



Rensselaer

Lecture 9: Linear Discriminant Functions (1)

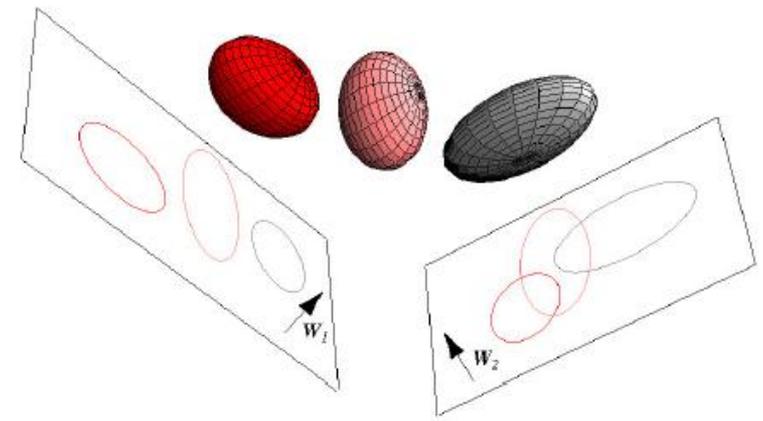
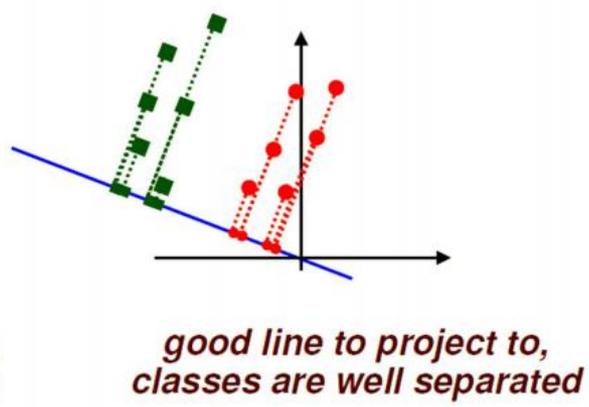
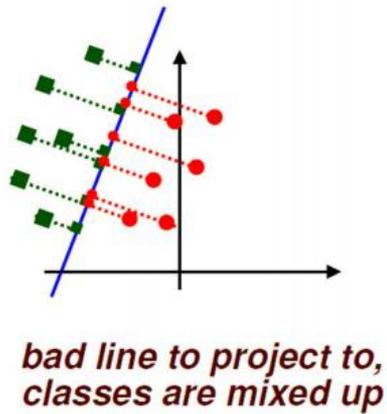
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Recap Previous Lecture



Outline

- Generative vs Discriminant Approach
- Linear Discriminant Function and Decision Surface
- Linear Separability
- Learning with Gradient Descent and Newton's Method

Outline

- **Generative vs Discriminant Approach**
- Linear Discriminant Function and Decision Surface
- Linear Separability
- Learning with Gradient Decent and Netwon's Method

Generative vs Discriminant Approach

- **Generative** approaches estimate the discriminant function by first estimating the probability distribution of the patterns belonging to each class.
- **Discriminant** approaches estimate the discriminant function explicitly, without assuming a probability distribution.

Generative Approach (two categories)

- More common to use a single discriminant function (*dichotomizer*) instead of two:

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = g_1(\mathbf{x}) - g_2(\mathbf{x})$$

Decide ω_1 if $g(\mathbf{x}) > 0$; otherwise decide ω_2

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = P(\omega_1 / \mathbf{x}) - P(\omega_2 / \mathbf{x})$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x} / \omega_1)}{p(\mathbf{x} / \omega_2)} + \ln \frac{P(\omega_1)}{P(\omega_2)}$$

If $g(\mathbf{x})=0$, then \mathbf{x} lies on the **decision boundary** and can be assigned to either class.

Generative Approach

- Advantage
 - Prior information about the structure of the data is often most naturally specified through a generative model $P(X|Y)$
For example, for male faces, we would expect to see heavier eyebrows, a more square jaw, etc.
- Disadvantages
 - The generative approach does not directly target the classification model $P(Y|X)$ since the goal of generative training is $P(X|Y)$
 - If the data x are complex, finding a suitable generative data model $P(X|Y)$ is a difficult task
 - Since each generative model is separately trained for each class, there is no competition amongst the models to explain the data
 - The decision boundary between the classes may have a simple form, even if the data distribution of each class is complex

Discriminant Approach (two categories)

- Specify **parametric form** of the discriminant function, for example, a linear discriminant:

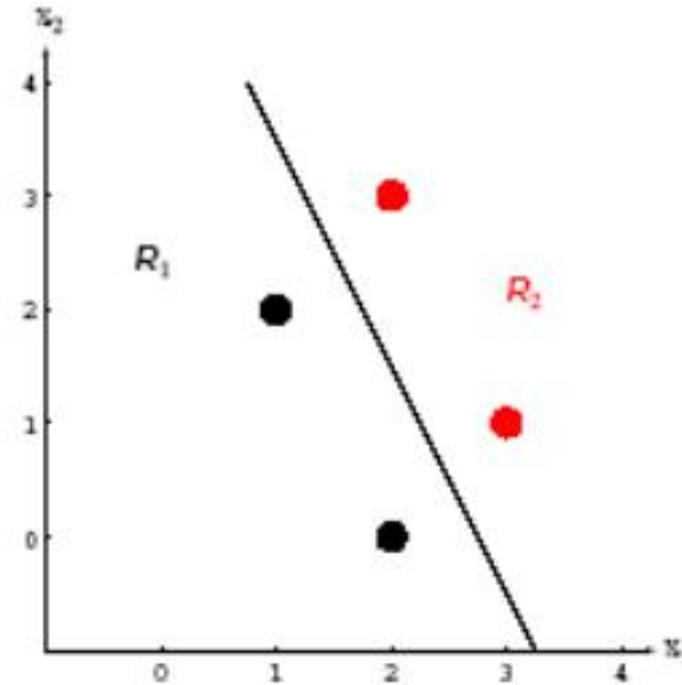
$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i + w_0$$

Decide w_1 if $g(\mathbf{x}) > 0$ and w_2 if $g(\mathbf{x}) < 0$

If $g(\mathbf{x})=0$, then \mathbf{x} lies on the **decision boundary** and can be assigned to either class.

Discriminant Approach (cont'd)

- Find the “best” decision boundary (i.e., estimate \mathbf{w} and w_0) using a set of training examples \mathbf{x}_k .



Discriminant Approach (cont'd)

- The solution can be found by **minimizing** an error function (e.g., “training error” or “empirical risk”):

$$J(\mathbf{w}, w_0) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n [z_k - g(\mathbf{x}_k)]^2$$

class labels:

$$z_k = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \mathbf{x}_k \in \omega_1 \\ -1 & \text{if } \mathbf{x}_k \in \omega_2 \end{cases}$$

correct class predicted class

- “**Learning**” algorithms can be applied to find the solution.

