

Neuroinformatics Lecture (L9)

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Poisson Distribution: probability of k events in given that λ events are expected

$$p(k|\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}$$

With $k=0,1,2, \dots$ (discrete) and $\lambda > 0$ (parameter is continuous)

$$E(k) = \lambda$$

$$\text{var}(k) = \lambda$$

Example: $p(k)$ spikes in an interval between 0 and T if λ spikes are expected

```
Y = poisspdf(X,lambda)
```

computes the Poisson pdf at each of the values in X using the corresponding parameters in lambda . The parameters in lambda must all be positive.



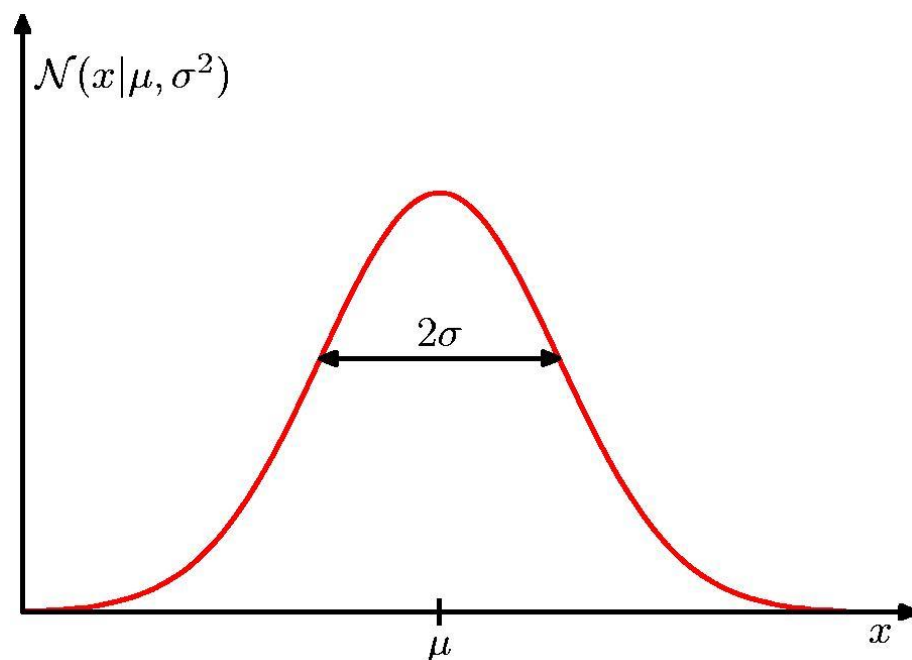
$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x - \mu)^2 \right\}$$

With x continuous; also parameter μ , σ are continuous

With

$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) > 0$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) dx = 1$$



```
Y = normpdf(X,mu,sigma)
```

computes the pdf at each of the values in X using the normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ . The parameters in σ must be positive.

Gamma Distribution

$$p(x) = c \cdot x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}$$

with $x, \alpha, \beta > 0$

c is used to normalize such that

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

```
Y = gampdf(X, α, β)
```

computes the gamma pdf at each of the values in X using the corresponding parameters in α and β . The parameters in α and β must all be positive, and the values in X must lie on the interval $[0, \infty)$

The chi^2 distribution is a special case of the gamma distribution.

chi^2 distribution k degrees of freedom :

$$p(x) = c \cdot x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}} \quad \text{with } \alpha=k/2, \beta=2$$

c is a norm

```
Y = gampdf(X,k/2,2)
```

computes the chi^2 pdf at each of the values in X using the corresponding degree of freedom k. The parameters k must all be positive, and the values in X must lie on the interval $[0, \infty]$

Let $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ be a random sample of size n with expected values μ and variances σ^2 (independent and identically distributed random variables)

Suppose we are interested in the sample average of these random variables:

$$S_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N X_n$$

Then the central limit theorem asserts that for large N 's, the distribution of S_n is approximately normal with

distribution of $S_n \sim$ Normal with

mean: μ

variance: $\frac{1}{N} \sigma^2$

The true strength of the theorem is that S_n approaches normality regardless of the shapes of the distributions of individual X_i 's.

