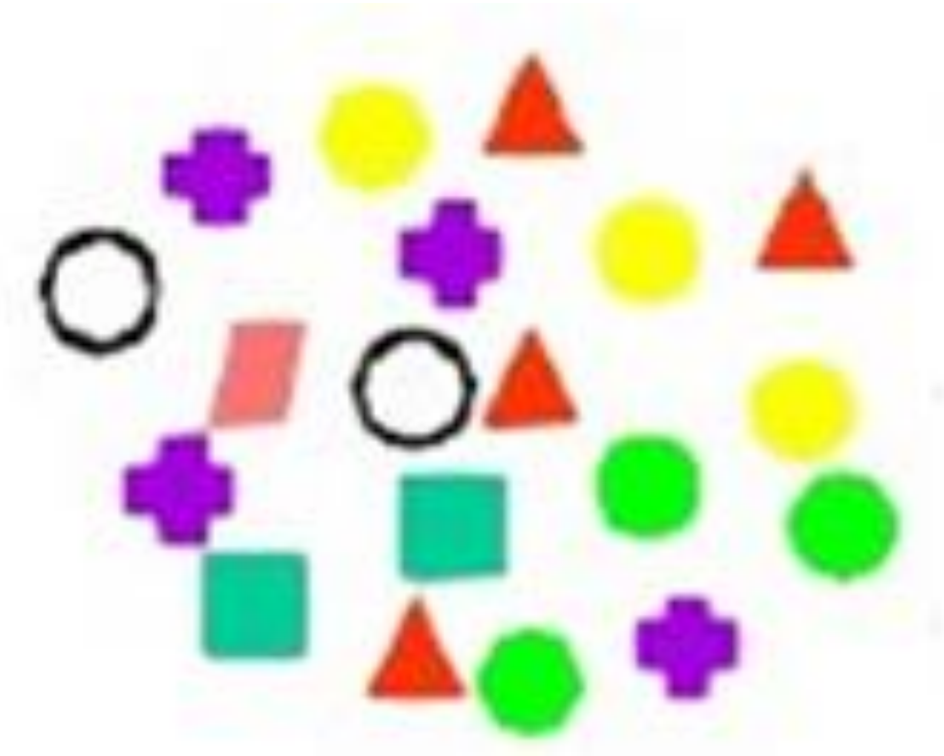
Clustering

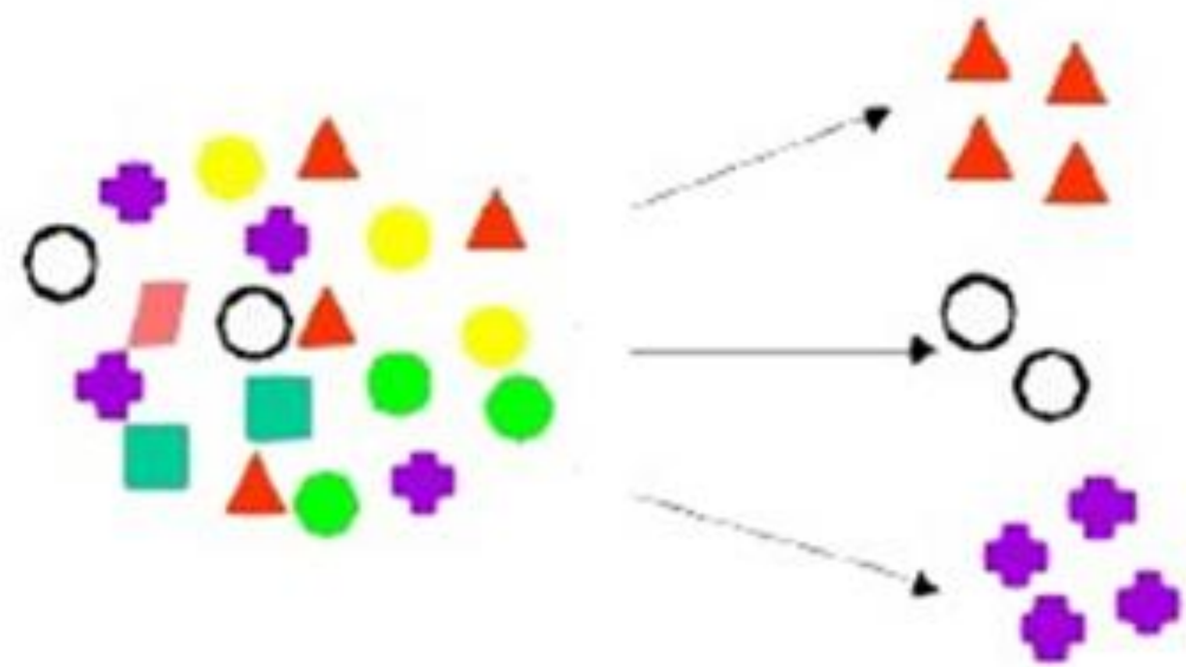
CS 351 – Artificial Intelligence

Habib University

Know your data!



Know your data!



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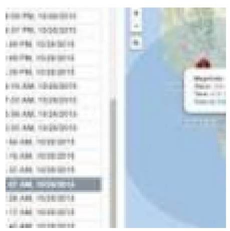

