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# **EECS 545 - Machine Learning Review Session 3: Probability**

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# Outline

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- Terminology, Law of Total Probability
- Conditional probability, Independence, Bayes' rule
- Maximum likelihood, Maximum a posteriori
- MLE and MAP estimation for 1D Gaussian
- Expectations and Variances
- Distributions

# Probability

- The world is full of uncertainty

Probability of Wolverines beat Spartans in 2021?  $P(W_{2021})$

Probability of rain tomorrow?  $P(R_{tom})$

$P(W_{2021}|W_{2020})$

We beat Spartans (2020). Probability of Wolverines beat Spartans in 2021?

The weather is rainy today. Probability of rain tomorrow?  $P(R_{tom}|R_{today})$

- Probability is a tool to represent uncertainty
- We build models to estimate the uncertainty using probability

$P_{model}(W_{2021})$

# Terminology

Name	What it is	Common Symbols	What it means
Sample Space	Set	$\Omega, S$	"Possible outcomes."
Event Space	Collection of subsets	$\mathcal{F}, E$	"The things that have probabilities.."
Probability Measure	Measure	$P, \pi$	Assigns probabilities to events.
Probability Space	A triple	$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$	

Remarks: may consider the event space to be the power set of the sample space (for a discrete sample space - more later). e.g., rolling a fair die:

$$\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

$$\mathcal{F} = 2^{\Omega} = \{\{1\}, \{2\} \dots \{1, 2\} \dots \{1, 2, 3\} \dots \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, \{\}\}$$

$$P(\{1\}) = P(\{2\}) = \dots = \frac{1}{6} \text{ (i.e., a fair die)}$$

$$P(\{1, 3, 5\}) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (i.e., half chance of odd result)}$$

$$P(\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}) = 1 \text{ (i.e., result is "almost surely" one of the faces).}$$

# Law of Total Probability

- $P(A) \geq 0, \forall A \in \mathcal{F}$
- $P(\Omega) = 1$
- Law of total probability

$$P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c)$$

$$P(A) = \sum_i P(A \cap B_i) \quad \text{Discrete } B_i$$

$$P(A) = \int P(A \cap B_i) dB_i \quad \text{Continuous } B_i$$

# Conditional Probability

For events  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $P(B) > 0$ , we may write the **conditional probability of A given B**:

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

└→ probability of A given B is true

$P(A, B)$  Joint probability of A and B  
 $P(A)$  Marginal probability of A

Suppose we throw a fair die:

$\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = 2^\Omega$ ,  $P(\{i\}) = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $i = 1 \dots 6$

$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  i.e., “result is less than 5,”

$B = \{1, 3, 5\}$  i.e., “result is odd.”

What is the probability of A given B?

Probability of B given A?

# Conditional Probability

Suppose we throw a fair die:

$$\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, \mathcal{F} = 2^\Omega, P(\{i\}) = \frac{1}{6}, i = 1 \dots 6$$

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \text{ i.e., "result is less than 5,"}$$

$$B = \{1, 3, 5\} \text{ i.e., "result is odd."}$$

What is the probability of A given B?

Probability of B given A?

$$\begin{array}{llll} P(A) & = & \frac{2}{3} & \\ P(B) & = & \frac{1}{2} & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} P(A|B) & = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \\ & = \frac{P(\{1, 3\})}{P(B)} \\ & = \frac{2}{3} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} P(B|A) & = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(A)} \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$$

