

# Lecture 3

STAT161/261 Introduction to Pattern Recognition and  
Machine Learning  
Spring 2018  
Prof. Allie Fletcher

# Previous lectures

- What is machine learning?
  - Objectives of machine learning
  - Supervised and Unsupervised learning
    - Examples and approaches
- Multivariate Linear regression
  - Predicts any continuous valued target from vector of features
  - Important:
    - Simple to compute, parameters easy to interpret
  - Illustrate basic procedure: Model formulation, loss function, ...
  - Many natural phenomena have a linear relationship
- Subsequent lectures build up theory behind such parametric estimation techniques

# Outline

- Principles of Supervised Learning
  - Model Selection and Generalization (Alpaydin 2.7 & 2.8, Bishop 1.3)
  - Overfitting and Underfitting
- Decision Theory (1.5 Bishop and Ch3 Alpaydin)
  - Binary Classification
  - Maximum Likelihood and Log likelihood
  - Bayes Methods: MAP and Bayes Risk
  - Receiver operating characteristic
  - Minimum probability of error
- Issues in applying Bayesian classification
- Curse of Dimensionality

# Outline



## Principles of Supervised Learning

- Model Selection and Generalization
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# Memorization vs. Generalization

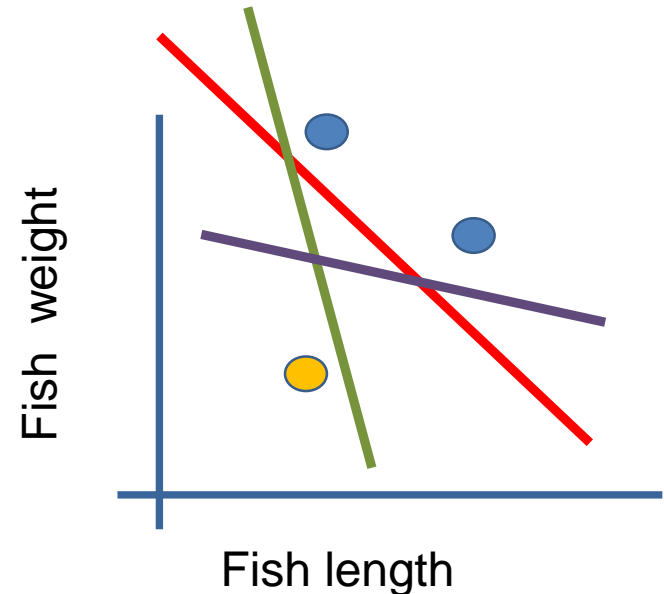
- Two key concepts in ML:
  - **Memorization**: Finding an algorithm that fits training data well
  - **Generalization**: Gives good results on data not yet seen. Prediction.
- Example: Suppose we have only three samples of fish
  - Can we learn a classification rule? Sure



# Memorization vs. Generalization

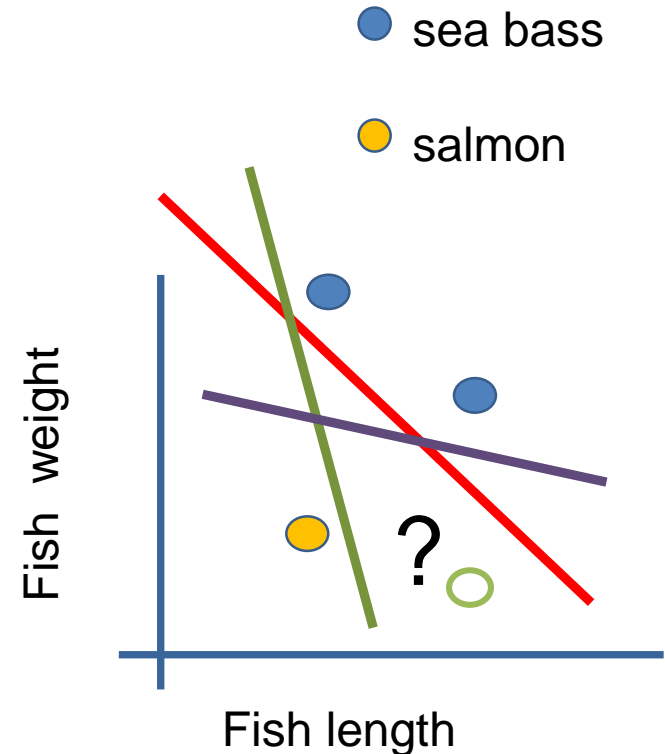
- Many possible classifier fit training data
  - Easy to memorize the data set, but need to generalize to new data
  - All three classifiers below (Classifier 1, C2, and C3) fit data
- But, which one will predict new sample correctly?

