

# Week6 - Probabilistic view of classification: Discriminative v.s. Generative classifiers

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## 1. Probabilistic Generative classifiers

Generative approach model the the class-conditional densities  $p(\mathbf{x}|C_k)$  and the class prior  $p(C_k)$ , then use these to compute posterior probabilities  $p(C_k|\mathbf{x})$  through Bayes' theorem.

$$p(C_k|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|C_k) \cdot p(C_k)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$$

Note that If we calculate  $p(C_k|\mathbf{x})$  in order to make prediction, we don't need to actually calculate the denominator  $p(\mathbf{x})$ .

$$\arg \max_{C_k} p(C_k|\mathbf{x}) = \arg \max_{C_k} p(C_k|\mathbf{w}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|C_k) \cdot p(C_k)}{p(\mathbf{x})} = \arg \max_{C_k} p(\mathbf{x}|C_k) \cdot p(C_k)$$

Hence, the model used for classification problem via Bayes' rule is also call **Bayes classifier**.

### Class-Conditional Probability Density Function (PDF)

Class-Conditional Probability Density Function (PDF) is the probability of  $x$  given that the state of nature of  $C_k$ , which indicates how much probability will be for  $\mathbf{x}$  belonging to class  $C_k$ .

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### Univariate Inputs (Binary class problem)

- **Assumption:** Generative learning model assuming that class-conditional PDF  $p(x|C_k)$  is distributed according to a **normal (Gaussian) distribution**. ( **Gaussian Bayes classifier**)

$$p(x|C_k) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{C_k} \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left( -\frac{(x - \mu_{C_k})^2}{2\sigma_{C_k}^2} \right)$$

where parameters:  $\mu_{C_k}, \sigma_{C_k}^2$  is the distribution mean and variance of class  $C_k$

- Step by step
  - Estimate the model parameters  $\{(\mu_{C_1}, \sigma_{C_1}^2), (\mu_{C_2}, \sigma_{C_2}^2)\}$ 
    - Divide the training set  $D$  into two class:  $D_1$  for class  $C_1$  and  $D_2$  for class  $C_2$
    - For each class  $C_k$ , we fit a Gaussian to model  $p(x|C_k)$  on class  $C_k$ .
  - Using **Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)** for a Gaussian

$$p(\mathbf{x}|C_k) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(\mathbf{x}_n|C_k) = \prod_{n=1}^N \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma_{C_k} \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left( -\frac{(x - \mu_{C_k})^2}{2\sigma_{C_k}^2} \right) \right\}$$

- Minimise the negative logarithm of the class-conditional PDF:

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = -\ln p(\mathbf{x}|C_k) = - \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma_{C_k} \sqrt{2\pi}} \right\} + \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ -\frac{(x - \mu_{C_k})^2}{2\sigma_{C_k}^2} \right\} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^N \ln(\sigma_{C_k} \sqrt{2\pi}) + \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ \frac{(x - \mu_{C_k})^2}{2\sigma_{C_k}^2} \right\}$$

Partial differentiate with respect to  $\mu_{C_k}$  and  $\sigma_{C_k}^2$ , respectively. let the derivatives equal to zero:

$$\frac{\partial(-\ln p(x|C_k))}{\partial \mu_{C_k}} = 0 \Rightarrow \mu_{C_k} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

$$\frac{\partial(-\ln p(x|C_k))}{\partial \sigma_{C_k}^2} = 0 \Rightarrow \sigma_{C_k}^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n - \mu_{C_k})^2$$

◦ Note:  $p(x|C_k) \approx p(x|\mu_{C_k}, \sigma_{C_k}^2)$

• **Prediction rule:**  $p(C_1|x) > p(C_2|x) \Rightarrow p(x|C_1)p(C_1) > p(x|C_2)p(C_2)$

