

# Numerical Optimization

Class Administrivia

Motivated Examples

# Lectures

- This class is offered in English
- Most of lectures will be given using blackboard. You need to take note by yourself.
  - Except today's lecture
- No textbook, but will list some reading materials.
  - List of reference books is posted online.
  - List of websites is also posted.
- TA:
- Office hour: Wednesday 10:00-12:00

# Grading

- 40% homework (every two weeks)
- 20% midterm (tentative date: 4/19)
- 30% final exam/project (tentative date: 6/21)
  - If your midterm does not pass a threshold, you need to take the final exam.
  - If your midterm passes a threshold, you can choose to do project or to take the final exam.
  - Project will be research orientated, including paper reading and implementation.
- 10% attendance

# Topics will be covered

1. Introduction
  2. One-dimensional optimization
  3. Unconstrained optimization
  4. Least square problem
  5. Constrained optimization
  6. Global optimization or/and discrete optimization
- Details is listed on the class website:
    - <http://www.cs.nthu.edu.tw/~cherung/teaching/2010cs5321/index.html>

# Your goals of this class

- Learning some basic optimization concepts and methods, as well as their limitations.
  - This will help a lot for you to read papers and to do researches.
- Knowing the numerical techniques behind the numerical optimization methods.
  - This can help you to verify the equations and to derive new methods.

# Motivated examples

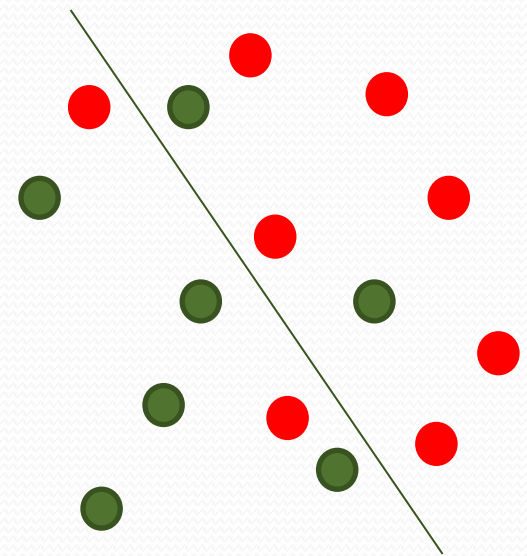
- Ex1: Classification in pattern recognition (SVM)
- Ex2: Floorplanning in VLSI design
- Ex3: Network component analysis in system biology
- Ex4: Localization problem in wireless network
- Ex5: Topology mapping problem in high-performance computing
- Ex6: Job interview problem for one variable optimization

# Ex1: Classification

- Given two sets  $A=\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  and  $B=\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Find a line to separate them such that the “error” is **minimized**.
- The line equation is  $\phi(a) = \langle v, a \rangle - \gamma$
- The errors are

$$e_-(a_i, v, \gamma) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \langle v, a_i \rangle - \gamma \geq 0 \\ \gamma - \langle v, a_i \rangle & \text{if } \langle v, a_i \rangle - \gamma < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$e_+(b_i, v, \gamma) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \langle v, b_i \rangle - \gamma \leq 0 \\ \langle v, b_i \rangle - \gamma & \text{if } \langle v, b_i \rangle - \gamma > 0 \end{cases}$$



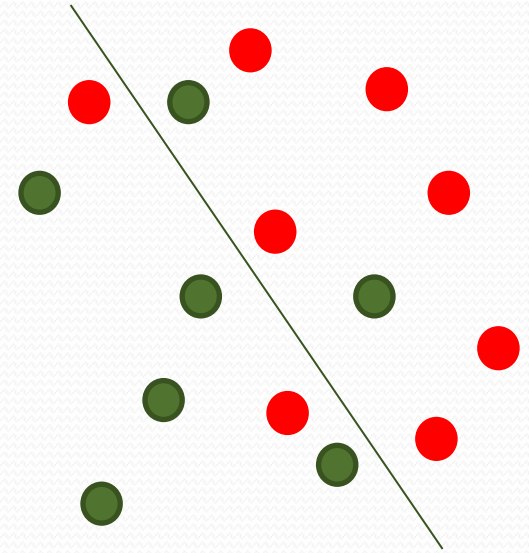
# Classification - constrains

- Constrains
  - If  $v=0$  and  $\gamma=0$ , errors are zero
  - Let  $\|v\|=1$
- Problem:

$$\min_{v, \gamma} \sum_{i=1}^k e_-(a_i, v, \gamma) + \sum_{j=1}^m e_+(b_j, v, \gamma)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \|v\| = 1$$

