

# Clustering Methods

So far... Supervised Learning

$x_1, x_2 \dots x_n$  inputs

$y_1, y_2 \dots y_n$  outputs.

New input  $x$ : Predict  $y$ .

Today: Unsupervised Learning.

$x_1, x_2 \dots x_n$  inputs

No Outputs.

Goal: identify relevant subgroups,  
called clusters.

Example: images car / planes. No Labels

identify: Cluster 1: car

Cluster 2: planes

## ① k-means

$$X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$$

Goal of k-means:

Find a set of  $k$  representatives,  
called centroids.

$k=3$

- centroids
- observations

Create the clusters  
by grouping points  
the closest to the same  
centroid.



*ans* How should the centroids be defined?

- $k=1$ :  $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$

The best way to summarize  $\mathcal{X}$  using one point:

→ Choose  $y^* = \frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n}$  the mean.

Actually,  $y^*$  is the minimizer of

$$F: y \in \mathbb{R}^d \mapsto \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i - y\|^2}_{\text{the mean}}$$

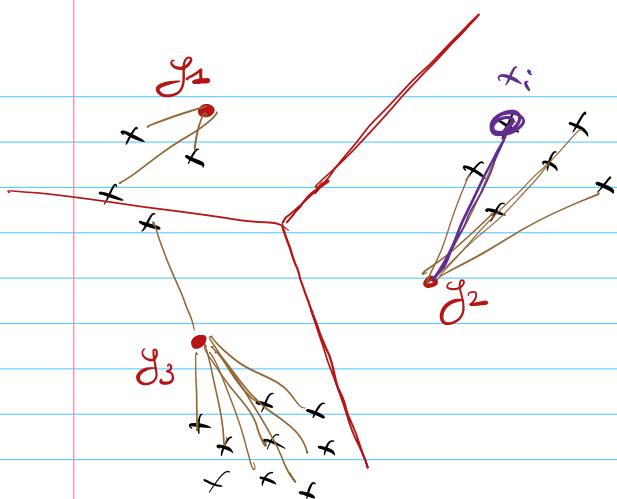
*proof*:  $\nabla F(y) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n 2(y - x_i)$

$y$  such that  $\nabla F(y) = 0 = 2 \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right)$

*ans*  $y = y^* = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ .

*ans* For  $k > 1$ : Generalization

$$F_{k, \mathcal{X}}: (y_1, \dots, y_k) \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^n \mapsto \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \min_{l=1 \dots k} \|y_l - x_i\|^2$$

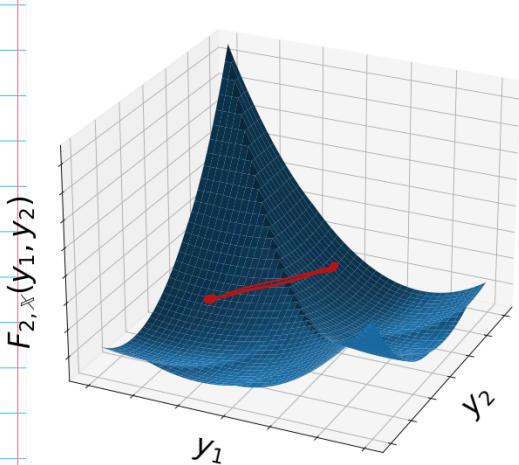


Choose  $(y_1, y_2, y_3)$

to minimize

$$\sum (-)^2$$

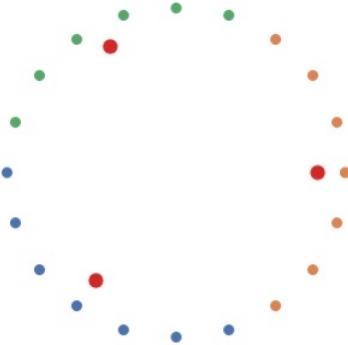
$\Rightarrow$  The  $k$ -means of  $x$  is the minimizer  $(y_1^+, \dots, y_k^+)$  of  $F_{k,x}$ .  
 ↳ also called centroids



The function  $F_{k,x}$

is Not convex.  
 $(k \geq 2)$

$$k=2 \quad d=1$$



Several k-means  
may exist.

How to compute the k-means?

