

Is an Affine Constraint Needed for Affine Subspace Clustering?

Chong You (由翀)¹, Chun-Guang Li (李春光)², Daniel P. Robinson³,
Rene Vidal³



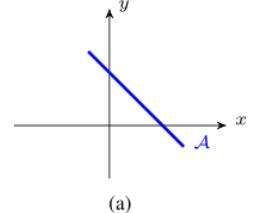
¹ University of California, Berkeley ² 北京邮电大学

³ Johns Hopkins University

Outline

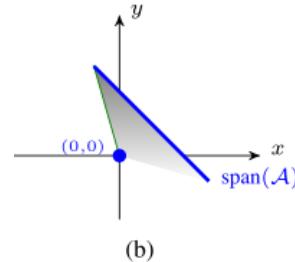
➤ Introduction

Subspace Clustering: what, why and how



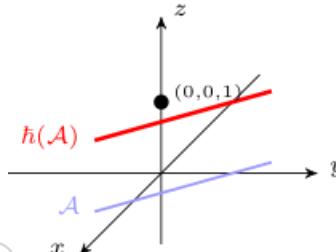
➤ Background

1. Self-Expression Model
2. Self-Expression Model + Affine Constraint



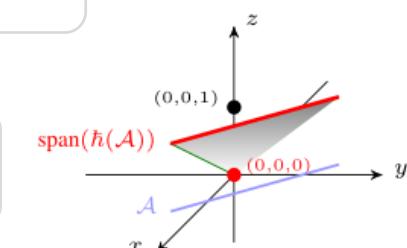
➤ Our Contributions

Affine Subspace Clustering w/o Affine Constraint



➤ Empirical Results

Comparison on ASC with/without Affine Constraint



➤ Conclusions

When Is an Affine Constraint Needed?



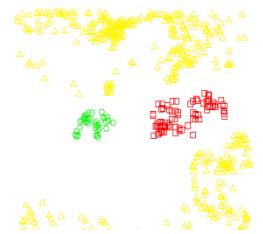
Structures in High-Dimensional Data

- High dimensional data in computer vision, pattern recognition, and bioinformatics are usually controlled by *a few hidden factors*

➤ Frontal face images of varying illumination condition



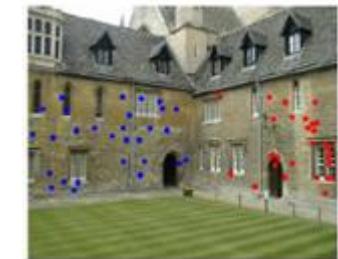
➤ Feature points trajectory on moving rigid object in video



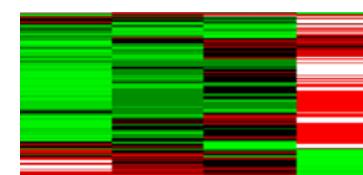
➤ Handwriting digit images



➤ Action sequence in a video



➤ Planar area in 3D vision



➤ Gene expression data of cancer subtype



Examples in Application

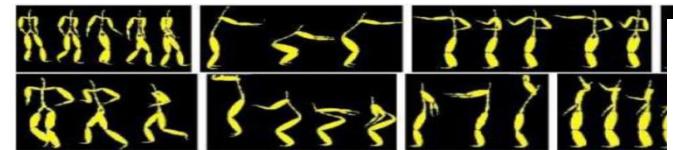
- Rigid Object Segmentation in Video



- Face Image Clustering



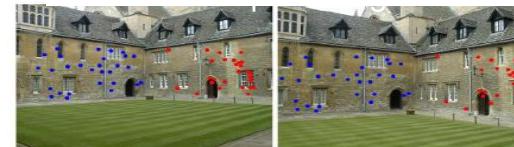
- Handwriting Digit Image Clustering



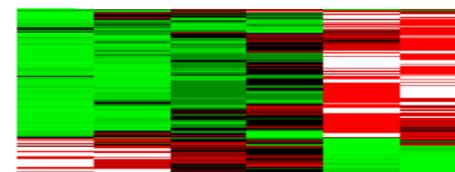
- Action Segmentation

?