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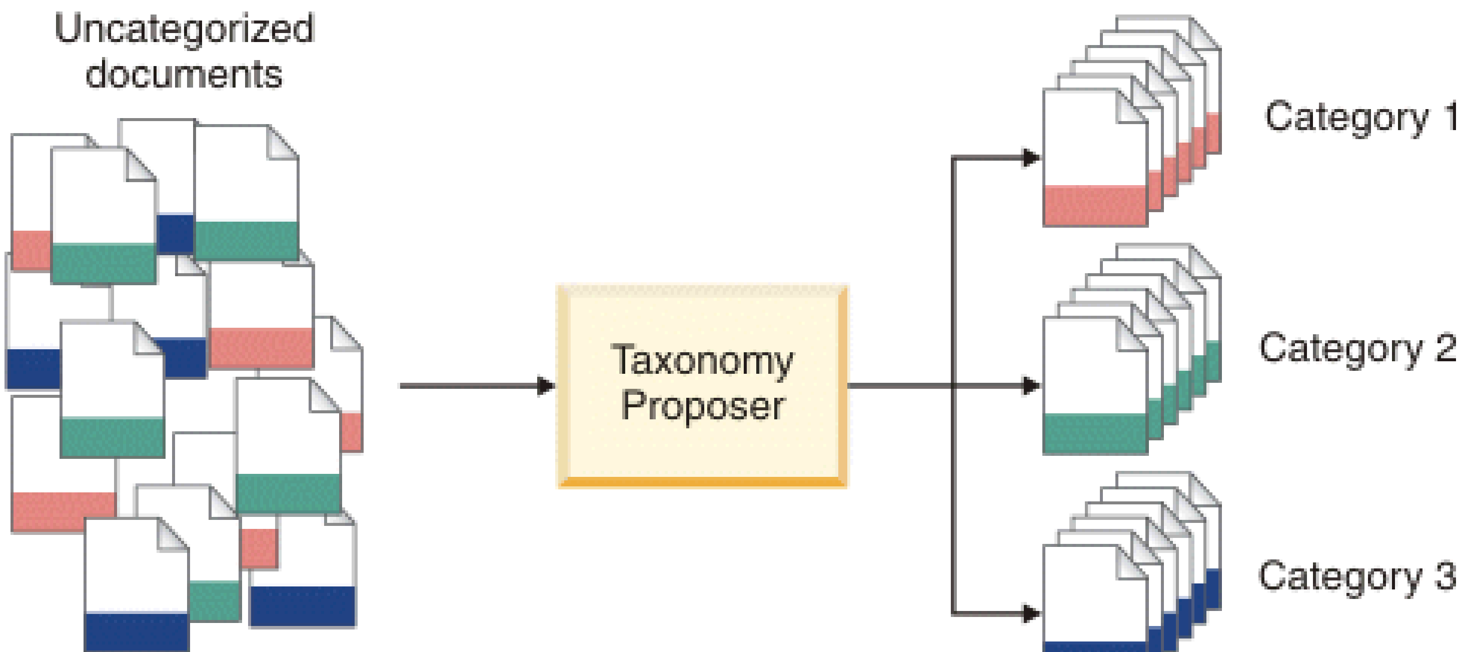
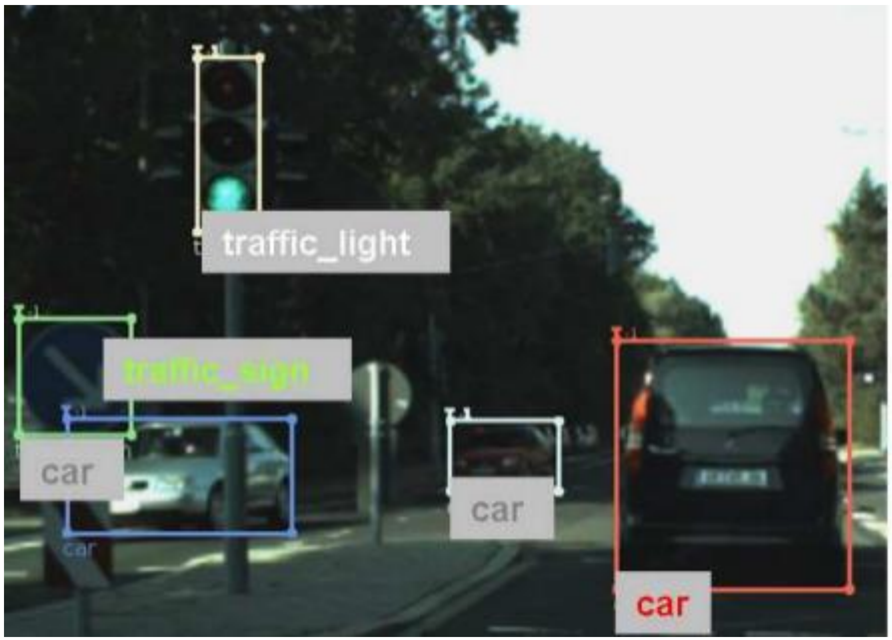
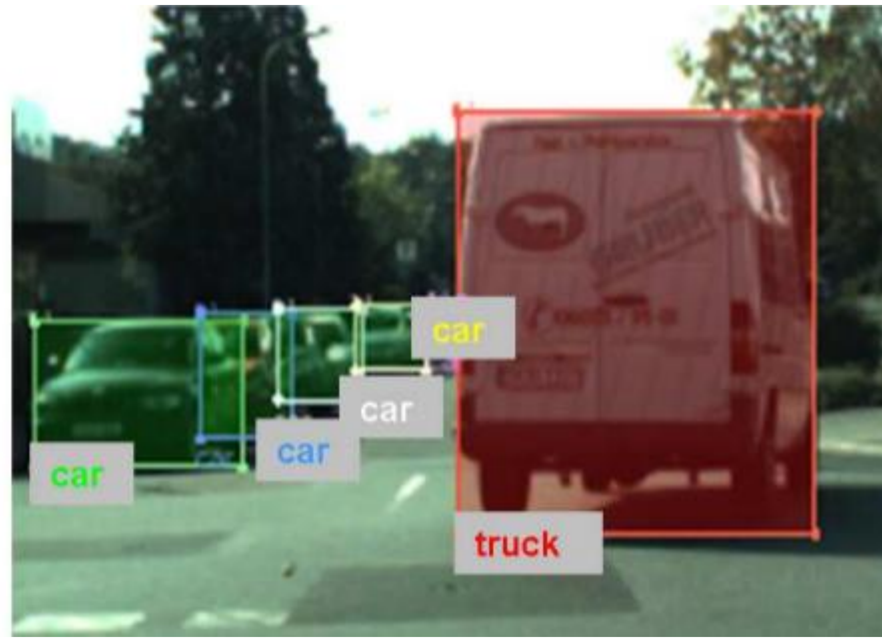


