

# Clustering concepts

**Clustering of Data**

# What is clustering?

Unsupervised

Identifying Patterns

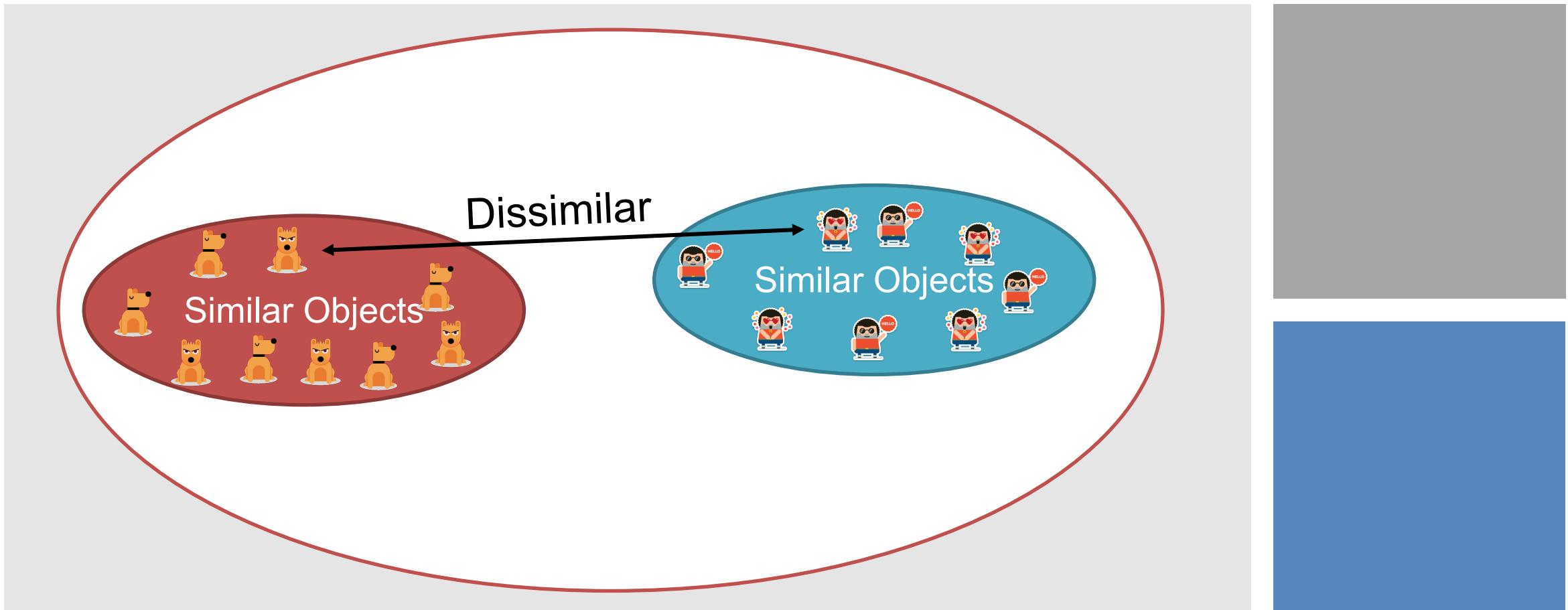
Grouping/Segmentation

Exploratory Analysis

# Let's cluster this set of images



# Similar/Dissimilar



# Distance Metrics

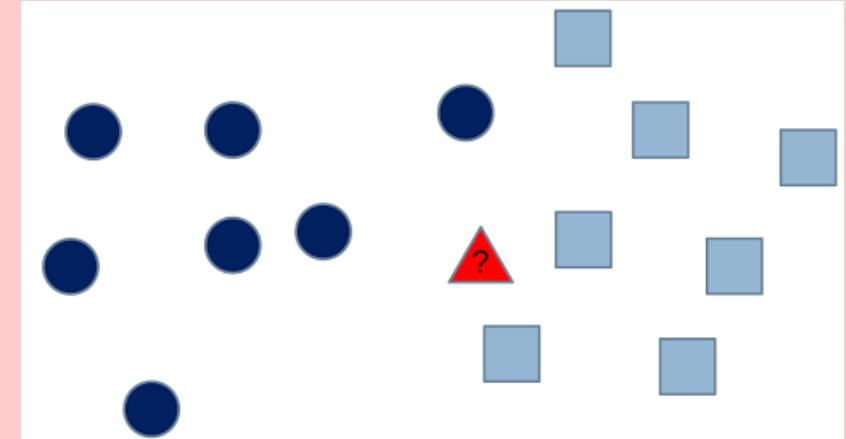
- Measuring similarity or distances between different data points is fundamental to many machine learning algorithms
  - unsupervised learning problems (i.e. K-means method in clustering)
  - supervised learning methods (i.e. K-Nearest-Neighbor)
- Distance measures are functions that define a distance  $d(x_i, x_j)$  between any two data instances  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  for measuring how similar the instances are.

