

Lecture 5: Probabilistic Reasoning

DD2421

Giampiero Salvi

VT2018

Three lecture block

- probabilistic reasoning
- learning as inference
- learning with latent variables

Three lecture block

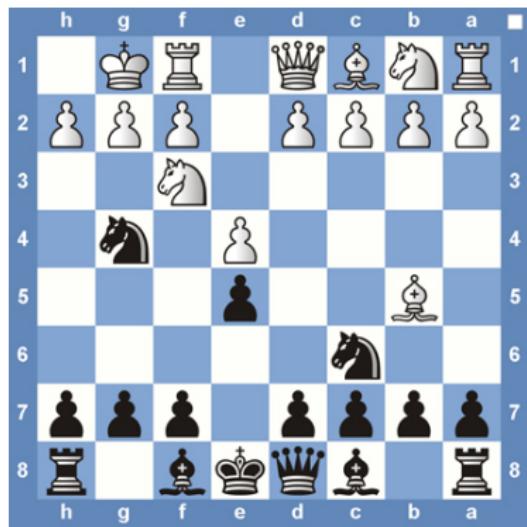
- probabilistic reasoning
- learning as inference
- learning with latent variables

Constructive alignment

- assignments: part of Lab3 is relevant (Naïve Bayes)
- two exam problems are on probabilistic methods
- the topic is fundamental for the advanced course (DD2434)

Why Machine Learning?

AI in the 1970s

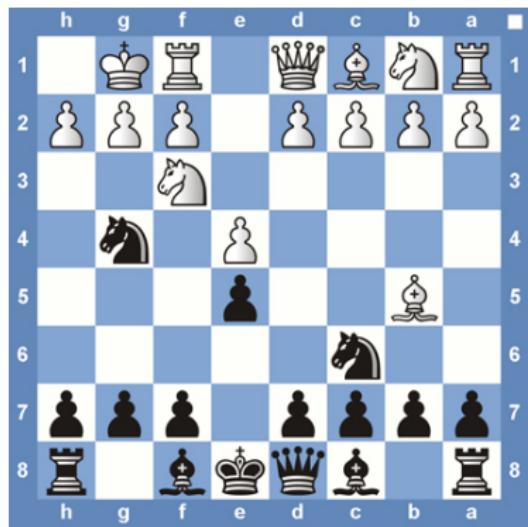


AI today



Why Machine Learning?

AI in the 1970s



AI today



We need to deal with uncertainty!

Two views of the universe

Determinism

If all forces and positions of objects are known, and sufficient computing resources, then no uncertainty on the future
(P-S. Laplace, A. Einstein, ...)

Quantum mechanics poses serious doubts to this view

- Heisenberg's uncertainty principle
- Schrödinger's cat

(N. Bohr, W. Heisenberg, S. Hawking, ...)

Two views of the universe

Regardless of the view, all agree we need to deal with **uncertainty**, because:

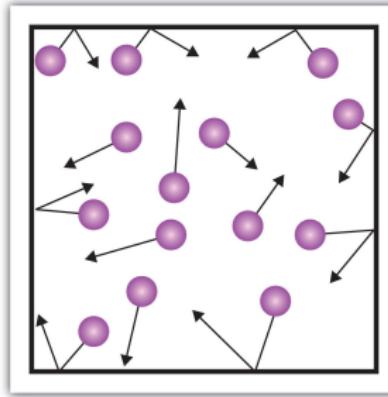
- measurements not accurate enough
- not enough computing power
- need to simplify the problems

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- measurements not accurate enough
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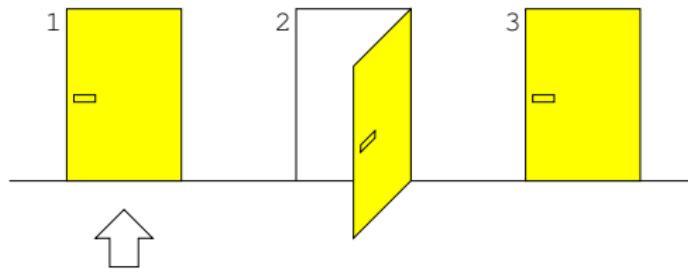
Example: pressure in gases
vs particle impacts



Subjective Uncertainty

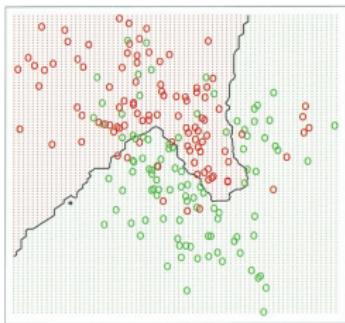
- not only a description of randomness
- but rather degree of belief

Example: Monty Hall Problem

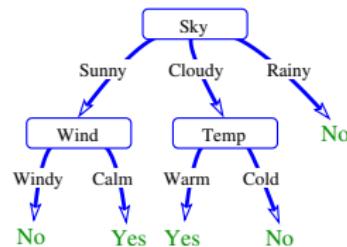


Examples of ML Methods seen so far

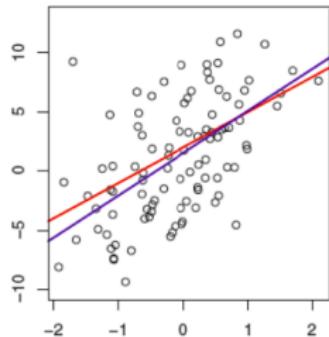
k Nearest Neighbour



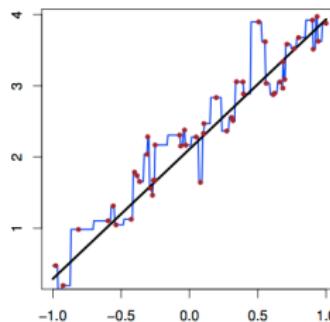
Decision Trees



Least squares Regression



k -NN Regression



Heuristics

Heuristic

experience-based techniques for problem solving, learning, and discovery that give a solution which is not guaranteed to be optimal (Wikipedia)

Typical examples:

- Artificial Neural Networks
- Support Vector Machines
- Decision Trees
- Evolutionary methods
- k -nearest neighbor

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- Artificial Neural Networks
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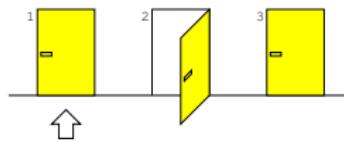
we need a more unified theory for ML

Probability Theory in ML

incorporate probabilistic thinking at all levels

- start with incomplete knowledge (uncertainty)
- use observations to reduce uncertainty
- belief propagation

probability distributions as carriers of information¹



¹E T Jaynes. *Probability theory: The logic of science*. Ed. by G Larry Bretthorst. Cambridge university press, June 2003.

Engineering vs Science

Engineering:

- ML as collection of methods
- fine tune aspects to boost the results

Science:

- define unified theory
- give the deepest possible interpretation to the results

Engineering vs Science

Engineering:

- ML as collection of methods
- fine tune aspects to boost the results

Science:

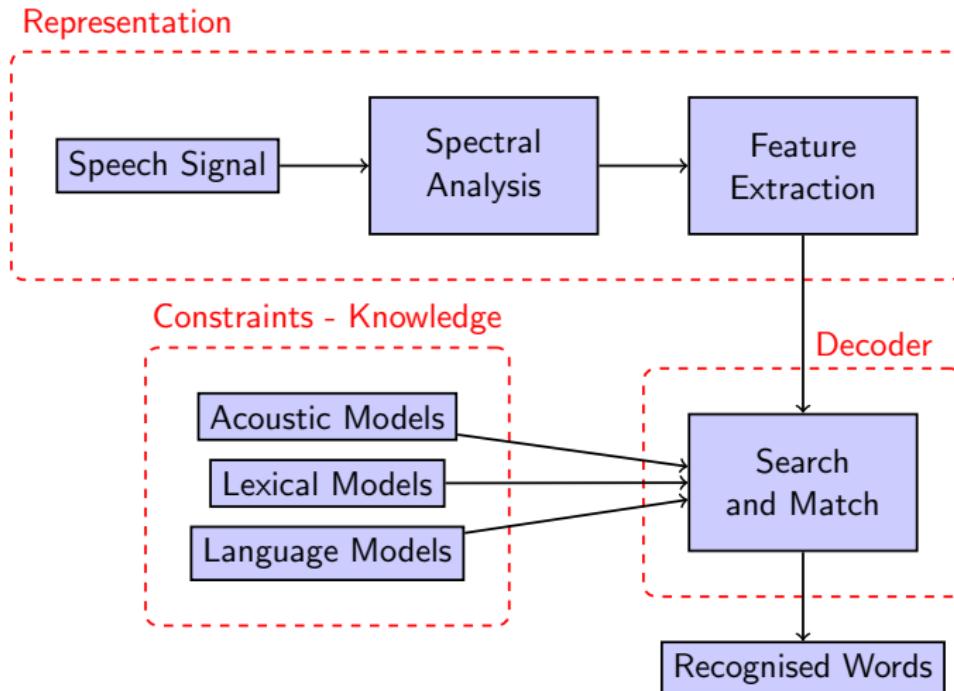
- define unified theory
- give the deepest possible interpretation to the results

reality not 100% clear cut

Advantages of Probability Based Methods

- **Results are interpretable.** More transparent and mathematically rigorous than methods such as *ANN*, *Evolutionary methods*.
- **Tool for interpreting other methods.** And make the assumptions explicit — *concept learning, least squares*.
- **Work with sparse training data.** More powerful than deterministic methods when training data is sparse (framework for including prior knowledge).
- **Belief Propagation:** Easy to merge different parts of a complex system and to update current knowledge with new observations.

Example: Automatic Speech Recognition



Advantages of Probability Based Methods, ctnd.

- **Shape a way of thinking.** All aspects of learning, modelling and inference can be cast under the same theory.

Disadvantages of Probability Based Methods

- **Often hard to derive closed solutions.** Need to resort to heuristic approximations.
- **Inefficient for large data sets.** But many argue that the need for large data set is a flaw in the methods.

Reading Suggestions

Prince, S.J.D., Part I (Chapters 2, 3, 5)

More about probabilistic Learning:

Bishop, C. M. Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning,
Springer.

