

# Soft Clustering

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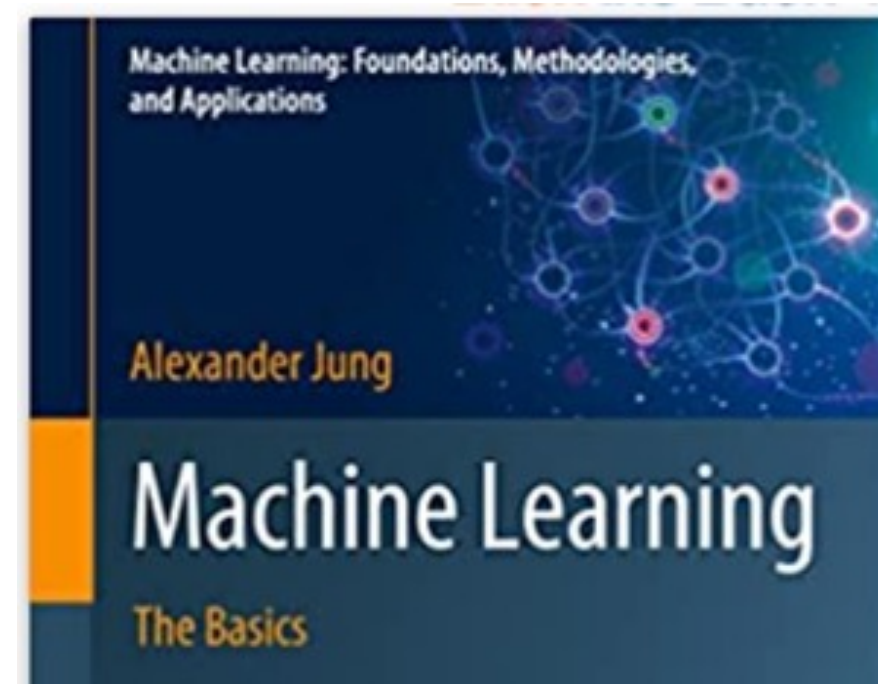
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# Reading.

Sec. 8.2. of <https://mlbook.cs.aalto.fi>



<https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/mixture.html#gmm>



PrevUpNext

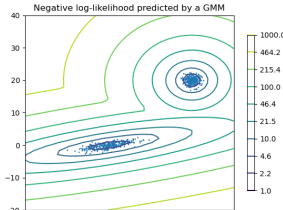
scikit-learn 1.1.2  
[Other versions](#)

Please [cite us](#) if you use the software.

**2.1. Gaussian mixture models**  
2.1.1. Gaussian Mixture  
2.1.2. Variational Bayesian Gaussian Mixture

## 2.1. Gaussian mixture models

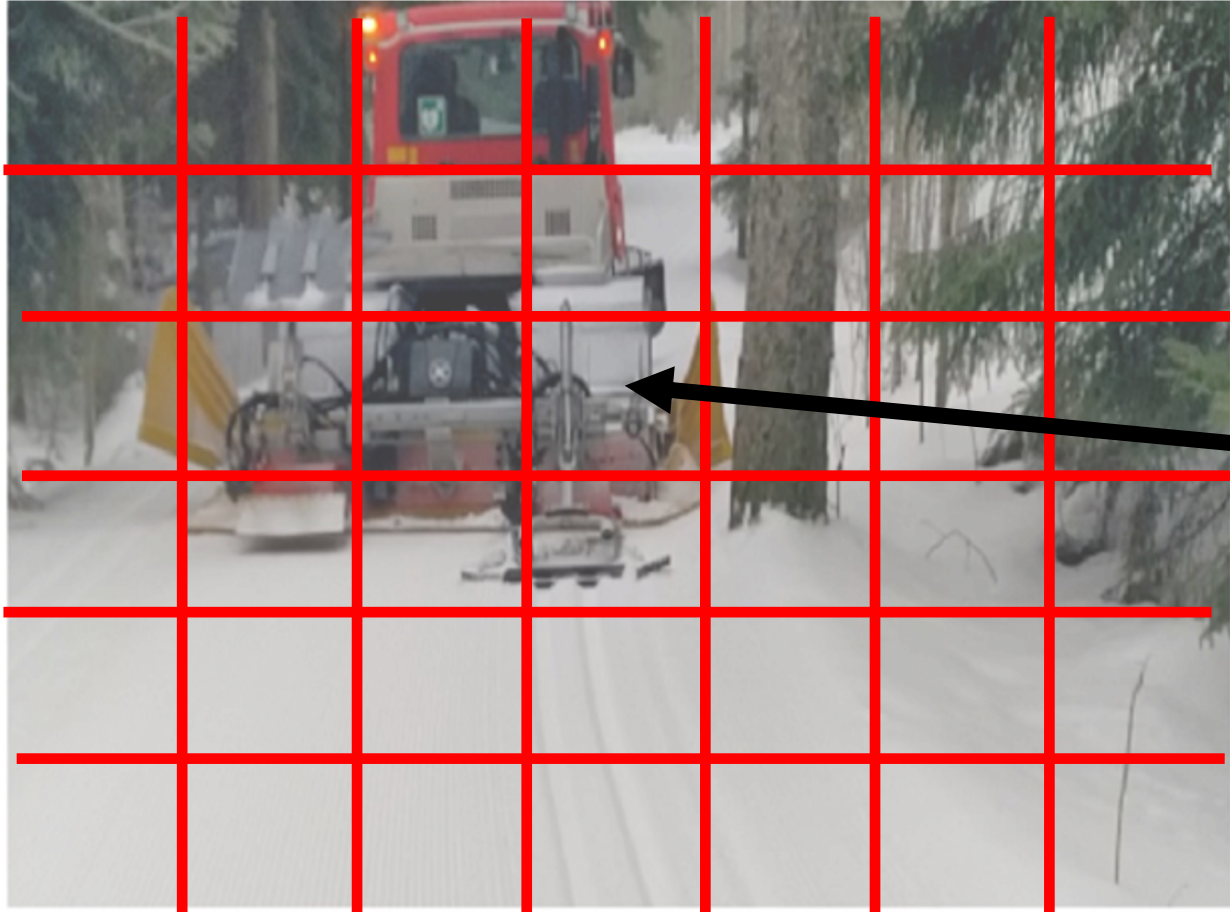
sklearn.mixture is a package which enables one to learn Gaussian Mixture Models (diagonal, spherical, tied and full covariance matrices supported), sample them, and estimate them from data. Facilities to help determine the appropriate number of components are also provided.