# Distance Metrics...

- ❖ Distance measures satisfy the following three properties:
  - ❖ For any instance  $x_i$ , **distance with itself is zero**,  $d(x_i, x_i) = 0$
  - ❖ For an instance pairs  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ , **the distance is non-negative and symmetric**,  $d(x_i, x_j) \geq 0$  and  $d(x_i, x_j) = d(x_j, x_i)$
  - ❖ Distance measure follows **triangular inequality**
$$d(x_i, x_k) \leq d(x_i, x_j) + d(x_j, x_k)$$
- ❖ Distance measures satisfying above properties are also known as Distance Metrics

# Distance Metrics...

- Example 1: Nearest Neighbour Classification
  - Using distance to find the label of the new data point (the red triangle - Square or circle?)





# Distance Metrics...

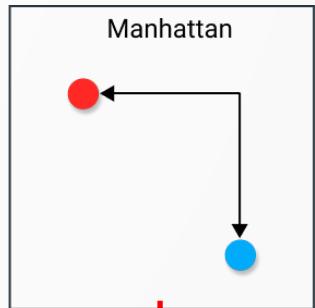
- . Example 2: Image retrieval
  - . Animal types in NUS Wide Animal dataset. Given a new image like the image of a cat, can we fetch all cat images from the dataset? (yes! with the help of distance measurements)

# Distance Measurement Types

- Cityblock/Manhattan distance

- For any two data instances, represented by  $d$ -dimensional feature vectors  $x_i, x_j$ , their Cityblock distance is computed as:

$$d_{Cityblock}(x_i, x_j) = |x_{i,1} - x_{j,1}| + \dots + |x_{i,D} - x_{j,D}|$$



- In most cases, this results similar to the Euclidean distance
- However, the effect of a large difference in a single dimension is dampened  
(since the distances are not squared)

$$d(x_1, x_2)_{CB} = |1 - 0| + |1 - 2| + |2 - 2| + |1 - 0| + |0 - 2| = 5$$

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}^T \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

# Distance Measurement Types

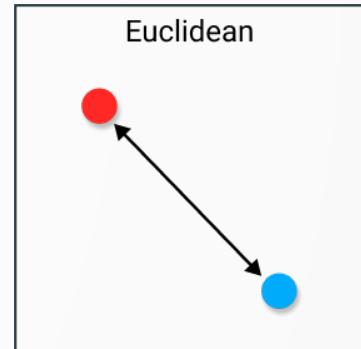
- Euclidean distance

- Straight-line distance between two points in Euclidean space
- For any two data instances, represented by **d-dimensional feature vectors**  $x_i$ ,  $x_j$  their Euclidean distance is

$$d_{\text{Euclidean}}(x_i, x_j) = \left( (x_{i,1} - x_{j,1})^2 + \dots + (x_{i,D} - x_{j,D})^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

- For example, consider these two vectors:

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_1, x_2) &= ((1 - 0)^2 + (1 - 2)^2 + (2 - 2)^2 + (1 - 0)^2 + (0 - 2)^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \sqrt{(1 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 4)} = \sqrt{7} = 2.65 \text{ (approx)} \end{aligned}$$



$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Distance Measurement Types

- Chebyshev distance

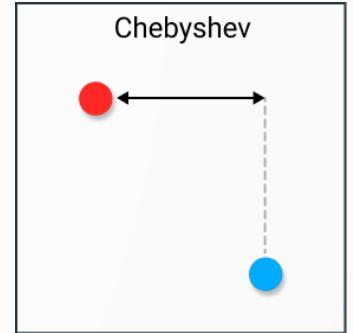
- Greatest of distances along any coordinate dimension
- For any two data instances, represented by **d-dimensional feature vectors**  $x_i$ ,  $x_j$  their Euclidean distance is

$$d_{\text{Chebyshev}}(x_i, x_j) = \max(|x_{i,1} - x_{j,1}|, |x_{i,2} - x_{j,2}|, \dots, |x_{i,D} - x_{j,D}|)$$