Suppose we have two independent random variables X and Y .

To get the probability distribution of $p(Z=X+Y)$, we use a convolution. That is the integral of the joint probability of $p(x,y)$, given that $x+y=z$ (line integral)

$$\begin{aligned} p(z) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, y \mid x + y = z) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) p(z - x) dx \end{aligned}$$

For a discrete distribution, we get:

$$p(z) = \sum p(x) p(z - x)$$



Neuroinformatics Lecture

Topics:

Maximum Likelihood



Bayes' Theorem:

posterior \propto likelihood \times prior

$$p(x|y) = \frac{p(y|x)p(x)}{p(y)}$$

Now use:

$y=D$ (observed data)

$x=\vec{w}$ (set model parameter)

$$p(\vec{w}|D) = \frac{p(D|\vec{w})p(\vec{w})}{p(D)}$$

$$p(D) = \int P(D|\vec{w})p(\vec{w})d\vec{w}$$

Now $p(\vec{w}|D)$ probability of a model with set of parameters given the data

Normalisation

Bayes' Theorem:

Posterior:

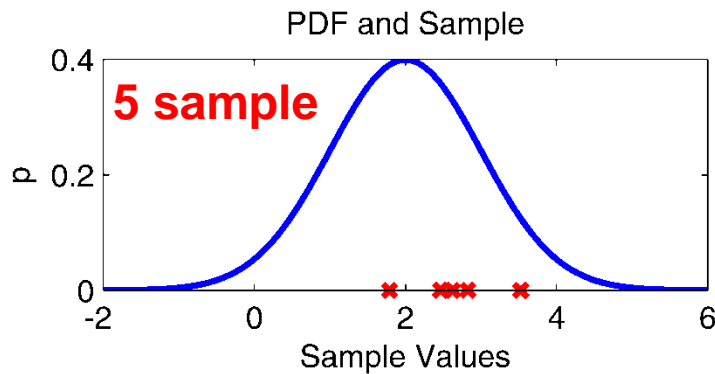
probability of a model with set of parameters given the data

$$p(\vec{w}|D)$$

Likelihood:

probability of the data given with set of parameters of a model

$$p(D|\vec{w})$$



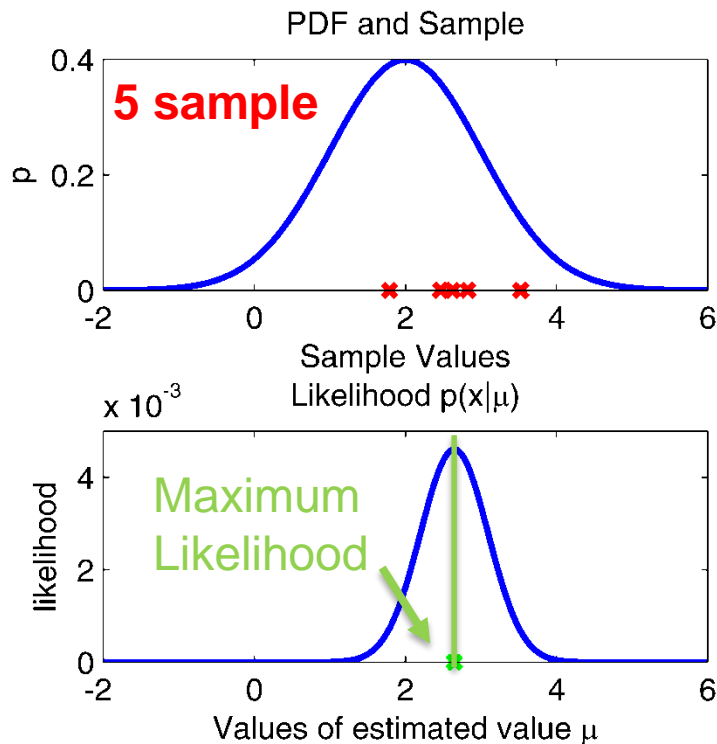
Likelihood: $p(D|\vec{w})$

Likelihood function joint probability for all x_n conditioned on the parameters!
Here we assume a Gaussian PDF.

