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L6 – Bounds on Error Rates

# Bounding the Bayes Error Rate

Recall the likelihood ratio tests, written in terms of the negative log of the likelihood

$$h(x) \equiv -\log \left( \frac{p(x | \omega_1)}{p(x | \omega_2)} \right) \begin{matrix} \omega_1 \\ < \\ \omega_2 \end{matrix} -\log \eta \equiv t$$

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Computation of the Bayes error rate for all but the simplest cases (e.g. Gaussian features  $x$  with equal class priors) is difficult.

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Calculating the integrals

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$$E_2 = \int_{L1} p(x | \omega_2) d^n x = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(h | \omega_2) dh$$

is difficult or impossible

$$E_1 = \int_{L2} p(x | \omega_1) d^n x = \int_t^{\infty} p(h | \omega_1) dh$$

# *Bounding the Bayes Error Rate*

Instead, we seek bounds on the error that are

Hopefully tight

Easy to calculate

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In practice, we use these estimates, but the theoretical bounds provide useful tools to reason with.

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The bounds point out factors that affect the error rate.

That is, the theoretical framework helps you conceptualize the problem.

# A Calculable Case

Let both class-conditional densities be normal, with the same covariance matrices  $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_2 = \Sigma$ . The neg. log-likelihood ratio is then

$$h(x) = \frac{1}{2} (M_2 - M_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} x + \frac{1}{2} (M_1^T \Sigma^{-1} M_1 - M_2^T \Sigma^{-1} M_2)$$

since  $x$  is Gaussian,  $h$  is Gaussian. Its mean and variance

$$E[h | \omega_1] = -\frac{1}{2} (M_2 - M_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (M_2 - M_1)$$

$$E[h | \omega_2] = \frac{1}{2} (M_2 - M_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (M_2 - M_1) \equiv \theta$$

$$\sigma_i^2 = (M_2 - M_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (M_2 - M_1) = 2\theta$$

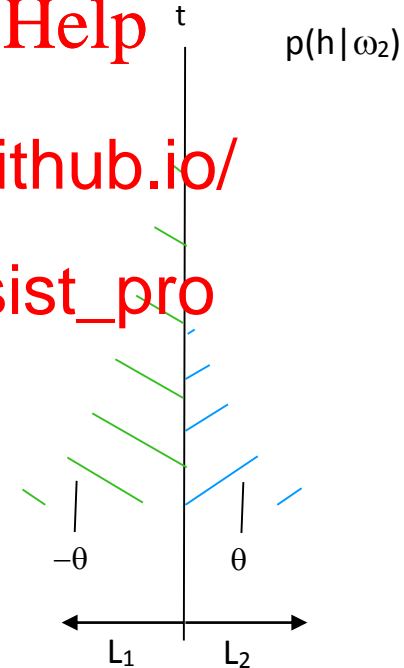
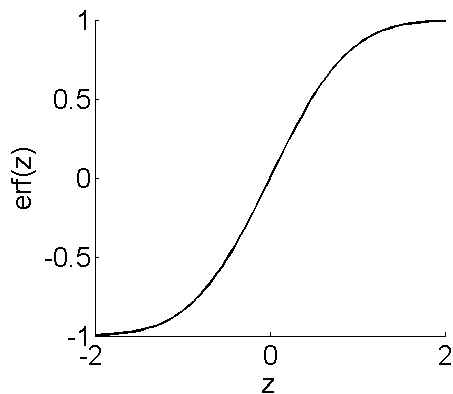
# Calculable Case

The error rates become

$$E_2 = \int_{-\infty}^t p(h | \omega_2) dh = \text{erf} \frac{t + \theta}{\sigma}$$

$$E_1 = \int_t^{\infty} p(h | \omega_1) dh = 1 - \text{erf} \left( \frac{t + \theta}{\sigma} \right)$$

$$\text{erf}(z) \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^z e^{-\xi^2/2} d\xi$$



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# Back to Bounds

## Chernoff Bound

Classification error rate is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E} &= P_1 \int_{L2} p(x|\omega_1) d^n x + P_2 \int_{L1} p(x|\omega_2) d^n x \\ &= \int \min[P_1 p(x|\omega_1), P_2 p(x|\omega_2)] d^n x \end{aligned}$$

Use inequality  $\min[a, b] \leq a^s b^{1-s}$ ,  $a, b \geq 0$ ,  $0 \leq s \leq 1$

to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E} &\leq \mathcal{E}_U = \min_s \left( P_1^s P_2^{1-s} \int p^s(x|\omega_1) p^{1-s}(x|\omega_2) d^n x \right) \\ &\equiv \min_s \left( P_1^s P_2^{1-s} e^{-\mu(s)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Simplification – Bhattacharyya Bound

Don't insist on minimizing with respect to s, but take s=1/2

$$E_U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{P_1 P_2}} \int \sqrt{p(x|\omega_1) p(x|\omega_2)} d^n x$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Sigma_1 \Sigma_2}} e^{-\mu(1/2)}$$

for x normal, the exponent is

$$\mu(1/2) = \frac{1}{8} (M_2 - M_1)^T \left( \frac{\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2}{2} \right)^{-1} (M_2 - M_1) + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{\left| \frac{\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2}{2} \right|}{\sqrt{|\Sigma_1| |\Sigma_2|}} \right)$$

# *Bhattacharyya Bound – Special Cases*

- Equal Means

$$\mu(1/2) = \frac{1}{2} \left( M_2 - \frac{\left| \frac{\Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2}{2} \right|}{\sqrt{|\Sigma_1| |\Sigma_2|}} \right)$$

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Equal Covariances Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro

$$\mu(1/2) = \frac{1}{8} (M_2 -$$



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# Single Hypothesis

May have data predominantly from one class -- e.g. failure analysis, usually have many examples of “healthy” function and only a few failures; may have many different failure modes.

