

Clustering: K-means vs GMM

Liang Liang

K-means Clustering

- N data points $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, $x_n \in \mathcal{R}^M$
- Find K cluster centers $\{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K\} \in \mathcal{R}^M$ such that the loss is minimized

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_{(n,k)} \|x_n - \mu_k\|^2$$

$\alpha_{(n,k)} = 1$ if and only if x_n is assigned to the cluster- k

a N -by- K assignment matrix $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{(1,1)} & \dots & \alpha_{(1,K)} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \alpha_{(N,1)} & \dots & \alpha_{(N,K)} \end{bmatrix}$, $\alpha_{(n,k)} = 0$ or 1

$\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_{(n,k)} = 1$ because x_n is assigned to only one cluster

The k-means algorithm

- Initialization: the user inputs K , and the algorithm initializes random centers $\{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K\}$, $\mu_k \in \mathcal{R}^M$
- In each iteration:
 - step-1: assign each data point x_n to its nearest cluster, we get $\alpha_{(n,k)}$

$$cluster_label(x_n) = \arg \min_{k \in \{1, \dots, K\}} \|x_n - \mu_k\|^2$$

- step-2: move center μ_k to the average location of data points in cluster-k

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum x_n \text{ (} x_n \text{ in cluster_k)}$$

where N_k is the number of data points in the cluster-k

The k-means algorithm

- step-1: assign each data point x_n to its nearest cluster, we get $\alpha_{(n,k)}$

$$\text{cluster_label}(x_n) = \arg \min_{k \in \{1, \dots, K\}} \|x_n - \mu_k\|^2$$

Example: Let's assume there are three clusters ($K=3$)

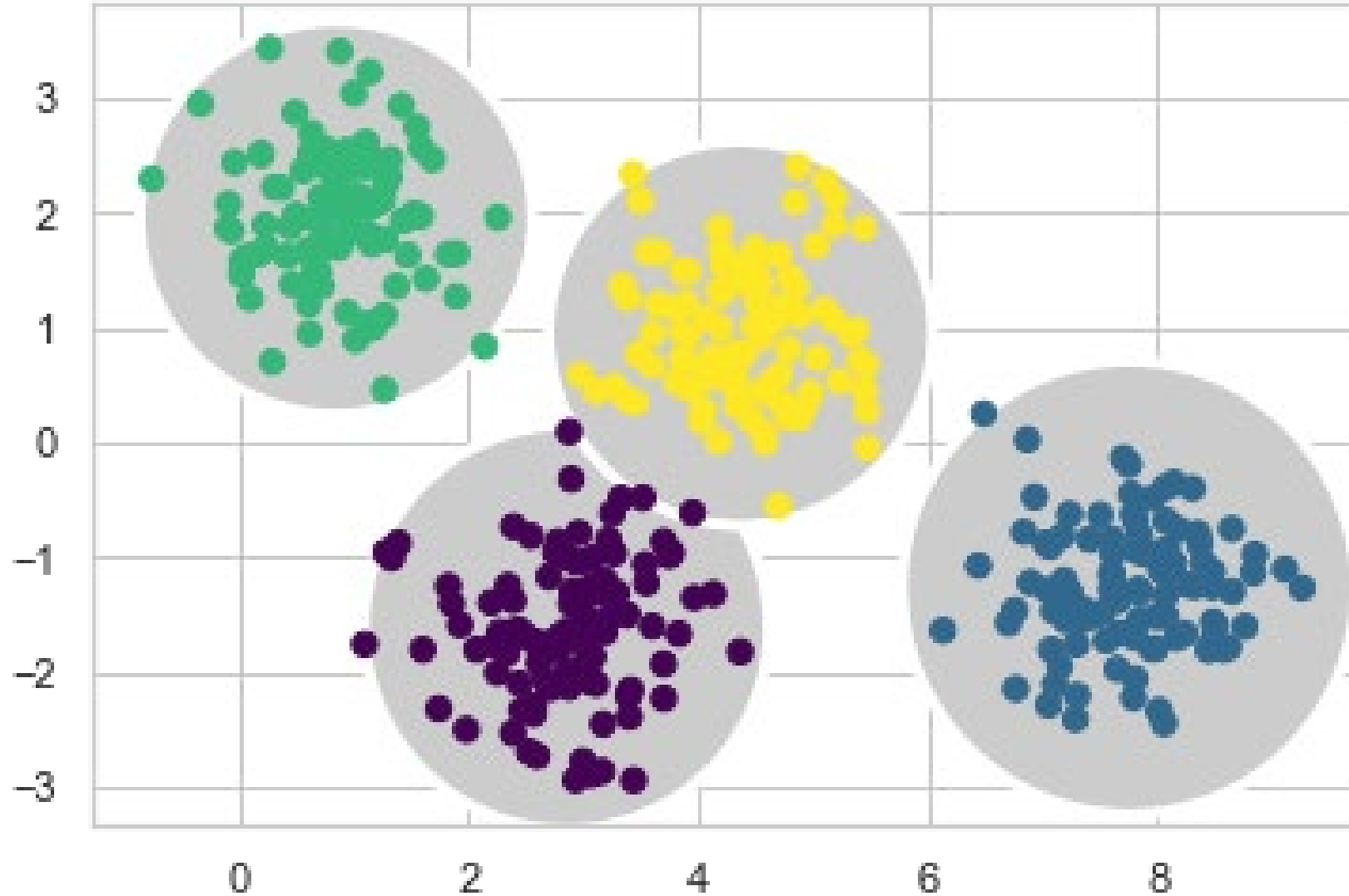
Data Point	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
x_1	$\alpha_{(1,1)} = 1$	$\alpha_{(1,2)} = 0$	$\alpha_{(1,3)} = 0$
x_2	$\alpha_{(2,1)} = 0$	$\alpha_{(2,2)} = 1$	$\alpha_{(2,3)} = 0$
x_3	$\alpha_{(3,1)} = 0$	$\alpha_{(3,2)} = 1$	$\alpha_{(3,3)} = 0$

