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# Gaussians

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# Gaussians in Data Mining

- Why we should care
- The entropy of a PDF
- Univariate Gaussians
- Multivariate Gaussians
- Bayes Rule and Gaussians
- Maximum Likelihood and MAP using Gaussians

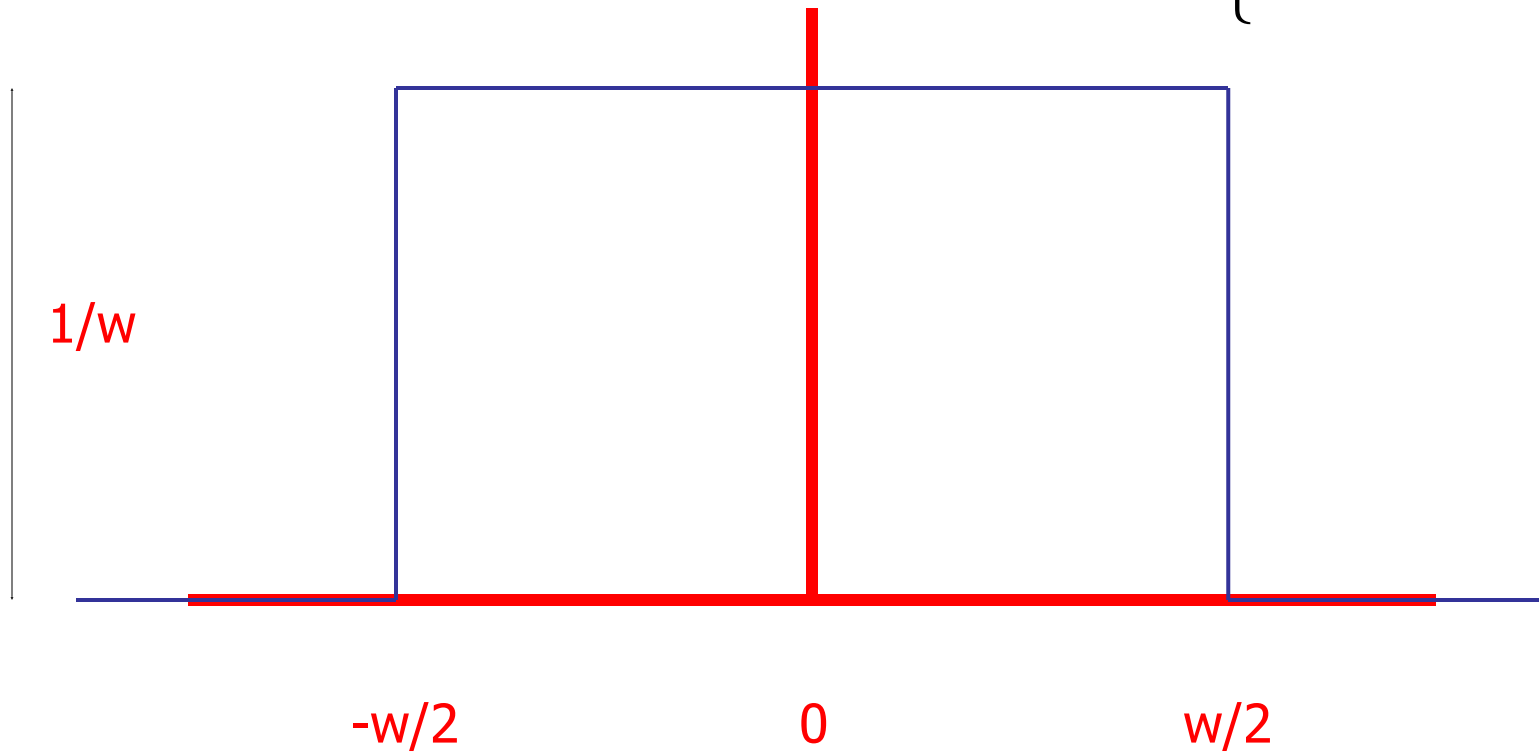
# Why we should care

- Gaussians are as natural as Orange Juice and Sunshine
- We need them to understand Bayes Optimal Classifiers
- We need them to understand regression
- We need them to understand neural nets
- We need them to understand mixture models
- ...

(You get the idea)

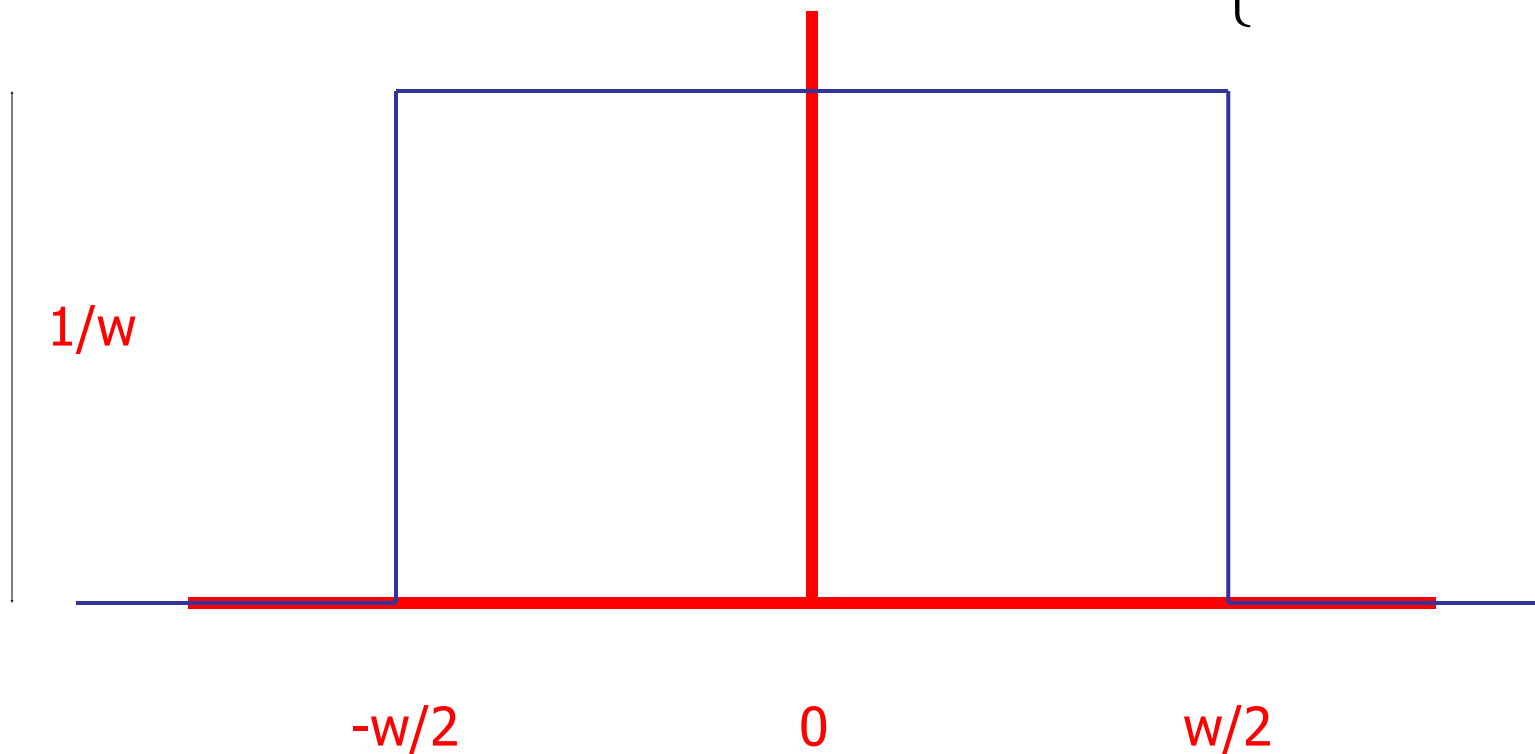
# The “box” distribution

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w} & \text{if } |x| \leq \frac{w}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > \frac{w}{2} \end{cases}$$




# The “box” distribution

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w} & \text{if } |x| \leq \frac{w}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > \frac{w}{2} \end{cases}$$



$$E[X] = 0 \quad \text{Var}[X] = \frac{w^2}{12}$$

# Entropy of a PDF

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


Natural log (ln or log<sub>e</sub>)

The larger the entropy of a distribution...

