Non-negative Kernel Sparse Coding frameworks for Efficient Analysis of Motion Data

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Abstract

Recently, sparse coding methods have been widely in the area of attention due to their notable benefits to data driven applications such as classification, clustering and information retrieval [1, 2, 3]. A typical sparse coding model tries to approximate input signals y as y = Dx using the learned dictionary D and a sparse vector x. It provides a sparse model for the data which can capture the important (primitive) characteristics of the dataset. Also, constructing the sparse coding framework in a nonnegative way can lead to more understandable models of the data [4, 5]. Therefore, an interesting area of application is to use sparse coding for motion datasets such as human activity to achieve a sparse meaningful model for it.

A typical challenge for human motion data is their non-vectorial and high-dimensional representation, however as a solution using alignment techniques such as DTW [6, 7] let us transfer the data to the kernel space by calculating their pairwise similarities. Although there are various kernel based sparse coding frameworks which use kernel representation of the dataset [2, 8, 9]; there are two important aspects to consider while modeling the motion data:

1-How meaningful the learned model is regarding the original data. 2-How to efficiently deal with different dimensions of the data.

For researchers in the area of Human Activity Analysis it is important to obtain models which can still be interpretable regarding its components, so that they can apply their higher level analysis afterwards. For example a model for walking examples is desirable to present meaningful characteristics of walking motion.

To that aim we have designed a specific sparse coding framework which uses the kernel representation of the motion data in order to produce a non-negative representation of the dataset [10]. We demonstrate that in that framework different human activities can be modeled using motion primitives constructed from similar types of motions.

Our other framework is a feature based sparse coding designed to take into account the dimension aspect of the motions using multi-manifold representation [11]. It finds an efficient model through various combinations of available dimensions in the human motion such as assigning importance weights to different joints of the body. This representation is able to provide more interpretable model of human activity regarding its internal components of the motion, and also can achieve better classification on retrieval performance. Moreover, we can demonstrate that having such a model can make it possible partially recognize unseen categories of activities.

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