

# $k$ -NN and Linear Classifiers, Learning

Tomáš Svoboda and Matěj Hoffmann  
thanks to Daniel Novák and Filip Železný, Ondřej Drbohlav

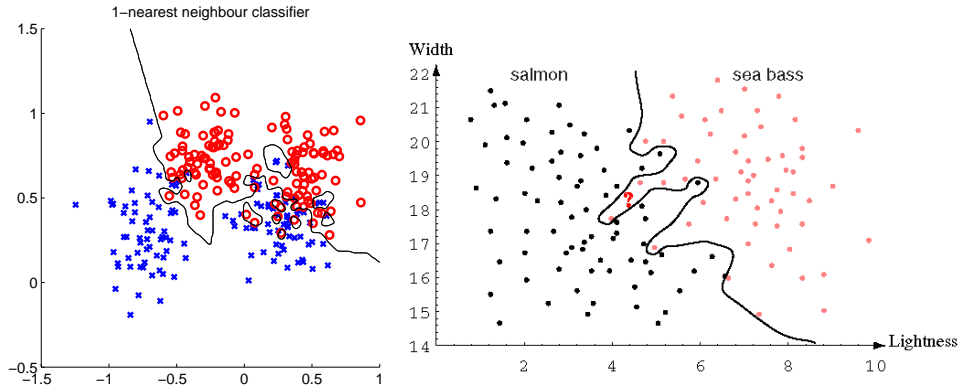
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# K-Nearest neighbors classification

For a query  $\vec{x}$ :

- ▶ Find  $K$  nearest  $\vec{x}$  from the training (labeled) data.
- ▶ Classify to the class with the most exemplars in the set above.



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## Notes

Some properties:

- A *nonparametric* method – does not assume anything about the distribution (that it is Gaussian etc.)
- Can be used for classification or regression. Here: classification.
- Training: Only store feature vectors and their labels.
- Very simple and suboptimal. With unlimited nr. prototypes, error never worse than twice the Bayes rate (optimum).
- *instance-based* or *lazy learning* – function only approximated locally; computation only during inference.
- Limitations
  - Curse of dimensionality - for every additional dimension, one needs exponentially more points to cover the space.
  - Comp. complexity - has to look through all the samples all the time. Some speed-up is possible. E.g., storing data in a K-d tree.
  - Noise. Missclassified examples will remain in the database....

# $K$ – Nearest Neighbor and Bayes $j^* = \operatorname{argmax}_j P(s_j|\vec{x})$

Assume data:

- ▶  $N$  points  $\vec{x}$  in total.
- ▶  $N_j$  points in  $s_j$  class. Hence,  $\sum_j N_j = N$ .

We want classify  $\vec{x}$ . We draw a sphere centered at  $\vec{x}$  containing  $K$  points irrespective of class.  $V$  is the volume of this sphere.  $P(s_j|\vec{x}) = ?$

$$P(s_j|\vec{x}) = \frac{P(\vec{x}|s_j)P(s_j)}{P(\vec{x})}$$

$$P(s_j) = \frac{N_j}{N}$$

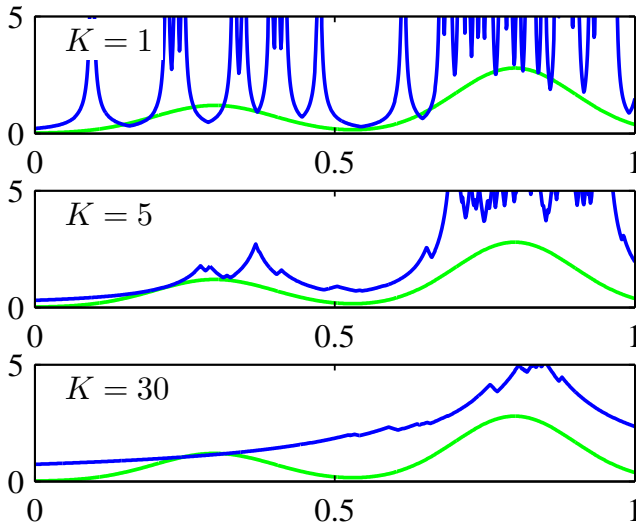
$$P(\vec{x}) = \frac{K}{NV}$$

$$P(\vec{x}|s_j) = \frac{K_j}{N_j V}$$

$$P(s_j|\vec{x}) = \frac{P(\vec{x}|s_j)P(s_j)}{P(\vec{x})} = \frac{K_j}{K}$$

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## Notes



A  $K$ -NN classifier can be understood as a non-parametric density estimator. (Figure from [1])

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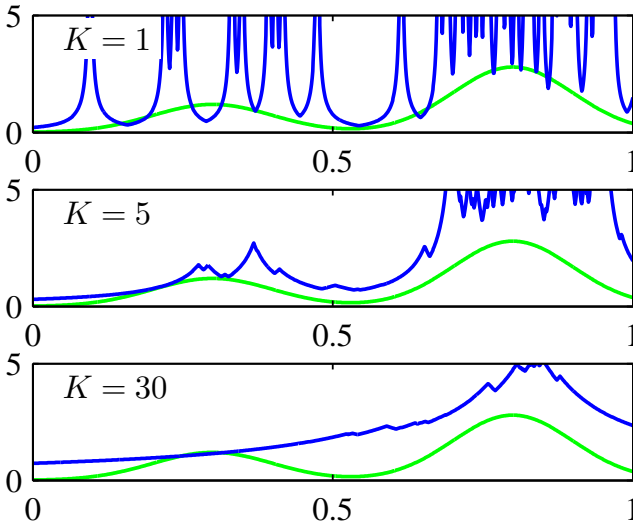
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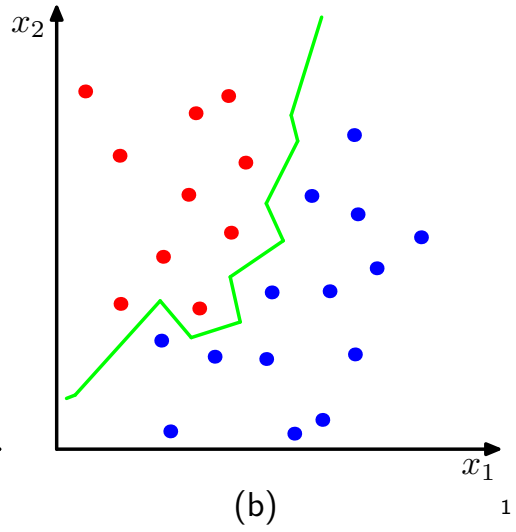
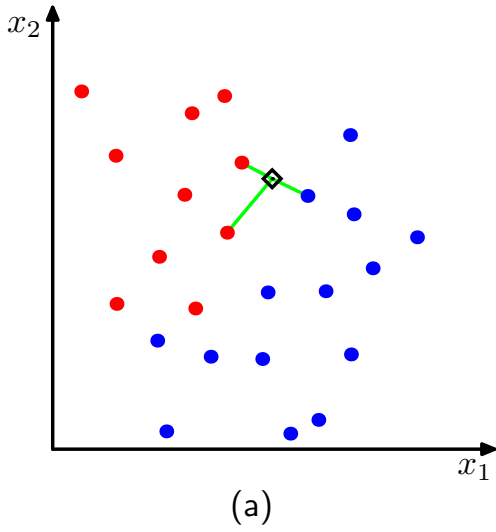
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# NN classification example