- Planar Area Detection in 3D



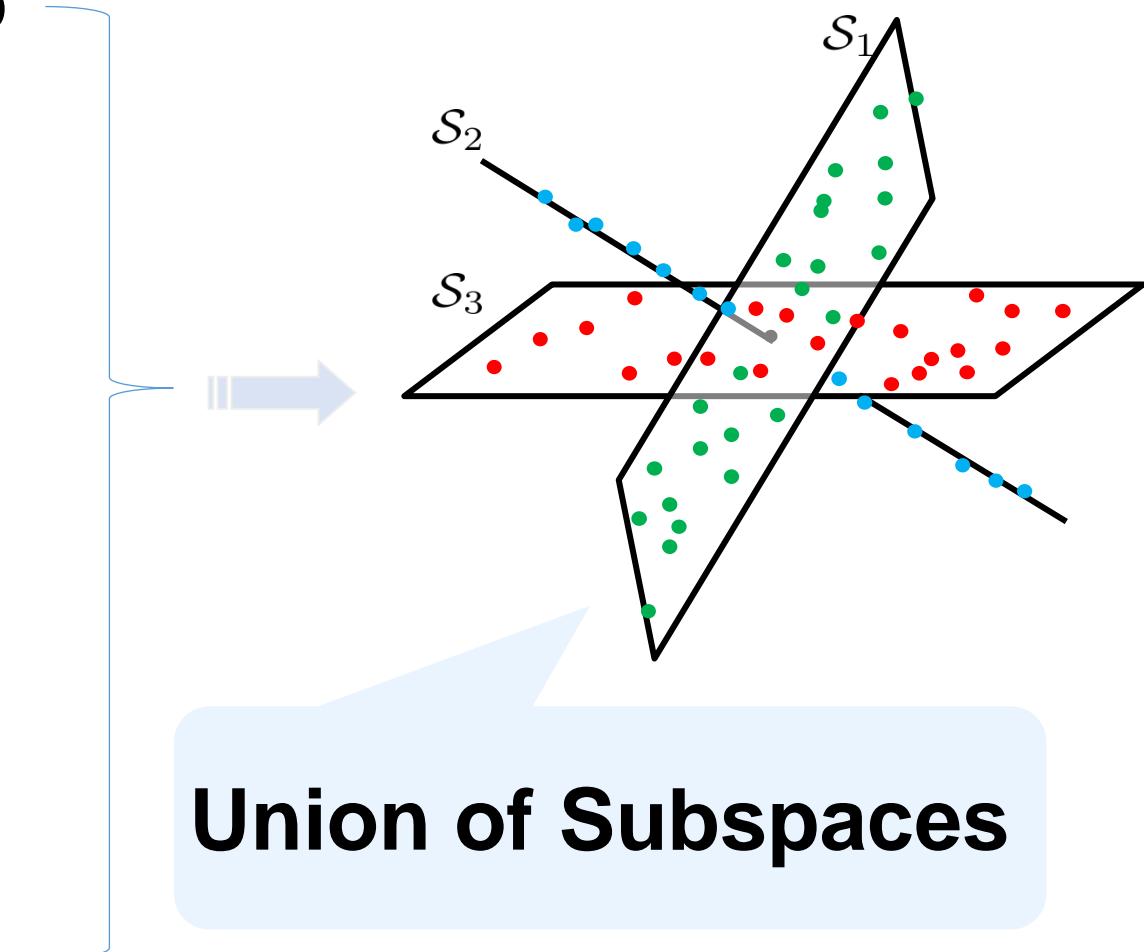
- Cancer Subtype Discovery





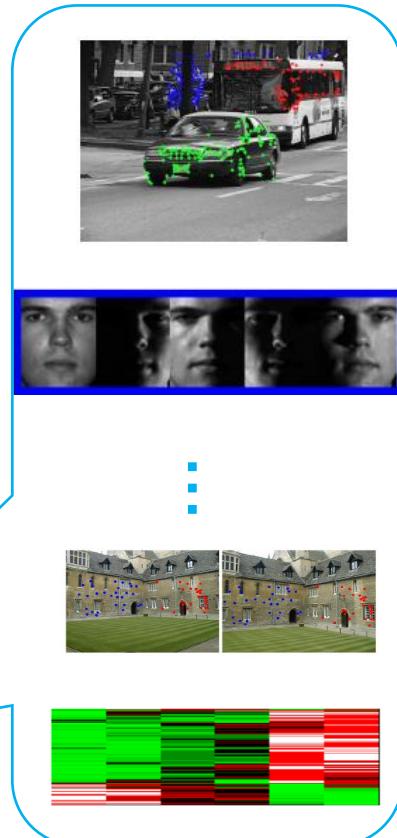
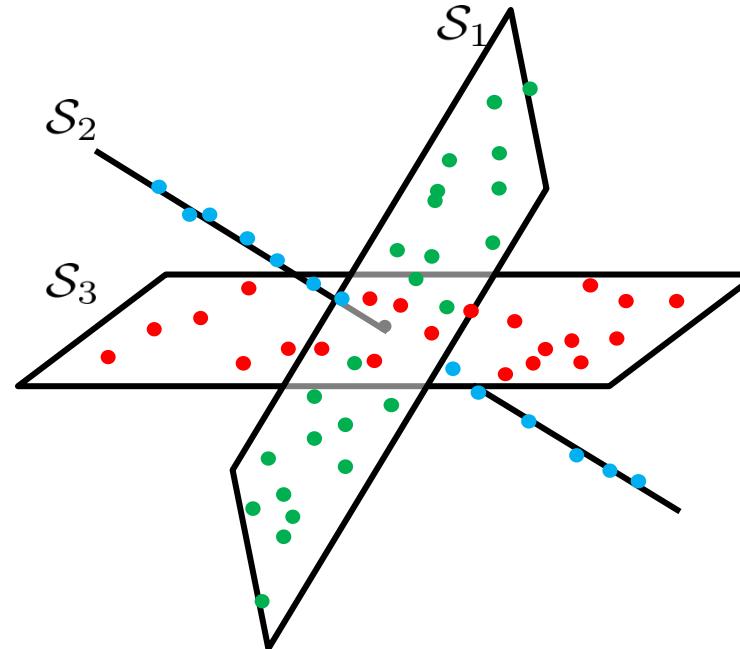
Examples in Application → Union of Subspaces

- Rigid Object Segmentation in Video
- Face Image Clustering
- Handwriting Digit Image Clustering
- Action Segmentation
- Planar Area Detection in 3D
- Cancer Subtype Discovery



Subspace Clustering

- Given a set of data points lying (approximately) in a **union of subspaces**, to segment the data points into each subspace



- Each subspace corresponds to a pattern (or cluster) in data
 - e.g. a moving object, person, digit, action, plan area, cancer subtype

Outline

➤ Introduction

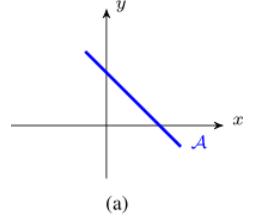
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- 2. Self-Expression Model + Affine Constraint

➤ Background

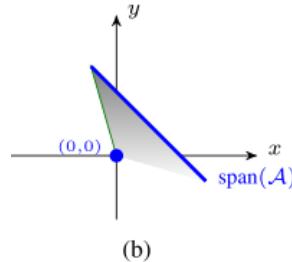
➤ Our Contributions

➤ Empirical Results

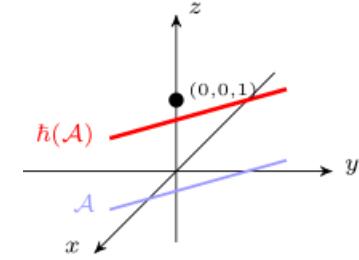
➤ Conclusions



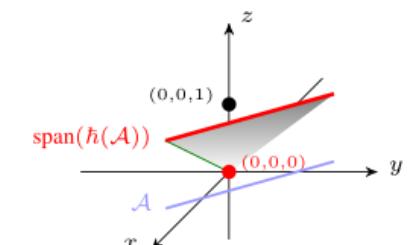
(a)



(b)



(a)

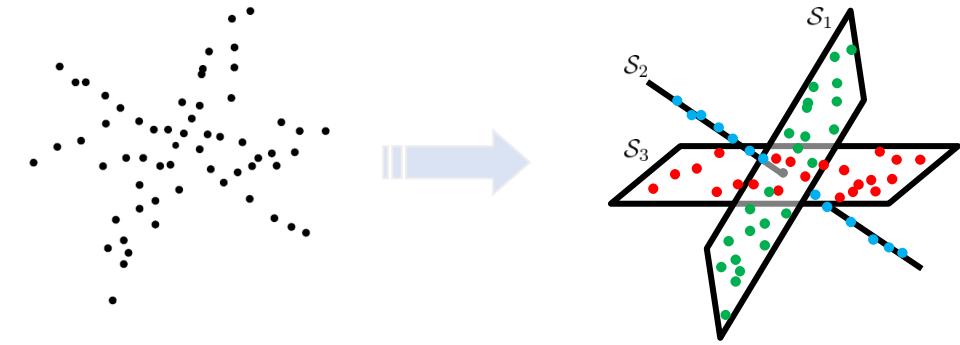


(b)



Subspace Clustering: Existing Methods

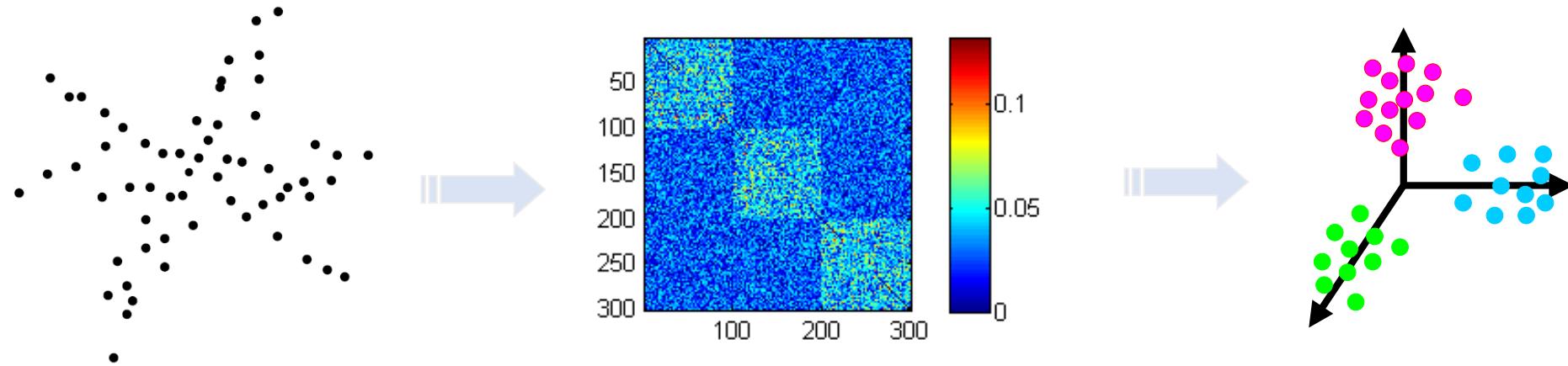
- Iterative methods
 - k-plane, q-flats, ...
- Statistical methods
 - Matrix Factorization, MPPCA, ...
- Algebraic methods
 - Generalized PCA (GPCA), ...
- Spectral Subspace Clustering
 - SSC (Elhamifar & Vidal: CVPR09), LRR (Liu et al. ICML10), LSR (Lu et al. ECCV12), SSSC(Peng et al. CVPR13), S³C (Li & Vidal: CVPR15/ TIP17), EnSC (You et al. CVPR16), ESC(You et al. ECCV18)
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 - Correntropy (He et al. TNNLS15), GMM / GP (Li et al.:CVPR15) / IPID(Li et al.: CVPR19)





Spectral Clustering based Methods

- Step 1: Build a Data Affinity Matrix
- Step 2: Apply **Spectral Clustering**

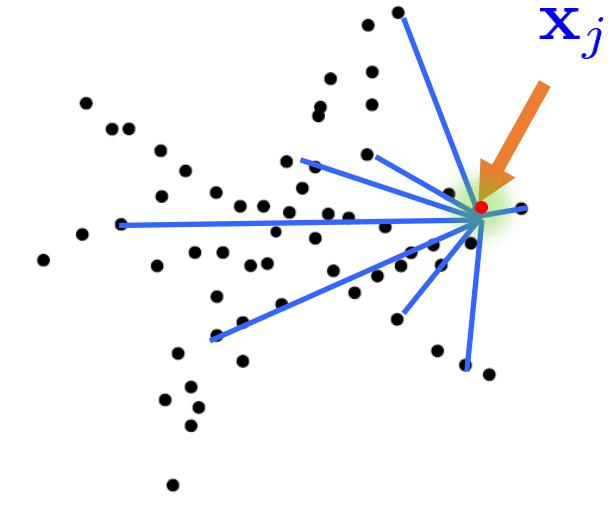


➤ Why spectral clustering? Spectral Graph Theory



Detection of Subspace Structures

- Step 1: Build a Data Affinity Matrix
- Step 2: Apply Spectral Clustering



- Self-Expression Model
 - Express a data point as a linear combination of other data points

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i = c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + c_{j-1} \mathbf{x}_{j-1} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + c_{j+1} \mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \dots + c_N \mathbf{x}_N$$

[1] E. Elhamifar & R. Vidal: "Sparse subspace clustering", CVPR 2009.

