



University of Washington

Computer Science & Engineering

CSE 527, Au '03: Computational Biology

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Project Information

Time: MW 12:00-1:20

Place: MGH 284

Instructor: [Larry Ruzzo](#),
ruzzo@cs,

TA: [Zizhen Yao](#),
yzizhen@cs,

Office Hours

Phone

TBA - ,554 Allen Center, 543-6298

An introduction to the use of computational biology for understanding of biological systems ; Intended for graduate students in bioinformatics learning about algorithms and computational biology graduate students in computer science interested in applications of those fields

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References:

Clustering Expression Data

- Why **cluster** gene expression data?
 - Tissue classification
 - Find biologically related genes
 - First step in inferring regulatory networks
 - Look for common promoter elements
 - **Hypothesis generation**
 - **One of the tools of choice for expression analysis**

Clustering Expression Data

- What has been done?
 - Hierarchical average-link [Eisen et al. 98]
 - Self Organizing Maps (SOM) [Tamayo et al. 99]
 - CAST [Ben-Dor et al. 99]
 - Support Vector Machines (SVM) [Grundy et al. 00]
 - etc., etc., etc.
- Why so many methods?
 - Clustering is **NP-hard**, even with simple objectives, data
 - Hard problem: high dimensionality, noise, ...
 - \therefore many heuristic, local search, & approximation algorithms
 - **No clear winner**

Clustering Algorithms

- **Partitional**
 - CAST (Ben-Dor et al. 1999)
 - k-means, variously initialized (Hartigan 1975)
- **Hierarchical**
 - single-link
 - average-link
 - complete-link
- **Random** (as a control)
 - Randomly assign genes to clusters
- Others

The following slides largely from
<http://staff.washington.edu/kayee/research.html>
Errors are mine.

Clustering 101

Ka Yee Yeung
Center for Expression Arrays
University of Washington

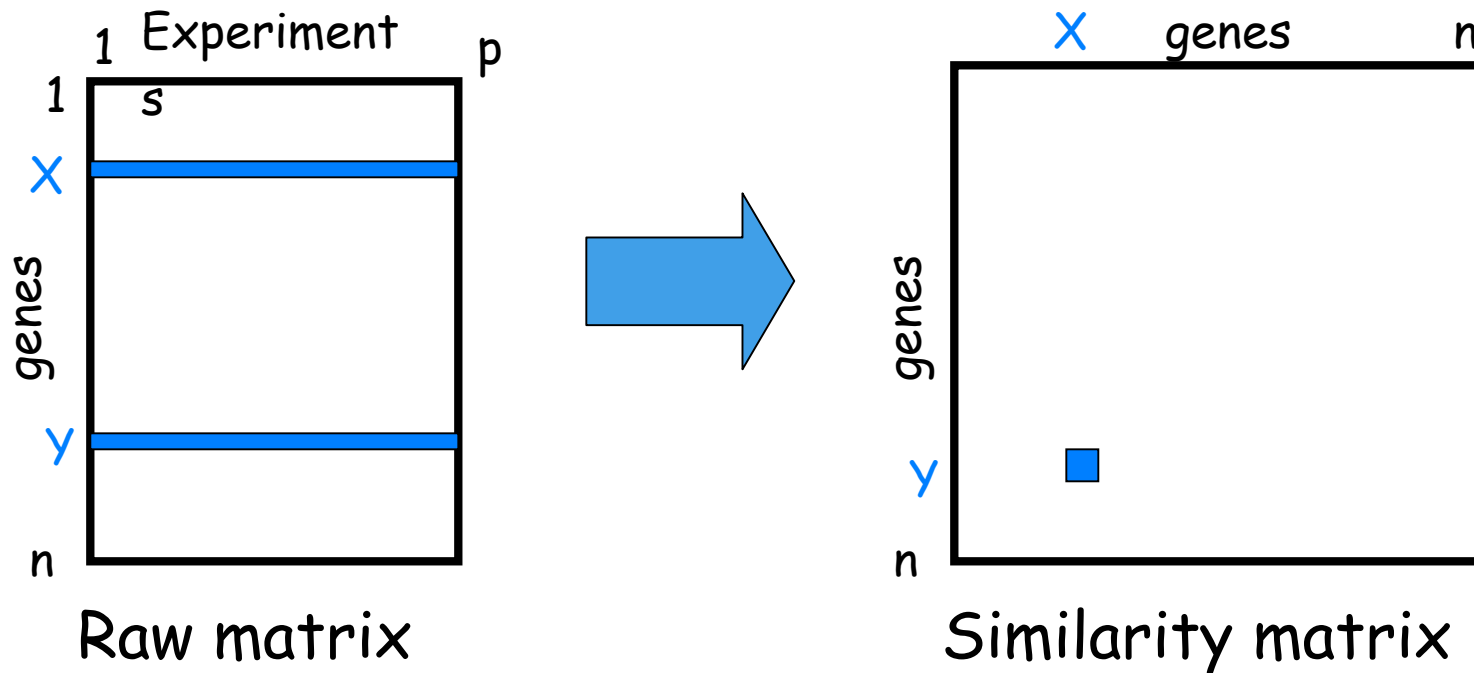
Overview

- What is clustering?
- Similarity/distance metrics
- Hierarchical clustering algorithms
 - Made popular by Stanford, ie. [Eisen *et al.* 1998]
- K-means
 - Made popular by many groups, eg. [Tavazoie *et al.* 1999]
- Self-organizing map (SOM)
 - Made popular by Whitehead, ie. [Tamayo *et al.* 1999]

What is clustering?

- Group *similar* objects together
- Objects in the same cluster (group) are more similar to each other than objects in different clusters
- Data exploratory tool

How to define similarity?