- sea bass
- salmon



# Memorization vs. Generalization

- Which classifier predicts new sample correctly?
  - Classifier 1 predicts salmon
  - Classifier 2 predicts salmon
  - Classifier 3 predicts sea bass
- We do not know which one is right:
  - Not enough training data
  - Need more samples to generalize

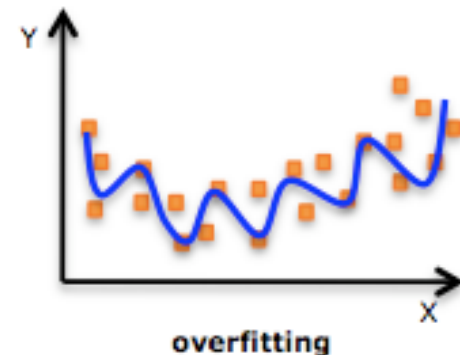
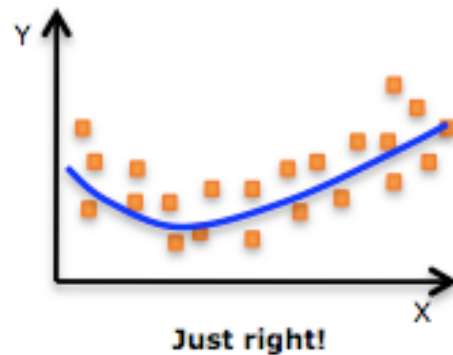
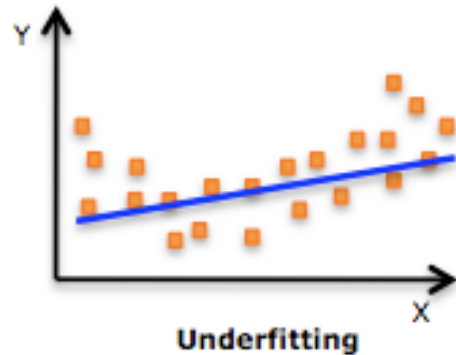


# Basic Tradeoff

- Generalization requires **assumptions**
- ML uses a model
- Basic tradeoff between three factors:
  - Model complexity: Allows to fit complex relationships
  - Amount of training data
  - Generalization error: How model fits new samples
- This class: Provides a principled ways to:
  - Formulate models that can capture complex behavior
  - Analyze how well they perform under statistical assumptions

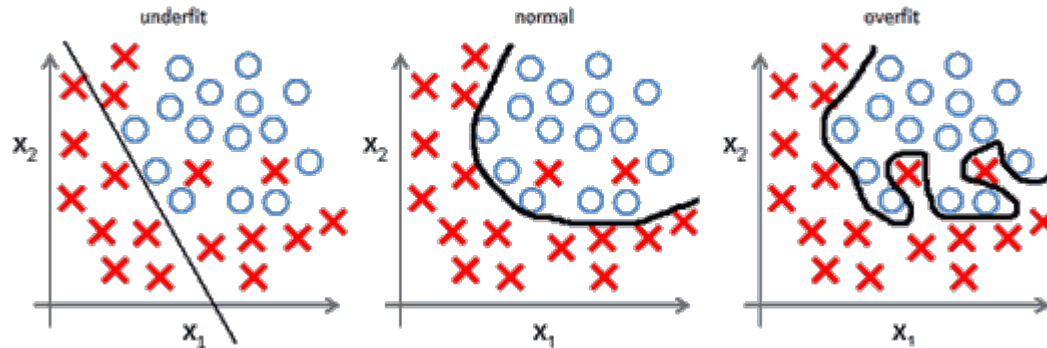


# Generalization: Underfitting and Overfitting



- Example: Consider fitting a polynomial
- Assume a low-order polynomial
  - Easy to train. Less parameters to estimate
  - But model does not capture full relation. [Underfitting](#)
- Assume too high a polynomial
  - Fits complex behavior
  - But, sensitive to noise. Needs many samples. [Overfitting](#)
- This course:
  - How to rigorously quantify model selection and algorithm performance

# Generalization: Underfitting and Overfitting



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# Ingredients in Supervised Learning

- Select a **model**:  $\hat{y} = g(x, \theta)$ 
  - Describes how we predict target  $y$  from features  $x$
  - Has parameters  $\theta$
- Get training **data**:  $(x_i, y_i), i = 1, \dots, n$
- Select a **loss** function  $L(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$ 
  - How well prediction matches true value on the training data
- Design algorithm to try to **minimize** loss:

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n L(y_i, \hat{y}_i)$$

- The art principled methods to develop models and algorithms for often intractable loss functions and complex large is what machine learning is really all about.

# Outline

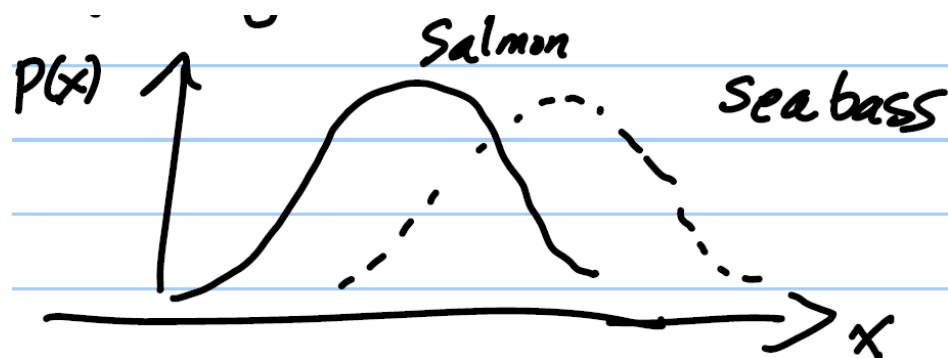
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- ➔ Decision Theory
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# Decision Theory