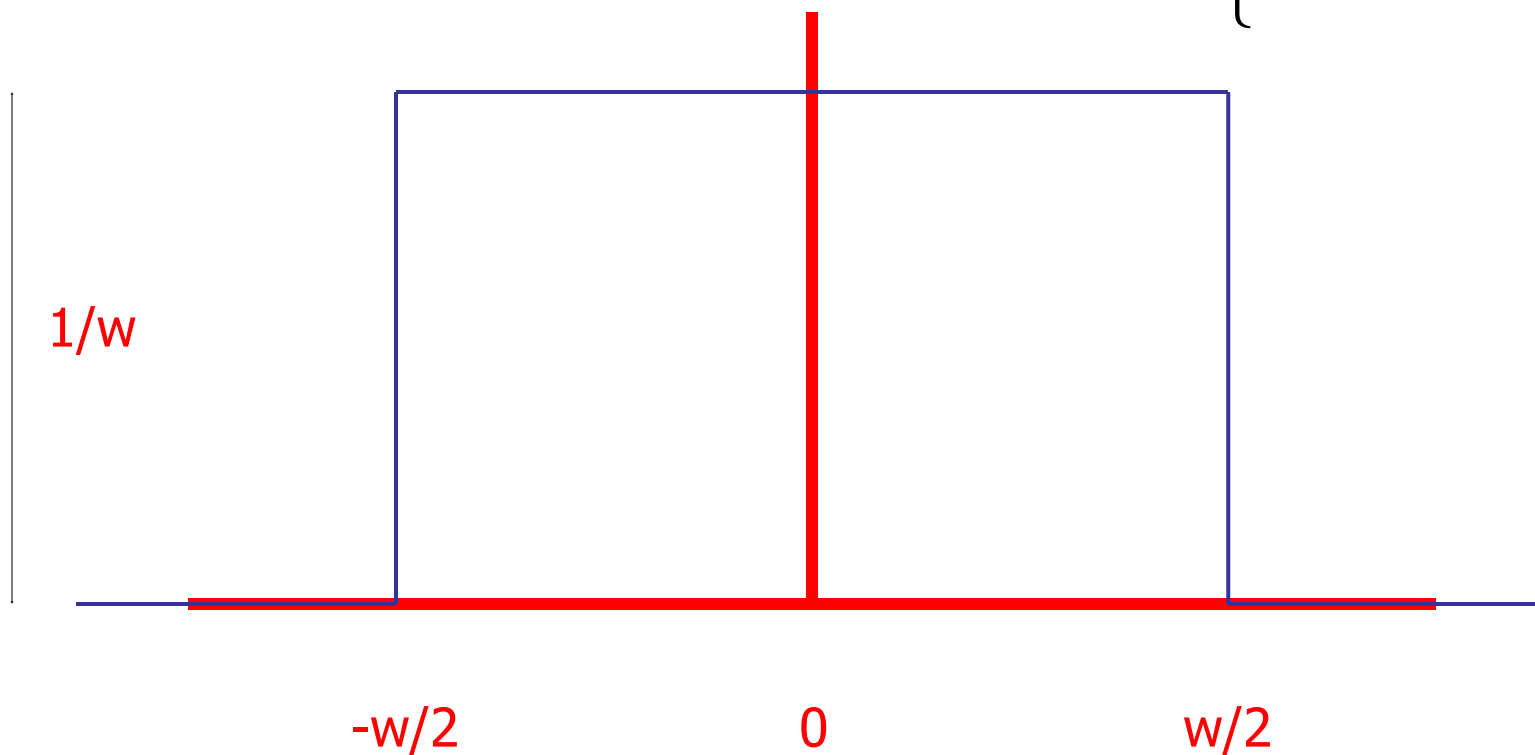
...the harder it is to predict

...the harder it is to compress it

...the less spiky the distribution

# The “box” distribution

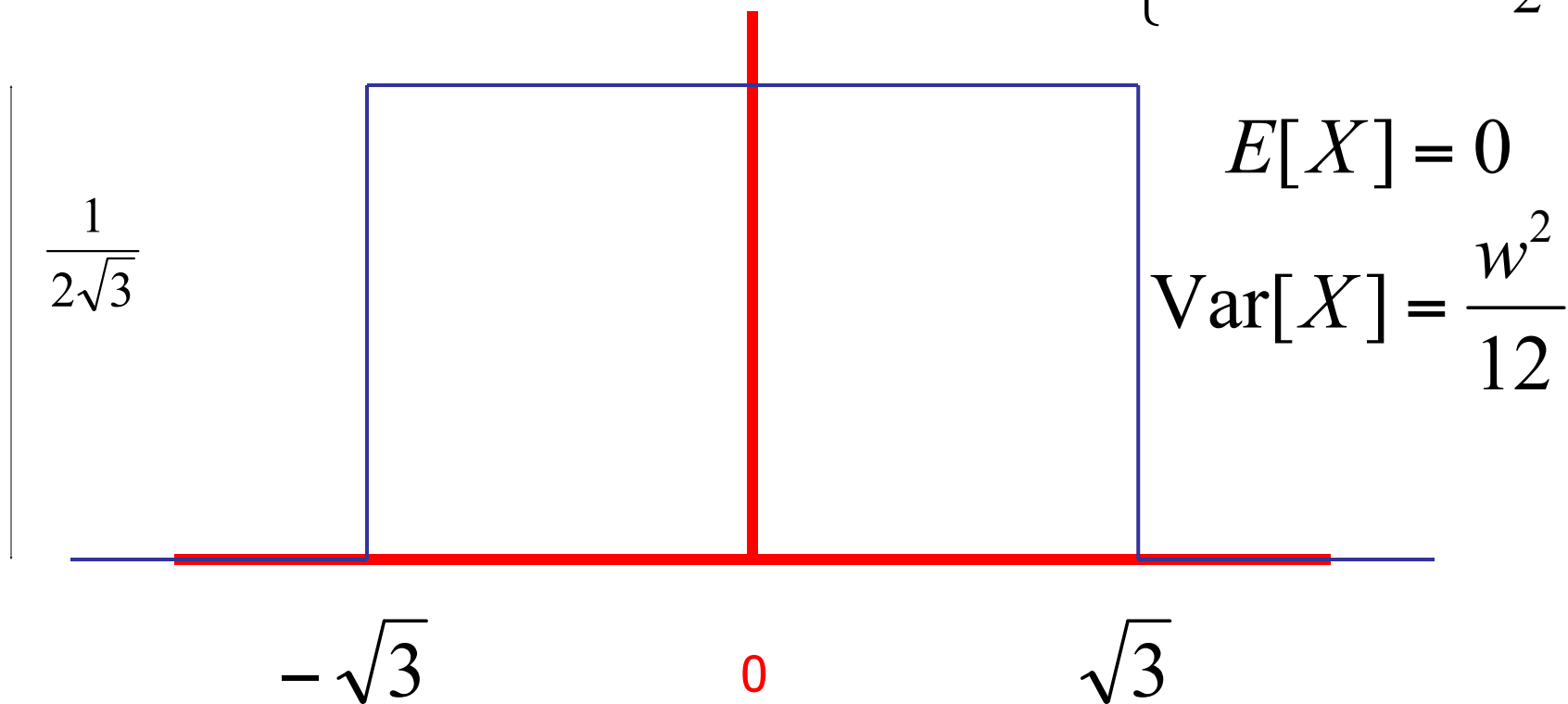
$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w} & \text{if } |x| \leq \frac{w}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > \frac{w}{2} \end{cases}$$



$$H[X] = - \int_{x=-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) \log p(x) dx = - \int_{x=-w/2}^{w/2} \frac{1}{w} \log \frac{1}{w} dx = - \frac{1}{w} \log \frac{1}{w} \int_{x=-w/2}^{w/2} dx = \log w$$

# Unit variance box distribution

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{w} & \text{if } |x| \leq \frac{w}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > \frac{w}{2} \end{cases}$$