Outline

1 Probability Theory Reminder

- Axioms and Properties
- Common Distributions
- Moments

2 Probabilistic Machine Learning

- Supervised Learning, General Definition
- Regression
- Classification

Outline

1 Probability Theory Reminder

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Different views on probabilities

Axiomatic defines axioms and derives properties

Classical number of ways something can happen over total number of things that can happen (e.g. dice)

Logical same, but weight the different ways

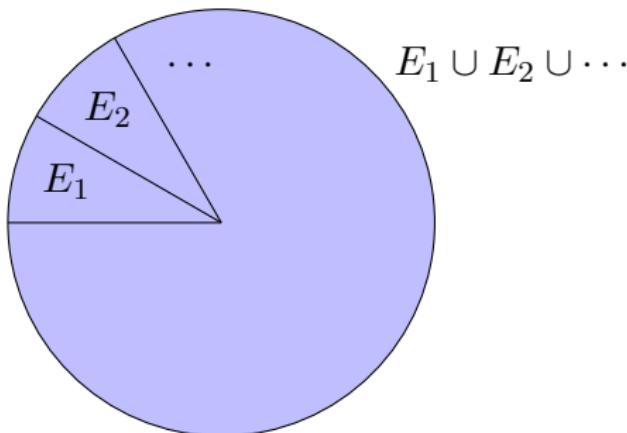
Frequency frequency of success in repeated experiments

Subjective degree of belief (basis for Bayesian statistics)

Axiomatic definition of probabilities (Kolmogorov)

Given an event E in a event space F

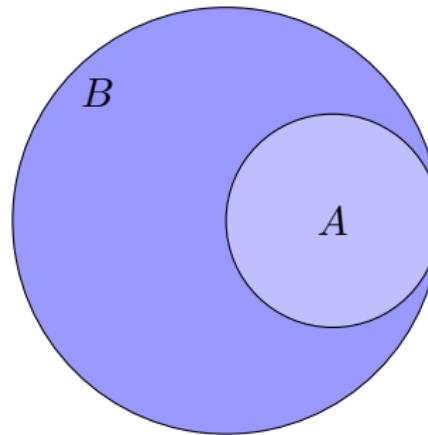
- ① $P(E) \geq 0$ for all $E \in F$
- ② sure event Ω : $P(\Omega) = 1$
- ③ E_1, E_2, \dots countable sequence of pairwise disjoint events,
then



$$P(E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(E_i)$$

Consequences

- ① Monotonicity: $P(A) \leq P(B)$ if $A \subseteq B$



Example: $A = \{3\}$, $B = \{\text{odd}\}$

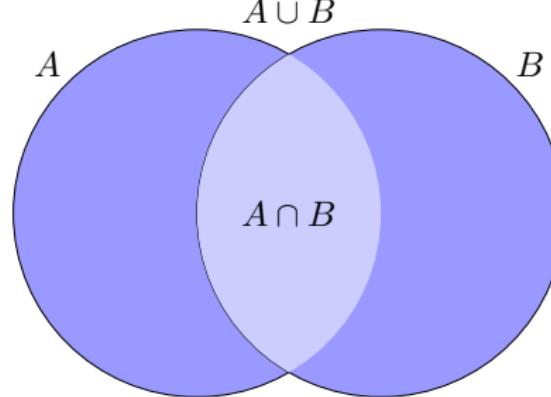
- ② Empty set \emptyset : $P(\emptyset) = 0$

Example: $P(A \cap B)$ where $A = \{\text{odd}\}, B = \{\text{even}\}$

- ③ Bounds: $0 \leq P(E) \leq 1$ for all $E \in F$

More Consequences: Addition

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

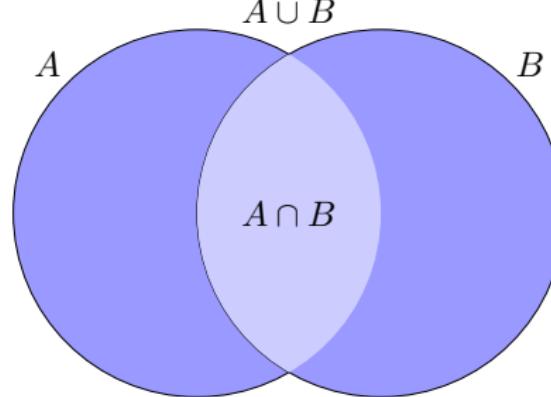


$$A = \{1, 3, 5\}, \quad P(A) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{Example: } B = \{5, 6\}, \quad P(B) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

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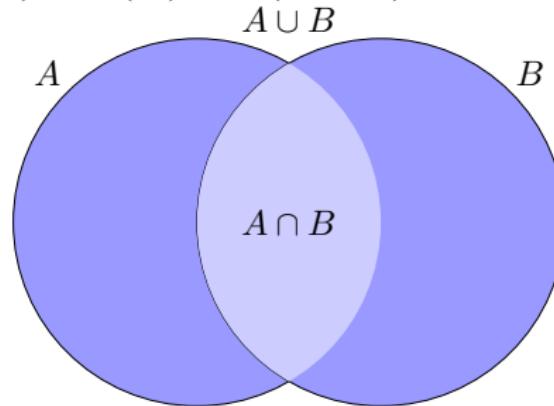
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$$A \cap B = \{5\} \quad P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{6}$$

More Consequences: Addition

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$



$$A = \{1, 3, 5\}, \quad P(A) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

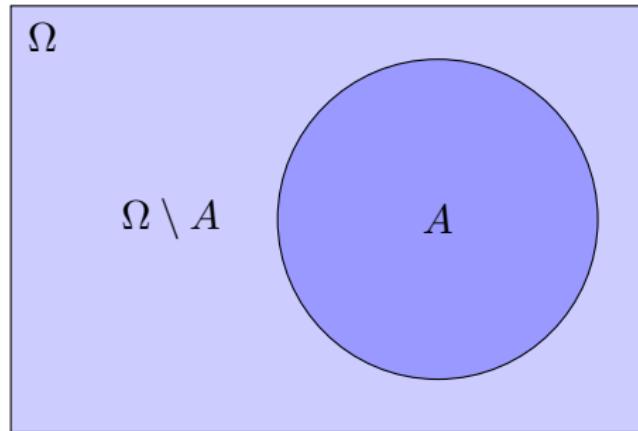
Example: $B = \{5, 6\}, \quad P(B) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$

$$A \cap B = \{5\} \quad P(A \cap B) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$A \cup B = \{1, 3, 5, 6\} \quad P(A \cup B) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

More Consequences: Negation

$$P(\bar{A}) = P(\Omega \setminus A) = 1 - P(A)$$



Example: $A = \{1, 2\}$, $P(A) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$
 $\bar{A} = \{3, 4, 5, 6\}$, $P(\bar{A}) = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = 1 - \frac{1}{3}$

Random (Stochastic) Variables

A random variable is a **function** that assigns a number x to the outcome of an experiment

- the result of flipping a coin,
- the result of measuring the temperature

The *probability distribution* $P(x)$ of a random variable (r.v.) captures the fact that

- the r.v. will have different values when observed **and**
- some values occur more than others.

Formal definition of RVs

$$RV = \{f : \mathcal{S}_a \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_b, P(x)\}$$

where:

\mathcal{S}_a = set of possible outcomes of the experiment

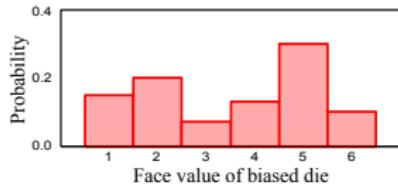
\mathcal{S}_b = domain of the variable

$f : \mathcal{S}_a \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_b$ = function mapping outcomes to values x

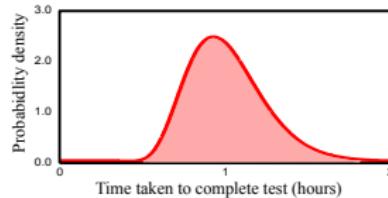
$P(x)$ = probability distribution function

Types of Random Variables

- A **discrete random variable** takes values from a predefined set.
- For a **Boolean discrete random variable** this predefined set has two members - $\{0, 1\}$, $\{\text{yes}, \text{no}\}$ etc.
- A **continuous random variable** takes values that are real numbers.



discrete pdf



continuous pdf

Figures taken from **Computer Vision: models, learning and inference** by Simon Prince.

Examples of Random Variables



- Discrete events: either 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6.
- Discrete probability distribution
 $p(x) = P(d = x)$
- $P(d = 1) = 1/6$ (fair dice)

- Any real number (theoretically infinite)
- Probability Distribution Function (PDF) $f(x)$ (**NOT PROBABILITY!!!**)
- $P(t = 36.6) = 0$
- $P(36.6 < t < 36.7) = 0.1$

Joint Probabilities

- Consider two random variables x and y .
- Observe multiple paired instances of x and y . Some paired outcomes will occur more frequently.
- This information is encoded in the joint probability distribution $P(x, y)$.
- $P(\mathbf{x})$ denotes the joint probability of $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_K)$.

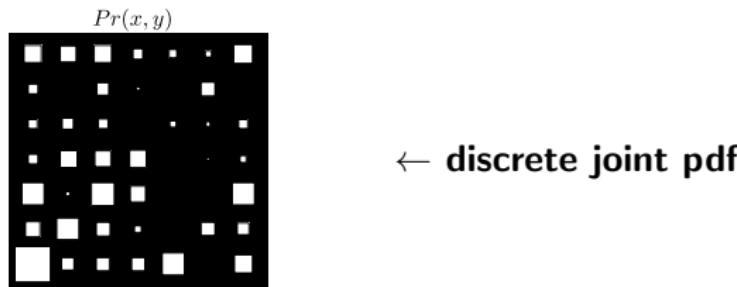
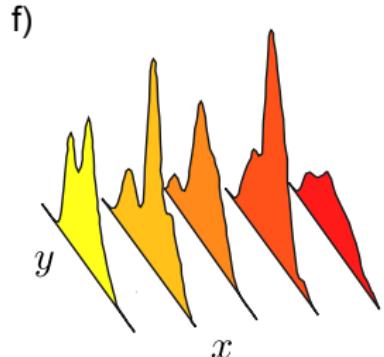
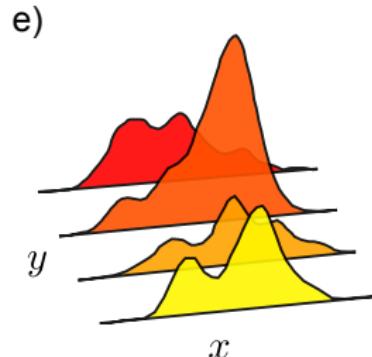
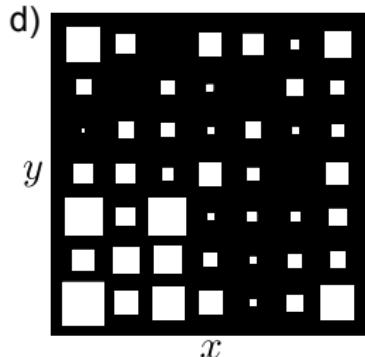
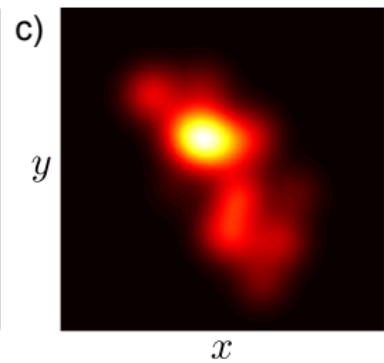
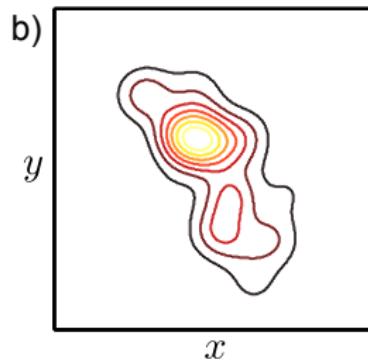
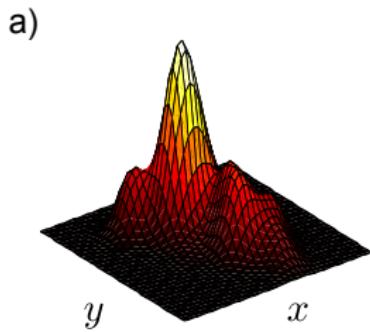