[2] E. Elhamifar & R. Vidal: "Sparse subspace clustering: Algorithm, theory, and applications", IEEE TPAMI 2013.



Subspace Preserving Property

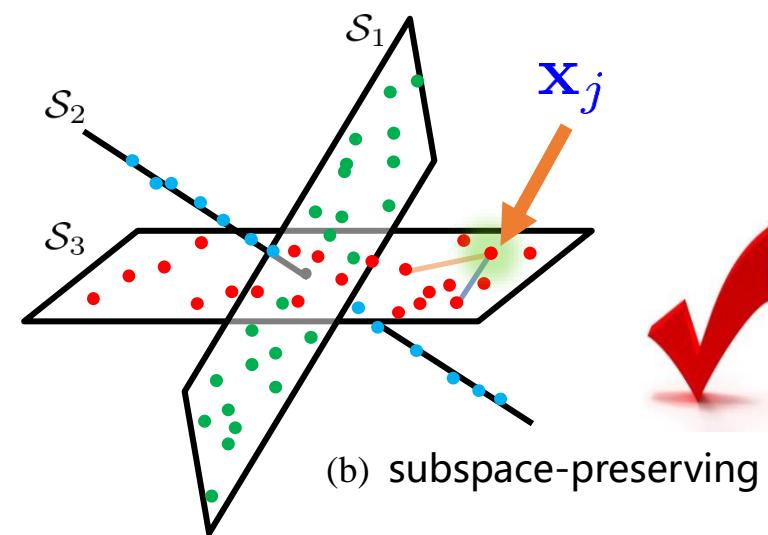
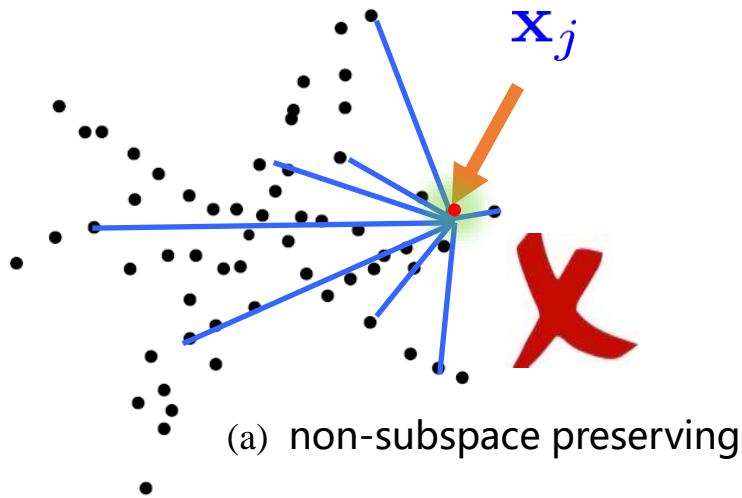
- Self-Expression Model

➤ For data points in a linear subspace, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i = c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + c_{j-1} \mathbf{x}_{j-1} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + c_{j+1} \mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \dots + c_N \mathbf{x}_N$$

a linear combination

➤ **Subspace-Preserving Property:** nonzero coefficients ONLY correspond to data points in the same subspace as \mathbf{x}_j





Subspace Preserving Property

- Self-Expression Model

- For data points in a linear subspace, we have:

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i = c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + c_{j-1} \mathbf{x}_{j-1} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + c_{j+1} \mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \dots + c_N \mathbf{x}_N$$

a linear combination

- To find the coefficients with **subspace-preserving property**, a proper regularization is adopted, e.g.

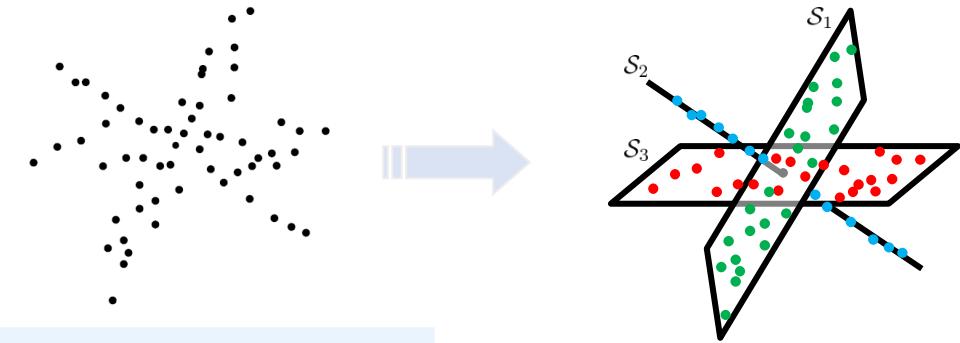
✓ $\|\mathbf{c}\|_1 \rightarrow$ Sparse Subspace Clustering (SSC)

✓ $\|\mathbf{c}\|_2^2 \rightarrow$ Least Square Regression (LSR)

✓ $\|\mathbf{C}\|_* \rightarrow$ Low-Rank Representation (LRR/LRSC)



Subspace Clustering: Existing Methods



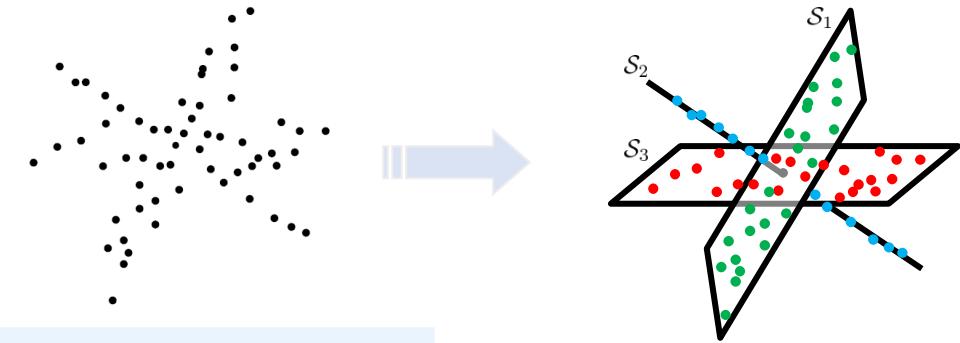
$$\min_{C,E} \|C\|_k + \lambda \|E\|_\ell \quad \text{s.t. } X = XC + E, \text{ diag}(C) = 0$$

- Spectral Subspace Clustering

- SSC (Elhamifar & Vidal: CVPR09), LRR (Liu et al. ICML10), LSR (Lu et al. ECCV12), SSSC(Peng et al. CVPR13), S³C (Li & Vidal: CVPR15/ TIP17), EnSC (You et al. CVPR16), ESC(You et al. ECCV18)
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Subspace Clustering: Existing Methods



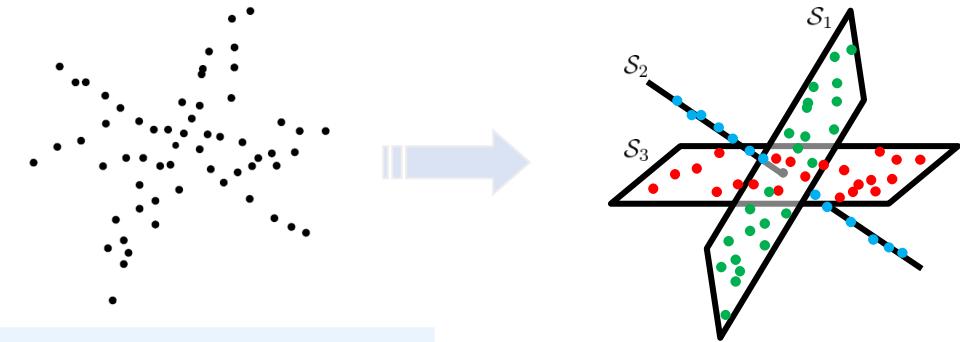
$$\min_{C,E} \|C\|_\kappa + \lambda \|E\|_\ell \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \varphi(X) = \varphi(X)C + E, \quad \text{diag}(C) = 0$$

- Spectral Subspace Clustering

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Subspace Clustering: Existing Methods



$$\min_{C,E} \|C\|_\kappa + \lambda \|E\|_\ell \quad \text{s.t. } X = XC + E, \text{ diag}(C) = 0$$

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Subspace Clustering: Existing Methods

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{C,E} & \|C\|_\kappa + \lambda \|E\|_\ell \quad \text{s.t. } X = XC + E, \text{ diag}(C) = 0 \\ & \mathbf{1}^T = \mathbf{1}^T C \end{aligned}$$

