

Computational Intelligence

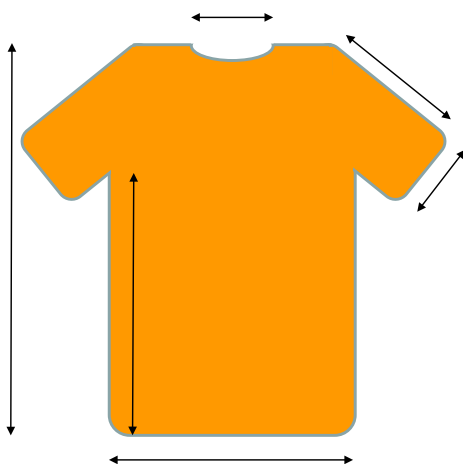
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- Fuzzy Clustering

Introductory Example: Textile Industry

→ production of T-shirts (for men)



best for producer : one size

vs.

best for consumer: made-to-measure

⇒ compromise: S, M, L, XL, 2XL

5 sizes

→ OK, but which lengths for which size?

idea:

- select, say, 2000 men at random and measure their “body lengths”
- arrange these 2000 men into five disjoint groups

such that

- deviations from mean of group as small as possible
- differences between group means as large as possible

arm's length,
collar size,
chest girth, ...

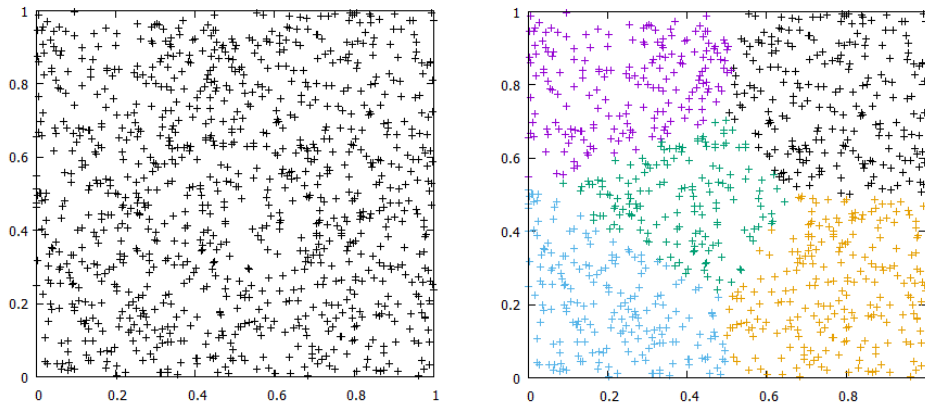
in general:

arrange objects into groups / clusters

such that

- elements within a cluster are as homogeneous as possible
- elements across clusters are as heterogeneous as possible

numerical example: 1000 points uniformly sampled in $[0,1] \times [0,1] \rightarrow$ form 5 cluster



given data points $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N \in \mathbb{R}^n$

objective: group data points into cluster
such that

- points within cluster are as homogeneous as possible
- points across clusters are as heterogeneous as possible

$\Rightarrow$ crisp clustering is just a partitioning of data set $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$, i.e.,

$$\bigcup_{k=1}^K C_k = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} \quad \text{and} \quad \forall j \neq k : C_j \cap C_k = \emptyset$$

where C_k is Cluster k and K denotes the number of clusters.

Constraint: $\forall k = 1, \dots, K : |C_k| \geq 1$ hence $1 \leq K \leq N$

Complexity: How many choices to assign N objects into K clusters?

more precisely:

$\rightarrow$ objects are distinguishable / labeled

$\rightarrow$ clusters are nondistinguishable / unlabeled **and** nonempty

$\Rightarrow$ Stirling number of 2nd kind $S(N, K) = \frac{1}{K!} \sum_{i=1}^K (-1)^{K-i} \binom{K}{i} \cdot i^N \sim \frac{K^N}{K!}$

N/K	1	2	3	4	5
10	1	511	9,330	34,105	42,525
11	1	1,023	28,501	145,750	246,730
12	1	2,047	86,526	611,501	1,379,400
13	1	4,095	261,625	2,532,530	7,508,501
14	1	8,191	788,970	10,391,745	40,075,035
15	1	16,383	2,375,101	42,355,950	210,766,920

$$\begin{aligned} S(100, 5) &= 6.6 \times 10^{67} \\ S(1000, 5) &= 7.8 \times 10^{696} \\ S(2000, 5) &= 7.3 \times 10^{1395} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$ enumeration hopeless! $\Rightarrow$ iterative improvement procedure required!

idea: define objective function
that measures compactness of clusters *and* quality of partition

$\rightarrow$ elements in cluster C_j should be as homogeneous as possible!

