
Machine Learning

CSE 6363 (Fall 2019)

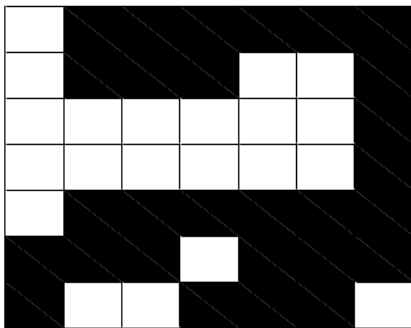
Lecture 6 Decision Theory, Probability Distribution

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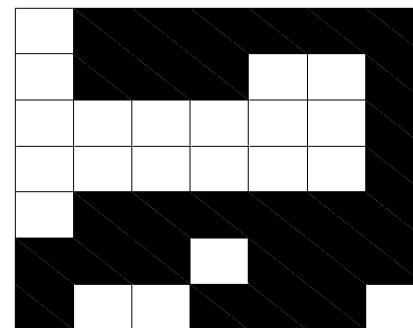
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

*Slides of this course (CSE6363) courtesy: Dr. Heng Huang,
Dr. Aarti Singh, Dr. Tibshirani*

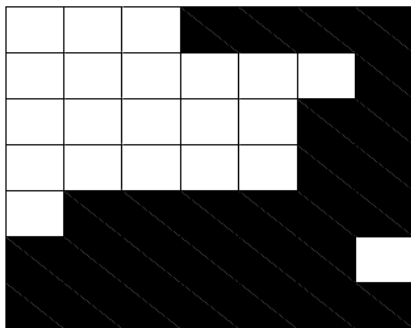
Learning, Biases, Representation



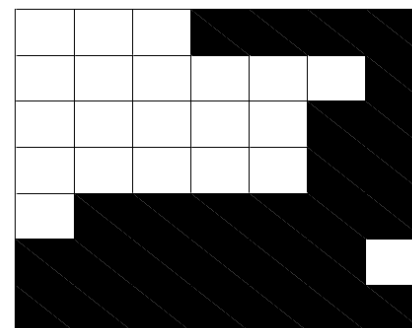
“yes”



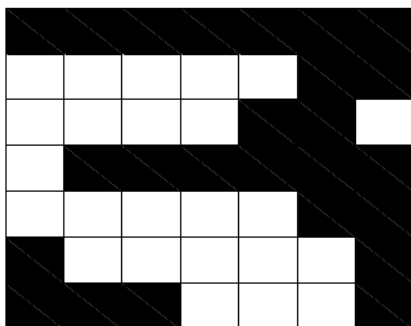
“yes”



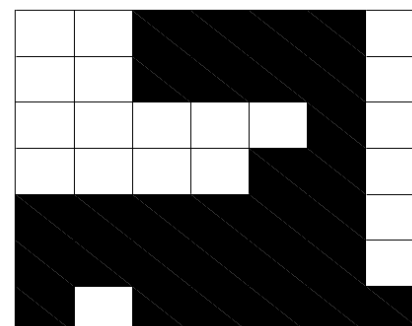
“yes”



“yes”



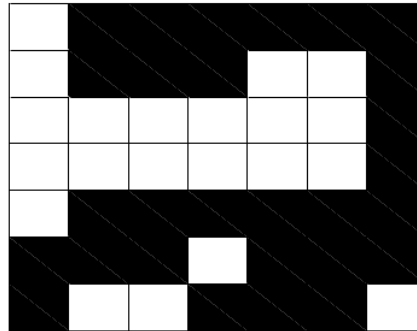
“no”



“no”

Representation

- There are many ways of presenting the same information



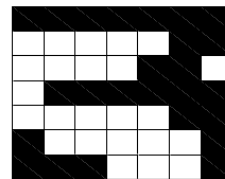
011111100111001000000010000000100111111011101111100
1110111110001

- The choice of representation may determine whether the learning task is very easy or very difficult

Hypothesis Class

- Representation: examples are binary vectors of length $d = 64$

$$\mathbf{x} = [111 \dots 0001]^T =$$



and labels $y \in \{-1, 1\}$ (“no”, “yes”)

- The mapping from examples to labels is a “linear classifier”

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot \mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_d x_d)$$

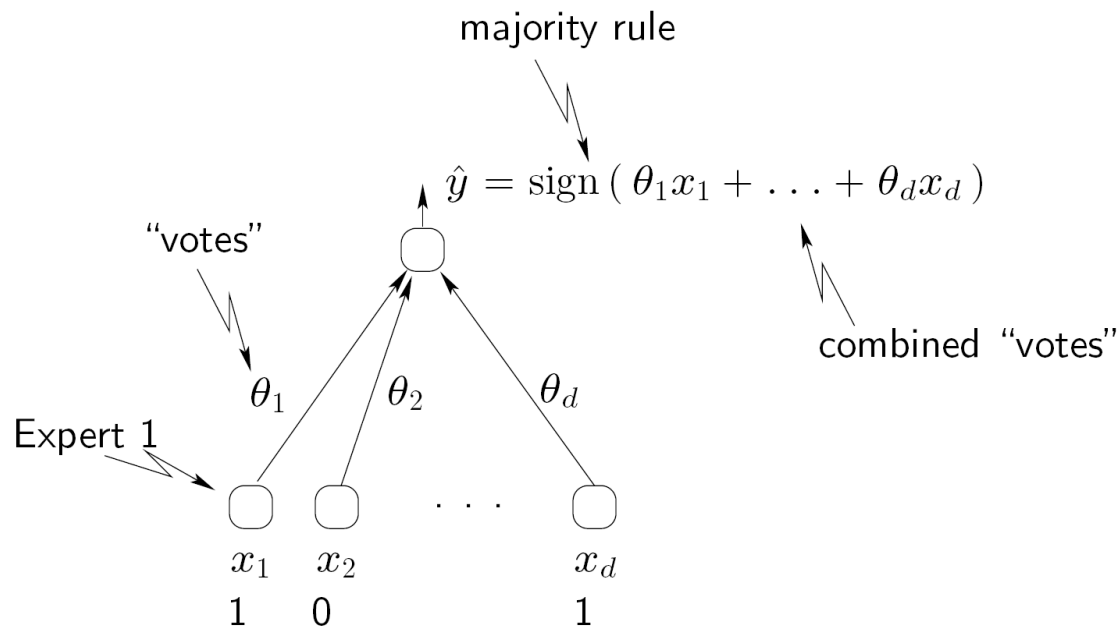
where θ is a vector of *parameters* we have to learn from examples.

