# Modern Applied Statistics Chap 12: Classification

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### Introduction

#### Introduction

In the statistical literature the word is used in two distinct senses.

- The sense of cluster analysis discussed in Section 11.2
- The other meaning (Ripley, 1997) of allocating future cases to one of g prespecified classes

It is sometimes helpful to distinguish discriminant analysis in the sense of describing the differences between the g groups from classification, allocating new observations to the groups.

- The first provides some measure of explanation
- The second can be a 'black box' that makes a decision without any explanation.

Suppose that we have a set of g classes, and for each case we know the class. We can then use the class information to help reveal the structure of the data.

#### The sample covariance matrices

$$W = \frac{(X - GM)^T (X - GM)}{n - g}, \quad B = \frac{(GM - 1\bar{x})^T (GM - 1\bar{x})}{g - 1}$$

- W: the within-class covariance matrix
- B: the between-classes covariance matrix
- M: the  $g \times p$  matrix of class means
- G: the  $n \times g$  matrix of class indicator variables
  - Then the predictions are GM
- $\bar{x}$ : the means of the variables over the whole sample.

Note that B has rank at most min(p, g - 1).

Fisher introduced a **linear discriminant analysis** seeking a linear combination xa of the variables that has a maximal ratio of the separation of the class means to the within-class variance.

- ► Maximizing the ratio  $\mathbf{a}^T B \mathbf{a} / \mathbf{a}^T W \mathbf{a}$ 
  - Choose a sphering xS of the variables
  - The problem is to maximize  $\mathbf{a}^T B \mathbf{a}$  subject to  $\|\mathbf{a}\| = 1$
  - This is solved by taking a to be the eigenvector of B corresponding to the largest eigenvalue.
  - The linear combination *a* is unique up to a change of sign.

As for principal components, we can take further linear components corresponding to the next largest eigenvalues.

- **Eigenvalues**: the proportions of the between classes variance explained by the linear combinations.
- The corresponding transformed variables are called the linear discriminants or canonical variates.
- The linear discriminants are conventionally centred to have mean zero on dataset.

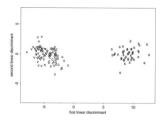


Figure 12.1: The log iris data on the first two discriminant axes.

- ▶ This shows that 99.65% of the between-group variance is on the first discriminant axis.
  - Rao (1948) used the unweighted covariance matrix of the group means.
  - Our approach uses a covariance matrix weighted by the prior probabilities of the classes if these are specified.

#### Discrimination for normal populations

An alternative approach to discrimination is via probability models.

 $\blacktriangleright$  Posterior distribution of the classes after observing x is

$$p(c \mid \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\pi_c p(\mathbf{x} \mid c)}{p(\mathbf{x})} \propto \pi_c p(\mathbf{x} \mid c)$$

- $\pi_c$ : the prior probabilities of the classes
- $p(x \mid c)$ : the densities of distributions of the observations for each class
- Bayes rule: The allocation rule which makes the smallest expected number of errors chooses the class with maximal p(c | x)

Suppose the distribution for class c is multivariate normal with mean  $\mu_c$  and covariance  $\Sigma_c$ . Then the Bayes rule minimizes

$$Q_c = -2\log p(\mathbf{x} \mid c) - 2\log \pi_c$$
  
=  $(\mathbf{x} - \mu_c) \Sigma_c^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu_c)^T + \log |\Sigma_c| - 2\log \pi_c$ 

- The first term is the squared Mahalanobis distance to the class centre.
- The difference between the  $Q_c$  for two classes is a quadratic function of x.
  - ▶ Quadratic discriminant analysis.
- The boundaries of the decision regions are quadratic surfaces in x space.

Suppose that the classes have a common covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ .

 $\blacktriangleright$  Differences in the  $Q_c$  are then linear functions of x

We can maximize  $-Q_c/2$  or

$$L_c = \mathbf{x} \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_c^T - \boldsymbol{\mu}_c \Sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_c^T / 2 + \log \pi_c$$

To use  $Q_c$  or  $L_c$  we have to estimate  $\mu_c$  and  $\Sigma_c$  or  $\Sigma$ .

▶ Using obvious estimates, estimate  $\mu_c$  as the sample mean,  $\Sigma_c$  as covariance matrix, and  $\Sigma$  as W.

How does this relate to Fisher's linear discrimination?

- $ightharpoonup L_c$  gives new variables, the linear discriminants, with unit within-class sample variance.
  - ▶ On these variables the Mahalanobis distance is

$$\|x-\mu_c\|^2$$

Only the first r components of the vector depend on c.

$$L_c = \boldsymbol{x} \boldsymbol{\mu}_c^T - \left\| \boldsymbol{\mu}_c \right\|^2 / 2 + \log \pi_c$$

▶ We can work in *r* dimensions.

$$L_2 - L_1 = \boldsymbol{x} \left( \mu_2 - \mu_1 \right)^T + \text{ const}$$

► An affine function of the linear discriminant.

## Classification Theory

#### Classification Theory

Non-parametric Rules

### Non-parametric Rules

# Neural Networks

#### **Neural Networks**

**Support Vector Machine** 

### Support Vector Machine

Forensic Glass Example

#### Forensic Glass Example

**Calibration Plots** 

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