

# Soft clustering: a review of k-means variants

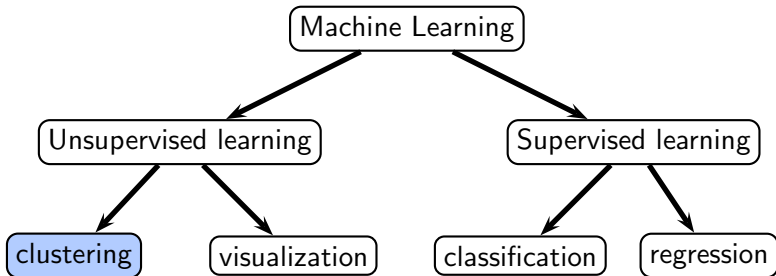
V. Antoine

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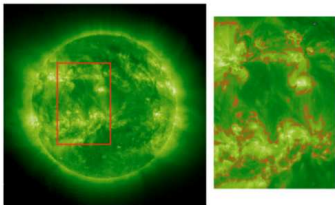
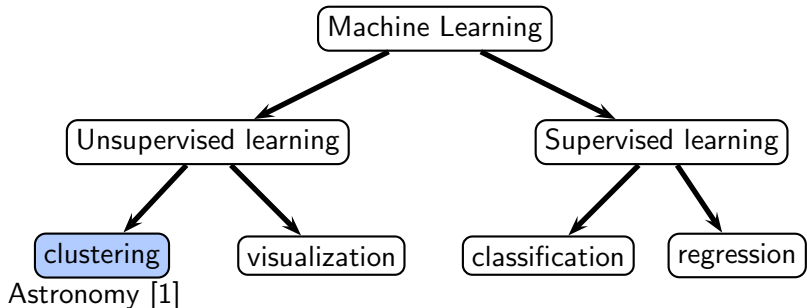
September 2018



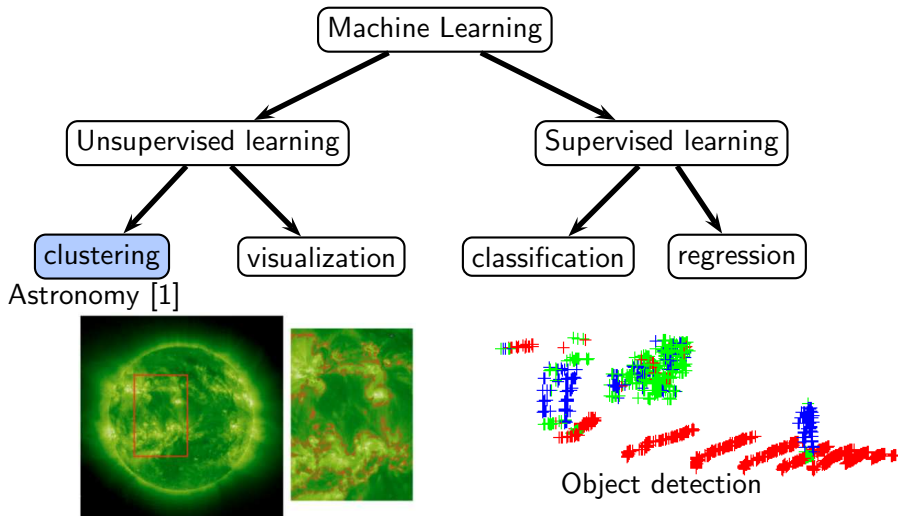
# Clustering : a technique of Machine Learning



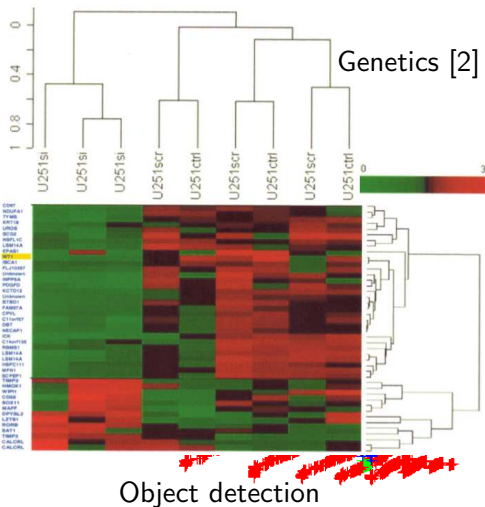
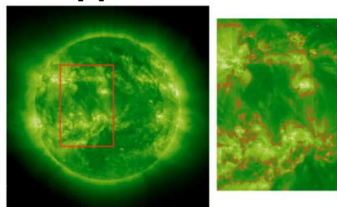
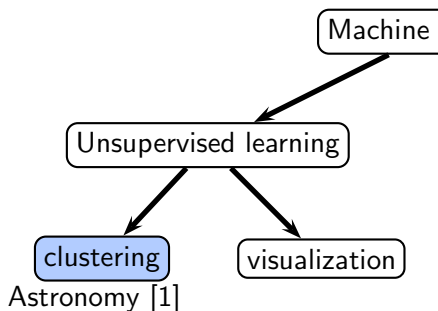
# Clustering : a technique of Machine Learning



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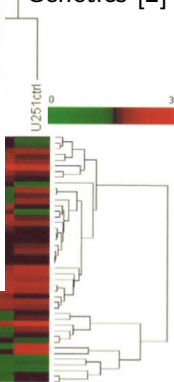


# Clustering : a technique of Machine Learning

## Text mining



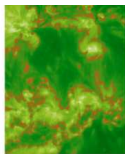
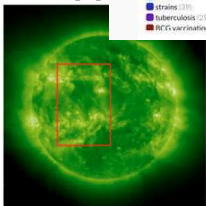
## Genetics [2]



Unsuperv

clustering

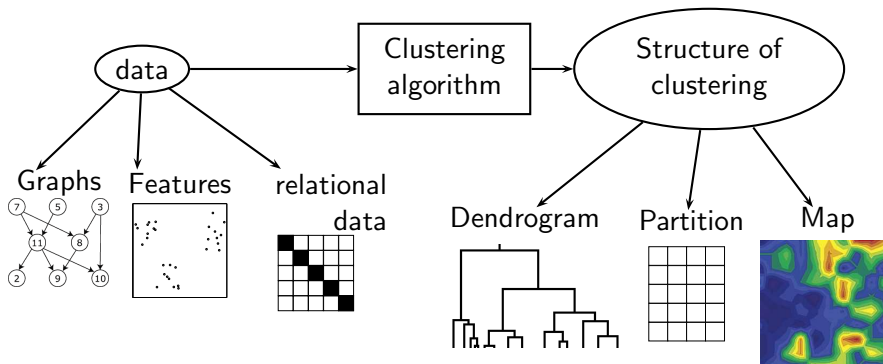
Astronomy [1]



