

# CS 273A: Machine Learning

Winter 2021

## Lecture 3: Bayes Classifiers

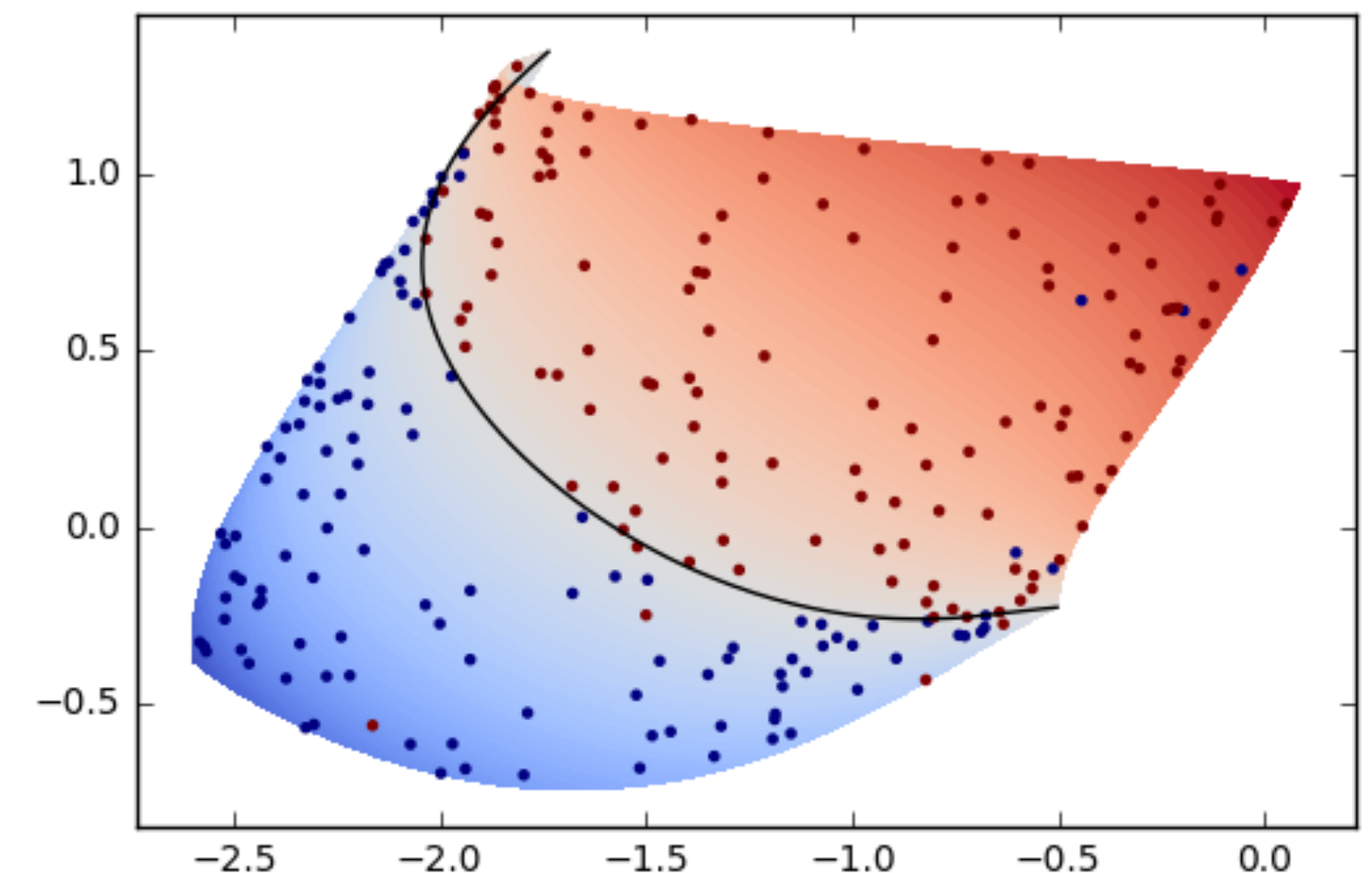
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All slides in this course adapted from Alex Ihler & Sameer Singh



# Logistics

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assignment 1

- Assignment 1 is due Thursday

resources

- A list of great ML textbooks is on the website

# Today's lecture

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**Bayes classifiers**

**Naïve Bayes Classifiers**

**Bayes error**

# Conditional probabilities

- Two events: headache ( $H$ ), flu ( $F$ )

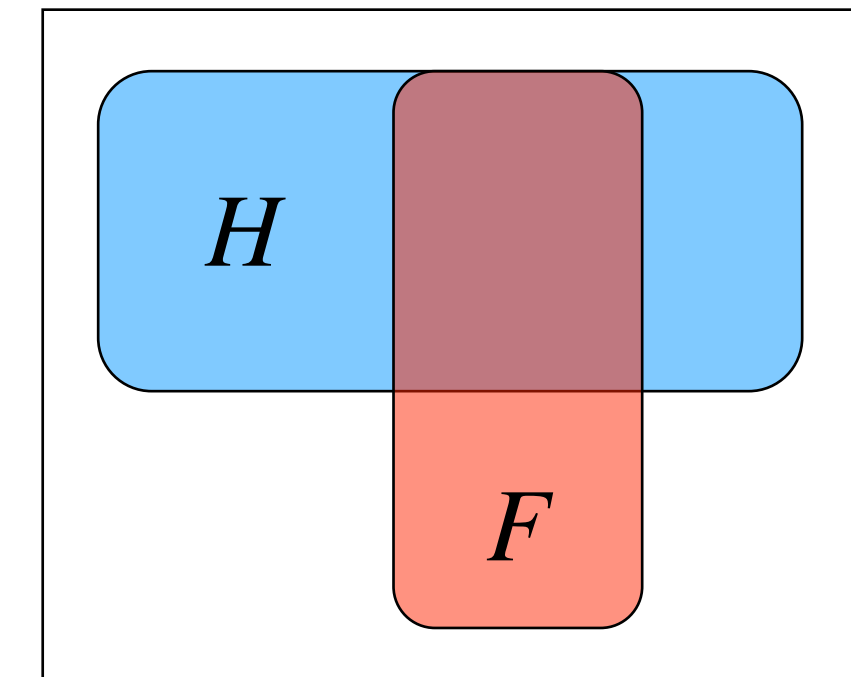
- $p(H) = \frac{1}{10}$

- $p(F) = \frac{1}{40}$

- $p(H|F) = \frac{1}{2}$

- You wake up with a headache

- ▶ What are the chances that you have the flu?



$$\begin{aligned} p(F, H) &= p(F)p(H|F) \\ &= \frac{1}{40} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{80} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(F|H) &= \frac{p(F, H)}{p(H)} \\ &= \frac{1}{80} \cdot \frac{10}{1} = \frac{1}{8} \end{aligned}$$

# Probabilistic modeling of data

- Assume data with features  $x$  and discrete labels  $y$
- Prior probability of each class:  $p(y)$ 
  - **Prior** = before seeing the features
  - E.g., fraction of applicants that have good credit
- Distribution of features given the class:  $p(x | y = c)$ 
  - How likely are we to see  $x$  in applicants with good credit?

