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# Clustering

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# K-means Clustering

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- Partitional clustering approach
- Each cluster is associated with a **centroid** (center point)
- Each point is assigned to the cluster with the closest centroid
- Number of clusters,  $K$ , must be specified
- The basic algorithm is very simple

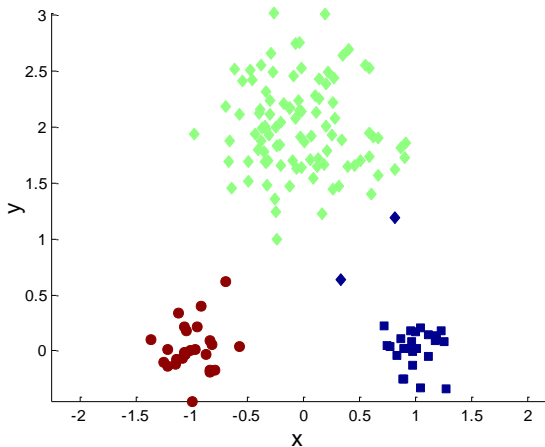
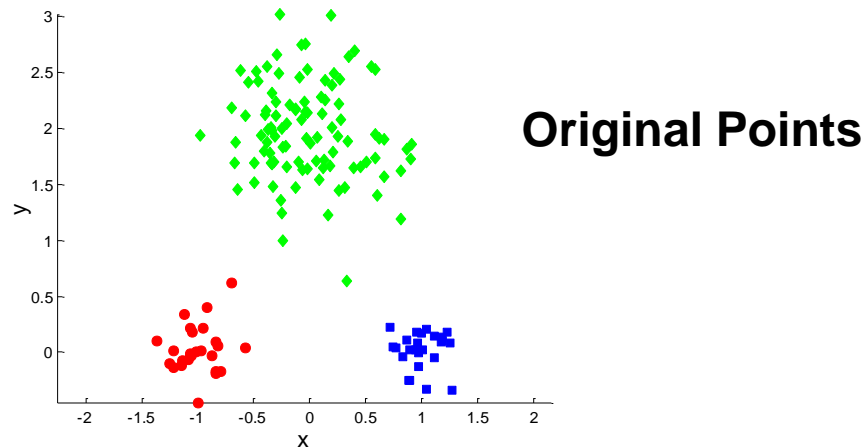
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- 1: Select  $K$  points as the initial centroids.
  - 2: **repeat**
  - 3:   Form  $K$  clusters by assigning all points to the closest centroid.
  - 4:   Recompute the centroid of each cluster.
  - 5: **until** The centroids don't change
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# K-means Clustering – Details

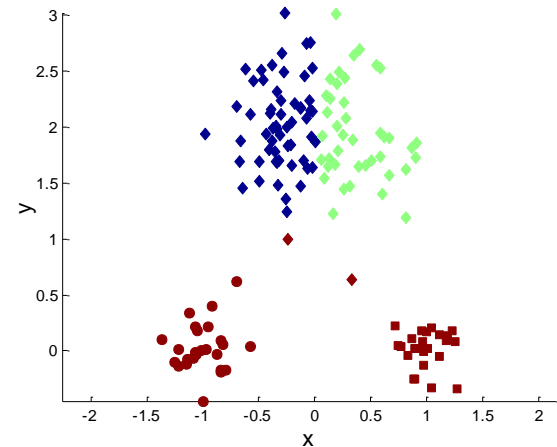
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- Initial centroids are often chosen randomly.
  - Clusters produced vary from one run to another.
- The centroid is (typically) the mean of the points in the cluster.
- ‘Closeness’ is measured by Euclidean distance, cosine similarity, correlation, 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’
- Complexity is  $O(n * K * I * d)$ 
  - $n$  = number of points,  $K$  = number of clusters,  
 $I$  = number of iterations,  $d$  = number of attributes

# Two different K-means Clusterings

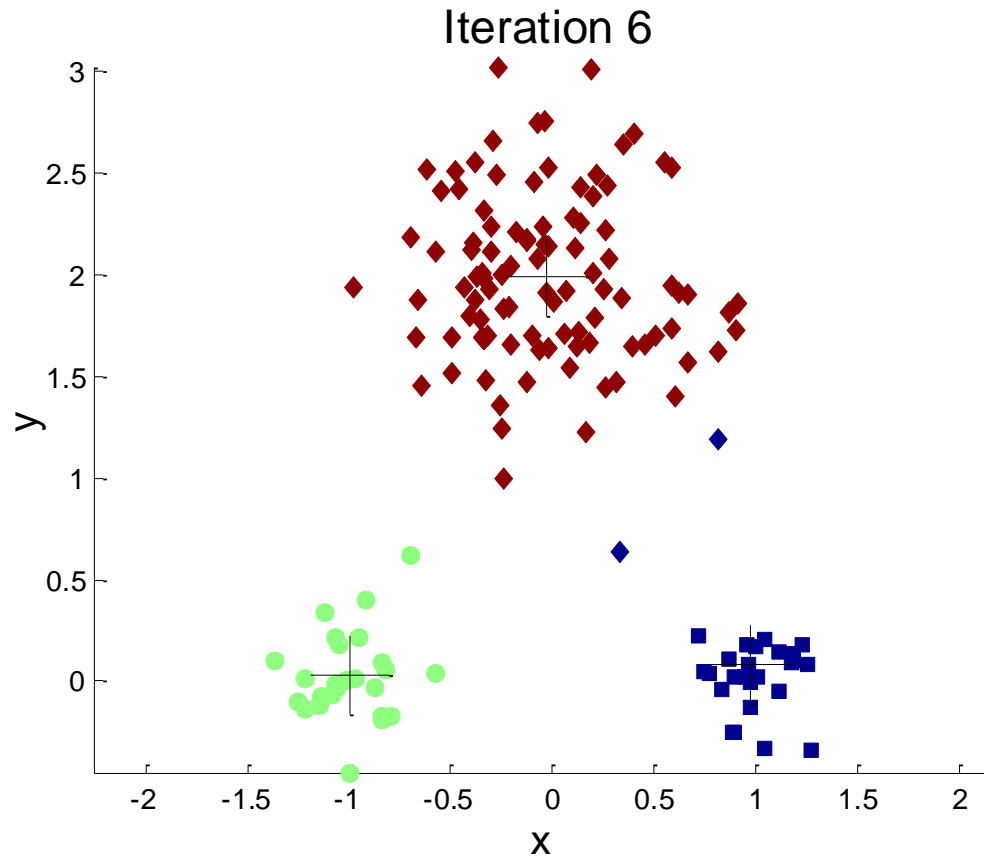


**Optimal Clustering**

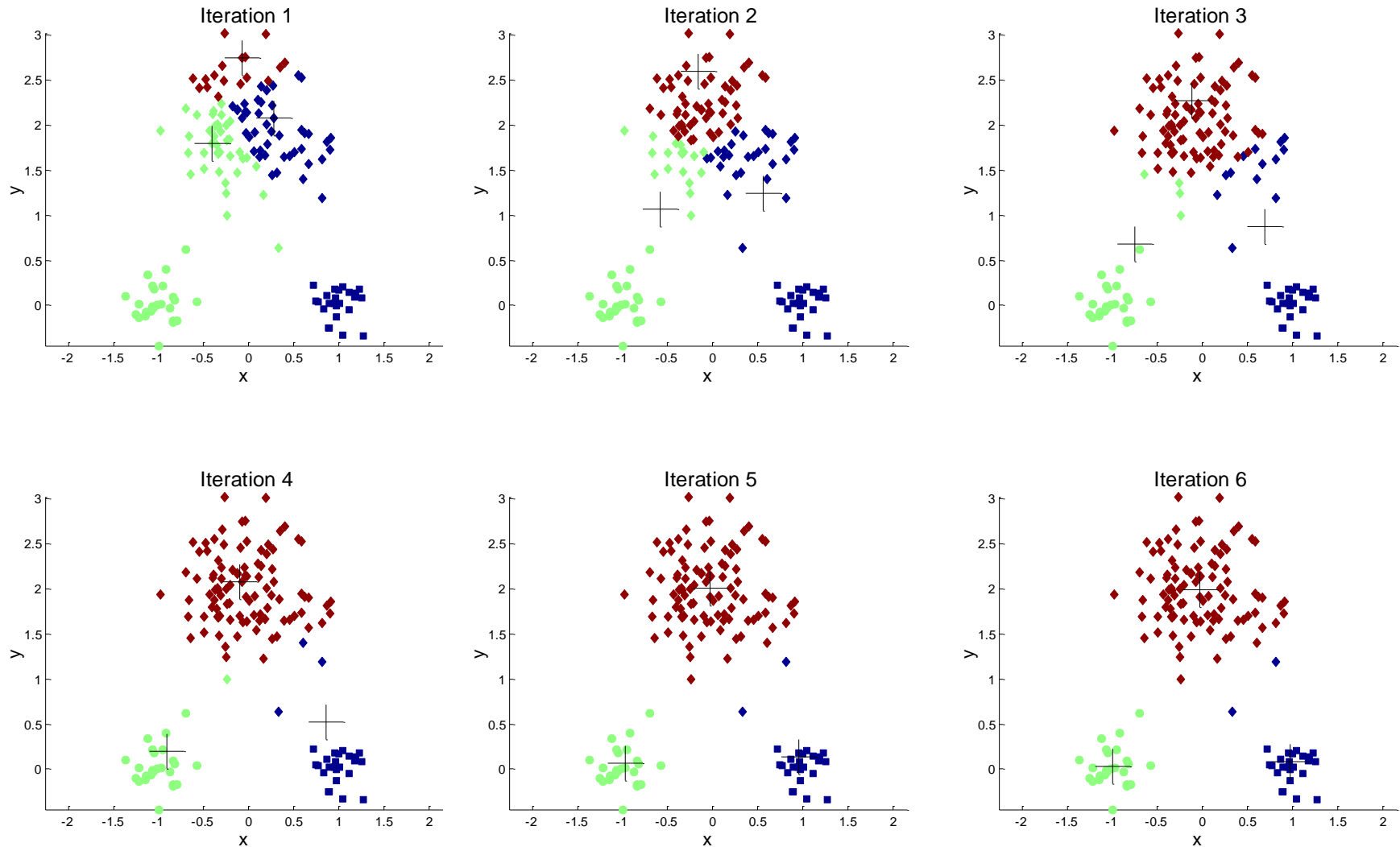


**Sub-optimal Clustering**

# 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  $K$

# A Simple Example of k-means working

□ Let  $K=2$

Individual	Variable 1	Variable 2
1	1.0	1.0
2	1.5	2.0
3	3.0	4.0
4	5.0	7.0
5	3.5	5.0
6	4.5	5.0
7	3.5	4.5



# A Simple Example of k-means working

## Step 1:

**Initialization:** Randomly we choose following two centroids ( $k=2$ ) for two clusters. In this case the 2 centroid are:  $m1=(1.0,1.0)$  and  $m2=(5.0,7.0)$ .

Individual	Variable 1	Variable 2
1	1.0	1.0
2	1.5	2.0
3	3.0	4.0
4	5.0	7.0
5	3.5	5.0
6	4.5	5.0
7	3.5	4.5

	Individual	Mean Vector
Group 1	1	(1.0, 1.0)
Group 2	4	(5.0, 7.0)

## Step 2:

- Thus, we obtain two clusters containing:

{1,2,3} and {4,5,6,7}.

- Their new centroids are:

$$m_1 = \left( \frac{1}{3}(1.0 + 1.5 + 3.0), \frac{1}{3}(1.0 + 2.0 + 4.0) \right) = (1.83, 2.33)$$

$$m_2 = \left( \frac{1}{4}(5.0 + 3.5 + 4.5 + 3.5), \frac{1}{4}(7.0 + 5.0 + 5.0 + 4.5) \right) \\ = (4.12, 5.38)$$

Individual	Centroid 1	Centroid 2
1		
2 (1.5, 2.0)		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

$$d(m_1, 2) = \sqrt{|1.0 - 1.5|^2 + |1.0 - 2.0|^2} = 1.12$$

$$d(m_2, 2) = \sqrt{|5.0 - 1.5|^2 + |7.0 - 2.0|^2} = 6.10$$

### Step 3:

- Now using these centroids we compute the Euclidean distance of each object, as shown in table.
- Therefore, the new clusters are:  
 $\{1,2\}$  and  $\{3,4,5,6,7\}$
- Next centroids are:  
 $m_1 = (1.25, 1.5)$  and  $m_2 = (3.9, 5.1)$

Individual	Centroid 1	Centroid 2
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

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- Step 4 :

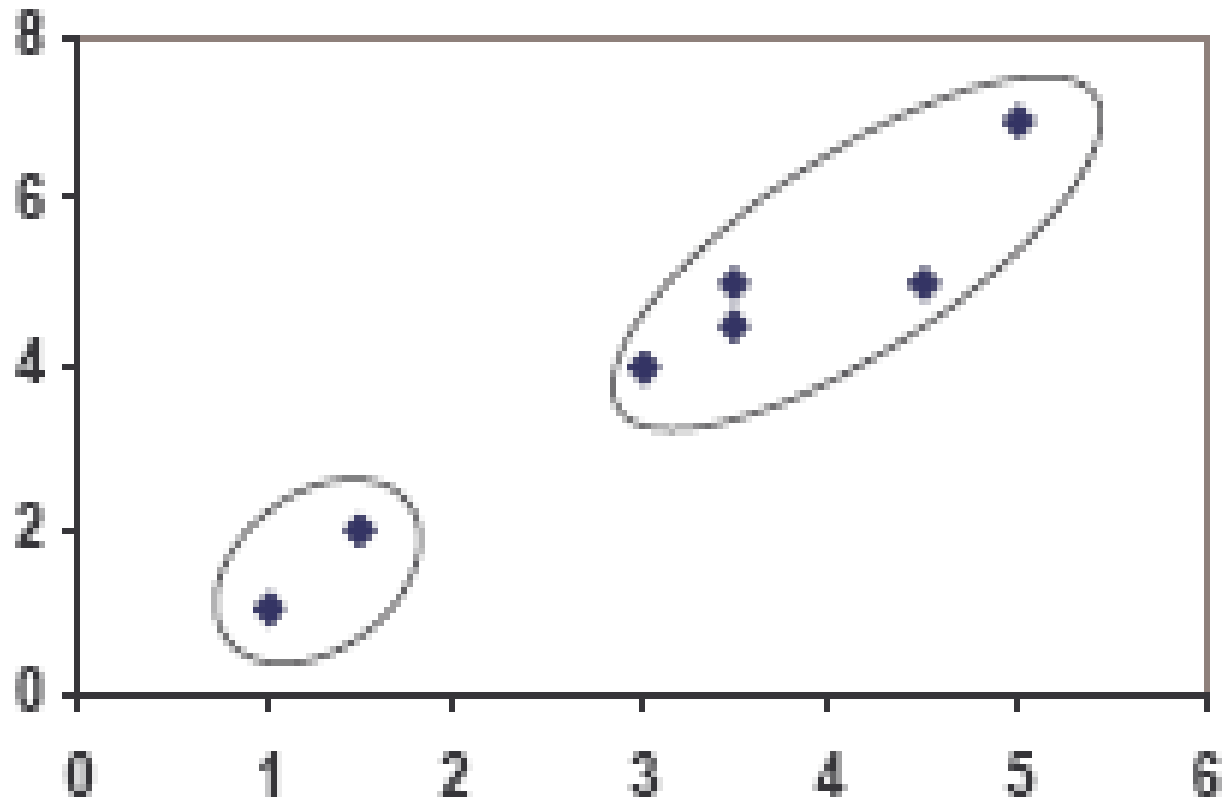
The clusters obtained are:  
 $\{1,2\}$  and  $\{3,4,5,6,7\}$

- Therefore, there is no change in the cluster.
- Thus, the algorithm comes to a halt here and final result consist of 2 clusters  $\{1,2\}$  and  $\{3,4,5,6,7\}$ .

