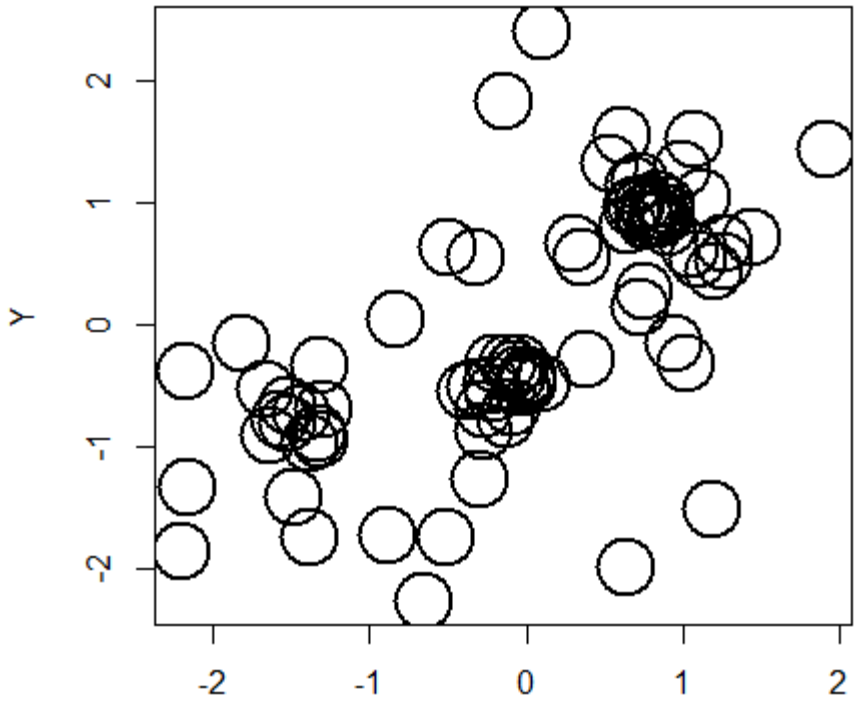
Introduction to K-means Clustering

K-means clustering: Algorithm

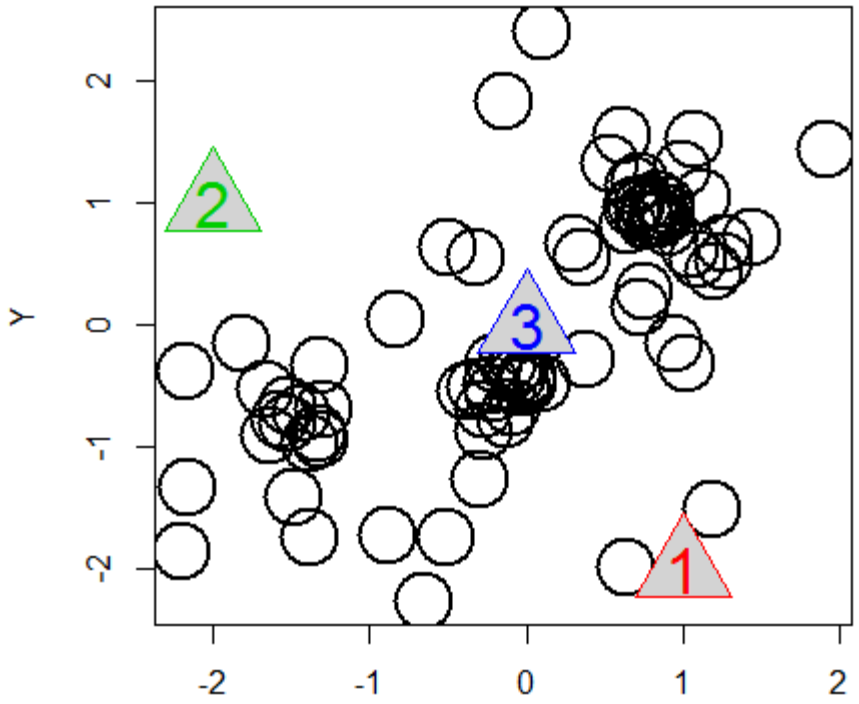
- Pre-requisites
  1. Get points in multi-dimensional space.
     - table, matrix, rectangular dataset
  2. Specify the number of clusters
     - Weakest point in algorithm (makes algorithm non-deterministic)
  3. Get a random center for each cluster
     - Another weak point in the algorithm
- Repeat until convergence:
  1. For each point, determine its closest cluster center and assign that point to that cluster
  2. Determine the centroid (mean) for each cluster of points

