Clustering with Constraints

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Acknowledgements

- Contribution of slides
 - Tomer Hertz
 - Sepandar Kamvar
 - Brian Kulis
- Insightful discussions, comments
 - James Bailey
 - S.S. Ravi
 - Kiri Wagstaff
- Apologies
 - If we do not get around to covering your work or if you have work on constraints and clustering and we didn't include it in the bibliography (drop us an email).

Notation

- *S* : set of training data
- $s_i: i^{th}$ point in the training set
- *L*: cluster labels on S
- l_i : cluster label of s_i
- C_i : centroid of j^{th} cluster
- *ML* : set of must-link constraints
- *CL* : set of cannot-link constraints
- *CC_i* : a connected component (sub-graph)
- *TC* : the transitive closure
- D(*x*,*y*) : Distance between two points *x* and *y*

Outline

Introduction and Motivation	[Ian]
• Uses of constraints	[Sugato]
• Real-world examples	[Sugato]
• Benefits and problems of using constraints	[Ian]
• Algorithms for constrained clustering	
 Enforcing constraints 	[Ian]
Hierarchical	[Ian]
Learning distances	[Sugato]
 Initializing and pre-processing 	[Sugato]
• Graph-based	[Sugato]

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Motivating Examples in Non-Hierarchical Clustering

- Given a set of instances S
- Find the "best" set partition

 $S = \{S_1 \cup S_2 \cup \dots S_k\}$

- Multitude of algorithms that define "best" differently
 - K-Means
 - Mixture Models
 - Self Organized Maps
- Aim is to find novel and actionable patterns ...



Constraints inferred from trace-contiguity (ML) & max-separation (CL)

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Mining GPS Traces (Schroedl et' al)

- Instances are represented by the *x*, *y* location on the road. We also know when a car changes lane, but not what lane to.
- Desired clusters are very elongated, horizontally aligned central lines.



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Clustering For Object Identification



Object identification for Aibo robots



Only significant clusters Shown

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Clustering CMU Faces Database



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Example Clusters





Other Alternatives Beyond Constraints



Clustering Example (Number of Clusters=2)





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K-Means Algorithm

- 1. Randomly assign each instance to a cluster
- 2. Calculate the centroids for each cluster
- 3. For each instance
 - Calculate the distance to each cluster center
 - Assign the instance to the closest cluster
- 4. Goto 2 until distortion is small

K-Means Clustering

- Standard iterative partitional clustering algorithm
- Finds *k* representative centroids in the dataset
 - Locally minimizes the sum of distance (e.g., squared Euclidean distance) between the data points and their corresponding cluster centroids

$$\sum_{s_i \in S} D(s_i, C_{l_i})$$

A simplified form of this problem is intractable [Garey et al.'82]















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Basic Instance Level Constraints

- Historically, instance level constraints motivated by the availability of labeled data
 - i.e., much unlabeled data and a little labeled data available generally as constraints, e.g., in web page clustering
- This knowledge can be encapsulated using instance level constraints [Wagstaff et al. '01]
 - Must-Link Constraints
 - A pair of points s_i and s_j ($i \neq j$) must be assigned to the same cluster.
 - Cannot-Link Constraints
 - A pair of points s_i and s_j ($i \neq j$) can not be assigned to the same cluster.

Properties of Instance Level Constraints

- <u>Transitivity of Must-link Constraints</u>
 - ML(a,b) and $ML(b,c) \rightarrow ML(a,c)$
 - Let *X* and *Y* be sets of points connected by *ML* constraints
 - ML(X) and ML(Y), $a \in X$, $a \in Y$, $ML(a,b) \rightarrow ML(X \cup Y)$
- The Entailment of Cannot link Constraints
 - ML(a,b), ML(c,d) and $CL(a,c) \rightarrow CL(a,d)$, CL(b,c), CL(b,d)
 - Let $CC_1 \dots CC_r$ be the groups of must-linked instances (i.e., the connected components)
 - $CL(a \in CC_i, b \in CC_j) \rightarrow CL(x, y), \forall x \in CC_i, \forall y \in CC_j$

Complex Cluster Level Constraints

- δ -Constraint (Minimum Separation)
 - For any two clusters $S_i, S_j \forall i, j$
 - For any two instances $s_p \in S_i$, $s_q \in S_j \forall p,q$
 - $D(s_{p,} s_{q}) \geq \delta$
- *E*-Constraint
 - For any cluster $S_i / S_i / > 1$
 - $\forall p, s_p \in S_i, \exists s_q \in S_i : \mathcal{E} \ge D(s_p, s_q), s_p <> s_q$

Converting Cluster Level to Instance Level Constraints

• Delta constraints?



