



Computer  
Science

# **CSC380: Principles of Data Science**

## **Clustering : Mixture Models**

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- HW6 will be posted tomorrow (April 19<sup>th</sup>)
- Students Course Survey
  - <https://scsonline.oia.arizona.edu/index.php>
  - Your opinions are anonymous, valued, and lead to course improvements.

**Data are assigned to clusters  
based on features like color  
and shape**



# Hard Cluster Assignments

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**K-Means** Assigns data to the cluster whose center is closest (in Euclidean distance)

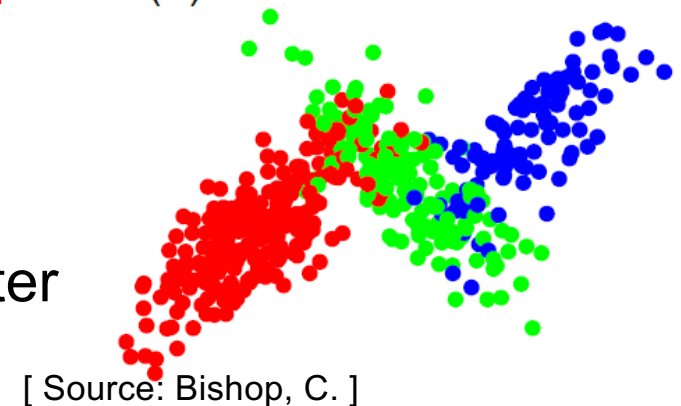
$$z_n = \arg \min_j \|x_n - \mu_j\|^2$$

**Assignment**       **$n^{\text{th}}$  Data Point**      **Cluster Center**

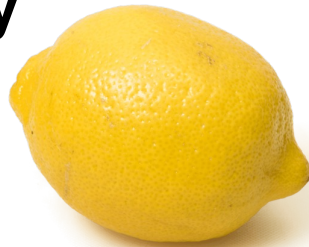
(a)

This is a *hard assignment* model

Each data is assigned to *exactly one* cluster



**Some data don't  
cluster easily**



**Cluster assignments have  
inherent uncertainty**

**Mixture Model** Assignment is a *random variable* and learns a *posterior probability* over assignment

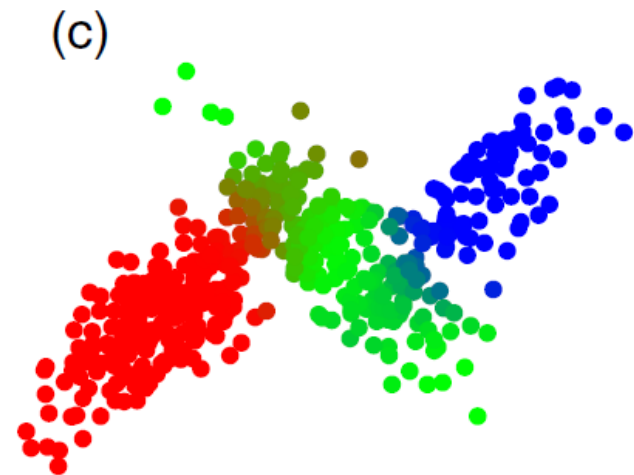
$$p(z_n \mid x_n)$$

This is a *soft assignment* model

Data are assigned to *every cluster* with some probability

Predicted assignment generally,

$$\arg \max_k p(z_n = k \mid x_n)$$



[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

# Recall: Naïve Bayes Classifier

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## Training Data:

Person	height (feet)	weight (lbs)	foot size(inches)
male	6	180	12
male	5.92 (5'11")	190	11
male	5.58 (5'7")	170	12
male	5.92 (5'11")	165	10
female	5	100	6
female	5.5 (5'6")	150	8
female	5.42 (5'5")	130	7
female	5.75 (5'9")	150	9

↑ ↑ ↑  
**Features**

**Task:** Observe features  $x_1, \dots, x_D$  and predict class label  $y \in \{1, \dots, C\}$

**Model:** Assume that the feature  $x$  and its label  $y$  follows certain type of distribution  $\mathcal{D}$  with parameter  $\theta$ .

$$(x, y) \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{D}_\theta$$

**Training Algorithm:** Estimate  $\theta$  e.g., MLE  $\hat{\theta}$

**To classify:** Compute

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y} &= \arg \max_{c \in \{1, \dots, C\}} p(y = c \mid x; \hat{\theta}) \\ &= \arg \max_{c \in \{1, \dots, C\}} p(y = c, x; \hat{\theta})\end{aligned}$$

what comes after semicolon is the parameter of the distribution

- Ex) Classifier that predicts cancer using two features
  - Feature  $x^{(i)}$ : (Smoke?, Drug?) ( $D=2$ )
  - Label  $y^{(i)}$ : (Cancer?)
- Suppose you trained Bernoulli Naïve Bayes Classifier (all features are binary) with the binary label ( $C=2$ ).
- You will get 5 parameters
  - $C-1 + CD = 5$ .
  - Class prior parameter:  $C-1 = 1$
  - Likelihood parameter:  $C * D = 4$



## Recall: Naïve Bayes Classifier

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- After long math, suppose that we got the parameters like this
  - Class-prior parameter:  $\phi = p(y = 1) = 0.25$ ,
  - Likelihood parameters:  $\theta = (\theta_{01}, \theta_{02}, \theta_{11}, \theta_{12})$ 
    - $\theta_{12} = p(x_2 = 1|y = 1) = 0.9$ ,  $\theta_{11} = p(x_1 = 1|y = 1) = 0.8$
    - $\theta_{02} = p(x_2 = 1|y = 0) = 0.2$ ,  $\theta_{01} = p(x_1 = 1|y = 0) = 0.3$
- Prediction: When input  $x = (x_1, x_2) = (1, 1)$ , your prediction is
- $\hat{y} = \arg \max_{c \in \{0, 1\}} p(y = c, x; \phi, \theta) = \max(p(y = 0, x; \phi, \theta), p(y = 1, x; \phi, \theta))$
- $p(y = 1, x; \phi, \theta) = p(y = 1)p(x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1|y = 1; \phi, \theta) = p(y = 1)p(x_1 = 1|y = 1; \phi, \theta)p(x_2 = 1|y = 1; \phi, \theta) = 0.25 * 0.9 * 0.8 = 0.18$
- $p(y = 0, x; \phi, \theta) = (1 - 0.25) * 0.2 * 0.3 = 0.045$
- $0.18 > 0.045$ , so  $\hat{y} = 1$

# Generative Model vs Discriminative Model

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- Consider the supervised learning:  $\{(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})\}_{i=1}^m$
- Generative model (e.g., Naïve Bayes)
  - $p(x, y) = p(x|y) p(y)$
  - Model  $p(x|y)$  and  $p(y)$  separately.

