

# Lecture 9. Clustering

Machine Learning  
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# Lecture plan

- Clustering Problem
  - Graph-based clustering
  - Hierarchical clustering
  - EM clustering
  - Density-based clustering
  - Non-parametric clustering
  - Semi-supervised learning
- 
- The presentation is prepared with materials of the K.V. Vorontsov's course "Machine Learning"

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# Problem statement

**Problem:** split set of objects of the same type to archive groups, such that object in these group have similar properties.

“Similarity” is formalized with an abstract measure.

$X^m$  is training set consisting of objects from  $X$

$\rho: X \times X \rightarrow [0; +\infty)$  is metric measure on  $X$ .

Find algorithm  $a: X \rightarrow Y$ , where  $Y$  is cluster set.

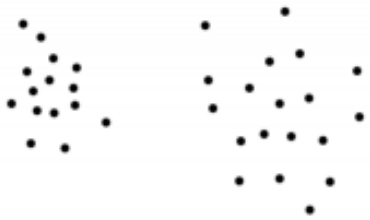
# Problem formulation incorrectness

- No correct problem statement
- No universal quality criterion
- No universal metric measure (consequence of the Kleinberg theorem)
- Number of clusters is usually unknown

# Goals of clustering

- Decrease data volume
- Find groups of similar objects
- Find unusual object
- Find hierarchy of objects (groups)

# Примеры кластеров(1/2)



Explicitly separable



Stripes



With bridges

# Примеры кластеров(2/2)



With regular noise

Distribution mixture

No clusters



# Clustering applications

- Biology and medicine
  - Sequence analysis
  - Medical imaging (PET scans)
- Social science
  - Crime analysis
- Computer science
  - Image segmentations
- Marketing
  - Target groups
- Text analysis
- Social networks

# Evaluation

- **External** — based on data that was not used for clustering, such as known class labels and external benchmarks.
- **Internal** — forbid using any external information, based on the structure of partition.

# Examples of external measures

- $F$ -measure
- Jaccard index
- Adjusted Rand index

# Metric space quality functional

Mean inner cluster distances:

$$F_0 = \frac{\sum_{i < j} [y_i = y_j] \rho(x_i, x_j)}{\sum_{i < j} [y_i = y_j]} \rightarrow \min.$$

Mean outer cluster distance:

$$F_1 = \frac{\sum_{i < j} [y_i \neq y_j] \rho(x_i, x_j)}{\sum_{i < j} [y_i \neq y_j]} \rightarrow \max.$$

Relation:

$$F_0 / F_1 \rightarrow \min.$$

# Vector space quality functional

Mean inner cluster distances:

$$\Phi_0 = \sum_{y \in Y} \frac{1}{|K_y|} \sum_{i: y_i = y} \rho^2(x_i, c_y) \rightarrow \min.$$

Sum of outer cluster distances:

$$\Phi_1 = \sum_{y \in Y} \rho^2(c_y, c) \rightarrow \max.$$

Relation:

$$\Phi_0 / \Phi_1 \rightarrow \min.$$

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# Graph-based approach

**Main idea:** we will work with graphs, its vertices are objects and its edge lengths are equal to distances between the corresponding objects.

Clusters can be well-represented in graph description.

# Connected component selection

Fix a radius  $R$ .

Delete edges  $\{x, y\}$ :  $\rho(x, y) > R$ .

Clusters are equal to connected components.

Fix  $K_1, K_2$ .

Change  $R$  until number of clusters is in interval  $[K_1, K_2]$ .



# Shortest path

Fix number of clusters  $K$ .

Find minimum spanning tree (Kruskal, Boruvka, MST).

Delete  $K - 1$  edges with maximal lengths.

We can change for each  $K$ .

# FOREL

Input:  $U = X^m$  — set of unclusterized points.

1. Repeat
2.     Choose a random point  $x$  from  $U$
3.     Repeat
4.          $B \leftarrow$  sphere with radius  $R$  and center  $x$
5.          $c \leftarrow$  mass center of  $B$
6.     Until the sphere does not change
7.      $U \leftarrow U \setminus B$
8. Until  $U \neq \emptyset$

Return set of clusters

# FOREL properties

Depends on  $R$

How to choose mass center?

- Mass center in (vector space)
- Object, such that sum of distances from it to all the other objects is minimal
- Object, which in sphere of radius  $R$  contains maximum number of objects from the sample
- Object, which in sphere of radius  $r$  contains maximum number of object from sphere of radius  $R$

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# Hierarchical approach

**Main idea:** build cluster hierarchy.

You can build beautiful pictures (**dendrograms**). And then you can think about number of clusters as about height of this tree.

Two approaches:

**Division** (split clusters)

**Agglomeration** (join clusters)

# Lance-Williams algorithms

1. 1-element clusters:

$$t = 1, C_t = \{x_1, \dots, x_l\};$$

$$R(\{x_i\}, \{x_j\}) = \rho(x_i, x_j);$$

2. For all  $t = 2 \dots l$  ( $t$  – iteration number):

3. In  $C_{t-1}$  find 2 *closest* clusters:

$$(U, V) = \operatorname{argmin}_{U \neq V} R(U, V);$$

$$R_t = R(U, V);$$

4. Merge them to one cluster:

$$W = U \cup V;$$

$$C_t = C_{t-1} \cup \{W\} \setminus \{U, V\};$$

5. For all  $S \in C_t$  count  $R(W, S)$ .

# Lance-Williams distance

Distance  $R(W, S)$  between clusters

$W = U \cup V$  and  $S$

**Lance-Williams distance:**

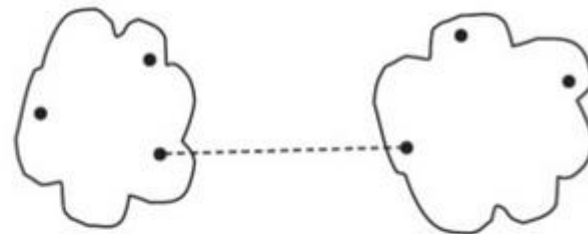
$$\begin{aligned} R(U \cup V, S) = & \alpha_U R(U, S) + \\ & + \alpha_V R(V, S) + \\ & + \beta R(U, V) + \\ & + \gamma |R(U, S) - R(V, S)| \end{aligned}$$

