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# Boosting Spectral Clustering on Incomplete Data via Kernel Correction and Affinity Learning

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## 1 · INTRODUCTION ·

### Spectral Clustering on Complete Data:

#### Step 1. Construct A Similarity Matrix: $S = K$ or $C$

- Calculate a (Gaussian) kernel  $K$  from  $X$
- Learn a self-expressive affinity matrix  $C$  from  $K$

#### Step 2. Perform Normalized Cut Algorithm [1]

- Calculate the Laplacian matrix  $L$
- Select the first  $k$  eigenvectors of  $L$  as  $W$
- Conduct k-means clustering on  $W$

### Q: Spectral Clustering on Incomplete Data?

## 2 · AIM ·

When dealing with incomplete data, how to

- 1) Estimate a high-quality kernel;
- 2) Learn a high-quality self-expressive affinity, benefiting the spectral clustering task.

## 3 · METHOD ·

### I. Kernel Correction (KC) Algorithm

- A valid kernel should be positive semi-definite [2].
- Step 1. Estimate a naive kernel  $K^0$  on incomplete data;
- Step 2. Find a nearest PSD kernel as the new estimate.  
 $\hat{K} = \underset{K \in R^{n \times n}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|K - K^0\|_F^2 \text{ s.t. } K \geq 0, k_{ij} = k_{ji} \in [0, 1]$
- $\|\hat{K} - K^*\|_F \leq \|K^* - K^0\|_F$  ( $K^*$  is the ground-truth) [3]

### II. Affinity Learning Algorithms

- Kernel Self-expressive Affinity Learning with  $\ell_p$  norm:
- **Proximal P-norm:**  $\|C\|_p^p := \sum_{i,j=1}^n |c_{ij}|^p$   
 $\min_{C \in R^{n \times n}} \|\phi(X) - \phi(X)C\|_F^2 + \lambda \|C\|_p^p \text{ s.t. } C_{ij} \in [0, 1]$
- **Schatten P-norm:**  $\|C\|_{S_p} := (\sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^p(C))^{1/p}$   
 $\min_{C \in R^{n \times n}} \|\phi(X) - \phi(X)C\|_F^2 + \lambda \|C\|_{S_p} \text{ s.t. } C_{ij} \in [0, 1]$
- Adaptive Kernel Least-Squares Representation:  
 $\min_{K \geq 0, C} \|K - K^0\|_F^2 + \text{Tr}(K - 2KC + C^T KC) + \lambda \|C\|_F^2$

## 4 · RESULTS ·

### I. Performance on Gaussian Kernel Estimation

Relative error:  $RE = \|\hat{K} - K^*\|_F / \|K^*\|_F$ ; Recall: measures the accuracy of top-10 neighbors.

