

# Outline

- Review
- Maximum A-Posteriori (MAP) Estimation
- Bayesian Parameter Estimation
- Example: The Gaussian Case
- Recursive Bayesian Incremental Learning
- Problems of Dimensionality
- Linear Algebra review
- Principal Component Analysis
- Fisher Discriminant

# Bayesian Decision Theory

- Bayesian decision theory is a fundamental statistical approach to the problem of pattern classification.
  - Decision making when all the probabilistic information is known.
  - For given probabilities the decision is optimal.
  - When new information is added, it is assimilated in optimal fashion for improvement of decisions.

# Bayes' formula

$$P(\omega_j | \mathbf{x}) = P(\mathbf{x} | \omega_j) P(\omega_j) / P(\mathbf{x}),$$

where

$$P(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^2 p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_j) P(\omega_j)$$

$$\text{Posterior} = \frac{\text{Likelihood} * \text{Prior}}{\text{Evidence}}$$

## Bayes' formula cont.

- $p(x|\omega_j)$  is called the *likelihood* of  $\omega_j$  with respect to  $\mathbf{x}$ .

(the  $\omega_j$  category for which  $p(x|\omega_j)$  is large  
is more "likely" to be the true category)

- $p(\mathbf{x})$  is the *evidence*  
how frequently we will measure a pattern with  
feature value  $\mathbf{x}$ .

Scale factor that guarantees that the posterior  
probabilities sum to 1.

# Bayes' Decision Rule

(Minimizes the probability of error)

$\omega_1$  : if  $P(\omega_1|x) > P(\omega_2|x)$

$\omega_2$  : otherwise

or

$\omega_1$  : if  $P(x|\omega_1) P(\omega_1) > P(x|\omega_2) P(\omega_2)$

$\omega_2$  : otherwise

and

$$P(\text{Error}|x) = \min [P(\omega_1|x) , P(\omega_2|x)]$$

# Normal Density - Univariate Case

- Gaussian density with mean  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$  and standard deviation  $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,  
( $\sigma^2$  named variance)

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2} \sigma} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\mathbf{x} - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$p(x) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

- It can be shown that:

$$\mu = \mathbf{E}[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p(x) dx, \quad \sigma^2 = \mathbf{E}[(x - \mu)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 p(x) dx.$$

# Normal Density - Multivariate Case

- The general *multivariate normal density* (MND) in a  $d$  dimensions is written as

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^t \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right]$$

- It can be shown that:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{x}] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathbf{x} p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}, \quad \Sigma = \mathbf{E}[(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^t] \quad .$$

which means for components

$$\sigma_{ij} = \mathbf{E}[(x_i - \mu_i)(x_j - \mu_j)] \quad .$$

- The covariance matrix  $\Sigma$  is always symmetric and positive semidefinite.

# Normal Density - Multivariate Case

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## Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Parameter Estimation

- To design an optimal classifier we need  $P(\omega_i)$  and  $p(x | \omega_i)$ , but usually we do not know them.
- **Solution** – to use training data to estimate the unknown probabilities. Estimation of class-conditional densities is a difficult task.

# Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Parameter Estimation

- **Supervised learning**: we get to see samples from each of the classes “separately” (called **tagged** or **labeled** samples).
- Tagged samples are “expensive”. We need to learn the distributions as efficiently as possible.
- **Two methods**: **parametric** (easier) and **non-parametric** (harder)

# Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Parameter Estimation

- Program for parametric methods:
  - Assume specific parametric distributions with parameters  $\theta \in \Theta \subset R^p$
  - Estimate parameters  $\hat{\eta}(D)$  from training data  $D$ .
  - Replace true value of class-conditional density with approximation and apply the Bayesian framework for decision making.

# Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Parameter Estimation

- Suppose we can assume that the relevant (class-conditional) densities are of some parametric form. That is,

$$p(x|\omega)=p(x|\theta), \text{ where } \theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^p$$

- Examples of parameterized densities:
  - Binomial:  $x^{(n)}$  has  $m$  1's and  $n-m$  0's

$$p(x^{(n)} | \theta) = \binom{n}{m} \theta^m (1 - \theta)^{n-m}, \quad \Theta = [0,1]$$

- Exponential: Each data point  $x$  is distributed according to

$$p(x | \theta) = \theta e^{-\theta x}, \quad \Theta = (0, \infty)$$

# Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Parameter Estimation cont.

- Two procedures for parameter estimation will be considered:
  - **Maximum likelihood estimation**: choose parameter value  $\theta$  that makes the data most probable (i.e., maximizes the probability of obtaining the sample that has actually been observed),
$$p(\mathbf{x} | D) = p(\mathbf{x} | \theta(D)), \quad \theta(D) = \arg \max_{\theta} p(D | \theta)$$
  - **Bayesian learning**: define a prior probability on the model space  $p(\theta)$  and compute the posterior  $p(\theta | D)$ . Additional samples sharpen the posterior density which peaks near the true values of the parameters .