### Lloyd's ALGORITHM

Initialization: centroids  $y_1^0, \dots, y_k^0$

For  $t=0 \dots T-1$ :

$\forall l=1 \dots k:$

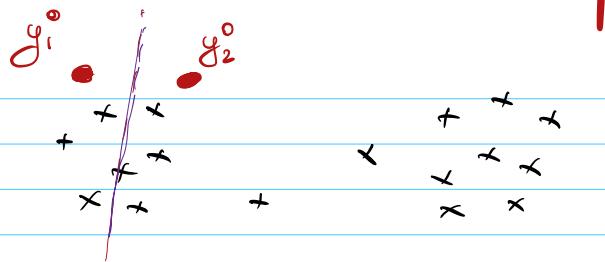
cluster  $l$  at  
time  $t$

$$I_l^t = \{i : y_l^t \text{ is the closest to } x_i\}$$

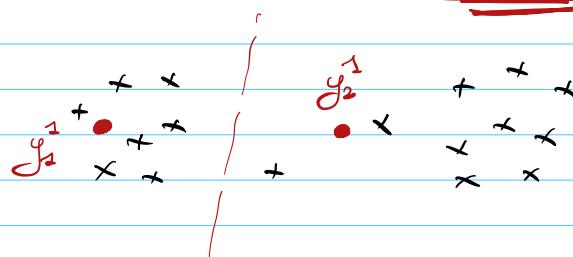
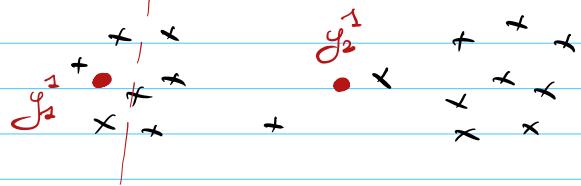
size  $n_l^t$

$$y_l^{t+1} = \frac{1}{n_l^t} \sum_{i \in I_l^t} x_i$$

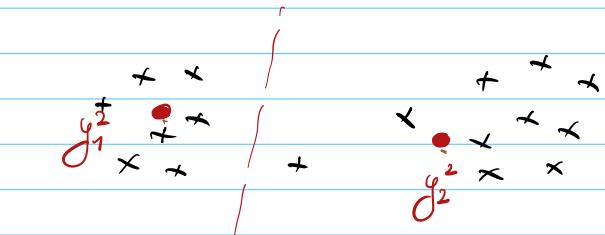
Output:  $y_1^T \dots y_k^T$ .  $\leftarrow$  final centroids



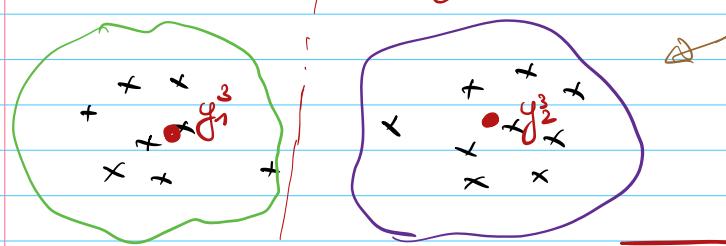
Step 1



Step 2



END

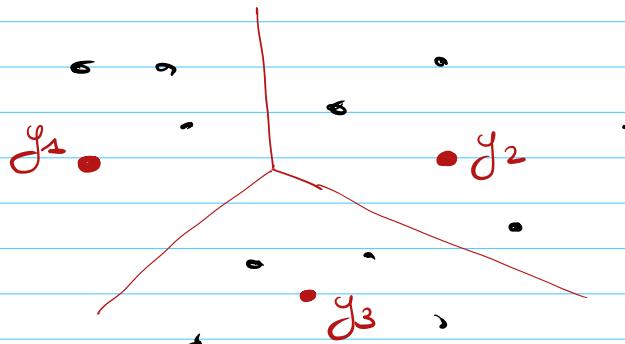


$\underbrace{\text{Prop}}_{\text{Lloyd's algorithm}}$   
 $= \text{Newton's method on } F_{k,\infty}.$

