

Slides modified from:  
PATTERN RECOGNITION  
AND MACHINE LEARNING  
CHRISTOPHER M. BISHOP

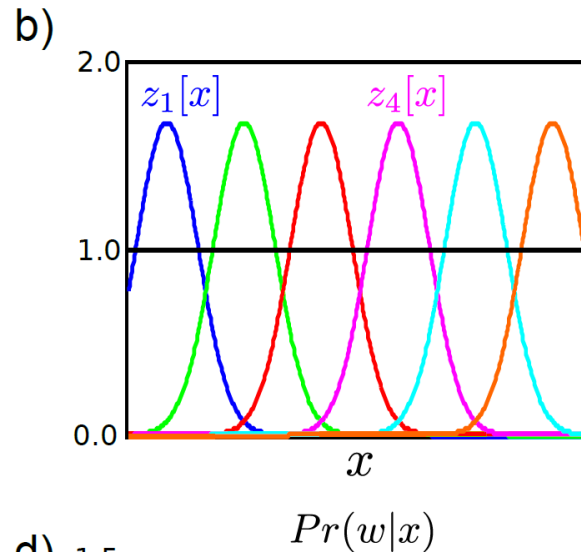
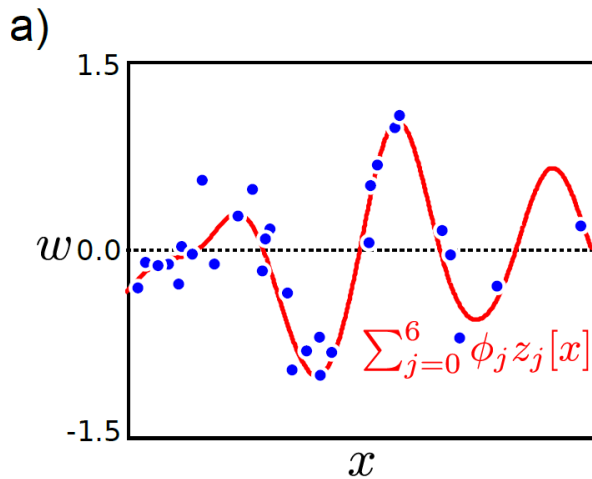
and:

Computer vision: models,  
learning and inference.

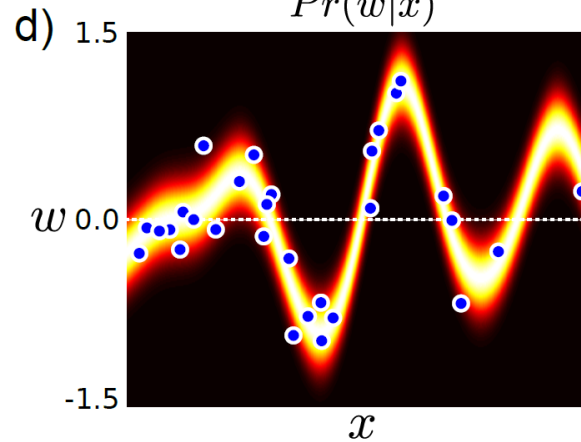
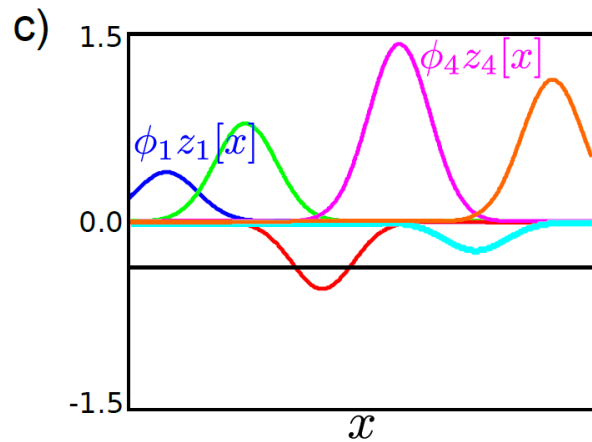
©2011 Simon J.D. Prince

