

Figure 1: Density estimation for a mixture of Gaussians (2, 1, 30 components)

1 Summary of 4.1 Gaussian mixture models

- The first example generates random data with a mixture of gaussians at two different points. It's pretty simple, and most of my confusion comes from numpy and array shaping / concatenating things. See Figure 1 for examples with a few different number of components for model.
- Next, I followed the Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM), using the Expectation-Minimization (EM) method on the iris data set (using all 4 dimensions, showing only two of those dimensions. I was confused by the method at first, because it seemed supervised, and then I realized it is partially supervised. The code for testing the four different covariance constraints, along with making the ellipses is quite complicated. I learned a lot, but still wouldn't be comfortable writing that from scratch. Maybe I'll never have to, because there are so many examples to work from. See Figure 2a for replication of the tutorial.
- For fun, I attempted to use the DPGMM model on the iris dataset. This sort of proved the above point, that it's very easy to adapt the example code. Although, for many different alpha choices, nothing could come close. This is either because I'm using DPGMM incorrectly, or, I think more likely, because unsupervised DPGMM will never work on the iris data set. See Figure 2b for the plot of failed attempt.
- For almost all of the work up to now, I've been typing the python code in by hand, as it really helps with learning. For now, though, I cut and pasted to do the GMM selection based on BIC (Bayesian Information Criterion) example. There really isn't too much new stuff, except a whole lot of plotting. It's still just using a bunch of GMM models and then extracting the BIC score from the model. I then switched from BIC to AIC (file plot_gmm_selection2.py), and I cannot graphically discern any difference (bummer). See Figure 3a for BIC example. I decreased the number of data points to 15 (from 600), got rid of the random number seed, and then sometimes I got other models to win. See Figure 3b

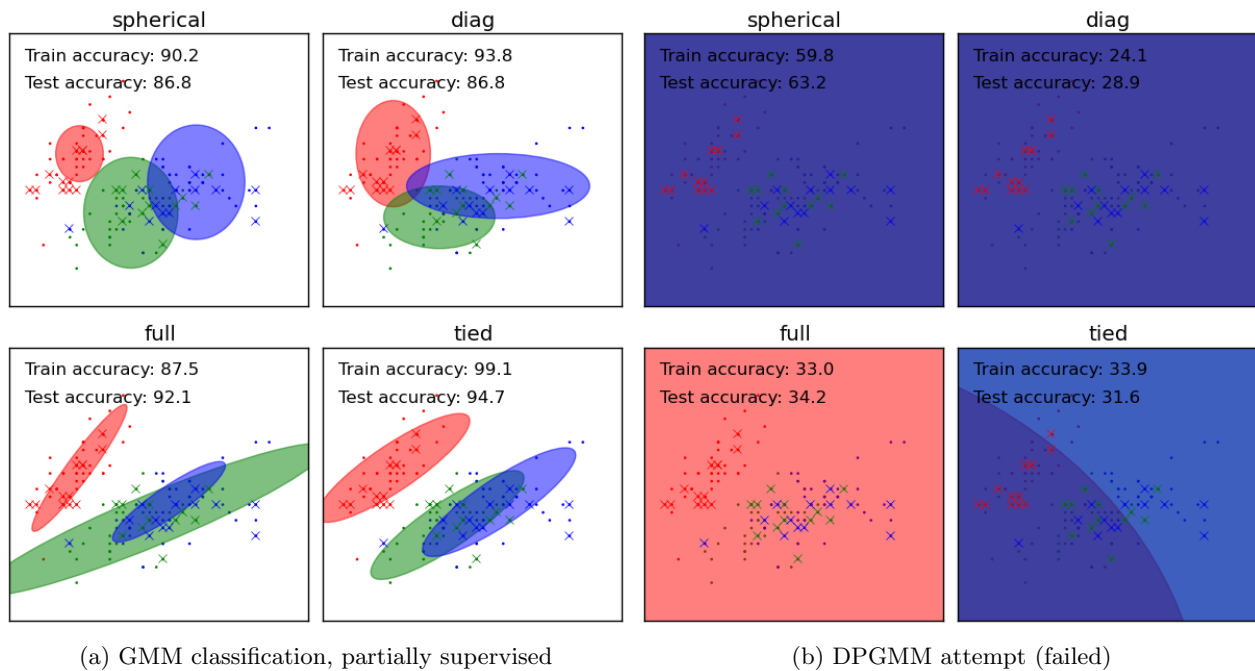


Figure 2: Partially-supervised GMM of iris test data and failed attempt at using Dirichlet Process (DP) GMM on the iris data. This may make sense, since iris data are so overlapped?

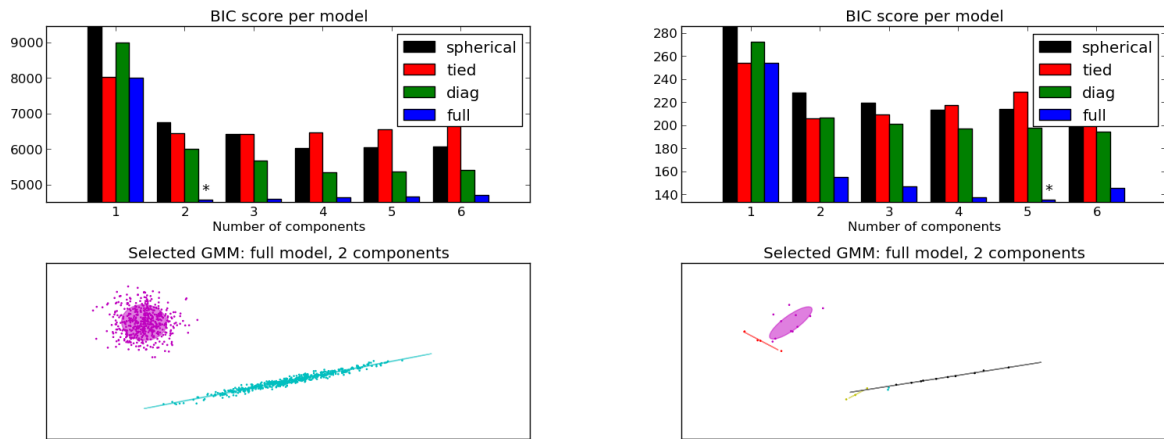


Figure 3: Selecting number of components for GMM with BIC or AIC. Data are randomly generated from two Gaussian distributions.