

# Model selection theory and considerations in large scale scenarios

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## Take-home message

George E.P. Box (1987)

“Essentially, all models are **wrong**, but some are **useful**”

## Large scale scenarios?

- $n$  large **or**  $d$  large
- Both  $n$  large **and**  $d$  large: need to be more defined. . .
- Large number of models: often a consequence of  $n$  or  $d$  large

# Outline

**1** Motivating model selection

2 Density-focused criteria

3 Clustering-focused criteria

4 Co-clustering specificity

5 Model multiplicity

6 To go further



## Parametric mixture model (reminder)

- Parametric assumption:

$$p_k(\mathbf{x}_1) = p(\mathbf{x}_1; \alpha_k)$$

thus

$$p(\mathbf{x}_1) = p(\mathbf{x}_1; \theta) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k p(\mathbf{x}_1; \alpha_k)$$

- Mixture parameter:

$$\theta = (\pi, \alpha) \text{ with } \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K)$$

### Model

It includes both the family  $p(\cdot; \alpha_k)$  and the number of groups  $K$

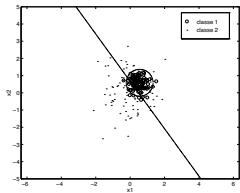
$$\mathbf{m} = \{p(\mathbf{x}_1; \theta) : \theta \in \Theta\}$$

- The number of free *continuous* parameters is given by

$$\nu = \dim(\Theta)$$

## Importance of model selection: example

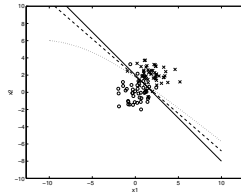
Too simple model: **bias**



true modèle:  $[\pi \lambda_k I]$  (free spherical)

too simple model:  $[\pi \lambda I]$  (spherical)

Too complex model: **variance**



— true borderline

- - - borderline with  $[\pi \lambda I]$  (spherical)

. . . borderline with  $[\pi \lambda_k C_k]$  (general)

# A model is (usually) not the true (unknown) distribution

- True distribution:

$$\mathbf{x} \sim p(\cdot)$$

- Model distribution:

$$(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i) \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} p(\cdot, \cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

- Gap between both:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta} \text{KL}(p, p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$$

where

$$\text{KL}(p, p_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = E_{\mathbf{x}' } [\ln p(\mathbf{x}') - \ln p(\mathbf{x}'; \boldsymbol{\theta})]$$

## Properties of the *observed*-data log-likelihood estimation of $\theta$

- **Principle:** MLE

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} \ell(\theta; \mathbf{x})$$

with

$$\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ln \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k p(\mathbf{x}_i; \alpha_k) \right)$$

- **Properties:** we have

$$\hat{\theta} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \theta^* \quad \text{and} \quad \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta^*) \xrightarrow{d} N_{\nu}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{J}^{-1} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{J}^{-1})$$

where

$$\mathbf{J} = -E_{\mathbf{X}_1} \nabla^2 \ln p(\mathbf{X}_1; \theta^*)$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \text{Var}_{\mathbf{X}_1} \nabla \ln p(\mathbf{X}_1; \theta^*)$$

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**2 Density-focused criteria**

3 Clustering-focused criteria

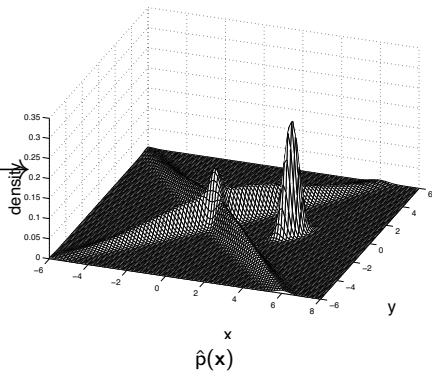
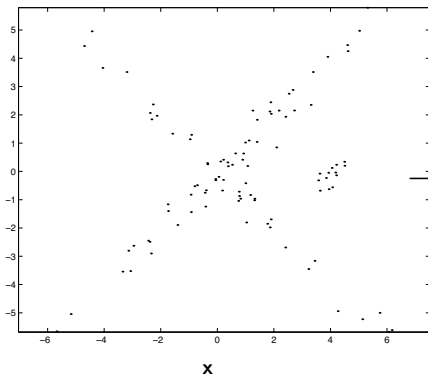
4 Co-clustering specificity

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## Density estimation (reminder)

- Clustering has been recasted as a density estimation (mixture distribution)
- Thus, it makes sense to select models from the density point of view



## Bias/variance trade-off

- Gap between true and model distributions: (remind)

$$\theta_m^* = \arg \inf_{\theta \in \Theta_m} \text{KL}(p, p_{\theta_m})$$

- MLE:

$$\hat{\theta}_m = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} \ell(\theta; \mathbf{x})$$

- Fundamental decomposition of  $\text{KL}(p, p_{\hat{\theta}_m})$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{KL}(p, p_{\hat{\theta}_m}) \\ &= \left\{ \text{KL}(p, p_{\theta_m^*}) - \text{KL}(p, p) \right\} + \left\{ \text{KL}(p, p_{\hat{\theta}_m}) - \text{KL}(p, p_{\theta_m^*}) \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \text{bias}_m \right\} + \left\{ \text{variance}_m \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \text{error of approximation} \right\} + \left\{ \text{error of estimation} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

- Family of models in competition:

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\mathbf{m}\}$$

## Illustration of the variance effect

30 samples from a bivariate mixture with two components

$$\pi_1 = \pi_2 = 0.5, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = (0, 0)', \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = (2, 2)', \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1 = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2 = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\text{spherical, general}\}$$

$n$	$m$	$\hat{E}_x \text{KL}(p_\theta, p_{\hat{\theta}_m})$
40	spherical	0.0760
	general	0.1929
200	spherical	0.0116
	general	0.0245



# APPROACH 1

## Expected deviance

- Expected deviance between  $p$  and  $p_{\hat{\theta}_m}$ :

$$D_m = E_x[\underbrace{2\text{KL}(p, p_{\hat{\theta}_m})}_{\text{deviance}}]$$

- Related ideal model:

$$\mathbf{m}^* \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}} D_m$$

- Approximating  $D_m$ : noting  $\nu_m^* = \text{tr}[\mathbf{KJ}^{-1}]$ ,

$$D_m = 2\{\ln p(\mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_m; \mathcal{D})\} + 2\nu_m^* + O_p(\sqrt{n})$$

## AIC-like criteria: genesis

- **NIC criterion** (*Network Information Criterion*): retain  $\hat{\mathbf{m}}$  maximizing

$$\text{NIC}_{\mathbf{m}} = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) - \underbrace{\nu_{\mathbf{m}}^*}_{\text{difficult}}$$

- True model case:

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}^*} \Rightarrow \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{J} \Rightarrow \nu_{\mathbf{m}}^* = \nu_{\mathbf{m}}$$

- **AIC criterion** (*An Information Criterion*): if  $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}^*}$ , retain  $\hat{\mathbf{m}}$  maximizing

$$\text{AIC}_{\mathbf{m}} = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) - \underbrace{\nu_{\mathbf{m}}}_{\text{easy}}$$

- **AIC/NIC:**

- Both are **asymptotic** approximations of  $D_{\mathbf{m}}$
- AIC can be viewed as a crude but simple approximation of NIC

