



Bayesian Learning

- Machine Learning by Mitchell-Chp. 6
 - Ethem Chp. 3 (Skip 3.6)
- Pattern Recognition & Machine Learning by Bishop Chp. 1
 - (Pics mostly from the Bishop book)

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 - last edited March 2025

1. **We have used binary/categorical attributes in the PlayTennis example, what about real-valued attributes?**
 - E.g if temperature was a continuous variable
 - We will see that we can use Naïve Bayes with continuous attributes or a mix of attribute types
2. **How do we estimate the class conditional probabilities $P(X_i | C_j)$ in general?**
 - We have estimated $P(\text{Outlook} = \text{Sunny} | \text{Play} = \text{Yes})$ by counting the number of Sunny days and dividing by all days in $\text{Play} = \text{Yes}$ class.
 - We will learn about **Maximum Likelihood Estimation approach**

Slides thanks to Oznur Tastan

Naïve Bayes Classifier with a Single Continuous Attribute

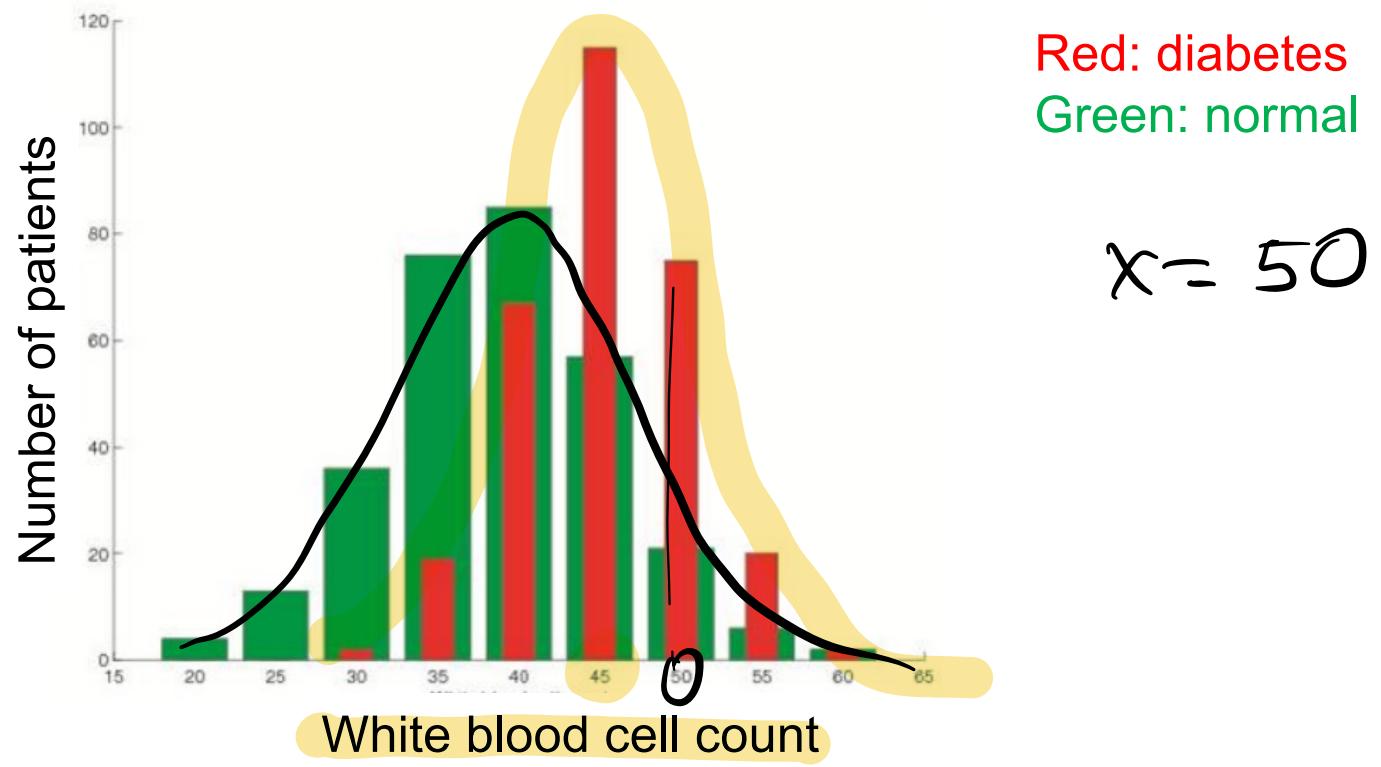
Bayes Classifier

- Aim to classify if a patient has diabetes, classify into one of two classes (yes $Y = 1$; no $Y = 0$)
- Conduct several tests on the patient and got X
- Given patient's result X , compute the posterior probability using Bayes Rule

