

# k-NN (k-Nearest Neighbors), Kernel Regression

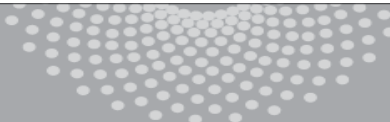
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Co-instructor: Manuela Veloso

Machine Learning 10-701

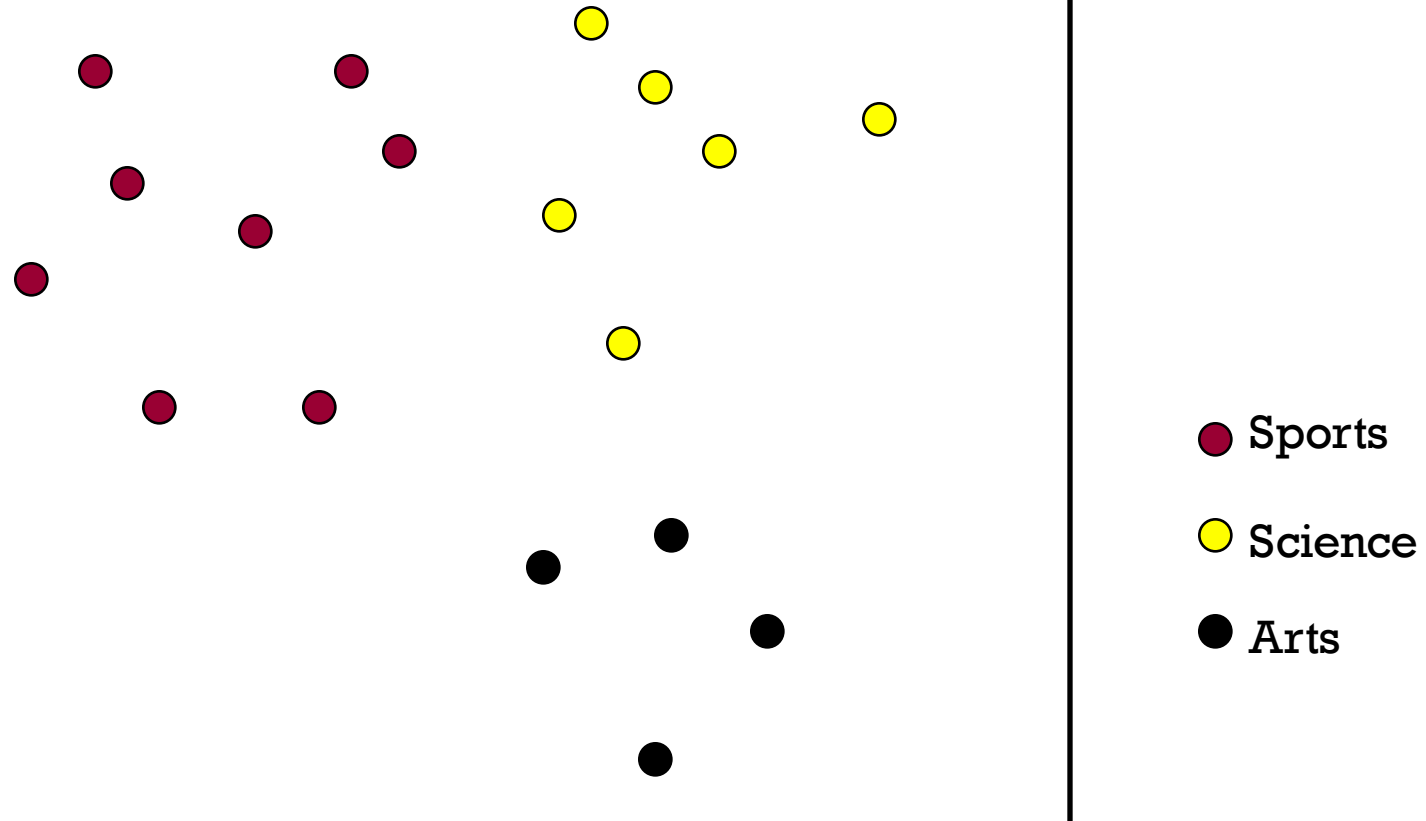


**MACHINE LEARNING** DEPARTMENT

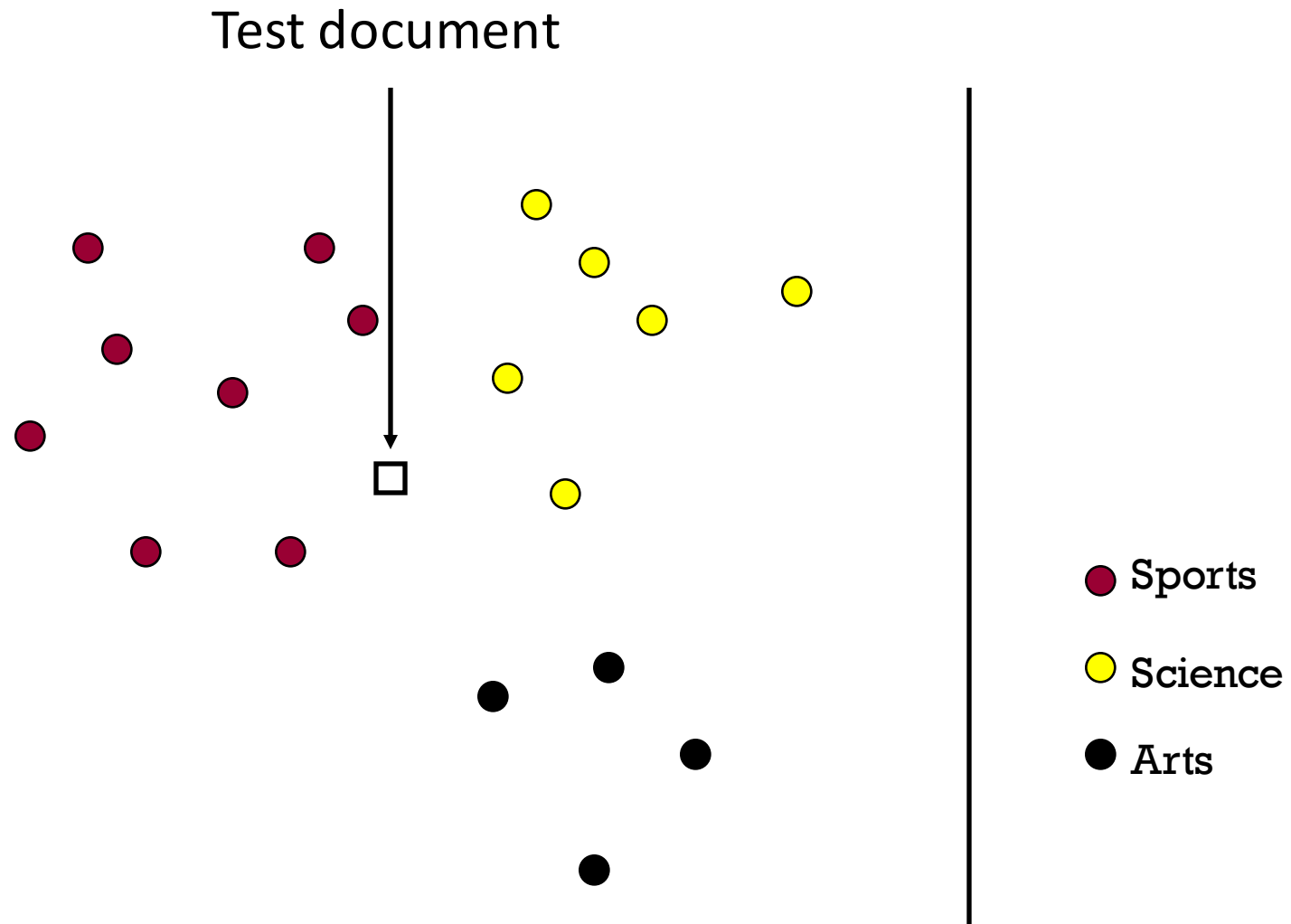


**Carnegie Mellon.**  
School of Computer Science

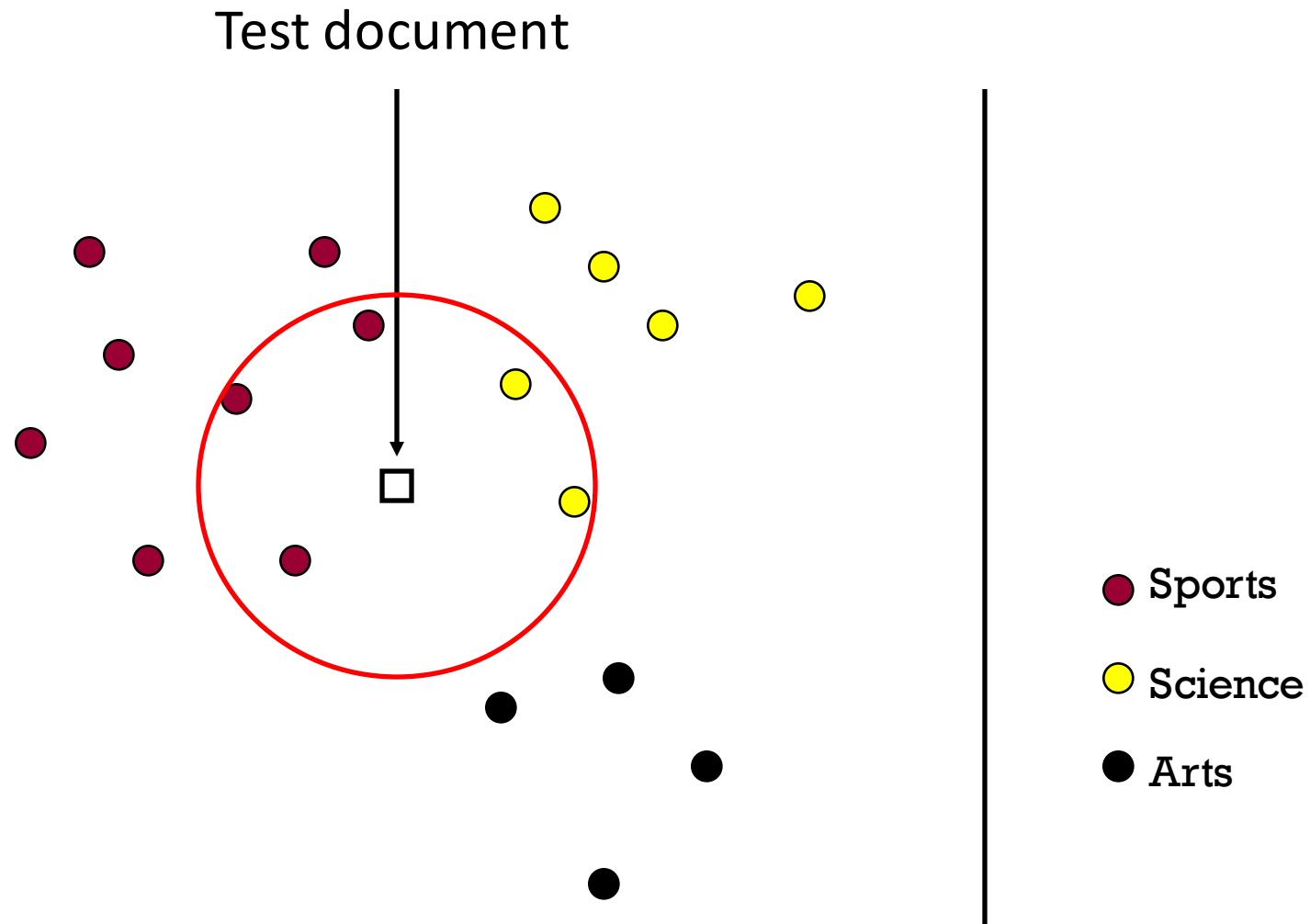