Figure from Computer Vision: models, learning and inference by Simon Prince.

Joint Probabilities (cont.)



Marginalization

The probability distribution of any single variable can be recovered from a joint distribution by summing for the discrete case

$$P(x) = \sum_y P(x, y)$$

and integrating for the continuous case

$$P(x) = \int_y P(x, y) dy$$

Marginalization (cont.)

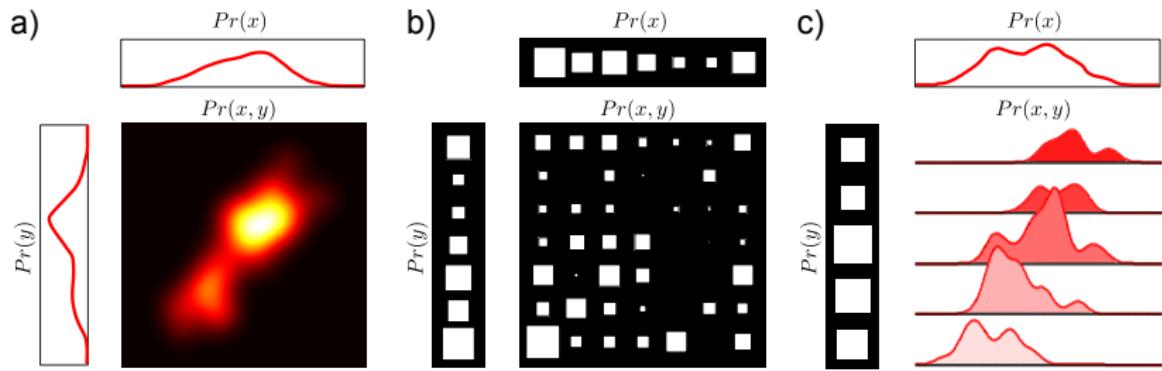


Figure from **Computer Vision: models, learning and inference** by Simon Prince.

Conditional Probabilities

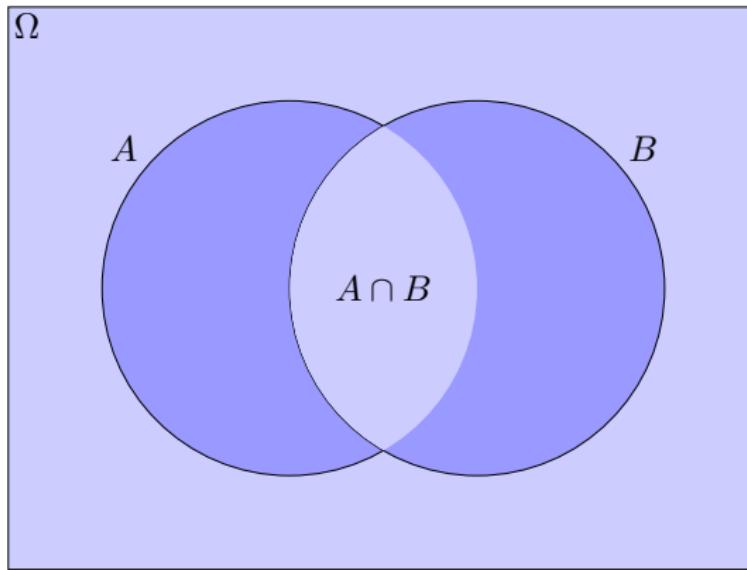
$$P(A|B)$$

The probability of event A when we *know* that event B has happened

Note: different from the probability that event A *and* event B will happen

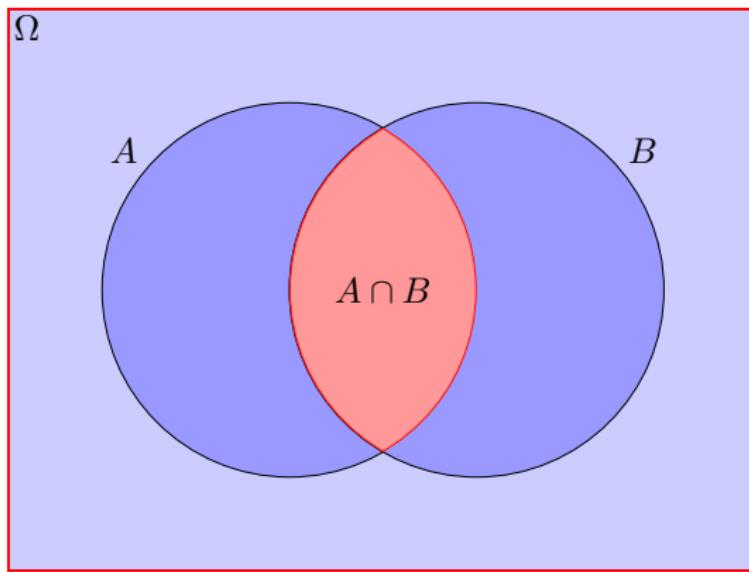
Conditional Probabilities

$$P(A|B) \neq P(A \cap B)$$



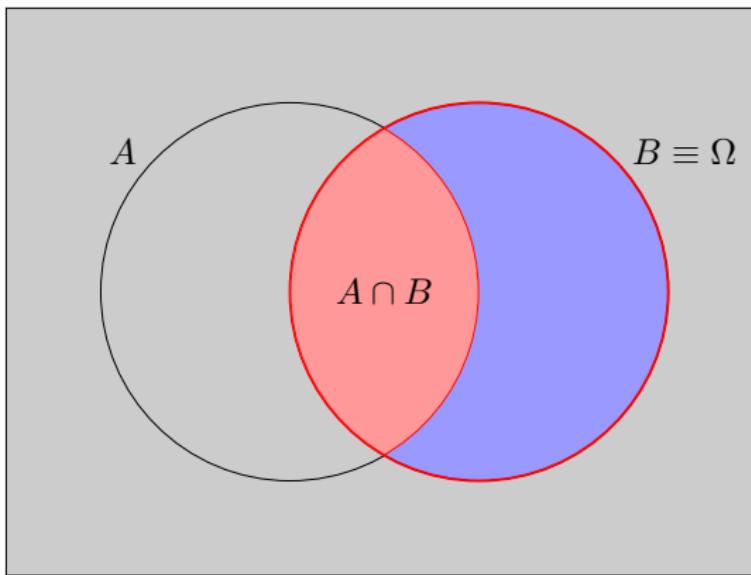
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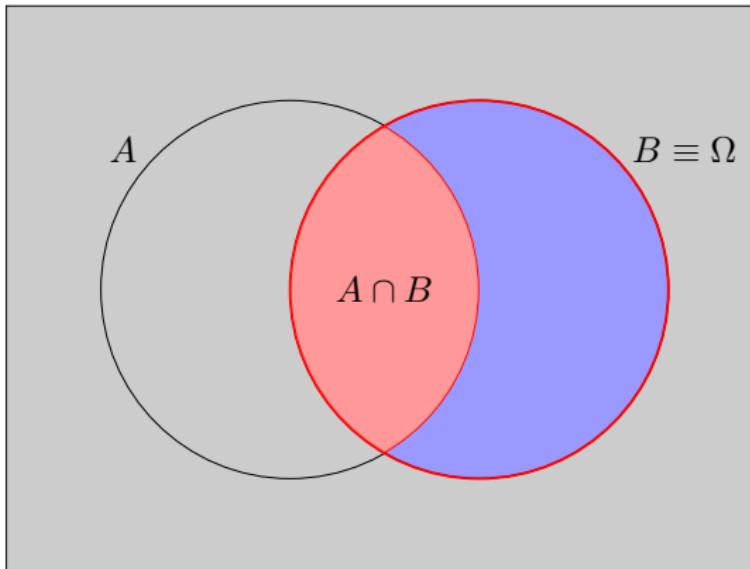
Conditional Probabilities

$$P(A|B) \neq P(A \cap B)$$



Conditional Probabilities

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

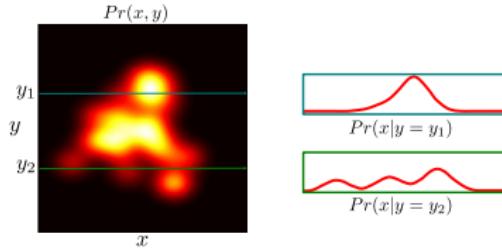


Conditional Probability (Random Variables)

- The conditional probability of x given that y takes value y^* indicates the different values of r.v. x which we'll observe given that y is fixed to value y^* .
- The conditional probability can be recovered from the joint distribution $P(x, y)$:

$$P(x | y = y^*) = \frac{P(x, y = y^*)}{P(y = y^*)} = \frac{P(x, y = y^*)}{\int_x P(x, y = y^*) dx}$$

- Extract an appropriate slice, and then normalize it.