K-Means Clustering (0)



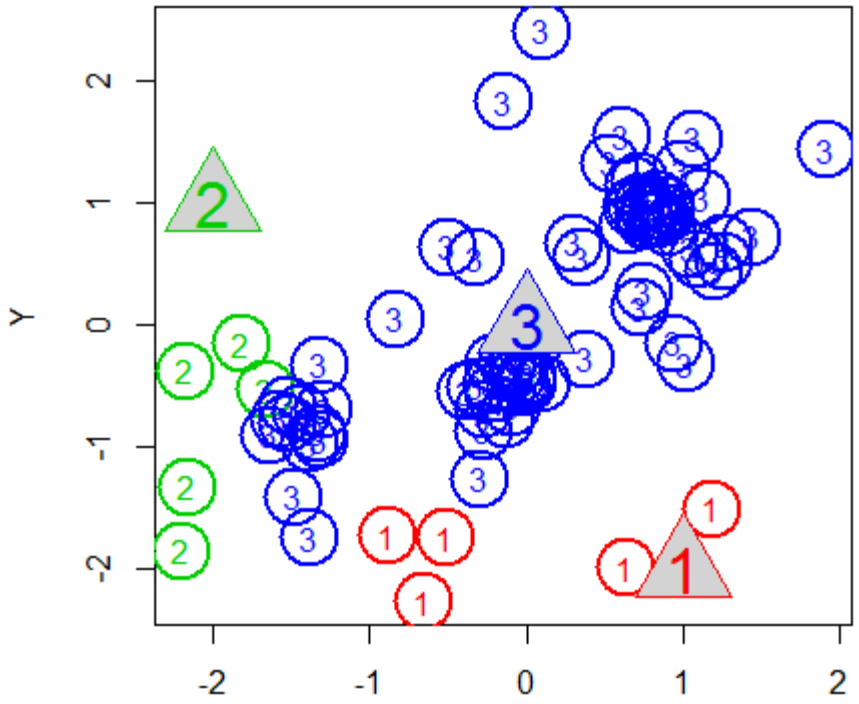
- Clustering starts by getting the data and representing the data as points in space. In this example the space is 2-dimensional.
- Each point describes an observation. An observation is an individual item.
- The dimensions are attributes that describe the item.

K-Means Clustering (1)



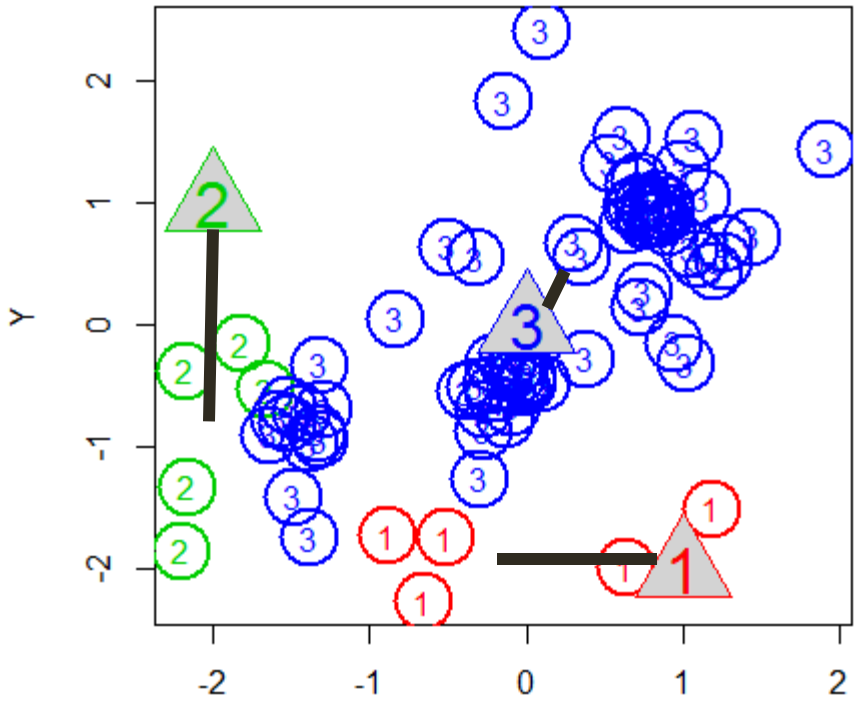
- Clustering continues by guessing, presuming, or specifying a number of clusters.
- Each centroid represents a cluster.
- The centroid positions are determined randomly. The centroids should be within the bounds of the points.