Piecewise linear function





# Classification – Slack variables

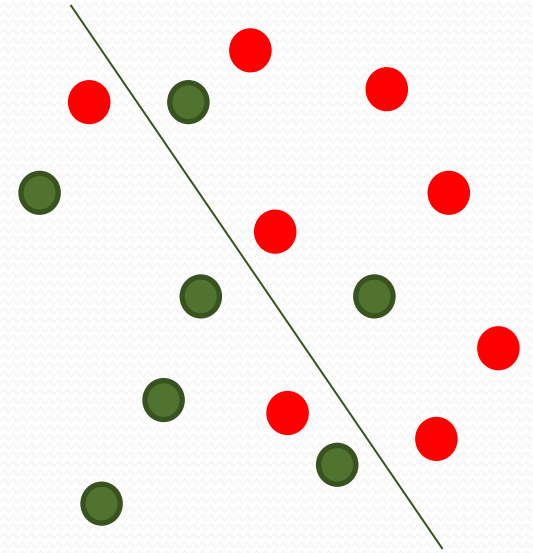
- Let  $e_-(a_i, v, \gamma) = s_i, e_+(b_j, v, \gamma) = z_j$ 
  - Slack variables
- Problem:

$$\min_{v, \gamma, s, z} \sum_{i=1}^k s_i + \sum_{j=1}^m z_j$$

$$\text{s.t. } \|v\| = 1$$

$$\langle v, a_i \rangle - \gamma + s_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

$$\langle v, b_j \rangle - \gamma + z_j \leq 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$



# Classification (SVM)

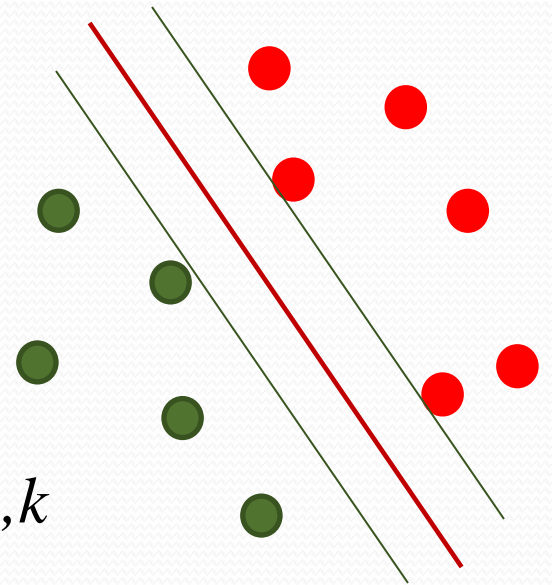
- Adding buffers
- Problem:

$$\min_{v, \gamma, s, z} \sum_{i=1}^k s_i + \sum_{j=1}^m z_j$$

$$\text{s.t. } \|v\| = 1$$

$$\langle v, a_i \rangle - \gamma + s_i \geq 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

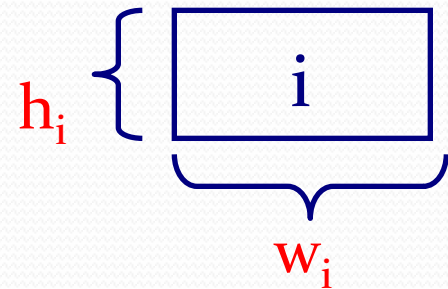
$$\langle v, b_j \rangle - \gamma + z_j \leq -1, \quad j = 1, \dots, m$$



- This is called supporting vector machine (SVM)

