



## Project

- In the paper: pass-pass-pass
- Our goal: pass-pass-goal

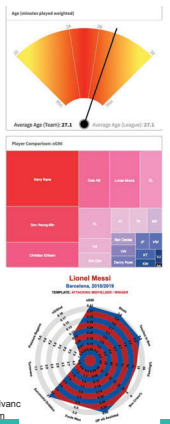
## Workflow

1. Clean up data: from json file to pandas dataframe
2. Filter out unwanted events & only keep wanted information
3. Cluster event combination
4. Plot clustered event combinations

## Data

- StatsBomb: football analytics
- On GitHub: 100s of games
  - <https://github.com/statsbomb/open-data>
  - 1 game = 1 json file
- 3600 (+/- 500) events / game
  - shot, pass, ball receipt, pressure, half start, carry, block, ...
  - 43 different events

**STATSBOMB**



<https://www.sportperformanceanalysis.com/article/statsbomb-advanced-football-analytics-through-an-interactive-visualisation-platform>

## Example: random event from a game

```

{'id': '7629f193-adba-4986-86b8-5e854e5eccd6', 'index': 17, 'period': 1, 'timestamp': '00:00:08.394', 'minute': 0, 'second': 8, 'type': 'Pass', 'possession': 2, 'possession_team': 'Barcelona', 'play_pattern': {'id': 9, 'name': 'From Kick Off', 'team': {'id': 217, 'name': 'Barcelona'}, 'player': {'id': 5470, 'name': 'Ivan Rakitić', 'position': {'id': 13, 'name': 'Right Center Midfield', 'location': [50.0, 67.0]}, 'duration': 2.9, 'related_events': ['1236d54d-dfea-46fd-a421-2ce498c75b0d'], 'pass': {'recipient': {'id': 5213, 'name': 'Gerard Piqué Bernabéu'}, 'length': 27.45906, 'angle': -1.7539071, 'height': {'id': 1, 'name': 'Ground Pass', 'end_location': [45.0, 40.0], 'body_part': {'id': 40, 'name': 'Right Foot'}}}}

```

## Random event from a game

```

Id
Index
Period
Timestamp
Minute
Second
type (id, name)
Possession
Possession team (id, name)
Play pattern (id, name)
Team (id, name)
Player (id, name)
Position (id, name)
location (x, y)
Duration
Related events
Pass (recipient (id, name), length, angle, height (id, name), end location (x, y), body part (id, name))

```

## From json to data frame

- Extract useful information
- [-1, -1] as coordinate for events without location

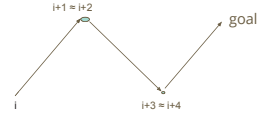
	index	x-coord	y-coord	event name
0	1.0	-1.0	-1.0	Starting XI
1	2.0	-1.0	-1.0	Starting XI
2	3.0	-1.0	-1.0	Half Start
3	4.0	-1.0	-1.0	Half Start
4	5.0	60.0	40.0	Pass
...	...	...	...	...
2514925	4033.0	82.4	14.5	Foul Committed
2514926	4034.0	38.6	66.5	Foul Won
2514927	4035.0	39.1	66.5	Pass
2514928	4036.0	-1.0	-1.0	Half End
2514929	4037.0	-1.0	-1.0	Half End

[2514930 rows x 4 columns]

## Selecting events

```
for i in range(0, len(df.index)-6):
    if df.loc[i, 'event name'] == 'Pass' and df.loc[i+2, 'event name'] == 'Pass' \
    and df.loc[i+4, 'event name'] == 'Shot' and df.loc[i+1, 'event name'] == 'Ball Receipt' \
    and df.loc[i+3, 'event name'] == 'Ball Receipt*':
```

- **i = pass**
- **i+1 = ball receipt**
- **i+2 = pass**
- **i+3 = ball receipt**
- **i+4 = shot**



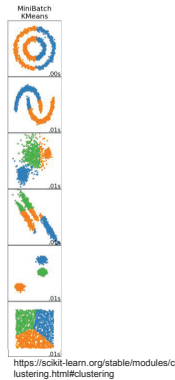
- Put coordinates of the events into a list
- Stack lists together