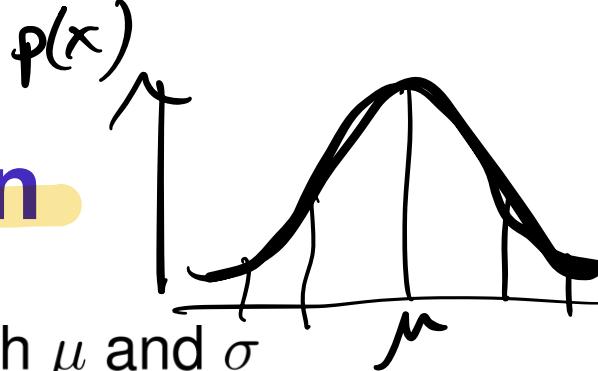
$$\mathbf{P}(Y | X) = \frac{\mathbf{P}(X | Y)\mathbf{P}(Y)}{\mathbf{P}(X)} \frac{\text{Evidence}}{\text{Class likelihood Class priors}}$$

Classification: Diabetes Example

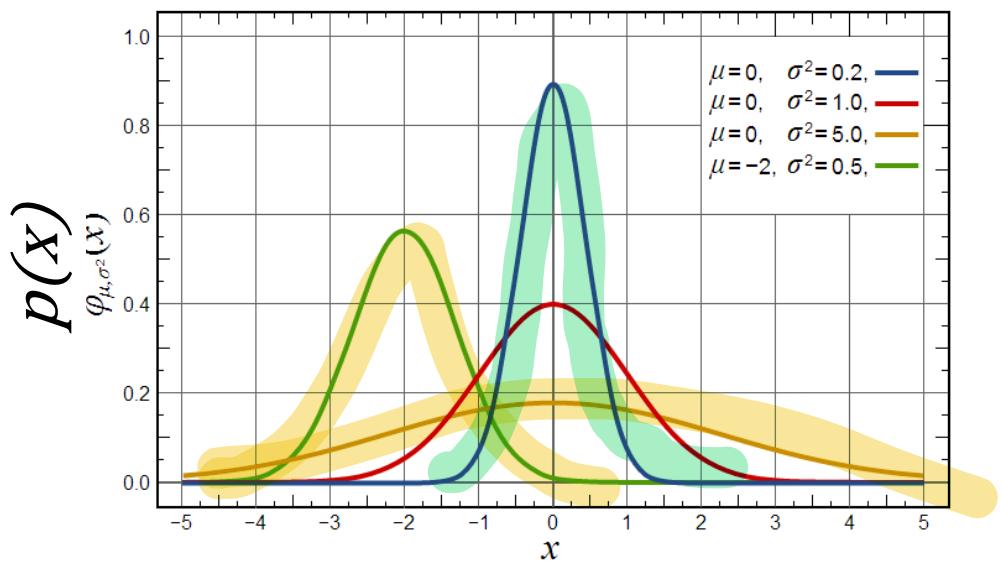
- Let's start with the simplest case where the input is 1-dimensional, only one feature
- We need to choose a probability distribution for the $P(X | Y)$



Gaussian(Normal) Distribution



- The probability density function parameterized with μ and σ
$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma} \right)^2}$$
- The probability that X will fall into the interval (a, b) is given by
$$\int_a^b p(x) dx$$
- Expected, or mean value of X , $E[X]$
$$E[X] = \mu$$
- Variance of X is
$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2$$



Gaussian Bayes Classifier

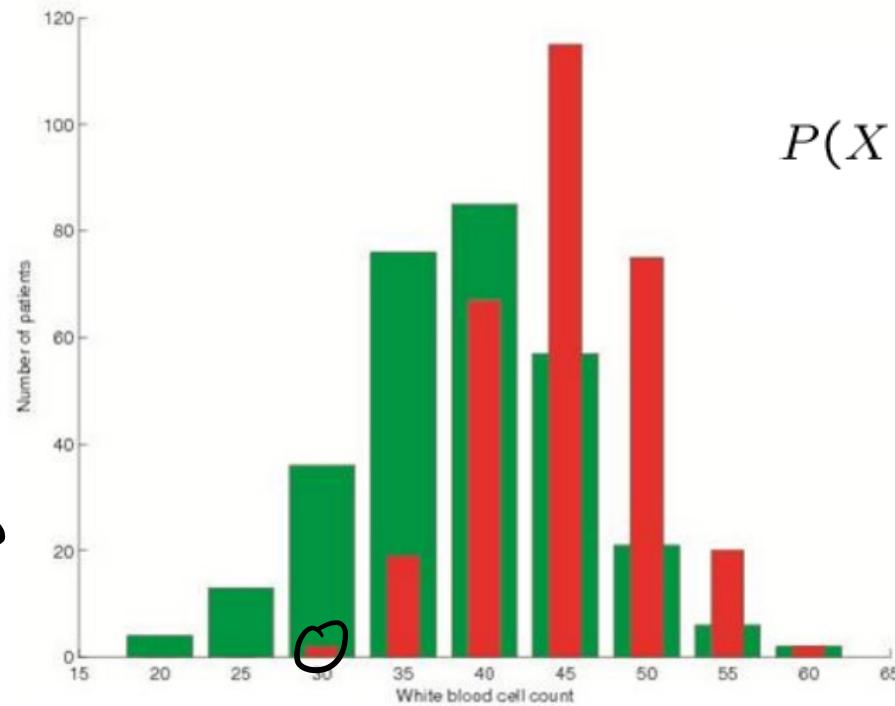
- Assume the white blood cell count is **normally distributed**.

