

# Hyperparameter Tuning for Clustering Models

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# Overview

**Hyperparameter tuning in clustering algorithms**

**Using ParameterGrid in scikit-learn**

# Evaluating Clustering Models

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# Evaluating Clustering Models

**Homogeneity**

**Completeness**

**V-measure**

**Adjusted Rand  
Index (ARI)**

**Adjusted Mutual  
Info**

**Silhouette**

# Evaluating Clustering Models

**Homogeneity**

**Completeness**

**V-measure**

**Adjusted Rand  
Index (ARI)**

**Adjusted Mutual  
Info**

**Silhouette**

Important advantage of  
Silhouette scoring: Does not  
require labeled data

# Silhouette Score

**Defines Silhouette coefficient for each sample**

**Measure of how similar an object is to objects in its own cluster**

**And how different it is from objects in other clusters**

**Overall Silhouette score averages Silhouette coefficient of each sample**

**No need for labeled data**

# Silhouette Coefficient

$$s^i = \frac{b^i - a^i}{\max(a^i, b^i)}$$

**$a^i$  = Mean distance of point  $i$  from all other points in same cluster**

**$b^i$  = Mean distance of point  $i$  from all points in next nearest cluster**



# Silhouette Score

$$S = \text{Average } (s^i)$$

**Overall score is average of  
coefficients for all points**

# Silhouette Score

**Bounded between -1 (incorrect) and +1 (perfect) clustering**

**Scores around 0 indicate overlapping clusters**

**Tend to be higher for dense and well separated clusters**

# Hyperparameter Tuning for K-means Clustering

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# Hyperparameters

Model configuration properties that define a model, and remain constant during the training of the model

# Understanding Hyperparameters

**Model Inputs**

**Model Parameters**

**Model  
Hyperparameters**

# Understanding Hyperparameters

## Model Inputs

Input data points, training  
dataset

## Model Parameters

## Model Hyperparameters

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Reference vectors, i.e. centroids of each cluster

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## Model Inputs

Input data points, training dataset

## Model Parameters

Reference vectors, i.e. centroids of each cluster

## Model Hyperparameters

Number of clusters, initial values, distance measure



# Hyperparameters in K-Means Clustering



**Number of clusters**



**Seeds - initial values**



**Distance measures**

# Number of Clusters



**K is the most important hyperparameter**

**Sometimes obvious e.g. 10 in MNIST digit classification**

**Otherwise, apply standard method to find the “best” value of K**

# Elbow Method

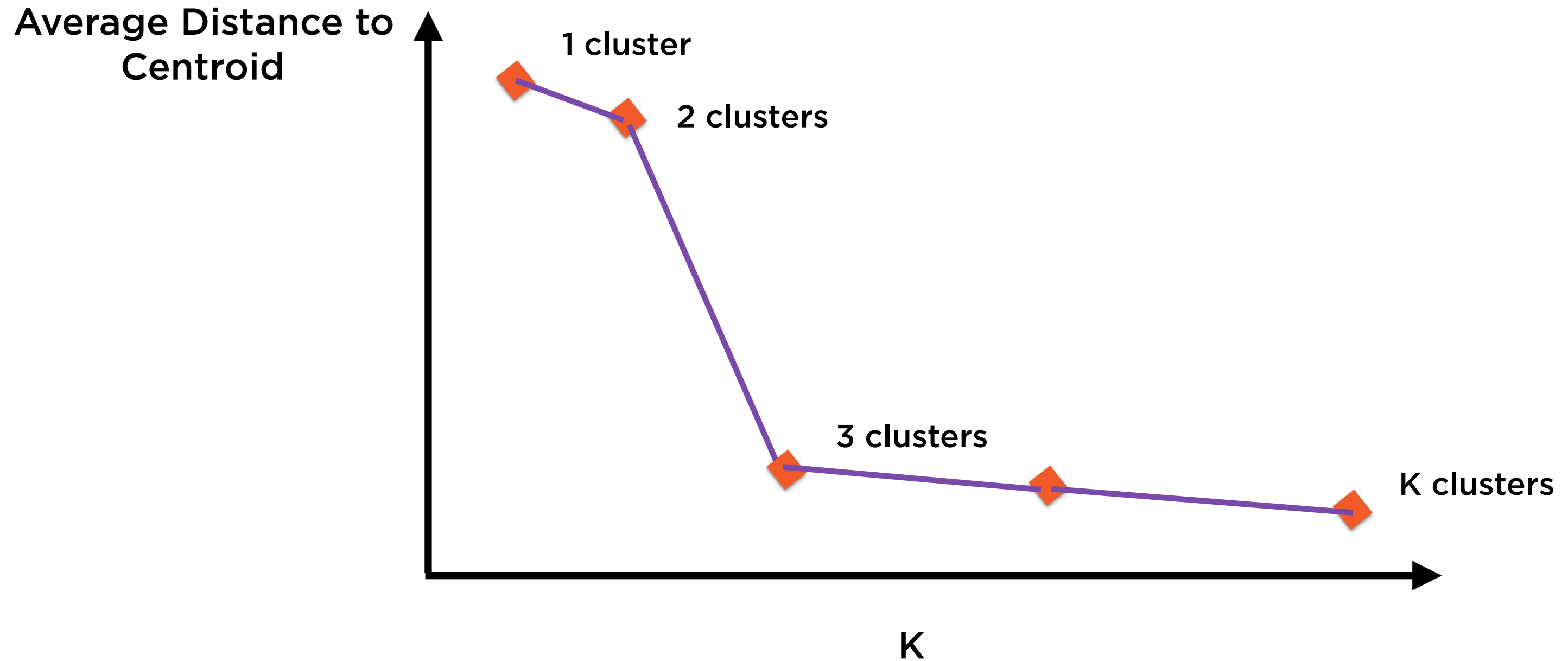


**Pick range of candidate values of  $K$  (e.g. 1 to 10)**

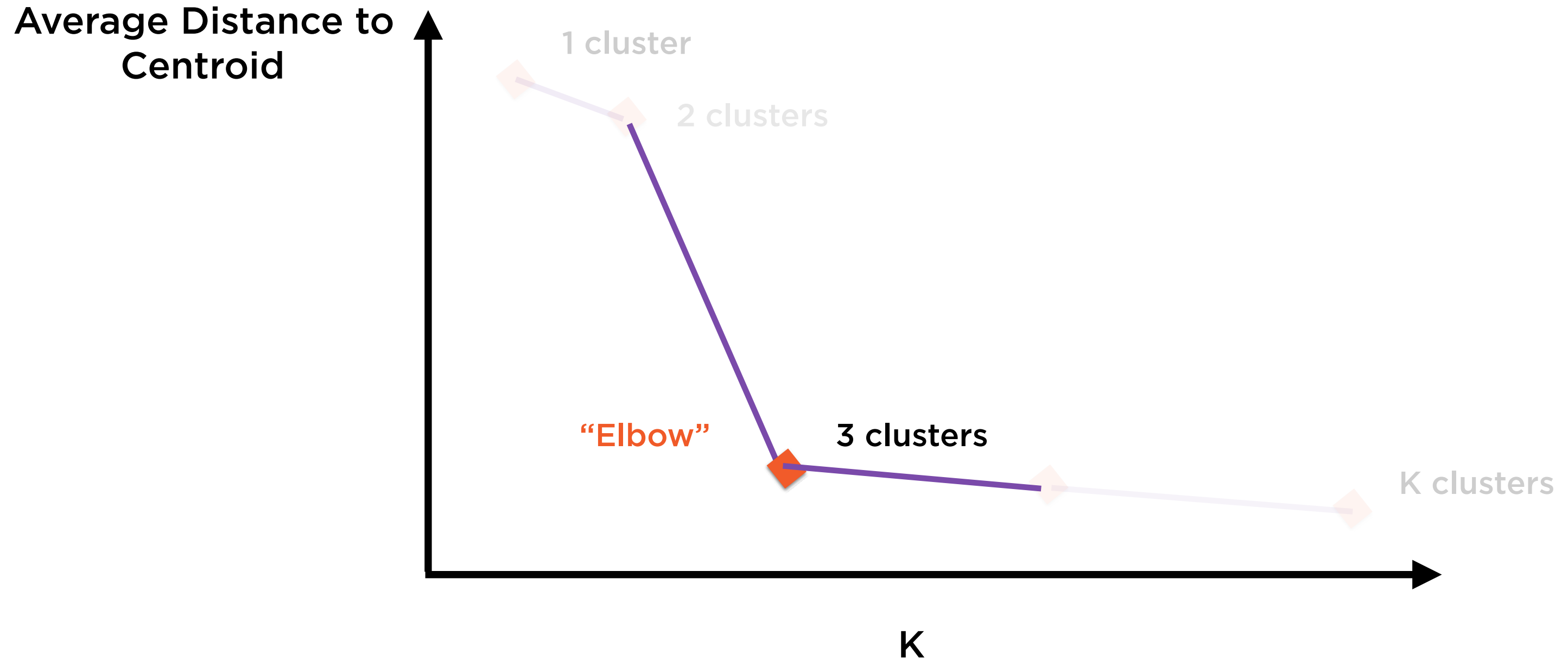
**Calculate average distance from centroid for each value**

