

Decision Theory

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UDRC-EURASIP Summer School 2022

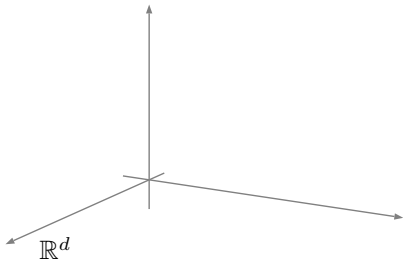
Heriot-Watt University

Decision theory

Decision theory

Problem

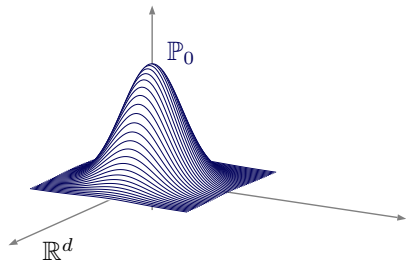
Decision theory



Problem

We observe $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Decision theory

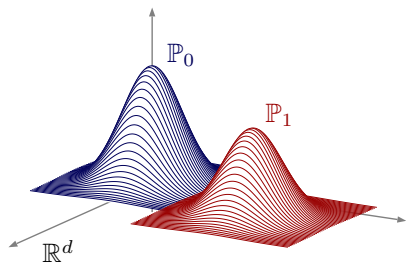


Problem

We observe $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$X \sim P_0$$

Decision theory

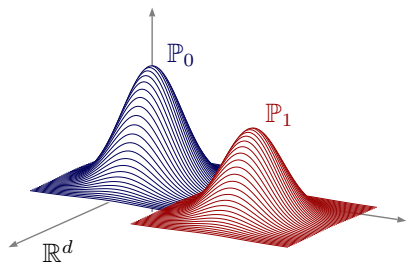


Problem

We observe $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$\mathbf{X} \sim P_0$ or $\mathbf{X} \sim P_1$?

Decision theory



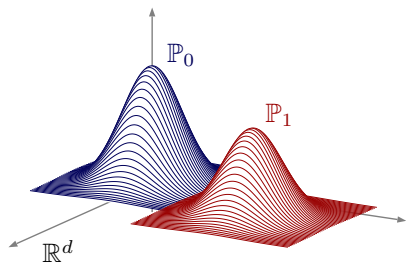
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We observe $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

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In classical *decision theory*, we *know* the distributions \mathbb{P}_0 and \mathbb{P}_1

Decision theory



Problem

We observe $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$\mathbf{X} \sim P_0$ or $\mathbf{X} \sim P_1$?

In classical *decision theory*, we *know* the distributions P_0 and P_1

In *machine learning*, we *have to estimate* P_0 and P_1 from data

Example in 1D: Spam

Example in 1D: Spam



Example in 1D: Spam



Example in 1D: Spam



$X \in \mathbb{R}$: number of **spam words** in a message

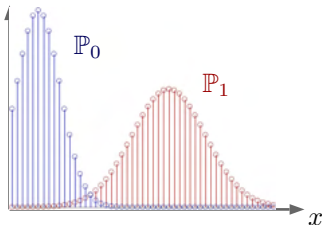
Example in 1D: Spam



$X \in \mathbb{R}$: number of **spam words** in a message

Null Hypothesis

H_0 : message isn't spam



Example in 1D: Spam



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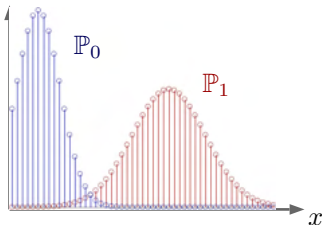
Null Hypothesis

H_0 : message isn't spam

Alternative Hypothesis

H_1 : message isn't spam

Decision Theory



Signal vs Noise

Signal vs Noise

Consider a test for detecting:

if given email is spam

Signal vs Noise

Consider a test for detecting:

if given email is spam

presence of aircraft in radar

Signal vs Noise

Consider a test for detecting:

