$\ell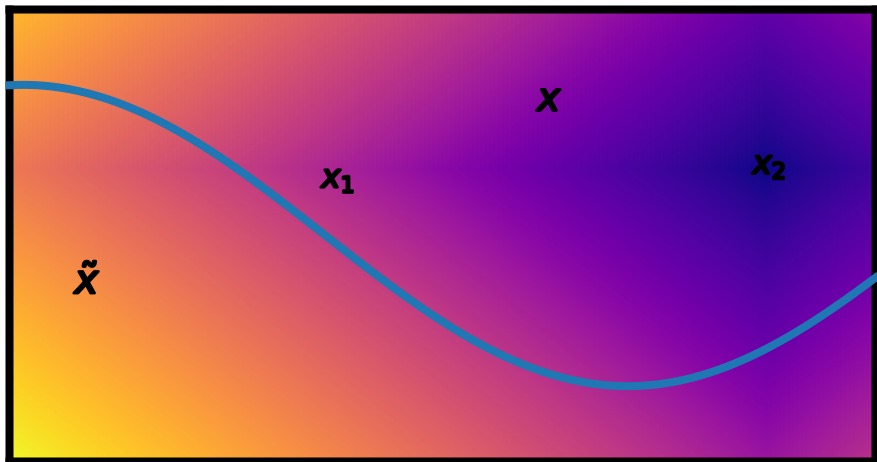_1$ threat from reference point x_2