

## Machine Learning 3 Dimensionality Reduction & Clustering



Prof. Dr. Steffen Staab

Nadeen Fatallah

Daniel Frank

Akram Sadat Hosseini

Jiaxin Pan

Osama Mohamed

Arvindh Arunbabu

Tim Schneider

Yi Wang

https://www.ki.uni-stuttgart.de/

#### **Learning Objectives**

- What is dimensionality reduction?
  - How does principal component analysis work?
- What is clustering?
- How can we evaluate clustering?
- What are intrinsic and extrinsic evaluation measures?
- How does K-Means work?
- How to choose k for K-Means?
- What is the EM algorithm?

## 1 Motivation

Cf.

Ma, Y., Tsao, D., & Shum, H. Y. (2022). On the principles of parsimony and self-consistency for the emergence of intelligence. *Frontiers of Information Technology & Electronic Engineering*, 23(9), 1298-1323.

## Why can humans predict at all?

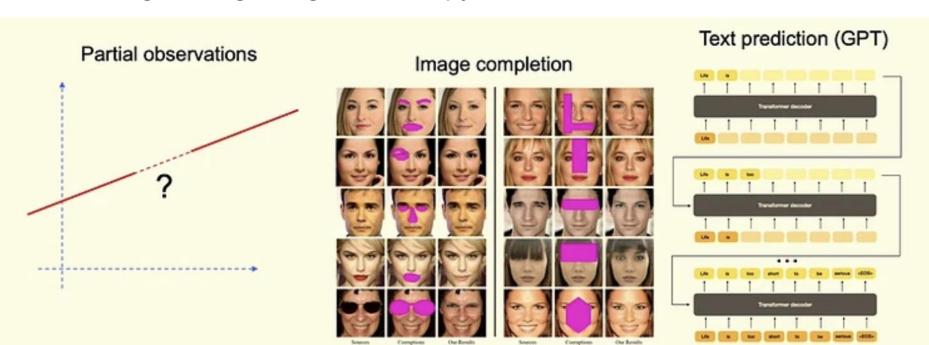
- Input to human visual cortex (estimated):
  - 1 MPixel to 500 Mpixel
  - 10 Mbit/s
- Predictions:
  - where the ball will be going, how to catch it...
  - whether it will be raining in few minutes...
  - whether the person you talk to likes you...
- The world is not entirely random and predictable at large!





### Key hypothesis in (machine) learning

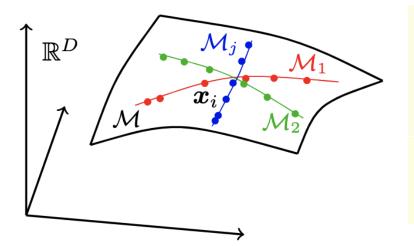
- Human experiences and predictions are low-dimensional
  - others is noise
  - others is missing observation
  - intelligence fights against entropy/noise/diffusion



#### The mathematics of predictions

The mathematics of predictions are probability distributions P(X)

of **low-dimensional support** (so called manifolds) in **observed high-dimensional data space** 



#### Image completion

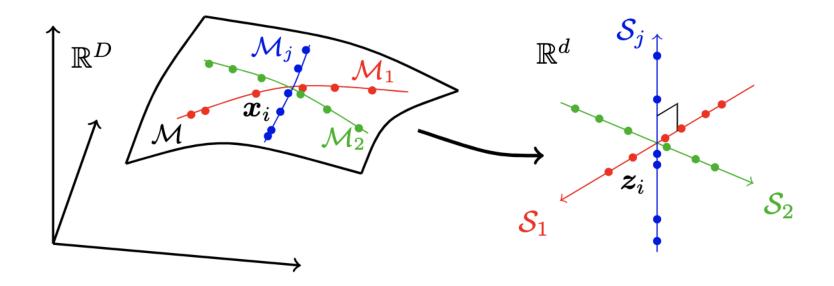


Ma, Y., Tsao, D., & Shum, H. Y. (2022). On the principles of parsimony and self-consistency for the emergence of intelligence. *Frontiers of Information Technology & Electronic Engineering*, 23(9), 1298-1323.

#### What should humans or machines learn?

#### Principle of parsimony

- Learn what is predictable
- Learn a low-dimensional, latent representation
  - high (D) to low (d) dimensionality:  $10^4$  to  $10^{10} \rightarrow 10^0$  to  $10^3$
  - from feature space to latent space/embedding space



#### How to reduce dimensionality?

- from dimensionality reduction techniques
  - PCA [Pearson 1901] and others
- clustering (1930s)
- autoencoders (1980s)
- LSA (1989), PLSA, LDA
- language models (2010s)
- diffusion models (2020s)

# 2 Dimensionality Reduction

Cf.

Kevin P. Murphy
Probabilistic Machine Learning. An Introduction book1.pdf, Chapter 20

### Problem: High dimensionality of data

- Text documents are often represented as bag-of-words
  - For each document count how often each term occurs: tf(d,t)
  - $\rightarrow$  Each document is represented by a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{10,000}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^{10^5}$  or more
- Images are represented as vectors of RGB pixels, e.g.  $\mathbb{R}^{3\times200\times300}$  or more
- Relational databases have
  - tables with 10<sup>2</sup> columns, 10<sup>2</sup> or 10<sup>3</sup> tables
  - → Universal relation with dimensionality 10<sup>4</sup>

#### Idea: identify the most important dimensions

- to understand the data
- to remove redundancies in the data
- to simplify the machine learning problem and make ML more effective
- to run machine learning algorithms more efficiently

## (Semi-)Formal problem of dimensionality reduction

- Given a data set  $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, ..., x_N\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^D$
- Find a function  $\hat{f} \colon \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}^d$ , with  $d \ll D$  to derive a data set  $\widehat{\mathcal{D}} = \{\hat{f}(x_1), ..., \hat{f}(x_N)\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$
- ullet such that the main characteristics of  ${\mathcal D}$  are preserved
- If the "main characteristics" are formalized,
   we have formalized an optimization problem

$$\mathcal{L}(\hat{f}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( x_i - \hat{f}^{-1} \left( \hat{f}(x_i) \right) \right)^2$$

#### **Dimensionality reduction techniques**

varying in their definition of the loss  $\mathcal{L}$ 

- Principal component analysis
- Factor analysis (generalization of PCA)
- Latent discriminant analysis (LDA)
  - not to be confused with the clustering technique Latent Dirichlet assignment (LDA)
- Independent component analysis (ICA)
- Latent semantic analysis (LSA)
- (Non-negative) matrix factorization
- t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (t-SNE)
- topological data analysis (TDA)
- self-organizing maps (SOM / SOFM)

• ...