Object detection

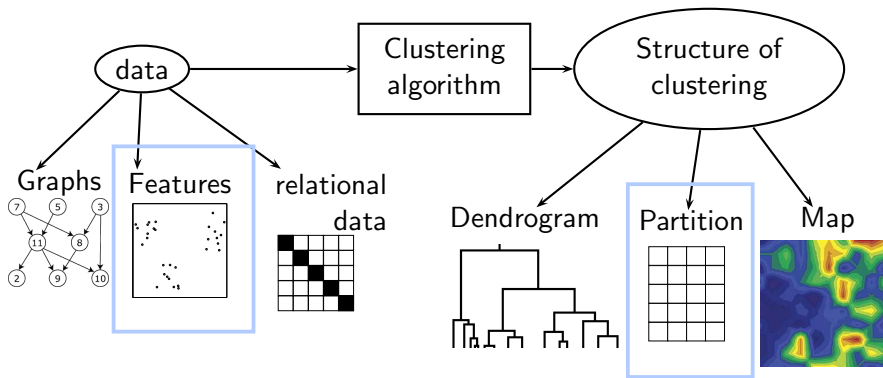
# Clustering

Determine the group of objects following a similarity notion



# Clustering

Determine the group of objects following a similarity notion





# Partition types

- Let  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_i)$  be a collection of objects s.t.  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,
- $\Omega = \{\omega_1 \dots \omega_c\}$  a set of  $c$  clusters,

Hard and soft partitions:

- hard/crisp partition
- fuzzy partition
- possibilistic partition
- rough partition
- credal partition

# Outline : the soft variants of k-means

- 1 k-means
- 2 fuzzy c-means
- 3 rough k-means
- 4 possibilistic c-means
- 5 evidential c-means
- 6 Conclusion

# Outline




- 1 k-means
- 2 fuzzy c-means
- 3 rough k-means
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- 6 Conclusion

# Hard partition

- Each object is assigned to one and only one cluster
- $\mathbf{P} = (p_{ik})$  s.t  $p_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^c p_{ik} = 1$

## Example

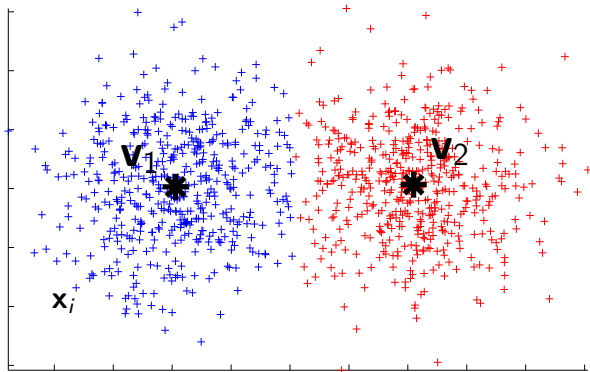
Let  $\omega_1$  be the class of square,  $\omega_2$  the class of round

	$p_{i1}$	$p_{i2}$
	0	1
	1	0
	1	0

# k-means

Geometrical model:

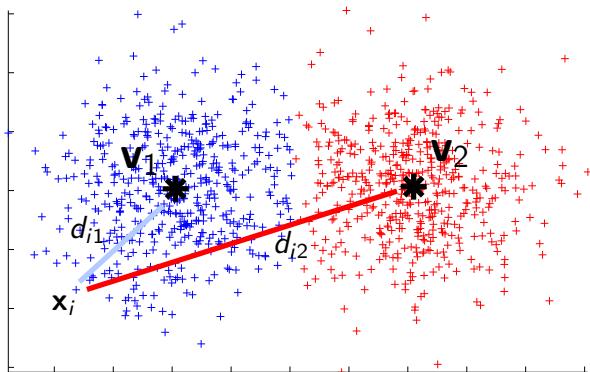
- Each cluster  $\omega_k$  is represented by a center  $\mathbf{v}_k$
- Euclidean distance  $d_{ik}^2 = \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{v}_k\|^2$



# k-means

Geometrical model:

- Each cluster  $\omega_k$  is represented by a center  $\mathbf{v}_k$
- Euclidean distance  $d_{ik}^2 = \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{v}_k\|^2$



# k-means

## Objective function

$$J_{KM} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^c p_{ik} d_{ik}^2$$

## Subject to

$$\sum_{k=1}^c p_{ik} = 1 \text{ and } p_{ik} \in \{0, 1\} \forall i, k$$

## Optimization

NP-Hard  $\Rightarrow$  minimization using an iterative procedure:

$$\text{fix } \mathbf{V}, \min_{\mathbf{P}} J_{KM} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{fix } \mathbf{P}, \min_{\mathbf{V}} J_{KM}$$

