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## Topic 6. Classification

# Examples of Classification

- An online banking service must be able to determine whether or not a transaction being performed is fraudulent, on the basis of the IP address, past transaction history, and so forth.
- On the basis of DNA sequence data for a number of patients with or without a given disease, a biologist would like to figure out which DNA mutations are disease causes.
- A patient with a set of symptoms that could possibly be attributed to one of three types of diabetes. Which one does the individual have?

# General Setup

- Assume  $y \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  is qualitative and  $\mathbf{x} \in R^p$ .
- A classifier  $G: R^p \rightarrow \{1, \dots, K\}$ .
- A desirable  $G(\mathbf{x})$  is to minimize the misclassification error

$$\text{err}(G) = P(y \neq G(\mathbf{x})) = E \left( I(y \neq G(\mathbf{x})) \right)$$

where  $I(\cdot)$  is an indicator function.

# Some Concepts

➤ **Classification function**  $h_k(\mathbf{x}): R^p \rightarrow R, k = 1, \dots, K$

➤ **Classifier**  $G(\mathbf{x})$  is set as

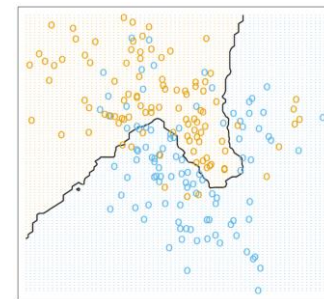
$$G(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{argmax}_k h_k(\mathbf{x})$$

➤ Estimate  $h_k(\mathbf{x})$  based on the available training data, leading to

$$\hat{G}(\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{argmax}_k \hat{h}_k(\mathbf{x})$$

➤ **Classification boundary** between classes  $k$  and  $l$ :

$$\{\mathbf{x}: h_k(\mathbf{x}) = h_l(\mathbf{x})\}$$



# A Special Case: Binary Classification

➤  $K = 2$  and the class labels encoded as  $\{0, 1\}$  or  $\{-1, 1\}$ .

➤ A classifier  $G(\mathbf{x})$  is set as

$$G(\mathbf{x}) = I(h(\mathbf{x}) > 0.5) \text{ or } G(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(h(\mathbf{x}))$$

where  $h(\mathbf{x}): R^p \rightarrow R$  is the classification function.

➤ Estimate  $h(\mathbf{x})$  from the training data, and then

$$\hat{G}(\mathbf{x}) = I(\hat{h}(\mathbf{x}) > 0.5) \text{ or } \hat{G}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\hat{h}(\mathbf{x}))$$

➤ Classification boundary between the two classes is

$$\{\mathbf{x}: h(\mathbf{x}) = 0.5\} \text{ or } \{\mathbf{x}: h(\mathbf{x}) = 0\}$$

# Linear Regression for Classification

- Suppose  $Y$  has three levels: type 1, type 2 and gestational
- To model it with linear regression, consider the coding

$$Y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if type 1} \\ 2 & \text{if type 2} \\ 3 & \text{if gestational} \end{cases}$$

- Fit a regression of  $Y$  against the predictors

$$Y = \beta_0 + X^T \beta + \epsilon$$

where the noise assumptions may not hold.

# Issues about Coding

- The coding is problematic as the difference between type 1 and type 2 diabetes can be drastically different from the difference between type 2 and gestational diabetes.
- One could choose to code gestational as 1, type 1 as 2, and type 2 as 3, which could lead to a different regression model.
- It is less a problem for binary response, by converting it to a dummy variable.
- Fit a linear regression model to the dummy variable, and predict based on whether the fitted response  $> 0.5$ .

# Coding with Dummy Variables

- For qualitative response with more than 2 levels, consider the indicator response matrix

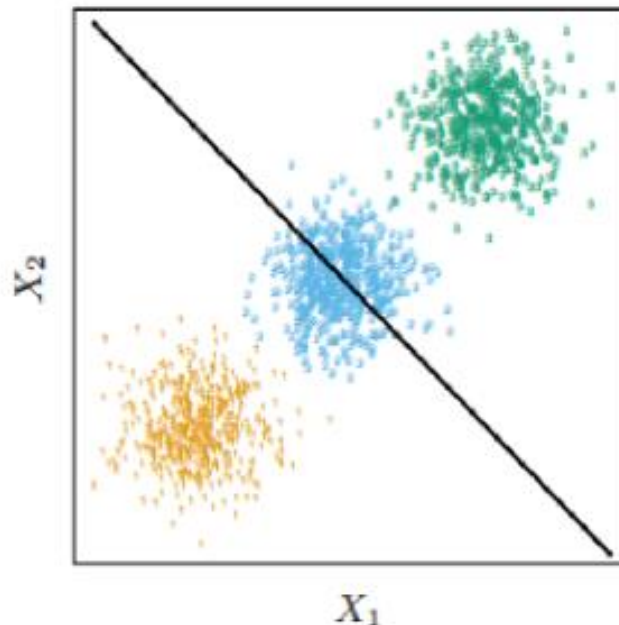
$$y = \begin{cases} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{cases} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Fit a linear regression model  $\hat{h}_k(X)$  to each column of  $\mathbf{Y}$ .
- The final classifier is then  $\hat{G}(X) = \underset{k}{\operatorname{argmax}} \hat{h}_k(X)$ .



# Further Issues

- The rationale is to estimate  $p_k(X) = P(Y = k|X)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ .
- Yet the estimated  $\hat{h}_k(X)$  can be less than 0 or greater than 1, making the estimator inefficient in estimating  $p_k(X)$ .
- Masking problem



# Bayes Rule

- The optimal classifier, or the **Bayes rule**, is the one minimizing  $\text{err}(G)$ ,

$$G^*(X) = \underset{k}{\operatorname{argmax}} p_k(X)$$

- Some methods attempt to estimate  $p_k(X)$ 
  - Discriminant analysis, logistic regression, classification tree, deep neural network
- Other methods attempt to estimate  $G^*(X)$  directly
  - Support vector machine, Boosting, Bagging

# Discriminant Analysis

- $f_k(X)$  = conditional density of  $X$  in class  $y = k$
- $\pi_k = P(y = k)$  is the class prior
- Bayes theorem

$$p_k(X) = P(y = k|X) = \frac{\pi_k f_k(X)}{\sum_{l=1}^K \pi_l f_l(X)}$$

- Comparing  $p_k(X)$  can be simplified to comparing  $\pi_k f_k(X)$ .
- Various assumptions on  $f_k(X)$  lead to LDA, QDA, Naïve Bayes,....

# Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA)

- Assume  $X|y = k \sim N_p(\mu_k, \Sigma)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ , then

$$f_k(X) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (X - \mu_k)^T \Sigma^{-1} (X - \mu_k) \right\}$$

- To compare  $p_k(X)$ , we have

$$\log \frac{p_k(X)}{p_l(X)} > 0 \Leftrightarrow p_k(X) > p_l(X)$$

- Simple algebra yields that

$$\log \frac{p_k(X)}{p_l(X)} = \log \left( \frac{\pi_k}{\pi_l} \right) - \frac{1}{2} (\mu_k + \mu_l)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_k - \mu_l) + X^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_k - \mu_l)$$

which is a linear function in  $X$ .

