

Machine Learning 1 – Fundamentals

Unsupervised Learning

Prof. Dr. J. M. Zöllner, M.Sc. Nikolai Polley, M.Sc. Marcus Fechner



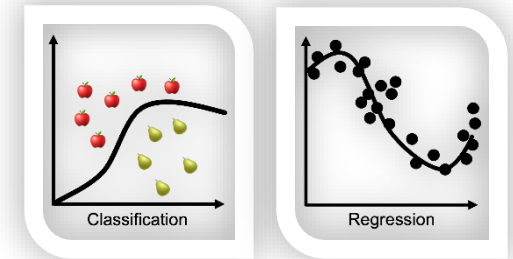
Outline

- Motivation
- Clustering
- Dimensionality Reduction / Feature Extraction
- Outlook: Advanced Methods

Types of Learning

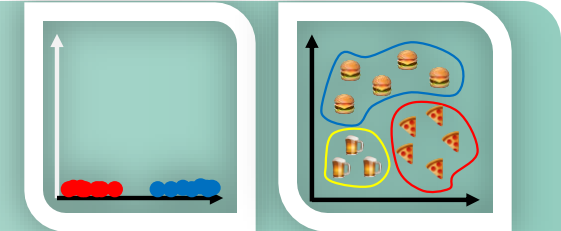
Supervised Learning

- **Data:** Examples with input and desired output data (labeled data).
- **Goal:** Learn the relationship between input and output data in order to predict the correct output for new input data.
- Seen in lectures: Decision trees, neural networks and SVM



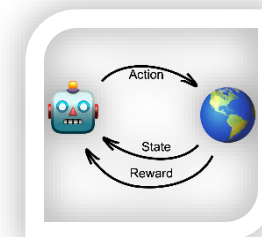
Unsupervised Learning

- **Data:** Examples contain only input data (unlabeled data).
- **Goal:** Find the underlying structure in the data.



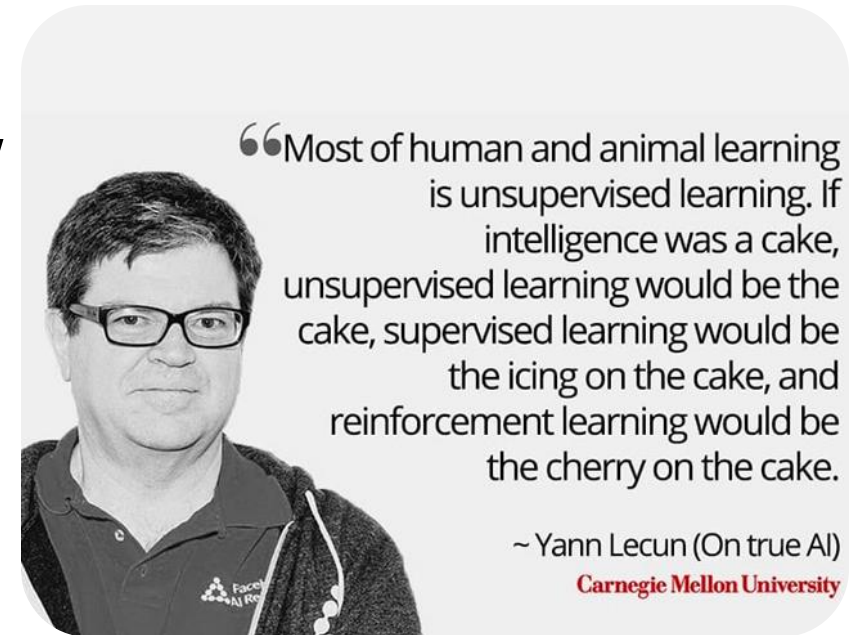
Reinforcement Learning

- **Data:** Experience from interaction with an environment and resulting reward.
- **Goal:** Learn a behavior that maximizes the reward in the long term.



Why Unsupervised Learning?

- Annotating training data is often the most expensive aspect of creating a dataset for machine learning. Obtaining vast quantities of unlabeled data, however, is relatively inexpensive
 - Download images/text from internet
 - Record sensor data while driving a car
- Unsupervised learning allows the discovery of new pattern relationships and insights into the structure of the underlying data
 - Can be used as a foundation for other methods



Unsupervised Learning - Basics

- Exploiting “similarities” in training data to:
 - agglomerate classes/clusters (iteratively)
 - extract essential characteristics, i.e. features
- Analogy to human learning
 - A student:
 - gradually learns new concepts
 - observes objects/events
 - forms (hierarchical) concepts that summarize and organize the experiences
 - finds a correct representation of data, which enables faster learning

Unsupervised Learning - Basics

■ Classical Clustering Algorithms

- k-means-Clustering
- Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering 层次聚类

■ Density Based Clustering Algorithms

- DBSCAN
- OPTICS 密度聚类

■ Neural Network based Algorithms (Generative Models)

- Autoencoder, Variational Autoencoder, Self-Supervised Learning
- Bidirectional networks (RBM) 双向网络

■ Conceptual Clustering: CLUSTER/2

■ Concept Formation: COBWEB, CLASSIT

■ Learning by Discovery: BACON, ABACUS

Outline

- Motivation

- Clustering 聚类

- Dimensionality Reduction / Feature Extraction

- Outlook: Advanced Methods

K-means-Clustering (Lloyd, 1982)

- Very simple and yet frequently used
- Divides a data set into a (usually) pre-determined number of clusters

将数据划分为 k 个聚类，每个聚类由一个中心点（质心）表示。

- **Basic Idea:**

- Defining a center point for each cluster
- Iterative adaptation/improvement
 - ... regarding data belonging to the cluster
 - ... regarding center of cluster (also called centroids)
- **Optimality Criterion:** Minimization of distance between all data points and their respective centroids

目标是最小化所有数据点与其质心的距离平方和。

K-means-Clustering – Formal

■ Given:

- Set x of unlabeled training examples, each with d attributes:

$$\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_d]$$

- Number of clusters k

■ Objective:

- Partition the training set into clusters X_1, \dots, X_k (with center points $\mathbf{c}_1, \dots, \mathbf{c}_k$) such that a minimum of distance between data and centroids is reached.

$$\mathcal{L} = \min \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{\mathbf{x}_i \in X_j} \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{c}_j\|^2$$

K-means-Clustering – Lloyd's Algorithm

- Place k points c_j "randomly" in the d -dimensional space to initialize the centers of the clusters / centroids
- Iterative Process:
 - **While:** c_j changes
 - **Assign** each element x_i towards its nearest centroid c_l :

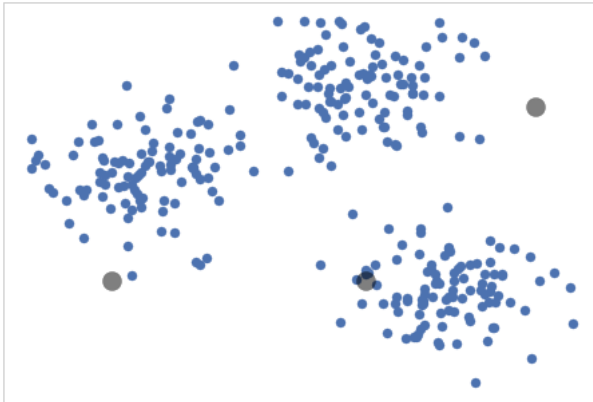
$$l = \arg \min_{1 \leq j \leq k} \|x_i - c_j\|^2 \Rightarrow x_i \in X_l$$

- **Recalculate centroids** c_j for each resulting Cluster X_j :

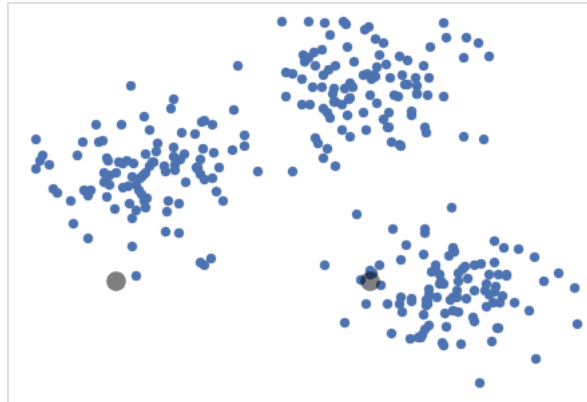
$$c_j = \frac{\sum_{x_j \in X_j} x_j}{|X_j|}$$

