# A Comprehensive Mathematical Note: Kruskal's Steepest Descent 

Koji Kosugi

## 1 preface

Assuming that $m$ objects are placed in a $P$-dimensional space, let $x_{i t}$ be the configure of object $i$ in the $t$ th dimension, and define the distance separation $d_{i j}$ as follows.

$$
d_{i j}=\sqrt{\sum_{t=1}^{P}\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}}
$$

Although it is possible to use Minkowski's general distance as the distance, in this section, for the sake of simplicity, we restrict ourselves to the Euclidean distance.

For the dissimilarity $s_{i j}$ of the data calculated from this coordinate distribution, we would like to have a monotonic relationship such that $d_{i j}>d_{j k}$ when $s_{i j}>s_{i k}$. However, it is difficult to match directly, so we consider the disparity $\hat{d}_{i j}$ as an intermediate variable and take the procedure of finding $X_{i j}$ so that $\hat{d}_{i j}$ has a completely monotonic relationship with $S_{i j}$ while minimizing the error between $\hat{d}_{i j}$ and $d_{i j}$ so that the error between $\hat{d}_{i j}$ and $d_{i j}$ is minimized.

This error is specifically called Stress, and Stress $\eta$ can be calculated in the following two ways:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\eta_{1}=\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{m}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)^{2} / d_{i j}} \\
\eta_{2}=\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{m}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)^{2} / \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{m}\left(d_{i j}-d\right)^{2}}
\end{gathered}
$$

where

$$
d_{i j}=\frac{1}{m(m-1)} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\(j \neq i)}}^{m} d_{i j}
$$

In the following, $\eta_{2}$ will be discussed simply as $\eta$.
The problem now boils down to finding the gradient to update to the optimal value by sequential computation, given an initial value of some coordinate $x_{i t}$. This note is a follow-up note on the calculation of the partial derivative to compute the gradient, following up on the intermediate calculations of Kruskal[1].

## 2 Method of steepest descent

Successively update the value of $\boldsymbol{x}$ as $\boldsymbol{x}^{q+1}=\boldsymbol{x}^{q}+\alpha^{q} \boldsymbol{d}^{q}$. where $\boldsymbol{d}$ is the gradient vector and $\alpha$ is the step size or learning rate. To obtain this gradient vector, differentiate stress $\eta$ by $\boldsymbol{X}$.

In computing $\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \boldsymbol{X}}$, let $A, B$ be as follows.

$$
\begin{aligned}
A & =\sum_{i} \sum_{j}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)^{2} \\
B & =\sum_{i} \sum_{j}\left(d_{i j}-d\right)^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

This allows $\eta$ to be expressed as follows.

$$
\eta=(A / B)^{1 / 2}
$$

Differentiating $\eta$ by $x_{i t}$. In the following equation expansion, the following formulas for the derivative of the composite function and the derivative of the quotient are used, and should be checked.

Differentiation of composite functions :

$$
\{f(g(x))\}^{\prime}=f^{\prime}(g(x)) \cdot g^{\prime}(x)
$$

Differentiation of quotient :

$$
\left\{\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right\}^{\prime}=\left\{\frac{f^{\prime}(x) g(x)-g^{\prime}(x) f(x)}{\{g(x)\}^{2}}\right\}
$$

Let's begin.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_{i t}} & =\frac{\partial(A / B)^{1 / 2}}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\frac{1}{2}(A / B)^{-1 / 2} \cdot \frac{\partial(A / B)}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{\partial(A / B)}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\eta}\left\{\frac{\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} B-\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} A}{B^{2}}\right\} \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\eta}\left\{\frac{\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} B}{B^{2}}-\frac{\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} A}{B^{2}}\right\} \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\eta}\left\{\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} \frac{1}{B}-\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} \frac{A}{B^{2}}\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

We now check that $\eta$ can be transformed as follows.

$$
\eta=\sqrt{\frac{A}{B}}, \eta^{2}=\frac{A}{B}, \frac{1}{B}=\frac{\eta^{2}}{A}, \frac{\eta^{2}}{B}=\frac{A}{B^{2}}
$$

The following development follows from this:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\eta}\left\{\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} \frac{1}{B}-\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} \frac{A}{B^{2}}\right\} \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\eta}\left\{\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} \frac{\eta^{2}}{A}-\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} \frac{\eta^{2}}{B}\right\} \\
& =\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\eta}{A} \frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}}-\frac{\eta}{B} \frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

We now turn our attention to $\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}}$ and $\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}}$.The $\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}}$ is as follows.

$$
\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}}=\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i t}} \sum_{i} \sum_{j}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)^{2}
$$

Since $A$ is a function of $d$ and $d$ is a function of $x$, we transform as follows:

$$
\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}}=\frac{\partial A}{\partial d_{i j}} \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}}
$$