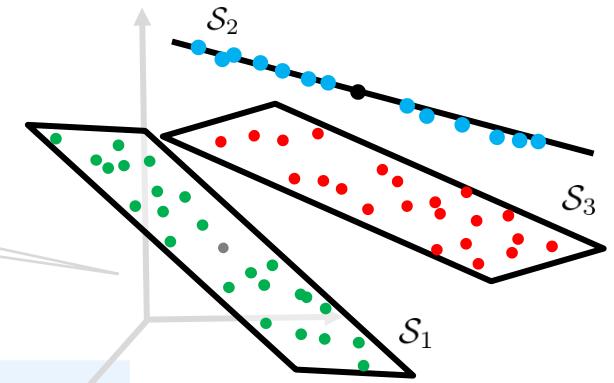
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Subspace Clustering: Existing Methods

Union of **Affine Subspaces**



$$\min_{C,E} \|C\|_k + \lambda \|E\|_\ell \quad \text{s.t. } X = XC + E, \text{ diag}(C) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{1}^T = \mathbf{1}^T C$$

Affine Constraint $\rightarrow ?$

- Spectral Subspace Clustering

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Affine Self-Expression Model

- **Affine** Self-Expression Model

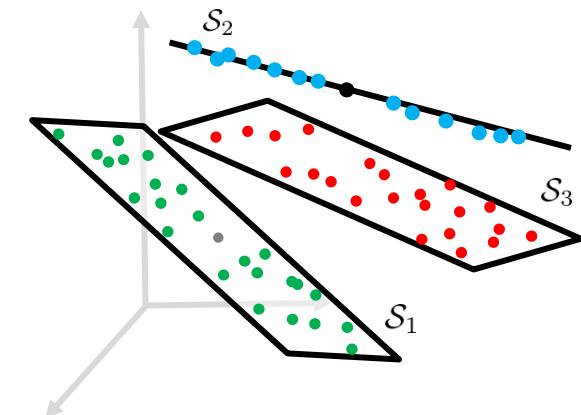
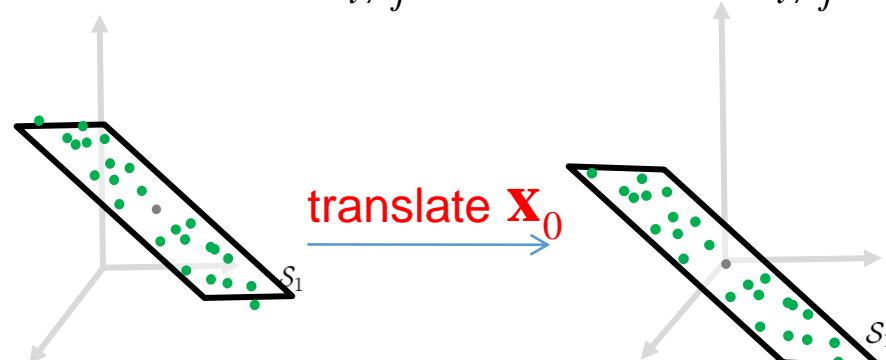
➤ For data points in an **affine** subspace, we have

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i = c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + c_{j-1} \mathbf{x}_{j-1} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + c_{j+1} \mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \dots + c_N \mathbf{x}_N \quad \text{s.t. } \sum_{i=1}^N c_i = 1$$

an affine combination

✓ Affine constraint $\sum_{i=1}^N c_i = 1 \rightarrow$ Coefficients are **translation invariant**.

$$\mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_0 = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_0) = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_0 \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_0$$





Affine Self-Expression Model

- **Affine** Self-Expression Model

- For data points in an **affine** subspace, we have

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \sum_{i \neq j}^N c_i \mathbf{x}_i = c_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + c_{j-1} \mathbf{x}_{j-1} + 0 \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + c_{j+1} \mathbf{x}_{j+1} + \dots + c_N \mathbf{x}_N \quad \text{s.t. } \sum_{i=1}^N c_i = 1$$

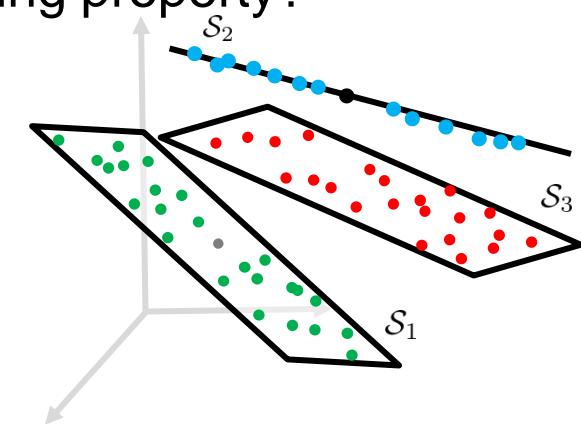
an affine combination

- To find the coefficients with **subspace-preserving property**, a proper regularization is adopted, e.g. $\|\mathbf{c}\|_1$, $\|\mathbf{c}\|_2$, $\|C\|_*$

➤ Can it still find self-expressive coefficients with subspace-preserving property?

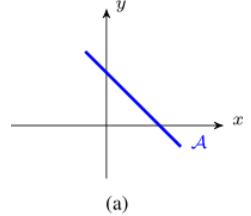
➤ If YES, under what conditions?

➤ Is an affine constraint necessary for affine subspace clustering?

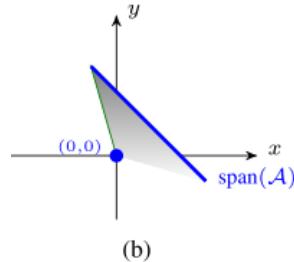


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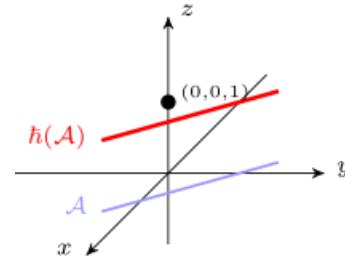


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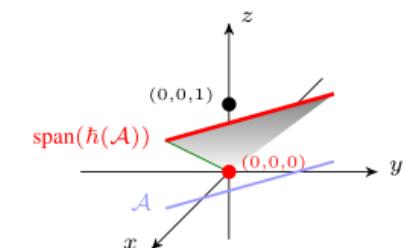


➤ Our Contributions

Affine Subspace Clustering w/o Affine Constraint



➤ Empirical Results

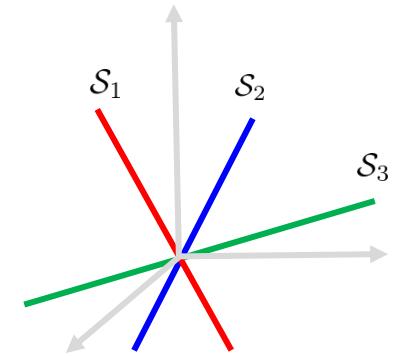


➤ Conclusions



Arrangement of Subspaces

- Linearly independent vs. affinely independent

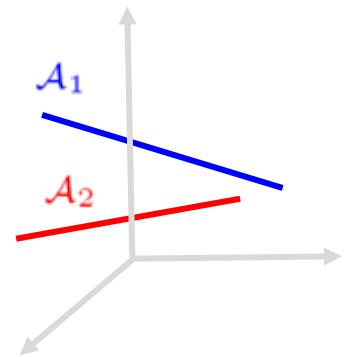


➤ Definition 1: The linear subspaces $\{\mathcal{S}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ (linearly) independent if

$$\dim(\text{span}(\cup_{\ell=1}^n \mathcal{S}_\ell)) = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \dim(\mathcal{S}_\ell)$$

➤ Definition 2: The affine subspaces $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ affinely independent if

$$\dim(\text{aff}(\cup_{\ell=1}^n \mathcal{A}_\ell)) + 1 = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \dim(\mathcal{A}_\ell) + n$$





Affine Subspace Clustering with Affine Constraint

- **Affine Subspace Clustering (ASC):**

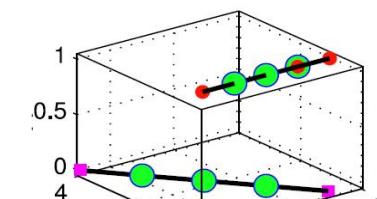
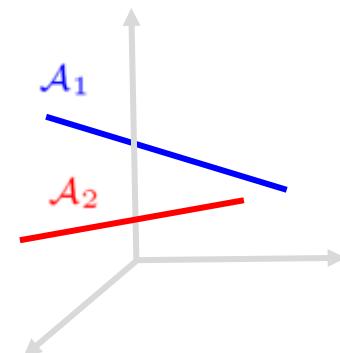
$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \quad \text{s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{c}, \quad c_j = 0, \quad \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (1)$$

function $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to satisfy the EBD conditions if

