

# Scientific Machine Learning

## Lecture 2: Curve Fitting and Probability Theory

Dr. Daigo Maruyama

Prof. Dr. Ali Elham

# Lecture content

- Polynomial Curve Fitting
- Probability Theory

The lecture of this time basically follows the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of the book:  
Christopher M. Bishop "Pattern Recognition And Machine Learning" Springer-Verlag (2006)  
The name of this book is shown as “PRML” when it is referred in the slides.

# Lecture content

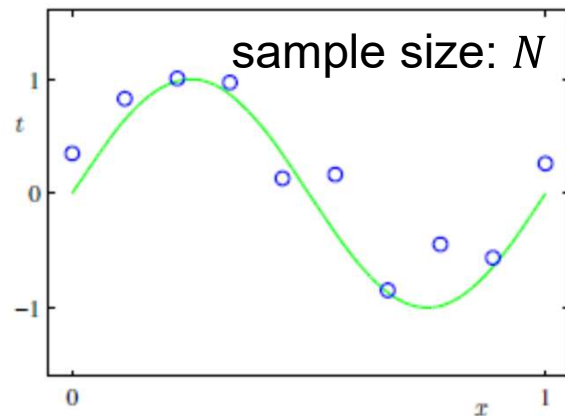
## 1. Polynomial Curve Fitting



# Polynomial Curve Fitting

Example: The following data points are given.

Which kind of functions do you want to put on them?



PRML, p. 4

Assumption:

The data points lie on a cubic function.

$$y(x, \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + w_1x + w_2x^2 + w_3x^3 = \sum_{i=0}^3 w_i x^i$$

**Linear model:** a linear function of the coefficients  $\mathbf{w}$   
**parameters**

**Error function**

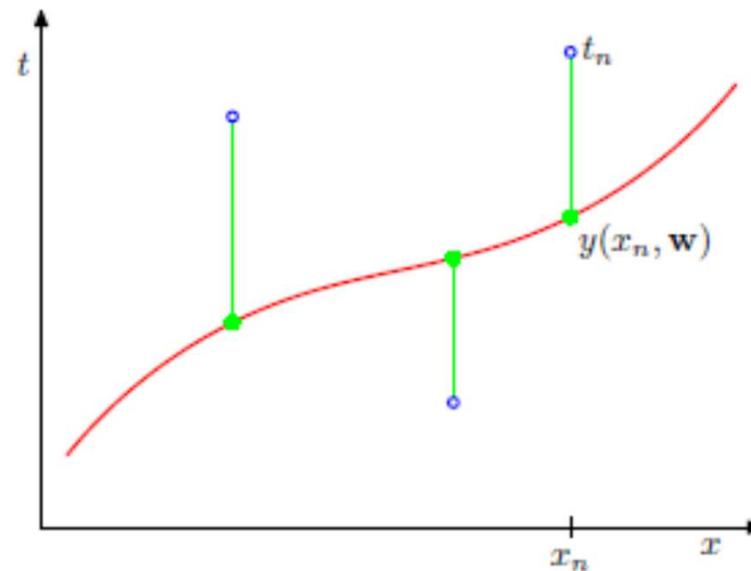
$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \{t_i - y(x_i, \mathbf{w})\}^2$$

**Least squares method  
itself**

$$\mathbf{w}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{w}} E(\mathbf{w})$$

# Polynomial Curve Fitting

## Visualizing the least square method



PRML, p. 6

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \{t_i - y(x_i, \mathbf{w})\}^2$$

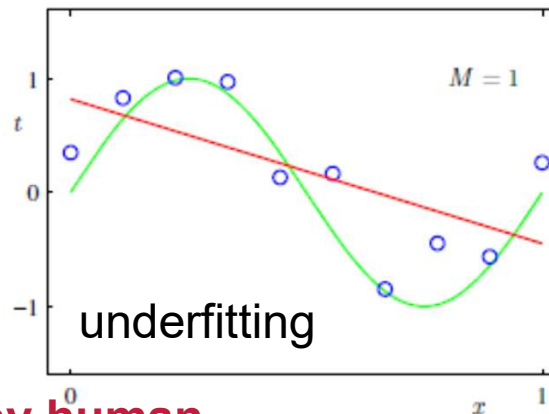
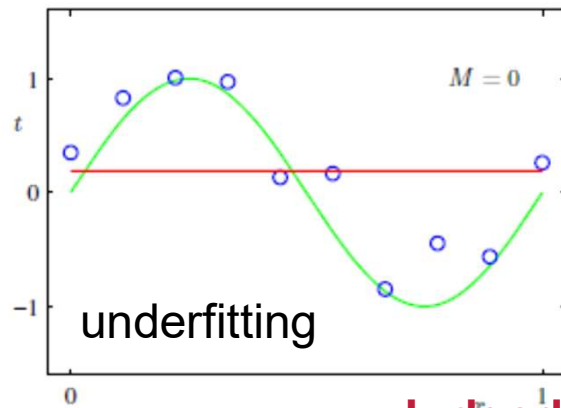


