

# Clustering

Prof. Dr. Christina Bauer

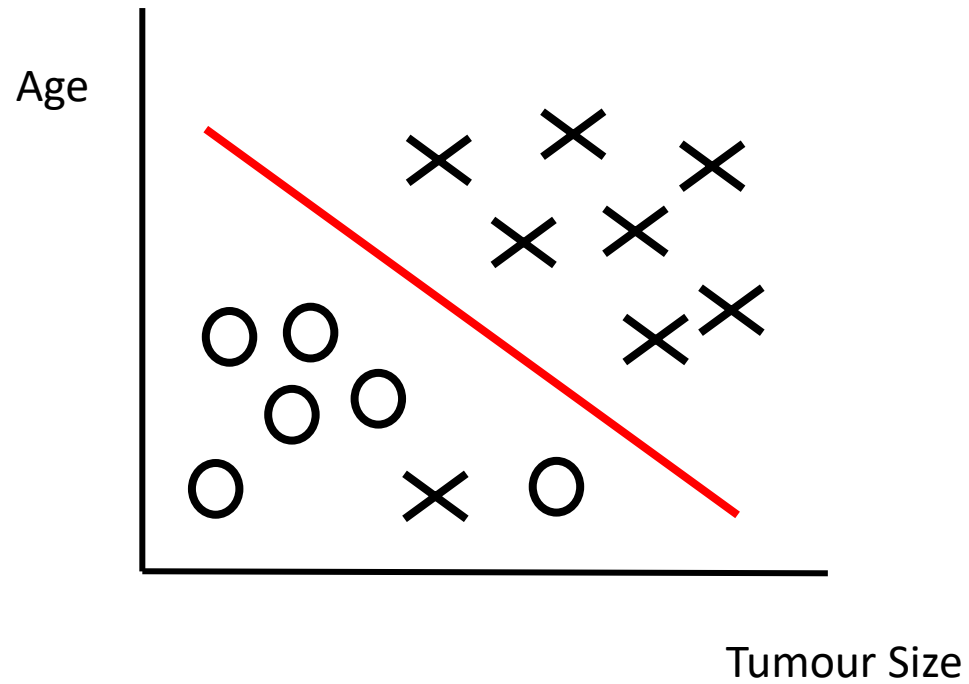
[christina.bauer@th-deg.de](mailto:christina.bauer@th-deg.de)

Faculty of Computer Science

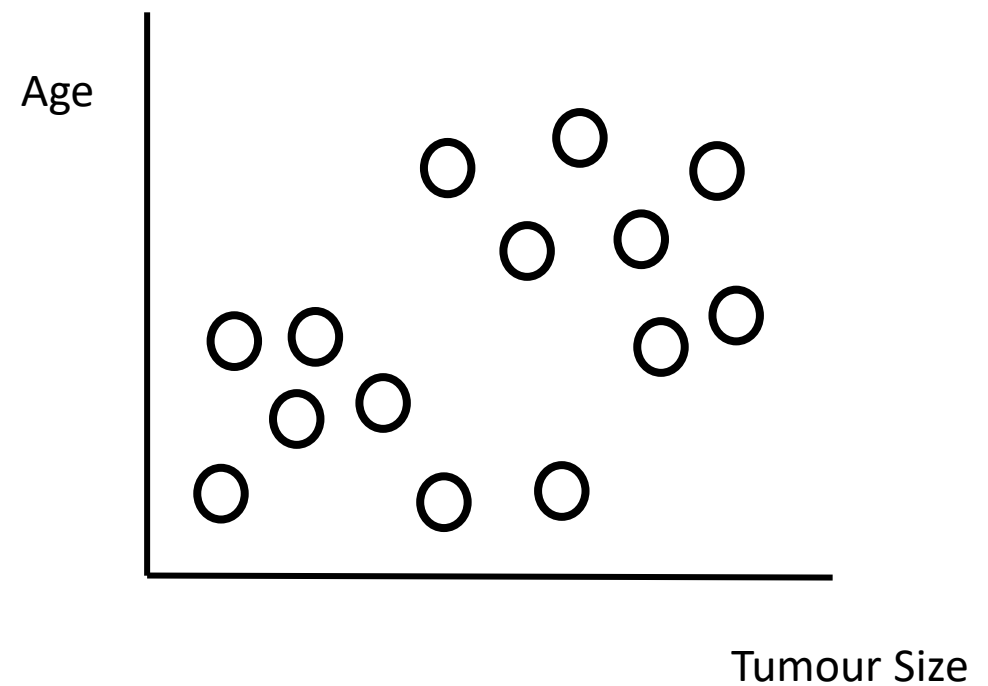
# UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

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**supervised**



**unsupervised**

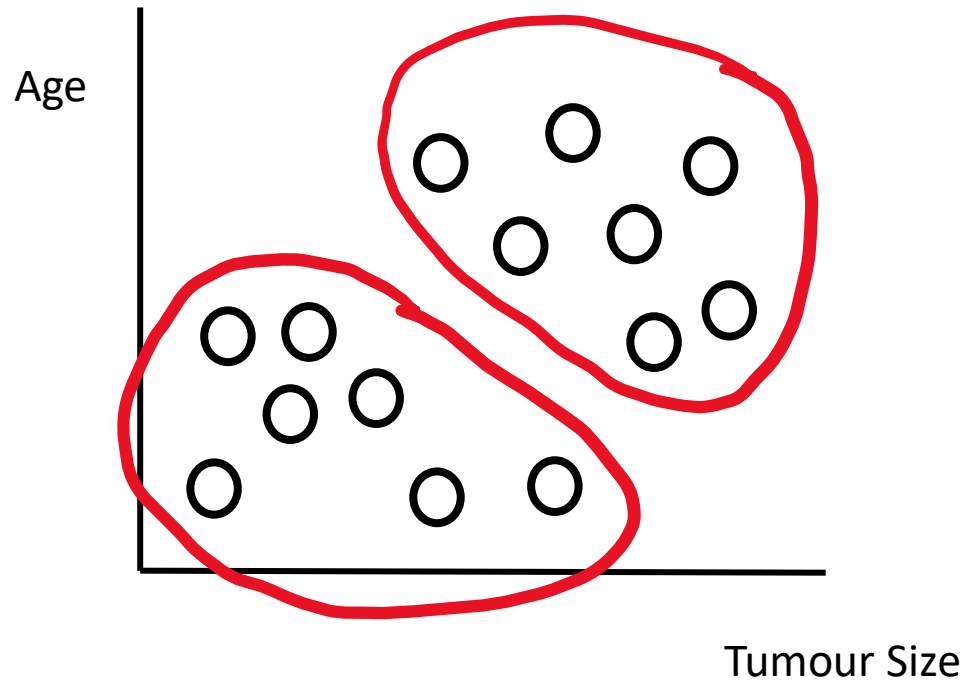


Training set  $\{(x^1, y^1), \dots, (x^m, y^m)\}$

# UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

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## Clustering algorithm



# UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

## Hotel quarantine: 'It'll cost us thousands and we'll be miles from home'

BBC News · 2 hours ago

- **Inside a quarantine hotel on Heathrow's 'Isolation Row'**

 The Independent · 3 hours ago

- **Coronavirus in the UK: Quarantine loophole still exists just hours before hotel policy begins, says Michael Matheson**

Edinburgh News · 22 hours ago

- **Hotel quarantine is another example of too little too late – it's all up to immigration officials now**

The Independent · Yesterday · **Opinion**

- **Covid vaccine rollout 'an unbelievable effort' - Johnson**

BBC News · 15 hours ago

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Coronavirus Health Hearts Hibs Sport What's On Best In Retro Lifestyle Homes and Gardens e-Paper Puzzles

Health > Coronavirus

## Coronavirus in the UK: Quarantine loophole still exists just hours before hotel policy begins, says Michael Matheson

Scottish Transport Secretary Michael Matheson has admitted a quarantine "loophole" allowing overseas travellers to avoid self-isolation still exists – less than a day before the policy comes into force.



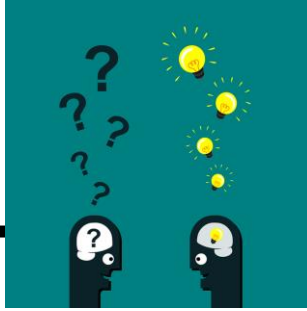
# UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

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- Data centre management: Organize computer cluster
- Social science: Social network analysis
- Market segmentation – based on customer data
- Astronomical data analysis – e. g. “how are galaxies formed”

# QUESTION

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Which of the following statements are true? Check all that apply.

A: In unsupervised learning, the training set is of the form  $\{x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$  without labels  $y^{(i)}$ .

