# ICS663: Pattern Recognition

Department of Information and Computer Sciences University of Hawai`l at Manoa

Kyungim Baek

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#### Lecture 3

- Bayesian Decision Theory
  - Minimum Risk Classification
  - Minimum Error-Rate Classification
- Discriminant Functions

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#### **Announcement**

- Homework assignment # 1 has been posted
  - Due: Monday September 21, by 5:00 PM
- Project proposal
  - Due: Wednesday September 23, by 5:00 PM

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## Previously...

- Single feature, two categories
- Bayes decision rule

Decide  $\omega_1$  if  $P(\omega_1|x) > P(\omega_2|x)$ ; otherwise decide  $\omega_2$ 

– Equivalently:

Decide  $\omega_1$  if  $p(x \mid \omega_1) \cdot P(\omega_1) > p(x \mid \omega_2) \cdot P(\omega_2)$ ; otherwise decide  $\omega_2$ 

• It minimize the average probability of error

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

where

 $P(error|x) = P(\omega_1|x)$  if we decide  $\omega_2$ 

 $P(error|x) = P(\omega_2|x)$  if we decide  $\omega_1$ 

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#### Bayesian Decision Theory: Generalization

- Generalization of the preceding ideas by
  - Use of more than one feature
  - Use more than two categories
  - Allowing actions and not only decide on the category
    - Allows the possibility of rejection; i.e. refusing to make a decision in close or bad cases!
  - Introducing a loss of function which is more general than the probability of error
    - The *loss function* states how costly each action taken is

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# Generalization (cont'd)

• Overall risk: expected loss associated with a given decision rule  $\alpha(\mathbf{x})$ , specifying the action

$$R = \int R(\alpha(\mathbf{x}) \,|\, \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

- Minimizing R
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  Selecting  $\alpha_i$  with minimum conditional risk  $R(\alpha_i | \mathbf{x})$  (resulting R is called the **Bayes risk**)
- Bayes decision rule:

$$R(\alpha_i|\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{c} \lambda(\alpha_i|\omega_j) P(\omega_j|x)$$

$$\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \arg\min_{1 \le i \le a} R(\alpha_i | \mathbf{x})$$

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Generalization (cont'd)

- Let
  - $-\{\omega_1, \omega_2, ..., \omega_c\}$ : set of c classes
  - $-\{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, ..., \alpha_a\}$ : set of a possible actions
  - $-\lambda(\alpha_i|\omega_j)$ : loss incurred for taking action  $\alpha_i$  when the true class is  $\omega_i$
- Conditional risk: expected loss (i.e. risk) associated with taking action α<sub>i</sub>, given the observation x

$$R(\alpha_i|\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^c \lambda(\alpha_i|\omega_j)P(\omega_j|\mathbf{x})$$

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# **Two-Category Classification**

- $\alpha_1$ : deciding  $\omega_1$ ;  $\alpha_2$ : deciding  $\omega_2$   $\lambda_{ij} = \lambda(\alpha_i | \omega_j)$ : loss incurred for deciding  $\omega_i$  when the true class is  $\omega_i$
- Conditional risk:  $R(\alpha_i | \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{c} \lambda(\alpha_i | \omega_j) P(\omega_j | x)$

$$R(\alpha_1|\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_{11}P(\omega_1|\mathbf{x}) + \lambda_{12}P(\omega_2|\mathbf{x})$$
  

$$R(\alpha_2|\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_{21}P(\omega_1|\mathbf{x}) + \lambda_{22}P(\omega_2|\mathbf{x})$$

• Our rule is the following:

if  $R(\alpha_1 | \mathbf{x}) < R(\alpha_2 | \mathbf{x})$ , take action  $\alpha_1$  (decide  $\omega_1$ )

• This results in the equivalent rule:

$$\frac{\mathsf{decide}}{\mathsf{decide}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_1 & \mathsf{if} \ (\lambda_{21} - \lambda_{11}) p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_1) P(\omega_1) > (\lambda_{12} - \lambda_{22}) p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_2) P(\omega_2) \\ \omega_2 & \mathsf{otherwise} \end{array} \right.$$

# **Two-Category Classification**

- Likelihood ratio:
  - The preceding rule is equivalent to the following rule:

take action 
$$\alpha_1$$
 (decide  $\omega_1$ ) if  $\frac{p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_1)}{p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_2)} > \frac{\lambda_{12} - \lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{21} - \lambda_{11}} \cdot \frac{P(\omega_2)}{P(\omega_1)}$  take action  $\alpha_2$  (decide  $\omega_2$ ) otherwise