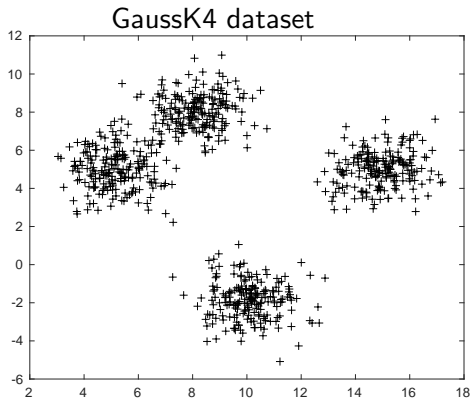
### Advantage

Fast

### Disadvantage

Risk of local minimum

# Determination of the number of clusters



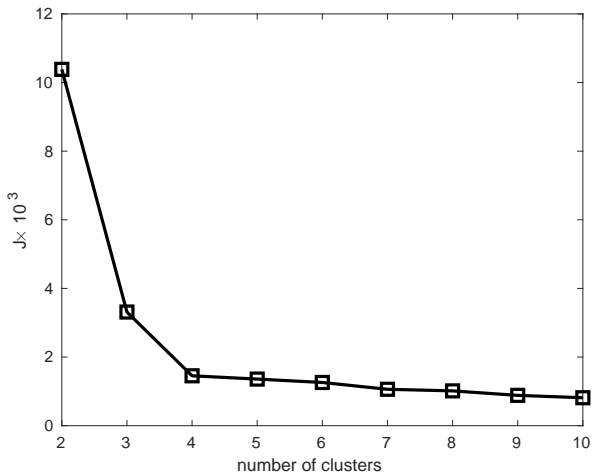
For  $c=1$  to 10

- run kmeans
- evaluate the partition

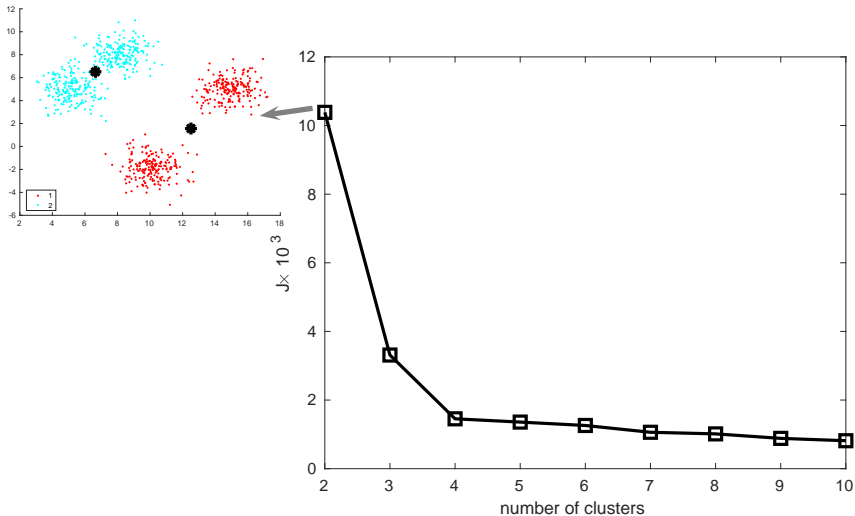
Plot evaluation measure vs  
number of clusters



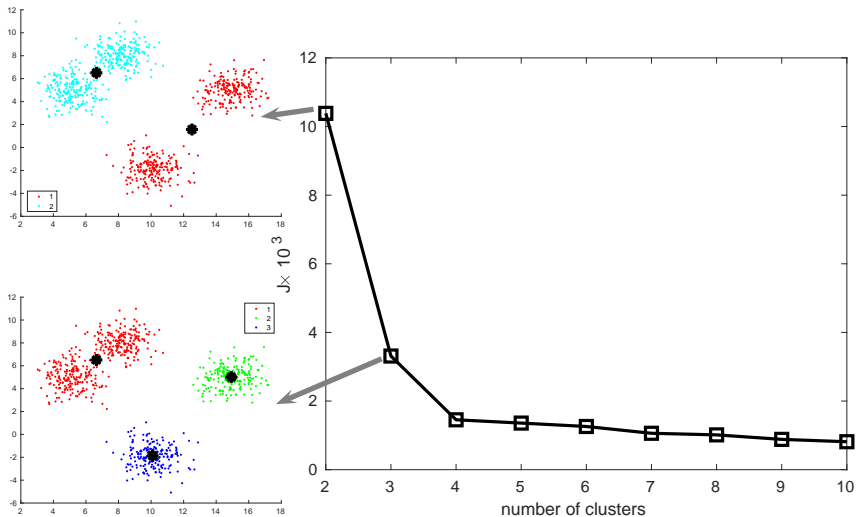
# Determination of the number of clusters



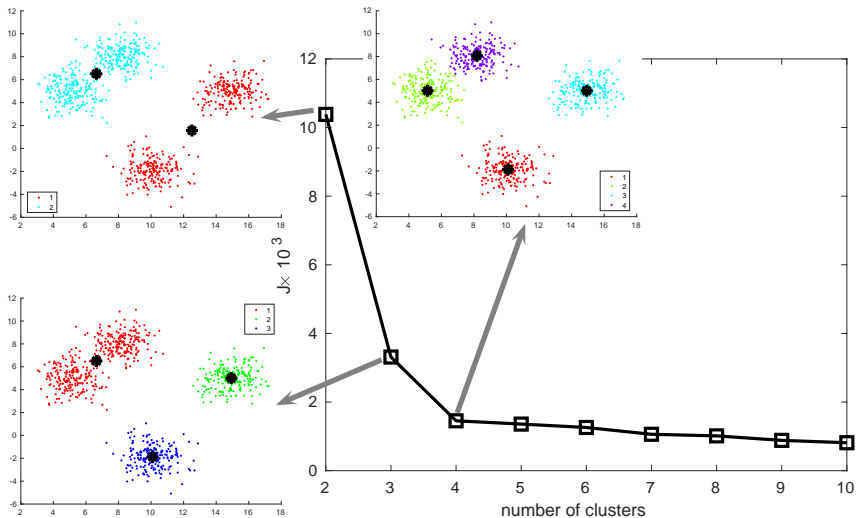
# Determination of the number of clusters



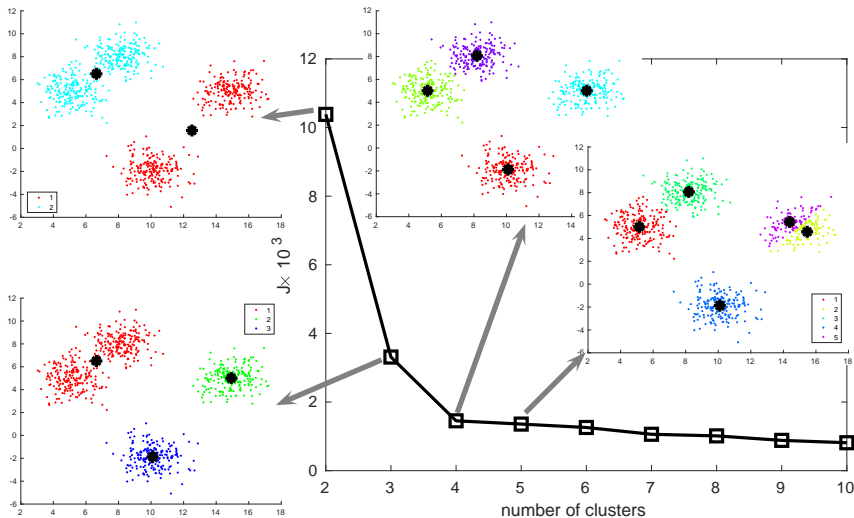
# Determination of the number of clusters



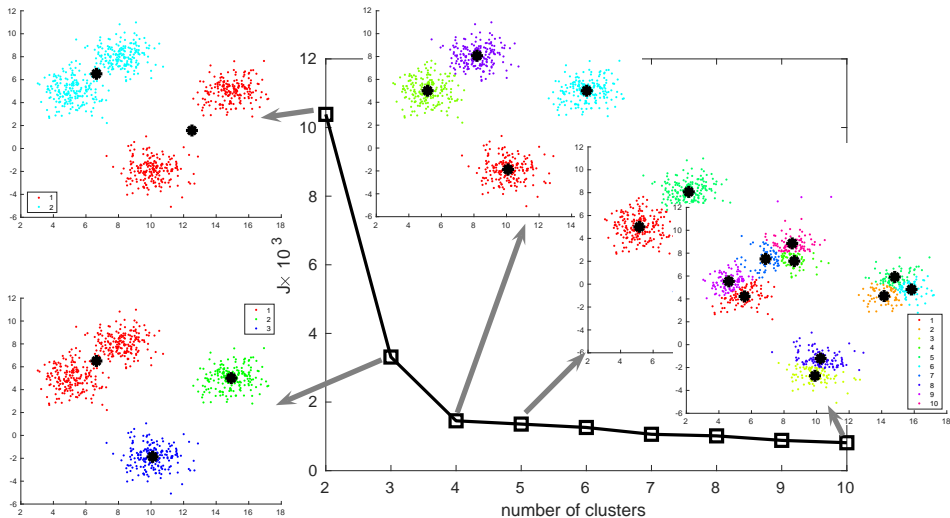
# Determination of the number of clusters



