

# CPSC540



Clustering & Mixture Models K-Means & the EM Algorithm



Nando de Freitas November, 2011 University of British Columbia

# Clustering Gestalt perceptual grouping



#### K-means algorithm

CI CL

2<sub>5</sub> = 3

0

- 1. Initialisation: Choose k = 2 means  $\mu_{1:2}$  at random.
- 2. Compute distances: For  $c = 1, \ldots, k$  and i =
  - $1, \ldots, n$  compute the distance  $||x_i \mu_c||^2$ .
- 3. Assign data to nearest mean: To keep track of assignments, introduce the indicator variable  $z_i$ , such that  $[I_i(z)]_{i=1}^{i=1}$

$$\mathbb{I}_{c}(z_{i}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c = \arg\min_{c'} ||x_{i} - \mu_{c'}||^{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

That is,  $\mathbb{I}_2(z_i) = 1$  if observation  $x_i$  is closer to cluster 2.  $\mathbb{I}_c(z_i)$  end up being the entries of an  $n \times k$  matrix with only one 1 per row and many zeros.

# K-means algorithm (continued) $\sum_{i} I_{c}(z_{i}) = \# paints in Cluster C$

4. Update means:

$$\mu_c = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}_c(z_i) x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}_c(z_i)}$$

5. **Repeat:** Go back to step 2. until the means and assignments stop changing.

#### Hard Vs Soft assignments

The problem with this algorithm is that the assignments are hard. Something is either this or that. Sometimes, however, we would like to say that something is this with probability 0.7 or that with probability 0.3.

We would like to find not only the means, but also the variances of each cluster and the probabilities of belonging to each cluster.

# Clustering



#### Probabilistic approach

For the 2 clusters, we approximate the probability of each data point with a weighted combination of Gaussians

Here, the unknown parameters are  $(\mu_{1:2}, \sigma_{1:2}^2)$  and the cluster probabilities  $p(z_i = 1)$  and  $p(z_i = 2)$ , which we rewrite as p(1) and p(2) for brevity. Note that p(1)+p(2) = 1 to ensure that we still have a probability.



#### Probabilistic approach

In general, we have

$$p(x_i|\theta) = \sum_{c=1}^{k} p(c) \mathcal{N}(x_i|\mu_c, \sigma_c^2)$$

where  $\theta = (\mu_{1:c}, \sigma_{1:c}^2)$  summarises the model parameters and  $p(c) = p(z_i = c)$ . Clearly,  $\sum_{c=1}^k p(c) = 1$ .

#### The EM algorithm

In this section, we use intuition to introduce the expectationmaximisation (EM). If we know  $\mathbb{I}_c(z_i)$ , then it is easy to compute  $(\mu_c, \sigma_c^2)$  by maximum likelihood. We repeat this for each cluster. The problem is that we have a chicken and egg situation. To know the cluster memberships, we need the parameters of the Gaussians. To know the parameters, we need the cluster memberships.

One solution is to approximate  $\mathbb{I}_c(z_i)$  with our expectation of it given the data and our current estimate of the parameters  $\theta$ . That is, we replace  $\mathbb{I}_c(z_i)$  with

 $\xi_{ic} \triangleq \mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{I}_c(z_i) | x_i, \theta\right]$ 



#### The EM algorithm

Once we know  $\xi_{ic}$ , we can compute the Gaussian mixture parameters:

$$\mu_{c} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_{ic} x_{i}}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_{ic}}$$
  

$$\Sigma_{c} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_{ic} (x_{i} - \mu_{c}) (x_{i} - \mu_{c})'}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_{ic}}$$
  

$$p(c) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \xi_{ic}$$

# The EM algorithm

The EM for Gaussians is as follows:

#### 1. Initialise.

2. **E Step:** At iteration t, compute the expectation of the indicators for each i and c:

$$\xi_{ic}^{(t)} = \frac{p(c)^{(t)} \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu_c^{(t)}, \Sigma_c^{(t)})}{\sum_{c'=1}^k p(c')^{(t)} \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu_{c'}^{(t)}, \Sigma_{c'}^{(t)})}$$

and normalise it (divide by sum over c).

3. **M Step:** Update the parameters  $p(c)^{(t)}, \mu_c^{(t)}, \Sigma_c^{(t)}$ .

#### Clustering images



#### EM for text data

"Large" text dataset:

- 1,000,000 words in 1967
- 1,000,000,000,000 words in 2006

Success stories:

- Speech recognition
- Machine translation

What is the common thing that makes both of these work well?

- Lots of labeled data
- Memorization is a good policy

[Halevy, Norvig & Pereira, 2009]



4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 till convergence

### Statistical machine translation



![](_page_8_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### K-means for feature learning

- 1. Extract random patches from unlabeled training images.
- 2. Apply a pre-processing stage to the patches.
- 3. Learn a feature-mapping using an unsupervised learning algorithm.

The above steps, for a particular choice of unsupervised learning algorithm, yield a function f that transforms an input patch  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  to a new representation  $y = f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^K$ . Using this feature extractor, we now apply it to our (labeled) training images for classification.

[Adam Coates, Honglak Lee & Andrew Ng 2009]

![](_page_9_Figure_6.jpeg)

[Adam Coates, Honglak Lee & Andrew Ng 2009]

#### K-means for feature learning

**K-means clustering:** We apply K-means clustering to learn K centroids  $c^{(k)}$  from the input data. Given the learned centroids  $c^{(k)}$ , we consider two choices for the feature mapping f. The first is the standard 1-of-K, hard-assignment coding scheme:

$$f_k(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } k = \arg\min_j ||c^{(j)} - x||_2^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(2)

The second is a non-linear mapping that attempts to be "softer" than the above encoding, but also yield sparse outputs through simple competition:

$$f_k(x) = \max\{0, \mu(z) - z_k\}$$
(3)

where  $z_k = ||x - c^{(k)}||_2$  and  $\mu(z)$  is the mean of the elements of z.

$$(1 - \frac{2i}{2} - \chi) = \frac{f_1}{f_2} = \max(0, \frac{3i+3i}{2} - 3i) = \frac{2i-3}{2}$$
  
 $(1 - \frac{3i}{2} - \frac{3i}{2}) = \frac{2i-3}{2}$ 

[Adam Coates, Honglak Lee & Andrew Ng 2009]

#### Learned bases (centroids)

![](_page_10_Figure_9.jpeg)

(c) Sparse Autoencoder (with and without whitening)

(d) Sparse RBM (with and without whitening)

[Adam Coates, Honglak Lee & Andrew Ng 2009]

#### Mapping image to feature vector

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

Figure 1: Illustration showing feature extraction using a w-by-w receptive field and stride s. We first extract w-by-w patches separated by s pixels each, then map them to K-dimensional feature vectors to form a new image representation. These vectors are then pooled over 4 quadrants of the image to form a feature vector for classification. (For clarity we have drawn the leftmost figure with a stride greater than w, but in practice the stride is almost always smaller than w.

[Adam Coates, Honglak Lee & Andrew Ng 2009]

#### K-means for feature learning

![](_page_11_Figure_5.jpeg)

[Adam Coates, Honglak Lee & Andrew Ng 2009]

![](_page_12_Picture_0.jpeg)