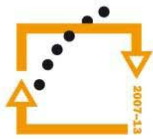




**Streamlining the Applied Mathematics Studies  
at Faculty of Science of Palacký University in Olomouc  
CZ.1.07/2.2.00/15.0243**



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,  
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



**OP Vzdělávání  
pro konkurenceschopnost**

INVESTICE  
DO ROZVOJE  
VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

## **International Conference Olomoucian Days of Applied Mathematics**

# **ODAM 2013**

Department of Mathematical analysis  
and Applications of Mathematics  
Faculty of Science  
Palacký University Olomouc

# Fuzzy Sets and Rough Sets in Prototype- based Clustering Algorithms

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**ODAM**

*Olomouc, June 12, 2013*

*A brief introduction to my lecture  
that will be posted on the ODAM web page.....*

”So far as laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not certain.  
And so far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality.”  
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”The central problem of our age is how to act decisively in the  
absence of certainty.”  
(Bertrand Russell, 1940)

- 1 Clustering and clustering algorithms
- 2 Fuzzy sets in c-means clustering
- 3 Rough sets in c-means clustering
- 4 Rough-fuzzy c-means clustering algorithms
- 5 Shadowed sets in rough-fuzzy c-means clustering

# 1. Clustering and clustering algorithms

**Clustering:** standard approach in data mining searching for natural groups (clusters) present in data

**Cluster:** collection of objects similar to each other and dissimilar to objects from other clusters

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- objects are partitioned into clusters based on their similarity to clusters' prototypes by optimizing an **objective function**,
- **c-means algorithm**: iterative algorithm which represents each cluster by its center of gravity (the mean).

**Notation:**

$X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_j \in \mathbb{R}^p, j = 1, \dots, n$  (set of objects)

$U = \{U_1, \dots, U_c\}, U_i \subset X$  ( $c$ -partition of  $X$ )

$U_i(x_j) = u_{ij}$  (membership of object  $x_j$  in cluster  $U_i$ )

$v_i \in \mathbb{R}^p$  (mean of cluster  $U_i$ )

$d(x_j, v_i) = \|x_j - v_i\| = d_{ij}$  (distance between  $x_j$  and  $v_i$ )

## **Hard c-means algorithm** (HCM)

(k-means algorithm)

J.B. MacQueen (1967)

Minimizes the objective function  $J = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^c d_{ij}^2$ .

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**The main steps:**

- 1) Assign initial means  $v_i$ .
- 2) Assign each  $x_j$  to the cluster  $U_i$  with the closest mean.
- 3) Compute the new mean

$$v_i = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in U_i} x_j}{|U_i|}.$$

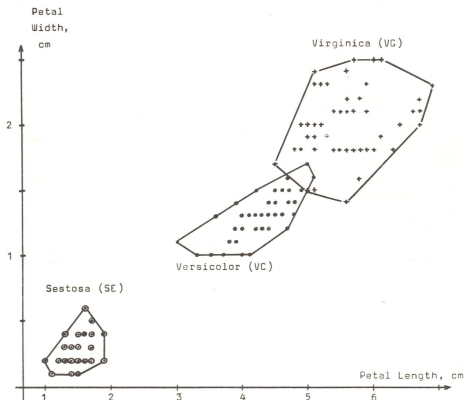
Repeat steps 2) and 3) until there are no more new assignments of objects.

Hard c-means clustering algorithm (HCM) is an appropriate method of clustering when the analyzed data consists of

**well separated clusters.**



## Anderson's iris data (petal features)



J.C. Bezdek: Pattern Recognition with Fuzzy Objective Function Algorithms, Plenum Press, New York, 1981.

## 2. Fuzzy sets in c-means clustering

Lotfi Zadeh (1965)

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When  $A$  is a fuzzy subset of an universal set  $X$  and  $x$  is an object in  $X$   
then the proposition

*" $x$  is a member of  $A$ "*

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Mathematically: membership function of  $A$

$$\mu_A : X \rightarrow [0, 1].$$

Simplified notation:  $\mu_A(x) = A(x)$ .

**Fuzzy c-means algorithm** (FCM)

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Fuzzification of the hard  $c$ -means algorithm:

$$u_{ij} \in [0, 1]$$

for all  $u_{ij} \in U$ .

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Minimizes the objective function

$$J = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^c (u_{ij})^m d_{ij}^2,$$

subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^c u_{ij} = 1, \text{ for all } j,$$

where  $1 \leq m < \infty$  is the fuzzifier.

**Evaluation of membership grade  $u_{ij}$ :**

$$u_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sum_{k=1}^c \left(\frac{d_{ij}}{d_{kj}}\right)^{2/(m-1)}}.$$

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Coefficient  $u_{ij}$  can be interpreted as the (posterior) probability  $p(i/x_j)$  that, given  $x_j$ , it came from class  $i$ .

FCM is sensitive to noise and outliers.