K-Means Clustering (2)



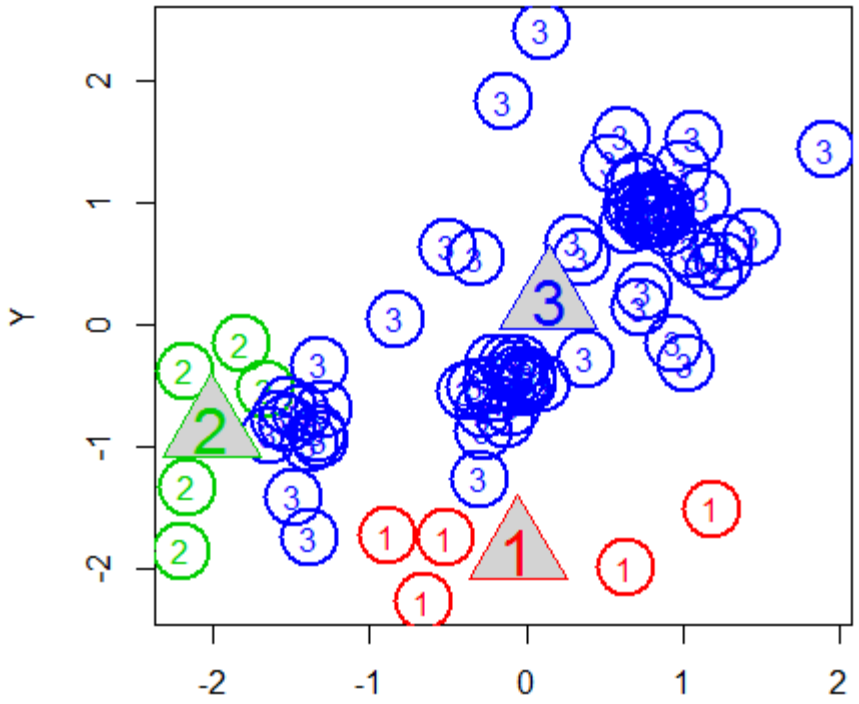
- Clustering continues by assigning each point to a cluster.
- For each point, the algorithm measures the distance to each centroid.
- For each point, the smallest distance to a centroid indicates the assignment.

K-Means Clustering (2)



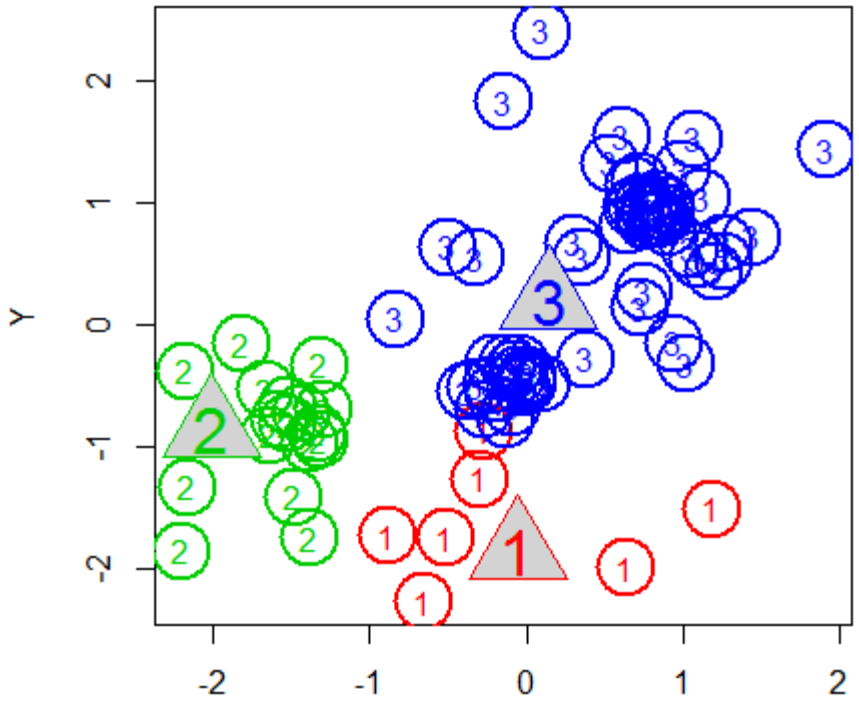
- Clustering continues by moving each centroid to the center of its cluster.