- **Similarity metric:**
 - A measure of *pairwise* similarity or dissimilarity
 - Examples:
 - Correlation coefficient
 - Euclidean distance

Similarity metrics

- Euclidean distance

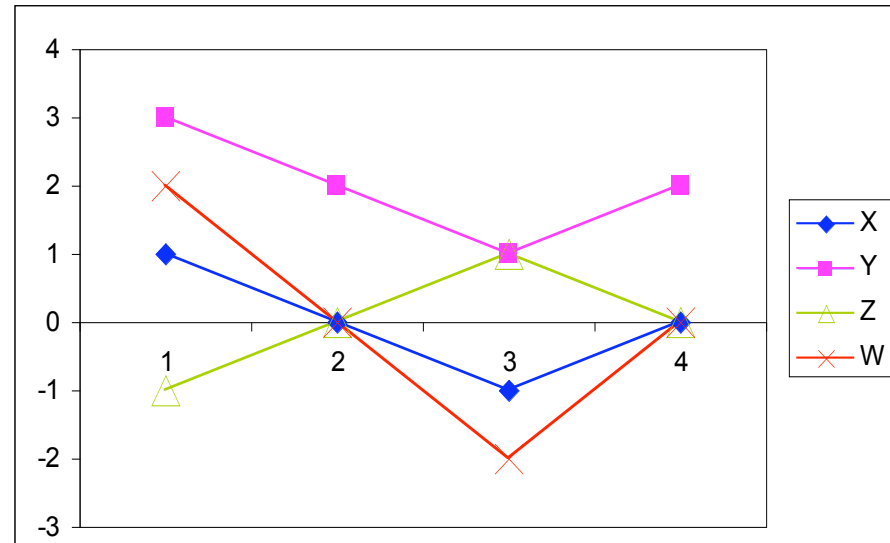
$$\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^p (X[j] - Y[j])^2}$$

- Correlation coefficient

$$\frac{\sum_{j=1}^p (X[j] - \bar{X})(Y[j] - \bar{Y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^p (X[j] - \bar{X})^2 \sum_{j=1}^p (Y[j] - \bar{Y})^2}}, \text{ where } \bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^p X[j]}{p}$$

Example

X	1	0	-1	0
Y	3	2	1	2
Z	-1	0	1	0
W	2	0	-2	0



Correlation (X,Y) = 1

Distance (X,Y) = 4

Correlation (X,Z) = -1

Distance (X,Z) = 2.83

Correlation (X,W) = 1

Distance (X,W) = 1.41

Lessons from the example

- Correlation – direction only
- Euclidean distance – magnitude & direction
- Min # attributes (experiments) to compute pairwise similarity
 - ≥ 2 attributes for Euclidean distance
 - ≥ 3 attributes for correlation
- Array data is noisy \rightarrow need many experiments to robustly estimate pairwise similarity

Clustering algorithms

- **Inputs:**
 - Raw data matrix or similarity matrix
 - Number of clusters or some other parameters
- Many different classifications of clustering algorithms:
 - Hierarchical vs partitional
 - Heuristic-based vs model-based
 - Soft vs hard

Hierarchical Clustering [Hartigan 1975]

- Agglomerative (bottom-up)

- Algorithm:

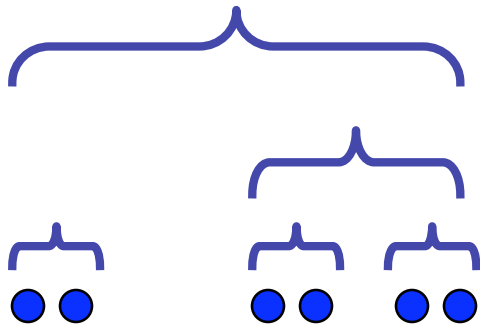
- **Initialize:** each item a cluster

- **Iterate:**

- select two most **similar** clusters

- merge them

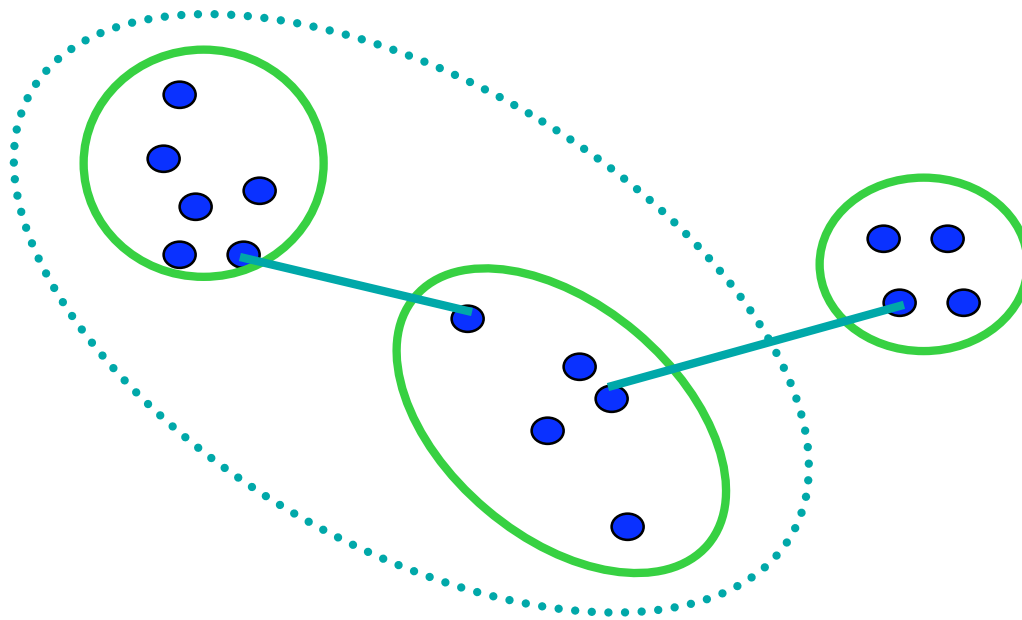
- **Halt:** when required number of clusters is reached



dendrogram

Hierarchical: Single Link

- cluster similarity = similarity of two **most** similar members



- Potentially long and skinny clusters

+ Fast

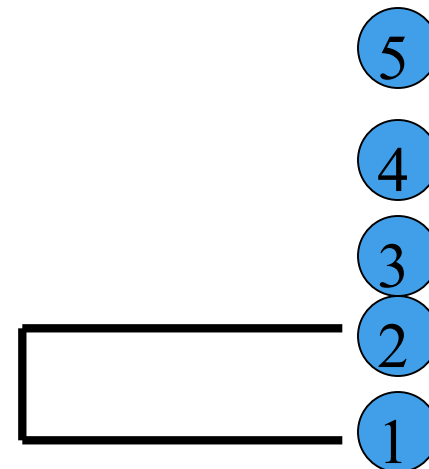
Example: single link

$$\begin{array}{c}
 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \\
 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ 2 & 0 & & & \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
 2 \\
 3 \\
 4 \\
 5
 \end{array}
 \quad \rightarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 (1,2) \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \\
 (1,2) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ 3 & 0 & & & \\ 9 & 7 & 0 & & \\ 8 & 5 & 4 & 0 & \end{bmatrix} \\
 3 \\
 4 \\
 5
 \end{array}$$

