

Clustering results dimension reduction of iron ore raw materials characteristics in the process control of its processing



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Abstract

The analysis results of dimension reduction methods of clustering of characteristics of iron ore raw materials characteristics in the process control of its processing are proposed.

Key words: AUTOMATION, CONTROL SYSTEM, MATHEMATICAL MODEL, DIMENSION REDUCTION

Technological units of concentrating production as a control objects can be represented as operators, which transform the vectors of the input variables in the vectors of output parameters [1-7]. Thus, the output parameters of one technological process are considered as input for the next. For example, vectors elements of the grinding aggregates output parameters are their qualitative and quantitative indicators. The main quantitative indicators are: feed rate and performance by finished grain-size class. The quality of the ground product is characterized by: density or solids content in the pulp, solid phase particle size distribution, and mineral content in separate size classes of ground material. Thus, in solving the problem of synthesis control of iron ore raw material beneficiation technological processes it is necessary to operate high dimension data.

The presence of several mineralogical and technological ore varieties, each of which has several characteristics, significantly complicates the processing of data on the technological process parameters [3-7]. Consequently, at the initial stage of processing it is necessary to analyze the possibilities to reduce the initial data dimension and then pass to the formation of mathematical models based on them. Let's consider an example of the result of three-dimensional data distribution, which describe the mineralogical and technological characteristics of iron ore raw material varieties, which is processed on concentrating plant technological line, by 9 clusters (Fig. 1).

One of the most common methods of the dimension reducing is a Principal Components Analysis (PCA) [8]. The presentation of data, which is formed by it with lower dimension, describes the direction of the greatest change in the initial data by finding lower-dimensional linear basis for the initial multi-dimensional data, in which the dispersion is maximum. The result is a linear transformation of Θ , which maximizes the expression

$$\Theta^T \text{cov}_{X-\bar{X}} \Theta \rightarrow \max, \quad (1)$$

where $\text{cov}_{X-\bar{X}}$ – is the covariance matrix of data X , which is centered towards the coordinates origin. The result of dimension reduction using PCA is shown in Fig. 2a.

Nonlinear multidimensional scaling method (MDS) [8-10] provides the dimension reduction while preserving the pairwise distances between the initial data points. The quality of the conversion is described by a function which evaluates the pairwise distances difference in the initial multi-dimensional presentation and the resulting representation of lower dimension

$$F(Y) = \sum_{ij} (\|x_i - x_j\| - \|y_i - y_j\|)^2 \quad (2)$$

where $\|x_i - x_j\|$ – is the Euclidean distance between data points of high dimension; $\|y_i - y_j\|$ – is the Euclidean distance between the data points of low dimension. The alternative to the above considered function can be the Sammon cost function, which puts more emphasis on preserving originally short distances

$$F(Y) = \frac{1}{\sum_{ij} \|x_i - x_j\|} \sum_{ij} \frac{(\|x_i - x_j\| - \|y_i - y_j\|)^2}{\|x_i - x_j\|} \quad (3)$$

Minimization of the stress function is performed using different methods of conjugate gradients [9]. The result of the dimension reduction using the MDS method is shown in Fig. 2,b.

The drawback of the multidimensional scaling method is that it does not allow to consider the distribution of adjacent points because it is based on the Euclidean distances. For example, in case where multi-dimensional data is on the curvilinear manifold, the distance between them can be significantly larger than the Euclidean. In this case it is advisable to use the Isomap method [8,11], which considers the curvilinear distance between data points on a given

