Kernel Tuning for Compressive Clustering

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Context: large-scale (unsupervised) machine learning

Goal: learn from the dataset about the underlying distribution!



Dataset X (size $d \times n$)

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What do we learn? What is θ ?

For today:

k-means clustering. $\theta = \{c_1, ..., c_k\}, k$ centroids in \mathbb{R}^d minimizing the sum of squared errors:

$$\mathsf{SSE}((c_j)_{1 \le j \le k}, X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \min_j \|x_i - c_j\|^2.$$



Each sample x_i is assigned to the closest centroid.

Handling large datasets: several approaches



$d \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \dots \\ x_n \\ x_$ Use the whole dataset

"Compressive" approaches?

Handling large datasets: several approaches



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Dimensionality reduction New dimension $d' \ll d$.

Handling large datasets: several approaches



Use the whole dataset e.g. empirical risk minimization ☆ Requires storage, RAM, time, GPUs.

"Compressive" approaches?

Dimensionality reduction New dimension $d' \ll d$.

Subsampling (Coresets, Nyström methods) $n' \ll n$ samples



Dataset X (size $d \times n$)





[Bourrier, Gribonval, and Pérez, 2013. "Compressive Gaussian Mixture Estimation"]



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Which feature map Φ ? How to learn?

For k-means clustering and GMM fitting, random Fourier features [Rahimi and Recht, 2008] :

$$\Phi(x) = \left[\begin{array}{c} e^{-i\omega_1^T x} \\ \vdots \\ e^{-i\omega_m^T x} \end{array} \right] \in \mathbb{C}^m \text{, with } \omega \overset{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \tfrac{1}{\sigma^2}I) \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

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Learn from the empirical sketch = moment-matching problem (cf. [Hall, 2005]). k-means clustering: looking for centroids $C = c_1, ..., c_k$ in \mathbb{R}^d and weights α :

$$(C, \alpha) = \underset{\substack{C, \alpha \ge 0 \\ \alpha^T \mathbf{1} = 1}}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \Big\| \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \Phi(c_i)}_{\substack{\text{sketch of the} \\ \operatorname{centroids}(c_i)_{1 \le i \le k}}} - \underbrace{\mathbf{z}}_{\substack{\text{sketch of the} \\ \operatorname{sketch}}} \Big\|_2.$$

▲ This is non-convex!

Heuristics exist (Continuous OMP [Keriven et al., 2017], Message passing [Byrne et al., 2019] ...)

Interpretation of $\Phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-i\omega_1^T x} \\ \vdots \\ e^{-i\omega_m^T x} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^m$

For probabilists:

- Sketch = random samples of the empirical characteristic function φ .
- \blacksquare Learning from the sketch \approx generalized method of moments

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For sparsity addicts:

- Akin to compressive sensing [Foucart and Rauhut, 2013] .
- Sketch = noisy linear measurements of the distribution via $\mathcal{A}(\pi) = \mathbf{E}_{x \sim \pi} \Phi(x)$.
- Recovery possible with additional regularity assumptions (e.g. : recover mixture of diracs).

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Signal processing perspective:

 $\| \mathbf{z}_{\pi_1} - \mathbf{z}_{\pi_2} \|_2 \approx \| \kappa \star \pi_1 - \kappa \star \pi_2 \|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \text{ where } \kappa : u \mapsto \exp(-\frac{\|u\|^2}{2\sigma^2}) \quad (\text{Remember } \omega \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{\sigma^2}I)) \text{ i.e. sketching = low-pass filtering with a Gaussian kernel.}$

Statistical Learning Guarantees?

Yes! (Control of the excess risk)

Successful recovery provided that:

Condition on the kernel

 $\sigma^2 \leq \varepsilon^2/\log(k)$

where $\varepsilon =$ separation (minimum distance) between clusters.

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- Minimum sketch size

 $m\gtrsim k^2 d.$

In practice: $m = \Theta(kd)$ is sufficient.

(Remember: we are learning kd parameters.)



Figure: Impact of the sketch size m on clustering error (RSSE = SSE error w.r.t. standard k-means).

How to choose σ^2 ? [Chatalic and Gribonval, 2020]

Simulations with data drawn as $x \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{1}{k} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{c}_{i}, \sigma_{\mathsf{intra}}^{2}I)$ with $\mathbf{c}_{i} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{\mathsf{inter}}^{2}I)$.



• Yellow = good (RSSE \approx 1), blue = bad.

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Conclusion:

- Use the clusters separation
- The log(k)⁻¹ dependency might be a proof artifact

How to learn the separation ε from the dataset?

Consider a mixture of dirac $P_C = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{1 \le i \le k} \delta_{c_i}$. Define $\mathbf{d}_{ij} \triangleq \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{c}_i - \mathbf{c}_j)$ for any i, j.

When k = 2, we have

$$|1 - |\varphi(\omega)|^2 = \sin^2(\omega^\top \mathbf{d}_{12}) \approx |\omega^\top \mathbf{d}_{12}|^2 \text{ provided } \sigma_\omega \ll 1/\|\mathbf{d}_{12}\|^2$$

 \rightarrow we can get an approximation of $\varepsilon = \|\mathbf{d}_{12}\|$

When
$$\mathbf{k} > 2$$
, $\frac{1}{2}(k^2|\varphi(t\omega)|^2 - k) = \sum_{i < j} \cos(2\pi f_{ij}t)$ where $f_{ij} \triangleq \frac{1}{\pi} |\omega^T \mathbf{d}_{ij}|$

 \rightarrow ... to be continued!

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