SAS Assignment 4 – Clustering

Clustering Stores & Pharmaceutical Firms

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Exercise 1: Clustering Stores

* Please refer to the figure(s) provided for the question.

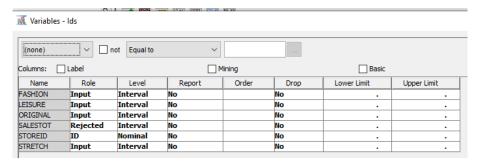


Figure 1. Variable Settings

6. Explore the data. Determine whether the model roles and measurement levels assigned to the variables are appropriate. Examine the distribution of the variables.

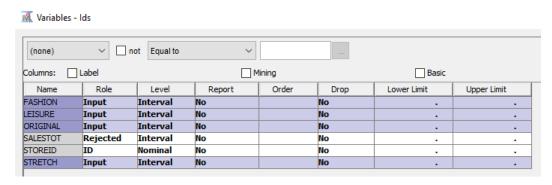


Figure 2. Explore Data Input (I)

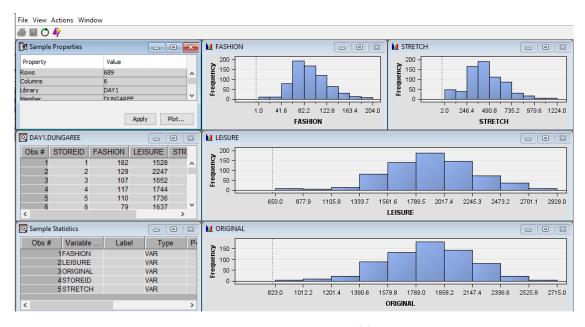


Figure 3. Explore Data Input (II)

- a. Are there any unusual data values?
- b. Are there any missing values that should be replaced?

Responses for both a & b: To examine the variable distribution, I selected the relative variables only and chose explore option. It was not necessary to explore the ID and Rejected value, yet I figured SALESTOT and STOREID are the only distribution that do not have a normal or slightly skewed distribution. Their histograms do not follow any particular patterns. Other than that it seems there is no presence of any unusual data and all values seem to exist, hence there are no missing values that can be found.

7. Assign the variable STOREID the model role ID and the variable SALESTOT the model role Rejected. Make sure the remaining variables have the Input model role and the Interval measurement level. Why should the variable SALESTOT be rejected?

Please refer to Figure 1. SALESTOT is to be rejected because it shouldn't be considered as a value independent to others. The SALESTOT is the sum of the all the other variables that are input into the data. In specific, it is highly likely that there are different levels of sales for each type of style. This explains why the histogram does not follow a normal distribution because each style has a different number of sales associated with it.

8. Add a Cluster node to the diagram workspace and connect it to the data source node.

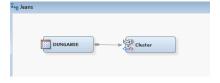


Figure 4. Cluster Node

9. Select the Cluster node and select Internal Standardization Standardization. What would happen if you did not standardize your inputs?

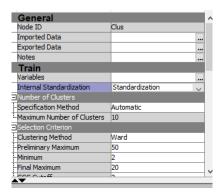


Figure 5. Internal Standardization Setting

It is important to chose standardization option because otherwise the clustering will take place with respect to ranges solely, which means the clustering will occur strictly on the inputs with the largest range.

10. Run the diagram from the Cluster node and examine the results. Does the number of clusters created seem reasonable?

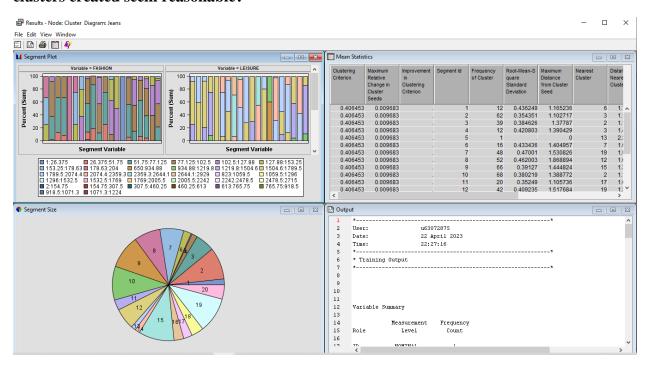


Figure 6. Clustering Results (Auto)

There are too many clusters created and hence a solution to fix this problem would be to self assign the number of clusters to create. The Cluster node's automatic number of cluster specification method seems to generate an excessive number of clusters. The problem with having this many clusters is that it makes data harder to read and gives a greater chance that some points are grouped in the wrong clusters. By having fewer clusters, it provides a lesser chance of error for grouping one point in the wrong cluster.

