# Scalable constant k-means approximation via heuristics on well-clusterable data

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# Supplementary of remaining proofs

## **Proof of Corollary 1**

Proof. We first find a sufficient condition for Algorithm 1 to have a  $1+\epsilon$ -approximation. Note, as in the proof of Theorem 1, the approximation guarantee is upper bounded by  $(\frac{1}{1-4\gamma})^2$ , where  $\gamma \leq \frac{\sqrt{f}}{2f}$ . So to have a  $1+\epsilon$ -guarantee, it suffices to have  $(\frac{1}{1-4\frac{\sqrt{f}}{2f}})^2 \leq 1+\epsilon$ , which holds if  $f=\Omega(\frac{1}{\epsilon^2})$ . Now we find a sufficient condition for the success probability to be at least  $1-\delta$ . It suffices to require that  $m\exp(-2(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2w_{\min}^2) \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$  and  $k\exp(-mp_{\min}) \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$ . So we need  $\frac{1}{p_{\min}}\log\frac{2k}{\delta} \leq m \leq \frac{\delta}{2}\exp(2(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2w_{\min}^2)$ . Note for this inequality to be possible, we also need  $\frac{\delta}{2}\exp(2(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2w_{\min}^2) \geq \frac{1}{p_{\min}}\log\frac{2k}{\delta}$ , imposing an additional constraint on f. Taking  $\log$  on both sides and rearrange, we get  $(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2 \geq \frac{1}{2w_{\min}}\log(\frac{2}{\delta}\log\frac{2k}{\delta})$ . Thus, it is sufficient for a  $1+\epsilon$ -approximation to hold with probability at least  $1-\delta$  if  $f=\Omega\left(\sqrt{\log(\frac{1}{\delta}\log\frac{k}{\delta})}+\frac{1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$ , and we choose m to be in the interval  $[\frac{1}{p_{\min}}\log\frac{2k}{\delta},\frac{\delta}{2}\exp(2(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2w_{\min}^2)]$ .

#### **Proof of Theorem 2**

Proof. The proof mostly relies on our analysis of Lloyd's algorithm in [1]. First, Theorem 4 of [1], an analogous result to Theorem 3 here (the former holds w.r.t.  $d_{rs}^*(f)$ -center separability [1] instead of the weak center separability here), implies the upper bound on seeding  $\|\mu_r - \nu_r^*\| \leq \frac{\sqrt{f}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\phi_r^*}{n_r}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{f}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\phi_r^*}{n_r}}, \forall r \in [k]$ , satisfies the condition in Theorem 1[1]. Let  $\{\nu_r^{fin}\}$  denote the set of k centroids obtained by running Lloyd's algorithm until convergence with seeding  $\{\nu_r^*\}$  obtained from Algorithm 1. Applying Theorem 1 [1] repeatedly, we get  $\max_r \|\nu_r^{fin} - \mu_r\| \leq \frac{128}{9f} \sqrt{\frac{\phi_r}{n_r}}$ . Now we can proceed using the proof of Theorem 1 in this paper, only substituting  $\gamma$  with a tighter bound, that is,  $\gamma \leq \frac{128}{f} = O(\epsilon)$  when  $f = \Omega(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}})$ , which guarantees  $\frac{1}{(1-4\gamma)^2} \leq 1 + \epsilon$ . So the dependence of f on  $\epsilon$  is now  $\Omega(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}})$ .

## **Proof of Theorem 3**

*Proof.* Consider  $A\cap B$ . Under this event, we know that the optimal clustering  $T_*$  induces a non-degenerate k-clustering of  $\{\nu_i, i\in [m]\}$ , which we denote by  $\{V_r^*, r\in [k]\}$  with  $V_r^*:=T_r\cap \{\nu_i, i\in [m]\}, \forall r\in [k]$ . In addition, Lemma 4 implies the bi-partite edge sets  $E_{in}^*$  and  $E_{out}^*$  induced by  $\{V_r^*, r\in [k]\}$  satisfies  $\forall e_1\in E_{in}^*, e_2\in E_{out}^*$ ,  $w(e_1)< w(e_2)$ . Thus, by Lemma 2, if we

apply Single-Linkage on  $G_0=(\cup_{r\in[k]}V_r^*,\emptyset)$  until k components remain, each returned connected component  $\tilde{S}_r$  corresponds to exactly one cluster  $V_r^*$ . In addition, with the seeding guarantee by event  $A, \forall r \in [k], \|m(V_r^*) - \mu_r\| \leq \frac{1}{|V_r^*|} \sum_{\nu_i \in V_r^*} \|\nu_i - \mu_r\| \leq \frac{\sqrt{f}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\phi_r^*}{n_r}}$ . Noting  $Pr(A \cap B) \geq 1 - m \exp(-2(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2 w_{\min}^2) - k \exp(-mp_{\min})$  by Lemma 3 and  $m(V_r^*) = \nu_r^*$  completes the proof.

**Theorem** (Theorem 1 of [1]). Assume there is a dataset-solution pair  $(X,T_*)$  satisfying  $d_{rs}^*(f)$ -center separability, with f>32. If at iteration t,  $\forall r\in [k], \Delta_r^t<\beta_t\frac{\sqrt{\phi_*}}{\sqrt{n_r}}$  with  $\beta_t<\max\{\gamma\frac{f}{8},\frac{128}{9f}\}$  with  $\gamma<1$ , then  $\forall r\in [k], \Delta_r^{t+1}<\beta_{t+1}\frac{\sqrt{\phi_*}}{\sqrt{n_r}}$ , with  $\beta_{t+1}<\max\{\frac{\gamma}{2}\frac{f}{8},\frac{128}{9f}\}$ .

**Theorem** (Theorem 4 of [1]). Assume  $(X,T_*)$  satisfies  $d_{rs}^*(f)$ -center separability with  $f>\frac{1}{\alpha}$ . If we obtain seeds  $\{\nu_r^*,r\in[k]\}$  by applying the Heuristic clustering algorithm (Algorithm 1 here) to X. Then  $\forall \mu_r,\exists \nu_r^*$  s.t.  $\|\mu_r-\nu_r^*\|\leq \frac{\sqrt{f}}{2}\sqrt{\frac{\phi_r^*}{n_r}}$  with probability at least  $1-m\exp(-2(\frac{f}{4}-1)^2w_{\min}^2)-k\exp(-mp_{\min})$ .

### References

[1] Anonymous Authors. On Lloyds algorithm: new theoretical insights for clustering in practice. Submitted, 2015.