

# Early Classification of Time Series as a Non Myopic Sequential Decision Making Problem



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(Paris – France)

# Outline

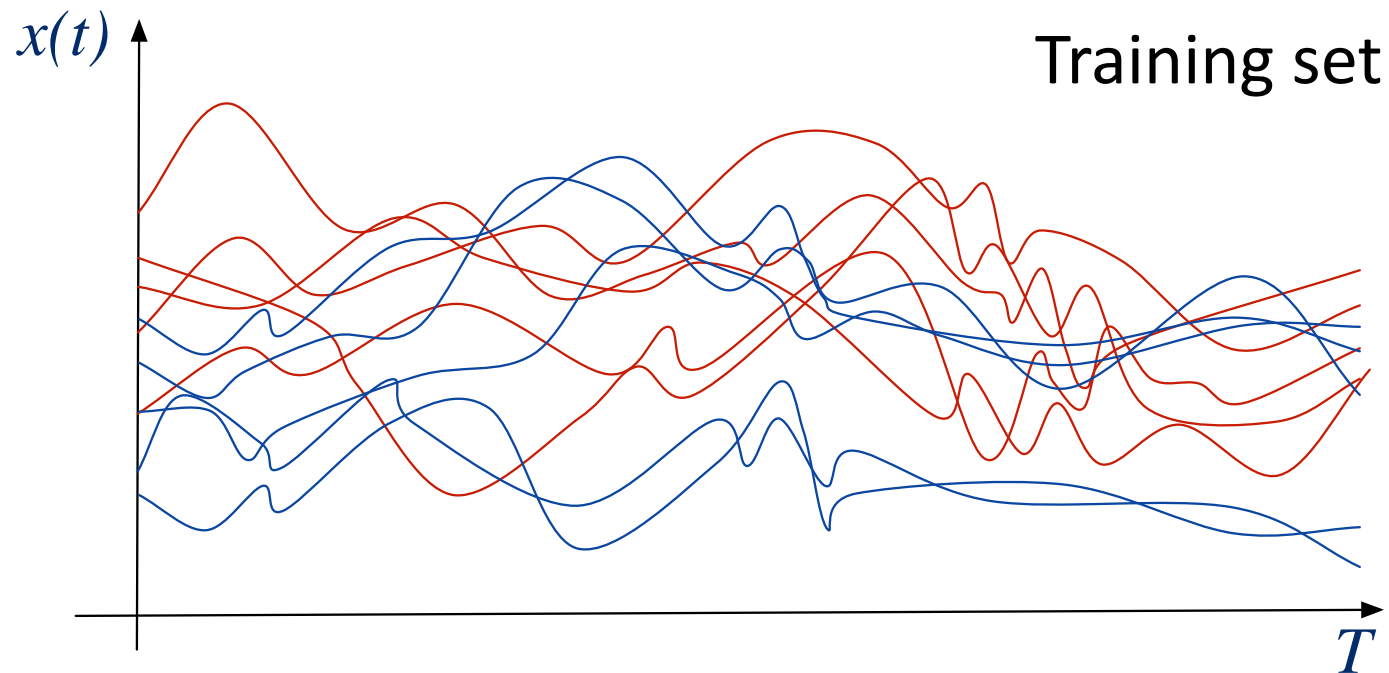
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1. **Introduction**: a new set of problems
2. **Formal statement** and a solution
3. **The proposed approach**
4. **Experimental results**
5. **Conclusions**

# Introduction

# (Early) classification of time series

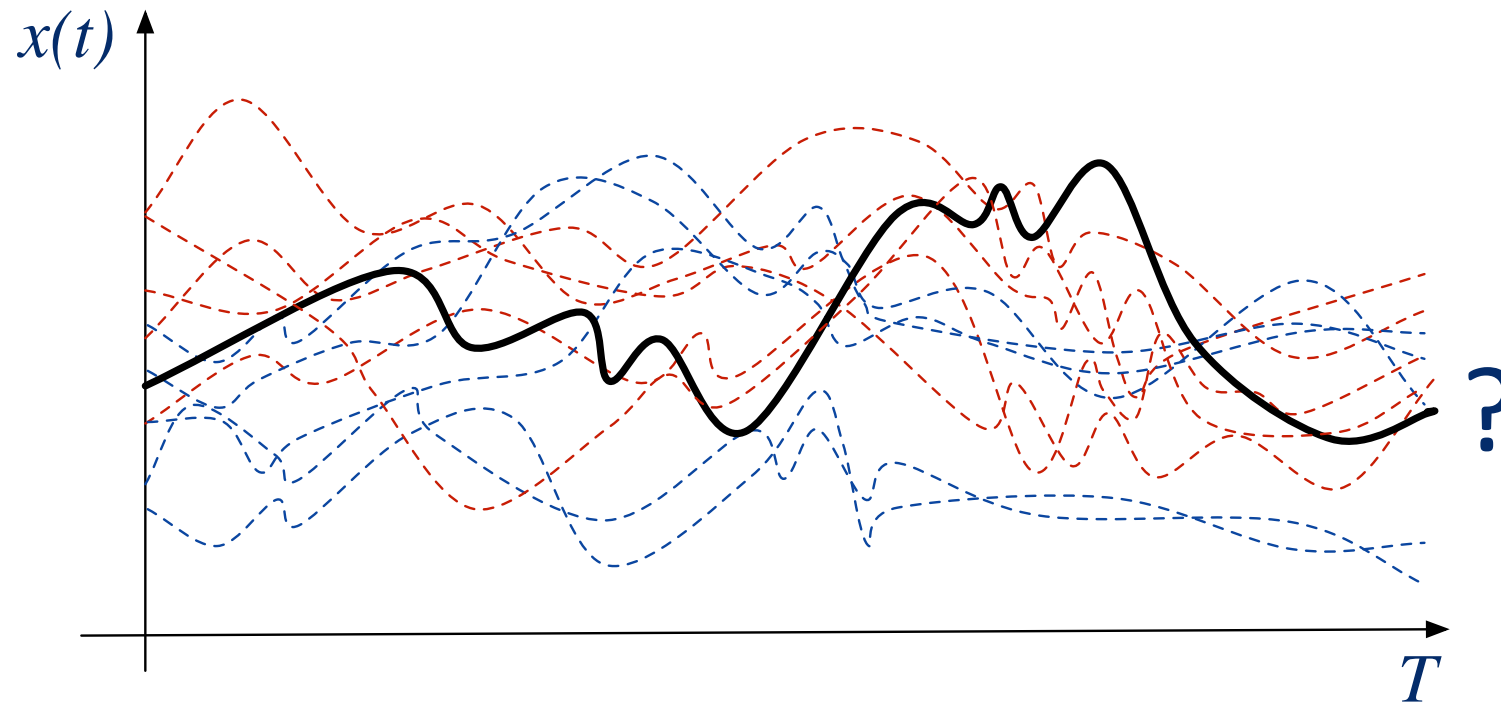
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- Monitoring of **consumer actions on a web site**: will buy or not
- Monitoring of a **patient state**: critical or not
- Early prediction of daily **electrical consumption**: high or low

