

Package ‘bootkmeans’

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Type Package

Title A Bootstrap Augmented k-Means Algorithm for Fuzzy Partitions

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Description Implementation of the bootkmeans algorithm, a bootstrap augmented k-means algorithm that returns probabilistic cluster assignments. From paper by Ghashti, J.S., Andrews, J.L. Thompson, J.R.J., Epp, J. and H.S. Kochar (2025), ``A bootstrap augmented k-means algorithm for fuzzy partitions" (Submitted).

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boot.kmeans

*Bootstrap augmented k-means algorithm for fuzzy partitions***Description**

Repeatedly bootstraps the rows of a data matrix, runs [kmeans](#) on each resample (with optional seeding for given centres), tracks per-observation allocations using squared Euclidean distance, and aggregates results into out-of-bag (OOB) fuzzy memberships, hard clusters, and averaged cluster centres. Iterations can stop adaptively using a serial-correlation test on the objective trace.

Usage

```
boot.kmeans(
  data = NULL,
  groups = NULL,
  iterations = 500,
  nstart = 1,
  export = FALSE,
  display = FALSE,
  pval = 0.05,
  itermax = 10,
  maxsamp = 1000,
  verbose = FALSE,
  returnall = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

data	Numeric matrix or data frame of row observations and column variables. Required.
groups	Either and integer number of clusters K ; or a $K \times p$ numeric matrix of initial centres. Required.
iterations	Initial number of bootstrap iterations to run before considering stopping (default = 500).
nstart	Passed to kmeans when groups is an integer (number of random starts, default = 1).
export	Logical; if TRUE, saves a JPEG of the objective trace at each iteration (<code>plot<i>.jpg</code>). Defaults to FALSE.
display	Logical; if TRUE, plots the most recent objective values during fitting. Defaults to FALSE.
pval	Significance threshold for adaptive stopping. When the Breusch–Godfrey test p-value on the last iterations objective values is not below pval , the procedure stops.

<code>itermin</code>	Maximum number of iterations per k -means run (passed to <code>kmeans(iter.max = ...)</code>).
<code>maxsamp</code>	Upper bound on total iterations if adaptive stopping keeps extending (default = 1000).
<code>verbose</code>	Logical; if TRUE, print iteration counter and latest test p-value while running. Defaults to FALSE.
<code>returnall</code>	Logical; if TRUE, return full per-iteration objects (centres, k -means fits, OOB lists); otherwise a smaller object of final results if return. Defaults to TRUE.

Details

Each iteration draws a bootstrap sample of rows, runs `kmeans` on the resample (first using either supplied centres or `nstart` random starts; subsequent iterations use the previous iteration's centres), and computes squared Euclidean distances from every original observation to each current centre using `mahalanobis` with the identity covariance. Observations are allocated to their nearest centre and these allocations are tracked across iterations.

Out-of-bag (OOB) sets are the observations note included in a given bootstrap sample. For each observation, its OOB allocations across the most recent `iterations` runs are tallied to produce a fuzzy membership matrix (U) and a hard label by maximum membership.

Convergence is assessed adaptively: on the trace of summed per-observation minimum squared distances (the k -means objective) over the most recent `iterations` runs, a Breusch–Godfrey serial-correlation test (`bgtest` applied to a regression of the objective on iteration index) is computed. If the p-value is below `pval` and `iterations < maxsamp`, one more iteration is added; otherwise the loop terminates. Final centres are the elementwise mean of the centres over the last `iterations` runs.

Value

An object of class "BSKMeans": a list with components

<code>U</code>	$n \times K$ matrix of OOB fuzzy cluster memberships.
<code>clusters</code>	Integer vector of length n of hard cluster labels.
<code>centres</code>	$K \times p$ matrix of averaged centres over the last <code>iterations</code> runs.
<code>p.value</code>	Final Breusch–Godfrey test p-value used for stopping.
<code>iterations</code>	Total number of iterations actually run.
<code>occurrences</code>	$n \times \text{iterations}$ matrix of per-iteration allocations for all observations.
<code>size</code>	Number of clusters K .
<code>soslist</code>	Numeric vector of objective values by iteration.
<code>centrelist</code>	(If <code>returnall = TRUE</code>) list of per-iteration centre matrices; otherwise NULL.
<code>ooblist</code>	(If <code>returnall = TRUE</code>) list of OOB index vectors by iteration; otherwise NULL.
<code>kmlist</code>	(If <code>returnall = TRUE</code>) list of <code>kmeans</code> fit objects by iteration; otherwise NULL.

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References

- Ghashti, J.S., Andrews, J.L., Thompson, J.R.J., Epp, J. and H.S. Kochar (2025). A bootstrap augmented k -means algorithm for fuzzy partitions. Submitted.
- Breusch, T.S. (1978). Testing for Autocorrelation in Dynamic Linear Models, *Australian Economic Papers*, 17, 334-355.
- Godfrey, L.G. (1978). Testing Against General Autoregressive and Moving Average Error Models when the Regressors Include Lagged Dependent Variables', *Econometrica*, 46, 1293-1301.

See Also

[compare.clusters](#), [compare.tables](#), [bootk.hardsoftvis](#), [kmeans](#), [bgtest](#)

Examples

