Accepted Manuscript

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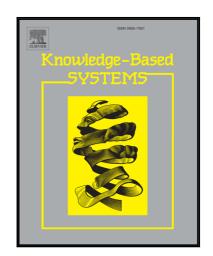
PII: S0950-7051(16)30491-9 DOI: 10.1016/j.knosys.2016.12.006

Reference: KNOSYS 3757

To appear in: Knowledge-Based Systems

Received date: 4 July 2016

Revised date: 1 December 2016



Please cite this article as: Jing Gu , Licheng Jiao , Shuyuan Yang , Jiaqi Zhao , Sparse Learning based Fuzzy C-means Clustering, *Knowledge-Based Systems* (2016), doi: 10.1016/j.knosys.2016.12.006

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Sparse Learning based Fuzzy C-means Clustering

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Abstract: Recently sparse representation (SR) based clustering has attracted a growing interests in the field of image

processing and pattern recognition. Since the SR technology has favorable category distinguishing ability, we

introduce it into the fuzzy clustering in this paper, and propose a new clustering algorithm, called sparse learning

based fuzzy c-means (SL_FCM). Firstly, to reduce the computation complexity of the SR based FCM method, most

energy of discriminant feature obtained by solving a SR model is reserved and the remainder is discarded. By this

way, some redundant information (i.e. the correlation among samples of different classes) in the discriminant feature

can be also removed, which can improve the clustering quality. Furthermore, to further enhance the clustering

performance, the position information of valid values in discriminant feature is also used to re-define the distance

between sample and clustering center in SL_FCM. The weighted distance in SL_FCM can enhance the similarity of

the samples from the same class and the difference of the samples of different classes, thus to improve the clustering

result. In addition, as the dimension of stored discriminant feature of each sample is different, we use set operations

to formulate the distance and cluster center in SL_FCM. The comparisons on several datasets and images

demonstrate that SL_FCM performs better than other state-of-art methods with higher accuracy, while keeps low

spatial and computational complexity, especially for the large scale dataset and image.

Keywords: Sparse representation, fuzzy c-means, clustering, set operations.

Introduction

Data clustering is a key and fundamental topic in data analysis [1] and data mining [2]. Actually,

clustering is to divide a dataset into several meaningful groups. The samples in a group are more similar in a

specific metric than the others in different groups. There are two main clustering strategies: hard clustering

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