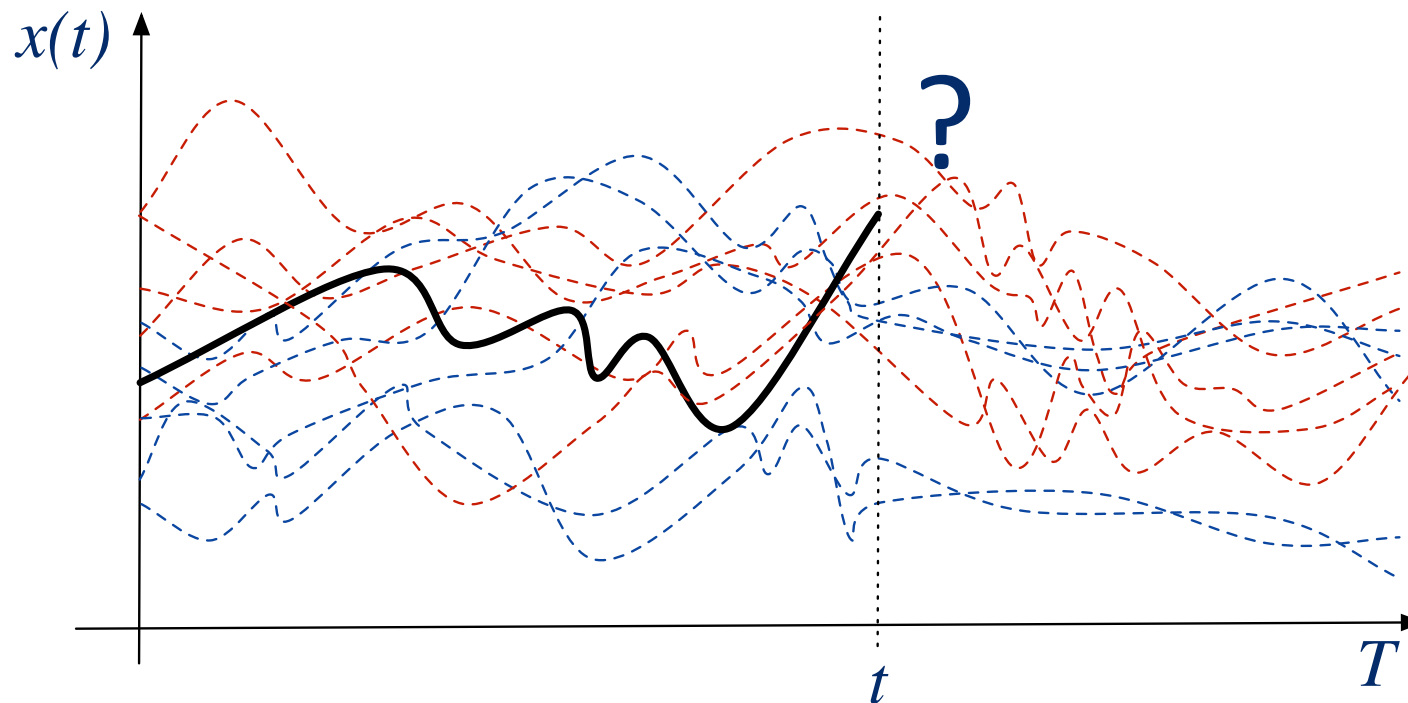
# Standard classification of time series

- What is the class of the new time series  $x_T$ ?



# Early classification of time series

- What is the class of the new **incomplete** time series  $x_t$ ?



