# Characteristics and simulation analysis of nonlinear correlation coefficient on manifold

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**Abstract:** In this paper, by using the basic method of differential geometry, combined with the optimization theory and the basic technique of data analysis, the definition, basic properties and statistical characteristics of nonlinear correlation coefficients on manifolds are studied and given, test the rationality and validity of the nonlinear correlation coefficient defined in this paper. Therefore, the study of this paper has certain theoretical value and potential practical significance.

Keywords: nonlinear correlation coefficient, manifold, statistical characteristics

# I. Introduction

In recent years, manifold learning, as a more and more popular research direction, has received widely attention by many experts and scholars. Manifold learning, roughly speaking, is a set of sample data points of observable points in a high-dimensional Euclidean space, which is understood to lie on a low-dimensional manifold embedded in a high-dimensional Euclidean space, then, the data points on the high-dimensional space are projected to the low-dimensional space by a suitable dimension reduction method, and the basic characteristics of the data points on the original manifold are preserved as much as possible. In this way, we can eliminate the superfluous information, realize dimensionality reduction, and study the inherent law and basic characteristics of data easily. The correlation coefficient is an important inherent law of data. Considering that manifolds are themselves generalizations of curves and surfaces in higher dimensional space, there are often strong Linear independence between their variables, therefore, it is necessary to study the nonlinear correlation coefficients between variables on manifolds systematically. As far as we know, the research on the correlation coefficient on manifold is still in the initial stage, and the related research results are few.

So some scholars began to study the correlation coefficient, initially with Ting Wang (2011) [1] who defines a new correlation coefficient, it can be used not only in nonlinear cases, but also in linear cases, and can be regarded as a general correlation coefficient. Ruiming Liu (2013)[2] proposed a tracking framework based on a combination of template matching and Emmerich Kálmán prediction. The projection coefficient obtained from principal component analysis is used as template, and the nonlinear correlation coefficient is used to measure the matching degree. Zhou Hongfang (2021)[3] studies the feature selection process in machine learning, and proposes a feature selection method based on mutual information and correlation coefficient, the absolute value of the correlation coefficient between the two features is used as the weight of the redundancy expressed by mutual information in the evaluation criteria. Experimental results show that the method can effectively remove the redundant information in the evaluation criteria. Antonella Plaia(2021)[4] considered the importance of the commutative elements belonging to the top (or bottom) in ranking (position weight), studied the consistency of ranking with relation, and proposed the position-weighted rank correlation coefficient which can describe the correlation degree between variables or vectors by using the fourth-order moment method in order to solve the linear correlation problem of correlation coefficient.

In manifold learning, Chen Changyou(2010)[6] believed that existing algorithms such as ISOMAP try to ensure that data points are equidistant embedded on manifolds, but in practical applications, such as face and gait recognition, the recognition effect is not so satisfactory, he proposed a two-stage Bernhard Riemann manifold distance approximate projection (TRIMAP) algorithm based on tensor, which can quickly calculate the approximate optimal projection for a given tensor data set, at the same time, the experiments were carried out based on human gait database and face recognition database. The experimental results show that the recognition ability of TRIMAP algorithm is better than other common algorithms. Lee S.-M (2007) [7]transformed the probability distribution by mapping it to a hypersphere through isometric transformation. The sphere constructs a Bernhard Riemann manifold with a simple geodetic distance. Then, a Freychet mean is estimated on a Bernhard Riemann manifold for principal component analysis in a plane tangent to the mean. I. Ya. Savka(2010) [8]studied the non-local two-point boundary conditions for secondorder partial differential equation with

constant linear correlation coefficients, the unique solvable condition of the problem on the scale of Sobolev space is established, and the metric theorem of the lower estimate of the small denominator on the linear manifold is proved.

This paper mainly studies how to measure the nonlinear correlation between variables on a manifold, summarizes and classifies the common manifold dimensionality reduction methods, and selects the suitable dimensionality reduction methods. The main reasons for dimensionality reduction are: 1. The Galway number of the original observation space sample will be greatly redundant, if the sample does not deal with the classifier is prone to "Dimension disaster" 2. The non-linear correlation coefficient proposed in this paper is mainly suitable for the random variables with strong non-linear relationship, and is not good for the random variables with strong linear relationship, therefore, it is necessary to adopt appropriate dimensionality reduction methods to preserve the nonlinear structure of the original manifold and find the random variables with strong non-linear relations. 3. Manifold is different from Euclidean space, and its properties are very different from those of Euclidean space, so it can not be calculated directly by coefficient on Euclidean space.

