

# Mixture Models and EM

# If our data is unlabeled?

- If labeled data (training set) is given:
  - We can extract one class data.
  - We assume the parametric form of the distribution for the class of data. Eg: Gaussian.
  - We can employ maximum likelihood parameter estimation.
- This is what we saw in maximum likelihood parametric density estimation.

# Two classes: $a$ and $b$

- Observations  $x_1 \dots x_n$ 
  - $K=2$  Gaussians with unknown  $\mu, \sigma^2$
  - estimation trivial if we know the source of each observation

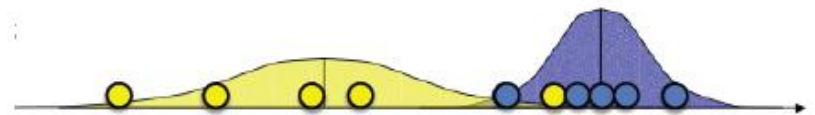


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$$\mu_b = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_{n_b}}{n_b}$$
$$\sigma_b^2 = \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2 + \dots + (x_n - \mu_n)^2}{n_b}$$



# If our data is unlabeled?

- If we know the probability distribution from which the data is drawn,
  - We can label the data ..
  - By employing the Bayes classifier

# If our data is unlabeled?

- Distributions are available.

That is,  $P(a), P(b), p(x_i|a)$  and  $p(x_i|b)$  are given.

Let  $p(x_i|a) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_a^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i - \mu_a)^2}{2\sigma_a^2}\right)$ , then

the posterior  $P(a|x_i) = \frac{p(x_i|a)P(a)}{p(x_i)}$ , and the posterior  $P(b|x_i)$  can be used in finding the class label for  $x_i$

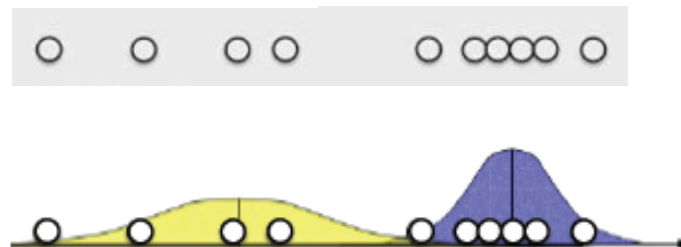
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-



- Labels are needed to get distributions
- Distributions are needed to get labels.
- Chicken and egg problem.



# How the nature solved this chicken and egg problem?

- Neither chicken, nor egg was first!
- Both evolved over time.
- Initially very hazy distinction between them, but as time progressed it became two clear distinct things.
- So, we too employ this, but we call this solution **the EM algorithm**.
- Later, we learn that K-means clustering algorithm is a grandson of this algorithm.

# Mixture models

- Recall types of clustering methods
  - hard clustering: clusters do not overlap
    - element either belongs to cluster or it does not
  - soft clustering: clusters may overlap
    - strength of association between clusters and instances
- Mixture models
  - probabilistically-grounded way of doing soft clustering
  - each source: a generative model (Gaussian or multinomial)
  - parameters (e.g. mean/covariance are unknown)
- Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm
  - automatically discover all parameters for the  $K$  “sources”

EM with Gaussian assumptions becomes GMM.

Further, GMM, with more assumptions can become K-means 😊

# **GAUSSIAN MIXTURE MODEL (GMM)**

# Expectation Maximization (EM)

- Chicken and egg problem
  - need  $(\mu_a, \sigma_a^2)$  and  $(\mu_b, \sigma_b^2)$  to guess source of points
  - need to know source to estimate  $(\mu_a, \sigma_a^2)$  and  $(\mu_b, \sigma_b^2)$

# Expectation Maximization (EM)

- Chicken and egg problem

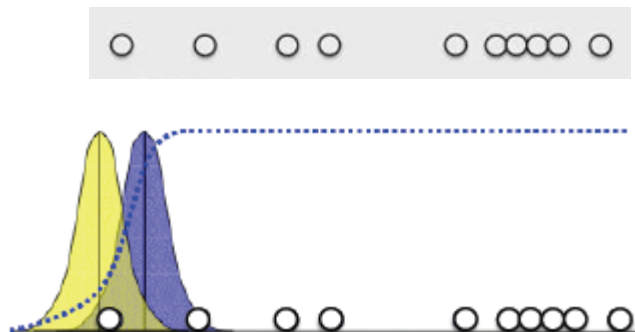
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- need to know source to estimate  $(\mu_a, \sigma_a^2)$  and  $(\mu_b, \sigma_b^2)$

- EM algorithm

- Start with two randomly placed Gaussians  $(\mu_a, \sigma_a^2), (\mu_b, \sigma_b^2)$ .
- While (not converged) do
  - **E-step**: Find  $P(a|x_i), P(b|x_i)$  for each data element. This gives label for  $x_i$ . **Fishy**: This label is a random variable !
  - **M-step**: Adjust  $(\mu_a, \sigma_a^2)$  and  $(\mu_b, \sigma_b^2)$  to fit points assigned to them.