- For example, consider these two vectors:

$$d(x_1, x_2) = \max(|1 - 0|, |1 - 2|, |2 - 2|, |1 - 0|, |0 - 2|)$$

$$= \max(1, 1, 0, 1, 2) = 2$$



$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

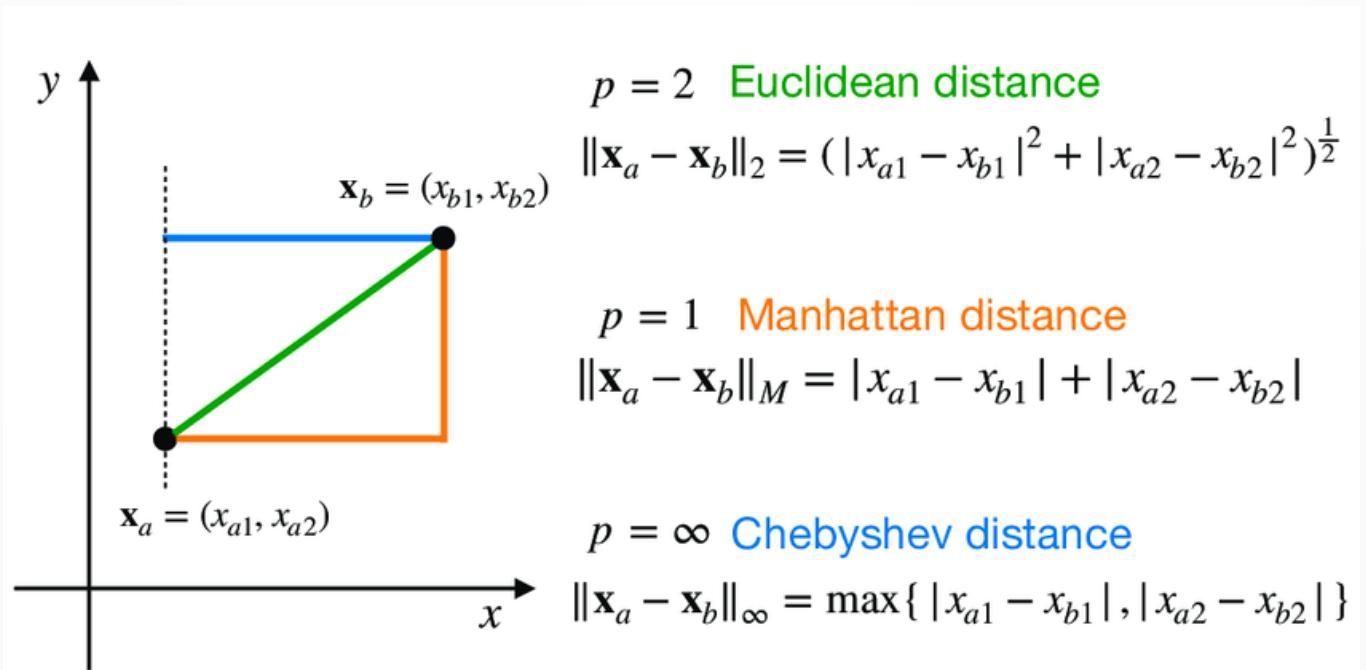
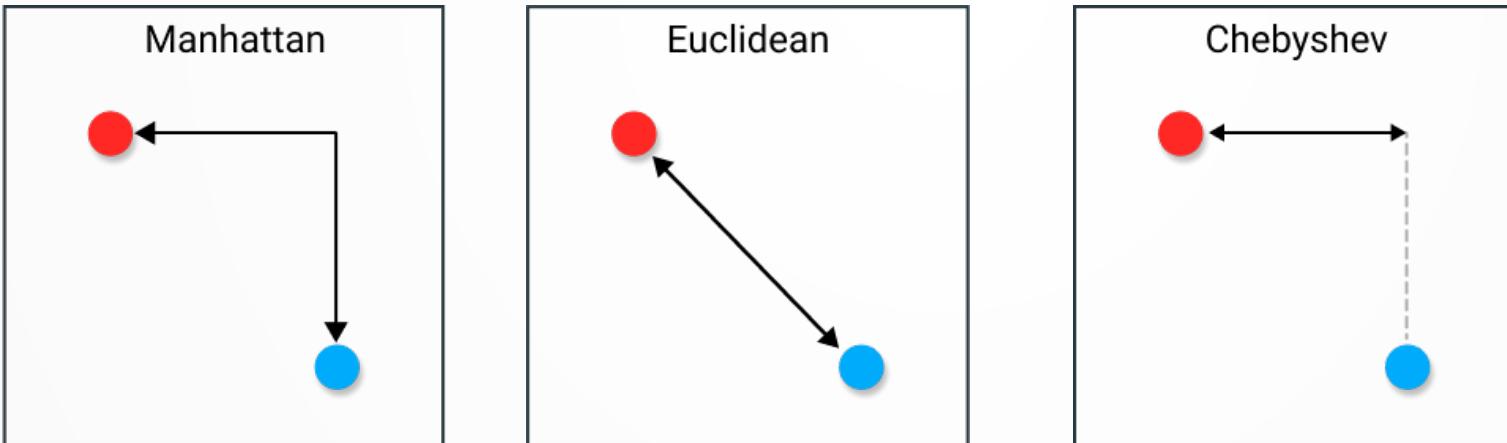
# Distance Measurement Types