# Ex2: Floorplanning

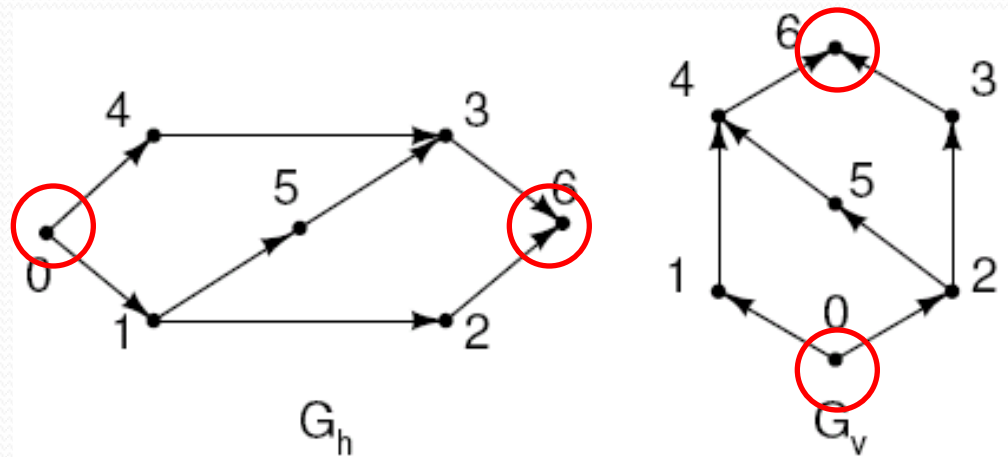
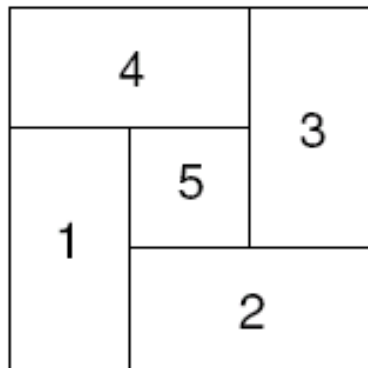
- An early stage of physical design that determines module positions, shapes, and orientations
- Module  $i$ :
  - Width and height:  $w_i$  and  $h_i$
  - Area:  $w_i \cdot h_i$
  - Aspect ratio:  $h_i / w_i$
- Goal: Find width  $w_i$ , height  $h_i/w_i$ , and lower left corner coordinates  $x_i$  and  $y_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , such that the area is minimized



*Chuan Lin, Hai Zhou, Chris Chu, 2006  
"A revisit to floorplan optimization by Lagrangian relaxation"*

# Constraint graph

- Horizontal constraint graph  $G_h$  of  $n$  modules
  - Edge  $(i,j) \in G_h$  if module  $j$  is to the right of module  $i$
- Vertical constraint graph  $G_v$  of  $n$  modules
  - Edge  $(i,j) \in G_v$  if module  $j$  is above module  $i$



# Problem formulation ( $P_{area}$ )

PROBLEM 1 (MINIMUM AREA FLOORPLANNING).

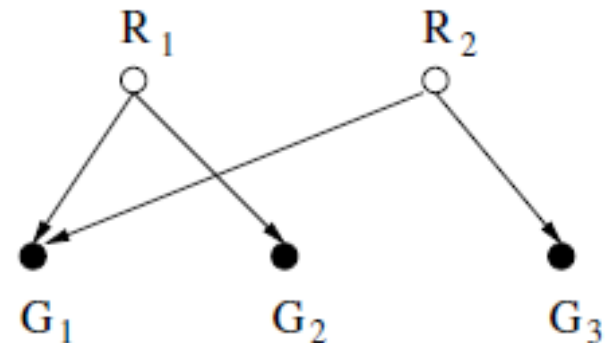
$$\begin{aligned} P_{area} : \text{ Minimize } & (x_{n+1} - x_0)(y_{n+1} - y_0) \\ \text{subject to } & x_j \geq x_i + w_i \quad , \forall (i, j) \in G_h \\ & y_j \geq y_i + A_i/w_i \quad , \forall (i, j) \in G_v \\ & L_i \leq w_i \leq U_i \quad , \forall 1 \leq i \leq n \end{aligned}$$

