

## Deep Embedded SOM: Joint Representation Learning and Self-Organization

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# Deep Representation Learning for Clustering

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# Deep Clustering

Dimensionality reduction (e.g. PCA, autoencoders) improves high-dimensional data clustering for algorithms relying on euclidean distance (e.g.  $k$ -means, SOM).

## Principles of deep clustering

- Clustering is performed in the intermediate feature space of deep neural networks (*autoencoders*).
- Representation learning and clustering are considered as a single task.
- The objective is to learn *cluster-friendly* representations that improve clustering performance.

Generally achieved via a hybrid loss function that trades off between representation quality and clustering (regularization).

## Baselines

Common external metrics: purity, NMI, clustering accuracy.

Baseline	Accuracy (%)
$k$ -means	58
AE + $k$ -means/GMM	82
Song et al. [Song et al., 2014]	76.0
DEC [Xie et al., 2015]	84.30
DCN [Yang et al., 2016]	83.0
IDEC [Guo et al., 2017]	88.06
VaDE [Jiang et al., 2017]	94.46
WaMiC [Harchaoui et al., 2018]	98.42

**Table 1:** Clustering baselines on MNIST

## General notations

$\mathbf{x}_i, i = 1 \dots N$	data points
$\mathbf{m}_k, k = 1 \dots K$	cluster centers
$\chi$	cluster assignment mapping $\chi(i) = k$ iff $\mathbf{x}_i$ belongs to cluster $k$
$\mathbf{W}_e, \mathbf{W}_d$	encoder and decoder parameters
$\mathbf{z}_i = \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{W}_e}(\mathbf{x}_i)$	encoded data point (latent space)
$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = \mathbf{g}_{\mathbf{W}_d}(\mathbf{z}_i)$	decoded data point (reconstruction)

## Related work

### Methods based on $k$ -means

**Principle:** jointly optimize reconstruction and  $k$ -means loss.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(W_e, W_d, m_1, \dots, m_k, \chi) &= \mathcal{L}_r(W_e, W_d) + \gamma \mathcal{L}_{km}(W_e, m_1, \dots, m_k, \chi) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \|\tilde{x}_i - x_i\|^2 + \gamma \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \|z_i - m_{\chi(i)}\|^2\end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\chi(i) = \operatorname{argmin}_k \|z_i - m_k\|^2$$

- Alternating procedure: (1) update cluster assignments, (2) update network parameters and centroids  
[Song et al., 2014, Yang et al., 2016]
- Continuous relaxation of  $k$ -means loss [Fard et al., 2018]

### Deep Embedded Clustering (DEC) [Xie et al., 2015]

1. Pretrain only with reconstruction loss using SAE (Stacked Autoencoder) [Vincent et al., 2010].
2. Learn the cluster centers and fine-tune the encoder using only *soft hardening loss* (KL-divergence between soft cluster assignment and *hardened* distribution).

$$q_{ik} = \frac{(1 + \|z_i - m_k\|^2)^{-1}}{\sum_{k'}(1 + \|z_i - m_{k'}\|^2)^{-1}}, \quad p_{ik} = \frac{q_{ik}^2 / \sum_i q_{ik}}{\sum_{k'} (q_{ik'}^2 / \sum_i q_{ik'})}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(W_e, m_1, \dots, m_K) = D_{KL}(p||q) = \sum_i \sum_k p_{ik} \log \frac{p_{ik}}{q_{ik}}$$