Linear Classifier/Experts

- We can understand the simple linear classifier

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot \mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_d x_d)$$

as a way of combining expert opinion (in this case simple binary features)



Estimation

\mathbf{x}	y
01111110011100100000000100000001001111110111011111001110111110001	+1
00011111000000011000001110000011001111110111111001111111100000011	+1
11111110000000110000011000111111000000111100000111110001101111111	-1
...	...

- How do we adjust the parameters θ based on the labeled examples?

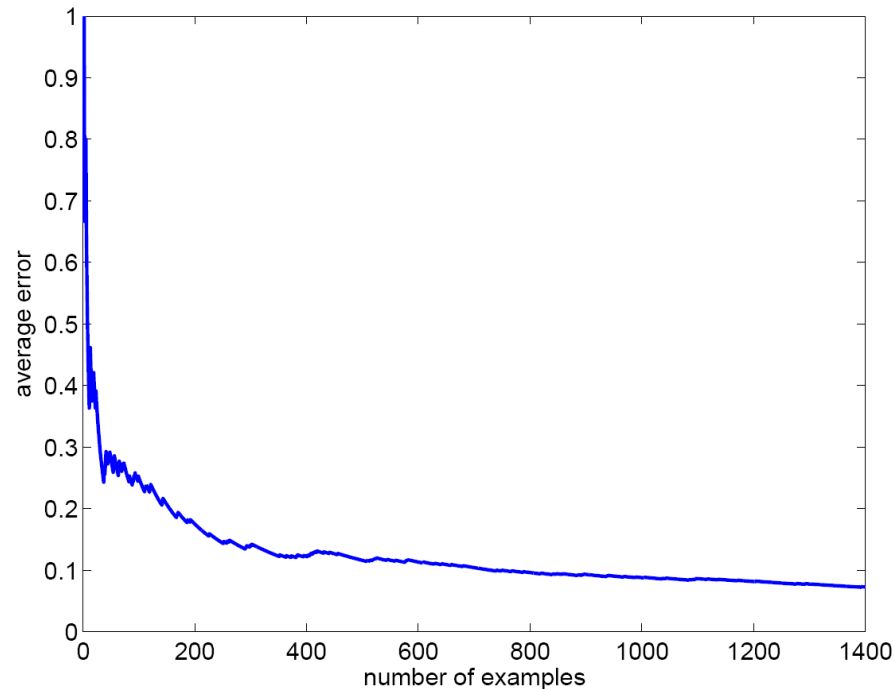
$$\hat{y} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot \mathbf{x})$$

For example, we can simply refine/update the parameters whenever we make a mistake:

$$\theta_i \leftarrow \theta_i + y x_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, d \quad \text{if prediction was wrong}$$

Evaluation

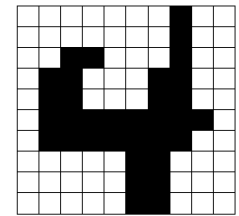
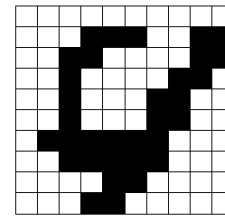
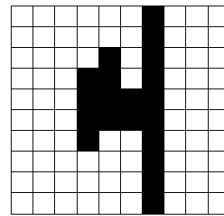
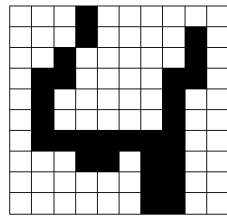
- Does the simple mistake driven algorithm work?



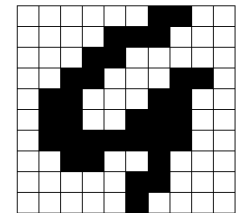
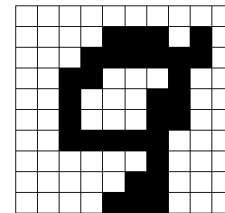
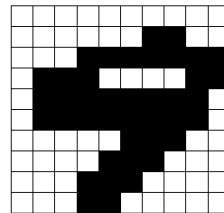
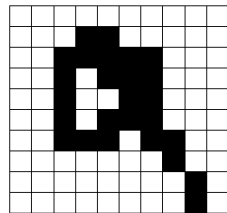
(average classification error as a function of the number of examples and labels seen so far)