# New set of decision problems : **early classification**

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- **Data stream**
- **Classification task**
- **As early as possible**
- **A trade-off**
  - Classification **performance** (better if  $t \nearrow$ )
  - Cost of **delaying** prediction (better if  $t \searrow$ )

# Previous works

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- *Sequential decision making (1933, 1948)*

- **Wald's sequential probability ratio test**

$$R_t = \frac{P(\langle x_1^i, \dots, x_t^i \rangle \mid y = +1)}{P(\langle x_1^i, \dots, x_t^i \rangle \mid y = -1)}$$

$$h(\mathbf{x}_t) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } R_t > \alpha \\ -1 & \text{if } R_t < \beta \\ \text{continue monitoring} & \text{if } \beta < R_t < \alpha \end{cases}$$



# Previous works

- *Sequential decision making (1933, 1948)*

- **Wald's sequential probability ratio test**

- Difficult to estimate
    - Have to set the thresholds  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$
    - No explicit cost of delaying decision
    - Myopic decision criterion

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- Other (modern) approaches

- Sophisticated heuristics
  - No explicit cost of delaying decision
  - Myopic decision criterion

[Ishiguro et al. 2000]  
[Sochman & Matas, 2005]  
[Xing et al., 2009, 2011]  
[Anderson et al., 2012]  
[Parrish et al., 2013]  
[Hatami & Chira, 2013]  
[Ghalwash et al., 2014]  
...

# Our contribution

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1. **Formalize** the problem as a sequential decision making problem
2. Explicit **trade-off**
  - Classification **performance**
  - **Cost of delaying** the decision
3. **Adaptive**
  - Takes into account the peculiarities of  $x_t$
4. **Non myopic**
  - At each time step, estimates the expected future time for optimal decision

*An algorithm  
that realizes all  
these items*

# Formal analysis and first attempt

# Decision making (1)

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- Given an incoming sequence  $\mathbf{x}_t = \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t \rangle$  where  $x_t \in \mathbb{R}$
- And given:
  - A *miss-classification* cost function  $C_t(\hat{y}|y) : \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Y} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$
  - A *delaying decision* cost function  $C(t) : \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- What is the **optimal time** to make a **decision**?

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- **What is the optimal time to make a decision?**

**Expected cost** for a decision at time  $t$

$$f(\mathbf{x}_t) = \underbrace{\sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(y|\mathbf{x}_t) \sum_{\hat{y} \in \mathcal{Y}} P(\hat{y}|y, \mathbf{x}_t) C_t(\hat{y}|y)}_{\text{expected miss-classification cost given } \mathbf{x}_t} + C(t)$$

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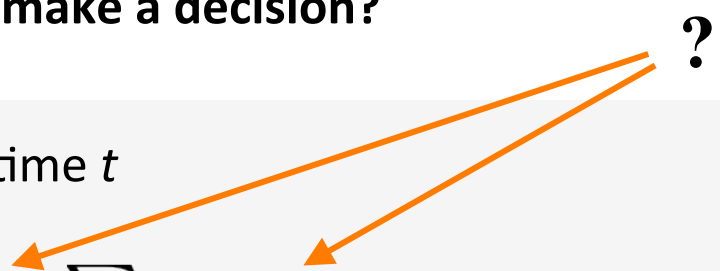
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$$\text{Optimal time: } t^* = \underset{t \in \{1, \dots, T\}}{\text{ArgMin}} f(\mathbf{x}_t)$$

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# Decision making (2)

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- Expected cost for **any** sequence of length  $t$

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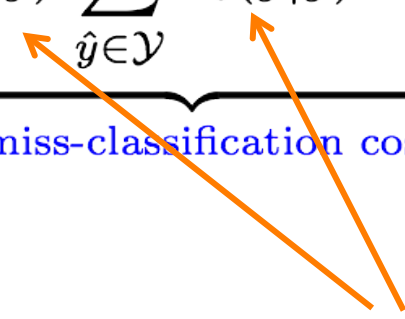
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- Not adaptive!!**

# Challenge

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- How can we get an optimization criterion st.
  - It takes into account the incoming sequence  $x_t$  (**adaptive**)
  - It can be **easily estimated** (from the training set)

# The proposed approach

# The principle

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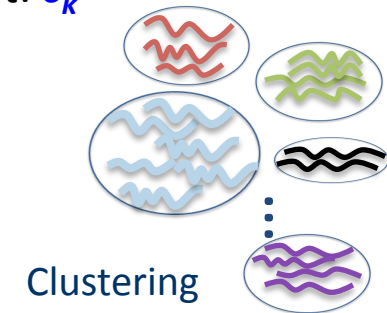
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# The principle

$$P(y|\mathbf{x}_t) \rightarrow P(y|\mathbf{c}_k)$$

## 1. During training:

→ – identify **meaningful subsets** of time sequences in the training set:  $\mathbf{c}_k$



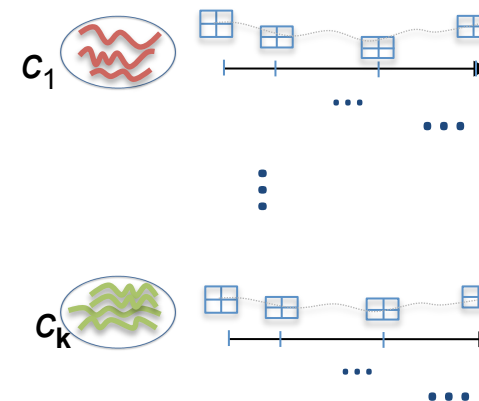
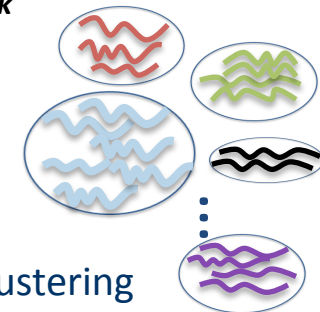
# The principle