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if defendant is guilty

presence of tumor in an image

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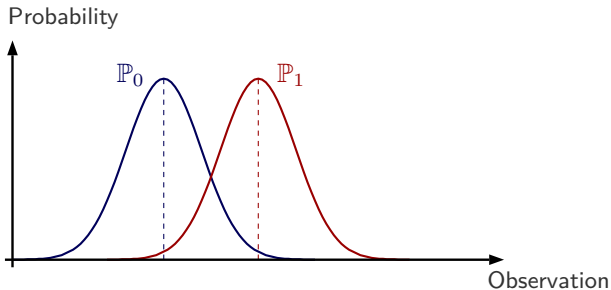
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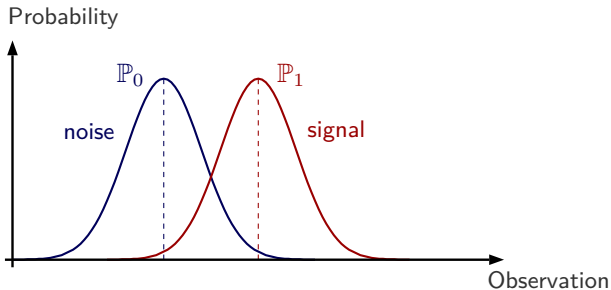
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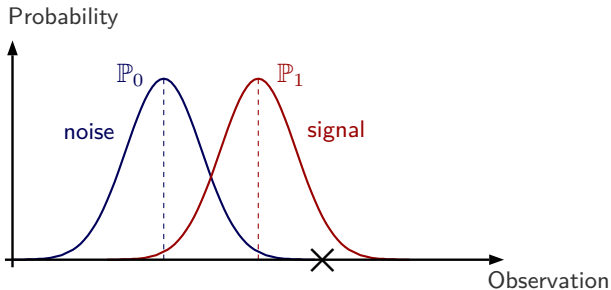
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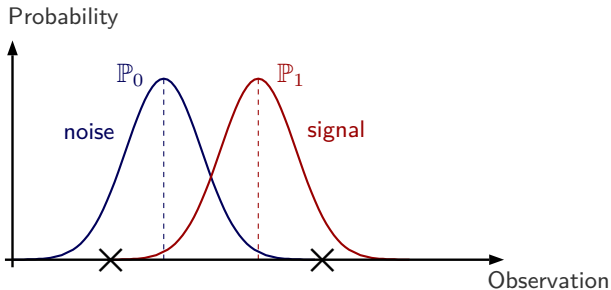
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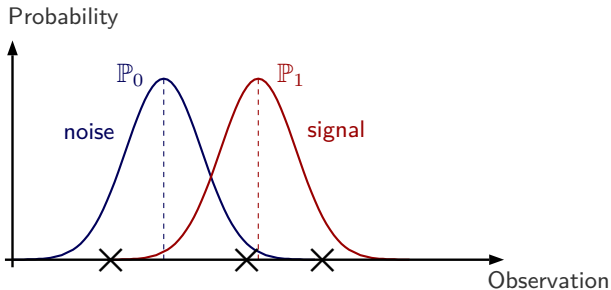
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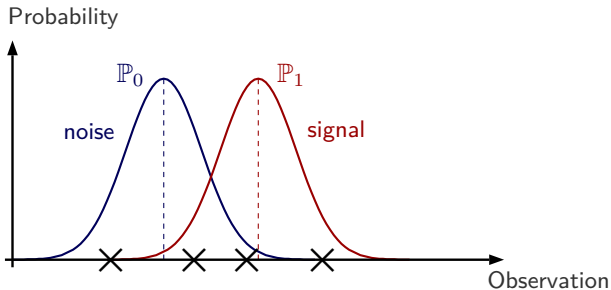
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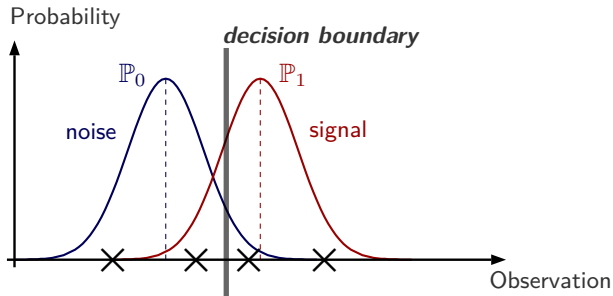
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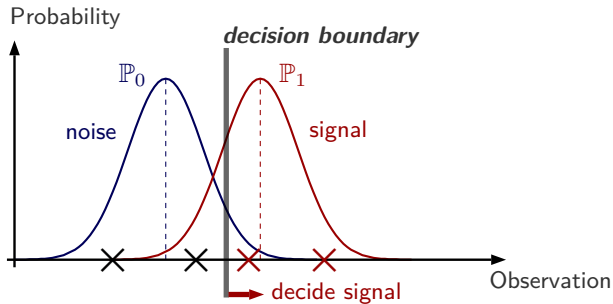
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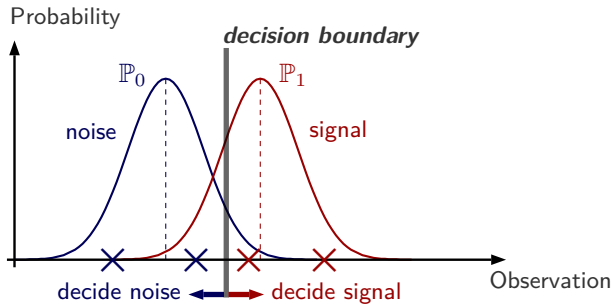
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The Decision Tradeoff

The Decision Tradeoff

True hypothesis

Decide noise

Decide signal

noise

signal

The Decision Tradeoff

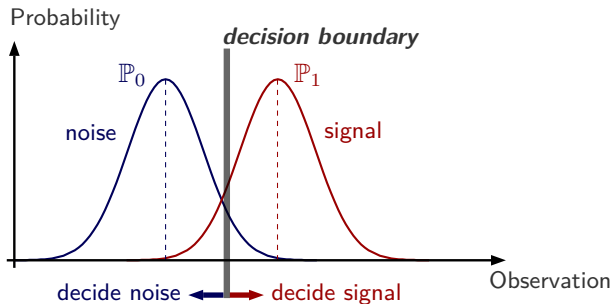
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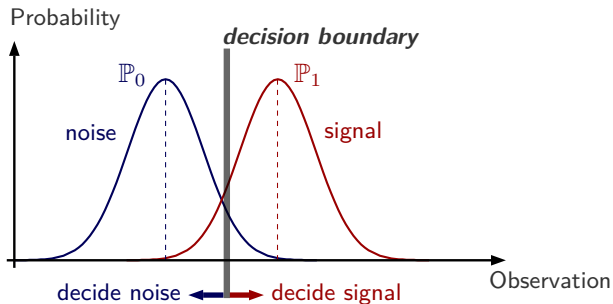
noise

