

Gaussian random vectors

①

Def: An n -dimensional ~~random~~ \underline{X} is called a Gaussian random vector

(or $[X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T = \underline{X}$ is called "jointly Gaussian") if they have the following joint pdf:

$$f_{\underline{X}}(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} \left[\det(C_{\underline{X}}) \right]^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\underline{x} - \underline{\mu}_{\underline{X}})^T C_{\underline{X}}^{-1} (\underline{x} - \underline{\mu}_{\underline{X}})\right) \quad (*)$$

denoted as $\underline{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\underline{\mu}_{\underline{X}}, C_{\underline{X}})$

with $E[\underline{X}] = \underline{\mu}_{\underline{X}} \quad (n \times 1)$

$C_{\underline{X}}$ = covariance matrix = $E[(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu}_{\underline{X}})(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu}_{\underline{X}})^T]$
with $\det(C_{\underline{X}}) > 0$. (n x n)

(Recall) 1-D Gaussian random variable has pdf

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_x^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu_x)^2}{2\sigma_x^2}} \quad \text{where } E[X] = \mu_x$$
$$\text{Var}(X) = \sigma_x^2$$

Let's see if we can get 2-D Gaussian random variable pdf in this form.

(Recall) 2-D Gaussian random vector $\bar{X} = \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix}$ (2)

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(\frac{x-\mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right)^2 + \frac{2\rho(x-\mu_1)(y-\mu_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2} + \left(\frac{y-\mu_2}{\sigma_2}\right)^2}{2(1-\rho^2)}\right)$$

From the vector formulation

$$\bar{X} = \begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mu_{\bar{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C_{\bar{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, plugging into (*) for $n=2$.

$$\det(C_{\bar{X}}) = \sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2 - \rho^2\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2 = \sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2(1-\rho^2)$$

$$C_{\bar{X}}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2(1-\rho^2)} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_2^2 & -\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ -\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \sigma_1^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\det C_{\bar{X}}|^{1/2}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2(1-\rho^2)}} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}}$$

$$\text{Then } (\underline{X} - \mu_{\underline{X}})^T C_{\underline{X}}^{-1} (\underline{X} - \mu_{\underline{X}}) = \begin{bmatrix} X-\mu_1 & Y-\mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2(1-\rho^2)} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_2^2 & -\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ -\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \sigma_1^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X-\mu_1 \\ Y-\mu_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2(1-\rho^2)} \begin{bmatrix} X-\mu_1 & Y-\mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_2^2(X-\mu_1) - \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2(Y-\mu_2) \\ -\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2(X-\mu_1) + \sigma_1^2(Y-\mu_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2(1-\rho^2)} \left[\sigma_2^2(X-\mu_1)^2 - \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2(Y-\mu_2)(X-\mu_1) - \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2(X-\mu_1)(Y-\mu_2) + \sigma_1^2(Y-\mu_2)^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{X-\mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right)^2}{(1-\rho^2)} - \frac{2(Y-\mu_2)(X-\mu_1)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2(1-\rho^2)} + \frac{\left(\frac{Y-\mu_2}{\sigma_2}\right)^2}{(1-\rho^2)}$$

Thm: A Gaussian random vector \underline{X} has independent components $\iff C_{\underline{X}}$ is diagonal.

Why? If \underline{X} is jointly Gaussian then the individual components X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are all Gaussian (marginals are 1-D Gaussian).

~~if $C_{\underline{X}}$ is diagonal, then~~

if $C_{\underline{X}}$ is diagonal, then $E[(X_i - \mu_{X_i})(X_j - \mu_{X_j})] = 0$
 $(C_{\underline{X}})_{ij}$

$\iff X_i$ and X_j are uncorrelated $\iff X_i$ and X_j are independent since X_i and X_j are Gaussian.

Note that all marginals $X_i \sim N(\mu_{X_i}, \sigma_{X_i}^2)$

Proof: \underline{X} independent components $\implies C_{\underline{X}}$ diagonal.
 $\implies \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = 0$ since X_i, X_j Gaussian.

$C_{\underline{X}}$ diagonal $\implies \underline{X}$ independent

$$C_{\underline{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & & 0 \\ & \sigma_2^2 & \\ 0 & & \dots & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix} \implies C_{\underline{X}}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} & & 0 \\ & \frac{1}{\sigma_2^2} & \\ 0 & & \dots & \frac{1}{\sigma_n^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then $\det(C_{\underline{X}}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2$

Hence, $f_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_{X_i}(x_i)$ Def. of independ. (4)

$$(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu}_X)^T \underline{C}_X^{-1} (\underline{X} - \underline{\mu}_X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(X - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$

diagonal work it out!

Hence,

$$f_X(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} \left(\prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2 \right)^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{X - \mu_i}{\sigma_i} \right)^2 \right)$$

→ (typo in 5.69 in book) $\frac{1}{2}$ is missing.

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_i} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{X - \mu_i}{\sigma_i} \right)^2 \right)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n f_{X_i}(x_i)$$

$$\sim N(\mu_{X_i}, \sigma_{X_i}^2)$$