---

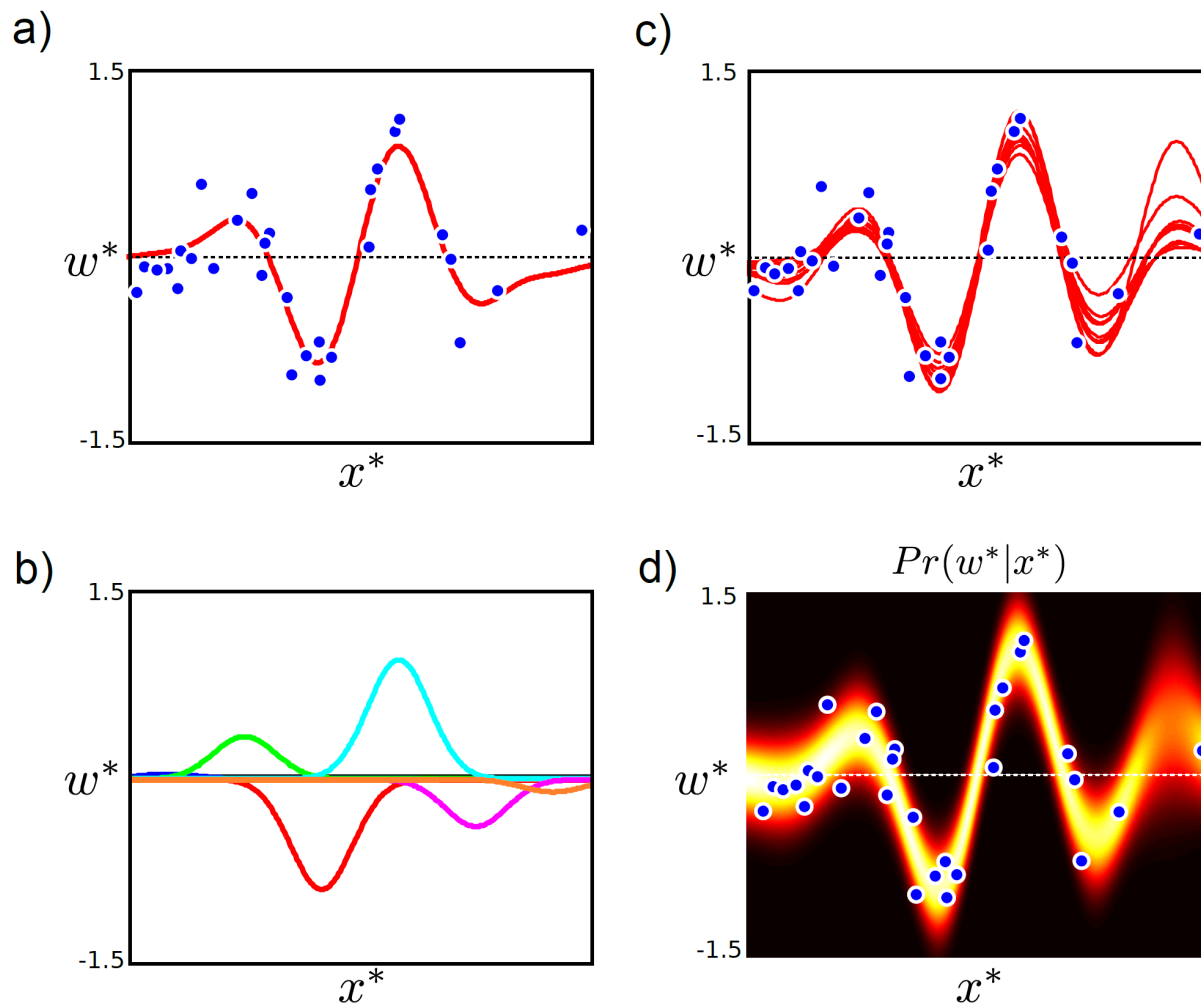
# Radial basis functions



$$\mathbf{z}_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \exp[-(x_i - \alpha_1)^2/\lambda] \\ \exp[-(x_i - \alpha_2)^2/\lambda] \\ \exp[-(x_i - \alpha_3)^2/\lambda] \\ \exp[-(x_i - \alpha_4)^2/\lambda] \\ \exp[-(x_i - \alpha_5)^2/\lambda] \\ \exp[-(x_i - \alpha_6)^2/\lambda] \end{bmatrix}$$



# Bayesian regression



# Predictive Distribution (1)

---

Predict  $t$  for new values of  $\mathbf{x}$  by integrating over  $\mathbf{w}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} p(t|\mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) &= \int p(t|\mathbf{w}, \beta) p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) d\mathbf{w} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(t|\mathbf{m}_N^T \phi(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x})) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\beta} + \phi(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{S}_N \phi(\mathbf{x}).$$

---

# Bayesian Linear Regression

---

Likelihood

$$p(\mathbf{t}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(t_n | \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n), \beta^{-1}).$$

A common choice for the prior is

$$p(\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \mathbf{0}, \alpha^{-1} \mathbf{I})$$

for which the posterior is

$$p(\mathbf{w} | \mathbf{t}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \mathbf{m}_N, \mathbf{S}_N)$$

$$\mathbf{m}_N = \beta \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{t}$$

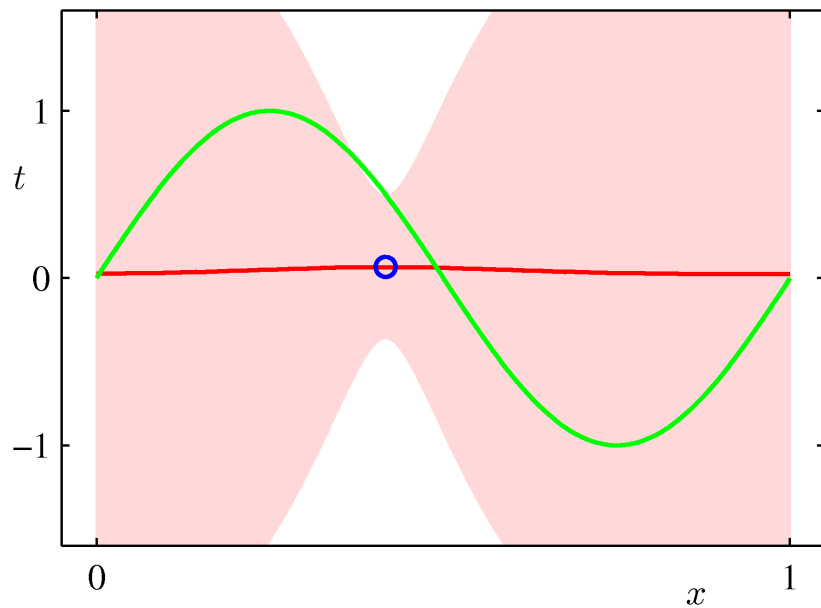
$$\mathbf{S}_N^{-1} = \alpha \mathbf{I} + \beta \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}.$$



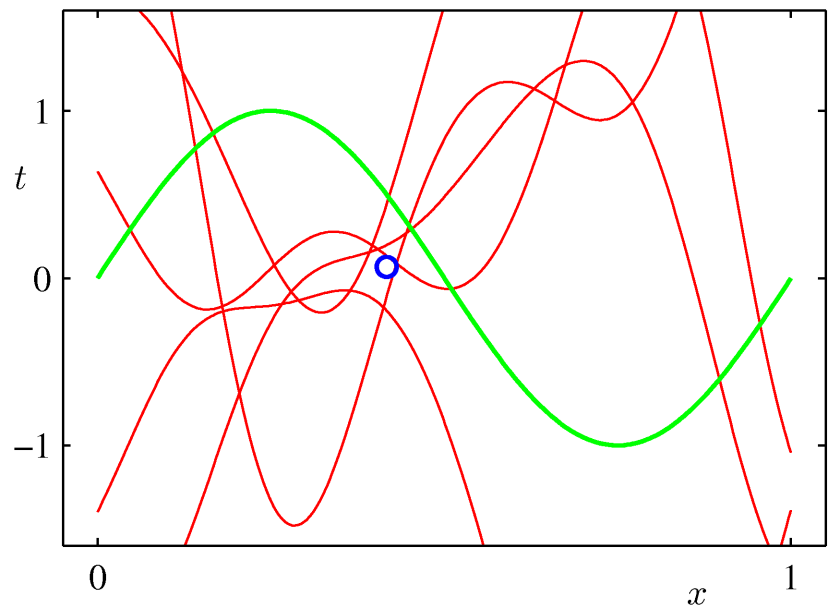
# Predictive Distribution (2)

