



# Pattern Recognition and Biometrics - ENSIIE

# Clustering Project

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# 1. Introduction



- *Optical Recognition of Handwritten Digits* (UC Irvine ML Repository)  
retrieved from
  - <https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/optical+recognition+de+chiffres+manuscripts>
- Preprocessing programs made by *NIST*: 32x32 bitmaps -> 8x8 matrix values in [0,16]
- **5620** instances, **64** features (*integer*): **3823** and **1797** instances for training and testing
- Classification by exploiting ***K-means*** and ***Hierarchical clustering*** algorithms

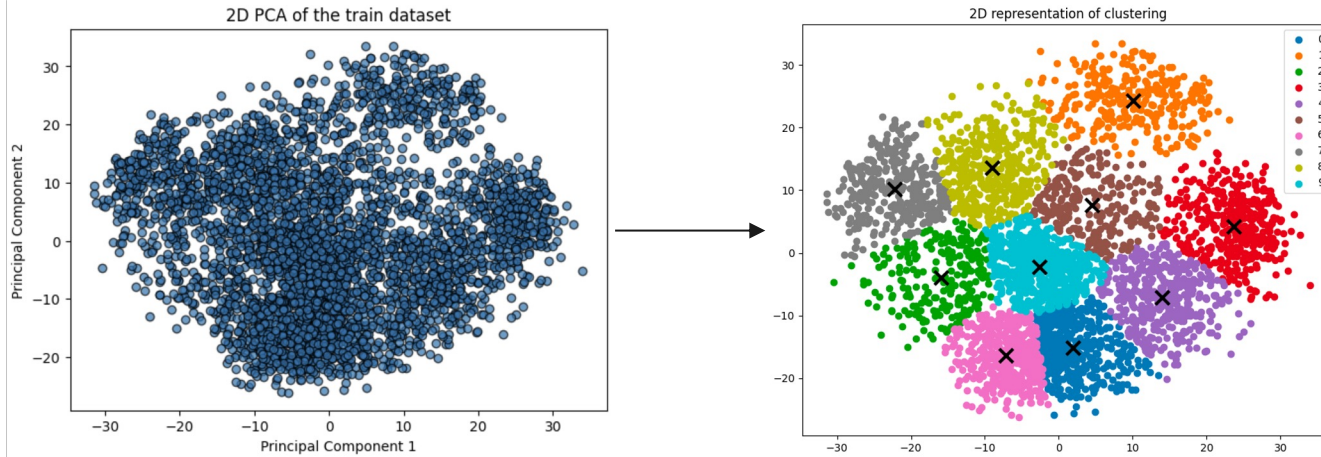
## 2. *K*-means

- An approach for partitioning a data set into  $K$  distinct group.

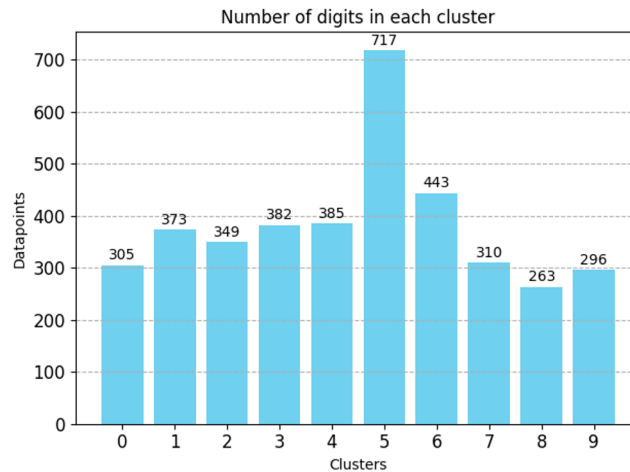
$$\underset{C_1, \dots, C_K}{\text{minimize}} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{|C_k|} \sum_{i, i' \in C_k} \sum_{j=1}^p (x_{ij} - x_{i'j})^2 \right\}$$

- Pseudo algorithm:
  - Specify the desired number of clusters or groups  $K$
  - Assign each observation to exactly one of the  $K$  clusters (initial clusters)
  - Iterate until the cluster assignments stop changing:
    - For each cluster  $K$ , compute the cluster *centroid*
    - Assign each data point to the cluster whose *centroid* is *closest*

## K-means for $K = 10$



**Figure 1:** data points *before* and *after* clustering for  $K = 10$



**Figure 2:** number of data points in each cluster

- Cluster 5 possesses the highest data points
- While others are fairly clustered