Similar Problem

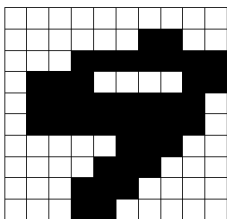
$y = +1$



$y = -1$



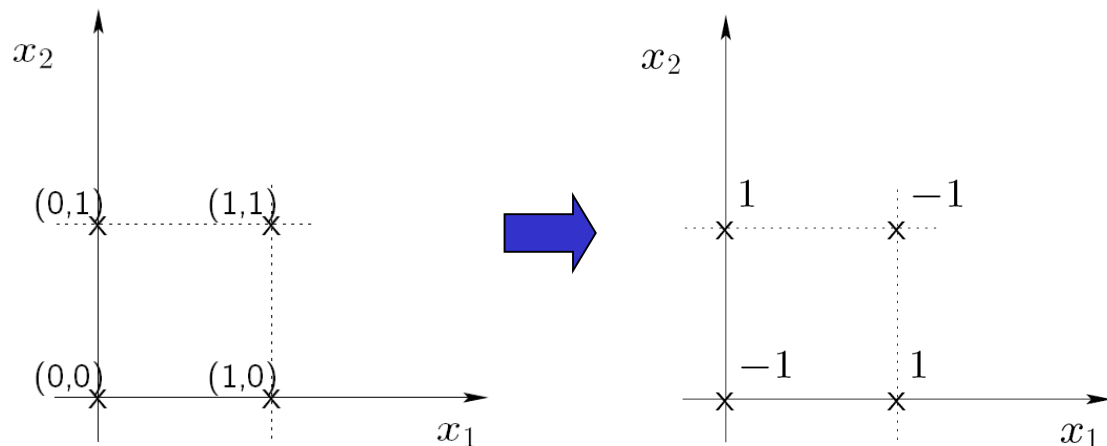
- Representation as a vector:



$$\Rightarrow [0000000000 \ 0000001100 \ 0001111111 \ \dots \ 0001100000]^T$$

Model Selection

- The simple linear classifier cannot solve all the problems (e.g., XOR)

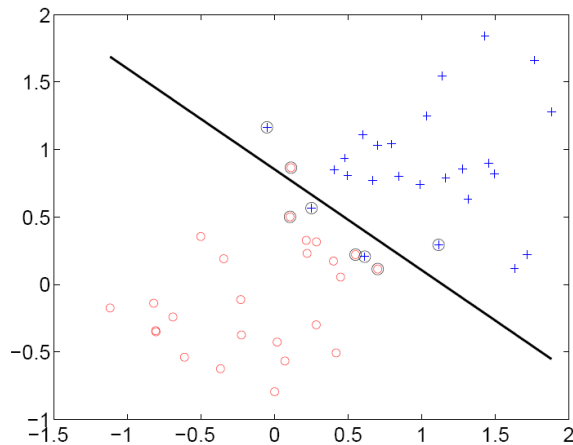


- Can we rethink the approach to do even better?

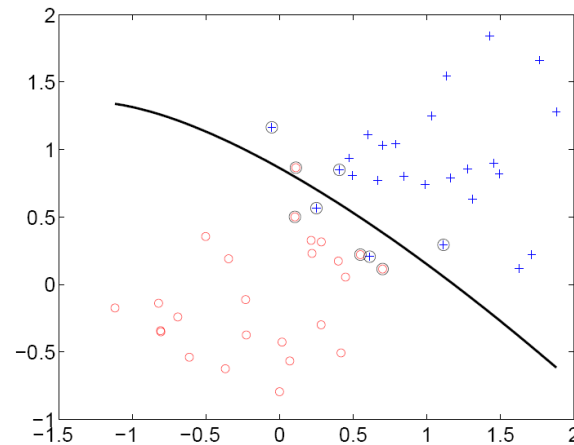
We can, for example, add “polynomial experts”

$$\hat{y} = \text{sign} (\theta_1 x_1 + \dots + \theta_d x_d + \theta_{12} x_1 x_2 + \dots)$$

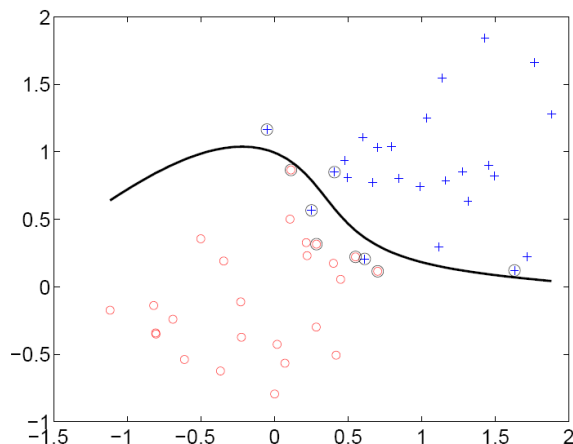
Model Selection (cont.)



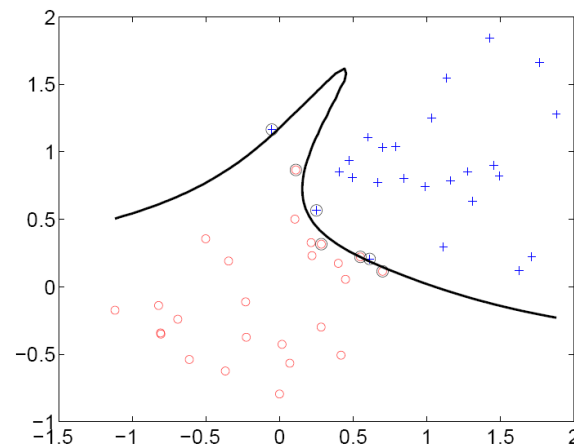
linear



2nd order polynomial



4th order polynomial

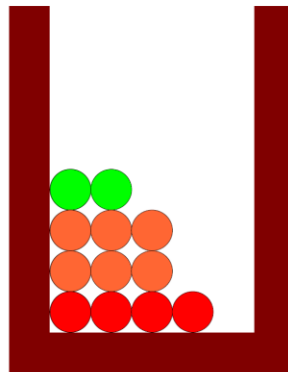


8th order polynomial

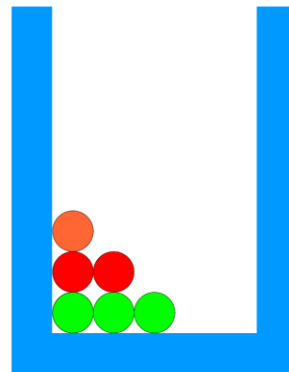
Probability Theory

- Boxes of fruit

● apple
● orange
● strawberry



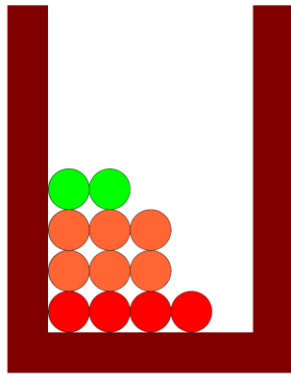
	apples	oranges	strawberries
red jar	2	6	4



