

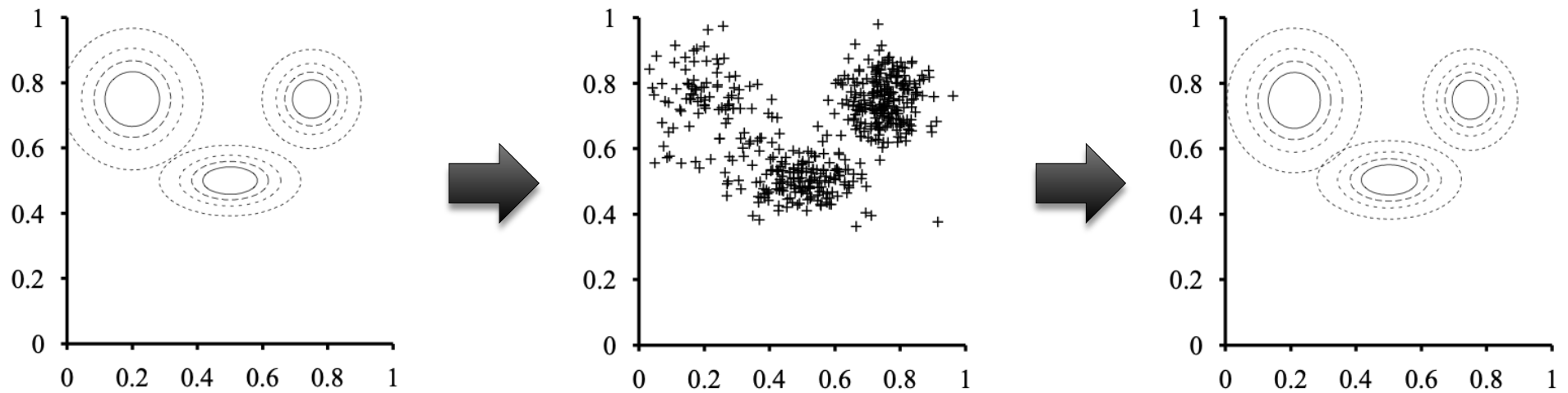
Data Mining & Machine Learning

CS37300

Purdue University

Nov 6, 2023

GMM Parameter Estimation

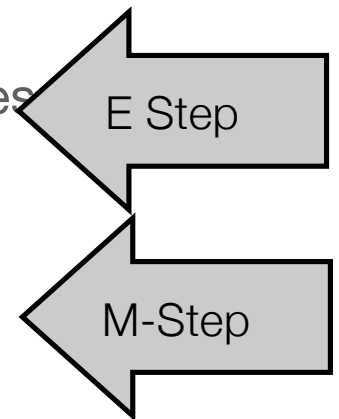


Learning the model from data

- We want to invert the generative process
- Given the dataset, find the parameters
 - Mixing coefficients $p(k)$
 - Component means and covariance matrix $N_k(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$
- If we knew which component generated each point then the MLE solution would involve fitting each component distribution to the appropriate cluster points
- Problem: the cluster memberships are **hidden**

Expectation-maximization (EM) algorithm

- Popular algorithm for parameter estimation in data with hidden/unobserved values
 - Hidden variables=cluster memberships
- Basic idea
 - Initialize hidden variables and parameters
 - “Expectation” step: Estimate distributions of hidden variables given current estimates of the parameters
 - “Maximization” step: Update parameters by maximizing the expected log-likelihood (expectation under the estimated distributions of the hidden variables)
 - Repeat



Details: How to learn GMMs?

Score function for GMM

- **Log likelihood** takes the following form (for model $M=\{w,\mu,\Sigma\}$):

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(D|w, \mu, \Sigma) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log p(x_n|M) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left[\sum_{k=1}^K p(x_n|k, M) P(k|M) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left[\sum_{k=1}^K w_k N(x_n|\mu_k, \Sigma_k) \right]\end{aligned}$$

- Note the sum over components is inside the log
- There is no closed form solution for the MLE

Hidden cluster membership variables

- Consider k cluster indicator variables for example x_n : $\mathbf{z}_n = [z_{n1}, \dots, z_{nk}]$ which equals 1 for the cluster that x_n is a member of, and 0 otherwise
- If we knew the values of the hidden cluster membership variables (z) we could easily maximize the complete data log-likelihood, which has a closed form solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(D, \mathbf{z} | w, \mu, \Sigma) &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left[\sum_{k=1}^K z_{nk} \cdot w_k N(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log \left[w_{k'} N(x_n | \mu_{k'}, \Sigma_{k'}) \right] \quad \text{where } z_{nk'} \neq 0 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \log w_{k'} + \log N(x_n | \mu_{k'}, \Sigma_{k'}) \quad \text{where } z_{nk'} \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Unfortunately we don't know the values for the hidden variables!
- But, for given set of parameters we can compute the **expected values** of the hidden variables (cluster memberships)