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\mu, \sigma^2) = \prod_{i=1}^N \mathcal{N}(x_i | \mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$p(\vec{x}|\mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

$$p(\vec{x}|\mu, \sigma^2) = f(\mu, \vec{x}, \sigma^2) = L(\mu)$$



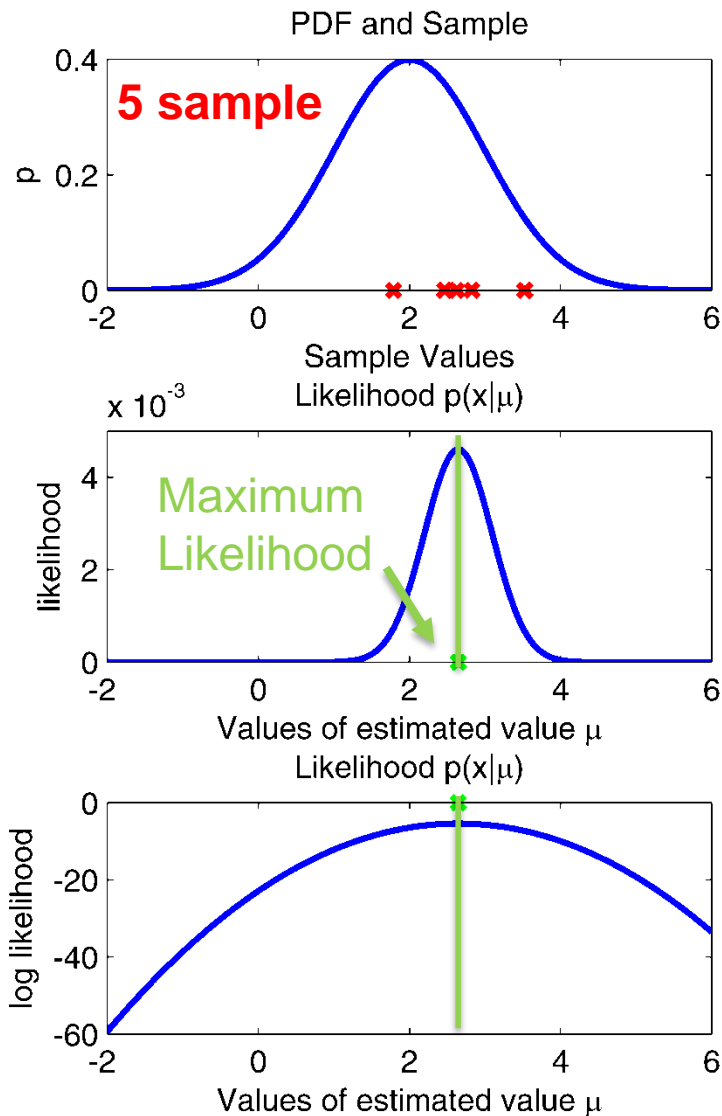
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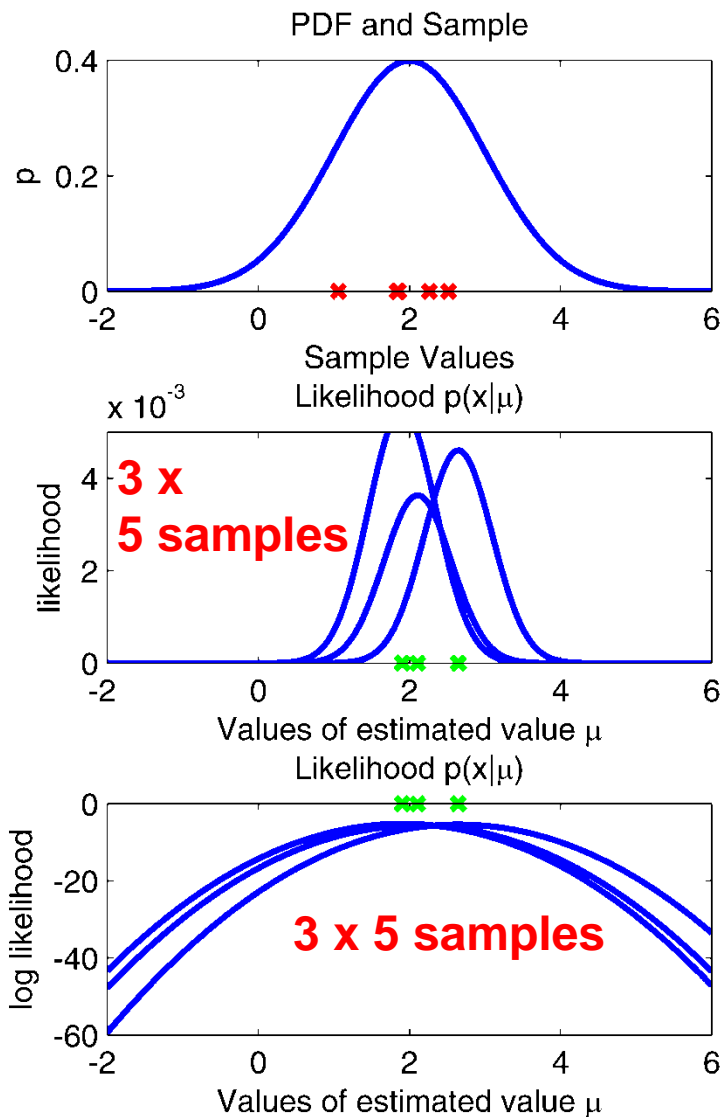


