

# The perceptron algorithm

Lecture 7

Frank Rosenblatt  
(1928-1971)

Two-class model; input  $\vec{x} \Rightarrow$  feature vector  $\vec{\Phi}(\vec{x})$   
typically,  $\vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}) = 1$  is included (bias)

Consider  $y(\vec{x}) = f(\vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}))$ , where

$$f(a) = \begin{cases} +1, & a \geq 0 \\ -1, & a < 0 \end{cases}$$

Assume  $t = \begin{cases} +1 & C_1 \\ -1 & C_2 \end{cases}$

Error function: perceptron criterion

Note that we seek  $\vec{w}$  s.t. all patterns in  $C_1$  have  $\vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}_n) > 0$ , and all patterns in  $C_2$  have  $\vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}_n) < 0$ .

Then  $\vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}_n) t_n > 0$  in both classes

Let's assign 0 error to all correctly classified points, and  $-\vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}_n) t_n$  to all missclassified points.

(patterns)

$$E(\vec{w}) = - \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \vec{w}^T \cdot \vec{\Phi}(\vec{x}_n) t_n$$

$\uparrow$  set of all missclassified points

needs to be minimized.

Note that  $E(\vec{w}) > 0$  since  $\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}}$  sums over missclassified patterns only.

$E(\vec{w})$  is a piecewise linear:  $\sqrt{\vec{w}}$  in  $E(\vec{w})$  is contribution of  $n$ th term in  $E(\vec{w})$  is  $\vec{x}_n$  is misclassified, and  $\emptyset$  otherwise.

Now optimise  $E(\vec{w})$  by gradient descent: cycle through  $n$  and at each step,

update  $\vec{w}^{(\tau+1)} = \vec{w}^{(\tau)} - \eta \nabla_n E(\vec{w}) = \vec{w}^{(\tau)} + \eta \vec{y}(\vec{x}_n) t_n$

step number
learning rate

Set  $\eta = 1 \Leftrightarrow y(\vec{x})$  is insensitive to the choice of  $\eta$ .

Note that  $\vec{y}(\vec{x}_n)$  is

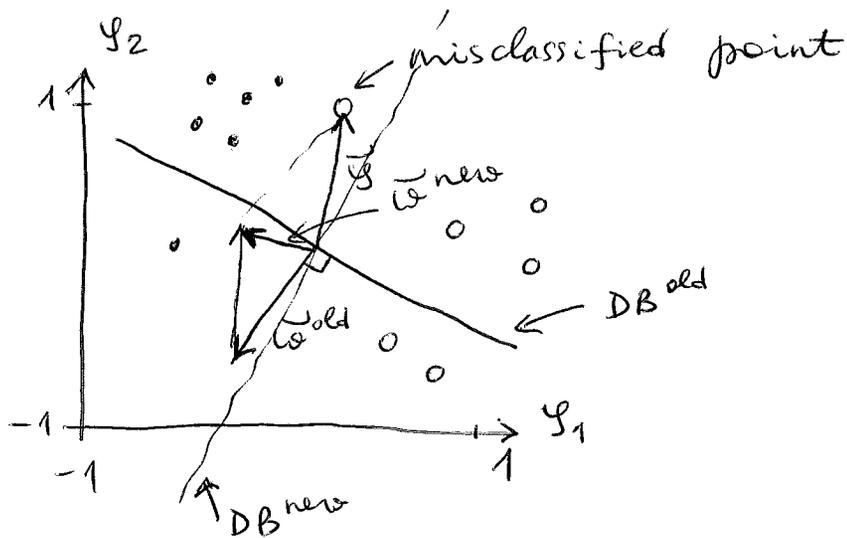
$$-\vec{w}^{(\tau+1)T} \vec{y}_n t_n = -\vec{w}^{(\tau)T} \vec{y}_n t_n - \underbrace{(\vec{y}_n t_n)^T (\vec{y}_n t_n)}_{> 0} < -\vec{w}^{(\tau)T} \vec{y}_n t_n$$

Thus the error always decreases for a given term, but some other patterns may become misclassified  $\Rightarrow E(\vec{w})$  is not guaranteed to be reduced at each step.

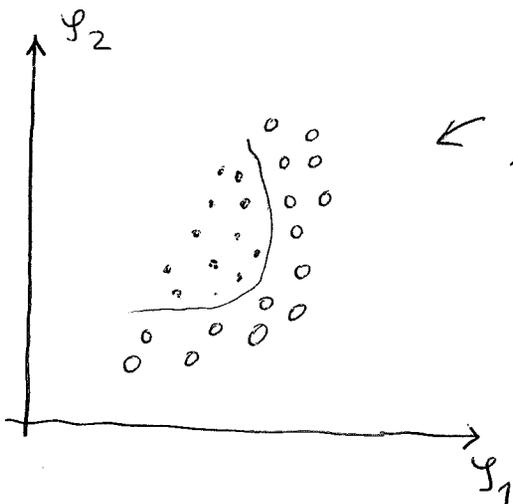
However, one can argue that the perceptron finds a solution (but may need a lot of steps to do so) for linearly separable problems.

