

# Day 14: SVMs Part 2 and Clustering

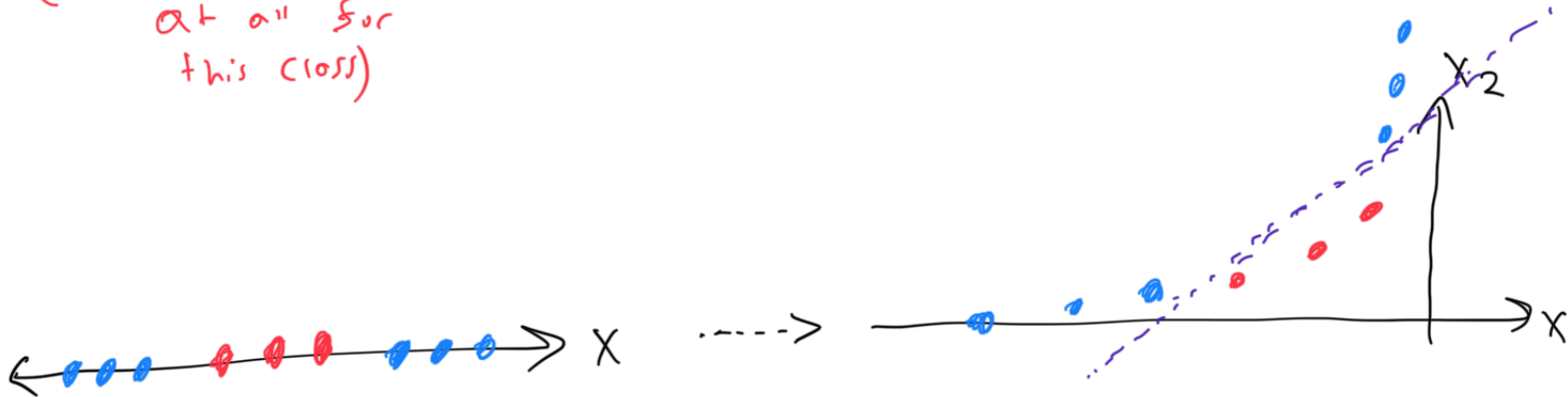
$$\max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \underbrace{\left( X_i^T X_j \right)}$$

Subject to;

- \*  $\alpha_i \geq 0$
- \*  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$

Key Observation =  $X_i^T X_j$   
 is the bulk of the computation, especially in high dimensions

(equation is not important at all for this class)



## The Kernel Trick

Find a "Kernel function" which tells us what the dot product would be in a higher dimension to convert the data into

without requiring us to convert the numbers to  
the higher dimension and calculate the dot product.

$$\text{(Recall: } [a_1, a_2, a_3] \cdot [b_1, b_2, b_3] = a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_2 + a_3 b_3 \text{)}$$