So far:

- We sampled 5 i.i.d. samples from a given distribution and derived the maximum likelihood estimation for the expected value μ .
- We decided that the best estimator is the parameter that gives us the largest probability (highest likelihood) to explain the observed data.
- The maximum likelihood estimation is call μ_{ML}

Question:

- What happens if we repeat the same experiment more times.



Likelihood: $p(D|\vec{w})$

Likelihood function Joint probability for all x_n conditioned on the parameters!

The likelihood is a function of the data. Therefore the maximum depends of the data as well.

Interpretation:

The best guess about the real unknown parameter is data driven and therefore it self distributed.



Maximum Likelihood Approach for model fitting

- We observe Data D composed of samples x_i : $D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} = \vec{x}$
- We assume the data is sampled from a single probability distribution characterized by some parameters: $\vec{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots)$
- In case of the normal distribution these parameters correspond to the expected value μ and the standard deviation: $\vec{w} = (\mu, \sigma)$

Approach, we derive a function of the samples that defines the *Maximum likelihood estimator* of the parameter.

$$w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$$

For a Gaussian : $\mu_{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N)$



- Data D composed of samples x_i : $D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} = \vec{x}$
- single probability distribution with parameters: $\vec{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots)$
- Derive $w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$

Step 1: Write down likelihood: $p(\vec{x} | w_1, w_2, \dots)$

Step 2: Assume sample are independent and from the same distribution (i.i.d):

$$p(\vec{x} | w_1, w_2, \dots) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i | w_1, w_2, \dots)$$

Maximum Likelihood



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Step 3: Assume a certain type of a distribution for example Gaussian

$$p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

Maximum Likelihood



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Step 4: Maximize this function in respect the wanted parameter

$$\arg \max_{\mu} p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

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argument of the maximum (abbreviated **arg max** or **argmax**) is the set of points of the given argument for which the given function attains its maximum value

Trick: Instead of maximizing the Likelihood we maximize the log of the likelihood (log likelihood)

