

---

# Machine Learning

## Clustering

Some slides from B. Pardo, P. Domingos

# First, some epistemology

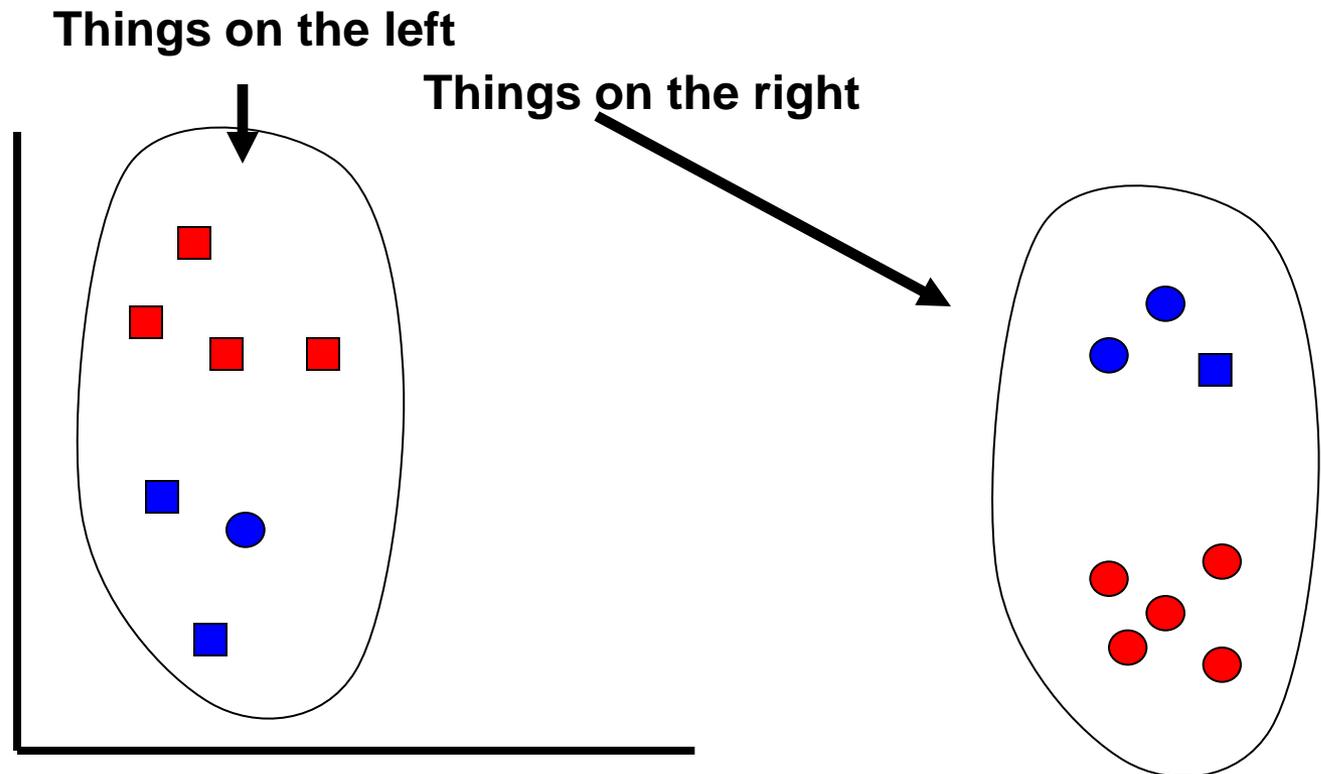
---

- There are known knowns. These are things we know that we know.
  - Databases!
- There are known unknowns. That is to say, there are things that we know we don't know.
  - Supervised Machine Learning
- But there are also unknown unknowns. There are things we don't know we don't know
  - Unsupervised Machine Learning (Clustering)

# Clustering

---

- Grouping data into (hopefully useful) sets.