- Minkowski distance
  - Defines a distance between two points in a normed vector space.
  - Euclidean and Cityblock distances are 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> normed distance between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ .
  - Minkowski distance is a generalization of these distances defined for any p-norm

$$d(x, y) = \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} |x_i - y_i|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

- when  $p = 1$ , d is Manhattan distance
- when  $p = 2$ , d is Euclidean distance
- when  $p = \infty$ , d is Chebyshev distance

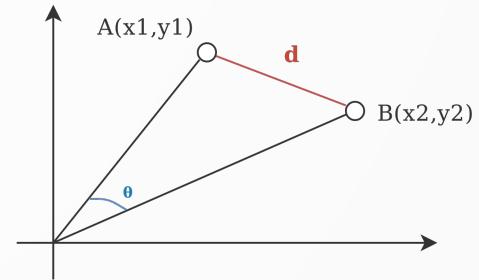
# Schematic overview of popular distances



# Distance Measurement Types

- Cosine distance
  - For any two data instances, represented by d-dimensional feature vectors  $x_i, x_j$

$$d_{Cosine}(x_i, x_j) = 1 - \frac{x_i^T x_j}{\|X_i\|_2 \cdot \|X_j\|_2}$$



- Let's see an example

$$\begin{aligned} d(x_1, x_2) &= 1 - \frac{(1 * 0 + 1 * 2 + 2 * 2 + 1 * 0 + 0 * 2)}{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2 + 2^2 + 1^2 + 0^2} * \sqrt{0^2 + 2^2 + 2^2 + 0^2 + 2^2}} \\ &= 0.3453 \end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Distance Measurement Types

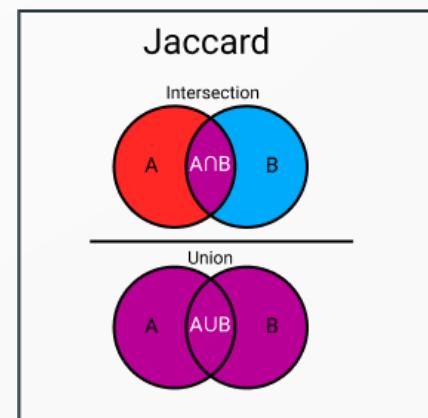
- Mahalanobis distance
  - MD is the distance between two points in multivariate space, represented by d-dimensional feature vectors  $x_i, x_j$ 
$$d_{Mahalanobis}(x_i, x_j) = \sqrt{(x_i - x_j)M^{-1}(x_i - x_j)^T}$$
where, M is the covariance matrix of the data.
  - Intuitively, the covariance matrix generalizes the notion of variance to multiple dimensions
  - MD can be thought of **scaling each data dimension by its variance** and adjusting for their relationships
  - When **data are independent**, i.e.  $M=I$  (identity matrix), Mahalanobis distance becomes same as Euclidean distance.