## AIC-like criteria: alternative

- **Alternative AIC3:** Taylor expansion leading to  $D_{\mathbf{m}}$  is not valid for  $\mathbf{m} = K$  and the following heuristics is sometimes given

$$\text{AIC3}_{\mathbf{m}} = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}) - 1.5\nu.$$

- **Alternative non asymptotic approximation:** *Cross Validation* criterion

$$\text{CV}_{\mathbf{m}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \ln p(\mathbf{x}_i; \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\{i\}}),$$

where  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\{i\}}$  is the MLE of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  obtained from  $\mathbf{x}$  excepted the  $i$ th individual

### Summary for expected deviance according to $n/d$

- **$n$  large:** NIC/AIC/AIC3 criteria
- **$d$  large:** CV criterion (but choice of the split is here quite arbitrary)

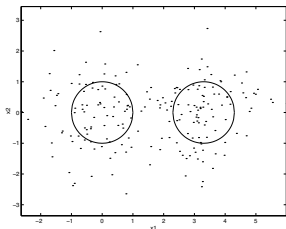
## AIC-like criteria: inconsistency

- **Inconsistency:** AIC/AIC3/NIC/CV retain too complex models with non-null probability, even asymptotically (but normal: their goal is **prediction!**)
- **Theoretical illustration:**  $\mathbf{m}_1 \subseteq \mathbf{m}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{m}_1$  the true one,  $\Delta\nu = \nu_2 - \nu_1 > 0$ ,  $\Delta\ell = \ell(\hat{\theta}_2; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_1; \mathbf{x})$

$$2(\text{AIC}_2 - \text{AIC}_1) + 2\Delta\nu = 2\Delta\ell \xrightarrow{d} \chi_{\Delta\nu}^2 \Rightarrow \text{p}(\chi_{\Delta\nu}^2 > 2\Delta\nu) > 0$$

- **Numerical illustration:** 30 samples of size  $n = 200$  from a bivariate spherical Gaussian model of two well-separated components

$$\pi_1 = \pi_2 = 0.5, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = (0, 0)' \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = (3.3, 0)', \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1 = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2 = \mathbf{I}$$



$K$	1	2	3	4	5
AIC	.	87	7	3	3
AIC3	.	97	3	.	.

## APPROACH 2

### Deviance

- Related ideal model:

$$\hat{\mathbf{m}}^* \in \arg \min_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}} 2\text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}})$$

- Decomposition:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}}) &= -\ell(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) + \ln \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &+ \left\{ \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}}) - \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\theta_{\mathbf{m}}^*}) \right\} + \left\{ \ell(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\theta_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) \right\} \\ &+ \left\{ \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\theta_{\mathbf{m}}^*}) - \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}) \right\} - \left\{ \ln \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x}) - \ell(\theta_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) \right\} \\ &= -\ell(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) + \text{constant} \\ &+ \left\{ \widehat{\text{variance}}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} + \left\{ \widehat{\text{variance}}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} \\ &+ \left\{ \widehat{\text{bias}}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} - \left\{ \widehat{\text{bias}}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

- Approximation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}}) &\approx -\ell(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) + \text{constant} \\ &+ 2 \left\{ \widehat{\text{variance}}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} \\ &+ 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Slope heuristics: principle

- **SH (Slope Heuristics) criterion**: retain  $\mathbf{m}$  maximizing

$$SH_{\mathbf{m}} = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) - 2\widehat{\text{variance}}_{\mathbf{m}}$$

- **Estimating the penalty**: optimal penalty<sup>1</sup> is linear in  $\nu_{\mathbf{m}}$

$$2\widehat{\text{variance}}_{\mathbf{m}} = \kappa\nu_{\mathbf{m}} + \text{cst.}$$

and also

$$2\widehat{\text{variance}}_{\mathbf{m}} = 2\underbrace{\left\{ \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) - p(\mathbf{x}) \right\}}_{\approx \kappa\nu_{\mathbf{m}} + \text{cst}} + \underbrace{2\left\{ p(\mathbf{x}) - \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}^*; \mathbf{x}) \right\}}_{\text{bias} \approx \text{cst for too complex models}}$$

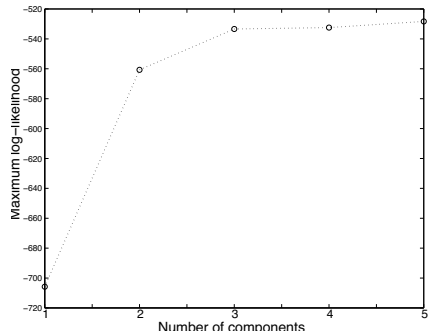
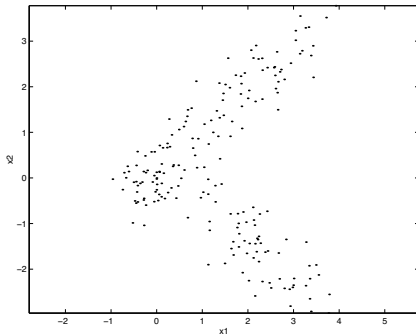
thus, for complex enough models,  $\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x})$  behaves linearly with  $\nu_{\mathbf{m}}$  and the corresponding slope is  $\kappa/2$

- **CAPUSHE<sup>2</sup> (CALibrated Penalty Using Slope HEuristics)**:  $\kappa/2$  can be estimated by a linear regression of  $\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x})$  on  $\frac{\kappa}{2}\nu_{\mathbf{m}}$

<sup>1</sup>It is provided by [non-asymptotic](#) concentration inequality theory.

<sup>2</sup><http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/capushe/>

## Slope heuristics: illustration



Summary for deviance according to  $n/d$

SH is valid for both  $n$  large and also for  $d$  large (no asymptotics)

## APPROACH 3

### Integrated likelihood

- Posterior likelihood of  $\mathbf{m}$ :

$$p(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{x}) \propto p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{m}) \underbrace{p(\mathbf{m})}_{\text{prior on } \mathbf{m}}$$

- Ideal model in a Bayesian context:

$$\hat{\mathbf{m}}^* \in \arg \max_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}} p(\mathbf{m}|\mathbf{x})$$

- Integrated likelihood: if  $p(\mathbf{m}) = \text{cst}$ , it is equivalent to maximize

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{m}) = \int_{\Theta} p(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{m}) \underbrace{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{m})}_{\text{prior on } \boldsymbol{\theta}} d\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

- Difficulties:

- Choose the prior  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{m})$
- Evaluate the integral



## BIC criterion: genesis

- Laplace-Metropolis approximation: under standard regularity conditions, we have

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{m}) = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathcal{D}) - \frac{\nu}{2} \ln(n) + O_p(1)$$

- BIC criterion (*Bayesian Information Criterion*): retain  $\mathbf{m}$  maximizing

$$\text{BIC}_{\mathbf{m}} = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x}) - \frac{\nu_{\mathbf{m}}}{2} \ln(n)$$

## BIC criterion: consistency<sup>3</sup>

- **Consistency:** BIC asymptotically selects

$$\mathbf{m}^* = \arg \inf_{\mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{M}} \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}_{\theta_{\mathbf{m}}})$$