# LDA (Cont.)

- The quadratic terms of  $X$  vanish because of the equal covariance assumption across classes.
- Given a training dataset  $(X_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$ , if  $\pi_k$ 's are unavailable,  $\hat{\pi}_k = n_k/n$ , where  $n_k = \sum_{i=1}^n I(y_i = k)$ .
- Estimate  $\mu_k$  by centroid in class  $k$ ,

$$\hat{\mu}_k = \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{\{i: y_i=k\}} X_i$$

- Estimate  $\Sigma$  by pooled within-class covariance matrix,

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n - K} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{\mu}_{y_i})(X_i - \hat{\mu}_{y_i})^T$$

# LDA (Cont.)

- A useful decomposition  $\log \frac{p_k(X)}{p_l(X)} = \delta_k(X) - \delta_l(X)$ , where

$$\delta_k(X) = \log(\pi_k) - \frac{1}{2} \mu_k^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_k + X^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_k$$

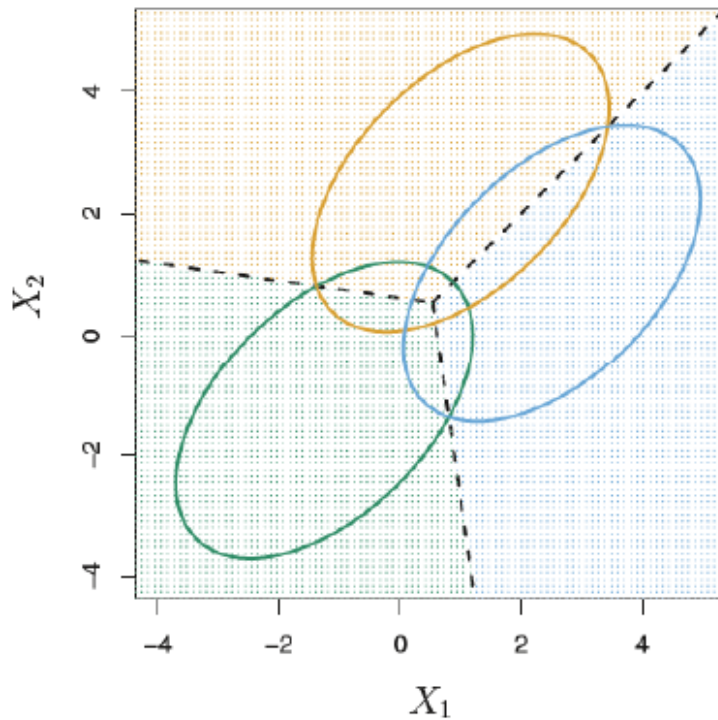
is the **discriminant function**.

- Classify  $X$  to class  $k$  with the largest  $\delta_k(X)$ , since

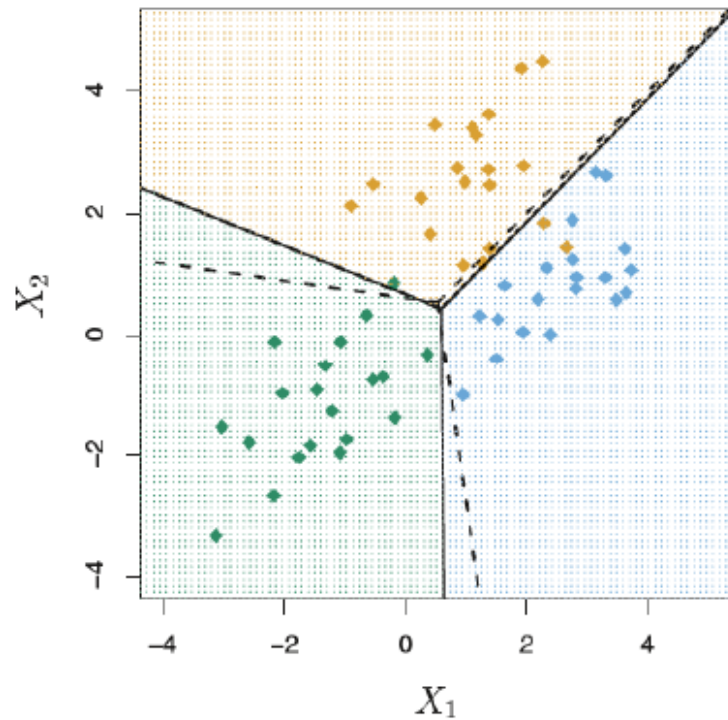
$$\operatorname{argmax}_k p_k(X) = \operatorname{argmax}_k \delta_k(X)$$

# An Illustrative Example

- Three normal distributions with same covariance and different means; 95% contours of constant density



Dashed: Bayes rule  
Solid: LDA



# Quadratic Discriminant Analysis (QDA)

- Assume  $X|y = k \sim N_p(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$  for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ , then

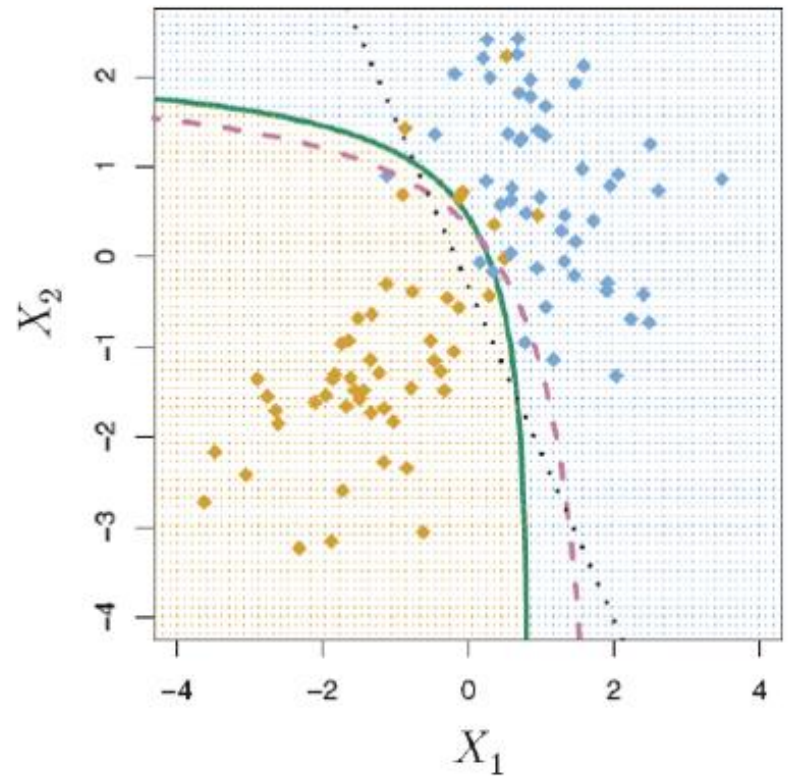
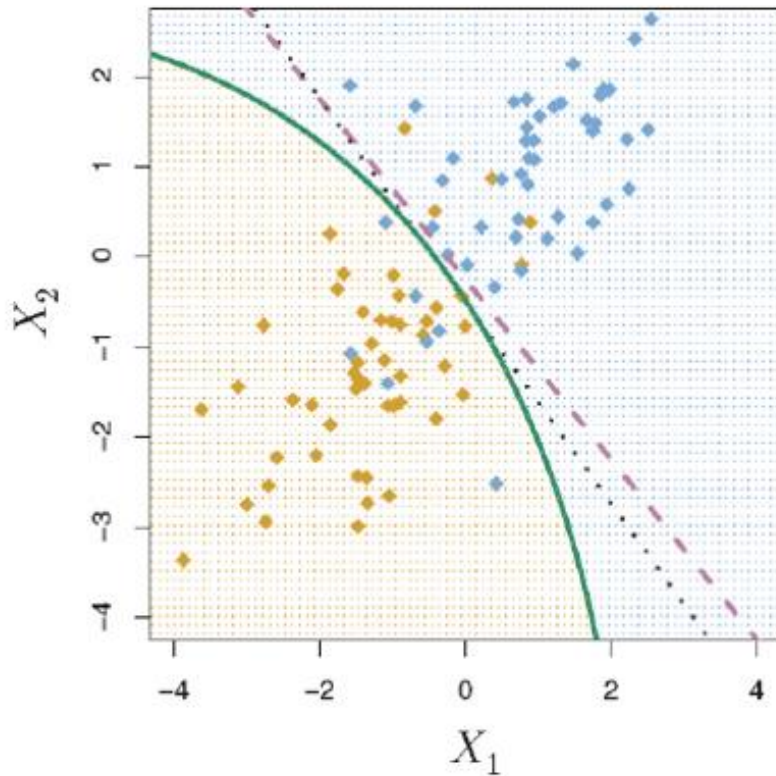
$$\delta_k(X) = \log(\pi_k) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\Sigma_k| - \frac{1}{2} (X - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (X - \mu_k)$$