- How to make decision in the presence of uncertainty?
- History: Prominent in WWII:  
radar for detecting aircraft, codebreaking, decryption
- Observed data  $x \in X$ , state  $y \in Y$
- $p(x | y)$ : conditional distribution  
Model of how the data is generated
- Example:  $y \in \{0, 1\}$  (salmon vs. sea bass) or (airplane vs. bird, etc.)  
 $x$ : length of fish

$$p(x|y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_y} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu_y)^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)$$

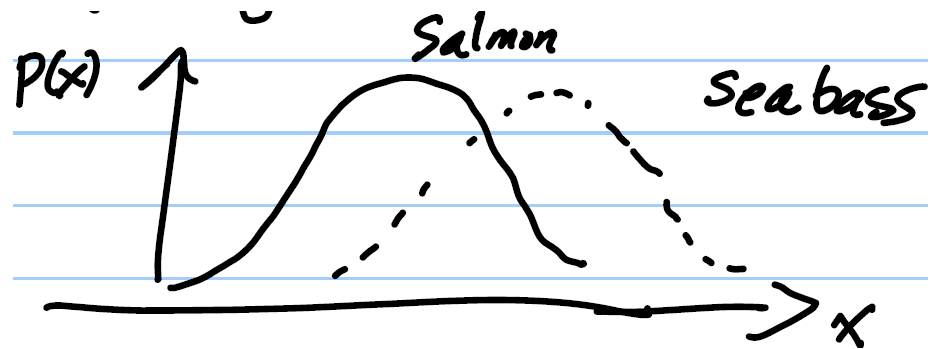
- $\mu_y$ : mean,  $\sigma_y^2$ : variance



# Maximum Likelihood (ML) Decision

- Which fish type is more likely to given the observed fish length  $x$ ?

If  $p(x | y = 0) > p(x | y = 1)$ ,  
guess salmon;  
otherwise classify the fish as sea bass



- If  $\frac{p(x | y=1)}{p(x | y=0)} > 1$ , guess sea bass [*likelihood ratio or LRT*]
- equivalently: if  $\log \frac{p(x | y=1)}{p(x | y=0)} > 0$  [*log-likelihood ratio*]
- $\hat{y}_{ML} = \alpha(x) = \text{Se arg max}_y p(x | y)$
- Seems reasonable, but what if salmon may be much more likely than sea bass?

# Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) Decision

- Introduce prior probabilities  $p(y = 0)$  and  $p(y = 1)$ 
  - Salmon more likely than sea bass:  $p(y = 0) > p(y = 1)$
- Now, which type of fish is more likely given observed fish length?
- Bayes' Rule:  $p(y | x) = \frac{p(x | y)p(y)}{p(x)}$
- Including prior probabilities:  
If  $p(y = 0 | x) > p(y = 1 | x)$ , guess salmon; otherwise, pick sea bass

$$\hat{y}_{\text{MAP}} = \alpha(x) = \arg \max_y p(y | x) = \arg \max_y p(x | y) p(y)$$

# Making it more interesting, full on Bayes

- What does it cost for a mistake? Plane with a missile, not a big bird?
- Define loss or cost:

$L(\alpha(x), y)$ : cost of decision  $\alpha(x)$  when state is  $y$

also often denoted  $C_{ij}$

	$Y = 0$	$Y = 1$
$\alpha(x) = 0$	Correct, cost $L(0,0)$	Incorrect, cost $L(0,1)$
$\alpha(x) = 1$	incorrect, cost $L(1,0)$	Correct, cost $L(1,1)$

- Classic: Pascal's wager

	<b>God exists (G)</b>	<b>God does not exist (<math>\neg G</math>)</b>
<b>Belief (B)</b>	$+\infty$ (infinite gain)	-1 (finite loss)
<b>Disbelief (<math>\neg B</math>)</b>	$-\infty$ (infinite loss)	+1 (finite gain)



# Risk Minimization

- So now we have: the likelihood functions  $p(x | y)$

priors  $p(y)$

decision rule  $\alpha(x)$

loss function  $L(\alpha(x), y)$ :

- Risk is expected loss:

$$\begin{aligned} E[L] = & \cancel{L(0,0)} p(\alpha(x) = 0, y = 0) \\ & + L(0,1) p(\alpha(x) = 0, y = 1) \\ & + L(1,0) p(\alpha(x) = 1, y = 0) \\ & + \cancel{L(1,1)} p(\alpha(x) = 1, y = 1) \end{aligned}$$

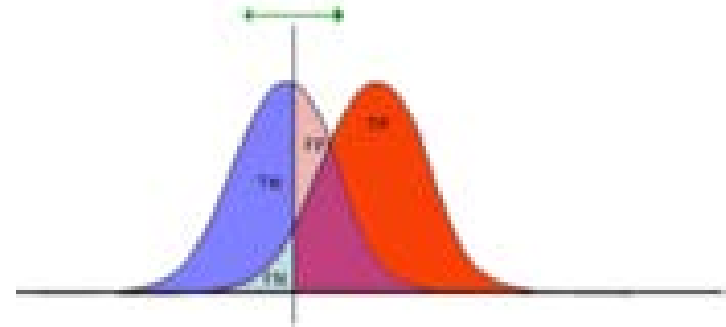
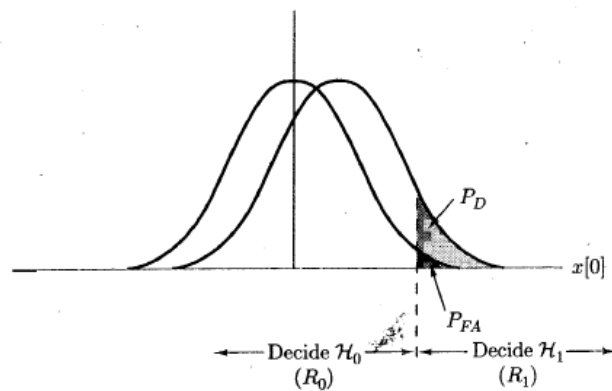
- Without loss of generality, zero cost for correct decisions