Recall) Probabilistic approach:  
When  $x$  is the input feature vector,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{y} &= \arg \max_{c \in \{1, \dots, C\}} p(y = c|x) \\ &= \arg \max_{c \in \{1, \dots, C\}} p(x, y = c)\end{aligned}$$

- Discriminative model (e.g., linear regression, logistic regression, etc.)
  - $p(x, y) = p(y|x) p(x)$
  - You could model  $p(x)$ , but it will not change anything!!
  - Thus, just model  $p(y|x)$

Q: what did this look like for linear regression and logistic regression?

A:  $y = w^T x + \epsilon, \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow y|x \sim \mathcal{N}(w^T x, \sigma^2)$

$y = \sigma(w^T x) + \epsilon, y|x \sim \text{Ber}(w^T x)$

Note: SVM is neither generative or discriminative; it's not even a probabilistic model to begin with!

- Generative model: Models joint distribution over *data* and unknown *assignment*
- *Wait, we do not observe labels (=assignments)!!*
  - *Let's create an (artificial) hidden assignment, then!*
- The unknown assignment called a *latent variable* (“latent” means it is not observable and must be inferred)
- Example of a *latent variable model*

We take one step further and assume that  $p(z)$  is not known!

$$p(z, x) = p(z)p(x | z)$$

~~Prior~~ probability  
of assignment

Likelihood

~~Prior encodes our belief about the latent variable (assignment)  
before observing any data,~~

$$p(z = k) = w_k \quad 0 \leq w_k \leq 1 \quad \sum_{k=1}^K w_k = 1$$

Likelihood captures the probability of the data *given a cluster assignment*

Recall that the *law of total probability* allows us to calculate the *marginal probability* of the data,

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \sum_{k=1}^K p(z = k)p(x \mid z = k) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K w_k p(x \mid z = k) \end{aligned}$$

$w_k$  is also unknown!!

(recall we will maximize  $\prod_{i=1}^m p(x^{(i)}; \theta)$  )

Component distributions  $p(x|z)$  can be any distribution on the data that you like

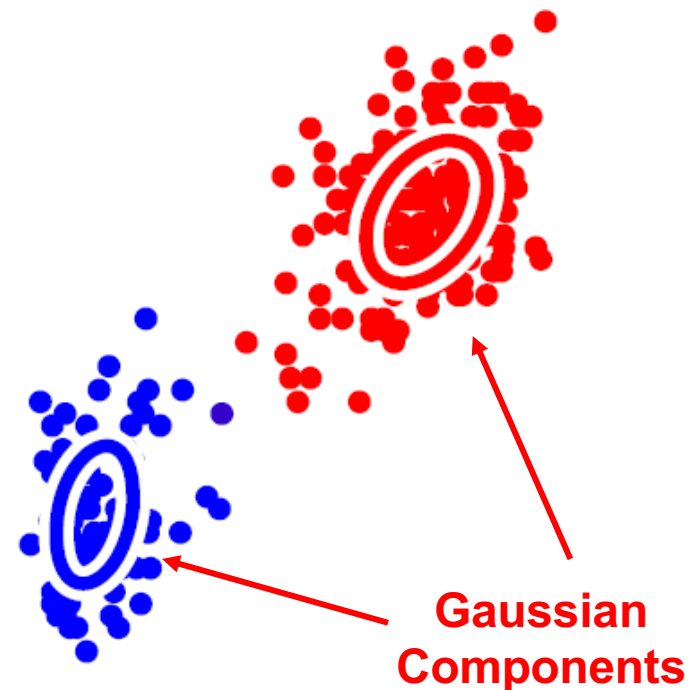
*One of the most common mixtures are over Gaussians*

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \mathcal{N}(x \mid m_k, \Sigma_k)$$

Unlike K-Means models  
correlation in clusters

New notations  $m_k$  and  $\Sigma_k$  for the mean and the covariance matrix of the Gaussian distribution – these are the key parameters!

Covariance: allows the distributions to take an ellipsoidal form!



[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

# Soft GMM Assignments (Responsibilities)

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new notation:

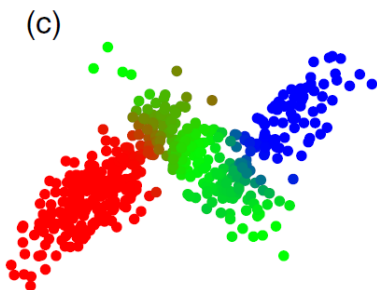
$z_n$  is n-th data point's cluster assignment  
 $x_n$  is n-th data point's feature vector

Recall that by Bayes' rule we have the posterior,

$$p(z_n = k \mid x_n) = \frac{p(z_n = k)p(x_n \mid z_n = k)}{p(x_n)}$$

For Gaussian mixtures this is,

$$p(z_n = k \mid x_n) = \frac{w_k \mathcal{N}(x_n \mid m_k, \Sigma_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^K w_i \mathcal{N}(x_n \mid m_i, \Sigma_i)}$$



In mixture modeling we call this the *responsibility*, since it is how *responsible* cluster  $k$  is for data point  $n$

[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

- Mixture model is a weighted combination of component distributions,

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K w_k p(x \mid z = k)$$

- Bayes' rule gives the posterior probability of assignment (responsibility)

$$p(z_n = k \mid x_n) = \frac{p(z_n = k)p(x_n \mid z_n = k)}{p(x_n)}$$

- A GMM uses Gaussian component distributions with responsibilities:

$$p(z_n = k \mid x_n) = \frac{w_k \mathcal{N}(x_n \mid m_k, \Sigma_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^K w_i \mathcal{N}(x_n \mid m_i, \Sigma_i)}$$

*All that is left is how to learn the model...*



*For  $D$ -dimensional  $X$  need to learn...*

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \mathcal{N}(x \mid m_k, \Sigma_k)$$

$\downarrow$  **the mixture weight**

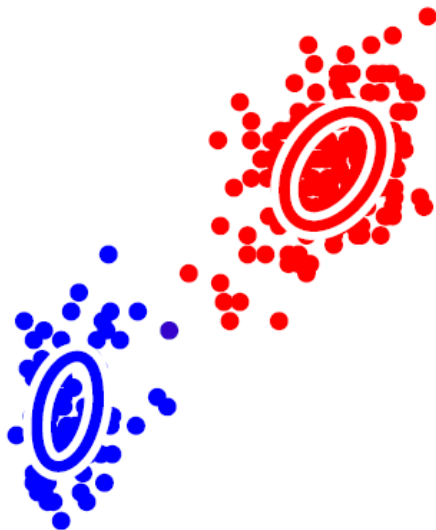
**D-dimensional  
vector of mean  
parameters**

