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International Conference on Changeable, Agile, Reconfigurable and Virtual Production

## Comparison of K-means and GMM methods for contextual clustering in HSM

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### Abstract

High speed machining (HSM) is widely used for the manufacturing of aircraft structures, turbine blades, etc. It greatly increases the efficiency and automation for the machining. However, in HSM, operators cannot detect incidents when they manage several machines of a production cell. Robust monitoring systems are required to protect the machine tool and the high value added parts. In the global context of the Industry 4.0, abundant digital data is available in a modern manufacturing company and could be used to turn the machines-tools smarter and to support the decision making of the operational management.

One of the first step of data mining approach is the accurate selection of relevant. To do so, the raw data need to be classified into different contextual clusters. This paper compares two different methods of the unsupervised classification of machining context: K-means and GMM (Gaussian Mixture Model). It was found that GMM method can classify correctly the machining context, whereas K-means is not suitable.

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*Keywords:* HSM; Industry4.0; clustering; K-means; GMM

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### 1. Introduction

Compared with the traditional machining, high speed machining (HSM) has greatly increased the cutting speeds. However, in HSM, the operator cannot detect incidents when he manages several machines of a production cell. Moreover, he has not enough time to rapidly stop the machine. Consequently, monitoring systems are required to

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symmetric  $\Delta Vf$ . It is equal to the half of the difference between the  $Vf$  the time after and the  $Vf$  the time before ( $\Delta Vf = \frac{Vf_{n+1} - Vf_{n-1}}{2}$ ). And the objective is to find the threshold  $T_{\Delta Vf}$  which can define which data belongs to machine-tool moving at constant speed and which data belongs to machine-tool moving at varying speed. Moreover, the data whose  $Vf$  are less than the threshold  $T_{\Delta Vf}$  will be considered as  $Vf$  null (machine-tool stops) in industry. Which means, firstly, the data whose spindle feed rate  $Vf$  less than  $T_{\Delta Vf}$  is to be found, and is labelled ‘ $Vf$  null’ (machine-tool stops). And then, the data whose  $Vf$  bigger than  $T_{\Delta Vf}$ , is labelled ‘ $Vf$  not null’. And in the cluster ‘ $Vf$  not null’, the data whose  $\Delta Vf$  less than threshold  $T_{\Delta Vf}$  is to be found, and is labelled ‘machine-tool moves at constant speed’. Also in the cluster ‘ $Vf$  not null’, the data whose  $\Delta Vf$  bigger than threshold  $T_{\Delta Vf}$  is labelled ‘machine-tool moves at varying speed’. See the Fig.2.

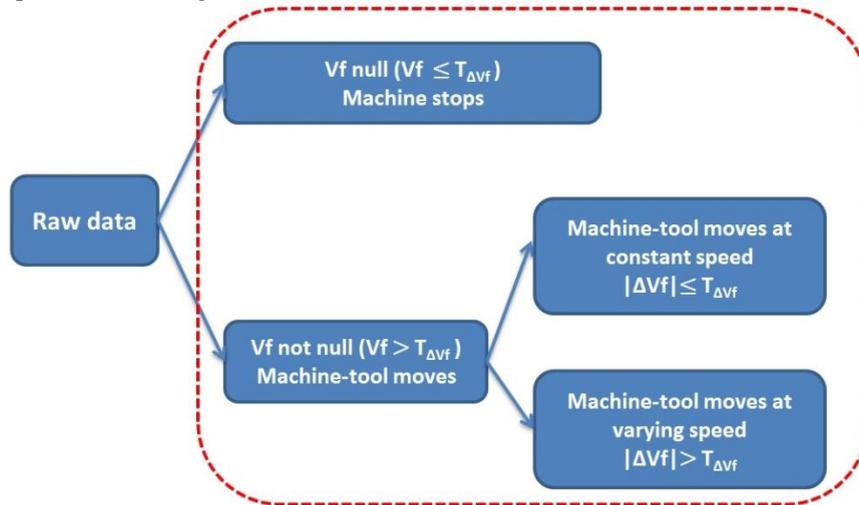


Fig. 2. Process of classification according the Feed rate  $Vf$  and  $\Delta Vf$