# Options of $R(W, S)$ (1/2)

## 1. Nearest neighbor distance

$$R^N(W, S) = \min_{w \in W, s \in S} \rho(w, s);$$

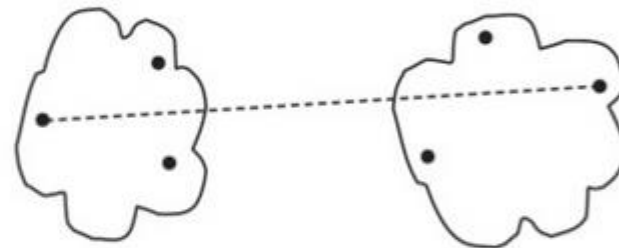
$$\alpha_U = \alpha_V = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \beta = 0, \quad \gamma = -\frac{1}{2}.$$



## 2. Most distant neighbor distance

$$R^D(W, S) = \max_{w \in W, s \in S} \rho(w, s);$$

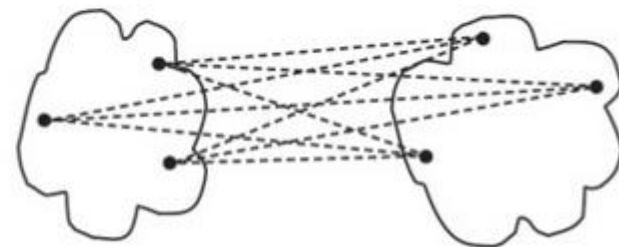
$$\alpha_U = \alpha_V = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \beta = 0, \quad \gamma = \frac{1}{2}.$$



## 3. Mean group distance

$$R^G(W, S) = \frac{1}{|W||S|} \sum_{w \in W} \sum_{s \in S} \rho(w, s);$$

$$\alpha_U = \frac{|U|}{|W|}, \quad \alpha_V = \frac{|V|}{|W|}, \quad \beta = \gamma = 0.$$





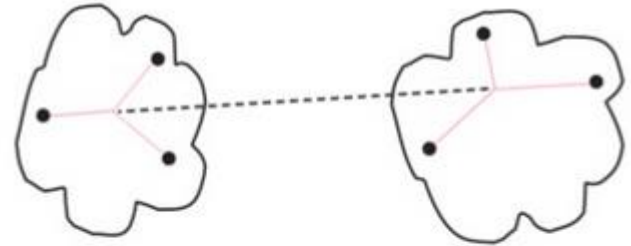
# Options of $R(W, S)$ (2/2)

4. Distance between centres

$$R^c(W, S) = \rho^2 \left( \sum_{w \in W} \frac{w}{|W|}, \sum_{s \in S} \frac{s}{|S|} \right);$$

$$\alpha_U = \frac{|U|}{|W|}, \quad \alpha_V = \frac{|V|}{|W|},$$

$$\beta = -\alpha_U \alpha_V, \quad \gamma = 0.$$



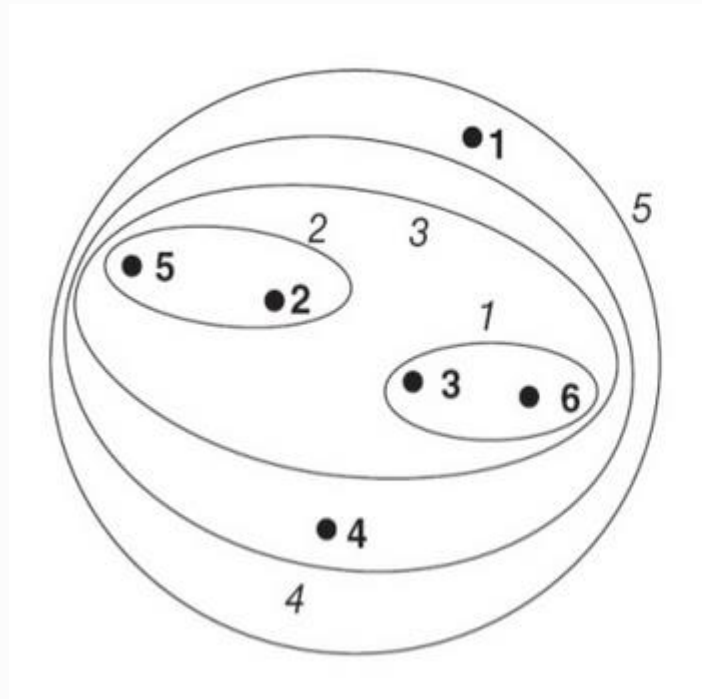
5. Ward's distance

$$R^w(W, S) = \frac{|S||W|}{|S|+|W|} \rho^2 \left( \sum_{w \in W} \frac{w}{|W|}, \sum_{s \in S} \frac{s}{|S|} \right);$$

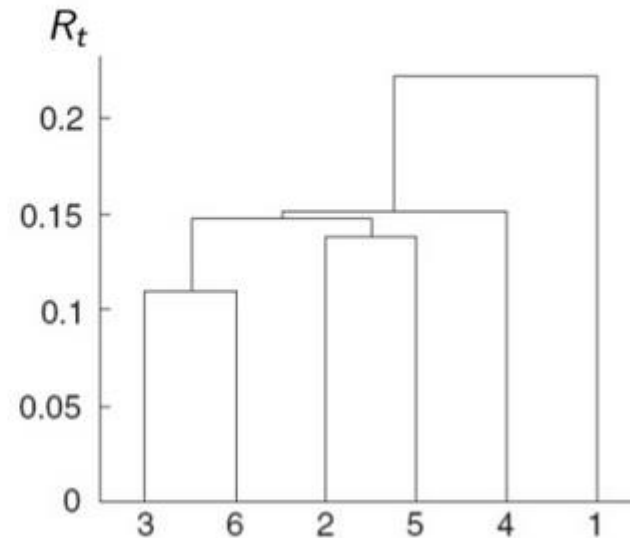
$$\alpha_U = \frac{|S|+|U|}{|S|+|W|}, \quad \alpha_V = \frac{|S|+|V|}{|S|+|W|}, \quad \beta = \frac{-|S|}{|S|+|W|}, \quad \gamma = 0.$$