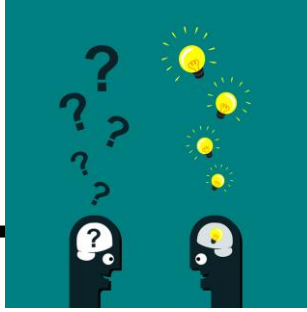
B: Clustering is an example of unsupervised learning.

C: In unsupervised learning, you are given an unlabeled dataset and are asked to find "structure" in the data.

D: Clustering is the only unsupervised learning algorithm.

# QUESTION

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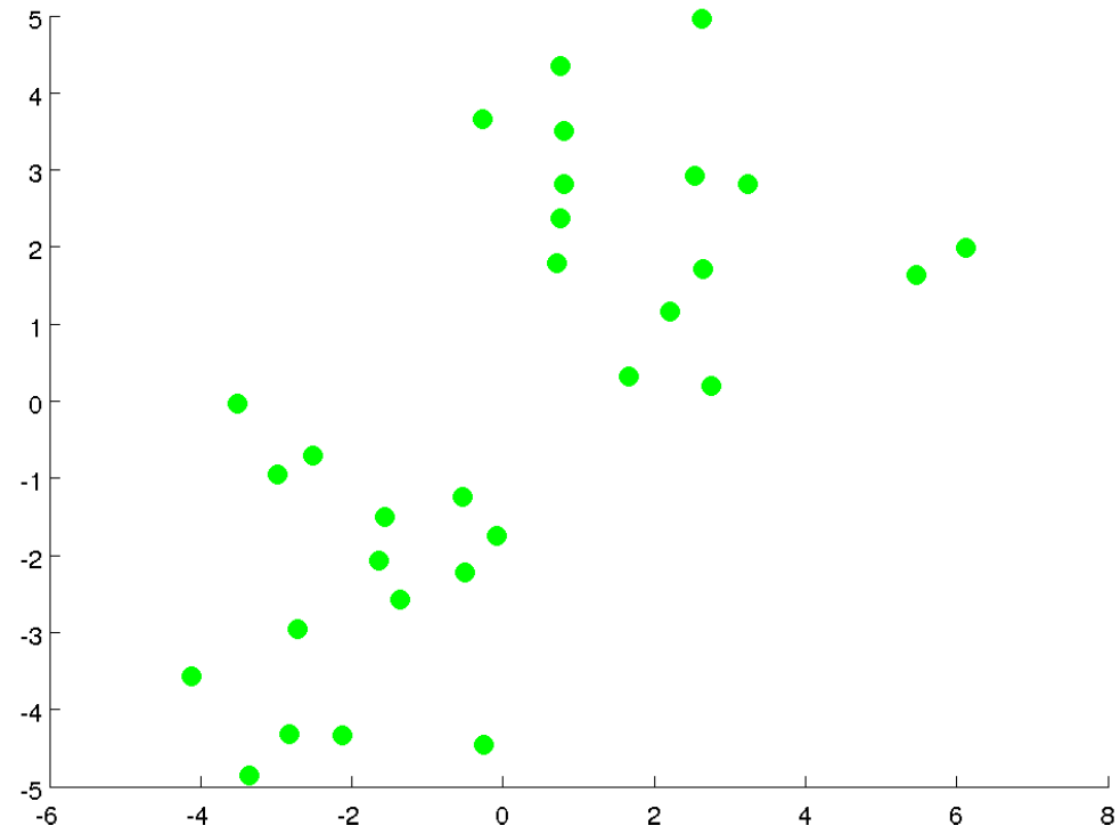


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- ☒ A: In unsupervised learning, the training set is of the form  $\{x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$  without labels  $y^{(i)}$ .
- ☒ B: Clustering is an example of unsupervised learning.
- ☒ C: In unsupervised learning, you are given an unlabeled dataset and are asked to find "structure" in the data.
- ☐ D: Clustering is the only unsupervised learning algorithm.

# K-MEANS

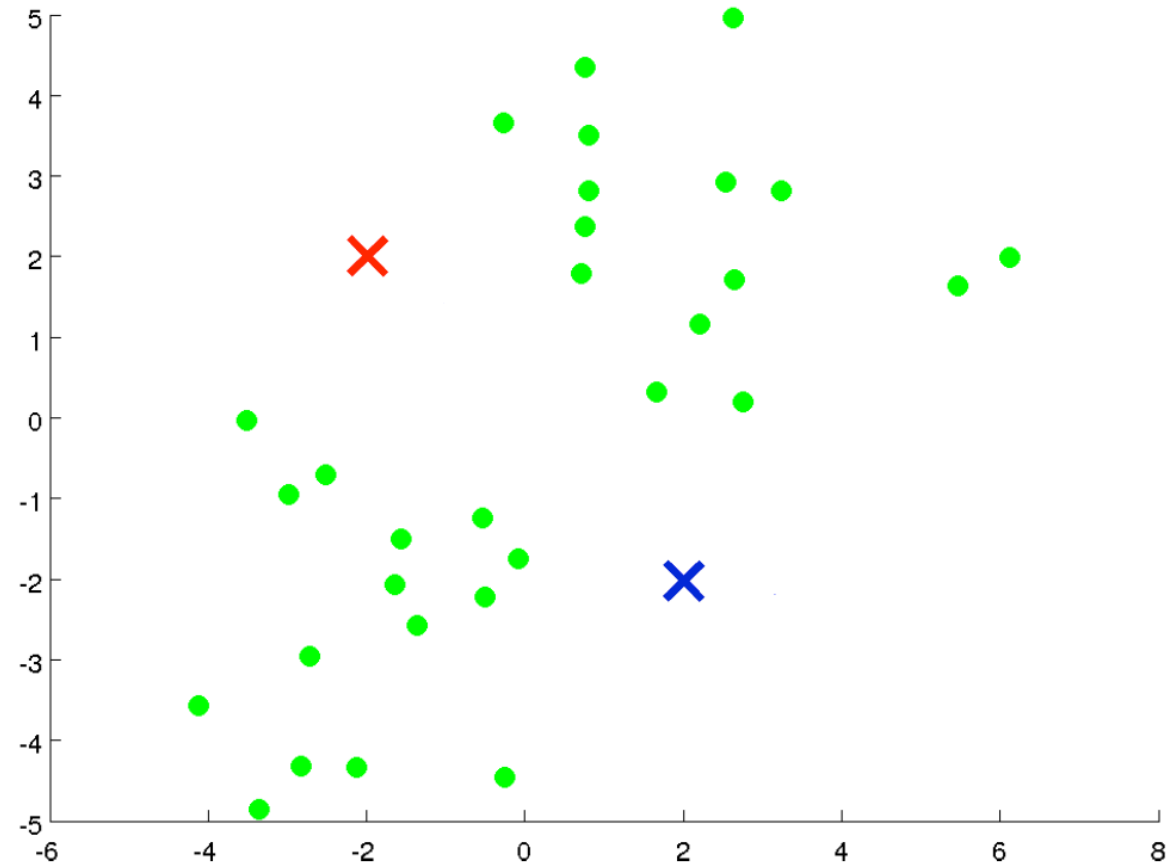
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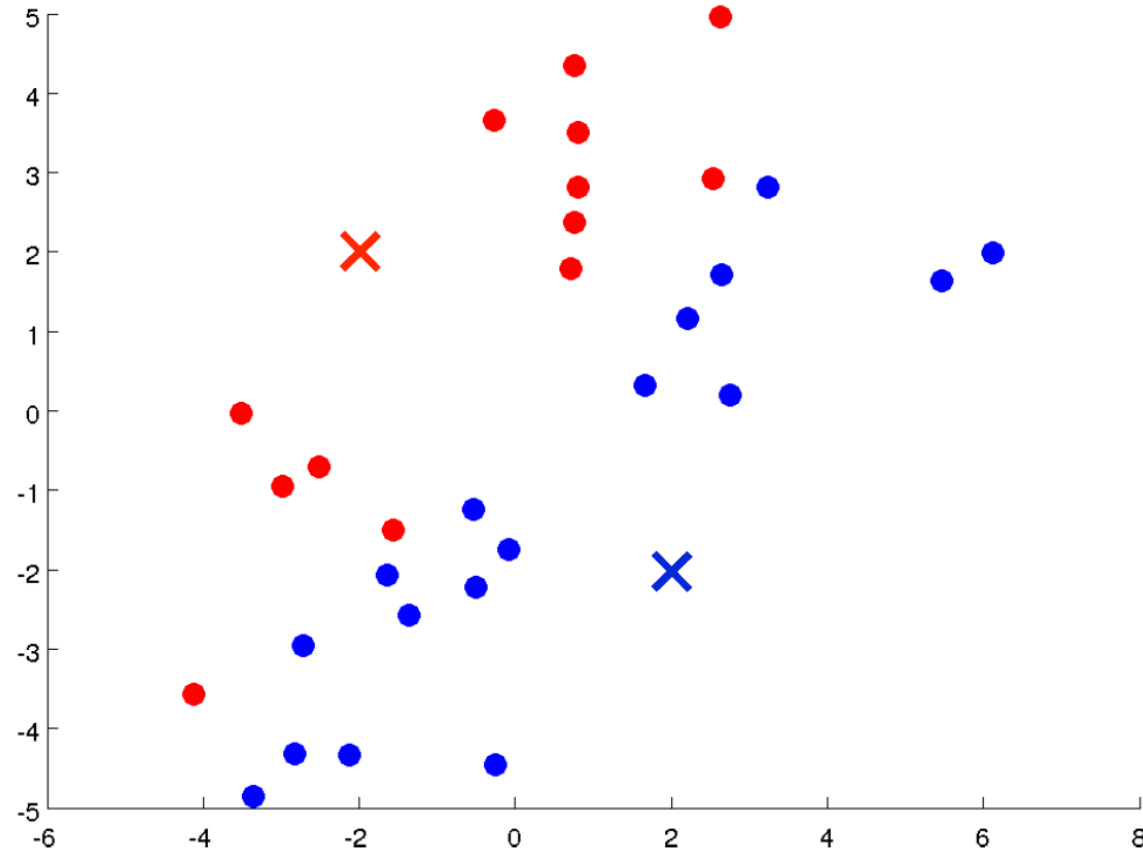
# K-MEANS — CLUSTER CENTROIDS