# k-NN classifier



# k-NN classifier





# k-NN classifier (k=5)



What should we predict? ... Average? Majority? Why?

# k-NN classifier

- Optimal Classifier:  $f^*(x) = \arg \max_y P(y|x)$    
 $= \arg \max_y P(x|y)P(y)$
- k-NN Classifier:  $\hat{f}_{kNN}(x) = \arg \max_y \hat{P}_{kNN}(x|y)\hat{P}(y)$   
 $= \arg \max_y k_y$  

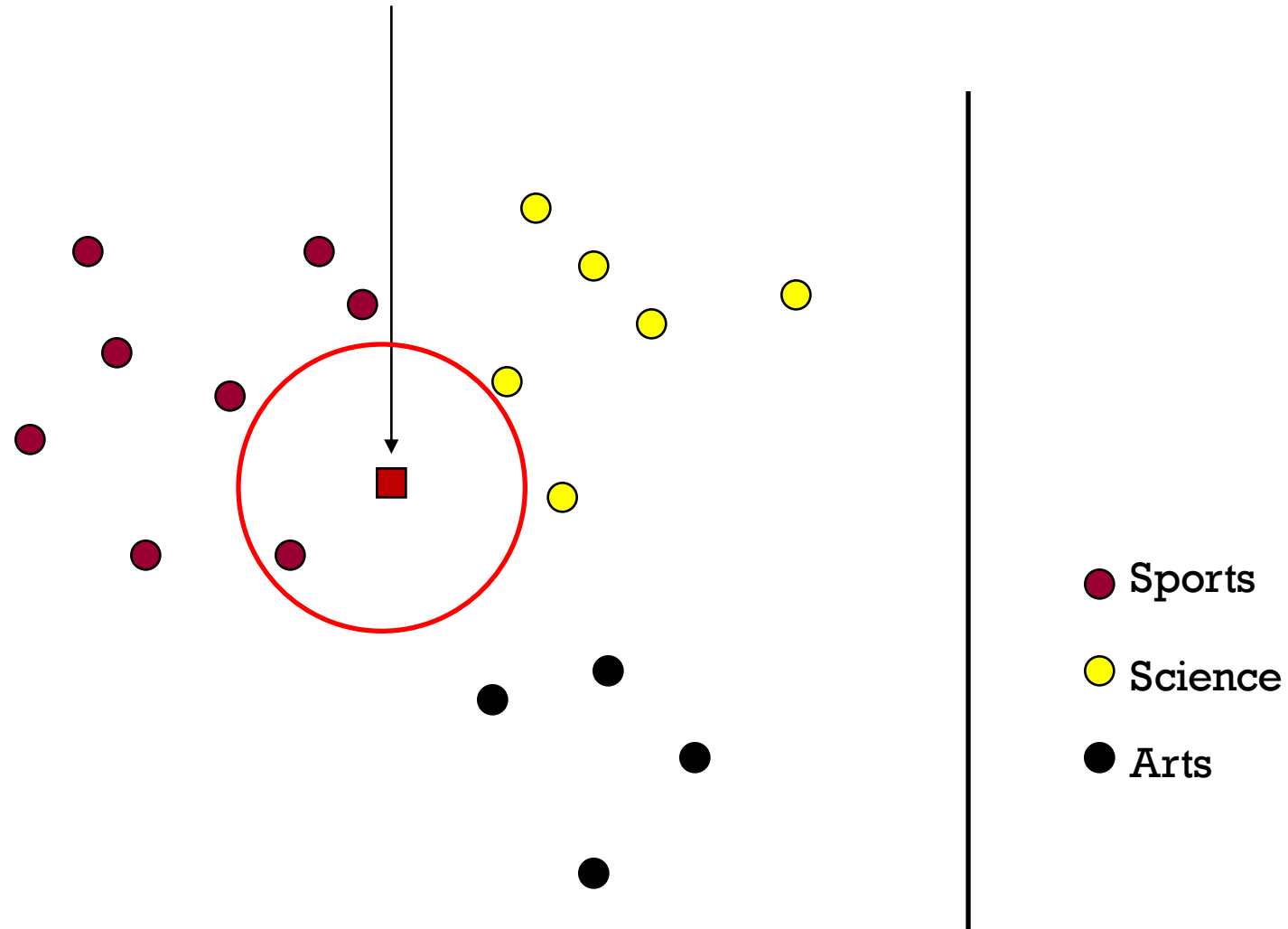
$$\hat{P}_{kNN}(x|y) = \frac{k_y}{n_y} \longrightarrow \text{\# training pts of class } y \text{ amongst } k \text{ NNs of } x \quad \sum_y k_y = k$$

