# Package 'FeatureImpCluster'

October 12, 2022

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Title Feature Importance for Partitional Clustering
Version 0.1.5
<b>Description</b> Implements a novel approach for measuring feature importance in k-means clustering. Importance of a feature is measured by the misclassification rate relative to the baseline cluster assignment due to a random permutation of feature values. An explanation of permutation feature importance in general can be found here: <a href="https://christophm.github.io/interpretable-ml-book/feature-importance.html">https://christophm.github.io/interpretable-ml-book/feature-importance.html</a> .
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Author Oliver Pfaffel [aut, cre]
Maintainer Oliver Pfaffel <opfaffel@gmail.com></opfaffel@gmail.com>
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create\_random\_data

Create random data set with 4 clusters

#### **Description**

Create random data set with 4 clusters in a 2 dimensional subspace of a nr\_other\_vars+2 dimensional space

## Usage

```
create_random_data(n = 10000, nr_other_vars = 4)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
n number of points
nr_other_vars number of other variables / "noise" dimensions
```

#### Value

list containing the random data.table and a vector with the true underlying cluster assignments

## **Examples**

```
create_random_data(n=1e3)
```

FeatureImpCluster

Feature importance for k-means clustering

## Description

This function loops through PermMisClassRate for each variable of the data. The mean misclassification rate over all iterations is interpreted as variable importance.

## Usage

```
FeatureImpCluster(
  clusterObj,
  data,
  basePred = NULL,
  predFUN = NULL,
  sub = 1,
  biter = 10
)
```

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## **Arguments**

clusterObj	a "typical" cluster object. The only requirement is that there must be a prediction function which maps the data to an integer
data	data.table with the same features as the data set used for clustering (or the simply the same data)
basePred	should be equal to results of predFUN(clusterObj,newdata=data); this option saves time when data is a very large data set
predFUN	predFUN(clusterObj,newdata=data) should provide the cluster assignment as a numeric vector; typically this is a wrapper around a build-in prediction function
sub	integer between 0 and 1(=default), indicates that only a subset of the data should be used if $<$ 1
biter	the permutation is iterated biter(=5, default) times

#### Value

A list of

misClassRate A matrix of the permutation misclassification rate for each variable and each iteration

featureImp For each row of complete\_data, the associated cluster

## **Examples**

```
set.seed(123)
dat <- create_random_data(n=1e3)$data # random data
library(flexclust)
res <- kcca(dat,k=4)
f <- FeatureImpCluster(res,dat)
plot(f)</pre>
```

PermMisClassRate

Permutation misclassification rate for single variable

#### **Description**

Answers the following question: Using the current partion as a baseline, what is the misclassification rate if a given feature is permuted?

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#### Usage

```
PermMisClassRate(
   clusterObj,
   data,
   varName,
   basePred = NULL,
   predFUN = NULL,
   sub = 1,
   biter = 5,
   seed = 123
)
```

#### **Arguments**

cluster0bj a "typical" cluster object. The only requirement is that there must be a prediction

function which maps the data to an integer

data data.table with the same features as the data set used for clustering (or the simply

the same data)

varName character; variable name

basePred should be equal to results of predFUN(clusterObj,newdata=data); this option

saves time when data is a very large data set

predFUN predFUN(clusterObj,newdata=data) should provide the cluster assignment as a

numeric vector; typically this is a wrapper around a build-in prediction function

sub integer between 0 and 1(=default), indicates that only a subset of the data should

be used if <1

biter the permutation is iterated biter(=5, default) times

seed value for random seed

#### Value

vector of length biter with the misclassification rate

## **Examples**

```
set.seed(123)
dat <- create_random_data(n=1e3)$data # random data
library(flexclust)
res <- kcca(dat,k=4)
PermMisClassRate(res,dat,varName="x")</pre>
```

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## Description

Feature importance box plot

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'featImpCluster'
plot(x, dat = NULL, color = "none", showPoints = FALSE, ...)
```

## Arguments

Х	an object returned from FeatureImpCluster
dat	same data as used for the computation of the feature importance (only relevant for colored plots)
color	If set to "type", the plot will show different variable types with a different color.
showPoints	Show points (default is False)

... arguments to be passed to base plot method

#### Value

Returns a ggplot2 object

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