K-means-Clustering – Examples

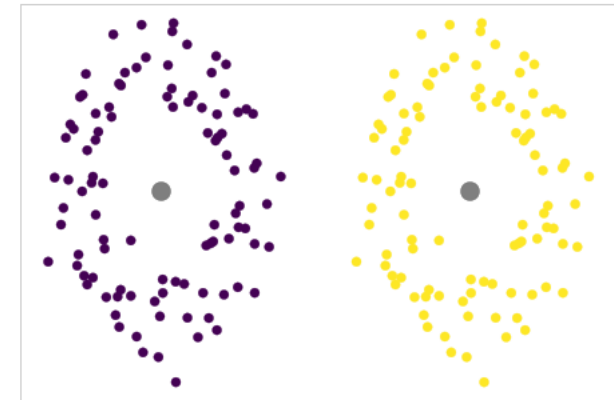
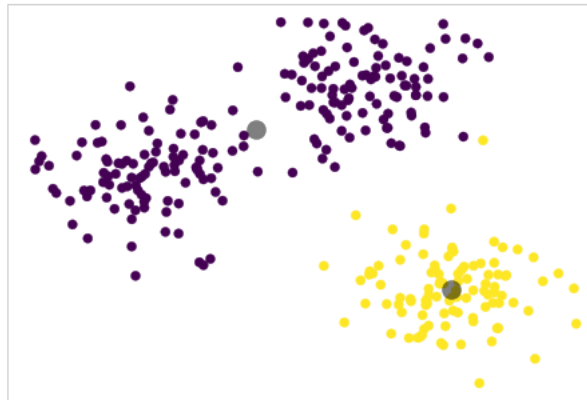
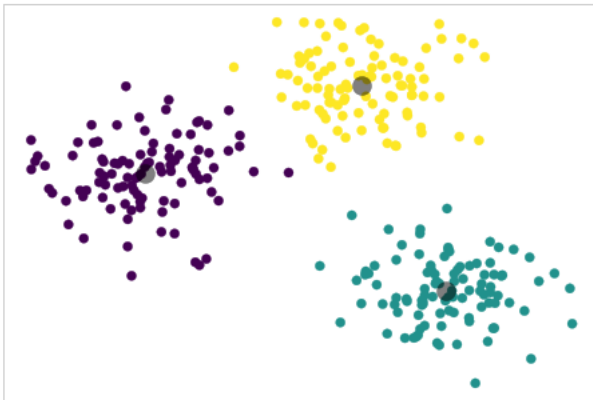
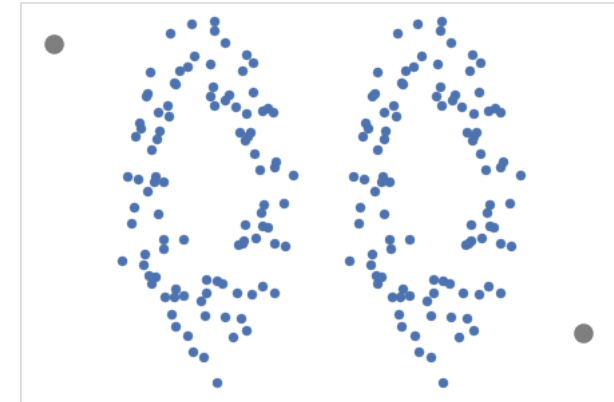
1.1 ($k=3$)



1.2 ($k=2$)



2.1 ($k=2$)

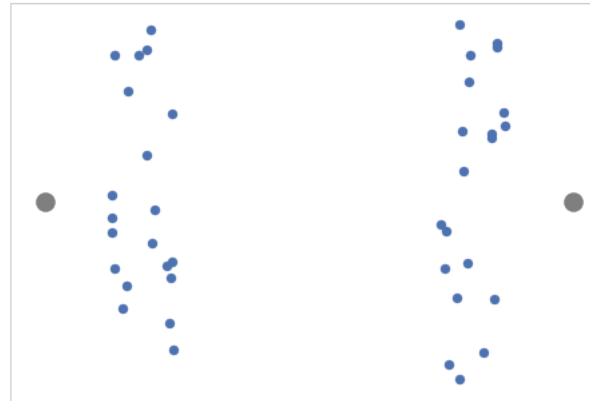


K-means-Clustering – Examples

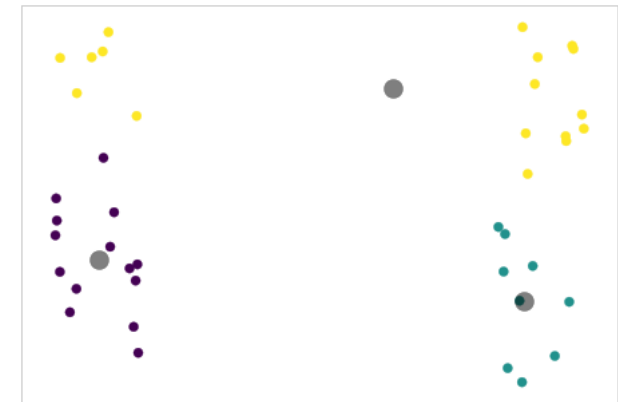
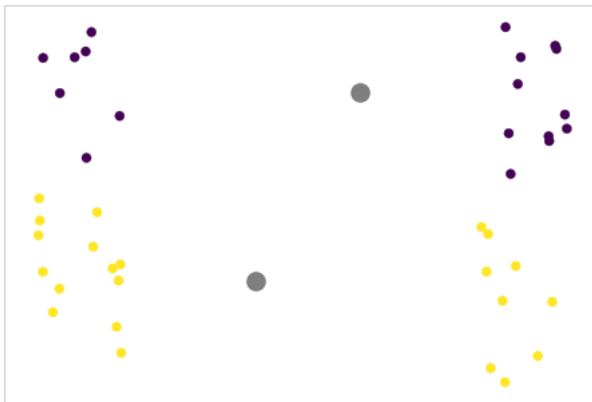
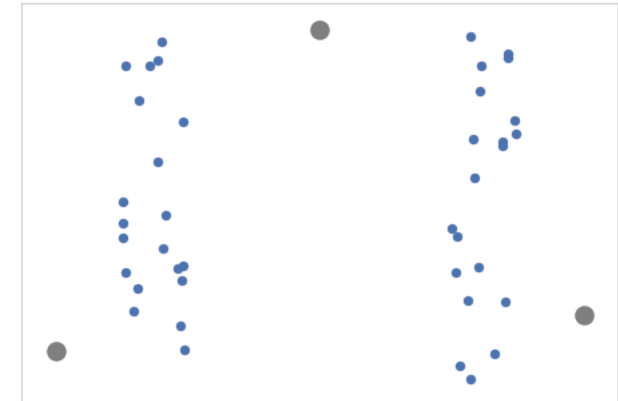
3.1 ($k=2$)



3.2 ($k=2$)



3.3 ($k=3$)



K-means-Clustering – Evaluation I

- Solving the problem is NP-hard, so Lloyd's algorithm is used, which converges to only a locally optimal solution

★ Results are **highly dependent** on the **number k** and **initialization** of centroids c_j

- Example 1.2:

- **Failure:** Wrong number of initial clusters
 - **Solution:** Choose correct number of cluster

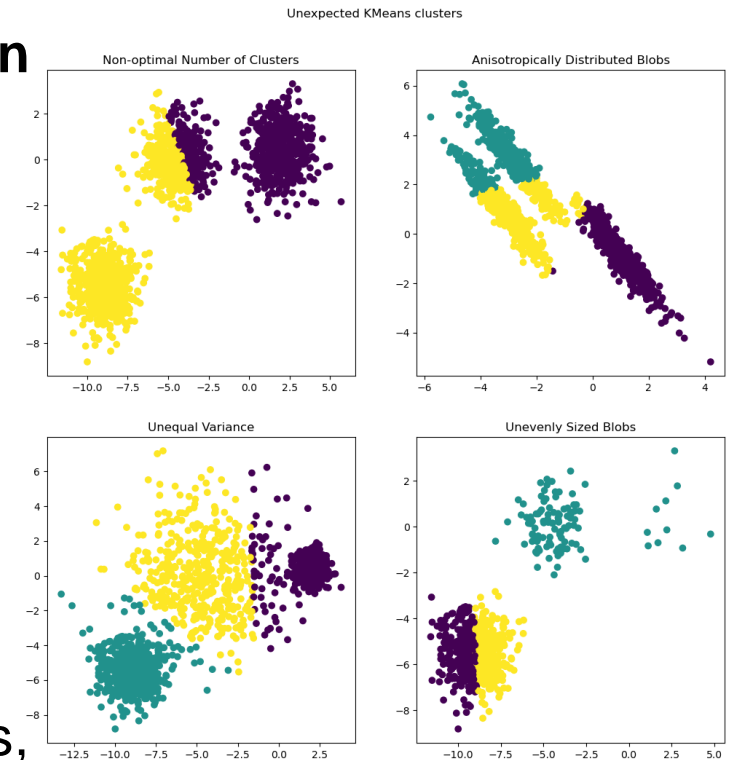
- Example 3.1 and 3.3:

- **Possible Failure:** Potentially wrong cluster
 - **Possible Solution:** Initialize the algorithm multiple times with different centroid starting points

- Results are dependent of used distance metric $|x - c_j|$ 维度灾难

- **Curse of dimensionality!** In high-dimensional representations, all data is dissimilar → Makes it harder to find clusters

在高维空间中，所有数据点可能都显得不相似，从而难以形成清晰的聚类结构。



K-means-Clustering – Evaluation II

- Centroids create Voronoi cells which are used for testing and inference of method

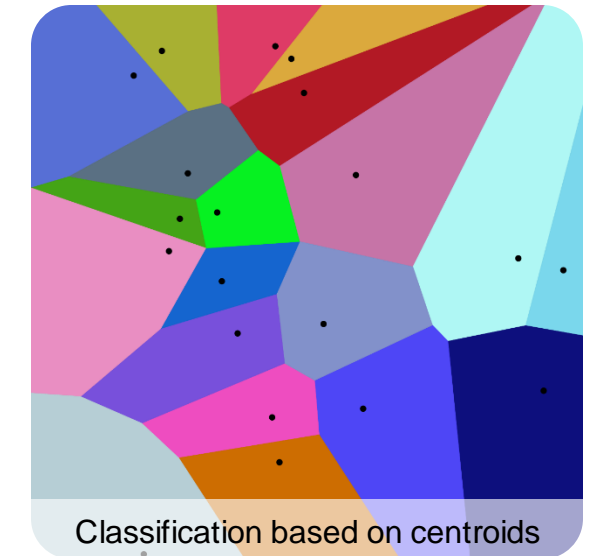
所以需要用先验知识来确定合适的 k , 规避overfitting

- Results depend on the correct choice of k

- No sound theoretical solutions
- Can we determine k from domain?
 - E.g. optical letter recognition $\Rightarrow k = 26$

- Triggering k-means method multiple times with different values for k

- Termination if result meets a certain optimality criterion 如果结果符合特定的最优标准, 则终止
 - Problem: Possibly overfitting on training data
 - Challenge: Find a good optimality criterion (e.g., minimum number of data points per cluster, maximum number of clusters...)



