

# Similarity, Dissimilarity, and Proximity

- **Similarity measure** or **similarity function**  
ค่าที่บอก: ความเหมือนกัน  
ฟังก์ชัน similarity เพื่อวัดว่า input 2 ตัวเหมือนกัน / ต่างกันหรือไม่
- A real-valued function that quantifies the similarity between two objects
- Measure how two data objects are alike: The higher value, the more alike
- Often falls in the range  $[0,1]$ : 0: no similarity; 1: completely similar  
ค่า  $< 1$  0 = ไม่เหมือนกัน 1 = เหมือนกัน
- **Dissimilarity** (or **distance**) measure  
ระยะห่าง  
ยิ่งจุด 2 จุดห่างกันมาก ค่า 0 / 1 ยิ่งต่ำมาก ห่างจากตัวมาก
- Numerical measure of how different two data objects are
- In some sense, the inverse of similarity: The lower, the more alike
- Minimum dissimilarity is often 0 (i.e., completely similar)  
ไม่ต่าง
- Range  $[0, 1]$  or  $[0, \infty)$ , depending on the definition
- **Proximity** usually refers to either similarity or dissimilarity  
ระยะห่าง: ไม่ต่าง / ต่าง ไม่เหมือนกัน

# Data Matrix and Dissimilarity Matrix

- Data matrix

- A data matrix of  $n$  data points with  $l$  dimensions



$$D = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1l} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2l} \\ \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} \\ x_{n1} & x_{n2} & \dots & x_{nl} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Dissimilarity (distance) matrix

- $n$  data points, but registers only the distance  $d(i, j)$  (typically metric)
  - Usually symmetric, thus a triangular matrix
  - **Distance functions** are usually different for real, boolean, categorical, ordinal, ratio, and vector variables
  - Weights can be associated with different variables based on applications and data semantics



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & \\ d(2,1) & 0 & & \\ \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \\ d(n,1) & d(n,2) & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Standardizing Numeric Data

- Z-score: 
$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$
  - X: raw score to be standardized,  $\mu$ : mean of the population,  $\sigma$ : standard deviation
  - the distance between the raw score and the population mean in units of the standard deviation
  - negative when the raw score is below the mean, “+” when above
- An alternative way: Calculate the mean absolute deviation

$$s_f = \frac{1}{n}(|x_{1f} - m_f| + |x_{2f} - m_f| + \dots + |x_{nf} - m_f|)$$

where

$$m_f = \frac{1}{n}(x_{1f} + x_{2f} + \dots + x_{nf}).$$

- standardized measure (z-score): 
$$z_{if} = \frac{x_{if} - m_f}{s_f}$$
- Using mean absolute deviation is more robust than using standard deviation

# Example: Data Matrix and Dissimilarity Matrix

**Data Matrix**

point	attribute1	attribute2
<i>x1</i>	1	2
<i>x2</i>	3	5
<i>x3</i>	2	0
<i>x4</i>	4	5

**Dissimilarity Matrix (by Euclidean Distance)**

	<i>x1</i>	<i>x2</i>	<i>x3</i>	<i>x4</i>
<i>x1</i>	0			
<i>x2</i>	3.61	0		
<i>x3</i>	2.24	5.1	0	
<i>x4</i>	4.24	1	5.39	0

# Distance on Numeric Data: Minkowski Distance

- **Minkowski distance:** A popular distance measure

$$d(i, j) = \sqrt[p]{|x_{i1} - x_{j1}|^p + |x_{i2} - x_{j2}|^p + \boxed{?} + |x_{il} - x_{jl}|^p}$$

where  $i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{il})$  and  $j = (x_{j1}, x_{j2}, \dots, x_{jl})$  are two  $l$ -dimensional data objects, and  $p$  is the order (the distance so defined is also called L- $p$  norm)

- Properties
  - $d(i, j) > 0$  if  $i \neq j$ , and  $d(i, i) = 0$  (Positivity)
  - $d(i, j) = d(j, i)$  (Symmetry)
  - $d(i, j) \leq d(i, k) + d(k, j)$  (Triangle Inequality)
- A distance that satisfies these properties is a **metric**
- Note: There are nonmetric dissimilarities, e.g., set differences

# Special Cases of Minkowski Distance

---

- $p = 1$ : (L1 norm) **Manhattan (or city block) distance**

- E.g., the Hamming distance: the number of bits that are different between two binary vectors

$$d(i, j) = |x_{i1} - x_{j1}| + |x_{i2} - x_{j2}| + \boxed{?} + |x_{il} - x_{jl}|$$

- $p = 2$ : (L2 norm) **Euclidean distance**

$$d(i, j) = \sqrt{|x_{i1} - x_{j1}|^2 + |x_{i2} - x_{j2}|^2 + \boxed{?} + |x_{il} - x_{jl}|^2}$$

