

Lecture 5

Non-parametric clustering

HW1 link fixed
- due 4/17

HW2 on 4/19

LIV posted

OH Tue in B321

Lecture IV – Non-parametric clustering

Marina Meilă
`mmp@stat.washington.edu`

Department of Statistics
University of Washington

- 1 Paradigms for clustering 
- 2 Methods based on non-parametric density estimation 
- 3 Model-based: Dirichlet process mixture models

Reading AoNPS Ch.: –, HTF Ch.: 14.3 Murphy Ch.: 11.[1], 11.2.1-3, 11.3, Ch 25

What is clustering? Problem and Notation

x_i data point i

- Informal definition **Clustering** = Finding groups in data

- Notation
 - $\mathcal{D}$ = $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ a **data set**
 - n = number of **data points**
 - K = number of **clusters** ($K \ll n$)
 - Δ = $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_K\}$ a partition of $\mathcal{D}$ into disjoint subsets
 - $k(i)$ = the **label** of point i
 - $\mathcal{L}(\Delta)$ = cost (loss) of Δ (to be minimized)

- Second informal definition **Clustering** = given n **data points**, separate them into K **clusters**

- Hard vs. soft clusterings

- **Hard** clustering Δ : an item belongs to only 1 cluster

- **Soft** clustering $\gamma = \{\gamma_{ki}\}_{k=1:n}^{i=1:n}$

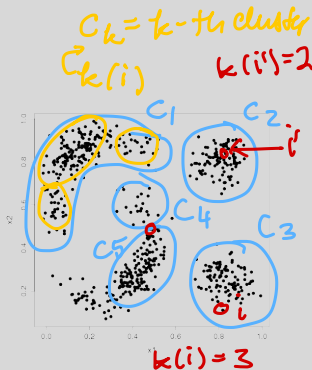
γ_{ki} = the **degree of membership** of point i to cluster k

$$\sum_k \gamma_{ki} = 1 \quad \text{for all } i$$

(usually associated with a probabilistic model)

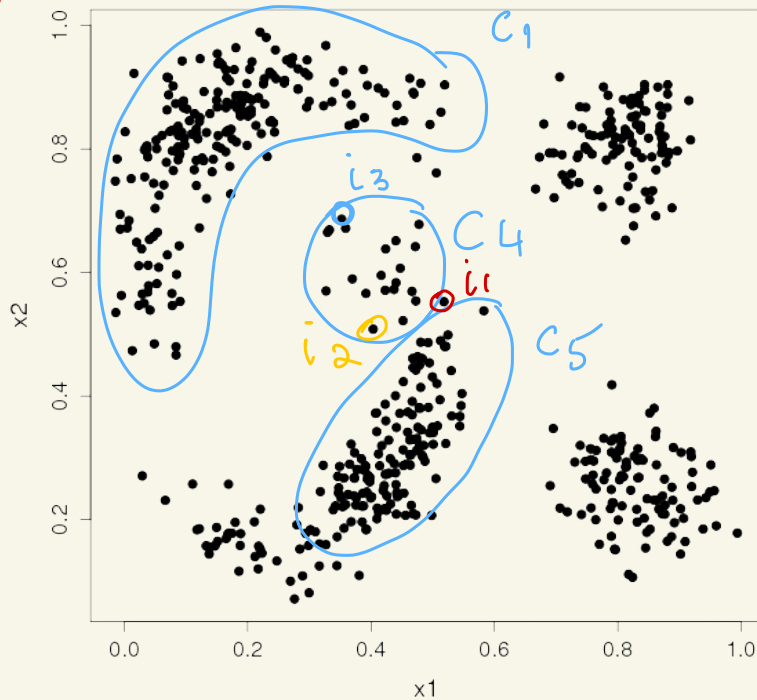
Clustering alg:

what clusters is it trying to find?



i : $\mu_i(k)$, $k=1:k$ degree of membership

Soft clustering



$$i_1: \mu_4(i_1) = 0.5$$

$$\mu_5(i_1) = 0.5$$

$$\mu_a(i_1) = 0 = \dots$$

$$\mu_4(i_2) = 0.7$$

$$\mu_5(i_2) = 0.3$$

$$\mu_1(i_3) = 0.1$$

$$\mu_4(i_3) = 0.85$$

$$\mu_5(i_3) = 0.05$$

Clustering Paradigms

Depend on type of data, type of clustering, type of cost (probabilistic or not), and constraints (about K , shape of clusters)

