

Lecture 26 - Probability Overview

- So far in class

⇒ assumed we could sense $\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

⇒ assumed that sensing was noise free

How do we estimate the state $\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}$ given partial/noisy measurements

$$\vec{y} = h(\vec{q}, \dot{\vec{q}}) + \text{"noise"} \quad \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^p \quad p < 2n$$

- Today: Probability Basics

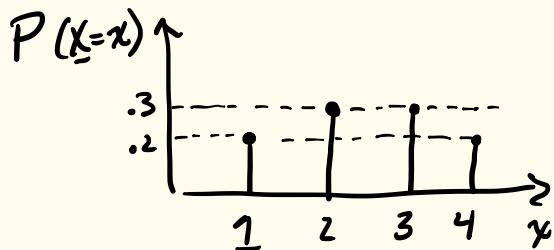
- Probability mass / density

- Gaussian Distributions (Univariate/Multivariate)

- Next lecture: Using these fundamentals to determine maximum likelihood estimates

Simple Introduction: 1D discrete probability

- Let \underline{X} a random variable (1D)
- We denote $P(\cdot)$ as the probability of a random event. e.g.
 - $P(\underline{X} = 2) = .2$
 - $P(\underline{X} \leq 2) = .3$
- The probability of \underline{X} taking a specific value is denoted by the probability mass function (PMF)
$$p_{\underline{X}}(x) = P(\underline{X} = x)$$
- $\sum_x p_{\underline{X}}(x) = 1 , \quad p_{\underline{X}}(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x$



Simple Introduction: 1D discrete probability

- Denote the Expected Value of a random variable as

$$\begin{aligned} E[\underline{X}] &= \text{"average value of } \underline{X}" \\ &= \sum_{x} x p_{\underline{X}}(x) \end{aligned}$$

Example:

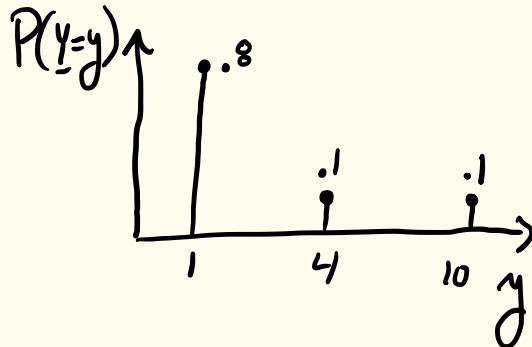
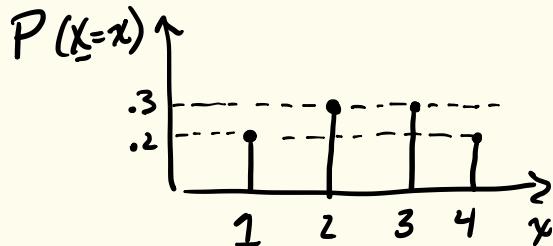
$$E[\underline{X}] = 2.5 \quad E[\underline{Y}] = .8 + .4 + 1 = 2.2$$

Denote the Joint PMF

$$P_{\underline{X}\underline{Y}}(x,y) = P(\underline{X}=x \text{ and } \underline{Y}=y)$$

If \underline{X} and \underline{Y} independent

$$P_{\underline{X}\underline{Y}}(x,y) = P_{\underline{X}}(x) P_{\underline{Y}}(y)$$



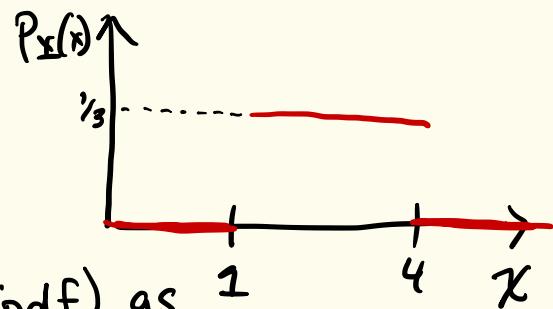
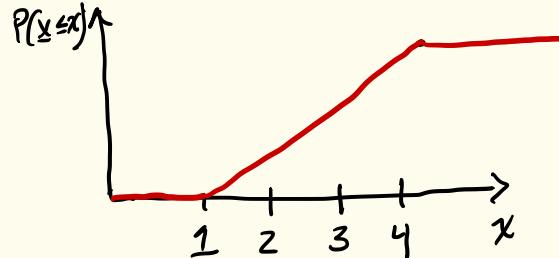
Continuous Random Variables:

Consider X uniformly distributed on $[1, 4]$

- We call the function

$$F_x(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

The cumulative distribution function.