Individual	Centroid 1	Centroid 2
1	0.58	5.02
2	0.58	3.92
3	3.05	1.42
4	6.88	2.20
5	4.18	0.41
6	4.78	0.81
7	3.75	0.72

# PLOT

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# Example with K=3

Individual	$m_1 = 1$	$m_2 = 2$	$m_3 = 3$	cluster
1	0	1.11	3.81	1
2	1.12	0	2.5	2
3	3.81	2.5	0	3
4	7.21	8.10	3.81	3
5	4.72	3.81	1.12	3
6	5.31	4.24	1.80	3
7	4.30	3.20	0.71	3

}  $C_3$

clustering with initial centroids (1, 2, 3)

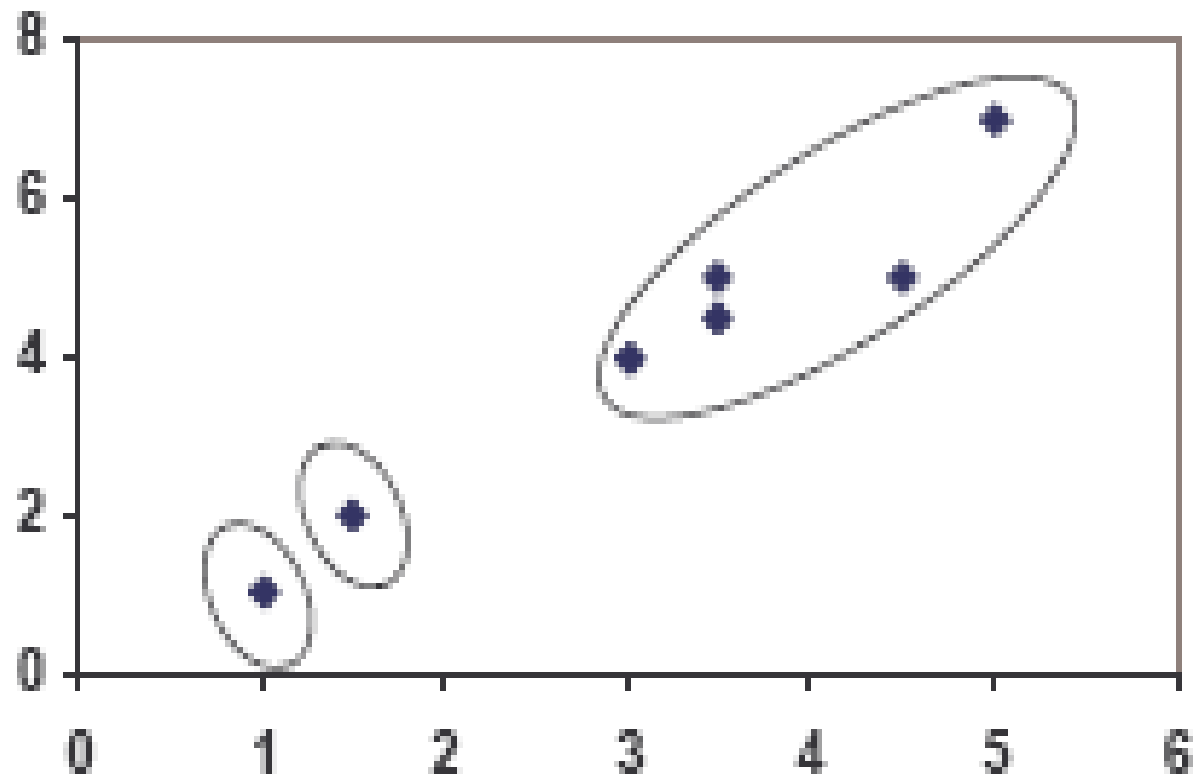
## Step 1

Individual	$m_1$ (1.0, 1.0)	$m_2$ (1.5, 2.0)	$m_3$ (3.9, 5.1)	cluster
1	0	1.11	5.02	1
2	1.12	0	3.92	2
3	3.81	2.5	1.42	3
4	7.21	8.10	2.20	3
5	4.72	3.81	0.41	3
6	5.31	4.24	0.81	3
7	4.30	3.20	0.72	3

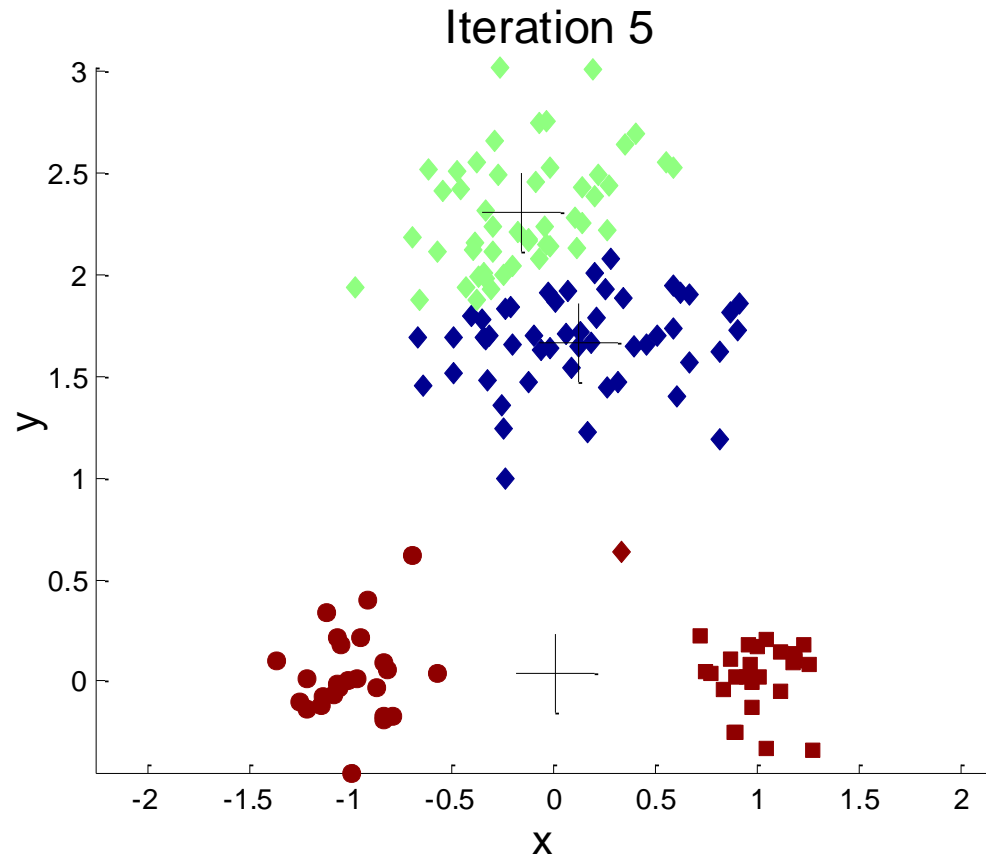
## Step 2

# PLOT

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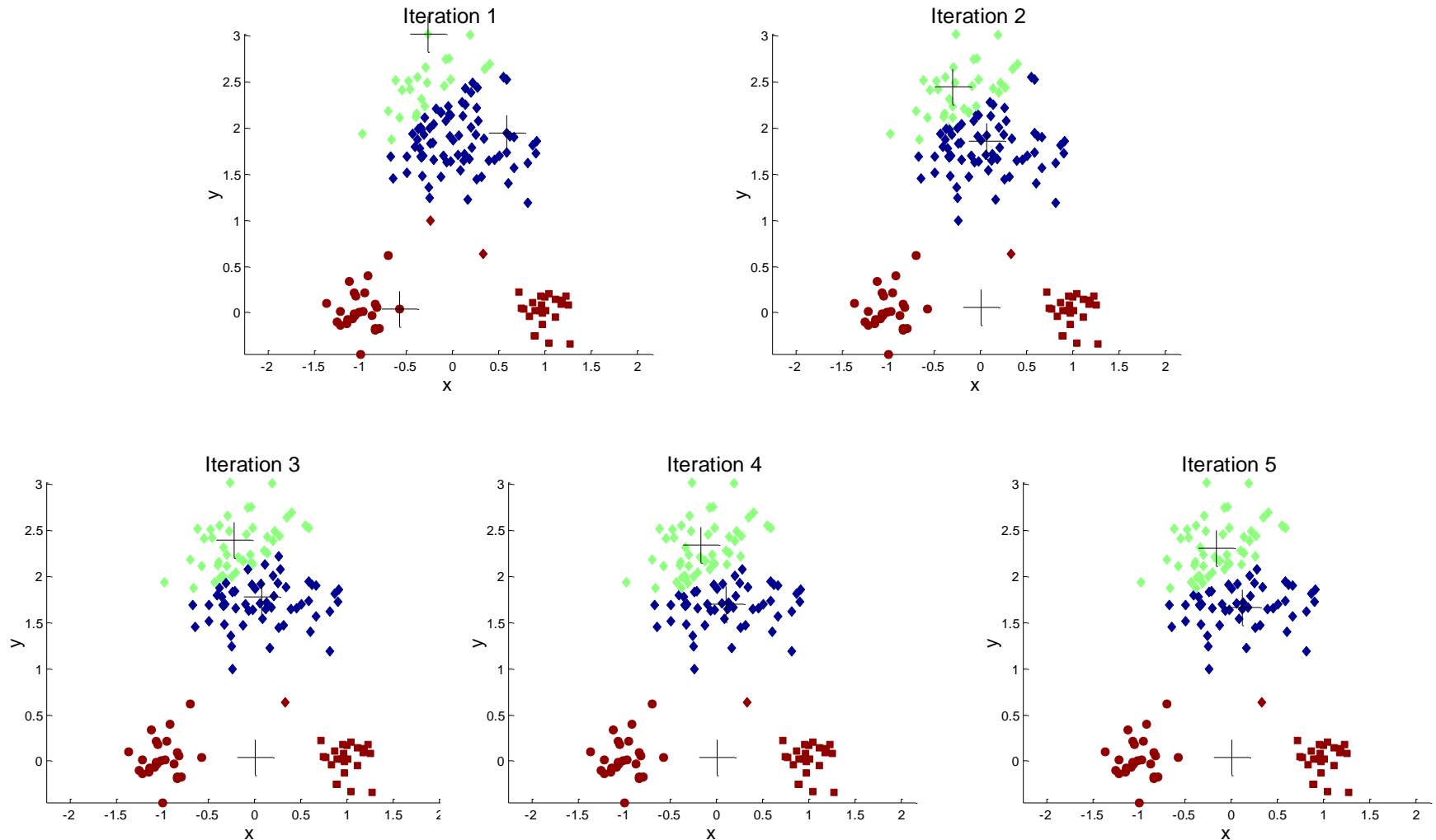