**models:**

$x \longrightarrow y$

$y \longrightarrow x$

- Joint distribution:  $p(x, y) = p(x)p(y | x) = p(y)p(x | y)$

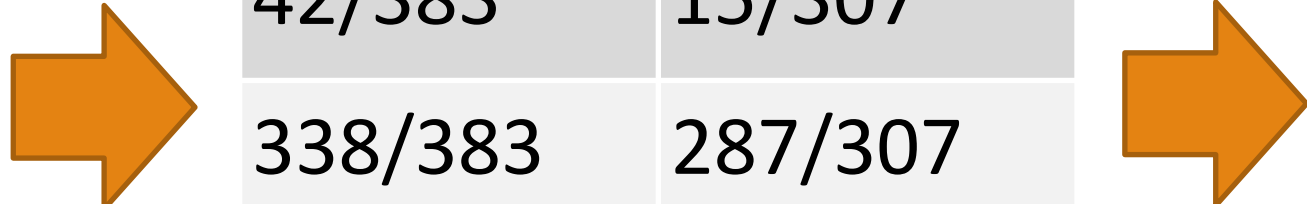
**does not imply causality!**

- Bayes' rule: **posterior**  $p(y | x) = \frac{p(y)p(x | y)}{p(x)} = \frac{p(y)p(x | y)}{\sum_c p(y = c)p(x | y = c)}$

# Bayes classifiers

- Learn a “class-conditional” model for the data
  - Estimate the probability for each class  $p(y = c)$
  - Split training data by class  $\mathcal{D}_c = \{x^{(j)} : y^{(j)} = c\}$
  - Estimate from  $\mathcal{D}_c$  the conditional distribution  $p(x | y = c)$
- For discrete  $x$ , can represent as a contingency table

Features	# bad	# good
X=0	42	15
X=1	338	287
X=2	3	5
<b>p(y)</b>	<b>383/690</b>	<b>307/690</b>

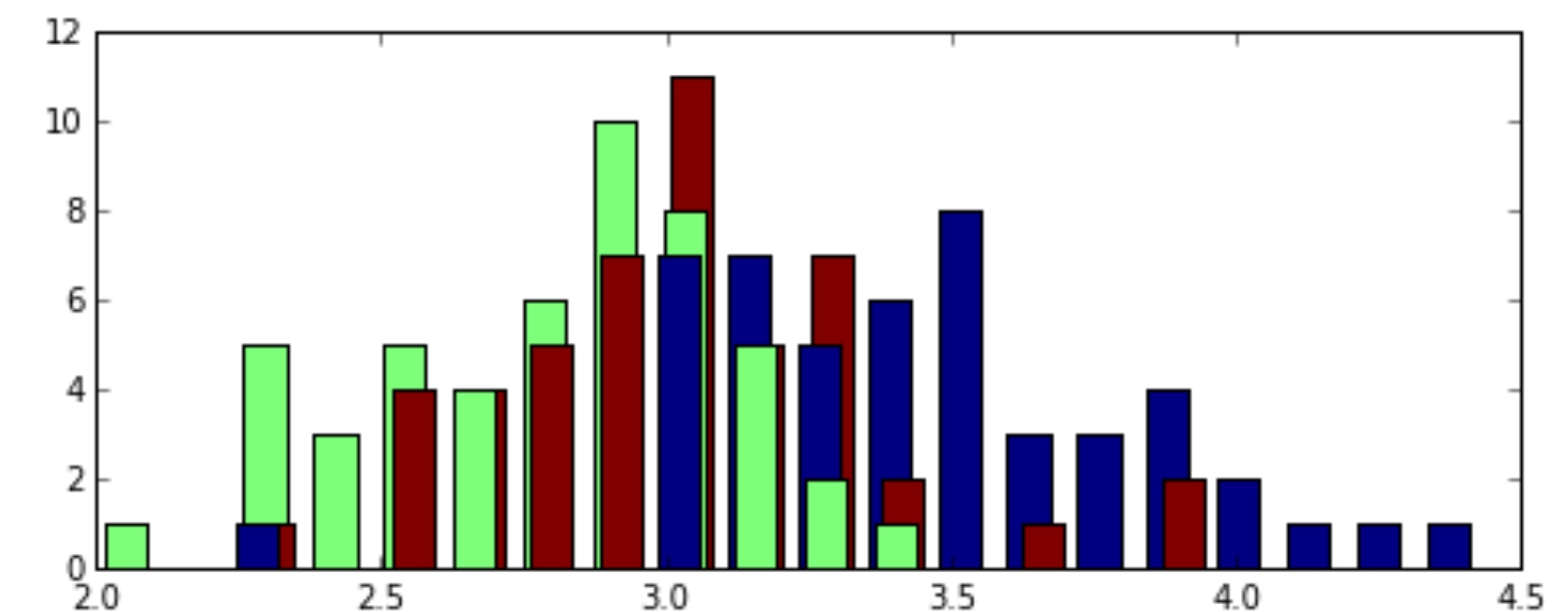


<b>p(x y=0)</b>	<b>p(x y=1)</b>
42/383	15/307
338/383	287/307
3/383	5/307

<b>p(y=0 x)</b>	<b>p(y=1 x)</b>
.7368	.2632
.5408	.4592
.3750	.6250

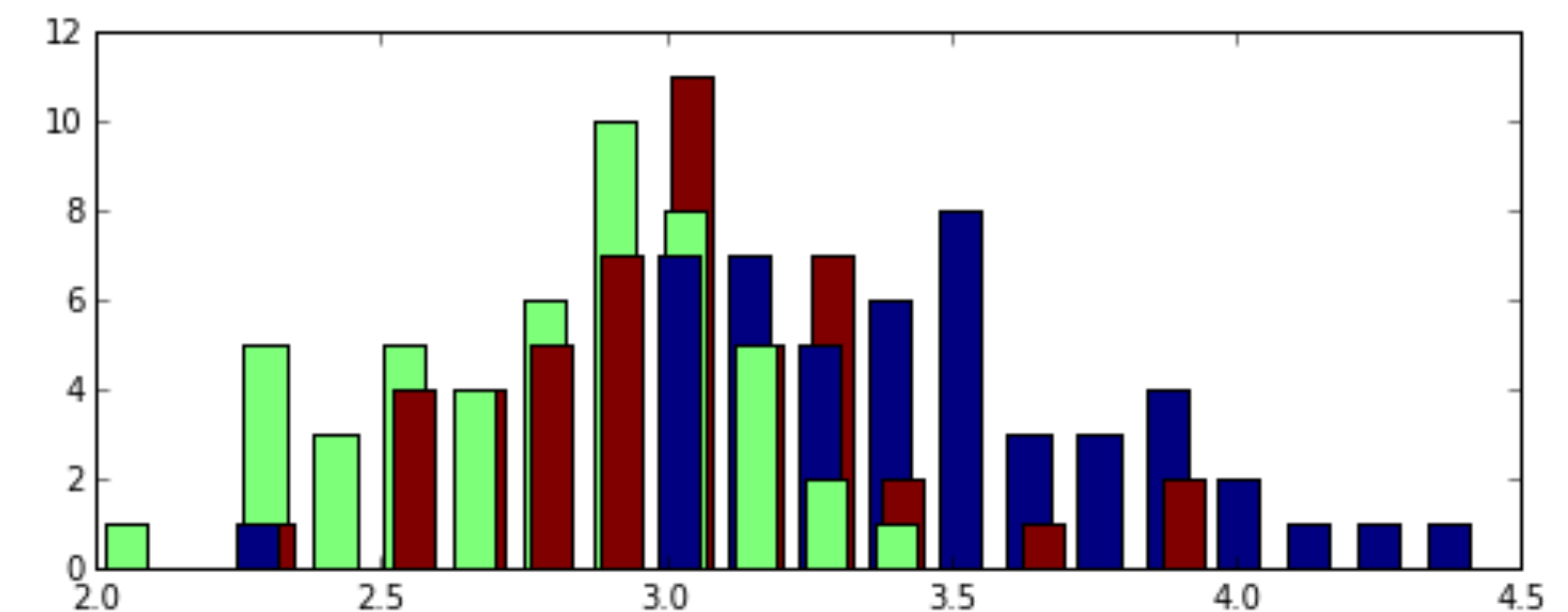
# Bayes classifiers

- Learn a “class-conditional” model for the data
  - Estimate the probability for each class  $p(y = c)$
  - Split training data by class  $\mathcal{D}_c = \{x^{(j)} : y^{(j)} = c\}$
  - Estimate from  $\mathcal{D}_c$  the conditional distribution  $p(x | y = c)$
- For continuous  $x$ , we need some other **density model**
  - Histogram
  - Gaussian
  - others...