## Related work

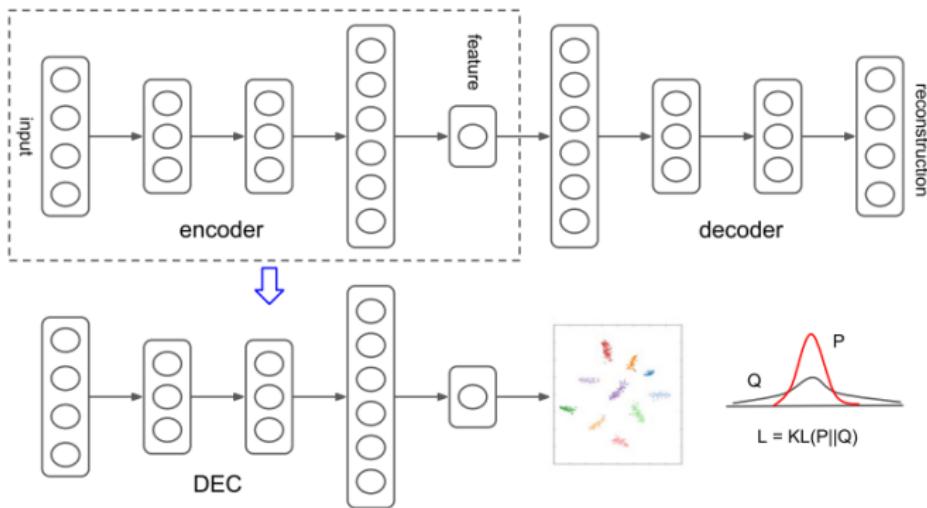


Figure 1: DEC architecture

## Related work

### Improved Deep Embedded Clustering (IDEC) [Guo et al., 2017]

**Principle:** training with only a clustering loss corrupts feature space in DEC and hurts clustering performance.

1. Pretrain AE as in DEC.
2. Learn the cluster centers and fine-tune the encoder and decoder using a weighted sum of the reconstruction loss and the clustering loss (KL-divergence).

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(W_e, W_d, m_1, \dots, m_K) &= \mathcal{L}_r(W_e, W_d) + \gamma \mathcal{L}_c(W_e, m_1, \dots, m_K, \chi) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \|\tilde{x}_i - x_i\|^2 + \gamma D_{KL}(p||q)\end{aligned}$$

## Related work

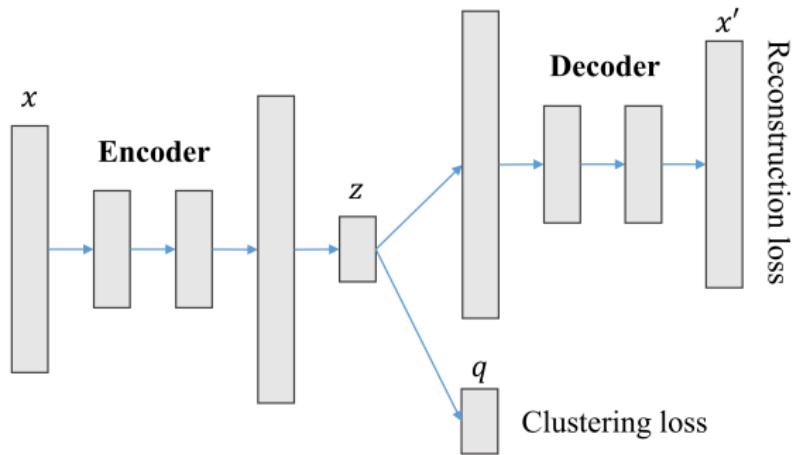


Figure 2: IDEc architecture

## DESOM: Deep Embedded Self-Organizing Map

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# Joint Representation Learning and Self-Organization

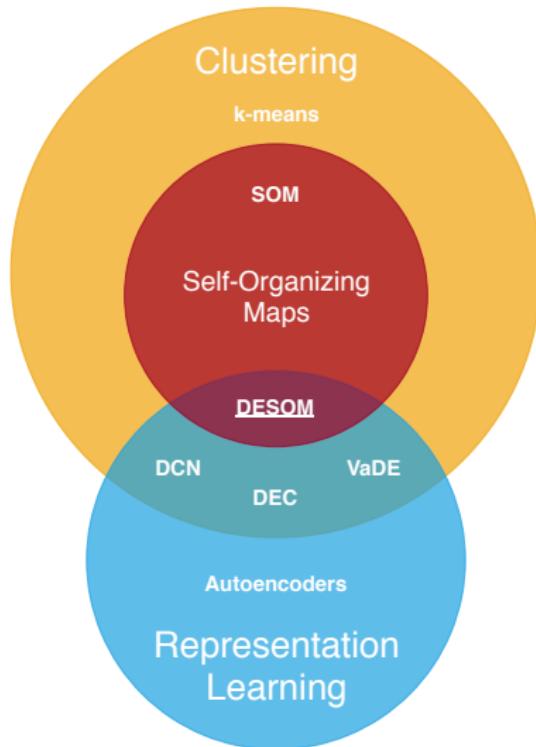


Figure 3: "Venn" diagram of joint RL and clustering

## Related Work

- *Deep Neural Maps*, Pesteie, M., Abolmaesumi, P., & Rohling, R. (2018). [Pesteie et al., 2018] (workshop track ICLR 2018)
- *Deep Self-Organization: Interpretable Discrete Representation Learning on Time Series*, Fortuin, V., Hüser, M., Locatello, F., Strathmann, H., & Rätsch, G. (2018). [Fortuin et al., 2018] (accepted at ICLR 2019)

