Multivariate analysis

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Outline

Introduction

Typical problems in HEP

- Classification of objects
  - separate real and fake leptons/jets/etc.
- Signal enhancement relative to background
- Regression: best estimation of a parameter
  - lepton energy, $\not{E}_T$ value, invariant mass, etc.

Discrimination of signal from background in HEP

- Event level (Higgs searches, ...)
- Cone level (tau-vs-jet reconstruction, ...)
- Lifetime and flavour tagging (b-tagging,)
- Track level (particle identification, ...)
- Cell level (energy deposit from hard scatter/pileup/noise, ...)

Introduction

Input information from various sources

- Kinematic variables (masses, momenta, decay angles, ...)
- Event properties (jet multiplicity, sum of charges, brightness ...)
- Event shape (sphericity, aplanarity, ...)
- Detector response (silicon hits, dE/dx, Cherenkov angle, shower profiles, muon hits, ...)

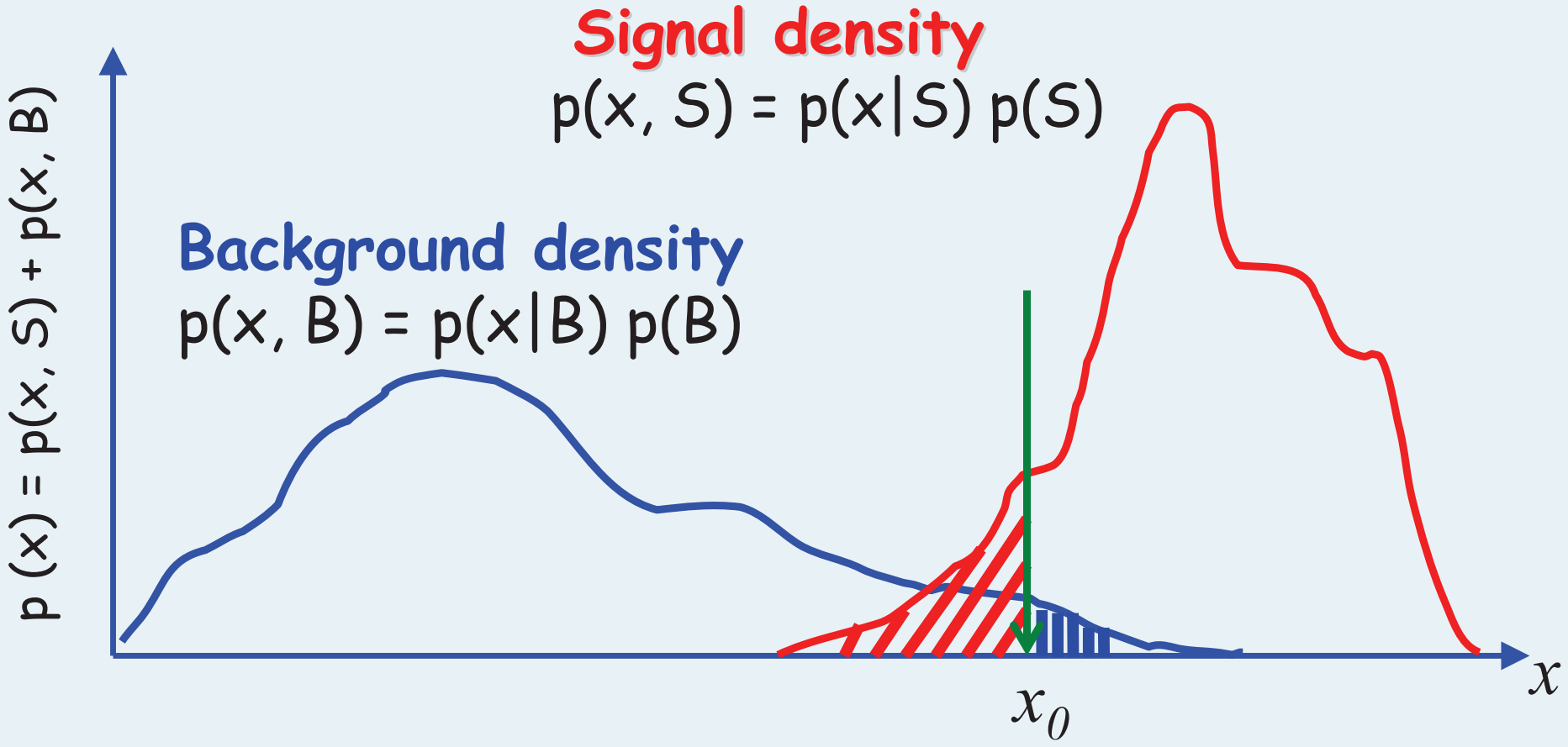
Most data are (highly) multidimensional

- Use dependencies between $x = \{x_1, \cdots, x_n\}$ discriminating variables
- Approximate this n-dimensional space with a function $f(x)$ capturing the essential features
- f is a multivariate discriminant
- For most of these lectures, use binary classification:
  - an object belongs to one class (e.g. signal) if $f(x) > q$, where q is some threshold,
  - and to another class (e.g. background) if $f(x) \leq q$

Optimal discrimination

For simplicity: 1-dimension case

- Where to place a cut x_0 on variable x?



- Optimal choice: minimum misclassification cost at decision boundary $x = x_0$

Optimal discrimination

Cost of misclassification

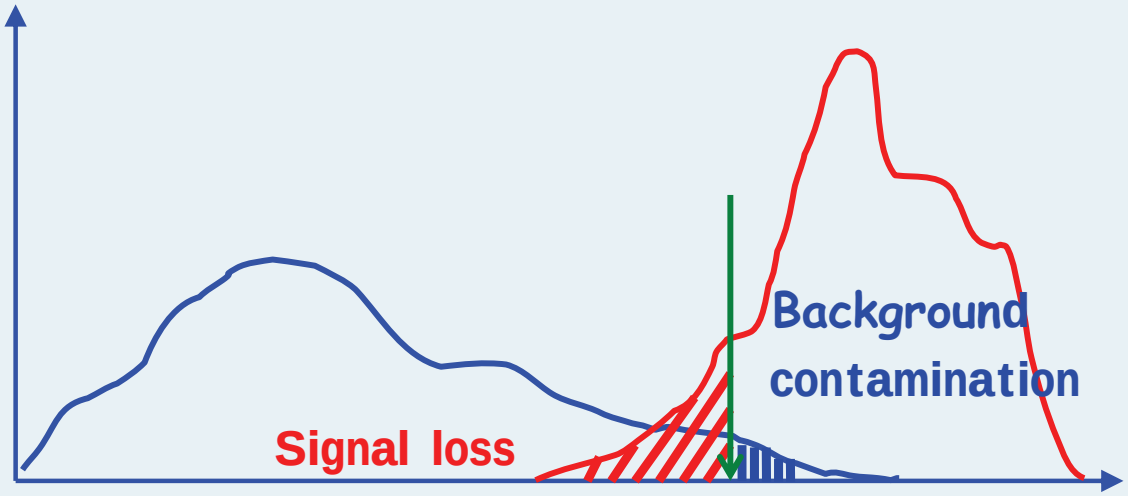
$$C(x_0) = C_S \int H(x_0 - x)p(x,S)dx + C_B \int H(x - x_0)p(x,B)dx$$

signal loss

background contamination

C_S = cost of misclassifying signal as background

C_B = cost of misclassifying background as signal



- $H(x)$: Heaviside step function
- $H(x) = 1$ if $x > 0$, 0 otherwise

- Optimal choice: when cost function C is minimum

Optimal discrimination: Bayes discriminant

Minimising the cost

- Minimise
  $C(x_0) = C_S \int H(x_0 - x)p(x, S)dx + C_B \int H(x - x_0)p(x, B)dx$
  with respect to the boundary x_0:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= C_S \int \delta(x_0 - x)p(x, S)dx - C_B \int \delta(x - x_0)p(x, B)dx \\ &= C_S p(x_0, S) - C_B p(x_0, B) \end{aligned}$$

- This gives the Bayes discriminant:

$$BD = \frac{C_B}{C_S} = \frac{p(x_0, S)}{p(x_0, B)} = \frac{p(x_0|S)p(S)}{p(x_0|B)p(B)}$$

Probability relationships

- $p(A, B) = p(A|B)p(B) = p(B|A)p(A)$
- Bayes theorem: $p(A|B)p(B) = p(B|A)p(A)$
- $p(S|x) + p(B|x) = 1$

Optimal discrimination: Bayes limit

Generalising to multidimensional problem

- The same holds when x is an n-dimensional variable:

$$BD = B\frac{p(S)}{p(B)} \quad \text{where} \quad B = \frac{p(x|S)}{p(x|B)}$$

- B is the Bayes factor, identical to the likelihood ratio when class densities $p(x|S)$ and $p(x|B)$ are independent of unknown parameters

Bayes limit

- $p(S|x) = BD/(1 + BD)$ is what should be achieved to minimise cost, achieving classification with the fewest mistakes
- Fixing relative cost of background contamination and signal loss $q = C_B/(C_S + C_B)$, $q = p(S|x)$ defines decision boundary:
  - signal-rich if $p(S|x) \geq q$
  - background-rich if $p(S|x) < q$
- Any function that approximates conditional class probability $p(S|x)$ with negligible error reaches the Bayes limit

Optimal discrimination: using a discriminant

How to construct p(S|x)?

- $k = p(S)/p(B)$ typically unknown
- Problem: $p(S|x)$ depends on k!
- Solution: it's not a problem...
- Define a multivariate discriminant:

$$D(x) = \frac{s(x)}{s(x) + b(x)} = \frac{p(x|S)}{p(x|S) + p(x|B)}$$

- Now:

$$p(S|x) = \frac{D(x)}{D(x) + \big(1 - D(x)\big)/k}$$

- Cutting on $D(x)$ is equivalent to cutting on $p(S|x)$, implying a corresponding (unknown) cut on $p(S|x)$

Machine learning: learning from examples

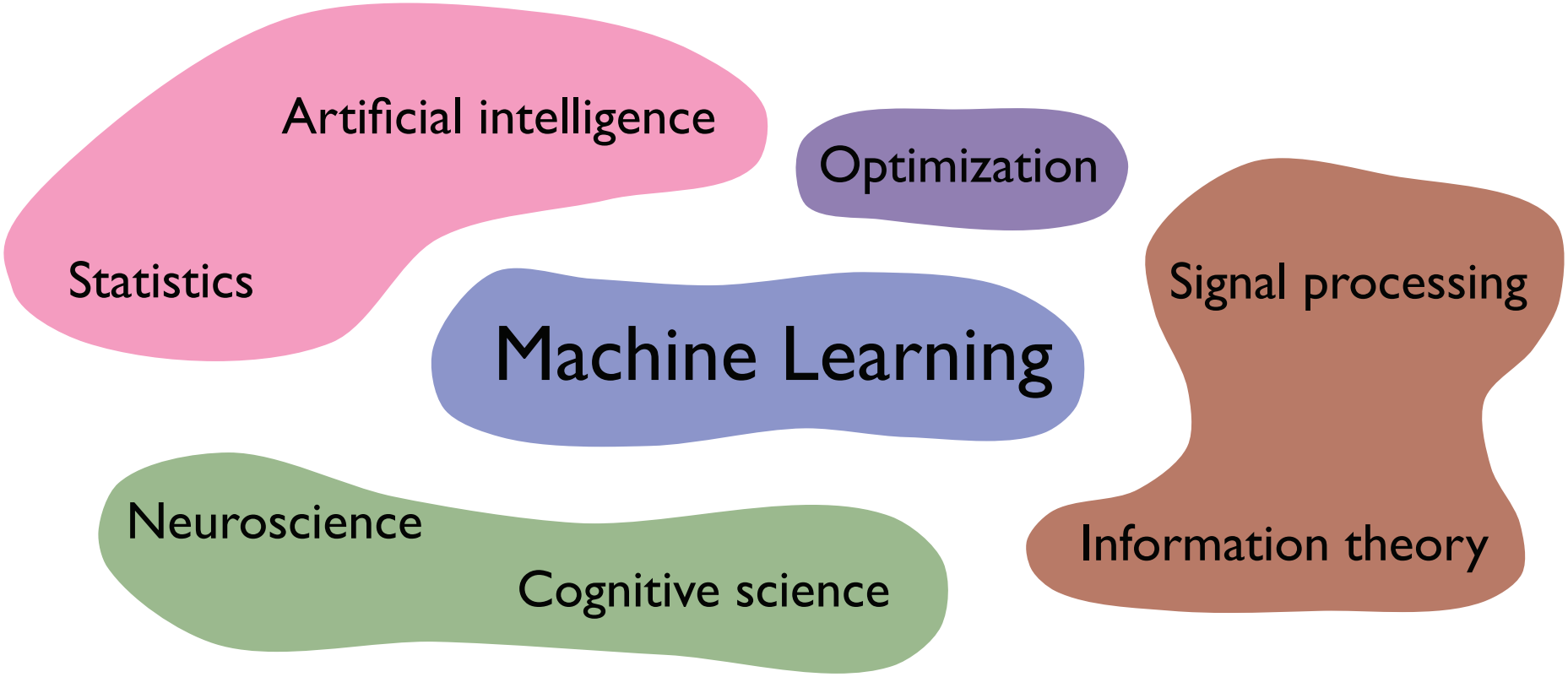
Several types of problems

- Classification/decision:
  - signal or background
  - type Ia supernova or not
  - will pay his/her credit back on time or not
- Regression (mostly ignored in these lectures)
- Clustering (cluster analysis):
  - in exploratory data mining, finding features

Our goal

- Teach a machine to learn the discriminant $f(x)$ using examples from a training dataset
- Be careful to not learn too much the properties of the training sample
  - no need to memorise the training sample
  - instead, interested in getting the right answer for new events
    $\Rightarrow$ generalisation ability

Machine learning and connected fields



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Machine learning: (un)supervised learning

Supervised learning

- Training events are labelled: N examples $(x, y)_1, (x, y)_2, \ldots, (x, y)_N$ of discriminating variables x (also called feature variables) and class labels y
- The learner uses example classes to know how good it is doing

Unsupervised learning

- Clustering: find similarities in training sample, without having predefined categories (how Amazon is recommending you books or DVDs...)
- Instead of categories, some sort of reward system. May not even "learn" anything from data, but remembers what triggers reward or punishment
- Not biased by pre-determined classes $\Rightarrow$ may discover unexpected features!

Google's research on building high-level features

A "giant" neural network

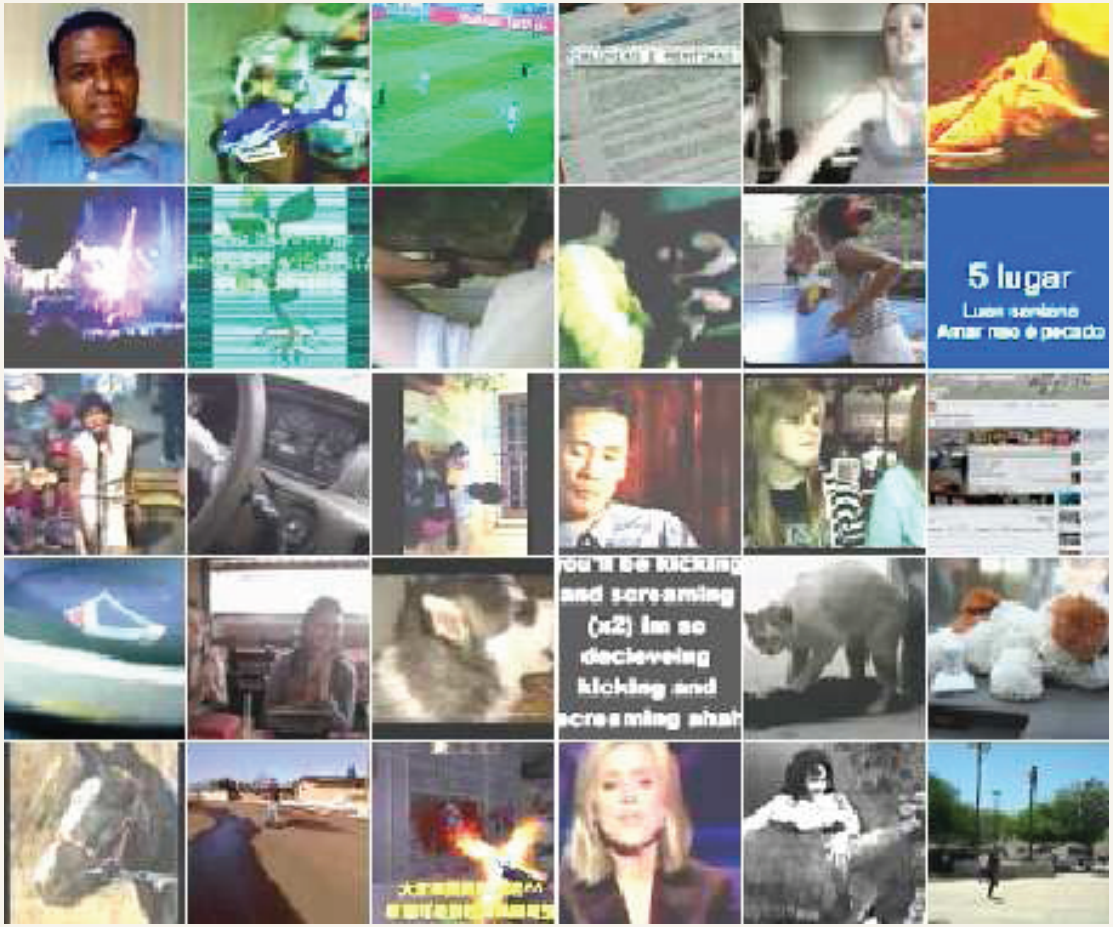
- At Google they trained a 9-layered NN with 1 billion connections
  - trained on 10 million 200×200 pixel images from YouTube videos
  - on 1000 machines (16000 cores) for 3 days, unsupervised learning
- Sounds big? The human brain has 100 billion (10^{11}) neurons and 100 trillion (10^{14}) connections...

What it did

- It learned to recognise faces, one of the original goals
- ...but also cat faces (among the most popular things in YouTube videos) and body shapes

Google's research on building high-level features

Features extracted from such images



- Results shown to be robust to
  - colour
  - translation
  - scaling
  - out-of-plane rotation

Finding the multivariate discriminant y = f(x)

- Given our N examples $(x, y)_1, \ldots, (x, y)_N$ we need
  - a function class $\mathbb{F} = \{f(x, w)\}$ (w: parameters to be found)
  - a constraint $Q(w)$ on $\mathbb{F}$
  - a loss or error function $L(y, f)$, encoding what is lost if f is poorly chosen in $\mathbb{F}$ (i.e., $f(x, w)$ far from the desired $y = f(x)$)
- Cannot minimise L directly (would depend on the dataset used), but rather its average over a training sample, the empirical risk:

$$R(w) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} L\big(y_i, f(x_i, w)\big)$$

subject to constraint $Q(w)$, so we minimise the cost function:

$$C(w) = R(w) + \lambda Q(w)$$

- At the minimum of $C(w)$ we select $f(x, w_*)$, our estimate of $y = f(x)$

Machine learning: choice of loss function

Loss function in regression

- Goal: set $f(x, w)$ as close as possible to y
- Therefore, loss increases with difference between $f(x, w)$ and y
- Most widely used loss function is quadratic loss:

$$L(y, f) = \big(f(x, w) - y\big)^2$$

Loss function in classification

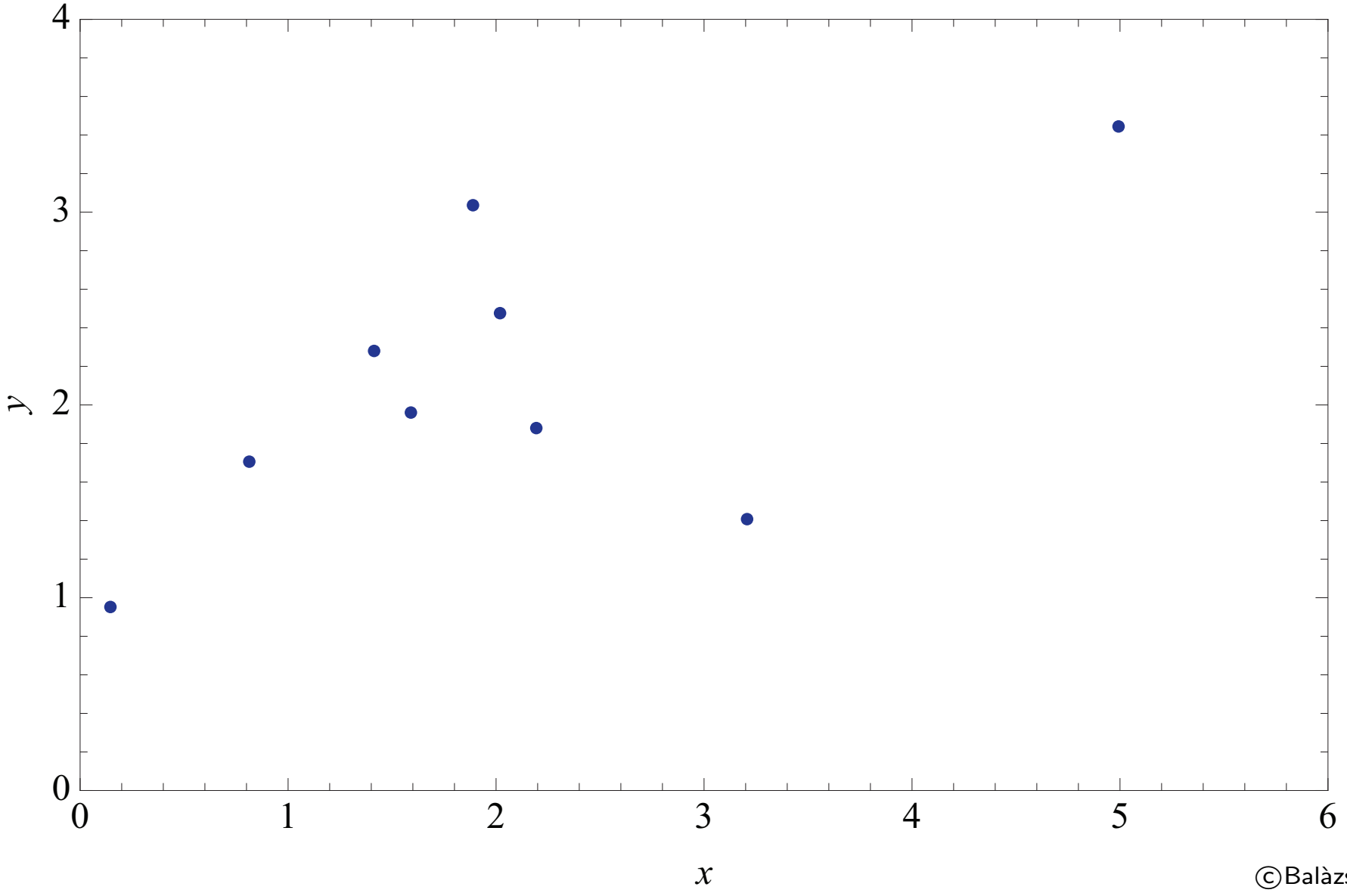
- There is no "distance" between classes
- Goal: $f(x, w)$ predicts properly class y
- Usual loss function is one-loss or zero-one loss:

$$L(y, f) = \mathbb{I}\big(f(x, w) \neq y\big)$$

where indicator function $\mathbb{I}(X) = 1$ if X is true, 0 otherwise

Choice of function class: training

Data generated from an unknown function with unknown noise



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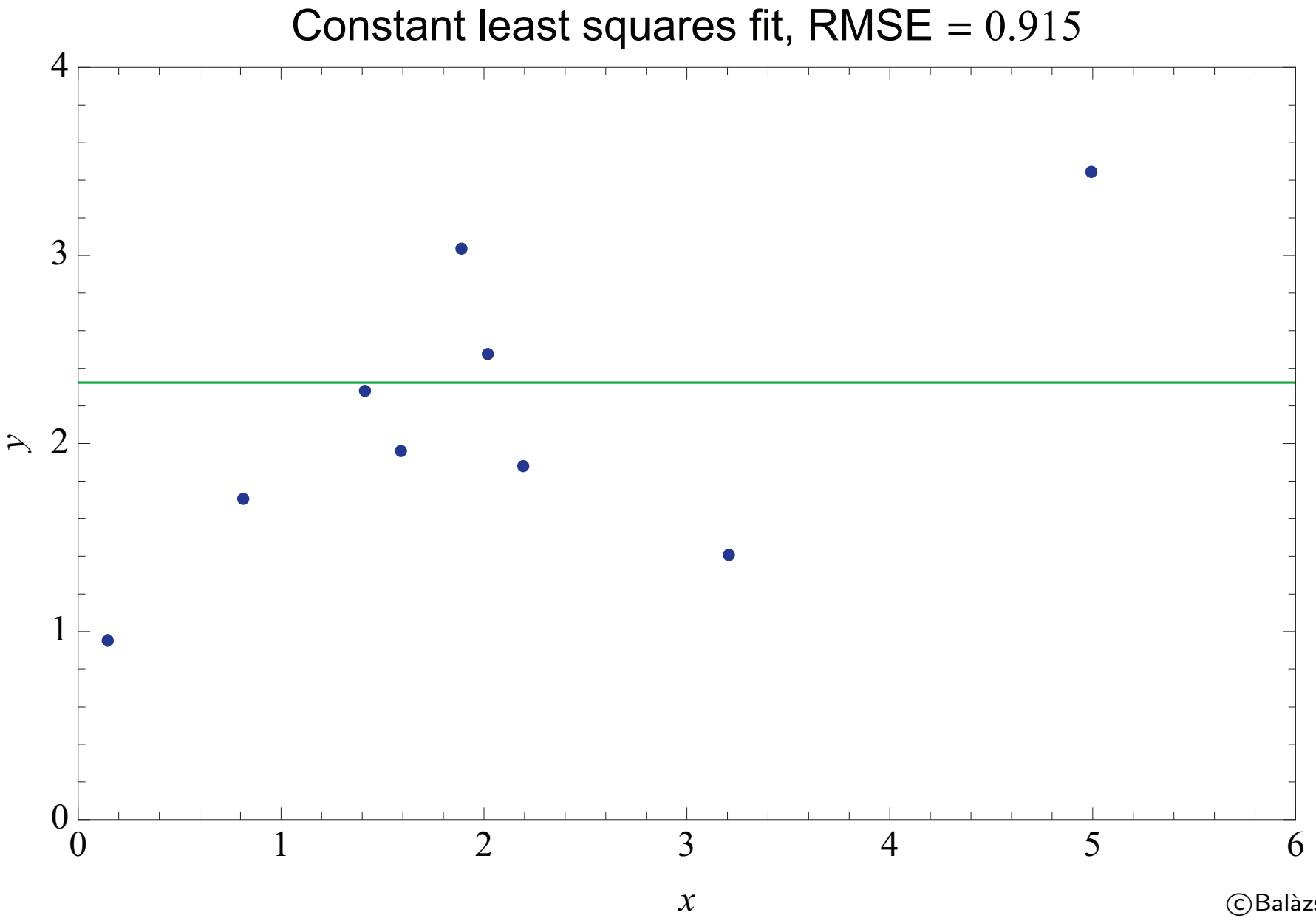

