

CS 273A: Machine Learning

Fall 2021

Lecture 9: Logistic Regression

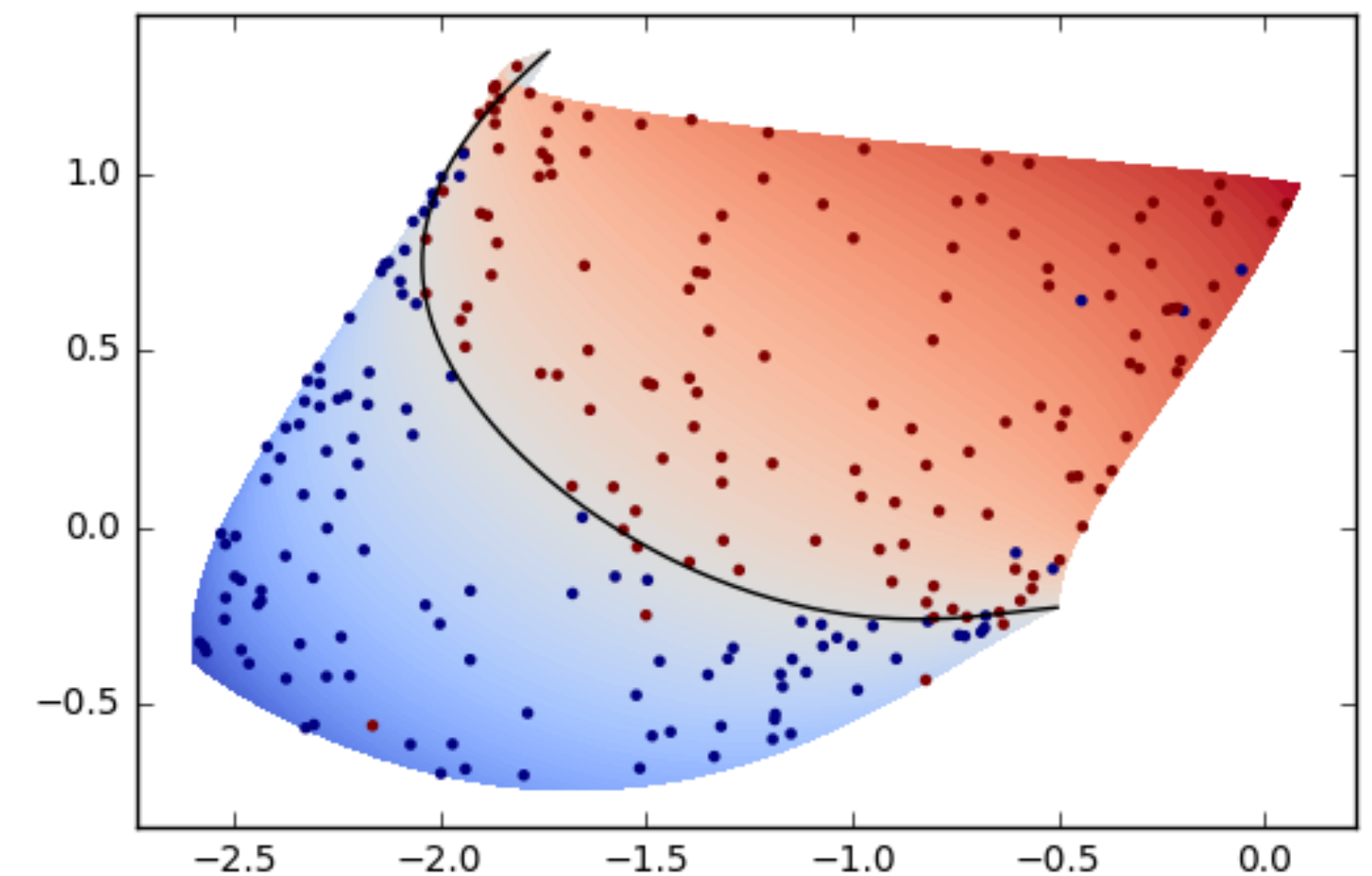
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All slides in this course adapted from Alex Ihler & Sameer Singh



Logistics

assignments

- Assignment 3 due next Tuesday, Oct 26

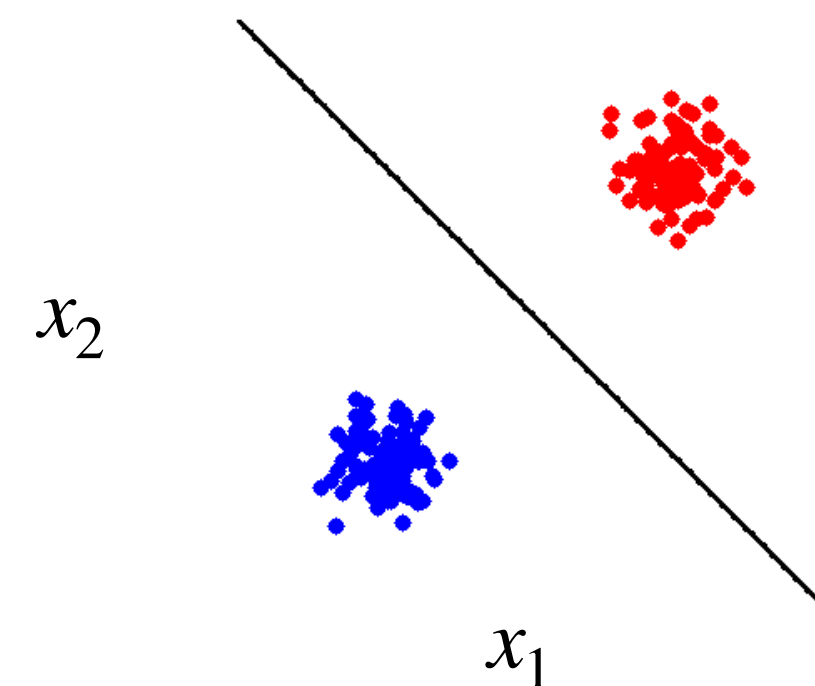
midterm

- Midterm exam on Nov 4, 11am–12:20 in **SH 128**
- If you're eligible to be remote — let us know by Oct 28
- If you're eligible for more time — let us know by Oct 28
- Review during lecture next Thursday

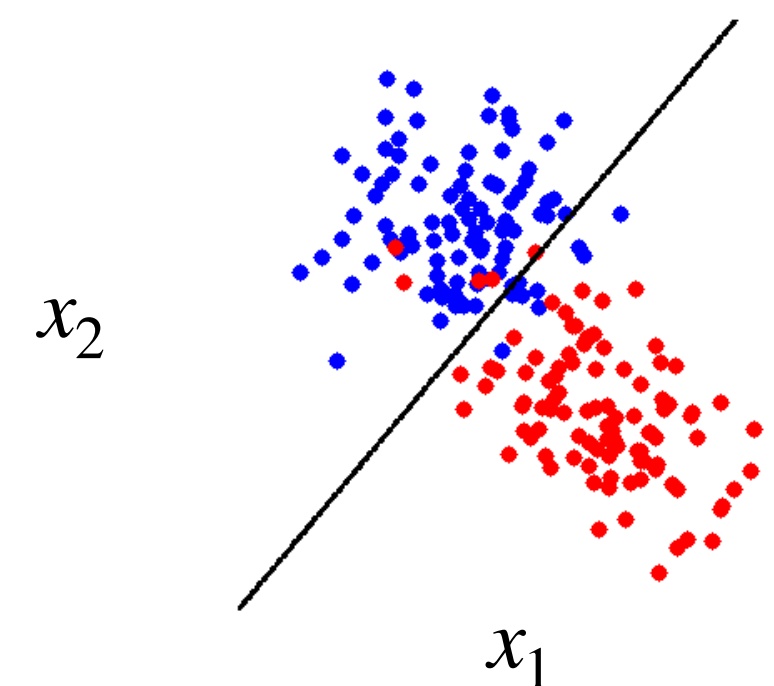
Separability

- **Separable dataset** = there's a model (in our class) with perfect prediction
- **Separable problem** = there's a model with 0 test loss $\mathbb{E}_{x,y \sim p}[\ell(y, \hat{y}(x))] = 0$
 - Also called **realizable**
- **Linearly separable** = separable by a linear classifier (hyperplanes)

Linearly separable data



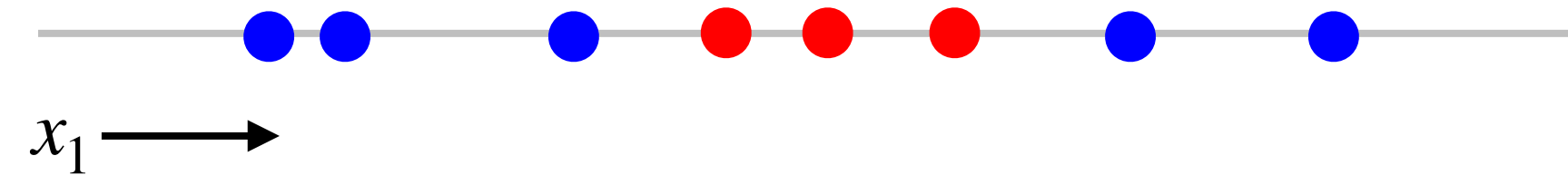
Linearly non-separable data



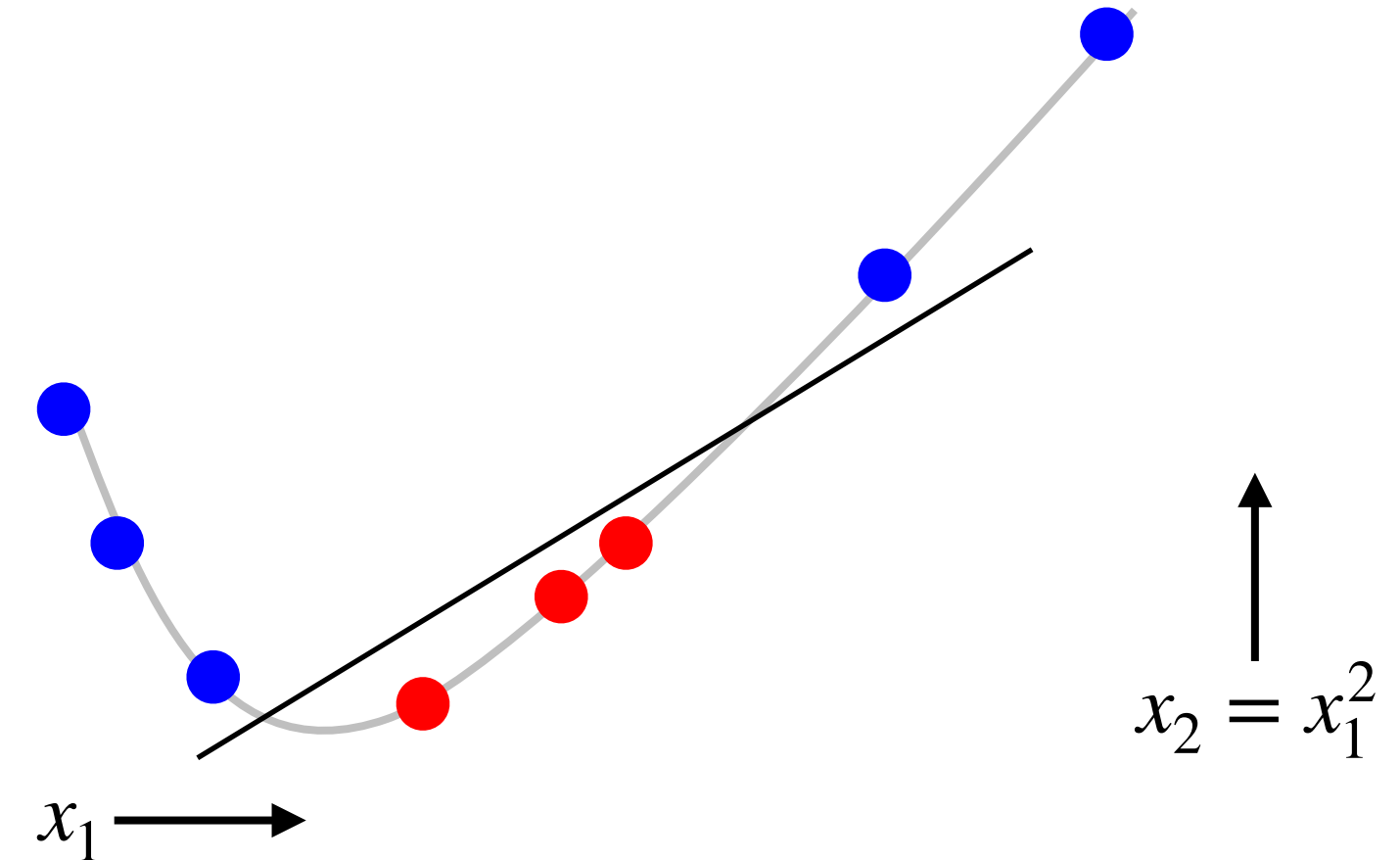
Adding features

- How to make the perceptron more **expressive**?
 - Add features — recall linear \rightarrow polynomial regression

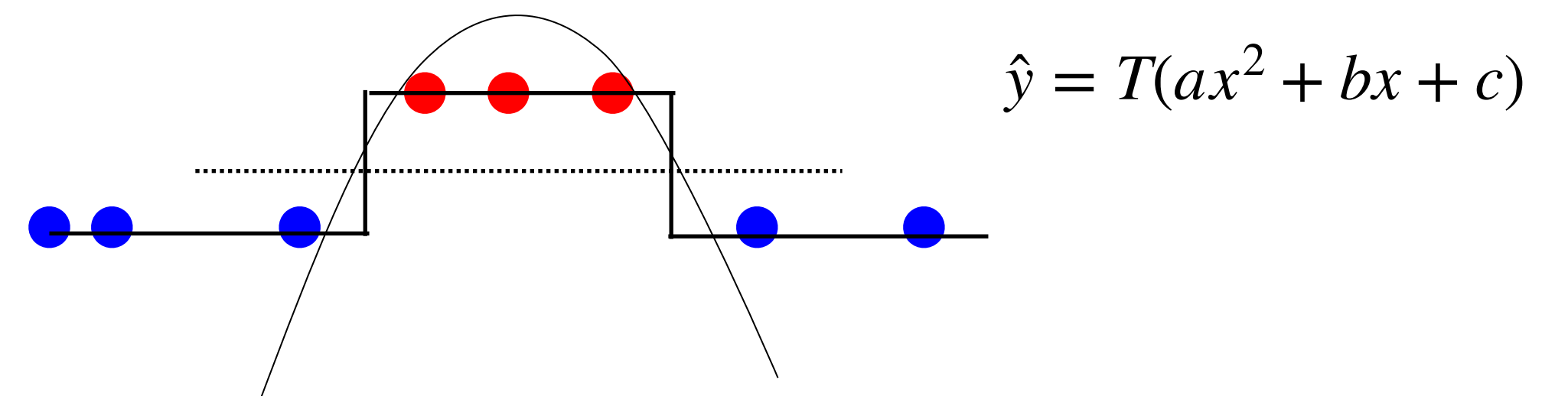
- Linearly non-separable:



- Linearly separable in quadratic features:



- Visualized in original feature space:



- Decision boundary: $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

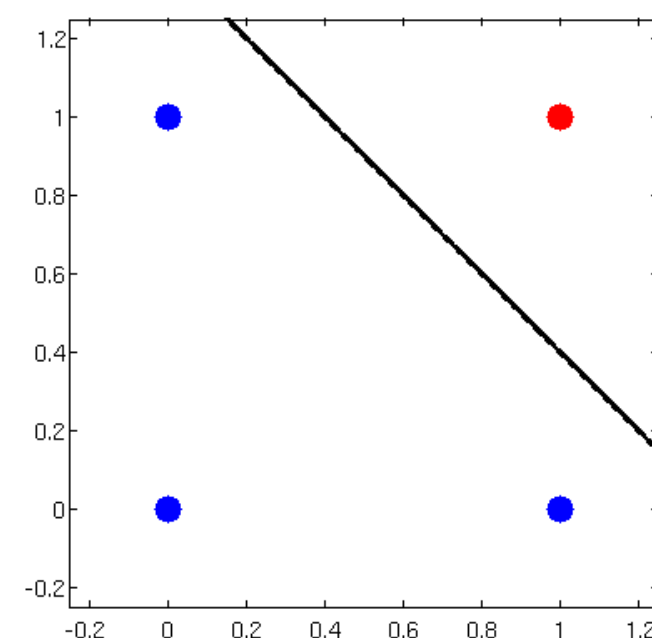
Adding features

- Which functions do we need to represent the decision boundary?
 - When linear functions aren't sufficiently expressive
 - Perhaps quadratic functions are

$$ax_1^2 + bx_1 + cx_2^2 + dx_2 + ex_1x_2 + f = 0$$

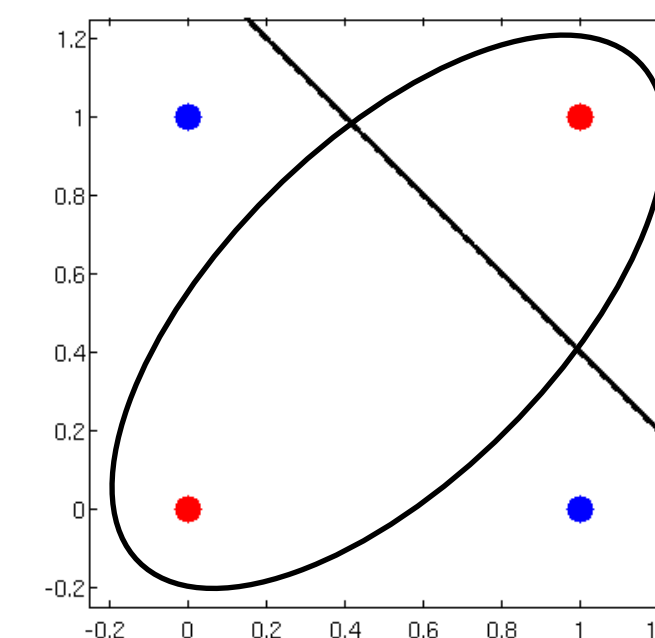
AND

x_1	x_2	y
0	0	-1
0	1	-1
1	0	-1
1	1	1



XOR

x_1	x_2	y
0	0	-1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	-1



Separability in high dimension

- As we add **more features** → dimensionality of instance x increases:
 - **Separability becomes easier**: more parameters, more models that could separate
 - Add enough (good) features, and even a linear classifier can separate
 - Given a decision boundary $f(x) = 0$: add $f(x)$ as a feature → linearly separable!
- However:
 - Do these features **explain test data** or just training data?
 - Increasing model complexity can lead to overfitting

Recap

- **Perceptron** = linear classifier
 - Linear **response** → **step** decision function → discrete class prediction
 - Linear decision boundary
- **Separability** = existence of a perfect model (in the class)
 - Separable data: 0 loss on this data
 - Separable problem: 0 loss on the data distribution
 - Perceptron: linear separability
- Adding features:
 - Complex features: complex decision boundary, easier separability
 - Can lead to overfitting

Today's lecture

Learning perceptrons

Logistic regression

Multi-class classifiers

VC dimension

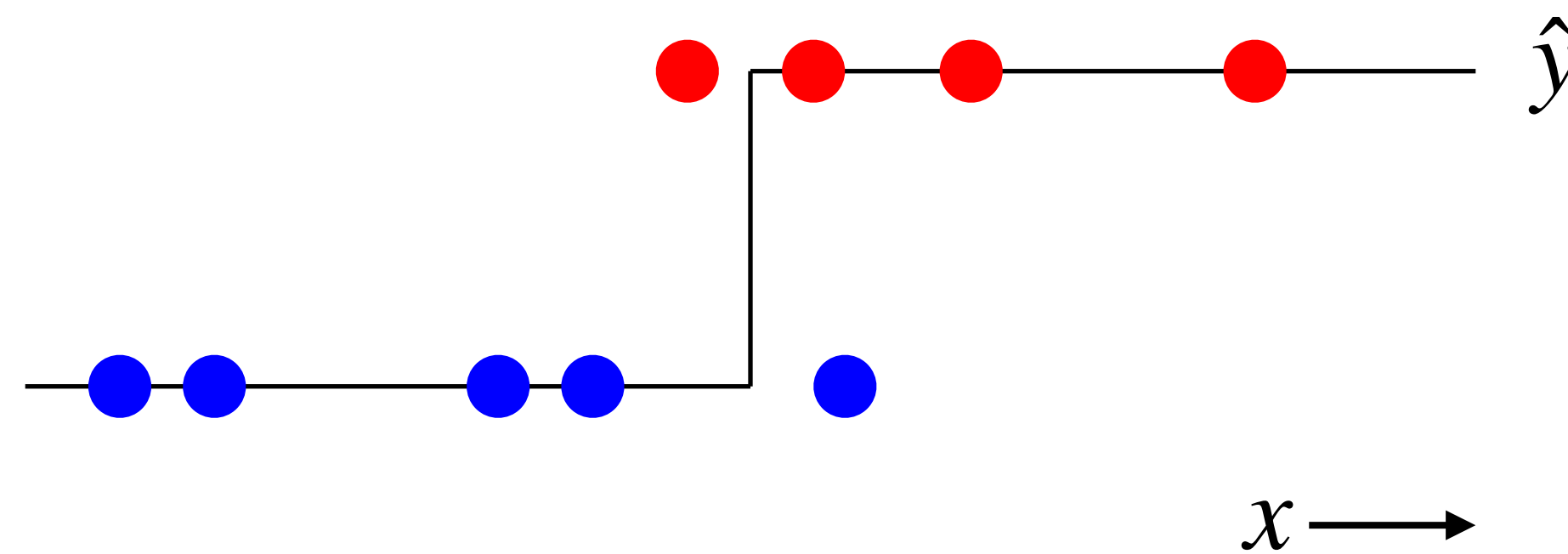
Learning a perceptron

- What do we need to learn the parameters θ of a perceptron?
 - ▶ Training data \mathcal{D} = labeled instances
 - ▶ Loss function \mathcal{L}_θ = error rate on labeled data
 - ▶ Optimization algorithm = method for minimizing training loss

Error rate

- Error rate: $\mathcal{L}_\theta = \frac{1}{m} \sum_i \delta(y^{(i)} \neq f_\theta(x^{(i)}))$

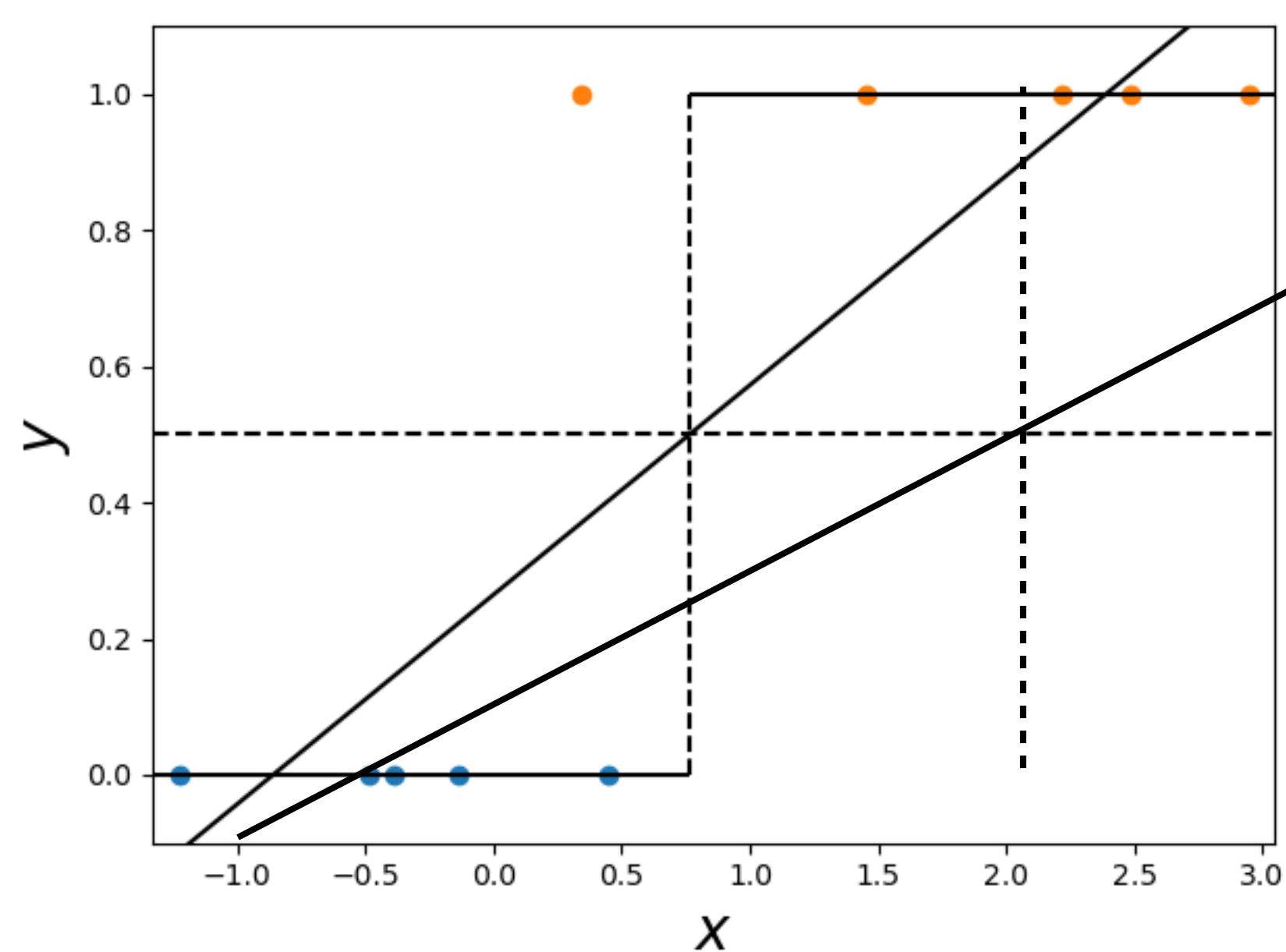
- ▶ With the indicator $\delta(y \neq \hat{y}) = \begin{cases} 1 & y \neq \hat{y} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$



$$\mathcal{L}_\theta = \frac{2}{9}$$

Use linear regression?

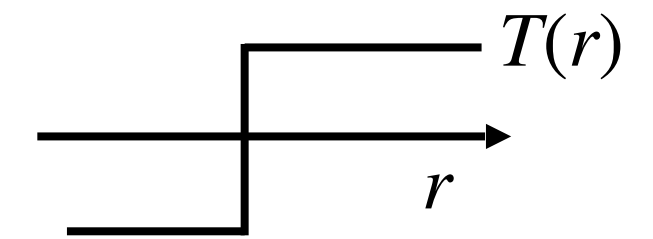
- Idea: find θ using linear regression



- Affected by large regression losses
 - We only care about the classification loss

Perceptron: gradient-based learning

- Problem: loss function not differentiable $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = \delta(y \neq \text{sign}(\theta^\top x))$
 - ▶ Write differently: $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}(y - \text{sign}(\theta^\top x))^2$
 - $\nabla_\theta \text{sign}(\theta^\top x) = 0$ almost everywhere
 - ▶ But we also don't want MSE = $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}(y - \theta^\top x)^2$
 - ▶ Compromise: $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = (y - \text{sign}(\theta^\top x))(y - \theta^\top x)$
 - $\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_\theta = -(y - \text{sign}(\theta^\top x))x = -(y - \hat{y})x$



Perceptron training algorithm

while \neg done:

for each data point j :

$$\hat{y}^{(j)} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot x^{(j)}) \quad \text{predict output for point } j$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha(y^{(j)} - \hat{y}^{(j)})x^{(j)} \quad \text{gradient step on weird loss}$$

- Similar to linear regression with MSE loss
 - Except that \hat{y} is the class prediction, not the linear response
 - No update for correct predictions $y^{(j)} = \hat{y}^{(j)}$
 - For incorrect predictions: $y^{(j)} - \hat{y}^{(j)} = \pm 2$
 - \implies update towards x (for false negative) or $-x$ (for false positive)

Perceptron training algorithm

while \neg done:

for each data point j :