## Principle

Joint training of a deep autoencoder and a self-organizing map [Kohonen, 1982]. The SOM prototypes are learned in latent space, and self-organization and representation learning are achieved as a joint end-to-end task.

- Handles high-dimensional data
- Improves clustering performance (*SOM-friendly* space)
- Joint training and no pre-training → cuts training time
- Trains on GPU

► Keras implementation available on Github<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/FlorentF9/DESom>

# DESom Architecture

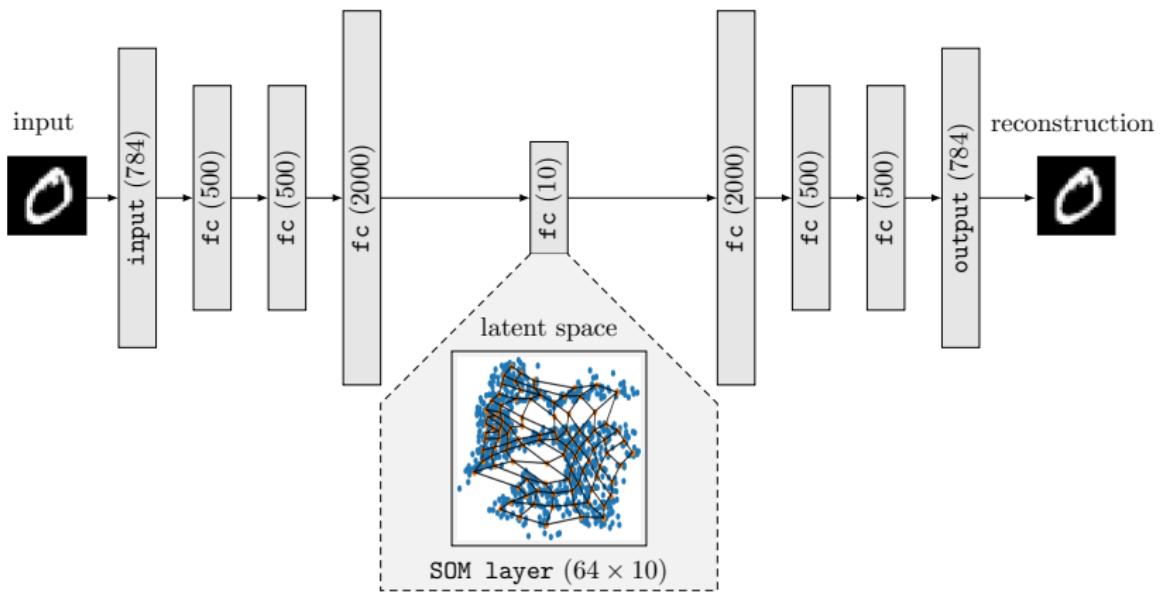


Figure 4: DESOM architecture

# Loss Function

Loss function:

$$\mathcal{L}(W_e, W_d, m_1, \dots, m_K, \chi) = \mathcal{L}_r(W_e, W_d) + \gamma \mathcal{L}_{som}(W_e, m_1, \dots, m_K, \chi)$$

MSE reconstruction loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_r = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \|\tilde{x}_i - x_i\|^2$$

SOM loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{som} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \sum_{k=1}^K \mathcal{K}^T(\delta(\chi(i), k)) \|z_i - m_k\|^2$$

where  $\chi(i) = \operatorname{argmin}_k \|z_i - m_k\|^2$  and  $\mathcal{K}^T(d) = e^{-d^2/T^2}$

# Training Procedure

Let us define the weighting terms  $w_{i,k} := \mathcal{K}^T(\delta(\chi(i), k))$ .