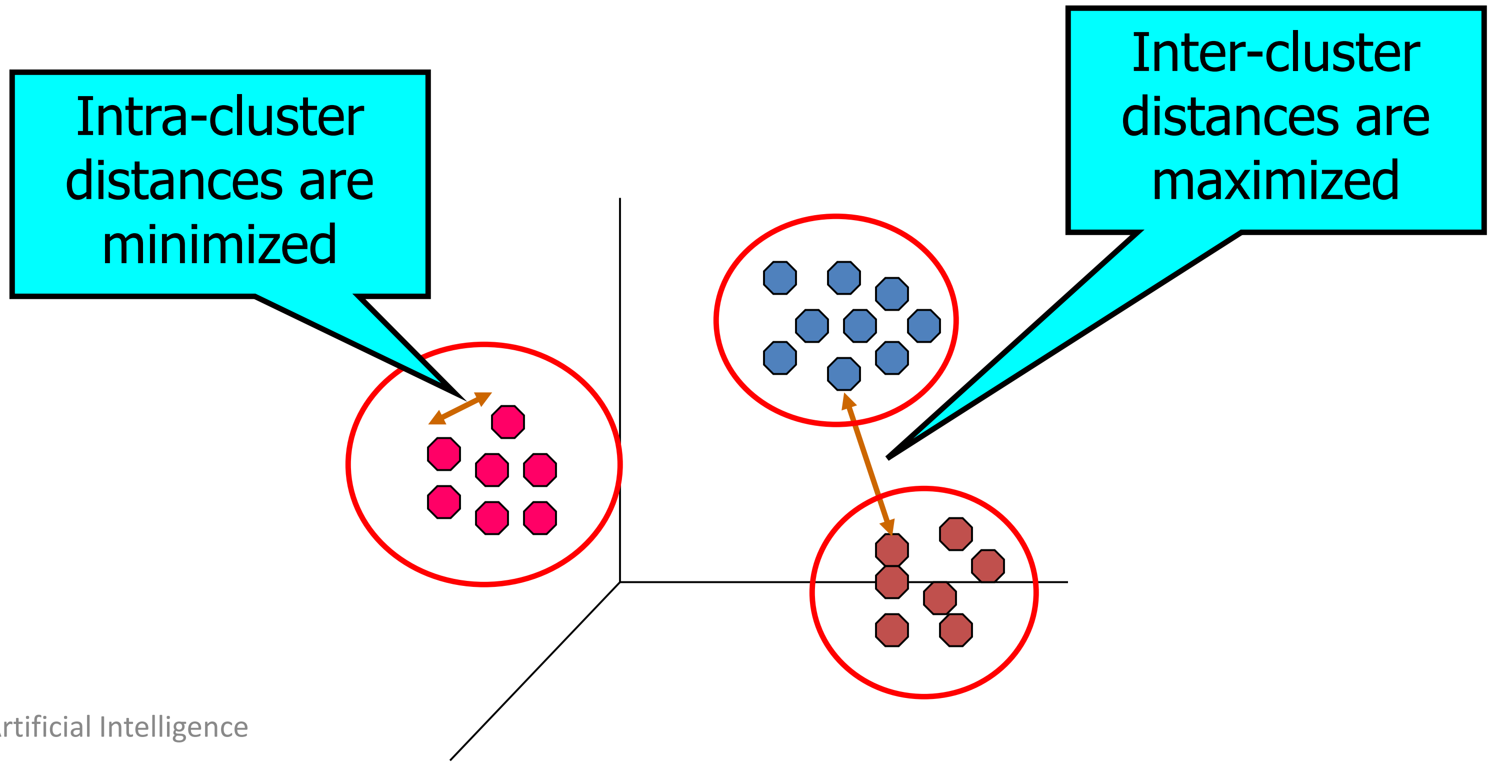
Object Detection





Cluster Analysis

- Finding groups of objects such that the objects in a group will be similar (or related) to one another and different from (or unrelated to) the objects in other groups



Applications

- Recommendation engines
- Market segmentation
- Social network analysis
- Search result grouping
- Medical imaging
- Image segmentation
- Anomaly detection
- Portfolio Analysis
-

What is not Cluster Analysis?

- Supervised classification
  - Have class label information
- Simple segmentation
  - Dividing students into different registration groups alphabetically, by last name
- Results of a query
  - Groupings are a result of an external specification
- Graph partitioning
  - Some mutual relevance and synergy, but areas are not identical

Notion of a Cluster can be Ambiguous

How many clusters?

Six Clusters

Two Clusters

Four Clusters

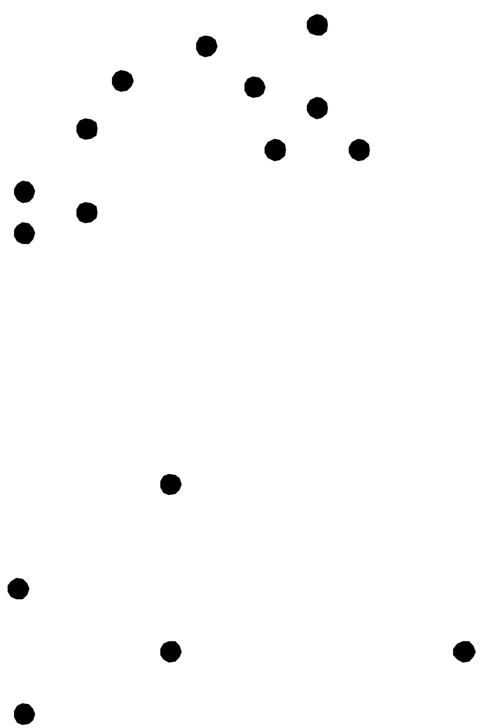
Quality: What Is Good Clustering?

- A good clustering method will produce high quality clusters with
  - high intra-class similarity
  - low inter-class similarity
- The quality of a clustering result depends on both the similarity measure used by the method and its implementation
- The quality of a clustering method is also measured by its ability to discover some or all of the hidden patterns

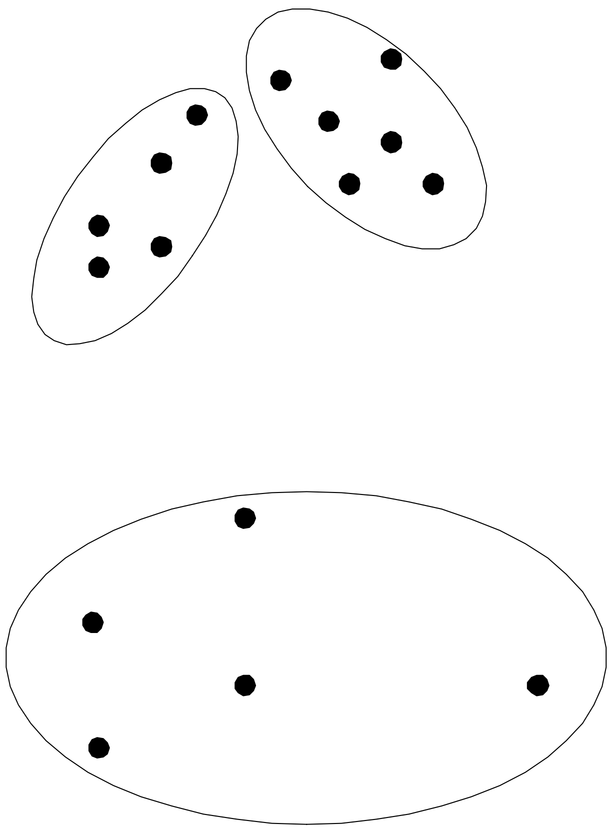
Types of Clusterings

- A clustering is a set of clusters
- Important distinction between hierarchical and partitional sets of clusters
- Partitional Clustering
  - A division data objects into non-overlapping subsets (clusters) such that each data object is in exactly one subset
- Hierarchical clustering
  - A set of nested clusters organized as a hierarchical tree

