

Received February 26, 2019, accepted April 3, 2019, date of publication April 18, 2019, date of current version May 6, 2019. *Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/ACCESS.2019.2910195*

# Fuzzy K-Means Using Non-Linear S-Distance

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This work was supported by the project Smart Solutions in Ubiquitous Computing Environments, Grant Agency of Excellence, University of Hradec Kralove, Faculty of Informatics and Management, Czech Republic under Grant UHK-FIM-GE-2019. The work of A. Seal was supported by the Media Lab Asia, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, for providing him young faculty research fellowship.

**ABSTRACT** A considerable amount of research has been done since long to select an appropriate similarity or dissimilarity measure in cluster analysis for exposing the natural grouping in an input dataset. Still, it is an open problem. In recent years, the research community is focusing on divergence-based non-Euclidean similarity measure in partitional clustering for grouping. In this paper, the Euclidean distance of traditional Fuzzy k-means (FKM) algorithm is replaced by the S-distance, which is derived from the newly introduced S-divergence. Few imperative properties of S-distance and modified FKM are presented in this study. The performance of the proposed FKM is compared with the conventional FKM with Euclidean distance and its variants with the help of several synthetic and real-world datasets. This study focuses on how the proposed clustering algorithm performs on the adopted datasets empirically. The comparative study illustrates that the obtained results are convincing. Moreover, the achieved results denote that the modified FKM outperforms some state-of-the-art FKM algorithms.

**INDEX TERMS** Fuzzy K-means clustering, S-distance, S-divergence.

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Clustering is an imperative unsupervised machine learning approach employed in identifying some inherent structure exists in a set of patterns or objects. The aim of cluster analysis is to split set of objects, commonly vectors in a multi-dimensional space, are grouped into subsets so that the objects in the same subset are similar in some perception and objects in different clusters are dissimilar in the same perception.

Different selection of measured data or features, proximity measures, clustering criteria, and clustering algorithms may lead to totally different clustering results. In this study, Fuzzy k-means (FKM) algorithm applies on some real and synthetic datasets, where clustering criteria is same throughout the study. It means the selection of proximity measure plays an imperative job to find the cluster structure in data [1]. Even though the Euclidean distance has been the standard of squared error distortion, a considerable amount of research has been done to introduce non-linear distance measures [1].

Recently, researchers have been substituting the Euclidean distance in k-means by various non-linear distance metrics, some of them even non-metric i.e. do not follow the triangle inequality property [2]–[4]. One motivation is to introduce non-linearity in clustering may result in identifying more accurate cluster boundaries. One such attempt was made to introduce general Bregman divergence as the similarity measure in the k-means algorithm to increase its efficacy [2]. Some noteworthy divergence based similarity measures for clustering include [5]–[9].

#### **II. CLUSTERING**

In this section, we first provide a formal definition of the clustering problem. A brief introduction of the traditional FKM is also presented since we have compared the performance of the proposed FKM with traditional one.

#### A. BASIC PRINCIPLE

Clustering is the process of splitting *d*−dimensional *m* data-points or the observations,  $A[= u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_m]$ , in  $R^n_+$ into 'k' groups of homogeneous data-points,  $C$ [=  $(C_1, C_2,$  $\dots, C_k$ ] in such a way that the degree of strong association

The associate editor coordinating the review of this manuscript and approving it for publication was Manuel Rosa-Zurera.

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within group and weak association between different groups. Then

$$
C_i \neq \phi \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, k,
$$
  
\n
$$
C_i \cap C_j = \phi \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, k; j = 1, \dots, k \text{ and } i \neq j,
$$
  
\n
$$
\bigcup_{i=1}^k C_i = C
$$

### B. FUZZY K-MEANS

From a machine learning perspective, clustering analysis will give us an accurate and deep understanding into hidden patterns of different groups. After clustering, the partition matrix would be expressed as  $W(A)_{(k \times m)}$ . It can further be represented as  $W = [w_{ab}]$ , where  $w_{ab}$  is the membership of a data-point, *ub*, from cluster center, *ca*, of cluster, *C*, and 'a' and 'b' vary from 1 to *k* and 1 to *m* respectively. The value of  $w_{ab}$  is 1 only when  $u_b$  belongs to  $c_a$  otherwise,  $w_{ab}$ would be 0 in case of crisp partitioning. Clustering is the subject of active research in several fields such as pattern recognition [10], image processing [11], [12] especially in satellite image analysis [13]–[17] and data mining [18], [19] such as scientific data exploration, information retrieval and text mining. In [20], Dalal and Harale presented clustering analysis techniques and divided them into three categories: partition based clustering [21], density based [22] and hierarchical clustering [23], which are further sub-divided and discussed in [19]. Interested readers are referred to explore [24]–[26] for studying clustering algorithms in detail. Undoubtedly, Fuzzy k-means (FKM) is one of the frequently used partition-based clustering algorithms in pattern recognition. This algorithm was introduced by Dunn in 1973 [27] and enhanced by Peizhuang in 1981 [28]. FKM performs grouping by exploring a set of fuzzy groups, *W*, and the associated group centers, *C*, that denote the structure of the data-point as best as possible iteratively. The FKM algorithm depends on the input provide by the user, which represents the number of clusters present in the data-points to be fuzzy clustered by minimizing the within group sum of squared error objective function,  $E_s(W, C)$ , which is shown in equation [1.](#page-1-0)