Fuzzy-k-means-Clustering I

■ Regular k-means

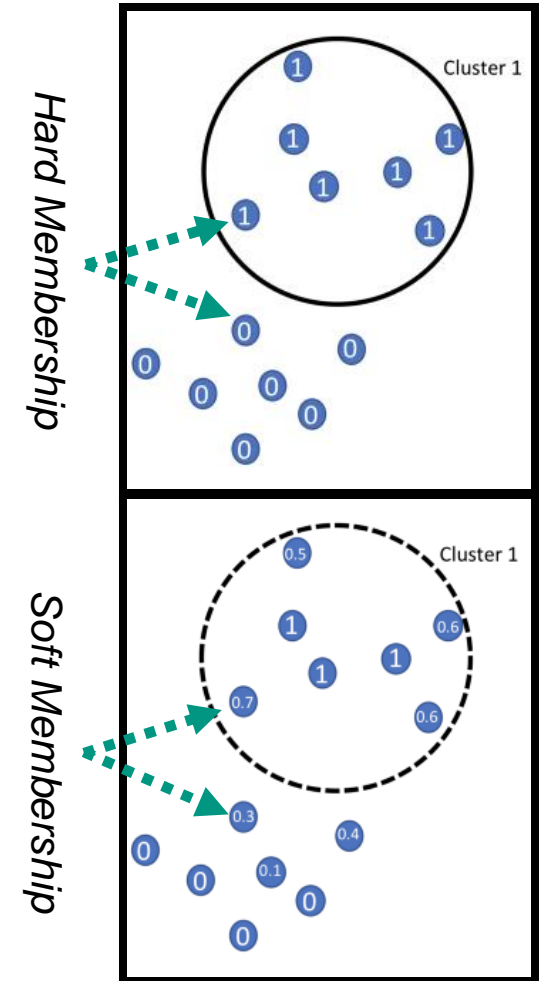
- Each instance belongs to exactly one cluster.

模糊K聚类

■ Softening: Each instance x_i contains “soft” probabilities for a membership of cluster X_j

- $P(X_j|x_i)$ ”Probability measure of membership“
- $P(X_j|x_i) \sim 0$: Instance is far away from centroid
- $P(X_j|x_i) \sim 1$: Instance is close/inside the cluster
- P is normalized over all clusters $X_j : \sum_{X_j} P(X_j | x_i) = 1$

每个数据点 x_i 对所有聚类的概率总和为1



Fuzzy-k-means-Clustering II

- Cluster belonging of instance \mathbf{x}_i towards X_j with centroid \mathbf{c}_j , is characterized by distance d_{ij} between \mathbf{x}_i and \mathbf{c}_j

隶属于某个簇的隶属度公式
(其中 b 是控制模糊性的超参数, 默认为2。)

$$P(X_j|\mathbf{x}_i) = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{d_{ij}}\right)^{\frac{1}{b-1}}}{\sum_{r=1}^k \left(\frac{1}{d_{ir}}\right)^{\frac{1}{b-1}}}$$

b is a hyperparameter that scales the fuzziness/softness with default value = 2

with $d_{ij} = \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{c}_j\|^2$

- p is normalized over clusters X_j

$$\forall i = 1, \dots, n: \quad \sum_{j=1}^k P(X_j|\mathbf{x}_i) = 1$$

Fuzzy-k-means-Clustering III

模糊隶属度影响质心更新，每次迭代根据当前隶属度计算新的质心位置：

- Iterative adaptation of c_j considers the fuzzy belongings of all data points x_i

$$c_j = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n P(X_j | x_i)^b x_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n (P(X_j | x_i))^b}$$

- Higher b -values reduce the influence of distant instances

- **Problem:** Runtime = $O(kn)$ for each training iteration

运行时间（复杂度）， k 为族的数量， n 为数据点数

DBSCAN – Density Based Spatial Clustering

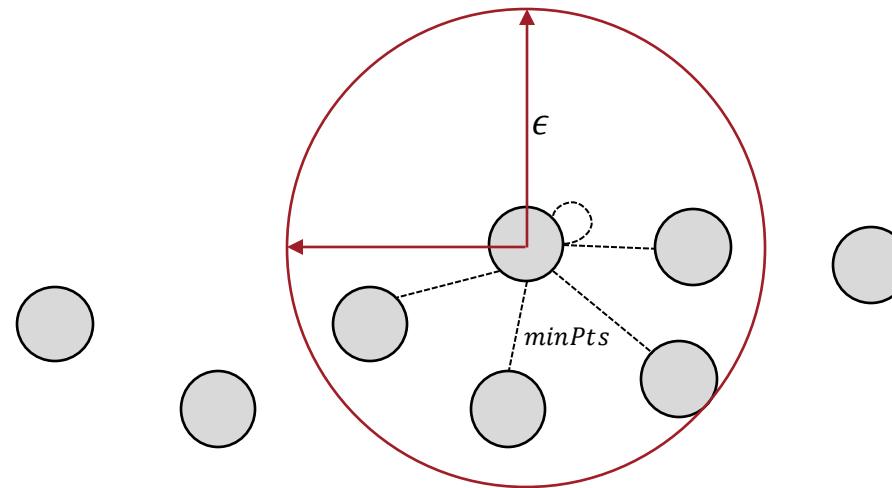
- Density based method
- Iteratively assigns data points to one of three classes:
 - Core sample
 - Neighbor
 - Noise
- Clusters are sets of core samples and their respective neighbors
- Separates high density areas from low density areas

DBSCAN – Density Based Clustering


- Algorithm is parametrized by $minPts$ and a distance measure ϵ
- **Core Sample**: A point is a core sample if at least $minPts$ points are within distance ϵ
- **Neighbor**: A point is a neighbor if there are not $minPts$ points within distance ϵ , but at least one point within distance ϵ is a core sample.
- **Noise**: There is no core sample within distance ϵ

将点的噪声/归属于某个簇的划分归为两个参数
 $minPts$ (最小点数) + ϵ (半径参数)

这三个定义看

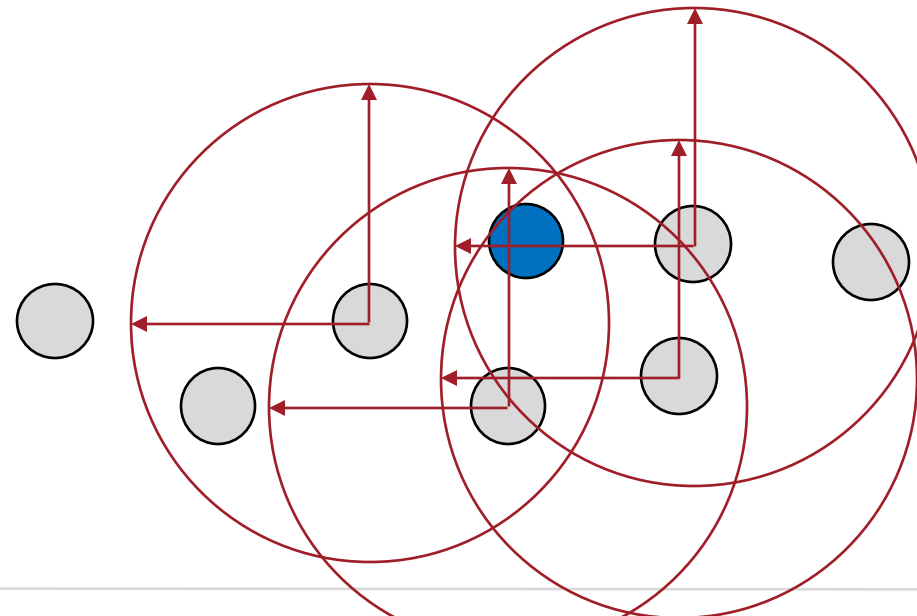


$minPts = 4$ (including itself)


$\epsilon =$ 

DBSCAN – Density Based Clustering

- Algorithm is parametrized by $minPts$ and a distance measure ε
- **Core Sample**: A point is a core sample if at least $minPts$ points are within distance ε
- **Neighbor**: A point is a neighbor if there are not $minPts$ points within distance ε , but at least one point within distance ε is a core sample.
- **Noise**: There is no core sample within distance ε

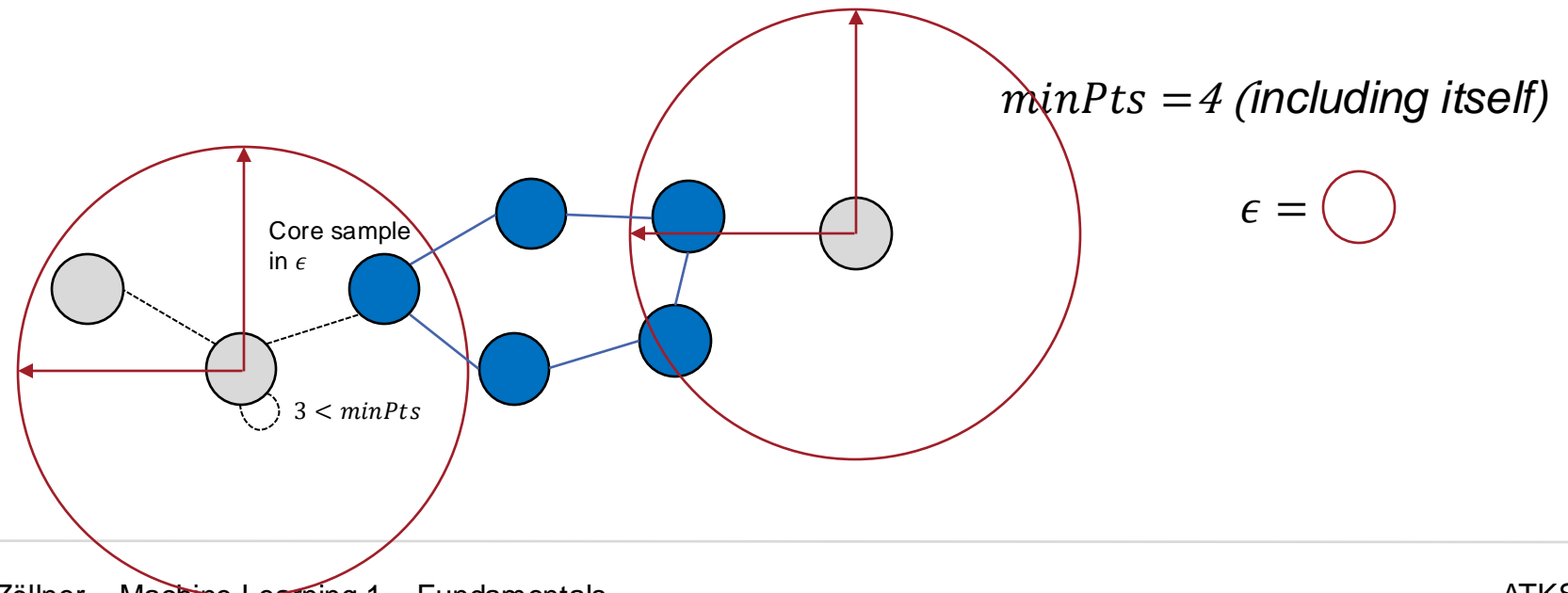


$minPts = 4$ (including itself)