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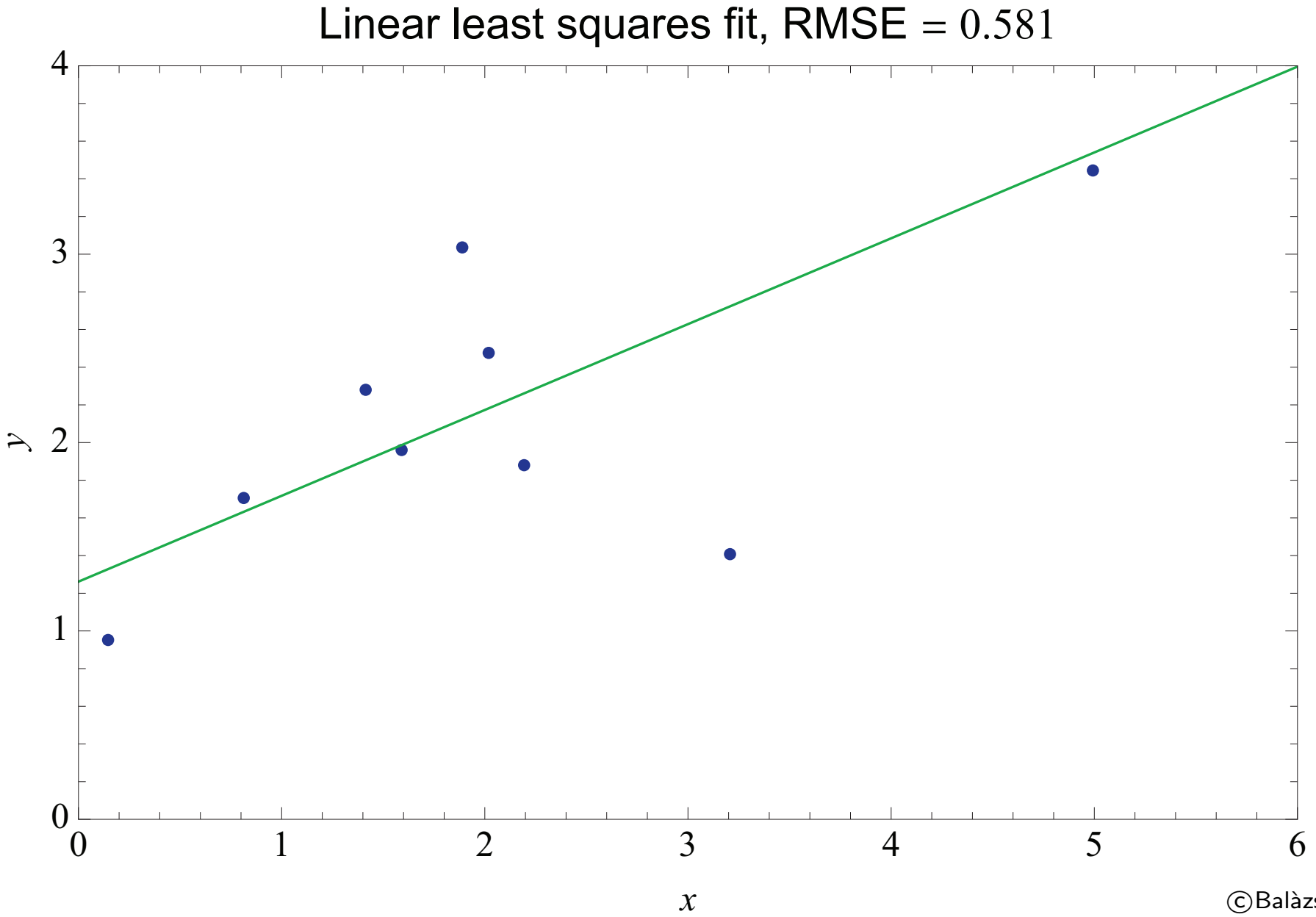

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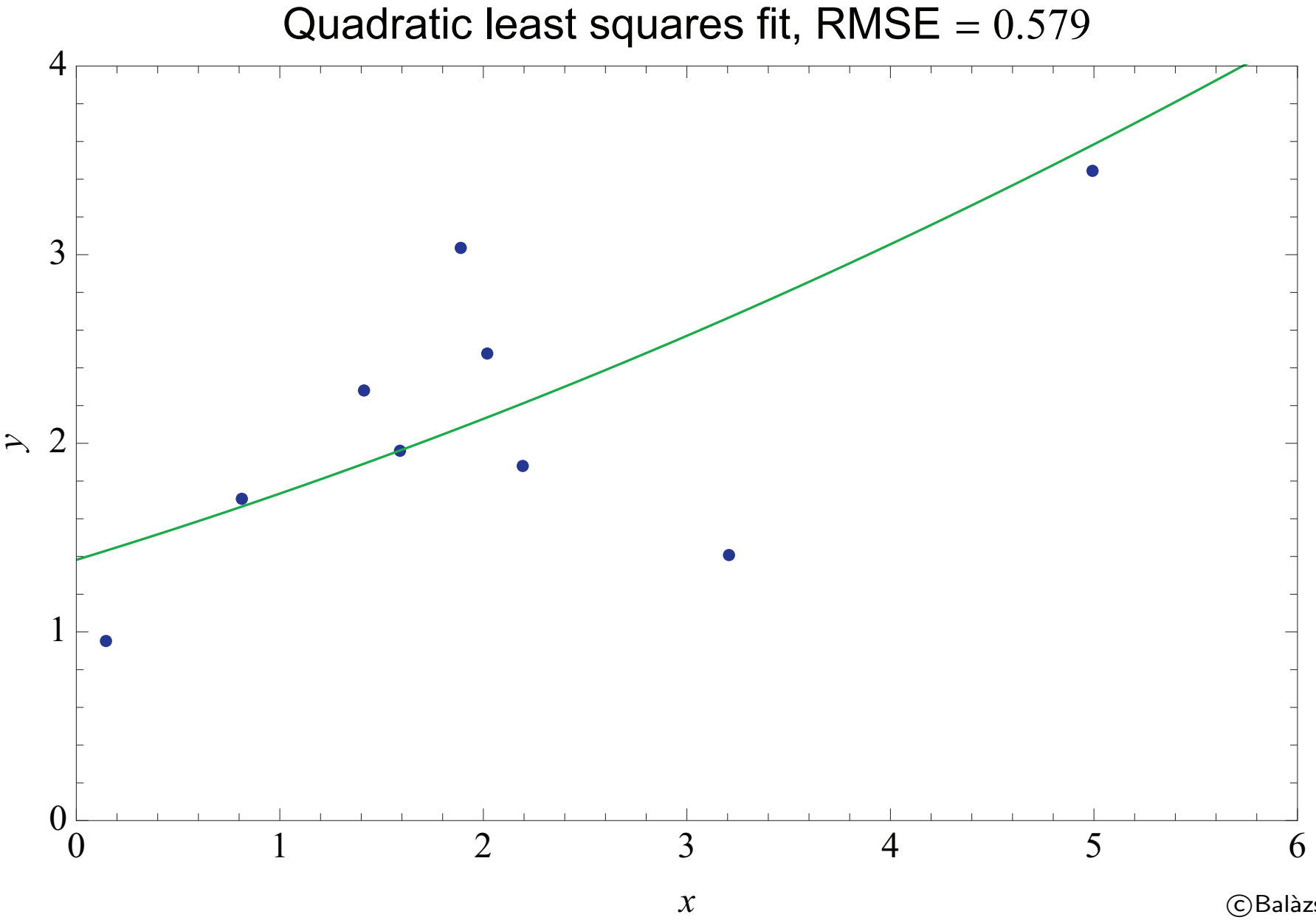

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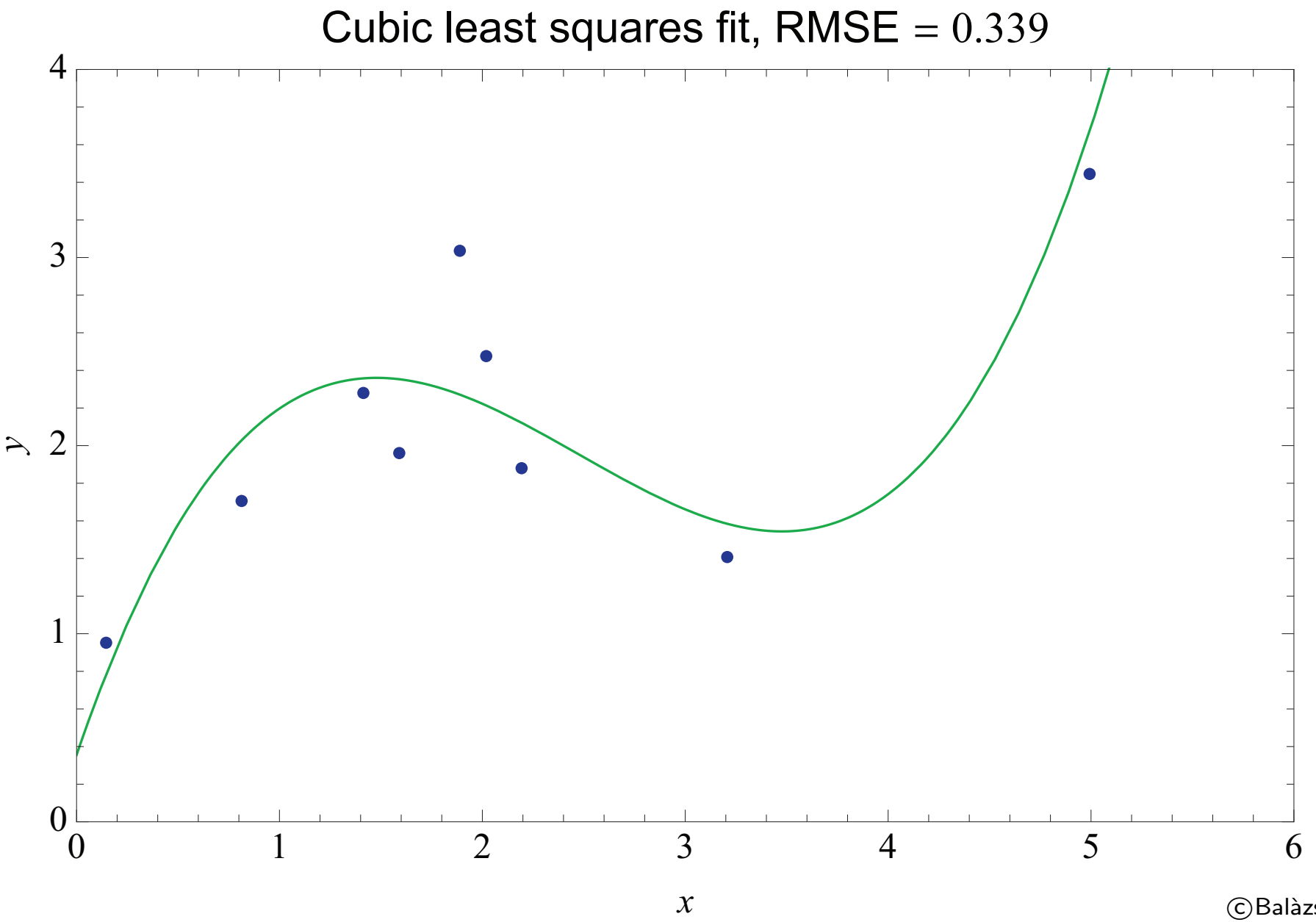

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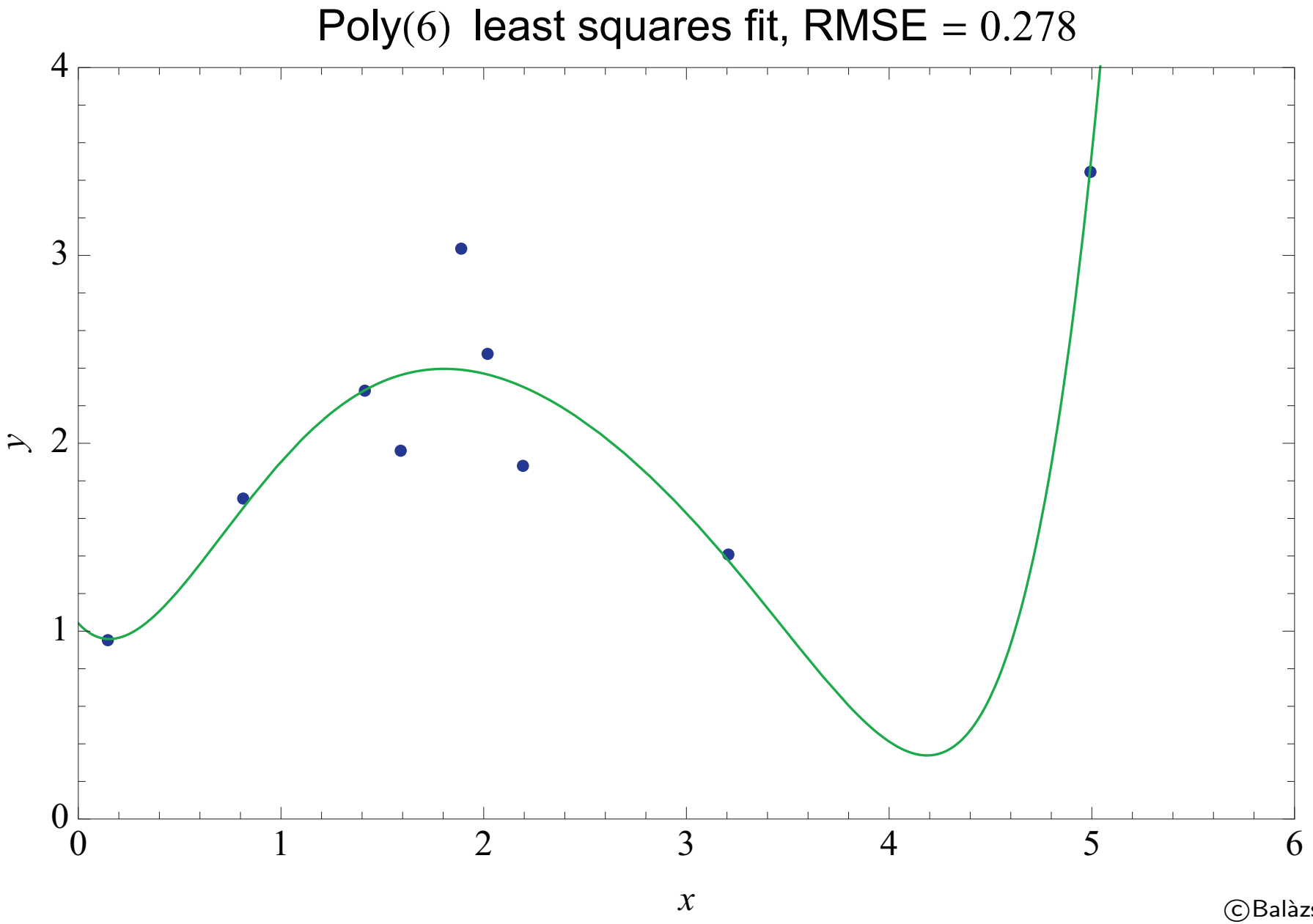

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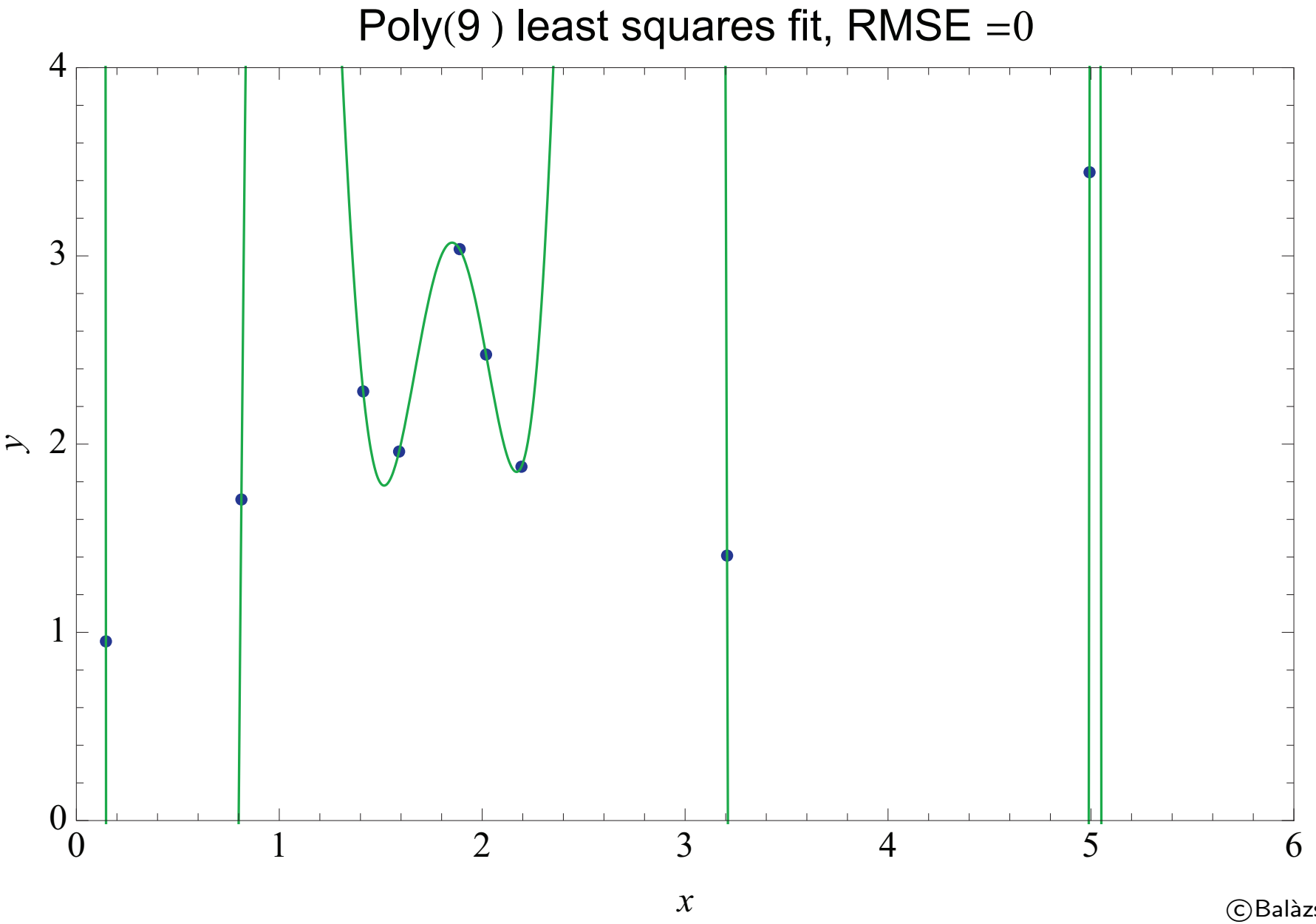

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Choice of function class

Quality of fit

- Increasing degree of polynomial increases flexibility of function
- Higher degree $\Rightarrow$ can match to more features
- If degree $=$ # points, polynomial passes through each point: perfect match!

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Is it meaningful?

- It could be:
  - if there is no noise or uncertainty in the measurement
  - if the true distribution is indeed perfectly described by such a polynomial
- ...not impossible, but not very common...

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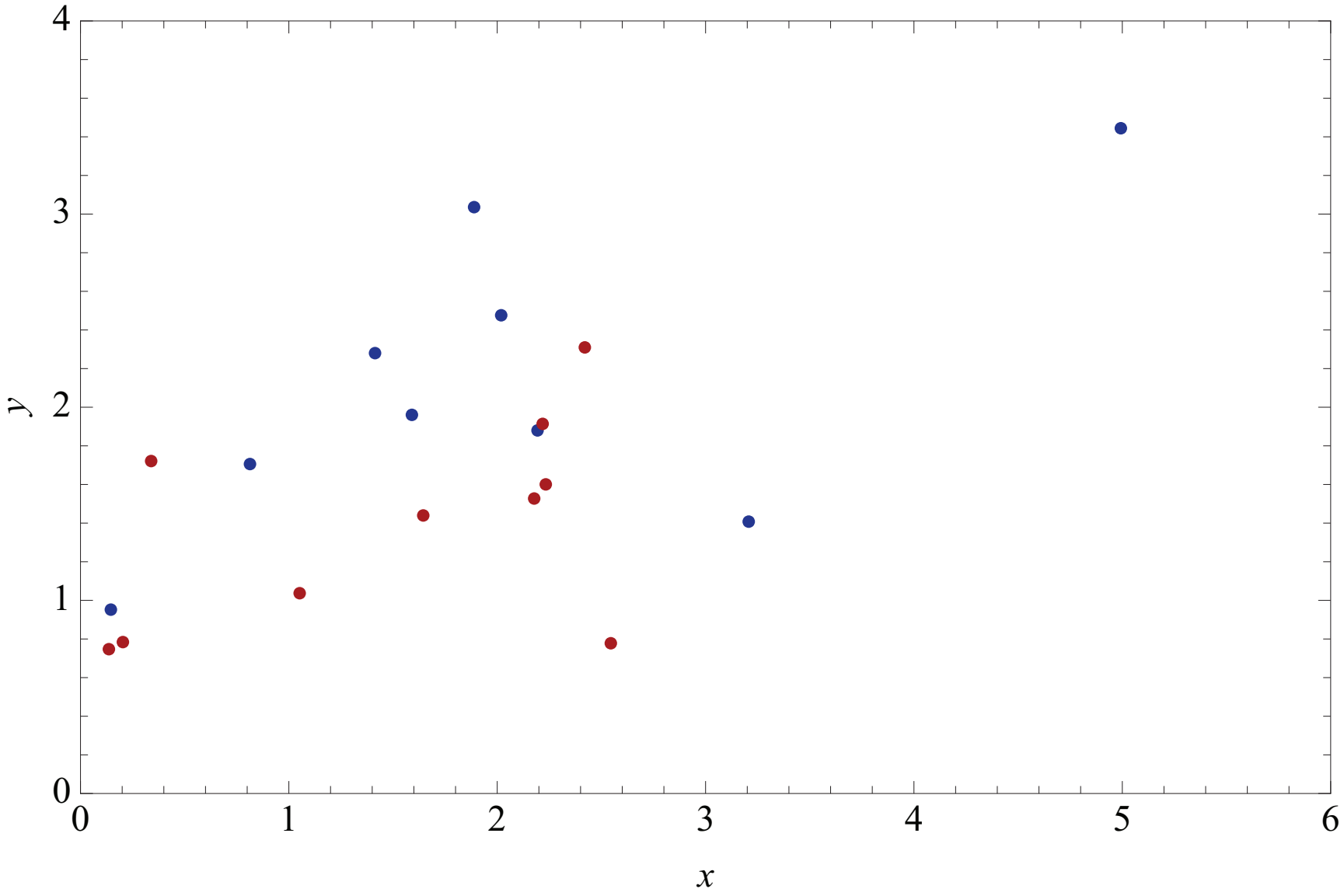
Solution: testing sample

- Use independent sample to validate the result
- Expected: performance will also increase, go through a maximum and decrease again, while it keeps increasing on the training sample

Choice of function class: testing

Data generated from an unknown function with unknown noise



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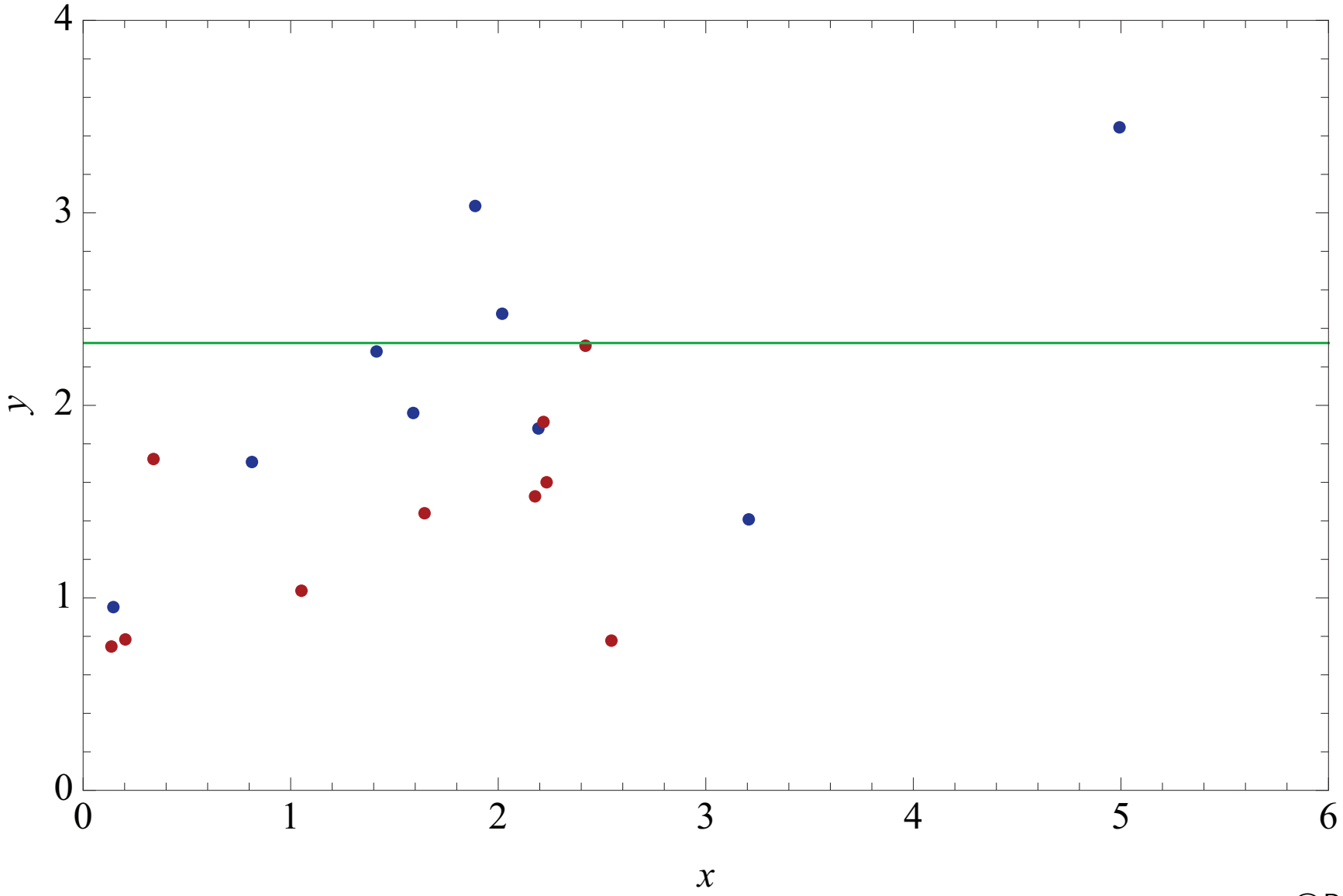
Choice of function class: testing