$\longleftarrow$  **\# total training pts of class y**

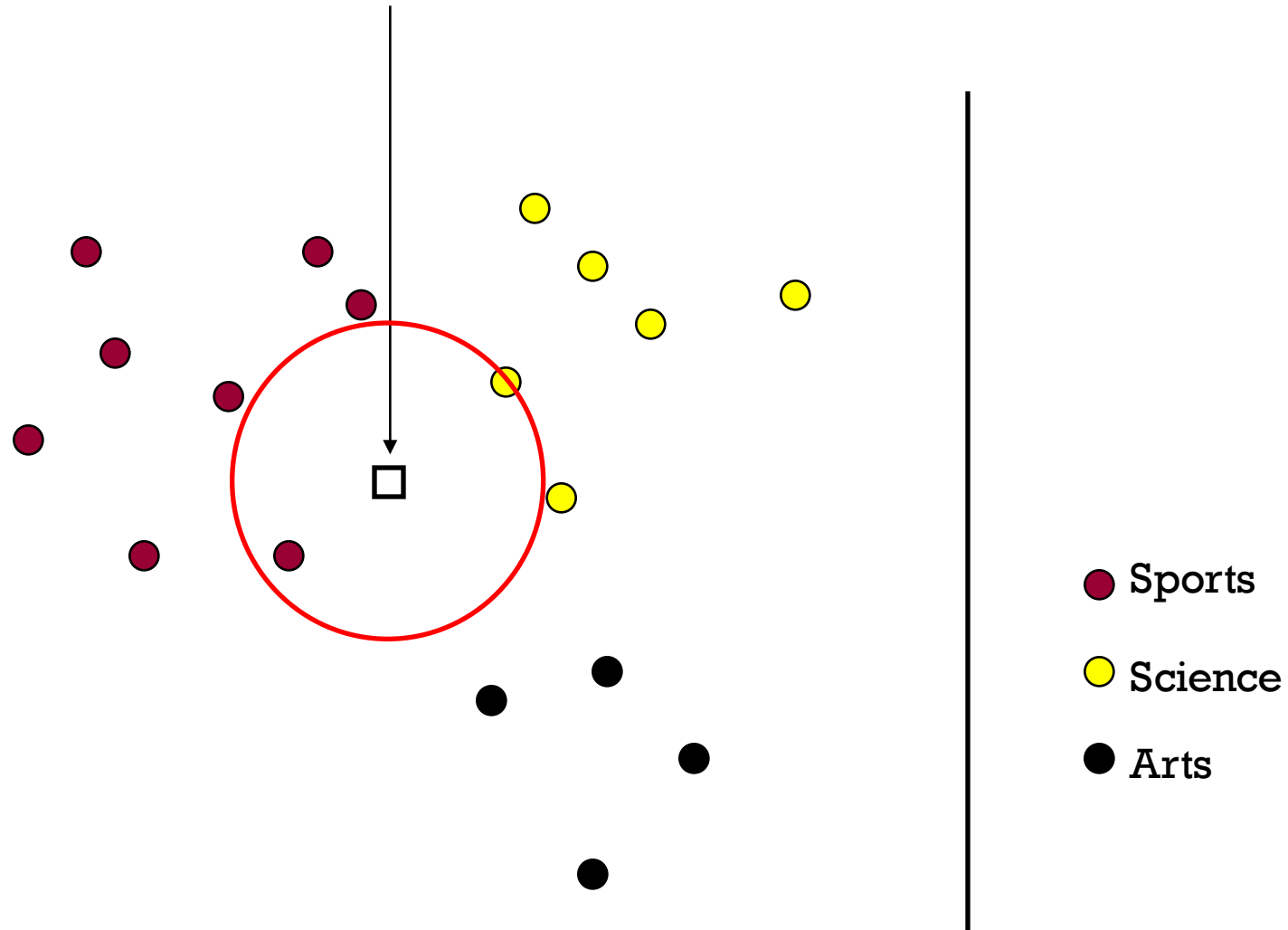
no. of training pts like x with label y / no. of training pts with label y