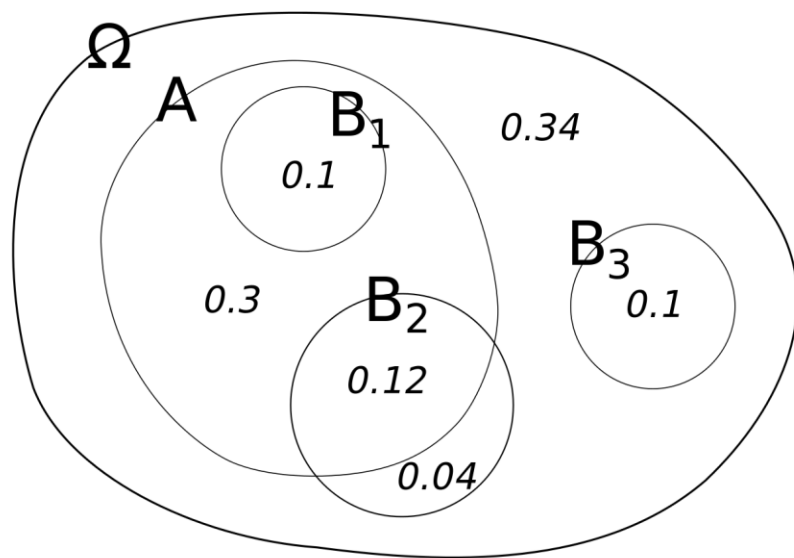
# Conditional Probability

For events  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $P(B) > 0$ , we may write the **conditional probability of A given B**:

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

$P(A, B)$  Joint probability of A and B

$P(A)$  Marginal probability of A



## From Wikipedia

$$P(A | B_1) = 1$$

$$P(A|B_2) = 0.12 \div (0.12 + 0.04) = 0.75$$

$$P(A|B_3) = 0 \text{ (disjoint)}$$

$$B_4 = (B_1 \cup B_2 \cup B_3)^c$$

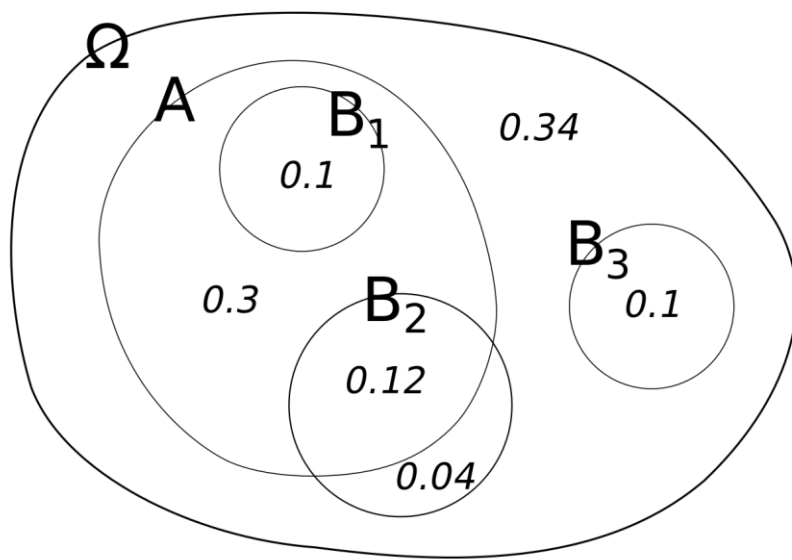
$$P(A, B_4) = 0.3$$



# Conditional Probability w Law of Total Prob

For events  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $P(B) > 0$ , we may write the **conditional probability of A given B**:

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \quad \& \quad P(A) = \sum_i P(A \cap B_i)$$



$P(A)$  (The unconditional probability)

$$= P(A, B_1) + P(A, B_2) + P(A, B_3) + P(A, B_4)$$

$$= P(A|B_1)P(B_1) + P(A|B_2)P(B_2)$$

$$+ P(A|B_3)P(B_3) + P(A|B_4)P(B_4)$$

$$= 0.52$$

# Independence

Two events  $A, B$  are called **independent** if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ .

When  $P(A) > 0$  this may be written  $P(B|A) = P(B)$  (why?)

e.g., rolling two dice, flipping  $n$  coins etc.

Two events  $A, B$  are called **conditionally independent given  $C$**  when  $P(A \cap B|C) = P(A|C)P(B|C)$ .

When  $P(A) > 0$  we may write  $P(B|A, C) = P(B|C)$

e.g., “the weather tomorrow is independent of the weather yesterday, knowing the weather today.”

Independence  $\rightarrow$  Conditional Independence ?

Conditional Independence  $\rightarrow$  Independence ?