# Polynomial Curve Fitting

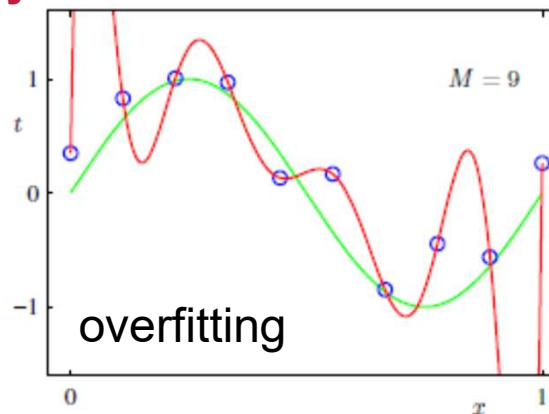
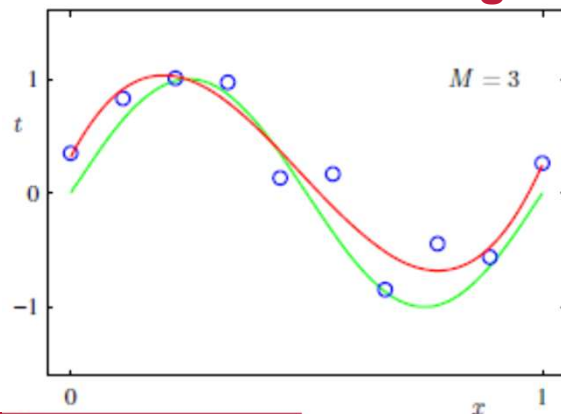
various orders  $M$

$$y(x, \mathbf{w}) = w_0 + w_1x + w_2x^2 + \dots + w_Mx^M = \sum_{i=0}^M w_i x^i$$

sample size:  $N = 10$  (common for all)



**Judged by human**



Higher order models  
are more flexible but  
not always better for  
prediction.

Selection of  $M$  :  
**Model selection**

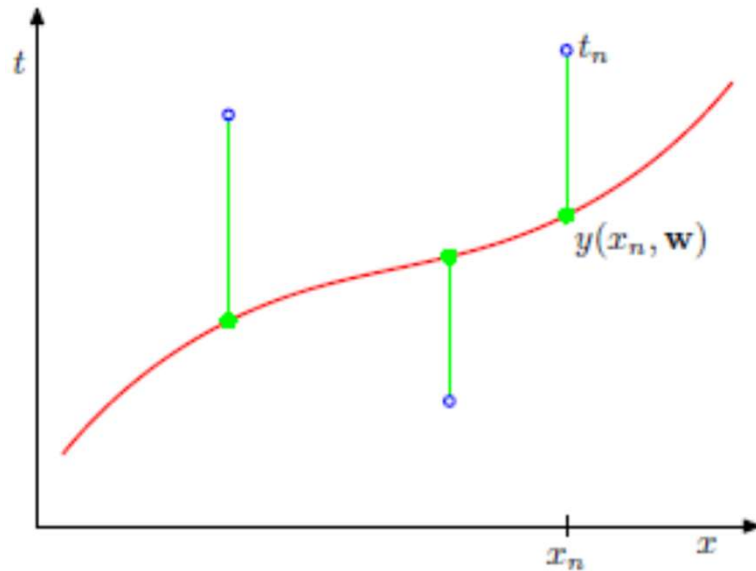
Good prediction  
= Good generalization

How to evaluate good  
**generalization**  
quantitatively?

PRML, p. 7

# Polynomial Curve Fitting

## Least squares



PRML, p. 6

Quantitative Insight:

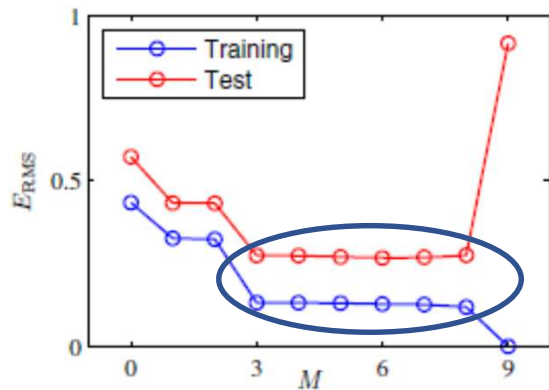
**root-mean-square error (RMS error)**

$$E_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{E(\mathbf{w})}{N}}$$
$$= \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \{t_i - y(x, \mathbf{w})\}^2}$$

Generalized by

- deleting the effect of sample size  $N$
- using the same unit as the output

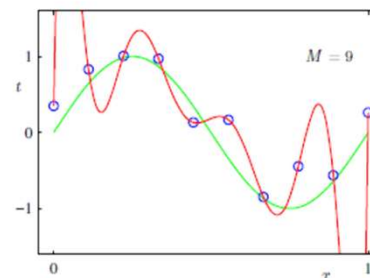
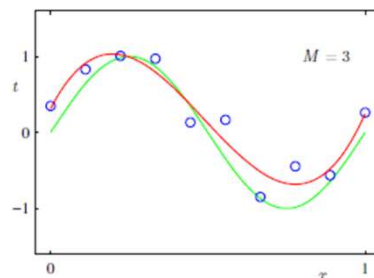
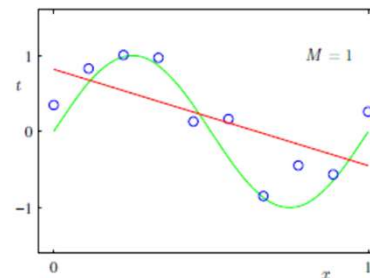
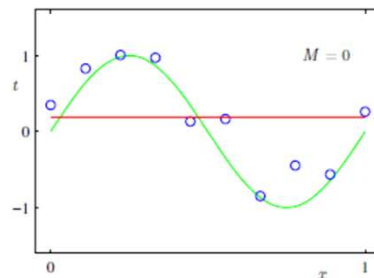
# Polynomial Curve Fitting



