

# Classification Methods

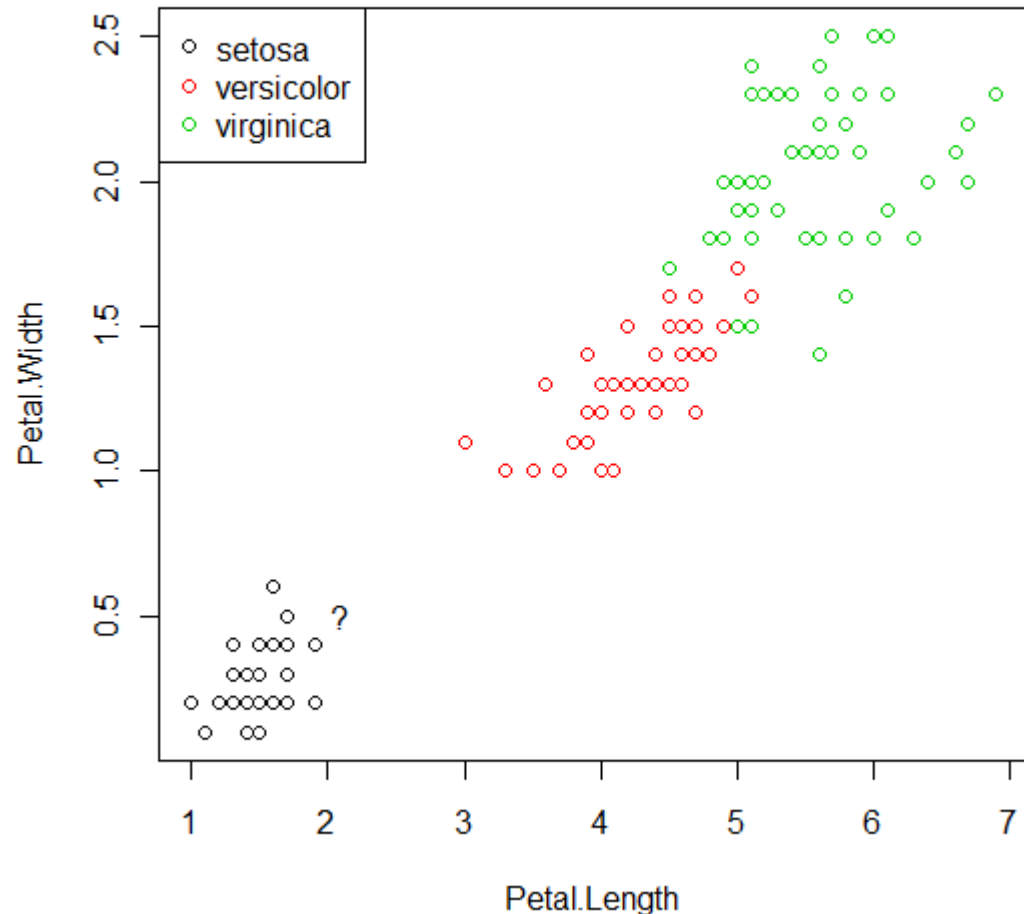
Garrett Dancik, PhD

# Classification Methods

- Objective: Identify the class of an individual (e.g., male or female) based on observed features (e.g., gene expression levels)
- Classes:  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m$                       Features:  $x_1, \dots, x_k$
- 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
    - Independent validation
    - Leave one out cross validation
    - K-fold cross validation
  - Classification / prediction of target data set