# Conditional Probability & Independence

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

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

If A, B are conditionally independent given C:

$$P(A, B|C) = P(A|C)P(B|C)$$

# Chain Rule and Independence

**Chain rule:** From the definition of conditional probabilities, one can show that

$$\begin{aligned} p(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}) &= p(x^{(N)} | x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N-1)}) p(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N-1)}) \\ &= p(x^{(N)} | x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N-1)}) p(x^{(N-1)} | x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N-2)}) p(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N-2)}) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^N p(x^{(i)} | x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(i-1)}) \end{aligned}$$

Random variables  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$  are **independent** if and only if

$$p(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}) = p(x^{(1)}) p(x^{(2)}) \cdots p(x^{(N)})$$

# Lecture 3: Linear Regression Revisited

Linear regression modeled using gaussian distribution:

$$y^{(n)} = \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + \epsilon$$

$$p(y^{(n)} | \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \mathbf{w}, \beta) = \mathcal{N}(y^{(n)} | \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \beta^{-1})$$

We quickly went over:

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(y^{(1)}, y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(N)} | \Phi, \mathbf{w}, \beta) \\ = \log \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y^{(n)} | \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \beta^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Detailed derivation:

$$\begin{aligned} & p(y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(N)} | \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) \quad \text{Using Chain Rule} \\ &= p(y^{(N)} | y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(N-1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) p(y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(N-1)} | \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^N p(y^{(n)} | y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(n-1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^N p(y^{(n)} | \mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y^{(n)} | \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \beta^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

# Bayes' Theorem

Using the chain rule we may see:

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

Rearranging this yields **Bayes' rule**:

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

Often this is written as:

$$P(B_i|A) = \frac{P(A|B_i)P(B_i)}{\sum_i P(A|B_i)P(B_i)}$$

Where  $B_i$  are a partition of  $\Omega$  (note the bottom is just the law of total probability).

# Bayes' Theorem, Example

- Marie is getting married tomorrow at an outdoor ceremony in the desert. In recent years, it has rained only 5 days each year. Unfortunately, the weatherman is forecasting rain for tomorrow. When it actually rains, the weatherman has forecast rain 90% of the time. When it doesn't rain, he has forecast rain 10% of the time. What is the probability it will rain on the day of Marie's wedding?
- Event  $A$ : The weatherman has forecast rain.
- Event  $B$ : It rains.
- We want to know  $p(B | A)$ , the probability it will rain on the day of Marie's wedding, given a forecast for rain by the weatherman. The answer can be determined from Bayes rule:

# Bayes' Theorem, Example

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- Event  $A$ : The weatherman has forecast rain.
- Event  $B$ : It rains.
- We know:
  - $p(B) = 5 / 365 = 0.0137$  [ It rains 5 days out of the year. ]
  - $p(\text{not } B) = 360 / 365 = 0.9863$
  - $p(A | B) = 0.9$  [ When it rains, the weatherman has forecast rain 90% of the time. ]
  - $p(A | \text{not } B) = 0.1$  [When it does not rain, the weatherman has forecast rain 10% of the time.]



# Bayes' Theorem, Example

- We know:
  - $p(B) = 5 / 365 = 0.0137$  [ It rains 5 days out of the year. ]
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What we would like to compute using Bayes' Rule:

1.  $p(B | A) = p(A | B) \cdot p(B) / p(A)$

Obtain  $P(A)$  using Law of Total Probability:

2.  $p(A) = p(A | B) \cdot p(B) + p(A | \text{not } B) \cdot p(\text{not } B) =$   
 $(0.9)(0.014) + (0.1)(0.986) = 0.111$

3.  $p(B | A) = (0.9)(0.0137) / 0.111 = 0.111$

# Bayes' Theorem in Learning

- Why is Bayes' so useful in learning? Allows us to compute the posterior of  $w$  given data  $D$ :

$$\text{Posterior } p(w|D) = \frac{\text{Likelihood } p(D|w) \text{ Prior } p(w)}{p(D)}$$