Know your data to judge whether/which dimensionality reduction techniques make sense on your data

Borderline between dimensionality reduction techniques and clustering is permeable

3 Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

#### Reminder: some linear transformations

- Given vector  $x = (x_1 x_2)^{\mathsf{T}} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ 
  - Scale by  $s_1, s_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ :  $\begin{pmatrix} s_1 & 0 \\ 0 & s_2 \end{pmatrix} x = \begin{pmatrix} s_1 x_1 \\ s_2 x_2 \end{pmatrix}$
  - Rotate by  $\varphi$  degree:  $\begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi & -\sin \varphi \\ \sin \varphi & \cos \varphi \end{pmatrix} x$
  - Project onto one axis:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$
- Given vectors  $x, t \in \mathbb{R}^2$ 
  - Translate x by t: x + t
    - Can be captured in a matrix with homogeneous coordinates

$$\bullet \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & t_1 \\ 0 & 1 & t_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + t_1 \\ x_2 + t_2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Reminder: Sample covariance matrix

• Given a data set  $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, ..., x_N\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^D$ 

• Represent as 
$$N \times D$$
 matrix  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1,1} & \cdots & x_{1,D} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \cdots \\ x_{N,1} & \cdots & x_{N,D} \end{pmatrix}$ 

• Then the sample covariance matrix  $\hat{\Sigma} = [q_{j,k}] \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times D}$  is defined by

$$q_{j,k} = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_{i,j} - \bar{x}_j)(x_{i,k} - \bar{x}_k)$$

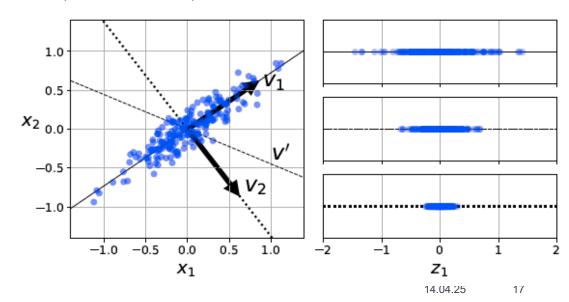
#### **PCA**

- Assume that  $\hat{f}$  is linear:  $\hat{f}(x) = Vx$
- Then the loss is

$$\mathcal{L}(\widehat{f_V}) = \mathcal{L}(V) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( x_i - \widehat{f_V}(x_i) \right)^2$$

#### Idea of PCA

- Given a data set  $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, ..., x_N\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^D$
- Assume that  $\sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i = \mathbf{0}$ , by translating the data
- Represent as  $N \times D$  matrix  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1,1} & \cdots & x_{1,D} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \cdots \\ x_{N,1} & \cdots & x_{N,D} \end{pmatrix}$
- Idea:
  - Rotate and project data onto the most important dimension
  - 2. Subtract "this part"
  - 3. Repeat from 1.



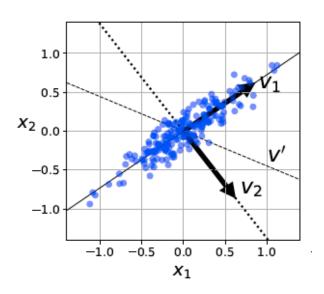
## Finding the best d axes

Find unit vectors  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_d \in \mathbb{R}^D$  and new data coordinates  $z_1, ..., z_d \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} z_1^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ z_d^{\mathsf{T}} \end{pmatrix}, V = \begin{pmatrix} v_1^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ v_d^{\mathsf{T}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(V, Z) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||x_i - Vz_i||^2$$

Find  $v_1$  and all  $z_{i,1}$ 



## Finding the first axis

Find unit vectors  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_d \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $||v_i|| = 1$  and new data coordinates  $z_1, ..., z_d \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

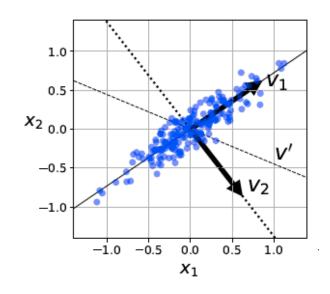
Find  $v_1$  and all  $z_{i,1}$ 

$$\mathcal{L}(v_1, z_{\cdot,1}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||x_i - z_{i,1}v_1||^2 =$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ x_i^{\mathsf{T}} x_i - 2 z_{i,1} v_1^{\mathsf{T}} x_i + z_{i,1}^2 \right]$$

Optimize wrt  $z_{i,1}$ :

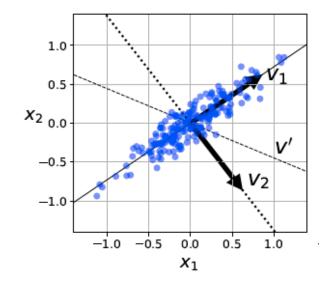
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z_{i,1}} \mathcal{L}(v_1, z_{i,1}) = 0 \implies z_{i,1} = v_1^{\mathsf{T}} x_i$$



## Finding the first axis

Find unit vectors  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_d \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $||v_i|| = 1$  and new data coordinates  $z_1, ..., z_d \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L} \big( v_1, z_{\cdot,1} \big) &= \mathcal{L} (v_1) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \big[ x_i^{\intercal} x_i - 2 z_{i,1} v_1^{\intercal} x_i + z_{i,1}^2 \big] = \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \big[ x_i^{\intercal} x_i - 2 v_1^{\intercal} x_i v_1^{\intercal} x_i + (v_1^{\intercal} x_i)^2 \big] = \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \big[ x_i^{\intercal} x_i - (v_1^{\intercal} x_i)^2 \big] = \\ &= const - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} v_1^{\intercal} x_i x_i^{\intercal} v_1 = -v_1^{\intercal} \widehat{\Sigma} v_1 \end{split}$$



 $\hat{\Sigma}$  is the empirical covariance matrix of X

Optimize  $\mathcal{L}(v_1) = -v_1^{\mathsf{T}} \hat{\Sigma} v_1$ , given  $||v_1|| = 1$ 

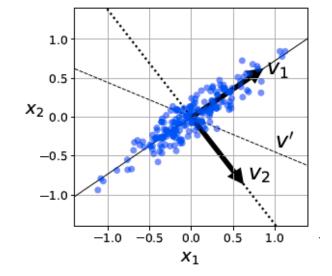
## Finding the first axis

Find unit vectors  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_d \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $||v_i|| = 1$  and new data coordinates  $z_1, ..., z_d \in \mathbb{R}^d$ 