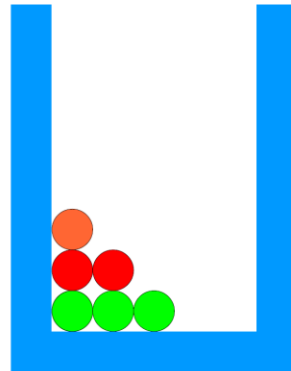
	apples	oranges	strawberries
blue jar	3	1	2

Probabilities of Fruit from a Given Jar

- apple
- orange
- strawberry



	apples	oranges	strawberries	
red jar	$\frac{2}{12}$ = 0.167	$\frac{6}{12}$ = 0.5	$\frac{4}{12}$ = 0.33	sum = 1.0



	apples	oranges	strawberries	
blue jar	$\frac{3}{6}$ = 0.5	$\frac{1}{6}$ = 0.167	$\frac{2}{6}$ = 0.33	sum = 1.0

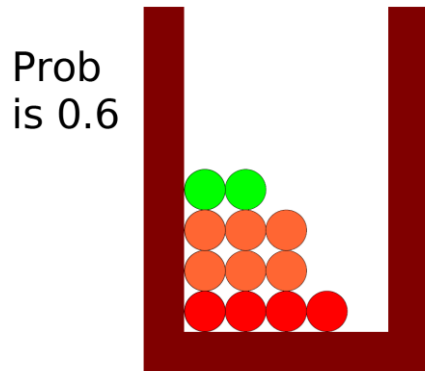
Choose Jar then Draw a Fruit

- apple
- orange
- strawberry

Say the probability of choosing a jar is

$$P(\text{Jar} = \text{red}) = 0.6$$

$$P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue}) = 0.4$$



The probability of choosing the red jar
and drawing an apple out of it is

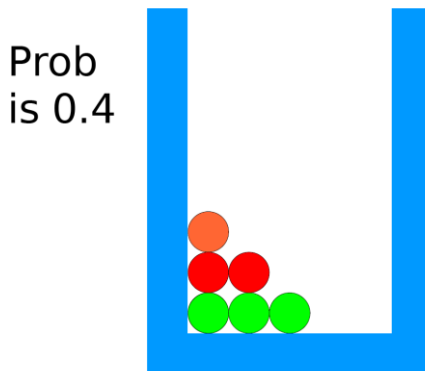
$$P(\text{Jar}=\text{red}, \text{Fruit}=\text{apple})$$

$$= P(\text{Jar}=\text{red}) P(\text{Fruit}=\text{apple}|\text{Jar}=\text{red})$$

$$= 0.6 (0.167) = 0.1$$

*conditional
probability*

Doing all multiplications results in:



	apples	oranges	strawberries	
red jar (P=0.6)	0.6(0.167)	0.6(0.5)	0.6(0.33)	
	= 0.1	= 0.3	= 0.2	sum = 0.6

	apples	oranges	strawberries	
blue jar (P=0.4)	0.4(0.5)	0.4(0.167)	0.4(0.33)	
	= 0.2	= 0.067	= 0.133	sum = 0.4 ³

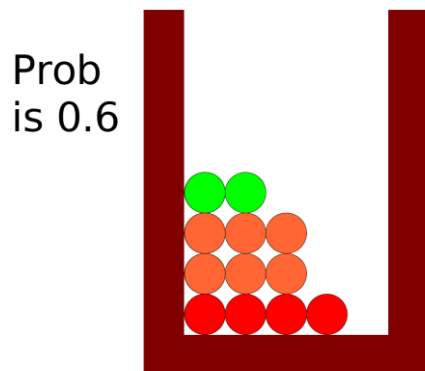
Joint Probability Table

- apple
- orange
- strawberry

Combine in a two-dimensional table to show joint probabilities of two events.

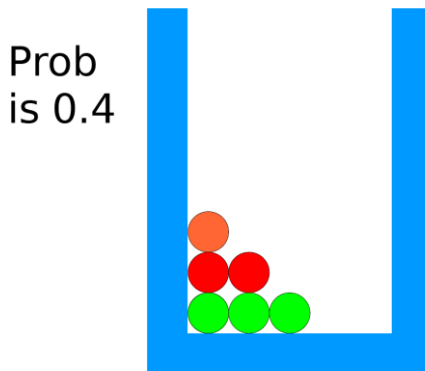
r = red, b = blue

a = apple, o = orange, s = strawberry



		Fruit			
		a	o	s	
Jar	r	0.1	0.3	0.2	$\Sigma = 0.6$
	b	0.2	0.067	0.133	$\Sigma = 0.4$
		$\Sigma = 0.3$	$\Sigma = 0.367$	$\Sigma = 0.333$	$\Sigma = 1.0$

Let J be random variable for Jar, and F be random variable for fruit.