$$\hat{P}(y) = \frac{n_y}{n}$$

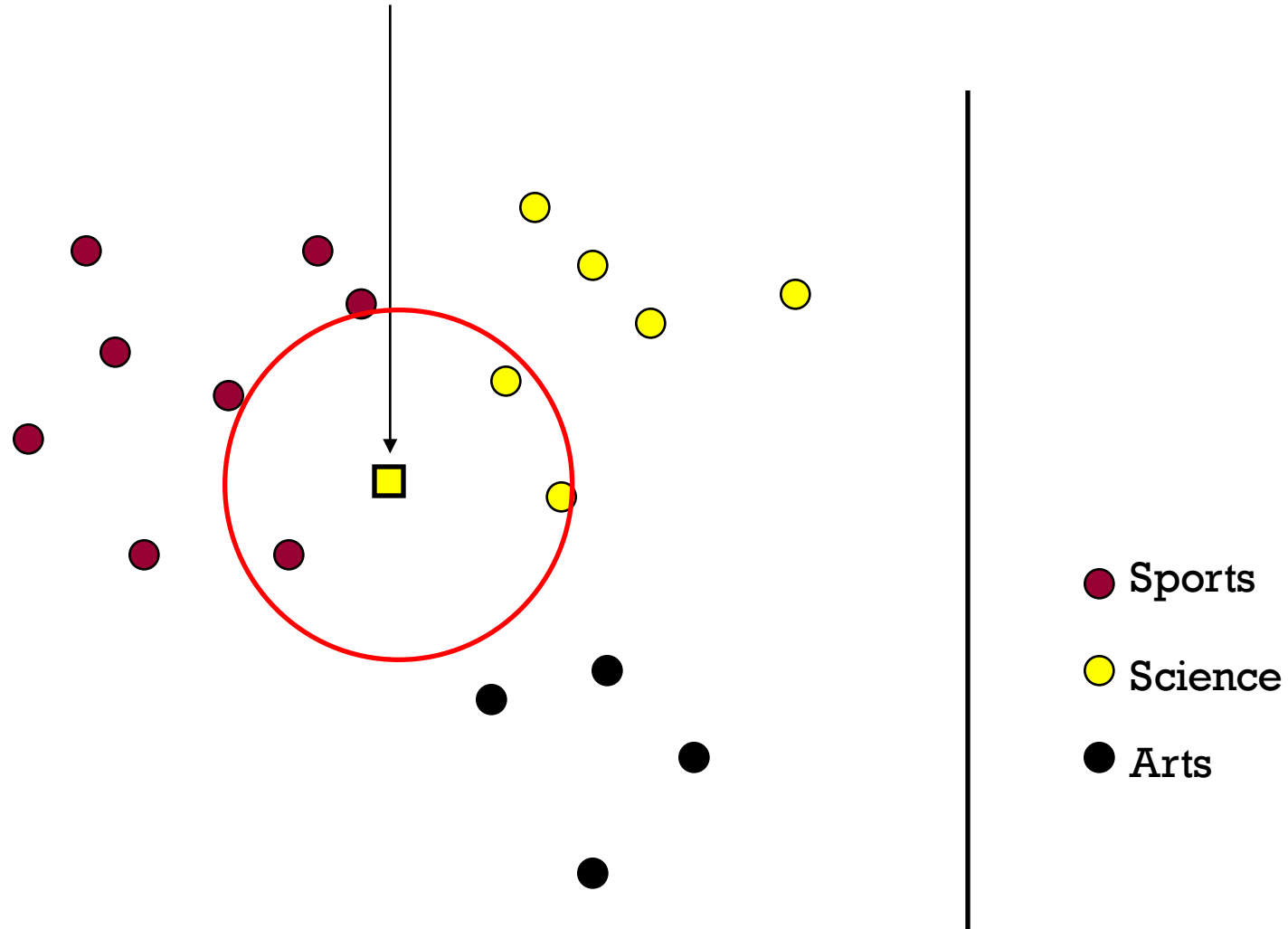
# 1-Nearest Neighbor (kNN) classifier



## 2-Nearest Neighbor (kNN) classifier

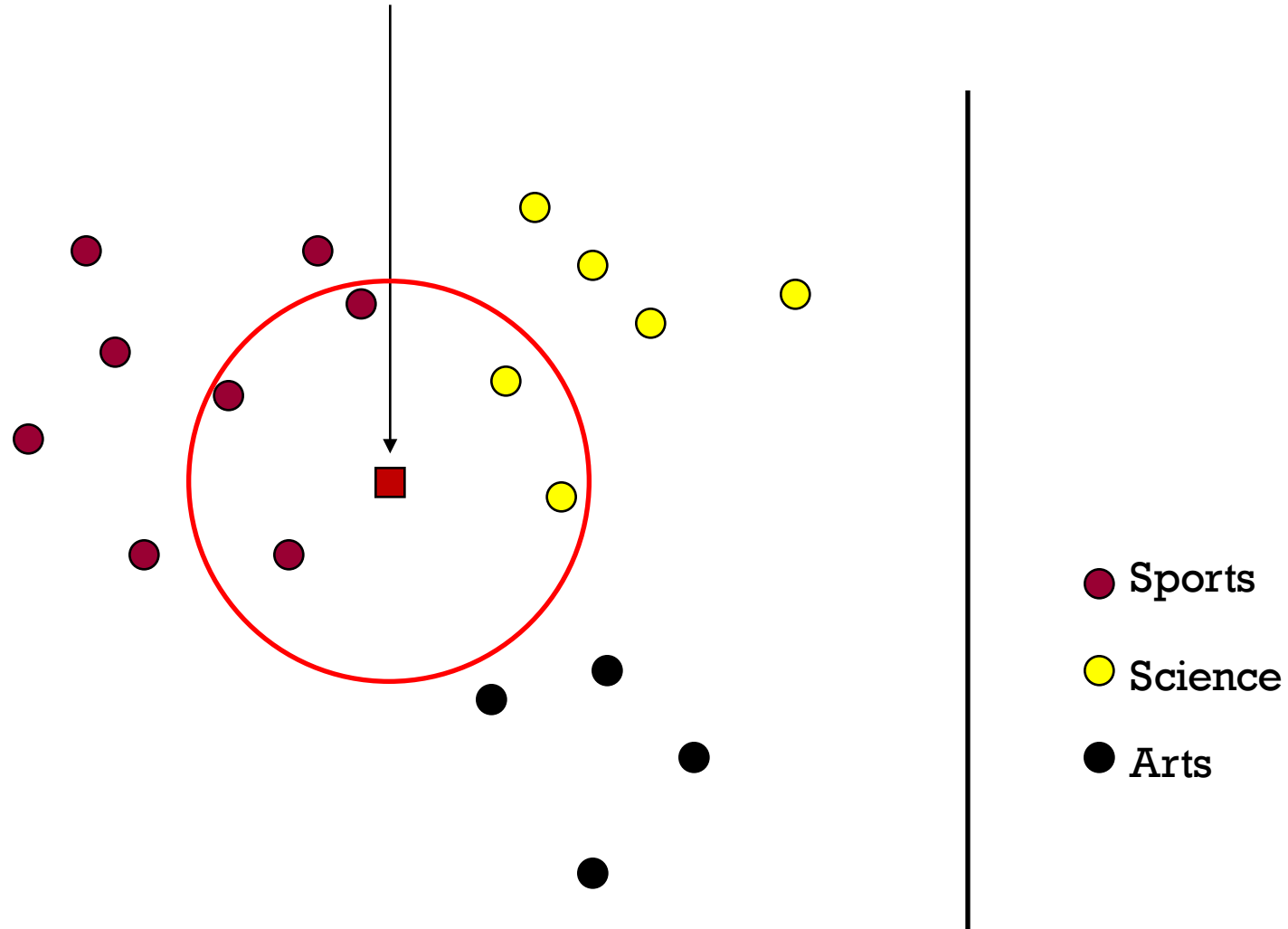


# 3-Nearest Neighbor (kNN) classifier



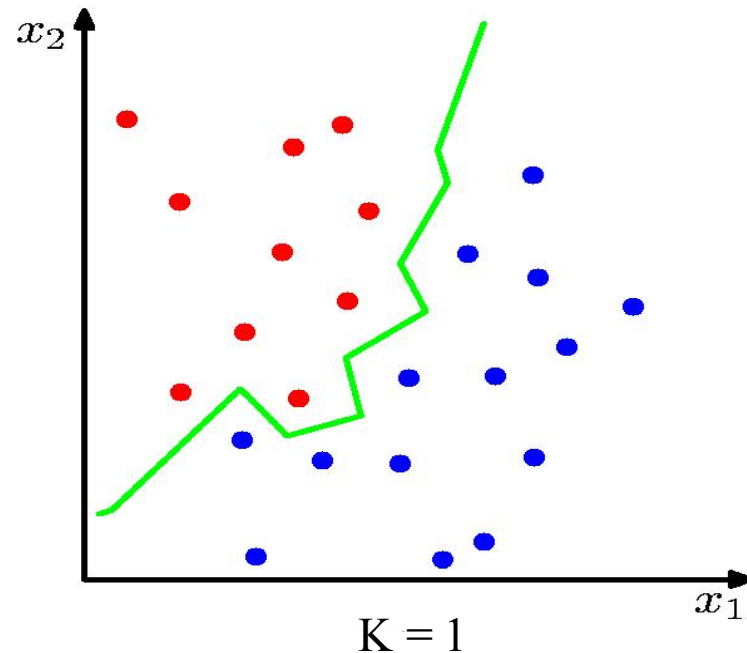


# 5-Nearest Neighbor (kNN) classifier

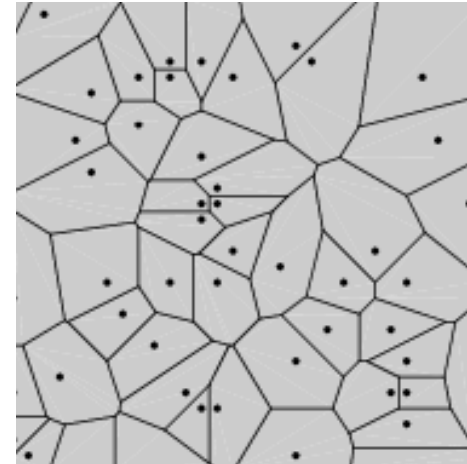


# What is the best k?

1-NN classifier decision boundary



Voronoi  
Diagram



As k increases, boundary becomes smoother (less jagged).