# Nearest neighbor visualization

Inclusion plot

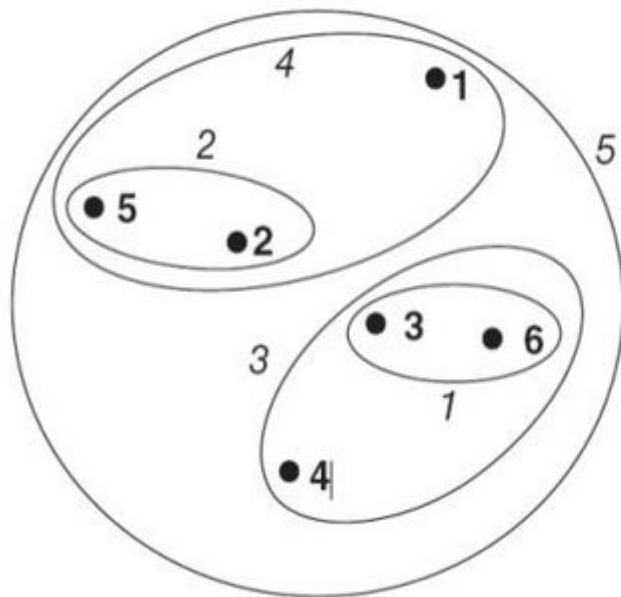


Dendrogram

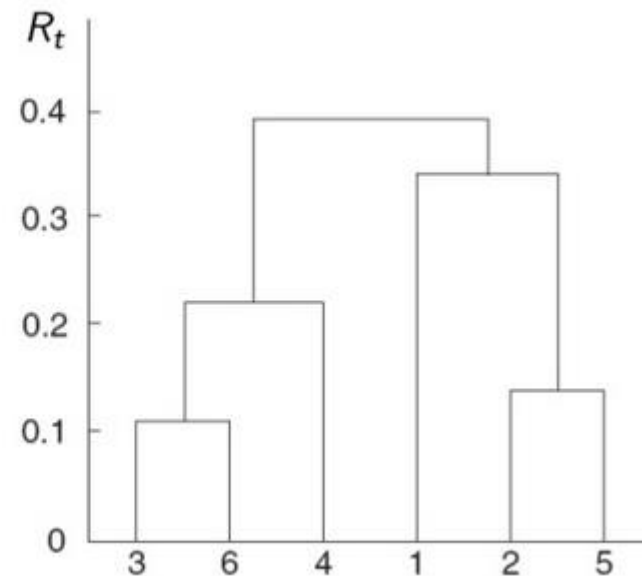


# Most distant neighbor visualization

Inclusion plot

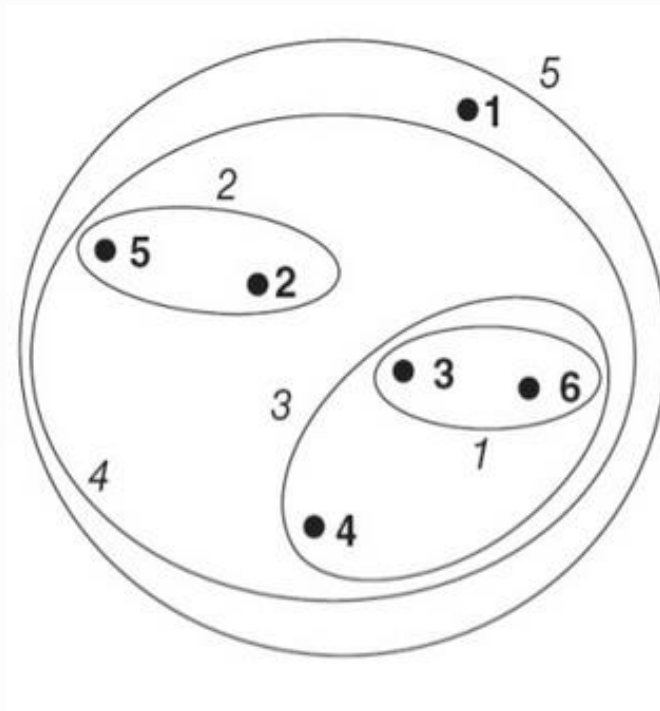


Dendrogram

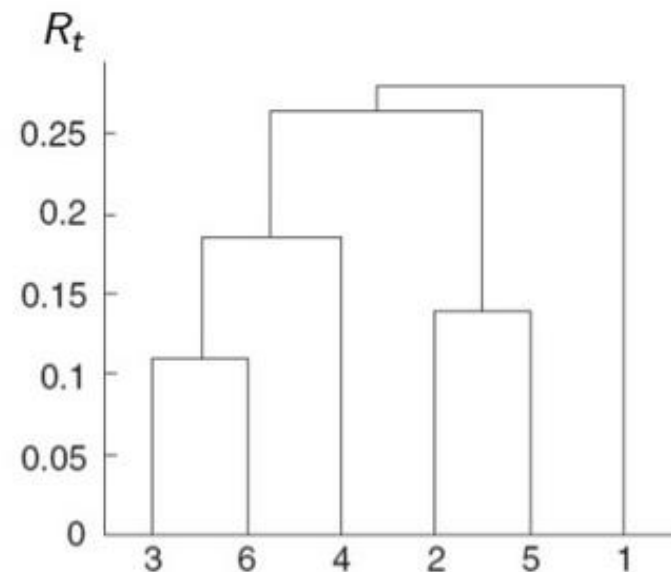


# Group mean visualization

Inclusion plot

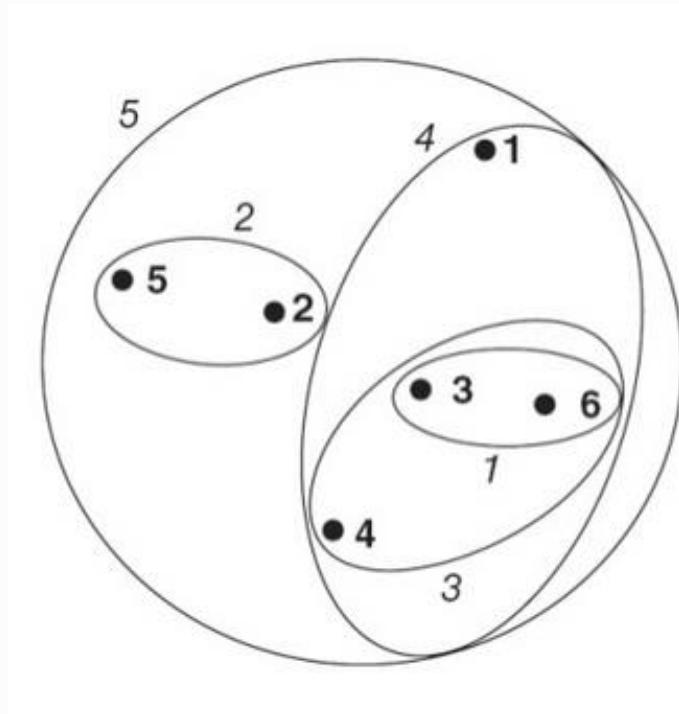


Dendrogram

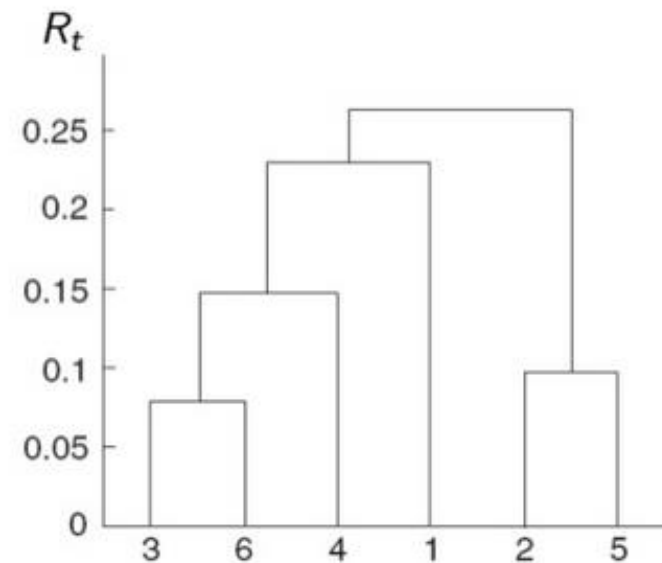


# Ward's distance visualization

Inclusion plot



Dendrogram



# Monotonic clustering

Clustering is **monotonic** if cluster distance do not decrease with after joining.

**Theorem (Milligan, 1979)**

Clustering is monotonic, if