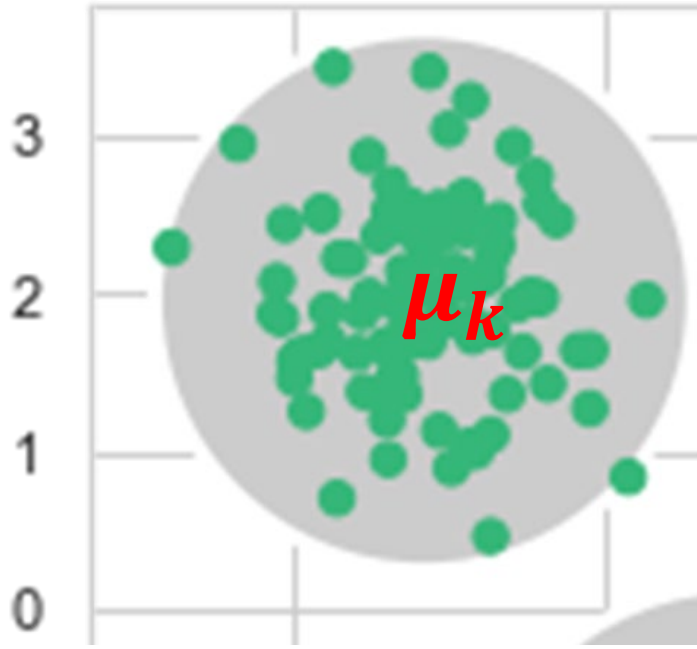
x_1 is assigned to cluster 1

x_2 and x_3 are assigned to cluster 2

“hard” assignment matrix $[\alpha_{(n,k)}]$

Visualize 2D clusters from K-means





The smallest circle that contains all of the points in the **cluster-k**

The radius of the circle

$$r = \max\{d(x_1, \mu_k), d(x_2, \mu_k), \dots, d(x_{N_k}, \mu_k)\}$$

x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{N_k} are in cluster-k

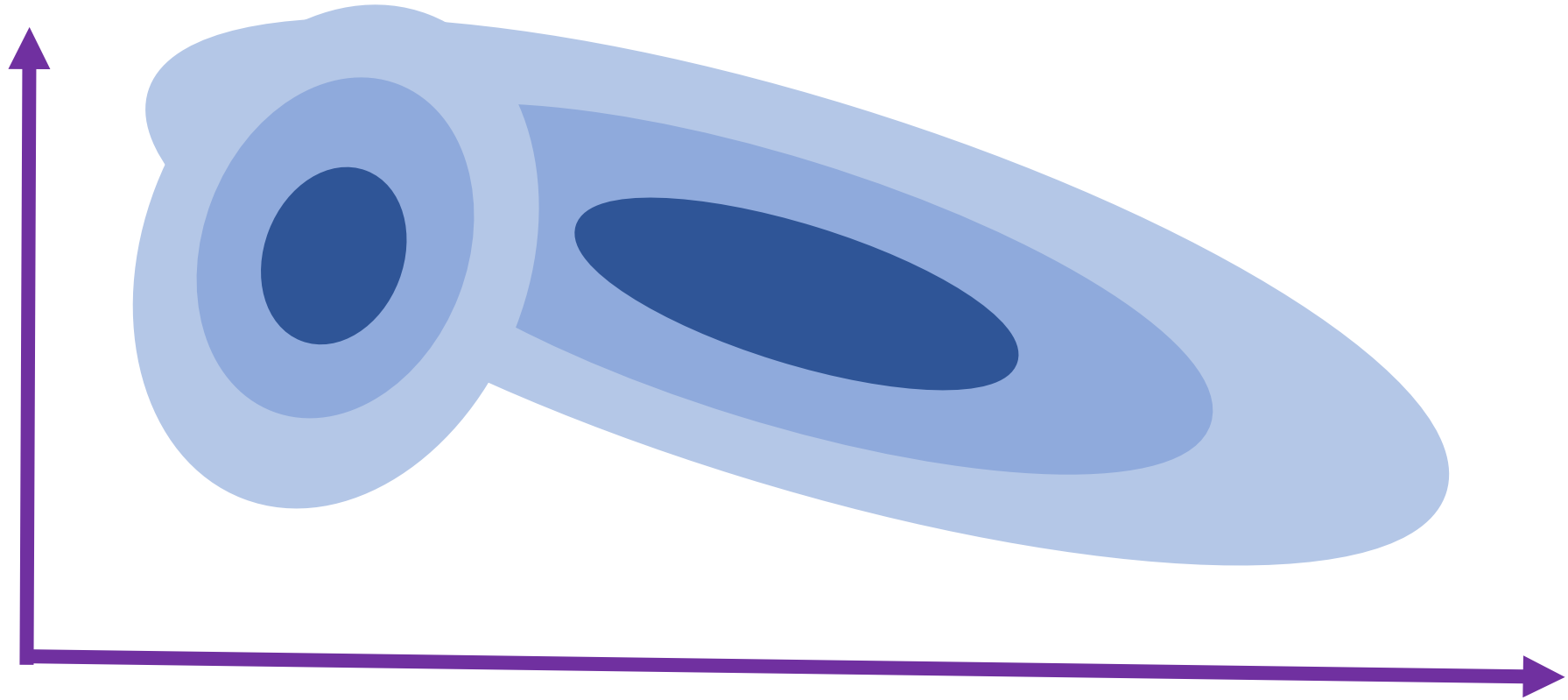
Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM)

- Mixture of K Gaussians in M -dim: $x, \mu \in \mathcal{R}^M, \Sigma \in \mathcal{R}^{M \times M}$

$$f_X(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(x | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)$$

- $\pi_k = P(\{X \in \text{cluster}_k\})$, prior probability, and $\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k = 1$
- π_k is called the weight of a Gaussian component in sk-learn

Visualize a 2D GMM that has 2 Gaussians



GMM for data distribution (PDF) modeling and clustering

- **Input:** data samples

K , the number of Gaussian components/clusters

- **Initialization:** initial values of μ_k, Σ_k, π_k for $k=1$ to K

two methods for initialization (available in sk-learn):

(1) random

(2) use k-means to get K clusters

for cluster-k, compute μ_k, Σ_k only use $\{x_n\}$ in cluster-k

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum x_n$$

$$\Sigma_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^{N_k} (x_n - \mu_k)(x_n - \mu_k)^T$$

GMM for data distribution (PDF) modeling and clustering

- **E-step**: compute $\gamma_{(n,k)}$, probability of x_n belonging to cluster-**k**

$$\gamma_{(n,\mathbf{k})} = \frac{\pi_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu_{\mathbf{k}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{k}})}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu_j, \Sigma_j)}$$

where $\sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_{(n,k)} = 1$

the soft assignment matrix $[\gamma_{(n,k)}]$ can be used for clustering

GMM for data distribution (PDF) modeling and clustering

- **E-step:** compute $\gamma_{(n,k)}$, the probability of x_n belonging to cluster-k

$$\gamma_{(n,k)} = \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu_j, \Sigma_j)} \text{ where } \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_{(n,k)} = 1$$

the soft assignment matrix $[\gamma_{(n,k)}]$ can be used for clustering

Example: Let's assume there are three Gaussians in a GMM

Data Point	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
x_1	$\gamma_{(1,1)} = 0.9$	$\gamma_{(1,2)} = 0.06$	$\gamma_{(1,3)} = 0.04$
x_2	$\gamma_{(2,1)} = 0.03$	$\gamma_{(2,2)} = 0.9$	$\gamma_{(2,3)} = 0.07$
x_3	$\gamma_{(3,1)} = 0.5$	$\gamma_{(3,2)} = 0.2$	$\gamma_{(3,3)} = 0.3$