# What is the best k?

## Approximation vs. Stability Tradeoff

- Larger  $K \Rightarrow$  predicted label is more stable
- Smaller  $K \Rightarrow$  predicted label can approximate best classifier well


# Parametric methods

- Assume some model (Gaussian, Bernoulli, Multinomial, logistic, network of logistic units, Linear, Quadratic) with fixed number of parameters
  - Gaussian Bayes, Naïve Bayes, Logistic Regression, Perceptron, Neural Networks
- Estimate parameters  $(\mu, \sigma^2, \theta, w, \beta)$  using MLE/MAP and plug in
- **Pro** – need few data points to learn parameters
- **Con** – Strong distributional assumptions, not satisfied in practice

# Non-Parametric methods

- Typically don't make any distributional assumptions
- As we have more data, we should be able to learn more complex models
- Let number of parameters scale with number of training data
- Some nonparametric methods
  - Decision Trees
  - k-NN (k-Nearest Neighbor) Classifier

# Parametric vs Nonparametric approaches

- Nonparametric models place very mild assumptions on the data distribution and provide good models for complex data 

Parametric models rely on very strong (simplistic) distributional assumptions

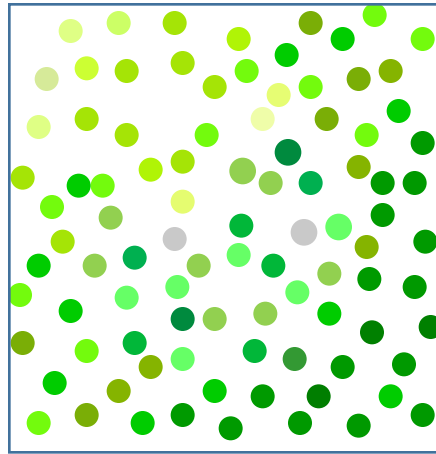
- Nonparametric models requires storing and computing with the entire data set. 

Parametric models, once fitted, are much more efficient in terms of storage and computation.

Local, Kernel Regression

# Local Kernel Regression

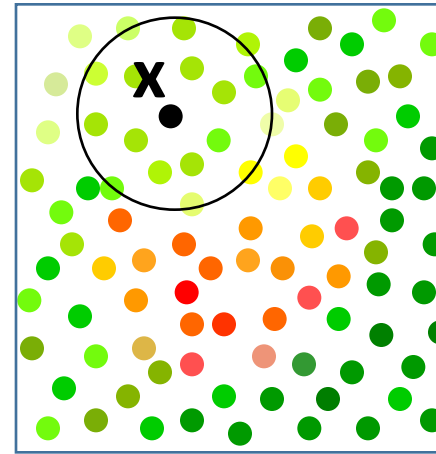
- What is the temperature in the room?



$$\hat{T} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$$

Average 

at location  $x$ ?



$$\hat{T}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \mathbf{1}_{\|X_i - x\| \leq h}}{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}_{\|X_i - x\| \leq h}} \quad \text{🗨️}$$

“Local” Average



# Nadaraya-Watson Kernel Regression

$$\Rightarrow \hat{f}_n(X) = \hat{\beta} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i Y_i$$

with box-car kernel

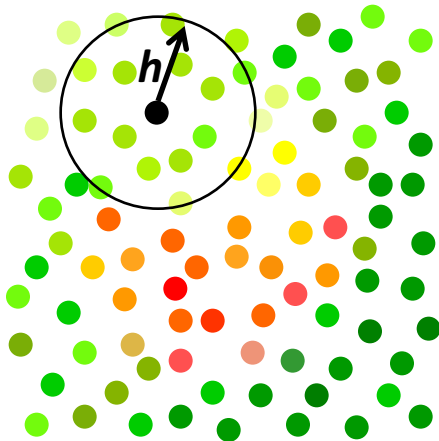
$$= \frac{1}{n_X^h} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \mathbf{1}_{|X-X_i| \leq h}$$

#pts in h ball around X      Sum of Ys in h ball around X

$$w_i(X) = \frac{K\left(\frac{X-X_i}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{X-X_i}{h}\right)}$$

boxcar kernel :

$$K\left(\frac{X-X_i}{h}\right) = \mathbf{1}_{|X-X_i| \leq h}$$



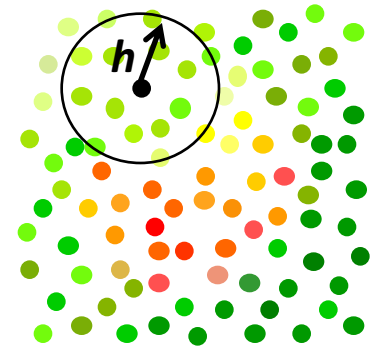
Recall: NN classifier  
with majority vote

Here we use Average instead

# Local Kernel Regression

- Nonparametric estimator akin to kNN
- Nadaraya-Watson Kernel Estimator

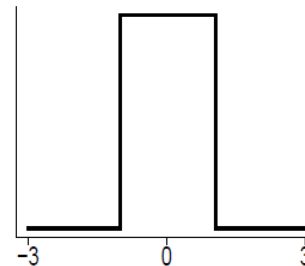
$$\hat{f}_n(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i Y_i \quad \text{Where} \quad w_i(X) = \frac{K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}$$



- Weight each training point based on distance to test point
- Boxcar kernel yields local average

boxcar kernel :

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{2}I(x),$$

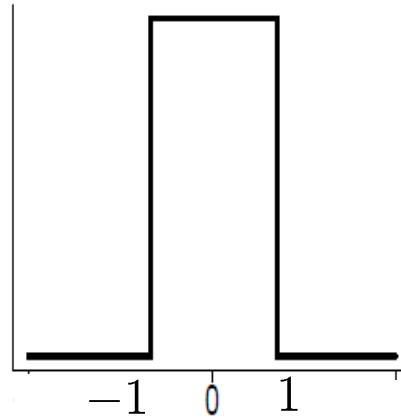


# Kernels

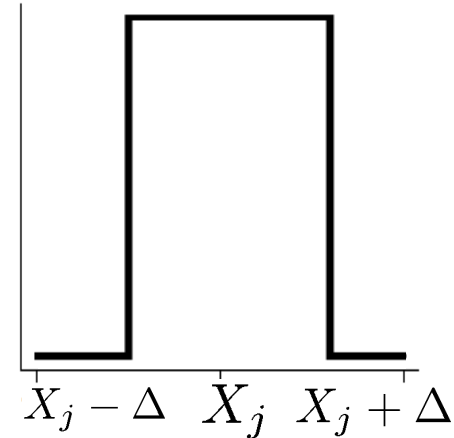
$$\begin{aligned} K(x) &\geq 0, \\ \int K(x)dx &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

boxcar kernel :

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{2}I(x),$$

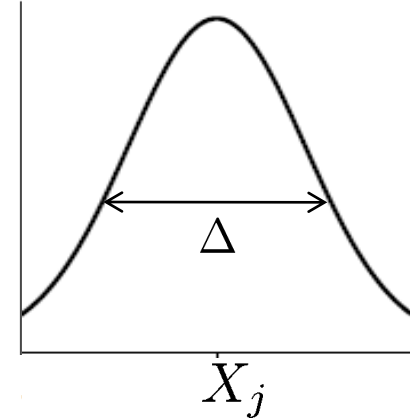
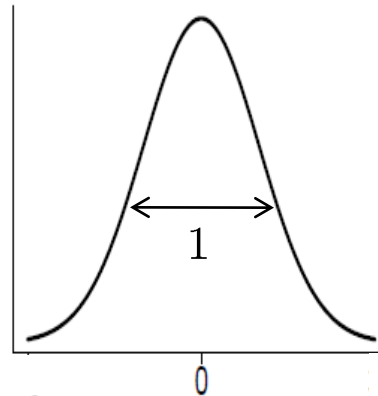


$$K\left(\frac{X_j - x}{\Delta}\right)$$



Gaussian kernel :