• Epsilon constraints?

For every point x, must-link all points y such that $D(x,y) < \delta$, i.e. conjunction of ML constraints

- For every point *x*, must link to at least one point *y* such that $D(x,y) \le \varepsilon$, i.e. disjunction of ML constraints



Will generate many instance level constraints

Other Constraint Types We Won't Have Time To Cover

Balanced Clusters

- Scalable model-based balanced clustering [Zhong et al. '03]
- Frequency sensitive competitive learning [Galanopoulos et al. '96, Banerjee et al. '03]
- K-Means clustering with cluster size constraints [Bradley et al. '00]

• Clustering only with constraints

- Correlation Clustering / Clustering with Qualitative Information
 [Bansal et al.'02, Charikar et al. '03, Blum et al. '04, Demaine et al.]
- No distance function, use only constraints to cluster data
- Maximize the agreements / minimize disagreements between cluster partitioning and constraints

Other Constraint Types We Won't Have Time To Cover

- Negative background information
 - Find another clustering that is quite different from a given set of clusterings [Gondek et al. '04]
- Labels given on data subset
 - Genetic algorithm to incorporate labeled supervision [Demiriz et al.'00]
 - Modify cluster assignment step to satisfy given labels [Basu et al.'02]
 - Cluster using conditional distributions of labels in an auxilliary space [Sinkkonen et al. '04]
 - Fit Bayesian model with Dirichlet Process prior [Daume et al.'05]
 - learns appropriate number of clusters using non-parametric technique
- Attribute-level / model-level constraints [Law et al.'05]

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Big Picture

- Clustering with constraints:
 Partition unlabeled data into groups called clusters
 + use constraints to aid and bias clustering
- Goal:

Examples in same cluster similar, separate clusters different + constraints are maximally respected

Enforcing Constraints

- Clustering objective modified to enforce constraints
 - Strict enforcement: find "best" feasible clustering respecting all constraints
 - Partial enforcement: find "best" clustering maximally respecting constraints
- Uses standard distance functions for clustering

[Demiriz et al.'99, Wagstaff et al.'01, Segal et al.'03, Davidson et al.'05, Lange et al.'05]

Example: Enforcing Constraints



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Learning Distance Function

• Constraints used to learn clustering distance function

- $ML(a,b) \rightarrow a$ and b and surrounding points should be "close"
- $CL(a,b) \rightarrow a$ and b and surrounding points should be "far apart"
- Standard clustering algorithm applied with learned distance function

[Klein et al.'02, Cohn et al.'03, Xing et al.'03, Bar Hillel et al.'03, Bilenko et al.'03, Kamvar et al.'03, Hertz et al.'04, De Bie et al.'04]
Why Learn Distance Functions?



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Enforce Constraints + Learn Distance

- Integrated framework [Basu et al.'04]
 - Respect constraints during cluster assignment
 - Modify distance function during parameter re-estimation
- Advantage of integration
 - Distance function can change the space to decrease constraint violations made by cluster assignment
 - Uses both constraints and unlabeled data for learning distance function

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Generating Constraints From Labels





- Most used (in papers) approach to generate constraints.
- Typically set *k* to equal the number of extrinsic classes
- Clustering labeled (D_1) and unlabeled data (D_u)
- Generate constraints from D₁ (but how much?, what happens if I generate too many constraints?)

Generating Constraints from Video

• Generating constraints from spatio-temporal aspects of video sequences [Yan et al.'04]





Content Management: Document Clustering

Clustering



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Personalizing Web Search Result Clustering



Constraints mined from co-occurrence information in query web-logs

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Constraints inferred from trace-contiguity (ML) & max-separation (CL)

Mining GPS Traces (Schroedl et' al)

- Instances are represented by the *x*, *y* location on the road. We also know when a car changes lane, but not what lane to.
- True clusters are very elongated and horizontally aligned with the lane central lines
- Regular k-means performs poorly on this problem instead finding spherical clusters.



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A Quick Summary

- Benefits
 - Increase accuracy when measured on extrinsic labels
 - Obtain clusterings with desired properties
 - Limited results for increasing algorithm run-time (agglomerative hierarchical clustering only)
- Problems
 - Feasibility issues, can easily over-constrain problem
 - Not all constraint sets improve accuracy

The Feasibility Problem

- We've seen that constraints are useful ...
- But is there a catch?
- We are now trying to find a clustering under all sorts of constraints

Feasibility Problem

Given a set of data points S, a set of ML and CL constraints,

a lower (K_L) and upper bound (K_u) on the number of clusters,

is there **at least one** single set partition of *S* into *k* blocks, $K_U \ge k \ge K_L$

such that no constraints are violated?

i.e. CL(a,b), CL(b,c), CL(a,c), k=2?