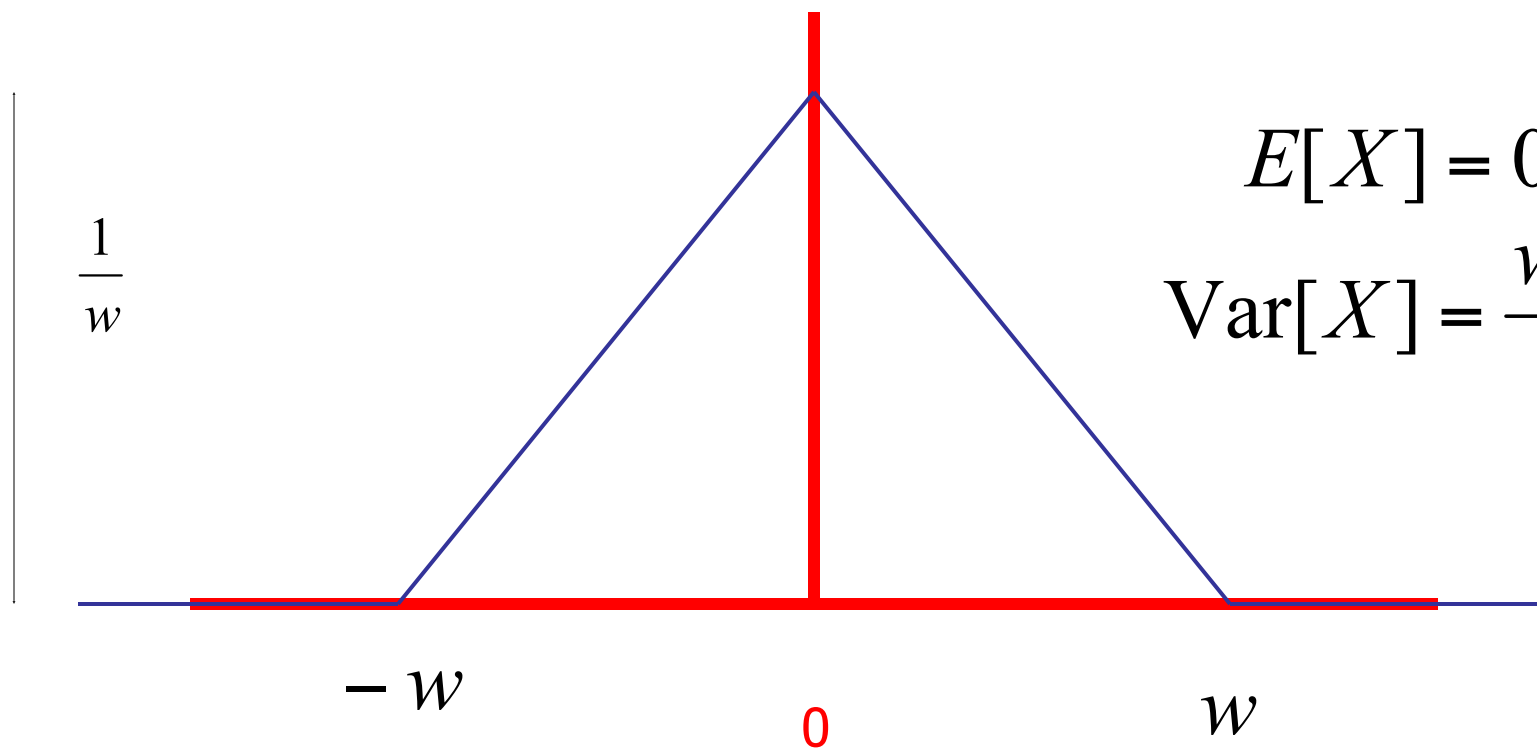


if  $w = 2\sqrt{3}$  then  $\text{Var}[X] = 1$  and  $H[X] = 1.242$



# The Hat distribution

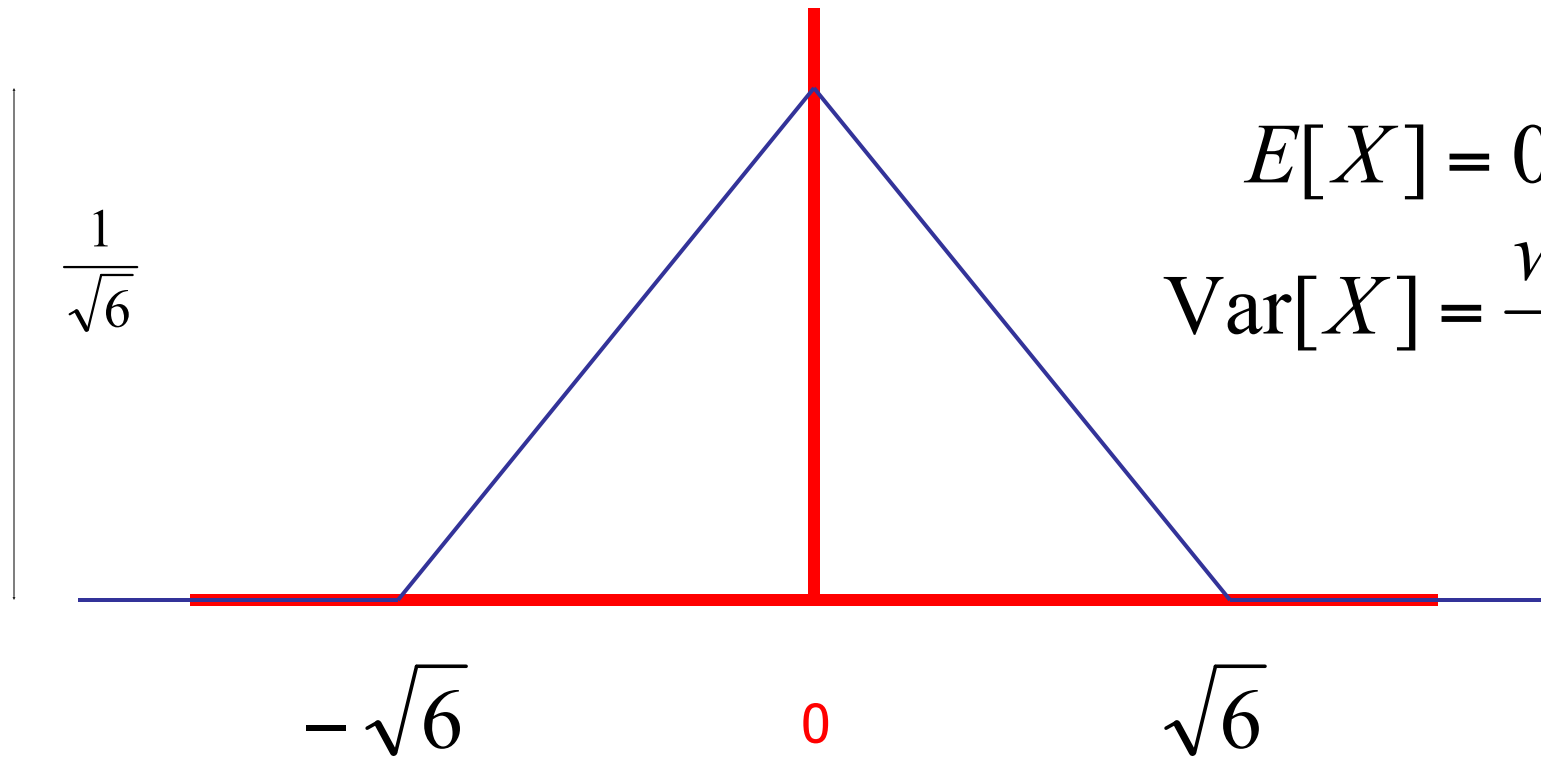
$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{w - |x|}{w^2} & \text{if } |x| \leq w \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > w \end{cases}$$



$$E[X] = 0$$
$$\text{Var}[X] = \frac{w^2}{6}$$

# Unit variance hat distribution

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{w - |x|}{w^2} & \text{if } |x| \leq w \\ 0 & \text{if } |x| > w \end{cases}$$

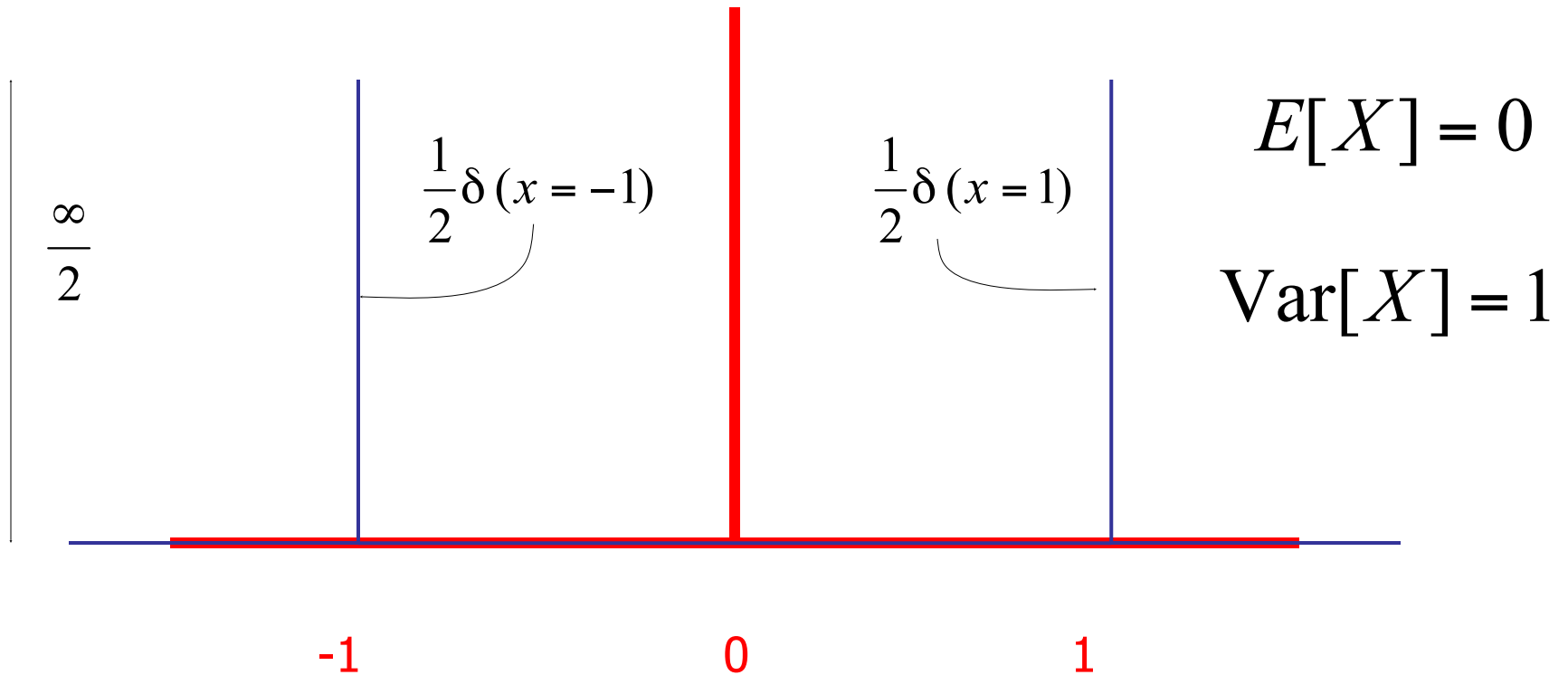


$$E[X] = 0$$
$$\text{Var}[X] = \frac{w^2}{6}$$

if  $w = \sqrt{6}$  then  $\text{Var}[X] = 1$  and  $H[X] = 1.396$

# The "2 spikes" distribution

$$p(x) = \frac{\delta(x = -1) + \delta(x = 1)}{2}$$



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

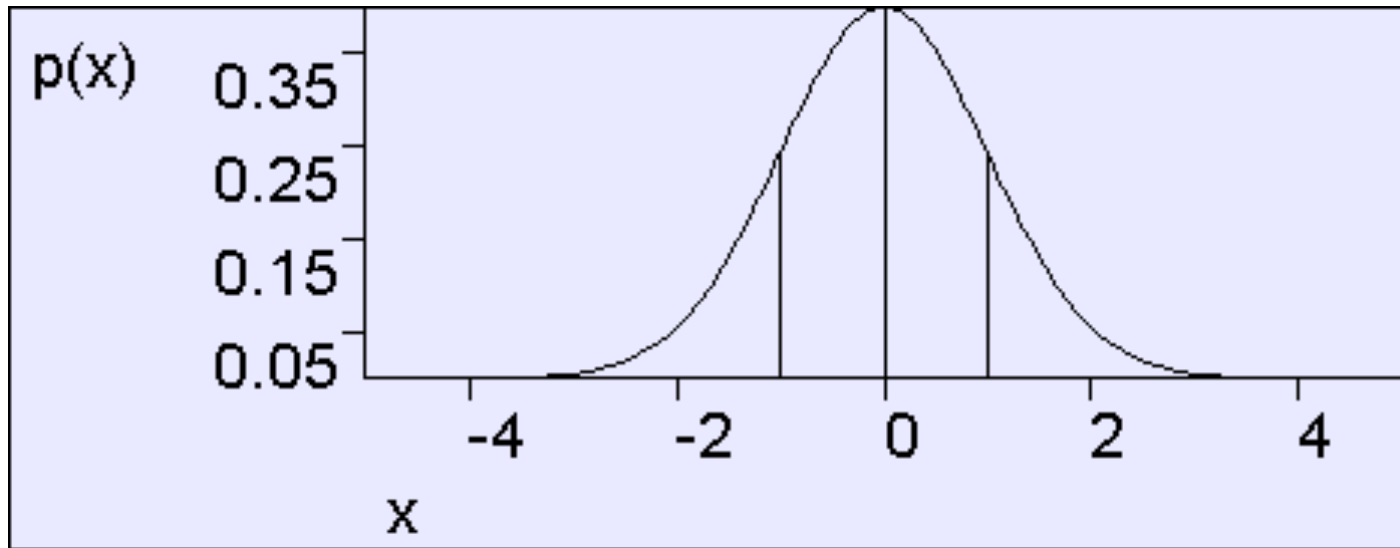
# Entropies of unit-variance distributions