**DxD Matrix of  
covariance  
parameters**

*...for  $K$  components this  
requires learning*

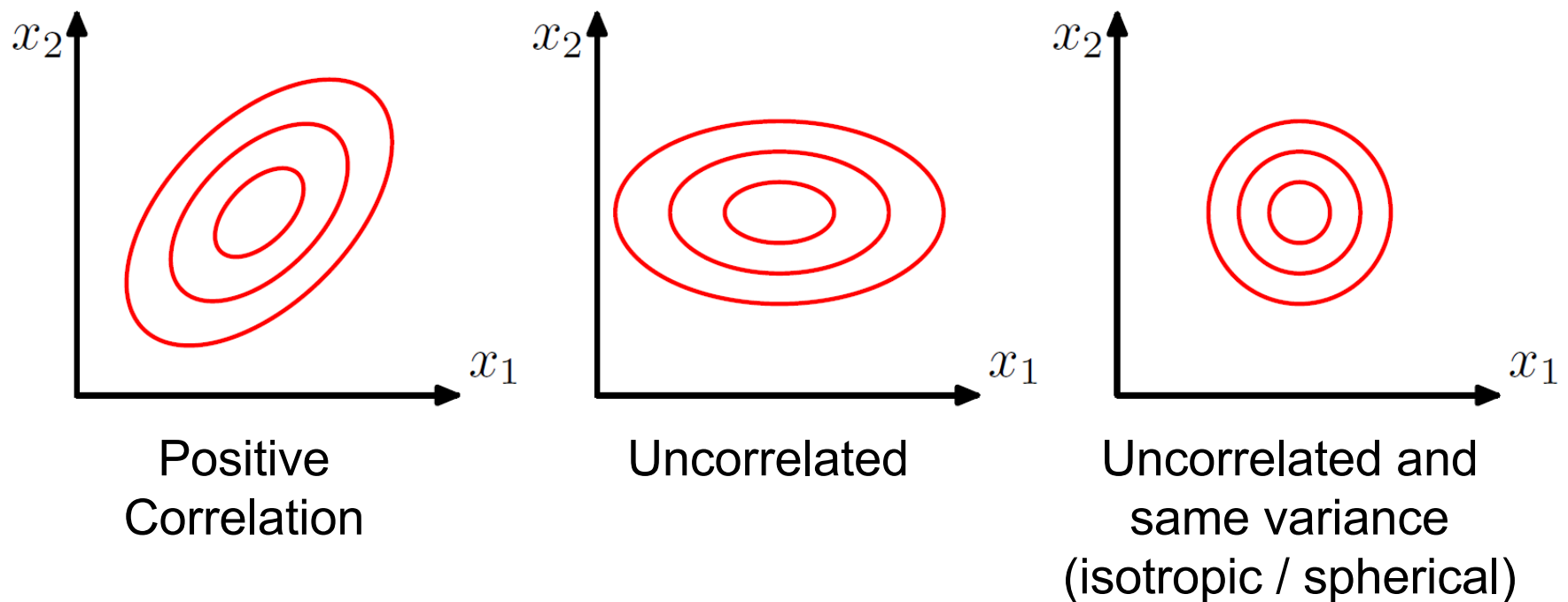
$$K + KD + KD^2 = O(KD^2)$$

*parameters*



[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

Captures correlation between random variables...can be viewed as set of ellipses...



$$\Sigma = \text{Cov}(X) = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{X_1}^2 & \rho\sigma_{X_1}\sigma_{X_2} \\ \rho\sigma_{X_1}\sigma_{X_2} & \sigma_{X_2}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

4 elements, but represented with 3 variables.

# Covariance Matrix

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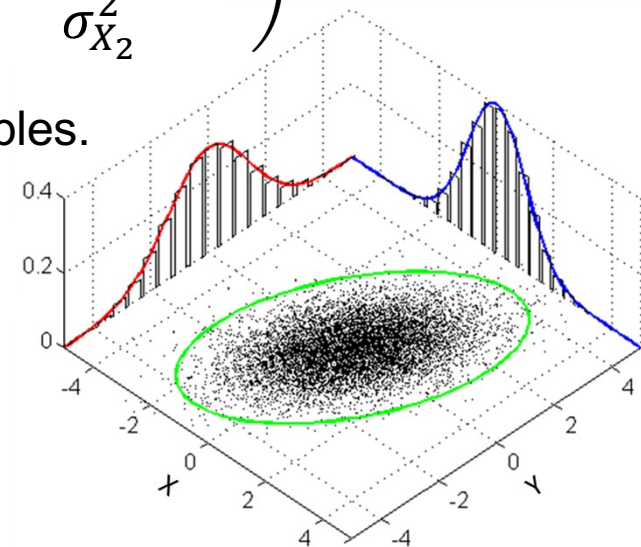
**Marginal variance of  
just the RV  $X_1$**



$$\Sigma = \text{Cov}(X) = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{X_1}^2 & \rho\sigma_{X_1}\sigma_{X_2} \\ \rho\sigma_{X_1}\sigma_{X_2} & \sigma_{X_2}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

4 elements, but represented with 3 variables.

**i.e. How “spread out” is the distribution  
in the  $X_1$  dimension...**



# Covariance Matrix

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**$\rho$ : Correlation between  $X_1$  and  $X_2$**

Recall, correlation is given by:

$$\rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X_1, X_2)}{\sigma_{X_1} \sigma_{X_2}}$$