## Polynomial Kernel

$$k(a, b) = (a^T b + r)^d$$

$a$  = data point #1

$b$  = data point #2

$r, d$  are hyperparameters  
 $d$  stands for:  
degree / dimension

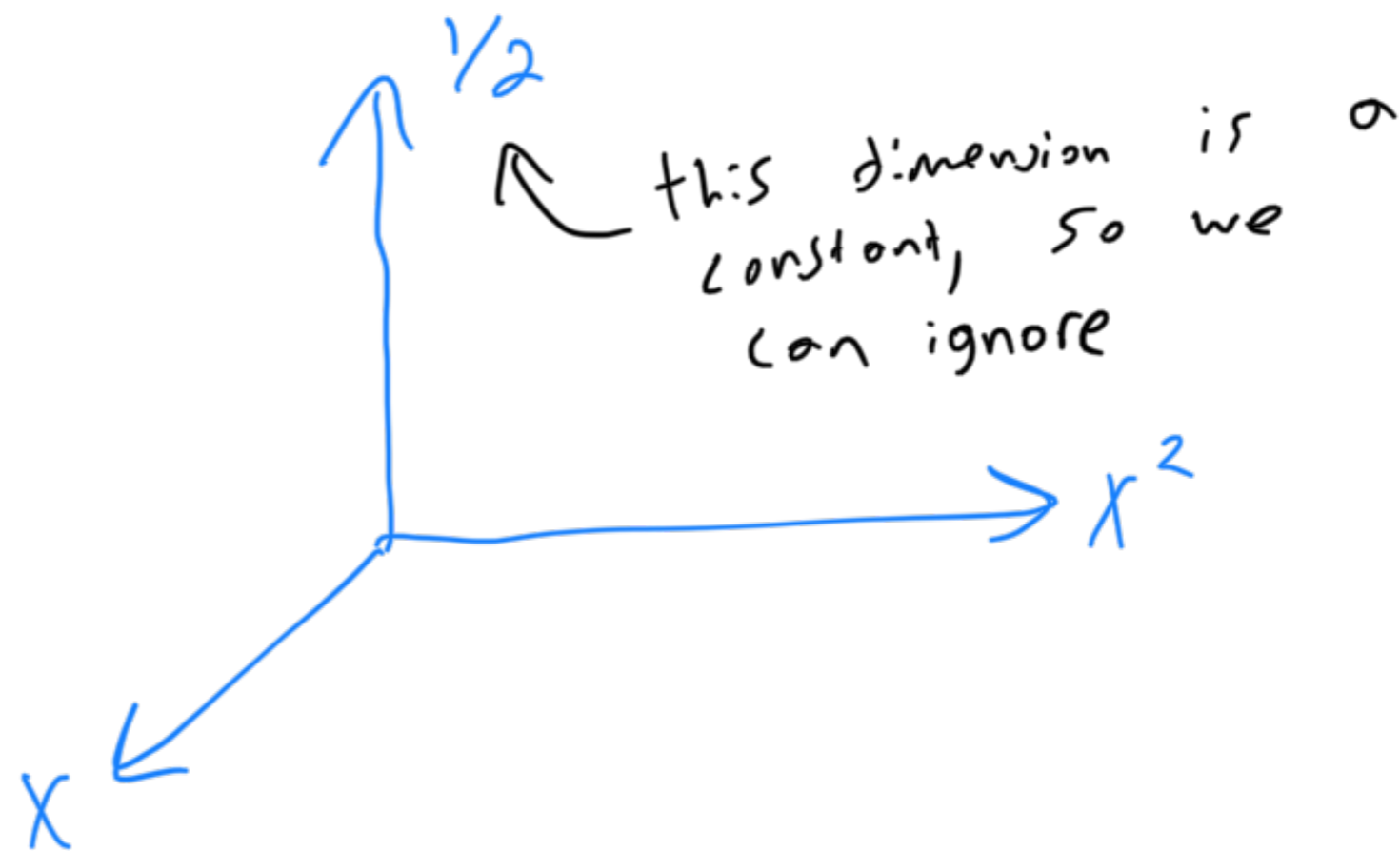
Example:  $r = 1/2$   $d = 2$

$$(ab + 1/2)^2 = (ab + 1/2)(ab + 1/2)$$

$$= a^2 b^2 + ab + 1/4$$

$$= [a, a^2, 1/2]^T \cdot [b, b^2, 1/2]$$

Thus,  $[x_i, x_i^2, 1/2]$  is the coordinate in the higher dimension



Another example:

$$(ab + 1)^3 = a^3 b^3 + 3a^2 b^2 + 3ab + 1$$

$$= [a^3, \sqrt{3}a^2, \sqrt{3}a, 1] \cdot [b^3, \sqrt{3}b^2, \sqrt{3}b, 1]$$

There are other kernels as well, including some which project data into  $\infty$ -dimensional space (via Taylor Series Expansion) (see Radial Basis Kernel).

SVM: SVC + Kernel

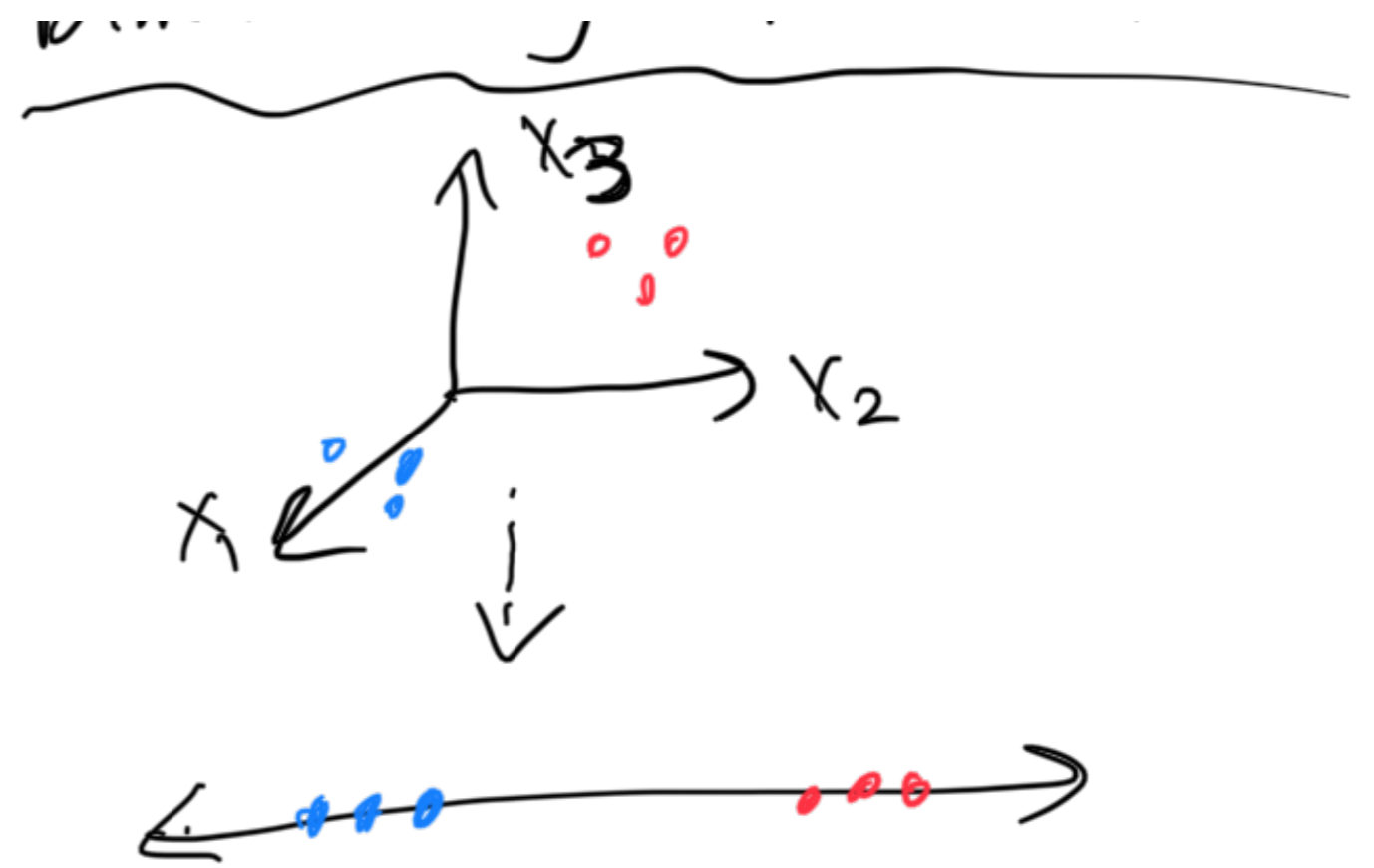
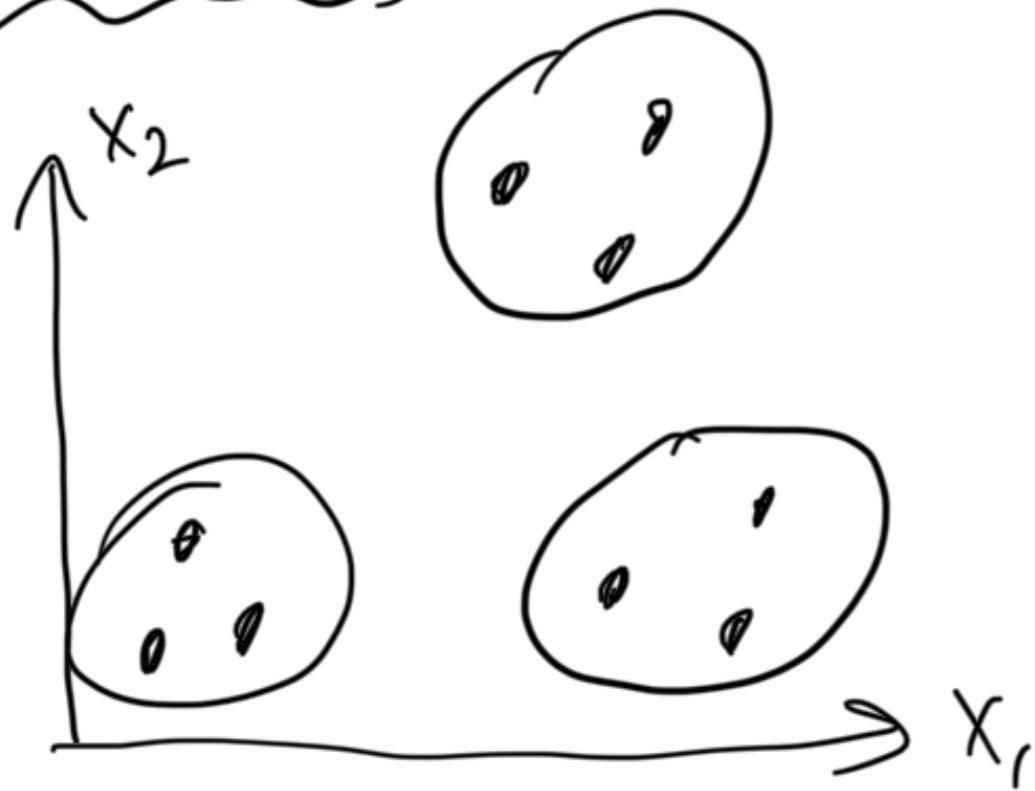