$$P(X = x | Y = y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_y^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu_y)^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)$$
$$e^{-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- Notice we assume a **different Gaussian for each class**
- These are **class conditional** Gaussians

Fitting Gaussians to the Data

- How can I fit a Gaussian distribution to my data?



$$P(X = x|Y = y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_y^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu_y)^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)$$

$$\mu_{\text{diabetes}} = ?$$

$$\sigma_{\text{diabetes}} = ?$$

• ~~20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65~~

|
x 30 diabetic (red)
x 35 " "
x 35 " "
x 35 " "

x 35 healthy (-)

MLE for Gausians

- We will estimate the parameters of a Gaussian distribution using the **Maximum Likelihood Estimation** (in later slides):

MLE estimates of parameters for a Gaussian distribution:

$$\mu_{\text{MLE}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x^{(n)}$$

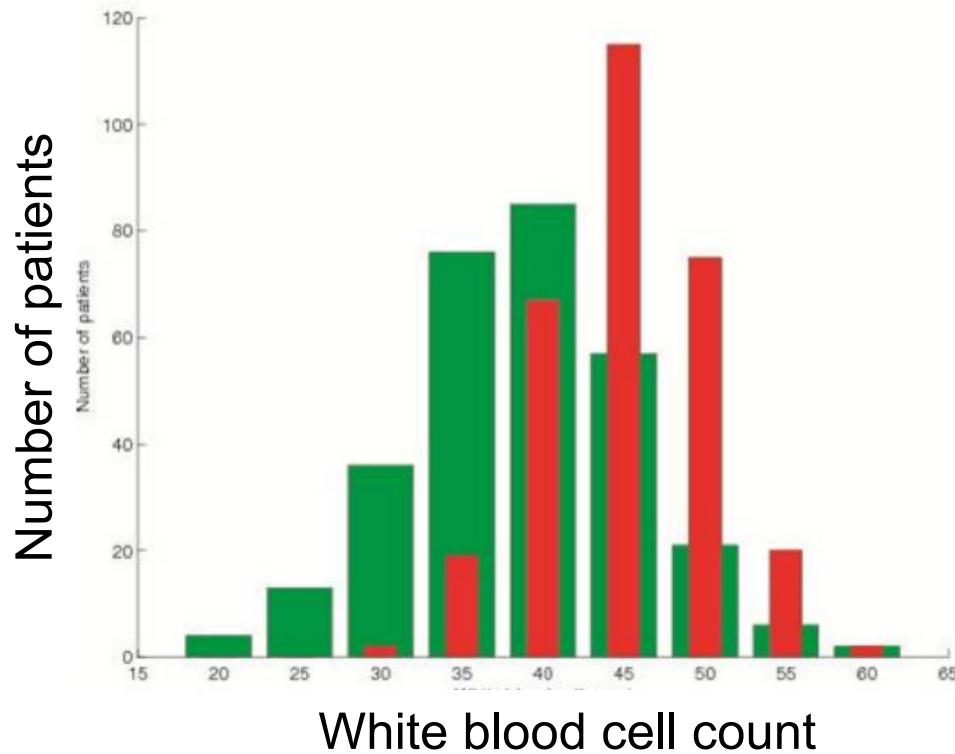
// sum all $x^{(n)}$ & divide by N

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (x^{(n)} - \mu)^2$$

*N samples in
red class*

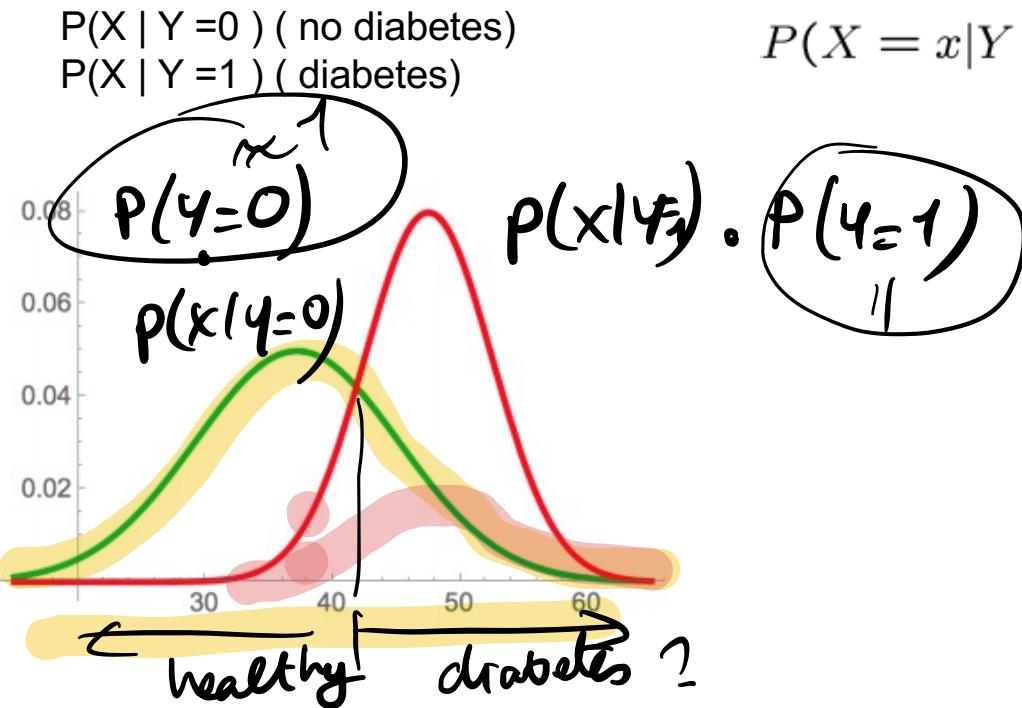
Diabetes Example – NB Classification

Slide adapted from R. Urtasun



- Doctor has a prior $p(Y = 0) = 0.8$
- A new patient comes in, the doctor measures $X = 48$
- Does the patient have diabetes?

Bayes Classifier



$$P(X = x | Y = y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_y^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu_y)^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)$$

- Compute $P(X = 48 | Y = 0)$ and $P(X = 48 | Y = 1)$ via the estimated **class conditional Gaussian distributions**
- Compute posteriors $P(Y = 0 | X = 48)$ and $P(Y = 1 | X = 48)$ via **Bayes rule**.
- Choose the class with maximum posterior

$$1a) \nabla = [2x-5, 2y]$$

$$\nabla \parallel_{(1,1)} = [-3 \quad 2] -$$

$$P_1 = \frac{P_0 - 0.1}{\nabla_{(1,1)}}$$

$$b) \nabla = \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \phi \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$$

