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# Abbreviations

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PCA | Principal Component Analysis |

# Covid World Data Analysis

This part of report presents analysis for the Covid-19 World Data that is captured in the year of 2022. This data is obtained from different countries in the world to monitor and capture the impact of Covid-19 in countries from the start of the date covid was in our lives until now.

In This report, the goal is to divide counties in different groups to understand the way that Covid-19 hit mankind and to see if the measurements against covid for countries paid of or not. To divide countries, it is needed to use clustering algorithms for grouping them and one of the unsupervised ways to do that are using K-means clustering and Hierarchical clustering. The result gives us information to analyse Covid-19 impact on different countries and which measure should be taken to remedy the situation.

## Data Analysis

To cluster the data into different groups, K-means clustering, and hierarchical clustering is used but before clustering, data should be pre-processed and cleaned. So, the outcome would be reliable. Also, in this section data is explained in detail and the python code with explanation and original data can be found in the zip file provided.

### Understanding The Data and pre-processing and dimensionality reduction

#### Description of the Dataset

The raw dataset has 14 variables according to Covid-19 and 227 country or even ships that Covid-19 hit them. The variables recorded in the dataset can be seen in table 1.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Population | Total Cases | New Cases | Total Deaths |
| New Deaths | Total Recovered | New Recovered | Active Cases | Serious, Critical Cases |
| Tot Cases/ 1M pop | Deaths/ 1M pop | Total Tests | Tests/ 1M pop |  |

Table 1- All columns in the dataset

This data from different countries is gathered by world health organization from the data reported in countries for measuring the impacts of covid-19. Each cell of the table provides information about a specific country and one of the variables above from that country.

#### Data Cleansing

First the data need to be cleaned and to do that different task should be done. First understand the data type in each column to see any outliers

Text

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Figure 1- data Types in the dataset

Population and total deaths have the wrong data type so they should be changed into numeric data type and some of them contains commas too and they should be removed. In attachment in the zip file the code for cleansing the data is provided. Next part is Finding missing values and null values, as can be seen in the figure 2, there is quite a lot of missing values in the dataset, and they need to be changed because the PCA algorithm can’t properly function with missing values.

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Figure 2- Null values in different columns

Because the new cases and new deaths and new recovered are not important for the whole period of two years that covid-19 has begun we can put zeros for null values. For population the null values should be dropped because if a row doesn’t have population, more than 70 percent of other values is null too. For other rows the mean value of that column is replaced because it can be considered is in the range of others and putting only zeros for those is wrong because covid impact in the best-case scenarios wasn’t good enough to put some values zero and this can lead to mis understanding about covid.

#### Data Standardization

Since K-means clustering is used in this analysis, the difference in magnitude in the dataset can be problematic. To address this issue data should be normalised and scaled so K-means algorithm run properly. One of the ways to do this is using normalizer function which will find the max of a column and put that as one and min of column as zero and then scale the values in between based on mix and min of values and put them in interval between 0 and 1. This way of normalisation is chosen because of the big difference in population of countries and in this way, we have the best outcome for PCA and clustering.

#### Feature Selection and PCA

One of the problems for performing clustering algorithms like K-means is the high number of dimensions to reduce dimensions there is two possible ways, which is implemented on this data set, first selection of the important features and after that performing principal component analysis. Feature selection is implied by importance of contribution of each feature for analysis of covid-19 impact. To do this objective because the difference between countries wants to be measured, we should choose the ones that are comparative on one million population and for those features that we don’t have these values we should create them in comparison in one million population and daily or weekly items provided as new deaths and new recovered and new cases should be dropped too. The reason is they have a lot of zeros in them because in the previous section we put zeros for nulls and also to understand the covid we do not need the new cases just for a week or a day we need to see what happened till now from the beginning. Another thing is Total recovered and total cases and active cases are created by subtraction or add of each other so we should only choose two of them. In conclusion in the table below the feature selected for PCA analysis can be seen.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Population | Tot Cases/ 1M pop | Deaths/ 1M pop |
| Tests/ 1M pop | Active Cases/ 1M Pop | Serious, Critical Cases/ 1M Pop |

Table 2- Columns selected for PCA analysis

Second part for reducing the dimensions is using principal component analysis. PCA is performed to find the optimal number of components that capture most of the variance in dataset. The PCA shows 99 percent of data of the cumulative variance data is explained with only 2 variables. Finally, our data is captured and compacted in 2 dimension which is easy for K-means to analyse and it’s easy to visualize.

Chart, histogram

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Figure 3- PCA analysis outcome

### Clustering

The aim of cluster analysis is to partition a set of N object into C clusters such that objects within cluster should be like each other and objects in different clusters should be dissimilar with each other. (Srivastava, 2013)

#### K-Means Clustering

One of the unsupervised ways to cluster and divide dataset into groups is K-means clustering. For clustering the data and finding the right number of clusters several ways have been created K-means is used commonly because of its simplicity. The main idea for K-means is assign k centroids for each cluster. Next step is to assure all the point to the nearest centroids, if all the points were assigned to a centroid this part is done. Next step is finding and changing the position of the centroids to be at the centre of cluster, after that we do previous part and assign points to the nearest centroid and this iterative process happens until the number of centroids and point assign to them is found. This unsupervised way of learning for machine is K-means clustering. (Alibuhtto, 2020, p.51).