signal



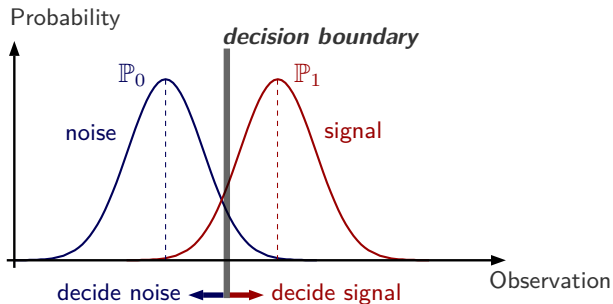
The Decision Tradeoff

True hypothesis	Decide noise	Decide signal
noise	✓	
signal		



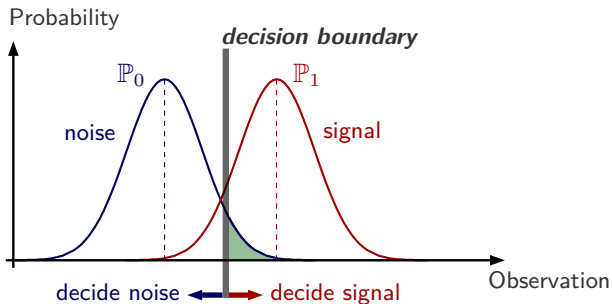
The Decision Tradeoff

True hypothesis	Decide noise	Decide signal
noise	✓	
signal		✓



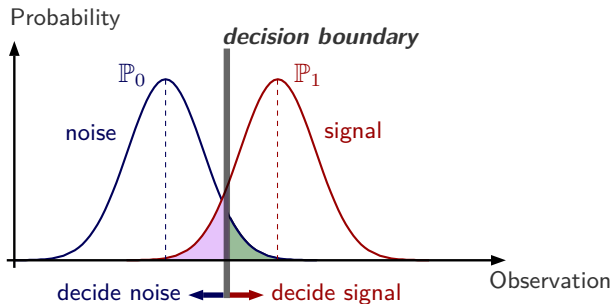
The Decision Tradeoff

True hypothesis	Decide noise	Decide signal
noise	✓	false alarm
signal		✓



The Decision Tradeoff

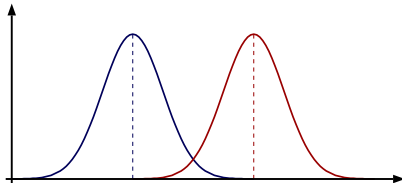
True hypothesis	Decide noise	Decide signal
noise	✓	false alarm
signal	missed detection	✓



Improving the Tradeoff

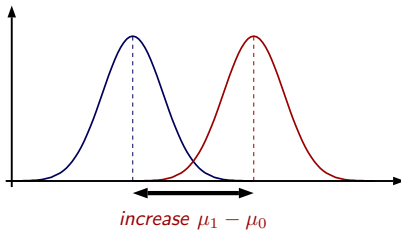
Improving the Tradeoff

Larger effect size



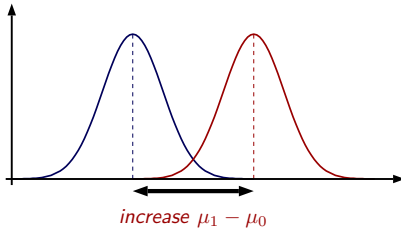
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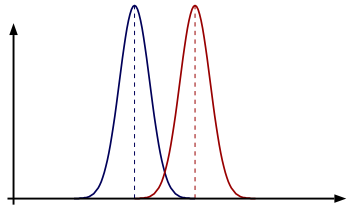


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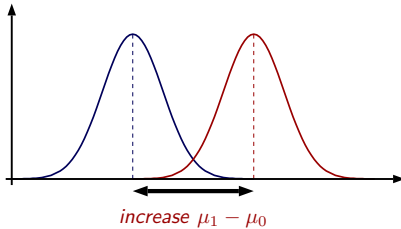


Better/more measurements

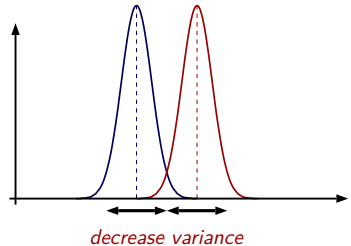


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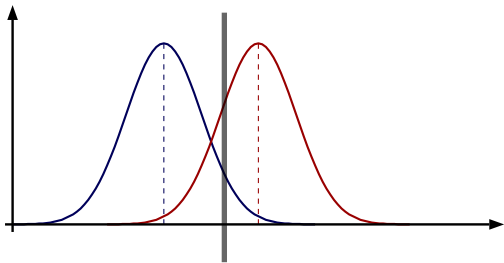
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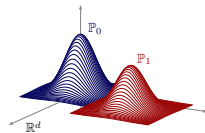
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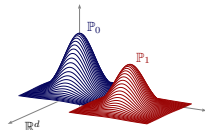
Where to place the decision boundary?



Decision and loss functions



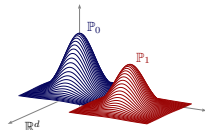
Decision and loss functions



True label

$$Y = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } H_0 \text{ is true} \\ 1 & , \text{ if } H_1 \text{ true} \end{cases}$$

Decision and loss functions



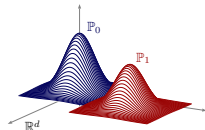
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Decision function $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

$$f(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if we } \underline{\text{decide}} H_0 \\ 1 & , \text{ if we } \underline{\text{decide}} H_1 \end{cases}$$

Decision and loss functions



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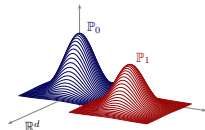
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Loss function $\ell : \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Decision and loss functions



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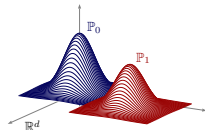
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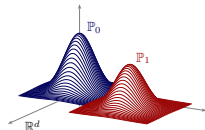
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True hypothesis	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 0$	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 1$
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H_0 is true

H_1 is true

Decision and loss functions



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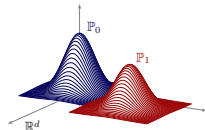
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H_0 is true	$\ell(0, 0)$	
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H_1 is true		
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Decision and loss functions



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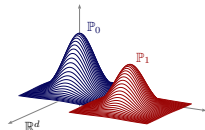
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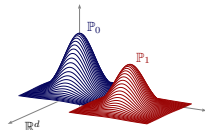
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Risk and Optimal Decision

