

COSC 522 – Machine Learning

Bayesian Decision Theory

Hairong Qi, Gonzalez Family Professor
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
<https://www.eecs.utk.edu/people/hairong-qi/>
Email: hqi@utk.edu

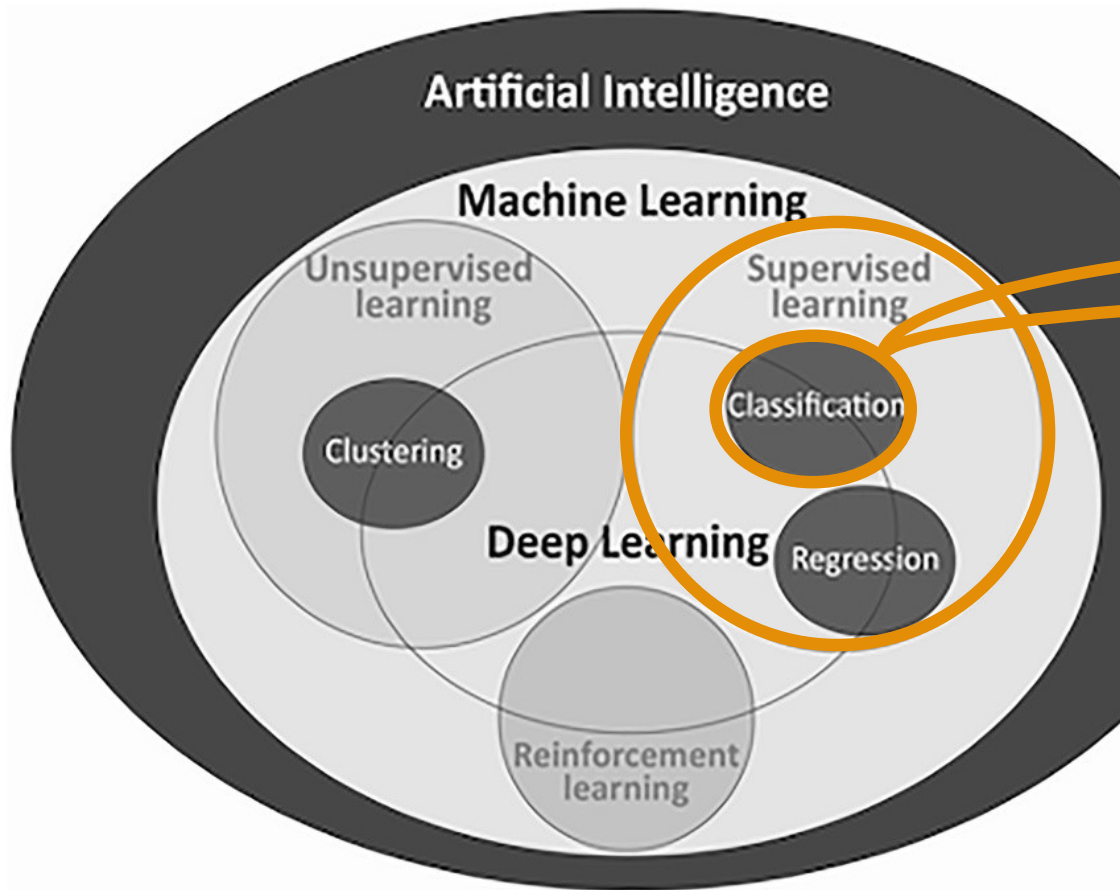
Outline/Questions

- Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning
- Training set vs. Test set
- Features vs. Samples vs. Dimension
- Classification vs. Regression
- Parametric Learning vs. Non-parametric Learning

- What is pdf? pdf vs. histogram?
- What is Bayes' Formula?
- What is the difference between probability and pdf?
- What is the role of "evidence"?
- In Bayes' Formula, what is conditional pdf? Prior probability? Posterior probability?
- What does the normalization factor (or evidence) do?

- What is Bayesian decision rule? or MPP?
- What are decision regions?
- How to calculate conditional probability of error and overall probability of error?
- What are cost function (or objective function) and optimization method?

Where Are We?



