## Non-Bayesian Methods

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## Lecture Outline

1. Limitations of Bayesian Decision Theory
2. Neyman Pearson Task
3. Minimax Task
4. Wald Task

## Bayesian Decision Theory

Recall:
$X$ set of observations
$K$ set of hidden states
$D$ set of decisions
$p_{X K}: \quad X \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ : joint probability
$W: K \times D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ : loss function,
$q: \quad X \rightarrow D$ : strategy
$R(q)$ : risk:

$$
\begin{equation*}
R(q)=\sum_{x \in X} \sum_{k \in K} p_{X K}(x, k) W(k, q(x)) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Bayesian strategy $q^{*}$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
q^{*}=\underset{q \in X \rightarrow D}{\operatorname{argmin}} R(q) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Limitations of the Bayesian Decision Theory

The limitations follow from the very ingredients of the Bayesian Decision Theory - the necessity to know all the probabilities and the loss function.

- The loss function $W$ must make sense, but in many tasks it wouldn't
- medical diagnosis task ( $W$ : price of medicines, staff labor, etc. but what penalty in case of patient's death?) Uncomparable penalties on different axes of $X$.
- nuclear plant
- judicial error
- The prior probabilities $p_{K}(k)$ : must exist and be known. But in some cases it does not make sense to talk about probabilities because the events are not random.
- $K=\{1,2\} \equiv$ \{own army plane, enemy plane $\}$;
$p(x \mid 1), p(x \mid 2)$ do exist and can be estimated, but $p(1)$ and $p(2)$ don't.
- The conditionals may be subject to non-random intervention; $p(x \mid k, z)$ where $z \in Z=\{1,2,3\}$ are different interventions.
- a system for handwriting recognition: The training set has been prepared by 3 different persons. But the test set has been constructed by one of the 3 persons only. This cannot be done:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\text { (!) } p(x \mid k)=\sum_{z} p(z) p(x \mid k, z) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

## Neyman Pearson Task

- $K=\{1,2\}$ (two classes, sometimes called $1=$ 'dangerous', $2=$ 'normal')
- $X$ set of observations
- Conditionals $p(x \mid 1), p(x \mid 2)$ are given
- The priors $p(1)$ and $p(2)$ are unknown or do not exist
- $q: X \rightarrow K$ strategy

The Neyman Pearson Task looks for the optimal strategy $q^{*}$ for which
i) the error of classification for class 1 is lower than a predefined threshold $\bar{\epsilon}_{1}\left(0<\bar{\epsilon}_{1}<1\right)$, while
ii) the classification error for class 2 is as low as possible.

This is formulated as an optimization task with an inequality constraint:

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\quad q^{*}=\underset{q: X \rightarrow K}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{x: q(x) \neq 2} p(x \mid 2) \\
\text { subject to: } \sum_{x: q(x) \neq 1} p(x \mid 1) \leq \bar{\epsilon}_{1} . \tag{5}
\end{array}
$$

## Neyman Pearson Task

(copied from the previous slide:)

$$
\begin{align*}
& \qquad q^{*}=\underset{q: X \rightarrow K}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{x: q(x) \neq 2} p(x \mid 2)  \tag{4}\\
& \text { subject to: } \sum_{x: q(x) \neq 1} p(x \mid 1) \leq \bar{\epsilon}_{1} \tag{5}
\end{align*}
$$

A strategy is characterized by the classification error values $\epsilon_{2}$ and $\epsilon_{1}$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
& \epsilon_{1}=\sum_{x: q(x) \neq 1} p(x \mid 1)  \tag{6}\\
& \epsilon_{2}=\sum_{x: q(x) \neq 2} p(x \mid 2) \tag{7}
\end{align*}
$$

## Example: Male/Female Recognition (Neyman Pearson) (1)

A hotel has an advertising screen in an elevator. Based on recognition of gender, it wants to display a relevant advert for a shopping mall located at the ground floor. The shopping mall is primarily designed to be interesting for female customers. For this reason, the female classification error threshold is set to $\bar{\epsilon}_{1}=0.2$. At the same time, the objective is to minimize mis-classification of male customers.