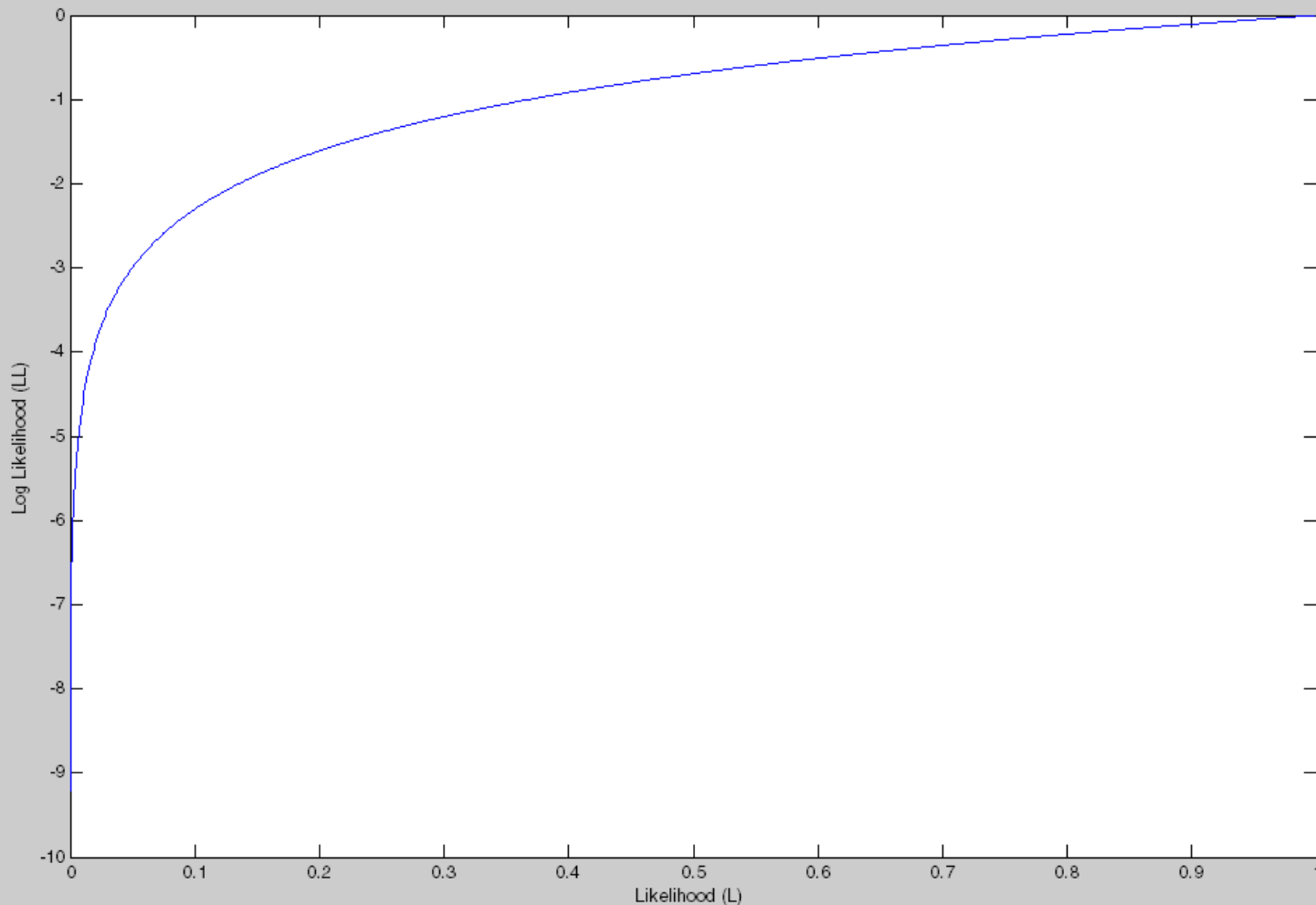
$$\log(a \cdot b \cdot c) = \log a + \log b + \log c$$

$$\log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \log \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)} = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

Log Likelihood



```
Matlab Code:      L= 0.0001:0.001:1;  
                  LL=log(L);  
                  plot(L,LL)  
                  xlabel('Likelihood (L) '); ylabel('Log Likelihood (LL)')
```



Log is strictly
monotonic

Maps L
between $[0,1]$
to LL from
 $-\infty$ to 0 .