# Learning Goals

- basic **idea** of soft clustering
- a soft clustering **algorithm**
- **probabilistic interpretation** of algorithm
- how to choose **number of clusters**

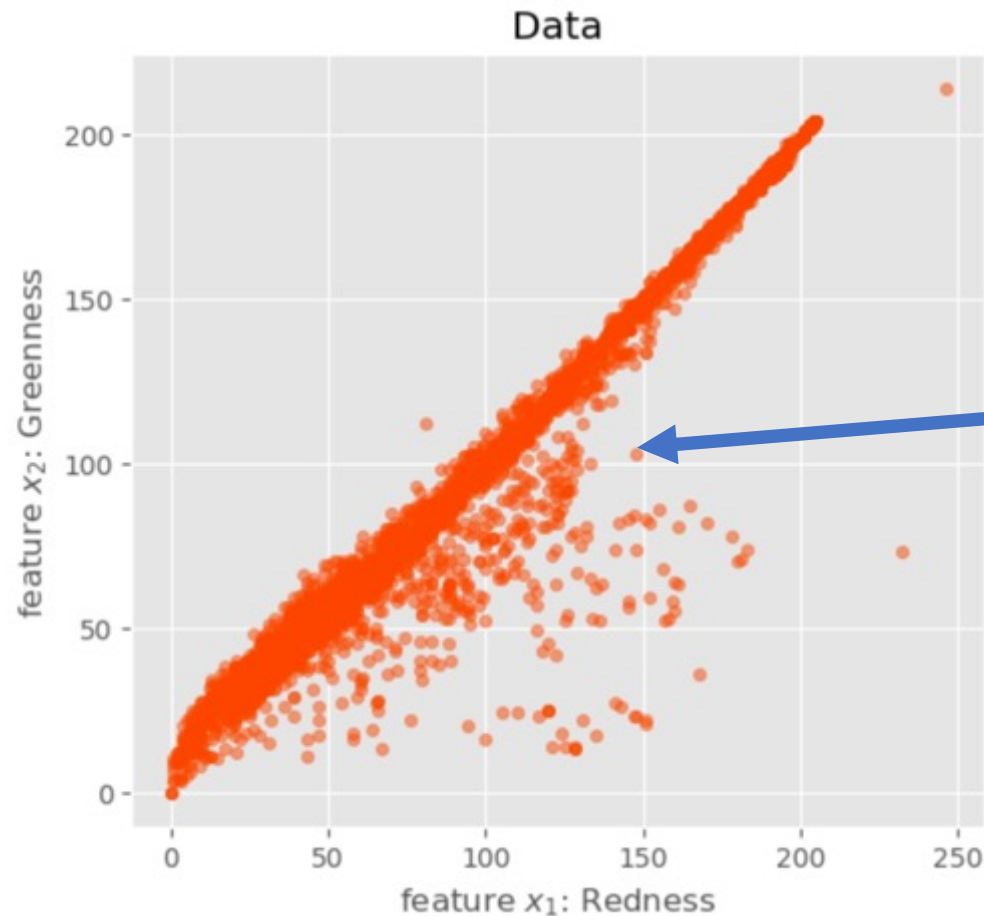
# Dataset = Set of Image Patches



data point



# Using Two Features (Red+Green)



# Hard- vs. Soft-Clustering



# Output of k-means (Last Lecture)





# Output of Soft-Clustering (Today!)





# Soft Clustering

- datapoints  $(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{y}^{(1)}), \dots, (\mathbf{x}^{(m)}, \mathbf{y}^{(m)})$
- i-th datapoint characterized by n features

$$\mathbf{x}^{(i)} = (x_1^{(i)}, \dots, x_n^{(i)})$$

- i-th datapoint characterized by k label values

$$\mathbf{y}^{(i)} = (y_1^{(i)}, \dots, y_k^{(i)})$$

# Degree of Belonging

- i-th datapoint characterized by k label values

$$\mathbf{y}^{(i)} = \left( y_1^{(i)}, \dots, x_k^{(i)} \right)$$

- $y_1^{(i)}$  degree of i-th datapoint belonging to cluster 1
- $y_2^{(i)}$  degree of i-th datapoint belonging to cluster 2
- ...
- $y_k^{(i)}$  degree of i-th datapoint belonging to cluster k