K-Means Clustering (3)



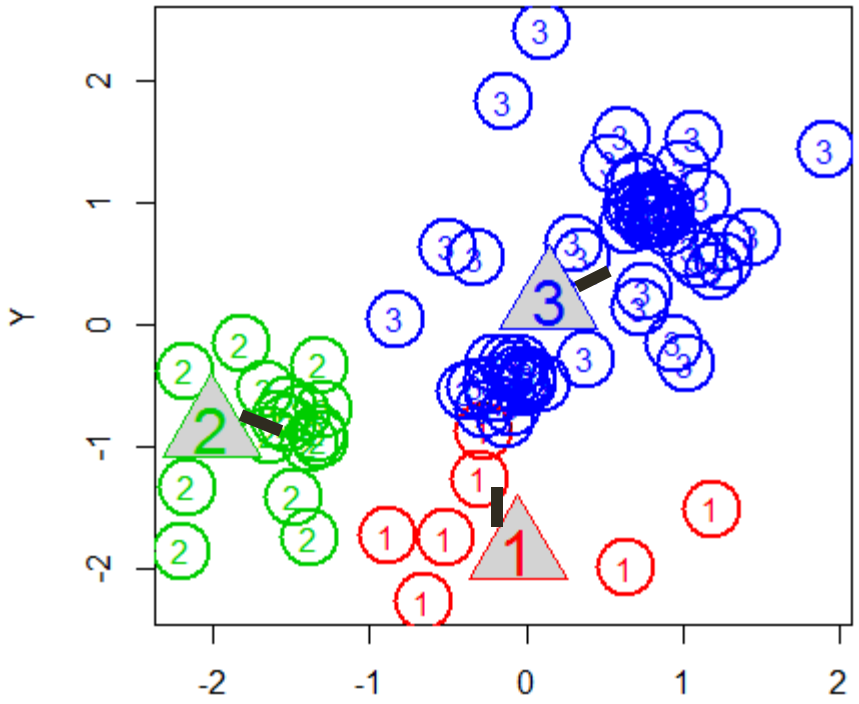
- Clustering continues by moving each centroid to the center of its cluster.

K-Means Clustering (4)



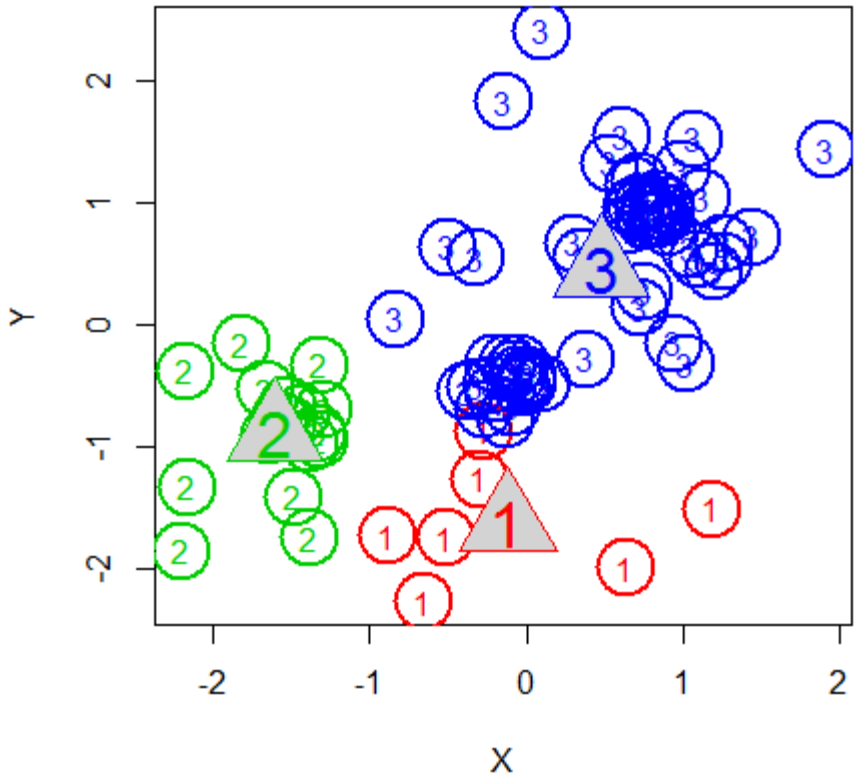
- Clustering continues by assigning each point to a cluster.
- For each point, the algorithm measures the distance to each centroid.
- For each point, the smallest distance to a centroid indicates the assignment.