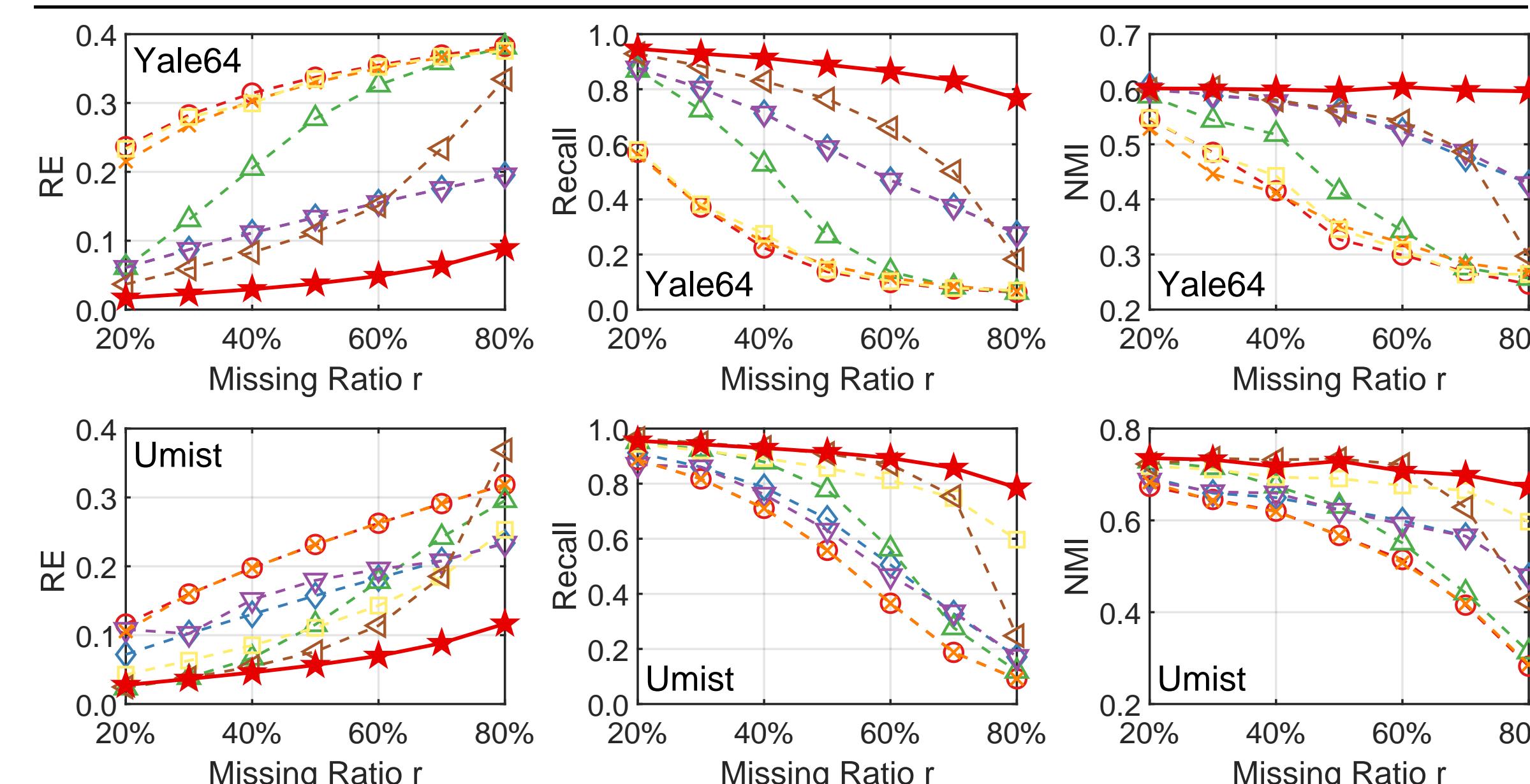
Table 1. Gaussian kernel estimation on the Yale64 dataset with 80% random missing.

Metric	Naive	ZERO	MEAN	kNN	EM	SVT	GR	KFMC	DC	TRF	EE	KC
RE↓	0.113	0.382	0.195	0.381	0.195	0.380	0.376	0.335	0.180	0.112	0.097	0.089
Recall↑	0.721	0.063	0.275	0.063	0.275	0.066	0.070	0.183	0.571	0.722	0.751	0.767

### II. Performance on Standard Spectral Clustering

Table 2. NMI of standard spectral clustering on Yale64 and Umist with 80% missing.

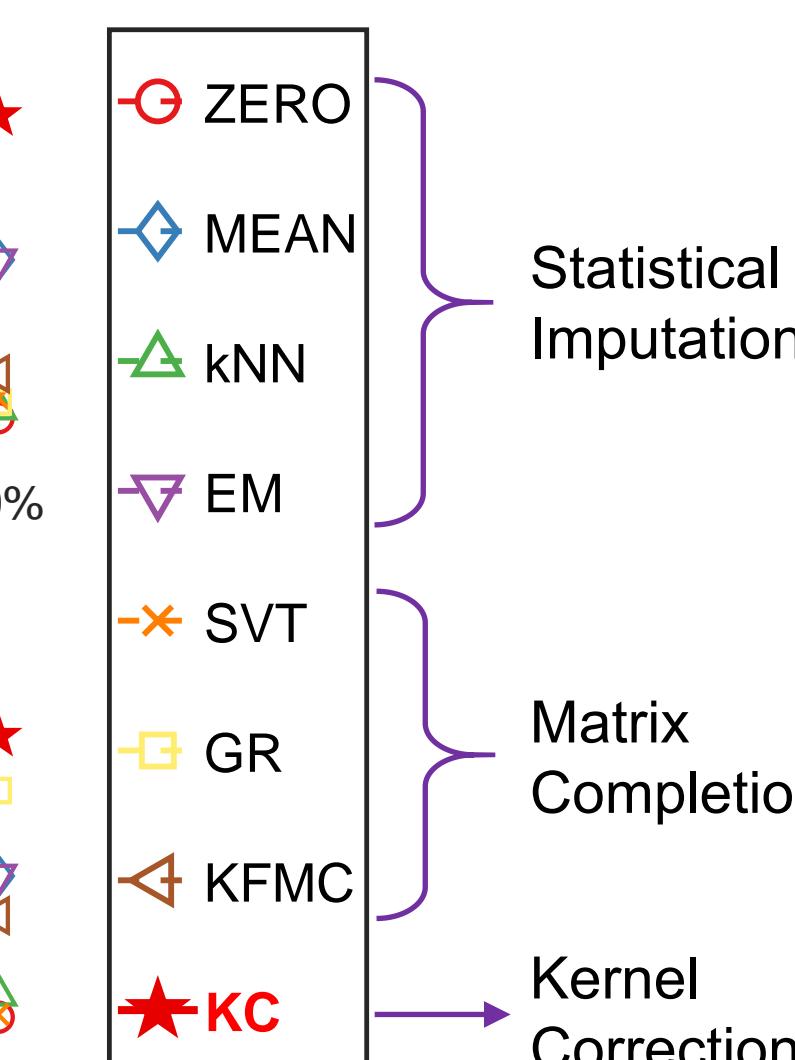
Dataset	Naive	ZERO	MEAN	kNN	EM	SVT	GR	KFMC	DC	TRF	EE	KC
Yale64	0.588	0.246	0.429	0.257	0.428	0.269	0.264	0.297	0.551	0.587	0.593	0.596
Umist	0.669	0.282	0.478	0.314	0.479	0.286	0.597	0.423	0.488	0.667	0.669	0.673