x_1 and x_3 are assigned to cluster 1

x_2 is assigned to cluster 2

soft assignment matrix $[\gamma_{(n,k)}]$

GMM for data distribution (PDF) modeling and clustering

After E-step, we obtain the soft assignment matrix $[\gamma_{(n,k)}]$

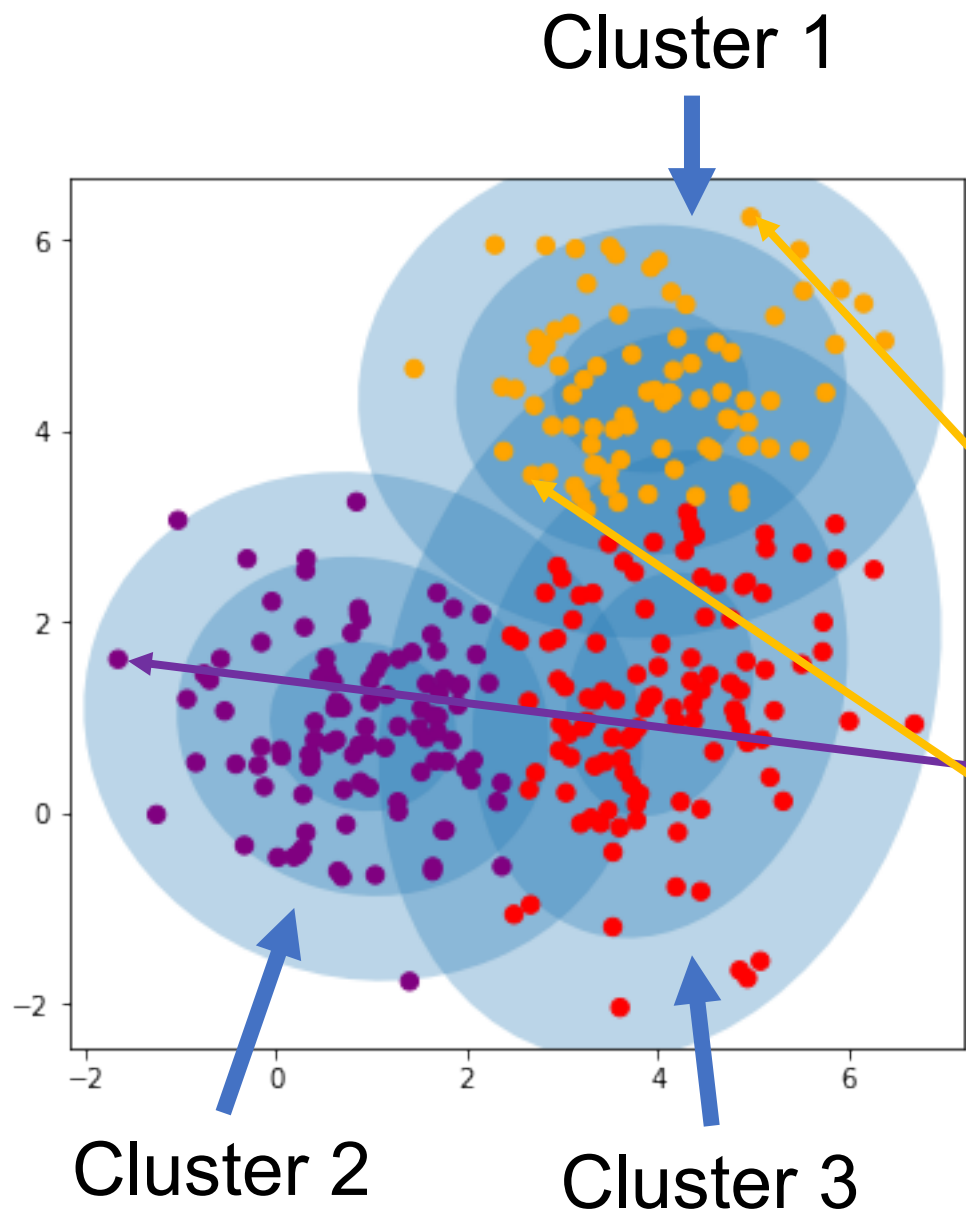
- **M-step:** update the parameters μ_k, Σ_k, π_k for $k=1$ to K

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{(n,k)} x_n \quad \text{weighted average of **all** data points}$$

$$\Sigma_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{(n,k)} (x_n - \mu_k)(x_n - \mu_k)^T$$

$$\pi_k = \frac{N_k}{N}$$

$$N_k = \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{(n,k)}$$



Data Point	<i>Cluster 1</i>	<i>Cluster 2</i>	<i>Cluster 3</i>
x_1	0.9	0.06	0.04
x_2	0.03	0.9	0.07
x_3	0.5	0.2	0.3

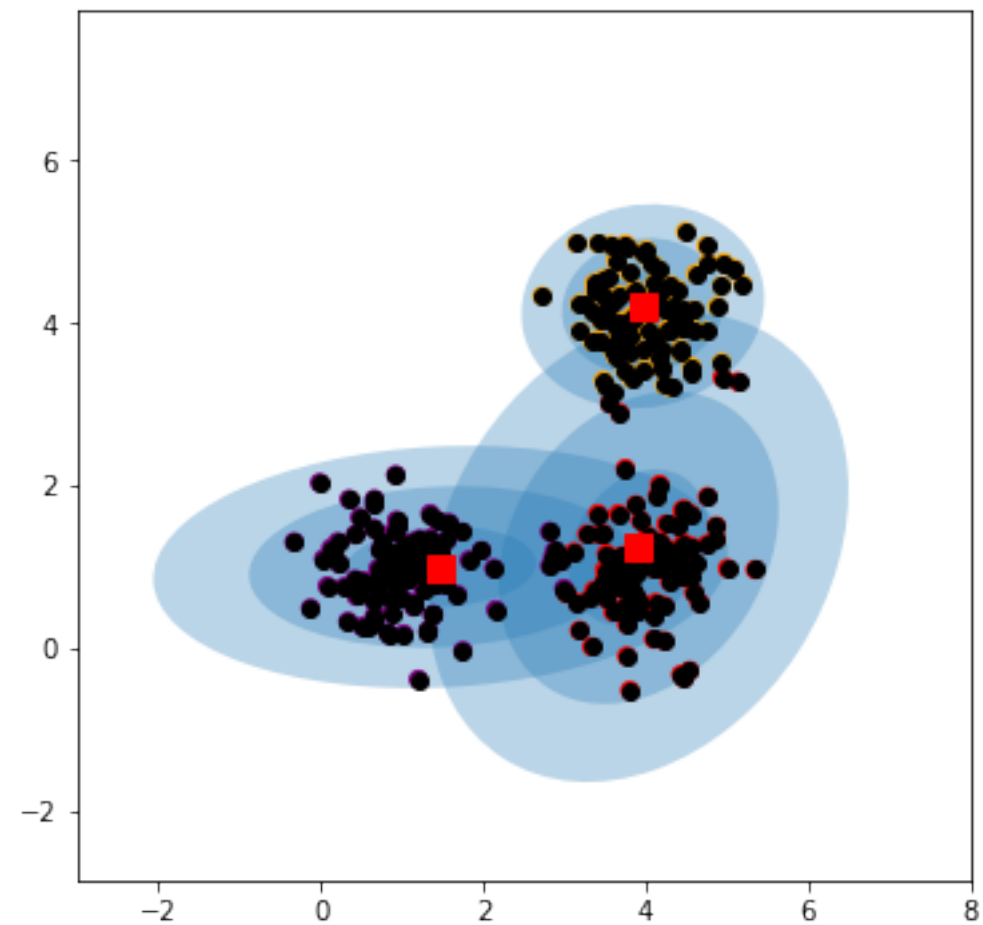
$\gamma_{(n,k)}$ is also called membership of x_n in cluster-k