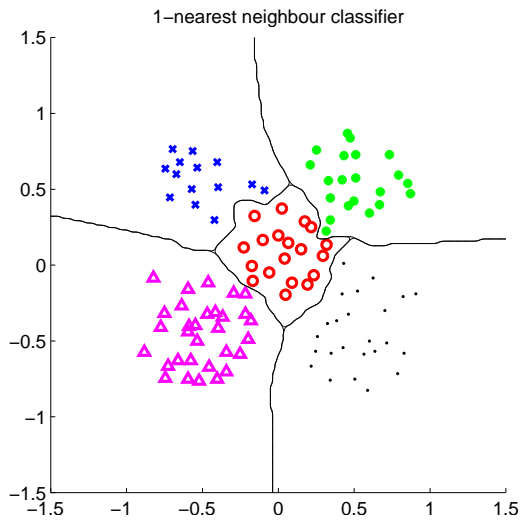
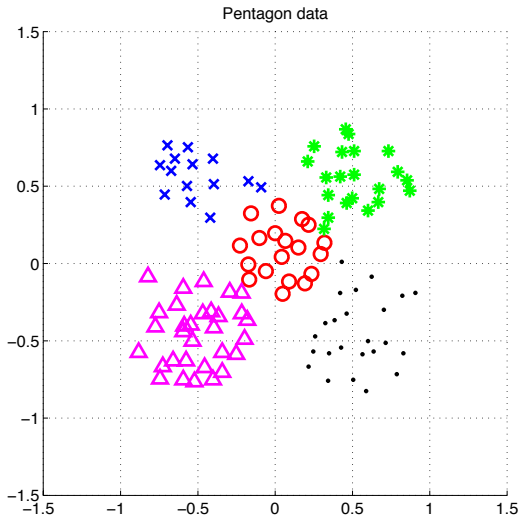


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<sup>1</sup>Figs from [1]

Notes

# NN classification example



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## Notes

Fast on “learning”, very slow on decision.

There are ways for speeding it up, search for NN editing - making training data sparser, keeping only representative points.

## What is *nearest*? Metrics for NN classification . . .

A function  $D$  which is: nonnegative, reflexive, symmetrical, satisfying triangle inequality:

$$D(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) \geq 0$$

$$D(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) = 0 \text{ iff } \vec{a} = \vec{b}$$

$$D(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) = D(\vec{b}, \vec{a})$$

$$D(\vec{a}, \vec{b}) + D(\vec{b}, \vec{c}) \geq D(\vec{a}, \vec{c})$$

---

### Notes

When taking  $\vec{x}$  as all the intents, "5" shifted 3 pixels left is farther from its etalon than to etalon of "8". One could consider preprocessing:

1. shift query image to all possible positions and compute min distances
2. take the  $\min(\min(\text{distance}))$
3. perform NN classification

Costly . . .

# What is *nearest*? Metrics for NN classification . . .

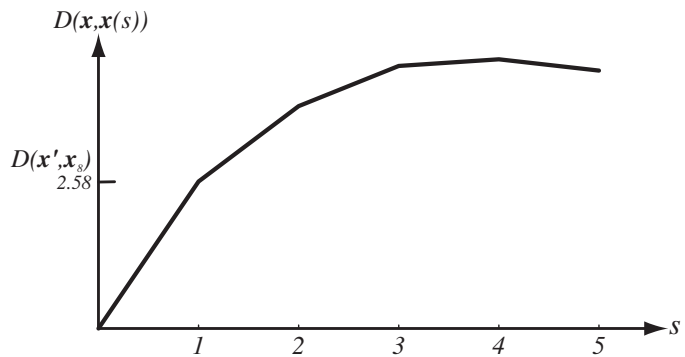
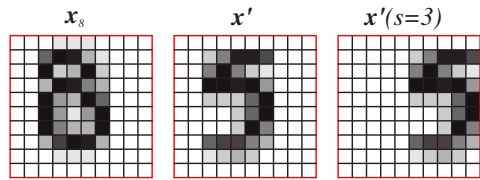
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Invariance to geometrical transformations? (figure from [2]) 6/34

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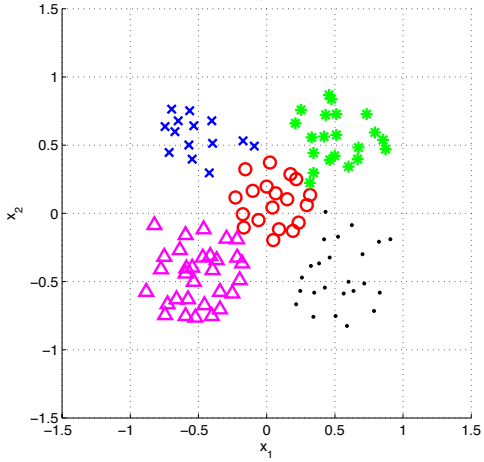
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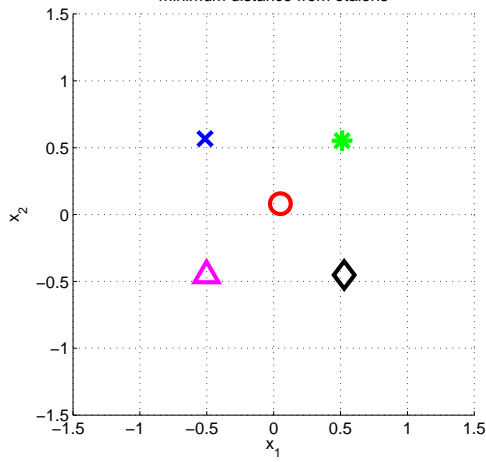


# Etaion based classification

Pentagon data



minimum distance from etalons

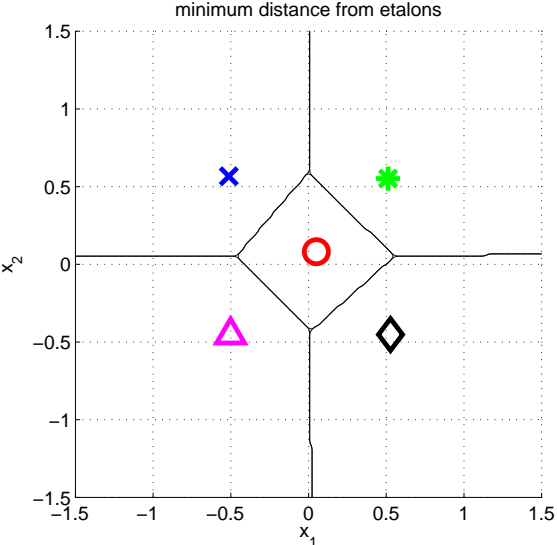


Represent  $\vec{x}$  by **etalon**,  $\vec{e}_s$  per each class  $s \in S$

Notes

# Separate etalons

$$s^* = \arg \min_{s \in S} \|\vec{x} - \vec{e}_s\|^2$$

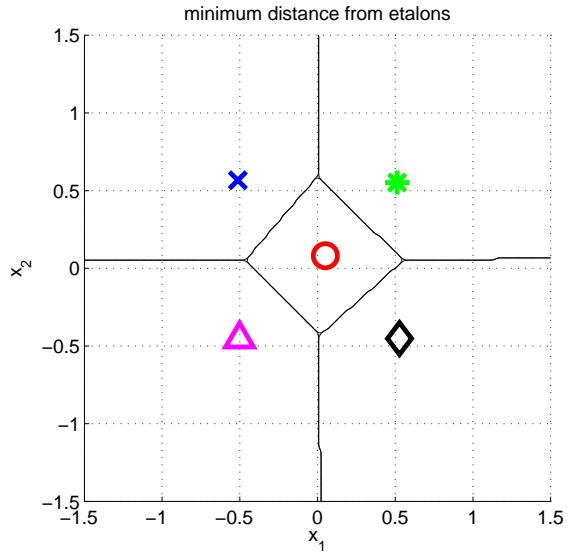


# What etalons?

If  $\mathcal{N}(\vec{x}|\vec{\mu}, \Sigma)$ ; all classes same covariance matrices, then

$$\vec{e}_s \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \vec{\mu}_s = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{X}^s|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{X}^s} \vec{x}_i^s$$