- The quadratic term of  $X$  now is necessary.
- $\hat{\pi}_k = n_k/n$
- $\mu_k$  is estimated by the centroid in each class  $k$ .
- $\Sigma_k$  is estimated by sample covariance matrix in each class

$$\hat{\Sigma}_k = \frac{1}{n_k - 1} \sum_{\{i: y_i=k\}} (X_i - \hat{\mu}_k)(X_i - \hat{\mu}_k)^T$$



# LDA and QDA



Purple: Bayes rule  
Black: LDA  
Green: QDA

# Naïve Bayes

- Recall the Bayes theorem

$$P(y = k|X) = \frac{\pi_k f_k(X)}{\sum_{l=1}^K \pi_l f_l(X)}$$

- To use this rule in practice, we need estimates for  $\pi_k$  and  $f_k(X)$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$ . Estimating the priors is straightforward, but estimating the density functions are challenging.
- In LDA and QDA, strong normality assumption has been made to simplify the task.

# Naïve Bayes

- The Naïve Bayes classifier does not assume the density functions belong to a particular family of distributions. It is based on another assumption: **Within each class, the predictors are independent.**
- This means that for each class

$$f_k(X) = f_{k1}(x_1) \times f_{k2}(x_2) \times \cdots \times f_{kp}(x_p)$$

- By assuming the independence between predictors, we eliminate the need to figure out their associations, thus simplifying the estimation task.
- We can estimate the density function of each predictor in different ways, such as assuming normality or using non-parametric methods.

# Performance of Naïve Bayes

- The independence assumption in Naïve Bayes is made for convenience and may not be true in most scenarios, but it often leads to pretty decent results, especially when  $n$  is not large enough relative to  $p$ .
- This assumption introduces some bias, but reduces variance, leading to a classifier that works quite well in practice as a result of the bias-variance trade-off.

# Binary Logistic Regression

- In binary classification with  $y \in \{0,1\}$ , one natural choice is to model  $p(X) = P(y = 1|X)$ .
- Linear regression assumes  $p(X) = \beta_0 + X^T \beta$ , but the fitted value can be less than 0 or larger than 1.
- Linear logistic regression assumes

$$p(X) = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + X^T \beta}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + X^T \beta}}$$

- The fitted value is guaranteed to be in  $[0, 1]$ .
- $\frac{e^z}{1+e^z}$  is the logistic function, which maps  $R$  onto  $[0, 1]$ .

# Logit and Odds Ratio

- An equivalent form,

$$\text{logit}(p(X)) = \log \frac{p(X)}{1 - p(X)} = \beta_0 + X^T \beta$$

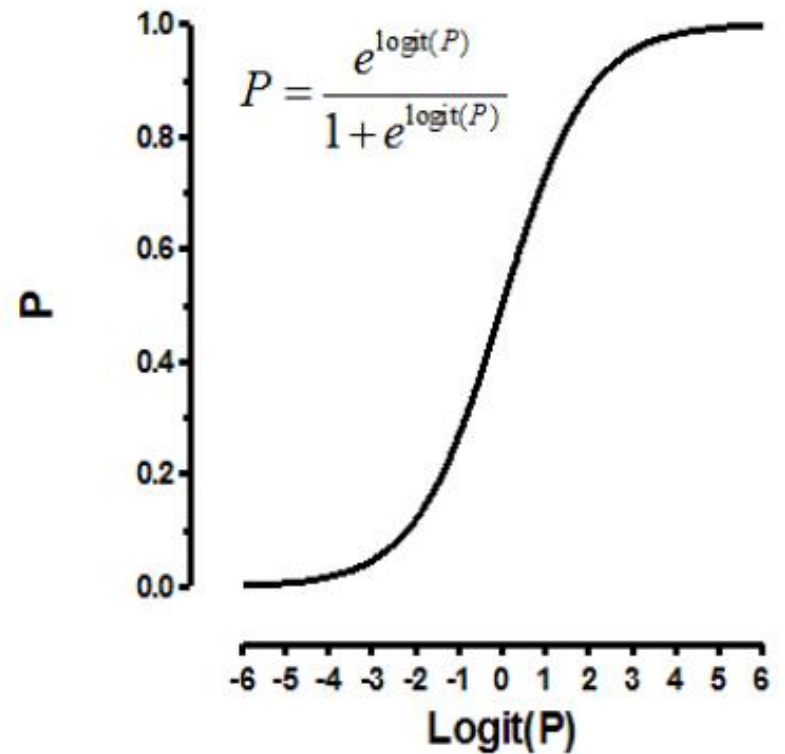
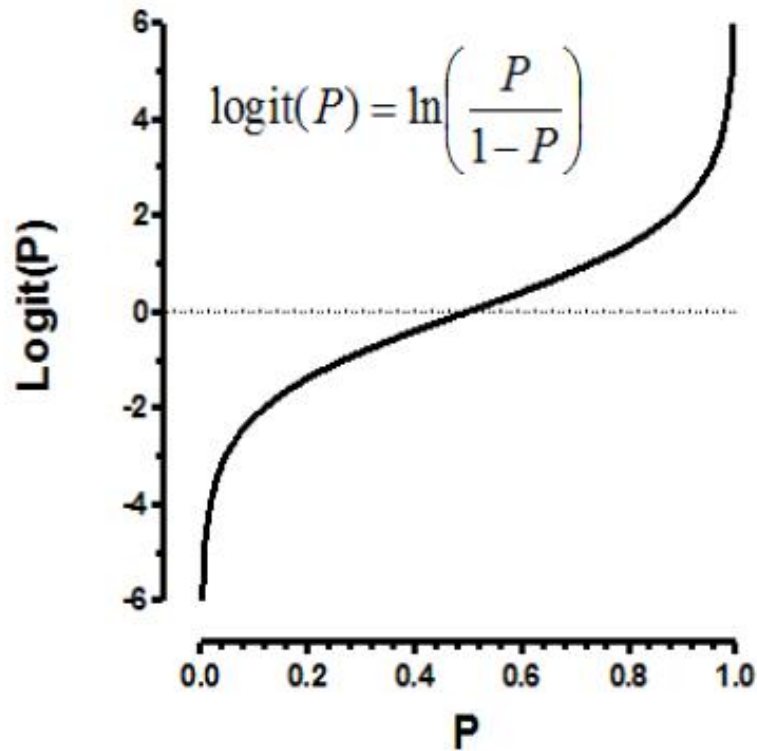
where  $\text{odds}(X) = \frac{p(X)}{1-p(X)} = e^{\beta_0 + X^T \beta}$  is called the odds, and log-odds is also known as the **logit** function.