Distribution	Entropy
Box	1.242
Hat	1.396
2 spikes	-infinity
???	1.4189

Largest possible  
entropy of any unit-  
variance distribution

# Unit variance Gaussian

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



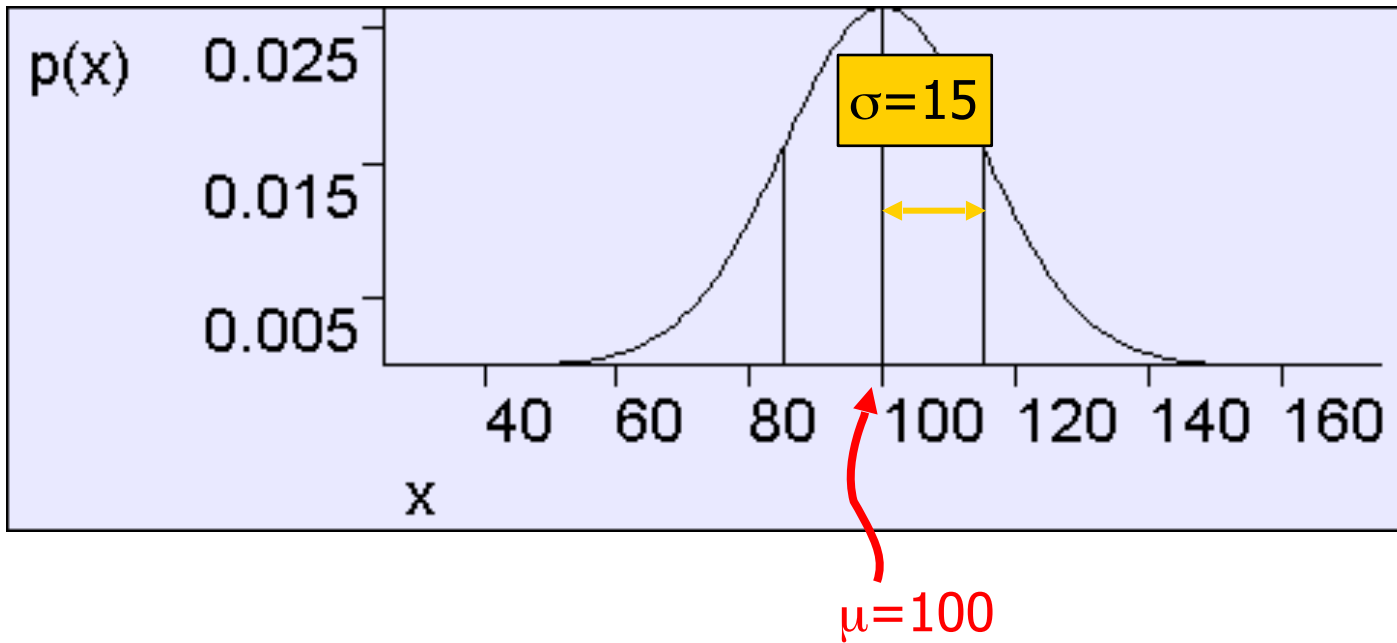
$$E[X] = 0$$

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

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

# General Gaussian

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



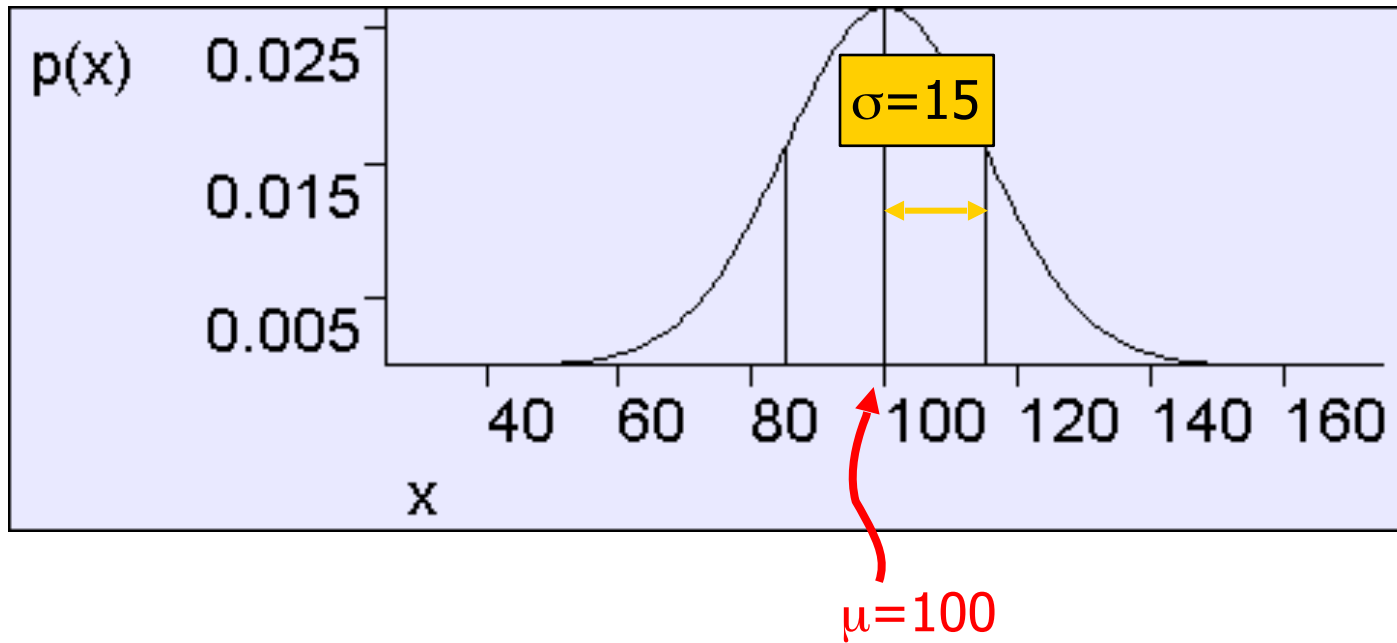
$$E[X] = \mu$$

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

# 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  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$ ".

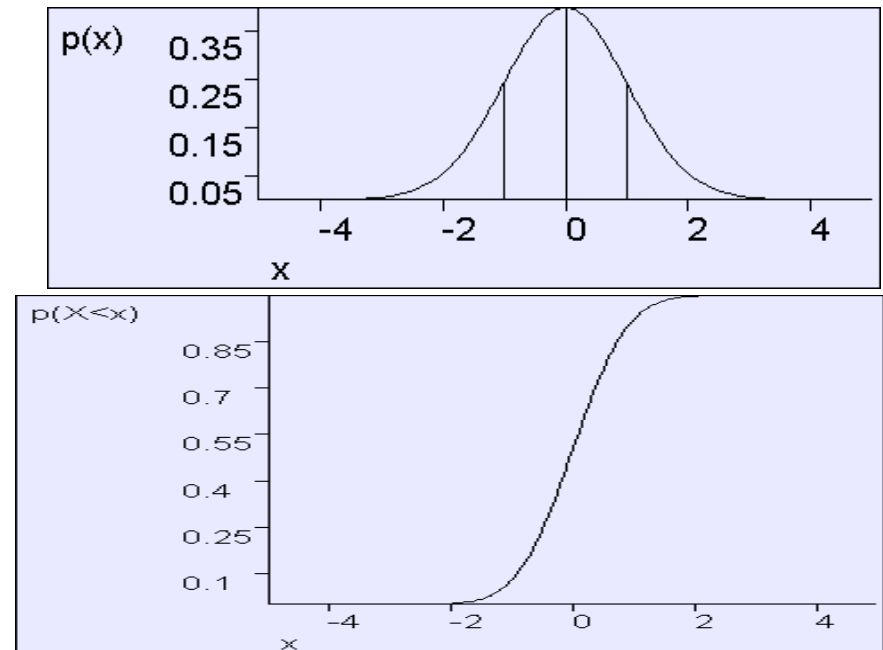
In the above figure,  $X \sim N(100, 15^2)$

# The Error Function

Assume  $X \sim N(0,1)$

Define  $ERF(x) = P(X < x) = \text{Cumulative Distribution of } X$

$$ERF(x) = \int_{z=-\infty}^x p(z) dz$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{z=-\infty}^x \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right) dz$$

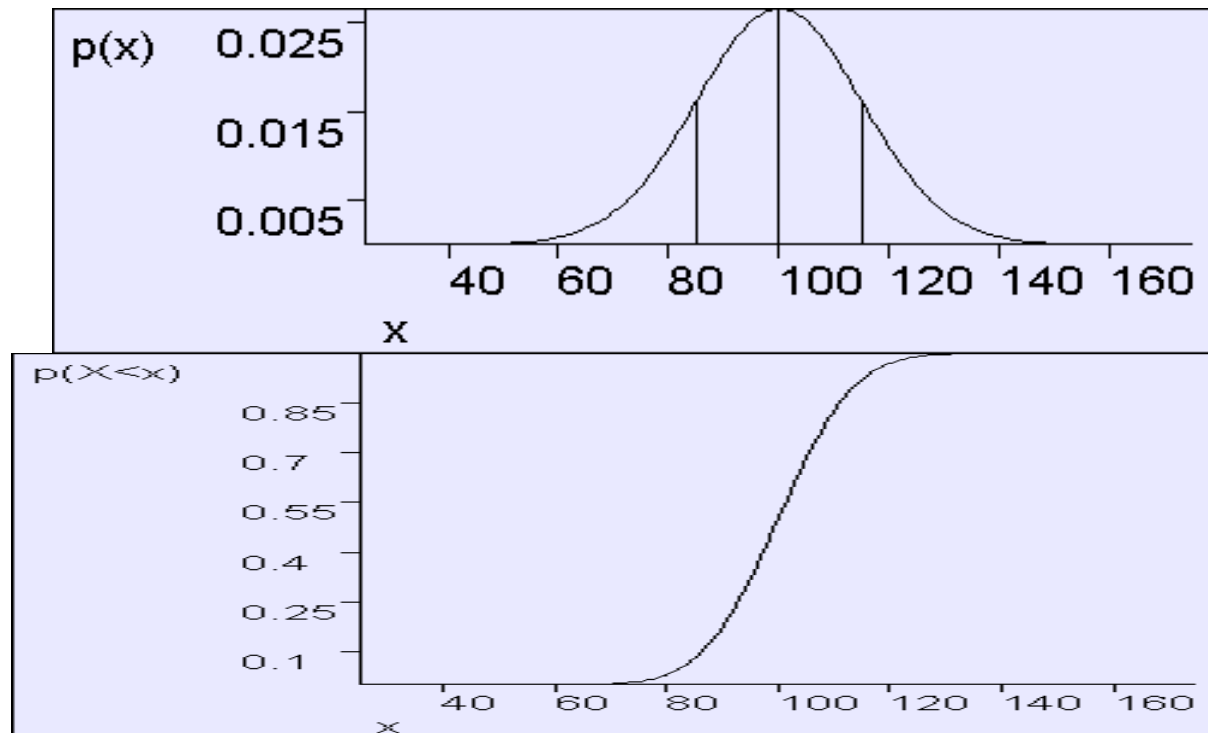




# Using The Error Function

Assume  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$P(X < x | \mu, \sigma^2) = \text{ERF}\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma^2}\right)$$



# 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

# Other amazing facts about Gaussians

- Wouldn't you like to know?
- We will not examine them until we need to.