### 3. K-means

To classify the machine-tool context information into 3 clusters, an unsupervised machine learning method named K-means may be helpful. K-means clustering aims at partitioning  $n$  observations into  $k$  clusters in which each observation belongs to the cluster with the nearest mean, serving as a prototype of the cluster [8]. There are three clusters: machine-tool stops; machine-tool moves at constant or varying speed. The data during one day from an aircraft company was taken for example. Firstly, the data with  $Vf$  equal to 0 m/min were removed from the selection. And the K-means was applied for the  $\Delta Vf$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>) for this given day. The threshold of machine-tool moving at constant or varying speed locates on the boundary between two clusters:  $T_{\Delta Vf} = 1$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>). The performance of this classification can be tested by manual mining of feed rate  $Vf$  classification in 3 clusters, by detecting the errors of classification. Fig.3 illustrates the results of contextual classification of  $Vf$ , during a period of 30s. The  $Vf$  is labeled with different colors according to their clusters. Machine-tool stops are presented by green diamond; Machine-tool moving at constant speed are presented by red asterisk while machine-tool moving at varying speed are presented by blue plus. It is found manually that, during the  $Vf$  acceleration, there are many red asterisk (cluster machine-tool moving at constant speed) in this acceleration period. Which means the machine-tool is accelerating while the K-means suppose that these points are in the cluster machine-tool moving at constant speed. And there are many other classification errors in the machine-tool moving at constant speed (cycle purple). It means the threshold found by K-means  $T_{\Delta Vf} = 1$  (m/s<sup>2</sup>) is too high. In fact, there is a limitation when using K-means. K-means assumes that it deals with spherical clusters and that each cluster has roughly equal numbers of observations. For this case, the distribution of  $\Delta Vf$  is not spherical. And there are much more population of  $\Delta Vf$  around zero, compared to other population. Which means K-means will partition the data where machine-tool moving at varying speed into the cluster machine-tool moving at constant speed. So other data clustering methods will be tested.

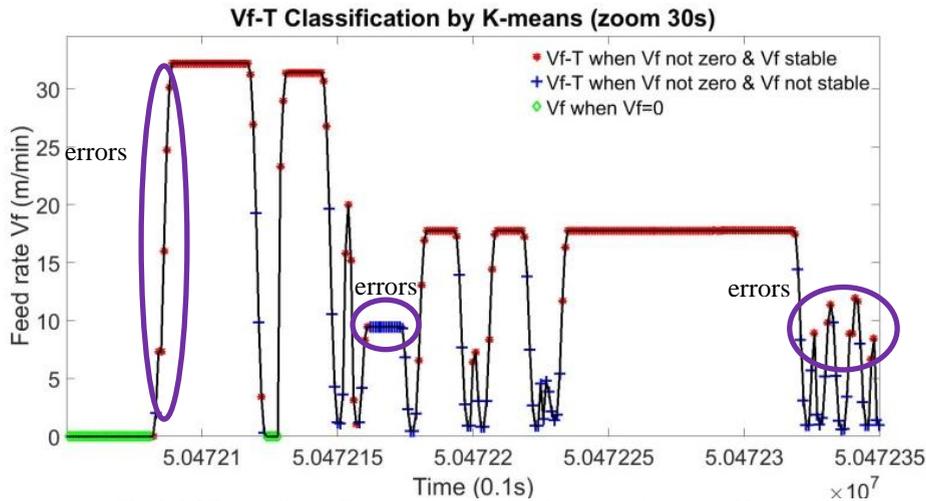


Fig. 3. Vf-T according to K-means classification during one day (zoom 30 seconds)

#### 4. GMM classification

Gaussian mixture models (GMM) [9] are often used for data clustering. Usually, fitted GMMs cluster by assigning query data points to the multivariate normal components that maximize the component posterior probability given the data. Its advantage is showing how to fit a GMM to data, cluster using the fitted model, and estimate component posterior probabilities. In this case, the same data as in chapter 3 is to be used for example. The  $V_f=0$  m/min was taken away too, and the same column  $\Delta V_f$  is created also. Then GMM was to be used to classify  $\Delta V_f$  into 2 clusters: machine-tool moves at constant speed, machine-tool moves at varying speed. Here, the density of probability of  $\Delta V_f$  during this day is drawn. There are 2 great populations of  $\Delta V_f$ :  $\Delta V_f$  around zero (Y1) which is fine and high;  $\Delta V_f$  distributed along the whole day (Y2) which is wide and low. Therefore, 2 Gaussian distributions are set up to model the true data. The sum of the probability of these 2 Gaussians along with the  $\Delta V_f$  (Y3) is drawn to be compared with our true density of probability of  $\Delta V_f$  (Histogram of  $\Delta V_f$ ). The result is in Fig. 4: the abscissa X is  $\Delta V_f$ , the abscissa Y is the density of probability in scale linear. It is found that the sum of these 2 Gaussians modeled well our true data. Next step, the population of Y1 (fine and high) is supposed to follow the distribution Gaussian. To find the threshold of the machine-tool moving at constant speed or varying speed, the  $\sigma$ ,  $2\sigma$ ,  $3\sigma$  and  $4\sigma$  will be tested by drawing the  $V_f$  along with the time, and zoom a period of 30 seconds to analyze.