Optimize 
$$\mathcal{L}(v_1) = -v_1^{\mathsf{T}} \hat{\Sigma} v_1$$
, given  $||v_1|| = 1$ 

Optimize 
$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}(v_1) = v_1^{\mathsf{T}} \hat{\Sigma} v_1 - \lambda_1 (v_1^{\mathsf{T}} v_1 - 1)$$

Optimize by 
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial v_1} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(v_1) = 0 = 2\hat{\Sigma}v_1 - 2\lambda_1v_1 \Leftrightarrow$$
  
 $\hat{\Sigma}v_1 = \lambda_1v_1$ 



Eigenvalue problem of  $\hat{\Sigma} = X^{\mathsf{T}}X$ 

The eigenvector corresponding to the largest eigenvalue signifies the axis with largest variance

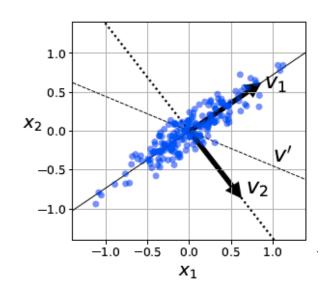
λ<sub>1</sub> is a Langrange multiplier used for optimization under constraints

### **Induction step**

• Orthonormal basis  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_d \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,  $||v_i|| = 1$  means that  $v_i \cdot v_j = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ 

$$\mathcal{L}(v_1, z_{\cdot,1}, v_2, z_{\cdot,2}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||x_i - z_{i,1}v_1 - z_{i,2}v_2||^2 =$$

$$= \mathcal{L}(v_2) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ x_i^{\dagger} x_i - v_1^{\dagger} x_i^{\dagger} x_i v_1 - v_2^{\dagger} x_i^{\dagger} x_i v_2 \right]$$



Optimization leads to second largest eigenvalue and corresponding eigenvector

#### **Covariance matrix vs correlation matrix**

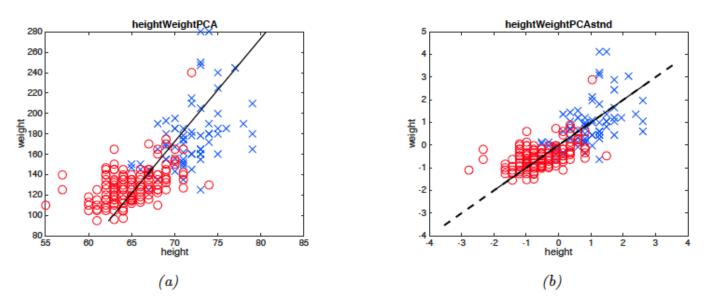


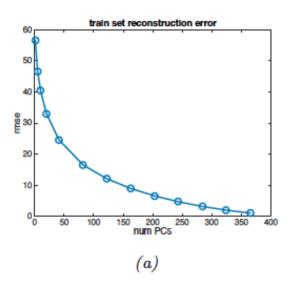
Figure 20.5: Effect of standardization on PCA applied to the height/weight dataset. (Red=female, blue=male.)

Left: PCA of raw data. Right: PCA of standardized data. Generated by pcaStandardization.ipynb.

#### **Check reconstruction error**

for different numbers of dimension d

$$\mathcal{L}(V) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||x_i - V^{\mathsf{T}} x_i||^2$$



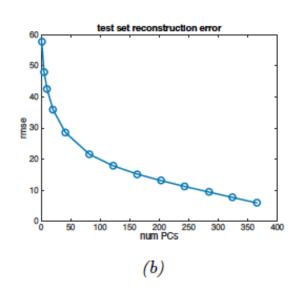


Figure 20.6: Reconstruction error on MNIST vs number of latent dimensions used by PCA. (a) Training set. (b) Test set. Generated by pcaOverfitDemo.ipynb.

14.04.25

## **4 Cluster Analysis**

#### Comparison of Supervised and Unsupervised ML

#### Supervised Machine Learning

Regression – Learning:

$$\hat{y} = \hat{f}(x)$$

Classification - Learning:

$$\hat{y} = \hat{f}(x) = \underset{y}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(y|x)$$

- Desired output:
  - · How to classify?
  - (what makes the model classify?)
- Issues:
  - · which model?
  - which loss function?
  - which solving?
  - which evaluation measures?

#### **Unsupervised Machine Learning**

Learning:

$$\hat{f}(x) = P_{\theta}(x)$$

- Desired output:
  - Where do we find data?
  - What are the parameters  $\theta$  that determine this distribution?
- Issues:
  - which model?
  - which loss function?
  - which solving?
  - which evaluation measures?

#### **Examples**



Example purpose: marketing

information manage ment

Documents



Web document templates

Data preprocessing e.g. for information extraction

Find structure in scientific data



Genetic sequences



Language dialects

#### Goal of clustering

- Identification of a finite set of *clusters* (= categories, "classes", groups) in the data
- Objects in the same cluster should be as similar as possible.
- Objects in different clusters should be as dissimilar as possible
- "Unsupervised learning" => no groups given





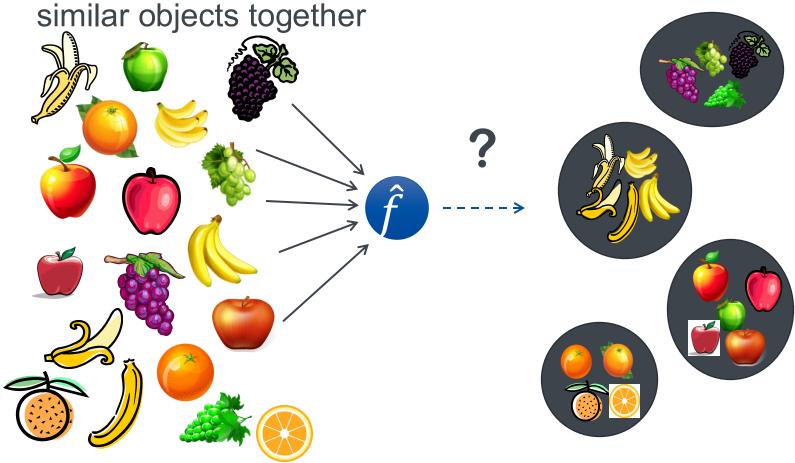






## Clustering

• Given a set of objects, find a function  $\hat{f}$  to group similar objects together



#### What does similar mean?









## **Clustering Task**

- Objects
  - $X = \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_N\}$



- An object is characterized by attributes
  - $x_i = (x_{i,1} x_{i,2} ... x_{i,m})^{\mathsf{T}}$

(green, round, even)

(orange, round, rough)