11. Specify a maximum of six clusters and rerun the Cluster node. How does the number and quality of clusters compare to that previously obtained?

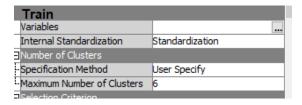


Figure 7. Max Number of Clusters Setting

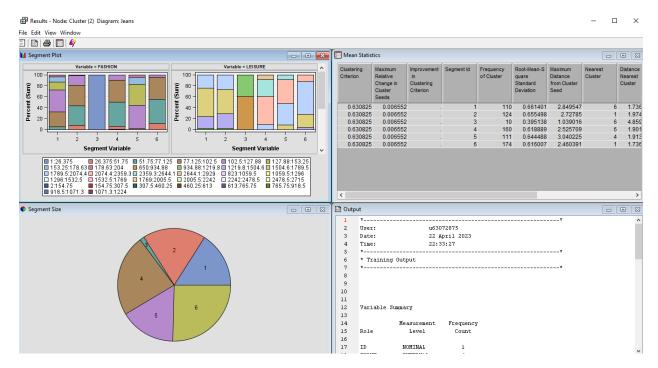


Figure 8. Clustering Results (User Specify)

This update really brings out a good result as the clusters seem much more reasonable and all are sized well. There is one anomaly in the 3rd cluster which seems to not have a lot of population but otherwise the quality and quantity are both acceptable.

12. Use the Segment Profile node to summarize the nature of the clusters.

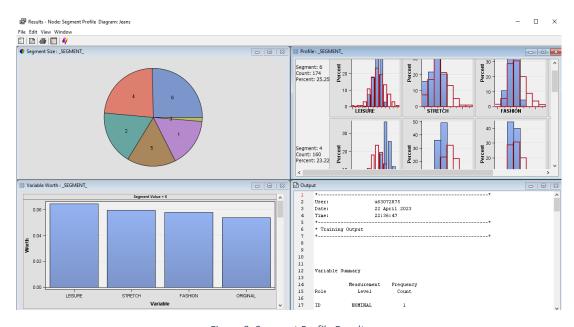


Figure 9. Segment Profile Results

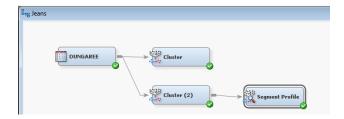


Figure 10. Diagram

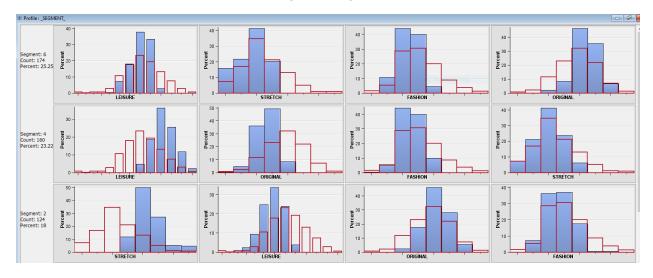


Figure 11. Segments 6,4,2

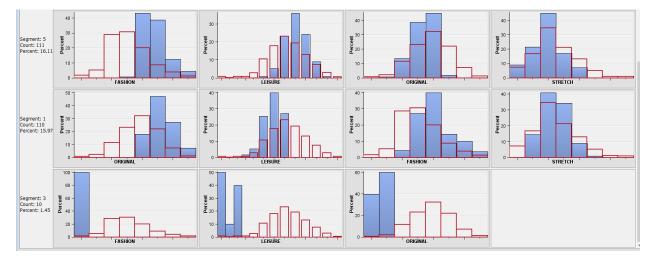


Figure 12. Segments 5,1,3

Observations:

- Segment 1: It can be observed from this segment that it is more prone to selling original jeans than any other kind as can be supported from its skewness.
- Segment 2: It can be observed from this segment that it is more prone to selling stretch jeans than any other kind as can be supported from its skewness. It contains stores selling a higher-than-average number of stretch jeans.

- Segment 3: It is observed from this segment that this store sells the lowest volume of jeans overall.
- Segment 4: It can be observed from this segment that the store is more prone to selling leisure compared to other types.
- Segment 5: It can be observed from this segment that the store is more prone to selling fashion jeans than any other type.
- Segment 6: This store is selling a greater number of jeans in the original category with a very low number of fashion and stretch jeans compared to average.