- For each predictor  $X_j$ , the odds ratio

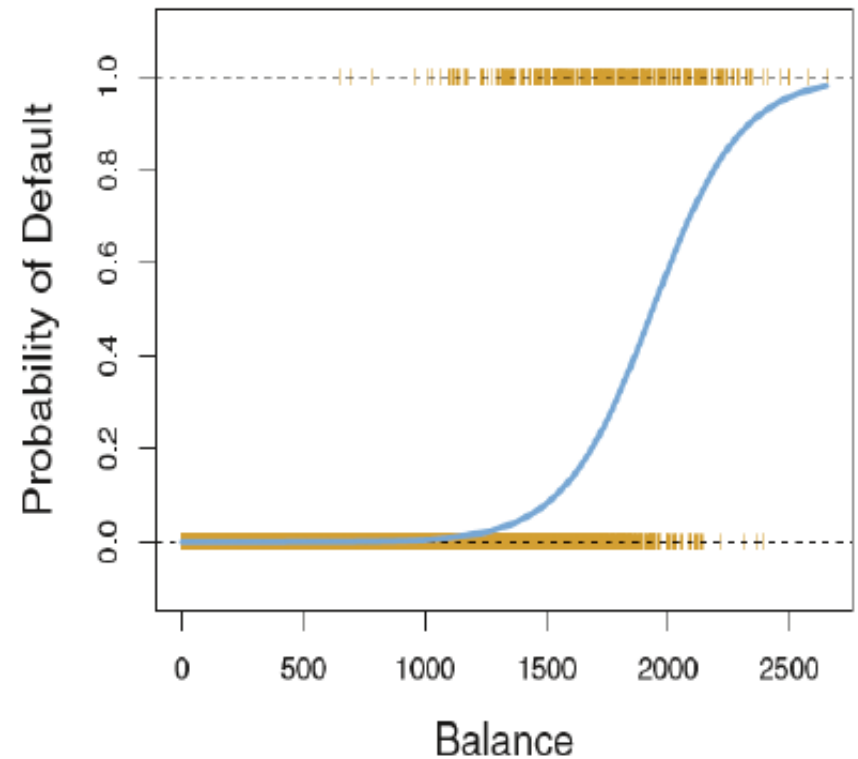
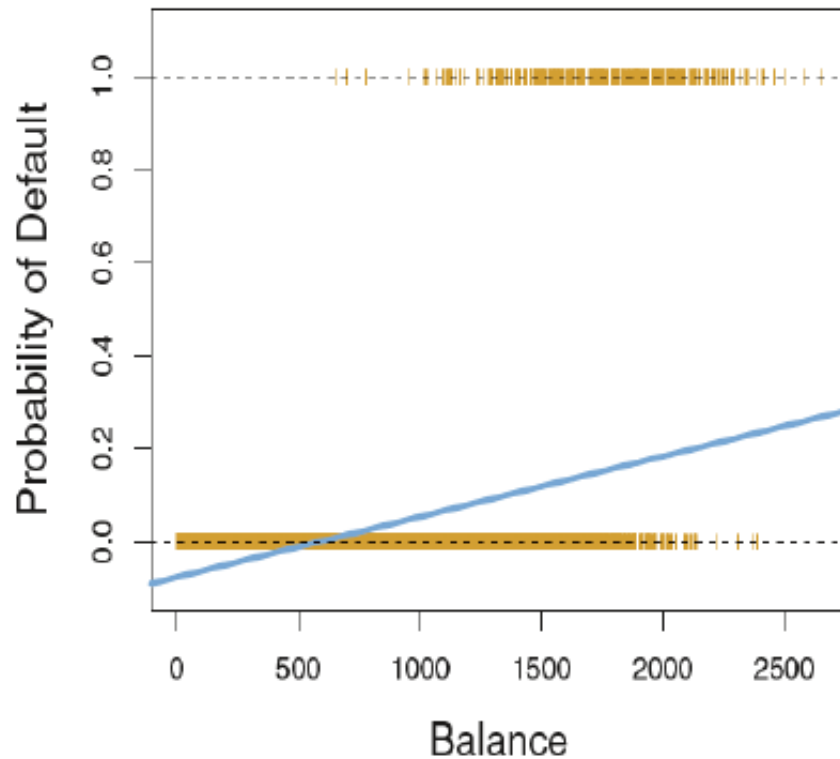
$$OR_j = \frac{\text{odds}(X_1, \dots, X_j + 1, \dots, X_p)}{\text{odds}(X_1, \dots, X_j, \dots, X_p)} = e^{\beta_j}$$

indicating the odds multiple with  $e^{\beta_j}$  per 1-unit increase in  $X_j$ .

# Logit Function



# Comparison b/w Linear and Logistic Regression





# Fitting Binary Logistic Regression

➤ Let  $\tilde{\beta} = (\beta_0, \beta)$ , then its log-likelihood is

$$\begin{aligned} l(\tilde{\beta}) &= \log \left( \prod_{i=1}^n p(\mathbf{x}_i)^{y_i} (1 - p(\mathbf{x}_i))^{1-y_i} \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i \log p(\mathbf{x}_i) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - p(\mathbf{x}_i)) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_i)}{1 - p(\mathbf{x}_i)} + \log(1 - p(\mathbf{x}_i)) \right) \end{aligned}$$

➤ Estimate the coefficients by maximizing  $l(\tilde{\beta})$ .

# MLE for Logistic Regression

➤ To maximize  $l(\tilde{\beta})$ , simple algebra yields that

$$l(\tilde{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( y_i (\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i^T \tilde{\beta}) - \log(1 + \exp(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i^T \tilde{\beta})) \right)$$

$$l'(\tilde{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - p_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p})$$

$$l''(\tilde{\beta}) = - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i (1 - p_i) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i^T = -\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{W} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}$$

where  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_n)^T$ ,  $p_i = p(\mathbf{x}_i)$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = (\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_n)^T$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i = (1, \mathbf{x}_i^T)^T$ , and  $\mathbf{W} = \text{diag}\{p_1(1 - p_1), \dots, p_n(1 - p_n)\}$ .

# Iteratively Reweighted Least Square (IRLS)

- Newton's method updates  $\beta$  iteratively,

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\beta}^{new} &= \tilde{\beta}^{old} + (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{W} \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p})) \\ &= (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{W} \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{W} (\tilde{\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\beta}^{old} + \mathbf{W}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p})) \\ &= (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{W} \tilde{\mathbf{X}})^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{X}}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}^{new}\end{aligned}$$

- In the last two lines we have re-expressed the Newton-Raphson step as a weighted least squares step, with the new response

$$\mathbf{y}^{new} = \tilde{\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\beta}^{old} + \mathbf{W}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{p})$$

- This is also to iteratively refit the linear regression model with new weights and responses, and thus the name IRLS.

# Multiclass Logistic Regression

- Multiclass logistic regression assumes

$$\log \frac{p_1(X)}{p_K(X)} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \tilde{\beta}_1$$

$$\log \frac{p_2(X)}{p_K(X)} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \tilde{\beta}_2$$

$$\log \frac{p_{K-1}(X)}{p_K(X)} = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \tilde{\beta}_{K-1}$$