## 1. During training:

- identify meaningful subsets of time sequences in the training set:  $\mathbf{c}_k$
- For each of these subsets  $\mathbf{c}_k$ , and for each time step  $t$

→ • Estimate the confusion matrices  $P_t(\hat{y}|y, \mathbf{c}_k)$

- $T$  classifiers are **learnt**  $h_t(\mathbf{x}_t) : \mathcal{X}_t \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$
- And their confusion matrices  $P_t(\hat{y}|y, \mathbf{c}_k)$  are **estimated** on a test set

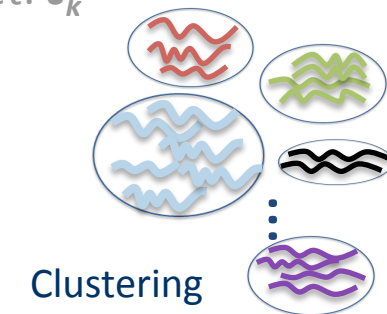




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  - Estimate the confusion matrices  $P_t(\hat{y}|y, \mathbf{c}_k)$



## 2. Testing: For any new incomplete incoming sequence $x_t$

- – Identify the **most likely subset**: the closer class of shapes to  $x_t$

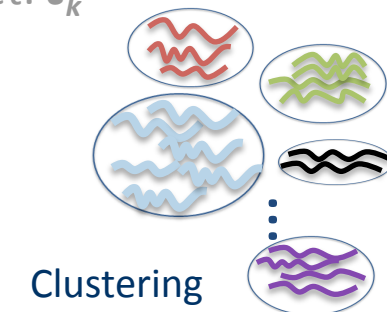
### Membership probability

$$P(\mathbf{c}_k|\mathbf{x}_t) = \frac{s_k}{\sum_i^K s_i}, \quad \text{where } s_k = \frac{1}{1 + \exp^{-\lambda(\bar{D}-d_k)/\bar{D}}}$$

# The principle

## 1. During training:

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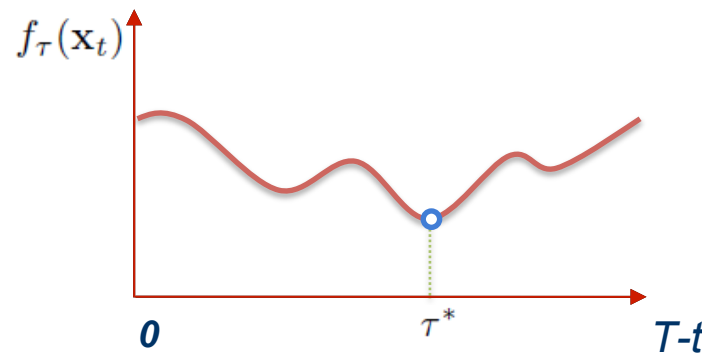
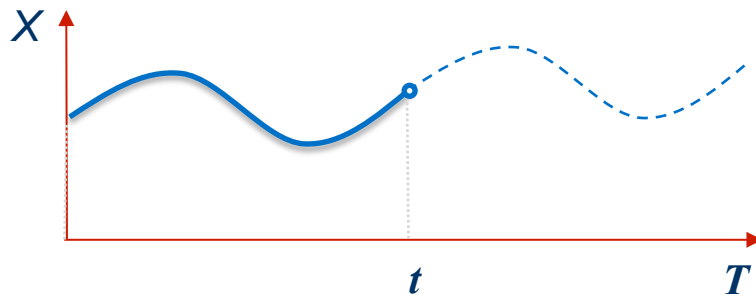
- Identify the most likely subset: the closer shape to  $\mathbf{x}_t$
- – Compute the expected cost of decision for all future time steps

$$f_\tau(\mathbf{x}_t) = \underbrace{\sum_{\mathbf{c}_k \in \mathcal{C}} P(\mathbf{c}_k | \mathbf{x}_t) \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(y | \mathbf{c}_k) \sum_{\hat{y} \in \mathcal{Y}} P_{t+\tau}(\hat{y} | y, \mathbf{c}_k) C(\hat{y} | y)}_{\text{expected miss-classification cost given } \mathbf{x}_t} + C(t + \tau)$$

# A non myopic decision process

- Optimal estimated time relative to current time  $t$

$$\tau^* = \underset{\tau \in \{0, \dots, T-t\}}{\text{ArgMin}} f_{\tau}(\mathbf{x}_t)$$