- $p \rightarrow \infty$ : (Lmax norm, L $\infty$  norm) **“supremum” distance**

- The maximum difference between any component (attribute) of the vectors

$$d(i, j) = \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[p]{|x_{i1} - x_{j1}|^p + |x_{i2} - x_{j2}|^p + \cdots + |x_{il} - x_{jl}|^p} = \max_{f=1}^l |x_{if} - x_{jf}|$$

# Example: Minkowski Distance at Special Cases

point	attribute 1	attribute 2
x1	1	2
x2	3	5
x3	2	0
x4	4	5

## Manhattan (L1)

L	x1	x2	x3	x4
x1	0			
x2	5	0		
x3	3	6	0	
x4	6	1	7	0

## Euclidean

(L2)	x1	x2	x3	x4
x1	0			
x2	3.61	0		
x3	2.24	5.1	0	
x4	4.24	1	5.39	0

## Supremum

(L $\infty$ )	x1	x2	x3	x4
x1	0			
x2	3	0		
x3	2	5	0	
x4	3	1	5	0

# Proximity Measure for Binary Attributes

- A contingency table for binary data

		Object $j$	
		1	0
Object $i$	1	$q$	$r$
	0	$s$	$t$
	sum	$q + s$	$r + t$
		sum	
		$q + r$	$s + t$
		$p$	

- Distance measure for symmetric binary variables

$$d(i, j) = \frac{r + s}{q + r + s + t}$$

- Distance measure for asymmetric binary variables:

$$d(i, j) = \frac{r + s}{q + r + s}$$

- Jaccard coefficient (*similarity* measure for asymmetric binary variables):

$$sim_{Jaccard}(i, j) = \frac{q}{q + r + s}$$

- Note: Jaccard coefficient is the same as “coherence” (a concept discussed in Pattern Discovery)

$$coherence(i, j) = \frac{sup(i, j)}{sup(i) + sup(j) - sup(i, j)} = \frac{q}{(q + r) + (q + s) - q}$$



# Example: Dissimilarity between Asymmetric Binary Variables

Name	Gender	Fever	Cough	Test-1	Test-2	Test-3	Test-4
Jack	M	Y	N	P	N	N	N
Mary	F	Y	N	P	N	P	N
Jim	M	Y	P	N	N	N	N

- Gender is a symmetric attribute (not counted in)
- The remaining attributes are asymmetric binary
- Let the values Y and P be 1, and the value N be 0
- Distance:  $d(i, j) = \frac{r + s}{q + r + s}$

$$d(jack, mary) = \frac{0 + 1}{2 + 0 + 1} = 0.33$$

$$d(jack, jim) = \frac{1 + 1}{1 + 1 + 1} = 0.67$$

$$d(jim, mary) = \frac{1 + 2}{1 + 1 + 2} = 0.75$$

		Mary			
			1	0	$\sum row$
Jack		1	2	0	2
		0	1	3	4
			3	3	6
		Jim			
		1	0	$\sum row$	
1	1	1	2		
0	1	3	4		
$\sum c$	2	4	6		
	$\sum row$				
	2				
	4				
	6				

Name	Gender	Fever	Cough	Test-1	Test-2	Test-3	Test-4
Jack	M	Y	N	P	N	N	N
Mary	F	Y	N	P	N	P	N
Jim	M	Y	P	N	N	N	N

Mary

		1	0	Sum
Jack	1	29	18	3
	0	15	34	4
	Sum	3	4	7

distance calculation

$$\text{symmetric } d(i, j) = \frac{r+s}{q+r+s+t} = \frac{1+1}{7} = \frac{2}{7}$$

$$\text{asymmetric } d(i, j) = \frac{r+s}{q+r+s} = \frac{1+0}{2+0+1} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Name	Gender	Fever	Cough	Test-1	Test-2	Test-3	Test-4
Jack	M	Y	N	P	N	N	N
Mary	F	Y	N	P	N	P	N
Jim	M	Y	P	N	N	N	N

	1	0	Sum
1	19	12	2
0	15	34	4
Sum	2	4	6

$$d(c_{i,j}) = 2 + 5 = 7$$

$$9 + 2 + 5 + 6 = 22$$

asymmetric  $\rightarrow \frac{2}{3}$

# Proximity Measure for Categorical Attributes

- Categorical data, also called nominal attributes
  - Example: Color (red, yellow, blue, green), profession, etc.
- Method 1: Simple matching
  - $m$ : # of matches,  $p$ : total # of variables

$$d(i, j) = \frac{p - m}{p}$$

จำนวนตัวที่ต่างกัน  
จำนวนทั้งหมด

- Method 2: Use a large number of binary attributes
  - Creating a new binary attribute for each of the  $M$  nominal states

