## CS5489 - Machine Learning

# Lecture 7b - Unsupervised Learning - Clustering

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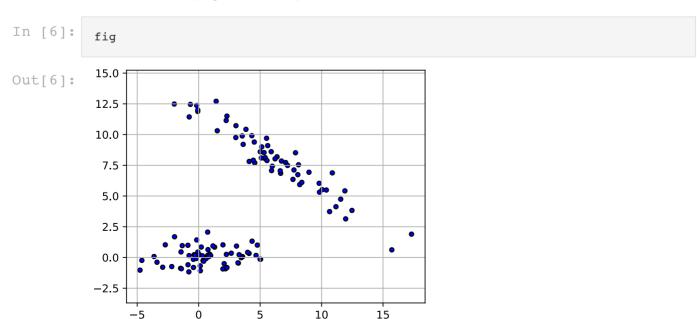
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## **Outline**

- 1. Unsupervised Learning
- 2. Parametric clustering
  - A. K-means
  - B. Gaussian mixture models (GMMs)
  - C. Dirichlet Process GMMs
- 3. Non-parametric clustering and Mean-shift
- 4. Spectral clustering

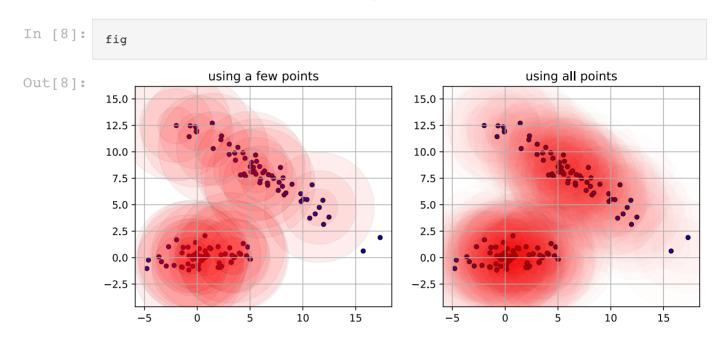
## Non-parametric densities

- Suppose we have samples  $\{\mathbf{x}_1,\cdots,\mathbf{x}_N\}$ 
  - We want to estimate a probability density without assuming a parametric model (e.g., Gaussian)



## Non-parametric estimation

- Idea: put a small Gaussian at each data point, and sum it up.
  - each point contributes locally to the probability density.
  - $p(\mathbf{x}) = rac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{x}_i, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$ 
    - $\circ$   $\sigma$  is the bandwidth of the Gaussian.



## Kernel density estimator

- This is called a kernel density estimator
  - the kernel is the small Gaussian.

```
In [9]:
           kde = neighbors.KernelDensity(bandwidth=3.0).fit(X)
           plot scores(kde, axbox, 'magma')
           plt.scatter(X[:,0], X[:,1], c='b', s=ssize, edgecolors='k');
            20
            15
                                                         0.006
            10
                                                         0.004
             5
                                                         0.002
             0
             -10
                                       10
                                             15
                                                   20
```

## Clustering using KDE

• The modes of the KDE can be considered the cluster centers.

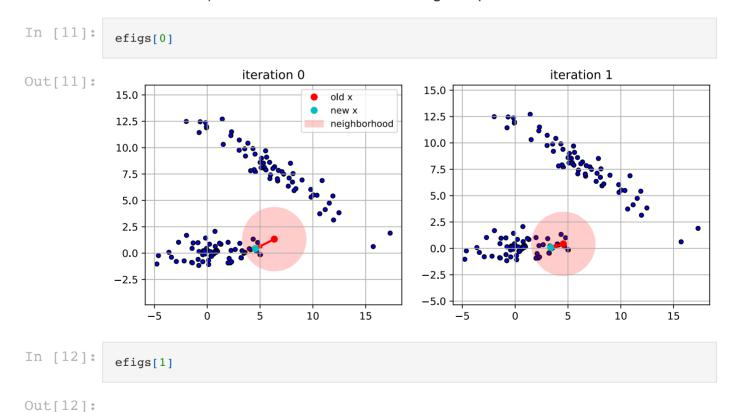
- A mode is a local maximum of the probability density.
- The number of clusters is selected automatically according to the data.
- How to find the cluster centers?
  - mode:  $\mu = \operatorname{argmax} p(\mathbf{x})$
  - select a point, and run gradient ascent on  $p(\mathbf{x})$ .