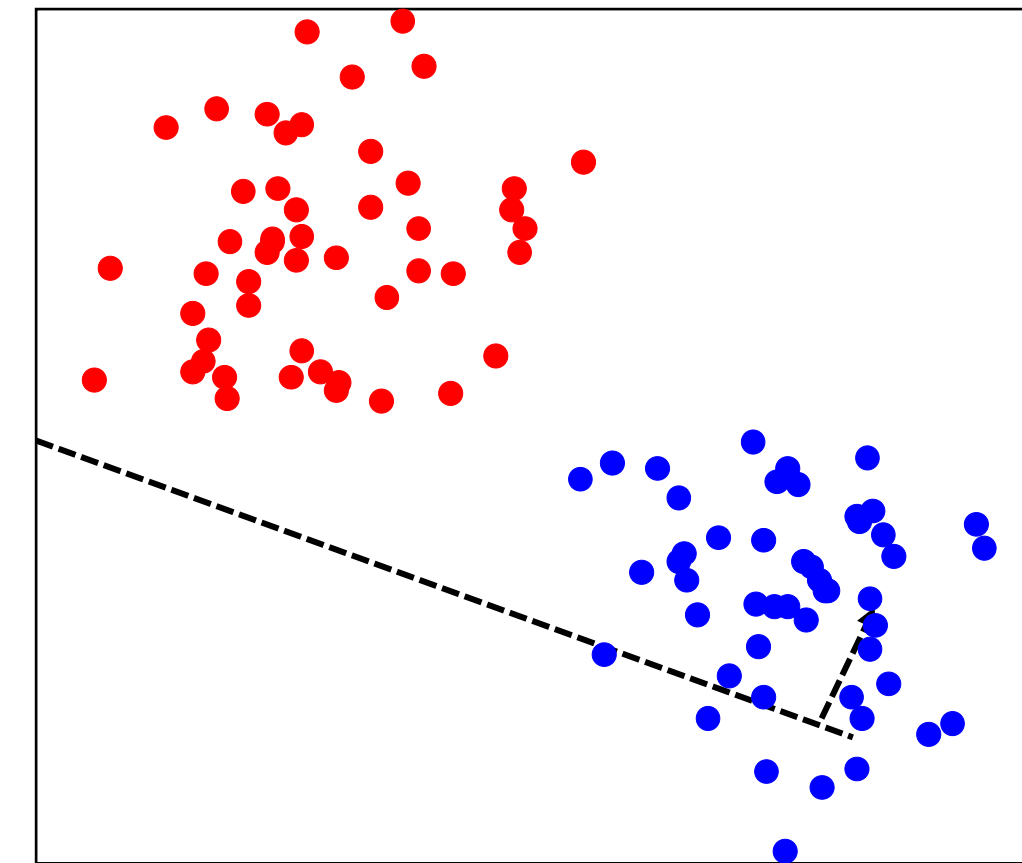
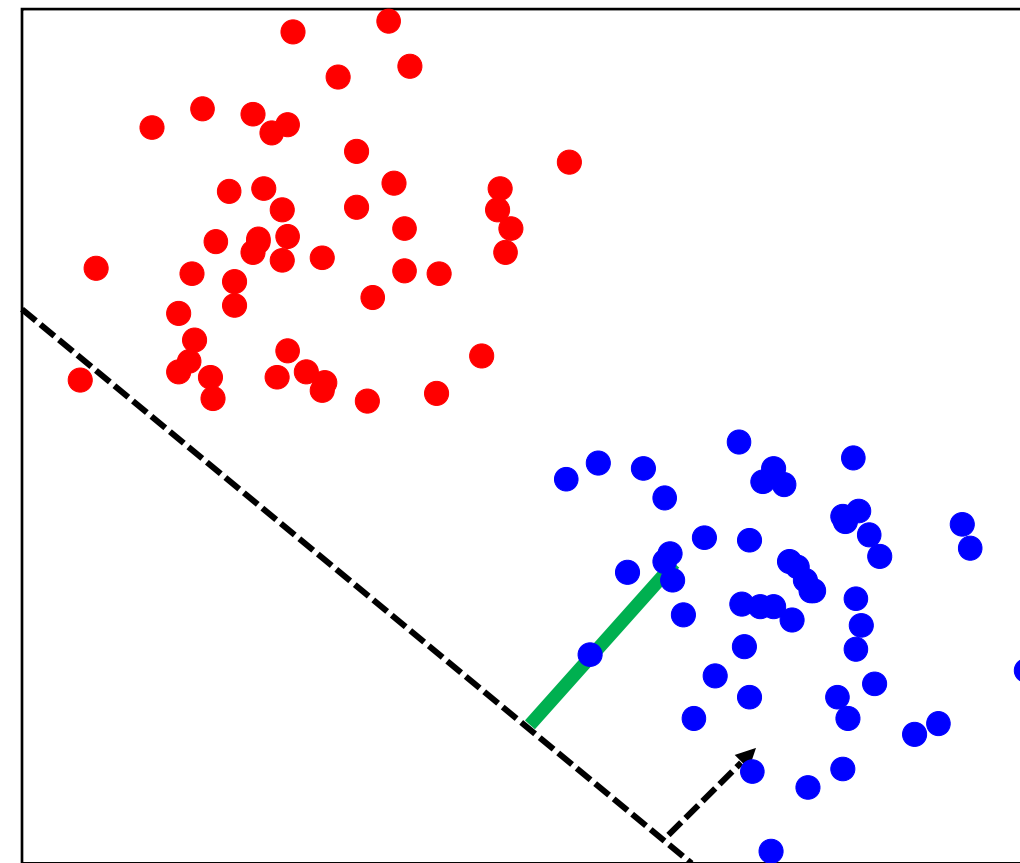
$$\hat{y}^{(j)} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot x^{(j)})$$

predict output for point j

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha(y^{(j)} - \hat{y}^{(j)})x^{(j)}$$

gradient step on weird loss

incorrect prediction: update weights



Perceptron training algorithm

while \neg done:

for each data point j :

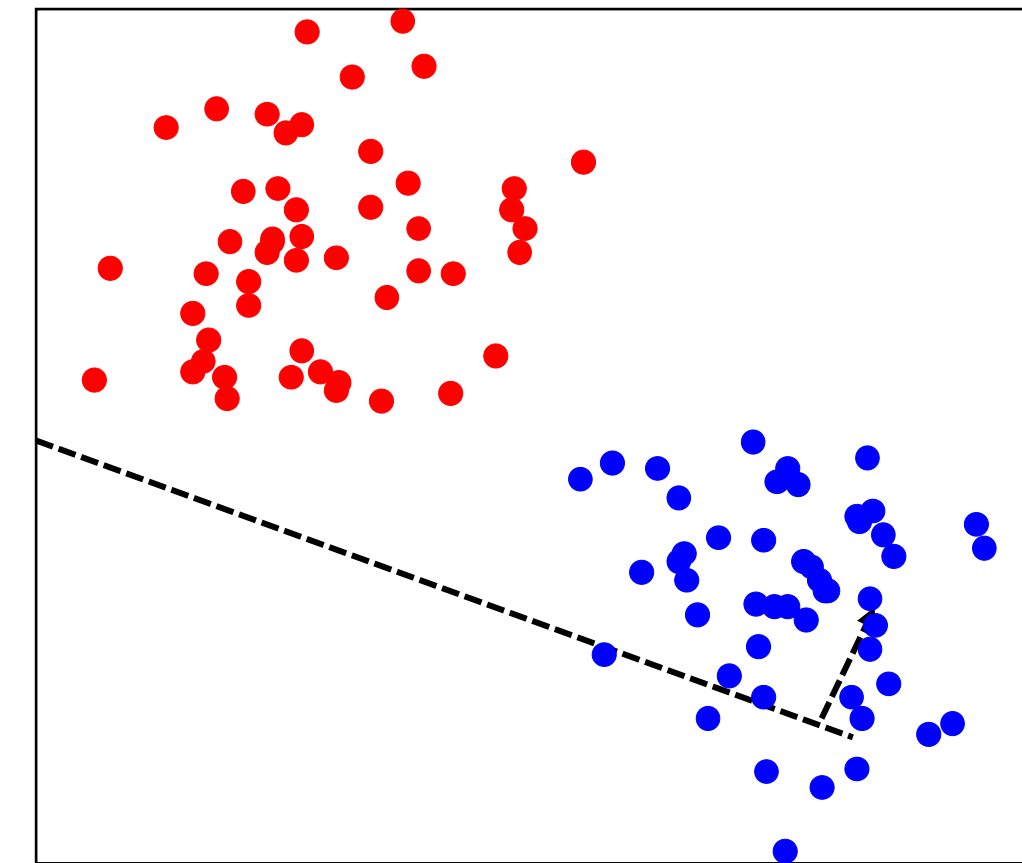
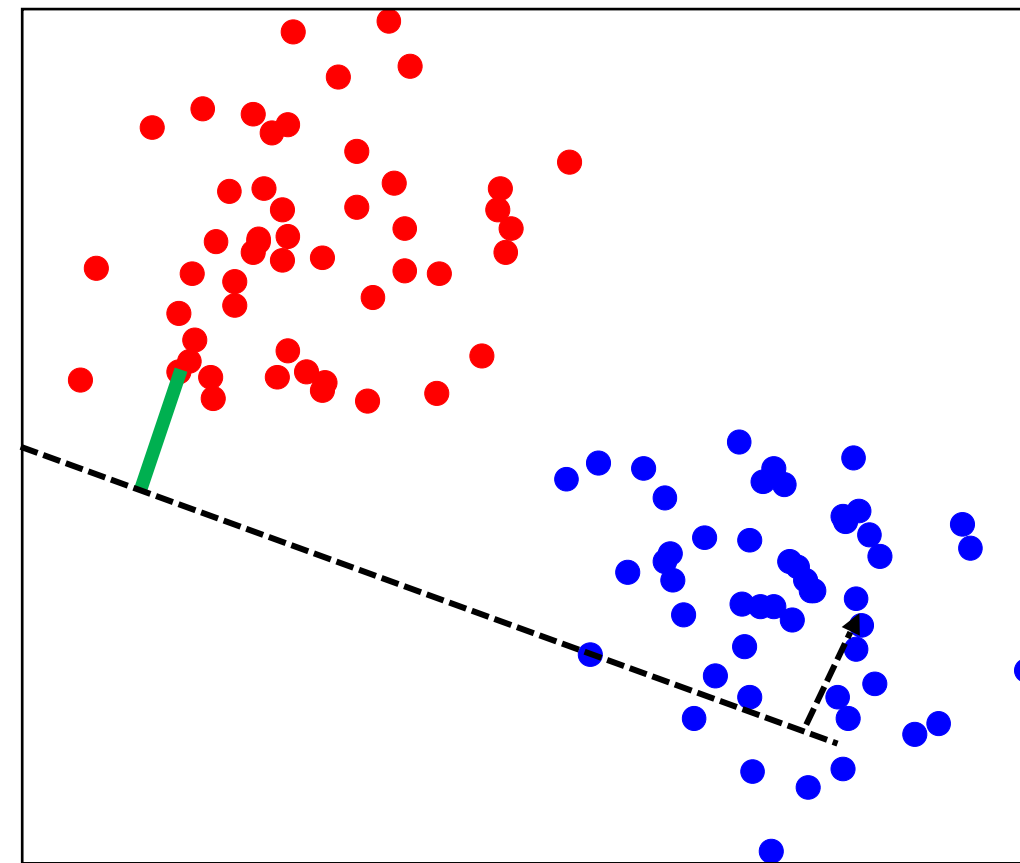
$$\hat{y}^{(j)} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot x^{(j)})$$

predict output for point j

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha(y^{(j)} - \hat{y}^{(j)})x^{(j)}$$

gradient step on weird loss

correct prediction: no update



Perceptron training algorithm

while \neg done:

for each data point j :

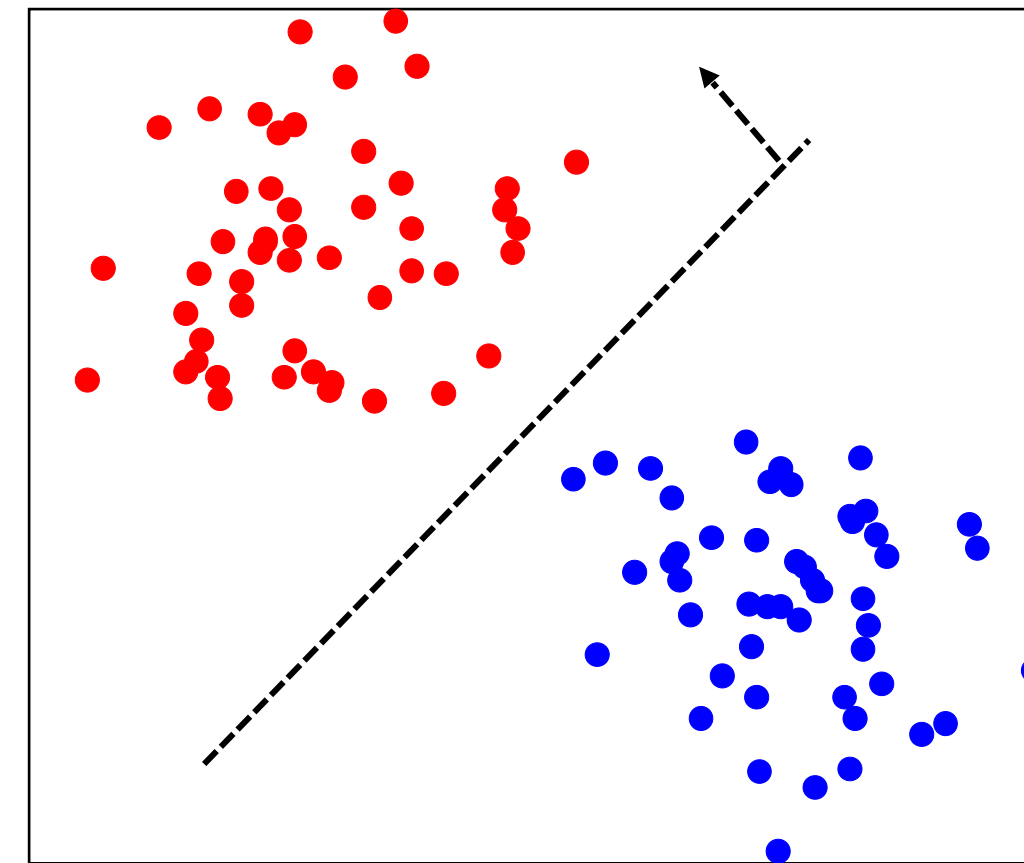
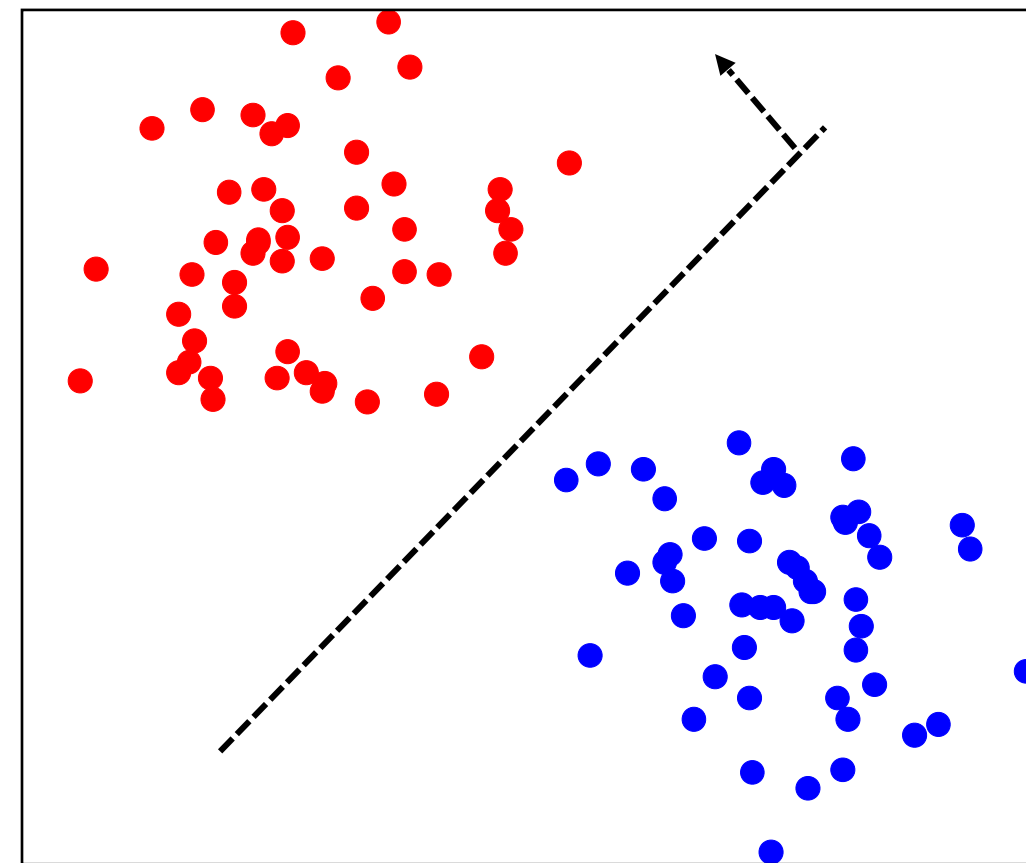
$$\hat{y}^{(j)} = \text{sign}(\theta \cdot x^{(j)})$$

predict output for point j

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha(y^{(j)} - \hat{y}^{(j)})x^{(j)}$$

gradient step on weird loss

convergence: no more updates



Today's lecture

Learning perceptrons

Logistic regression

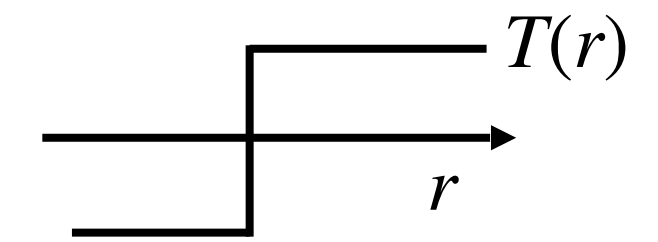
Multi-class classifiers

VC dimension

Perceptron

- **Perceptron** = linear classifier
 - ▶ Parameters θ = **weights** (also denoted w)
 - ▶ **Response** = weighted sum of the features $r = \theta^T x$
 - ▶ **Prediction** = thresholded response $\hat{y}(x) = T(r) = T(\theta^T x)$