Const. least squares fit, training RMSE $= 0.915$, test RMSE $= 1.067$



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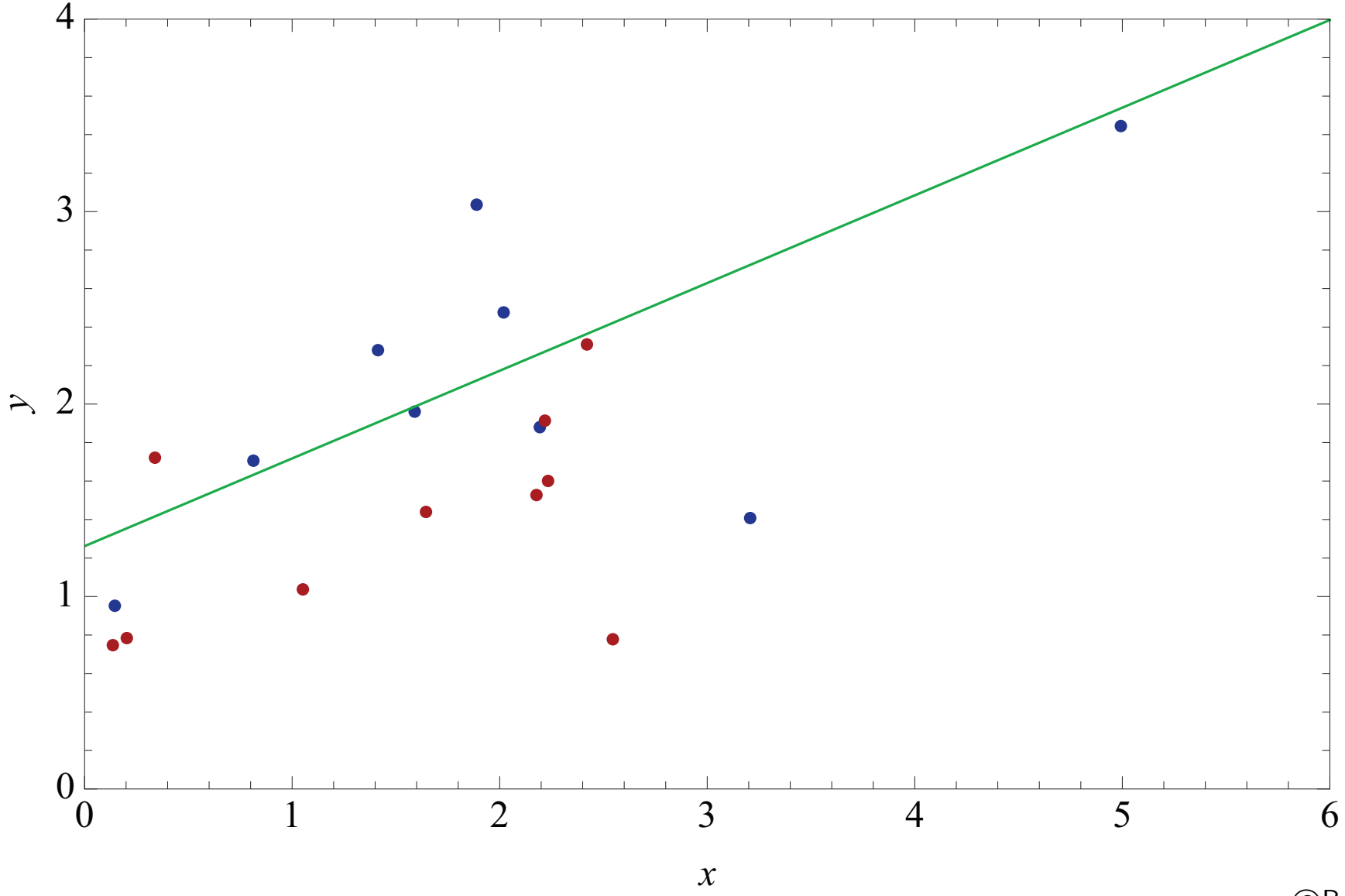
Choice of function class: testing

Linear least squares fit, training RMSE $= 0.581$, test RMSE $= 0.734$



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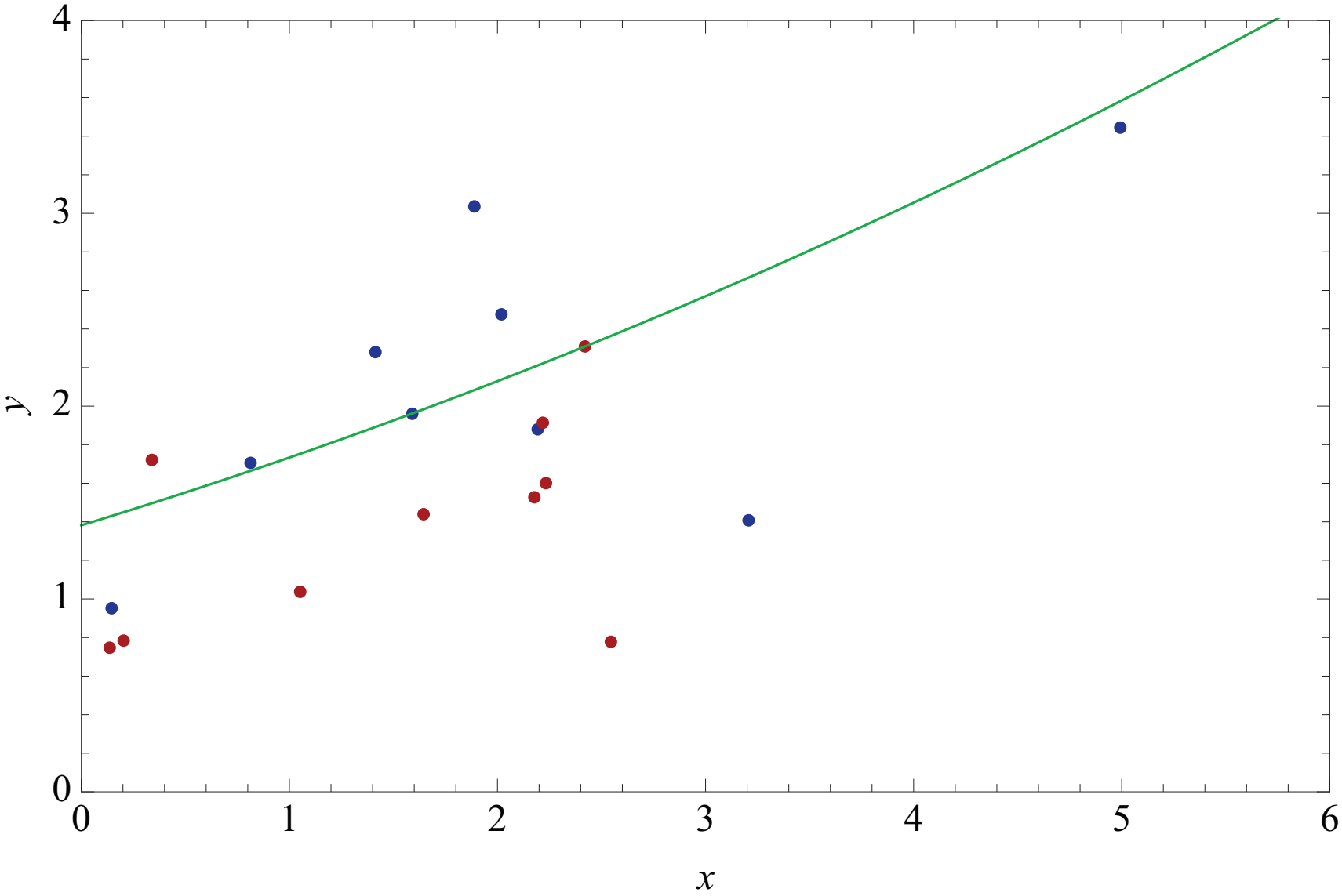
Choice of function class: testing

Quadr. least squares fit, training RMSE $= 0.579$, test RMSE $= 0.723$



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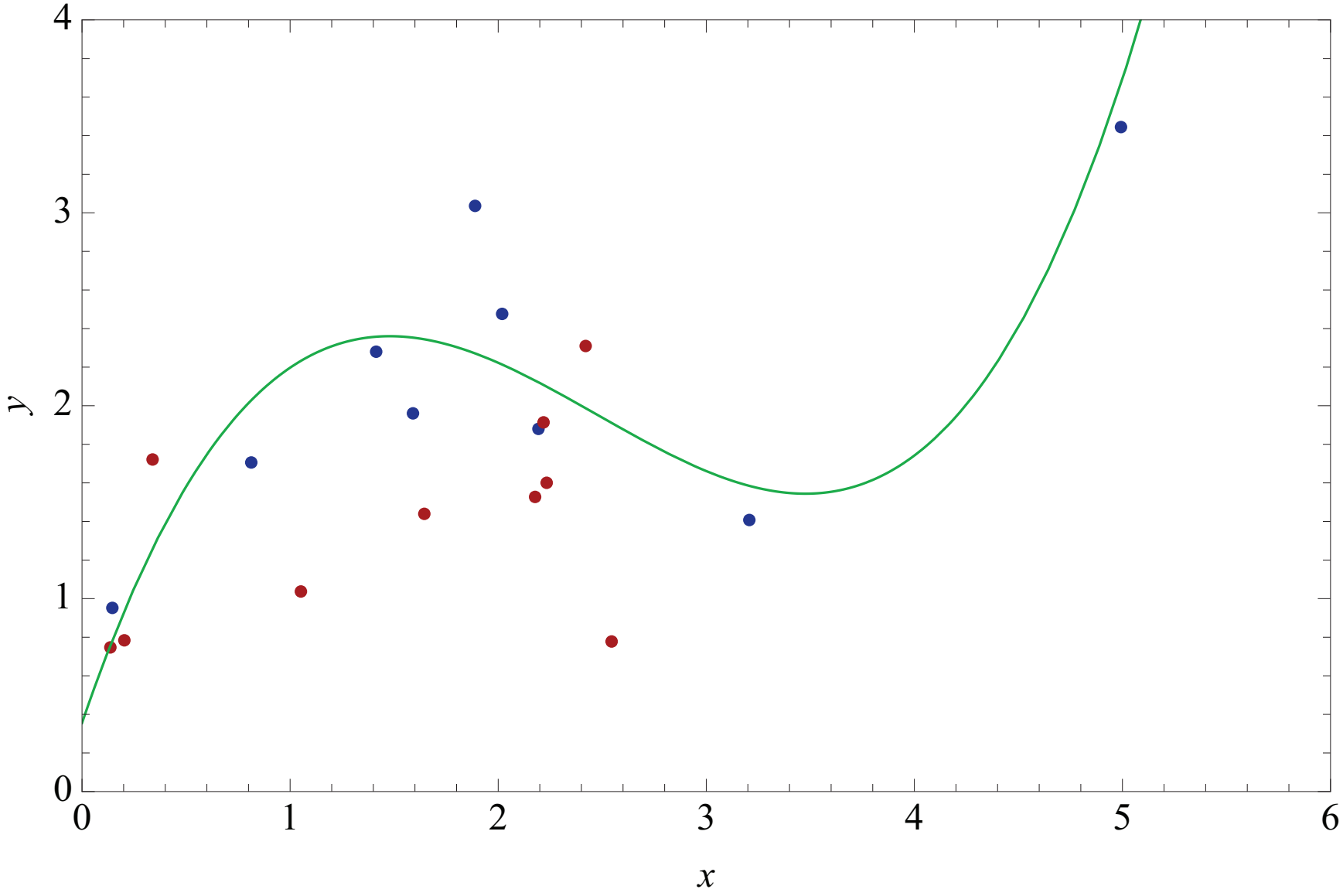
Choice of function class: testing

Cubic least squares fit, training RMSE $= 0.339$, test RMSE $= 0.672$



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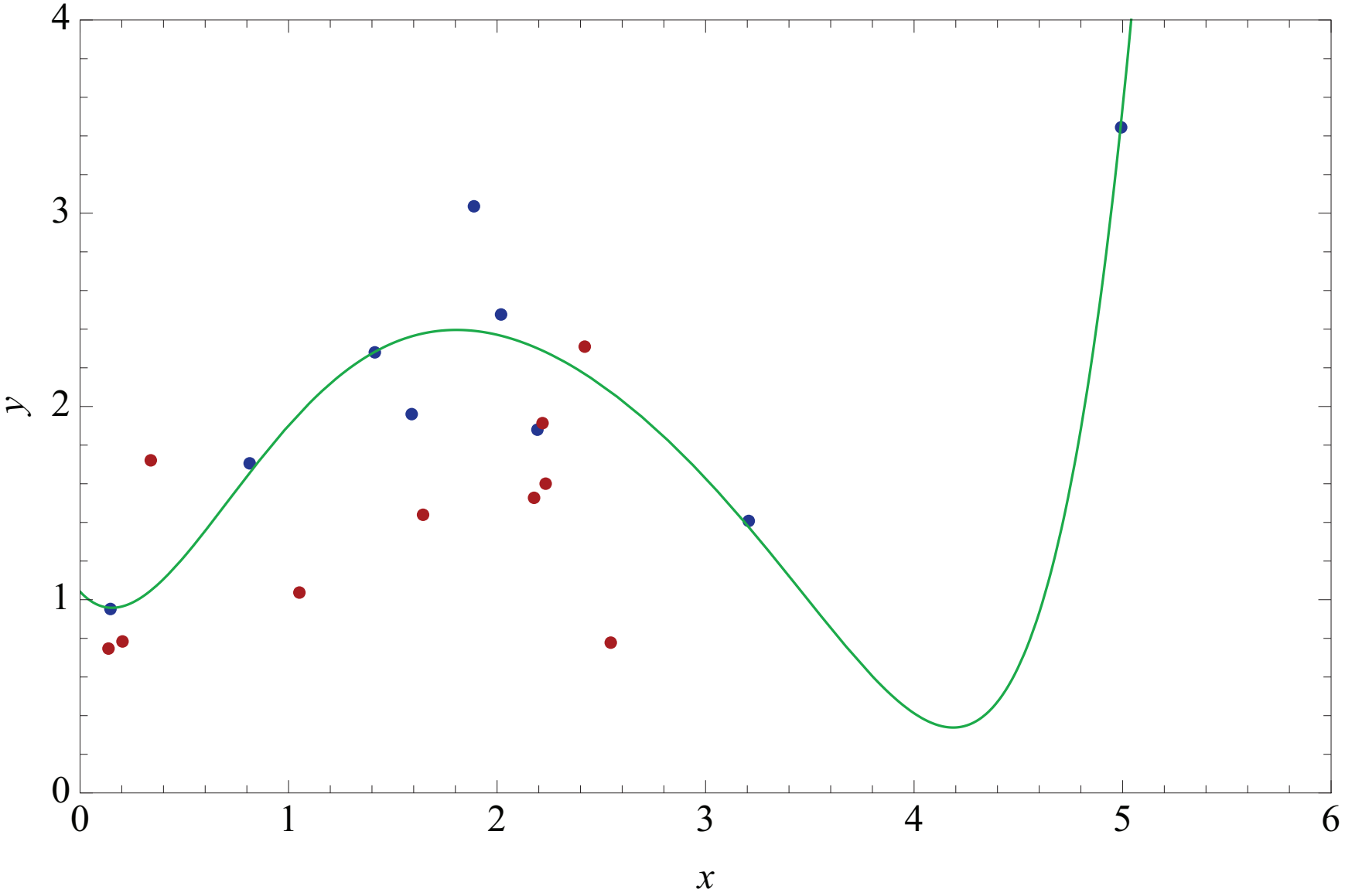
Choice of function class: testing

Poly(6) least squares fit, training RMSE = 0.278, test RMSE = 0.72



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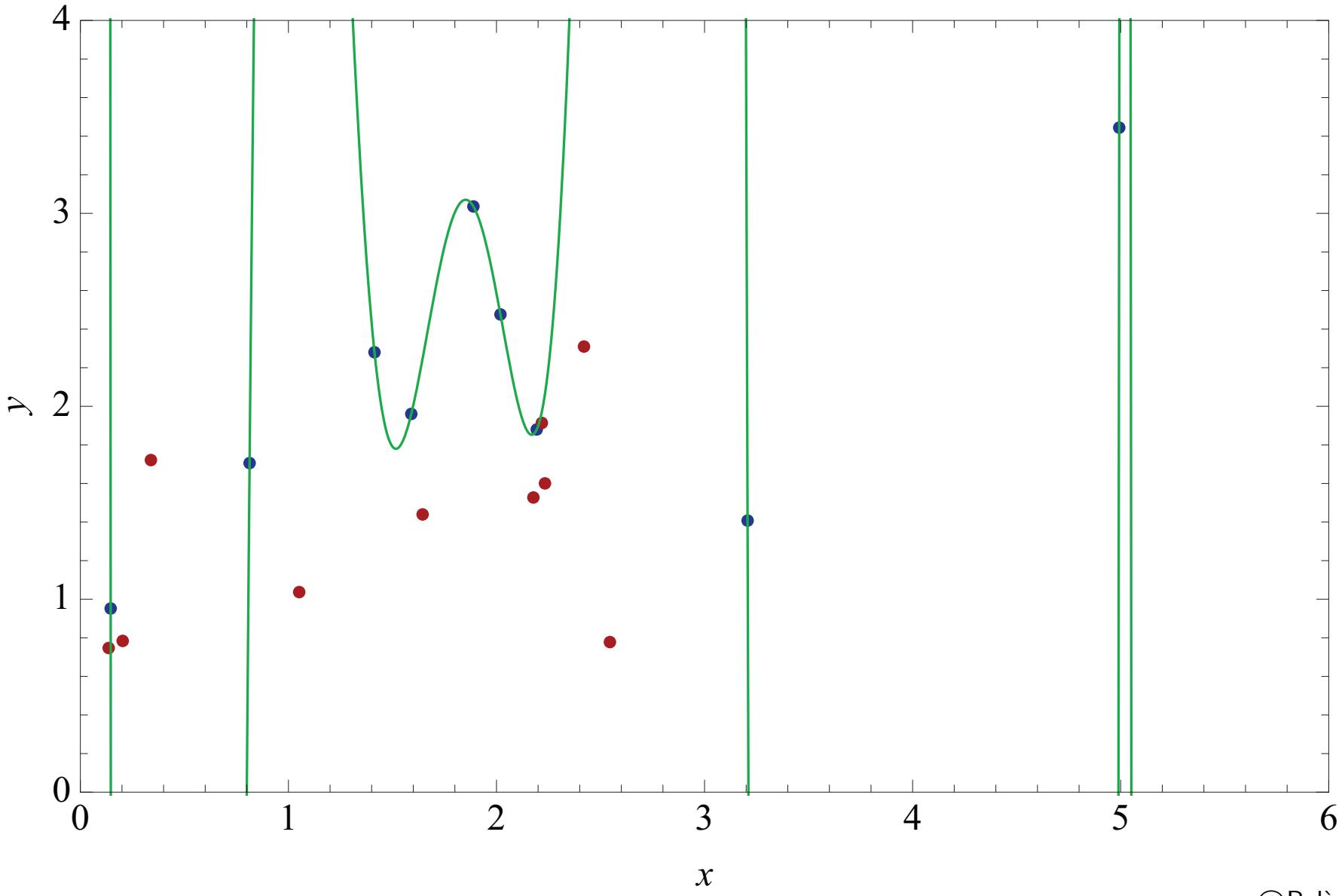
Choice of function class: testing

Poly(9) least squares fit, training RMSE = 0, test RMSE = 46.424



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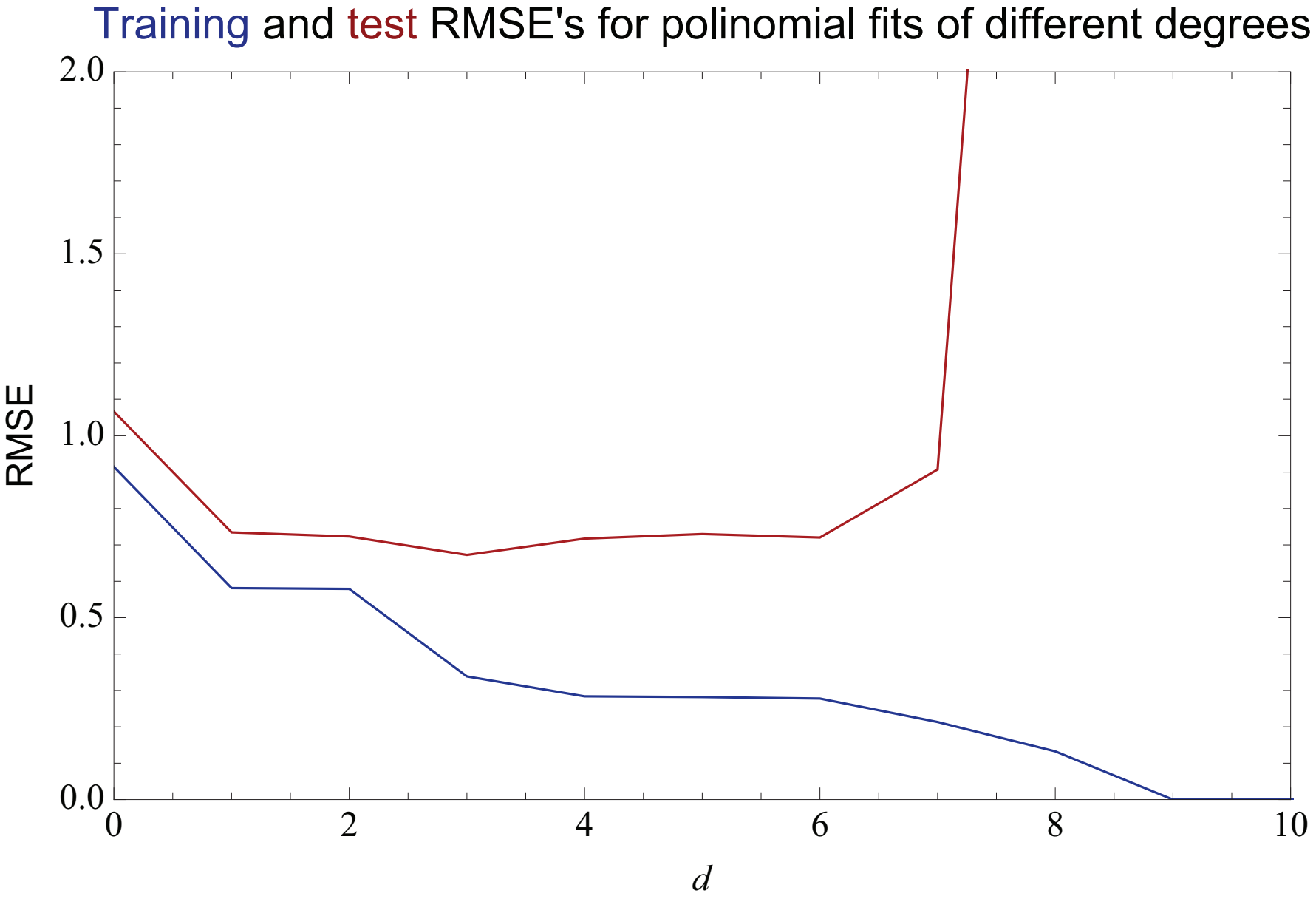
Choice of function class



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Choice of function class

Non-parametric fit

- Minimising the training cost (here, RMSE) does not work if the function class is not fixed in advance (e.g. fix the polynomial degree): complete loss of generalisation capability!
- But if you do not know the correct function class, you should not fix it! Dilemma...

Capacity control and regularisation

- Trade-off between approximation error and estimation error
- Take into account sample size
- Measure (and penalise) complexity
- Use independent test sample
- In practice, no need to correctly guess the function class, but need enough flexibility in your model, balanced with complexity cost

Multivariate discriminants

Multivariate discriminants

Reminder

- To solve binary classification problem with the fewest number of mistakes, sufficient to compute the multivariate discriminant:

$$D(x) = \frac{s(x)}{s(x) + b(x)}$$

  where:
  - $s(x) = p(x|S)$ signal density
  - $b(x) = p(x|B)$ background density
- Cutting on $D(x)$ is equivalent to cutting on probability $p(S|x)$ that event with x values is of class S

Which approximation to choose?

