HANDS-ON ALL

Supervised Machine Learning Basics



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Content of Unit 3

- Introduction to machine learning
- Some machine learning algorithms

INTRODUCTION TO MACHINE LEARNING



How to Solve These Tasks?

- Prediction of trajectory of a space shuttle
- Translation of one language into another
- Prediction of protein function
- Automatic recognition of handwritten digits
- Object detection in images

Explicit Models

Traditional approach: Explicit model

■ Use explicit knowledge to design model **deductively**.

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 - Knowledge about behavior of model and environment/problem.
 - Knowledge about restrictions of model and reasons for design choices.

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- Use explicit knowledge to design model **deductively**.
- Pros:
 - Knowledge about behavior of model and environment/problem.
 - Knowledge about restrictions of model and reasons for design choices.
- Cons:
 - ☐ Sometimes problem is too complex to model.
 - Consequences of simplifications of problem/model hard to assess.
 - Insufficient knowledge about problem/environment.

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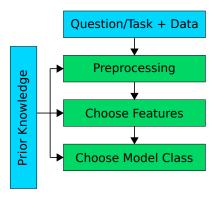
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- Typical usage: predictive modeling
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 - Use trained model to **predict** target values for other (new) inputs where the targets are not known yet.
- Classification: target value is class label
- Regression: target value is numerical value

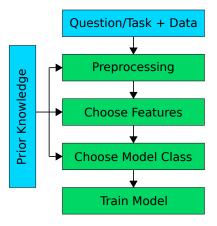
Terminology

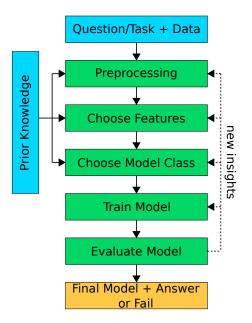
- Model: parameterized function/method with specific parameter values (e.g., a trained neural network)
- Model class: the class of models in which we search for the model (e.g., neural networks, SVMs, ...)
- Parameters: what is adjusted during training (e.g., network weights)
- Hyperparameters: settings controlling model complexity or the training procedure (e.g., network learning rate)
- Model selection/training: process of finding a model (optimal parameters) from the model class

Question/Task + Data

Prior Knowledge







Example from

R. O. Duda, P. E. Hart, and D. G. Stork. Pattern Classification. 2nd edition. John Wiley & Sons, 2001. ISBN 0-471-05669-3.

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- Goal: distinguish between salmons and sea bass.
- → Classification task with two labels (salmon vs. sea bass, or, alternatively, salmon vs. not salmon)

Our Data (Two Sample Images)

Salmon:



Sea bass:



How can we distinguish these two kinds of fish?

Our Data (Two Sample Images)

Salmon:



Sea bass:



How can we distinguish these two kinds of fish?



Our Data (Two Sample Images)

Salmon:







How can we distinguish these two kinds of fish?

First step: Let's take a look at our data!

Feature Selection & Preprocessing

■ Feature selection:

- ☐ What data do we have?
- Removal of redundant features.
- □ Removal of features the model class cannot utilize.
- (Deep Learning: Feature selection mainly by neural network.)

Feature Selection & Preprocessing

□ Alignment□ Normalization

Salmon:



Sea bass:



Salmon:





- Assume we use length and brightness as features.
- For simplicity, also assume that some person extracted these features for us.

Salmon:





- Assume we use length and brightness as features.
- For simplicity, also assume that some person extracted these features for us.
- → How do we express/represent these features?

We can represent an object by a vector x of feature values (=feature vector) of length d and label y:

$$\boldsymbol{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$$
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- An object described by one feature vector and one label is referred to as **sample**: (x, y).

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- Then, we can write the feature vectors of all objects in a matrix of feature vectors X and the labels in a corresponding labels vector y:

$$m{X} = egin{bmatrix} m{x}_1 \ dots \ m{x}_n \end{bmatrix} = egin{bmatrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1d} \ dots & \ddots & dots \ x_{n1} & \cdots & x_{nd} \end{bmatrix} \qquad m{y} = egin{bmatrix} y_1 \ dots \ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

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Our labeled data is thus described by: (X, y).

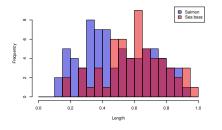
Salmon:



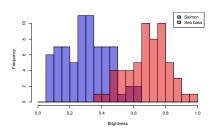


We now know how to represent our data (i.e., using features and labels) and will take a look at it via histograms.

Length:

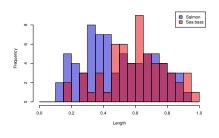


Brightness:

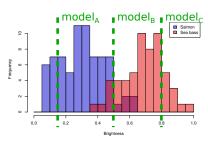


■ Brightness looks more useful for fish classification.