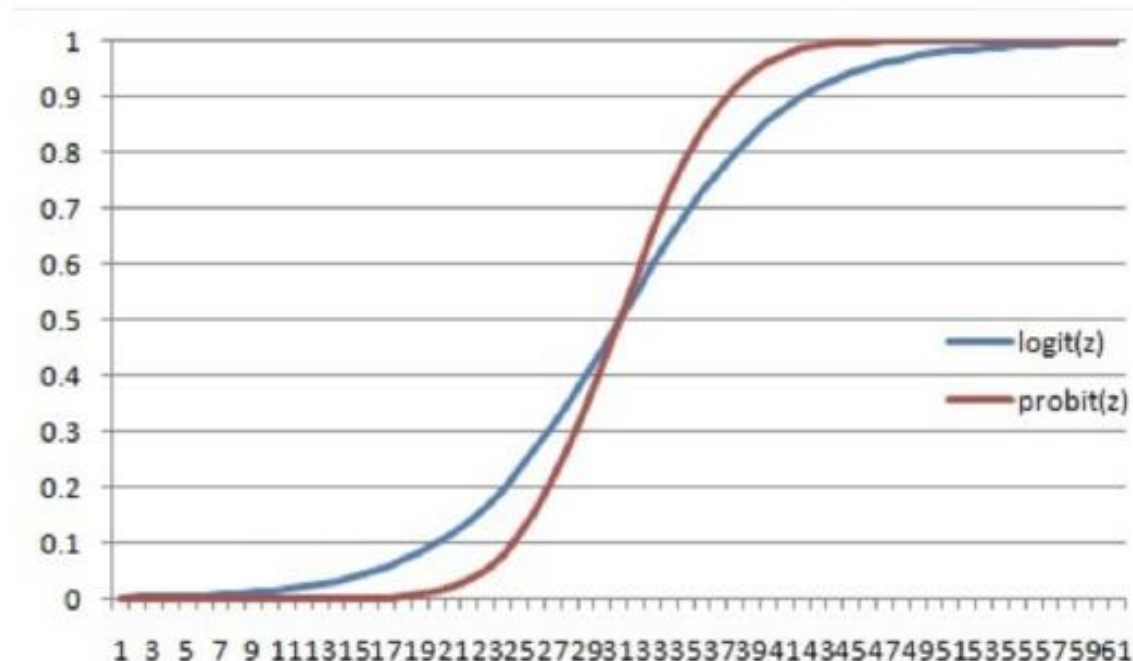
- Coefficients are also estimated by MLE based on the likelihood function of multinomial distribution.

# Probit Model

- In binary classification, probit model assumes

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi(\beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^T \beta)$$

where  $\Phi$  is the cumulative distribution function of standard normal distribution.



# Logistic Regression and LDA

- In binary classification, LDA also leads to

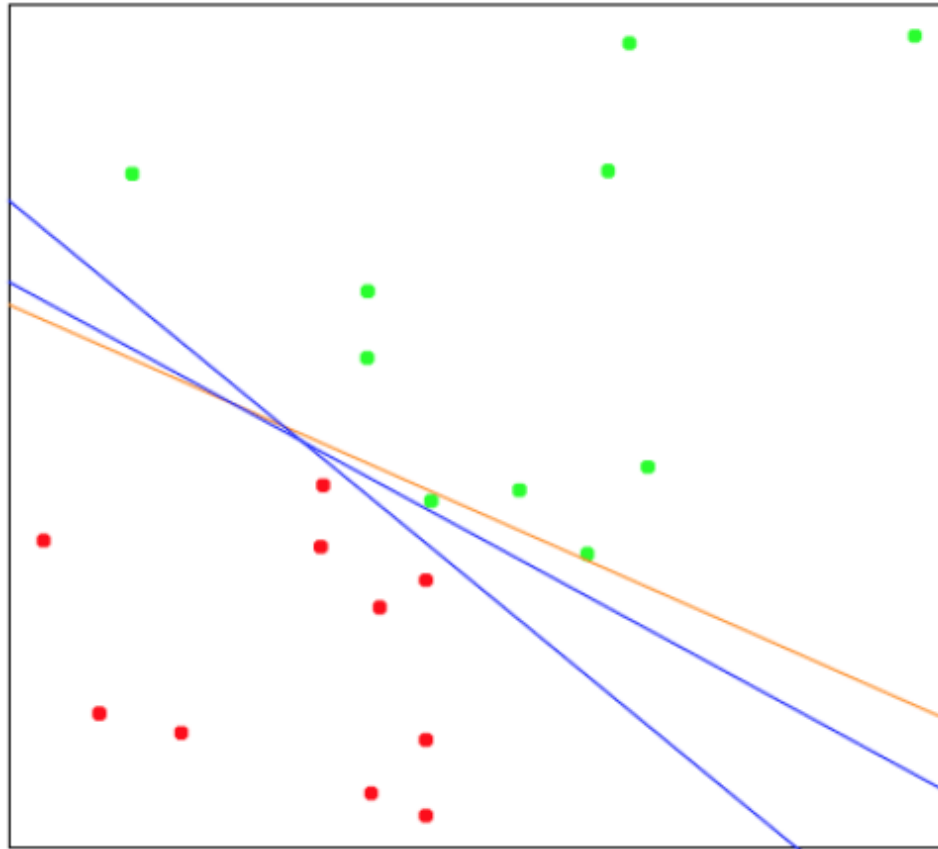
$$\text{logit}(p(\mathbf{x})) = \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x})}{1 - p(\mathbf{x})} = c_0 + \mathbf{x}^T c_1$$

where  $c_0 = \log \left( \frac{\pi}{1-\pi} \right) - \frac{1}{2} (\mu_1 + \mu_0)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 + \mu_0)$  and  $c_1 = \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_0)$ .

- Thus logistic regression and LDA differ only in their fitting procedures
  - Logistic regression estimates the coefficients by MLE.
  - LDA estimates them based on the estimated mean and covariance matrix of a normal distribution.

# Separating Hyperplane

- This method constructs linear classification boundaries that try to separate the data into different classes as well as possible.



# Geometric View of Classification

## ➤ Feature space

- Space formed by the predictors
- Also referred to as the state space, input space
- $p$ -dimensional ( $p$  predictors),  $n$ -points ( $n$  observations)

## ➤ Training data

- Inputs determine the location in the feature space

$$x_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} \\ \vdots \\ x_{1p} \end{pmatrix}, \dots, x_n = \begin{pmatrix} x_{n1} \\ \vdots \\ x_{np} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Outputs  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  determine the **color** (i.e., **classes**)