# Determination of the number of clusters

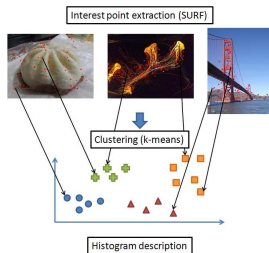
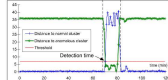
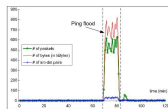
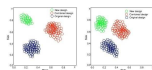
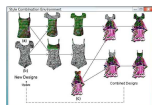


# Determination of the number of clusters



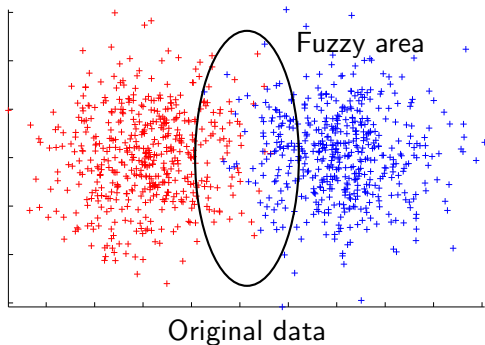
# Applications

- Biology and Bioinformatics
  - Protein structure prediction
  - Gene expression
- Engineering
  - Encoding/decoding
  - Image retrieval system
  - Color image segmentation
- Business and Economics
  - Exploration of shopping orientations [10]
  - Marketing
- Faud detection [6]



[www.olivier-augereau.com/blog/?p=358](http://www.olivier-augereau.com/blog/?p=358)

# Problematic



## Solution

Express uncertainty about the clustering result







# Fuzzy partition

- Each object has a degree of membership to each cluster

- $\mathbf{U} = (u_{ik})$  s.t  $u_{ik} \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\sum_{k=1}^c u_{ik} = 1$

## Example

Let  $\omega_1$  be the class of square,  $\omega_2$  the class of round

	$p_{i1}$	$p_{i2}$
	0	1
	1	0
	0.9	0.1
	0.5	0.5

# Outline

- 1 k-means
- 2 fuzzy c-means**
- 3 rough k-means
- 4 possibilistic c-means
- 5 evidential c-means
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# Fuzzy c-means (FCM)

## Objective function

$$J_{FCM} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^C u_{ik}^{\beta} d_{ik}^2$$

## Subject to

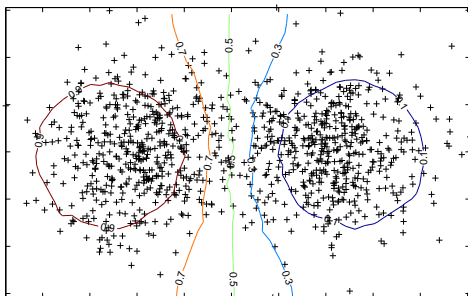
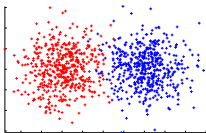
$$\sum_{k=1}^C u_{ik} = 1 \text{ and } u_{ik} \geq 0 \quad \forall i, k$$

## Alternate optimization

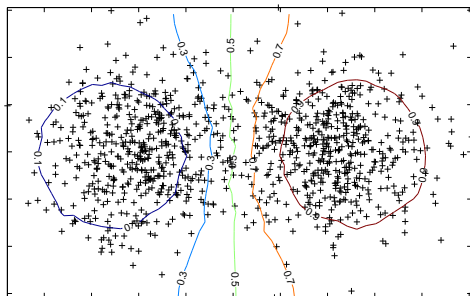
$$\min_{\mathbf{U}} J_{FCM} \Leftrightarrow \min_{\mathbf{V}} J_{FCM}$$

# Fuzzy c-means (FCM)

Original data



$\omega_1$

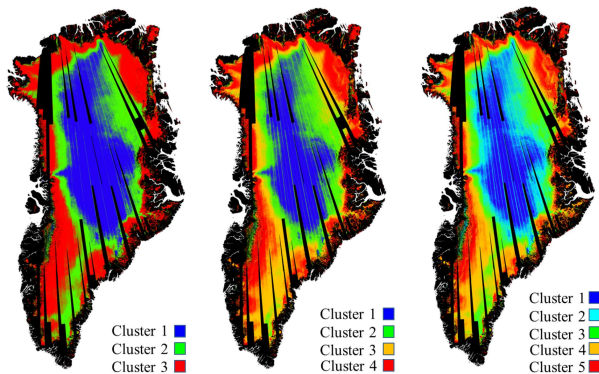


$\omega_2$

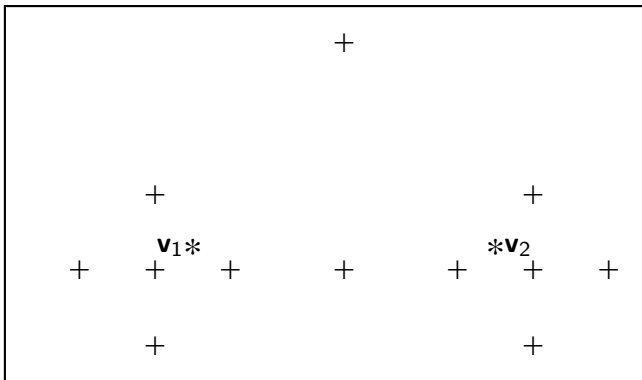
# Applications

Same as k-means, but avoid decision threshold.