$\epsilon =$ 

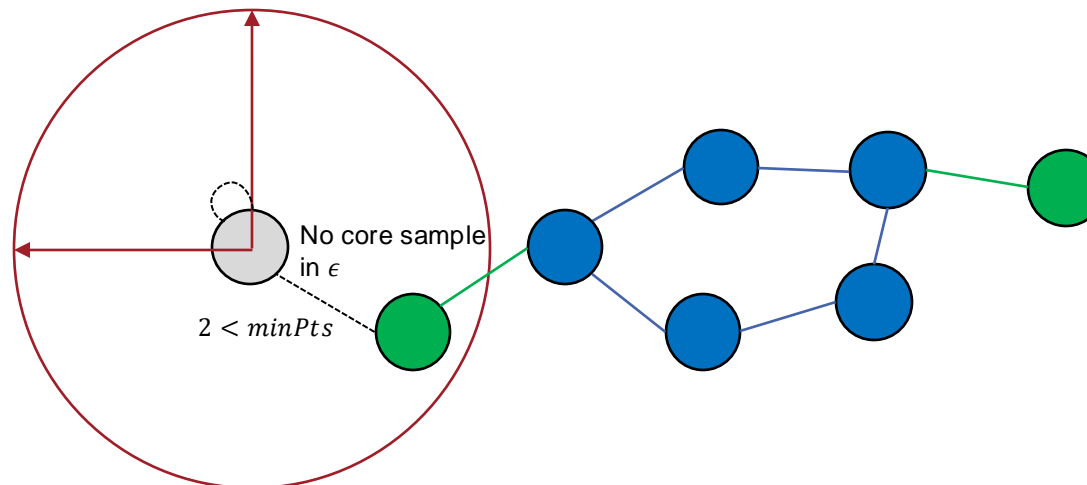
DBSCAN – Density Based Clustering

- Algorithm is parametrized by $minPts$ and a distance measure ε
- **Core Sample**: A point is a core sample if at least $minPts$ points are within distance ε
- **Neighbor**: A point is a neighbor if there are not $minPts$ points within distance ε , but at least one point within distance ε is a core sample.
- **Noise**: There is no core sample within distance ε




DBSCAN – Density Based Clustering

- Algorithm is parametrized by $minPts$ and a distance measure ϵ
- **Core Sample**: A point is a core sample if at least $minPts$ points are within distance ϵ
- **Neighbor**: A point is a neighbor if there are not $minPts$ points within distance ϵ , but at least one point within distance ϵ is a core sample.
- **Noise**: There is no core sample within distance ϵ



$minPts = 4$ (including itself)

$\epsilon =$ 

GDBSCAN: Pseudocode for Generalized DBSCAN

一种DBSCAN的泛化版本

```
GDBSCAN(D, getNeighbors, isCorePoint)
```

```
  C = 0
```

```
  for each unvisited point P in D
```

```
    mark P as visited
```

```
    N = getNeighbors(P)
```

```
    if isCorePoint(P, N)
```

```
      C = next cluster
```

```
      expandCluster(P, N, C)
```

```
    else mark P as NOISE
```

```
expandCluster(P, N, C)
```

```
  add P to cluster C
```

```
  for each point P' in N
```

```
    if P' is not visited
```

```
      mark P' as visited
```

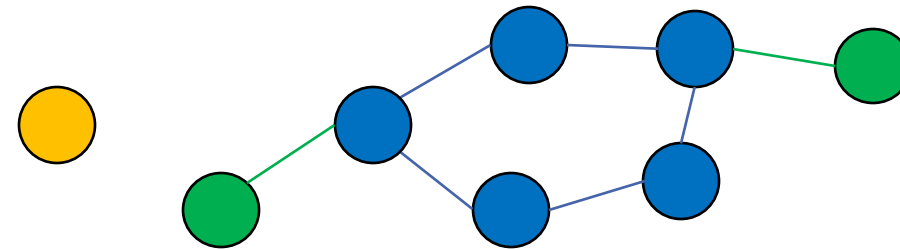
```
      N' = getNeighbors(P')
```

```
      if isCorePoint(P', N')
```

```
        N = N joined with N'
```

```
    if P' is not yet member of any cluster
```

```
      add P' to cluster C
```



```
getNeighbors(P):
```

```
  returns Points in  $\epsilon$ -distance of P
```

```
isCorePoint(P, N):
```

```
  density estimation
```

(G)DBSCAN vs. k-means-Clustering

DBSCAN的优缺点

- DBSCAN is robust against noise → incorporates noisy samples into algorithm
- DBSCAN can cluster different data densities
 - Challenge: correctly define “density” with $minPts$ and ϵ
- DBSCAN does not require a priori knowledge about number of clusters

unclustered



k-means

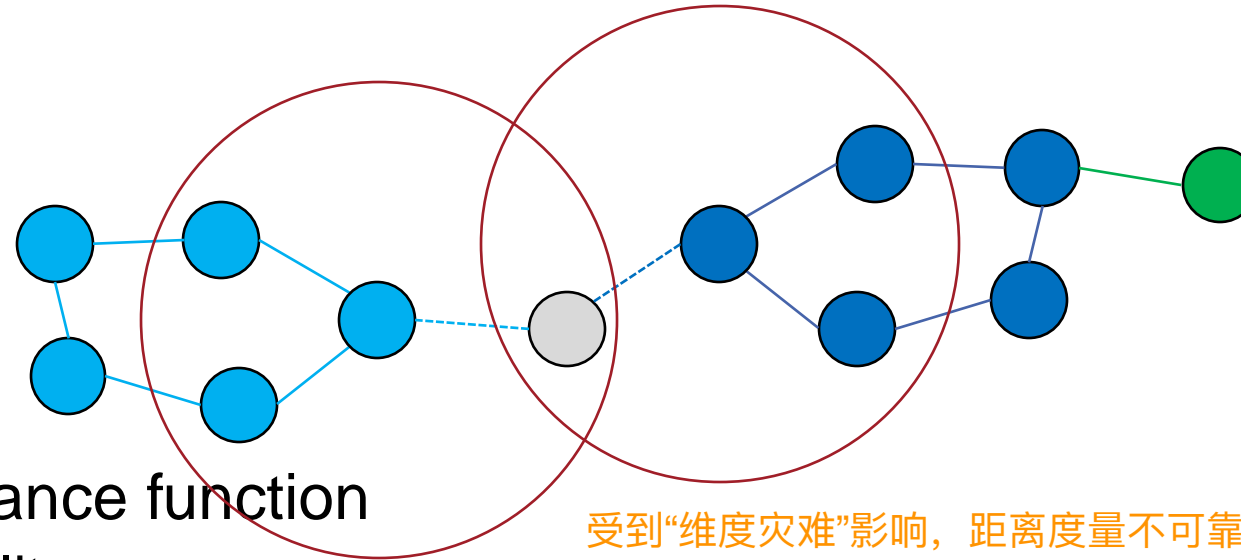


DBSCAN



(G)DBSCAN: Disadvantages

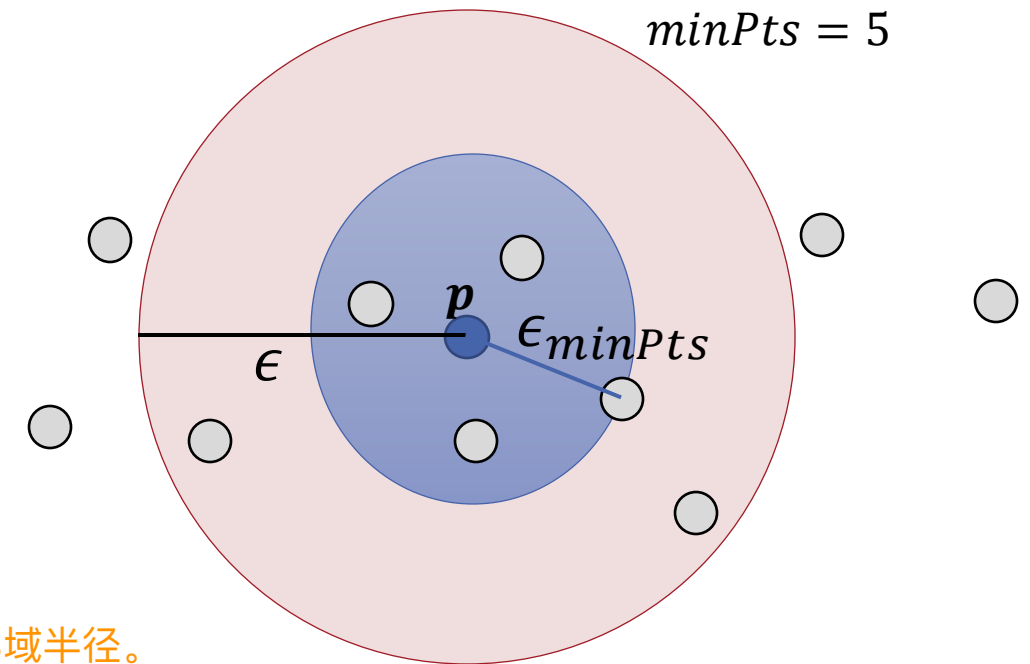
- DBSCAN non-deterministic e.g. 不确定性-点的处理顺序会影响结果
 - Grey point is neighbor of two separate core samples but no core sample itself
 - Cluster assignment depends on the order of processing



