SD-DP: Sparse Dual of the Density Peaks Algorithm for Cluster Analysis of High-Dimensional Data

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- 1. Cluster analysis of high-dimensional data
- 2. The Density Peaks (DP) and other influential algorithms
- 3. SD-DP: Sparse Dual of the DP algorithm
- 4. Experimental evidence
 - Benchmarks
 - Exploratory results

1. Cluster analysis of high-dimensional data

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Cluster analysis of high-dimensional data

Premise: intrinsic heterogeneous group/cluster structures in real-word data of research interest

Cluster analysis: uncover cluster structures in data, with noise and uncertainty, with quantified features, governed by certain differentiation criteria

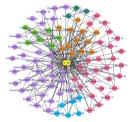
- massive data of many attributes/features
- supervised vs. un-supervised

Fundamental to various research studies

Domain-specific analysis	Feature description			
Molecular dynamics trajectory patterns [1]	kinetic, spectral measurements			
Classification of astronomical events [2]	Gamma ray measurements			
Community detection in complex system [3, 4, 5]	link features			
Image segmentation/denoising [6, 7]	intensity, patch texture			
Content-based image retrieval [8]	semantic content descriptor			
Image object recognition [9, 10]	SIFT [11], HOG [12] descriptors			
Gene expression pattern analysis [13, 14, 15, 16, 17]	gene-expression matrix			
Thematic categorization of documents [18, 19]	word frequency vector			
Statistical semantic or sentiment analysis	GloVe [20] word vector			
Statistical categorization of musical genres [21]	musical surface features			
Consumer profiling/market segmentation [22]	purchase history			



Abell 901/902 supercluster [23]



Co-authorship communities [25]



US city lights [26]

\[-1.5em]

Uber & Taxi demand in NYC [24]

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1. Cluster analysis of high-dimensional data

2. The Density Peaks (DP) and other influential algorithms

3. SD-DP: Sparse Dual of the DP algorithm

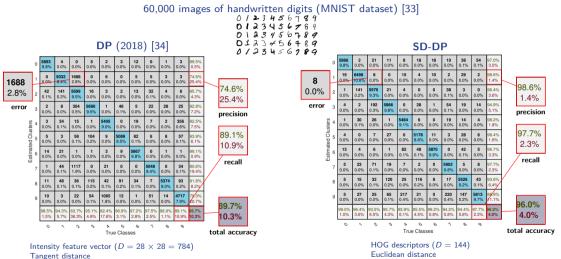
- 4. Experimental evidence
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 - Exploratory results

Algorithms Desirable properties ¹	K-MEANS [27] (1982)	DBSCAN [28] (1996)	OPTICS [29] (1999)	MEAN SHIFT [30] (2002)	GN [3] (2002)	COMBO [5] (2014)	DP [31] (2014)	SD-DP [32] (2018)
No prescription of # clusters		✓	√	√	√	√	√	√
No restriction in cluster shape		✓	✓	✓	√	✓	√	√
Free choice of metrics		✓	✓		√	✓	√	√
Agnostic to distribution		✓	✓	✓			√	√
Easy or no tuning	√				√	√		√
Robust in high-dim. space								√
Accurate in high-dim. space								√
Low computation cost								\checkmark

Checkmarks are based on limited benchmarking experiments

¹ Additional properties include low program complexity, stability and more

DP vs SD-DP: classification accuracy



Tangent distance

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Manual intervention in peak selection and cluster merge

Unsupervised cluster revision

Digit	DP (2018) semi-supervised	SD-DP un-supervised		
0	0.99	0.98		
1	0.83	0.98		
2	0.77	0.95		
3	0.94	0.95		
4	0.87	0.96		
5	0.95	0.97		
6	0.98	0.98		
7	0.88	0.96		
8	0.95	0.94		
9	0.84	0.93		

Comparison in Dice similarity coefficients (DSC) a.k.a. F1 scores and Sørensen-Dice coefficients 60,000 images of handwritten digits (MNIST dataset)

All misclassified digit-0 images by SD-DP

Subset of misclassified digit-2 images by SD-DP



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The Density Peaks principle

[Rodriguez and Laio, Science, 2014]

Principle

"Cluster centers are characterized by a higher density than their neighbors and by a relatively large distance from points with higher densities".

Probability distribution from which point distributions are drawn. The regions with lowest intensity correspond to a back-ground uniform probability of 20%.