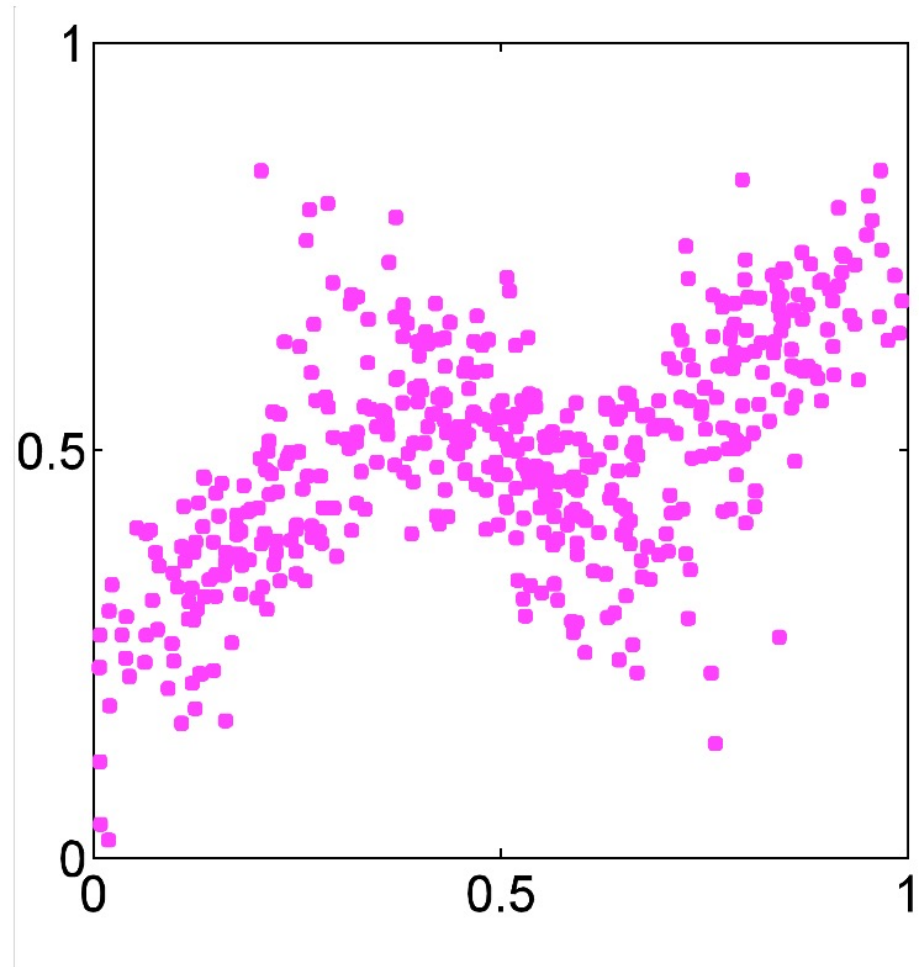
Posterior probabilities of cluster membership

- We can think of the mixing coefficients as **prior** probabilities for cluster membership
- Then for a given example x_n , we can evaluate the corresponding **posterior** probabilities of **cluster membership** with Bayes theorem:

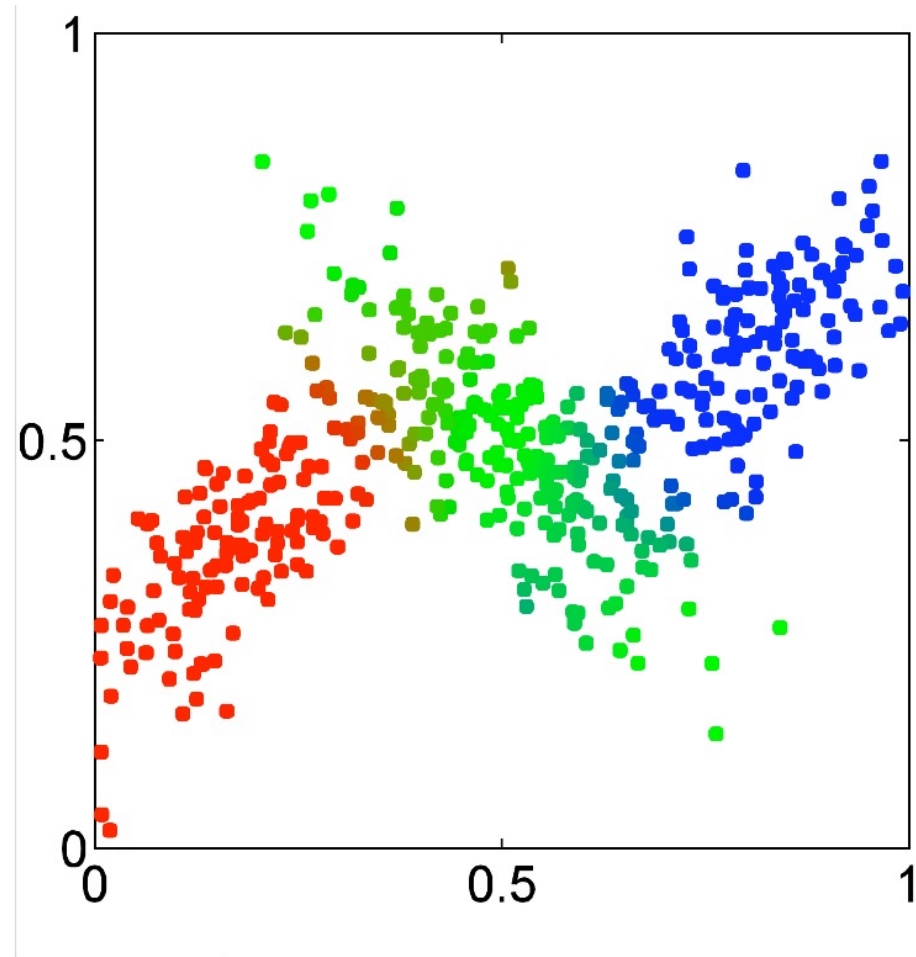
$$p(z_{nk} = 1 | x_n) = \frac{p(x_n | z_{nk} = 1)p(z_{nk} = 1)}{p(x_n)}$$
$$= \frac{w_k N(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K w_j N(x_n | \mu_j, \Sigma_j)}$$

**cluster
membership
for x**

Unlabeled dataset

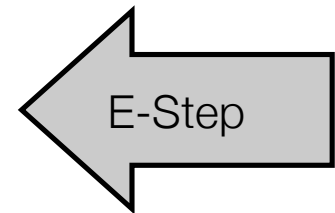


Posterior probabilities of cluster membership



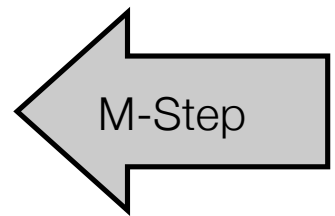
EM for GMM

- Suppose we have a current estimate of all parameter values μ_k, Σ_k
- Use these to estimate probabilities of cluster memberships. Write $\gamma_i(x_n) = p(z_{ni} = 1)$
- Now compute the **expected** log-likelihood using estimated probabilities of cluster memberships.



$$\mathbb{E}_z \log p(x, z | \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_i(x_n) [\log w_k + \log N(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)]$$

- Maximize the expected log-likelihood over all μ_k, Σ_k to update parameters
- Repeat



M Step Details

- Now compute the **expected** log-likelihood using estimated probabilities of cluster memberships

$$\mathbb{E}_z \log p(x, z | \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_i(x_n) [\log w_k + \log N(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)]$$

- Maximize the expected log-likelihood over all μ_k, Σ_k to update parameters

$$w_k \leftarrow \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_k(x_i)$$

$$\mu_k \leftarrow ?$$

M Step Details

- Now compute the **expected** log-likelihood using estimated probabilities of cluster memberships

$$\mathbb{E}_z \log p(x, z | \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_k(x_n) [\log w_k + \log N(x_n | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)]$$