- Still dependent of distance function
 - Curse of Dimensionality
- Fitting Selection of ε , $minPts$ can be difficult (different densities) 参数选择敏感

OPTICS – Ordering Points To Identify the Clustering Structure

- OPTICS is extension of DBSCAN
 - Hyperparameter $minPts$ still used to categorize core samples
 - Hyperparameter ϵ still used but influence is reduced (upper bound)
- Extension: Calculate distance ϵ_{minPts} , from which a point would qualify as core sample (i.e. $minPts$ in its vicinity)
- ϵ_{minPts} is also called the *core distance* of a point



相对于DBSCAN的拓展内容：

引入了 ϵ_{minPts} （核心距离）：表示一个点成为核心点所需的最小邻域半径。
通过计算点之间的reachability distance（可达距离）进行排序，以更灵活地识别聚类边界。

OPTICS – Ordering Points To Identify the Clustering Structure

■ **Definition:** $reachability_{\epsilon, minPts}(q, p) = \begin{cases} \text{undefined, if } |N_{\epsilon}(p)| < minPts \\ \max(\epsilon_{minPts}, distance(p, q)) \end{cases}$

■ $reachability(p, q_{noise}) = \text{undefined}$

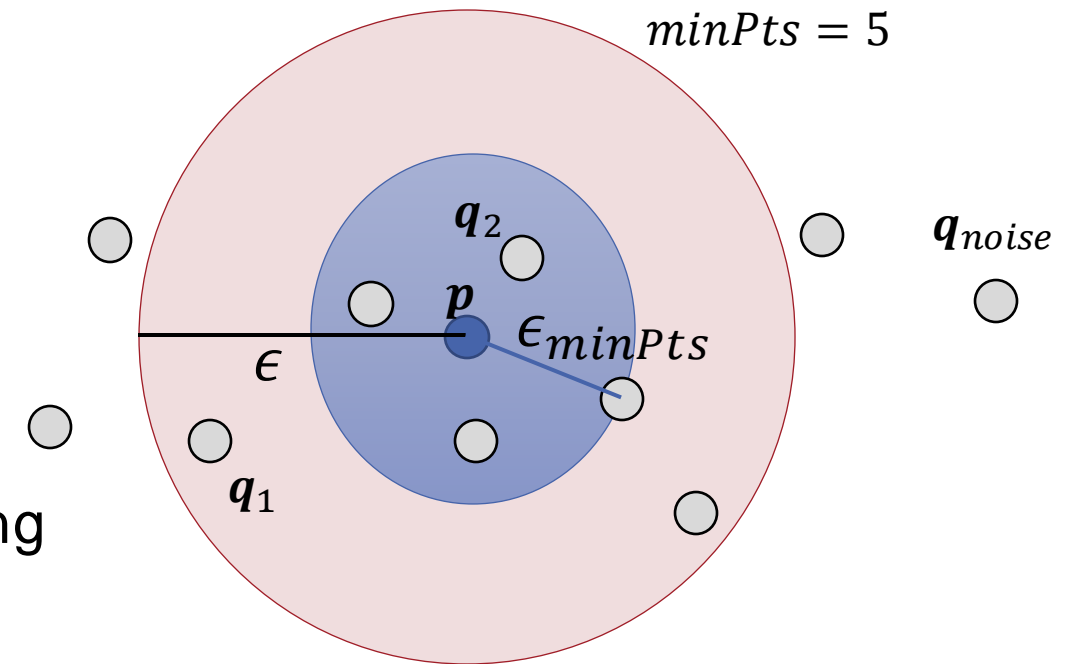
■ $reachability(q_1, p) = distance(p, q_1)$

■ $reachability(q_2, p) = \epsilon_{minPts}$

■ **Extension of DBSCAN with:**

■ Iterative sorting of neighbors according to their (defined) reachability

■ Processing and assignment to clusters in sorting order (new cluster or noise depending on ϵ)

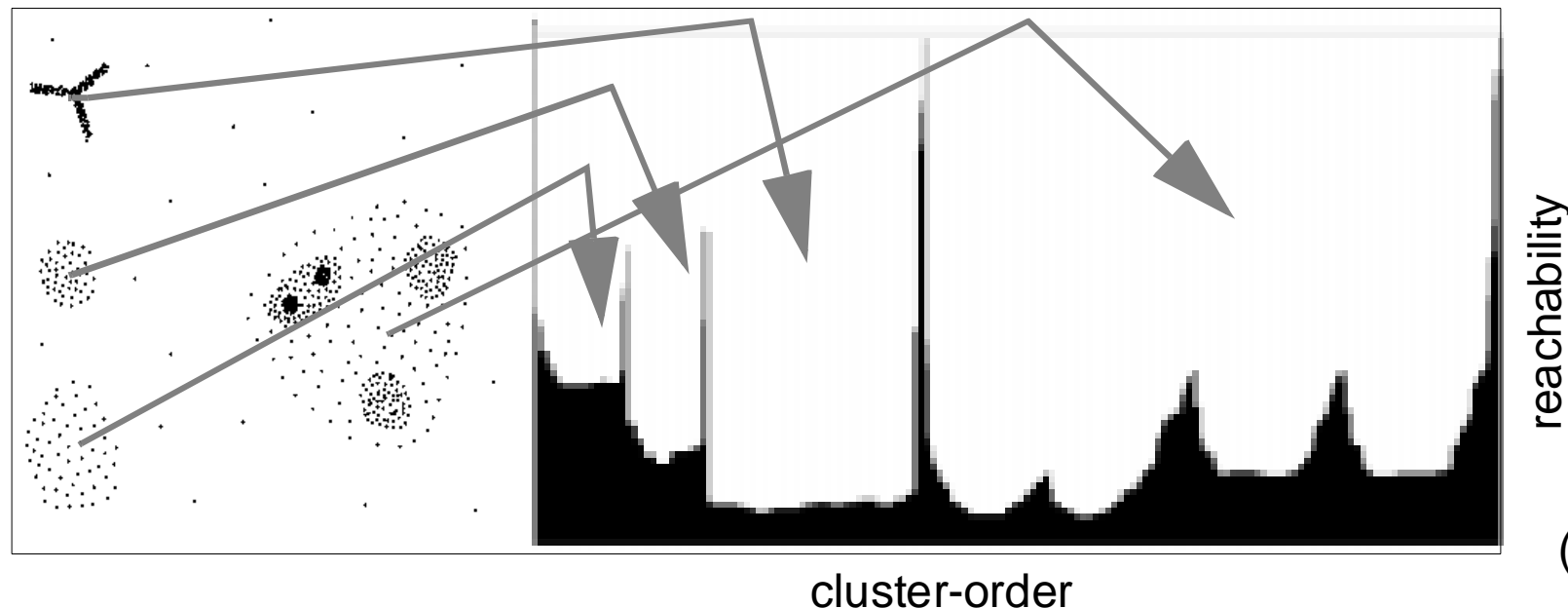


OPTICS – Ordering Points To Identify the Clustering Structure

■ Conclusion:

在reachability图中，低谷对应潜在聚类。

- Cells with large number of objects are potential cluster centers and are visible as “valleys” in reachability/cluster-order histogram.
- Complete processing of new clusters is possible algorithmically (see [8]) and provides the clusters (“valleys”) 可进一步创建子聚类或调整参数获得更精确的聚类结果。

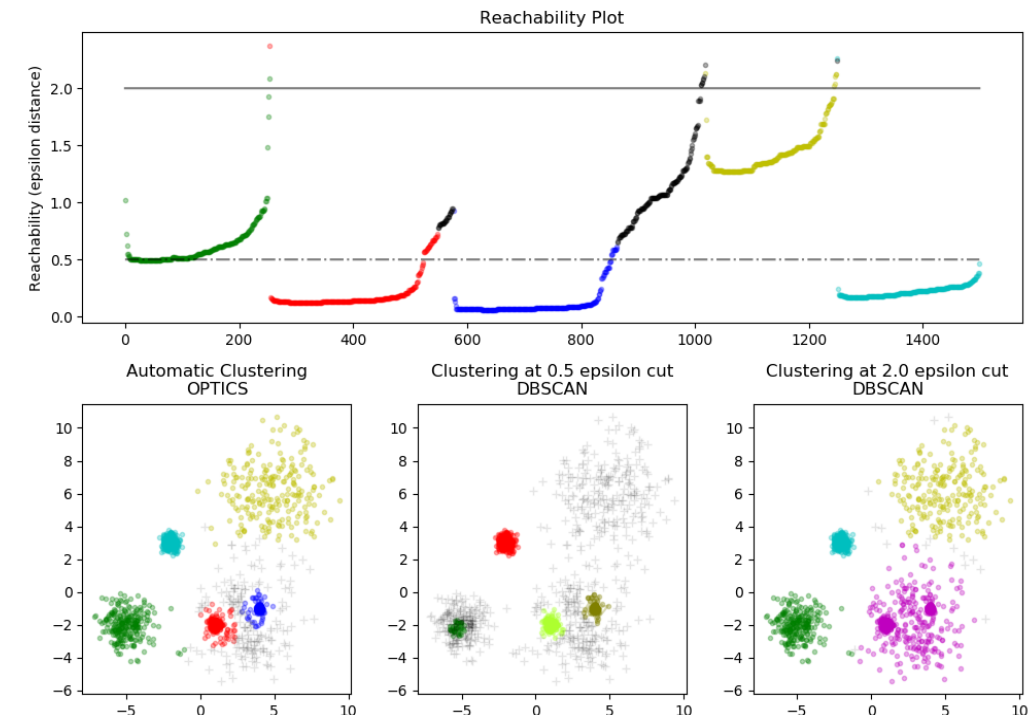


(Source: [8])