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-x^2/2}$$



# Choice of kernel bandwidth $h$

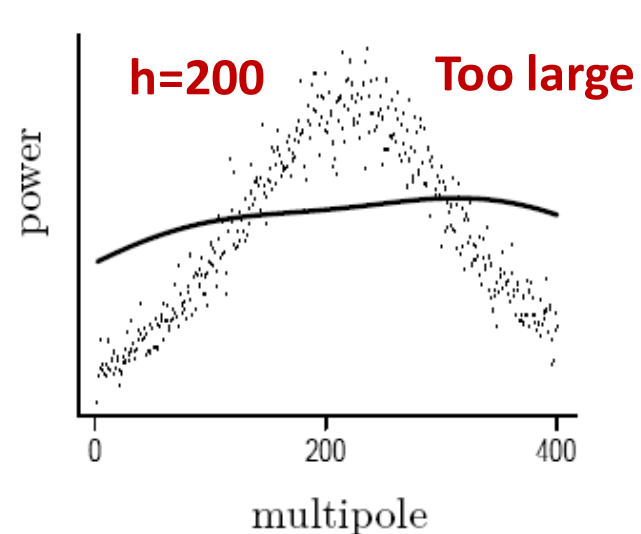
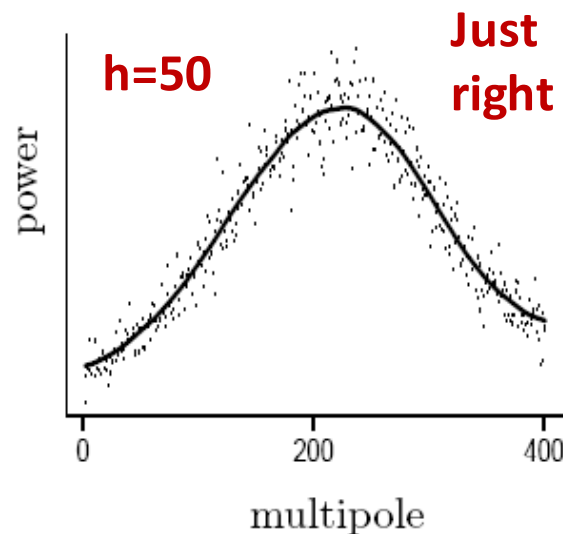
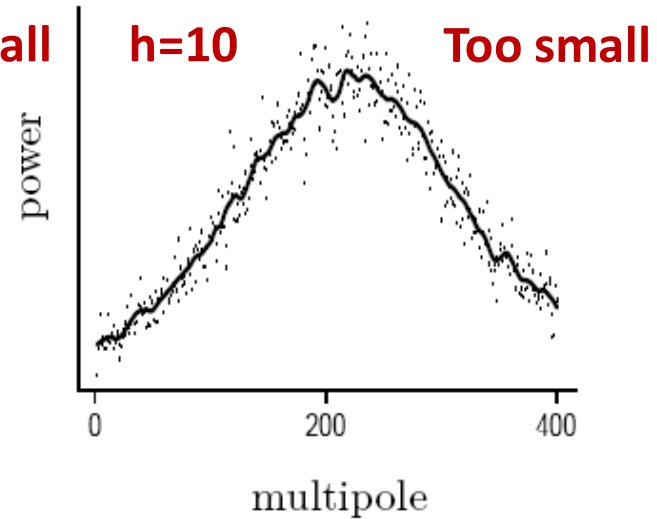
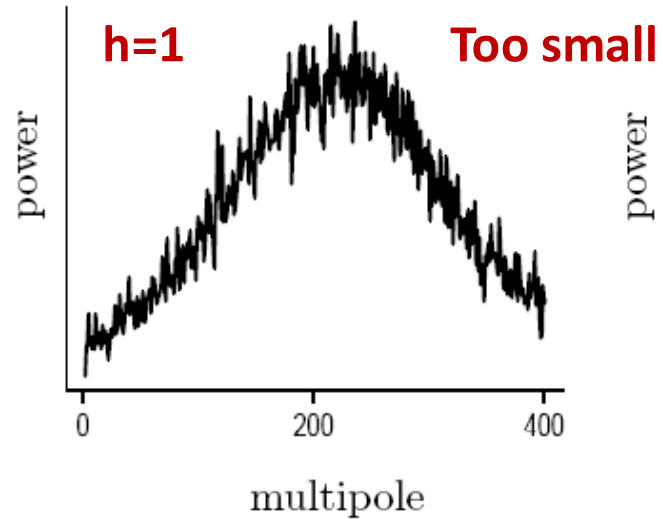


Image Source:  
Larry's book – All  
of Nonparametric  
Statistics

Choice of kernel is  
not that important

# Kernel Regression as Weighted Least Squares

$$\min_f \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (f(X_i) - Y_i)^2$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 1$$

Weighted Least Squares

Weigh each training point based on distance to test point

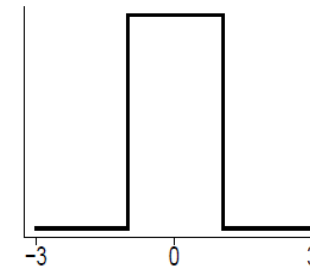
$$w_i(X) = \frac{K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}$$

$K$  – Kernel

$h$  – Bandwidth of kernel

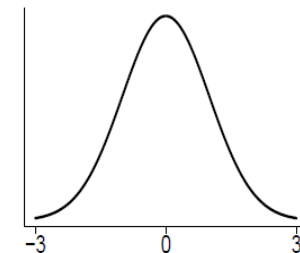
boxcar kernel :

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{2} I(x),$$



Gaussian kernel :

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}$$



# Kernel Regression as Weighted Least Squares

set  $f(X_i) = \beta$  (a constant)

$$\min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (\underbrace{\beta}_{\text{constant}} - Y_i)^2$$

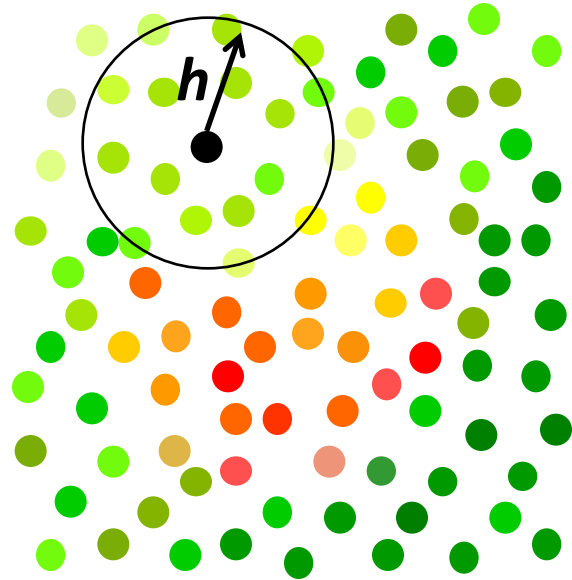
$$w_i(X) = \frac{K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}$$

$$\frac{\partial J(\beta)}{\partial \beta} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (\beta - Y_i) = 0$$

Notice that  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{f}_n(X) = \hat{\beta} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i Y_i$$

# Choice of Bandwidth



Should depend on  $n$ , # training data  
(determines variance)

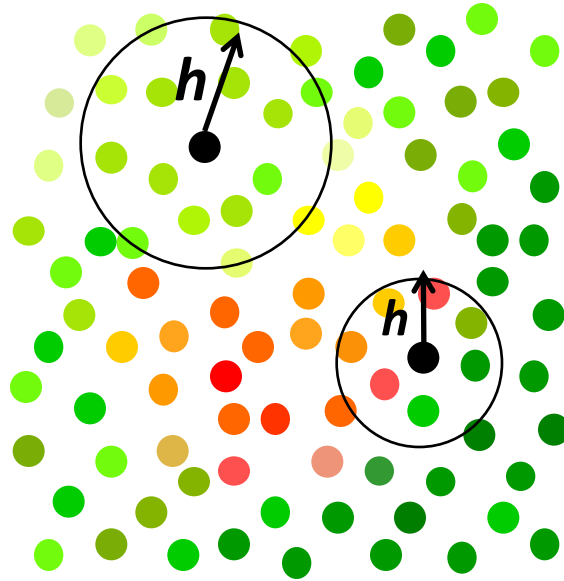
Should depend on smoothness of  
function  
(determines bias)

Large Bandwidth – average more data points, reduce noise (Lower variance)

Small Bandwidth – less smoothing, more accurate fit (Lower bias)

Bias – Variance tradeoff

# Spatially adaptive regression



If function smoothness varies spatially, we want to allow bandwidth  $h$  to depend on  $X$

Local polynomials, splines, wavelets, regression trees ...