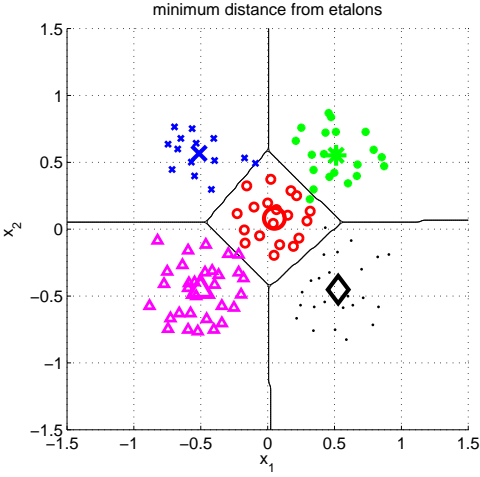
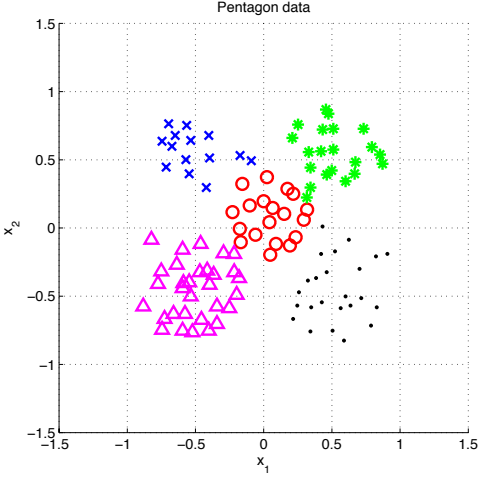
and separating hyperplanes halve distances between pairs.



## Notes

$$\mathcal{N}(\vec{x}|\vec{\mu}, \Sigma) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}} \frac{1}{|\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\vec{x} - \vec{\mu})^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\vec{x} - \vec{\mu})\right\}$$

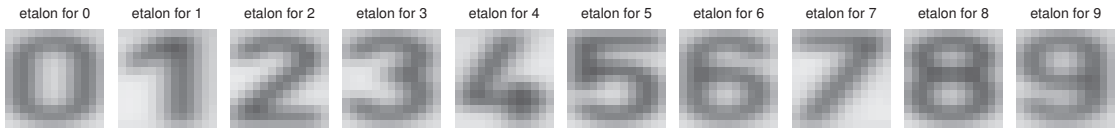
# Etalon based classification, $\vec{e}_s = \vec{\mu}_s$



## Notes

Some wrongly classified samples. We like the simple idea. Are there better etalons? How to find them?

# Digit recognition - etalons $\vec{e}_s = \vec{\mu}_s$

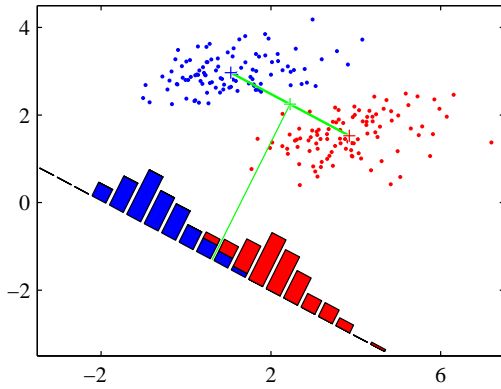


Figures from [5]

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Notes

# Better etalons – Fischer linear discriminant



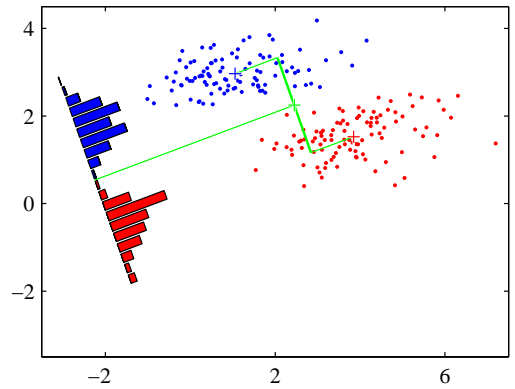
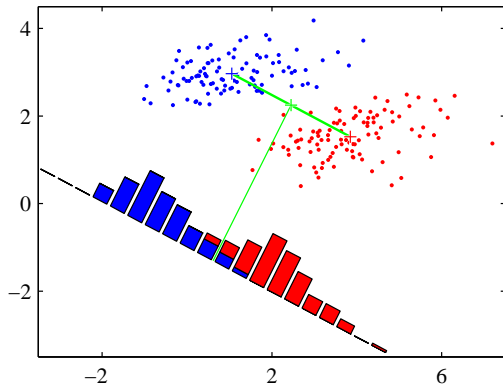
- ▶ Dimensionality reduction
- ▶ Maximize distance between means, ...
- ▶ ... and minimize within class variance. (minimize overlap)

Figures from [1]

## Notes

Searching for a projection of the data to minimize intra-class variance and maximize inter-class variance.

## Better etalons – Fischer linear discriminant



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Figures from [1]

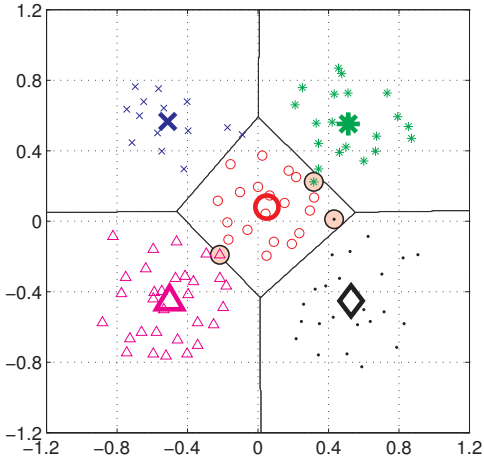
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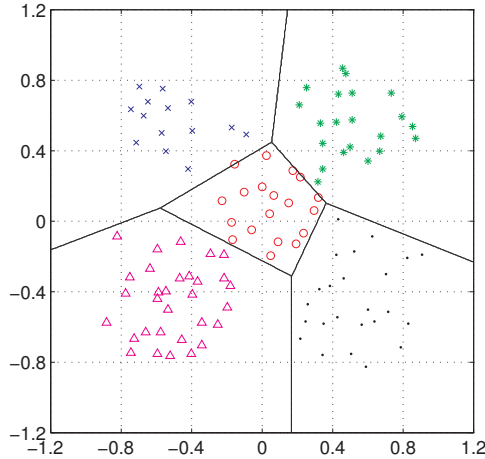
Searching for a projection of the data to minimize intra-class variance and maximize inter-class variance.

# Better etalons?

minimum distance from etalons



perceptron



Figures from [5]

---

## Notes

This is just to show that there is an etalon classifier that make no mistake on the data. But how to find the best etalons?



