$
- ▶ **dictionary** of domain-related smooth functions  
 $\mathcal{F} = \{f_1, \dots, f_p$ , with  $f_j : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$ .
  - ▶ e.g. all torsions in ethanol

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▶ Goal to express the embedding coordinate functions  $\phi_1 \dots \phi_m$  in terms of functions in  $\mathcal{F}$ .

More precisely, we assume that

$$\phi(x) = h(f_{j_1}(x), \dots, f_{j_s}(x)) \quad \text{with } f_{j_1, \dots, j_s} \subset \mathcal{F}.$$

Problem: find  $S = \{j_1, \dots, j_s\}$

# Challenges

$$\phi(x) = h(f_{j_1}(x), \dots, f_{j_s}(x)) \quad \text{with } f_{j_1, \dots, j_s} \subset \mathcal{F}.$$

- ▶ **Framework:** sparse regression
- ▶ **Challenges**
- ▶  $h$  non-linear (but smooth)
- ▶  $\phi$  defined up to diffeomorphism
  - ▶ hence,  $h$  cannot assume a parametric form
  - ▶ will not assume one-to-one correspondence between  $\phi_k$  coordinates and  $g_j$  in dictionary

$$\text{e.g. } \begin{array}{l} \phi_1 = f_1 / \sqrt{f_2}, \\ \phi_2 = f_1 \sin(f_3^2) \end{array} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{l} \phi_1 = \sin(\tau_1) \\ \phi_2 = \cos(\tau_1) \text{(ethanol)} \\ \phi_3 = \sin(\tau_2) \end{array}$$

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- ▶ we do not assume  $\phi$  isometric
- ▶ what requirements on dictionary functions  $f_{1:p}$  for unique recovery?

## First Idea: from non-linear to linear

- ▶ If

$$\phi = h \circ f$$

- ▶ (sparse non-linear, non-parametric recovery)

- ▶ then

$$D\phi = DhDf$$

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- ▶ A sparse linear system for every data point  $i$
- ▶ Require subset  $S$  is same for all  $i$ 
  - ▶ group Lasso problem

### ▶ Functional Lasso

- ▶ optimize

$$(\text{FLASSO}) \quad \min_{\beta} J_{\lambda}(\beta) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \|y_i - \mathbf{X}_i \beta_i\|_2^2 + \lambda / \sqrt{n} \sum_j \|\beta_j\|,$$

- ▶ with  $y_i = \nabla \phi(\xi_i)$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_i = \nabla \mathbf{f}_{1:p}(\xi)$ ,  $\beta_{ij} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial f_j}(\xi_i)$
- ▶ support  $S$  of  $\beta$  selects  $f_{j_1, \dots, j_s}$  from  $\mathcal{F}$



# Theory

- ▶ When is  $S$  unique? / When can  $\mathcal{M}$  be uniquely parametrized by  $\mathcal{F}$ ?  
Functional independence conditions on dictionary  $\mathcal{F}$  and subset  $f_{j_1, \dots, j_s}$
- ▶ Basic result  
 $g_S = h \circ g_{S'}$  on  $U$  iff

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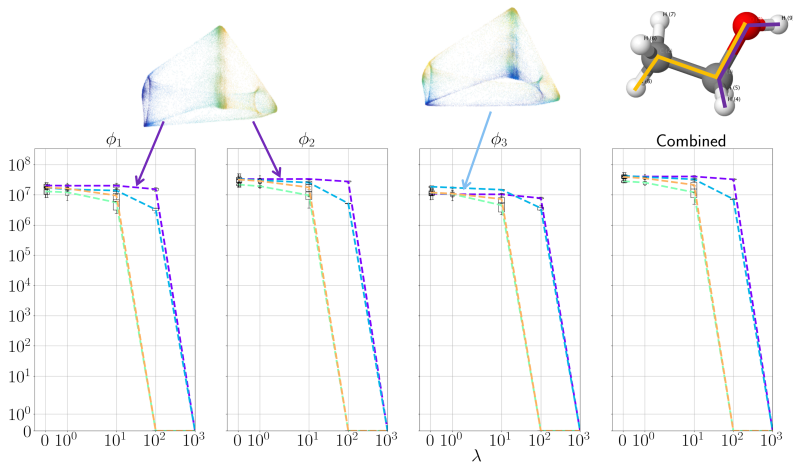
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- ▶ When can FLASSO recover  $S$ ?  
**Incoherence conditions**

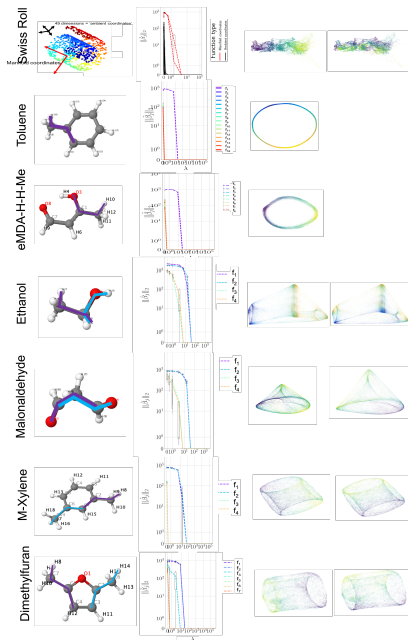
$$\mu = \max_{i=1:n, j \in S, j' \notin S} |X_{ji}^T X_{j'i}| \quad \nu = \frac{1}{\min_{i=1:n} \|X_{iS}^T X_{iS}\|_2} \quad nd\sigma^2 = \sum_{i,k} \epsilon_{ik}^2$$