## K-means clustering

- Scikit-learn
- Implementation: (2N)-dimensional vector
  - 2 because of x- & y-coordinates
  - N = number of events
  - In our case: 4 events (pass - pass - shot - ball in goal)



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-means\\_clustering](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-means_clustering)

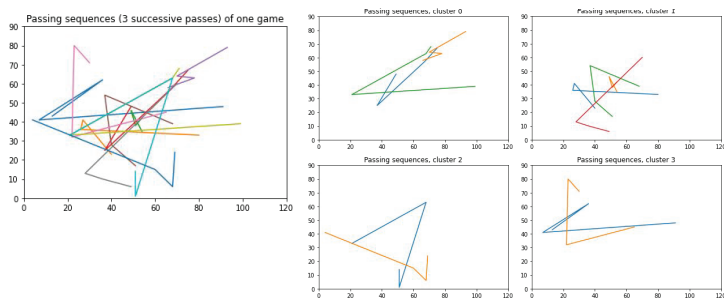


## Clustering: code

```
# clustering
nb_clus = 8
kmeans = KMeans(n_clusters=nb_clus, random_state=0).fit(eightD)
y_kmeans = kmeans.predict(eightD)
print(y_kmeans)
```

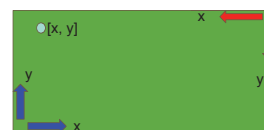
- Input: eightD, an array
  - $[[x_{1,1}, y_{1,1}, x_{1,2}, y_{1,2}, x_{1,3}, y_{1,3}, x_{1,4}, y_{1,4}, [x_{2,1}, y_{2,1}, x_{2,2}, y_{2,2}, x_{2,3}, y_{2,3}, x_{2,4}, y_{2,4}, [...]] ...]$
- nb\_clus: sets number of clusters
- Output: y\_kmeans, list, in which cluster each event combination is
  - [2 4 1 0 5 4 ... 7 3 1 1]

## Example: 3 consecutive passes in a game, 4 clusters



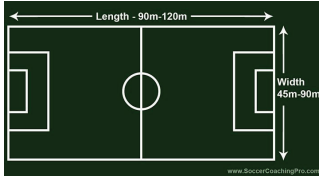
## Note on location #1

- x- & y-coordinates relative to the team that has ball possession
  - Red team has ball: red coordinates  $[x, y] = [100, 10]$
  - Blue team has ball: blue coordinates  $[x, y] = [10, 90]$



## Note on location #2

- Football field dimensions aren't always the same
- FIFA recommendation: 105m \* 68m
- Goal size fixed: 7.3m in width



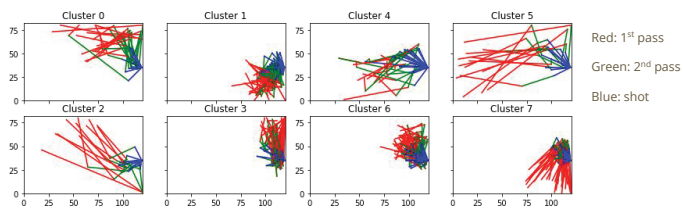
## Problems and solutions

- Problem 1
  - Shot: location from where ball was shot in team A's coordinate system
  - Shot + 1 event: location in team B's coordinates
- Solution 1: transform coordinates

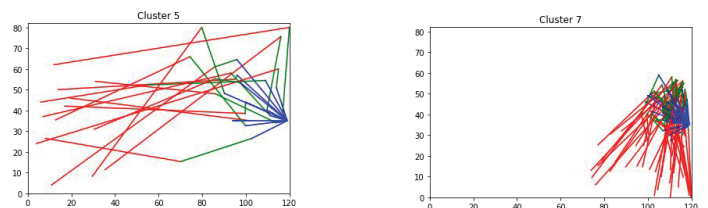
BUT

- Problem 2
  - field dimensions not the same everywhere
  - goal not always at the same coordinates
- Solution 2: Assume fixed goal coordinates -> error relatively small

## Pass - pass - shot clustering



## Pass - pass - shot clustering



## Conclusions & take home messages

- With very little, we can do a lot
- Limitations & how to improve:
  - RAM & running time
  - Goal coordinates
  - Better graphs (see paper)
- Use:
  - How do different teams play?
  - Analyse own & opponents playing strategy