[The solution may not be unique]

Ex.



Difficulties: not probabilistic,  
does not generalize to  $k > 2$   
classes easily.



← lack of convergence on  
linearly non-separable  
datasets

# Probabilistic models

Class-conditional density:  $p(\vec{x}|C_k)$   
 $k=1, \dots, K$

Class prior:  $p(C_k)$

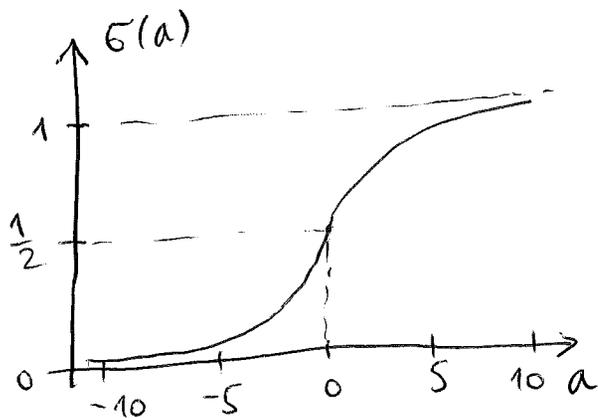
Class posterior:  $p(C_k|\vec{x})$

$K=2$  case:

$$p(C_1|\vec{x}) = \frac{p(\vec{x}|C_1)p(C_1)}{p(\vec{x}|C_1)p(C_1) + p(\vec{x}|C_2)p(C_2)} =$$
$$= \frac{1}{1 + \underbrace{\frac{p(\vec{x}|C_2)p(C_2)}{p(\vec{x}|C_1)p(C_1)}}_{e^{-a}}} = \sigma(a)$$

↑ sigmoid f'n

$$a = \log \frac{p(\vec{x}|C_1)p(C_1)}{p(\vec{x}|C_2)p(C_2)}$$



Note that

$$\sigma(-a) = \frac{1}{1+e^a}$$

$$1 - \sigma(a) = 1 - \frac{1}{1+e^{-a}} =$$
$$= \frac{e^{-a}}{1+e^{-a}} = \frac{1}{e^a+1}$$

also,

$$a = \log \left( \frac{\sigma}{1-\sigma} \right)$$

logit f'n

$K > 2$  case:

$$p(C_k | \vec{x}) = \frac{p(\vec{x} | C_k) p(C_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K p(\vec{x} | C_j) p(C_j)} =$$

$$= \frac{e^{a_k}}{\sum_j e^{a_j}}, \text{ if } a_k = \log [p(\vec{x} | C_k) p(C_k)]$$

softmax f'n:

if  $a_k \gg a_j, \forall j \neq k$

$$\frac{e^{a_k}}{\sum_j e^{a_j}} \approx 1 = p(C_k | \vec{x}) \Rightarrow p(C_j | \vec{x}) = 0, \forall j \neq k$$

Now assume that

$$p(\vec{x} | C_k) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}} \frac{1}{|\Sigma|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_k)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_k)}$$

same for all classes for now

$D = \# \text{ dim's in } \vec{x}$

$K=2$  case:

$$\text{Then } p(C_1 | \vec{x}) = \sigma \left( \underbrace{\log \frac{p(\vec{x} | C_1)}{p(\vec{x} | C_2)} + \log \frac{p(C_1)}{p(C_2)}}_{\text{log-likelihood ratio}} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \log \frac{p(C_1)}{p(C_2)} - \frac{1}{2} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_1) + \frac{1}{2} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_2)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_2) = \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \vec{x}^T \vec{\mu}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_1^T \vec{x} - \frac{1}{2} \vec{x}^T \vec{\mu}_2 - \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_2^T \vec{x} + \\ & + \log \frac{p(C_1)}{p(C_2)} - \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_1^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_2^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_2 = \\ & = \frac{1}{2} (\Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_1)^T \vec{x} + \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{(\Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_1)^T \vec{x}}_{\vec{\mu}_1^T (\Sigma^{-1})^T} - \frac{1}{2} (\Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_2)^T \vec{x} - \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{2} (\Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_2)^T \vec{x} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow (\Sigma^{-1})^T = \Sigma^{-1}$

Defining  $\begin{cases} \vec{w} = \Sigma^{-1}(\vec{\mu}_1 - \vec{\mu}_2), \\ w_0 = -\frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_1^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_1 + \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_2^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_2 + \log \frac{p(c_1)}{p(c_2)}, \end{cases}$