Independence

- two events are independent if the joint distribution can be factorized: $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$
- this means that:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A)P(B)}{P(B)} = P(A)$$

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knowing that B has happened does not tell us anything about A

Bayes' Rule

if

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

then

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

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and

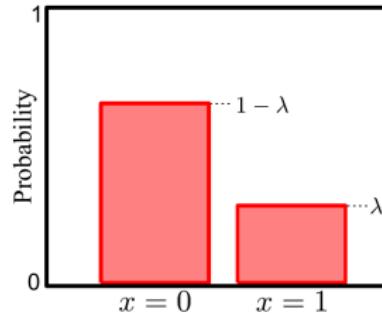
$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

Bernoulli: binary variables

- Domain: binary variables ($x \in \{0, 1\}$)
- Parameters: $\lambda = Pr(x = 1)$, $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

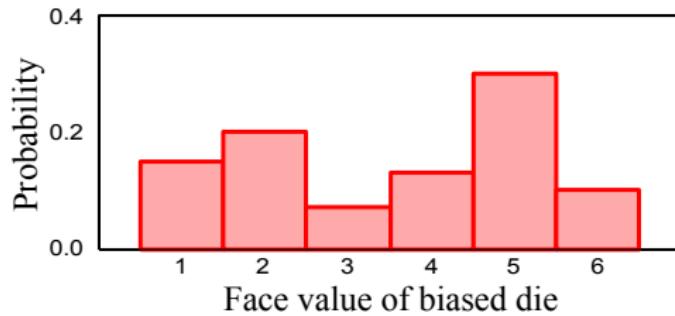
Then $Pr(x = 0) = 1 - \lambda$, and

$$Pr(x) = \lambda^x(1 - \lambda)^{1-x} = \begin{cases} \lambda, & \text{if } x = 1, \\ 1 - \lambda, & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$



Categorical

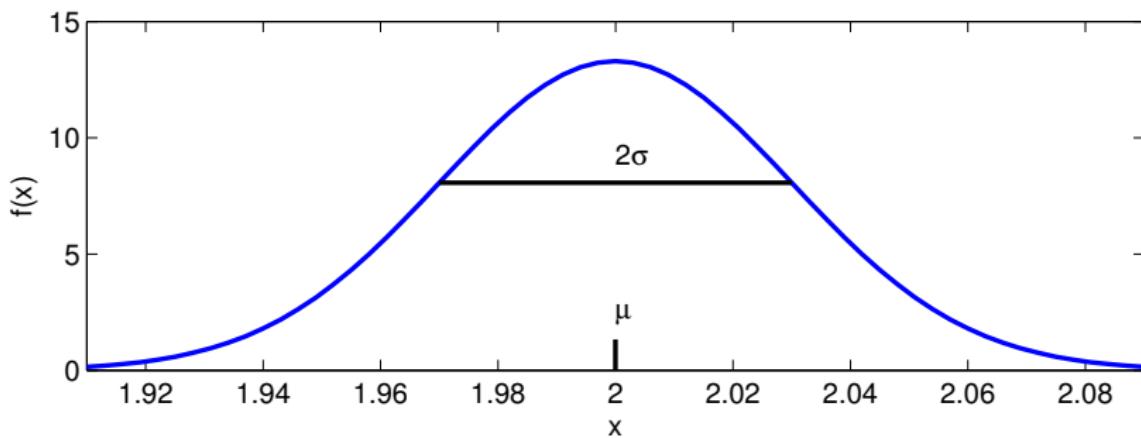
- Domain: discrete variables ($x \in \{x_1, \dots, x_K\}$)
- Parameters: $\lambda = [\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_K]$
- with $\lambda_k \in [0, 1]$ and $\sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k = 1$



Gaussian distributions: One-dimensional

- aka univariate normal distribution
- Domain: real numbers ($x \in \mathbb{R}$)

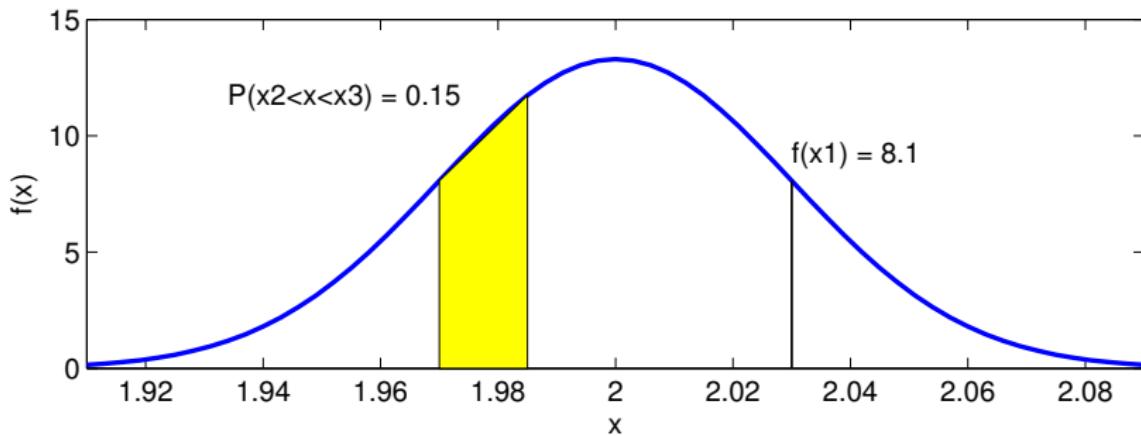
$$f(x|\mu, \sigma^2) = N(\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$$



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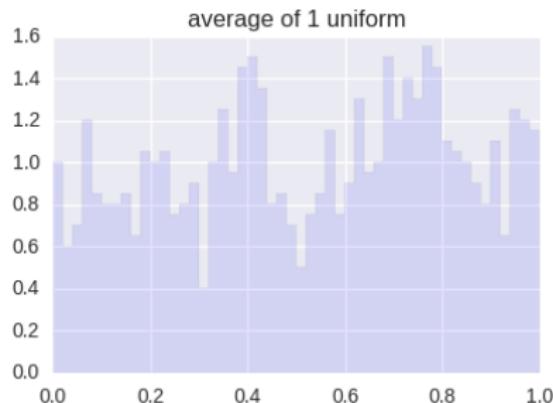
Why Gaussian: Central Limit Theorem

Galton Board (Sir Francis Galton, 1822-1911)



Why Gaussian: Central Limit Theorem

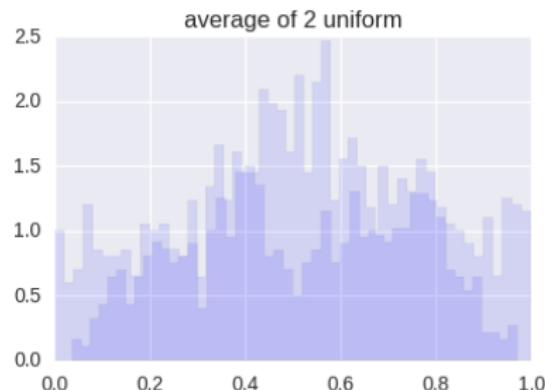
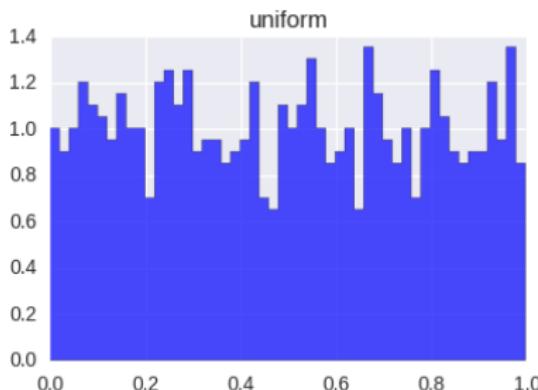
The distribution of the sum (or average) of a large number of independent, identically distributed variables will be approximately normal, regardless of the underlying distribution.².



²Christopher M Bishop. *Pattern recognition and machine learning*. 2006, p. 78, script inspired by C.E. Ek.

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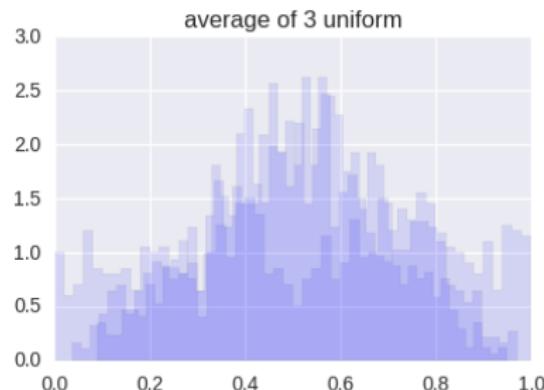
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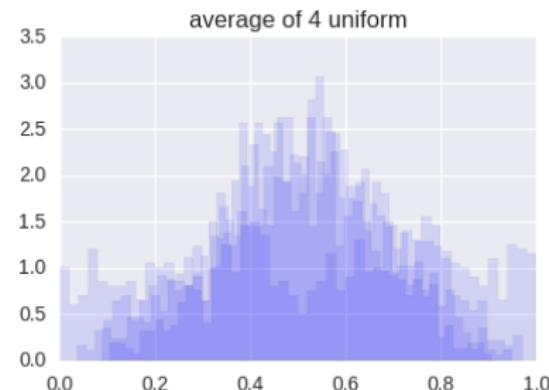
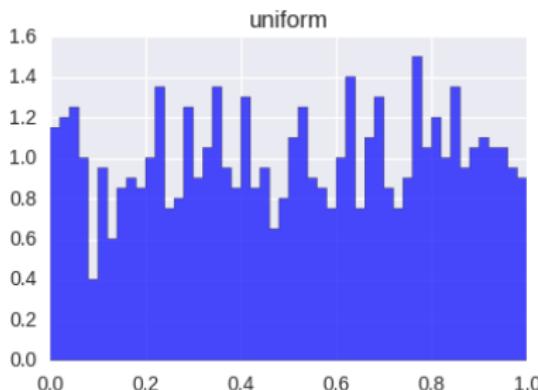
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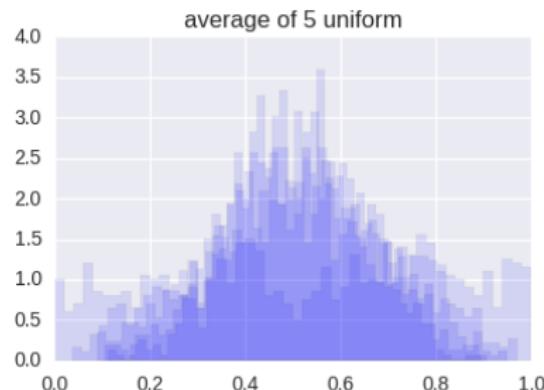
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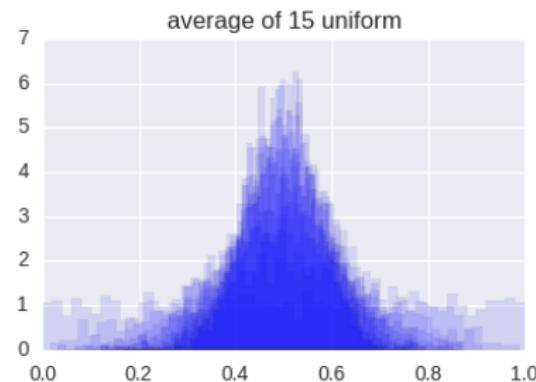
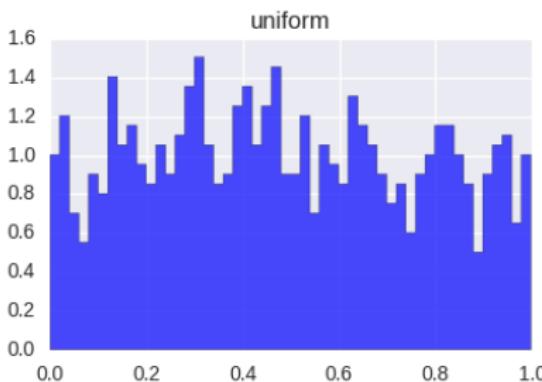
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Why Gaussian: Central Limit Theorem