# Clustering

---

- Unsupervised Learning
  - No labels
- Why do clustering?
  - Hypothesis Generation/Data Understanding
    - Clusters might suggest natural groups.
  - Visualization
  - Data pre-processing, e.g.:
    - Converting continuous attributes to nominal
    - For *efficiency*
      - Text Classification (e.g., search engines, TextRunner)

# Some definitions

---

- Let  $X$  be the dataset:

$$X = \{ x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n \}$$

- An ***m-clustering*** of  $X$  is a partition of  $X$  into  $m$  sets (clusters)  $C_1, \dots, C_m$  such that:

1. Clusters are non - empty :  $C_i \neq \{\}, 1 \leq i \leq m$

2. Clusters cover all of  $X$  :  $\bigcup_{i=1}^m C_i = X$

3. Clusters do not overlap :  $C_i \cap C_j = \{\}, \text{ if } j \neq i$

# How many possible clusters? (Stirling numbers)

---

Size of dataset  
↓

$$S(n, m) = \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} i^n$$

↑  
Number of clusters

$$S(15, 3) = 2,375,101$$

$$S(20, 4) = 45,232,115,901$$

$$S(100, 5) \approx 10^{68}$$

# What does this mean?

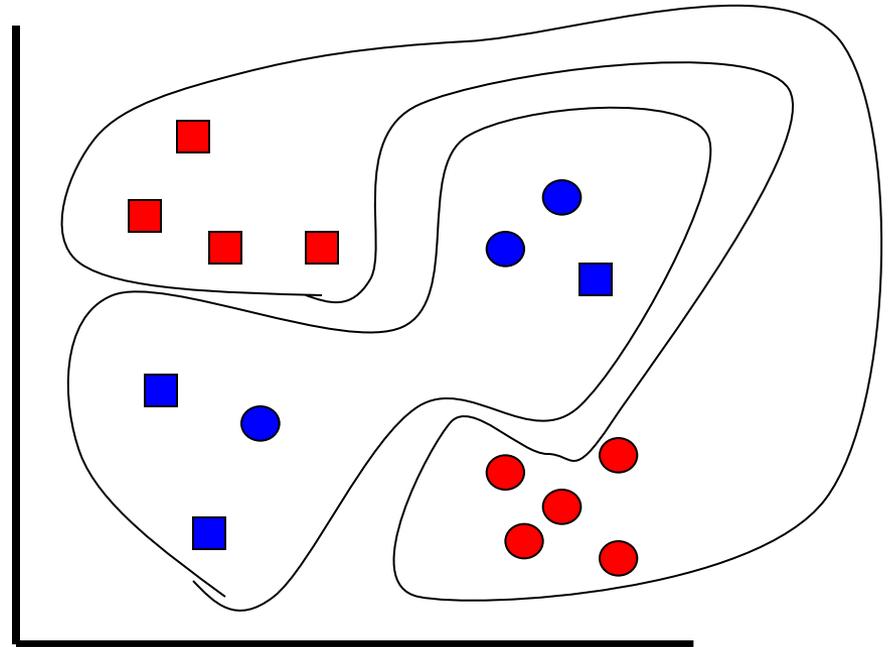
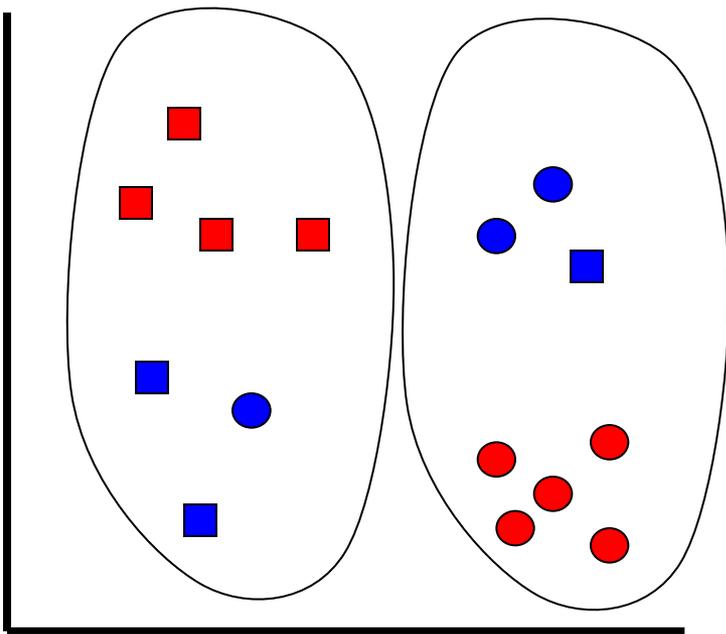
---

- We can't try all possible clusterings.
- Clustering algorithms look at a small fraction of all partitions of the data.
- The exact partitions tried depend on the kind of clustering used.

