

Clustering

What is Clustering?

- Attach label to each observation or data points in a set
- Can be called as unsupervised classification
- We want to assign same label to the data points that are “close” to each other
- After clustering, the elements in a single cluster should be similar and elements in different clusters should differ in their behavior.
 - Maximize inter cluster distance
 - Minimize intra cluster distance
- Clustering algorithms rely on a distance metric between data points

Applications -Examples

- Grouping the shirt sizes to small , medium and large
- Segment customers according to their interests
- Given a set of text documents , we can group them based on their content similarities, to produce a topic hierarchy
- News item clustering by google
- Application in medicine, psychology, botony, sociology, archeology, marketing, insurance etc.

Types of clustering:

1. **Hierarchical algorithms**: these find successive clusters using previously established clusters.
 1. **Agglomerative ("bottom-up")**: Agglomerative algorithms begin with each element as a separate cluster and merge them into successively larger clusters.
 2. **Divisive ("top-down")**: Divisive algorithms begin with the whole set and proceed to divide it into successively smaller clusters.
2. **Partitional clustering**: Partitional algorithms determine all clusters at once. They include:
 - **K-means and derivatives**
 - Fuzzy c-means clustering
 - QT clustering algorithm

K-Means Overview

- An unsupervised clustering algorithm
- “K” stands for number of clusters - It is typically a user input to the algorithm; some criteria can be used to automatically estimate K
- K-means algorithm is iterative in nature
- It converges after many steps.
- Works only for numerical data
- Easy to implement

K Means Steps

- **Step 1:** Begin with a decision on the value of k = number of clusters .
- **Step 2:** Put any initial partition that classifies the data into k clusters. You may assign the training samples randomly, or systematically as the following:
 1. Take the first k training sample as single-element clusters
 2. Assign each of the remaining $(N-k)$ training sample to the cluster with the nearest centroid. After each assignment, recompute the centroid of the gaining cluster.

- **Step 3:** Take each sample in sequence and compute its [distance](#) from the centroid of each of the clusters. If a sample is not currently in the cluster with the closest centroid, switch this sample to that cluster and update the centroid of the cluster gaining the new sample and the cluster losing the sample.
- **Step 4 .** Repeat step 3 until convergence is achieved, that is until a pass through the training sample causes no new assignments.

A Simple example showing the implementation of k-means algorithm (using K=2)

Individual	Variable 1	Variable 2
1	1.0	1.0
2	1.5	2.0
3	3.0	4.0
4	5.0	7.0
5	3.5	5.0
6	4.5	5.0
7	3.5	4.5

Step 1:

Initialization: Randomly we choose following two centroids (k=2) for two clusters.

In this case the 2 centroid are: $m1=(1.0,1.0)$ and $m2=(5.0,7.0)$.

Individual	Variable 1	Variable 2
1	1.0	1.0
2	1.5	2.0
3	3.0	4.0
4	5.0	7.0
5	3.5	5.0
6	4.5	5.0
7	3.5	4.5

	Individual	Mean Vector
Group 1	1	(1.0, 1.0)
Group 2	4	(5.0, 7.0)

Step 2:

- Thus, we obtain two clusters containing:
 $\{1,2,3\}$ and $\{4,5,6,7\}$.
- Their new centroids are:

$$m_1 = \left(\frac{1}{3}(1.0 + 1.5 + 3.0), \frac{1}{3}(1.0 + 2.0 + 4.0) \right) = (1.83, 2.33)$$

$$m_2 = \left(\frac{1}{4}(5.0 + 3.5 + 4.5 + 3.5), \frac{1}{4}(7.0 + 5.0 + 5.0 + 4.5) \right) \\ = (4.12, 5.38)$$

Individual	Variable 1	Variable 2
1	1.0	1.0
2	1.5	2.0
3	3.0	4.0
4	5.0	7.0
5	3.5	5.0
6	4.5	5.0
7	3.5	4.5

$$d(m_1, 2) = \sqrt{|1.0 - 1.5|^2 + |1.0 - 2.0|^2} = 1.12$$

$$d(m_2, 2) = \sqrt{|5.0 - 1.5|^2 + |7.0 - 2.0|^2} = 6.10$$

Individual	Centroid 1	Centroid 2
1	0	7.21
2 (1.5, 2.0)	1.12	6.10
3	3.61	3.61
4	7.21	0
5	4.72	2.5
6	5.31	2.06
7	4.30	2.92

Step 3:

- Now using these centroids we compute the Euclidean distance of each object, as shown in table.
- Therefore, the new clusters are: {1,2} and {3,4,5,6,7}
- Next centroids are: $m_1=(1.25,1.5)$ and $m_2 = (3.9,5.1)$

Individual	Centroid 1	Centroid 2
1	1.57	5.38
2	0.47	4.28
3	2.04	1.78
4	5.84	1.84
5	3.15	0.73
6	3.78	0.54
7	2.74	1.08

- Step 4 :
The clusters obtained are:
 $\{1,2\}$ and $\{3,4,5,6,7\}$
- Therefore, there is no change in the cluster.
- Thus, the algorithm comes to a halt here and final result consist of 2 clusters $\{1,2\}$ and $\{3,4,5,6,7\}$.

Individual	Centroid 1	Centroid 2
1	0.58	5.02
2	0.58	3.82
3	3.05	1.42
4	8.88	2.20
5	4.18	0.41
6	4.78	0.81
7	3.75	0.72

Example Link

- <http://mnemstudio.org/clustering-k-means-example-1.htm>

Common uses of K-Means

- Often used as an exploratory data analysis tool
- In one-dimension, a good way to quantize real-valued variables into k non-uniform buckets
- Used on acoustic data in speech understanding to convert waveforms into one of k categories (known as Vector Quantization)

Pros – (Strengths of K Means)

- Simple
- Efficient :Time complexity $O(tkn)$
 - t – the number of iterations
 - k – no of clusters
 - n – number of data points

Cons

- The algorithm is applicable only if the mean is defined
- The user needs to specify k
- The algorithm is sensitive to outliers
- The algorithm is sensitive to initial seeds
- Non globular shaped clusters are difficult to identify

Limitations of K-means: Non-globular Shapes