$$L_i = \sqrt{A_i/r_i^{max}} \quad \text{and} \quad U_i = \sqrt{A_i/r_i^{min}}$$

# Ex3:Network component analysis

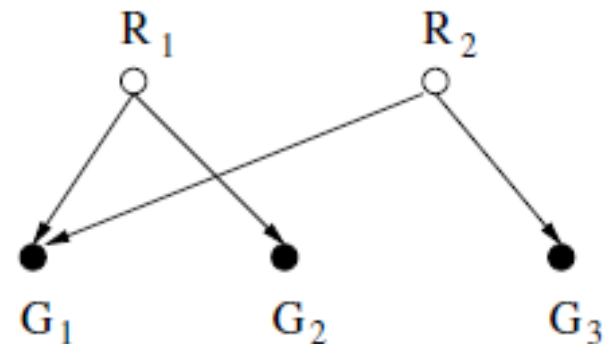
- Network: a bipartite graph  $(R,G,E)$ 
  - **R**: concentration of active form of regulatory proteins.
  - **G**: gene expressions that are observed through a series of experiments.
  - **E**: the arrows connecting nodes indicate which regulatory proteins have influence on which genes.

*James C. Liao, Riccardo Boscolo, Young-Lyeol Yang, Linh My Tran, Chiara Sabatti, and Vwani P. Roychowdhury, 2003, "Network component analysis: Reconstruction of regulatory signals in biological systems"*



# Problem formulation

- $E = AP$ , where  $E, A, P$  are matrices
  - $E(N \times M)$ : each row represents a gene; each column represents an experiment
  - $A(N \times L)$ : each column represents the action of a regulatory protein on all the genes
  - $P(L \times M)$  matrix with each row representing the profile of each regulatory protein across experiments.
- $E$  is known;  $A$  and  $P$  are what we want to compute



# Network constraints

- Elements of matrix  $A$  need to satisfy the zero patterns that specified by the network
- Problem formulation

$$\min_{A,P} \|E - AP\|$$

$$\text{s.t. } A(i, j) = 0 \text{ if } (i, j) \notin \text{edge } E$$



# Ex4: Localization problem

For  $n$  nodes  
 $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  and  $m$   
anchor nodes  
 $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m\}$ ,  
given partial relative  
distance information  
between nodes, find the  
positions of  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ .

*Pratik Biswas and Yinyu Ye, 2004*  
“Semidefinite programming for ad hoc  
wireless sensor network localization”