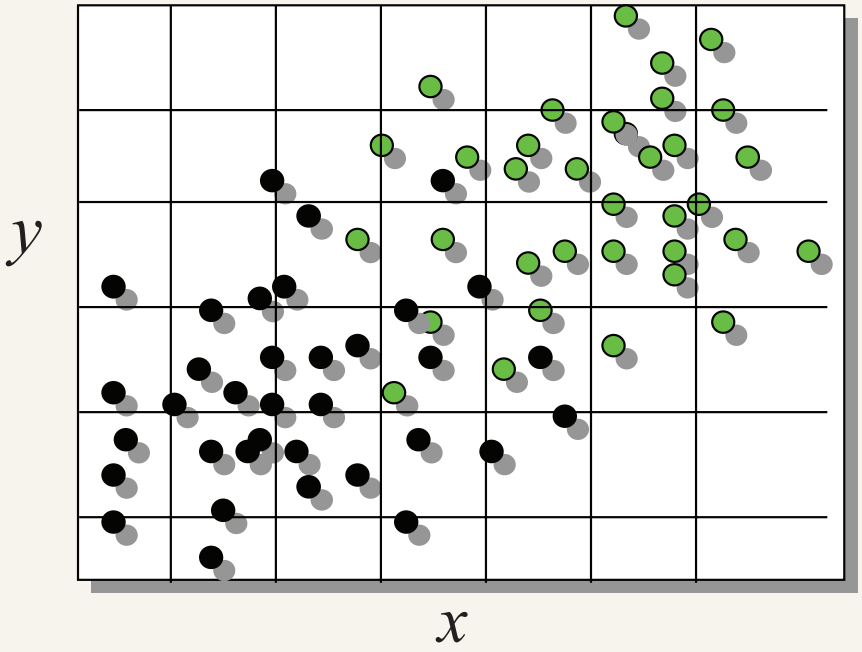
- Best possible choice: cannot beat Bayes limit (but usually impossible to define)
- No single method can be proven to surpass all others in particular case
- Advisable to try several and use the best one

Cut-based analysis and grid search

Cut-based analysis

- Simple approach: cut on each discriminating variable
- Difficulty: how to optimise the cuts?

Grid search



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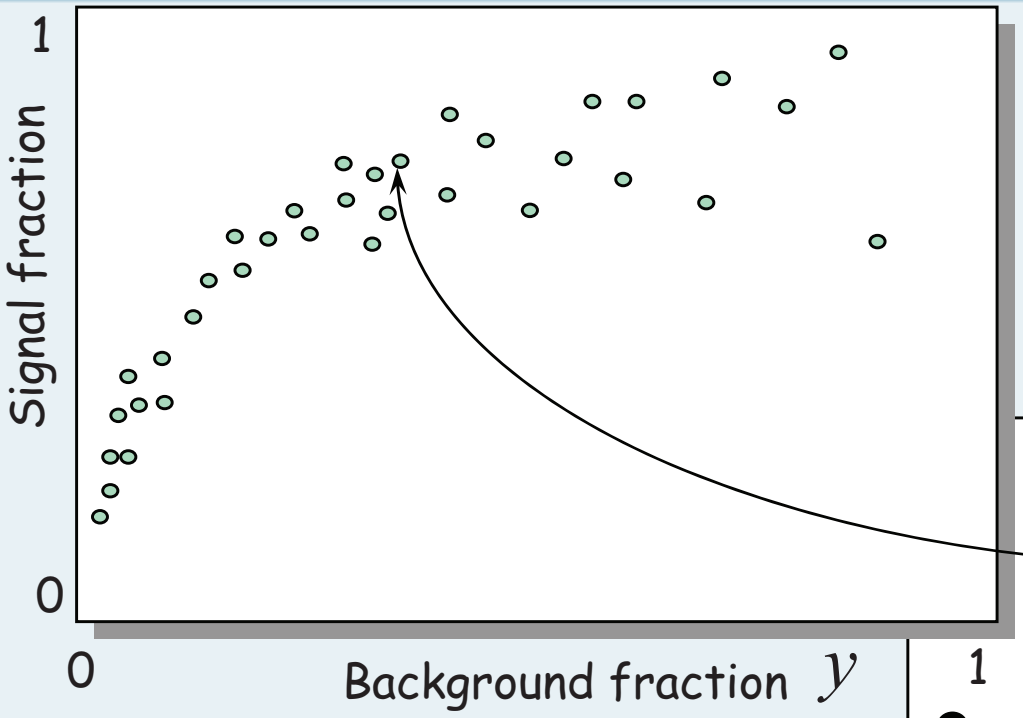
- Split each variable in K values
- Apply cuts at each grid point: $x > x_i$, $y > y_i$
- Number of points scales with K^n: curse of dimensionality

Random grid search

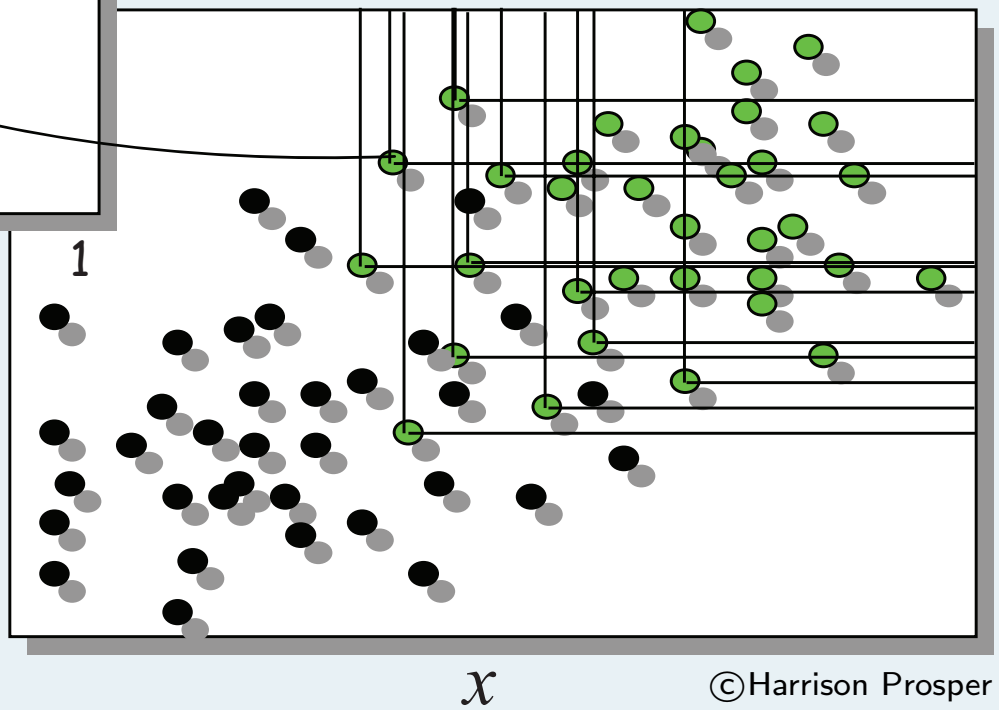
RGS



- Use each point in signal sample as grid point:

$$x > x_i$$

$$y > y_i$$



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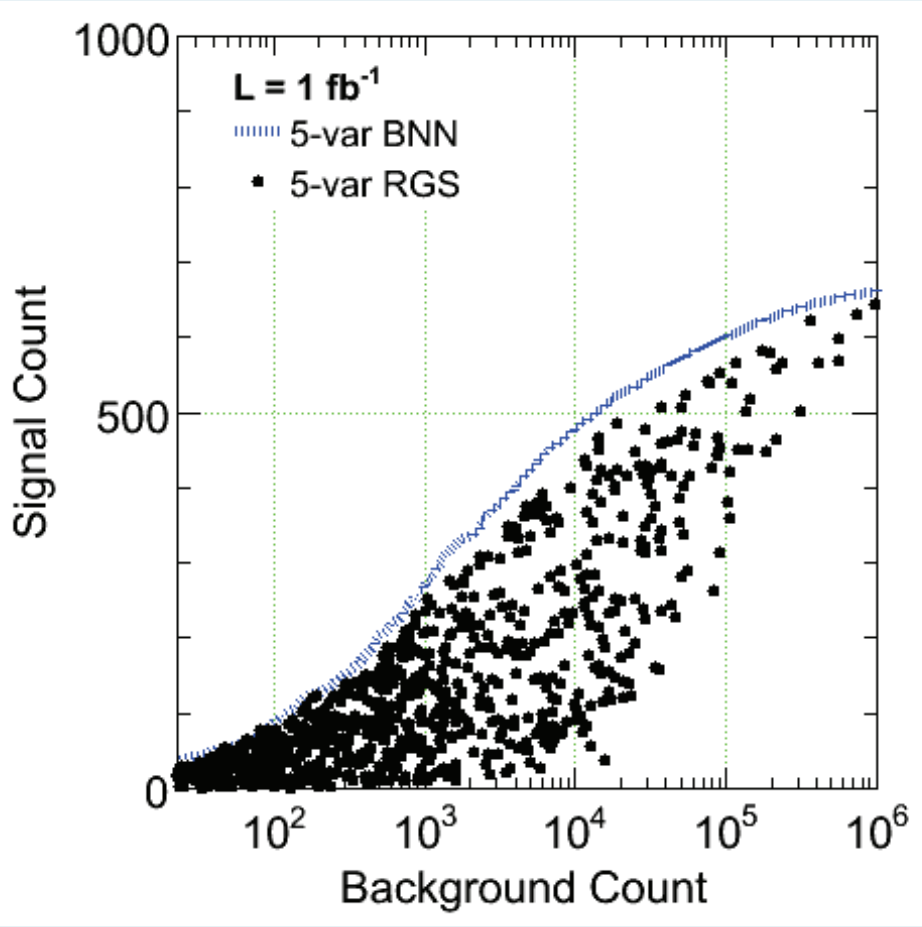
- Number of cut points independent of dimensionality
- Sampled points density follows signal density

Random grid search example

Comparison to BNN



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- Blue: 5-dim Bayesian neural network discriminant (see later)
- Points: each cut point from a 5-dim RGS calculation
- Conclusions:
  - RGS can find very good criteria with high discrimination
  - but it usually cannot compete with a full-blown multivariate discriminant
  - and never outsmarts it

Genetic algorithms

Survival of the fittest

- Inspired by biological evolution
- Model: group (population) of abstract representations (genome/discriminating variables) of possible solutions (individuals/list of cuts)
- Typical processes at work in evolutionary processes:
  - inheritance
  - mutation
  - sexual recombination (a.k.a. crossover)
- Fitness function: value representing the individual's goodness, or comparison of two individuals
- For cut optimisation:
  - good background rejection and high signal efficiency
  - compare individuals in each signal efficiency bin and keep those with higher background rejection

Genetic algorithms

Algorithm

- Better solutions more likely to be selected for mating and mutations, carrying their genetic code (cuts) from generation to generation
- Algorithm:
  1. Create initial random population (cut ensemble)
  2. Select fittest individuals
  3. Create offsprings through crossover (mix best cuts)
  4. Mutate randomly (change some cuts of some individuals)
  5. Repeat from 2 until convergence (or fixed number of generations)
- Good fitness at one generation $\Rightarrow$ average fitness in the next
- Algorithm focuses on region with higher potential improvement

Quadratic discriminants

Gaussian problem

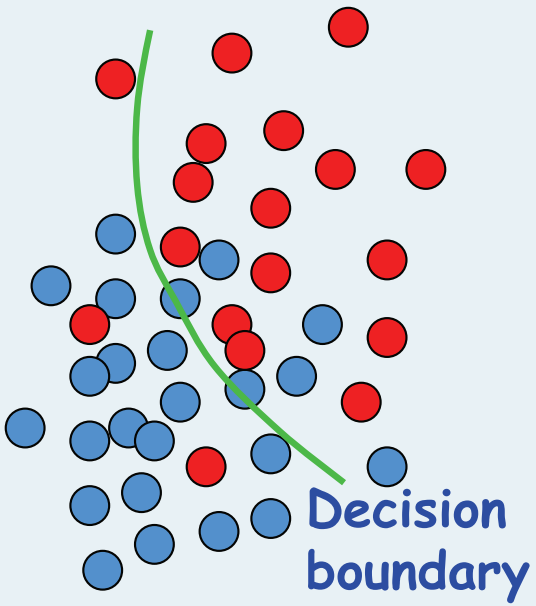
- Suppose densities $s(x)$ and $b(x)$ are multivariate Gaussians:

$$\text{Gaussian}(x|\mu,\Sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n|\Sigma|}} \exp^{\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T\Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)\right)}$$

  with vector of means μ and covariance matrix Σ

- Then Bayes factor $B(x) = s(x)/b(x)$ (or its logarithm) can be expressed explicitly:

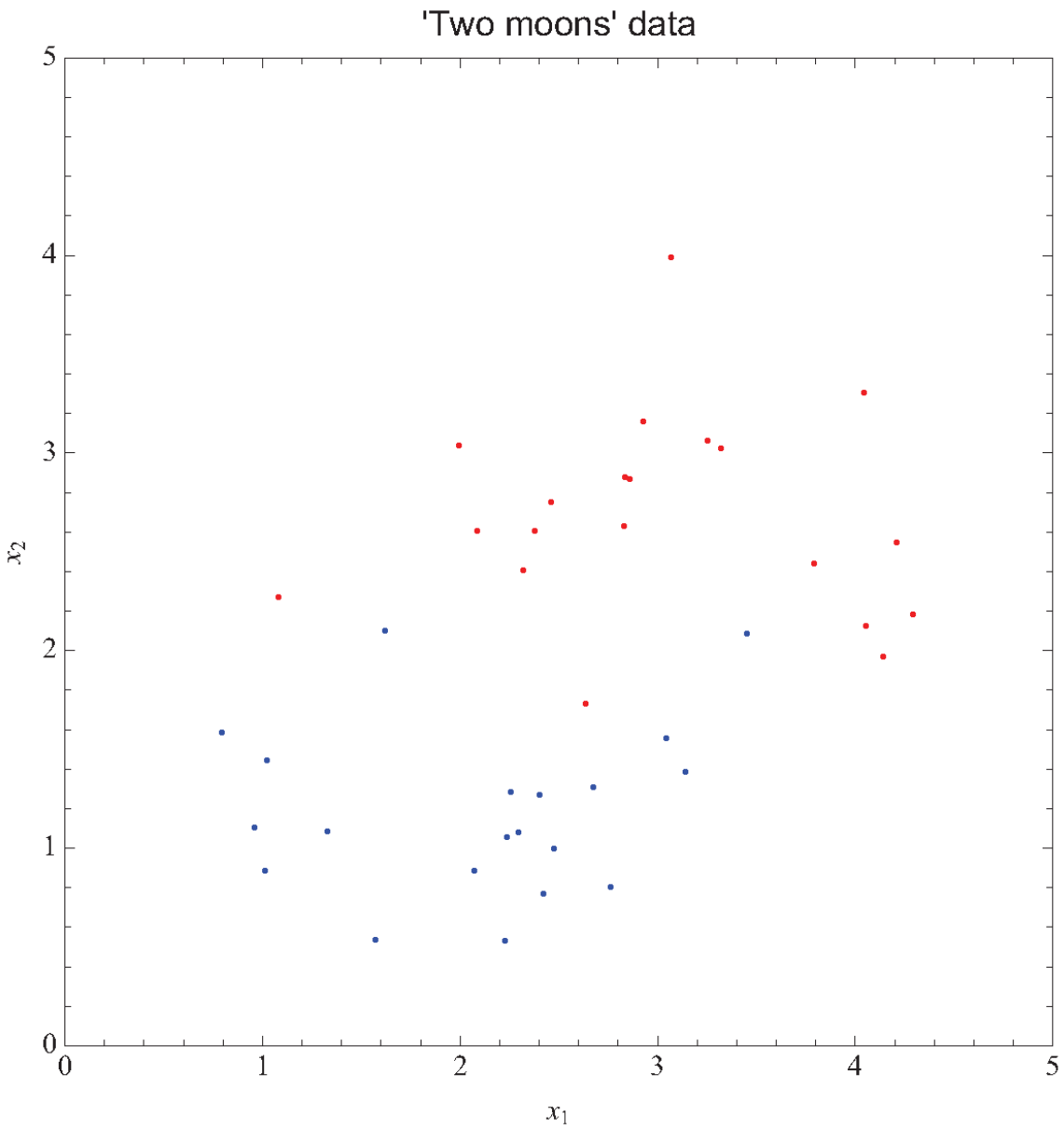
$$\ln B(x) = \lambda(x) \equiv \chi^2(\mu_B,\Sigma_B) - \chi^2(\mu_S,\Sigma_S)$$



with $\chi^2(\mu,\Sigma) = (x-\mu)^T\Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)$

- Fixed value of $\lambda(x)$ defines a quadratic hypersurface partitioning the n-dimensional space into signal-rich and background-rich regions
- Optimal separation if $s(x)$ and $b(x)$ are indeed multivariate Gaussians

Quadratic discriminant



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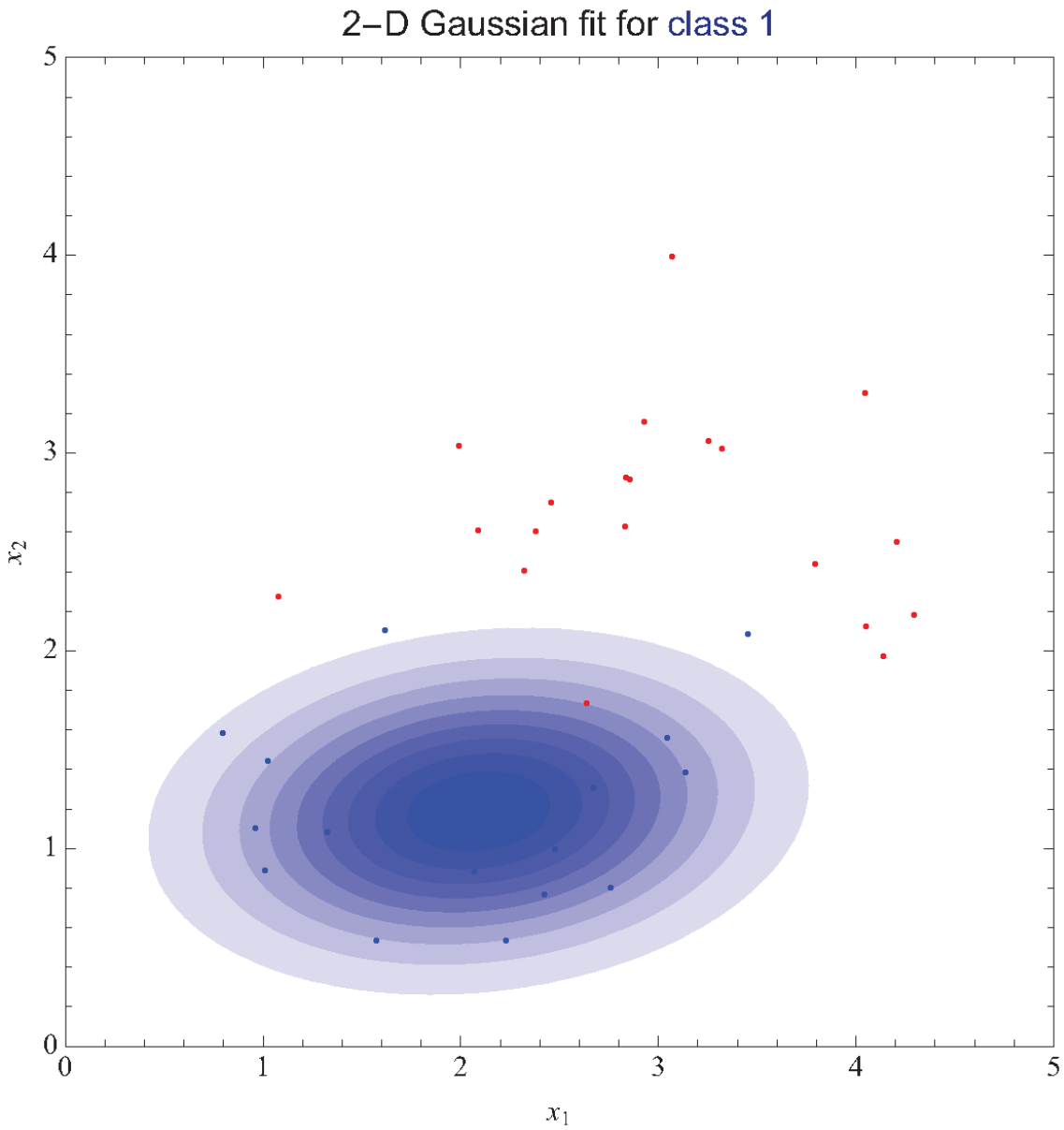
Quadratic discriminant



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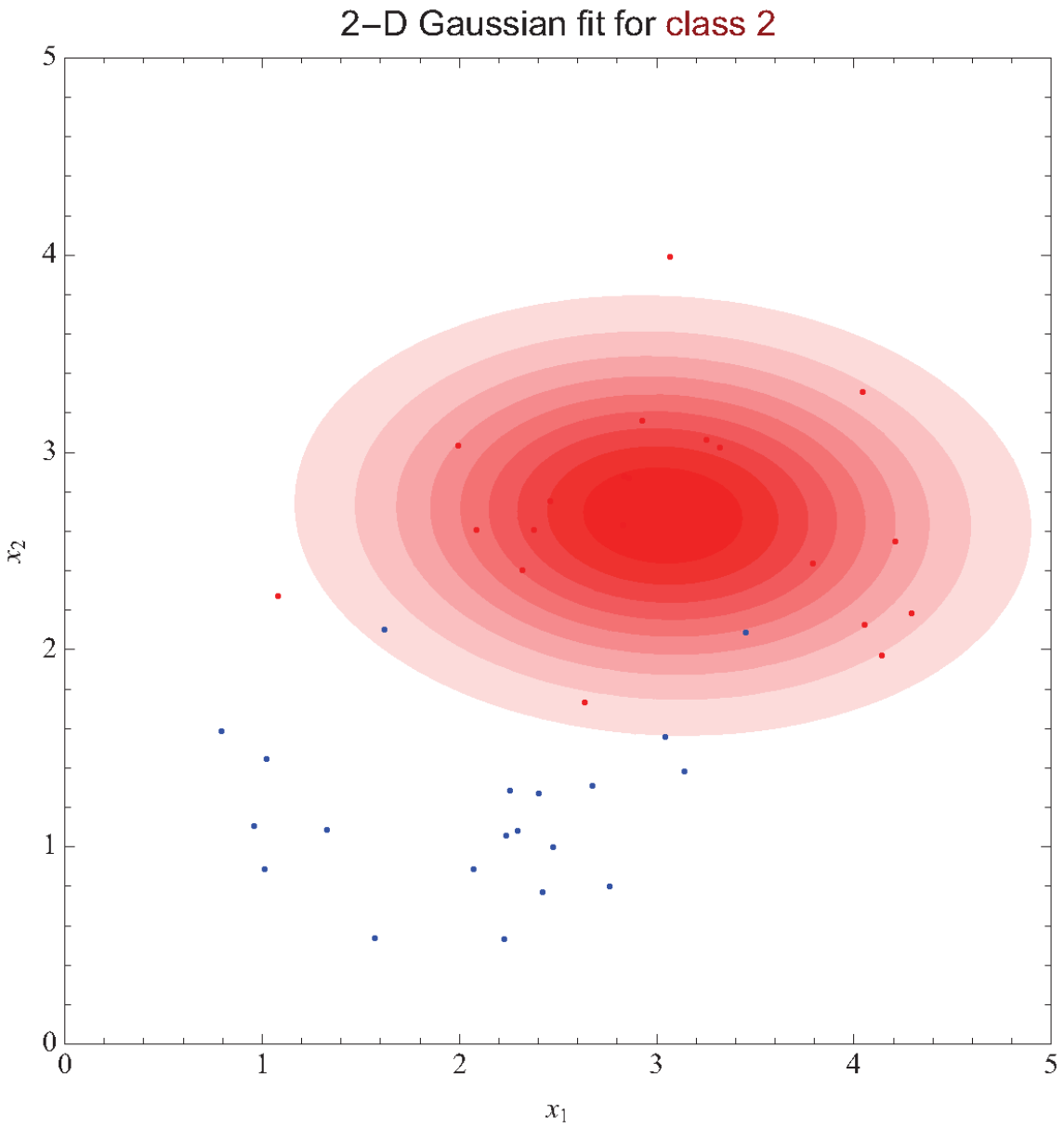

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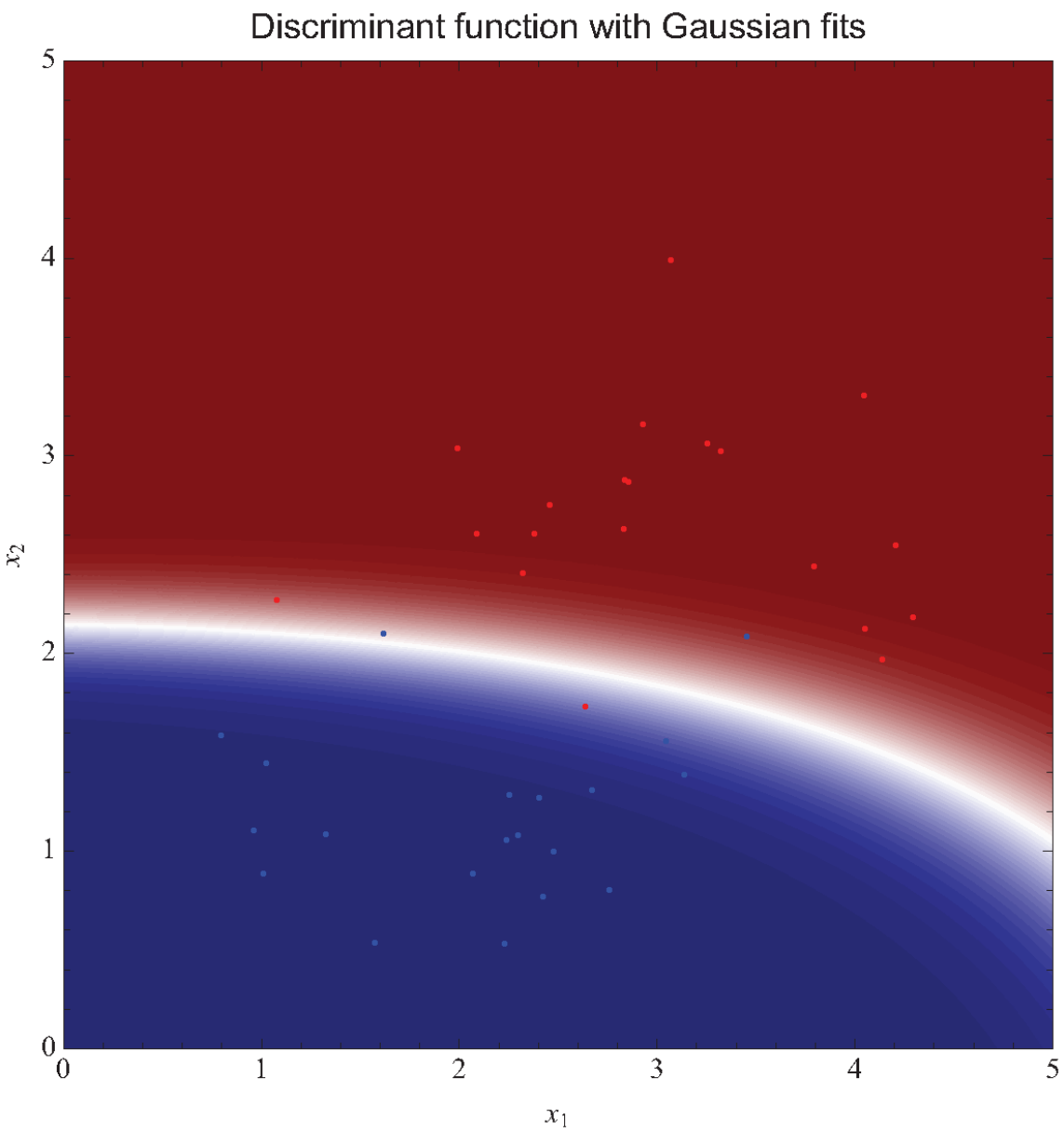