Three ways to estimate  $\hat{K}$ :

- **Data Imputation:**  $X^0 \rightarrow \hat{X} \rightarrow \hat{K}$
- **Distance Calibration:**  $X^0 \rightarrow D^0 \rightarrow \hat{D} \rightarrow \hat{K}$
- **Kernel Correction (KC):**  $X^0 \rightarrow K^0 \rightarrow \hat{K}$   
**Smallest RE & Highest Recall**

- Missing completely at random
- an estimated Gaussian kernel  
→ kNN graph  
→ normalized cut algorithm
- Normalized Mutual Information



### III. Performance on Self-expressive Affinity Learning

KSL-Sp and AKLSR employ corrected kernels to yield dependable affinity matrices.

Table 3. NMI of spectral clustering using learned affinity on Yale64 with 80% missing.

Method	Naive	ZERO	MEAN	kNN	EM	SVT	GR	KFMC	DC	TRF	EE	KC
KSSC	0.219	0.215	0.167	0.173	0.177	0.218	0.208	0.259	0.588	0.210	0.209	0.616
KLSR	0.606	0.311	0.604	0.320	0.609	0.321	0.327	0.318	0.597	0.603	0.604	0.616
KSL-Sp	0.370	0.315	0.581	0.303	0.579	0.305	0.304	0.295	0.555	0.364	0.599	0.619
AKLSR	0.452	0.327	0.606	0.338	0.605	0.308	0.338	0.312	0.570	0.464	0.575	0.614

#### ● KSSC [4]:

$$\min_{C \in R^{n \times n}} \|\phi(X) - \phi(X)C\|_F^2 + \lambda \|C\|_1$$

#### ● KLSR [5]:

$$\min_{C \in R^{n \times n}} \|\phi(X) - \phi(X)C\|_F^2 + \lambda \|C\|_F^2$$

#### ● KSL-Sp (Ours):

$$\min_{C \in R^{n \times n}, C \geq 0} \|\phi(X) - \phi(X)C\|_F^2 + \lambda \|C\|_{S_p}$$

#### ● AKLSR (Ours):

$$\min_{K \geq 0, C} \|K - K^0\|_F^2 + \text{Tr}(K - 2KC + C^T KC) + \lambda \|C\|_F^2$$

## 5 · CONCLUSIONS ·

Q: How to boost spectral clustering on incomplete data via effective kernel and affinity learning?

A: We propose an imputation-free framework:

- Start with a naive kernel instead of imputing;
- Learn a high-quality **kernel matrix** by the kernel correction method with a theoretical guarantee;
- Learn a high-quality **affinity matrix** by the kernel self-expressive affinity learning algorithms with an adaptive extension using joint optimization.

Experimental results show the superiority:

- Experiments I & II: show our kernel correction method significantly outperforms data imputation and distance calibration approaches, especially for a large missing ratio (i.e., 80%).
- Experiment III: shows the effectiveness of KSL-Sp and AKLSR with comparable performance.

## 6 · REFERENCES ·

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## 7 · MORE INFORMATION ·