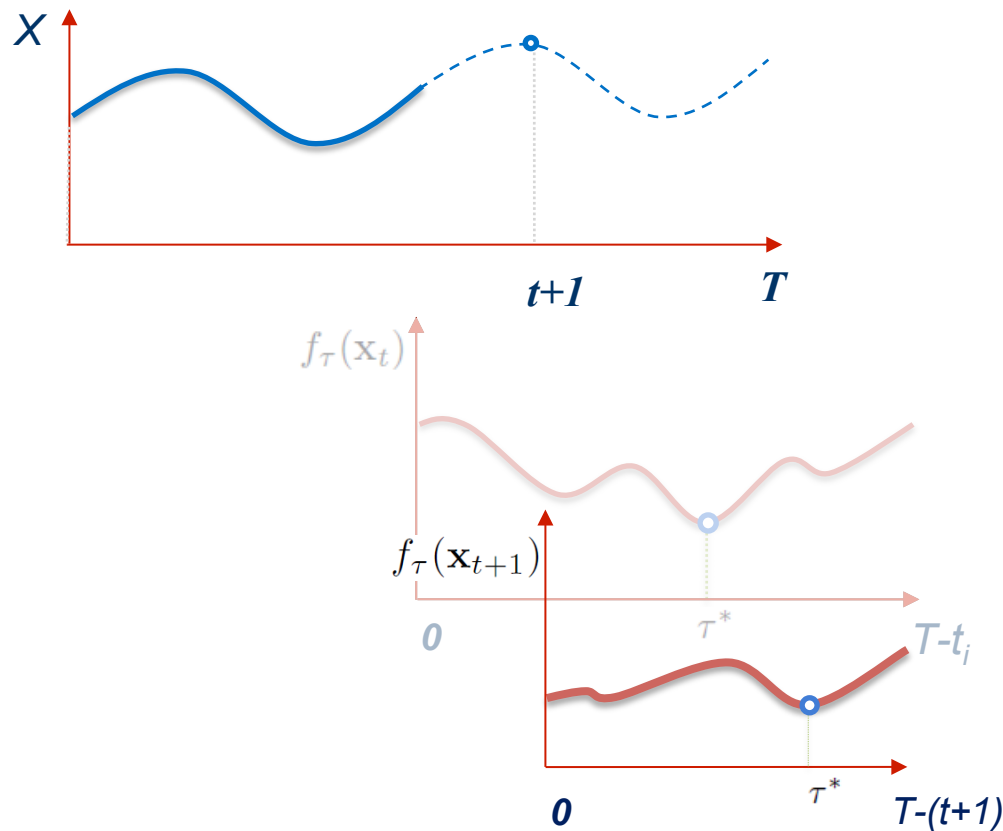


Continue  
monitoring

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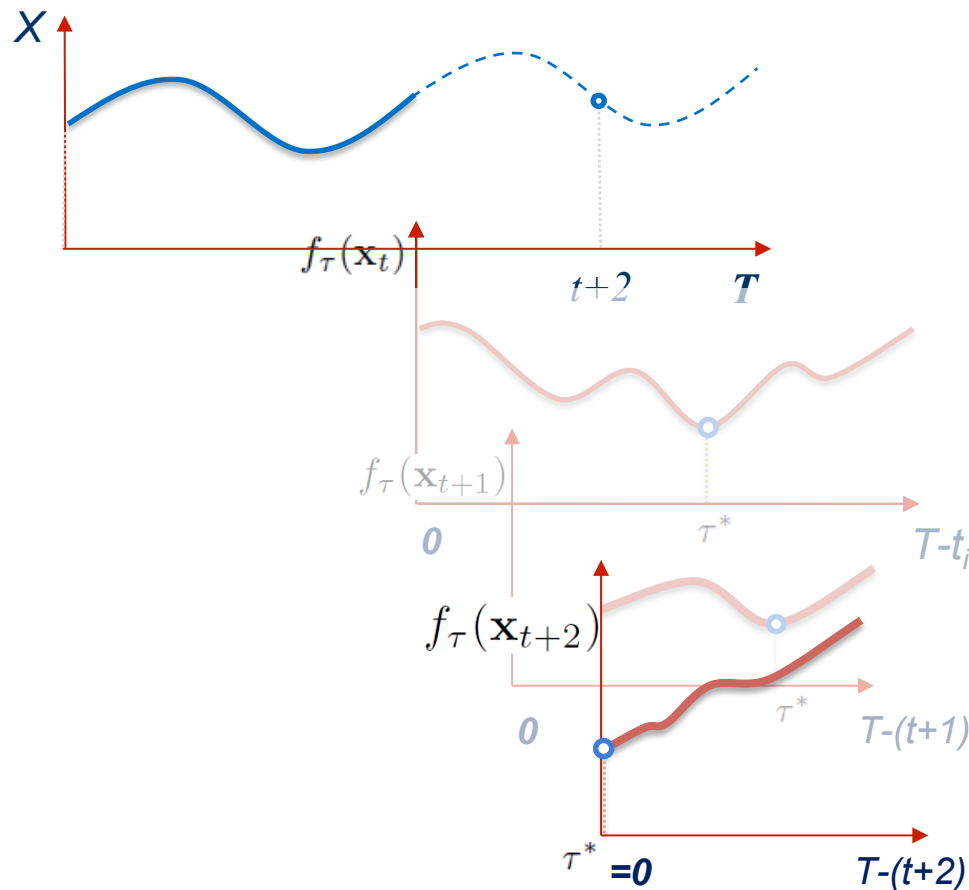


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**Take  
decision**

# Properties

---

- The decision criterion **naturally incorporates**
  - The **quality** of the decision
  - The **cost of delaying** decision
- **Adaptive**: the decision depends upon  $x_t$
- **Non myopic**:
  - At each time step the expected best time for decision is estimated

# A simple implementation

# A **baseline implementation**: simple and direct

---

- The **distance** used to measure proximity between sequences is the **Euclidian distance**

- Clustering of sequences

- Clustering membership  $P(\mathbf{c}_k | \mathbf{x}_t) = \frac{s_k}{\sum_i^K s_i}$ , where  $s_k = \frac{1}{1 + \exp^{-\lambda(\bar{D} - d_k)/\bar{D}}}$