# Importance of Choosing Initial Centroids ...



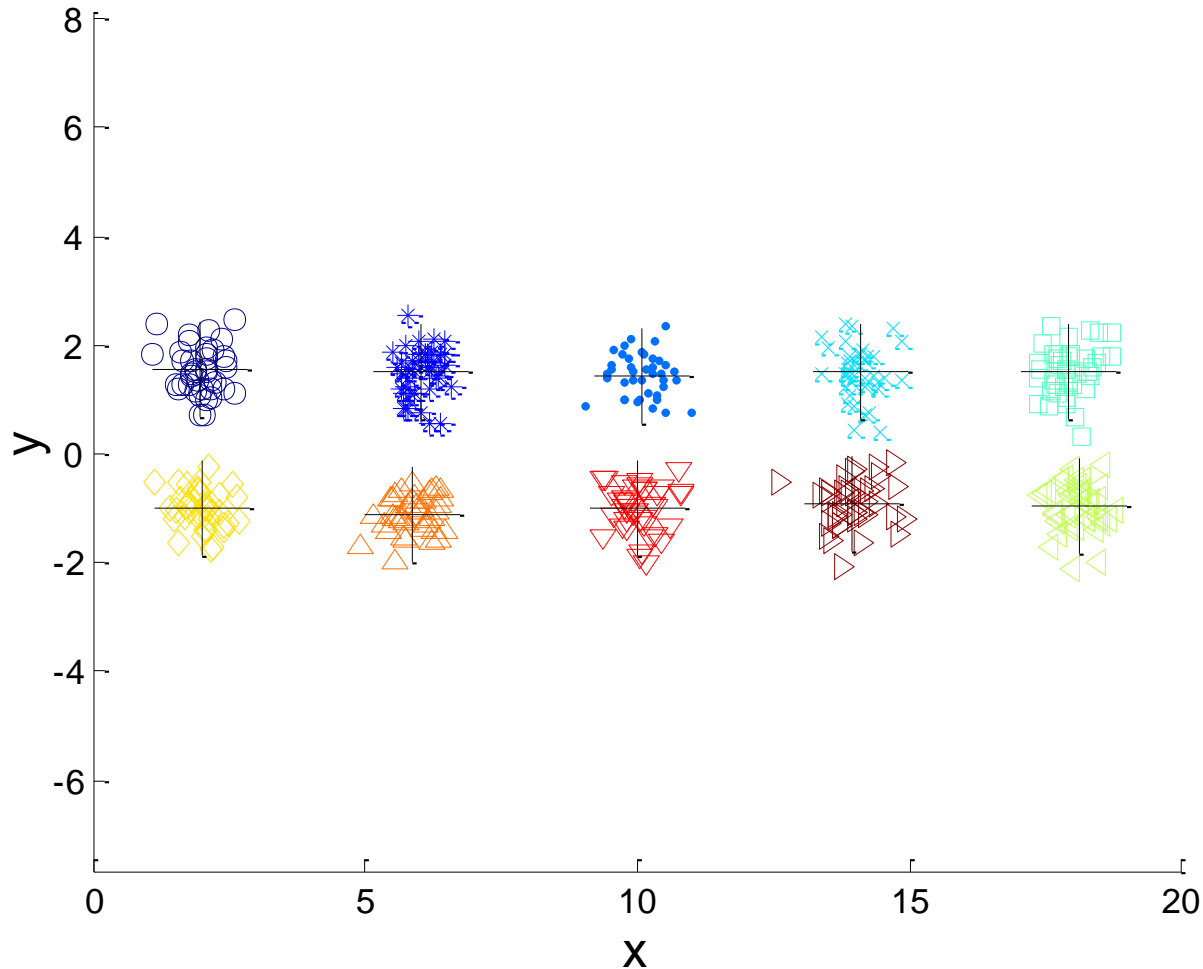


# Importance of Choosing Initial Centroids ...



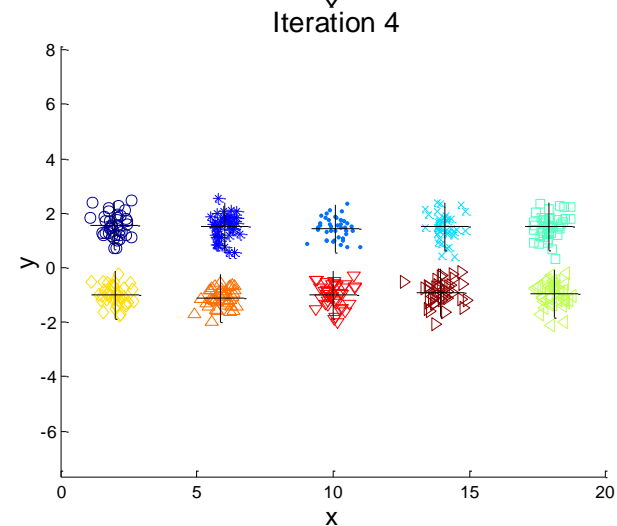
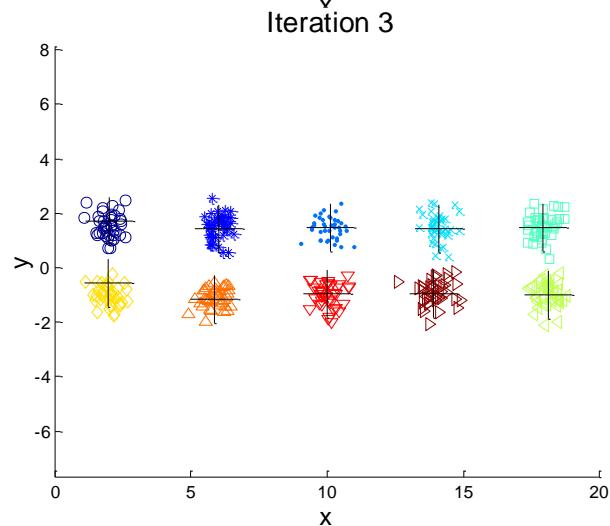
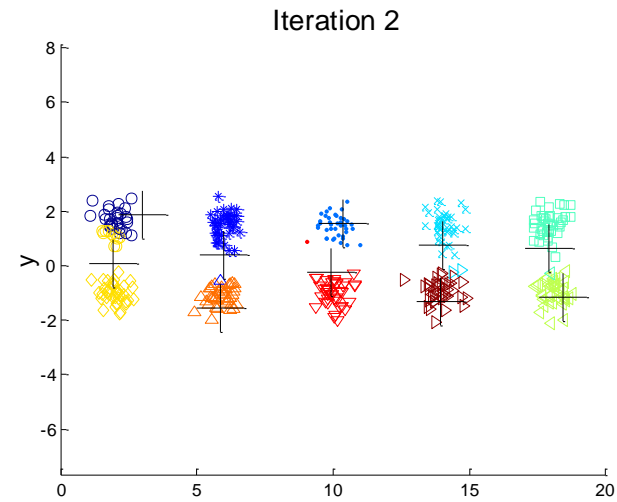
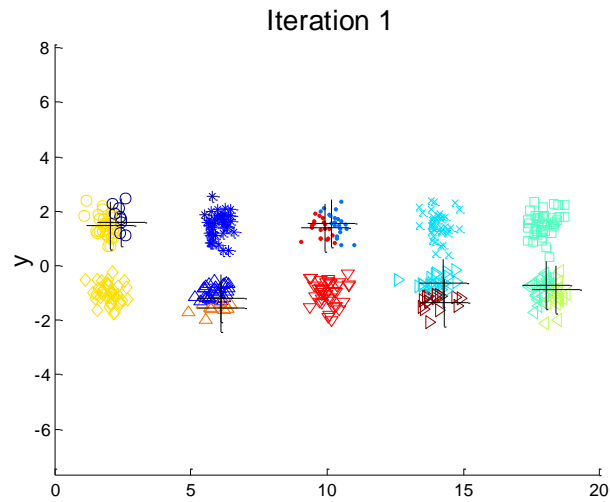
# 10 Clusters Example

Iteration 4



**Starting with two initial centroids in one cluster of each pair of clusters**

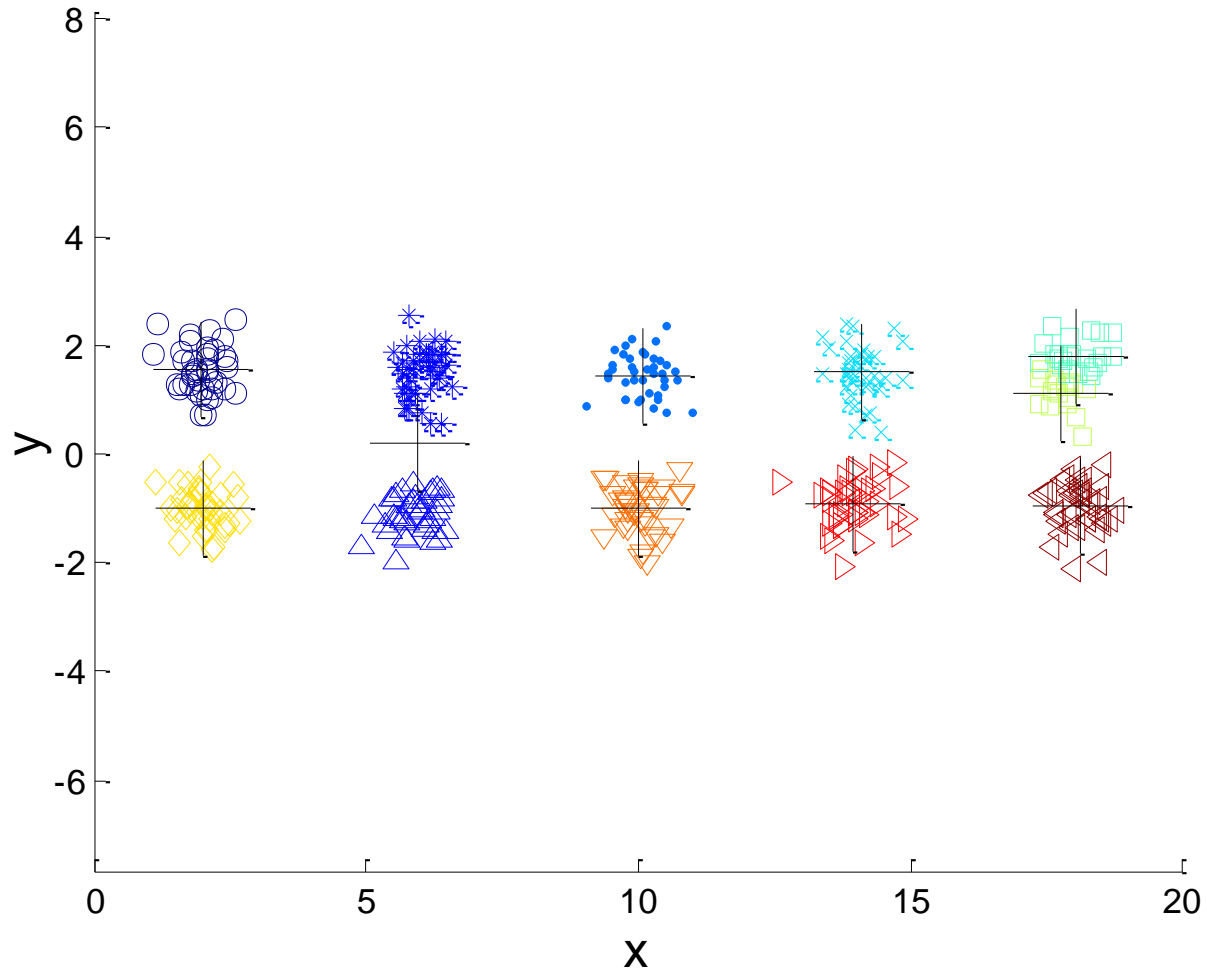
# 10 Clusters Example



**Starting with two initial centroids in one cluster of each pair of clusters**

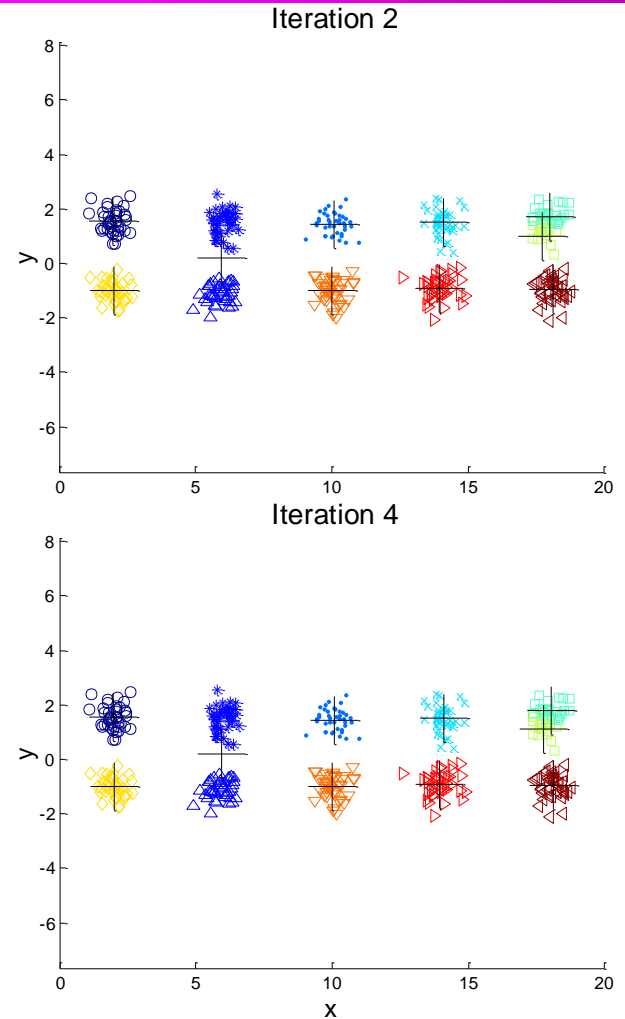
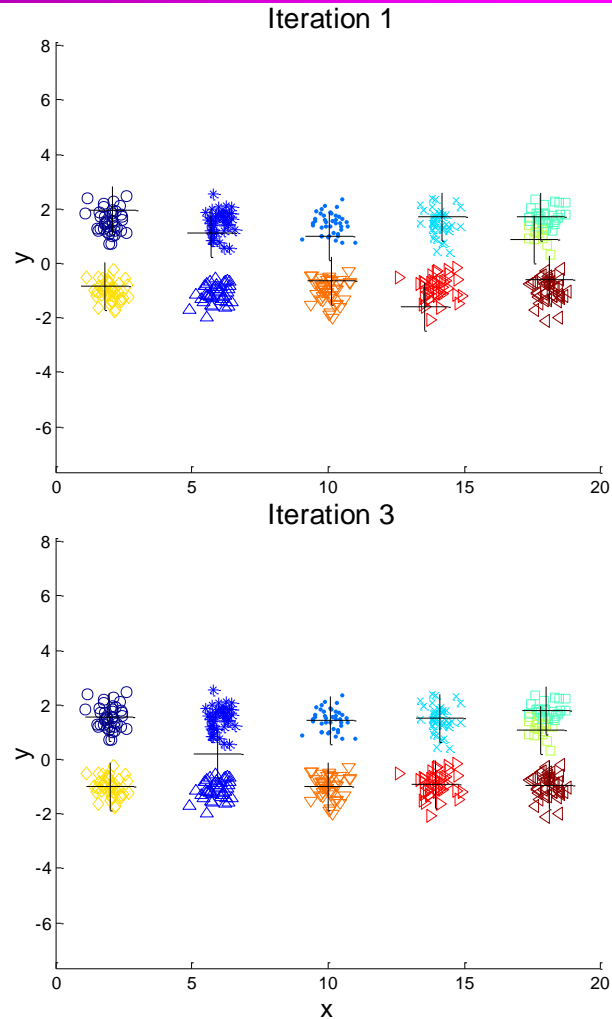
# 10 Clusters Example

Iteration 4



Starting with some pairs of clusters having three initial centroids, while other have only one.

# 10 Clusters Example



Starting with some pairs of clusters having three initial centroids, while other have only one.

