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Gaussians

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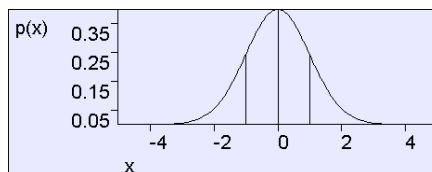
www.cs.cmu.edu/~awm
awm@cs.cmu.edu
412-268-7599

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Aug 29, 2001

Unit variance Gaussian

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$



$$E[X] = 0$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = 1$$

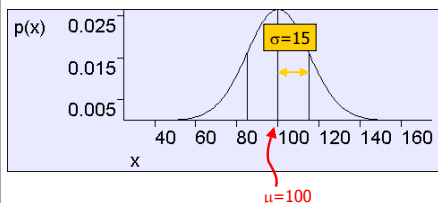
$$H[X] = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) \log p(x) dx = 1.4189$$

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Gaussians: Slide 2

General Gaussian

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



$$E[X] = \mu$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$$

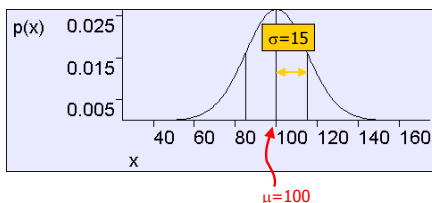
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Gaussians: Slide 3

General Gaussian

Also known as the normal distribution or Bell-shaped curve

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



$$E[X] = \mu$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$$

Shorthand: We say $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ to mean "X is distributed as a Gaussian with parameters μ and σ^2 ".

In the above figure, $X \sim N(100, 15^2)$

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Gaussians: Slide 4

The Central Limit Theorem

- If (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) are i.i.d. continuous random variables
- Then define $z = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$
- As $n \rightarrow \infty$, $p(z) \rightarrow$ Gaussian with mean $E[X_i]$ and variance $\text{Var}[X_i]$

Somewhat of a justification for assuming Gaussian noise is common

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Gaussians: Slide 5

Bivariate Gaussians

Write r.v. $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix}$. Then define $\mathbf{X} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ to mean

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2\pi \|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$$

Where the Gaussian's parameters are...

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_x \\ \mu_y \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_x^2 & \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_y^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Where we insist that $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is symmetric non-negative definite

It turns out that $E[X] = \mu_x$ and $\text{Cov}[X] = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$. (Note that this is a resulting property of Gaussians, not a definition)*

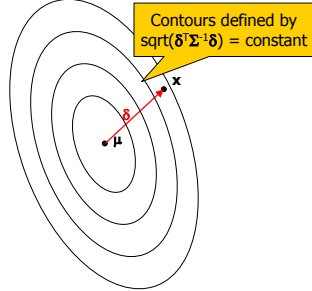
*This note rates 7.4 on the pedanticness scale

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Gaussians: Slide 6

Contour Map

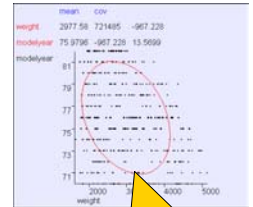
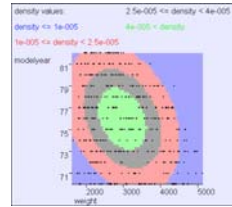
$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2\pi \|\Sigma\|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)\right)$$



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Gaussians: Slide 7

Example



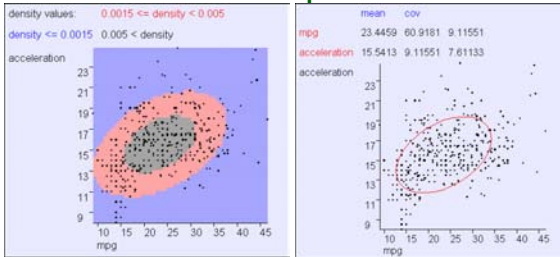
Observe: Mean, Principal axes, implication of off-diagonal covariance term, max gradient zone of $p(\mathbf{x})$