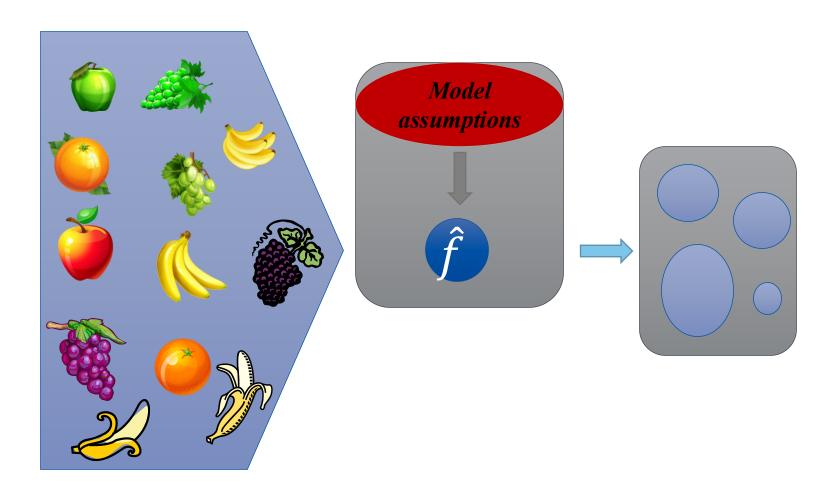
- Task:
  - Find groups

• 
$$\Omega = \{\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_K\}$$

- Find function
  - $\hat{f}: X \to \Omega$

Difference to classification:
Groups are not given!

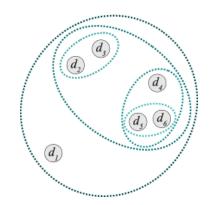
## Task

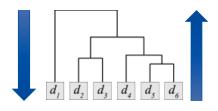


#### **Variations of the Task**

- Cluster types:
  - Flat vs. Hierarchical
  - Exclusive vs. Multiple clusters
    - $\hat{f}: X \to \wp(\Omega)$

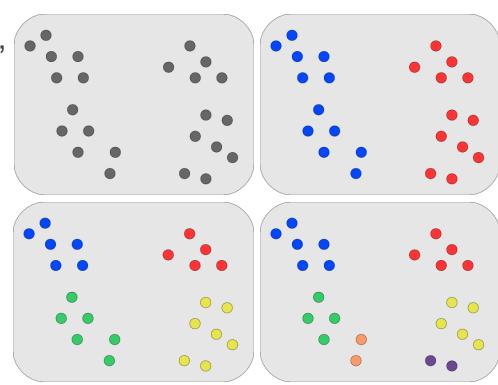
- Function  $\hat{f}$ 
  - Hard vs. Soft assignments
    - $\hat{f}: X \to \mathbb{R}^{|\Omega|}$
  - Based on shape, density, estimates of distribution mixture





#### **Cardinality / Number of clusters**

- Provided (externally) or
- to be defined (given explicit hyperparameter) or
- to be found over the data
   (given other hyperparameters,
   e.g. density or
   density distribution).



**5 Intrinsic Metrics** for the Evaluation of Clustering Results

## Before you start to develop or use an ML algorithm,

#### you must know (no excuses!):

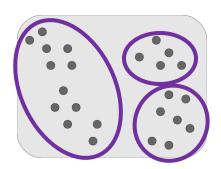
- Structure of input (input datatypes)
  - know complete, real examples
- Structure of output (output datatypes)
  - know complete, real output for your real examples
- how to evaluate whether your algorithm
  - is better than stupid baselines
    - e.g. choosing majority category, random decisions, etc.
  - is better than existing algorithms

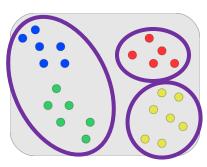
defines the algorithms that can be applied

A whole graduate course – great overview of topics in evaluation: https://www.argmin.net/p/machine-learning-evaluation-631

#### **Evaluation**

- Intrinsic
  - Evaluate quality of clusters directly
  - E.g. compactness, separation of groups, etc.
- Extrinsic
  - Employ external knowledge
    - Ground truth from classification data
    - Assuming categories to be optimal clusters
  - Compare found clusters and pre-defined clusters
    - Difficulty of finding a matching
- Indirect
  - User testing (satisfaction, task performance)
  - Application specific metrics







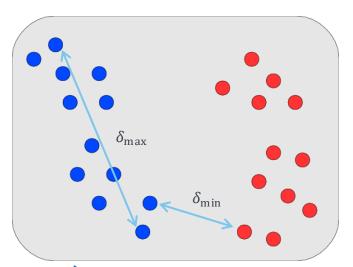
#### **Intrinsic metrics**

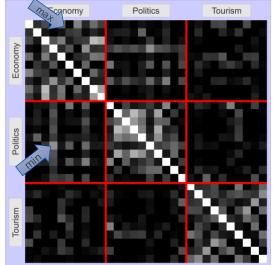
- Dunn Index
  - Notion of cluster separation

$$I_{\rm Dunn}(\Omega) = \frac{\delta_{\rm min}}{\delta_{\rm max}}$$

- $\delta_{\min}$  smallest inter-cluster distance
- $\delta_{
  m max}$  largest intra-cluster distance
- Requires pair-wise distances
  - Distance matrix
  - Graphical representation
    - · Minimal distance: white
    - Maximal distance: black
- Applicable also to ground truth
  - Notion of difficulty of cluster problem
  - Example

$$I_{\text{Dunn}}(\{c_E, c_P, c_T\}) = \frac{0.577}{1.414} = 0.435$$

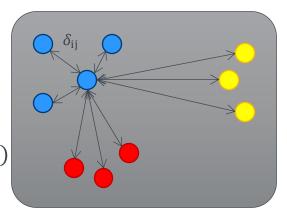




#### **Intrinsic metrics**

- Silhouette coefficient s(i) for object x<sub>i</sub>
  - Average distance a(i) to all other objects in same cluster  $\omega$

$$a(i) = \sum_{x \in \omega, x \neq x_i} \frac{1}{|\omega| - 1} \delta(x_i, x)$$



• Average distance to some other cluster  $\omega'$ :

$$d(i,\omega') = \sum_{x \in \omega'} \frac{1}{|\omega'|} \delta(x_i, x)$$

• Average distance b(i) to closest other cluster

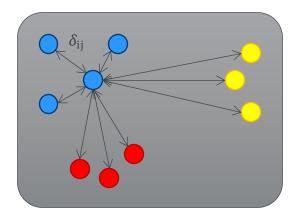
$$b(i) = \min_{\omega' \in \Omega, \omega' \neq \omega} d(i, \omega')$$

