

# Classification: Performance Metrics & Class Imbalance

Big Data y Machine Learning para Economía Aplicada

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# Agenda

- 1 Recap
- 2 Confusion Matrix
- 3 ROC curve
- 4 Imbalanced Classification
  - Metrics

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# Classification: Motivation

- ▶ Many predictive questions are about classification
  - ▶ Credit, Poverty, Firm default, Fraud, Unemployment, etc.
- ▶ Aim is to classify  $y$ , where  $y$  represents membership in a category
  - ▶ Qualitative, not necessarily ordered
  - ▶ We will focus for now in the binary case

*The prediction question is, given a new  $X$ ,  
what is our best guess at the response category  $\hat{y}$*

# Classification: Recap - Unemployment



photo from <https://www.dailydot.com/parsec/batman-1966-labels-tumblr-twitter-vine/>

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# Confusion Matrix

		$y_i$	
		1	0
$\hat{y}_i$	1	TP	FP
	0	FN	TN

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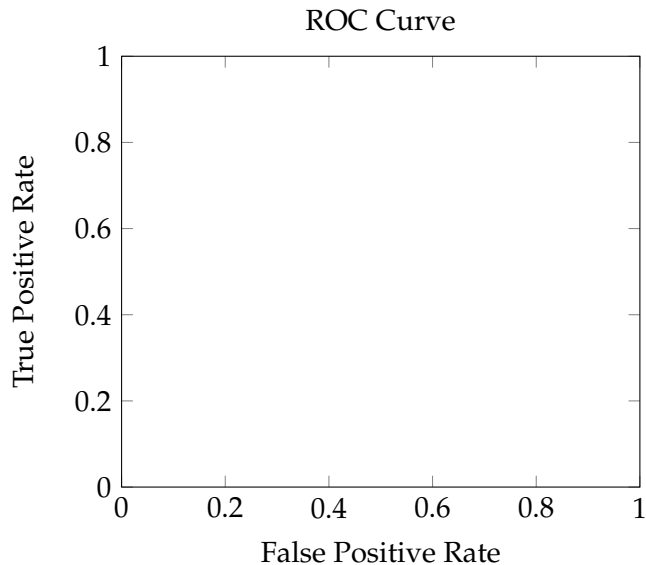
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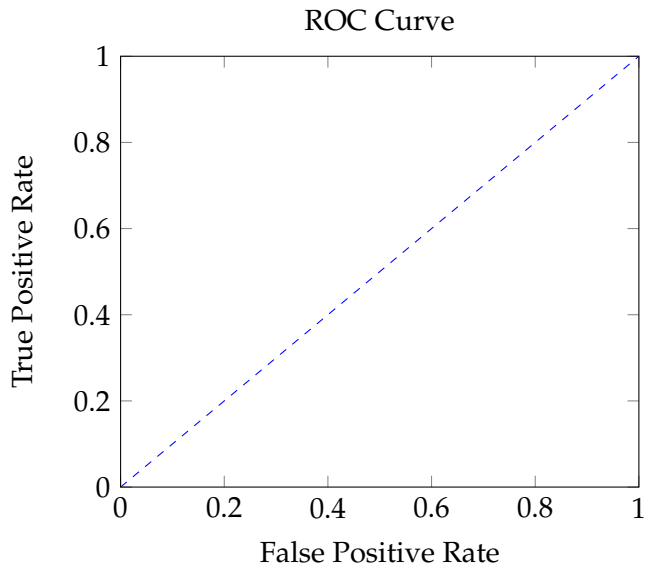
# Trade-Off between Different Classification Thresholds

