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Zechao Li

# Understanding-Oriented Multimedia Content Analysis

Doctoral Thesis accepted by  
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China



Springer

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*This work is dedicated to my parents, and all  
my friends. Their support and encouragement  
keep me forward.*

# **Supervisor's Foreword**

Multimedia content analysis has attracted extensive attention in the multimedia and social media research communities. Its goal is to reveal the semantic information intelligently. Zechaos' Ph.D. work focuses on understanding-oriented multimedia content analysis from the low-level visual representation to the high-level semantic understanding. As a key member of my group, he made a number of significant contributions in his research work. He investigated advanced multimedia content analysis approaches and proposed understanding-oriented multimedia content analysis approaches, including data representation (feature selection and feature extraction), tag recommendation, and multimedia news services. He directly integrated the visual understanding and learning models into a unified framework. The visual understanding guides the model learning while the learned models improve the visual understanding. The inspiring idea of understanding-oriented multimedia content analysis has been recognized as opening up possibilities to challenging multimedia content and context understanding. The proposed structured subspace learning framework has been successfully generalized to social image understanding, (semi-) supervised classification and clustering. His work has brought in new thoughts and disruptive models in understanding multimedia data. I believe that this book will benefit researchers and students conducting research on multimedia computing and social multimedia analysis.

Beijing, China  
January 2017

Prof. Hanqing Lu

# Preface

The amount of today’s multimedia contents explosively grows due to the popularization and rapid growth of digital mobile devices and social media tools. To efficiently analyze and understand the multimedia content is still a challenging task. Over the past decade, many advanced methods have been proposed in the literature, including a few books on this topic. However, there is no book offering a systematic introduction to multimedia content analysis towards an understanding-oriented approach. Therefore, this book will focus on a novel “understanding” framework for multimedia content interpretation. This book offers a systematic introduction to multimedia content analysis towards an understanding-oriented approach. It integrates the visual understanding and learning models into a unified framework, within which the visual understanding guides the model learning while the learned models improve the visual understanding. More specifically, the book presents multimedia content representations and analysis including feature selection, feature extraction, image tagging, user-oriented tag recommendation, and understanding-oriented multimedia applications. By providing the fundamental technologies and the state-of-the-art methods, this book will be of interest to graduate students and researchers working in the field computer vision and machine learning.

Chapter 1 introduces the background, challenges, and progresses of understanding-oriented multimedia content analysis. Chapters 2 and 3 introduce some works of understanding-oriented data representation. The personalized tag recommendation work is detailed in Chap. 4, followed by understanding-oriented multimedia news services in Chaps. 5 and 6. Chapter 7 concludes the book by summarizing the major points and identifying the future works.

Nanjing, China  
January 2017

Zechao Li

**Parts of this book have been published in the following articles:**

- Zechao Li, Jing Liu, Jinhui Tang, Hanqing Lu. Robust Structured Subspace Learning for Data Representation. *IEEE Trans. on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence* 37(10): 2085–2098, 2015.
- Zechao Li, Jinhui Tang. Unsupervised Feature Selection via Nonnegative Spectral Analysis and Redundancy Control. *IEEE Trans. on Image Processing* 24(12): 5343–5355, 2015.
- Zechao Li, Jing Liu, Yi Yang, Xiaofang Zhou, Hanqing Lu. Clustering-Guided Sparse Structural Learning for Unsupervised Feature Selection. *IEEE Trans. Knowledge and Data Engineering* 26(9): 2138–2150, 2014.
- Jing Liu, Zechao Li, Jinhui Tang, Yu Jiang and Hanqing Lu. Personalized Geo-Specific Tag Recommendation for Photos on Social Websites. *IEEE Trans. on Multimedia* 16(3): 588–600, 2014.
- Zechao Li, Jinhui Tang, Xueming Wang, Jing Liu, Hanqing Lu. Multimedia News Summarization in Search. *ACM Trans. on Intelligent Systems and Technology* 7(3): 33 (1–20), 2016.
- Zechao Li, Jing Liu, Meng Wang, Changsheng Xu, Hanqing Lu. Enhancing News Organization for Convenient Retrieval and Browsing. *ACM Trans. on Multimedia Computing, Communications and Applications* 10(1): 1 (1–20), 2013.
- Zechao Li, Jing Liu, Xiaobin Zhu and Hanqing Lu: Multi-modal Multi-correlation Person-centric News Retrieval. In *ACM Conference on Information and Knowledge Management*, 2010.

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# Notations

Throughout this book, the lowercase italic letters (i.e.,  $i, j, n$ , etc.) and the uppercase italic letters (i.e.,  $A, B, M$ , etc.) denote scalars, while the bold uppercase characters (i.e.,  $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{X}$ , etc.) and the bold lowercase characters (i.e.,  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}$ , etc.) are utilized to denote matrices and vectors, respectively. For any matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}^i$  means the  $i$ -th column vector of  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}_i$  means the  $i$ -th row vector of  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $A_{ij}$  denotes the  $(i, j)$ -element of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\text{Tr}[\mathbf{A}]$  is the trace of  $\mathbf{A}$  if  $\mathbf{A}$  is square.  $\mathbf{A}^T$  denotes the transposed matrix of  $\mathbf{A}$ . The Frobenius norm of a matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is defined as  $\|\mathbf{A}\|_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij}^2 = \text{Tr}[\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}]$ . The  $\ell_{2,p}$ -norm ( $p \in (0, 1]$ ) of  $\mathbf{A}$  is defined as

$$\|\mathbf{A}\|_{2,p} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^r \left( \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^t A_{ij}^2} \right)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^r \|\mathbf{a}_i\|_2^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}. \quad (1)$$

Note that in practice,  $\|\mathbf{a}^i\|_2$  could be close to zero. For this case, we can follow the traditional regularization way and define  $D_{ii} = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}^i\|_2 + \varepsilon}$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is very small constant. When  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , it is easy to verify that  $\frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}^i\|_2 + \varepsilon}$  approximates  $\frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}^i\|_2}$ . Furthermore, let  $\mathbf{I}_m$  denote the identity matrix in  $\mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ .