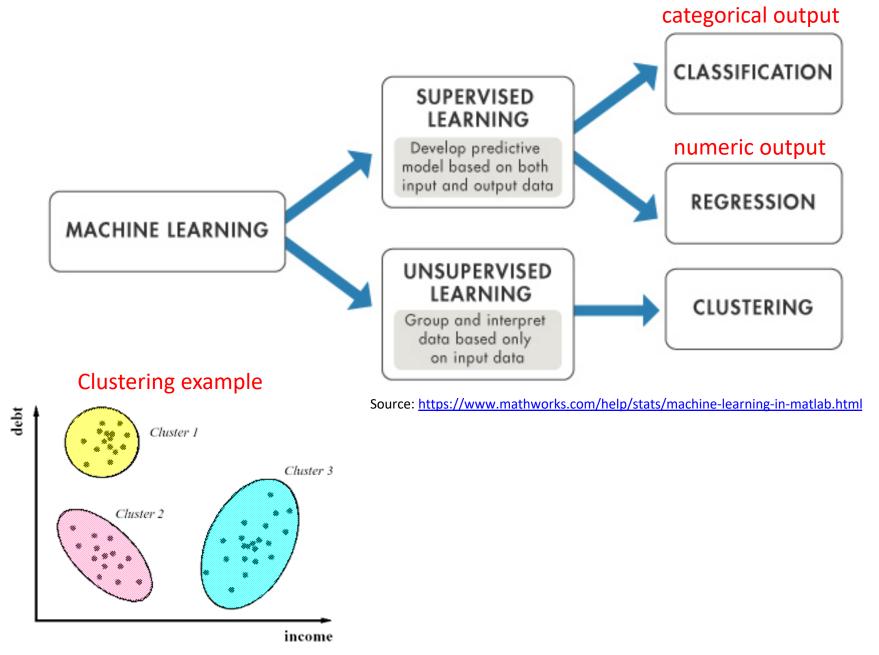
Classification Overview

Garrett Dancik, PhD

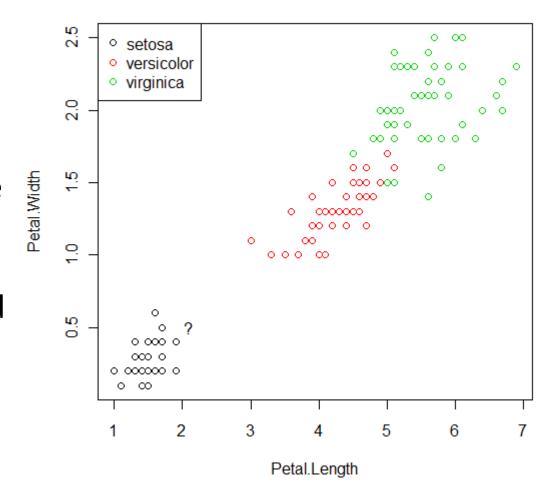


Classification Methods

- Objective: Identify the class (category/label) of an individual (e.g., male or female) based on observed features (e.g., height, weight, etc)
- Classes: $c_1, c_2, ..., c_m$ Features: $x_1, ..., x_k$
- General Procedure
 - Train the classifier: Using a *training* data set, determine the mapping function $f(x) \rightarrow c$
 - Validation: assess the accuracy of the classifier by applying it to a *test* data set with known classes

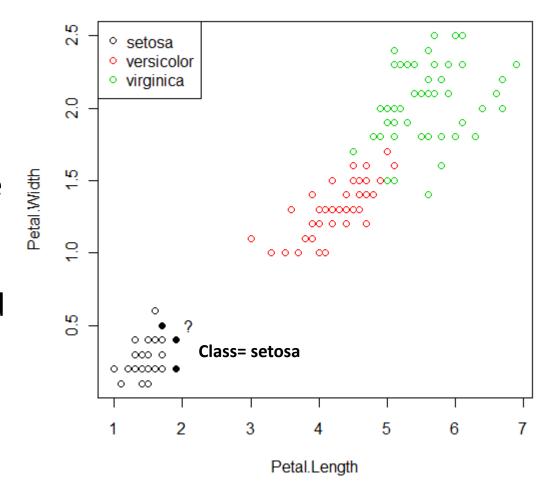
Classification Methods: K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)