$\rightarrow$ sum of squared distances to unknown center y should be as small as possible

$\rightarrow$ find y with $\sum_{i \in C_j} d(x_i, y)^2 \rightarrow \min!$

typically, $d(x_i, y) = \|x_i - y\| = \sqrt{(x_i - y)'(x_i - y)}$ (Euclidean norm)

$$\frac{d}{dy} \sum_{i \in C_j} (x_i - y)'(x_i - y) = -2 \sum_{i \in C_j} (x_i - y) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i \in C_j} x_i \stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{i \in C_j} y = |C_j| \cdot y \quad \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{|C_j|} \sum_{i \in C_j} x_i =: \bar{x}_j$$

→ elements in each cluster C_j should be as homogeneous as possible!

→ find partition $C = (C_1, \dots, C_K)$ with $D(C) = \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i \in C_j} d(x_i, \bar{x}_j)^2 \rightarrow \min!$

Definition

A partition C^* is optimal if

$$D(C^*) = \min\{D(C) : C \in P(N, K)\}$$

where $P(N, K)$ denotes all partitions of N elements in K clusters.

Theorem

$$\min_{C \in P(N, K)} D(C) = \max_{C \in P(N, K)} \sum_{j=1}^K |C_j| \cdot \|\bar{x}_j - \bar{x}\|^2$$

where $\bar{x}$ is the mean of all x .

$\forall k = 1, \dots, K$: set $C_k = \emptyset$

$\forall x \in \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$: assign x to some cluster C_k

set $t = 0$ and $D^{(t)} = \infty$

repeat

$t = t + 1$

$$\forall k = 1, \dots, K: \bar{x}_k = \frac{1}{|C_k|} \sum_{x \in C_k} x$$

$\forall i = 1, \dots, N$: $d_{ik} = d(x_i, \bar{x}_k)$ distance to center of cluster k

let k^* be such that $d_{ik^*} = \min\{d_{ik} : k = 1, \dots, K\}$

assign x_i to C_{k^*}

$$D^{(t)} = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{x \in C_k} d(x, \bar{x}_k)$$

until $D^{(t-1)} - D^{(t)} < \varepsilon$

objective for **crisp** clustering:

find partition $C = (C_1, \dots, C_K)$ with $D(C) = \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i \in C_j} d(x_i, \bar{x}_j)^2 \rightarrow \min!$

→ rewrite objective:

find partition $C = (C_1, \dots, C_K)$ with $D(C) = \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij} \cdot d(x_i, \bar{x}_j)^2 \rightarrow \min!$

expresses membership $\longrightarrow u_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_i \in C_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

objective for **fuzzy** clustering:

find partition $C = (C_1, \dots, C_K)$ with $D(C) = \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m \cdot d(x_i, \bar{x}_j)^2 \rightarrow \min!$

$u_{ij} \in [0, 1] \subset \mathbb{R}, m > 1$

find partition $C = (C_1, \dots, C_K)$ with $D(C) = \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m \cdot d(x_i, \bar{x}_j)^2 \rightarrow \min!$

where

$u_{ij} \in [0, 1] \subset \mathbb{R}$ denotes membership of x_i to cluster C_j

$m > 1$ denotes a fixed *fuzzifier* (controls / affects membership function)

subject to

$$\sum_{j=1}^K u_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N$$

$$0 < \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij} < N \quad \forall j = 1, \dots, K$$

each x_i distributes membership completely over clusters $C_1, \dots, C_K$
→ normalization

at least one element belongs to some extent to a certain cluster, but not all elements to a single cluster

two questions:

- (a) how to define and calculate centers $\bar{x}_j$?
 (b) how to obtain optimal memberships u_{ij} ?

