Multiscale Wavelets on Trees, Graphs and High Dimensional Data ICML 2010, Haifa

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Boaz Nadler Ronald Coifman



Motto

"... the relationships between smoothness and frequency forming the core ideas of Euclidean harmonic analysis are remarkably resilient, persisting in very general geometries."

- Szlam, Maggioni, Coifman (2008)

Given a dataset $X = \{x_1, \ldots, x_N\}$ with similarity matrix $W_{i,j}$ (or $X = \{x_1, \ldots, x_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$)

"Nonparametric" inference of $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$

- Denoise: observe $g = f + \varepsilon$, recover f
- ullet SSL / classification: extend f from $ilde{X} \subset X$ to X

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Enter Euclid

- Harmonic analysis wisdom in low dim Euclidean space: use orthobasis {ψ_i} for space of functions f : X → ℝ
- Popular bases: Fourier, wavelet
- Process f in coefficient domain e.g. estimate, thereshold

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Example: USPS benchmark • X is USPS (ML benchmark) as 1500 vectors in $\mathbb{R}^{16 \times 16} = \mathbb{R}^{256}$ • Affinity $W_{ij} = \exp\left(-\|x_i - x_j\|^2\right)$ • $f: X \to \{1, -1\}$ is the class label.

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Toy example: visualization by kernel PCA



Fourier Basis for $\{f : X \to \mathbb{R}\}$

Belkin and Niyogi, Using manifold structure for partially labelled classification, 2003

Generalizing Fourier: The Graph Laplacian eigenbasis

Take $(W - D)\psi_i = \lambda_i \psi_i$ where $D_{i,i} = \sum_j W_{i,j}$



Laplacian ("Graph Fourier") basis

 $Oscillatory,\ nonlocalized$

Uninterpretable

Scalability challenging

No theoretical bound on $|\langle f, \psi_i \rangle|$

Empirically slow coefficient decay

No fast transform

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Toy example: Graph Laplacian Eigenbasis



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Toy example: Graph Laplacian Eigenbasis



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Laplacian eigenbasis	"Dream" Basis
Oscillatory, nonlocalized	Localized
Uninterpretable	Interpretable
Scalability Challenging	Computation scalable
No theory bound on $ \langle f,\psi_i angle $	Provably fast coef. decay
Empirically slow decay	Empricially fast decay
No fast transform	Fast transform

On Euclidean space, Wavelet basis solves this



- Localized
- Interpretable scale/shift of same function
- Fundamental wavelet property on \mathbb{R} coeffs decay: If ψ is a regular wavelet and $0 < \alpha < 1$, then

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq C |x - y|^{lpha} \iff |\langle f, \psi_{\ell,k} \rangle| \leq \tilde{C} \cdot 2^{-\ell \left(lpha + rac{1}{2}
ight)}$$

Fast transform

Prior Art

• Diffusion wavelets (Coifman, Maggioni)

- Anisotropic Haar bases (Donoho)
- Treelets (Nadler, Lee, Wasserman)

Any Balanced Partition Tree whose metric preserves smoothness in W yields an extremely simple Wavelet "Dream" Basis

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Laplacian eigenbasis	Haar-like Basis
Oscillatory, nonlocalized	Localized
Uninterpretable	Easily interpretable
Scalability Challenging	Computation scalable
No theory bound on $ \langle f,\psi_i angle $	$ f $ smooth $\Leftrightarrow \langle f, \psi_{\ell,k} \rangle \leq c^{-\ell}$
Empirically slow decay	Empricially fast decay
No fast transform	Fast transform

Toy example: Haar-like coeffs decay



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Toy example: Haar-like coeffs decay



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Eigenfunctions are oscillatory



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Toy example: Haar-like basis function



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Any *Balanced* **Partition Tree**, whose metric preserves smoothness in *W*,**yields an extremely simple Basis**

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Partition Tree \Rightarrow Haar-like basis





Partition Tree \Rightarrow Haar-like basis



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How to define smoothness

• Partition tree T induces natrual tree (ultra-) metric d

• Measure smoothness of $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$ w.r.t d

Theorem

Let $f : X \to \mathbb{R}$. Then

 $|f(x) - f(y)| \le C \cdot d(x, y)^{\alpha} \Leftrightarrow |\langle f, \psi_{\ell, k} \rangle| \le \tilde{C} \cdot |supp(\psi_{\ell, k})|^{\left(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\right)}$

for any Haar-like basis $\{\psi_{\ell,k}\}$ based on the tree T.

- If the tree is balanced \Rightarrow |offspring folder| $\leq q \cdot$ |parent folder|
- Then $|f(x) - f(y)| \le C \cdot d(x, y)^{\alpha} \iff |\langle f, \psi_{\ell,k} \rangle| \le \tilde{C} \cdot q^{\ell\left(\alpha + \frac{1}{2}\right)}$ (for classical Haar, $q = \frac{1}{2}$).

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for any Haar-like basis $\{\psi_{\ell,k}\}$ based on the tree T.

If the tree is balanced ⇒ |offspring folder| ≤ q · |parent folder|
Then
|f(x) - f(y)| ≤ C · d(x,y)^α ⇔ |⟨f, ψ_{ℓ,k}⟩| ≤ C̃ · q^{ℓ(α+¹/₂)}
(for classical Haar, q = ¹/₂).

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Results

- **(**) Any partition tree on X induces "wavelet" Haar-like bases $\sqrt{}$
- 2 "Balanced" tree \Rightarrow f smooth equals fast coefficient decay $\sqrt{}$
- Application to semi-supervised learning
- Beyond basics: Comparing trees, Tensor product of Haar-like bases

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- Task: Given values of smooth f on $\tilde{X} \subset X$, extend f to X.
- Step 1: Build a partition tree s.t. f is smooth w.r.t tree metric
- Step 2: Construct a Haar-like basis $\{\psi_{\ell,i}\}$
- Step 3: Estimate $\hat{f} = \sum \langle f, \psi_{\ell,i} \rangle \psi_{\ell,i}$
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Results

- **(**) Any partition tree on X induces "wavelet" Haar-like bases $\sqrt{}$
- 2 "Balanced" tree \Rightarrow f smooth equals fast coefficient decay $\sqrt{}$
- $\textcircled{O} Application to semi-supervised learning \sqrt{}$
- Beyond basics: Tensor product of Haar-like bases, Coefficient thresholding

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- Analysis tools (e.g. function spaces, wavelet theory) in graph or general geometries valuable and largely unexplored in ML context

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Motto

"... the relationships between smoothness and frequency forming the core ideas of Euclidean harmonic analysis are remarkably resilient, persisting in very general geometries."

- Szlam, Maggioni, Coifman (2008)

Main message

Any *Balanced* Partition Tree whose metric preserves smoothness in W yields an extremely simple "Dream" Wavelet Basis

Fascinating open question

Which graphs admit Balanced Partition Trees, whose metric preserves smoothness in W ?

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