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Given an observation  $x$ , it corresponds to a healthy, or a failed state. Fault detection.

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May use some kind of distance measure, e.g.

$$d^2 = (x - m)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - m)$$

where  $\Sigma$  and  $m$  are the covariance and mean of the class  $\omega_1$  that one is able to model well.

# Single Hypothesis

To use this in classification

Given  $x$ , compute  $d^2$  and compare with a threshold

$d^2 \stackrel{\omega_1}{\leq} c$   
 $d^2 \stackrel{\omega_0}{> c}$

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where the threshold  $c$  is on both in-class, and out-of-class data, or ...

# Single Hypothesis

## Statistics of $d^2$

$d^2$  is a random variable, with mean and variance

$$\begin{aligned} E[d^2] &= E[(x-m)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x-m)] \\ &= \text{Trace} E[\Sigma^{-1} (x-m)(x-m)^T] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{var}[d^2] = E[d^4] - (E[d^2])^2$$

Note:  $d^2$  is the sum of  $N$  random identically distributed random variables. For large dimension  $N$ , we can invoke the central limit theorem with the result that  $d^2$  becomes normally distributed.

# Single Hypothesis

## Other “distance” measures

- Model the probability distribution for objects in the known class - e.g. as a Gaussian mixture

$$p(x | \omega_1) = \sum_{k=1}^Q a_k \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma_k|}} \exp -\frac{1}{2} (x - m_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x - m_k)$$

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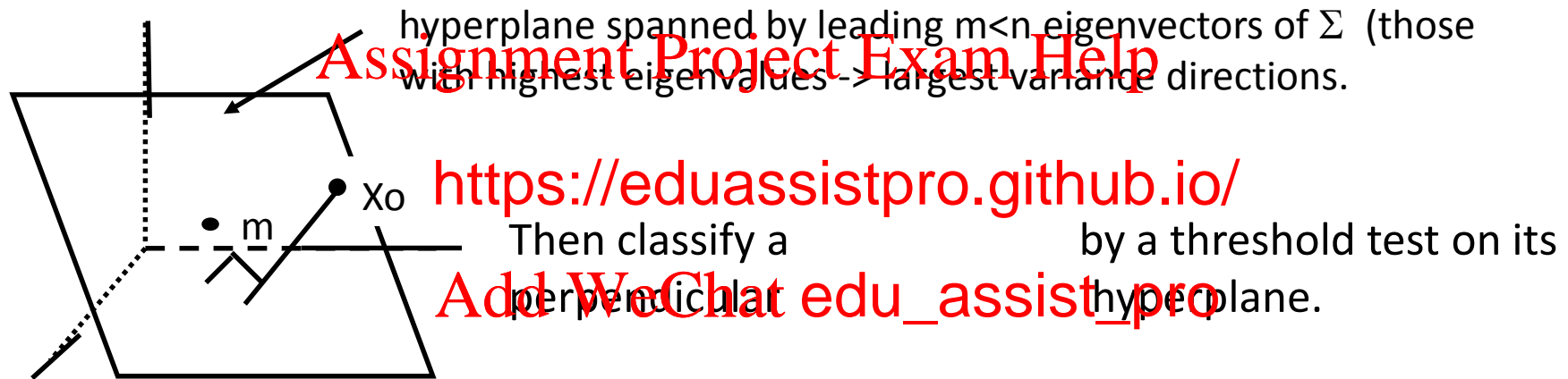
where the parameters  $a_k, m_k, \Sigma_k$  are fit by maximum likelihood. Then classify a new datum  $x_0$  using a threshold test

$$-\ln p(x | \omega_1) \begin{matrix} < \\ > \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \omega_1 \\ c \\ \text{not } \omega_1 \end{matrix}$$

# Single Hypothesis

Other “distance” measures, continued

Model known class by PCA subspace



The hyperplane serves as a geometric model of the known class. See Oja, Subspace methods of Pattern Recognition, Wiley and Sons, for other examples.

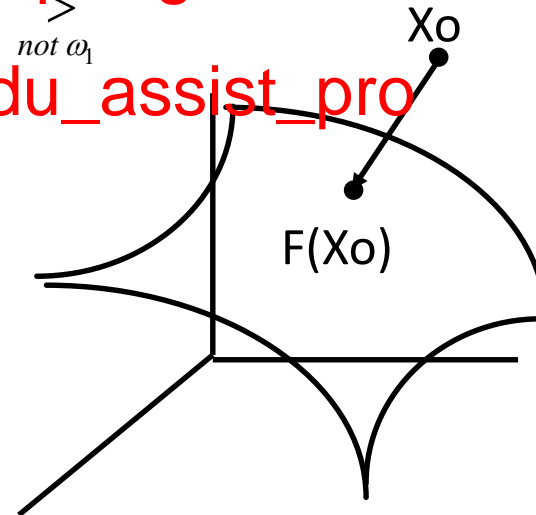
# Single Hypothesis

## Other distance measures (cont'd)

Model known class as a curved manifold (constructed e.g. with a neural network). Measure distance between data  $x_0$  and its projection  $F(x_0)$  onto the manifold.

The threshold test is  $d^2 = \|x_0 - F(x_0; \theta)\|^2$

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# *Problems with Single Hypothesis Tests*

- Usually perform worse than full Bayesian tests. If you have enough data to model both classes, performance should improve.

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- We turned to <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> is test because one of the two classes is [Add WeChat edu\\_assist\\_pro](https://eduassistpro.github.io/)ely sampled to model well. How does one pick the decision threshold  $c$ ?



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