**Plot and find “elbow”**

# Elbow Method



# Elbow Method



# Silhouette Method



Pick range of candidate values of  $K$  (e.g. 1 to 10)

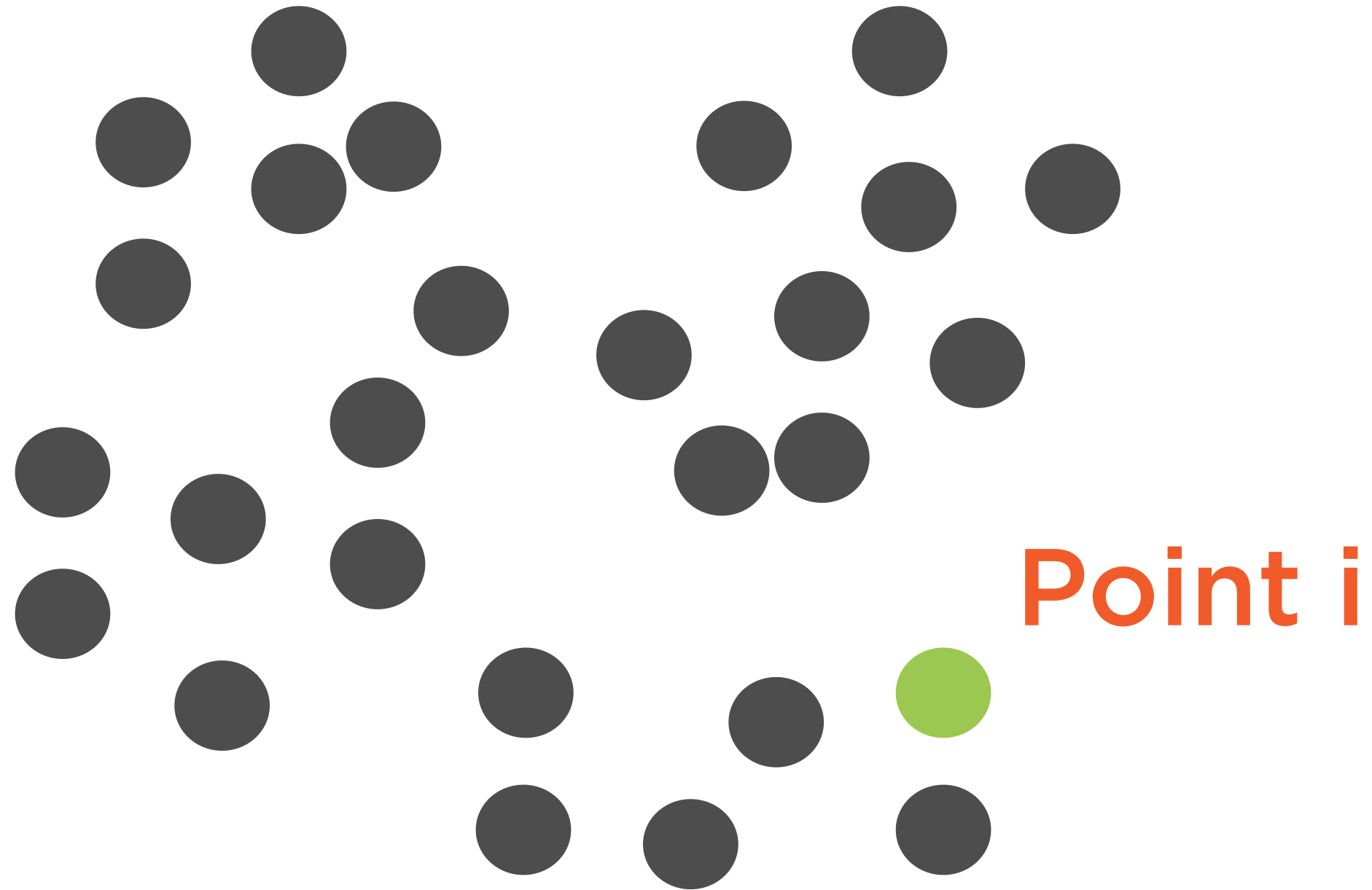
Plot **silhouettes** for each value of  $K$

