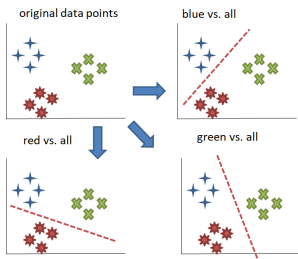


# Introduction to Machine Learning

## Multiclass Classification

### One-vs-Rest and One-vs-One



#### Learning goals

- Reduce a multiclass problem to multiple binary problems in a model-agnostic way
- Know one-vs-rest reduction
- Know one-vs-one reduction

# MULTICLASS TO BINARY REDUCTION

- Assume we have a way to train binary classifiers, either outputting class labels  $h(\mathbf{x})$ , scores  $f(\mathbf{x})$  or probabilities  $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ .
- We are now looking for a model-agnostic reduction principle to reduce a multiclass problem to the problem of solving **multiple binary problems**.
- Two common approaches are **one-vs-rest** and **one-vs-one** reductions.



# CODEBOOKS

How binary problems are generated can be defined by a codebook.

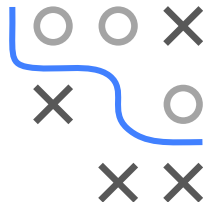
### Example:

Class	$f_1(\mathbf{x})$	$f_2(\mathbf{x})$	$f_3(\mathbf{x})$
1	1	-1	-1
2	-1	1	1
3	0	1	-1

- The  $k$ -th column defines how classes of all observations are encoded in the binary subproblem / for binary classifier  $f_k(\mathbf{x})$ .
- Entry  $(m, i)$  takes values  $\in \{-1, 0, +1\}$ 
  - if 0, observations of class  $y^{(i)} = m$  are ignored.
  - if 1, observations of class  $y^{(i)} = m$  are encoded as 1.
  - if  $-1$ , observations of class  $y^{(i)} = m$  are encoded as  $-1$ .



## One-vs-Rest





# ONE-VS-REST / 2

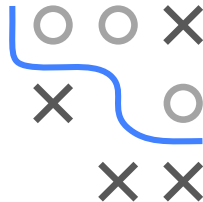
- Making decisions means applying all classifiers to a sample  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  and predicting the label  $k$  for which the corresponding classifier reports the highest confidence:

$$\hat{y} = \arg \max_{k \in \{1, 2, \dots, g\}} \hat{f}_k(\mathbf{x}).$$

- Obtaining calibrated posterior probabilities is not completely trivial, we could  
fit a second-stage, multinomial logistic regression model on our output scores, so with inputs  $(\hat{f}_1(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}), \dots, \hat{f}_g(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}))$  and outputs  $y^{(i)}$  as training data.



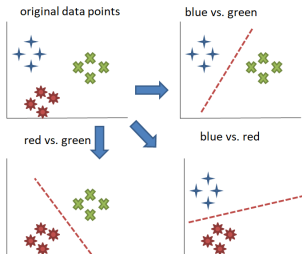
## One-vs-One



# ONE-VS-ONE

We create  $\frac{g(g-1)}{2}$  binary sub-problems, where each  $\mathcal{D}_{k,\tilde{k}} \subset \mathcal{D}$  only considers observations from a class-pair  $y^{(i)} \in \{k, \tilde{k}\}$ , other observations are omitted.

Class	$f_1(\mathbf{x})$	$f_2(\mathbf{x})$	$f_3(\mathbf{x})$
1	1	-1	0
2	-1	0	1
3	0	1	-1





# ONE-VS-ONE / 2

- Label prediction is done via **majority voting**. We predict the label of a new  $\mathbf{x}$  with all classifiers and select the class that occurred most often.
- **Pairwise coupling** (see *Hastie, T. and Tibshirani, R. (1998). Classification by Pairwise Coupling*) is a heuristic to transform scores obtained by a one-vs-one reduction to probabilities.

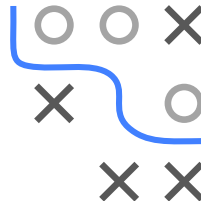


# COMPARISON ONE-VS-ONE AND ONE-VS-REST

- Note that each binary problem has now much less than  $n$  observations!
- For classifiers that scale (at least) quadratically with the number of observations, this means that one-vs-one usually does not create quadratic extra effort in  $g$ , but often only approximately linear extra effort in  $g$ .
- We experimentally investigate the train times of the one-vs-rest and one-vs-one approaches for an increasing number of classes  $g$ .
- We train a support vector machine classifier (SVMs will be covered later in the lecture) on an artificial dataset with  $n = 1000$ .



We see that the computational effort for one-vs-one is much higher than for one-vs-rest, but it does not scale proportionally to the (quadratic) number of trained classifiers.



**Figure:** The number of classes vs. the training time (solid lines, left axis) and number of learners (dashed lines, right axis) for each of the two approaches.