Exercise 2: Clustering Pharmaceutical Firms

1. Use only the quantitative variables (1-9) to cluster the 21 firms. Use the default settings in SAS Enterprise Miner.

Name	Use	Report	Role	Level	
Beta Default Exchange No Leverage Default Location No		No	Input	Interval	
		No	Input	Interval Nominal Interval Nominal Interval	
		No	Input		
		No	Input		
		No	Input		
		No	Input		
Median_Recomn	No	No	Input	Nominal	
Name	Default	No	Input	Nominal	
Net_Profit_Marg	Default	No	Input	Interval	
PE_Ratio	Default	No	Input	Interval	
ROA	Default	No	Input	Interval	
ROE Default		No	Input	Interval	
Rev_Growth	Default	No	Input	Interval	
Symbol	No	No	Input	Nominal	

Figure 13. Variable Selection

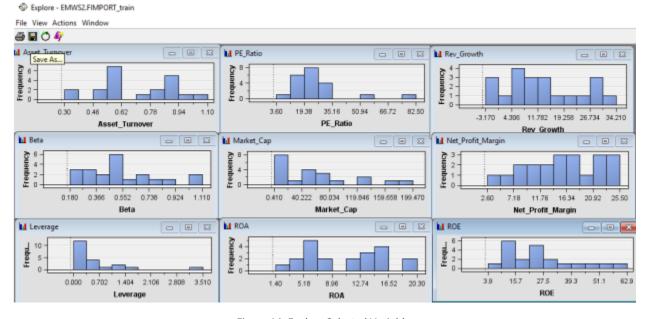


Figure 14. Explore Selected Variables

2. Interpret the clusters with respect to the quantitative variables that were used in forming the clusters.



Figure 15. Diagram



Figure 16. Clustering Result (I)

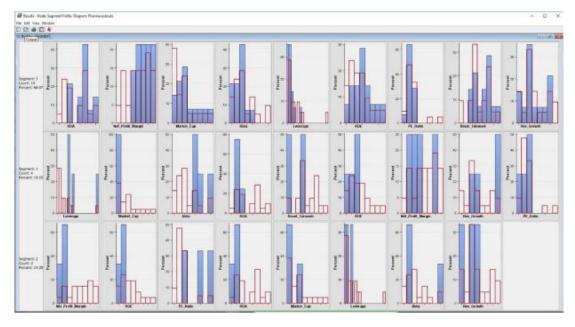


Figure 17. Clustering Result (II)

Total of 3 clusters are generated. The analysis of the clusters considering quantitative variables is as follows:

Segment 3:

• ROA:

- o Return on Assets contributes is maximum with a worth of 0.3612
- o It is slightly higher than the entire sample set
- o The mean is 13.285.

• Net_Profit_Margin:

- Net Profit Margin has a worth of 0.2778
- It is higher than the entire sample. The distribution of the data points is also denser compared to sample set.
- o The mean is 18.65.

• Market_Cap:

- o Market Capitalization has a worth of 0.2254
- o It is pretty similar compared to sample set. The frequency of the higher Market
- o Capitalization values are somewhat higher.
- o The mean is 80.355.

• Beta:

- o Beta has a worth of 0.2169
- o It is lower when compared to sample set.
- o The mean is 0.4136.

• Leverage:

- Leverage has a worth of 0.2001
- o The frequency of the lower Leverage values are somewhat higher.
- \circ The mean is 0.3136.

• ROE:

- o Return on Equity has a worth of 0.1897
- o It is higher compared to sample set. The frequency of the higher ROA values is somewhat higher compared to sample.
- o The mean is 31.4.

• PE Ratio:

- o Price/earnings Ratio has a worth of 0.1451
- o The frequency of the lower values is somewhat high
- \circ The mean is 20.69.

• Asset Turnover:

- Asset Turnover has a worth of 0.0989
- o It is somewhat higher compared to overall sample set. The frequency of the higher
- o values is slightly higher.
- \circ The mean is 0.771.

• Rev Growth:

o Estimate Revenue Growth has a worth of 0.0187.

- o The spread of the data is analogous to the overall sample set.
- o The mean is 12.49.

Overall, Segment 3 has a 66.67% share of the entire distribution, Maximum worth is held by Return on Assets followed closely by NPM and Market Capitalization. The Projected Revenue Growth for the Segment is low and holds minimum worth.