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Investigating the Feasibility Problem and Consequences?

- For a constraint type or combination:
 - P :construct a polynomial time algorithm
 - NP-complete : reduce from known NP-complete problem
- If the feasibility problem is in P then we can:
 - Use the algorithms to check if a single feasible solution exists before we even apply K-Means
 - Add feasibility checking as a step in K-Means.
- If feasibility problem is NP-complete then:
 - If we try to find a feasible solution at each iteration of K-Means, could take a long time as problem is intractable.

Summary of Feasibility Complexity Results

Constraint	Complexity
Must-Link	P [15]
Cannot-Link	NP-Complete [15]
δ -constraint	Р
ϵ -constraint	Р
Must-Link and δ	Р
Must-Link and ϵ	NP-complete
δ and ϵ	Р

Table 1: Results for Feasibility Problems

Cannot Link Example

Instances a thru z Constraints: CL(a,c), CL(d,e), CL(f,g), CL(c,g), CL(c,f)



e

Graph K-coloring problem

Graph K-coloring problem is intractable for all values of K≥3

See [Davidson and Ravi '05] for polynomial reduction from graph K-coloring problem.

d

Must Link Example

Instances a ... z ML(a,c), ML(d,e), ML(f,g), ML(c,g)



 $M1 = \{a, c, f, g\}$ $M2 = \{d, e\}$

Let r be the size of the transitive closure (i.e. r=2 above), the number of connected components

Infeasible if k > (n-|TC|)-r> 26-6-2

i.e., can't have too many clusters

New Results

- Feasibility Problem for Disjunctions of ML and CL constraints are intractable
- But Feasibility Problem for Choice sets of ML and CL constraints are easy.
 - $ML(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_1) \lor ML(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_2) \ldots \lor ML(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}_n)$
 - i.e. x must-be linked with one of the y's.

Is **Over-constraining** Really a Problem

- Wait! You said clustering under cannot link constraints was intractable.
- Worst case results say that there is one at least one "hard" problem instance so pessimistically we say the entire problem is hard.
- But when and how often does **over-constraining** become a problem.
- Set k = # extrinsic clusters
- Randomly generated constraints by choosing two instances
- Run COP-k-means

Experimental Results

Figure 3: Graph of the proportion of times from 500 independent trials the algorithm in figure 2 gets stuck for various number of randomly chosen ML and CL constraints, k = number of instrinsic classes: Iris (3), Pima (2), Breast (2) and Vote (2).



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Some Theoretical Results To Identify Easy Constraint Sets

[Davidson, Ravi AAAI '06]



e

Identify sufficient conditions where coloring is easy and hence algorithms like COP-k-means will always converge if a feasible solution exists.

a) If $k \ge maxDegree(CL-Graph) + 1$

b) If $k \ge Q$ -Induct(CL-Graph) + 1 *Q*-inductiveness of a graph: Ordering of instances and assigned integer values so that at most *Q* edges/ point down-stream.

d

Can Constraints Adversely Effect Performance?



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However Averaging Masks That Some Constraint Sets Have Adverse Effects

	Algorithm							
	CK	CKM PKM MKN		PKM		M MPKM		ſΜ
Data Set	Unconst.	Const.	Unconst.	Const.	Unconst.	Const.	Unconst.	Const.
Glass	69.0	69.4	43.4	68.8	39.5	56.6	39.5	67.8
Ionosphere	58.6	58.7	58.8	58.9	58.9	58.9	58.9	58.9
Iris	84.7	87.8	84.3	88.3	88.0	93.6	88.0	91.8
Wine	70.2	70.9	71.7	72.0	93.3	91.3	93.3	90.6

Table 1. Average performance (Rand Index) of four constrained clustering algorithms, for 1000 trials with 25 randomly selected constraints. The best result for each algorithm/data set combination is in bold.

	Algorithm				
Data Set	CKM	$\mathbf{P}\mathbf{K}\mathbf{M}$	MKM	MPKM	
Glass	28%	1%	11%	0%	
Ionosphere	26%	77%	0%	77%	
Iris	29%	19%	36%	36%	
Wine	38%	34%	87%	74%	

Table 2. Fraction of 1000 randomly selected 25-constraint sets that caused a drop in accuracy, compared to an unconstrained run with the same centroid intialization.