- **Misspecified** model collection: BIC retains the closest to  $\mathbf{p}$
  - **Well-specified** model collection: BIC retains the true one
- **Theoretical illustration of consistency:**  $\mathbf{m}_1 \subseteq \mathbf{m}_2$ ,  $\mathbf{m}_1$  being the true model,  $\Delta\nu = \nu_2 - \nu_1$ ,  $\Delta\ell = \ell(\hat{\theta}_2; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_1; \mathbf{x})$ , we have

$$2(\text{BIC}_2 - \text{BIC}_1) + \Delta\nu \ln(n) = 2\Delta\ell \xrightarrow{d} \chi_{\Delta\nu}^2$$

With  $\mu = \Delta\nu$  and  $\sigma^2 = 2\Delta\nu$  the mean and the variance of  $\chi_{\Delta\nu}^2$

$$\mathbf{p}(\chi_{\Delta\nu}^2 > \Delta\nu \ln(n)) \leq \mathbf{p}(|\chi_{\Delta\nu}^2 - \mu| > \Delta\nu \ln(n) - \mu) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{(\Delta\nu \ln(n) - \mu)^2} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

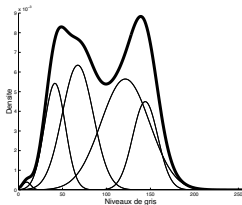
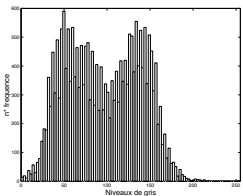
by using the Chebyshev inequality. Thus, asymptotically, BIC will select  $\mathbf{m}_1$

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<sup>3</sup>Some theoretical difficulties for consistency in  $K$ .

## Large $n$ : BIC behaviour (1/2)

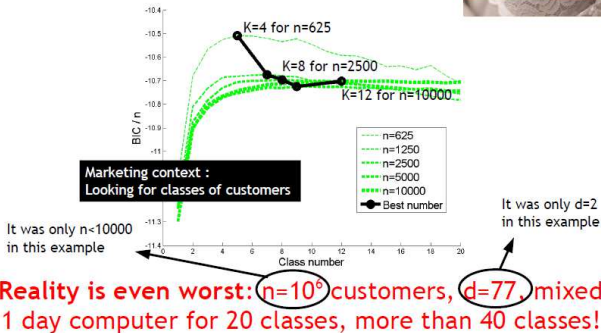
- The mixture density is wrong (as all models)
- Mixtures allow to estimate any distribution by increasing the number of components (high flexibility)



## Large $n$ : BIC behaviour (2/2)

Since BIC is consistent, as  $n$  grows, it adds components for improving the true density estimation

### Real example



## Exact Bayesian for the latent class model (1/4)

- Use the latent structure:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{Z}} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{Z}} \int_{\Theta} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}; \theta) p(\theta) d\theta$$

- Non informative conjugate Jeffreys priors: Dirichlet priors

$$p(\boldsymbol{\pi}) = D_K\left(\frac{1}{2}, \dots, \frac{1}{2}\right) \quad \text{and} \quad p(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_k^j) = D_{m_j}\left(\frac{1}{2}, \dots, \frac{1}{2}\right).$$

- Exact expression of  $p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$ : independence between priors

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{K}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^g} \frac{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma\left(n_k + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(n + \frac{K}{2}\right)} \prod_{k=1}^K \prod_{j=1}^d \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m_j}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{m_j}} \frac{\prod_{h=1}^{m_j} \Gamma\left(n_k^{jh} + \frac{1}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(n_k + \frac{m_j}{2}\right)}$$

where  $n_k = \#\{i : z_{ik} = 1\}$  and  $n_k^{jh} = \#\{i : z_{ik} = 1, x_i^{jh} = 1\}$

## Exact Bayesian for the latent class model (2/4)

- **Problem:** summing over  $\mathcal{Z}$
- **Importance sampling solution:** importance sampling function  $l_x(\mathbf{z})$  is a pdf on  $\mathbf{z}$  which can depend on  $\mathbf{x}$ :  $\sum_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{Z}} l_x(\mathbf{z}) = 1$  and  $l_x(\mathbf{z}) \geq 0$

$$\hat{p}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}^{(s)})}{l_x(\mathbf{z}^{(s)})} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{z}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{z}^{(S)} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} l_x(\mathbf{z})$$

is a consistent and unbiased estimate with variation coefficient

$$c_v[\hat{p}(\mathbf{x})] = \frac{\sqrt{\text{Var}[\hat{p}(\mathbf{x})]}}{\text{E}[\hat{p}(\mathbf{x})]} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{S} \left( \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{Z}} \frac{p^2(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})}{l_x(\mathbf{z})} - 1 \right)}$$

- **Ideal importance sampling:** this one minimizing the variance

$$l_x^*(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\Theta} p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}; \theta) p(\theta|\mathbf{x}) d\theta$$

## Exact Bayesian for the latent class model (3/4)

- Estimate of ideal importance sampling:

$$\hat{l}_x^*(\mathbf{z}) = l_x(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{R \#\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{z}^l)} \sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{z}^l)} p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}; \rho(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(r)})),$$

where

- the set  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{z}^l)$  denotes all label permutations of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  on the set  $\{1, \dots, K\} \setminus \{k : z_{ik} = z_{ik}^l\}$  of label permutations not already fixed by  $\mathbf{z}^l$
- $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{z}^l)$  provides an importance density which is labelling invariant, like the ideal one
- $\{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(r)}\}$  are chosen to be independent realisations of  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x})$
- in practice, a (holed) Gibbs sampler can be used:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}|\mathbf{z} \sim D_K(\frac{1}{2} + n_1, \dots, \frac{1}{2} + n_K)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}_k^j|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} \sim D_{m_j}(\frac{1}{2} + n_k^{j1}, \dots, \frac{1}{2} + n_k^{jm_j})$$

$$\mathbf{z}_i|\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i^l; \boldsymbol{\theta} \sim M_K(t_{i1}(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \dots, t_{iK}(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

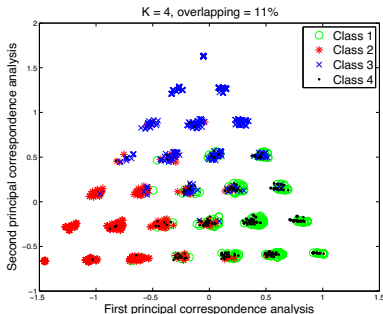
- **ILbayes criterion:**

- resulting criterion with depends on both  $R$  and  $S$
- practical difficulties when  $K > 6$  (combinatorics)

## Exact Bayesian for the latent class model (4/4)

20 samples,  $d = 6$ ,  $m_1 = \dots = m_4 = 3$  and  $m_5 = m_6 = 4$ ,  $K = 4$

$\pi = (0.25 \ 0.25 \ 0.25 \ 0.25)'$  and  $\alpha$  such that 11% (low) error rate



