

# Minimum Error-Rate Discriminant

- In the case of zero-one loss function, the Bayes Discriminant can be further simplified:

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = P(\omega_i|\mathbf{x}) . \quad (29)$$

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- **No!**
- Multiply by some positive constant.
- Shift them by some additive constant.
- For monotonically increasing function  $f(\cdot)$ , we can replace each  $g_i(\mathbf{x})$  by  $f(g_i(\mathbf{x}))$  without affecting our classification accuracy.
  - These can help for ease of understanding or computability.
  - The following all yield the same exact classification results for minimum-error-rate classification.

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = P(\omega_i|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i)P(\omega_i)}{\sum_j p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_j)P(\omega_j)} \quad (30)$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i)P(\omega_i) \quad (31)$$

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i) + \ln P(\omega_i) \quad (32)$$

# Visualizing Discriminants

## Decision Regions

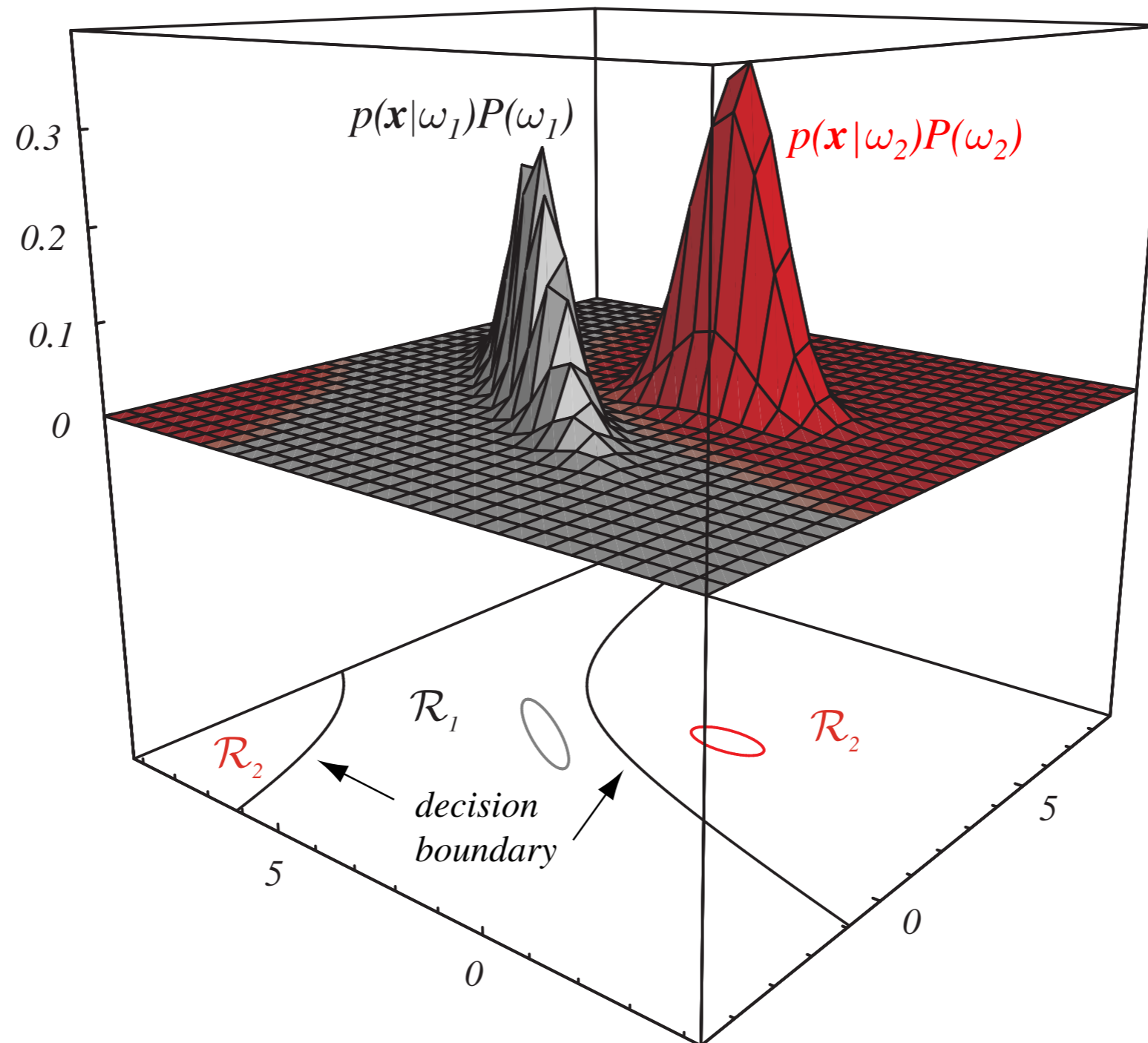
- The effect of any decision rule is to divide the feature space into decision regions.
- Denote a decision region  $\mathcal{R}_i$  for  $\omega_i$ .
- One not necessarily connected region is created for each category and assignments is according to:

$$\text{If } g_i(\mathbf{x}) > g_j(\mathbf{x}) \quad \forall j \neq i, \text{ then } \mathbf{x} \text{ is in } \mathcal{R}_i . \quad (33)$$

- **Decision boundaries** separate the regions; they are ties among the discriminant functions.

# Visualizing Discriminants

## Decision Regions



# Two-Category Discriminants

## Dichotomizers

- In the two-category case, one considers single discriminant

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = g_1(\mathbf{x}) - g_2(\mathbf{x}) . \quad (34)$$

- What is a suitable decision rule?

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$$\text{Decide } \omega_1 \text{ if } g(\mathbf{x}) > 0; \text{ otherwise decide } \omega_2. \quad (35)$$



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- Various manipulations of the discriminant:

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = P(\omega_1|\mathbf{x}) - P(\omega_2|\mathbf{x}) \quad (36)$$

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \ln \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_1)}{p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_2)} + \ln \frac{P(\omega_1)}{P(\omega_2)} \quad (37)$$

# Background on the Normal Density

- This next section is a slight digression to introduce the Normal Density (most of you will have had this already).
- The Normal density is very well studied.
- It easy to work with analytically.
- Often in PR, an appropriate model seems to be a single typical value corrupted by continuous-valued, random noise.
- Central Limit Theorem (Second Fundamental Theorem of Probability).
  - The distribution of the sum of  $n$  random variables approaches the normal distribution when  $n$  is large.
  - E.g., <http://www.stattucino.com/berrie/dsl/Galton.html>

# Expectation

- Recall the definition of expected value of any scalar function  $f(x)$  in the continuous  $p(x)$  and discrete  $P(x)$  cases

$$\mathcal{E}[f(x)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)p(x)dx \quad (38)$$

$$\mathcal{E}[f(x)] = \sum_x f(x)P(x) \quad (39)$$

where we have a set  $\mathcal{D}$  over which the discrete expectation is computed.

# Univariate Normal Density

- Continuous univariate normal, or **Gaussian**, density:

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right] . \quad (40)$$

- The **mean** is the expected value of  $x$  is

$$\mu \equiv \mathcal{E}[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xp(x)dx . \quad (41)$$