---

Example: Sinusoidal data, 9 Gaussian basis functions,  
1 data point



$$\mathcal{N}(t | \mathbf{m}_N^T \phi(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}))$$

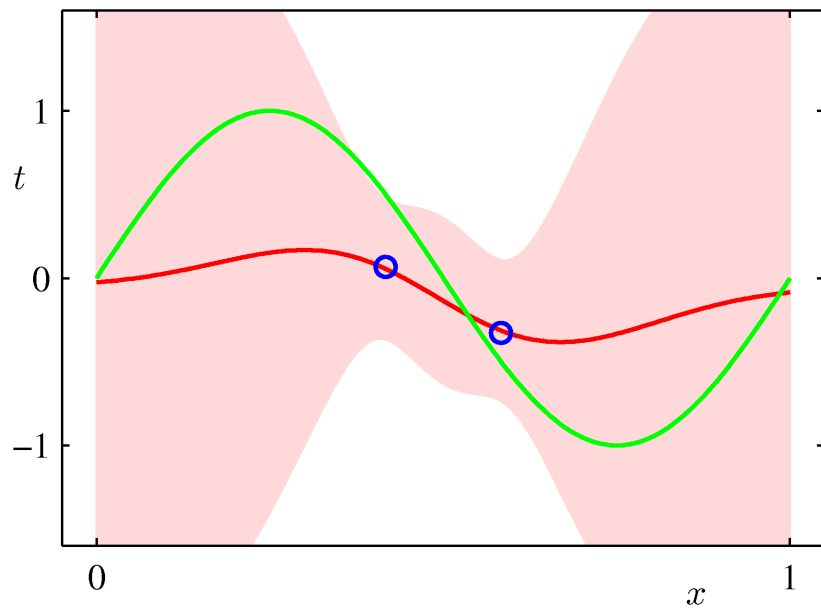


$$y(x, \mathbf{w})$$

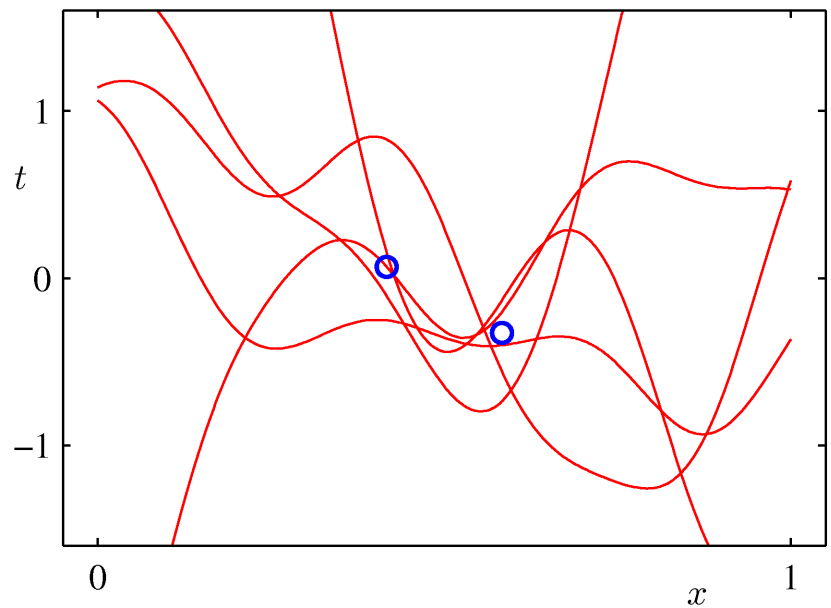
# Predictive Distribution (3)

---

Example: Sinusoidal data, 9 Gaussian basis functions, 2 data points



$$\mathcal{N}(t | \mathbf{m}_N^T \phi(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}))$$