# Etalon classifier – Linear classifier

$$\begin{aligned} s^* &= \arg \min_{s \in S} \|\vec{x} - \vec{e}_s\|^2 = \arg \min_{s \in S} (\vec{x}^\top \vec{x} - 2 \vec{e}_s^\top \vec{x} + \vec{e}_s^\top \vec{e}_s) = \\ &= \arg \min_{s \in S} \left( \vec{x}^\top \vec{x} - 2 (\vec{e}_s^\top \vec{x} - \frac{1}{2} (\vec{e}_s^\top \vec{e}_s)) \right) = \\ &= \arg \min_{s \in S} (\vec{x}^\top \vec{x} - 2 (\vec{e}_s^\top \vec{x} + b_s)) = \\ &= \boxed{\arg \max_{s \in S} (\vec{e}_s^\top \vec{x} + b_s)} = \arg \max_{s \in S} g_s(\vec{x}). \end{aligned} \quad b_s = -\frac{1}{2} \vec{e}_s^\top \vec{e}_s$$

Linear function (plus offset)

$$g_s(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}_s^\top \mathbf{x} + w_{s0}$$

---

## Notes

The result is a *linear discriminant function* – hence etalon classifier is a linear classifier.

We classify into the class with highest value of the discriminant function.

$\mathbf{w}_s$  is a generalized etalon. How do we find it? Such that it is better than just the mean of the class members in the training set.

# Learning and decision

**Learning** stage - learning models/function/parameters from data.

**Decision** stage - decide about a query  $\vec{x}$ .

What to learn?

- ▶ **Generative model** : Learn  $P(\vec{x}, s)$ . Decide by computing  $P(s|\vec{x})$ .
- ▶ **Discriminative model** : Learn  $P(s|\vec{x})$
- ▶ **Discriminant function** : Learn  $g(\vec{x})$  which maps  $\vec{x}$  directly into class labels.

---

## Notes

Generative models because by sampling from them it is possible to generate synthetic data points  $\vec{x}$ .  
For the discriminative model one can consider, e.g. logistic function:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-k(x-x_0)}}$$

## (1) Linear discriminant function - two class case

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + w_0$$

Decide  $s_1$  if  $g(\mathbf{x}) > 0$  and  $s_2$  if  $g(\mathbf{x}) < 0$

Figure from [2]

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### Notes

$g(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  is the *separating hyperplane*. Its dimension is one less than that of the input space – for 2D space, it is a line. (This is a bit counterintuitive - “hyper” normally means above, more...)

What is the geometric meaning of the weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$ ?

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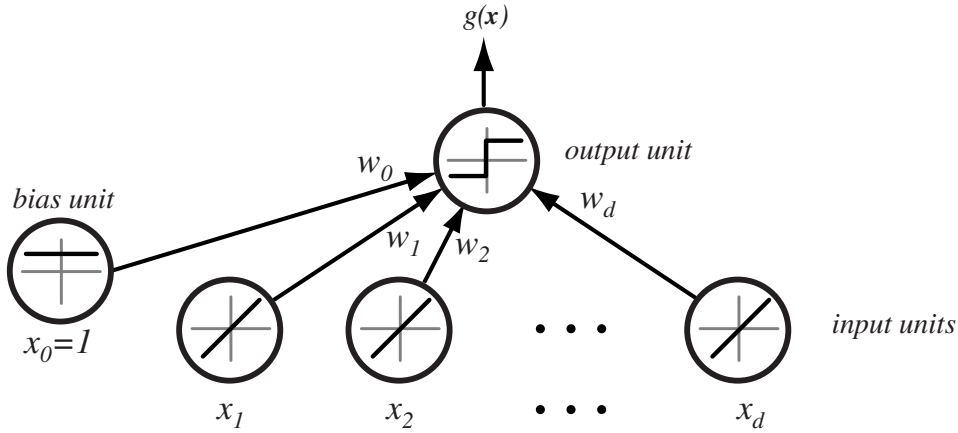


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# Separating hyperplane

$$\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_1 + w_0 = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_2 + w_0$$

$$\mathbf{w}^\top (\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2) = 0$$

$g(\mathbf{x})$  gives an algebraic measure of the distance from  $\mathbf{x}$  to the hyperplane.

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p + r \frac{\mathbf{w}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$$

as  $g(\mathbf{x}_p) = 0$ ,

and  $g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + w_0$ , then:

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = r \|\mathbf{w}\|$$

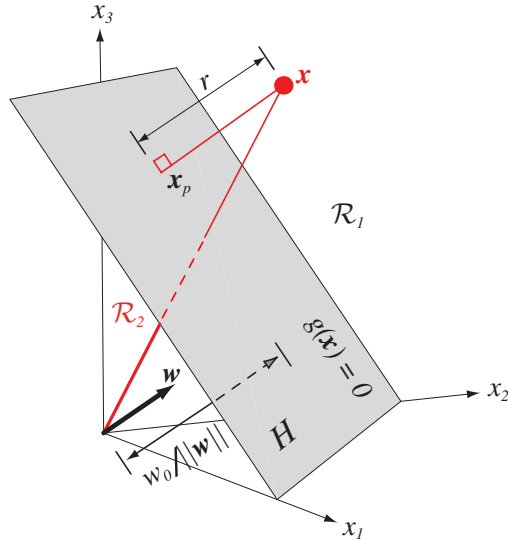


Figure from [2]

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## Notes

(any) vector  $(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2)$  lies on the separating hyperplane,  $\mathbf{w}$  is perpendicular to it

Summary: A linear discriminant function divides the feature space by a hyperplane decision surface.

- The orientation of the surface is determined by the normal vector  $\mathbf{w}$ .
- The location of the surface is determined by the bias term  $w_0$ .

# Separating hyperplane

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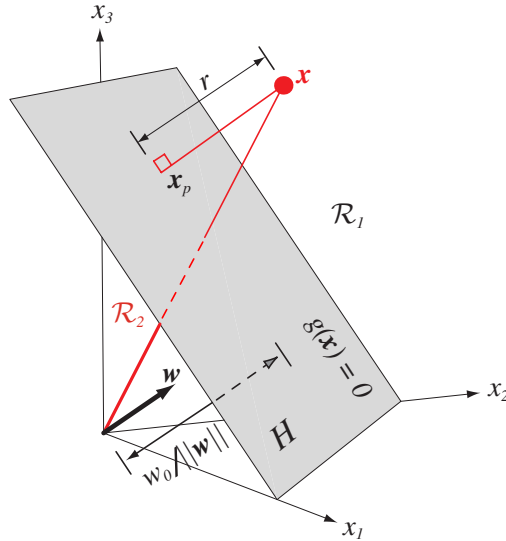


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## Separating hyperplane from $g_1$ and $g_2$

$$g_1(\vec{x}) = \vec{\mu}_1^\top \vec{x} - \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_1^\top \vec{\mu}_1$$

$$g_2(\vec{x}) = \vec{\mu}_2^\top \vec{x} - \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mu}_2^\top \vec{\mu}_2$$

Separating hyperplane:

$$g_1(\vec{x}) = g_2(\vec{x})$$

$$(\vec{\mu}_1 - \vec{\mu}_2)^\top \vec{x} = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{\mu}_1^\top \vec{\mu}_1 - \vec{\mu}_2^\top \vec{\mu}_2)$$

---

### Notes

Think about case where  $\|\vec{\mu}_1\| = \|\vec{\mu}_2\|$  and reason about simplified equation of the separating hyperplane.