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Given *decision function* $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ and *loss* $\ell : \{0, 1\}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$,

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Risk:

Risk and Optimal Decision

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Risk:

$$R[f] := \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

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Optimal decision problem:

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... infinite-dimensional problem

$$\underset{f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

Recall that $f(\mathbf{X})$ and Y are binary

$$\underset{f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

Recall that $f(\mathbf{X})$ and Y are binary

Conditioning on \mathbf{X} ,

$$\underset{f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

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Recall that $f(\mathbf{X})$ and Y are binary

Conditioning on \mathbf{X} ,

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}} \left[\mathbb{E}_Y [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y) \mid \mathbf{X}] \right]$$

$$\underset{f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

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Recall that $f(\mathbf{X})$ and Y are binary

Conditioning on \mathbf{X} ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)] &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}} \left[\mathbb{E}_Y [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y) \mid \mathbf{X}] \right] \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathbb{E}_Y [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

If $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$,

$$\mathbb{E}_Y [\ell(0, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] = \ell(0, 0) \mathbb{P}(Y = 0 \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}) + \ell(0, 1) \mathbb{P}(Y = 1 \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$$

$$\underset{f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

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If $f(\mathbf{x}) = 1$,

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Optimal decision

Optimal decision

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \mathbb{E}_Y \left[\ell(0, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \right] < \mathbb{E}_Y \left[\ell(1, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \right]$$

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Bayes rule

Optimal decision

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \mathbb{E}_Y \left[\ell(0, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \right] < \mathbb{E}_Y \left[\ell(1, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \right]$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \quad \text{if} \quad \mathbb{E}_Y \left[\ell(0, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \right] \geq \mathbb{E}_Y \left[\ell(1, Y) \mid \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x} \right]$$

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Optimal decision

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Optimal decision

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Optimal decision

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$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x})$: likelihood ratio

Likelihood ratio test

$$\underset{f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} [\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y)]$$

Likelihood ratio test

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The decision that minimizes the risk in a binary hypothesis test is

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The decision that minimizes the risk in a binary hypothesis test is

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{1}_{\{\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \eta\}}(\mathbf{x})$$

Likelihood ratio test

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$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{1}_{\{\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) \geq \eta\}}(\mathbf{x})$$

- Indicator function of set \mathcal{S} :
$$\mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{S}}(s) = \begin{cases} 1 & , \text{ if } s \in \mathcal{S} \\ 0 & , \text{ if } s \notin \mathcal{S} \end{cases}$$

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- *Likelihood ratio*:
$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_{\mathbf{X}|H_1}(\mathbf{x} | H_1)}{f_{\mathbf{X}|H_0}(\mathbf{x} | H_0)}$$

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- Likelihood ratio:*
$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_{\mathbf{X}|H_1}(\mathbf{x} | H_1)}{f_{\mathbf{X}|H_0}(\mathbf{x} | H_0)}$$

- Decision threshold:*
$$\eta = \frac{\ell(1, 0) - \ell(0, 0)}{\ell(0, 1) - \ell(1, 1)} \cdot \frac{\mathbb{P}(H_0)}{\mathbb{P}(H_1)}$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Example in \mathbb{R}

$$H_0 : X = W$$

$$H_1 : X = c + W$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

$$H_0 : X = W$$

no aircraft/tumor/spam
innocent defendant

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$$f_W(w) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{w^2}{2}}$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

$$H_0 : X = W$$

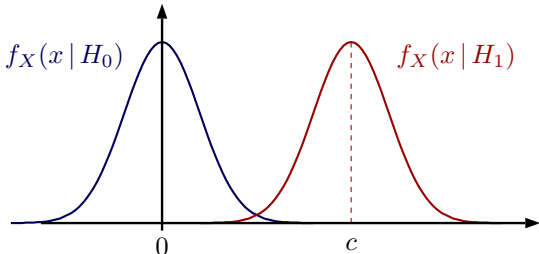
no aircraft/tumor/spam
innocent defendant

$$H_1 : X = c + W$$

aircraft/tumor/spam
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$$W \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$

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Example in \mathbb{R}

Assume

Example in \mathbb{R}

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- $c = 1$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Assume

- $c = 1$
- Loss values

True hypothesis	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 0$	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 1$
H_0 is true	0	1
H_1 is true	25	0

Example in \mathbb{R}

Assume

- $c = 1$
- Loss values

True hypothesis	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 0$	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 1$
H_0 is true	0	1
H_1 is true	25	0

- Base rates: $\mathbb{P}(H_0) = 0.95$ $\mathbb{P}(H_1) = 0.05$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Assume

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True hypothesis	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 0$	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 1$
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Compute the decision threshold

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \eta$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \eta \quad \iff \quad \log \mathcal{L}(x) = \log \eta$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \eta \quad \iff \quad \log \mathcal{L}(x) = \log \eta$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(x)$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \eta \quad \iff \quad \log \mathcal{L}(x) = \log \eta$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \frac{f_{X|H_1}(x | H_1)}{f_{X|H_0}(x | H_0)}$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \eta \quad \iff \quad \log \mathcal{L}(x) = \log \eta$$

with

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \frac{f_{X|H_1}(x | H_1)}{f_{X|H_0}(x | H_0)} = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{(x-1)^2}{2}\right)}{\exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)}$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \eta \quad \iff \quad \log \mathcal{L}(x) = \log \eta$$

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Example in \mathbb{R}

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$$\mathcal{L}(x) = \frac{f_{X|H_1}(x | H_1)}{f_{X|H_0}(x | H_0)} = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{(x-1)^2}{2}\right)}{\exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)} = \exp\left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\eta = \frac{\ell(0, 0) - \ell(1, 0)}{\ell(1, 1) - \ell(0, 1)} \cdot \frac{\mathbb{P}(H_0)}{\mathbb{P}(H_1)}$$