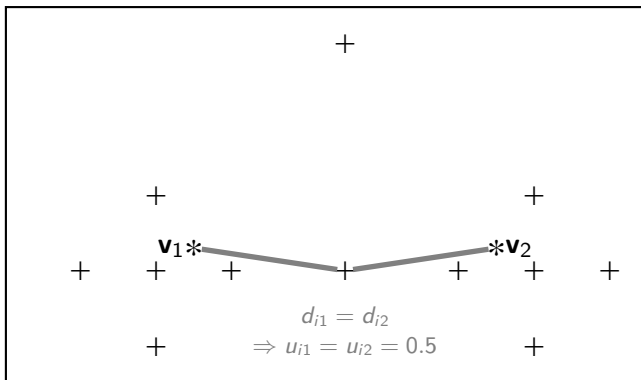
Example : Characterization of snow facies [8]



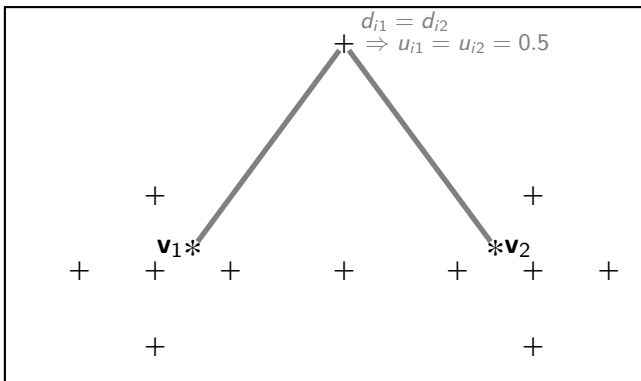
# Problematic: outliers



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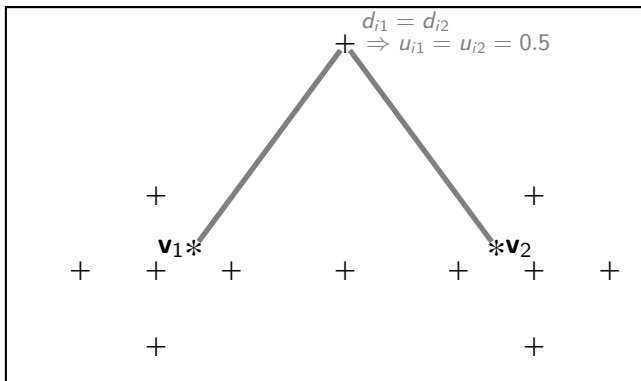


# Problematic: outliers





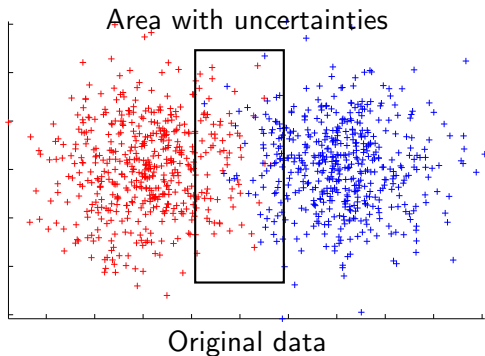
# Problematic: outliers



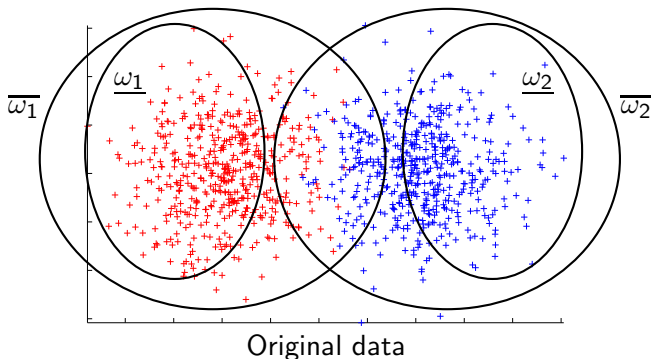
## Solution

Relax the sum constraint

# Problematic: where are the limits of an uncertain region ?



# Problematic: where are the limits of an uncertain region ?



## Solution

Express for each cluster  $\omega_k$  a lower approximation  $\underline{\omega}_k$  and an upper approximation  $\bar{\omega}_k$

# Rough partition

- Each object has a lower/upper approximation to each cluster
- $(\bar{\lambda}, \underline{\lambda}) = ((\bar{\lambda}_{ik}), (\underline{\lambda}_{ik}))$  s.t.  $\bar{\lambda}_{ik}, \underline{\lambda}_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}$ ,
  - if  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \underline{\omega}_k$  then  $\underline{\lambda}_{ik} = 1$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^c \bar{\lambda}_{ik} = 0$ ,
  - otherwise,  $\sum_{k=1}^c \underline{\lambda}_{ik} = 0$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^c \bar{\lambda}_{ik} \geq 1$ .

## Example

Let  $\omega_1$  be the class of square,  $\omega_2$  the class of round

	$\underline{\lambda}_{i1}$	$\bar{\lambda}_{i1}$	$\underline{\lambda}_{i2}$	$\bar{\lambda}_{i2}$
○	1	0	0	0
□	0	0	1	0
□	0	0	1	0
◐	0	1	0	1

# Outline

- 1 k-means
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- 3 rough k-means**
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# Rough c-means

## Objective function

$$J_{RCM} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^C \frac{\gamma}{\underline{n}_k} \underline{\lambda}_{ik} d_{ik}^2 + \frac{1-\gamma}{\bar{n}_k} \bar{\lambda}_{ik} d_{ik}^2$$

such that

- $\gamma \in [0, 1]$  is a fixed weight
- $\underline{n}_k / \bar{n}_k$  are the number of objects in  $\underline{\omega}_k / \bar{\omega}_k$

## Subject to

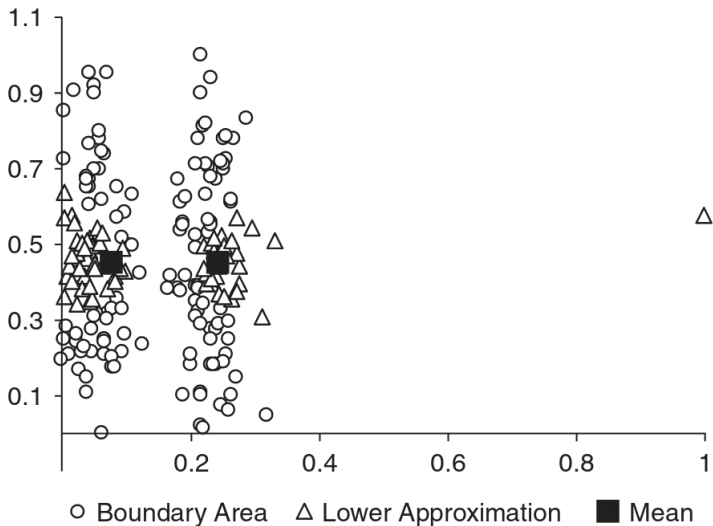
$$\left( \sum_{k=1}^C \underline{\lambda}_{ik} = 1 \vee \sum_{k=1}^C \underline{\lambda}_{ik} = 0 \right) \wedge \left( \sum_{k=1}^C \bar{\lambda}_{ik} = 0 \vee \sum_{k=1}^C \bar{\lambda}_{ik} \geq 2 \right) \text{ and}$$

$$\bar{\lambda}_{ik}, \underline{\lambda}_{ik} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i, k$$

## Alternate optimization

$$\min_{\underline{\lambda}, \bar{\lambda}} J_{RCM} \iff \min_{\underline{V}} J_{FCM}$$