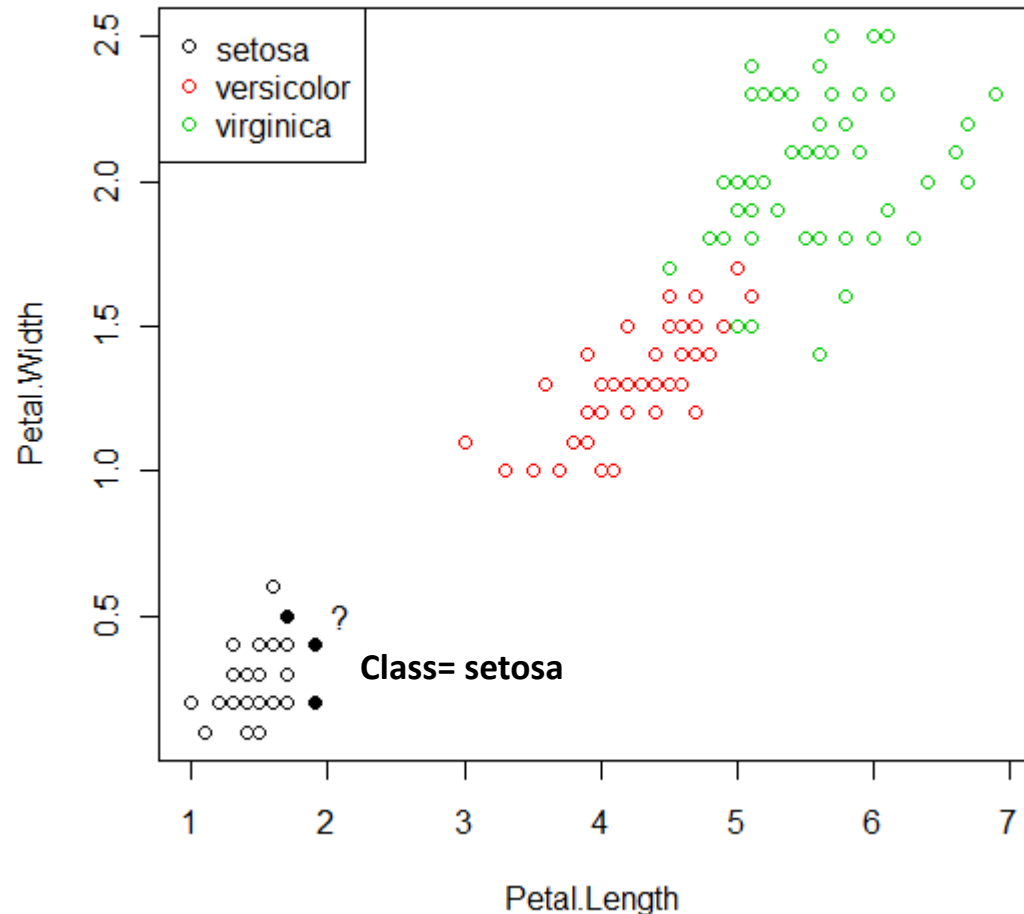
# Classification Methods: K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)

- 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



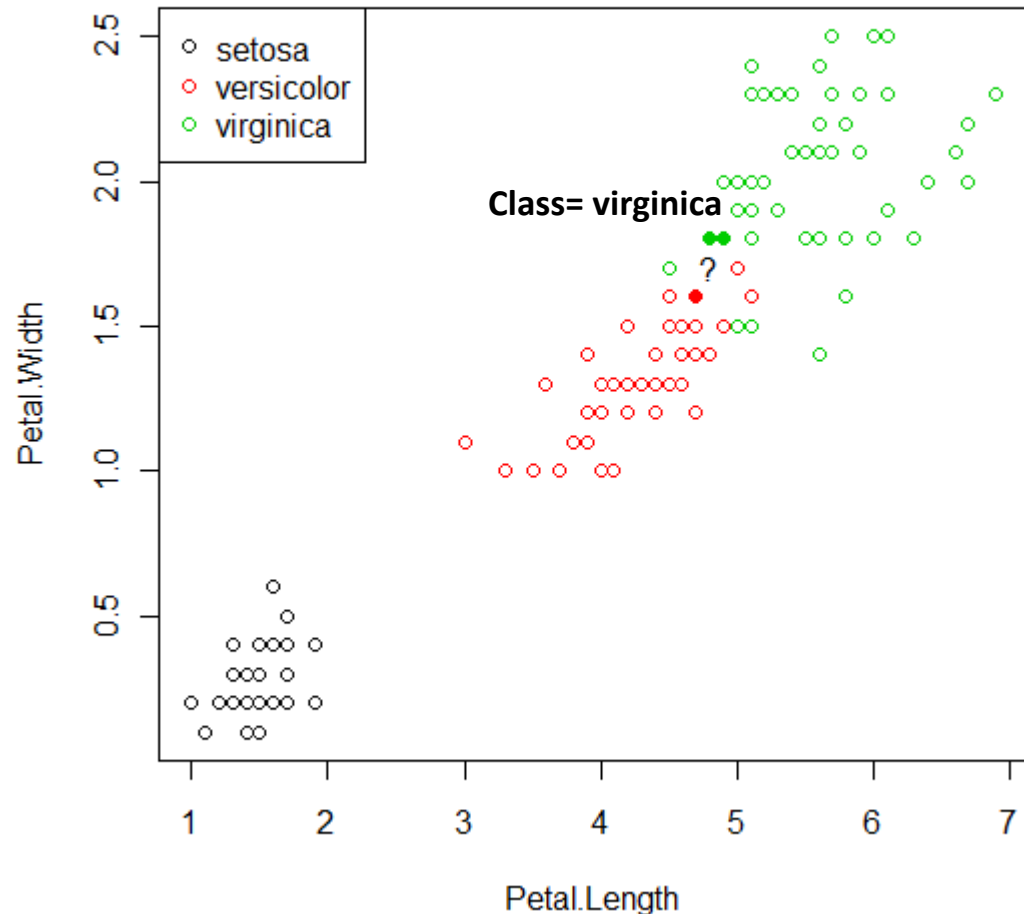
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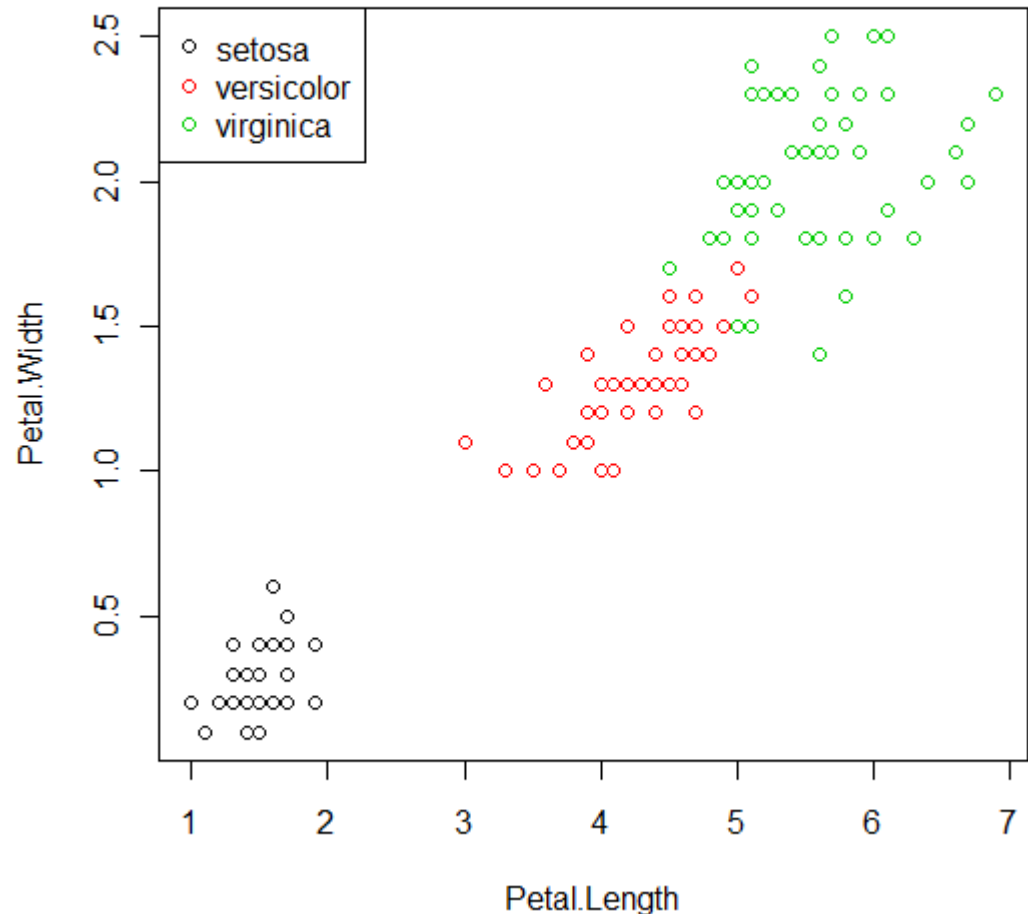
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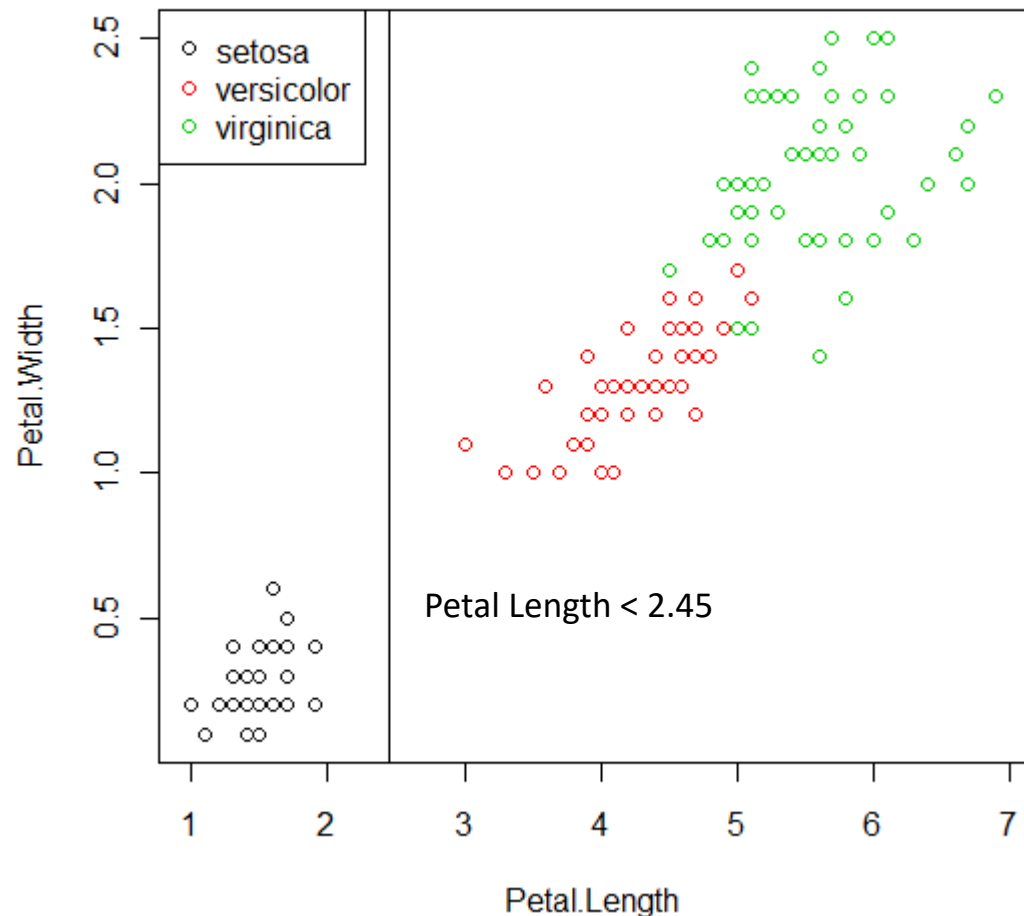
# Classification Methods: Decision Trees (DT)