Common convention: show contour corresponding to 2 standard deviations from mean

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Gaussians: Slide 8

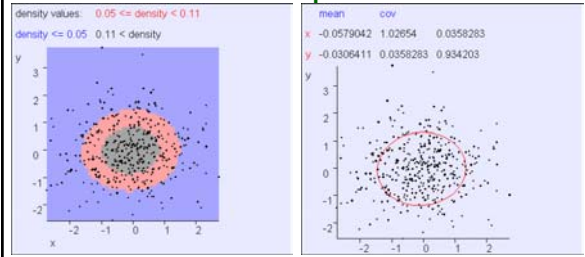
Example



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Gaussians: Slide 9

Example

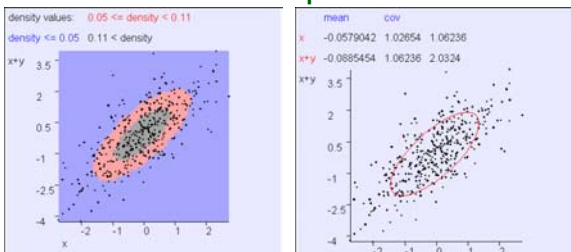


In this example, x and y are almost independent

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Gaussians: Slide 10

Example

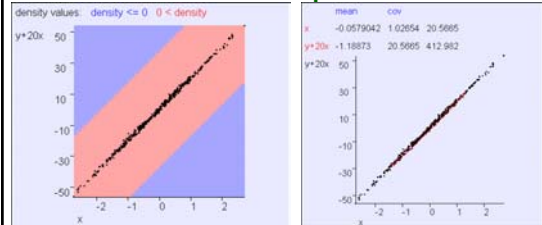


In this example, x and "x+y" are clearly not independent

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Gaussians: Slide 11

Example



In this example, x and "20x+y" are clearly not independent

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Gaussians: Slide 12

Multivariate Gaussians

Write r.v. $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$ Then define $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ to mean

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{m/2} \|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$$

Where the Gaussian's parameters have...

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11}^2 & \sigma_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1m} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22}^2 & \cdots & \sigma_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{1m} & \sigma_{2m} & \cdots & \sigma_{mm}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Where we insist that $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is symmetric non-negative definite

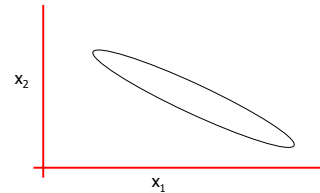
Again, $E[\mathbf{X}] = \boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\text{Cov}[\mathbf{X}] = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$. (Note that this is a resulting property of Gaussians, not a definition)

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Gaussians: Slide 13

General Gaussians

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11}^2 & \sigma_{12} & \cdots & \sigma_{1m} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma_{22}^2 & \cdots & \sigma_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sigma_{1m} & \sigma_{2m} & \cdots & \sigma_{mm}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



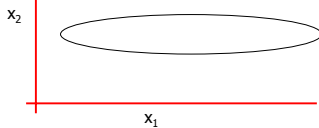
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Gaussians: Slide 14

Axis-Aligned Gaussians

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11}^2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{22}^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_{33}^2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_{m-1,m-1}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \sigma_{mm}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$X_i \perp X_j$ for $i \neq j$



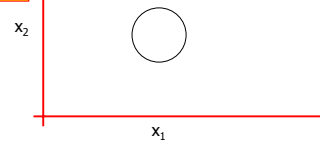
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Gaussians: Slide 15

Spherical Gaussians

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma^2 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \sigma^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$X_i \perp X_j$ for $i \neq j$



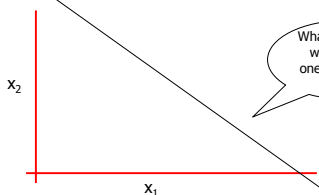
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Gaussians: Slide 16

Degenerate Gaussians

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\| = 0$$



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Gaussians: Slide 17

Where are we now?

- We've seen the formulae for Gaussians
- We have an intuition of how they behave
- We have some experience of "reading" a Gaussian's covariance matrix

- **Coming next:**

Some useful tricks with Gaussians

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Gaussians: Slide 18

Subsets of variables

$$\text{Write } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix} \text{ as } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_{m(u)} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{m(u)+1} \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$$

This will be our standard notation for breaking an m -dimensional distribution into subsets of variables

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Gaussians: Slide 19

Gaussian Marginals are Gaussian



$$\text{Write } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix} \text{ as } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_{m(u)} \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{m(u)+1} \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

THEN \mathbf{U} is also distributed as a Gaussian

$$\mathbf{U} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_u, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu})$$

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Gaussians: Slide 20

Gaussian Marginals are Gaussian



$$\text{Write } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix} \text{ as } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_{m(u)} \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{m(u)+1} \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

THEN \mathbf{U} is also distributed as a Gaussian

$$\mathbf{U} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_u, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu})$$

This fact is not immediately obvious

Obvious, once we know it's a Gaussian (why?)