Linear Discriminants (two categories)

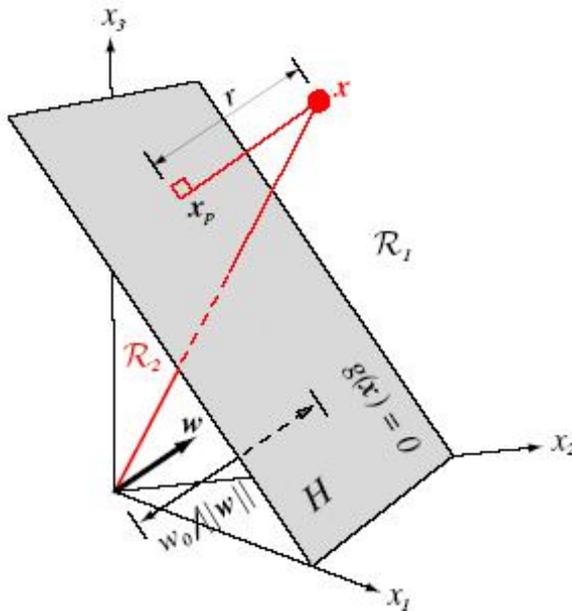
- A **linear discriminant** has the following form:

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i + w_0$$

- The **decision boundary** ($g(\mathbf{x})=0$), is a **hyperplane** where the orientation of the hyperplane is determined by \mathbf{w} and its location by w_0 .
 - \mathbf{w} is the normal to the hyperplane
 - If $w_0=0$, the hyperplane passes through the origin

Geometric Interpretation of $g(\mathbf{x})$

- $g(\mathbf{x})$ provides an algebraic measure of the **distance** of \mathbf{x} from the hyperplane.



\mathbf{x} can be expressed as follows:

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

(direction of r)

Geometric Interpretation of $g(\mathbf{x})$ (cont'd)

- Substitute \mathbf{x} in $g(\mathbf{x})$:

$$\begin{aligned}g(\mathbf{x}) &= \mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \mathbf{w}^t \left(\mathbf{x}_p + r \frac{\mathbf{w}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} \right) + w_0 = \\ &= \mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x}_p + r \frac{\mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{w}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|} + w_0 = r \|\mathbf{w}\|\end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{w} = \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

$$\mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x}_p + w_0 = 0$$

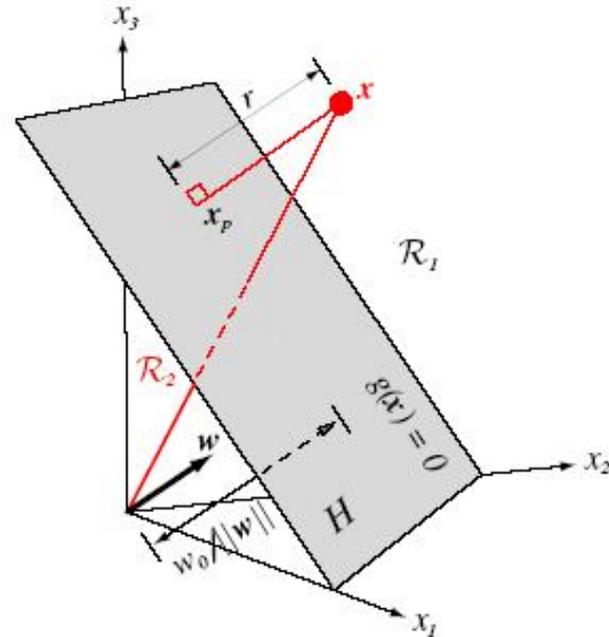
Geometric Interpretation of $g(\mathbf{x})$ (cont'd)

- The distance of \mathbf{x} from the hyperplane is given by:

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

Setting $\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$, we get:

$$r = \frac{w_0}{\|\mathbf{w}\|}$$



Discriminative Approach

- Advantages
 - The discriminative approach directly addresses finding an accurate classifier $P(Y|X)$ based on modelling the decision boundary, as opposed to the class conditional data distribution
 - Whilst the data from each class may be distributed in a complex way, it could be that the decision boundary between them is relatively easy to model
- Disadvantages
 - Discriminative approaches are usually trained as “blackbox” classifiers, with little prior knowledge built used to describe how data for a given class is distributed
 - Domain knowledge is often more easily expressed using the generative framework

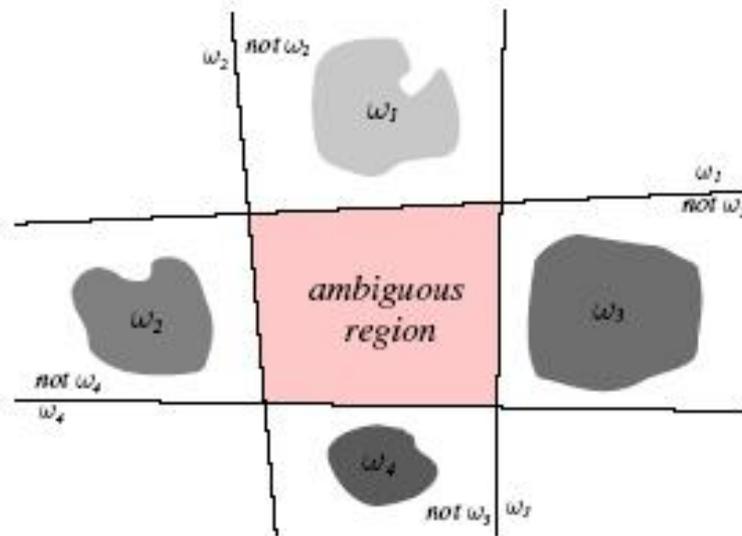
Outline

- Generative vs Discriminant Approach
- **Linear Discriminant Function and Decision Surface**
- Linear Separability
- Learning with Gradient Decent and Netwon's Method

Linear Discriminant Functions: (Multi-category case)

- There are several ways to devise multi/ category classifiers using linear discriminant functions:
(1): One against the rest

problem:
ambiguous regions

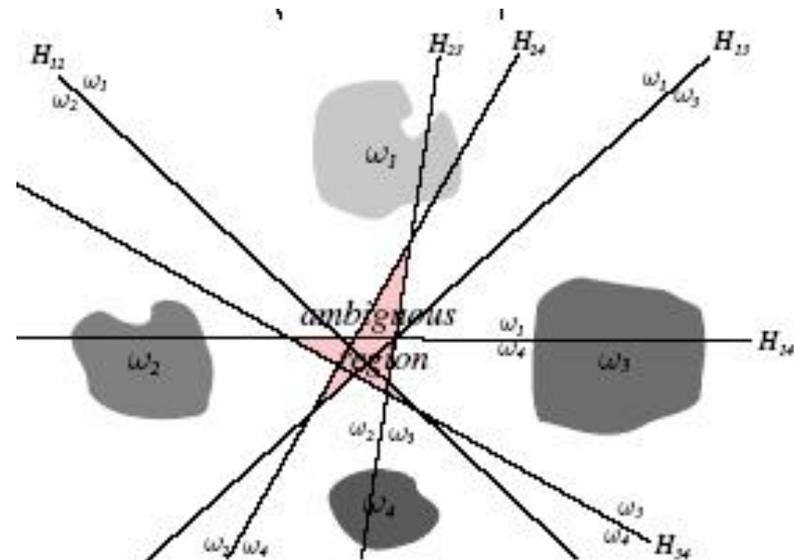


Linear Discriminant Functions: (Multi-category case) (cont'd)

- There are several ways to devise multi-category classifiers using linear discriminant functions:
(2): One against another (i.e., $c(c-1)/2$ pairs of classes)