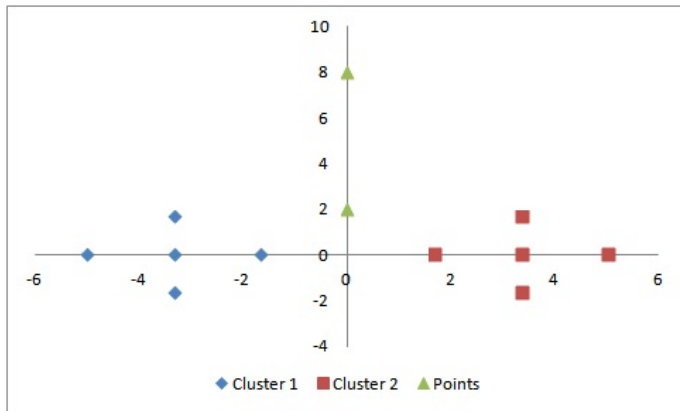
In FCM, the constraint  $\sum_{i=1}^c u_{ij} = 1$  is too strong.

If  $x_j$  is equidistant from two different means  $v_r$  and  $v_s$  then

$$u_{rj} = u_{sj} = 1/2,$$

regardless whether the actual distance is large or small.

## Assignment of points to clusters



**Possibilistic c-partition** of  $X$ :

$$0 < \sum_{i=1}^c u_{ij} < c \text{ for all } x_j \in X .$$

**Possibilistic c-means algorithm** (PCM)

R. Krishnapuram, J.M. Keller (1993)

**FPCM algorithm** - combination of FCM and PCM

N.R.Pal, K.Pal, J.M. Keller, J.C. Bezdek (2005)

### 3. Rough sets in c-means clustering

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In real life situations, uncertainty may arise from

**incompleteness in class definition.**

This type of uncertainty can be handled by

**rough set theory.**

Zdislaw Pawlak (1982)

$X$  - finite non-empty universal set

$R \subset X \times X$  - equivalence relation

$(X, R)$  - approximation space (knowledge base)

$[x]_R$  - equivalence class of  $R$  containing  $x \in X$

Given  $S \subset X$ , it may not be possible to describe  $S$  precisely in approximation space  $(X, R)$ .

Instead, one may characterize  $S$  by a pair of lower and upper approximations

$$\underline{R}(S) = \{x \in X : [x]_R \subset S\},$$

$$\overline{R}(S) = \{x \in X : [x]_R \cap S \neq \emptyset\}.$$



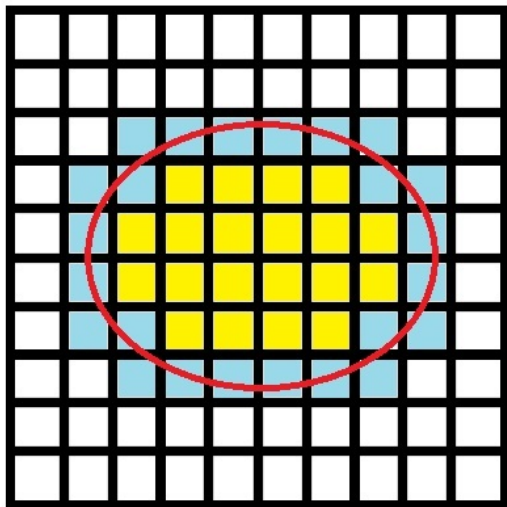
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$(\underline{R}(S), \overline{R}(S))$  is a rough set with reference set  $S$

## Example of a rough set



## **Rough c-means algorithm** (RCM)

(rough k-means algorithm)

P. Lingras and C. West (2004)

Cluster  $U_i \in U$  is characterized by

lower approximation  $\underline{A}(U_i)$  and upper approximation  $\overline{A}(U_i)$ .

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- 3) if  $x_j$  is not a part of any lower approximation, then it belongs to two or more upper approximations.

**The main steps:**

- 1) Assign initial means  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, c$ , choose threshold TH.
- 2) For each  $x_j \in X$  compute its distance  $d_{ij}$  from the cluster centroides  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, c$ .

- 3) Let  $d_{rj} = \min\{d_{ij}, i = 1, \dots, c\}$  and  $\Omega = \{i : \frac{d_{ij}}{d_{rj}} \leq TH, i \neq r\}$ .

If  $\Omega = \emptyset$  then  $x_j \in \underline{A}(U_r)$ ,

otherwise  $x_j \in \bar{A}(U_r)$  and  $x_j \in \bar{A}(U_i)$  for all  $i \in \Omega$ .

- 4) Compute new mean  $v_i$  for each cluster  $U_i$ .

Repeat steps 2) and 4) until there are no more new assignments of objects.

## Threshold TH

If  $TH \rightarrow 1$  then  $\Omega \rightarrow \emptyset$  and  $RCM \rightarrow HCM$

## Main area of application of RCM

when "clear cases" need to be distinguished from "unclear"  
(e.g., quality control: good products, products with some doubts).