Part 1: Statistical Methods	
Bayesian Learning	
08/20 (T)	Introduction
08/22 (R)	Bayesian Decision Theory and Parametric Learning
08/27 (T)	Non-Parametric Learning
08/29 (R)	ML with Python (taught by TA)
09/03 (T)	Recap
09/05 (R)	Homework and Project Discussion (taught by TA)
Neural Networks	
09/10 (T)	Biological Neuron and Perceptron
09/12 (R)	Back Propagation and Gradient Descent
09/17 (T)	Kernel Methods
09/19 (R)	Support Vector Machine
09/24 (T)	SVM

M. Mafu, "Advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning for quantum communication applications," IET Quantum Communication, 2024, DOI: 10.1049/qtc2.12094

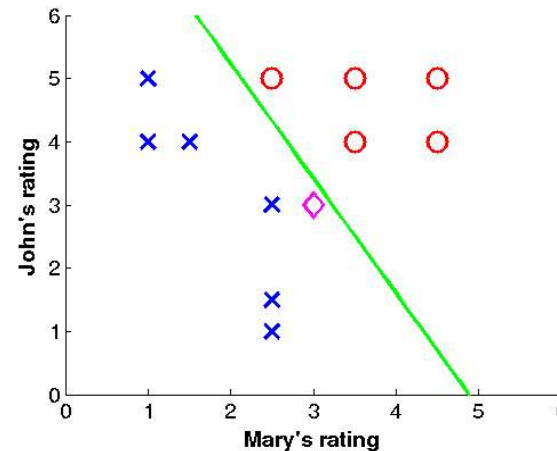
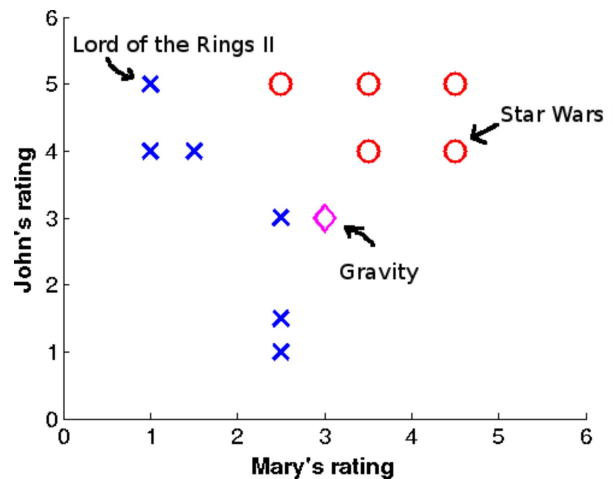
Reading Assignment in HW1

- Leo Breiman, “Statistical modeling: The two cultures,” *Statistical Science* 16(3):199-231, 2001.

Revisiting the Toy Example – An Intuitive Solution

Movie name	Mary's rating	John's rating	I like?
Lord of the Rings II	1	5	No
...
Star Wars I	4.5	4	Yes
Gravity	3	3	?

- Supervised learning:
 - Training data vs. testing data
 - Training: given input-output pairs
- Features
- Samples
- Dimensions



Bayes' Formula (Bayes' Rule)

conditional probability
density function (pdf)
or “likelihood”

from training data

prior probability (*a-priori* probability)

from domain knowledge

$$P(w_j|x) = \frac{p(x|w_j) P(w_j)}{p(x)}$$

j index for different
classes
 w_j : different classes
x: training sample

posterior probability
(*a-posteriori*
probability)

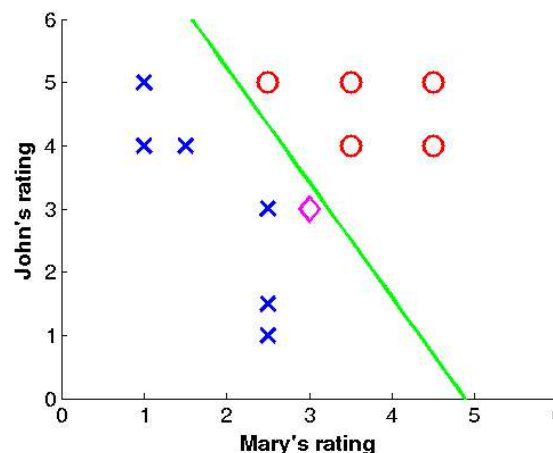
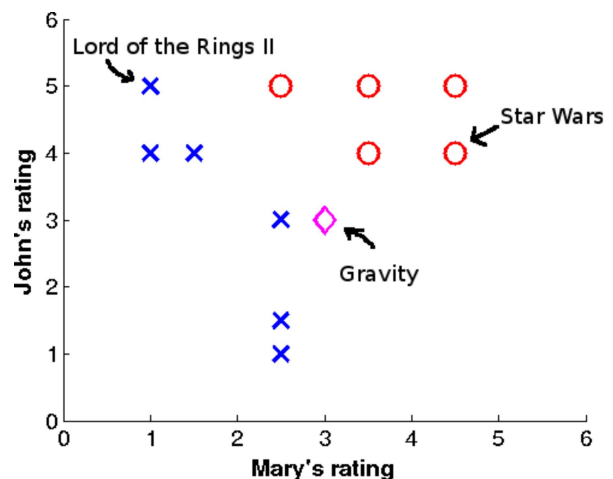
$$p(x) = \sum_{j=1}^c p(x|w_j) P(w_j)$$

