

Bayesian Classification Part-2

2.2 Bayes Decision Theory:

* Let us first focus on two-class classification problem.
Let w_1, w_2 represent the two possible classes.

* Bayes Rule:

$$P(w_i | \vec{x}) P(\vec{x}) = P(\vec{x} | w_i) P(w_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow P(w_i | \vec{x}) = \frac{P(\vec{x} | w_i) P(w_i)}{P(\vec{x})} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

• $P(\vec{x})$ is the probability density function (pdf) of \vec{x}

$$P(\vec{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^2 P(\vec{x} | w_i) P(w_i) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

• $P(w_1), P(w_2)$ are the a priori probabilities of class-1 and class-2.

It is assumed that these values are known.

Even if not known, they can be computed from the training data.

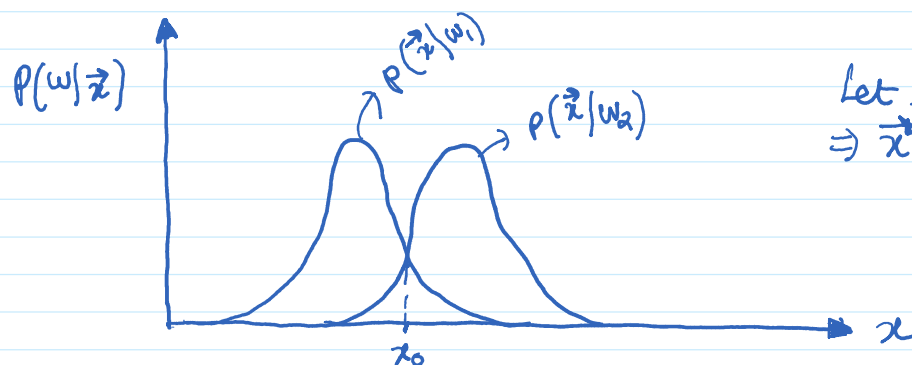
Let N_1 and N_2 be the number of samples in the training data that belong to w_1 and w_2

$$P(w_1) \approx \left(\frac{N_1}{N_1 + N_2} \right); \quad P(w_2) \approx \left(\frac{N_2}{N_1 + N_2} \right)$$

• $P(\vec{x} | w_i)$: It describes the distribution of feature vectors of each class.

It can also be estimated from the training data.

It is referred to as likelihood function of w_i with respect to \vec{x} .



• Bayes Classification Rule:

If $P(w_1 | \vec{x}) > P(w_2 | \vec{x}) \Rightarrow \vec{x}$ is assigned to w_1 class. } - (3)
else, \vec{x} is assigned to w_2 class.

substituting Eq - (3) in Eq - (1) \Rightarrow

If $P(\vec{x} | w_1) \cdot P(w_1) > P(\vec{x} | w_2) P(w_2) \Rightarrow \vec{x} \in w_1$ } - (4)
else, $\vec{x} \in w_2$

Special Case: prior probabilities of all classes are equal

$$\Rightarrow P(w_1) = P(w_2)$$

substituting it in Eq - (4) \Rightarrow

If $P(\vec{x} | w_1) > P(\vec{x} | w_2) \Rightarrow \vec{x} \in w_1$ } - (5)
else, $\vec{x} \in w_2$.