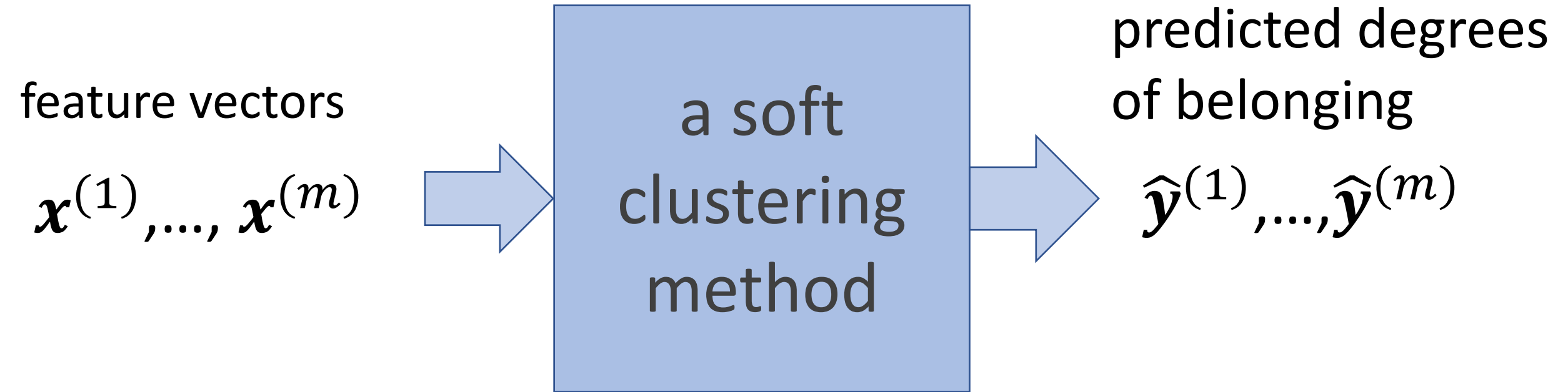
# Probabilistic Interpretation

- $y_c^{(i)}$  degree of i-th datapoint belonging to cluster c
- Interpret  $y_c^{(i)}$  as probability

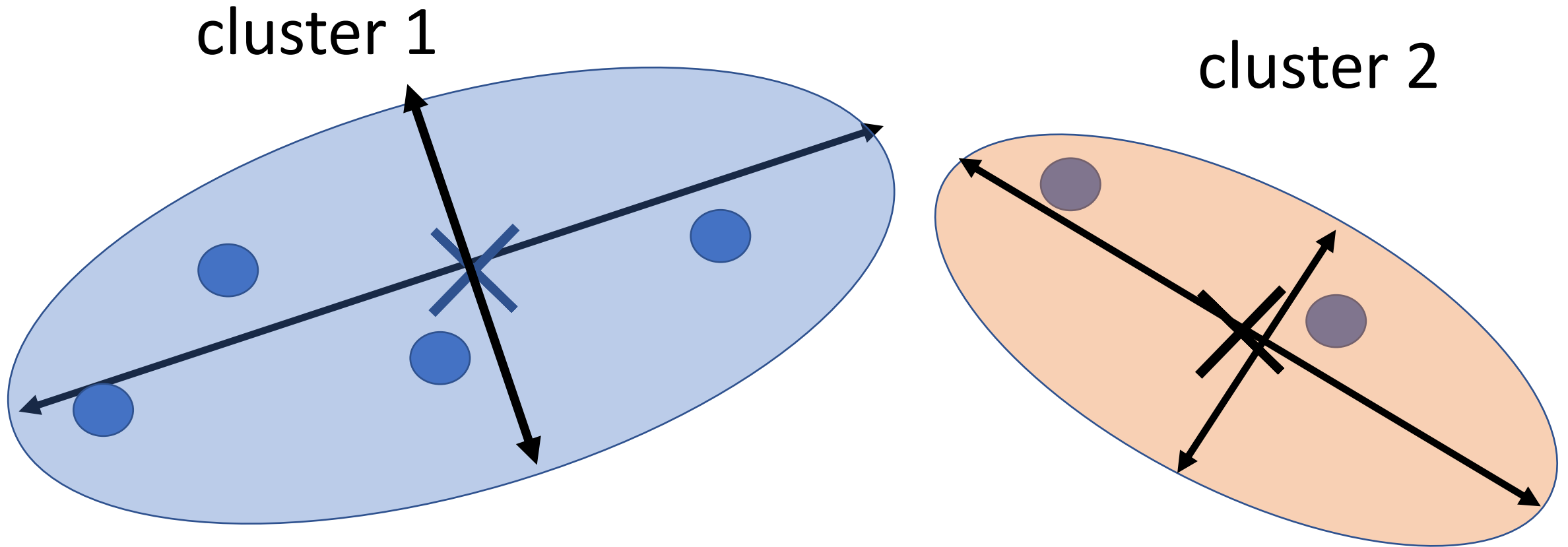
P(“ i-th datapoint belongs to cluster c”)

- $y_c^{(i)}$  can be any number between 0 and 1 (e.g.,  $y_c^{(i)} = 0.33$ )
- $\sum_{c=1}^k y_c^{(i)} = 1$  (i-th datapoint must belong to some cluster)
- hard clustering requires  $y_c^{(i)}$  is either 0 or 1