<span id="page-1-0"></span>
$$
E_s(C, W; A) = \sum_{b=1}^{m} \sum_{a=1}^{k} (w_{ab})^s ||u_b - c_a||^2, \quad 1 \le s < \infty,
$$
\n(1)

where the real number 's' is familiar as fuzziness coefficient. Moreover, it manages the influence of membership grades in the performance index. The division becomes fuzzier (not crisp) with the increasing of 's' and researchers proved that the FKM algorithm converges for any  $s \in (1, \infty)$ . The  $w_{ab}$ indicates the degree of membership of  $u_b$  in the cluster  $a, u_b$ is the  $b^{th}$  of *d*-dimensional features,  $c_a$  is the *d*-dimensional center of the cluster and  $|| \cdot ||$  is some inner product induced norm expressing the similarity between any features and the center. The error function relies on *W* and *C*, subject to two constraints, which are shown in equations [2](#page-1-1) and [3.](#page-1-2)

<span id="page-1-1"></span>
$$
\sum_{a=1}^{k} w_{ab} = 1, \quad b = 1, 2, ..., m,
$$
 (2)

where  $w_{ab} \in [0, 1], a = 1, 2, \ldots, k$  and  $b = 1, 2, \ldots, m$ .

<span id="page-1-2"></span>
$$
0 < \sum_{b=1}^{m} w_{ab} < k, \quad a = 1, 2, \dots, k \tag{3}
$$

Fuzzy division is done through an iterative approach by minimizing an error function  $E_s(W, C)$  as depicted in equation [1,](#page-1-0) with the update of membership  $w_{ab}$  and the cluster centers  $c_a$ using equations [4](#page-1-3) and [5](#page-1-3) respectively.

<span id="page-1-3"></span>
$$
w_{ab}^{(e+1)} = \frac{1}{\sum_{l=1}^{k} \left(\frac{u_b - c_a^{(e)}}{u_b - c_l^{(e)}}\right)^{\frac{2}{s-1}}}
$$
(4)  

$$
c_a^{(e+1)} = \frac{\sum_{b=1}^{m} \left[w_{ab}^{(e+1)}\right]^s \cdot u_b}{\sum_{b=1}^{m} \left[w_{ab}^{(e+1)}\right]^s}
$$
(5)

This iteration will terminate while  $max_{ab} \{ |w_{ab}^{(e+1)} - w_{ab}^{(e)}| \}$  $\epsilon$ , where  $\epsilon$  is a stopping criterion between 0 and 1, whereas 'e' depicts iteration or epoch. This process converges to a local minimum or a saddle point of  $E_s(W, C)$ .

In this work, S-distance is used, which is derived from the notion of S-divergence [3], [4], [29]. Various properties of this distance have been studied. All the experiments have been performed on some real and synthetic datasets. All the simulation results depict that the FKM using S-distance outperforms the traditional FKM algorithm with Euclidean-distance and along with different variant of FKM such as Weighting in FKM, Minkowski metric weighted FKM. Our claim has been validated by performing statistical analysis on the obtained results.

#### **III. S-DISTANCE AND ITS PROPERTIES**

The definition followed by different properties of S-distance is discussed in this section.

*Definition 1:* S-divergence is a metric stated over a set of all positive definite matrices of size  $n \times n$ ,  $S_n$ , which could be computed by equation [6.](#page-1-4)

<span id="page-1-4"></span>
$$
\partial_s(U, V) = \log(|\frac{U + V}{2}|) - \frac{\log(|U|) + \log(|V|)}{2}, \quad (6)
$$

where  $|U|$  = determinant of *U*. An injective function is stated as  $\psi$  :  $\mathbb{R}^n_+ \to S_n$  such that  $\psi(u) = \text{diag}(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$ , where  $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$  is a real positive vector and  $\mathbb{R}^n_+$  is  $(0, \infty) \times (0, \infty) \times ... \times (0, \infty)$  *(n times)*. The definition of S-distance is as follows:

*Definition 2:* The S-distance between any two data-points,  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$ , could be stated as a function  $SD : \mathbb{R}^n_+ \times \mathbb{R}^n_+ \to$  $\mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{0\}$ , which can also be expressed by equation [7.](#page-1-5)

<span id="page-1-5"></span>
$$
SD(u, v) = \partial_s(\psi(u), \psi(v))
$$
\n(7)

The S-distance metric satisfies the following properties:

*Proposition 1:* Non-negativity:  $SD(u, v) \geq 0$ .

*Proposition 2:* Symmetry:  $SD(u, v) = SD(v, u)$ .

*Proof:*  $SD(u, v) = \partial_s(\psi(u), \psi(v)) = \partial_s(\psi(v), \psi(u)) =$ *SD*(*v*, *u*).

*Proposition 3:*  $SD(u, v) \ge 0$  and  $SD(u, v) = 0$  iff  $u = v$ .

*Proof:*  $SD(u, v) = \partial_s(\psi(u), \psi(v)) \ge 0$  and  $SD(u, v) = 0$ iff  $\partial_s(\psi(u), \psi(v)) = 0$  iff  $\psi(u) = \psi(v)$  iff  $u = v$ .

*Proposition 4:* Triangle inequality:  $SD(u, v) \leq SD(u, r) +$ *SD*(*r*, *v*).

