

$$y = \arg \max_{g \in \{0,1\}} P(\hat{y}|a)$$

To prove, decision boundary is linear  
when  $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_2$

Decision boundary  $\delta(a) = \frac{P(Y=2|X=a)}{P(Y=1|X=a)}$

If  $\delta(a) \geq 1$ ,  $x$  belongs to class 2  
 $\delta(a) < 1$ ,  $x$  belongs to class 1

Taking log

$$\log(\delta(x)) = \log P(Y=2|X=x) - \log P(Y=1|X=x)$$

Using Bayes' rule

$$P(Y=j|X=x) = \frac{P(X=x|Y=j) P(Y=j)}{P(X=x)}$$

and denoting  $\pi_j = P(Y=j)$

$$\begin{aligned} \log(\delta(x)) &= \log(P(X=x|Y=2)) + \log(\pi_2) \\ &\quad - \log(P(X=x)) - \log(P(X=x|Y=1)) \\ &\quad - \log(\pi_1) + \log(P(X=x)) \\ &= \log(P(X=x|Y=2)) + \log(\pi_2) - \log(P(X=x|Y=1)) - \log(\pi_1) \end{aligned}$$

□

We know  $P(X=x|Y=y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} |\Sigma_y|} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu_y)^T \Sigma_y^{-1} (x-\mu_y)}{2}\right)$



$$\begin{aligned}\log f(x) &= \log \frac{P(X=x | Y=2)}{P(X=x | Y=1)} + \log \frac{\pi_2}{\pi_1} \\ &= \log \frac{\sqrt{|\Sigma_1|}}{\sqrt{|\Sigma_2|}} + \frac{-(x - \mu_2)' \Sigma_2^{-1} (x - \mu_2)}{2} \\ &\quad + \frac{(x - \mu_1)' \Sigma_1^{-1} (x - \mu_1)}{2} + \log \frac{\pi_2}{\pi_1}\end{aligned}$$

When  $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_2 = \Sigma$

$$\begin{aligned}\log f(x) &= 0 + (-x \Sigma_2^{-1} x + x \Sigma_2^{-1} \mu_2 + \mu_2 \Sigma_2^{-1} x' \\ &\quad - \mu_2 \Sigma_2^{-1} \mu_2 + x \Sigma_1^{-1} x' - \mu_1 \Sigma_1^{-1} x' - x \Sigma_1^{-1} \mu_1 - \\ &\quad \mu_1 \Sigma_1^{-1} \mu_1) + \log \pi_2 / \pi_1 \\ &= (x \Sigma \mu_2' + \mu_2 \Sigma^{-1} x' - \mu_2 \Sigma^{-1} \mu_2 - \mu_1 \Sigma^{-1} x' - x \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 + C) \\ &\quad + \log \pi_2 / \pi_1\end{aligned}$$

where  $C = \log \pi_2 / \pi_1 + \mu_1 \Sigma^{-1} \mu_1 + \mu_2 \Sigma^{-1} \mu_2$

$f$  is a constant term

$$\log f(x) = \Sigma^{-1} x' (\mu_2 - \mu_1) + C$$

thus it can be expressed in terms of  $x$  making the boundary linear when  $\Sigma_1 = \Sigma_2$

When  $\Sigma_1 \neq \Sigma_2$ ,

$\log f(x)$  term will have the terms  $x \Sigma_2^{-1} x'$  and  $x \Sigma_1^{-1} x'$ , making the boundary linear.



When  $\Sigma_1 \neq \Sigma_2$

$$\log \delta(x) = \frac{x \Sigma_1^{-1} x - x \Sigma_2^{-1} x}{2} + \Sigma_2^{-1} x' \mu_2 - \Sigma_1^{-1} x' \mu_1 + C$$

Thus the decision boundary is quadratic  
~~and~~