Segment 1:

- Leverage:
 - o It has a worth of 0.2322
 - o It is higher than the overall sample set
 - \circ The mean is 0.174
- Market_cap:
 - Market Capitalization has a worth of 0.2322
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set
 - o The mean is 1.248
- Beta:
 - o It has a worth of 0.1814
 - o It is higher than the overall sample set.
 - o The mean is 0.8325
- ROA:
 - o Return on Assets has a worth of 0.1179
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set.
 - o The mean is 5.4.
- Asset Turnover
 - o Asset Turnover has a worth of 0.066
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set and concentrated on the lower end.
 - \circ The mean is 0.45
- ROE:
 - o Return on Equity has a worth of 0.0581
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set.
 - o The mean is 17.95
- Net_Profit_Margin:
 - Net Profit Margin has a worth of 0.0536
 - o It is lower than the overall sample. The frequency of the higher lower values and higher values is more and central values are lesser than the overall sample set
 - o The mean is 13.28
- Rev_Growth:
 - o Estimated Revenue Growth has a worth of 0.0385
 - The frequency of the higher values is higher and the frequency of the moderately low values are also greater.

- o The mean is 21.24
- PE_Ratio:
 - o Price/earnings ratio has a worth of 0.02951
 - The frequency of the lower values is higher. The Price/earnings ratio for is lower than the overall sample set.
 - o The mean is 19.525

Overall, Segment 1 has a 19.05% share of the total distribution which is significantly lower than Segment 3. The maximum worth is shared equally by Leverage and Market_cap (0.2322) followed closely by Beta. The Price/earnings ratio holds the least importance with a worth of only 0.02951

Segment 2:

- Net_Profit_Margin:
 - Net Profit Margin has a worth of 0.1306
 - o It is higher than the overall sample set but is not consistent throughout the graph
 - o The mean is 5.133
- ROE:
 - o Return on Equity has a worth of 0.1306
 - o It is higher than the overall sample, however it is concentrated on the lower end.
 - o The mean is 10.1
- PE_Ratio:
 - o Price/earnings ratio has a worth of 0.1020
 - o The frequency of the higher values is more
 - o The mean is 55.63
- ROA:
 - o Return on Assets has a worth of 0.1020
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set.
 - o The mean is 4.2
- Market_Cap:
 - Market Capitalization has a worth of 0.0816
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set
 - o The mean is 26.91
- Leverage:
 - o Leverage has a worth of 0.0544
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set
 - o The Leverage mean is 0.3167
- Beta:
 - o Beta has a worth of 0.0449
 - The frequency of the higher lower values and higher values is greater, central values are lesser than the overall sample set

- The mean is 0.64
- Rev Growth:
 - o Estimated Revenue Growth has a worth of 0.0206
 - o It is lower than the overall sample set
 - o The mean is 6.99
- Asset Turnover: This does not contribute at all to this segment

Overall, Segment 2 has a 14.29% share of the total distribution. The maximum worth is shared equally by Net_Profit_Margin and ROE (0.1306) followed by PE_Ratio and ROA sharing an importance of 0.1020. The Asset Turnover does not contribute to the segment and hence does not contribute to the overall distribution.

3. Is there a pattern in the clusters with respect to the qualitative variables (10-12) (those not used in forming the clusters)?

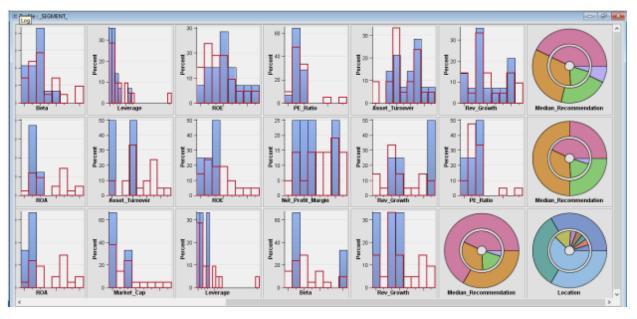


Figure 18. Clustering Results w/ variables 10-12

Cluster 1:

- Median Recommendations: Cluster 1 is comprised of moderate buy, moderate sell and hold recommendations. There are no patterns with respect to this variable.
- Location: This cluster is comprised of US and Ireland based firms. No pattern detected.
- Exchange: This cluster is the only cluster that have firms on the NASDAQ and AMEX exchanges.
- No noticeable patterns detected.