*Proof:*  $SD(u, v) = \partial_s(\psi(u), \psi(v)) \leq \partial_s(\psi(u), \psi(r)) +$  $\partial_s(\psi(r), \psi(v)) = SD(u, r) + SD(r, v).$ 

Thus, elements of A are called points of the metric space, and *SD* is called a metric or distance function on  $\mathbb{R}^n_+$ , which could be thought as  $SD(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \partial_s(u_i, v_i)$ .

Now, its time to investigate some of the properties of S-distance measure in the form of following theorems.

*Theorem 1:* S-distance is not a Bregman divergence.

*Proof:* We will prove by contradiction. Let us assume that the original statement i.e. S-distance were a Bregman divergence  $SD(u, v)$  is false. The original statement is false if  $SD(u, v)$  is convex in **u**. Now, *SD*, could also be expressed by equation [8.](#page-2-0)

<span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
SD(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} [log((u_i + v_i)/2) - (log(u_i) + log(v_i)/2)](8)
$$

The following expression could be obtained by taking double-derivative both sides of equation [8](#page-2-0) w.r.t.  $u_i$ .  $\frac{\partial^2 SD}{\partial x^2}$  $\partial_s u_i^2$  $=\frac{1}{1}$  $\frac{1}{u_i + v_i} - \frac{1}{2u}$ 2*u<sup>i</sup>* ∂ <sup>2</sup>*SD*  $\frac{\partial^2$ *du* $<sub>$ *i* $</sub>$ *du* $<sub>$ *j* $</sub> = 0 when$ *i* $$\neq$  *j* otherwise,$ ∂ <sup>2</sup>*SD*  $\partial_s u_i^2$  $=-\frac{1}{1}$  $\frac{1}{(u_i + v_i)^2} + \frac{1}{2u}$  $2u_i^2$ ∂ <sup>2</sup>*SD*  $rac{\partial^2 \mathcal{L} \partial u_i^2}{\partial u_i^2}$  < 0 could be obtained for  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  when  $v_i < (\sqrt{2} - 1)u_i \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}.$  $\frac{u_i}{\sigma}$ So, a diagonal matrix with negative diagonal entries can be obtained, which is known as Hessian matrix. So,  $SD(u, v)$  is not convex in *u*. Therefore, it is proved that S-distance is not

a Bregman divergence. *Theorem 2:*  $SD(x \circ u, x \circ v) = xSD(u, v)$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$ , where

*x* ◦ *u* represents the Hadamord product between *x* and *u*. *Proof:* We know,  $(x \circ u) = (x_1u_1, x_2u_2, \ldots, x_nu_n)$ . So,  $\delta_s(x_iu_i, x_iv_i) = \log(\frac{(x_iu_i + x_iv_i)}{2}) - \frac{\log(\overline{x_i}u_i) + \log(x_iv_i)}{2} =$  $log(x_i) + log(\frac{(u_i+v_i)}{2}) - \frac{(log(u_i)+log(v_i)+2log(x_i))}{2} = log(\frac{(u_i+v_i)}{2}) -$ 

 $\frac{(log(u_i) + log(v_i)) + (log(u_i))}{(log(u_i) + log(v_i))}$  $\frac{\partial g(v_i)}{\partial}$  =  $\delta_s(u_i, v_i)$  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_s(x_i u_i, x_i v_i)$  =  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i \delta_s(u_i, v_i)$  implying So,  $SD(x \circ u, x \circ v) = xSD(u, v)$ *Theorem 3:* S-distance is f-divergence.

*Proof:* A divergence is called as f-divergence when that divergence can be expressed in the following form  $\phi(t)$  =  $u\phi(\frac{v}{u})$ , where  $t = \frac{v}{u}$  The S-distance between  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$  and  $v \in$  $u \psi(\frac{u}{u})$ , where  $t = \frac{u}{u}$  intersection  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$  and  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n_+$  is given by  $SD(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^n [log((u_i + v_i)/2) - (log(u_i) +$  $log(v_i)/2$  putting  $t_i = \frac{v_i}{u_i}SD(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} [log((u_i + v_i))^2]$  $u_i(t_i)/2$ )−( $log(u_i)$ + $log(u_i t_i)/2$ ) *SD*(*u*, *v*) =  $\sum_{i=1}^n [log(\frac{(1+t_i)}{2}) \frac{\log(t_i)}{2}$ ] =  $\sum_{i=1}^n \phi(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \phi(\frac{v_i}{u_i})$  Since,  $SD(u, v)$ can be expressed as  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \overline{x_i} \phi(\frac{v_i}{u_i})$ . Thus, S-distance is f-divergence.

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#### **IV. PROPOSED FUZZY K-MEANS WITH S-DISTANCE**

The FKM with S-distance achieves grouping by solving equation [9.](#page-2-1)

<span id="page-2-1"></span>
$$
\min_{C = (c_1, c_2, ..., c_k) \in R^{n \times k}} E_s(C, W; A)
$$
  
= 
$$
\sum_{b=1}^m \sum_{a=1}^k (w_{ab})^s SD(u_b, c_a),
$$
  

$$
1 \le s < \infty,
$$
 (9)

where

<span id="page-2-2"></span>
$$
M = \left\{ W = [w_{ab}]_{\substack{a=1,2,\dots,k \\ b=1,2,\dots,m}} \middle| w_{ab} \in [0, 1], \right\}
$$

$$
\sum_{a=1}^{k} w_{ab} = 1, \sum_{b=1}^{m} w_{ab} > 0 \right\} (10)
$$

Generally, closed-form solution of equation [10](#page-2-2) does not exist [30]. According to the below mentioned theorem, an alternating optimization method with modified equations of [4](#page-1-3) and [5](#page-1-3) are available in literature to find a solution.