Example in \mathbb{R}

Decision threshold occurs for

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$$c = 1$$

True hypothesis	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 0$	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 1$
H_0 is true	0	1
H_1 is true	25	0

$$\mathbb{P}(H_0) = 0.95$$

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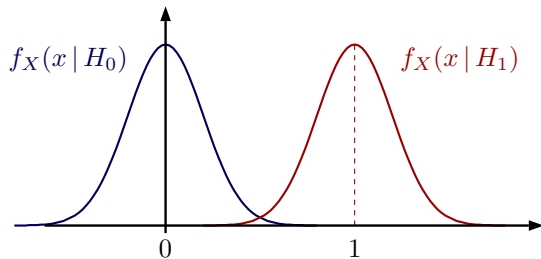
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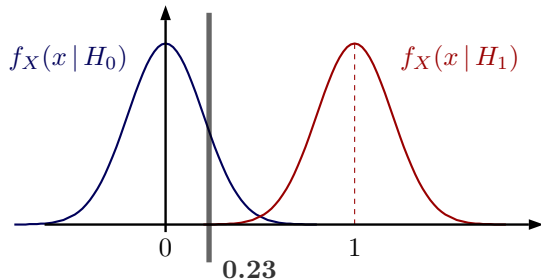
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$$\underset{f:\mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0,1\}}{\text{minimize}} \quad \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}Y} \left[\ell(f(\mathbf{X}), Y) \right]$$

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- Maximum a posteriori (MAP)
- Maximum likelihood (ML)

can be seen as *likelihood ratio tests*

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Recall that MAP rule minimizes probability of incorrect decision:

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This corresponds to a likelihood ratio test with $\eta = 1$

Types of errors and successes

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Table of probabilities

True hypothesis	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 0$	$f(\mathbf{X}) = 1$
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H_0 is true

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True Positive Rate (TPR)

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type I error, false alarm

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power, sensitivity, recall

$$\text{TPR} = \mathbb{P}(f(\mathbf{X}) = 1 \mid H_1)$$

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type I error, false alarm

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True Negative Rate (TNR)

specificity

Table of probabilities

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It turns out that likelihood ratio tests are *Pareto optimal*

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Theorem

Let $f_{\text{LRT}}(\boldsymbol{x})$ be a likelihood ratio decision rule

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Let $f_{\text{LRT}}(\mathbf{x})$ be a likelihood ratio decision rule with FPR and FNR

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And the same relations hold with strict inequalities ($<$, $>$)

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This implies $f_{\text{LRT}}(\mathbf{x}) = f_{\text{MAP}}(\mathbf{x})$

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□

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)

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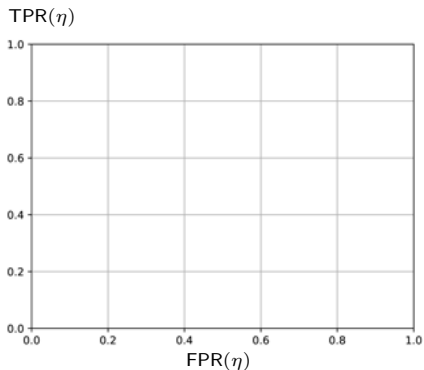
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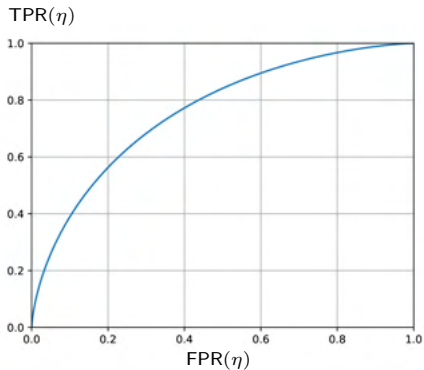
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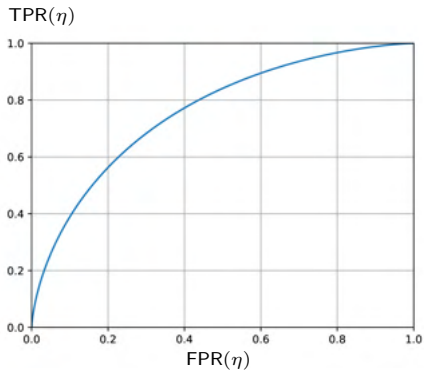
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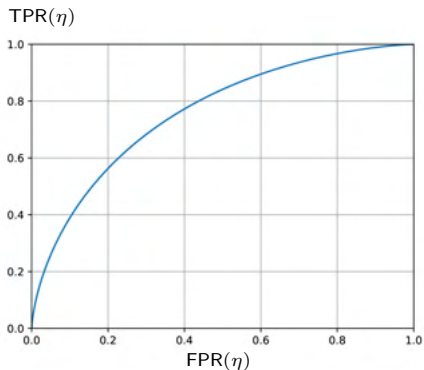