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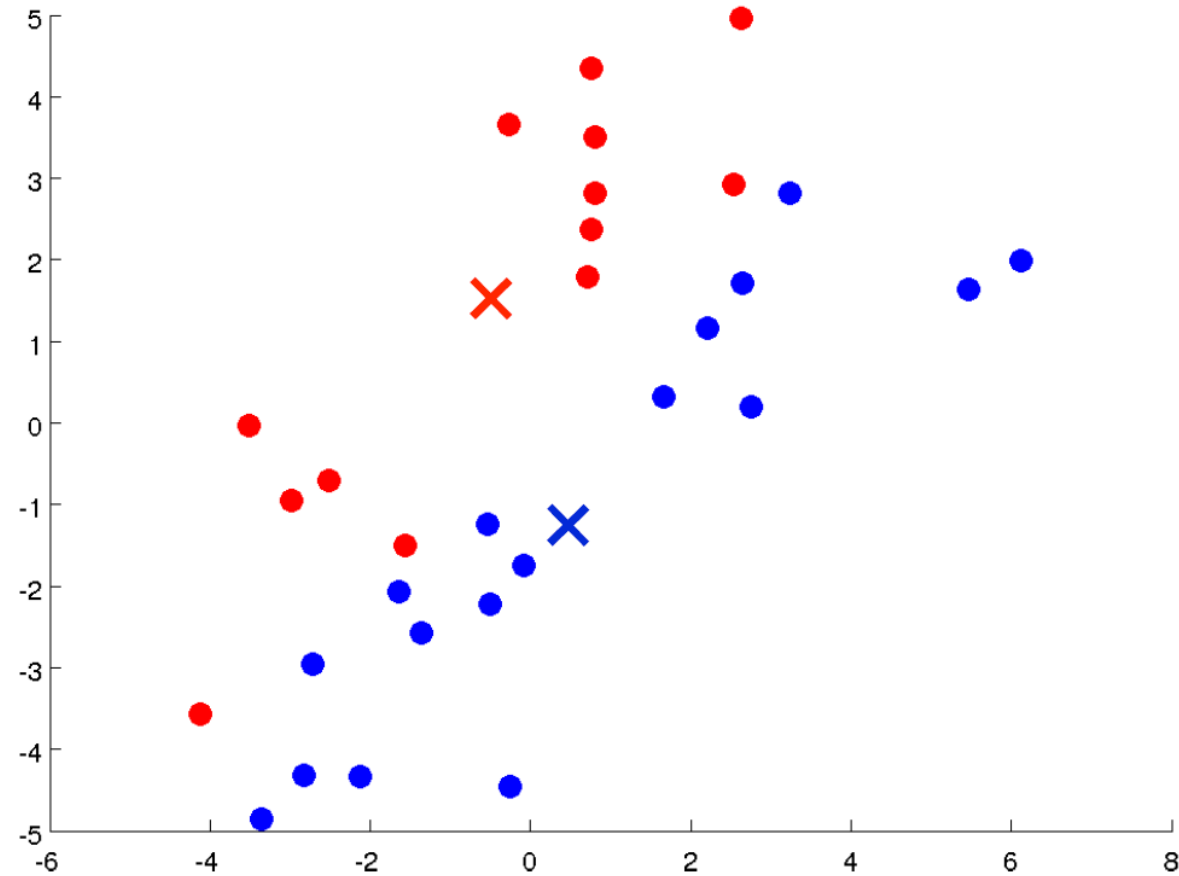
# K-MEANS — ASSIGN DATA POINTS TO CLUSTER CENTROIDS

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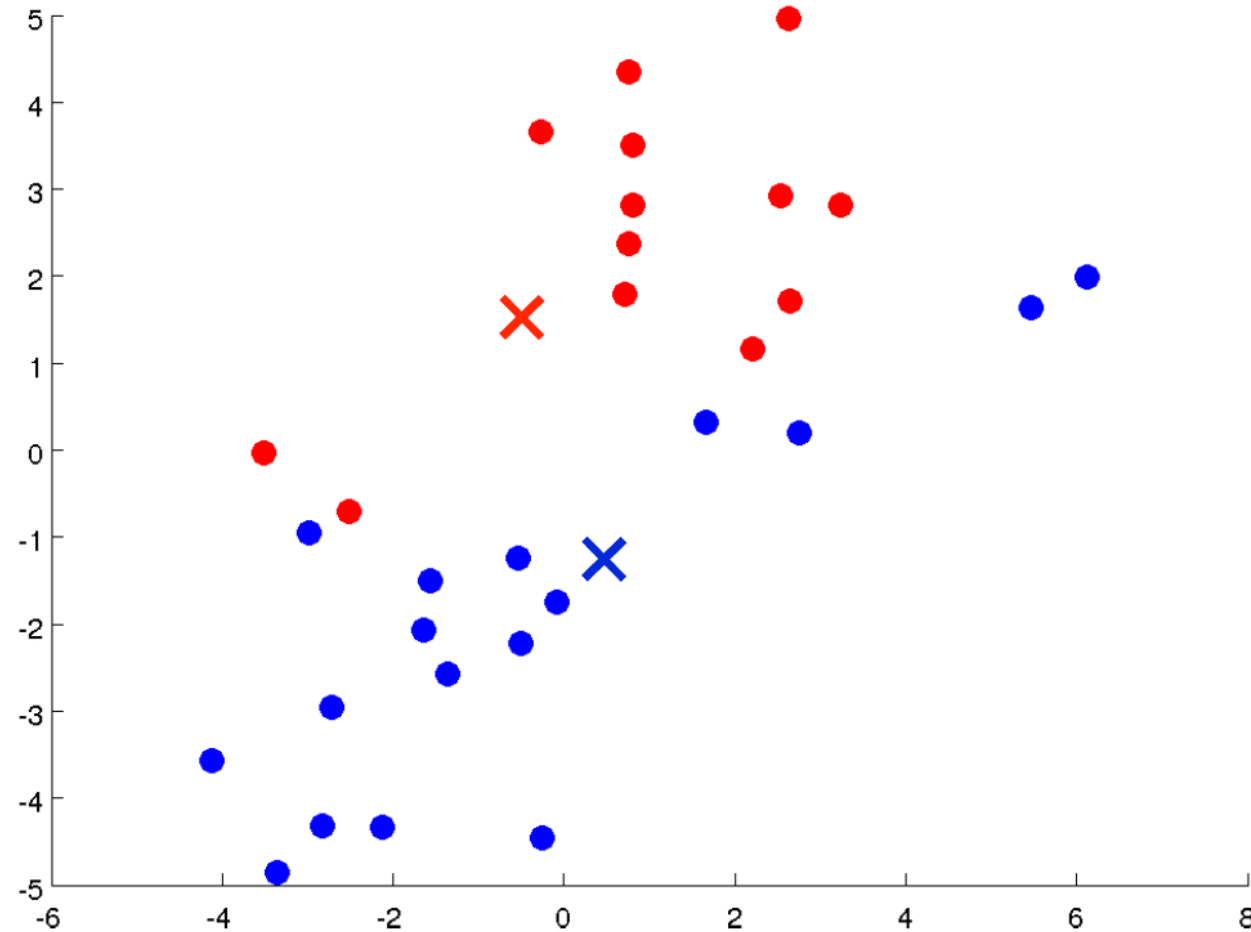
# K-MEANS — MOVE TO AVERAGE OF POINTS OF SAME COLOUR