- ▶ **Decision function:** $\hat{y}(x) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \theta^T x > 0 \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ (for $T(r) = \text{sign}(r)$)



- **Update rule:** $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha \underbrace{(y - \hat{y})}_{\text{error}} x$

Widening the classification margin

- Which decision boundary is “better”?
 - ▶ Both have 0 training loss
 - ▶ But one seems more **robust**, expected to **generalize** better



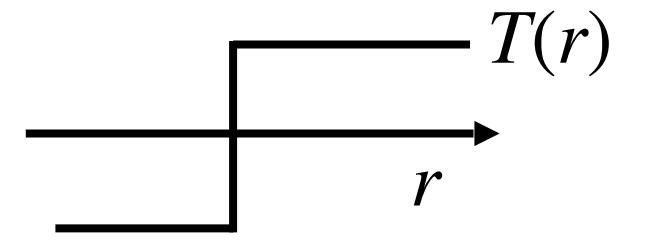
- Benefit of smooth loss function: care about margin
 - ▶ Encourage distancing the boundary from data points

Surrogate loss functions

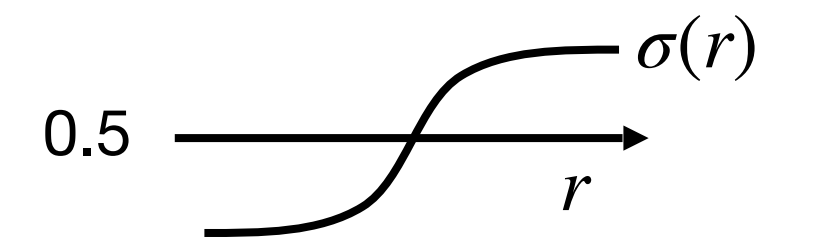
- Alternative: use **differentiable** loss function

- ▶ E.g., approximate step function with smooth sigmoid function (= "looks like s")

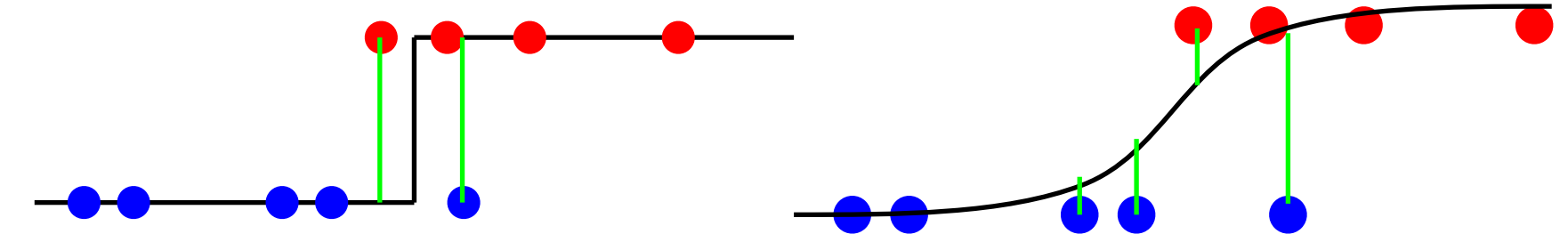
- ▶ Popular choice: **logistic / sigmoid** function $\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-x)} \in [0, 1]$



- ▶ For this part, let's assume $y \in \{0, 1\}$



- MSE loss: $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = (y - \sigma(r(x)))^2$



- ▶ **Far** from the boundary: $\sigma \approx 0$ or 1 , loss approximates 0–1 loss

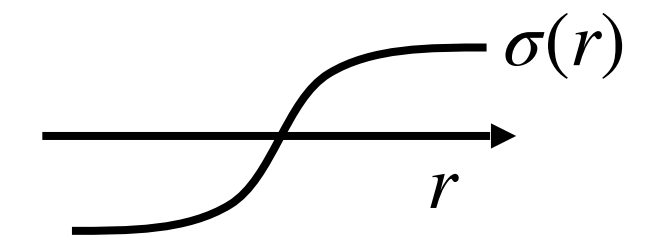
- ▶ **Near** the boundary: $\sigma \approx \frac{1}{2}$, loss near $\frac{1}{4}$, but clear improvement direction

Learning smooth linear classifiers

- Use **gradient-based** optimizer on the loss $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = (y - \sigma(\theta^\top x))^2$

$$-\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = 2 \underbrace{(y - \sigma(\theta^\top x))}_{\text{error}} \underbrace{\sigma'(\theta^\top x)}_{\text{sensitivity}} x$$

- Logistic function:** $\sigma(r) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-r)}$



- It's **derivative:** $\sigma'(r) = \sigma(r)(1 - \sigma(r))$

▸ **Saturates** for both $r \rightarrow \infty, r \rightarrow -\infty$

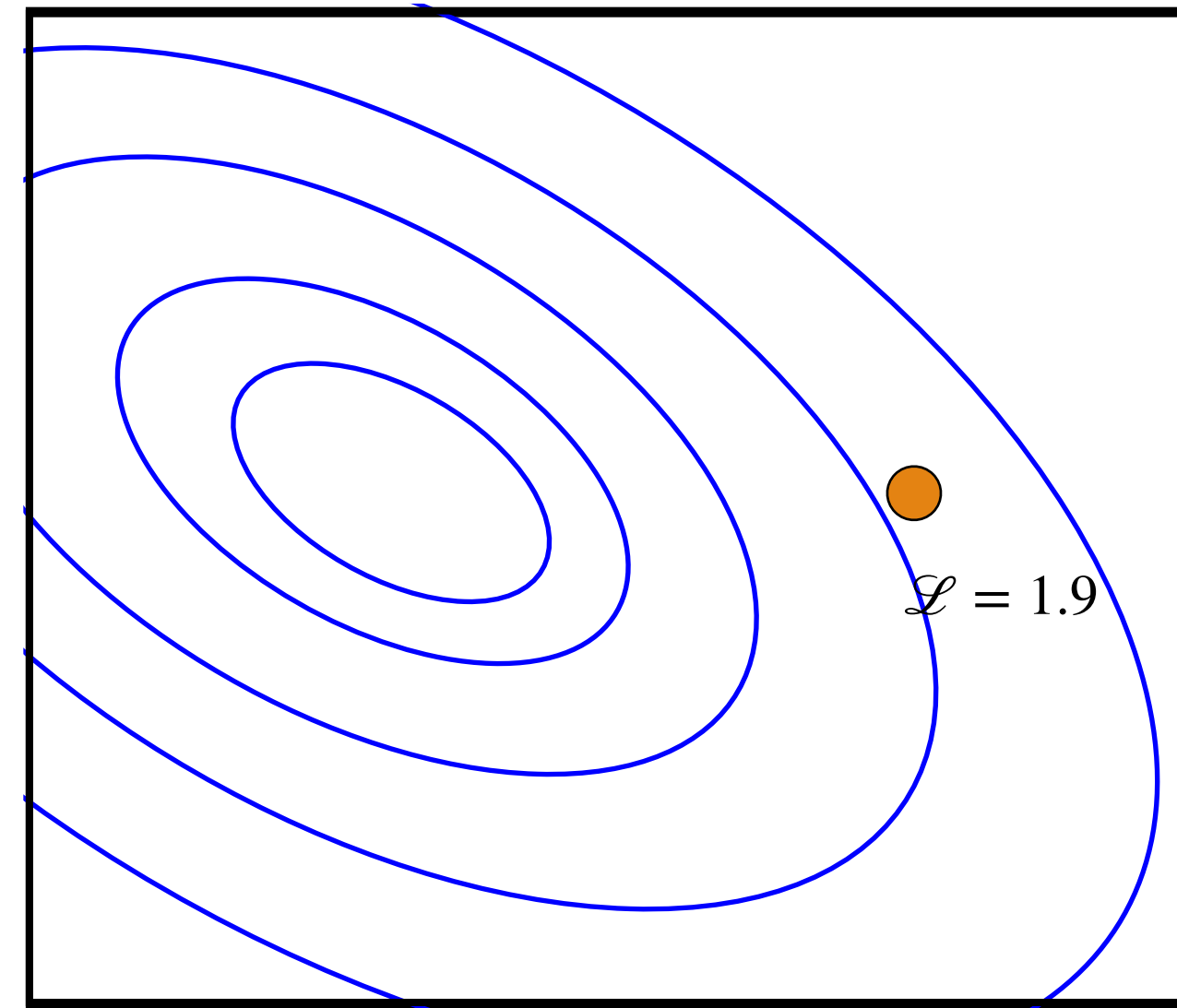
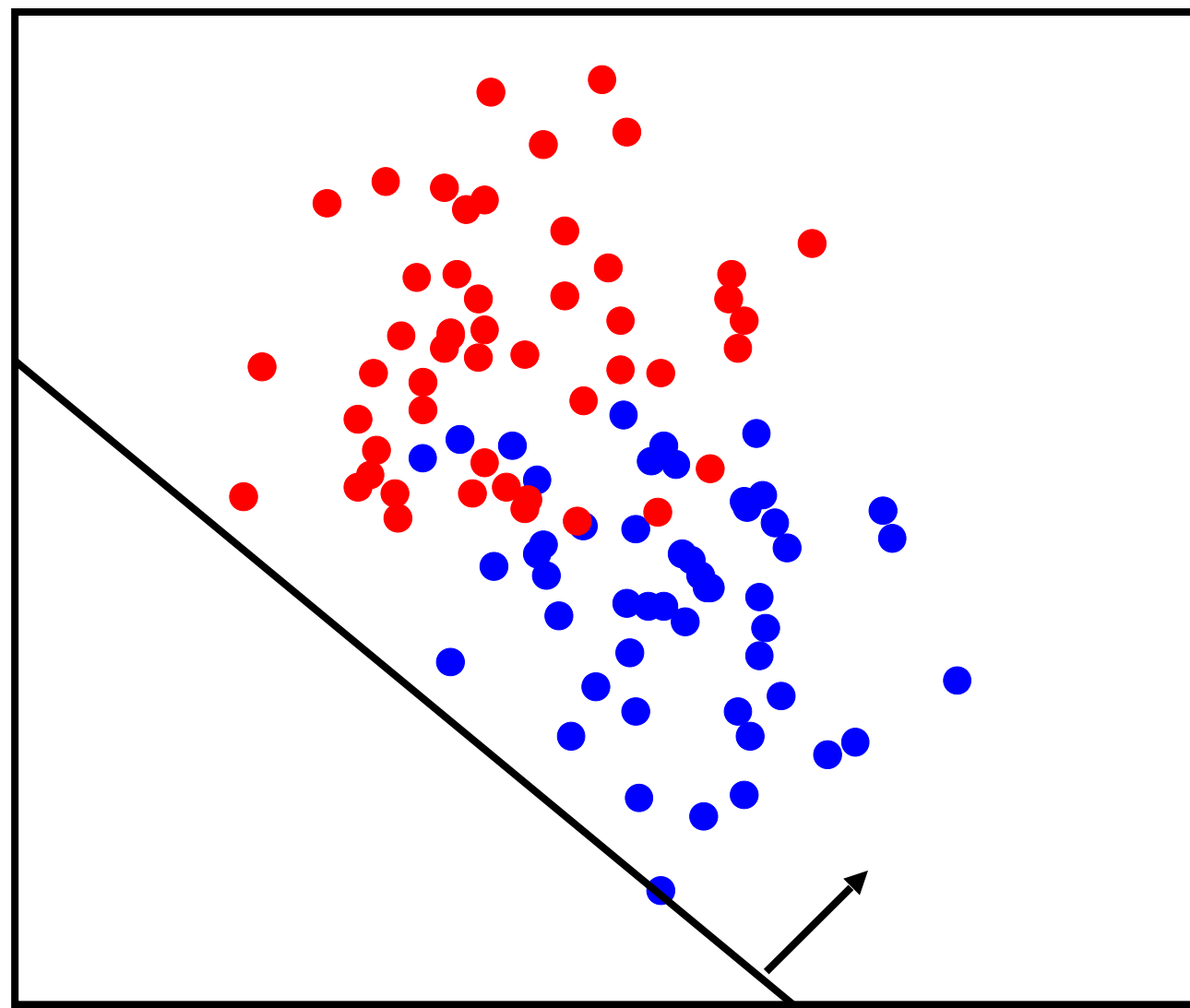
- Confidently **correct** prediction: $\sigma(r) \approx y \in \{0, 1\} \implies \nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_\theta \approx 0$ ← **good**

- Confidently **incorrect** prediction: $\sigma(r) \approx 1 - y \implies \nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_\theta \approx 0$ ← **bad**