normalization constant (evidence)

How do They Apply to the Toy Example

Movie name	Mary's rating	John's rating	I like?
Lord of the Rings II	1	5	No
...
Star Wars I	4.5	4	Yes
Gravity	3	3	?

$$P(w_j | x) = \frac{p(x | w_j) P(w_j)}{p(x)}$$



Toy Example Reduced to 1-D Feature (Mary's rating) from histogram to probability

$$P(w_j|x) = \frac{p(x|w_j) P(w_j)}{p(x)}$$

Training Set:

Movies Mary rated that I liked

x1 = [2.5

3.5

3.5

4.5

4.5]

Movies Mary rated that I disliked

x2 = [1

1

1.5

2.5

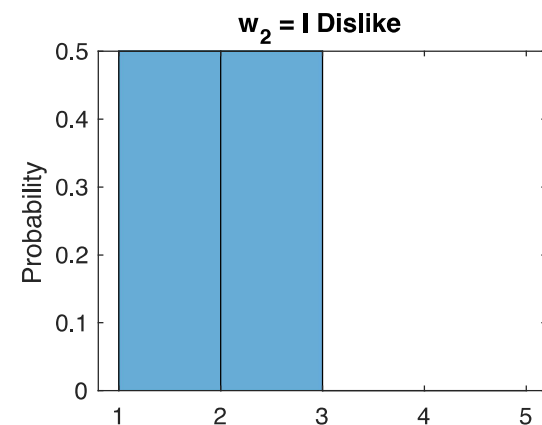
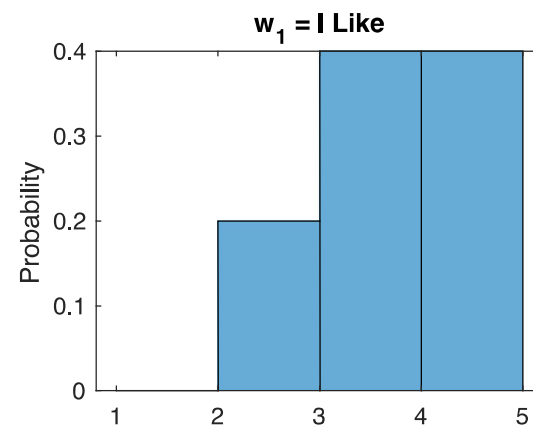
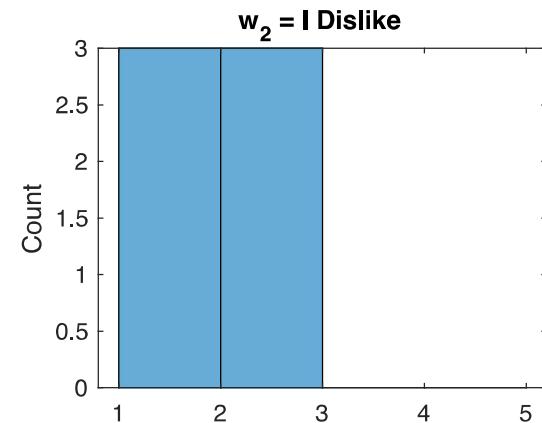
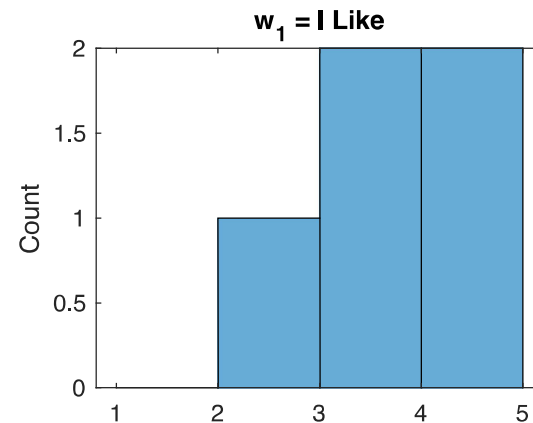
2.5

2.5]

Test Set:

x = [3]

Will I like it?