# Two classes set-up

$|S| = 2$ , i.e. two states (typically also classes)

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} s = 1, & \text{if } \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + w_0 > 0, \\ s = -1, & \text{if } \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + w_0 < 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{x}'_j = s_j \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{x}_j \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{w}' = \begin{bmatrix} w_0 \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix}$$

for all  $\mathbf{x}'$

$$\mathbf{w}'^\top \mathbf{x}' > 0$$

drop the dashes to avoid notation clutter.

---

## Notes

There are two steps here:

1. Transformation to homogenous notation with augmented feature vector and augmented weight vector.
2. "Normalization" that simplifies treatment of the two-class case: labels can be ignored. Just look for a weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$  such that  $\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} > 0$

It means, the sign of  $\mathbf{x}$  depends on the class it belongs to! Keep in mind.



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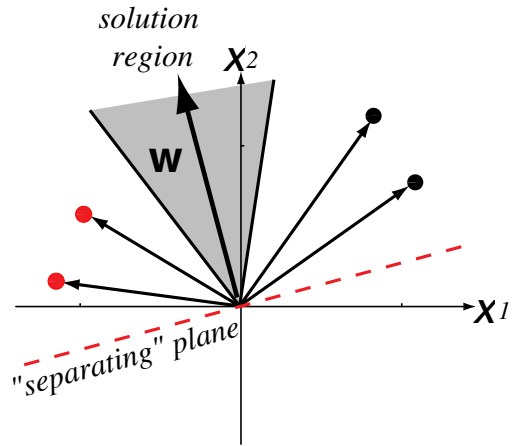
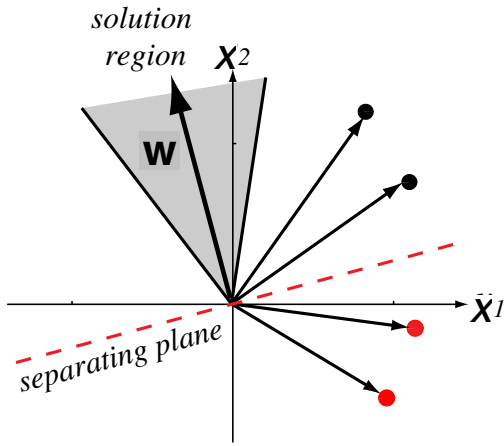
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## Solution (graphically)



Four training samples. Left: original, Right: sign corrected

Figure from [2] (notation changed)

### Notes

Four training samples (black for class/category  $w_1$ , red for  $w_2$ ). Left: Raw data Right: "Normalized data". Class  $w_2$  member replaced by their negatives...

Simplifies the situation: labels can be ignored. Just look for a weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$  such that  $\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} > 0$

Before: defining the linear discriminant function.

Now: How can we obtain it from (labeled) data?

# Learning $\mathbf{w}$ , gradient descent

A criterion to be minimized  $J(\mathbf{w})$ ; assume to be known

Initialize  $\mathbf{w}$ , threshold  $\theta$ , learning rate  $\alpha$

$k \leftarrow 0$

**repeat**

$k \leftarrow k + 1$

$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} - \alpha(k)\nabla J(\mathbf{w})$

**until**  $|\alpha(k)\nabla J(\mathbf{w})| < \theta$

return  $\mathbf{w}$

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## Notes

This is a general scheme, we do not know  $J(\mathbf{w})$ , yet.

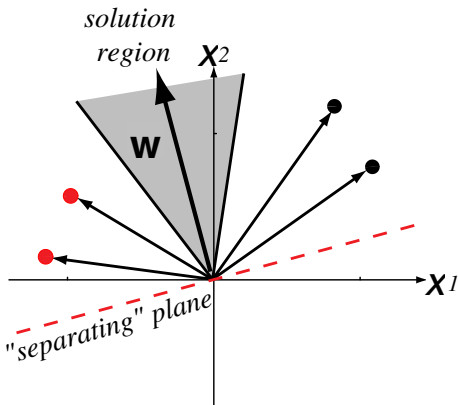
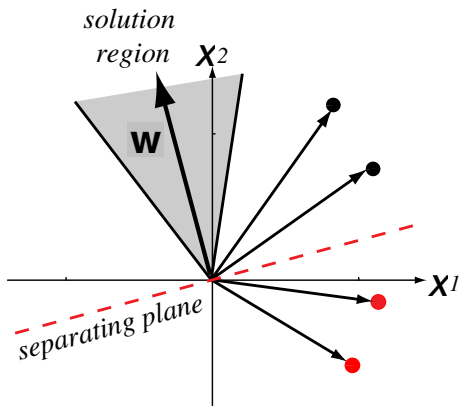
We're looking into *error-based classification* methods: misclassified examples are used to tune the classifier...

We already discussed (stochastic) Gradient descent when talking about  $Q$ -function learning

# Learning $w$ - Perceptron criterion

**Goal:** Find a weight vector  $w \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}$  (original feature space dimensionality is  $D$ ) such that:

$$w^T x_j > 0 \quad (\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\})$$



(Perceptron) Criterion to be minimized:

## Notes

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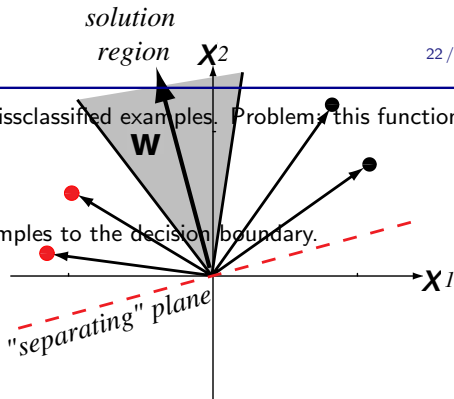
What are the possible choices for  $J(w)$ ? First choice: number of misclassified examples. Problem: this function is piecewise constant.

Better choice: perceptron criterion function.

Mind that  $w^T x_j \leq 0$  for  $x \in \mathcal{X}$

Geometrically:  $J(w) \propto$  sum of the distance of the misclassified samples to the decision boundary.

What is  $\nabla J(w)$  equal to?



# Learning $\mathbf{w}$ - Perceptron criterion

**Goal:** Find a weight vector  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}$  (original feature space dimensionality is  $D$ ) such that:

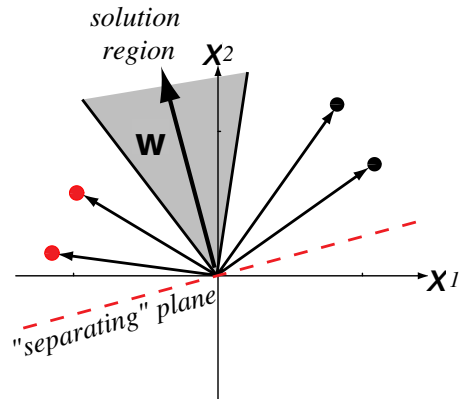
$$\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_j > 0 \quad (\forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\})$$

(Perceptron) Criterion to be minimized:

$$J(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} -\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}$$

where  $\mathcal{X}$  is a set of misclassified  $\mathbf{x}$ .

$$\nabla J(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} -\mathbf{x}$$



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## Notes

What are the possible choices for  $J(\mathbf{w})$ ? First choice: number of misclassified examples. Problem: this function is piecewise constant.

Better choice: perceptron criterion function.

Mind that  $\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_j \leq 0$  for  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$

Geometrically:  $J(\mathbf{w}) \propto$  sum of the distance of the misclassified samples to the decision boundary.

