



# Probabilistic classifiers

CE-477: Machine Learning - CS-828: Theory of Machine Learning  
Sharif University of Technology  
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# Topics

- ▶ Probabilistic approach
  - ▶ Bayes decision theory
  - ▶ Generative models
    - ▶ Gaussian Bayes classifier
    - ▶ Naïve Bayes
  - ▶ Discriminative models
    - ▶ Logistic regression

# Classification problem: probabilistic view

- ▶ Each feature as a random variable
- ▶ Class label also as a random variable
- ▶ We observe the feature values for a random sample and we intend to find its class label
  - ▶ Evidence: feature vector  $x$
  - ▶ Query: class label

# Definitions

- ▶ Posterior probability:  $p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x})$
- ▶ Likelihood or class conditional probability:  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)$
- ▶ Prior probability:  $p(\mathcal{C}_k)$

$p(\mathbf{x})$ : pdf of feature vector  $\mathbf{x}$  ( $p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^K p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)p(\mathcal{C}_k)$ )

$p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)$ : pdf of feature vector  $\mathbf{x}$  for samples of class  $\mathcal{C}_k$

$p(\mathcal{C}_k)$ : probability of the label be  $\mathcal{C}_k$

# Bayes decision rule

$K = 2$

If  $P(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) > P(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})$  decide  $\mathcal{C}_1$   
otherwise decide  $\mathcal{C}_2$

$$p(error|\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} p(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x}) & \text{if we decide } \mathcal{C}_1 \\ P(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) & \text{if we decide } \mathcal{C}_2 \end{cases}$$

- If we use Bayes decision rule:

$$P(error|\mathbf{x}) = \min\{P(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}), P(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})\}$$

Using Bayes rule, for each  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $P(error|\mathbf{x})$  is as small as possible and thus this rule minimizes the probability of error

# Optimal classifier

- ▶ The optimal decision is the one that minimizes the expected number of mistakes
- ▶ We show that Bayes classifier is an optimal classifier

# Bayes decision rule

## Minimizing misclassification rate

► Decision regions:  $\mathcal{R}_k = \{\mathbf{x} | \alpha(\mathbf{x}) = k\}$

$K = 2$

► All points in  $\mathcal{R}_k$  are assigned to class  $\mathcal{C}_k$

$$p(\text{error}) = E_{\mathbf{x}, y}[I(\alpha(\mathbf{x}) \neq y)]$$

$$= p(\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{C}_2) + p(\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}_2, \mathcal{C}_1)$$

$$= \int_{\mathcal{R}_1} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{C}_2) d\mathbf{x} + \int_{\mathcal{R}_2} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{C}_1) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$= \int_{\mathcal{R}_1} p(\mathcal{C}_2 | \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} + \int_{\mathcal{R}_2} p(\mathcal{C}_1 | \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

Choose class with highest  $p(\mathcal{C}_k | \mathbf{x})$  as  $\alpha(\mathbf{x})$

# Bayes minimum error

- ▶ Bayes minimum error classifier:

$$\min_{\alpha(\cdot)} E_{\mathbf{x},y}[I(\alpha(\mathbf{x}) \neq y)] \quad \text{Zero-one loss}$$

- ▶ If we know the probabilities in advance then the above optimization problem will be solved easily.
  - ▶  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{argmax}_y p(y|\mathbf{x})$
- ▶ In practice, we can estimate  $p(y|\mathbf{x})$  based on a set of training samples  $\mathcal{D}$