- $K=\{1,2\} \equiv\{\mathrm{F}, \mathrm{M}\}$ (female, male)
- measurements $X=$ height $\times$ weight (height sensor $=$ simple optical sensor, weight sensor $=$ standard component of elevators)
height $\in\left\{h_{1}, h_{2}, h_{3}\right\}$, weight $\in\left\{w_{1}, w_{2}, w_{3}, w_{4}\right\}\left(h_{1}<h_{2}<h_{3}\right)$, $\left(w_{1}<w_{2}<w_{3}<w_{4}\right)$
- Prior probabilities do not exist.
- Conditionals are given as follows:

| $p(x \mid \mathbf{F})$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .197 | .145 | .094 | .017 |
| $h_{2}$ | .077 | .299 | .145 | .017 |
| $h_{3}$ | .001 | .008 | .000 | .000 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $p(x \mid \mathrm{M})$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .011 | .005 | .011 | .011 |
| $h_{2}$ | .005 | .071 | .408 | .038 |
| $h_{3}$ | .002 | .014 | .255 | .169 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

## Neyman Pearson : Solution

The optimal strategy $q^{*}$ for a given $x \in X$ is constructed using the likelihood ratio $\frac{p(x \mid 2)}{p(x \mid 1)}$.
Let there be a constant $\mu \geq 0$. Given this $\mu$, a strategy $q$ is constructed as follows:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{p(x \mid 2)}{p(x \mid 1)}>\mu \quad \Rightarrow \quad q(x)=2  \tag{9}\\
& \frac{p(x \mid 2)}{p(x \mid 1)} \leq \mu \quad \Rightarrow \quad q(x)=1 \tag{10}
\end{align*}
$$

The optimal strategy $q^{*}$ is obtained by selecting the minimal $\mu$ for which there still holds that $\epsilon_{1} \leq \bar{\epsilon}_{1}$.

Let us show this on an example.

## Example: Male/Female Recognition (Neyman Pearson) (2)

| $p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .197 | .145 | .094 | .017 |
| $h_{2}$ | .077 | .299 | .145 | .017 |
| $h_{3}$ | .001 | .008 | .000 | .000 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $r(x)=p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | 0.056 | 0.034 | 0.117 | 0.647 |
| $h_{2}$ | 0.065 | 0.237 | 2.814 | 2.235 |
| $h_{3}$ | 2.000 | 1.750 | $\infty$ | $\infty$ |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $p(x \mid 2)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .011 | .005 | .011 | .011 |
| $h_{2}$ | .005 | .071 | .408 | .038 |
| $h_{3}$ | .002 | .014 | .255 | .169 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

Here, different $\mu$ 's can produce 11 different strategies.
First, let us take $2.814<\mu<\infty$, e.g. $\mu=3$. This produces a strategy $q^{*}(x)=1$ everywhere except where $p(x \mid 1)=0$. Obviously, classification error $\epsilon_{1}=0$, and $\epsilon_{2}=1-.255-.169=.576$.

## Example: Male/Female Recognition (Neyman Pearson) (3)

| $p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .197 | .145 | .094 | .017 |
| $h_{2}$ | .077 | .299 | .145 | .017 |
| $h_{3}$ | .001 | .008 | .000 | .000 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $r(x)=p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | 0.056 | 0.034 | 0.117 | 0.647 |
| $h_{2}$ | 0.065 | 0.237 | 2.814 | 2.235 |
| $h_{3}$ | 2.000 | 1.750 | $\infty$ | $\infty$ |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

rank, and $q^{*}(x)=\{1,2\}$ for $\mu=2.5$

| $h_{1}$ | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{2}$ | 3 | 5 | 10 | 9 |
| $h_{3}$ | 8 | 7 | 11 | 12 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

Next, take $\mu$ which satisfies

$$
\begin{equation*}
r_{9}<\mu<r_{10} \quad(\text { e.g. } \mu=2.5) \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

(where $r_{i}$ is the likelihood ratios indexed by its rank.) Here, $\epsilon_{1}=.145$, and $\epsilon_{2}=1-.255-.169-.408=.168$.