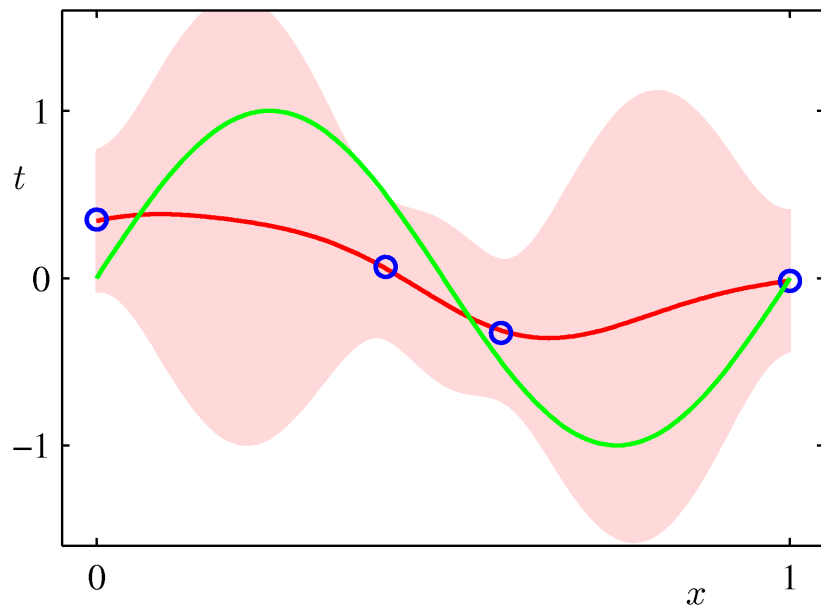


$$y(x, \mathbf{w})$$

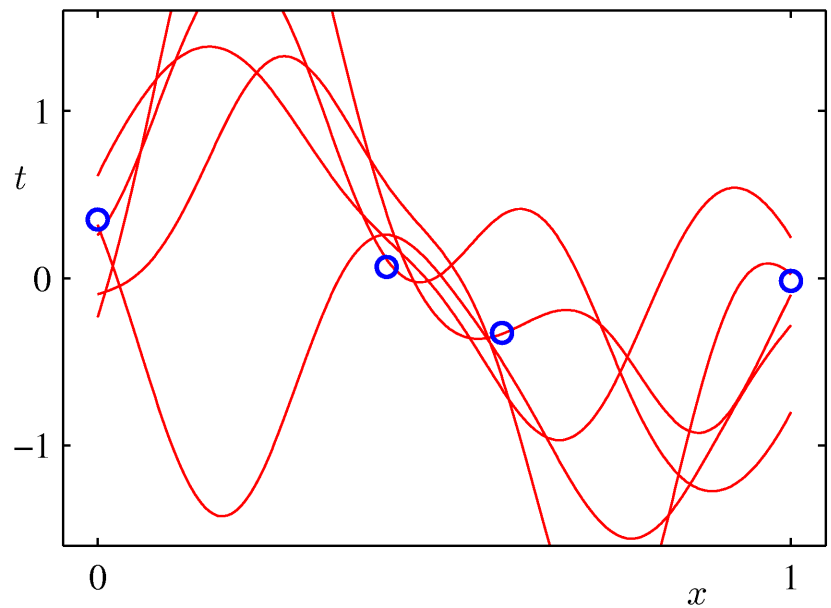
# Predictive Distribution (4)

---

Example: Sinusoidal data, 9 Gaussian basis functions, 4 data points



$$\mathcal{N}(t | \mathbf{m}_N^T \phi(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}))$$



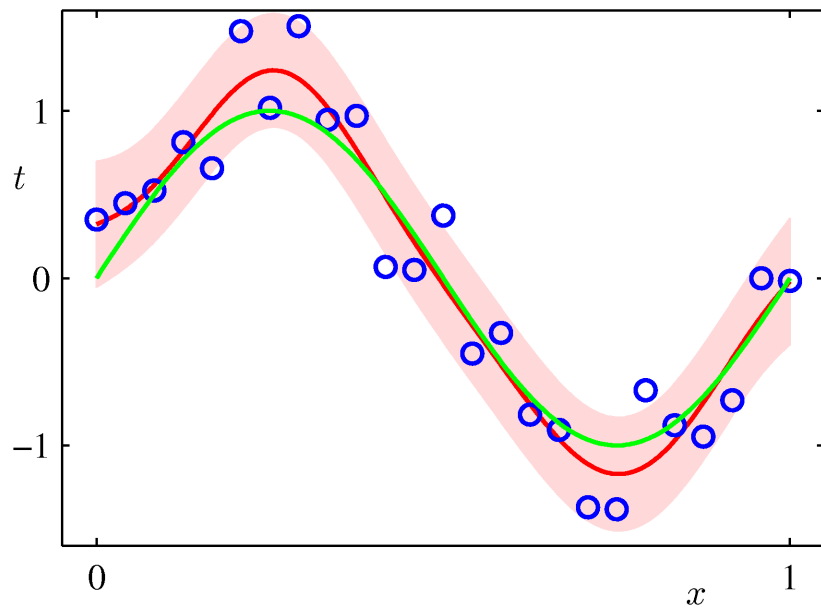
$$y(x, \mathbf{w})$$



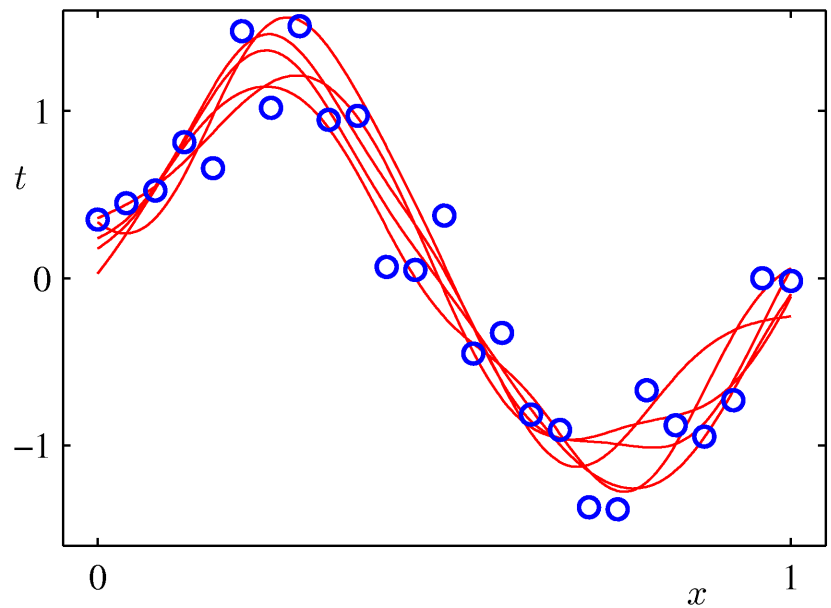
# Predictive Distribution (5)

---

Example: Sinusoidal data, 9 Gaussian basis functions, 25 data points



$$\mathcal{N}(t | \mathbf{m}_N^T \phi(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}))$$