$$\begin{aligned} E[L] = & L(1,0) p(\alpha(x) = 1 | y = 0) p(y = 0) \\ & + L(0,1) p(\alpha(x) = 0 | y = 1) p(y = 1) \end{aligned}$$

- Bayes Decision Theory says “pick decision rule  $\alpha(x)$  to minimize risk”

# Visualizing Errors

- Type I error (False alarm or False Positive): Decide  $H_1$  when  $H_0$
- Type II error (Missed detection or False Negative): Decide  $H_0$  when  $H_1$
- Trade off
- Can work out error probabilities from conditional probabilities



TP	FP
FN	TN
1	1

# Often more formally written Hypothesis Testing

- Two possible hypotheses for data
  - H0: Null hypothesis, H1: Alternate hypothesis
- Model statistically:
  - $p(x|H_i), i = 0,1$
  - Assume some distribution for each hypothesis
- Given
  - Likelihood  $p(x|H_i), i = 0,1$ , Prior probabilities  $p_i = P(H_i)$
- Compute posterior  $P(H_i|x)$ 
  - How likely is  $H_i$  given the data and prior knowledge?
- Bayes' Rule:

$$P(H_i|x) = \frac{p(x|H_i)p_i}{p(x)} = \frac{p(x|H_i)p_i}{p(x|H_0)p_0 + p(x|H_1)p_1}$$

# MAP: Minimum Probability of Error

- Probability of error:

$$\begin{aligned}P_{err} &= P(\hat{H} \neq H) \\ &= P(\hat{H} = 0|H_1)p_1 + P(\hat{H} = 1|H_0)p_0\end{aligned}$$

- Write with integral:

$$P(\hat{H} \neq H) = \int p(x)P(\hat{H} \neq H|x)dx$$

- Error is minimized with MAP estimator

$$\hat{H} = 1 \Leftrightarrow P(H_1|x) \geq P(H_0|x)$$

- Use Bayes rule:

$$\hat{H} = 1 \Leftrightarrow P(x|H_1)p_1 \geq P(x|H_0)p_0$$

- Equivalent to an LRT with  $\gamma = p_0/p_1$
- Probabilistic interpretation of threshold

# Bayes Risk Minimization

- As before, express risk as integration over  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$R = \int \sum_{ij} C_{ij} P(H_j|\mathbf{x}) 1_{\{\hat{H}(\mathbf{x})=i\}} p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

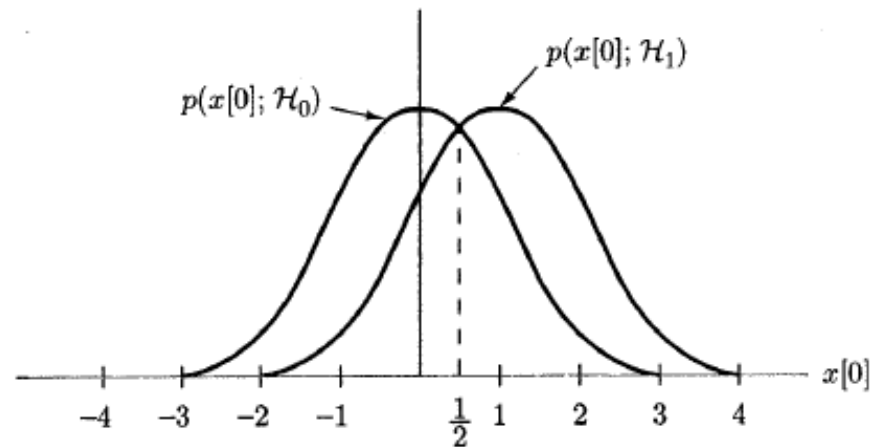
- To minimize, select  $\hat{H}(\mathbf{x}) = 1$  when
  - $C_{10}P(H_0|\mathbf{x}) + C_{11}P(H_1|\mathbf{x}) \leq C_{00}P(H_0|\mathbf{x}) + C_{01}P(H_1|\mathbf{x})$
  - $P(H_1|\mathbf{x})/P(H_0|\mathbf{x}) \geq (C_{10} - C_{00})/(C_{11} - C_{01})$
- By Bayes Theorem, equivalent to an LRT with

$$\frac{P(\mathbf{x}|H_1)}{P(\mathbf{x}|H_0)} \geq \frac{(C_{10} - C_{00})p_0}{(C_{11} - C_{01})p_1}$$

-

# Same example basically, but posed as additive noise

- Scalar Gaussian
  - $H_0: x = w, w \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
  - $H_1: x = A + w, w \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$



$$A = 1$$

- Example: A medical test for some disease
  - $x$  = measured value of the patient
  - $H_0$  = patient is fine,  $H_1$  = patient is ill
  - Probability model:  $x$  is elevated with the disease

# Example : Scalar Gaussians

- Hypothesis:
  - $H_0: x = w, w \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
  - $H_1: x = A + w, w \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- Problem: Use the LRT test to define a classifier and compute  $P_D, P_{FA}$
- Step 1. Write the probability distributions:
  - $p(x|H_0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}}, p(x|H_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-A)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$

# Scalar Gaussian continued

- Step 2. Write the log likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned} L(x) &= \ln \frac{p(x|H_1)}{p(x|H_0)} = \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x^2 - (x - A)^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (2Ax + A^2) \end{aligned}$$

- Step 3.

