CSE 312

Foundations of Computing II

Lecture 28: Clustering (mixture models) + glimpse of auction theory



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Slide Credit: Based on Stefano Tessaro's slides for 312 19au incorporating ideas from myself ©

Agenda

• Mixture models and clustering



A glimpse of auction theory

Motivating application: Clustering images

Discover groups of similar images

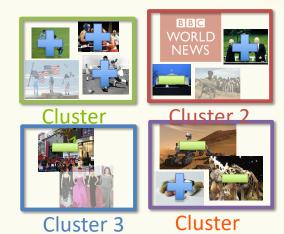
- Ocean
- Pink flower
- Dog
- Sunset
- Clouds
- **...**





Motivates probabilistic model: Mixture model

- Take uncertainty in assignment into account e.g., when clustering documents, might want to say 54% chance document is world news, 45% science, 1% sports, and 0% entertainment
- Allow for cluster shapes not just centers

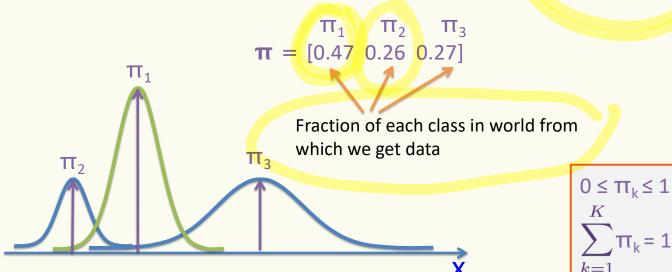


- Enables learning different weightings of dimensions
 - e.g., how much to weight each word in the vocabulary when computing cluster assignment

Combination of weighted Gaussians

Associate a weight π_k with each Gaussian component

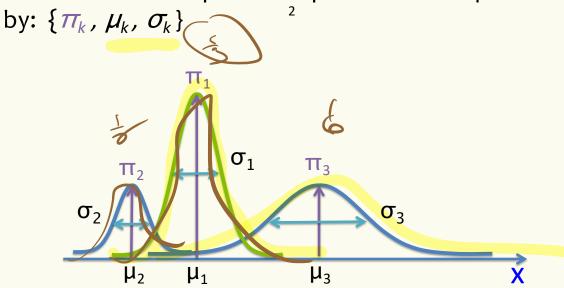




Mixture of Gaussians (1D)



Each mixture component represents a unique cluster specified



Mixture of Gaussians (general)



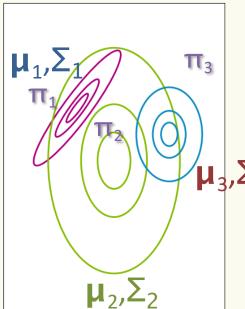




[R = 0.05, G = 0.7, B = 0.9]

[R = 0.85, G = 0.05, B = 0.35]

[R = 0.02, G = 0.95, B = 0.4]



Each mixture component represents a unique cluster specified by:

$$\{\pi_k, \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k\}$$

Mixture model

K clusters, defined by the following unknown parameters

$$oldsymbol{\Theta} = \{\!\!ar{\pi_j,oldsymbol{\mu}_j,oldsymbol{\Sigma}_j}\!\!\}_{j=1}^k$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^k \pi_j = 1.$$





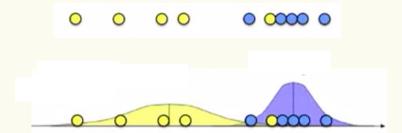
Problem: Assume that the data comes from such a distribution, and recover the parameters of the distribution (e.g. MLE)

• Determine, for each point, the likelihood of it belonging to cluster j, for each j.



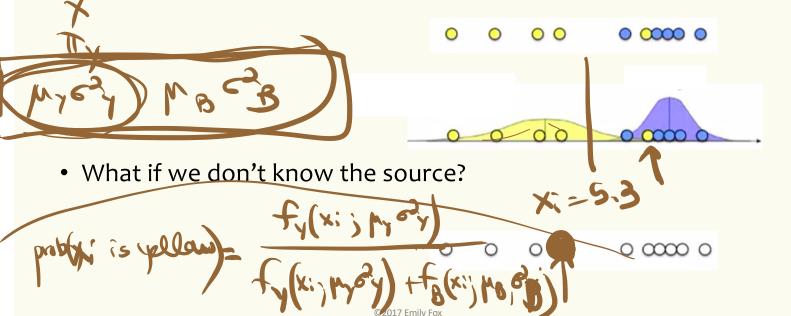
Two1-D Gaussians, with unknown mean and variance

• Easy if know the source of each data point.