# Solutions to Initial Centroids Problem

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- Multiple runs
  - Helps, but probability is not on your side
- Sample and use hierarchical clustering to determine initial centroids
- Select more than  $k$  initial centroids and then select among these initial centroids
  - Select most widely separated
- Postprocessing
- Bisecting K-means
  - Not as susceptible to initialization issues

# Updating Centers Incrementally

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- In the basic K-means algorithm, centroids are updated after all points are assigned to a centroid
- An alternative is to update the centroids after each assignment (incremental approach)
  - Each assignment updates zero or two centroids
  - More expensive
  - Introduces an order dependency
  - Can use “weights” to change the impact

# Pre-processing and Post-processing

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## □ 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
- Can use these steps during the clustering process



# Bisecting K-means

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## □ Bisecting K-means algorithm

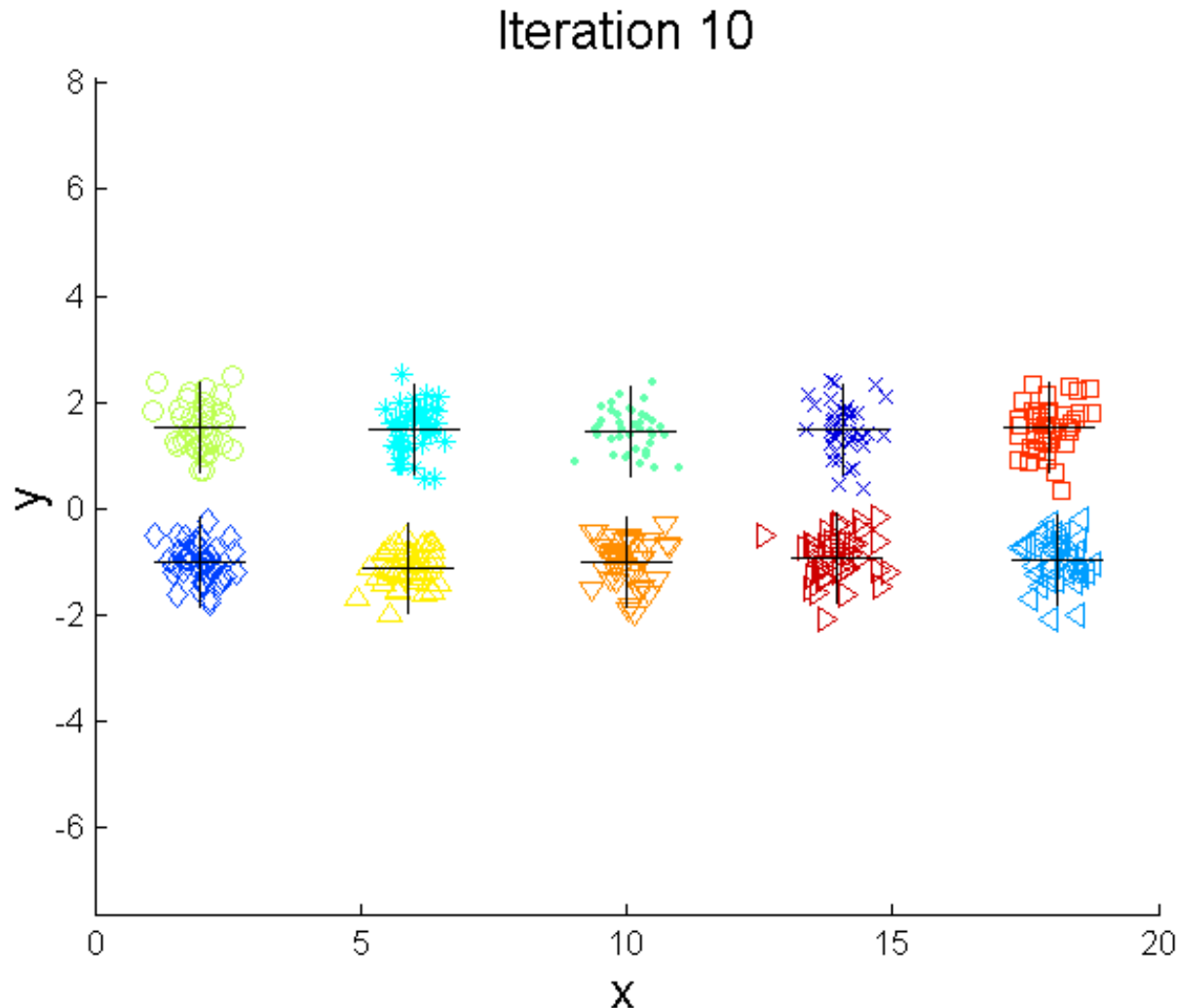
- Variant of K-means that can produce a partitional or a hierarchical clustering