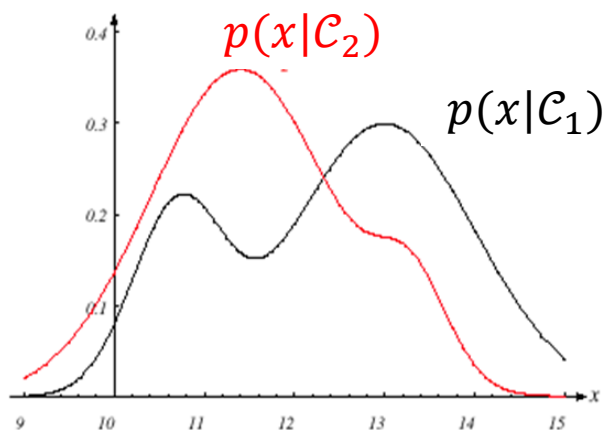
# Bayes theorem

- ▶ Bayes' theorem
- $$p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)p(\mathcal{C}_k)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$$
- Diagram illustrating the components of Bayes' theorem:
- Posterior:  $p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x})$
  - Likelihood:  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)$
  - Prior:  $p(\mathcal{C}_k)$
- ▶ Posterior probability:  $p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x})$
  - ▶ Likelihood or class conditional probability:  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)$
  - ▶ Prior probability:  $p(\mathcal{C}_k)$

$p(\mathbf{x})$ : pdf of feature vector  $\mathbf{x}$  ( $p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^K p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)p(\mathcal{C}_k)$ )  
 $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)$ : pdf of feature vector  $\mathbf{x}$  for samples of class  $\mathcal{C}_k$   
 $p(\mathcal{C}_k)$ : probability of the label be  $\mathcal{C}_k$

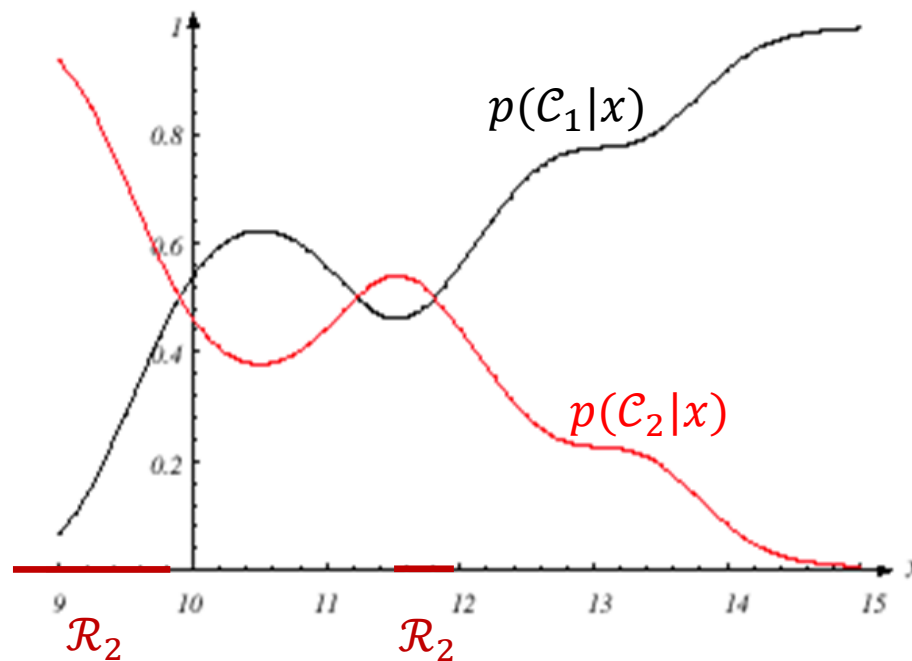
# Bayes decision rule: example

- Bayes decision: Choose the class with highest  $p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x})$



$$p(\mathcal{C}_1) = \frac{2}{3}$$



$$p(\mathcal{C}_2) = \frac{1}{3}$$



$$p(\mathcal{C}_k|x) = \frac{p(x|\mathcal{C}_k)p(\mathcal{C}_k)}{p(x)}$$

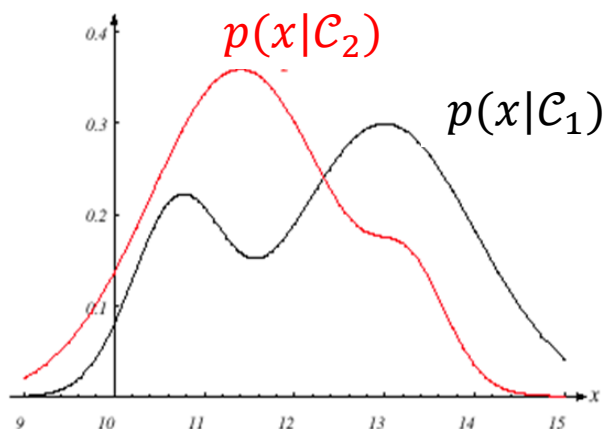
$$p(x) = p(\mathcal{C}_1)p(x|\mathcal{C}_1) + p(\mathcal{C}_2)p(x|\mathcal{C}_2)$$

# Bayesian decision rule

- ▶ If  $P(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) > P(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})$  decide  $\mathcal{C}_1$   
otherwise decide  $\mathcal{C}_2$  Equivalent
- ▶ If  $\frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_1)P(\mathcal{C}_1)}{p(\mathbf{x})} > \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_2)P(\mathcal{C}_2)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$  decide  $\mathcal{C}_1$   
otherwise decide  $\mathcal{C}_2$  Equivalent
- ▶ If  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_1)P(\mathcal{C}_1) > p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_2)P(\mathcal{C}_2)$  decide  $\mathcal{C}_1$   
otherwise decide  $\mathcal{C}_2$

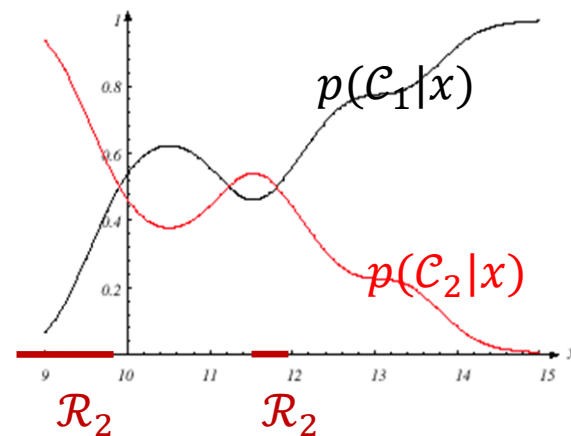
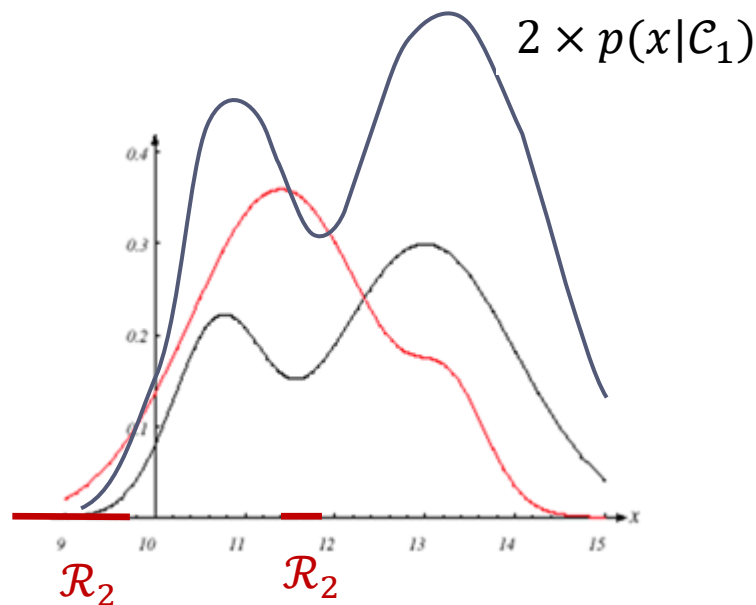
# Bayes decision rule: example

