

Lec 19 Unsupervised Learning

1. Notation:

$$\hookrightarrow \mathcal{D} = \{ \underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_2, \dots, \underline{x}_N \}, \quad x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

No labels

e.g. \mathcal{D} : set of documents Goal: group by topic

\underline{x}_i : histogram of word lengths in documents i

- ↳ ① Clustering ✓ ② Density estimation ✓ ③ Dimensionality reduction (e.g. PCA)
(Not in this course)

2. Clustering: (ch 6.3.3)

↳ We want partition D into k disjoint clusters such that the elements in each cluster are close to each other.

↳ Given \mathcal{D} , we want output:

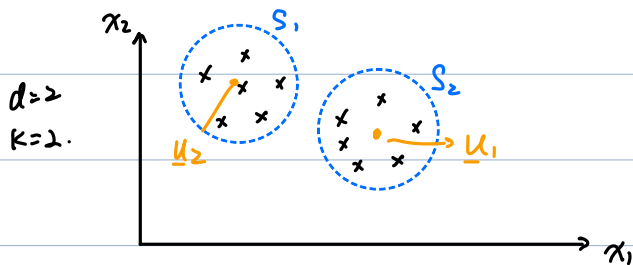
① Clusters S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k , where $S_i \subseteq \mathcal{D}$

s.t. $S_i \cap S_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i, j$

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^k S_i = \mathcal{D}$$

② Clusters center:

$$\underline{u}_1, \underline{u}_2, \dots, \underline{u}_k, \quad u_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$$



↳ Error Measure :

Distance from each point to the clusters center

$$E_j = \sum_{x_n \in S_j} \|x_n - u_j\|^2 \quad \text{"approx. error for cluster } S_j$$

Given \mathcal{D} and k , define

$$\begin{aligned} E_{in}(S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k, \underline{\mu}_1, \underline{\mu}_2, \dots, \underline{\mu}_k) &= \sum_{j=1}^k E_j \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_n)\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

where $\underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_n) \equiv$ center of cluster to which \underline{x}_n belongs

↳ Learning Problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & E_{in} \\ \text{over } & S_1, S_2, \dots, S_k \\ & \underline{\mu}_1, \underline{\mu}_2, \dots, \underline{\mu}_k. \end{aligned}$$

↳ Application:

- Classification (e.g. documents, coins)
- Recommendation system

↳ Optimal clustering is NP-hard.

∴ Need to use heuristic

⇒ k-means clustering

3. k-means clustering:

↳ An alternating optimizing approach with two subproblems:

↳ Subproblem 1:

Given S_1, \dots, S_k , find $\underline{\mu}_1, \underline{\mu}_2, \dots, \underline{\mu}_k$ to minimize E_{in}

$$E_{in} = \sum_{j=1}^k E_j$$

$$E_j = \sum_{\underline{x}_n \in S_j} \|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}_j\|^2, \text{ depends only on } S_j$$

$$\therefore \text{only needs to consider } \min_{\underline{\mu}_j} E_j(\underline{\mu}_j) = \min_{\underline{\mu}_j} \sum_{\underline{x}_n \in S_j} \|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}_j\|^2$$

$$\therefore \text{want } \nabla E_j(\underline{\mu}_j) = 0$$

$$\therefore \nabla_{\underline{\mu}_j} \sum_{\underline{x}_n \in S_j} \|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}_j\|^2 = 0$$

$$\sum_{\underline{x}_n \in S_j} -2(\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}_j) = 0$$

$$\sum_{\underline{x}_n \in S_j} \underline{x}_n = \underline{\mu}_j |S_j|$$

$$\therefore \underline{\mu}_j = \frac{1}{|S_j|} \sum_{\underline{x}_n \in S_j} \underline{x}_n \quad \text{// This is the avg of sample point in } S_j$$

"centroid"

↳ Subproblem >:

Given $\underline{\mu}_1 \dots \underline{\mu}_k$, find $S_1 \dots S_k$ to minimize E_{in}

i.e. Given $\underline{x}_i \in \mathcal{D}$, with which cluster should it be associated?

• $\underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_i)$: cluster center for \underline{x}_i

$$E_{in} = \sum_{n=1}^N \|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_n)\|^2$$

∴ The min. of $\|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_n)\|$ depends only on \underline{x}_n and $\underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_n)$

$$\therefore \underline{\mu}(\underline{x}_n) = \arg \min_{\underline{\mu} \in \{\underline{\mu}_1, \dots, \underline{\mu}_k\}} \|\underline{x}_n - \underline{\mu}\|$$

∴ Assign \underline{x}_n to the nearest cluster center.