# Machine learning :
Unsupervised Learning

What is Unsupervised Learning?

As the name suggests, unsupervised learning is a machine learning technique in which models are not supervised using training dataset. Instead, models itself find the hidden patterns and insights from the given data. It can be compared to learning which takes place in the human brain while learning new things. It can be defined as:

Unsupervised learning is a type of machine learning in which models are trained using unlabelled dataset and are allowed to act on that data without any supervision

The goal of unsupervised learning is to **find the underlying structure of dataset, group that data according to similarities, and represent that dataset in a compressed format**
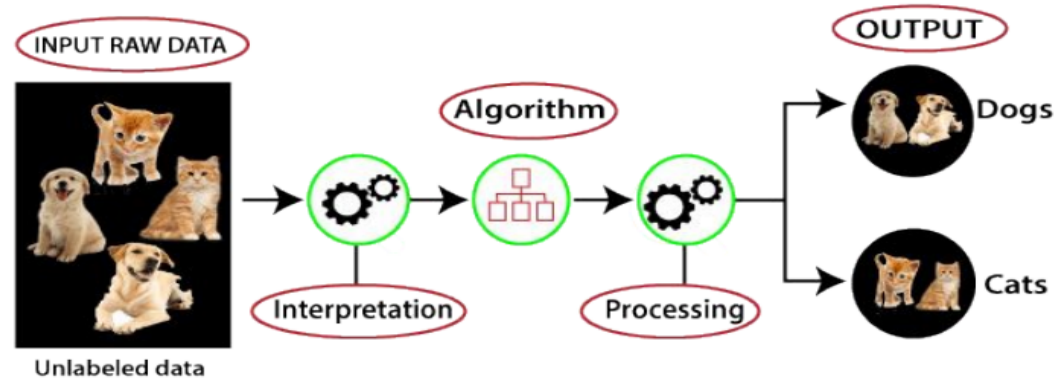
Why use Unsupervised Learning?

Below are some main reasons which describe the importance of Unsupervised Learning:

- Unsupervised learning is helpful for finding useful insights from the data.
- Unsupervised learning is much similar as a human learns to think by their own experiences, which makes it closer to the real AI.
- Unsupervised learning works on unlabeled and uncategorized data which make unsupervised learning more important

Types of Unsupervised Learning Algorithm

- **Clustering**: Clustering is a method of grouping the objects into clusters such that objects with most similarities remains into a group and has less or no similarities with the objects of another group. Cluster analysis finds the commonalities between the data objects and categorizes them as per the presence and absence of those commonalities.

- **Association**: An association rule is an unsupervised learning method which is used for finding the relationships between variables in the large database. It determines the set of items that occurs together in the dataset. Association rule makes marketing strategy more effective. Such as people who buy X item (suppose a bread) also tend to purchase Y (Butter/Jam) item. A typical example of Association rule is Market Basket Analysis

Clustering in Machine Learning

Clustering or cluster analysis is a machine learning technique, which groups the unlabelled dataset. It can be defined as "A way of grouping the data points into different clusters, consisting of similar data points

Example: Let's understand the clustering technique with the real-world example of Mall: When we visit any shopping mall, we can observe that the things with similar usage are grouped together. Such as the t-shirts are grouped in one section, and trousers are at other sections, similarly, at vegetable sections, apples, bananas, Mangoes, etc., are grouped in separate sections, so that we can easily find out the things.
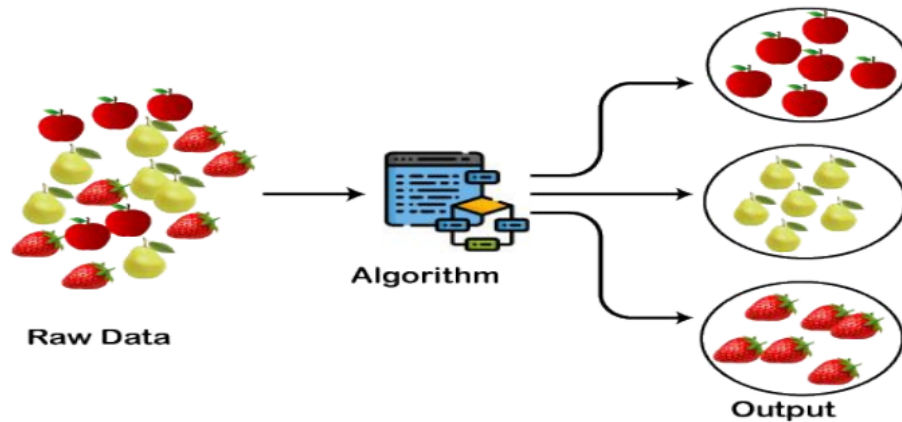
Applications of Clustering

Below are some commonly known applications of clustering technique in Machine Learning:

- **In Identification of Cancer Cells:** The clustering algorithms are widely used for the identification of cancerous cells. It divides the cancerous and non-cancerous data sets into different groups.
- **In Search Engines:** Search engines also work on the clustering technique. The search result appears based on the closest object to the search query. It does it by grouping similar data objects in one group that is far from the other dissimilar objects. The accurate result of a query depends on the quality of the clustering algorithm used.
- **Customer Segmentation:** It is used in market research to segment the customers based on their choice and preferences.
- **In Biology:** It is used in the biology stream to classify different species of plants and animals using the image recognition technique.
- **In Land Use:** The clustering technique is used in identifying the area of similar lands use in the GIS database. This can be very useful to find that for what purpose the land should be used, that means for which purpose it is more suitable

K-Means Clustering Algorithm

What is K-Means Algorithm?