K-Means Clustering (4)

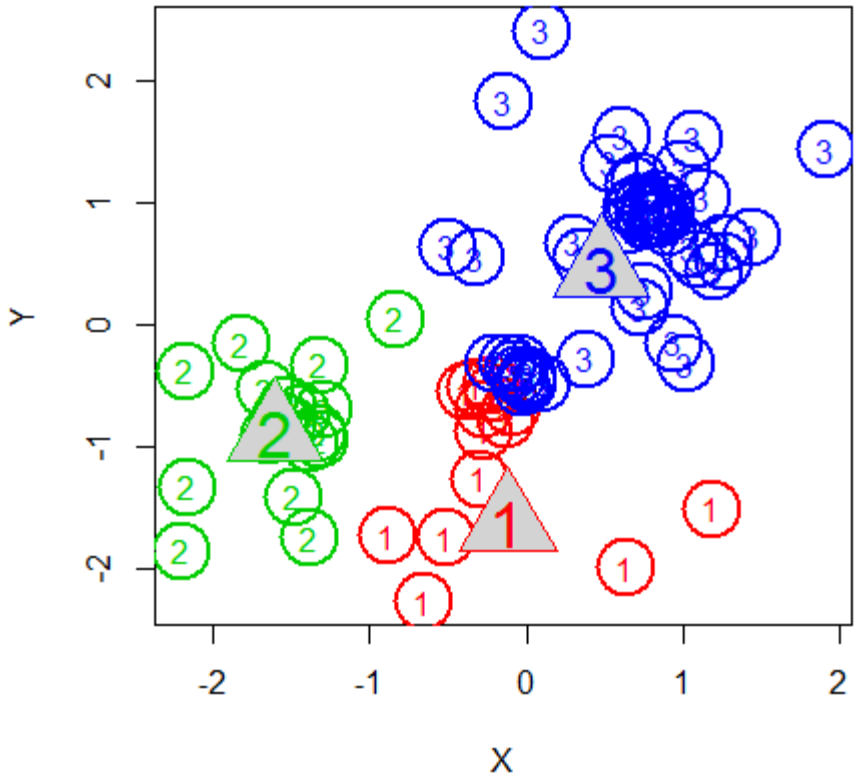


- Clustering continues by assigning each point to a cluster.
- For each point, the algorithm measures the distance to each centroid.
- For each point, the smallest distance to a centroid indicates the assignment.

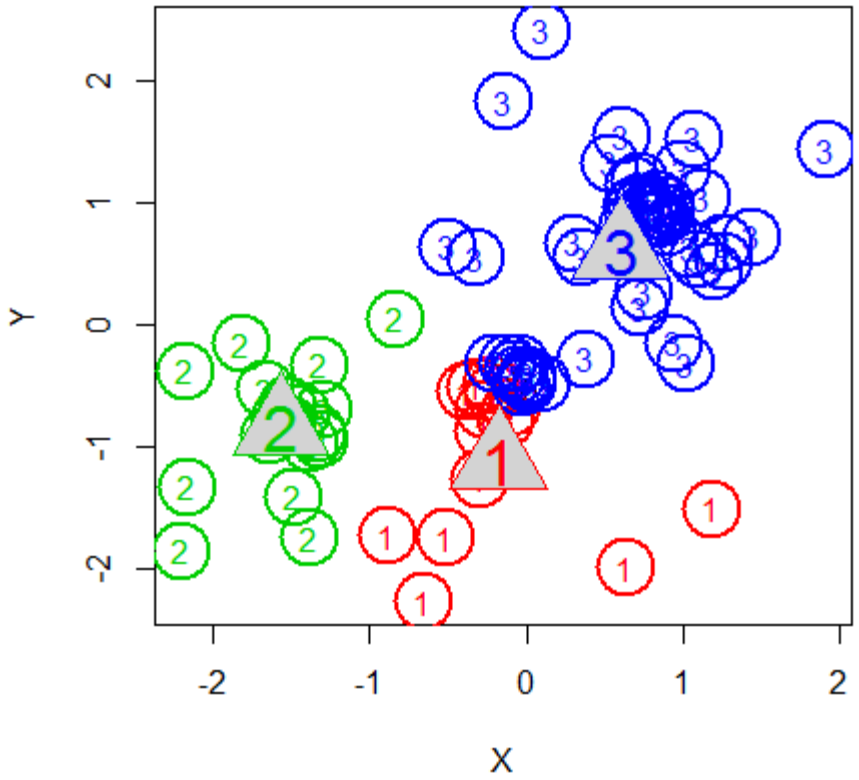
K-Means Clustering (5)