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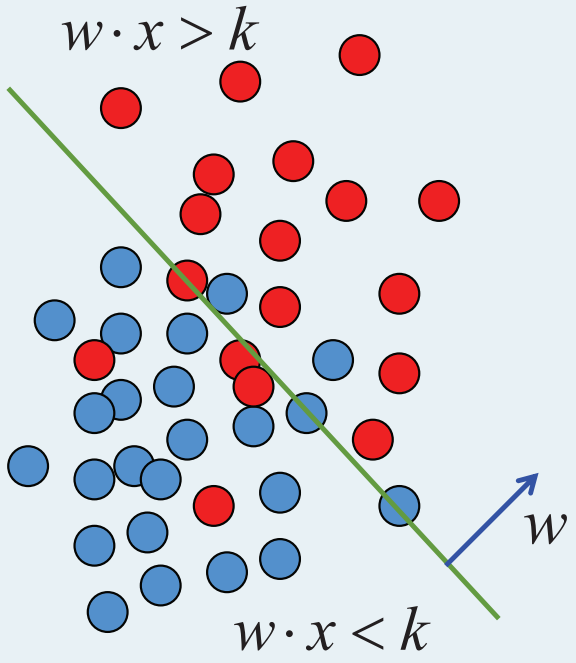
Fisher's discriminant

- If in $\lambda(x)$ the same covariance matrix is used for each class (e.g. $\Sigma = \Sigma_S + \Sigma_B$) one gets Fisher's discriminant:

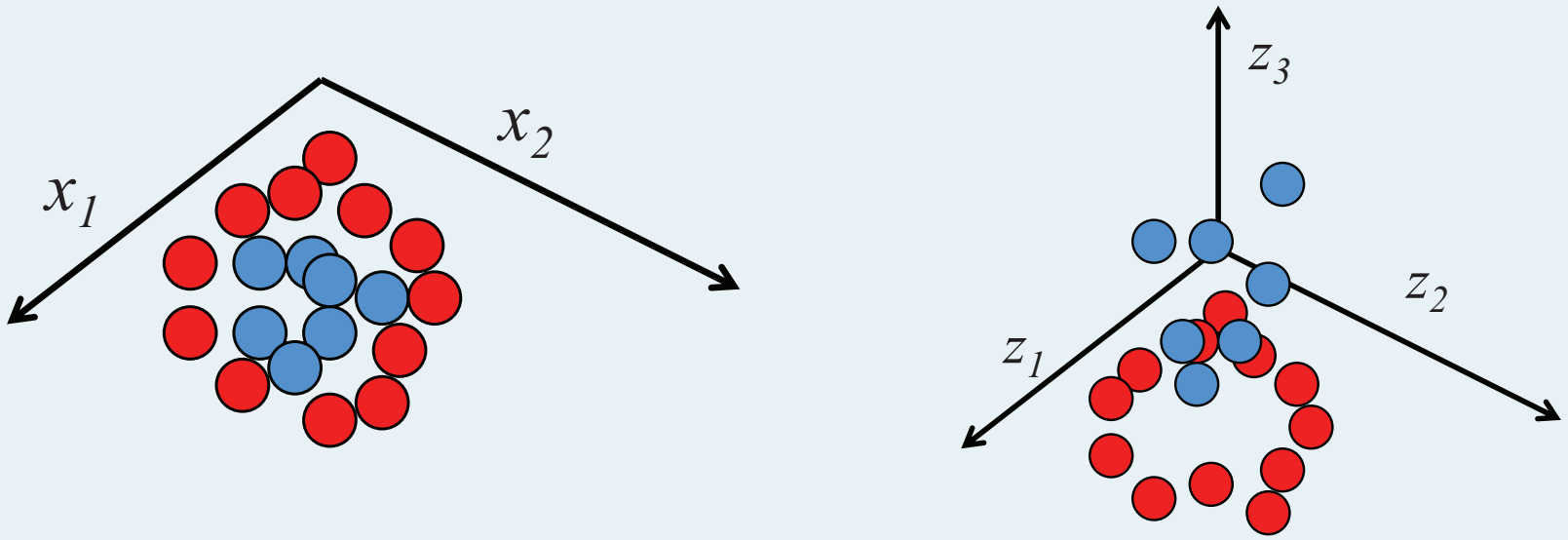
$$\lambda(x) = w \cdot x \quad \text{with} \quad w \propto \Sigma^{-1}(\mu_S - \mu_B)$$



- Optimal linear separation
- Works only if signal and background have different means!
- Optimal classifier (reaches the Bayes limit) for linearly correlated Gaussian-distributed variables

Generalising Fisher discriminant

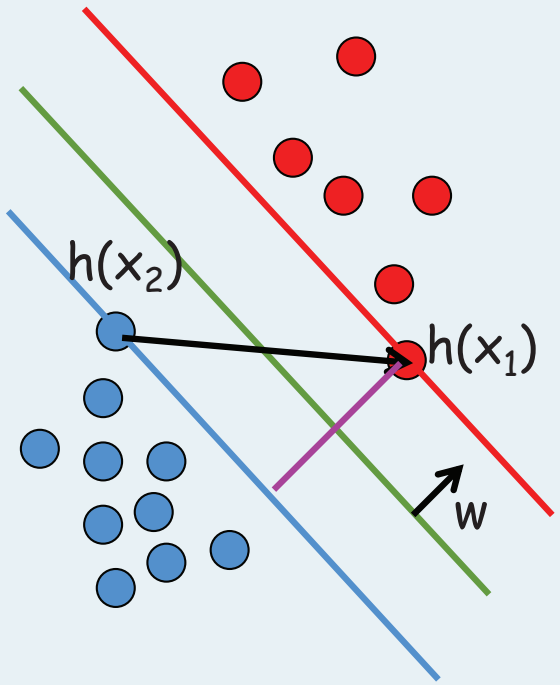
- Fisher discriminant: may fail completely for highly non-Gaussian densities
- But linearity is good feature $\Rightarrow$ try to keep it
- Idea: data non-separable in n-dim space $\mathbb{R}^n$, but better separated if mapped to higher dimension space $\mathbb{R}^H$: $h : x \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow z \in \mathbb{R}^H$
- Use hyper-planes to partition higher dim space: $f(x) = w \cdot h(x) + b$
- Example: $h : (x_1, y_2) \rightarrow (z_1, z_2, z_3) = (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$



Starting simple: separable data

- Consider separable data in $\mathbb{R}^H$, and three parallel hyper-planes:

$$w \cdot h(x) + b = 0 \text{ (separating hyper-plane between red and blue)}$$
$$w \cdot h(x_1) + b = +1 \text{ (contains } h(x_1))$$
$$w \cdot h(x_2) + b = -1 \text{ (contains } h(x_2))$$



- Subtract blue from red: $w \cdot \big(h(x_1) - h(x_2)\big) = 2$
- With unit vector $\hat{w} = w/\|w\|$: $\hat{w} \cdot \big(h(x_1) - h(x_2)\big) = 2/\|w\| = m$
- Margin m is distance between red and blue planes
- Best separation: maximise margin
- $\Rightarrow$ empirical risk margin to minimise: $R(w) \propto \|w\|^2$

Constraints

- When minimising $R(w)$, need to keep signal and background separated
- Label red dots $y = +1$ ("above" red plane) and blue dots $y = -1$ ("below" blue plane)
- Since:

$$w \cdot h(x) + b > \quad 1 \text{ for red dots}$$
$$w \cdot h(x) + b < -1 \text{ for blue dots}$$

  all correctly classified points will satisfy constraints:

$$y_i\big(w \cdot h(x_i) + b\big) \geq 1, \ \forall i = 1, \ldots, N$$

- Using Lagrange multipliers $\alpha_i > 0$, cost function can be written:

$$C(w, b, \alpha) = \frac{1}{2}\|w\|^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i \big[y_i\big(w \cdot h(x_i) + b\big) - 1\big]$$

Support vector machines

Minimisation

- Minimise cost function $C(w, b, \alpha)$ with respect to w and b:

$$C(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \big(h(x_i) \cdot h(x_j)\big)$$

- At minimum of $C(\alpha)$, only non-zero α_i correspond to points on red and blue planes: support vectors

Kernel functions

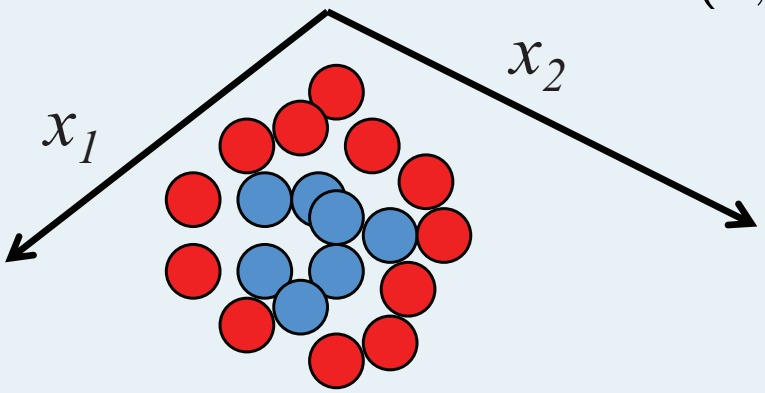
- Issues:
  - need to find h mappings (potentially of infinite dimension)
  - need to compute scalar products $h(x_i) \cdot h(x_j)$
- Fortunately $h(x_i) \cdot h(x_j)$ are equivalent to some kernel function $K(x_i, x_j)$ that does the mapping and the scalar product:

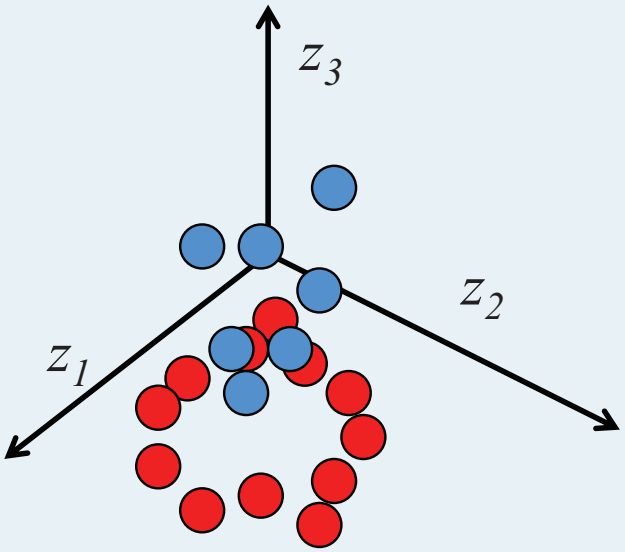
$$C(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j)$$

Example

- $h : (x_1, y_2) \rightarrow (z_1, z_2, z_3) = (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) \cdot h(y) &= (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2) \cdot (y_1^2, \sqrt{2}y_1y_2, y_2^2) \\ &= (x \cdot y)^2 \\ &= K(x, y) \end{aligned}$$



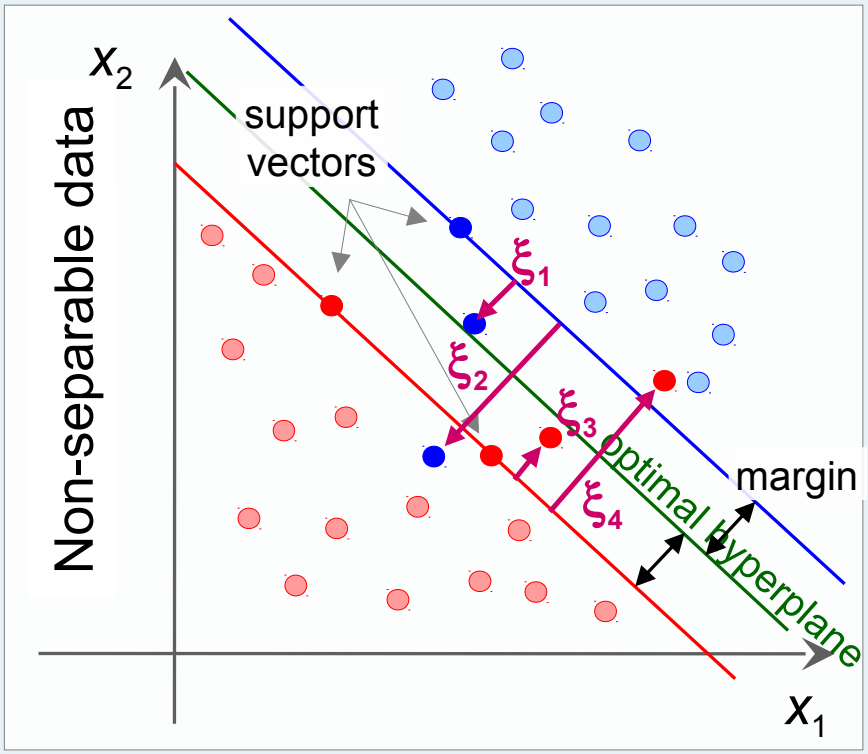


- In reality: do not know a priori the right kernel
- $\Rightarrow$ have to test different standard kernels and use the best one

Real life: non-separable data

- Even in infinite dimension space, data are often non-separable
- Need to relax constraints:

$$y_i\big(w \cdot h(x_i) + b\big) \geq 1 - \xi_i$$



with slack variables $\xi_i > 0$

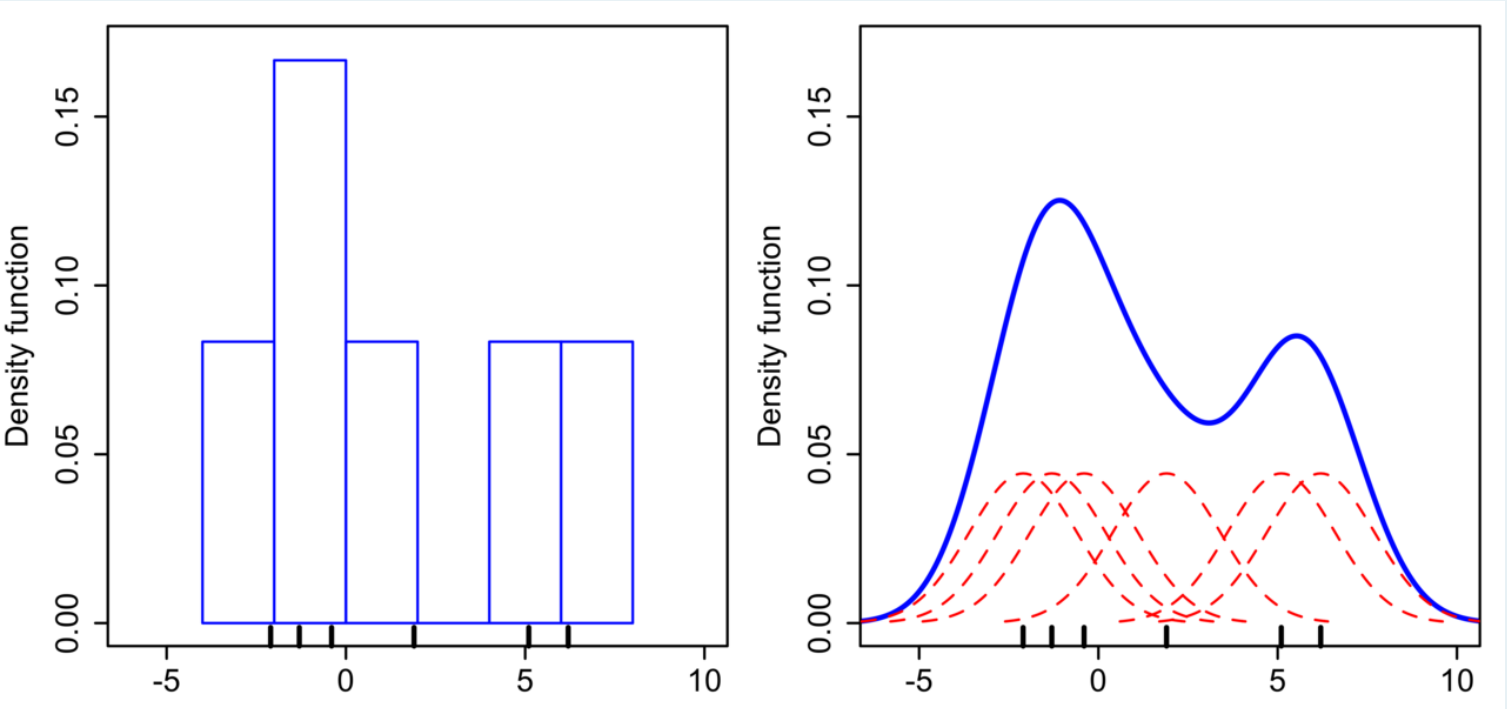
- $C(w, b, \alpha, \xi)$ depends on ξ, modified $C(\alpha, \xi)$ as well
- Values determined during minimisation

Kernel density estimation (KDE)

Basic principle

- Introduced by E. Parzen in the 1960s
- Place a kernel $K(x, \mu)$ at each training point μ
- Density $p(x)$ at point x approximated by:

$$p(x) \approx \hat{p}(x) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} K(x, \mu_j)$$



Kernel density estimation (KDE)

Choice of kernel

- Any kernel can be used
- In practice, often product of Gaussians:

$$K(x, \mu) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} Gaussian(x_i | \mu, h_i)$$

each with bandwidth (width) h_i

Optimal bandwidth

- Too narrow: noisy approximation
- Too wide: loose fine structure
- In principle found by minimising risk function $R(\hat{p}, p) = \int \left(\hat{p}(x) - p(x)\right)^2 dx$
- For Gaussian densities:

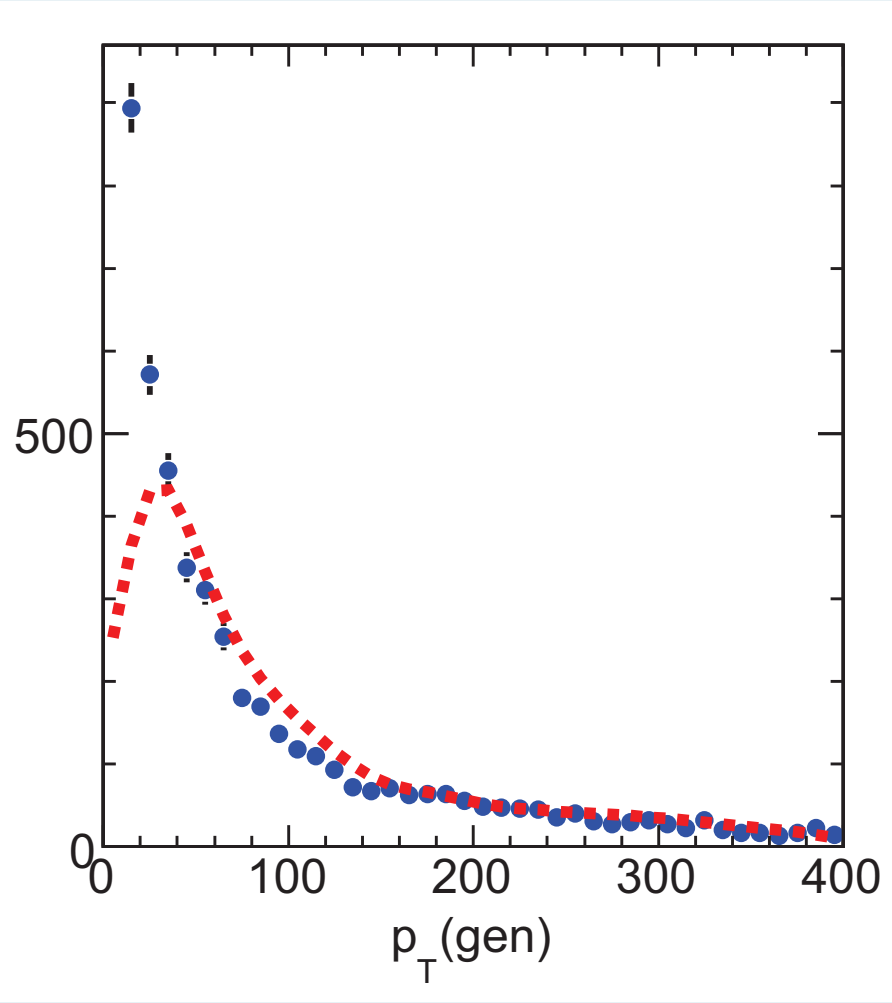
$$h = \sigma \left(\frac{4}{(n+2)N} \right)^{1/(n+4)}$$

- Far from optimal for non-Gaussian densities

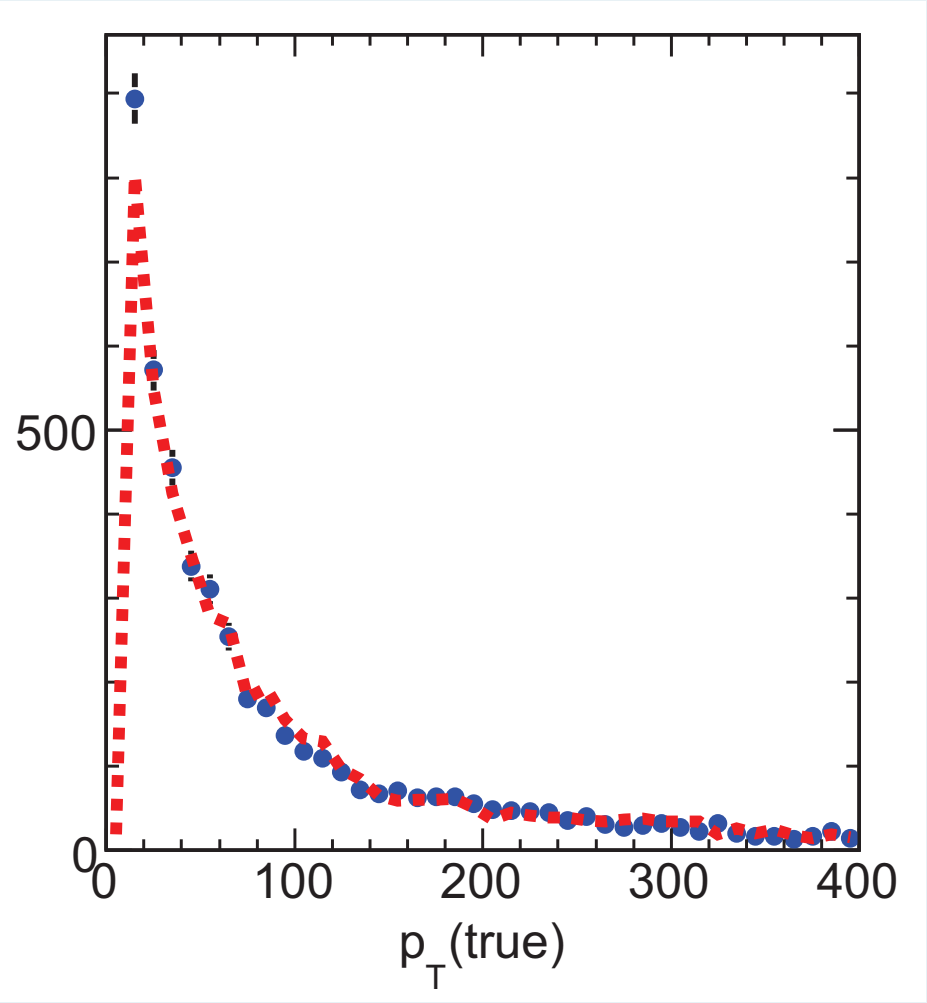
Kernel density estimation (KDE)

Example

with Gaussian optimal bandwidth



with optimised bandwidth



Kernel density estimation (KDE)

Why does it work?