Ideal value of silhouette = 1

Worst possible value of silhouette = -1

# Silhouette Coefficient

For any point  $i$ ,  
calculate silhouette  
coefficient



# Silhouette Coefficient

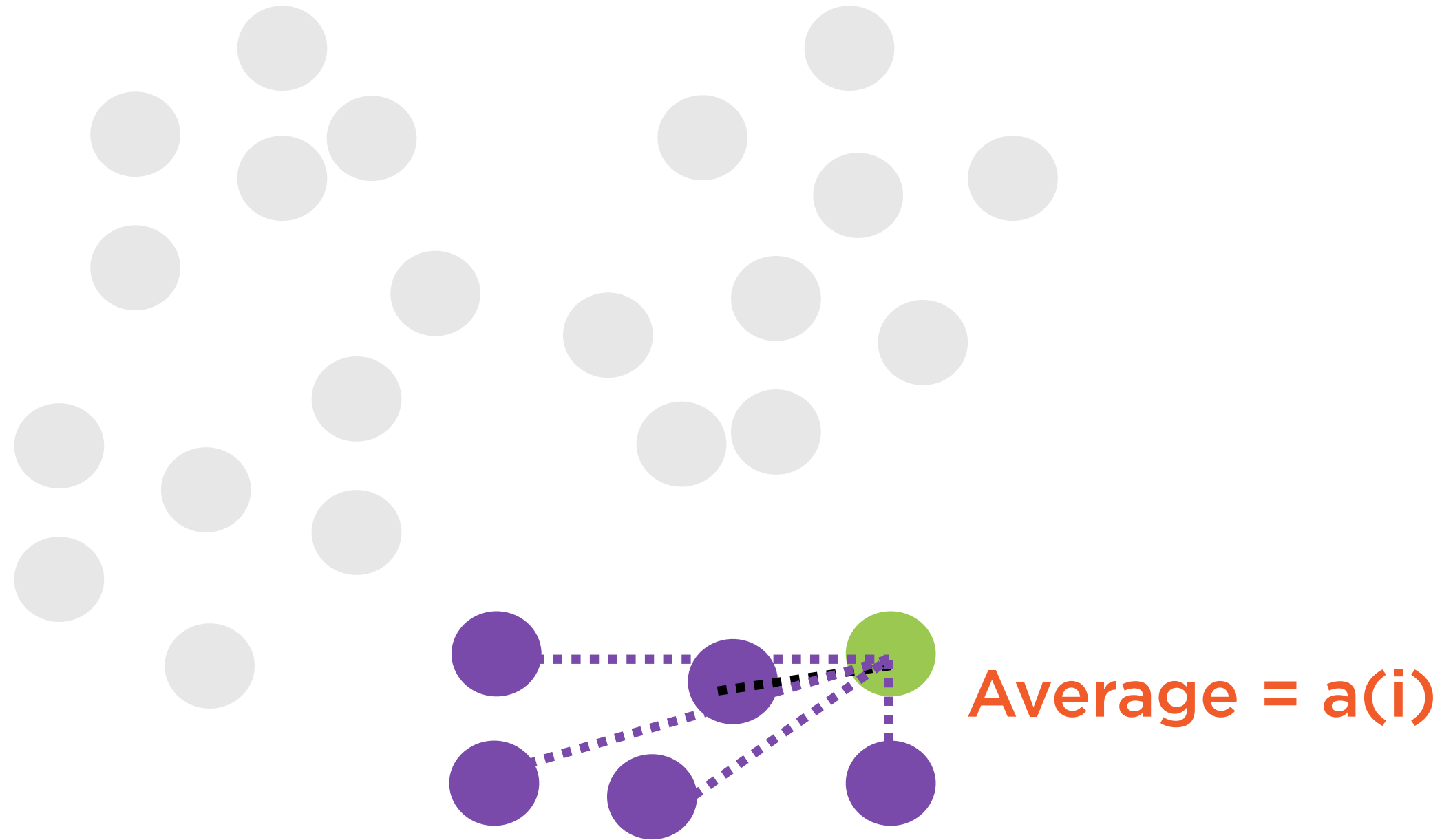
For any point  $i$ ,  
calculate silhouette  
coefficient





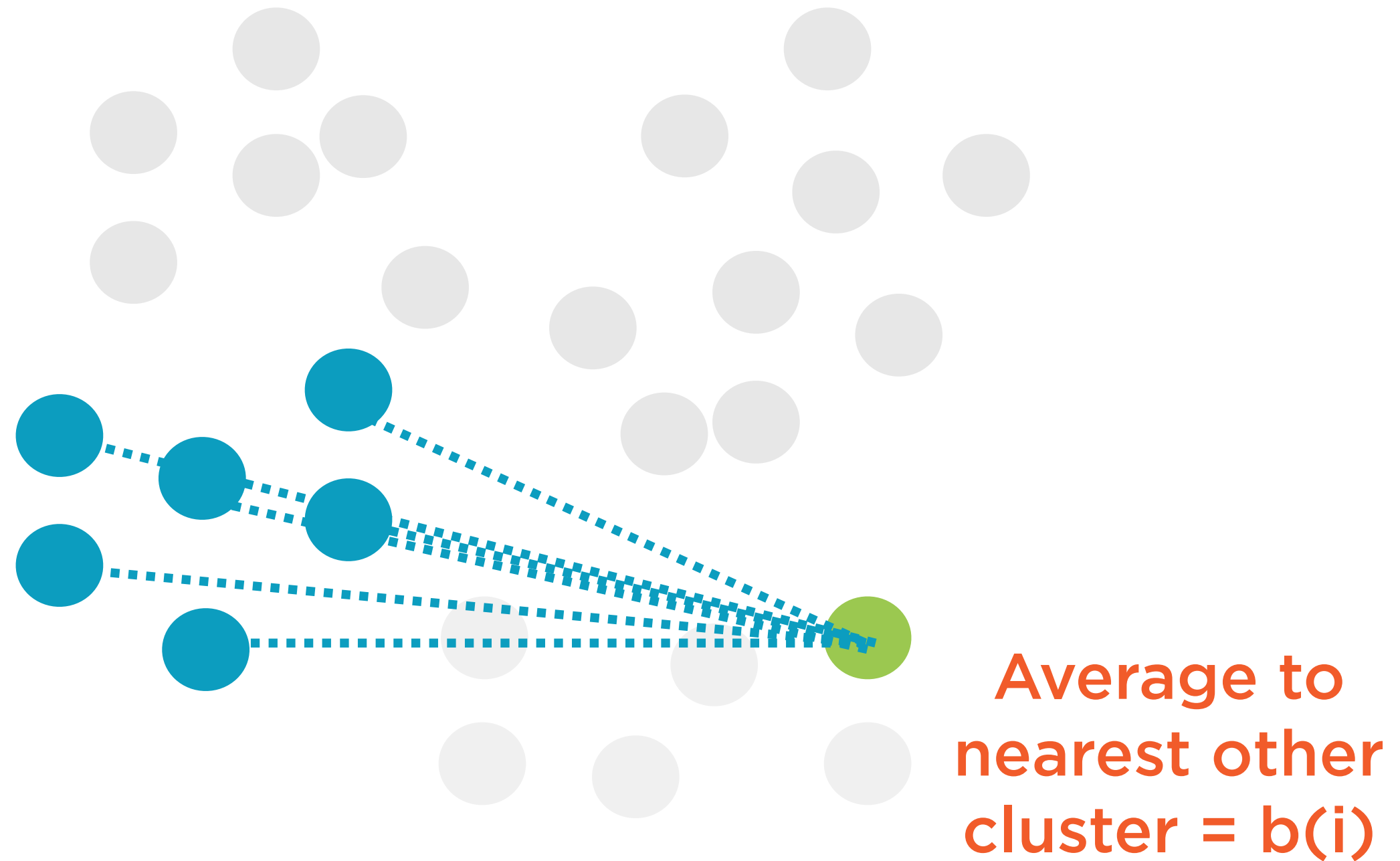
# Silhouette Coefficient

Find  $a(i)$  = average  
distance of  $i$  to other  
points in **same cluster**