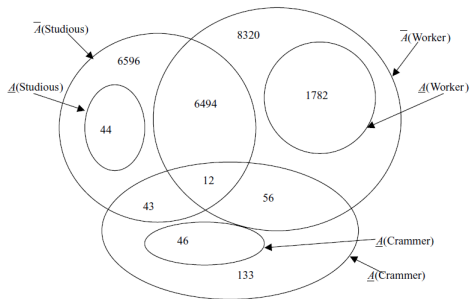
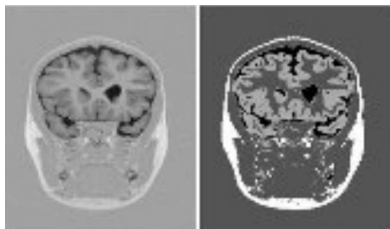
# Rough c-means [7]



# Applications

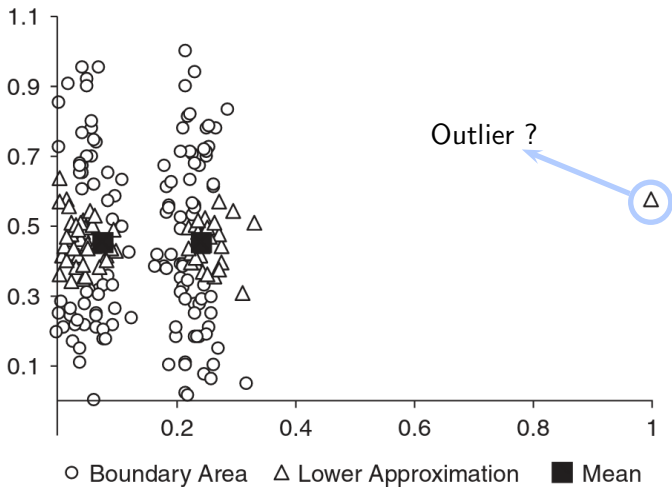
Great interest on boundary regions:

- Biology and Bioinformatics
- Medical imagery [5]
- Forest cover data
- Business and Economics
- Website profiles [4]
- ...





# Problematic



# Possibilistic partition

- Each object has a degree of possibility to each cluster
- $\mathbf{T} = (t_{ik})$  s.t  $t_{ik} \in [0, 1]$

## Example

Let  $\omega_1$  be the class of square,  $\omega_2$  the class of round

	$t_{i1}$	$t_{i2}$
	0	1
	1	0
	1	0.1
	1	1
	0	0

# Possibilistic transformations

Possibilistic partition

	$t_{i1}$	$t_{i2}$
○	0	1
□	1	0
□	1	0.1
◻	1	1
☆	0	0

$$u_{ik} = \frac{t_{ik}}{\sum_{k=1}^c t_{ik}}$$

normalization

maximum

$$p_{ik} = \max_{k=1}^c t_{ik}$$

Fuzzy partition

	$u_{i1}$	$u_{i2}$
○	0	1
□	1	0
□	0.91	0.09
◻	0.5	0.5
☆	?	?

Hard partition

	$p_{i1}$	$p_{i2}$
○	0	1
□	1	0
□	1	0
◻	?	?
☆	?	?

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- 1 k-means
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# Possibilistic c-means (PCM)

## Objective function

$$J_{PCM} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^C t_{ik}^{\beta} d_{ik}^2 + \sum_{k=1}^c \gamma_k \sum_{i=1}^N (1 - t_{ik})^m$$

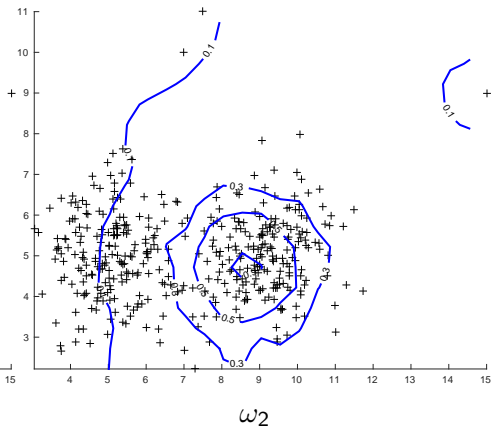
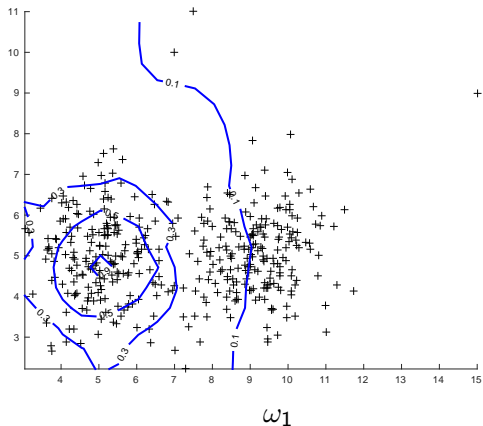
## Subject to

$$t_{ik} \geq 0 \quad \forall i, k$$

## Alternate optimization

$$\min_{\mathbf{T}} J_{PCM} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \min_{\mathbf{V}} J_{PCM}$$

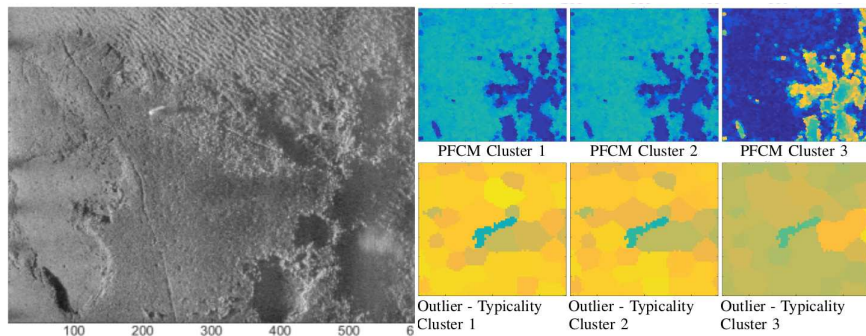
# Possibilistic c-means (PCM)



# Applications

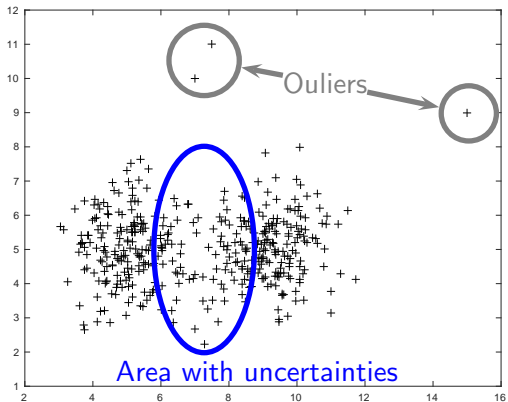
Same as FCM, but handles outliers.