Learning smooth linear classifiers

- With a smooth loss function with can use Stochastic Gradient Descent

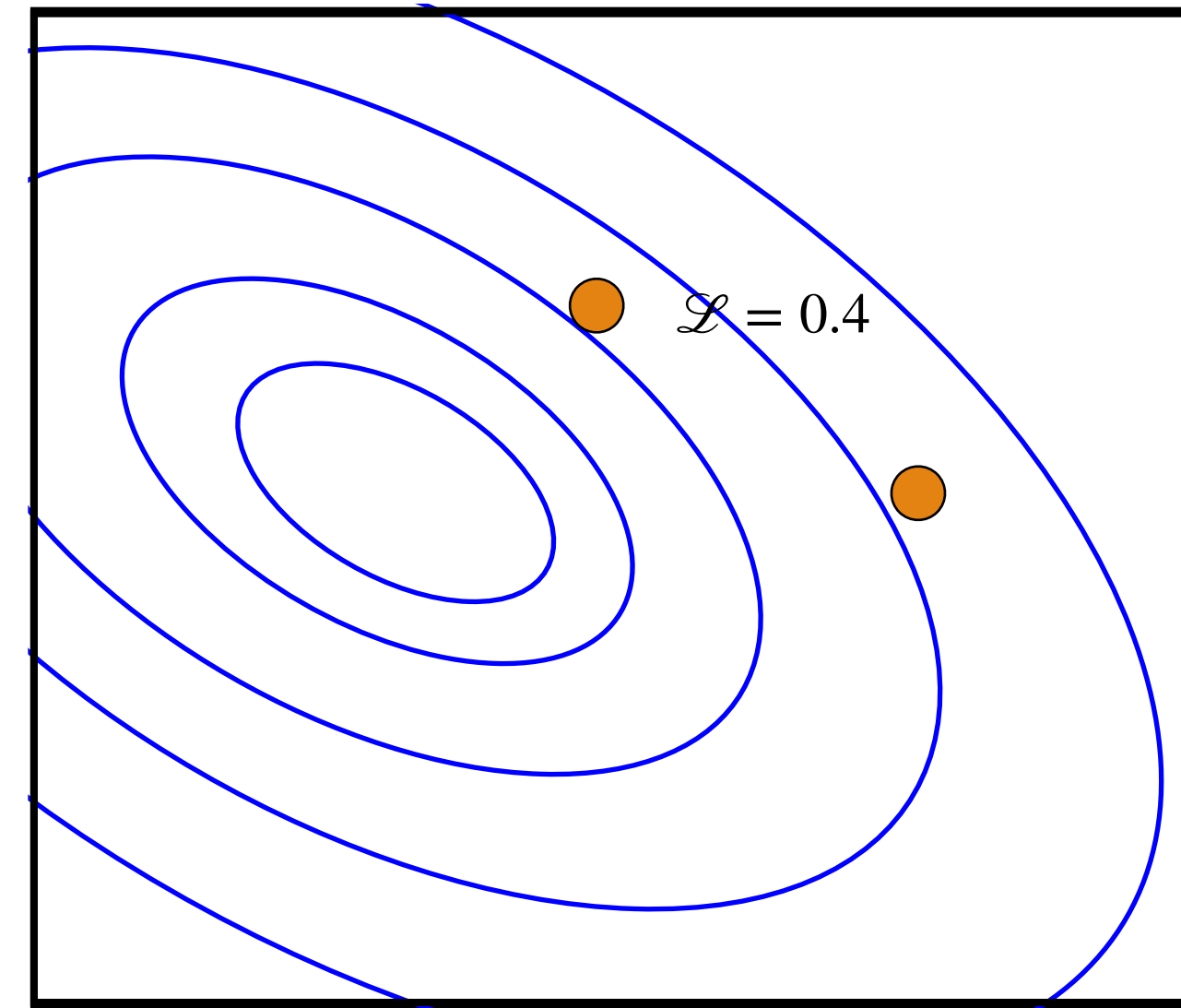
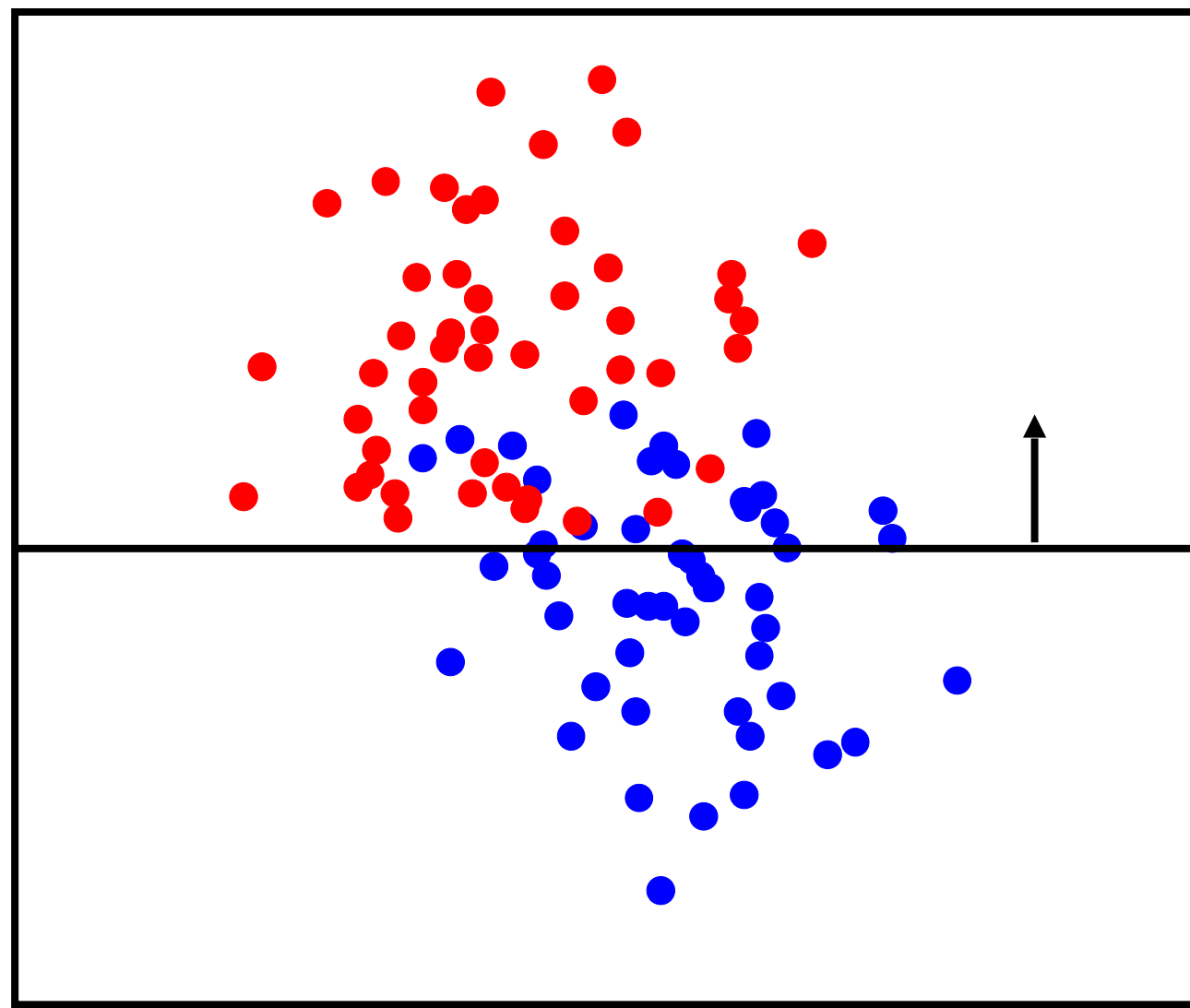
$$\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = (y - \sigma(r(x)))^2$$



Learning smooth linear classifiers

- With a smooth loss function with can use Stochastic Gradient Descent

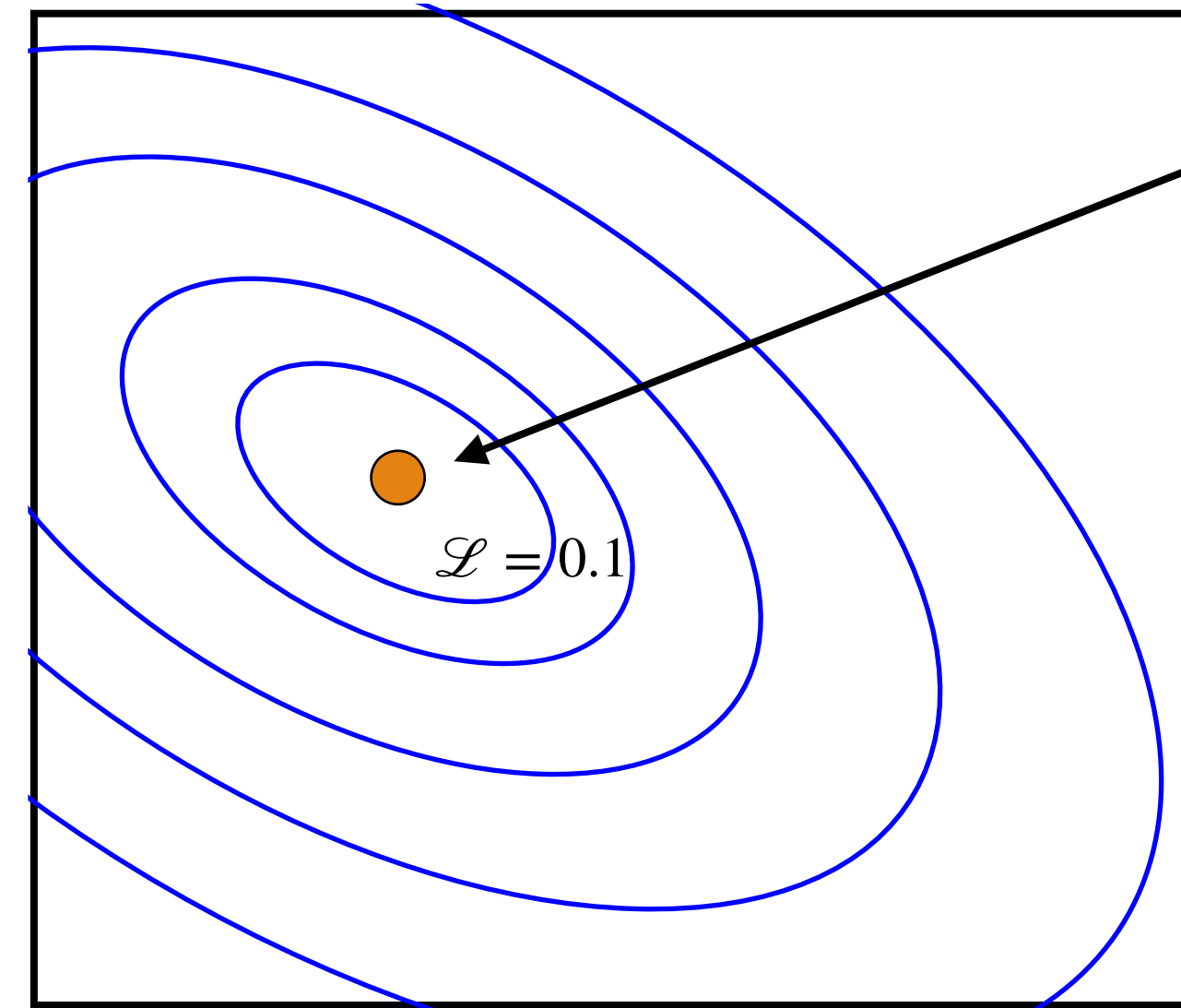
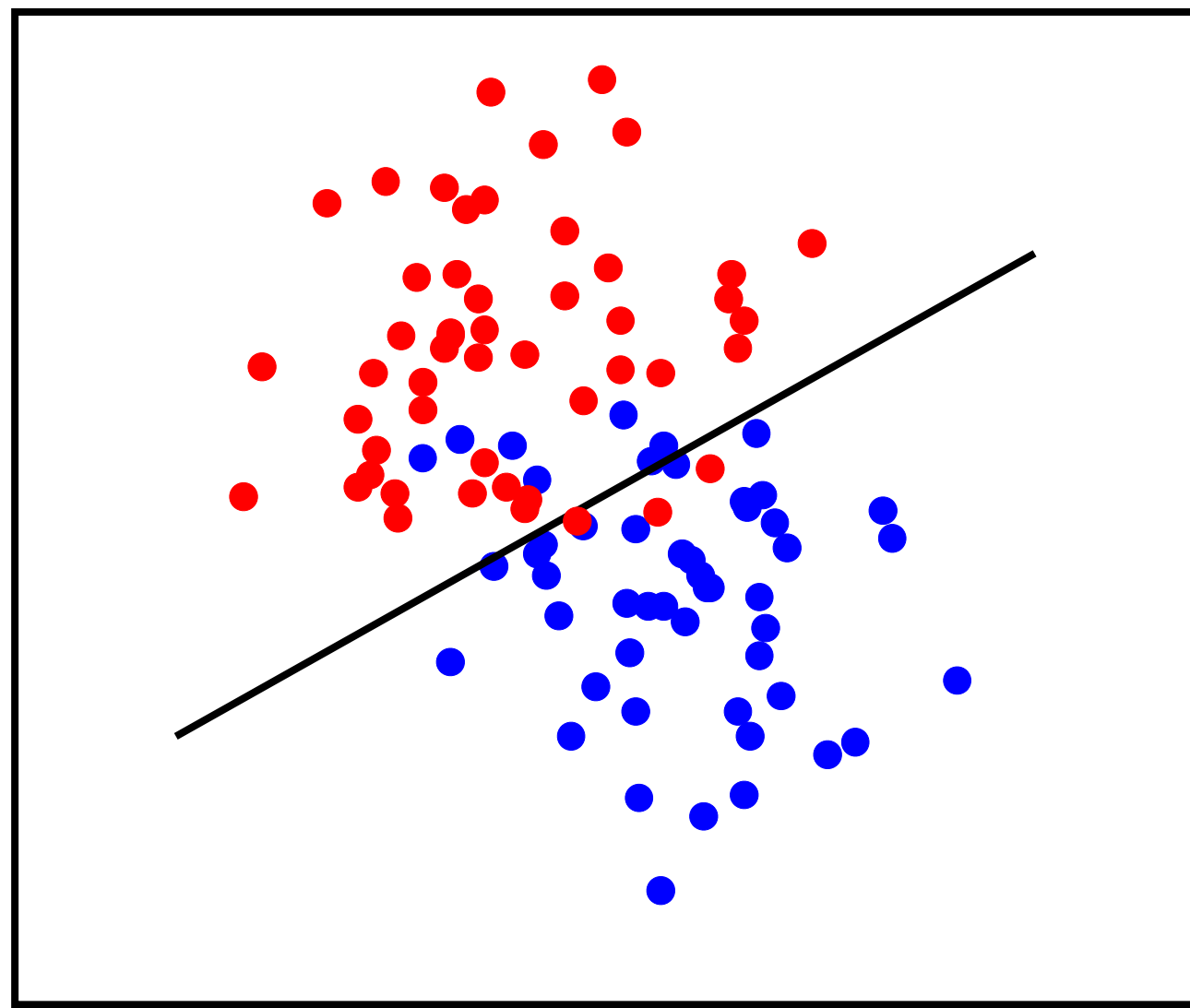
$$\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = (y - \sigma(r(x)))^2$$



Learning smooth linear classifiers

- With a smooth loss function with can use Stochastic Gradient Descent

$$\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = (y - \sigma(r(x)))^2$$



Minimum training MSE

Maximum likelihood

- What if we had a **probabilistic predictor** $p_{\theta}(y | x)$?
- The better the parameter θ , the **more likely** the training data:

$$p_{\theta}(y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(m)} | x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(m)}) = \prod_j p_{\theta}(y^{(j)} | x^{(j)})$$

- Bayesian interpretation?