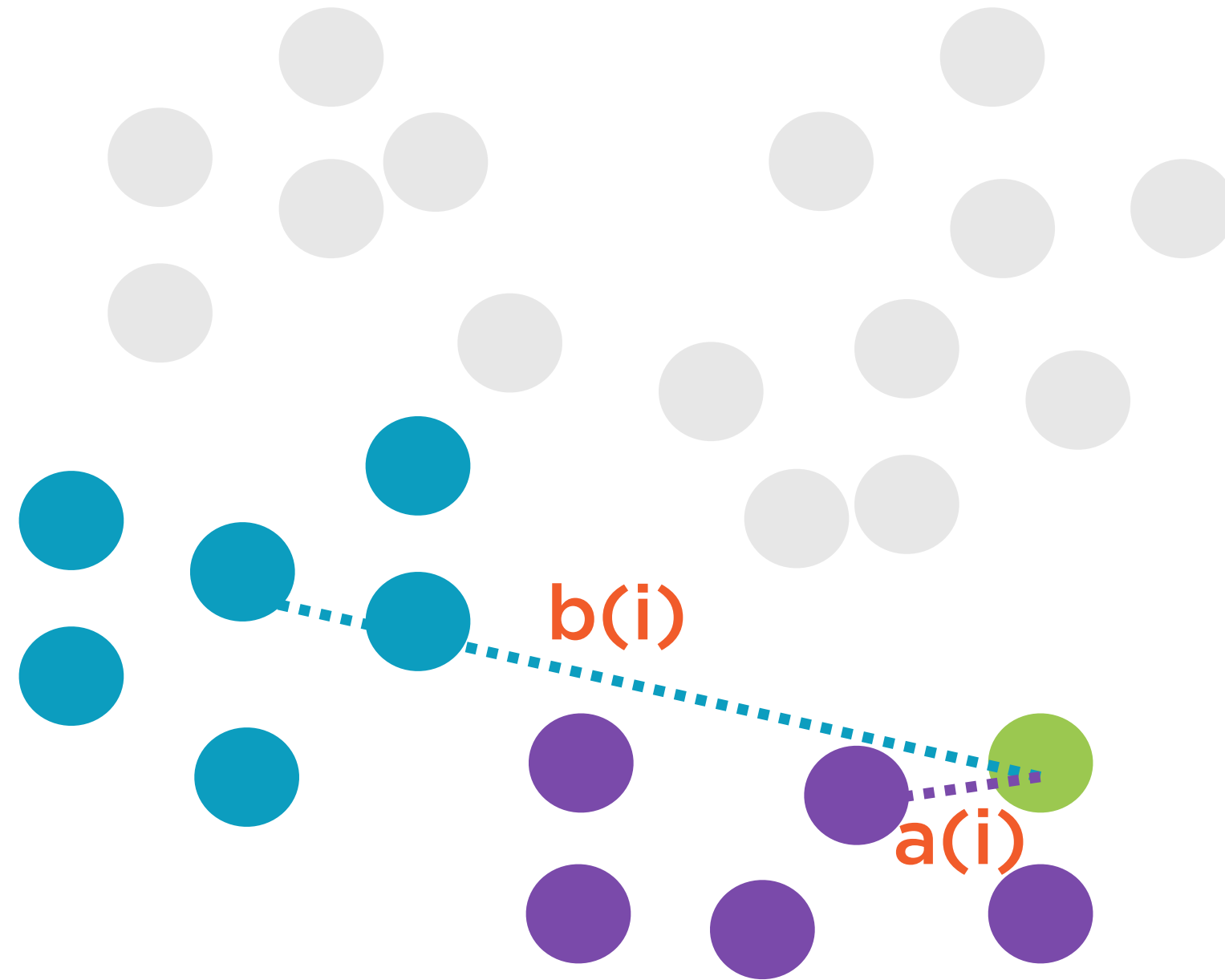
# Silhouette Coefficient

Find  $b(i)$  = average  
distance to **nearest  
other cluster**



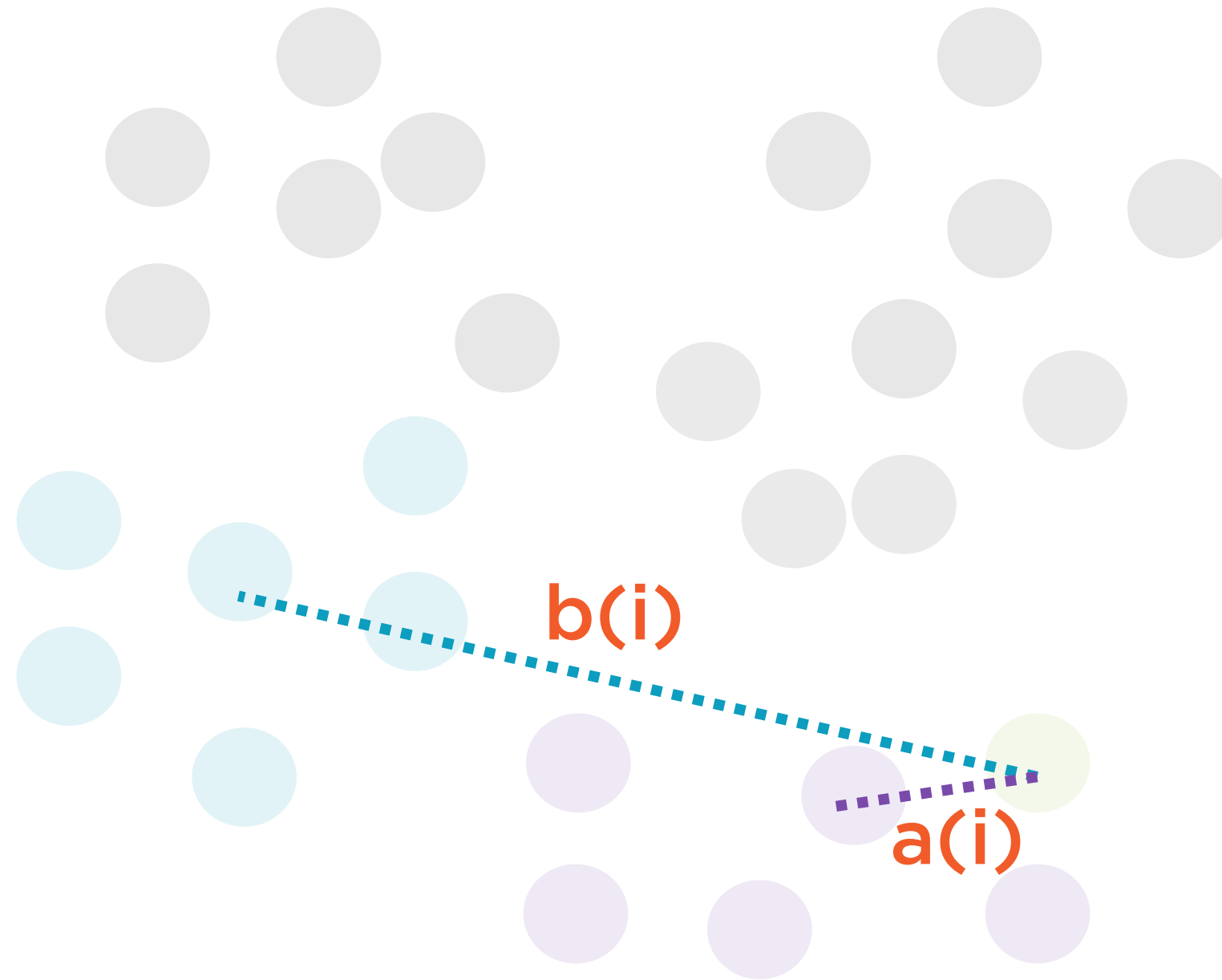
# Silhouette Coefficient

Ideally,  $a(i) \ll b(i)$



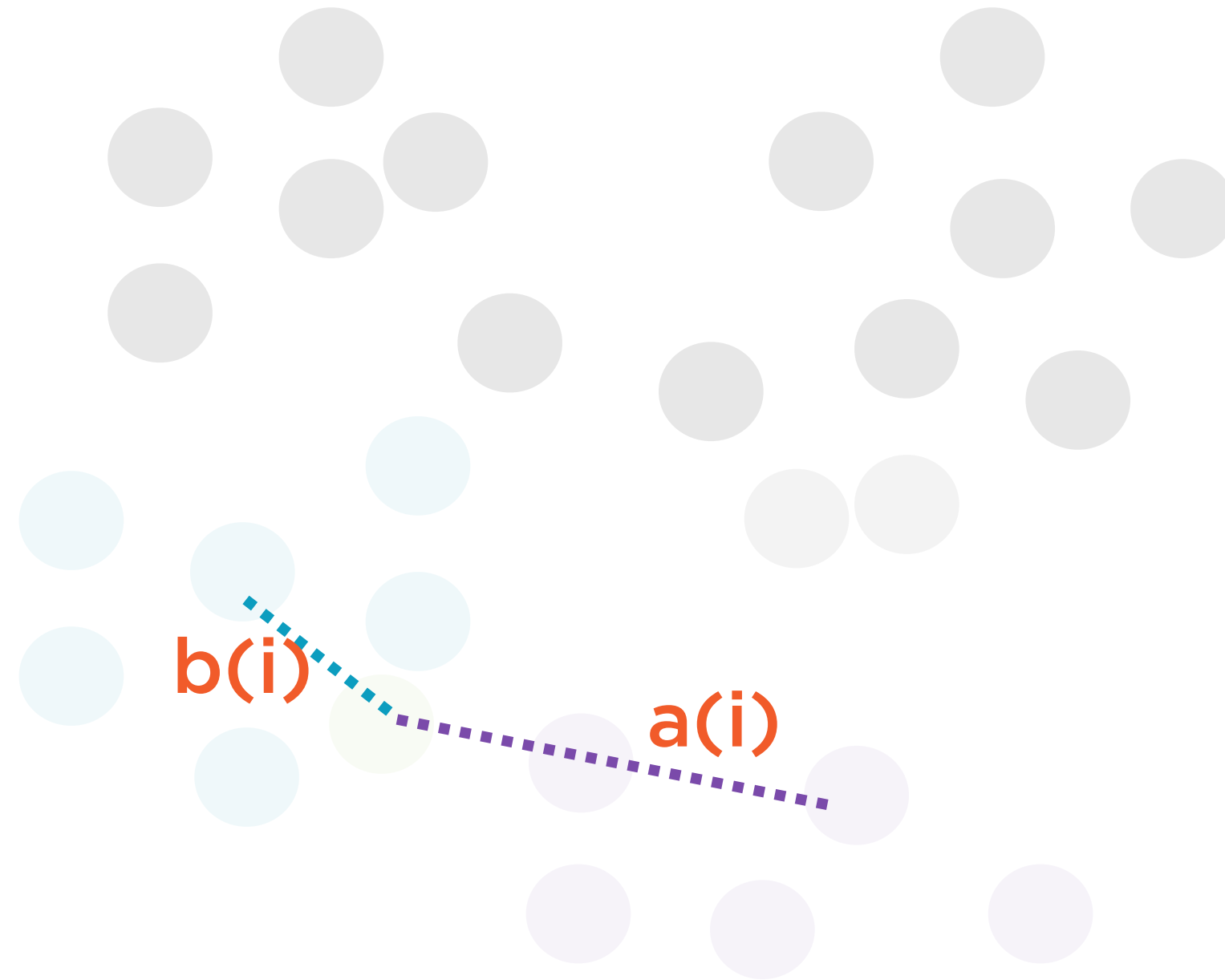
# Silhouette Coefficient

Ideally,  $a(i) \ll b(i)$