	$M = 0$	$M = 1$	$M = 6$	$M = 9$
$w_0^*$	0.19	0.82	0.31	0.35
$w_1^*$		-1.27	7.99	232.37
$w_2^*$			-25.43	-5321.83
$w_3^*$			17.37	48568.31
$w_4^*$				-231639.30
$w_5^*$				640042.26
$w_6^*$				-1061800.52
$w_7^*$				1042400.18
$w_8^*$				-557682.99
$w_9^*$				125201.43

PRML, p. 6

$E_{RMS}^{(Training)} = 0$  at  $M = 9$   
but  $E_{RMS}^{(Test)}$  is large.



**Degree of freedom of the polynomial function**

$$y(x, \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{i=0}^M w_i x^i$$

sample size  
 $N = 10$   
(common for all)

Is equal to  $N = 10$   
when  $M = 9$  (0,...,9)



# Polynomial Curve Fitting (Regularization)

**Concept:** constraints on the parameters  $\mathbf{w}$       **Regularization**

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}} E(\mathbf{w}) \\ \text{s.t. } \|\mathbf{w}\|^2 \leq \eta \end{aligned}$$

The concept is equivalent to minimizing the following modified error function:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} E(\mathbf{w}) \quad \text{where, } E_{reg}(\mathbf{w}) = E(\mathbf{w}) + \lambda \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

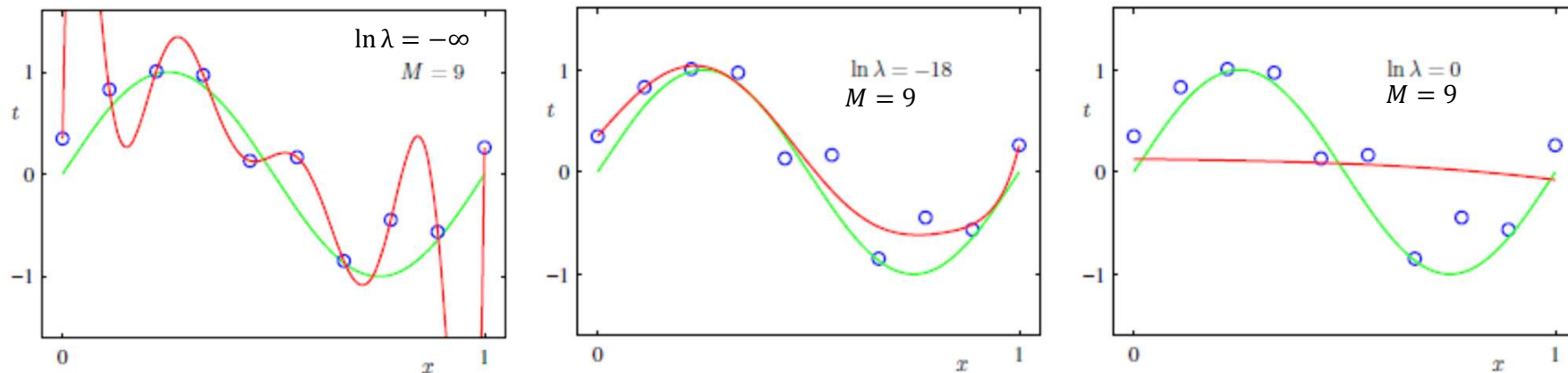
regularization term

$\lambda$ : A parameter to make a balance between the two terms:

- least square term
- regularization term

$$\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} = w_0^2 + w_1^2 + \dots + w_M^2$$

# Polynomial Curve Fitting (Regularization)

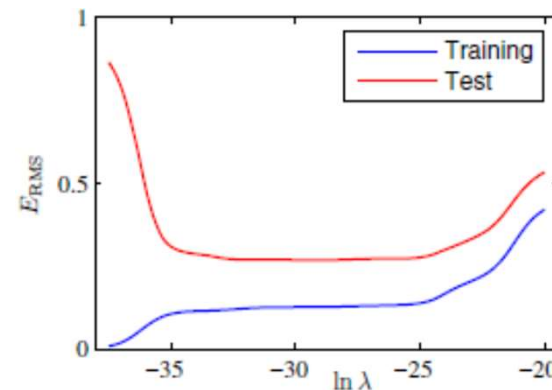


PRML, p. 10

We already know a technique of how to select  $\lambda$ .