# Bivariate Gaussians

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

# Bivariate Gaussians

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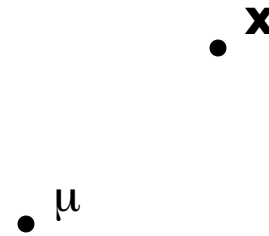
It turns out that  $E[X] = \mu$  and  $\text{Cov}[X] = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ . (Note that this is a resulting property of Gaussians, not a definition)\*

\*This note rates 7.4 on the pedanticness scale

# Evaluating $p(\mathbf{x})$ : Step 1

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

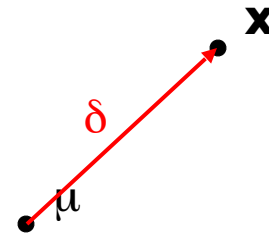
1. Begin with vector  $\mathbf{x}$



# Evaluating $p(\mathbf{x})$ : Step 2

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

1. Begin with vector  $\mathbf{x}$
2. Define  $\boldsymbol{\delta} = \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}$

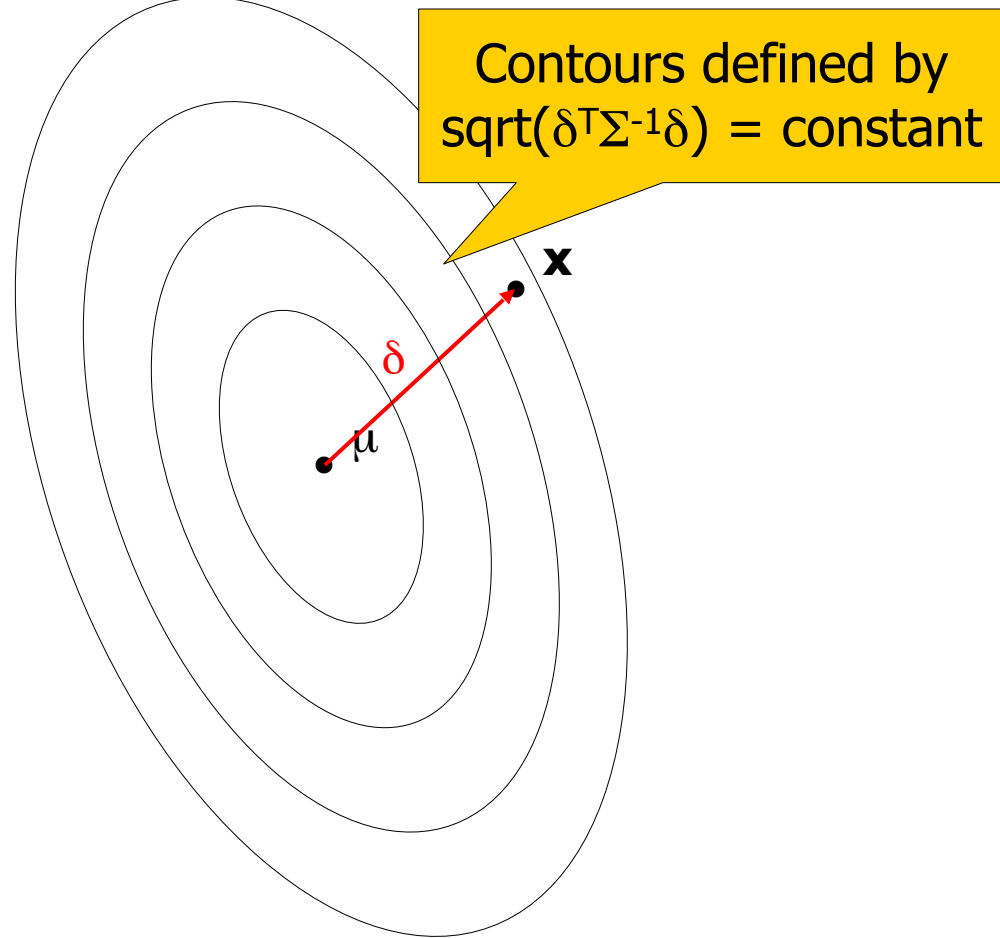


# Evaluating $p(\mathbf{x})$ : Step 3

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

1. Begin with vector  $\mathbf{x}$
2. Define  $\boldsymbol{\delta} = \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}$
3. Count the number of contours crossed of the ellipsoids formed  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$

$D = \text{this count} = \text{sqrt}(\boldsymbol{\delta}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\delta})$   
= Mahalanobis Distance  
between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$





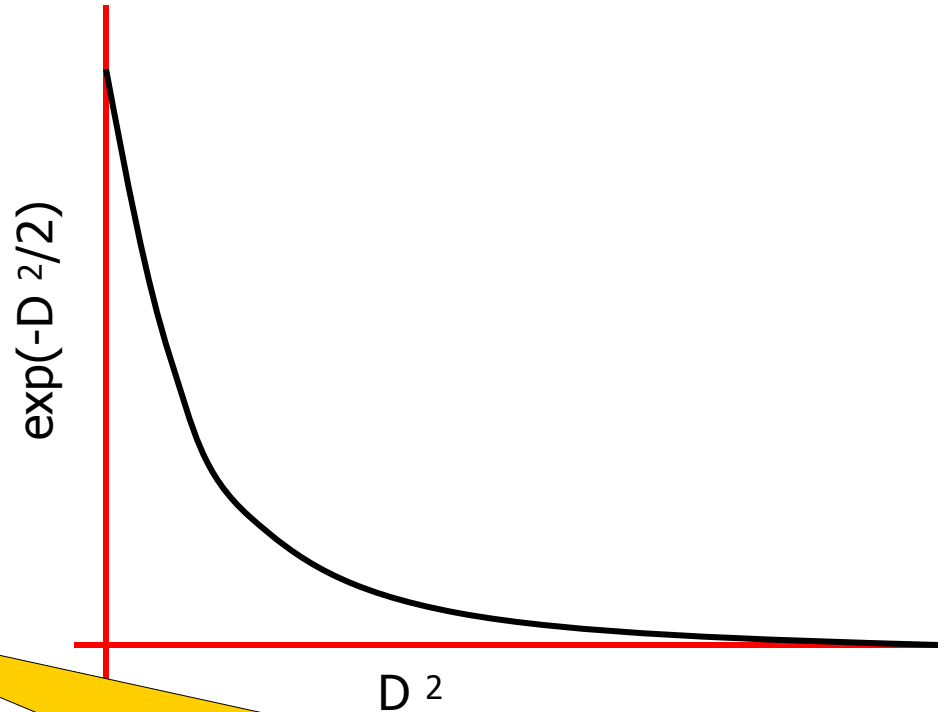
# Evaluating $p(\mathbf{x})$ : Step 4

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

1. Begin with vector  $\mathbf{x}$
2. Define  $\delta = \mathbf{x} - \mu$
3. Count the number of contours crossed of the ellipsoids formed  $\Sigma^{-1}$

$D = \text{this count} = \sqrt{\delta^T \Sigma^{-1} \delta}$   
= Mahalanobis Distance  
between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mu$

4. Define  $w = \exp(-D^2/2)$



$\mathbf{x}$  close to  $\mu$  in squared Mahalanobis space gets a large weight. Far away gets a tiny weight

# Evaluating $p(\mathbf{x})$ : Step 5

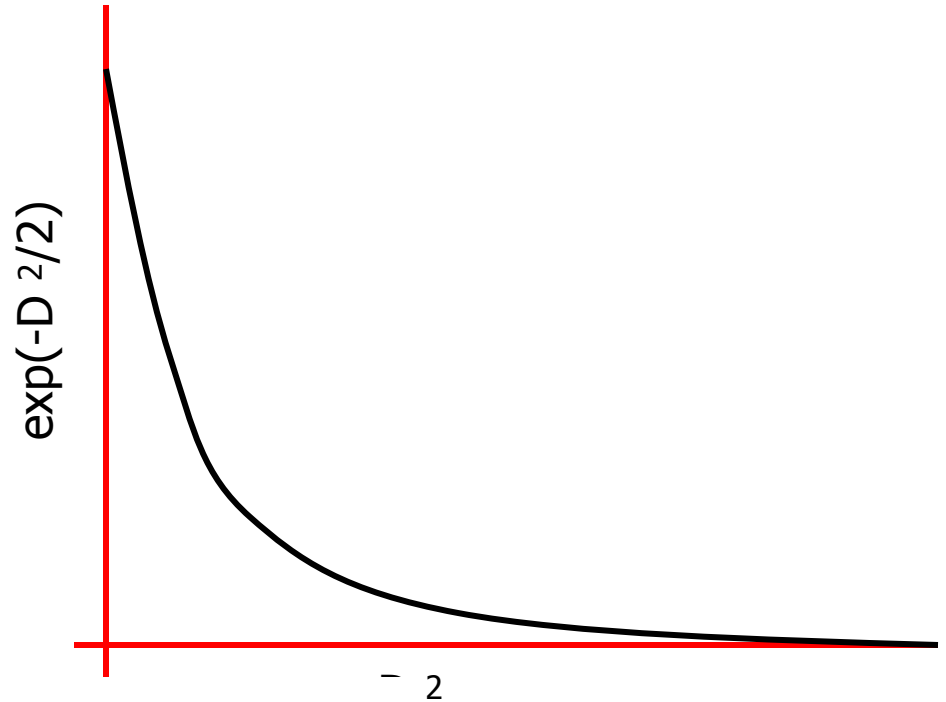
$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2\pi \|\Sigma\|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)\right)$$

1. Begin with vector  $\mathbf{x}$
2. Define  $\delta = \mathbf{x} - \mu$
3. Count the number of contours crossed of the ellipsoids formed  $\Sigma^{-1}$