$p(D) = \int p(D|w)p(w)dw$

- Bayes' rule in words: posterior  $\propto$  likelihood  $\times$  prior

$$p(\mathbf{w}|D) \propto p(D|\mathbf{w})p(\mathbf{w})$$

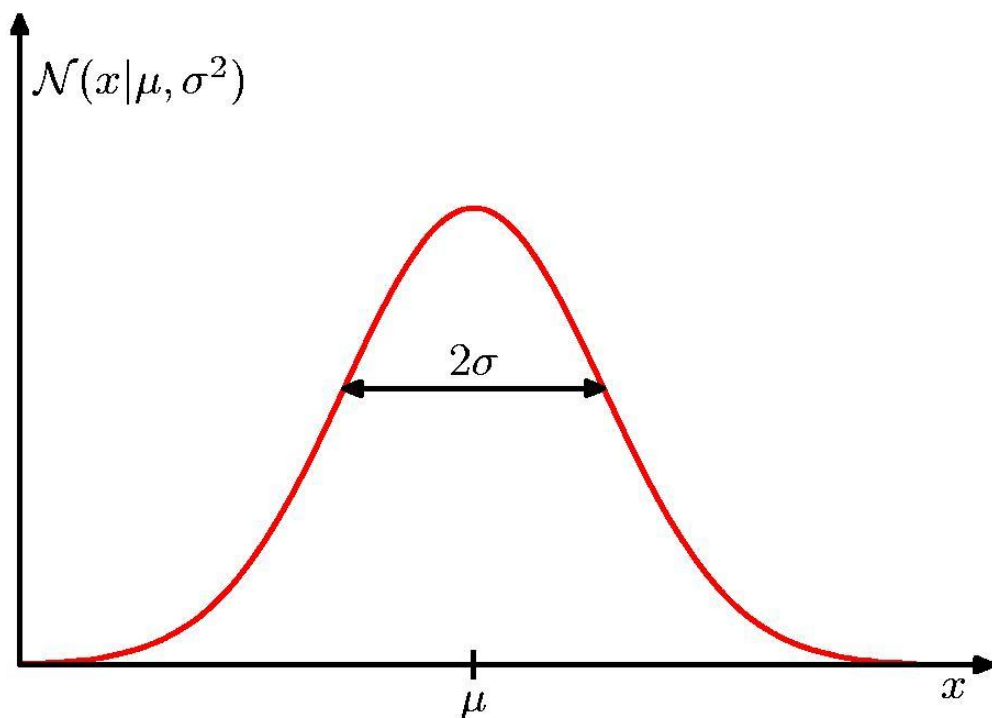
- The likelihood function,  $p(D|w)$ , is evaluated for observed data  $D$  as a function of  $w$ . It expresses how probable the observed data set is for various parameter settings  $w$ .

# Maximum Likelihood vs Maximum A Posteriori

- Maximum likelihood:
  - choose parameter setting  $w$  that maximizes likelihood function  $p(D|w)$ .
  - Choose the value of  $w$  that maximizes the probability of observed data.
- Cf. MAP (Maximum a posteriori) estimation
  - Equivalent to maximizing  $P(w|D) \propto P(D|w)P(w)$
  - Can compute this using Bayes rule!
  - This will be covered in later lectures

# Gaussian Distribution

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



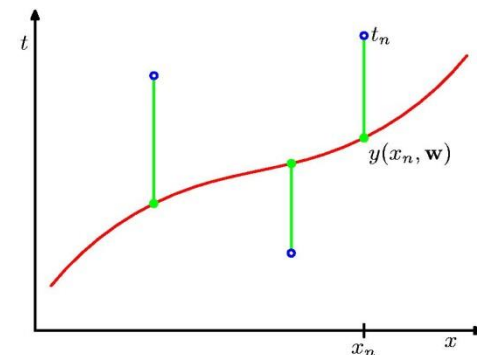
$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) > 0$$

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

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) for Linear Regression

- Assume a stochastic model:

$$y^{(n)} = \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) + \epsilon \text{ where } \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \beta^{-1})$$



- This gives a likelihood function:

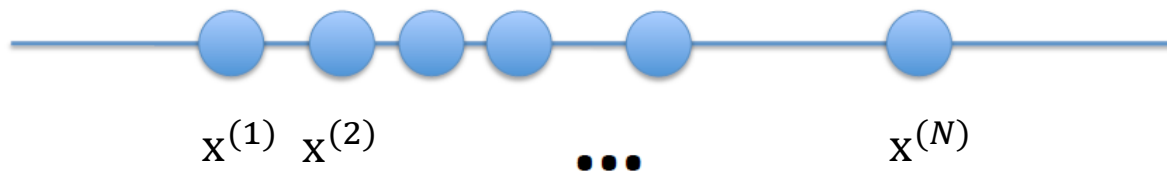
$$p(y^{(n)} | \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \mathbf{w}, \beta) = \mathcal{N}(y^{(n)} | \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \beta^{-1})$$

- With input matrix  $\Phi$  and output matrix  $\mathbf{y}$ , the data likelihood is:

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \Phi, \mathbf{w}, \beta) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y^{(n)} | \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \beta^{-1})$$
$$p(D | \mathbf{w})_{\text{likelihood}} \quad \log p(\mathbf{y} | \Phi, \mathbf{w}, \beta) = N \log \beta - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \beta E_D(\mathbf{w})$$

# MLE for 1D Gaussian

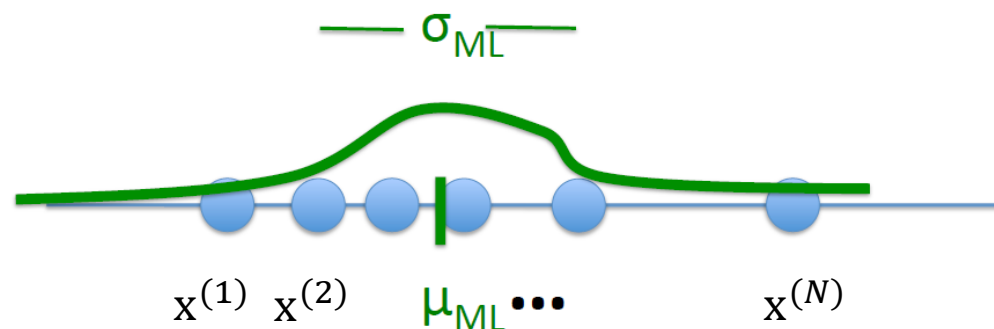
- Problem: Suppose we are given a data set of samples of a Gaussian random variable  $X$ ,  $D = \{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}\}$  and told that the variance of the data is  $\sigma^2$



- What we want to get:
  - $\mu$  that best fits the data points
  - $\mu$  that maximizes the probability  $p(D|\mu)$

# MLE for 1D Gaussian

- What we want to get:  
 $\mu$  that maximizes the probability  $p(D|\mu)$



## Maximum Likelihood

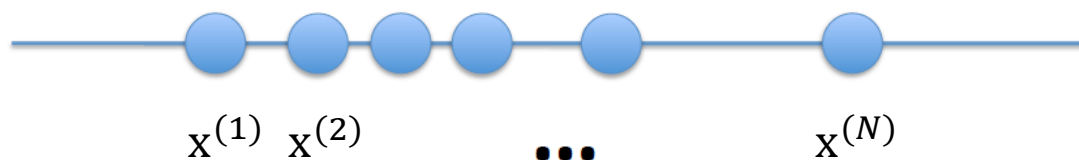
$$p(D|\mu) = p(x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N)}|\mu)$$

$$= p(x^{(1)}|\mu)p(x^{(2)}|\mu), \dots, p(x^{(N)}|\mu)$$

$$\log(p(D|\mu)) = \sum \log(p(x^{(n)}|\mu)) \quad \mu_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum x^{(n)}$$

# MAP for 1D Gaussian

- Problem: Suppose we are given a data set of samples of a Gaussian random variable  $X$ ,  $D = \{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}\}$  and told that the variance of the data is  $\sigma^2$



- What we want to get:  
 $p(\mu|D)$ , The distribution of  $\mu$  after observing  $D$
- Let's say we believe that  $\mu$  is a random variable distributed normally with mean  $\mu_0$  variance  $\sigma_0^2$