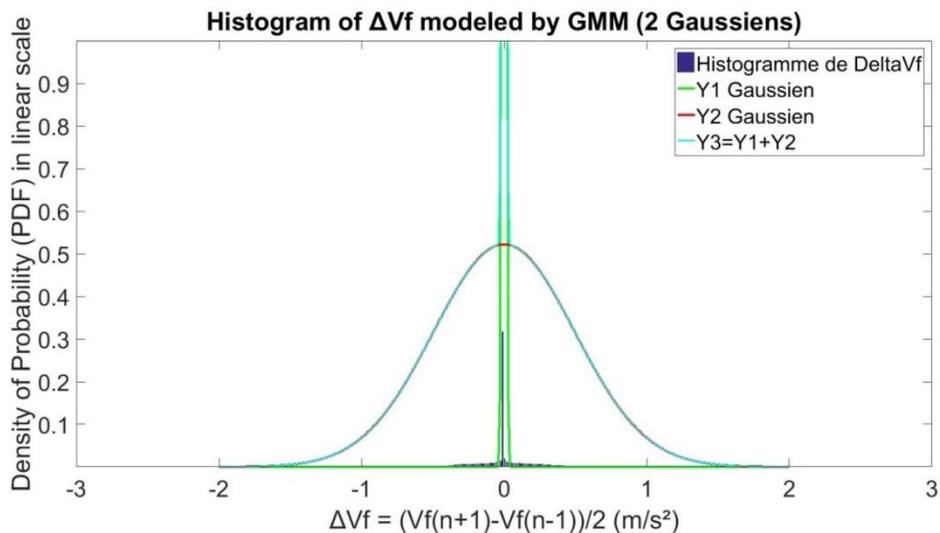


Fig. 4. Density of probability of  $\Delta V_f$  for one day modeled by GMM (2 Gaussiens).

## 5. Results and discussion

As the  $\Delta Vf$  within Y1 follows a normal distribution, the threshold  $T_{\Delta Vf}$  can be defined to be equal to  $\sigma$ ,  $2\sigma$ ,  $3\sigma$  or  $4\sigma$ . (While the mean of normal distribution  $\mu = 0$ , and  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of  $\Delta Vf$  within Y1). Because  $[-2\sigma, 2\sigma]$  represents the 95.45%, and  $[-3\sigma, 3\sigma]$  represents the 99.73% of all the data within Y1. For this day, the threshold  $T_{\Delta Vf}=2\sigma = 0.0033 \text{ m/s}^2$  and  $3\sigma = 0.005 \text{ m/s}^2$  as well as  $4\sigma = 0.0067 \text{ m/s}^2$ . To verify which threshold is the most suitable for this case, the feed rate  $Vf$  can be classified into 3 clusters by using these 3 thresholds. The same period 30s is always taken to be analyzed. Firstly, the classification by threshold  $T_{\Delta N}=1\sigma = 0.00167 \text{ m/s}^2$  is tested. The result is in the Fig.5 (a): there is no wrong classification during acceleration which is better than the K-means method. However, just at the beginning of the acceleration, there is a blue plus point while it should be green. It is because the  $1\sigma$  is too small. And then the threshold  $2\sigma$  is tested in the Fig.5 (b): there is no wrong classification before and during acceleration which is better than  $1\sigma$ . And then the threshold  $3\sigma$  is tested in the Fig.5 (c): classification by threshold  $3\sigma$  is not better than that of  $2\sigma$ . To confirm this threshold, the threshold  $4\sigma$  is tested in the Fig.5 (d): there is a classification error at the end of this 30s, during the varying speed  $Vf$ . It is because its  $\Delta Vf=0.0059 < 4\sigma$ ,  $4\sigma$  suppose that this point belongs to machine-tool moving at constant speed.  $4\sigma$  is too big for threshold. Therefore, the threshold  $T_{\Delta N}=2\sigma = 0.0033 \text{ m/s}^2$  can be set as the threshold for this day's data to classify machine-tool stops and machine-tool moving at constant or varying speed. See the Fig.5.