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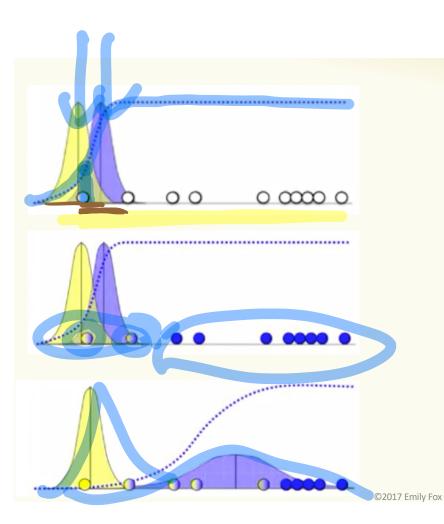
$$\sum_{j=1}^{k} \pi_j = 1.$$

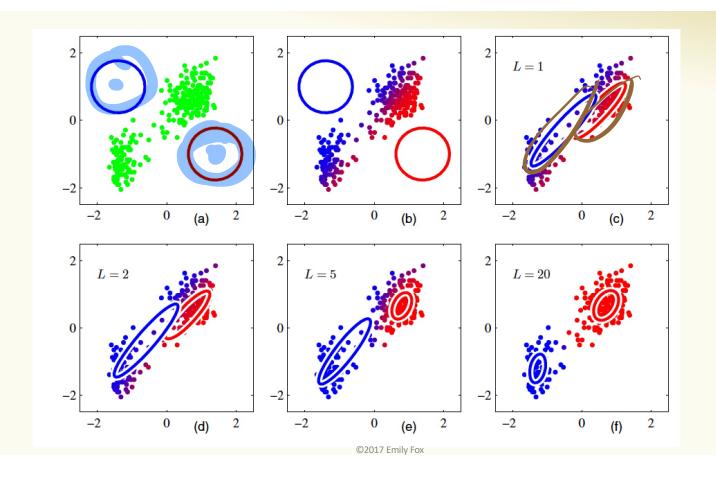
- Problem: Assume that the data comes from such a distribution, and recover the parameters of the distribution.
- Determine, for each point, the likelihood of it belonging to cluster j, for each j.
- PROBLEM: no closed form solution



Two step approach based on following observation

- If we knew which cluster each sample was from, we could estimate all the parameters.
- If we knew all the parameters we could estimate the chance each point came from each cluster.
- EM is an iterative algorithm that alternates between these two steps.





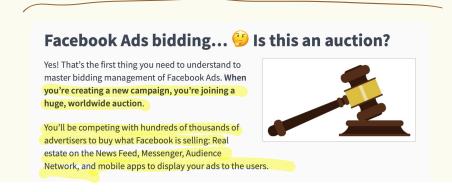
Agenda

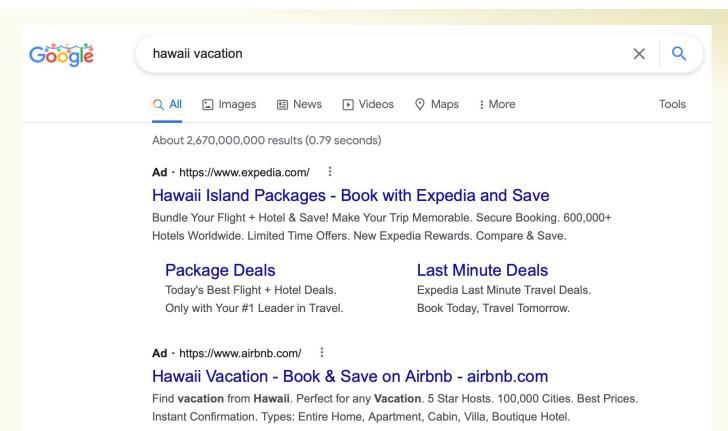
- Mixture models and clustering
- A glimpse of auction theory



Auctions

- Some goods on eBay and amazon are sold via auction.
- Companies like Google and Facebook make most of their money by selling ads.
- The ads are sold via auction.
 - Advertisers submit bids for certain "keywords"



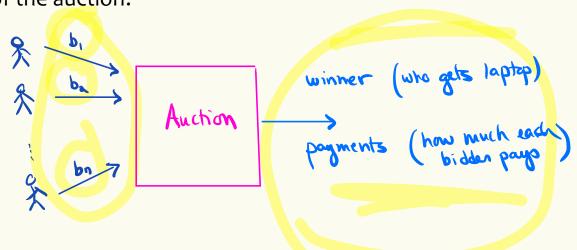


An auction is a ...