- $L(x) \geq \gamma \Rightarrow x \geq t = (2\sigma^2\gamma - A^2)/2A$
- Write all further answers in terms of  $t$  instead of  $\gamma$
- Classifier:

$$\hat{H} = \begin{cases} 1 & x \geq t \\ 0 & x < t \end{cases}$$



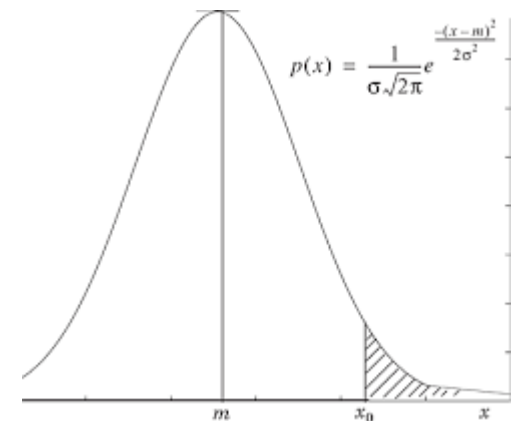
# Scalar Guassian (cont)

- Step 4. Compute error probabilities
  - $P_D = P(\hat{H} = 1|H_1) = P(x \geq t|H_1)$
  - Under  $H_1, x \sim N(A, \sigma^2)$
  - So,  $P_D = P(x \geq t|H_1) = Q\left(\frac{t-A}{\sigma}\right)$
  - Similarly,  $P_D = P(x \geq t|H_0) = Q\left(\frac{t}{\sigma}\right)$
- Here,  $Q(z) = \text{Marcum Q-function}$ 
  - $Q(z) = P(Z \geq z), Z \sim N(0,1)$

# Review: Gaussian Q-Function

- **Problem:** Suppose  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ .
  - Often must compute probabilities like  $P(X \geq t)$
  - No closed-form expression.
- Define **Marcum Q-function**:  
 $Q(z) = P(Z \geq z), Z \sim N(0,1)$
- Let  $Z = (X - \mu)/\sigma$
- Then

$$P(X \geq t) = P\left(Z \geq \frac{t - \mu}{\sigma}\right) = Q\left(\frac{t - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$



# Example: Two Exponentials

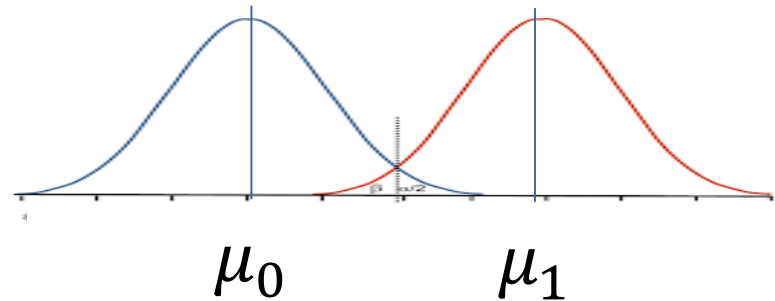
- Hypothesis:
  - $H_i: p(x|H_i) = \lambda_i e^{-\lambda_i x}, i = 0, 1$  Assume  $\lambda_0 > \lambda_1$
  - Find ML detector threshold and probability of false alarm...
- Step 1. Write the conditional probability distributions
  - Nothing to do. Already given.
- Step 2: Log likelihood:
  - $L(x) = \ln \frac{p(x|H_1)}{p(x|H_0)} = (\lambda_0 - \lambda_1)x + \ln \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_0}$
  - ML: LRT test pick H1 if  $x \geq (1/\lambda_0 - \lambda_1) \ln \frac{\lambda_0}{\lambda_1}$
  - $L(x) \geq \gamma \Rightarrow x \geq t$

# Two Exponentials (continued)

- Compute error probabilities
  - $P_D = P(\hat{H} = 1|H_1) = P(x \geq t|H_1)$
  - $P_D = \int_t^\infty p(x|H_1)dx = \int_t^\infty \lambda_1 e^{-\lambda_1 x} dx = e^{-\lambda_1 t}$
  - Similarly,  $P_{FA} = e^{-\lambda_0 t}$

# MAP Example

- Hypotheses:  $H_i: x = N(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$ ,  $p_i = P(H_i)$ ,  $i = 0,1$
- Two Gaussian densities with different means
  - But same variance
- Problem: Find the MAP estimate



- Solution: First, write densities

$$p(x|H_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

- MAP estimate: Select

$$\hat{H} = 1 \Leftrightarrow p(x|H_1)p_1 \geq p(x|H_0)p_0$$

- In log domain:

$$-\frac{(x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln p_1 \geq -\frac{(x - \mu_0)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln p_0$$

