

Unsupervised Learning, Recommenders, Reinforcement Learning

K-means algorithm

Randomly initialize K cluster centroids $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_K$

Repeat {

Assign points to cluster centroids

for $i = 1$ to m

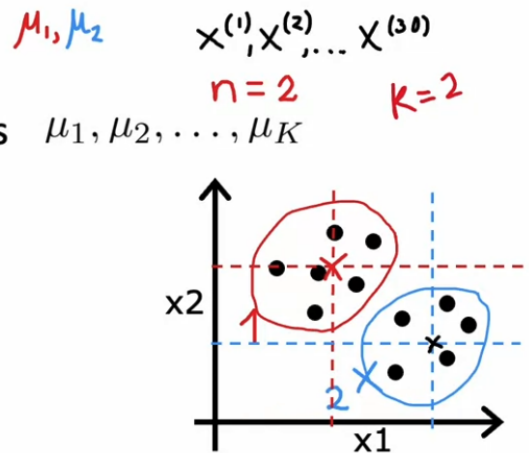
$c^{(i)} :=$ index (from 1 to K) of cluster centroid closest to $x^{(i)}$

Move cluster centroids

for $k = 1$ to K

$\mu_k :=$ average (mean) of points assigned to cluster k

}



K-means optimization objective

$c^{(i)}$ = index of cluster (1, 2, ..., K) to which example $x^{(i)}$ is currently assigned

μ_k = cluster centroid k

$\mu_{c^{(i)}}$ = cluster centroid of cluster to which example $x^{(i)}$ has been assigned

Cost function

$$J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \|x^{(i)} - \mu_{c^{(i)}}\|^2$$

$\min_{c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K} J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)$

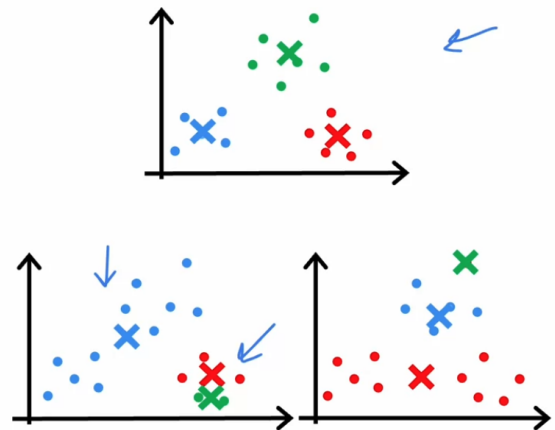
Distortion

Random initialization

Choose $K < m$

Randomly pick K training examples.

Set $\mu_1, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_k$ equal to these K examples.



With random initialization using some of the data points themselves, depending on which points you choose, we can end up with different clusters. Local minima of the cost function may be found. We can run it with multiple random initializations and then pick the one with lowest final cost function.

Random initialization

For $i = 1$ to 100 { 50-1000

Randomly initialize K-means. ← k random examples

Run K-means. Get $c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_k$ ←

Computer cost function (distortion)

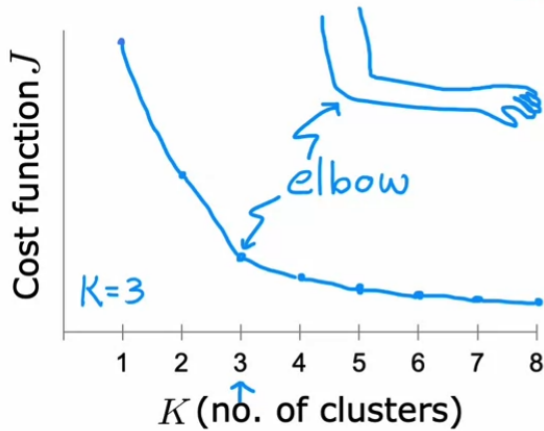
$J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)$ ←

}

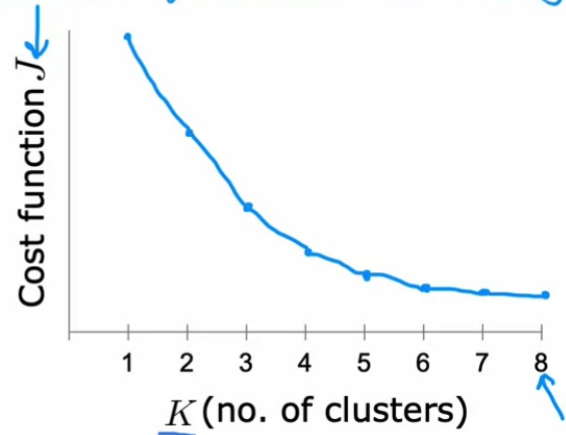
Pick set of clusters that gave lowest cost J

Choosing the value of K

Elbow method



*the right "K" is often ambiguous
Don't choose K just to minimize cost J*



Choosing the value of K

Often, you want to get clusters for some later (downstream) purpose.
Evaluate K-means based on how well it performs on that later purpose.