Recall: Newton's method  $F: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\rightarrow y' = y - (\nabla^2 F(y))^{-1} \nabla F(y)$$

proof:



$$F_{k,\infty}(y_1, \dots, y_k) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \min_{e=1 \dots k} \|y_e - x_i\|^2$$

$$\nabla F_{k,\infty} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^d = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{e=1}^k \sum_{i \in I_e} \|x_i - y_e\|^2$$

$$\nabla_{y_1} F_{k,\infty}(\dots) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{e \in I_1} 2(y_1 - x_e)$$

$$= \frac{2}{n} (n_1 y_1 - \sum_{i \in I_1} x_i)$$

$$= \frac{2n_1}{n} \left( y_1 - \underbrace{\frac{1}{n_1} \sum_{i \in I_1} x_i}_{\tilde{y}_1} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \tilde{F}_{k,*}(-) = \begin{pmatrix} \nabla_{y_1} \\ \vdots \\ \nabla_{y_k} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{2}{n} \begin{pmatrix} n_1(y_1 - \tilde{y}_1) \\ \vdots \\ n_k(y_k - \tilde{y}_k) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \tilde{F}_{k,*}(-) = \begin{pmatrix} \nabla^2_{yy_1} & & \\ & \nabla^2_{y_1 y_2} & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \nabla^2_{y_k y_k} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{2}{n} \begin{pmatrix} n_1 I_d & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & n_2 I_d & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & n_k I_d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } \nabla^2 \tilde{F}_{k,*}^{-1}(-) = \frac{n}{2} \begin{pmatrix} n_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ & \ddots & n_k \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(\nabla^2 \tilde{F}_{k,*}(-))^{-1} \nabla \tilde{F}_{k,*}(-) = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 - \tilde{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_k - \tilde{y}_k \end{pmatrix}$$

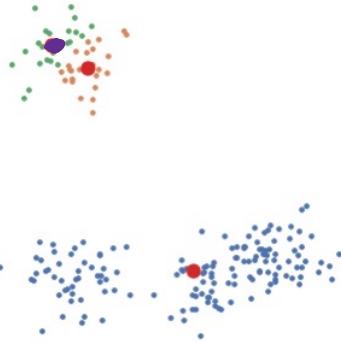
$\Rightarrow$  Newton's Method:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_i \\ \vdots \\ y_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_k \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} y_1 - \tilde{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_k - \tilde{y}_k \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{y}_k \end{pmatrix} = \text{One step of Lloyd's Algorithm.}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Newton's method or a  
Non convex Function.

HW 8

$\hookrightarrow$  May not converge with initialization  
too far away from optimum.



$\Rightarrow$  To Find a good initialisation in  
practice: k-means ++.

$\hookrightarrow$  sklearn default method.

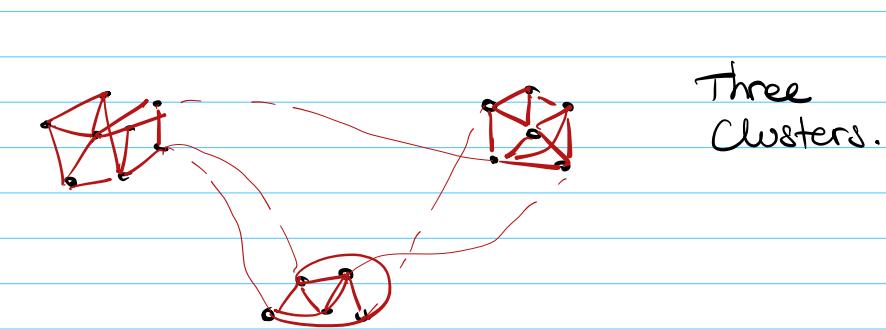
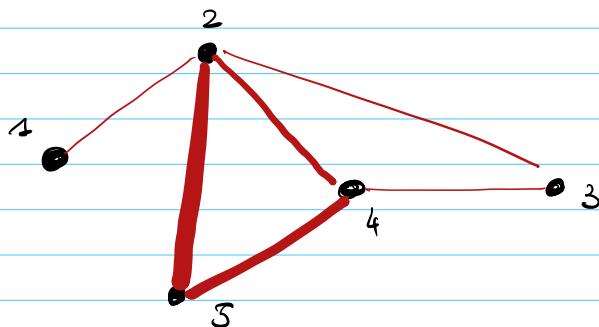
Summary: - most standard clustering algorithm

- will not work if clusters have "complex  
geometry"

- Restricted to  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$

## ② Spectral Clustering

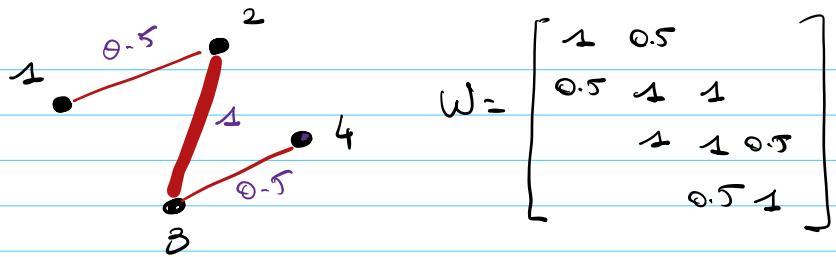
→ input = weighted graph representing similarities between observations.