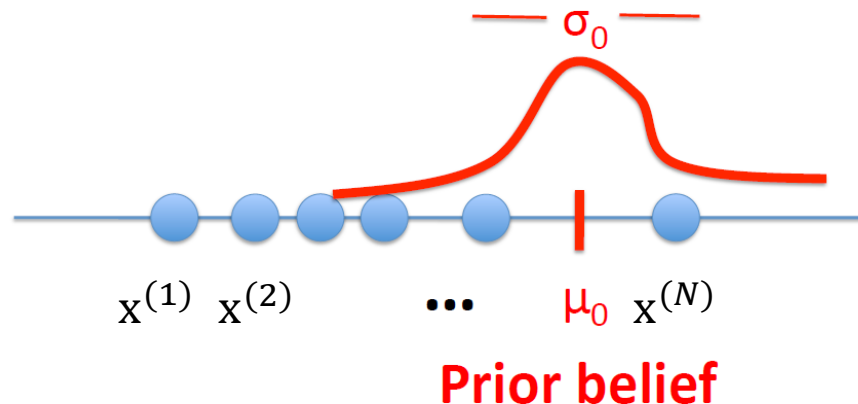
$$p(\mu) = N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$



# MAP for 1D Gaussian

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

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0} \exp\left(-\frac{(\mu - \mu_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right)$$



- $p(\mu)$  is the prior probability of  $\mu$
- What we want to get:  $p(\mu|D) = \frac{p(D|\mu)p(\mu)}{p(D)}$
- Since  $D$  is from a 1D Gaussian,

$$\begin{aligned} p(D|\mu) &= p(x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N)}|\mu) \\ &= \prod p(x^{(n)}|\mu) = \prod \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x^{(n)} - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

# MAP for 1D Gaussian

- What we want to get:  $p(\mu|D) = \frac{p(D|\mu)p(\mu)}{p(D)}$  — Constant
- $p(D|\mu)p(\mu) = \prod [\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-\frac{(x^{(n)}-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2})] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0} \exp(-\frac{(\mu-\mu_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2})$

“The product of two Gaussian pdfs = A bivariate Gaussian pdf”

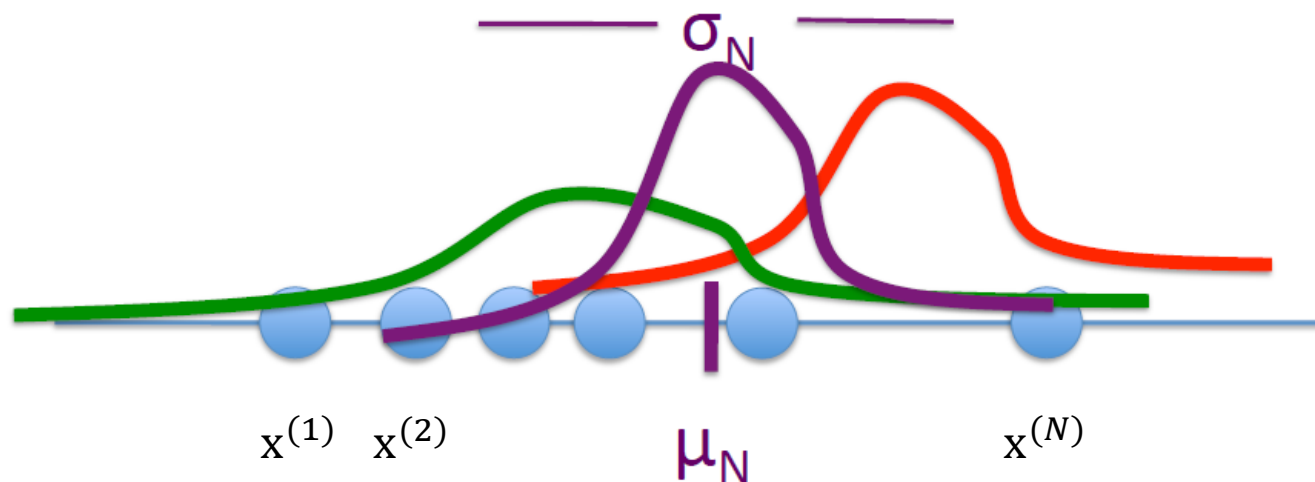
- $p(\mu|D) = N(\mu|\mu_N, \sigma_N)$

where 
$$\mu_N = \frac{\sigma^2}{N\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \mu_0 + \frac{N\sigma_0^2}{N\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \mu_{ML}$$

$$\mu_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum \mathbf{x}^{(n)}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_N^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{N}{\sigma^2}$$