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```
1: Initialize the list of clusters to contain the cluster containing all points.  
2: repeat  
3:   Select a cluster from the list of clusters  
4:   for  $i = 1$  to number_of_iterations do  
5:     Bisect the selected cluster using basic K-means  
6:   end for  
7:   Add the two clusters from the bisection with the lowest SSE to the list of clusters.  
8: until Until the list of clusters contains  $K$  clusters
```

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# Bisecting K-means Example



# Strengths of K-means

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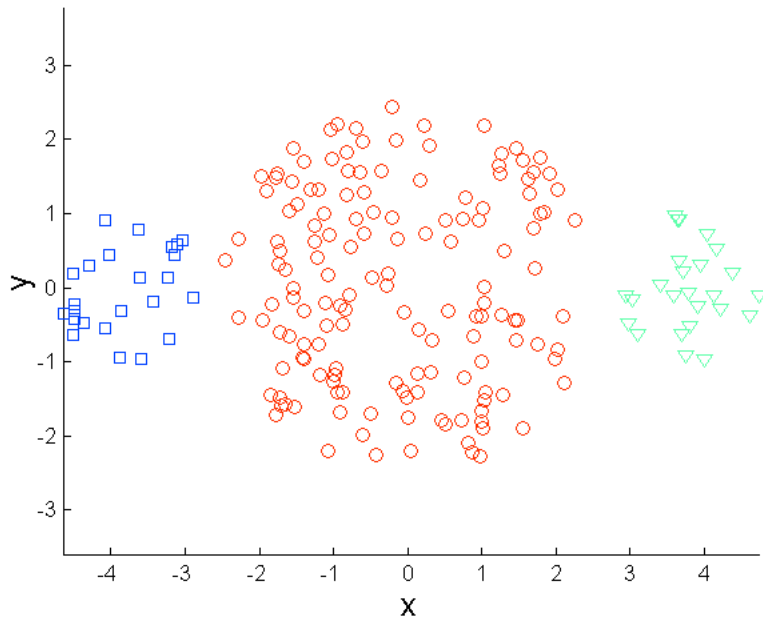
- Simple algorithm
- Can handle wide variety of data
- Quite efficient

# Limitations of K-means

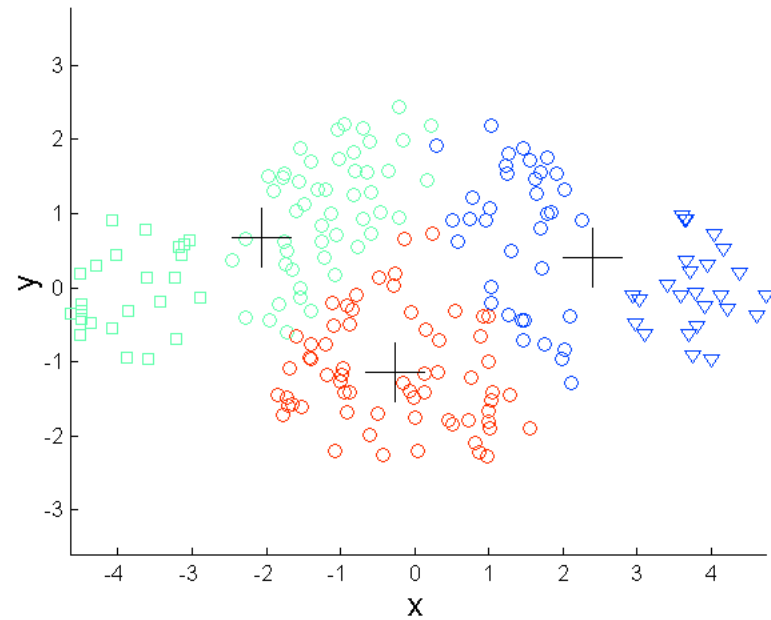
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- K-means has problems when clusters are of differing
  - Sizes
  - Densities
  - Non-globular shapes
- K-means has problems when the data contains outliers.

# Limitations of K-means: Differing Sizes

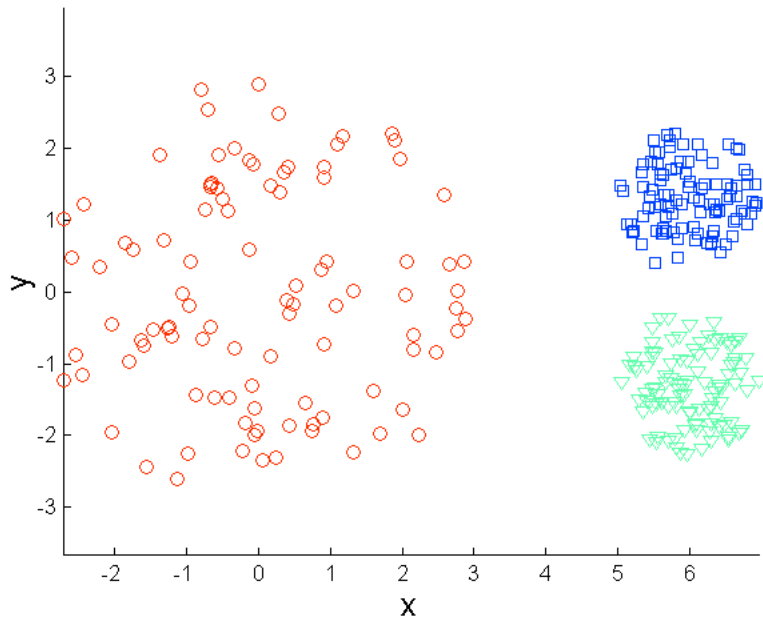


**Original Points**

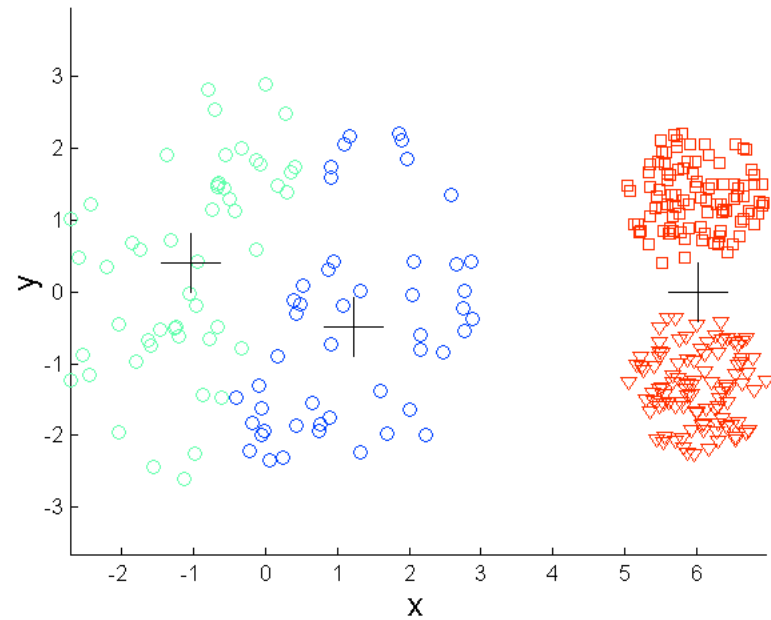


**K-means (3 Clusters)**

# Limitations of K-means: Differing Density

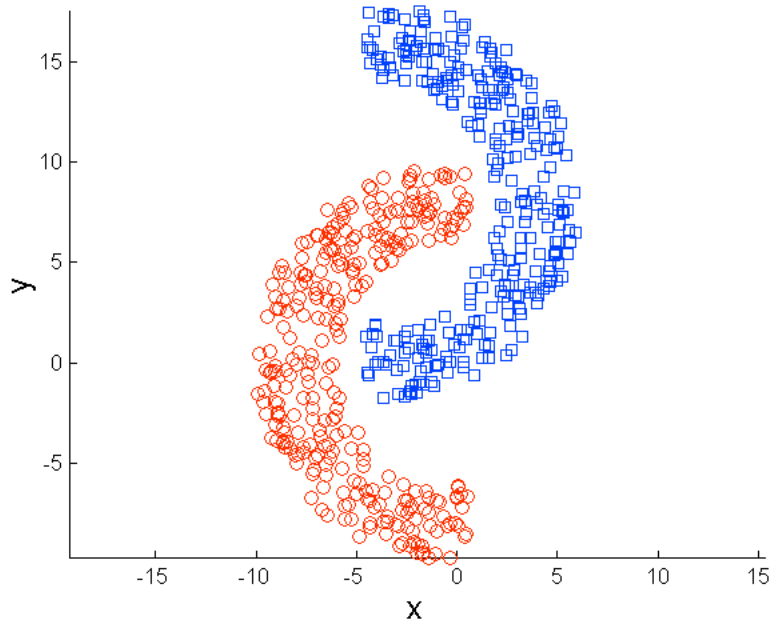


**Original Points**

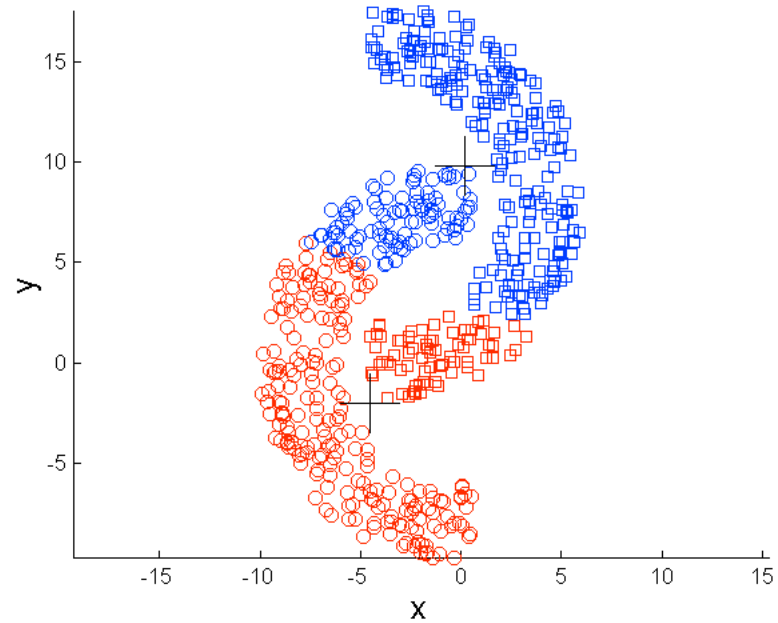


**K-means (3 Clusters)**

# Limitations of K-means: Non-globular Shapes

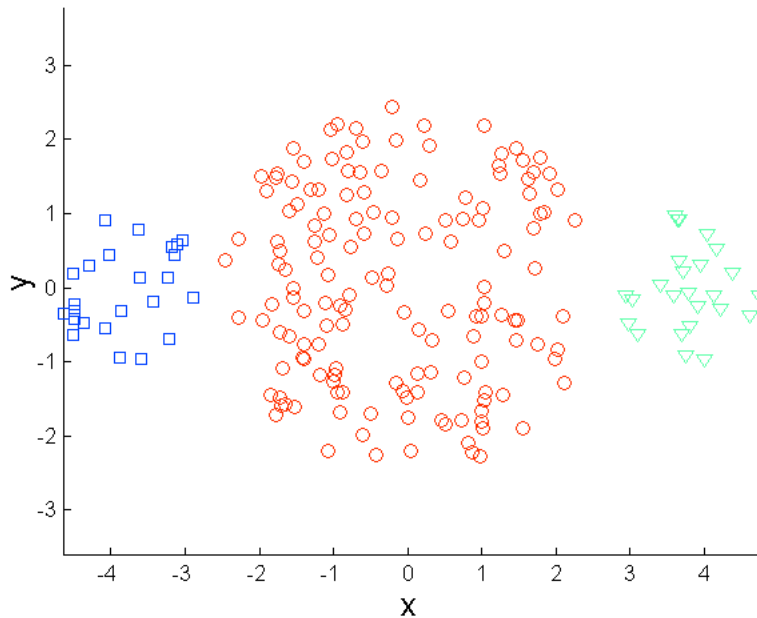


**Original Points**

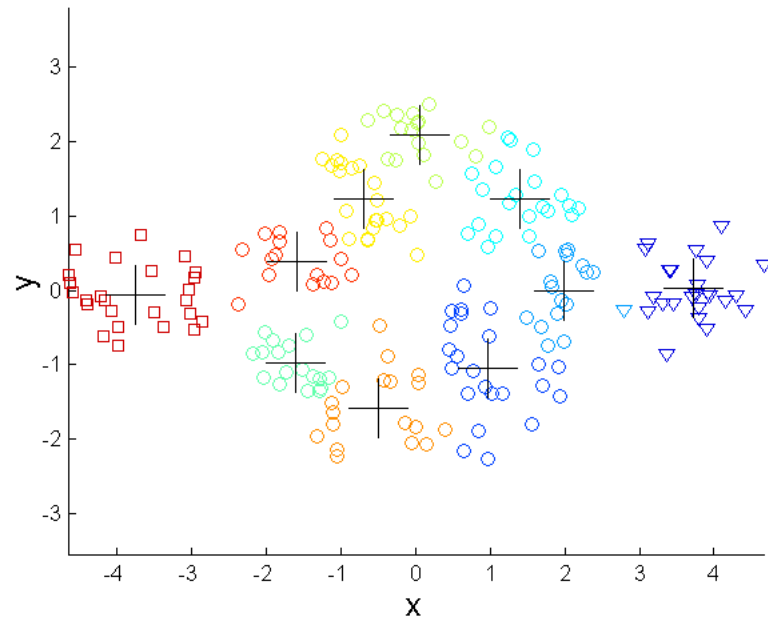


**K-means (2 Clusters)**

# Overcoming K-means Limitations



**Original Points**

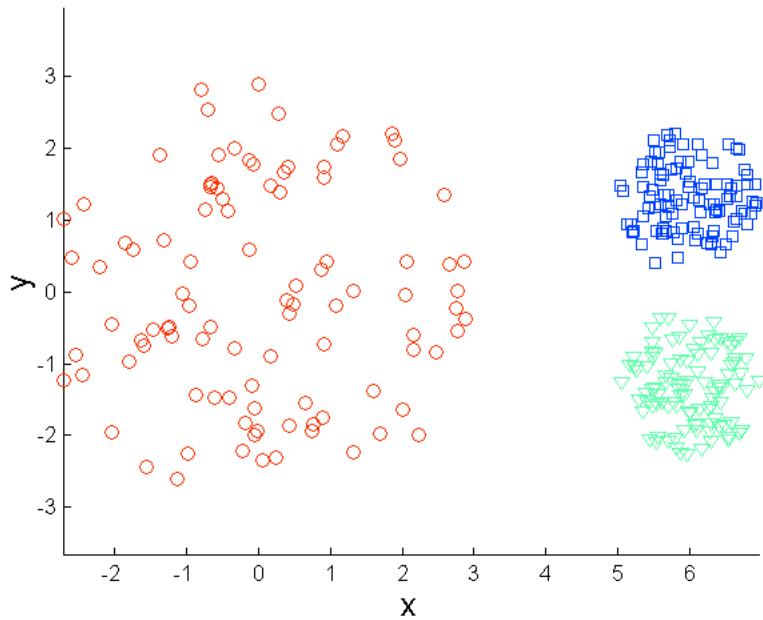


**K-means Clusters**

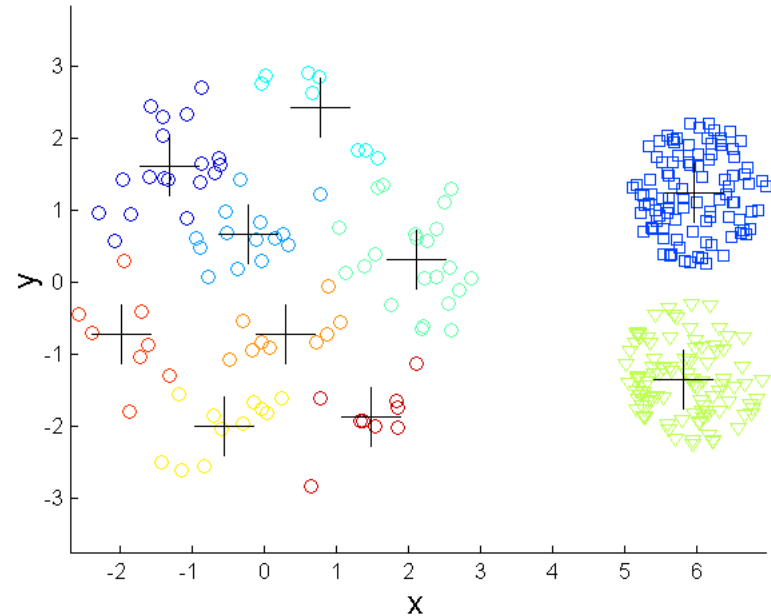
One solution is to use many clusters.  
Find parts of clusters, but need to put together.



# Overcoming K-means Limitations

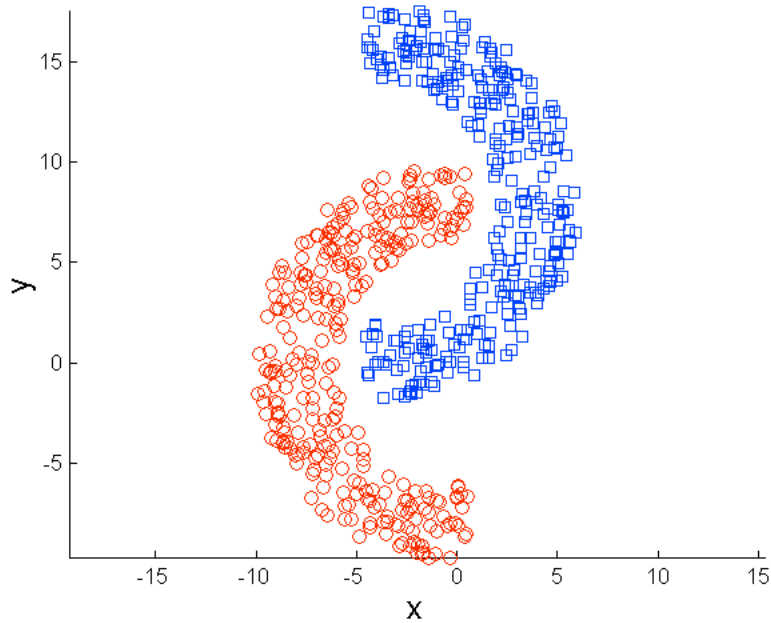


**Original Points**

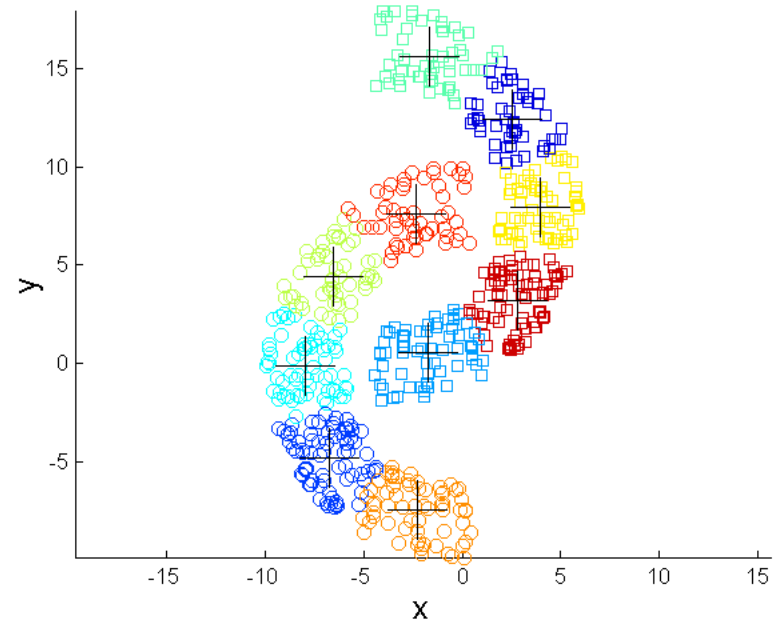


**K-means Clusters**

# Overcoming K-means Limitations



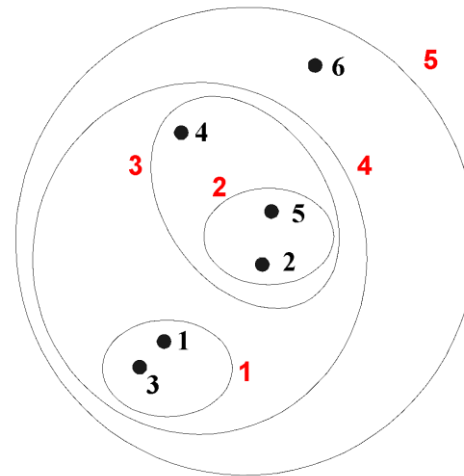
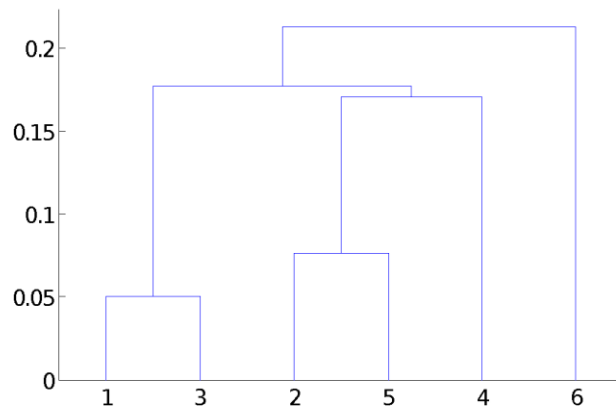
**Original Points**



**K-means Clusters**

# Hierarchical Clustering

- Produces a set of nested clusters organized as a hierarchical tree
- Can be visualized as a dendrogram
  - A tree like diagram that records the sequences of merges or splits



# Strengths of Hierarchical Clustering

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- Do not have to assume any particular number of clusters
  - Any desired number of clusters can be obtained by ‘cutting’ the dendrogram at the proper level
- They may correspond to meaningful taxonomies
  - Example in biological sciences (e.g., animal kingdom, phylogeny reconstruction, ...)

# Hierarchical Clustering

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- Two main types of hierarchical clustering
  - Agglomerative:
    - ◆ Start with the points as individual clusters
    - ◆ At each step, merge the closest pair of clusters until only one cluster (or  $k$  clusters) left
  - Divisive:
    - ◆ Start with one, all-inclusive cluster
    - ◆ At each step, split a cluster until each cluster contains a point (or there are  $k$  clusters)
- Traditional hierarchical algorithms use a similarity or distance matrix