# K-means for $K = 10$

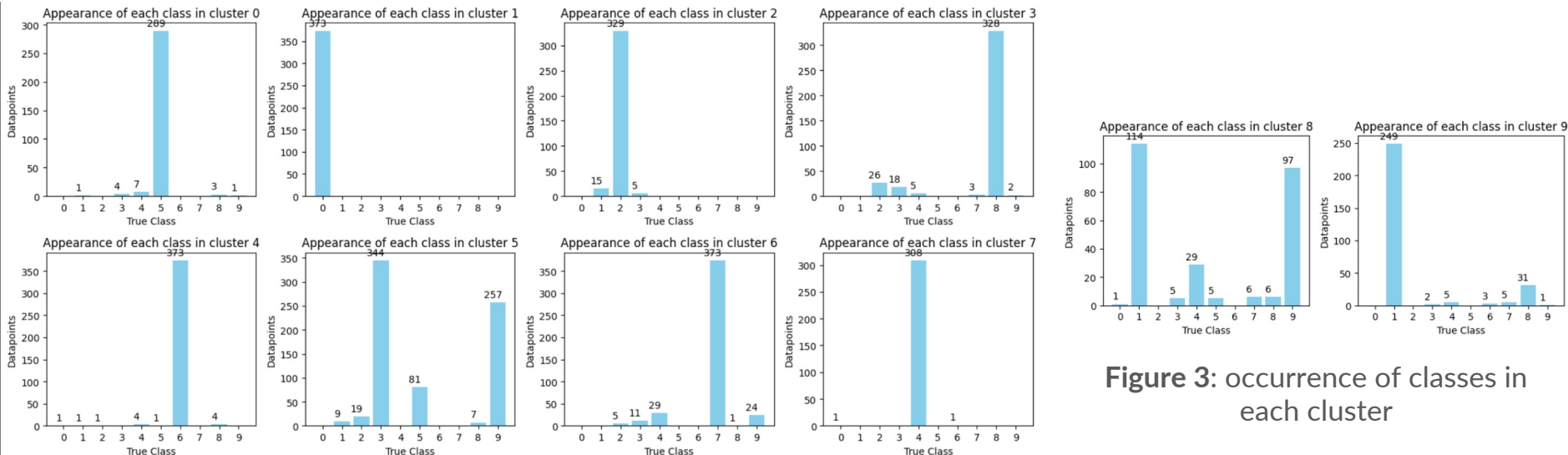


Figure 3: occurrence of classes in each cluster

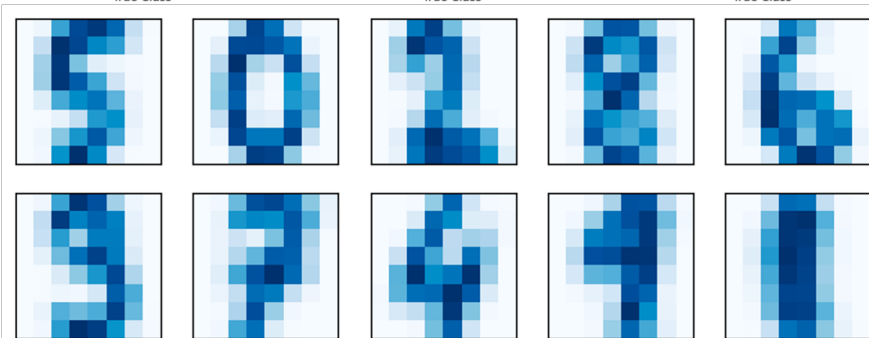


Figure 4: centroid plot for each cluster

- Cluster 5 and 8 seem to have more than 1 class
- For cluster 5, there is a dilemma mostly between 3 and 9
- Whereas, for cluster 8, it is for digit 1 and 9