- When $N \to \infty$:

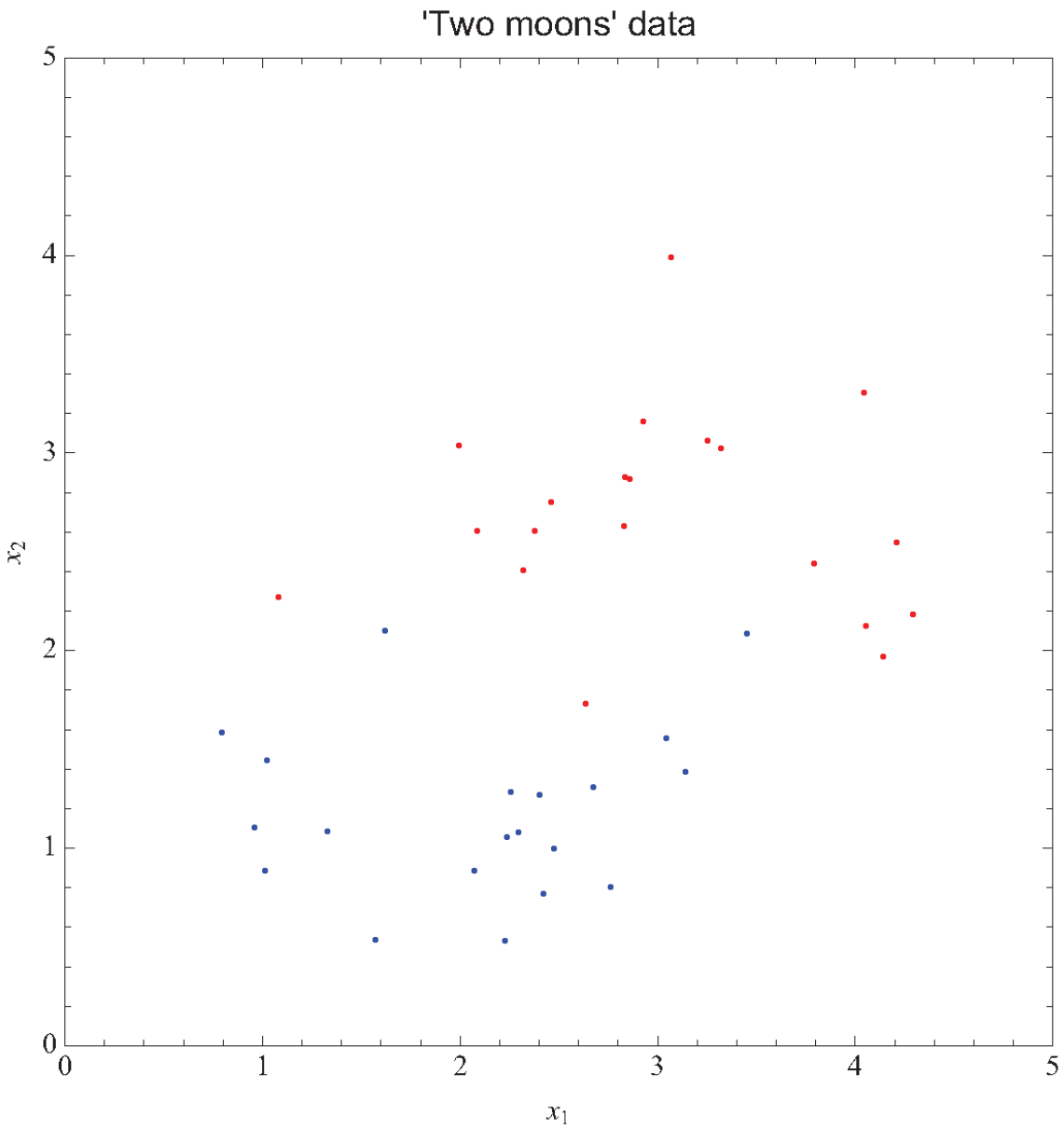
$$\hat{p}(x) = \int K(x, \mu) p(\mu) d\mu$$

- $p(\mu)$: true density of x
- Kernel bandwidth getting smaller with N, so when $N \to \infty$, $K(x, \mu) \to \delta^n(x - \mu)$ and $\hat{p}(x) = p(x)$
- KDE gives consistent estimate of probability density $p(x)$

Limitations

- Choice of bandwidth non-trivial
- Difficult to model sharp structures (e.g. boundaries)
- Kernels too far apart in regions of low point density
- (both can be mitigated with adaptive bandwidth choice)
- Requires evaluation of N n-dimensional kernels

Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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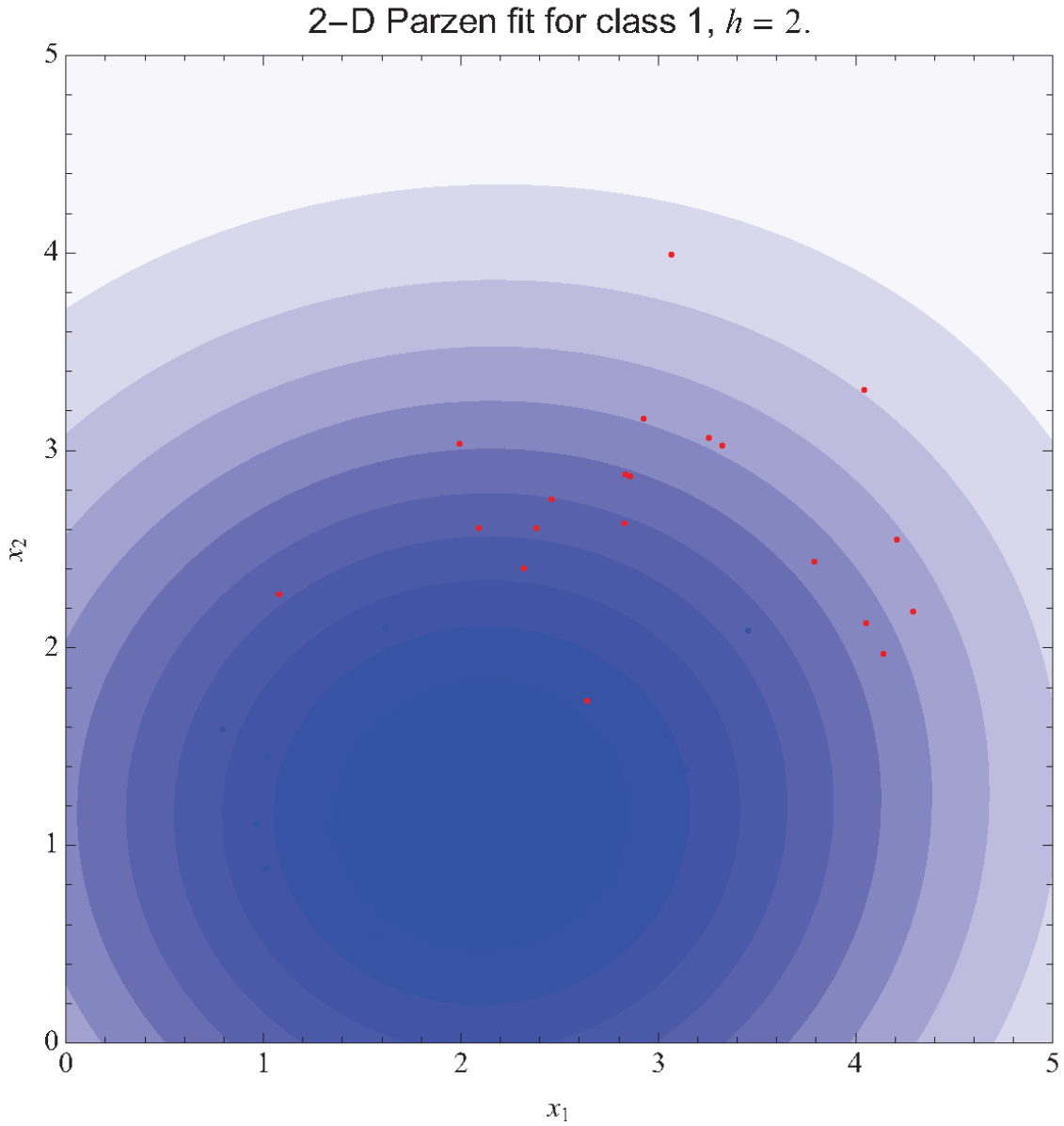
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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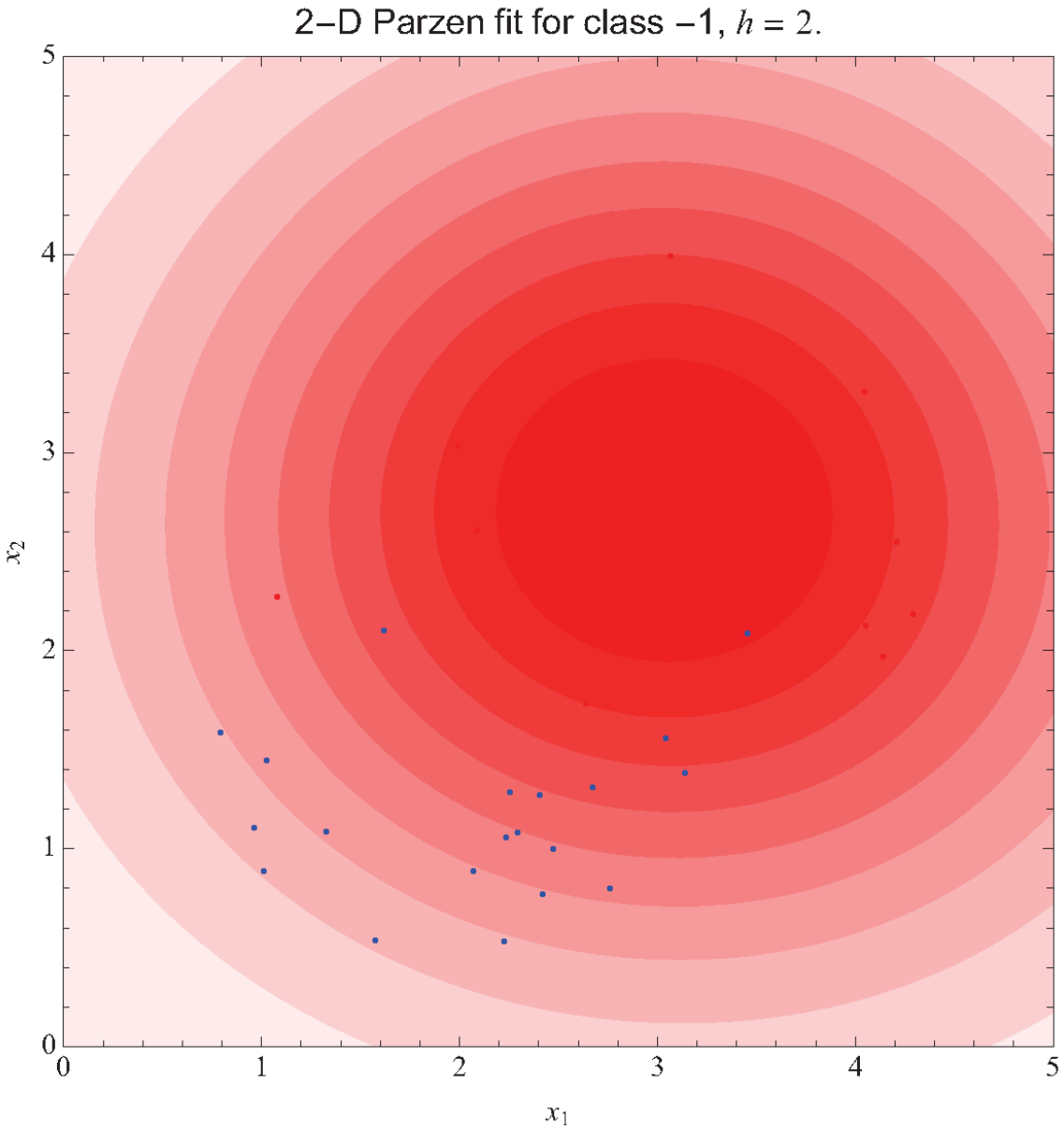
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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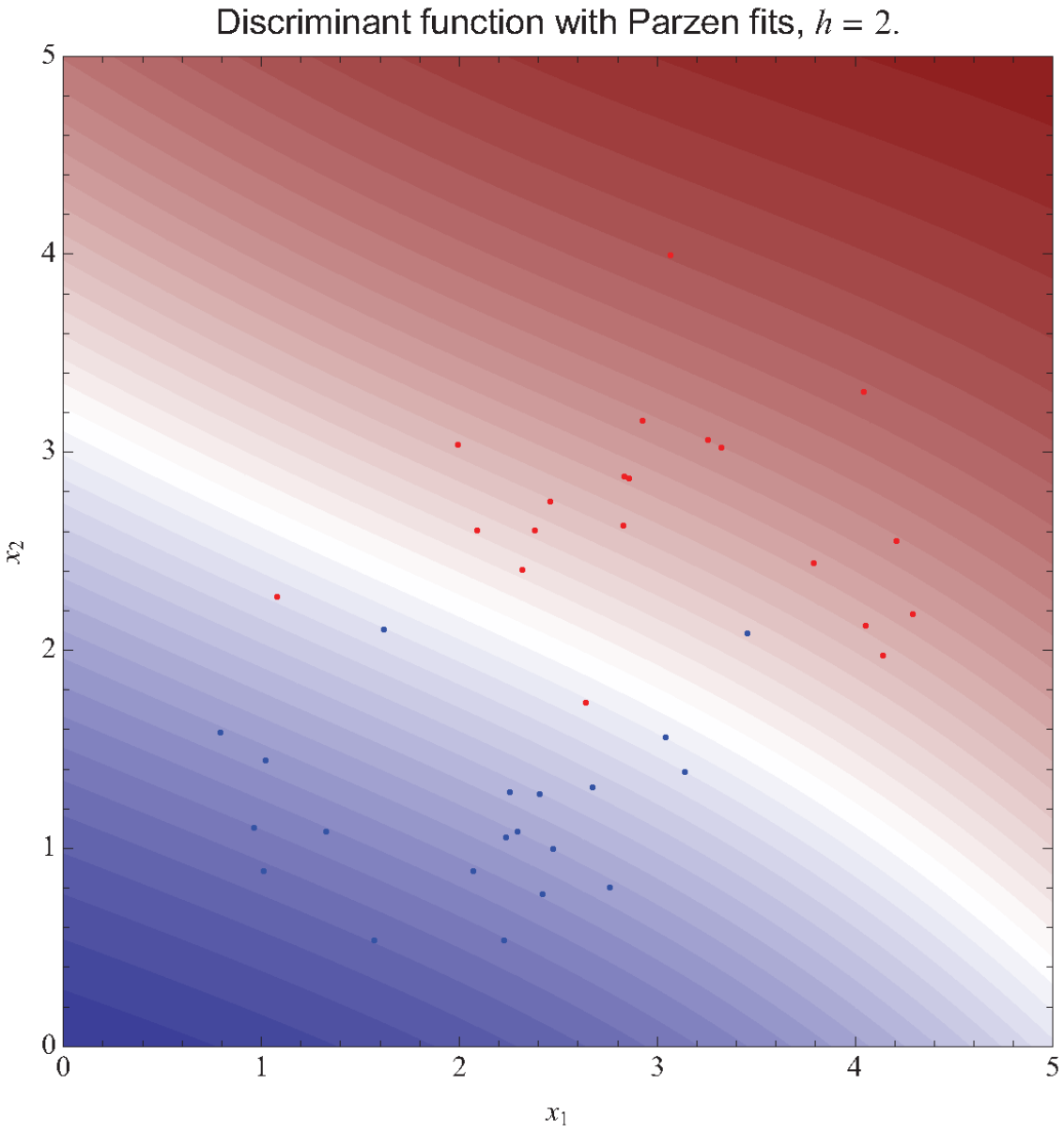
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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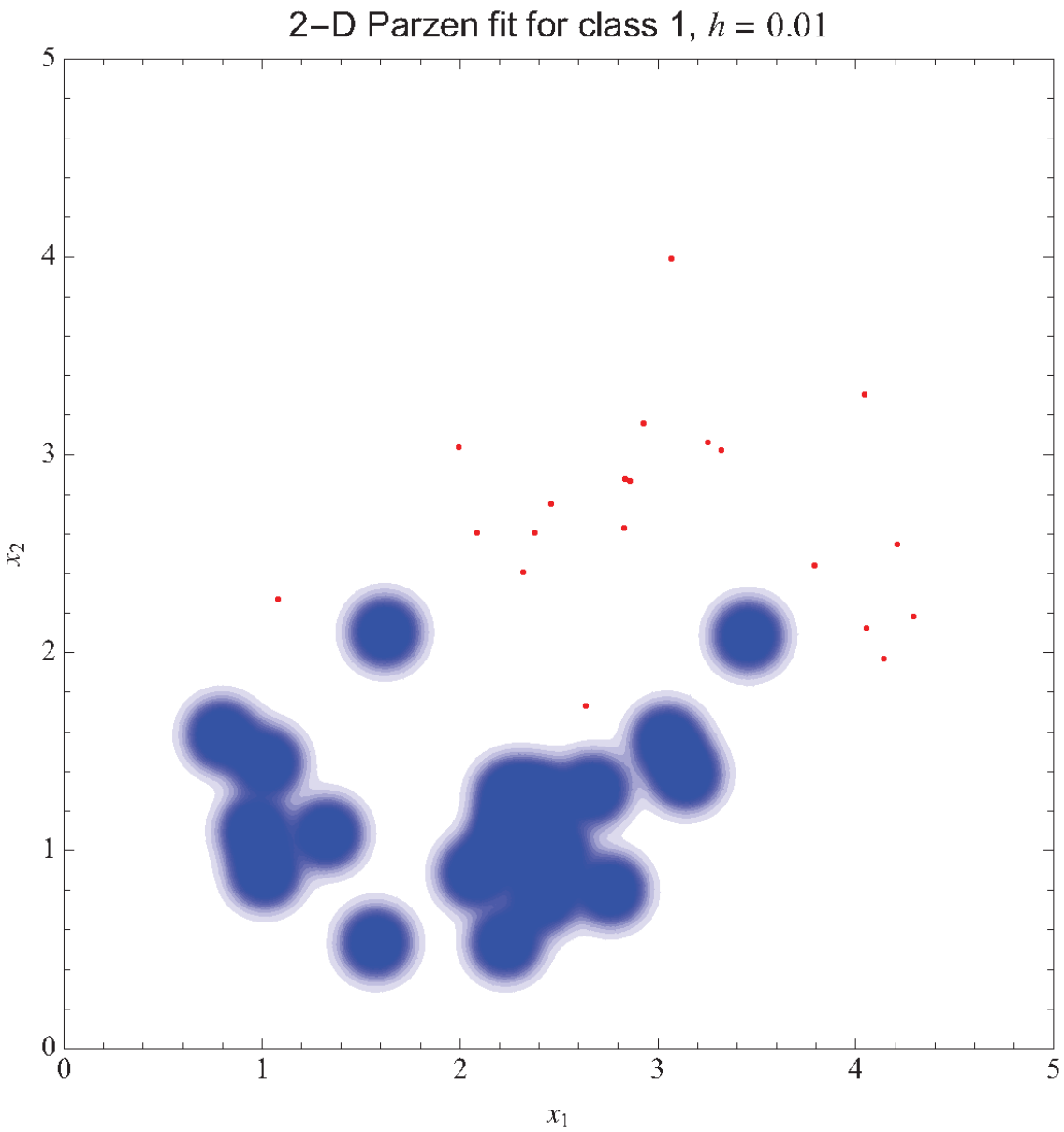
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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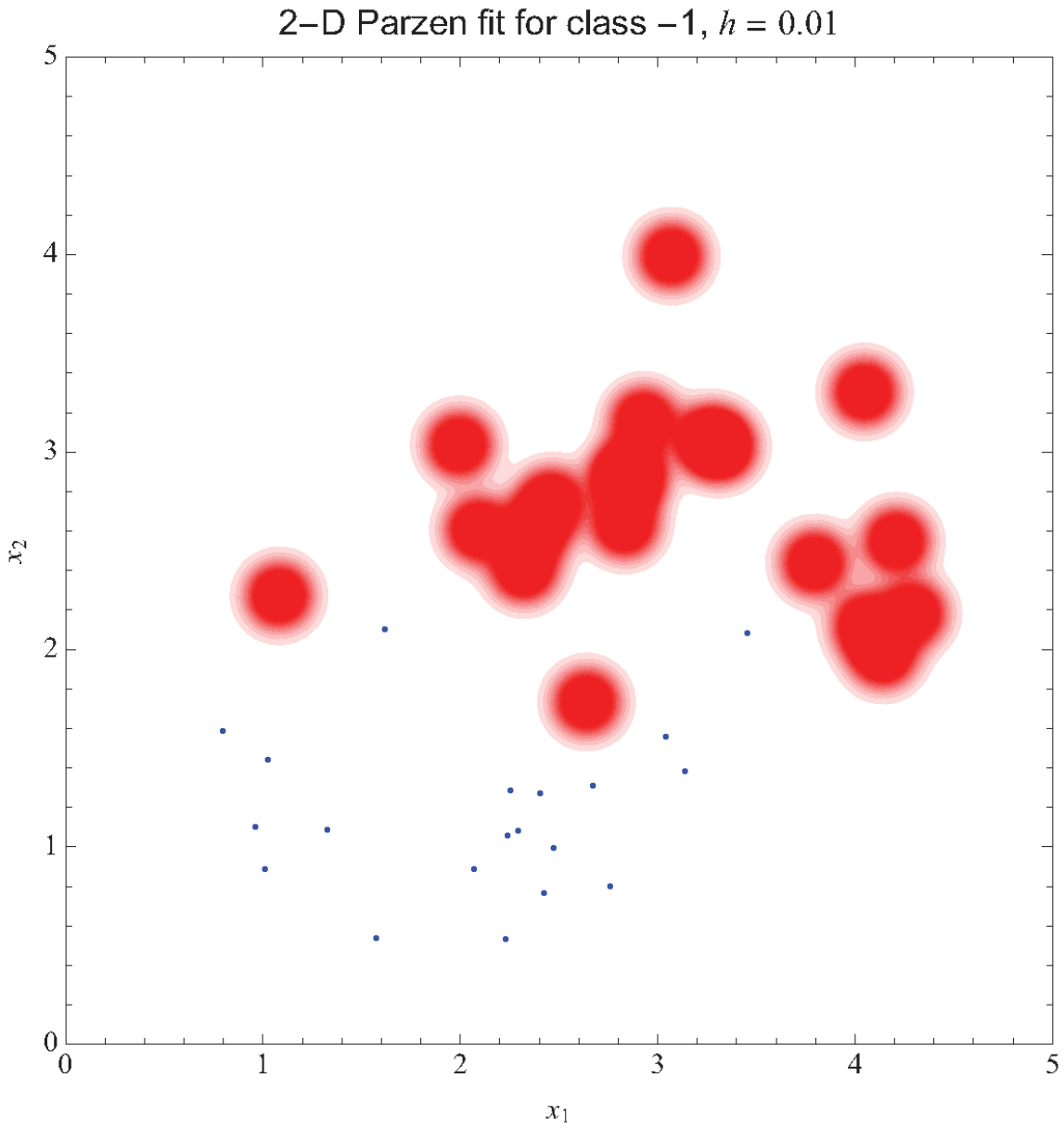
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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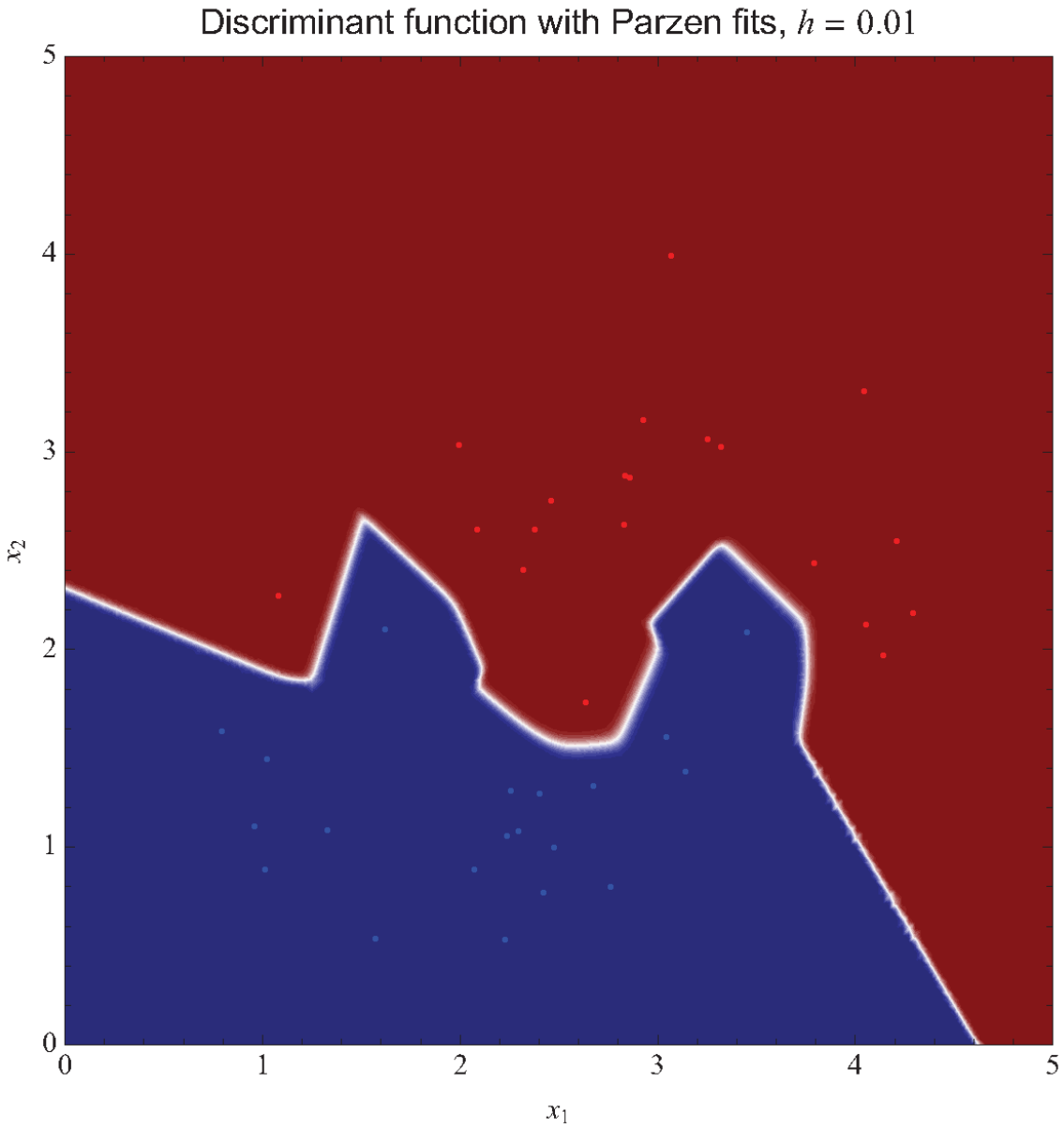
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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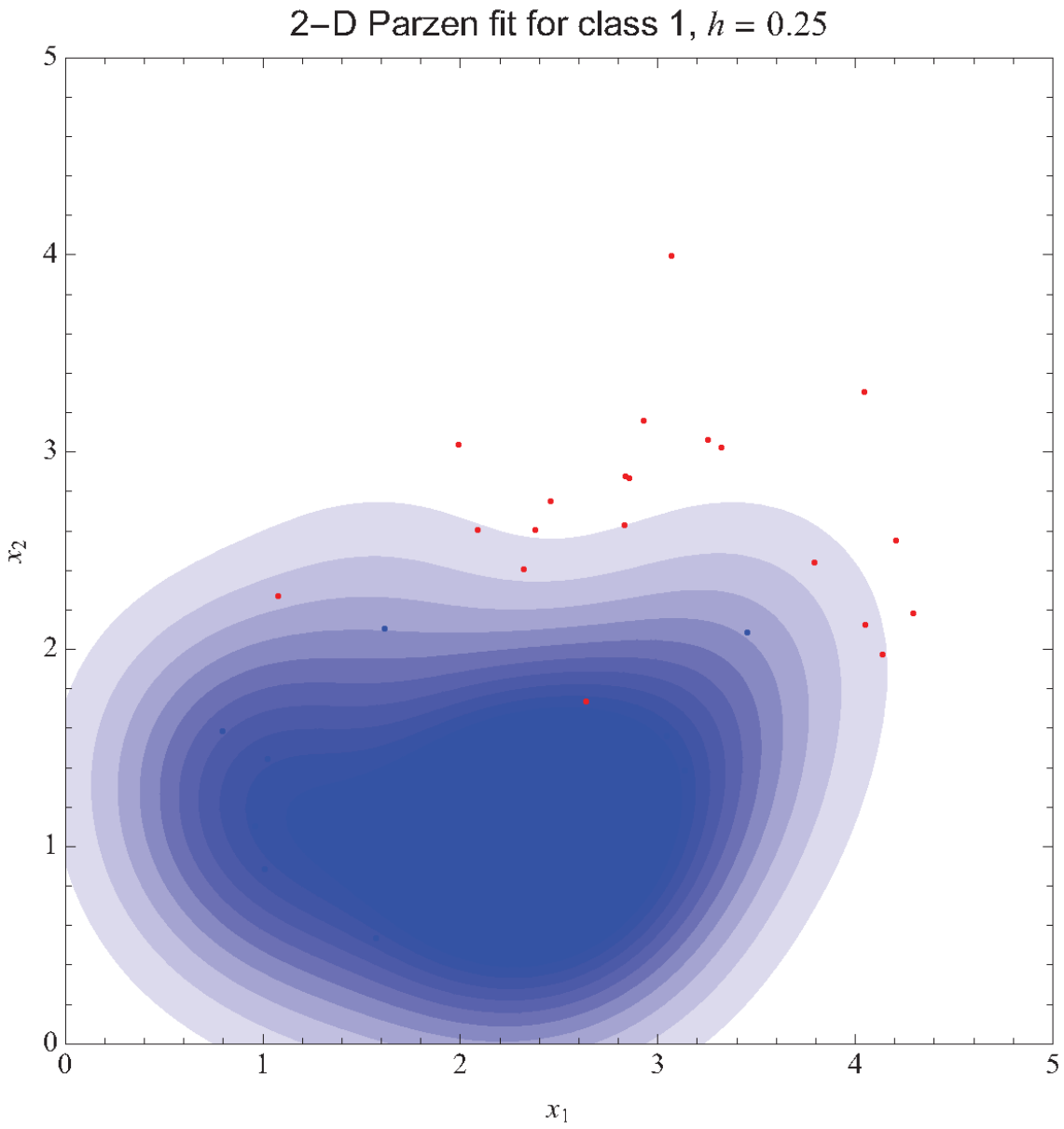
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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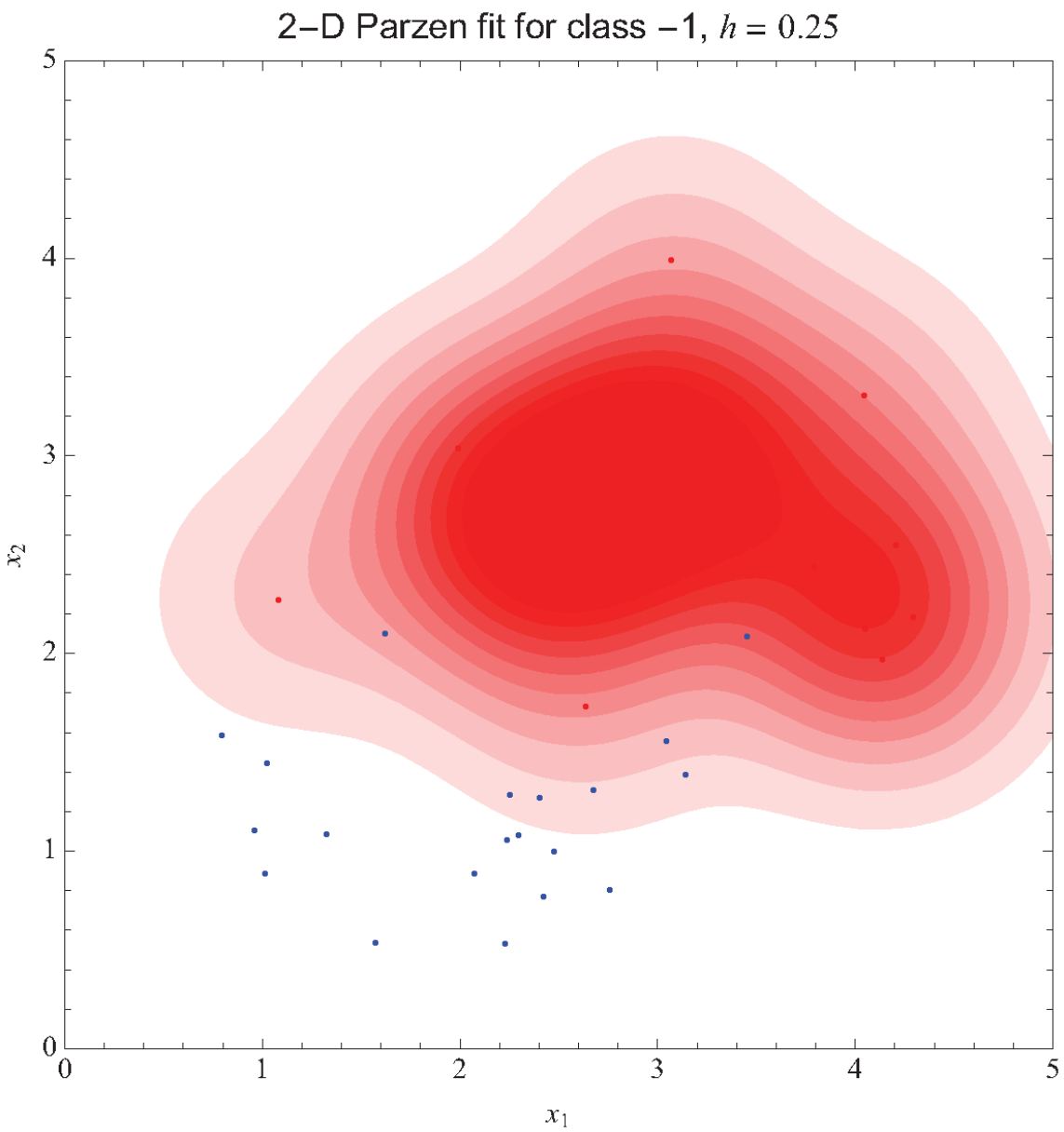
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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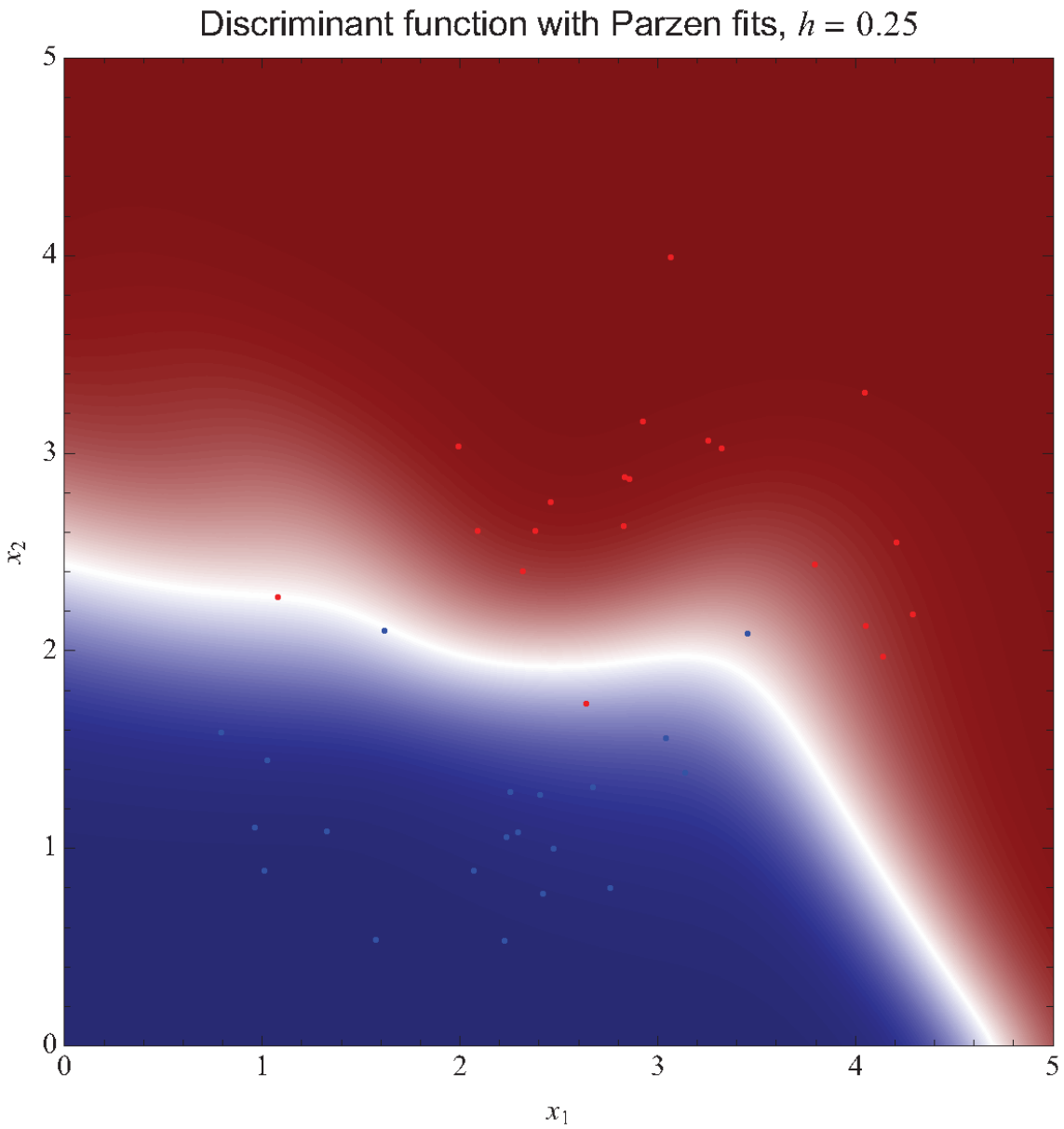
Kernel density estimation (KDE)



