

# 7 Assouad dimension

$(X, d)$  when is there a bi-Lipschitz embedding into some  $\mathbb{R}^k$ ?

$$\phi: (X, d) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k \text{ s.t.}$$
$$\frac{1}{L} d(x, y) \leq |\phi(x) - \phi(y)| \leq L d(x, y)$$

A metric space  $(X, d)$  is  
 $(M, s)$ -homogeneous if

$$N(X \cap B(x, r), \rho) \leq M \left( \frac{r}{\rho} \right)^s$$

$$\forall x \in X, \quad 0 < \rho < r$$

Lemma

Any subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $(2^n n^{n/2}, n)$ -homogeneous

Proof

$$A \cap B(x, r) \subseteq B(x, r) \subseteq Q(x, r)$$

cover  $Q(x, r)$  by

cube

$$\left(\frac{r}{\rho} + 1\right)^n$$

cubes of side  $\rho$

any cube of side  $\rho$  contains a ball of

$$N(B(x, r), \rho) \leq \left(\frac{\sqrt{n}r}{\rho} + 1\right)^n \leq 2^n n^{n/2} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^n$$

## Lemma

If  $(X, d_X)$  is  $(M, s)$ -homogeneous &

$\phi: (X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$  that is

$L$ -bi-Lipschitz then  $\phi(X)$  is

$(ML^{2s}, s)$ -homogeneous

Proof

take  $y \in \phi(X)$   $y = \phi(\xi)$

& inside

$\phi^{-1}[\mathcal{B}(y, r) \cap \phi(X)] \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\xi, Lr) \cap X$

cover  $\mathcal{B}(\xi, Lr) \cap X$  with  $\leq M \left(\frac{Lr}{\rho/L}\right)^s$

balls of radius  $\frac{\rho}{L}$

$\Rightarrow$  cover by  $\leq M L^{2s} \left(\frac{r}{\rho}\right)^s$   $\rho$ -balls in  $Y$ .  $\square$

Any  $(X, d)$  bi-Lip embeddable  
into  $\mathbb{R}^k$  must be  $(M, k)$ -homogeneous  
for some  $M > 0$ .

The Assouad dimension  $d_A(X)$

$d_A(X) = \inf \left\{ s : X \text{ is } (M, s)\text{-homogeneous} \right.$   
 $\left. \text{for some } M > 0 \right\}$ .

Associated diam. is invariant under  
bi-Lipschitz maps.

Lemma (Properties of  $d_A$ )

(i) If  $A \subseteq B$   $d_A(A) \leq d_A(B)$

(ii)  $d_A(A \cup B) \leq \max(d_A(A), d_A(B))$

(iii)  $d_A(X) = n$  if  $X$  is an open subset  
of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

(iv) If  $X$  is compact then

$$d_B(X) \leq d_A(X)$$

to see (iv),  $X \subset B(x_0, R)$  since  $R > 0$

$$N(X \cap B(x, R), \rho) \leq M \left( \frac{R}{\rho} \right)^s = MR^s \rho^{-s}$$

$$s > d_A(X)$$

$$\Rightarrow d_B(X) \leq s$$

So

$$\dim(X) \leq d_H(X) \leq d_B(X) \leq d_A(X)$$

[X compact]

All these inequalities can be strict.

Consider  $A = \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \right\} \cup \{0\} \subset [0, 1]$

$$d_H(A) = 0; \quad d_B(A) = \frac{1}{2}; \quad d_A(A) = 1.$$

$$N\left(A \cap \left(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n-1}\right), \frac{1}{n^2}\right) \approx n \quad \times \quad \vee \quad \vee \quad \vee \quad \times \quad \times$$

$$n \left( \frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{m+1} \right) \sim \frac{1}{m^2} \quad \approx \frac{1}{n} \quad \Rightarrow \quad d_{A, \frac{1}{n}}(A) = 1_0$$

$m \geq n$

e.g.  $A = \{n^{-\alpha} e_n\} \cup \{0\}$

in a Hilbert space

$$\underline{d_A(A)} = \infty$$

Assoad dim can be much bigger than  
the box dimension.