Unsupervised Learning

Learning without labels

Dimensionality Reduction

# Clustering



# Clustering

## Use cases:

- \* Group website users into distinct categories for advertising
- \* Recommendation systems for Spotify, YouTube/Netflix/Amazon
- \* Discover categories/subcategories

...  
(of diseases, species, etc.)  
...

Most popular clustering algorithm is ...

## K-Means Clustering

Inputs: data,  $K$  (hyperparameter)

Output: cluster assignment

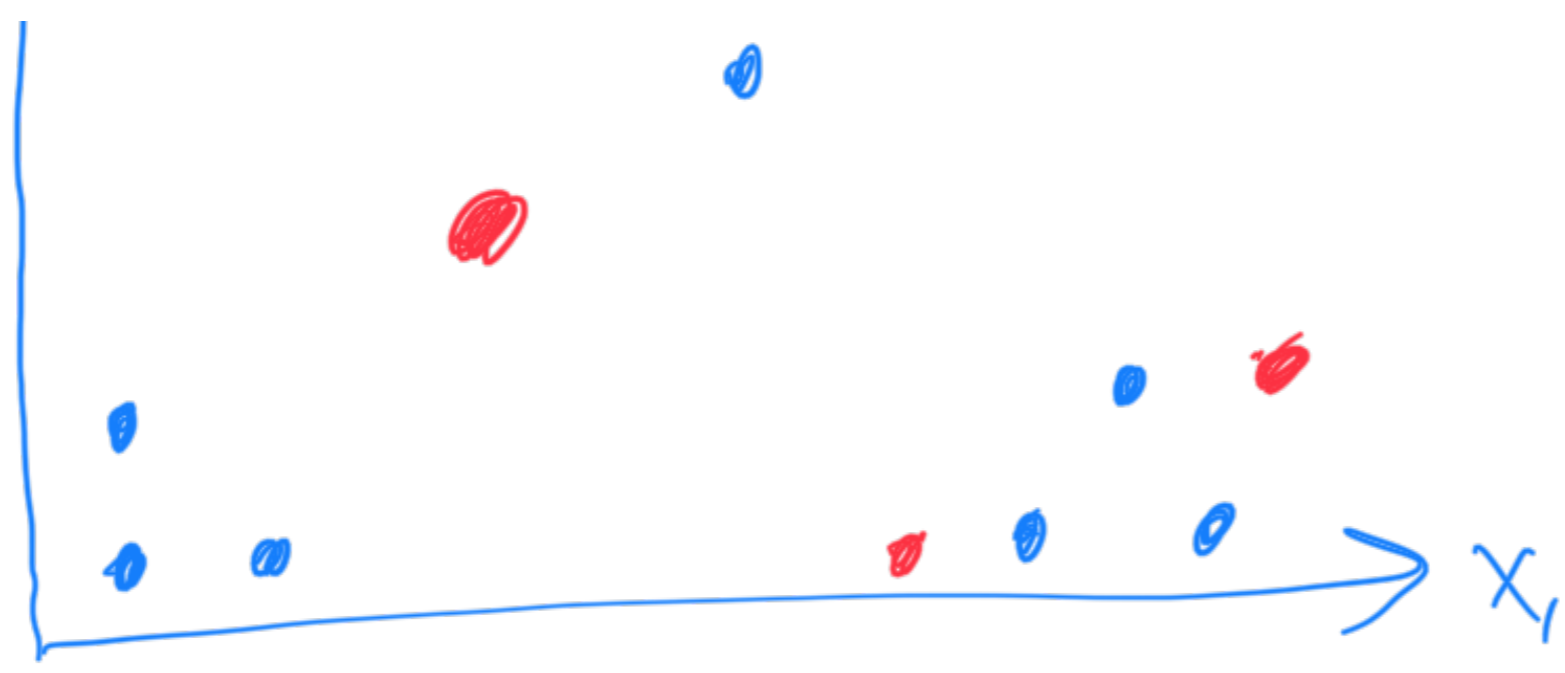
① randomly assign  $K$  cluster "centroids"  
(the center of the cluster)

