



Mutual Information Continuous variables

Mutual Information - discrete

$$I(X; Y) = \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p_{(X,Y)}(x, y) \log \left(\frac{p_{(X,Y)}(x, y)}{p_X(x) p_Y(y)} \right)$$

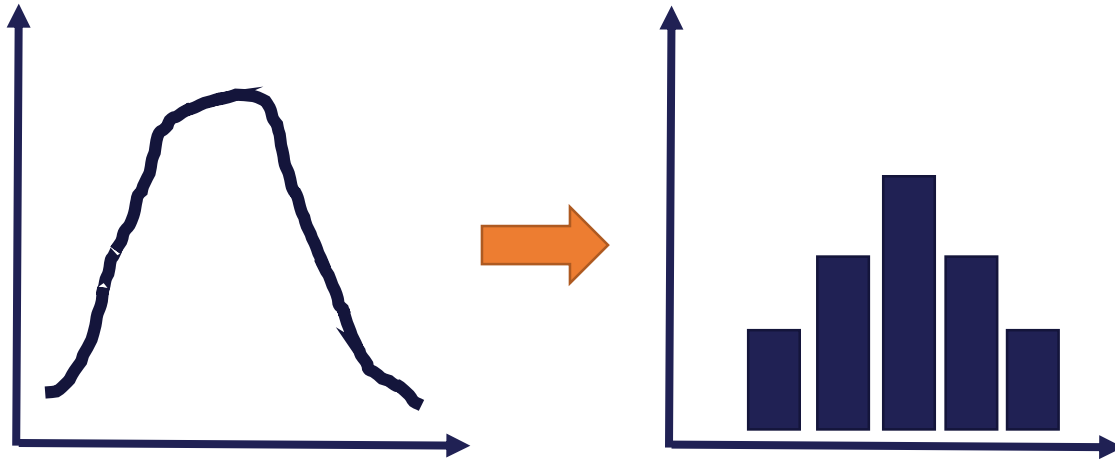
- I is the mutual information
- $p(X,Y)$ is the joint probability of X and Y
- $p(X)$ is the probability of X
- $p(Y)$ is the probability of Y

Mutual Information - continuous

$$I(X, Y) = \int_X \int_Y p(x, y) \log\left(\frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)}\right)$$

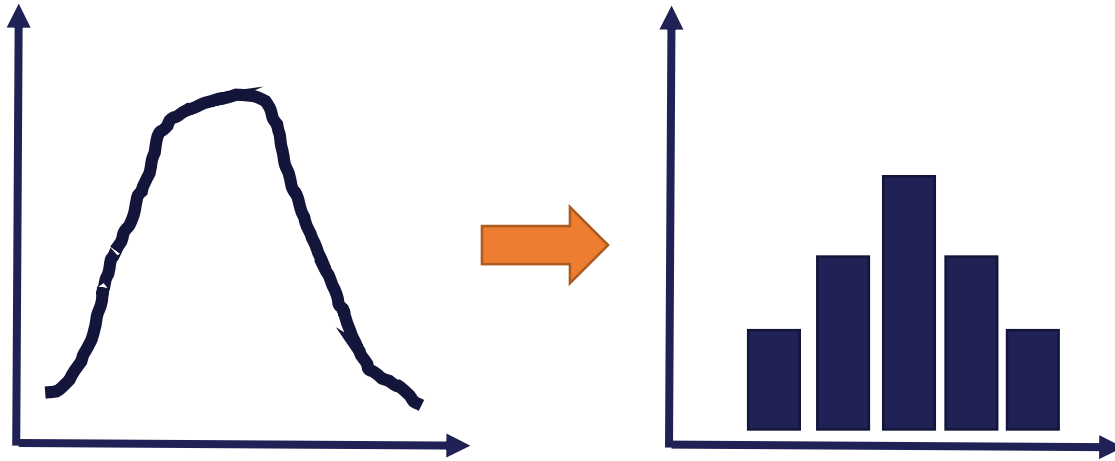
- Replace summation with integrals
- We don't know $p(X)$ and $p(Y)$, so we have to infer them
- How?

Mutual Information - continuous



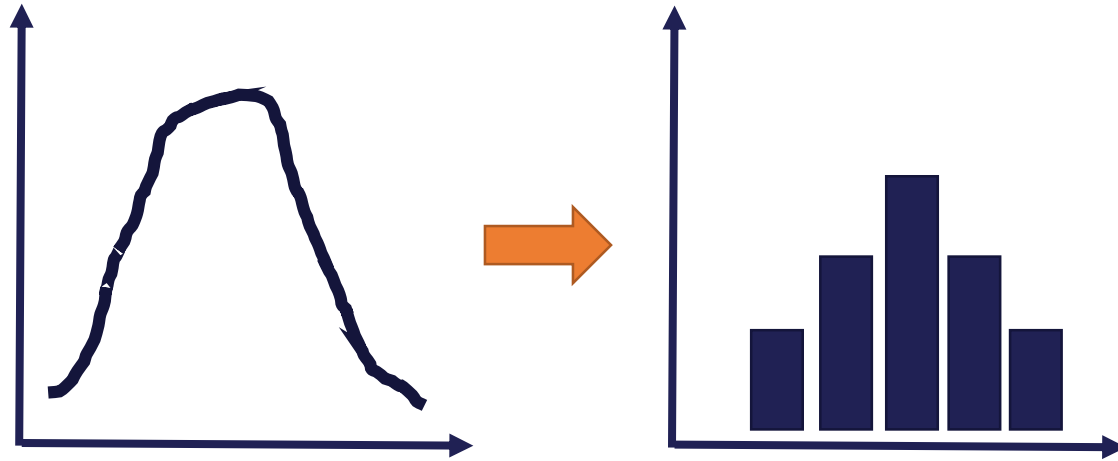
- Discretize the continuous variable and proceed as normal.

