

MSc Applied Information and Data Science  
Applied Machine Learning and Predictive Modelling 2

# Classification

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# Outline of this chapter

- Introduction
- Classification approaches
  - Logistic regression
  - Linear and quadratic discriminant analysis (LDA & QDA)
  - Naive Bayes
- Evaluating and comparing classifiers
- *Literature:*
  - *Chapters 4 and 5.1 of James et al. (2017)*

# INTRODUCTION

## Goal of classification

- **Given:** data for variables  $X$  and  $Y$ .
  - **Response variable  $Y$ .  $Y$  is categorical:**  $Y \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ . There are  $k$  classes / groups.
  - $p$  predictor variables  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_p)^T$ . Can be both quantitative or categorical.
- **Goal of classification:**
  - Predict to which group a new observation belongs (i.e., predict the class  $j$  for  $X = x_{new}$ ).
- Often, the response variable  $Y$  is **binary**, i.e., it takes only two values.

# Example use cases of classification

- **Example use cases:**

- Churn prediction: will a customer churn or not?
- Cross selling: will a customer buy a certain product or not?
- Marketing: will a customer respond to a marketing action or not?
- Credit risk modeling: will a company default or not?
- Fraud detection: is a financial transaction fraudulent or not?
- Is an e-mail spam or not?
- Medicine: does a patient have a certain disease or not?



## Example: Oscar winning movies<sup>1</sup>

Oscar	BoxOffice	Budget	Country	Critics	Length
0	20.91	21.73	Other	77.4	112
0	37.8	33.56	Europe	68.2	124
1	43.61	46.16	UK	38.5	108
1	53.53	18.67	Other	68.6	127
0	19.95	29.34	India	45.2	153
...	...	...	...	...	...

**dependent  
variable y**

**predictor variables x**

## Example: Oscar winning movies

- **Dependent variable:** Oscar win ( $Y=1/N=0$ ).
- **Predictor variables:**
  - Box office intake in millions of dollars.
  - Budget in millions of dollars.
  - Country of origin: US, UK, Europe, India, other.
  - Critical reception (average score 0-100).
  - Length of the movie in minutes.

## Example: classification of Iris flowers



Iris setosa



Iris versicolor



Iris virginica



**Goal:** classify species based on data about sepal/petal length/width.



## Example: Iris data

Sepal.Length	Sepal.Width	Petal.Length	Petal.Width	Species
5	3.4	1.5	0.2	setosa
6.8	3.2	5.9	2.3	virginica
6.8	2.8	4.8	1.4	versicolor
4.9	2.4	3.3	1	versicolor
5.1	3.3	1.7	0.5	setosa
4.6	3.4	1.4	0.3	setosa
...	...	...	...	...

$X$

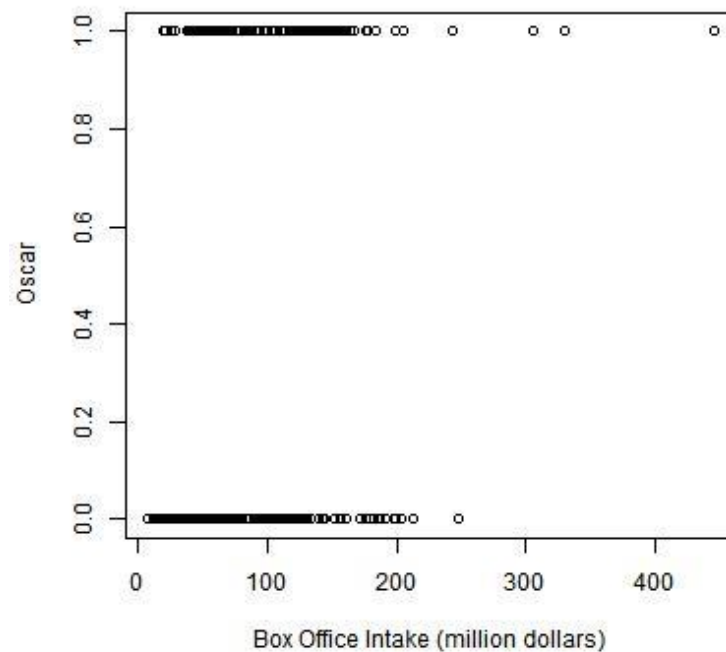
$Y$

3 classes (species): setosa,  
versicolor, and virginica.