Three Clusters.

Def: A weighted graph  $G$  with

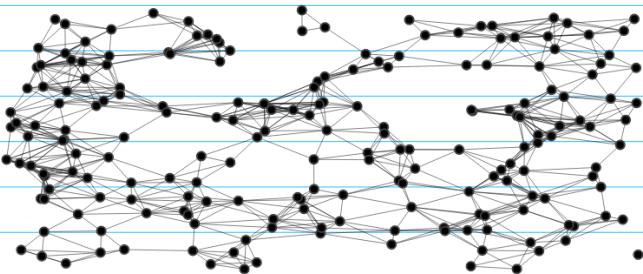
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n \text{ vertices} \\ \text{weights } W = (W_{ij})_{ij} \text{ } n \times n \text{ symmetric} \\ \text{matrix} \\ W_{ij} \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$



## Examples

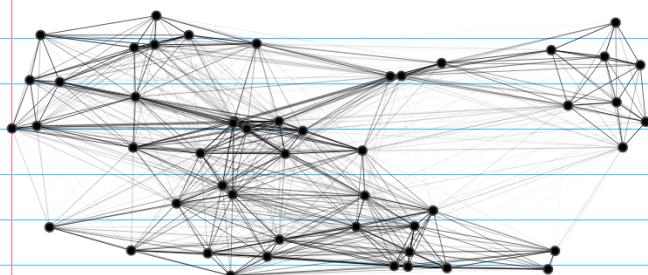
- (Non-weighted) graph:  $\begin{cases} w_{ij} = 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ w_{ii} = 1 \end{cases}$

- $\epsilon$ -Neighborhood graph



$$w_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \|x_i - x_j\| \leq \epsilon \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Gaussian weights:



$$w_{ij} = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

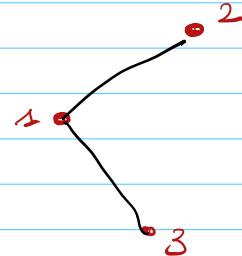
Def: If weighted graph

- Neighbors of  $i$ :  $j$  such that  $w_{ij} > 0$

$\Rightarrow i \sim j$ .

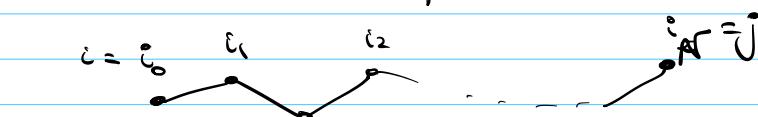
- Degree  $D_i$  of  $i$ :

$$D_i = \sum_{j=1}^n w_{ij}$$



$$D = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{degree matrix}$$

- The vertices  $i$  and  $j$  are connected if there is a path

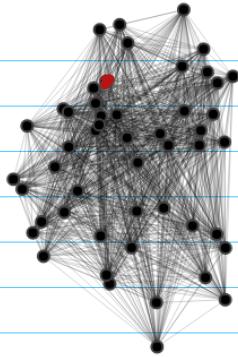
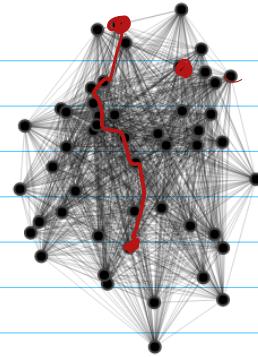


with  $i_e \sim i_{e+1}$ .

- A connected component is a set  $C$  of vertices such that

$\forall i, j \in C$   $i$  and  $j$  connected

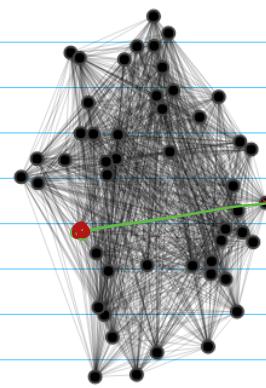
$\forall i \in C, j \notin C$   $i$  and  $j$  NOT connected.



