

Example: Multinomial distribution

Consider a sequence of n independent and identical experiments with r possible outcomes, each with probability q_i , $\sum_{i=1}^r q_i = 1$.

Let X_i be the number of experiments that yield outcome i , then:

$$p(n_1, \dots, n_r) = P_Z(X_1 = n_1, \dots, X_r = n_r) = \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_r!} q_1^{n_1} q_2^{n_2} \dots q_r^{n_r}$$

This is due to independence, since a sequence has probability

$$q_1^{n_1} q_2^{n_2} \dots q_r^{n_r} \quad (n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_r = n)$$

and the number of sequences that yield (n_1, \dots, n_r) is

$$\binom{n}{n_1} \binom{n - n_1}{n_2} \dots \binom{n - \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} n_i}{n_r} = \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_r!}$$

Multivariate Normal distribution

A random vector $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ with means $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)$ that has joint pdf

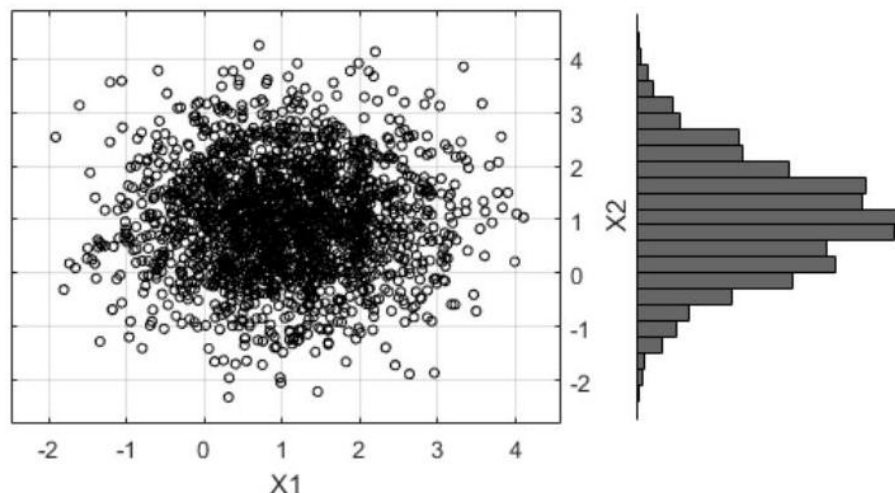
$$f_X = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n \det \Sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right)$$

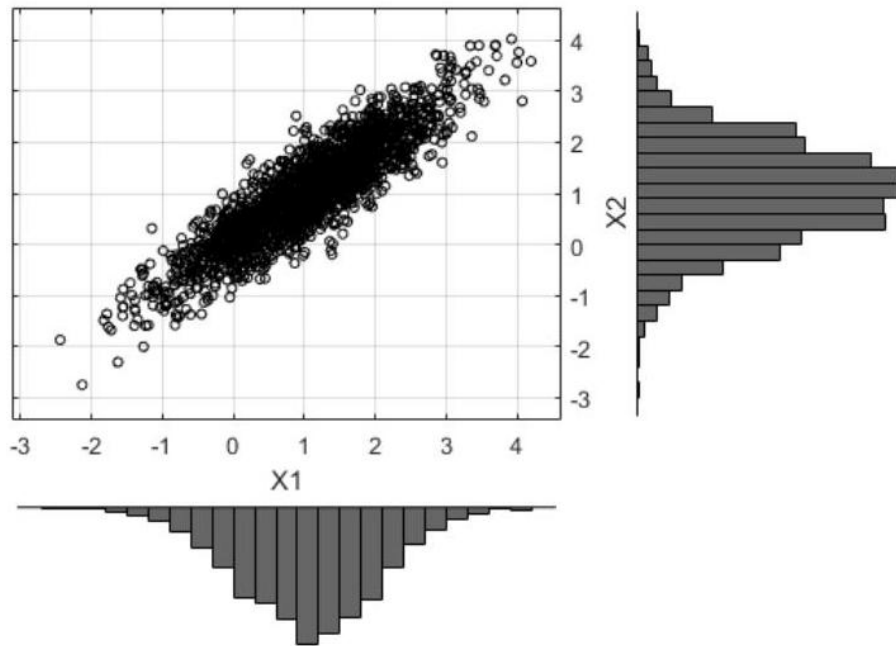
is said to have a multivariate Normal distribution, where $\mu = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_n)$ is the vector of means of X_1, \dots, X_n and the covariance matrix $\Sigma = [\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j); 1 \leq i, j \leq n]$, which must be positive definite for a pdf to exist.

Note that the r.v.s. X_1, \dots, X_n need not be independent.

Example: Independent normal r.vs.

$$\mu = (1, 1), \text{Var}(X_1) = \text{Var}(X_2) = 1, \text{Cov}(X_1, X_2) = \text{Cov}(X_2, X_1) = 0$$





Example: $P(X < Y)$

Let X, Y be independent exponential random variables with parameters λ, μ respectively. What is the probability that $X < Y$?

Solution 1: The first way to solve this is directly:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X < Y) &= \int_{x < y} f(x, y) dx dy = \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^y f(x, y) dx dy \\
 &= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{x=-\infty}^y f_X(x) f_Y(y) dx dy \quad (\text{by independence}) \\
 &= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} F_X(y) f_Y(y) dy = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - e^{-\lambda y}) \mu e^{-\mu y} dy \\
 &= 1 - \frac{\mu}{\lambda + \mu} = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \mu}
 \end{aligned}$$

Example: $P(X < Y)$ with conditional probabilities

Solution 2: The second way is more intuitive to some:

$$\begin{aligned}
P(X < Y) &= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{X=-\infty}^y f(x, y) dx dy \\
&= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{X=-\infty}^y f_{X|Y}(x | y) f_Y(y) dx dy \\
&= \int_{y=-\infty}^{\infty} F_{X|Y}(y | y) f_Y(y) dy \\
&= \int_0^{\infty} (1 - e^{-\lambda y}) \mu e^{-\mu y} dy \quad (\text{by independence}) \\
&= 1 - \frac{\mu}{\lambda + \mu} = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda + \mu}.
\end{aligned}$$

Example: modelling climate (continued)

- If today is cold ($\pi_{02} = 1$), will it be hot in two days from now?

$$\pi_0 R^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.688 & 0.312 \\ 0.625 & 0.375 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{0.625}_{P(X_2=1)} & 0.375 \end{bmatrix}$$

- What is the long-term probability of hot and cold days?

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \pi_0 R^n = \begin{bmatrix} \pi_{01} & \pi_{02} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.667 & 0.333 \\ 0.667 & 0.333 \end{bmatrix} = [2/3, 1/3] = \pi_{\infty}$$

which holds in this example for any choice of vector π_0 .

Example: climate modelling revisited

The daily temperatures DTMC is irreducible and aperiodic with

$$\pi_{\infty} = \pi_0 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R^n = (2/3, 1/3)$$

To see that $\sum_j \pi_{\infty, j} = 1$ is necessary, note that

$$\pi_{\infty} \begin{bmatrix} 3/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} = \pi_{\infty} \Rightarrow \pi_{\infty} \begin{bmatrix} -1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/2 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix} = (0, 0) \quad (\text{singular})$$

Now, replacing an equation with $\sum_j \pi_{\infty, j} = 1$ we get instead

$$\pi_{\infty} \begin{bmatrix} -1/4 & 1 \\ 1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = (0, 1) \Rightarrow \pi_{\infty} = (2/3, 1/3)$$

Moreover, it is also $\pi_{\infty}^* = \pi_{\infty} = (2/3, 1/3)$.