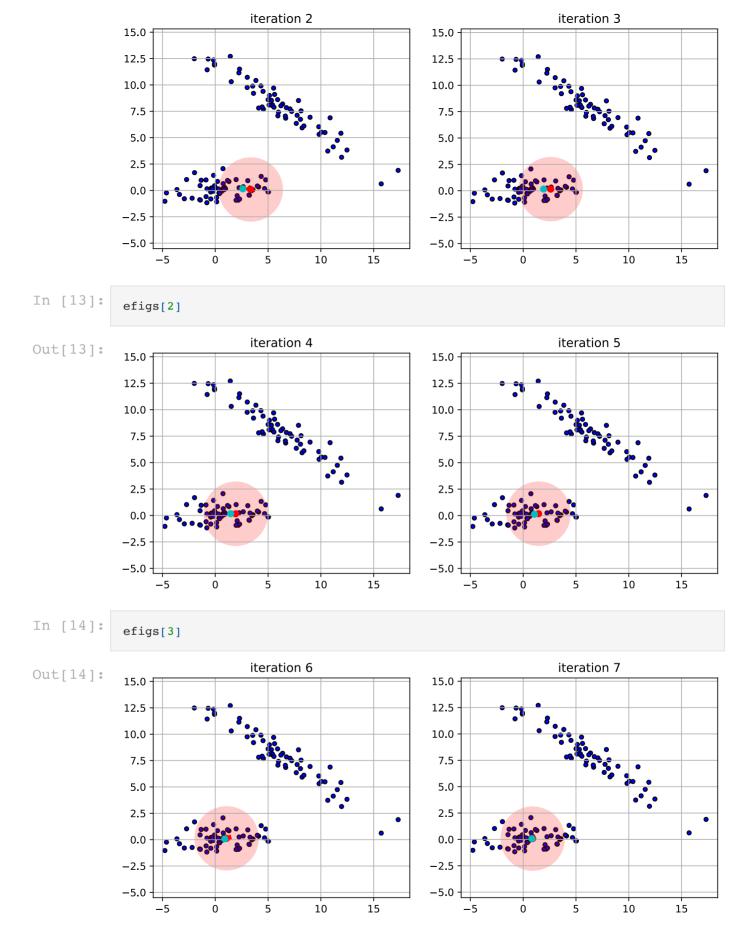
$$\hat{oldsymbol{\mu}} \leftarrow \hat{oldsymbol{\mu}} + \eta rac{d}{d\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x})$$

• using a clever choice of  $\eta$ , we get an algorithm that is guaranteed to converge called the "Mean-shift algorithm".

## Mean-shift algorithm

- Idea: iteratively shift towards the largest concentration of points.
  - start from an initial point x (e.g., one of the data points).
  - repeat until x is unchanged:
    - $\circ~$  1) find the nearest neighbors to  $\boldsymbol{x}$  within some radius (bandwidth)
      - o according to the Gaussian kernels.
    - 2) set **x** to be the mean of the neighbor points.





## Getting the clusters

• Run the mean-shift algorithm for many initial points  $\{\mathbf x_i\}$ .

- the set of converged points contain the cluster centers.
  - need to remove the duplicate centers.
- data points that converge to the same center belong to the same cluster.
- different initializations can run in parallel ( n\_j obs )

```
In [15]: # bin_seeding=True -- coarsely uses data points as initial points
ms = cluster.MeanShift(bandwidth=5, bin_seeding=True, n_jobs=-1)
Y = ms.fit_predict(X)

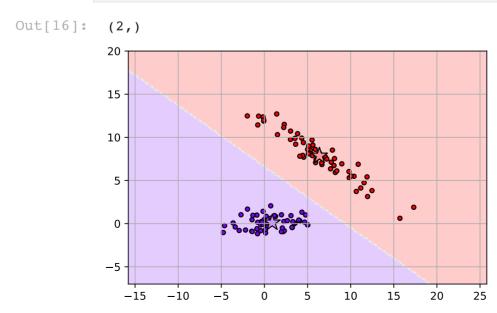
cc = ms.cluster_centers_ # cluster centers

plot_scores(kde, axbox, 'magma', showcontour=False)
plot_clusters(ms, axbox, X, Y, rbow, rbow2)
```