$$\alpha_U \geq 0, \alpha_V \geq 0, \alpha_U + \alpha_V + \beta \geq 1, \min\{\alpha_U, \alpha_V\} + \gamma \geq 0.$$

If clustering is monotonic, dendrogram has no intersections.

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If clustering is monotonic, dendrogram has no intersections.

$R^C$  is not monotonic.

# General recommendation

- Ward's distance is more preferable;
- Accelerate algorithms: join locally close clusters.
- Choose number of clusters by minimizing  $|R_{t+1} - R_t|$ .



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# EM

Works in the same way as original EM

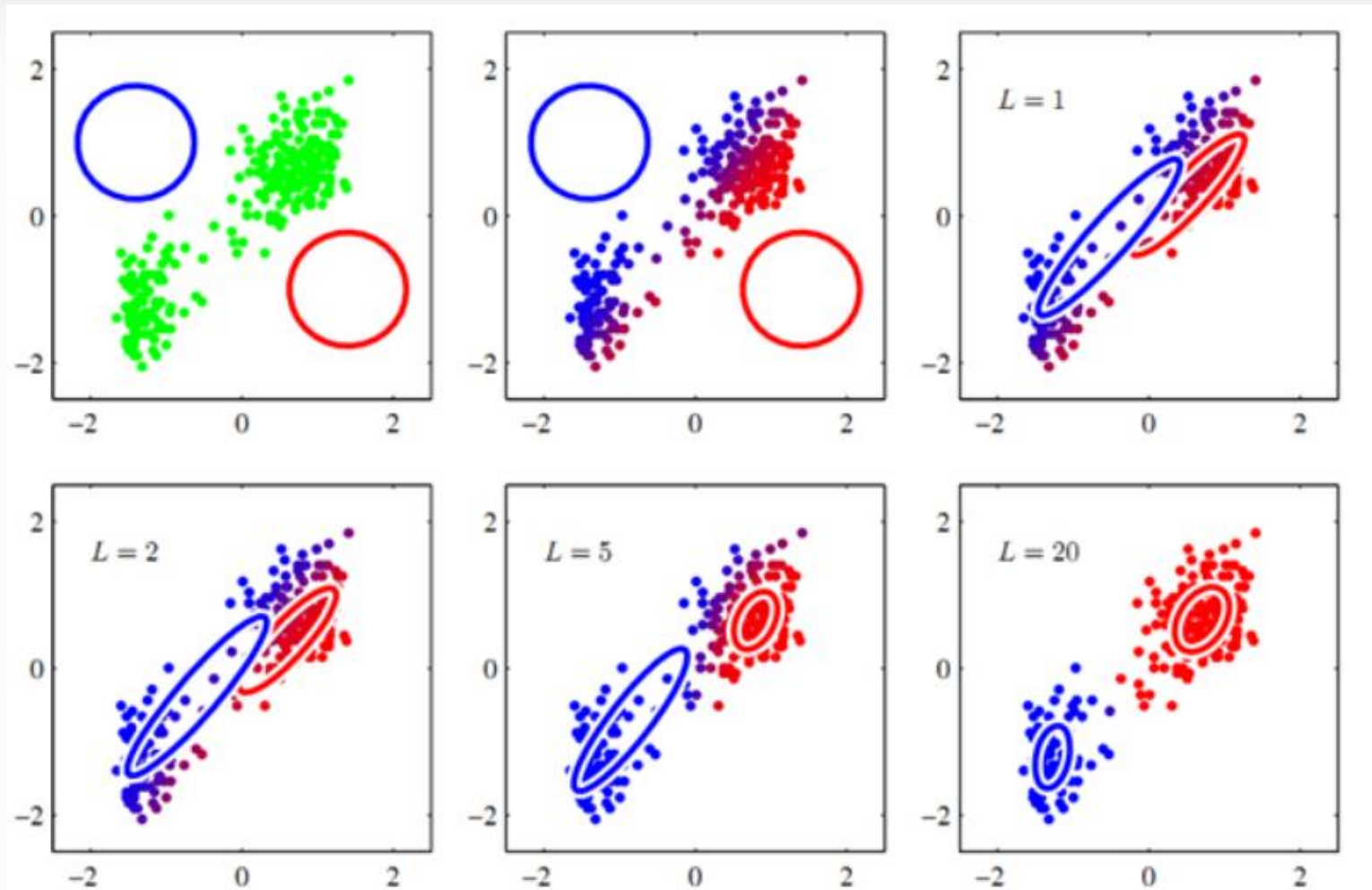
**Assumption:** simple sample.