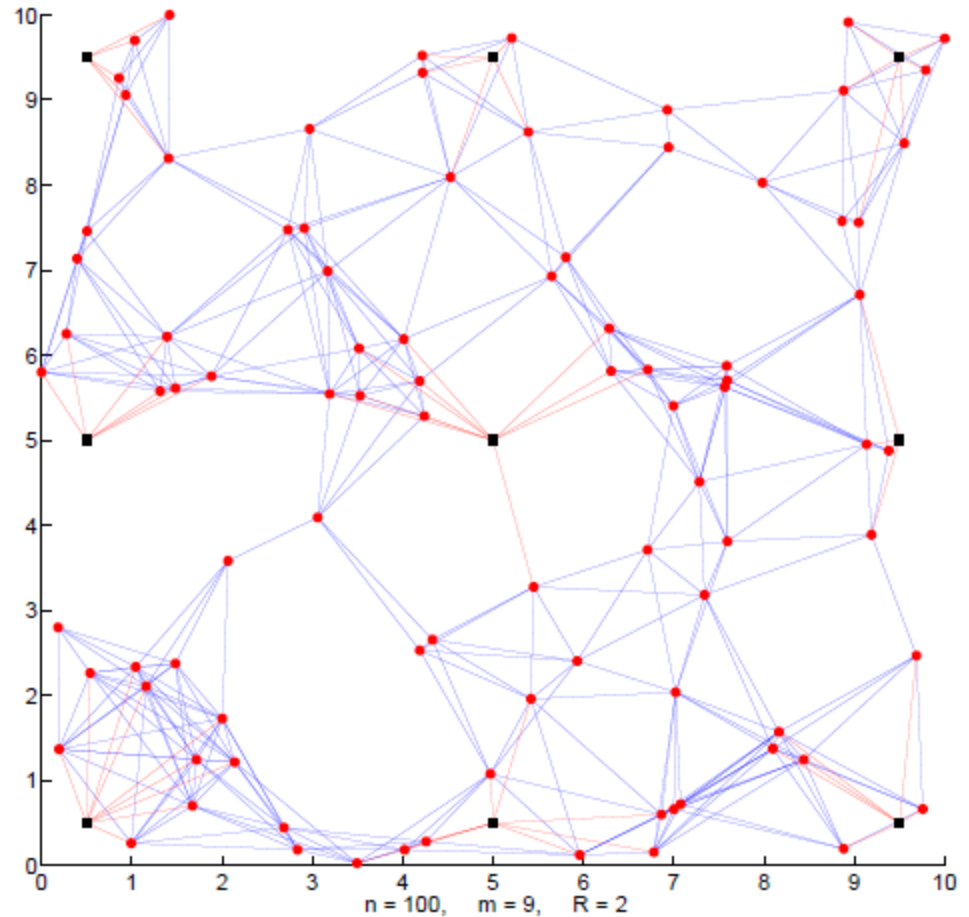


Figure 1.1: Graph of partial *EDM* with sensors  $\circ$  and anchors  $\blacksquare$

# Euclidean distance matrix (EDM)

$$D = [d_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} d_{11} & d_{12} & d_{13} \\ d_{21} & d_{22} & d_{23} \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & d_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & d_{12} & d_{13} \\ d_{12} & 0 & d_{23} \\ d_{13} & d_{23} & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 5 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$d_{ij} = \|x_i - x_j\|_2^2 \triangleq \langle x_i - x_j, x_i - x_j \rangle$$

- If we know the full EDM, we can find the relative coordinates (up to rotation).
- If we know the full EDM and some anchor nodes, we can identify the absolute coordinates of X.
- EDM is usually noisy. Only maximum likelihood positions is available.

# Problem formulation

$$\min_{x_1, \dots, x_n} \sum_{(i,j) \in E} |d(x_i, x_j) - d_{ij}| + \sum_{(i,j) \in E} |d(a_i, x_j) - d_{ij}|$$

- Not very robust. Need more constraints

- Distance lower bound

$$\|x_i - x_j\|^2 \geq (\underline{r}_{ij})^2, \quad \|a_k - x_j\|^2 \geq (\underline{r}_{kj})^2$$

- Distance upper bound

$$\|x_i - x_j\|^2 \leq (\bar{r}_{ij})^2, \quad \|a_k - x_j\|^2 \leq (\bar{r}_{kj})^2$$

# Problem formulation

Define:  $(u)_- = \max\{0, -u\}$  and  $(u)_+ = \max\{0, u\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min \quad & \sum_{i,j \in N_e, i < j} (\alpha_{ij}^+ + \alpha_{ij}^-) + \sum_{k,j \in N_e} (\alpha_{kj}^+ + \alpha_{kj}^-) \\
 & + \sum_{i,j \in N_l, i < j} \beta_{ij}^- + \sum_{k,j \in N_l} \beta_{kj}^- \\
 & + \sum_{i,j \in N_u, i < j} \beta_{ij}^+ + \sum_{k,j \in N_u} \beta_{kj}^+ \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \|x_i - x_j\|^2 - (\hat{d}_{ij})^2 = \alpha_{ij}^+ - \alpha_{ij}^-, \quad \forall i, j \in N_e, i < j, \\
 & \|a_k - x_j\|^2 - (\hat{d}_{kj})^2 = \alpha_{kj}^+ - \alpha_{kj}^-, \quad \forall k, j \in N_e, \\
 & \|x_i - x_j\|^2 - (\underline{r}_{ij})^2 \geq -\beta_{ij}^-, \quad \forall i, j \in N_l, i < j, \\
 & \|a_k - x_j\|^2 - (\underline{r}_{kj})^2 \geq -\beta_{kj}^-, \quad \forall k, j \in N_l, \\
 & \|x_i - x_j\|^2 - (\underline{r}_{ij})^2 \leq \beta_{ij}^+, \quad \forall i, j \in N_u, i < j, \\
 & \|a_k - x_j\|^2 - (\underline{r}_{kj})^2 \leq \beta_{kj}^+, \quad \forall k, j \in N_u \\
 & \alpha_{ij}^+, \alpha_{ij}^-, \alpha_{kj}^+, \alpha_{kj}^-, \beta_{ij}^-, \beta_{kj}^-, \beta_{ij}^+, \beta_{kj}^+ \geq 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