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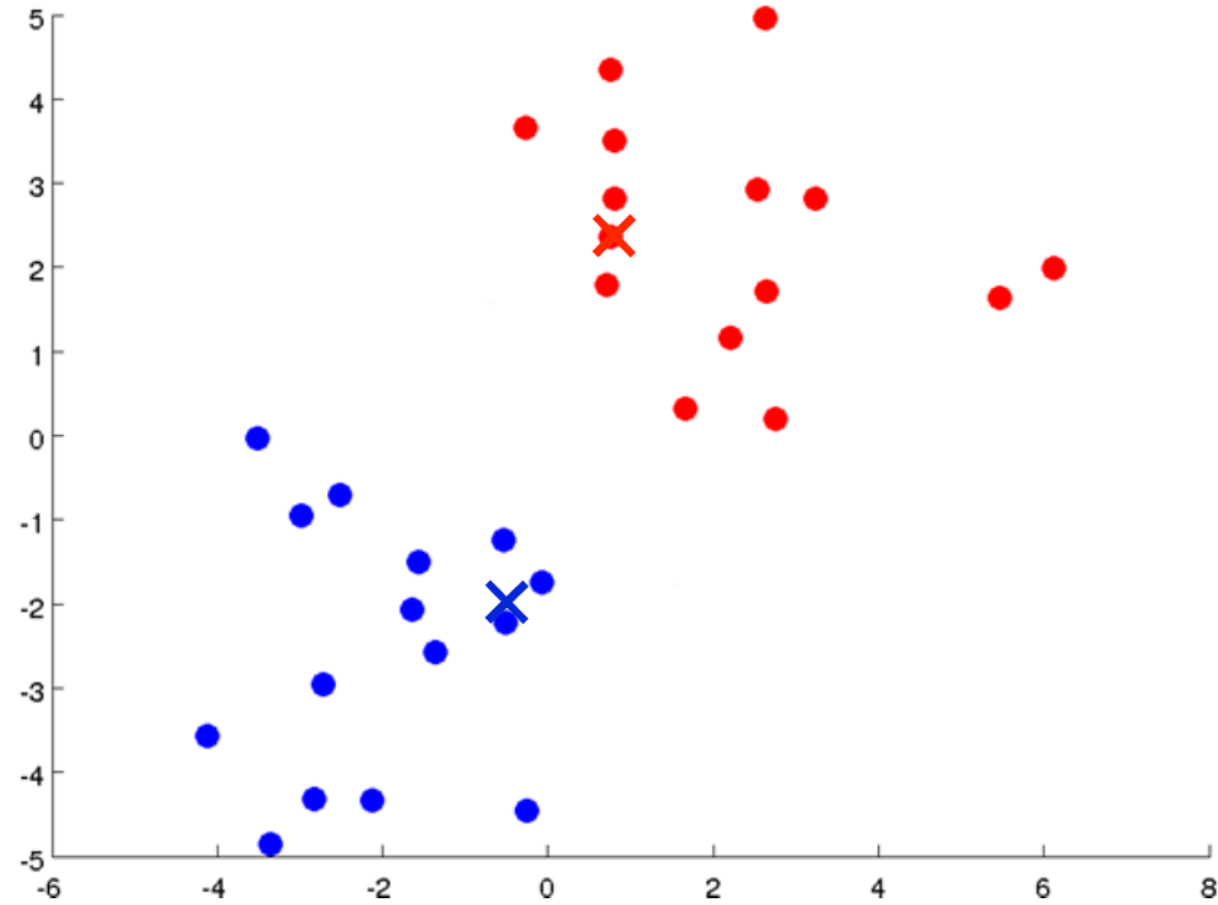
# K-MEANS — ASSIGN DATA POINTS TO “NEW” CLUSTER CENTROIDS

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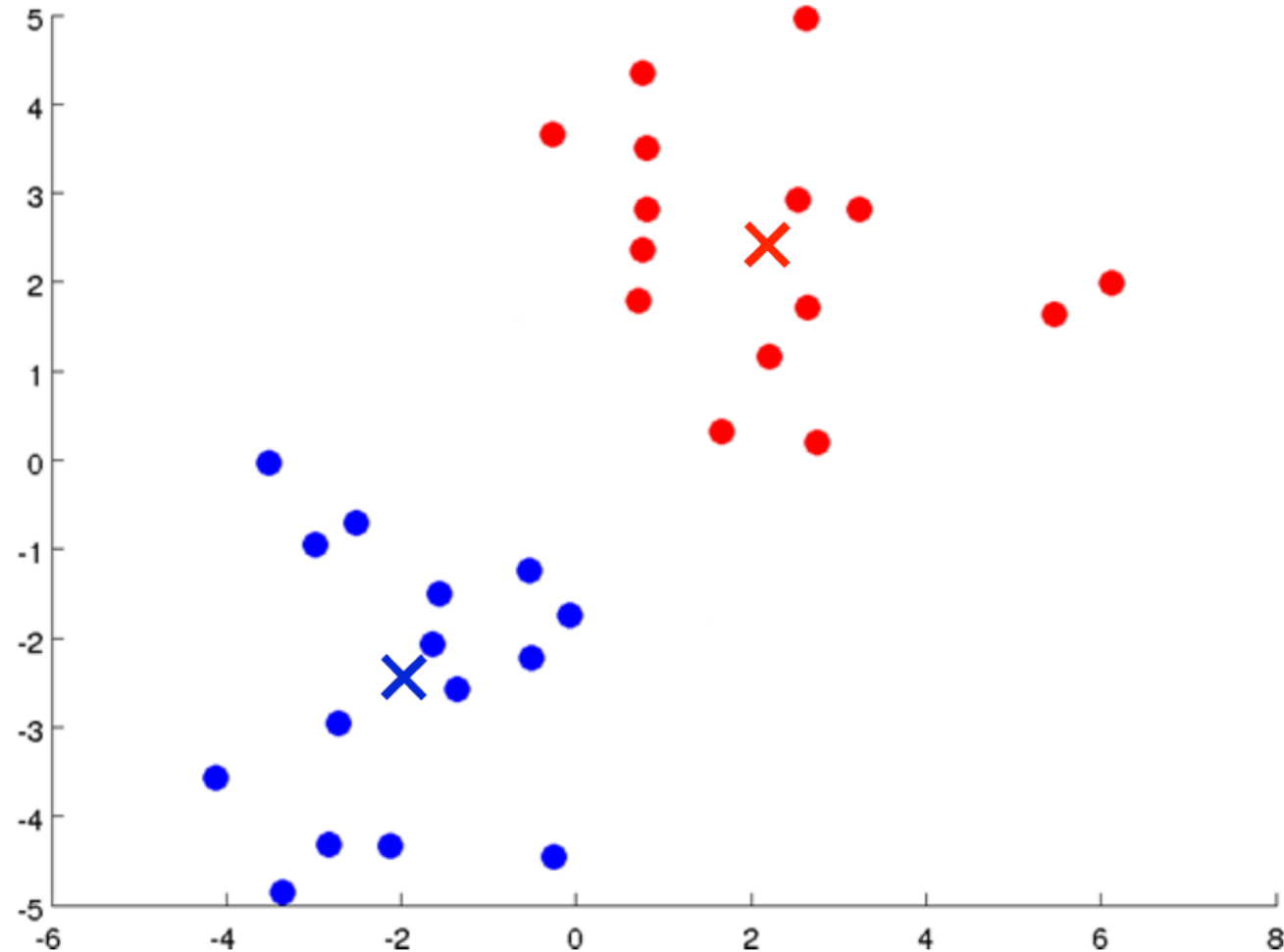
# K-MEANS — MOVE AND ASSIGN

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# K-MEANS — MOVE AND ASSIGN — NO CHANGE - DONE

---



# K-MEANS

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- Input:
  - $K$  (number of clusters)
  - Training set  $\{x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$
- $x^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  (no  $x_0 = 1$  convention, so not  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ )

# K-MEANS

---

Randomly initialize K cluster centroids  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_K \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Repeat

{

for  $i = 1$  to  $m$

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

for  $k = 1$  to  $K$

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

}

Example:  $c^{(1)}=2, c^{(5)}=2, c^{(6)}=2 \rightarrow \mu_k = 1/3 (x^{(1)} + x^{(5)} + x^{(6)}) \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow n\text{-dimensional vector}$