## Example: Male/Female Recognition (Neyman Pearson) (4)

| $p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .197 | .145 | .094 | .017 |
| $h_{2}$ | .077 | .299 | .145 | .017 |
| $h_{3}$ | .001 | .008 | .000 | .000 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $r(x)=p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | 0.056 | 0.034 | 0.117 | 0.647 |
| $h_{2}$ | 0.065 | 0.237 | 2.814 | 2.235 |
| $h_{3}$ | 2.000 | 1.750 | $\infty$ | $\infty$ |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $p(x \mid 2)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .011 | .005 | .011 | .011 |
| $h_{2}$ | .005 | .071 | .408 | .038 |
| $h_{3}$ | .002 | .014 | .255 | .169 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

rank, and $q^{*}(x)=\{1,2\}$ for $\mu=2.1$

| $h_{1}$ | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{2}$ | 3 | 5 | 10 | 9 |
| $h_{3}$ | 8 | 7 | 11 | 12 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

Do the same for $\mu$ satisfying

$$
\begin{equation*}
r_{8}<\mu<r_{9} \quad(\text { e.g. } \mu=2.1) \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\Rightarrow \epsilon_{1}=.162$, and $\epsilon_{2}=0.13$.

Example: Male/Female Recognition (Neyman Pearson)

Classification errors for 1 and 2 , for $\mu_{i}=\frac{r_{i}+r_{i+1}}{2}$ and $\mu_{0}=0$.


The optimum is reached for $r_{5}<\mu<r_{6} ; \epsilon_{1}=.188, \epsilon_{2}=.103$

## Neyman Pearson : Simple Case (1)



Consider a simple case when $p\left(x_{i} \mid 1\right)=$ const. Possible values for $\epsilon_{1}$ are $0, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{2}{8}, \ldots, 1$. If a strategy $q$ classifies $P$ observations as normal then $\epsilon_{1}=\frac{P}{8}$.
If $P=1$ then $\epsilon_{1}=\frac{1}{8}$ and it is clear that $\epsilon_{2}$ will attain minimum if the (one) observation which is classified as normal is the one with the highest $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$. Similarly, if $P=2$ then the two observations to be classified as normal are the one with the first two highest $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$. Etc.

$\uparrow$ cumulative sum of sorted $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$ shows the classification success rate for 2 , that is, $1-\epsilon_{2}$, for $\epsilon_{1}=\frac{1}{8}, \frac{2}{8}, \ldots, 1$. For example, for $\epsilon_{1}=\frac{2}{8}(P=2), \epsilon_{2}=1-0.45=0.55$ (as shown, dashed.)

## Neyman Pearson : Towards General Case (2)

In general, $p\left(x_{i} \mid 1\right) \neq$ const. Consider the following example:

| $p\left(x_{i} \mid 1\right)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ |
| 0.5 | 0.25 | 0.25 |


| $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ |
| 0.6 | 0.35 | 0.05 |

But this can easily be converted to the previous special case by (only formally) splitting $x_{1}$ to two observations $x_{1}^{\prime}$ and $x_{1}^{\prime \prime}$ :

| $x_{1}^{\prime}$ | $x_{1}^{\prime \prime}$ | $\left.x_{2} \mid 1\right)$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | $x_{3}$ |


| $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1}^{\prime}$ | $x_{1}^{\prime \prime}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ |
| 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.35 | 0.05 |

which would result in ordering the observations by decreasing $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$ as: $x_{2}, x_{1}, x_{3}$.
Obviously, the same ordering is obtained when $p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)$ is 'normalized' by $p\left(x_{i} \mid 1\right)$, that is, using the likelihood ratio

$$
\begin{equation*}
r\left(x_{i}\right)=\frac{p\left(x_{i} \mid 2\right)}{p\left(x_{i} \mid 1\right)} . \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

