# Alternating projection for independent component analysis

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Alternating projection ICA

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# Independent component analysis (ICA)

- D-dimensional random variable x, unobserved
- $p(x) = \prod_{d=1}^{D} p_d(x_d)$
- Unknown mixing matrix A
- Observations: N IID samples from y = Ax
- Want to recover  $x_n$ ,  $W = A^{-1}$
- Can show that W is orthogonal,  $W^T W = I$

# Previous work: Jebara (2002)

- Describes alternating projection solution to ICA
- Makes no assumptions about  $p_d(x_d)$
- Nonparametric
- Uses approximate iterated variational singular value decomposition

#### This work

- Replaces variational SVD with brute force and perceptron solutions
- Compares all three to Kernel ICA, (Bach & Jordan, 2003) on 18 different 2D distributions
- Shows that these two new methods more accurately estimate W than the variational method, with accuracy close to Kernel ICA

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#### 4 Evaluation

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# Alternating projection



- Two manifolds in probability distribution space
- *P<sub>R</sub>*: space of all rotated versions of empirical distribution
- *P<sub>F</sub>*: space of all product-of-marginal distributions
- Alternate projecting from one to the point on the other with minimum KL divergence

# Projecting from rotated to factored

- $P^*$  is the distribution in  $P_R$
- P is any product of marginals, i.e. in  $P_F$
- $\tilde{P}$  is the product of the marginals of  $P^*$
- $KL(P^*||P) = KL(P^*||\tilde{P}) + KL(\tilde{P}||P)$ (Cover & Thomas, 1991)
- Therefore  $KL(P^*||P)$  is minimized when  $P = \tilde{P}$

### Projecting from factored to rotated



- Dimensions are independent
- Gaussianize *i*th dimension using transfer function T<sub>i</sub>(x) based on empirical CDF

$$C(W) = \sum_{in} T_i^2(W_i^T y_n)$$

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# Brute force solution

#### Repeat until fix point

- Build  $T_i(x)$  from the current rotation of data
- Construct  $W_ heta$  for 500 angles from  $-\pi$  to  $\pi$
- Find  $\hat{W}_{\theta}$  minimizing  $C(W_{\theta}) = \sum_{in} T_i(W_{\theta}y_n)$
- Rotate data by  $\hat{W}_{\theta}$
- Only works in 2D

#### Perceptron solution



- Break cost function into a set of steps, positive and negative
- Treat each step as a classifier
- End up with loss:  $L(W) = tr(W^T Q)$
- $Q_i = \sum_n y_n T_i^2(y_n)$
- Solve with SVD
- Works in any dimensionality

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# Distributions



- 18 marginal distributions, 1D
- k = kurtosis
- Same distribution for two independent dimensions
- Draw N = 250 data points
- Rotate data by random A matrix
- Compare estimated Ŵ to actual A matrix using Amari distance, invariant to permutations and reflections

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#### Results: average error over 5 trials



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# Summary

- Nonparametric ICA, making no assumptions about source distributions
- Improves upon Jebara (2002)
- Accuracy close to that of kernel ICA
- Still working on convexifying of  $P_R$

## Thank you

Any questions?

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