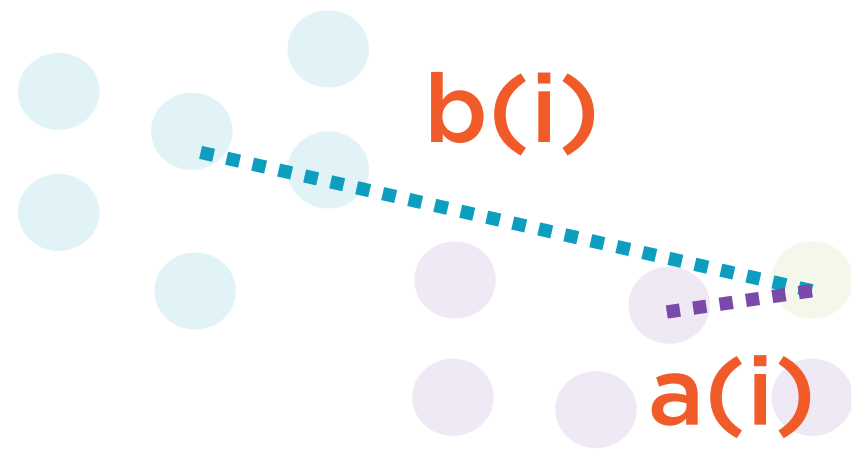


# Silhouette Coefficient

If  $a(i) > b(i)$ ,  $i$  is likely misclassified



# Silhouette Coefficient



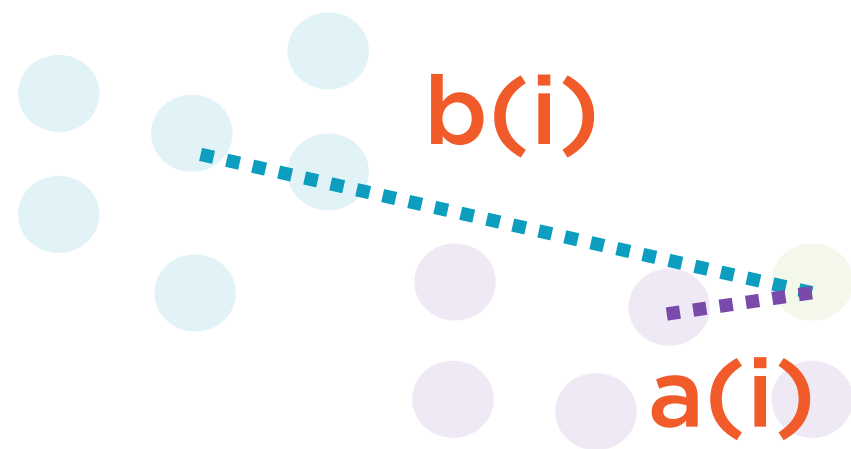
For any point  $i$

$$s(i) = \frac{b(i) - a(i)}{\text{Larger of } b(i) \text{ and } a(i)}$$

$a(i)$  = Average distance inside cluster