Partitional Clustering

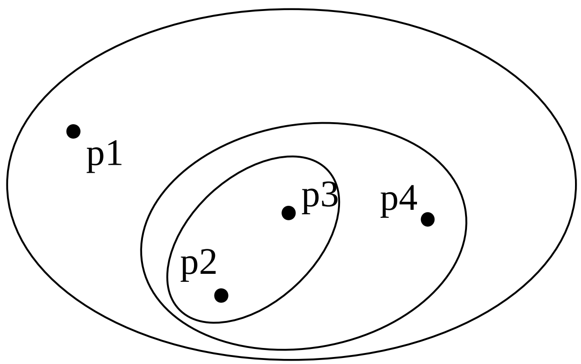


Original Points

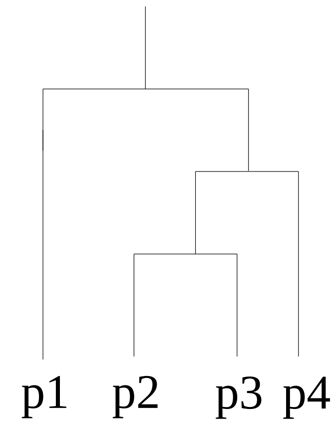


A Partitional Clustering

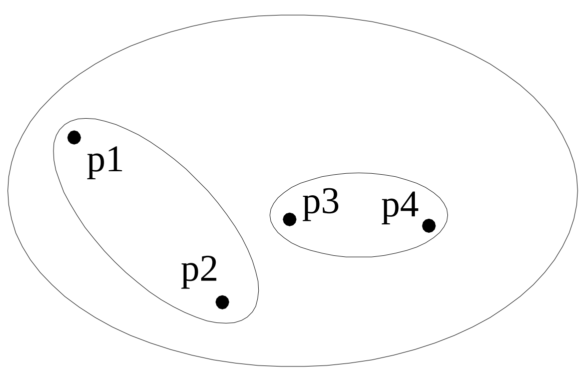
Hierarchical Clustering



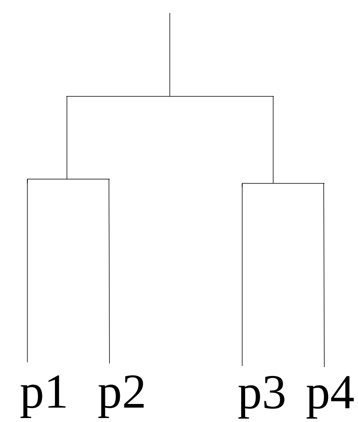
Traditional Hierarchical Clustering



Traditional Dendrogram



Non-traditional Hierarchical Clustering



Non-traditional Dendrogram

Measure the Quality of Clustering

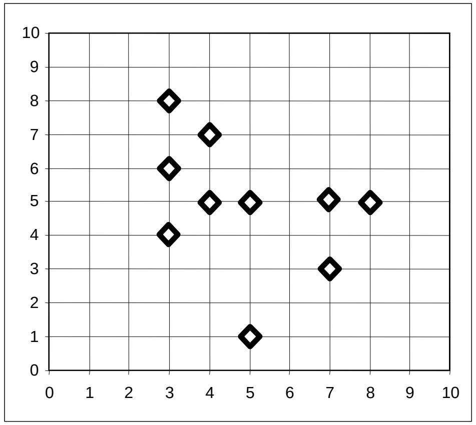
- Dissimilarity/Similarity metric: Similarity is expressed in terms of a distance function, typically metric: $d(i, j)$
- There is a separate "quality" function that measures the "goodness" of a cluster.
- The definitions of distance functions are usually very different for interval-scaled, boolean, categorical, ordinal ratio, and vector variables.
- Weights should be associated with different variables based on applications and data semantics.
- It is hard to define "similar enough" or "good enough"
  - the answer is typically highly subjective.

Distance and Center

KMeans Clustering Algorithm

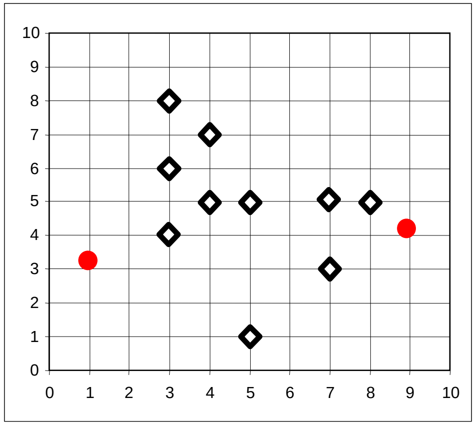
The *K-Means* Clustering Method (Cont'd)

- Example



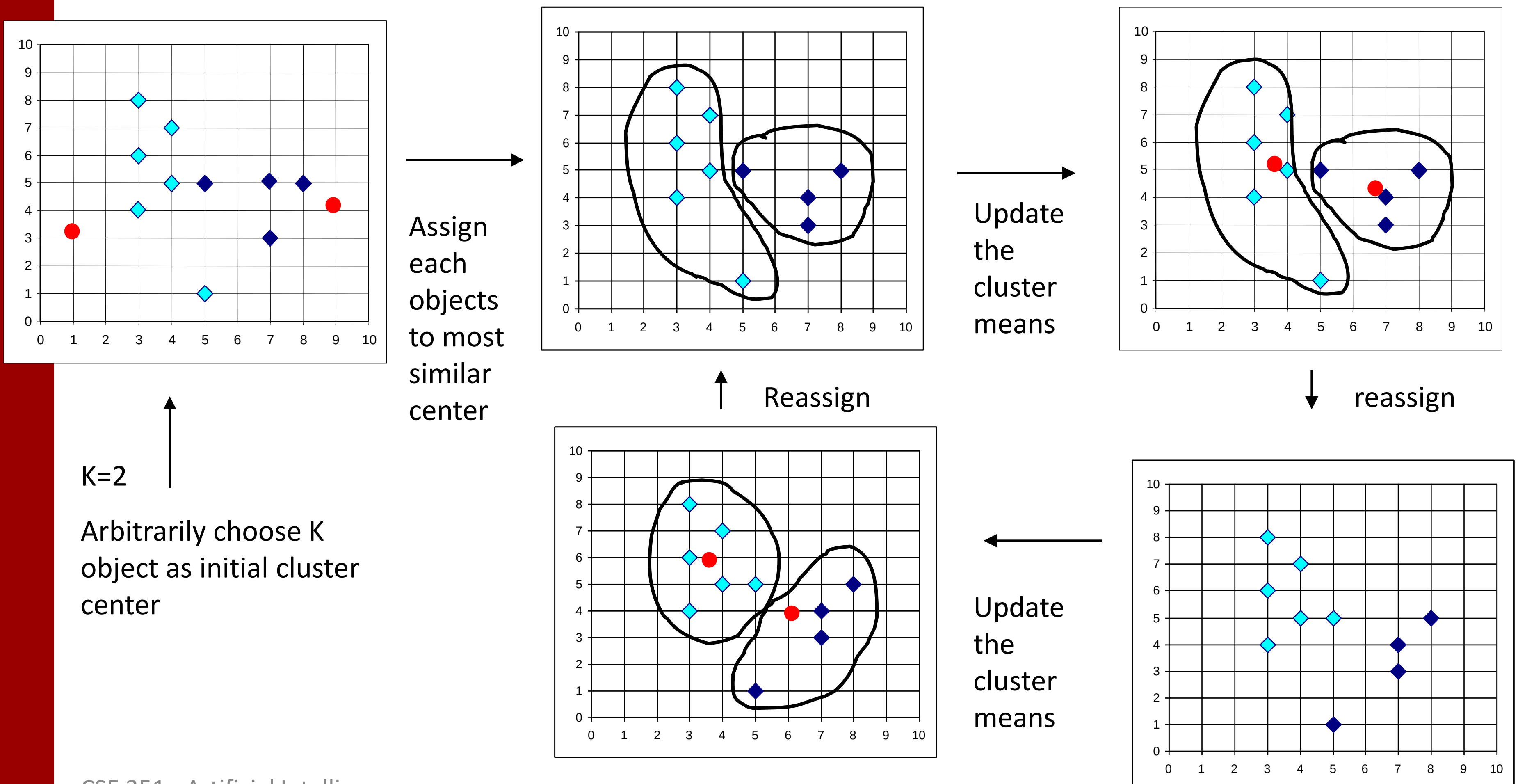
K=2

Arbitrarily choose K object as initial cluster center



The *K-Means* Clustering Method (Cont'd)

