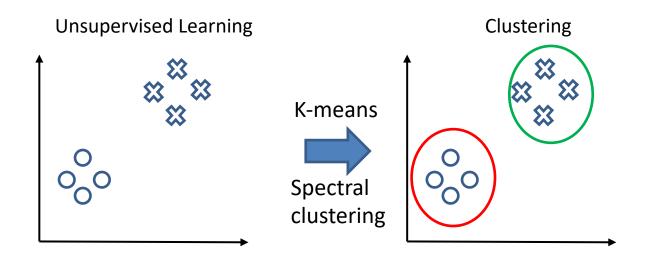
Hongchang Gao Spring 2024

## What is clustering?

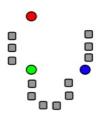
- Unsupervised Learning
  - Given: only samples, no labels
  - Clustering: find meaningful groups of samples s.t.
    - Samples in the same group are "similar"
    - Samples in different groups are "dissimilar"



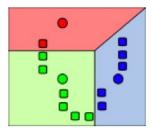
**Know NOTHING** about labels

# **Existing methods: K-Means**

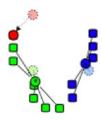
#### Standard Algorithm



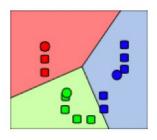
1) k initial "means" (in this case k=3) are randomly selected from the data set.



2) k clusters are created by associating every observation with the nearest mean.

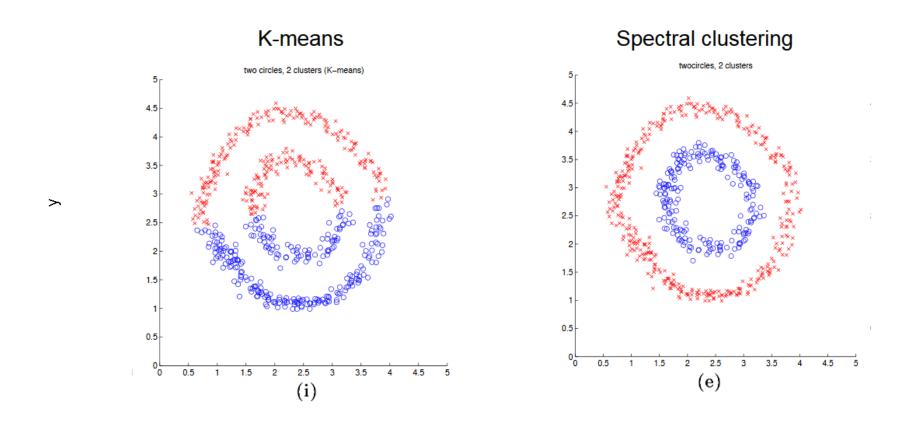


3) The centroid of each of the k clusters becomes the new means.



4) Steps 2 and 3 are repeated until convergence has been reached.

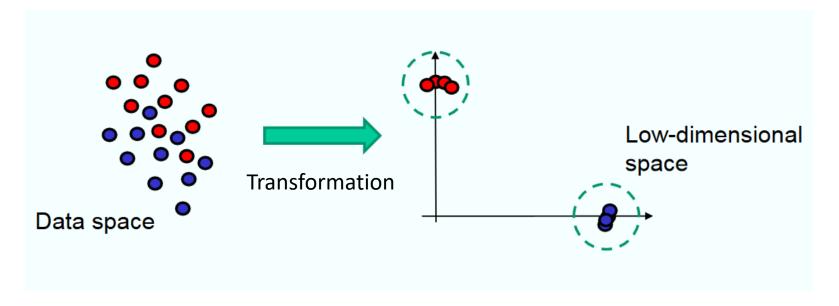
# **Existing problems**



[Shi & Malik '00; Ng, Jordan, Weiss NIPS '01]

 Distance based method (like k-means) fails to capture the complicated geometric structure

- Basic Idea: Low-dimensional embedding point of view
  - Obtain data representation in the low-dimensional space that can be easily clustered



How to learn this transformation?

# **Similarity Graph**

#### Similarity Graphs: Model local neighborhood relations between data points

•  $\varepsilon$ -neighborhood graph

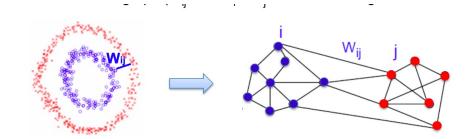
Connect all vertices whose pairwise distances are smaller than  $\varepsilon$ 

• *k*-nearest neighbor graph

Connect vertex  $v_i$  with vertex  $v_j$  if  $v_j$  is among the k-nearest neighbors of  $v_i$ .