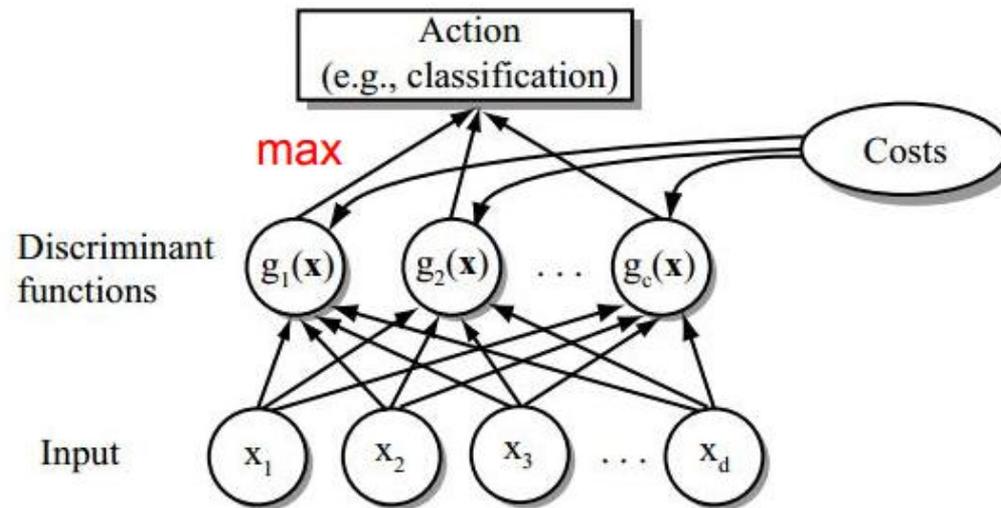
problem:

ambiguous regions



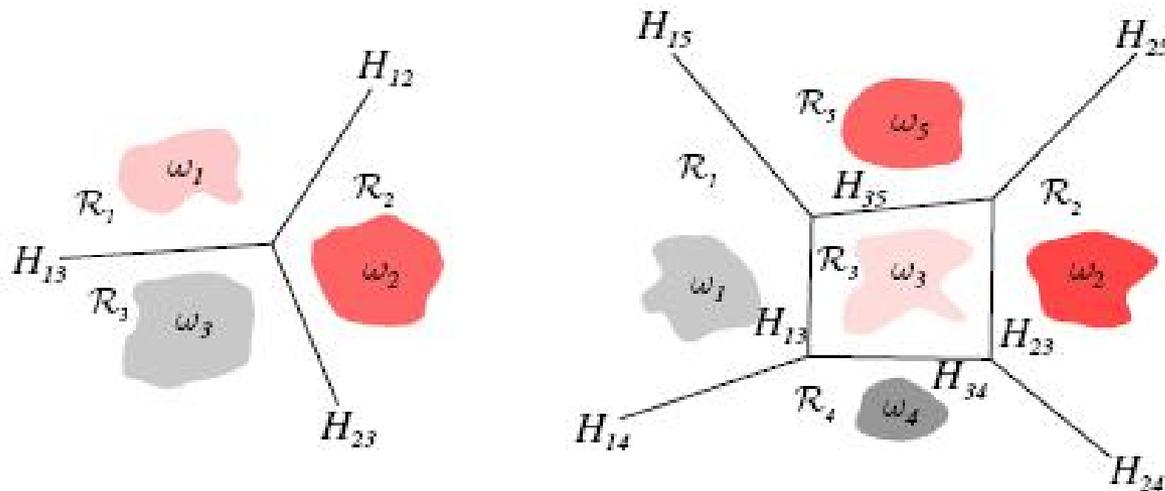
Linear Discriminant Functions: (Multi-category case) (cont'd)

- To avoid the problem of ambiguous regions:
 - Define c linear discriminant functions
 - Assign \mathbf{x} to w_i if $g_i(\mathbf{x}) > g_j(\mathbf{x})$ for all $j \neq i$.
- The resulting classifier is called a **linear machine**



Linear Discriminant Functions: (Multi-category case) (cont'd)

- A **linear machine** divides the feature space in c **convex** decisions regions.
 - If \mathbf{x} is in region R_i , the $g_i(\mathbf{x})$ is the largest.



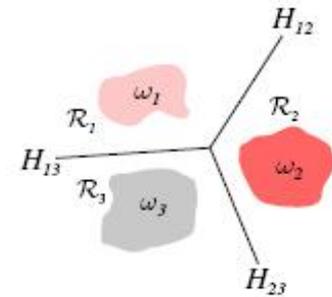
Note: although there are $c(c-1)/2$ pairs of regions, there are typically **less** decision boundaries

Linear Discriminant Functions: (Multi-category case) (cont'd)

- The decision boundary between adjacent regions R_i and R_j is a **portion** of the hyperplane H_{ij} given by:

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = g_j(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{or} \quad g_i(\mathbf{x}) - g_j(\mathbf{x}) = 0$$

$$\text{or} \quad (\mathbf{w}_i - \mathbf{w}_j)^t \mathbf{x} + (w_{i0} - w_{j0}) = 0$$



- $(\mathbf{w}_i - \mathbf{w}_j)$ is normal to H_{ij} and the signed distance from \mathbf{x} to H_{ij} is

$$r = \frac{g_i(\mathbf{x}) - g_j(\mathbf{x})}{\|\mathbf{w}_i - \mathbf{w}_j\|}$$

Higher Order Discriminant Functions

- Can produce more complicated decision boundaries than linear discriminant functions.

Quadratic discriminant: obtained by adding terms corresponding to products of pairs of components of x

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = w_0 + \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j=1}^d x_i x_j w_{ij}$$

Polynomial discriminant: obtained by adding terms such as $x_i x_j x_k w_{ijk}$.

Linear Discriminants

- **Augmented** feature/parameter space

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x} + w_0 = \sum_{i=1}^d w_i x_i + x_0 w_0 = \sum_{i=0}^d w_i x_i = \boldsymbol{\alpha}^t \mathbf{y}$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \dots \\ w_d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} w_0 \\ w_1 \\ \dots \\ w_d \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \\ \dots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix}$$

Discriminant:

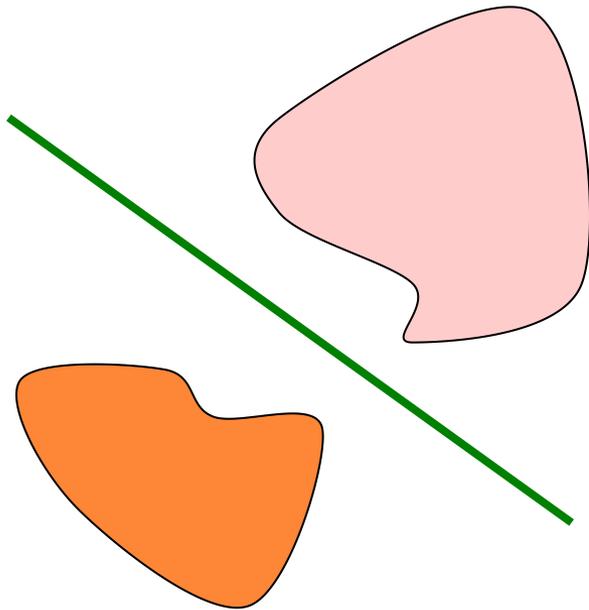
$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \boldsymbol{\alpha}^t \mathbf{y}$$

If	$\boldsymbol{\alpha}^t \mathbf{y}_i \geq 0$	assign \mathbf{y}_i to ω_1
else if	$\boldsymbol{\alpha}^t \mathbf{y}_i < 0$	assign \mathbf{y}_i to ω_2