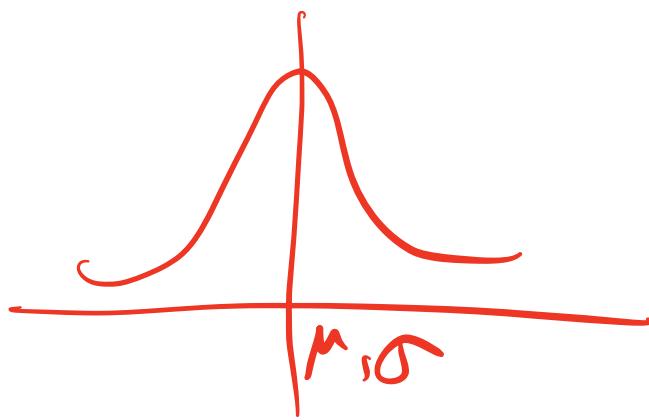
$P(C_i | x)$

- NBayes -

Discrete

$x =$

Cts $x =$



$N(x | \mu_i, \sigma_i)$
||
 $P(x | C_i)$

$P(C_i) \cdot P(x | C_i)$

Cts x_i 's

$\prod_{d=1}^k P(x_d | C_i)$

Naïve Bayes Classifier with Multiple Continuous Attributes

$$P(X | C_i)$$

$$C_i =$$

$$P(\cdot)$$

$$P(\#)$$

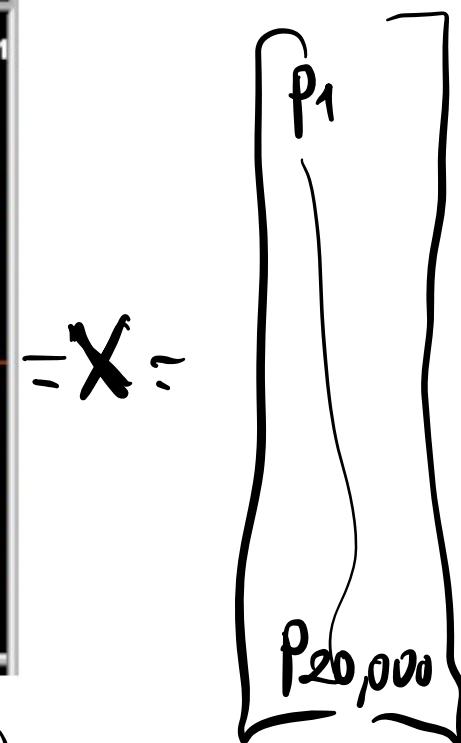
Multiple Continuous Features

Understanding cognitive function from images of neuronal activity (real number) from 20,000 locations in the brain.

- Is the person reading a sentence or viewing a picture?
- Reading the word “Knife” or “Apartment”?
- Viewing a vertical or horizontal line?

$$P(p_1 = 230, p_2 = 50 | P) \approx P(p_1 = 230 | P) x P(p_2 = 50 | P)$$

$$P(Yes) \quad P(No)$$



[Related Video](#) (experiment done at CMU by T. Mitchell)

X_i s are Continuous

- Naïve Bayes model:

We just need to model this:

$$P(Y = y | X_1, \dots, X_n) = \frac{P(Y=y) \prod_i P(X_i | Y=y)}{\sum_j P(Y=y_j) \prod_i P(X_i | Y=y_j)}$$

X_i 's are Continuous

- We can still use the Naïve Bayes model

We just need to model this



$$P(Y = y | X_1, \dots, X_n) = \frac{P(Y=y) \prod_i P(X_i | Y=y)}{\sum_j P(Y=y_j) \prod_i P(X_i | Y=y_j)}$$

- Common approach: assume $P(X_i | Y = y_k)$ follows a **Gaussian (Normal) distribution**

$$P(X_i = x | Y = y_k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{ik}^2}} \exp^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x - \mu_{ik}}{\sigma_{ik}} \right)^2}$$

Gaussian Naïve Bayes

- Gausian Naive Bayes assume:

$$P(X_i = x | Y = y_k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{ik}^2}} \exp^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x - \mu_{ik}}{\sigma_{ik}} \right)^2}$$

Gaussian Naïve Bayes

- Train Naïve Bayes (examples)
 - for each value y_k estimate $\pi_k \equiv P(Y = y_k)$
 - for each attribute X_i estimate $P(X_i|Y = y_k)$
 - conditional mean μ_{ik} , variance σ_{ik}
- Classify (X^{new})
$$Y^{new} \leftarrow \arg \max_{y_k} P(Y = y_k) \prod_i P(X_i^{new}|Y = y_k)$$
$$Y^{new} \leftarrow \arg \max_{y_k} \pi_k \prod_i \mathcal{N}(X_i^{new}; \mu_{ik}, \sigma_{ik})$$