# Distance Measurement Types

- Jaccard distance
  - Is a distance used to measure diversity of **any two sets**
  - Consider any two instances  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  as **binary vectors indicating presence or absence of features**
  - Jaccard distance between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  is defined as
  - Where  $\cap$  denotes logical ‘AND’ and  $\cup$  denotes logical ‘OR’ operators. The  $|x|_1$  is 1-norm
  - Jaccard distance for  $x_i = [1,0,1]$ , and  $x_j = [1,1,0]$

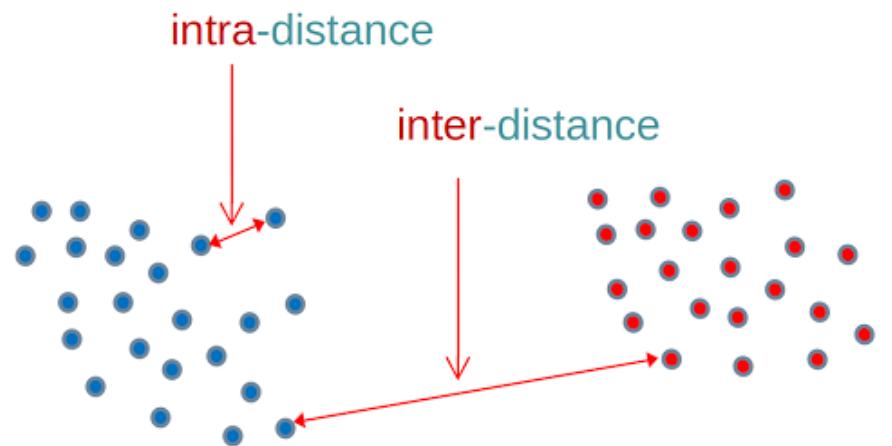
$$d_{Jaccard}(x_i, x_j) = 1 - \frac{|x_i \cap x_j|_1}{|x_i \cup x_j|_1} = 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$d_{Jaccard}(x_i, x_j) = 1 - \frac{|x_i \cap x_j|_1}{|x_i \cup x_j|_1}$$



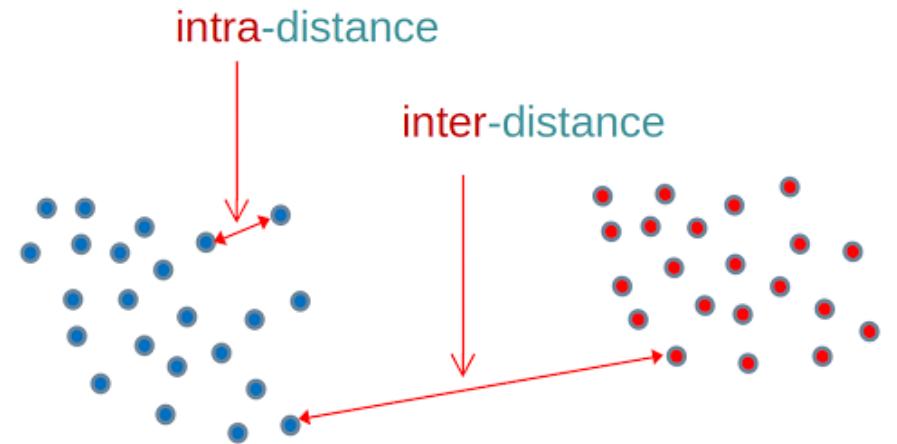
# Clustering Algorithms

- How do we teach a computer to do this?
- Goal of clustering algorithms are:
  - Group objects of similar properties together
  - Discover interesting clusters and groups in the data
  - Find valid organisation of the data
- In other words, we can define two algorithmic goals:
  - **Minimise intra-distance** (distance between points in the same cluster)
  - **Maximise inter-distance** (distance between points from different clusters)



# Clustering Algorithms...

- . Now we can define a generic set-up based on our current understanding from clustering methods:
  - . Step 1: define a distance metric between objects
  - . Step 2: define an objective function that gets us to our clustering goal
  - . Step 3: devise an algorithm to optimise the objective function