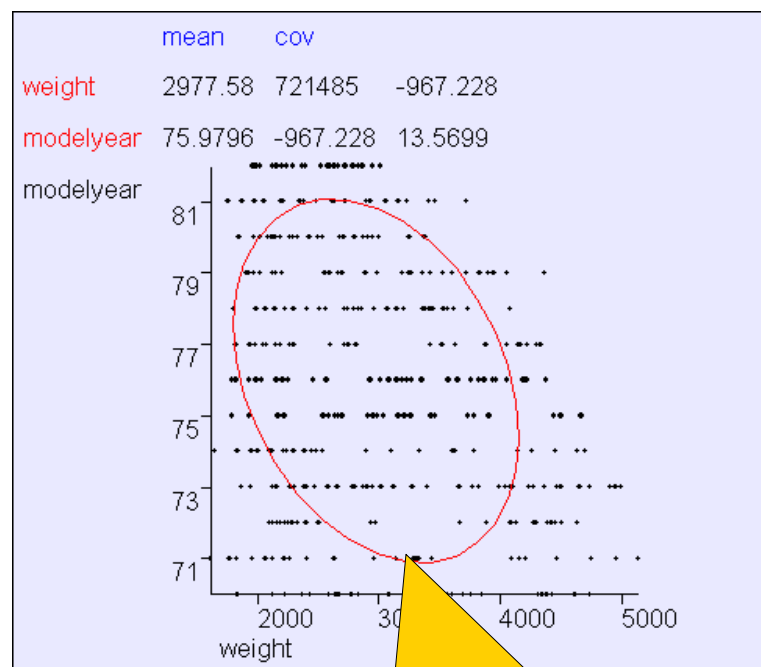
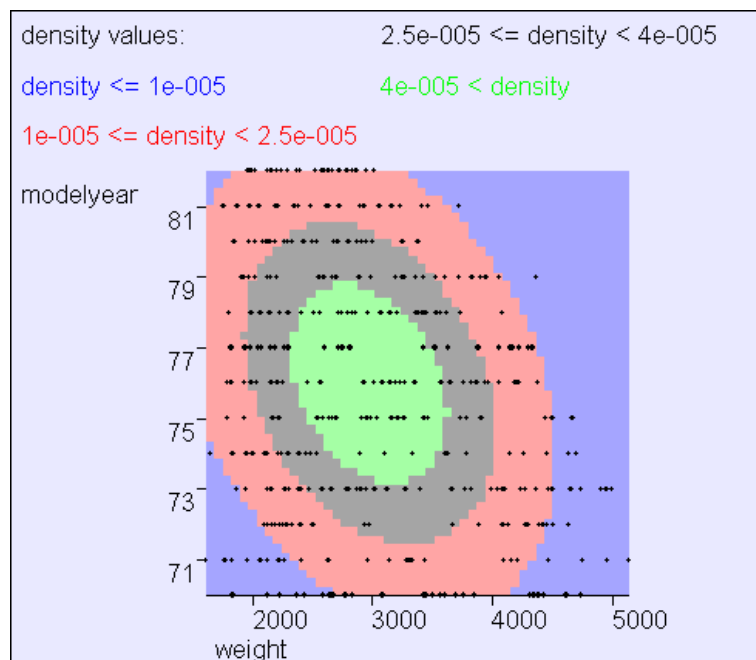
$D = \text{this count} = \text{sqrt}(\delta^T \Sigma^{-1} \delta)$   
 = Mahalanobis Distance  
 between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mu$

4. Define  $w = \exp(-D^2/2)$

5. Multiply  $w$  by  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \|\Sigma\|^{1/2}}$  to ensure  $\int p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = 1$



# Example



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

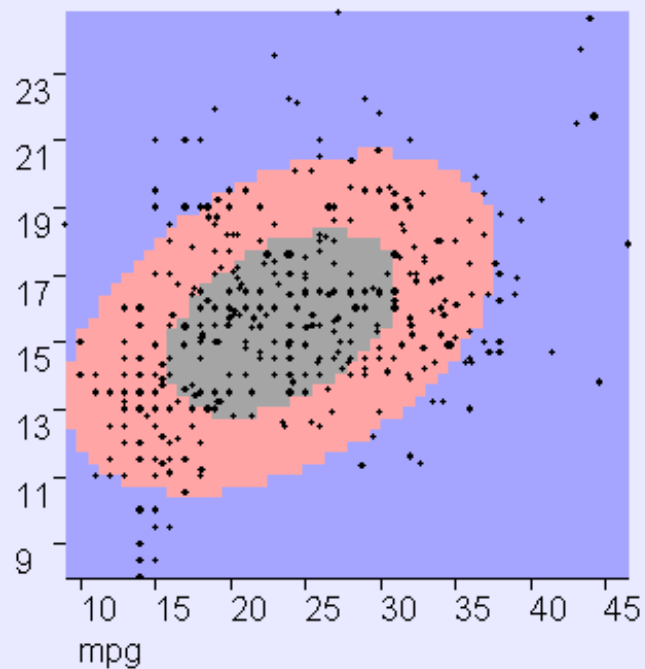
Common convention: show contour corresponding to 2 standard deviations from mean

# Example

density values: 0.0015 <= density < 0.005

density <= 0.0015 0.005 < density

acceleration

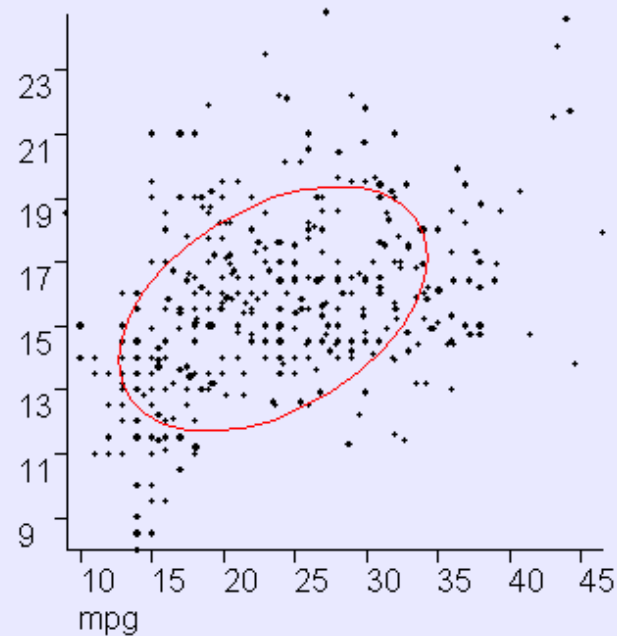


mean cov

mpg 23.4459 60.9181 9.11551

acceleration 15.5413 9.11551 7.61133

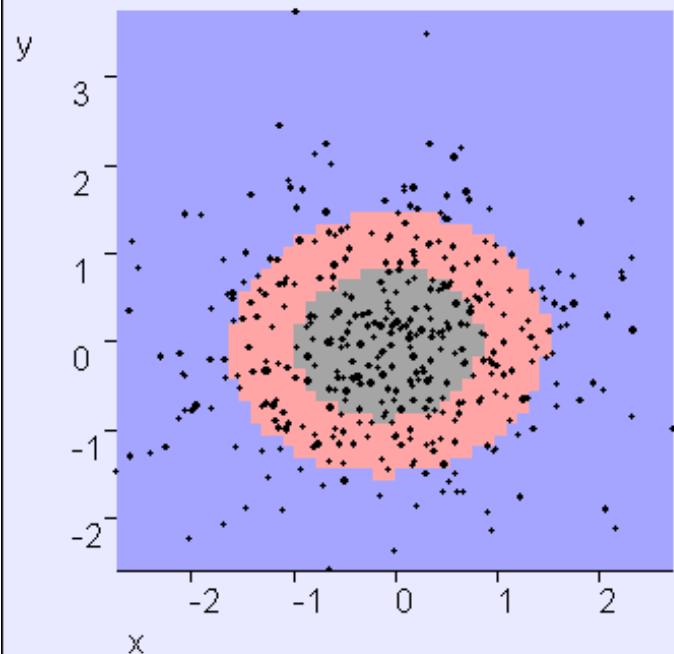
acceleration



# Example

density values:  $0.05 \leq \text{density} < 0.11$

$\text{density} \leq 0.05$   $0.11 < \text{density}$

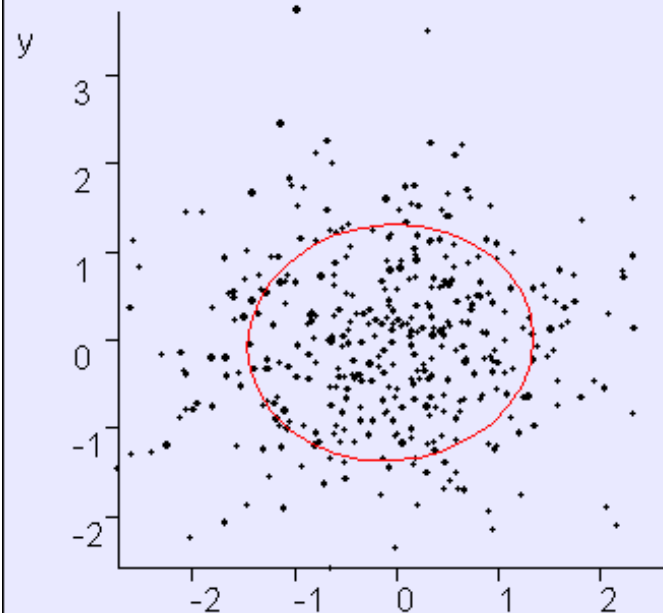


mean

cov

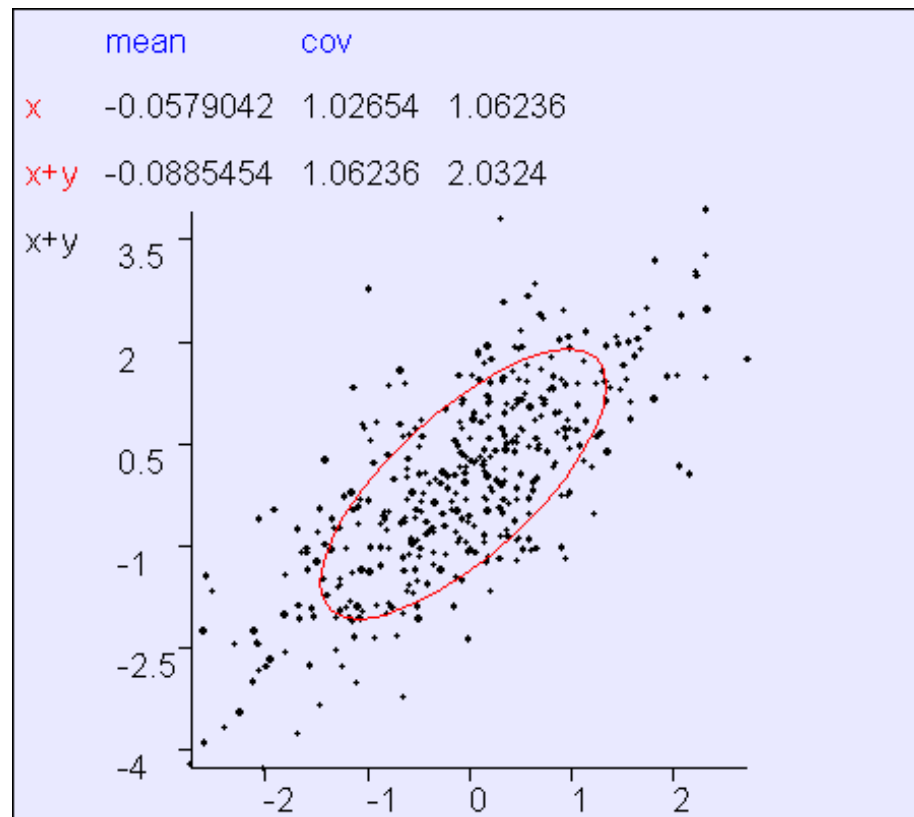
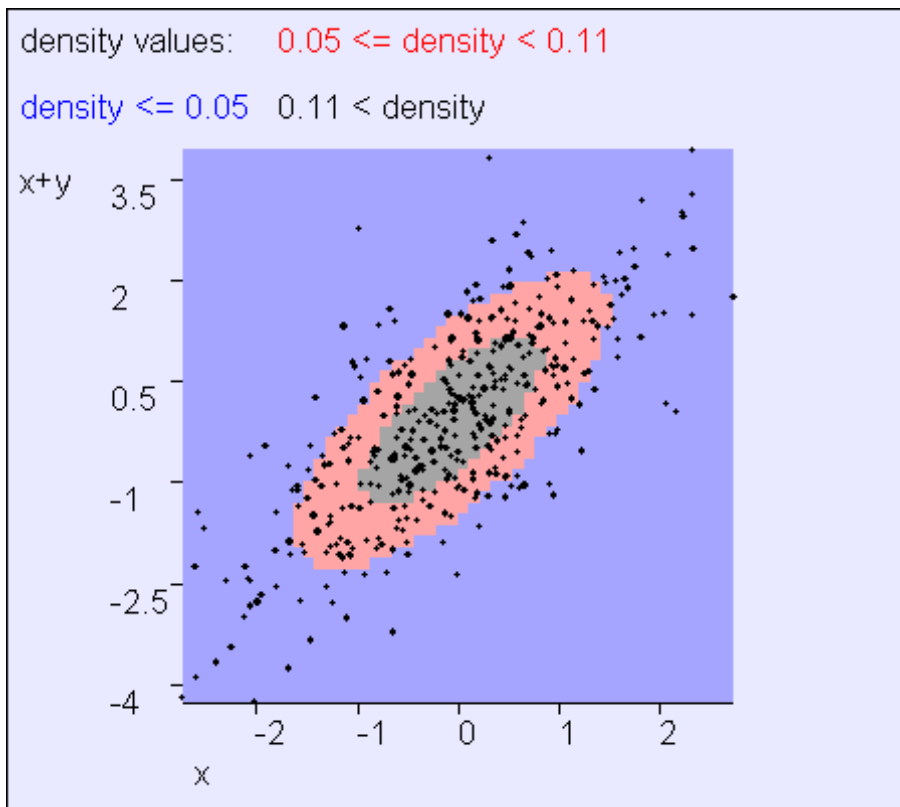
x -0.0579042 1.02654 0.0358283