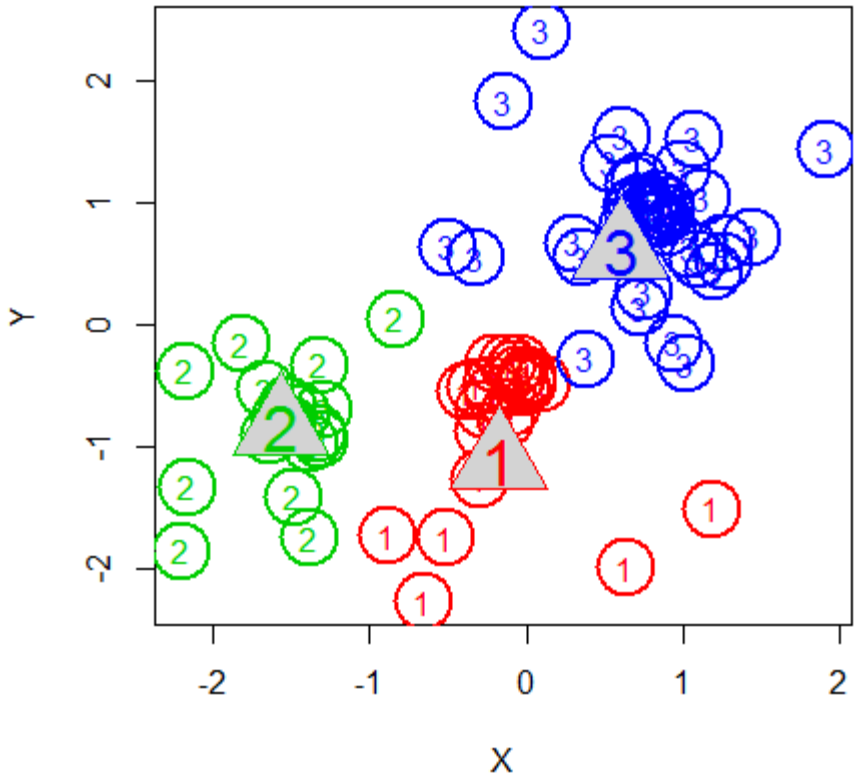
K-Means Clustering (6)



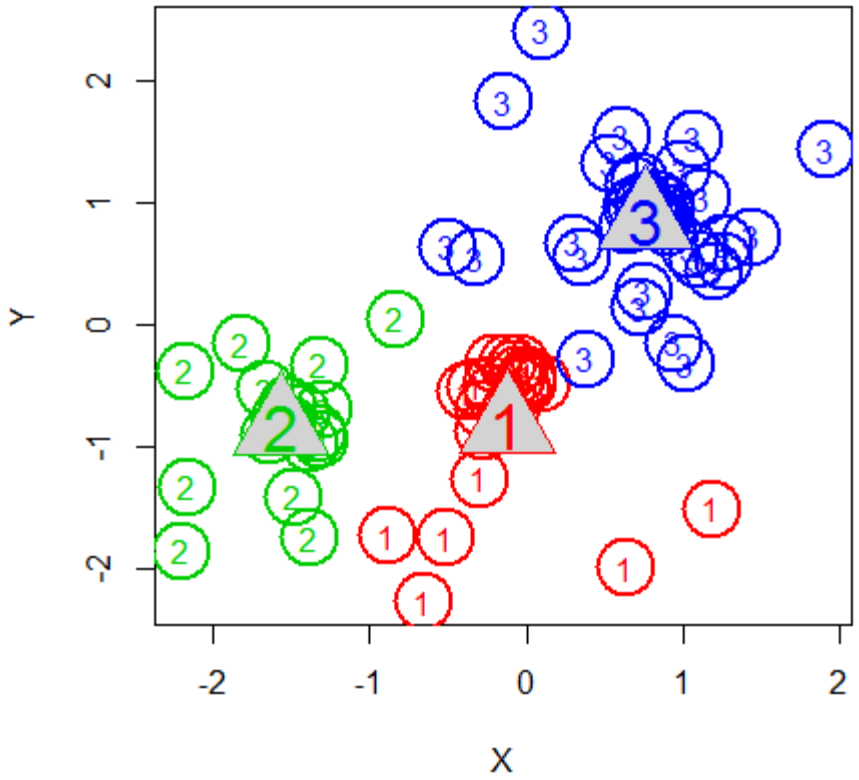
K-Means Clustering (7)