Point distribution for samples of 4000 points. Points are colored according to the cluster to which they are assigned. Black points belong to the cluster halos.

Local density description

population in neighborhood of specified radius r

$$ho_i = \left\{ egin{array}{cc} |\mathcal{N}_r(\mathbf{x}_i)|, & ext{hard cutoff} \ \sum_j \exp\left(-d_{ij}^2/r^2
ight), & ext{soft cutoff} \end{array}
ight.$$

Fundamental facts about deep feature space

Deep feature space¹: D > 100Fact 1:

 $2^{D} >> N$

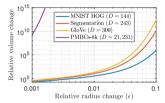
Data are **sparsely**, **non-uniformly** scattered

Fact 2: With *D* fixed, the hyper-ball volume is **highly sensitive** to radius change

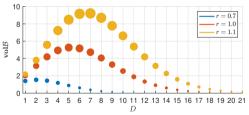
 $\mathsf{vol}\mathcal{B}(r(1+\epsilon))/\mathsf{vol}\mathcal{B}(r) = (1+\epsilon)^D$

Fact 3: With radius *r* fixed, the hyper-ball volume is **vanishing**

 $\mathsf{vol}\mathcal{B}(r) o 0$ as $D o \infty$



 Fact 2 on specific feature dimensions for 4 particular datasets



Fact 3 on 3 radious values at the low end of dimensions Each hyper-ball \mathcal{B} is depicted by the disk of area $vol\mathcal{B}(r)$

¹ Largest database (as of 2018): World Data Center for Climate (WDCC) – 6 petabytes (2⁵⁰ bytes) of data

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Limitations of DP in deep feature space

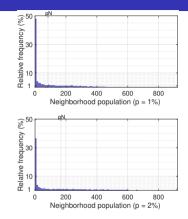
By the fundamental Facts about data in a deep feature space

- \circ small radius \rightarrow many *empty* neighborhoods
- \circ large radius \rightarrow many *equally crowded* neighborhoods
- adequately discriminative radius values are *elusive*

Rodriguez and Laio suggested a heuristic approach: let radius

 $r = \min_{d} \left\{ d \mid \sum_{i} |\mathcal{N}_{d}(x_{i})| \ge p N^{2} \right\}$ with p = 1%, 2% so that $\operatorname{avg}(\rho) = p N$

See the histograms to the right



Histograms of neighborhood population, over 50 equispaced bins, with dataset PBMCs-8k of N = 8,000 cells, D = 21,321 genes [35]. The neighor radius values are determined by the heurstic described on the left with p = 1%, 2% for the top and bottom histograms, respectively. In each case, the local density at a large portion of data points is close to zero

Duality in local density description: neighborhood radius vs population

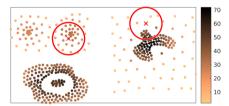
Labeled Data Compound[36]

> 399 points 6 classes

DP $\rho(\mathbf{r})$

#neighbors within distance r

 $ho_i(r) = \left\{ egin{array}{cc} |\mathcal{N}_r(x_i)|, & ext{hard cutoff} \ \sum_j \exp\left(-d_{ij}^2/r^2
ight), & ext{soft cutoff} \end{array}
ight.$



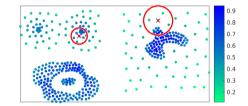
Local density ho with r=3.1

Free parameter *r*: real-valued elusive, volatile in deep space

SD-DP $\rho^*(k)$

reciprocal distance to the k-th nearest neighbor

 $ho_i^*(k) = 1/\max_j \{d_{ij} \mid x_j \in \mathcal{N}_k(x_i)\}$



Dual local density ${oldsymbol
ho}^*$ with ${oldsymbol k}=15$

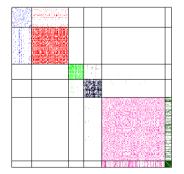
Free parameter **k**: discrete within grasp, tunable in deep space

Duality in local density description: neighborhood size vs population

DP

#neighbors within distance r

 $\rho_{i} = \begin{cases} |\mathcal{N}_{r}(x_{i})|, & \text{hard cutoff} \\ \sum_{j} \exp\left(-d_{ij}^{2}/r^{2}\right), & \text{soft cutoff} \end{cases}$