Neyman Pearson : General Case Example (3)


## Neyman Pearson Solution : Illustration of Principle

Lagrangian of the Neyman Pearson Task is

$$
\begin{align*}
L(q) & =\underbrace{\sum_{x: q(x)=1} p(x \mid 2)}_{=}+\mu\left(\sum_{x: q(x)=2} p(x \mid 1)-\bar{\epsilon}_{D}\right)  \tag{14}\\
& =\overbrace{1-\sum_{x: q(x)=2} p(x \mid 2)}+\mu\left(\sum_{x: q(x)=2} p(x \mid 1)\right)-\mu \bar{\epsilon}_{1} \\
& =1-\mu \bar{\epsilon}_{1}+\sum_{x: q(x)=2} \underbrace{\{\mu p(x \mid 1)-p(x \mid 2)\}}_{T(x)}
\end{align*}
$$

If $T(x)$ is negative for an $x$ then it will decrease the objective function and the optimal strategy $q^{*}$ will decide $q^{*}(x)=2$. This illustrates why the solution to the Neyman Pearson Task has the form

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{p(x \mid 2)}{p(x \mid 1)}>\mu \quad \Rightarrow \quad q(x)=2  \tag{9}\\
& \frac{p(x \mid 2)}{p(x \mid 1)} \leq \mu \quad \Rightarrow \quad q(x)=1 \tag{10}
\end{align*}
$$

## Neyman Pearson : Derivation (1)

$$
\begin{equation*}
q^{*}=\min _{q: X \rightarrow K} \sum_{x: q(x) \neq 2} p(x \mid 2) \quad \text { subject to: } \sum_{x: q(x) \neq 1} p(x \mid 1) \leq \bar{\epsilon}_{1} . \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let us rewrite this as

$$
\begin{align*}
q^{*}=\min _{q: X \rightarrow K} \sum_{x \in X} \alpha(x) p(x \mid 2) \quad \text { subject to: } & \sum_{x \in X}[1-\alpha(x)] p(x \mid 1) \leq \bar{\epsilon}_{1} .  \tag{18}\\
\text { and: } & \alpha(x) \in\{0,1\} \forall x \in X \tag{19}
\end{align*}
$$

This is a combinatorial optimization problem. If the relaxation is done from $\alpha(x) \in\{0,1\}$ to $0 \leq \alpha(x) \leq 1$, this can be solved by linear programming (LP). The Lagrangian of this problem with inequality constraints is:

$$
\begin{array}{r}
L\left(\alpha\left(x_{1}\right), \alpha\left(x_{2}\right), \ldots, \alpha\left(x_{N}\right)\right)=\sum_{x \in X} \alpha(x) p(x \mid 2)+\mu\left(\sum_{x \in X}[1-\alpha(x)] p(x \mid 1)-\bar{\epsilon}_{1}\right) \\
-  \tag{21}\\
-\sum_{x \in X} \mu_{0}(x) \alpha(x)+\sum_{x \in X} \mu_{1}(x)(\alpha(x)-1)
\end{array}
$$

## Neyman Pearson : Derivation (2)

$$
\begin{align*}
L\left(\alpha\left(x_{1}\right), \alpha\left(x_{2}\right), \ldots, \alpha\left(x_{N}\right)\right)= & \sum_{x \in X} \alpha(x) p(x \mid 2)+\mu\left(\sum_{x \in X}[1-\alpha(x)] p(x \mid 1)-\bar{\epsilon}_{1}\right)  \tag{20}\\
& -\sum_{x \in X} \mu_{0}(x) \alpha(x)+\sum_{x \in X} \mu_{1}(x)(\alpha(x)-1) \tag{21}
\end{align*}
$$