# Local Linear/Polynomial Regression

$$\min_f \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (f(X_i) - Y_i)^2 \qquad w_i(X) = \frac{K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{X - X_i}{h}\right)}$$

Weighted Least Squares

Local Polynomial regression corresponds to locally polynomial estimator obtained from (locally) weighted least squares

$$\text{i.e. set } f(X_i) = \beta_0 + \beta_1(X_i - X) + \frac{\beta_2}{2!}(X_i - X)^2 + \dots + \frac{\beta_p}{p!}(X_i - X)^p$$

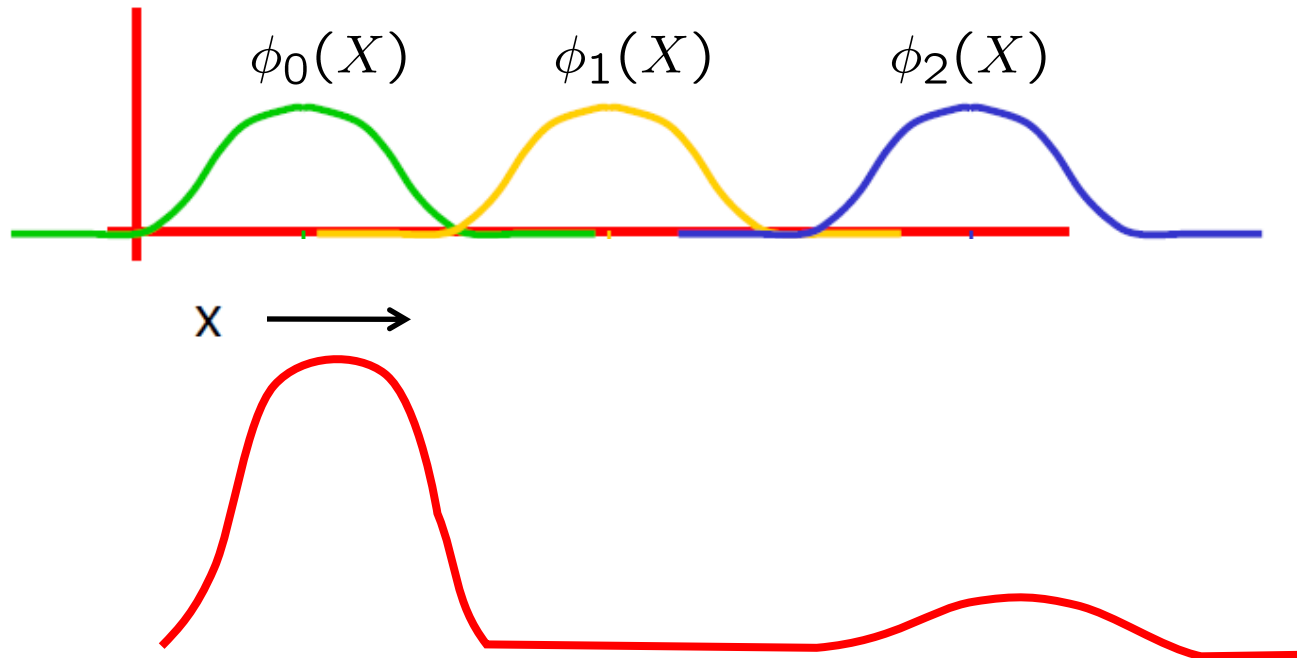
(local polynomial of degree p around X)

# Local Regression

$$f(X) = \sum_{j=0}^m \beta_j \phi_j(X)$$

Basis coefficients

Nonlinear features/basis functions



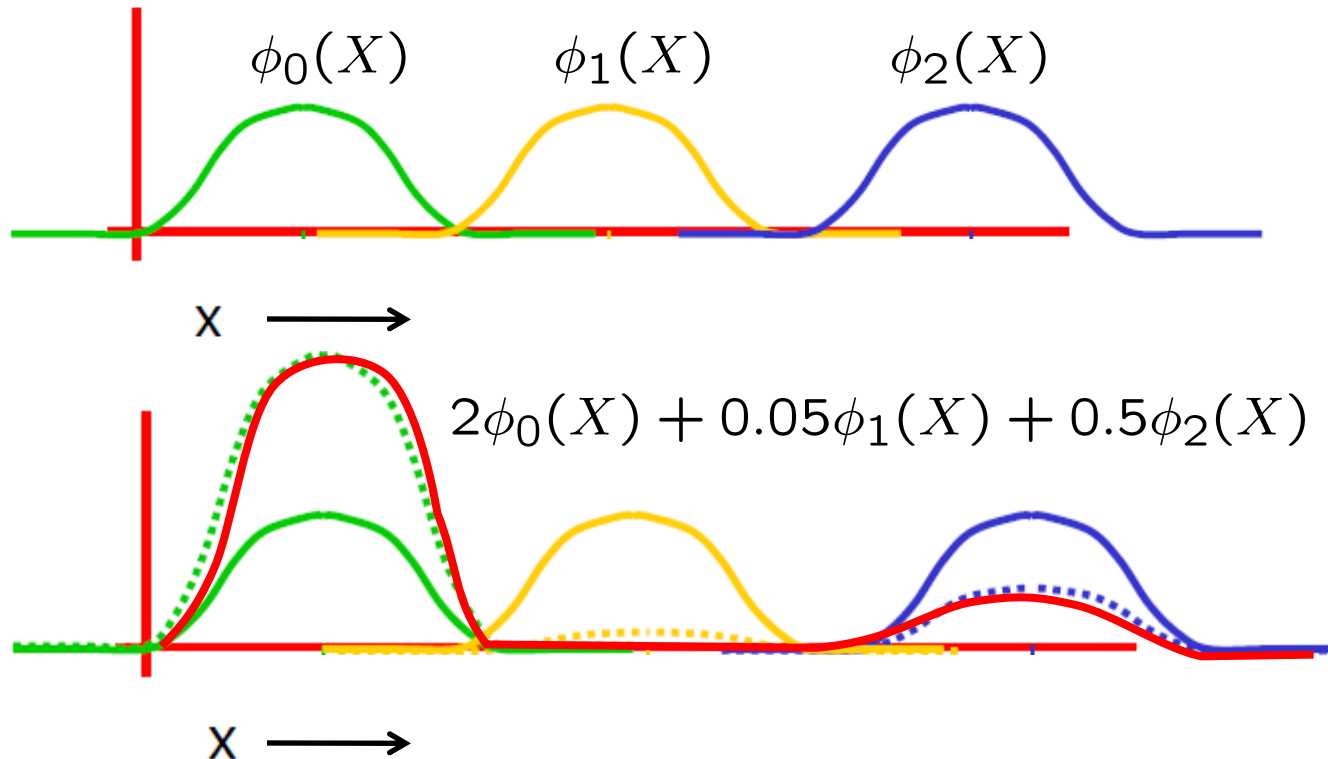
Globally supported  
basis functions  
(polynomial, fourier)  
will not yield a good  
representation