- Example



The *K-Means* Clustering Method

- Given *k*, the *k-means* algorithm is implemented in four steps:
  – Partition objects into *k* nonempty subsets
  – Compute seed points as the centroids of the clusters of the current partition (the centroid is the center, i.e., *mean point*, of the cluster)
  – Assign each object to the cluster with the nearest seed point
  – Go back to Step 2, stop when no more new assignment

The K-Means Algorithm

1. Choose a value for K, the total number of clusters to be determined.
2. Choose K instances within the dataset at random. These are the initial cluster centers.
3. Use simple Euclidean distance to assign the remaining instances to their closest cluster center.
4. Use the instance in each cluster to calculate a new mean for each cluster.
5. If the new mean values are identical to the mean values of the previous iteration the process terminates. Otherwise, use the new means as cluster centers and repeat steps 3-5.

Working of the K-Mean Algorithm

Instance #:	1	2	3	4	5	6
X:	1	1	2	2	3	3
Y:	1.5	4.5	1.5	3.5	2.5	6.0

- Let's pick Instances #1 and #3 as the initial centroids.

	Distance with Centroid1	Distance with Centroid2
• Instance #2	**3.00**	3.16
• Instance #4	2.24	**2.00**
• Instance #5	2.24	**1.41**
• Instance #6	6.02	**5.41**

- **New centroids are (1, 3) and (2.5, 3.4)**

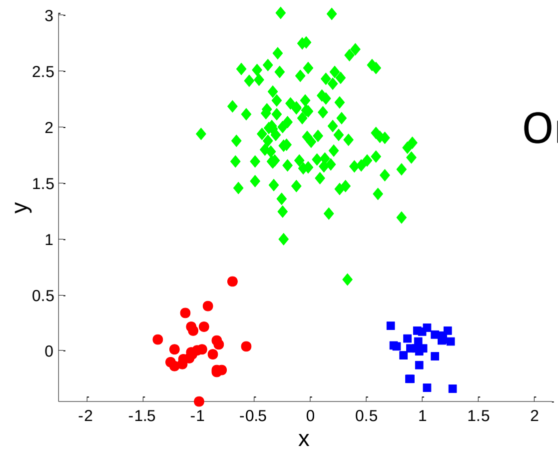
K-Means Clustering – Details

- Initial centroids are often chosen randomly.
  - Clusters produced vary from one run to another.
- The centroid is (typically) the mean of the points in the cluster.
- 'Closeness' is measured by Euclidean distance, cosine similarity, correlation, etc.
- K-means will converge for common similarity measures mentioned above.
- Most of the convergence happens in the first few iterations.
  - Often the stopping condition is changed to 'Until relatively few points change clusters'
- Outlier removal and feature normalization are important data pre-processing steps before applying K-Means.

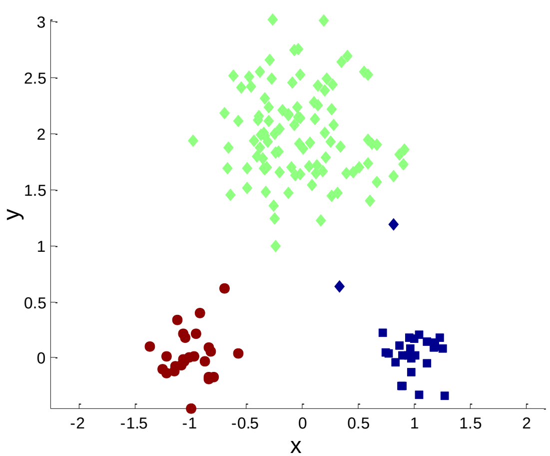
Comments on the *K-Means* Method

- Strength: *Relatively efficient*: $O(tkn)$, where n is # objects, k is # clusters, and t is # iterations. Normally, k, $t \ll n$.
- Comment: Often terminates at a *local optimum*. The *global optimum* may be found using techniques such as: *deterministic annealing* and *genetic algorithms*
- Weakness
  - Applicable only when *mean* is defined, then what about categorical data?
  - Need to specify *k,* the *number* of clusters, in advance
  - Unable to handle noisy data and *outliers*
  - Not suitable to discover clusters with *non-convex shapes*