# LOGISTIC REGRESSION

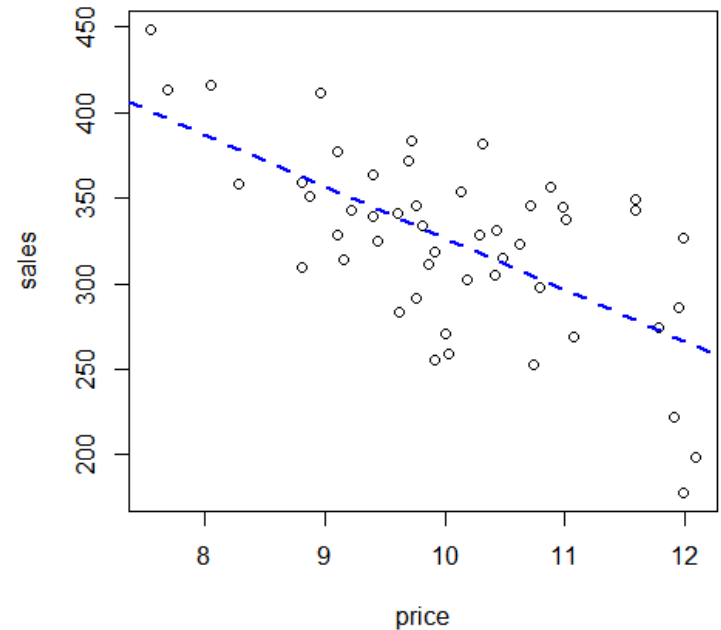
## Example: Oscar winning movies

- At first, we only consider box office intake in millions of dollars as predictor variable.
- Will a movie with high a **box office intake** win the Oscar?



## Recap: linear regression

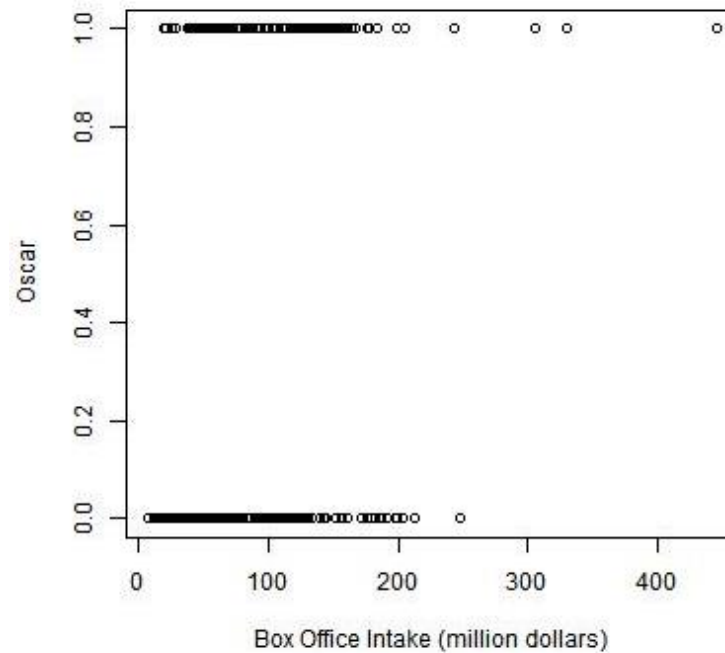
- $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_K x_K + \epsilon$ 
  - $y$ : dependent variable
  - $x_1, \dots, x_K$ : predictor variables
  - $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_K$ : coefficients
  - $\epsilon$ : random error



- In linear regression, the dependent variable  $y$  does **not only take two values but any number** on the real line.
- One **should not use linear regression** for modeling a binary variable.

# Logistic regression

- How can we model binary data?



→ use a “two step” approach.

# Logistic regression

1. As in linear regression, we start with

$$\eta(x) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_p x_p.$$

- This is called the **linear predictor**.

2. We then use a function to **transform** this, such that the resulting value is between 0 and 1:

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_p x_p)}} \quad \left( = \frac{e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_p x_p}}{1 + e^{\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_p x_p}} \right)$$

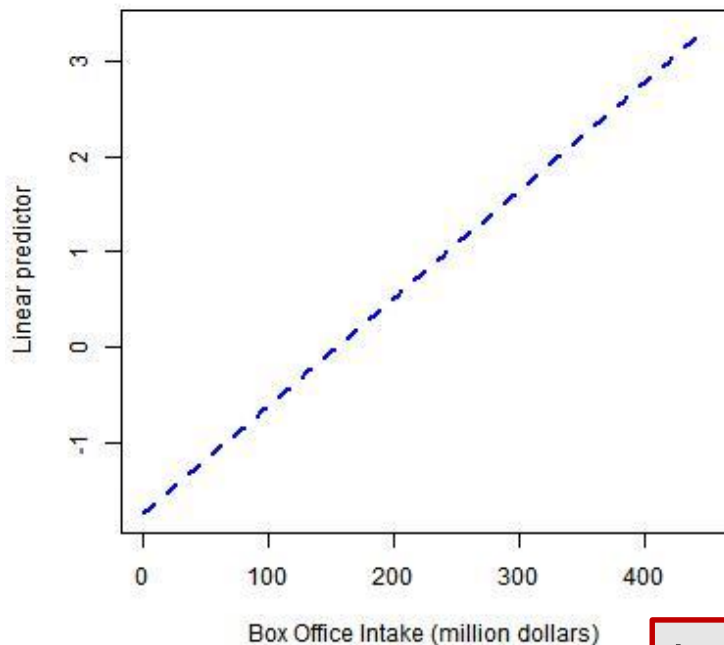
- This function is called the **logistic function**.
- This value  $p(x)$  is interpreted as the **probability** that  $y$  equals one:  
 $P(y = 1 | X = x)$ .

# Logistic regression

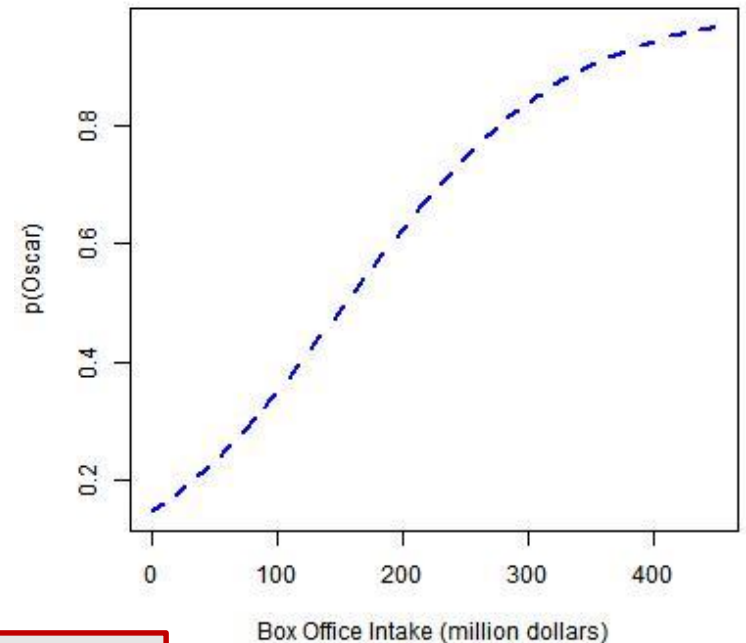
- $x_1, \dots, x_p$ : predictor variables
- $\beta_0, \beta_1, \dots, \beta_p$ : coefficients



linear predictor



Probability of  
winning the Oscar



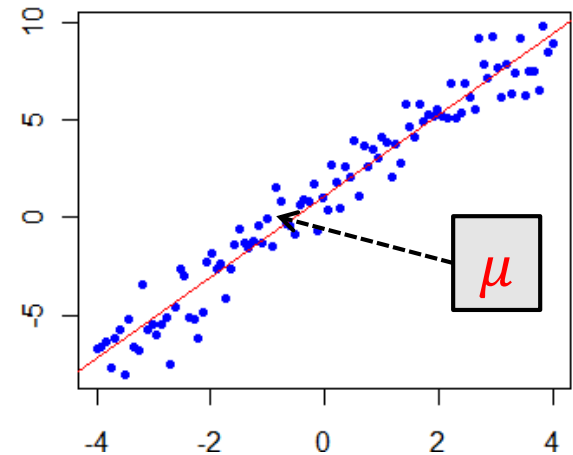
transform to  $[0,1]$

# Comparison of linear and logistic regression

- **Linear regression:**

$$Y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$
$$\mu = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1$$

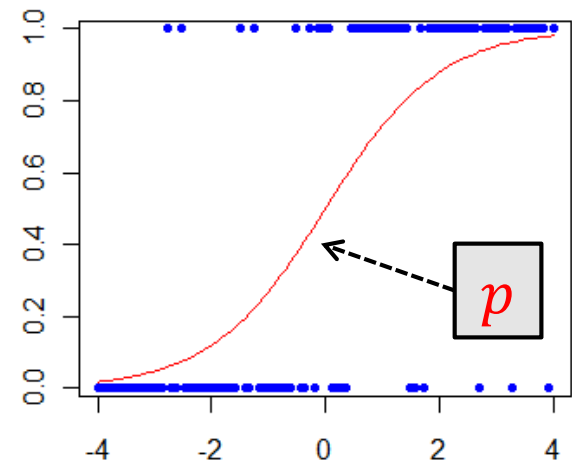
- Example: distance and travel time in tram



- **Logistic regression:**

$$Y \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$$
$$p = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1)}}$$

- Example: failure probability and lifetime





## Logistic regression in R

- Build the logistic regression model using the `glm` function:  

```
boxOfficeModel <- glm(Oscar~BoxOffice,  
                      family=binomial(link="logit"),  
                      data=movieData)
```
- Comments:
  - `glm` stands for generalized linear model.
  - **Generalized linear models** are an extension of the linear regression model that allow for the dependent variable to have distributions other than the normal distribution.
  - In the case of the logistic regression model, this is the so called **binomial distribution**.