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KDE: choice of bandwidth

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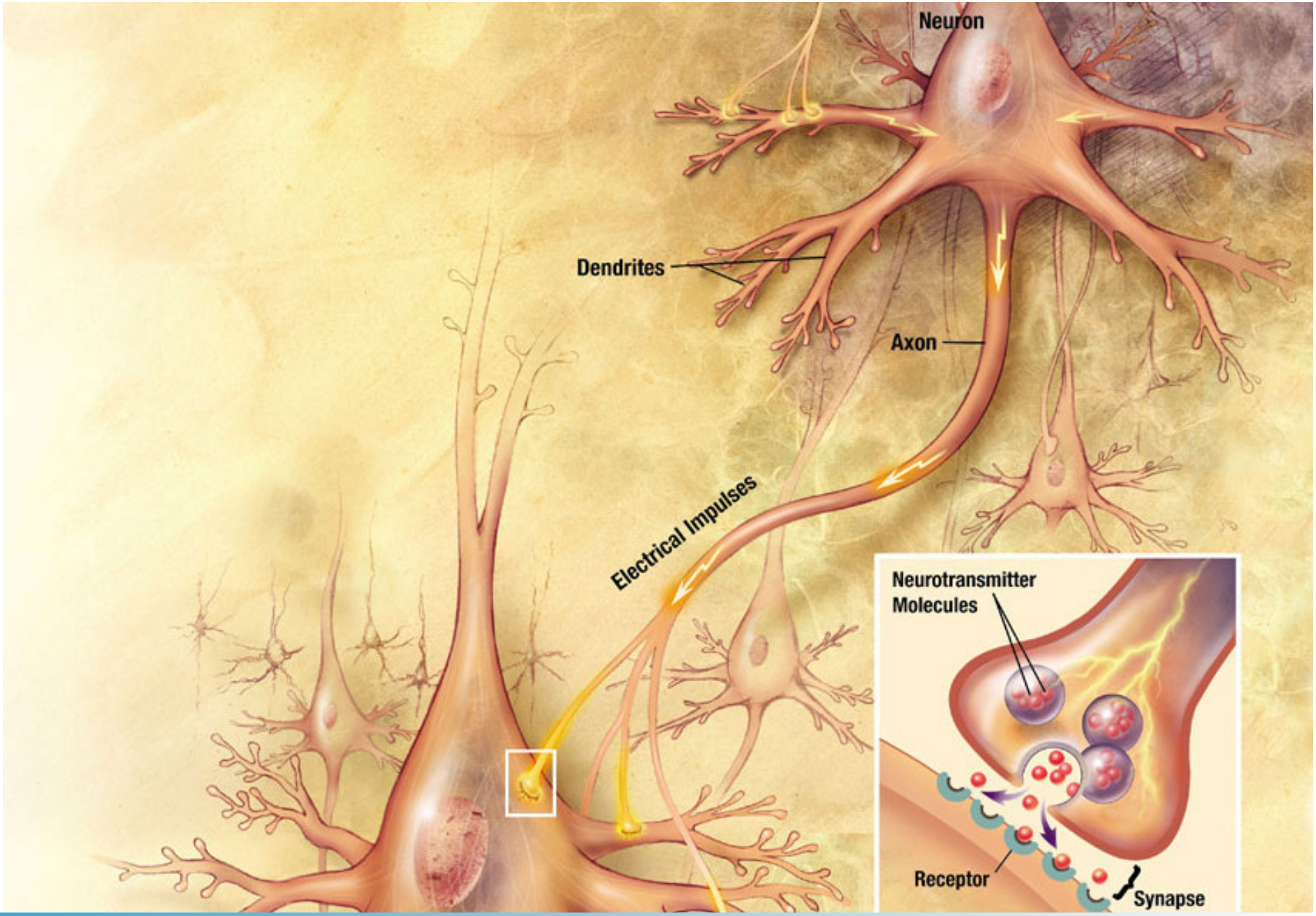
Neural networks



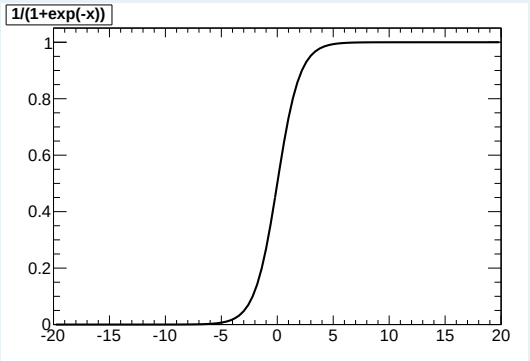
Neural networks

Brief history of artificial neural networks

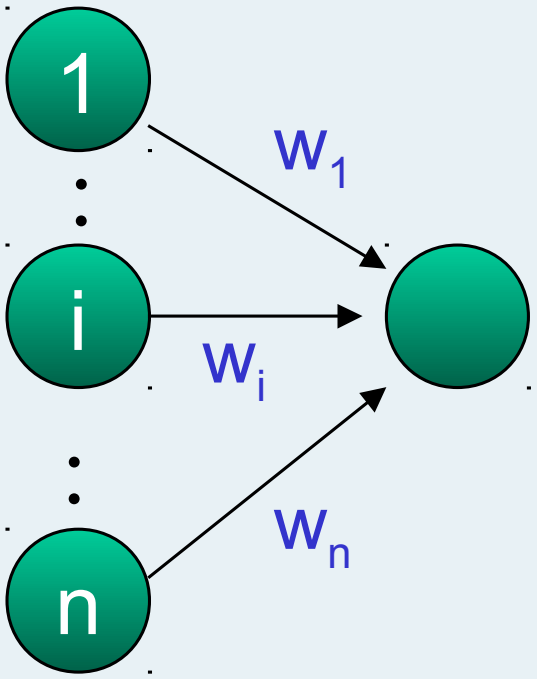
- 1943: W. McCulloch and W. Pitts explore capabilities of networks of simple neurons
- 1958: F. Rosenblatt introduces perceptron (single neuron wih adjustable weights and threshold activation function)
- 1969: M. Minsky and S. Papert prove limitations of perceptron (linear separation only) and (wrongly) conjecture that multi-layered perceptrons have same limitations
  $\Rightarrow$ ANN research almost abandoned in 1970s!!!
- 1986: Rumelhart, Hinton and Williams introduce "backward propagation of errors": solves multi-layered learning
- Today: will only talk about multilayer perceptron (MLP), but there are many recent advances in ANN

Single neuron

- Remember linear separation:
  $\lambda(x) = w \cdot x = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i x_i + w_0$
- Boundary at $\lambda(x) = 0$
- Replace threshold boundary by sigmoid:



$$\lambda \to \sigma(\lambda) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\lambda}}$$



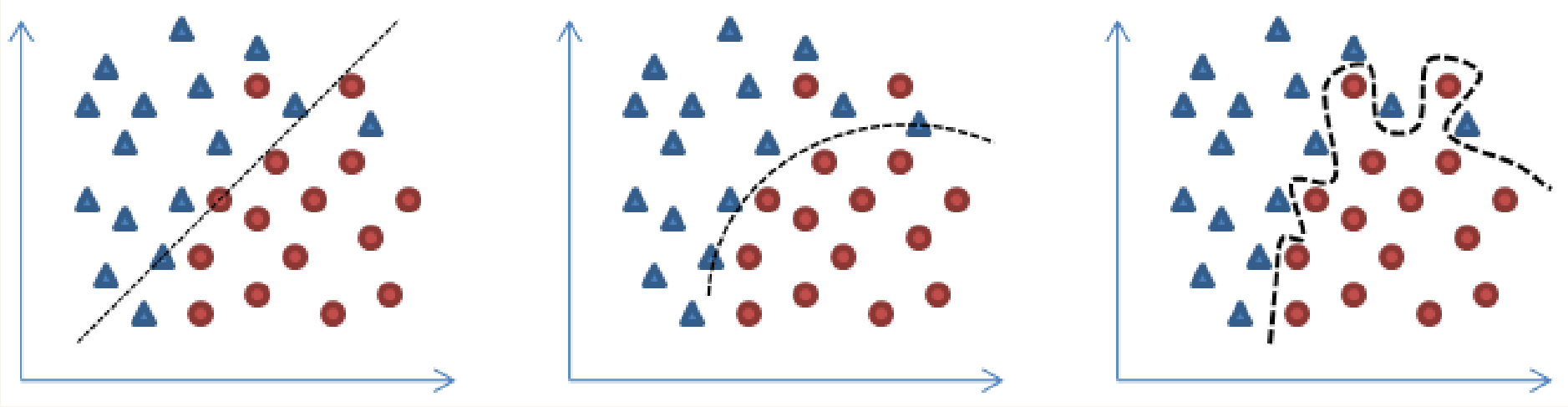
- $\sigma(\lambda)$ is neuron activity, λ is activation
- Neuron behaviour completely controlled by weights $w = \{w_0, \ldots, w_n\}$
- Training: minimisation of error/loss function (quadratic deviations, entropy [maximum likelihood]), via gradient descent or stochastic approximation

Neural networks

Training

- Minimise error function $E(w)$
- Gradient descent: $w^{(k+1)} = w^{(k)} - \eta \frac{dE^{(k)}}{dw}$
- $\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_j} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} -(t^{(n)} - y^{(n)}) x_j^{(n)}$ with target $t^{(n)}$ (0 or 1), so $t^{(n)} - y^{(n)}$ is the error on event n
- All events at once (batch learning):
  - weights updated all at once after processing the entire training sample
  - finds the actual steepest decent
  - takes more time
- or one-by-one (online learning):
  - speeds up learning
  - useful in HEP because of redundant datasets (large Monte Carlo samples with many similar events)
  - may avoid local minima with stochastic component in minimisation
  - depends on the order of training events
- One epoch: going through the training data once

Overtraining



- Diverging weights can cause overfitting
- Mitigate by:
  - early stopping (after a fixed number of epochs)
  - monitoring error on test sample
  - regularisation, introducing a "weight decay" term:

$$\tilde{E}(w) = E(w) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \sum_i w_i^2$$

Neural networks

Theorem

Let $\sigma(.)$ be a non-constant, bounded, and monotone-increasing continuous function. Let $\mathcal{C}(I_n)$ denote the space of continuous functions on the n-dimensional hypercube. Then, for any given function $f \in \mathcal{C}(I_n)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists an integer M and sets of real constants w_j, w_{ij} where$i = 1, \ldots, n$ and $j = 1, \ldots, M$ such that

$$y(x, w) = \sum_{j=1}^{M} w_j \sigma \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{ij} x_i + w_{0j} \right)$$

is an approximation of $f(.)$, that is $|y(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$

Neural networks

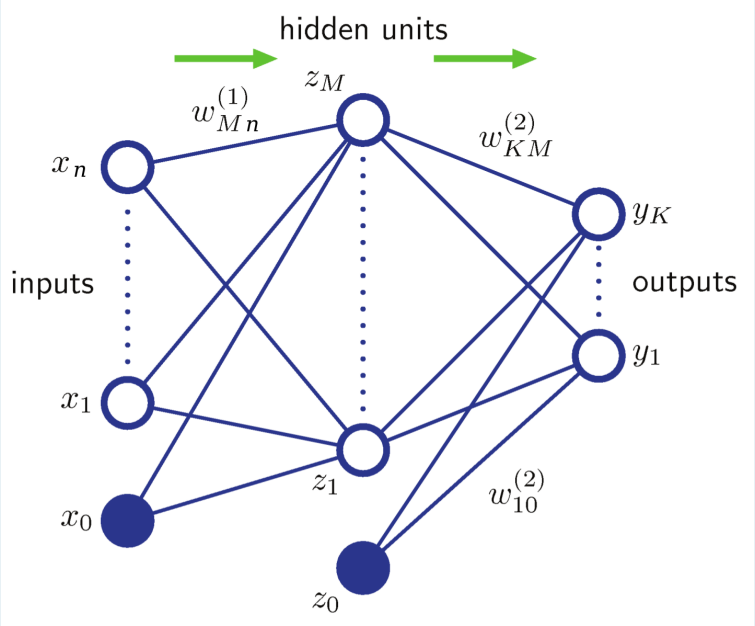
Interpretation

- You can approximate any continuous function to arbitrary precision with a linear combination of sigmoids
- Corollary 1: can approximate any continuous function with neurons!
- Corollary 2: a single hidden layer is enough
- Corollary 3: a linear output neuron is enough

Multilayer perceptron: feedforward network

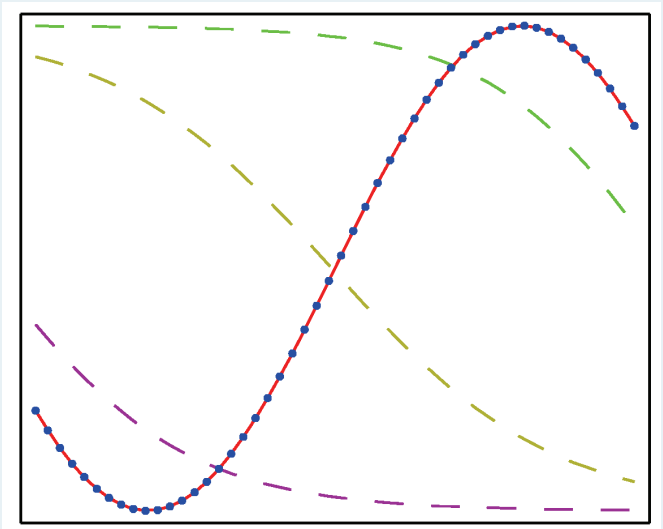
- Neurons organised in layers
- Output of one layer becomes input to next layer

$$y_k(x, w) = \sum_{j=0}^{M} w_{kj}^{(2)} \underbrace{\sigma\left(\sum_{i=0}^{n} w_{ji}^{(1)} x_i\right)}_{z_j}$$