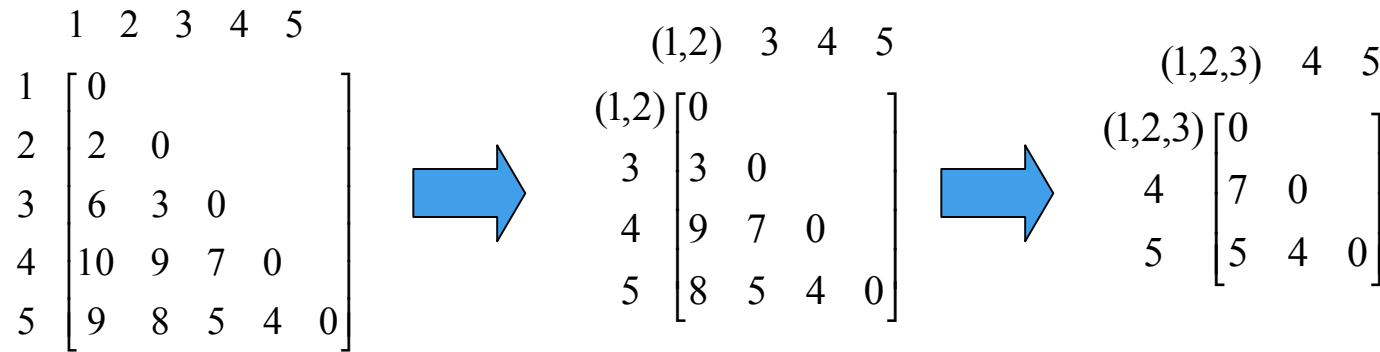
$$d_{(1,2),3} = \min\{d_{1,3}, d_{2,3}\} = \min\{6, 3\} = 3$$

$$d_{(1,2),4} = \min\{d_{1,4}, d_{2,4}\} = \min\{10, 9\} = 9$$

$$d_{(1,2),5} = \min\{d_{1,5}, d_{2,5}\} = \min\{9, 8\} = 8$$

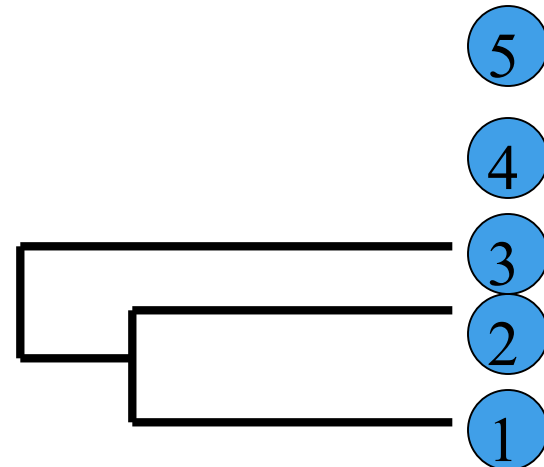


Example: single link

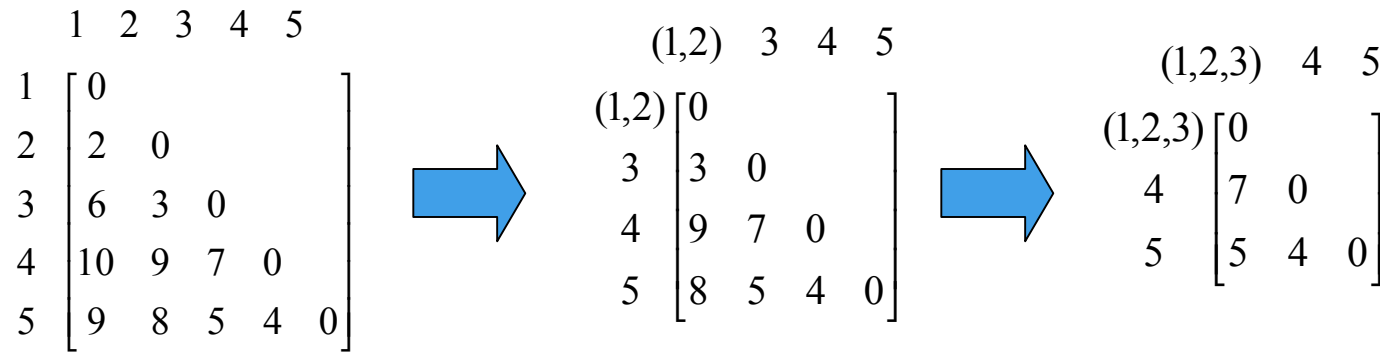


$$d_{(1,2,3),4} = \min\{d_{(1,2),4}, d_{3,4}\} = \min\{9, 7\} = 7$$

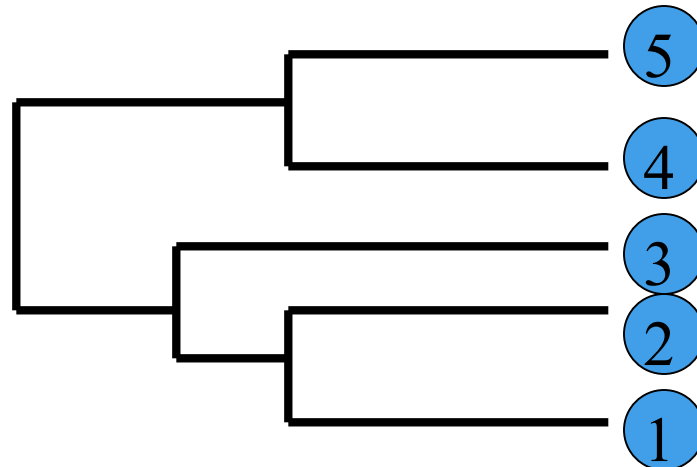
$$d_{(1,2,3),5} = \min\{d_{(1,2),5}, d_{3,5}\} = \min\{8, 5\} = 5$$