these are not necessarily data points in the data set

$x_2$   
↑

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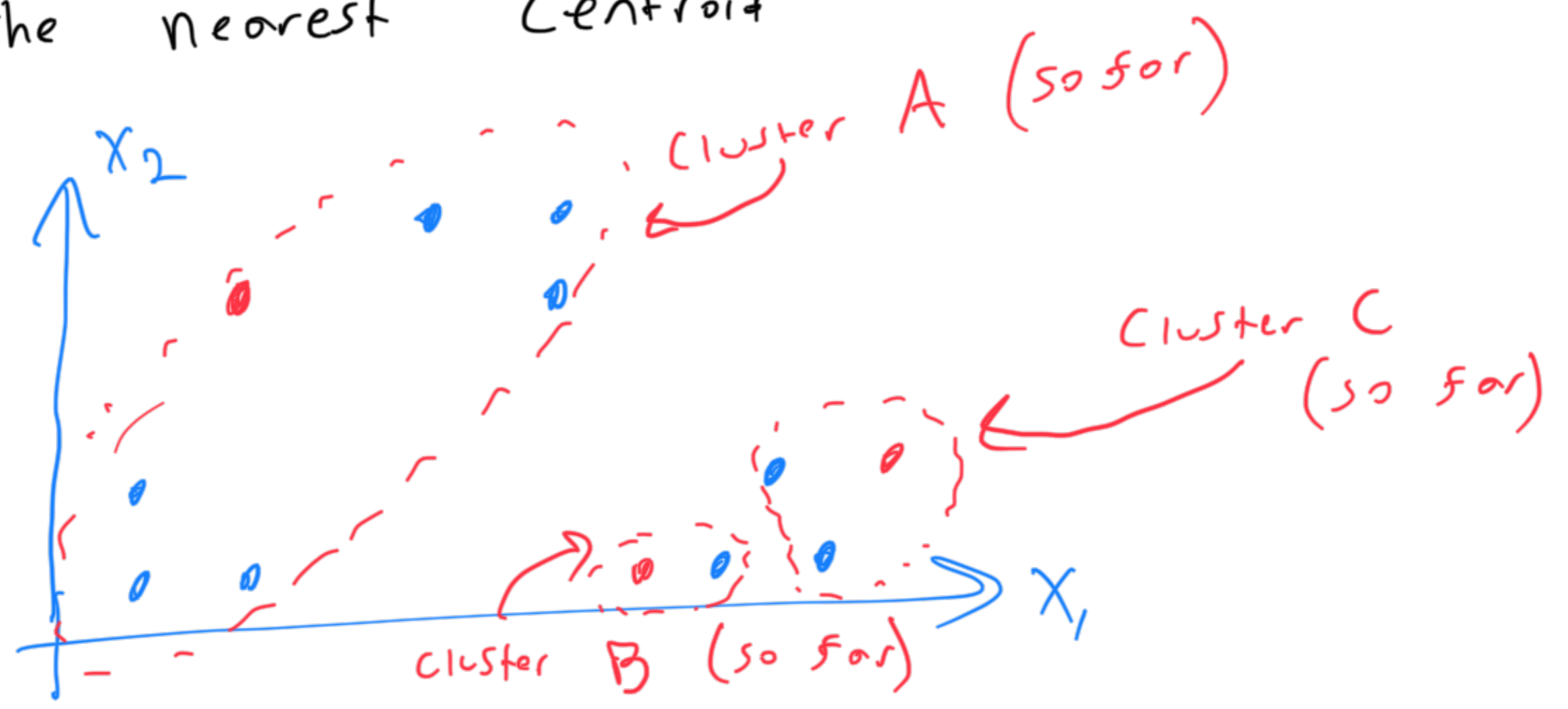
▨ = centroid  
1 ...