# MAP Example: (Cont)

- More simplifications :  $\hat{H} = 1$  when

$$-\frac{(x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln p_1 \geq -\frac{(x - \mu_0)^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln p_0$$
$$\Leftrightarrow (x - \mu_0)^2 - (x - \mu_1)^2 \leq 2\sigma^2 \ln \frac{p_0}{p_1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2(\mu_1 - \mu_0)x + \mu_1^2 - \mu_0^2 \geq 2\sigma^2 \ln \frac{p_0}{p_1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \geq \frac{\mu_1 + \mu_0}{2} + \frac{\sigma^2}{\mu_1 - \mu_0} \ln \frac{p_0}{p_1}$$

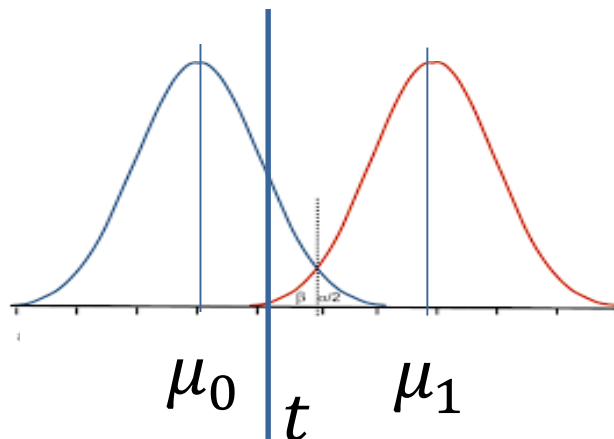
# MAP Example (cont)

- MAP estimator:  $\hat{H} = 1$  when  $x \geq t$
- Threshold

$$t = \frac{\mu_1 + \mu_0}{2} + \frac{\sigma^2}{\mu_1 - \mu_0} \ln \frac{p_0}{p_1}$$

Midpoint between  
Gaussians

Shifts to the left  
when  $p_0 \leq p_1$



# Multiple Classes

- Often have multiple classes.  $y = 1, \dots, K$
- Most methods easily extend:

- ML: Take max of  $K$  likelihoods:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_{i=1, \dots, K} p(x|y = i)$$

- MAP: Take max of  $K$  posteriors:

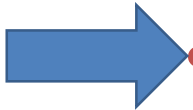
- LRT: Take max of  $K$  weighted likelihoods:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_{i=1, \dots, K} p(x|y = i) \gamma_i$$



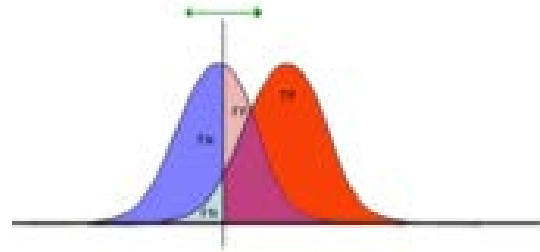
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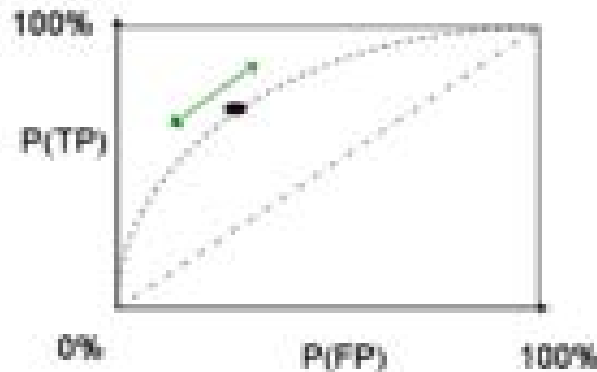


# ROC curves : error tradeoffs

- Any binary decision strategy has a trade-off in errors
- Reminder of Errors
  - TP = true positive
  - TN = true negative
  - FP = false positive
  - FN = false negative
- Typical illustrate: Tradeoff between TP and FP
- Receiver Operating Characteristic