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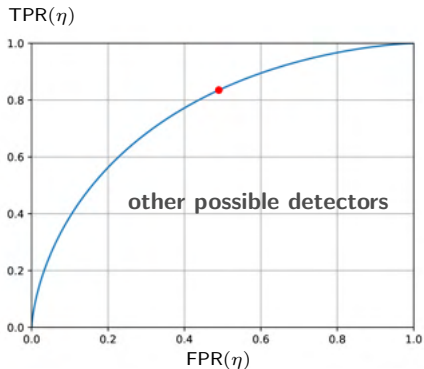
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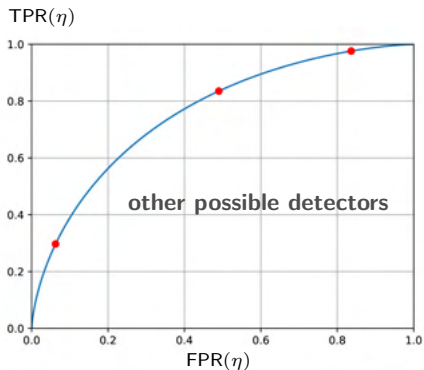
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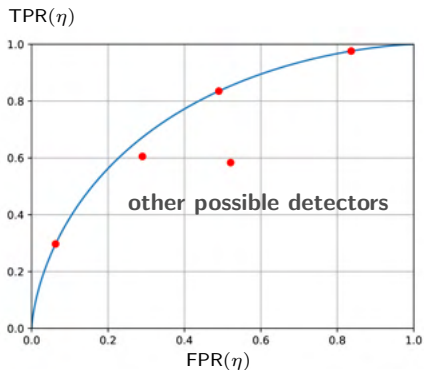
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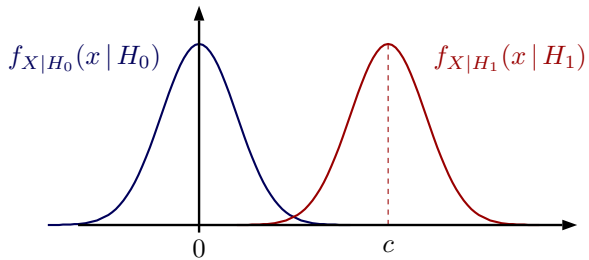


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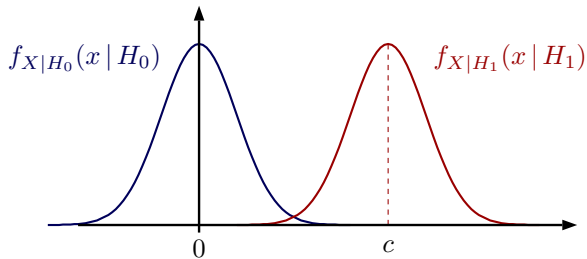
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Example

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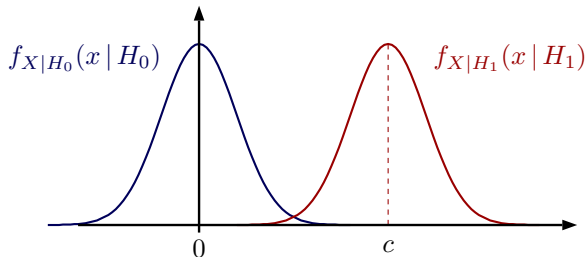


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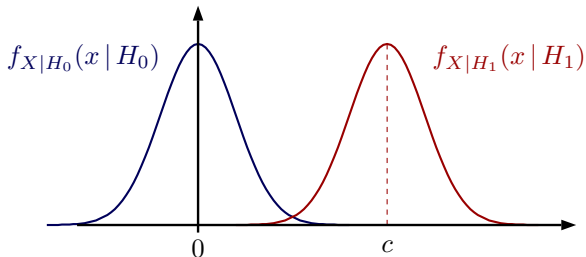
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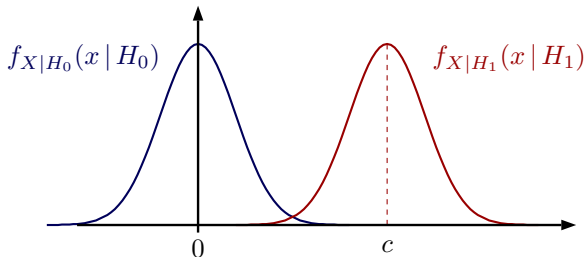


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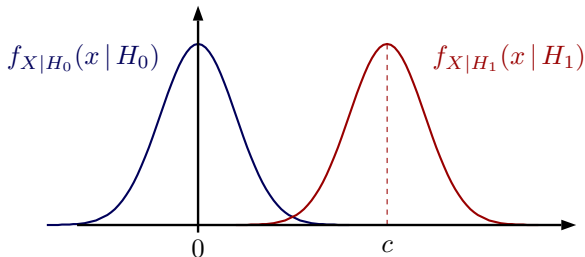
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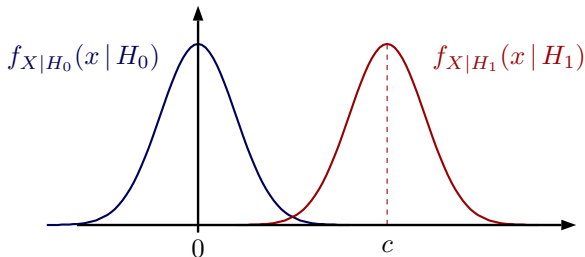
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TPR(η)

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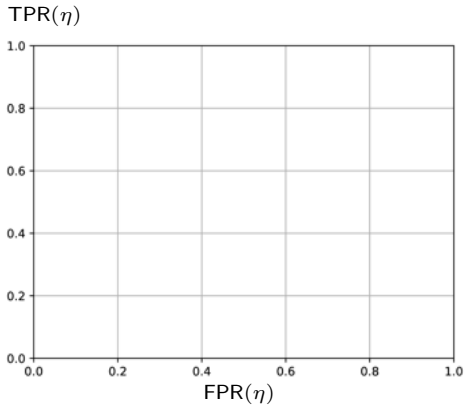
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Example

