Multi-Criteria Dimensionality Reduction with Applications to Fairness

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JOINT WORK WITH

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PCA can be unfair!

Standard PCA on face data LFW of male and female

Average reconstruction error (RE) of PCA on LFW



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Contribution 1: Problem Formulation

Multi-criteria dimensionality reduction (MCDR): $\max_{\text{projection } P} g(f_1(P), f_2(P), \dots, f_k(P))$

Utility criterion f_i 's and social welfare g

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• *Mar-Loss*:
$$\min_{P} \max_{i \in \{1,...,k\}} \left(\max_{Q} ||A_i Q||_F^2 - ||A_i P||_F^2 \right)$$

• *NSW*:
$$\max_{P} \prod_{i=1}^{k} ||A_iP||_F^2$$

Contribution 2: Algorithms and Guarantees

On linear f_i in PP^T and concave g:

- Polynomial-time algorithm for MCDR with optimal utility and small rank violation $s = \sqrt{2k + 1/4} 3/2$
- Approximation ratio 1 s/d on utility when no rank violation

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- Semi-definite Program (SDP) → Multiplicative Weight (MW) method
 - scalable up to ≈ 1000 dimensions

Contribution 2: Algorithms and Guarantees



Contribution 3: Optimization Theory

- Every extreme point of the semi-definite program relaxation of MCDR has low rank
 - Generalize work on low-rank property in semi-definite program by Barvinok'95, Pataki'98
- Optimization result + ML application

Contribution 4: Complexity of MCDR

- NP-hard for general k
 - Reduction to MAX-CUT
- Polynomial-time for fixed k
 - Algorithmic theory of quadratic maps.

More details

- Poster: Thursday Dec 12th at 10:45 AM -- 12:45 PM, East Exhibition Hall B + C #80
- Happy to chat!

- Code: github.com/uthaipon/multi-criteria-dimensionality-reduction
- Web: sites.google.com/site/ssamadi/fair-pca-homepage

(searchable links at NeurIPS website or my website Uthaipon Tantipongpipat)