# Out[15]: (2,) 20 15 10 -5 -10 -5 0.006 0.002

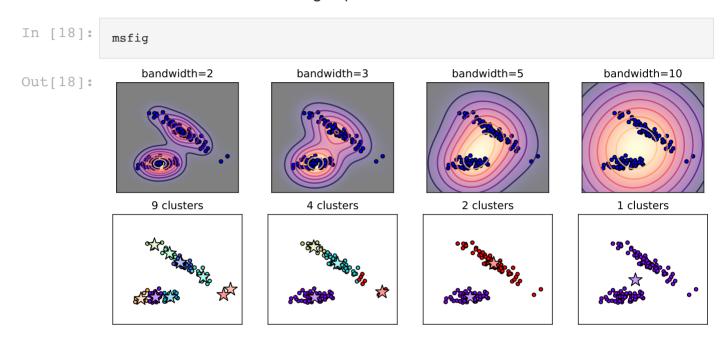
- Cluster partitions
  - assign point based on convergence to same cluster center

```
In [16]: plot_clusters(ms, axbox, X, Y, rbow, rbow2, showregions=True)
```



## **Number of clusters**

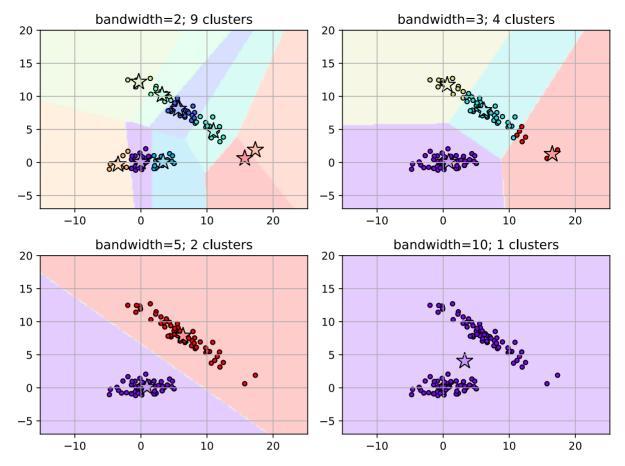
- Number of clusters is implicitly controlled by the bandwidth (radius of the nearest-neighbors)
  - larger bandwidth creates less clusters
    - focuses on global large groups
  - smaller bandwidth creates more clusters
    - focuses on local groups.



• Cluster partitions: assign points based on convergence to same cluster center.

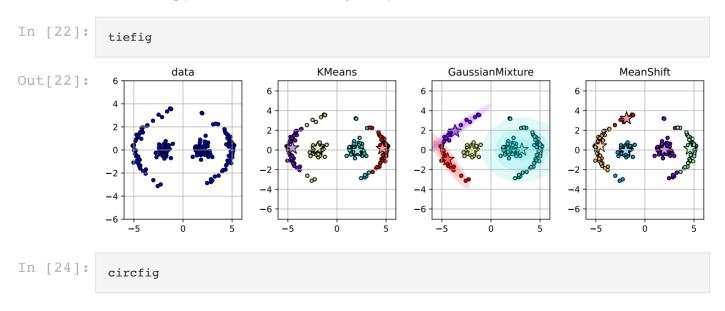
In [20]: msfig
Out[20]:

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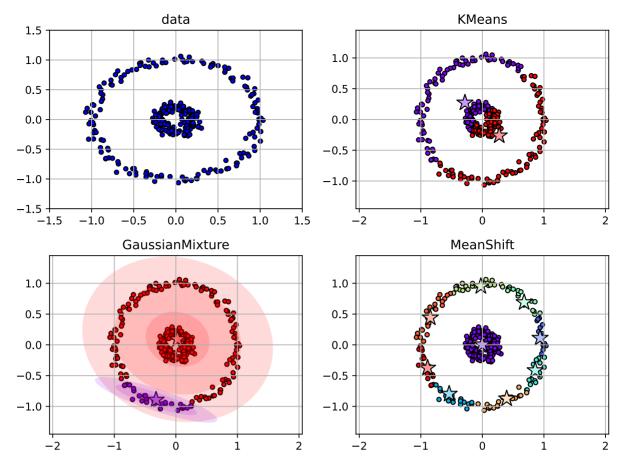


## Non-compact clusters

- K-means, GMM, and Mean-Shift assume that all clusters are compact.
  - i.e., circles or ellipses
- What about clusters of other shapes?
  - e.g., clusters not defined by compact distance to a "center"

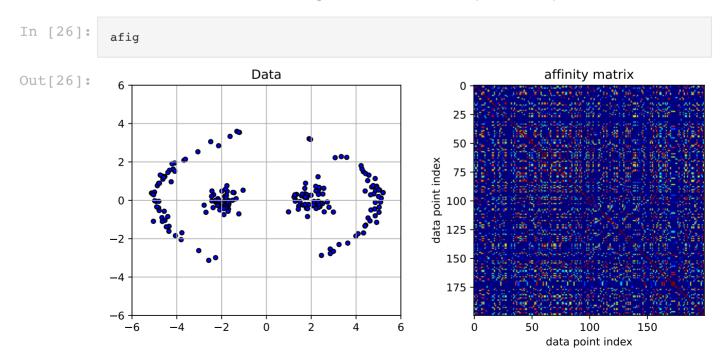


Out[24]:



# **Spectral Clustering**

- Estimate clusters using pair-wise affinity between points.
- Affinity (similarity) between points
  - kernel function:  $k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$  -- RBF kernel
  - number of nearest neighbors within a radius (bandwidth)



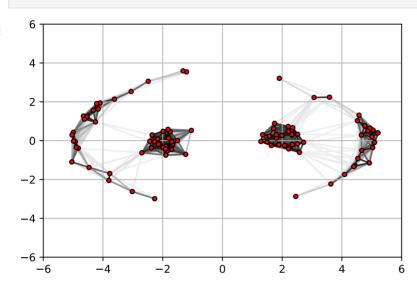
## **Spectral Clustering**

- Idea: clustering with a graph formulation
  - each data point is a node in a graph
  - lacktriangle edge weight between two nodes is the affinity  $k(\mathbf{x}_i,\mathbf{x}_j)$ 
    - (darker colors indicate stronger weights)

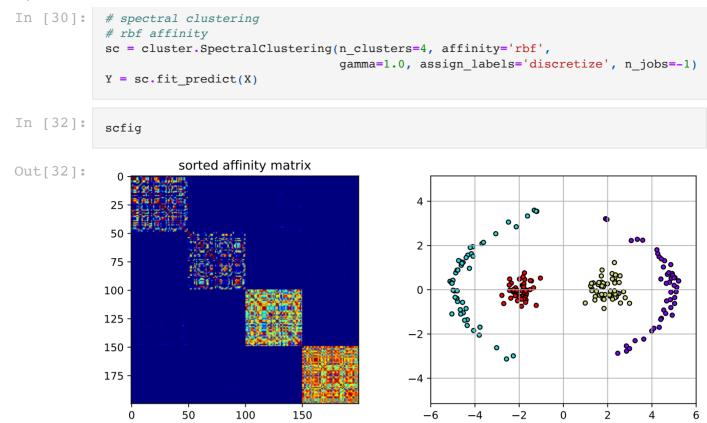
In [28]:

graphfig

Out[28]:

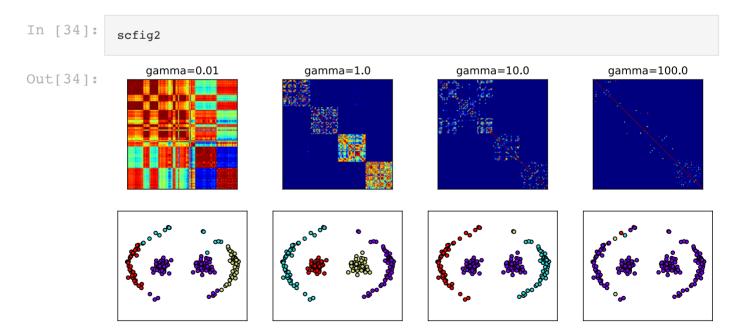


- **Goal:** cut the graph into clusters such that weights of cut edges is small compared to the total edge weight within each cluster.
  - find "blocks" of high affinity in the affinity matrix.
- Intuitively, consider a "mass-spring" system -- masses connected together with springs.
  - the graph nodes are masses, the edge weights are the spring stiffness.
  - if you hit the masses...
    - the masses that are tightly connected by stiff springs will move together in a low-frequency vibration mode.
- These low-frequency modes are found with the smallest non-zero eigenvectors of the graph Laplacian
- Graph Laplacian:  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{D} \mathbf{A}$ 
  - **A** is the adjacency (affinity) matrix.
  - D is the degree matrix.
    - $\circ~$  diagonal matrix with entry  $D_{ii} = \sum_{j} A_{i,j}$
- There are different ways to define the Laplacian, leading to different versions of Spectral Clustering
  - the one in sklearn is called "Normalized Cuts".



## Sensitivity to gamma

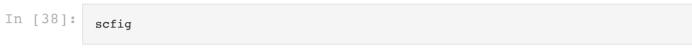
- gamma controls which structures are important
  - small gamma far away points are still considered similar
  - large gamma only close points are considered as similar



## **Another Example**

In [36]: graphfig2

Out[36]: 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5-1.0-1.5-1.0-0.5

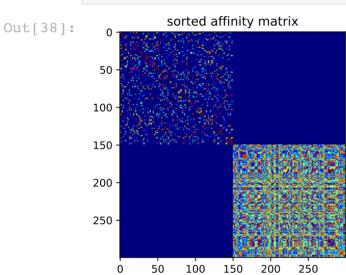


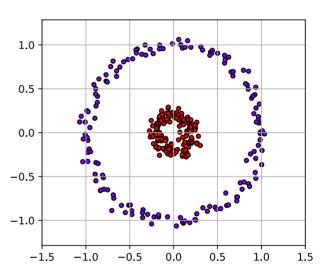
0.5

1.0

1.5

0.0





## **Clustering Summary**

- **Goal:** given set of input vectors  $\{\mathbf x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , with  $\mathbf x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , group similar  $x_i$  together into clusters.
  - estimate a cluster center, which represents the data points in that cluster.
  - predict the cluster for a new data point.

Name	Cluster Shape	Principle	Advantages	Disadvantages
K-Means	circular	minimize distance to cluster center	- scalable (MiniBatchKMeans)	<ul><li>sensitive to initialization; could get bad solutions due to local minima.</li><li>need to choose K.</li></ul>
Gaussian Mixture Model	elliptical	maximum likelihood	- elliptical cluster shapes.	<ul><li>sensitive to initialization; could get bad solutions due to local minima.</li><li>need to choose K.</li></ul>
Dirichlet Process GMM	elliptical	maximum likelihood	- automatically selects K via concentration parameter.	<ul><li>can be slow.</li><li>sensitive to initialization; could get bad solutions due to local minima.</li></ul>
Mean-Shift	concentrated compact	move towards local mean	- automatically selects K via bandwidth parameter.	- can be slow.
Spectral clustering	irregular shapes	graph-based	- can handle clusters of any shape, as long as connected.	- need to choose K. - cannot assign novel points to a cluster.

- can be slow (kernel matrix)

## **Other Things**

- Feature normalization
  - feature normalization is typically required clustering.
  - e.g., algorithms based on Euclidean distance (Kmeans, Mean-Shift, Spectral Clustering)

## Example

- scaling down the  $x_1$  feature makes its differences less important, compared to  $x_2$ 