ROC curve for different values of SNR

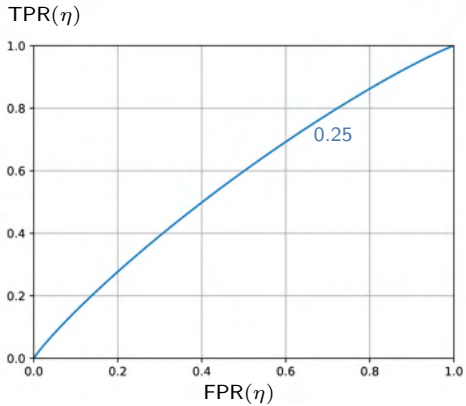
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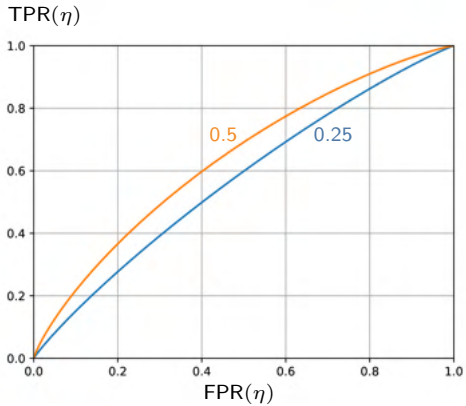
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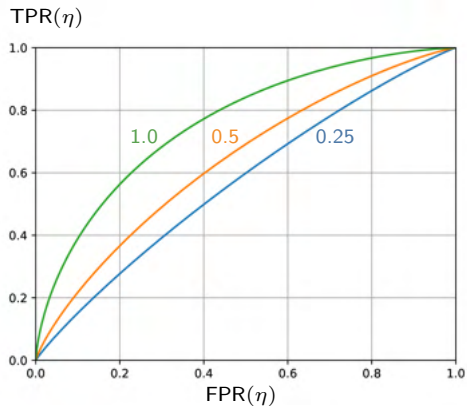
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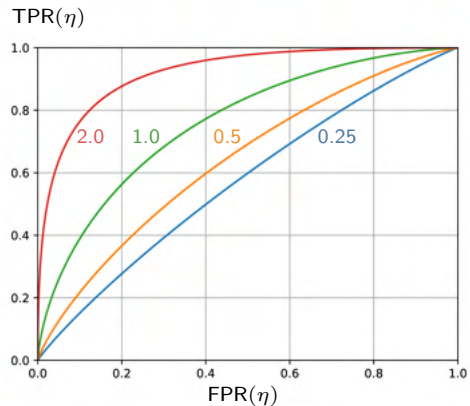
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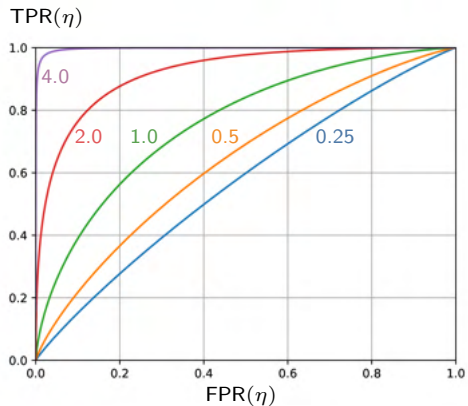
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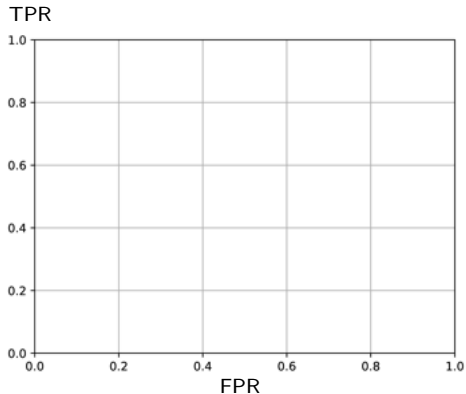
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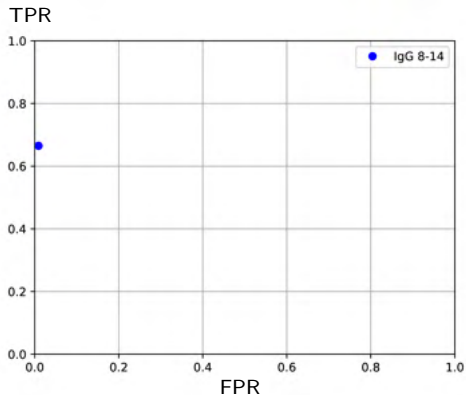
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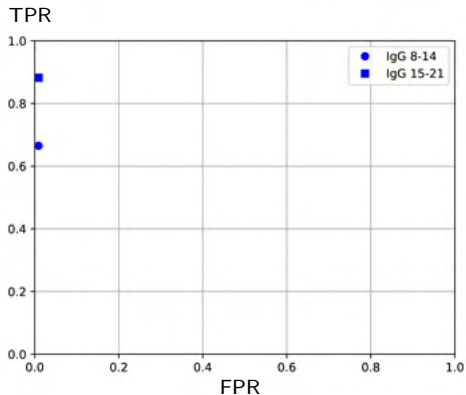
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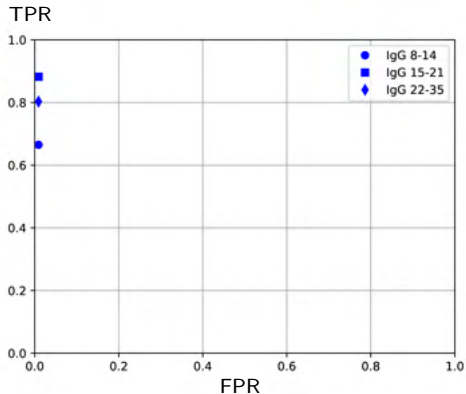
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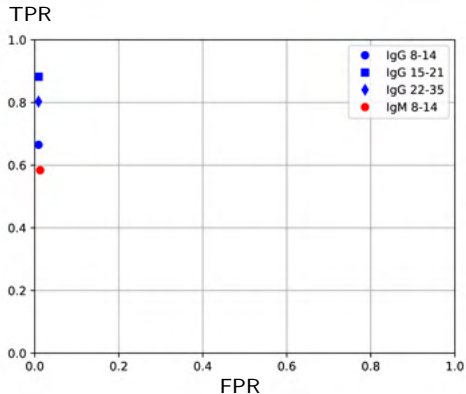
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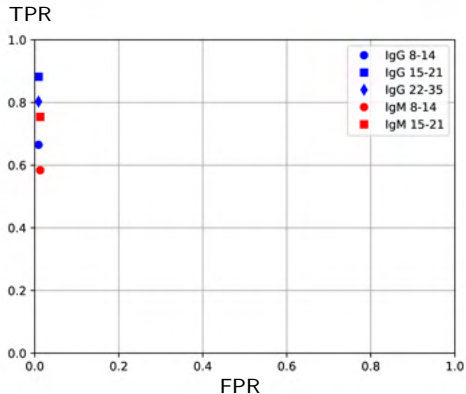
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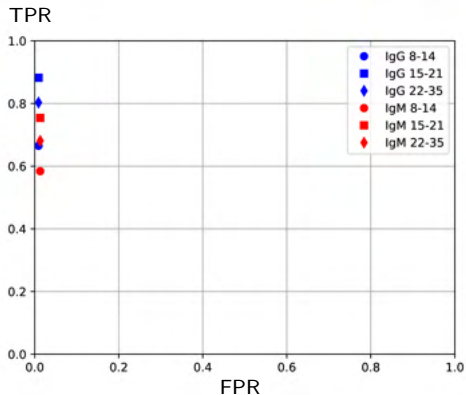
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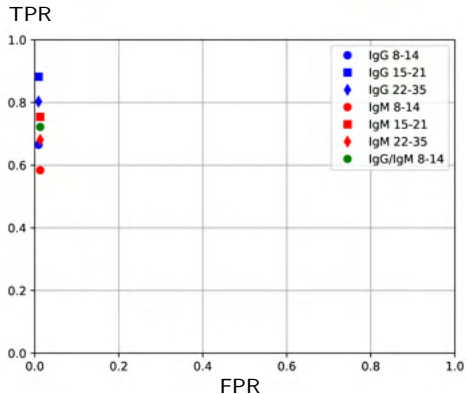
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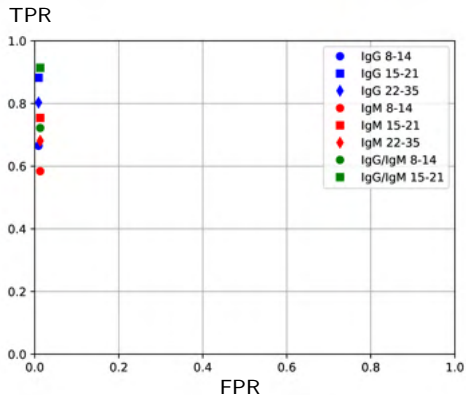
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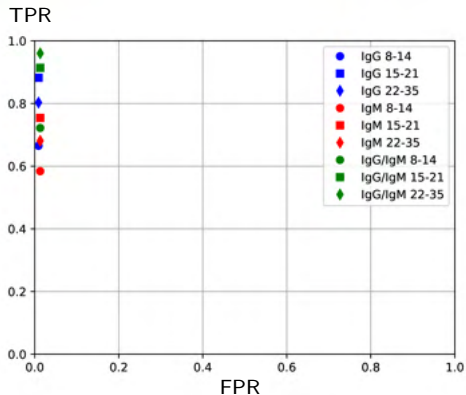
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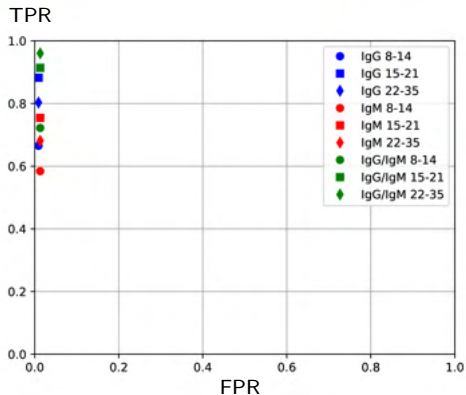
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Deeks et al, **Antibody tests for identification of current and past infection with SARSCoV2**, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Issue 6, 2020