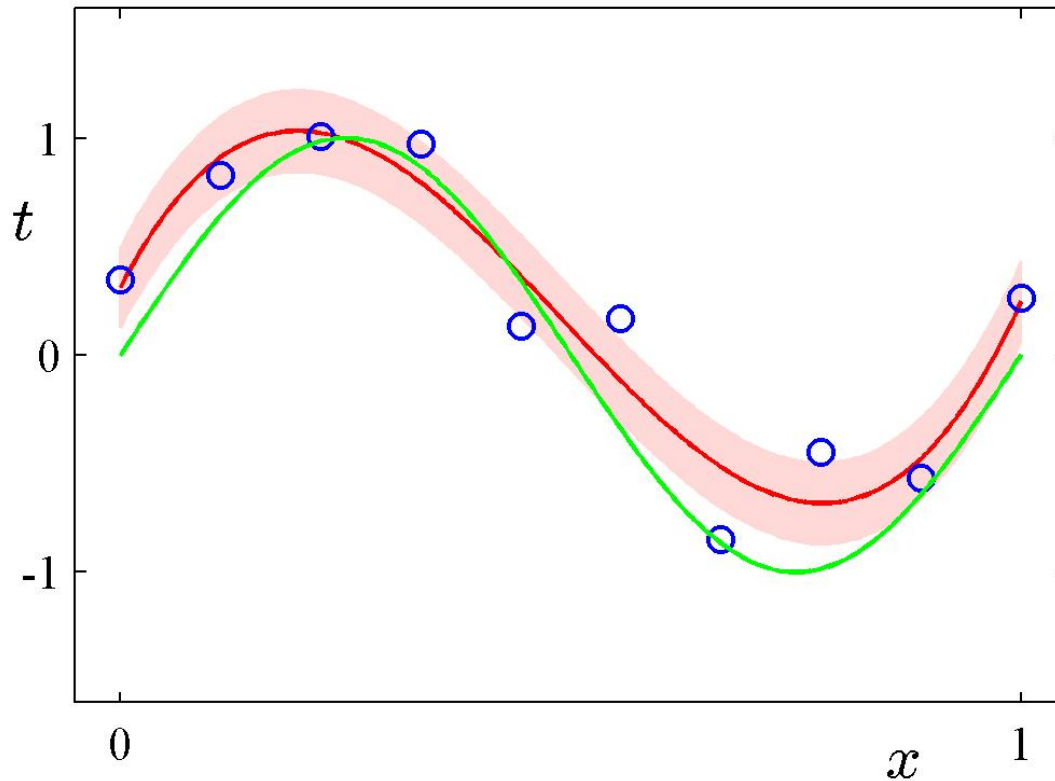


$$y(x, \mathbf{w})$$

# Predictive Distribution

---

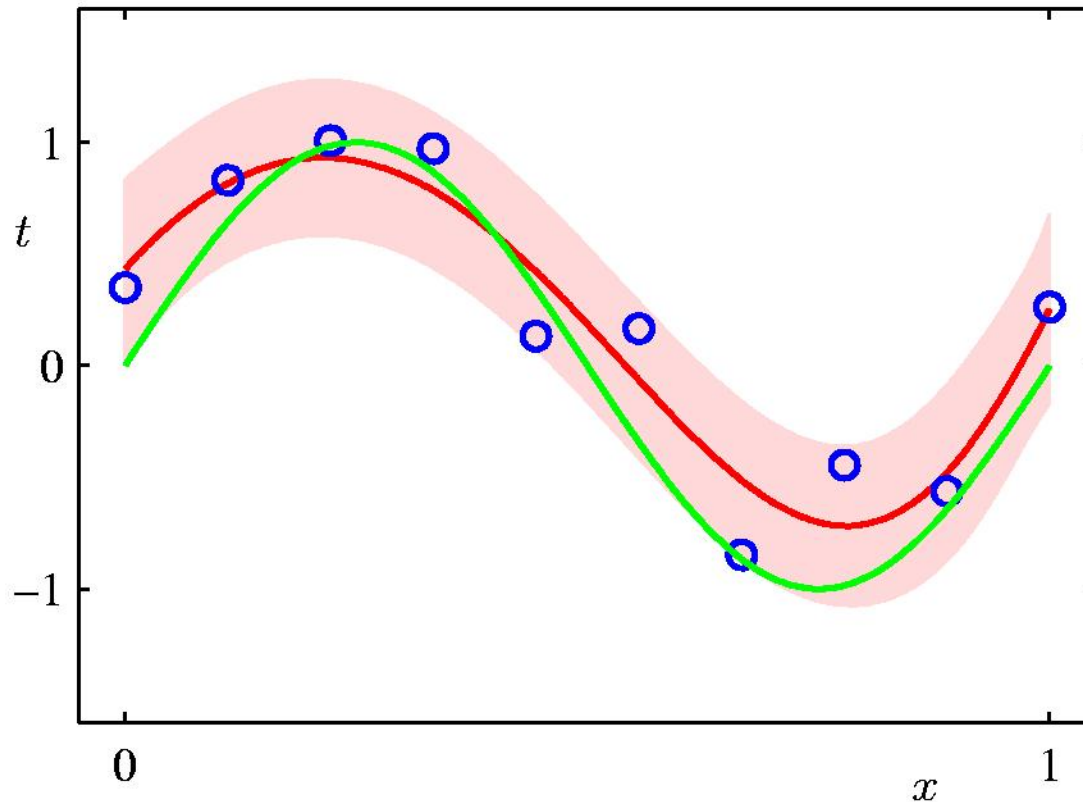
$$p(t|x, \mathbf{w}_{\text{ML}}, \beta_{\text{ML}}) = \mathcal{N}(t|y(x, \mathbf{w}_{\text{ML}}), \beta_{\text{ML}}^{-1})$$



# Bayesian Predictive Distribution

---

$$p(t|x, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}) = \mathcal{N}(t|m(x), s^2(x))$$



# Equivalent Kernel (1)

---

The predictive mean can be written

$$\begin{aligned}y(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{m}_N) &= \mathbf{m}_N^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}) = \beta \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\Phi}^T \mathbf{t} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \underbrace{\beta \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n)}_{k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_n)} t_n \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_n) t_n.\end{aligned}$$