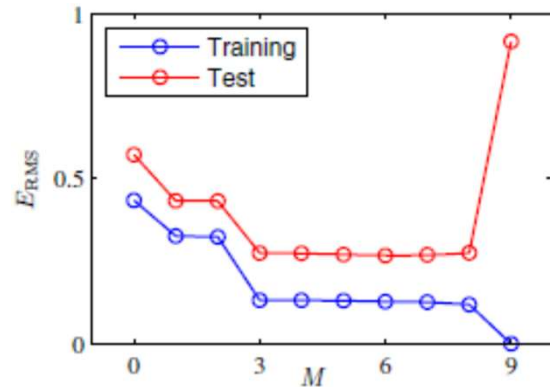
	$\ln \lambda = -\infty$	$\ln \lambda = -18$	$\ln \lambda = 0$
$w_0^*$	0.35	0.35	0.13
$w_1^*$	232.37	4.74	-0.05
$w_2^*$	-5321.83	-0.77	-0.06
$w_3^*$	48568.31	-31.97	-0.05
$w_4^*$	-231639.30	-3.89	-0.03
$w_5^*$	640042.26	55.28	-0.02
$w_6^*$	-1061800.52	41.32	-0.01
$w_7^*$	1042400.18	-45.95	-0.00
$w_8^*$	-557682.99	-91.53	0.00
$w_9^*$	125201.43	72.68	0.01

PRML, p. 11



PRML, p. 11

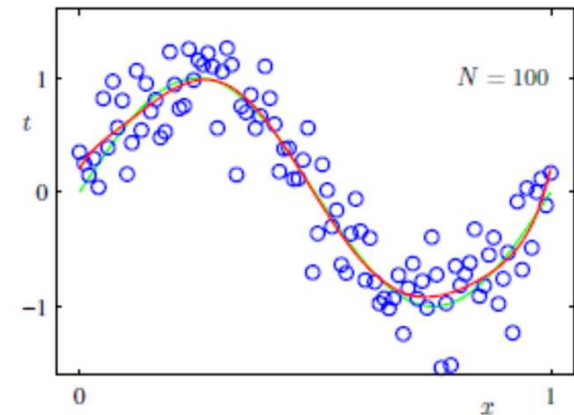
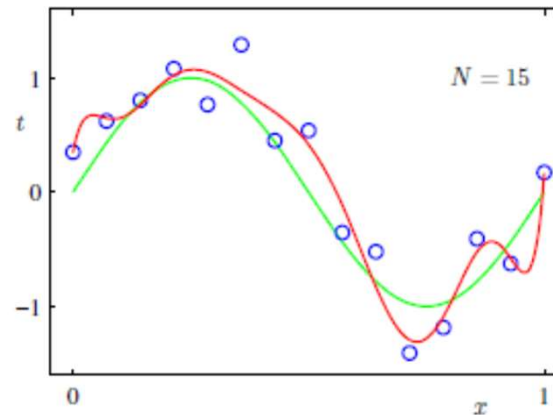
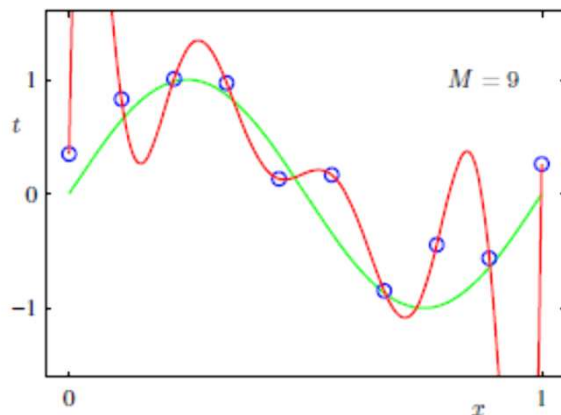
# Polynomial Curve Fitting



$$E_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{E(\mathbf{w})}{N}}$$

Training:  $N = 10$   
Test:  $N$  is arbitrary

$M = 9$  for all (the same function)

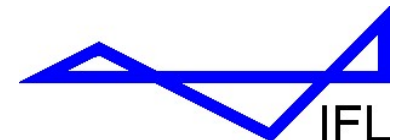


PRML, p. 9



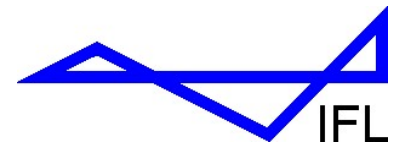
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# Lecture content

## 2. Probability Theory

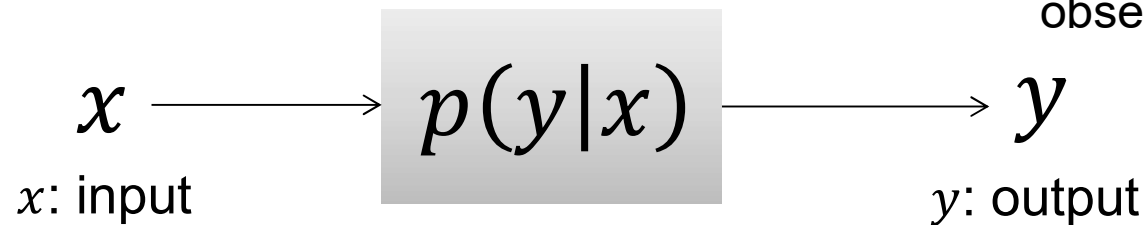


# Probability Theory

$x$ : deterministic variable

$y$ : random variable (or stochastic variable)

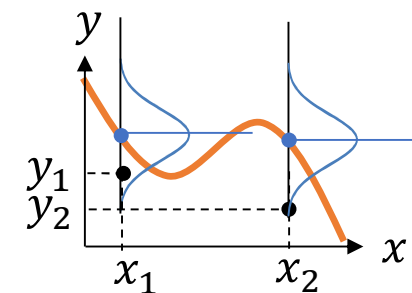
$$y \sim p(y|x)$$



We pick up one of the observable quantities.

probability of  $y$  when  $x$  given  
conditional probability

$x$  can be also a probability.