$n$	320	1 600	3 200
BIC	3.0	3.5	4.0
ILbayes	3.4	4.0	4.0

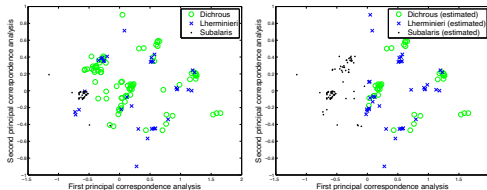


## A seabird dataset

- **Data:**  $n = 153$  puffins divided into three subspecies described by the  $d = 5$  plumage and external morphological characters

	levels				
variables	1	2	3	4	5
gender	male	female			
eyebrows <sup>a</sup>	none	.....		very pronounced	
collar <sup>a</sup>	none		.....		continuous
sub-caudal border <sup>a</sup>	white	black	black & white	black & WHITE	BLACK & white
	none	...	many		

<sup>a</sup> using a paper pattern



	$K$					
criteria	1	2	3	4	5	6
BIC	-714.03	<b>-711.14</b>	-729.97	-754.58	-784.49	-814.61
ILbayes	-712.08	-693.41	<b>-692.88</b>	-694.01	-695.21	-696.00

## Summary for integrated likelihood according to $n/d$

- $n$  large: BIC criterion
- $d$  large: ILbayes criterion

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2 Density-focused criteria

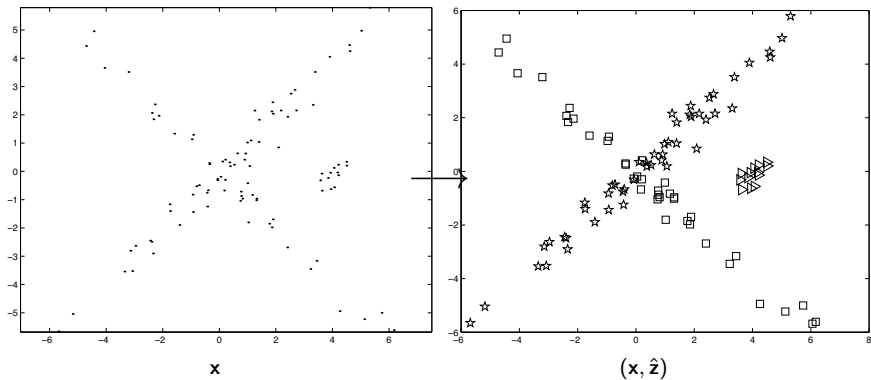
**3 Clustering-focused criteria**

4 Co-clustering specificity

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## Clustering (reminder)



Use the clustering goal to build specific (and more efficient) model selection criteria!

## Bias/variance trade-off

- **Partition error rate:**  $\text{err}(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2) \geq 0$  a distance-like between two partitions  $\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2$
- **Gap between true and model partition:**

$$\theta_{\mathbf{m}}^* = \arg \min_{\theta \in \Theta_{\mathbf{m}}} \text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}(\theta))$$

- **MLE:**

$$\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} \ell(\theta; \mathbf{x})$$

- **Fundamental decomposition of  $\text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}))$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}})) &= \left\{ \text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}(\theta_{\mathbf{m}}^*)) - \text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}) \right\} + \left\{ \text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}})) - \text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}(\theta_{\mathbf{m}}^*)) \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \text{bias}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} + \left\{ \text{variance}_{\mathbf{m}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

- **Caution:** not necessarily the same optimal model as density estimation!

## Illustration of the variance effect

30 samples from a bivariate mixture with two components

$$\pi_1 = \pi_2 = 0.5, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = (0, 0)', \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = (2, 2)', \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1 = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2 = \mathbf{I}$$

$$\mathcal{M} = \{\text{spherical, general}\}$$

$n$	$\mathbf{m}$	$\text{err}(\mathbf{z}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}_{\mathbf{m}})$
40	spherical	0.0967
	general	0.1100
200	spherical	0.0840
	general	0.0872

## Heuristics entropy-based criteria

- A fundamental decomposition of  $\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})$ : for any “fuzzy partition”  $\mathbf{c} = \{c_{ik}\}$

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K c_{ik} \ln\{\pi_k p(\mathbf{x}_i; \boldsymbol{\alpha}_k)\} - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K c_{ik} \ln t_{ik}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &= \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{c}) + \xi(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{c}) \\ &= \text{complete-data log-likelihood} + \text{entropy} \end{aligned}$$

- NEC criterion (*Normalized Entropy Criterion*): retain  $\mathbf{m}$  minimizing

$$\text{NEC}_K = \begin{cases} \frac{\xi(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_K; \mathbf{t}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_K))}{\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_K; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_1; \mathbf{x})} & \text{if } K > 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } K = 1 \end{cases}$$

- CL criterion (*Completed Likelihood*): retain  $\mathbf{m}$  maximizing

$$\text{CL} = \ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}) = \underbrace{\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{model adequacy}} - \underbrace{\xi(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \hat{\mathbf{z}})}_{\text{partition evidence}}$$

- Behaviour: not completely satisfactory but something happens...

## The ICL criterion: genesis

- **Revisiting the fundamental decomposition:** if  $\mathbf{z}$  known, retain  $\mathbf{m}$  maximizing

$$\underbrace{\ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} | \mathbf{m})}_{\text{all data evidence}} = \underbrace{\ln p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{m})}_{\text{data } \mathbf{x} \text{ evidence}} + \underbrace{\ln p(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{m})}_{\text{partition } \mathbf{z} \text{ evidence}}$$

Thus models leading to overlapping groups are more penalized (low  $\mathbf{z}$  evidence)

- **ICL criterion (*Integrated Classification Likelihood*):** replace  $\mathbf{z}$  by  $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$

$$\text{ICL} = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}} | \mathbf{m})$$

- **BIC-like approximation of ICL:**

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} | \mathbf{m}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z} | \mathbf{m}; \hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}}) - \frac{\nu}{2} \ln n + O_p(1)$$

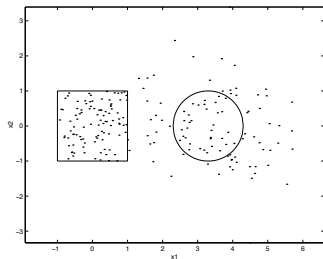
In case of the right model  $\mathbf{m}$ :  $\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \theta^*$  and  $\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \theta^*$ . Thus, for  $n$  large enough,  $\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}} \approx \hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}}$ . Then, we take  $\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \text{MAP}(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}})$  (or also  $\hat{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{t}(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}})$ ). It gives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ICLbic} &= \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}; \hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}}) - \frac{\nu}{2} \ln n \\ &= \text{BIC} - \xi(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{x}}; \hat{\mathbf{z}}) \\ &= \text{CL} - \frac{\nu}{2} \ln n \end{aligned}$$



## The ICL criterion: robustness to model misspecification

- A bivariate mixture of a uniform and a Gaussian cluster:
  - non-Gaussian component:  $\pi_1 = 0.5$ ,  $p_1(\mathbf{x}_1) = 0.25 \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x^1) \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x^2)$
  - Gaussian component:  $\pi_2 = 0.5$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = (3.3, 0)'$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2 = \mathbf{I}$
- 50 simulated data sets of size  $n = 200$



$K$	1	2	3	4	5
BIC	.	<b>60</b>	.	32	8
ICLbic	.	<b>100</b>	.	.	.