What is  $\nabla J(\mathbf{w})$  equal to?

# (Batch) Perceptron algorithm

Initialize  $\mathbf{w}$ , threshold  $\theta$ , learning rate  $\alpha$

$k \leftarrow 0$

**repeat**

$k \leftarrow k + 1$

$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \alpha(k) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}(k)} \mathbf{x}$

**until**  $|\alpha(k) \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}(k)} \mathbf{x}| < \theta$

return  $\mathbf{w}$

---

## Notes

Next weight vector  $\sim$  adding some multiple of the sum of the misclassified samples to the present weight vector.

# Fixed-increment single-sample Perceptron

$n$  patterns/samples, we are looping over all patterns repeatedly

Initialize  $\mathbf{w}$

$k \leftarrow 0$

**repeat**

$k \leftarrow (k + 1) \bmod n$

**if**  $\mathbf{x}^k$  misclassified, **then**  $\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{x}^k$

**until** all  $\mathbf{x}$  correctly classified

return  $\mathbf{w}$

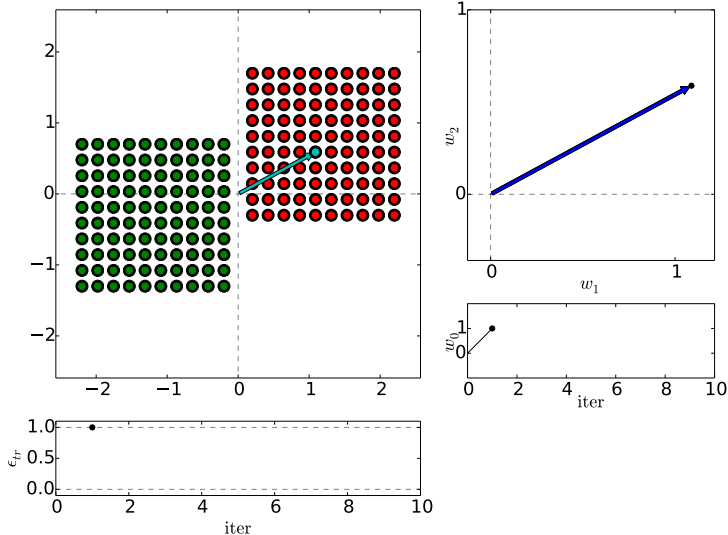
---

## Notes

As we are looping over all patterns repeatedly, it is not an on-line algorithm



# Perceptron iterations/loops



$n$  patterns/samples, we are looping over all patterns repeatedly:

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**return**  $\mathbf{w}$

(Dark) Blue is  $\mathbf{w}$  after update step. Reds are +, Greens -.

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## Notes

Keep in mind the  $\pm$  normalization of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} s = 1, & \text{if } \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + w_0 > 0, \\ s = -1, & \text{if } \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x} + w_0 < 0. \end{cases}$$

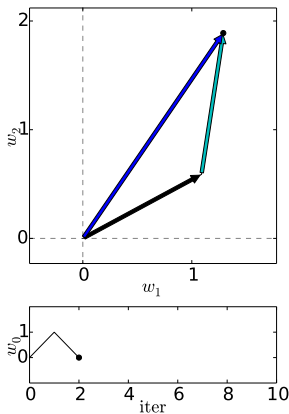
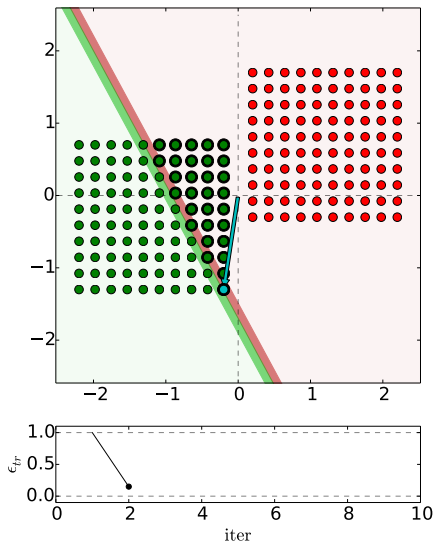
$$\mathbf{x}'_j = s_j \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \mathbf{x}_j \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{w}' = \begin{bmatrix} w_0 \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix}$$

(as discussed few slides ago)

Red  $\mathbf{x}$  are +, green are -

Track the iteration steps. After each update  $\mathbf{x}$ , draw a separating line for the next and verify.

