## Clustering

CS4780/5780 – Machine Learning Fall 2012

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Reading: Manning/Raghavan/Schuetze, Chapters 16 (not 16.3) and 17 (http://nlp.stanford.edu/IR-book/)

## Outline

- Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning
- Hierarchical Clustering

   Hierarchical Agglomerative Clustering (HAC)
- Non-Hierarchical Clustering
  - K-means
  - Mixtures of Gaussians and EM-Algorithm

# Supervised Learning vs. Unsupervised Learning

- Supervised Learning
  - Classification: partition examples into groups according to pre-defined categories
  - Regression: assign value to feature vectors
  - Requires labeled data for training
- Unsupervised Learning
  - Clustering: partition examples into groups when no pre-defined categories/classes are available
  - Novelty detection: find changes in data
  - Outlier detection: find unusual events (e.g. hackers)
  - Only instances required, but no labels

# Clustering

- Partition unlabeled examples into disjoint subsets of *clusters*, such that:
  - Examples within a cluster are similar
  - Examples in different clusters are different
- Discover new categories in an *unsupervised* manner (no sample category labels provided).

# **Applications of Clustering**

- Cluster retrieved documents
  - to present more organized and understandable results to user → "diversified retrieval"
- Detecting near duplicates
  - Entity resolution
    - E.g. "Thorsten Joachims" == "Thorsten B Joachims"
  - Cheating detection
- Exploratory data analysis
- Automated (or semi-automated) creation of taxonomies
  - e.g. Yahoo-style
- Compression

## **Applications of Clustering**

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## Similarity (Distance) Measures

• Euclidian distance (L<sub>2</sub> norm):

$$L_2(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - x_i')^2}$$

- $L_1$  norm:  $L_1(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N |x_i - x'_i|}$
- Cosine similarity:

$$\cos(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \frac{\vec{x} * \vec{x}'}{\|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{x}'\|}$$

• Kernels

## **Hierarchical Clustering**

• Build a tree-based hierarchical taxonomy from a set of unlabeled examples.



• Recursive application of a standard clustering algorithm can produce a hierarchical clustering.

# Agglomerative vs. Divisive Clustering

- Agglomerative (bottom-up) methods start with each example in its own cluster and iteratively combine them to form larger and larger clusters.
- *Divisive* (*top-down*) separate all examples immediately into clusters.



# Hierarchical Agglomerative Clustering (HAC)

- Assumes a *similarity function* for determining the similarity of two clusters.
- Starts with all instances in a separate cluster and then repeatedly joins the two clusters that are most similar until there is only one cluster.
- The history of merging forms a binary tree or hierarchy.
- Basic algorithm:
  - Start with all instances in their own cluster.
  - Until there is only one cluster:
    - Among the current clusters, determine the two clusters, c<sub>i</sub> and c<sub>i</sub>, that are most similar.
    - Replace  $c_i$  and  $c_j$  with a single cluster  $c_i \cup c_j$

# **Cluster Similarity**

- How to compute similarity of two clusters each possibly containing multiple instances?
  - *Single link*: Similarity of two most similar members.
  - Complete link: Similarity of two least similar members.
  - Group average: Average similarity between members.

## Single-Link HAC



$$sim(c_i,c_j) = \max_{x \in c_i, y \in c_j} sim(x, y)$$

#### **Complete-Link HAC**



$$sim(c_i,c_j) = \min_{x \in c_i, y \in c_j} sim(x, y)$$

## **Computational Complexity of HAC**

- In the first iteration, all HAC methods need to compute similarity of all pairs of n individual instances which is O(n<sup>2</sup>).
- In each of the subsequent O(n) merging iterations, it must compute the distance between the most recently created cluster and all other existing clusters.
- In order to maintain the similarity matrix in O(n<sup>2</sup>) overall, computing the similarity to any other cluster must each be done in constant time.
- Maintain Heap to find smallest pair  $\rightarrow$  O(n<sup>2</sup> log n)

#### Single-Link Example



# **Computing Cluster Similarity**

- After merging c<sub>i</sub> and c<sub>j</sub>, the similarity of the resulting cluster to any other cluster, c<sub>k</sub>, can be computed by:
  - Single Link:

$$sim((c_i \cup c_j), c_k) = \max(sim(c_i, c_k), sim(c_j, c_k))$$

– Complete Link:

 $sim((c_i \cup c_j), c_k) = \min(sim(c_i, c_k), sim(c_j, c_k))$ 

# Group Average Agglomerative Clustering

 Use average similarity across all pairs within the merged cluster to measure the similarity of two clusters.

$$sim(c_{i}, c_{j}) = \frac{1}{|c_{i} \cup c_{j}|(|c_{i} \cup c_{j}| - 1)} \sum_{\vec{x} \in (c_{i} \cup c_{j})} \sum_{\vec{y} \in (c_{i} \cup c_{j}): \vec{y} \neq \vec{x}} sim(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

• Compromise between single and complete link.