- For a test
 observation A,
 find the distance
 between A and
 every other
 observation in the
 feature space
- Classify the test observation based on the votes of its K nearest neighbors



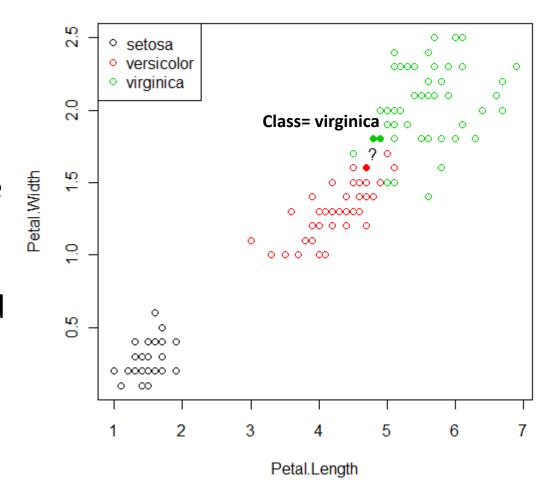
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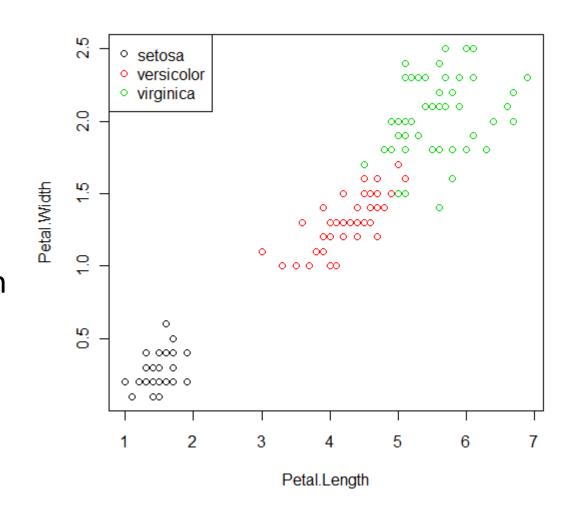


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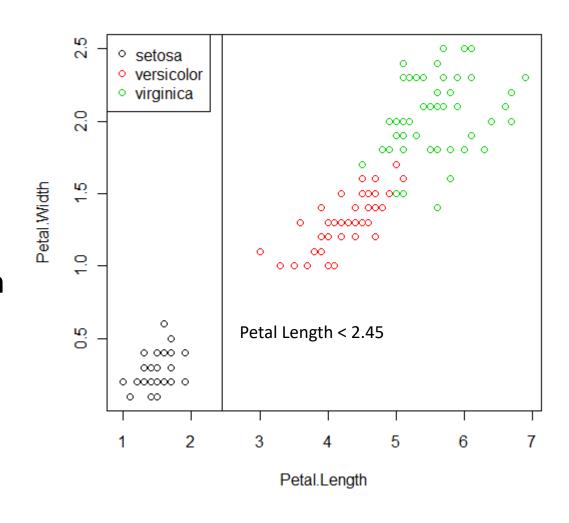
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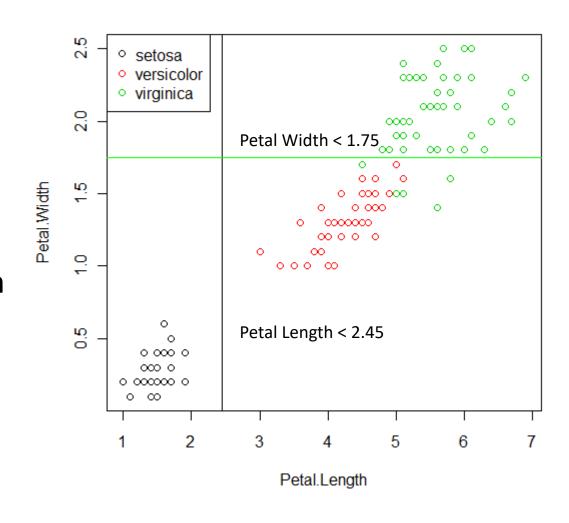
- Create a node by splitting the data according to a feature that optimally splits the data
- Repeat on data subsets until a stopping criterion is met
- Each leaf corresponds to a class