# Histograms

- Split training data by class  $\mathcal{D}_c = \{x^{(j)} : y^{(j)} = c\}$
- For each class, split  $x$  into  $k$  bins and count data points in each bin
- Normalize the  $k$ -dimensional count vector to get  $p(x | y = c)$
- To use: given  $x$ , find its bin, output probability for that bin





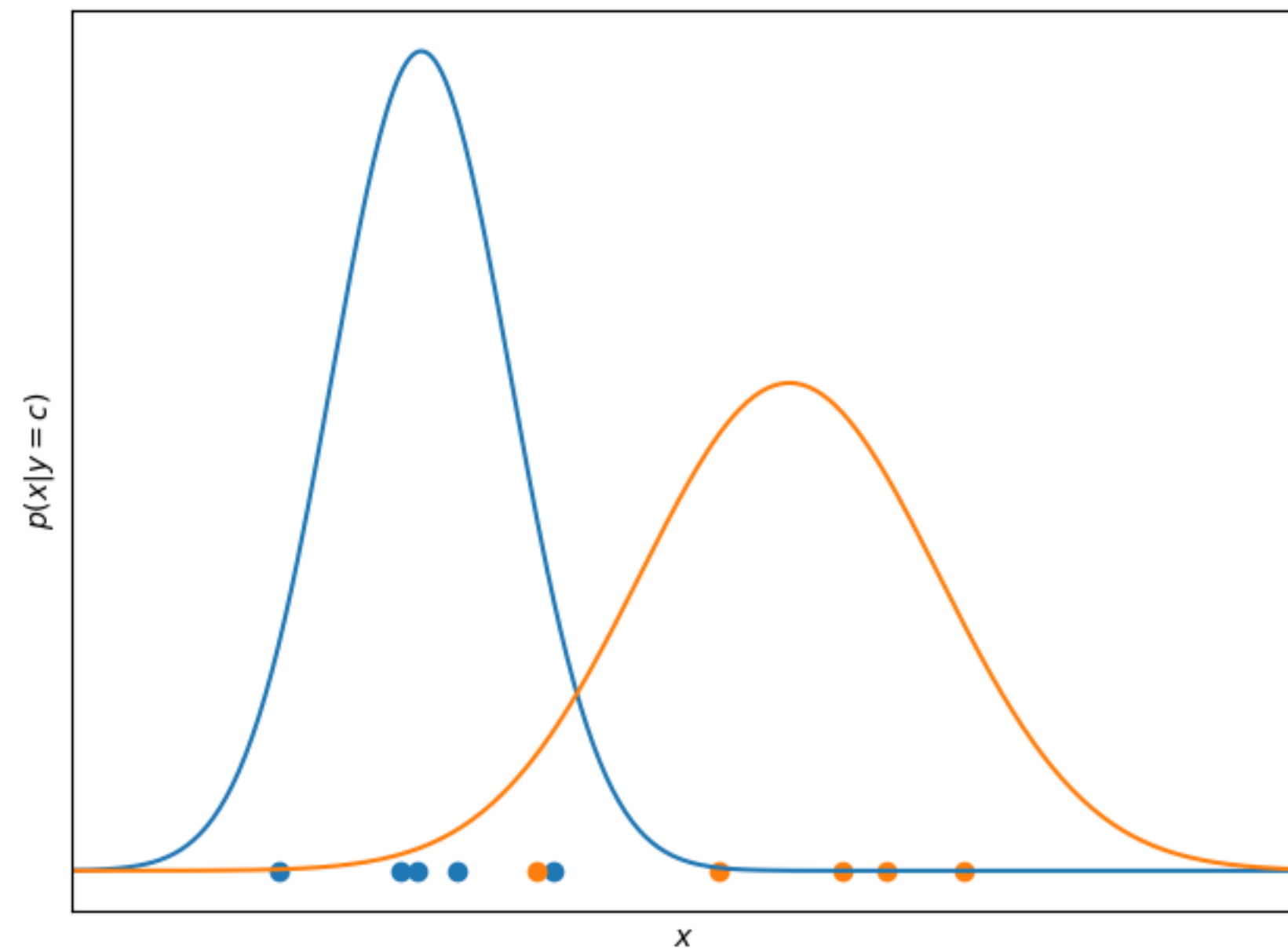
# Gaussian models

- Model instances in each class with a Gaussian  $p(x | y = c) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_c, \sigma_c^2)$
- Estimate parameters of each Gaussians from the data  $\mathcal{D}_c$

- ▶  $\hat{p}(y = c) = \frac{m_c}{m}$  where  $m_c = |\mathcal{D}_c|$

- ▶  $\hat{\mu}_c = \frac{1}{m_c} \sum_{j: y^{(j)}=c} x^{(j)}$

- ▶  $\hat{\sigma}_c^2 = \frac{1}{m_c} \sum_{j: y^{(j)}=c} (x^{(j)} - \hat{\mu}_c)^2$



# Multivariate Gaussian models

- Multivariate Gaussian:  $\mathcal{N}(x; \mu, \Sigma) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} |\Sigma|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right)$

- Estimation similar to univariate case:

- ▶  $\hat{\mu}_c = \frac{1}{m_c} \sum_j x^{(j)}$

- ▶  $\hat{\Sigma}_c = \frac{1}{m_c} \sum_j (x^{(j)} - \hat{\mu}_c)(x^{(j)} - \hat{\mu}_c)^\top$  (outer product)

- How many parameters?