• Silhouette coefficient:  $s(i) = \frac{b(i) - a(i)}{max(a(i),b(i))}$ 

#### **Intrinsic metrics**

- Silhouette coefficient
  - Values:  $-1 \le s(i) \le 1$
  - Value close to 1:
    - a(i) much smaller than b(i)
    - Distances within cluster very small in comparison to distances with other clusters
  - Value close to 0:
    - $a(i) \approx b(i)$
    - Same internal as external distance
  - Value close to -1:
    - b(i) much smaller than a(i)
    - Other instances are (on average) closer then same cluster
- Aggregation: Average silhouette coefficient  $\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}s(i)$

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



6 Extrinsic Metrics for the Evaluation of Clustering Results

#### **Extrinsic metrics**

Given: External knowledge (ground truth of categories)

$$C = \{c_1, \cdots, c_J\}$$

- Idea: Compare clusters  $\Omega$  and ground truth categories C
- Approach:
  - Determine:  $n_i^{(i)}$  : number of objects from  $c_i$  being clustered into  $\omega_j$

# **Extrinsic metrics: Purity**

Given: External knowledge (ground truth of categories)

$$C = \{c_1, \cdots, c_I\}$$

- Idea: Compare clusters  $\Omega$  and ground truth categories C
- Approach:
  - Determine:  $n_i^{(i)}$  : number of objects from  $c_i$  being clustered into  $\omega_j$
- Purity:
  - Ratio of strongest represented category

$$Purity(\omega_j) = \frac{1}{|\omega_i|} \cdot \max_{i=1,\dots,J} n_j^{(i)}$$

Aggregate over all clusters

$$Purity(\Omega) = \sum_{j=1}^{K} \frac{|\omega_j|}{N} \cdot Purity(\omega_j)$$

# **Example** (categories $c_1, c_2, c_3$ are color coded green/yellow/red)

1. 
$$\omega_1 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_9, x_{10}, x_{11}, x_{20}\}$$
  
2.  $\omega_2 = \{x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}, x_{17}, x_{18}, x_{19}\}$   
3.  $\omega_3 = \{x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{23}, x_{24}, x_{25}, x_{27}, x_{28}, x_{30}\}$   
4.  $\omega_4 = \{x_{26}, x_{29}\}$ 

Purity:

Purity(
$$\omega_1$$
) =  $\frac{10}{12}$  = 0.83  
Purity( $\Omega$ ) =  $\frac{12}{30} \cdot 0.83 + \frac{8}{30} \cdot 1.0 + \frac{8}{30} \cdot 1.0 + \frac{2}{30} \cdot 1.0 = 0.93$ 

#### **Extrinsic metrics: Mutual Information**

Given: External knowledge (ground truth of categories)

$$C = \{c_1, \cdots, c_J\}$$

- Idea: Compare clusters  $\Omega$  and ground truth categories C
- Approach:
  - Determine:  $n_i^{(i)}$  : number of objects from  $c_i$  being clustered into  $\omega_j$
- Mutual Information:
  - Mutual agreement between clustering and categories

$$MI(\Omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{K} \sum_{i=1}^{J} n_j^{(i)} \cdot \log \frac{n_j^{(i)} \cdot N}{\sum_{m=1}^{J} n_j^{(m)} \cdot \sum_{l=1}^{K} n_l^{(i)}}$$

Log base: 2 or *K* ⋅ *J*

## Mutual Information between two random variables X, Y

$$MI(X;Y) = D_{KL}(P_{(X,Y)}||P_X \times P_Y) =$$

$$= \sum_{y \in Y} \sum_{x \in X} P_{(X,Y)}(x,y) \log \left( \frac{P_{(X,Y)}(x,y)}{P_X(x)P_Y(y)} \right)$$

Mutual information measures the information that *X* and *Y* share. It measures how much knowing one of these variables reduces uncertainty about the other.

## **Example** (categories $c_1, c_2, c_3$ are color coded green/yellow/red)

1. 
$$\omega_1 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_9, x_{10}, x_{11}, x_{20}\}$$
  
2.  $\omega_2 = \{x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}, x_{17}, x_{18}, x_{19}\}$   
3.  $\omega_3 = \{x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{23}, x_{24}, x_{25}, x_{27}, x_{28}, x_{30}\}$   
4.  $\omega_4 = \{x_{26}, x_{29}\}$ 

#### **Mutual Information**

Mutual Information 
$$\text{MI}(\Omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^K \sum_{i=1}^J n_j^{(i)} \cdot \log \frac{n_j^{(i)} \cdot N}{\sum_{m=1}^J n_j^{(m)} \cdot \sum_{l=1}^K n_l^{(i)}}$$
 
$$\cdot n_j^{(i)} \quad \text{: number of objects from } c_i \text{ being clustered into } \omega_j$$

category \ cluster	$\omega_1$	$\omega_2$	$\omega_3$	$\omega_4$
$c_1$	10	0	0	0
$c_2$	2	8	0	0
$c_3$	0	0	8	2

# **Example** (categories $c_1, c_2, c_3$ are color coded green/yellow/red)

1. 
$$\omega_1 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_9, x_{10}, x_{11}, x_{20}\}$$
  
2.  $\omega_2 = \{x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}, x_{17}, x_{18}, x_{19}\}$   
3.  $\omega_3 = \{x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{23}, x_{24}, x_{25}, x_{27}, x_{28}, x_{30}\}$ 

2. 
$$\omega_2 = \{x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}, x_{17}, x_{18}, x_{19}\}$$

3. 
$$\omega_3 = \{x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{23}, x_{24}, x_{25}, x_{27}, x_{28}, x_{30}\}$$

4. 
$$\omega_4 = \{x_{26}, x_{29}\}$$

## **Mutual Information**

- Log base K · J
- Several values are 0

$$MI(\Omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{K} \sum_{i=1}^{J} n_j^{(i)} \cdot \log \frac{n_j^{(i)} \cdot N}{\sum_{m=1}^{J} n_j^{(m)} \cdot \sum_{l=1}^{K} n_l^{(i)}}$$

$$MI(\Omega) = \frac{1}{30} \cdot \left( 10 \cdot \log \frac{10 \cdot 30}{12 \cdot 10} + 2 \cdot \log \frac{2 \cdot 30}{12 \cdot 10} + 8 \cdot \log \frac{8 \cdot 30}{8 \cdot 10} + 8 \cdot \log \frac{8 \cdot 30}{8 \cdot 10} + 2 \cdot \log \frac{2 \cdot 30}{2 \cdot 10} \right) = 0.370$$

