



On the Informativeness of Asymmetric Dissimilarities

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Asymmetric dissimilarities

“Italy is similar to France”

1270 hits

“France is similar to Italy”

63 hits

2

Contents

- Causes of asymmetry
- What people do about it
- How we can do it better

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Causes

Experts

	Italy	France
Italy		63
France	1270	

Causes

Matching

- Shapes = Strings of angles
- Incorporating invariance
- Inexact procedures
- Different search path



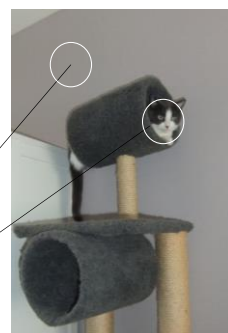
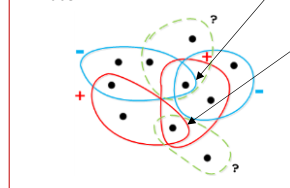
{90, 90, 0, 135, 135...}
starting at top left

{225, 225, 0, 270, 270...}
starting at arrow tip

Causes

Multiple Instance Learning

- Bags are sets of feature vectors
- Instance labels are not given
- Concept instances important for bag label



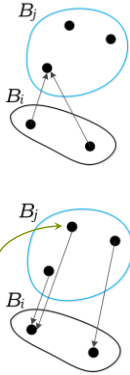
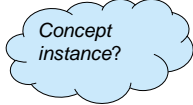
Causes

Multiple Instance Learning

- (Modified) Hausdorff distance

$$d(B_i, B_j) = \max_{x_k \in B_i} \min_{x_l \in B_j} d(x_k, x_l)$$

$$d_H(B_i, B_j) = \max(d(B_i, B_j), d(B_j, B_i))$$



Asymmetry

What is usually done

- Nearest neighbor, clustering, SVM, embedding ...
- Symmetrize dissimilarity
- What if this throws away information?

$$D_1 = d(A, B)$$

$$D_2 = d(B, A)$$

$$\max(D_1, D_2)$$

$$\min(D_1, D_2)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(D_1 + D_2)$$

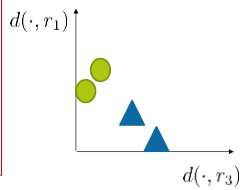
Asymmetry

Alternative

- Dissimilarity space
- Distances as features
- Any (even non-square) matrix
- Any supervised classifier

$$R = \{r_1, \dots, r_k\}$$

$$D_i \in \mathbb{R}^k, i = 1, 2$$



Asymmetry

Our idea

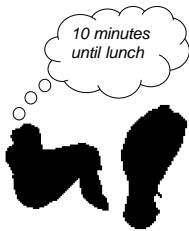
- Extended Asymmetric Dissimilarity Space
- All information available

$$[D_1 D_2] \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times 2}$$

Datasets

• Chicken Pieces

- 5 classes
- Edge segments of 35 pixels
- String of angles
- Edit distance



• Ajax Orange

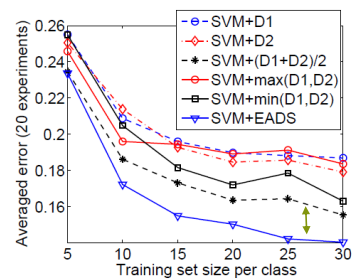
- 25 objects, 10x6 backgrounds
- 1 against all
- Segments + simple features
- Modified Hausdorff



Results

Chicken pieces

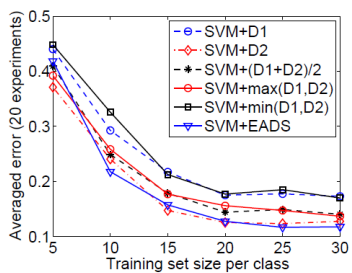
- D1 and D2 comparable
- EADS best, Averaging good
- Gap EADS & average smaller with more prototypes



Results

AjaxOrange

- D2 much better than D1 (Concept instances!)
- Averaging worse than best!
- EADS still good



Conclusions

- Asymmetric dissimilarities occur in *many* applications
- Asymmetry can be *informative*
- *Dissimilarity space* suitable for using asymmetry information
- Preserve most information with **Extended Asymmetric Dissimilarity Space**

Do you also have
asymmetric dissimilarities?

