Dynamic Time Warping Averaging of Time Series allows Faster and more Accurate Classification



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The Ubiquity of Time Series



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Slightly Surprising Facts

- 1. The *Nearest Neighbor algorithm* is virtually always most accurate for time series classification.
- 2. Dynamic Time Warping (DTW) is the most accurate measure for time series across a huge variety of domains.

This is not a place to discuss *why* this is true (see [a,b,c]), but this is the strong consensus of the community, supported by large-scale reproducible experiments.

[[]a] A. Bagnall and J. Lines, "An experimental evaluation of nearest neighbour time series classification. technical report #CMP-C14-01," Department of Computing Sciences, University of East Anglia, Tech. Rep., 2014.

[[]b] X. Xi, E. Keogh, C. Shelton, L. Wei, and C. A. Ratanamahatana, "Fast time series classification using numerosity reduction," in *Int. Conf. on Machine Learning*, 2006, pp. 1033–1040.

[[]c] X. Wang, A. Mueen, H. Ding, G.Trajcevski, P. Scheuermann, E. Keogh: Experimental comparison of representation methods and distance measures for time series data. Data Min. Knowl. Discov. 26(2): 275-309 (2013)

DTW works well even if the two time series are not well aligned in the time axis.



Case Study: Classifying Flying Insects

- Insects kill about a million people each year
- Insects destroy tens of billions of dollars' worth of food each year

Phototransistor

• To mitigate insect damage we must determine which sex/species are present.



- The "audio" of insect flight can be converted to an amplitude spectrum, which is essentially a time series.
- As the dendrogram hints at, this does seem to capture some class specific information...



- If we are going to put devices into the field, there are going to be resource constraints.
- One solution is to average our large training dataset into a small number of prototypes.
- This:
 - Will speed up NN classification
 - May be more accurate, since averaging can produce prototypes that capture the essence of the set





Our idea for a fast and accurate classification system:



The issue is then:

> How to average time series consistently with DTW?



What is the mean of a set? Averaging is the tool that makes it possible to define a prototype informing about the central tendency of a set in its space.

Mathematically, the mean \bar{o} of a set of objects O embedded in a space induced by a distance d is:



$$\arg\min_{\bar{o}}\sum_{o\in O}d^2(\bar{o},o)$$

The mean of a set minimizes the sum of the squared distances.



This is **not surprising**, because the arithmetic mean does not take **warping** into account!



State of the art in averaging for DTW

Main idea exploited [a][b][c][d] and more:

We know how to exactly compute the average of 2 sequences...

...so we can build the average pairwise.



But, this only works if the operator is associative... ...which is *not* the case for DTW pairwise average.

[a] L. Gupta, D. L. Molfese, R. Tammana, and P. G. Simos, "Nonlinear alignment and averaging for estimating the evoked potential," *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering*, vol. 43, no. 4, pp. 348–356, 1996.

[b] V. Niennattrakul and C. A. Ratanamahatana, "On Clustering Multimedia Time Series Data Using K-Means and Dynamic Time Warping," IEEE International Conference on Multimedia and Ubiquitous Engineering, pp.733-738, 2007.

[c] S. Ongwattanakul and D. Srisai, "Contrast enhanced dynamic time warping distance for time series shape averaging classification," in *Int. Conf. on Interaction Sciences: Information Technology, Culture and Human,* ACM, 2009, pp. 976–981.

[d] V. Niennattrakul and C. A. Ratanamahatana, "Shape averaging under time warping," in *Int. Conf. on Electrical Engineering/Electronics*, *Computer, Telecommunications and Information Technology*, IEEE, vol. 2, 2009, pp. 626–629.

Pairwise averaging is not good enough:



- 1. Even the medoid sequence often provides a better solution than state-of-the-art methods [a]
- 2. Using k-means, centers often "drift out" of the cluster [b]

We are seeking a solution that would not rely on associativity

>No pairwise methods

[a] F. Petitjean and P. Gançarski, "Summarizing a set of time series by averaging: From Steiner sequence to compact multiple alignment," *Theoretical Computer Science*, 2012.

[b] V. Niennattrakul and C. A. Ratanamahatana, "Inaccuracies of Shape Averaging Method Using Dynamic Time Warping for Time Series Data," International Conference on Computational Science, 2007.

Back to the source

- DTW is the extension of the edit distance to sequences of numerical values (time series).
- Finding a "consensus" sequence is a very close problem to the one of defining an average sequence for DTW (same objective function).
- Having the multiple alignment (≈ simultaneous alignment) of a set of sequences.