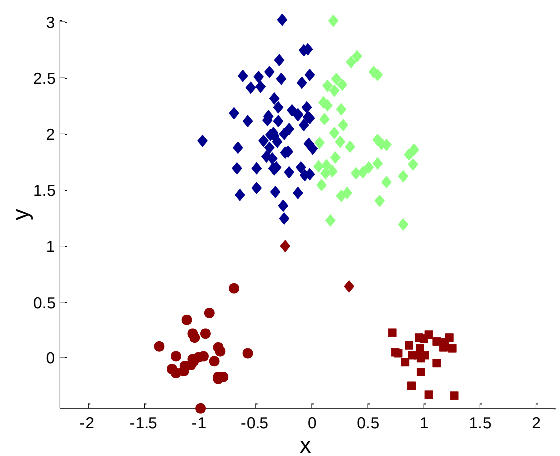
Two different K-means Clusterings



Original Points

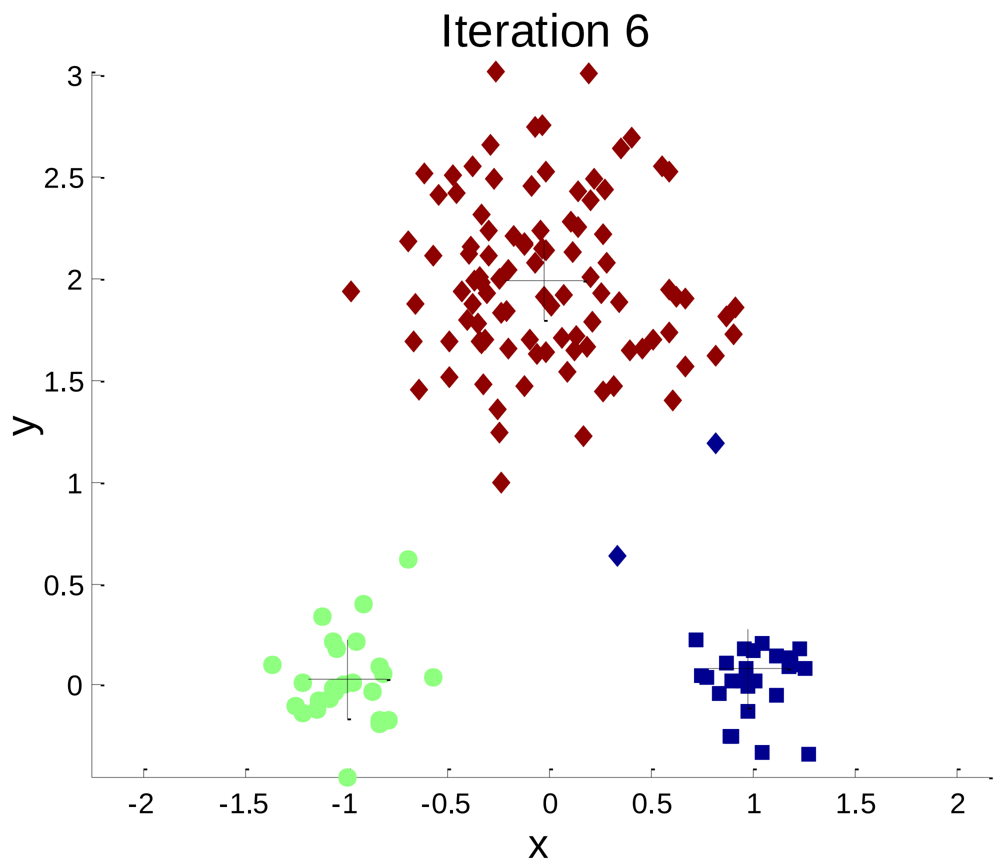


Optimal Clustering

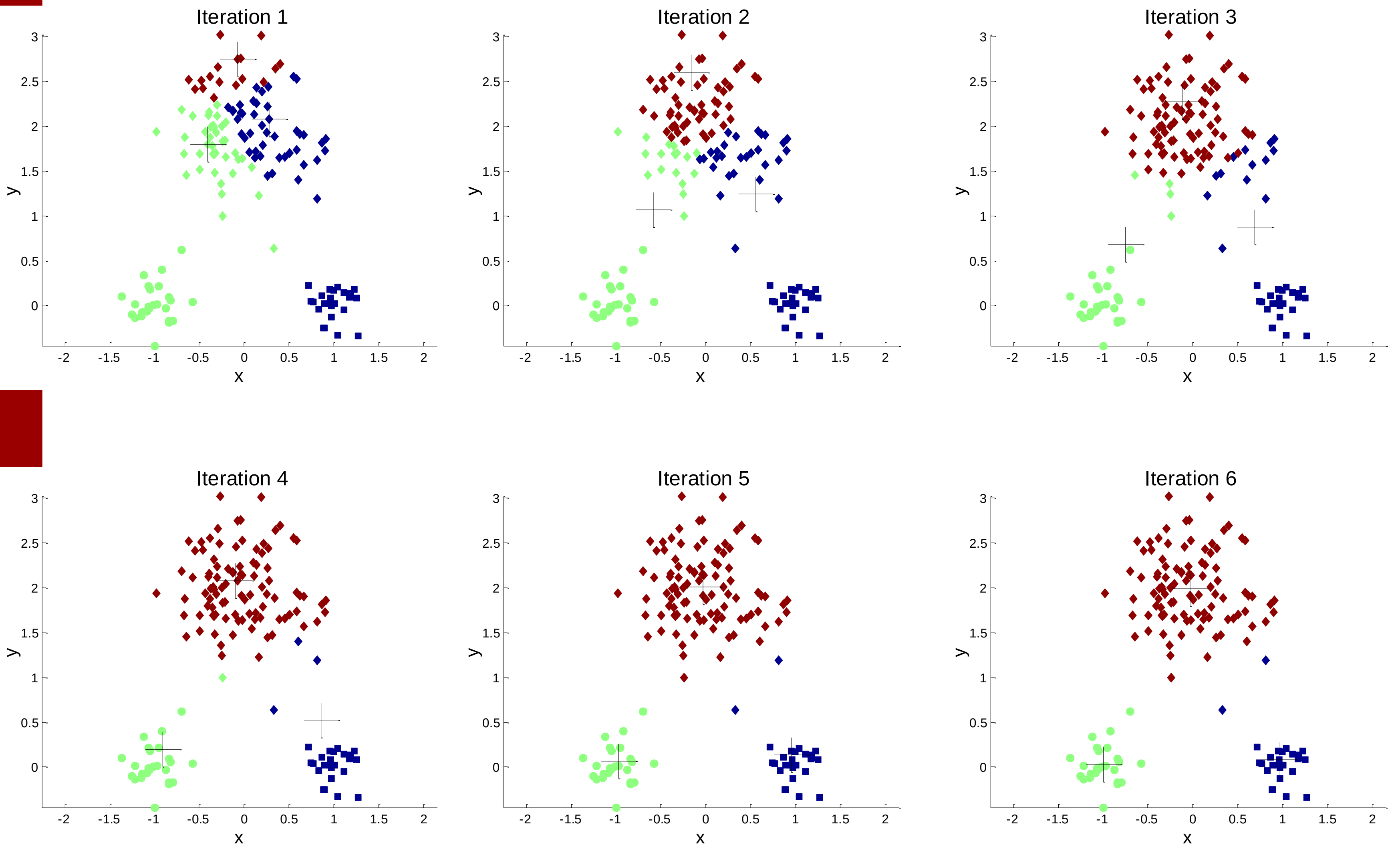


Sub-optimal Clustering

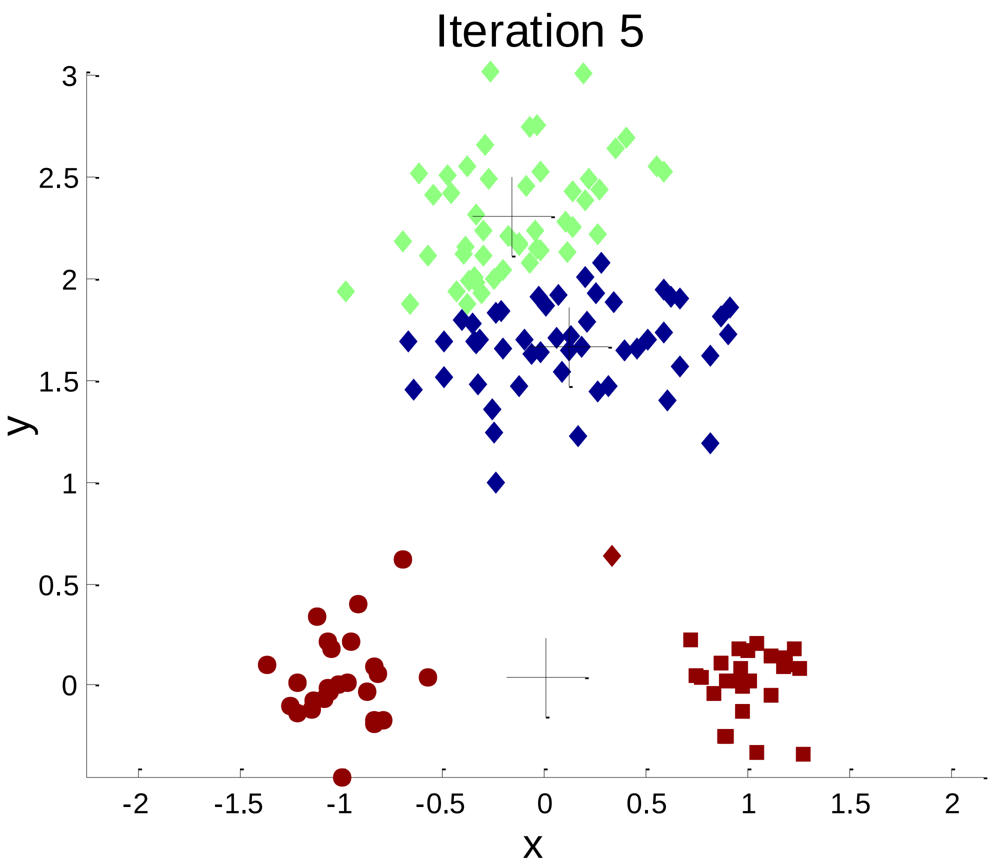
Importance of Choosing Initial Centroids