- Define the probability density function (pdf) as

$$p_x(x) = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} \Rightarrow P(X \leq x \leq x + \Delta x) = p_x(x) \cdot \Delta x$$

Let X a random variable (1D):

The PDF satisfies:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad P(x_1 \leq X \leq x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} p_x(x) dx \quad (\text{Probability of } X \in [x_1, x_2])$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_x(x) = 1$$

Expected Value of a function of X :

$$E[f(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) p_x(x) dx$$

Examples

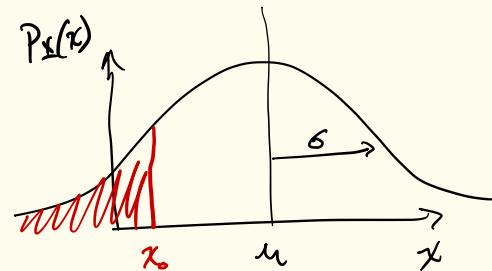
$$\text{mean: } \mu = E[X]$$

Variance: $\sigma^2 = E[(X - \mu)^2]$

Standard deviation

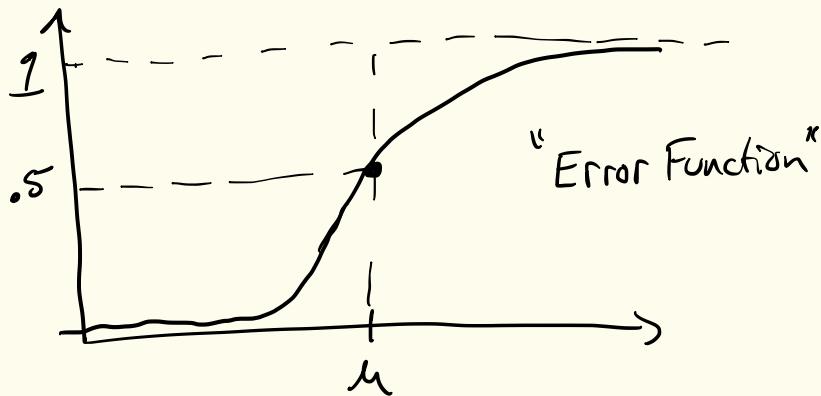
Gaussians in 1D:

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



Draw CDF shape for 1D Gaussian

$F_X(x_0) = \text{"Area in red"}$

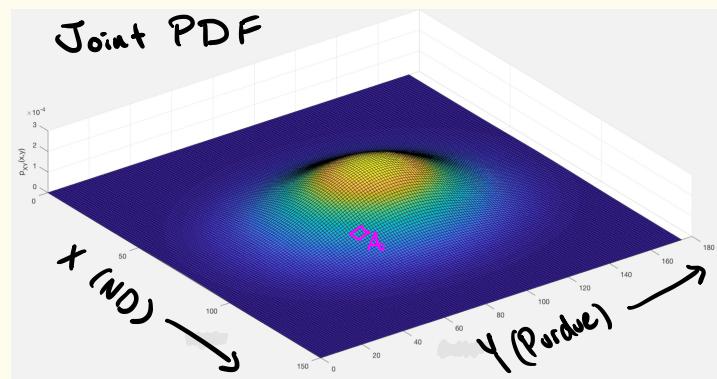


Multivariate Gaussians:

Example: Pick 2 people at random
1 @ ND and 1 @ Purdue

$$X = \text{Weight of Person @ ND} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_x, \sigma_x^2)$$

$$Y = \text{Weight of Person @ Purdue} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_y, \sigma_y^2)$$