$w_y$  is prior probability of class  $y$ .

Approximate with Gaussians.

Each class is described with  $d$ -dimensional Gaussian density with diagonal covariance matrix.

# EM example



# *k*-means

- ***k*-means** is an iterative algorithm that splits sets on *k* parts.
- Mass center of a cluster (mean intercluster distance by each feature)  $C_j$  is called *centroid*

$$c_j = \frac{1}{|C_j|} \sum_{i \in C_j} x_i \in C_j$$

# *k*-means

It is EM-algorithm simplification with strong association with only one class.

1. Chose  $k$  points (**centroids**)  $\{c_i\}_{i=1}^k$  from sample.
2. Repeat
3. For each  $x$  find nearest centroid  $n(x)$ .  
$$C_i = \{x | n(x) = c_i\}$$
4. For each  $C_i$  find central point and claim it to be centroid.
5. Until centroid set do not change.

# *c*-means (fuzzy clustering)

Imprecise degree of cluster belonging  $u_i(x)$  of object  $x$  to cluster  $C_i$ , having  $\sum_i u_i(x) = 1$ .

Cluster center is chosen with

$$c_i = \frac{\sum_{x \in X^m} u_i^d(x) x}{\sum_{x \in X^m} u_i^d(x)}.$$

Re-estimate degree of belonging:

$$u_i(x) = \frac{1}{\sum_j \left( \frac{\rho(c_i, x)}{\rho(c_j, x)} \right)^{2/(d-1)}}.$$

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# Density-based approach

**Main idea:** each  $p$  point of cluster contains more than  $M$  points within  $eps$  distance:

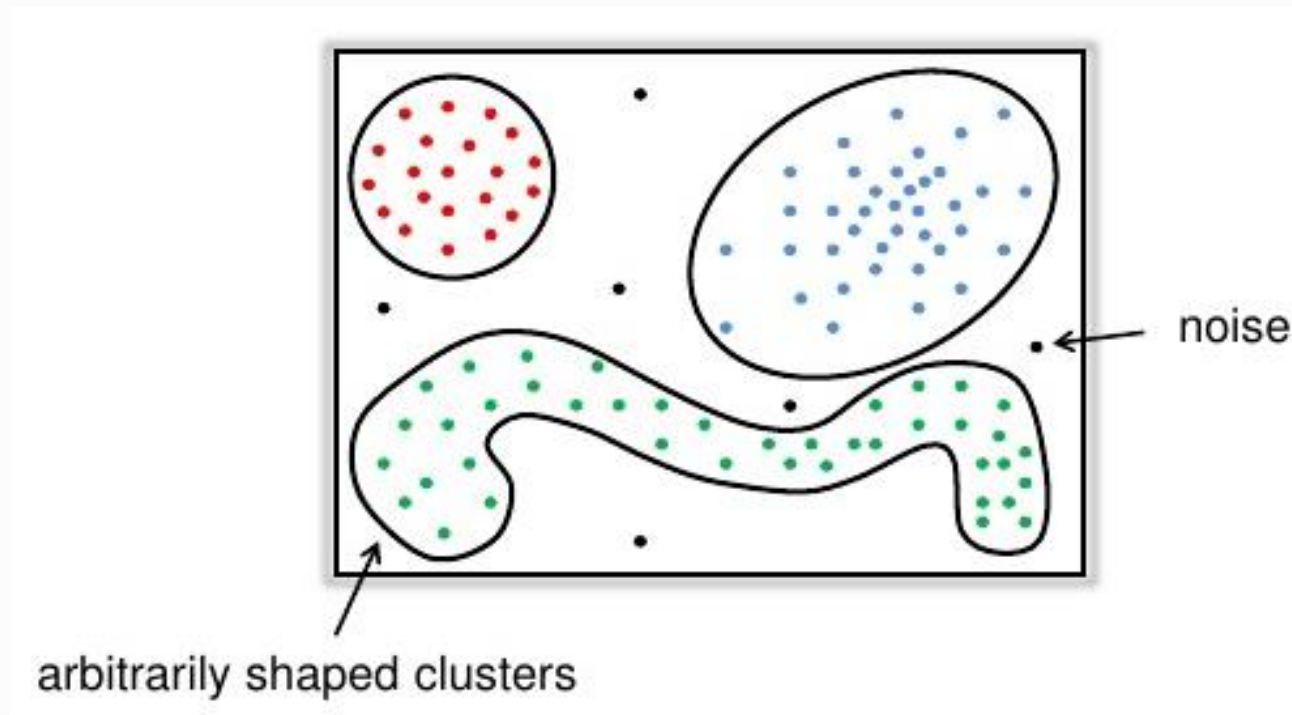
$N_{eps}(p)$  — set of points around  $p$  within distance  $eps$ .  $|N_{eps}(p)| \geq M$ .

Problem with border points.



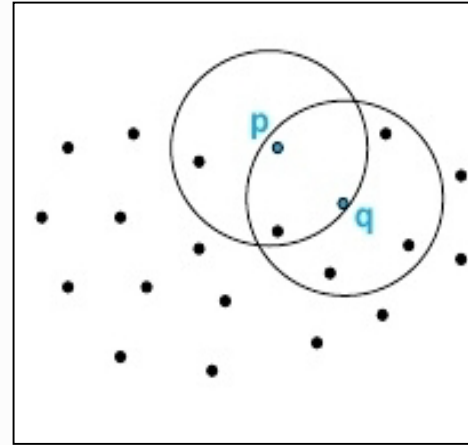
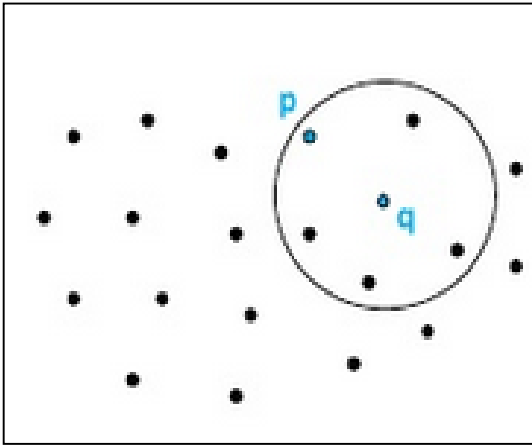
# DBSCAN