# Who is right?

---

- Different techniques cluster the same data set DIFFERENTLY.
- Who is right? Is there a “right” clustering?



# Steps in Clustering

---

- Select Features
- Define a Proximity Measure
- Choose a Clustering Algorithm
- Validate the Results
- Interpret the Results

# Kinds of Clustering

---

- Sequential
  - Fast
  - Results depend on data order
- Cost Optimization
  - Fixed number of clusters (typically)
  - Probabilistic models
- Hierarchical
  - Start with many clusters
  - join clusters at each step

# A Sequential Clustering Method

---

- Basic Sequential Algorithmic Scheme (BSAS)
  - S. Theodoridis and K. Koutroumbas, Pattern Recognition, Academic Press, London England, 1999
- Assumption: The number of clusters is not known in advance.
- Let:
  - $d(x,C)$  be the *distance* between feature vector  $x$  and cluster  $C$ .
  - $\Theta$  be the *threshold of dissimilarity*
  - $q$  be the *maximum number of clusters*

# BSAS Pseudo Code

---

$m = 1$

$C_1 = \{x_1\}$

For  $i = 2$  to  $n$

Find  $C_k : d(x_i, C_k) = \min_{\forall j} d(x_i, C_j)$

If  $(d(x_i, C_k) > \Theta)$  and  $(m < q)$

$m = m + 1$

$C_m = \{x_i\}$

Else

$C_k = C_k \cup \{x_i\}$

End

End

# **Where is the cluster, exactly?**

---

$d(x, C)$  = distance from  $x$  to  $C$

How to compute?

# BSAS Characteristics

---

## Advantages

Fast! Only examine each data point once  
(takes  $O(nq)$ )

Number of clusters tuned from data

## Disadvantages

Must set  $q$ ,  $\Theta$

Sensitive to initial conditions

# Kinds of Clustering

---

- Sequential
  - Fast
  - Results depend on data order
- Cost Optimization
  - Fixed number of clusters (typically)
  - Often probabilistic models
- Hierarchical
  - Start with many clusters
  - join clusters at each step

# A Cost-optimization method

---

- K-means clustering

- J. B. MacQueen (1967): "Some Methods for classification and Analysis of Multivariate Observations, *Proceedings of 5-th Berkeley Symposium on Mathematical Statistics and Probability*", Berkeley, University of California Press, 1:281-297

- A greedy algorithm

- Partitions  $n$  samples into  $k$  clusters

- minimizes the sum of the squared distances to the cluster centers

# The K-means algorithm

---

- Place  $K$  points into the space represented by the objects that are being clustered. These points represent initial group centroids (means).
- Assign each object to the group that has the closest centroid (mean).
- When all objects have been assigned, recalculate the positions of the  $K$  centroids (means).
- Repeat Steps 2 and 3 until the centroids no longer move.

# K-means clustering

---

- The way to initialize the mean values is not specified.
  - Randomly choose  $k$  samples?
- Results depend on the initial means
  - Try multiple starting points?
- Assumes  $K$  is known.
  - How do we choose this?

