ADENINE — A Data Exploration plpeline

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Abstract

In this paper we introduce Adenine, a Python framework for data exploration. The main goal of Adenine, is twofold: helping researchers and data scientists achieving a first and quick overview on the main structures underlying their data and choosing the most suitable unsupervised learning pipeline for the problem at hand. This software tool encompasses state of the art techniques for: missing values imputing, preprocessing, dimensionality reduction and clustering tasks. Adenine exploits both process and thread level parallelism and it is capable of generating nice and clean publication-ready figures along with a quantitative description of the algorithms performance. Adenine is released under FreeBSD license and it can be downloaded from http://slipguru.github.io/adenine/.

Keywords: Data exploration, unsupervised learning, RNA-Seq gene expression

1. Introduction

2. Implementation

From an implementative standpoint, Adenine is built around the concept of *pipeline*, that is a sequence of four fundamental steps: (i) missing values imputing, (ii) data preprocessing, (iii) dimensionality reduction and (iv) clustering (see Figure 1).

For each step, a fair number of off-the-shelf algorithms are available (see Table 2). The vast majority of their implementations is inherited, or extended, from scikit-learn (Pedregosa et al., 2011).

In order to perform exploratory analysis of large datasets, Adenine can take advantage of different parallel computing paradigms. For instance, its pipelines are designed to be independent from each other, therefore they all run in parallel as separate Python processes on different cores. Moreover, since Adenine makes large use of numpy and scipy, it automatically benefits from their bindings with optimized linear algebra libraries (such as OpenBLAS¹, or Intel[®] MKL).

^{1.} http://www.openblas.net/

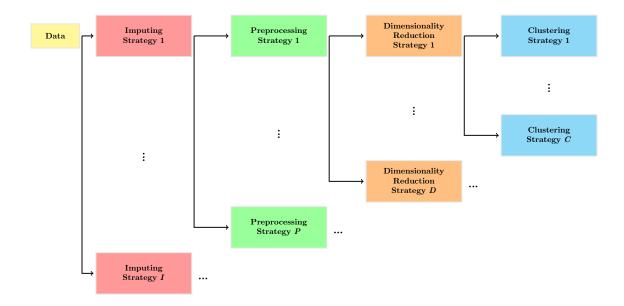


Figure 1: A schematic representation of the Adenine workflow. The list of building blocks available for each step is summarized in Table 1.

3. Experiments and results

To assess the quality of the obtained results, we tested Adenine on a set of synthetic and real dataset.

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4. Conclusions

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Table 1: Pipelines building blocks and relative references (which are not reported when the definition is given in Section 2).

Step	Algorithms	Ref.
Imputing	Mean	
1 0	Median KNN	(Travanskaya et al. 2001)
		(Troyanskaya et al., 2001)
Preprocessing	Recentering	
	Standardize	
	Normalize	
	MinMax	
Dimensionality reduction	Principal component Analysis (PCA)	(Jolliffe, 2002)
	Incremental PCA	(Ross et al., 2008)
	Randomized PCA	(Halko et al., 2011)
	Kernel PCA	(Schölkopf et al., 1997)
	Isomap	(Tenenbaum et al., 2000)
	Locally linear embedding	(Roweis and Saul, 2000)
	Spectral embedding	(Ng et al., 2002)
	Multidimensional scaling	(Borg and Groenen, 2005)
	t-Distributed Stochastic Neighbor Embedding (t-SNE)	(Van der Maaten and Hinton, 2008)
Clustering	K-means	(Bishop, 2006)
	Affinity propagation	(Frey and Dueck, 2007)
	Mean Shift	(Comaniciu and Meer, 2002)
	Spectral	(Shi and Malik, 2000)
	Hierarchical	(Friedman et al., 2001)

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