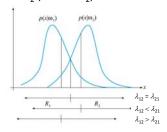
- Optimal decision property
  - "If the likelihood ratio exceeds a threshold value that is independent of the input pattern x, we can take optimal actions"

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# Likelihood Ratio Decision Rule: Illustration of Simple Case

• Assume that  $\lambda_{ii} = 0$  and  $P(\omega_1) = P(\omega_2)$ . Then, the decision rule becomes

$$\begin{cases} \text{ take action } \alpha_1 \text{ (decide } \omega_1 \text{)} & \text{if } \frac{p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_1)}{p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_2)} > \frac{\lambda_{12}}{\lambda_{21}} \\ \text{ take action } \alpha_2 \text{ (decide } \omega_2 \text{)} & \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$



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Figure from PR by Ilsuk Oh

#### Minimum-Error-Rate Classification

- Actions are decisions on classes:
  - − If action  $\alpha_i$  is taken and the true class is  $\omega_j$  then the decision is correct if i = j and in error if  $i \neq j$
- Seek a decision rule that minimizes the probability of error which is the error rate
- The *symmetrical* or *zero-one loss* function:

$$\lambda(\alpha_i \mid \omega_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & i = j \\ 1 & i \neq j \end{cases} \quad i, j = 1, ..., c$$

- No loss to a correct decision
- Unit loss to any error, i.e. the errors are equally costly

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#### Minimum-Error-Rate Classification

• Conditional risk corresponding to zero-one loss function is the average probability of error:

$$R(\alpha_i \mid \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{c} \lambda(\alpha_i \mid \omega_j) P(\omega_j \mid \mathbf{x})$$
$$= \sum_{j \neq i} P(\omega_j \mid \mathbf{x})$$
$$= 1 - P(\omega_i \mid \mathbf{x})$$

- Minimize the risk requires maximize  $P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x})$ ; i.e. for minimum error rate, **decide**  $\omega_i$  **if**  $P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}) > P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}) \forall j \neq i$ 
  - In other words, select class maximizing the posterior probability (as recommended by the Bayes decision rule)!

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#### Minimum-Error-Rate Classification

• Regions of decision and zero-one loss function

Let 
$$\frac{\lambda_{12} - \lambda_{22}}{\lambda_{21} - \lambda_{11}} \cdot \frac{P(\omega_2)}{P(\omega_1)} = \theta_{\lambda}$$
 then decide  $\omega_1$  if  $\frac{P(x \mid \omega_1)}{P(x \mid \omega_2)} > \theta_{\lambda}$ 

• If  $\lambda$  is the zero-one loss function which means:

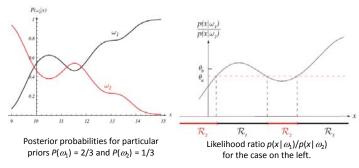
$$\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
then  $\theta_{\lambda} = \frac{P(\omega_{2})}{P(\omega_{1})} = \theta_{a}$ 

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#### Minimum-Error-Rate Classification

• Regions of decision and zero-one loss function



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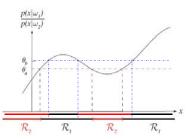
# **Unequal Loss**

• For example,  $\lambda_{12} = 2 \times \lambda_{21}$ , i.e.

$$\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\theta_{\lambda} = \frac{2P(\omega_2)}{P(\omega_1)} = \theta_b$$



If misclassifying  $\omega_2$  as  $\omega_1$  is penalized more than the converse, the threshold gets larger  $(\theta_b)$ , and hence  $R_1$  becomes smaller.

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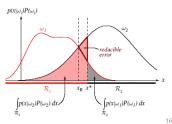
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# **Suboptimal Decisions**

$$\begin{split} P(error) &= \int P(error, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &= P(\mathbf{x} \in R_2, \omega_1) + P(\mathbf{x} \in R_1, \omega_2) \\ &= P(\mathbf{x} \in R_2 \mid \omega_1) P(\omega_1) + P(\mathbf{x} \in R_1 \mid \omega_2) P(\omega_2) \\ &= \int\limits_{R_2} p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_1) P(\omega_1) d\mathbf{x} + \int\limits_{R_1} p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_2) P(\omega_2) d\mathbf{x} \end{split}$$

If the decision point  $(x^*)$  is selected arbitrarily, then the error is not as small as it should be. The area of "reducible error" can be eliminated by moving the decision point to the Bayes optimal decision boundary  $(x_B)$ . In conclusion, Bayes decision rule maximizes the probability of correct classification and minimizes the risk of error.