( $k=3$  in this example)

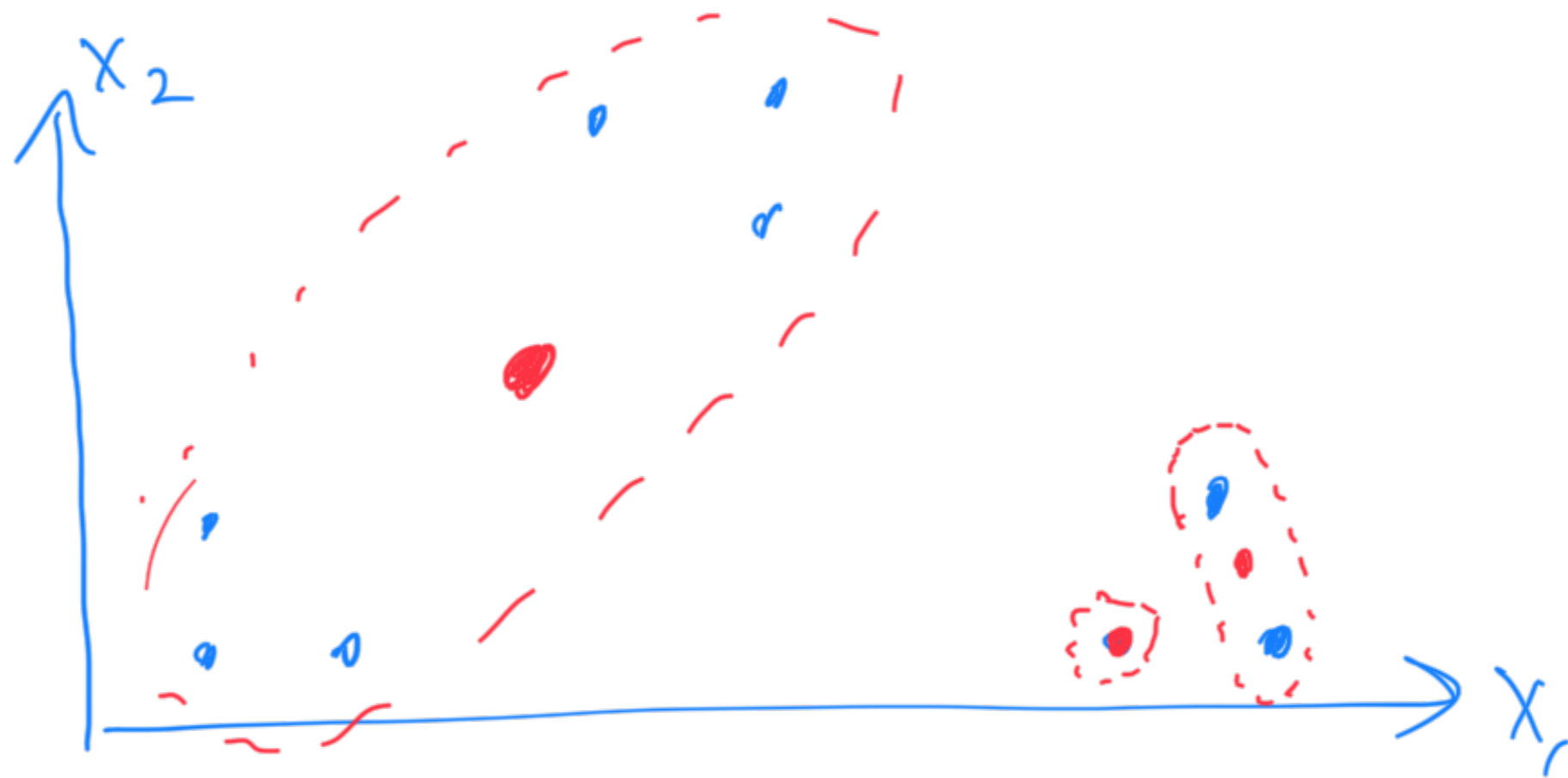
② While the assignment of data points to centroids is still changing