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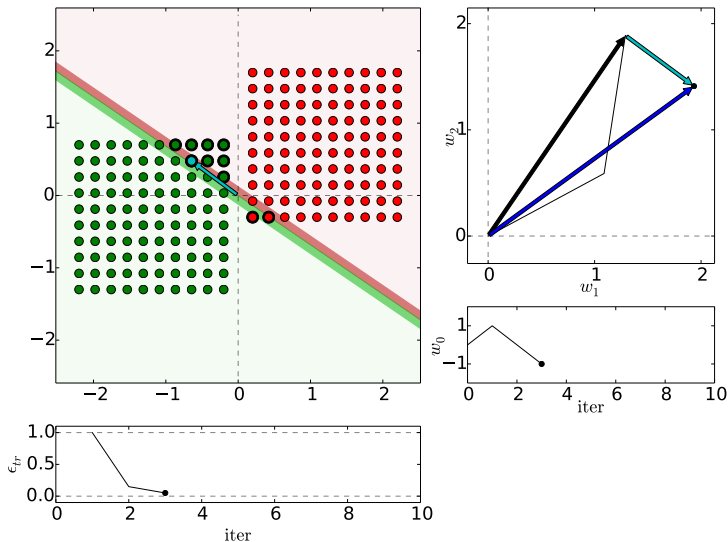
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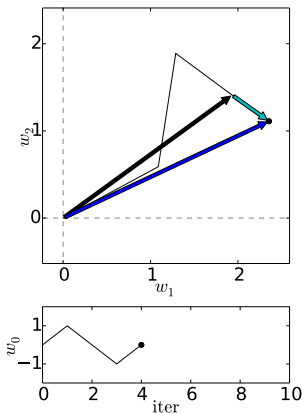
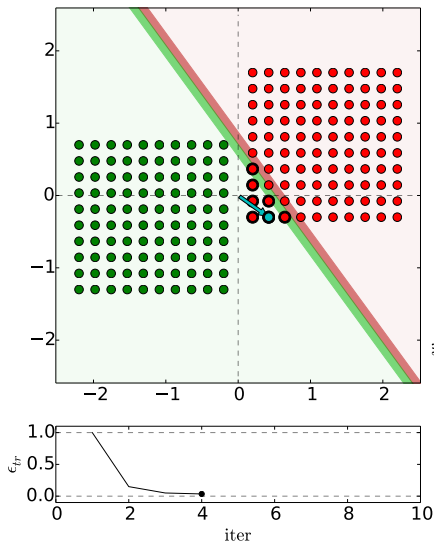
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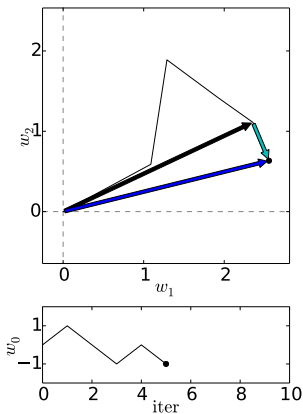
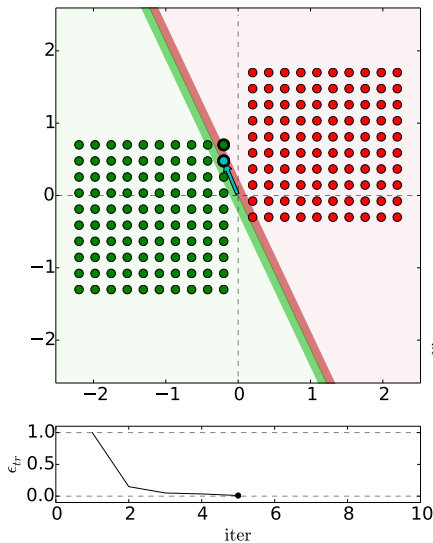
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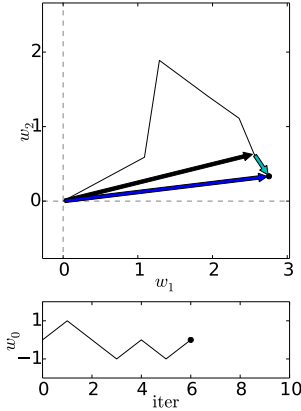
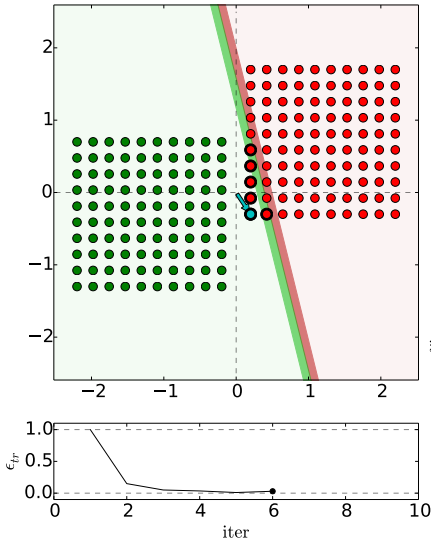
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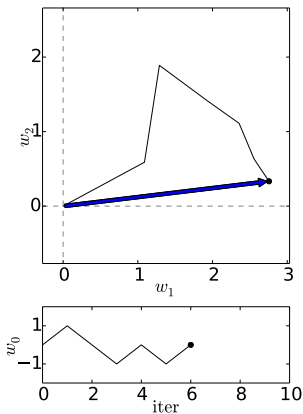
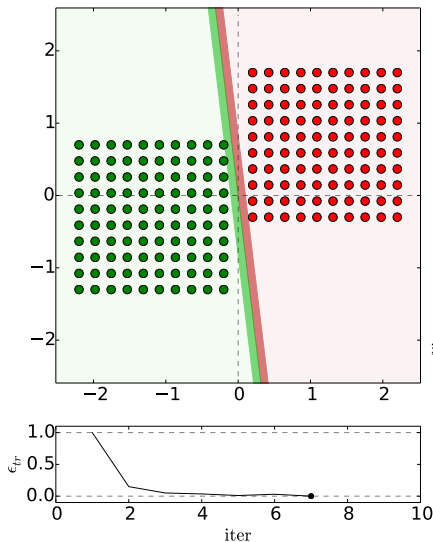
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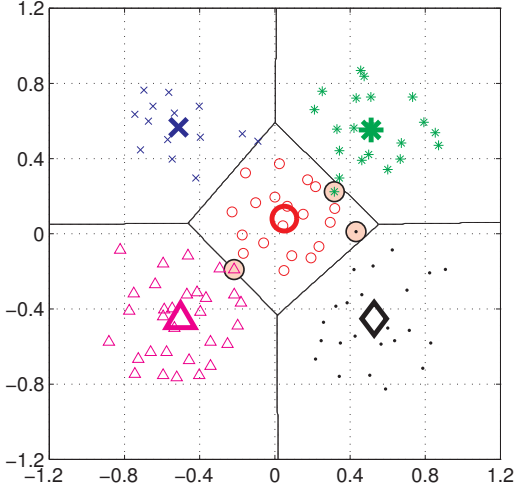
(as discussed few slides ago)

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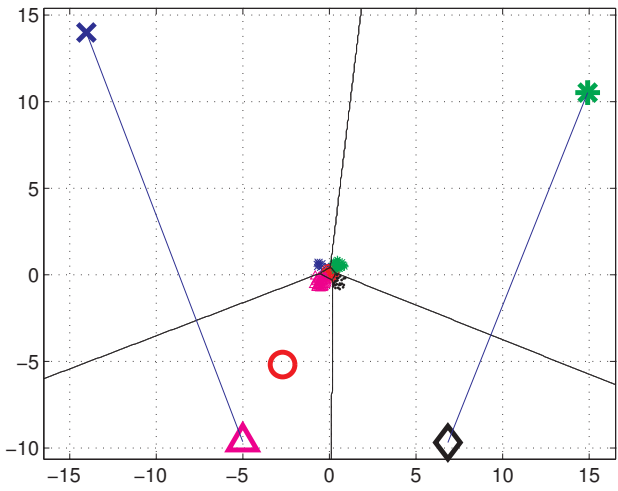
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# Etalons: means vs. found by perceptron

minimum distance from etalons



Etalons and separating hyperplanes found by perceptron

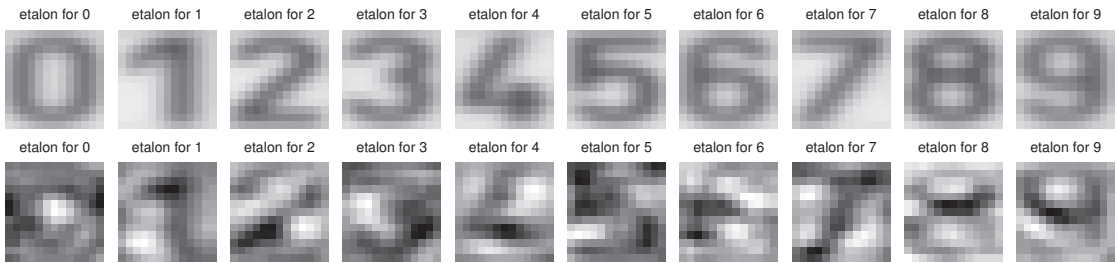


Figures from [5]

Notes



# Digit recognition - etalons means vs. perceptron



Figures from [5]

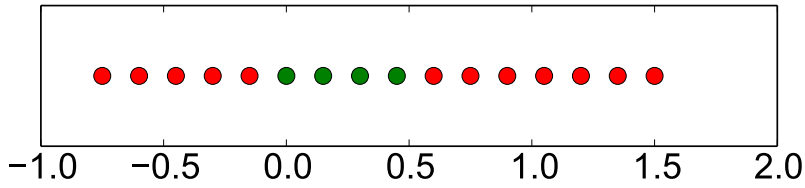
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## Notes

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“Prototypes” resulting from the perceptron algorithm are harder to interpret because they are not means – instead, they are optimized for separating the classes.