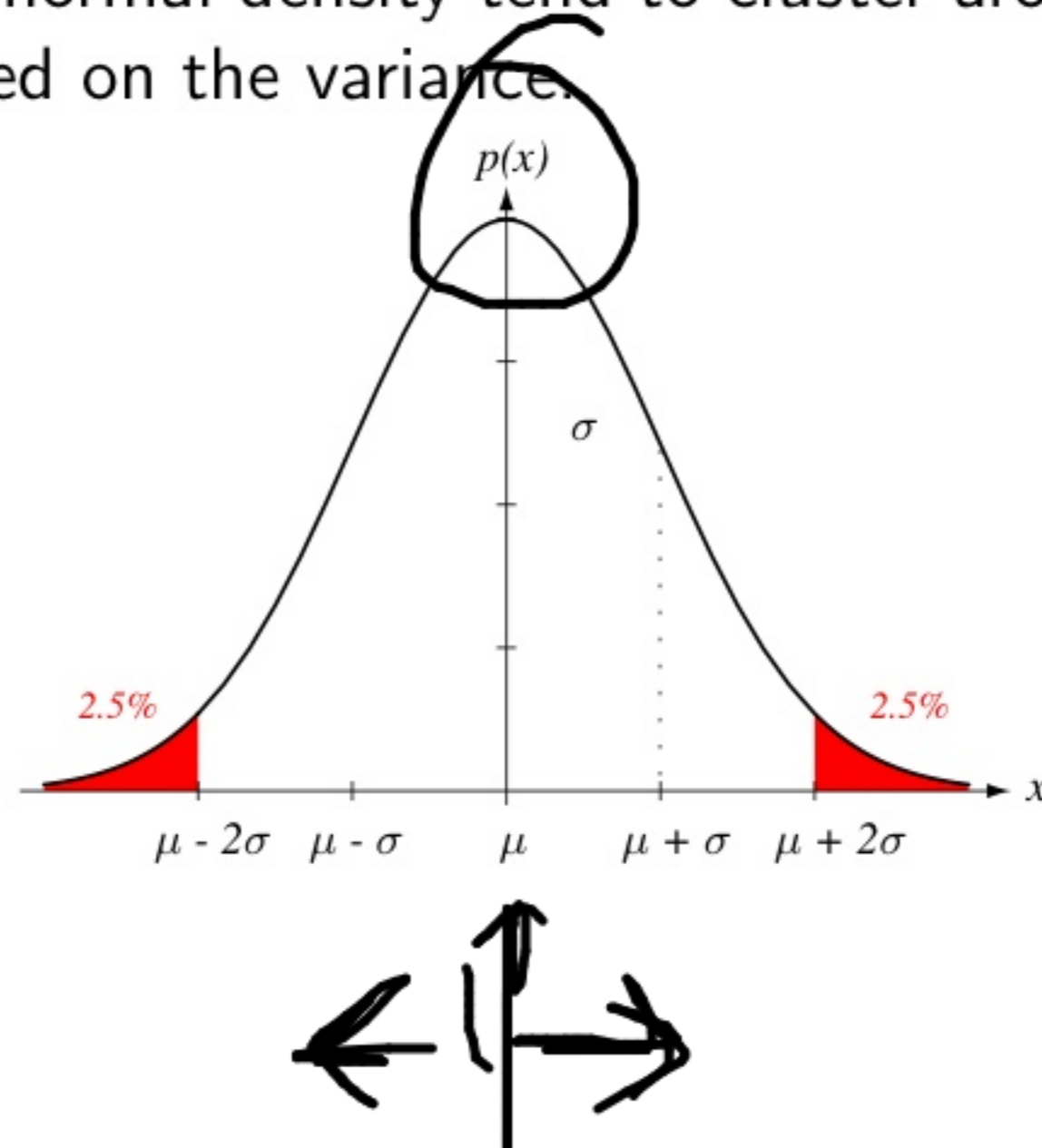
- The **variance** is the expected squared deviation

$$\sigma^2 \equiv \mathcal{E}[(x - \mu)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 p(x) dx . \quad (42)$$

# Univariate Normal Density

## Sufficient Statistics

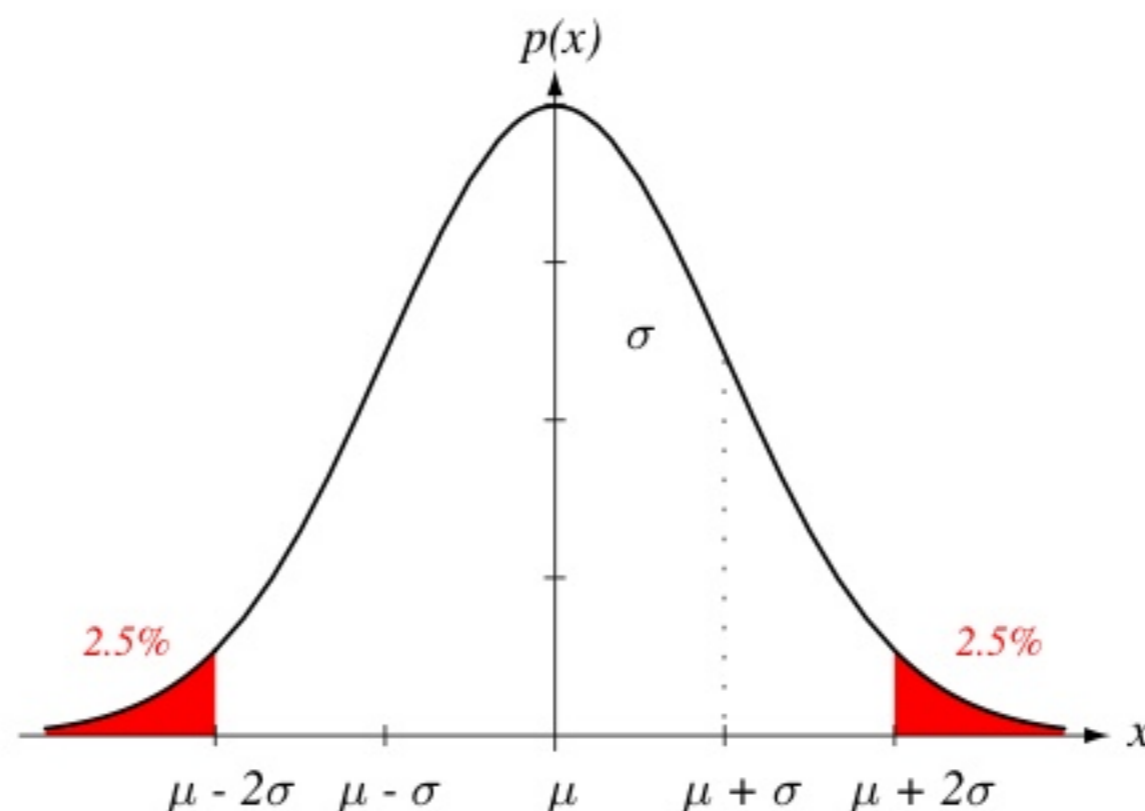
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# Univariate Normal Density

## Sufficient Statistics

- Samples from the normal density tend to cluster around the mean and be spread-out based on the variance.



- The normal density is completely specified by the mean and the variance. These two are its **sufficient statistics**.
- We thus abbreviate the equation for the normal density as

$$p(x) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

(43)

# Entropy

- **Entropy** is the uncertainty in the random samples from a distribution.

$$H(p(x)) = - \int p(x) \ln p(x) dx \quad (44)$$

- The normal density has the maximum entropy for all distributions have a given mean and variance.
- What is the entropy of the uniform distribution?

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- The normal density has the maximum entropy for all distributions have a given mean and variance.
- What is the entropy of the uniform distribution?
- The uniform distribution has maximum entropy (on a given interval).



# Multivariate Normal Density

And a test to see if your Linear Algebra is up to snuff.

- The multivariate Gaussian in  $d$  dimensions is written as

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right] . \quad (45)$$

- Again, we abbreviate this as  $p(\mathbf{x}) \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ .
- The sufficient statistics in  $d$ -dimensions:

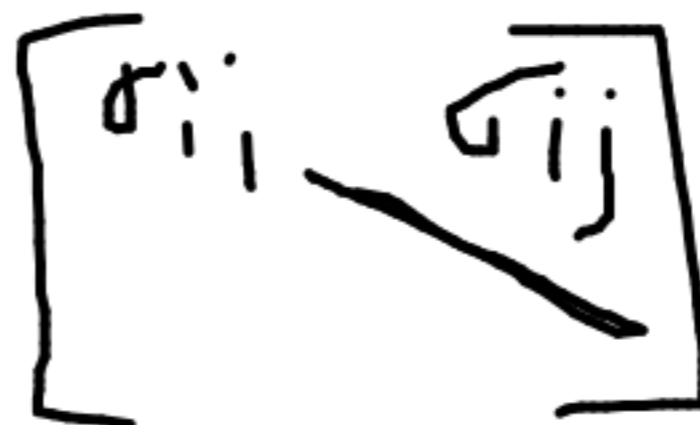
$$\boldsymbol{\mu} \equiv \mathcal{E}[\mathbf{x}] = \int \mathbf{x} p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}} \quad (46)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \equiv \mathcal{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top] = \int (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \quad (47)$$

# The Covariance Matrix

$$\Sigma \equiv \mathcal{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T] = \int \underbrace{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T}_{\text{covariance}} \underbrace{p(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{pdf}} d\mathbf{x}$$

- Symmetric.
- Positive semi-definite (but DHS only considers positive definite so that the determinant is strictly positive).
- The diagonal elements  $\sigma_{ii}$  are the variances of the respective coordinate  $x_i$ .
- The off-diagonal elements  $\sigma_{ij}$  are the covariances of  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ .
- What does a  $\sigma_{ij} = 0$  imply?



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  - That coordinates  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  are statistically independent.
- What does  $\Sigma$  reduce to if all off-diagonals are 0?
  - The product of the  $d$  univariate densities.