## 4. Rough-fuzzy c-means algorithms

### **Rough-fuzzy c-means algorithm** (RFCM)

S. Mitra, H. Banka, W. Perycz (2004)

Both the lower and the upper approximations of a cluster are fuzzy sets.

### **Rough- fuzzy- possibilistic c-means algorithm** (RFPCM)

Pradipta Maji and Sankar K. Pal (2007)

The lower approximation of a cluster is a crisp set, the upper approximation is a fuzzy set.

## 5. Shadowed sets in rough-fuzzy c-means clustering

In rough-fuzzy c-means algorithms proposed by Mitra et al. (2004) and Maji and Pal (2007),

the lower approximation and the boundary of each cluster  $U_i$  depend on a **fixed threshold  $TH$** .

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Modification:

**Shadowed c-means algorithm (SCM)**

S. Mitra, W. Pedrycz, B. Barman (2010)

SCM provides **dynamical evaluation of  $TH_i$**  for each cluster  $U_i$  based on available data.

W. Pedrycz (1998)

**Shadowed set**  $\hat{f}$  induced by a fuzzy set  $f$  on  $X$  is an interval-valued set on  $X$  that maps elements  $x \in X$  into  $0, 1$ , and the interval  $(0, 1)$  such that :

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$$\hat{f}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } f(x) \leq \lambda, \\ (0, 1) & \text{if } \lambda < f(x) < f_{\max} - \lambda, \\ 1 & \text{if } f(x) \geq f_{\max} - \lambda, \end{cases}$$

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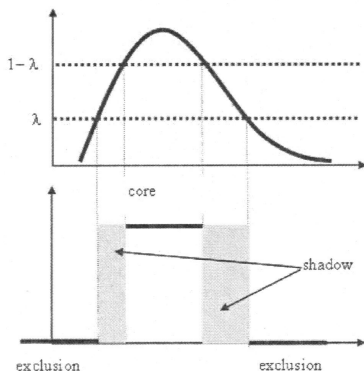
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$f_{\max} = \max\{f(x), x \in X\}$  and

$\lambda$  is derived from the membership grades of  $f$  such that the changes of membership grades to 0 or 1 are compensated for by the construction of the “**shadow**” represented by the interval **(0, 1)**.

## Fuzzy set inducing a shadowed set via a threshold



S. Mitra, W. Pedrycz, B. Barman: Shadowed c-means: Integrating fuzzy and rough clustering. *Pattern Recognition* 43, (2010)

1282–1291.

**Computation of  $TH_i$  for cluster  $U_i$  based on shadowed sets**

Let  $u_{imin} = \min\{u_{ij}, x_j \in X\}$  and  $u_{imax} = \max\{u_{ij}, x_j \in X\}$ .

Find  $TH_i \in (u_{imin}, u_{imax})$  which minimizes



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$$V(TH_i) = \left| \sum_{x_j \in E} u_{ij} + \sum_{x_j \in C} (u_{imax} - u_{ij}) - |B| \right|,$$

where

$E = \{x_j \in X : u_{ij} \leq TH_i\}$  (exclusion region of  $U_i$ ),

$B = \{x_j \in X : TH_i < u_{ij} < u_{imax} - TH_i\}$  (boundary of  $U_i =$  shadow),

$C = \{x_j \in X : u_{ij} \geq u_{imax} - TH_i\}$  (lower bound of  $U_i =$  core of  $U_i$ ).

**The main steps of Shadowed c-means algorithm:**

- 1) Assign initial means  $v_i$ , choose fuzzifier  $m$ .
- 2) Compute  $u_{ij}$  as in FCM.

3) Compute threshold  $TH_i$  for each cluster  $U_i$  using shadowed sets.

- 4) Update means  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, c$ .

Repeat steps 2) and 4) until there are no more new assignments of objects.

**Computation of the mean  $v_i$  of cluster  $U_i$  based on shadowed sets**

$$v_i = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in C} x_j + \sum_{x_j \in B} (u_{ij})^m x_j + \sum_{x_j \in E} (u_{ij})^{m^m} x_j}{|C| + |B| + |E|},$$

where  $m$  is the fuzzifier from FCM algorithm.

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where  $m$  is the fuzzifier from FCM algorithm.

**Assignment of weights:**

- 1 when  $x_j \in C$  (strong influence of elements from core),
- $u_{ij}^m$  when  $x_j \in B$  (medium influence of elements from boundary),
- $u_{ij}^{m^m}$  when  $x_j \in E$  (low influence of elements from exclusion region).

## Advantages of SCM:

more realistic modeling of data, better estimation of prototypes,  
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SCM demonstrated that it is possible to filter out irrelevant information while remaining in fuzzy framework.

”The three-valued quantification of the resulting cluster structure helps us easily identify regions (and patterns) which may require further attention while pointing at the core structure and patterns that arise with high values of typicality with respect to detected clusters.”  
(Mitra, Pedrycz, Barman, 2010)







Thank you for your attention.



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