# Mixture Models

$$P(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} P(c_i)P(x|c_i)$$

**Objective function:** Log likelihood of data

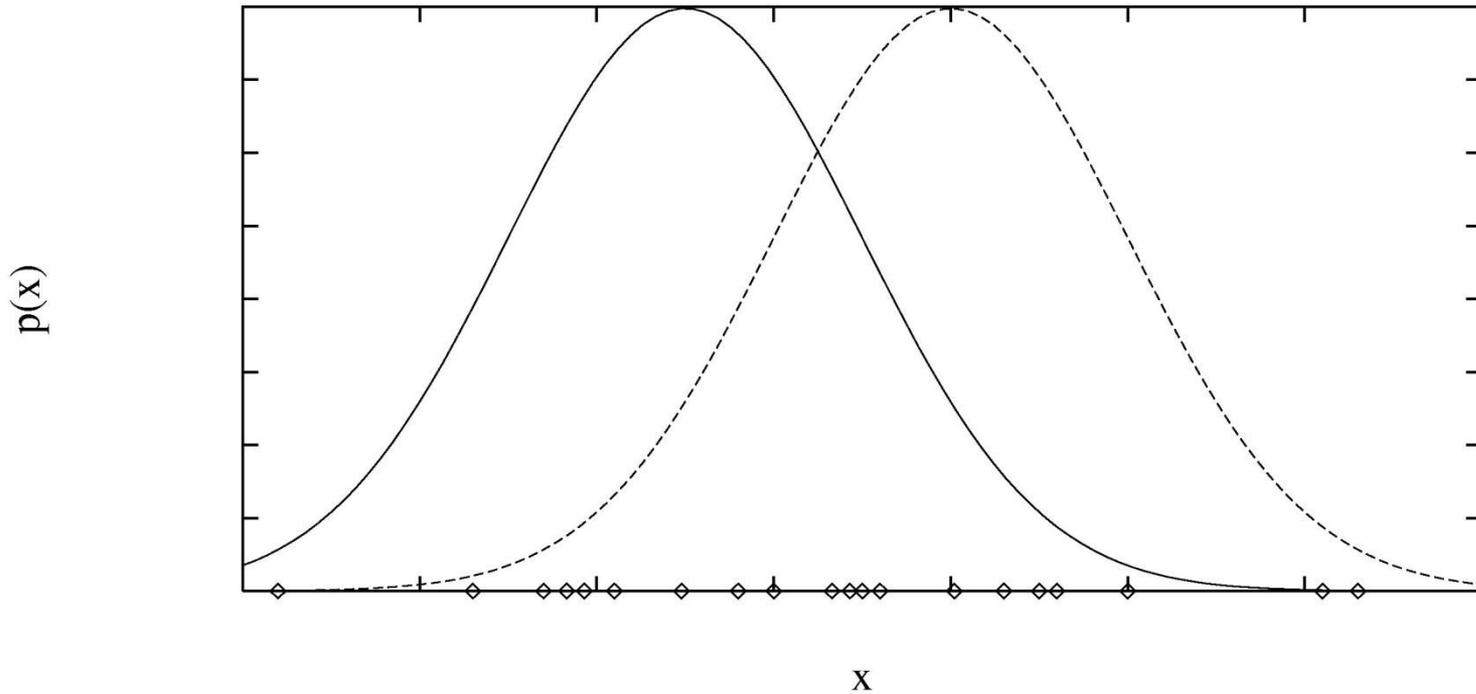
**Naive Bayes:**  $P(x|c_i) = \prod_{j=1}^{n_d} P(x_j|c_i)$

**AutoClass:** Naive Bayes with various  $x_j$  models

**Mixture of Gaussians:**  $P(x|c_i) =$  Multivariate Gaussian

**In general:**  $P(x|c_i)$  can be any distribution

# Mixtures of Gaussians



$$P(x|\mu_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - \mu_i}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right]$$

# The EM Algorithm

Initialize parameters ignoring missing information

Repeat until convergence:

**E step:** Compute expected values of unobserved variables, assuming current parameter values

**M step:** Compute new parameter values to maximize probability of data (observed & estimated)

(Also: Initialize expected values ignoring missing info)

# EM for Mixtures of Gaussians

**Initialization:** Choose means at random, etc.

**E step:** For all examples  $x_k$ :

$$P(\mu_i | x_k) = \frac{P(\mu_i)P(x_k | \mu_i)}{P(x_k)} = \frac{P(\mu_i)P(x_k | \mu_i)}{\sum_{i'} P(\mu_{i'})P(x_k | \mu_{i'})}$$

**M step:** For all components  $c_i$ :

$$\begin{aligned} P(c_i) &= \frac{1}{n_e} \sum_{k=1}^{n_e} P(\mu_i | x_k) \\ \mu_i &= \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n_e} x_k P(\mu_i | x_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{n_e} P(\mu_i | x_k)} \\ \sigma_i^2 &= \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n_e} (x_k - \mu_i)^2 P(\mu_i | x_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{n_e} P(\mu_i | x_k)} \end{aligned}$$

## Mixtures of Gaussians (cont.)

- K-means clustering  $\prec$  EM for mixtures of Gaussians
- Mixtures of Gaussians  $\prec$  Bayes nets
- Also good for estimating joint distribution of continuous variables

# Mixture Models for Documents

---

- Learn simultaneously  $P(w \mid \text{topic})$ ,  $P(\text{topic} \mid \text{doc})$