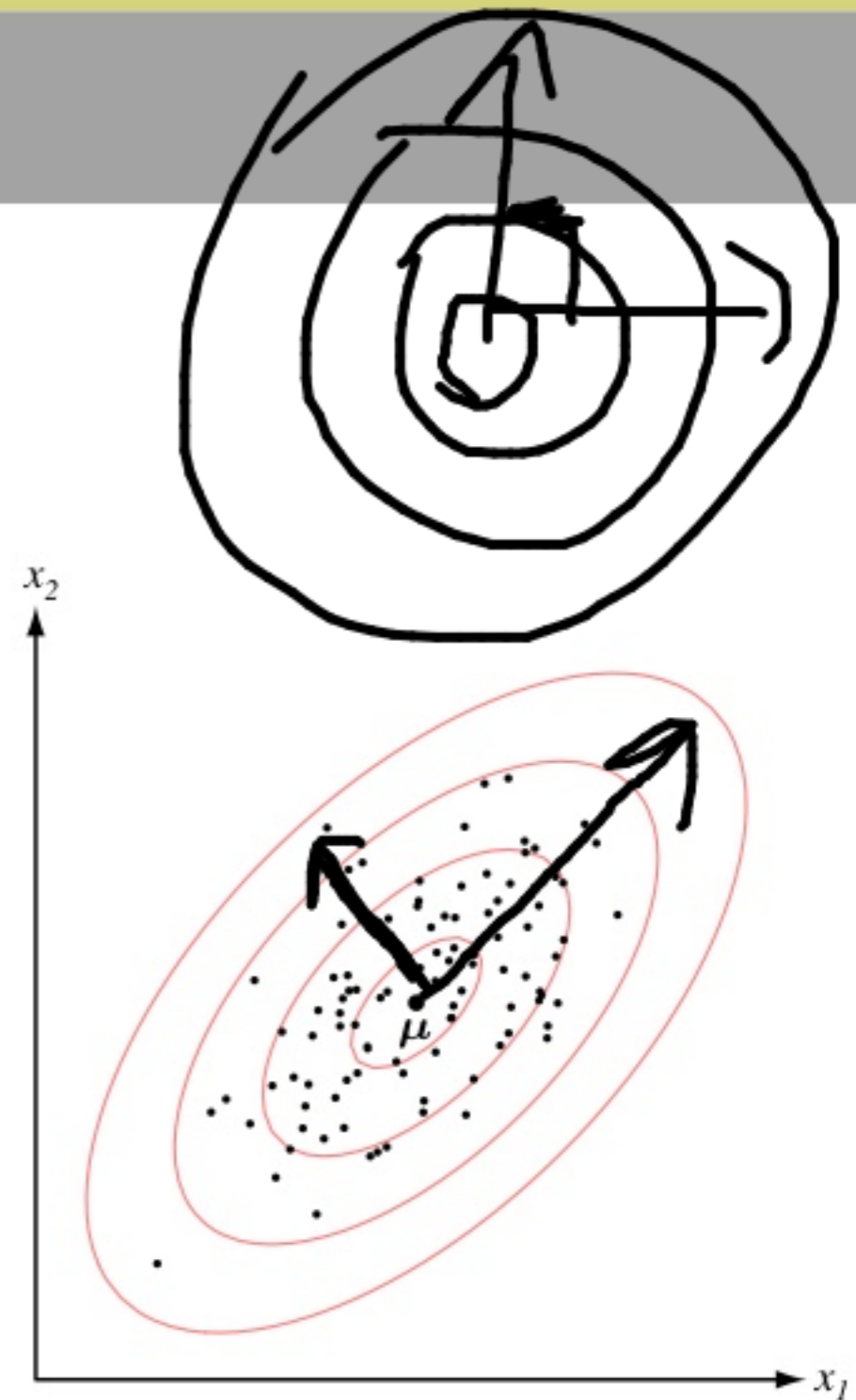
# Mahalanobis Distance

UPV eig's

- The shape of the density is determined by the covariance  $\Sigma$ .
- Specifically, the eigenvectors of  $\Sigma$  give the principal axes of the hyperellipsoids and the eigenvalues determine the lengths of these axes.
- The loci of points of constant density are hyperellipsoids with constant

**Mahalanobis distance:**

$$(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \quad (48)$$

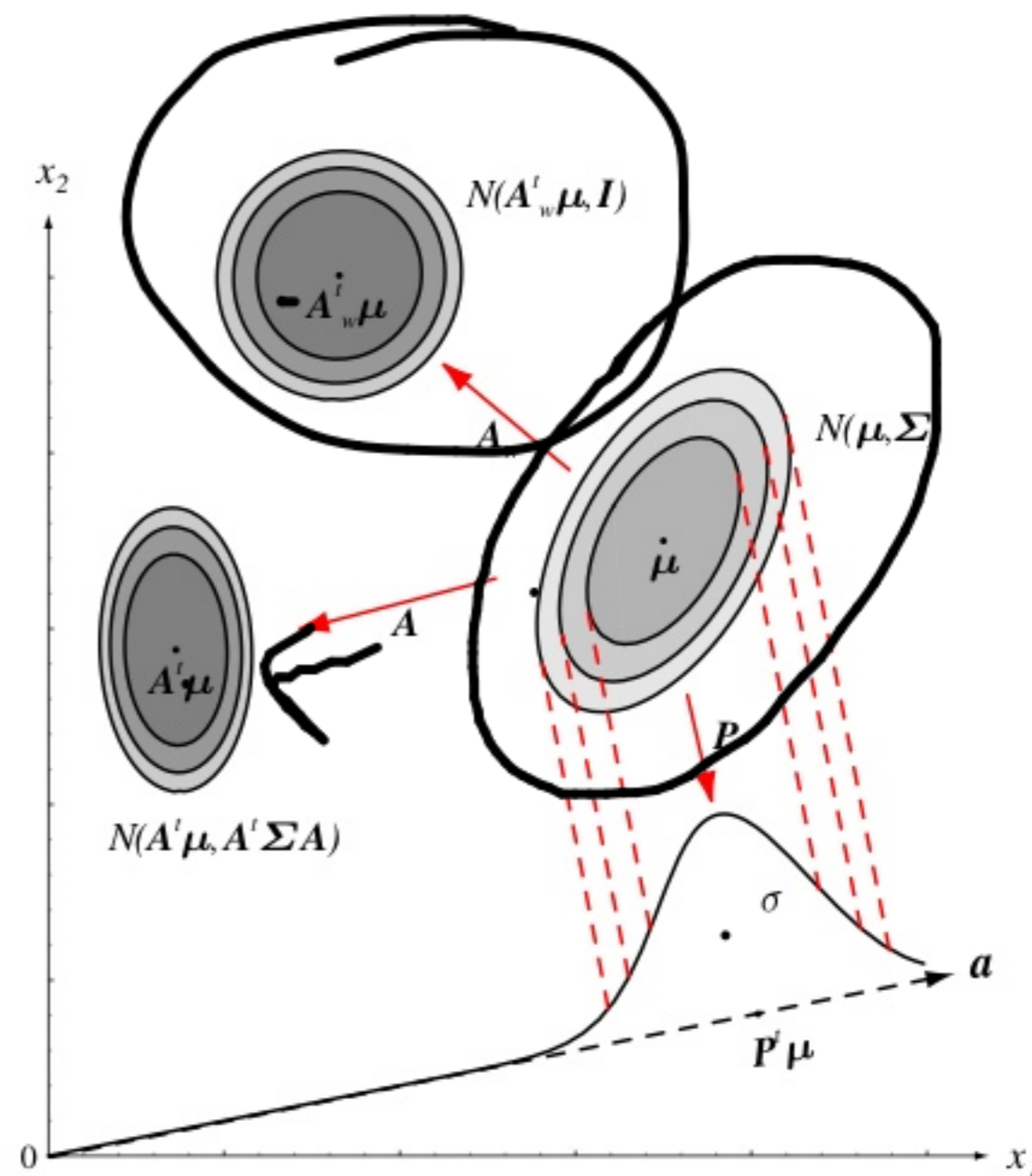


# Linear Combinations of Normals

- Linear combinations of jointly normally distributed random variables, independent or not, are normally distributed.
- For  $p(\mathbf{x}) \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$  and  $\mathbf{A}$ , a  $d$ -by- $k$  matrix, define  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}^\top \mathbf{x}$ . Then:

$$p(\mathbf{y}) \sim N(\mathbf{A}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{A}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{A}) \quad (49)$$

- With the covariance matrix, we can calculate the dispersion of the data in any direction or in any subspace.