# Probability Theory

A case when both  $X$  and  $Y$  are (discrete) random variables

PRML, p. 16

$X: \{x_i\}, (i = 1, \dots, 9)$

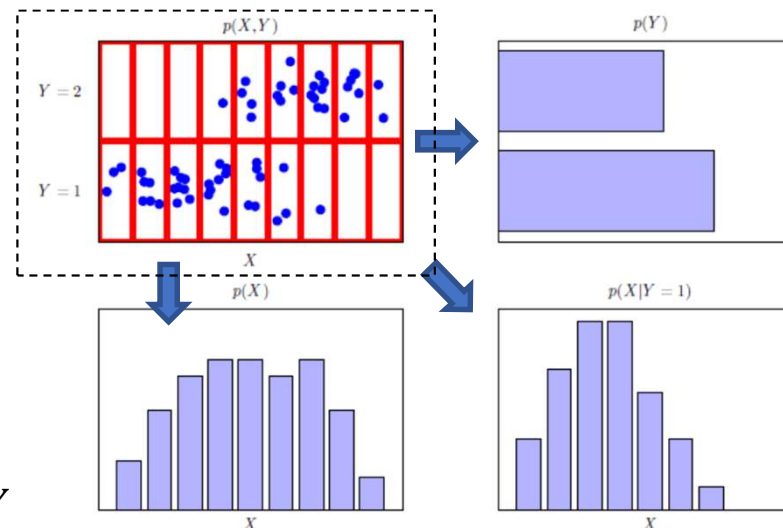
$Y: \{y_i\}, (i = 1, 2)$

Classification in which category  
sample size  $N = 60$

histogram

joint probability

$P(X, Y)$



marginal probability

$P(Y)$

pretend that we did not see  $X$

marginal probability

$P(X)$

pretend that we did not see  $Y$

conditional probability

$P(X|Y = 1)$

PRML, p. 16

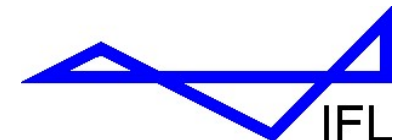
Joint probability contains all the information!

one of the goals in machine  
learning processes



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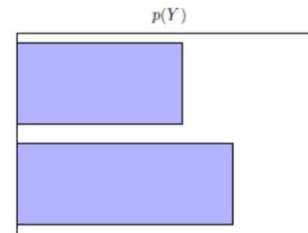
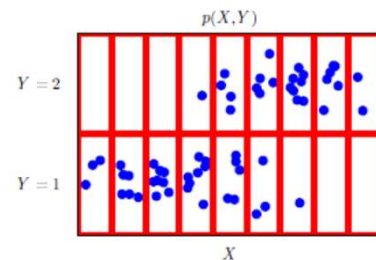
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# Probability Theory (Rules of Probability)

joint probability

$$P(X, Y)$$

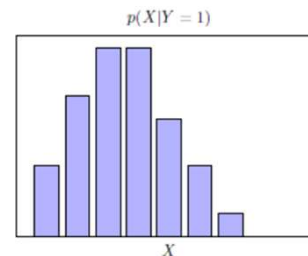


marginal probability

$$P(Y) = \sum_X P(X, Y)$$

sum rule

marginal distribution itself



$$\sum_X \sum_Y P(X, Y) = 1$$

$$\sum_X P(X, Y = 1) = 1$$

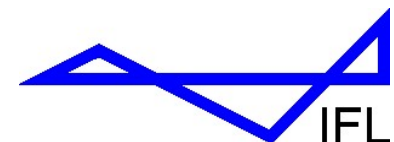
$$P(X, Y = 1) = P(X|Y = 1)P(Y = 1)$$

$$P(X, Y) = P(X|Y)P(Y)$$

product rule



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# Probability Theory (Rules of Probability)

**sum rule**  $P(Y) = \sum_X P(X, Y)$

**product rule**  $P(X, Y) = P(X|Y)P(Y)$        $P(X, Y) = P(Y|X)P(X)$

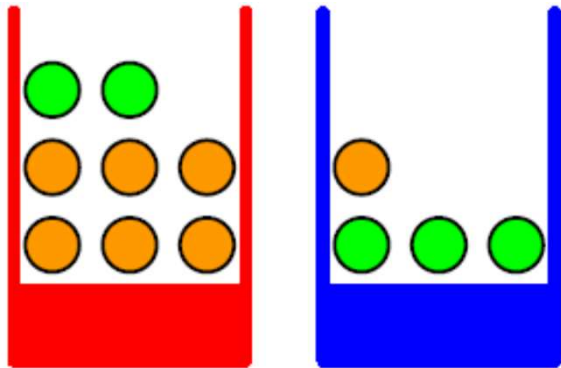
**Bayes' theorem**  $P(Y|X) = \frac{P(X|Y)P(Y)}{P(X)}$

Interpretation is important.