$x \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\rho)$

$\rho: 0.8$ for Heads

$\rho: 0.5$ for Tails

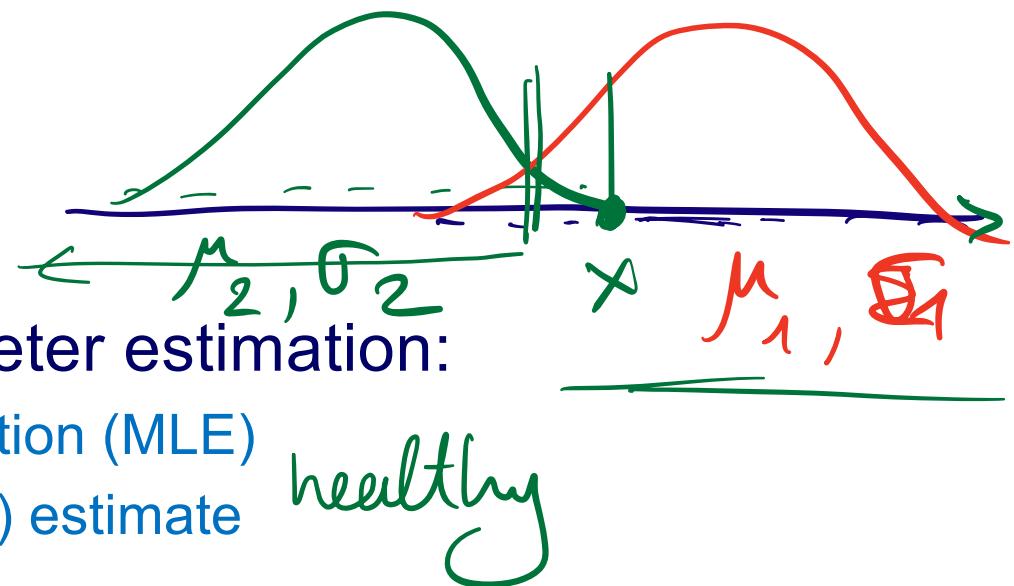
HTHTHTHHHHHH

Find ρ that
Maximizes the
likelihood of the
observed data.

$$\text{Likelihood}(\rho) = \prod \rho^H \cdot (1-\rho)^T$$

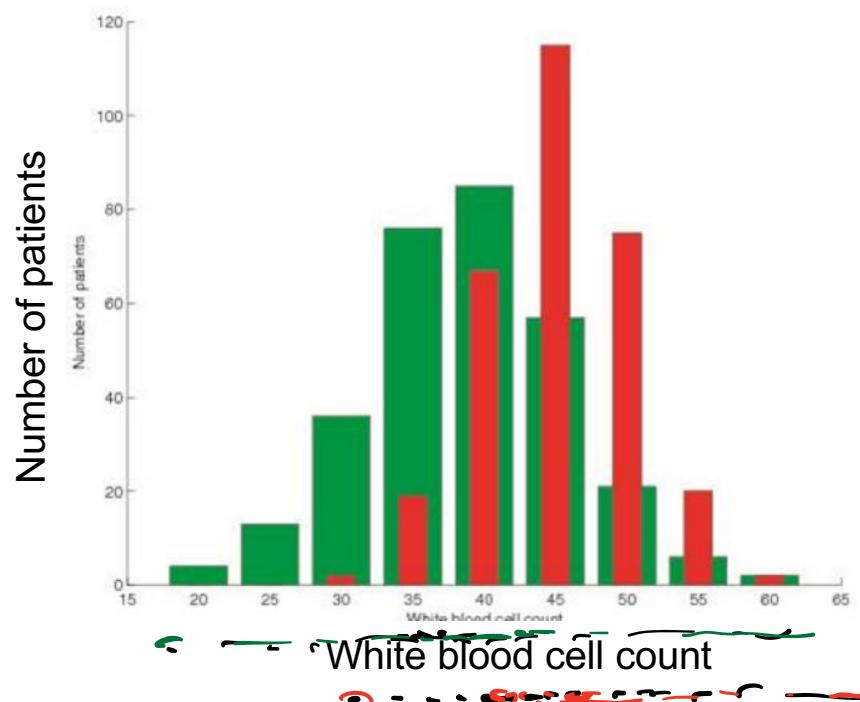
H: 1
T: 0

**Maximum Likelihood Estimate for
1D-Gaussian distributions**



Two approaches in parameter estimation:

- Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)
- Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) estimate



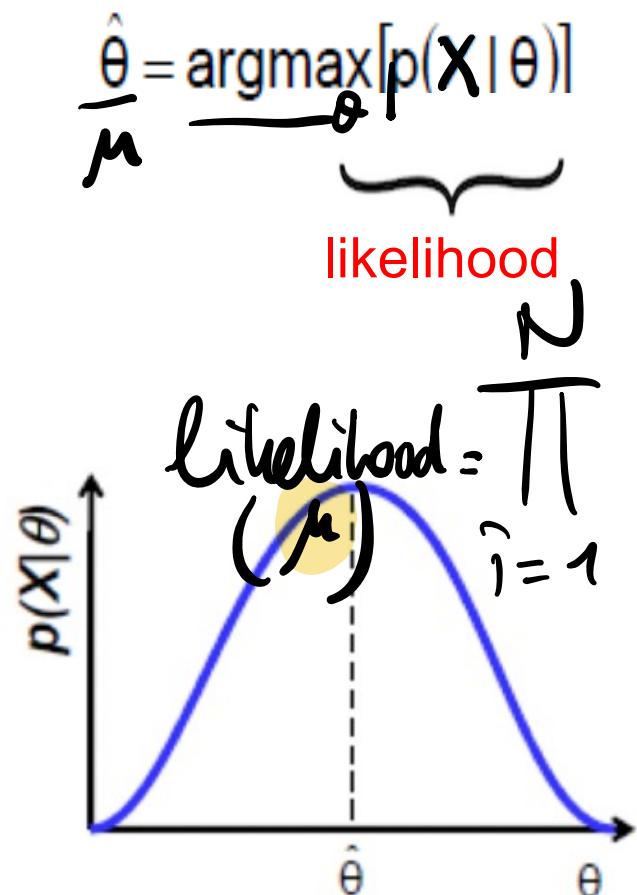
Intuition: A mean of 90 when the red data is centered around 45 is possible, but unlikely.