## ➤ Classification: Find the hyperplane such that a test point

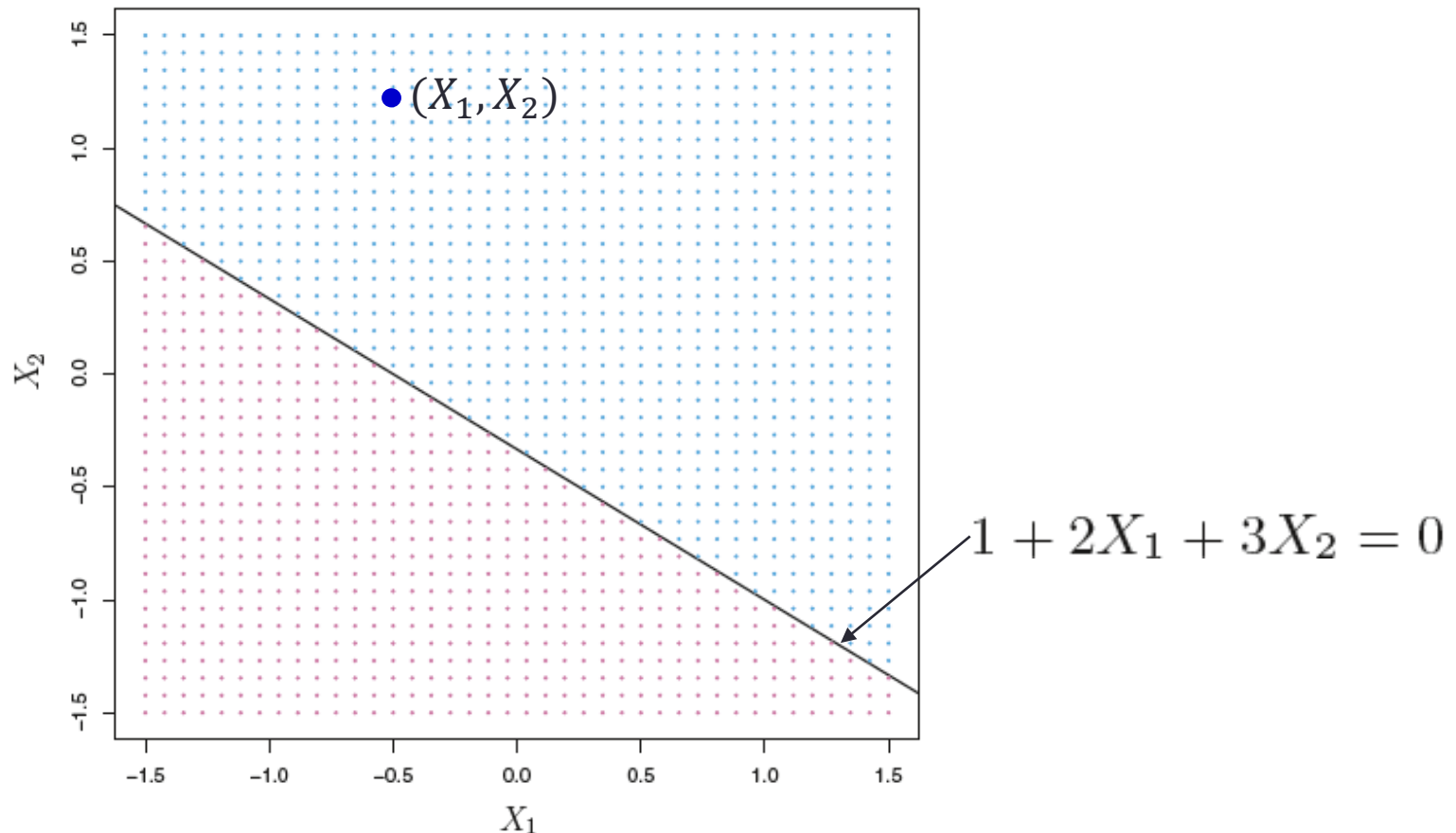
$$x^* = (x_1^* \quad \dots \quad x_p^*)^T$$

is assigned the correct class.



# Hyperplane

- In a  $p$ -dimensional space, a *hyperplane* is a flat affine subspace of dimension  $p - 1$ . For example, in a two-dimensional space, a hyperplane is a line.



# Review of Vector Algebra

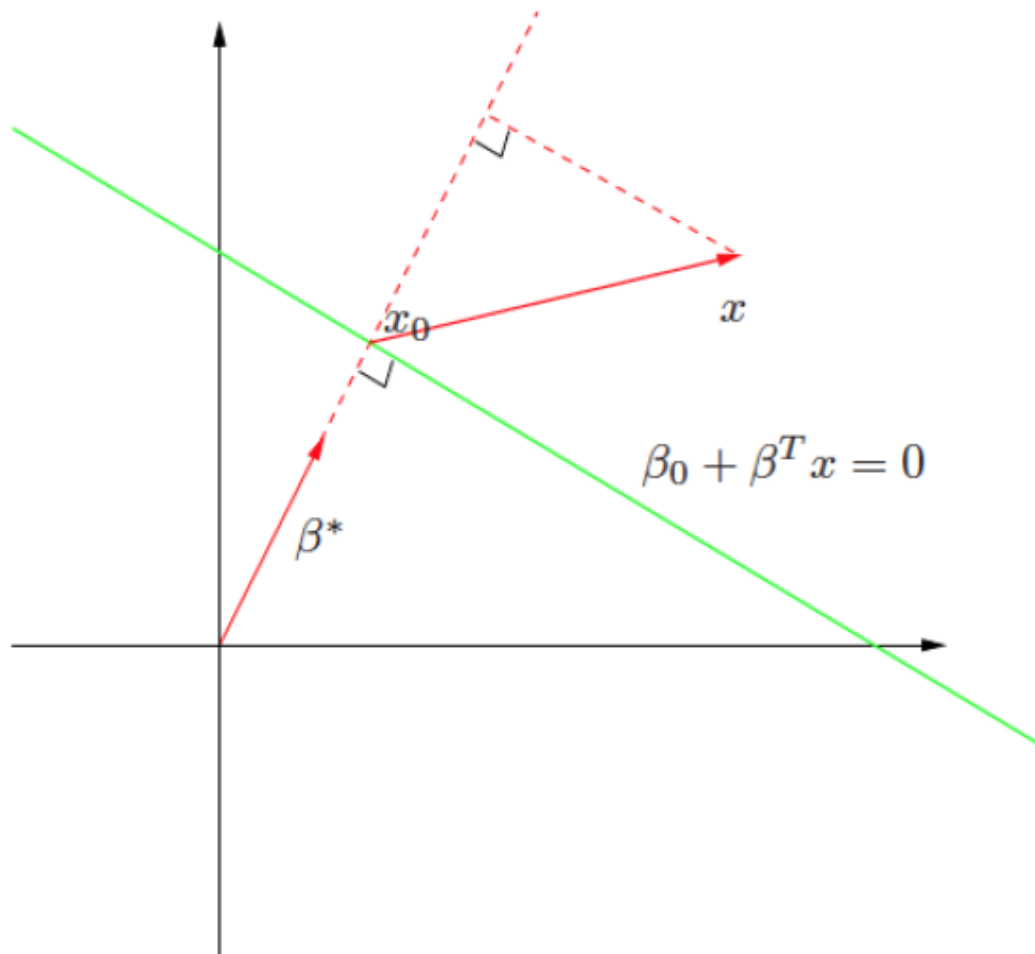
- A hyperplane  $L$  is defined by the linear equation:

$$L = \{\mathbf{x}: f(\mathbf{x}) = \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^T \beta = 0\}$$

- For any two points  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  lying in  $L$ ,  $(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2)^T \beta = 0$ , and hence  $\beta^* = \beta / \|\beta\|$  is the vector normal to the surface of  $L$ .
- For any point  $\mathbf{x}_0$  in  $L$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_0^T \beta = -\beta_0$ .
- The signed distance of any point  $\mathbf{x}$  to  $L$  is given by

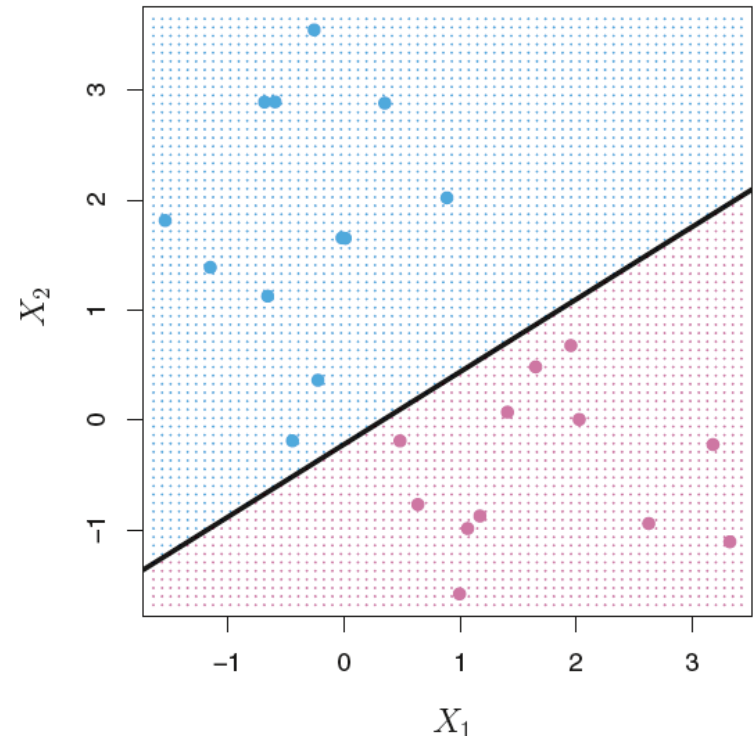
$$(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0)^T \beta^* = \frac{1}{\|\beta\|} (\mathbf{x}^T \beta + \beta_0)$$