Example: single link



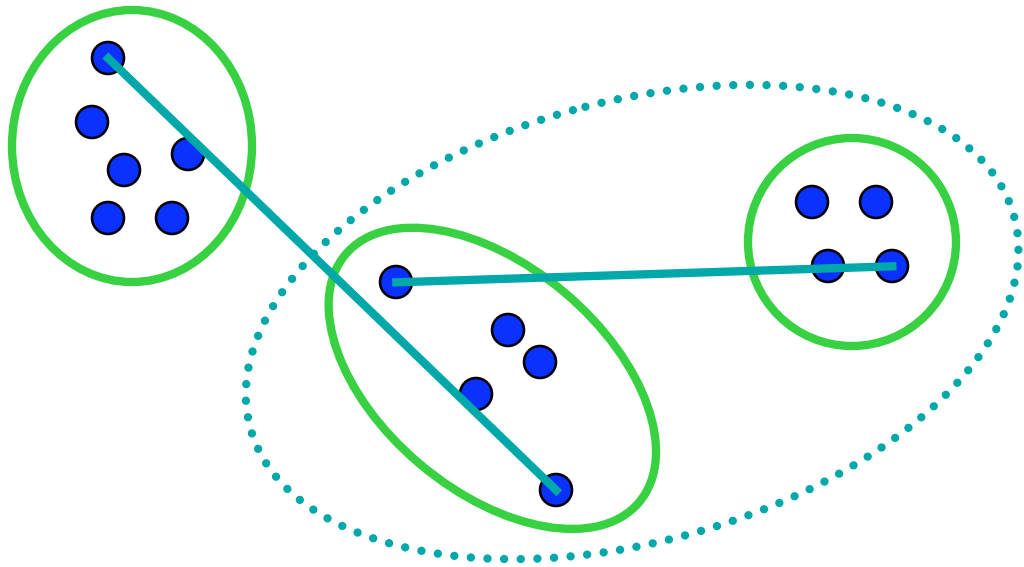
$$d_{(1,2,3),(4,5)} = \min\{d_{(1,2,3),4}, d_{(1,2,3),5}\} = 5$$



Sometimes drawn to a scale

Hierarchical: Complete Link

- cluster similarity = similarity of two **least** similar members



+ tight clusters

- slow

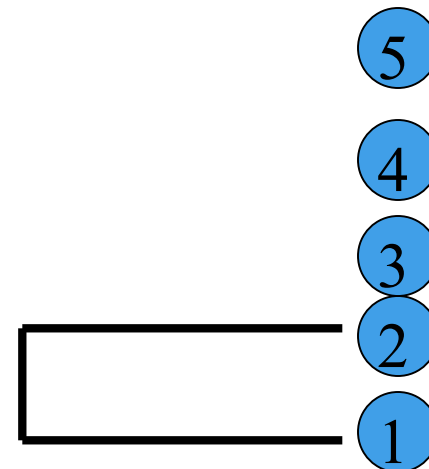
Example: complete link

$$\begin{array}{c}
 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \\
 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ 2 & 0 & & & \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
 2 \\
 3 \\
 4 \\
 5
 \end{array}
 \quad \rightarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 (1,2) \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \\
 (1,2) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ 6 & 0 & & & \\ 10 & 7 & 0 & & \\ 9 & 5 & 4 & 0 & \end{bmatrix} \\
 3 \\
 4 \\
 5
 \end{array}$$

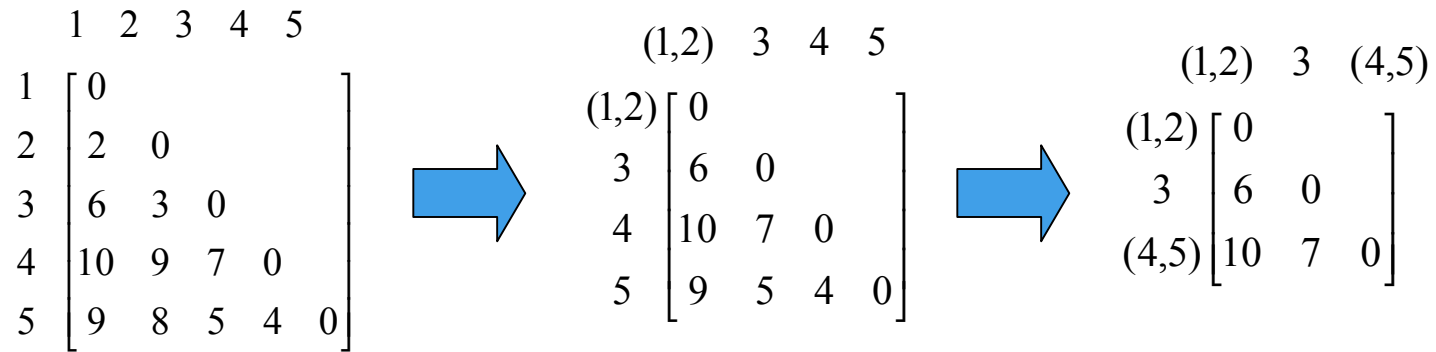
$$d_{(1,2),3} = \max\{d_{1,3}, d_{2,3}\} = \max\{6, 3\} = 6$$