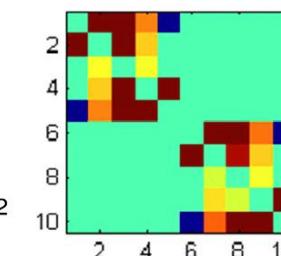
- Ω is closed under permutations and f is permutation invariant, i.e., for any $\mathbf{C} \in \Omega$ we have $\mathbf{P}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{P} \in \Omega$ and $f(\mathbf{C}) = f(\mathbf{P}^\top \mathbf{C} \mathbf{P})$ for any permutation matrix \mathbf{P} , and
- for any partition $\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_1 & \mathbf{C}_3 \\ \mathbf{C}_4 & \mathbf{C}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ of any matrix $\mathbf{C} \in \Omega$ such that \mathbf{C}_1 and \mathbf{C}_2 are square matrices we have $\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{C}_2 \end{bmatrix} \in \Omega$ and $f\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_1 & \mathbf{C}_3 \\ \mathbf{C}_4 & \mathbf{C}_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) \geq f\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{C}_2 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ with equality holding if and only if $\mathbf{C}_3 = \mathbf{C}_4 = \mathbf{0}$.

where $r(\cdot)$ satisfies the Extended Block Diagonal condition (EBD)

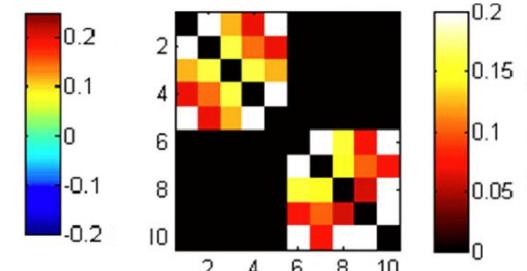
- Theorem 1: If the affine subspaces $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ **affinely independent**, any optimal solution to (1) is subspace-preserving.



(a) data points



(b) coefficients matrix C



(c) affinity matrix A



Affine Subspace Clustering with Affine Constraint

- ASC with Affine Constraint:

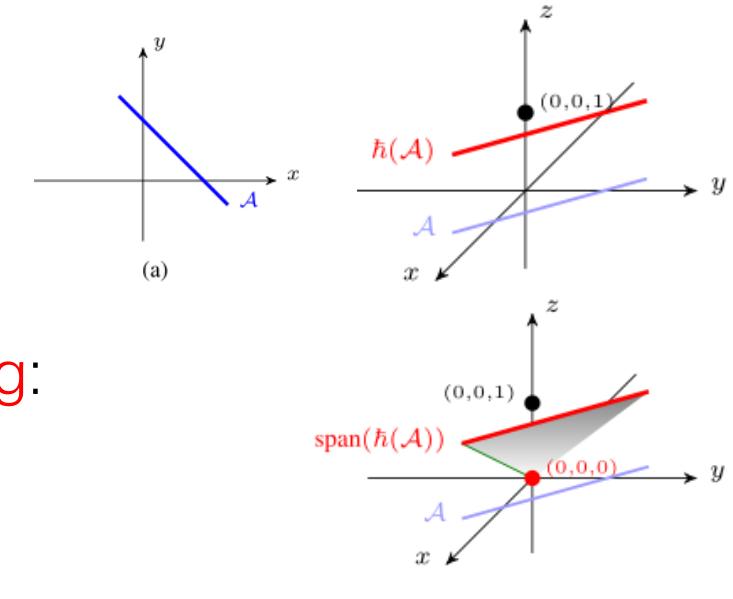
$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (1)$$

➤ Reformulate (1) with homogenous embedding:

$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_j \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{1}^T \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}, \quad c_j = 0$$

✓ Theorem 2: If the linear subspaces if and only if affine subspaces

$\{\text{span}(\mathcal{h}(\mathcal{A}_\ell))\}_{\ell=1}^n$ (linearly) independent, are affinely $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ independent





Affine Subspace Clustering **with** Affine Constraint

- **ASC with** Affine Constraint:

$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (1)$$

- Random Affine Subspace Model:

$$\mathcal{A}_\ell = \mathbf{w}_{0,\ell} + \text{span}\{\mathbf{w}_{1,\ell}, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{d_\ell,\ell}\}$$

- where $\{\mathbf{w}_{0,\ell}, \mathbf{w}_{1,\ell}, \dots, \mathbf{w}_{d_\ell,\ell}\}_{\ell=1}^n$ are independently and uniformly drawn from unit sphere of \mathbb{R}^D

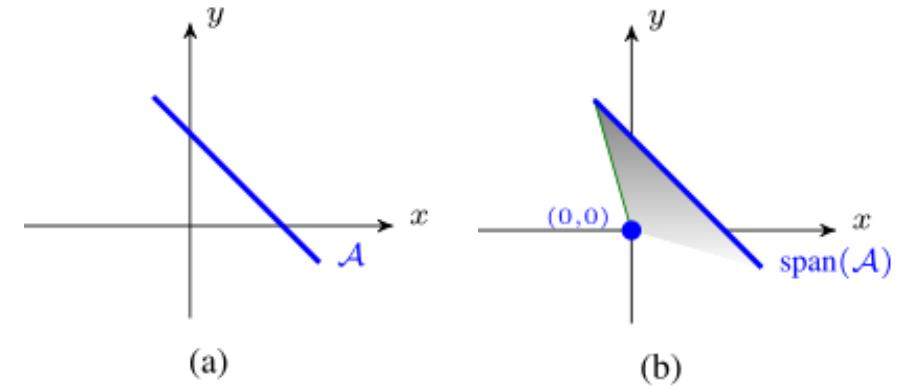
- ✓ Theorem 3: If affine subspaces $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ generated with the random model and $D \geq \sum_{\ell=1}^n d_\ell + n - 1$ are $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ independent with probability 1.



Affine Subspace Clustering **without** Affine Constraint

- **ASC without Affine Constraint:**

$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0 \quad (2)$$



where $r(\cdot)$ satisfies the Extended Block Diagonal condition (EBD)

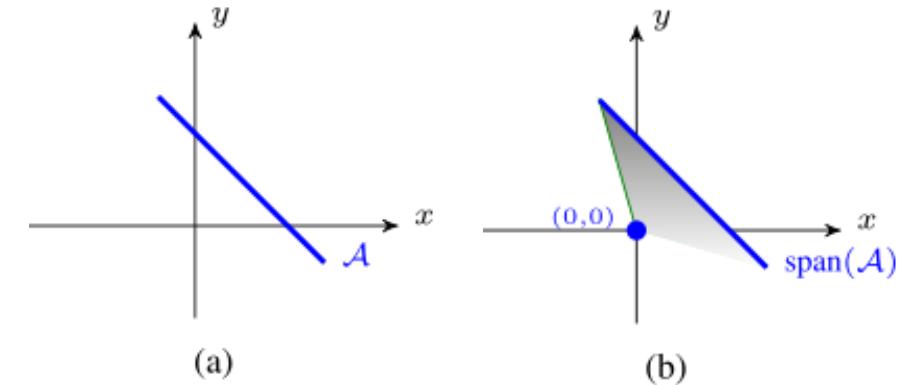
➤ Theorem 4: If (linear) subspaces $\{\text{span}(\mathcal{A}_\ell)\}_{\ell=1}^n$ linearly independent, any optimal solution to (2) is subspace-preserving.



Affine Subspace Clustering without Affine Constraint

- **ASC without Affine Constraint:**

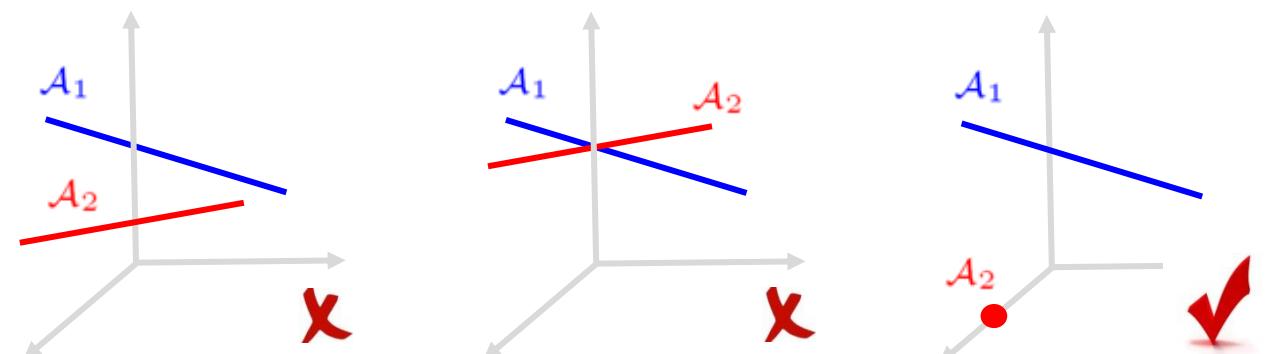
$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0 \quad (2)$$



where $r(\cdot)$ satisfies the Extended Block Diagonal condition (EBD)

➤ Theorem 4: If (linear) subspaces $\{\text{span}(\mathcal{A}_\ell)\}_{\ell=1}^n$ linearly independent, any optimal solution to (2) is subspace-preserving.