# Computing Group Average Similarity

- Assume cosine similarity and normalized vectors with unit length.
- Always maintain sum of vectors in each cluster.

$$\vec{s}(c_j) = \sum_{\vec{x} \in c_j} \vec{x}$$

Compute similarity of clusters in constant time:

$$sim(c_i, c_j) = \frac{(\vec{s}(c_i) + \vec{s}(c_j)) \bullet (\vec{s}(c_i) + \vec{s}(c_j)) - (|c_i| + |c_i|)}{(|c_i| + |c_i|)(|c_i| + |c_i| - 1)}$$

## **Non-Hierarchical Clustering**

- K-means clustering ("hard")
- Mixtures of Gaussians and training via Expectation maximization Algorithm ("soft")

# **Clustering Criterion**

- Evaluation function that assigns a (usually real-valued) value to a clustering
  - Clustering criterion typically function of
    - within-cluster similarity and
    - between-cluster dissimilarity
- Optimization
  - Find clustering that maximizes the criterion
    - Global optimization (often intractable)
    - Greedy search
    - Approximation algorithms

## **Centroid-Based Clustering**

- Assumes instances are real-valued vectors.
- Clusters represented via *centroids* (i.e. average of points in a cluster) *c*:

$$\vec{\mu}(c) = \frac{1}{|c|} \sum_{\vec{x} \in c} \vec{x}$$

 Reassignment of instances to clusters is based on distance to the current cluster centroids.

## **K-Means Algorithm**

- Input: k = number of clusters, distance measure d
- Select k random instances  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\}$  as seeds.
- Until clustering converges or other stopping criterion:
  - For each instance *x<sub>i</sub>*:
    - Assign  $x_i$  to the cluster  $c_i$  such that  $d(x_i, s_i)$  is min.
  - For each cluster  $c_i$  //update the centroid of each cluster

•  $s_j = \mu(c_j)$ 

#### K-means Example (k=2)



Pick seeds
Reassign clusters
Compute centroids
Reassign clusters
Compute centroids
Reassign clusters

Converged!

# **Time Complexity**

- Assume computing distance between two instances is O(N) where N is the dimensionality of the vectors.
- Reassigning clusters for *n* points: O(*kn*) distance computations, or O(*knN*).
- Computing centroids: Each instance gets added once to some centroid: O(nN).
- Assume these two steps are each done once for i iterations: O(iknN).
- Linear in all relevant factors, assuming a fixed number of iterations, more efficient than HAC.

# **Buckshot Algorithm**

Problem

- Results can vary based on random seed selection, especially for high-dimensional data.
- Some seeds can result in poor convergence rate, or convergence to sub-optimal clusterings.
- Idea: Combine HAC and K-means clustering.
- First randomly take a sample of instances of size
- Run group-average HAC on this sample n<sup>1/2</sup>
- Use the results of HAC as initial seeds for K-means.
- Overall algorithm is efficient and avoids problems of bad seed selection.

## **Clustering as Prediction**

- Setup
  - Learning Task: P(X)
  - Training Sample:  $S = (\vec{x}_1, ..., \vec{x}_n)$
  - Hypothesis Space:  $H = \{h_1, \dots, h_{|H|}\}$  each describes  $P(X|h_i)$  where  $h_i$  are parameters
  - Goal: learn which  $P(X|h_i)$  produces the data
- What to predict?

Predict where new points are going to fall

#### Gaussian Mixtures and EM

- Gaussian Mixture Models
  - Assume

$$P(X = \vec{x} | h_i) = \sum_{j=1}^k P(X = \vec{x} | Y = j, h_i) P(Y = j)$$

where 
$$P(X = \vec{x} | Y = j, h) = N(X = \vec{x} | \vec{\mu}_j, \Sigma_j)$$
  
and  $h = (\vec{\mu}_1, \dots, \vec{\mu}_k, \Sigma_1, \dots, \Sigma_k)$ .

- EM Algorithm
  - Assume P(Y) and k known and  $\Sigma_i = 1$ .
  - REPEAT

• 
$$\vec{\mu}_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P(Y=j|X=\vec{x}_i,\vec{\mu}_j)\vec{x}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n P(Y=j|X=\vec{x}_i,\vec{\mu}_j)}$$

• 
$$P(Y = j | X = \vec{x}_i, \vec{\mu}_j) = \frac{P(X = \vec{x}_i | Y = j, \vec{\mu}_j) P(Y = j)}{\sum_{l=1}^k P(X = \vec{x}_i | Y = l, \vec{\mu}_j) P(Y = l)} = \frac{e^{-0.5(\vec{x}_i - \vec{\mu}_j)^2} P(Y = j)}{\sum_{l=1}^k e^{-0.5(\vec{x}_i - \vec{\mu}_l)^2} P(Y = l)}$$