$$d_{(1,2),4} = \max\{d_{1,4}, d_{2,4}\} = \max\{10, 9\} = 10$$

$$d_{(1,2),5} = \max\{d_{1,5}, d_{2,5}\} = \max\{9, 8\} = 9$$

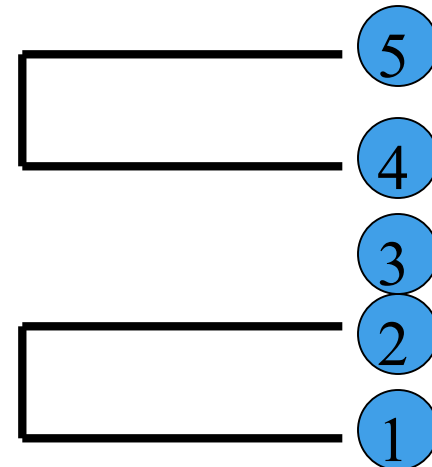


Example: complete link

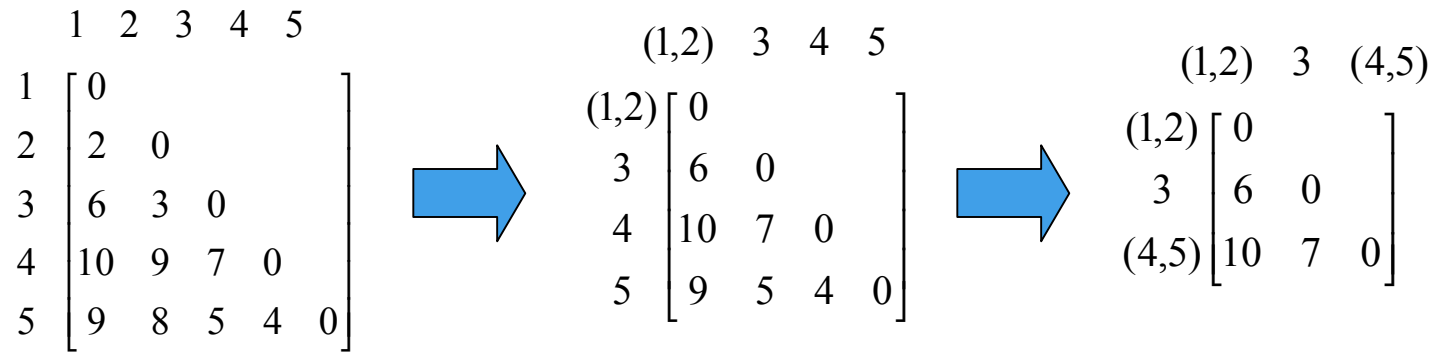


$$d_{(1,2),(4,5)} = \max\{d_{(1,2),4}, d_{(1,2),5}\} = \max\{10, 9\} = 10$$

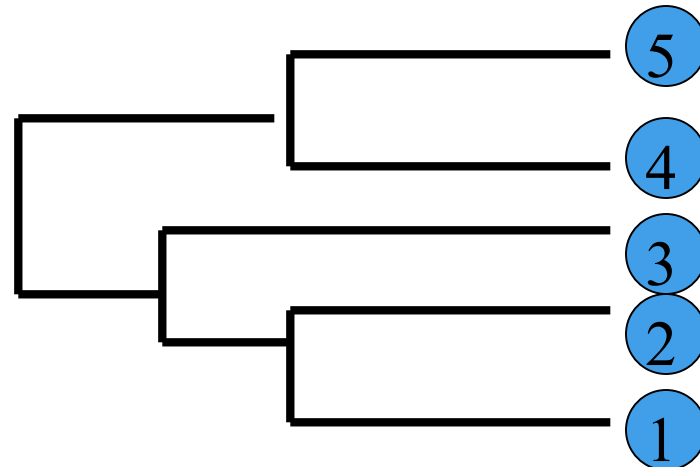
$$d_{3,(4,5)} = \max\{d_{3,4}, d_{3,5}\} = \max\{7, 5\} = 7$$



