



# **Representation Learning Using Adversarially-Contrastive Optimal Transport**

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### **Problem Setup**







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#### **Problem Formulation**











<u>Key idea:</u> The learned representation is as close as possible to X and as far as possible to the negative samples Y.







Questions:

1. How should we characterize contrastiveness?







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**Wasserstein Distance** 

$$W_c(\mu,\nu) := \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu,\nu)} \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y})\sim\pi} c(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y})$$

where  $\Pi$  is the set of all coupling between  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ .





<u>Key Idea:</u> We propose to characterize "contrastiveness" as finding a representation U that <u>maximizes the Wasserstein Distance</u>

$$\max_{\mathbf{U}} \mathcal{L}_{OT}(\mathbf{U}) := W_c(f_{\mathbf{U}\#}\mu_{\mathbf{X}},\nu_{\mathbf{Y}})$$

Similar to Subspace Robust Optimal Transport [1], we use  $f_U = UU^T$ , the projection operator for Grassmannian  $U \in \mathcal{G}(d, k), U^T U = I_k$ .



# **Contrastive Learning via Optimal Transport**



#### What does this mean?

It asks to find a subspace U on a Grassmann manifold such that projections of  $x_i \in X$  onto U will maximize their Wasserstein distance from the negatives,  $y_j \in Y$ . Such a subspace U should thus capture discriminative properties between X and Y.





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# **Negative Examples**



Questions:

- a) How can we find negative examples?
- b) How can we ensure they do not have useful features?

#### We propose to train an adversarial generator to produce negative feature distribution







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$$\mathcal{L}_{A}(\theta) = \min_{\theta} \max_{h \in L_{1}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ h(\mathbf{x}) \right] - \mathbb{E}_{\substack{\mathbf{y} = \sigma(\mathbf{x} + \hat{\mathbf{x}}), \\ \hat{\mathbf{x}} \sim g_{\theta}(\overline{\mathbf{X}}, \gamma)}} \left[ h(\mathbf{y}) \right] \\ + \lambda_{1} \left( \zeta(\mathbf{x}, \ell_{\mathbf{X}}) - \zeta(\sigma(\mathbf{x} + \hat{\mathbf{x}}), \ell_{\mathbf{X}}) \right) + \lambda_{2} \| \hat{\mathbf{x}} \|^{2}.$$







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# Capturing Temporal Order



We use <u>Generalized Rank Pooling</u> (Cherian et al., CVPR 2017) The idea is to find subspaces U such that projections x on to U is temporally ordered.





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We use the subspace U as the representation of the sequence and use a subspace kernel learning SVM as the sequence classifier.





### **Putting it all Together!**



$$\max_{\mathbf{U}\in\mathcal{G}(d,k)}\mathcal{L}_{R}(\mathbf{U}) := \mathcal{L}_{OT}(\mathbf{U}) - \beta_{1} \sum_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathbf{X}} \left\|f_{\mathbf{U}}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}\right\|^{2} - \beta_{2} \sum_{t=1}^{n-1} \left[\left\|\mathbf{U}^{\top}\mathbf{x}_{t}\right\|^{2} + \eta - \left\|\mathbf{U}^{\top}\mathbf{x}_{t+1}\right\|^{2}\right]_{+}$$

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### **Putting it all Together!**



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#### **Experiments : Adversarial Noise Generator**



CIFAR10 images

Corrupted Images

Generated noise

The generated noise appears to be targeting regions in the image that are relevant for recognition. Thus, if our representation maximizes the distance between the corrupted and uncorrupted images, it must focus on regions useful for recognition.





• We used two action recognition datasets:

# – JHMDB dataset

- 21 classes, ~10-40 frames per sequence, ~900 sequences
- We used VGG features per frame and I3D features for short clips

# – <u>HMDB dataset</u>

- 51 classes, ~20-400 frames per sequence, ~6000 sequences
- We used I3D features for short clips

The I3D network was pre-trained on Kinetics. We did not fine-tune to the above datasets.





Ablation	JHMDB (vgg)			JHMDB (I3D)			HMDB (I3D)		
	RGB	FLOW	R+F	RGB	FLOW	R+F	RGB	FLOW	R+F
Avg. Pool	47.0	63.0	73.1	77.5	81.0	85.0	68.2	69.5	76.5
COT + Random	48.0	63.9	77.9	62.2	77.2	79.4	68.5	71.1	72.5
ACOT	49.3	65.0	75.0	76.1	81.2	90.0	69.5	74.6	76.4
ACOT + PCA	49.5	65.7	75.6	77.6	82.8	90.6	69.8	74.9	76.6
AC + PCA + order (No OT)	49.0	66.1	75.8	75.2	80.0	89.8	70.2	74.8	76.3
ACOT + PCA + order	50.3	<b>69.2</b>	<b>79.8</b>	78.1	82.9	91.5	70.8	75.5	<b>79.1</b>





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#### **Experiments: Representation Quality**







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(c) Random Contrastive



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(c) Random Contrastive



(d) Adv. Contrastive (Ours)





JHMDB using vgg	Accuracy
GRP (Cherian et al., 2017)	70.6
P-CNN (Chéron et al., 2015)	72.2
Kernelized Pooling (Cherian et al., 2018)	73.8
Ours (full model)	75.7
JHMDB using 3D-CNNs	Accuracy
Chained (Zolfaghari et al., 2017)	76.1
I3D + Potion (Choutas et al., 2018)	85.5
I3D + Ours (full model)	87.5

Method	Acc. (%)
I3D (Carreira & Zisserman, 2017)	80.9
Disc. Pool (Wang & Cherian, 2019)	81.3
DSP (Wang & Cherian, 2018)	81.5
Ours (I3D+full model)	81.8

**HMDB** Comparisons

JHMDB Comparisons

<u>Running time</u>: Excluding time to extract CNN features, our scheme runs at about 30 frames per second in producing the representations.





# Conclusions

- We proposed a novel framework for video representation learning by combining
  - Contrastive learning
  - Adversarial distribution learning via GANs, and
  - Optimal transport.
- We used a Riemannian optimization framework for learning our subspace representation.
- Our experiments demonstrate that using adversarially-learned negative examples provide better contrastive learning using the proposed framework.

Our code will be available soon at https://www.merl.com/research/license/