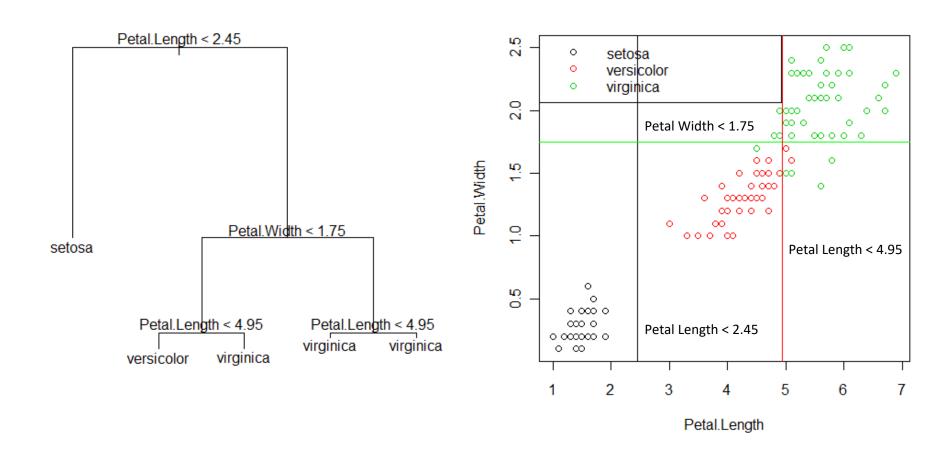


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Note: DT are known to overfit data. However more rubust methods such as Random Forests can be used

Classification Methods: Naïve Bayes (NB)

Based on Bayes' theorem that relates conditional probabilities

$$p(C|x_1, ..., x_n) \propto p(x_1, ..., x_n|C)$$

 Naïve Bayes assumes independence of features, so that

$$p(x_1, ..., x_n | C) = p(x_1 | C) \times \cdots \times p(x_n | C) p(C)$$

For quantitative features, calculate by treating

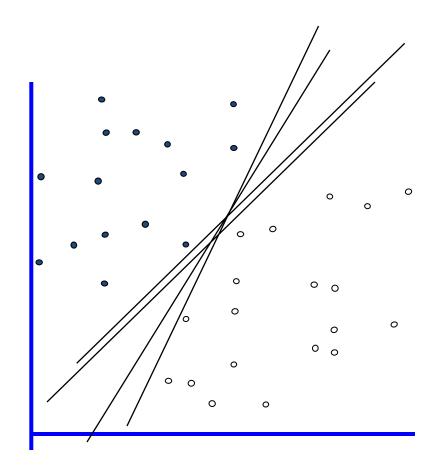
$$p(x|C) \sim N(\mu_x, \sigma_x)$$

Select the class C that maximizes

$$p(C|x_1,...,x_n) \propto p(x_1|C) \times \cdots \times p(x_n|C)p(C)$$

Classification Methods: Support Vector Machines (SVM)

- Find the optimum hyperplane that linearly separates the classes
- If classes are not linearly separable, map the data into a higher dimensional space through the use of a kernel function



Classification Methods: Support Vector Machines (SVM)