# How Kmeans Works

- The most popular clustering algorithm; simple and fast
- Kmeans
  - stores k centroids
  - A point is considered to be in a particular cluster if it is closer to that cluster's centroid than any other centroid.
  - KMeans searches for the best centroids by alternating between two methods:
    - Assigning data points to clusters based on the current defined centroids (points which are the centre of a cluster).
    - Choosing centroids based on the current assignment of data points to clusters

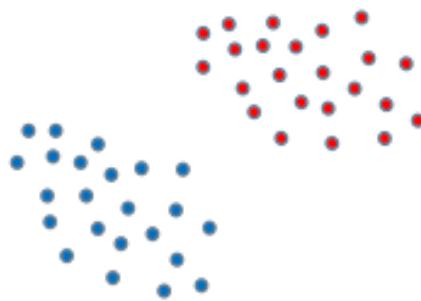
N.B. Please see the video presented in “3.5 How Kmeans works” for better understanding

# Evaluation of Clustering

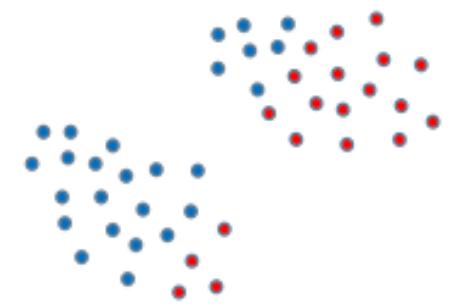
- ❖ External assessment:
  - ❖ Compare clustering performance against a known clustering (often called Ground truth or Gold standard)
- ❖ Internal assessment:
  - ❖ Determine if clustering follows certain intrinsic assumptions (e.g. cluster-to-cluster distance or cluster size etc.),

# Evaluation of Clustering...

- . The following figure illustrates a sample of ground truth ( $C$ ) and the clustering partition found by a clustering algorithm ( $C'$ )



Ground truth ( $C$ )



Clustering partition found by algorithm ( $C'$ )

# Evaluation of Clustering...

- ❖ Rand Index
  - ❖ Is a measure of the similarity between two data clusters
  - ❖ Rand index is a function that measures the similarity of the two assignments C and C', ignoring their permutations.
  - ❖ Rand index is computed as 
$$R = \frac{a + b}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{a + b}{a + b + c + d}$$
    - ❖ a = the number of pairs of data instances that are in the same cluster in both C,C'
    - ❖ b = the number of pairs of data instances that are in the different clusters in C and in different clusters in C'
    - ❖ c = the number of pairs of data instances that are in the same cluster in C but in different clusters in C'.
    - ❖ d = the number of pairs of data instances that are in the different clusters in C but in the same clusters in C'

# Evaluation of Clustering...

- Purity
  - Measure the purity for all clusters in terms of class labels of the data in each cluster i.e.,

$$Purity = \frac{\sum_{i=1..q} A_i}{\sum_{i=1..q} n_i}$$

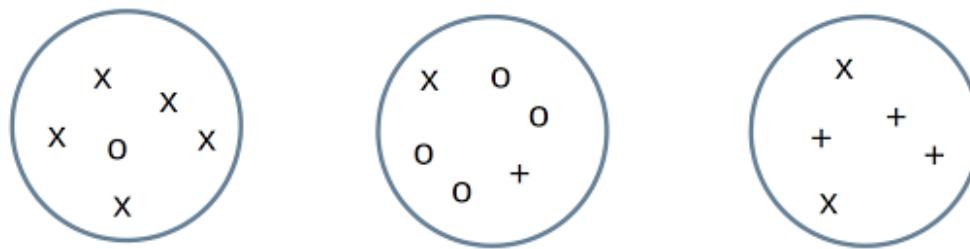
where  $q$  is the number of clusters,  $A_i$  is the number of correctly assigned elements in  $i^{th}$  cluster and  $n_i$  is the number of elements in each cluster.

- This means the purity is measured by counting **the number of correctly assigned instances** and **dividing by the number of total instances**.