		Fruit			
		a	o	s	
Jar	r	$P(J = r, F = a)$	$P(J = r, F = o)$	$P(J = r, F = s)$	$P(J = r)$
	b	$P(J = b, F = a)$	$P(J = b, F = o)$	$P(J = b, F = s)$	$P(J = b)$
		$P(F = a)$	$P(F = o)$	$P(F = s)$	1.0

Joint Probabilities and Bayes Rule

Just saw example of the *product rule*:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange}, \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) \\ = P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue}) \end{aligned}$$

Since $P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange}, \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) = P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue}, \text{Fruit} = \text{orange})$,

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue}, \text{Fruit}=\text{orange}) \\ = P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue} \mid \text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) P(\text{Fruit} = \text{orange}). \end{aligned}$$

Setting these equal leads to *Bayes Rule*:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue} \mid \text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) P(\text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) \\ = P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue}) \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue} \mid \text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) \\ = P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue}) / P(\text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) \end{aligned}$$

Joint Probabilities and Bayes Rule

On the right hand side of Bayes Rule, all terms are given to us except $P(\text{Fruit} = \text{orange})$:

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue} \mid \text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) \\ = \frac{P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue})}{P(\text{Fruit} = \text{orange})} \end{aligned}$$

We can use the *sum rule* to get this.

$$P(\text{Fruit} = \text{orange}) = \sum_j P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange}, \text{Jar}=j) = 0.367$$

So, Bayes Rule can be rewritten as

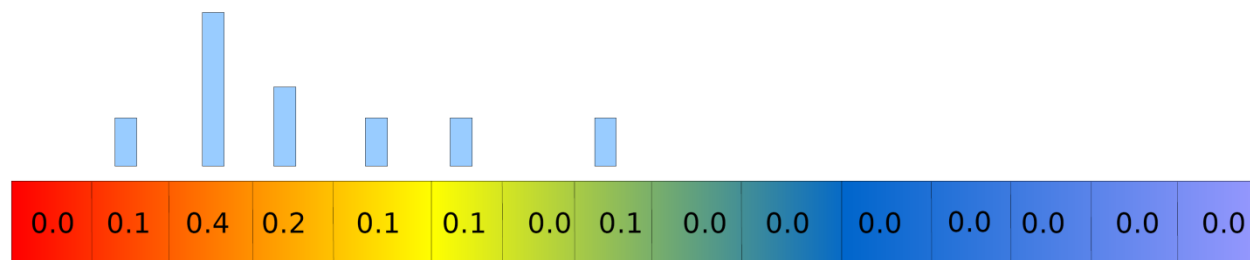
$$P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue} \mid \text{Fruit} = \text{orange})$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue})}{\sum_j P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange}, \text{Jar}=j)} \\ &= \frac{P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar} = \text{blue}) P(\text{Jar} = \text{blue})}{\sum_j P(\text{Fruit}=\text{orange} \mid \text{Jar}=j) P(\text{Jar} = j)} \end{aligned}$$

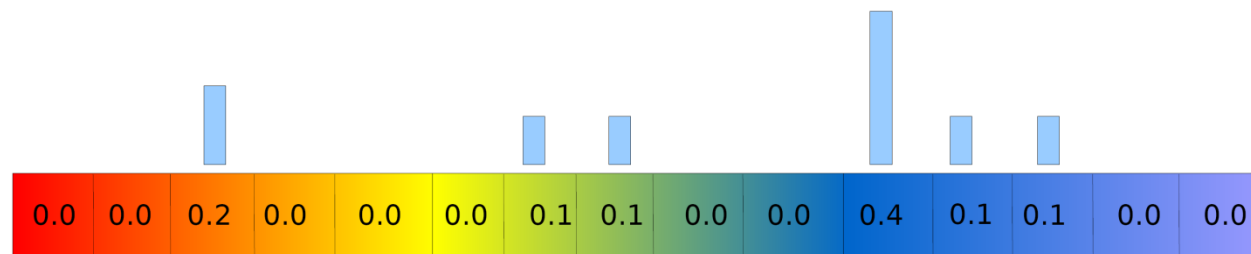
Probability Distributions

- Rather than three colors of fruit, imagine objects of 15 possible colors

Jar 1 contains objects with colors in these proportions



Jar 2 contains objects with colors in these proportions

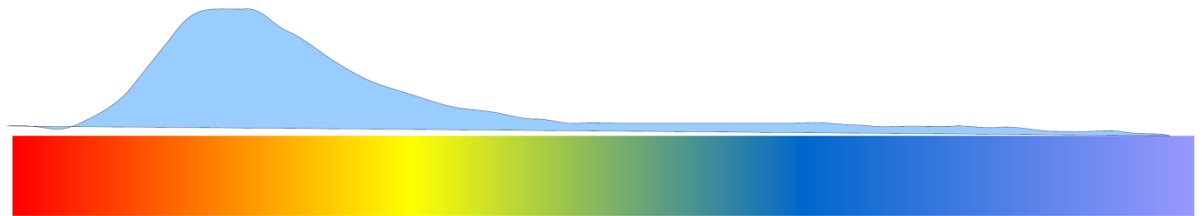


- Can calculate joint probability table as before.
- But what if we have 100 colors or 1000 colors?
- What if we have an infinite number of colors?

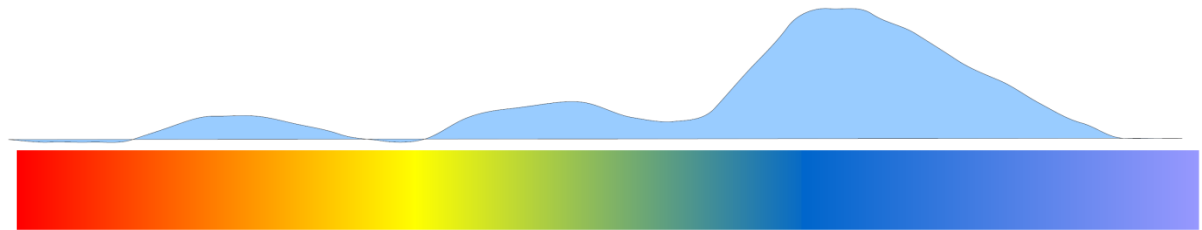
Distributions Over Continuous Values

- Probability of a color is a function over the continuous spectrum.