# Logistic regression in R

```
summary(boxOfficeModel)
```

```
Call:
glm(formula = Oscar ~ BoxOffice, family = binomial(link = "logit"),
    data = moviedata)

Deviance Residuals:
    Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-1.6432  -0.8316  -0.6997   1.2380   1.8546

Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error z value Pr(>|z|)
(Intercept) -1.750349    0.256883  -6.814 9.50e-12 ***
BoxOffice     0.011306    0.002507   4.510 6.48e-06 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

(Dispersion parameter for binomial family taken to be 1)

    Null deviance: 374.60  on 299  degrees of freedom
Residual deviance: 350.82  on 298  degrees of freedom
AIC: 354.82

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 4
```

Learned /  
estimated  
coefficients

Significance of  
predictor  
variables

AIC: goodness of fit (lower = better)

## Logistic regression in R

- The output is very similar to linear regression.
- The **interpretation** of the **magnitudes** of the coefficients is somewhat more complicated (no details here).
- The **interpretation** of the **signs** of the coefficients is the same as for linear regression models.
- The **interpretation** of the **p-values** is the same as for linear regression models.

## Prediction with logistic regression

Assume we want to predict the probability that a movie with a \$50 million box office intake wins the Oscar.

1. We first **calculate the linear predictor**

$$-1.75 + 0.011 \cdot 50 = -1.2$$

2. We then **transform** this to obtain a **probability**

$$p = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(-1.2)}} = 0.231$$

- Thus, our model says **that the movie has a 23.1% chance of winning an Oscar.**
- If we have to make a **point prediction**, we would say that the movie **does not win** the Oscar, since  $23.1\% < 50\%$ .

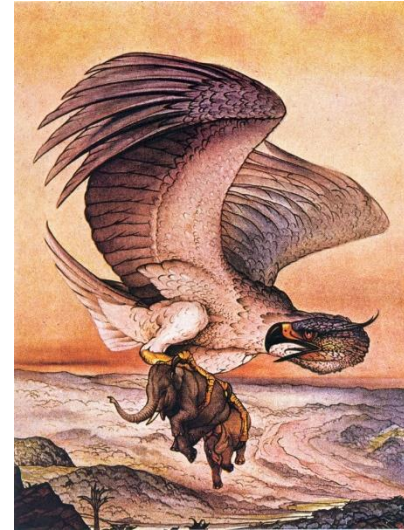
*Kahoot question*

## Prediction in R

- In R, predictions are obtained as follows:

```
p=predict(boxOfficeModel,  
          newdata=data.frame(BoxOffice=50),  
          type = "response")  
p # Probability of winning the Oscar  
p>0.5 # Will the movie win the Oscar?
```

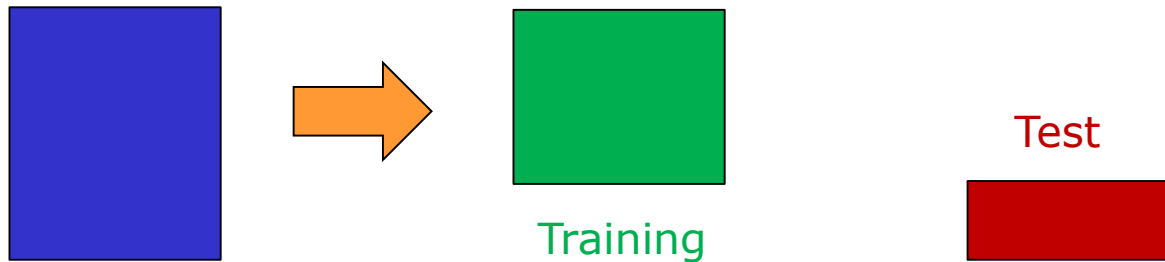
```
> p=predict(boxOfficeModel, newdata = data.frame(BoxOffice=50), type = "response")  
> p  
      1  
0.2341426  
> p>0.5  
      1  
FALSE
```



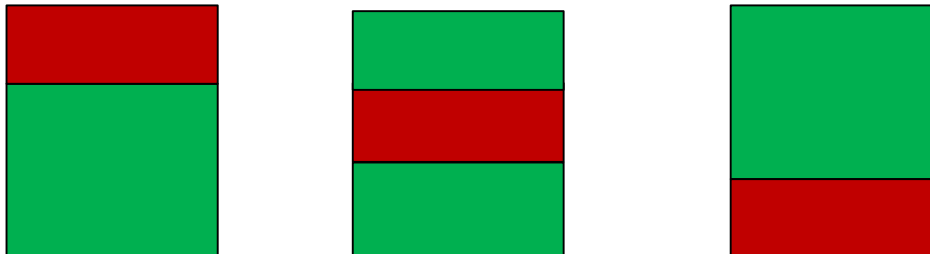
# EVALUATION

# Quality of classification

- **Problem:** if we use the same data for model fitting and evaluation, there is the danger of **overfitting**: too optimistic for error on new data.
- **Solution:** separate the data into training and test data.



- **Cross-validation (CV)**  
Example: “leave-one-out” cross-validation. Every row / observation is the test case once, the rest in the training data.