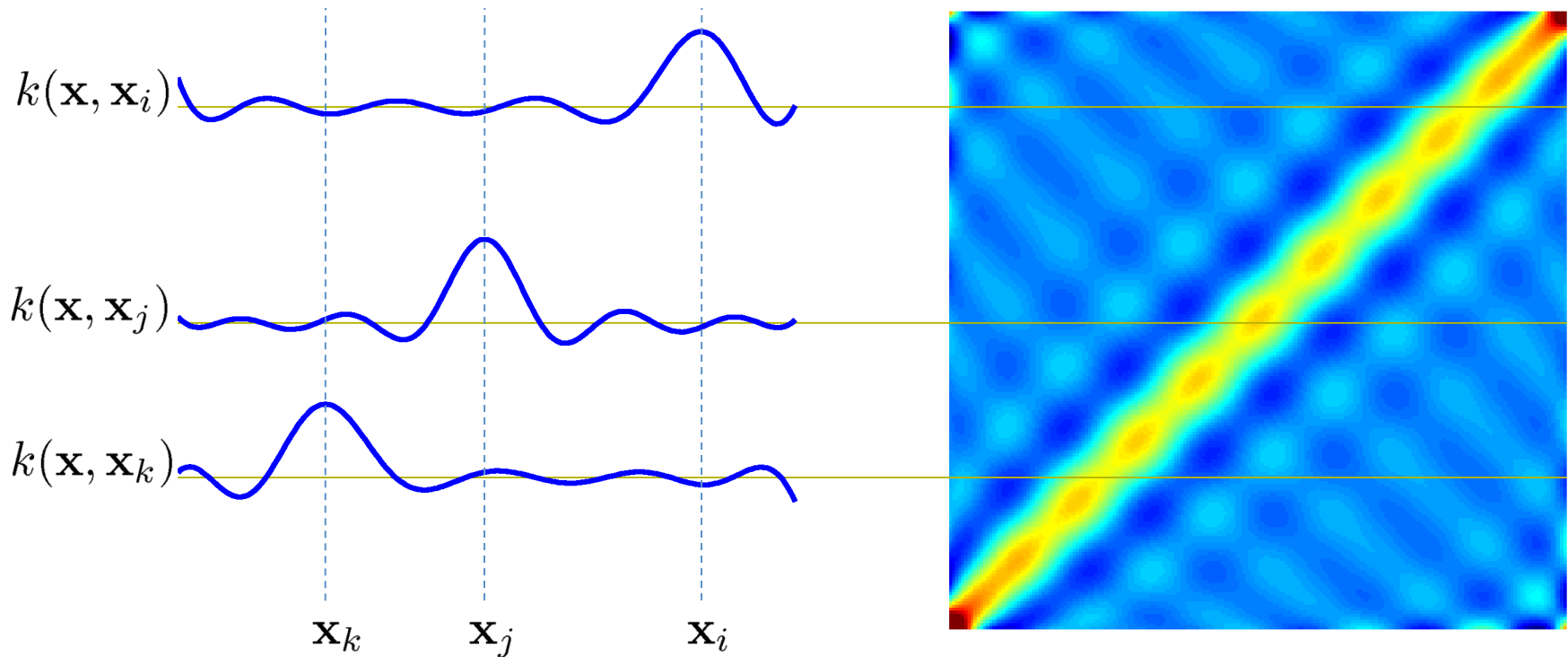
*Equivalent kernel or smoother matrix.*

This is a weighted sum of the training data target values,  $t_n$ .

---

# Equivalent Kernel (2)

---



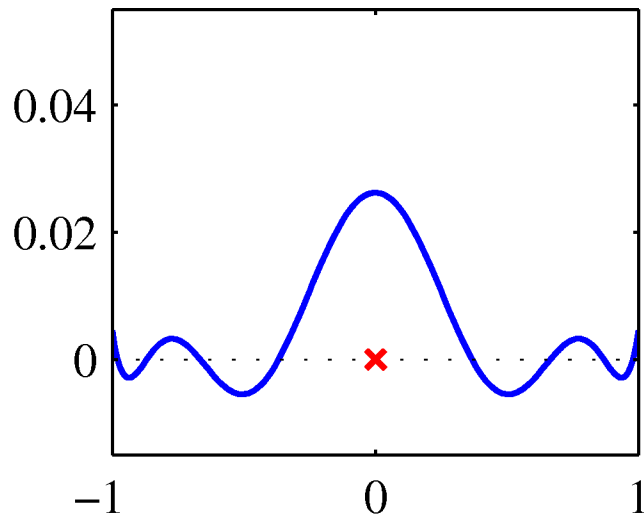
Weight of  $\mathbf{t}_n$  depends on distance between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_n$ ;  
nearby  $\mathbf{x}_n$  carry more weight.

---

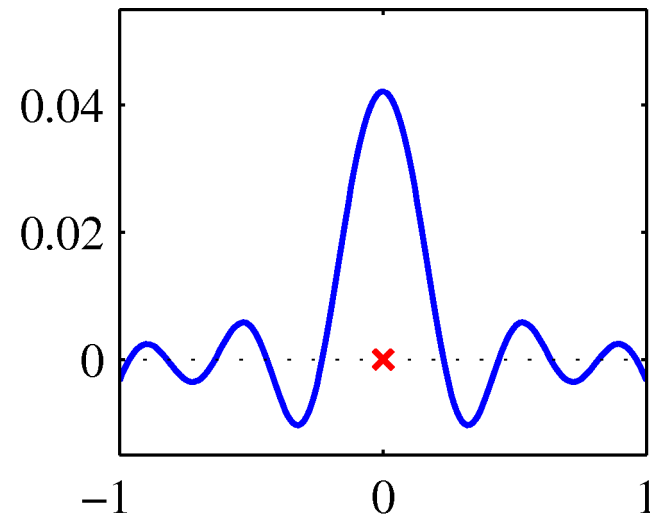
# Equivalent Kernel (3)

---

Non-local basis functions have local equivalent kernels:



Polynomial



Sigmoidal

---

# Equivalent Kernel (4)

---

The kernel as a covariance function: consider

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}[y(\mathbf{x}), y(\mathbf{x}')] &= \text{cov}[\boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}')] \\ &= \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}') = \beta^{-1} k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}').\end{aligned}$$

We can avoid the use of basis functions and define the kernel function directly, leading to *Gaussian Processes*.