# Ex5:Topology mapping problem

- There are  $n$  tasks and  $n$  processors. The traffic between tasks is recorded in a matrix  $A$ ; The communication cost (distance, hops) between processors is recorded in a matrix  $D$ .
- Find an assignment  $P$  of tasks to processors such that the “communication cost” is minimized.

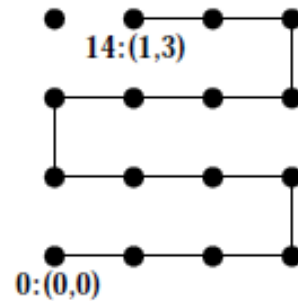
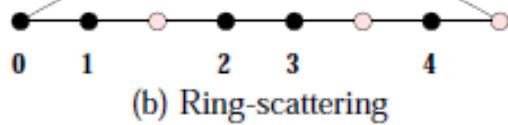
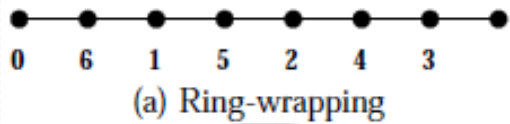
- The overall cost

$$C_P = \sum_{i,j=1}^n A_{P_i,P_j} D_{i,j}$$

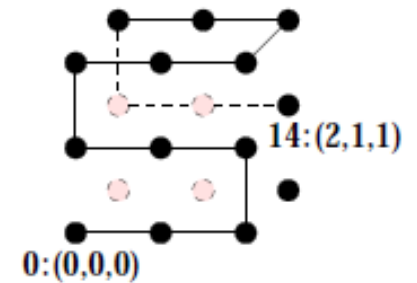
- The maximum cost

$$C_P = \max_{i,j=1,\dots,n} A_{P_i,P_j} D_{i,j}$$

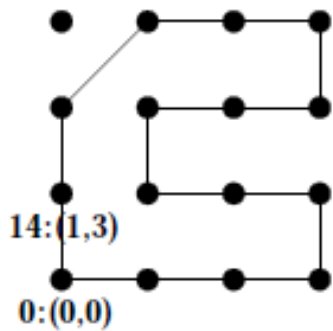
# Examples



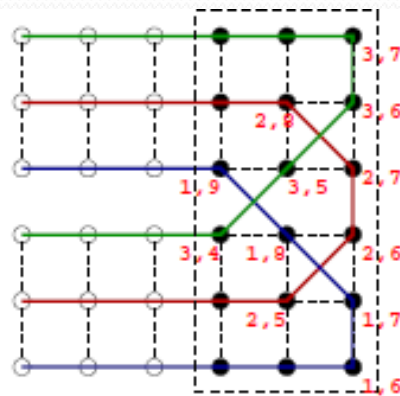
(c) Embed a line to a 2D grid



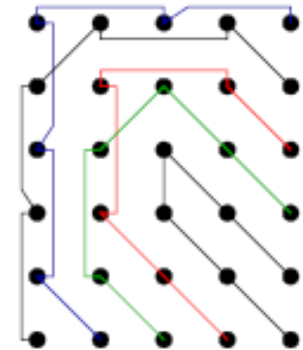
(d) Embed a line to a 3D grid



(e) Embed a ring to a 2D grid



(f) Fold a 12x3 grid to a 6x6 2D



(g) 90 degree turn

# Ex6:Job interview problem

- There are  $N$  interviewees for one position.
- They are interviewed in a random order.
- The result is either accepted or rejected.
- The rejected one cannot be recalled.
- If one is accepted, he/she cannot be replaced.
- The decision to accept or reject is based on the relative ranks of the interviewee so far.
- The object is to select “the best” applicant.