y -0.0306411 0.0358283 0.934203



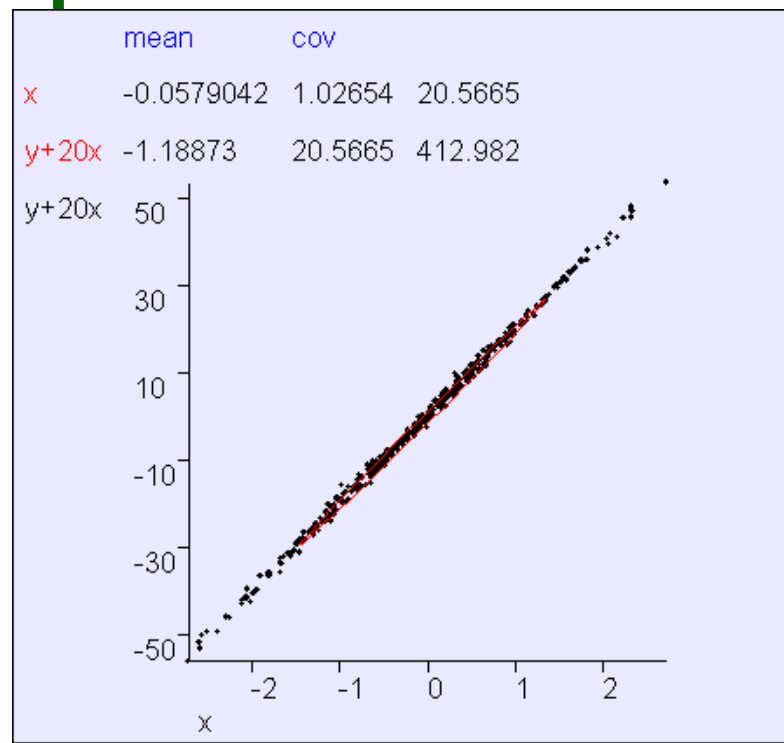
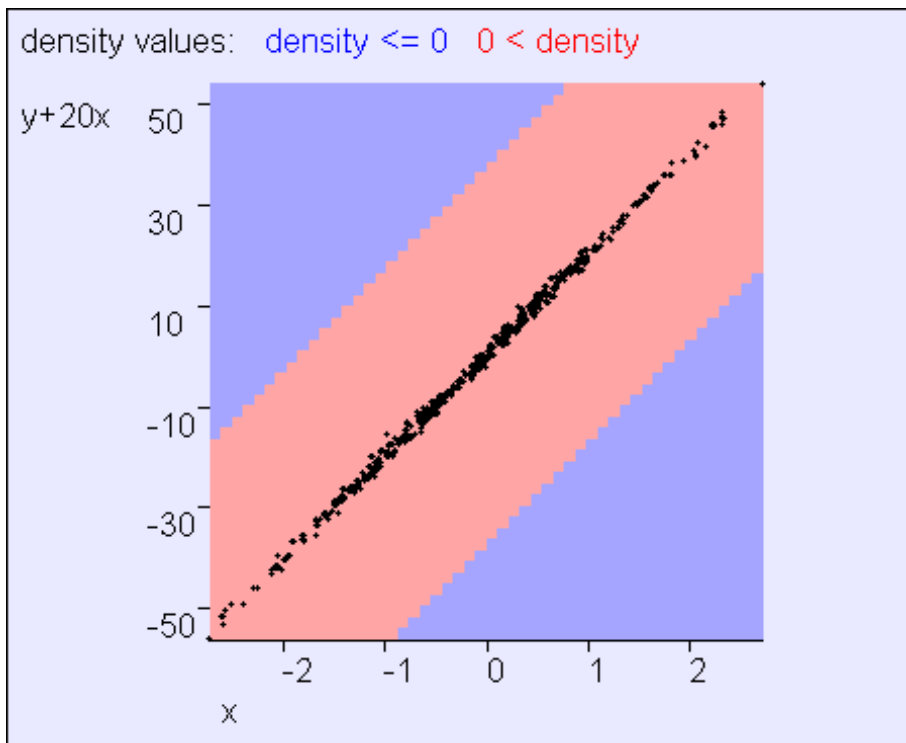
In this example,  $x$  and  $y$  are almost independent

# Example



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

# Example



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

# Multivariate Gaussians

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

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \boxed{?} \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2_1 & \sigma_{12} & \boxed{?} & \sigma_{1m} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma^2_2 & \boxed{?} & \sigma_{2m} \\ \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} \\ \sigma_{1m} & \sigma_{2m} & \boxed{?} & \sigma^2_m \end{pmatrix}$$

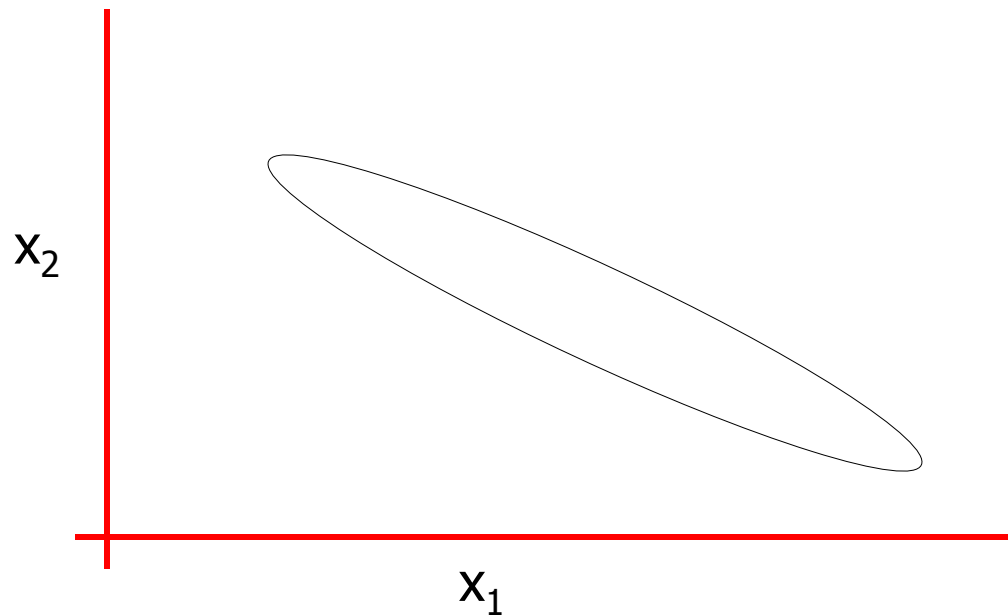
Where we insist that  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$  is symmetric non-negative definite

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



# General Gaussians

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \boxed{?} \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2_1 & \sigma_{12} & \boxed{?} & \sigma_{1m} \\ \sigma_{12} & \sigma^2_2 & \boxed{?} & \sigma_{2m} \\ \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} \\ \sigma_{1m} & \sigma_{2m} & \boxed{?} & \sigma^2_m \end{pmatrix}$$

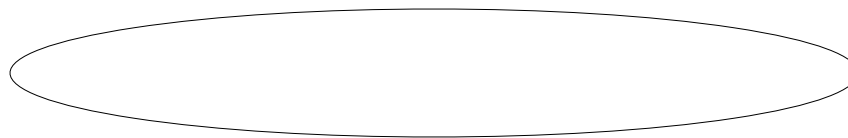


# Axis-Aligned Gaussians

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \boxed{?} \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix} \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2_1 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{?} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2_2 & 0 & \boxed{?} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma^2_3 & \boxed{?} & 0 & 0 \\ \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{?} & \sigma^2_{m-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{?} & 0 & \sigma^2_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_i \perp X_j \text{ for } i \neq j$$

$x_2$



$x_1$

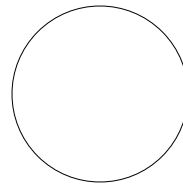
# Spherical Gaussians

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \boxed{?} \\ \mu_m \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{?} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 & 0 & \boxed{?} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma^2 & \boxed{?} & 0 & 0 \\ \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} & \boxed{?} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{?} & \sigma^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{?} & 0 & \sigma^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_i \perp X_j \text{ for } i \neq j$$

$x_2$



$x_1$

# Degenerate Gaussians

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

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

$x_2$

$x_1$

What's so wrong  
with clipping  
one's toenails in  
public?