ad a) let $d(x_i, \bar{x}_j) = \|x_i - \bar{x}_j\|_2$

$$\frac{d}{d\bar{x}_j} \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m \cdot (x_i - \bar{x}_j)'(x_i - \bar{x}_j) = -2 \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m \cdot (x_i - \bar{x}_j) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m x_i \stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m \bar{x}_j \Leftrightarrow \bar{x}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m} \rightarrow \text{weighted mean!}$$

ad b) let $d_{ij} := d(x_i, \bar{x}_j) = \|x_i - \bar{x}_j\|_2$

apply **Lagrange multiplier method**:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial u_{ij}} \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m \cdot d_{ij}^2 - \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^K u_{ij} - 1 \right) = m u_{ij}^{m-1} \cdot d_{ij}^2 - \lambda_i \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$\Leftrightarrow$
without constraints $\rightarrow u_{ij}^* = 0$

$$u_{ij}^* = \left(\frac{\lambda_i}{m \cdot d_{ij}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^K u_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^K \left(\frac{\lambda_i}{m \cdot d_{ij}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} = \sum_{j=1}^K \frac{\lambda_i^{\frac{1}{q}}}{(m \cdot d_{ij}^2)^{\frac{1}{q}}} = \lambda_i^{\frac{1}{q}} \sum_{j=1}^K \frac{1}{(m \cdot d_{ij}^2)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \stackrel{!}{=} 1$$

set $q = m - 1$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_i^* = \left[\sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{(m \cdot d_{ik}^2)^{\frac{1}{q}}} \right]^{-q}$$

after insertion:

$$u_{ij}^* = \left(\frac{1}{m \cdot d_{ij}^2} \left[\frac{1}{\sum_{k=1}^K \left(\frac{1}{m \cdot d_{ik}^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}} \right]^{m-1} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} = \left[\sum_{k=1}^K \left(\frac{d_{ij}}{d_{ik}} \right)^{\frac{2}{m-1}} \right]^{-1}$$

choose $K \in \mathbb{N}$ and $m > 1$

choose u_{ij} at random (obeying constraints)

repeat

$\forall j = 1, \dots, K$: calculate centers $\bar{x}_j$

$\forall i = 1, \dots, N$:

let $J_i = \{j : x_i = \bar{x}_j\}$

if $J_i = \emptyset$ determine memberships u_{ij}

else

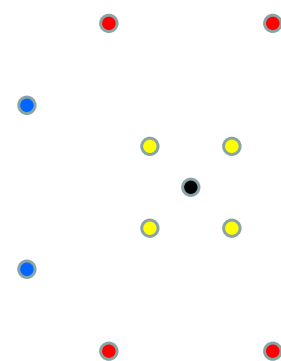
choose u_{ij} such that $\sum_{j \in J_i} u_{ij} = 1$

and $u_{ij} = 0$ for $j \notin J_i$

until $D(C^{(t)}) - D(C^{(t+1)}) < \varepsilon$ or $t = t_{max}$

problems:

- choice of K
calculate quality measure for each #cluster; then choose best
- choice of m
try some values; typical: $m=2$; use interval $\rightarrow$ fuzzy type-2



black dot is center of

- red cluster

- blue cluster

- yellow cluster

in case of equal weights

$u_{ij} = 1 / |J_i|$ for $j \in J_i$ appears plausible

but: different values algorithmically better

$\rightarrow$ cluster centers more likely to separate again ($\rightarrow$ tiny randomization?)

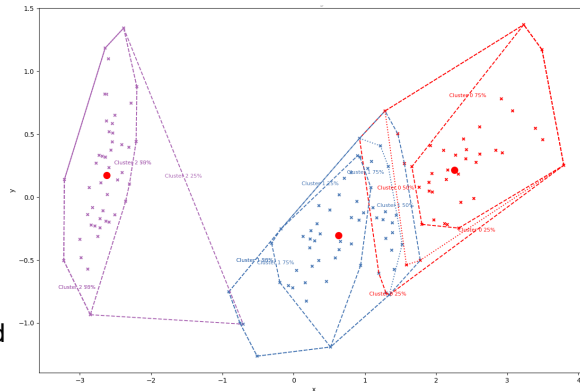
n = 2**idea:** plot data points in 2-D, draw isolines with degree of membership**example:**

requested: 3 cluster

red bullet = cluster center
dashed lines = isolines

observations:

- red and blue cluster overlap
- purple cluster almost isolated

**n > 2****idea:** reduction of data dimension from n to 2

→ several methods available:

principal component analysis (PCA), multi-dimensional scaling (MDS),
singular value decomposition (SVD), spectral embedding, ...