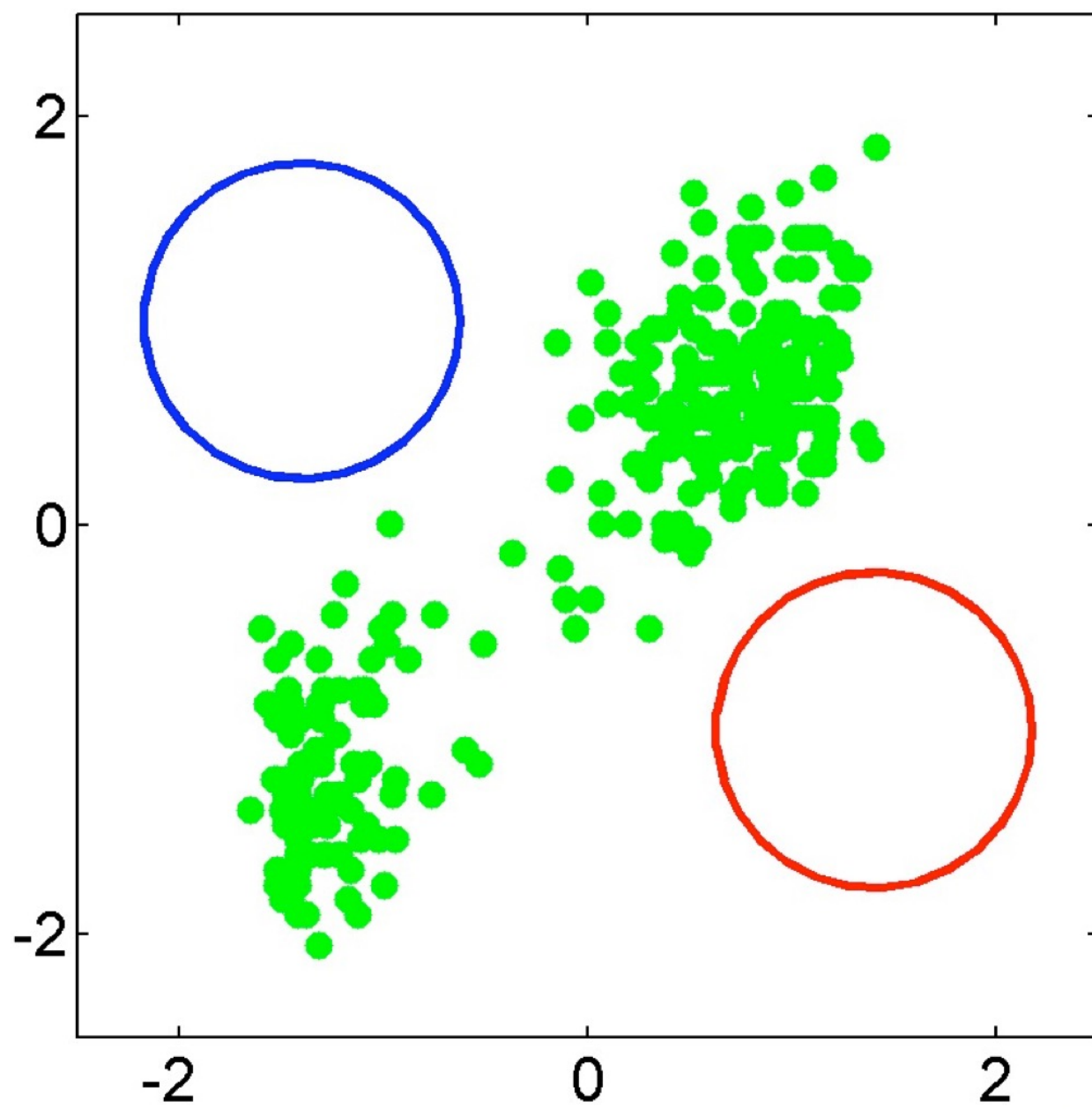
- Maximize the expected log-likelihood over all μ_k, Σ_k to update parameters

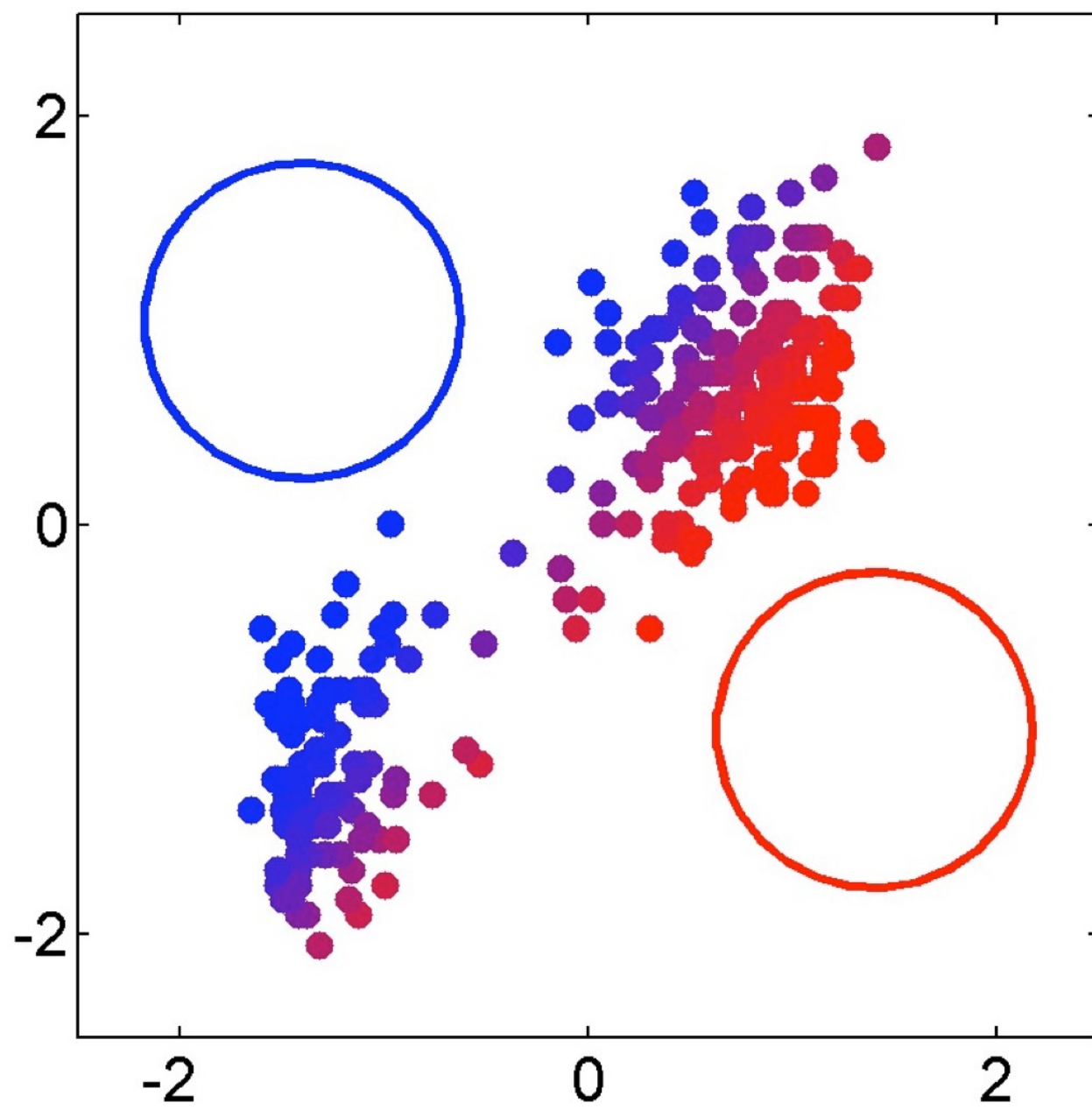
$$w_k \leftarrow \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_k(x_i)$$