# Soft Clustering Methods

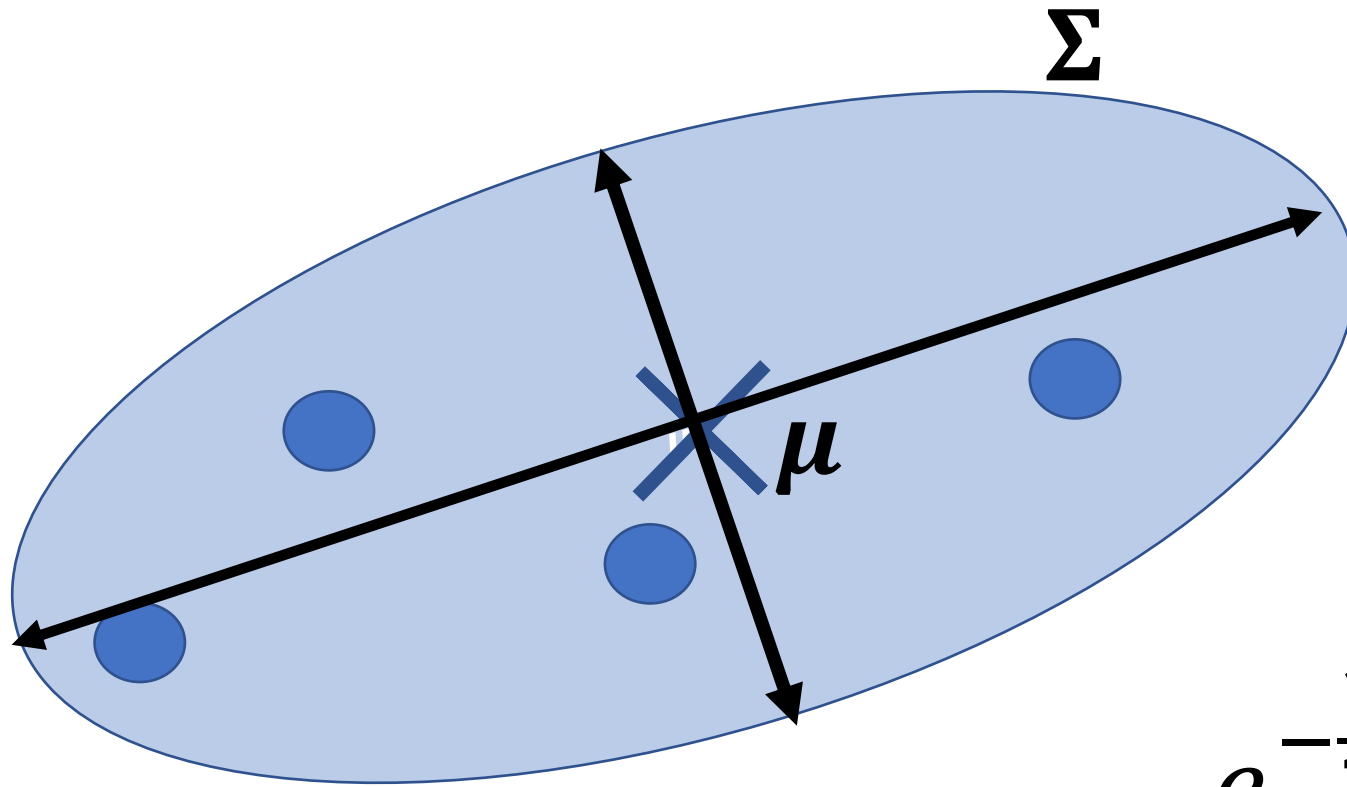


# Represent Clusters by Gaussians



Gaussian mixture model (GMM)

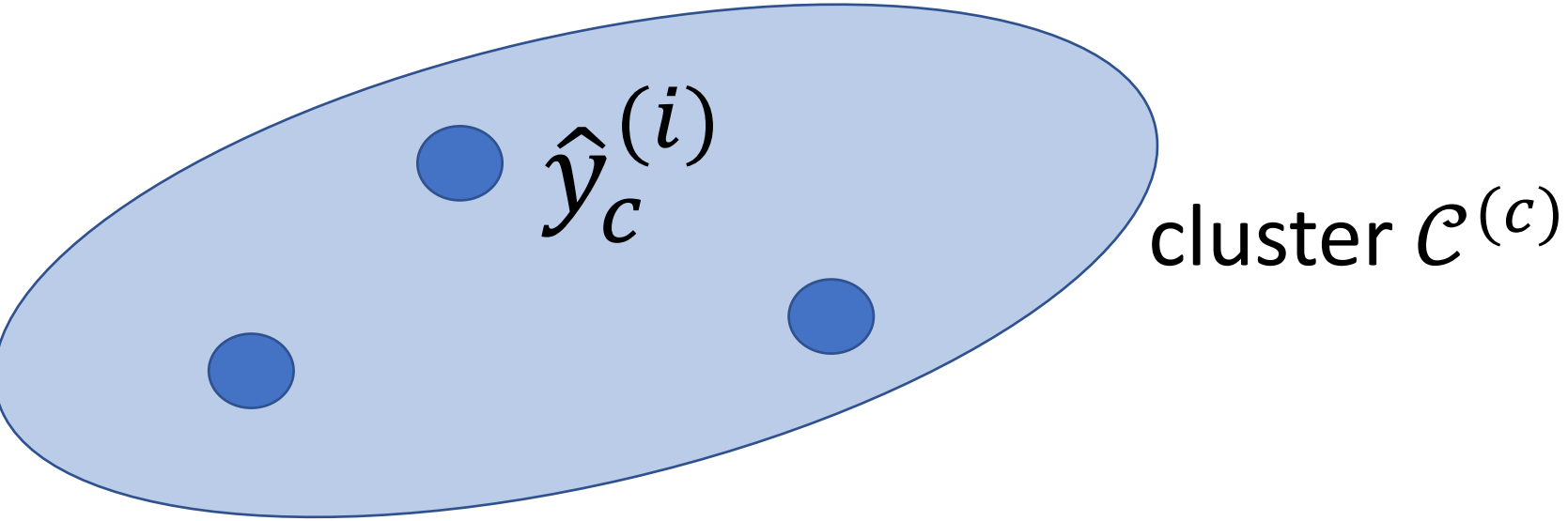
# Gaussian Distribution



mean vector  $\mu$   
covariance matrix  $\Sigma$

$$p(x; \mu, \Sigma) = \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)}}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n \det(\Sigma)}}$$

# Cluster Spread



$$\frac{1}{m^{(c)}} \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{y}_c^{(i)} \left( \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)} \right)^T \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(1)} \right)^{-1} \left( \mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)} \right)$$