Identifying Useful Constraint Sets: Informativeness and Coherence

[Davidson, Wagstaff, Basu '06]



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Enforcing Constraints

- Constraints are strong background information that should be satisfied.
- Two options
 - Satisfy all constraints, but we will run into infeasibility problems
 - Satisfy as many constraints as possible, but working out largest subset of constraints is also intractable (largestcolor problem)

COP-k-Means – Nearest-"Feasible"- Centroid Idea

Input: S_u : unlabeled data, S_l : labeled data, k: the number of clusters to find, q: number of constraints to generate.

Output: A set partition of $S = S_u \cup S_l$ into k clusters so that all the constraints in $C = ML \cup CL$ are satisfied.

1. $ML = \emptyset, CL = \emptyset$

2. loop q times do

(a) Randomly choose two distinct points x and y from S_l .

(b) if (Label(x) = Label(y)) $ML = ML \cup \{x, y\}$ else $CL = CL \cup \{x, y\}$

3. Compute the transitive closure from ML to obtain the connected components $CC_1, ..., CC_r$.

4. For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq r$, replace data points in CC_i with the average of the points in CC_i .

- 5. Randomly generate cluster centroids C_1, \ldots, C_k .
- 6. loop until convergence do

(a) for i = 1 to |S| do

(a.1) Assign s_i to closest feasible cluster.

(b) Recalculate C_1, \ldots, C_k .



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Trying To Minimize VQE and Satisfy As Many Constraints As Possible

- Can't rely on expecting that I can satisfy all constraints at each iteration.
- Change aim of K-Means from:
 - Find a solution satisfying all the constraints and minimizing VQE

TO

- Find a solution satisfying most of the constraints (penalized if a constraint is violated) and minimizing VQE
- Two tricks
 - Need to express penalty term in same units as VQE/distortion
 - Need to rederive K-Means (as a gradient descent algorithm) from first principles.

An Approximation Algorithm – Notation

g(l), g'(l) and m(l) refer to the lth constraint g(l) : assigned cluster for first instance in constraint g'(l) : assigned cluster for second instance in constraint m(l) = 1 for must link, m(l) = 0 for cannot link



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New Differentiable Objective Function

Satisfying a constraint may increase distortion Trade-off between satisfying constraints and distortion requires measurement in the same units



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Visualizing the Penalties

Either satisfy the constraint, or Assign to the "nearest" centroid but with a penalty



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Clustering with Constraints

Constrained K-Means Algorithm

Algorithm aims to minimize CVQE and has a formal derivation Randomly assign each instance to a cluster.

- 1. $C_j = Average \ of \ points \ assigned \ to \ j$
 - + Centroids of points that should be assigned to j
 - + Nearest Centroids to points **that should not to be** assigned to j
- 2. NN assignment for each instance using new distance Assign *x* to C_j iff $argmin_j CVQE(x, C_j)$ Goto 1 until $\Delta CVQE$ is small

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Penalties

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Hierarchical Clustering

Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering

- 1. Initially, every instance is in its own cluster
- 2. Compute similarities between each cluster
- 3. Merge two most **similar** clusters into one.
- 4. Goto 2

Time Complexity $O(n^2)$



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Clustering with Constraints

Modify the Distance Matrix (D) To Satisfy Instance Level Constraints (KKM02) - 1

- Metric spaces. Only changing the distance matrix not the distance function.
- If inequality did not hold then shortest distance between two points wouldn't be a line.



Algorithm

- 1): Change ML distance instance entries in D to 0
- 2): Calculate D' from D using all pairwise shortest path algorithms, takes $O(n^3)$
- 3): D'' = D' Except Change CL distance entries to be max(D)+1

Modify the Distance Matrix (D) To Satisfy Instance Level Constraints (KKM02) – 3



 $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) \leq \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z}) + \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y})$

 $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) \geq |\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{z}) - \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{z},\mathbf{y})|$

Algorithm

- 1): Change ML distance instance entries in D to 0
- 2): Calculate D' from D using all pairwise shortest path algorithms, takes $O(n^3)$

3): D'' = D' Except Change CL distance entries to be max(D)+1

Modify the Distance Matrix (D) To Satisfy Instance Level Constraints (KKM02) - 4



But Because of entailment property of CL we "maintain" the triangle inequality Join(A,B)

Can't Join((A,B),D) instead Join((A,B),C) and then stop

Indirectly made d(B,D) and d(A,C) >> 6 and make inequality indirectly hold.