# General Discriminant for Normal Densities

- Recall the minimum error rate discriminant,  
 $g_i(\mathbf{x}) = \ln p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i) + \ln P(\omega_i)$ .
- If we assume normal densities, i.e., if  $p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i) \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i)$ , then the general discriminant is of the form

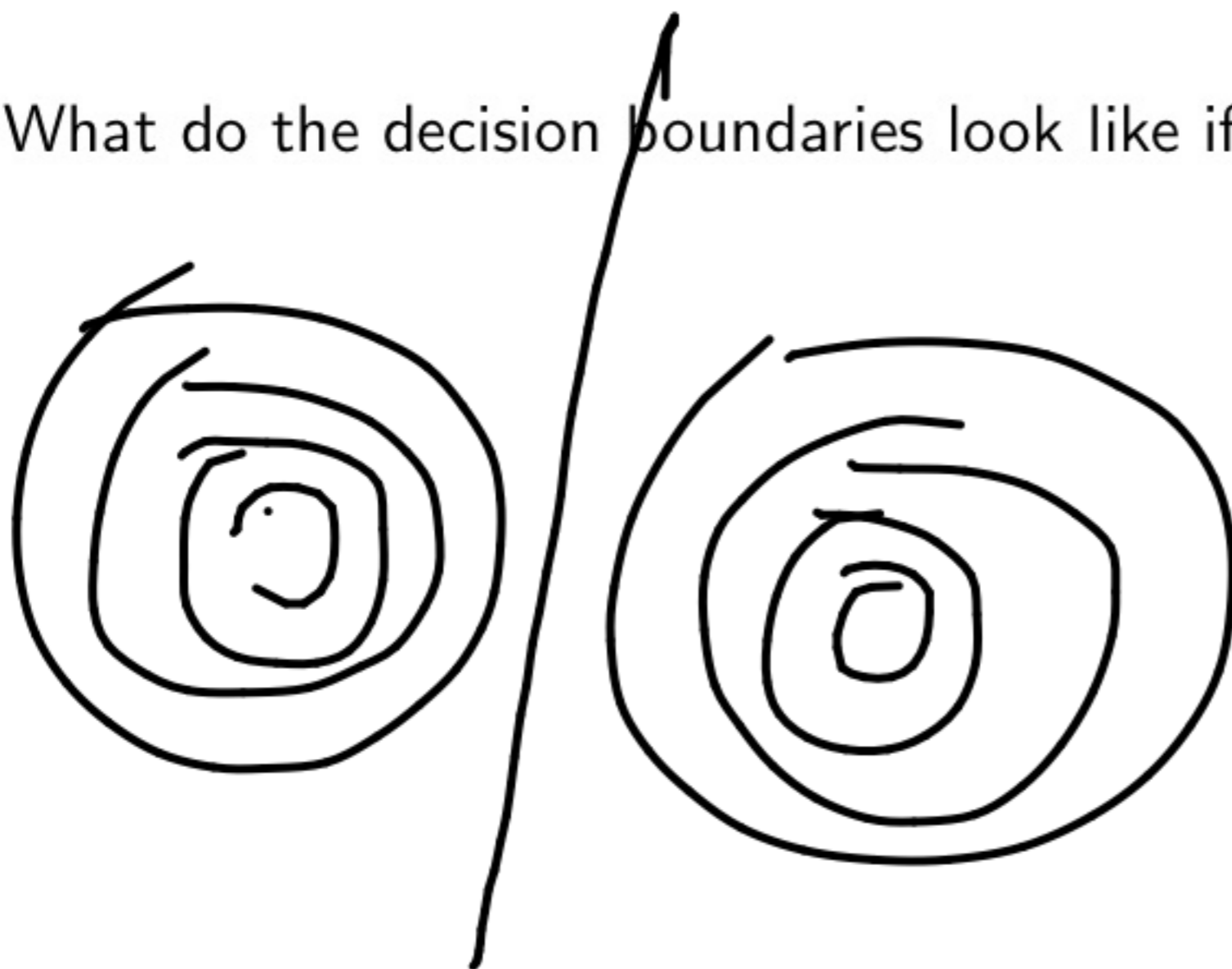
$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i)^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i) - \frac{d}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i| + \ln P(\omega_i) \quad (50)$$

Handwritten annotations: A green arrow points from  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i$  in the text above to  $|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i|$  in the equation. A horizontal line is drawn under the first three terms of the equation. A large orange circle is drawn around the term  $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$  in the handwritten expression below. Another orange circle is drawn around the equation number (50). The handwritten expression  $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I} \|\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i\|^2$  is written below the equation, with a bracket pointing to the quadratic form in the equation.



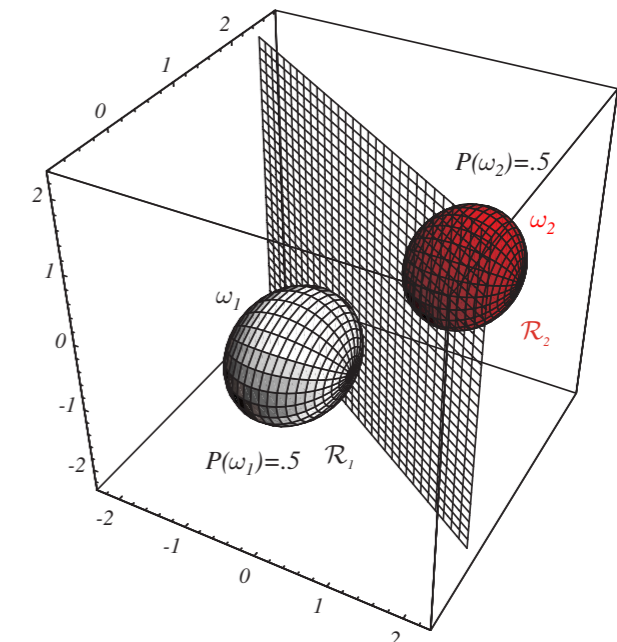
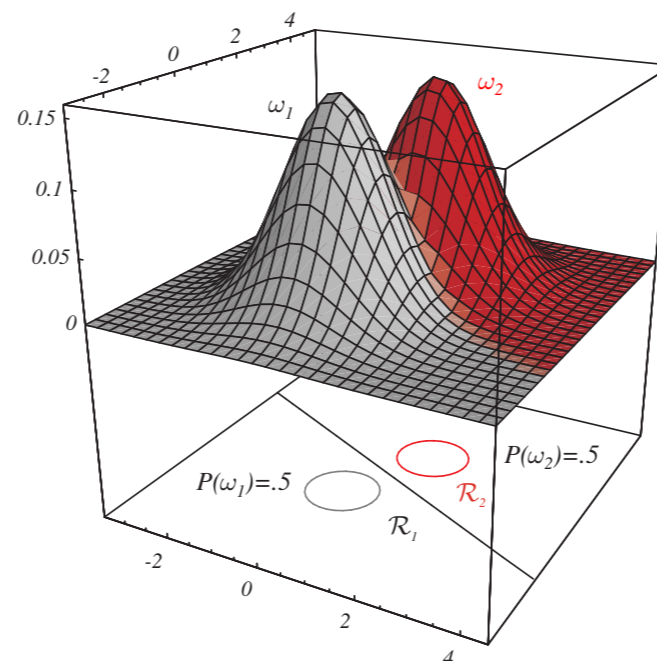
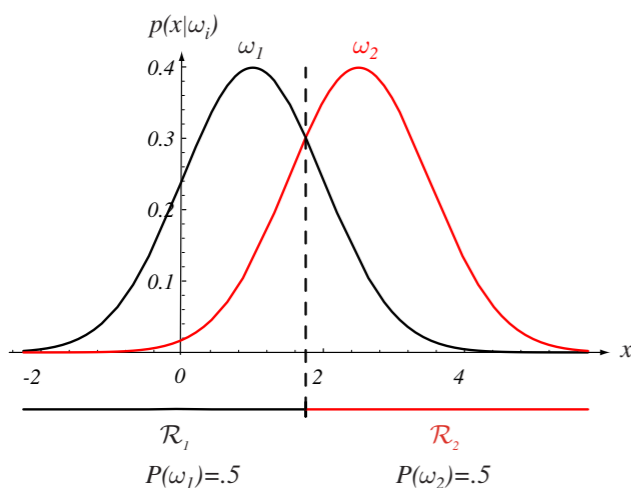
# Simple Case: Statistically Independent Features with Same Variance

- What do the decision boundaries look like if we assume  $\Sigma_i = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$ ?



# Simple Case: Statistically Independent Features with Same Variance

- What do the decision boundaries look like if we assume  $\Sigma_i = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$ ?
- They are hyperplanes.



