# CS181: Introduction to Machine Learning

# Lecture 13 (Clustering)

## Spring 2021

Finale Doshi-Velez and David C. Parkes Harvard Computer Science

## **Unsupervised Learning**





Data D =  $\{x_1, x_2, ..., x_N\}$ 

Typical goals: understand, summarize, identify concepts









Organizing news stories

https://news.google.com/topstories?hl=en-US&gl=US&ceid=US:en

# Unsupervised Learning: Embedding



# Unsupervised Learning: Embedding



# **Unsupervised Learning: Embedding**





+ graphical models, reinforcement learning

# Today: Clustering

# How Would you Cluster these Points?



## How Would you Cluster these Points?



- Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming
- 272 data points
- Features
  - Duration of current eruption  $(x_{n2})$
  - Duration of next eruption  $(x_{n1})$
  - Standardized:  $x_{nj} = (x_{nj} \mu_j) / \sigma_j$ , where  $\mu_j$  is mean of feature j,  $\sigma_j$  is standard deviation of feature j



- Duration of next eruption (x<sub>1</sub>)
- Duration of current eruption (x<sub>2</sub>)

(Bishop)



- Duration of next eruption (x<sub>1</sub>)
- Duration of current eruption (x<sub>2</sub>)

(Bishop)



-2

0



0

-2

2



- Duration of next eruption  $(x_1)$
- Duration of current eruption  $(x_2)$





0

0

-2

(g)

-2

2

2

2



2





2

0

(f)

-2

2

0

- Duration of next eruption  $(x_1)$
- Duration of current eruption  $(x_2)$



2

2



- Duration of next eruption (x<sub>1</sub>)
- Duration of current eruption (x<sub>2</sub>)



## K-Means: Linear Decision Boundaries



# K-Means: CIFAR-100





(b) Cluster 1







(e) Cluster 4













(c) Cluster 2







32x32x3 (RGB) K=16 Clusters pick up on low frequency color variations

50,000 images











(l) Cluster 11 (m) Cluster 12

(n) Cluster 13

(o) Cluster 14





(q) Cluster 16





# K-Medoids: CIFAR-100





(b) Cluster 1







(e) Cluster 4

#### 50,000 images 32x32x3 (RGB) K=16



(f) Cluster 5

















# Now use actual examples as prototypes

(k) Cluster 10



(l) Cluster 11

(m) Cluster 12













(q) Cluster 16















What is closest to cluster {A,E}?



$$d_{\min}(G, G') = \min_{\mathbf{x} \in G, \mathbf{x}' \in G'} ||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'||$$
$$d_{\max}(G, G') = \max_{\mathbf{x} \in G, \mathbf{x}' \in G'} ||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'||$$



What is closest to cluster {A,E}?

"min" linkage "max" linkage











# HAC with min distance (4 of 6)



В









## HAC with centroid distance (2 of 7)





Е

В

В

А

Е





В

Е

С

D

А









# Comparing HAC Group Distance criteria

- Which of "min" and "max" linkages will tend to merge large clusters with each other?
  - A: Min. Large clusters more likely to have a pair of examples that are close
- Which of "min" and "max" will tend to have a "chaining effect" and lead to "long, stringy" clusters?
  - A: Min. Only one distance has to be small to merge
- Which of "min" and "max" will tend to prefer compact clusters?
  - A: Max. All distances have to be small to merge
- The "average" and "centroid" linkages are compromises, allowing some elongation but also preferring some compactness



### HAC applied to Pinwheel



What will "min" do here?

- What will "max"
- do here?

# Example: Animal Clustering



## **Example: Animal Clustering**



Step 1: Compute the pairwise distances (Hamming distances)

## **Example: Animal Clustering**



Step 2: Apply HAC clustering with "average" linkage

Result illustrated through "dendrogram"

Shows groups that were merged. The x-distance provides the distance between groups when merged.



Features: votes on 172 bills

(a) Senators and Votes



Step 1: Computer pairwise distances between voting record (L2 norm)

Darker is smaller distance Ordered by similarity



Step 2: HAC average

Dendrogram, showing the "top 2" clusters





What will "min" do here?











What will "max" do here?







"max" linkage will get to this point

Next: combine outside clusters with center



"max" linkage will get to this point

Next: combine outside clusters with center

Eventually merge in additional outside clusters