Jar 1 contains
objects with
colors in these
proportions



Jar 2 contains
objects with
colors in these
proportions

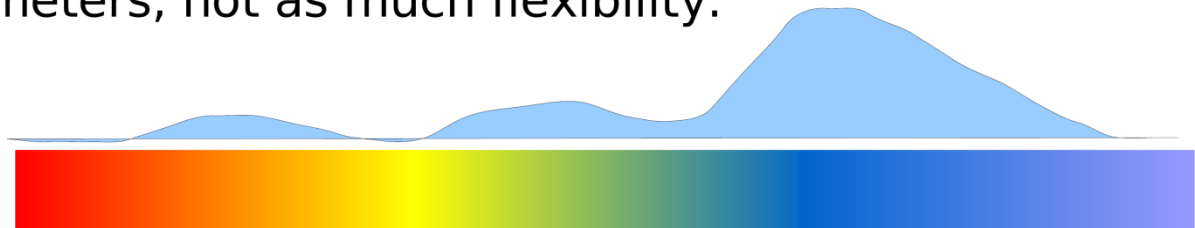


- But what function is this? Would require 1,000s of parameters to specify general function.
- Instead, let's use rather simple functions controlled by a few parameters.
- Common example: Gaussian (Normal) distribution

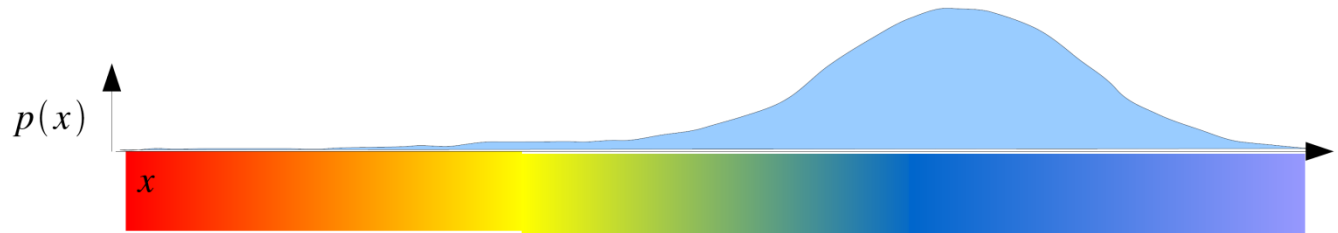
Gaussian Distribution

- With few parameters, not as much flexibility.

Jar 2 distribution



becomes



because

argument parameters

$$p(x; \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2\right)$$

- Easy to estimate parameters.

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2$$

Gaussian Distribution

- Where do these expressions come from?

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2$$

- Maximize the likelihood of the data.
 - Likelihood of data is product of probabilities of each sample x_i

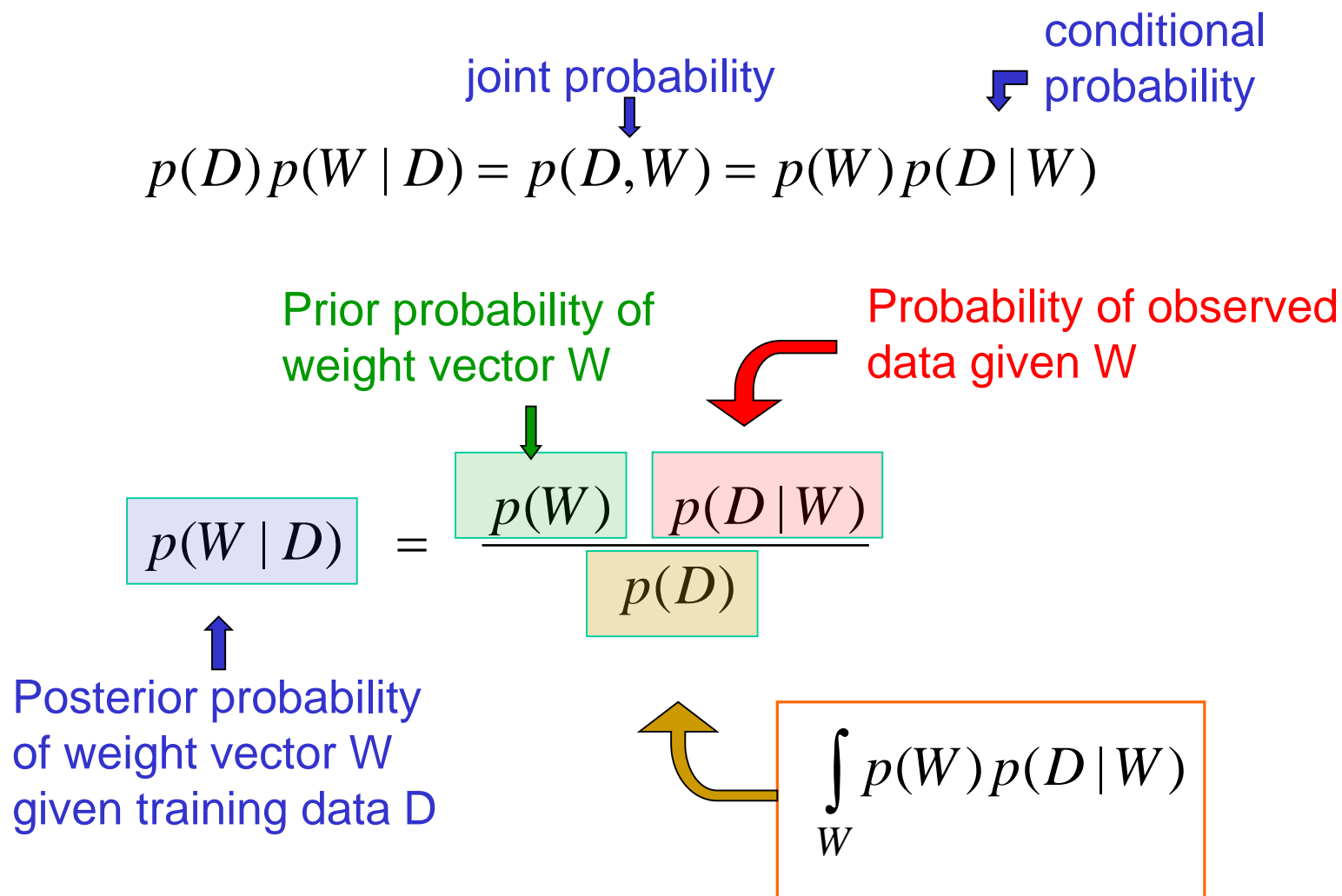
$$p(X|\mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \left[\frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x_i - \mu)^2\right) \right]$$

- Maximize this by maximizing its logarithm.

$$\ln p(X|\mu, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2 - \frac{N}{2} \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi)$$

- Set its derivative with respect to μ to zero and solve for μ .
 - Set its derivative with respect to σ to zero and solve for σ .