**Cluster assignment  
step**

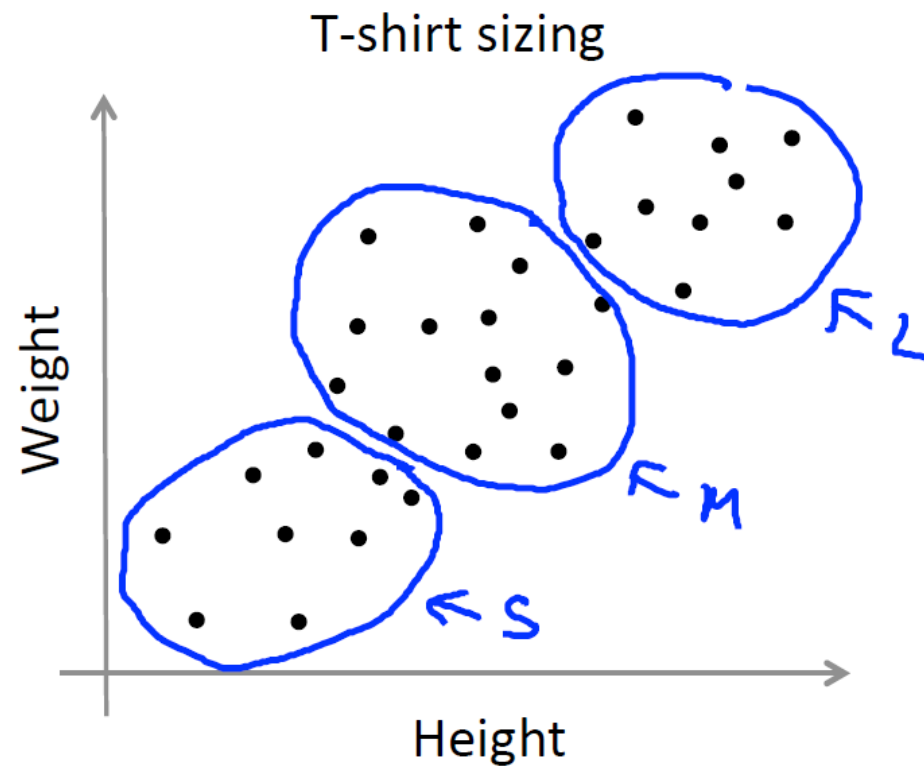
$\text{Min}_k \|x^{(i)} - \mu_k\|^2$   
Set this value as  $c^{(i)}$

**Move centroid  
step**



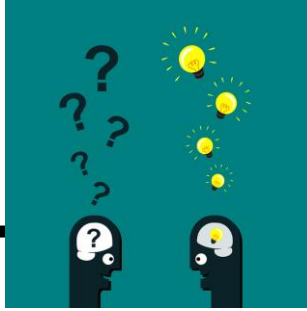
# K-MEANS FOR NON-SEPARATED CLUSTERS

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# QUESTION

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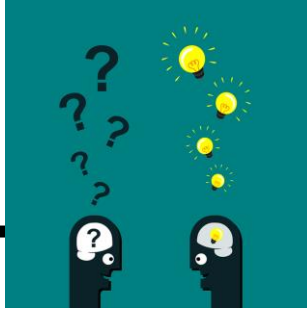


Suppose you run k-means and after the algorithm converges, you have:  $c^{(1)}=3, c^{(2)}=3, c^{(3)}=5, \dots$  Which of the following statements are true? Check all that apply.

- A: The third example  $x^{(3)}$  has been assigned to cluster 5.
- B: The first and second training examples  $x^{(1)}$  and  $x^{(2)}$  have been assigned to the same cluster.
- C: The second and third training examples have been assigned to the same cluster.
- D: Out of all the possible values of  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$  the value  $k=3$  minimizes  $\|x^{(2)} - \mu_k\|^2$

# QUESTION

---



Suppose you run k-means and after the algorithm converges, you have:  $c^{(1)}=3, c^{(2)}=3, c^{(3)}=5, \dots$  Which of the following statements are true? Check all that apply.

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# K-MEANS OPTIMIZATION OBJECTIVE

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- $c^{(i)}$  = index of cluster  $(1, 2, \dots, K)$  to which example  $x^{(i)}$  is currently assigned
- $\mu_k$  = cluster centroid  $k$  ( $\mu_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ;  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$ )
- $\mu_c^{(i)}$  = cluster centroid of cluster to which example  $x^{(i)}$  has been assigned  
(e.g.  $x^{(i)} \rightarrow 5$  i.e.  $c^{(i)} = 5$  i.e.  $\mu_c^{(i)} = \mu_5$ )

Optimization objective:

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

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

$$\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K$$

# K-MEANS

---

Randomly initialize K cluster centroids  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_K \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Repeat

{

for  $i = 1$  to  $m$

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

for  $k = 1$  to K

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

}

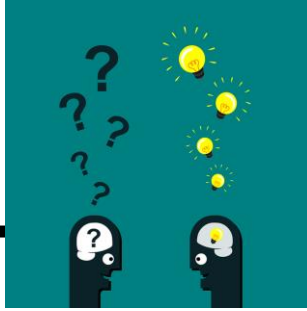
**Cluster assignment  
step**

Min  $J()$   
with respect to  
 $c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}$   
(holding  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K$   
fixed)

**Move centroid  
step**

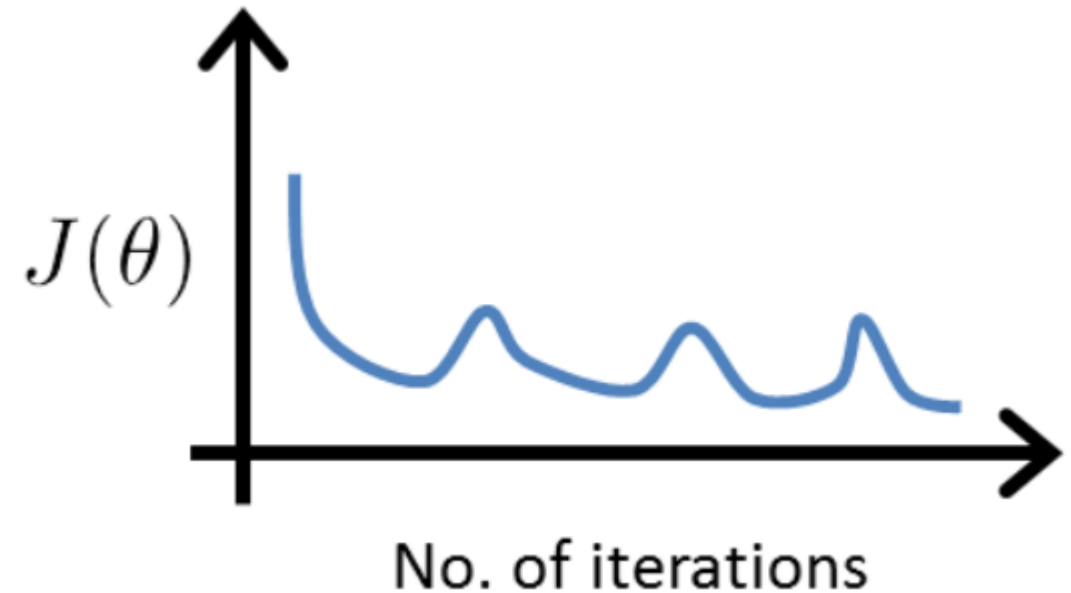
Minimize  $J()$  with  
respect to  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K$

# QUESTION

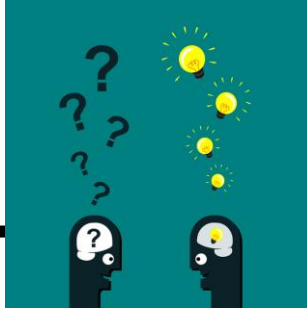


Suppose you have implemented k-means and to check that it is running correctly, you plot the cost function  $J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)$  as a function of the number of iterations. You get the given plot. What does this mean?

- A: The learning rate is too large.
- B: The algorithm is working correctly.
- C: The algorithm is working, but  $k$  is too large.
- D: It is not possible for the cost function to sometimes increase. There must be a bug in the code.