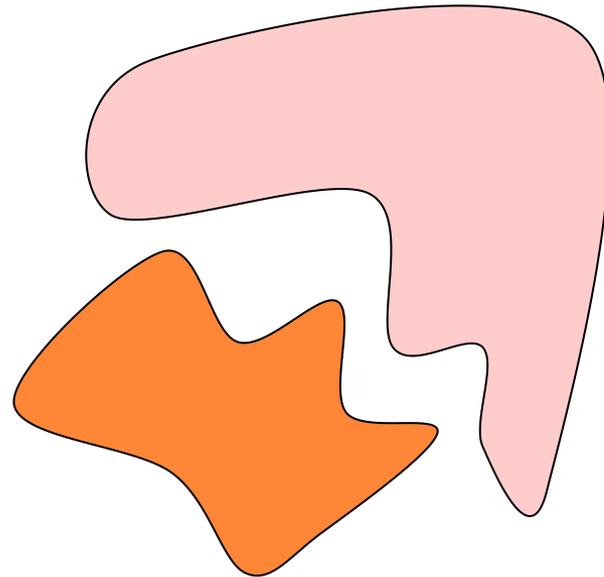
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The Two-Category Case



Linearly Separable



Not Linearly Separable

The Two-Category Case

How to find \mathbf{a} ?

Given a set of samples $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n$, some labeled \mathbf{c}_1 and some labeled \mathbf{c}_2 ,

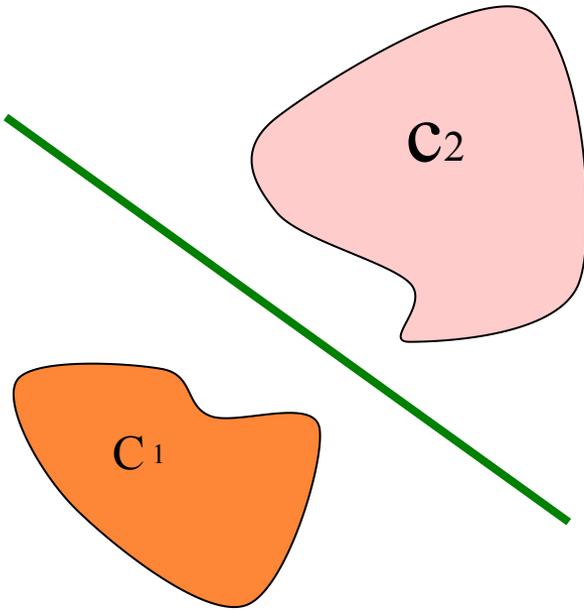
If there exists a vector \mathbf{a} such that

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}_i > 0 \quad \text{if } \mathbf{y}_i \text{ is labeled } \mathbf{c}_1$$

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}_i < 0 \quad \text{if } \mathbf{y}_i \text{ is labeled } \mathbf{c}_2$$

then the samples are said to be

Linearly Separable



Normalization

Withdrawing all labels of samples and replacing the ones labeled c_2 by their *negatives*, it is equivalent to find a vector \mathbf{a} such that

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}_i > 0 \quad \forall i$$

Given a set of samples $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n$, some labeled c_1 and some labeled c_2 , if there exists a vector \mathbf{a} such that

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}_i > 0 \quad \text{if } \mathbf{y}_i \text{ is labeled } c_1$$

$$\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y}_i < 0 \quad \text{if } \mathbf{y}_i \text{ is labeled } c_2$$

then the samples are said to be

Linearly Separable

Generalized Discriminants

- First, map the data to a space of higher dimensionality.
 - Non-linearly separable \rightarrow linearly separable
- This can be accomplished using special transformation functions (ϕ functions):
 - Map a point from a d -dimensional space to a point in a \hat{d} -dimensional

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_d \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\phi} \begin{bmatrix} y_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ y_2(\mathbf{x}) \\ \dots \\ y_{\hat{d}}(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Generalized Discriminants

- A generalized discriminant is a **linear discriminant** in the \hat{d} -dimensional space:

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{\hat{d}} a_i y_i(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{or} \quad g(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a}^t \mathbf{y}$$

- Separates points in the \hat{d} space by a **hyperplane** passing through the origin.

Example

- The corresponding decision regions R_1, R_2 in the d -space are **not** simply connected (not linearly separable).
- Consider the following mapping functions:



ϕ functions

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1(x) \\ y_2(x) \\ y_3(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

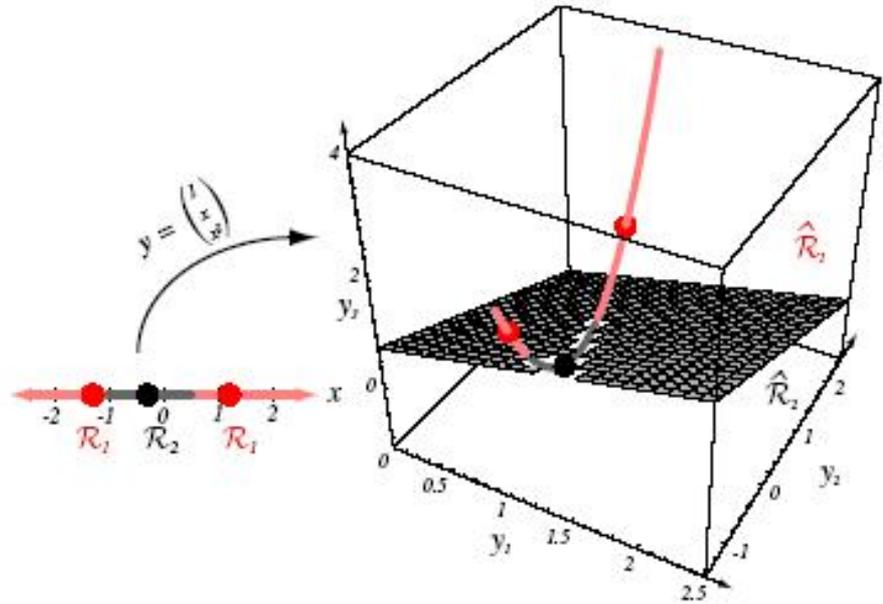
$$\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Discriminant:

$$g(x) = -1 + x + 2x^2$$

Example

$g(\mathbf{x})$ maps a **line** in d space to a **parabola** in \hat{d} space.



The problem has now become linearly separable!

$$g(x) = -1 + x + 2x^2$$

The plane $\alpha^t y = 0$ divides the \hat{d} -space in two decision regions: $\hat{\mathcal{R}}_1, \hat{\mathcal{R}}_2$