## The ICL criterion: consistency?

- **Assumption:** true model with two groups and parameter  $\theta_2^*$
- **Theoretical result:**
  - Preliminaries:  $\delta_n = n(\theta_2^* - \theta_2^{*P})' \mathbf{J}(\theta_2^*)(\theta_2^* - \theta_2^{*P})$ ,  $\mathbf{J}(\theta_2^*)$  the Fisher matrix for a data unit calculated with the true parameter  $\theta_2$  and  $\theta_2^{*P}$  its projected value on the parameter subspace associated to the one component case,  $\mu_n = E[\chi_{\Delta\nu}^2(\delta_n)] = \Delta\nu + \delta_n$ ,  $\sigma_n^2 = \text{Var}[\chi_{\Delta\nu}^2(\delta_n)] = 2(\Delta\nu + \delta_n)$
  - Asymptotically: by Chebyshev inequality, with  $\mu_n - \Delta\nu \ln n - 2n \ln 2 > 0$

$$p(\text{choose wrong model}) = p(\text{ICLbic}_2 < \text{ICLbic}_1) \leq \frac{\sigma_n^2}{(\mu_n - \Delta\nu \ln n - 2n \ln 2)^2}$$

Thus it goes towards 0 for well-separated groups

- **Experimental result:** 100 samples from a univariate Gaussian mixture

$$\pi_1 = \pi_2, \quad \mu_1 = 0, \quad \mu_2 = \Delta\mu, \quad \sigma_1^2 = \sigma_2^2 = 1$$

$\Delta\mu$	2.9		3.0		3.1		3.2		3.3	
	BIC	ICL	BIC	ICL	BIC	ICL	BIC	ICL	BIC	ICL
100	94	23	96	31	97	44	95	45	97	60
400	100	9	100	21	100	48	100	70	100	85
700	100	8	100	15	100	39	100	72	100	96
1 000	100	6	100	16	100	56	100	75	100	91

## The ICL criterion: a new contrast point of view

- The (fuzzy) complete-data log-likelihood contrast: replace the log-likelihood

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}(\boldsymbol{\theta})) = \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) - \xi(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{t}(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

- New ICLbic-like criterion:

$$\text{ICL}\tilde{\text{bic}} = \ell(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}})) - \frac{\nu}{2} \ln n,$$

where

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta} \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}(\boldsymbol{\theta})).$$

- Properties:
  - ICL $\tilde{\text{bic}}$  consistent (only) from this new contrast point of view
  - ICL $\tilde{\text{bic}} \approx \text{ICLbic}$  so prefer ICLbic for simplicity
- Variants: slope heuristics penalization

## The ICL criterion: exact value for the latent class model

- **ICL expression:** non-informative conjuguate priors

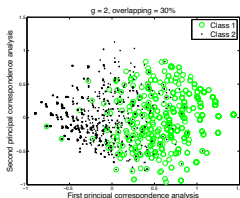
$$\text{ICL} = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}) =$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^d \left\{ \sum_{h=1}^{m_j} \ln \Gamma \left( \hat{n}_k^{jh} + \frac{1}{2} \right) - \ln \Gamma \left( \hat{n}_k + \frac{m_j}{2} \right) \right\} - \ln \Gamma \left( n + \frac{K}{2} \right) + \ln \Gamma \left( \frac{K}{2} \right)$$

$$+ K \sum_{j=1}^d \left\{ \ln \Gamma \left( \frac{m_j}{2} \right) - m_j \ln \Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \right\} + \sum_{k=1}^K \ln \Gamma \left( \hat{n}_k + \frac{1}{2} \right) - K \ln \Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

where  $\hat{n}_k = \#\{i : \hat{z}_{ik} = 1\}$  and  $\hat{n}_k^{jh} = \#\{i : \hat{z}_{ik} = 1, x_i^{jh} = 1\}$

- **Behaviour:** six variables ( $d = 6$ ) with numbers of levels  $m_1 = \dots = m_4 = 3$  and  $m_5 = m_6 = 4$  and a two component mixture ( $K = 2$ ) with unbalanced mixing proportions  $\boldsymbol{\pi} = (0.3 \ 0.7)'$



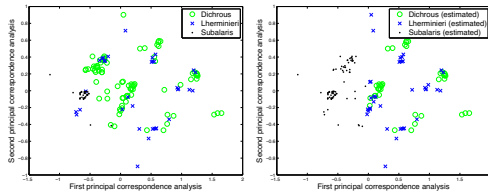
$n$	320			1 600			3 200		
Overlap (%)	5	10	20	5	10	20	5	10	20
ICLbic	2.0	1.5	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0
ICL	2.0	1.9	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	1.0

## A seabird dataset (continuation)

- **Data:**  $n = 153$  puffins divided into three subspecies described by the  $d = 5$  plumage and external morphological characters

	levels				
variables	1	2	3	4	5
gender	male	female			
eyebrows <sup>a</sup>	none	.....		very pronounced	
collar <sup>a</sup>	none	.....			continuous
sub-caudal border <sup>a</sup>	white	black	black & white	black & WHITE	BLACK & white
	none	...	many		

<sup>a</sup> using a paper pattern



	$\hat{K}$					
criteria	1	2	3	4	5	6
ICLbic	<b>-714.03</b>	-727.33	-741.37	-774.01	-802.47	-830.83
ICL	-712.08	-712.57	<b>-711.81</b>	-727.44	-737.46	-741.79

## Summary for integrated classification likelihood according to $n/d$

- $n$  large: ICLbic criterion
- $d$  large: ICL criterion

# Outline

1 Motivating model selection

2 Density-focused criteria

3 Clustering-focused criteria

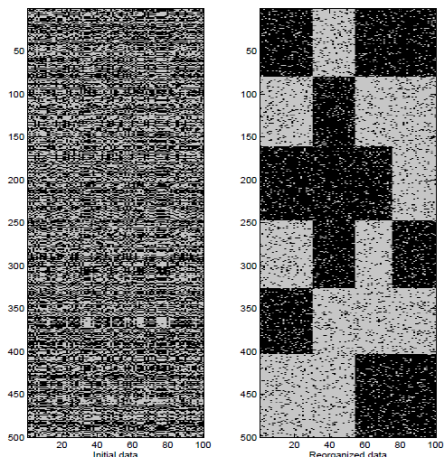
**4 Co-clustering specificity**

5 Model multiplicity

6 To go further

## Co-clustering (reminder)

[Govaert, 2011]



$$n = 500, d = 10, K = 6, L = 4$$



## Models in competition

$\mathbf{m} = (K, L)$  typically, but not restricted to

## BIC criterion: two difficulties

- **Difficult 1:** which BIC definition because of the double asymptotic on  $n$  and  $d$ ?
- **Difficult 2:** the observed log-likelihood value is intractable

$$\ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) \in \mathcal{Z} \times \mathcal{W}} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

Could be estimated by harmonic mean but time consuming and high variance

## ICL criterion: overcome both difficulties

- ICL uses complete likelihood thus no intractability

$$\text{ICL} = \ln p(\mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}) + \ln p(\hat{\mathbf{z}}) + \ln p(\hat{\mathbf{w}})$$

- Multinomial case ( $m$  levels): [Keribin *et al.*, 2014]

- Derive an exact (non-asymptotic) ICL version
- Deduce an asymptotic approximation of ICL

$$\text{ICLbic} = \ell_c(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}) - \frac{K-1}{2} \ln(n) - \frac{L-1}{2} \ln(d) - \frac{KL(m-1)}{2} \ln(nd)$$