fully connected graph

Connect all points with positive similarity with each other

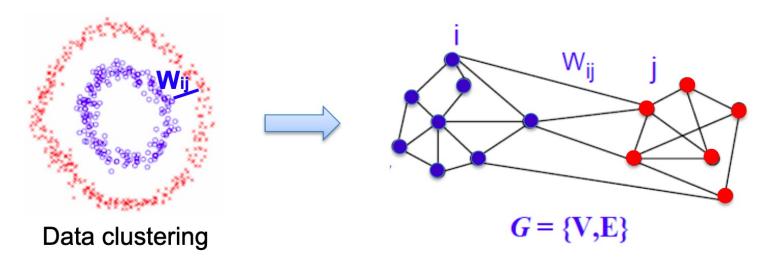


# **Similarity Matrix**

#### E.g. epsilon-NN

$$W_{ij} = \left\{ egin{array}{ll} 1 & \|x_i - x_j\| \leq \epsilon \end{array} 
ight.$$
 Controls size of neighborhood otherwise

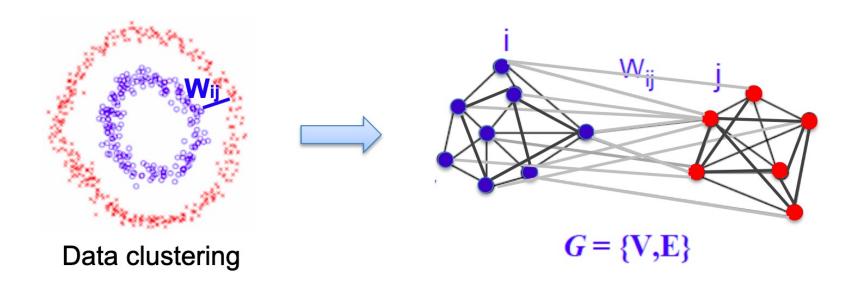
or mutual k-NN graph ( $W_{ij} = 1$  if  $x_i$  or  $x_j$  is k nearest neighbor of the other)



# **Similarity Matrix**

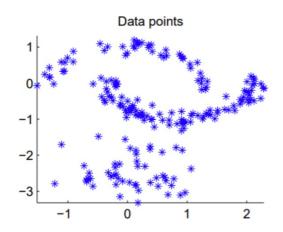
#### E.g. Gaussian kernel similarity function

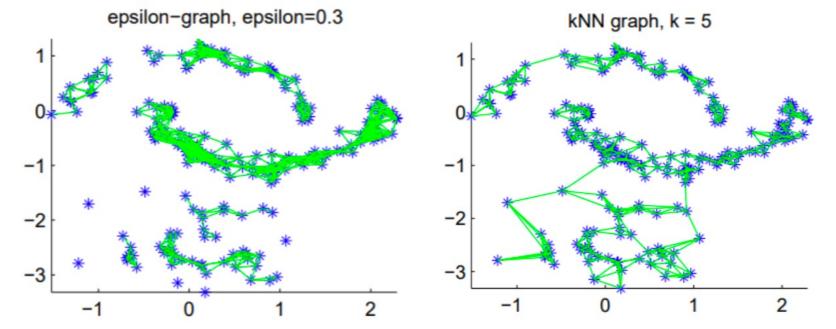
$$W_{ij} = e^{\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}} \longrightarrow \text{Controls size of neighborhood}$$



# **Similarity Graph**

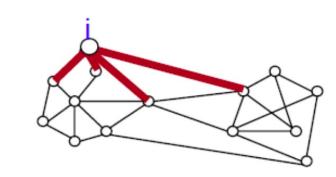
Example





#### **Degree**

- $d_i = \sum_j w_{ij}$  degree of a vertex
- $D = diag(d_1, \ldots, d_n)$  degree matrix



	$X_{j}$	X <sub>2</sub>	X,	$X_{\ell}$	X5	$X_{\mathcal{E}}$
$X_{j}$	0	0.8	0,6	0	0.1	0
X <sub>2</sub>	0.8	0	0,8	0	0	0
$X_3$	0.6	0.8	0	0.2	0	0
$X_d$	0	0	0.2	0	0.8	0.7
$X_{\mathcal{I}}$	0.1	0	0	0.8	0	0.8
$X_{\mathcal{C}}$	0	0	0	0.7	0.8	0

Similarity matrix

	X <sub>1</sub>	X2	$X_{\mathcal{J}}$	X4	<b>X</b> 5	X <sub>6</sub>
$X_{I}$	1.5	0	0	0	0	0
<b>X</b> 2	0	1.6	0	0	0	0
Х3	0	0	1.6	0	0	0
X4	0	0	0	1,7	0	0
<b>X</b> 5	0	0	0	0	1.7	0
Χó	0	0	0	0	0	1.5