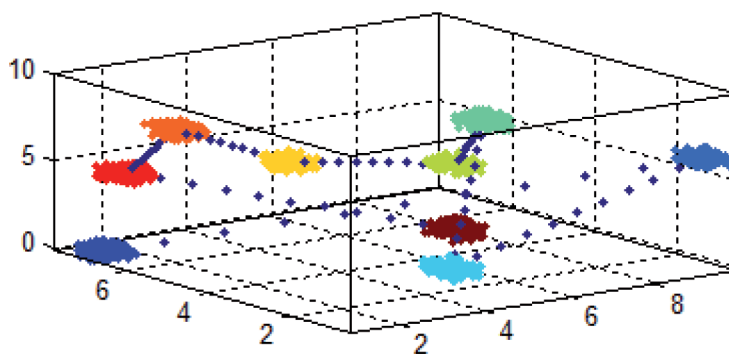


Figure 1. The result of ore varieties characteristics clustering

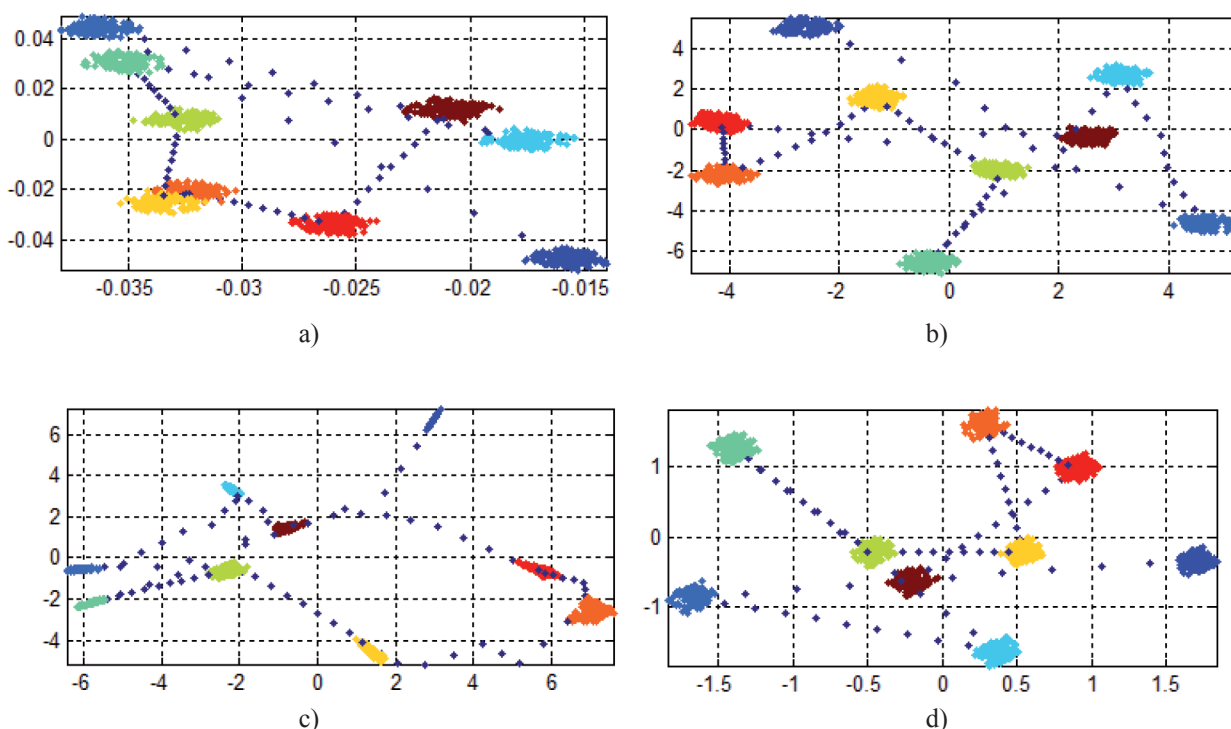


Figure 2. The result of dimension reduction using the methods of:
 a) PCA; b) MDS; c) Isomap; d) Diffusion Map

manifold. In Isomap [11], the geodesic distance between x_i data points are calculated by plotting a graph, in which each point of x_i is associated with its k nearest neighbors x_{ij} in a data set of X . The shortest path between two points of the graph is the estimate of the curvilinear distance between these two points, which are determined using Dijkstra's algorithm [12,13]. The result of dimension reduction using the Isomap method is shown in Fig. 2.c. Diffusion maps method [8, 14, 15] assumes the formation of the data graph. The edges weights are calculated using the Gaussian kernel functions, which leads to the formation of the matrix of Ψ . The elements of the matrix of Ψ are calculated by the formula

$$\psi_{ij} = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad (4)$$

where σ – is the dispersion. Then, based on the matrix of Ψ the normalized matrix of Ψ^* is calculated, the elements of which are determined from the expression

$$\psi_{ij}^* = \frac{\psi_{ij}}{\sum_k \psi_{ik}} \quad (5)$$

Obtained matrix of Ψ^* is considered as a stochastic matrix, which determines the forward transition probability matrix of the dynamic process. Consequently, the matrix Ψ^* represents the transition probability from one data point to another data point per unit

time. On the basis of transition probabilities $\psi^*(t)_{ij}$ the diffusion distance is determined [14,15]

$$D^{(t)}(x_i, x_j) = \sum_k \frac{(\psi^{(t)}_{ik} - \psi^{(t)}_{jk})^2}{\alpha(x_k)^{(0)}} \quad (6)$$

where $\alpha(x_i)^{(0)} = m_i / \sum_j m_j$ – is the coefficient, which gives more weight to the elements of the graph with higher density; $m_i = \sum_j \psi_{ij}$ – is the degree of the node. From this equation we can see that the pair of points with a higher transition probability has a lower diffusion distance. The idea of the diffusion distance is that it is based on many graph paths, which provides a greater noise immunity than the geodesic distance. The representation of lower dimension of Y , which allows to keep the diffusion distance using a spectral theory there formed from d non-zero principal eigenvectors, which may be found from the expression [14, 15]

$$\Psi^*(t)Y = \lambda Y \quad (7)$$

As the graph is fully connected, the largest eigenvalue is a null, i.e. $\lambda_1=1$, his own vector v_1 is not considered. In the representation of lower dimension the eigenvectors are normalized by the corresponding eigenvalues

$$Y = \{\lambda_2 v_2, \lambda_3 v_3, \dots, \lambda_{d+1} v_{d+1}\} \quad (8)$$

The result of dimension reduction using a Diffusion Map method is shown in Fig. 2 d. The most correct display of the clustering results of (9 clus-

ters, 1150 points), mineralogical and technological characteristics of ore varieties in the space of lower dimension was obtained by the methods of MDS, Diffusion Map, and PCA. Thus, the least time was spent using the methods of PCA – 0.11 s, and Diffusion Map – 0.77 s. The greatest – 47,67 s using Isomap method.

Conclusion

Thus, among the considered methods of the dimension reducing the best results were obtained using PCA, MDS and Diffusion Map methods.

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