# MAP for 1D Gaussian



**Prior belief**  
**Maximum Likelihood**  
**Posterior Distribution**

# Random Variables: Discrete vs Continuous

- Discrete RV: only takes a countable number of values

Distribution defined by probability mass function (PMF)

or cumulative density function (CDF)

Marginalization:  $p(x) = \sum_y p(x, y)$

- Continuous RV: takes infinitely many values (its CDF is continuous everywhere)

Distribution defined by probability density function (PDF)

or cumulative density function (CDF)

Marginalization:  $p(x) = \int_y p(x, y) dy$

# Expectations

- Let  $X$  be a random variable with a finite number of outcomes  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$  occurring with probabilities  $p^{(1)}, \dots, p^{(N)}$ , then the expectation of  $X$ :

$$E(X) = \sum x^{(i)} p^{(i)}$$

- The expected value of the function  $f(x)$  given that  $x$  has a probability density function  $p(x)$ :

[Discrete] 
$$\mathbb{E}[f] = \sum_x p(x) f(x)$$

Q. What is the expected value of a roll of a fair die?

[Continuous] 
$$\mathbb{E}[f] = \int p(x) f(x) dx$$

Q. What is the expected value of  $f(x) = 1$  where  $x$  is drawn from standard normal distribution ?

# Variance

- Variance: measures how far a set of (random) numbers are spread out from the expected value
- $\text{Var}(X) = E(X - E[X])^2 = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$

Q. Variance of a coin toss?

- $\text{Var}[a] = 0$  for any constant  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- $\text{Var}[af(X)] = a^2 \text{Var}[f(X)]$  for any constant  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- $E[a] = a$  for any constant  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- $E[af(X)] = aE[f(X)]$  for any constant  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- (Linearity of Expectation)  $E[f(X) + g(X)] = E[f(X)] + E[g(X)]$ .

# Expectation and Covariance Multi-variable Distribution

## Expectation

$$\text{[Discrete]} \quad E[g(X, Y)] \triangleq \sum_{x \in \text{Val}(X)} \sum_{y \in \text{Val}(Y)} g(x, y) p_{XY}(x, y).$$

$$\text{[Continuous]} \quad E[g(X, Y)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, y) f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy.$$

## Covariance

$$\text{Cov}[X, Y] \triangleq E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}[X, Y] &= E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] \\ &= E[XY - XE[Y] - YE[X] + E[X]E[Y]] \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] - E[Y]E[X] + E[X]E[Y] \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]. \end{aligned}$$

# Expectation and Covariance Multi-variable Distribution

- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $Cov[X, Y] = 0$ .
- If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $E[f(X)g(Y)] = E[f(X)]E[g(Y)]$ .
- (Linearity of expectation)  $E[f(X, Y) + g(X, Y)] = E[f(X, Y)] + E[g(X, Y)]$ .
- $Var[X + Y] = Var[X] + Var[Y] + 2Cov[X, Y]$ .



# Multivariate Gaussian Distribution

- PDF:  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}} \frac{1}{|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \right\}$

$\boldsymbol{\mu}$ : Mean vector (d by 1)