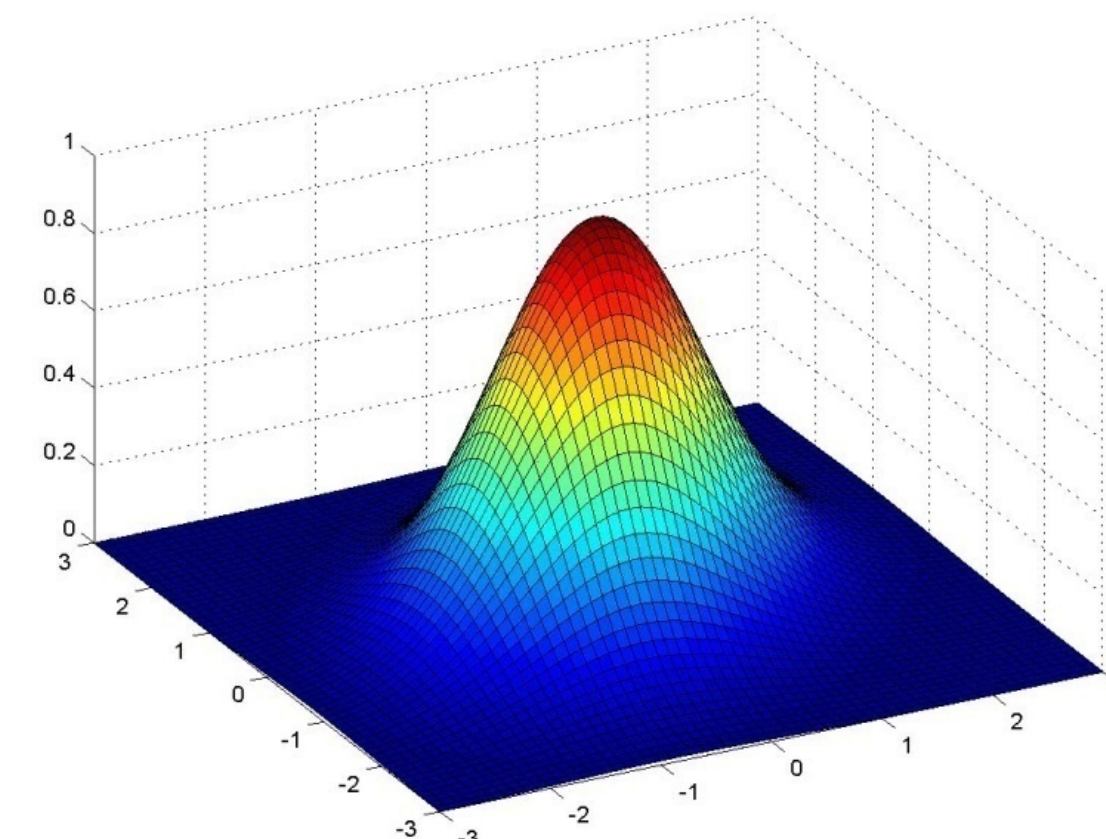
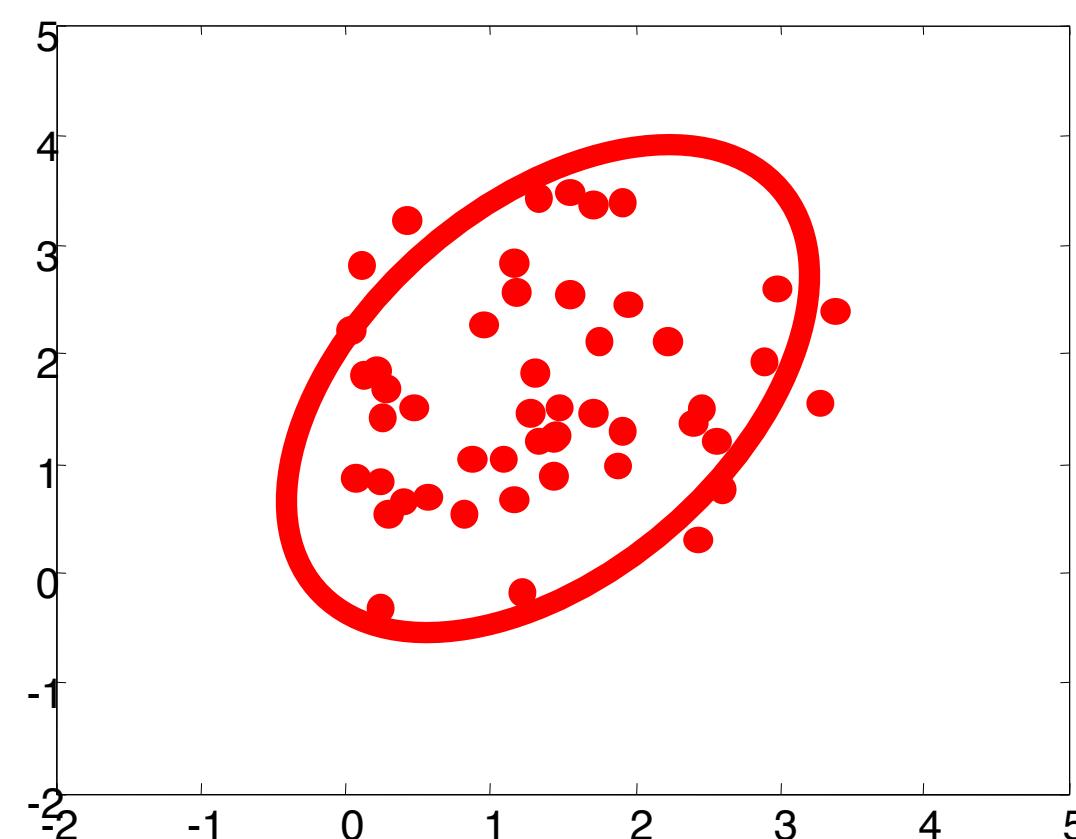
- ▶  $d + d^2$

$\mu$  = mean ( $d$ -dimensional vector)

$\Sigma$  = covariance ( $d \times d$  matrix)

$\Sigma^{-1}$  = precision ( $d \times d$  matrix)

$|\cdot|$  = determinant (scalar)