Toy Example Reduced to 1-D Feature (Mary's rating) from probability to model fitting (Gaussian)

$$P(w_j | x) = \frac{p(x | w_j) P(w_j)}{p(x)}$$

Training Set:

Movies Mary rated that I liked

x1 = [2.5

3.5

3.5

4.5

4.5]

Movies Mary rated that I disliked

x2 = [1

1

1.5

2.5

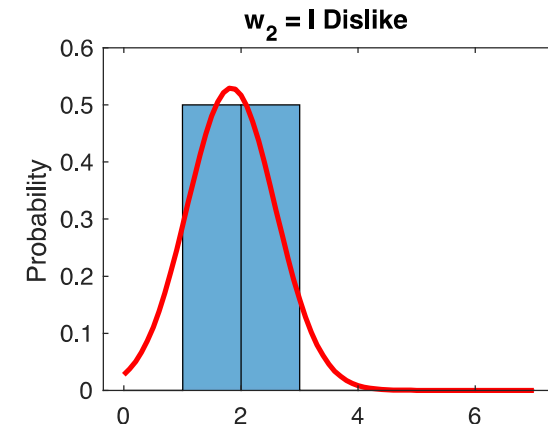
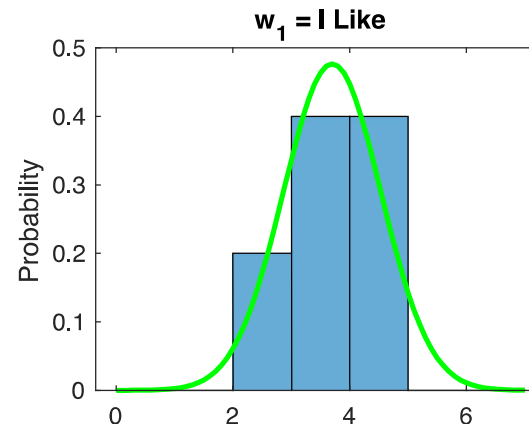
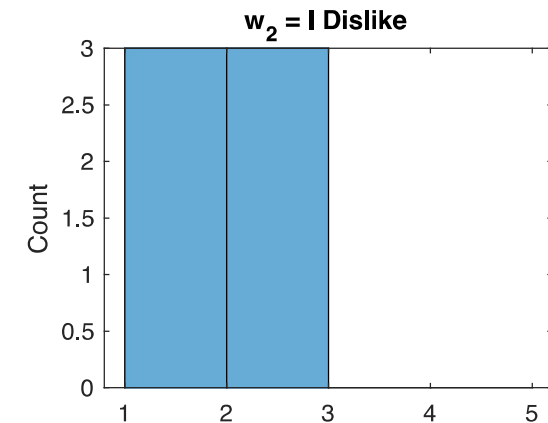
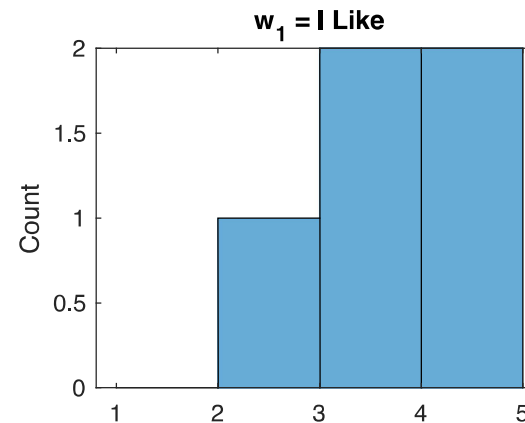
2.5

2.5]

