GALAXY INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH JOURNAL (GIIRJ)
ISSN (E): 2347-6915
Vol. 10, Issue 2, Feb. (2022)

THE METHOD OF TEACHING ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Abdullaeva Umida Nigmatullaevna
Uzbekistan State World Languages University

ANNOTATION

The instructor often assumes a less overtly authoritative role in an interactive classroom. Some proponents have described this as moving from “sage on the stage” to “guide on the side.” This may be overly simplistic, however. Just as “higher order” thinking builds upon mastery of “lower order” thinking, interactive learning must be supported by clear academic authority. Likewise, while the collaborative nature of many interactive methods can increase student motivation, too much student autonomy can produce uncertainty that can be demotivating.

Keywords: autonomy, academic, innovative method, pedagogical reason.

INTRODUCTION

Practically, this may mean giving “just-in-time” mini-lectures when students are struggling with basic terminology or concepts. The instructor should also establish early in a course that he or she welcomes and can appropriately answer pressing questions—unless the instructor has valid pedagogical reasons for *not* providing an answer, in which case the instructor should make the rationale explicit to students. In short, an instructor using interactive methods must balance autonomy with support and be flexible and competent in a range of teaching methods.
The next innovative method is cluster. It is one of widely used methods in teaching a foreign language now. It can be used in all stages of teaching English to both young and aged learners. In presenting new words, a teacher writes a new word on the blackboard. And then learners tell the words that can be used together with the given word.
Have you come across a situation when a Chief Marketing Officer of a company tells you – “Help me understand our customers better so that we can market our products to them in a better manner!”I did and the analyst in me was completely clueless what to do! I was used to getting specific problems, where there is an outcome to be predicted for various set of conditions. But I had no clue what to do in this case. If the person would have asked me to calculate Life Time Value (LTV) or propensity of Cross-sell, I wouldn’t have blinked. But this question looked very broad to me.This is usually the first reaction when you come across an unsupervised learning problem for the first time! You are not looking for specific insights for a phenomena, but what you are looking for are structures with in data with out them being tied down to a specific outcome.The method of identifying similar groups of data in a dataset is called clustering. It is one of the most popular techniques in data science. Entities in each group are comparatively more similar to entities of that group than those of the other groups. In this article, I will be taking you through the types of clustering, different clustering algorithms and a comparison between two of the most commonly used clustering methods.

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1. Overview

Clustering is the task of dividing the population or data points into a number of groups such that data points in the same groups are more similar to other data points in the same group than those in other groups. In simple words, the aim is to segregate groups with similar traits and assign them into clusters.

Let's understand this with an example. Suppose, you are the head of a rental store and wish to understand preferences of your costumers to scale up your business. Is it possible for you to look at details of each costumer and devise a unique business strategy for each one of them? Definitely not. But, what you can do is to cluster all of your costumers into say 10 groups based on their purchasing habits and use a separate strategy for costumers in each of these 10 groups. And this is what we call clustering.Now, that we understand what is clustering. Let's take a look at the types of clustering.

2. Types of Clustering

Broadly speaking, clustering can be divided into two subgroups:

Hard Clustering: In hard clustering, each data point either belongs to a cluster completely or not. For example, in the above example each customer is put into one group out of the 10 groups.

Soft Clustering: In soft clustering, instead of putting each data point into a separate cluster, a probability or likelihood of that data point to be in those clusters is assigned. For example, from the above scenario each costumer is assigned a probability to be in either of 10 clusters of the retail store.

3. Types of clustering algorithms

Since the task of clustering is subjective, the means that can be used for achieving this goal are plenty. Every methodology follows a different set of rules for defining the 'similarity' among data points. In fact, there are more than 100 clustering algorithms known. But few of the algorithms are used popularly, let's look at them in detail:

Connectivity models: As the name suggests, these models are based on the notion that the data points closer in data space exhibit more similarity to each other than the data points lying farther away. These models can follow two approaches. In the first approach, they start with classifying all data points into separate clusters & then aggregating them as the distance decreases. In the second approach, all data points are classified as a single cluster and then partitioned as the distance increases. Also, the choice of distance function is subjective. These models are very easy to interpret but lacks scalability for handling big datasets. Examples of these models are hierarchical clustering algorithm and its variants.

Centroid models: These are iterative clustering algorithms in which the notion of similarity is derived by the closeness of a data point to the centroid of the clusters. K-Means clustering algorithm is a popular algorithm that falls into this category. In these models, the no. of clusters required at the end have to be mentioned beforehand, which makes it important to have prior knowledge of the dataset. These models run iteratively to find the local optima.

Distribution models: These clustering models are based on the notion of how probable is it that all data points in the cluster belong to the same distribution (For example: Normal, Gaussian). These models often suffer from overfitting. A popular example of these models is Expectation-maximization algorithm which uses multivariate normal distributions.

Density Models: These models search the data space for areas of varied density of data points in the data space. It isolates various different density regions and assign the data points within these regions in the same cluster. Popular examples of density models are DBSCAN and OPTICS.

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