effective cluster size

$$m^{(c)} := \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{y}_c^{(i)}$$



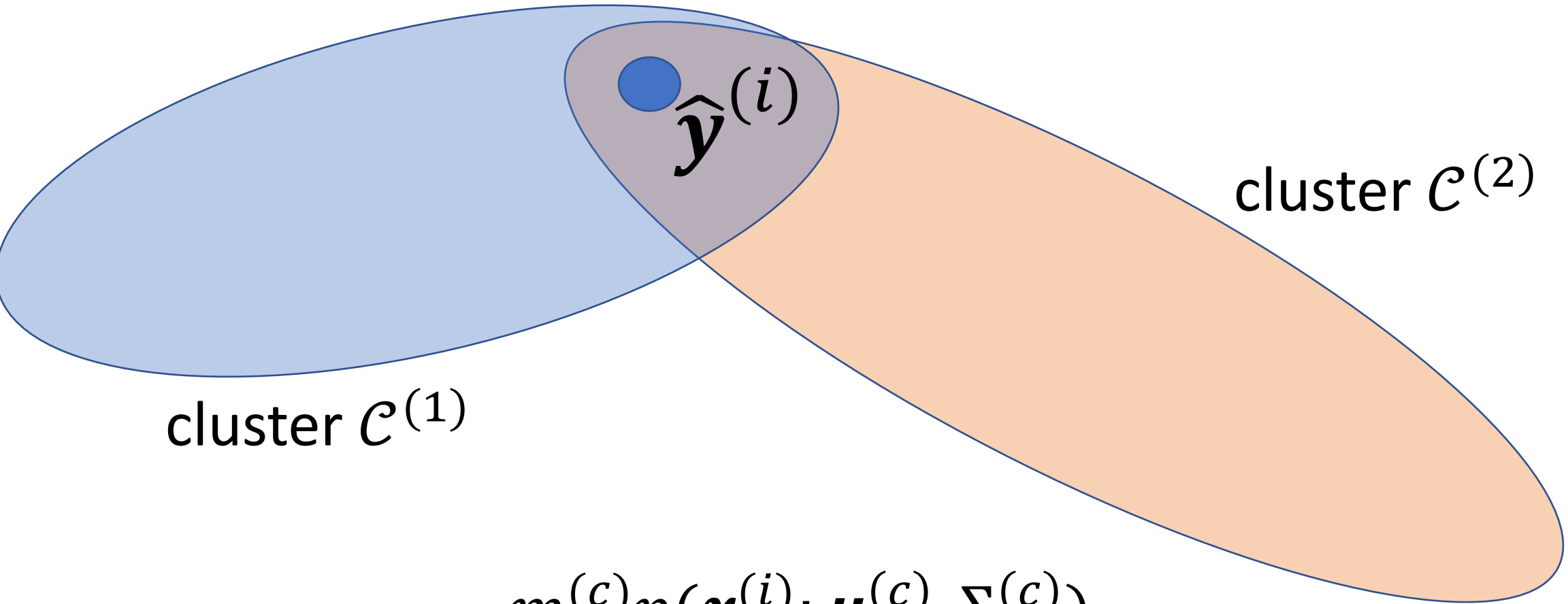
# Update Cluster Mean and Covariance

for given (soft) cluster assignments  $\hat{y}_c^{(i)}$  chose cluster means and cov. to **min. cluster spreads**

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)} := \frac{1}{m^{(c)}} \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{y}_c^{(i)} \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \quad \text{for all } c = 1, \dots, k$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)} := \frac{1}{m^{(c)}} \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{y}_c^{(i)} \left( \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)} \right) \left( \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)} \right)^T$$

# Cluster Assignment Update



$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_c^{(i)} := \frac{m^{(c)} p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}, \Sigma^{(c)})}{\sum_{c'=1}^k m^{(c')} p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c')}, \Sigma^{(c')})}$$

# A Soft-Clustering Algorithm

initial choice for  
cluster means, cov.  
and effective size

update cluster  
assignment

update cluster  
means, cov. and eff. size

$\mu^{(c)}, \Sigma^{(c)}, m^{(c)}$

$\hat{y}_c^{(i)}$

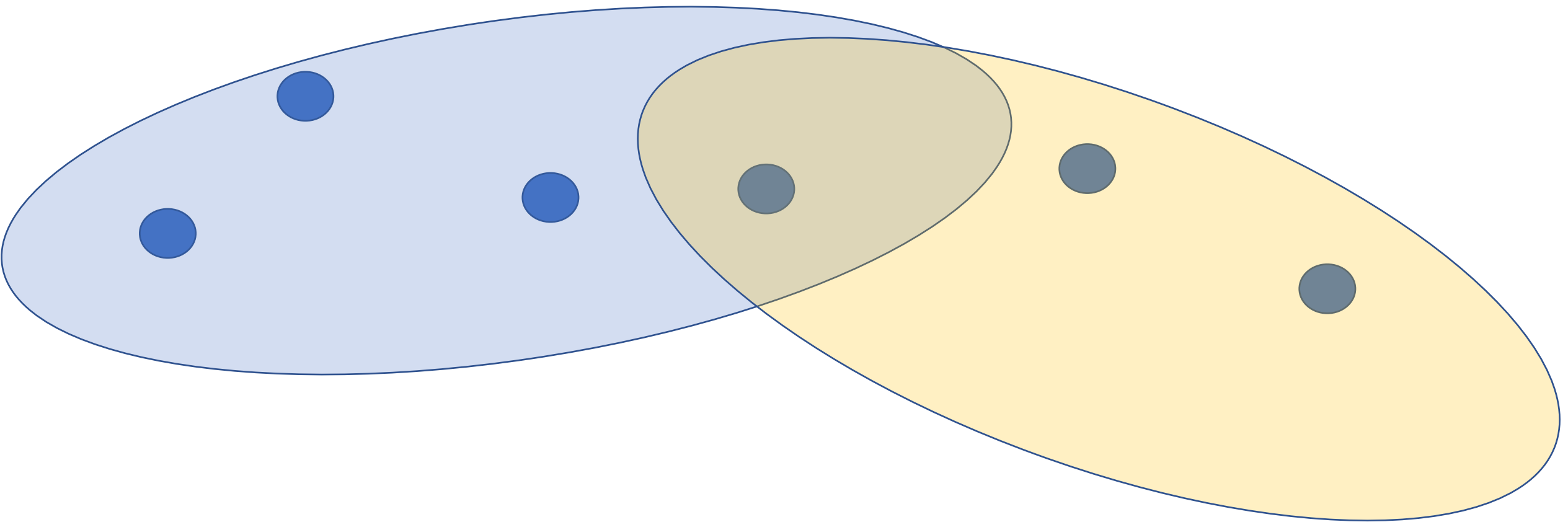
# A Soft-Clustering Algorithm

• **Input:**  $\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(m)}, k, \{\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)}, m^{(c)}\}$

