

Paths characteristics in determination of optimal clustering procedure for a data set

No.	Steps in a typical cluster analysis	Path's number									
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
I	Selection of objects and variables	data matrix $[x_{ij}]$									
II	Measurement scale of variables	ratio	ratio	interval or mixed <sup>1</sup>	ordinal <sup>2</sup>	multi-state nominal <sup>3</sup>	binary	ratio	interval or mixed <sup>1</sup>	ratio	interval or mixed <sup>1</sup>
	Selection of normalization formula <sup>4</sup>	n6 – n11	n1 – n5	n1 – n5	N.A.	N.A.		without normalization		n6-n11 / n1-n5	n1-n5
	Transformed measurement scale of variables	ratio	interval	interval	ordinal	multi-state nominal	binary	ratio	interval or mixed <sup>1</sup>	ratio / interval	interval
III	Selection of distance measure <sup>5</sup>	d1 – d7	d1 – d5	d1 – d5	d8	d9	b1 – b10	d1 – d7	d1 – d5	N.A.	
IV	Selection of clustering method <sup>6</sup>	m1 – m8								m9	
V	Maximal number of possible variants	[(6 x 7 x 5) + (6 x 1 x 3)] + [(5 x 5 x 5) + (5 x 1 x 3)] = 368		(5 x 5 x 5) + (5 x 1 x 3) = 140	1 x 5 = 5	1 x 5 = 5	10 x 5 = 50	(7 x 5) + (1 x 3) = 38	(5 x 5) + (1 x 3) = 28	11	5
	Number of all classifications	LK = (maxClusterNo – minClusterNo + 1) · LW <sub>p</sub> , where minClusterNo – minimal number of clusters, maxClusterNo – maximal number of clusters, LW <sub>p</sub> – number of variants for p-th path.									
	Internal cluster quality index	1. Calinski & Harabasz (G1) <sup>7</sup> 2. Baker & Hubert (G2) 3. Hubert & Levine (G3) 4. Silhouette (S) 5. Krzanowski & Lai (KL) <sup>7</sup>				1. N.A. 2. G2 3. G3 4. S 5. N.A.			1. G1 2. G2 3. G3 4. S 5. KL		1. G1 2. N.A. 3. N.A. 4. N.A. 5. KL

<sup>1</sup> Ratio & interval.

<sup>2</sup> We can use ratio, interval or mixed data (ratio, interval, ordinal), however these data are treated as ordinal because in the construction of the GDM2 distance measure only such relations as: “equal to”, “higher than”, “lower than” are taken into account.

<sup>3</sup> We can use ratio, interval, ordinal or mixed data (ratio, interval, ordinal, nominal), however these data are treated as nominal because in the construction of the Sokal & Michener distance measure only such relations as: “equal to”, “not equal to” are taken into account.

<sup>4</sup> n1 – (x-mean)/sd, n2 – (x-Me)/MAD, n3 – (x-mean)/range, n4 – (x-min)/range, n5 – (x-mean)/max[abs(x-mean)], n6 – (x/sd), n7 – (x/range), n8 – (x/max), n9 – (x/mean), n10 – (x/sum), n11 – x/sqrt(SSQ).

<sup>5</sup> d1 – Manhattan, d2 – Euclidean, d3 – Chebychev (max), d4 – squared Euclidean, d5 – GDM1, d6 – Canberra, d7 – Bray-Curtis; d8 – GDM2, d9 – Sokal & Michener; b1 – b10 (available in R dist.binary procedure): b1 = Jaccard; b2 = Sokal & Michener; b3 = Sokal & Sneath (1); b4 = Rogers & Tanimoto; b5 = Czekanowski; b6 = Gower & Legendre (1); b7 = Ochiai; b8 = Sokal & Sneath (2); b9 = Phi of Pearson; b10 = Gower & Legendre (2).

<sup>6</sup> m1 – single link, m2 – complete link, m3 – average link, m4 – McQuitty, m5 – k-medoids (PAM), m6 – Ward, m7 – centroid, m8 – median, m9 – k-means. For clustering methods m6 – m8 squared Euclidean distance is used only.

<sup>7</sup> with argument centroids="centroids".

N.A. – Not Applicable.