## Sampling Model

- It is assumed that a sample set  $S = \{(\mathbf{x}_l, \omega_l) : l = 1, \dots, N\}$  with independently generated samples is available.
- The sample set is partitioned into separate sample sets for each class,  $D_j = \{\mathbf{x}_l : (\mathbf{x}_l, \omega_l) \in D\}$
- A generic sample set will simply be denoted by  $D$ .
- Each class-conditional  $p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_j)$  is assumed to have a known parametric form and is uniquely specified by a parameter (vector)  $\theta_j$ .
- Samples in each set  $D_j$  are assumed to be independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) according to some true probability law  $p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_j)$ .

## Log-Likelihood function and Score Function

- The sample sets are assumed to be functionally independent, i.e., the training set  $s_j$  contains no information about  $\theta_i$  for  $i \neq j$ .
- The i.i.d. assumption implies that

$$p(D_j | \theta_j) = \prod_{x \in D_j} p(\mathbf{x} | \theta_j)$$

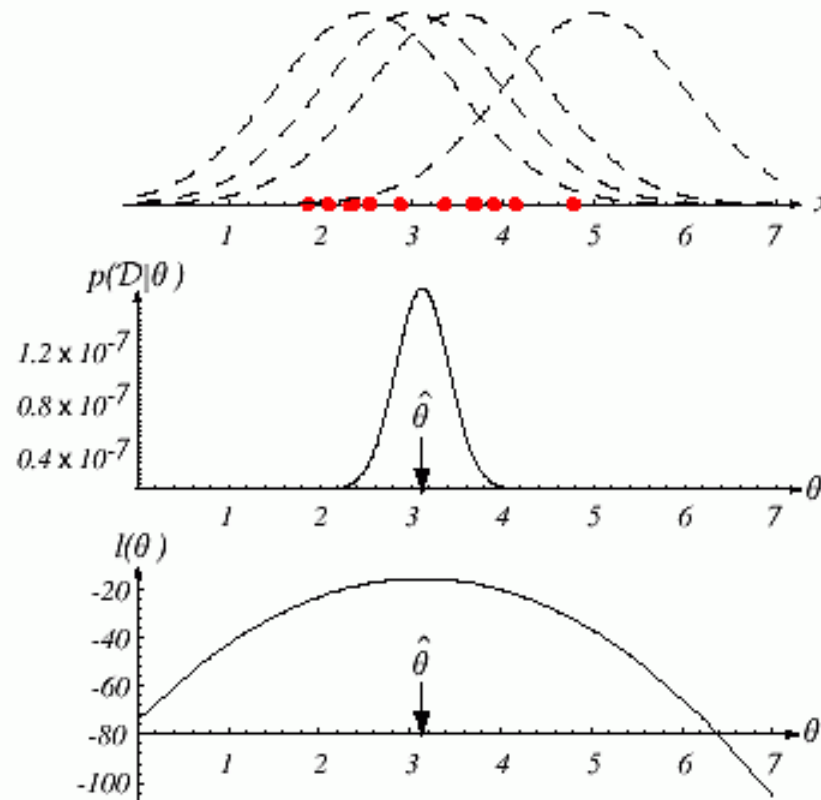
- Let  $D$  be a generic sample of size  $n \equiv |D|$ .
- **Log-likelihood function:**

$$l(\theta; D) \equiv \ln p(D | \theta) = \sum_{k=1}^n \ln p(\mathbf{x}_k | \theta)$$

- The log-likelihood function is identical to the logarithm of the probability density function, but is interpreted as a function over the sample space for given parameter  $\theta$ .

# Log-Likelihood Illustration

- Assume that all the points in  $D$  are drawn from some (one-dimensional) normal distribution with some (known) variance and unknown mean.





## Log-Likelihood function and Score Function cont.

- Maximum likelihood estimator (MLE):

$$\hat{\theta}(D) = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} l(\theta; D)$$

(tacitly assuming that such a maximum exists!)

- Score function:

$$U_k(\theta; D) \equiv \frac{\partial l(\theta; D)}{\partial \theta_k} \quad 1 \leq k \leq p$$

and hence

$$\mathbf{U}(\theta; D) \equiv \nabla_{\theta} l(\theta; D)$$

- Necessary condition for MLE (if not on border of domain  $\Theta$ ) :

$$\mathbf{U}(\theta; D) = 0$$

# Maximum *A Posteriori*

- Maximum a posteriory (MAP):

Find the value of  $\theta$  that maximizes  $l(\theta) + \ln(p(\theta))$ , where  $p(\theta)$ , is a prior probability of different parameter values. A MAP estimator finds the peak or *mode* of a posterior.