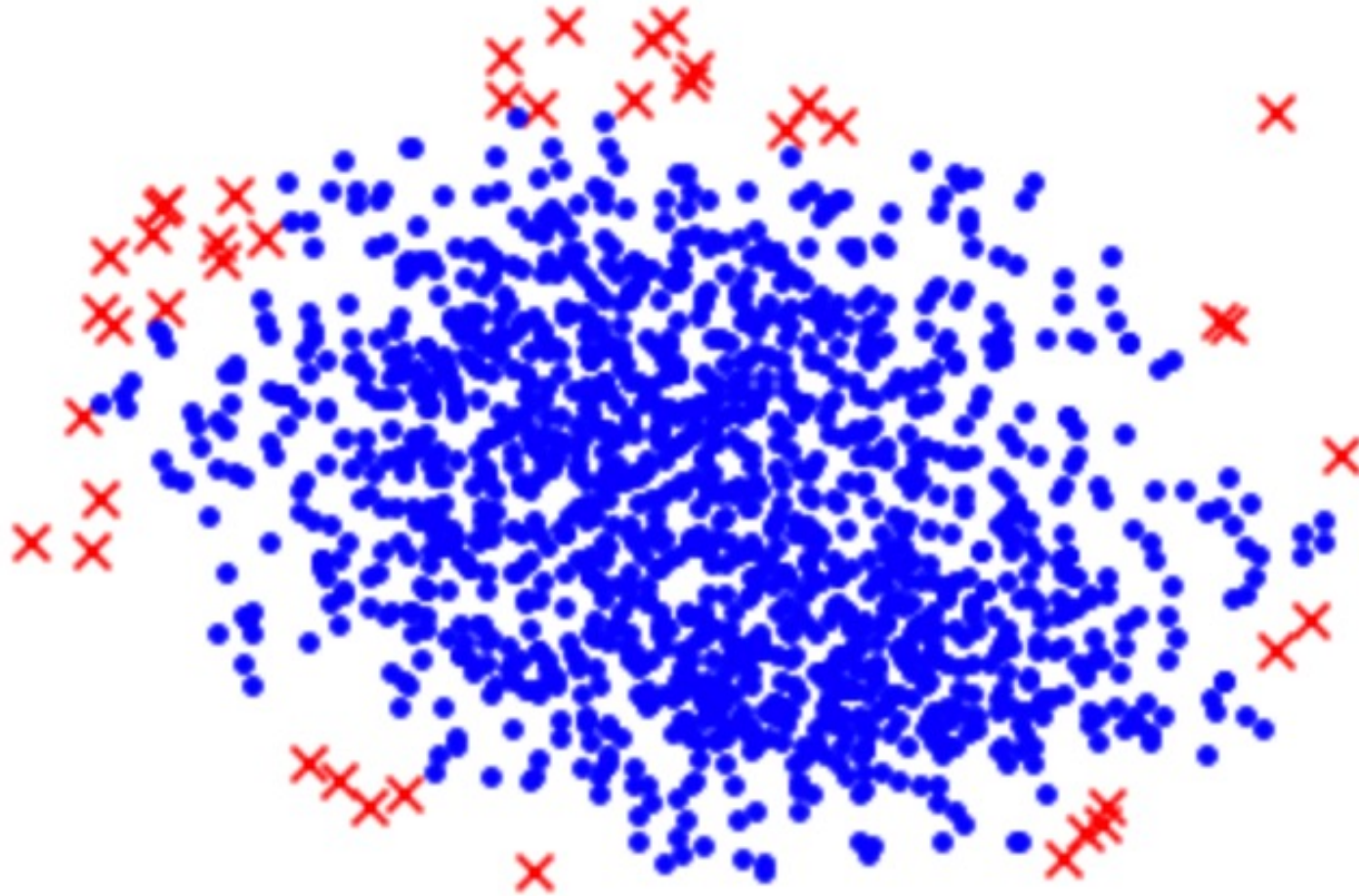
1. update soft cluster assignments  $\hat{y}_c^{(i)}$
2. update cluster params  $\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)}, m^{(c)}$
3. go to 1. unless “finished”

• **Output:**  $\hat{y}_c^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)}, m^{(c)}$