See `Kmeans_2D_sim.ipynb`

`GMM_2D_sim.ipynb`

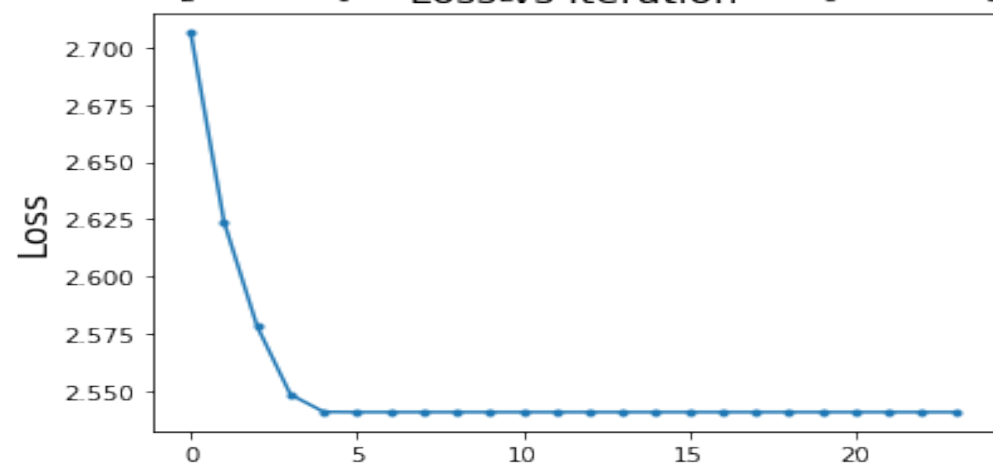
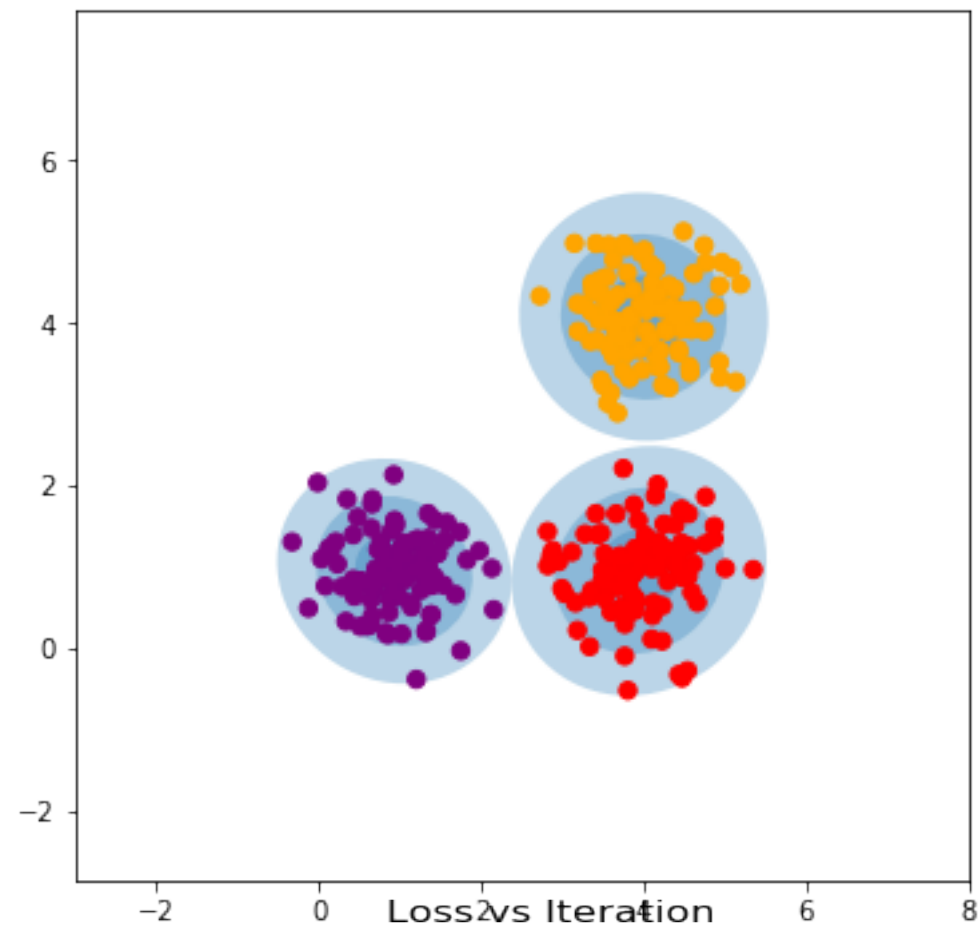
`GMM_DE_Generative_Model.ipynb`

Initialization

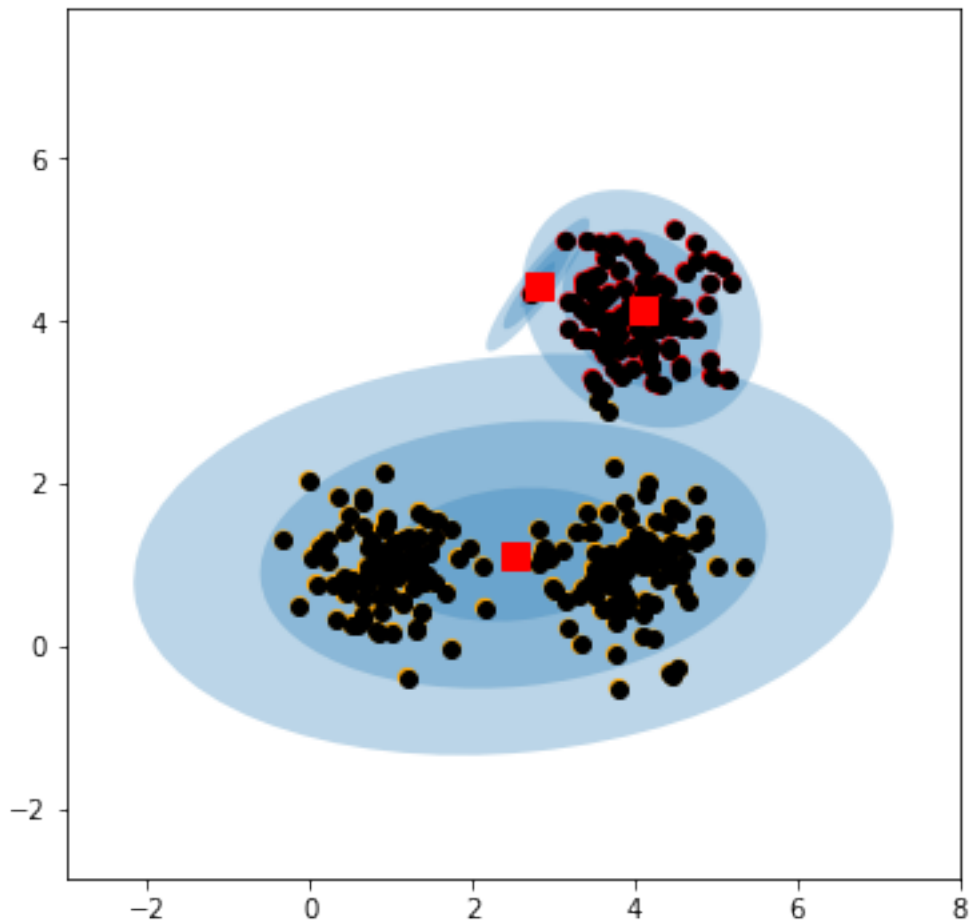


Random initialization

iter=23, loss=2.5407272825678353

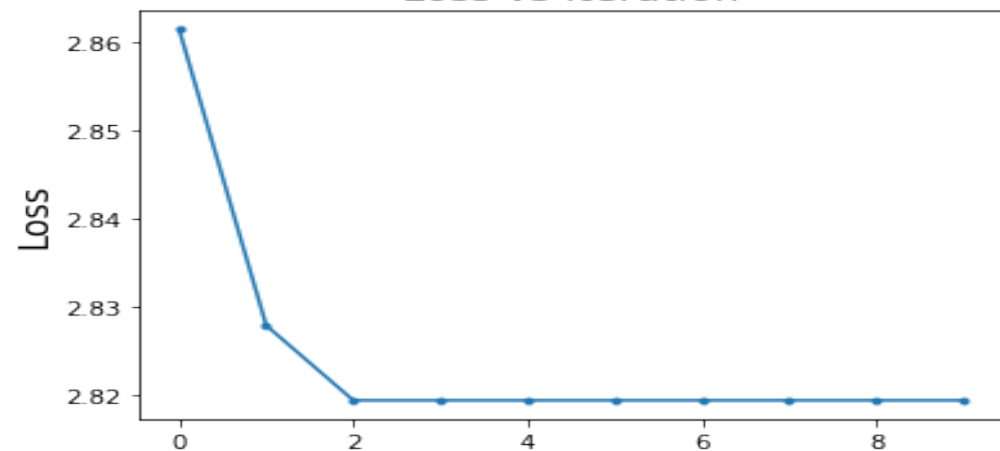
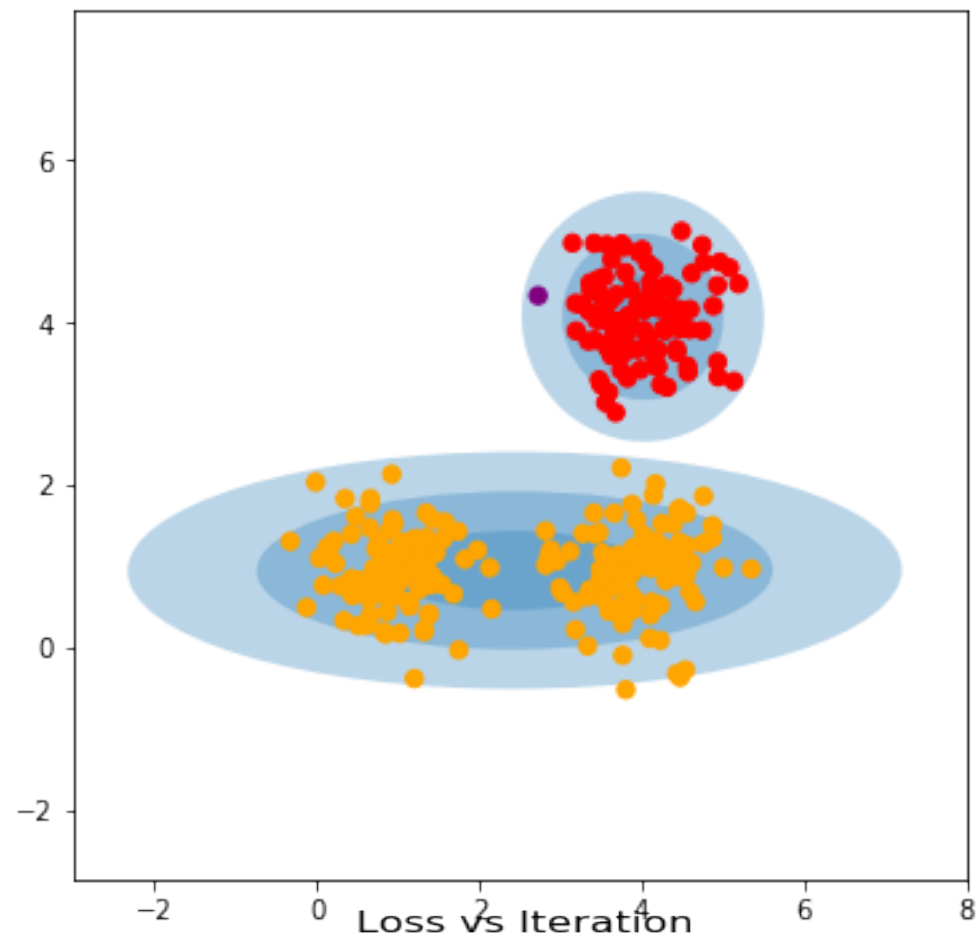