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- **Classifiers**

$$\hat{y} = h_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$$

- Naïve Bayes
- – Multi-Layer Perceptrons

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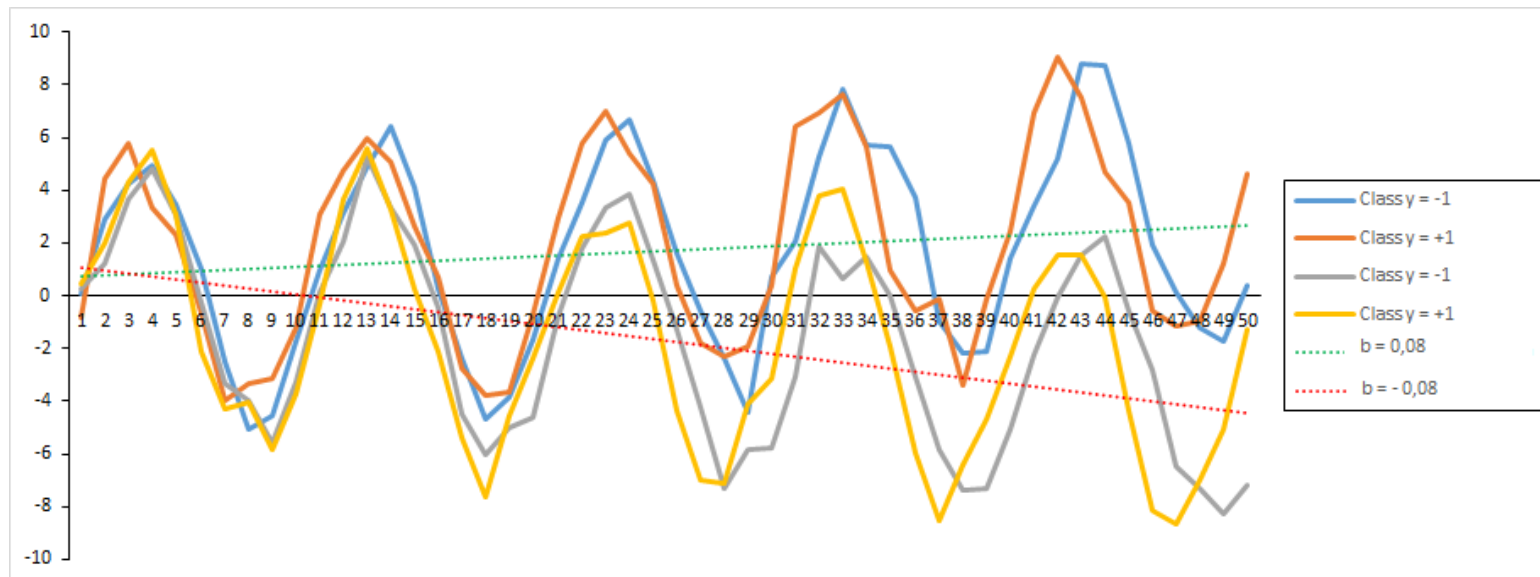
➔ **Other choices are possible** within the general approach

# Experiments

# Controlled data

- Control of
  - The **proximity** between the **classes**
  - The **number and shapes of clusters** within each class
  - The **noise level**

$$\mathbf{x}_t = a \sin(\omega_i t + \text{phase}) + bt + \varepsilon(t)$$



# Results

$C(t)$	$\pm b$ $\varepsilon(t)$	0.02			0.05			0.07		
		$\bar{\tau}^*$	$\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	$\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	$\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC
0.01	0.2	9.0	2.40	0.99	9.0	2.40	0.99	10.0	0.0	1.00
	0.5	13.0	4.40	0.98	13.0	4.40	0.98	15.0	0.18	1.00
	1.5	24.0	10.02	0.98	32.0	2.56	1.00	30.0	12.79	0.99
	5.0	26.0	7.78	0.84	30.0	18.91	0.87	30.0	19.14	0.88
	10.0	38.0	18.89	0.70	48.0	1.79	0.74	46.0	5.27	0.75
	15.0	23.0	15.88	0.61	32.0	13.88	0.64	29.0	17.80	0.62
	20.0	7.0	8.99	0.52	11.0	11.38	0.55	4.0	1.22	0.52
0.05	0.2	8.0	2.00	0.98	8.0	2.00	0.98	9.0	0.0	1.00
	0.5	10.0	2.80	0.96	8.0	4.0	0.98	14.0	0.41	0.99
	1.5	5.0	0.40	0.68	20.0	0.42	0.95	14.0	4.80	0.88
	5.0	8.0	3.87	0.68	6.0	1.36	0.64	5.0	0.50	0.65
	10.0	4.0	0.29	0.56	4.0	0.25	0.56	4.0	0.34	0.57
	15.0	4.0	0.0	0.54	4.0	0.25	0.56	4.0	0.0	0.55
	20.0	4.0	0.0	0.52	4.0	0.0	0.52	4.0	0.0	0.52
0.10	0.2	6.0	0.80	0.95	7.0	1.60	0.94	8.0	0.40	0.96
	0.5	6.0	0.80	0.84	9.0	2.40	0.93	10.0	0.0	0.95
	1.5	4.0	0.0	0.67	5.0	0.43	0.68	6.0	0.80	0.74
	5.0	4.0	0.07	0.64	4.0	0.05	0.64	4.0	0.11	0.64
	10.0	4.0	0.0	0.56	48.0	1.79	0.74	4.0	0.22	0.56
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	20.0	4.0	0.0	0.52	11.0	11.38	0.55	4.0	0.0	0.52

**Table 1.** Experimental results in function of the waiting cost  $C(t) = \{0.01, 0.05, 0.1\} \times t$ , the noise level  $\varepsilon(t)$  and the trend parameter  $b$ .