 ${a|a \in \{1,\ldots,k\}, u_b = c_a^{(e)}\}$ , where *e* represents the *Theorem 4 (Alternating Optimization of FKM):* Let  $\tau_b$  = *e th* epoch. Equation [11](#page-2-3) is the modified form of equation [4](#page-1-3) whereas equation [5](#page-1-3) would be same, which are required in alternating optimization algorithm for proof of convergence globally to a minimizer or a saddle point of *E<sup>s</sup>* . Theorem 4.1 is identical to that in [31].

<span id="page-2-3"></span>
$$
w_{ab}^{(e+1)} = \begin{cases} \left(\sum_{l=1}^{k} \left[\frac{SD(u_b, c_a^{(e)})}{SD(u_b, c_l^{(e)})}\right]^{\frac{2}{s-1}}\right)^{-1}, \\ \text{if } \tau_b = 0 \\ \frac{1}{|\tau_b|}, \quad \text{if } \tau_b \neq 0 \text{ and } a \in \tau_b \\ 0, \quad \text{if } \tau_b \neq 0 \text{ and } a \notin \tau_b \end{cases}
$$
(11)

The FKM criterion in equation [9](#page-2-1) can be expressed with the help of reduced unconstrained FCM criterion in theorem 4.2.

*Theorem 5 (Reduced FKM Criterion [30], [32], [33]):* The reduced FKM criterion is reported in equation [12,](#page-2-4) which is identical to

<span id="page-2-4"></span>
$$
\min_{C \in R^{n \times k}} E'_s(C; A) = \sum_{b=1}^m \left[ \sum_{a=1}^k SD(u_b, c_a)^{\frac{2}{1-s}} \right]^{1-s}
$$
 (12)

 $C^*$  is a local or global minimizer or a saddle point of  $E'_s$  if  $(C^*, W^*)$  is a local or global minimizer or a saddle point of  $E_s$ .  $(C^*, F(C^*))$  is a local or global minimizer or a saddle point of  $E_s$  if  $C^*$  is a local or global minimizer or a saddle point of  $E'_s$ , where  $F: R^{n \times k} \to M$ ;  $F(C) = W$  with each  $w_{ab}$ estimated using equation [11.](#page-2-3) The detail proof of theorem is explained in [32], [33].

### **V. CONVERGENCE ANALYSIS**

Let us consider  $f(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, ..., \gamma_k) = (\sum_{a=1}^k \gamma_a^q)^{1/q}$ , where  $q = \frac{1}{1-s}$  < 0. Then equation [12](#page-2-4) can be expressed as

<span id="page-3-0"></span>
$$
E'_{s}(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k; A) = \sum_{b=1}^{m} f(\gamma_{k1}, \gamma_{k2}, \dots, \gamma_{kb})|_{\gamma_{ab} = d(u_b, c_a)^2}
$$
\n(13)

Lemma 5.1. can be stated with the help of equation [13,](#page-3-0) where the right side of equation [14](#page-3-1) is known as a majorant of  $E'_s$ .

*Lemma 1 (Majorant of*  $E'_s$ *):* 

<span id="page-3-1"></span>
$$
E'_{s}(c_{1}, c_{2},..., c_{k}; A)
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq maj^{e}E'_{s} = E'_{s}(c_{1}^{(e)}, c_{2}^{(e)},..., c_{k}^{(e)}; A)
$$
  
\n
$$
+ \sum_{b=1}^{m} \sum_{a=1}^{k} \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)} \Big(SD(u_{b}, c_{a})^{2} - SD(u_{b}, c_{a}^{e})^{2}\Big),
$$
\n(14)

where the derivative is taken at  $c_1^{(e)}$  $\binom{e}{1}$ ,  $c_2^{(e)}$  $c_2^{(e)}, \ldots, c_k^{(e)}$ *k* .

*Proof:* In [30], Gröll and Jakel proved that  $f(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots,$  $\gamma_k$ ) is concave. So,

$$
f(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_k) \le f(\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_k) + \sum_{a=1}^k \frac{df}{d\gamma_{a_{\rho_a}}}(\gamma_a - \rho_a)
$$
\n(15)

Equation [16](#page-3-2) can be obtained by replacing  $\gamma_a$  and  $\rho_a$  using  $\gamma_{ab}$ and  $\rho_{ab}$  respectively and taking the sum over all *b*.