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Learning Algorithms

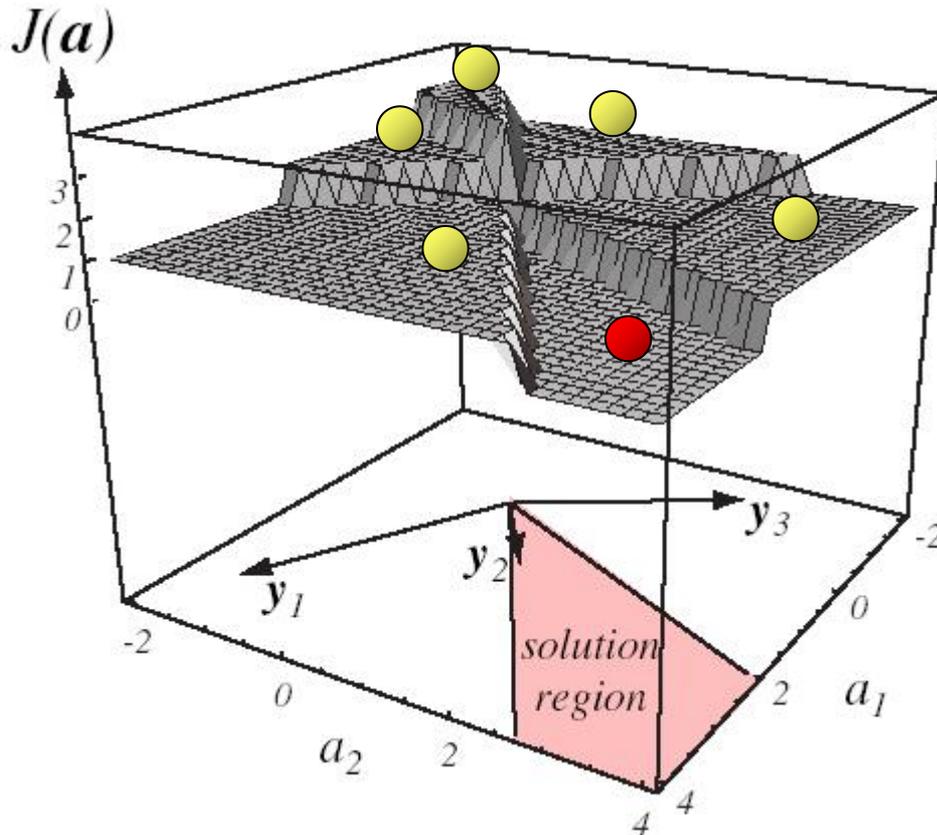
- To design a learning algorithm, we face the following problems:
 - ① Whether to stop ?
 - ② In what direction to proceed ?
 - ③ How long a step to take ?

Is the criterion satisfactory?

Criterion Function

- To facilitate learning, we usually define a scalar *criterion function*.
- It usually represents the *penalty* or *cost* of a solution.
- Our goal is to *minimize* its value, i.e., *Function optimization*.

Criterion Functions: The Two-Category Case



$J(\mathbf{a})$

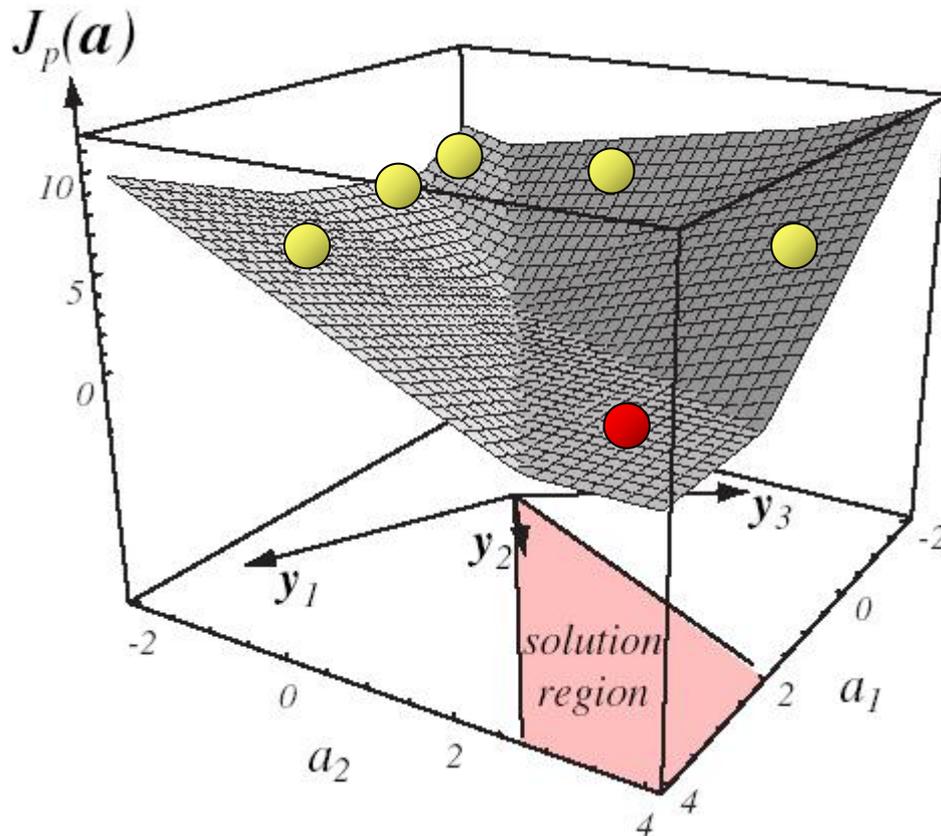
of misclassified patterns

- solution state
- where to go?

Criterion Functions: The Two-Category Case

$$J_p(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y} (-\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y})$$

Y : the set of misclassified patterns



Perceptron
Criterion Function

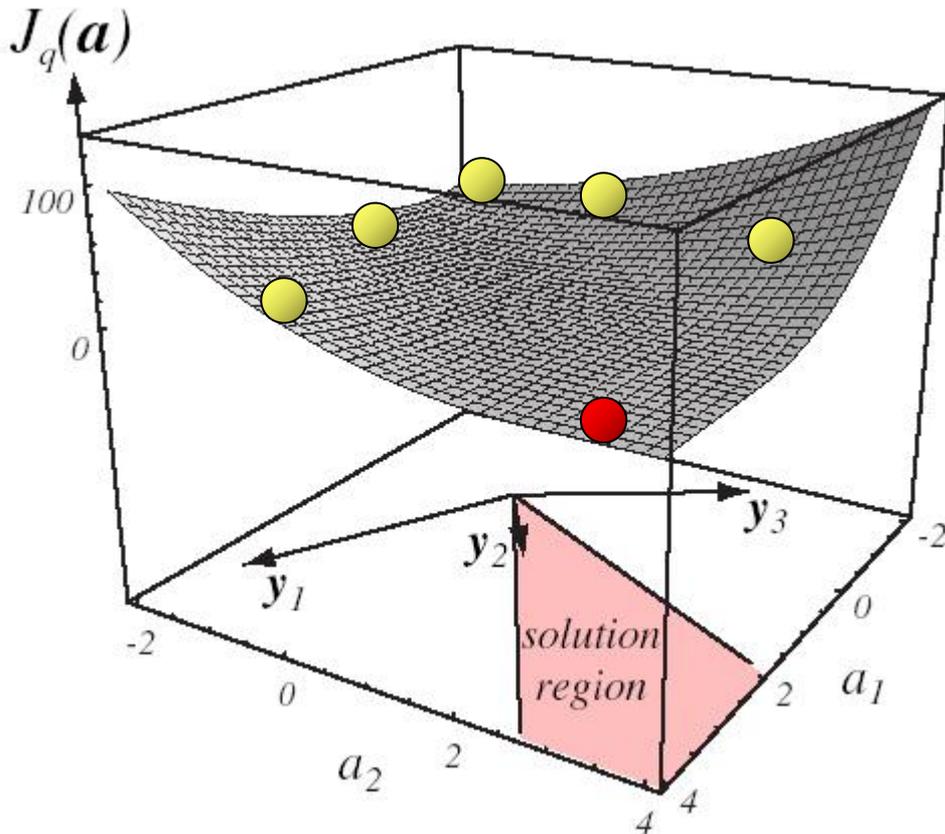
- solution state
- where to go?

What problem it has?