Example: complete link

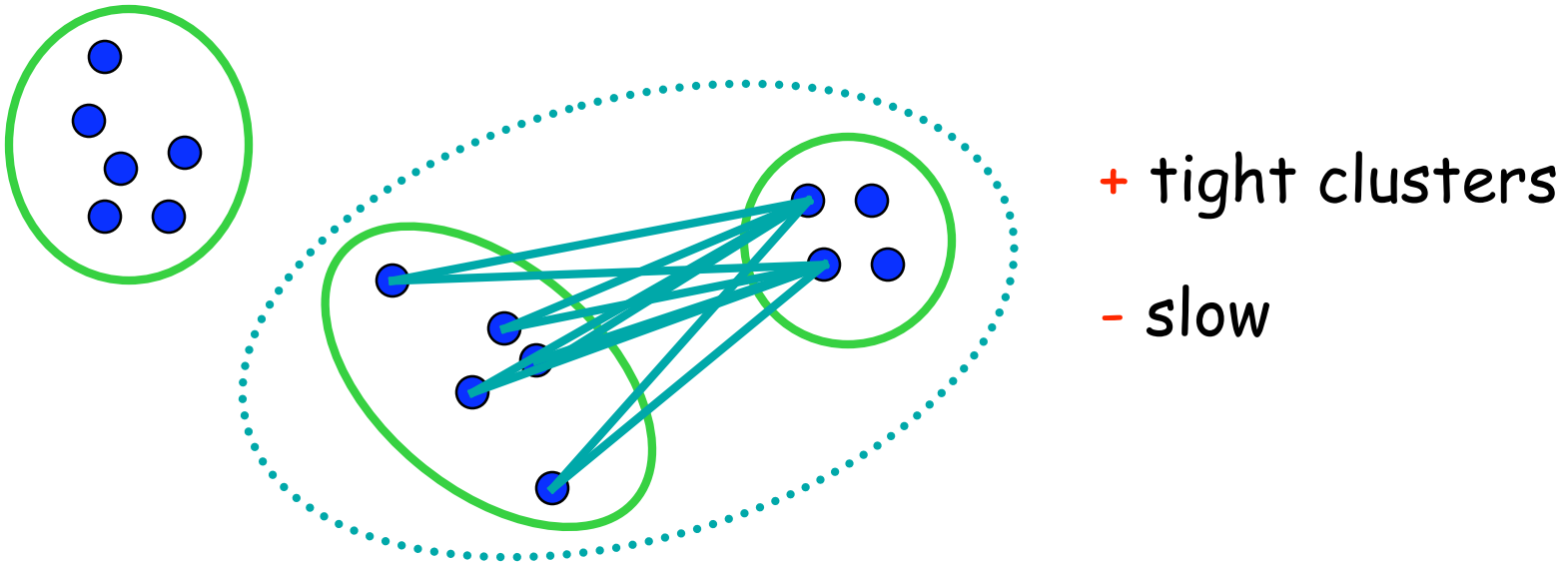


$$d_{(1,2,3),(4,5)} = \max\{d_{(1,2),(4,5)}, d_{3,(4,5)}\} = 10$$



Hierarchical: Average Link

- cluster similarity = **average** similarity of all pairs



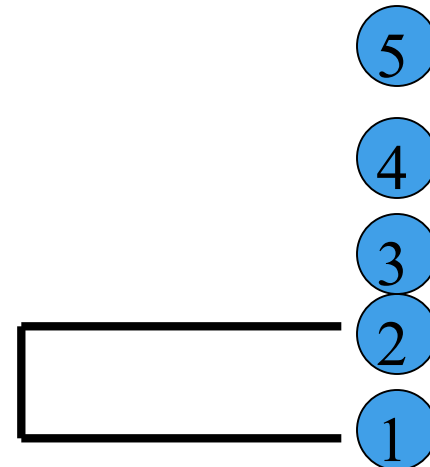
Example: average link

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \\ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ 2 & 0 & & & \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & & \\ 10 & 9 & 7 & 0 & \\ 9 & 8 & 5 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{array} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} (1,2) \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \\ \begin{array}{c} (1,2) \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ 4.5 & 0 & & & \\ 9.5 & 7 & 0 & & \\ 8.5 & 5 & 4 & 0 & \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

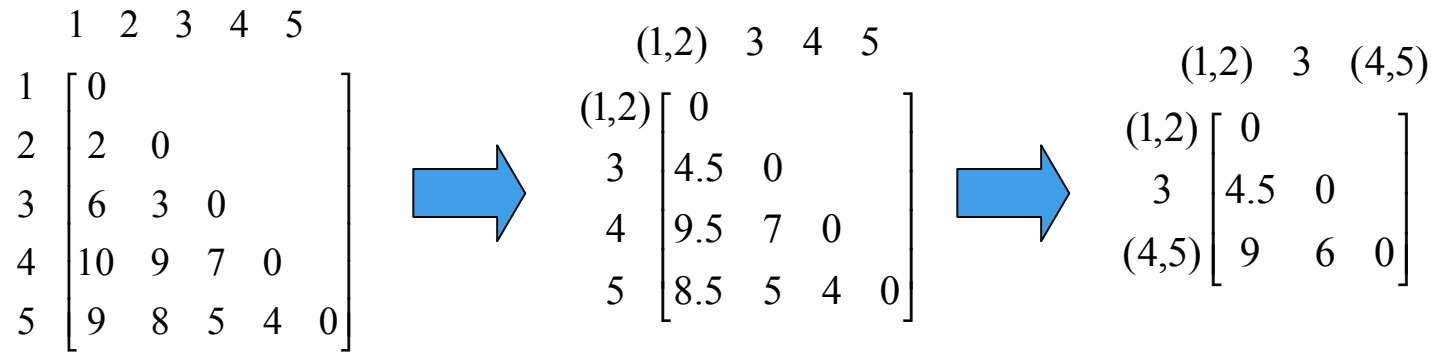
$$d_{(1,2),3} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{1,3} + d_{2,3}) = \frac{6+3}{2} = 4.5$$

$$d_{(1,2),4} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{1,4} + d_{2,4}) = \frac{10+9}{2} = 9.5$$

$$d_{(1,2),5} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{1,5} + d_{2,5}) = \frac{9+8}{2} = 8.5$$

