CSCE 970 Lecture 0: Administrivia

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January 14, 2003

Welcome to CSCE 970!

You should have the following handouts:

1. Syllabus
2. Copies of slides (also on web page)

Please check off or write your name on the roster (if you write your name, indicate if you plan to register for the course)

Also, don't forget Homework 0 (due January 21) on the web page

CSCE 970 Lecture 1: Introduction

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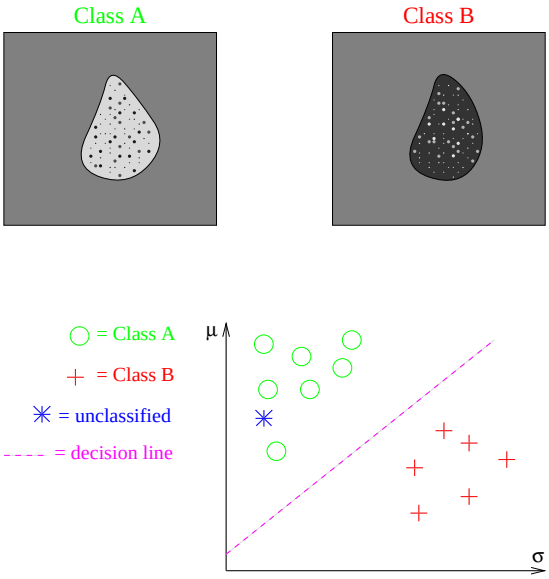
What is Pattern Recognition?

- Pattern reocognition: classify objects (instances, examples) into categories (classes, labels)
- Has deep roots in probability theory, statistics, machine learning, linear algebra, image processing, algorithms
- Applications: Machine vision, OCR, handwriting recognition, computer-aided diagnosis, speech recognition

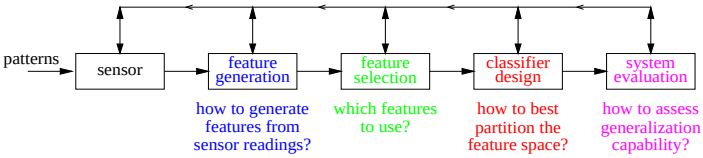
An Example



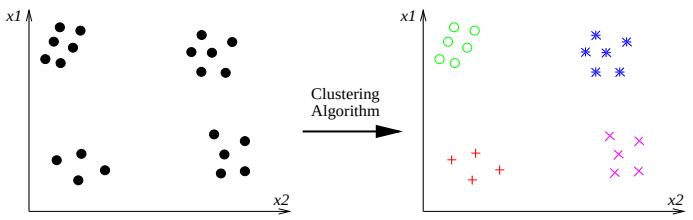
Features, Feat. Vectors, Classifiers

- $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, \ldots, x_\ell]^T$ is a feature vector of ℓ features
  - E.g. $\mathbf{x} = [\mu, \sigma]^T$ from prev. ex.
  - Will consider features to be random variables
  - Feature vectors also known as instances or examples
- A classifier separates the feature space into regions corresponding to two or more classes (also known as labels)
  - Use to classify new, unlabeled instances
  - E.g. decision line from prev. ex.
- Classifier built by training (learning) using a training set of labeled instances
- Can also use labeled instances as a testing set to evaluate the classifier

Solving a PR Problem



- Feat. Gen.: Want to reduce sensitivity to noise and reduce complexity but retain important info
  "Pack" sensor info into small number of features
- Feat. Sel.: Want to reduce complexity and reduce redundancy but retain important info
  Select small set of features that separates classes
- Classif. Des.: Want small generalization error and fast training and classification (i.e. low complexity)
- Sys. Eval.: Want to accurately estimate classifier's generalization error
- Some stages might be combined
- Feedback loops

Unsupervised PR

- What if labels unavailable?
- E.g. feat. vectors are measurements of electromag. energy reflected from remote parts of Earth, can't afford to visit each area to determine labels
- Clustering algorithms group similar feature vectors together based on a similarity measure
- If clustering is good, then can find label for one of each group & use it as label for entire group