Initialization

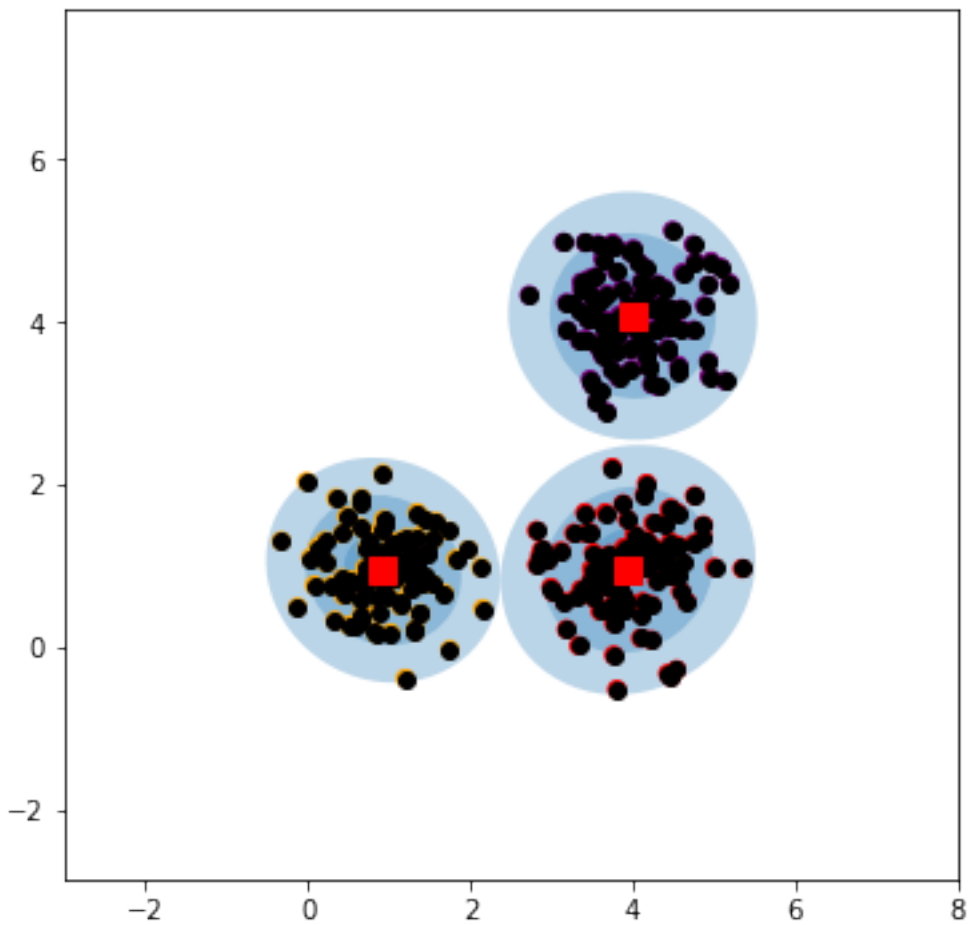


Random initialization

iter=8, loss=2.8193821258788705

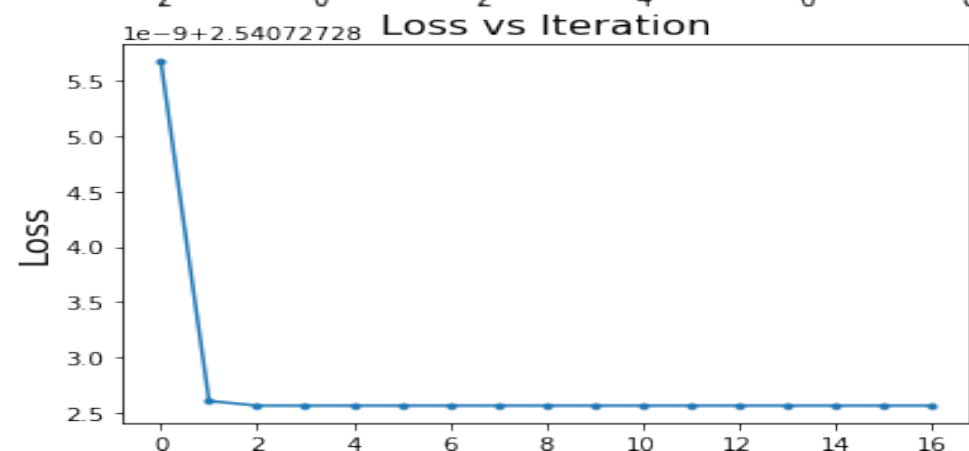
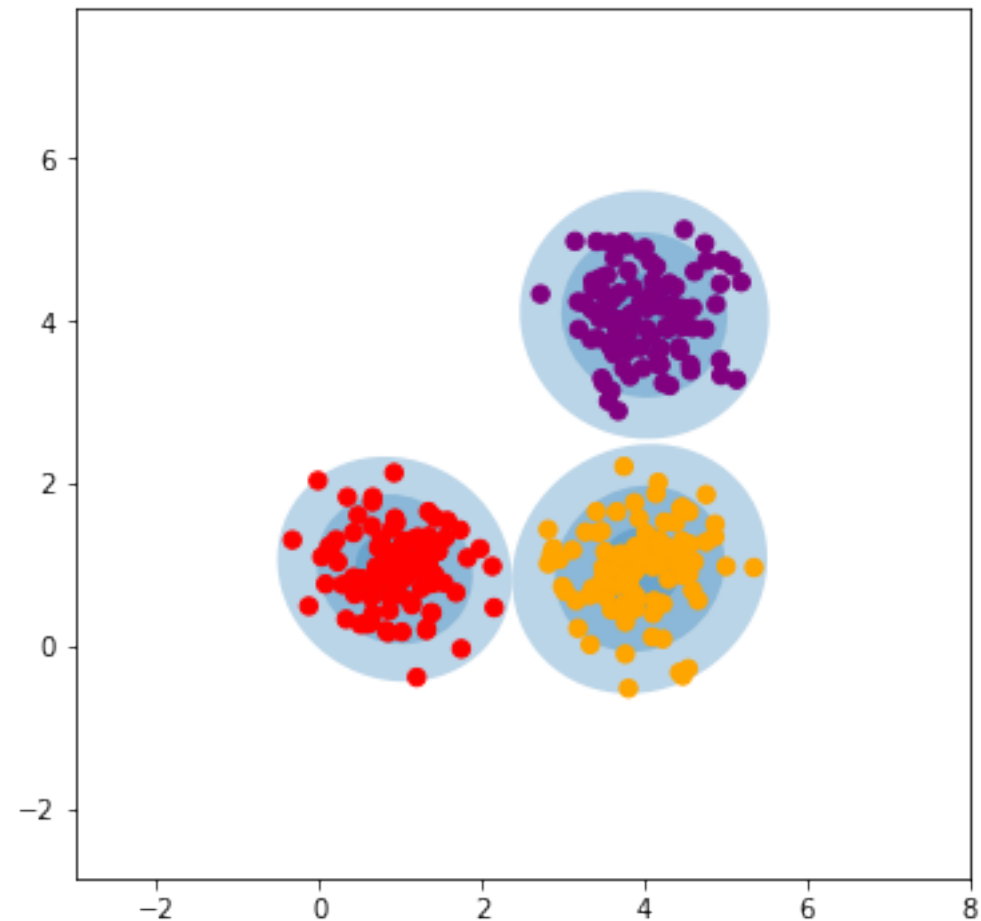