Maximum Likelihood

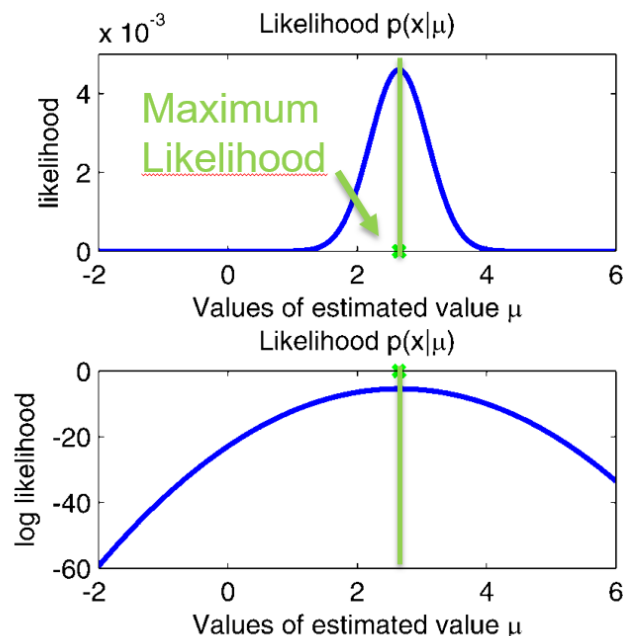
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- Derive $w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$

Step 4: Maximize the likelihood in respect to the wanted parameter

$$\arg \max_{\mu} p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

The resulting parameter μ^{ML} is the same since log is a strictly monotonic and increasing function



Maximum Likelihood



- Data D composed of samples x_i : $D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} = \vec{x}$
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$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

With $\log(a \cdot b \cdot c) = \log a + \log b + \log c$

$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} + \log e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)} \right]$$

$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right]$$

Maximum Likelihood

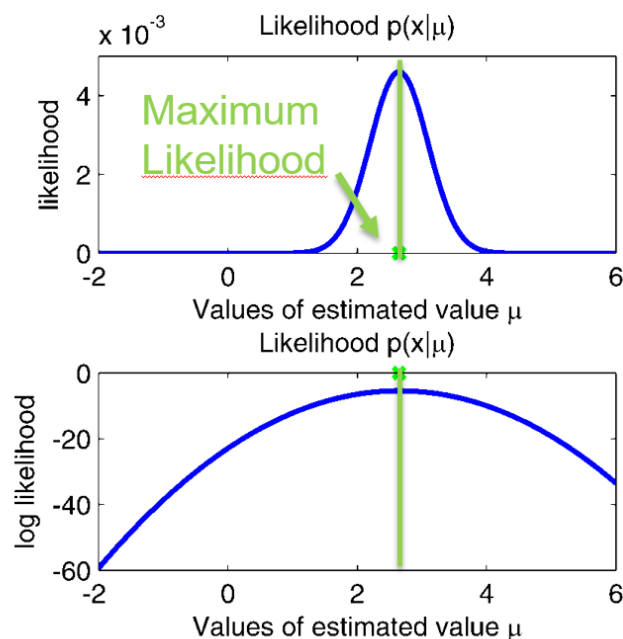
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- Derive $w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$

Step 5: To derive μ that maximizes, we compute the derivative and set this to zero
(the point of the likelihood with slope zero)

$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right] = 0$$



Compute the derivative in respect to just μ

Maximum Likelihood



- Data D composed of samples x_i : $D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} = \vec{x}$
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- Derive $w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$

Step 6: Execute the derivative

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right] &= 0 - \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} (x_i - \mu)^2 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N 2(-1)(x_i - \mu) \\ &= +\frac{2}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)\end{aligned}$$

Maximum Likelihood



- Data D composed of samples x_i : $D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} = \vec{x}$
- single probability distribution with parameters: $\vec{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots)$
- Derive $w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$

Step 7: set derivative to zero and resort term to get a function $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right] = + \frac{2}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu) = 0$$

Maximum = slope flat

$$0 = + \frac{2}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)$$

Lösung 1: σ infinitely large (irrelevant for us)

Lösung 2: $0 = \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)$

Lösung 2: $0 = \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu^{ML}) \Leftrightarrow 0 = -N\mu^{ML} + \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$