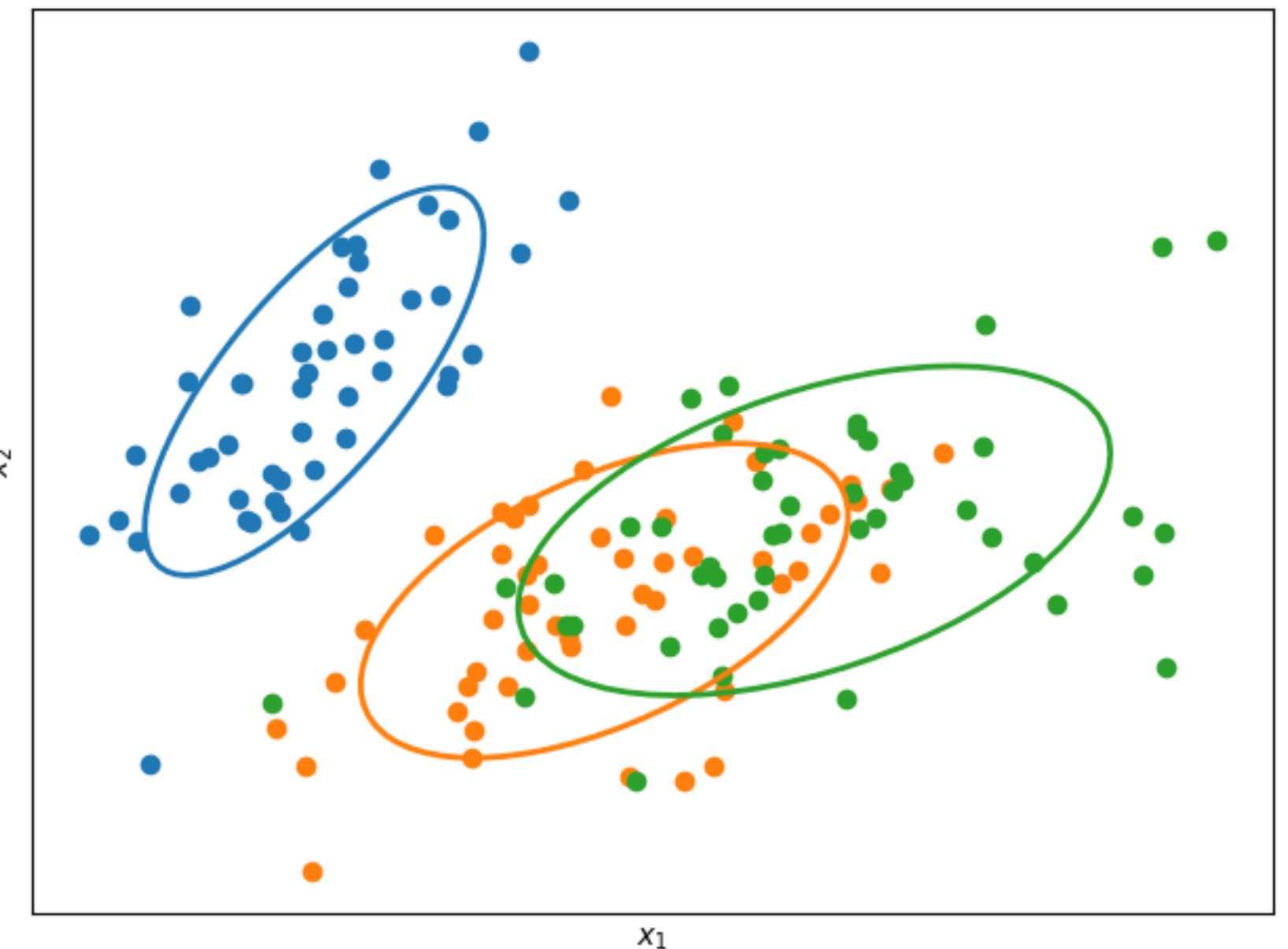
# Gaussian Bayes: Iris example

- $\hat{p}(y = c) = \frac{50}{150}$ ;  $y \sim \text{Categorical} \left( \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right)$

- Fit mean and covariance for each class,  $\hat{p}(x | y = c) = \mathcal{N}(x; \hat{\mu}_c, \hat{\Sigma}_c)$

- How to use:

- ▶  $\hat{p}(y | x) = \frac{\hat{p}(y)\hat{p}(x | y)}{\hat{p}(x)} \propto \hat{p}(y)\hat{p}(x | y)$



- ▶ **Maximum posterior (MAP):**  $\hat{y}(x) = \arg \max_y \hat{p}(y)\hat{p}(x | y)$

# Today's lecture

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Bayes classifiers

**Naïve Bayes Classifiers**

Bayes error

# Representing joint distributions

- Assume data with binary features
- How to represent  $p(x | y)$ ?
- Create a truth table of all  $x$  values

A	B	C
0	0	0
0	0	1
0	1	0
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	0	1
1	1	0
1	1	1

# Representing joint distributions

- Assume data with binary features
- How to represent  $p(x | y)$ ?
- Create a truth table of all  $x$  values
- Specify  $p(x | y)$  for each cell
- How many parameters?
  - $2^n - 1$

A	B	C	$p(A,B,C   y=1)$
0	0	0	0.50
0	0	1	0.05
0	1	0	0.01
0	1	1	0.10
1	0	0	0.04
1	0	1	0.15
1	1	0	0.05
1	1	1	0.10

# Estimating joint distributions

- Can we estimate  $p(x | y)$  from data?
- Count how many data points for each  $x$ ?
  - If  $m \ll 2^n$ , most instances never occur
    - Do we predict that missing instances are impossible?
      - What if they occur in test data?
- Difficulty to represent and estimate go hand in hand
  - Model complexity  $\rightarrow$  overfitting!

A	B	C	$p(A,B,C   y=1)$
0	0	0	4/10
0	0	1	1/10
0	1	0	0/10
0	1	1	0/10
1	0	0	1/10
1	0	1	2/10
1	1	0	1/10
1	1	1	1/10



# Regularization

- Reduce effective size of model class
  - Hope to avoid overfitting
- One way: make the model more “regular”, less sensitive to data quirks
- Example: add small “pseudo-count” to the counts (before normalizing)

- $$\hat{p}(x | y = c) = \frac{\#_c(x) + \alpha}{m_c + \alpha \cdot 2^n}$$

- Not a huge help here, most cells will be uninformative  $\frac{\alpha}{m_c + \alpha \cdot 2^n}$



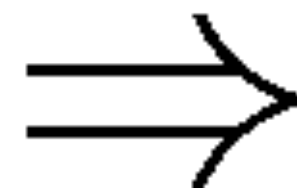
# Simplifying the model

- Another way: reduce model complexity
- Example: assume features are independent of one another (in each class)

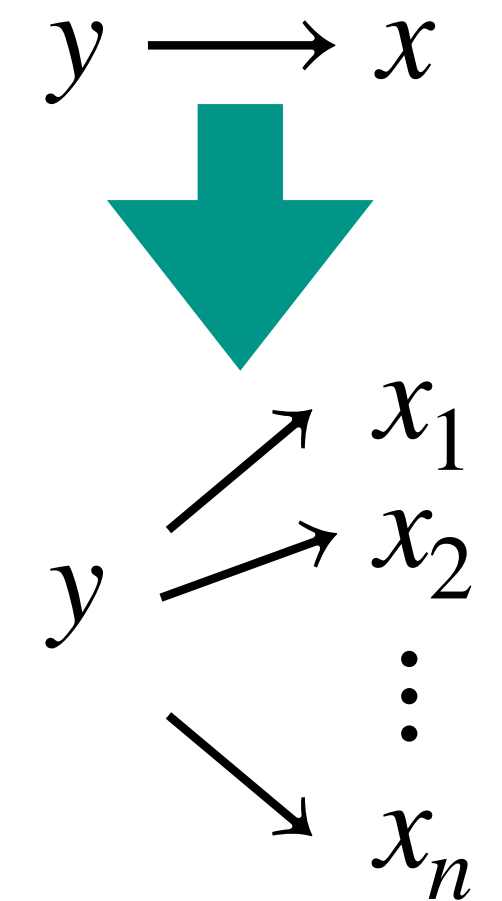
▸  $p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n | y) = p(x_1 | y)p(x_2 | y) \cdots p(x_n | y)$

- Now we only need to represent / estimate each  $p(x_i | y)$  individually

A	$p(A   y=1)$	B	$p(B   y=1)$	C	$p(C   y=1)$
0	.4	0	.7	0	.1
1	.6	1	.3	1	.9

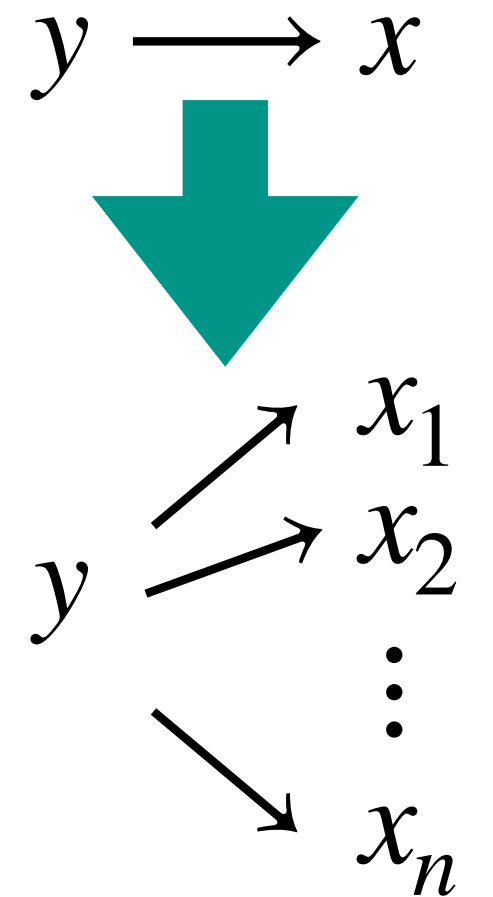


A	B	C	$p(A,B,C   y=1)$
0	0	0	.4 * .7 * .1
0	0	1	.4 * .7 * .9
0	1	0	.4 * .3 * .1
0	1	1	...
1	0	0	
1	0	1	
1	1	0	
1	1	1	