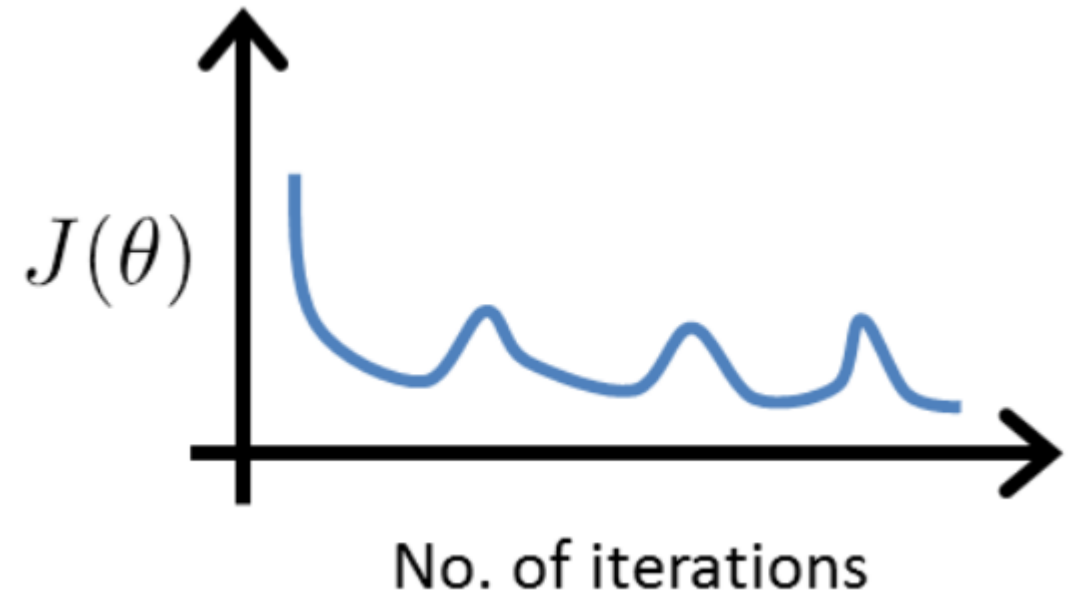


# QUESTION



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# RANDOM INITIALIZATION

---

**Randomly initialize K cluster centroids  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_K \in \mathbb{R}^n$**

Repeat

{

for i = 1 to m

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

for k = 1 to K

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

}

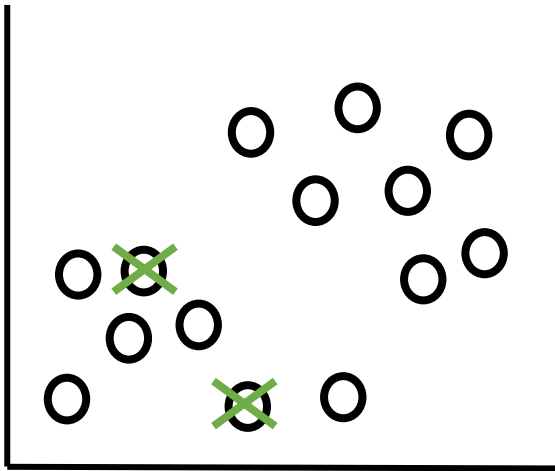


# RANDOM INITIALIZATION

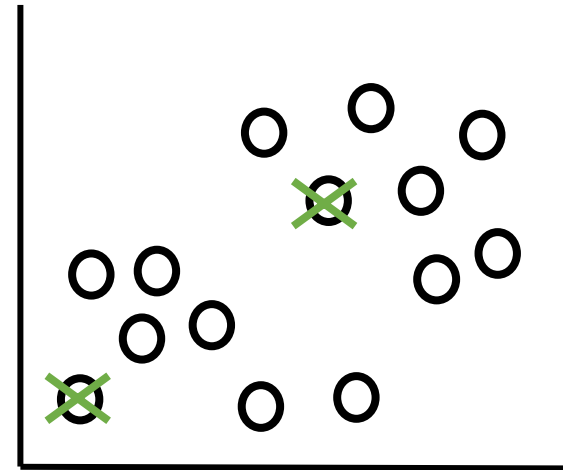
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- Should have  $K < m$
- Randomly pick  $K$  training examples
- Set  $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K$  equal to these  $K$  examples

$K = 2$

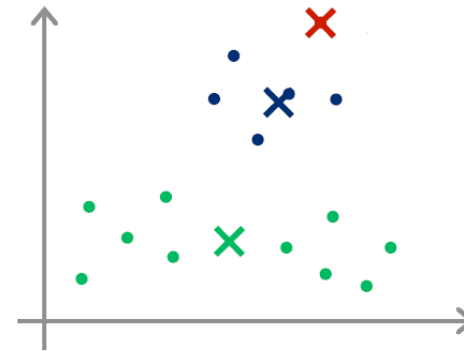
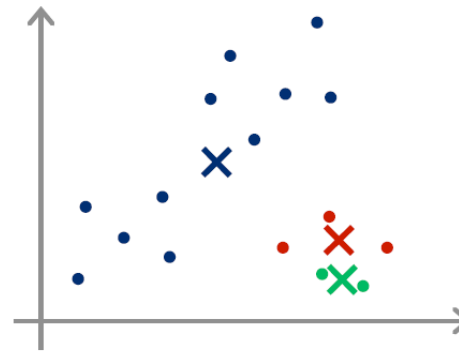
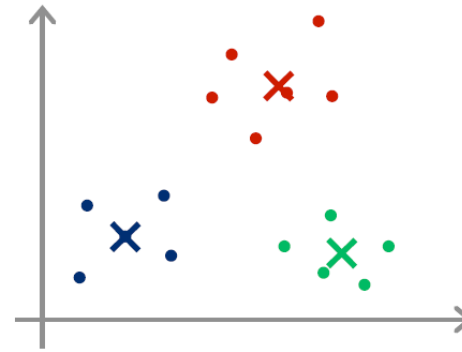
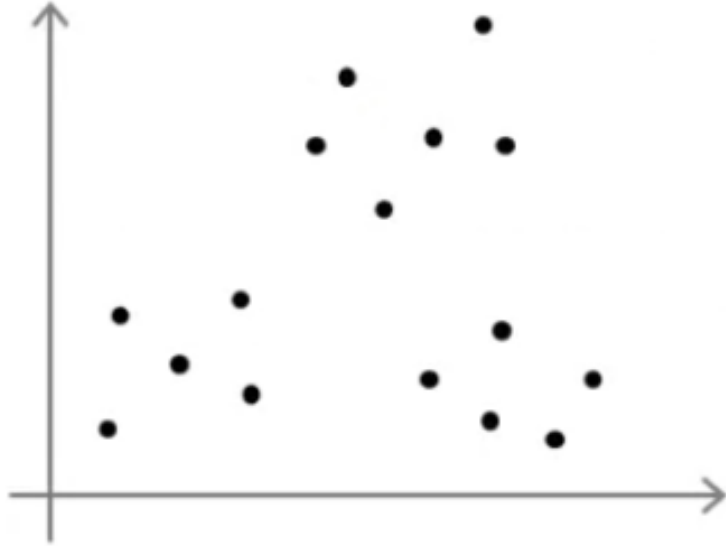


or



# RANDOM INITIALIZATION

Local optima of  
 $J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)$



# RANDOM INITIALIZATION

---

For  $i = 1$  to 100

{

Randomly initialize k-means.

Run k-means.

Get  $c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K$ .

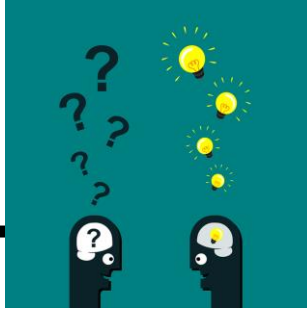
Compute the cost function  $J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)$ .

}

→ Pick the clustering with the lowest cost  $J(c^{(1)}, \dots, c^{(m)}, \mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)$ .

# QUESTION

---



Which of the following is the recommended way to initialize k-means?

A: Pick a random integer  $i$  from  $\{1, \dots, k\}$ . Set  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \dots = \mu_k = x^{(i)}$ .

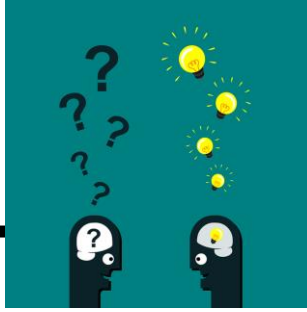
B: Pick  $k$  distinct random integers  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  from  $\{1, \dots, k\}$ . Set  $\mu_1 = x^{(1)}, \mu_2 = x^{(2)}, \dots, \mu_k = x^{(k)}$ .

C: Pick  $k$  distinct random integers  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  from  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ . Set  $\mu_1 = x^{(1)}, \mu_2 = x^{(2)}, \dots, \mu_k = x^{(k)}$ .

D: Set every element of  $\mu_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to a random value between  $-\epsilon$  and  $\epsilon$  for some small  $\epsilon$ .