- Bayes decision: Choose the class with highest  $p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x})$



$$p(\mathcal{C}_1) = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$p(\mathcal{C}_2) = \frac{1}{3}$$

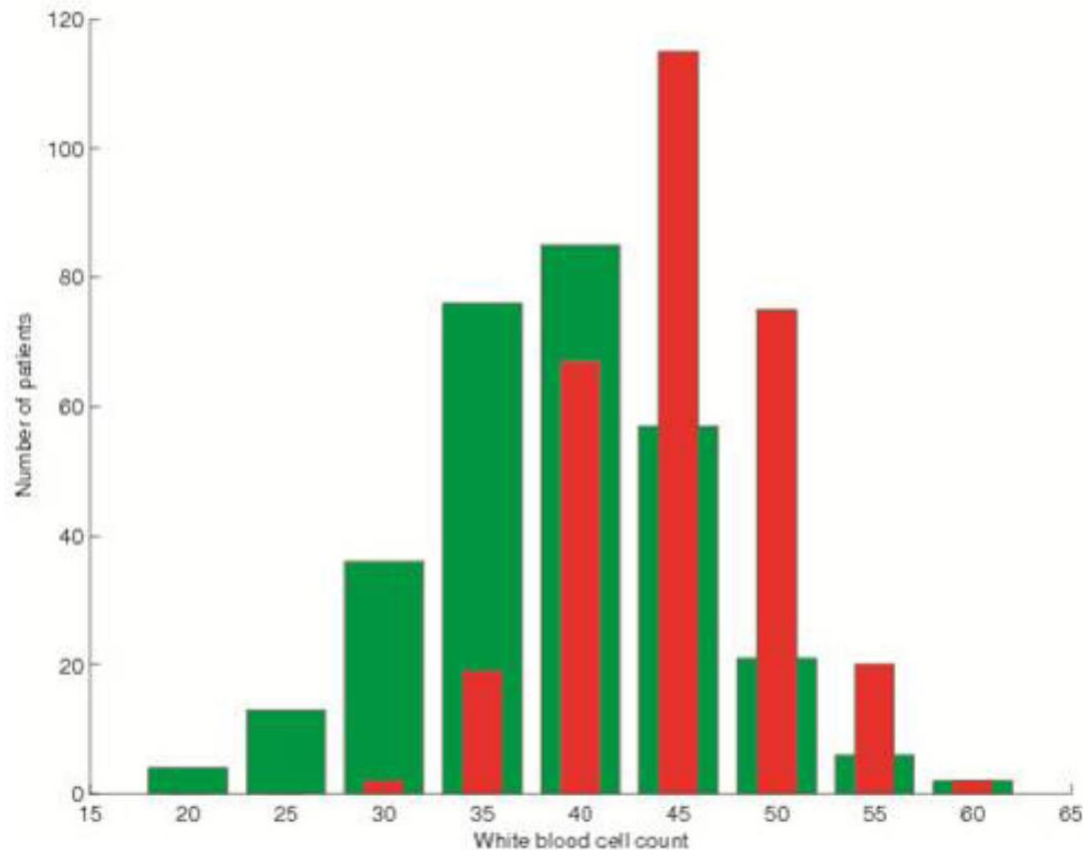


# Bayes Classifier

- ▶ Simple Bayes classifier: estimate posterior probability of each class
- ▶ What should the decision criterion be?
  - ▶ Choose class with highest  $p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x})$
- ▶ The optimal decision is the one that minimizes the expected number of mistakes