The paper is structured as follows. In the second part, we introduce the basic definition of non-linear correlation coefficient SEVP, prove and give some basic properties of the corresponding non-linear correlation coefficient SEVP. The third part is the simulation analysis, the results show that the proposed definition is reasonable and effective. In the last section, we summarize the theories and models covered in this paper and give directions for further in-depth research on nonlinear correlation coefficient on manifold.

## II. The nonlinear correlation coefficient on manifold

At present, there are few researches on the nonlinear correlation coefficient, and some commonly used rank correlation coefficients are not suitable for our research needs, we need a kind of coefficient which is fully suitable for measuring the nonlinear relationship between variables, using the variance decomposition formula:

$$\operatorname{Var}(Y) = \operatorname{Var}(E(Y|X)) + E(\operatorname{Var}(Y|X))$$
(2.1)

We define a new nonlinear correlation coefficient and prove some of its basic properties.

**Definition 1.** Let X and Y be random vectors on the probability space  $(\Omega, F, P)$ , and the nonlinear correlation coefficient *SEVP* be in the following form:

$$SEVP = \frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(Y \mid X\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(Y\right)} - p_{xy}^{2}$$
(2.2)

Theorem 2.1.  $SEVP \in [0,1]$ 

Proof. First prove SEVP..0, because the coefficient has translation invariance, so suppose E(X) = 0, E(Y) = 0, f(x, y) be its joint probability density,  $f^{x}(x)$  is an edge probability density function for the random variable X to prove SEVP..0, just need proof:

$$\frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(Y\mid X\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(Y\right)} \dots p_{xy}^{2}$$
(2.3)

The left expansion of the formula (2.3) gives:

$$\frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(Y\mid X\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(Y\right)} = \frac{E\left(E^{2}\left(Y\mid X\right)\right) - (E\left(Y\right))^{2}}{\operatorname{Var}\left(Y\right)} = \frac{\int\left(g^{y/x}\left(x\right)\right)^{2} f^{x}\left(x\right) dx}{\operatorname{Var}\left(Y\right)}$$
(2.4)

Among them,  $g^{y/x}(x) = E(Y|X = x) = \frac{\int yf(x, y) dy}{f^x(x)}$ 

And then the deformation of the right can be:

$$p_{xy}^{2} = \frac{(E(XY) - E(X)E(Y))^{2}}{\operatorname{Var}(X)\operatorname{Var}(Y)}$$

$$= \frac{E^{2}(XY)}{\operatorname{Var}(X)\operatorname{Var}(Y)}$$

$$= \frac{E^{2}(XY)}{\operatorname{Var}(X)\operatorname{Var}(Y)}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\iint xyf(x, y)dxdy\right)^{2}}{\operatorname{Var}(X)\operatorname{Var}(Y)}$$

$$= \frac{\iint (xyf(x, y)dxdy)^{2}}{\int x^{2}f_{x}(x)dx\operatorname{Var}(Y)}$$
(2.5)

To prove that the left is greater than the right, just prove:

$$\int x^2 f_x(x) dx \int \left(g^{y/x}(x)\right)^2 f^x(x) dx \dots \left(\iint xyf(x,y) dx dy\right)^2$$
(2.6)
And because:

And because:

$$g^{\frac{y}{x}}(x) = E(Y|X=x) = \frac{\int yf(x,y)dy}{f^{x}(x)}$$
(2.7)

The substitution of the formula (2.7) into the formula (2.6), whose left-hand form can be converted to:

$$\int x^2 f_x(x) dx \int \frac{\left(\int y f(x, y) dy\right)^2}{f^x(x)} dx$$
(2.8)

Using the integral form of Cauchy's Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we get:

$$\int x^{2} f_{x}(x) dx \int \frac{\left(\int yf(x,y) dy\right)^{2}}{f^{x}(x)} dx \dots \left(\iint xyf(x,y) dx dy\right)^{2}$$
(2.9)

So we have *SEVP*..0, because  $\frac{\operatorname{Var}(E(Y|X))}{\operatorname{Var}(Y)}$  and  $p_{xy}^2$  are all between 0 and 1, so the maximum value

of the correlation coefficient of SEVP must not exceed 1, hence  $SEVP \in [0,1]$ .