◦ Class prior  $p(C_k)$ :

$$p = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N 1}{N} \text{ (If } t_n = C_k \text{)}$$

$$p(C) = \begin{cases} p & C = C_k \\ 1 - p & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

using Bernoulli distribution:  $p(C_k) = p^{C_k} (1 - p)^{1-C_k}$

• Summary:

◦ Given the training set  $D$ , learn the parameters to fully specify the joint distribution  $p(\mathbf{x}, C_k)$

◦ Model parameters:  $\mathbf{w} = (p, \{\mu_{C_k}\}, \{\sigma_{C_k}^2\})$

◦ Likelihood function of the joint distribution for each class  $C_k$

$$\prod_{n=1}^N p(x_n, \{C_k, \mu_{C_k}, \sigma_{C_k}^2, p\}) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(x_n|C_k, \mu_{C_k}, \sigma_{C_k}^2) p(C_k, p)$$

▪  $p(x_n|C_k, \mu_{C_k}, \sigma_{C_k}^2)$ : use MLE to find  $\mu_{C_k}$  and  $\sigma_{C_k}^2$ , then calculate

▪  $p(C_k, p)$ : count the data point to find  $p$ , then use Bernoulli distribution to find  $p(C_k)$

## Multivariate Inputs (Binary class problem)

• **Assumption:** assume that class-conditional PDF  $p(\mathbf{x}|C_k)$  is distributed according to a **Multivariate normal (Gaussian) distribution**.

$$p(\mathbf{x}|C_k) \approx p(\mathbf{x}|\mu_{C_k}, \Sigma) \frac{1}{|\Sigma|^{1/2} (2\pi)^{D/2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \mu_{C_k})^T \cdot |\Sigma|^{-1} \cdot (\mathbf{x} - \mu_{C_k}) \right)$$

◦  $\mathbf{x}$ : a vector-valued random variable  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_D)^T$ . ( $D \times 1$  column vector)

◦  $\mu_{C_k}$ :  $D$ -dimensional mean vector ( $D \times 1$ ) for class  $C_k$

◦  $\Sigma$ :  $D \times D$  covariance matrix,  $|\Sigma|$  is the determinant of  $\Sigma$ .

◦ Each class has a different  $\mu_{C_k}$ , but all share the same  $\Sigma$ .

• **Logistic sigmoid:** a 'squashing function' maps the whole real axis into a finite interval.

$$\sigma(a) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-a)}$$

we can make use of the property of logistic sigmoid to model the posterior probability for class  $C_k$ .

- For **real-valued**  $x$ :

$$p(C_1|x) = \frac{p(x|C_1) \cdot p(C_1)}{p(x|C_1) \cdot p(C_1) + p(x|C_2) \cdot p(C_2)} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-a)}$$

where:

$$a = \ln \frac{p(x|C_1) \cdot p(C_1)}{p(x|C_2) \cdot p(C_2)} \text{ (the log odds)}$$

- Then, **for vector**  $\mathbf{x}$  :

$$p(C_1|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-a)} = \sigma(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + w_0)$$

where:

$$\mathbf{w} = \Sigma^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{C_1} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{C_2})$$

$$w_0 = -\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\mu}_{C_1}^T \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{C_1} + \frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\mu}_{C_2}^T \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{C_2} + \ln \frac{p(C_1)}{p(C_2)}$$

- Step by step:

Given training example  $\{\mathbf{x}_n, t_n\}_{n=1, \dots, N}$  with  $t_n \in \{0, 1\}$ . ( $t_n=1$  if  $\mathbf{x}_n$  is in class  $C_1$ )

- Calculate class prior:

$$p = \frac{N_1}{N_1 + N_2}$$

- Calculate the mean vector:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{N_1} \sum_{n=1}^N t_n \mathbf{x}_n$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{N_2} \sum_{n=1}^N (1 - t_n) \mathbf{x}_n$$

- Calculate the variance vector:

$$\mathbf{S}_1 = \frac{1}{N_1} \sum_{n \in C_1} (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1)^T (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1)$$

$$\mathbf{S}_2 = \frac{1}{N_2} \sum_{n \in C_2} (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^T (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)$$

- The covariance:

$$\Sigma = \frac{N_1}{N} \mathbf{S}_1 + \frac{N_2}{N} \mathbf{S}_2$$

- Plug the Gaussian class densities into the variable  $a$

$$a = \mathbf{w} \mathbf{x} + w_0$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1) + \ln \frac{p(C_1)}{p(C_2)}$$

Note that  $a$  **takes a simple linear form**, which means the induced **decision boundary is linear**.