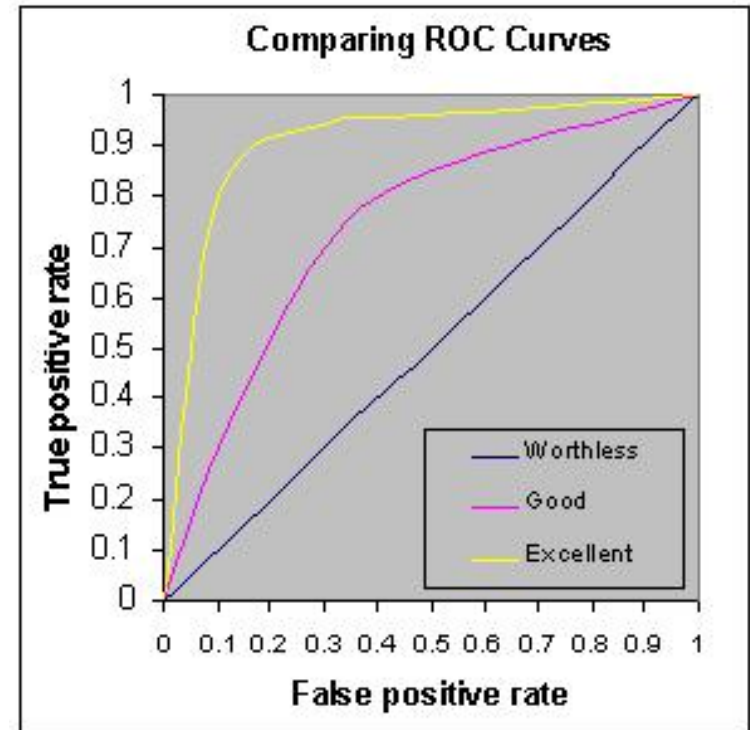


TP	FP
FN	TN
1	1



# ROC Curve

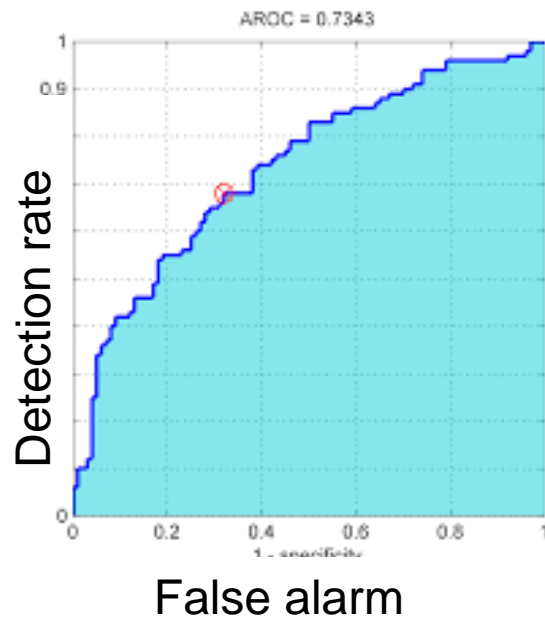
- $P_D$  vs.  $P_{FA}$
- Trace out:  $(P_{FA}(\gamma), P_D(\gamma))$
- Shows tradeoff
- Random guessing:
  - Select  $H_1$  randomly  $\alpha$  per cent of time
  - $P_D = \alpha, P_{FA} = \alpha \Rightarrow P_D = P_{FA}$



# Area Under The Curve (AUC)

- Simple measure of quality
- $AUC =$  average of  $P_D(\gamma)$  with  $x = \gamma$  under  $H_0$
- Proof:

$$AUC = \int P_D(\gamma)P'_{FA}(\gamma)d\gamma = \int P_D(\gamma)p(\gamma|H_0)d\gamma$$



# ROC Example: Two Exponentials

- Hypotheses:
  - $H_i: p(x|H_i) = \lambda_i e^{-\lambda_i x}, i = 0, 1$
- From before, LRT test is  $\hat{H} = \begin{cases} 1 & x \geq t \\ 0 & x < t \end{cases}$
- Error probabilities:  $P_D = e^{-\lambda_1 t}, P_{FA} = e^{-\lambda_0 t}$
- ROC curve:
  - Write  $P_D$  in terms of  $P_{FA}$
  - $t = -\frac{1}{\lambda_0} \ln P_{FA} \Rightarrow P_D = P_{FA}^{\lambda_1/\lambda_0}$

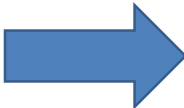
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# Problems in Using Hypothesis Testing

- Hypothesis testing formulation requires
  - Knowledge of likelihood  $p(x|H_i)$
  - Possibly knowledge of prior  $P(H_i)$
- Where do we get these?
- Approach 1:
  - Learn distributions from data
  - Then apply hypothesis testing
- Approach 2:
  - Use hypothesis testing to select a form for the classifier
  - Learn parameters of the classifier directly from data

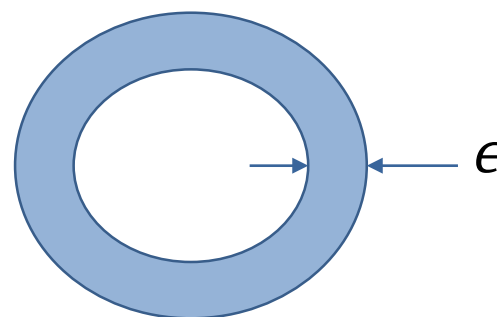
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# Intuition in High-Dimensions

- Examples of Bayes Decision theory can be misleading because they are given in low dimensional spaces, 1 or 2 dim
  - Most ML problems today have high dimension
  - Often our geometric intuition in high-dimensions is wrong
- Example: Consider volume of sphere of radius  $r = 1$  in  $D$  dimensions
  - What is the fraction of volume in a thin shell of a sphere between  $1 - \epsilon \leq r \leq 1$  ?