Consider a smooth m dimensional manifold whose tangent plane should in fact be m dimensional, the above m principal curvature is arranged from small to large in absolute value, reflecting the high to low degree of linearization of the manifold along the m principal direction at that point, in fact, it is a space where the manifold is more linearized at that point, and the space that the linear space is stretched by the tangent vector m at that point, that is, the tangent space of the manifold at that point, it is shown that the tangent space of a manifold is highly linearized, and the projection onto the tangent space contains more linear structures on the original manifold.

But our goal is to preserve the nonlinear structure of the manifold as much as possible, since the projection onto the tangent space of the manifold will contain more linear structure, then the projection onto the orthogonal complement of the tangent space may contain more nonlinear structures. In theory, if we can find a linear space that is perpendicular to the tangent space of all points on the manifold, so, by projecting onto that space, we can preserve as many nonlinear structures as possible. Intuitively, that is, to have as large an angle as possible with all locally tangent spaces.

So now the problem comes down to a given set of sample points  $X = (X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_d), X$  on a m dimensional manifold, how to find the tangent space angle with all points and the largest one kdimensional linear space, for each point  $x_i$  there is a tangent space, may be remembered as span  $(U_i)$ ,

where  $U_i^T U_i = I_m$ , the base of the linear space we need to solve for is  $V_i$ , where  $V_i^T V_i = I_k$ , the optimal problem is as follows:

$$\min_{V \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, V^{T}} \sum_{V=I}^{n} \left\| V^{T} U_{i} \right\|_{F}^{2} = \min_{V \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}, V^{T} V = I} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \operatorname{tr} \left( V^{T} U_{i} U_{i}^{T} V \right)$$
(2.10)

where  $\ \ tr$  ( ) represents the sum of the diagonal elements of the matrix.

Then the original problem is transformed into the eigenvector  $t_1, \dots, t_k$ , which corresponds to the minimum eigenvalue k of the matrix  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} V_i V_i^T$ , the k eigenvector is the base of the linear space with the largest angle between the solution and all tangent spaces.

Now we know that a *m* dimensional manifold is embedded in a *d* dimensional space by an unknown function  $f(\tau), \tau \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , where m < d, a known set of sample points  $X = (X_1, X_2, X_3, ..., X_d), X_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times 1}$ , has:

$$X_i = f(\tau_i), i = 1, \cdots, n \qquad (2.11)$$

 $\tau_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times 1}$  is the result of the dimensionality reduction of  $X_i$ , the goal of nonlinear dimensionality reduction is to reconstruct  $\tau_i$  corresponding to  $X_i$  without explicitly building the f function. Assuming that f is smooth enough, do a Taylor expansion at a given  $\tau$ :

$$f\left(\bar{\tau}\right) = f\left(\tau\right) + J_{f}\left(\tau\right) \cdot \left(\bar{\tau} - \tau\right) + O\left(\Box \,\bar{\tau} - \tau \,\Box_{2}^{2}\right)$$

$$(2.12)$$

Here  $J_f(\tau) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$  is the Jacobi matrix of f at  $\tau$ , if remember:

$$f(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(\tau) \\ \vdots \\ f_d(\tau) \end{pmatrix}$$
(2.13)

There are:

$$J_{f}(\tau) = \begin{pmatrix} \partial f_{1} / \partial \tau_{1} & \cdots & \partial f_{1} / \partial \tau_{m} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \partial f_{d} / \partial \tau_{1} & \cdots & \partial f_{d} / \partial \tau_{m} \end{pmatrix}$$
(2.14)

f tangent space  $\tau_{\tau}$  at  $\tau$  is generated from the m column vector of  $J_f(\tau)$ , with the highest dimension  $m, \tau_{\tau} = \operatorname{span}(J_f(\tau))$ , the vector  $\tau - \overline{\tau}$  is the coordinates of  $f(\tau)$  in the affine space  $f(\tau) + \tau_{\tau}, J_f(\tau)$  can not be solved because the exact form of f is not known, if  $V_{\tau} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$  is a Orthonormal basis matrix of  $\tau_{\tau}$ , then:

$$\boldsymbol{I}_{f}(\tau)\left(\bar{\tau}-\tau\right) = \boldsymbol{V}_{\tau}\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\tau}^{*} \quad (2.15)$$