The conditions for optimality are $(\forall x \in X)$ :

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\frac{\partial L}{\partial \alpha(x)}=p(x \mid 2)-\mu p(x \mid 1)-\mu_{0}(x)+\mu_{1}(x)=0, \\
\mu \geq 0, \mu_{0}(x) \geq 0, \mu_{1}(x) \geq 0, \quad 0 \leq \alpha(x) \leq 1, \\
\mu_{0}(x) \alpha(x)=0, \mu_{1}(x)(\alpha(x)-1)=0, \mu\left(\sum_{x \in X}[1-\alpha(x)] p(x \mid 1)-\bar{\epsilon}_{1}\right)=0 . \tag{24}
\end{array}
$$

## Case-by-case analysis:

| case | implications |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mu=0$ | $L$ minimized by $\alpha(x)=0 \quad \forall x$ |
| $\mu \neq 0, \alpha(x)=0$ | $\mu_{1}(x)=0 \Rightarrow \mu_{0}(x)=p(x \mid 2)-\mu p(x \mid 1) \Rightarrow p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1) \leq \mu$ |
| $\mu \neq 0, \alpha(x)=1$ | $\mu_{0}(x)=0 \Rightarrow \mu_{1}(x)=-[p(x \mid 2)-\mu p(x \mid 1)] \Rightarrow p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1) \geq \mu$ |
| $\mu \neq 0$, <br> $0<\alpha(x)<1$ | $\mu_{0}(x)=\mu_{1}(x)=0 \Rightarrow p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)=\mu$ |

## Neyman Pearson : Derivation (3)

Case-by-case analysis:

| case | implications |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mu=0$ | $L$ minimized by $\alpha(x)=0 \quad \forall x$ |
| $\mu \neq 0, \alpha(x)=0$ | $\mu_{1}(x)=0 \Rightarrow \mu_{0}(x)=p(x \mid 2)-\mu p(x \mid 1) \Rightarrow p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1) \leq \mu$ |
| $\mu \neq 0, \alpha(x)=1$ | $\mu_{0}(x)=0 \Rightarrow \mu_{1}(x)=-[p(x \mid 2)-\mu p(x \mid 1)] \Rightarrow p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1) \geq \mu$ |
| $\mu \neq 0$, <br> $0<\alpha(x)<1$ | $\mu_{0}(x)=\mu_{1}(x)=0 \Rightarrow p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)=\mu$ |

Optimal Strategy for a given $\mu \geq 0$ and particular $x \in X$ :
$\frac{p(x \mid 2)}{p(x \mid 1)}\left\{\begin{aligned}<\mu & \Rightarrow q(x)=1(\text { as } \alpha(x)=0) \\ >\mu & \Rightarrow q(x)=2(\text { as } \alpha(x)=1) \\ =\mu & \Rightarrow \text { LP relaxation does not give the desired solution, as } \alpha \notin\{0,1\}\end{aligned}\right.$

## Neyman Pearson : Note on Randomized Strategies (1)

Consider:

| $p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ |
| 0.9 | 0.09 | 0.01 |


| $p(x \mid 2)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ |
| 0.09 | 0.9 | 0.01 |


| $r(x)=p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $x_{1}$ | $x_{2}$ | $x_{3}$ |
| 0.1 | 10 | 1 |

and $\bar{\epsilon}_{1}=0.03$.
$q_{1}:\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right) \rightarrow(1,1,1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \epsilon_{1}=0.00, \epsilon_{2}=1.00$