Assouad's embedding theorem

$(X, d)$  homogeneous metric space.

Then  $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1) \exists$  bi-Lipschitz  
embedding of  $(X, d^\alpha)$  into  
 $\mathbb{R}^{N(\alpha)}$

Proof

An  $\varepsilon$ -net/in  $X$  is a collection of

points st.  $\forall x \in X$

$d(x, a) < \varepsilon$  for some  $a \in X$

i.e.  $\bigcup_{a \in A} B(a, \varepsilon) \supseteq X$

it is maximal if

$$d(x, y) \geq \varepsilon \quad \forall x, y \in A \quad x \neq y$$

Suppose that  $A_1$  is a maximal  
1-net in  $X$   $\leftarrow$   $X$  is  $(M, \varepsilon)$ -homog.

$$|A_1 \cap B(x, \varepsilon/2)| \leq M' \quad \forall x \in X$$

$$|A_1 \cap B(x, 12)| \leq N(B(x, 12), 1/2)$$

$$\leq M 24^S = M'$$

$(K, S)$  -

A colouring of a set  $A$  is

a map  $\kappa: A \rightarrow \{1, \dots, K\}$  s.t.

$\kappa(a) \neq \kappa(b)$  if  $d(a, b) \in S$

Claim: There is an  $(M', 12)$  coloring  
of  $A_1$

Let  $Y = \{y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots\}$  be a denumeration  
of  $A_1$  & suppose we have defined

$$K_i: \{y_1, \dots, y_i\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, M'\}$$

We want to define  $K_{i+1}(y_{i+1})$  appropriately

$$|\{y_1, \dots, y_i\} \cap B(y_{i+1}, 1/2)| \leq M' - 1$$

$$\subset A_1 \cap B(y_i, 1/2)$$

$$|\sim| \leq M'$$

So we can define  $K_{i+1}(y_{i+1})$  to ensure "the colouring property"

let  $\{e_j\}_k$  be a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^{m'}$ , &

define  $\hat{K} : A_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{m'}$ ,

$$\hat{K}(a) = e_{\max\{k(a)\}}$$

Define  $\phi_1(x) = \sum_{a \in A_1} (2 - d(x, a), 0) \hat{K}(a)$

$$\phi_1(x) = \sum_{a \in A} \max(2 - d(x, a), 0) \hat{k}(a),$$

$$\Delta_a(x) := \max(2 - d(x, a), 0)$$

$$(i) \quad 0 \leq \Delta_a(x) \leq 2;$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{if } d(x, y) > 4 \text{ then } \Delta_a(x) \neq 0 \\ \Rightarrow \Delta_a(y) = 0$$

$$(iii) \quad |a: \Delta_a(x) \neq 0| \leq M'$$

$$(iv) \quad D_a := |\Delta_a(x) - \Delta_a(y)| \\ \leq \min(d(x, y), 2)$$

[case-by-case]

Now, suppose that

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 8 < d(x, y) \leq 8 \quad (*)$$

$$(i) \quad |\phi_1(x)| \leq \sqrt{M'} \cdot 2 \quad \forall x \in X$$

$$(ii) \quad |\phi_1(x) - \phi_1(y)| \leq \sqrt{2M'} \cdot \min(d(x, y), 2) \\ \forall x, y \in X$$