- 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



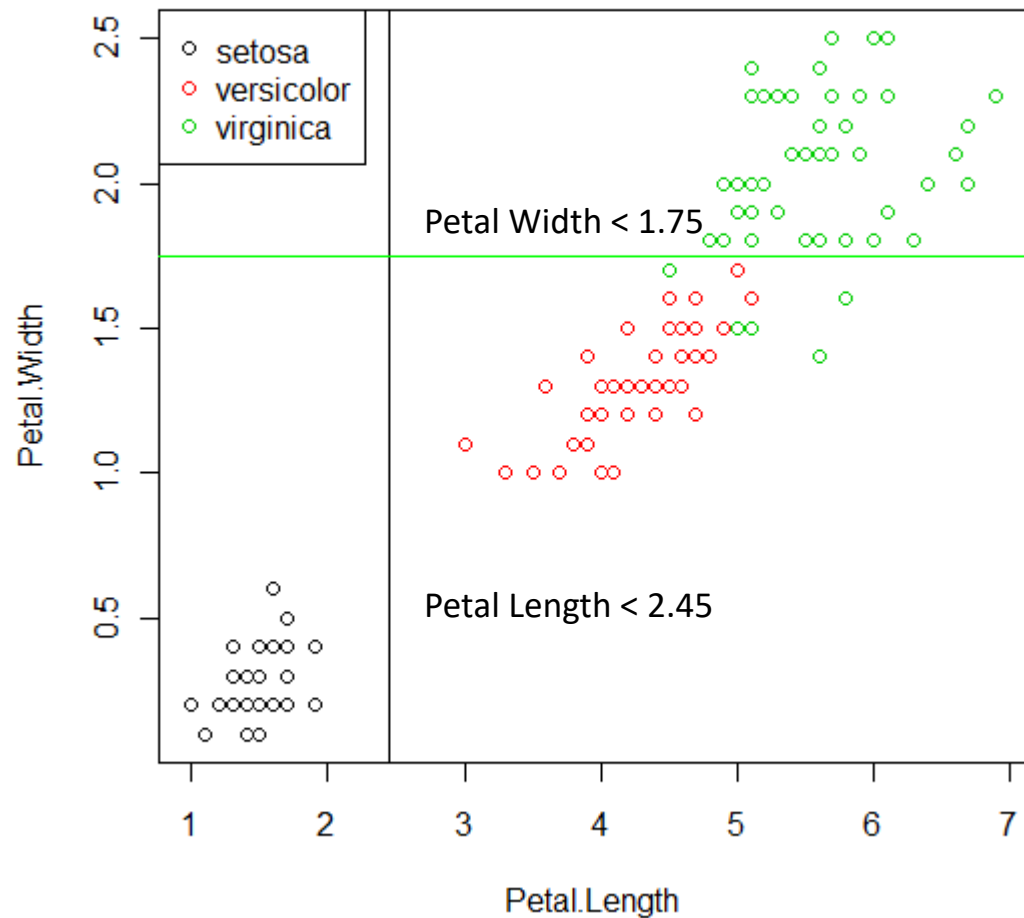
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