```
set.seed(1)

# basic usage
x <- as.matrix(iris[, -5])
fit <- boot.kmeans(data = x, groups = 3, iterations = 50, itermax = 20, verbose = TRUE)
table(fit$clusters, iris$Species)

# basic usage with initial cluster centres supplied
centres.init <- x[sample(nrow(x), 3), ]
fit2 <- boot.kmeans(data = x, groups = centres.init, iterations = 50)

# plot objective trace
plot(fit$soslist, type = "l", xlab = "Iteration", ylab = "Objective Function Value")
```

bootk.hardsoftvis *Visualize hard vs. soft assignments from bootstrap k-means*

Description

Plots the results of [boot.kmeans](#) highlighting which observations are assigned with full certainty (hard) versus fractional out-of-bag membership (soft/fuzzy). Either produces a full scatterplot matrix using all variables or a 2D scatterplot of chosen variables.

Usage

```
bootk.hardsoftvis(data = NULL, res, plotallvars = FALSE, var1 = NULL, var2 = NULL)
```

Arguments

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| data | Numeric data frame or matrix used for clustering in boot.kmeans . Required. |
| res | Result list returned from boot.kmeans (an object of class "BSKMeans"). |
| plotallvars | Logical; if TRUE, plot all pairwise scatterplots via pairs , otherwise FALSE requires var1 and var2 arguments for a 2D scatterplot. Default FALSE. |

var1	Integer column number for the x-axis variable when plotallvars = FALSE.
var2	Integer column number for the y-axis variable when plotallvars = FALSE.

Details

Each observation is classified as *hard* if any entry of its membership row $U[i,]$ is exactly 1, and *soft/fuzzy* otherwise. These categories are mapped to colors green for hard assignments, blue for soft/fuzzy. With plotallvars = TRUE, a scatterplot matrix of all variables is drawn. With plotallvars = FALSE, only the two specified variables are plotted, with axis labels taken from the column names of data.

Value

No return value, called for side effects (produces a visualization of hard vs. soft cluster assignments from [boot.kmeans](#) results).

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See Also

[boot.kmeans](#), [compare.clusters](#), [bootk.hardsoftvis](#), [kmeans](#), [FKM](#)

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
x <- as.matrix(iris[, -5])

# run bootstrap kmeans
res <- boot.kmeans(data = x, groups = 3, iterations = 20)

# scatterplot matrix of all variables
bootk.hardsoftvis(x, res, TRUE)

# scatterplot matrix of variable 1 and variable 2
bootk.hardsoftvis(x, res, plotallvars = FALSE, var1 = 1, var2 = 2)
```

compare.clusters

Compare traditional k-means, bootstrap augmented k-means, and fuzzy c-means

Description

Fits three clustering procedures on the same data: standard [kmeans](#), our bootstrap augmented *k*-means algorithm [boot.kmeans](#), and (optionally) fuzzy *c*-means from [FKM](#). Returns the fitted objects of all three whose object can be passed into [compare.clusters](#) to compare side-by-side confusion matrices.

Usage

```
compare.clusters( data = NULL,
                   groups = NULL,
                   seed = 13462,
                   nstart = 50,
                   what = "all")
```

Arguments

<code>data</code>	Numeric matrix or data frame of row observations and column variables. Required.
<code>groups</code>	Number of clusters K . Required.
<code>seed</code>	Optional integer random seed for reproducibility.
<code>nstart</code>	Number of random starts for initialization for all methods.
<code>what</code>	Character flag; if "all" (default), include fuzzy c -means (FKM) in the output.

Details

The function runs the following algorithms:

- `km`: `stats::kmeans(data, centers = groups, nstart = nstart)`.
- `bkm`: `boot.kmeans(data, groups, nstart = nstart, returnall = FALSE)`.
- `fkm` (if `what == "all"`): `fclust::FKM(data, k = groups, RS = nstart)`.

Value

A named list with components:

<code>km</code>	<code>kmeans</code> fit object.
<code>bkm</code>	"BSKMeans" object returned by <code>boot.kmeans</code> .
<code>fkm</code>	(Only if <code>what == "all"</code>) <code>fclust</code> fuzzy c -means fit.
<code>what</code>	Echo of the <code>what</code> argument.