**DBSCAN** (Density Based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise)



# Reachable point

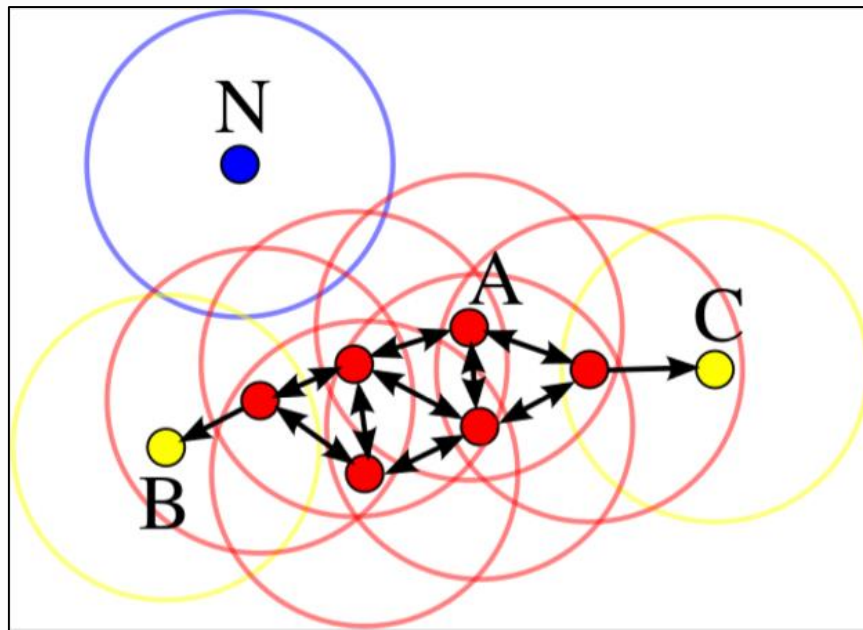
$p$  is **directly reachable** from  $q$  (given  $Eps$  and  $M$ ), if  $p \in N_{eps}(q)$  and  $|N_{eps}(q)| \geq M$ .



$p$  is **reachable** from  $q$  (given  $Eps$  and  $M$ ), if  $\exists \{a_i\}$ ,  $a_i$  is directly reachable from  $a_{i-1}$ .

# Connected points

$B$  is **connected** with  $C$  (given  $Eps$  and  $M$ ), if  $\exists A$ , so that  $B$  and  $C$  are reachable from  $A$  (given  $Eps$  and  $M$ ).



# Cluster definition

**Cluster**  $C_j$  (given  $Eps$  and  $M$ ) is non-empty set of points:

- $\forall p, q : p \in C_j, q \text{ is reachable } p \Rightarrow q \in C_j$
- $\forall p, q \in C_j : p \text{ connected with } q.$

# DBSCAN algorithm

*Input:*  $D$  – data,  $Eps, M$  – parameters.

**foreach**  $d_i \in D$ :  $V[d_i] = \text{false}$ ,  $j = 0$ ,  $Noise = \emptyset$

**for all**  $d_i \in D$ :

**if**  $V[d_i] == \text{false}$  **then**

$V[d_i] = \text{true}$ ,  $N_i = N_{eps}(d_i)$

**if**  $|N_i| < M$  **then**

$Noise = Noise + \{d_i\}$

**else**

$j = j + 1$ , **Expand**( $d_i, N_i, C_j, Eps, M$ )

**return**  $C = \{C_j\}$

# Expand function

*Input:*  $d_i$  — current point,  $N_i$  — sphere,  $C_j$  — current cluster,  $Eps, M$ .

$C_j = C_j + \{d_i\}$

**for all**  $d_k \in N_i$  :

**if**  $V[d_k] == \text{false}$  **then**

$V[d_k] = \text{true}, N_{ik} = N_{eps}(d_k)$

**if**  $|N_{ik}| \geq M$  **then**

$N_i = N_i + N_{ik}$

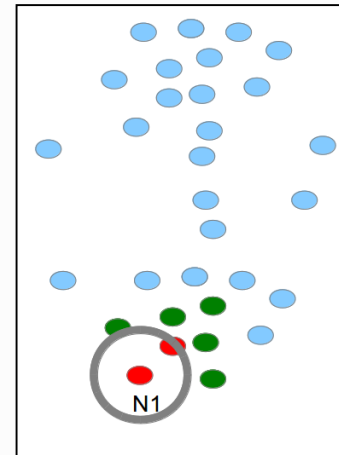
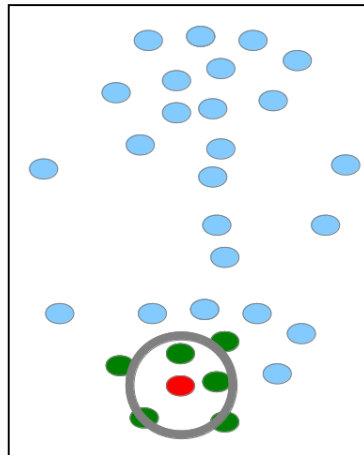
**if**  $\nexists p : d_k \in C_p$  **then**

$C_j = C_j + \{d_k\}$

**return**  $C = \{C_j\}$

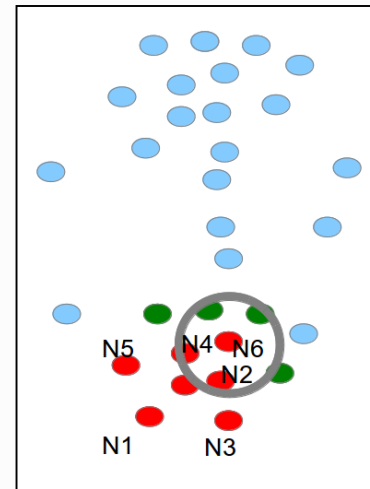
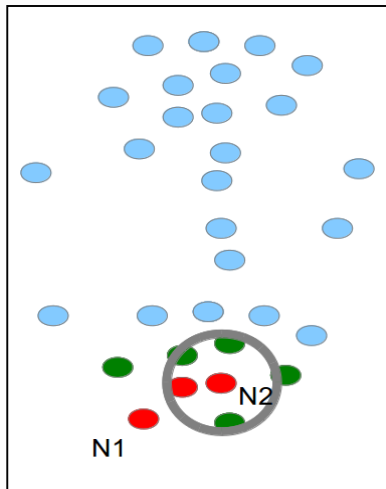
# DBSCAN Example