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Gaussians: Slide 21

Gaussian Marginals are Gaussian



$$\text{Write } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix} \text{ as } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } \mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_{m(u)} \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{m(u)+1} \\ \vdots \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

THEN \mathbf{U} is also distributed as a Gaussian

$$\mathbf{U} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_u, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu})$$

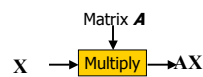
How would you prove this?

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{u}) &= \int p(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) d\mathbf{v} \\ &= \int \text{(snore...)} \end{aligned}$$

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Gaussians: Slide 22

Linear Transforms remain Gaussian



Assume \mathbf{X} is an m -dimensional Gaussian r.v.

$$\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

Define \mathbf{Y} to be a p -dimensional r. v. thusly (note $p \leq m$):

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$$

...where \mathbf{A} is a $p \times m$ matrix. Then...

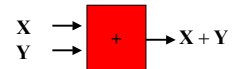
$$\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{A}^T)$$

Note: the "subset" result is a special case of this result

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Gaussians: Slide 23

Adding samples of 2 independent Gaussians is Gaussian



if $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_x)$ and $\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_y, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y)$ and $\mathbf{X} \perp \mathbf{Y}$

$$\text{then } \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_x + \boldsymbol{\mu}_y, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_x + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y)$$

Why doesn't this hold if \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} are dependent?

Which of the below statements is true?

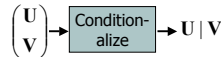
If \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} are dependent, then $\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ is Gaussian but possibly with some other covariance

If \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} are dependent, then $\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ might be non-Gaussian

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Gaussians: Slide 24

Conditional of Gaussian is Gaussian

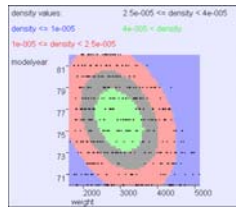


$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vu}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

THEN $\mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v})$ where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_u + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} (\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_v)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$



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Gaussians: Slide 25

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vu}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}\right) \quad \text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} w \\ y \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 2977 \\ 76 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 849^2 & -967 \\ -967 & 3.68^2 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

THEN $\mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v})$ where

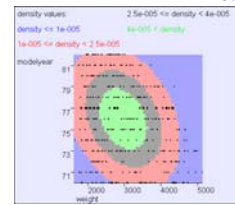
$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_u + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} (\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_v)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$

THEN $w | y \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|y}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|y})$ where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|y} = 2977 - \frac{976(y-76)}{3.68^2}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|y} = 849^2 - \frac{967^2}{3.68^2} = 808^2$$



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Gaussians: Slide 26

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vu}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}\right) \quad \text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} w \\ y \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 2977 \\ 76 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 849^2 & -967 \\ -967 & 3.68^2 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

THEN $\mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v})$ where

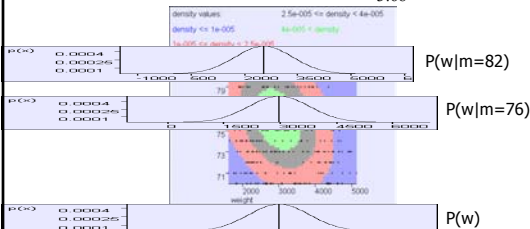
$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_u + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} (\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_v)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$

THEN $w | y \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|y}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|y})$ where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|y} = 2977 - \frac{976(y-76)}{3.68^2}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|y} = 849^2 - \frac{967^2}{3.68^2} = 808^2$$



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Gaussians: Slide 27

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vu}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}\right) \quad \text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} w \\ y \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 2977 \\ 76 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 849^2 & -967 \\ -967 & 3.68^2 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