# K-means for K = 10

Silhouette score = 0.19150284317979774 (mean)  
Sample silhouette score > 0.5: 8

$$s_i = \frac{b_i - a_i}{\max(a_i, b_i)}$$

## Selecting best K

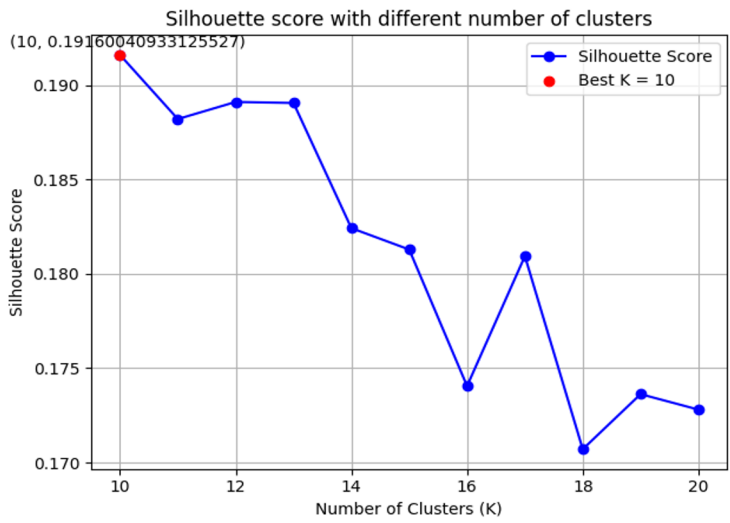


Figure 5: Performance of each K in closed set [10,20]

- Label each cluster by *Majority Vote*

Digit	
0	5
1	0
2	2
3	8
4	6
5	3
6	7
7	4
8	1
9	1

Figure 6: Class for each cluster

### 3. Hierarchical clustering

Steps:

1. Start with Each Data Point as a Cluster: Initially, each data point is treated as its own cluster.
2. Compute Distances: Calculate the linkage distance for all pairs of clusters using the provided formula.
1. Merge Clusters: Merge the pair of clusters with the smallest linkage distance.
2. Update Distances: Recompute distances between the new cluster and all other clusters.
3. Repeat: Continue merging clusters until all data points are in a single cluster or the desired number of clusters is reached.

Linkage Methods:

1. Single Linkage: Minimum distance between points in different clusters.
2. Complete Linkage: Maximum distance between points in different clusters.
3. Average Linkage: Average distance between all pairs of points in different clusters.
4. Ward's Method: Minimizes the total within-cluster variance.

$$[d(A, B) = \frac{W_A W_B}{W_A + W_B} d^2(G_A, G_B)]$$

$(W_A)$  and  $(W_B)$  are the cardinalities (sizes) of clusters  $(A)$  and  $(B)$ , respectively.  
 $(G_A)$  and  $(G_B)$  are the centroids (centers of gravity) of clusters  $(A)$  and  $(B)$ , respectively.  
 $(d(G_A, G_B))$  is the Euclidean distance between the centroids of clusters  $(A)$  and  $(B)$ .