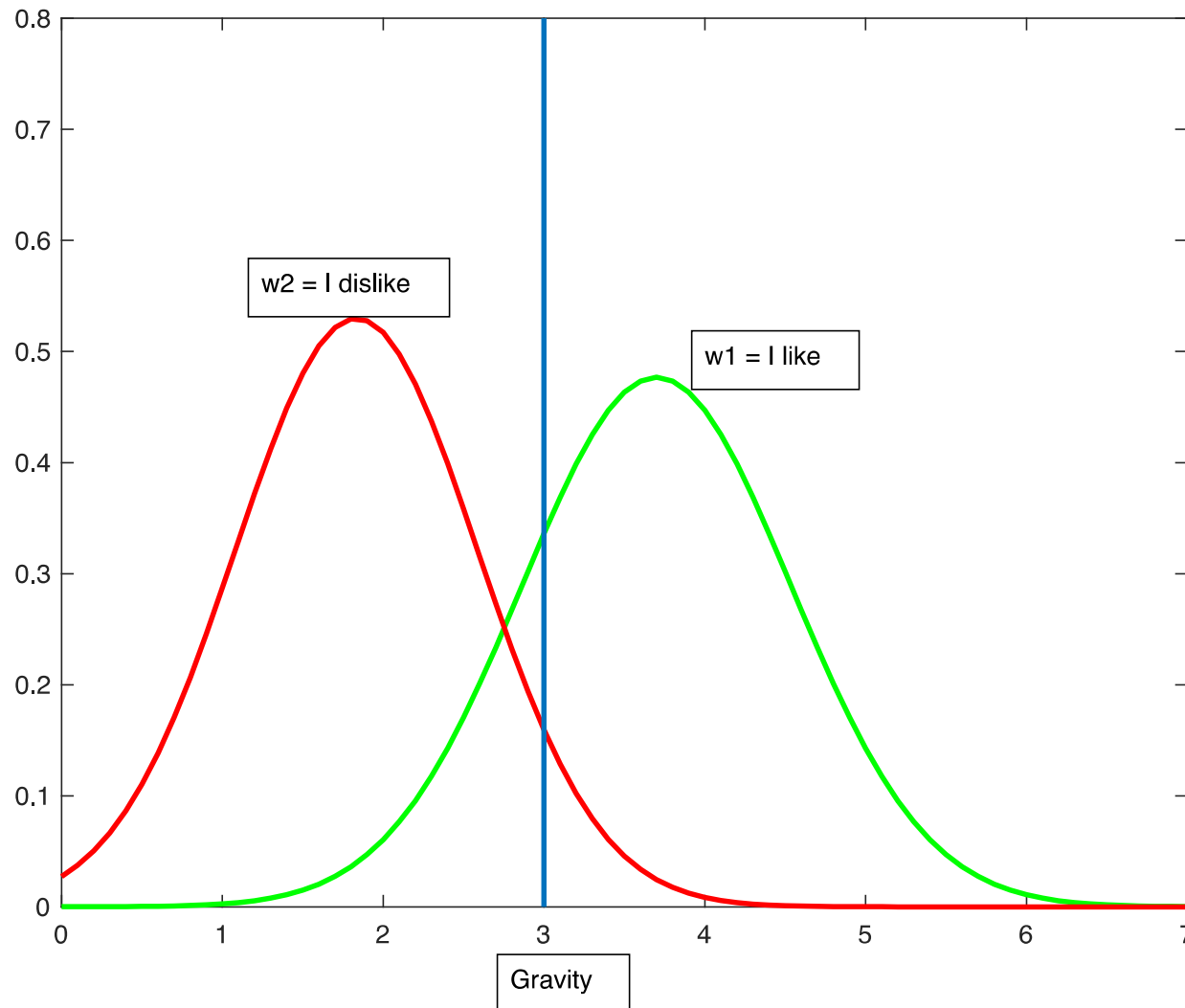
Test Set:

x = [3]

Will I like it?



Toy Example Reduced to 1-D Feature (Mary's rating) from model fitting to decision boundary



A Snippet to Discriminant Functions – Minimum Distance Classifier (Assumptions)

- 1. pdf is Gaussian

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left[-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$$