<span id="page-3-2"></span>
$$
\sum_{b=1}^{m} f(\gamma_{1b}, \gamma_{2b}, \dots, \gamma_{kb}) \leq \sum_{b=1}^{m} f(\rho_{1b}, \rho_{2b}, \dots, \rho_{kb}) + \sum_{b=1}^{m} \sum_{a=1}^{k} \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab_{\rho_{ab}}}}(\gamma_{ab} - \rho_{ab})
$$
\n(16)

Equation [17](#page-3-3) can be derived after putting the value of  $\gamma_{ab}$  =  $d(u_b, c_a)^2$  and  $\rho_{ab} = d(u_b, c_a^{(e)})^2$  as well as equation [14.](#page-3-1)

<span id="page-3-3"></span>
$$
E'_{s}(c_{1}, c_{2},..., c_{k}; A)
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq E'_{s}(c_{1}^{(e)}, c_{2}^{(e)},..., c_{k}^{(e)}; A)
$$
  
\n
$$
+ \sum_{b=1}^{m} \sum_{a=1}^{k} s \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)} \Big(SD(u_{b}, c_{a})^{2} - SD(u_{b}, c_{a}^{e})^{2}\Big)
$$
\n(17)

Every majorant obtained from equation [14](#page-3-1) is a global majorant. It could be said clearly that a majorant along an random search direction is a global majorant. If and only if the search direction passes the global minimizer of the global majorant then the minimizers of global and directional majorants are identical.

*Theorem 6 (Alternating optimization as a Steepest Descent Algorithm):* If the steplength is tuned using the majorization principle by the majorant based on equation [14](#page-3-1) then the sequences  $c_a^{(e+1)}$  produced by the alternating optimization algorithm in equations [11](#page-2-3) and [5](#page-1-3) and the sequences

of a steepest descent algorithm applied to equation [12](#page-2-4) are equivalent.

*Proof:* All coefficients  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}$  of the strictly convex terms  $d(u_b, c_a)^2$  are non-negative.

$$
\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}} = \frac{d}{d\gamma_{ab}} \left[ \sum_{a=1}^{k} \gamma_{ab}^{q} \right]^{\frac{1}{q}} = \left[ \sum_{a=1}^{k} \gamma_{ab}^{q} \right]^{\frac{1}{q-1}} \gamma_{ab}^{q-1}
$$
\n
$$
= \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{k} \left( \frac{1}{\gamma_{lb}} \right)^{-q} \right]^{\frac{1}{q-1}} (\gamma_{ab}^{-q})^{\frac{1}{q-1}} = \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{k} \frac{\gamma_{ab}^{-q}}{\gamma_{lb}^{-q}} \right]^{\frac{1}{q-1}}
$$
\n
$$
= \left[ \left( \sum_{l=1}^{k} \left[ \frac{SD(u_b, c_a)^2}{SD(u_b, c_l)^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{s-1}} \right)^{-1} \right]^s = (w_{ab})^s \ge 0
$$
\n(18)

Hence, the majorant is convex w.r.t all *ca*. Moreover, majorant is convex because at least one of the coefficients corresponding to any *c<sup>a</sup>* is non-negative. So, the unique minimizer,  $c_a^o$ , of the majorant using the first-order both necessary and sufficient condition is

$$
\nabla_{c_a} maj^{(e)} = E'_s(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k; A)|_{c_a = c_a^o}
$$
  
= 
$$
-2 \sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}(u_b - c_a^o) = 0, a = 1, 2, \dots, k
$$
  
(19)

So, the value of  $c_a^{(e+1)}$  is

<span id="page-3-4"></span>
$$
c_a^{(e+1)} = c_a^o = \frac{\sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)} u_b}{\sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}}
$$
(20)

Equation [20](#page-3-4) would be same as equation [5](#page-1-3) after replacing  $\frac{df}{d}$  to by  $\left(\omega^{(e+1)}\right)^s$ . The steepest descent can be computed  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}$  by  $(w_{ab}^{(e+1)})^s$ . The steepest descent can be computed using equation [21.](#page-3-5)

<span id="page-3-5"></span>
$$
c_a^{(e+1)} = c_a^{(e)}
$$
  
- 
$$
\underbrace{\frac{1}{2 \sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}}}_{\text{steplength } \alpha_a^{(e)}} \cdot \underbrace{\left(-2 \sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)} (u_b - c_a^{(e)})\right)}_{\nabla_{c_a} E'_s(c_1, c_2, ..., c_k; A)|_{c_l = c_l^{(e)}, l = 1, 2, ..., k}}
$$
(21)

Lastly, the global minimizer majorants are majorants along the direction with steepest descent.

$$
\nabla_{c_a} maj^{(e)} E'_s(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k; A)|_{c_l = c_l^{(e)}}
$$
\n
$$
= \nabla_{c_a} E'_s(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k; A)|_{c_l = c_l^{(e)}, l = 1, 2, \dots, k}
$$
\n
$$
\nabla_{c_a} E'_s
$$
\n(22)

Now, it is easy to define the convergence properties as following three corollaries using above mentioned optimization theory.

*Corollary 1 (Global Convergence of Reduced FKM):* The reduced FKM state in equation 9 converges globally to a local minimizer or saddle point.