---

# Equivalent Kernel (5)

---

$$\sum_{n=1}^N k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_n) = 1$$

for all values of  $\mathbf{x}$ ; however, the equivalent kernel may be negative for some values of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

Like all kernel functions, the equivalent kernel can be expressed as an inner product:

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \boldsymbol{\psi}(\mathbf{x})^T \boldsymbol{\psi}(\mathbf{z})$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) = \beta^{1/2} \mathbf{S}_N^{1/2} \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x})$ .

---



# Bayesian Model Comparison (1)

---

How do we choose the 'right' model?

Assume we want to compare models  $\mathcal{M}_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, L$ , using data  $\mathcal{D}$ ; this requires computing

$$p(\mathcal{M}_i|\mathcal{D}) \propto p(\mathcal{M}_i)p(\mathcal{D}|\mathcal{M}_i).$$

Posterior

Prior

*Model evidence or  
marginal likelihood*

*Bayes Factor*: ratio of evidence for two models

$$\frac{p(\mathcal{D}|\mathcal{M}_i)}{p(\mathcal{D}|\mathcal{M}_j)}$$

---

# Bayesian Model Comparison (2)

---

Having computed  $p(\mathcal{M}_i|\mathcal{D})$ , we can compute the predictive (mixture) distribution

$$p(t|\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{D}) = \sum_{i=1}^L p(t|\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{M}_i, \mathcal{D})p(\mathcal{M}_i|\mathcal{D}).$$

A simpler approximation, known as *model selection*, is to use the model with the highest evidence.

---

# Bayesian Model Comparison (3)

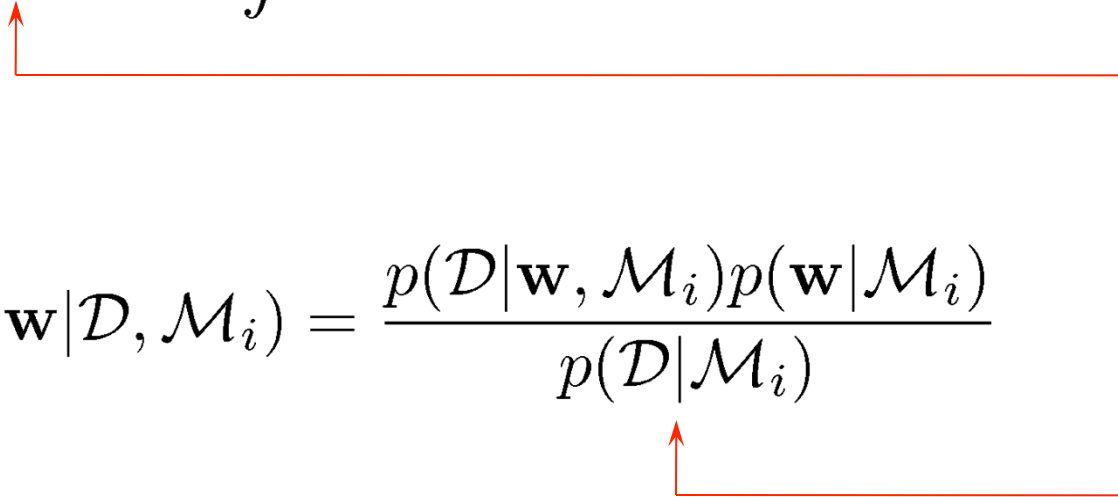
---

For a model with parameters  $\mathbf{w}$ , we get the model evidence by marginalizing over  $\mathbf{w}$

$$p(\mathcal{D}|\mathcal{M}_i) = \int p(\mathcal{D}|\mathbf{w}, \mathcal{M}_i)p(\mathbf{w}|\mathcal{M}_i) d\mathbf{w}.$$

Note that

$$p(\mathbf{w}|\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}_i) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}|\mathbf{w}, \mathcal{M}_i)p(\mathbf{w}|\mathcal{M}_i)}{p(\mathcal{D}|\mathcal{M}_i)}$$



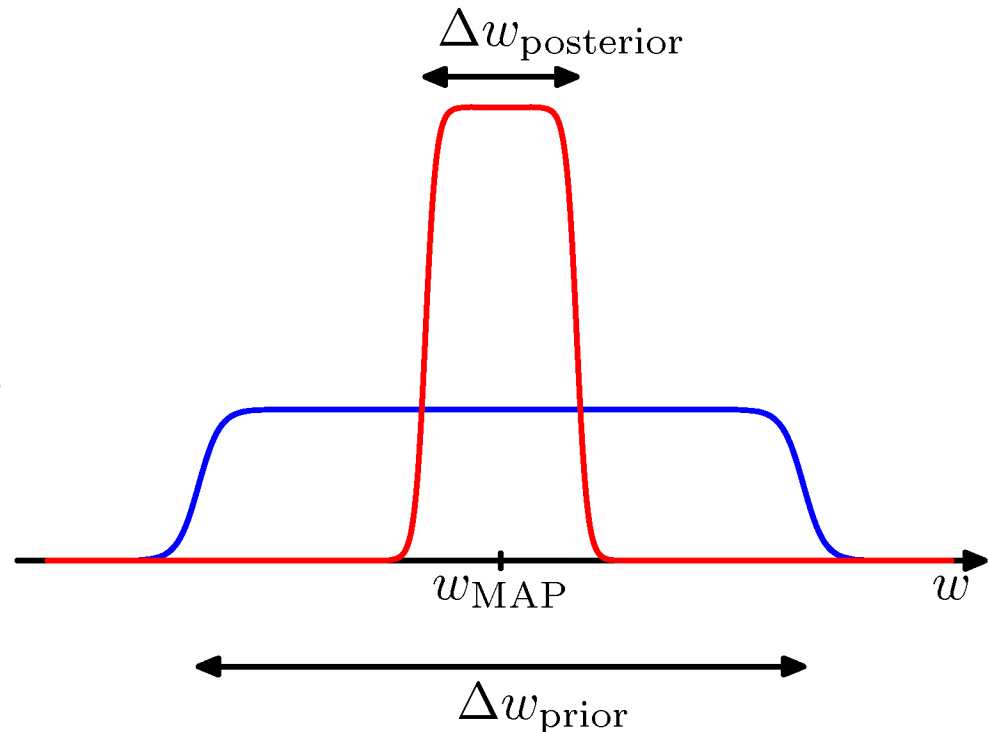
# Bayesian Model Comparison (4)

---

For a given model with a single parameter,  $w$ , consider the approximation

$$p(\mathcal{D}) = \int p(\mathcal{D}|w)p(w) dw$$
$$\simeq p(\mathcal{D}|w_{\text{MAP}}) \frac{\Delta w_{\text{posterior}}}{\Delta w_{\text{prior}}}$$

where the posterior is assumed to be sharply peaked.