- Summary

- Likelihood function of the joint distribution for all the data points: Bernoulli distribution

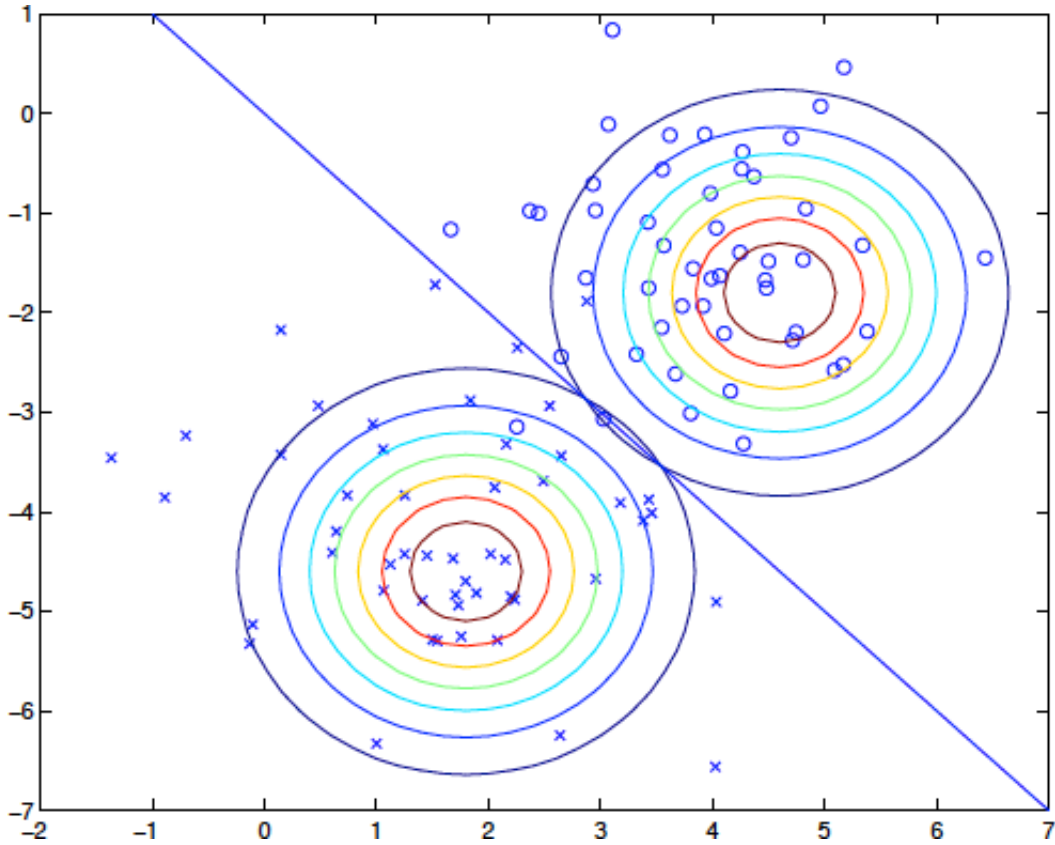
$$\prod_{n=1}^N [p \cdot p(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})]^{t_n} [(1-p) \cdot p(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})]^{1-t_n}$$

- Error function: the log-likelihood function

$$\ell(\mathbf{x}_n, \mu_1, \mu_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \log \{ \text{likelihood} \}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^N \{ t_n \cdot \ln[p \cdot p(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})]^{t_n} + (1-t_n) \cdot \ln[(1-p) \cdot p(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})]^{1-t_n} \}$$