① assign each data point to the nearest centroid





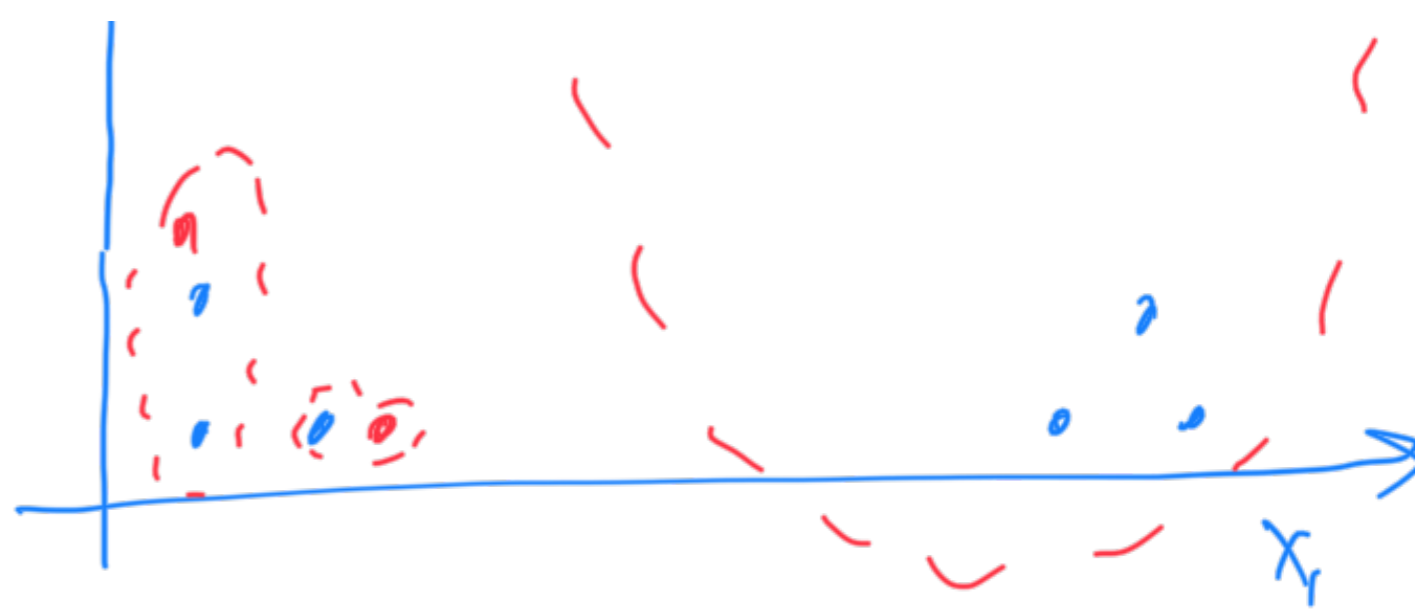
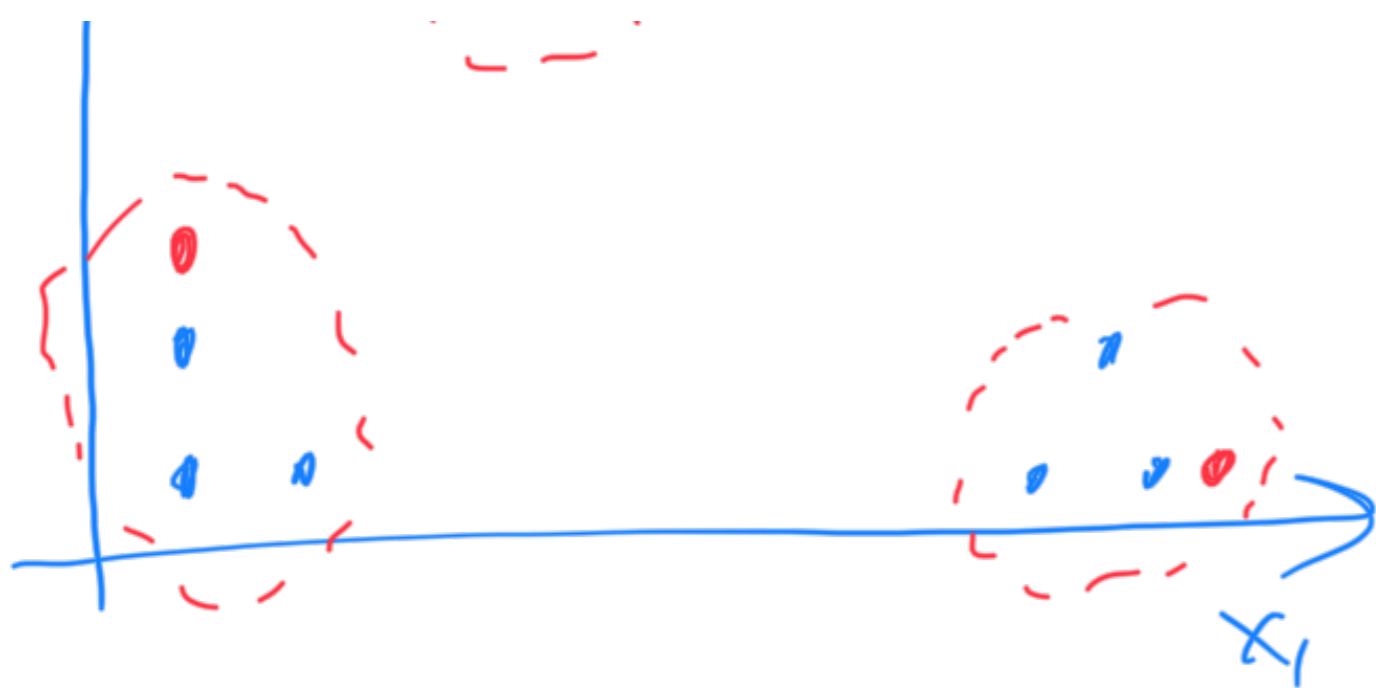
⑥ recalculate the centroid as the mean of the data points in each of the current clusters