# Results: effect of the noise level

Increasing the noise level increases the waiting time, and then it's no longer worth it

$C(t)$	$\pm b$ $\varepsilon(t)$	$\bar{\tau}^*$	0.02 $\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	0.05 $\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	0.07 $\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC
0.01	0.2	<b>9.0</b>	2.40	0.99	<b>9.0</b>	2.40	0.99	<b>10.0</b>	0.0	1.00
	0.5	<b>13.0</b>	4.40	0.98	<b>13.0</b>	4.40	0.98	<b>15.0</b>	0.18	1.00
	1.5	<b>24.0</b>	10.02	0.98	<b>32.0</b>	2.56	1.00	<b>30.0</b>	12.79	0.99
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# Results: effect of the **waiting cost**

Increasing the  
**waiting cost**  
**reduces the waiting**  
**time**

$C(t)$	$\pm b$ $\varepsilon(t)$	$\bar{\tau}^*$	0.02 $\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	0.05 $\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	0.07 $\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC
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	15.0	23.0	15.88	0.61	32.0	13.88	0.64	<b>29.0</b>	17.80	0.62
	20.0	7.0	8.99	0.52	11.0	11.38	0.55	<b>4.0</b>	1.22	0.52
<b>0.05</b>	0.2	8.0	2.00	0.98	8.0	2.00	0.98	<b>9.0</b>	0.0	1.00
	0.5	10.0	2.80	0.96	8.0	4.0	0.98	<b>14.0</b>	0.41	0.99
	1.5	5.0	0.40	0.68	20.0	0.42	0.95	<b>14.0</b>	4.80	0.88
	5.0	8.0	3.87	0.68	6.0	1.36	0.64	<b>5.0</b>	0.50	0.65
	10.0	4.0	0.29	0.56	4.0	0.25	0.56	<b>4.0</b>	0.34	0.57
	15.0	4.0	0.0	0.54	4.0	0.25	0.56	<b>4.0</b>	0.0	0.55
	20.0	4.0	0.0	0.52	4.0	0.0	0.52	<b>4.0</b>	0.0	0.52
<b>0.10</b>	0.2	6.0	0.80	0.95	7.0	1.60	0.94	<b>8.0</b>	0.40	0.96
	0.5	6.0	0.80	0.84	9.0	2.40	0.93	<b>10.0</b>	0.0	0.95
	1.5	4.0	0.0	0.67	5.0	0.43	0.68	<b>6.0</b>	0.80	0.74
	5.0	4.0	0.07	0.64	4.0	0.05	0.64	<b>4.0</b>	0.11	0.64
	10.0	4.0	0.0	0.56	48.0	1.79	0.74	<b>4.0</b>	0.22	0.56
	15.0	4.0	0.0	0.55	4.0	0.0	0.55	<b>4.0</b>	0.0	0.55
	20.0	4.0	0.0	0.52	11.0	11.38	0.55	<b>4.0</b>	0.0	0.52

**Table 2.** Experimental results in function of the waiting cost  $C(t) = \{0.01, 0.05, 0.1\} \times t$ , the noise level  $\varepsilon(t)$  and the trend parameter  $b$ .

# Results: effect of the difference between classes

Increase of the difference between classes

The performance increases (AUC)