And then there's:

$$\theta_{\tau}^{*} = V_{\tau}^{T} J_{f} \left( \tau \right) \left( \overline{\tau} - \tau \right) \equiv P_{\tau} \left( \overline{\tau} - \tau \right)$$

$$(2.16)$$

And because when  $O(\Box \tau - \tau \Box_2^2)$  goes to 0, there are:

$$f(\tau) - f(\tau) \approx J_f(\tau)(\tau - \tau)$$
(2.17)

Namely:

$$f\left(\bar{\tau}\right) \approx f\left(\tau\right) + V_{\tau}\theta_{\tau}^{*}$$
(2.18)

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Let  $Y_i = [x_{i1}, \dots, x_{is}]$  be  $x_i$  the nearest neighbor of *s* as measured by Euclidean distance (including  $x_i$  itself) for each sample point, the neighborhood of  $x_{ij} \approx x_i + V_i \theta_i$  and replace  $x_i$  with some  $x_i^*$  the optimization process can then be written:

$$\min_{x_{i}^{*}, V_{i}, \Theta} \sum_{j=1}^{s} \left\| x_{i_{j}}^{*} - \left( x_{i}^{*} + V_{i} \theta_{i} \right) \right\|_{2}^{2} = \min_{x_{i}^{*}, V_{i}, \Theta} \left\| Y_{i}^{*} - \left( x_{i}^{*} e^{T} + V_{i} \Theta_{i} \right) \right\|_{F}^{2}$$
(2.19)

Where  $V_i$  is the standard orthogonal matrix of m column,  $\Theta_i = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_s) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times s}$ , thus  $V_i$  is the approximate orthogonal basis of m of the approximate tangent space of the manifold at  $x_i$ , the optimal value of x should be  $\overline{x_i}$ , and the optimal value of  $V_i$  should be the left singular vector corresponding to the singular value of m before  $Y_i \left(I - \frac{1}{s}ee^T\right)$ .

**Definition 2.** The initial sample point  $X = (X_1, X_2, X_3, ..., X_d)$  on a manifold embedded in dimensional Euclidean space,  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is a submanifold of m Dimension,  $\pi_M : \mathbb{R}^d \to M$  is an orthogonal projection transformation that projects a point on X to  $M, \tau : \mathbb{R}^d \to F$  is a linear projection transformation that projects a point on X to a tangent space F, its base solution is as shown above,  $a_i$  is the solution of the equation  $X_i = \tau_F(X)a_i$ , for any  $i, j \in \{1, ..., d\}$ , The manifold form defining the correlation coefficient of SEVP is:

$$SEVP = \frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{j} \mid \tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{i}\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{j}\right)} - R_{i}R_{j}\int_{M}S_{i,j}\left(x\right)S_{j,i}\left(x\right)dP_{M}$$
(2.20)

Among them:

$$R_{i} \coloneqq 1 - \frac{\operatorname{Var}_{i} \left( X - \pi_{M} \left( X \right) \right)}{\operatorname{Var}_{i} \left( X \right)}$$
$$S_{i,j} \left( x \right) \coloneqq \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}} \left( x - \pi_{M} \left( x \right) \right) \Big|_{i}$$

M is a k dimensional manifold and  $\pi$  is an orthogonal projection transformation. When  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  can not be solved, the command:

$$\frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{j} \mid \tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{i}\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{j}\right)} = 0$$
(2.21)

**Theorem 2.2.** When the original sample data point X is on the Euclidean space, the manifold form of the correlation coefficient *SEVP* is equal to the Euclidean space form.