Task is find μ_1, σ_1
 μ_2, σ_2
estimates.
→ MLE

Maximum Likelihood

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- The Maximum Likelihood (ML) solution seeks the solution that best explains the dataset X



$p(x)$: density

$$\mu = 110$$

$$\mu = 40$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \cdot e^{-\left(\frac{x^{(i)} - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^2} \right)$$

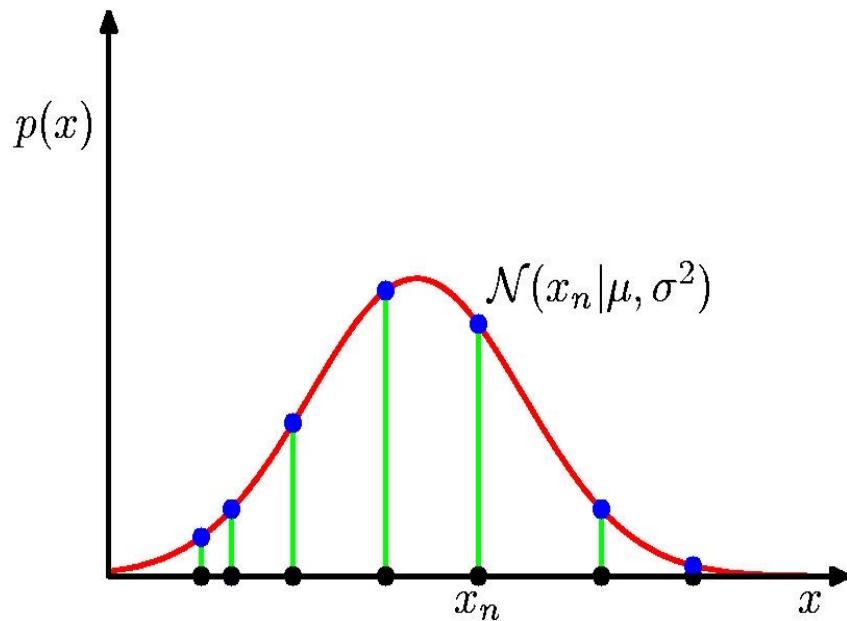
$$P(X \neq 0)$$

$P(\delta | \theta)$: function of θ .
likelihood -

Maximum Likelihood Estimation for 1D Gaussian Distribution

Given N data points $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$, where x_i is assumed to be normally distributed, the **Maximum Likelihood Estimation** tries to **find the parameters μ and σ that maximizes the probability of seeing the observed data with the given parameters (likelihood)**.

- need to **write the probability of the data for assumed μ and σ**
- find the values of μ and σ maximizing this probability.



all data

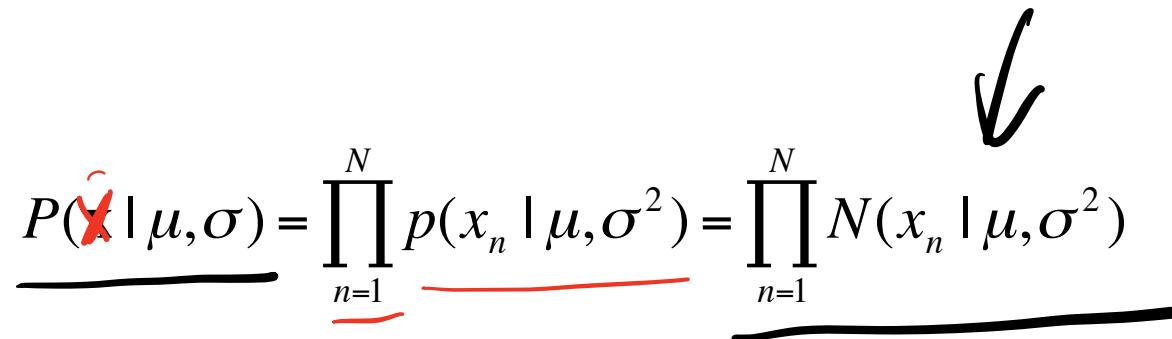
$$p(\mathbf{x} | \mu, \sigma^2) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(x_n | \mu, \sigma^2)$$

Assuming iid data

To **maximize or minimize a function** w.r.t (with respect to) some parameters,

- **we need to take the derivative of the function w.r.t the parameter and set to 0** (because the min or max of a function is a local minima/maxima)
- **solve for the unknown parameter.**

Here we maximize:

$$\underline{P(\cancel{x} \mid \mu, \sigma)} = \prod_{n=1}^N p(x_n \mid \mu, \sigma^2) = \prod_{n=1}^N N(x_n \mid \mu, \sigma^2)$$


This is a topic called **parameter estimation** – Ethem Chapter 4 and other books. We will cover only the necessary parts in these slides.