# Local Regression

$$f(X) = \sum_{j=0}^m \beta_j \phi_j(X)$$

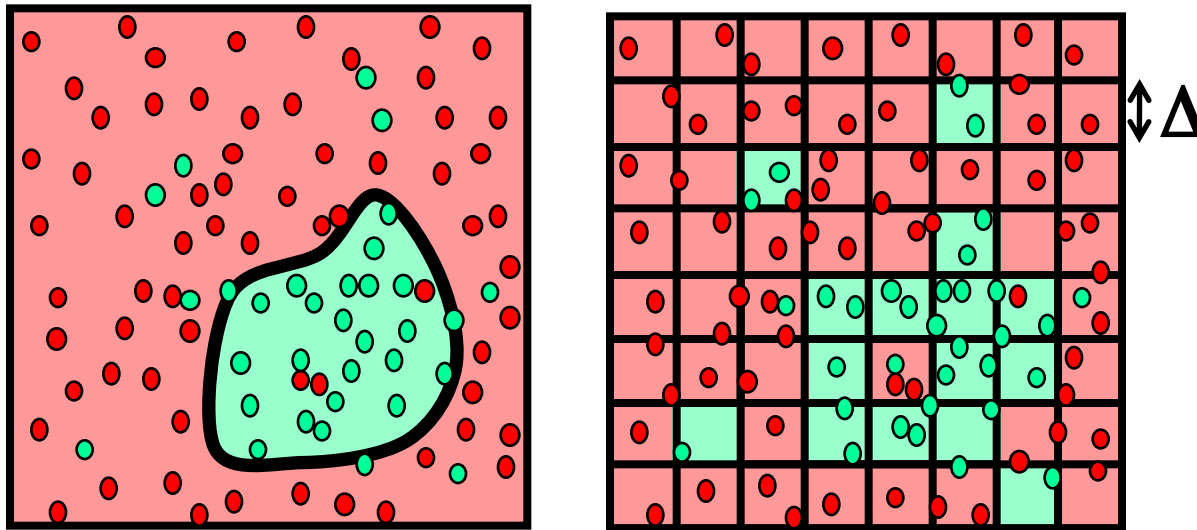
Basis coefficients

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Globally supported basis functions (polynomial, fourier) will not yield a good representation

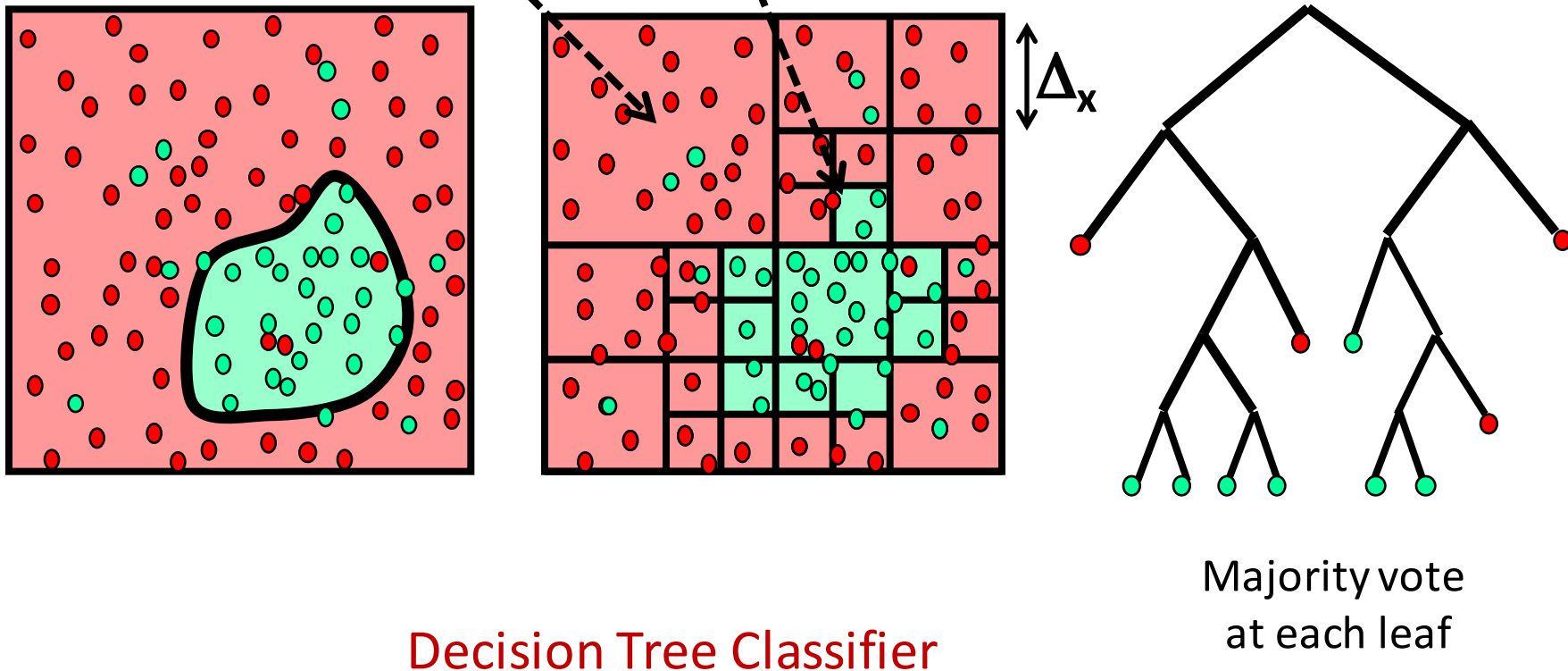
# Local prediction



Histogram Classifier

# Local Adaptive prediction

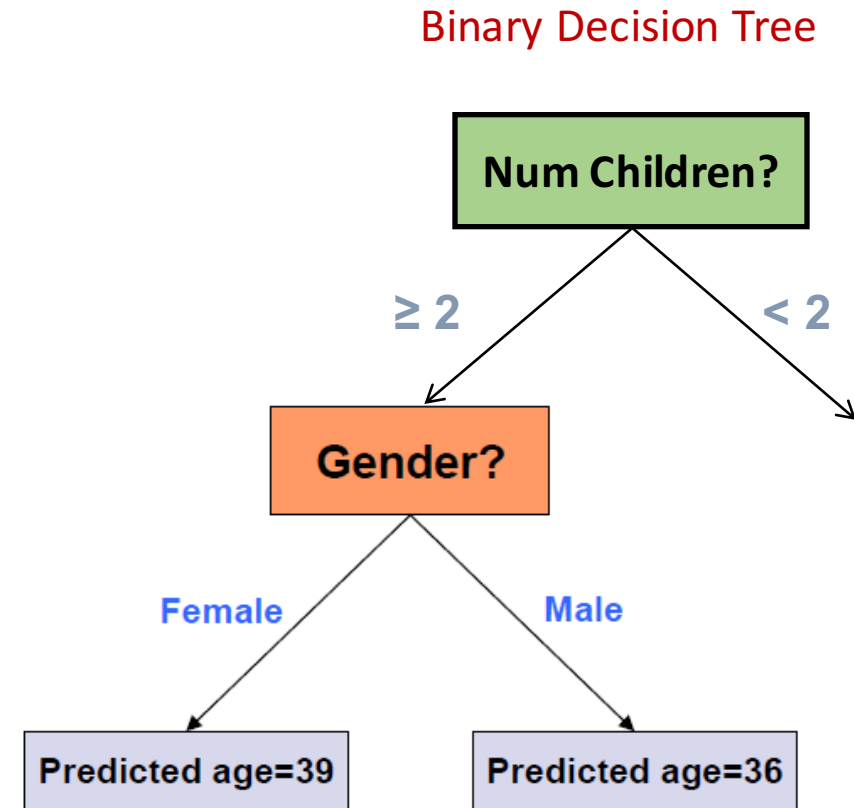
Let neighborhood size adapt to data – small neighborhoods near decision boundary (small bias), large neighborhoods elsewhere (small variance)



# Regression trees

$X^{(1)}$       ....       $X^{(p)}$        $Y$

Gender	Rich?	Num. Children	# travel per yr.	Age
F	No	2	5	38
M	No	0	2	25
M	Yes	1	0	72
:	:	:	:	:



Average (fit a constant ) on the leaves