(iii) -  $\phi$  ~~(\*)~~ holds for

$$|\phi_1(x) - \phi_2(y)| \geq 1$$

-  $d(x, a) < 1$  for at least one  $a \in A$

$$\text{So } \Delta_a(x) > 1$$

since  $d(x, y) > 4$        $d(y, a) > 2$   
 $\Delta_a(y) = 0$

if  $d(y, a') < 2$  for some  $a' \in A$

then

$$d(a', a) \leq d(a, x) + d(x, y) + d(y, a') < 12$$

every  $a \in A_1$  s.t.  
 $\Delta_a(x) \neq 0$   $\Delta_a(y) \neq 0$   
has a different label

$$\Rightarrow |\phi_1(x) - \phi_2(y)| \geq 1$$

$$|\phi_2(x) - \phi_2(y)| \leq 2 \min(\overline{d(x, y)}, 1)$$

$$y \quad 4 < d(x, y) \leq 8$$

$$|\phi_2(x) - \phi_2(y)| \geq 1$$

By applying the same construction to  
 $(x, 2^j \delta)$  or considering a  
 $2^{-j}$ -net we obtain

$\phi_j: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{M'}$  s.t.

$$|\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)| \leq 2M' \min(2^j d(x, y), 1)$$

$$\& \quad 2^{-(j+1)} \delta < d(x, y) \leq 2^{-j} \delta \Rightarrow |\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)| \geq 1$$

Let  $(\gamma_j)_{j=0}^{2N-1}$  be a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^{2N}$

Set  $\hat{\gamma}_j = \gamma_{j \bmod 2N} \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\left[ \phi(x) = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \phi_j(x) \otimes \hat{\gamma}_j 2^{-x_j} \right]$$

pick  $x_0 \in X$  change  $\phi_j \mapsto \phi_j(x) - \phi_j(x_0)$

We now show that  $\phi$  is bi-Lip from  
 $(X, d)$  into  $\mathbb{R}^{2Nm}$  for  $N$  large enough

Suppose that

$$2^{-(k+1)}\delta < d(x, y) \leq 2^{-k}\delta$$

$$|\phi(x) - \phi(y)| \leq \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} |\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)| 2^{-aj}$$

$$\leq \sum_{k \leq j} |\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)| 2^{-aj} + \sum_{k > j} \frac{|\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)|}{2^{-aj}}$$

$$\leq c' \sum_{j \leq k} 2^{-\alpha j} 2^j d(x, y)$$

$$+ c' \sum_{j > k} 2^{-\alpha j}$$

$$\leq c' 2^{-(\alpha-1)k} d(x, y) + c' 2^{-\alpha k}$$

$$\leq c d(x, y)^\alpha$$

$$2^{-(k+1)}\delta < d(x,y) \leq 2^{-k}\delta$$

$$|\phi(x) - \phi(y)|$$

$$\geq \left| \sum_{k \cdot N < j \leq k+N} 2^{-\alpha_j} (\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)) \otimes \hat{e}_j \right|$$

$$= \sum_{j \leq k \cdot N} 2^{-\alpha_j} |\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)|$$

$$- \sum_{j > k+N} 2^{-\alpha_j} |\phi_j(x) - \phi_j(y)|$$

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$$\geq 2^{-\alpha k} - \underbrace{\sum_{j=k-N}^{k-1} 2^{-\alpha j} 2^j d(x,y)}_1$$

$$= \sum_{j=k+N}^{\infty} 2^{-\alpha j}$$



$$\leq 2^{-\alpha(k+N)}$$

$d(x,y)$

$$\underbrace{2^{-k}}_{2^{-\alpha k}} 2^{-k(\alpha-1)} 2^{(k-1)N} < 2^{-\alpha k} / 4$$

$$\underbrace{2^{-\alpha N}}_{2^{-\alpha k}} 2^{-\alpha k} < 2^{-\alpha k} / 4$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{2} 2^{-\alpha k} \geq c d(x, y)^\alpha$$

$$c d(x, y)^\alpha \leq |\phi(x) - \phi(y)| \leq c' d(x, y)^\alpha$$



a variant of this proof gives the following

$$d_A(X) < \infty$$

$$\text{ \& } \delta > 1/2$$

$\exists \phi: X \rightarrow H$  s.t.

$$c \frac{d(x,y)}{|\log_2 d(x,y)|^\delta} \leq \|\phi(x) - \phi(y)\| \leq C d(x,y)$$