- Data = vectors $\{x_i\}$ in $\mathbb{R}^d$

Parametric
(K known)

Cost based [hard]
Model based [soft]

Non-parametric
(K determined
by algorithm)

Dirichlet process mixtures [soft]
Information bottleneck [soft]
Modes of distribution [hard]
Gaussian blurring mean shift? [hard]
Level sets of distribution [hard]

Ex: protein
interaction
networks

$i = \text{protein } i$

- Data = similarities between pairs of points $[S_{ij}]_{i,j=1:n}$, $S_{ij} = S_{ji} \geq 0$

$S_{ij} = \text{affinity}$
for
interaction

Similarity based clustering

Graph partitioning spectral clustering [hard, K fixed, cost based]
typical cuts [hard non-parametric, cost based]
Affinity propagation [hard/soft non-parametric]

Ex: Social networks

$i = \text{person}$

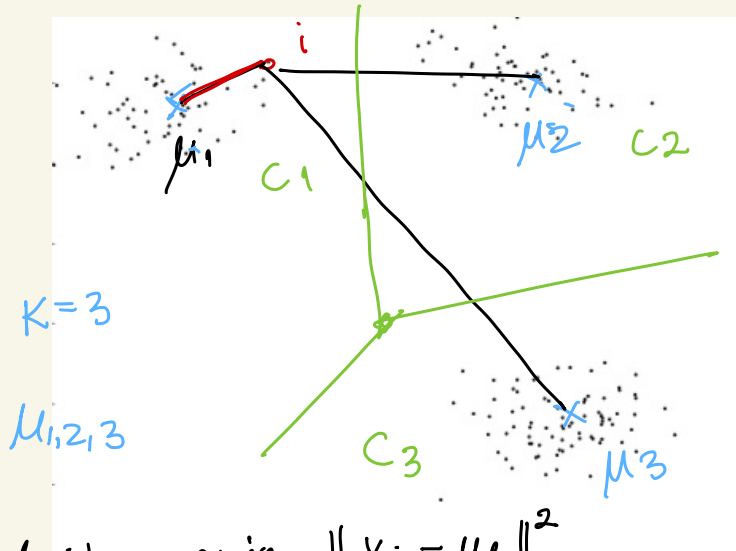
$S_{ij} = \text{coauthorship}$
social media links



Classification vs Clustering

	Classification	Clustering
Cost (or Loss) $\mathcal{L}$	Expected error	many! (probabilistic or not)
	Supervised	Unsupervised
Generalization	Performance on new data is what matters	Performance on current data is what matters
K	Known	Unknown
"Goal"	Prediction	Exploration <i>Lots of data to explore!</i>
Stage of field	Mature	Still young

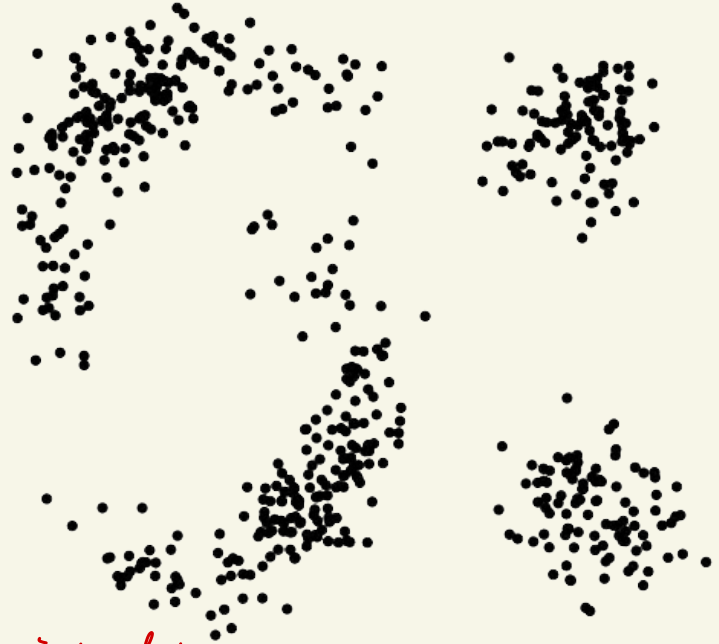
$$k(i) = 1 \Leftrightarrow i \in C_1$$



$$k(i) = \underset{k=1:k}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|x_i - \mu_k\|^2$$