OPTICS – Ordering Points To Identify the Clustering Structure

通过可达性 (reachability) 定义点与点之间的关系，而非依赖单一固定的密度阈值
可达性度量了点之间的聚类紧密性

- Parametrization less dependent on different cluster densities by defining reachability
- Search for valleys in histogram:
 - Returns cluster
 - Depth of valley represents density
 - Creation of subclusters also possible
- Cluster adjustable depending on ε as upper bound of reachability



Source: https://scikit-learn.org/stable/auto_examples/cluster/plot_optics.html#sphx-glr-auto-examples-cluster-plot-optics-py

Outline

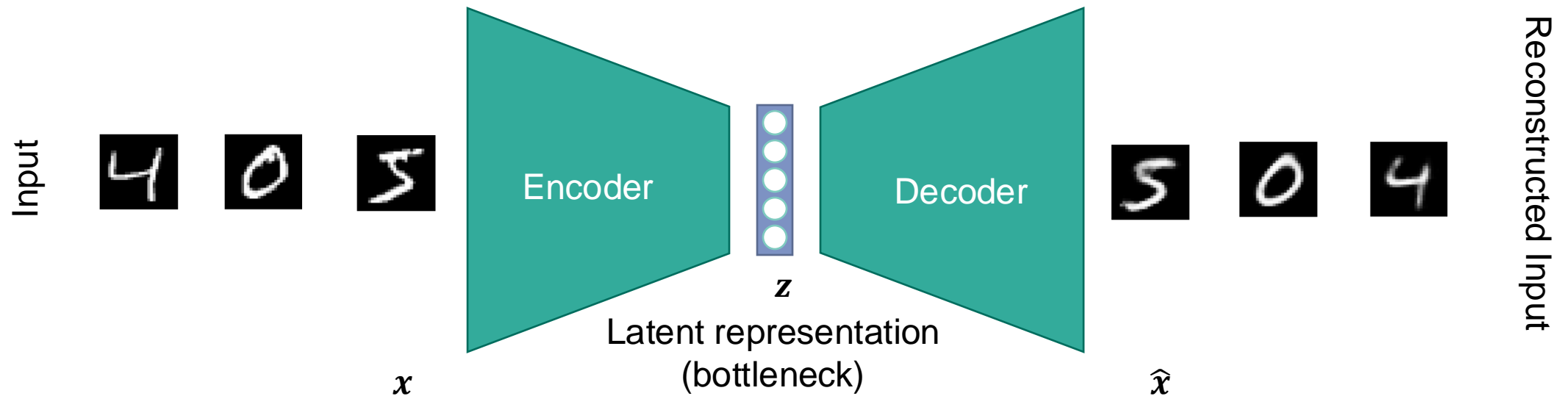
- Motivation
- Clustering
- Dimensionality Reduction / Feature Extraction
- Outlook: Advanced Methods

Unsupervised Learning with Neural Networks

- **Principle:** Network learns to reconstruct its input
 - with network architecture creating artificial restrictions 添加人为限制
 - Network needs to learn features from dataset
-
- **Examples:**
 - Autoencoder
 - Restricted Boltzmann Machine
 - Deep Belief Networks

Autoencoder

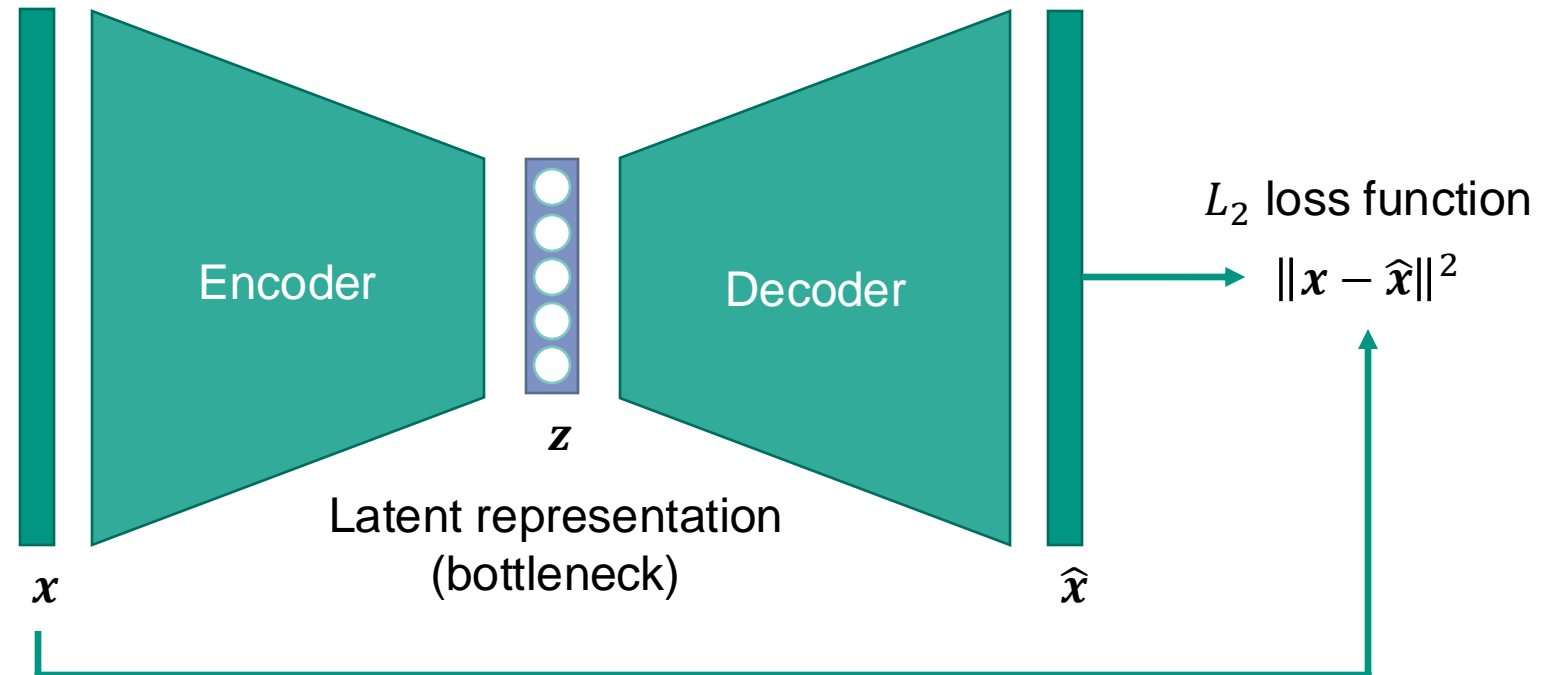
- Architecture containing Encoder and Decoder
- Tunneling of information through a bottleneck (latent representation)



- Encoder and Decoder usually deep neural networks (CNNs)

Autoencoder - Training

- No extra label required. Label is identical to input and is used in reconstruction loss $\|x - \hat{x}\|^2$

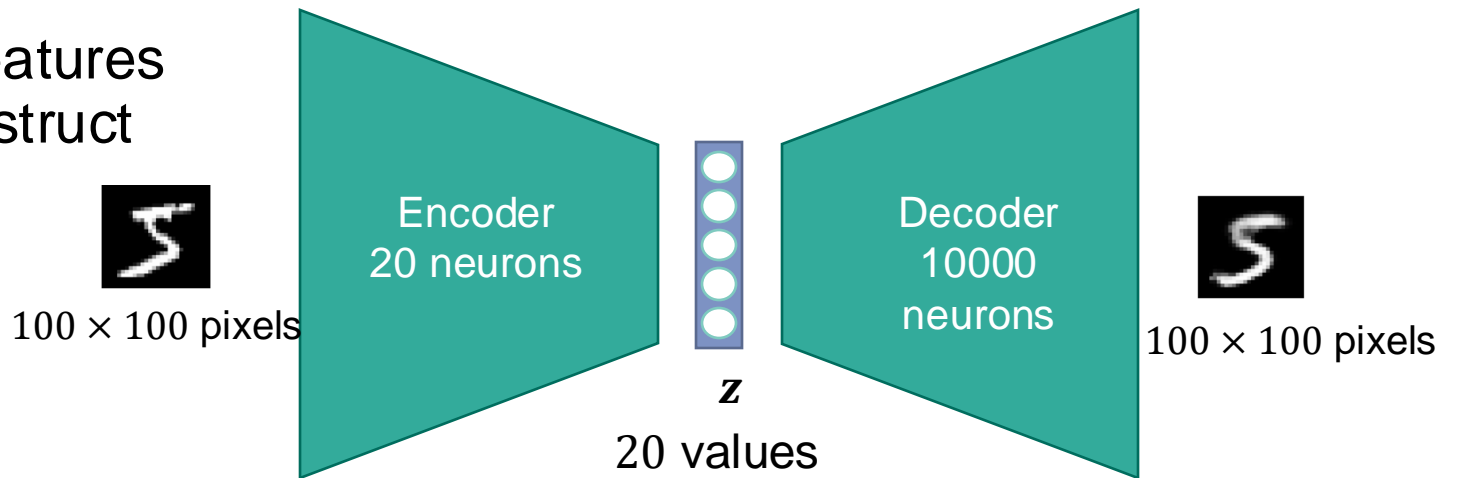


- Network must compress all relevant information in small latent vector to to reproduce the input