At each iteration, we compute the cluster assignments and fix the terms  $w_{i,k}$ . Then, all parameters  $\{\mathbf{W}_e, \mathbf{W}_d, \mathbf{m}_1, \dots, \mathbf{m}_K\}$  are optimized using SGD (Adam [Kingma and Ba, 2015]).

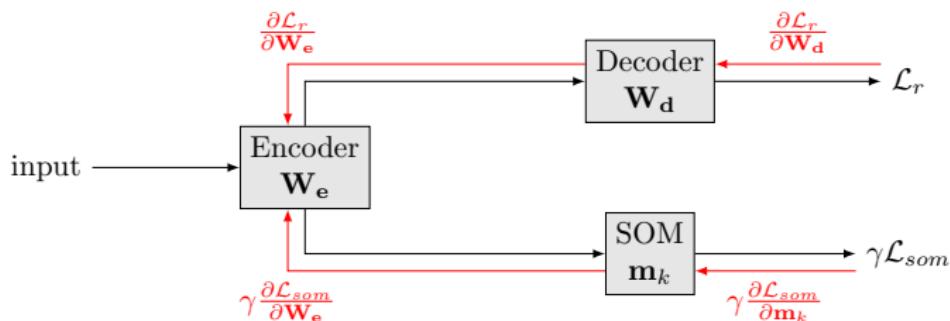


Figure 5: DESOM gradients flow

## Training Procedure

**Input:** training set  $\mathbb{X}$ ; SOM topology;  $T_{max}, T_{min}$ ; iterations;  
batchSize

**Output:** AE weights  $W_e, W_d$ ; SOM code vectors  $\{m_k\}$

Initialize  $W_e, W_d$  (Glorot uniform scheme) ;

Initialize  $\{m_k\}$  (with random data sample) ;

**for**  $iter = 1, \dots, \text{iterations}$  **do**

$$T \leftarrow T_{max} \left( \frac{T_{min}}{T_{max}} \right)^{\text{iter}/\text{iterations}} ;$$

Load next training batch ;

Encode current batch and compute weights  $w_{i,k}$  ;

Train DESOM on batch by taking a SGD step ;

**end**

**Algorithm 1:** DESOM training procedure

## Differences with existing research

### Deep Neural Maps [Pesteie et al., 2018]

- Alternating procedure: (1) compute embeddings, (2) update centers using stochastic Kohonen algorithm, (3) fix centers and update AE
- IDEC loss function (using KL-divergence soft hardening loss)
- SAE pre-training
- Accent on visualization, no clustering benchmark

### DESMOM [Forest et al., 2019]

- Alternating procedure: (1) compute pairwise distances between embeddings and centers, (2) update all parameters (AE and centers)
- Joint reconstruction and SOM loss (using the real SOM loss)
- No pre-training
- Competitive clustering performance

## Differences with existing research

SOM-VAE [Fortuin et al., 2018]   DESOM [Forest et al., 2019]

- Variational AE
- Discrete latent space  
(inspired from VQ-VAE  
[van den Oord et al., 2017])
- Deterministic AE
- Continuous latent space

## Visualization and Quantitative Results

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# Visualization

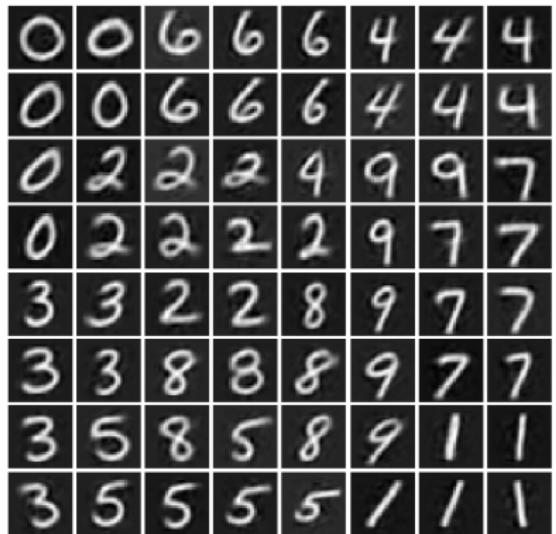


Figure 6: DESOM visualizations of MNIST and Fashion-MNIST

## Compared Models

- **minisom**: standard SOM (from minisom module<sup>2</sup>).
- **kerasom**: our implementation of SOM in Keras (equivalent to DESOM without AE) and trained by SGD.
- **AE+minisom**: minisom fit on the encoded dataset using an autoencoder with the same architecture as in DESOM.
- **AE+kerasom**: the same approach but with our kerasom model (equivalent to DESOM without joint optimization of AE and SOM).
- **DESOM**: our proposed Deep Embedded SOM with joint representation learning and self-organization.