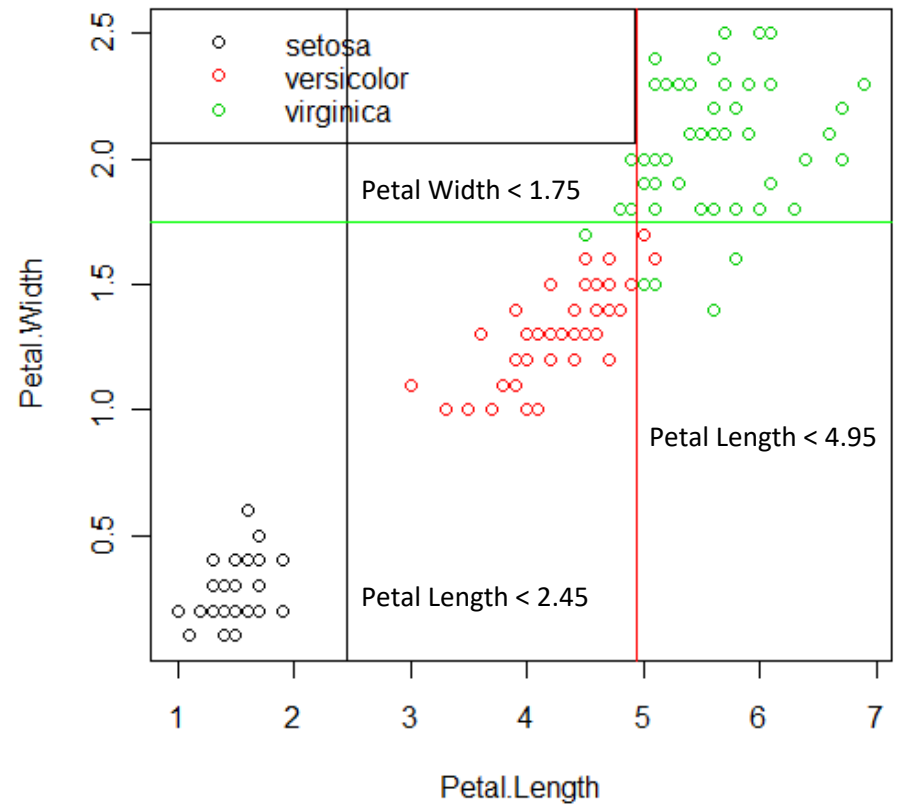
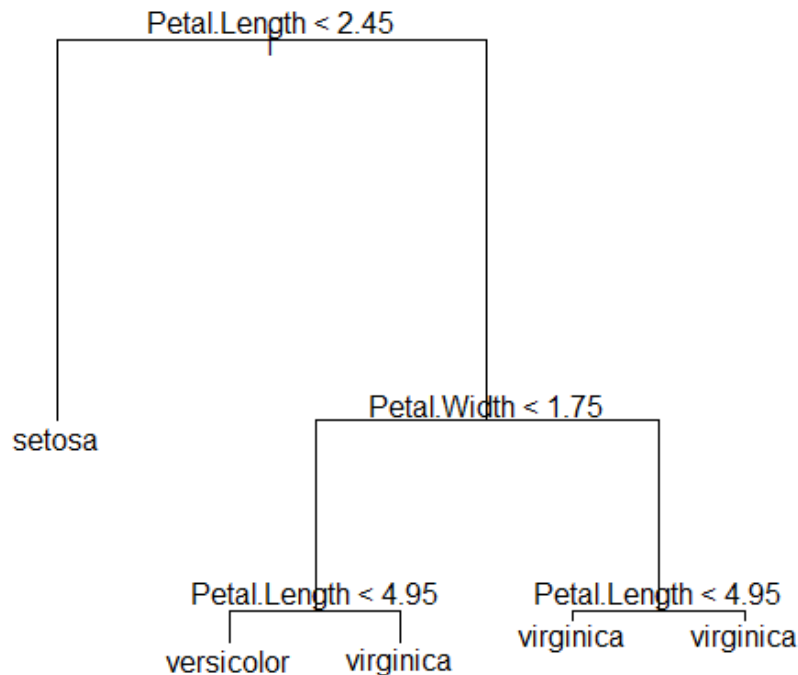
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# Classification Methods: Decision Trees (DT)



