

### Practical 7: (for Lecture 7: Clustering)

Have a look at the simple k-means program you have been given. Note, it can look for clusters of different  $k$ s; but for plotting purposes it fixed to look for  $k=3$ . The program can work from a randomly generated set of points or a defined set.

- 1) Use the **init\_board** fn to randomly generate 15 points; store this output and set the **data** variable to it.

Now run this set 10 times and note the clusters found by k-means.

Report the results of these runs and the extent to which the same clusters are found.

- 2) Now, create you own set of data, again with 15 points. You should construct this data-set to have very clear clusters (a bit like the simple 6-point example shown).

Now run this set 20 times and note the clusters found by k-means.

Report the results of these runs and the extent to which the same clusters are found.

- 3) Do some research on the problem that k-means produces different answers on different runs.

Describe two typical solutions to this problem with references to the literature you read to answer his question