Let us consider  
**time flow / causality**



# Probability Theory (Introduction of Bayes' Theorem)



1. First event  $X$ : choose one box
2. Second event  $Y$ : choose one piece of fruits

$$P(Y = \text{"orange"} | X = \text{"red box"}) = \frac{6}{8}$$

Then,  $P(X = \text{"red box"} | Y = \text{"orange"}) = ?$

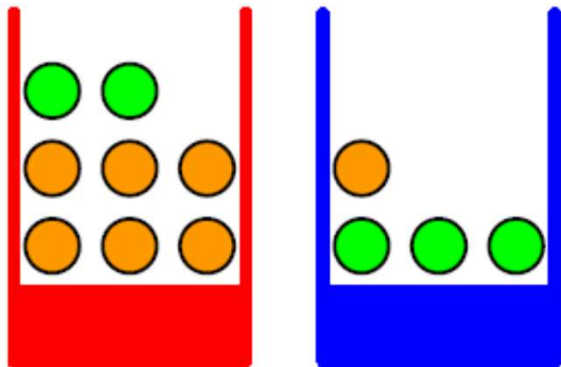
$$P(X = \text{"red box"}) = 0.6$$

$$P(X = \text{"blue box"}) = 0.4$$

	$P(X = \text{"red box"})$	$P(X = \text{"blue box"})$	1
$P(Y = \text{"orange"})$	$0.6 \times \frac{6}{8} = \frac{9}{20}$	$0.4 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{11}{20}$
$P(Y = \text{"apple"})$	$0.6 \times \frac{2}{8} = \frac{3}{20}$	$0.4 \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{9}{20}$
1	0.6	0.4	1

Obtain joint probability:  $P(X, Y)$

# Probability Theory (Introduction of Bayes' Theorem)



## Bayes' theorem

$$P(X = "r" | Y = "o") = \frac{P(Y = "o" | X = "r")P(X = "r")}{P(Y = "o")}$$

$$= \frac{P(X = r, Y = "o")}{P(Y = "o")} = \frac{\frac{9}{20}}{\frac{11}{20}} = \frac{9}{11} \quad \text{somehow understandable}$$

$$P(X = "red box") = 0.6$$

$$P(X = "blue box") = 0.4$$

**time flow / causality: reverse**

	$P(X = "red box")$	$P(X = "blue box")$	1
$P(Y = "orange")$	$0.6 \times \frac{6}{8} = \frac{9}{20}$	$0.4 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{11}{20}$
$P(Y = "apple")$	$0.6 \times \frac{2}{8} = \frac{3}{20}$	$0.4 \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{9}{20}$
1	0.6	0.4	1

Obtain joint probability:  $P(X, Y)$

## Probability Theory (Rules of Probability)

Extension to continuous variables

**sum rule**  $p(y) = \int p(x, y) dx$

**product rule**  $p(x, y) = p(x|y)p(y)$

**Bayes' theorem**  $p(y|x) = \frac{p(x|y)p(y)}{p(x)}$

$$\begin{aligned} p(y) &= \int p(x, y) dx \\ &= \int p(y|x)p(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

We need to get familiar with this transformation process.

when  $x$  and  $y$  are **independent**,

$$p(y|x) = p(y)$$

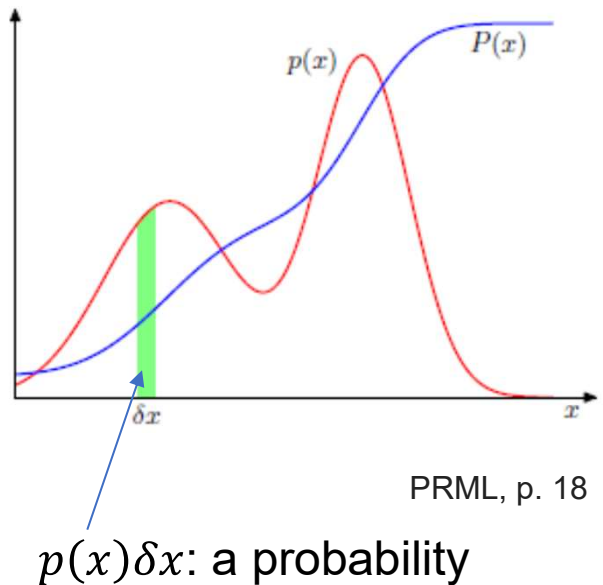
Therefore,

$$p(x, y) = p(x)p(y)$$

Please confirm this by following the rules of probability.

$$p(y|x) = \int p(y|g)p(g|x) dg$$

# Probability Theory (Rules of Probability)



Required two conditions

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) dx = 1$$

$$p(x) \geq 0$$

$p(x)$  can be more than 1.

$p(x)$ : **probability density function (pdf)**

$p(x)$  is not a probability.