*Proof:* using lemma 5.1.  $E_s^{(e)} - E_s^{(e+1)} \ge E_s^{(e)}$ *maj*<sup>(e)</sup>E<sub>s</sub> $\left(c_1^{(e+1)}\right)$  $\binom{e+1}{1}, \binom{e+1}{2}$  $c_2^{(e+1)}, \ldots, c_k^{(e+1)}$  ${k^{(e+1)}; A}$  $=\sum_{b=1}^m\sum_{a=1}^k\frac{df}{dy_a}$  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)} \Big( SD\big(u_b, c_a^{(e)}\big)^2 - SD\big(u_b, c_a^{(e)} + \alpha_a^{(e)}\big)$  $\nabla_{c_a} E'^{(e)}_s)^2$  $= \sum_{b=1}^{m} \sum_{a=1}^{k} \frac{df}{dy_a}$  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}\Big(-2\alpha_a^{(e)}\big(u_b - c_a^{(e)}\big)^T \triangledown_{c_a} E_s^{\prime (e)}\;-\;$  $(\alpha_a^{(e)})^2 \big| \big| \nabla_{c_a} E'^{(e)}_s \big| \big|$ 2  $\binom{2}{2}$  $= \sum_{a=1}^{k} \left( -2\alpha_a^{(e)} \sum_{b=1}^{m} \frac{df}{dy_a} \right)$  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}(u_b - c_a^{(e)})^T \nabla_{c_a} E_s^{\prime (e)} \sum_{b=1}^{m} \frac{df}{dy}$  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}\big(\alpha_a^{(e)}\big)^2\big|\big| \triangledown_{c_a}E_s^{\prime(e)}\big|\big|$ 2  $\binom{2}{2}$  $= \sum_{a=1}^{k} \left( \alpha_{a}^{(e)} \right) \left| \nabla_{c_{a}} E'^{(e)}_{s} \right|$  $\frac{2}{2} - 2 \frac{1}{\alpha_a^{(0)}}$  $\frac{1}{\alpha_a^{(e)}}\big(\alpha_a^{(e)}\big)^2\big|\big| \triangledown_{c_a} E_s^{\prime(e)}\big|\big|$ 2  $\binom{2}{2}$ , where  $\nabla_{c_a} E_s^{\prime (e)} = -2 \sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{dy_c}$  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}(u_b - c_a^{(e)})$  and  $\alpha_a^{(e)} =$ 1  $2\sum_{b=1}^m \frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)}$ *d*γ*ab*  $=\sum_{a=1}^{k} \frac{\alpha_a^{(e)}}{2} \left| \left| \nabla_{c_a} E_s^{\prime (e)} \right| \right|$ 2  $\sum_{i=1}^{2} \ge \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{1}{4m} \left| \left| \nabla_{c_a} E_s^{\prime (e)} \right| \right|$ 2  $\frac{2}{2}$  since  $\sum_{b=1}^{m} \frac{df}{dy}$  $\frac{df}{d\gamma_{ab}}|_{(e)} \leq m$  and hence  $\alpha_a^{(e)} \geq \frac{1}{2m}$ 

So,  $E_s^{(e)} \ge E_s^{(e+1)}$ . Together with the boundedness of  $E_s$ <br>obeys  $\lim_{e \to \infty} (E_s^{(e)} - E_s^{(e+1)}) = 0$ . The right-hand side of the inequality would be zero if the lest-hand side tends to zero since it is bounded by zero. Convergence to a stationary point can be deduced from  $\lim_{e\to\infty}$   $||\nabla_{c_a}E_s^{\prime(e)}||$  $2^2 = 0 \,\forall a$ , and so,  $\lim_{e \to \infty} \nabla_{c_a} E_s^{\prime (e)} = 0$ . Only local minimizers or saddle points appear as limit points since  $\{E_s^{(e)}\}$  is a non-decreasing sequence.

*Corollary 2 (Local Convergence of Reduced FKM):* There exists some neighborhood  $Z(c_1^*, c_2^*, \ldots, c_k^*)$  if  $C =$  $(c_1^*, c_2^*, \ldots, c_k^*)$  is a strict local minimizer of  $E'_s$  such that if a starting point  $C^{(0)} = (c_1^{(0)}$  $\binom{(0)}{1}, c_2^{(0)}$  $c_2^{(0)}, \ldots, c_k^{(0)}$  $\binom{0}{k}$  is chosen in this neighborhood, the FKM algorithm converges to  $C^*$  =  $(c_1^*, c_2^*, \ldots, c_k^*)$ .

*Proof:* Since the FKM algorithm is a globally convergent gradient method by corollary 5.1., the well-known Capture Theorem can be applied [34].

*Corollary 3 (Convergence Rate of FKM):* FCM converges linearly near a nonsingular local minimum (a minimum with a positive definite Hessian matrix).

*Proof:* The proof of this statement uses a Taylor expansion of  $E'_s$  and the well-known convergence rate theorem for quadratic functions [34].