 \Rightarrow consensus sequence computable "column by column"

----D-PGDF--DRNVPRICGVCGDRATGFHFNAMTCEGCKGFFRRSMKRKA--LFTCP-FNGDCRITKDNRRHCQACRLKRCVDIGMMKEFILTD IRPQKRK-KGPAP-KMLGNELCSVCGDKASGFHYNVLSCEGCKGFFRRSVIKGA--HYICH-SGGHCPMDTYMRRKCQECRLRKCRQAGMREECVLSE SVPGKPS-VNADE-EVGGPQICRVCGDKATGYHFNVMTCEGCKGFFRRSVIKGA--HYICH-SGGHCPMDTYMRRKCQCQACRLRKCLESGMKKEMIMSD EPERKRK-KGPAP-KMLGHELCRVCGDKASGFHYNVLSCEGCKGFFRRSVVRGGARRYACR-GGGTCQMDAFMRRKCQQCRLRKCKEAGMREQCVLSE PVTKKPRMGASAG-RIKGDELCVVCGDRASGYHYNALTCEGCKGFFRRSITKNA--VYKCK-NGGNCVMDMYMRRKCQECRLRKCKEAGMREQCVLSE QTEEKKC-KGYIPSYLDKDELCVVCGDKATGYHYRCITCEGCKGFFRRSIQKNLHPSYSCK-YEGKCVIDKVTRNQCQECRFKKCIYVGMATDLVLDD ----SPS-PPPPP---RVYKPCFVCNDKSSGYHYGVSSCEGCKGFFRRSIQKNM--VYTCH-RDKNCIINKVTRNRCQYCRLQKCFEVGMSKEAVRND ----PPS-PLPPP---RVYKPCFVCQDKSSGYHYGVSACEGCKGFFRRSIQKNM--VYTCH-RDKNCIINKVTRNRCQYCRLQKCFEVGMSKESVRND

Multiple alignment, consensus sequence and average time series

Multiple alignment example									
$A = \langle a, c, a, a, b \rangle$	A			a			a		
$B = \langle a, a, c, a, a \rangle$ $C = \langle a, a, a, c, a \rangle$	$B \\ C$	a a		a a		a a	a a	$egin{array}{c} a \ a \end{array}$	
	M	a	a	a	c	a	a	a	

Same result for time series										
$A = \langle 1, 10, 0, 0, 4 \rangle \\ B = \langle 0, 2, 10, 0, 0 \rangle \\ C = \langle 0, 0, 0, 10, 0 \rangle$	$\begin{array}{c} A\\ B\\ C\end{array}$		0			0	0 0 0	0		
	M	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	1	10	0	0	$\frac{4}{3}$		

But, finding the optimal multiple alignment:

- 1. Is **NP-complete** [a]
- 2. Requires $O(L^N)$ operations
 - L is the length of the sequences (≈ 100)
 - N is the number of sequences (\approx 1,000)

$\gg 10^{85}$

#particles in the
observable universe



\Rightarrow Efficient solutions will be heuristic

In 2011, we introduced DBA [a]:

- Takes inspiration from works in computational biology
- Is specifically designed for time series and DTW
- Does not function pairwise
- Does not use any order on the dataset it averages



[a] F. Petitjean, A. Ketterlin and P. Gançarski, "A global averaging method for dynamic time warping, with applications to clustering," *Pattern Recognition*, vol. 44, no. 3, pp. 678–693, 2011.

We have shown that (see the paper and [a]): 1. DBA outperforms **all** state-of-the-art methods

2. DBA improves on the optimization problem by **30%**



- 3. DBA converges between iterations
- 4. No centers "drifting out" of the cluster

[a] F. Petitjean, A. Ketterlin and P. Gançarski, "A global averaging method for dynamic time warping, with applications to clustering," *Pattern Recognition*, vol. 44, no. 3, pp. 678–693, 2011.

Experiments

Objective: Making 1NN with DTW faster

Mean: Condensing the "train" dataset with DBA



2 average-based techniques

- 1. K-means
- 2. AHC
- ... both using DBA

6 competitors

- 1. Random selection
- 2. Drop 1
- 3. Drop 2
- 4. Drop 3
- 5. Simple Rank
- 6. K-medoids











What about other datasets?



What about other datasets?



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What about other datasets?



All results on 40+ datasets are online!



http://www.francois-petitjean.com/Research/ICDM2014-DTW

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[a] J. Demšar, "Statistical comparisons of classifiers over multiple data sets," *The Journal of Machine Learning Research*, vol. 7, pp. 1–30, 2006.

Take-home message



Almost everything was in the title!

- 1. DBA computes the average time series for DTW
- 2. Averaging can make time series classification:
 - 1. Faster
 - 2. More accurate
- 3. We believe in reproducible research:
 - 1. We tested our approach on 40+ datasets from the UCR archive
 - 2. We computed the statistical significance of the results
 - 3. The source code is online

Web: http://www.francois-petitjean.com/Research/ICDM2014-DTW
E-mail: francois.petitjean@monash.edu
Twitter: @LeDataMiner

Thanks! Please come and have a chat!