THEN $\mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v})$ where

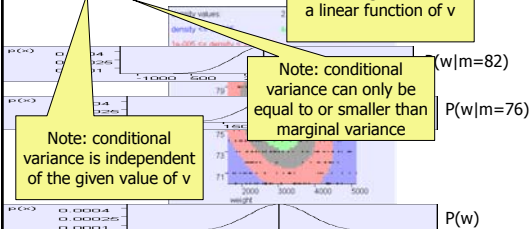
$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_u + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} (\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_v)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$

THEN $w | y \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|y}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|y})$ where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|y} = 2977 - \frac{976(y-76)}{3.68^2}$$

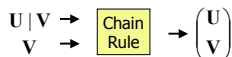
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|y} = 849^2 - \frac{967^2}{3.68^2} = 808^2$$



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Gaussians: Slide 28

Gaussians and the chain rule



Let A be a constant matrix

IF $\mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{V}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v})$ and $\mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_v, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv})$

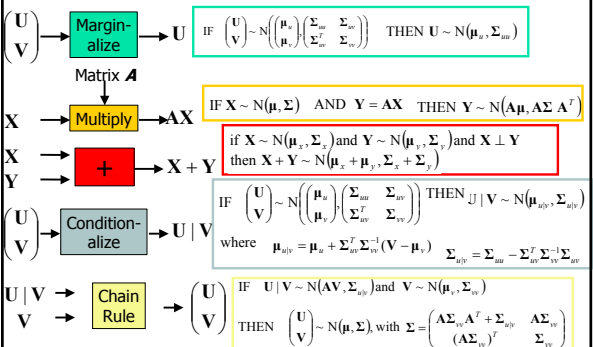
THEN $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, with

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}_v \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}\mathbf{A}^T + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} & \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \\ (\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv})^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}$$

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Gaussians: Slide 29

Available Gaussian tools



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Gaussians: Slide 30

Assume...

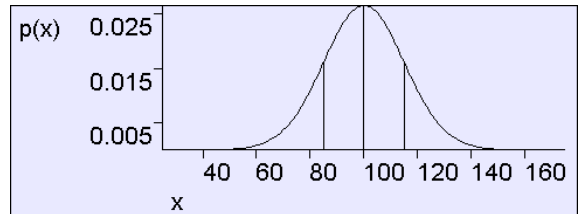
- You are an intellectual snob
- You have a child

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Gaussians: Slide 31

Intellectual snobs with children

- ...are obsessed with IQ
- In the world as a whole, IQs are drawn from a Gaussian $N(100, 15^2)$



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Gaussians: Slide 32

IQ tests

- If you take an IQ test you'll get a score that, on average (over many tests) will be your IQ
- But because of noise on any one test the score will often be a few points lower or higher than your true IQ.

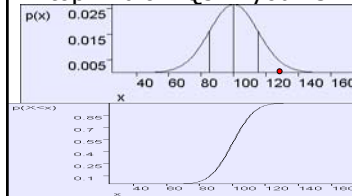
$$\text{SCORE} \mid \text{IQ} \sim N(\text{IQ}, 10^2)$$

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Gaussians: Slide 33

Assume...

- You drag your kid off to get tested
- She gets a score of 130
- "Yippee" you screech and start deciding how to casually refer to her membership of the top 2% of IQs in your Christmas newsletter.



$$P(X < 130 \mid \mu = 100, \sigma^2 = 15^2) =$$

$$P(X < 2 \mid \mu = 0, \sigma^2 = 1) =$$

$$\text{erf}(2) = 0.977$$

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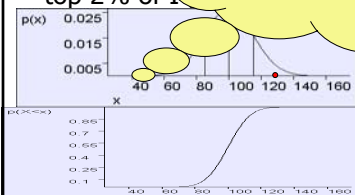
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Assume...

- You drag your kid off to get tested
- She gets a score of 130
- "Yippee" you screech and start deciding how to casually refer to her membership of the top 2% of IQs in your Christmas newsletter.

You are thinking:

Well sure the test isn't accurate, so she might have an IQ of 120 or she might have an IQ of 140, but the most likely IQ given the evidence "score=130" is, of course, 130.



$$P(X < 130 \mid \mu = 100, \sigma^2 = 15^2) =$$

$$P(X < 2 \mid \mu = 0, \sigma^2 = 1) =$$

$$\text{erf}(2) = 0.977$$

Can we trust this reasoning?