Theorem If  $\mu\nu\sqrt{s} + \frac{\sigma\sqrt{nd}}{\lambda} < 1$  then  $\beta_j = 0$  for  $j \notin S$ .

# Ethanol MD simulation

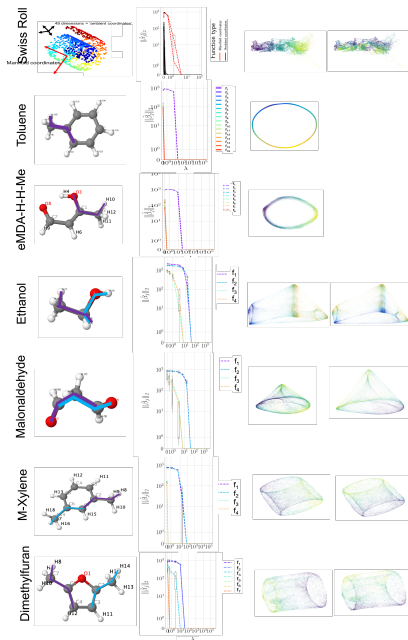


# Summary of MANIFOLDLASSO/FUNCTIONALASSO



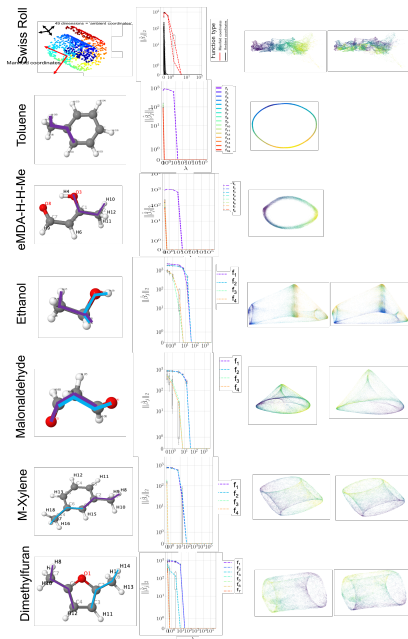
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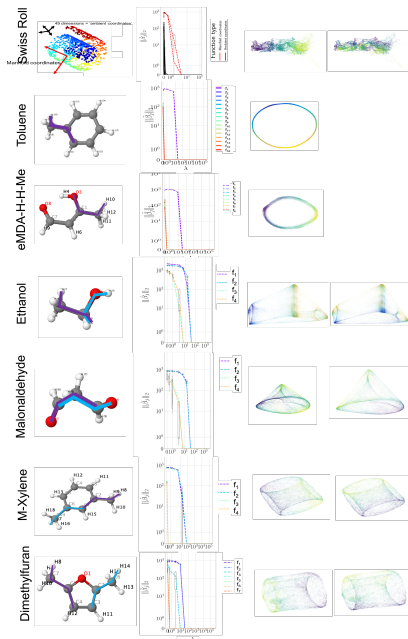
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- ▶ explain learned coordinates by dictionaries of domain-relevant functions
- ▶ sparse functional regression
- ▶ rank of feature set, of neural net embedding
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- ▶ Method to push/pull vectors through mappings  $\phi$

$\mathcal{M}$

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Cluster validation without model assumptions [M NeurIPS 2018]

- ▶ A general method that can be applied to any clustering cost that has a convex relaxation



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- ▶ After embedding: estimate distortion by  $H$  and correct it by Riemannian Relaxation [Perrault-Joncas,M 10, McQueen,Perrault-Joncas,M 16]

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### Manifold coordinates with physical meaning [arXiv:1811.11891]

- ▶ Interpretation in the language of the domain
- ▶ From non-parametric to parametric

### Python package [github.com/mmp2/megaman](https://github.com/mmp2/megaman)

- ▶ tractable for millions of points
- ▶ manifold learning and clustering
- ▶ incorporates state of the art results

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- ▶ Statistical guarantees – without untestable assumptions
- ▶ Good community practices – all machine learning algorithms should come with validation procedures
- ▶ Interpretability – in the language of the domain

**Sam Koelle, Yu-Chia Chen, Alon Milchgrub**

Dominique-Perrault Joncas (Google), James McQueen (Amazon)

Jacob VanderPlas (Google), Grace Telford (UW Astronomy)

Jim Pfaendtner (UW), Chris Fu (UW)

A. Tkatchenko (Luxembourg), S. Chmiela (TU Berlin), A. Vasquez-Mayagoitia (ALCF)

Thank you



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