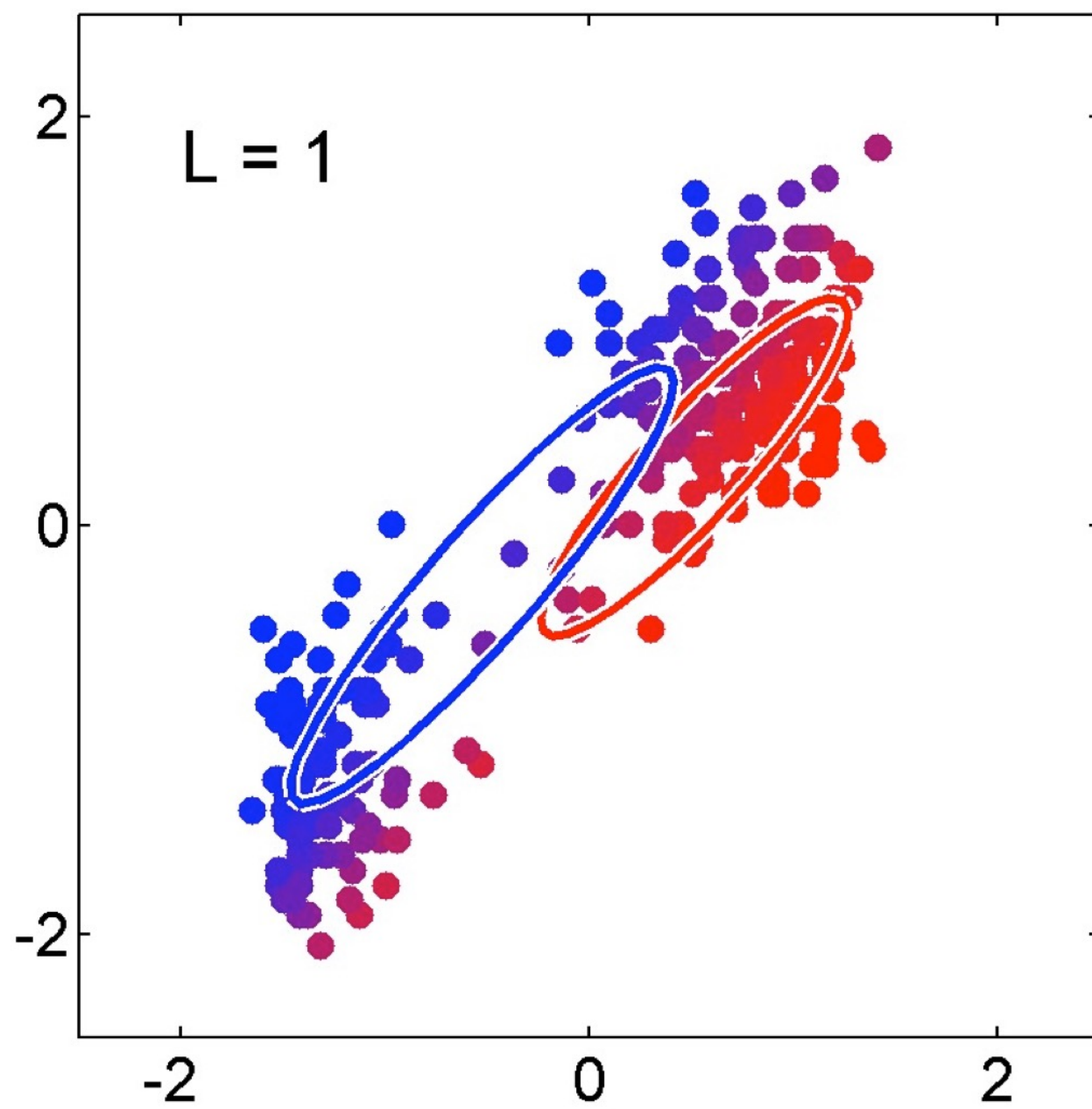
$$\mu_k \leftarrow \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_k(x_i) x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_k(x_i)}$$