✓ Proposition 1: $\{\text{span}(\mathcal{A}_\ell)\}_{\ell=1}^n$ are linearly independent if and only if: $\mathbf{0} \notin \text{aff}(\cup_{\ell=1}^n \mathcal{A}_\ell)$ id
 $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ are affinely independent.

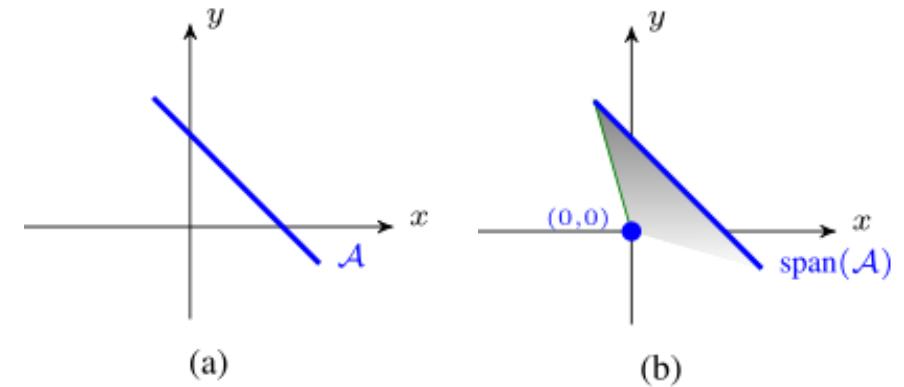




Affine Subspace Clustering without Affine Constraint

- **ASC without Affine Constraint:**

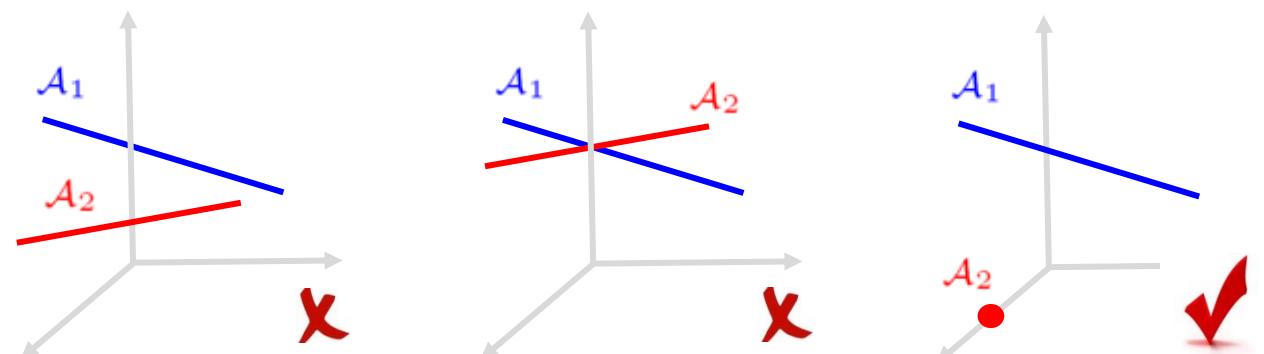
$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0 \quad (2)$$



where $r(\cdot)$ satisfies the Extended Block Diagonal condition (EBD)

➤ Theorem 5: If affine subspaces and $D \geq \sum_{\ell=1}^n d_\ell + n$ independent with probability 1 .

$\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ generated with the random model
 $\mathbf{0} \notin \text{aff}(\cup_{\ell=1}^n \mathcal{A}_\ell)$ are $\in \{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$





ASC *without or with* Affine Constraint

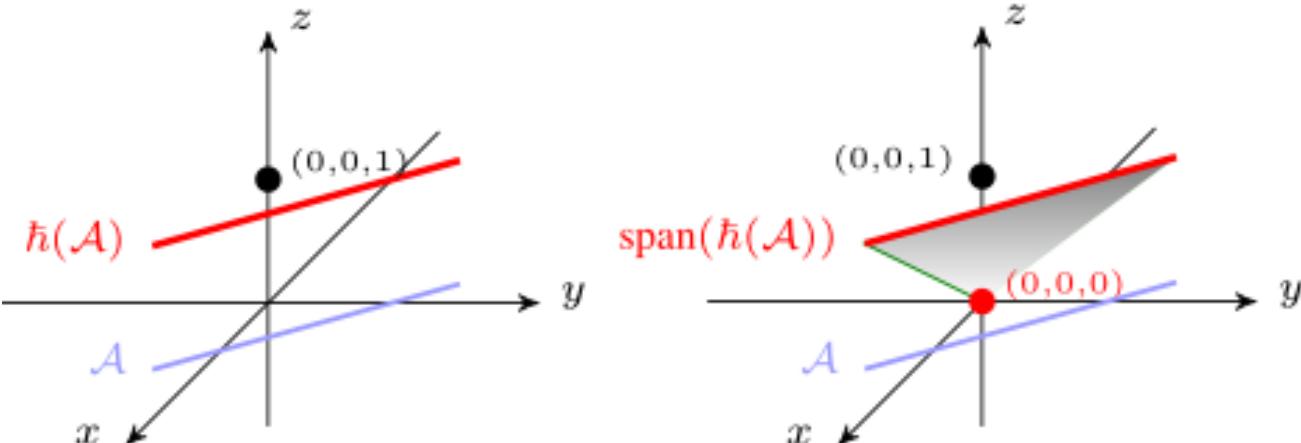
- $\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (1)$

➤ $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ are **affinely** independent

➤ Under the random model, if

$$D \geq \sum_{\ell=1}^n d_\ell + n - 1$$

then every optimal solution to (1) is subspace preserving



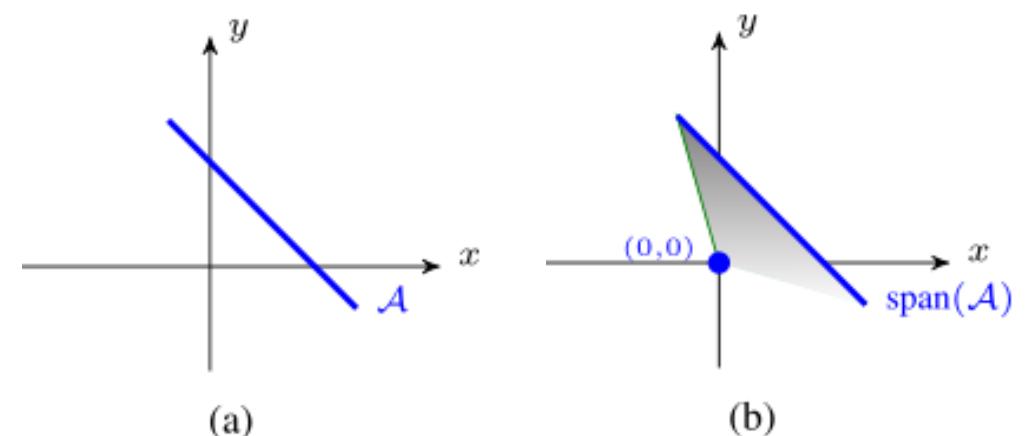
- $\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0 \quad (2)$

➤ $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ are **affinely** independent and $\mathbf{0} \notin \text{aff}(\cup_{\ell=1}^n \mathcal{A}_\ell)$

➤ Under the random model, if

$$D \geq \sum_{\ell=1}^n d_\ell + n$$

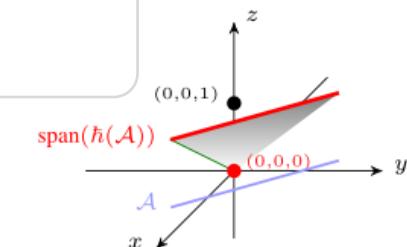
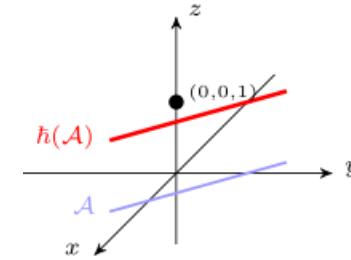
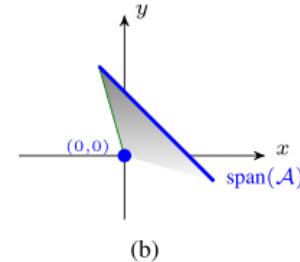
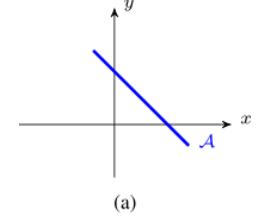
then every optimal solution to (2) is subspace preserving



Outline

- Introduction
- Background
- Our Contributions
- Empirical Results
- Conclusions