# Typical Cluster Shapes



# this cluster structure still out of reach!



# When to Stop?

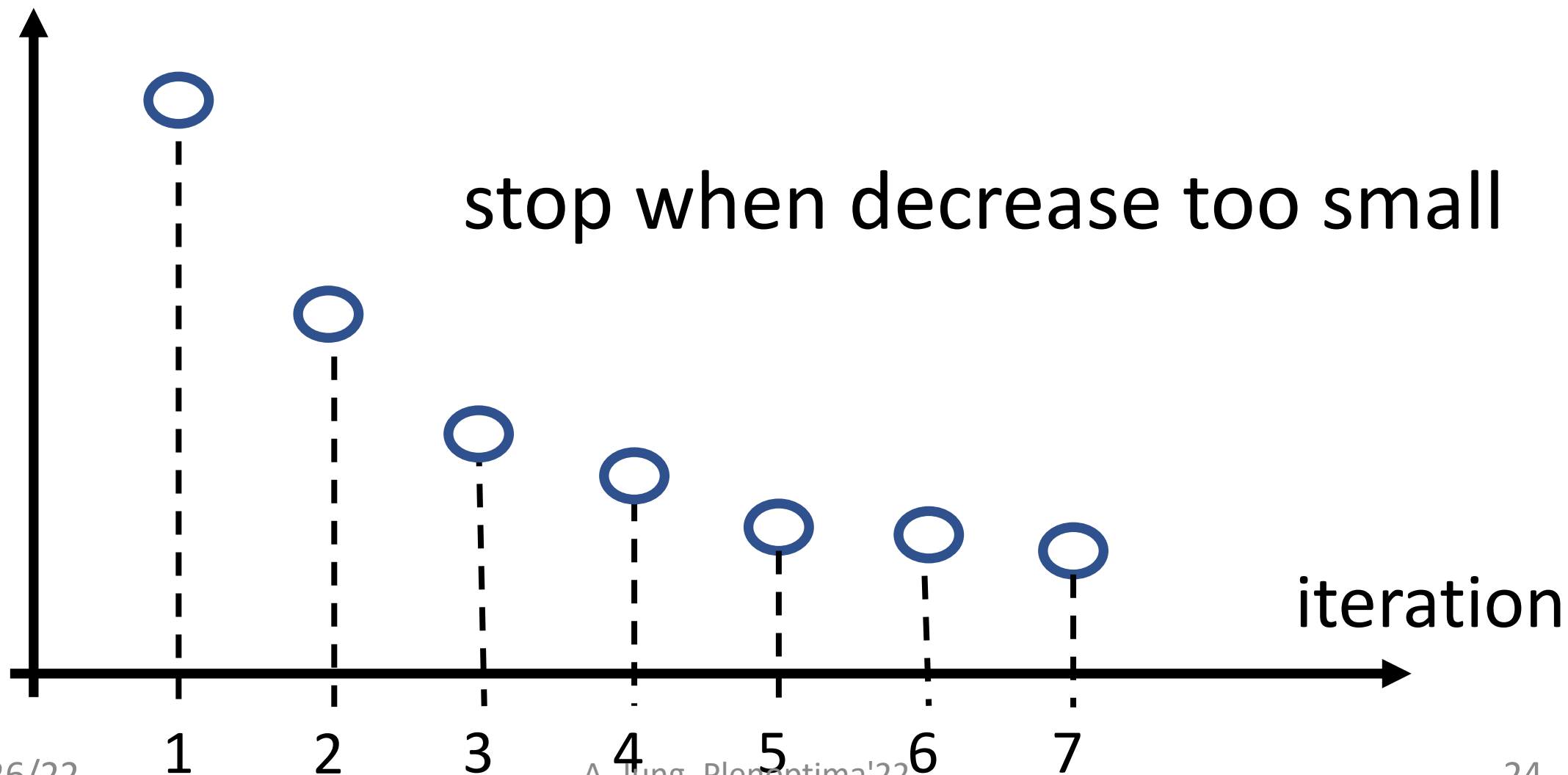


# Soft-Clustering Error

$$\mathcal{E}(\{\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}\}, \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)}\}, \{m^{(c)}\}) :=$$
$$-\sum_{i=1}^m \log \sum_{c=1}^k \frac{m^{(c)}}{m} p(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)})$$

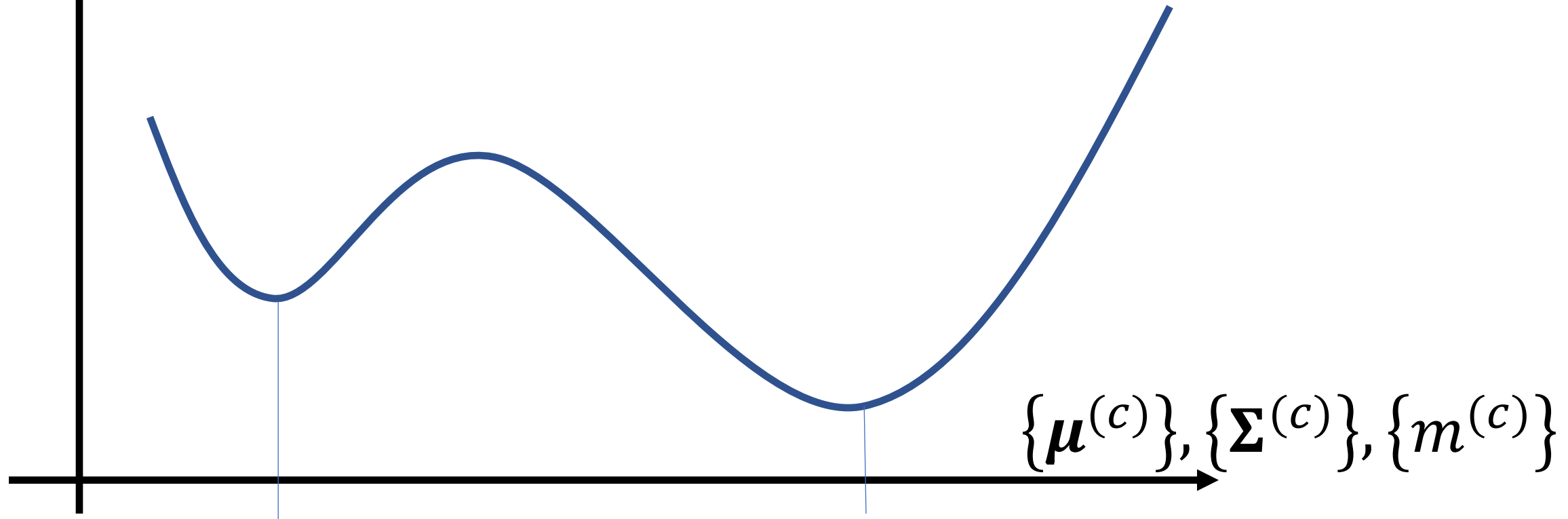
this is negative logarithm of probability to “see” datapoints under Gaussian mixture model

$$\mathcal{E}(\{\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}\}, \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)}\}, \{m^{(c)}\})$$



# Non-Convexity of Soft-Clustering Error

$$\mathcal{E}(\{\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(c)}\}, \{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{(c)}\}, \{m^{(c)}\})$$