Drawback of MAP: after arbitrary nonlinear transformation of the parameter space, the density will change, and the MAP solution will no longer be correct.

# Maximum A-Posteriori (MAP) Estimation

- ◆ The “most likely value” is given by  $\theta$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\theta} &= \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta | X^{(n)}) = \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{p_0(\theta) p(X^{(n)} | \theta)}{p(X^{(n)})} \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{p_0(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | \theta)}{\int p(X^{(n)} | \theta') p_0(\theta') d\theta'}\end{aligned}$$

# Maximum A-Posteriori (MAP) Estimation

$$p(X^{(n)} | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | \theta)$$

since the data is i.i.d.

- We can disregard the normalizing factor  $p(X^{(n)})$  when looking for the maximum

## MAP - continued

So, the  $\mathcal{S}$  we are looking for is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S} &= \arg \max_{\theta} \left[ p_0(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | \theta) \right] && (\log \text{ is monotonically increasing}) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \left( \log \left[ p_0(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | \theta) \right] \right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \left( \log p_0(\theta) + \log \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | \theta) \right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \left( \log p_0(\theta) + \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(x_i | \theta) \right)\end{aligned}$$

## The Gaussian Case: Unknown Mean

- Suppose that the samples are drawn from a multivariate normal population with mean  $\mu$ , and covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ .
- Consider first the case where only the mean is unknown  $\theta = \mu$ .

- For a sample point  $\mathbf{x}_k$ , we have

$$\ln P(\mathbf{x}_k | \boldsymbol{\mu}) = -\frac{1}{2} \ln \left[ (2\pi)^d |\Sigma| \right] - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_k - \boldsymbol{\mu})^t \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_k - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

and

$$\nabla_{\mu} \ln P(\mathbf{x}_k | \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_k - \boldsymbol{\mu})$$

- The maximum likelihood estimate for  $\mu$  must satisfy

## The Gaussian Case: Unknown Mean

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}) = 0$$

- Multiplying by  $\Sigma$ , and rearranging, we obtain

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{x}_k$$

- The MLE estimate for the unknown population mean is just the **arithmetic average** of the training samples (**sample mean**).
- Geometrically, if we think of the  $n$  samples as a cloud of points, the sample mean is the **centroid** of the cloud

## The Gaussian Case: Unknown Mean and Covariance

- In the general multivariate normal case, neither the mean nor the covariance matrix is known  $\theta = [\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma]$ .
- Consider first the univariate case with  $\theta_1 = \mu$  and  $\theta_2 = \sigma^2$ . The log-likelihood of a single point is

$$\ln p(\mathbf{x}_k | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\frac{1}{2} \ln 2\pi\theta_2 - \frac{1}{2\theta_2} (\mathbf{x}_k - \theta_1)^2$$

and its derivative is

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} l = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \ln p(x_k | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\theta_2} (x_k - \theta_1) \\ -\frac{1}{2\theta_2} + \frac{(x_k - \theta_1)^2}{2\theta_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$$



## The Gaussian Case: Unknown Mean and Covariance

- Setting the gradient to zero, and using all the sample points, we get the following necessary conditions:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\hat{\theta}_2} (x_k - \hat{\theta}_1) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad -\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\hat{\theta}_2} + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(x_k - \hat{\theta}_1)^2}{\hat{\theta}_2^2} = 0$$

- where  $\hat{\theta}_1 = \hat{\mu}$  and  $\hat{\theta}_2 = \hat{\sigma}^2$ , are the MLE estimates for  $\theta_1$ , and  $\theta_2$  respectively.
- Solving for  $\hat{\mu}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}^2$ , we obtain

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (x_k - \hat{\mu})^2$$

## The Gaussian multivariate case

- For the multivariate case, it is easy to show that the MLE estimates for  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma$  are given by

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{x}_k \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\mu})(\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\mu})^t$$

- The MLE for the mean vector is the sample mean, and the MLE estimate for the covariance matrix is the arithmetic average of the  $n$  matrices  $(\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\mu})(\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\mu})^t$
- The MLE for  $\sigma^2$  is **biased** (i.e., the expected value over all data sets of size  $n$  of the sample variance is not equal to the true variance:

$$E \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\mu})^2 \right] = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 \neq \sigma^2$$

## The Gaussian multivariate case

- Unbiased estimator for  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma$  are given by

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbf{x}_k$$

and

$$C = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\mu})(\mathbf{x}_k - \hat{\mu})^t$$

$C$  is called the **sample covariance matrix**.  $C$  is *absolutely unbiased*.  $\hat{\sigma}^2$  is *asymptotically unbiased*.