  - Merge or split one cluster at a time

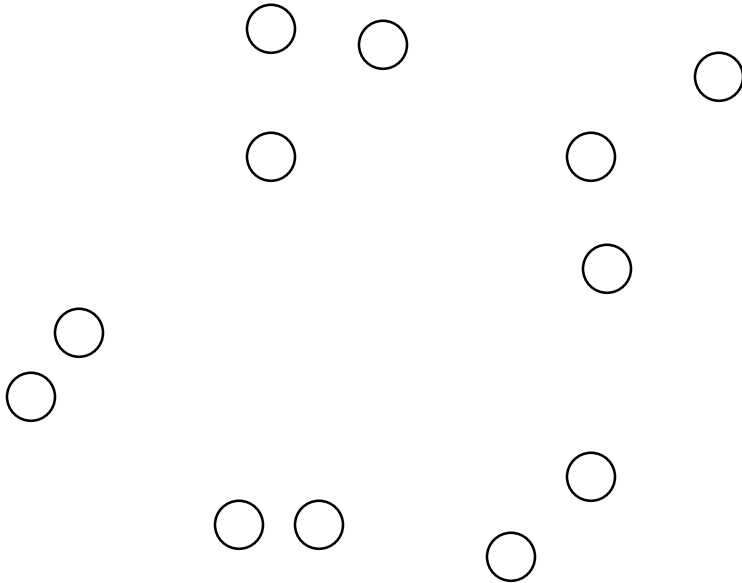
# Agglomerative Clustering Algorithm

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- More popular hierarchical clustering technique
- Basic algorithm is straightforward
  1. Compute the proximity matrix
  2. Let each data point be a cluster
  3. **Repeat**
  4.       Merge the two closest clusters
  5.       Update the proximity matrix
  6. **Until** only a single cluster remains
- Key operation is the computation of the proximity of two clusters
  - Different approaches to defining the distance between clusters distinguish the different algorithms

# Starting Situation

- Start with clusters of individual points and a proximity matrix



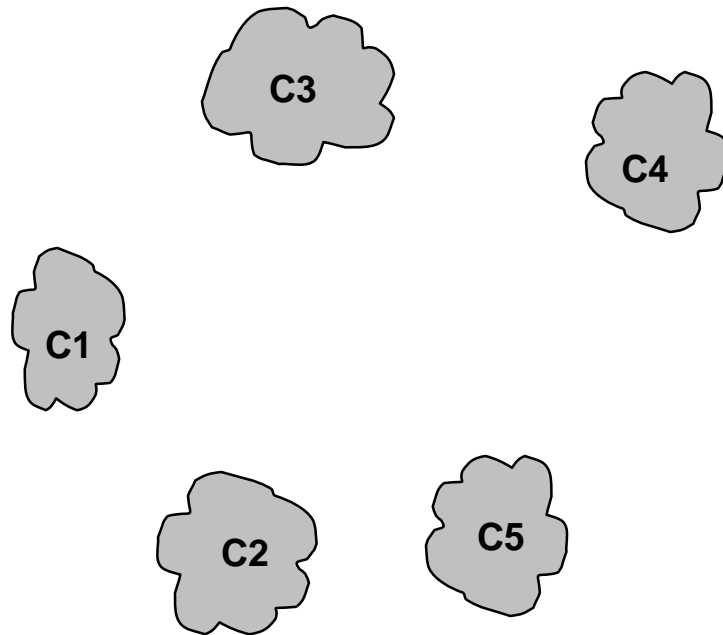
	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	...
p1						
p2						
p3						
p4						
p5						
.						
.						
.						

**Proximity Matrix**



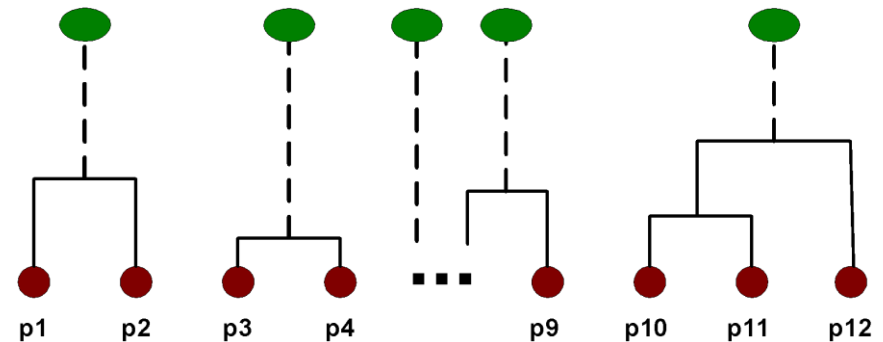
# Intermediate Situation

- After some merging steps, we have some clusters



	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
C1					
C2					
C3					
C4					
C5					

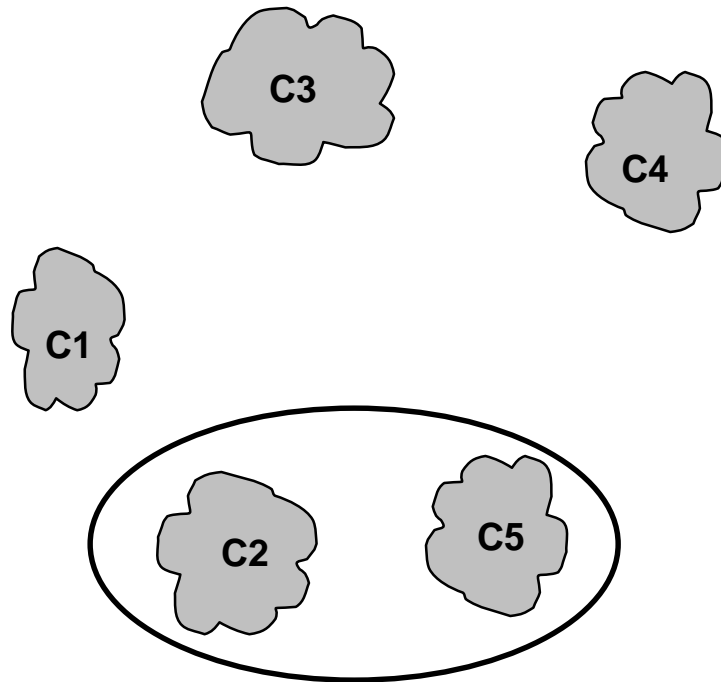
**Proximity Matrix**





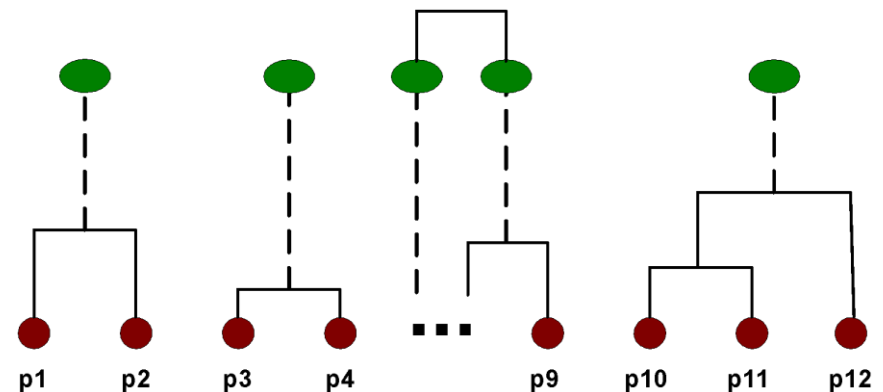
# Intermediate Situation

- We want to merge the two closest clusters (C2 and C5) and update the proximity matrix.



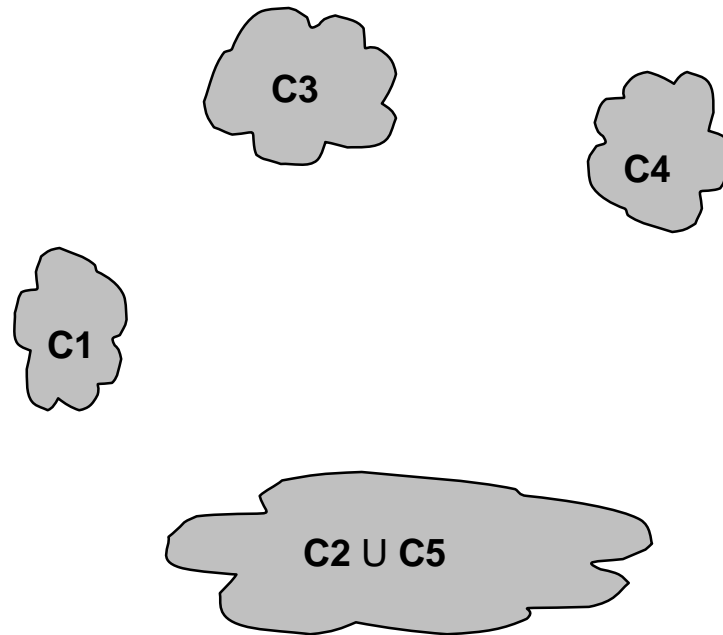
	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5
C1					
C2					
C3					
C4					
C5					

**Proximity Matrix**



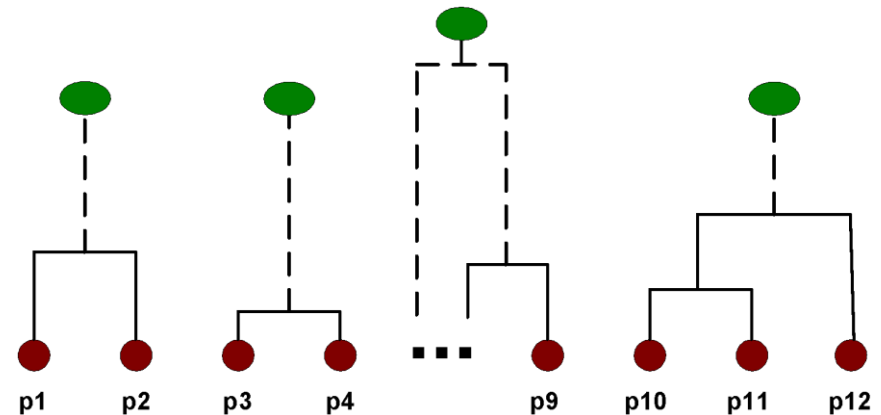
## After Merging

- The question is “How do we update the proximity matrix?”

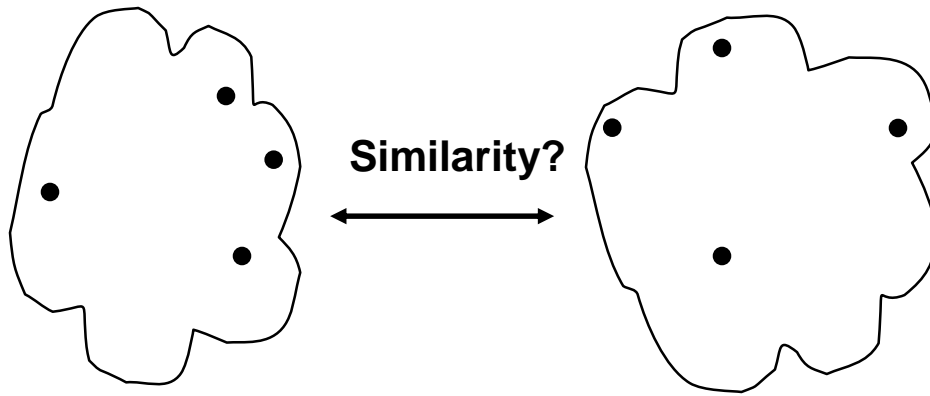


			<b>C2</b>		
			<b>U</b>		
		<b>C1</b>	<b>C5</b>	<b>C3</b>	<b>C4</b>
	<b>C1</b>		?		
<b>C2 U</b>	<b>C5</b>	?	?	?	?
	<b>C3</b>		?		
	<b>C4</b>		?		

## Proximity Matrix



# How to Define Inter-Cluster Similarity

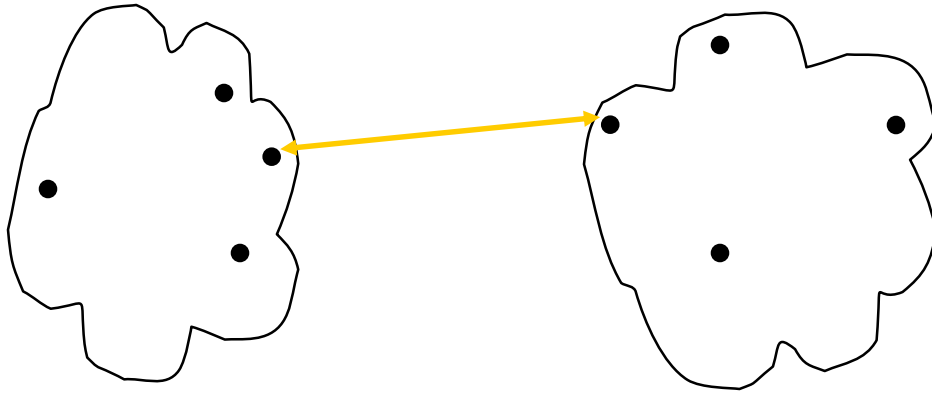


- MIN
- MAX
- Group Average
- Distance Between Centroids
- Other methods driven by an objective function
  - Ward's Method uses squared error

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	...
p1						
p2						
p3						
p4						
p5						
.						
.						
.						

**Proximity Matrix**

# How to Define Inter-Cluster Similarity

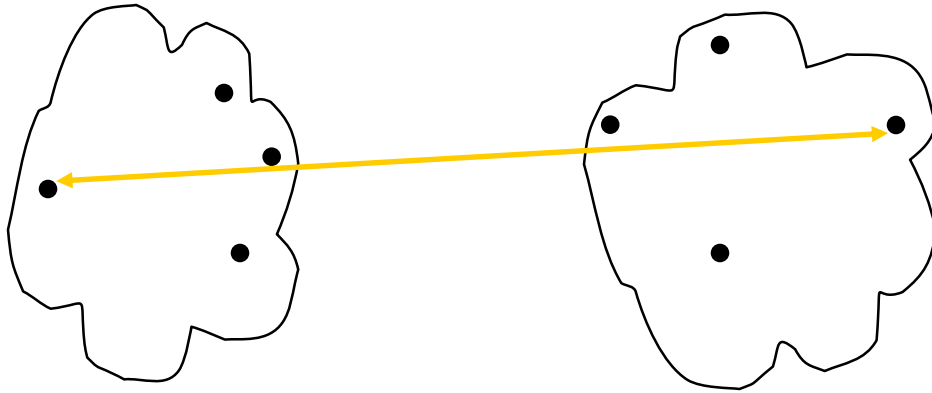


- MIN
- MAX
- Group Average
- Distance Between Centroids
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	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	...
p1						
p2						
p3						
p4						
p5						
.						
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**Proximity Matrix**

# How to Define Inter-Cluster Similarity

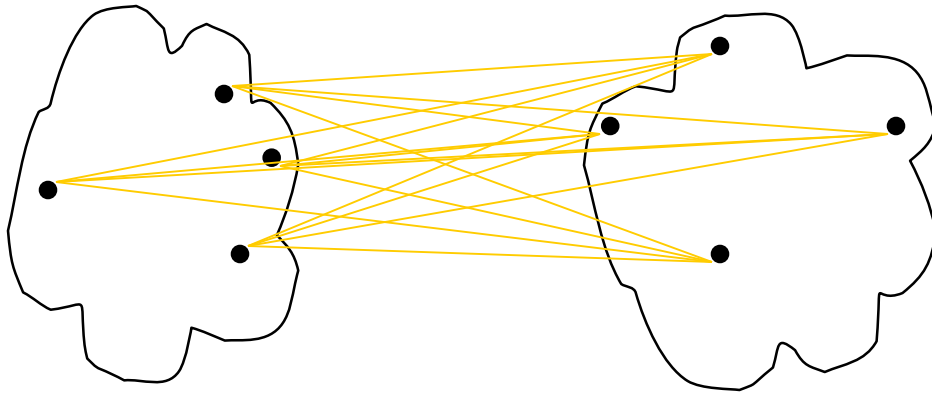


- MIN
- MAX
- Group Average
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	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	...
p1						
p2						
p3						
p4						
p5						
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**Proximity Matrix**

# How to Define Inter-Cluster Similarity

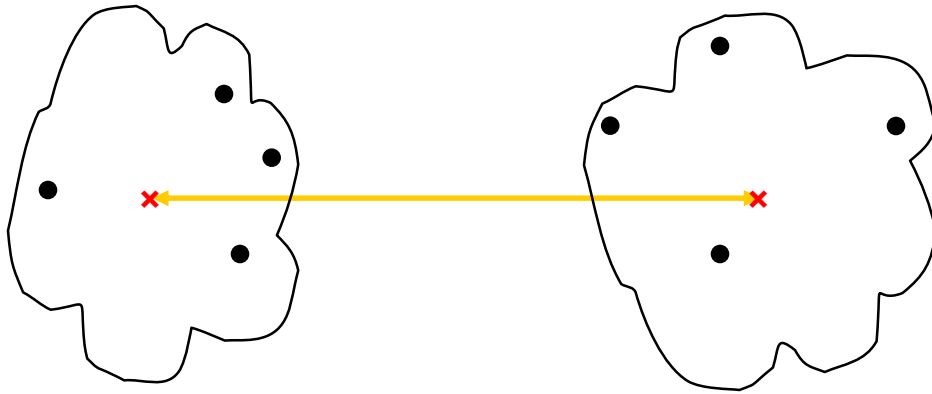


- MIN
- MAX
- **Group Average**
- Distance Between Centroids
- Other methods driven by an objective function
  - Ward's Method uses squared error

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	...
p1						
p2						