Criterion Functions: The Two-Category Case

$$J_q(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y} (\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y})^2$$

Y : the set of misclassified patterns



A Relative of
Perceptron Criterion
Function

- solution state
- where to go?

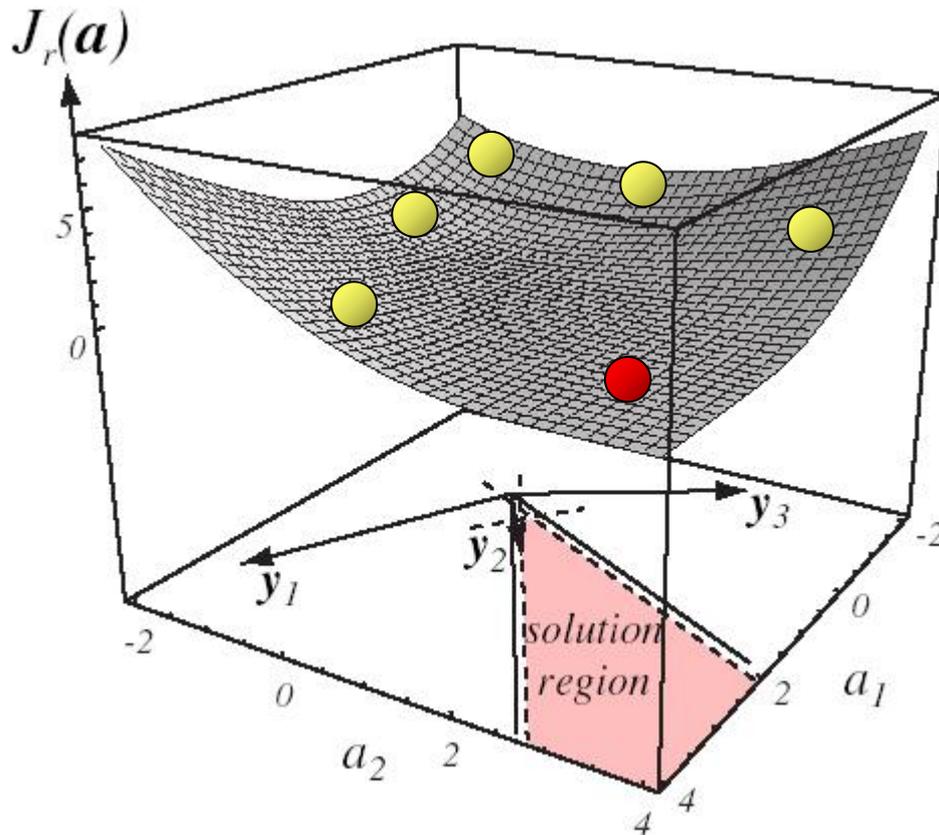
Is this criterion much better?

What problem it has?

Criterion Functions: The Two-Category Case

$$J_r(\mathbf{a}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y} \frac{(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{y} - b)^2}{\|\mathbf{y}\|^2}$$

Y : the set of misclassified patterns



What is the difference with the previous one?

- solution state
- where to go?

Is this criterion good enough?

Are there others?

Learning: linearly separable case (two categories)

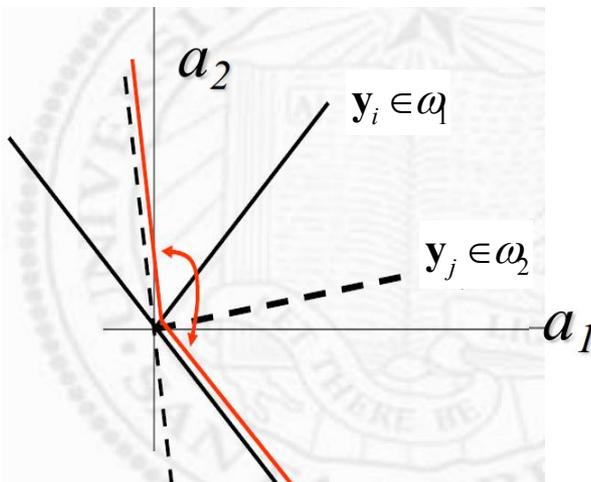
- Given a linear discriminant function

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \boldsymbol{\alpha}^t \mathbf{y}$$

The goal is to “**learn**” the parameters (weights) $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ from a set of n labeled samples \mathbf{y}_i , where each \mathbf{y}_i has a class label ω_1 or ω_2

Learning: effect of training examples

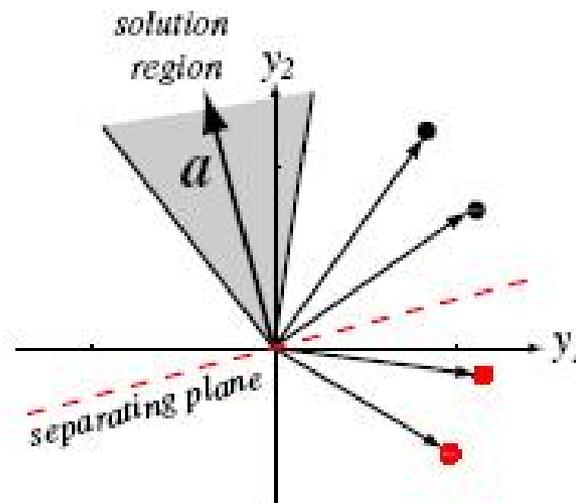
- Every training sample \mathbf{y}_i places a **constraint** on the weight vector α ; let's see how.
- **Case 1:** visualize solution in “**parameter space**”:
 - $\alpha^t \mathbf{y} = 0$ defines a hyperplane in the **parameter space** with \mathbf{y} being the normal vector.
 - Given n examples, the solution α must lie on the **intersection** of n half spaces.



**parameter
space** (a_1, a_2)

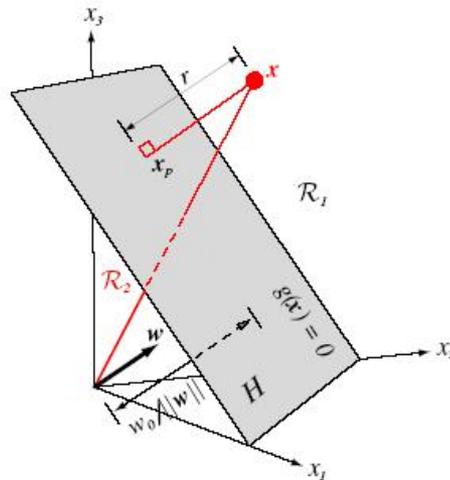
Learning: effect of training examples

- **Case 2:** visualize solution in “**feature space**”:
 - $\alpha^t \mathbf{y} = 0$ defines a hyperplane in the **feature space** with α being the normal vector.
 - Given n examples, the solution α must lie within a certain region.