#### **VI. EXPERIMENTS**

#### A. DATASET DESCRIPTION

Some real and synthetic datasets are used to validate the proposed FKM in this study. Multi-class synthetic datasets have been generated by assigning each class one or more normally distributed clusters of points. The synthetic datasets consist of 2\_blobs  $(DB_1)$ , 3\_blobs  $(DB_2)$ , 5\_blobs  $(DB_3)$ , and 10\_blobs (*DB*4) in this work. The first row of figure [1](#page-5-0) shows the data-points of  $DB_1$ ,  $DB_2$ ,  $DB_3$  and  $DB_4$  respectively. On the other hand, the real datasets are collected from the UCI Machine Learning Repository [35] and Keel Repository [36]. The real datasets include Iris (*DB*5), Glass (*DB*6), Cleveland (*DB*7), Bank Note Authentication (*DB*8), Appendicitis (*DB*9), Breast Cancer Wisconsin (*DB*10) and Mammography (*DB*11). Two sets of multi-spectral and panchromatic images along with their ground truths are also used in this work. Both the datasets acquired using Worldview-2 sensor at 1:25,000 scale. Satellite image data and spectral measurements were correlated and classified to identify the location in the studied region. The first set of images named as *DB*12, consists of one panchromatic band of high resolution 0.46m and 8 multi-spectral bands having 1.8m resolution. The multi-spectral band includes red, blue, green, near infrared, red-edge, coastal, yellow and near infrared 2. The first four are the standard bands while the rest are new bands [37]. The size of each image is  $2048 \times 2048$ pixels. These images were captured on 11th September, 2011. The images enclosed an area of 10.485 ha and the coordinates of upper left corner are *S*32°51′7.91″ and *W*70°39′5.10″ respectively. The area corresponds to a rural zone located at Valparaiso region in Comuna de Los Andes, Chile. Seven land covers were found in the studied area in  $DB_{12}$ . These land covers are generic agricultural land, water bodies, and four different types of crops (nectarine, grapevine, alfalfa and maize) in different phenological stages and buildings and urban construction. The nectarine crops area could be separated further in two different crop areas: nectarin\_1 and nectarin\_2. The panchromatic image of *DB*<sup>12</sup> is shown in figure [2a](#page-6-0).

The second set of images was captured on 19*th* January, 2012 using the same sensor. The images are covered in an area of 157 ha of croplands at Coihueco district, in Nuble province, Biobio region, Chile (S36°37'15.7" and W71°53'57.7"). The area is a good representation of diverse vegetation, forests, rural constructions, and crops. The satellite images consist of one panchromatic image of 0.59m resolution and 4 multispectral of resolution 2.36m. Four spectral bands are as follows: blue band (450 to 510nm), green band (510 to 580nm), red band (630 to 690nm), and near infrared (NIR, 770 to 895nm) band data. The size of each image is  $2006 \times 2172$ pixels. Five land covers were found in *DB*13. These land covers are forest, soil, crop, fruit, and urban construction. The panchromatic image of *DB*<sup>13</sup> is shown in figure [3a](#page-6-1). The labeled polygons included in the vector file are overlaid on figure [2a](#page-6-0) and figure [3a](#page-6-1), shown in figure [2b](#page-6-0) and figure [3b](#page-6-1) respectively. Beside these *in-situ* data, pixel-wise ground truth of land cover types are also provided with both the datasets.

#### B. CLUSTER VALIDITY INDEX

For cluster analysis, the analogous question is how to quantify the ''goodness'' of the resulting clusters? The notion of ''goodness'' is evaluated using validity indexes. The concept of a validity index can be expressed mathematically. Let us consider m data-points, A. A clustering algorithm divides A into k-partitions namely,  $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_k$ . The values of their corresponding validity indexes are  $Z_1, Z_2, \ldots, Z_k$ . The  $Z_{h1} \geq$  $Z_{h2} \geq \ldots \geq Z_{hk}$  will depict that  $A_{h1} \uparrow A_{h2} \uparrow \ldots \uparrow A_{hk}$ ,



<span id="page-5-0"></span>**FIGURE 1.** Clustering Results: (a) Original Structure (b) Grouping using FKM with Euclidean distance (M<sup>1</sup> ) (c) Grouping using Minkowski weighted FKM (M<sub>2</sub>) (d) Grouping using Weighting in FKM (M<sub>3</sub>) and (e) Grouping using the proposed FKM (M<sub>4</sub>).

for some permutation  $h1, h2, \ldots, hk$  of  $\{1, 2, \ldots, k\}$ , where  $A_i \uparrow A_j$  denotes that the partition  $A_i$  is a better cluster than *A<sup>j</sup>* [38]. Numerical measures that are applied to conclude different aspects of cluster validity, are classified into the following two types mainly. External index is used to measure the extent to which cluster labels match externally supplied class labels. Normalized Mutual Information (NMI) [39] and Adjusted Rand Index (ARI) [40] are two external validity indexes in this work. On the other hand, internal index is used to measure the goodness of a clustering structure without respect to external information. For this study, three internal evaluation schemes namely, Silhouette index (SI) [41], Dunn index (DI) [38] and Davies Boulden Index (DBI) [38] have also been considered to determine the cohesiveness of the obtained clusters. NMI is used as an index to compare performance between two groups of data-points. On the other hand, ARI has been considered as a cluster validation index. Both of these metrics depict the mismatch between two data clustering of a given set of data-points. The highest value i.e. 1 indicates no mismatch whereas the lowest value i.e. 0 represents complete mismatch. Both of the metrics are used to compare the partition achieved by the algorithms and the



<span id="page-6-0"></span>**FIGURE 2.** (a) Panchromatic image of DB<sub>12</sub> and (b) corresponding in-situ data showing selected regions of different types of land covers with color labels.



<span id="page-6-1"></span>**FIGURE 3.** (a) Panchromatic image of  $DB_{13}$  and (b) corresponding in-situ data showing selected regions of different types of land covers with color labels.

ground truth to estimate the performance of these algorithms. These internal indexes measure how similar a data point is to its own group (cohesion) compared to other groups (separation). The ranges of SI varies from  $-1$  to  $+1$ , where a high value depicts that the data point is well matched to its own group and poorly matched to neighbor groups. A higher DI and lower DBI depict better clustering.