# Hierarchical Clustering for $K = 10$

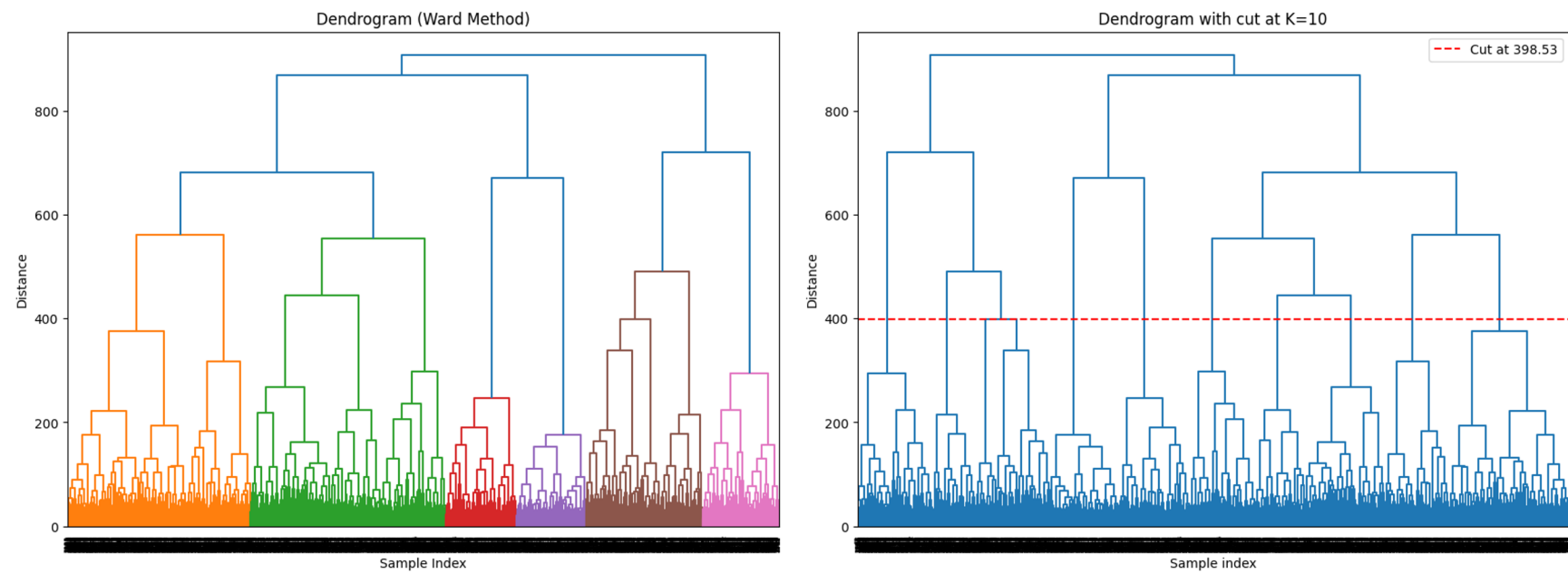


Figure 7: Dendrogram

# Hierarchical Clustering for $K = 10$

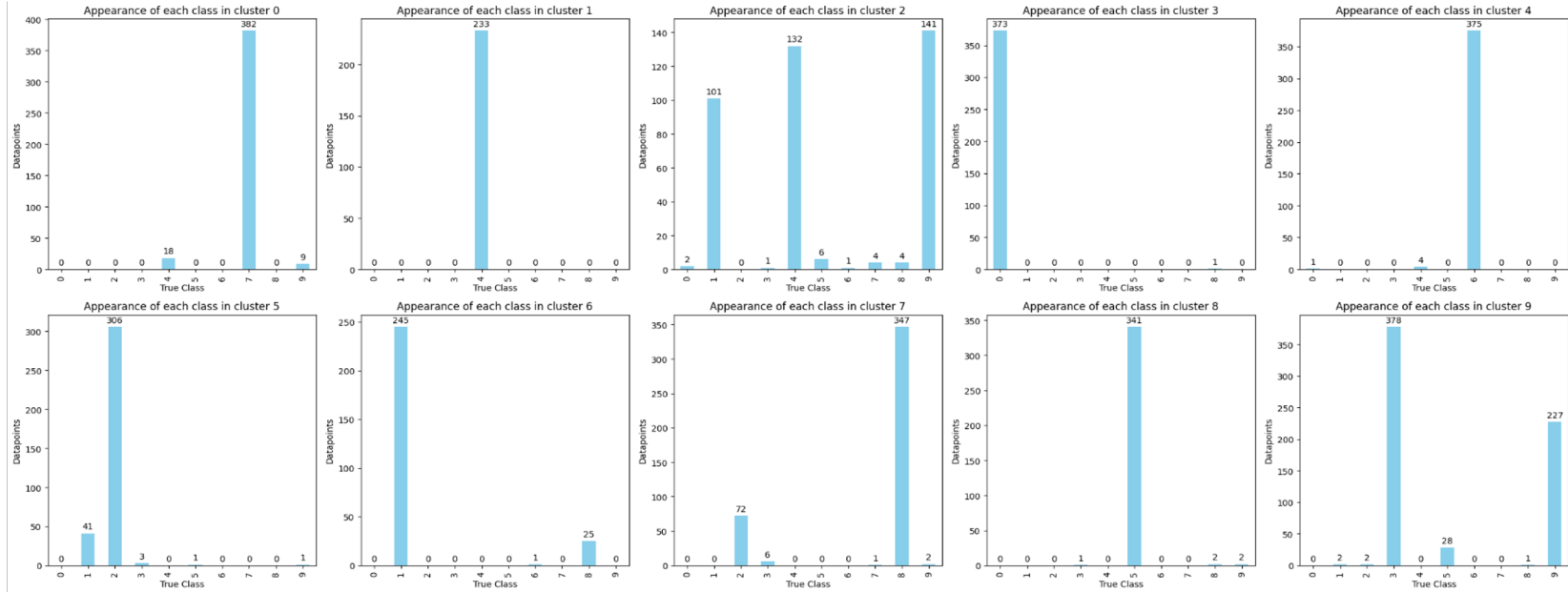


Figure 8: occurrence of classes in each cluster

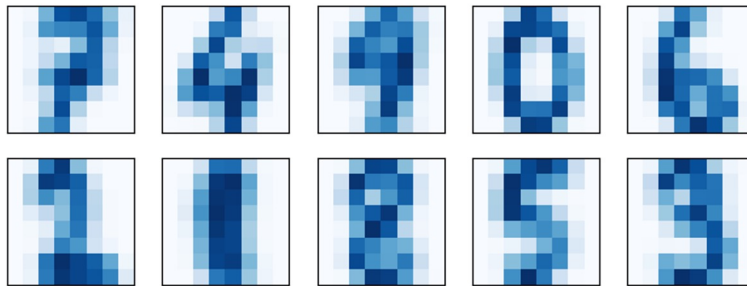


Figure 9: centroid plot for each cluster

Silhouette score = 0.1645628407814536

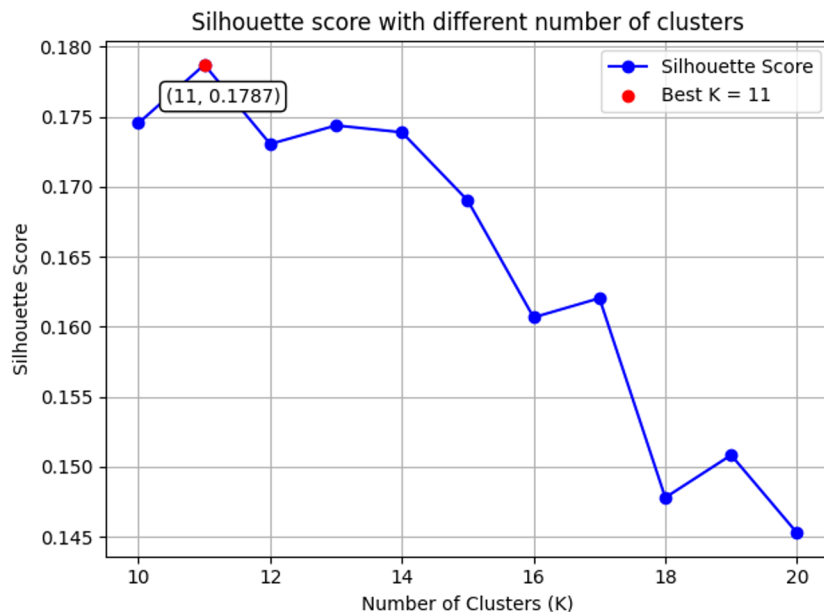


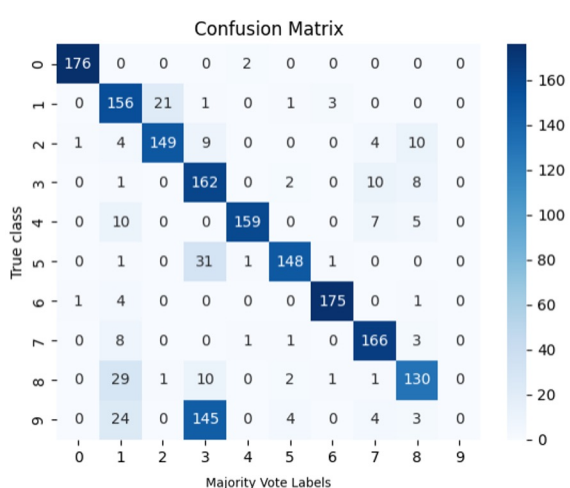
Figure 10: Performance of each  $K$  in closed set  $[10,20]$

- Label each cluster by *Majority Vote*

Digit	
0	7
1	4
2	1
3	9
4	0
5	6
6	2
7	1
8	8
9	5
10	3

Figure 11: Class for each cluster with  $K=11$

# 4. Comparison



	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	0.99	0.99	0.99	178
1	0.66	0.86	0.74	182
2	0.87	0.84	0.86	177
3	0.45	0.89	0.60	183
4	0.98	0.88	0.92	181
5	0.94	0.81	0.87	182
6	0.97	0.97	0.97	181
7	0.86	0.93	0.89	179
8	0.81	0.75	0.78	174
9	0.00	0.00	0.00	180
accuracy			0.79	1797
macro avg	0.75	0.79	0.76	1797
weighted avg	0.75	0.79	0.76	1797