- We can make a conjecture for the general case

$$\text{ICLbic} = \ell_c(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}) - \frac{K-1}{2} \ln(n) - \frac{L-1}{2} \ln(d) - \frac{KL\nu_{\alpha_{kl}}}{2} \ln(nd)$$

## ICL criterion: consistency

- We can obtain a BIC expression from ICLbic

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BIC} &= \text{ICLbic} - \ln p(\hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{\mathbf{w}} | \mathbf{x}; \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) \\ &= \underbrace{\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{difficult}} - \frac{K-1}{2} \ln(n) - \frac{L-1}{2} \ln(d) - \frac{KL(m-1)}{2} \ln(nd) \end{aligned}$$

- [Brault *et al.*, 2017] establish that asymptotically on  $n$  and  $d$

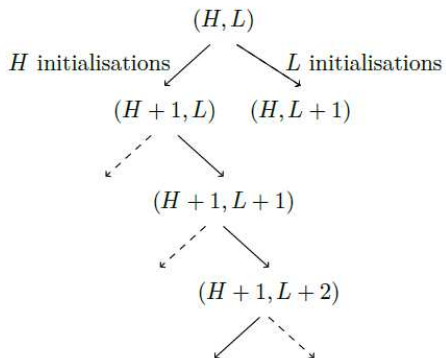
$$“\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}) = \ell_c(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}; \mathbf{x}, \hat{\mathbf{z}}, \hat{\mathbf{w}})”$$

- Thus, since BIC is consistent, ICL is also **consistent**

Again the HD clustering blessing is here!

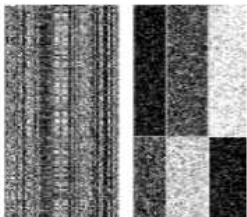
## Strategy to smart browsing of $(K, L)$

[Robert, 2017] Algorithm Bi-KM1



# MASSICCC platform for the BLOCKCLUSTER software

<https://massiccc.lille.inria.fr/>

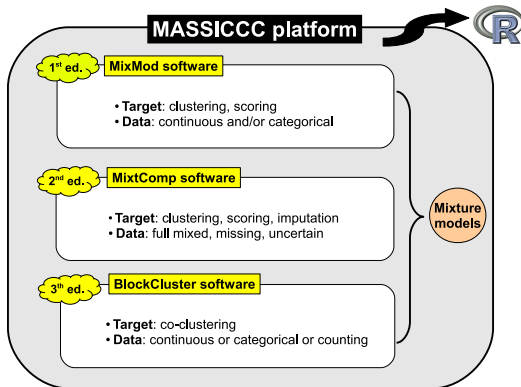


## BlockCluster

BlockCluster can estimate the parameters of co-clustering models for binary, contingency and continuous data. Simply put, when considering a set of data as rows and columns, BlockCluster will make simultaneous permutations of rows and columns in order to organise the data into homogenous blocks.

[Read more about BlockCluster](#)

## MASSICCC?



A high quality and easy to use web platform  
where are transferred mature research clustering (and more) software  
towards (non academic) professionals

Here is the computer you need!





# Running BlockCluster

## Configuration

If you change the configuration of your job and save it, it will start a new process with the updated parameters. This will erase previous results.

### Parameters

<b>Title</b>	<input type="text" value="Trial BlockCluster"/>
<b>Data File</b>	<input type="text" value="Blockcluster-Example.csv"/>
<b>Data Type</b>	<input type="text" value="Categorical"/> ⓘ
<b>Rows Cluster Groups</b>	<input type="text" value="1:5"/> ⓘ
<b>Column Cluster Groups</b>	<input type="text" value="1:5"/> ⓘ

# Running BlockCluster

MASSICCC [Dashboard](#) [Help](#) [Profile](#) [Logout](#)









**RESULTS**

DATA FILES

CREATE JOB

RESULTS

Select a job execution from the list below

69		Trial BlockCluster Blockcluster-Example.csv	<div style="width: 42%;"><div style="width: 42%;"></div></div> 42%	23 May 20:47	
68		Genes K1-12 log.cpm.txt		23 May 08:12	
67		Genes log.cpm.txt		22 May 15:38	
65		Genes K1-10 log.cpm.txt		22 May 15:27	

# Running BlockCluster

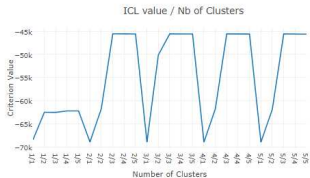
Model	Criterion	Nb Clusters	Error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45557.1)	[2,3]	No error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45563.3)	[3,3]	No error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45566.6)	[2,4]	No error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45573.9)	[4,3]	No error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45574.6)	[5,3]	No error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45577.7)	[3,4]	No error
<i>pik_rho_multi</i>	ICL (-45578.8)	[2,5]	No error

Cluster Plot

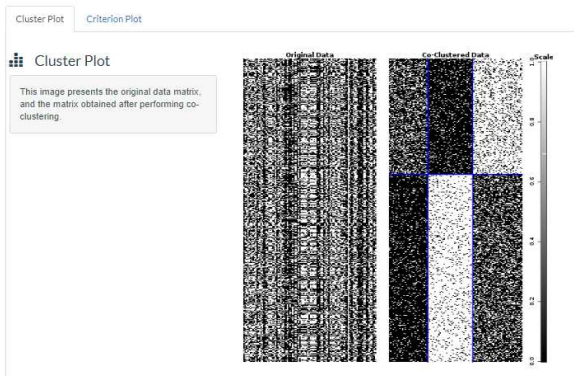
Criterion Plot

## Model Criterion

This chart represents the criterion value for each model that was built. The higher the value (close to 0) the better the model.



# Running BlockCluster



## Illustration: discuss the dimension (1/2)

- SPAM E-mail Database<sup>4</sup>
- $n = 4601$  e-mails composed by 1813 “spams” and 2788 “good e-mails”
- $d = 48 + 6 = 54$  continuous descriptors<sup>5</sup>
  - 48 percentages that a given **word** appears in an e-mail (“make”, “you’... )
  - 6 percentages that a given **char** appears in an e-mail (“;”, “\$”... )
- Transformation of continuous descriptors into **binary descriptors**

$$x_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if word/char } j \text{ appears in e-mail } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

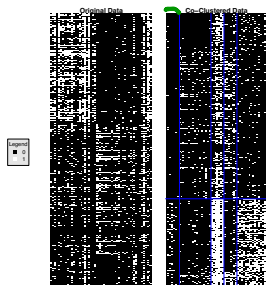
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<sup>4</sup><https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/machine-learning-databases/spambase/>

<sup>5</sup>There are 3 other continuous descriptors we do not use

## Illustration: discuss the dimension (2/2)

- Perform **co-clustering** with  $K = 2$  and  $L = 5$ : ICLbic=-92,682, err=0.1984



- Perform **clustering**<sup>6</sup> with  $K = 2$ : ICLbic=-89,433, err=0.1837

Thus use preferably co-clustering in the HD setting, otherwise bias is a drawback!