# QUESTION

---



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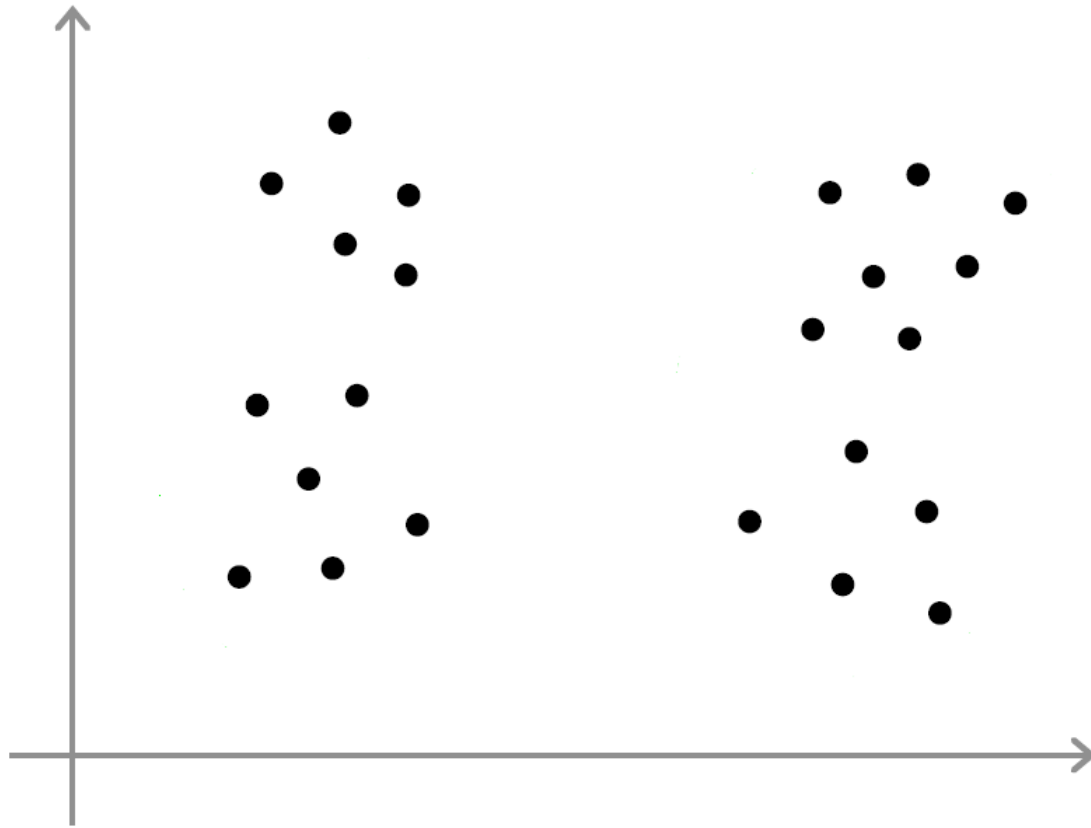
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~~C~~: Pick  $k$  distinct random integers  $i_1, \dots, i_k$  from  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ . Set  $\mu_1 = x^{(1)}, \mu_2 = x^{(2)}, \dots, \mu_k = x^{(k)}$ .

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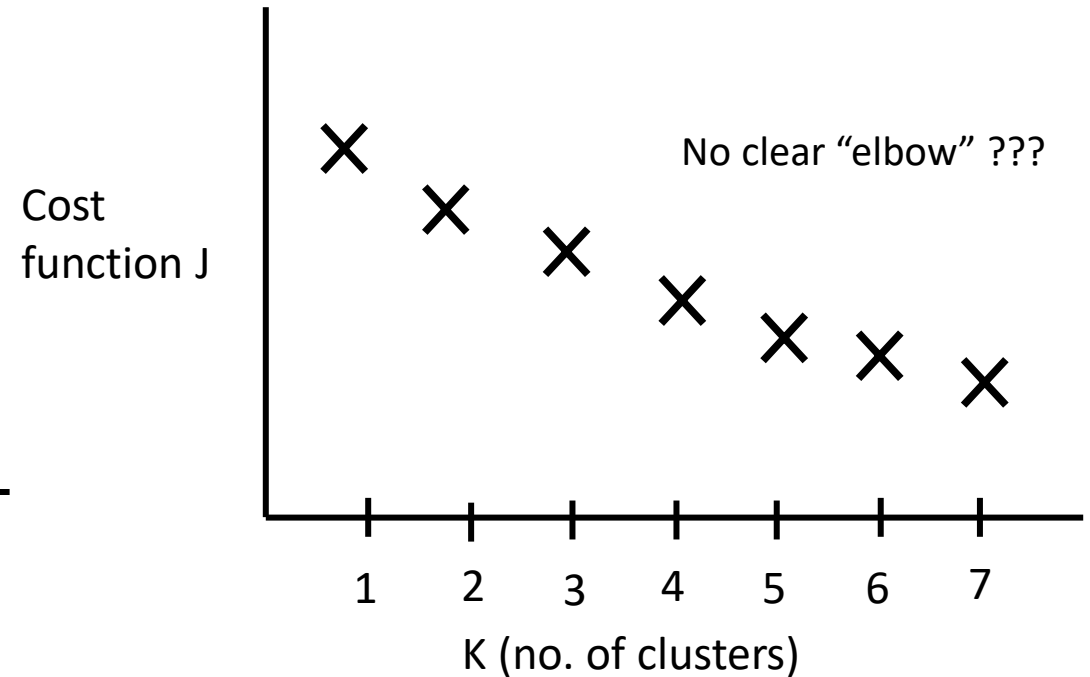
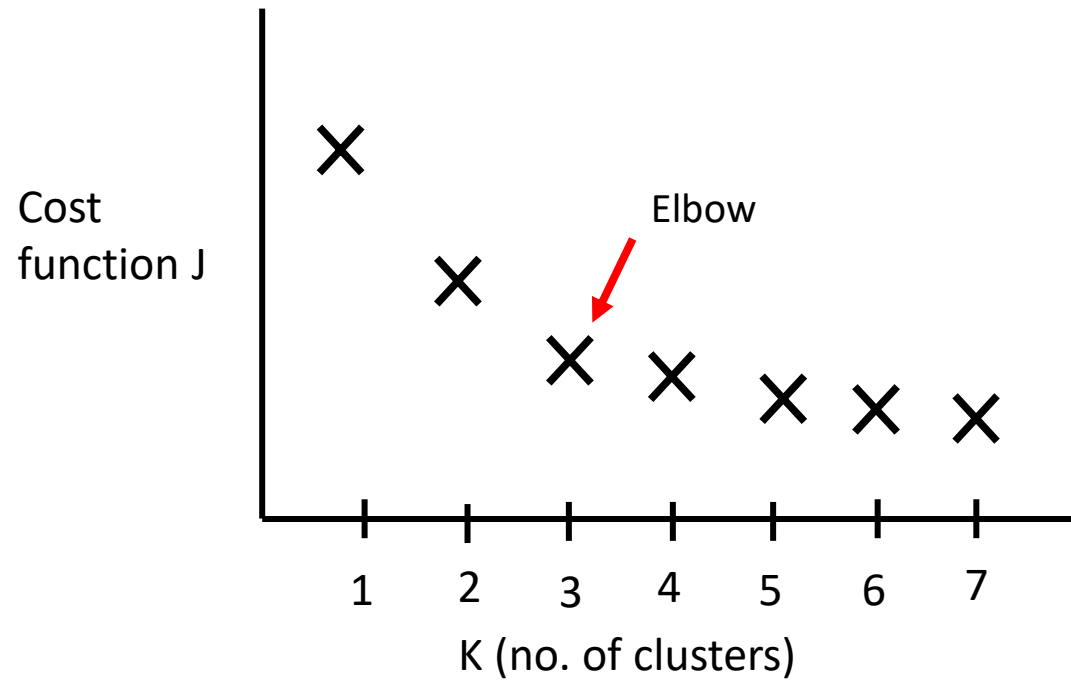
# HOW MANY CLUSTERS DO YOU SEE?

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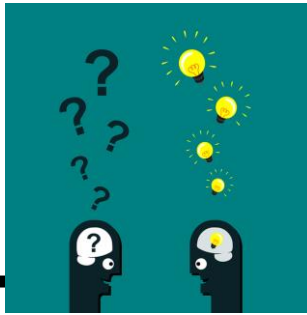
# WHAT IS THE RIGHT VALUE OF K? ELBOW METHOD

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# QUESTION

---



Suppose you run k-means using  $k = 3$  and  $k = 5$ . You find that the cost function  $J$  is much higher for  $k = 5$  than for  $k = 3$ . What can you conclude?

A: This is mathematically impossible. There must be a bug in the code.

B: The correct number of clusters is  $k = 3$ .