- Let's see why...

# Simple Case: $\Sigma_i = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$

- The discriminant functions take on a simple form:

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_i\|^2}{2\sigma^2} + \ln P(\omega_i) \quad (51)$$

- Think of this discriminant as a combination of two things
  - The distance of the sample to the mean vector (for each  $i$ ).
  - A normalization by the variance and offset by the prior.

## Simple Case: $\Sigma_i = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$

- But, we don't need to actually compute the distances.
- Expanding the quadratic form  $(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$  yields

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[ \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} - 2\boldsymbol{\mu}_i^\top \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\mu}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_i \right] + \ln P(\omega_i) . \quad (52)$$

- The quadratic term  $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}$  is the same for all  $i$  and can thus be ignored.
- This yields the equivalent **linear discriminant functions**

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}_i^\top \mathbf{x} + w_{i0} \quad (53)$$

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \boldsymbol{\mu}_i \quad (54)$$

$$w_{i0} = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \boldsymbol{\mu}_i^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_i + \ln P(\omega_i) \quad (55)$$

- $w_{i0}$  is called the **bias**.

# Simple Case: $\Sigma_i = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$

## Decision Boundary Equation

- The decision surfaces for a linear discriminant classifiers are hyperplanes defined by the linear equations  $g_i(\mathbf{x}) = g_j(\mathbf{x})$ .
- The equation can be written as

$$\mathbf{w}^T (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0) = 0 \quad (56)$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j \quad (57)$$

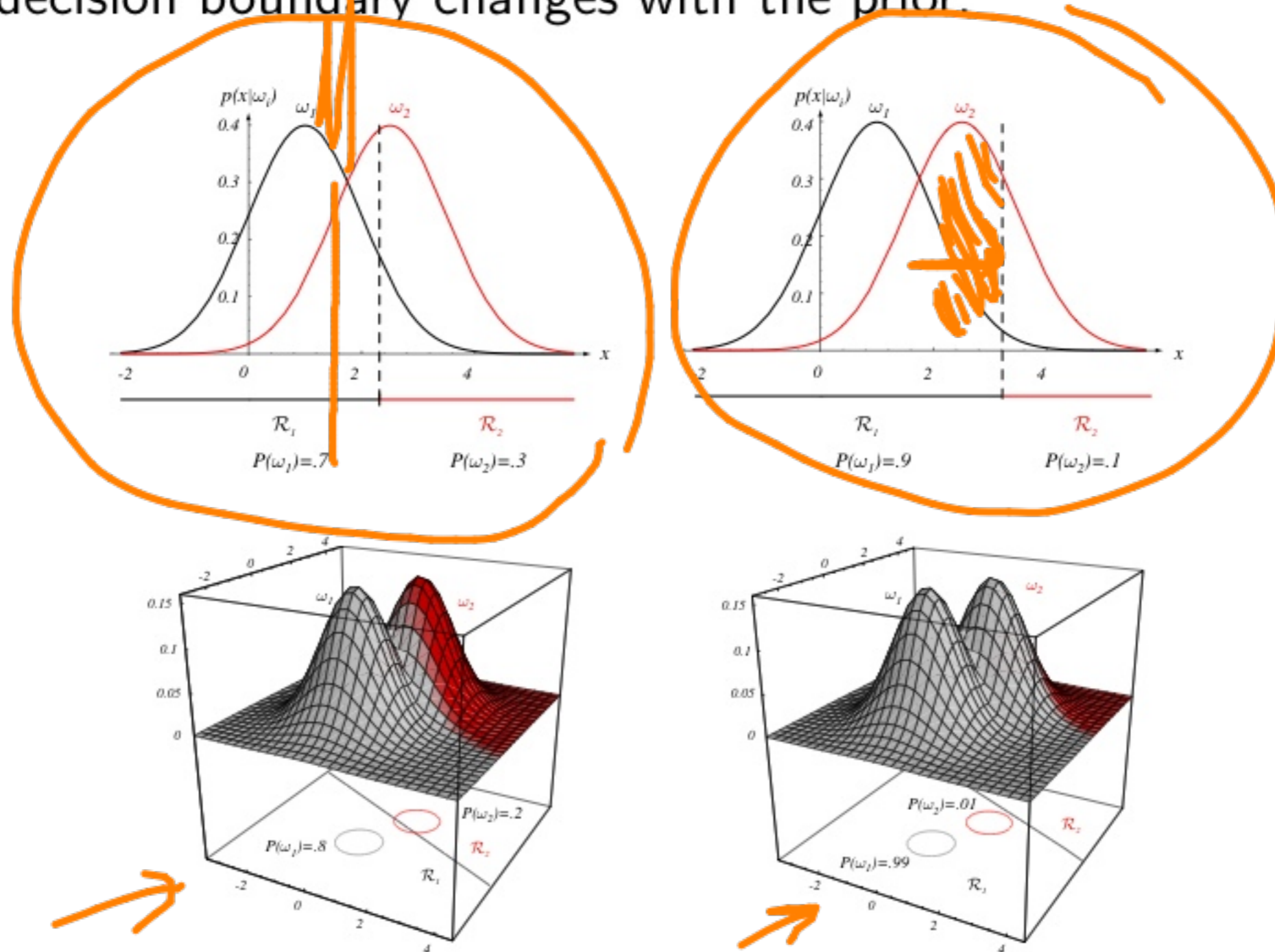
$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_i + \boldsymbol{\mu}_j) - \frac{\sigma^2}{\|\boldsymbol{\mu}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j\|^2} \ln \frac{P(\omega_i)}{P(\omega_j)} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}_j) \quad (58)$$

- These equations define a hyperplane through point  $x_0$  with a normal vector  $w$ .

# Simple Case: $\Sigma_i = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$

## Decision Boundary Equation

- The decision boundary changes with the prior.



# General Case: Arbitrary $\Sigma_i$

- The discriminant functions are quadratic (the only term we can drop is the  $\ln 2\pi$  term):

$$g_i(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{x} + w_{i0} \quad (59)$$

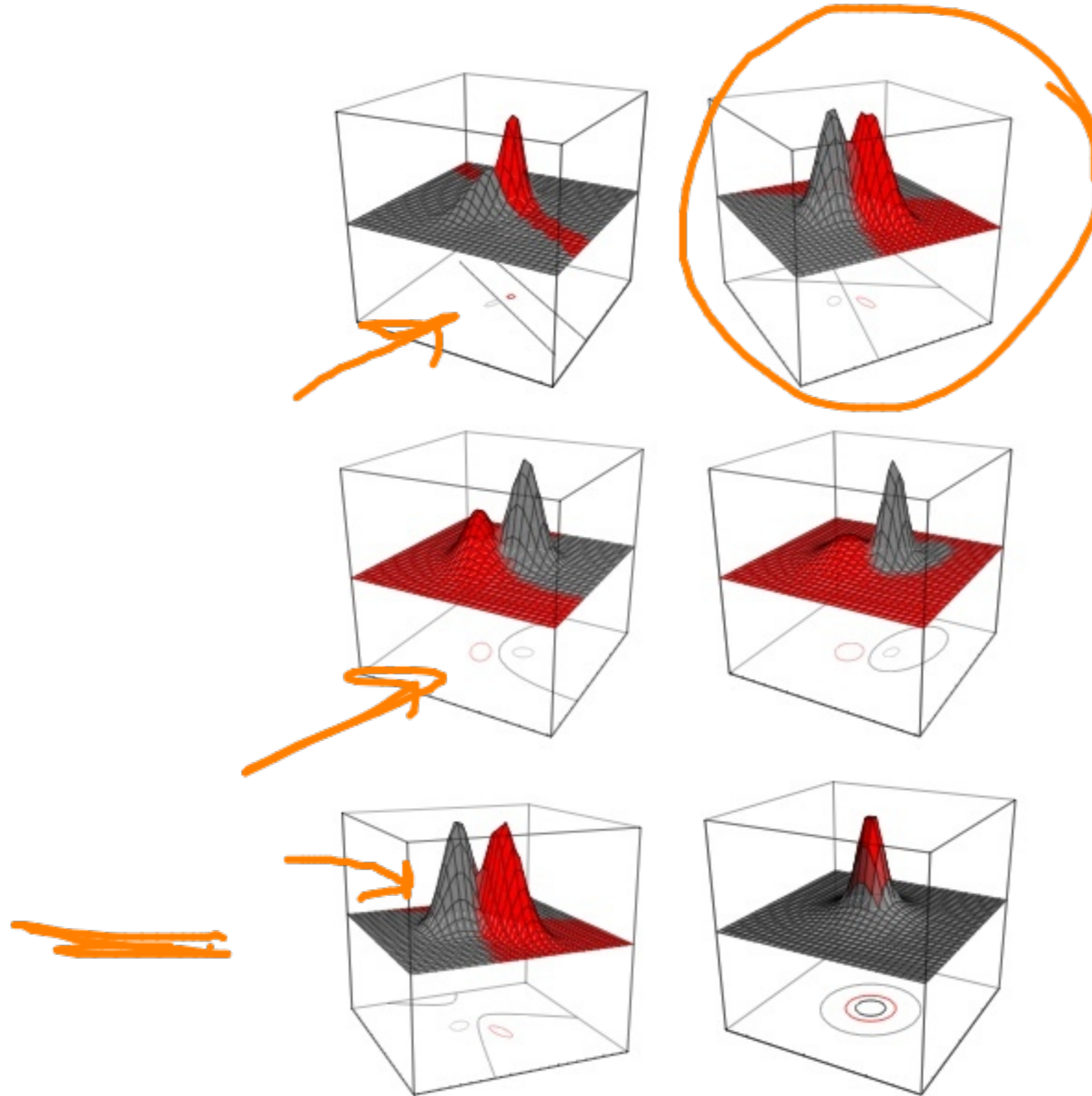
$$\mathbf{W}_i = -\frac{1}{2} \Sigma_i^{-1} \quad (60)$$