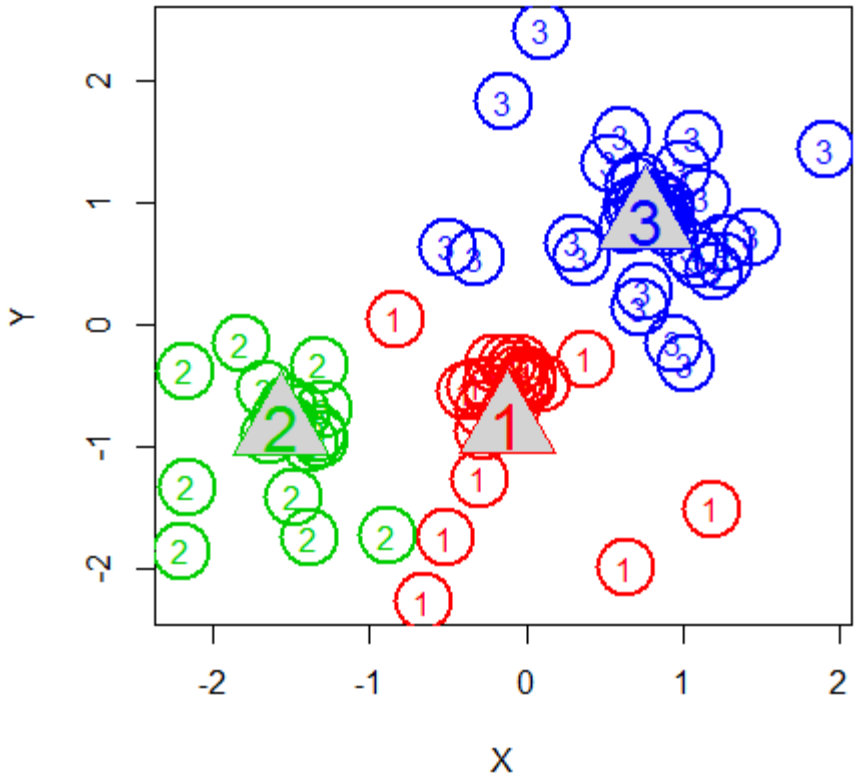
K-Means Clustering (8)



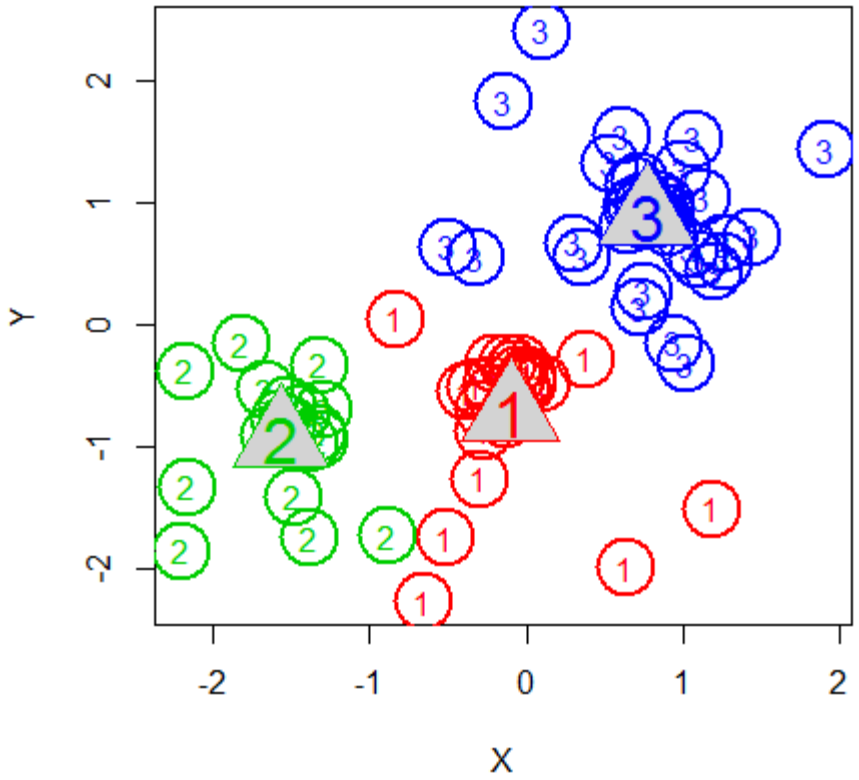
K-Means Clustering (9)