Joint Probability density:

$$P_{xy}(x,y)$$

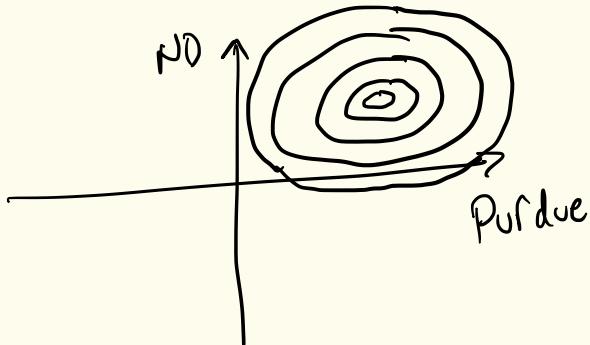
$$P((x,y) \in A) = \iint_A P_{xy}(x,y) dA$$

In this case:

$$P_{xy}(x,y) = P_x(x) P_y(y)$$

Marginal Densities

Contours of P_{xy}

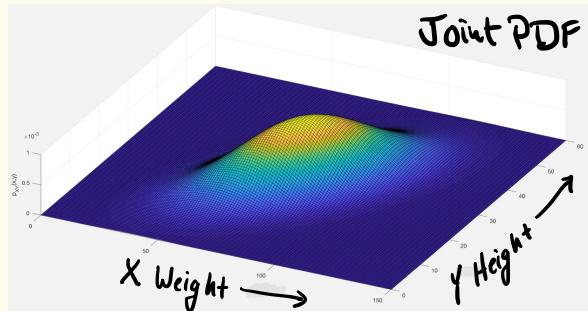
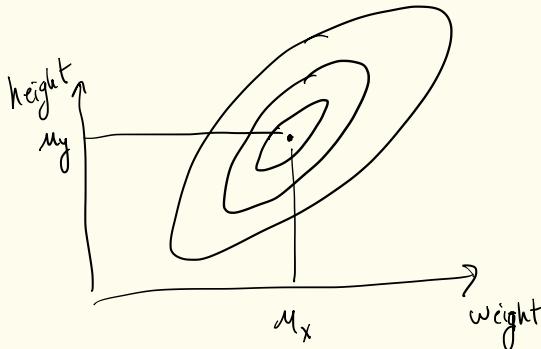


- The probability density factors since these two variables are independent

Multi-Dim gaussians ~ Non independent

Example: Pick a random person @ ND

X = their weight Y = their height



- Let $\underline{z} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$
- We denote the co-variance of \underline{z} by the 2×2 matrix

$$\Sigma = E[(\underline{z} - E[\underline{z}])(\underline{z} - E[\underline{z}])^T] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x^2 & \sigma_x \sigma_y \rho \\ \sigma_x \sigma_y \rho & \sigma_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad -1 \leq \rho \leq 1$$

Correlation coefficient

IF $\underline{z} \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$:

$$\underline{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad P_{\underline{z}}(\underline{z}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}} |\Sigma|^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\underline{z}-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\underline{z}-\mu)}$$

- $(\underline{z}-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\underline{z}-\mu)$ "measures" how unlikely \underline{z} is
- This measure is a quadratic form!
- \Rightarrow Contours of $P_{\underline{z}}(\underline{z})$ have the same shape as contours of $(\underline{z}-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\underline{z}-\mu)$

$$(\underline{z}-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\underline{z}-\mu)$$

Suppose $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$ (multi-D)

① $P_X(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma|} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)}$

Contours of $P_X(x)$

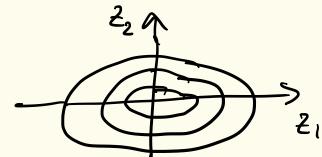
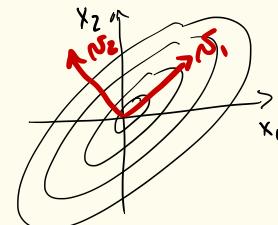
② Let Σ 's eig vec v_1, \dots, v_n $\|v_i\| = 1$

$$x = \sqrt{z} + \mu$$
$$\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$$
$$V = [v_1, \dots, v_n]$$

$$\Sigma = \sum v_i v_i^\top \lambda_i$$

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \sum v_i v_i^\top \frac{1}{\lambda_i}$$

③ $P_X(x) = \prod \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \lambda_i}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} z_i^2 / \lambda_i}$