# Confusion matrix

- **Confusion matrix** (e.g. 300 movies):

	Truth = 0	Truth = 1
Prediction = 0	190	80
Prediction = 1	15	15

Diagram annotations:

- Wrongly classified.** (Red box) points to the 80 (FP) and 15 (FN) cells.
- Correctly classified.** (Blue box) points to the 190 (TN) and 15 (TP) cells.
- All movies that **did not win** an Oscar.** (Orange box) points to the Truth = 0 column.
- All movies that **did win** an Oscar.** (Green box) points to the Truth = 1 column.

- **Error rate:**  
 $(80+15)/300=0.32$   
 (wrongly classified) / (number of samples)
- We expect that our classifier predicts 32% of new observations *incorrectly*.

$$\text{Error rate} = \frac{\text{FN} + \text{FP}}{\text{TN} + \text{FN} + \text{FP} + \text{TP}}$$



## Example confusion matrix for more than 2 categories

- Confusion matrix (e.g. 100 samples):

	Truth=0	Truth=1	Truth=2
Pred = 0	23	7	6
Pred = 1	3	27	4
Pred = 2	3	1	26



- Error (misclassification) rate:**  
 $1 - \text{sum}(\text{diagonal entries}) / (\text{number of samples}) =$   
 $= 1 - 76/100 = 0.24.$
- We expect that our classifier predicts approx. 24% of new observations incorrectly.

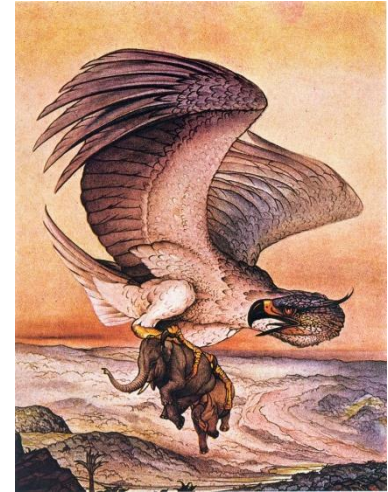
## Comparing binary classifiers

- Binary classifiers: we usually predict  $Y = 1$  if  $\hat{P}(Y = 1|X) > \delta$  where  $\delta = 0.5$
- The threshold  $\delta = 0.5$  can be arbitrary and does not always produce the best results
- To avoid choosing one single threshold, one can **compare classifiers for various choices of thresholds**
  - choose classifier which is best for “many thresholds”.

# Comparing binary classifiers using the ROC curve

- Recall confusion matrix for binary classification

	Truth = 0	Truth = 1
Pred = 0	True negative (TN)	False negative (FN)
Pred = 1	False positive (FP)	True positive (TP)

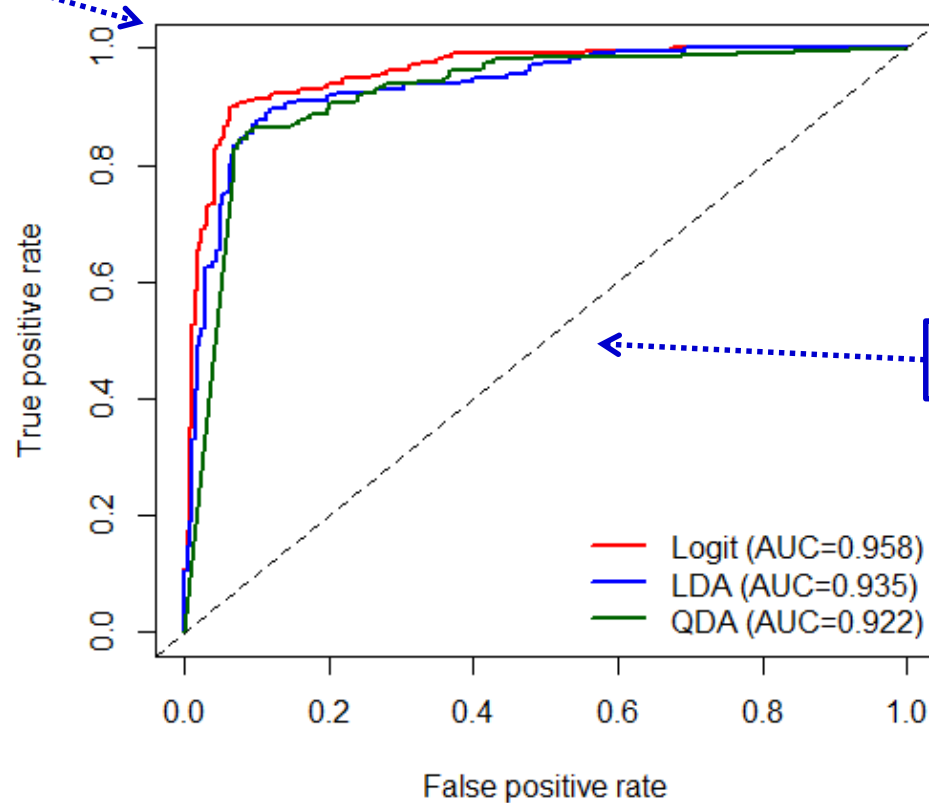


[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roc\\_\(mythology\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roc_(mythology))

- Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) plots**
  - true positive (TP) rate vs. The higher the better
  - false positive (FP) rate for various thresholds. The lower the better
- Summary measure: **area under the receiver operating characteristic (AUC)** The higher the better

## Example: SPAM detection

The closer to this corner the better



Random guessing

*See R examples.*

# LDA & QDA

# Classification

- Most approaches for classification calculate an estimate for the **probability**

$$P(Y = j|X = x).$$

- In general,  $X = x$  is then classified into the group  $j$  for which this probability is highest.
- There are two different approaches to obtain  $P(Y = j|X = x)$  :
  - Direct modelling of  $P(Y = j|X = x)$  (e.g., logistic regression).
  - First model  $P(X = x|Y = j)$  and then use Bayes' theorem to obtain  $P(Y = j|X = x)$  (LDA & QDA).

## Idea of LDA and QDA

- Both **linear and quadratic discriminant analysis** (LDA & QDA) start by specifying:
  1. The **prior probability**  $p_j = P(Y = j)$  that an observation belongs to class  $j$ .
  2. The **distribution of  $X$  given that an observation belongs to class  $j$** . This is assumed to be a multivariate normal distribution  $X|Y = j \sim N(\mu_j, \Sigma_j)$ .
- Bayes' theorem is then used to calculate **posterior probability**  $P(Y = j|X = x)$ .
  - Bayes' theorem:

$$P(B|A) = \frac{P(A|B)P(B)}{P(A)}.$$

For LDA and QDA, we apply this with A replaced by "X=x" and B replaced by "Y=j".

## LDA & QDA

- It follows that the (unconditional) **distribution of  $X$**  is a **Gaussian mixture** with density

$$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j g_j(x; \theta_j),$$

**Note:** Observe the **similarity to model based clustering**. In contrast to clustering, we know the number of groups  $k$  and, in particular, to which group an observation in the data belongs to.

where

$$g_j(x; \theta_j) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{p}{2}} |\Sigma_j|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_j)^T \Sigma_j^{-1}(x - \mu_j)\right)$$

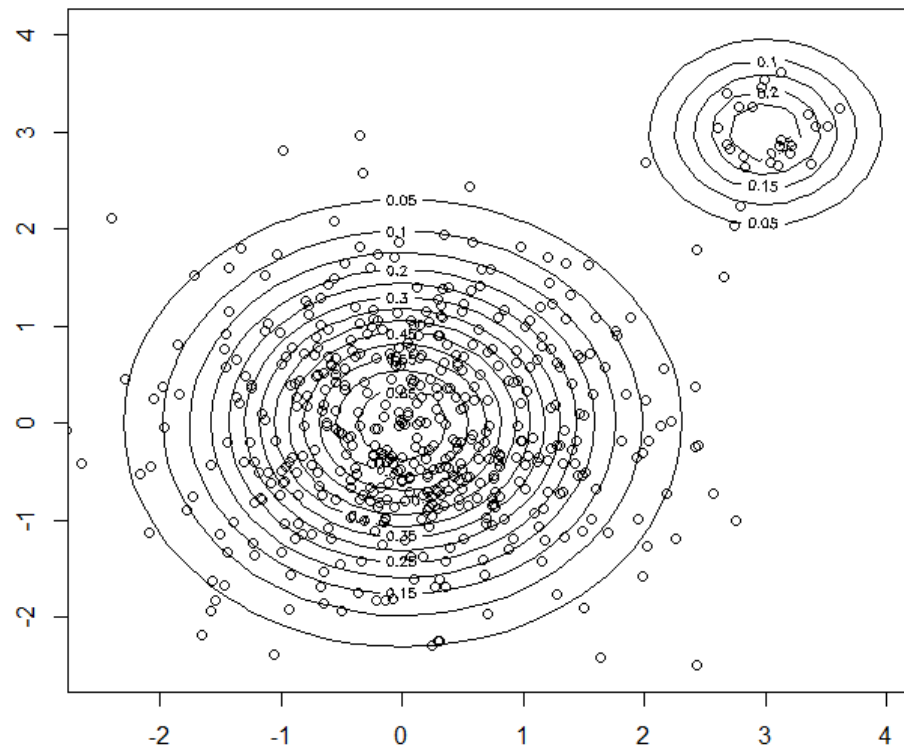
is the multivariate normal density and

$$\sum_{j=1}^k p_j = 1.$$



# Gaussian mixture model example

- 2D example



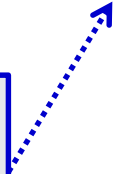
# LDA & QDA

- By applying Bayes' theorem, one obtains the so-called **posterior probability that an observation belongs to class  $j$  given  $X = x$**

$$P(Y = j|X = x) = \frac{p_j g_j(x; \theta_j)}{\sum_{j'=1}^k p_{j'} g_{j'}(x; \theta_{j'})}.$$

- $X = x$  is classified into the class  $j$  for which this probability is maximal.
- How can we find this class  $j$ ?
  - Use the fact that
    - $\operatorname{argmax}_j P(Y = j|X = x) = \operatorname{argmax}_j \log(P(Y = j|X = x))$
    - $\log(P(Y = j|X = x)) = \log(p_j) + \log(g_j(x; \theta_j)) - \log(\sum_{j'=1}^k p_{j'} g_{j'}(x; \theta_{j'}))$

The last term is the same for all  $j$ .  
So we can drop it for finding the maximum.