----- Overall Performance -----

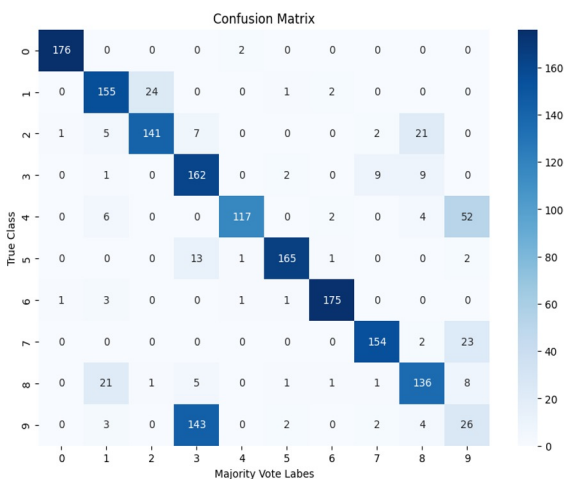
Accuracy: 0.7908

Precision: 0.7532

Recall: 0.7906

F1-score: 0.7626

Figure 12: Global performance of *K*-means



	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	0.99	0.99	0.99	178
1	0.80	0.85	0.82	182
2	0.85	0.80	0.82	177
3	0.49	0.89	0.63	183
4	0.97	0.65	0.77	181
5	0.96	0.91	0.93	182
6	0.97	0.97	0.97	181
7	0.92	0.86	0.89	179
8	0.77	0.78	0.78	174
9	0.23	0.14	0.18	180
accuracy			0.78	1797
macro avg	0.79	0.78	0.78	1797
weighted avg	0.79	0.78	0.78	1797

----- Overall Performance -----

Accuracy: 0.7830

Precision: 0.7945

Recall: 0.7829

F1-score: 0.7784

Figure 13: Global performance of *Hierarchical Clustering*

## 5. Experiment

- Transformations that were tried on the dataset:
  - Polynomial Features
  - Exponential / Logarithmic transformation
  - Principal Component Analysis (with random number of components: 17, 20, 28, ...)
- The best result obtained is single polynomial features (degree = 2) or  $X^2$ .
- By varying number of clusters ( $K$ ) in set [10,20] and evaluating each  $K$  using silhouette score, the chosen  $K$  are always range from 10 to 14 with performances describe as below:

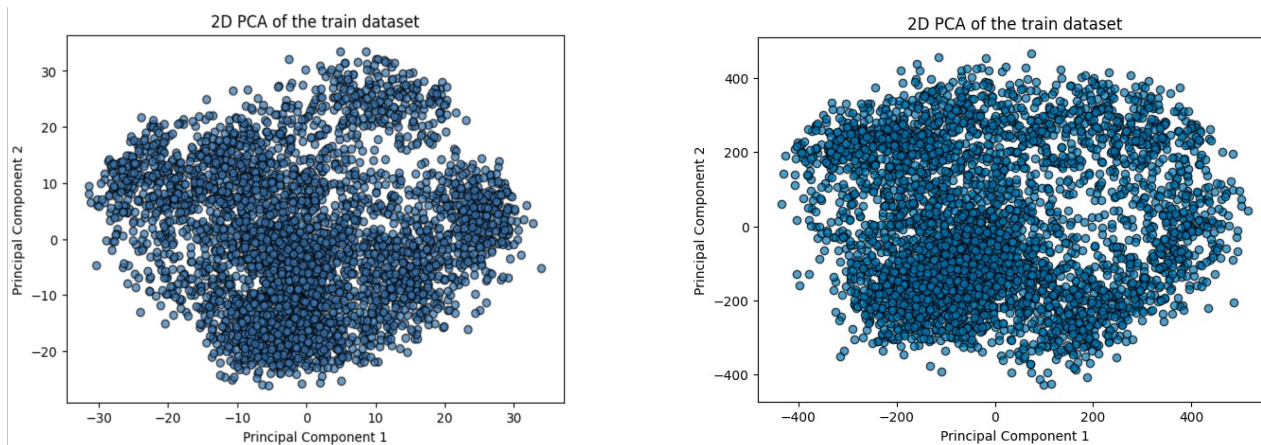
Number of clusters ( $K$ )	Silhouette score	Accuracy
$K = 10$	0.15951794567609953	0.8553
$K = 11$	0.1583355174143404	0.8542
$K = 12$	0.16032746002597156	0.8486
$K = 13$	0.15877647222943458	0.8553
$K = 14$	0.16145098846048	0.8614

**Table 1:** Performance of  $K$ -means for  $K$  in [10,14] with  $X^2$  transformation

- Based on **Table 1**,  $K = 14$  has the best accuracy score, but, out of 15 times, the algorithm chose “ $K = 10$ ” 7 times. So, even if  $K = 14$  has better accuracy than  $K = 10$ , it is not a robust model since it will not be able to generalize on unseen data like  $K = 10$ . Hence, we will choose  **$K = 10$**  in this project and we will see the difference between  $X$  and  $X^2$  features.