- $q_{2}:\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right) \rightarrow(1,1,2) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \epsilon_{1}=0.01, \epsilon_{2}=0.99$
- no other deterministic strategy $q$ is feasible, that is all other ones have $\epsilon_{1}>\bar{\epsilon}_{1}$
- $q_{2}$ is the best deterministic strategy but it does not comply with the previous basic result of constructing the optimal strategy because it decides for 2 for likelihood ratio 1 but decides for 1 for likelihood ratios 0.01 and 10 . Why is that?
- we can construct a randomized strategy which attains $\bar{\epsilon}_{1}$ and reaches lower $\epsilon_{2}$ :

$$
q\left(x_{1}\right)=q\left(x_{3}\right)=1, \quad q\left(x_{2}\right)= \begin{cases}2 & 1 / 3 \text { of the time }  \tag{26}\\ 1 & 2 / 3 \text { of the time }\end{cases}
$$

For such strategy, $\epsilon_{1}=0.03, \epsilon_{2}=0.7$.

## Neyman Pearson : Note on Randomized Strategies (2)

- This is not a problem but a feature which is caused by discrete nature of $X$ (does not happen when $X$ is continuous).
- This is exactly what the case of $\mu=p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)$ is on slide 18 .


## Neyman Pearson : Notes (1)

- The task can be generalized to 3 hidden states, of which 2 are dangerous, $K=\left\{2, \mathrm{D}_{1}, \mathrm{D}_{2}\right\}$. It is formulated as an analogous problem with two inequality constraints and minimization of classification error for 2.
- Neyman's and Pearson's work dates to 1928 and 1933.
- A particular strength of the approach lies in that the likelihood ratio $r(x)$ or even $p(x \mid 2)$ need not be known. For the task to be solved, it is enough to know the $p(x \mid 1)$ and the rank order of the likelihood ratio (to be demonstrated on the next page)


## Minimax Task

- $K=\{1,2, . ., N\}$
- $X$ set of observations
- Conditionals $p(x \mid k)$ are known $\forall k \in K$
- The priors $p(k)$ are unknown or do not exist
- $q: X \rightarrow K$ strategy

The Minimax Task looks for the optimum strategy $q^{*}$ which minimizes the classification error of the worst classified class:

$$
\begin{align*}
q^{*} & =\underset{q: X \rightarrow K}{\operatorname{argmin}} \max _{k \in K} \epsilon(k), \quad \text { where }  \tag{27}\\
\epsilon(k) & =\sum_{x: q(x) \neq k} p(x \mid k) \tag{28}
\end{align*}
$$

- Example: A recognition algorithm qualifies for a competition using preliminary tests. During the final competition, only objects from the hardest-to-classify class are used.
- For a 2-class problem, the strategy is again constructed using the likelihood ratio.
- In the case of continuous observations space $X$, equality of classification errors is attained: $\epsilon_{1}=\epsilon_{2}$
- The derivation can again be done using Linear Programming.


## Example: Male/Female Recognition (Minimax)

Classification errors for 1 and 2 , for $\mu_{i}=\frac{r_{i}+r_{i+1}}{2}$ and $\mu_{0}=0$.


The optimum is attained for $i=8, \epsilon_{1}=.162, \epsilon_{2}=.13$. The corresponding strategy is as shown on slide 11.

## Minimax: Comparison with Bayesian Decision with Unknown Priors

- Consider the same setting as in the Minimax task, but let the priors $p(k)$ exist but be unknown.
- The Bayesian error $\epsilon$ for strategy $q$ is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\epsilon=\sum_{k} \sum_{x: q(x) \neq k} p(x, k)=\sum_{k} p(k) \underbrace{\sum_{x: q(x) \neq k} p(x \mid k)}_{\epsilon(k)} \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

- We want to minimize $\epsilon$ but we do not know $p(k)$ 's. What is the maximum it can attain? Obviously, the $p(k)$ 's do the convex combination of the class errors $\epsilon(k)$; the maximum Bayesian error will be attained when $p(k)=1$ for the class $k$ with the highest class error $\epsilon(k)$.
- Thus, to minimize the Bayesian error $\epsilon$ under this setting, the solution is to minimize the error of the hardest-to-classify class.
- Therefore, Minimax formulation and the Bayesian formulation with Unknown Priors lead to the same solution.


