

CSI 436/536 (Fall 2024) Machine Learning

Lecture 18: Clustering

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Recap: From kernels to neural networks



Recap: Two-layer neural networks

- Neural network: $S(x) = w_2^T (W_1 x + b_1) + b_2$
 - Still a linear model at the end of the day, so let's add a nonlinearity $\sigma!$
- Two-layer MLP: $S(x) = w_2^T \sigma(W_1 x + \boldsymbol{b}_1) + b_2$
 - Linear model w.r.t. to a learnable feature map



Recap: Learning \approx Configuring the learnable function so it behaves as instructed.



Unsupervised learning

- Input space: \mathcal{X} Images, videos, text, graphs, proteins, programs, etc...
- Output space: None.
- Hypothesis space: ${\cal H}$
- Each hypothesis h is a particular way to summarize the data
- Loss function $\,\ell:\mathcal{H} imes\mathcal{X} o\mathbb{R}\,$
- Goal:
 - Discover data structure
 - Often achieved by minimizing the loss

Goal of unsupervised learning is to **learn data structures** without labels



• Discussion: What kind of structures can you see?











Two broad categories of unsupervised learning (1) Clustering (2) Dimension reduction

- Clustering:
 - finding a partition of the data that makes sense.







- Dimension reduction:
 - identifying a more compact representation (low-dimension) of data





Application: Motion segmentation and subspace clustering





Applications: learn useful vector space representation of language

• So you can do algebra on them..



Application: Image / video compression



100 dpi low JPEG compression



File size: 248K



100 dpi medium JPEG compression



File size: 49K





File size: 22K

How do you learn the structure you see?



- Come up with a loss function to minimize?
- Come up a probabilistic model that generates the data?

The problem of k-means clustering

$$rgmin_{\mathbf{S}} \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in S_i} \|\mathbf{x} - oldsymbol{\mu}_i\|^2$$

• Where $\mathbf{S} = \{S_1, S_2, ..., S_k\}$ is a partition of the datas $(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, ..., \mathbf{x}_n)$,

• And
$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{|S_i|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in S_i} \mathbf{x}$$
, is called a cluster center (centroid) of S_i

The above optimization problem is equivalent to the following loss minimization

$$\min_{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \min_{j \in [k]} \|x_i - \mu_j\|^2$$

- Once we find the **centroids**, finding the **partition of the data** is easy.
- If we have the partition, finding the corresponding centroids is also easy.
- **Idea:** Alternating minimizing the centroids and cluster assignments.

K-means clustering with Lloyd's algorithm



return μ_1, \ldots, μ_K ;











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K-means on our previous examples



Gaussian mixture models

Assume the data is generated from a mixture of Gaussian distribution



· 10³

10²

10¹

100

30

• Data generating process

Fitting mixture of Gaussian model



- Assign **soft** labels to each data point.
- Algorithms for fitting Gaussian mixture models?
 - Expectation-Maximization (not covered in this course... but also alternating making updates)

Summary: Unsupervised Learning

- K-means algorithm
 - Assign hard labels to data points
 - How does it work?
 - Alternating makes updates
 - Which distance function to use?
 - How many cluster centers (centroids) to choose?
 - How to initialize the centroids?
- Gaussian mixture models
 - Assign soft labels to data points
 - A probabilistic model for clustering