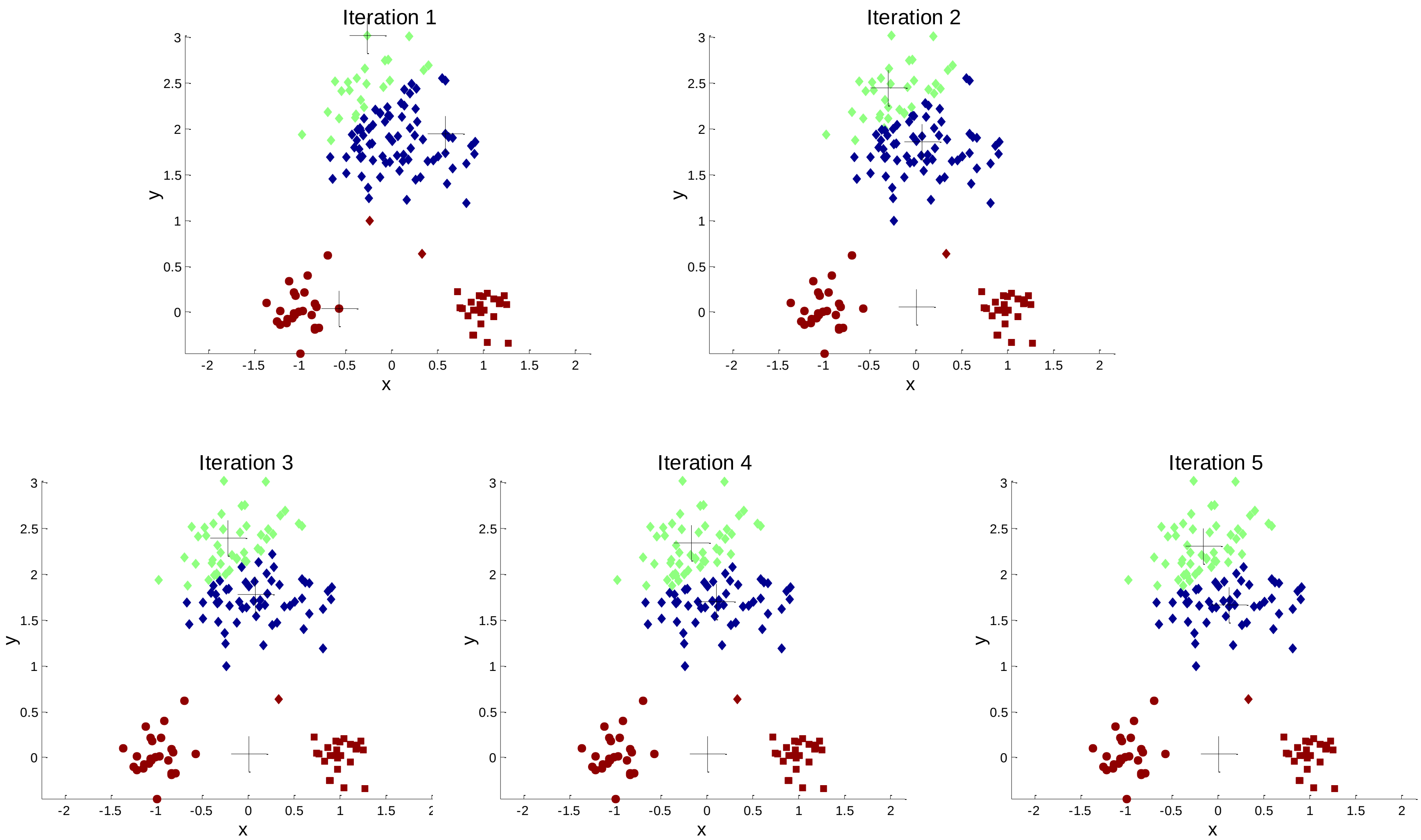
Importance of Choosing Initial Centroids



Importance of Choosing Initial Centroids …



Importance of Choosing Initial Centroids …



Evaluating K-means Clusters

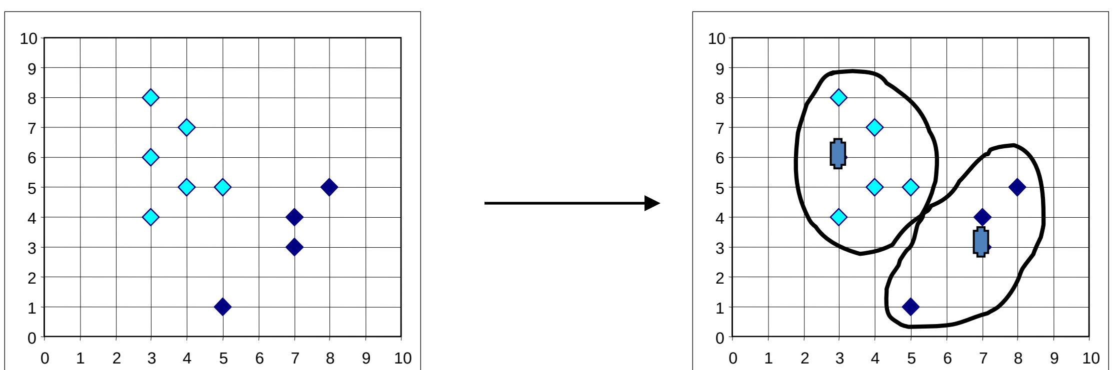
- Most common measure is Sum of Squared Error (SSE)
  - For each point, the error is the distance to the nearest cluster
  - To get SSE, we square these errors and sum them.

$$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^{K} \sum_{x \in C_i} dist^2(m_i, x)$$

  - x is a data point in cluster C_i and m_i is the representative point for cluster C_i
    - can show that m_i corresponds to the center (mean) of the cluster
  - Given two clusters, we can choose the one with the smallest error
  - One easy way to reduce SSE is to increase K, the number of clusters
    - A good clustering with smaller K can have a lower SSE than a poor clustering with higher K

Limitations of K-means

- The k-means algorithm is sensitive to outliers !
  - Since an object with an extremely large value may substantially distort the distribution of the data.
- K-Medoids: Instead of taking the **mean** value of the object in a cluster as a reference point, **medoids** can be used, which is the **most centrally located** object in a cluster.