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

Maximum Likelihood

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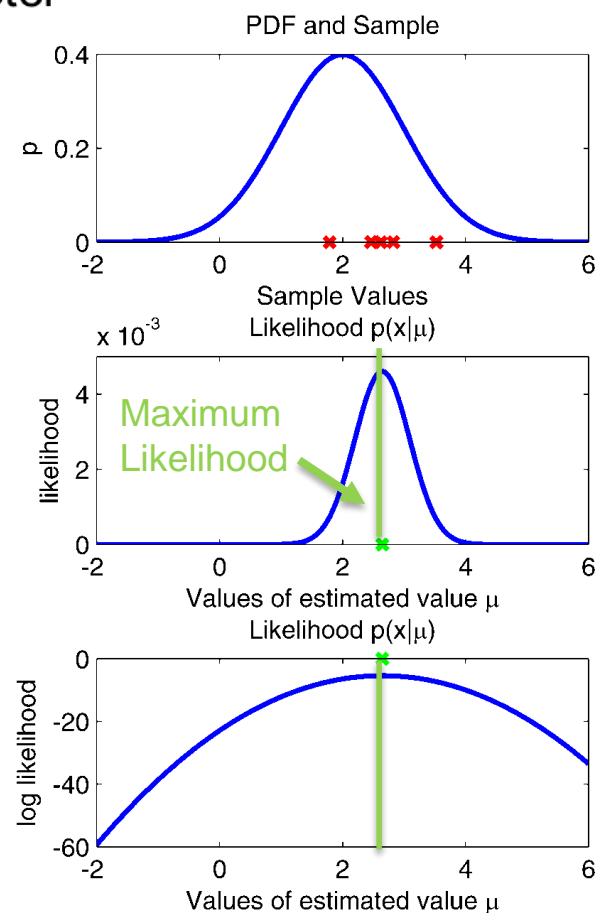
Maximize the log likelihood in respect the wanted parameter

$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x} | \mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

Solution $w_1^{ML} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$
for the Maximum likelihood estimator

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

The arithmetic mean is the best guess of the expected value





1. Derive Maximum likelihood estimator of μ for a Gaussian distribution.

$$p(\vec{x}|\mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

Timer (5 min): Start Stop



Step 1: Write down likelihood: $p(\vec{x}|w_1, w_2, \dots)$

Step 2: Assume sample are independent and from the same distribution (i.i.d):

$$p(\vec{x}|w_1, w_2, \dots) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i|w_1, w_2, \dots)$$

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Step 4: Maximize this function in respect the wanted parameter

$$\arg \max_{\mu} p(\vec{x}|\mu, \sigma) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}$$

$$\arg \max_{\mu} \log p(\vec{x}|\mu, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right]$$

Step 5: Compute the derivative and set this to zero

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right] = 0 - \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right)$$



- Step 7: set derivative to zero and resort term to get a function

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N | w_2, \dots)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\log \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} - \left(\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right) \right] = + \frac{2}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu) = 0$$

Maximum = slope flat

$$0 = + \frac{2}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)$$

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$$\text{Lösung 2: } 0 = \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu^{ML}) \Leftrightarrow 0 = -N\mu^{ML} + \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$$

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



Next Topic: ML for the expected value of a Bernoulli distribution



Summary: Bernoulli Distribution

Distribution: $p(x|\mu) = \mu^x(1 - \mu)^{1-x}$

Expected value: $E[x] = \mu$

Variance: $var[x] = \mu(1 - \mu)$

`Y = binopdf(x,n,p)`

For n=1, computes the Bernoulli pdf at each of the values in X using the corresponding probability P. The values in P must lie on the interval [0, 1].



ML for Bernoulli

Given: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, m heads (1), $N - m$ tails (0)

likelihood:

$$p(\mathcal{D}|\mu) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(x_n|\mu) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mu^{x_n} (1 - \mu)^{1-x_n}$$

$$\ln p(\mathcal{D}|\mu) = \sum_{n=1}^N \ln p(x_n|\mu) = \sum_{n=1}^N \{x_n \ln \mu + (1 - x_n) \ln(1 - \mu)\}$$

Partial derivative after μ (for ML set to zero):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln p(\vec{x}|\mu) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(x_n \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln \mu + (1 - x_n) \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln(1 - \mu) \right)$$



ML for Bernoulli

Given: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, m heads (1), $N - m$ tails (0)

Partial derivative after μ (for ML set to zero):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln p(\vec{x} | \mu) = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(x_n \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln \mu + (1 - x_n) \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln(1 - \mu) \right)$$

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^N \left(x_n \frac{1}{\mu} + (1 - x_n) \frac{-1}{1 - \mu} \right)$$