# Diabetes example

- ▶ white blood cell count

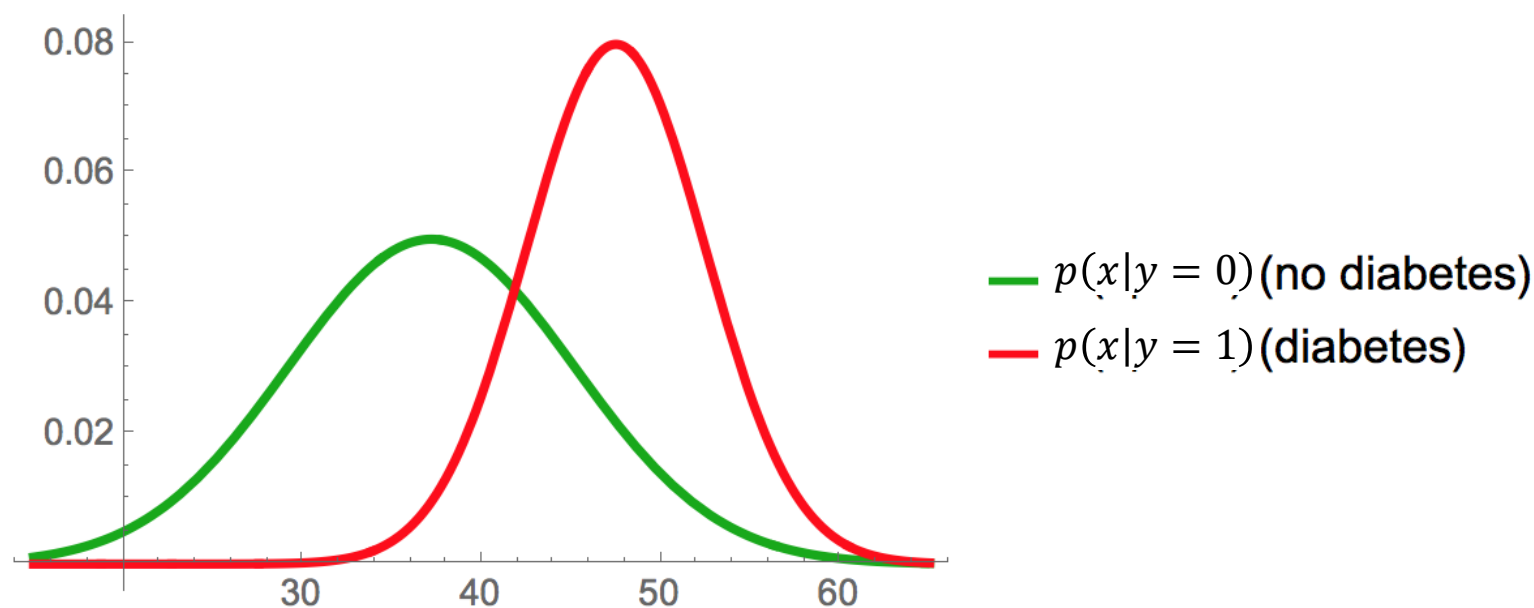


# Diabetes example

- ▶ Doctor has a prior  $p(y = 1) = 0.2$ 
  - ▶ Prior: In the absence of any observation, what do I know about the probability of the classes?
- ▶ A patient comes in with white blood cell count  $x$
- ▶ Does the patient have diabetes  $p(y = 1|x)$ ?
  - ▶ given a new observation, we still need to compute the posterior