# Geometry of A Hyperplane



# Separating Hyperplane

- **Separating hyperplane**: separates the training observations perfectly according to their class labels
- **Blue**: class 1 ( $y = 1$ )  
**Purple**: class  $-1$  ( $y = -1$ )
- $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_p x_p$
- **class 1**:  $f(x) > 0$   
**class  $-1$** :  $f(x) < 0$
- Property:  $y_i f(x_i) > 0$ , for all training points  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$

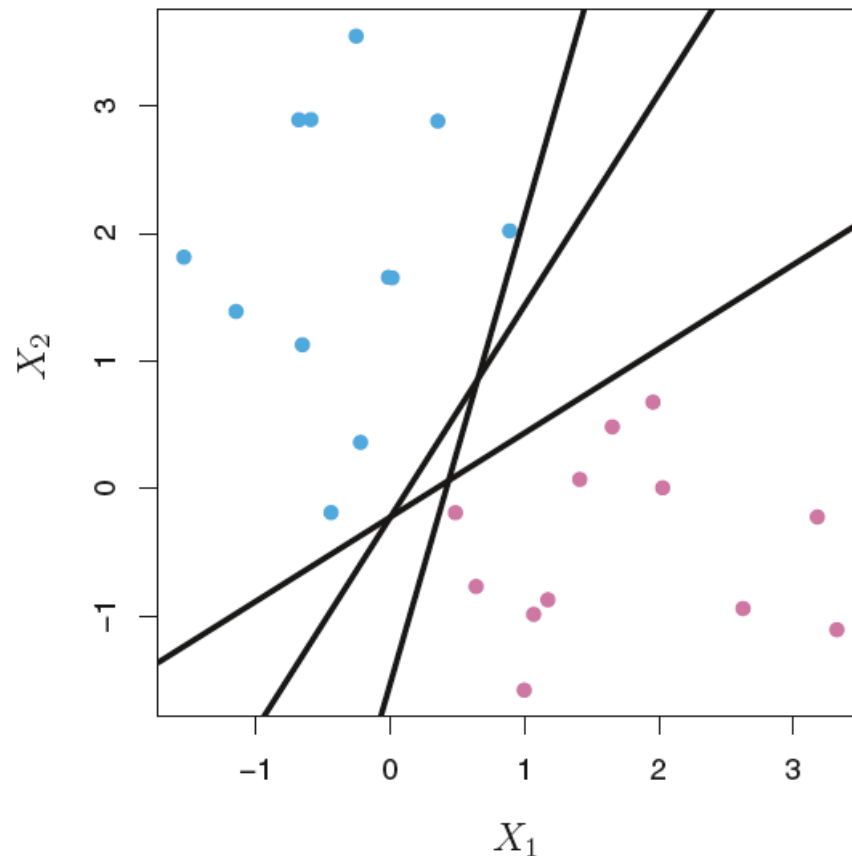


# Prediction

- Given a test point  $x^*$ , we will assign it to  
class 1 ( $y^* = 1$ ), if  $f(x^*) > 0$   
class -1 ( $y^* = -1$ ), if  $f(x^*) < 0$
- If  $y^* f(x^*)$  is far from zero, that means the test point lies far from the hyperplane, and so we can be confident about our class assignment for it.
- If  $y^* f(x^*)$  is close to zero, that means the test point is located near the hyperplane, and so we are less certain about the class assignment for it.

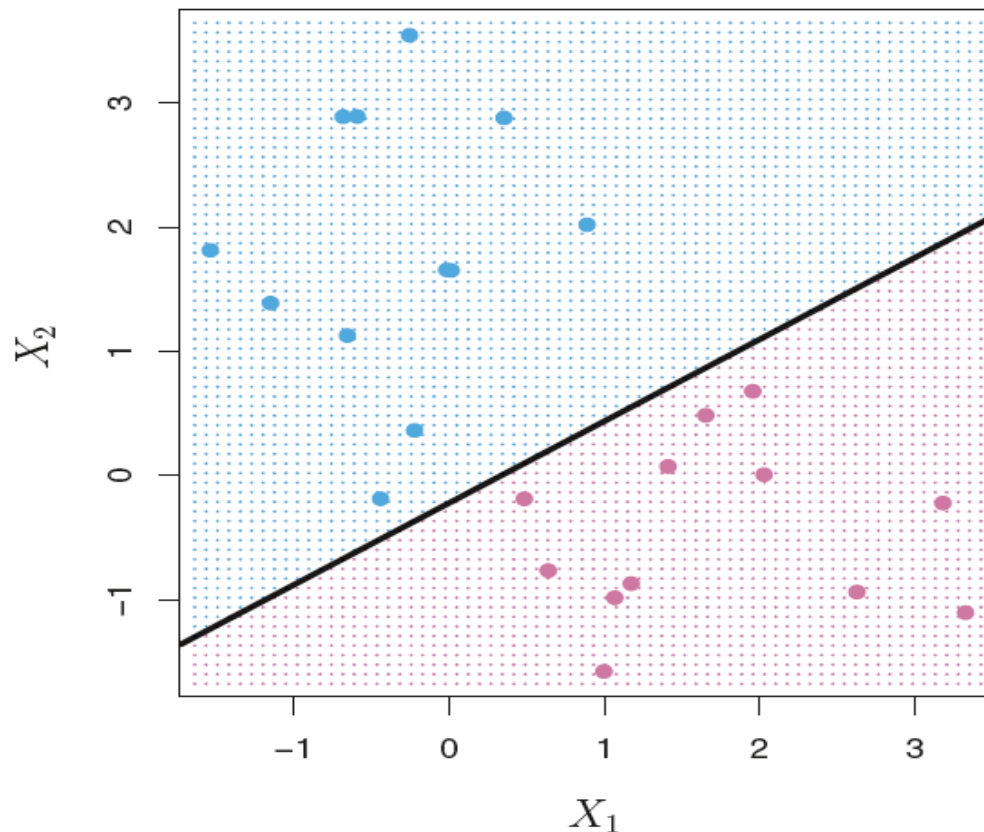
# How to Do It Right?

- There may be an infinite number of hyperplanes that separates the training observations perfectly.
- We need to decide which hyperplane to use.