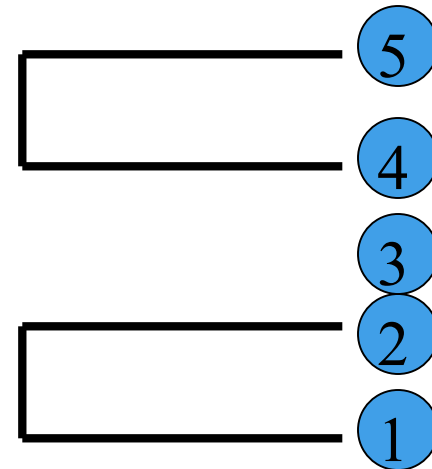


Example: average link

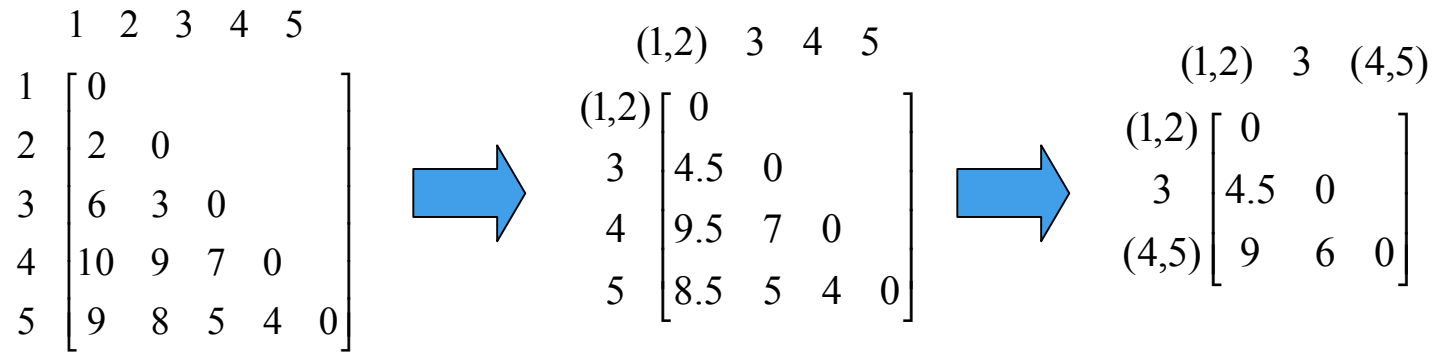


$$d_{(1,2),(4,5)} = \frac{1}{4}(d_{1,4} + d_{1,5} + d_{2,4} + d_{2,5}) = 9$$

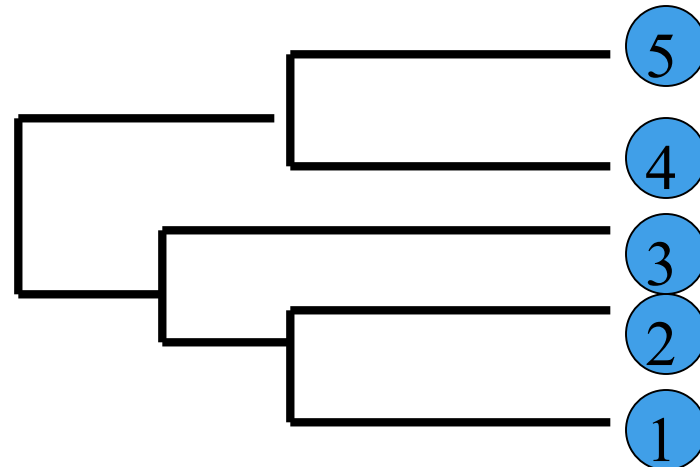
$$d_{3,(4,5)} = \frac{1}{2}(d_{3,4} + d_{3,5}) = 6$$



Example: average link

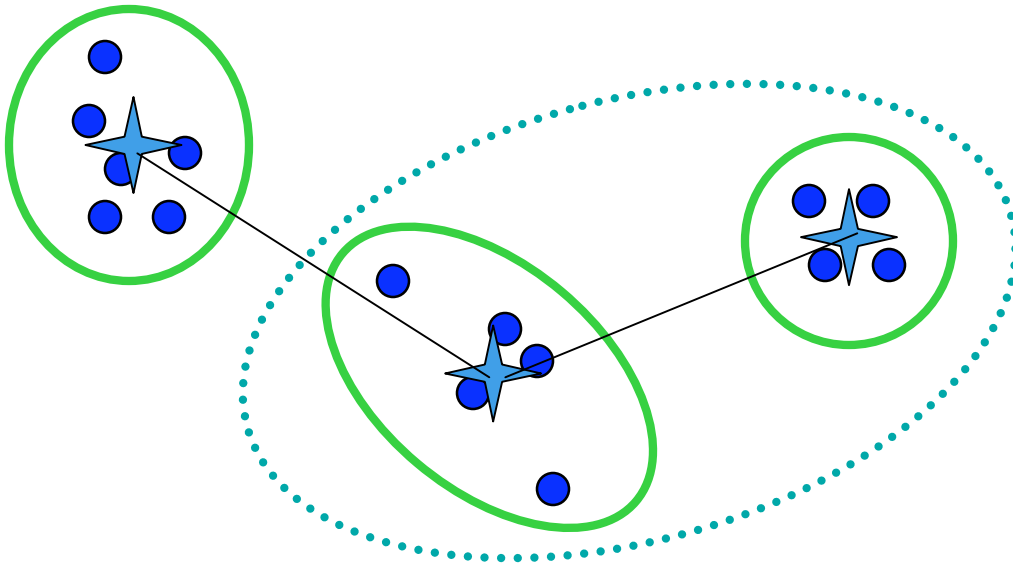


$$d_{(1,2,3),(4,5)} = \frac{1}{6}(d_{1,4} + d_{1,5} + d_{2,4} + d_{2,5} + d_{3,4} + d_{3,5}) = 8$$



Hierarchical: Centroid Link

- cluster **centroid** = **average** of all points
- cluster **similarity** = **distance** between centroids

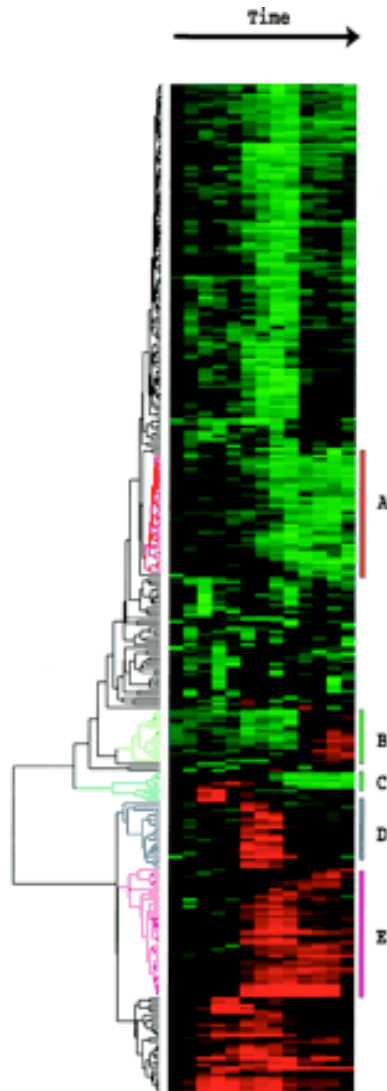


In Expression literature, often called “Average link”

+ faster

- discards shape

Software: TreeView [Eisen et al. 1998]