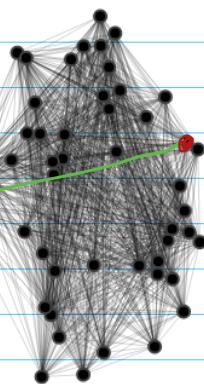
Two connected components

Idea 1 : Clusters = connected components.

Problem: Not a robust notion



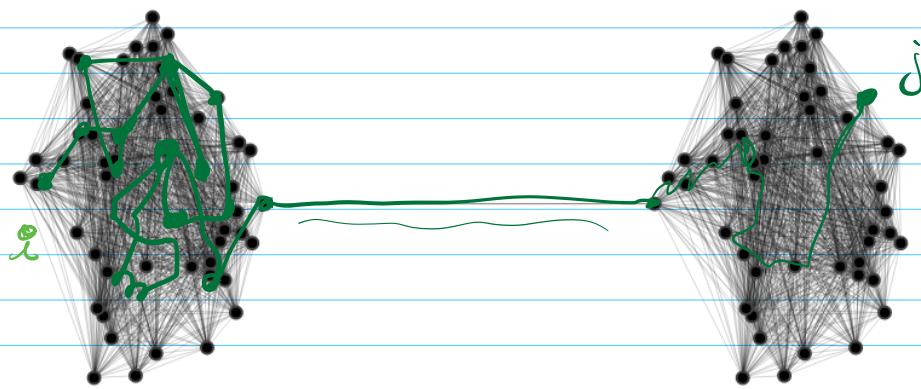
add one edge



→ only one connected component.

Idea 2 : Make the notion of being connected quantitative.

### RANDOM WALK ON THE GRAPH.



- ① Start at  $i_0$ .
- ② Select a random neighbour  $i_1$  of  $i_0$ .
- ③ Repeat.
- ④ Stop when  $j$  is reached.

$$i = i_0 \sim i_1 \sim i_2 \dots \sim i_k = j$$

if  $k$  is large :  $i$  and  $j$  are almost disconnected.

Analogy:



How much time does a molecule in a gas take to go from box 1 to box 2?

→ Probe to go from  $i$  to  $j$  in 1 step:

$$\sum_j Q_{ij} = \frac{1}{D_i} \sum_j W_{ij} = 1$$

$\swarrow$   
 $i$

$$Q_{ij} = \frac{1}{D_i} W_{ij}$$

so that  $\sum_j Q_{ij} = 1$

$Q = (Q_{ij})$  is the probability transition matrix  
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-Q_{11} & -Q_{12} & -Q_{13} \\ -Q_{21} & 1-Q_{22} & 0 \\ -Q_{31} & 0 & 1-Q_{33} \end{pmatrix} \left( \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{matrix} \right)$$
 of the walk.

→  $L = I_n - Q$  = Laplacian of  $G$ .

⇒ Spectral properties of  $L$  contain information about the geometry of  $G$ .

$$A \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$\text{elements of } A$$
$$e_A = (0, 0, 1, 0, 0, \dots) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$(e_A)_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$A = \{1\} \quad e_A = (1, 0)$$

$$A = \{1, 2\} \quad e_A = (1, 1, 0)$$

Prop:

① L has nonnegative eigenvalues.

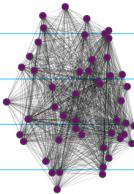
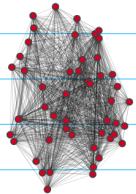
② 0 is an eigenvalue of L.

③ The multiplicity of 0 is the number k of connected components of G.

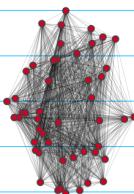
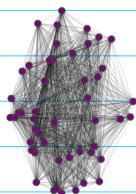
A basis of the eigenspace is

$$\{e_{c_1}, \dots, e_{c_k}\}$$

$\hookrightarrow$  connected component



$$e_{c_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$e_{c_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

proof:



L is NOT symmetric!