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \Sigma_i^{-1} \mu_i \quad (61)$$

$$w_{i0} = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_i^T \Sigma_i^{-1} \mu_i - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma_i| + \ln P(\omega_i) \quad (62)$$

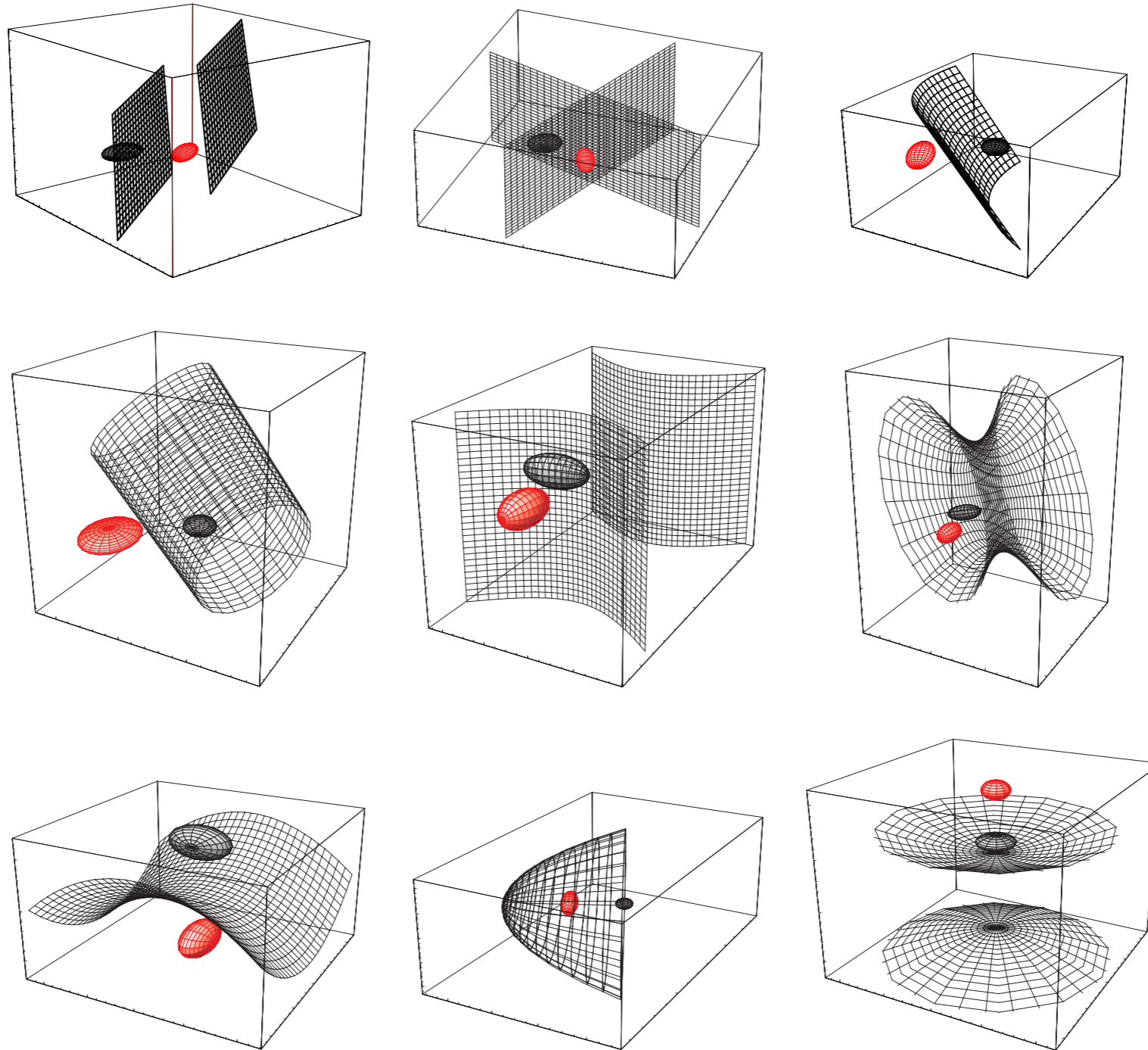
- The decision surface between two categories are **hyperquadrics**.

