For example, the parameter μ (the *expectation*) can be estimated by the *mean* of the data and the parameter σ^2 (the *variance*) can be estimated from the *standard deviation* of the data. The mean is found as $m = \sum X / n$, where X is the data value and n the number of data, while the standard deviation is calculated as $s = \sqrt{\dfrac{1}{n-1} \sum (X - m)^2}$. With these parameters many distributions, e.g. the normal distribution, are completely defined.