### C. COMPUTATIONAL PROTOCOLS

Four experimental studies have been conducted on the above said datasets using FKM with Euclidean distance (*M*1), Minkowski weighted FKM (*M*2), Weighting in FKM (*M*3) and the proposed FKM (*M*4).

*PERFORMANCE COMPARISON:* It is made sure that same randomly chosen centroids were considered for each of the algorithm and for estimating ARI, NMI, SI, DI, and DBI values to maintain the consistency in results. The performance of each clustering techniques do not rely on the selection of initial set of centroids. However, the performance relies on the clustering algorithm itself. The procedure is repeated 10 times on each dataset. Then Wilcoxon signed, ranksum and signtest have been conducted to know whether two dependent data-points from populations having same distribution on the obtained values of ARI, NMI, SI, DI and DBI using  $M_i$ , where  $1 \le i \le 4$ .

#### **VII. RESULTS AND DIS**

Table [1](#page-6-2) reports the mean ARI, NMI, SI, DI and DBI values computed by  $M_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq 4$  on synthetic and





<span id="page-6-2"></span>**TABLE 1.** The values of ARI, NMI, SI, DI, and DBI for synthetic and real

datasets.

real datasets. It is clear from table [1](#page-6-2) that the proposed *M*<sup>4</sup> outperforms  $M_i$ , where  $1 \le i \le 3$  since most of the ARI and NMI values are closer to the highest value i.e. 1. In most of



**TABLE 3.** P-Values obtained from ARI, NMI, SI, DI, and DBI for Wilcoxon ranksum test to compare  $M_4$  with  $M_j$ , where 1  $\leq$   $i\leq$  3.

<span id="page-7-0"></span>



the cases, *M*<sup>4</sup> produces greater mean ARI and NMI values over other algorithms, which denotes the effectiveness of *M*4. The values of SI, DI and DBI for the same datasets

are showed in table [1.](#page-6-2) The obtained results again prove the effectiveness of the  $M_4$  over  $M_i$ , where  $1 \le i \le 3$  because the values generated by  $M_4$  are more closer to idea values

#### **TABLE 4.** P-Values obtained from ARI, NMI, SI, DI, and DBI for Wilcoxon sign test to compare  $M_4$  with  $M_{\widetilde I}$ , where 1  $\le$   $i$   $\le$  3.

<span id="page-8-1"></span>

compared to values obtained by  $M_i$ , where  $1 \le i \le 3$ . The non-parametric Wilcoxon signed, ranksum and signtest have also been conducted for comparison of *M*<sup>4</sup> with *M<sup>i</sup>* ,



<span id="page-8-0"></span>FIGURE 4. Clustering Results: (a) The output of *DB* <sub>12</sub> using *M* <sub>1</sub> (b) The output of  $DB_{13}$  using  $M_1$  (c) The output of  $DB_{12}$  using  $M_2$  (d) The output of *DB*<sub>13</sub> using  $M_2$  (e) The output of *DB*<sub>12</sub> using  $M_3$  (f) The output of *DB*<sub>13</sub> using  $M_3$  (g) The output of DB $_{12}$  using  $M_4$  (h) The output of DB $_{13}$ using  $M_{\rm 4}$  .

where  $1 \leq i \leq 3$  based on the p-values estimated by ARI, NMI, SI, DI and DBI. The second, third, fourth and fifth rows of figure [1](#page-5-0) show the output of clustering algorithms namely,  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $M_3$  and  $M_4$  respectively on synthesis datasets. Figures [4a](#page-8-0), [4c](#page-8-0), [4e](#page-8-0) and [4g](#page-8-0) show the clustering outputs of *Data*<sup>12</sup> using *M*1, *M*2, *M*<sup>3</sup> and *M*<sup>4</sup> respectively. On the other hand, the clustering results of *Data*<sup>13</sup> using *M*1, *M*2, *M*<sup>3</sup> and *M*<sup>4</sup> are shown in figures [4b](#page-8-0), [4d](#page-8-0), [4f](#page-8-0) and [4h](#page-8-0) respectively. Table [2](#page-7-0) to table [4](#page-8-1) show the calculated p-values. All most all the achieved results suggest that we can reject the null hypothesis for 5 % level of significance. It means significant

evidence is available based on data with us in order to say that *M*<sub>4</sub> algorithm outperforms  $M_i$ , where  $1 \le i \le 3$  discussed in this study. It is also clear from table 2 to table 4 that the statistical results for  $DB<sub>1</sub>$  is not significant in some cases since p-values are greater than 0.05. However, ARI, NMI, SI, DI and DBI values of table 1 are good enough. So, we can conclude that most of the cases the proposed method with S-distance outperforms state-of-the-art methods.

#### **VIII. CONCLUSION**

In this study, a new distance metric on  $\mathbb{R}^n_+$  has been addressed using S-divergence. Different properties of the S-distance has also been discussed. Classical FKM algorithm has been revised, where Euclidean distance has been replaced by the proposed distance. A theoretical analysis of the FKM with S-distance has also been studied by providing the proof of convergence. The study of data complexity metrics is an promising area of research in the field of clustering. It deserves further study. So, we would focus on the analysis of several dataset characteristics to retrieve information from them and this could further be considered to design the proper clustering algorithm.

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