

Series 4, March 14-15, 2013 (The K -means Algorithm)

Problem 1 (K -means Theory):

In this exercises, you will elaborate on some of the formal results connecting K -means Theory and Matrix Factorization.

1. Show that the K -means algorithm always converges. Consider the following cost function:

$$J = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K z_{k,n} \|\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{u}_k\|_2^2.$$

Show that step 2 and 3 of the K -means algorithm from the lecture minimize this cost function for \mathbf{z}_n and \mathbf{u}_k , respectively.

2. Here, you will formally see how the K -means Algorithm can be recast as a Matrix Factorization problem.

- Show that at **Step 2**, for a given \mathbf{u} , the K -means algorithm solves:

$$\min_{\mathbf{Z}} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \|\mathbf{x}_n - z_{k,n} \mathbf{u}_k\|_2^2$$

- Show that at **Step 3**, for a given \mathbf{Z} , the K -means algorithm solves:

$$\min_{\mathbf{u}} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \|\mathbf{x}_n - z_{k,n} \mathbf{u}_k\|_2^2$$