## Quadratic discriminant analysis (QDA)

- **Quadratic discriminant analysis (QDA)** assigns an observation  $X = x$  to the class  $j$  for which

$$\delta_j(x) = \log(p_j) - \frac{1}{2} \log(|\Sigma_j|) - \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_j)^T \Sigma_j^{-1} (x - \mu_j)$$

is maximal.

- It is called “quadratic”, since  $x$  appears as a quadratic function in  $\delta_j(x)$ .

This is obtained by plugging in the Gaussian density for  $g_j(x; \theta_j)$  (and dropping the term  $-\frac{p}{2} \log(2\pi)$ ).

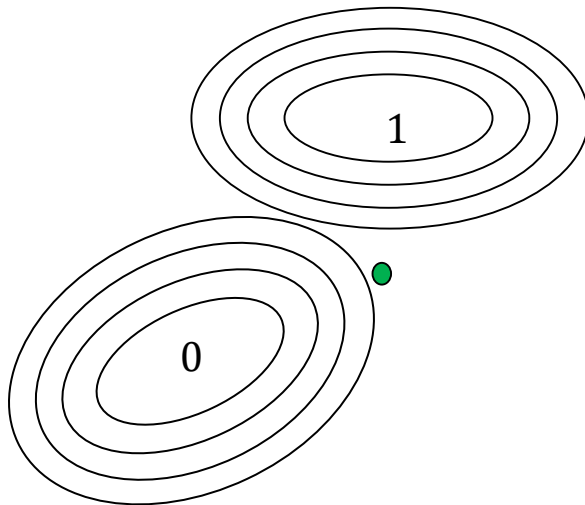
- The  $x$ 's for which  $\delta_j(x) = \delta_{j'}(x)$  are called **decision boundaries**.

## Parameter estimation

- The **parameters**  $p_j$ ,  $\mu_j$ , and  $\Sigma_j$  are **estimated** as follows:
  - $p_j$ : fraction of observations in the data that belong to class  $j$ .
  - $\mu_j$ : sample mean  $\bar{x}_j$  of all observations that belong to class  $j$ .
  - $\Sigma_j$ : sample covariance  $S_j$  of all observations that belong to class  $j$ .

## Intuition for QDA

- $\delta_j(x) = \log(p_j) - \frac{1}{2}\log(|\Sigma_j|) - \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_j)^T \Sigma_j^{-1}(x - \mu_j)$
- Example:



Classify to which class  
(assuming equal  $p_j$  and  $|\Sigma_j|$ )?

*Kahoot question*

## Linear discriminant analysis (LDA)

- Depending on the number of variables  $p$ ,  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_p)$ , this can lead to a large number of parameters. In particular, the covariance matrices  $\Sigma_j$  can contain a lot of parameters.

- In **linear discriminant analysis (LDA)**, we assume that all the **covariance matrices** are **equal** for all classes. I.e., we assume

$$X|Y = j \sim N(\mu_j, \Sigma)$$

instead of

$$X|Y = j \sim N(\mu_j, \Sigma_j).$$

# Linear discriminant analysis

- It follows that linear discriminant analysis assigns an observation  $X = x$  to the class  $j$  for which