Parametric clustering

- K-means $\leftarrow$ K input (# clusters)
- EM $\Rightarrow$ soft clusterings
K given



Non-parametric clustering

K unknown $\Rightarrow$ known only after clustering

K not important

Smoothing parameter = kernel width h

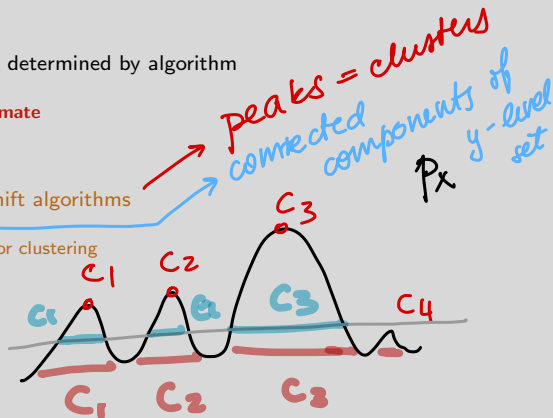
Methods based on non-parametric density estimation

Idea The clusters are the isolated peaks in the (empirical) data density

- group points by the peak they are under
- some outliers possible
- $K = 1$ possible (no clusters)
- shape and number of clusters K determined by algorithm
- **structural parameters**
 - **smoothness** of the **density estimate**
 - what is a peak

Algorithms

- peak finding algorithms **Mean-shift algorithms**
- level sets based algorithms
 - **Nugent-Stuetzle, Support Vector clustering**
- Information Bottleneck ?



y (super) level set
of $P_x =$

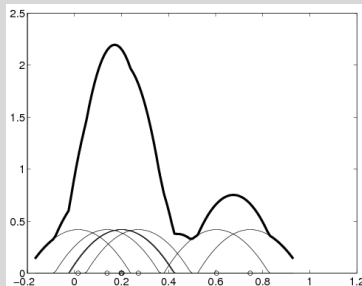
$$= \{x_i \mid P_x(x_i) \geq y\}$$

Kernel density estimation

- Input**
- data $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$
 - **Kernel** function $K(z)$
 - parameter **kernel width** h (is a **smoothness parameter**)

Output $f(x)$ a **probability density** over $\mathbb{R}^d$

$$p_x \equiv f(x) = \frac{1}{nh^d} \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x - x_i}{h}\right)$$



- f is sum of Gaussians centered on each x_i
- f is smoother (less variation) if h larger
- **caveat:** dimension d can't be too large

Mean shift algorithms

Idea find points with $\nabla f(x) = 0$

Assume $K(z) = e^{-||z||^2/2}/\sqrt{2\pi}$ Gaussian kernel

$$\nabla f(x) = -\frac{1}{nh^d} \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x-x_i}{h}\right)(x-x_i)/h$$

Local max of f is solution of implicit equation

$$x = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i K\left(\frac{x-x_i}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x-x_i}{h}\right)}$$

the **mean shift** $_{m(x)}$

h

↓

$$f = K \otimes E_h(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Algorithm Simple Mean Shift

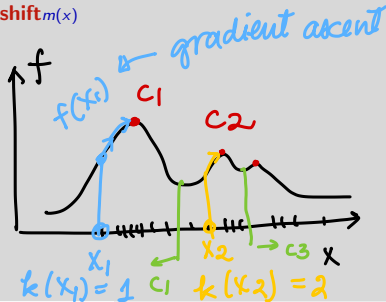
Input Data $\mathcal{D} = \{x_i\}_{i=1:n}$, kernel $K(z)$, h

1 for $i = 1 : n$

1 $x \leftarrow x_i$

2 iterate $x \leftarrow m(x)$ until convergence to m_i

2 group points with same m_i in a cluster



$$f_h(x) = \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right)$$

$\uparrow$
 $b(z) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}}$

$$\sum w_i = 1$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$b'(z) = \frac{1}{Z} (-z) e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} = -z b(z)$$

$$\nabla f_h(x) = \frac{1}{nh} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(-\frac{x - x_i}{h} \right) b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right) = 0 \text{ for max}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x) b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right) = x \sum_{i=1}^n b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right)$$

solve
for x

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \frac{b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n b\left(\frac{\|x - x_i\|}{h}\right)}$$

$m(x)$

Condition for
 $x = \text{local max}$

weighted mean
of neighbors of x

$m(x) - x = \text{Mean shift at } x$