K-Means Clustering is an Unsupervised Learning algorithm, which groups the unlabeled dataset into different clusters. Here K defines the number of pre-defined clusters that need to be created in the process, as if K=2, there will be two clusters, and for K=3, there will be three clusters, and so on

It is a centroid-based algorithm, where each cluster is associated with a centroid. The main aim of this algorithm is to minimize the sum of distances between the data point and their corresponding clusters
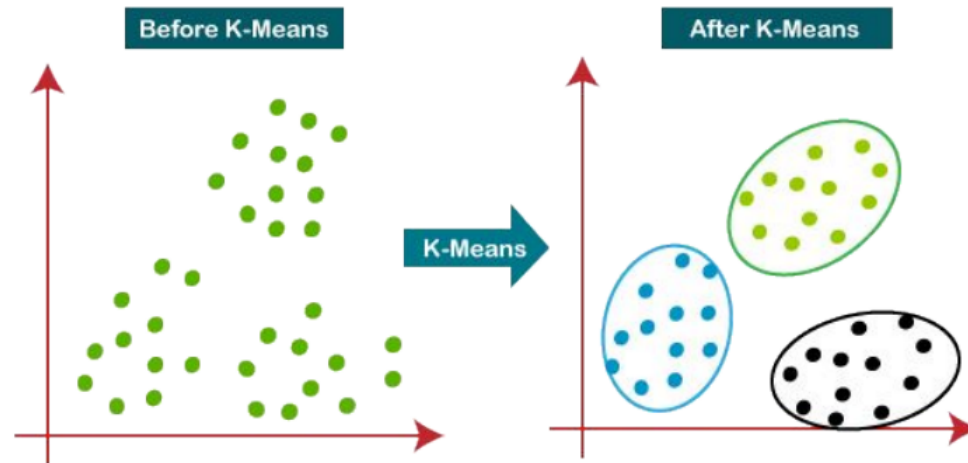
How does the K-Means Algorithm Work?

The working of the K-Means algorithm is explained in the below steps:

Step-1: Select the number K to decide the number of clusters.

Step-2: Select random K points or centroids. (It can be other from the input dataset).

**Step-3:** Assign each data point to their closest centroid, which will form the predefined K clusters.

Step-4: Calculate the variance and place a new centroid of each cluster.

Step-5: Repeat the third steps, which means reassign each datapoint to the new closest centroid of each cluster.

Step-6: If any reassignment occurs, then go to step-4 else go to FINISH.

Step-7: The model is ready.

How does the K-Means Algorithm Work?
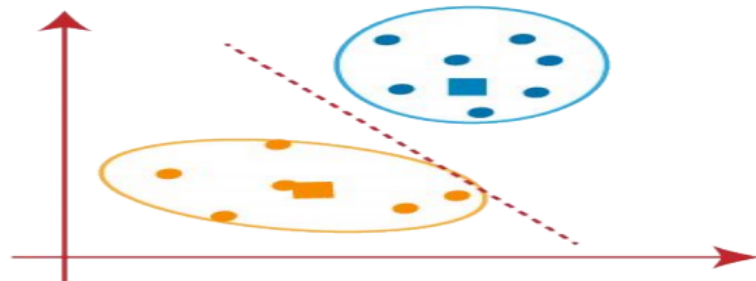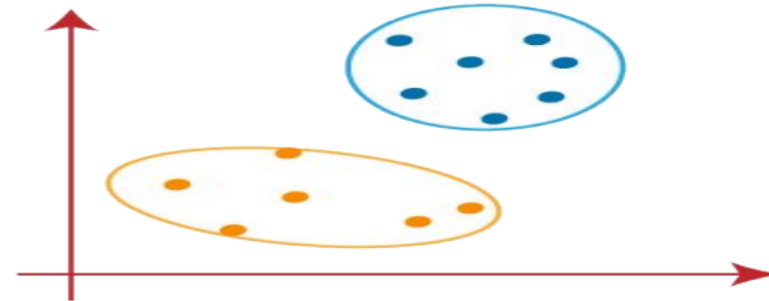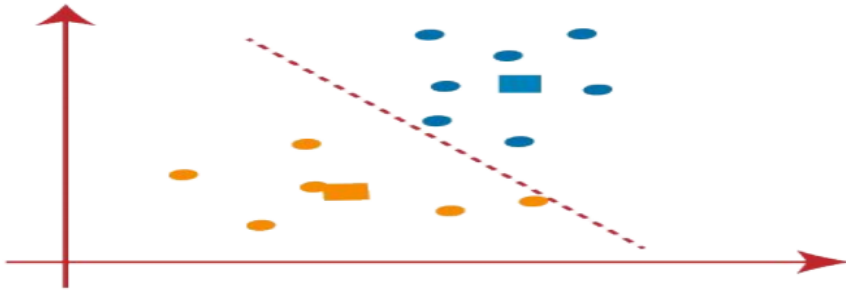
How to choose the value of "K number of clusters" in K-means Clustering?

Elbow Method

The Elbow method is one of the most popular ways to find the optimal number of clusters. This method uses the concept of WCSS value. **WCSS** stands for **Within Cluster Sum of Squares**, which defines the total variations within a cluster.

The formula to calculate the value of WCSS (for 3 clusters) is given below:

WCSS= ∑Pi in Cluster1 distance(Pi C1)2 +∑Pi in Cluster2distance(Pi C2)2+∑Pi in Cluster3 distance(Pi C3)2

How to choose the value of "K number of clusters" in K-means Clustering?

Elbow Method

To find the optimal value of clusters, the elbow method follows the below steps:

- It executes the K-means clustering on a given dataset for different K values (ranges from 1-10).
- For each value of K, calculates the WCSS value.
- Plots a curve between calculated WCSS values and the number of clusters K.

- The sharp point of bend or a point of the plot looks like an arm, then that point is considered as the best value of K