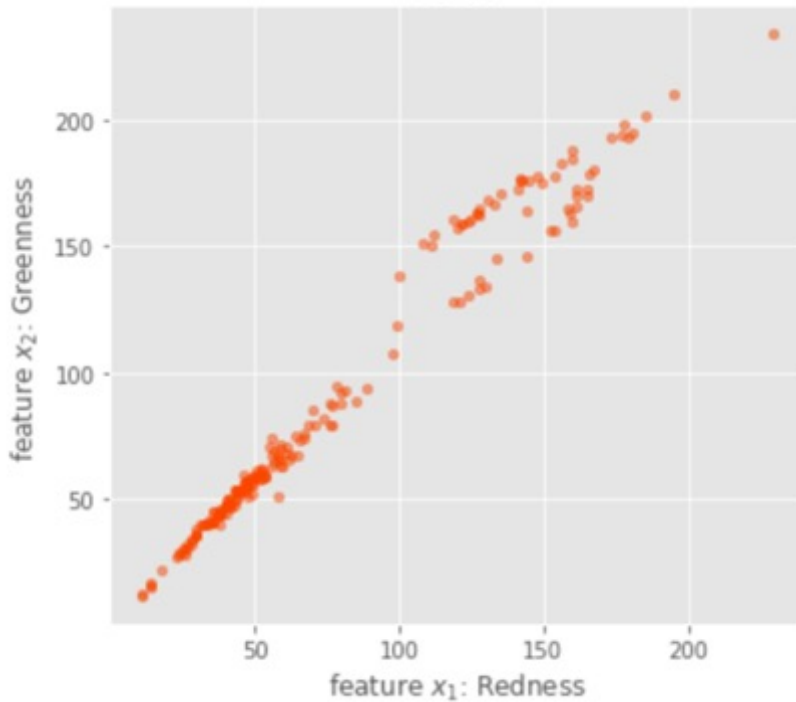
local optimum

optimal clustering

# Initialization is Crucial

- soft clustering depends crucially on init. means
- repeat several times with different init.

# How to choose number k of clusters?



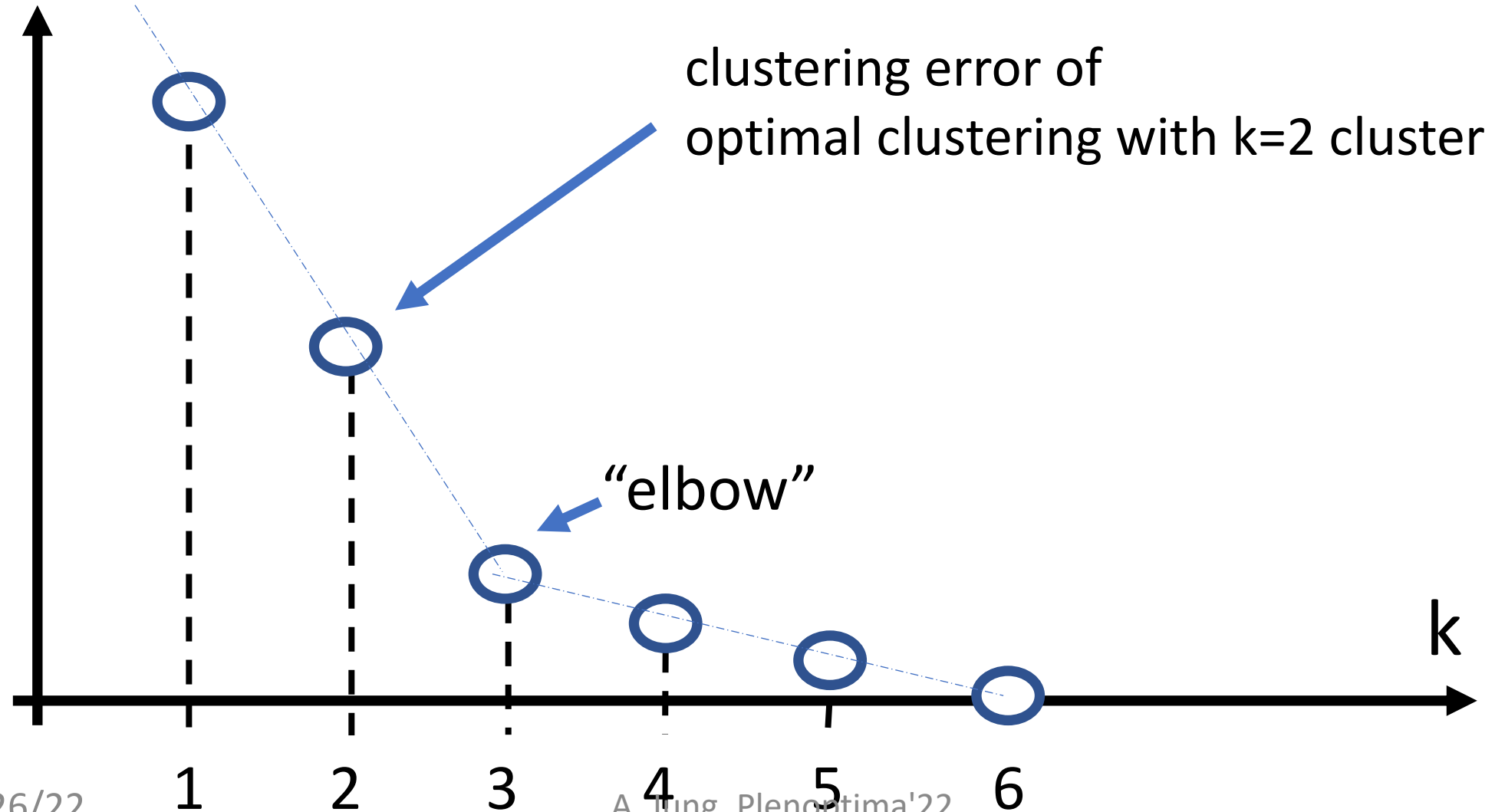
- defined by application (img. seg.)
- desired compression rate
- “elbow-method”

# For/Background Segmentation $k=2$

Cluster 1 = Background, Cluster 2=Foreground



# Elbow Method





# Choose $k$ by Validation Error

- clustering can be used as pre-processing for follow-up regression method
- try different values of  $k$  and pick the one resulting in smallest validation error

# To Sum Up

- represent clusters by Gaussian distributions
- soft clustering algorithm fits GMM
- iterative optimization of soft-clustering error
- trapped in local minimum for bad initialization

# Thank You!