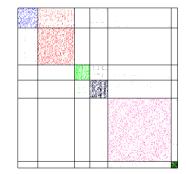


G_r: rNN matrix (Boolean values) rows/columns ordered by true classes

SD-DP

reciprocal distance to the k-th nearest neighbor

$$\rho_i^* = 1/\max_j \{d_{ij} \mid x_j \in \mathcal{N}_k(x_i)\}$$



G_k: kNN matrix (Boolean values) rows/columns ordered by true classes

Labeled Data Compound

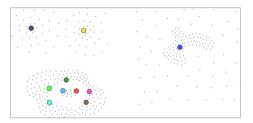


399 points 6 classes

Density peak location

DP

- Density peaks are located on $\rho\text{-}\delta$ decision graph
- chosen heuristically or manually
- $O(N^2)$ for ρ - δ graph construction

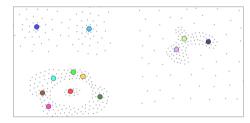


Compound density peaks (color-coded) with r = 3.1

SD-DP

Density peaks are local maxima in density

- determined simultaneously, automatically
- -O(N), each point makes comparisons with k neighbors



Compound dual density peaks (color-coded) with k = 15

Each peak holds a unique label The rest get labels by **ascending** to the peaks

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Ascending rule & ho- δ graph

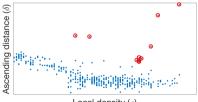
Ascending rule

Every non-peak point *i* connects to its *nearest* point of *higher* density

$$\begin{split} & x_i = \arg\min_j \{ d_{ij} \mid \rho_j > \rho_i \}, \quad \text{parental node} \\ & \delta_i = \min_j \{ d_{ij} \mid \rho_j > \rho_i \}, \quad \text{ascending distance} \end{split}$$

 $O(N^2)$ for ho- δ graph construction

DP decision graph in the ρ - δ plane Mandatory for peak selection by the heuristic: "only points of high δ and high ρ are the cluster centers"



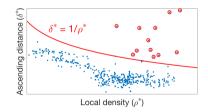


DP decision graph with dataset **Compound** for peak selection Red circles annotate density peaks

O(N), parents located locally on the kNN graph

SD-DP $(\rho^* - \delta^*)$ graph

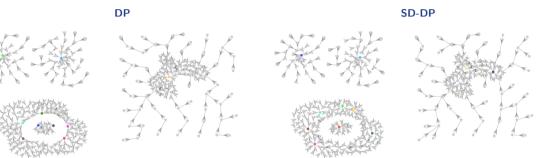
Visualizing the proven properties of autonomous, linear-cost separation of local maxima from the rest



SD-DP visualization graph with dataset $\ensuremath{\textbf{Compound}}$ Red circles annotate local maxima

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Label propagation by ascending rule



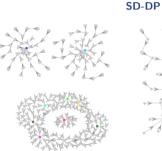
Animation of label propagation with dataset Compound

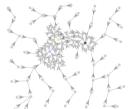
Each peak holds a unique label The rest get labels by **ascending** to the peaks

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Label propagation by ascending rule

DP





Animation of label propagation with dataset Compound

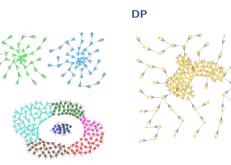
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SD-DP: Sparse Dual of Density Peaks

November 5, 2018 14 / 29

Label propagation by ascending rule



Animation of label propagation with dataset Compound

Each peak holds a unique label The rest get labels by **ascending** to the peaks SD-DP

Autonomous revision of cluster configuration

Rationale: multi-source uncertainty

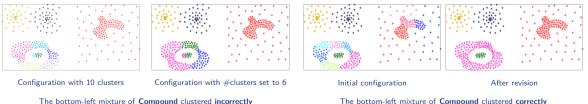
- noise in data
- numerical sensitivity in density calculation
- random tie-breaking in parental node selection

DP

SD-DP

Forward process of peak selection and label propagation without revision

Initial configuration of ascending trees at local maxima autonomous revision of cluster configuration



The bottom-left mixture of Compound clustered correctly

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Autonomous cluster revision: governing criteria

The weighted kNN matrix

$$\mathbf{G}_{k}(i,j) = \underbrace{\mathbf{B}_{k}(i,j)}_{k\text{NN adjacency}} \exp\left(-\left(\underbrace{d_{ij} \rho_{i}^{*}}_{letarce} / \sigma\right)^{2}\right)$$

is sparse and encodes density-distance information

Initial configuration: *L* clusters $\{C_p\}$, $1 \le p \le L$

 ${\sf G}_k(\{\mathcal{C}_\rho\})$ is ${\sf G}_k$ with columns/rows ordered according to the configuration $\{\mathcal{C}_\rho\}$