# Evaluation of Clustering...

- ❖ Purity Example

- ❖ Let's we have three clusters as shown in the figure.
- ❖ Each cluster is assigned to the class label which has the majority in the cluster i.e., first cluster labelled as Cross, second as Circle and last one as Plus.
- ❖ Based on the figure, 5 crosses, 4 circles, 3 pluses were correctly assigned.



$$Purity = \frac{1}{17} * (5 + 4 + 3) \approx 0.71$$

# Evaluation of Clustering...

- Mutual Information
  - Mutual information is a function that measures **the agreement of the two clustering assignments**  $C$  and  $C'$  in terms of how informative one is about the other, ignoring permutations.
  - To put it simple, how informative is  $C$  about  $C'$
  - Let us assume that clustering partition  $C$  has  $K$  clusters and the partition  $C'$  has  $K'$  clusters

$$MI(C, C') = \sum_{i=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^{K'} P(i, j) \log \frac{P(i, j)}{P(i)P'(j)}$$

where  $P(i)$  denotes the probability of randomly selected instance to belong to  $i^{th}$  cluster of the partition  $C$ , similarly,  $P(i, j)$  denotes the probability of a randomly selected instance to belong in  $i^{th}$  cluster of the partition  $C$  and  $j^{th}$  cluster of the partition  $C'$ .  $P'(j)$  is defined similarly as  $P(i)$ .

- If our  **$C'$  clustering is highly informative based on  $C$** , we can conclude that the  $C$  clustering assignment is doing good

# Evaluation of Clustering...

- Silhouette Coefficient
  - It is a measure of **how similar an object is to its own cluster** (cohesion) compared to other clusters (separation)
  - This method **does not require the ground truth cluster** assignments
  - The silhouette coefficient contrasts the average distance between the instances of the same cluster with the average distance between the instances of different clusters

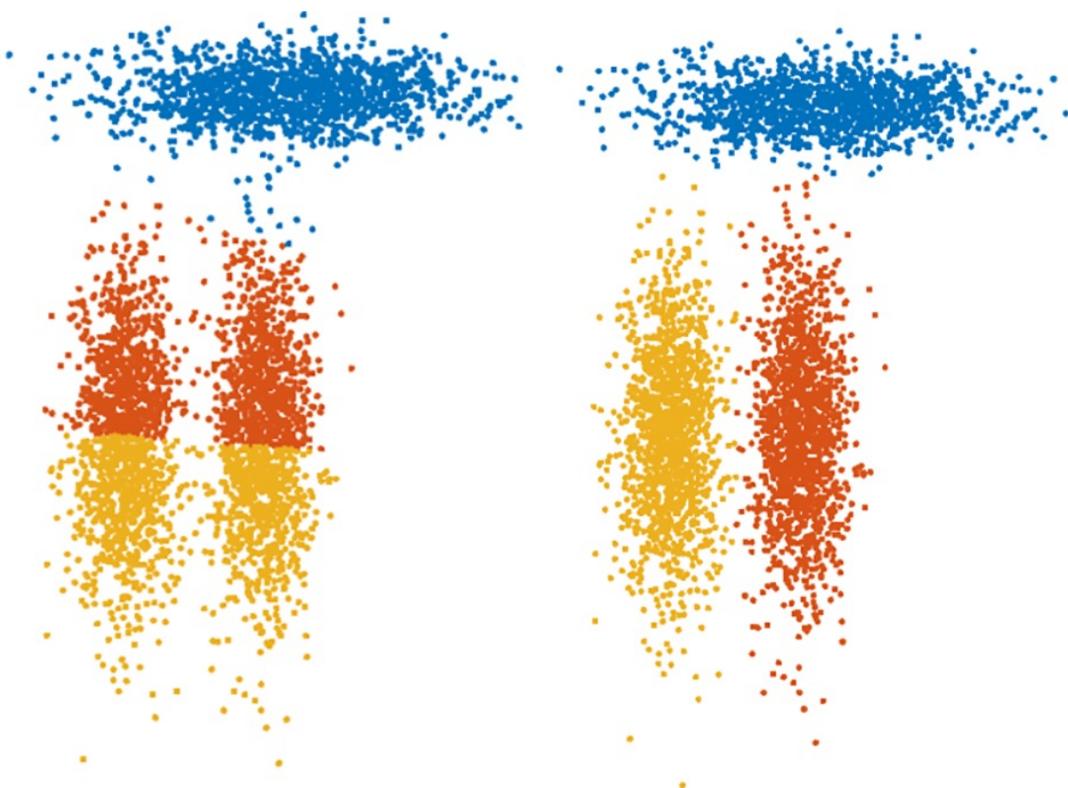
$$s(i) = \frac{b(i) - a(i)}{\max\{a(i), b(i)\}}$$

Where,  $a(i)$  is the average distance of  $i^{th}$  instance with all other instances of the same cluster, and  $b(i)$  is the lowest average dissimilarity of  $i^{th}$  instance with all other clusters.