$P(x)$ : cumulative distribution function (cdf)

$$P(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z p(x) dx$$

# Probability Theory

Expectation (Mean)  $\mu$

$$E[f] = \int f(x)p(x)dx$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(x_i)$$

consider the random variable  $x$  itself

$$E[x] = \int xp(x)dx$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$$

How to generate such points?

approximated by a finite number  $N$  of points

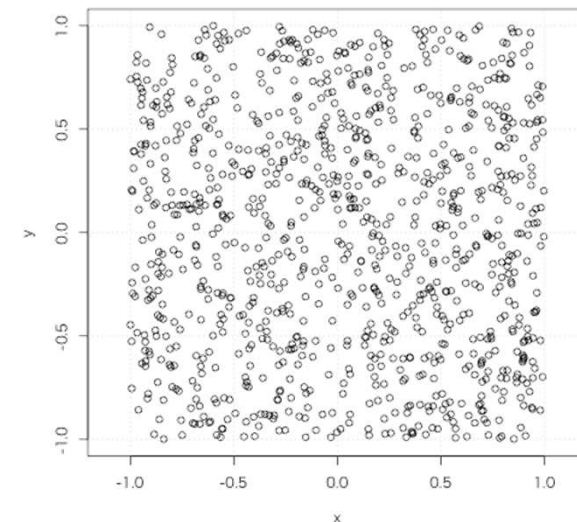
- The points have to be generated according to the probability distribution  $p(x)$ .

note:

**by sum and product rules**

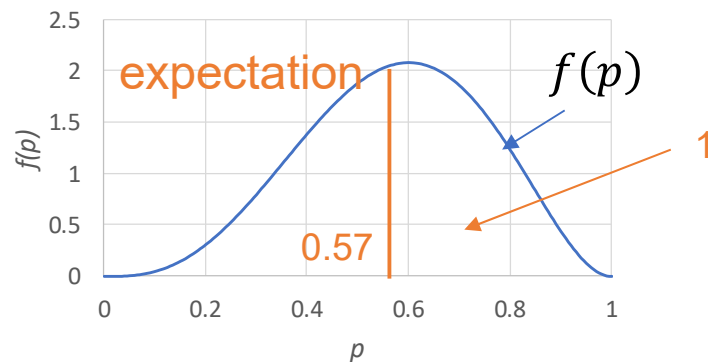
$$p(y) = \int p(y|x)p(x)dx$$

Monte Carlo (MC) sampling?



# Probability Theory

Example: There is a pdf  $f(p)$ .



$$\int f(p)dp = 1$$

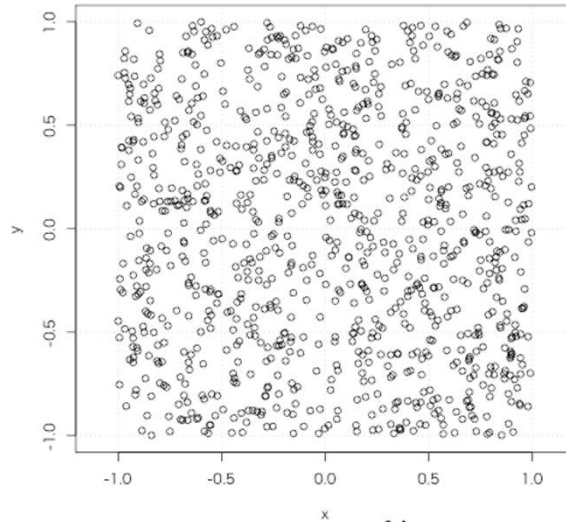
natural from the definition of pdf  
meaning: the area under  $f(p)$  is 1.

$$E[p] = \int p \times f(p)dp = 0.507$$

computing the expectation of the pdf  $f(p)$   
Meaning: the mean value of the variable  $p$

# Probability Theory

Monte Carlo sampling (random sampling)



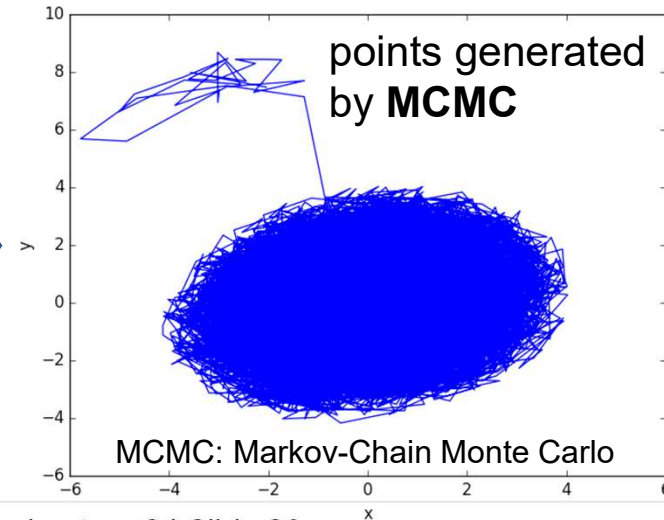
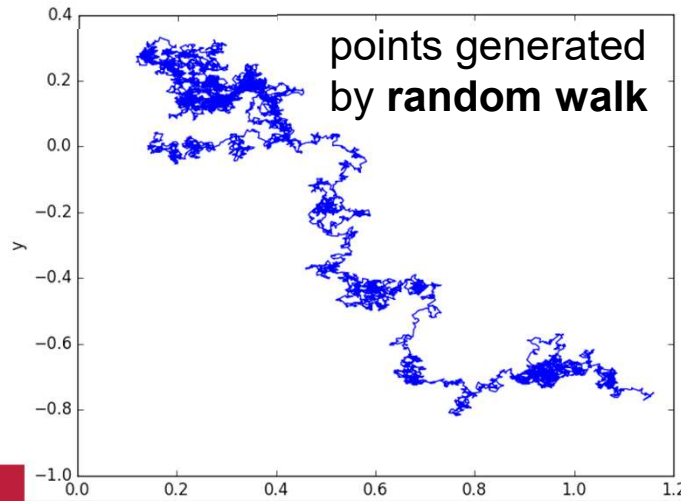
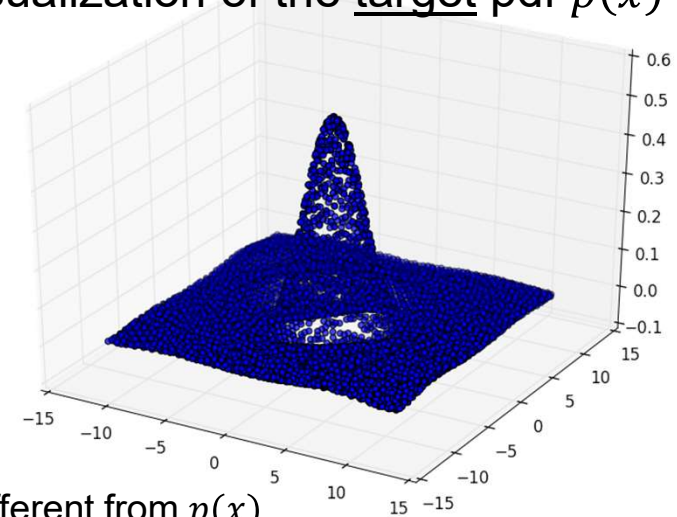
$$p(x) = 1$$