<sup>6</sup>Equivalent to co-clustering with  $L = 54$

# Outline

1 Motivating model selection

2 Density-focused criteria

3 Clustering-focused criteria

4 Co-clustering specificity

**5 Model multiplicity**

6 To go further

## Gaussian “variable selection”: reminder

### Definition

[Raftery and Dean, 06], [Maugis *et al.*, 09a], [Maugis *et al.*, 09b]

$$p(\mathbf{x}_1; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underbrace{\left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k p(\mathbf{x}_1^S; \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \right\}}_{\text{clustering variables}} \times \underbrace{\left\{ p(\mathbf{x}_1^U; \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{x}_1^R \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{C}) \right\}}_{\text{redundant variables}} \times \underbrace{\left\{ p(\mathbf{x}_1^W; \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{V}) \right\}}_{\text{independent variables}}$$

where

- all parts are Gaussians
- $S$ : set of variables useful for clustering
- $U$ : set of redundant clustering variables, expressed with  $R \subseteq S$
- $W$ : set of variables independent of clustering

### Trick

Variable selection is recasted as a particular variable role



## Gaussian “variable selection”: model selection

### Model selection

- Models in competition:  $\mathbf{m} = (S, R, U, W, K) \rightarrow$  **combinatorics**
- Use a **backward stepwise algorithm** guided by a model selection criterion:  $d \approx 30$
- Use alternatively a **lasso-like procedure** for ranking quickly different sets of clustering related and clustering independent variables [Sedki *et al.*, 14]

$$\text{crit}_{\lambda, \rho} = \ell(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \bar{\mathbf{x}}) - \lambda \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^d |\mu_{kj}| - \rho \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{(j, j'), j \neq j'}^d |(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{-1})_{jj'}|$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  full Gaussian parameters,  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$  is  $\mathbf{x}$  centered and  $(\lambda, \rho)$  are on a grid

A variable  $j$  is considered independent of clustering if  $\hat{\mu}_{kj}(\lambda, \rho) = 0$  for all  $k$

- Classical criteria are available

## Gaussian “variable selection” (cruder version): reminder

### Definition

[Pan and Shen, 07], [Zhou et al., 09], [Meynet, 10]

$$p(\mathbf{x}_1; \theta) = \underbrace{\left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k p(\mathbf{x}_1^{J_r}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) \right\}}_{\text{relevant variables}} \times \underbrace{\left\{ p(\mathbf{x}_1^{J_a}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) \right\}}_{\text{active variables}} \times \underbrace{\left\{ p(\mathbf{x}_1^{J_i}; \mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) \right\}}_{\text{irrelevant variables}}$$

where

- all parts are Gaussians
- $\{J_r, J_a, J_i\}$  is a partition of  $\{1, \dots, d\}$
- $p(\mathbf{x}_1^{J_i}; \mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$ : “variance killer” (crude assumption)

## Gaussian “variable selection” (cruder version): model selection

- models in competition:  $\mathbf{m} = (J_r, J_a, J_i, K) \rightarrow$  **combinatorics**
- Use a **two step lasso-like procedure** for ranking quickly different sets  $(J_r, J_a, J_i)$ , for all regularization parameters values on a given grid
- Use the slope heuristics criterion with two different penalties of  $\ell(\hat{\theta}_{\mathbf{m}}; \mathbf{x})$ :
  - **linear penalty** (moderate number of models):  $\text{pena}_{lin} = \kappa\nu$
  - **logarithmic penalty** (huge number of models):  $\text{pena}_{log} = \kappa_1\nu(1 + \kappa_2 \ln(\nu_{\max}/\nu))$

## Gaussian “variable selection” (cruder version): illustration (1/2)

### Illustration

[Meynet, 10]

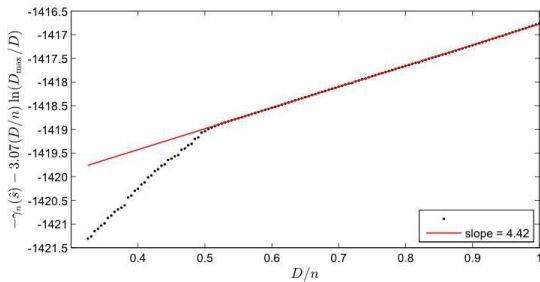
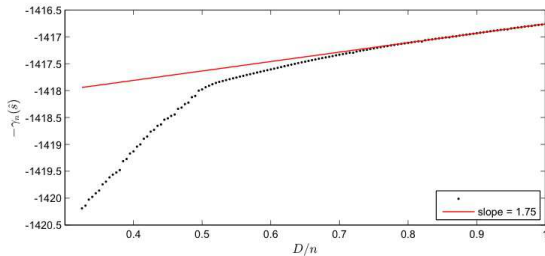
$n = 200$ ,  $d = 1000$ ,  $K = 2$ , 20 samples

$$\pi_1 = 0.85, \pi_2 = 0.15, \quad \mu_1 = \mathbf{0}, \mu_2 = (\underbrace{1.5, \dots, 1.5}_{J_r = J_a = \{1, \dots, 50\}}, \mathbf{0})$$

criterion	mean(true relevant, false relevant, false active)	$\#(\hat{K} = 1, \hat{K} = 2, \hat{K} = 3)$
AIC	(50, 15, 68)	(0, 14, 6)
BIC	(50, 4, 22)	(0, 20, 0)
SH <sub>lin</sub>	(50, 1, 4)	(0, 20, 0)
SH <sub>log</sub>	(49, 0, 1)	(0, 20, 0)

- Logarithmic penalty occurs
- BIC overestimates: too crude approximation  $O(1)$

## Gaussian “variable selection” (cruder version): illustration (2/2)



## Changing the data units

- Principle of **data units transformation**  $\mathbf{u}$ :

$$\mathbf{u} : \mathbb{X} = \mathbb{X}^{\mathbf{id}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbb{X}^{\mathbf{u}}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{id}} = \mathbf{id}(\mathbf{x}) \quad \longmapsto \quad \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$$

- $\mathbf{u}$  is a **bijective** mapping to preserve the whole data set information quantity
- We denote by  $\mathbf{u}^{-1}$  the reciprocal of  $\mathbf{u}$ , so  $\mathbf{u}^{-1} \circ \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{id}$
- Thus,  $\mathbf{id}$  is only a particular unit  $\mathbf{u}$
- Often a **meaningful** restriction<sup>7</sup> on  $\mathbf{u}$ : it proceeds lines by lines and rows by rows

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_n)) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_i) = (\mathbf{u}_1(x_{i1}), \dots, \mathbf{u}_d(x_{id}))$$

- Advantage to respect the variable definition, transforming only its unit
- $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_i)$  means that  $\mathbf{u}$  applied to the data set  $\mathbf{x}_i$ , restricted to the single individual  $i$
- $\mathbf{u}_j$  corresponds to the specific (bijective) transformation unit associated to variable  $j$

<sup>7</sup>Possibility to relax this restriction, including for instance linear transformations involved in PCA (principal component analysis). But the variable definition is no longer respected.