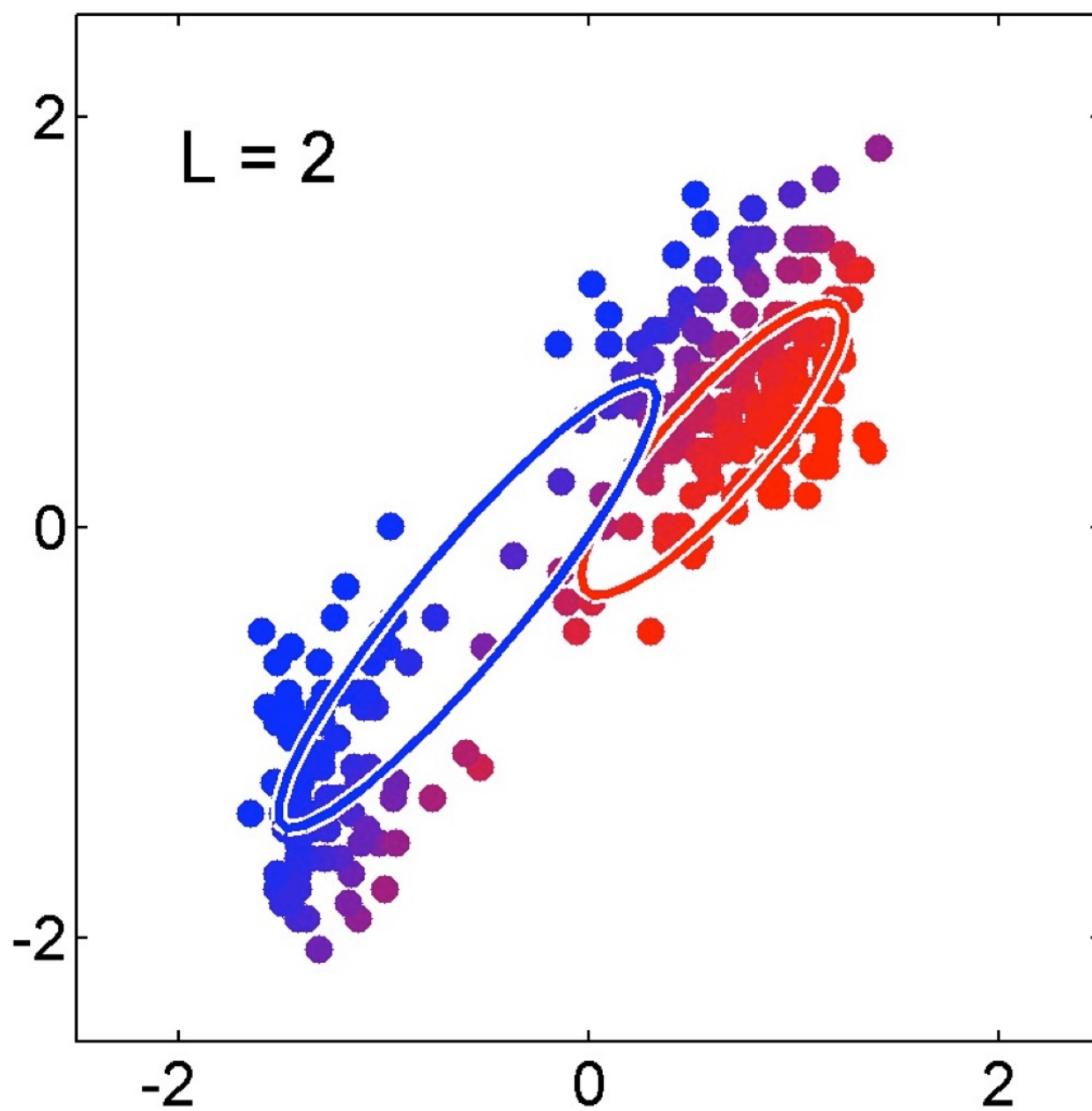
$$\Sigma_k \leftarrow \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_k(x_i) (x_i - \mu_k)(x_i - \mu_k)^\top}{\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_k(x_i)}$$