# Diabetes example

$$p(x = 40|y = 0)P(y = 0) >? p(x = 40|y = 1)P(y = 1)$$



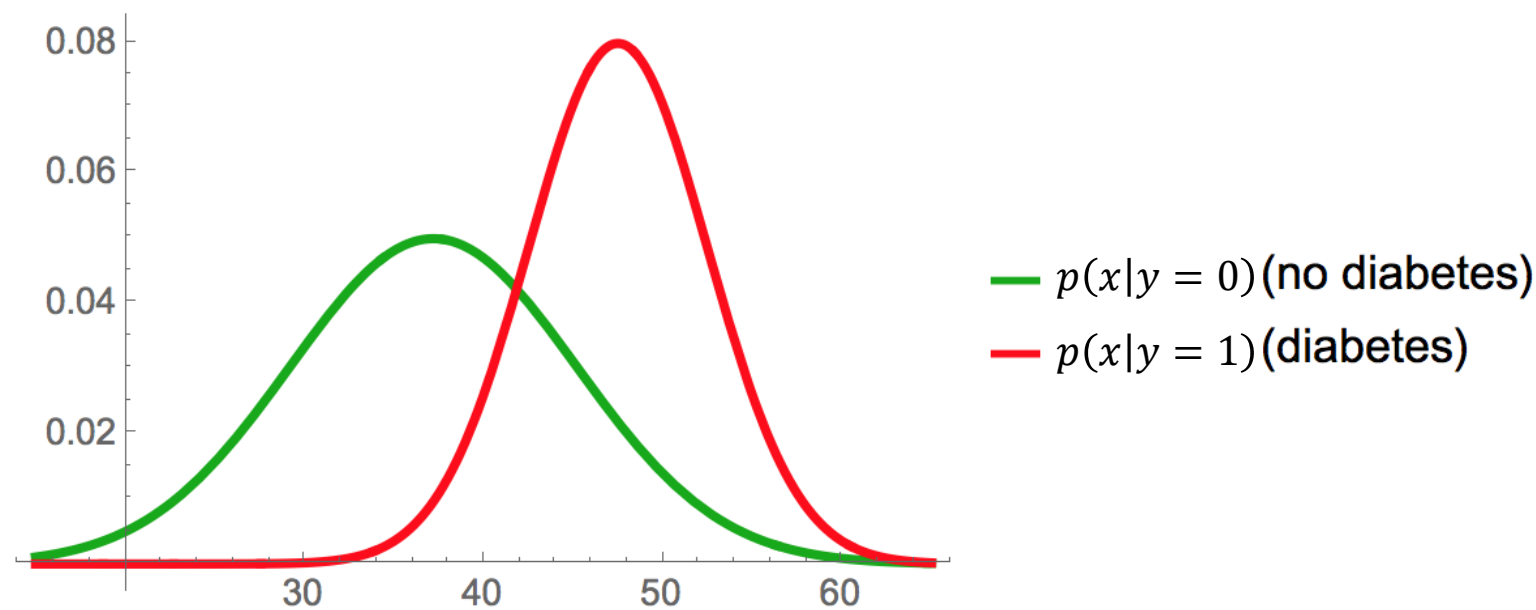


# Estimate probability densities from data

- ▶ If we assume Gaussian distributions for  $p(x|y = 0)$  and  $p(x|y = 1)$
- ▶ Recall that for samples  $\{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}\}$ , if we assume a Gaussian distribution, the MLE estimates will be

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x^{(n)} \\ \sigma^2 &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (x^{(n)} - \mu)^2\end{aligned}$$

# Diabetes example



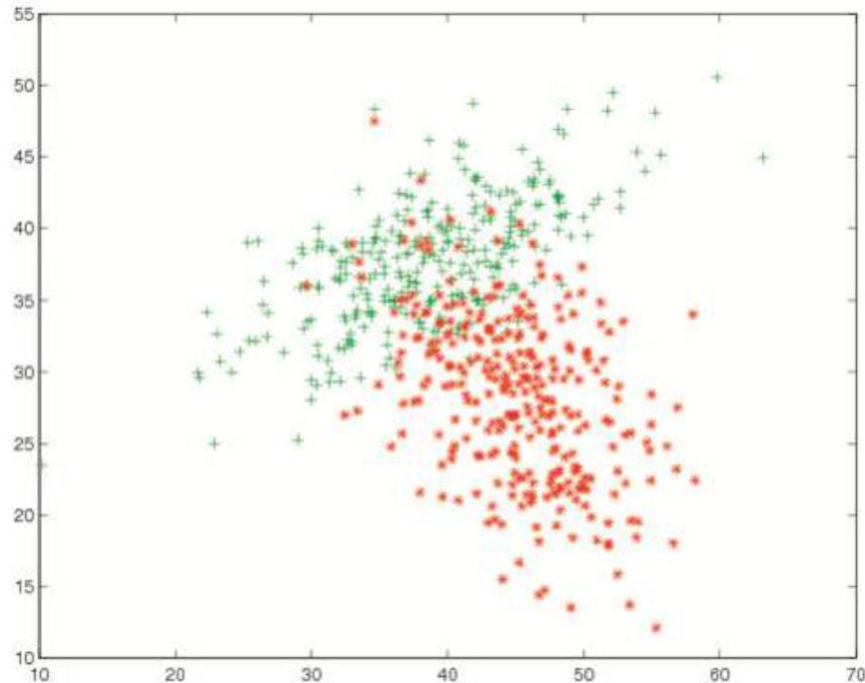
$$p(x|y = 1) = N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$$