Degree matrix

# **Graph Laplacian matrix**

• Un-normalized Graph Laplacian

$$L = D - W$$

		$X_{j}$	X <sub>2</sub>	$X_{\mathcal{I}}$	$X_d$	$X_5$	$X_{\mathcal{S}}$			X <sub>1</sub>	<b>X</b> 2	Χj	X4	<b>X</b> 5	Xσ			$X_{I}$	X <sub>2</sub>	X,	$X_4$	$X_5$	$X_{\mathcal{E}}$	П
	$X_{j}$	1.5	-0.8	-0.6	0	-0.1	0		Xį	1.5	0	0	0	0	0		$X_{j}$	0	0.8	0.6	0	0.1	0	1
	$X_2$	-0.8	1.6	-0.8	0	0	0		X2	0	1.6	0	0	0	0		X2	0.8	0	0.8	0	0	0	1
4	$X_{\mathcal{I}}$	-0.6	-0.8	1.6	-0.2	0	0		X3	0	0	1.6	0	0	0		X3	0.6	0.8	0	0.2	0	0	b
	$X_d$	0	0	-0.2	1.7	-0.8	-0.7		X4	0	0	0	1,7	0	0		X4	0	0	0.2	0	0.8	0.7	-
	$X_{\mathcal{I}}$	-0.1	0	0	-0.8	1.7	-0.8		X <sub>S</sub>	0	0	0	0	1.7	0		X <sub>5</sub>	0.1	0	0	0.8	0	0.8	
	$X_{\mathcal{E}}$	0	0	0	-0.7	-0.8	1.5		Χ <sub>δ</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	1.5		X <sub>e</sub>	0	0	0	0.7	0.8	0	ı
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Normalized Graph Laplacian

$$L_{\rm rw} := D^{-1}L = I - D^{-1}W.$$

# **Graph Laplacian matrix**

- Important properties:
  - Symmetric, positive semi-definite

A symmetric matrix M is positive semidefinite (PSD) if  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$x^T M x \ge 0.$$

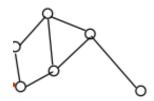
- Eigenvalues are non-negative real numbers  $0 = \lambda_i \le \lambda_2 \le \cdots \le \lambda_n$
- Eigenvectors are real and orthogonal
- Smallest eigenvalue is 0, corresponding eigenvector is 1.

$$L\mathbf{1} = D\mathbf{1} - W\mathbf{1} = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \\ \vdots \\ d_n \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \sum_j w_{1j} \\ \sum_j w_{2j} \\ \vdots \\ \sum_j w_{nj} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

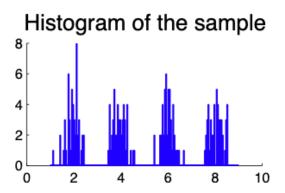
# **Graph Laplacian matrix**

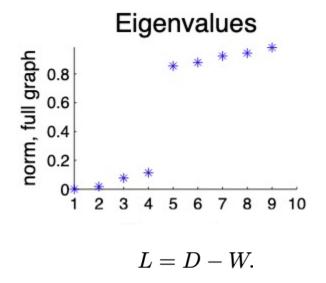
- Important properties:
  - Symmetric, positive semi-definite
  - Eigenvalues and eigenvectors provide an insight into the connectivity of the graph
    - The number of eigenvalues equal to zero for the Laplacian is equal to the number of connected components in the graph.
    - The rank of Laplacian of a graph is number of vertices minus number of connected components.

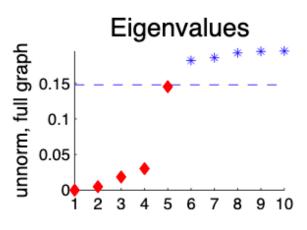




# Eigenvalue





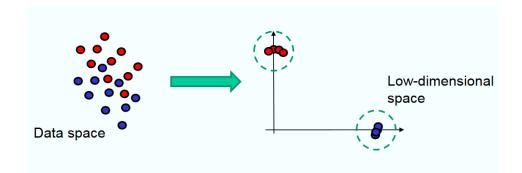


$$L_{\text{rw}} := D^{-1}L = I - D^{-1}W.$$

• Idea (1D): Given the similarity matrix W,

$$\min \sum_{i,j}^n w_{ij}^2 (f_i - f_j)^2$$

- $-f_i$  is the low-dimensional representation
- Larger  $w_{ij}$  enforces  $f_i$  and  $f_j$  more similar
- Two similar points in the original space will be similar in the lowdimensional space



Reformulation:

$$f'Lf = f'Df - f'Wf = \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i f_i^2 - \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} f_i f_j w_{ij}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i f_i^2 - 2 \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} f_i f_j w_{ij} + \sum_{j=1}^{n} d_j f_j^2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} w_{ij} (f_i - f_j)^2$$

$$\min \sum_{i,j}^{n} w_{ij}^2 (f_i - f_j)^2 \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \min f' L f$$

• Where un-normalized graph Laplacian L = D - W

• How to obtain low-dimensional embedding?

$$L = D - W$$

Multiplicity of eigenvalue 0 = number k of connected components  $A_1, ..., A_k$  of the graph.

Ky Fan's Theorem 
$$\sum_{i=1}^c \sigma_i(L^-) = \min_{F \in \mathbb{R}^n \times c, F^T F = I} Tr(F^T L^- F)$$

The optimal solution F to the problem — is formed by the c eigenvectors of L—corresponding to the c smallest eigenvalues.

- 1. Construct the similarity matrix
- 2. Compute the Laplacian matrix L<sub>nxn</sub>
- 3. Conduct the eigen-decomposition to get the first C eigenvectors,  $U_{nxc}$
- 4. Apply k-means to U<sub>nxc</sub>