It captures *linear dependence* of RVs

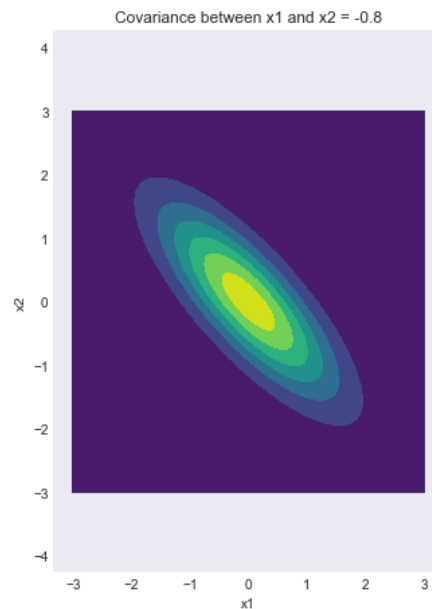
## Example

- $\text{Var}(X_1) = \text{Var}(X_2) = 1$

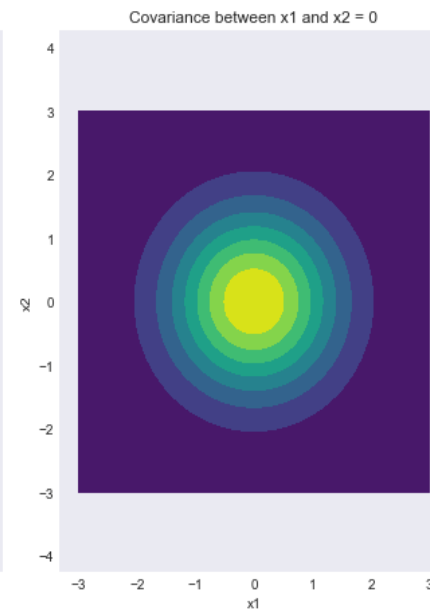
Changing  $\text{Var}(X_1)$  or  $\text{Var}(X_2)$  will only stretch it horizontally or vertically (respectively)!

$$\Sigma = \text{Cov}(X) = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{X_1}^2 & \rho \sigma_{X_1} \sigma_{X_2} \\ \rho \sigma_{X_1} \sigma_{X_2} & \sigma_{X_2}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

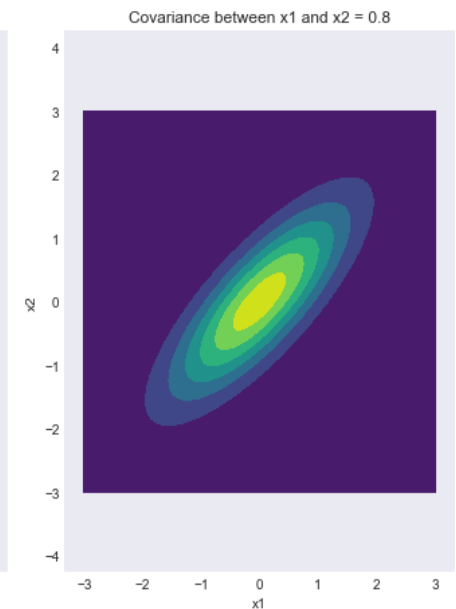
$$\rho = -0.8$$



$$\rho = 0.0$$

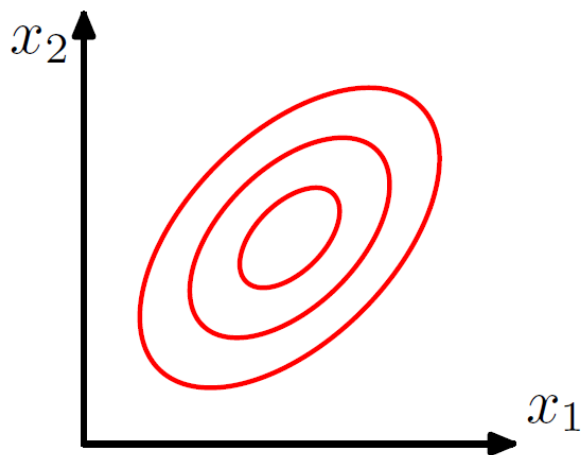


$$\rho = 0.8$$



<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/visualizing-the-bivariate-gaussian-distribution-in-python/>

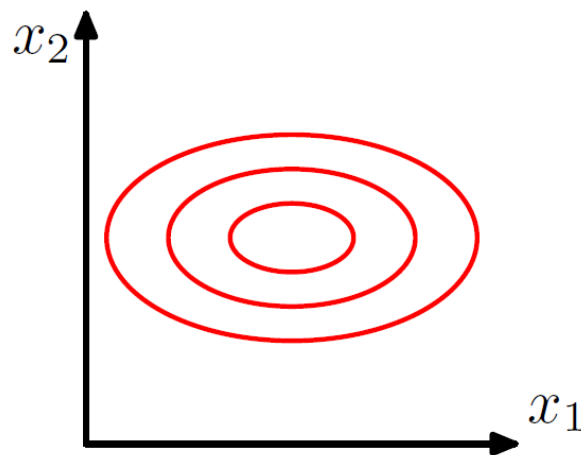
Captures correlation between random variables...can be viewed as set of ellipses...



Positive Correlation

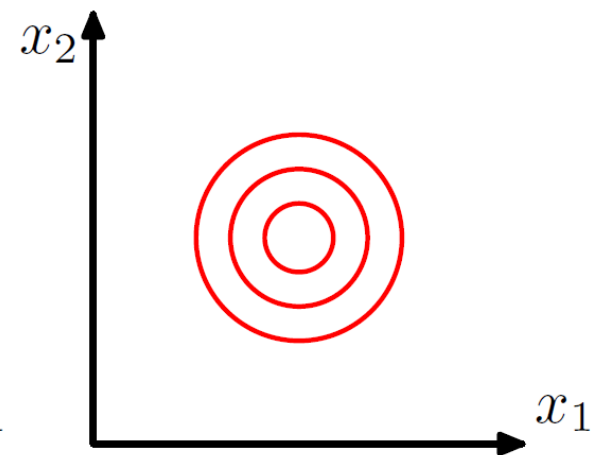
$$\rho > 0$$

Full matrix  $\Sigma$



Uncorrelated

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{X_1}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{X_2}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



Isotropic / Spherical

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 \end{pmatrix} = \sigma^2 I$$

Need to learn ...

mixture weight  $w_1, \dots, w_K \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\sum_i w_i = 1$   
the mean / variance parameters  $m_k$  and  $\Sigma_k$  for all  $k = 1, \dots, K$

Q: What method should we use to learn these?

A: Maximum likelihood estimation!

- Form log-likelihood over all data
- Find parameters that maximize log-likelihood

Recall that the likelihood of a *single data point* is given by,

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \mathcal{N}(x \mid m_k, \Sigma_k)$$

For  $N$  i.i.d. data points, the log-likelihood function is,

$$\mathcal{L}_N(w, m, \Sigma) = \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K w_k \mathcal{N}(x_n \mid m_k, \Sigma_k) \right\}$$

Turns out, it is highly non-convex and difficult to optimize...