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## Summary

- Bayes decision rule  $\alpha(x)$ 
  - Conditional risk:

$$R(\alpha_i|\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{c} \lambda(\alpha_i|\omega_j) P(\omega_j|\mathbf{x})$$

- Overall risk:

$$R = \int R(\alpha(\mathbf{x}) \,|\, \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

– Minimize the overall risk:  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \underset{1 \le i \le a}{\operatorname{arg \, min}} R(\alpha_i | \mathbf{x})$ 

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# Summary (cont'd)

• Bayes decision rule  $\alpha(x)$ 

 $=1-P(\omega_i \mid \mathbf{x})$ 

- If 
$$\lambda$$
 is the zero-one loss function:  $\lambda(\alpha_i \mid \omega_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & i = j \\ 1 & i \neq j \end{cases}$   $i, j = 1,...,c$ 

$$R(\alpha_i \mid \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{c} \lambda(\alpha_i \mid \omega_j) P(\omega_j \mid \mathbf{x})$$

$$= \sum_{i \neq j} P(\omega_j \mid \mathbf{x})$$

Then,  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}) = \underset{1 \le i \le a}{\arg \min} R(\alpha_i | \mathbf{x}) = \omega_i \text{ if } P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}) > P(\omega_j | \mathbf{x}) \quad \forall j \ne i$ 

- In other words, select the class maximizing the posterior probability
- Minimize the probability of error (i.e. minimum error rate)

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# Classifiers, Discriminant Functions and Decision Surfaces

- Discriminant function: a function employed for differentiating/discriminating between classes
  - Pattern classifiers can be represented by set of discriminant functions,  $g_i(\mathbf{x})$ , i = 1,..., c
  - Decision rule:

Assign a feature vector **x** to class *i* if:

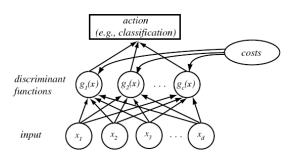
$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) > g_i(\mathbf{x}) \ \forall j \neq i$$

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### Generic Classifier

• Functional structure of a general statistical pattern classifier



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## **Discriminant Functions for Bayes** Classifier

• General case (minimum conditional risk):

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = -R(\alpha_i | \mathbf{x})$$

• Minimum error rate (maximum posterior):

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x})$$

or equivalently,

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_i)P(\omega_i)$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_i) + \ln P(\omega_i)$$
 (In: natural logarithm)

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## **Decision Regions**

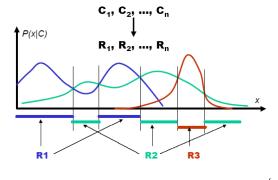
• A decision rule based on the discriminant functions generates a set of *decision regions* (i.e. divide feature space into c decision regions), R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>,..., R<sub>c</sub> (not needing to be contiguous):

if 
$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) > g_i(\mathbf{x}) \ \forall j \neq i$$
 then  $\mathbf{x}$  is in  $R_i$ 

• Decision regions are separated by **decision boundaries**. The condition satisfied at the decision boundary between R<sub>i</sub> and R<sub>i</sub> is:  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) = g_i(\mathbf{x})$ 

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# **Decision Regions and Boundaries**



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from S. Iliescu

# The Two-Category Case

• A classifier is a "dichotomizer" that has two discriminant functions  $g_1$  and  $g_2$ 

Let 
$$g(\mathbf{x}) \equiv g_1(\mathbf{x}) - g_2(\mathbf{x})$$

Decide 
$$\begin{cases} \omega_1 & \text{if } g(\mathbf{x}) > 0 \\ \omega_2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

• Example:  $q(\mathbf{x})$  for minimum error-rate classification

$$g(\mathbf{X}) = P(\omega_1 \mid \mathbf{X}) - P(\omega_2 \mid \mathbf{X})$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_1)}{p(\mathbf{x} \mid \omega_2)} + \ln \frac{P(\omega_1)}{P(\omega_2)}$$

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