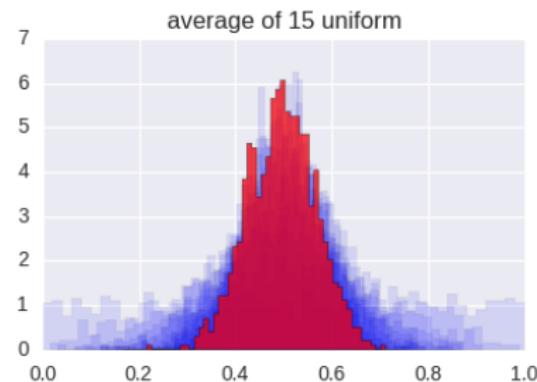
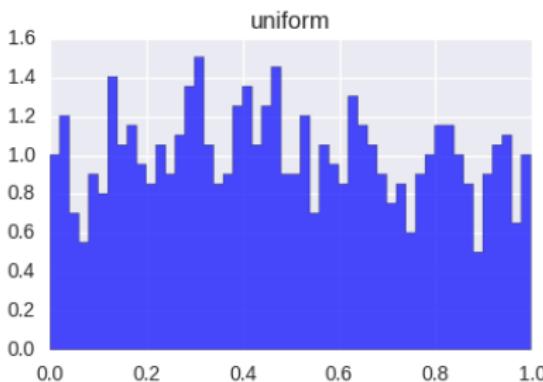
The distribution of the sum (or average) of a large number of independent, identically distributed variables will be approximately normal, regardless of the underlying distribution.².



²Christopher M Bishop. *Pattern recognition and machine learning*. 2006, p. 78, script inspired by C.E. Ek.

Why Gaussian: Central Limit Theorem

The distribution of the sum (or average) of a large number of independent, identically distributed variables will be approximately normal, regardless of the underlying distribution.².



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Gaussian distributions: D Dimensions

- aka multivariate normal distribution
- Domain: real numbers ($\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^D$)

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_D \end{bmatrix} \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \dots \\ \mu_D \end{bmatrix} \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \sigma_{12} & \dots & \sigma_{1D} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_2^2 & \dots & \\ \dots & & & \\ \sigma_{D1} & \dots & & \sigma_D^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}|\mu, \Sigma) = \frac{\exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu)\right]}{(2\pi)^{\frac{D}{2}} |\Sigma|^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

Gaussian distributions

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Eigenvalue decomposition of the covariance matrix:

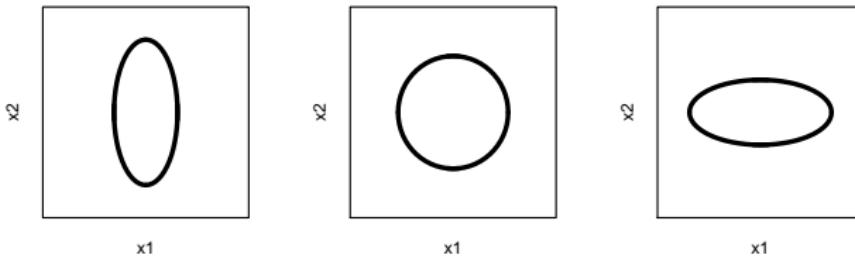
$$\Sigma = \lambda \ R \ \Sigma_{\text{diag}} \ R^T$$

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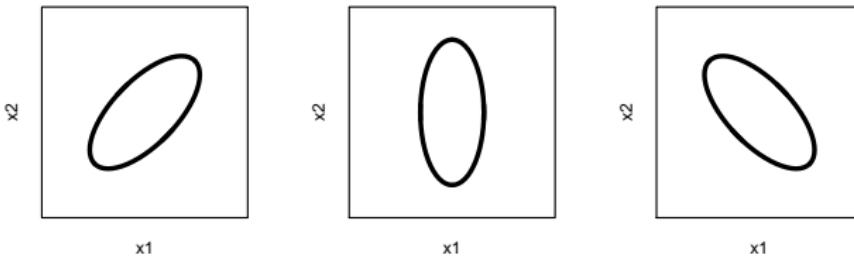


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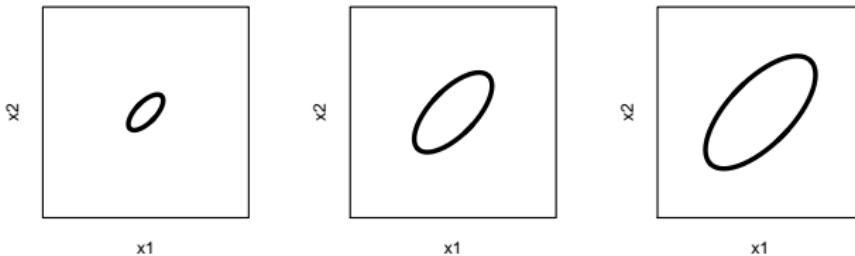


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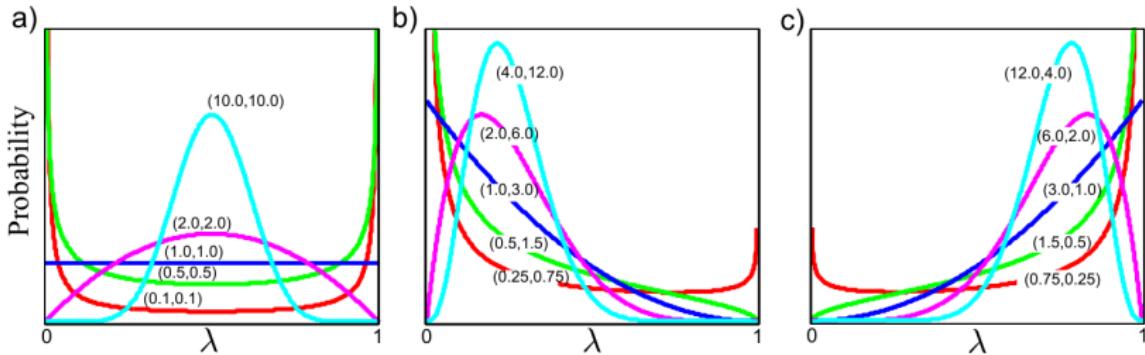
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Beta and Dirichlet (PDF over Probabilities)

Beta

- Domain: real numbers, bounded ($\lambda \in [0, 1]$)
- Parameters: $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}_+$
- describes probability of parameter λ in Bernoulli



3

³Figure from **Computer Vision: models, learning and inference** by Simon Prince.

Beta and Dirichlet (PDF over Probabilities)

Beta

- Domain: real numbers, bounded ($\lambda \in [0, 1]$)
- Parameters: $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}_+$
- describes probability of parameter λ in Bernoulli

Dirichlet

- Domain: K real numbers, bounded ($\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_K \in [0, 1]$)
- Parameters: $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_K \in \mathbb{R}_+$
- describes probability of parameters λ_k in Categorical

Expected value

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}] = \mu(\mathbf{x}) = \int \mathbf{x} p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

- Shows the “center of gravity” of a distribution
- Sampled expected value (mean)

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N \mathbf{x}_i$$

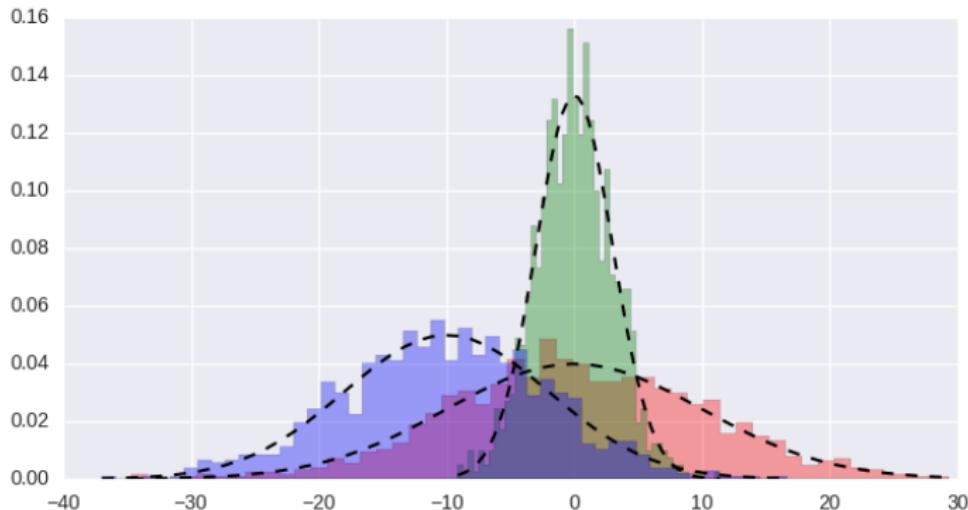
Variance

$$\sigma^2(\mathbf{x}) = \text{var}[\mathbf{x}] = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}])^2]$$

- Shows the “spread” of a distribution
- Sample variance

$$\overline{\sigma^2(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_i^N (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu(\mathbf{x}_i))^2$$