“Arts”

“Budgets”

“Children”

“Education”

|         |            |          |            |
|---------|------------|----------|------------|
| NEW     | MILLION    | CHILDREN | SCHOOL     |
| FILM    | TAX        | WOMEN    | STUDENTS   |
| SHOW    | PROGRAM    | PEOPLE   | SCHOOLS    |
| MUSIC   | BUDGET     | CHILD    | EDUCATION  |
| MOVIE   | BILLION    | YEARS    | TEACHERS   |
| PLAY    | FEDERAL    | FAMILIES | HIGH       |
| MUSICAL | YEAR       | WORK     | PUBLIC     |
| BEST    | SPENDING   | PARENTS  | TEACHER    |
| ACTOR   | NEW        | SAYS     | BENNETT    |
| FIRST   | STATE      | FAMILY   | MANIGAT    |
| YORK    | PLAN       | WELFARE  | NAMPHY     |
| OPERA   | MONEY      | MEN      | STATE      |
| THEATER | PROGRAMS   | PERCENT  | PRESIDENT  |
| ACTRESS | GOVERNMENT | CARE     | ELEMENTARY |
| LOVE    | CONGRESS   | LIFE     | HAITI      |

# Kinds of Clustering

---

- Sequential
  - Fast
  - Results depend on data order
- Cost Optimization
  - Fixed number of clusters (typically)
  - Probabilistic models
- Hierarchical
  - Start with many clusters
  - join clusters at each step

