

# Homework 4

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INFSCI 2160: Data Mining

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## Homework 4 I

You will use the US unemployment-rate data described on DMR p. 201, and the congress vote data for this assignment. (Online access of DMR via [Pitt network](#))

- Submit your report in PDF, and your code in \*.R, via courseweb.
  - If you use “R Markdown,” make sure your code is reproducible, and you provide clear answers (elaborate description) to the questions.
  - Follow the [homework guideline](#) posted on Piazza.
- Due: 2017-03-07 11.59pm

## Homework 4 II

**Task 1:** analyze the data `unempstates.csv`

The objective of the analysis is to group states together if they have similar trends in unemployment rate.

Read the data description on DMR p.201. Download and load the data: `unempstates.csv`

- 1 Use PCA to reduce the dimension of unemployment-rate information. Generate a screeplot and determine the number of principle components based on this plot. Plot the loadings for first principal component.
- 2 Generate a scatterplot to project states on the first two principal components.
- 3 Generate an MDS map to plot states on a two-dimensional space.

## Homework 4 III

- 4 Use k-means and hierarchical clustering to group states. Specifically, you will generate 8 MDS maps for the states and color the states based on different clustering methods (k-means, h-clustering with single-link, h-clustering with complete-link, h-clustering with average-link) and different number of clusters ( $k = 4$ ,  $k = 8$ ). For each hierarchical clustering method, generate a dendrogram.
- 5 Based on your observation, choose two clustering results (from the 8 solutions) that are most meaningful and explain why.

**Task 2:** analyze US Senator Roll Call Data  
The objective is to identify and visualize the clustering patterns of senators' voting activities.

## Homework 4 IV

Download and load the data from:

[http://www.yurulin.com/class/spring2017\\_datamining/data/roll\\_call](http://www.yurulin.com/class/spring2017_datamining/data/roll_call)

These are data for Senate roll call votes for the 101st through 113th Congresses (as of March 2015). Each row corresponds to a voter in the US Senate. The first nine columns of the data frame include identification information for those voters, and the remaining columns are the actual votes. See the codebook for the 101st Congress for explanation of what is contained in each of the first nine columns at:

<http://www.voteview.com/senate101.htm>

- 1 Create a senator-by-senator distance matrix for the 113th Congress. Generate an MDS plot to project the senators on the two dimensional space. Use shapes or colors to differentiate the senators' party affiliation

## Homework 4 V

- 2 Use k-means and hierarchical clustering to group the senators, and color the senators on the MDS plots based on the clustering results (you will use k-means, h-clustering with single-link, h-clustering with complete-link, h-clustering with average-link and  $k=2$ ).
- 3 Compare the clustering results with the party labels and identify the party members who are assigned to a seemingly wrong cluster. Specifically, based on the k-means results, which Republicans are clustered together with Democrats, and vice versa? And based on the three variants (single-link, complete-link and average-link), which Republicans are clustered together with Democrats, and vice versa?

## Homework 4 VI

- 4 Compute the purity and entropy for these clustering results with respect to the senators' party labels. You will generate a 2x4 table as follows:

	k-means	hclust-single	hclust-complete	hclust-average
Purity				
Entropy				

- 5 Based on your observation on both measures and mis-classified members, choose two clustering methods that generate the most meaningful results and explain why