Examples



3

³Script by C.E. Ek

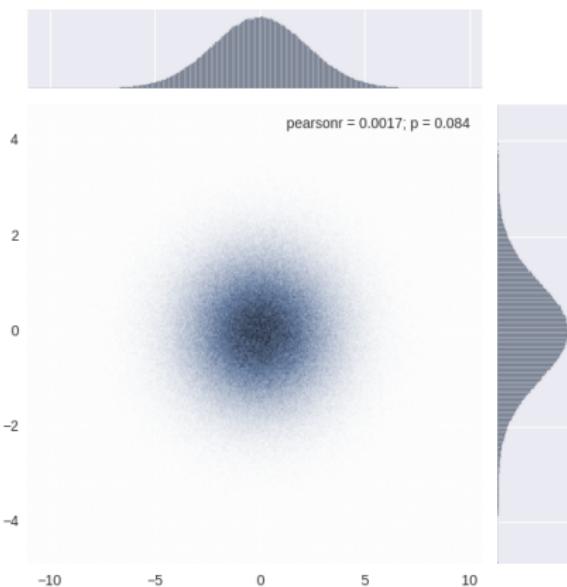
Covariance

$$\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}])(\mathbf{y} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}])]$$

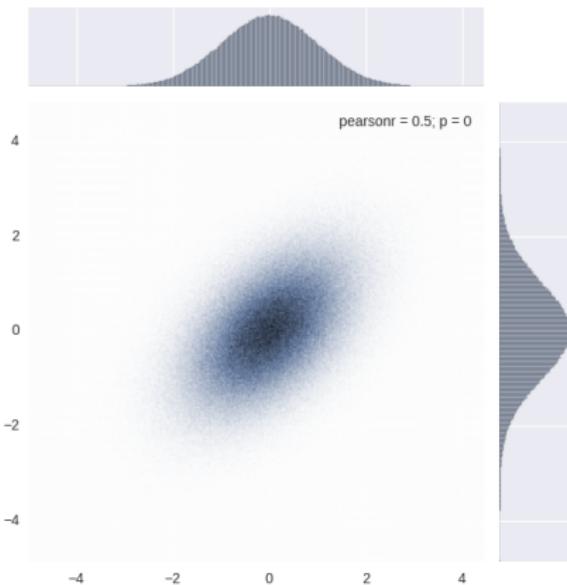
- Shows how the “spread” of how two variables vary *together*
- Sample co-variance

$$\overline{\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_i^N (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu(\mathbf{x}_i))(\mathbf{y}_i - \mu(\mathbf{y}))$$

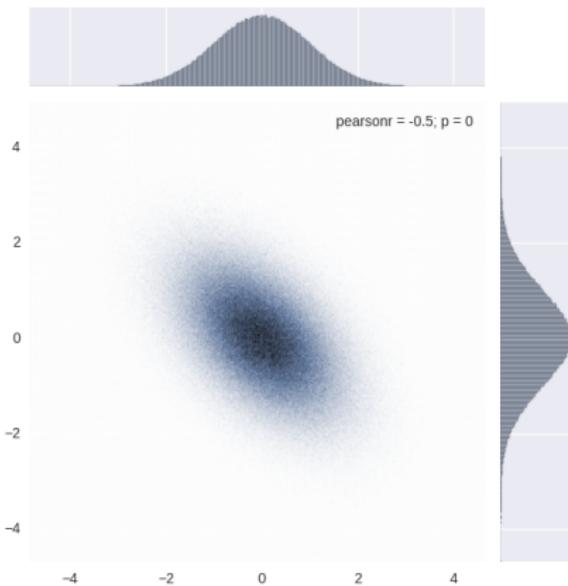
Examples



Examples

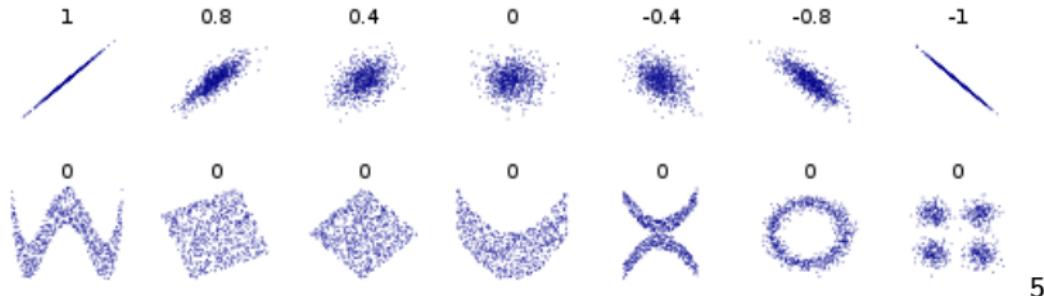


Examples



Covariance and Independence

- covariance is “linear” dependency
- dependent variables may have zero covariance
- in some distributions zero covariance is equivalent to independence



5

⁵Figure adapted from Wikipedia

Covariance and Independence (Gaussian)

- covariance is “linear” dependency
- dependent variables may have zero covariance
- in Gaussian (and few other distribution) zero covariance is equivalent to independence

$$f(\mathbf{x}|\mu, \Sigma) = \frac{\exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu)\right]}{(2\pi)^{\frac{D}{2}} |\Sigma|^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

Outline

1 Probability Theory Reminder

- Axioms and Properties
- Common Distributions
- Moments

2 Probabilistic Machine Learning

- Supervised Learning, General Definition
- Regression
- Classification

General ML problem (supervised learning)

Data:

$$\{(\mathbf{x}^1, y^1), (\mathbf{x}^2, y^2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}^n, y^n)\}$$

Where \mathbf{x} are features, and y is the answer

- if y is discrete: classification
- if y is continuous: regression

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Where \mathbf{x} are features, and y is the answer

- if y is discrete: classification
- if y is continuous: regression

Learning: we observe several examples of \mathbf{x} and we know y

- we can estimate $P(y)$ and $P(\mathbf{x}|y)$

Inference: we want to know y' given a new \mathbf{x}'

- we want to estimate $P(y'|\mathbf{x}')$

Bayes' Rule

$$P(y | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{P(\mathbf{x} | y)P(y)}{P(\mathbf{x})}$$

- $P(\mathbf{x} | y) \leftarrow$ **Likelihood** represents the probability of observing data \mathbf{x} given the hypothesis y .
- $P(y) \leftarrow$ **Prior** represents the knowledge on hypothesis y before any observation.
- $P(y | \mathbf{x}) \leftarrow$ **Posterior** represents the probability of hypothesis y after the data \mathbf{x} has been observed.
- $P(\mathbf{x}) \leftarrow$ **Evidence** encodes the quality of the underlying model.

$$P(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \sum_y P(\mathbf{x} | y)P(y) & \text{classification} \\ \int_y P(\mathbf{x} | y)P(y) & \text{regression} \end{cases}$$

Probabilistic Regression

Regression as conditional probability

- use multivariate joint distribution between \mathbf{x} and y
- find posterior of y by conditioning on \mathbf{x}

Explicit regression model:

- define a deterministic model $y = f(\mathbf{x}) + \epsilon$
- describe probability distribution of error ϵ

Implicit model: Gaussian Processes (Advanced Course)

Example: bivariate Normal distribution

Define joint probability distribution function

$$\text{pdf}(x, y) = \mathcal{N}(x, y | \mu, \Sigma)$$

Where:

$$\mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_x \\ \mu_y \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x^2 & \rho\sigma_x\sigma_y \\ \rho\sigma_x\sigma_y & \sigma_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

and ρ is the correlation coefficient

Conditional probability distribution function still Normal:

$$\text{pdf}(y|x, \mu, \Sigma) = \mathcal{N}(y, \mu_{y|x}, \sigma_{y|x}^2), \text{ with:}$$

$$\mu_{y|x} = \mu_y + \rho \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma_x} (x - \mu_x) = w_0 + w_1 x$$

$$\sigma_{y|x}^2 = (1 - \rho^2) \sigma_y^2 \quad (\text{constant wrt. } x)$$

Explicit Regression Model

Model (deterministic):

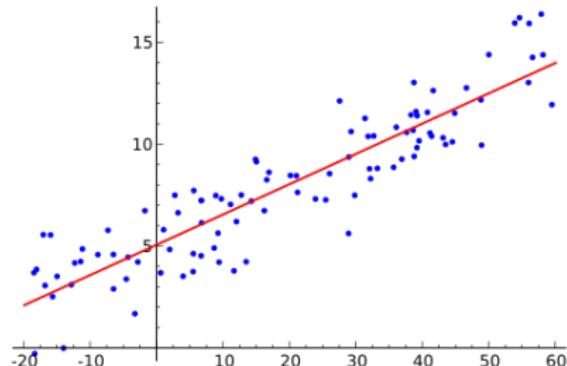
$$y = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + \epsilon$$

But now:

$$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

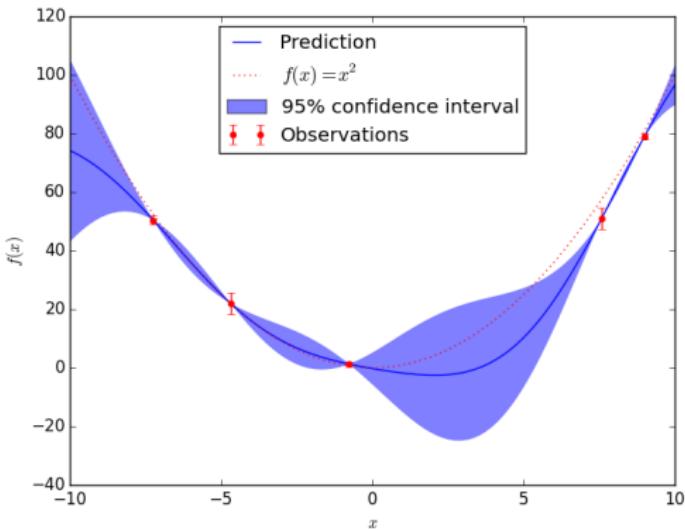
Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} y &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_Y(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_Y^2(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x}, \sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$



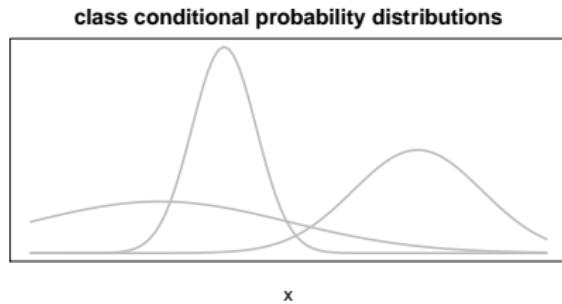
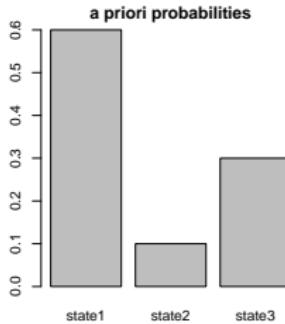
Gaussian Processes (advanced course)