Autoencoder

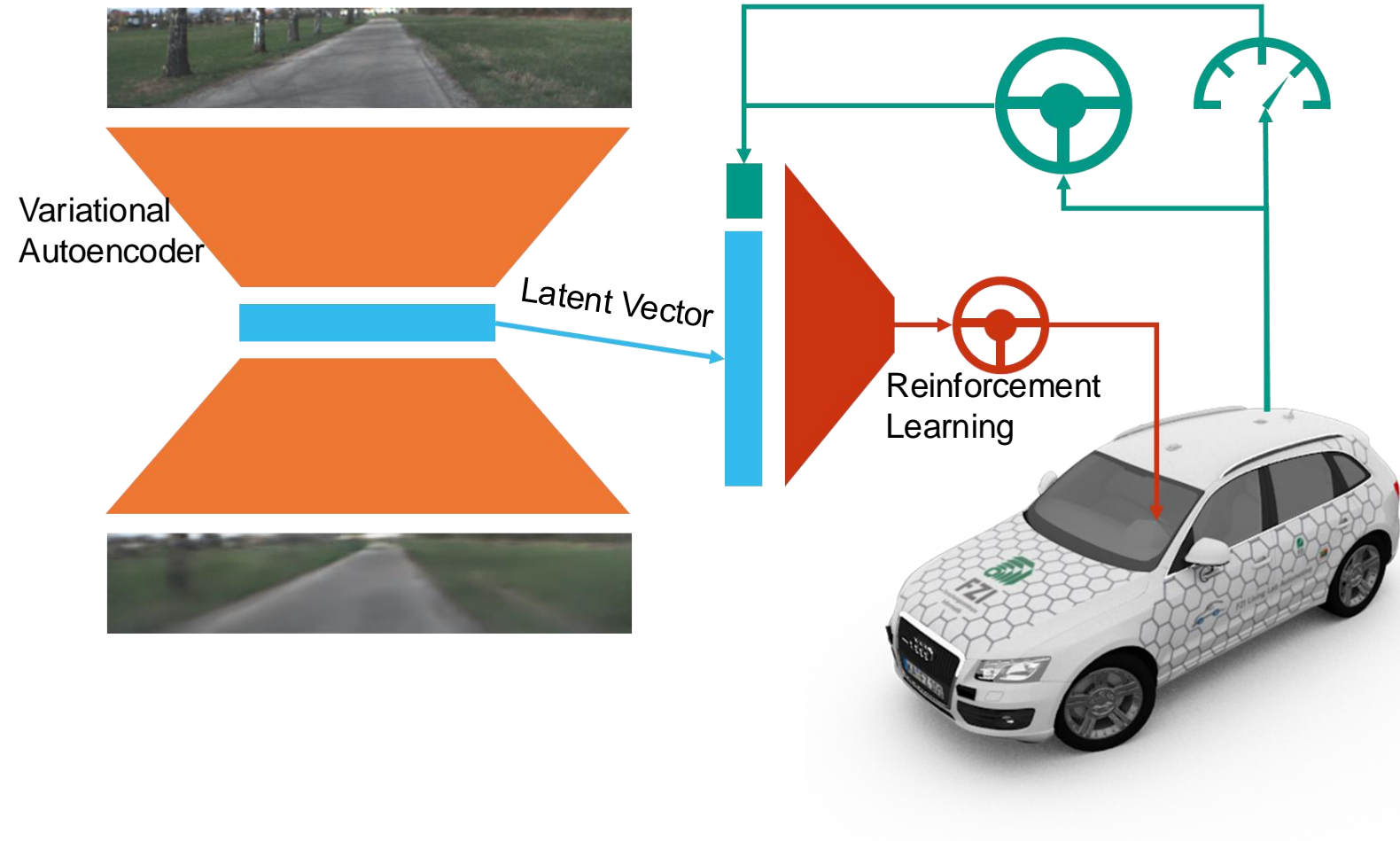
■ Example:

- 20-dimensional latent space
- 10,000 pixels must to be represented in 20 values
 - (lossy compression)
- Network stores important features in the latent space to reconstruct the input



Application: Learn latent representation for Reinforcement Learning

- Control with Reinforcement Learning on latent space
- Latent space by Variational Autoencoder (VAE) see ML2
- VAE trained offline with real video data
- Latent vector extended with data from CAN- Bus
- Agent converts within less than 1000 steps in real rollouts

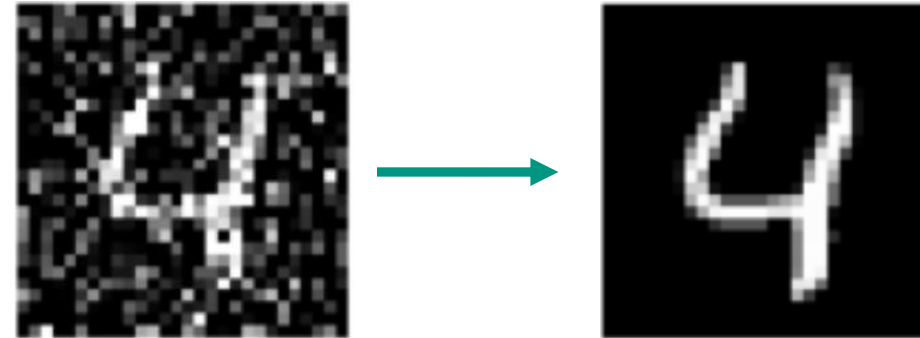


The background of the image is a blurred view from the driver's perspective inside a car. A steering wheel is visible on the left, and a dashboard with a screen and some colored indicators (green and red) is visible on the right. The car appears to be moving on a road with trees and a building in the background.

TOTAL TRAINING TIME: 04:36.2
TOTAL TRAINING FRAMES: 5924
TOTAL TRAINING EPISODES: 54

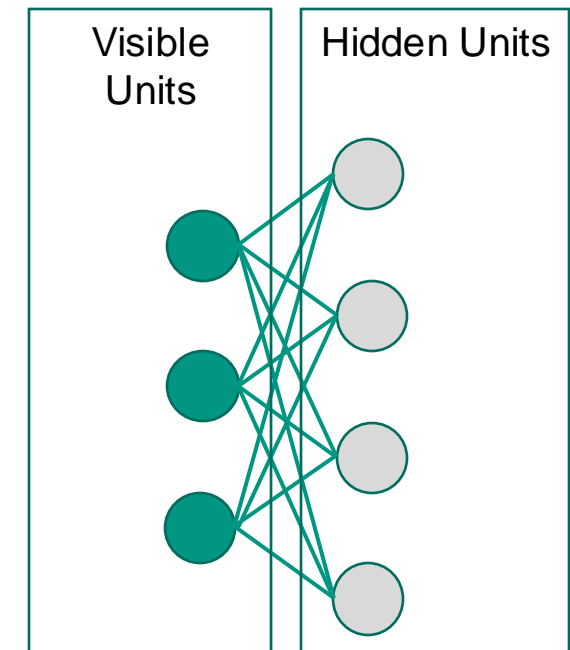
Discussion Autoencoder

- Extension: De-noising Autoencoder
 - Add additional noise to input of encoder
 - Reduces overfitting.
- Extension: Generative Models
 - Use Decoder to create new unseen images by sampling in latent space (and converting the latent representation into a distribution, Variational Autoencoder, see lecture ML2)
- Distinction between unsupervised and supervised learning blurry for neural networks
 - Unsupervised: does not require extra label annotation
 - Supervised: uses input as label
 - Nowadays also called: **Self-Supervised Learning**
 - (Fundamental learning method used to create today's largest modern neural networks such as ChatGPT/GPT-4, see lecture in ML2)



Restricted Boltzmann Machine (RBM) [Smolensky, 1986]

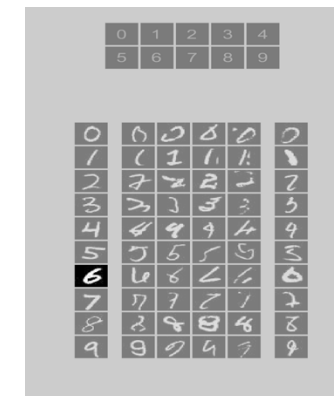
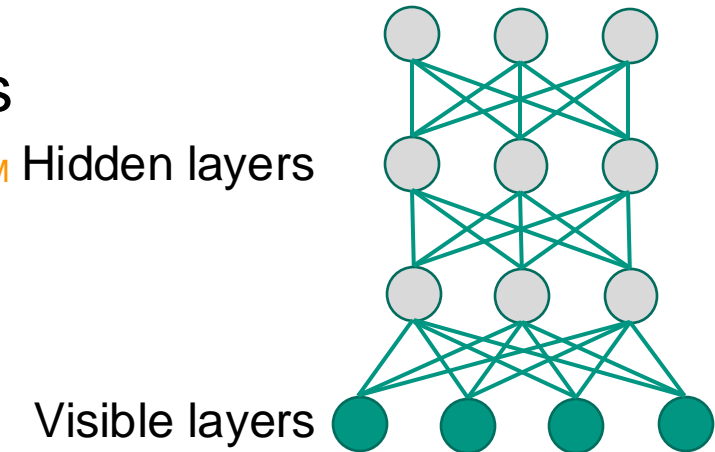
- Neurons form bipartite graph 二分图
- Two layers: Visible and hidden units
- Neurons take binary values (activated / not activated)
- Network propagation is bidirectional and establishes equilibrium
 - propagated value generally defines the probability of activation 双向传播, 传播的值通常定义了激活的概率。
- Weights on edges:
 - Propagate between layers forward and backward until an equilibrium between hidden and visible layers is reached for learning data 平衡
- Example: Collaborative Filtering (Netflix) [6]
应用: 商城推荐算法



Deep Belief Networks

- Generative graphical model
- Aggregation of bidirectional layers with hidden units
- Approximation with stacked RBM 带有隐藏单元的双向层聚合 (RBM Hidden layers)
- Layers can be trained sequentially
→ one of the first effective approaches of deep learning with deep networks
- Applications
 - Feature extraction
 - Clustering
 - Classification
 - Also, as stacked Autoencoder