$$\hat{y}_i = 1[p_i \geq c]$$

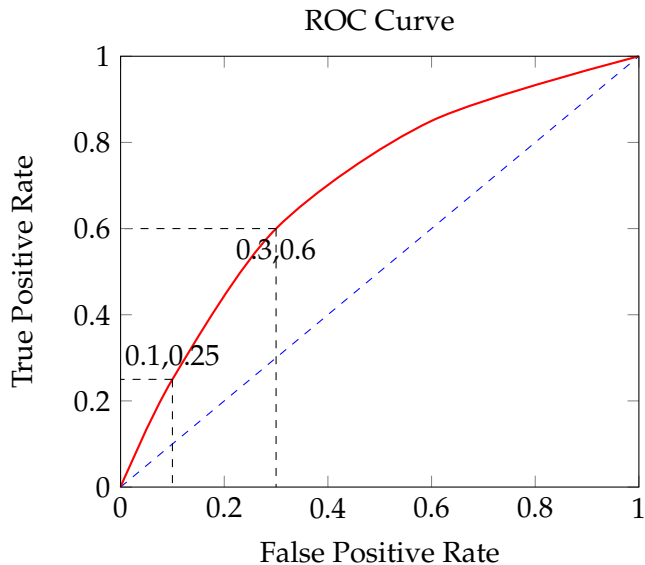
# ROC Plot



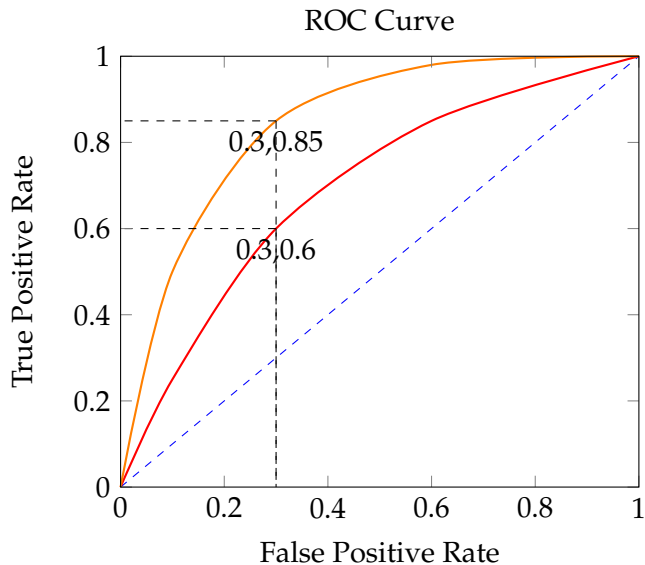
# ROC Plot



# ROC Plot



# ROC Plot



# Example: Unemployment



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# Imbalanced Classification: Motivation

- ▶ Interest in one of the classes: Poor, Default, Unemployed, Fraud
- ▶ Imbalanced classes pose a challenge

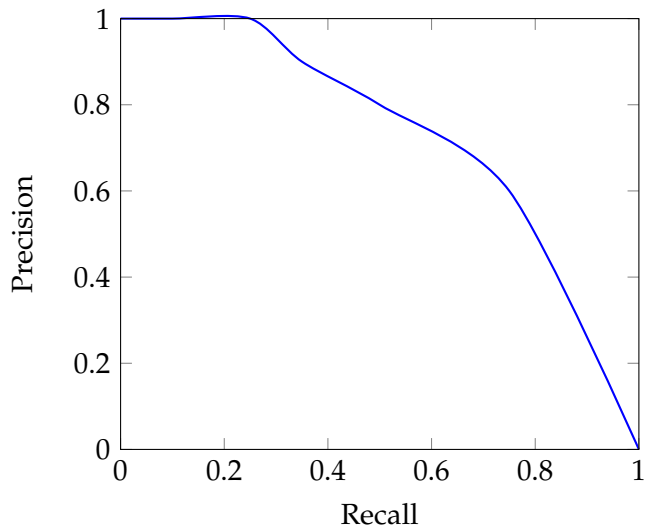


# Imbalanced Classification: Motivation

- ▶ Interest in one of the classes: Poor, Default, Unemployed, Fraud
- ▶ Imbalanced classes pose a challenge

Degree of imbalance	Proportion of Minority Class
Mild	20-40% of the data set
Moderate	1-20% of the data set
Extreme	<1% of the data set

# PR-Curve



# Imbalanced Classification: Solutions

- ▶ Model Tuning
- ▶ Alternative Cutoffs
- ▶ Weights
- ▶ Adjust Prior Probabilities
- ▶ Class rebalancing

# Example: Unemployment



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