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n(1 - \mu) - (1 - x_n)\mu)$$

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n - x_n\mu - \mu + x_n\mu)$$



ML for Bernoulli

Given: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, m heads (1), $N - m$ tails (0)

Partial derivative after μ (for ML set to zero):

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$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n - x_n \mu - \mu + x_n \mu)$$

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^N (x_n - \mu) = -N\mu + \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

$$\mu_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

ML estimator of $p(x_n=1)$, with $p(x_n=0)=1-p(x_n=1)$



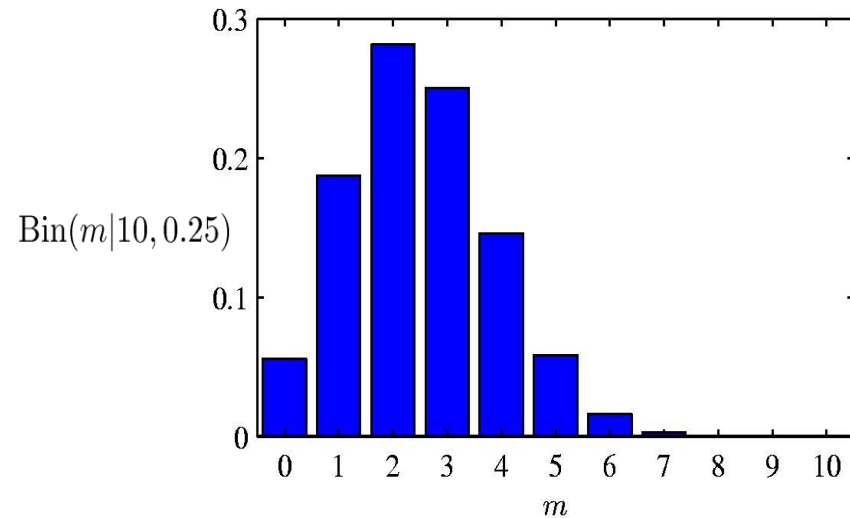
Next Topic: ML for the expected value of a Binominal distribution

Binomial Distribution

$$\text{Bin}(m|N, \mu) = \binom{N}{m} \mu^m (1 - \mu)^{N-m}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[m] \equiv \sum_{m=0}^N m \text{Bin}(m|N, \mu) = N\mu$$

$$\text{var}[m] \equiv \sum_{m=0}^N (m - \mathbb{E}[m])^2 \text{Bin}(m|N, \mu) = N\mu(1 - \mu)$$



`Y = binopdf(x,n,p)`

computes the binomial pdf at each of the values in X using the corresponding parameters in N and P. The parameters in N must be positive integers, and the values in P must lie on the interval [0, 1].



ML for Binominal

Given: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, m heads (1), $N - m$ tails (0)

likelihood: $p(m|\mu, N) = \binom{N}{m} \cdot \mu^m (1 - \mu)^{N-m}$

Log likelihood: $\log p(m|\mu, N) = \log \left(\binom{N}{m} \cdot \mu^m (1 - \mu)^{N-m} \right)$

$$\log p(m|\mu, N) = \log \binom{N}{m} + m \log \mu + (N - m) \log(1 - \mu)$$

Partial derivative after μ (for ML set to zero):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln p(m|\mu, N) = \frac{m}{\mu} - \frac{N - m}{1 - \mu} = 0$$

$$m(1 - \mu) - \mu(N - m) = m - m\mu - \mu N + m\mu = 0$$

$$\mu_{ML} = \frac{m}{N}$$

ML estimator of $p(x_n=1)$



ML for Binominal

Given: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$, m heads (1), $N - m$ tails (0)

likelihood: $p(m|\mu, N) = \binom{N}{m} \cdot \mu^m (1 - \mu)^{N-m}$

Derive the log-likelihood and the ML estimator of μ

Rules you may want to use

$$\ln \prod x = \sum \ln(x) \quad \ln(x \cdot y \cdot z) = \ln(x) + \ln(y) + \ln(z) \quad \ln(a^x) = x \ln(a)$$

Timer (8min): Start Stop



ML for Binominal

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ML estimator of $p(x_n=1)$