## Likelihood Lower Bound

**Idea** Form a lower bound of the non-convex log-likelihood with something that is easy to maximize,

$$\mathcal{L}_N(w, m, \Sigma) \geq \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_N(w, m, \Sigma)$$

**True log-likelihood**  
**Non-concave**  
**Hard to maximize**



**Lower bound**  
**Concave**  
**Easy to maximize**



We approximate maximum likelihood by  
optimizing the lower bound,

$$\max_{w, m, \Sigma} \mathcal{L}_N(w, m, \Sigma) \geq \max_{w, m, \Sigma} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_N(w, m, \Sigma)$$

# Expectation Maximization (EM)

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Given a “guess” of the parameters  $w^{old}, m^{old}, \Sigma^{old}$ , we can compute the responsibilities

$$\gamma_{nk}^{old} \propto w_k^{old} p(x_n; m_k^{old}, \Sigma_k^{old}) \text{ (normalize it over } k = 1, \dots, K)$$

$$\text{Then, } \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_N(w, m, \Sigma) = \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^K \gamma_{nk}^{old} \log p(x_n, z_n; w, m, \Sigma)$$

 Mixture model joint PDF as a function of parameters

- Lower bound  $\mathcal{L} \geq \tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  is a result of Jensen's inequality (beyond scope)
- EM iteratively updates bound and finds new parameters with 2 steps
  - Expectation (**E-Step**) : Update responsibilities
  - Maximization (**M-Step**) : Maximize  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}$  to find new parameters

# Expectation Maximization (EM)

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- Let  $K=2$ ,  $\phi$  represents normal distribution.

$w$

1. Initialize estimates for  $\theta := \pi, \mu_1, \sigma_1, \mu_2, \sigma_2$
2. (**Expectation**) Compute the responsibilities for each data point

$$\gamma_i = \frac{\pi \phi(x_i; \mu_2, \sigma_2)}{(1 - \pi) \phi(x_i; \mu_1, \sigma_1) + \pi \phi(x_i; \mu_2, \sigma_2)}$$

3. (**Maximization**) Update the estimates for the parameters using the maximum-likelihood estimator formula. All sums are taken across the data indexed by  $i$  and are just means/standard deviations weighted by the responsibilities  $\gamma$

$$\mu_2 = \frac{\sum \gamma_i x_i}{\sum \gamma_i} \quad \sigma_2 = \frac{\sum \gamma_i (x_i - \mu_2)^2}{\sum \gamma_i} \quad \pi = \frac{1}{n} \sum \gamma_i$$

4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 until the parameters converge to a local optimum

# EM algorithm for GMM

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↓ initialize just like k-means

- Initialize:  $w \in \Delta^K$ ,  $\{\mu_k \in \mathbb{R}^d, \Sigma_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}\}_{k=1}^K$

↑ usually,  
uniform weight.

↑ can set it to be a diagonal matrix that has  $c$  in the diagonal  
(e.g.,  $c = 1$ )

- (E)xpectation step:

- $\gamma_{nk} = \frac{w_k p(x_n | z_n=k)}{\sum_{k'=1}^K w_{k'} p(x_n | z_n=k')}$

responsibility

- Let  $N_k = \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{nk}$

soft counts

- (M)aximization step:

- $\mu'_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{nk} x_n$

- $\Sigma'_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{nk} (x_n - \mu'_k)(x_n - \mu'_k)^\top$

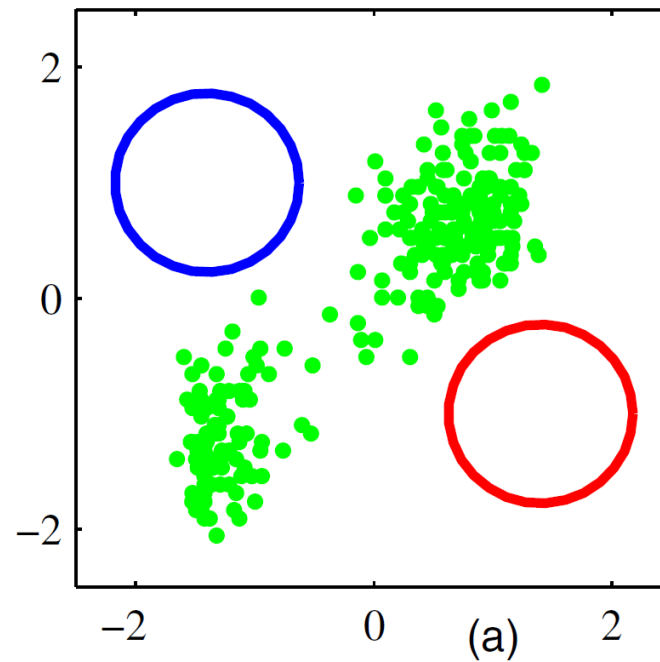
note we use  $\mu'_k$  rather than  $\mu_k$

- $w'_k = \frac{n_k}{n}$

- Set  $\mu_k \leftarrow \mu'_k$ ,  $\Sigma_k \leftarrow \Sigma'_k$ ,  $w_k \leftarrow w'_k$

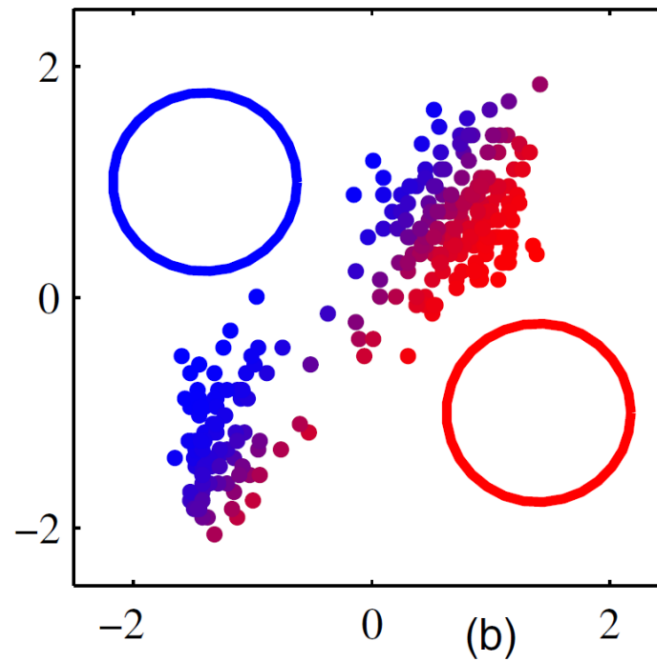
- Stop when: the **log likelihood** does not increase much or **the parameters** do not change much.