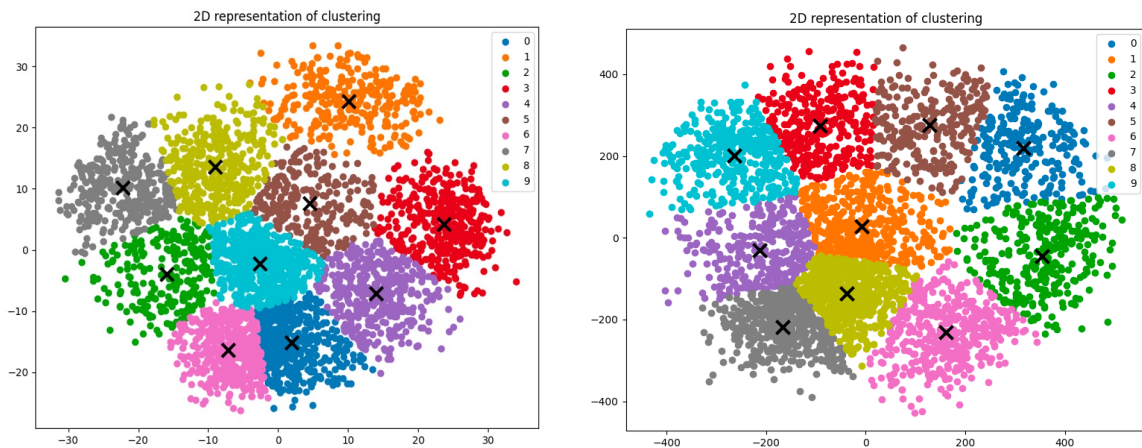


- Why  $X^2$  performs better than  $X$ ?  
-> Each feature or predictor ( $X_{i=1,2,\dots,64}$ ) takes value in set  $[0, 16]$ , so K-means will not be able to separate well between, for example, 14 and 16. However,  $12^2 = 144$  and  $16^2 = 256$  will make a big difference since the algorithm is based on the euclidean distance. More precisely, the difference between the two values turned from “ $16-12 = 4$ ” to “ $256-144 = 112$ ”.



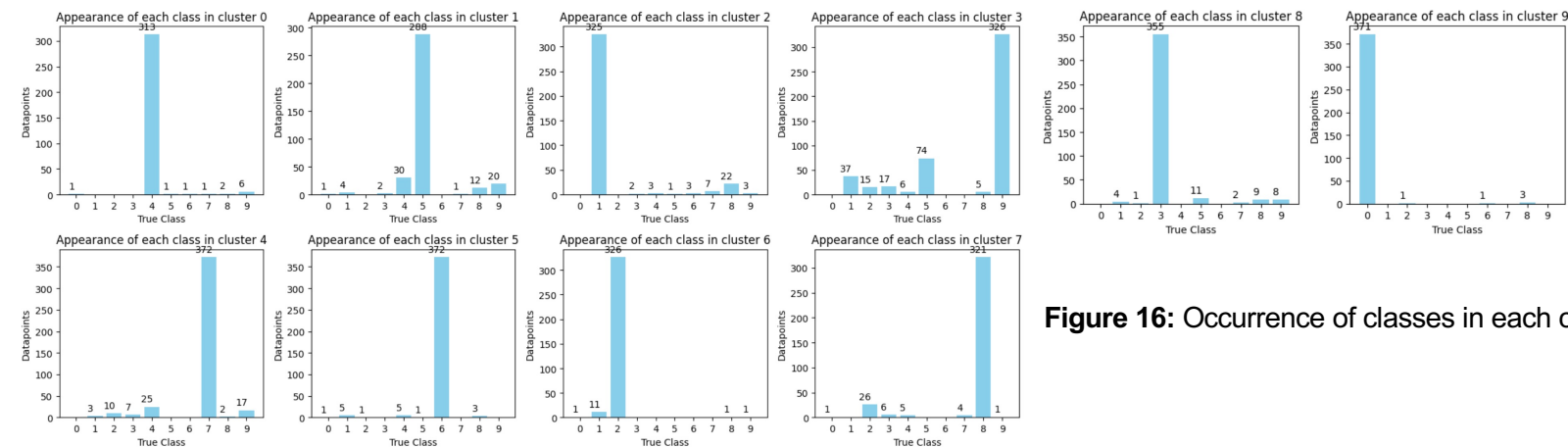
**Figure 14:** 2D representation of  $X$  (left)  $X^2$  (right) features using PCA

- We can see that the  $X^2$  features’ data points are more spread and have bigger values.



