

Euclidean Distance Matrices:
A Short Walk Through Theory, Algorithms and Applications
Ivan Dokmanić, Reza Parhizkar, Juri Ranieri and Martin Vetterli



- ▶ Motivation
- ▶ Euclidean Distance Matrices (EDM) and their properties
- ▶ Algorithms for EDMs
- ▶ Applications of EDMs
- ▶ Conclusions and open problems

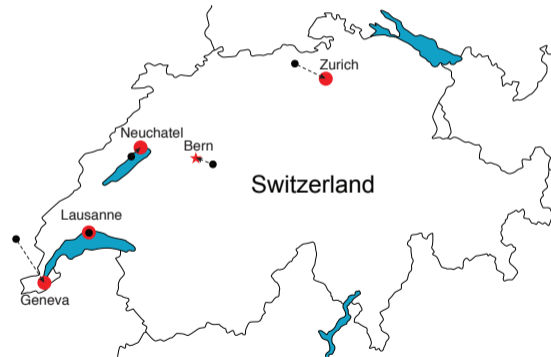
Motivation



- ▶ We land at the GVA airport and we have lost our map of Switzerland...
- ▶ We have only a train schedule!

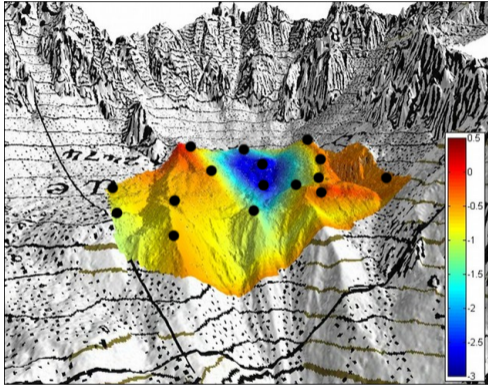
	Lausanne	Geneva	Zürich	Neuchâtel	Bern
Lausanne	0	33	128	40	66
Geneva	33	0	158	64	101
Zürich	128	158	0	88	56
Neuchâtel	40	64	88	0	34
Bern	66	101	56	34	0

Distances in minutes between five swiss cities



Locations (red) and estimated locations (black) of the cities.

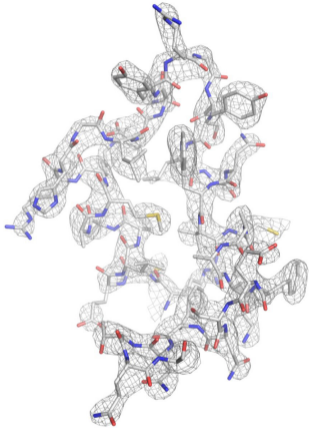
Sensor network localization problem



- ▶ We measure the distances between the sensor nodes,
- ▶ The distances are noisy and some are missing,
- ▶ How do we reconstruct the locations of the sensors?

Sensor network deployed on a rock glacier

Molecular conformation problem



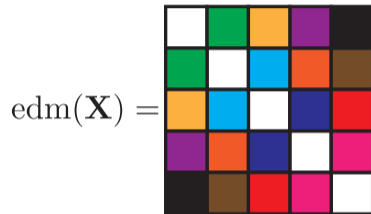
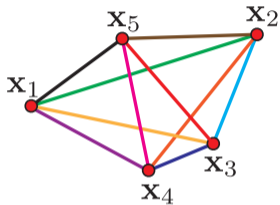
- ▶ We measure the distances between the atoms,
- ▶ The distances are given as intervals, and some are missing,
- ▶ How do we reconstruct the molecule?

Density map and structure of a molecule [10.7554/elife.01345]

Euclidean Distance Matrix



$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} | & & | \\ \mathbf{x}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{x}_5 \\ | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$



- ▶ Consider a set of n points $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times n}$,
- ▶ $\text{edm}(\mathbf{X})$ contains the squared distances between the points,
- ▶ Equivalently, $\text{edm}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{1} \text{diag}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^T - 2\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X} + \text{diag}(\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X}) \mathbf{1}^T$.

EDM properties: rank and essential uniqueness



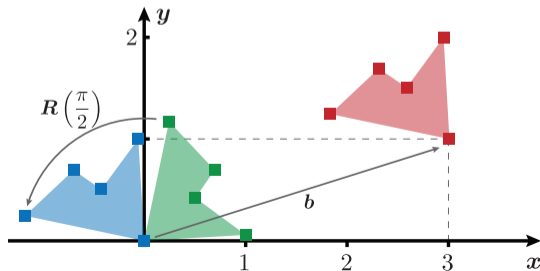
- ▶ The rank of an EDM depends only on the dimensionality of the points:

Theorem (Rank of EDMs)

Rank of an EDM corresponding to points in \mathbf{R}^d is at most $d + 2$.