Initial parameters:  $M = 4, Eps > 0$ . Get the random point. It has 6 neighbours from  $N_{eps}$  (left pic)  $\Rightarrow$  create the first cluster (red) and begin extension. First of the neighbours N1 is the border point — add it to the cluster (right pic)



# DBSCAN Exapmle

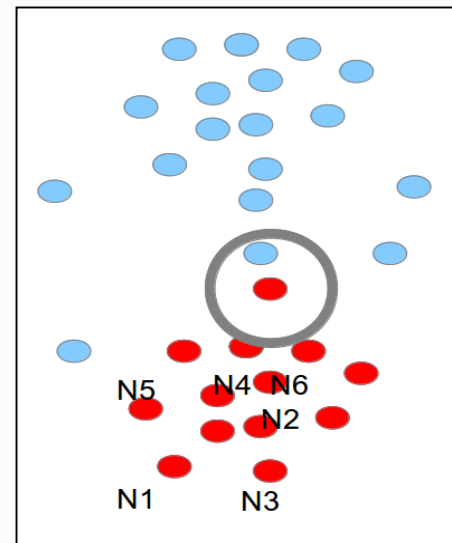
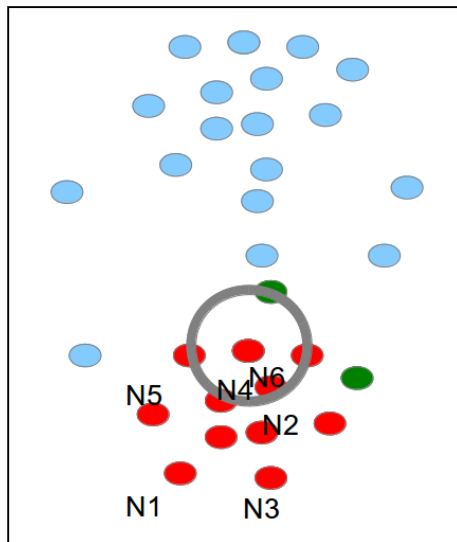
Consider the next neighbor N2. It has its 5 own neighbors from  $N_{ik}$ . (left pic)  $\Rightarrow$  Add the new neighbors to the old ones. (some more green neighbors appeared). When we have visited all the initial neighbors N1 – N6 (right pic), we get on with the new “green” ones.





# DBSCAN Example

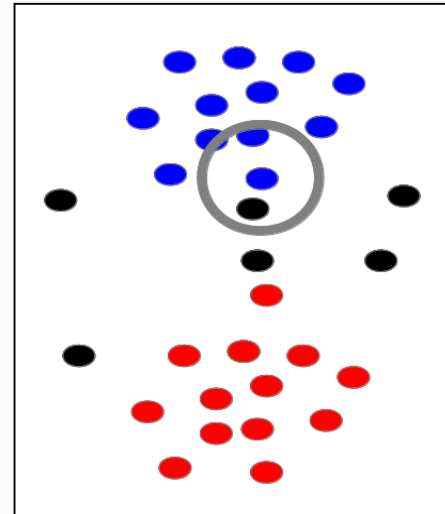
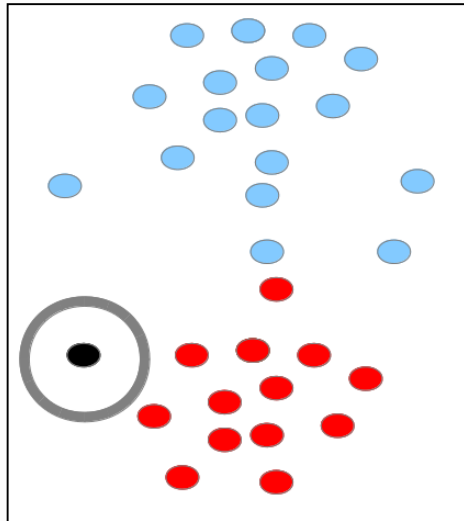
After visiting N1 – N6 only 2 “green” points are left (left pic), after we visit them we form the first cluster (right pic)



# DBSCAN Example

When we choose “lonely” point, that has less than  $M = 4$  (left pic) neighbors, it is added to *Noise*.

As a result in this example there are 2 clusters formed, while 6 points are treated as noise (right pic).

