

Pattern recognition in nuclear fusion data by means of geometric methods in probabilistic spaces

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Overview



- Stochastic uncertainty in fusion plasmas
- 2 Pattern recognition in probabilistic spaces
- 3 Geodesic least squares regression
- Application in fusion science: edge-localized plasma instabilities
- 5 Application in astronomy: Tully-Fisher scaling
 - 6 Conclusion

Overview



Stochastic uncertainty in fusion plasmas

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Fusion energy

- 'Star on earth'
- Clean, safe, inexhaustible energy source
- Magnetic confinement fusion: tokamak, stellarator, ...
- Confine hot hydrogen isotope plasma with magnetic fields
- ITER: next-generation international tokamak
- Complex physical system, turbulent transport
- $\bullet~$ Difficult to probe \rightarrow uncertainty in measurements and models





Uncertainty in fusion plasmas

- Sources of statistical uncertainty:
 - Fluctuation of system properties
 - Measurement noise





Plasma turbulence (PPPL)









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Difference/distance between points



 $Patterns \leftrightarrow distances$



Zooming in...





Mahalanobis distance





Information geometry

- Family of probability distributions \rightarrow differentiable manifold
- Parameters = coordinates
- Metric tensor: *Fisher information* matrix

Parametric probability model: $p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \Longrightarrow$ $g_{\mu\nu}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^{\mu}\partial\theta^{\nu}}\ln p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\right], \quad \mu, \nu = 1, \dots, m$

 θ = *m*-dimensional parameter vector

• Line element:

$$\mathrm{d}s^2 = g_{\mu\nu}\mathrm{d}\theta^\mu\mathrm{d}\theta^\nu$$

- Minimum-length curve: *geodesic*
- Rao geodesic distance (GD)



Pattern recognition in probabilistic spaces



• Pattern recognition:

- Classification, clustering
- Regression analysis
- Dimensionality reduction, visualization
- Observation/prediction (structureless number)
 - \rightarrow distribution (structured object)
- More information, more flexibility



The univariate Gaussian manifold



• PDF:

$$p(x|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$$

• Line element:

$$\mathrm{d}s^2 = \frac{\mathrm{d}\mu^2}{\sigma^2} + 2\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma^2}{\sigma^2}$$

- Hyperbolic geometry: Poincaré half-plane, Poincaré disk, Klein disk, ...
- Analytic geodesic distance







https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i9IUzNxeH4o

The pseudosphere (tractroid)





Geodesics on the Gaussian manifold





Data visualization with uncertainty



Plasma energy confinement time w.r.t. global plasma parameters



Euclidean

Geodesic

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Challenges in regression analysis

- Data uncertainty: measurement error, fluctuations, ...
- Model uncertainty: missing variables, linear vs. nonlinear, Gaussian vs. non-Gaussian, ...
- Heterogeneous data and error bars
- Uncertainty on response (*y*) and predictor (*x_j*) variables
- Atypical observations (outliers)
- Near-collinearity of predictor variables
- Data transformations, e.g.



Least squares and maximum a posteriori

- Workhorse: ordinary least squares (OLS)
- Maximum likelihood (ML) / maximum *a posteriori* (MAP):

$$p(y_i|x_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{y_i - \mu_i}{\sigma}\right)^2\right]$$
$$\mu_i = f_i(x_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \stackrel{\text{e.g.}}{=} \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i$$

- Need *flexible* and *robust* regression
- Parameter estimation → distance minimization:

Expected \leftrightarrow Measured



Michigan, circa 1890s.





The minimum distance approach



• *Minimum distance estimation* (Wolfowitz, 1952):

Which distribution does the model predict?

vs.

Which distribution do you observe?

- Gaussian case: different means and standard deviations
- Hellinger divergence (Beran, 1977)
- Empirical distribution: kernel density estimate

Modeled and observed distribution





Example: fluid turbulence







Geodesic least squares





- Model-based approach: regression on probabilistic manifold
- To be estimated: σ_{obs} , β_0 , β_1 , ..., β_m
- iid data: minimize sum of squared GDs

⇒ *geodesic least squares* (*GLS*) regression

• If $\sigma_{mod} = \sigma_{obs} \rightarrow$ Mahalanobis distance

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Edge-localized modes (ELMs)



- Repetitive instabilities in plasma edge
- Magnetohydrodynamic origin



MAST, Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, UK

Analogy 1: Solar flares





Analogy 2: Cooking pot







- Confinement loss
- Potential damaging effects
- Impurity outflux
- $\bullet \rightarrow ELM \text{ control/mitigation}$
- Energy \propto (frequency)⁻¹



Data extraction: waiting times

- 32 recent JET discharges
- Waiting time: time before ELM burst



Data extraction: energies



• Energy carried from the plasma by an ELM



Average waiting times and energies





Error bars on averages





• Standard deviation / $\sqrt{n} \rightarrow \text{error bars}$

Regression on averages





Regression results on pseudosphere





Projected regression results



Multidimensional scaling:







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Baryonic Tully-Fisher Relation (BTFR)



• Simple, tight relation for disk galaxies:

$$M_b = \beta_0 V_f^{\beta_1}$$

$$\begin{cases}
M_b = \text{total (stellar + gaseous) baryonic mass } (M_{\odot}) \\
V_f = \text{rotational velocity } (\text{km s}^{-1})
\end{cases}$$

- Various purposes:
 - Distance indicator
 - Constraints on galaxy formation models
 - Test for alternatives to ACDM cosmological model (slope and scatter)





- 47 gas-rich galaxies (McGaugh, Astron. J. 143, 40, 2012)
- Loglinear ($\sigma_{obs,i} \equiv s_{obs}$) and nonlinear ($\sigma_{obs,i} = r_{obs} M_b$)
- Benchmarking:
 - Ordinary least squares (OLS)
 - Bayesian: errors in all variables, marginalized standard deviations (Bayes)
 - Geodesic least squares (GLS)
 - Kullback-Leibler least squares (KLS)

Loglinear regression





Nonlinear regression





Parameter distributions





GLS uncertainty estimates



 $r_{M_b} \approx 38\%$, $r_{\rm obs} \approx 63\%$



Interpretation on pseudosphere





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- Probabilistic modeling of stochastic system properties
- Information geometry: distance measure, geometrical intuition
- Pattern recognition in probabilistic spaces
- More information, more flexibility
- Geodesic least squares regression: *flexible* and *robust*
- *Easy* to use, *fast* optimization