- 2. equal prior probability

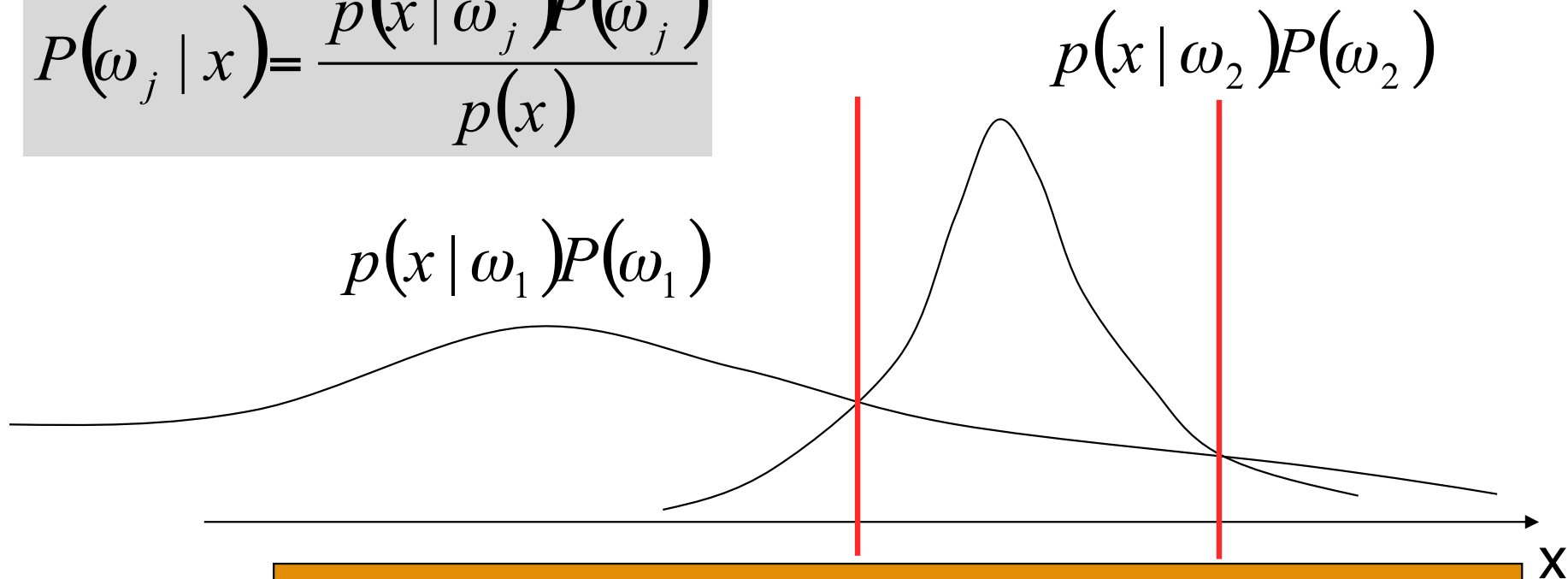
$$P(w_1) = P(w_2)$$

- 3. equal standard deviation

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$$

Bayes Decision Rule

$$P(\omega_j | x) = \frac{p(x | \omega_j)P(\omega_j)}{p(x)}$$

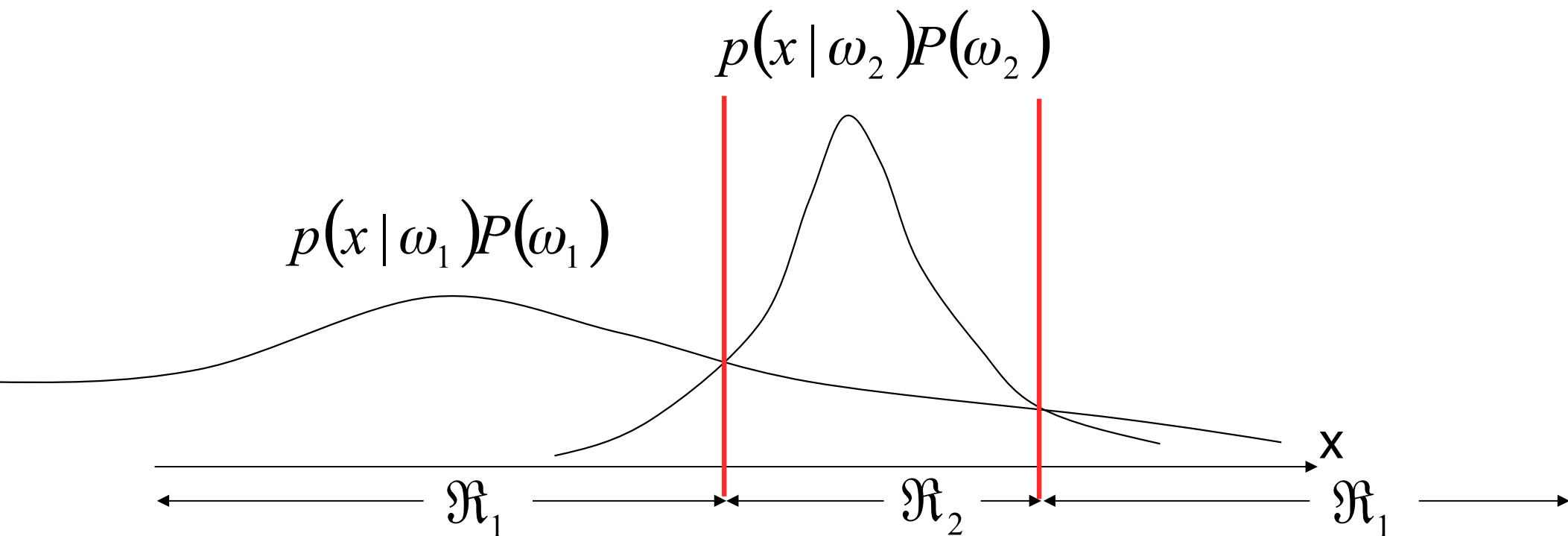


Maximum Posterior Probability (MPP):