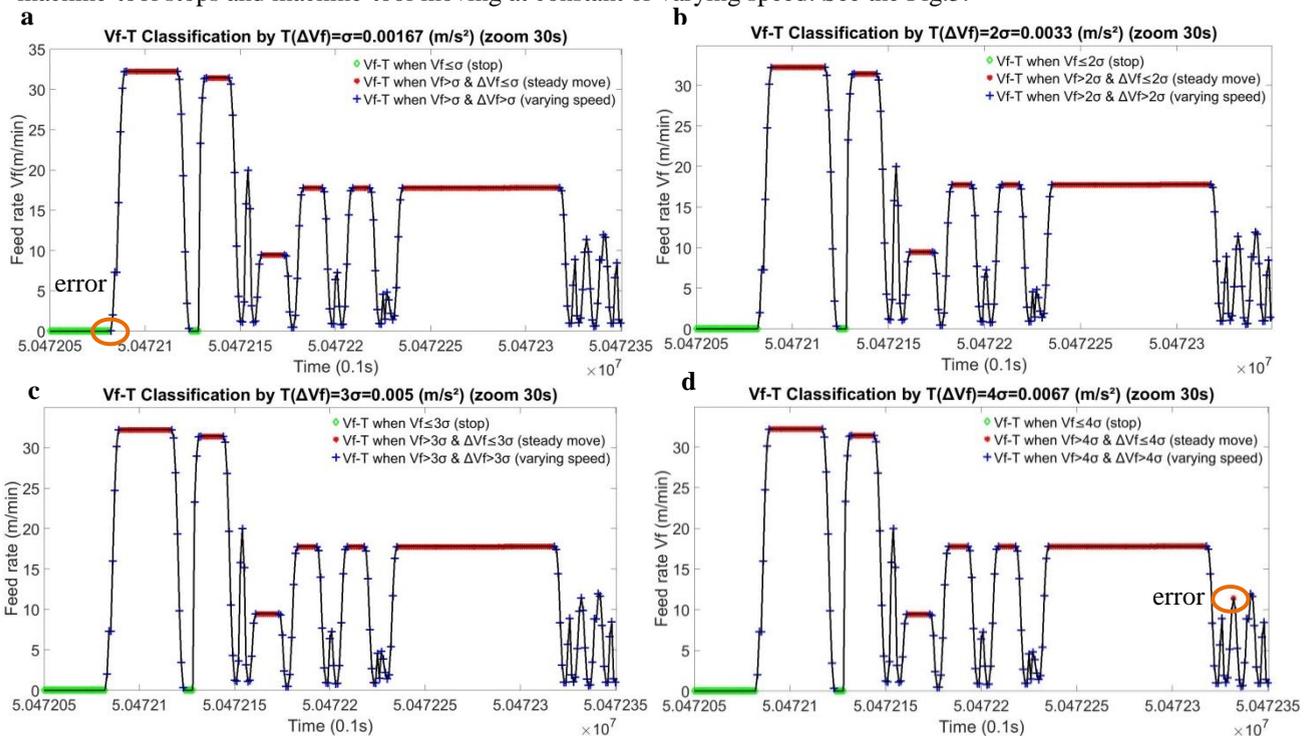


Fig. 5. (a) Vf-T according to  $1\sigma$  classification of  $\Delta Vf$  during 30 seconds; (b) Vf-T according to  $2\sigma$  classification of  $\Delta Vf$  during 30 seconds; (c) Vf-T according to  $3\sigma$  classification of  $\Delta Vf$  during 30 seconds; (d) Vf-T according to  $4\sigma$  classification of  $\Delta Vf$  during 30 seconds;

## 6. Conclusion

Two methods of unsupervised machine learning, K-means and GMM, have been tested for contextual classification, based on the machine-tool feedrate, into 3 clusters: machine stopped; constant or varying move. The results are as below:

- K-means is not suitable because the data is not spherical data (the population of  $\Delta Vf$  around zero is too large). However, GMM can classify the raw data well.

- According to GMM classification and statistical analyzes, the distribution of  $\Delta V_f$  in the Y1 population follows a normal distribution, the threshold can be defined as  $T_{\Delta V_f} = 2\sigma = 0.0033 \text{m/s}^2$ .
- The data whose  $V_f$  is less than  $T_{\Delta V_f}$  is labeled as ‘machine-tool stopes’; the data whose  $V_f$  is greater than  $2\sigma$  and its  $\Delta V_f$  is less than  $2\sigma$  is labeled as ‘machine-tool moves at constant speed’; the data whose  $V_f$  and  $\Delta V_f$  are greter than  $2\sigma$  is labeled as ‘machine-tool moves at varying speed’.
- The threshold was chosen at  $2\sigma$  by manual mining, through the verification of classification results.
- As the raw data has been classified into 3 clusters, the new KPIs can be calculated in each cluster in the future. Such as, the tool will cut materials linear in the cluster ‘machine-tool moves at constant speed’ while the tool will cut materials in bending surface in the cluster ‘machine-tool moves at varying speed’.

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