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<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/JustGlowing/minisom>

# Clustering Performance

Method	MNIST		Fashion-MNIST		REUTERS-10k	
	pur	nmi	pur	nmi	pur	nmi
$k$ -means ( $k = 64$ )	0.842	0.571	0.716	0.512	0.892	0.427
minisom ( $8 \times 8$ )	0.637	0.430	0.646	0.494	0.690	0.230
kerasom ( $8 \times 8$ )	0.826	0.565	0.717	0.512	0.697	0.324
AE+minisom ( $8 \times 8$ )	0.871	0.616	0.734	0.531	0.690	0.235
AE+kerasom ( $8 \times 8$ )	<b>0.939</b>	<b>0.661</b>	<b>0.764</b>	<b>0.539</b>	0.777	0.306
SOM-VAE ( $8 \times 8$ )	0.868	0.595	0.739	0.520	-	-
DESOM ( $8 \times 8$ )	<b>0.939</b>	0.657	0.752	<b>0.538</b>	<b>0.849</b>	<b>0.381</b>

**Table 2:** Purity and NMI (average on 10 runs). Best result and results with no significant difference ( $p$ -value  $> 0.05$ ) in bold.

Method	MNIST	Fashion-MNIST	REUTERS-10k
$k$ -means ( $k = \#\text{classes}$ )	58.34	56.45	59.37
AE+kerasom ( $8 \times 8$ ) + km	<b>76.06</b>	44.87	36.61
DESOM ( $8 \times 8$ ) + km	76.11	<b>56.02</b>	<b>57.18</b>

**Table 3:** Unsupervised clustering accuracy (%) (average on 10 runs).

## Future Work

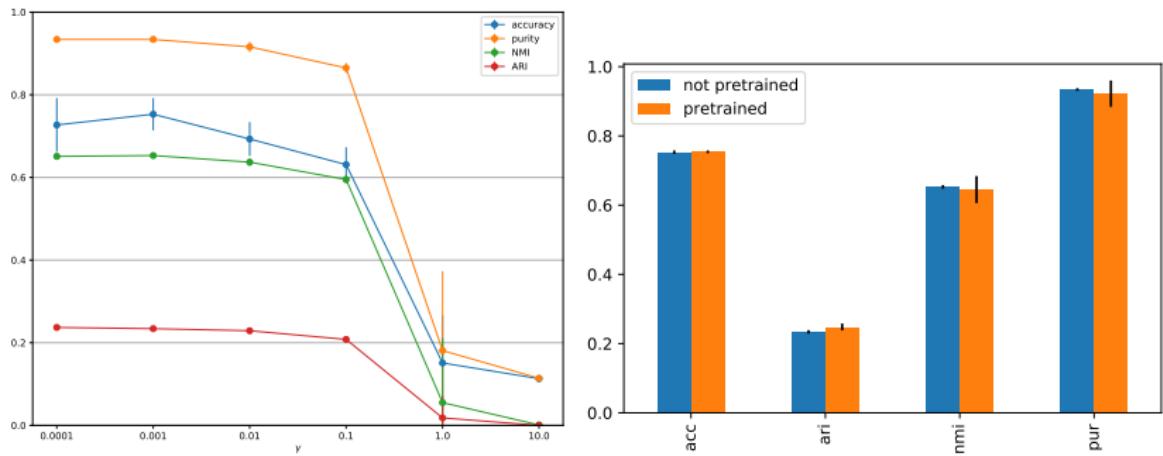
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## Future Work

- Further investigate the influence of hyperparameters and training procedure (parameter  $\gamma$ , learning rate, neighborhood decay, number of iterations)
- Study the properties of the latent space learned by DESOM
- Try different map topologies

Thank you for your attention!  
Questions?

# Experiments



**Figure 7:** Influence of hyperparameter  $\gamma$  and AE pre-training on several performance metrics

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