#### **Extrinsic metrics: Rand Index**

Given: External knowledge (ground truth of categories)

$$C = \{c_1, \cdots, c_I\}$$

- Idea: Compare clusters  $\Omega$  and ground truth categories C
- Approach:
  - Determine:  $n_i^{(i)}$  : number of objects from  $c_i$  being clustered into  $\omega_j$
- Rand Index:
  - Consider pairs of data items on categories and clusters
    - Agreements: same-same (ss), different-different (dd)
    - Disagreements: same-different (sd), different-same (ds)
  - Agreement-ratio:

$$I_{\text{Rand}}(\Omega) = \frac{\text{ss} + \text{dd}}{\text{ss} + \text{dd} + \text{sd} + \text{ds}}$$

# Example (categories $c_1, c_2, c_3$ are color coded green/yellow/red)

1. 
$$\omega_1 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_9, x_{10}, x_{11}, x_{20}\}\$$
2.  $\omega_2 = \{x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}, x_{17}, x_{18}, x_{19}\}\$ 
3.  $\omega_3 = \{x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{23}, x_{24}, x_{25}, x_{27}, x_{28}, x_{30}\}\$ 
4.  $\omega_4 = \{x_{26}, x_{29}\}\$ 

#### Rand Index

Agreements:

• 
$$ss = 103 = {10 \choose 2} + 1 + {8 \choose 2} + {8 \choose 2} + 1$$

• 
$$dd = 280 = 10 \cdot 18 + 2 \cdot 10 + 8 \cdot 10$$

Disagreements

• 
$$sd = 32 = 2 \cdot 8 + 2 \cdot 8$$

• 
$$ds = 20 = 2 \cdot 10$$

$$I_{\text{Rand}}(\Omega) = \frac{\text{ss} + \text{dd}}{\text{ss} + \text{dd} + \text{sd} + \text{ds}} = \frac{383}{435} = 0.88$$

# Do not confuse evaluation metrics and loss functions (many students do)

#### **Evaluation metrics**

- represents what (a majority of) human users find correct
  - task specific
  - · independent from prior knowledge
  - must be algorithm independent
  - allows to compare resulting quality of different algorithms
- must be human understandable
  - should be as simple as possible
- may possibly ask a human
  - though this has disadvantages



#### Loss function

- guides the algorithm to find the right solution
  - algorithm specific
  - regularized to represent prior knowledge
  - improvement of loss function value need not indicate improvement for user



- though you have to be careful not to misguide the algorithm
- must be efficiently evaluable



# A premature comparison for later reference – not further elaborated now

#### **Evaluation metrics**

- Accuracy
- precision
- recall
- f1
- MSE
- BLEU, ROUGE
- •

#### **Loss function**

- cross entropy (CE)
- hinge loss
- exponential loss
- regularized MSE

During teaching some metrics are used as evaluation metrics and as loss function (MSE!) – but rarely in practice

# 7 K-Means

#### K-Means

General clustering algorithm

- Characteristics:
  - Flat clusters
  - No overlaps
  - Good runtime
  - Simple to implement

- Parameters
  - *K* : number of clusters
  - Initial random seed

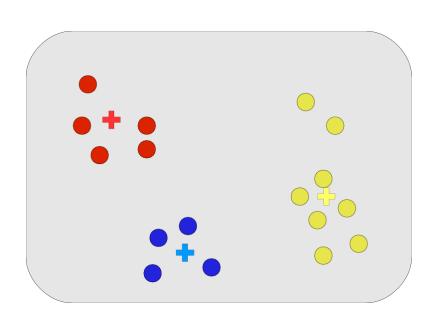
# K-Means Algorithm

- Given input data  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , and  $d, K \in \mathbb{N}$
- Choose randomly K cluster centroid seeds  $Z = \{z_i | z_i \in \mathbb{R}^d\}_{i=1}^K$

#### repeat

- For all objects x
  - Assign x to cluster  $\omega_i$  with minimal  $\delta(x, z_i)$
- For all clusters  $\omega_i$ 
  - Compute centroid  $z_i = \frac{1}{|\omega_i|} \sum_{x \in \omega_i} x$

until centroids do not change



# Advantages and disadvantages of k-means

#### Advantages:

- Efficiency: time complexity: O(N) for each iteration, Number of iterations is usually very small (~ 5 - 10).
- Simple implementation
- · Easy, good interpretability
- ⇒ K-means the most popular (partitional) cluster algorithm!

#### Disadvantages:

- Susceptible to noise and outliers since all objects influence the computation of centroids
- Cluster have always convex form
- Number *k* of clusters is often difficult to determine
- Strong dependency on initial partition (runtime + result!)

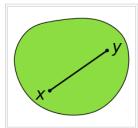


Illustration of a convex set which 63 looks somewhat like a deformed circle. The (black) line segment joining points x and y lies completely within the (green) set. Since this is true for any points x and y within the set that we might choose, the set is convex.

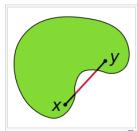


Illustration of a non-convex set. Since the red part of the (black and red) line-segment joining the points x and y lies outside of the (green) set, the set is non-convex.

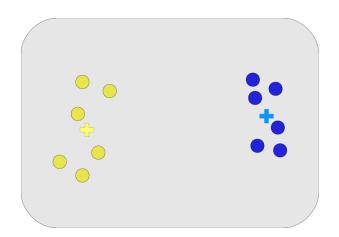
#### **Some Variations**

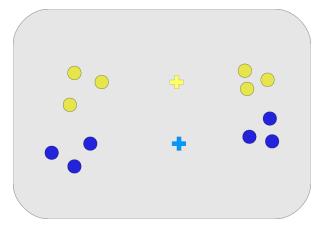
- Random seed
  - Furthests points / modified furthest points
     David Arthur, Sergei Vassilvitskii: K-means++: The Advantages of Careful Seeding. In: Proc. of the 18th Annual ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms. S. 1027–1035. <a href="http://theory.stanford.edu/~sergei/slides/BATS-Means.pdf">http://theory.stanford.edu/~sergei/slides/BATS-Means.pdf</a>
- Stop criterion
  - Small changes of the centroids
  - Fixed number of iterations
- K-Medoid
  - Non-standard metrics (e.g. string similarity)
    - Mean centroid cannot be computed
  - K-medoid: Use most central objects