# General Case: Arbitrary $\Sigma_i$

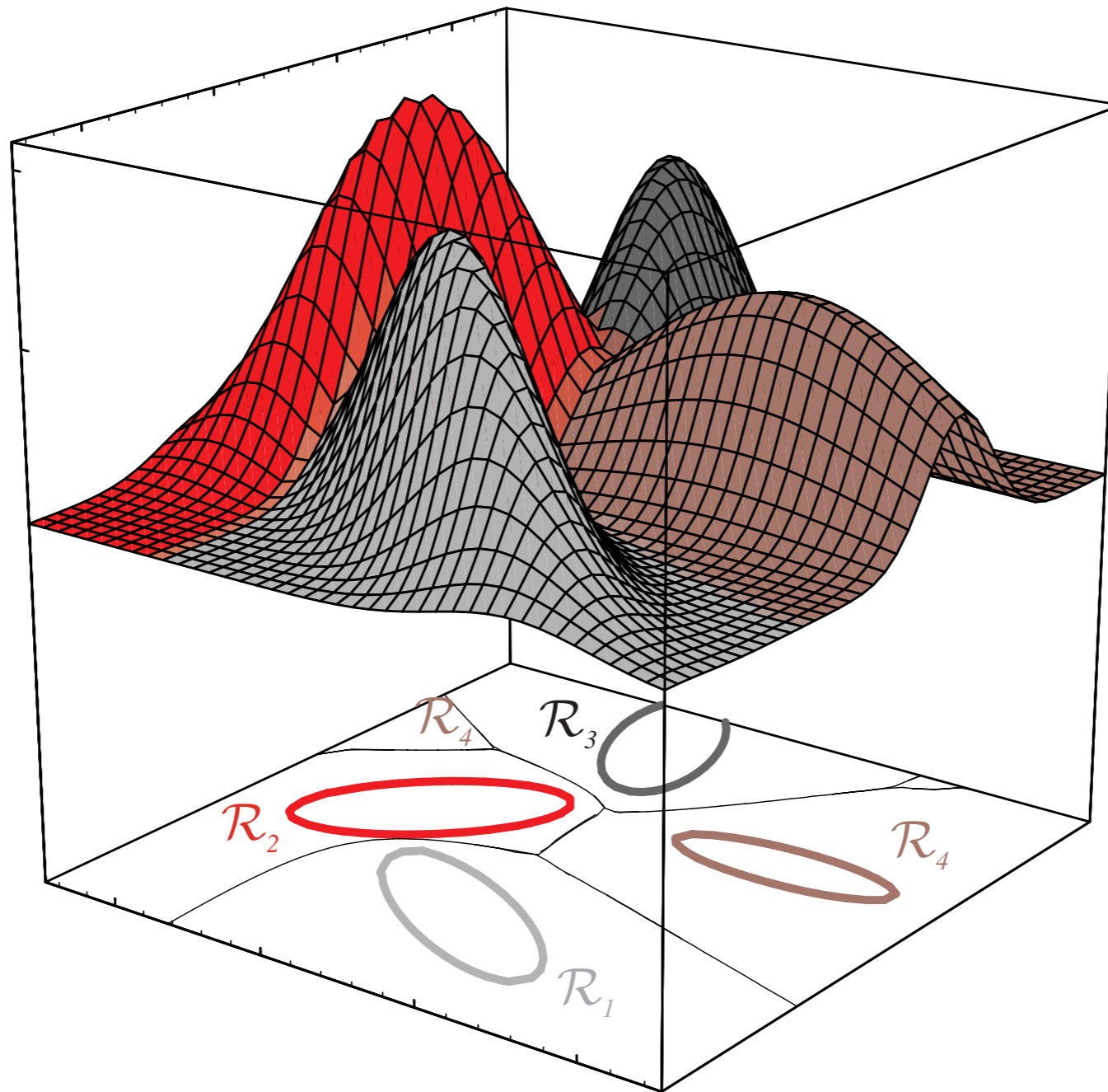




# General Case: Arbitrary $\Sigma_i$



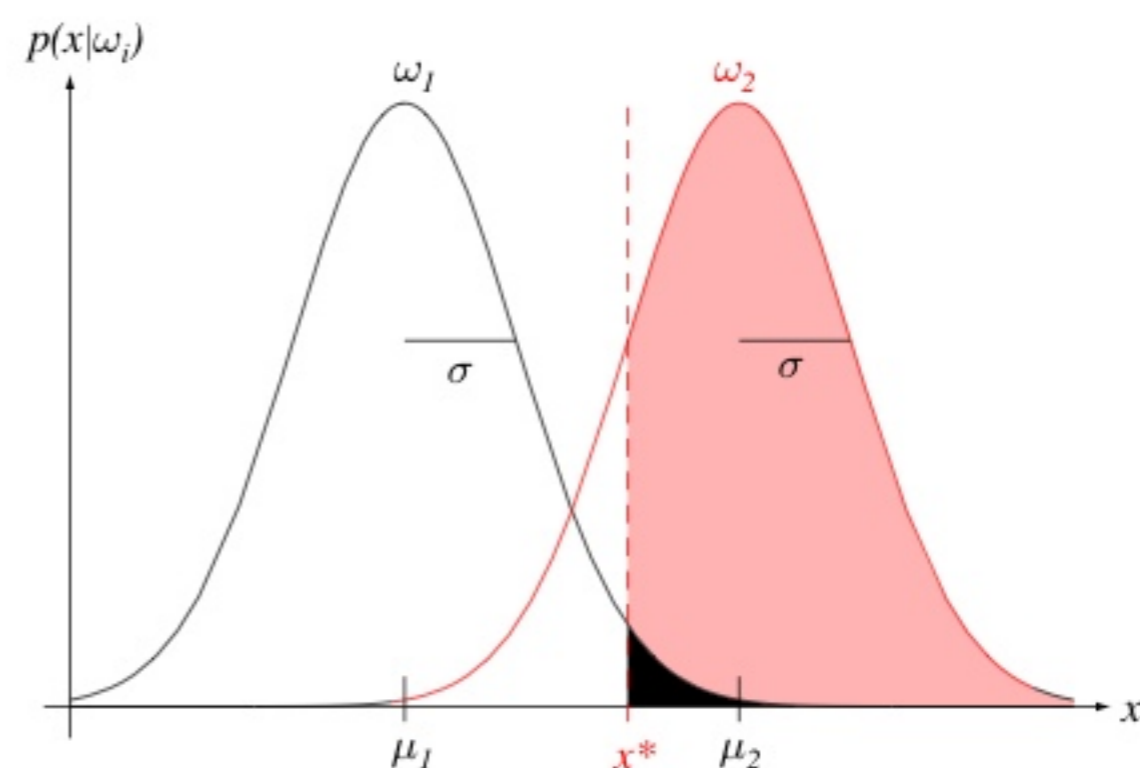
# General Case for Multiple Categories



**Quite A Complicated Decision Surface!**

# Signal Detection Theory

- A fundamental way of analyzing a classifier.
- Consider the following experimental setup:



- Suppose we are interested in detecting a single pulse.
- We can read an internal signal  $x$ .
- The signal is distributed about mean  $\mu_2$  when an external signal is present and around mean  $\mu_1$  when no external signal is present.
- Assume the distributions have the same variances,  $p(x|\omega_i) \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$ .

# Signal Detection Theory

- The detector uses  $x^*$  to decide if the external signal is present.
- **Discriminability** characterizes how difficult it will be to decide if the external signal is present without knowing  $x^*$ .

$$d' = \frac{|\mu_2 - \mu_1|}{\sigma} \quad (63)$$

- Even if we do not know  $\mu_1$ ,  $\mu_2$ ,  $\sigma$ , or  $x^*$ , we can find  $d'$  by using a **receiver operating characteristic** or ROC curve, as long as we know the state of nature for some experiments

# Receiver Operating Characteristics

## Definitions

- A **Hit** is the probability that the internal signal is above  $x^*$  given that the external signal is present

$$P(x > x^* | x \in \omega_2) \quad (64)$$

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- A **False Alarm** is the probability that the internal signal is above  $x^*$  despite there being no external signal present.

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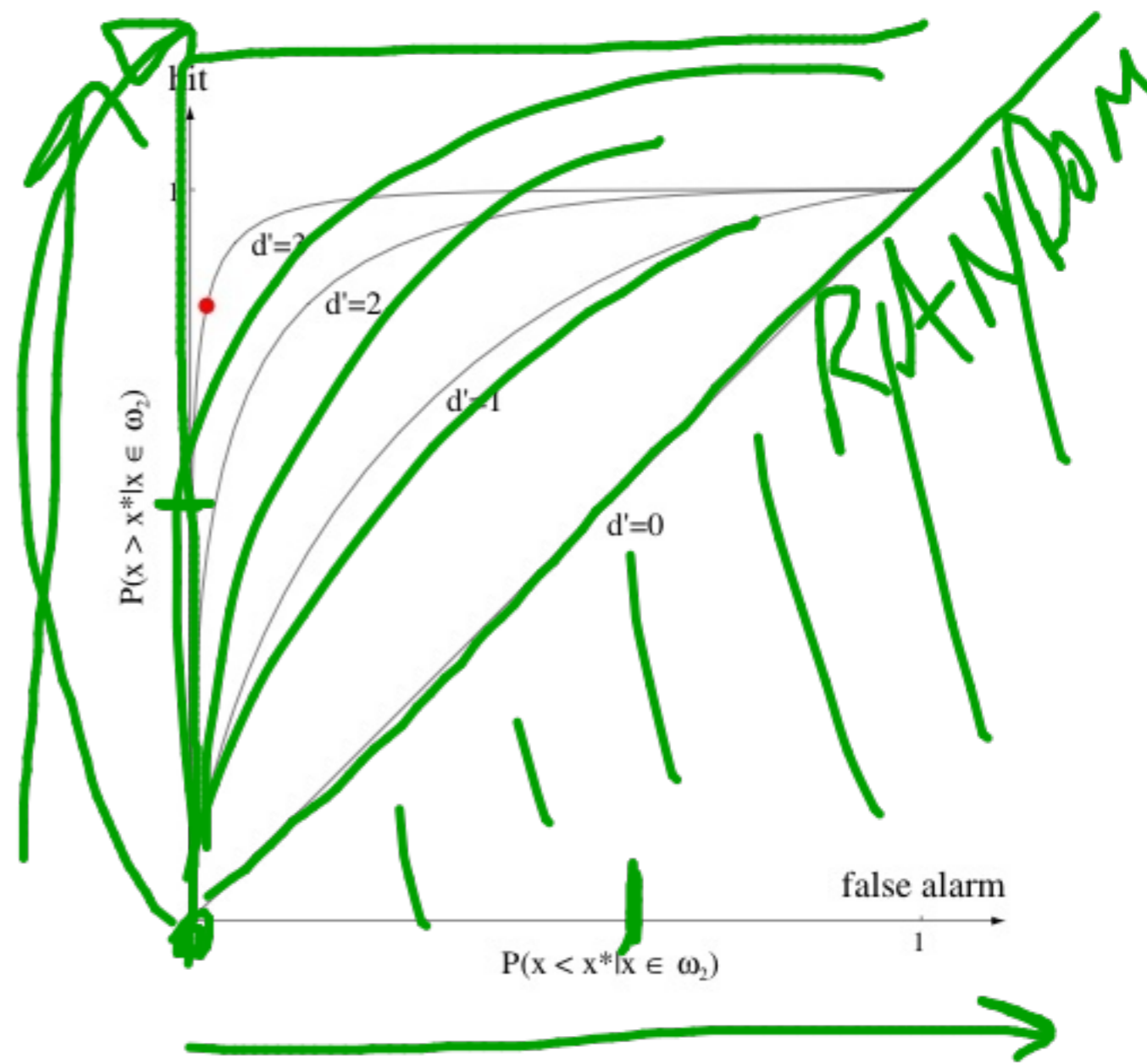
- A **Miss** is the probability that the internal signal is below  $x^*$  given that the external signal is present.

$$P(x < x^* | x \in \omega_2) \quad (67)$$



# Receiver Operating Characteristics

- We can experimentally determine the rates, in particular the Hit-Rate and the False-Alarm-Rate.
- Basic idea is to assume our densities are fixed (reasonable) but vary our threshold  $x^*$ , which will thus change the rates.
- The receiver operating characteristic plots the hit rate against the false alarm rate.
- What shape curve do we want?