Uniqueness of Solution

- Solution vector α is usually **not unique**; we can impose certain constraints to enforce uniqueness, for example:
 - "Find **unit-length** weight vector that **maximizes** the **minimum distance** from the training examples to the separating plane"

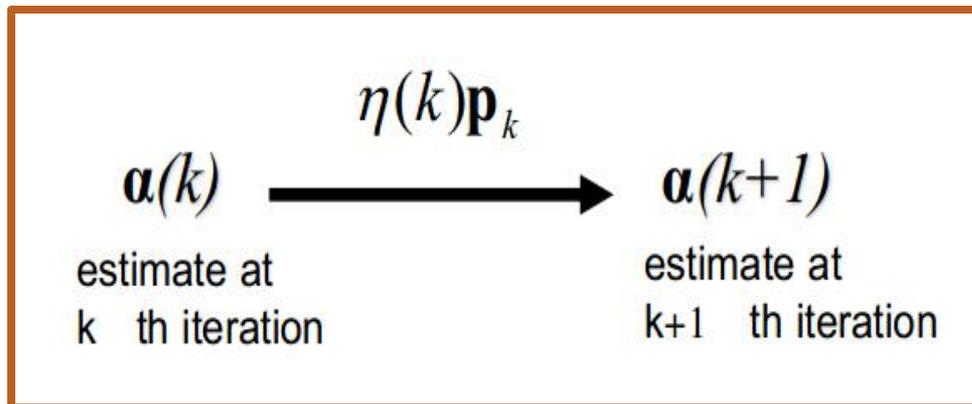


Learning Using Iterative Optimization

- Minimize an error function $J(\alpha)$ (e.g., classification error) with respect to α :
- **Minimize** $J(\alpha)$ iteratively: $\alpha(k+1) = \alpha(k) + \eta(k)\mathbf{p}_k$

learning rate

search direction



How should we choose \mathbf{p}_k ?

Choosing \mathbf{p}_k using Gradient Descent

$$\mathbf{p}_k = -\nabla J(\mathbf{a}(k))$$

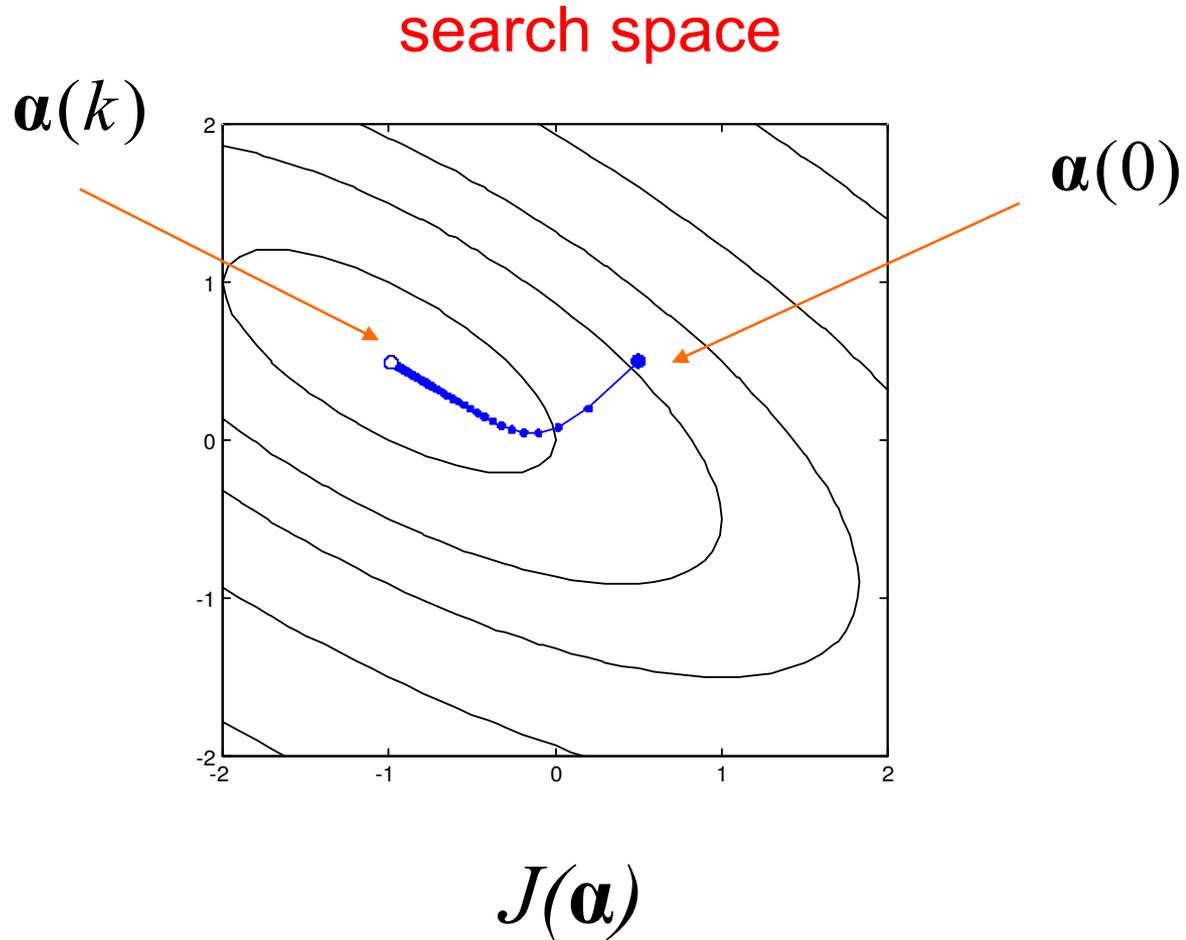
$$\mathbf{a}(k + 1) = \mathbf{a}(k) - \eta(k) \nabla J(\mathbf{a}(k))$$

Algorithm 1 (Basic gradient descent)

```
1 begin initialize  $\mathbf{a}$ , criterion  $\theta$ ,  $\eta(\cdot)$ ,  $k = 0$   
2   do  $k \leftarrow k + 1$   
3      $\mathbf{a} \leftarrow \mathbf{a} - \eta(k) \nabla J(\mathbf{a})$   
4   until  $\eta(k) \nabla J(\mathbf{a}) < \theta$   
5 return  $\mathbf{a}$   
6 end
```

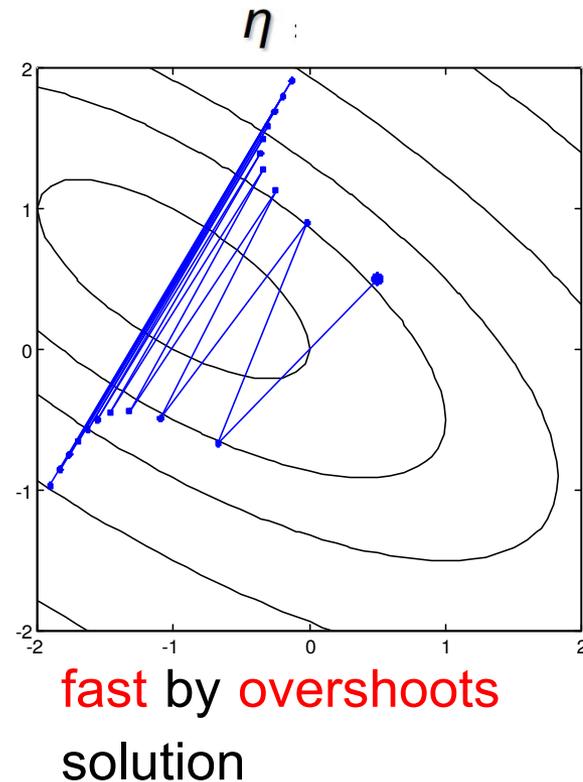
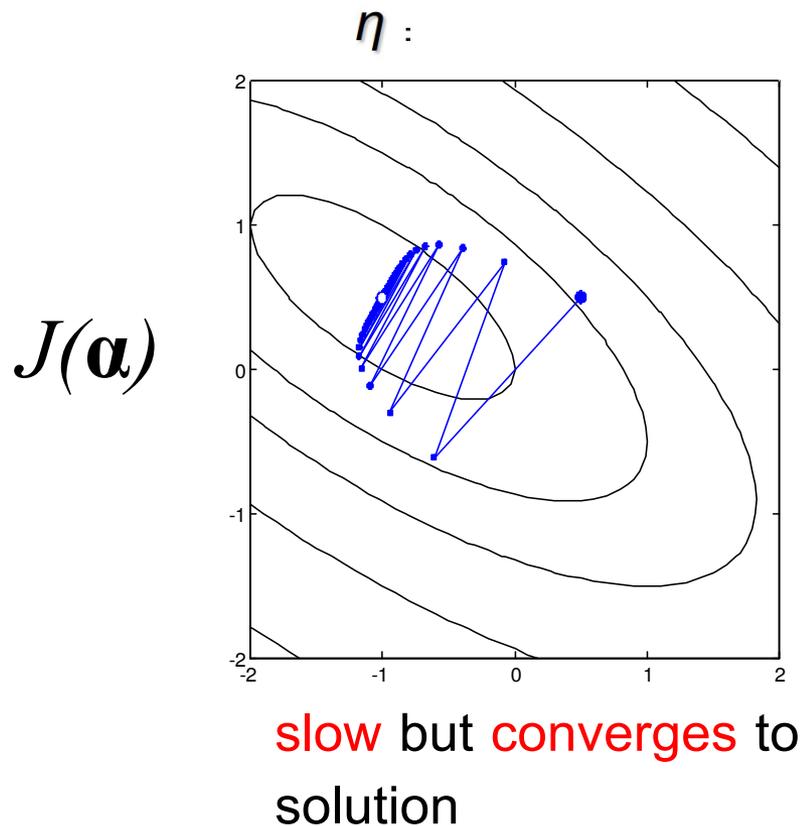
($\mathbf{a} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}$)