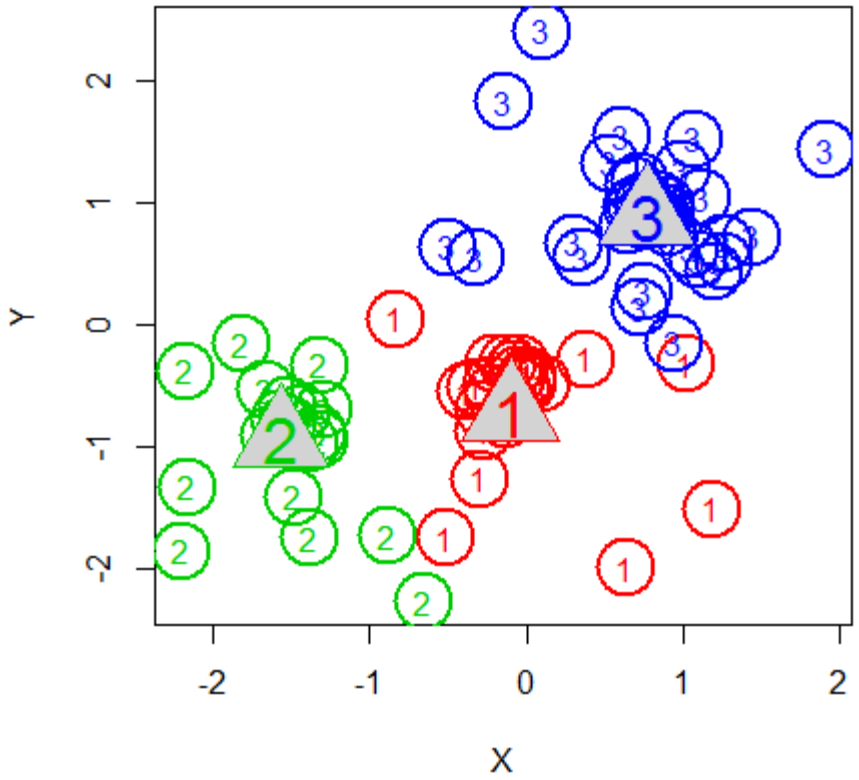
K-Means Clustering (10)



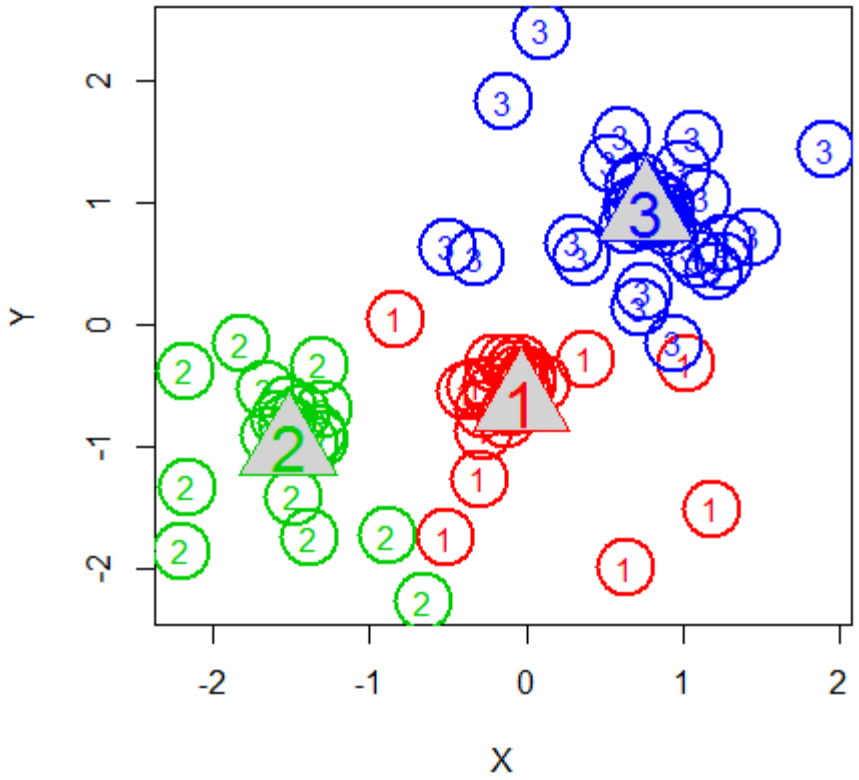
K-Means Clustering (11)



K-Means Clustering (12)



K-Means Clustering (13)



K-means Demo

- KMeansDemo

K-means

- Lessons learned:
  - Normalizations are important to put data on equal terms
  - Initial centroid number and placement is an art.
  - Categorical Data must be binarized
  - K-means is unsupervised because we do not tell the algorithm what outcome was observed or what outcome is desired.

Introduction to K-means Clustering