# Greedy Hierarchical Clustering

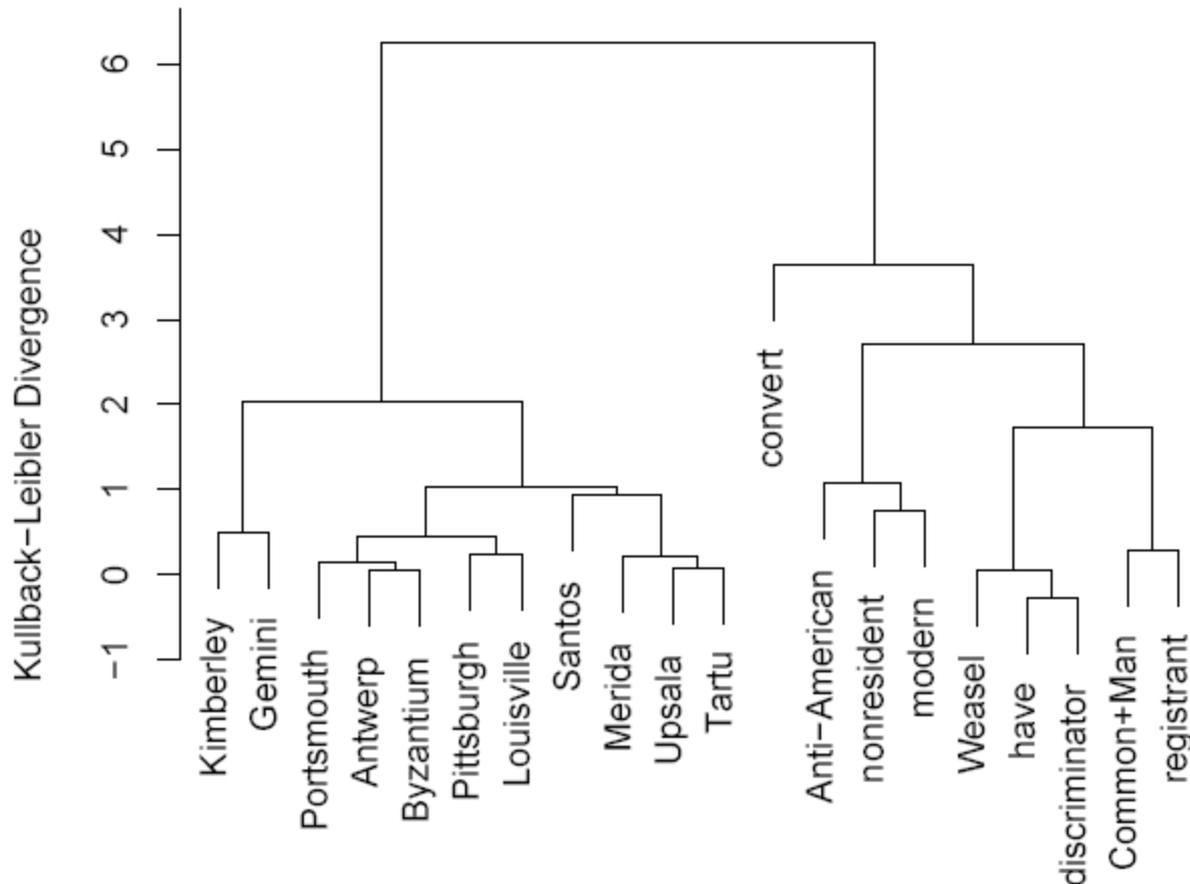
---

- Initialize one cluster for each data point
- Until *done*
  - Merge the two *nearest* clusters

# Hierarchical Clustering on Strings

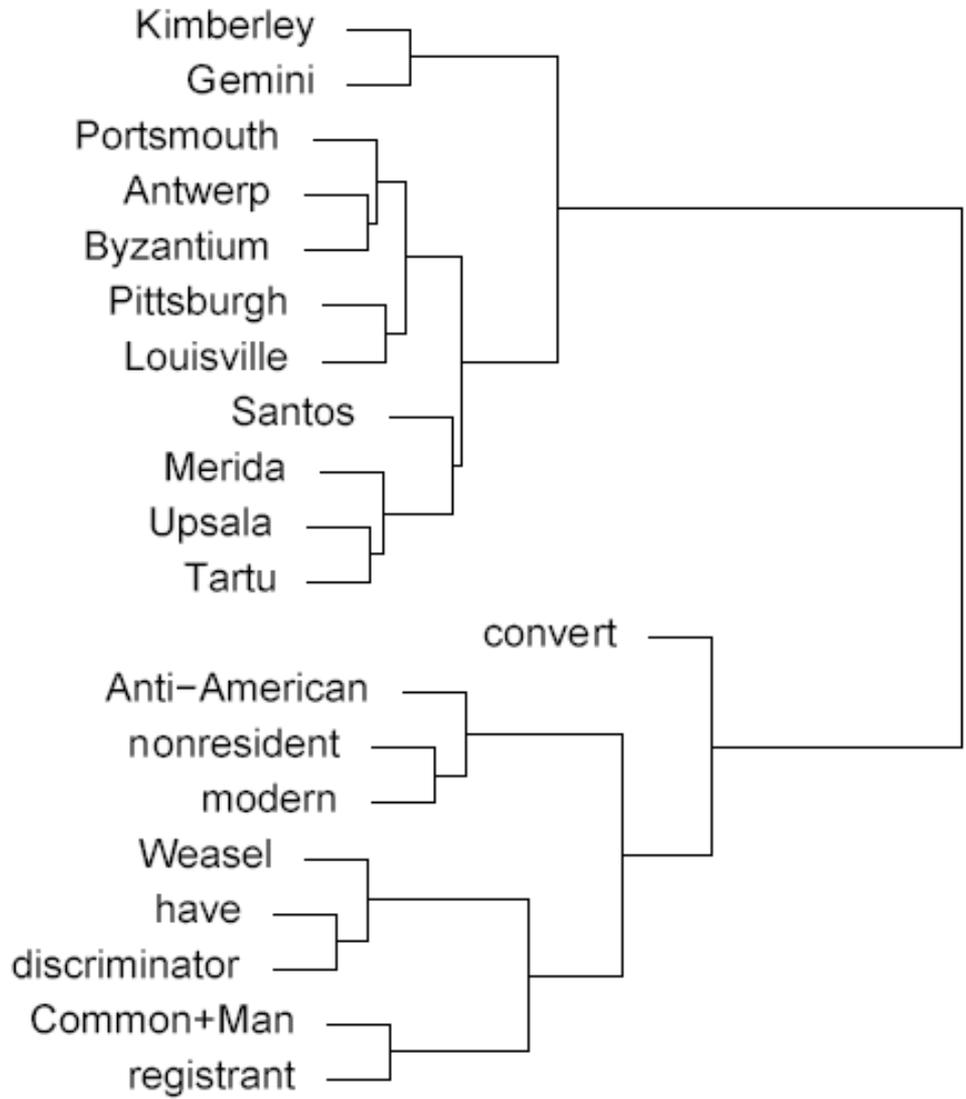
- Features = *contexts* in which strings appear