The *waiting time* is not much changed in these experiments

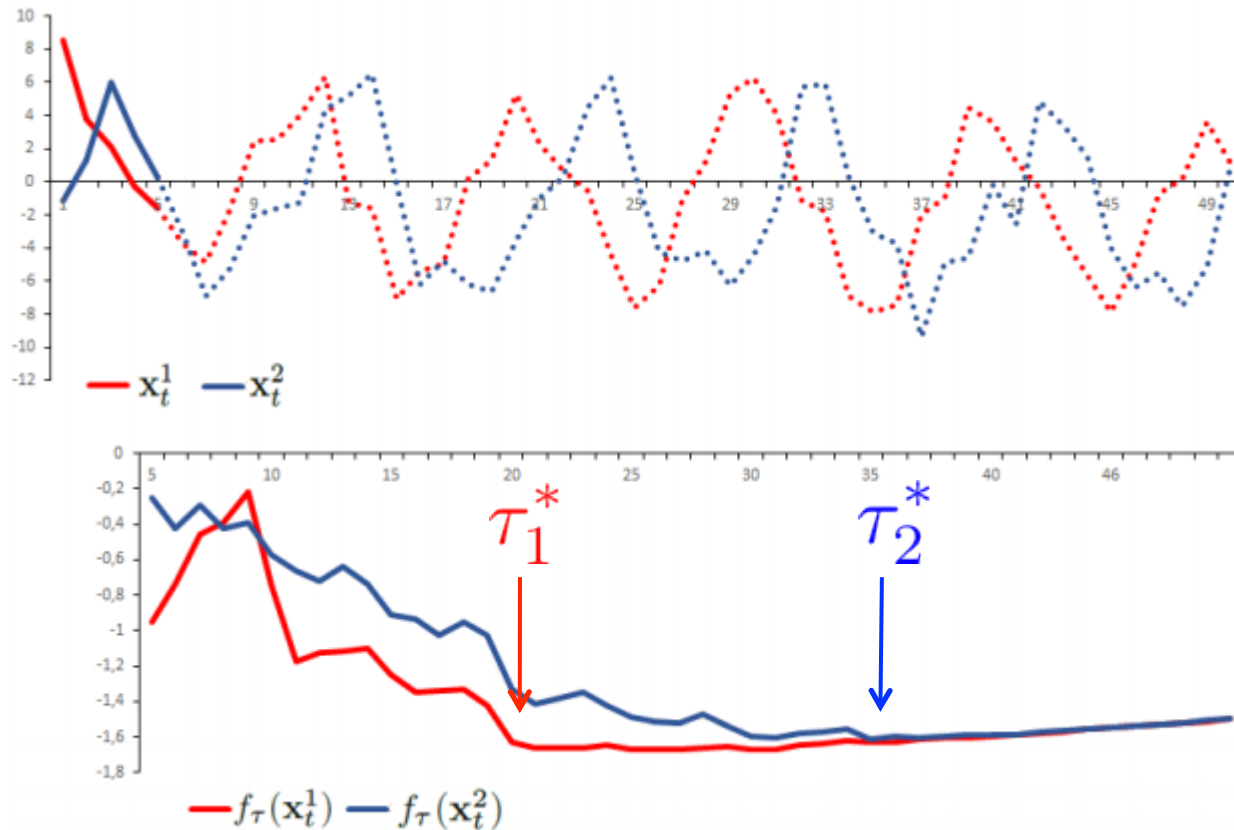
$C(t)$	$\pm b$ $\varepsilon(t)$	0.02			0.05			0.07		
		$\bar{\tau}^*$	$\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	$\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC	$\bar{\tau}^*$	$\sigma(\tau^*)$	AUC
0.01	0.2	9.0	2.40	0.99	9.0	2.40	0.99	10.0	0.0	1.00
	0.5	13.0	4.40	0.98	13.0	4.40	0.98	15.0	0.18	1.00
	1.5	24.0	10.02	0.98	32.0	2.56	1.00	30.0	12.79	0.99
	5.0	26.0	7.78	0.84	30.0	18.91	0.87	30.0	19.14	0.88
	10.0	38.0	18.89	0.70	48.0	1.79	0.74	46.0	5.27	0.75
	15.0	23.0	15.88	0.61	32.0	13.88	0.64	29.0	17.80	0.62
	20.0	7.0	8.99	0.52	11.0	11.38	0.55	4.0	1.22	0.52
0.05	0.2	8.0	2.00	0.98	8.0	2.00	0.98	9.0	0.0	1.00
	0.5	10.0	2.80	0.96	8.0	4.0	0.98	14.0	0.41	0.99
	1.5	5.0	0.40	0.68	20.0	0.42	0.95	14.0	4.80	0.88
	5.0	8.0	3.87	0.68	6.0	1.36	0.64	5.0	0.50	0.65
	10.0	4.0	0.29	0.56	4.0	0.25	0.56	4.0	0.34	0.57
	15.0	4.0	0.0	0.54	4.0	0.25	0.56	4.0	0.0	0.55
	20.0	4.0	0.0	0.52	4.0	0.0	0.52	4.0	0.0	0.52
0.10	0.2	6.0	0.80	0.95	7.0	1.60	0.94	8.0	0.40	0.96
	0.5	6.0	0.80	0.84	9.0	2.40	0.93	10.0	0.0	0.95
	1.5	4.0	0.0	0.67	5.0	0.43	0.68	6.0	0.80	0.74
	5.0	4.0	0.07	0.64	4.0	0.05	0.64	4.0	0.11	0.64
	10.0	4.0	0.0	0.56	48.0	1.79	0.74	4.0	0.22	0.56
	15.0	4.0	0.0	0.55	4.0	0.0	0.55	4.0	0.0	0.55
	20.0	4.0	0.0	0.52	11.0	11.38	0.55	4.0	0.0	0.52

**Table 3.** Experimental results in function of the waiting cost  $C(t) = \{0.01, 0.05, 0.1\} \times t$ , the noise level  $\varepsilon(t)$  and the trend parameter  $b$ .




# Results: the method is adaptive

- The expected optimal decision time depends on the incoming sequence



# Real dataset

- **TwoLeadECG** (UCI repository)
- 1,162 signals of **81 measurements** each (81 minutes)
- Two classes
- We arbitrarily varied the **waiting cost**:
  - $C(t) = 0.01 \cdot t$  (cheap)
  - $C(t) = 0.05 \cdot t$  (costly)
  - $C(t) = 0.10 \cdot t$  (very costly)



$C(t)$	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>0.1</b>
$\bar{\tau}^*$	<b>22.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>
$\sigma(\tau^*)$	6.1	15.7	9.8
AUC	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.91</b>

Adapts to keep a good performance with fewer measurements

# Conclusions

# Conclusions

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- **Online classification** of data streams is increasingly important
- **Contribution**
  - A **new optimization criterion** incorporating
    - Classification performance
    - Cost of delaying decision
  - A **baseline method**
    - **Adaptive**
    - **Non myopic**
    - A **spectrum** of different implementations is possible
  - **Experimental results** show the promise of the method

# Perspectives

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- **Exploration** of the spectrum of variations
  1. **Better clustering** method of the training sequences
    - More informed distance
  2. A **more direct approach** without clustering on sequences
  3. **Better classifier** of incomplete sequences
  
- **Application** to electrical grid data