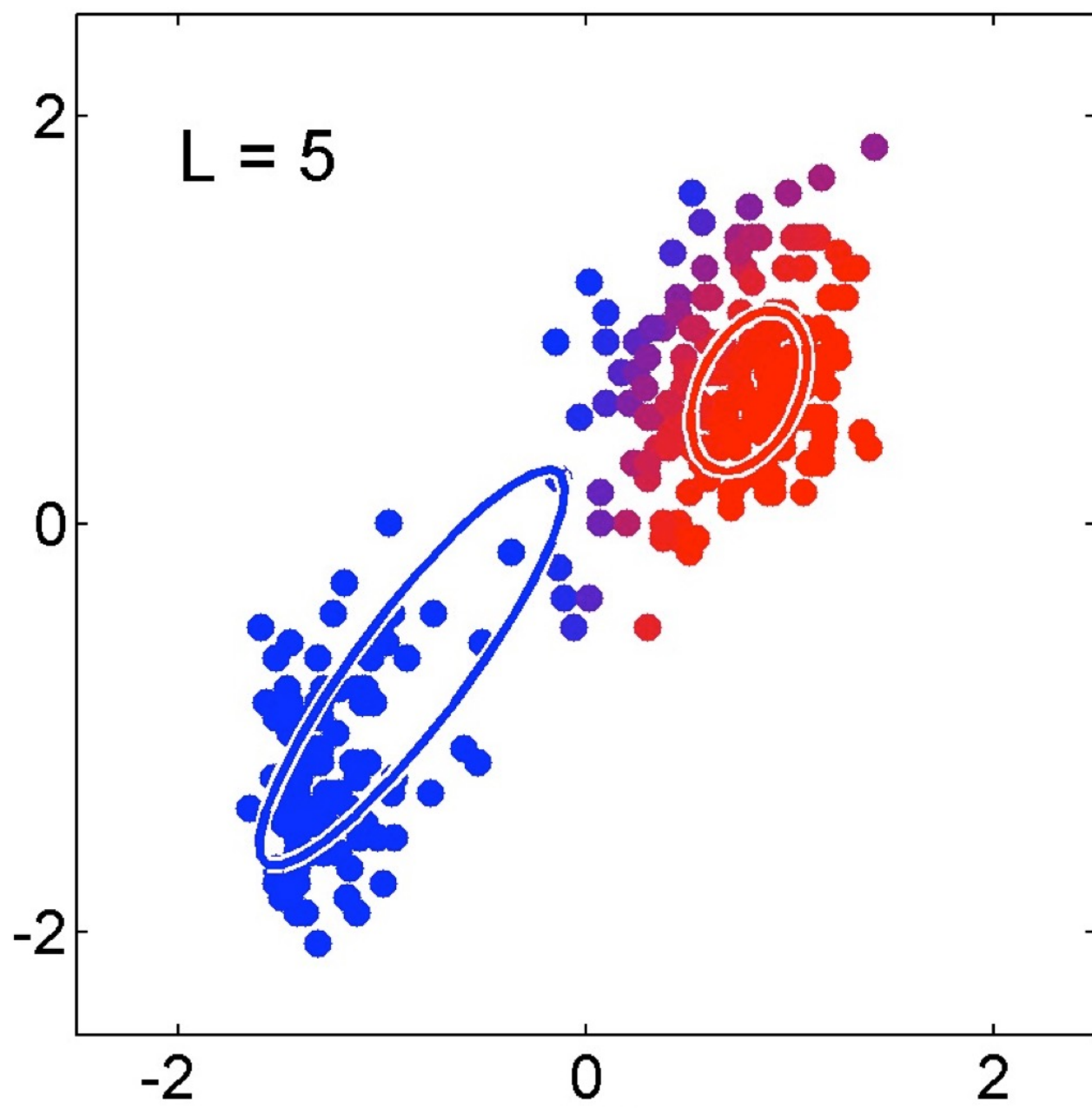
GMM example

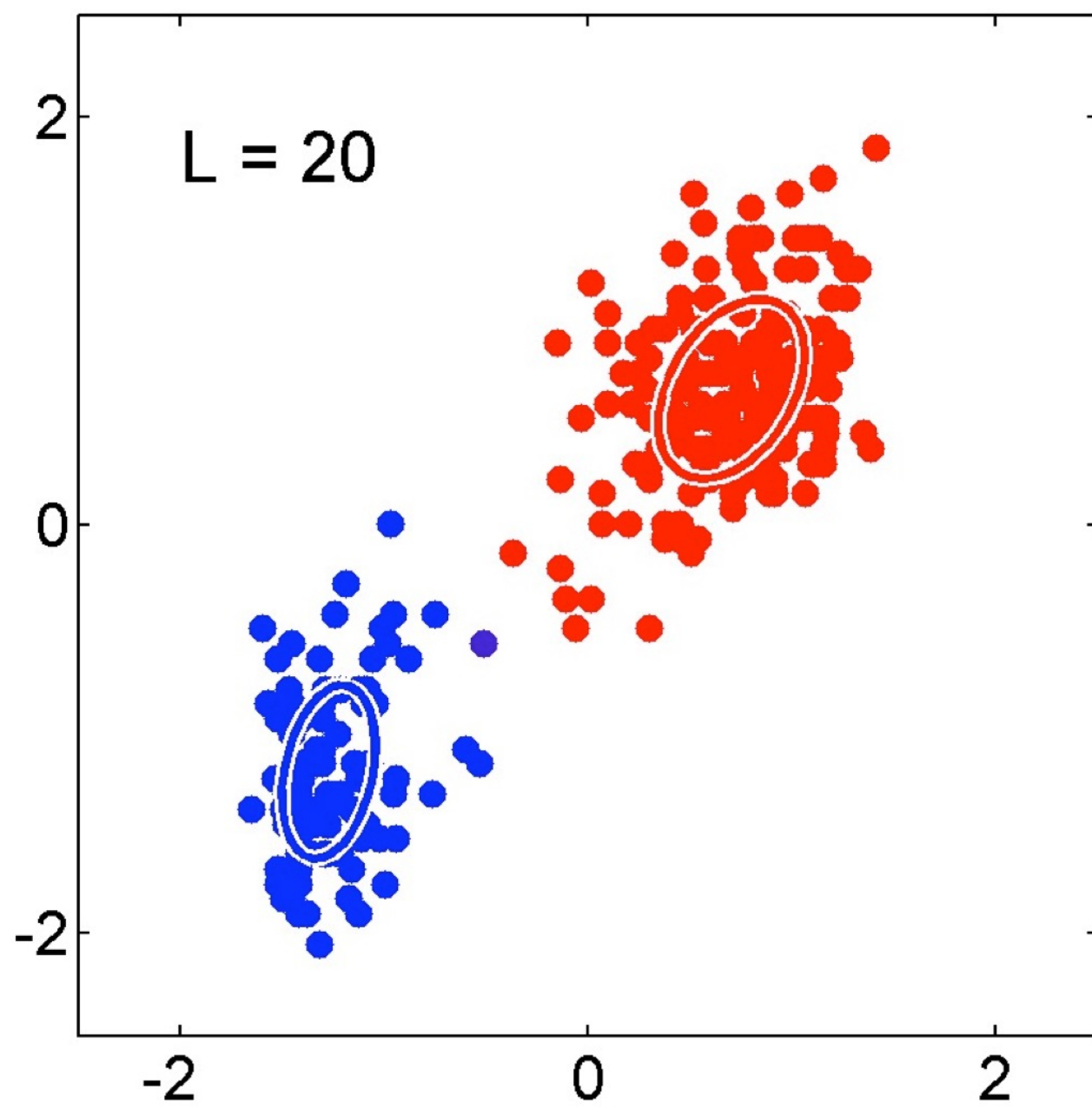












More on EM (for general mixture models)

- Often both the E and the M step can be solved in closed form
- Neither the E step nor the M step can decrease the log-likelihood
- Algorithm is guaranteed to converge to a local maximum of the likelihood
- Must specify initialization and stopping criteria

Probabilistic clustering

- Model provides full distributional description for each component
 - May be able to interpret differences in the distributions
- Soft clustering (compared to k-mean hard clustering)
 - Given the model, each point has a k-component vector of membership probabilities
- Key cost: assumption of parametric model

Mixture models

- Knowledge representation?
 - **Parametric model**
parameters = mixture coefficient and component parameters
- Score function?
 - **Likelihood**
- Search?
 - **Expectation maximization**
iteratively find parameters that maximize likelihood and predicts cluster memberships
- Optimal?
 - Converges to a local max

Connection to K-Means

- If we restrict to $\Sigma_k = \text{Identity matrix}$, and $w_k = 1/K$
- Then only one difference between K-Means and EM for Gaussian Mixtures:
 - EM uses probabilistic cluster assignments
 - K-Means just sets $\gamma_k(x_i)=1$ for the k that EM would give highest $\gamma_k(x_i)$
- So EM is like a “soft” clustering variant of K-Means
- Plus it uses covariances to help cluster
 - E.g., K-Means can't handle this scenario, but EM gets it right