## Revisiting units as a modelling component

- Explicitly exhibiting the “canonical” unit **id** in the model

$$p_{\mathbf{m}} = \{\cdot \in \mathbb{X} \mapsto p(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta}) : \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta_{\mathbf{m}}\} = \{\cdot \in \mathbb{X}^{\text{id}} \mapsto p(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta}) : \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta_{\mathbf{m}}\} = p_{\mathbf{m}}^{\text{id}}$$

- Thus the variable space and the probability measure are **embedded**
- As the **standard probability theory**: a couple (variable space, probability measure)!
- Changing **id** into **u**, while preserving **m**, is expected to produce a new modelling

$$p_{\mathbf{m}}^{\mathbf{u}} = \{\cdot \in \mathbb{X}^{\mathbf{u}} \mapsto p(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta}) : \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta_{\mathbf{m}}\}.$$

A model should be systematically defined by a couple  $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{m})$ , denoted by  $p_{\mathbf{m}}^{\mathbf{u}}$

## Co-clustering: congressional Voting Records Data Set<sup>9</sup>

[Biernacki & Lourme, 2018]

- Votes for each of the  $n = 435$  U.S. House of Representatives Congressmen
  - Two classes: 267 democrats, 168 republicans
  - $d = 16$  votes with  $m = 3$  modalities [Schlimmer, 1987]<sup>8</sup>:
    - “yea”: voted for, paired for, and announced for
    - “nay”: voted against, paired against, and announced against
    - “?”: voted present, voted present to avoid conflict of interest, and did not vote or otherwise make a position known
- 
- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. handicapped-infants               | 9. mx-missile                              |
| 2. water-project-cost-sharing        | 10. immigration                            |
| 3. adoption-of-the-budget-resolution | 11. synfuels-corporation-cutback           |
| 4. physician-fee-freeze              | 12. education-spending                     |
| 5. el-salvador-aid                   | 13. superfund-right-to-sue                 |
| 6. religious-groups-in-schools       | 14. crime                                  |
| 7. anti-satellite-test-ban           | 15. duty-free-exports                      |
| 8. aid-to-nicaraguan-contras         | 16. export-administration-act-south-africa |

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<sup>8</sup>Schlimmer, J. C. (1987). Concept acquisition through representational adjustment. Doctoral dissertation, Department of Information and Computer Science, University of California, Irvine, CA.

<sup>9</sup><http://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Congressional+Voting+Records>



## Co-clustering: allowed user meaningful recodings

- “yea” and “nea” are arbitrarily coded (**question dependent**), not “?”
- Example:
  3. **adoption**-of-the-budget-resolution = “yes”  $\Leftrightarrow$  3. **rejection**-of-the-budget-resolution = “no”
- However, “?” is **not question dependent**

Thus, two different units considered for variable  $j \in \{1, \dots, 16\}$

- $\mathbf{id}_j$ :

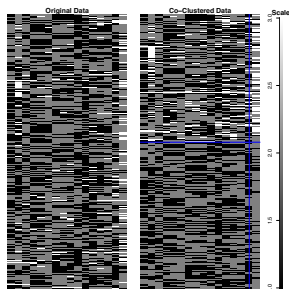
$$x_i^j = \begin{cases} (1, 0, 0) & \text{if voted “yea” to vote } j \text{ by congressman } i \\ (0, 1, 0) & \text{if voted “nay” to vote } j \text{ by congressman } i \\ (0, 0, 1) & \text{if voted “?” to vote } j \text{ by congressman } i \end{cases}$$

- $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$ : reverse the coding **only for “yea” and “nea”**

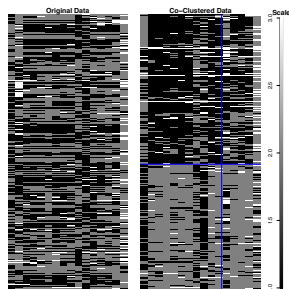
$$\mathbf{u}_j(x_i^j) = \begin{cases} (0, 1, 0) & \text{if voted “yea” to vote } j \text{ by congressman } i \\ (1, 0, 0) & \text{if voted “nay” to vote } j \text{ by congressman } i \\ (0, 0, 1) & \text{if voted “?” to vote } j \text{ by congressman } i \end{cases}$$

## Co-clustering: select the whole coding $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$

- Fix  $g_l = 2$  (two individual classes) and  $g_r = 2$  (two variable classes)
- Use co-clustering in a **clustering aim**: just interested in political party
- Use a comprehensive algorithm to find the **best  $\mathbf{u}$  by ICLbic** ( $2^{16} = 65536$  cases)



**initial unit id**  
ICLbic=5916.13



**best unit  $\mathbf{u}$**   
ICLbic=5458.156

## Co-clustering: SPAM E-mail Database<sup>11</sup>

[Biernacki & Lourme, 2018]

- $n = 4601$  e-mails composed by 1813 “spams” and 2788 “good e-mails”
- $d = 48 + 6 = 54$  continuous descriptors<sup>10</sup>
  - 48 percentages that a given **word** appears in an e-mail (“make”, “you’... )
  - 6 percentages that a given **char** appears in an e-mail (“;”, “\$”... )
- Transformation of continuous descriptors into **binary descriptors**

$$x_i^j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if word/char } j \text{ appears in e-mail } i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Two different units considered for variable  $j \in \{1, \dots, 54\}$

- $\text{id}_j$ : see the previous coding
- $\mathbf{u}_j(\cdot) = 1 - (\cdot)$ : reverse the coding

$$\mathbf{u}_j(x_i^j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if word/char } j \text{ appears in e-mail } i \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

<sup>10</sup>There are 3 other continuous descriptors we do not use

<sup>11</sup><https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/machine-learning-databases/spambase/>

## Co-clustering: select the whole coding $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d)$

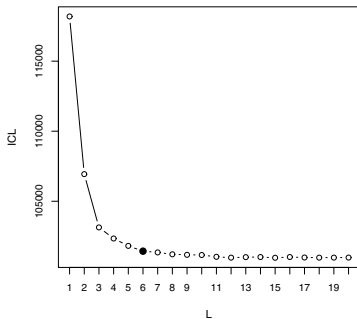
- Fix  $g_l = 2$  (two individual classes) and  $g_r = 5$  (five variable classes)
- This time, **too many  $\mathbf{u}$**  to be extensively browsed:  $2^{54}$  possibilities

### Strategy to reduce the complexity

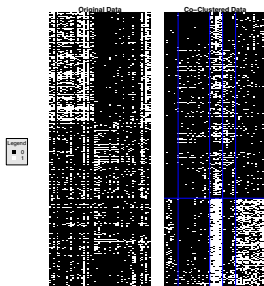
“the more two variables have similar values (globally on lines), the more a similar optimal unit transformation could be expected for both”.

## Co-clustering: a two stage strategy

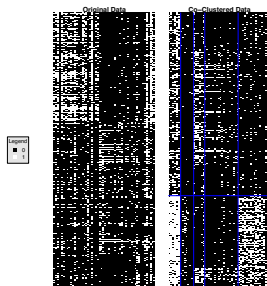
- 1 Perform a **clustering of the variables** (thus of the columns only, no clusters in line): 14 clusters by ICLbic
- 2 Exhaustive browse of unit **permutation clusterwise**:  $2^{14} = 16384$  models



## Co-clustering: result



**initial unit id**  
ICLbic=92682.54



**best unit u**  
ICLbic=92524.57

# Outline

1 Motivating model selection

2 Density-focused criteria

3 Clustering-focused criteria

4 Co-clustering specificity

5 Model multiplicity

**6 To go further**

## Questions to be (carefully) addressed

- Criteria validity far from asymptotics ( $d$  large)
- Criteria validity in case of model multiplicity
- Strategies to browse huge model collections