Example : sonar image segmentation [11]



# Problematic

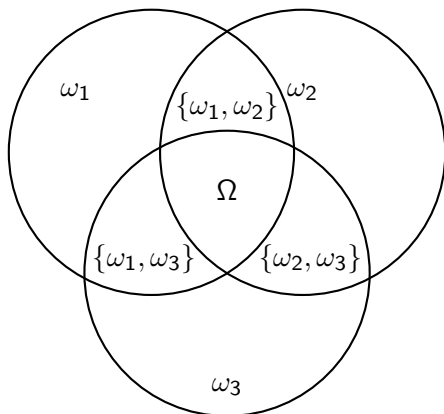
Can we represent uncertain region and outliers with a mathematical framework ?





# Credal partition

Uncertainties represented with subsets of  $\Omega = \{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_c\}$



# Credal partition

- Each object has a degree of belief to each subset  $A_j \subseteq \Omega$
- $\mathbf{M} = (m_{ij})$  s.t  $m_{ij} \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\sum_{A_j \subseteq \Omega} m_{ij} = 1$

## Example

Let  $\omega_1$  be the class of square,  $\omega_2$  the class of round

	$m_{i\emptyset}$	$m_{i\omega_1}$	$m_{i\omega_2}$	$m_{i\Omega}$
○	0	0	1	0
□	0	1	0	0
◻	0	0.9	0.1	0
◐	0	0	0	1
☆	1	0	0	0

# Derivative notions

## Belief function

Total support given to  $A$ :

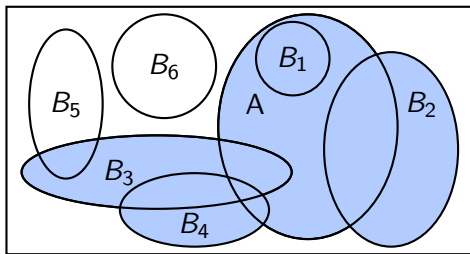
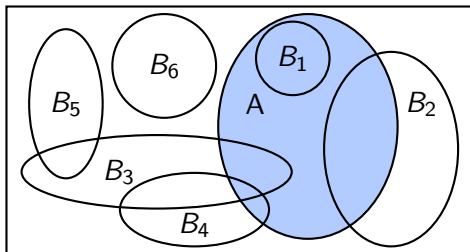
$$bel(A) = \sum_{B \subseteq A} m(B),$$

## Plausibility function

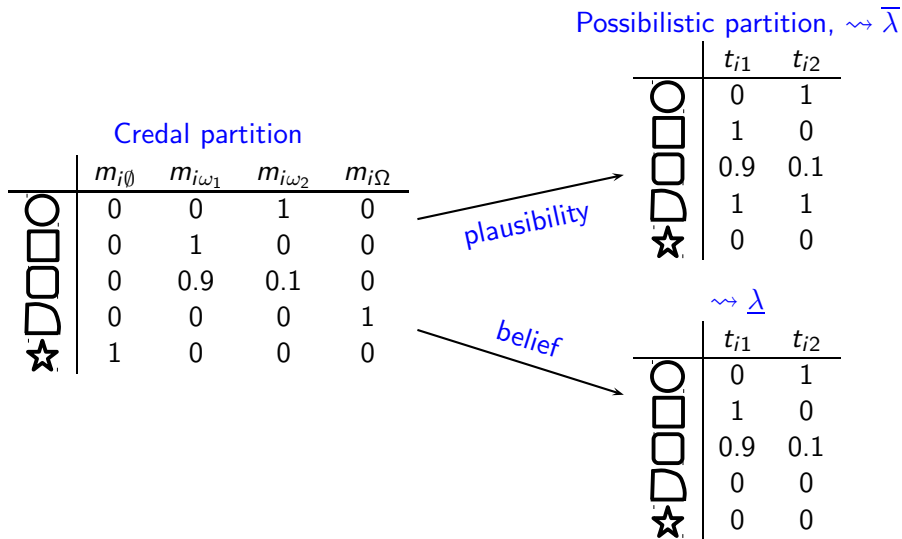
Potential degree of belief that *could be* given to  $A$ :

$$pl(A) = \sum_{B \cap A \neq \emptyset} m(B),$$

$$\forall A \subseteq \Omega, A \neq \emptyset$$



# Credal transformations



# Credal transformations

Making decision : the pignistic transformation

$$\text{Bet}P(\omega) = \frac{1}{1 - m(\emptyset)} \sum_{\{A \subseteq \Omega | \omega \in A\}} \frac{m(A)}{|A|}$$

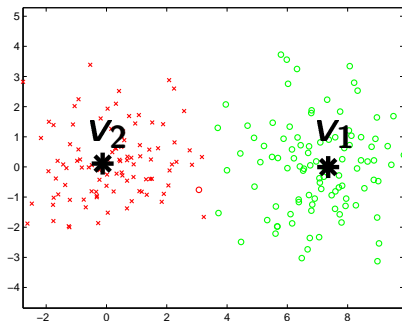
	Credal partition					Fuzzy partition	
	$m_{i\emptyset}$	$m_{i\omega_1}$	$m_{i\omega_2}$	$m_{i\Omega}$		$u_{i\omega_1}$	$u_{i\omega_2}$
○	0	0	1	0	pignistic → transformation	0	1
□	0	1	0	0		1	0
□	0	0.9	0.1	0		0.9	0.1
◐	0	0	0	1		0.5	0.5
☆	1	0	0	0		0.5	0.5

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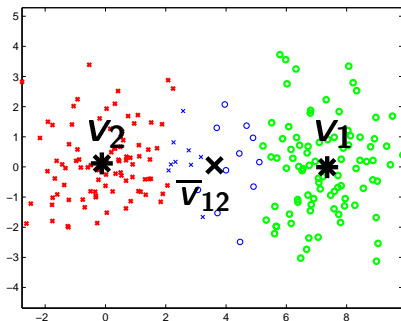
# Evidential c-means (ECM)

- Each cluster  $\omega_k$  is represented by a center  $\mathbf{v}_k$
- Centroid  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_j$  : barycenter of centers associated to classes composing  $A_j \subseteq \Omega$
- Distance  $d_{ij}^2$  between  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_j$



# Evidential c-means (ECM)

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- Centroid  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_j$  : barycenter of centers associated to classes composing  $A_j \subseteq \Omega$
- Distance  $d_{ij}^2$  between  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_j$





# Evidential c-means (ECM)

## Objective function

$$J_{ECM} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{A_j \subseteq \Omega, A_j \neq \emptyset} |A_j|^\alpha m_i(A_j)^\beta d_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i=1}^N \delta^2 m_i(\emptyset)^\beta$$