# How to make decision?

- The objective function: 1 if the best one is selected, 0 otherwise.
- If accepting too early, you might miss better one later; if too late, the better one could be rejected earlier.
- Basic strategy: passing on the first  $k$  candidates and then selecting the next “best so far”.
  - How to decide the “best”  $k$ ?



# Fixed best candidate

- Suppose the best candidate is at position  $j$ 
  - The probability is  $1/N$
- For  $j$  to be selected, the best of  $(j-1)$  must be in the  $[1..k]$ .
  - The probability is  $k/(j-1)$ , given  $k < j$ .
- So, the probability for  $j$  to be selected is

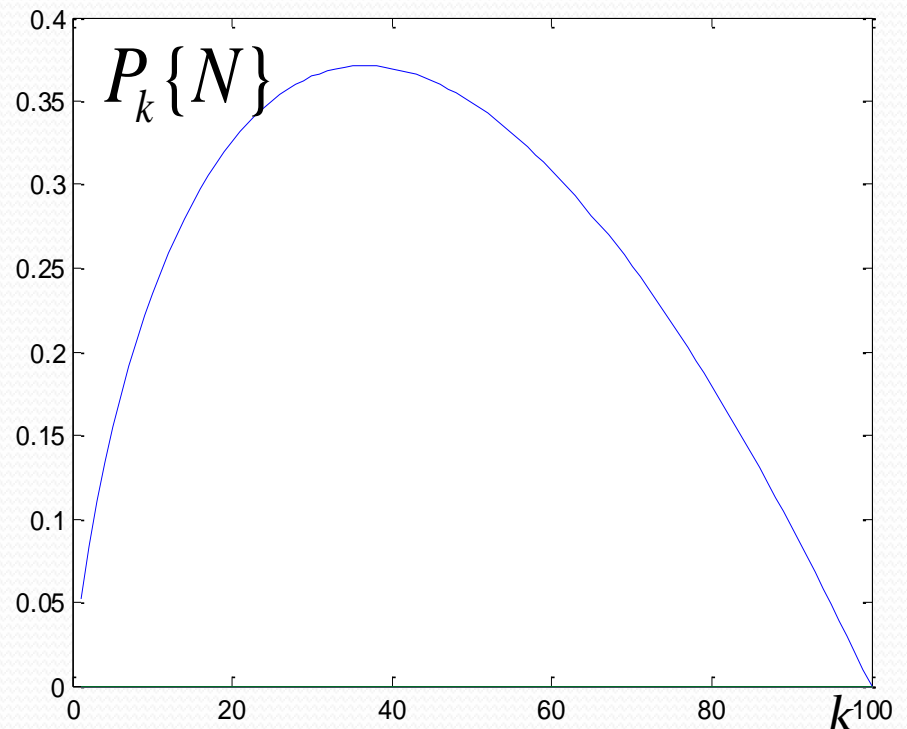
$$P_k \{ N, j \} = \frac{1}{N} \binom{k}{j-1}$$

# Fixed k

- If we fixed k, and sum up all possible j, j>k

$$P_k\{N\} = \frac{k}{N} \sum_{j=k+1}^N \left( \frac{1}{j-1} \right)$$
$$= \frac{k}{N} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} 1/j - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 1/j \right]$$

- Find k to maximize P{N}



# For large enough k and N

$$P_k\{N\} = \frac{k}{N} \sum_{j=k+1}^N \left( \frac{1}{j-1} \right) = \frac{k}{N} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} 1/j - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} 1/j \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{k}{N} (\ln N - \ln(k-1)) \approx \frac{k}{N} \ln \frac{N}{k}$$

- To find the best strategy, we need to decide what k is?
- P(k) is called “unimodal”, which means it has only one maximum  $x^*$ ; for  $x < x^*$ ,  $f(x)$  is monotonically increasing, and for  $x > x^*$ ,  $f(x)$  is monotonically decreasing.