# Bayesian Estimation: Class-Conditional Densities

- The aim is to find posteriors  $P(\omega_i|\mathbf{x})$  knowing  $p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i)$  and  $P(\omega_i)$ , but they are unknown. **How to find them?**
- Given the sample  $D$ , we say that the aim is to find  $P(\omega_i|\mathbf{x}, D)$
- Bayes formula gives:

$$P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}, D) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_i, D)P(\omega_i | D)}{\sum_{j=1}^c p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_j, D)P(\omega_j | D)}.$$

- We use the information provided by training samples to determine the class conditional densities and the prior probabilities.
- **Generally used assumptions:**
  - Priors generally are known or obtainable from a trivial calculations. Thus  $P(\omega_i) = P(\omega_i|D)$ .
  - The training set can be separated into  $c$  subsets:  $D_1, \dots, D_c$

# Bayesian Estimation: Class-Conditional Densities

- The samples  $D_j$  have no influence on  $p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i, D_i)$  if  $i \neq j$

- Thus we can write:

$$P(\omega_i | \mathbf{x}, D) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_i, D_i)P(\omega_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^c p(\mathbf{x} | \omega_j, D_j)P(\omega_j)}.$$

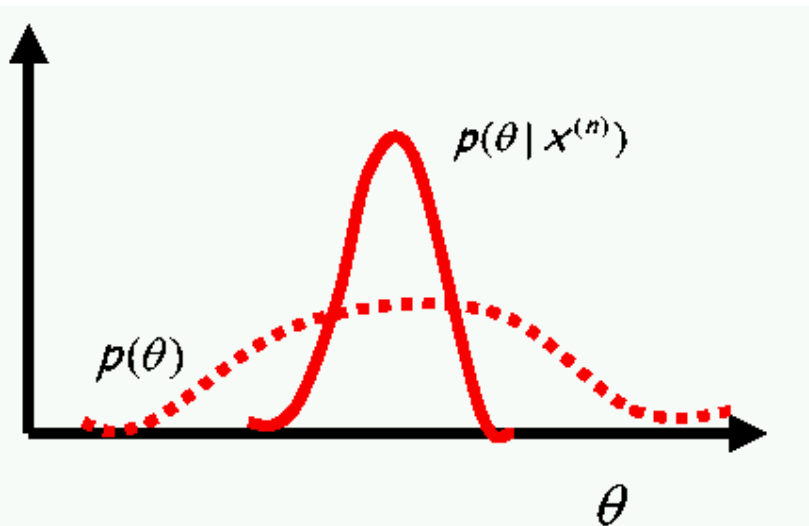
- We have  $c$  separate problems of the form:

Use a set  $D$  of samples drawn independently according to a fixed but unknown probability distribution  $p(\mathbf{x})$  to determine  $p(\mathbf{x}|D)$ .

# Bayesian Estimation: General Theory

- *Bayesian leaning* considers  $\theta$  (the parameter vector to be estimated) to be a *random variable*.

Before we observe the data, the parameters are described by a *prior*  $p(\theta)$  which is typically very broad. Once we observed the data, we can make use of Bayes' formula to find *posterior*  $p(\theta | D)$ . Since some values of the parameters are more consistent with the data than others, the *posterior* is narrower than *prior*. This is *Bayesian learning* (see fig.)



## General Theory cont.

- Density function for  $\mathbf{x}$ , given the training data set  $D$ ,

$$p(\mathbf{x} | D) = \int p(\mathbf{x}, \theta | D) d\theta$$

- From the definition of conditional probability densities

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \theta | D) = p(\mathbf{x} | \theta, D) p(\theta | D).$$

- The first factor is independent of  $D$  since it just our assumed form  $p(\mathbf{x} | \theta, D) \Rightarrow p(\mathbf{x} | \theta)$  for parameterized density.

- Therefore

$$p(\mathbf{x} | D) = \int p(\mathbf{x} | \theta) p(\theta | D) d\theta$$

- Instead of choosing a specific value for  $\theta$ , the Bayesian approach performs a weighted average over all values of  $\theta$ . The weighting factor  $p(\theta | D)$ , which is a posterior of  $\theta$  is determined by starting from some assumed prior  $p(\theta)$

## General Theory cont.

- Then update it using Bayes' formula to take account of data set  $D$ . Since  $D = \{\mathbf{x}^1, \dots, \mathbf{x}^N\}$  are drawn independently

$$p(D | \theta) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(x^n | \theta) , \quad (*)$$

which is likelihood function.

