

## K - Means Documentation & Log

- **Algorithm Used:** K-Means
- **Picture Used:** [Tiger Picture](#)
- **Framework:** CRISP-DM
- **Original Notebook:** [Notebook](#)

Phases	Changes Made	Reason for the change	Duration	Difficulty level (1-10)
Image selection	Replaced the tiger image with a different image of the tiger.	Instead of high-quality image, I selected a normal quality image to explore the capabilities of K- Means	20 min	4
Algorithm Version	Changed from K-Means to K-Means++	To strengthen the initial centroid selection and for better convergence	20 min	6
Further Enhancements	run_kmeans	Changed run_kmeans function to use k-means++	5 hours	9
	Elbow Method	To find the best optimal k value I used the elbow method and didn't take the entire pixels and only took some part of pixels in the image to reduce the internal calculation complexity		
	Downsampling	I haven't got the desired result, I tried downsampling to reduce the original image resolution a bit.		

	K-Means color quantization	To reduce the colour variability, I used K-Means Color quantization		
	Gaussian Blur	I applied Gaussian Blur to smooth the harsh edges, which is beneficial while compressing the image.		
<b>Conclusions</b>		<p>Through this I learned that not only the image, but also the type of the image is crucial to reduce the size of the image. I have explored a lot of image compression techniques, which gave me broader knowledge about images and techniques in k-means to compress the image without compromising the quality.</p> <p>Finally, the model performed very well compared to the model in the original notebook.</p>	40 min	6

## 1. Business Understanding

- **Objective:**  
Using K-Means clustering, for compressing a tiger image (from 48.77 KB initial file size), reducing its file size while maintaining good visual quality.
- **Reason for Choosing K-Means:**
  - K-Means clustering **decreases color complexity** by providing clusters of similar colors.
  - This method can yield a **reduced range of color** so that it can be easier to compress.

## 2. Data Understanding

- **Data Source:**
  - The input image is a **JPEG** file (**tiger.jpg**) with dimensions fit for demonstration (not overly large).

- JPEG is already a **lossy** format, therefore repeatedly saving as JPEG sometimes increase file size unless I am careful in manage parameters (quality, resolution, etc.).
- **Initial Observations:**
  - The original file size is **48.77 KB**.
  - The image has **continuous transitions of colours** and details making it hard for color quantization to compress them properly without seeing visual artifacts.

### 3. Data Preparation

#### 1. Read and Normalize Image

- I read the image using **skimage.io.imread** and converted pixel values from **[0, 255]** to **[0, 1]**.
- This is done to make sure all operations that happens afterwards (distance calculations in K-Means) goes well.

#### 2. Reshaping

- I converted the 3D image array (**height, width, 3**) into a 2D array (**height\*width, 3**) to treat each pixel as a data point in the K-Means algorithm.

### 4. Modeling

#### 4.1 Initial K-Means Approach

- **Original Random Initialization:**
  - Implemented **K-Means++** initialization in place of the default random centroid selection to enhance convergence and get better cluster centers.
- **Elbow Method (Sampling):**
  - Proposed a **sampling approach** for the elbow method (use of only a portion of the pixels) to find a good range of **K** values without running K-Means multiple times on the whole image.
  - This generated **less runtime** with still a **good estimation** for the appropriate number of clusters.
- **Choosing K:**
  - Based on the elbow plot, I selected **K=8** as a compromise to preserve color fidelity while allowing for potential compression.

#### 4.2 An Enhanced Method for More Compression

Having confirmed K=8 using the elbow method, I **expanded** upon the compression method with the following:

### 1. **Downsampling (75%)**

- I resized the image to 75% of the original dimensions, thus reducing the total number of pixels.
- This basically resizes a larger resolution down to a smaller one **compressing file size** while not compromising too much detail, particularly if the initial resolution was high.

### 2. **K-Means Color Quantization**

- I then applied **K-Means** (with  $K=8$ ) on the **downsampled** data to **limit the color palette even more**.

### 3. **Gaussian Blur**

- A gentle blur will smooth out the **sharp edges** created from K-Means, making the image more flexible to **JPEG compression**.

### 4. **JPEG Quality (60)**

- Finally, I saved the image with a **decent JPEG quality** of 60. By this **visual clarity** and **file size can be** balanced.

## 5. Evaluation

#### ● **Visual Inspection:**

1. The final compressed image preserves the appearance and color balance of the tiger.
2. Some **banding** or minor artifacts may be visible upon close inspection, but overall fidelity is good.

#### ● **File Size Comparison:**

1. **Original:** 48.77 KB
2. **Compressed:** 19.38 KB
3. I achieved a **significant reduction** in size (more than 50% smaller) while maintaining **good** image clarity.

#### ● **Analysis of Changes:**

1. **Downsampling** reduced the resolution, with each pixel cluster represent a larger area.
2. The color space was simplified by using **K=8** color clusters.
3. **Gaussian Blur** diminished sharp edges and helped JPEG compression.
4. **JPEG Quality** at 60 bypassed excessive artifacts while reducing the file size.

## 6. Overview of Changes & Practical Impact

### 1. **K-Means++ Initialization**

- **From:** Random centroid selection.
- **To:** K-Means++ for improved placement of initial cluster.
- **Impact:** Faster convergence and usually reduced final distortion in the compressed image.

## 2. Elbow Method with Sampling

- **Added:** A sampling strategy for fast identification of good range of K.
- **Impact:** Significant decrease in computation time without losing out much accuracy in finding the best K value.

## 3. Downsampling & Blur

- **From:** Full-resolution K-Means.
- **To:** 75% resolution + a light Gaussian blur.
- **Effect:** Fewer pixel count but smoother transitions thus creating a more compressible image.

## 4. JPEG Quality

- **Chosen:** Quality=60.
- **Impact:** Finally, achieved a **size of 19.38 KB** (Lowered from 48.77 KB) while retaining decent level of clarity.