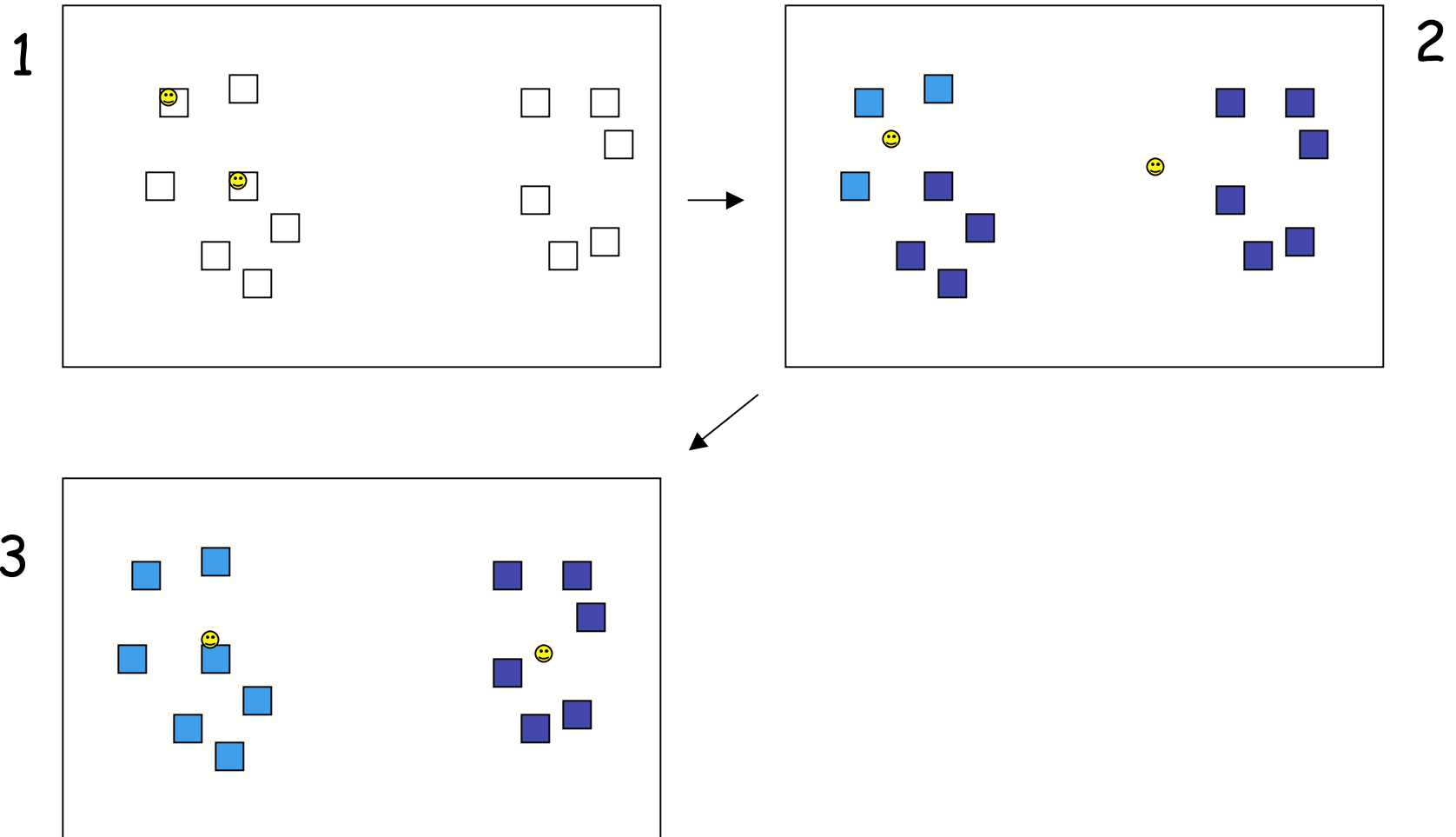
- Fig 1 in Eisen's PNAS 99 paper
- Time course of serum stimulation of primary human fibroblasts
- cDNA arrays with approx 8600 spots
- Similar to average-link
- Free download at:
<http://rana.lbl.gov/EisenSoftware.htm>
- **Another Good Package: TMEV**
 - <http://www.tigr.org/software/tm4/>

Hierarchical divisive clustering algorithms

- **Top down**
 - Start with all the objects in one cluster
 - Successively split into smaller clusters
- Tend to be less efficient than agglomerative
- Resolver implemented a deterministic annealing approach from [Alon et al. 1999]

Partitional: K-Means

[MacQueen 1965]



Details of k-means

- Iterate until converge:
 - Assign each data point to the closest centroid
 - Compute new centroid

Objective function:

Minimize

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{x \in C_i} (x - \text{Centroid}(C_i))^2$$

Properties of k-means

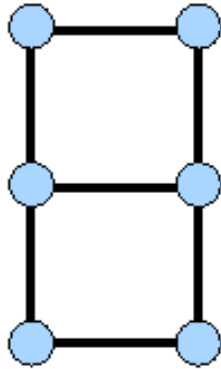
- Fast
- Proved to converge to *local* optimum
- In practice, converge quickly
- Tend to produce spherical, equal-sized clusters
- Related to the model-based approach

Self-organizing maps (SOM)

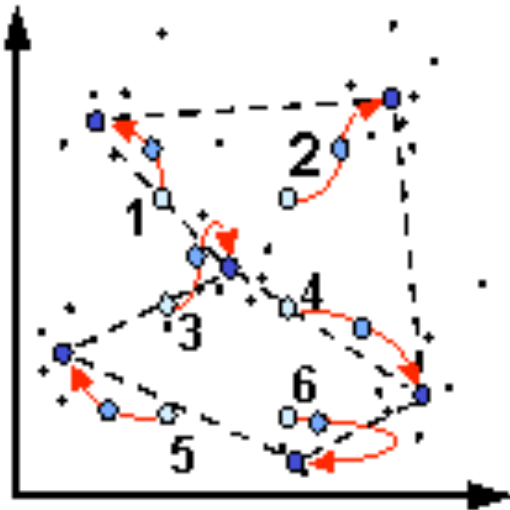
[Kohonen 1995]

- Basic idea:
 - map high dimensional data onto a 2D grid of nodes
 - Neighboring nodes are more similar than points far away

SOM



- Grid (geometry of nodes)
- Input vectors that are close to each other mapped to the same or neighboring nodes




Properties of SOM

- Partial structure
- Easy visualization
- Tons of parameters to tune
- Sensitive to parameters

Summary

- Definition of clustering
- Pairwise similarity:
 - Correlation
 - Euclidean distance
- Clustering algorithms:
 - Hierarchical (single-link, complete-link, average-link)
 - K-means
 - SOM
- Different clustering algorithms → different clusters

Which clustering algorithm should I use?

- Good question 
- No definite answer: on-going research
- Feel free to read my thesis:
<http://staff.washington.edu/kayee/research>

General Suggestions

- Avoid single-link
- Try:
 - K-means
 - Average-link/ complete-link
- If you are interested in capturing “patterns” of expression, use correlation instead of Euclidean distance
- Visualization of data
 - Eisen-gram
 - Dendrogram
 - PCA, MDS etc

Misc Notes

- Greedy algorithms. Can get trapped in local minima. Can be sensitive to addition of new points, order of points,...
- + simple, intuitive algorithms, reasonably fast, ok on simple data, no obvious preconception about structure
- no model of structure; biases unclear