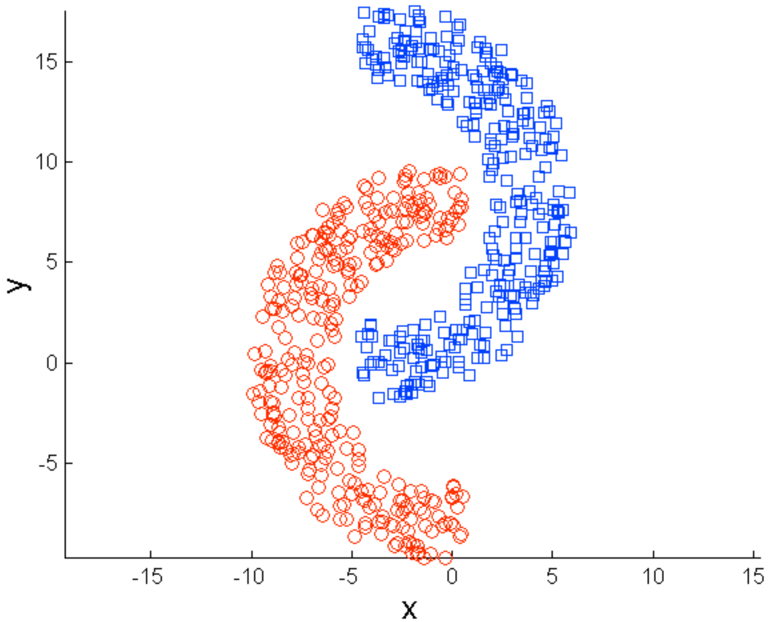


Limitations of K-means

- K-means has problems when clusters are of differing
  - Sizes
  - Densities
  - Non-globular shapes

- K-means has problems when the data contains outliers.

Limitations of K-means: Non-globular Shapes



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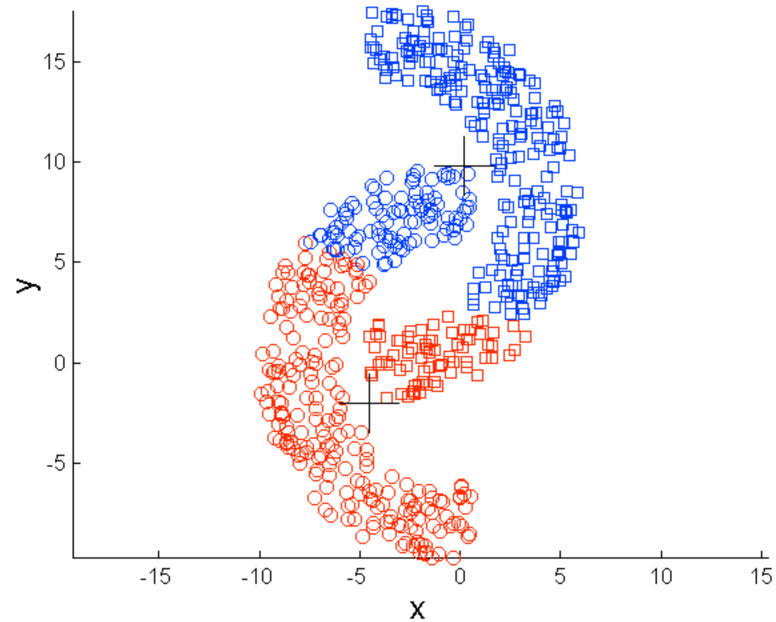
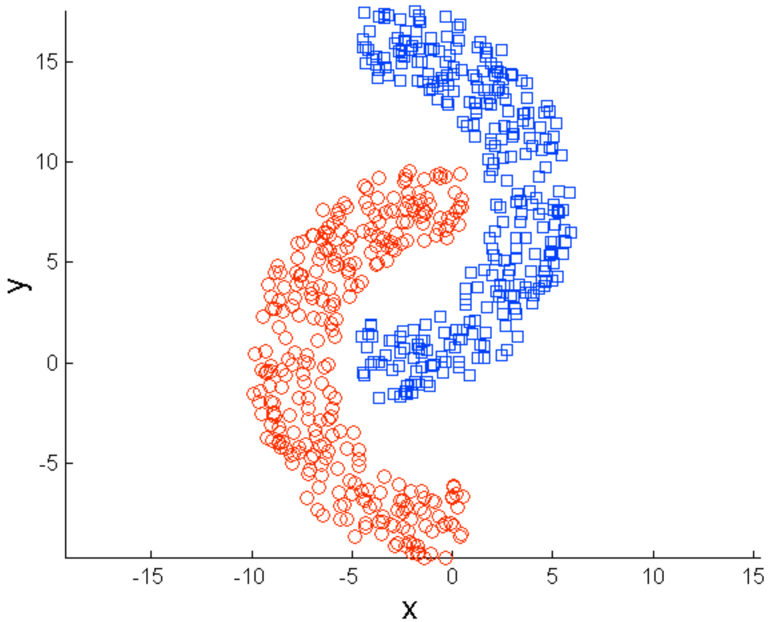


K-means (2 Clusters)

Overcoming K-means Limitations



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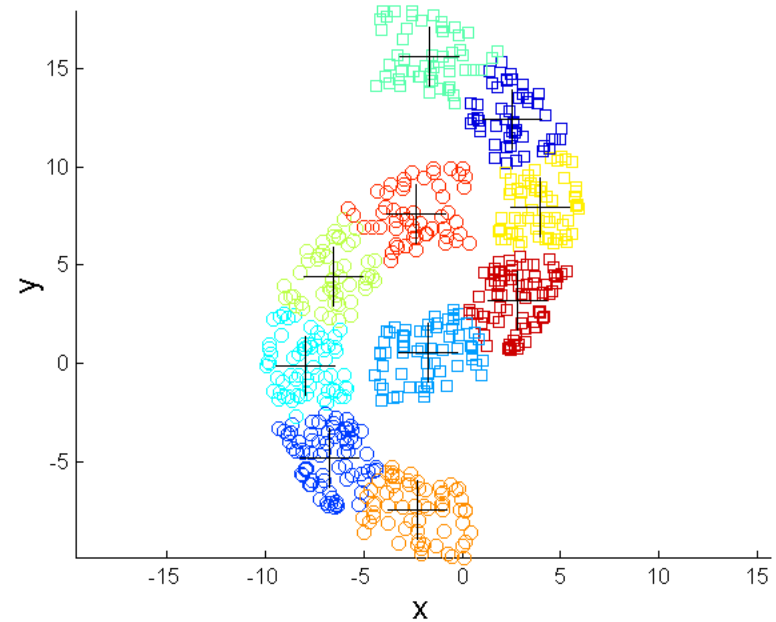

K-means Clusters

Pre-processing and Post-processing

- Pre-processing
  - Normalize the data
  - Eliminate outliers
- Post-processing
  - Eliminate small clusters that may represent outliers
  - Split ‘loose’ clusters, i.e., clusters with relatively high SSE
  - Merge clusters that are ‘close’ and that have relatively low SSE