Bayes Theorem



Why we maximize sums of log probs

- We want to maximize the **product** of the probabilities of the outputs on the training cases
 - Assume the output errors on different training cases, c , are independent.

$$p(D | W) = \prod_c p(d_c | W)$$

- Because the log function is monotonic, it does not change where the maxima are. So we can maximize **sums** of log probabilities

$$\log p(D | W) = \sum_c \log p(d_c | W)$$

An even cheaper trick

- Suppose we completely ignore the prior over weight vectors
 - This is equivalent to giving all possible weight vectors the same prior probability density.
- Then all we have to do is to maximize:

$$\log p(D | W) = \sum_c \log p(D_c | W)$$

- This is called **maximum likelihood** learning. It is very widely used for fitting models in statistics.

Decision Theory

Probabilities and Bayes' Theorem

- Classify images as the correct digit.
 - Given $p(\text{Image}=i \mid \text{Digit} = d)$, $p(\text{Image} = i)$, and $p(\text{Digit} = d)$.
 - Calculate

$$p(\text{Digit}=d \mid \text{Image}=i) = \frac{p(\text{Image}=i \mid \text{Digit}=d) p(\text{Digit}=d)}{p(\text{Image}=i)}$$

- or, more generally

$$p(\text{Class}=k \mid X=x) = \frac{p(X=x \mid \text{Class}=k) p(\text{Class}=k)}{p(X=x)}$$

- or, more concisely

$$p(C_k \mid x) = \frac{p(x \mid C_k) p(C_k)}{p(x)}$$

- To classify x ,

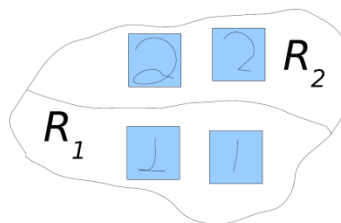
$$\operatorname{argmax}_{C_k} p(C_k \mid x) \quad \text{for example, } \operatorname{argmax}_{C_k} p(\text{Digit}=d \mid \text{Image}=i)$$

- We get to this by first defining measure of decision accuracy.

Decision Theory

Decision Regions and Measures of Accuracy

- Decision regions



$$\begin{aligned} p(\text{mistake}) &= p(x \in R_1, \text{Digit} = 2) + p(x \in R_2, \text{Digit} = 1) \\ &= p(x \in R_1, C_2) + p(x \in R_2, C_1) \end{aligned}$$

- If x is discrete
$$= \sum_{x \in R_1} p(x, C_2) + \sum_{x \in R_2} p(x, C_1)$$
- If x is continuous
$$= \int_{R_1} p(x, C_2) dx + \int_{R_2} p(x, C_1) dx$$

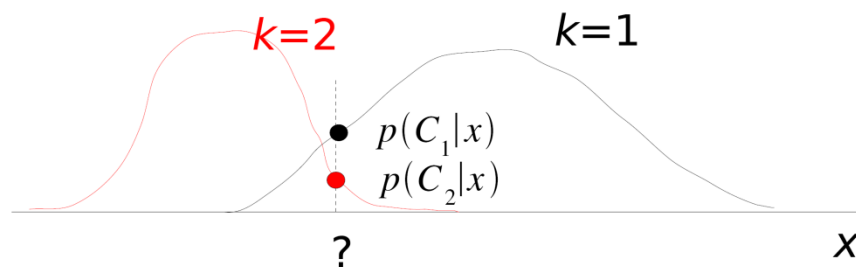
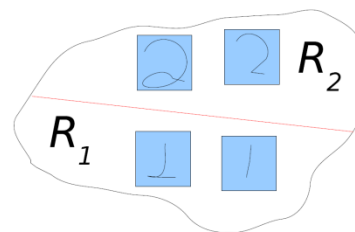
- Make assignment of x to R_k to minimize $p(\text{mistake})$, or to maximize $p(\text{correct})$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\text{correct}) &= p(x \in R_1, C_1) + p(x \in R_2, C_2) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K p(x \in R_k, C_k) = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{x \in R_k} p(x, C_k) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K \int_{R_k} p(x, C_k) \end{aligned}$$