$b(i)$  = Average distance to nearest other cluster

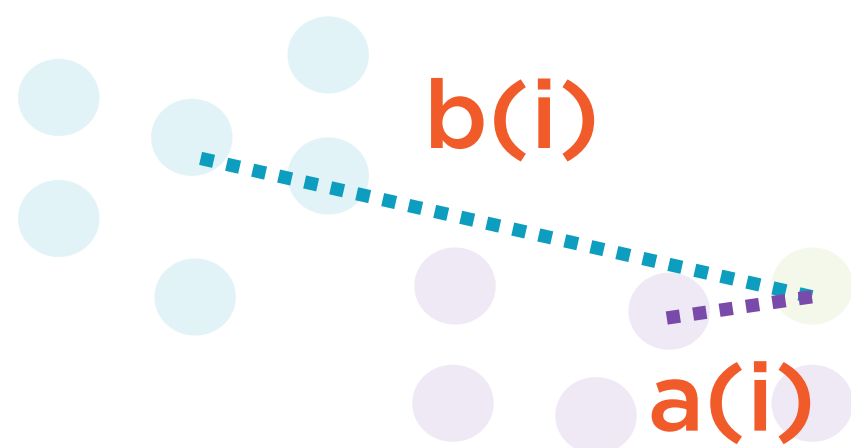
Ideally  $s(i) = 1$



Ideally,  $a(i) = 0$ ,  $b(i) = \text{Infinity}$

$$s(i) = \frac{b(i) - a(i)}{\text{Larger of } b(i) \text{ and } a(i)} = 1$$

Worst-case  $s(i) = -1$



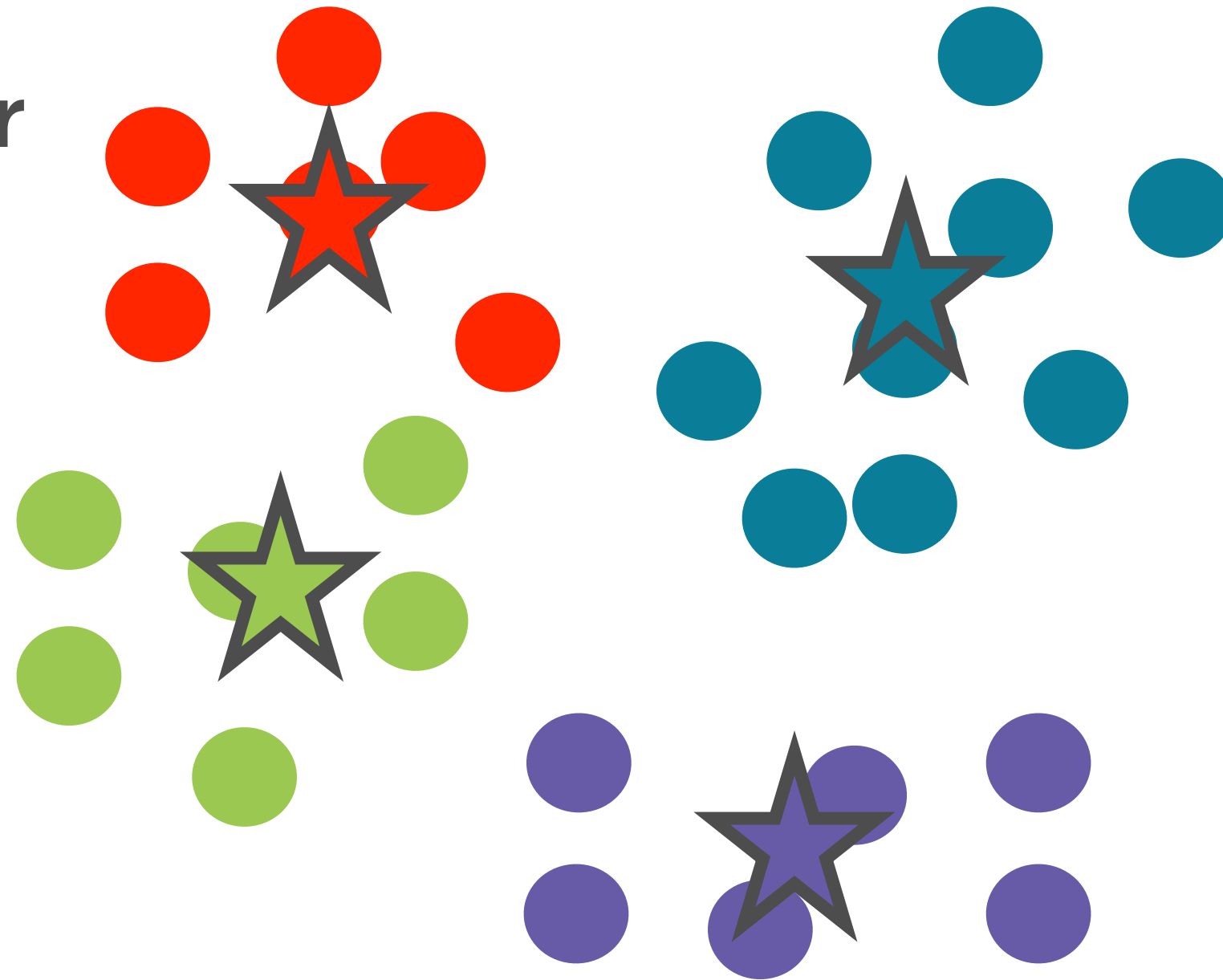
Worst case,  $a(i) = \text{Infinity}$ ,  $b(i) = 0$