Looking Ahead: Empirical Risk Minimization

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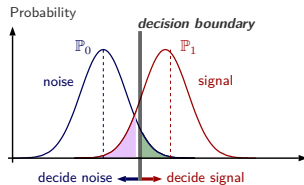
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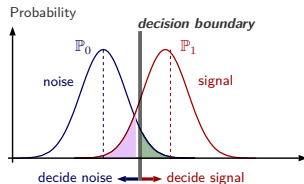
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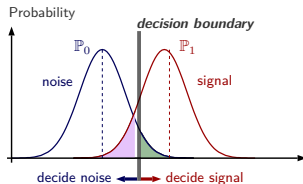


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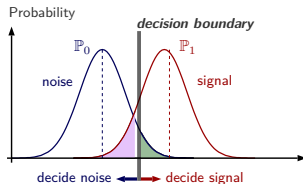
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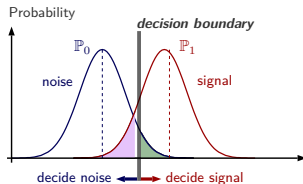
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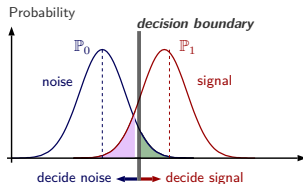
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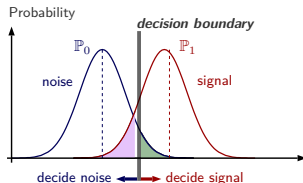
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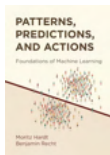
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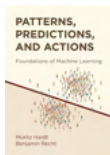


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