# Naïve Bayes models

- We want to predict some value  $y$ , e.g. auto accident next year
- We have many known indicators for  $y$  (**covariates**)  $x = x_1, \dots, x_n$ 
  - E.g., age, income, education, zip code, ...
  - Learn  $p(y | x_1, \dots, x_n)$  — but cannot represent / estimate  $O(2^n)$  values
- Naïve Bayes
  - Estimate prior distribution  $\hat{p}(y)$
  - Assume  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n | y) = \prod_i p(x_i | y)$ , estimate covariates independently  $\hat{p}(x_i | y)$
  - Model:  $\hat{p}(y | x) \propto \hat{p}(y) \prod_i \hat{p}(x_i | y)$



**causal structure wrong!**  
(but useful...)

# Naïve Bayes models: example

- $y \in \{\text{spam, not spam}\}$
- $x =$  observed words in email
  - E.g., [“the” ... “probabilistic” ... “lottery” ...]
  - $x = [0, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 1]$  (1 = word appears; 0 = otherwise)
- Representing  $p(x | y)$  directly would require  $2^{\text{thousands}}$  parameters
- Represent each word indicator as independent (given class)
  - Reducing model complexity to thousands of parameters
- Words more likely in spam pull towards higher  $p(\text{spam} | x)$ , and v.v.

# Numeric example

- $\hat{p}(y = 1) = \frac{4}{8} = 1 - \hat{p}(y = 0)$

- $\hat{p}(x_1, x_2 | y) = \hat{p}(x_1 | y)\hat{p}(x_2 | y)$

- $\hat{p}(x_1 = 1 | y = 0) = \frac{3}{4} \quad \hat{p}(x_1 = 1 | y = 1) = \frac{2}{4}$

- $\hat{p}(x_2 = 1 | y = 0) = \frac{2}{4} \quad \hat{p}(x_2 = 1 | y = 1) = \frac{1}{4}$

$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
1	1	0
1	0	0
1	0	1
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	1	0
0	0	1
1	0	1

- What to predict for  $x_1, x_2 = 1, 1$ ? **prediction:  $\hat{y} = 0$**

- $\hat{p}(y = 0)\hat{p}(x = 1, 1 | y = 0) = \frac{4}{8} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{4} \quad \hat{p}(y = 1)\hat{p}(x = 1, 1 | y = 1) = \frac{4}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4}$

# Numeric example

- $\hat{p}(y = 1) = \frac{4}{8} = 1 - \hat{p}(y = 0)$

- $\hat{p}(x_1, x_2 | y) = \hat{p}(x_1 | y)\hat{p}(x_2 | y)$

- $\hat{p}(x_1 = 1 | y = 0) = \frac{3}{4} \quad \hat{p}(x_1 = 1 | y = 1) = \frac{2}{4}$

- $\hat{p}(x_2 = 1 | y = 0) = \frac{2}{4} \quad \hat{p}(x_2 = 1 | y = 1) = \frac{1}{4}$

$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
1	1	0
1	0	0
1	0	1
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	1	0
0	0	1
1	0	1

- What is  $\hat{p}(y = 1 | x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1)$ ?

$$\frac{\hat{p}(y = 1)\hat{p}(x = 1,1 | y = 1)}{\hat{p}(x = 1,1)} = \frac{\hat{p}(y = 1)\hat{p}(x = 1,1 | y = 1)}{\hat{p}(y = 0)\hat{p}(x = 1,1 | y = 0) + \hat{p}(y = 1)\hat{p}(x = 1,1 | y = 1)} = \frac{\frac{4}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{4}{8} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{4} + \frac{4}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

# Recap

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- Bayes' rule:  $p(y | x) = \frac{p(y)p(x | y)}{p(x)}$
- Bayes classifiers: estimate  $p(y)$  and  $p(x | y)$  from data
- Naïve Bayes classifiers: assume independent features  $p(x | y) = \prod_i p(x_i | y)$ 
  - Estimate each  $p(x_i | y)$  individually
- Maximum posterior (MAP):  $\hat{y}(x) = \arg \max_y p(y | x) = \arg \max_y p(y)p(x | y)$ 
  - Normalizer  $p(x)$  not needed

# Today's lecture

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Bayes classifiers

Naïve Bayes Classifiers

**Bayes error**

# Bayes classification error

- What is the training error of the MAP prediction  $\hat{y}(x) = \arg \max_y p(y | x)$ ?

Features	# bad	# good	prediction:
X=0	42	15	bad
X=1	338	287	bad
X=2	3	5	good

errors



- $$p(\hat{y} \neq y) = \frac{15 + 287 + 3}{690} = 0.442$$

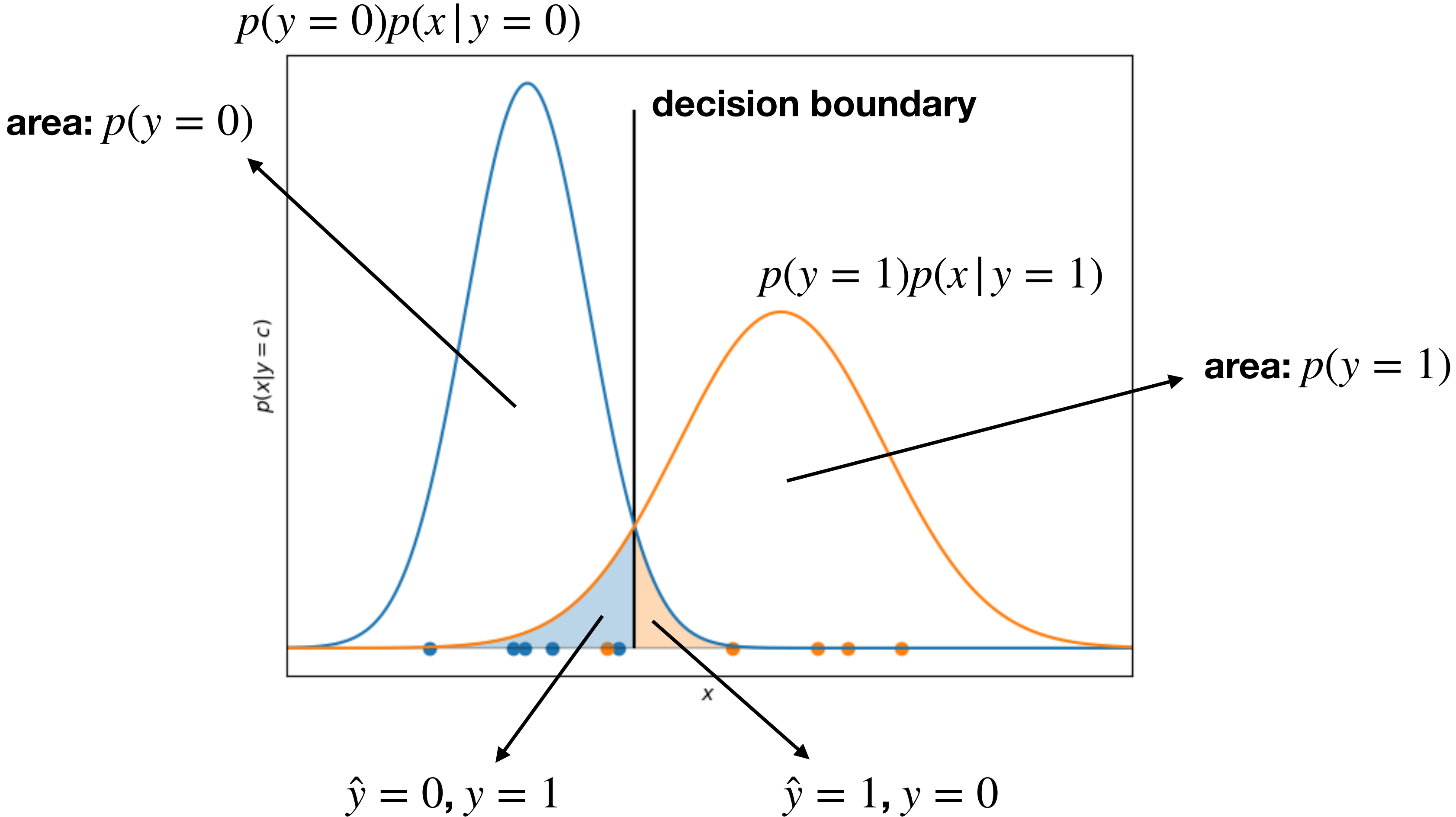
- **Bayes error rate:** probability of misclassification by MAP of true posterior