Initialization

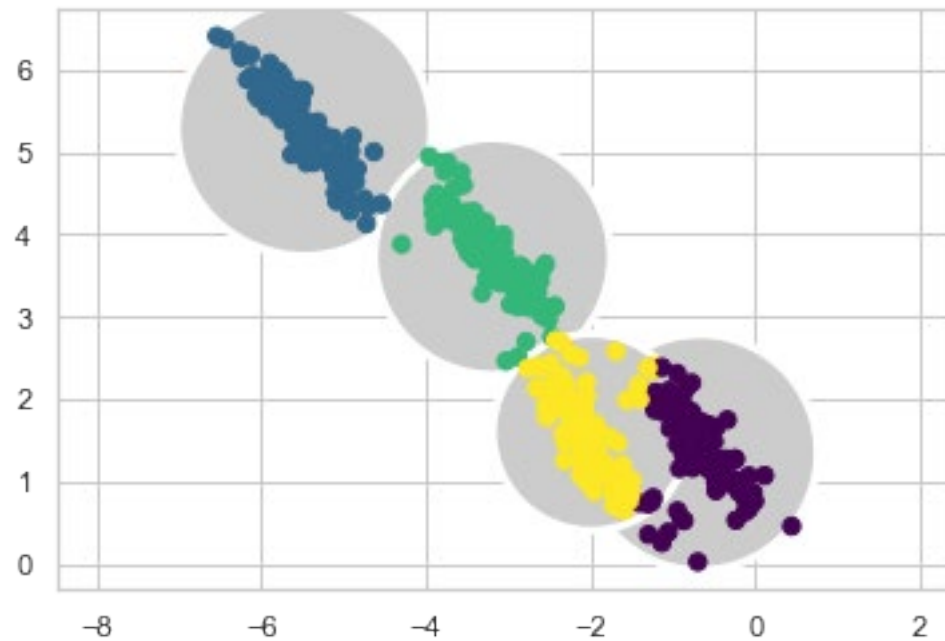
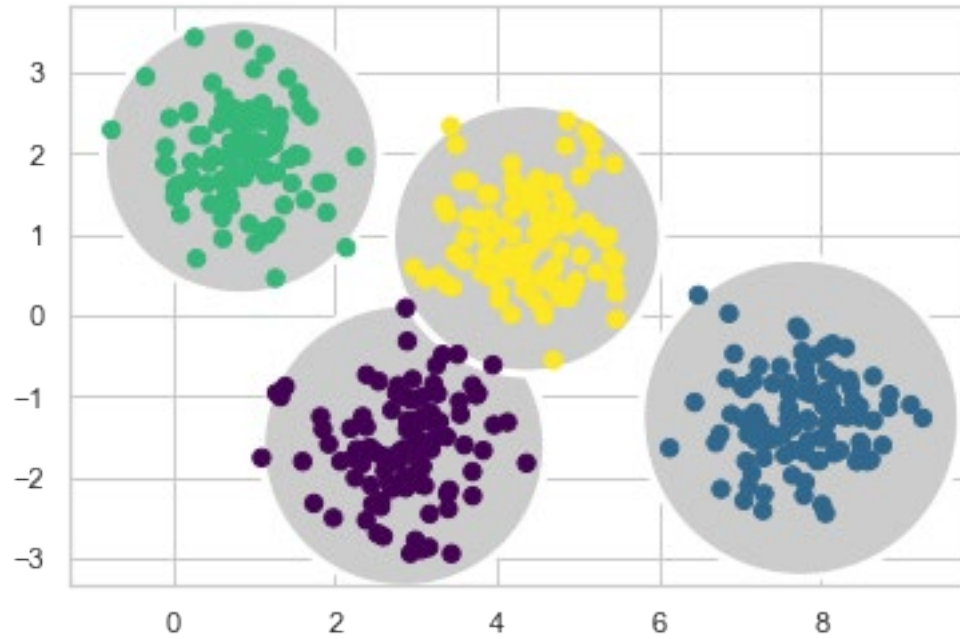


kmeans-based initialization

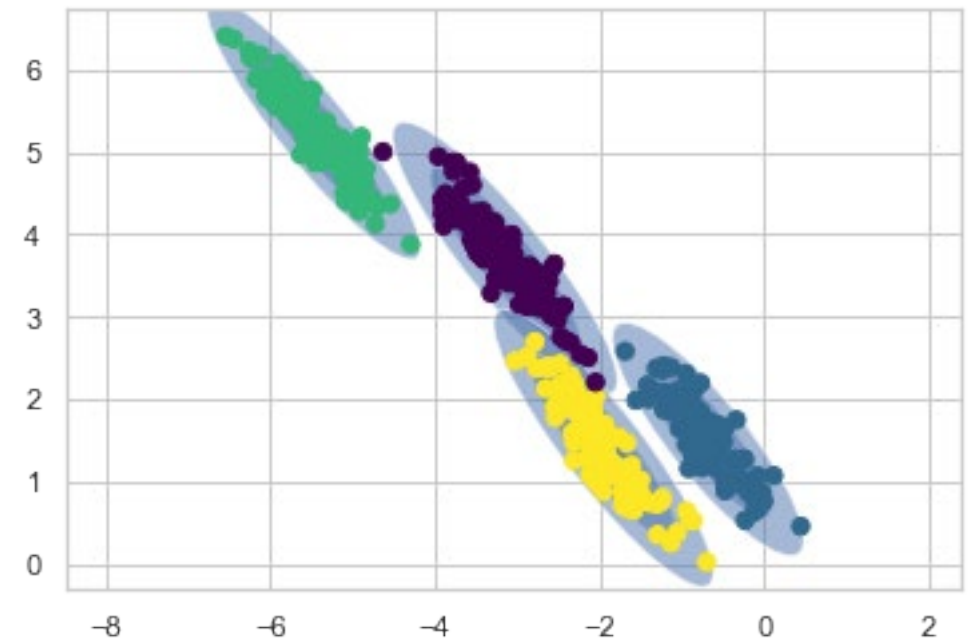
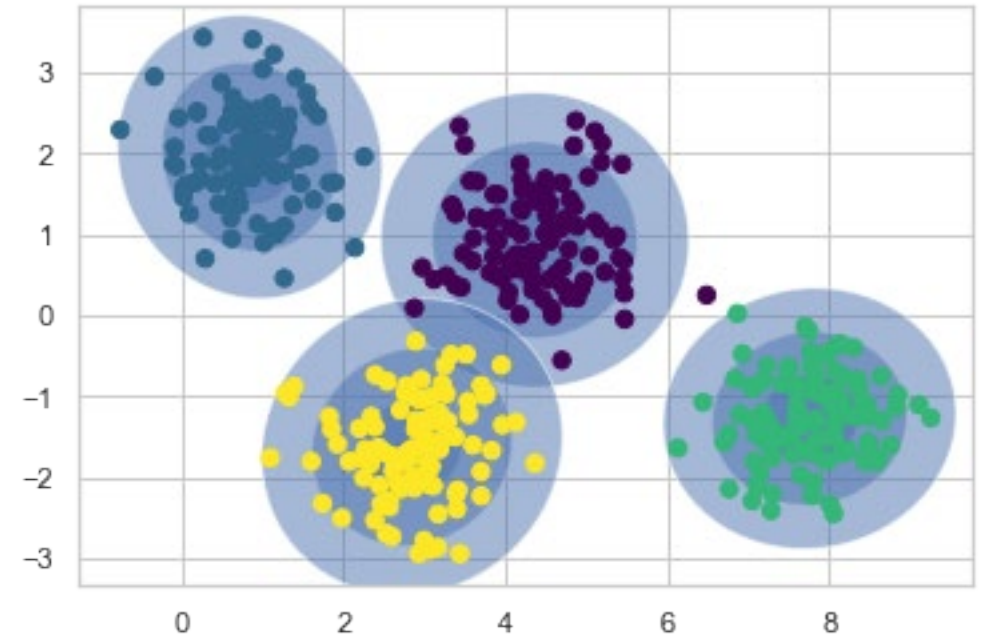
iter=16, loss=2.5407272825678353



