







Clustering Applications

- Feature quantization: group together many features into a few clusters
- Exploratory (data) science
- First pass before manually annotating data with labels

Distance Measure in 2D - Euclidean Distance Point 1 Point 2 Point 3 Point 4 $\begin{pmatrix} 3.8 & 5.4 \\ 2.6 & 2.6 \\ 3.1 & 1.5 \\ 2.1 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}$ Point 4 Point 2 Point 4 Poi

distance(Point a, Point b) = $\sqrt[2]{(a_1 - b_1)^2 + (a_2 - b_2)^2}$





Hierarchical Clustering Algorithm

- Assign each point to its own cluster
- Repeat until the desired number of clusters is reached:
 - > Merge together the two closest clusters









Distance Between Clusters

• Single linkage

The distance between two clusters is the distance between the closest pair of points (one from each cluster) in the clusters



Distance Between Clusters

• Complete linkage

The distance between two clusters is the distance between the farthest pair of points (one from each cluster) in the clusters



Distance Between Clusters

• Average linkage

The distance between two clusters is the average distance between all pairs of points (one from each cluster) in the clusters



• Centroid linkage The distance between two clusters is the distance between the centroids of each cluster

Clustering Algorithms

- Hierarchical (agglomerative) clustering
- k-means
- Gaussian mixture models

k-Means Clustering Algorithm

- Randomly assign each point to one of *k* clusters
- Repeat until convergence:
 - > Calculate *mean* of each of the *k* clusters
 - > Assign each point to the cluster with the closest *mean*













Clustering Problem

• For a given number of clusters, k, we measure a clustering's quality as the sum of the distances between each point and the mean of the point's cluster



 $\sum_{i=1}^{k} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in i^{\text{th}} \text{cluster}} (\mathbf{x} - \mu_i)^2$

Clustering is an NP-complete problem

k-Means Heuristic

• Find a set of *k* means $\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \, \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \, \dots, \, \boldsymbol{\mu}_k$ such that:



- *k*-means (Lloyd's) algorithm is one way to minimize this objective function
- Walks "downhill" of this function with each iteration
- Objective function is not convex: has local minima
- Algorithm finds local minimum Thus, repeat algorithm with • depending on starting point

different random starting points!





Clustering Algorithms

- Hierarchical (agglomerative) clustering
- *k*-means
- Gaussian mixture models

Model-Based Clustering

- Randomly assign each point to one of *k* clusters
- Repeat until convergence:
 - > Calculate *model* of each of the *k* clusters
 - > Assign each point to the cluster with the closest *model*





















Assessing Clustering

- Evaluate against ground truth labels
 - Trouble is, we normally don't have ground truth labels. If we did, we could have used *supervised* classification.

$$FMI = \frac{TP}{\sqrt{(TP + FP)(TP + FN)}}$$

- If we are clustering features, has it helped our classification task?
- High intra-class similarity, low inter-class similarity
- Human evaluation