# Missing Features

- Suppose we have built a classifier on multiple features, for example the lightness and width.
- What do we do if one of the features is not measurable for a particular case? For example the lightness can be measured but the width cannot because of occlusion.

# Missing Features

- Suppose we have built a classifier on multiple features, for example the lightness and width.
- What do we do if one of the features is not measurable for a particular case? For example the lightness can be measured but the width cannot because of occlusion.
- **Marginalize!**
- Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be our full feature feature and  $\mathbf{x}_g$  be the subset that are measurable (or good) and let  $\mathbf{x}_b$  be the subset that are missing (or bad/noisy).
- We seek an estimate of the posterior given **just the good features**  $\mathbf{x}_g$ .

# Missing Features

$$P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}_g) = \frac{p(\omega_i, \mathbf{x}_g)}{p(\mathbf{x}_g)} \quad (68)$$

$$= \frac{\int p(\omega_i, \mathbf{x}_g, \mathbf{x}_b) d\mathbf{x}_b}{p(\mathbf{x}_g)} \quad (69)$$

$$= \frac{\int p(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}_b}{p(\mathbf{x}_g)} \quad (70)$$

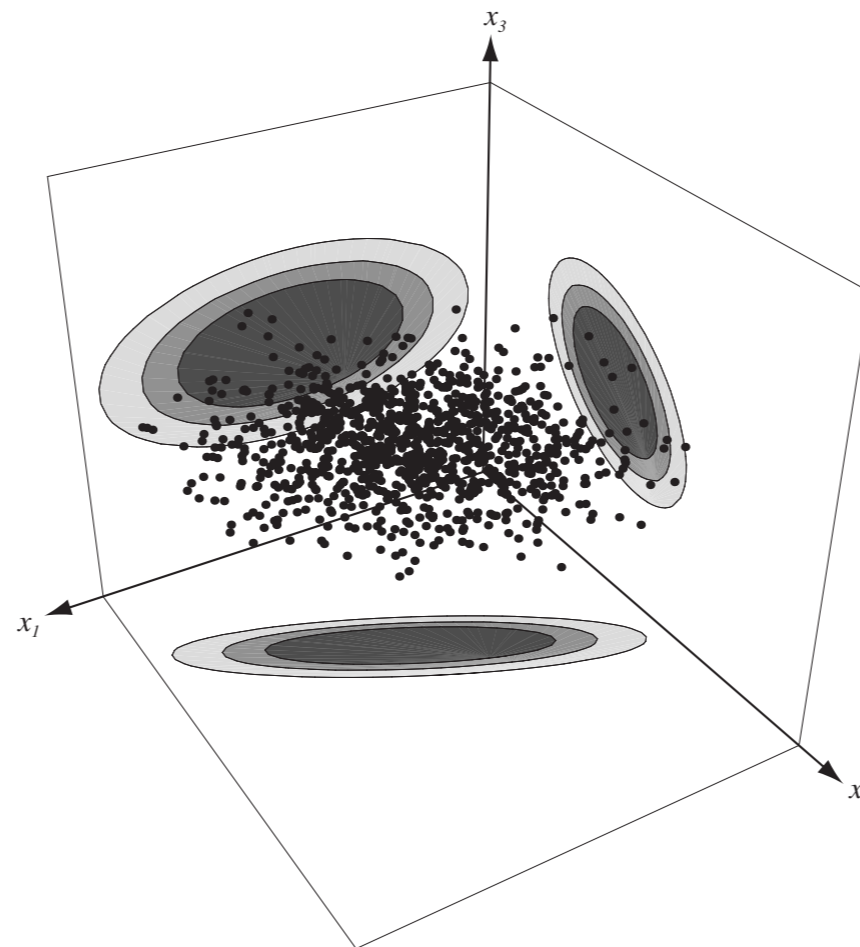
$$= \frac{\int g_i(\mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}_b}{\int p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}_b} \quad (71)$$

- We will cover the Expectation-Maximization algorithm later.
- This is normally quite expensive to evaluate unless the densities are special (like Gaussians).

# Statistical Independence

- Two variables  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  are independent if

$$p(x_i, x_j) = p(x_i)p(x_j) \quad (72)$$

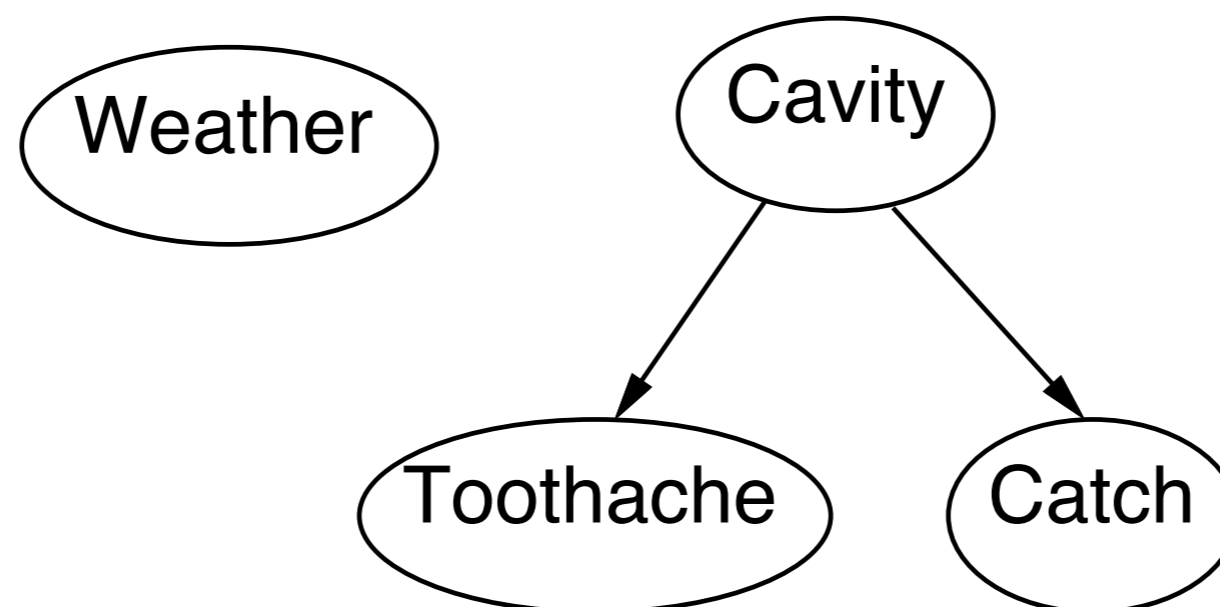


**FIGURE 2.23.** A three-dimensional distribution which obeys  $p(x_1, x_3) = p(x_1)p(x_3)$ ; thus here  $x_1$  and  $x_3$  are statistically independent but the other feature pairs are not. From: Richard O. Duda, Peter E. Hart, and David G. Stork, *Pattern Classification*. Copyright © 2001 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

# Simple Example of Conditional Independence

From Russell and Norvig

- Consider a simple example consisting of four variables: the weather, the presence of a cavity, the presence of a toothache, and the presence of other mouth-related variables such as dry mouth.
- The weather is clearly independent of the other three variables.
- And the toothache and catch are conditionally independent given the cavity (one has no effect on the other given the information about the cavity).



# Naïve Bayes Rule

- If we assume that all of our individual features  $x_i, i = 1, \dots, d$  are conditionally independent given the class, then we have

$$p(\omega_k | \mathbf{x}) \propto \prod_{i=1}^d p(x_i | \omega_k) \quad (73)$$

- Circumvents issues of dimensionality.
- Performs with surprising accuracy even in cases violating the underlying independence assumption.