# Bayes error rate

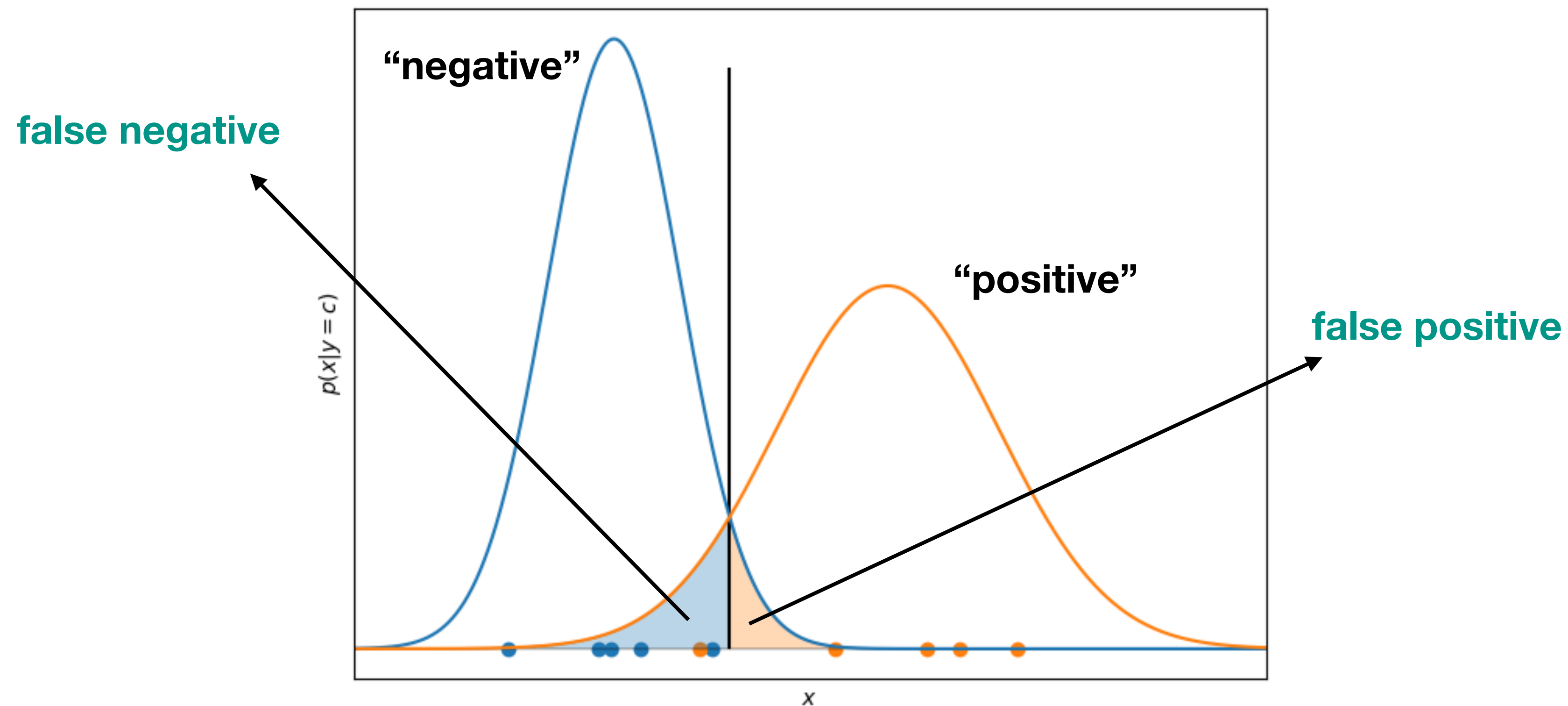
- Suppose that we know the true probabilities  $p(x, y)$ 
  - And that we can compute prior  $p(y)$  and posterior  $p(y | x)$
- **Bayes-optimal** decision = MAP:  $\hat{y} = \arg \max_y p(y | x)$
- Bayes error rate:  $\mathbb{E}_{x, y \sim p}[\hat{y} \neq y] = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p}[1 - \max_y p(y | x)]$ 
  - This is the optimal error rate of **any** classifier
  - Measures intrinsic hardness of separating  $y$  values given only  $x$ 
    - But may get better with more features
- Normally we cannot estimate the Bayes error rate, only approximate with good classifier