# What if not lin separable?



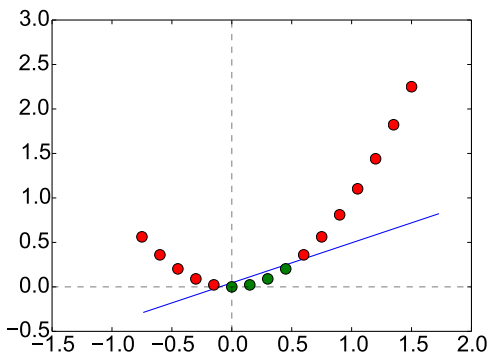
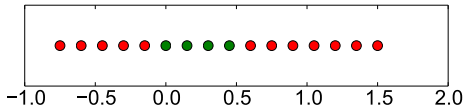
Dimension lifting

$$\mathbf{x} = [x, x^2]^T$$

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Notes

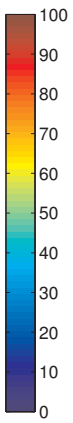
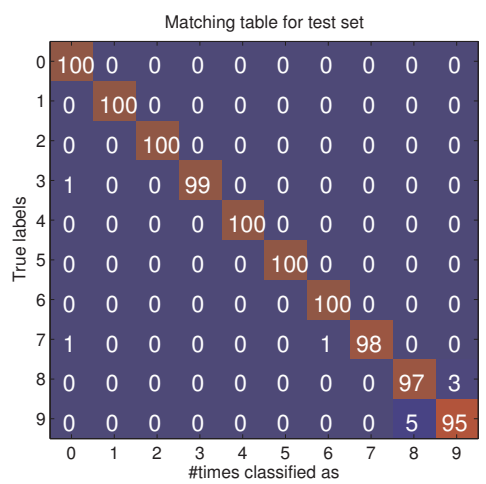
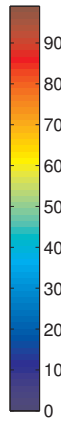
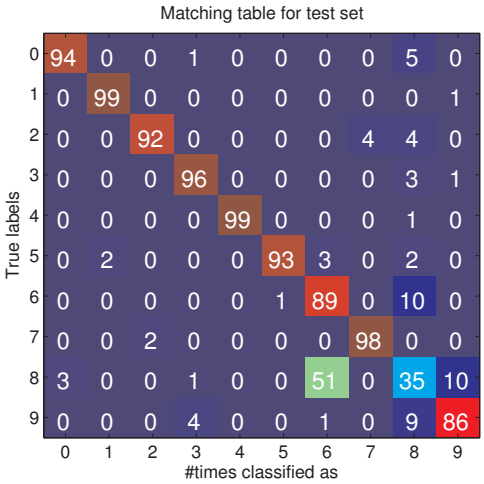
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## Notes

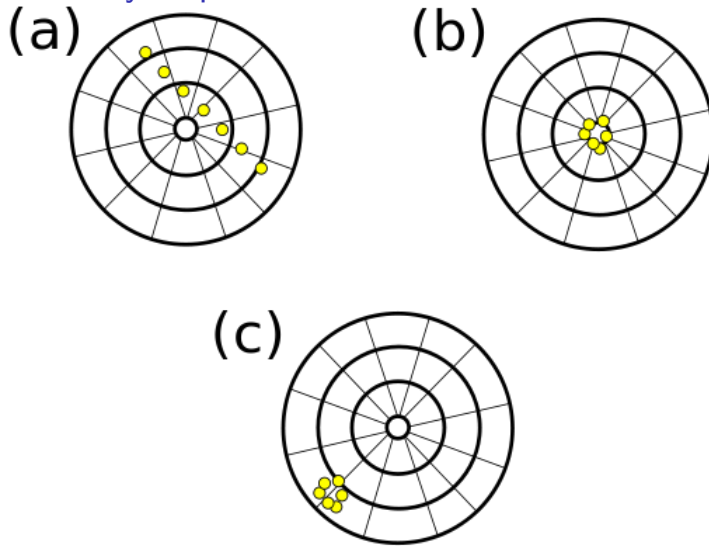
# Performance comparison, parameters fixed



## Notes

Why there some errors in perceptron results? We said zero error on training set.

## Accuracy vs precision



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Precision\\_versus\\_accuracy.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Precision_versus_accuracy.svg)

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### Notes

Accuracy: how close (is your model) to the truth. Precision: how consistent/stable

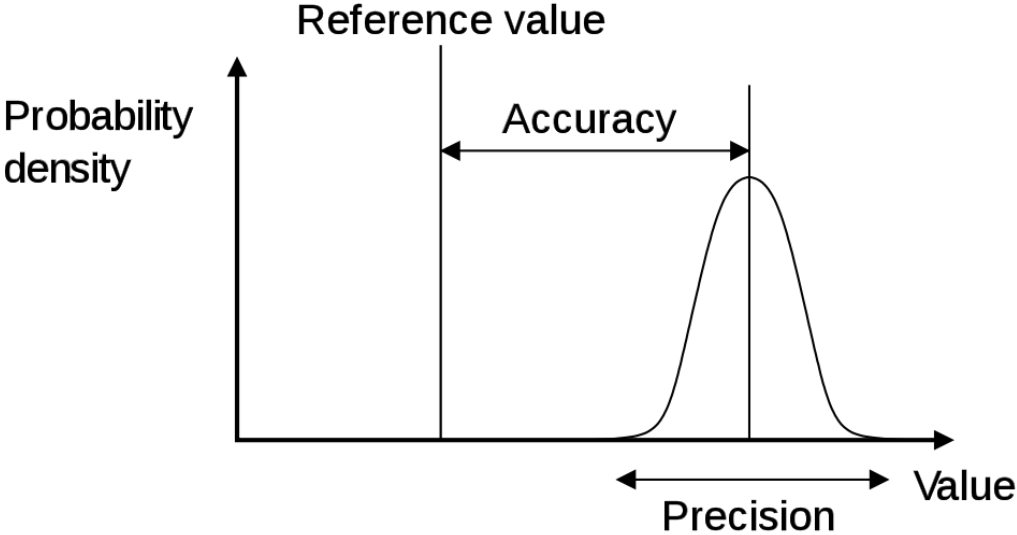
In German:

- Accuracy: Richtigkeit
- Precision: Präzision
- Both together: Genauigkeit

In Czech:

- Accuracy: Věrnost, přesnost.
- Precision: Rozptyl,

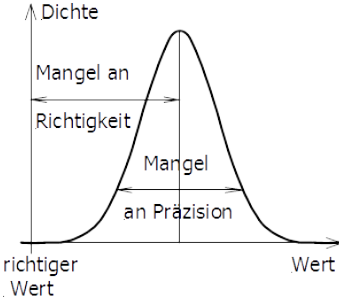
# Accuracy vs precision



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accuracy\\_and\\_precision](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accuracy_and_precision)

## Notes

Accuracy: how close (is your model) to the truth. Precision: how consistent/stable. Think about terms *bias* and *error*. I



# References I

Further reading: Chapter 18 of [4], or chapter 4 of [1], or chapter 5 of [2]. Many Matlab figures created with the help of [3]. You may also play with demo functions from [5].

[1] Christopher M. Bishop.

*Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning.*

Springer Science+Business Media, New York, NY, 2006.

PDF freely downloadable.

[2] Richard O. Duda, Peter E. Hart, and David G. Stork.

*Pattern Classification.*

John Wiley & Sons, 2nd edition, 2001.

[3] Votjěch Franc and Václav Hlaváč.

Statistical pattern recognition toolbox.

<http://cmp.felk.cvut.cz/cmp/software/stprtool/index.html>.

## References II

- [4] Stuart Russell and Peter Norvig.  
*Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach*.  
Prentice Hall, 3rd edition, 2010.  
<http://aima.cs.berkeley.edu/>.
- [5] Tomáš Svoboda, Jan Kybic, and Hlaváč Václav.  
*Image Processing, Analysis and Machine Vision — A MATLAB Companion*.  
Thomson, Toronto, Canada, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, September 2007.  
<http://visionbook.felk.cvut.cz/>.