Can fit any function: examples

- 1 input (training data), 1 output
- 3 hidden neurons on one hidden layer



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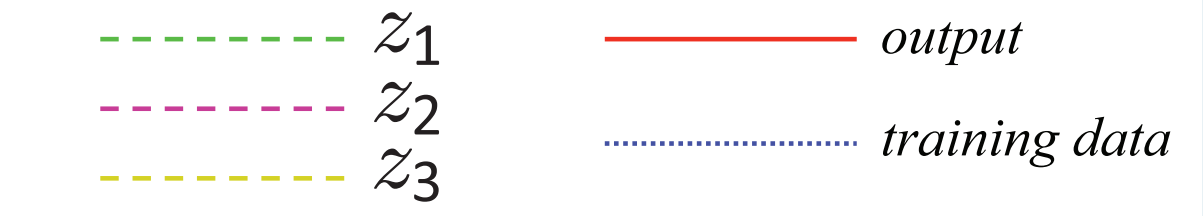
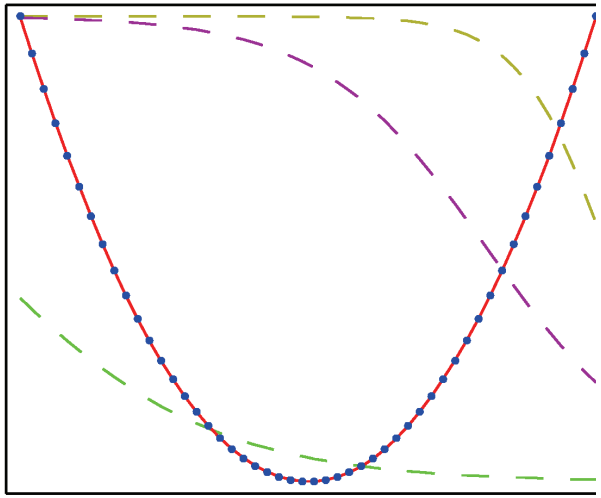
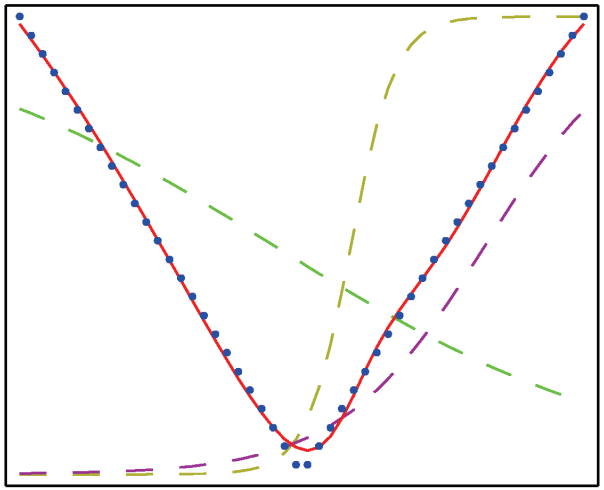
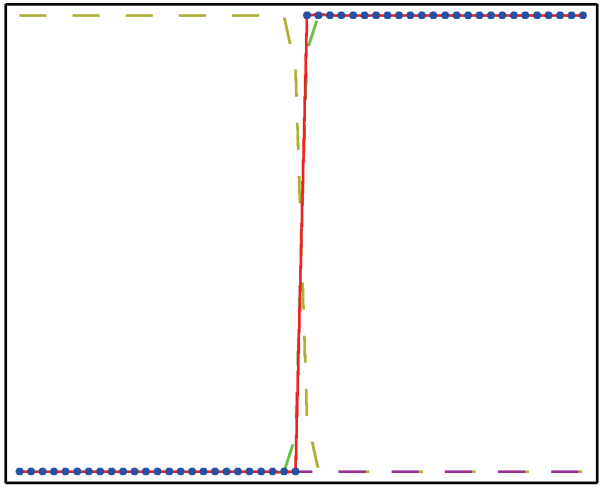








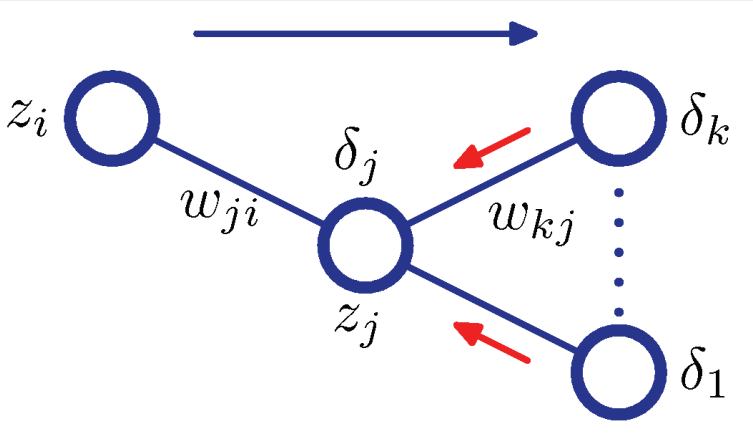
Backpropagation

- Training means minimising error function $E(w)$
- For single neuron: $\frac{dE}{dw_k} = (y - t)x_k$
- One can show that for a network:

$$\frac{dE}{dw_{ji}} = \delta_j z_i, \text{ where}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_k &= (y_k - t_k) \text{ for output neurons} \\ \delta_j &\propto \sum_k w_{kj}\delta_k \text{ otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

- Hence errors are propagated backwards

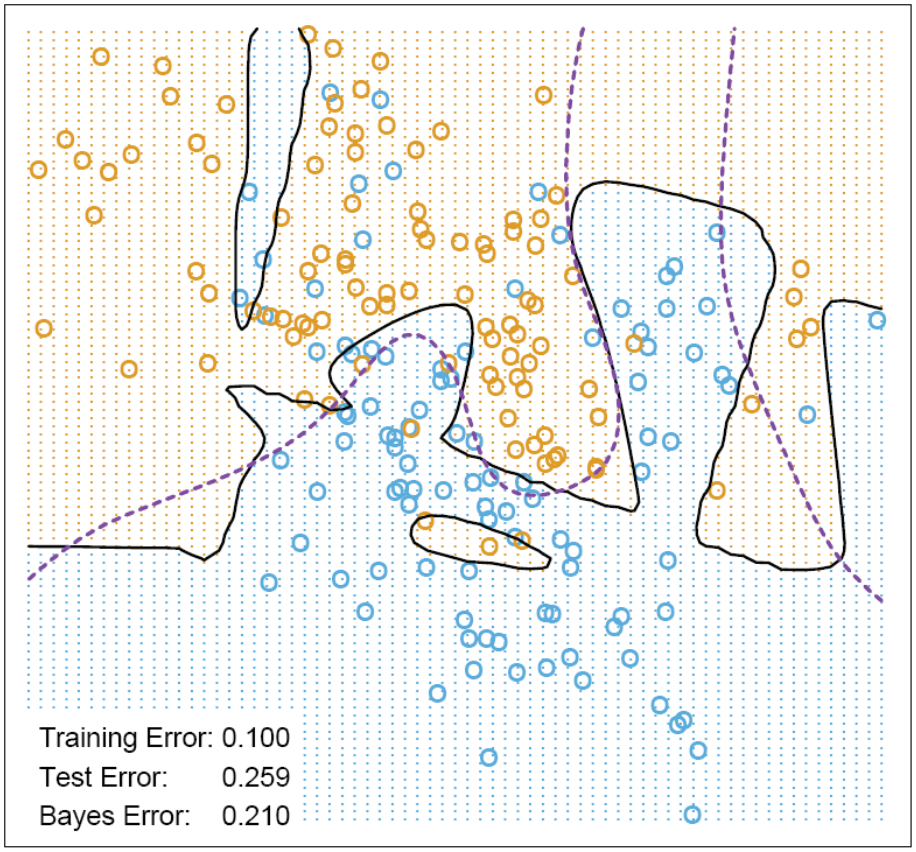


- As before, weights can be regularised:

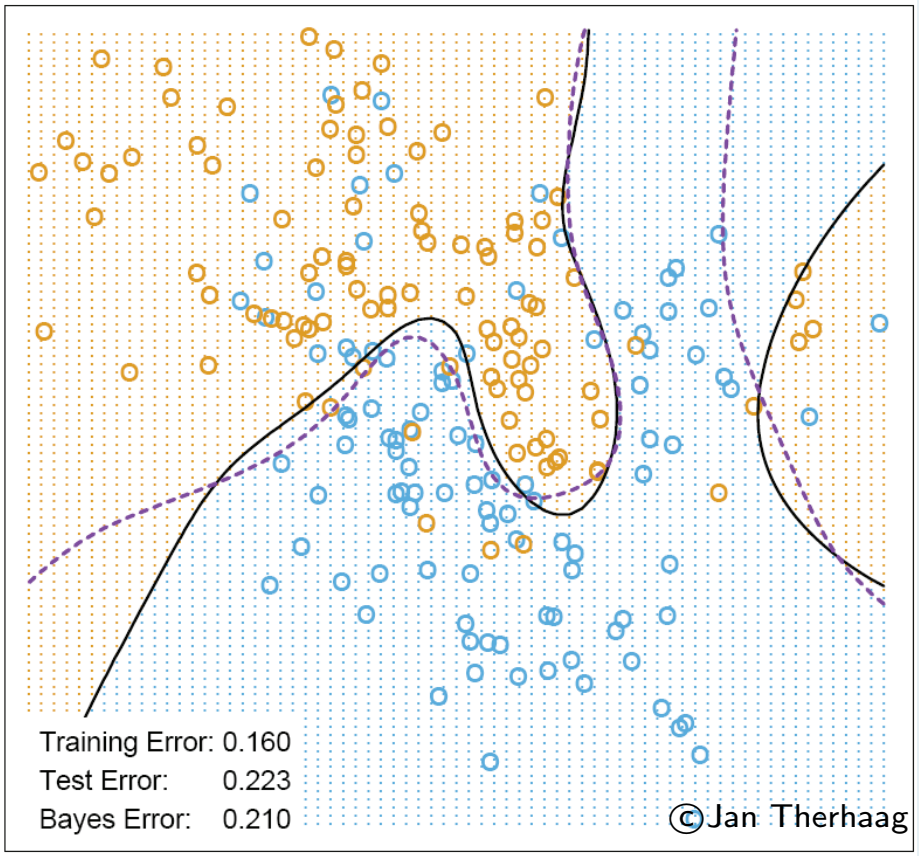
$$\tilde{E}(w) = E(w) + \frac{\alpha}{2}\sum_i w_i^2$$

Regularisation

10 hidden nodes



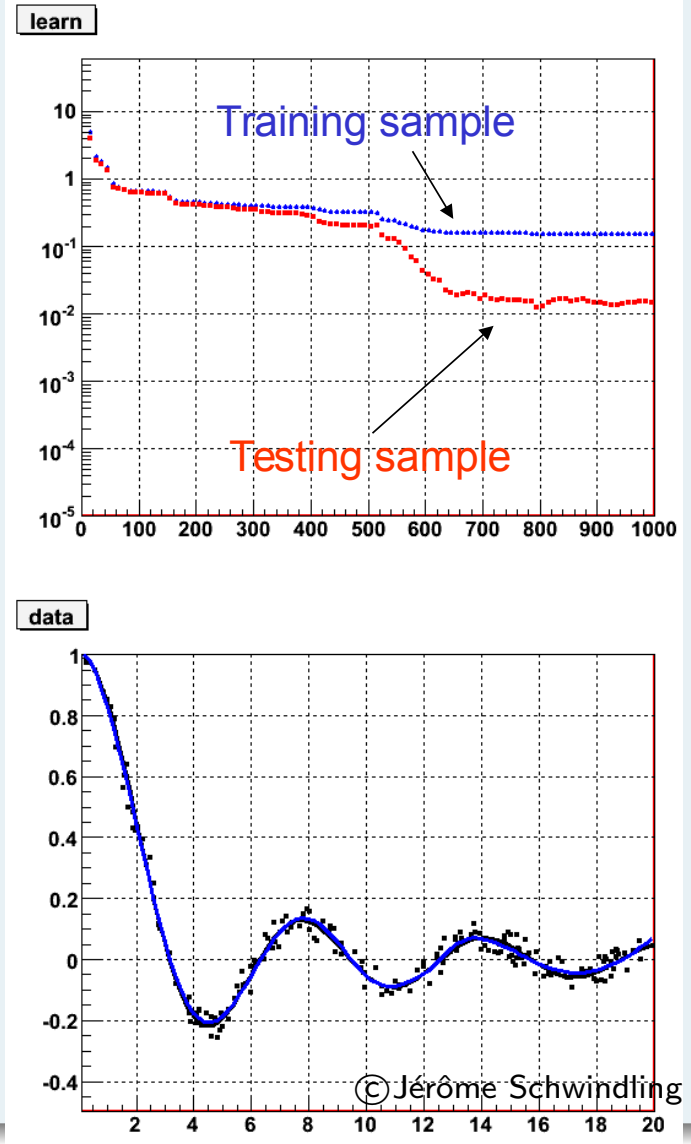
10 hidden nodes and $\alpha = 0.04$



- Much less overfitting, better generalisation properties

Getting confused: testing better than training?

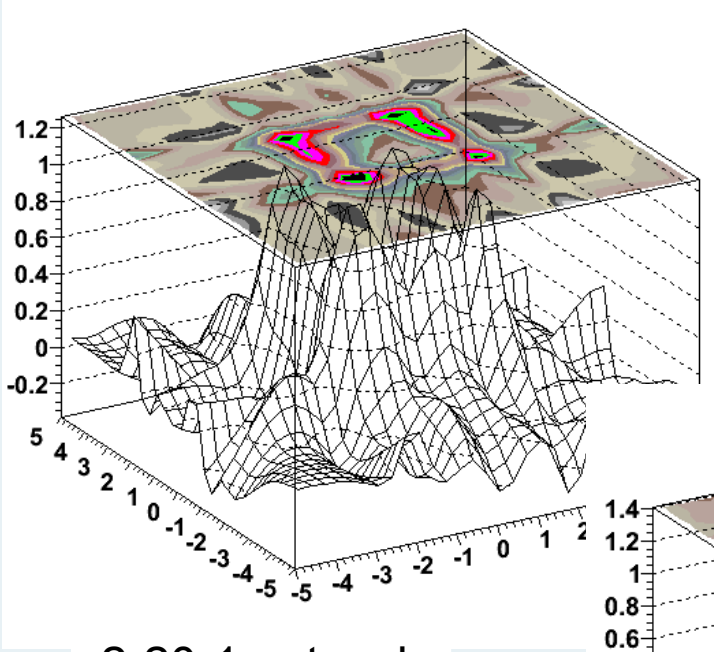
- Train on noisy data centred on true value
- Test on no-noise data
- Testing error becomes better: during training, the NN learned the true distribution (average of noisy inputs)
- $\Rightarrow$ testing converges
- Example: $\sin(x)/x + rand(-0.05, +0.05)$
- Of course doesn't work as well if noise is not symmetric



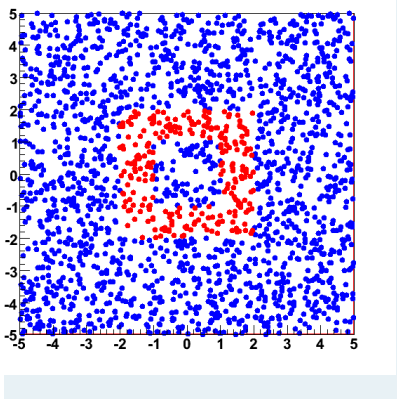
Tricks of the trade

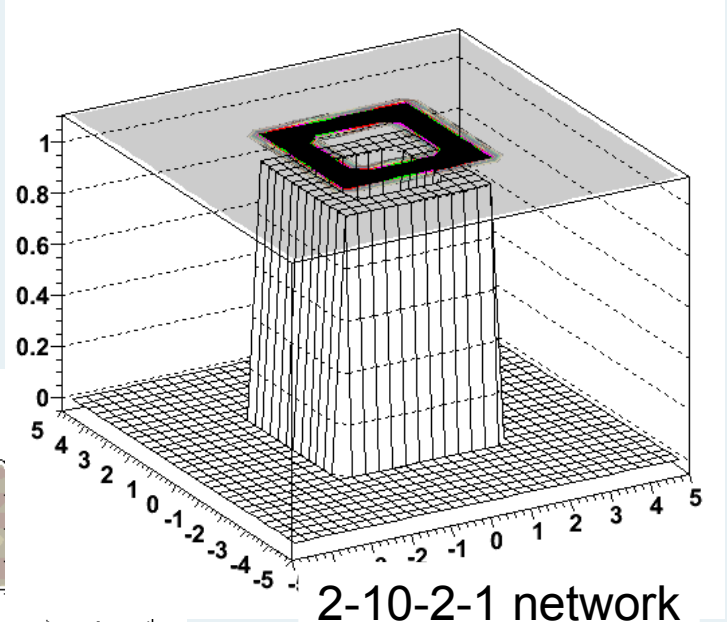
- Preprocess data:
  - if relevant, provide e.g. x/y instead of x and y
  - subtract the mean because the sigmoid derivative becomes negligible very fast
  - normalise variances (close to 0)
  - shuffle training sample (order matters in online training)
- Initial random weights should be small to avoid saturation
- Batch/online training: depends on the problem
- Regularise weights to minimise overtraining. May also help select good variables via Automatic Relevance Determination (ARD)
- Make sure the training sample covers the full parameter space
- No rule (not even valid guestimates) about the number of hidden nodes
- A single hidden layer is enough for all purposes, but multiple hidden layers may allow for a solution with fewer parameters

Adding a hidden layer

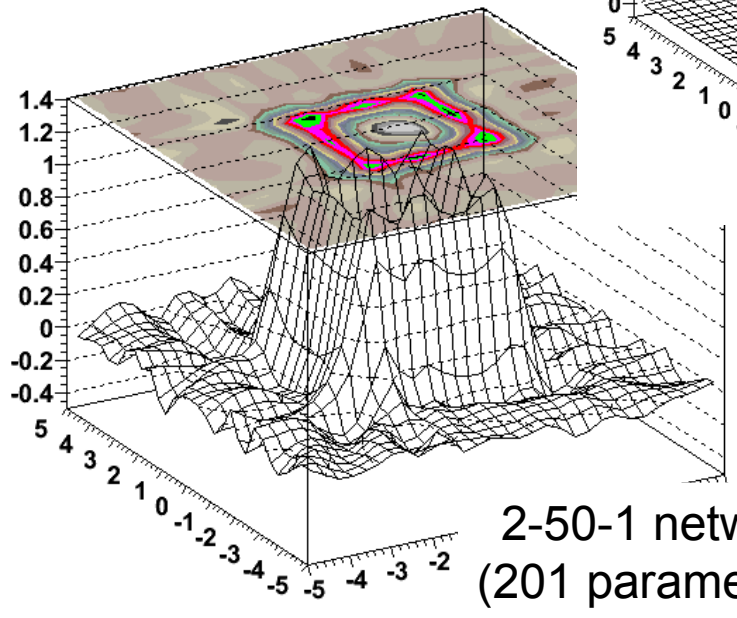


2-20-1 network
(81 parameters)





2-10-2-1 network
(55 parameters)



2-50-1 network
(201 parameters)

Bayesian neural networks

Introduction

- As name says: Bayesian approach, try to *infer* functions $f(x)$
- Training sample T of N examples $(x, y)_1, (x, y)_2, \ldots, (x, y)_N$ of discriminating variables x and class labels y
- Each point w corresponds to a function $f(x, w)$
- Assign probability density $p(w|T)$ to it
- If $p(w_1|T) > p(w_2|T)$, then associated function $f(x, w_1)$ more compatible with training data T than function $f(x, w_2)$
- Posterior density $p(w|T)$ is final result of Bayesian inference
- BNN is the predictive distribution

$$p(y|x, T) = \int p(y|x, w)p(w|T)dw$$

where the function class is class of feedforward neural networks with a fixed structure (inputs, layers, hidden nodes, outputs)

Bayesian neural networks

In practice

- Take the mean of the predictive distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) &= \int z p(z|x, T) dz \\ &= \int f(x, w) p(w|T) dw \end{aligned}$$

- Why? For classification $p(y|x, w) = f(x, w)^y \left(1 - f(x, w)\right)^{1-y}$
  - for $y = 1$: $p(y|x, w) = f(x, w)$
  - for $y = 0$: $p(y|x, w) = 1 - f(x, w)$
  - so only $f(x, w)$ contributes to the mean
- Example usage:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, w) &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-g(x,w)}} \\ g(x, w) &= b + \sum_{j=1}^{H} v_j \tanh(a_j + \sum_{i=1}^{n} u_{ij} x_i) \end{aligned}$$

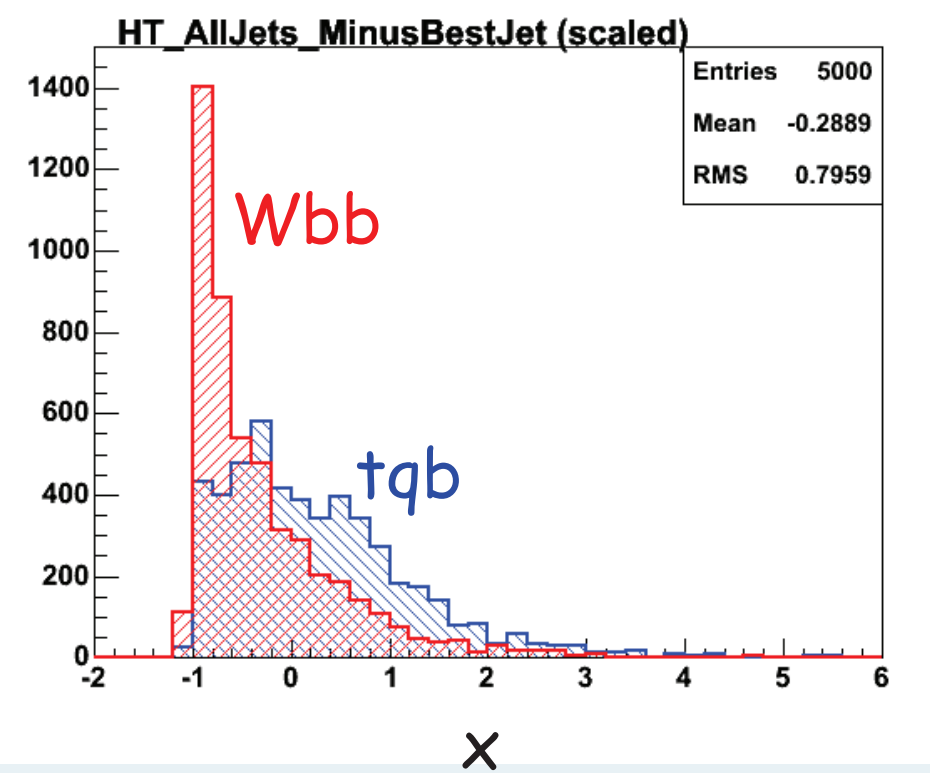
with H hidden nodes

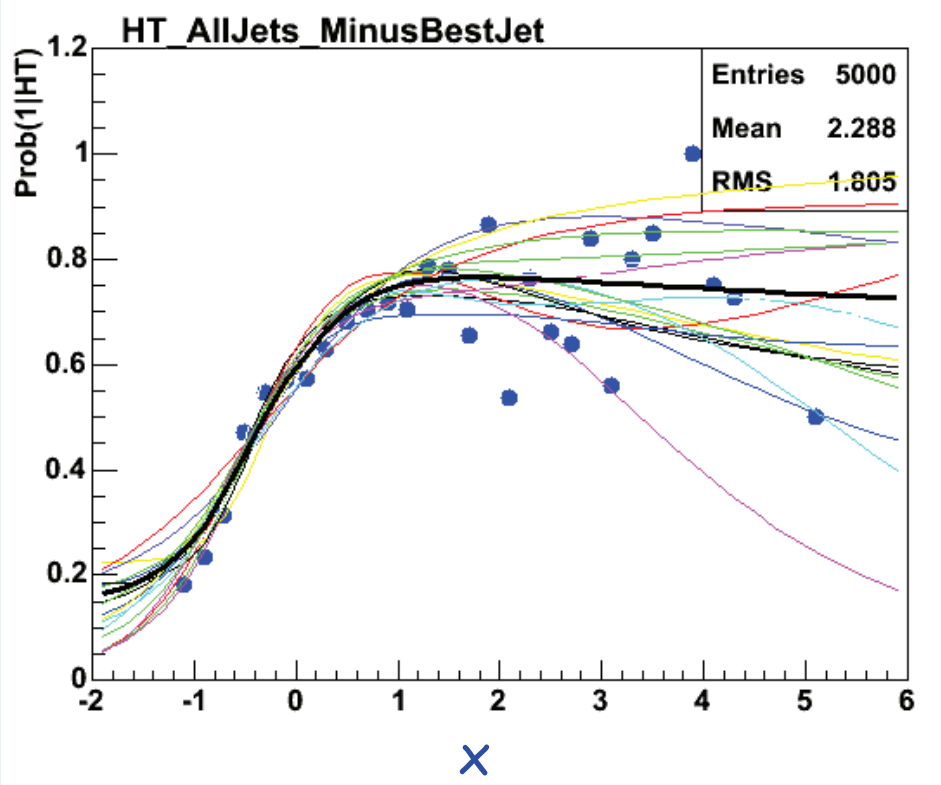
Bayesian neural networks

Implementation

- Scanning NN parameter space can be daunting
- Can approximate integral in $y(x)$ using Markov chain Monte Carlo method (MCMC)
- Will generate M sample weights $w_1, \ldots, w_M$ from posterior density $p(w|T)$
- $y(x) \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^{M} f(x, w_m)$
- Use spare subset of MCMC points to avoid correlations
- Start with "reasonable" guesses for parameters (e.g. zero-centred Gaussians)

Example





- points: bin by bin histogram ratio
- thin curves: each $f(x, w_k)$
- thick curve: average, which approximates $D(x)$

Decision trees

Details tomorrow

Summary of MVA techniques

Criteria		Classifiers								
		Cuts	Likeli-hood	PDERS / k-NN	H-Matrix	Fisher	MLP	BDT	RuleFit	SVM
Perfor-mance	no / linear correlations	😐	☺	☺	😐	☺	☺	😐	☺	☺
	nonlinear correlations	😐	☹	☺	☹	☹	☺	☺	😐	☺
Speed	Training	☹	☺	☺	☺	☺	😐	☹	😐	☹
	Response	☺	☺	☹/😐	☺	☺	☺	😐	😐	😐
Robust-ness	Overtraining	☺	😐	😐	☺	☺	☹	☹	😐	😐
	Weak input variables	☺	☺	☹	☺	☺	😐	😐	😐	😐
Curse of dimensionality		☹	☺	☹	☺	☺	😐	☺	😐	😐
Transparency		☺	☺	😐	☺	☺	☹	☹	☹	☹

(according to TMVA authors)

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Conclusion

- When trying to achieve optimal discrimination one can try to approximate

$$D(x) = \frac{s(x)}{s(x) + b(x)}$$

- Many techniques and tools exist to achieve this
- (Un)fortunately, no one method can be shown to outperform the others in all cases.
- One should try several and pick the best one for any given problem
- Multivariate techniques are at work in your everyday life without your knowning and can easily outsmart you for many tasks
- Try this to convince yourself ▸ http://www.phi-t.de/mousegame/index_eng.html

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