# Bayes error rate: Gaussian example



# Types of error

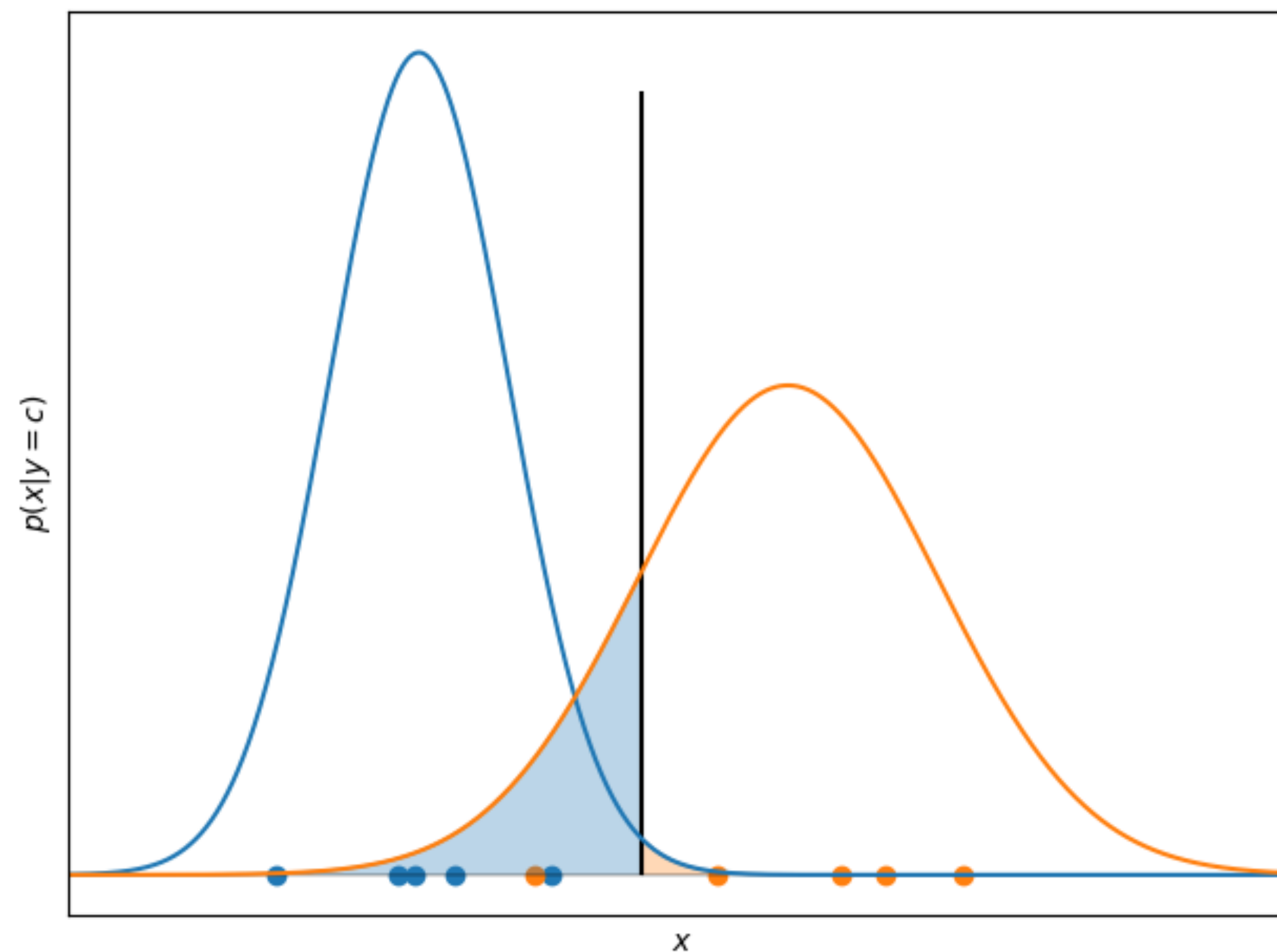
- Not all errors are equally bad
  - Do some cost more? (e.g. red / green light, diseased / healthy)



- False negative rate:  $\frac{p(y = 1, \hat{y} = 0)}{p(y = 1)}$ ; false positive rate:  $\frac{p(y = 0, \hat{y} = 1)}{p(y = 0)}$

# Cost of error

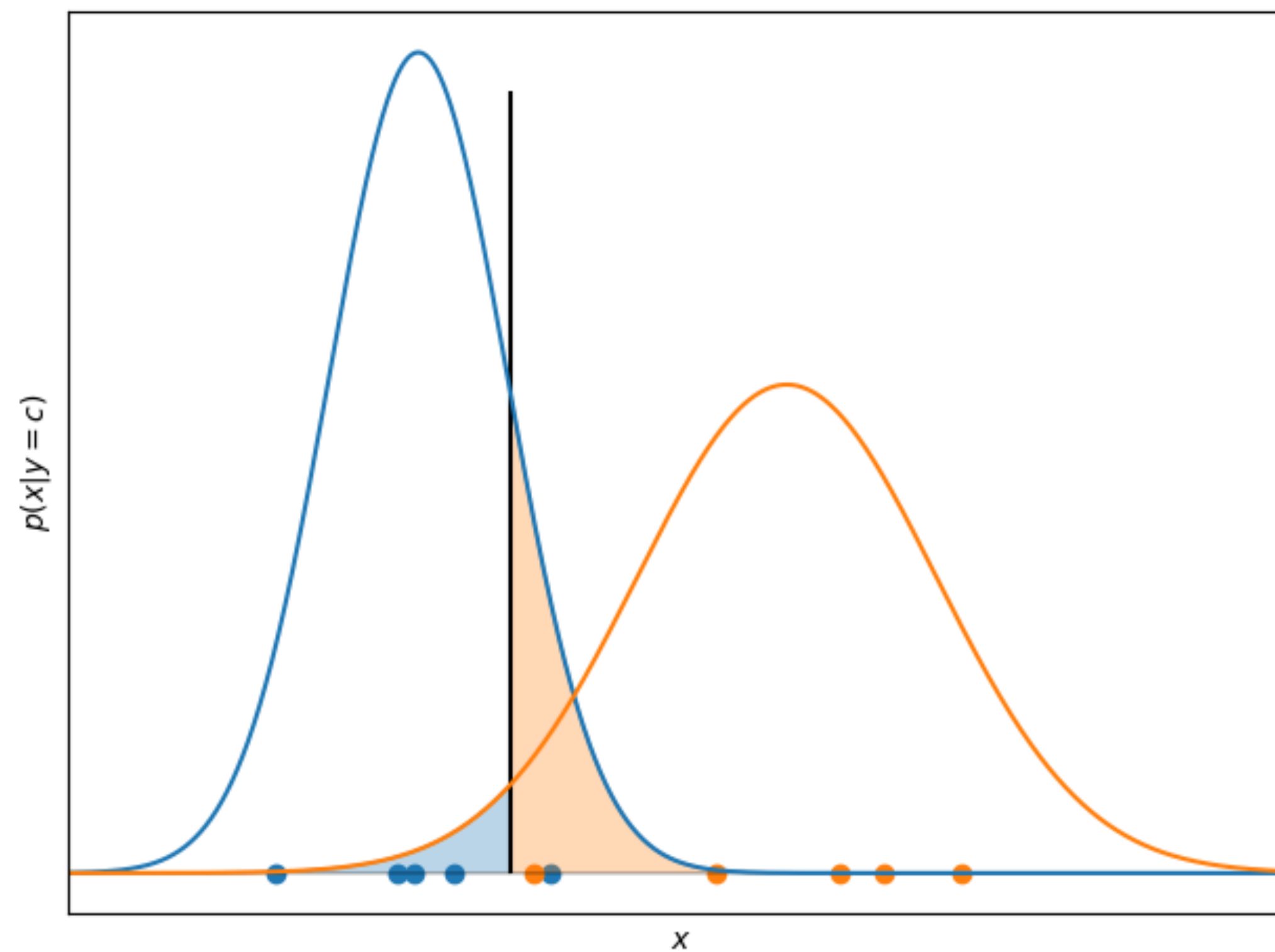
- Weight different costs differently
  - $\alpha \cdot p(y = 0)p(x|y = 0) \lesseqgtr p(y = 1)p(x|y = 1)$



- Increase  $\alpha$  to prefer class 0

# Cost of error

- Weight different costs differently
  - $\alpha \cdot p(y = 0)p(x | y = 0) \lesseqgtr p(y = 1)p(x | y = 1)$



- Decrease  $\alpha$  to prefer class 1

# Logistics

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assignment 1

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resources

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