Optimization Objective:

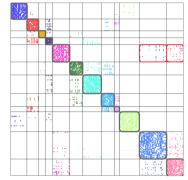
$$\{\mathcal{C}_{\ell}\} = \arg\min_{\{\mathcal{C}_{p}\}} f(\{\mathcal{C}_{p}\}), \qquad f(\{\mathcal{C}_{p}\}) = \sum_{p} |\mathcal{C}_{p}|^{2}$$

subject to

$$h(\mathbf{G}_k(\mathcal{C}_p, \{\mathcal{C}_q\} - \mathcal{C}_p)) < \tau \cdot h(\mathbf{G}_k(\mathcal{C}_p, \mathcal{C}_p))$$

where

 $h(\mathbf{G}_k(\mathcal{C}_p, \mathcal{C}_q))$: aggregated interaction strength of (sub)matrix τ : a small threshold



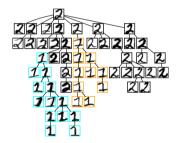
G_k: kNN matrix with rows/columns ordered by initial configuration on **Compound**

Total area of diagonal blocks: $f(\{C_p\})$ Aggregated interaction strength: $h(G_k(C_p, C_q))$

Autonomous cluster revision: split-and-merge

 ${\sf G}_k$ is sparse, encodes density-distance information ${\sf G}_k(\{\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{P}}\})$ encodes inter-/intra-cluster interaction strength in addition

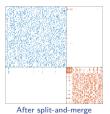
A sub-cluster with weak intra-cluster interaction and stronger interaction with another cluster is **split** from its parent and **merged** to the other \implies Inter-cluster interaction strength *h* decreases



Subtrees of digit-1 images, initially attached to the parental tree of digit-2 images by local density and the ascending rule, are automatically differentiated from the rest and split from the parental tree



Before split-and-merge



Matrix view of split and merge (synthetic construction)

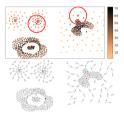
Autonomous cluster revision

Animation of autonomous cluster revision with dataset Compound

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DP vs SD-DP: clustering process & results

DP





Compound

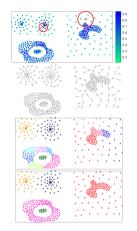
399 points 6 classes



The bottom-left mixture clustered incorrectly

The right mixture was not separated; it does not adhere to the DP principle

SD-DP



The bottom-left mixture clustered correctly

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SD-DP: Sparse Dual of Density Peaks

November 5, 2018 19 / 29

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2. The Density Peaks (DP) and other influential algorithms

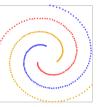
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Benchmark experiments: synthetic benchmarking datasets

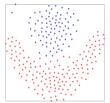


Aggregation 788 points; 7 classes



Spiral 312 points; 3 classes

S3 5,000 points; 15 classes



Flame 240 points; 2 classes

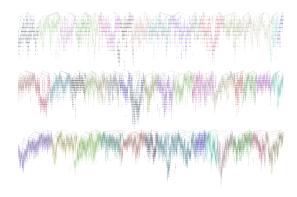
SD-DP correctly recovers the numbers and the shapes of the true classes [37]

http://cs.uef.fi/sipu/datasets/

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Benchmark experiments: handwritten digit recognition

Peaks (local maxima) 06076711917802698320793166605706137175870032692135984



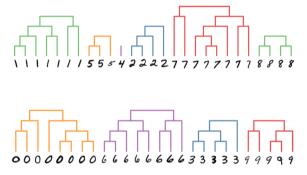
Ascending trees rooted at 53 local maxima; unique color for each tree

 ${\bf G}_k$: kNN matrix with rows/columns ordered by clusters. Clusters are arranged in order of size, k=48

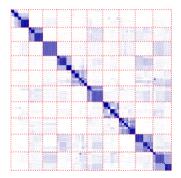
60,000 images of handwritten digits (MNIST dataset) HOG descriptor (144 dimensions) for each digit image

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Benchmark experiments: unsupervised revision

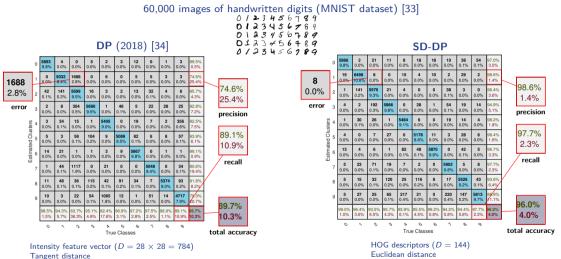


Unsupervised cluster merging, unique color for each merged cluster Splits took place at a finer level (not shown)