- **Visualization:**



- **Prediction Rule:**

- Compare the posterior:  $p(C_1 | \mathbf{x}) > p(C_2 | \mathbf{x}) \Rightarrow p(\mathbf{x} | C_1)p(C_1) > p(\mathbf{x} | C_2)p(C_2)$
- Or:  $a = \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x} | C_1) \cdot p(C_1)}{p(\mathbf{x} | C_2) \cdot p(C_2)}$ , if  $a > 0$  then predict class  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  otherwise.

## 2. Probabilistic Discriminative Model: Logistic Regression

- Directly model the prediction of target variable  $y$  on input  $x$  as a conditional probability  $p(y|x)$ .
- Compare with non-probabilistic linear regression
  - Map input to a continuous target value:  $\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}$
  - The continuous target value is constrained to  $[0, 1]$  by applying logistic function as the activation function:  $\sigma(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x})$

- Error function:

$$\ell(\mathbf{w}) = \log \{ \text{likelihood} \} = \log \prod_{n=1}^N y_n^{t_n} (1 - y_n)^{1-t_n}$$

where:

- $y(\mathbf{x}) = p(C_1 | \mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x})$

- Optimising the likelihood by using MLE:

$$\nabla \ell(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{\partial \ell(\mathbf{w})}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^N (t_n - \sigma(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x})) \mathbf{x} = 0$$

**No analytical solution** → **Iterative algorithm**

- Gradient of the error function of  $\mathbf{w}_n$ :

$$\ell(\mathbf{w}_n) = \log \{ \text{likelihood} \} = \log y_n^{t_n} (1 - y_n)^{1-t_n} = t_n \log y_n + (1 - t_n) \log(1 - y_n)$$

$$(1) \frac{\partial \ell(\mathbf{w}_n)}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \frac{t_n}{y_n} \cdot \frac{\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}} + \frac{1 - t_n}{1 - y_n} \cdot \frac{-\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \cdot \left( \frac{t_n}{y_n} - \frac{1 - t_n}{1 - y_n} \right) = \frac{\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \cdot \frac{t_n - y_n}{y_n(1 - y_n)}$$

$$(2) \text{ let } u = -\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}, \quad y_n = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(u)}$$

$$\frac{\partial y_n}{\partial u} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \exp(u)} \right) = -\frac{\exp(u)}{(1 + \exp(u))^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \frac{\partial y_n}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = -\frac{\exp(u)}{(1 + \exp(u))^2} \cdot (-\mathbf{x})$$

$$(3) \frac{\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \exp(u)} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = -\frac{\exp(u)}{(1 + \exp(u))^2} \cdot (-\mathbf{x}) = y_n(1 - y_n) \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

Hence:

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\mathbf{w}_n)}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \frac{\partial y_n}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \cdot (t_n - y_n) = y_n(1 - y_n) \cdot \mathbf{x} \cdot (t_n - y_n)$$

$$= y_n \cdot (1 - y_n) \cdot (-\mathbf{x}) \cdot \frac{t_n - y_n}{y_n(1 - y_n)}$$

$$= -(t_n - y_n) \cdot \mathbf{x}$$

- Using Gradient descent: **SGD**

$$\nabla \ell(\mathbf{w}) = -\eta(t_n - y(\mathbf{w})) \mathbf{x}_n$$

$$\mathbf{w}^{(t+1)} := \mathbf{w}^{(t)} + \eta^{(t)}(t_n - y_n) \mathbf{x}_n$$

Pseudocode:

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Initialise the parameters to zero
While {E(w_new) - E(w_old)} > epsilon
do {
    for each training data point {x_n, t_n}
        update w
    }

```

- Advantages

- Quick to train and Faster than probabilistic generative model in classification with Good accuracy.
- Resistant to overfitting
- Model parameters can be used as indicators for feature importance