except, often there's no uniform distribution over parameter space

▶ **MAP**: $\arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta | \mathcal{D}) = \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta) p(\mathcal{D}_x) p_{\theta}(\mathcal{D}_y | \mathcal{D}_x) = \arg \max_{\theta} p_{\theta}(\mathcal{D}_y | \mathcal{D}_x)$

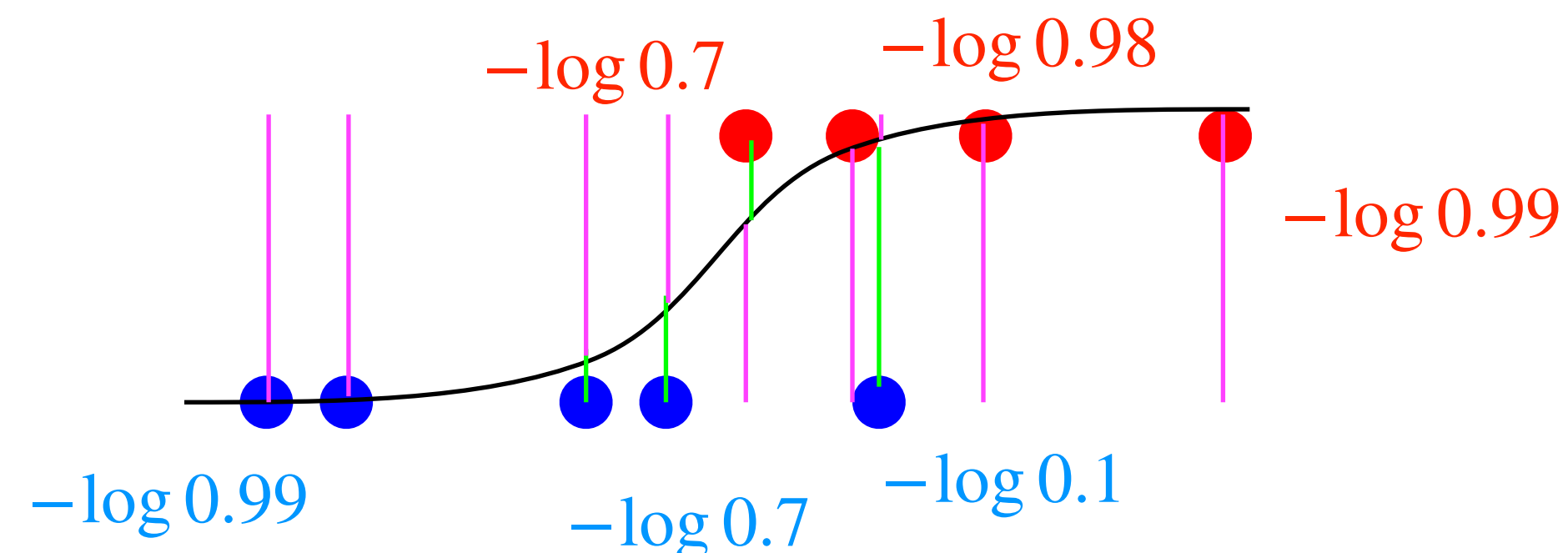
average over training dataset

- Maximum **log-likelihood**: $\max_{\theta} \frac{1}{m} \sum_j \log p_{\theta}(y^{(j)} | x^{(j)})$

Logistic Regression

- Can we turn a linear response into a probability? Sigmoid! $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0,1]$
- Think of $\sigma(\theta^\top x) = p_\theta(y = 1 | x)$
- Negative Log-Likelihood (NLL) loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = -\log p_\theta(y | x) = \underbrace{-y \log \sigma(\theta^\top x)}_{\text{for } y = 1} - \underbrace{(1 - y) \log(1 - \sigma(\theta^\top x))}_{\text{for } y = 0}$$



Logistic Regression: gradient

- Logistic NLL loss: $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = -y \log \sigma(\theta^\top x) - (1 - y) \log(1 - \sigma(\theta^\top x))$

$$-\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = \left(y \frac{\sigma'(\theta^\top x)}{\sigma(\theta^\top x)} - (1 - y) \frac{\sigma'(\theta^\top x)}{1 - \sigma(\theta^\top x)} \right) x$$

Gradient:

$$= (y (1 - \sigma(\theta^\top x)) - (1 - y) \sigma(\theta^\top x)) x$$

error for $y = 1$

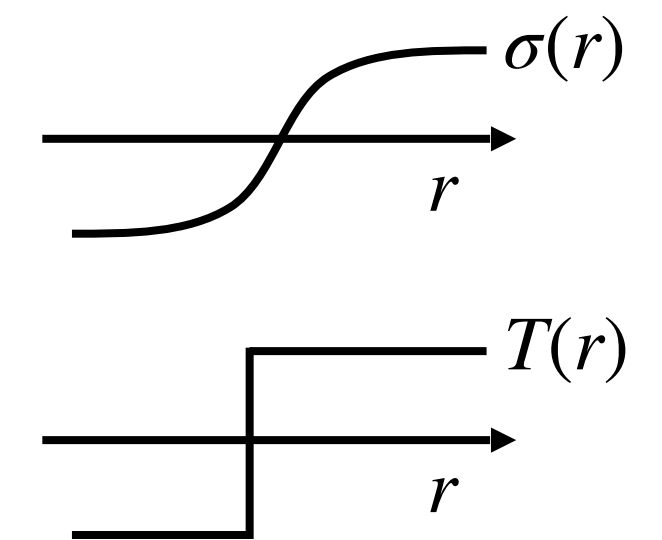
error for $y = 0$

$$= (y - p_\theta(y = 1 | x)) x$$

but update toward $-x$

- Compare:

▶ Perceptron: $(y - \hat{y})x$ ← constant error (± 2), insensitive to margin



▶ Logistic MSE: $-\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = 2(y - \sigma(\theta^\top x)) \sigma'(\theta^\top x) x$ ← 0 gradient for bad mistakes

Recap

- Linear classifiers:
 - Perceptron
 - Logistic classifier
- Measuring decision quality:
 - Error rate / 0–1 loss
 - MSE loss
 - Negative log-likelihood (Logistic Regression)
- Learning the weights
 - Perceptron algorithm — not quite gradient-based (or gradient of weird loss)
 - Gradient-based optimization of surrogate loss (MSE / NLL)

Today's lecture

Learning perceptrons

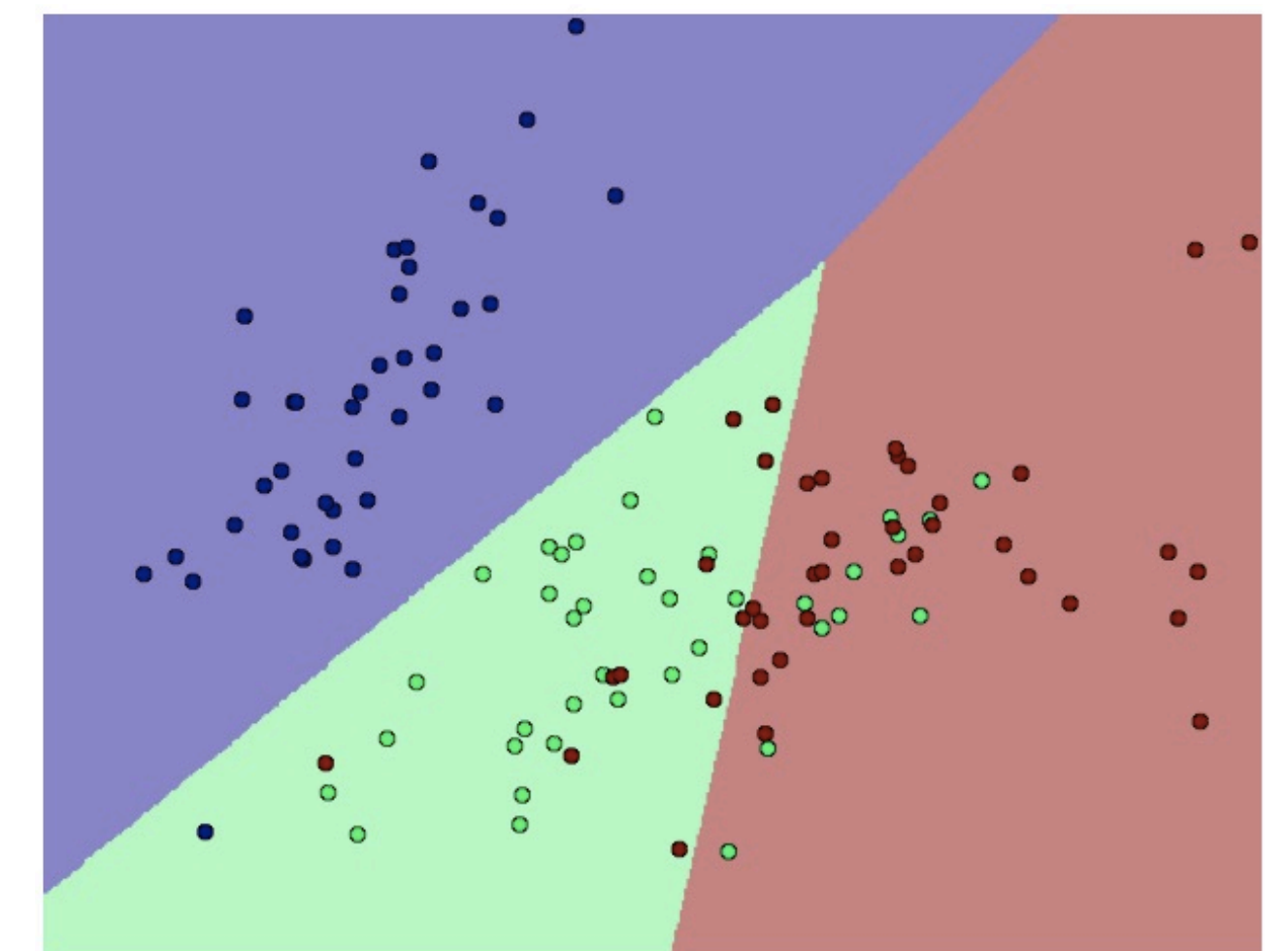
Logistic regression

Multi-class classifiers

VC dimension

Multi-class linear models

- How to predict **multiple classes**?
- Idea: have a linear response per class $r_c = \theta_c^\top x$
 - Choose class with **largest response**: $f_\theta(x) = \arg \max_c \theta_c^\top x$
- **Linear boundary** between classes c_1, c_2 :
 - $\theta_{c_1}^\top x \geq \theta_{c_2}^\top x \iff (\theta_{c_1} - \theta_{c_2})^\top x \geq 0$



Multi-class linear models

- More generally: **add features** — can even **depend on y** !

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \arg \max_y \theta^{\top} \Phi(x, y)$$

- Example: $y = \pm 1$

- $\Phi(x, y) = xy$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies f_{\theta}(x) &= \arg \max_y y \theta^{\top} x = \begin{cases} +1 & +\theta^{\top} x > -\theta^{\top} x \\ -1 & +\theta^{\top} x < -\theta^{\top} x \end{cases} \\ &= \text{sign}(\theta^{\top} x) \longleftarrow \text{perceptron!} \end{aligned}$$

Multi-class linear models

- More generally: **add features** — can even **depend on y** !

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \arg \max_y \theta^{\top} \Phi(x, y)$$

- Example: $y \in \{1, 2, \dots, C\}$

- $\Phi(x, y) = [0 \ 0 \ \dots \ x \ \dots \ 0] = \text{one-hot}(y) \otimes x$

- $\theta = [\theta_1 \ \dots \ \theta_C]$

$$\implies f_{\theta}(x) = \arg \max_c \theta_c^{\top} x \longleftarrow \text{largest linear response}$$

Multi-class perceptron algorithm

- While **not done**:
 - For each data point $(x, y) \in \mathcal{D}$:
 - **Predict**: $\hat{y} = \arg \max_c \theta_c^\top x$
 - **Increase** response for true class: $\theta_y \leftarrow \theta_y + \alpha x$
 - **Decrease** response for predicted class: $\theta_{\hat{y}} \leftarrow \theta_{\hat{y}} - \alpha x$
- More generally:
 - **Predict**: $\hat{y} = \arg \max_y \theta^\top \Phi(x, y)$
 - **Update**: $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha(\Phi(x, y) - \Phi(x, \hat{y}))$

Multilogit Regression

- Define multi-class probabilities: $p_{\theta}(y | x) = \frac{\exp(\theta_y^T x)}{\sum_c \exp(\theta_c^T x)} = \text{soft max}_c \theta_c^T x \Big|_y$

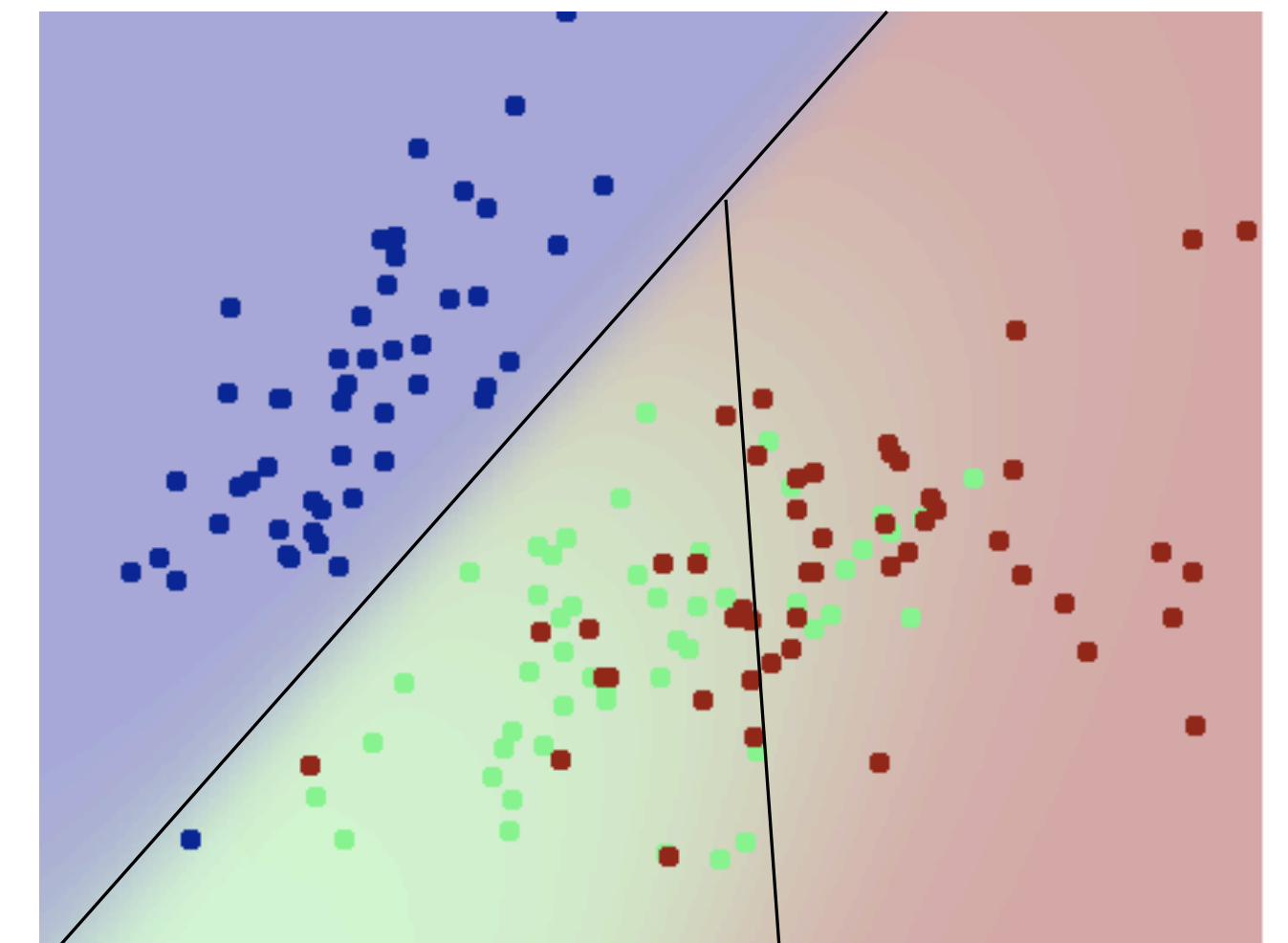
For binary y :