$$\mu_1 = \frac{\sum_{n: y^{(n)}=1} x^{(n)}}{\sum_{n: y^{(n)}=1} 1} = \frac{\sum_{n: y^{(n)}=1} x^{(n)}}{N_1}$$

$$\sigma_1^2 = \frac{\sum_{n: y^{(n)}=1} (x^{(n)} - \mu_1)^2}{N_1}$$

# Diabetes example

- Add a second observation: Plasma glucose value



## Generative approach for this example

- ▶ Multivariate Gaussian distributions for  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)$ :

$$p(\mathbf{x}|y = k) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Sigma_k|^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)\right\}$$

$$k = 1, 2$$

- ▶ Prior distribution  $p(y)$ :

- ▶  $p(y = 1) = \pi, \quad p(y = 0) = 1 - \pi$

# MLE for multivariate Gaussian

- ▶ For samples  $\{\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}\}$ , if we assume a multivariate Gaussian distribution, the MLE estimates will be:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N \mathbf{x}^{(n)}}{N}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (\mathbf{x}^{(n)} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x}^{(n)} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T$$

# Generative approach: example

$$y \in \{0,1\}$$

Maximum likelihood estimation ( $D = \{(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, y^{(n)})\}_{n=1}^N$ ):

$$\triangleright \pi = \frac{N_1}{N}$$

$$\triangleright \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N y^{(n)} \mathbf{x}^{(n)}}{N_1}, \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N (1 - y^{(n)}) \mathbf{x}^{(n)}}{N_2}$$

$$\triangleright \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1 = \frac{1}{N_1} \sum_{n=1}^N y^{(n)} (\mathbf{x}^{(n)} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x}^{(n)} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T$$

$$\triangleright \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2 = \frac{1}{N_2} \sum_{n=1}^N (1 - y^{(n)}) (\mathbf{x}^{(n)} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x}^{(n)} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T$$

$$N_1 = \sum_{n=1}^N y^{(n)}$$

$$N_2 = N - N_1$$

## Decision boundary for Gaussian Bayes classifier

$$p(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})$$

$$p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)p(\mathcal{C}_k)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$$

$$\ln p(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_1) + \ln p(\mathcal{C}_1) - \ln p(\mathbf{x}) \\ = \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_2) + \ln p(\mathcal{C}_2) - \ln p(\mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

# Decision boundary for Gaussian Bayes classifier

$$p(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})$$

$$p(\mathcal{C}_k|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k)p(\mathcal{C}_k)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$$

$$\ln p(\mathcal{C}_1|\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathcal{C}_2|\mathbf{x})$$