- Posterior for  $\theta$  is

$$p(\theta | D) = \frac{p(D | \theta) p(\theta)}{p(D)} = \frac{p(\theta)}{p(D)} \prod_{n=1}^N p(x^n | \theta) , \quad (**)$$

where normalization factor

$$p(D) = \int p(\theta') \prod_{n=1}^N p(x^n | \theta') d\theta' ,$$



## Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- Let us use the Bayesian estimation technique to calculate a *posteriori* density  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta} | D)$  and the desired probability density  $p(\mathbf{x} | D)$  for the case  $p(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\mu}) \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ 
  - Univariate Case:  $p(\mu | D)$

Let  $\mu$  *be the only unknown* parameter

$$p(x | \mu) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

# Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- Prior probability: normal distribution over  $\mu$  ,

$$p(\mu) \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

$\mu_0$  encodes some prior knowledge about the true mean  $\mu$  , while  $\sigma_0^2$  measures our prior uncertainty.

- If  $\mu$  is drawn from  $p(\mu)$  then density for  $x$  is completely determined. Letting  $D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  we use

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | D) &= \frac{p(D | \mu) p(\mu)}{\int p(D | \mu) p(\mu) d\mu} \\ &= \alpha \prod_{k=1}^n p(x_k | \mu) p(\mu) \end{aligned}$$

# Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- Computing the posterior distribution

$$p(\mu | D) \propto p(D | \mu) p(\mu)$$

$$= \alpha' \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \frac{x_k - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\mu - \mu_0}{\sigma_0} \right)^2 \right) \right]$$

$$= \alpha'' \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{n}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} \right) \mu^2 - 2 \left( \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k + \frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} \right) \mu \right] \right]$$

## Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- Where factors that do not depend on  $\mu$  have been absorbed into the constants  $\alpha'$  and  $\alpha''$
- $p(\mu | D)$  is an exponential function of a quadratic function of  $\mu$  i.e. it is a normal density.
- $p(\mu | D)$  remains normal for any number of training samples.
- If we write

$$p(\mu | D) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_n} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\mu - \mu_n}{\sigma_n} \right)^2 \right]$$

then identifying the coefficients, we get

## Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_n^2} = \frac{n}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} \quad \frac{\mu_n}{\sigma_n^2} = \frac{n}{\sigma^2} \hat{\mu}_n + \frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2}$$

where  $\hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k$  is the sample mean.

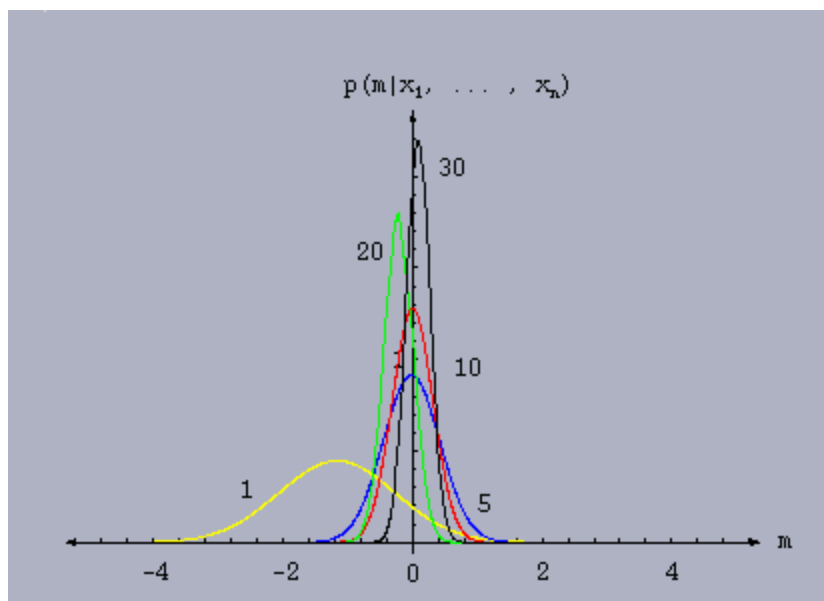
- Solving explicitly for  $\mu_n$  and  $\sigma_n^2$  we obtain

$$\mu_n = \left( \frac{n\sigma_0^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \right) \hat{\mu}_n + \frac{\sigma^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \mu_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma_n^2 = \frac{\sigma_0^2 \sigma^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2}$$

- $\mu_n$  represents our best guess for  $\mu$  after observing  $n$  samples.
- $\sigma_n^2$  measures our uncertainty about this guess.
- $\sigma_n^2$  decreases monotonically with  $n$  (approaching  $\sigma^2 / n$  as  $n$  approaches infinity)

## Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- Each additional observation decreases our uncertainty about the true value of  $\mu$ .
- As  $n$  increases,  $p(\mu | D)$  becomes more and more sharply peaked, approaching a Dirac delta function as  $n$  approaches infinity. This behavior is known as *Bayesian Learning*.



## Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- In general,  $\mu_n$  is a linear combination of  $\hat{\mu}_n$  and  $\mu_0$ , with coefficients that are non-negative and sum to 1.
- Thus  $\mu_n$  lies somewhere between  $\hat{\mu}_n$  and  $\mu_0$ .
- If  $\sigma_0 \neq 0$ ,  $\mu_n \rightarrow \hat{\mu}_n$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$
- If  $\sigma_0 = 0$ , our a priori certainty that  $\mu = \mu_0$  is so strong that no number of observations can change our opinion.
- If  $\sigma_0 \gg \sigma$ , a priori guess is very uncertain, and we take  $\mu_n = \hat{\mu}_n$
- The ratio  $\sigma^2 / \sigma_0^2$  is called *dogmatism*.

# Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- The Univariate Case:  $p(x | \mathbf{D})$

$$p(x | \mathbf{D}) = \int p(x | \mu) P(\mu | \mathbf{D}) d\mu$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_n} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\mu - \mu_n}{\sigma_n} \right)^2 \right] d\mu \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma\sigma_n} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x - \mu_n)^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_n^2} \right] f(\sigma, \sigma_n) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$f(\sigma, \sigma_n) = \int \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\sigma^2 + \sigma_n^2}{\sigma^2 \sigma_n^2} \left( \mu - \frac{\sigma_n^2 x + \sigma^2 \mu_n}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_n^2} \right)^2 \right] d\mu$$



## Bayesian Learning – Univariate Normal Distribution

- Since  $p(x | D) \propto \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x - \mu_n)^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_n^2} \right]$  we can write

$$p(x | D) : N(\mu_n, \sigma^2 + \sigma_n^2)$$

- To obtain the class conditional probability  $p(x | D)$ , whose parametric form is known to be  $p(x | \mu) : N(\mu, \sigma)$  we replace  $\mu$  by  $\mu_n$  and  $\sigma^2$  by  $\sigma^2 + \sigma_n^2$
- The conditional mean  $\mu_n$  is treated as if it were the true mean, and the known variance is increased to account for the additional uncertainty in  $x$  resulting from our lack of exact knowledge of the mean  $\mu$ .

# Example (demo-MAP)

- We have  $N$  points which are generated by one dimensional Gaussian,

$p(x | \mu) = G_x[\mu, 1]$ . Since we think that the mean should not be very big we use as a prior  $p(\mu) = G_\mu[0, \alpha^2]$ , where  $\alpha$  is a hyperparameter. The total objective function is:

$$E \propto -\sum_{n=1}^N (x_n - \mu)^2 - \frac{\mu^2}{\alpha^2}$$

which is maximized to give,

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N + \frac{1}{\alpha^2}} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

For  $N \gg \frac{1}{\alpha^2}$  influence of prior is negligible and result is ML estimate. But for very strong belief in the prior  $\frac{1}{\alpha^2} \gg N$  the estimate tends to zero. Thus,

if few data are available, the prior will bias the estimate towards the prior expected value

## Recursive Bayesian Incremental Learning

- We have seen that  $p(D | \theta) = \prod_{k=1}^n p(x_k | \theta)$ , Let us define  $D^n = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$   
Then  $p(D^n | \theta) = p(x_n | \theta) p(D^{n-1} | \theta)$ .
- Substituting into  $p(\theta | D)$ , and using Bayes we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta | D^n) &= \frac{p(D^n | \theta) p(\theta)}{\int p(D^n | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta} = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_n | \theta) p(D^{n-1} | \theta) p(\theta)}{\int p(\mathbf{x}_n | \theta) p(D^{n-1} | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta} \\ &= \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_n | \theta) p(\theta | D^{n-1}) \frac{p(D^{n-1})}{p(\theta)} p(\theta)}{\int p(\mathbf{x}_n | \theta) p(\theta | D^{n-1}) \frac{p(D^{n-1})}{p(\theta)} p(\theta) d\theta} \end{aligned}$$

Finally

$$p(\theta | D^n) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_n | \theta) p(\theta | D^{n-1})}{\int p(\mathbf{x}_n | \theta) p(\theta | D^{n-1}) d\theta}$$

# Recursive Bayesian Incremental Learning

- While  $p(\theta|D^0)=p(\theta)$ , repeated use of this eq. produces a sequence

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}), p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}_1), p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_1), \dots$$

- 
- This is called the *recursive Bayes* approach to the parameter estimation. (Also *incremental* or *on-line* learning).
- When this sequence of densities converges to a Dirac delta function centered about the true parameter value, we have *Bayesian learning*.