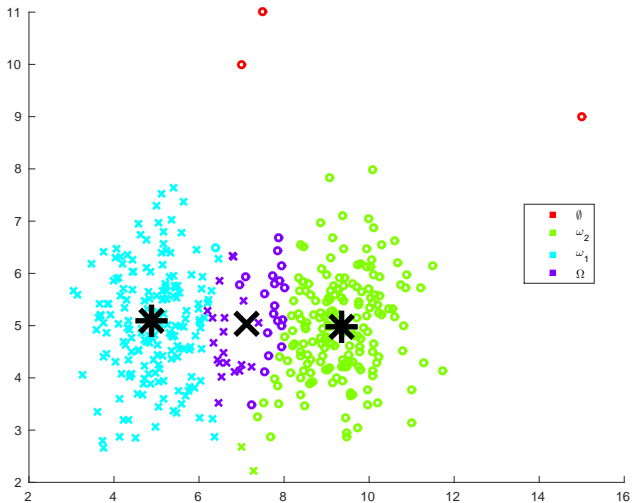
## Subject to

$$\sum_{A_j \subseteq \Omega, A_j \neq \emptyset} m_i(A_j) + m_i(\emptyset) = 1 \text{ and } m_i(A_j) \geq 0 \quad \forall i, j$$

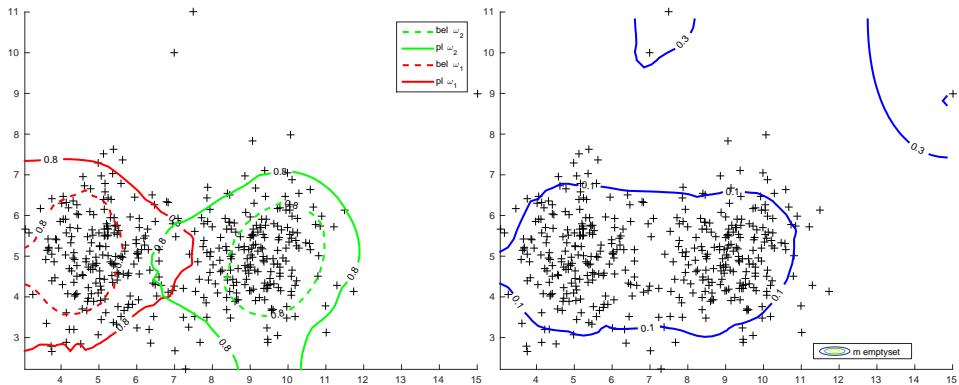
## Alternate optimization

$$\text{opt}(\mathbf{M}) \Leftrightarrow \text{opt}(\mathbf{V})$$

# ECM: hard credal partition

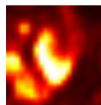


## ECM: lower, upper bound and outliers

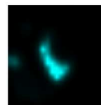
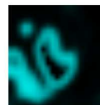


# Applications

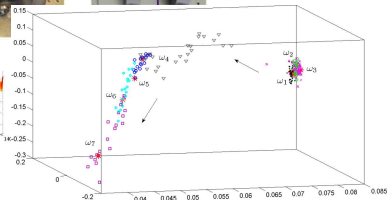
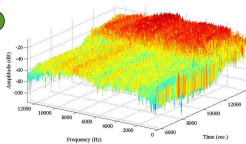
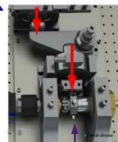
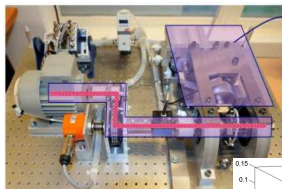
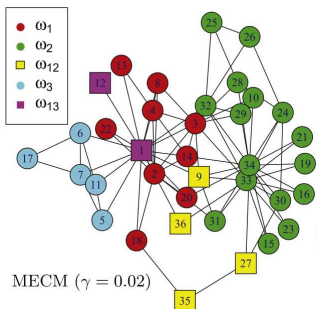
- medical image processing [3]
- machine prognosis [9]
- analysis of social networks [12]



FLT

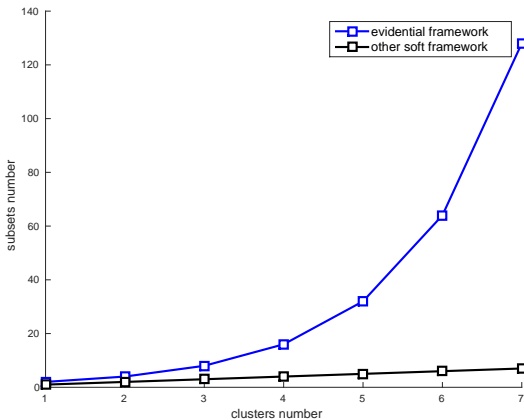
 $\{H_b\}$  $\{H_p\}$  $\{H_b, H_p\}$ 

Belief mass estimation



# Problematic

$c$  clusters  $\Rightarrow 2^c$  subsets !



# Outline

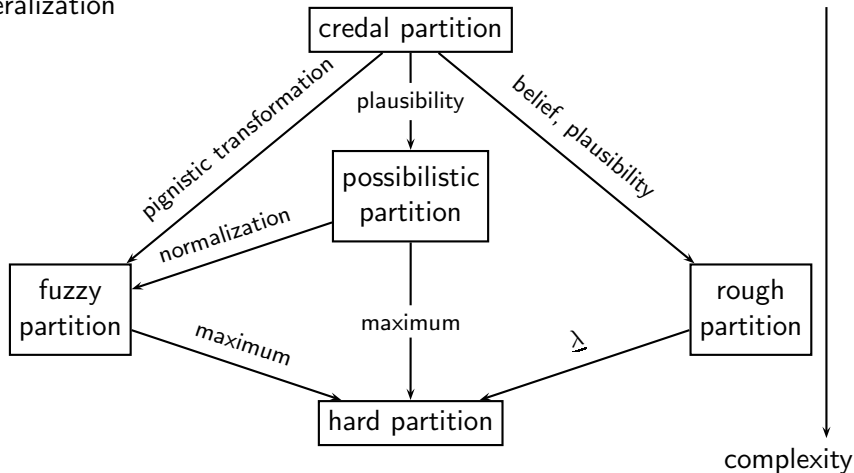
- 1 k-means
- 2 fuzzy c-means
- 3 rough k-means
- 4 possibilistic c-means
- 5 evidential c-means
- 6 Conclusion**

# Clustering

- *k-means*
  - + real time constraint, big data, hard decision to make
- *fuzzy c-means*
  - + handle overlapped clusters
- *rough k-means*
  - + hard decision to make with overlapped clusters, upper and lower belief on that decision
- *possibilistic c-means*
  - + separate analysis of each cluster results, outliers
  - mathematical framework with properties complex to handle
- *evidential c-means*
  - + strong partition analysis possible
  - small number of clusters

# Partition types

generalization





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Thank you