Feasibility, Dead-ends and Speeding Up Agglomerative Clustering

Feasibility Problem

Instance: Given a set S of points, a (symmetric) distance function d(x,y)≥0 ∀x,y and a collection of *C* constraints. Problem: Can *S* be partitioned into **at least one** single subsets (clusters) so that all constraints are satisfied?

CL(a,b), CL(b,c), CL(a,c) (k=3, k=2, k=1)?



For fixed *k* equivalent to graph coloring so NP-complete

Feasibility Results

Constraint	Given k	Unspecified k
ML	P [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
CL	NP-complete [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
δ	P [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
3	P [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
ML and ϵ	NP-complete [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
ML and δ	P [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
δ and ϵ	P [SDM05]	P [PKDD05]
ML, CL and ε	NP-complete [SDM05]	NP-complete [PKDD05]



Feasibility under ML and ε $S' = \{x \in S : x \text{ does not have an } \mathcal{E} \text{ neighbor}\} = \{s_5, s_6\}$ Each of these should be in their own cluster \mathbf{S}_1 S_2 S₃ S_4 S_5 S_6 $ML(s_1, s_2), ML(s_3, s_4), ML(s_4, s_5)$ Compute the Transitive Closure on $ML = \{CC_1 \dots CC_r\} : O(n+m)$ **s**₃ \mathbf{S}_1 S_2 S_5 S_4 **S**₆

Infeasible: iff $\exists i, j : s_i \in CC_j, s_i \in S' : O(|S'/)$

An Algorithm for ML and CL Constraints

ConstrainedAgglomerative(S,ML,CL) returns $Dendrogram_i$, $i = k_{min} \dots k_{max}$

Notes: In Step 5 below, the term "mergeable clusters" is used to denote a pair of clusters whose merger does not violate any of the given CL constraints. The value of t at the end of the loop in Step 5 gives the value of k_{\min} .

- Construct the transitive closure of the ML constraints (see [4] for an algorithm) resulting in r connected components M₁, M₂, ..., M_r.
- 2. If two points $\{x, y\}$ are both a CL and ML constraint then output "No Solution" and stop.
- 3. Let $S_1 = S (\bigcup_{i=1}^r M_i)$. Let $k_{\max} = r + |S_1|$.
- Construct an initial feasible clustering with k_{max} clusters consisting of the r clusters M₁, ..., M_r and a singleton cluster for each point in S₁. Set t = k_{max}.
- 5. while (there exists a pair of mergeable clusters) do
 - (a) Select a pair of clusters Cl and Cm according to the specified distance criterion.
 - (b) Merge C_l into C_m and remove C_l . (The result is Dendrogram_{t-1}.)
 - (c) t = t 1.

endwhile

Fig. 2. Agglomerative Clustering with ML and CL Constraints

Emp	oiri	cal	Res	ults
-----	------	-----	-----	------

Data Set	Distortion		Puri	ty
	Unconstrained	Constrained	Unconstrained	Constrained
Iris	3.2	2.7	58%	66%
Breast	8.0	7.3	53%	59%
Digit (3 vs 8)	17.1	15.2	35%	45%
Pima	9.8	8.1	61%	68%
Census	26.3	22.3	56%	61%
Sick	17.0	15.6	50%	59%

Table 2. Average Distortion per Instance and Average Percentage Cluster Purity over Entire Dendrogram

Data Set	Unconstrained	Constrained
Iris	22,201	3,275
Breast	487,204	59,726
Digit (3 vs 8)	3,996,001	990,118
Pima	588,289	61,381
Census	2,347,305,601	563,034,601
Sick	793,881	159,801

Table 3. The Rounded Mean Number of Pair-wise Distance Calculations for an Unconstrained and Constrained Clustering using the δ constraint

Dead-end Clusterings

Definition 3. A feasible clustering $C = \{C_1, C_2, ..., C_k\}$ of a set S is irreducible if no pair of clusters in C can be merged to obtain a feasible clustering with k - 1 clusters.

A *k* cluster clustering is a dead-end if it is irreducible, even though other feasible clusterings with *<k* clusters exist



Constraints CL(A,B) CL(A,C)

Join(A,D) Can't go any further – Deadend

Even Though Join(B,C), Join(A,D) is possible

Why Are Dead-Ends a Problem?

- Theorem (in technical report)
 - Let $k_{min} < k_{max}$, then if there is a feasible clustering with k_{max} clusters and a "coarsening" with k_{min} clusters there exists a feasible clustering **for every value** between k_{min} and k_{max}
- But you can't always go from a clustering with k_{max} to one with k_{min} clusters if you perform closest cluster merge.
- That is if you use traditional agglomerative algorithms your dendrogram can end prematurely.