## Maximal Likelihood vs. Bayesian

- ML and Bayesian estimations are asymptotically equivalent and “consistent”. They yield the same class-conditional densities when the size of the training data grows to infinity.
- ML is typically computationally easier: in ML we need to do (multidimensional) differentiation and in Bayesian (multidimensional) integration.
- ML is often easier to interpret: it returns the single best model (parameter) whereas Bayesian gives a weighted average of models.
- But for a finite training data (and given a reliable prior) Bayesian is more accurate (uses more of the information).
- Bayesian with “flat” prior is essentially ML; with asymmetric and broad priors the methods lead to different solutions.

# Problems of Dimensionality: Accuracy, Dimension, and Training Sample Size

- Consider two-class multivariate normal distributions  $p(\mathbf{x}|\omega_i) : N(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$  with the same covariance. If priors are equal then Bayesian error rate is given by

$$P(e) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{r/2}^{\infty} e^{-u^2/2} du,$$

where  $r^2$  is the squared Mahalanobis distance:

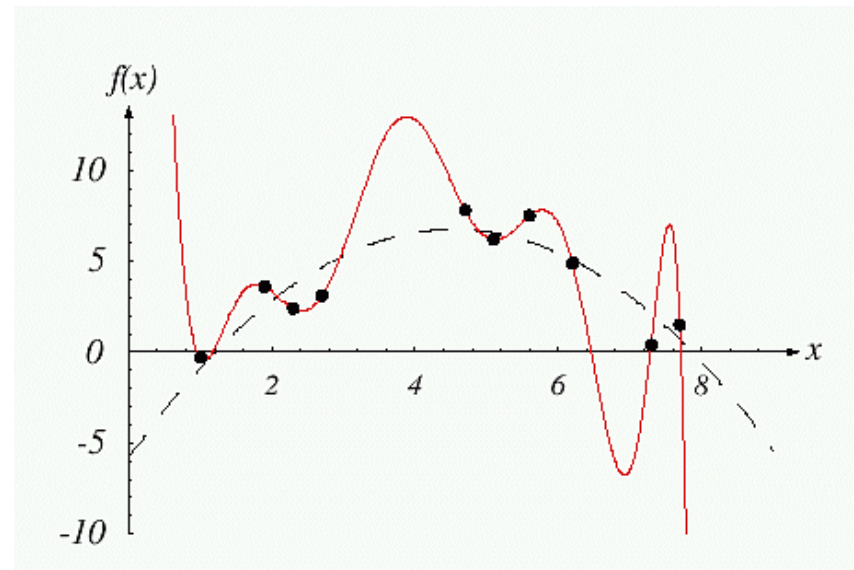
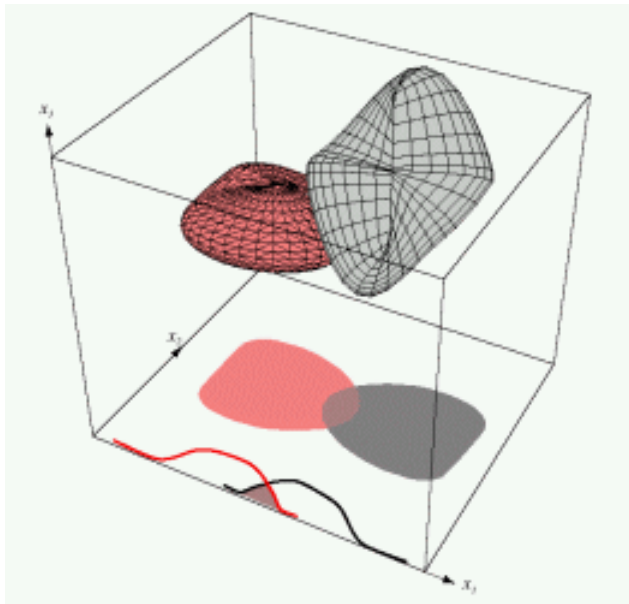
$$r^2 = (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^t \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2).$$

- Thus the probability of error decreases as  $r$  increases. In the conditionally independent case  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \text{diag}(\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_d^2)$  and

$$r^2 = \sum_{i=1}^d \left( \frac{\mu_{i1} - \mu_{i2}}{\sigma_i} \right)^2$$

# Problems of Dimensionality

- While classification accuracy can become better with growing of dimensionality (and an amount of training data),
  - **beyond a certain point, the inclusion of additional features leads to worse rather than better performance**
  - **computational complexity grows**
  - **the problem of overfitting arises**



# Occam's Razor

- "*Pluralitas non est ponenda sine neccesitate*" or "plurality should not be posited without necessity." The words are those of the medieval English philosopher and Franciscan monk William of Occam (ca. 1285-1349).