Proof. Remember that the minimum affine Linear subspace of X Euclidean distance is L. When the original data sample point X is on an Euclidean space, the m submanifolds and L with the minimum Euclidean distance of X should be the same, there is M = L, now  $\beta \in R$ , there is:

$$S_{i,j}(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}} (x - \pi_{L}(x)) \Big|_{i} \equiv \beta$$

$$S_{j,i}(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} (x - \pi_{L}(x)) \Big|_{j} \equiv \frac{1}{\beta}$$

$$\rho_{X_{i},X_{j}|M}^{2} = R_{i}R_{j}\int_{M}S_{i,j}(x)S_{j,i}(x)dP_{M}$$
(2.22)

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$$= R_{i}R_{j} \int_{M} dP_{M}$$

$$= R_{i}R_{j}$$

$$= \rho_{X_{i},X_{j}\mid L}^{2}$$
And because:
$$\frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{j}\mid\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{i}\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(\tau_{F}\left(X\right)a_{j}\right)} = \frac{\operatorname{Var}\left(E\left(X_{j}\mid X_{i}\right)\right)}{\operatorname{Var}\left(X_{j}\right)}$$
(2.23)

#### III. Simulation analysis

In this chapter, we construct a group of sample sheets, and use the dimensionality reduction method to obtain SEVP correlation coefficient.

Build the following sample point 
$$X$$
:  
 $a = 1.5 pai * (1 + 2 * rand (1, N))$   
height =  $h * rand (1, N)$   
 $X = [a * cos(a); height; a * sin(a)]$ 

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rand (1, N) is used to generate N random numbers between 0 and 1. Taking h = 5, N = 5000, it is obvious that the sample point X is a two-dimensional manifold embedded in a 3D. As shown in Figure 1 below, the dimension reduction effect is shown in Figure 2.

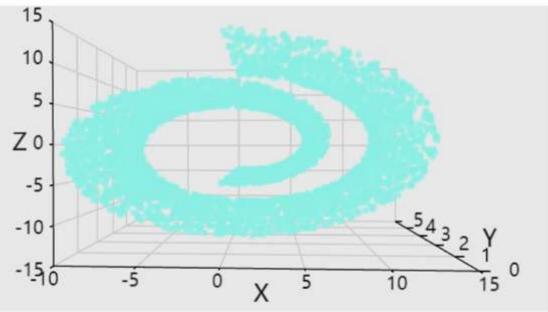


Figure 1. A scatter plot of 5000 sample points with a width h of 5

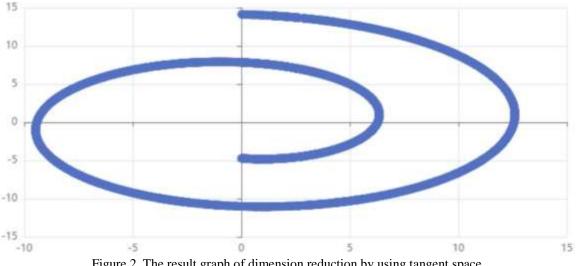


Figure 2. The result graph of dimension reduction by using tangent space

As you can see, the scatterplot in Figure 1 is a snail-like 3d scatterplot. The component of the sample point X on the X axis is very Linear independence to the component on the Z Axis, but the components on the Y Axis and the components on the X axis and the components on the Z Axis do not have a good correlation, figure 2 obviously preserves the snail-like structure of the original manifold and proves that the linear dimensionality reduction method has a good effect on preserving the nonlinear structure of the manifold.

Make the original sample data point  $X = (X_1, X_2, X_3)$ , Using the random variable form of the correlation coefficient of SEVP on a manifold, then the correlation coefficient of  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  is 0.845 and the data value is large. From the property of the correlation coefficient, it is known that there is a good nonlinear relationship between the variables.

#### IV. Summary and prospect

Non-linear correlation coefficient is a very important correlation coefficient, in the era of big data, the phenomenon of data redundancy is very prominent, often in the form of high-dimensional, non-linear, therefore, it is necessary to reduce the dimension of high-dimensional data, remove the redundant information, study the correlation coefficient between variables, and mine the essential characteristics of data. In this paper, a new nonlinear correlation coefficient SEVP is proposed, and it is extended to the manifold, in this paper, a method to measure the nonlinear relationship between variables on a manifold is given, which is useful for us to study the nonlinear relationship between variables.

Because of the deficiency of professional knowledge and skill, this paper can not provide a simple and general formula of nonlinear correlation coefficient on manifold, we can only find a method to measure the Linear independence between variables on a manifold, and the steps are relatively complicated.

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