p3						
p4						
p5						
.						
.						
.						

**Proximity Matrix**

# How to Define Inter-Cluster Similarity



- MIN
- MAX
- Group Average
- Distance Between Centroids
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  - Ward's Method uses squared error

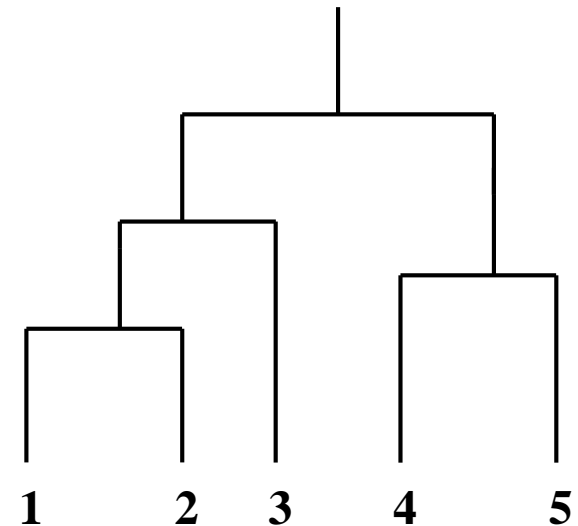
	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	...
p1						
p2						
p3						
p4						
p5						
.						
.						
.						

**Proximity Matrix**

# Cluster Similarity: MIN or Single Link

- Similarity of two clusters is based on the two most similar (closest) points in the different clusters
  - Determined by one pair of points, i.e., by one link in the proximity graph.

	I1	I2	I3	I4	I5
I1	1.00	0.90	0.10	0.65	0.20
I2	0.90	1.00	0.70	0.60	0.50
I3	0.10	0.70	1.00	0.40	0.30
I4	0.65	0.60	0.40	1.00	0.80
I5	0.20	0.50	0.30	0.80	1.00





# Cluster Similarity: MIN or Single Link

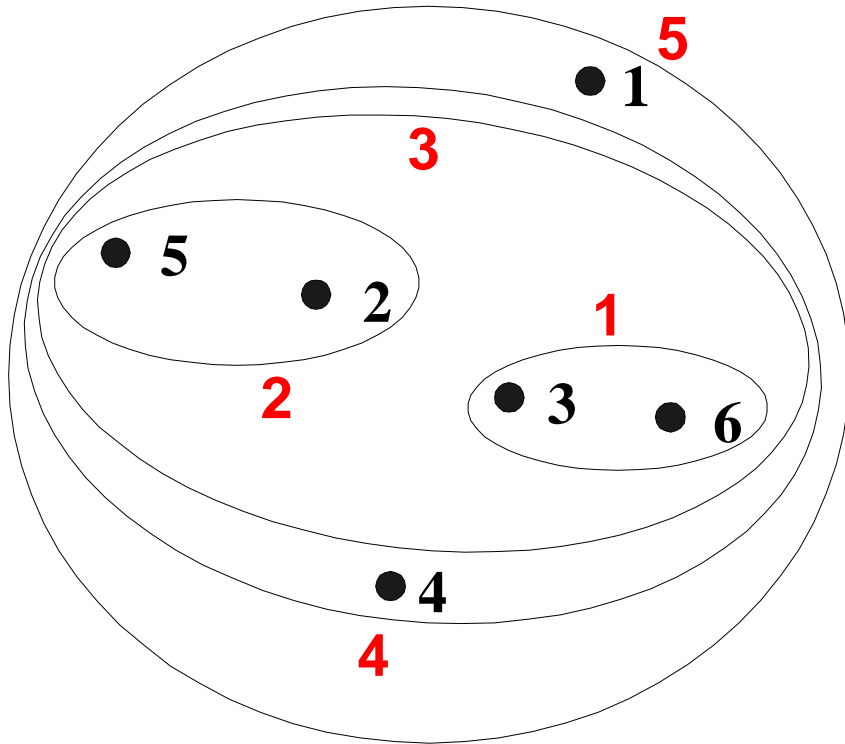
	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

Euclidean distance matrix for 6 points.

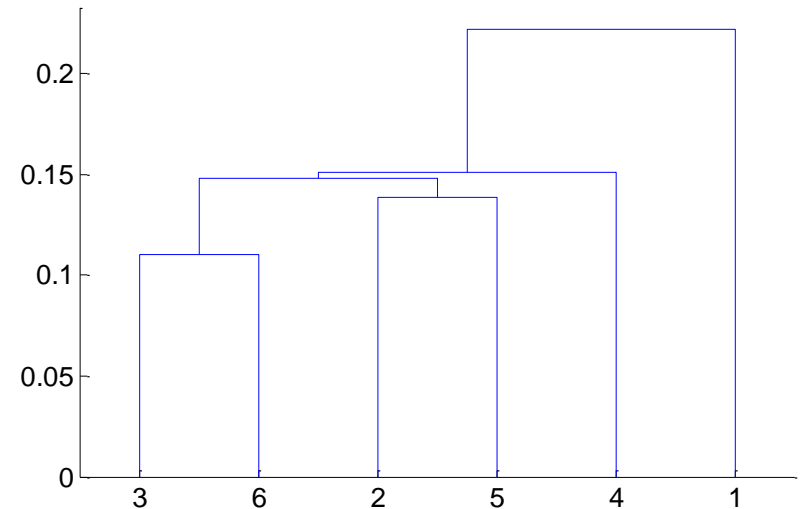
# Hierarchical Clustering: MIN

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

**Table 8.4.** Euclidean distance matrix for 6 points.



**Nested Clusters**



**Dendrogram**

# Cluster Similarity: MIN or Single Link

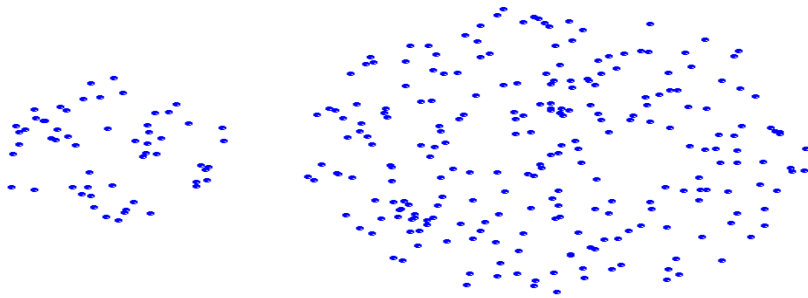
$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}(\{3, 6\}, \{2, 5\}) &= \min(\text{dist}(3, 2), \text{dist}(6, 2), \text{dist}(3, 5), \text{dist}(6, 5)) \\ &= \min(0.15, 0.25, 0.28, 0.39) \\ &= 0.15. \end{aligned}$$

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

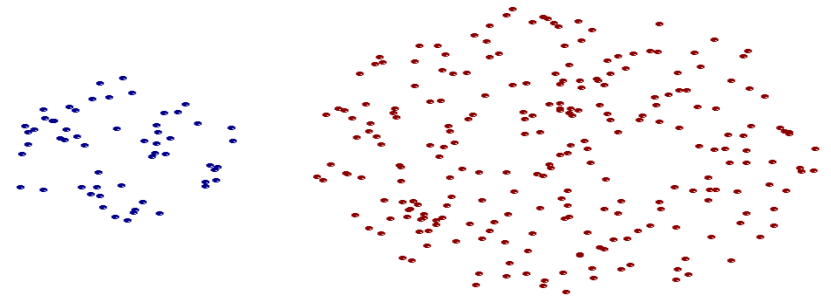
**Table 8.4.** Euclidean distance matrix for 6 points.

# Strength of MIN

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**Original Points**

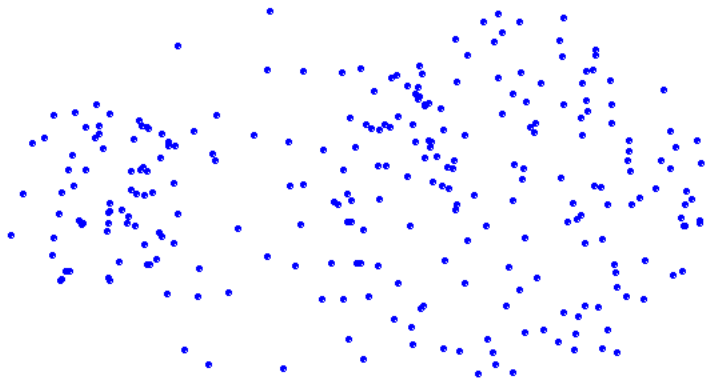


**Two Clusters**

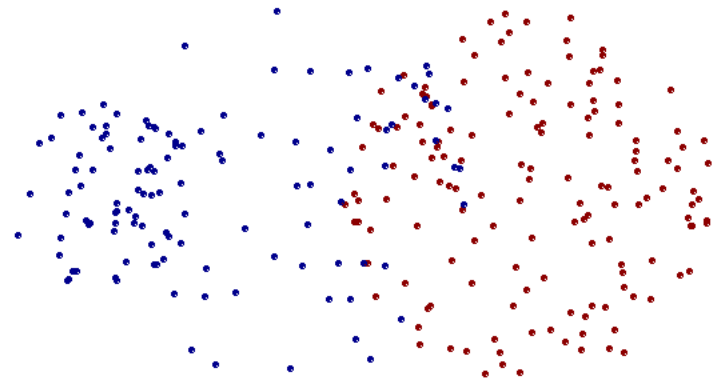
- Can handle non-elliptical shapes

# Limitations of MIN

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**Original Points**



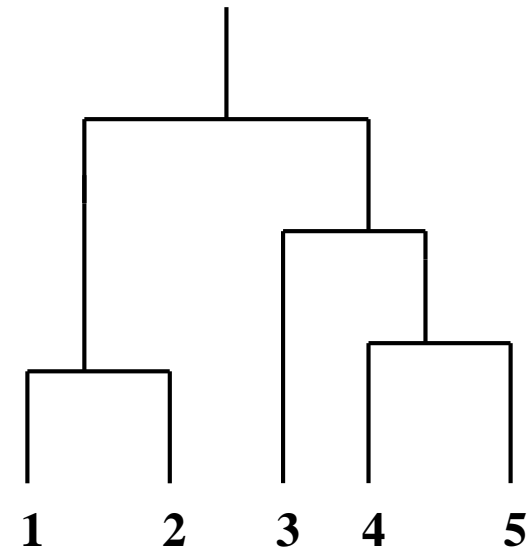
**Two Clusters**

- **Sensitive to noise and outliers**

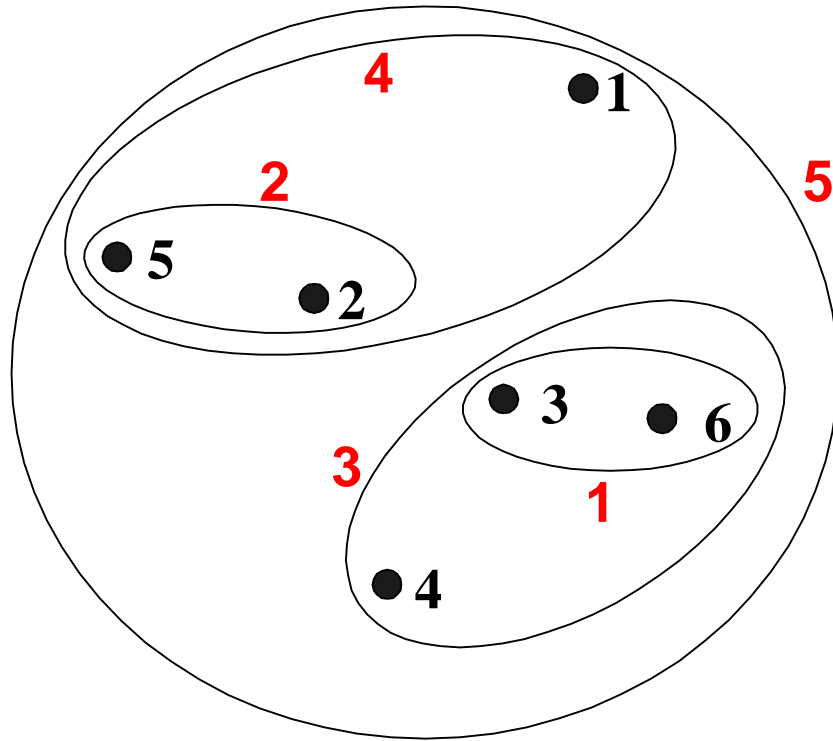
# Cluster Similarity: MAX or Complete Linkage

- Similarity of two clusters is based on the two least similar (most distant) points in the different clusters
  - Determined by all pairs of points in the two clusters

	I1	I2	I3	I4	I5
I1	1.00	0.90	0.10	0.65	0.20
I2	0.90	1.00	0.70	0.60	0.50
I3	0.10	0.70	1.00	0.40	0.30
I4	0.65	0.60	0.40	1.00	0.80
I5	0.20	0.50	0.30	0.80	1.00



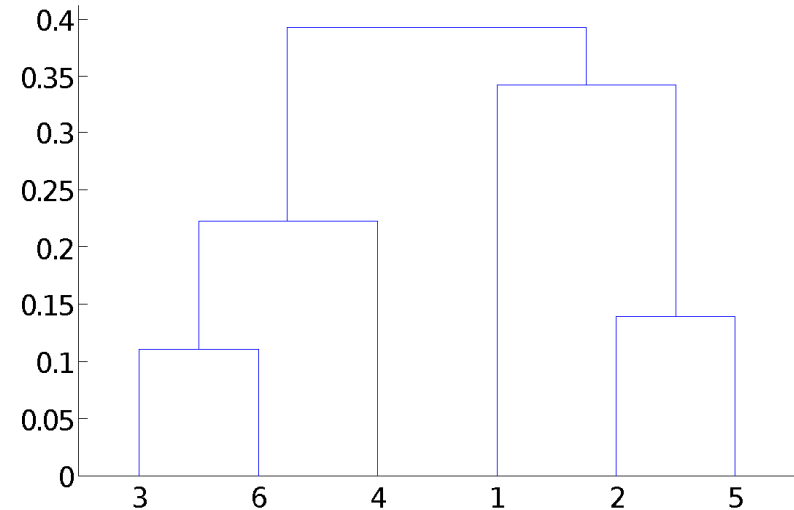
# Hierarchical Clustering: MAX



**Nested Clusters**

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

**Table 8.4.** Euclidean distance matrix for 6 points.



**Dendrogram**

# Cluster Similarity: MAX

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}(\{3, 6\}, \{4\}) &= \max(\text{dist}(3, 4), \text{dist}(6, 4)) \\ &= \max(0.15, 0.22) \\ &= 0.22. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{dist}(\{3, 6\}, \{2, 5\})$$

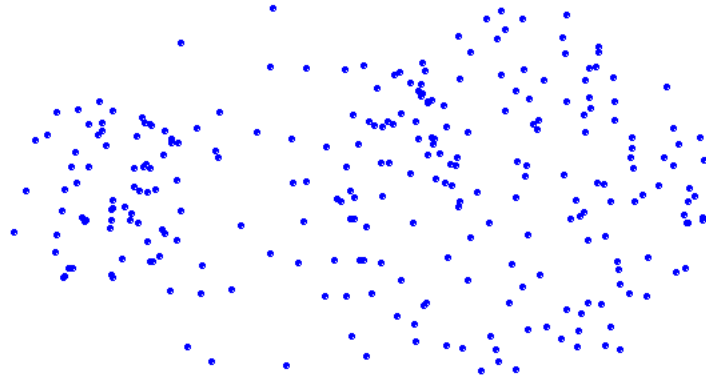
$$\text{dist}(\{3, 6\}, \{1\})$$

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

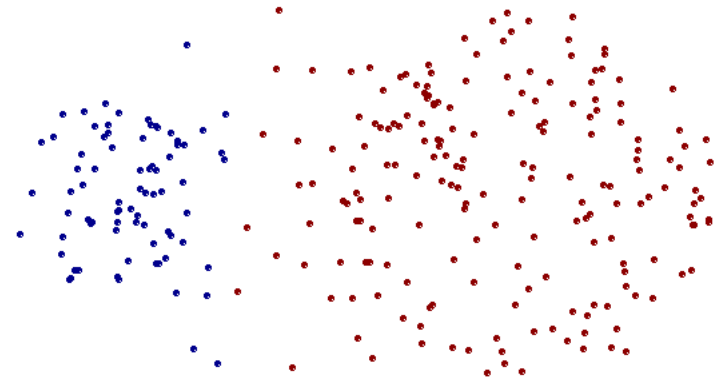


# Strength of MAX

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**Original Points**