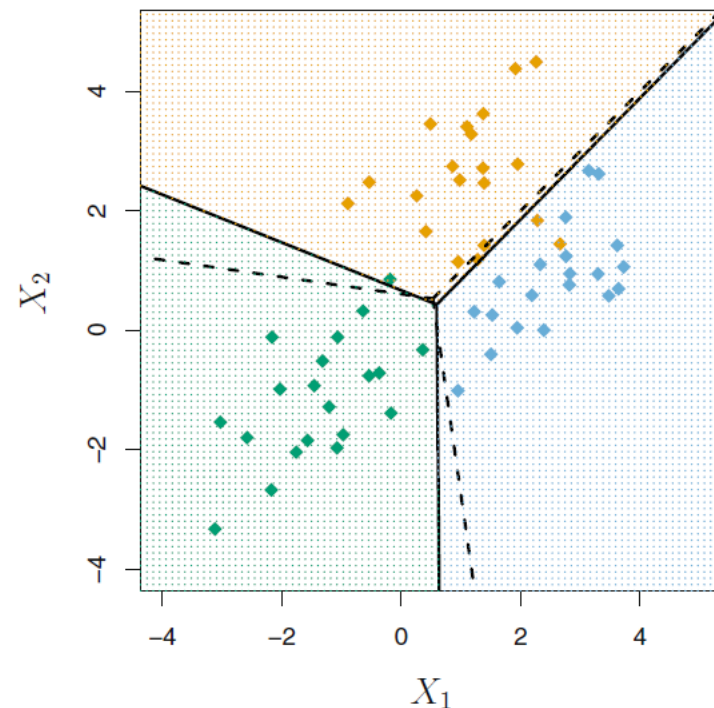
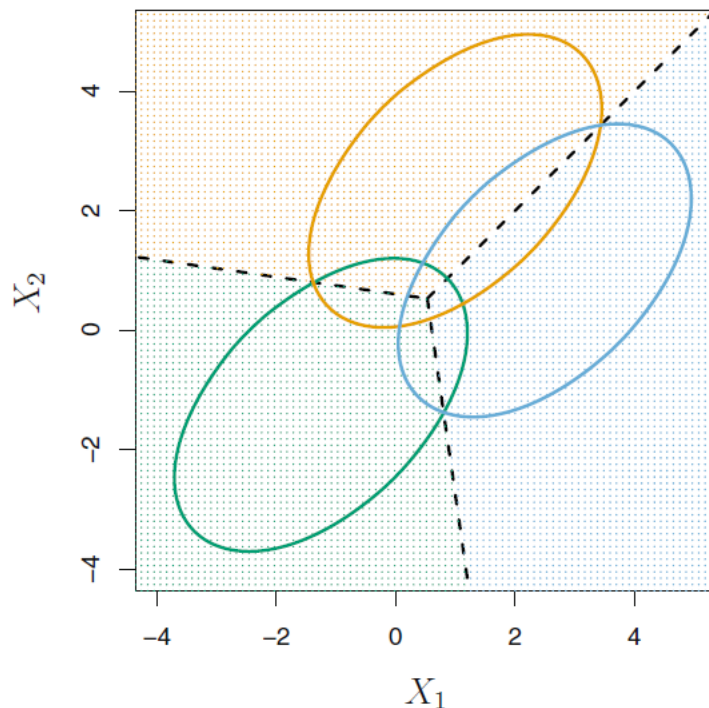
$$\delta_j(x) = \log(p_j) + x^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_j - \frac{1}{2} \mu_j^T \Sigma^{-1} \mu_j$$

is maximal.

- The function  $\delta_j(x)$  is linear in  $x$ .
- In contrast to QDA, the quadratic term  $-\frac{1}{2} x^T \Sigma^{-1} x$  has been dropped since it does not depend on  $j$ .

# Illustration of decision boundaries for LDA

- LDA example with three classes ( $k = 3$ ) and two variables ( $p = 2$ ). The dashed lines are the true decision boundaries ( $\delta_j(x) = \delta_{j^*}(x)$ ) and the solid lines the estimated ones.

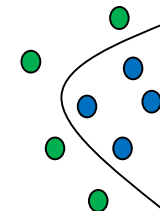
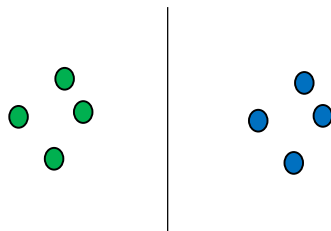


Source: James et al. (2013)



## LDA vs. QDA

LDA	QDA
+ Only few parameters to estimate;	- Many parameters to estimate; potentially less accurate estimates
- Less flexible (linear decision boundary)	+ More flexible (quadratic decision boundary)



# Naïve Bayes and QDA

- **Naïve Bayes** is an often used technique in applied machine learning.
- Gaussian naïve Bayes is a special case of QDA:
  - Instead of  $X|Y = j \sim N(\mu_j, \Sigma_j)$  with  $\Sigma_j$  being a general covariance matrix, it is assumed that  $\Sigma_j$  is diagonal
$$\Sigma_j = \text{diag}(\sigma_{1j}^2, \dots, \sigma_{pj}^2).$$
- In general, naïve Bayes assumes that conditional on  $Y = j$ , the  $(X_1, \dots, X_p)$ 's are independent.



Thomas Bayes  
1702 - 1761

# Comparing logistic regression and LDA

- For LDA, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \log \left( \frac{P(Y = 1|X = x)}{P(Y = 0|X = x)} \right) &= \\ &= \underbrace{\log \left( \frac{p_0}{p_1} \right) - \frac{1}{2} (\mu_0 + \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_0)}_{\alpha_0} + \underbrace{x^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mu_1 - \mu_0)}_{\alpha} \\ &= \alpha_0 + x^T \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

- For logistic regression, we have

$$\log \left( \frac{P(Y = 1|X = x)}{P(Y = 0|X = x)} \right) = \beta_0 + x^T \beta.$$

- Logistic regression is thus based on less assumptions and directly finds the “best”  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta \rightarrow$  more flexible and often better