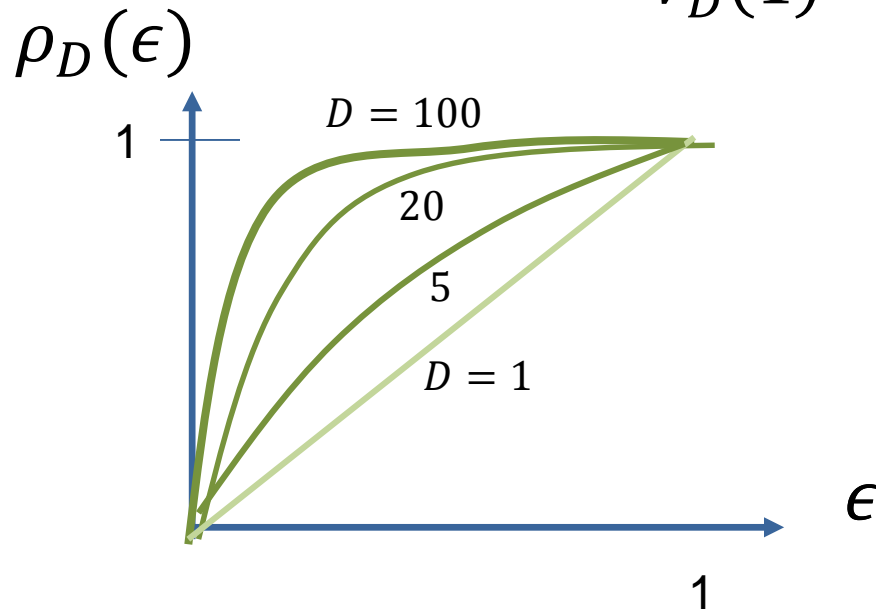
# Example: Sphere Hardening

- Let  $V_D(r) =$  volume of sphere of radius  $r$ , dimension  $D$

- $V_D(r) = K_D r^D$

- Let  $\rho_D(\epsilon) =$  fraction of volume in a shell of radius  $\epsilon$

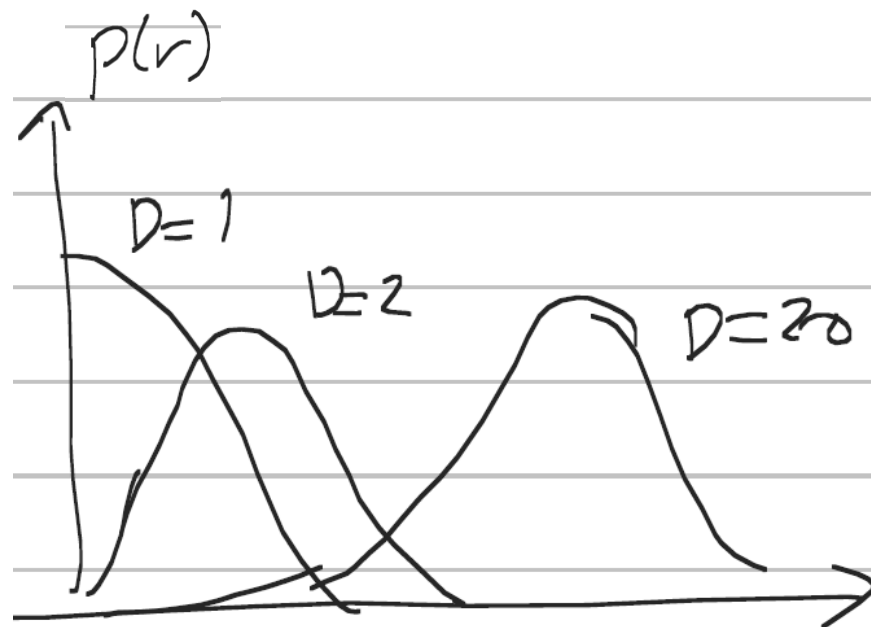
$$\rho_D(\epsilon) = \frac{V_D(1) - V_D(1 - \epsilon)}{V_D(1)} = 1 - (1 - \epsilon)^D$$



# Gaussian Sphere Hardening

- Consider a Gaussian i.i.d. vector
  - $x = (x_1, \dots, x_D)$ ,  $x_i \sim N(0,1)$
- As  $D \rightarrow \infty$ , probability density concentrates on shell  $\|x\| \approx \sqrt{D}$ , even though  $x = 0$  is most likely point

- Let  $r = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_D^2)^{1/2}$ 
  - $D = 1$ :  $p(r) = c e^{-r^2/2}$
  - $D = 2$ :  $p(r) = c r e^{-r^2/2}$
  - general  $D$ :  $p(r) = c r^{D-1} e^{-r^2/2}$



# Example: Sphere Hardening

- Conclusions: As dimension increases,
  - All volume of a sphere concentrates at its surface!
- Similar example: Consider a Gaussian i.i.d. vector
  - $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$ ,  $x_i \sim N(0,1)$
  - As  $d \rightarrow \infty$ , probability density concentrates on shell
$$\|x\|^2 \approx d$$
  - Even though  $x = 0$  is most likely point

# Computational Issues

- In high dimensions, classifiers need large number of parameters
- Example:
  - Suppose  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$ , each  $x_i$  takes on  $L$  values
  - Hence  $\mathbf{x}$  takes on  $L^d$  values
- Consider general classifier  $f(\mathbf{x})$ 
  - Assigns each  $\mathbf{x}$  some value
  - If there are no restrictions on  $f(\mathbf{x})$ , needs  $L^d$  parameters

# Curse of Dimensionality

- **Curse of dimensionality:** As dimension increases
  - Number parameters for functions grows exponentially
- Most operations become computationally intractable
  - Fitting the function, optimizing, storage
- What ML is doing today
  - Finding tractable approximate approaches for high-dimensions