**Initialize** Cluster  
parameters



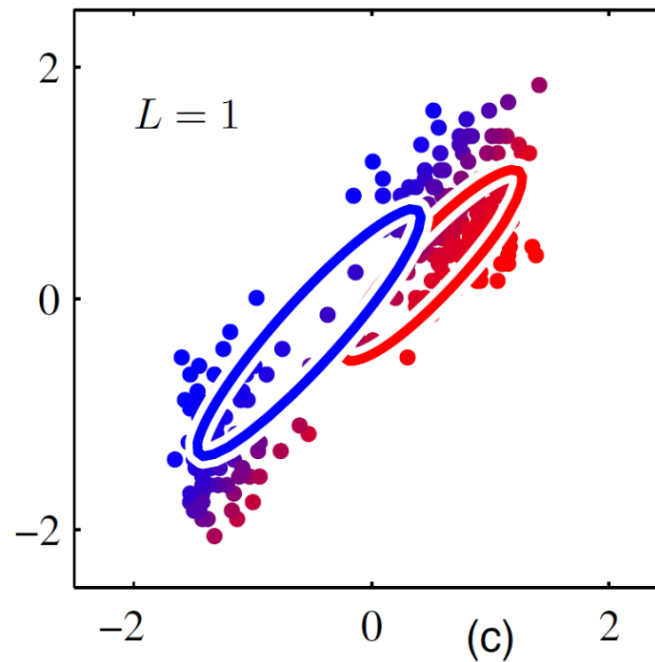
[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

**E-Step** Compute responsibilities



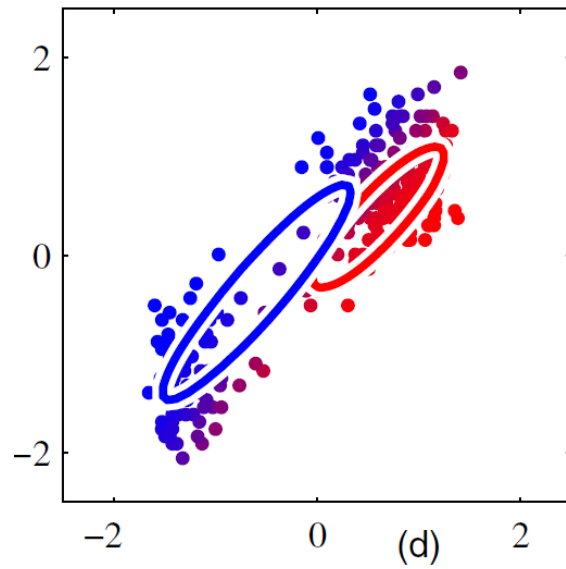
[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

**M-Step** Maximize  
lower bound to  
find new  
component  
parameters

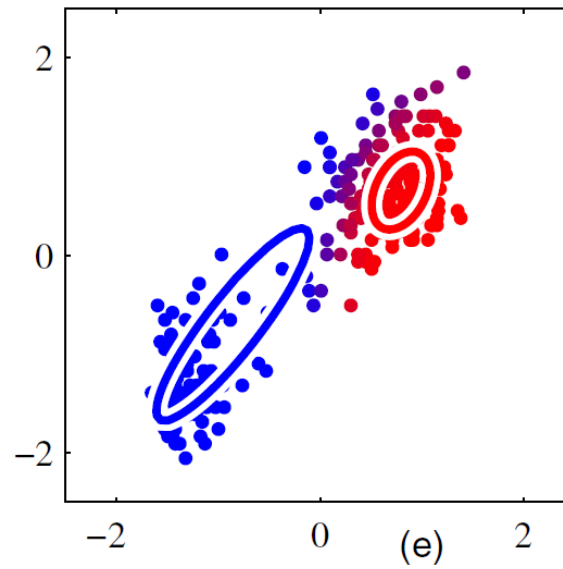


[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

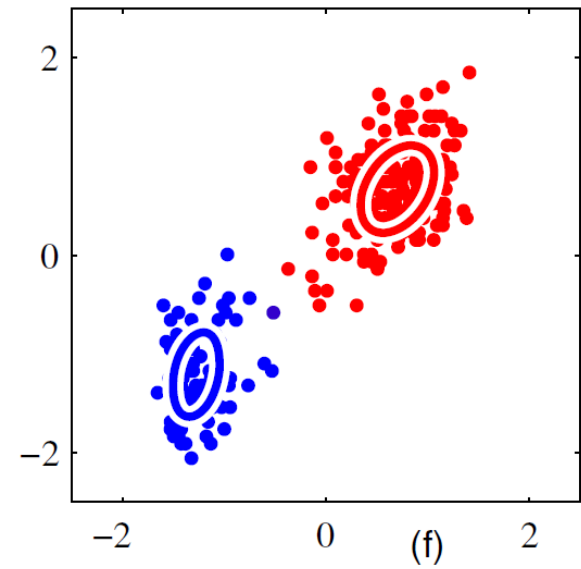
2 Iterations



5 Iterations



20 Iterations

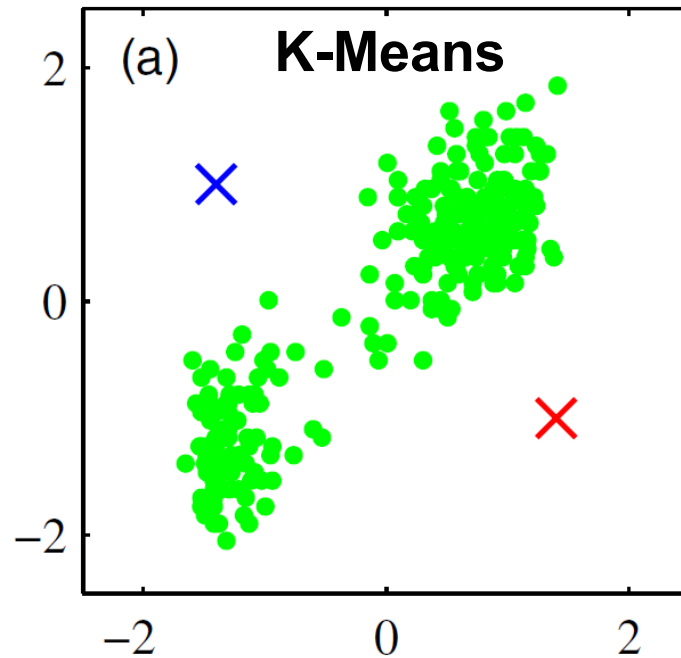


[ Source: Bishop, C. ]