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Maximum Likelihood IQ

- $\text{IQ} \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S \mid \text{IQ} \sim N(\text{IQ}, 10^2)$
- $S = 130$

$$\text{IQ}^{\text{mle}} = \arg \max_{iq} p(s = 130 \mid iq)$$

- The MLE is the value of the hidden parameter that makes the observed data most likely
- In this case

$$\text{IQ}^{\text{mle}} = 130$$

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BUT....

- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$

$$IQ^{MLE} = \arg \max_{iq} p(s=130 | iq)$$

- The MLE is the value of the hidden parameter that makes the observed data most likely
- In this case

$$IQ^{MLE} = 130$$

This is **not** the same as
"The most likely value of the
parameter given the observed
data"

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What we really want:

- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$

- Question: What is $IQ | (S=130)$?

Called the Posterior
Distribution of IQ

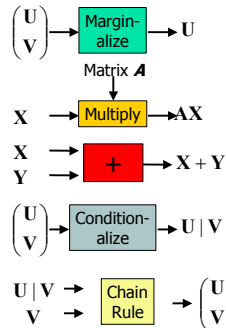
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Which tool or tools?

- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$

- Question: What is $IQ | (S=130)$?



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Plan

- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$

- Question: What is $IQ | (S=130)$?



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Working...

$IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
 $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
 $S=130$

Question: What is $IQ | (S=130)$?

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu_u \\ \mu_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{uu} & \Sigma_{uv} \\ \Sigma_{vu}^T & \Sigma_{vv} \end{pmatrix} \right) \text{ THEN}$$

$$\mu_{u|v} = \mu_u + \Sigma_{uv} \Sigma_{vv}^{-1} (V - \mu_v)$$

IF $U|V \sim N(AV, \Sigma_{u|v})$ and $V \sim N(\mu_v, \Sigma_v)$

THEN $\begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix} \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$, with $\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} A \Sigma_v A^T + \Sigma_{u|v} & A \Sigma_v \\ (A \Sigma_v)^T & \Sigma_v \end{pmatrix}$

$$\mu_{IQ|S} = \mu_{IQ} + \Sigma_{IQ} (\Sigma_{IQ} + \Sigma_{S|IQ})^{-1} (S - \mu_{IQ})$$

$$\Sigma_{IQ|S} = \Sigma_{IQ} + \Sigma_{IQ} (\Sigma_{IQ} + \Sigma_{S|IQ})^{-1} \Sigma_{IQ}$$

What happens when $\Sigma_{S|IQ} = 0$? $\Sigma_{S|IQ} = \infty$?

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That was an important result!
It explains how to combine noisy
measurements (sensor fusion)
So I will do it again in 1D

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Combining Measurements: 1D

- True value x
- Measurements m_1, m_2 : $E(m_1 - x) = 0$, $\text{Var}(m_1) = \sigma_1^2$, $E(m_2 - x) = 0$, $\text{Var}(m_2) = \sigma_2^2$, independent
- Linear estimate $x = k_1 m_1 + k_2 m_2$
- Unbiased estimate means $k_2 = 1 - k_1$ so $E(x) = x$
- Minimize $\text{Var}(x) = k_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + (1 - k_1)^2 \sigma_2^2$
- So $\partial \text{Var}(x) / \partial k_1 = 0 \rightarrow 2k_1(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2) - 2\sigma_2^2 = 0$
- So $k_1 = \sigma_2^2 / (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$, $k_2 = \sigma_1^2 / (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$
- So $\text{Var}(x) = \sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2 / (\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$
- What happens when $\sigma_2^2 = 0$? $\sigma_2^2 = \text{infinity}$?
- BLUE: Best Linear Unbiased Estimator

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Your pride and joy's posterior IQ

- If you did the working, you now have $p(\text{IQ} | S=130)$
 - This is a density, not a number!
 - If you have to give the most likely IQ given the score you should give
- $$IQ^{map} = \arg \max_{iq} p(iq | s = 130)$$
- This is the mean for a Gaussian
 - MAP means "Maximum A-posteriori"

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What you should know

- The Gaussian PDF formula off by heart
- Understand the workings of the formula for a Gaussian
- Be able to understand the Gaussian tools described so far
- Have a rough idea of how you could prove them
- Be happy with how you could use them
- Understand the Bayesian approach to combining information

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