⑦ return the final clusters

Important Note: the end results heavily depend on the initialization



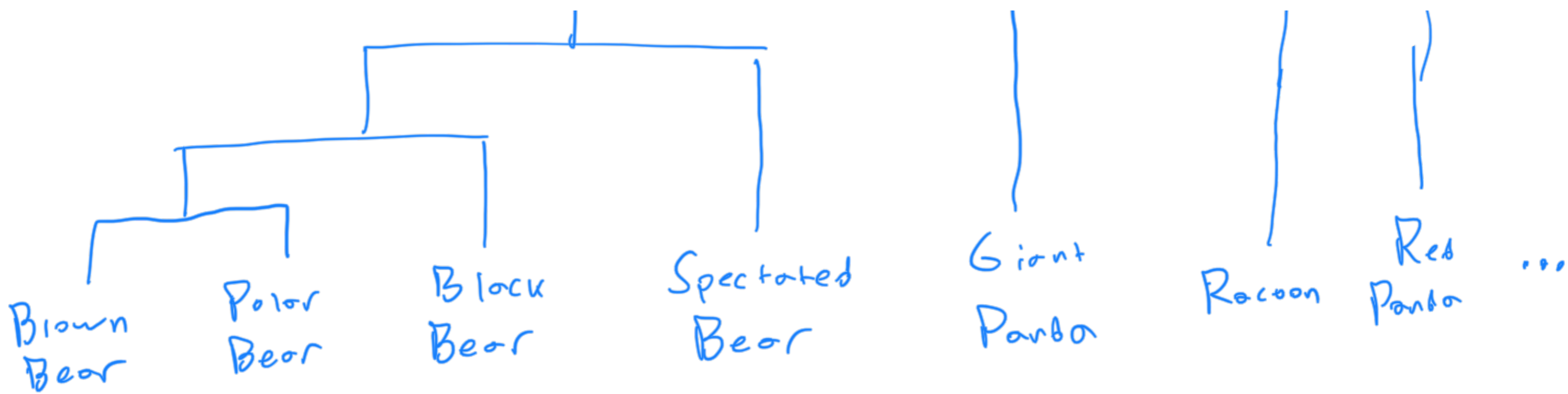


# Hierarchical Clustering

Goal is to build a hierarchy of clusters

Big use case: construction of evolutionary trees





Agglomerative ("bottom up")  
 hierarchical clustering

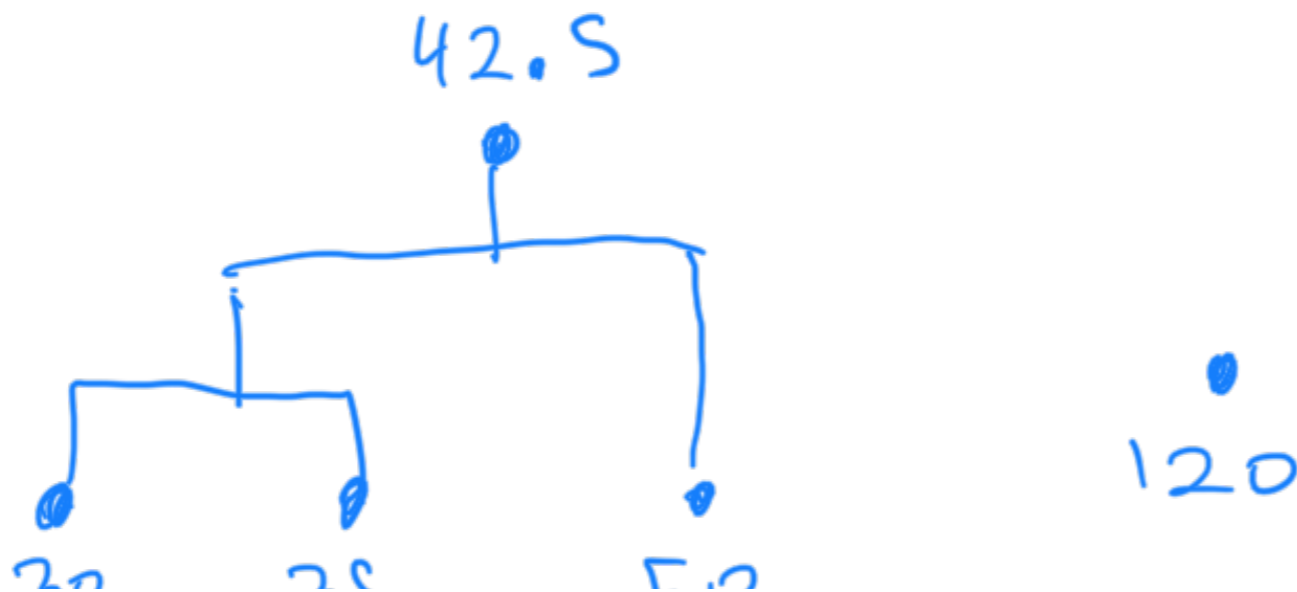
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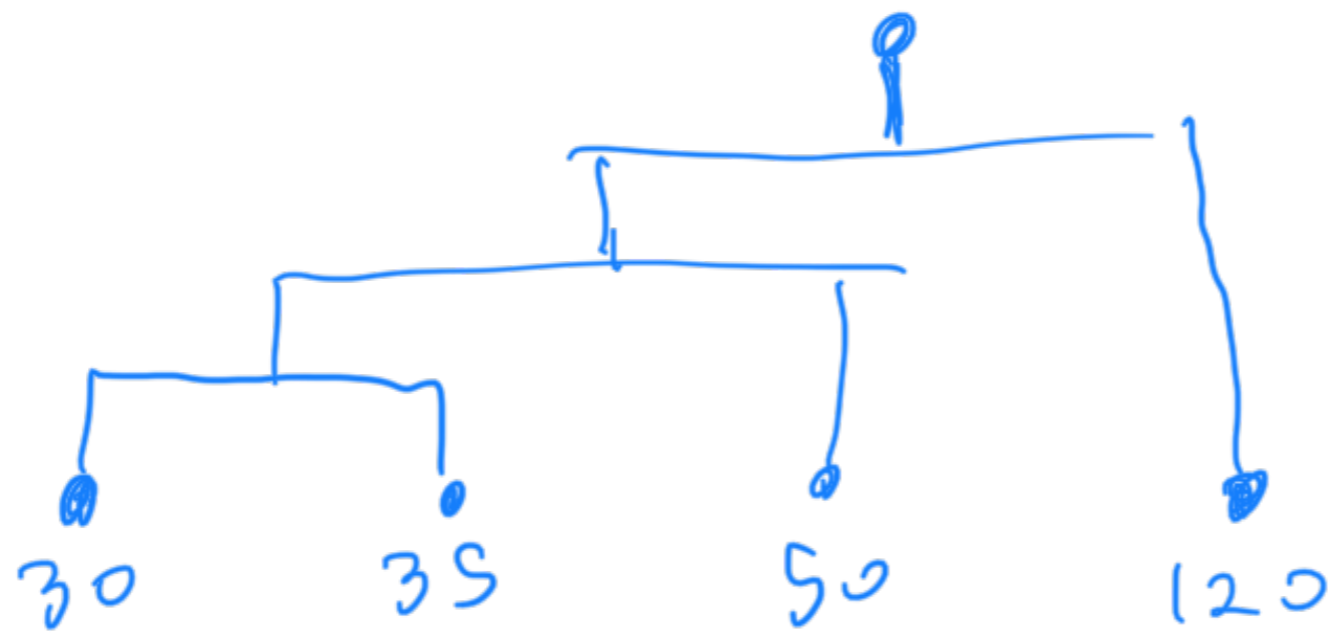
① each data point is its own cluster