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

## Classification Methods: Naïve Bayes (NB)

- Based on Bayes' theorem that relates conditional probabilities

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

- Naïve Bayes assumes independence of features, so that

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

- For quantitative features, calculate by treating

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

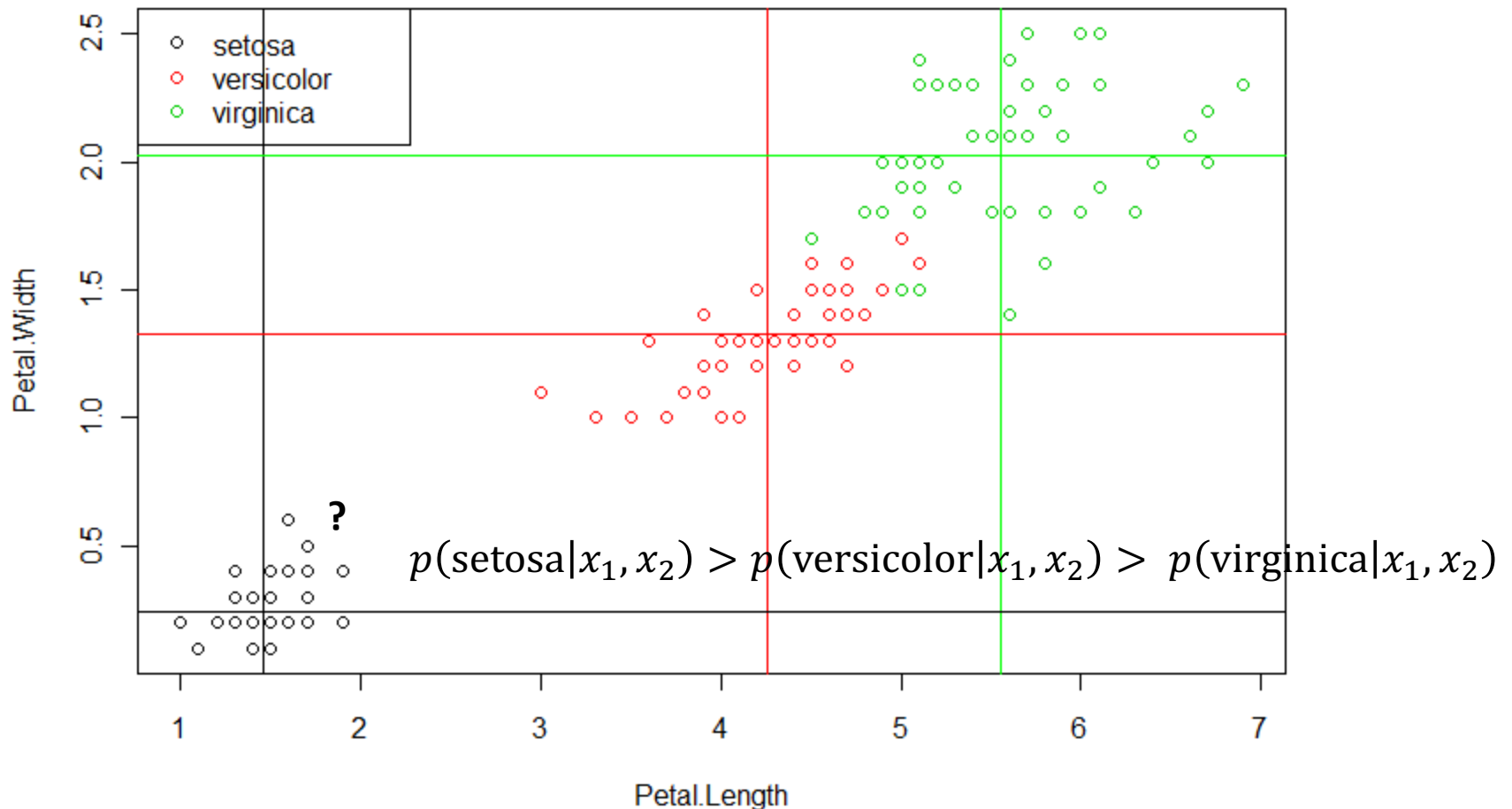
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# Classification Methods: Naïve Bayes (NB)

