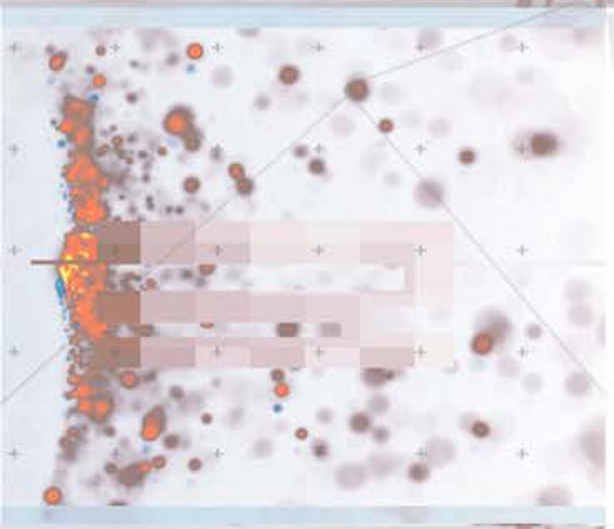
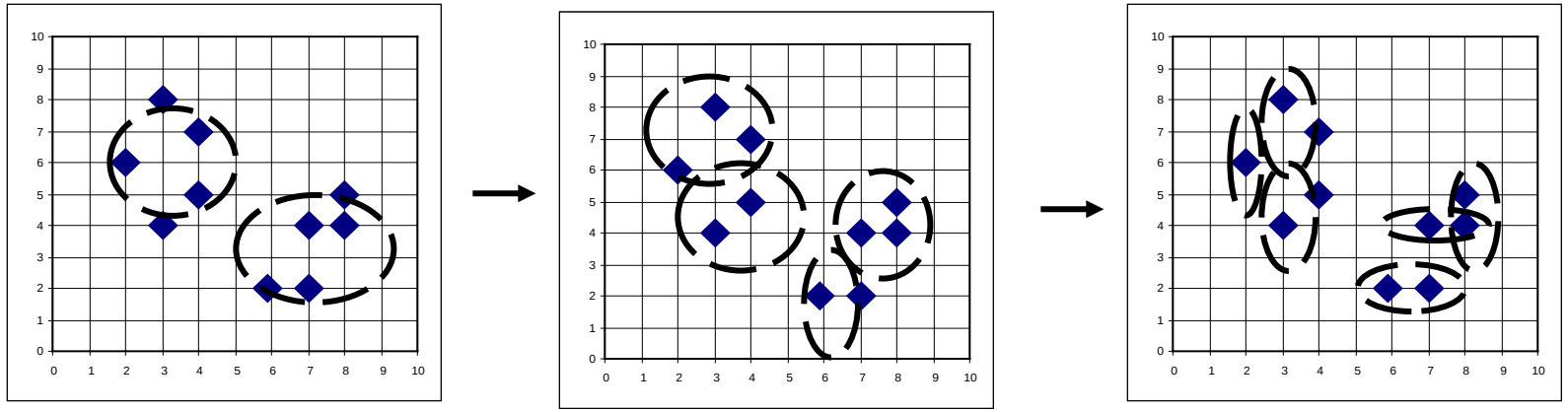


Divisive Clustering Algorithms

Divisive Clustering

- DIANA (Divisive Analysis) (Kaufmann and Rousseeuw,1990)
  - Implemented in some statistical analysis packages, e.g., Splus
- Inverse order of AGNES: Eventually each node forms a cluster on its own



- Divisive clustering is a top-down approach
  - The process starts at the root with all the points as one cluster
  - It recursively splits the higher level clusters to build the dendrogram
  - Can be considered as a global approach
  - More efficient when compared with agglomerative clustering

More on Algorithm Design for Divisive Clustering

- Choosing which cluster to split
  - Check the sums of squared errors of the clusters and choose the one with the largest value
- Splitting criterion: Determining how to split
  - One may use Ward's criterion to chase for greater reduction in the difference in the SSE criterion as a result of a split
  - For categorical data, Gini-index can be used
- Handling the noise
  - Use a threshold to determine the termination criterion (do not generate clusters that are too small because they contain mainly noises)