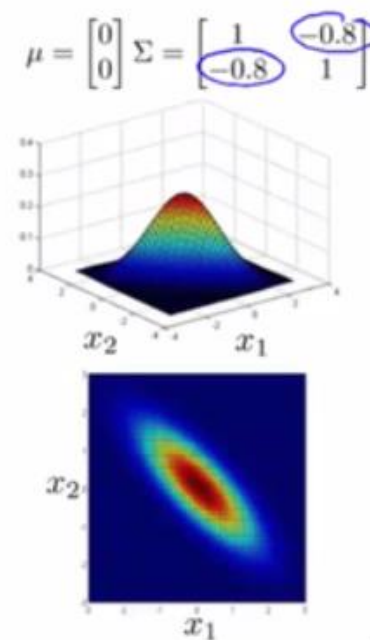
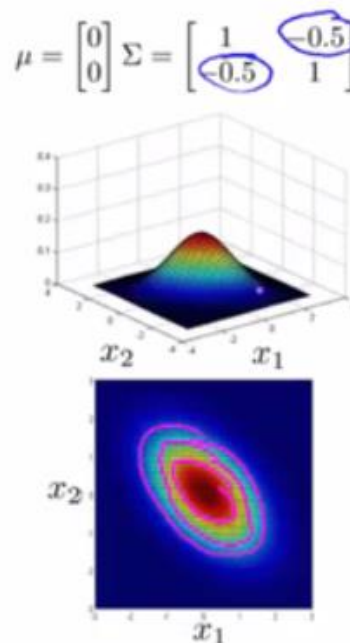
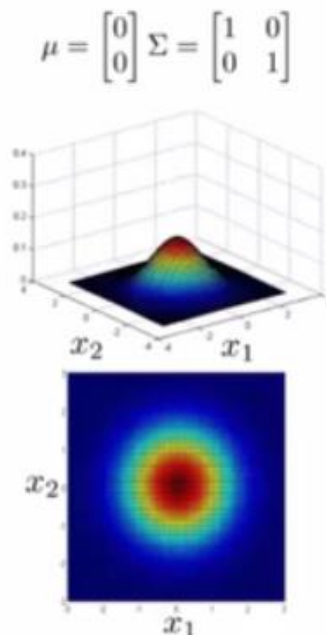
$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ : Covariance matrix (d by d)

$|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|$ : Matrix determinant

Bi-variate (2D)

Gaussian:

(Credit to Andrew Ng)



# Common Discrete Random Variables

- $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$  (where  $0 \leq p \leq 1$ ): one if a coin with heads probability  $p$  comes up heads, zero otherwise.

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1 - p & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

- $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$  (where  $0 \leq p \leq 1$ ): the number of heads in  $n$  independent flips of a coin with heads probability  $p$ .

$$p(x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$$

- $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$  (where  $p > 0$ ): the number of flips of a coin with heads probability  $p$  until the first heads.

$$p(x) = p(1 - p)^{x-1}$$

- $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$  (where  $\lambda > 0$ ): a probability distribution over the nonnegative integers used for modeling the frequency of rare events.

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

# Common Continuous Random Variables

- $X \sim \text{Uniform}(a, b)$  (where  $a < b$ ): equal probability density to every value between  $a$  and  $b$  on the real line.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & \text{if } a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- $X \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda)$  (where  $\lambda > 0$ ): decaying probability density over the nonnegative reals.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ : also known as the Gaussian distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2}$$

# Properties of Common Distributions

Distribution	PDF or PMF	Mean	Variance
<i>Bernoulli</i> ( $p$ )	$\begin{cases} p, & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1 - p, & \text{if } x = 0. \end{cases}$	$p$	$p(1 - p)$
<i>Binomial</i> ( $n, p$ )	$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$ for $0 \leq k \leq n$	$np$	$npq$
<i>Geometric</i> ( $p$ )	$p(1 - p)^{k-1}$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots$	$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{1-p}{p^2}$
<i>Poisson</i> ( $\lambda$ )	$e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x / x!$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots$	$\lambda$	$\lambda$
<i>Uniform</i> ( $a, b$ )	$\frac{1}{b-a} \quad \forall x \in (a, b)$	$\frac{a+b}{2}$	$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$
<i>Gaussian</i> ( $\mu, \sigma^2$ )	$\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$	$\mu$	$\sigma^2$
<i>Exponential</i> ( $\lambda$ )	$\lambda e^{-\lambda x} \quad x \geq 0, \lambda > 0$	$\frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\frac{1}{\lambda^2}$