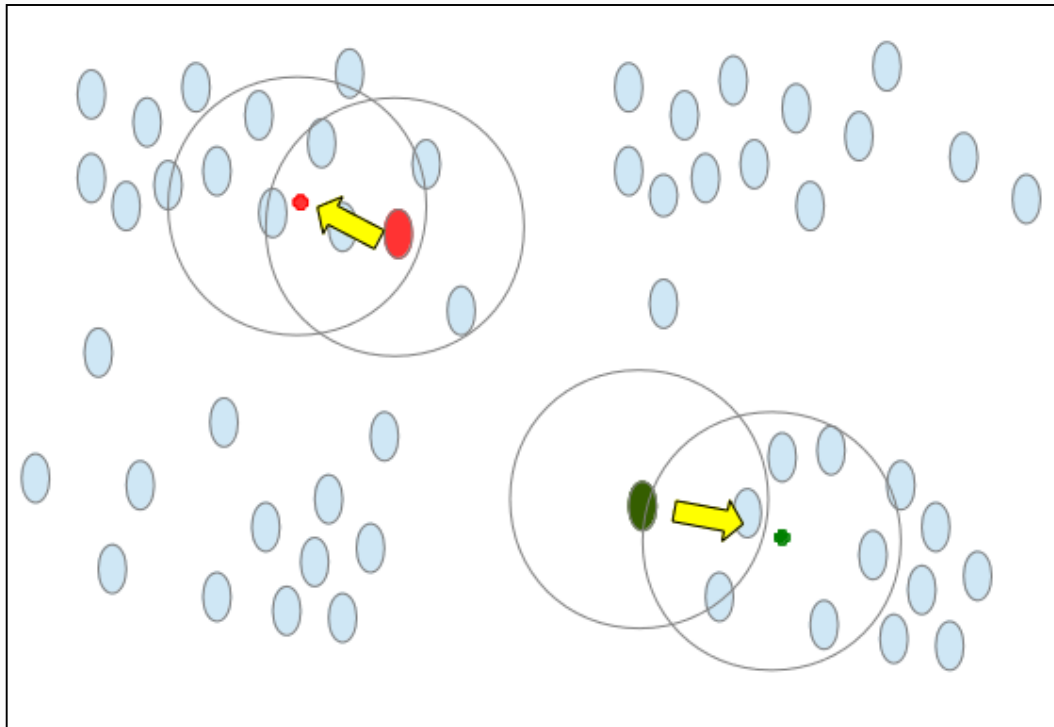


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# Main idea

Find mass center, with maximum point density,  
make it a centroid

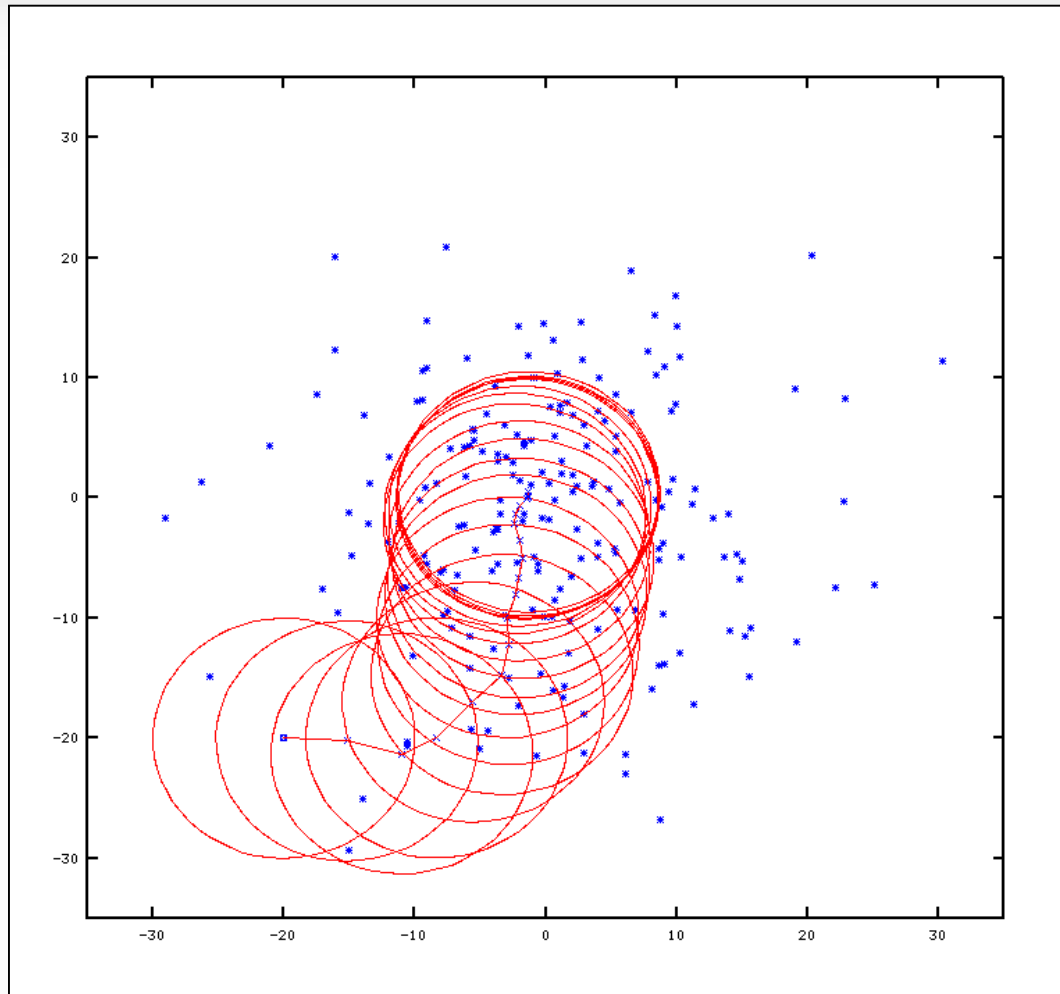


# Mean-shift approach

- Set sphere around every point
- Find centroid of every sphere
- Move the center of the sphere to centroid

After each iteration centroids move to more «denser» spheres till convergence to **density modes**.

# Mean-shift approach



# Density modes

Mean-Shift uses gradient ascent:

$$\nabla \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{nh^d} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right)$$

$$\nabla \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

# Gaussian kernel

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right) = K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right) \frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h} \frac{1}{h}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right) \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right) \mathbf{x}_i$$



# «Ascending» direction

Vector of ascending kernel function

$$\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right) \mathbf{x}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right)}$$

Mean shift

$$\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right) \mathbf{x}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i}{h}\right)} - \mathbf{x}$$

# Mean-shift algorithm

*Input:*  $D$  — data.

**do**

**foreach**  $\mathbf{x}_i \in D$ : count  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x}_i)$

$\nabla \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \nabla \hat{f}(\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x})$

**while**  $\nabla \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) \neq 0$

**return**  $\mathcal{C} = \{C_j\}$

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# Problem formulation

A training sample is given, which is

$$\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_\ell, y_\ell), x_{\ell+1}, \dots, x_{\ell+m}\} = T^\ell \cup X^m,$$

where  $\ell \ll m$ .

Solve as supervised problem (on  $T^\ell$ , “forgetting” about  $X^m$ )

Solve as unsupervised problem (on  $X^\ell \cup X^m$ , “forgetting” about  $Y^m$ ).

# Semi-supervised learning

Three approaches:

- Solve with native methods
- Solve with supervised algorithms without estimating error on unlabeled objects
- Solve with unsupervised algorithm achieving clusters which contains at least one object and all objects belonging to a cluster have the same label

# Why is it important to solve this problem?

Usually it's cheap to get objects and it is expensive to label objects.

Object mining is automated and object-labeling is expert-based.

Typical example: data from Internet (posts, pictures, articles) or generic data.

# Method adaptation

It's much simpler to adopt unsupervised methods. Each method can be modified just by including a certain constrain, which should not allow to get clusters with differently labeled object.