K-means Clustering



GMM Clustering



GMM is a probability density function (PDF)

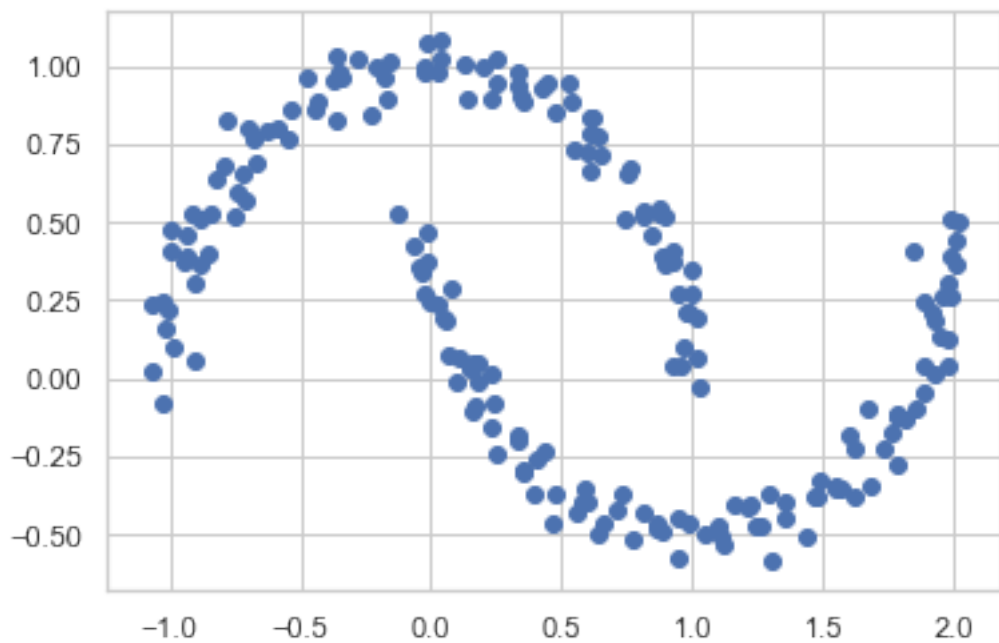
to model data distribution

to estimate PDF of data

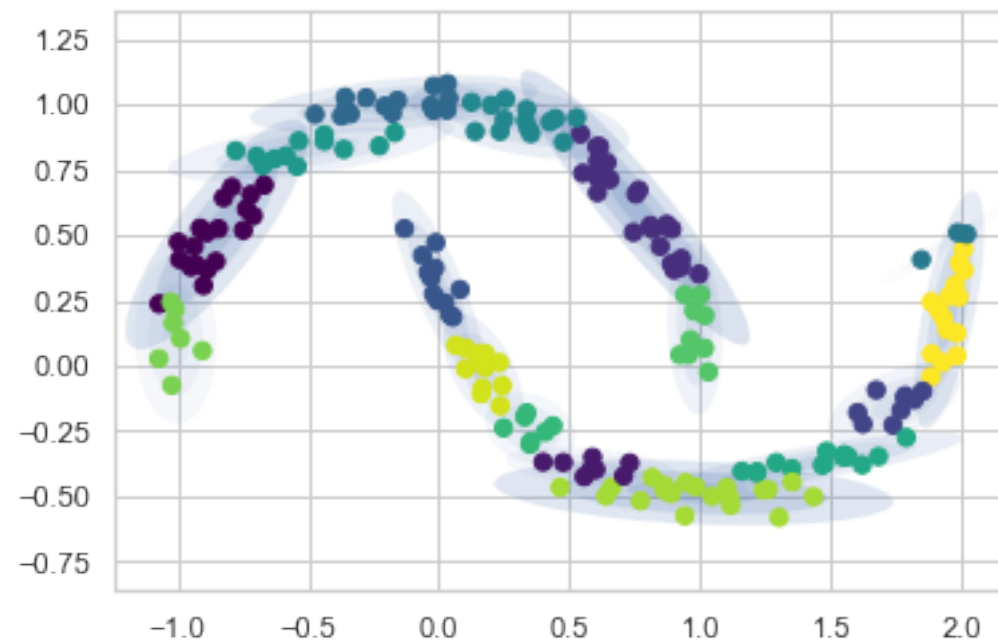
assuming data samples come from some unknown PDF

