

# Wicked World Means Null

Wicked problem

World bank

k-Means clustering

Null values



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# Overview

The history of states and nations has provided some income for historiographers and book dealers, but I know no other purpose it may have served. - Borne (probably Ludwig Börne)

Billions of people live in the "Least developed countries" UN classification, development is a wicked problem

Strategic development, investment in countries that are at a tipping point to prompt desired growth

Let's go find those countries!

**Project objective:**  
Aggregate condition clustering and  
testing condition predictive value

# Understanding the problem

## Nulls

Data is 22% null even after paring it down to 399 features for 9773 country year pseudo indexes

Live with them or impute them

## Clustering

1. Build an algorithm that clusters with nulls
2. Impute values then cluster
3. Use PCA reconstruction on imputed values then cluster

## Regression

Can I make predictions from aggregate conditions?

Build regression models to predict future values from aggregate conditions

# Null Clustering

Missing values (nulls) are common, there are many fantastic algorithms that do wonderful things... with enough data wrangling

Modified:

- k-means
- Euclidean distance

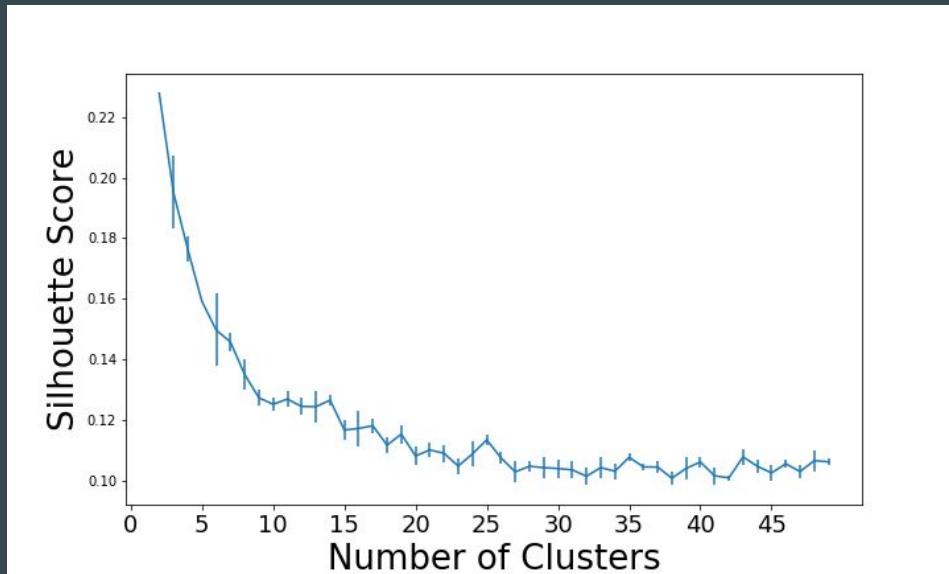
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# Null k-means

## Silhouette Scores

Calculated using the mean intra-cluster distance (a) and the mean nearest-cluster distance (b) for each sample. The Silhouette Coefficient for a sample is:

$$(b - a) / \max(a, b)$$



## Null Kmeans

- Results are similar to imputed and pca k-means
- Fowlkes Mallows, Normed MI average 16%  $\Delta$  vs others

# Imputation and Random Forest Regression

## Imputation:

- Bidirectional exponentially weighted moving average imputation (ewma)
- Combined bi-ewma with K-nearest neighbour imputation (knn)

## RF Feature Importance

- GDP per capita (constant LCU)
- Death rate, crude (per 1,000 people)
- Urban population growth (annual %)

## Combination Imputation

## Regression Models

- Used bi-ewma and knn, for a 0.042 mse
- 2% reduction in mse vs either individually
- Average 0.0175 mse and 0.98 adjusted  $R^2$
- Forward 1 to 4 years more accurate than 5

# Contact and Project Stack

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Github: <https://github.com/jakebobu/world-bank>

<http://ec2-35-174-106-106.compute-1.amazonaws.com:8080/>



THE WORLD BANK  
IBRD • IDA

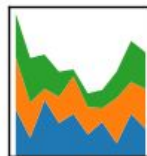
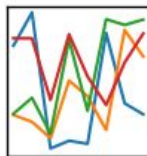


Flask

web development,  
one drop at a time

pandas

$$y_{it} = \beta' x_{it} + \mu_i + \epsilon_{it}$$



python<sup>TM</sup>



# Extra Slides

# Deliverables

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## Web App

- `ec2-52-23-205-66.compute-1.amazonaws.com:8080`
- Play with the results! regression and clustering

# Random Forest Regression

## Feature Importance:

- GDP per capita (constant LCU)
- Urban population growth (annual %)
- Death rate, crude (per 1,000 people)

## Feature Importance (3 year) continued:

- GDP deflator (base year varies by country)
- GDP at market prices (constant 2005 US\$)
- Mortality rate, adult, male (per 1,000 male adults)
- Mortality rate, infant (per 1,000 live births)
- Immunization, measles (% of children ages 12-23 months)
- Final consumption expenditure, etc. (current US\$)
- Mobile cellular subscriptions
- Life expectancy at birth, female (years)

## Regression Models

- Average 0.0175 mse and 0.98 adjusted  $R^2$
- Forward 1 to 4 years more accurate than 5

# Regression Models

## Random Forest Regression

Hyper parameter selection with 5-fold cross validation

### Resulting parameters:

- Max features: 20, 200
- Max depth: 20
- Min samples split: 2,4
- N estimators: 150, 300

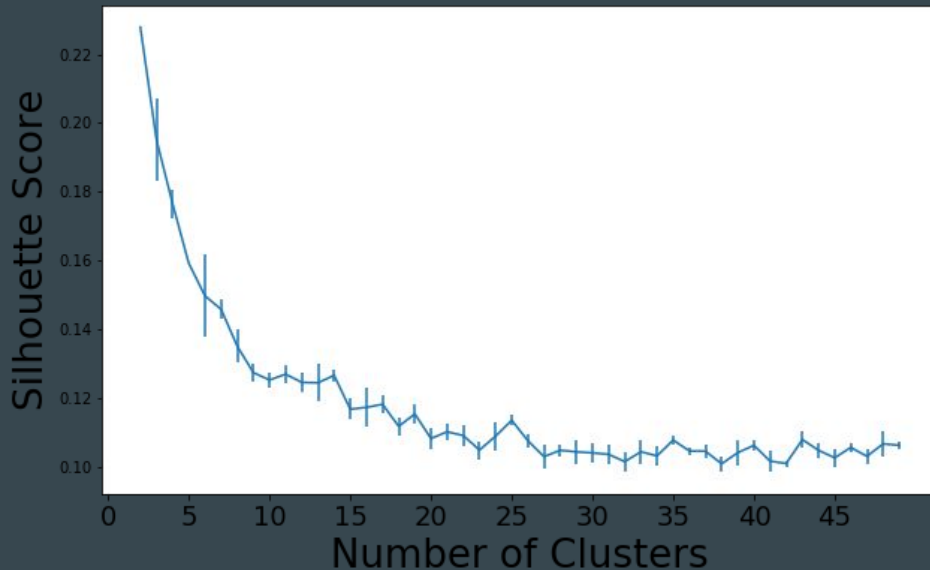
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