Decision Theory

Decision Regions and Measures of Accuracy

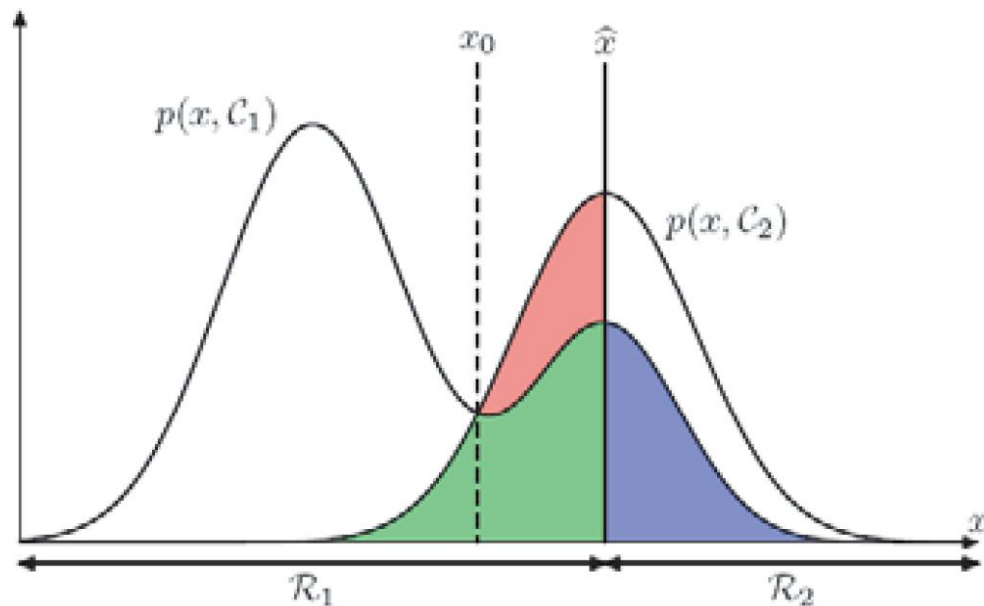
- which, by Bayes' theorem $\sum_{k=1}^K \int_{R_k} p(x, C_k) = \sum_{k=1}^K \int_{R_k} p(C_k | x) p(x)$
- Maximize by constructing R_1, \dots, R_K as best you can.
- If separating by straight lines
- Each x is assigned to an R_i .
- Since $p(x)$ is same for all k , regions resulting from maximizing $p(\text{correct})$ same as regions resulting from maximizing $\sum_{k=1}^K \int_{R_k} p(C_k | x)$
- If x is one-dimensional, and we model $p(C_k | x)$ as Gaussian, then



Class 1, because $p(C_1 | x) > p(C_2 | x)$

Example

- e.g., the optimal decision threshold is when $\hat{x} = x_0$



Decision Theory

Decision Regions and Measures of Accuracy

- So far we assumed each missclassification is equally bad, or each correct classification is equally good.
- But, predictions of whether or not a particular space shuttle launch given all known current conditions will result in damage from loose tiles are not equally risky.
 - incorrect prediction of damage (no launch) is better than incorrect prediction of no damage (launch, damage)!

- Define a loss matrix L_{kj}

		Predicted	
		damage	no damage
True	damage	0	10,000
	no damage	10	0

- or, utility matrix

		Predicted	
		damage	no damage
True	damage	100	-10000
	no damage	-10	100

Decision Theory

Measures of Accuracy

- If we classify x as Class j our loss will be $\sum_{k=1}^K L_{kj} p(x, C_k)$
- Call this **expected value of loss**, given x classified as Class j .
- Given all x 's and a classification scheme that partitions the x space into regions R_1, \dots, R_K , the overall expected loss is

$$E[L] = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^K \int_{R_j} L_{kj} p(x, C_k) dx$$

- By Bayes' theorem, to minimize $E[L]$ we would assign x to Class j that minimizes

$$\sum_{k=1}^K L_{kj} p(C_k | x)$$

- Would classify current shuttle condition as “damage” much more often than “no damage” because of

		Predicted	
		damage	no damage
True	damage	0	10,000
	no damage	10	0

Decision Theory

Three ways of making classification decision

- Generative model
 - Learn class-conditional probability (generative model) $p(x|C_k)$
 - Use Bayes' Theorem to convert to $p(C_k|x)$
 - Use decision theory to minimize loss
- Discriminative model
 - Learn posterior class probability (discriminative model) $p(C_k|x)$
 - Use decision theory to minimize loss
- Discriminant function
 - Learn discriminant function $f(x)$ that calculates a class directly. Probabilities not involved.
- Advantages and disadvantages of each, in Section 1.5.4.

Information Theory

- Useful to have measure $h(x)$ of how much information is provided by an event, x . We would like it to reflect how “surprising” the event is, so it should be related monotonically to probability $p(x)$.
- If two events x and y are unrelated, total information gained should be sum of each

Information Content of A Random Variable

- Random variable X
 - Outcome of a random experiment
 - Discrete R.V. takes on values from a finite set of possible outcomes
- How much information is contained in the event $X = y$?
 - Will the sun rise today?
 - Revealing the outcome of this experiment provides no information
 - Will the Maverick win the NBA championship?
 - Since this is unlikely, revealing yes provides more information than revealing no
- Events that are less likely contain more information than likely events

Entropy

The **entropy** of a random variable X with a probability mass function $p(x)$ is defined by

$$H(X) = - \sum_x p(x) \log_2 p(x).$$

The entropy is measured in bits and is a measure of the average uncertainty in the random variable. It is the number of bits on the average required to describe the random variable.

We write $\log x := \log_2 x$ in the sequel.

Example: Variable with Uniform Distribution

Consider a random variable with uniform distribution over 32 ($= 2^5$) outcomes. Obviously, 5-bit strings suffice to identify an outcome. The entropy is

$$H(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^{32} p(i) \log p(i) = - \sum_{i=1}^{32} \frac{1}{32} \log \frac{1}{32} = \log 32 = 5 \text{ bits},$$

which agrees with the number of bits needed to describe X .

Example: Variable with Nonuniform

Assume that the probabilities of winning for eight horses taking part in a horse race are $\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{16}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{64}, \frac{1}{64}\}$. The entropy of this distribution (that is, of the horse race) is then

$$H(X) = -\frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \log \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{8} \log \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{16} \log \frac{1}{16} - 4 \frac{1}{64} \log \frac{1}{64} = 2 \text{ bits.}$$

To send a message indicating the winner of the race, one can send the index of the winning horse (000, ..., 111); this requires 3 bits for any of the horses. But there is another (better) description.

Example: Variable with Nonuniform

As the win probabilities are not uniform, it makes sense to use shorter descriptions for the more probable horses, and longer descriptions for the less probable ones. For example, the following strings can be used to represent the eight horses:

0, 10, 110, 1110, 111100, 111101, 111110, 111111.

The average description length is then 2 bits (=entropy).

- ▷ The entropy gives a lower bound for the average description length.