- In fact, we will maximize log of that:

Find parameters μ and σ that maximizes $\log P(\mathbf{x} | \mu, \sigma)$

- If we plot the likelihood as a function of a parameter θ (e.g. μ or σ)

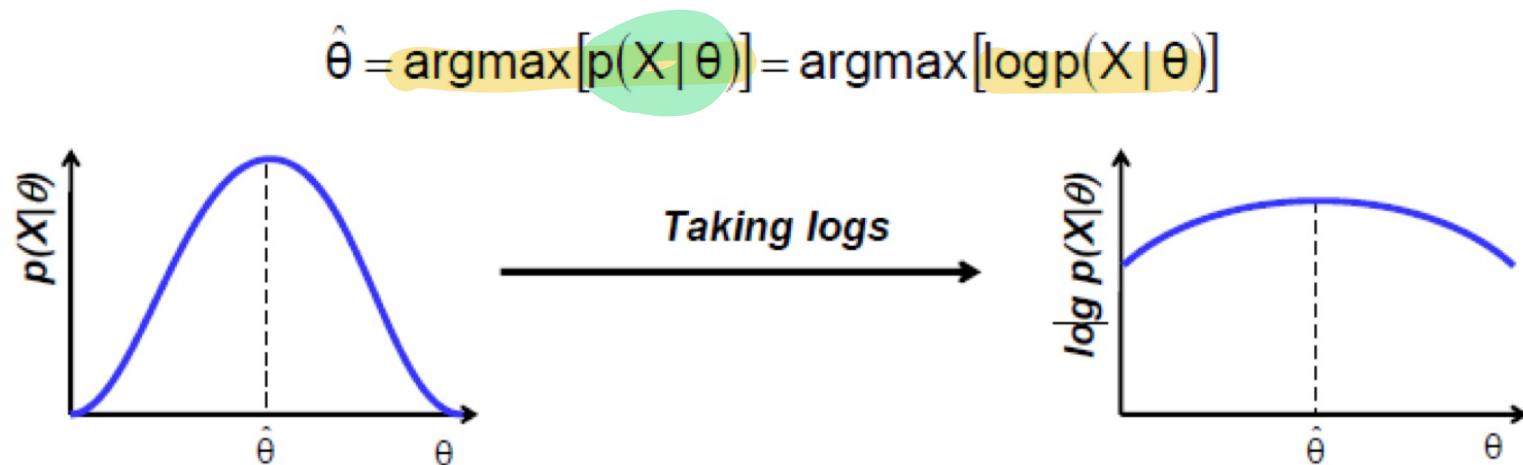


Image credit: Gutierrez-Osuna

$$\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \cdot \sum_{n=1}^N x_n - \sum_{n=1}^N \mu = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N x_n = N \cdot \mu$$

μ_{ML} which maximizes the top line will also maximize ...

$$\Rightarrow \mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

N : # of data pts

$$= \left(\sum \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} + \sum \frac{(x_n - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \log \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left(-\frac{(x_n - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ \log \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_n - \mu)^2 \right\}$$

$$= \sum \log \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right) - \sum \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_n - \mu)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \left(\dots \right)}{\partial \mu} = 0 + \sum \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \cdot 2(x_n - \mu) \cdot 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \cdot (\sum x_n - \sum \mu) = 0$$

Taking the derivative with respect to μ and setting to 0, we see that the first term does not contribute and from the second term we find the μ as the sample mean.

$$\frac{\partial \log P(\mathbf{x}|\mu, s^2)}{\partial \mu} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N \left\{ \log \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_n - \mu)^2 \right\}$$

- shown on prev. slide
- try to replicate yourself -

- If we have some prior belief about the possible values of the parameters, then we can use **Maximum a Posteriori (MAP)** estimate.

- **Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE)**: choose θ that maximizes probability of observed data \mathcal{D}

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} P(\mathcal{D} | \theta)$$

- **Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) estimate**: choose θ that is most probable given prior probability and the data

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\theta} &= \arg \max_{\theta} P(\theta | \mathcal{D}) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} = \frac{P(\mathcal{D} | \theta)P(\theta)}{P(\mathcal{D})}\end{aligned}$$

- MAP estimate will not be covered in more details in this course; but know the difference between the two estimates.