$\sqrt{\lambda_i}$ gives

the standard deviation along v_i

Properties of Multi-D Gaussians

Assume:

$$\underline{X} \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$$

$$\underline{Y} \sim N(\nu, \Omega)$$

① If X, Y independent and same size

$$\underline{X} + \underline{Y} \sim N(\mu + \nu, \Sigma + \Omega)$$

② $A\underline{X} + b \sim N(A\mu + b, A\Sigma A^T)$

$$E[A\underline{X} + b] = E[A\underline{Y}] + b = AE[\underline{Y}] + b$$

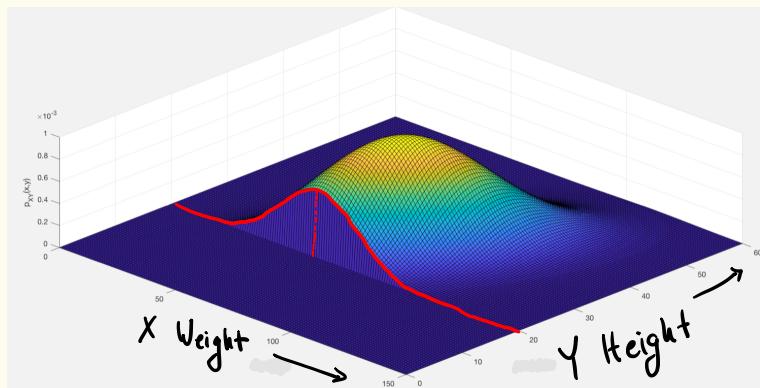
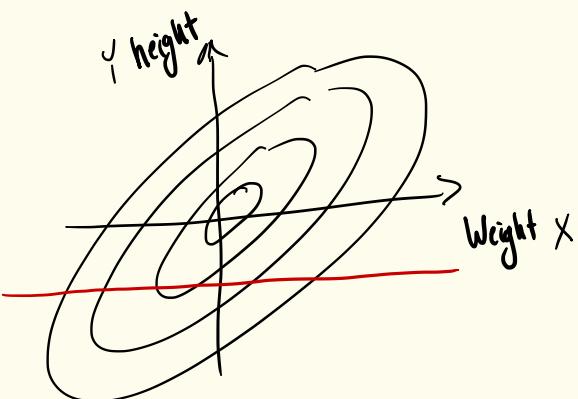
$$E[(A\underline{X} + b - E[A\underline{X} + b])(A\underline{X} + b - E[A\underline{X} + b])^T]$$

$$E[(A\underline{X} - (A\mu + b))(A\underline{X} - (A\mu + b))^T]$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[A(\underline{X} - \mu)(\underline{X} - \mu)^T A^T] &= A E[(\underline{X} - \mu)(\underline{X} - \mu)^T] A^T \\ &= A \Sigma A^T \end{aligned}$$

Conditional Distributions : If you gain information, how does it affect uncertainty for other variables

Example: Suppose height and weight are jointly Normal. If you find out someone's weight, then that affects narrows down your uncertainty in their height...

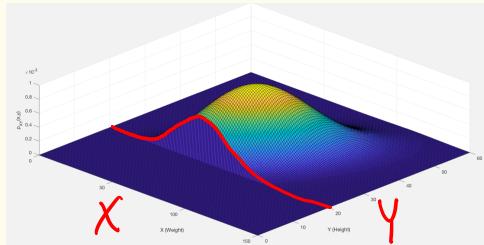


Conditional Probability:

- Let $p_{x|y}(x|y)$ denote the PDF of x under the restriction that $y = y$.
- Conditional Gaussians

$$\begin{bmatrix} \underline{x} \\ \underline{y} \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_x \\ \mu_y \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{xx} & \Sigma_{xy} \\ \Sigma_{yx} & \Sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

$$\Sigma_{xy} = \Sigma_{yx}^T$$



↓ reduction in uncertainty

$$p_{x|y}(x|y) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu_x + \Sigma_{xy} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} (y - \mu_y), \Sigma_{xx} - \Sigma_{xy} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} \Sigma_{yx}\right)$$

$$\Sigma_{xy} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} \Sigma_{yx} \succeq 0$$

Preview:

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k + w_k \leftarrow \text{gaussian noise}$$

$$y_{k+1} = Cx_{k+1} + v_k \leftarrow$$

- Given measurements $y_0 \dots y_N$ what is the best estimate for x_N ?
- Next time:
 - Kalman filtering via conditional gaussians
 - Sensor Fusion for legged locomotion