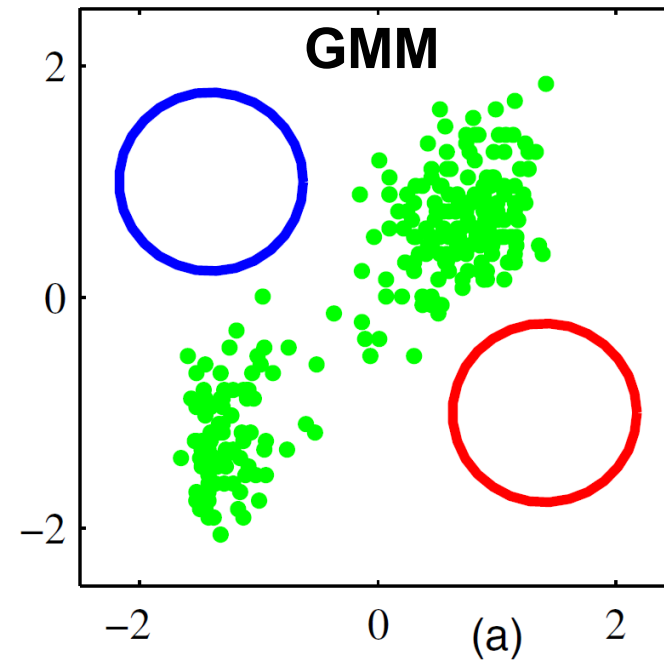


## Comparison to K-Means

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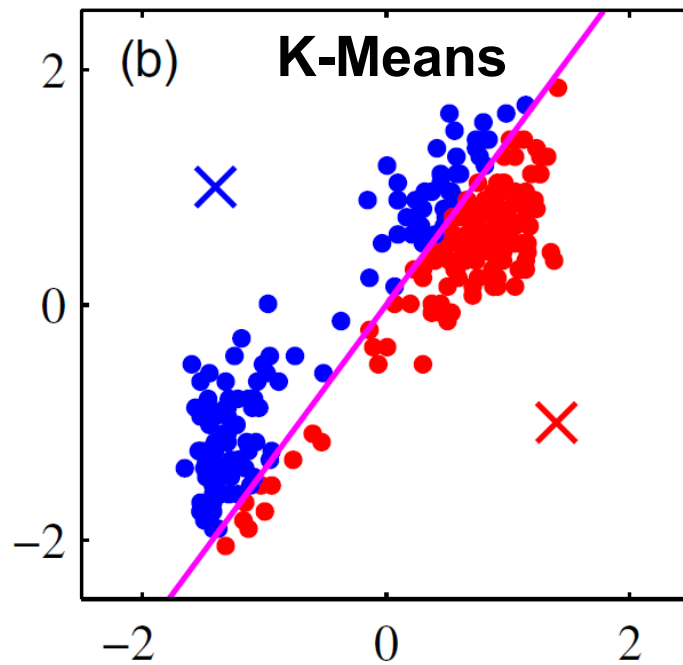
**Initialize cluster  
centers**



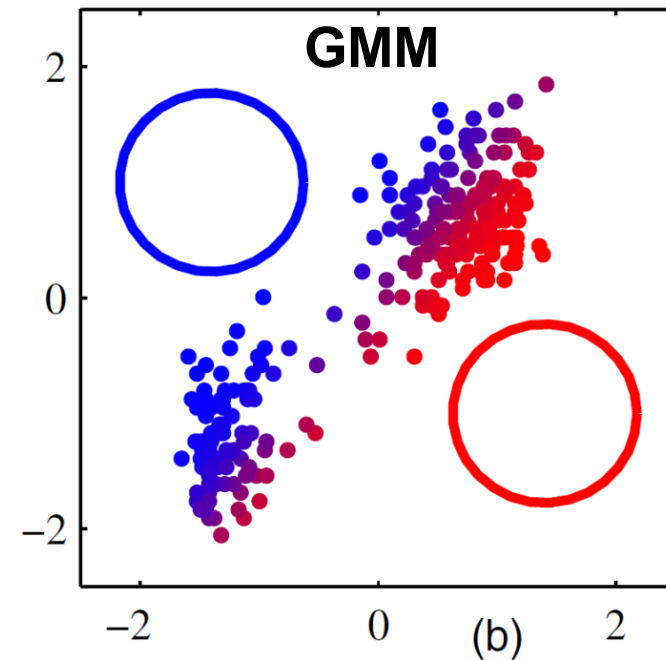
**Initialize cluster  
mean / covariance**

## Comparison to K-Means

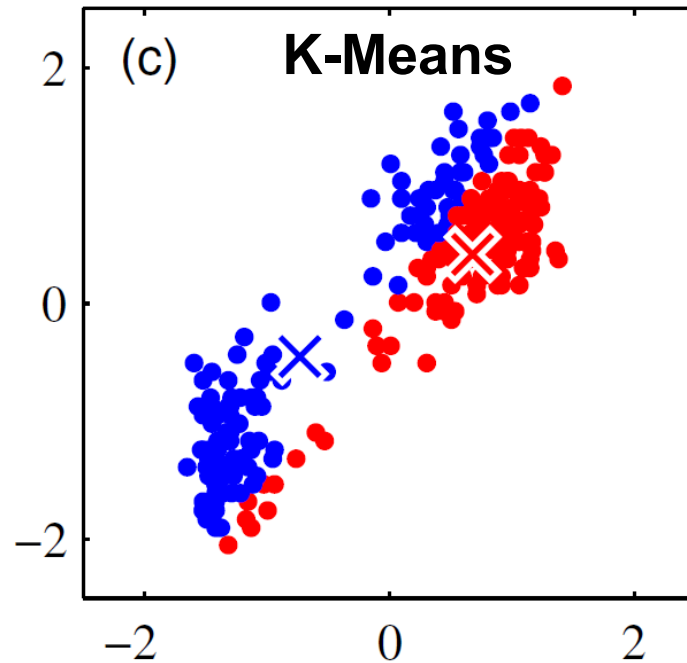
35



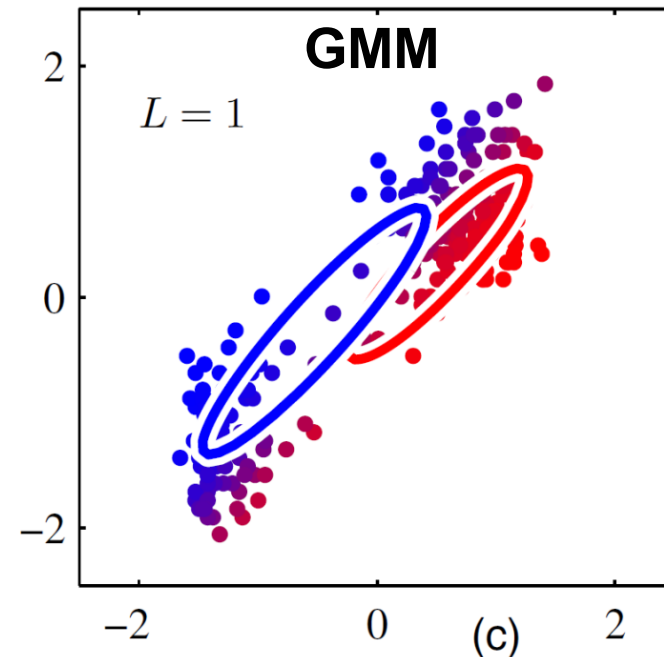
**Assign data to  
cluster with closest  
center**