10 cities and 10 people



Kullback-Leibler Divergence

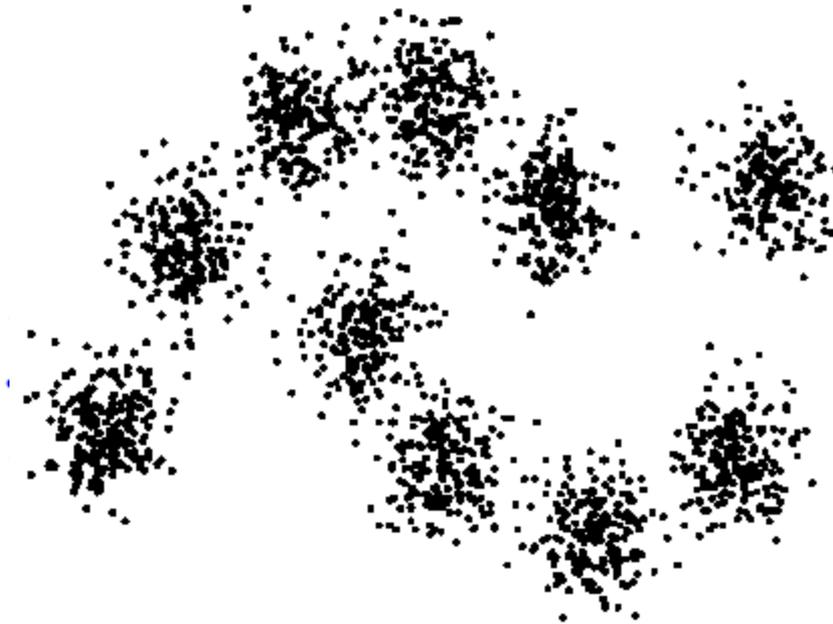
-1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6



10 cities and 10 people

# Classic Example: Half Moons

---

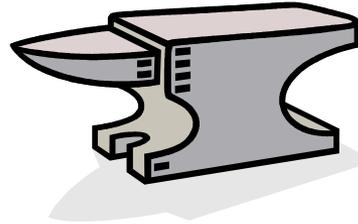


From Batra et al., <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~rahuls/pub/bmvc2008-clustering-rahuls.pdf>

# Summary

---

- Algorithms:
  - Sequential clustering
    - Requires key distance threshold, sensitive to data order
  - K-means clustering
    - Requires # of clusters, sensitive to initial conditions
    - Special case of mixture modeling
  - Greedy agglomerative clustering
    - Naively takes  $O(n^2)$  runtime
    - Hard to tell when you're "done"



# Throw(person, $x$ )



$\text{Weight}(x) < 50\text{lbs} \wedge$   
 $\text{Max\_dim}(x) < 20\text{ft} \wedge \dots \wedge$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{Throw}(\text{person}, x)$

$\text{Weight}(\text{baseball}) = 5\text{oz} \wedge \dots \Rightarrow$   
 $\text{Throw}(\text{person}, \text{baseball})$

"throwable objects such as"

**Web**

Images

Maps

Shopping

Books

More ▾

Search tools

About 5,050 results (0.19 seconds)

[Patent US5984812 - Grippable surface for throwable object - Google ...](#)  
[www.google.com/patents/US5984812](http://www.google.com/patents/US5984812)

This invention relates to a grippable surface for **throwable objects such as** a football, baseball, etc. which enhances the ease with which the object may be ...

[\[PDF\] Name Juggle.pdf - GOAL Consulting](#)

[www.goalconsulting.org/page3/files/Name%20Juggle.pdf](http://www.goalconsulting.org/page3/files/Name%20Juggle.pdf) ▾

Materials: Many soft **throwable objects such as** fleece balls, wadded up pieces of paper, Nerf™ balls. Level: Grades K and higher. Suggested Procedure. 1.

---

Cities such as **X**

**Y**, mayor of **X**

- The Web makes hard AI problems easier
- ...but
- Link to word vector demo:  
[tp://radimrehurek.com/2014/02/word2vec-tutorial/#app](http://radimrehurek.com/2014/02/word2vec-tutorial/#app)