 \mathbf{G}_k : rows/columns ordered according to two cluster levels – the initial one and the merged one

DP vs SD-DP: classification accuracy



Tangent distance

Manual intervention in peak selection and cluster merge

Unsupervised cluster revision

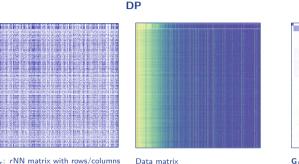
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DP vs SD-DP: clustering of high-dimensional data



G_{*r*}: *r*NN matrix with rows/columns ordered by rendered clusters

Data matrix cells (rows) vs genes (columns)

 \mathbf{G}_k : kNN matrix with rows/columns ordered by rendered clusters

Data matrix cells (rows) vs genes (columns)

DP with r = 97.75 (p = 2%) Rendered 2 small and 1 large cluster SD-DP with k = 35Rendered 2 small and 4 large clusters

Dataset PBMCs-8k [35]: N = 8,000 cells, D = 21,321 genes

SD-DP

Exploratory experiments: fast image segmentation



Parthenon image [38] (481 \times 321, N = 154,401)

Segmentation result (3 segments) 5 \times 5 patch feature per color; $D = 5 \times 5 \times 3 = 75$

Segmentation time: 3 seconds in MATLAB (excluding kNN construction) SD-DP outpaces DP by two orders of magnitude

Exploratory experiments: fast high-definition image segmentation



Santorini image¹ (1280 \times 800, N = 1,024,000)



Illustrative segmentation result (30 segments) 9 × 9 patch feature per color; $D = 9 \times 9 \times 3 = 243$

Segmentation time: 15 seconds in MATLAB (excluding kNN construction) SD-DP outpaces DP by at least two orders of magnitude

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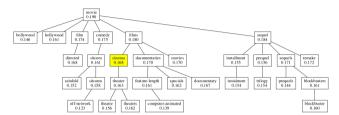
¹https://blog.ryanair.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/santorini123.jpg

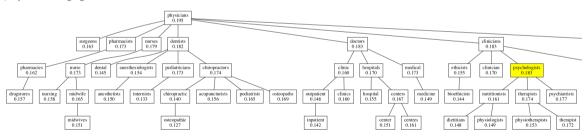
Exploratory experiments: statistical hierarchy of word semantics

 $N=400,000~{\rm GloVe}$ [20] word vectors 2 (D=300) Semantically related words, based on word co-occurrence from text content, are closer in the GloVe space

SD-DP (k = 5) produces a statistical hierarchy of word semantics A word with higher density has more general meaning A word with lower density has more specific meaning

Can be used for search in depth and breadth simultaneously The local density is annotated on each word Query words are highlighted





²Pre-trained word vectors (Wikipedia 2014 + Gigaword 5)

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Recap: Sparse Dual of Density Peaks

Contributions

Dual local density description

ground for robustness, by recognizing, respecting the fundamental facts of high dimensional data

Initial cluster formation

clusters by ascending trees rooted at local maxima proven local, parallel, of linear complexity

Autonomous cluster revision

coherent revision criteria at multiple cluster levels

Sparse matrix/graph operations

Experimental findings

Unsupervised classification of handwritten digits 96% overall accuracy reached

Gene clustering

4 large clusters found in 8,000 cells in expression of 21,321 genes

Statistical hierarchy of word semantics

among 400,000 words in the GloVe space (D = 300)

HD image segmentation

faster than DP by two orders of magnitude or more

Algorithms Desirable properties	K-MEANS (1982)	DBSCAN (1996)	OPTICS (1999)	MEAN SHIFT (2002)	GN (2002)	COMBO (2014)	DP (2014)	SD-DP (2018)
No prescription of # clusters		√	 Image: A set of the set of the	1	<	1	✓	
No restriction in cluster shape		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Free choice of metrics		~	1		1	4	1	1
Agnostic to distribution		√	 Image: A set of the set of the	1			×	
Easy or no tuning	1				1	1		1
Robust in high-dim. space								
Accurate in high-dim. space								1
Low computation cost								√

Additional information available at http://sddp.cs.duke.edu

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