(uniform distribution)

Note:

$f(x)$  is another information different from  $p(x)$ .

visualization of the target pdf  $p(x)$



# Probability Theory

consider random variable  $x$

Variance  $\sigma^2$

$$\text{var}[x] = E[(x - E[x])^2] \quad \text{mean of the gap from the mean value of } f(x)$$

useful property (not used in machine learning techniques)

$$\text{var}[x] = E[x^2] - E[x]^2$$

Standard deviation  $\sigma$

$$\text{std}[x] = \sqrt{\text{var}[x]} \quad \text{using the same unit as } x$$



# Probability Theory

## Covariance

$\sigma_{x,y}$

(when standard deviation of random variables  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$ , respectively)

$$\text{var}[x] = E[(x - E[x])(x - E[x])] \quad \sigma_x^2$$

$$\text{cov}[x, y] = E[(x - E[x])(y - E[y])] \quad \sigma_{x,y}$$

Correlation: standardization of covariance

$$r_{x,y} = \frac{\text{cov}[x, y]}{\sigma_x \sigma_y} \quad -1 \leq r_{x,y} \leq 1$$

These indicators (covariance, correlation) do not always causal relationship.

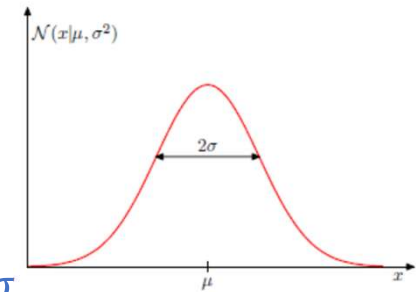
The concept of covariance (correlation) is very important in various method in machine learning techniques.

# Probability Theory

Representation of a pdf  $p(x)$

Gaussian distribution (as one example currently)

The pdf  $p(x)$  is **uniquely determined by two parameters**,  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ .



PRML, p. 25

- Parametric distributions
  - Various distributions such as Gaussian distribution
- Non-parametric distributions
  - Distributions formed by sampling (the MCMC result in the previous slide)

$$\underbrace{p(x|\mu, \sigma)} = \mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2)$$

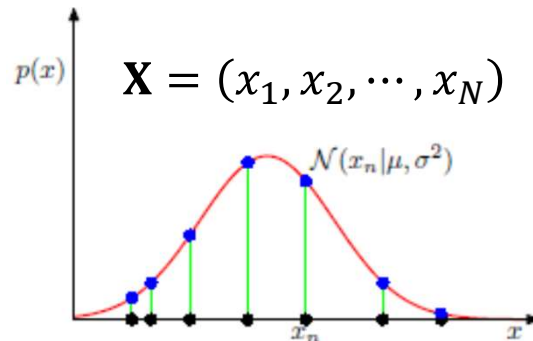
We need to get familiar with this expression.

A pdf of  $x$  when  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  is given.

This rule can be used no matter whether  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  are random variables or deterministic variables!

# Probability Theory

**Likelihood function:** a probability of data



Data points are assumed to be generated from a distribution (pdf)  $p(x)(= p(x|\mu, \sigma))$ .

1. **Independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.)**

$$p(x_1, x_2) = p(x_1)p(x_2) = \prod_{i=1}^2 p(x_i)$$

2.  $p(x_i|\mu, \sigma)$ :  
the probability when the data point  $x_i$  is generated from the distribution  $p(x|\mu, \sigma)$ .



We can define the probability when all the data points are generated from the distribution  $p(x|\mu, \sigma)$ , which is  $p(\mathbf{X}|\mu, \sigma)$ .

**a probability of the data  $\mathbf{X}$**

$$p(\mathbf{X}|\mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i|\mu, \sigma)$$

When this probability is regarded as a function of the parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ ,  $p(\mathbf{X}|\mu, \sigma)$  is not a probability anymore.

But useful for estimation of the parameters  $\mu, \sigma$ !