# **Initial configuration**

- Choice of initial seed can cause different outcomes!
- Solution
  - Repeat with different seeds
  - Evaluate quality
    - Dunn index
    - Residual Sum of Squares

$$RSS(\Omega) = \sum_{j=1}^{K} \sum_{x \in \omega_j} \delta(x, z_j)^2$$



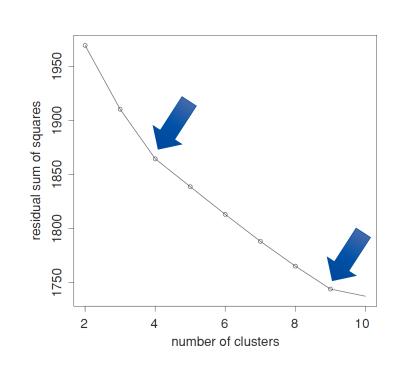


Choose best performing setting

#### Choice of K

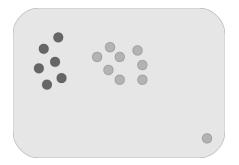
- Important parameter!
- Knowledge about the data
  - Expert insights
- Development of RSS
  - Monotonous decline
  - Typically two points where decline slows down

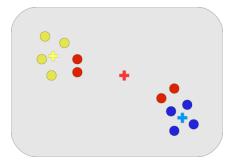
Schubert, Erich. "Stop using the elbow criterion for k-means and how to choose the number of clusters instead." ACM SIGKDD Explorations Newsletter 25.1 (2023): 36-42.

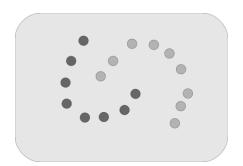


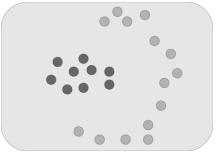
# **Problematic configurations**

- Outliers
  - Cause singleton clusters
  - Solution:
    - Remove and treat separately
- Empty clusters
  - Unlucky position of centroids
  - Solution:
    - Split large cluster
- Non-spheric shapes
  - Cannot be handled!



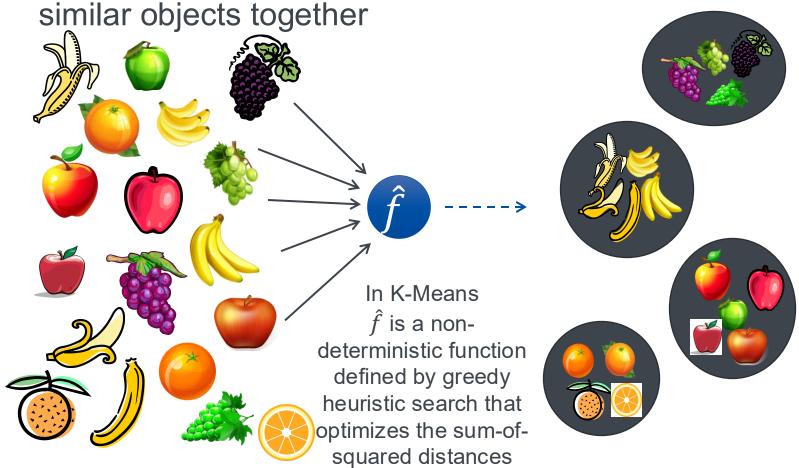






# K-Means-Clustering

• Given a set of objects, find a function  $\hat{f}$  to group similar objects together



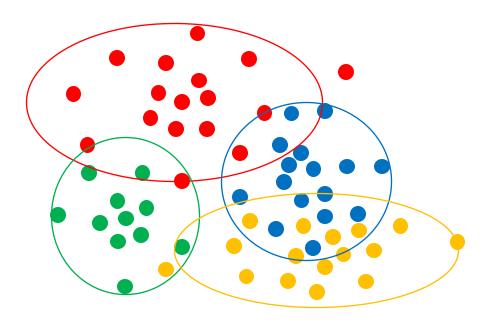
#### **Beware!**

- When you run K-Means you will always end up with a result.
- That result may be extremely poor.
- Whether it is good or bad may be hard to tell.
- Often you may want to run a classifier to determine the important attributes using the found clusters as target classes.

# 8 Expectation Maximization

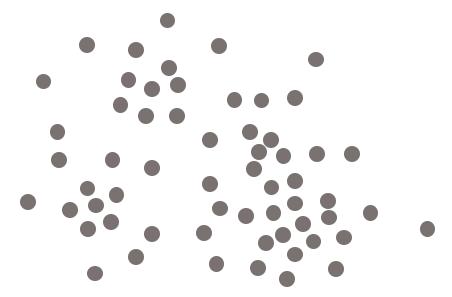
#### Idea

 Assumption: Data can be explained by a mixture of parametrized probability distributions – one per cluster



#### Idea

- Data can be explained by a mixture of parametrized probability distributions – one per cluster
- Problem: the true distributions are unknown, all we see is the data



# **Expectation Maximization (EM)**

General clustering algorithm

- Characteristics:
  - Probabilistic approach
  - Soft assignments to clusters
  - Generalization of K-Means

- Parameters
  - K: number of clusters
  - Initial random seed
  - Model for the distribution

# Remember: Continuous Probability Distributions

Continuous case:

Discrete case:

$$\forall x \in \text{dom}(X)$$
:

$$P(x) \in [0,1]$$

Probability density function 
$$f$$
 with  $f(x) \ge 0$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} f(x)dx = 1$$









What is P(x) if  $dom(X) = \Omega = \mathbb{R}^d$ ?  $\rightarrow$  (almost) always 0

Cumulative probability distribution 
$$F$$
 with  $\forall x \in \Omega$ :  $F(x) \in [0,1]$ 

Figure 
$$F(x) = P(X \le x) = \int_{0}^{x} f(t)dt$$

$$d-n$$

$$d = n$$
:

Multivariate case 
$$d = n$$
:

$$F(x_1 ... x_n) = P(X_1 \le x_1 ... X_n \le x_n) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} ... \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) dt$$

#### Gaussian models of the individual distribution

Density of univariate normal distribution (1 dimensional)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Where  $\mu$  is the mean and  $\sigma$  the standard deviation

Density of multivariate normal distribution (d-dimensional)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^d |\Sigma|}} e^{-\left(\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)\right)}$$

Where  $\mu$  is an d-dimensional vector,  $\Sigma$  is the  $d \times d$  covariance matrix and  $|\Sigma|$  the determinant

Other non-Gaussian distribution P with parameters θ possible

Leads to very popular

Gaussian Mixture Models

#### **Model estimation**

- Estimate model parameters from data
- Maximum likelihood estimation:
  - 1 dimensional case:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} x_i$$
  $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{x \in X} (x_i - \mu)^2$ 

m-dimensional case:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{x \in X} x_i \qquad \qquad \Sigma = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{x \in X} (x_i - \mu)(x_i - \mu)^T$$

Maximize log likelihood function:

$$\log(L(\theta|X)) = \log(\prod_{x \in X} P(x|\theta)) = \sum_{x \in X} \log(P(x|\theta))$$

But: we don't know which objects belongs to which cluster ...