Dead-End Results

• For dead-end situations, you can't use agglomerative clustering algorithms, otherwise you'll prematurely terminate the dendrogram.

Constraint	Dead-end Solutions?	Constraint	Dead-end Solutions?
ML	No [PKDD05]	ML and ε	No [PKDD05]
CL	Yes [PKDD05]	ML and δ	No [PKDD05]
δ	No [PKDD05]	δ and ϵ	No [PKDD05]
8	No [PKDD05]	ML, CL & ε	Yes [PKDD05]

Speeding Up Agglomerative Clustering Using the Triangle Inequality - 1

Definition 2. (The γ Constraint For Hierarchical Clustering) Two clusters whose geometric centroids are separated by a distance greater than γ cannot be joined.

Calculate distance between a pivot and all other points Bound distances on remaining pairs of points





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Clustering with Constraints

Speeding Up Agglomerative Clustering Using the Triangle Inequality - 2

Let $\gamma = 2$



Data Set	Unconstrained	Using γ Constraint
Iris	22,201	19,830
Breast	487,204	431,321
Digit (3 vs 8)	3,996,001	3,432,021
Pima	588,289	501,323
Census	2,347,305,601	1,992,232,981
Sick	793,881	703,764

Mean number of distance calculations

Calculate: D(a,b)=1, D(a,c) = 3, D(a,d) = 6Save $D(b,d)\ge 5$ $D(c,d)\ge 3$ Calculate $D(b,c)\ge 2$,

Algorithm

IntelligentDistance $(\gamma, C = \{C_1, \ldots, C_k\})$ returns $d(i, j) \forall i, j$.

- 1. for i = 2 to n 1 $d_{1,i} = D(C_1, C_i)$ endloop 2. for i = 2 to n - 1for j = i + 1 to n - 1 $\hat{d_{i,j}} = |d_{1,i} - d_{1,j}|$
 - if $\hat{d_{i,j}} > \gamma$ then $d_{i,j} = \gamma + 1$; do not join else $d_{i,j} = D(x_i, x_j)$ endloop

endloop

3. return $d_{i,j}, \forall i, j$.

Fig. 3. Function for Calculating Distances Using the γ Constraint and the Triangle Inequality.

- Worst case result $O(n^2)$ distance calculations
- Best case calculated bound **always** exceeds γ : O(n)
- Average case using the Markov inequality: save 1/2c distance calculations where $\gamma = c\rho$ and ρ is the average distance between two points.

 $\mathbf{P}(X \ge A) \le E[X] \, / \, A$

Outline

[Ian]
[Sugato]
[Sugato]
[Ian]
[Ian]
[Ian]
[Sugato]
[Sugato]
[Sugato]

Distance Learning as Convex Optimization [Xing et al. '02]

• Learns a parameterized Mahalanobis (weighted Euclidean) distance using semi-definite programming (SDP):

$$\begin{split} \min_{A} \sum_{(s_{i},s_{j})\in ML} \|s_{i} - s_{j}\|_{A}^{2} &= \min_{A} \sum_{(s_{i},s_{j})\in ML} (s_{i} - s_{j})^{T} A(s_{i} - s_{j}) \\ \sum_{(s_{i},s_{j})\in CL} \|s_{i} - s_{j}\|_{A} &\geq 1 \\ s.t. \qquad A \neq 0 \\ \mathbf{x}^{T} &= \{2,3\}, \mathbf{y}^{T} = \{4,5\}: \mathbf{D}_{I}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) \qquad \propto \{2-4, 3-5\}^{T} I\{2-4, 3-5\} \\ &\propto \{2-4, 3-5\}^{T} \{I_{1,1}(2-4), I_{2,2}(3-5)\} \\ \mathbf{D}_{A}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) \qquad \propto \{2-4, 3-5\}^{T} A\{2-4, 3-5\} \\ &\propto A_{1,1}(2-4)^{2} + A_{2,2}(3-5)^{2} \end{split}$$

Alternate formulation

• Equivalent optimization problem:

$$\max_{A} g(A) = \sum_{(s_i, s_j) \in CL} ||s_i, s_j||_A$$
$$f(A) = \sum_{(s_i, s_j) \in ML} ||s_i, s_j||_A^2 \le 1 \longrightarrow C_1$$
$$s.t. \qquad A \neq 0 \qquad \longrightarrow C_2$$

Optimization Algorithm

- Solve optimization problem using combination of
 - gradient ascent: to optimize the objective
 - iterated projection algorithm: to satisfy the constraints