Input Data

two half circles

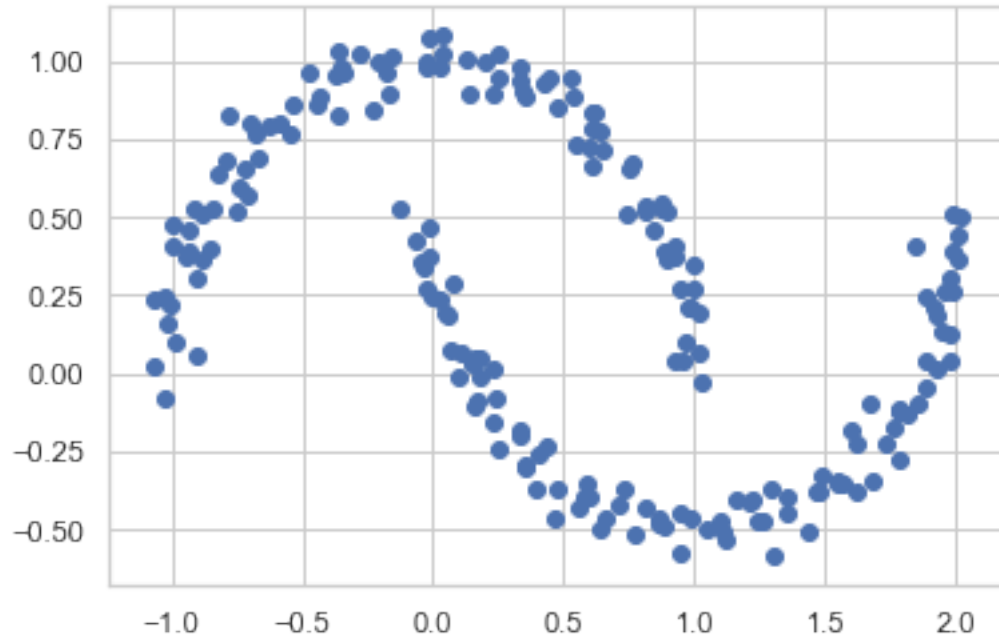


Use a GMM to do clustering

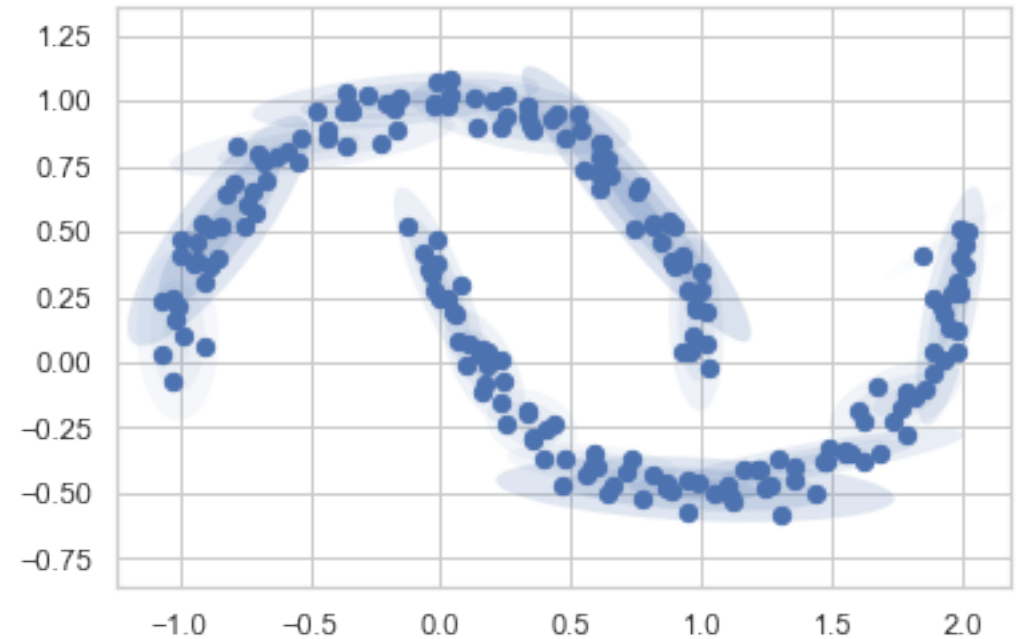


Input Data

two half circles

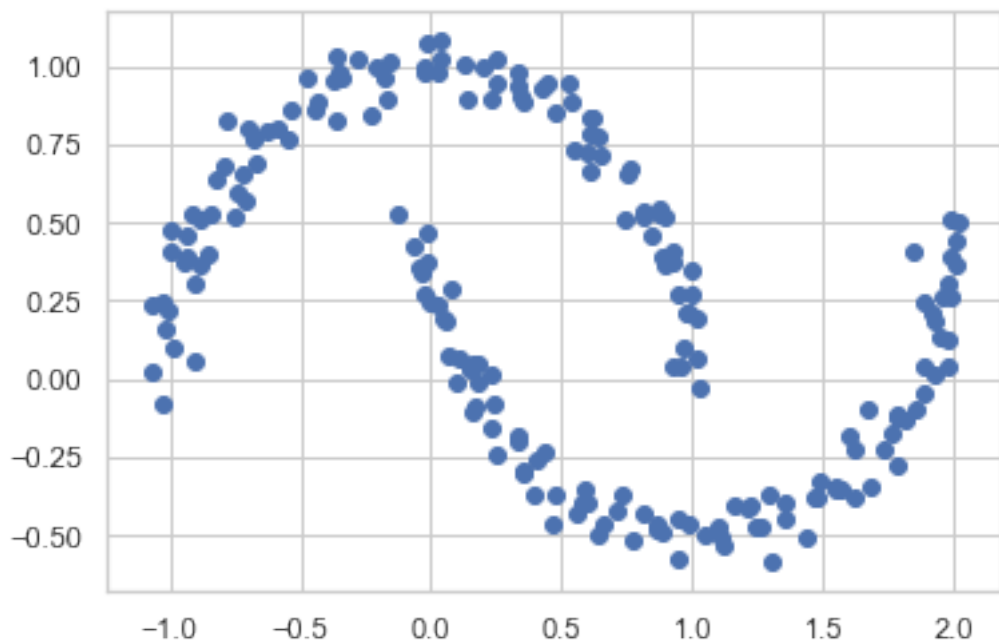


Use a GMM as an estimation of the “true” PDF of the data



Input Data

two half circles

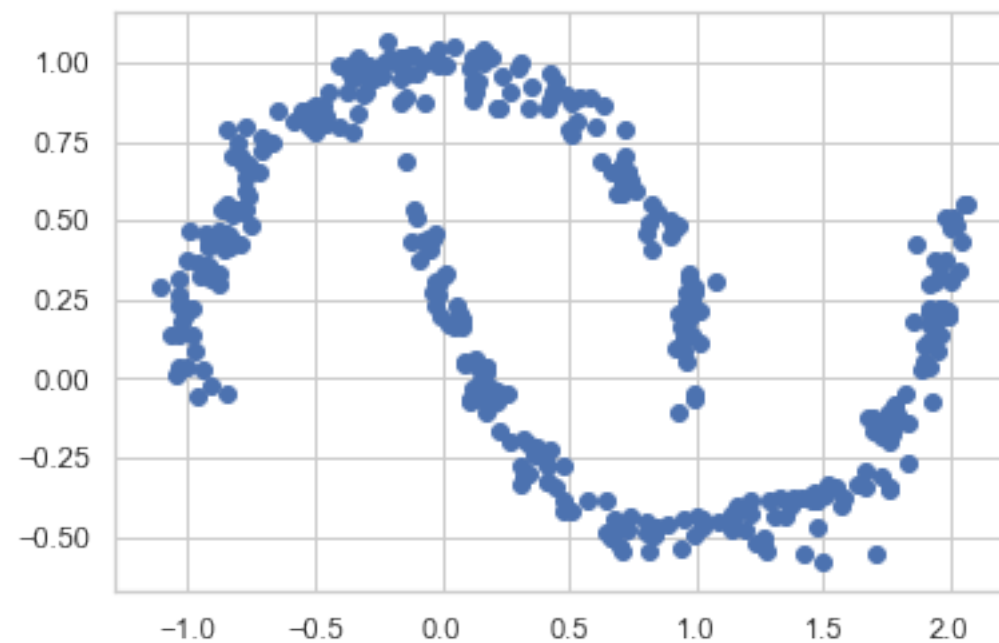


GMM

Generate
random samples



Generated data



Combine GMM and K-means:

=> modified k-means for clustering: faster than GMM

- **E-step (GMM):** compute the soft assignment $\gamma_{(n,k)}$, the probability of sample x_n belonging to cluster-k

$$\gamma_{(n,k)} = \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu_j, \Sigma_j)} \text{ where } \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_{(n,k)} = 1$$

- **E-step (modified k-means):** compute the soft assignment $\gamma_{(n,k)}$, and convert it to hard assignment $\alpha_{(n,k)}$.

e.g. $K=2$ soft $\gamma_{(n,1)} = 0.1$, $\gamma_{(n,2)} = 0.9$

=> hard $\alpha_{(n,1)} = 0$, $\alpha_{(n,2)} = 1$

Combine GMM and K-means:

=> modified k-means for clustering: faster than GMM

- **M-step (modified k-means):** update the parameters
for each cluster-k, we only use the data points in cluster-k to update the parameters of the cluster-k: μ_k, Σ_k, π_k (for $k=1$ to K)

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_{(n,k)} x_n$$

$$\Sigma_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_{(n,k)} (x_n - \mu_k)(x_n - \mu_k)^T$$

$$\pi_k = \frac{N_k}{N}, \text{ where } N_k = \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_{(n,k)}$$

$\alpha_{(n,k)} = 1$ if and only if x_n is assigned to the cluster-k

$\alpha_{(n,k)} = 0$ otherwise

The distance function of the modified k-means

- The distance function is

$$d_k(x_n, \mu_k) = \sqrt{(x_n - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_n - \mu_k)}$$

a.ka. Mahalanobis distance