Gradient Decent (cont'd)



Gradient Decent (cont'd)

- What is the effect of the learning rate?



Gradient Decent (cont'd)

- How to choose the learning rate $\eta(k)$?

Taylor series approximation

($\mathbf{a} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}$)

$$J(\mathbf{a}) \simeq J(\mathbf{a}(k)) + \nabla J^t (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a}(k)) + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a}(k))^t \mathbf{H} (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{a}(k))$$

Hessian (2nd derivatives)

Setting $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a}(k+1)$ and using $\mathbf{a}(k+1) = \mathbf{a}(k) - \eta(k) \nabla J(\mathbf{a}(k))$

$$J(\mathbf{a}(k+1)) \simeq J(\mathbf{a}(k)) - \eta(k) \|\nabla J\|^2 + \frac{1}{2} \eta^2(k) \nabla J^t \mathbf{H} \nabla J$$

$$\eta(k) = \frac{\|\nabla J\|^2}{\nabla J^t \mathbf{H} \nabla J} \quad \text{optimum learning rate}$$

Choosing \mathbf{p}_k using Newton's Method

$$\mathbf{p}_k = -\mathbf{H}^{-1}\nabla J(\mathbf{a}(k))$$

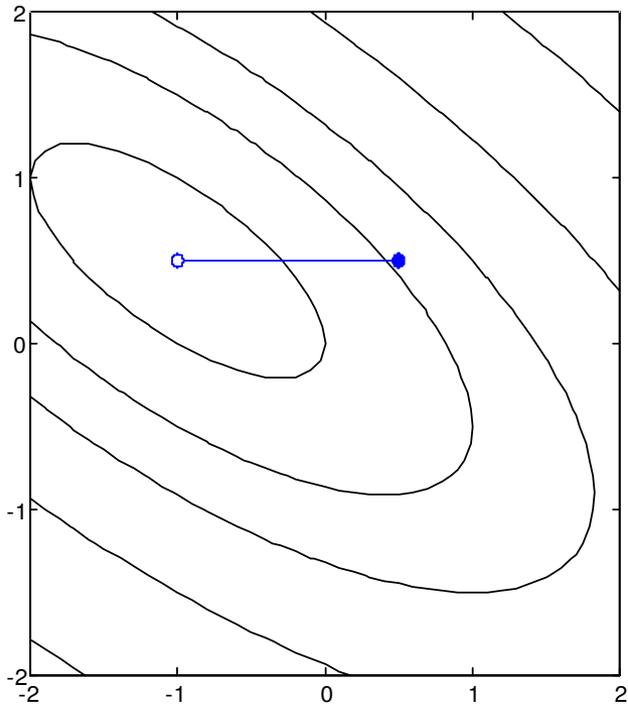
$$\mathbf{a}(k+1) = \mathbf{a}(k) - \mathbf{H}^{-1}\nabla J \text{ requires inverting } \mathbf{H}$$

Algorithm 2 (Newton descent)

```
1 begin initialize a, criterion  $\theta$ 
2   do
3      $\mathbf{a} \leftarrow \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{H}^{-1}\nabla J(\mathbf{a})$    ( $\mathbf{a} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}$ )
4     until  $\mathbf{H}^{-1}\nabla J(\mathbf{a}) < \theta$ 
5   return a
6 end
```

Newton's Method (cont'd)

$J(\alpha)$

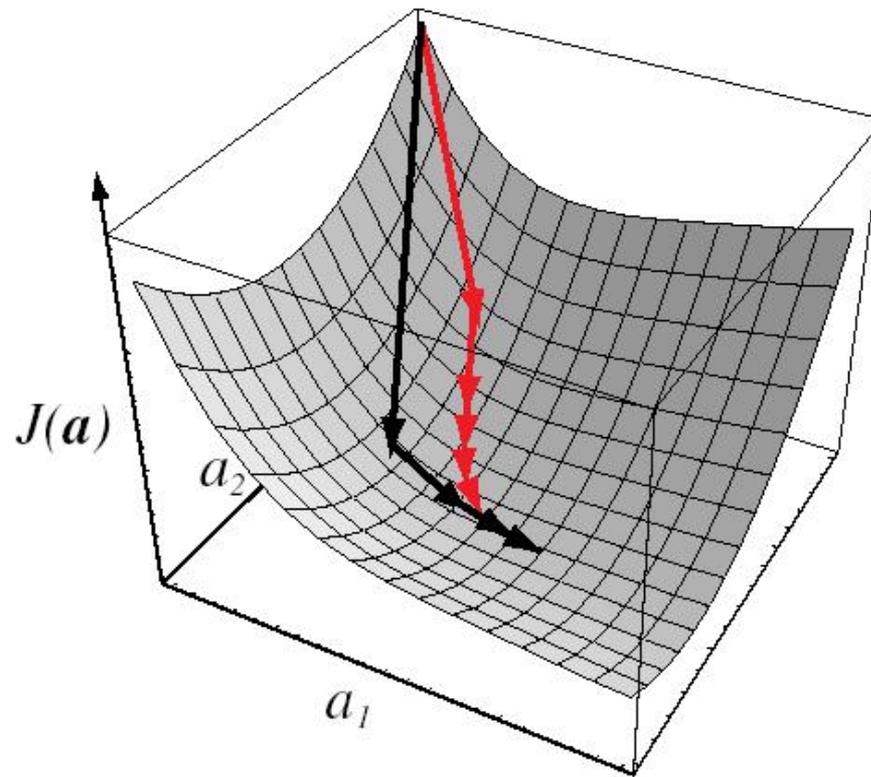


If $J(\alpha)$ is **quadratic**,
Newton's method
converges in **one step!**

Gradient decent vs Newton's method

Newton's method

Gradient Decent



Q & A