**Figure 15:** Clustering of  $X$  (left)  $X^2$  (right) features

- Again, we can see that the  $X^2$  features' data points are widespread (well clustered).



**Figure 16:** Occurrence of classes in each cluster for ( $X^2$  predictors)

- Even though there are many classes appeared in each cluster, noticeably *cluster 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8*, we can clearly see that there is only one dominant class (outnumbered the other classes) unlike before (*K-means without transformation*) in which it implies that the algorithm is now capable of differentiate different handwritten digits.

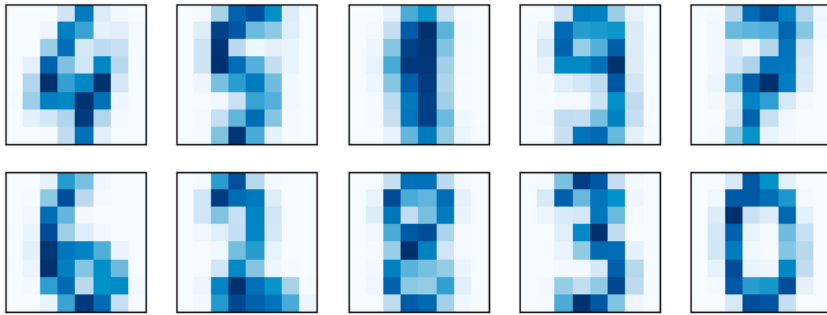


Figure 18: Centroid plot for each cluster ( $X^2$  features)

Digit	
0	4
1	5
2	1
3	9
4	7
5	6
6	2
7	8
8	3
9	0

Figure 17: Class for each cluster by *Majority Vote* for  $K = 10$

- Based on **Figure 18**, we can see that the digits are now more visible than before since there is no mixture between 3 and 9 for example.

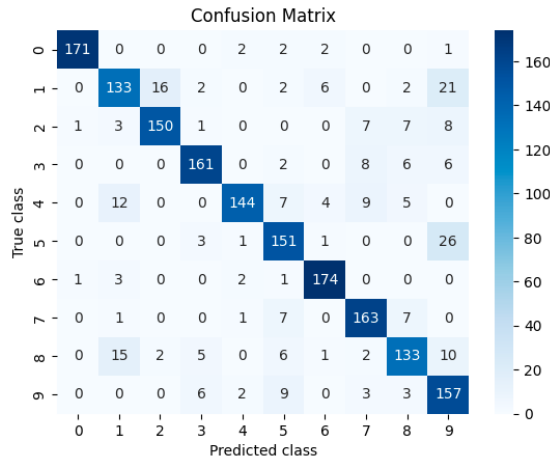


Figure 19: Global performance of  $X^2$  transformation ( $K$ -means for  $K = 10$ )

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	0.99	0.96	0.97	178
1	0.80	0.73	0.76	182
2	0.89	0.85	0.87	177
3	0.90	0.88	0.89	183
4	0.95	0.80	0.86	181
5	0.81	0.83	0.82	182
6	0.93	0.96	0.94	181
7	0.85	0.91	0.88	179
8	0.82	0.76	0.79	174
9	0.69	0.87	0.77	180

accuracy			0.86	1797
macro avg	0.86	0.86	0.86	1797
weighted avg	0.86	0.86	0.86	1797

----- Overall Performance -----  
 Accuracy: 0.8553  
 Precision: 0.8613  
 Recall: 0.8552  
 F1-score: 0.8560

- The model is now capable of predicting digit 9.



## 6. Conclusion



- Understanding more about the **clustering**.
- Without feature engineering both models perform are inconsistent.
- There is still some mistakes for the classification, but 85% accuracy is not bad.
- Improvements:
  - Try combination of **different features engineering**.
  - Play around with other features engineering like ***Fourier*** transformation, etc.
  - Consider other types of distance than ***Euclidean*** distance such as ***Mahalanobis*** distance, etc.



# Thank you!