- ▶ EDMs are invariant to rigid transformations (translation, rotations, reflections):

$$\text{edm}(\mathbf{X}) = \text{edm}(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{X} + b\mathbf{1}^T).$$

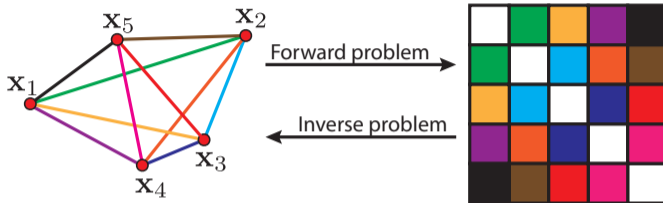


Counting the degrees of freedom



- ▶ Consider n points in \mathbb{R}^d , then we have $\#_X = nd$ degrees of freedom (DoF).
- ▶ If we describe the points with a symmetric rank- $(d + 2)$ matrix, we have $\#_{\text{DOF}} = n(d + 1) - \frac{(d+1)(d+2)}{2}$ DoF.
- ▶ For large n and fixed d , $\frac{\#_{\text{DOF}}}{\#_X} \sim \frac{d+1}{d}$: the rank property is not a *tight* description of an EDM.

Forward and inverse problem related to EDMs



- ▶ Forward problem: given the points \mathbf{X} , find the EDM $\text{edm}(\mathbf{X})$.
- ▶ Inverse problem: given the distances $\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2$, find the points \mathbf{X} .
 - Distances may be *noisy*,
 - Some distances may be *missing*,
 - We may lose the naming of the *distances*.
 - Significantly harder than the forward problem.

Examples of inverse problems



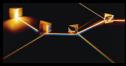
Algorithms: multidimensional scaling



Algorithms: alternating descent of the s-stress function



Other algorithms

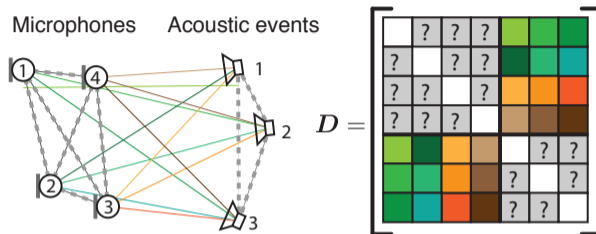


Algorithms: performance comparison

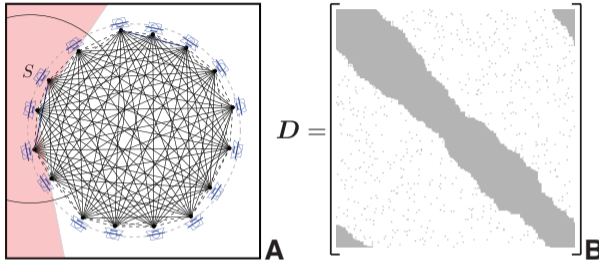


Applications of EDM





- ▶ Multidimensional unfolding:
 - Divide the points in two sets,
 - Measure the distances between the points belonging to different subsets,
 - Other distances are unknown.
- ▶ Example: calibration of a microphones with sources at unknown locations.
- ▶ Many distances are missing, the measured ones are noisy.



- ▶ (A) Ultrasound transceivers deployed on a circle, their location is unknown.
- ▶ Each transceiver can measure the distance w.r.t. the transceivers in front.
- ▶ (B) We can fill the EDM, with structured missing entries.
- ▶ Problem: estimate the locations of the transceiver to improve the imaging performance.

Applications: Can you hear the shape of a room?



Applications: Sparse Phase Retrieval



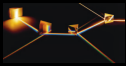


- ▶ Distance matrices on manifolds
- ▶ Projections of EDMs on lower dimensional subspaces
- ▶ Efficient algorithms for distance labeling
- ▶ Analytical local minimum of s -stress



- ▶ Definition of EDMs
- ▶ Properties of EDMs
- ▶ Inverse problems with EDMs

Application	missing distances	noisy distances	unlabeled distances
Wireless sensor networks *	✓	✓	×
Molecular conformation	✓	✓	×
Hearing the shape of a room *	×	✓	✓
Indoor localization	×	✓	✓
Calibration	✓	✓	×
Sparse phase retrieval *	×	✓	✓



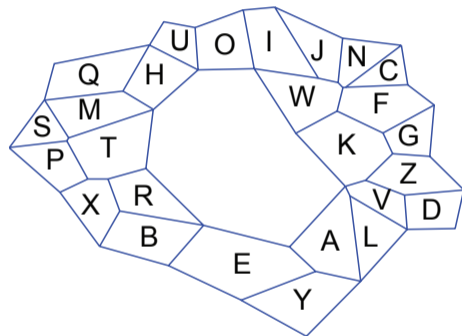


- ▶ Farid Movahedi Naini for helping with the numerical experiments.
- ▶ Funding resources:
 - Swiss National Science Foundation, Grant 200021 138081
 - European Research Council SPARSAM, Grant 247006
 - Google ?

Thanks for the attention!



QWERTY Keyboard



EDM Keyboard