• [Bie et al. '05] use a variant of Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA) to find semi-supervised metric more efficiently than SDP

Distance Learning in Product Space

[Hertz et al. '04]

- Input:
 - Data set X in \mathbb{R}^n .
 - Equivalence constraints
- Output: function D: $X \times X \rightarrow [0,1]$ such that:
 - product space
 - points from the same class are close to each other.
 - points from different classes are very far from each other.
- Basic Observation:
 - Equivalence constraints \Leftrightarrow Binary labels in product space
 - Use boosting on product space to learn function

Boosting in a nutshell

A standard ML method that attempts to boost the performance of "weak" learners

Basic idea:

- 1. Initially, weights are set **equally**
- 2. Iterate:
 - i. Train weak learner on weighted data
 - **ii. Increase** weights of **incorrectly** classified examples (force weak learner to focus on difficult examples)
- 3. Final hypothesis: combination of weak hypotheses

EM on Gaussian Mixture Model

- GMM: Standard data representation that models data using a number of Gaussian sources
- The parameters of the sources are estimated using the EM algorithm:
 - E step: Calculate Expected log-likelihood of the data over all possible assignments of data-points to sources
 - M step: Differentiate the Expectation w.r.t. the **parameters**

The Weak Learner: Constrained EM

Constrained EM algorithm: fits a mixture of Gaussians to unlabeled data given a set of equivalence constraints.

Modification in case of equivalence constraints:

E step: sum only over assignments which comply with the constraints



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Clustering with Constraints







MRF potential

• Generalized Potts (Ising) potential:

$$V(s_{i}, s_{j}, l_{i}, l_{j}) = \begin{cases} w_{ij} D_{A}(s_{i}, s_{j}) & \text{if } l_{i} \neq l_{j}, (s_{i}, s_{j}) \in ML \\ \hline w_{ij} [D_{A, \max} - D_{A}(s_{i}, s_{j})] & \text{if } l_{i} = l_{j}, (s_{i}, s_{j}) \in CL \\ 0 & else \end{cases}$$





HMRF-KMeans: Algorithm

Initialization:

- Use neighborhoods derived from constraints to initialize clusters

Till convergence:

- 1. Point assignment:
- Assign each point *s* to cluster *h*^{*} to minimize both distance and constraint violations (Note: this is greedy, other methods possible)

2. Mean re-estimation:

- Estimate cluster centroids C as means of each cluster
- Re-estimate parameters A of D_A to minimize constraint violations

HMRF-KMeans: Convergence

Theorem:

HMRF-KMeans converges to a local minima of J_{HMRF} for for Bregman divergences D (e.g., KL divergence, squared Euclidean distance) or directional distances (e.g., Pearson's distance, cosine distance)

Ablation/Sensitivity Experiment

- MPCK-Means: both constraints and distance learning
- MK-Means: only distance learning
- PCK-Means: only constraints
- K-Means: purely unsupervised
Evaluation Measure

- Compare cluster partitioning to class labels on the dataset
- Mutual Information measure calculated only on test set

[Strehl et al. '00]

MI =	I(C;K)
	[H(C)+H(K)]/2

Cluster partitions	Underlying classes	MI value
		High
		Low

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Related Formulations

• Maximum entropy EM

- Incorporates prior knowledge in both labels and constraints
- Modify the likelihood function:

 $\min_{\Theta}(\alpha L(X^{u};\Theta) + \beta L(X^{l};Y;\Theta) + (1 - \alpha - \beta)L(X^{c};C;\Theta))$

- Infer Gibbs potential from MaxEnt solution of P(Y) under constraints encoded in *L* and *C*
- Generalizes K-Means formulation to EM
- Replaces ICM for posterior distribution calculation in E-step by:
 - Mean-field approximation [Lange et al. '05]
 - Gibbs sampling [Lu et al. '05]

Outline

Introduction and Motivation	[Ian]
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Real-world examples	[Sugato]
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Hierarchical	[Ian]
Learning distances	[Sugato]
 Initializing and pre-processing 	[Sugato]
Graph-based	[Sugato]

Finding Informative Constraints given a quota of Queries

- Active learning for constraint acquisition [Basu et al.'04]:
 - In interactive setting, constraints obtained by queries to a user
 - Need to get **informative** constraints to get better clustering
- Two-phase active learning algorithm:
 - Explore: Use *farthest-first* traversal [Hochbaum et al.'85] to explore the data and find *K* pairwise-disjoint neighborhoods (cluster skeleton) rapidly
 - Consolidate: Consolidate basic cluster skeleton by getting more points from each cluster, within max (*K*-1) queries for any point
- Related technique [Cohn et al.'03] :
 - Can incorporate any user feedback to "repair" clustering metric