Cluster 2:

- Median Recommendations: Cluster 2 is comprised of moderate buy and hold recommendations. There are no patterns with respect to this variable.
- Location: This cluster is comprised of Canada, Germany and US based firms. No pattern detected.
- Exchange (Exchange): The only pattern observed is the similarity with respect to all the firms trading on the NYSE in this cluster. No noticeable patterns detected.

Cluster 3:

- Median Recommendations: Cluster 3 is comprised of moderate buy, moderate sell, strong buy and hold recommendations. Most of the firms that have hold recommendations are present in here.
- Location: This cluster is comprised of France, Switzerland and US based firms. No pattern detected.
- Exchange: The only pattern observed is the similarity with respect to all the firms trading on the NYSE in this cluster.
- No noticeable patterns detected

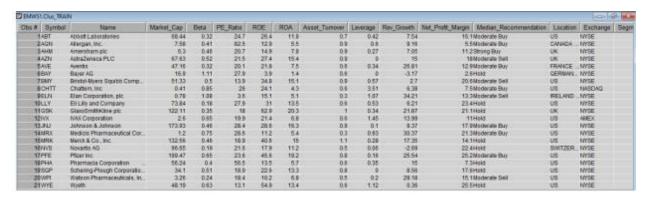


Figure 19. Variables

- 4. Provide an appropriate name for each cluster using any or all of the variables in the dataset. Don't describe the cluster, name it.
 - Segment 1: Low Scale Industries
 - Segment 2: Unperformed Companies
 - Segment 3: Most Profitable Companies

5. Do the clusters formed seem reasonable? Try different numbers of clusters and examine the results. Feel free to experiment with other criteria as needed. Explain the reasons for your selections and identify the best clustering in your opinion (justify)



Figure 20. Diagram

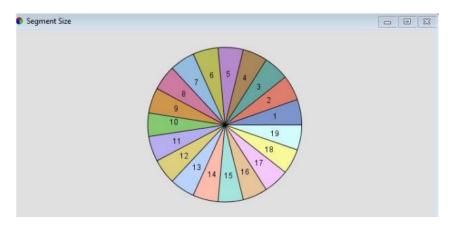


Figure 21. Attempt 1 - Segment Size

The outcome is not so perfect as there are 19 clusters and distance to the nearest cluster also varies a lot.

4 Clusters:

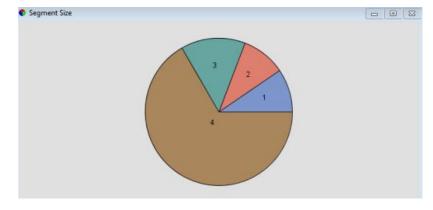


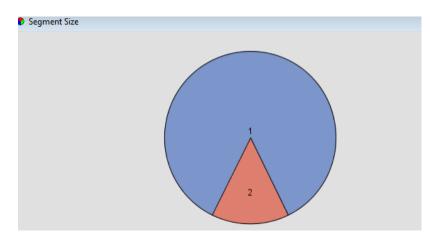
Figure 22. Attempt 2 - 4 Clusters.

Clustering Criterion	Maximum Relative Change in Cluster Seeds	Improvement in Clustering Criterion	Segment Id	Frequency of Cluster	Root-Mean-S quare Standard Deviation	Maximum Distance from Cluster Seed	Nearest Cluster	Distance to Nearest Cluster
0.416386		0	1	2	0.422521	1.636415	3	3.131229
(Clusteri	ng Criterion 0	0	2	2	0.356067	1.37904	4	4.161037
0.416386	0	0	3	3	0.560049	3.158472	1	3.131229
0.416386	0	0	4	14	0.456433	3.283264	3	4.066274

Figure 23. Attempt 2 - 4 Clusters

The number of clusters are changed to 4. The clusters are not even and the distance is also more compared to the original method.

2 Clusters:



Clustering Criterion	Maximum Relative Change in Cluster Seeds	Improvement in Clustering Criterion	Segment Id	Frequency of Cluster	Root-Mean-S quare Standard Deviation	Maximum Distance from Cluster Seed	Nearest Cluster	Distance to Nearest Cluster
0.513318	0	0	1	18	0.54063	4.749337	2	3.636114
0.513318	0	0	2	3	0.531333	2.959212	1	3.636114

Figure 24. Attempt 3 - 2 Clusters

No additional information is provided for the interpretation. So not effective as original method.