Local Feature Classification using the Euclidean Wasserstein Metric

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joint work with Jeremy Mason

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What reference best matches a local atomic environment?

Input: a local atomic environment, a list of references, the temperature Output: the most likely match



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Lazar et al, 2015

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- An atomic configuration is a point cloud in ℝ^m, labeled by atomic species. Our methods work for multiple species, but today we assume one.
- A local atomic environment is a point cloud in the ball of radius *r*, *B_r*, usually centered at an atom.
- For an atomic configuration X and y ∈ ℝ^m, let φ_r(y; X) be the local atomic environment of radius r centered at y :

$$\varphi_r(y;X) = X \cap B_r(y)$$



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Goal: define a metric d on local atomic environments. It should be continuous with respect to the atomic positions including atoms moving on and off the boundary of B_r . That is,

$$d(\varphi_r(x;X),\varphi_r(y;Y))$$

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The metric should be invariant to Euclidean isometries. If X_r and Y_r are local atomic environments then

$$d(X_r, Y_r) = d\left(X_r, \rho(Y_r)\right)$$

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The 2-Wasserstein Metric



The minimum is taken over all matchings η from X to Y.

The Local 2-Wasserstein Metric



The Euclidean Wasserstein Metric



$$d_{EW}(X,Y) = \min_{\rho \in SO(m)} d_{LW}(X,\rho(Y))$$

The Euclidean Wasserstein Metric



Computation

- We compute the Euclidean Wassserstein Metric by a branch-and-bound algorithm on SO(3), taking advantage of the symmetries of the reference conditions.
- We compute the Local Wasserstein Metric using the Hungarian algorithm.
- Speed (using heuristics): \approx .16 seconds per local environment per thread for an *FCC* reference with 19 atoms, \approx 1.3 seconds per local environment per thread for an *FCC* reference with 55 atoms.

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- Data: a local atomic environment X centered at an atom x, reference atomic configurations R₁,..., R_k, a temperature T, and a radius r.
- For each R_i , let R'_i be the random configuration:

 $R'_i = R_i + \text{thermal noise}$

If y ∈ R_i, let y' be the corresponding atom in R'_i.
For each reference R_i, let y ∈ R_i and compute

$$p_{i} = \mathbb{P}\left(d_{EW}(X,\varphi_{r}(y|Y)) < d_{EW}(\varphi_{r}(y';Y'),\varphi_{r}(y;Y))\right)$$

• Classify X as type R_j if $p_i = \max_j p_j$.

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References: FCC, BCC, HCP lattices with unit bond length.

- Thermal noise: add Gaussian displacements to each atom with standard deviation σ.
- For each reference R and $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^+$, compute the probability that a local environment in R' is classified correctly.
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Performance Comparison: FCC



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Performance Comparison: HCP



Performance Comparison: BCC



Shear Data



Different test for atomic environments with large non-thermal strains: Classify X as type R_i if

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Synthetic Data: shear reference R_i in a random directly by a factor λ , add Gaussian noise, estimate probability of correct classification.

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Shear Performance Comparison: FCC



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- We propose using the (local) Euclidean Wasserstein metric for local atomic environment classification.
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