

# Data Mining and Machine Learning

## Assignment Project Exam Help

Statistical <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>  
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# Objectives

- Review basic statistical modelling
- Review the notions of probability distribution and probability density function (PDF)
- Gaussian PD <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>
- Multivariate Gaussian PD [Add WeChat edu\\_assist\\_pro](#)
- Parameter estimation for Gaussian PDFs



# Discrete random variables

- Suppose that  $Y$  is a *random variable* which can take any value in a discrete set  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_M\}$
- Suppose that  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  are samples of the random variable  $Y$
- If  $c_m$  is the number of times the value  $x_m$  appears in the samples, then an estimate of the probability  $P(x_m)$  is given by:

$$\hat{P}(x_m) = \frac{c_m}{n}$$



# Continuous Random Variables

- In most practical applications the data are not restricted to a finite set of values – they can take any value in  $N$ -dimensional space
- Counting the probabilities of each value is no longer a viable way of
- ...but generalisations of these are applicable to continuous variables – non-parametric methods



# Continuous Random Variables

- An alternative is to use a parametric model
- Probabilities are defined by a small set of parameters
- Familiar example: Gaussian model
- A (scalar/univariate) probability density function (PDF) is defined by parameters – its mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma$
- For a multivariate Gaussian PDF defined on a vector space,  $\mu$  is the mean vector and  $\sigma$  is the covariance matrix

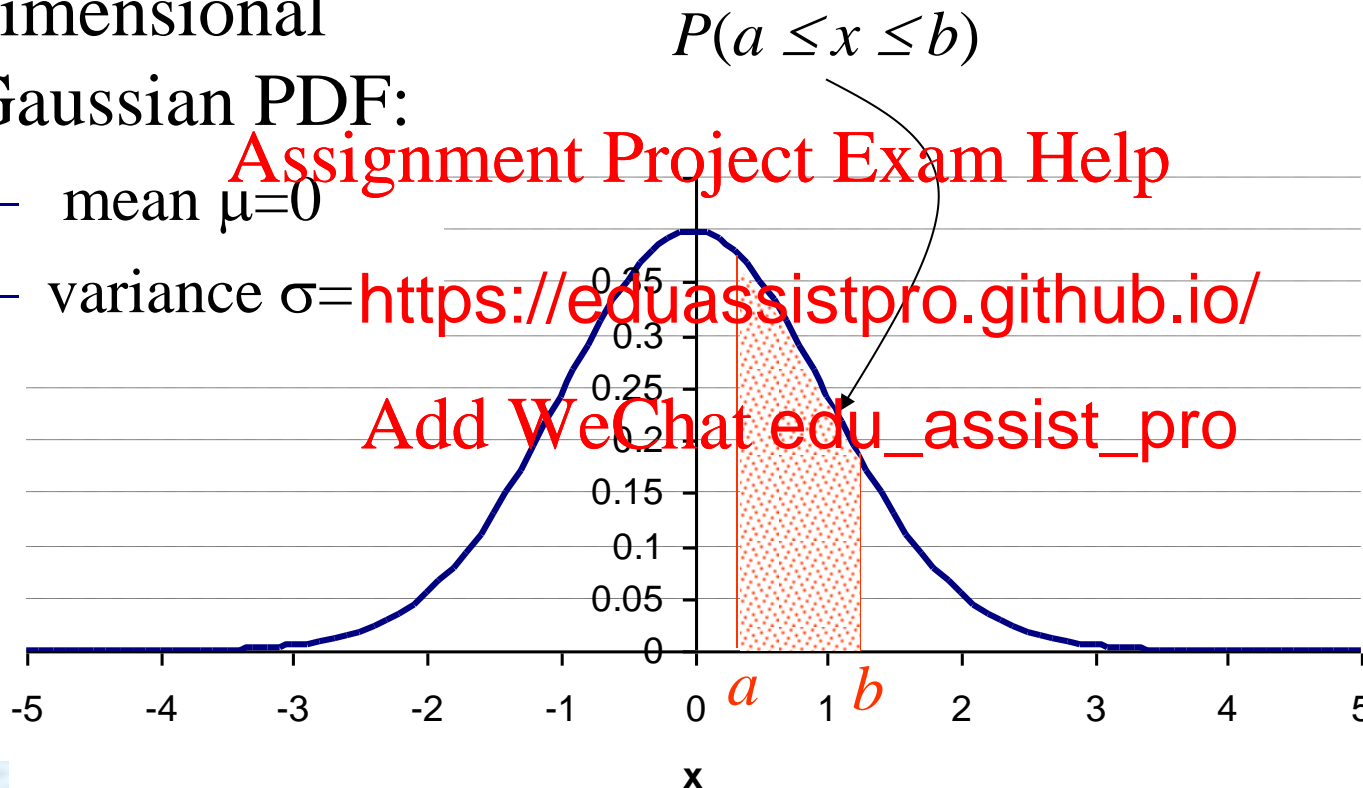


# Gaussian PDF

- ‘Standard’ 1-dimensional Gaussian PDF:

- mean  $\mu=0$

- variance  $\sigma=$



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# Gaussian PDF

- For a 1-dimensional Gaussian PDF  $p$  with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma$ :

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$$p(x) = p(x | \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma}\right)$$

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Constant to ensure  
area under curve is 1

Defines 'bell' shape



# Standard Deviation

- Standard deviation is the square root of the variance
- For a Gaussian PDF:
  - 68% of the area under the curve lies within one standard deviation of the mean
  - 95% of the area under the curve lies within two standard deviations of the mean
  - 99% of the area under the curve lies within three standard deviations of the mean





# Standard Deviation

- In other words, if  $s = \sqrt{\sigma}$  then:

$$P(\mu - s \leq x \leq \mu + s) = 0.68$$

$$P(\mu - 2s \leq x \leq \mu + 2s) = 0.95$$

$$P(\mu - 3s \leq x \leq \mu + 3s) = 0.99$$



# Multivariate Gaussian PDFs

- A (univariate) Gaussian PDF assumes the random variable takes scalar values
- In the case where the random variable takes  $N$  dimensional values, the corresponding PDF is called a multivariate Gaussian PDF and is given by:

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$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^N |\Sigma|}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) \right)$$



# Visualising multivariate Gaussian PDFs

- It's easy to sketch a 1 dimensional Gaussian PDF, using the rules about the proportion of the area that lies within 1, 2 and 3 standard deviations of the mean and the value for  $p(\mu)$ .
- 2D Gaussian PDFs can be plotted using MATLAB's 3D plotting functions
- A simpler way to visualise a 2D Gaussian PDF is to plot the 1 standard deviation contour. This is the set of points that lie 1 standard deviation from the mean



# Example

- If  $\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ , standard

deviations in  $x$  and  $y$

directions are

respectively, and the 1 s.d.

contour is an ellipse:



# Example 2:

- Now suppose  $\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 7.75 & 2.17 \\ 2.17 & 5.25 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $m = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$

- Calculate the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $\Sigma$

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$$\Sigma = UDU^T = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{2}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Example 2 (continued)

- Note  $U$  is a rotation through  $30^\circ$
- Hence the one standard deviation contour is the same as in the previous example, but rotated through  $30^\circ$  and trans

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$$m = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Example 2 (continued)

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# Fitting a Gaussian PDF to Data

- Suppose  $y = y_1, \dots, y_t, \dots, y_T$  is a set of  $T$  data values
- For a Gaussian PDF  $p$  with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma$ , define:

$$p(y | \mu, \sigma) = \prod_{t=1}^T p(y_t | \mu, \sigma)$$

- How do we choose  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  to maximise  $p(y | \mu, \sigma)$ ?





# Fitting a Gaussian PDF to Data

Good fit

Poor fit

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# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

- The ‘best fitting’ Gaussian maximises  $p(y|\mu, \sigma)$
- Terminology:
  - $p(y|\mu, \sigma)$ , as a function of  $y$  is the probability (density)
  - $p(y|\mu, \sigma)$ , likelihood of  $\mu, \sigma$
- Maximising  $p(y|\mu, \sigma)$  with respect to  $\mu, \sigma$  is called Maximum Likelihood (ML) estimation of  $\mu, \sigma$



# ML estimation of $\mu, \sigma$

- Intuitively:
  - The maximum likelihood estimate of  $\mu$  should be the average value of  $y_1, \dots, y_T$ . (the sample mean)
  - The maximum likelihood estimate of  $\sigma$  should be the variance of  $y_1, \dots, y_T$ . (the sample variance)
- This is true:  $p(y | \mu, \sigma)$  is maximized by setting:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T y_t, \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T (y_t - \mu)^2$$



# Proof

First note that maximising  $p(y)$  is the same as maximising  $\log(p(y))$

$$\log p(y | \mu, \sigma) = \log \prod_{t=1}^T p(y_t | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{t=1}^T \log p(y_t | \mu, \sigma)$$

Also

$$\log p(y_t | \mu, \sigma) = -\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma) - \frac{(\mu - y_t)^2}{2\sigma}$$

At a maximum: Add WeChat edu\_assist\_pro

$$0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log p(y | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log p(y_t | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{-2(\mu - y_t)(-1)}{\sigma}$$

$$\text{So, } T\mu = \sum_{t=1}^T y_t, \mu = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T y_t$$



# Multi-modal distributions

- In practice the distributions of many naturally occurring phenomena do not follow the simple bell-shaped Gaussian curve
- For example <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> difference so several distinct peaks (e.g. distribution of adults)
- These peaks are the modes of the distribution and the distribution is called multi-modal



# Summary

- Reviewed basic statistical modelling, probability distribution, probability density function
  - Gaussian PDFs
  - Multivariate Gaussian
  - Maximum likelihood estimation
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- In the next session we will introduce Gaussian mixture PDFs (GMMs) and ML parameter estimation for GMMs