2 options:
 → first reduce dimension of data, then clustering in 2-D
 → first clustering in n-D, then reduce dimension of cluster data

finally, apply method developed for n = 2

• Partition Coefficient

$$PC(C_1, \dots, C_K) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^K u_{ij}^2 \quad (\text{"larger is better"})$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{maximum if } u_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \text{crisp partition} \\ \text{minimum if } u_{ij} = \frac{1}{K} \rightarrow \text{entirely fuzzy} \end{array} \right\} \frac{1}{K} \leq PC(C_1, \dots, C_K) \leq 1$$

• Partition Entropy

$$PE(C_1, \dots, C_K) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^K u_{ij} \cdot \log_2(u_{ij}) \quad (\text{"smaller is better"})$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{maximum if } u_{ij} = \frac{1}{K} \rightarrow \text{entirely fuzzy} \\ \text{minimum if } u_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \text{crisp partition} \end{array} \right\} 0 \leq PE(C_1, \dots, C_K) \leq \log_2(K)$$

Finding an appropriate number of clusters

Possible approach: (mc = max. number of clusters)

```

set score s* to worst possible value
for c = 2 to mc
    apply FCM with c clusters (yields membership matrix U)
    determine quality of clustering from U (yields score s)
    if s better than s* then
        s* = s; c* = c
    endif
endfor
output c*
```

Many more methods for assessing quality of clustering available:

Hong-Yu Wang, Jie-Sheng Wang, Guan Wang: A survey of fuzzy clustering validity evaluation methods,
Information Sciences 618:270-297, 2022.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ins.2022.11.010>

So far, the distance measure was defined via the p-norm with $p = 2$ (Euclidean norm)

$$d(x, y) = \|x - y\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y_i)^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

In principle, every value of p with $1 < p < \infty$ can be used with this approach.

⇒ for *given centers* $\bar{x}_j$ the expression for the memberships is unchanged

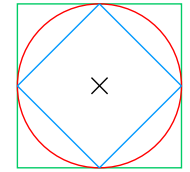
$$\text{Let } d_{ij} = \|x_i - \bar{x}_j\|_p \text{ then } u_{ij} = \left[\sum_{k=1}^K \left(\frac{d_{ij}}{d_{ik}} \right)^{\frac{2}{m-1}} \right]^{-1}$$

But even for *given memberships* there is no explicit expression for the centers.

⇒ must solve K minimization problems with n variables numerically

There exist algorithms for $p = 1$ and $p = \infty$ with *explicit* expressions for centers and memberships.

L. Bobrowski and J. C. Bezdek:
c-Means clustering with the L_1 and L_∞ norms,
IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man, and Cybernetics 21(3):545-554, 1991.
DOI: [10.1109/21.97475](https://doi.org/10.1109/21.97475)



same distance for $p = 1, 2, \infty$

Mahalanobis distance

$$d_{ij} = \|x_i - \bar{x}_j\|_M = \sqrt{(x_i - \bar{x}_j)^\top M^{-1} (x_i - \bar{x}_j)} \text{ with positive definite matrix } M$$

⇒ leads to elliptical shape of cluster

matrix M not fixed but adapted from given data → each cluster has own matrix

⇒ *Gustafson-Kessel* fuzzy cluster algorithm (1979)

$$\min_{U, \bar{X}, M} \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^N u_{ij}^m (x_i - \bar{x}_j)^\top M_j^{-1} (x_i - \bar{x}_j) \quad \text{s.t. } |M_j| = 1, \sum_{j=1}^K u_{ij} = 1, 0 \leq u_{ij} \leq 1$$

Fuzzy c-Shells Algorithm



- every cluster $k = (v, r)$ is characterized by center v of shell and radius r

- must define an appropriate distance function

$$d^2(x, (v, r)) = (\|x - v\|_2 - r)^2 \quad [\text{R.N. Davé 1990}]$$

problem: shell center not given as explicit expression;
must solve a set of nonlinear equations

$$d^2(x, (v, r)) = (\|x - v\|_2^2 - r^2)^2 \quad [\text{Krishnapuram et al. 1991}]$$

shell center and memberships determined by explicit expressions;
but points outside the shells punished harder → results different