# Latent variables: Cluster assignment

• For each object  $x_i \in X$ we model latent variables  $z_{ij}$  indicating to which cluster  $\omega_i$  it belongs

#### Iterate until convergence:

- Expectation step
  - Given the current model parameters  $\theta$  calculate the expected values for  $z_{i,i}$ 
    - How probable is it that object  $x_i$  belongs to cluster  $\omega_j$  given the current model hypothesis  $\theta$

#### Maximization step

- Given the current estimates for the latent variables  $z_{ij}$ , calculate the model parameters  $\theta$ 
  - what are the model parameters  $\theta$  when we assume that the assignment to clusters was correct

#### **Initialization**

#### Problem:

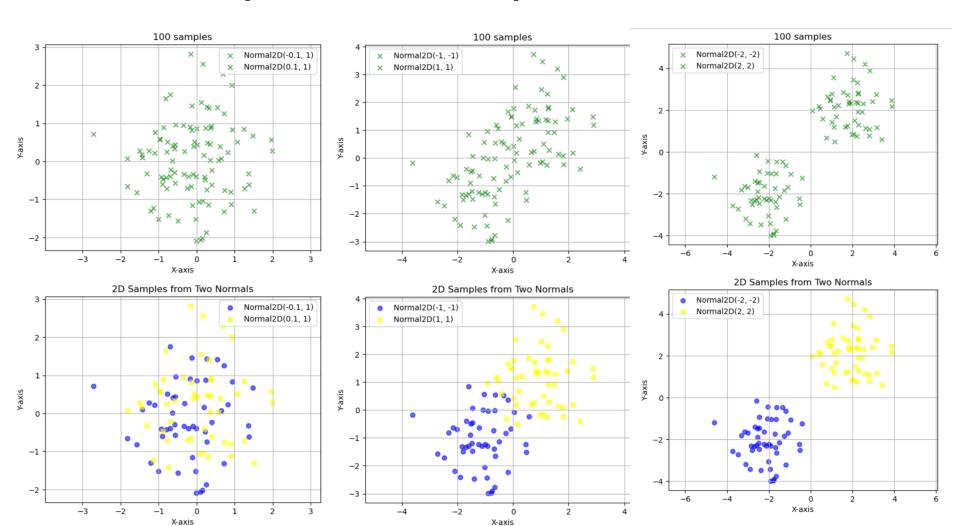
- Expectation step needs model parameters to estimate latent variables
- Maximization step needs latent variables to estimate model parameters



# Different options:

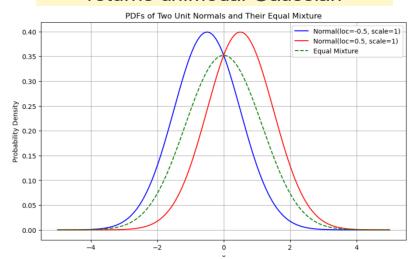
- Hand selected initial model parameters
- Random initialization
- Choose random individuals
- Perform k-means clustering to find initial clusters

# From non-separable to well-separable distributions



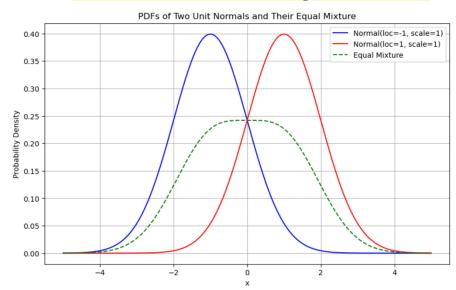
#### Mixture of two Gaussians

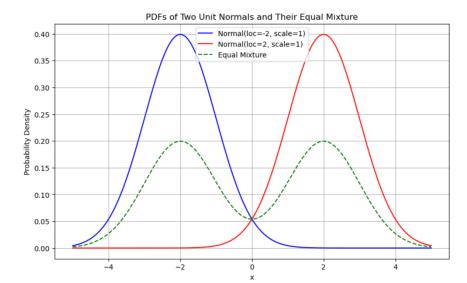
# Mixture of close-by Gaussians returns unimodal Gaussian



Mixture of far-aways Gaussians returns bi-modal distribution

#### **Transitioning**





# **Example**

Gender	height			
F	124			
F	115			
F	121			
F	139			
F	98			
F	135			
F	131			
M	170			
M	166			
M	155			
M	167			
M	158			
M	175			
M	143			
M	163			
M	160			
M	145			
M	176			

- Cluster people by their height
  - Two classes
  - Assume initial model:

• 
$$\mu_1 = 110$$
  $\sigma_1 = 20$ 

$$\sigma_1 = 20$$

• 
$$\mu_2 = 160$$
  $\sigma_2 = 20$ 

$$\sigma_2 = 20$$

- Expectation:
  - $f_{\mu_1,\sigma_1}(124) = 0.0156$
  - $f_{\mu_2,\sigma_2}(124) = 0.0039$
  - Weights:
    - $z_{11} = 0.7982$
    - $z_{12} = 0.2018$

# **Example**

Gender	height
F	124
F	115
F	121
F	139
F	98
F	135
F	131
M	170
M	166
M	155
M	167
M	158
M	175
M	143
M	163
M	160
M	145
M	176

- Given all weights:
- New model parameters

$$\mu_j = \frac{\sum_{x \in X} z_{ij} x_i}{\sum_{x \in X} z_{ij}}$$

$$\sigma_j^2 = \frac{\sum_{x \in X} z_{ij} (x_i - \mu)^2}{\sum_{x \in X} z_{ij}}$$

- Values:
  - $\mu_1 = 123.72$

$$\sigma_1 = 15.98$$

• 
$$\mu_2 = 157.72$$

$$\sigma_2 = 14.62$$

# Some other clustering techniques

- Many variations of K-Means
  - K-median, hierarchical K-Means, ....
- Agglomerative clustering
- DBScan (density oriented)
- Generalizations of EM to "graphical models"
  - Latent dirichlet allocation
  - See lecture "Probabilistic Machine Learning" in winter term
- Graph clustering (on graph data)
- Self-supervised learning (as preprocessing for clustering)



## Thank you!



#### **Steffen Staab**

E-Mail Steffen.staab@ki.uni-stuttgart.de Telefon +49 (0) 711 685-88100 www.ki.uni-stuttgart.de/

Universität Stuttgart Analytic Computing, Institut für Künstliche Intelligenz Universitätsstraße 32, 50569 Stuttgart