- ▶
$$p_{\theta}(y = 1 | x) = \frac{\exp(\theta_1^T x)}{\exp(\theta_1^T x) + \exp(\theta_2^T x)}$$
$$= \frac{1}{1 + \exp((\theta_2 - \theta_1)^T x)} = \sigma((\theta_1 - \theta_2)^T x)$$

Logistic Regression with $\theta = \theta_1 - \theta_2$

- Benefits:

- ▶ Probabilistic predictions: knows its confidence
- ▶ Linear decision boundary: $\arg \max_y \exp(\theta_y^T x) = \arg \max_y \theta_y^T x$
- ▶ NLL is convex



Multilogit Regression: gradient

- **NLL loss:** $\mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) = -\log p_\theta(y | x) = -\theta_y^\top x + \log \sum_c \exp(\theta_c^\top x)$

- **Gradient:**

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla_{\theta_c} \mathcal{L}_\theta(x, y) &= \delta(y = c)x - \frac{\nabla_{\theta_c} \sum_{c'} \exp(\theta_{c'}^\top x)}{\sum_{c'} \exp(\theta_{c'}^\top x)} \\ &= \left(\delta(y = c) - \frac{\exp(\theta_c^\top x)}{\sum_{c'} \exp(\theta_{c'}^\top x)} \right) x \\ &= (\delta(y = c) - p_\theta(c | x))x \end{aligned}$$

make true class more likely 

make all other classes less likely 

- **Compare** to multi-class perceptron: $(\delta(y = c) - \delta(\hat{y} = c))x$

Today's lecture

Learning perceptrons

Logistic regression

Multi-class classifiers

VC dimension

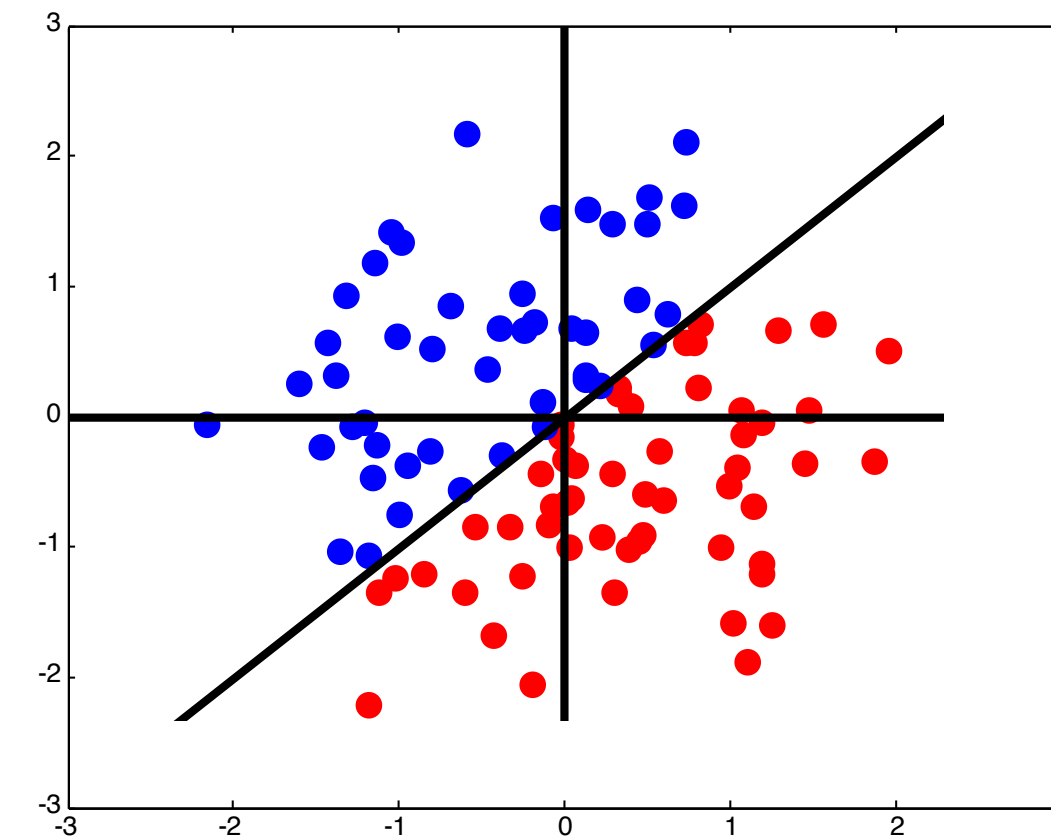
Complexity measures

- What are we looking for in a measure of **model class complexity**?
 - ▶ Tell us something about **generalization error** $\mathcal{L}_{\text{test}} - \mathcal{L}_{\text{training}}$
 - ▶ Tell us how it depends on **amount of data** m **also called: risk – empirical risk**
 - ▶ Be easy to find for a given model class — haha jk not gonna happen (more later)
- Ideally: a way to **select model** complexity (other than validation)
 - ▶ **Akaike Information Criterion (AIC)** — roughly: loss + #parameters
 - ▶ **Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC)** — roughly: loss + #parameters $\cdot \log m$
 - But what's the #parameters, effectively? Should $f_{\theta_1, \theta_2} = g_{\theta=h(\theta_1, \theta_2)}$ change the complexity?

Model expressiveness

- Model complexity also measures **expressiveness / representational power**
- Tradeoff:
 - More expressive \implies can reduce error, but may also overfit to training data
 - Less expressive \implies may not be able to represent true pattern / trend

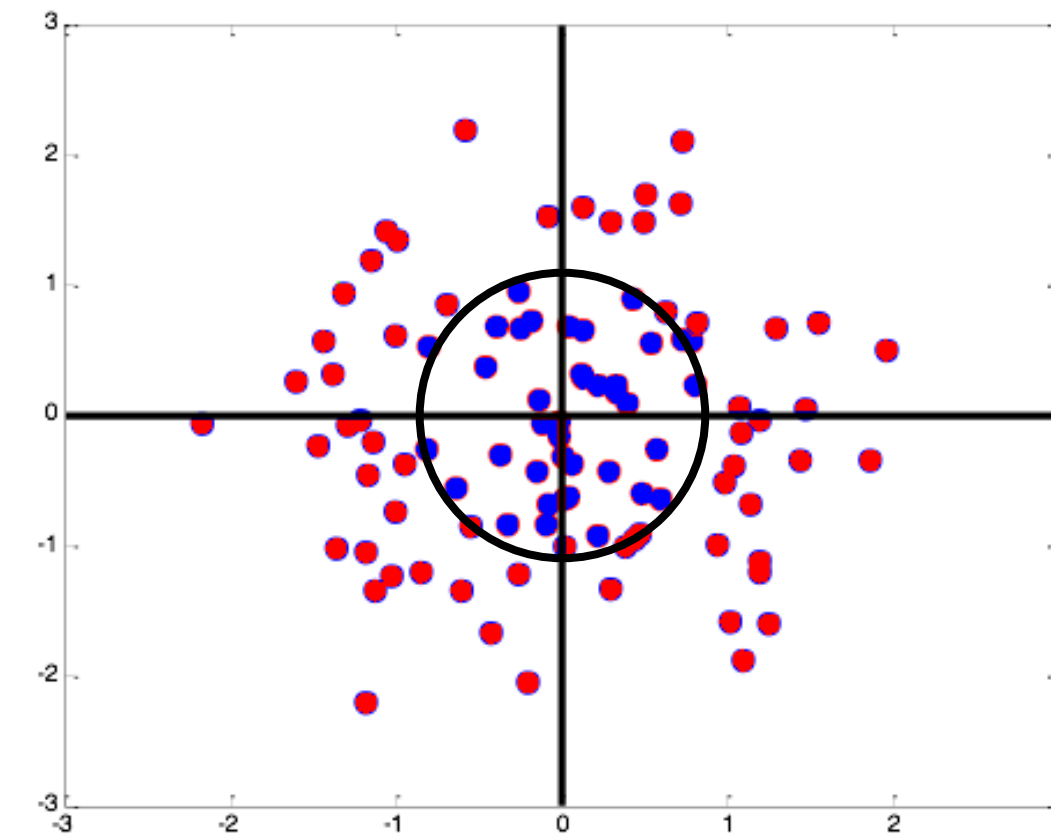
- Example: $\text{sign}(\theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2)$



Model expressiveness

- Model complexity also measures **expressiveness / representational power**
- Tradeoff:
 - More expressive \implies can reduce error, but may also overfit to training data
 - Less expressive \implies may not be able to represent true pattern / trend

- Example: $\text{sign}(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - \theta)$



Shattering

- **Separability / realizability**: there's a model that classifies all points correctly
- **Shattering**: the points are separable regardless of their labels

▶ Our model class can shatter points $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(h)}$

if for any labeling $y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(h)}$

there exists a model that classifies all of them correctly

- The model class must have at least as many models as labelings C^h

Shattering

- **Separability / realizability**: there's a model that classifies all points correctly

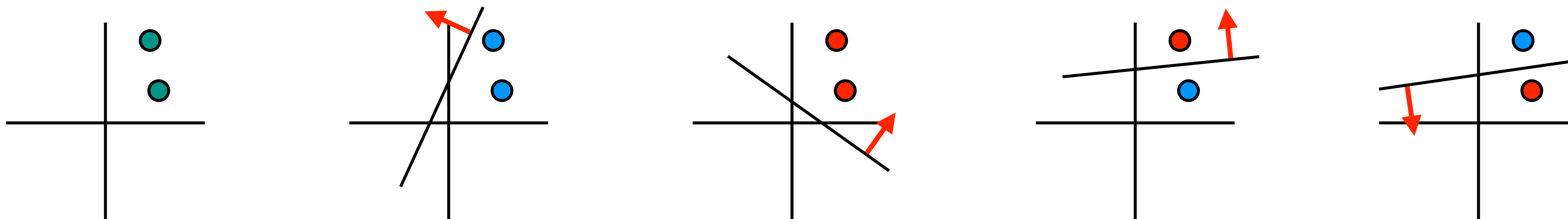
- **Shattering**: the points are separable regardless of their labels

- ▶ Our model class can shatter points $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(h)}$

if for any labeling $y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(h)}$

there exists a model that classifies all of them correctly

- Example: can $f_{\theta}(x) = \text{sign}(\theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2)$ shatter these points?



Shattering

- **Separability / realizability**: there's a model that classifies all points correctly