For a given x , if $P(\omega_1 | x) > P(\omega_2 | x)$,
then x belongs to class 1, otherwise, 2.

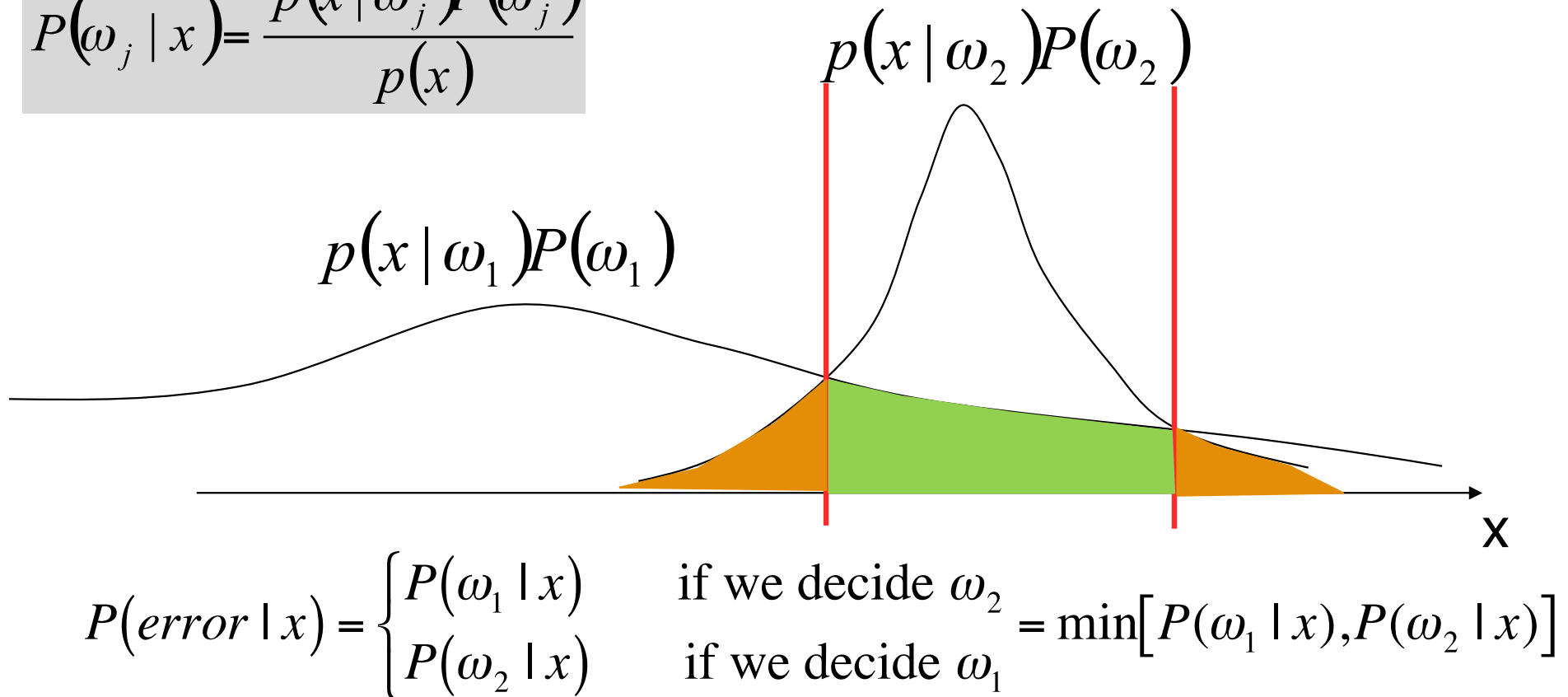
Decision Regions

The effect of any decision rule is to partition the **feature space** into c decision regions $\mathfrak{R}_1, \mathfrak{R}_2, \dots, \mathfrak{R}_c$