# Bayesian Model Comparison (5)

---

Taking logarithms, we obtain

$$\ln p(\mathcal{D}) \simeq \ln p(\mathcal{D}|w_{\text{MAP}}) + \underbrace{\ln \left( \frac{\Delta w_{\text{posterior}}}{\Delta w_{\text{prior}}} \right)}_{\text{Negative}}.$$

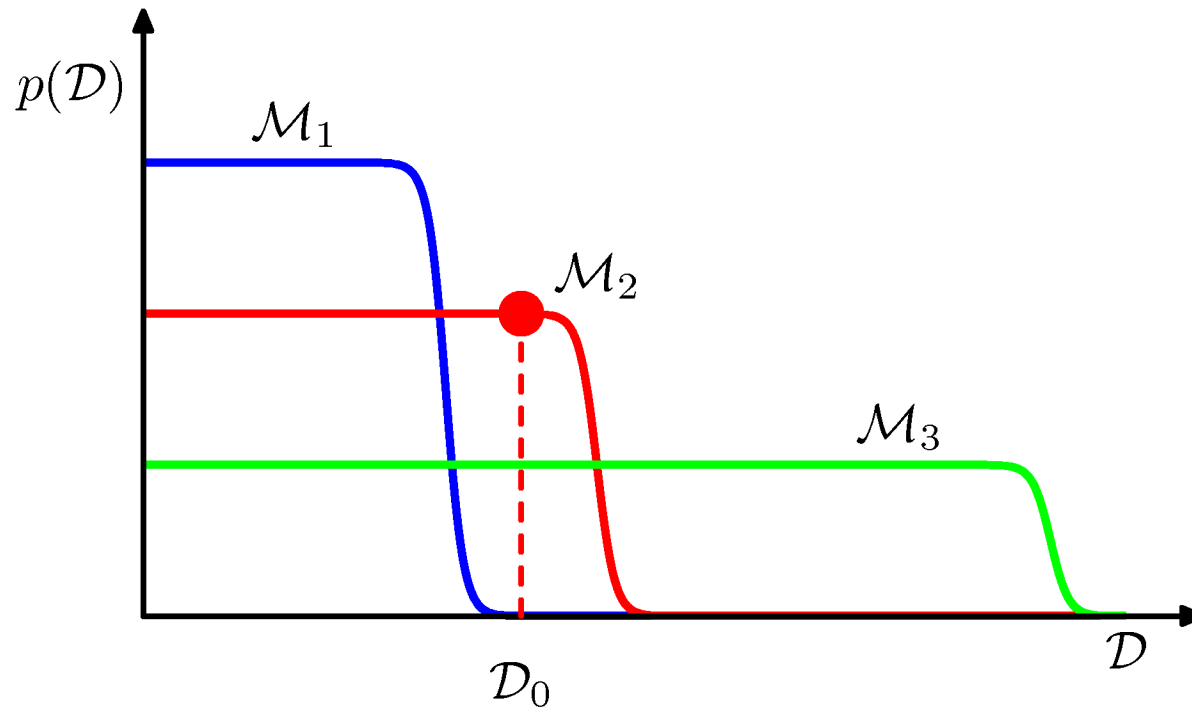
With  $M$  parameters, all assumed to have the same ratio  $\Delta w_{\text{posterior}}/\Delta w_{\text{prior}}$ , we get

$$\ln p(\mathcal{D}) \simeq \ln p(\mathcal{D}|\mathbf{w}_{\text{MAP}}) + \underbrace{M \ln \left( \frac{\Delta w_{\text{posterior}}}{\Delta w_{\text{prior}}} \right)}_{\text{Negative and linear in } M}.$$

# Bayesian Model Comparison (6)

---

Matching data and model complexity



# The Evidence Approximation (1)

---

The fully Bayesian predictive distribution is given by

$$p(t|\mathbf{t}) = \iiint p(t|\mathbf{w}, \beta) p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) p(\alpha, \beta|\mathbf{t}) d\mathbf{w} d\alpha d\beta$$

but this integral is intractable. Approximate with

$$p(t|\mathbf{t}) \simeq p\left(t|\mathbf{t}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}\right) = \int p\left(t|\mathbf{w}, \hat{\beta}\right) p\left(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{t}, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}\right) d\mathbf{w}$$

where  $(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta})$  is the mode of  $p(\alpha, \beta|\mathbf{t})$ , which is assumed to be sharply peaked; a.k.a. *empirical Bayes, type II* or *generalized maximum likelihood, or evidence approximation*.

---

# The Evidence Approximation (2)

---

From Bayes' theorem we have

$$p(\alpha, \beta | \mathbf{t}) \propto p(\mathbf{t} | \alpha, \beta) p(\alpha, \beta)$$

and if we assume  $p(\alpha, \beta)$  to be flat we see that

$$\begin{aligned} p(\alpha, \beta | \mathbf{t}) &\propto p(\mathbf{t} | \alpha, \beta) \\ &= \int p(\mathbf{t} | \mathbf{w}, \beta) p(\mathbf{w} | \alpha) d\mathbf{w}. \end{aligned}$$

General results for Gaussian integrals give

$$\ln p(\mathbf{t} | \alpha, \beta) = \frac{M}{2} \ln \alpha + \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - E(\mathbf{m}_N) + \frac{1}{2} \ln |\mathbf{S}_N| - \frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi).$$

---



# The Evidence Approximation (3)

---

Example: sinusoidal data,  $M^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomial,  
 $\alpha = 5 \times 10^{-3}$