## Wald Task (1)

- Let us consider classification with two states, $K=\{1,2\}$.
- We want to set a threshold $\epsilon$ on the classification error of both of the classes: $\epsilon_{1} \leq \epsilon$, $\epsilon_{2} \leq \epsilon$.
- It is clear that there may be no feasible solution if $\epsilon$ is set too low.
- That is why the possibility of decision "do not know" is introduced. Thus $D=K \cup\{?\}$
- A strategy $q: X \rightarrow D$ is characterized by:

$$
\begin{align*}
& \epsilon_{1}=\sum_{x: q(x)=2} p(x \mid 1)  \tag{30}\\
& \left.\epsilon_{2}=\sum_{x: q(x)=1} p(x \mid 2) \quad \text { (classification error for } 1\right)  \tag{31}\\
& \left.\kappa_{1}=\sum_{x: q(x)=?} p(x \mid 1) \quad \text { (undecided rate for } 1\right)  \tag{32}\\
& \kappa_{2}=\sum_{x: q(x)=?} p(x \mid 2) \quad \text { (undecided rate for 2) } \tag{33}
\end{align*}
$$

## Wald Task (2)

- The optimal strategy $q^{*}$ :

$$
\begin{array}{r}
q^{*}=\underset{q: X \rightarrow D}{\operatorname{argmin}} \max _{i=\{1,2\}} \kappa_{i} \\
\text { subject to: } \epsilon_{1} \leq \epsilon, \epsilon_{2} \leq \epsilon \tag{35}
\end{array}
$$

- The task is again solvable using LP (even for more than 2 classes)
- The optimal solution is again based on the likelihood ratio

$$
\begin{equation*}
r(x)=\frac{p(x \mid 1)}{p(x \mid 2)} \tag{36}
\end{equation*}
$$

- The optimal strategy is constructed using suitably chosen thresholds $\mu_{l}$ and $\mu_{h}$ such that:

$$
q(x)= \begin{cases}2 & \text { for } r(x)<\mu_{l}  \tag{37}\\ 1 & \text { for } r(x)>\mu_{h} \\ ? & \text { for } \mu_{l} \leq r(x) \leq \mu_{h}\end{cases}
$$

## Example: Male/Female Recognition (Wald)

Solve the Wald task for $\epsilon=0.05$.

| $p(x \mid \mathrm{F})$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .197 | .145 | .094 |  |
| .017 |  |  |  |  |
| $h_{2}$ | .077 | .299 | .145 |  |
| .017 |  |  |  |  |
| $h_{3}$ | .001 | .008 | .000 |  |
| .000 |  |  |  |  |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ |  |
| $w_{4}$ |  |  |  |  |


| $p(x \mid \mathrm{M})$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | .011 | .005 | .011 | .011 |
| $h_{2}$ | .005 | .071 | .408 | .038 |
| $h_{3}$ | .002 | .014 | .255 | .169 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |


| $r(x)=p(x \mid 2) / p(x \mid 1)$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{1}$ | 0.056 | 0.034 | 0.117 | 0.647 |
| $h_{2}$ | 0.065 | 0.237 | 2.814 | 2.235 |
| $h_{3}$ | 2.000 | 1.750 | $\infty$ | $\infty$ |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

rank, and $q^{*}(x)=\{1,2, ?\}$

| $h_{1}$ | 2 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $h_{2}$ | 3 | 5 | 10 | 9 |
| $h_{3}$ | 8 | 7 | 11 | 12 |
|  | $w_{1}$ | $w_{2}$ | $w_{3}$ | $w_{4}$ |

Result: $\epsilon_{2}=0.032, \epsilon_{1}=0, \kappa_{2}=0.544, \kappa_{1}=0.487$
$\left(r_{4}<\mu_{l}<r_{5}, r_{10}<\mu_{h}<\infty\right)$

