

HW-2

PROBLEM - 1

K-Means Objective:

$$\min \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \cdot \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$$

⇒ we must minimize the variance within each cluster.

π_{ik}

	1	2	3	...
1	0	0	1	
2	1	0	0	
3	0	0	0	
4				
.				
.				
N				

← all points

no. of clusters/
regions
 K

represents membership in k^{th} cluster

(A)

In order to prove that the E-step update on memberships π achieves the minimum objective given the current centroids (μ), we must show that reassigning memberships of each point to the nearest centroid minimizes the K-means objective function.

For each datapoint, the objective function yields a single term $\|x_i - \mu\|^2$

$$\|x_i - \mu\|^2$$

Therefore, minimizing the objective function means reducing the value of $\|x_i - \mu\|^2$ for each datapoint.

There is only 1 term because each datapoint can only belong to one cluster.

Therefore, when the centroids, μ , are fixed, we must reassign memberships (π) of each datapoint to the closest centroid.

$$k = \arg \min_k \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$$

$$\pi_{ik} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k = \arg \min_k \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2 \\ 0, & \text{for all other } k \end{cases}$$

When this process is repeated for all datapoints, the total objective function becomes:

$$\text{obj} = \sum_{i=1}^N \min_k \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$$

Since each x_i is assigned to the cluster with the closest centroid, the overall objective is minimized for the given centroids μ_k .

(B)

We must show that updating each centroid to the mean of the datapoints in its cluster minimizes the objective function with respect to the centroids.

Focussing on a single cluster k :

$$\text{obj}_k = \sum_{x_i \in k} \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$$

To minimize the objective function, we must find a optimal μ_k . This is because the function is exponential & not linear. Larger distances are penalized more heavily compared to shorter distances.

$$\text{obj}_k = \sum_{x_i \in k} [(x_i - \mu_k)^T (x_i - \mu_k)]$$

$$= \sum [\|x_i\|^2 - 2x_i^T \mu_k + \|\mu_k\|^2]$$

since $\|x_i\|^2$ is independent of μ_k , it is a constant. Thus we can focus on minimizing:

$$\text{obj}_k = -2 \sum_{x_i \in k} x_i^T \mu_k + \underbrace{|k|}_{\text{no. of points in cluster } k} \|\mu_k\|^2$$

To minimize obj_k , take its gradient wrt μ_k .

$$\frac{\partial \text{obj}_k}{\partial \mu_k} = \frac{\partial \left\{ -2 \sum_{x_i \in k} x_i^T \mu_k + |k| \|\mu_k\|^2 \right\}}{\partial \mu_k}$$

$$= -2 \sum_{x_i \in K} x_i + 2|K|\mu_k$$

set derivative to 0 to find the local minima:

$$\frac{\partial \text{obj}_k}{\partial \mu_k} = 0$$

$$-2 \sum_{x_i \in K} x_i + 2|K|\mu_k = 0$$

$$2|K|\mu_k = 2 \sum_{x_i \in K} x_i$$

$$\mu_k = \frac{\sum_{x_i \in K} x_i}{|K|}$$

$$\mu_k = \frac{\sum_{x_i \in K} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N \pi_{ik}}, \quad |K| = \sum_{i=1}^N \pi_{ik}$$

∴ sum of 1's in the k^{th} col is equal to the number of datapoints in the k^{th} cluster

$$\mu_k = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \pi_{ik} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N \pi_{ik}}$$

⇒ The optimal centroid point is the mean of all points in the cluster

(C)

The E-step and M-step alternatively reduce the K Means objective function

1. The E-step assigns each point to the nearest center, which either reduces the obj func or keeps it the same.
2. The M-step, updates the centroids, which minimizes the $(\text{distance})^2$ between the points and centroids for each cluster.

Neither step increases obj .

$$\text{obj} \geq 0.$$

and since both steps diminish, obj , they must converge to a finite value.

There are N datapoints & each of them can belong to 1 cluster only.

Max number of unique cluster combinations is K^N .

Each iteration over E & M step moves to a new configuration that reduces J , so the configuration must eventually reach a local minima.

Why K-Means does not necessarily converge to the global minimum.

- The global minimum is 0 when the number of centroids is equal to the number of datapoints.
- Therefore for any ~~alt~~ other value of K , $obj > 0$.
- Moreover, initial selection of centroids may lead to a poor outcome.