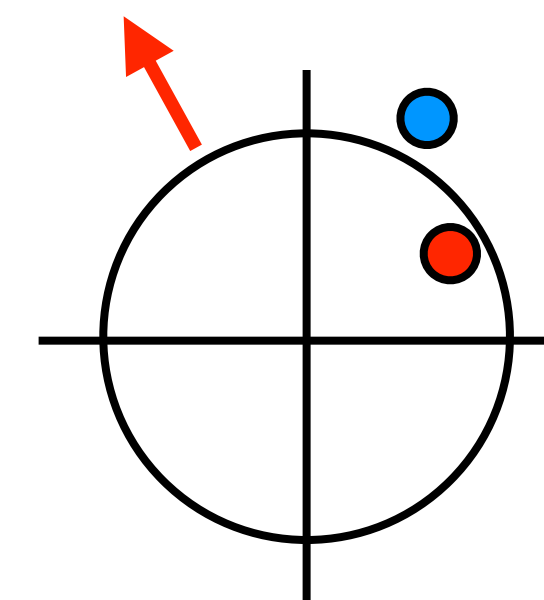
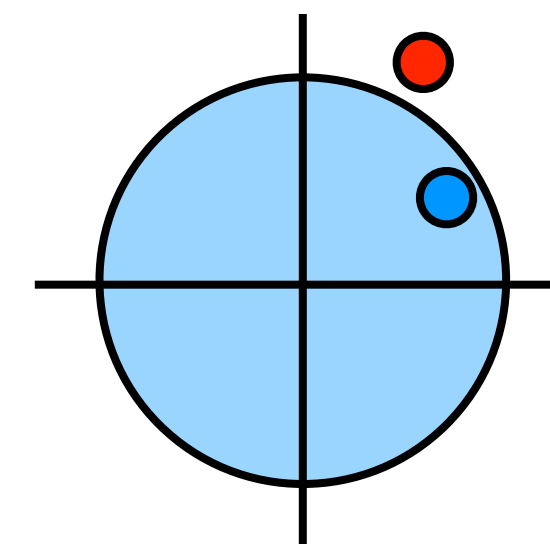
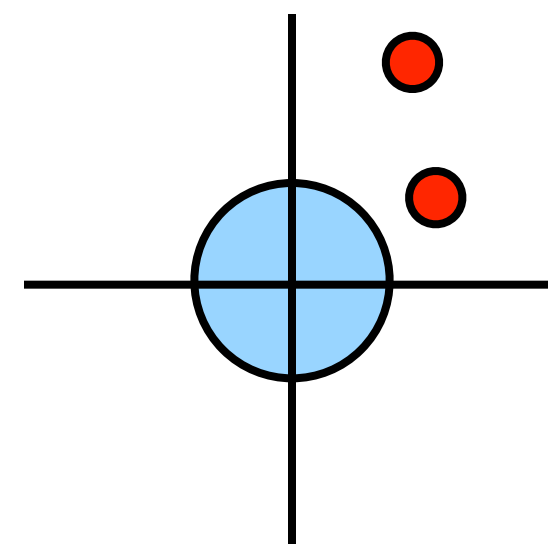
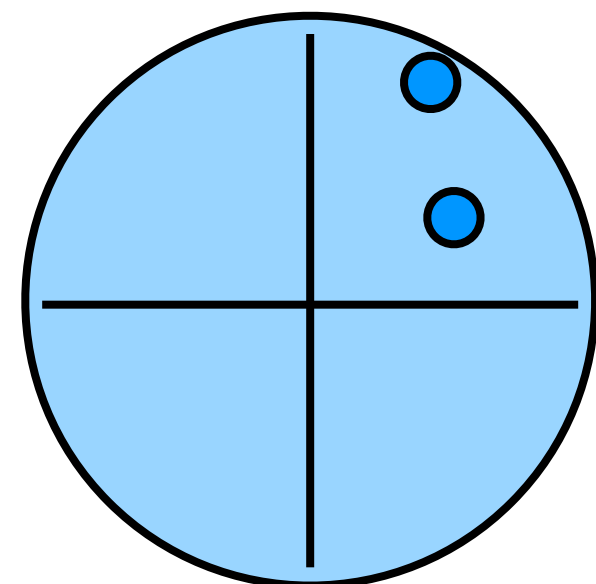
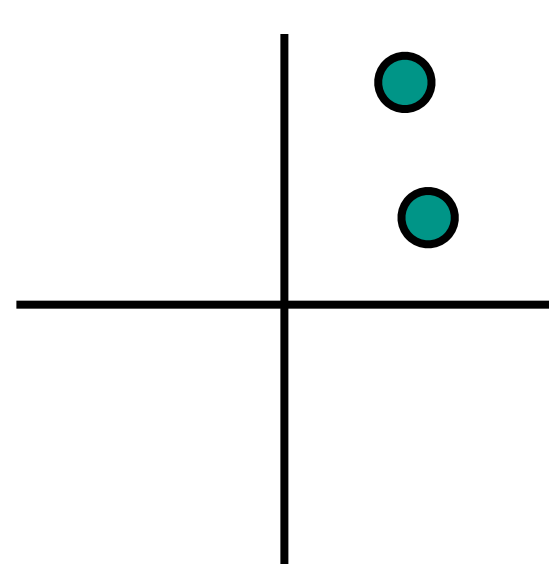
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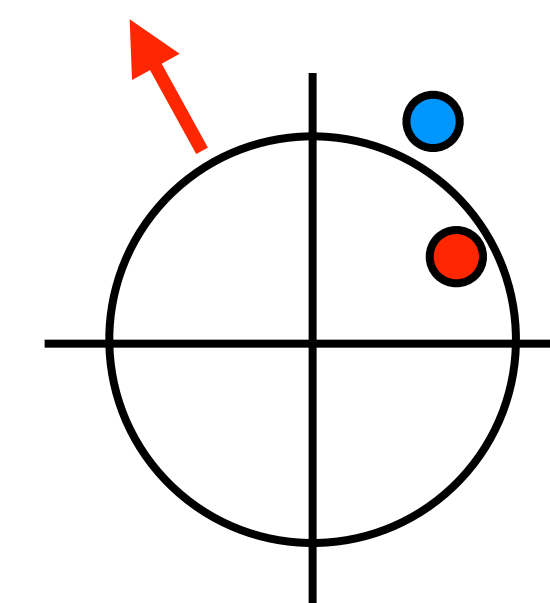
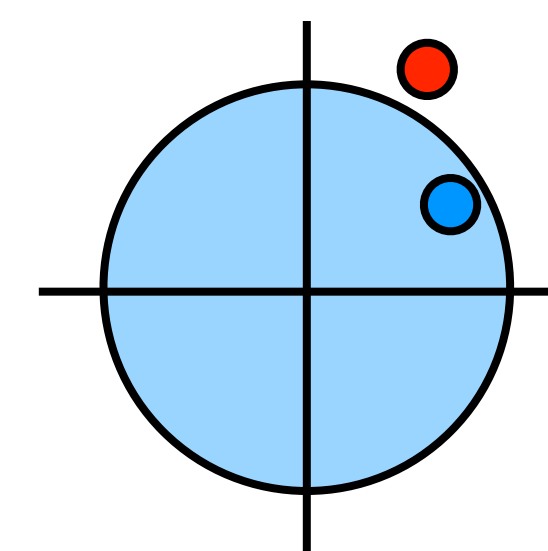
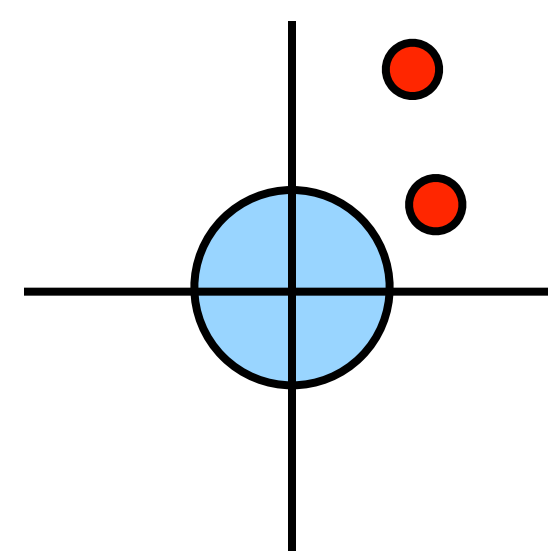
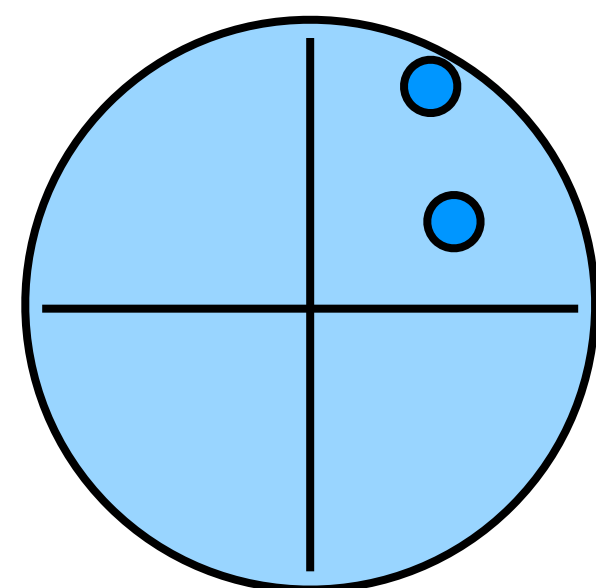
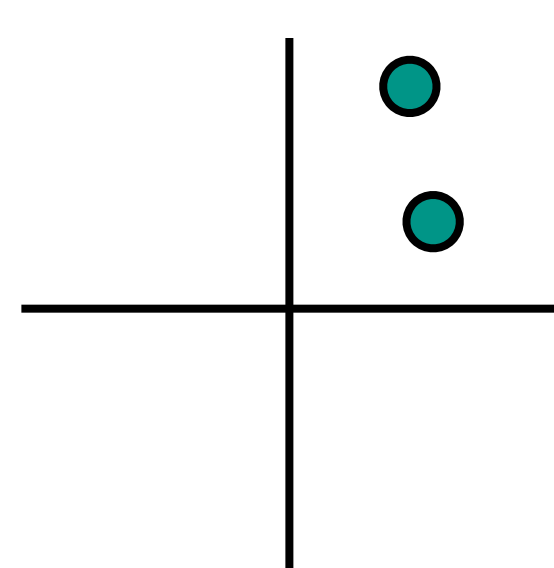


Vapnik–Chervonenkis (VC) dimension

- **VC dimension**: maximum number H of points that can be shattered by a class
- A game:
 - ▶ Fix a model class $f_\theta : x \rightarrow y \quad \theta \in \Theta$
 - ▶ **Player 1**: choose h points $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(h)}$
 - ▶ **Player 2**: choose labels $y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(h)}$
 - ▶ **Player 1**: choose model θ
 - ▶ Are **all** $y^{(j)} = f_\theta(x^{(j)})$? \implies Player 1 wins $\exists x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(h)} : \forall y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(h)} : \exists \theta : \forall j : y^{(j)} = f_\theta(x^{(j)})$
- $h \leq H \implies$ Player 1 can win, otherwise cannot win

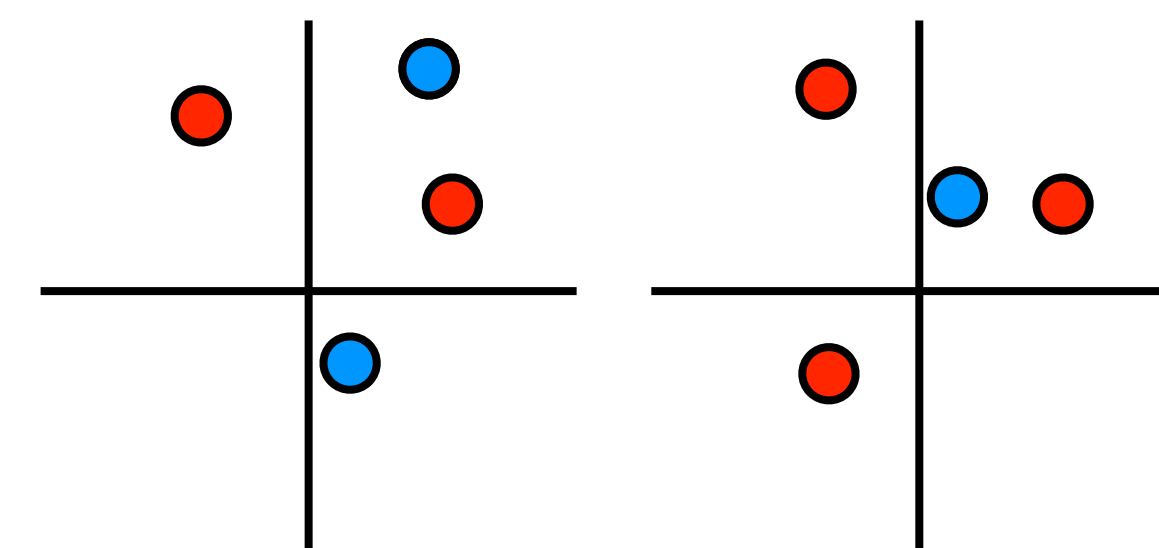
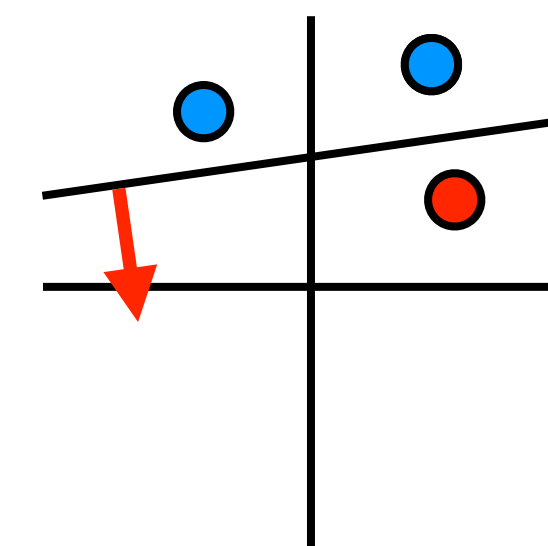
VC dimension: example (1)

- **VC dimension**: maximum number H of points that can be shattered by a class
- To find H , think like the winning player: 1 for $h \leq H$, 2 for $h > H$
- Example: $f_\theta(x) = \text{sign}(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - \theta)$
 - We can place **one point** and "shatter" it
 - We can prevent shattering any two points: make the distant one blue
 - $H = 1$



VC dimension: example (2)

- Example: $f_{\theta}(x) = \text{sign}(\theta_0 + \theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2)$
 - ▶ We can place **3 points** and shatter them
 - ▶ We can prevent shattering any **4 points**:
 - If they form a convex shape, alternate labels
 - Otherwise, label differently the point in the triangle
 - ▶ $H = 3$
- Linear classifiers (perceptrons) of d features have VC-dim $d + 1$
 - ▶ But VC-dim is generally not #parameters



VC Generalization bound

- VC-dim of a model class can be used to bound generalization loss:

- ▶ With probability at least $1 - \eta$, we will get a "good" dataset, for which

- $\underbrace{\text{test loss} - \text{training loss}}_{\text{generalization loss}} \leq \sqrt{\frac{H \log(2m/H) + H - \log(\eta/4)}{m}}$

- We need larger training size m :

- ▶ The **better generalization** we need

- ▶ The **more complex** (higher VC-dim) our model class

- ▶ The **more likely** we want to get a good training sample

Model selection with VC-dim

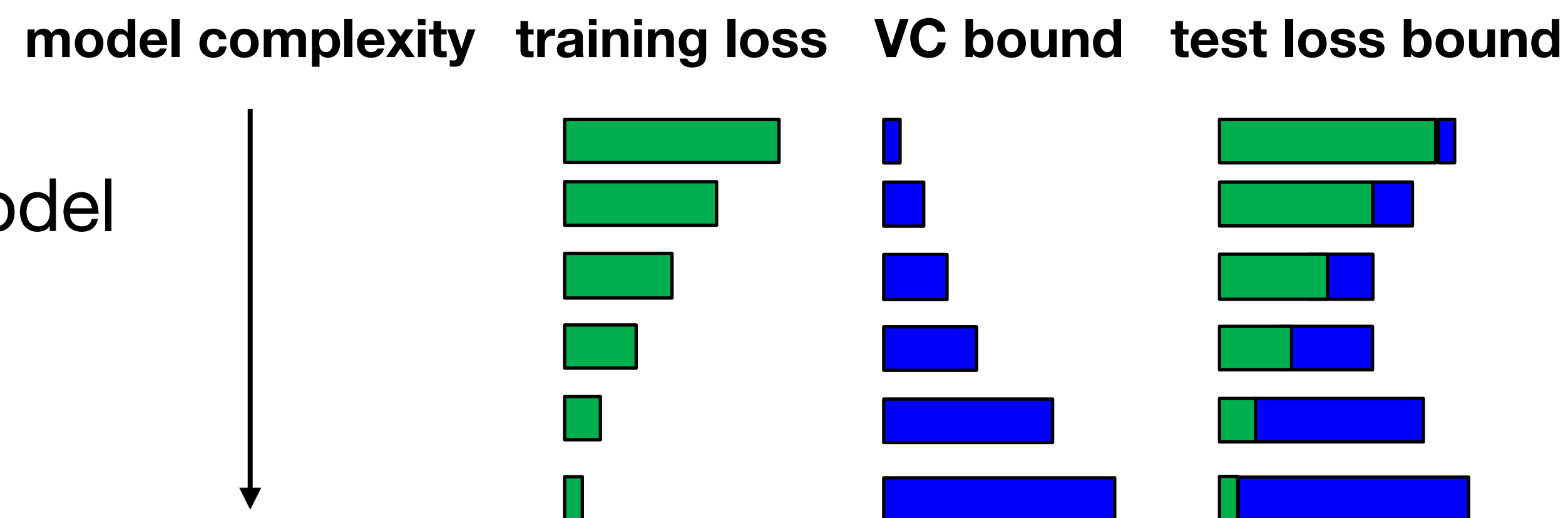
- Using validation / cross-validation:

- ▶ Estimate loss on held out set
- ▶ Use validation loss to select model



- Using VC dimension:

- ▶ Use generalization bound to select model
- ▶ Structural Risk Minimization (SRM)
- ▶ Bound not tight, must too conservative



Logistics

assignments

- Assignment 3 due next Tuesday, Oct 26

midterm

- Midterm exam on Nov 4, 11am–12:20 in **SH 128**
- If you're eligible to be remote — let us know by Oct 28
- If you're eligible for more time — let us know by Oct 28
- Review during lecture next Thursday