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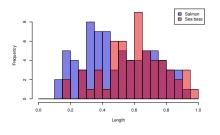
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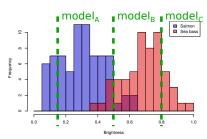
- Brightness looks more useful for fish classification.
- 3 different models based on brightness threshold:
 - \square model_A: brightness $< 0.18 \rightarrow$ Salmon

 - □ model_C: brightness < 0.8 → Salmon

Length:

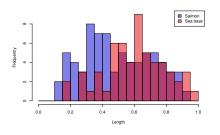


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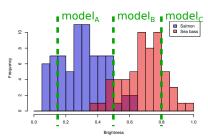


■ How do we get the "best" model?

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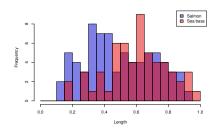


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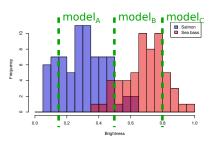


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 - How does our model perform on our data?
 - Loss function

Length:



Brightness:



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 - How will it perform on (unseen) future data?
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LOSS FUNCTION



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■ The smaller the loss/cost, the better our prediction.

Examples of Loss Functions

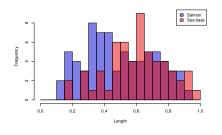
Zero-one loss:
$$L_{\mathbf{zo}}(y,g(\boldsymbol{x};\boldsymbol{w})) = \begin{cases} 0 & y = g(\boldsymbol{x};\boldsymbol{w}) \\ 1 & y \neq g(\boldsymbol{x};\boldsymbol{w}) \end{cases}$$
 Quadratic loss: $L_{\mathbf{q}}(y,g(\boldsymbol{x};\boldsymbol{w})) = (y - g(\boldsymbol{x};\boldsymbol{w}))^2$

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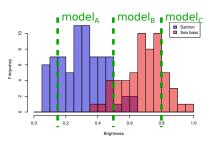
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- Many other loss functions available with different justifications.
- Not every loss function is suitable for every task.
- Choice of loss function depends on data, task, and model class.

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 - How does our model perform on our data?
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GENERALIZATION ERROR/RISK



Generalization Error/Risk

The generalization error or risk is the expected loss on future data for a given model g(.; w):

$$R(g(.; \boldsymbol{w})) = \int\limits_{\boldsymbol{X}} \int L(y, g(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})) \cdot p(\boldsymbol{x}, y) dy d\boldsymbol{x}$$

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- In practice, we hardly have any knowledge about p(x, y).
- → We have to estimate the generalization error:
 - ☐ This is called **empirical risk minimization (ERM)**

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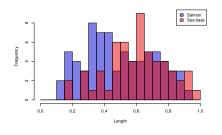
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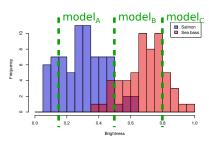
Law of large numbers:

$$R_E(g(.; \boldsymbol{w})) \to R(g(.; \boldsymbol{w}))$$
 for $n \to \infty$

Length:

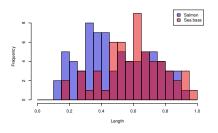


Brightness:

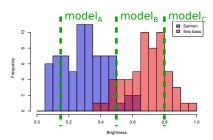


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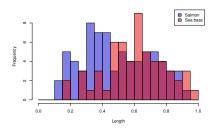


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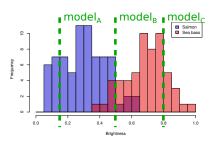


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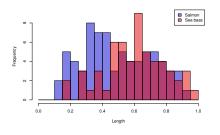


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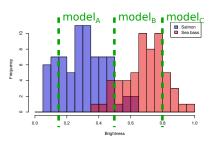


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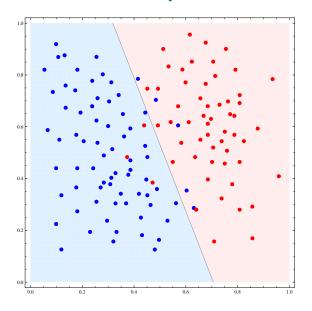


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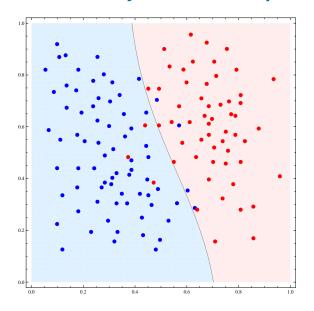


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- But the individual features (especially length) do not separate the classes well.
- → Combine our features and use a different model class.

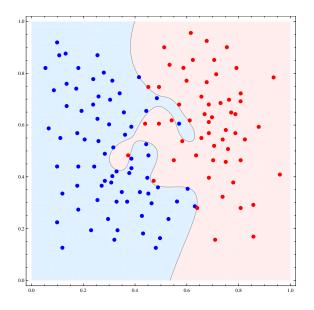
Combination: Linear Separation



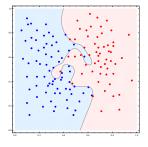
Combination: Mildly Non-linear Separation



Combination: Highly Non-linear Separation

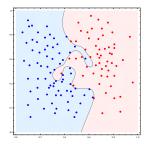


The Problem of Overfitting



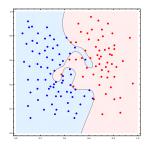
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- Problem: We might fit our parameters to noise specific to our data set (=overfitting).
- → We need to get a better estimate for the (true) risk.