- Game
 - Players: advertisers
 - Strategy choices for each player: possible bids
 - Rules of the game made up by Google/Facebook/whoever is running the auction
- What do we expect to happen? How do we analyze mathematically?

Special case: Sealed bid single item auction

- Say I decide to run an auction to sell my laptop and I let you be the bidders.
- If I want to make as much money as possible what should I choose as the rules of the auction?



Special case: Sealed bid single item auction

- Say I decide to run an auction to sell my laptop and I let you be the bidders.
- If I want to make as much money as possible what should the rules of the auction be?

Some possibilities:

- First price auction: highest bidder wins; pays what they bid.
- Second price auction: highest bidder wins; pays second highest bid.
- All pay auction: highest bidder wins: all bidders pay what they bid.

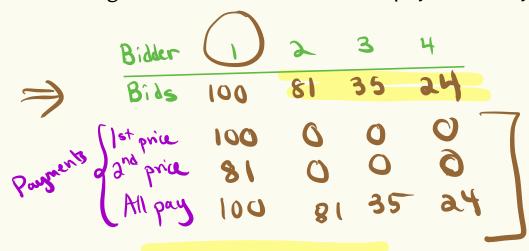
Which of these will make me the most money?

Special case: Sealed Bid single item auction



Some possibilities:

- First price auction: highest bidder wins; pays what they bid.
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Bidder model

Each bidder has a value, say v_i for bidder i.

Bidder is trying to maximize their "utility" – the value of the item they get – price they pay.

V 100 pay 99 why = 12

Theorem

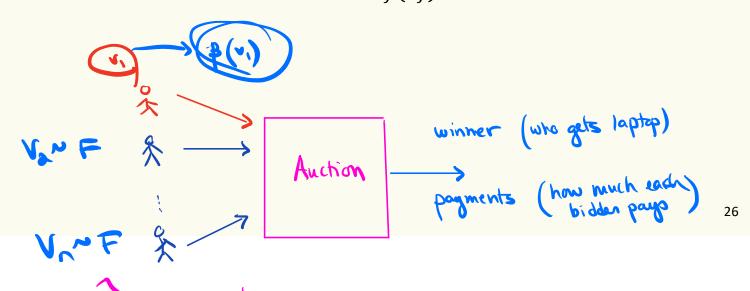
A second price auction is **truthful**. In other words, it is always in each bidder's best interest to bid their true value.



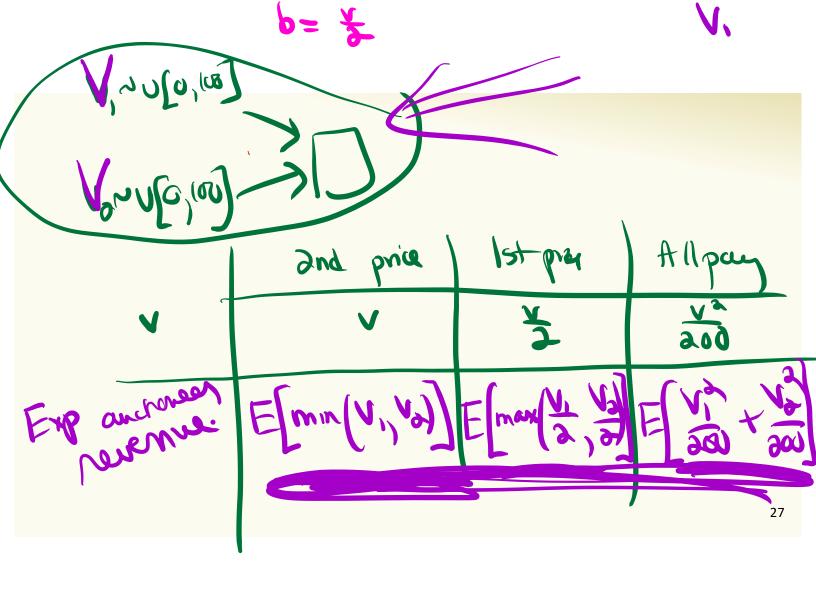
ohns is a r.v.

Bayes-Nash equilibrium

Suppose that $V_1 \sim F_1, V_2 \sim F_2, ..., V_n \sim F_n$. A bidding strategy $\beta_i(\cdot)$ is a **Bayes-Nash equilibrium** if $\beta_i(v_i)$ is a **best response in expectation** to $\beta_i(V_i)$ $\forall j \neq i$.



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Revenue Equivalence Theorem

In equilibrium, no matter what distribution the bids are drawn from, the expected auctioneer revenue is the same in all three auctions!