- The final value of Silhouette ranges from  $-1$  to  $+1$ . **High value of  $s(i)$  indicates that the object is well matched to its own cluster and poorly matched to neighbouring clusters.**

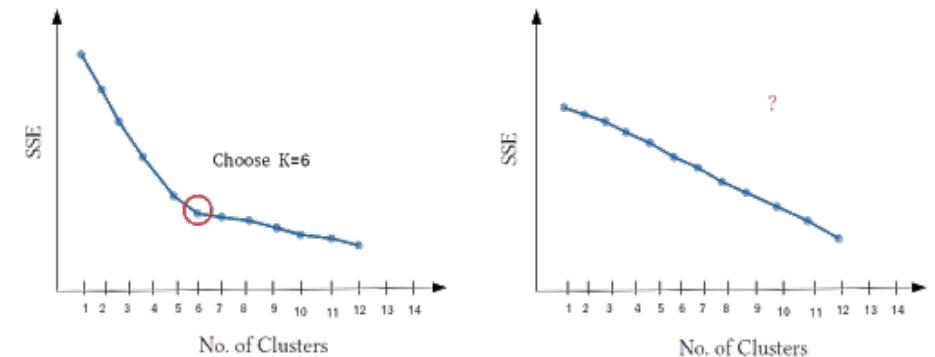
# Limitations of Kmeans

- ❖ Most important limitations of Simple Kmeans are:
  - ❖ Random initialisation means that you may get different clusters each time.
  - ❖ We have to supply the number of clusters beforehand.
  - ❖ It cannot find clusters of arbitrary shapes.
  - ❖ It cannot detect noisy data points.



# Finding the Number of Clusters

- Elbow Method
  - The idea of elbow method is to run Kmeans clustering algorithm for a range of values of K, and for each value of K, compute the sum of squared error (SSE) as:
$$SSE_k = \sum_k \sum_i z_{ik} \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$$
  - So,  $\|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$  finds the distance of each point ( $x_i$ ) to its corresponding centroid ( $\mu_k$ ) in the cluster
  - $z_{ik}$  is a binary variable
    - 1 when  $x_i$  is assigned to the cluster number  $k$  and
    - 0 when  $x_i$  is not related to cluster number  $k$
  - it looks 6 is the best cluster number



# Clustering with Kmeans++

- . Kmeans++ is an algorithm for choosing the initial cluster's centre values or centroids for the Kmeans clustering algorithm
  - . K-means++ starts with allocating one cluster centre randomly and then searches for other centres given the first one
    - . Choose one centroid  $\mu_1$  uniformly at random from dataset
    - . Let  $D(x)$  be the distance from a data point to the closest centroid we have already chosen.
    - . Choose a new centroid from the dataset with probability of  $\frac{D^2(x_i)}{\sum_i D^2(x_i)}$
    - . Now repeat previous step until we have initialised  $K$  centroids

# Other Clustering Algorithms...

Partition  
based  
clustering

K-means clustering  
CLARANS (Clustering Large Applications based upon Randomized Search)

Hierarchical  
based  
clustering

CURE (Clustering Using Representatives)  
BIRCH (Balanced Iterative Reducing Clustering and using Hierarchies)

Density  
based  
clustering

DBSCAN (Density-based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise)  
OPTICS (Ordering Points to Identify Clustering Structure)

Grid based  
clustering

STING (Statistical Information Grid)  
Wave cluster

Model based  
clustering

MCLUST (Model-based Clustering)  
GMM (Gaussian Mixture Models)

# Other Clustering Algorithms...to be explored by SIT720 students

Hierarchical based clustering

Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering

Density based clustering

DBSCAN (Density-based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise)

Shape based clustering

VAT (Visual Assessment for Tendency), iVAT (improved VAT)

# Thank You.