DBN的层可以逐层进行无监督的预训练，然后通过有监督学习进行微调。



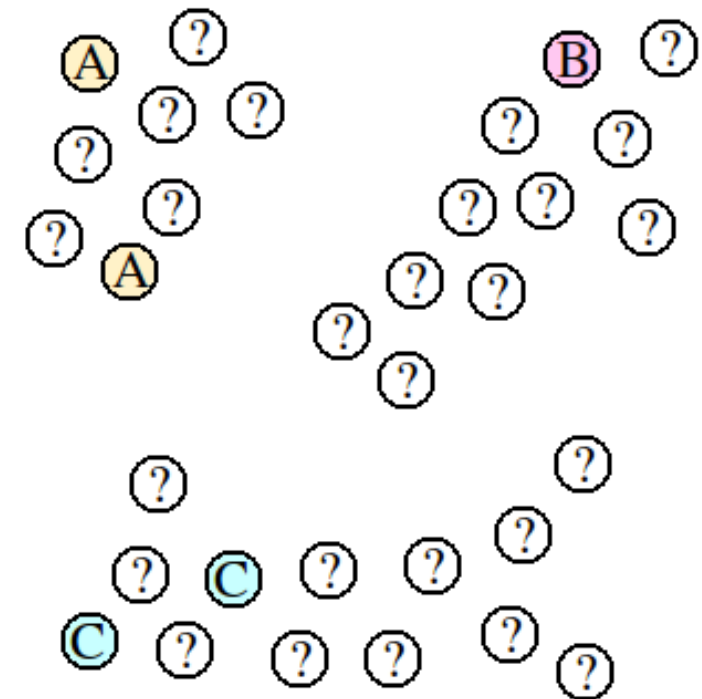
[[Geoffrey Hinton](#)]

Outline

- Motivation
- Clustering
- Dimensionality Reduction / Feature Extraction
- Outlook: Advanced Methods

Outlook: Advanced Methods

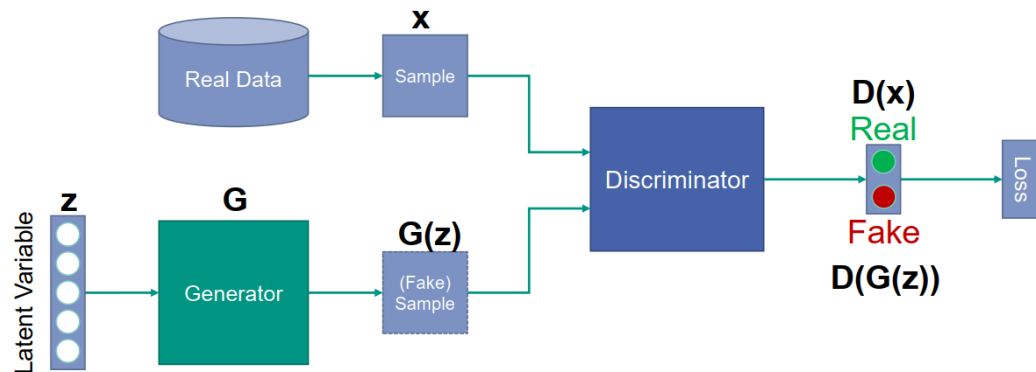
- **Constrained k-mean Clustering [3]**
 - additional *must-link*- and *cannot-link*-constraints
- **Semi supervised learning [4,5]**
 - Learning method when the dataset contains little labelled data and a lot of unlabeled data
 - Example:
 - Unsupervised clustering
 - Use labeled data instances to label clusters
- **Self-Supervised Learning (ML2)**



Outlook: Advanced Methods (in ML2)

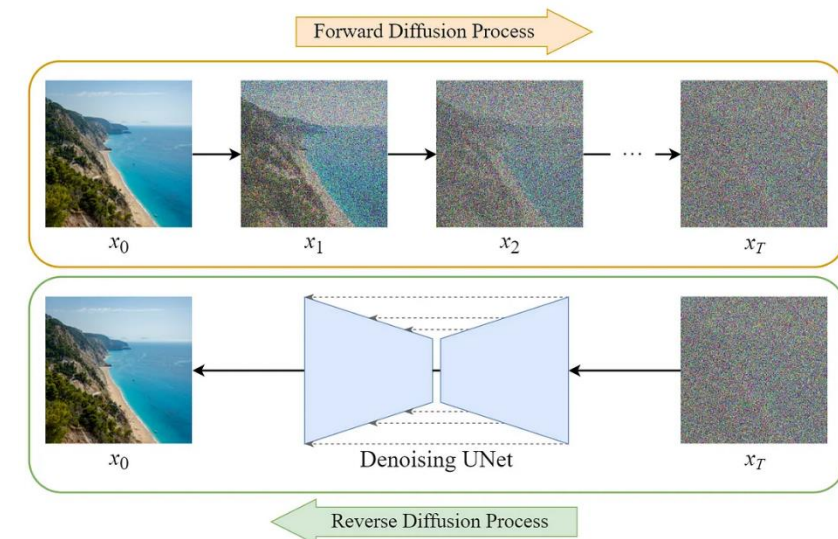
Generative Adversarial Networks

- Simultaneously train generative and discriminative model that try to “fool” each other



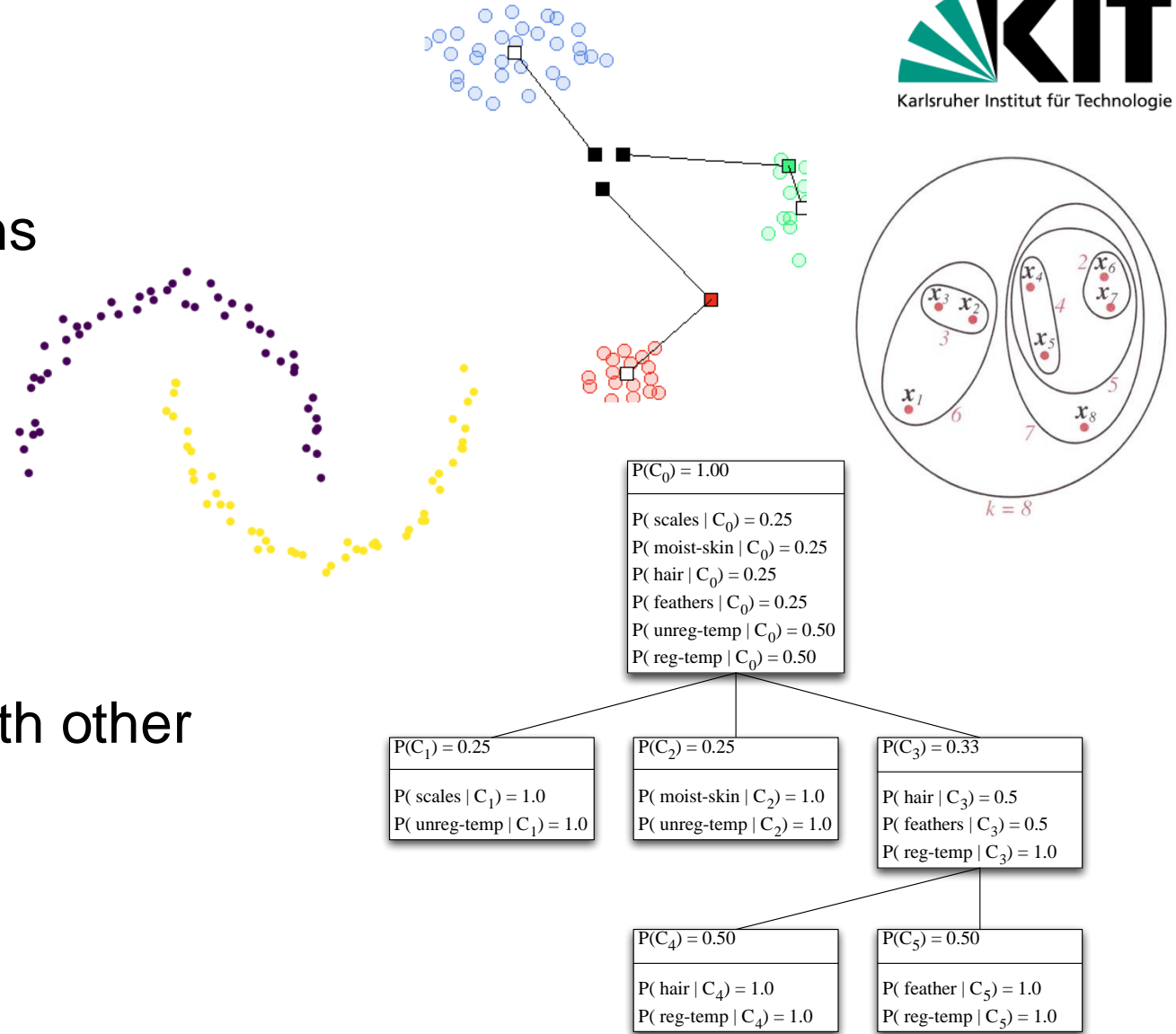
Diffusion Models

- Apply noise on image and train denoising network
 - Similar to denoising autoencoder using multiple steps)
 - Used in Dalle-2 / Stable Diffusion



Conclusion

- Different approaches / optimizations
 - k-means clustering
 - DBSCAN / OPTICS
 - Autoencoder
 - Generative models
 -
- Different objectives
- Commonly used in combination with other ML algorithms



Literature

- [1] *Duda, Hart, Stork*: **Pattern Classification**. John Wiley & Sons, 2001, Kapitel 10.
- [2] *Gennari, Langley, Fisher*: **Models of incremental concept formation**. Artificial Intelligence, vol. 40, pp.11-61, 1989.
- [3] *Wagstaff, Cardie, Rogers, Schroedl*: **Constrained K-means Clustering with Background Knowledge**. Proceeding of the 8th Int. Conference on Machine Learning, pp. 577-584, 2001.
- [4] *Vapnik*: **Statistical learning theory**. Wiley, pp. 339-371, 1998.
- [5] ML2 → Sommersemester
- [6] Salakhutdinov, Ruslan & Mnih et. al. **Restricted Boltzmann machines for collaborative filtering**. ACM International Conference Proceeding, 2007
- [7] M. Ester, H-P. Kriegel, J. Sander, X. Xu: **A density-based algorithm for discovering clusters in large spatial databases with noise**. Proceedings Int. Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD-96). AAAI Press, 1996
- [8] M. Ankerst, M. M. Breunig, H-P. Kriegel, J. Sander: **OPTICS: Ordering Points To Identify the Clustering Structure**. In: ACM SIGMOD Int. Conference on Management of data. ACM Press, 1999