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- Our estimate R_E on the test set will show if we overfit to noise in the training set.

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 - □ This violates our non-overlapping-subset rule and, in turn, the estimation of the generalization error.²

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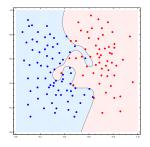
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 - This violates our non-overlapping-subset rule and, in turn, the estimation of the generalization error.²
- Solution: Create a third non-overlapping validation set.
- Use the validation set for hyperparameter tuning and the test set (once) for the final model evaluation.

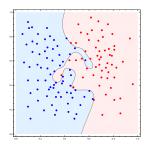
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Back to Our Data



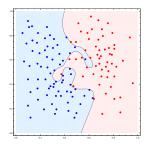
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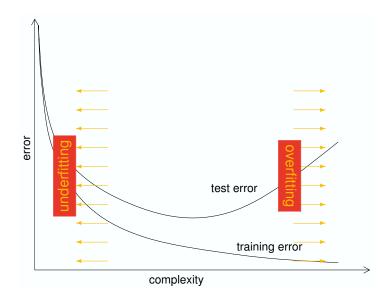
- Now, we can use ERM to optimize a model on our training data set (optionally, including a validation set).
- A held-out test set will allow us to get an estimate about the performance on future data.
- If overfitting is detected, we can reduce the model complexity via hyperparameters.

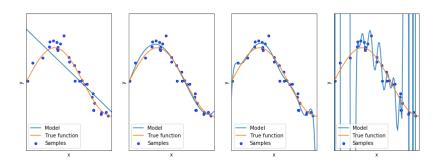
We have introduced ERM and the test-set method to counteract overfitting. But what if the model is too simple?

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- **■** Bias-variance tradeoff:

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- Bias-variance tradeoff:
 - Underfitting (high bias): The model is too coarse to fit training data and also too coarse to fit test data. The model complexity is too low.
 - Overfitting (high variance): The model fits (too) well to training data but not to future/test data. The model complexity is too high.





SOME MACHINE LEARNING ALGORITHMS



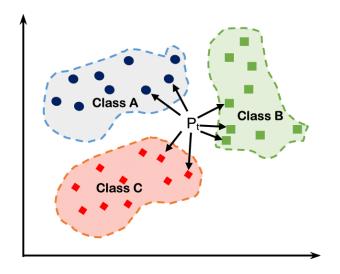
Some Machine Learning Algorithms

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- This should provide a rough idea on the diversity of ideas and algorithms on the market.
- A profound mathematical treatment of the algorithms is given, e.g., in Machine Learning: Supervised Techniques.

k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier



Picture taken from: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331424423

k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier (1)

Assume we have a labeled data set (X, y) and a distance measure on the input space. Then the k-nearest neighbors classifier is defined as follows:

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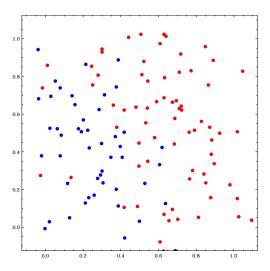
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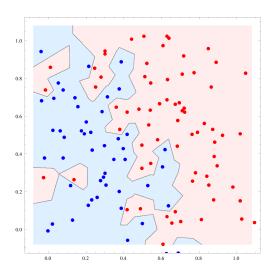
- For k = 1: nearest neighbor classifier: $g_{NN}(x; w) =$ class of the sample that is closest to x
- In case of ties: e.g., random class assignment or class with larger number of samples is assigned.

k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier (2)

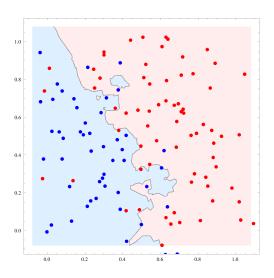
Input data set



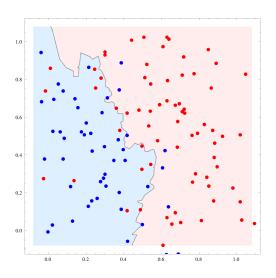
k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier (3)



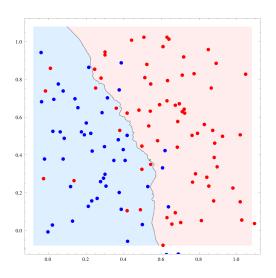
k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier (4)

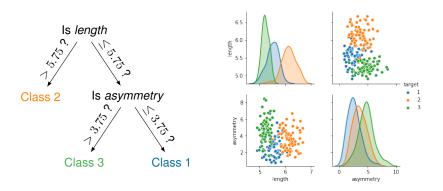


k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier (5)



k-Nearest Neighbors Classifier (6)





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- Two famous algorithms use decision trees:
 - Random forest
 - Gradient boosting

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- Final decision by, e.g., majority vote.