$\sim$  symmetric  
Laplacian  $(L' = D^{1/2} L D^{-1/2} = I_n - D^2 D^{-1} W D^{1/2})$   
 $= I_n - D^{1/2} W D^{1/2}$  ← is symmetric

$$Lu = dv \iff L'v = dv \quad v = D^{1/2}u$$

⇒ L and L' have the same eigenvalues.

Let  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$v^T L' v =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} w_{ij} \left( \frac{v_i}{\sqrt{D_i}} - \frac{v_j}{\sqrt{D_j}} \right)^2 \geq 0.$$

- ② Take  $v = (\sqrt{D_1}, \dots, \sqrt{D_n}) \Rightarrow v^T L' v = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow 0$  eigenvalue of  $L'$   
 $\Rightarrow 0$  eigenvalue of  $L$ .

③

$v$  eigenvector of  $L'$

$$[v = D'^{1/2} u]$$

$\Leftrightarrow u$  eigenvector of  $L$ .

$\Rightarrow$  When do we have

$$0 = v^T L' v = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} w_{ij} \left( \frac{v_i}{\sqrt{D_i}} - \frac{v_j}{\sqrt{D_j}} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} w_{ij} (u_i - u_j)^2 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} u_i = u_j \\ \text{if } w_{ij} > 0 \end{cases}$$

$k=1$ : one connected component.

•  $u = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  is an eigenvector.

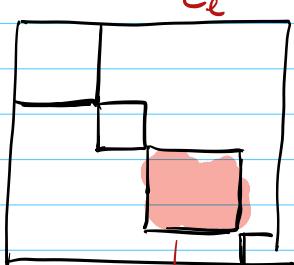
• if  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.  $v^T L' v = 0$

Path  $i_0 \sim i_1 \sim \dots \sim i_k = j$

$$u_{i_0} = u_{i_1} = u_{i_2} = \dots = u_{i_k} = u_j$$

$\Rightarrow u = (c, c, \dots, c)$

$k \geq 1$ :



subgraph that  
is connected

$\Rightarrow c_e$  is an  
eigenvector.



## Summary:

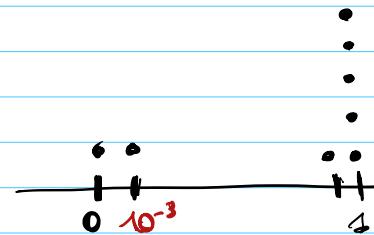
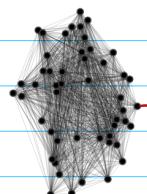
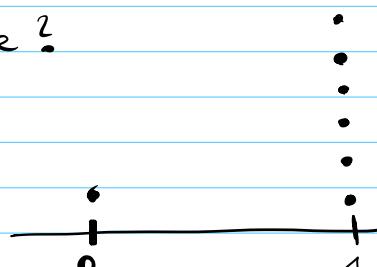
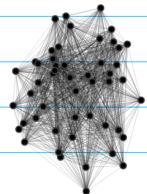
Multiplicity of 0

↔  
Number of  
connected  
components

Associated Eigenvectors

↔  
Connected components

What if we add an edge?



Stability of the spectrum with respect to small perturbations.

$k$  clusters =  $k$  small eigenvalues

↳ associated eigenvectors give the clusters.

## SPECTRAL CLUSTERING

1- Compute  $L$

2- Compute the  $k$  first eigenvalues / eigenvectors of  $L$ .

$$0 = \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \dots \leq \lambda_k$$

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  eigenvectors. ( $\in \mathbb{R}^n$ )

3- Let  $x_i = (\underbrace{\langle v_1, e_i \rangle, \dots, \langle v_k, e_i \rangle}_{= (0, 1, 0)}, \dots, \langle v_k, e_i \rangle) \in \mathbb{R}^k$   
= represents  $i$ .

4- Apply  $k$ -means on  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

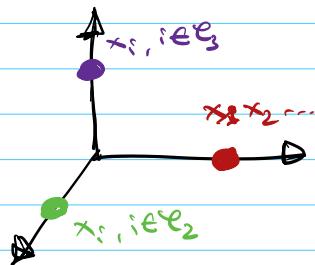
→ if  $k$  connected components:

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$i \in C_1 \quad x_i = (1, 0, 0)$$

$$i \in C_2 \quad x_i = (0, 1, 0)$$

$$i \in C_3 \quad x_i = (0, 0, 1)$$



With "approximate" connected components:

clusters