Mutual Information - continuous



- Discretize the continuous variable and proceed as normal.
- **Equal width or equal frequency bins?**
- **How many?**

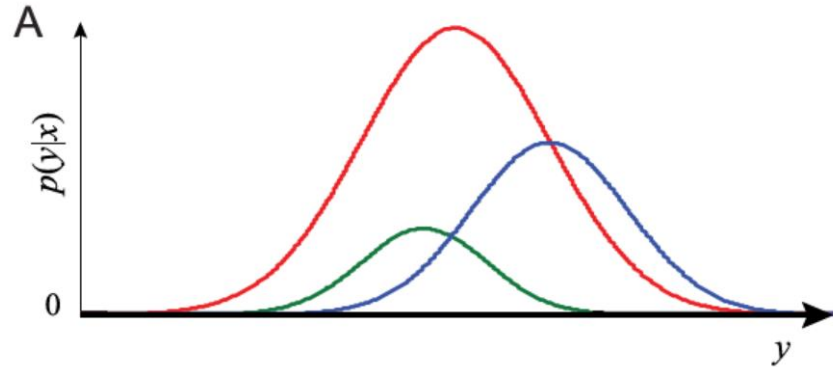
Mutual Information - continuous



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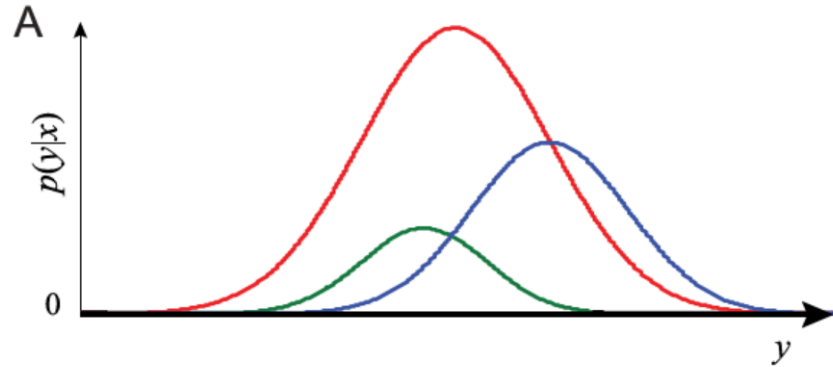
- Not what sklearn does.
- Sklearn uses the KNN approach

Use of KNN to estimate MI



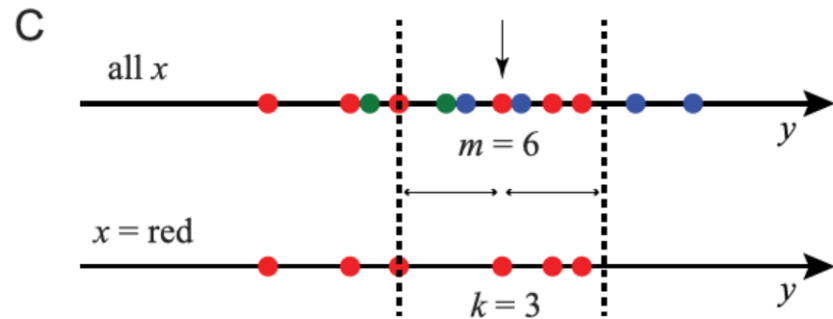
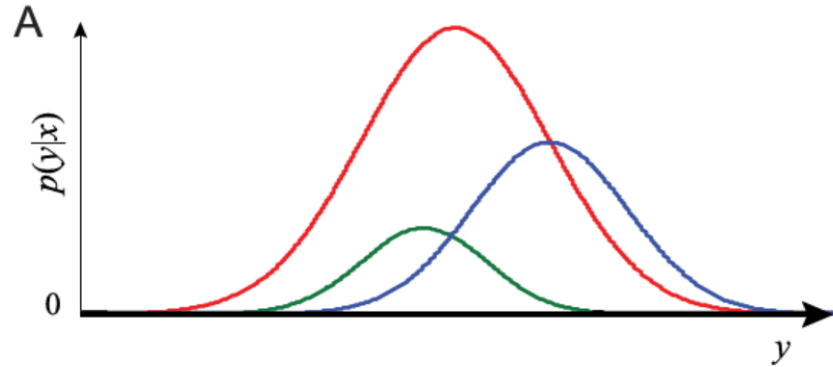
- $Y \rightarrow$ continuous variable (x axis)
- $X \rightarrow$ discrete variables (colours)

Use of KNN to estimate MI



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- Sample at random (**$N=12$**)
- We'll start with red (**$N_i = 6$**)

Use of KNN to estimate MI



- $Y \rightarrow$ continuous variable (x axis)
- $X \rightarrow$ discrete variables (colours)
- Sample at random (**$N=12$**)
- We'll start with red (**$N_i = 6$**)
- Find the k closest friends of one sample (**$k=3$**)
- Find the distance to the furthest neighbour
- Count all samples within that interval (**$mi=6$**)

Use of KNN to estimate MI

$$I_i = \psi(N) - \psi(N_{xi}) + \psi(k) - \psi(m_i)$$

ψ is the digamma function

To estimate the MI from the data set, we average I_i over all data points.

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Use of KNN to estimate MI

- KNN method has been shown to give more accurate values of MI
- For 2 continuous variables, the closest neighbours are sampled within a “radius” of the observation being examined.

THANK YOU

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