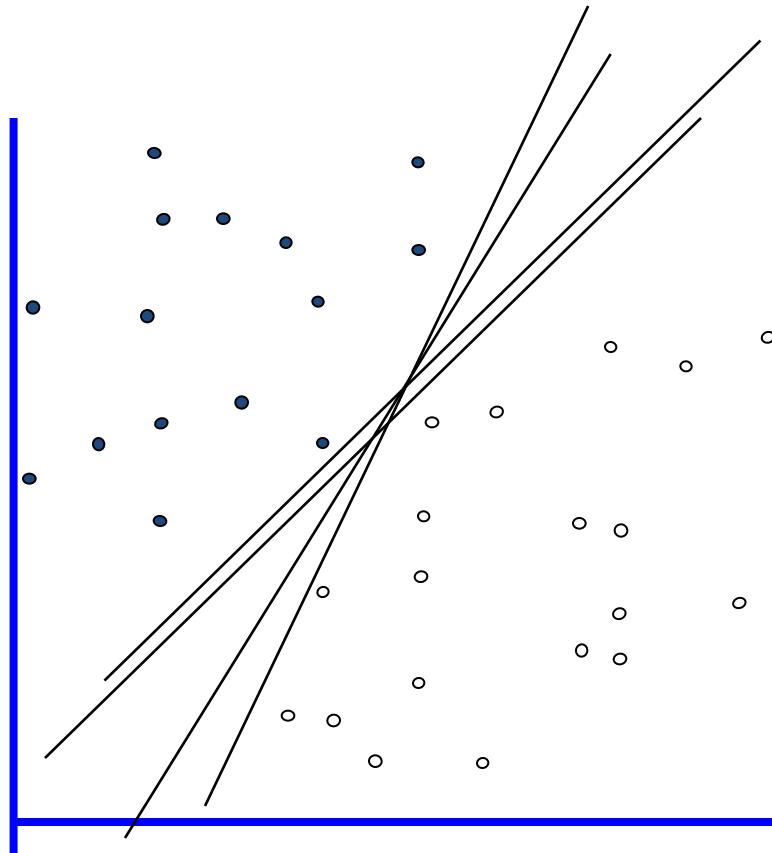
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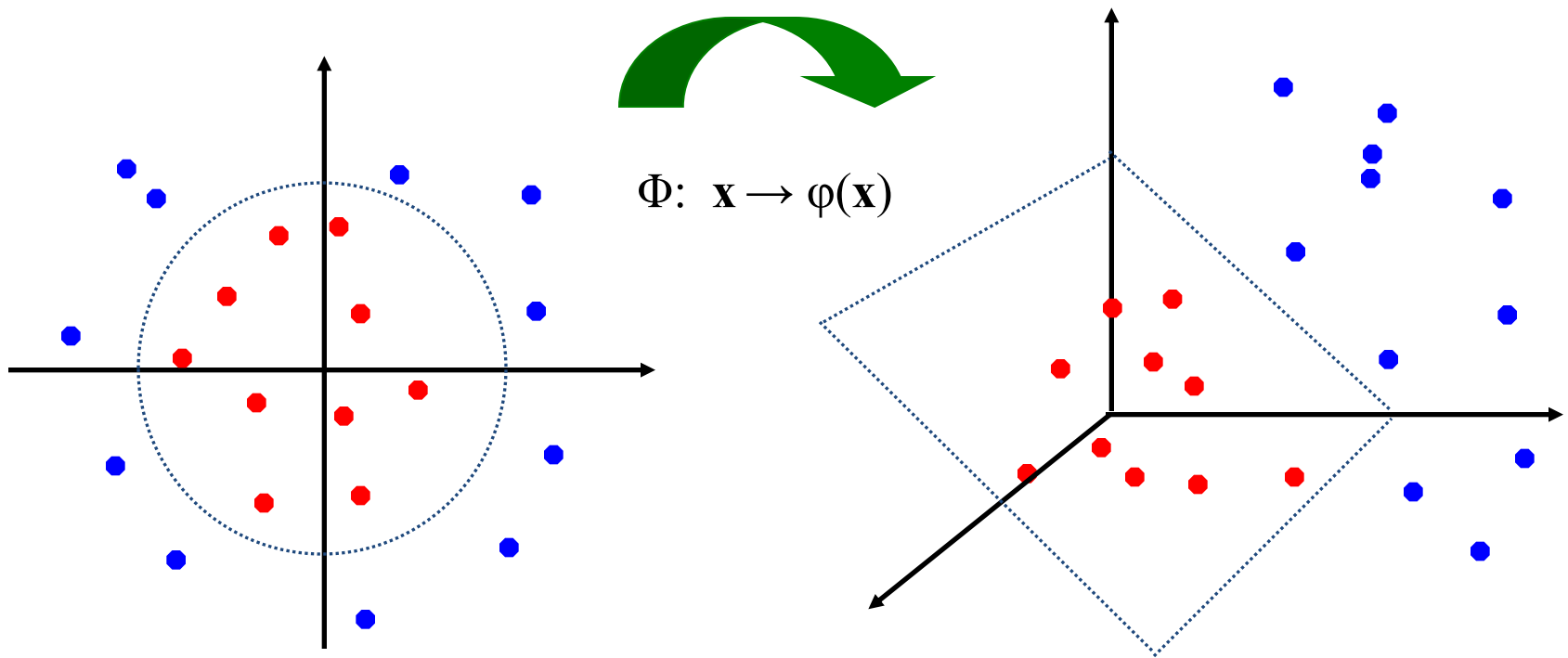


# Classification Methods: Support Vector Machines (SVM)

- 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)



# Caveats and strategies

- Validation
  - Overfitting is often a problem: a classifier can perform very well on a training data set but may not generalize to additional data sets
  - Validation on independent data sets are ideal
  - Cross-validation is useful when data is limited
- Basic Strategy
  - Use cross-validation to select
    - The number of features (e.g., probes/genes)
    - Optimal parameters for classification model (e.g, value of  $k$  in knn)