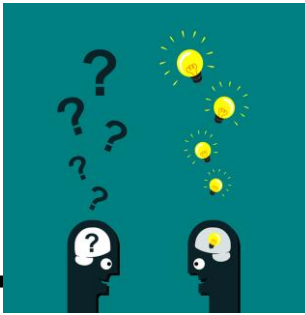
C: In the run with  $k = 5$ , k-means got stuck in a bad local minimum. You should try re-running k-means with multiple random initializations.

D: In the run with  $k = 3$ , k-means got lucky. You should try re-running k-means with  $k = 3$  and different random initializations until it performs no better than with  $k = 5$ .



# QUESTION

---



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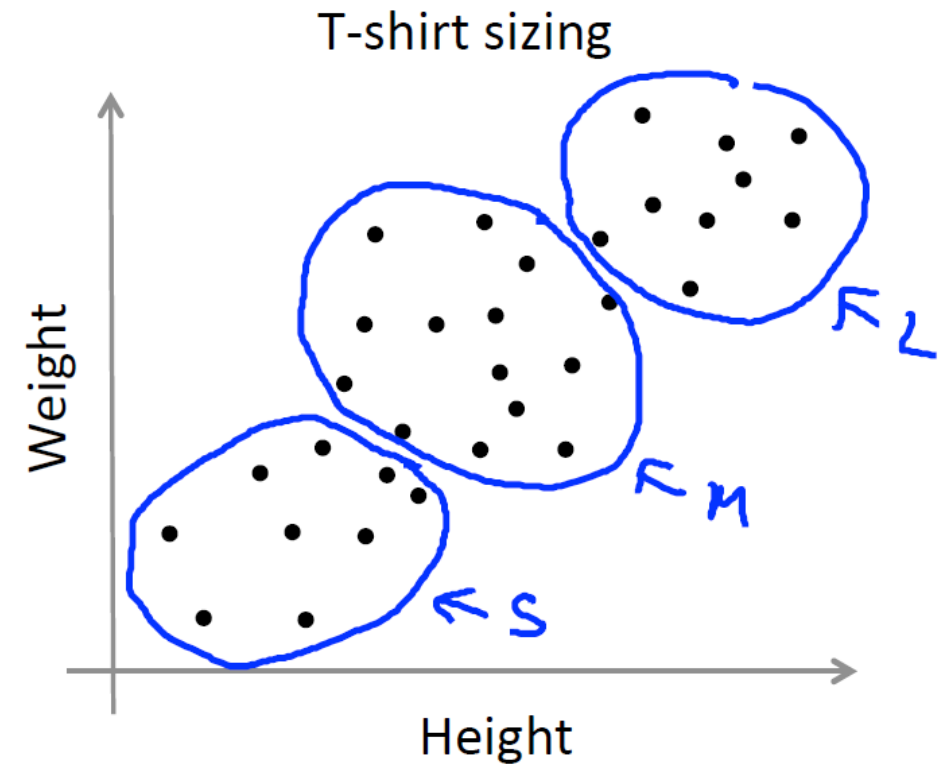
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D: In the run with  $k = 3$ , k-means got lucky. You should try re-running k-means with  $k = 3$  and different random initializations until it performs no better than with  $k = 5$ .

# CHOOSING THE VALUE OF K

---

- Often you use k-means to get clusters for a later purpose
- Evaluate your clusters based on this purpose
- Example:
  - How many t-shirt clusters do I want to have?
  - $K = 3$ : easier to produce
  - $K = 5$ : better fit for the customers



# QUIZ - QUESTION 1

---

For which of the following tasks might K-means clustering be a suitable algorithm? Select all that apply.

A: Given a set of news articles from many different news websites, find out what are the main topics covered.

B: Given historical weather records, predict if tomorrow's weather will be sunny or rainy.

C: Given many emails, you want to determine if they are Spam or Non-Spam emails.

D: From the user usage patterns on a website, figure out what different groups of users exist.

# QUIZ - QUESTION 1

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For which of the following tasks might K-means clustering be a suitable algorithm? Select all that apply.

- ☒ A: Given a set of news articles from many different news websites, find out what are the main topics covered.
- ☐ B: Given historical weather records, predict if tomorrow's weather will be sunny or rainy.
- ☐ C: Given many emails, you want to determine if they are Spam or Non-Spam emails.
- ☒ D: From the user usage patterns on a website, figure out what different groups of users exist.

## QUIZ - QUESTION 2

---

Suppose we have three cluster centroids  $\mu_1=[1;2]$ ,  $\mu_2=[-3;0]$ , and  $\mu_3=[4;2]$ . Furthermore, we have a training example  $x^{(i)}=[-2;1]$ . After a cluster assignment step, what will  $c^{(i)}$ ?

A:  $c^{(i)} = 3$ .

B:  $c^{(i)}$  is not assigned.

C:  $c^{(i)} = 1$

D:  $c^{(i)} = 2$

## QUIZ - QUESTION 2

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~~D:  $c^{(i)} = 2$~~

$$\mu_1=[1;2] \rightarrow [-2;1] - [1;2] = |[-3,-1]|$$

$$\mu_2=[-3;0] \rightarrow [-2;1] - [-3;0] = |[1,1]|$$

$$\mu_3=[4;2] \rightarrow [-2;1] - [4;2] = |[-6,-1]|$$

# QUIZ - QUESTION 3

---

K-means is an iterative algorithm, and two of the following steps are repeatedly carried out in its inner-loop. Which two?

A: The cluster centroid assignment step, where each cluster centroid  $\mu_i$  is assigned (by setting  $c^{(i)}$ ) to the closest training example  $x^{(i)}$ .

B: Move each cluster centroid  $\mu_k$  by setting it to be equal to the closest training example  $x^{(i)}$ .

C: The cluster assignment step, where the parameters  $c^{(i)}$  are updated.

D: Move the cluster centroids, where the centroids  $\mu_k$  are updated.

# QUIZ - QUESTION 3

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~~C~~: The cluster assignment step, where the parameters  $c^{(i)}$  are updated.

~~D~~: Move the cluster centroids, where the centroids  $\mu_k$  are updated.



# REMINDER: K-MEANS

---

Randomly initialize K cluster centroids  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_K \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Repeat

{

for  $i = 1$  to  $m$

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

for  $k = 1$  to  $K$

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}

Example:  $c^{(1)}=2, c^{(5)}=2, c^{(6)}=2 \rightarrow \mu_k = 1/3 (x^{(1)} + x^{(5)} + x^{(6)}) \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow n\text{-dimensional vector}$

**Cluster assignment  
step**

$\text{Min}_k \|x^{(i)} - \mu_k\|^2$   
Set this value as  $c^{(i)}$

**Move centroid  
step**

# QUIZ - QUESTION 4

---

Suppose you have an unlabeled dataset  $\{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$ . You run K-means with 50 different random initializations, and obtain 50 different clusterings of the data. What is the recommended way for choosing which one of these 50 clusterings to use?

A: The answer is ambiguous, and there is no good way of choosing.

B: For each of the clusterings, compute  $\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \|x^{(i)} - \mu_c^{(i)}\|^2$  and pick the one that minimizes this.

C: Always pick the final (50th) clustering found, since by that time it is more likely to have converged to a good solution.

D: The only way to do so is if we also have labels  $y^{(i)}$  for our data.

# QUIZ - QUESTION 4

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D: The only way to do so is if we also have labels  $y^{(i)}$  for our data.

# QUIZ - QUESTION 5

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Which of the following statements are true? Select all that apply.

A: If we are worried about K-means getting stuck in bad local optima, one way to reduce this problem is if we try using multiple random initializations.

B: For some datasets, the "right" or "correct" value of K (the number of clusters) can be ambiguous, and hard even for a human expert looking carefully at the data to decide.

C: The standard way of initializing K-means is setting  $\mu_1 = \dots = \mu_k$  to be equal to a vector of zeros.

D: Since K-Means is an unsupervised learning algorithm, it cannot overfit the data, and thus it is always better to have as large a number of clusters as is computationally feasible.

# QUIZ - QUESTION 5

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Which of the following statements are true? Select all that apply.

☒ A: If we are worried about K-means getting stuck in bad local optima, one way to reduce this problem is if we try using multiple random initializations.

☒ B: For some datasets, the "right" or "correct" value of K (the number of clusters) can be ambiguous, and hard even for a human expert looking carefully at the data to decide.

☐ C: The standard way of initializing K-means is setting  $\mu_1 = \dots = \mu_k$  to be equal to a vector of zeros.

☐ D: Since K-Means is an unsupervised learning algorithm, it cannot overfit the data, and thus it is always better to have as large a number of clusters as is computationally feasible.