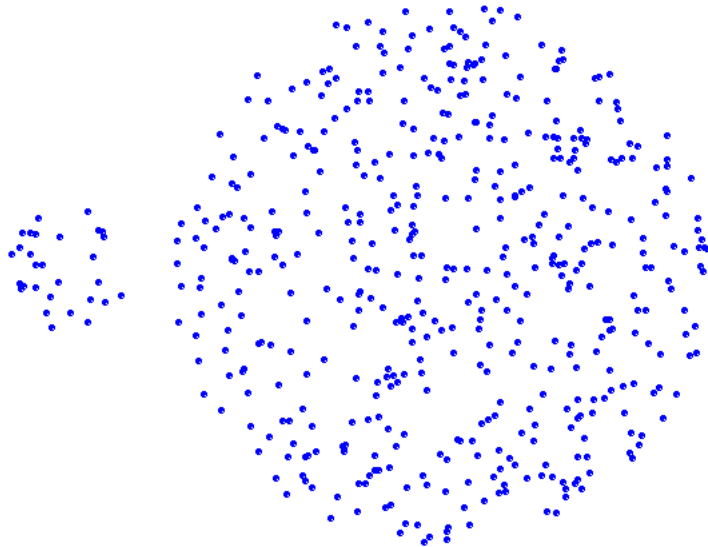


**Two Clusters**

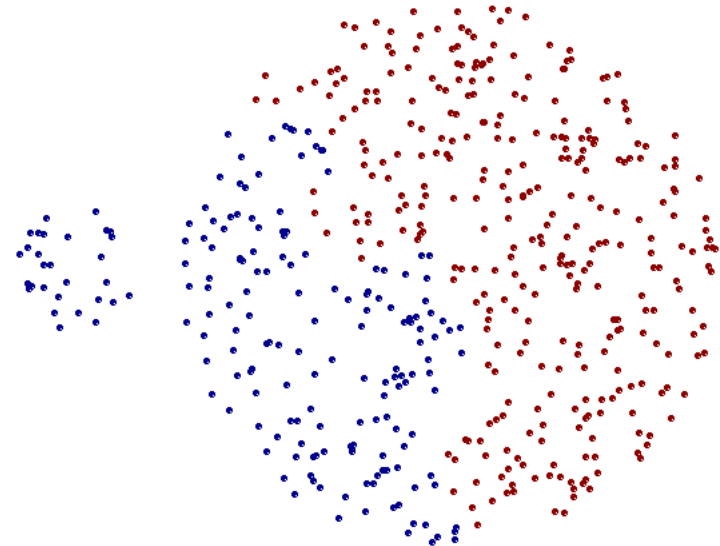
- **Less susceptible to noise and outliers**

# Limitations of MAX

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**Original Points**



**Two Clusters**

- Tends to break large clusters
- Biased towards globular clusters

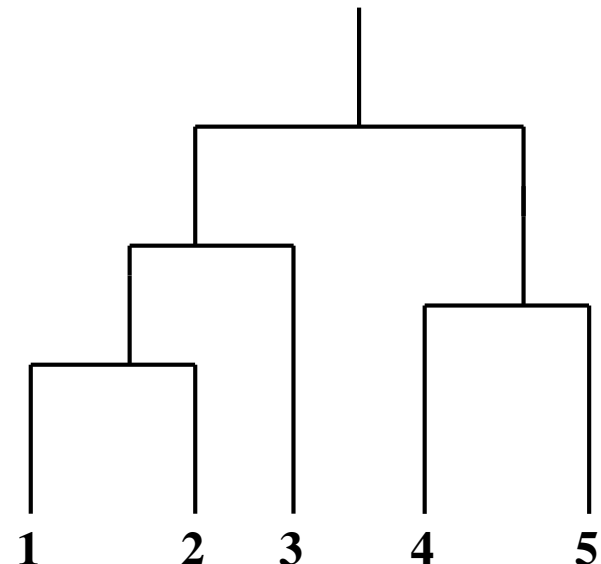
# Cluster Similarity: Group Average

- Proximity of two clusters is the average of pairwise proximity between points in the two clusters.

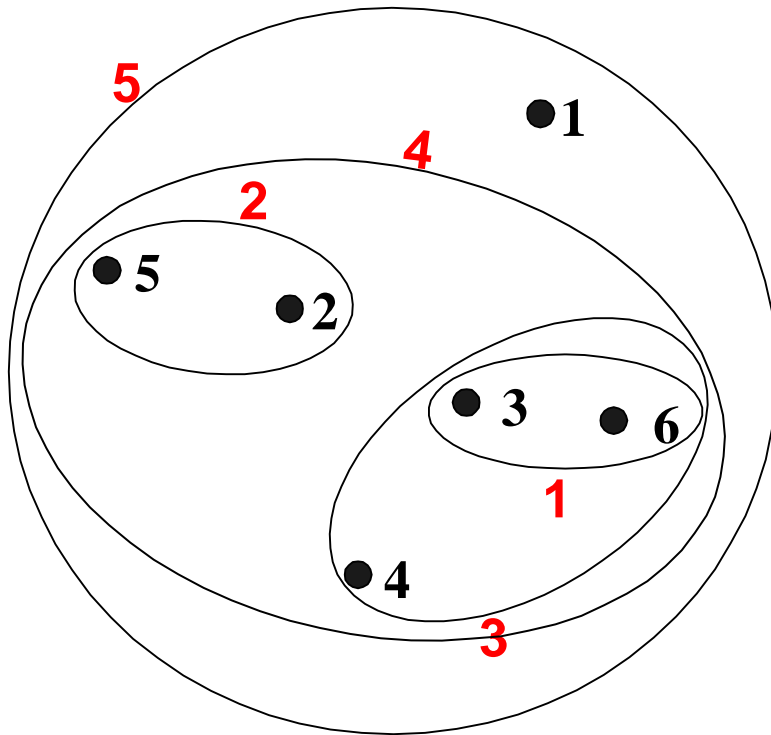
$$\text{proximity}(\text{Cluster}_i, \text{Cluster}_j) = \frac{\sum_{\substack{p_i \in \text{Cluster}_i \\ p_j \in \text{Cluster}_j}} \text{proximity}(p_i, p_j)}{|\text{Cluster}_i| * |\text{Cluster}_j|}$$

- Need to use average connectivity for scalability since total proximity favors large clusters

	I1	I2	I3	I4	I5
I1	1.00	0.90	0.10	0.65	0.20
I2	0.90	1.00	0.70	0.60	0.50
I3	0.10	0.70	1.00	0.40	0.30
I4	0.65	0.60	0.40	1.00	0.80
I5	0.20	0.50	0.30	0.80	1.00



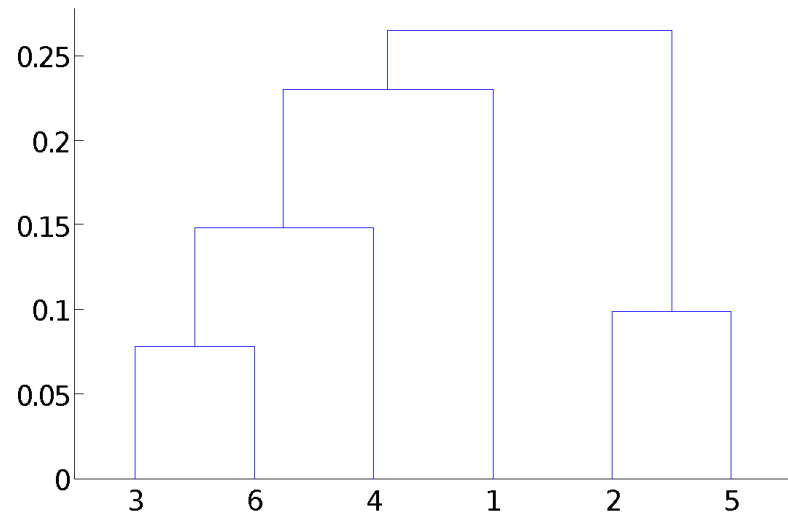
# Hierarchical Clustering: Group Average



**Nested Clusters**

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

**Table 8.4.** Euclidean distance matrix for 6 points.



**Dendrogram**

# Cluster Similarity: Group Average

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dist}(\{3, 6, 4\}, \{1\}) &= (0.22 + 0.37 + 0.23)/(3 * 1) \\ &= 0.28 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{dist}(\{2, 5\}, \{1\})$$

$$\text{dist}(\{3, 6, 4\}, \{2, 5\})$$

	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5	p6
p1	0.00	0.24	0.22	0.37	0.34	0.23
p2	0.24	0.00	0.15	0.20	0.14	0.25
p3	0.22	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.28	0.11
p4	0.37	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.29	0.22
p5	0.34	0.14	0.28	0.29	0.00	0.39
p6	0.23	0.25	0.11	0.22	0.39	0.00

**Table 8.4.** Euclidean distance matrix for 6 points.

# Hierarchical Clustering: Group Average

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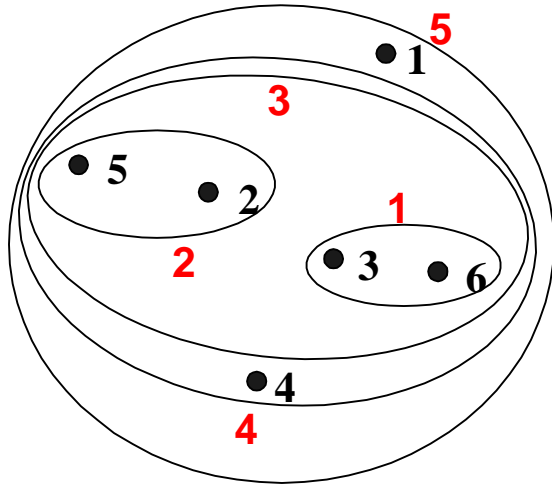
- Compromise between Single and Complete Link
- Strengths
  - Less susceptible to noise and outliers
- Limitations
  - Biased towards globular clusters

# Cluster Similarity: Ward's Method

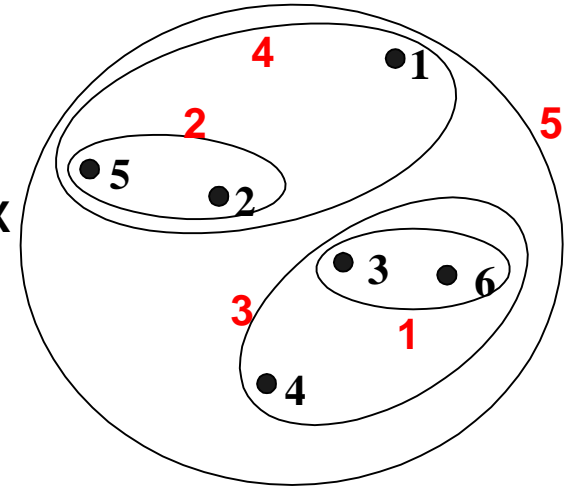
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- Similarity of two clusters is based on the increase in squared error when two clusters are merged
  - Similar to group average if distance between points is distance squared
- Less susceptible to noise and outliers
- Biased towards globular clusters
- Hierarchical analogue of K-means
  - Can be used to initialize K-means

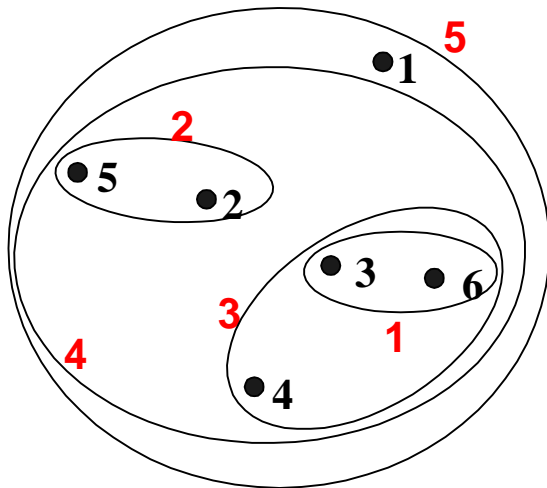
# Hierarchical Clustering: Comparison



MIN

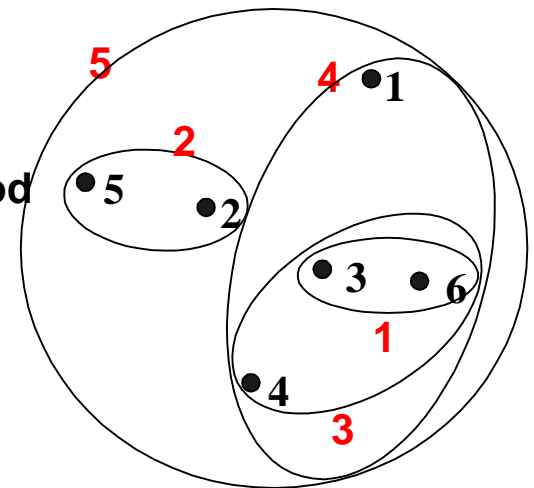


MAX



Group Average

Ward's Method





# Hierarchical Clustering: Problems and Limitations

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- Once a decision is made to combine two clusters, it cannot be undone
- No objective function is directly minimized
- Different schemes have problems with one or more of the following:
  - Sensitivity to noise and outliers
  - Difficulty handling different sized clusters and convex shapes
  - Breaking large clusters