**E-Step: Compute  
responsibilities**



**Recompute cluster centers as average of all data in cluster**



**M-Step: Maximize lower bound to compute new mean / covariances**

Mixture Models are generative, and define a joint distribution over the assignment and data,

$$p(z, x) = p(z)p(x | z)$$

Can use this to generate new *synthetic data*:

**Step 1:** Sample cluster assignment from prior,

$$z_n \sim p(z)$$

**Step 2:** Sample data from component distribution,

$$x_n \sim p(x | z_n)$$

*This may not seem useful, but with an advanced modeling, you could generate fake faces!*

## Input parameters:

**n\_components : int, default=1**

The number of mixture components.

**covariance\_type : {'full', 'tied', 'diag', 'spherical'}, default='full'**

String describing the type of covariance parameters to use. Must be one of:

**init\_params : {'kmeans', 'random'}, default='kmeans'**

The method used to initialize the weights, the means and the precisions.

**warm\_start : bool, default=False**

If 'warm\_start' is True, the solution of the last fitting is used as initialization for the next call of fit(). This can speed up convergence when fit is called several times on similar problems. In that case, 'n\_init' is ignored and only a single initialization occurs upon the first call. See [the Glossary](#).

diag: no correlation

spherical: same variance for all coordinates

(still, each cluster has its own covariance matrix)

## Attributes -- most available after calling `fit(X)`:

**`means_` : array-like of shape  $(n\_components, n\_features)$**

The mean of each mixture component.

**`covariances_` : array-like**

The covariance of each mixture component.

**`lower_bound_` : float**

Lower bound value on the log-likelihood (of the training data with respect to the model) of the best fit of EM.

**`weights_` : array-like of shape  $(n\_components,)$**

The weights of each mixture components.

# Scikit-Learn : GMM Example

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Load Iris dataset,

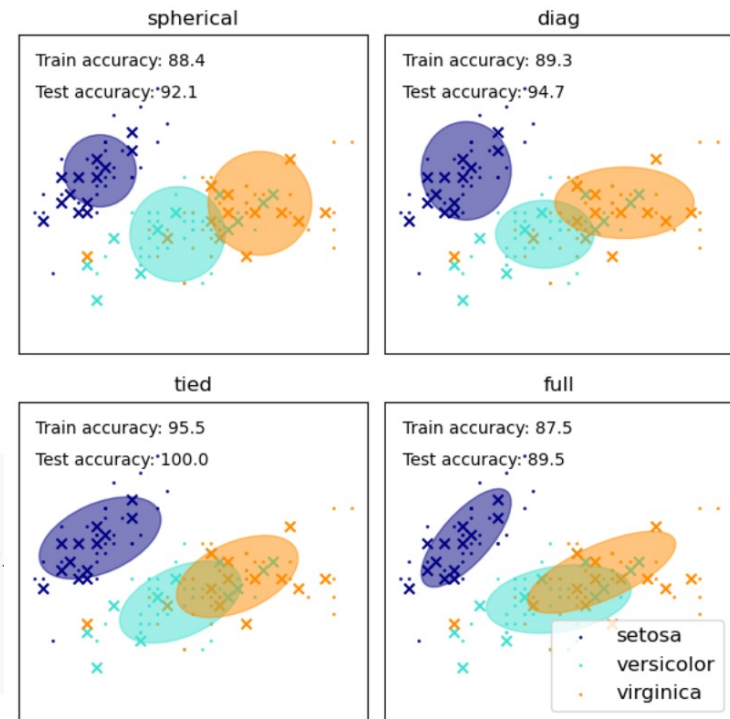
```
X_train = iris.data[train_index]
y_train = iris.target[train_index]
X_test = iris.data[test_index]
y_test = iris.target[test_index]
```

Define several 3-component GMMs with different covariances,

```
estimators = {
    cov_type: GaussianMixture(
        n_components=n_classes, covariance_type=cov_type, max_iter=20
    )
    for cov_type in ["spherical", "diag", "tied", "full"]
}
```

Fit each of them...

```
for index, (name, estimator) in enumerate(estimators.items()):
    estimator.fit(X_train)
```



accuracy is meaningful for illustration purpose; it's not available in practice!

# Comparison with k-means

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- Initialize:  $w \in \Delta^K$ ,

↑ usually,  
uniform weight.

- (E)xpectation step:

- $\gamma_{nk} = \frac{w_k p(x_n | z_n=k)}{\sum_{k'=1}^K w_{k'} p(x_n | z_n=k')}$
- Let  $N_k = \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{nk}$

- (M)aximization step:

- $\mu'_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{nk} x_n$
- $\Sigma'_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N \gamma_{nk} (x_n - \mu'_k)(x_n - \mu'_k)^\top$
- $w'_k = \frac{N_k}{N}$
- Set  $\mu_k \leftarrow \mu'_k, \Sigma_k \leftarrow \Sigma'_k, w_k \leftarrow w'_k$

↓ initialize just like k-means

$$\{\mu_k \in \mathbb{R}^d, \Sigma_k \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}\}_{k=1}^K$$

↑ can set it to be a diagonal matrix that has  $c$  in the diagonal  
(e.g.,  $c = 1$ )

## MODIFY:

1. assume  $\Sigma_k = I$
2. for each  $n$ ,  
force the largest  $\gamma_{nk}$  to be 1  
and set 0 otherwise  
(thus,  $(\gamma_{n1}, \dots, \gamma_{nK})$  is a one-hot  
vector)

responsibility

soft counts

note we use  $\mu'_k$  rather than  $\mu_k$

- Stop when: the **log likelihood** does not increase much or **the parameters** do not change much.



- In some ways, more sensitive to initialization than K-Means
  - Needs to learn more “stuff” (DxD covariance matrices)
- Generally good practice to regularize covariance matrix
  - Covariance can shrink to zero in some extreme cases
  - Scikit-Learn allows addition of small constant value to diagonal
- Fully Bayesian model adds prior probabilities to mean / covariance parameter
  - Estimates mean / covariance using maximum a posteriori MAP
  - Scikit-Learn supports this in:  
`sklearn.mixture.BayesianGaussianMixture`