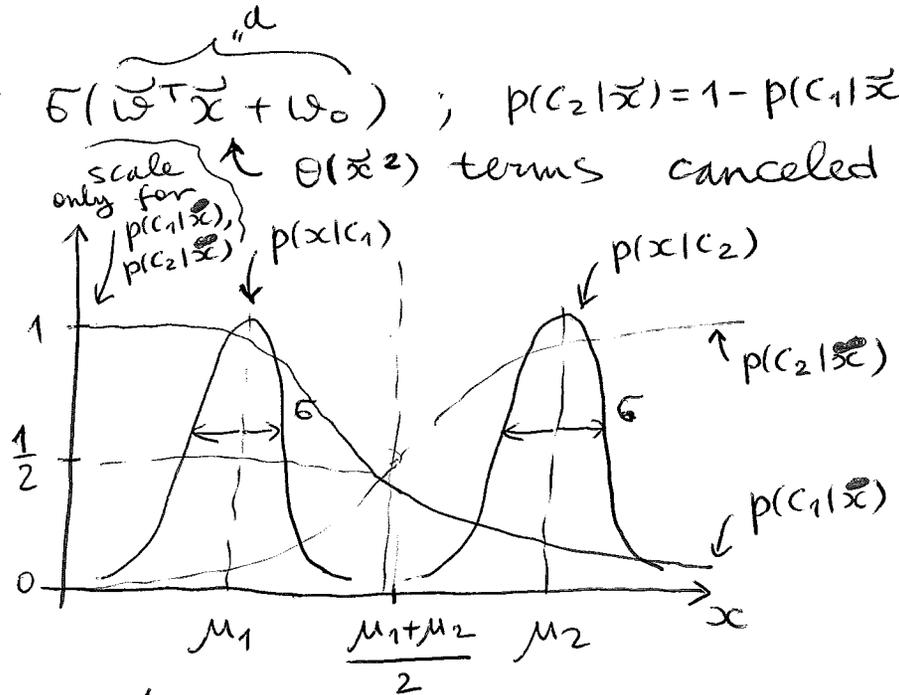
we obtain:

$$p(c_1|\vec{x}) = \sigma(\vec{w}^T \vec{x} + w_0) ; \quad p(c_2|\vec{x}) = 1 - p(c_1|\vec{x})$$

D=1 case:

Assume

$$p(c_1) = p(c_2) = \frac{1}{2}$$



Here,  $\Sigma^{-1} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$  ;

$$\begin{cases} w = \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_2}{\sigma^2} \\ w_0 = \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\mu_2^2 - \mu_1^2) \end{cases} \Rightarrow a = \frac{(\mu_1 - \mu_2)x}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\mu_2^2 - \mu_1^2)$$

$a = 0$  when  $x = \frac{\mu_1 + \mu_2}{2}$  ,

s.t.  $\sigma(a) = \frac{1}{2}$  .

DB: surfaces at which

$$p(c_1|\vec{x}) = p(c_2|\vec{x})$$

$$\sigma(\vec{w}^T \vec{x} + w_0)$$

$$\sigma(-\vec{w}^T \vec{x} - w_0)$$

$$1 - \sigma(a) = \sigma(-a)$$

Then

$$\vec{w}^T \vec{x} + w_0 = -\vec{w}^T \vec{x} - w_0 ,$$

$$\vec{w}^T \vec{x} + w_0 = 0 \Leftarrow \text{linear eq'n for DB}$$

In our 1D example,

$$\underbrace{w \cdot x + w_0 = 0}_a \text{ is satisfied by } x = \frac{\mu_1 + \mu_2}{2} \Leftarrow \text{DB}$$

In fact, all contours of  $p(c_1|\vec{x})$  &  $p(c_2|\vec{x})$  are given by functions linear in  $\vec{x}$ .

$K > 2$  case:

$$\begin{aligned} d_k(\vec{x}) &= -\frac{D}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log|\Sigma| - \frac{1}{2} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_k)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}_k) + \\ &\quad + \log p(c_k) = \underbrace{\vec{w}_k}_{\vec{w}_k} \cdot \vec{x} + \underbrace{w_{0,k}}_{w_{0,k}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \vec{x}^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{x} + (\Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_k)^T \vec{x} - \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_k^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{\mu}_k - \\ &\quad - \frac{D}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log|\Sigma| + \log p(c_k) = \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \vec{x}^T \Sigma^{-1} \vec{x} + \vec{w}_k \vec{x} + w_{0,k} \end{aligned}$$

DB's are still linear however:

$$p(c_k|\vec{x}) = p(c_j|\vec{x}) \quad [j \neq k]$$

$\Downarrow$

$$e^{a_k} = e^{a_j}, \text{ or } a_k = a_j:$$

$$\vec{w}_k^T \vec{x} + w_{0,k} = \vec{w}_j^T \vec{x} + w_{0,j}$$

$\uparrow$   $O(\vec{x}^2)$  terms cancel

linear eq'n in  $\vec{x}$ , gives  $D-1$  dimensional decision surface (DB)

Finally, if  $p(\vec{x}|C_k) = \mathcal{N}(\vec{x}|\vec{\mu}_k, \Sigma_k)$ ,  
 the DB's at which the 2 largest  
 posterior probs are equal, are given  
 by quadratic f's of  $\vec{x}$ :