Comparison on ASC with/without Affine Constraint

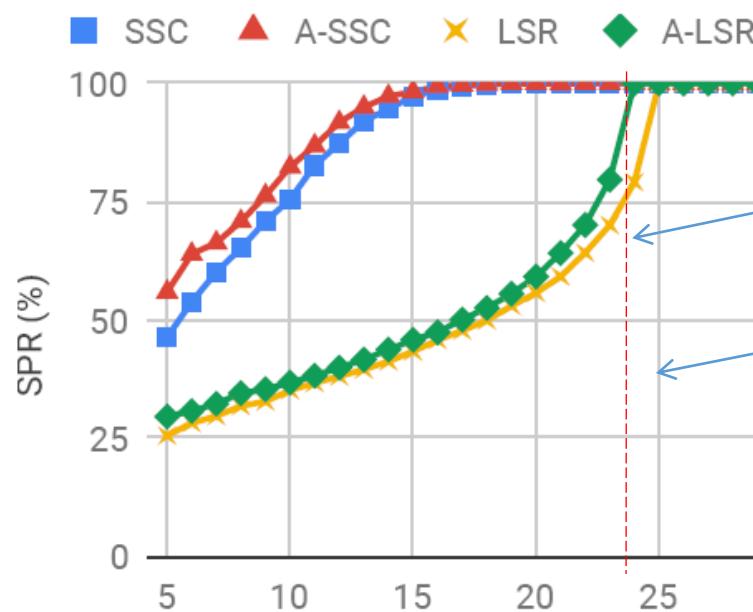




ASC with or without Affine Constraint

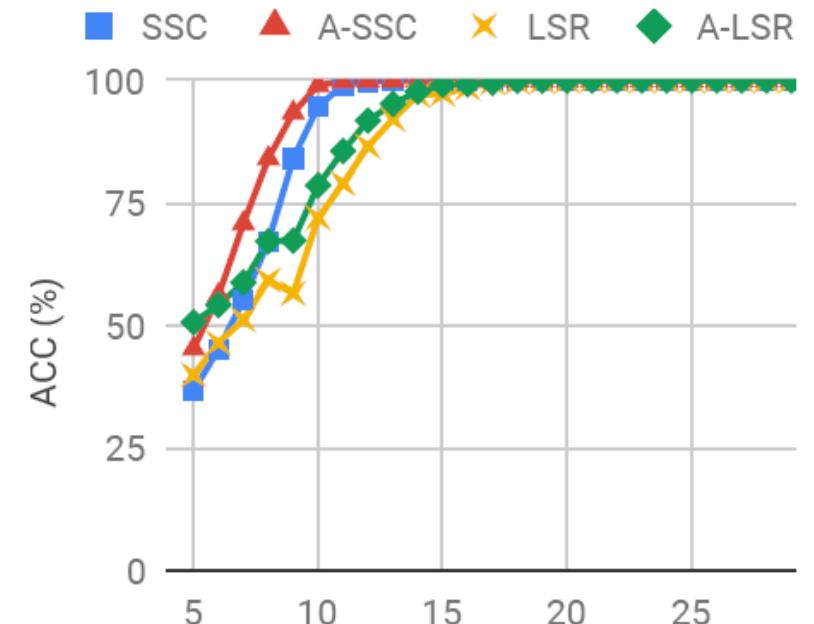
- $\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (1)$ $\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \quad (2)$

➤ **Synthetic Data:** Generate $n=5$ affine subspaces under the random model, each affine subspace with dimension $d=4$.



(a) SPR vs. D

$$\begin{aligned} D &\geq \sum_{\ell=1}^n d_{\ell} + n - 1 \\ &= 24 \\ D &\geq \sum_{\ell=1}^n d_{\ell} + n \\ &= 25 \end{aligned}$$



(b) ACC vs. D



ASC with or without Affine Constraint

- $\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{x}_j - X\mathbf{c}\|_2^2 \text{ s.t. } c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (1)$ $\min_{\mathbf{c}} r(\mathbf{c}) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{x}_j - X\mathbf{c}\|_2^2 \text{ s.t. } c_j = 0 \quad (2)$

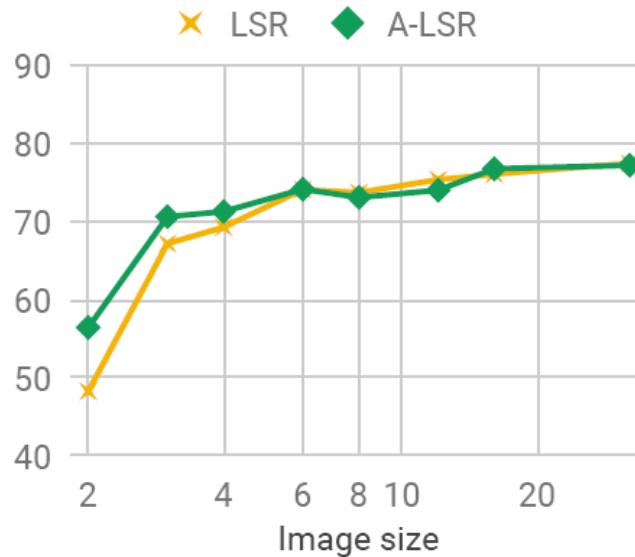
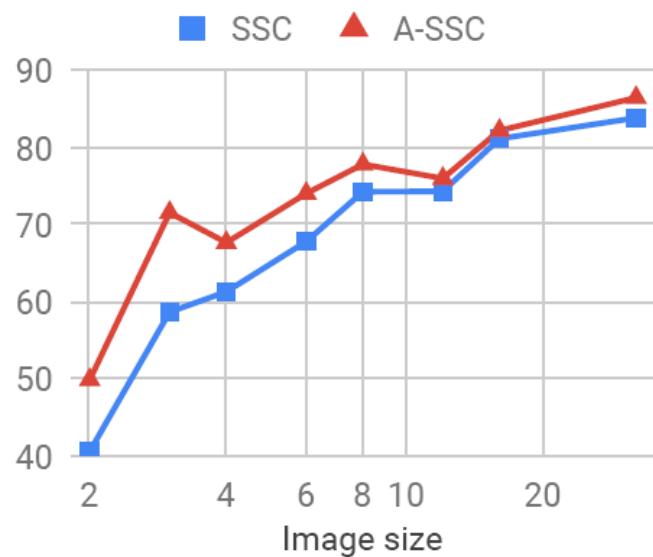


Figure 4. Performance on Coil-100 with various ambient dimension. Images in Coil-100 are downsampled to size p -by- p , with p varied on the x -axis, and clustering accuracy shown on the y -axis.

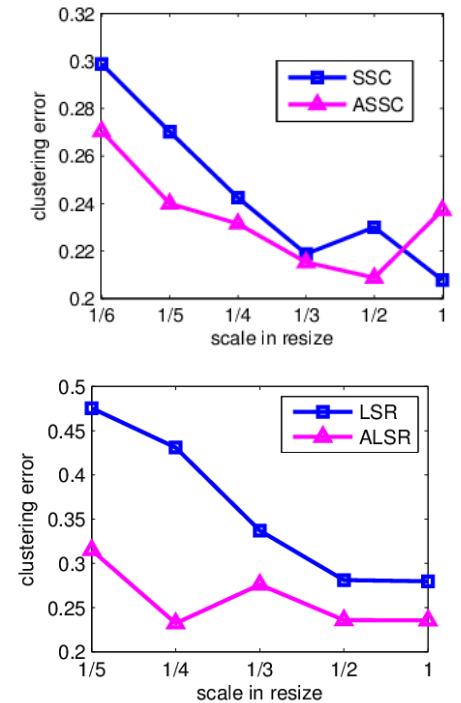
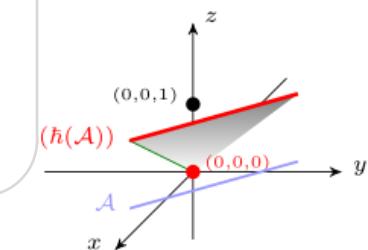
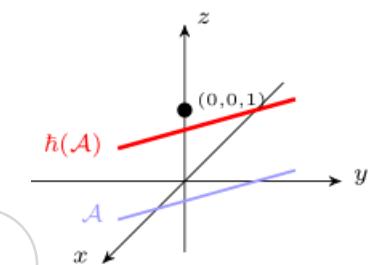
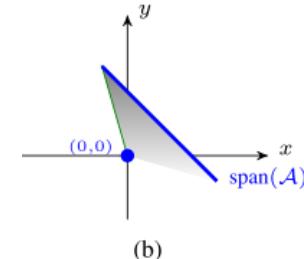
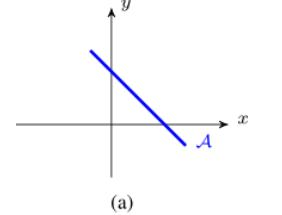


Figure 5. Performance on ORL400 with various ambient dimension

Outline

- Introduction
- Background
- Our Contributions
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When the dimension D of ambient space
is lower, the affine constraint is needed.