- non-parametric model
- covariance between y and x depends on observed data \mathcal{D}



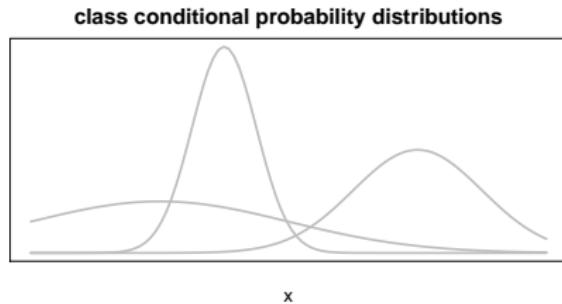
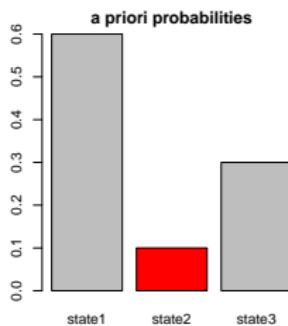
The Probabilistic Model of Classification

- one of c states y_j is selected with *a priori* probability $P(y_j)$
- When in state y_j , some observations \hat{x} are generated with distribution $p(\hat{x}|y_j)$



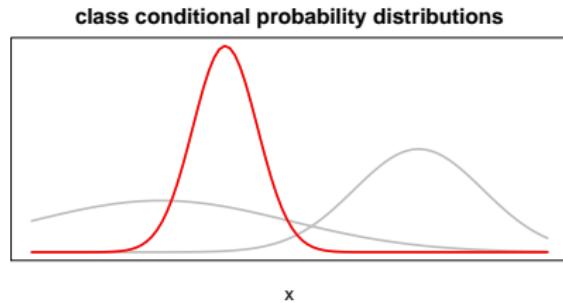
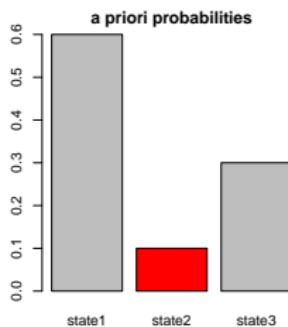
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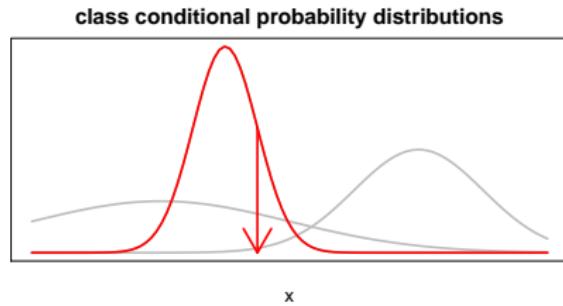
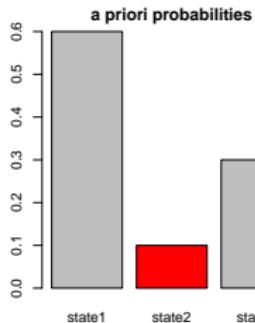
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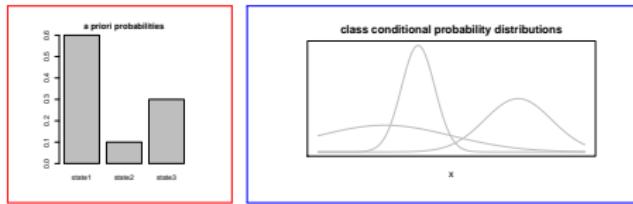
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Problem

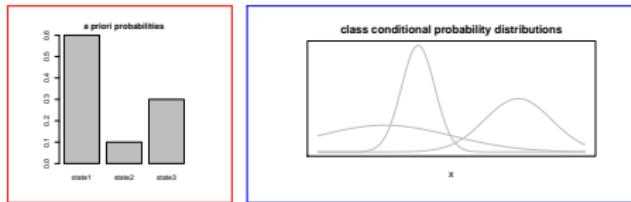
- If I observe a new $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$
- and I know $P(y_j)$ and $p(\mathbf{x}|y_j)$ for each class y_j
- what can I say about the state of the problem (class) y_j ?

Bayes decision theory



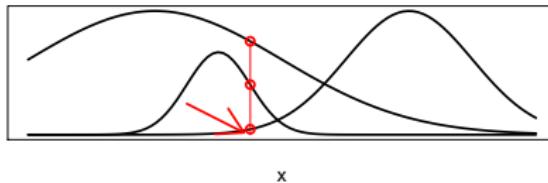
$$P(y_j|\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \frac{p(\hat{\mathbf{x}}|y_j) P(y_j)}{p(\hat{\mathbf{x}})}$$

Bayes decision theory

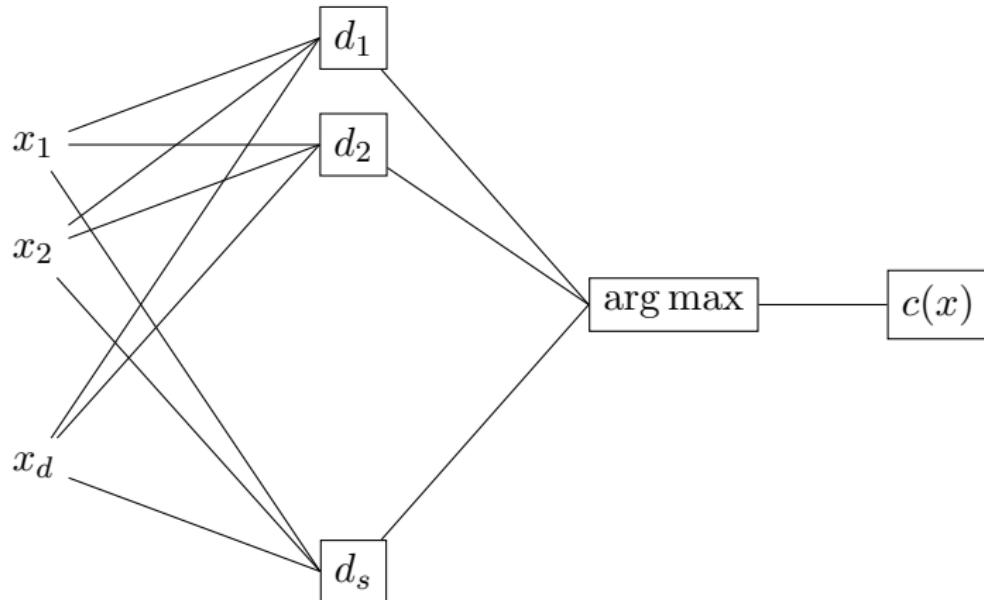


$$P(y_j|\hat{\mathbf{x}}) = \frac{p(\hat{\mathbf{x}}|y_j) P(y_j)}{p(\hat{\mathbf{x}})}$$

posterior probabilities



Classifiers: Discriminant Functions



$$d_i(\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{x}|y_i) P(y_i)$$

Example: Which Gender?

Task: Determine the gender of a person given their measured hair length.

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Notation:

- Let $g \in \{'f', 'm'\}$ be a r.v. denoting the gender of a person.
- Let x be the measured length of the hair.

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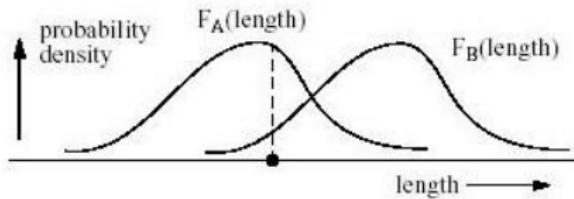
- Let $g \in \{'f', 'm'\}$ be a r.v. denoting the gender of a person.
- Let x be the measured length of the hair.

Information given:

- The hair length observation was made at a boy's school thus

$$P(g = 'm') = .95, \quad P(g = 'f') = .05$$

- Knowledge of the likelihood distributions $P(x | g = 'f')$ and $P(x | g = 'm')$



Example: Which Gender?

Task: Determine the gender of a person given their measured hair length \implies calculate $P(g | x)$.

Solution:

Apply Bayes' Rule to get

$$\begin{aligned} P(g = 'm' | x) &= \frac{P(x | g = 'm')P(g = 'm')}{P(x)} \\ &= \frac{P(x | g = 'm')P(g = 'm')}{P(x | g = 'f')P(g = 'f') + P(x | g = 'm')P(g = 'm')} \end{aligned}$$

Can calculate $P(g = 'f' | x) = 1 - P(g = 'm' | x)$

Selecting the most probably hypothesis

- **Maximum A Posteriori (MAP) Estimate:**

Hypothesis with highest probability given observed data

$$\begin{aligned}y_{\text{MAP}} &= \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(y | \mathbf{x}) \\&= \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \frac{P(\mathbf{x} | y) P(y)}{P(\mathbf{x})} \\&= \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(\mathbf{x} | y) P(y)\end{aligned}$$

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- **Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE):**

Hypothesis with highest likelihood of generating observed data.

$$y_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(\mathbf{x} | y)$$

Useful if we do not know prior distribution or if it is uniform.

Example: Cancer or Not?

Scenario:

A patient takes a lab test and the result comes back positive. The test returns a correct positive result in only 98% of the cases in which the disease is actually present, and a correct negative result in only 97% of the cases in which the disease is not present. Furthermore, 0.8% of the entire population have cancer.

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Scenario in probabilities:

- **Priors:**

$$P(\text{disease}) = .008 \quad P(\text{not disease}) = .992$$

- **Likelihoods:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} P(+ | \text{disease}) = .98 & P(+ | \text{not disease}) = .03 \\ P(- | \text{disease}) = .02 & P(- | \text{not disease}) = .97 \end{array}$$

Example: Cancer or Not?

Find MAP estimate:

When test returned a positive result,

$$\begin{aligned}y_{\text{MAP}} &= \arg \max_{y \in \{\text{disease, not disease}\}} P(y | +) \\&= \arg \max_{y \in \{\text{disease, not disease}\}} P(+) | y) P(y)\end{aligned}$$

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Substituting in the correct values get

$$P(+ | \text{disease}) P(\text{disease}) = .98 \times .008 = .0078$$

$$P(+ | \text{not disease}) P(\text{not disease}) = .03 \times .992 = .0298$$

Therefore $y_{\text{MAP}} = \text{not disease}$.