Decisions based on overly complex models often lead to lower accuracy of the classifier.



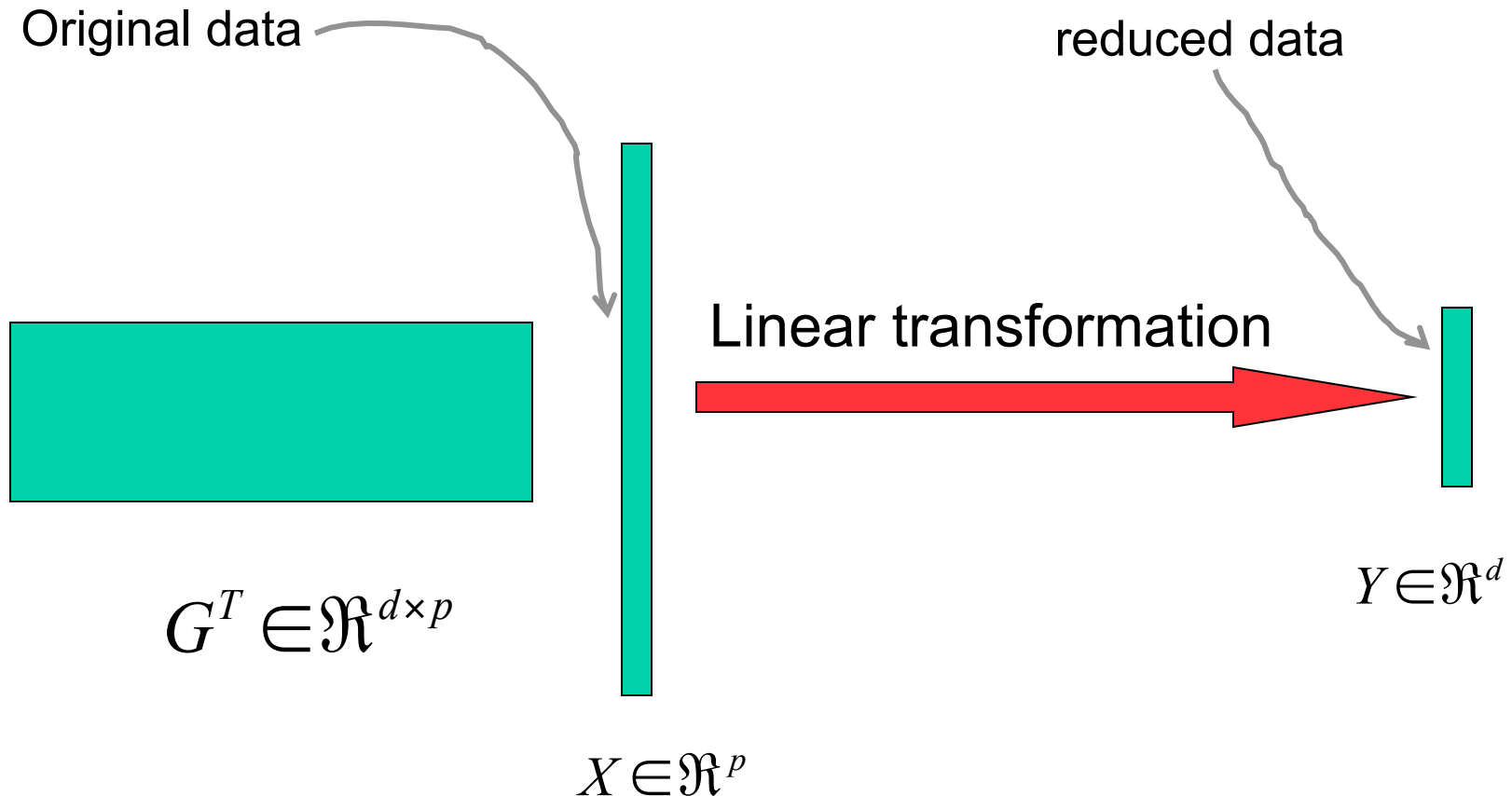
# What is feature reduction?

- Feature reduction refers to the mapping of the original high-dimensional data onto a lower-dimensional space.
  - Criterion for feature reduction can be different based on different problem settings.
    - Unsupervised setting: minimize the information loss
    - Supervised setting: maximize the class discrimination
- Given a set of data points of  $p$  variables  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$

Compute the linear transformation (projection)

$$G \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times d} : x \in \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow y = G^T x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (d \ll p)$$

# What is feature reduction?



$$G \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times d} : X \rightarrow Y = G^T X \in \mathbb{R}^d$$