### **Information Retrieval and Organisation**



### Chapter 16 Flat Clustering

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## What Is Text Clustering?

- Text Clustering =
  - Grouping a set of documents into classes of similar documents.
    - Documents within a cluster should be similar.
    - Documents from different clusters should be dissimilar.
- Classification vs. Clustering
  - Classification: supervised learning
    - Labeled data are given for training
  - Clustering: unsupervised learning
    - Only unlabeled data are available



A data set with clear cluster structure



### The Cluster Hypothesis

Documents in the same cluster behave similarly with respect to relevance to information needs.

# Why Text Clustering?

- To improve retrieval recall
  - When a query matches a doc d, also return other docs in the cluster containing d. Hope if we do this, the query "car" will also return docs containing "automobile".

# Why Text Clustering?

### To improve retrieval speed

 Cluster Pruning: consider only documents in a small number of clusters as candidates for which we compute similarity scores.

### Chapter 7 Section 7.1.6

- Preprocessing
  - Pick  $\sqrt{N}$  docs at random: call these *leaders*
  - For every other doc, pre-compute nearest leader
    - Docs attached to a leader: its *followers;*
    - Likely: each leader has  $\sim \sqrt{N}$  followers.
- Query Processing
  - Given query Q, find its nearest *leader L.*
  - Seek K nearest docs from among L's followers.

Sec. 7.1.6

## **Cluster Pruning**



- Why use random sampling?
  - Fast
  - Leaders reflect data distribution
- More sophisticated clustering techniques later

- General Variants
  - Have each follower attached to b1=3 (say) nearest leaders.
  - From query, find b2=4 (say) nearest leaders and their followers.
  - Can recurse on leader/follower construction.

### Exercises

- To find the nearest leader in step 1, how many cosine computations do we do?
  - Why did we have  $\sqrt{N}$  in the first place?
- What is the effect of the constants b1, b2 on the previous slide?
- Devise an example where this is *likely to* fail i.e., we miss one of the *K* nearest docs.
  - *Likely* under random sampling.

# Why Text Clustering?

### • To improve user interface

- Navigation/Visualization of <u>document collections</u>
- Navigation/Visualization of <u>search results</u>

### Searching + Browsing



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### http://clusty.com/



# What Clustering Is Good?

- External Criteria
  - Consistency with the latent classes in gold standard (ground truth) data.
    - Purity
    - Normalized Mutual Information
    - Rand Index
    - Cluster F Measure
- Internal Criteria
  - High *intra-cluster* similarity
  - Low *inter-cluster* similarity

# What Clustering Is Good?

Purity



## What Clustering Is Good?

- Rand Index (RI)
  - The percentage of decisions (on document-pairs) that are correct

{A, A, B} and {B, B}

	<b>A</b> <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>
<b>A</b> <sub>1</sub>		tp	fp	tn	tn
A <sub>2</sub>			fp	tn	tn
B <sub>1</sub>				fn	fn
B <sub>2</sub>					tp
B <sub>3</sub>					

RI = (TP+TN)/(TP+FP+FN+TN) = 6/10 = 0.6

## **Issues in Clustering**

- Similarity/Distance between docs
  - Ideally: semantic
  - Practically: statistical
    - e.g., cosine similarity or Euclidean distance
      - For text clustering, the doc vectors usually need to be length normalized.
- Membership of docs
  - Hard: each doc belongs to exactly one cluster
  - Soft: A doc can belong to more than one cluster
    - e.g., you may want to put a pair of sneakers in two clusters: (i) sports apparel and (ii) shoes.

## **Issues in Clustering**

- Number of clusters
  - Fixed in advance
  - Discovered from data
- Structure of clusters
  - Flat (partition)
    - e.g., *k*Means.
  - Hierarchical (tree)
    - e.g., HAC.

### K-Means Algorithm

K-means( $\{\vec{x}_1, \ldots, \vec{x}_N\}, K$ )

- 1  $(\vec{s}_1, \vec{s}_2, \ldots, \vec{s}_K) \leftarrow \text{SelectRandomSeeds}(\{\vec{x}_1, \ldots, \vec{x}_N\}, K)$
- 2 for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to K
- 3 **do**  $\vec{\mu}_k \leftarrow \vec{s}_k$
- 4 while stopping criterion has not been met
- 5 **do for**  $k \leftarrow 1$  **to** K

6 **do** 
$$\omega_k \leftarrow \{$$

- 7 for  $n \leftarrow 1$  to N
- 8 **do**  $j \leftarrow \arg\min_{j'} |\vec{\mu}_{j'} \vec{x}_n|$ 9  $\omega_i \leftarrow \omega_i \cup \{\vec{x}_n\}$  (reassing)

$$\omega_j \leftarrow \omega_j \cup \{\vec{x}_n\}$$
 (reassignment of vectors)

- 10 for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to K
- 11 **do**  $\vec{\mu}_k \leftarrow \frac{1}{|\omega_k|} \sum_{\vec{x} \in \omega_k} \vec{x}$  (recomputation of centroids) 12 **return** { $\vec{\mu}_1, \ldots, \vec{\mu}_K$ }

### **Time Complexity**

- Computing distance between two docs is O(m) where m is the dimensionality of the vectors.
- Reassigning clusters: O(kn) distance computations, or O(knm).
- Computing centroids: Each doc gets added once to some centroid: O(nm).
- Assume these two steps are each done once for *i* iterations: O(*iknm*).

# **Stopping Criterion**

- Fixed number of iterations
- Convergence: to reach a state in which clusters don't change
  - *k*-means is proved to converge
  - k-means usually converges quickly, i.e., the number of iterations needed for convergence is typically small.

### *K*-Means – Example



Pick seeds
Reassign clusters
Compute centroids
Reassign clusters
Compute centroids
Reassign clusters
Converged!

(k = 2)

### *K*-Means – Demo

http://home.dei.polimi.it/matteucc/Clustering/tutorial\_html/AppletKM.html



### *k*Means – Exercise

Digital Camera	Megapixel	Zoom
Α	1	8
В	3	8
C	2	6
D	1.5	1
E	4	2

### *k*Means – Exercise



## Seed Choice



k-means (with k=2)

- For seeds d<sub>2</sub> and d<sub>5</sub>, the algorithm converges to {{d<sub>1</sub>, d<sub>2</sub>, d<sub>3</sub>}, {d<sub>4</sub>, d<sub>5</sub>, d<sub>6</sub>}}, a suboptimal clustering.
- For seeds d<sub>2</sub> and d<sub>3</sub>, the algorithm converges to {{d<sub>1</sub>, d<sub>2</sub>, d<sub>4</sub>, d<sub>5</sub>}, {d<sub>3</sub>, d<sub>6</sub>}}, the global optimum.

### Seed Choice

### Problem

- The outcome of clustering in k-means depends on the initial seeds.
  - Some seeds can result in poor convergence rate, or convergence to sub-optimal clustering.
- Solution
  - Excluding outliers from the seed set.
  - Trying out multiple sets of random starting points and choosing the clustering with the lowest cost.
  - Obtaining good seeds from another method
    - e.g., hierarchical clustering, *k*-means++