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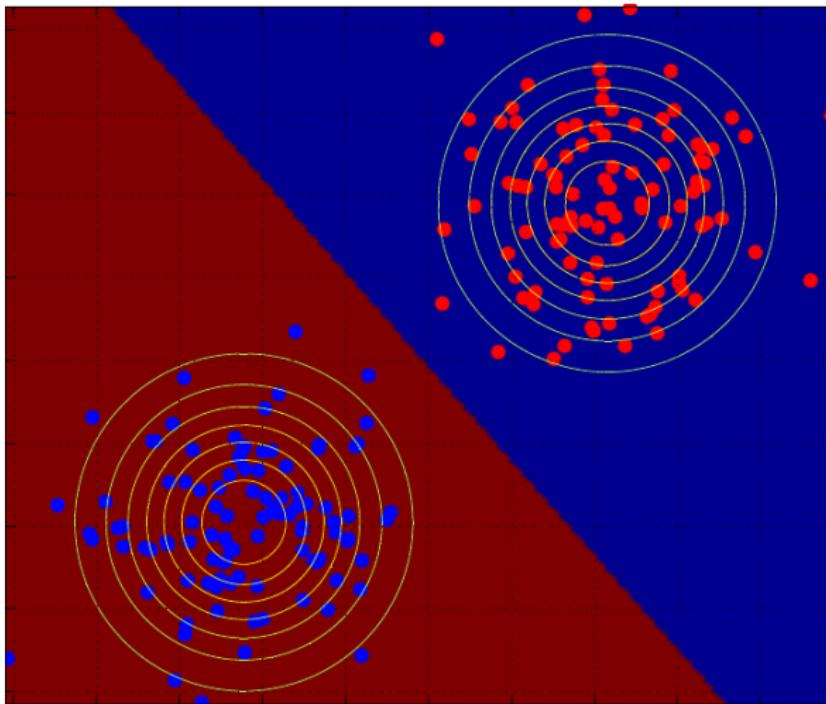
The Posterior probabilities:

$$P(\text{disease} | +) = \frac{.0078}{(.0078 + .0298)} = .21$$

$$P(\text{not disease} | +) = \frac{.0298}{(.0078 + .0298)} = .79$$

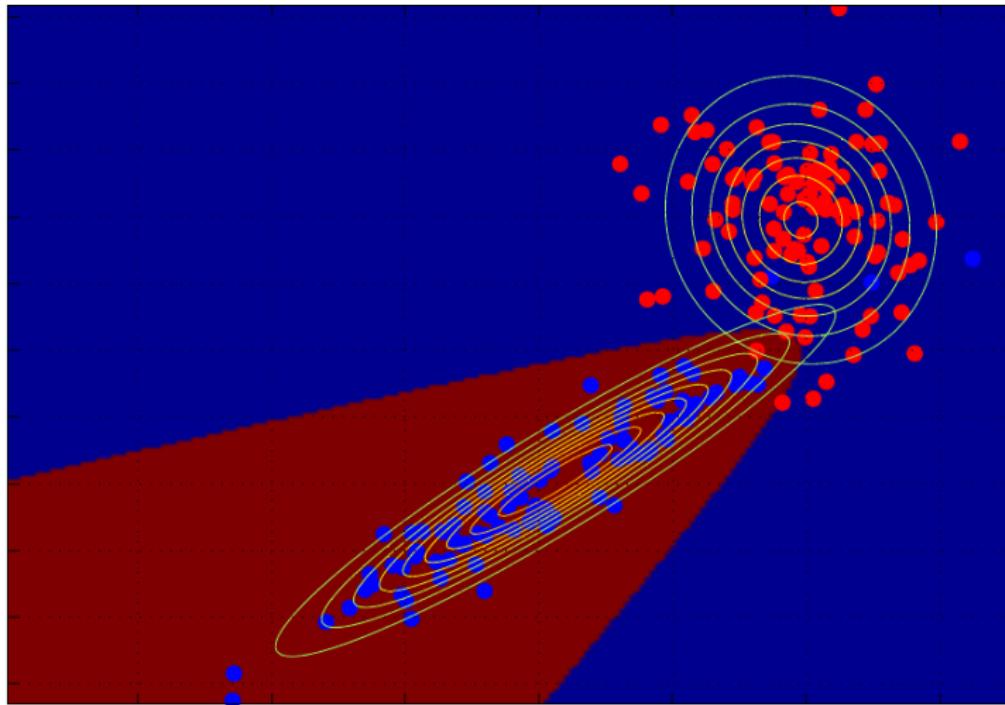
Demo: Gaussian Decision Boundaries

<https://github.com/giampierosalvi/GaussianDecisionBoundaries>



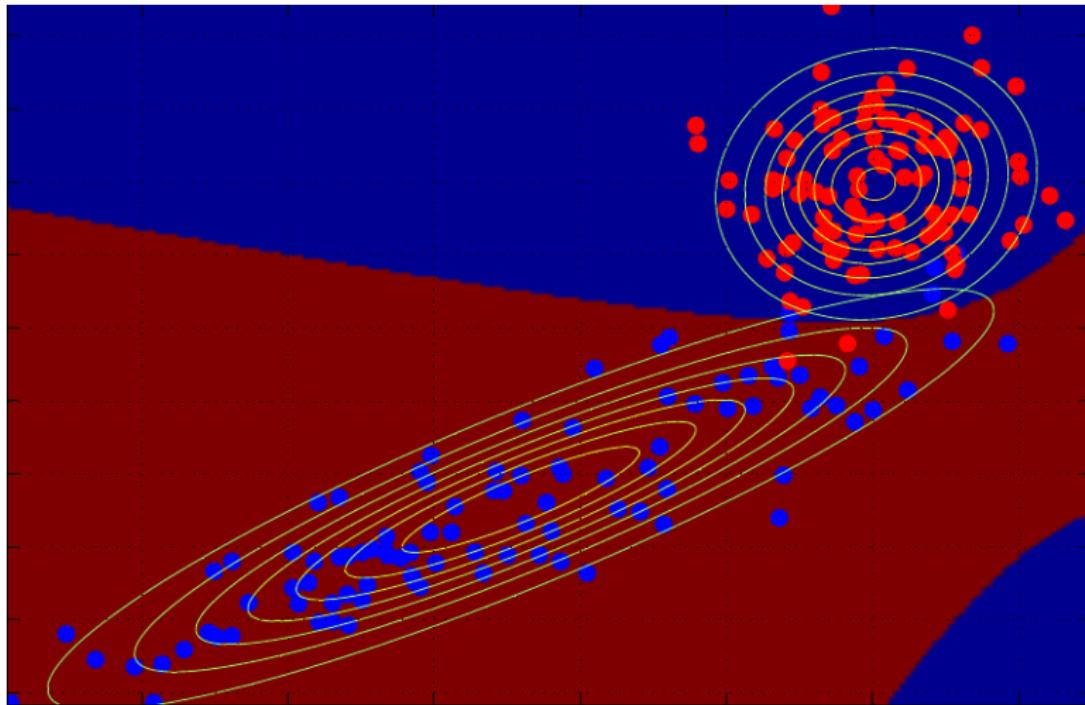
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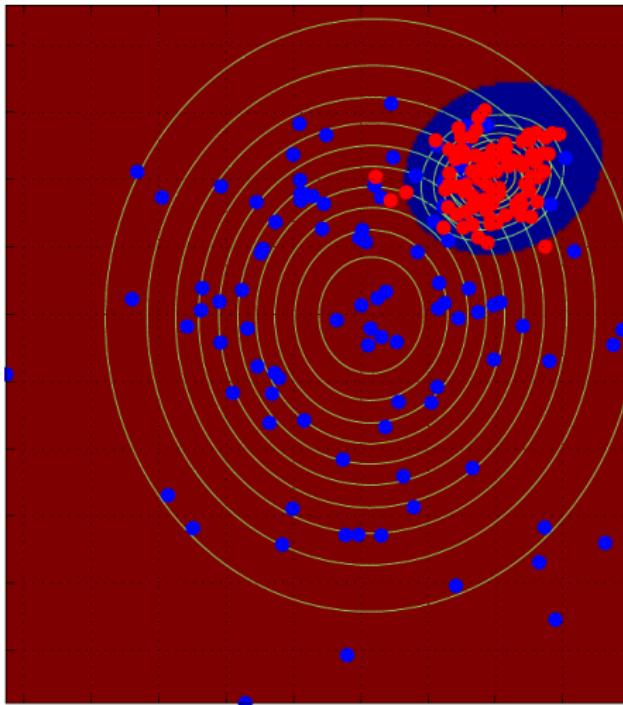
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Discriminative vs Generative Models

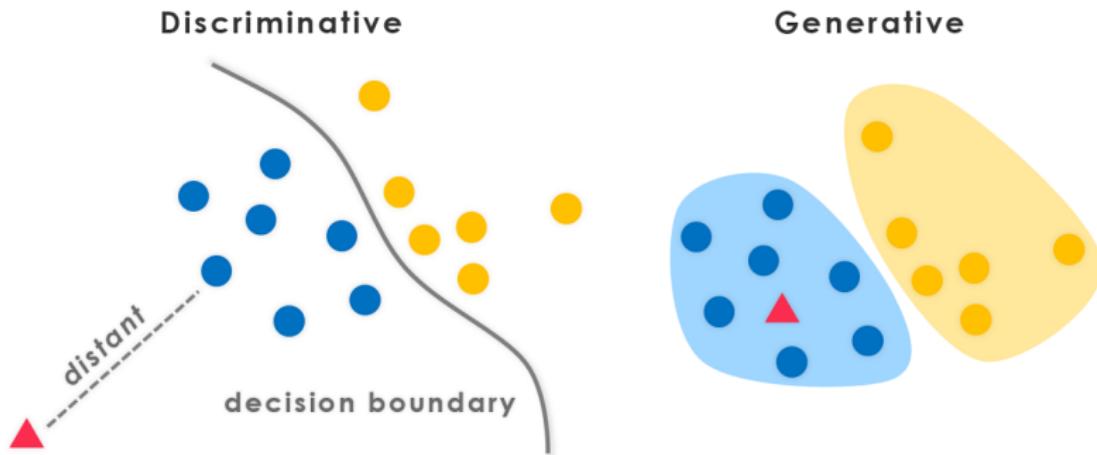


Figure from Nguyen *et al.* 2015. <http://www.evolvingai.org/fooling>

Summary

Today:

1 Probability Theory Reminder

- Axioms and Properties
- Common Distributions
- Moments

2 Probabilistic Machine Learning

- Supervised Learning, General Definition
- Regression
- Classification

Next time: How to fit probability models to data