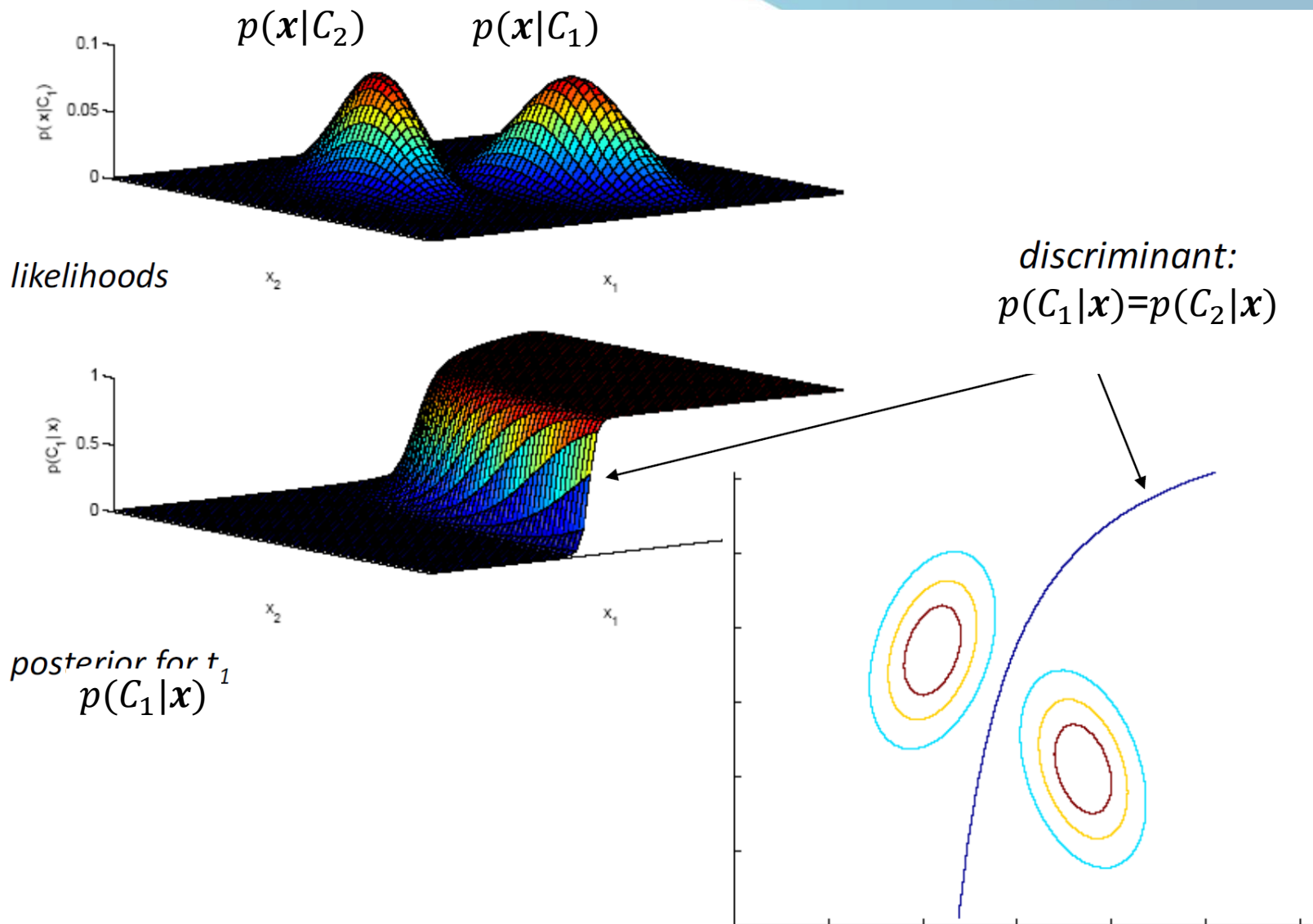
$$\begin{aligned} \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_1) + \ln p(\mathcal{C}_1) - \ln p(\mathbf{x}) \\ = \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_2) + \ln p(\mathcal{C}_2) - \ln p(\mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_1) + \ln p(\mathcal{C}_1) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_2) + \ln p(\mathcal{C}_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\mathcal{C}_k) \\ = -\frac{d}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k| - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k) \end{aligned}$$



# Decision boundary





Continued in the next session...