Artificial Intelligence

WEEK 16

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Partitional Clustering

- Nonhierarchical, each instance is placed in exactly one of K nonoverlapping clusters.
- Since only one set of clusters is output, the user normally has to input the desired number of clusters K.



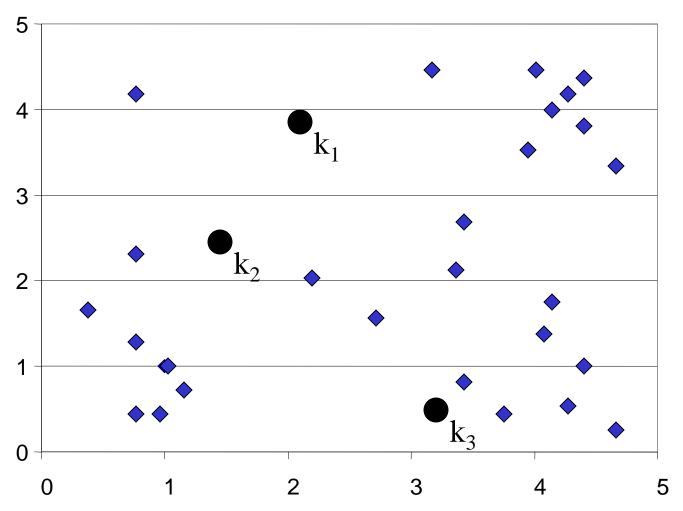


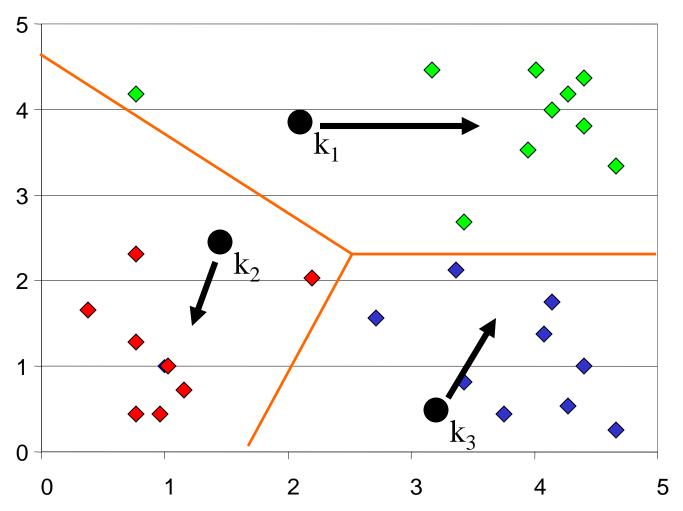


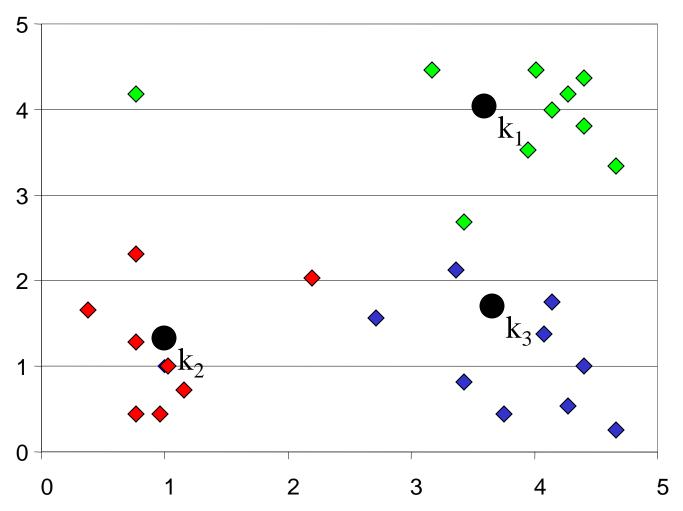


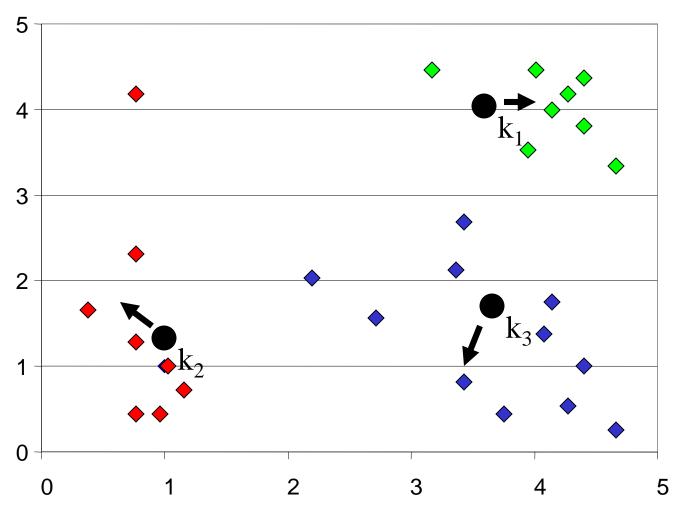
Algorithm *k-means*

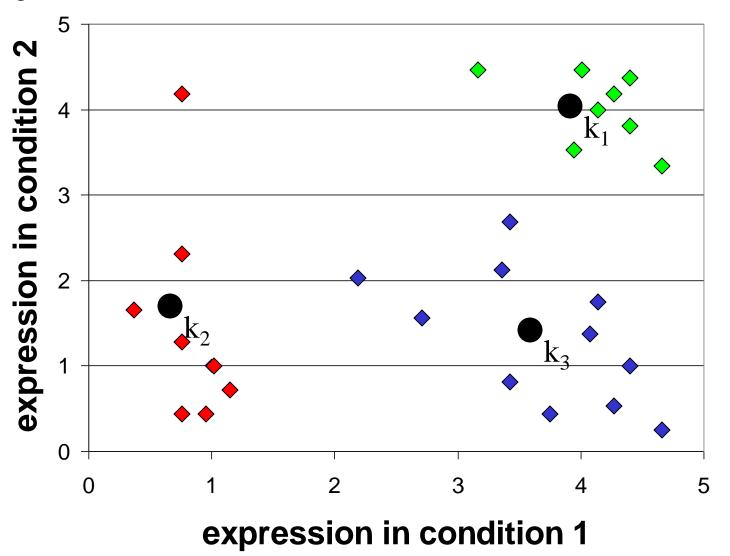
- 1. Decide on a value for k.
- 2. Initialize the *k* cluster centers (randomly, if necessary).
- 3. Decide the class memberships of the *N* objects by assigning them to the nearest cluster center.
- 4. Re-estimate the *k* cluster centers, by assuming the memberships found above are correct.
- 5. If none of the *N* objects changed membership in the last iteration, exit. Otherwise goto 3.











Comments on the *K-Means* Method

• Strength

- Relatively efficient: O(tkn), where n is # objects, k is # clusters, and t is # iterations. Normally, k, t << n.
- Often terminates at a local optimum. The global optimum may be found using techniques such as: deterministic annealing and genetic algorithms

Weakness

- Applicable only when *mean* is defined, then what about categorical data?
- Need to specify k, the number of clusters, in advance
- Unable to handle noisy data and outliers
- Not suitable to discover clusters with non-convex shapes