$$s(i) = \frac{b(i) - a(i)}{\text{Larger of } b(i) \text{ and } a(i)} = -1$$

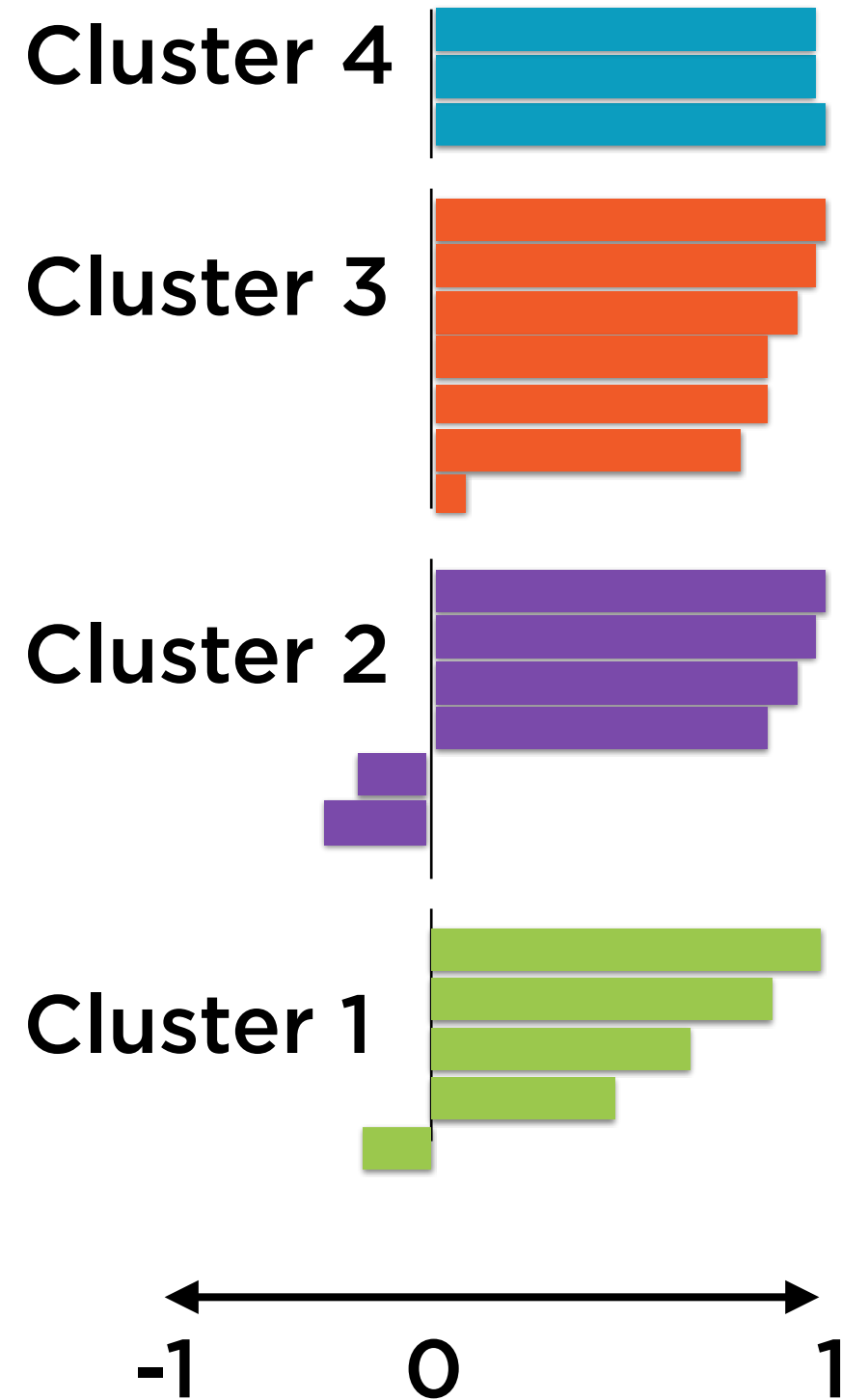


# Silhouette Plot

Calculate  $s(i)$  for  
each point



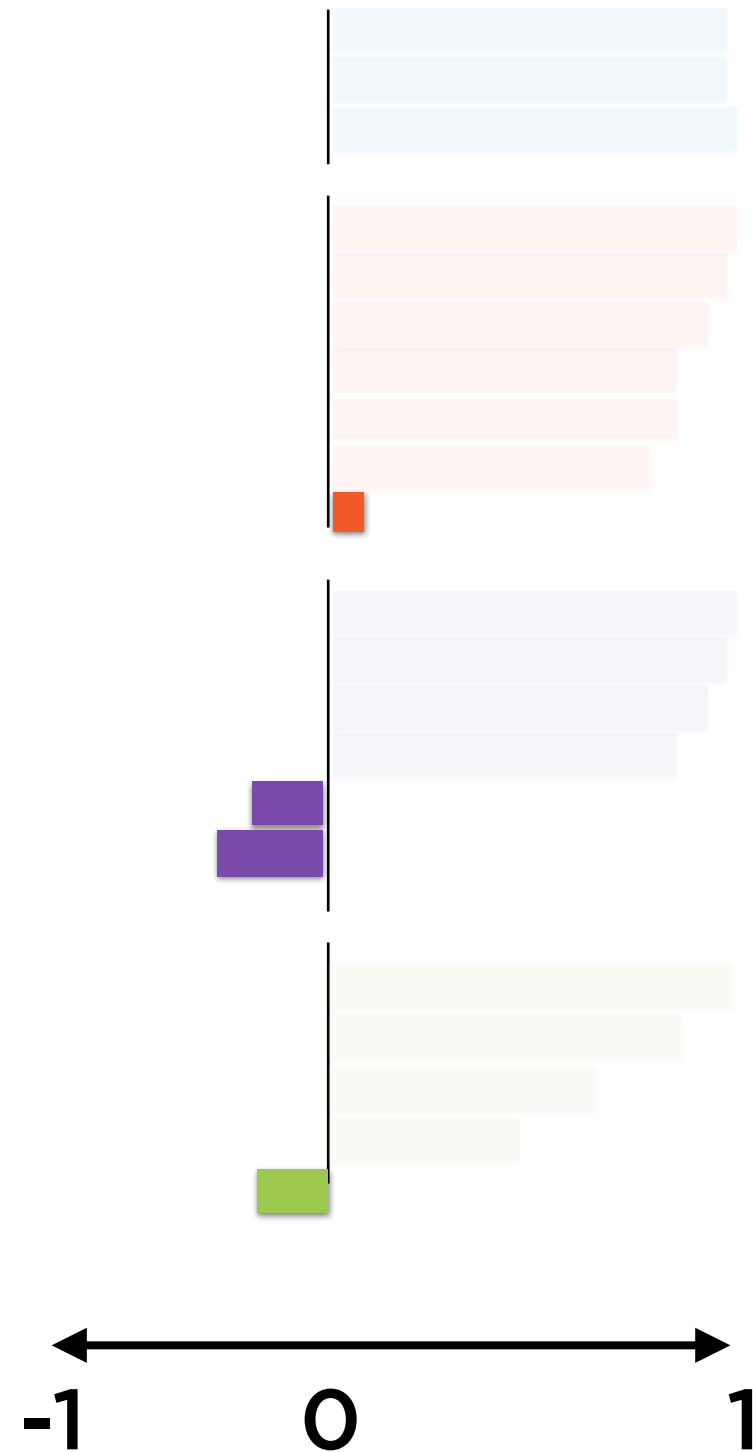
# Silhouette Plot



Calculate  $s(i)$  for each point

Plot value of  $s(i)$  to identify outliers

# Outliers

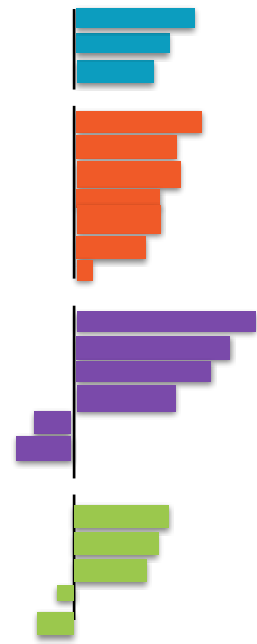


Ideally,  $s(i) = 1$

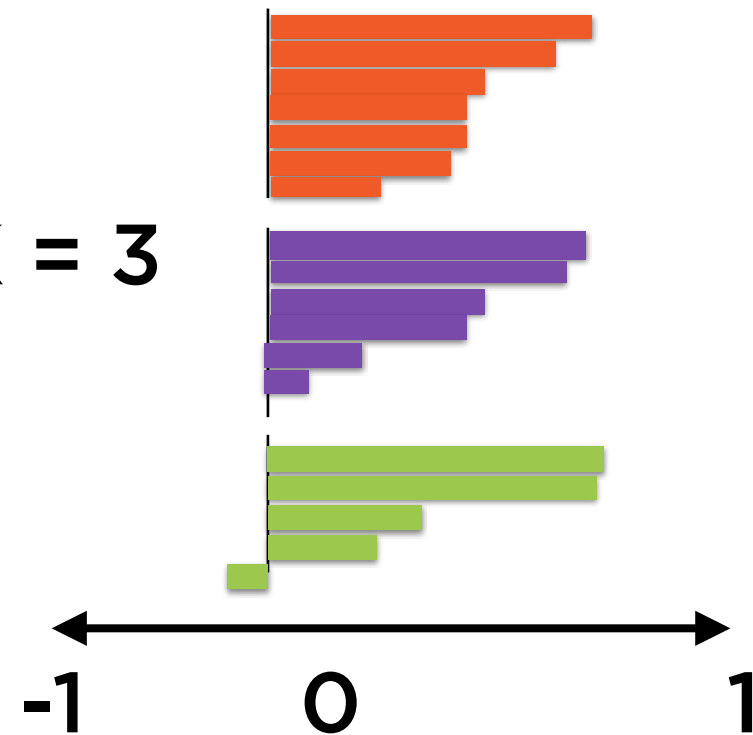
So,  $s(i) < 0$  indicates outliers

“Best”  $K$

$K = 4$



$K = 3$

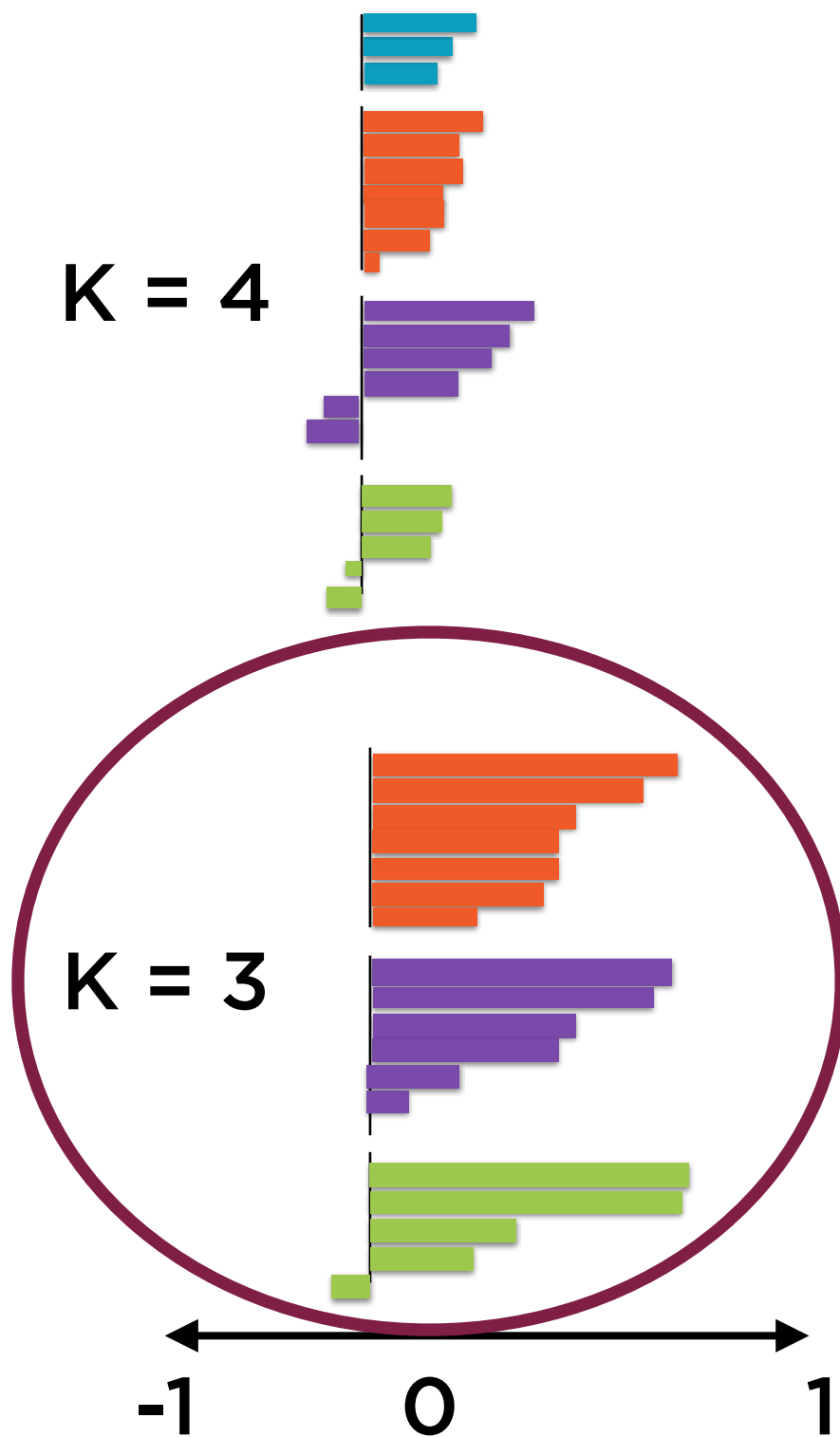


Extend the same idea

Replicate plot for different values of  $K$

Pick  $K$  where average silhouette is closest to 1

“Best”  $K$



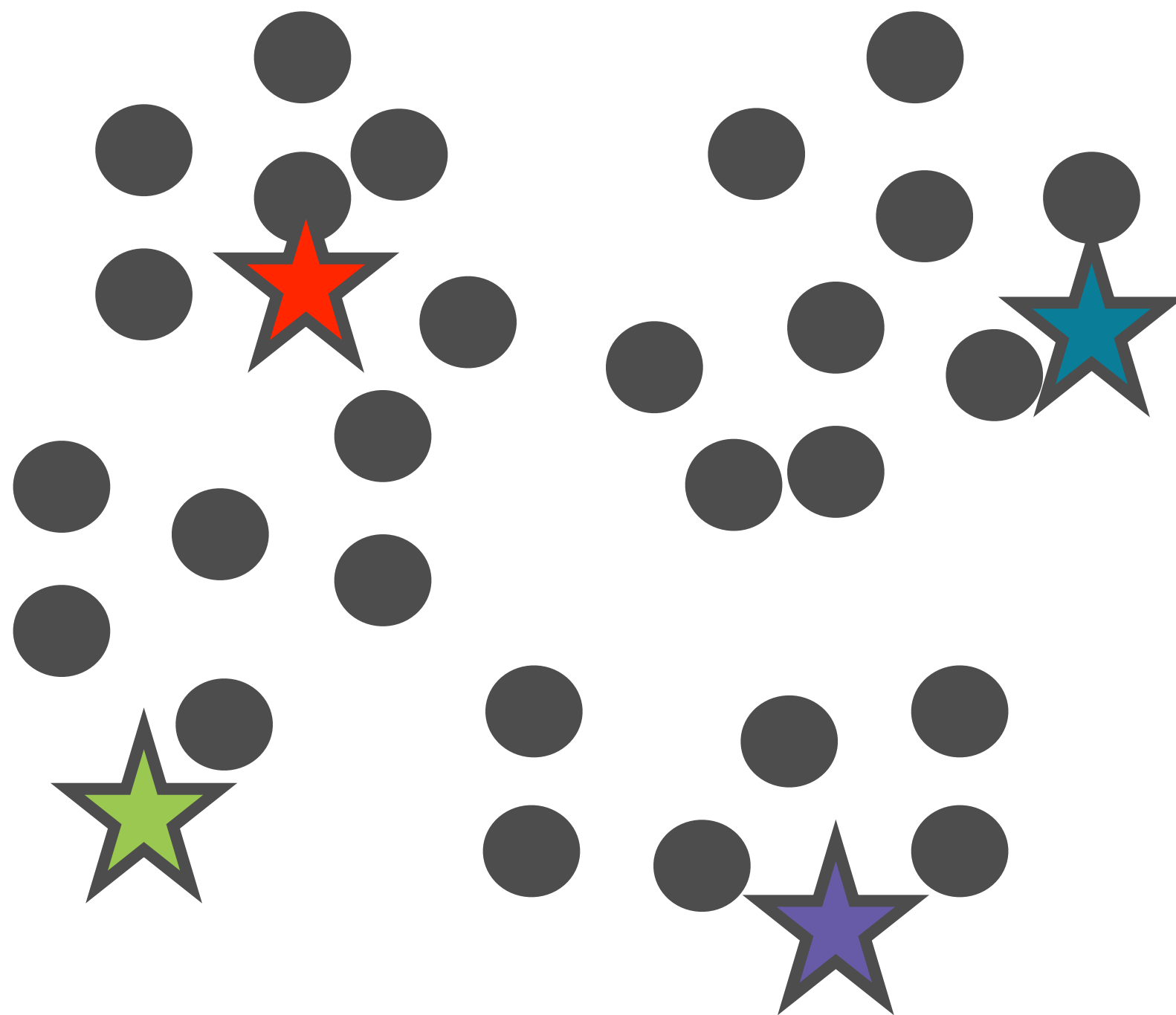
Here  $K = 3$  is noticeably better than  $K = 4$   
 $K = 3$  has noticeably larger positive values

# Seeds



**Final reference vector values sensitive to initial values**

**Random initialization might not work -  
examine data carefully**



# Seeds



**Final reference vector values sensitive to initial values**

**Random initialization might not work - examine data carefull**

- Can perform PCA of data
- Divide range of normalized PCs into K
- Take average of each



# Distance Measures



## Can choose multiple distance measures:

- **Euclidean distance** - centroid might not be actual data point
- **Mahalanobis distance** - normalize each dimension to have equal variance
- **Cosine distance** - cosine of angle between point and centroid

# Demo

**Hyperparameter tuning for K-means clustering, DBSCAN clustering and mean-shift clustering**

# Summary

**Hyperparameter tuning in clustering algorithms**

**K-means clustering, DBSCAN, mean-shift clustering**

**Using ParameterGrid in scikit-learn**