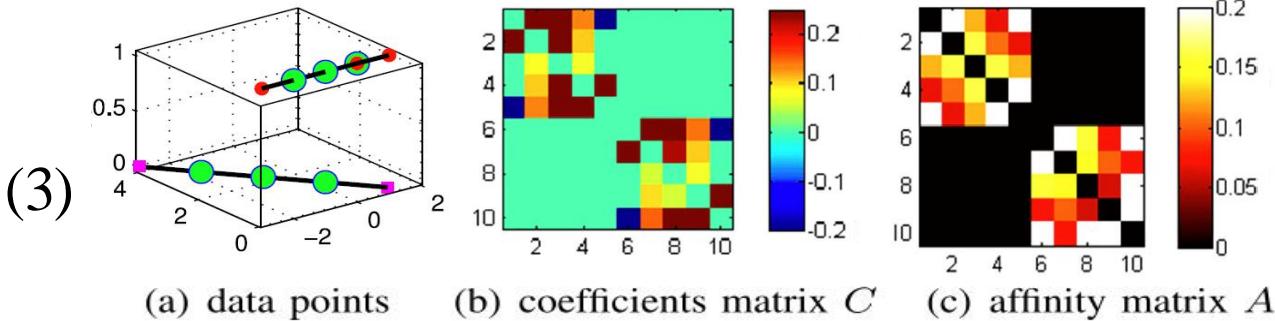




On Geometric Analysis of Affine SSC (1/3)

- Affine SSC (ASSC):**

$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} \|\mathbf{c}\|_1 \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (3)$$

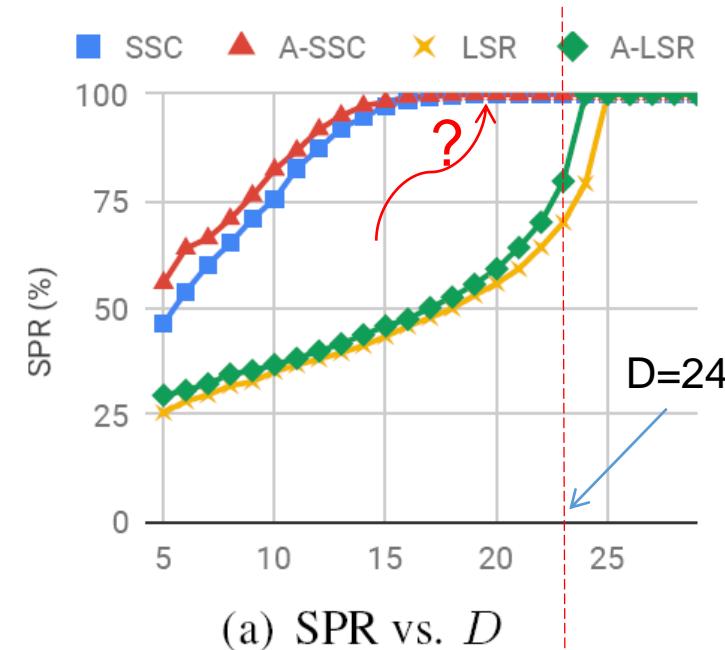


➤ Theorem 1: The affine subspaces $\{\mathcal{A}_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^n$ affinely independent, any optimal solution to (3) is subspace-preserving.

- Affinely independent requires:

$$\dim(\text{aff}(\cup_{\ell=1}^n \mathcal{A}_\ell)) + 1 = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \dim(\mathcal{A}_\ell) + n$$

➤ Synthetic Data: $n=5$, $\text{dim}=4$



On Geometric Analysis of Affine SSC (2/3)

- **Affine SSC (ASSC):**

$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} \|\mathbf{c}\|_1 \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = X\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (3)$$

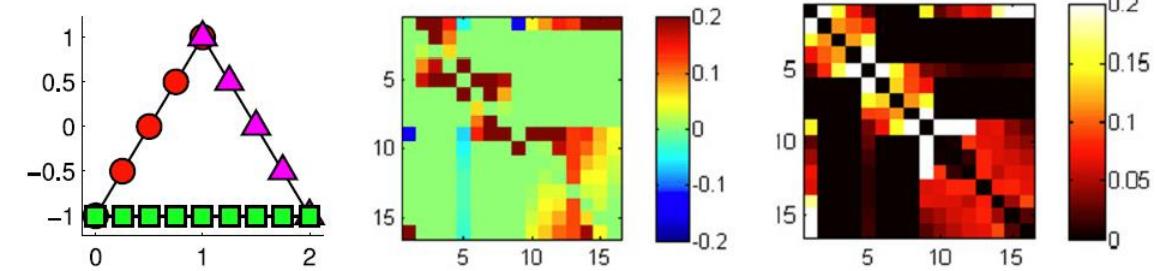
➤ Relative position of data points:

- In relative interior: $\mathbf{c} \geq \mathbf{0}$ $\|\mathbf{c}\|_1 = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1$

- On boundary:
 - ✓ Every optimal solution is *nonnegative*.
 - ✓ Equivalent condition to guarantee subspace-preserving:
 - ✓ Exists nonnegative *subspace-dense* solution

- At vertex:

- At vertex:
 - ✓ Nonnegative solution cannot be subspace preserving



(a) data points

(b) coefficients matrix C (c) affinity matrix A

\mathcal{A}_ℓ does not intersect $\text{conv}(\mathcal{X}^{(-\ell)})$

approximately $\sim \frac{c(\log N_\ell)^{\frac{d_\ell-1}{2}}}{N_\ell}$



On Geometric Analysis of Affine SSC (3/3)

- **Affine SSC (ASSC):**

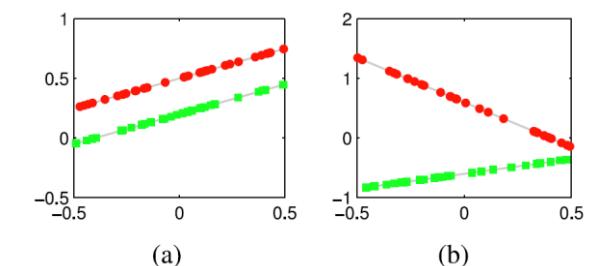
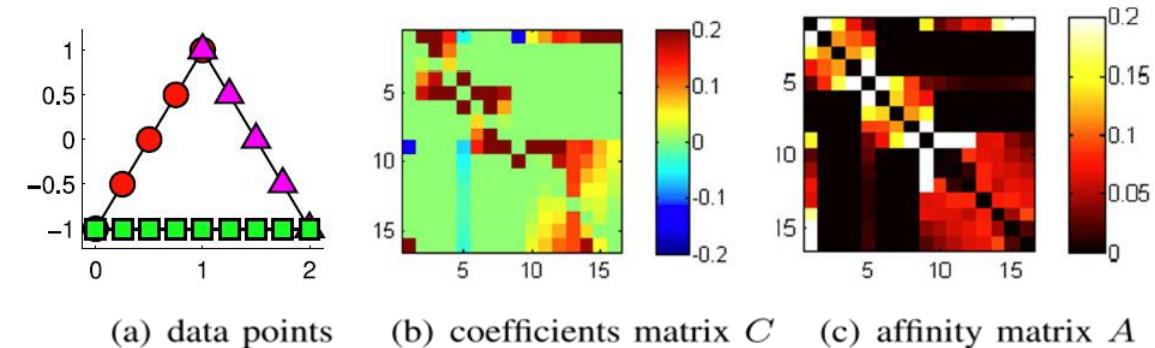
$$\min_{\mathbf{c}} \|\mathbf{c}\|_1 \text{ s.t. } \mathbf{x}_j = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{c}, c_j = 0, \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1 \quad (3)$$

➤ Relative position of data points:

- In relative interior: $\mathbf{c} \geq \mathbf{0}$ $\|\mathbf{c}\|_1 = \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{c} = 1$

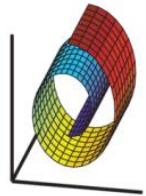
- ✓ Every optimal solution is *nonnegative*.
- ✓ Equivalent condition to guarantee subspace-preserving
- ✓ Exists nonnegative *subspace-dense* solution

- On boundary:



	Hopkins 155 $n = 2$	Iris $n = 3$	Wdbc $n = 2$	Wine $n = 3$	Ionosphere $n = 2$	UCI Digits $n = 10$	USPS $n = 10$
SSC(n)	5.48	15.60	8.00	28.12	34.83	35.33	31.87
ASSC(n)	1.95	4.94	6.67	8.26	7.87	29.91	28.67

➤ Q & A?



(Science,2000)

Thank you!