Algorithm: Explore

- Pick a point *s* at random, add it to neighborhood N_I , $\lambda = 1$
- While queries are allowed and $(\lambda < k)$
 - Pick point *s* farthest from existing λ neighborhoods
 - If by querying *s* is *cannot-linked* to all existing neighborhoods, then set $\lambda = \lambda + 1$, start new neighborhood N_{λ} with *s*
 - Else, add *s* to neighborhood with which it is *must-linked*



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Weight

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Algorithm: Consolidate

- Estimate centroids of each of the λ neighborhoods
- While queries are allowed
 - Randomly pick a point *s* not in the existing neighborhoods
 - Query *s* with each neighborhood (in sorted order of decreasing distance from *s* to centroids) until *must-link* is found
 - Add *s* to that neighborhood to which it is *must-linked*





Weight

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Height



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Clustering with Constraints

Weight







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Experiments: 20-Newsgroups subset



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Confusion Matrices

	Cluster1	Cluster2	Cluster3
Misc	71	12	17
Guns	25	61	14
Mideast	12	36	52

No constraints

	Cluster1	Cluster2	Cluster3
Misc	84	7	9
Guns	5	91	4
Mideast	7	7	86

20 queries

Algorithms to Seed K-Means When Feasibility Problem is in P [Davidson et al. '05]

- Each algorithm will find a feasible solution.
- You can build upon each to make them minimize the vector quantization error (or what-ever objective function your algorithm has) as well.

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Graph-based Clustering

• Data input as graph:

real valued edges between pairs of points denotes similarity





CutPossible solution:

- Spectral Clustering [Kamvar et al. '03]
- Constrained graph clustering:

minimize cut in input graph while maximally respecting constraints in auxilliary constraint graph



Kernel-based Clustering

- 2-circles data not linearly separable
- transform to high-D using kernel

$$e.g., < s_1, s_2 >= e^{-\|s_1 - s_2\|^2}$$

• cluster kernel similarity matrix using weighted kernel K-Means



Constrained Kernel-based Clustering

• Use the data and the specified constraints to create appropriate kernel



SS-Kernel-KMeans [Kulis et al.'05]

- Contributions:
 - Theoretical equivalence between constrained graph clustering and weighted kernel KMeans
 - Uses kernels to unify vector-/graph- based constrained clustering
- Algorithm:
 - Forms a kernel matrix from data and constraints
 - Runs weighted kernel KMeans
- Benefits:
 - HMRF-KMeans and Spectral Clustering are special cases
 - Fast algorithm for constrained graph-based clustering (no spectral decomposition necessary)
 - Kernels allow constrained clustering with non-linear cluster boundaries

Kernel for HMRF-KMeans with squared Euclidean distance

$$J_{HMRF} = \sum_{c=1}^{k} \sum_{s_i \in S_c} ||s_i - C_c||^2 - \sum_{\substack{(s_i, s_j) \in ML \\ s.t.l_i = l_j}} \frac{w_{ij}}{|S_{l_i}|} + \sum_{\substack{(s_i, s_j) \in CL \\ s.t.l_i = l_j}} \frac{w_{ij}}{|S_{l_i}|}$$

$$K = S + W,$$

where
$$\begin{cases} S_{ij} = s_i . s_j, \\ W_{ij} = -W_{ij} \text{ if } (s_i, s_j) \in ML \\ -W_{ij} \text{ if } (s_i, s_j) \in CL \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Kernel for Constrained} \\ & \text{NormCut} = \sum_{c=1}^{k} \frac{\text{links}(V_c, V \setminus V_c)}{\deg(V_c)} - \sum_{\substack{(s_i, s_j) \in ML \\ s.t.l_i = l_j}} \frac{w_{ij}}{\deg(V_{l_i})} + \sum_{\substack{(s_i, s_j) \in CL \\ s.t.l_i = l_j}} \frac{w_{ij}}{\deg(V_{l_i})} \\ & K = D^{-1}AD + D^{-1}WD, \\ & \text{where} \begin{cases} A_{ij} = \text{graph affinity}(i, j), \\ D = \text{diagonal degree matrix} \\ W_{ij} = -w_{ij} \text{ if } (s_i, s_j) \in ML \\ -w_{ij} \text{ if } (s_i, s_j) \in CL \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

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Experiment: PenDigits subset



Experiment: Yeast Gene network



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Thanks for Your Attention. We Hope You Learnt a Few Things

Feel free to ask us questions during the conference
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