##### Number of Clusters

Before running K-means on our prepared data we need to understand the right number of clusters. This happens with using 2 methods. First elbow method that shows the right number of clusters by doing an iterative analysis on data and creating different number of clusters to find the optimal number of clusters. In the figure below we can see the outcome of elbow method and optimal number for clusters is 4.

Chart, line chart

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Figure 4- Elbow method outcome

Another way to find the number of clusters is using silhouette score based on the score for each cluster we can choose the one that all of clusters has at least a minimum accepted silhouette score.

Chart

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Figure 5- Silhouette score

As can be seen with four clusters we have minimum value for silhouette score of 0.7 and the clusters sizes are acceptable too.

##### Result of K-Means Clustering

The result of K-means clustering assign countries to different groups based on the Covid-19 impact on health f the population. The result for each country in detail and the code is provided in zip file.

Chart, line chart

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|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Clusters | Number of points | Colour |
| Cluster 1 | 120 | Red |
| Cluster 2 | 50 | Blue |
| Cluster 3 | 34 | Magenta |
| Cluster 4 | 19 | Green |

Figure 6– K-means results

From the figure above we can see the impact of different features on the outcome and importance of them on the K-means algorithm. In the Analysis section, the outcome will be discussed in detail.

#### Hierarchical Agglomerative Clustering

Another clustering function that can be used is hierarchical clustering. This way of clustering is more complex than K-means and for the large datasets this function is too slow. Agglomerative clustering, in general the merges and splits are greedy in general and hierarchical clustering is usually presented by dendrograms. (Srivastava, 2013)

##### Number of Clusters

To find out the appropriate number of clusters we need to plot the dendrograms and to do that we use ward method for linkage to create the dendrograms. The reason is this method minimises the variance of the merged clusters and the result is really like K-means clustering. After plotting the dendrogram we need to draw a horizontal line through the longest distance possible as can be seen in figure 7. The number of junctions is the number of clusters therefore there are 4 clusters.

Chart

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Figure 7– Dendrograms

##### Result of Hierarchical Clustering

The result of hierarchical clustering is near to the outcome of K-means. The analysis of the data is provided in the next section. In the next figure we can see the clusters with the name of countries.

A picture containing timeline

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Figure 8– Clustering with the name of countries

### Analysis of Clustering and Business Values

The clustering analysis in the basic form gives us 4 clusters which means there is a similar trend in Covid-19 impact in countries and could be grouped into 4 different groups. Also, from the figure 5 we can more insight because the displaying of the arrows. The arrows are the projection of each feature on the principal component axis. These  
arrows represent the level of importance of each feature in the multidimensional  
scaling. For example, population and total tests per million and total cases per million contribute more than other features.

One of the things that needs to be considered is the place of Iran near UK and USA. Which in my opinion it is obvious that UK and USA did a better job in comparison to Iran to deal with covid. So, this means the source of the data for countries with untrustworthy governments should not be considered as important.

Other point worth mentioning is the total tests is significant in countries and it was a good measure to control the virus. Also, total tests and population has correlation with each other and as the population grows should tests grow too in order to control covid-19.

To understand Iran situation, we need to know some points. Because of political issues Iran at first didn’t want to declare that covid-19 spread around the country in the first days of starting covid in China and they didn’t report any cases until all countries in the world started to report that their country is impacted by covid. This is one of the reasons that the outcome for Iran is not reliable. Another thing in Iran was dishonesty towards the recovered cases and they reported recovered cases in a way that the total recovered cases in part of the time was even greater than the total number of covid patients. In other countries if someone had a terminal disease and got covid and died, the country will count that as covid death but in Iran they did not report these cases and another reason for having low death rate in Iran was this reason. Iran government did not want to other countries think that they are facing a problematic issue with covid and to show its strength and don’t lose face they taught the best way is reporting not factual data. This led to even greater total rate of covid cases and deaths because people were unaware of these issues at first and they thought covid is not a big deal and that unfortunately led to death of a lot of people. Another point worth mentioning for Iran is these days they want to control people more than before and every time that people about to do a protest they put quarantine rules and accordingly they report more cases than actual one to justify the quantitation rules.

In conclusion its possible to see that covid as a disease hit people and the outcome can be grouped into 4 groups of similar records. This data is valid in most of the cases but in cases such Iran or other countries they may have reported wrong information about the impact of covid and these countries should not be included in the data because they only damage the dataset and do not give insightful ideas.

# References

Alibuhtto, M. and Mahat, N., 2020. Distance based k-means clustering algorithm for determining number of clusters for high dimensional data. *Decision Science Letters*, pp.51-58.

Srivastava, K., Shah, R., Valia, D. and Swaminarayan, H., 2013. Data Mining Using Hierarchical Agglomerative Clustering Algorithm in Distributed Cloud Computing Environment. *International Journal of Computer Theory and Engineering*, pp.520-522.