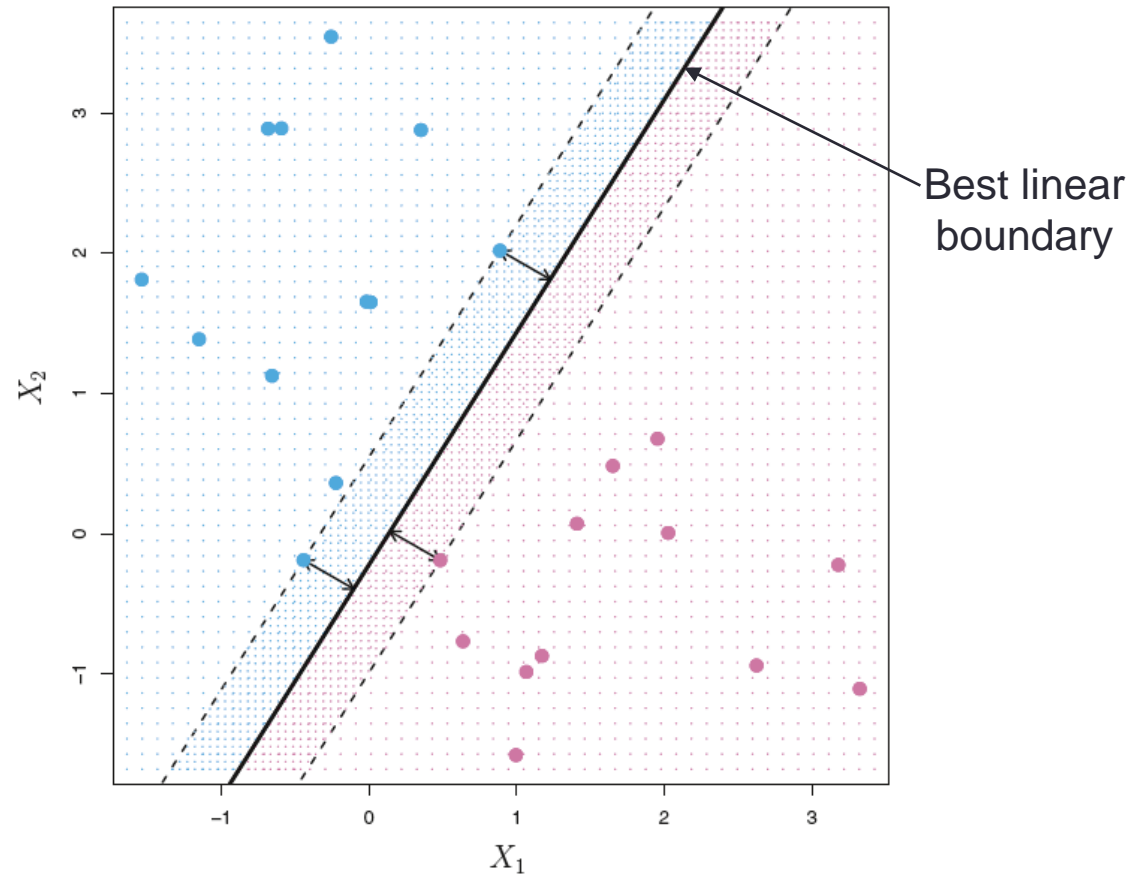
# Margin

- Suppose we have a separating hyperplane
- Find perpendicular distance from every point to the hyperplane
- Margin: The smallest of such distances,  $M$   
i.e., minimum distance from the observations to the hyperplane



# Maximal Margin Classifier

- Maximize min-distance (max margin)
- Represent the mid-line of the widest “slab” inserted between the two classes





# Optimal Separating Hyperplane

- Consider binary classification with  $y_i \in \{1, -1\}$ .
- Suppose the two classes can be linearly separated.
- Optimal separating hyperplane separates the two classes and maximizes the distance to the closest point from either class.
- Tend to have better classification performance on test data

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\beta, \beta_0} \quad C \\ & \text{subject to } \frac{1}{\|\beta\|} y_i (\mathbf{x}_i^T \beta + \beta_0) \geq C, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

- That is, every point is at least  $C$  away from the decision boundary  $\beta_0 + \mathbf{x}^T \beta = 0$ .

# Estimation

- For any solution of the optimization problem, any positively scaled multiple is a solution as well.
- Set  $\|\beta\| = 1/C$  and the optimization is equivalent to

$$\min_{\beta, \beta_0} \quad \frac{1}{2} \|\beta\|^2$$

subject to  $y_i(\mathbf{x}_i^T \beta + \beta_0) \geq 1, i = 1, \dots, n$

- The Lagrange function is

$$L_p = \min_{\beta, \beta_0} \frac{1}{2} \|\beta\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (y_i(\mathbf{x}_i^T \beta + \beta_0) - 1)$$

subject to  $\alpha_i \geq 0$

# Estimation (Cont.)

- Setting derivative to zero, we have

$$\beta = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i \mathbf{x}_i \quad \text{and} \quad 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i$$

- Substitute into  $L_p$ , the Wolfe dual form is

$$L_D = \max_{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \mathbf{x}_i^T \mathbf{x}_j$$

subject to  $\alpha_i \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i y_i = 0$

- This can be solved by quadratic programming.

# Linear and Quadratic Programming

- Linear programming (LP)

$$\min_{\mathbf{z}} \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{z}$$

subject to  $A\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{z} \geq 0$

- Quadratic programming (QP)

$$\min_{\mathbf{z}} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{z}^T Q \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{z}$$

subject to  $A\mathbf{z} \leq \mathbf{b}$

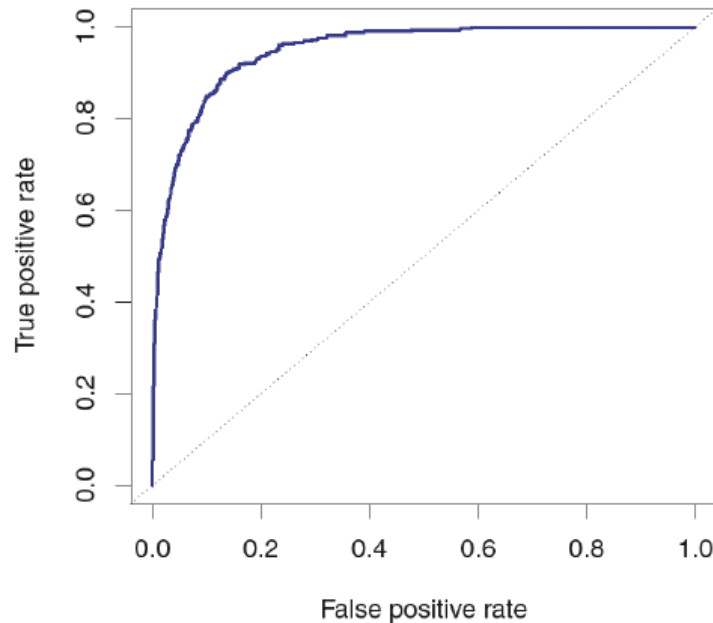
- Implementation is available in most software.

# Evaluating Classification Model

## ➤ Misclassification error

$$\text{test error} = \frac{1}{|\text{test set}|} \sum_{i \in \text{test set}} I(\hat{G}(\mathbf{x}_i) \neq y_i)$$

## ➤ Receiver operating characteristics (ROC) curve



# Other Performance Measures

- A few popularly-used terms
  - True positive rate or **Sensitivity** or **Recall** =  $TP/P$
  - False positive rate or  $1 - \text{Specificity}$  =  $FP/N$
  - Positive predictive value or **Precision** =  $TP/P^*$
  - F1-score =  $2 \times \frac{\text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}}$
  - Area under the ROC curve (AUC)
  - Youden index is  $J = \text{Sensitivity} + \text{Specificity} - 1$

		<i>Predicted class</i>		
		– or Null	+ or Non-null	Total
<i>True class</i>	– or Null	True Neg. (TN)	False Pos. (FP)	N
	+ or Non-null	False Neg. (FN)	True Pos. (TP)	P
Total		N*	P*	

# Example

- Response: Whether a person will default his/her credit card payment (Yes/No = 1/0)

		<i>True Default Status</i>		
		No	Yes	Total
<i>Predicted Default Status</i>	No	9644	252	9896
	Yes	23	81	104
	Total	9667	333	10000

- **Misclassification error rate**: fraction of people that are incorrectly classified (2.75%)
- **Sensitivity (true positive rate)**: fraction of defaulters that are correctly identified (24.3%)
- **Specificity**: fraction of non-defaulters that are correctly identified as non-defaulters (99.76%)
- **False positive rate** (1– Specificity): fraction of non-defaulters that are incorrectly classified as defaulters (0.24%)