# Clustering validation: Silhouette Coefficient

**CSCI 347** 

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#### F-score

- Balances precision and recall.
- For cluster *i*:

• 
$$F_i = \frac{2(precision(C_i))(recall(C_i))}{(precision(C_i)+recall(C_i))}$$

• For clustering:

$$\bullet F = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{i=1}^{r} F_i$$

 Why does F-score use harmonic mean instead of arithmetic mean?

## Different types of means

- Given set of numbers  $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$
- Arithmetic mean

$$\bullet \quad AM = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n}$$

- Geometric mean
  - $GM = \sqrt[n]{x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdots x_n}$
- Harmonic mean

• 
$$HM = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{n}(\frac{1}{x_1} + \frac{1}{x_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{x_n})}$$

Quadratic mean (Root mean squared)

$$\bullet RMS = \sqrt{\frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2 \cdots x_n^2}{n}}$$

Weighted mean

• 
$$WD = \frac{w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \dots + w_n x_n}{w_1 + w_2 + \dots + w_n}$$

- There are other types of mean as well.
- Each of these means serve a different purpose.



## Different types of means

- In F-score, you have two components, precision and recall.
- We should give a high F-score when both precision and recall is high, and low scores when both precision and recall is low or one of the precision or recall is low.
- But if we use arithmetic mean we cannot do this.
  - Ex:  $precision_i=0.1, recall_i=0.9$ , then if we use the arithmetic mean average would be  $\frac{(0.1+0.9)}{2}=0.5$ , but we should not output this as the result.
- If we use Harmonic mean we could avoid this.

• 
$$HM = \frac{2 \cdot (0.1) \cdot (0.9)}{0.1 + 0.9} = 0.18$$

• Balances precision and recall well—penalizes imbalance.



#### SILHOUETTE COEFFICIENT

- Internal measure.
- Useful when you do not have the ground-truth (which is typically the case)



#### SILHOUETTE COEFFICIENT

- SILHOUETTE COEFFICIENT
- Measure of both cohesion and separation of clusters.
  - Compares mean distance of points to their cluster's points and to other clusters' points.
  - [-1, +1]
  - +1 indicates that points are in general closer to their cluster's mean than to other clusters' mean.
  - For point *i*:
    - $s_i = \frac{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_i) \mu_{in}(x_i)}{\max\{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_i), \mu_{in}(x_i)\}}$

• Where:

• 
$$\mu_{in}(x_i) = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in C_{\widehat{y}_i}, j \neq i} \delta(x_i, x_j)}{n_{\widehat{y}_i - 1}}$$

For all points

$$SC = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} s_i$$

$$\mu_{out}^{min}(x_i) = \min_{j \neq \hat{y}_i} \frac{\sum_{y \in C_j} \delta(x_i, y)}{n_j}$$











$$\mu_{in}(x_3) = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in C_2, j \neq i} \delta(x_3, x_j)}{n_2 - 1} = \frac{\delta(x_3, x_1) + \delta(x_3, x_4) + \delta(x_3, x_6) + \delta(x_3, x_7) + \delta(x_3, x_8) + \delta(x_3, x_9)}{6}$$

$$\mu_{in}(x_3) = \frac{8 + 4.4 + 7 + 3 + 1.7 + 8.5}{6} = 5.43$$

$$s_3 = \frac{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_3) - \mu_{in}(x_3)}{\max\{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_3), \mu_{in}(x_3)\}} = \frac{10.3 - 5.43}{10.3} = 0.47$$



$$\mu_{in}(x_3) = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in C_2, j \neq i} \delta(x_6, x_j)}{n_2 - 1} = \frac{\delta(x_6, x_1) + \delta(x_3, x_6) + \delta(x_6, x_4) + \delta(x_6, x_7) + \delta(x_6, x_8) + \delta(x_6, x_9)}{6}$$

$$\mu_{in}(x_3) = \frac{1 + 7 + 11.4 + 10 + 8.7 + 1.5}{6} = 6.6$$

$$s_3 = \frac{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_6) - \mu_{in}(x_6)}{\max\{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_6), \mu_{in}(x_6)\}} = \frac{3.3 - 6.6}{6.6} = -0.5$$



$$\mu_{in}(x_3) = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in C_2, j \neq i} \delta(x_6, x_j)}{n_2 - 1} = \frac{\delta(x_9, x_1) + \delta(x_9, x_3) + \delta(x_9, x_4) + \delta(x_9, x_6) + \delta(x_9, x_7) + \delta(x_9, x_8)}{6}$$

$$\mu_{in}(x_3) = \frac{0.5 + 8.5 + 12.9 + 1.5 + 11.5 + 10.2}{6} = 7.51$$

$$s_3 = \frac{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_6) - \mu_{in}(x_6)}{\max\{\mu_{out}^{min}(x_6), \mu_{in}(x_6)\}} = \frac{1.8 - 7.51}{7.51} = -0.76$$



In this example, SC = 0.2



In this example, SC = 0.57



In this example, SC = 0.80



## **Question:**

- Can you think of an example dataset and a clustering where silhouette coefficient is 1 or very close to 1?
  - $D = \{(0,0), (0.01, 0.02), (100,100), (100.1, 100.2)\}$
  - $C = \{C_1, C_2\}, where,$
  - $C_1 = \{(0,0), (0.01, 0.02)\}, C_2 = \{(100,100), (100.1, 100.2)\}$
- Can you think of an example dataset and a clustering where silhouette coefficient is -1?
  - $C_1 = \{(0,0), (100.01, 100.02)\}, C_2 = \{(0.01, 0.02), (100, 100)\}$