# EM: 1-d example

Source parameters are randomly fixed to begin with.



$$p(x_i|a) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_a^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i - \mu_a)^2}{2\sigma_a^2}\right)$$

$$a_i = P(a|x_i) = \frac{p(x_i|a)P(a)}{p(x_i)}$$

$$b_i = 1 - a_i$$

$(a_i, b_i)$  is the label for  $x_i$



# EM: 1-d example



$$\mu_a = \frac{a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots + a_n x_n}{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}$$

$$\sigma_a^2 = \frac{a_1 (x_1 - \mu_a)^2 + \dots + a_n (x_n - \mu_a)^2}{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}$$

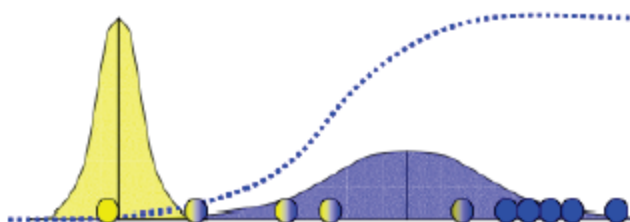
$(a_i, b_i)$  is the label for  $x_i$

Prior  $P(a)$  can be estimated from  $\frac{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n}{n}$

So,  $P(b) = \frac{b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_n}{n}$

$$\mu_b = \frac{b_1 x_1 + b_2 x_2 + \dots + b_n x_n}{b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_n}$$

$$\sigma_b^2 = \frac{b_1 (x_1 - \mu_b)^2 + \dots + b_n (x_n - \mu_b)^2}{b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_n}$$

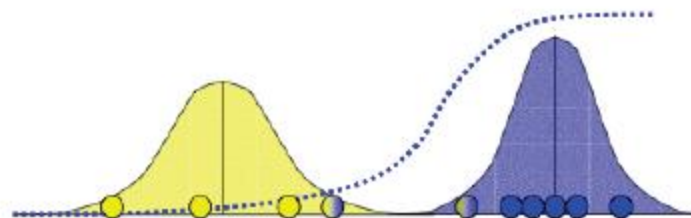


Now we are with a new estimation of the source.  
A better estimate. Repeat till convergence.



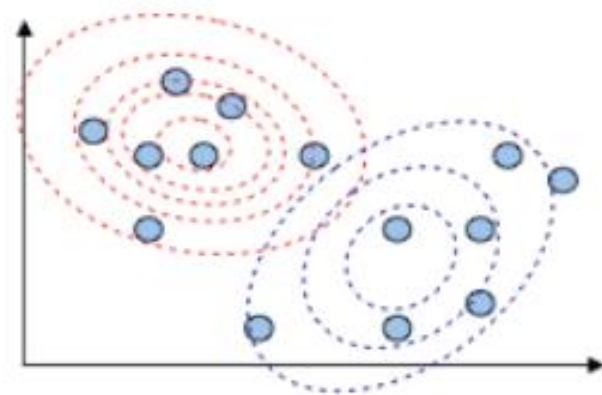
## EM: 1-d example

after convergence, the output:



# Extension to $d > 1$ , $c > 2$

- Assume  $c$  component mixture ( $c$  classes).
- Start with randomly chosen means (randomly choose  $k$  distinct data elements).
- Similarly randomly chosen covariance matrix for each class. Usually we begin with identity matrix.



E-step: Find label for each  $x_i$ . Let this be the random variable given by  $(P_{1i}, P_{2i}, \dots, P_{ci})$ . This is done for each  $x_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

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M-step: Let  $\mu^{(1)}$  be the mean of class 1. Then,  $\mu^{(1)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_{1i} x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n P_{1i}}$ . Similarly mean vector for other classes,  $\mu^{(2)}, \dots, \mu^{(c)}$  can be found.

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Covariance Matrix for class 1,  $\Sigma^{(1)} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P_{1i} (x_i - \mu^{(1)}) (x_i - \mu^{(1)})^t}{\sum_{i=1}^n P_{1i}}$ . Similarly covariance matrix for other classes,  $\Sigma^{(2)}, \dots, \Sigma^{(c)}$  can be found.

- We stop EM algorithm here.
- In exams, I can ask some numeric problem for 1D two class case. {Do not worry about multidimensional problem (as of now)}.
- Theoretically, the iterative process can get stuck in a local maximum.

# K-means is an approximation of GMM

- Initially pick  $k$  distinct random seed points (in GMM: the set of initial mean vectors)
- We assume that

$$\Sigma^{(1)} = \Sigma^{(2)} = \dots = \Sigma^{(c)} = I$$

- The Bayes classifier becomes “the minimum distance classifier”.
- Let the label be deterministic (not a random variable). Choose the nearest’s mean’s label (this is what the minimum distance classifier will do).
- GMM becomes k-means clustering algorithm.

GMM: Grandfather



K-Means: Grandson