② While there is more than 1 cluster left,

merge the two closest clusters, using the mean of the data points in the new cluster as its "centroid"





Crucial Note: Can define similarity between  
2 points in many different ways

Similarity  $([3, -20, 10], [4, 8, 0])$

↳ Euclidean Distance (L2):

$$\sqrt{(3-4)^2 + (-20-8)^2 + (10-0)^2}$$

1, 110

↳ Manhattan Distance ( $L_1$ )

$$|3-4| + |-20-8| + |10-0|$$

...

Similarity ("AATCCCG", "A-CCGA")

↳ Levenshtein Distance (Edit Distance)

(string similarity metric used in text processing and bioinformatics)

...

Another Crucial Note: there are many ways to represent data.....

A key area of AI research and practice.

\* How do we represent our data?

\* How do we define similarity between 2 data points?

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## Feature Engineering

How do we represent our data?

Example: Action Recognition



y  
Standing

||

f



Model may overfit  
to irrelevant  
features

vs.

y  
Kicking

||

f

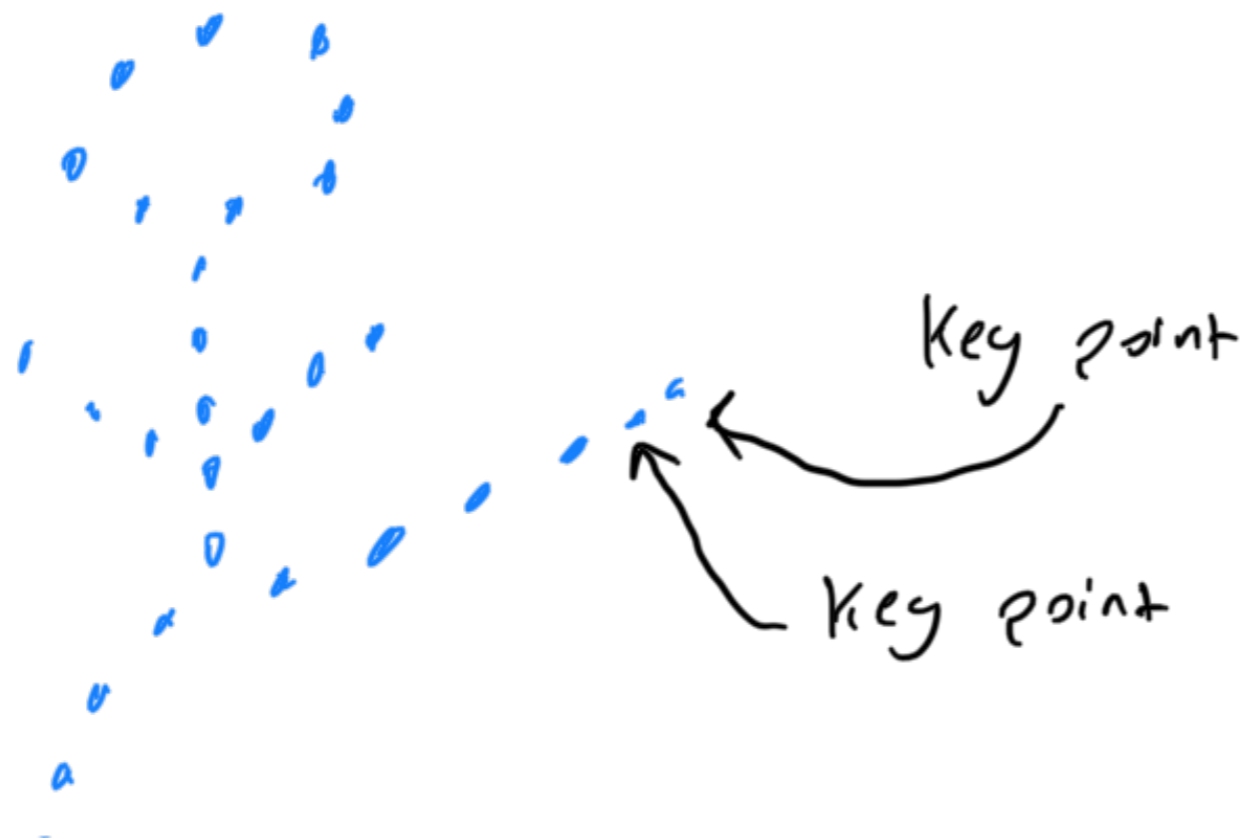




Can represent the data with  
feature vector that only describes  
the relevant parts of the data!



Aside: Key points



# Four main approaches:

① transform data using a pre-defined transformation

"how much wood would a wood chunk chunk"

→  
Bag  
of  
Words

[ 2 2 0 ...  
Wood chunk apple ...

② transform data using a learned representation

"word"

→

ML  
model

→

[-22.3, ...]

]

③ Feature selection: remove unimportant features

④ dimensionality reduction

(4) g. mensura