References

- Ghashti, J.S., Andrews, J.L., Thompson, J.R.J., Epp, J. and H.S. Kochar (2025). A bootstrap augmented k -means algorithm for fuzzy partitions. Submitted.
- Bezdek, J.C. (1981). *Pattern recognition with fuzzy objective function algorithms*. New York: Plenum.
- Hartigan, J.A. and M.A. Wong (1979). Algorithm AS 136: A K-means clustering algorithm. *Applied Statistics*, 28, 100–108.
- Ferraro, M.B., Giordani P. and A. Serafini (2019). `fclust`: An R Package for Fuzzy Clustering, *The R Journal*, 11.

See Also

`boot.kmeans`, `compare.tables`, `bootk.hardsoftvis`, `kmeans`, [FKM](#)

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
x <- as.matrix(iris[, -5])

# compare all three methods
res <- compare.clusters(x, groups = 3, nstart = 10, what = "all")

# hard clusters from bootstrap kmeans
table(res$bkm$clusters, iris$Species)

# fuzzy memberships from fuzzy \eqn{c}-means
head(res$fkm$U)

# compare class labels
cbind(res$bkm$clusters[1:5], res$fkm$clus[1:5,2], res$km$cluster[1:5])
```

compare.tables

Contingency tables comparing true labels to fitted clusterings

Description

Given the output of [compare.clusters](#) and a vector of true class labels, prints confusion tables for: (i) hard k -means labels, (ii) the bootstrap augmented k -means MAP out-of-bag labels, and (optionally) (iii) fuzzy c -means hard labels.

Usage

```
compare.tables(full.res = NULL, true.labs = NULL, verbose = TRUE)
```

Arguments

full.res	A list returned by compare.clusters , containing components km, bkm, and fkm (the latter only if argument what = "all" in function compare.clusters).
true.labs	A vector of true class labels.
verbose	Logical; if TRUE, prints the contingency tables to the console. Default is TRUE.

Details

For k -means, hard labels are taken from full.res\$km\$cluster. For bootstrap k -means, labels are taken from full.res\$bkm\$clusters. If full.res\$what == "all" results are also taken from full.res\$fkm\$clus, which are the hard cluster assignments from the fuzzy c -means algorithm.

The function prints two or three contingency tables to the console, with three presented if [compare.clusters](#) has argument what = "all", and two otherwise.

Value

A list with components:

kmeans	A contingency table comparing true labels to k -means cluster assignments.
bootkmeans	A contingency table comparing true labels to bootkmeans cluster assignments.
fuzzcmeans	(Optional) A contingency table comparing true labels to fuzzy c -means cluster assignments, included only if <code>full.res\$what == "all"</code> .

If `verbose = TRUE`, the tables are also printed to the console.

References

- Ghashti, J.S., Andrews, J.L., Thompson, J.R.J., Epp, J. and H.S. Kochar (2025). A bootstrap augmented k -means algorithm for fuzzy partitions. Submitted.
- Bezdek, J.C. (1981). *Pattern recognition with fuzzy objective function algorithms*. New York: Plenum.
- Hartigan, J.A. and M.A. Wong (1979). Algorithm AS 136: A K-means clustering algorithm. *Applied Statistics*, 28, 100–108.
- Ferraro, M.B., Giordani P. and A. Serafini (2019). fclust: An R Package for Fuzzy Clustering, *The R Journal*, 11.

See Also

[boot.kmeans](#), [compare.clusters](#), [bootk.hardsoftvis](#), [kmeans](#), [FKM](#)

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
x <- as.matrix(iris[, -5])

# fit three methods (kmeans, bootstrap kmeans, fuzzy \eqn{c}-means)
res <- compare.clusters(x, groups = 3, nstart = 10, what = "all")

# compare contingency tables
compare.tables(res, true.labs = iris$Species)
```

Description

Computes fuzzy generalizations of the Adjusted Rand Index based on Frobenius inner products of membership matrices. These measures extends the Adjusted Rand Index to compare fuzzy partitions.

Usage

`fari(a, b)`

Arguments

- a An $n \times G_1$ matrix of hard or fuzzy cluster memberships, where each row sums to 1.
- b An $n \times G_2$ matrix of hard or fuzzy cluster memberships, where each row sums to 1.

Value

A single numeric value

fari The Frobenius Adjusted Rand index between a and b.

References

Andrews, J.L., Browne, R. and C.D. Hvingelby (2022). On Assessments of Agreement Between Fuzzy Partitions. *Journal of Classification*, 39, 326–342.

J.L. Andrews, FARI (2013). GitHub repository, <https://github.com/its-likeli-jeff/FARI>

Examples

```
set.seed(1)
a <- matrix(runif(600), nrow = 200, ncol = 3)
a <- a / rowSums(a)
b <- matrix(runif(600), nrow = 200, ncol = 3)
b <- b / rowSums(b)

fari(a, b)
```

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