Unsupervised machine learning of topological phase transitions from experimental data

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Sciences









What we want to achieve



Why it's ambitious:

- experimental data is noisy
 - presence of additional effects of experimental implementation, which don't change the underlying physics, but may confuse the ML model
- topological models are characterized by global order parameters which are extremely challenging for ML

methods

Outline

results

Ultracold system and experimental data

ML methods: (variational) autoencoders, k-means clustering, anomaly detection, influence functions

Unsupervised methods for raw data

Micromotion phase removal (supervised ML)

Unsupervised methods for postprocessed data

Similarity analysis with influence functions (supervised ML)

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Topological Haldane model

realized via Floquet-driving of ultracold fermions (⁴⁰K) in a honeycomb lattice





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Machine learning

Machine learning (ML) studies algorithms

- whose performance **improves with data** ("learning from experience")
- which solve problems **without being programmed** how to solve them *explicitly*



Types of machine learning



Supervised – machine learns on pairs of input and output data



Unsupervised – machine groups and interprets basing just on the input data



Reinforcement – algorithm learns to react to an environment

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k-means clustering



https://towardsdatascience.com/k-means-a-complete-introduction-1702af9cd8c

Autoencoder (AE)



"compression" algorithm

https://www.compthree.com/blog/autoencoder/

AE with a question neuron



we compress input data and can add something extra to the decoder

beautiful paper: Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 010508 (2020)

Variational autoencoder (VAE)



it was shown that encoding input data into a probability distribution rather than single features in latent space increases stability of data transformation

https://www.compthree.com/blog/autoencoder/

Anomaly detection with AE



we train in one phase

-> we see input data are from other phase as AE fails badly

Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 170603 (2020)

Influence functions = approximation of leave-one-out training



New J. Phys. 22, 115001 (2020)

Influence functions = approximation of leave-one-out training



New J. Phys. 22, 115001 (2020)

Influence functions



Analytical approximation for leave-one-out training

$$\mathcal{I}(z_{\rm r}, z_{\rm test}) = \frac{1}{n} \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(z_{\rm test}, \hat{\theta})^T H_{\theta}^{-1}(\hat{\theta}) \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(z_{\rm r}, \hat{\theta})$$

approximated change in parameters due to removal of $z_{\rm r}$

Assumption: Hessian is positive-definite.

Generalization to non-convex models was done by Koh & Liang: arXiv:1703.04730, ICML 2017's best paper

Geometrical interpretation of influence functions

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it is a scalar product of two gradients, corrected by local curvature described by the Hessian

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notion of similarity in the model internal representation!

Influence functions = approximation of leave-one-out training



which data characteristics are influential?



training points which are similarly influential (= have similar influence functions' values) are similar from the model's point of view methods

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Data forms rings in latent space and can be fitted by an ellipse











phases well...

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How to remove/fix the micromotion phase?



 f_{sh} = 5.8 kHz $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$

Autoencoder with a question neuron!

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Did it work? Let's check with influence functions!





The most influential points are localized around the same micromotion phase as test point The most influential points are smeared out across different micromotion phases methods

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more visible clustering! especially with single cuts



We finally arrived to *a* phase diagram



Problems:

- positive shaking phase is ugly
- no discrimination between two topological phases

Anomaly detection does better, but problem no. 2 stays. No discrimination between topological phases.





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- 1. Supervised learning with labels provided by anomaly detection scheme
- 2. Similarity analysis of the ML model with **influence functions**...



3. We finally discriminate between topological phases!



Summary and conclusions

- We applied autoencoders and influence functions to experimental data on topological Haldane model
- We *struggled* and fixed the micromotion phase
- We recovered the full topological phase diagram without any (?) *a priori* knowledge of the underlying physics in a fully (?) unsupervised way

Thank you for your attention!

Mach. Learn.: Sci. Technol. 2 035037 (2021)

https://github.com/nkaeming/ unsupervised-machinelearning-of-topological-phasetransitions-from-experimentaldata



Final plot for influence functions without fixed micromotion phase



Anomaly detection and small boxes don't work It doesn't generalize well beside the training region