Conditional Probability of Error

$$P(\omega_j | x) = \frac{p(x | \omega_j)P(\omega_j)}{p(x)}$$



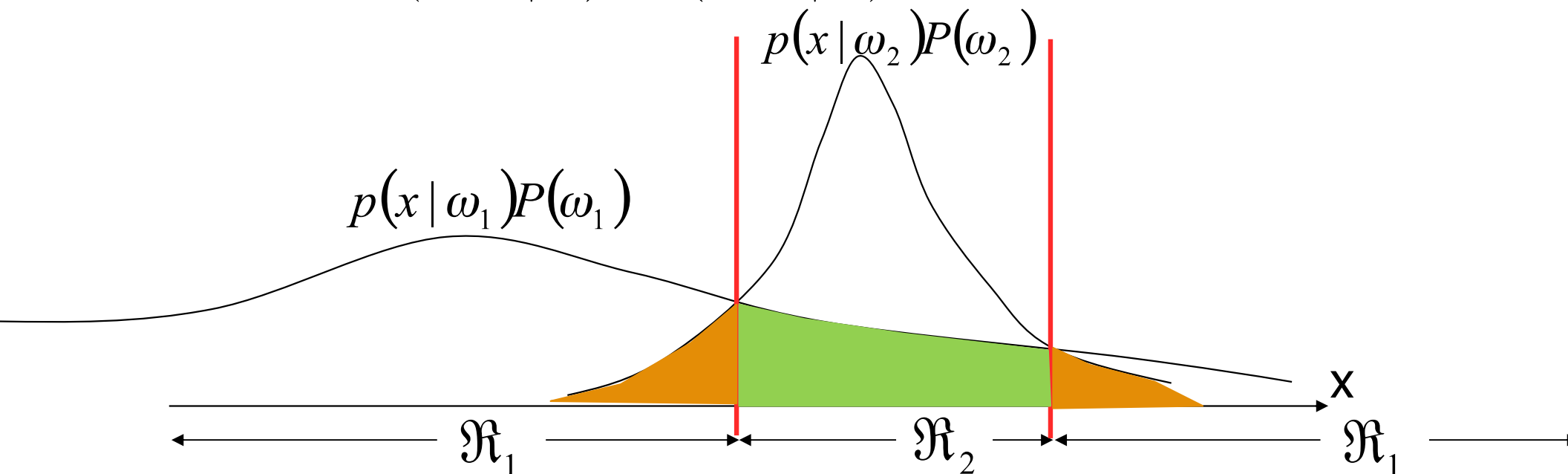
Overall Probability of Error

Or unconditional risk, unconditional probability of error

$$P(\text{error}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(\text{error}, x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(\text{error} | x) p(x) dx$$

$$P(\text{error}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(\omega_2 | x) p(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(\omega_1 | x) p(x) dx$$

$$= \underbrace{P(\text{error} | \omega_2)}_{\mathfrak{R}_1} + \underbrace{P(\text{error} | \omega_1)}_{\mathfrak{R}_2}$$



Q&A Session

- What is the cost function?
- What is the optimization approach we use to find the optimal solution to the cost function?

Theme 1: Cost functions and Optimization approaches

Recap

$$P(\omega_j | x) = \frac{p(x | \omega_j) P(\omega_j)}{p(x)}$$



Maximum
Posterior
Probability

For a given x , if $P(\omega_1 | x) > P(\omega_2 | x)$,
then x belongs to class 1, otherwise, 2.

Overall
probability
of error

$$P(\text{error}) = \int_{\mathfrak{R}_1} P(\omega_2 | x) p(x) dx + \int_{\mathfrak{R}_2} P(\omega_1 | x) p(x) dx$$

- ◆ Bayes decision rule → maximum posterior probability (MPP)
- ◆ Decision regions → How to calculate the overall probability of error