For $\frac{\partial A}{\partial d_{i j}}=\frac{\partial}{\partial d_{i j}} \sum \sum\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)^{2}$, this is also the derivative of the composite function.
We now consider the derivative of the composite function, $f(g(x))^{\prime}$, as $f(x)=x^{2}, g\left(d_{i j}\right)=\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)^{2}$. Note that the disparity $\hat{d}_{i j}$ in $g\left(d_{i j}\right)$ is a distance $d_{i j}$ is a quantity that does not depend on the distance $d_{i j}$. So the derivative here is 1 , and the calculation is as follows:

$$
\frac{\partial A}{\partial d_{i j}}=\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right) \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{i j}}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)
$$

If we treat $\partial d_{i j}$ as if it were a symbol for a small quantity and expand the equation, we can organize it as follows.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} & =\frac{\partial A}{\partial d_{i j}} \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{i j}}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right) \cdot \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right) \cdot \frac{\partial\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right)}{\partial x_{i t}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Similarly, $\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}}$ can be expanded as follows.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} & =\frac{\partial b}{\partial d_{i j}} \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-d\right) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial d_{i j}}\left(d_{i j}-d\right) \cdot \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
& =\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-d\right) \cdot \frac{\partial\left(d_{i j}-d\right)}{\partial x_{i t}}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\frac{\partial \hat{d}_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}}$ is the change in disparity for small changes in $x_{i t}$. However, since disparity is a quantity independent of $x_{i t}, \frac{\partial \hat{d}_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}}=0$. Additionally, since $\frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}}$ is represented as $d_{i j}=d_{j i}$, the changes cancel each other out when considering all $i, j$ combinations, leading to $\frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}}=0 .{ }^{* 1}$
So far, we have been able to transform the following.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}} & =\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right) \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}} \\
\frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}} & =\sum \sum 2\left(d_{i j}-d\right) \frac{\partial d_{i j}}{\partial x_{i t}}
\end{aligned}
$$

The remainder is the derivative of the distance, $\frac{\partial d_{i j}}{x_{i j}}$. This can be expanded as follows.

$$
\frac{\partial d_{i j}}{x_{i j}}=\frac{1}{\partial x_{i t}} \sqrt{\sum_{t=1}^{P}\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}}
$$

Differentiation of composite functions

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\frac{1}{2}\left(\sum\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}\right)^{-1 / 2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i t}}\left(\sum\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2 \sqrt{\sum\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i t}}\left(\sum\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}\right) \\
& \text { Since } \sum_{t=1}^{P} \text { is not relevant except for the } t \text {-th dimension } \\
& =\frac{1}{2 \sqrt{\sum\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right)^{2}}} 2\left(x_{i t}-x_{j t}\right) \\
& =\frac{x_{i t}-x_{j t}}{d_{i j}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Oh dear. We now have all the elements that differentiate the stress value $\eta$. Putting them together, we can draw the following conclusions.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x_{i t}} & =\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\eta}{A} \frac{\partial A}{\partial x_{i t}}-\frac{\eta}{B} \frac{\partial B}{\partial x_{i t}}\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2} \frac{\eta}{A} 2 \sum_{i} \sum_{j}\left(d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}\right) \cdot \frac{x_{i t}-x_{j t}}{d_{i j}}-\frac{\eta}{B} 2 \sum_{i} \sum_{j}\left(d_{i j}-d\right) \frac{x_{i t}-x_{j t}}{d_{i j}} \\
& =\eta \sum_{i} \sum_{j} \frac{x_{i t}-x_{j t}}{d_{i j}}\left(\frac{d_{i j}-\hat{d}_{i j}}{A}-\frac{d_{i j}-d}{B}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

[^0]This time we limited ourselves to the Euclidean distance，but when considering Minkowski＇s general distance，it is necessary to consider the sign of the direction of movement，among other factors．Addi－ tionally，note that Kruskal［1］considers a method to fine－tune the step width based on experience ${ }^{* 2}$ ．

## 参考文献

［1］Kruskal，J．B．（1964）．Nonmetric multidimensional scaling：a numerical method．Psychometrika， 29（2），115－129．
［2］高橋和子．（1986）．多次元尺度法－Kruskal の方法を中心に．茨城大学政経学会雑誌，51，97－117．

[^1]
[^0]:    ${ }^{* 1}$ Takahashi[2] notes that this follows from the monotone regression principle. I believe that the monotone regression principle is a rule defining the correspondence between distance and disparity, and that these differential values being zero are not directly relevant to that principle.

[^1]:    ${ }^{* 2}$ Takahashi［2］precedes this with $2 \eta$ ，which is probably a typo．