# 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

# Subsets of variables

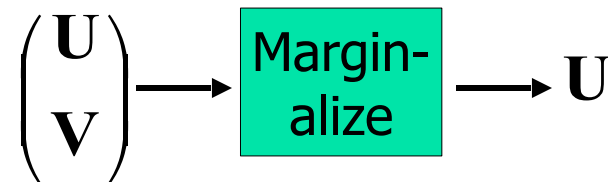
$$\text{Write } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \boxed{?} \\ X_m \end{pmatrix} \text{ as } \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \text{ where}$$

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \boxed{?} \\ X_{m(u)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{m(u)+1} \\ \boxed{?} \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$$

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

# Gaussian Marginals are Gaussian



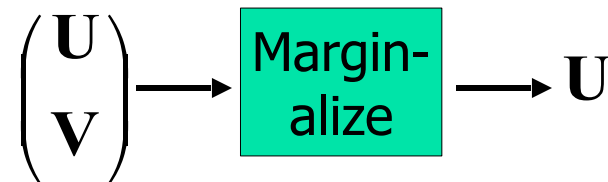
Write  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \boxed{?} \\ X_m \end{pmatrix}$  as  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ \boxed{?} \\ X_{m(u)} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{m(u)+1} \\ \boxed{?} \\ X_m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

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

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

# Gaussian Marginals are Gaussian



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

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

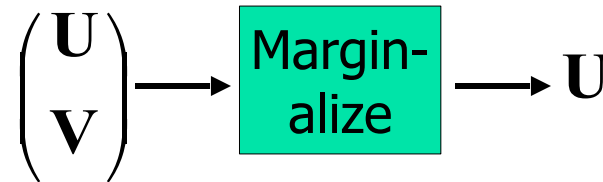
$\mathbf{U} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_u, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu})$

This fact is not immediately obvious

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



# Gaussian Marginals are Gaussian



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

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

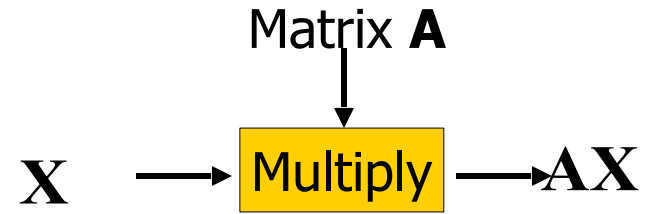
THEN  $\mathbf{U}$  is also distributed as a Gaussian

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

How would you prove this?

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

# 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  $p \leq m$  :

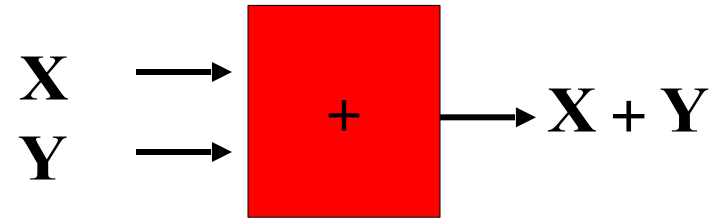
$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{AX}$$

...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

Adding samples of 2  
independent Gaussians is  
Gaussian



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

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

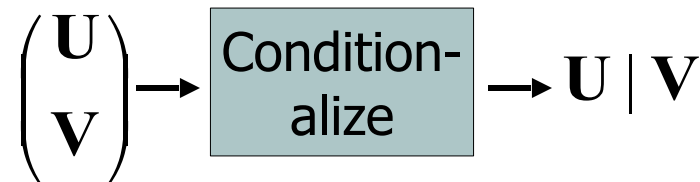
Why doesn't this hold if  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent?

Which of the below statements is true?

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

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are dependent, then  $X+Y$  might be non-Gaussian

# Conditional of Gaussian is Gaussian

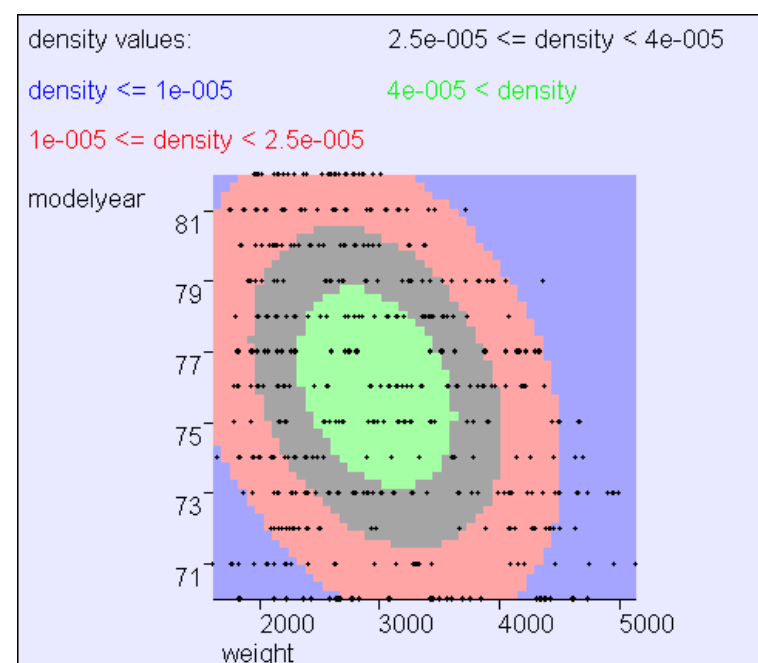


$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}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

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

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

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



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

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

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

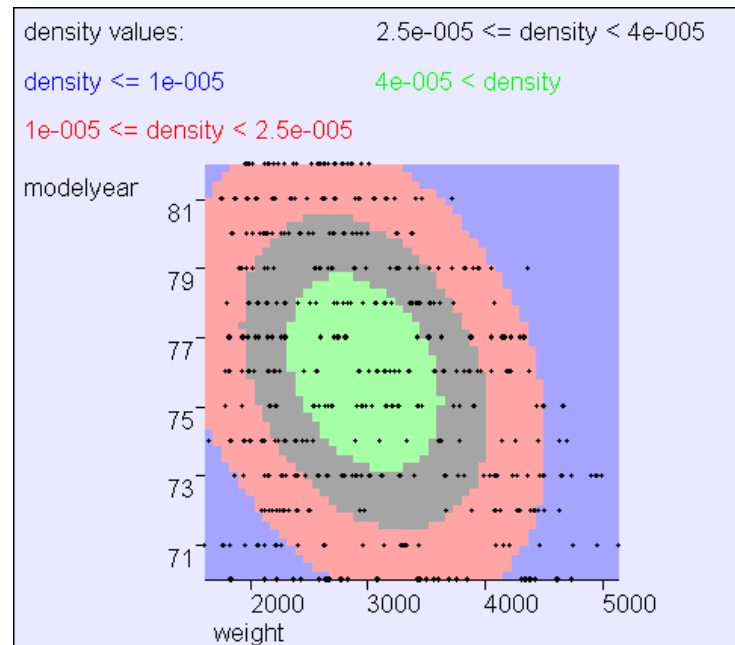
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} w \\ y \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2977 \\ 76 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 849^2 & -967 \\ -967 & 3.68^2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

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

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

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



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

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

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

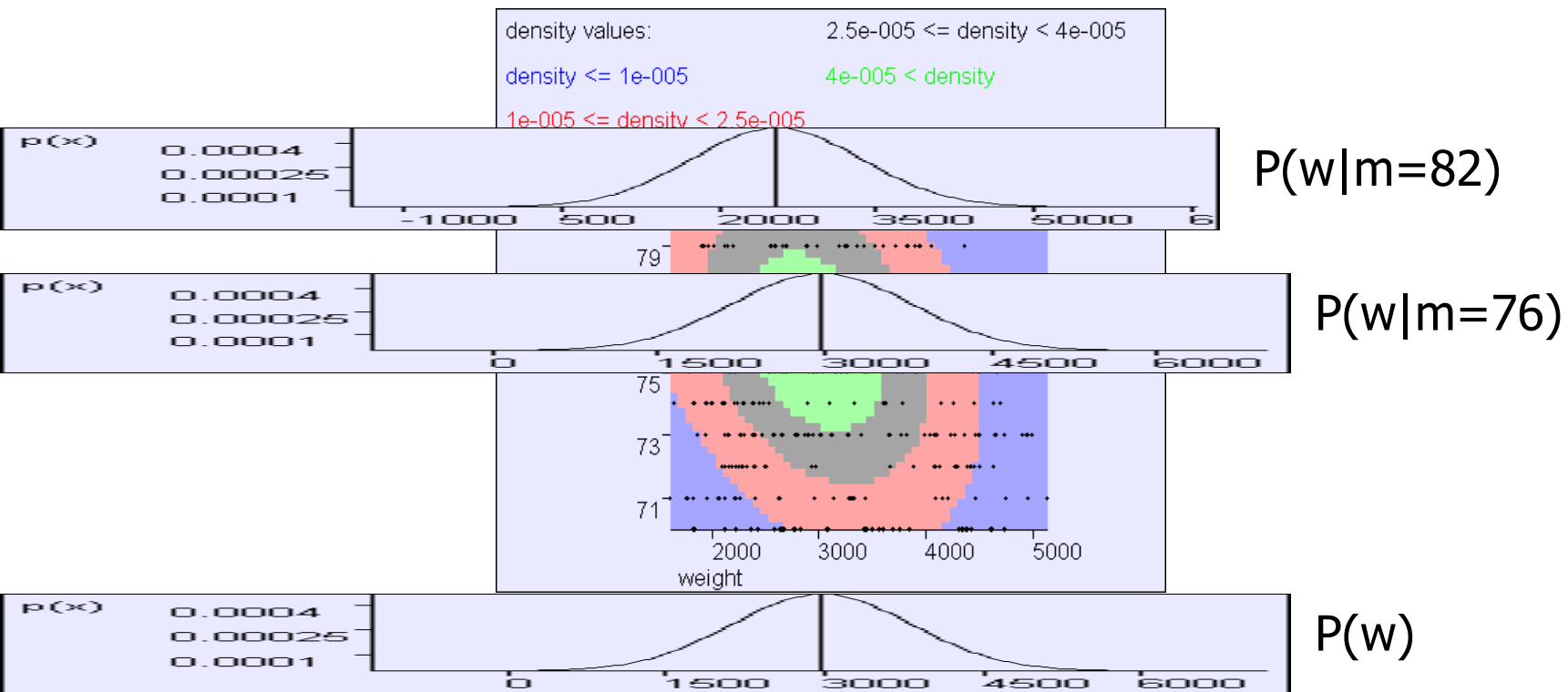
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} w \\ y \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2977 \\ 76 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 849^2 & -967 \\ -967 & 3.68^2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} w \\ y \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2977 \\ 849 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 368^2 & -967 \\ -967 & 849^2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Note: when given value of  $v$  is  $\mu_v$ , the conditional mean of  $u$  is  $\mu_u$

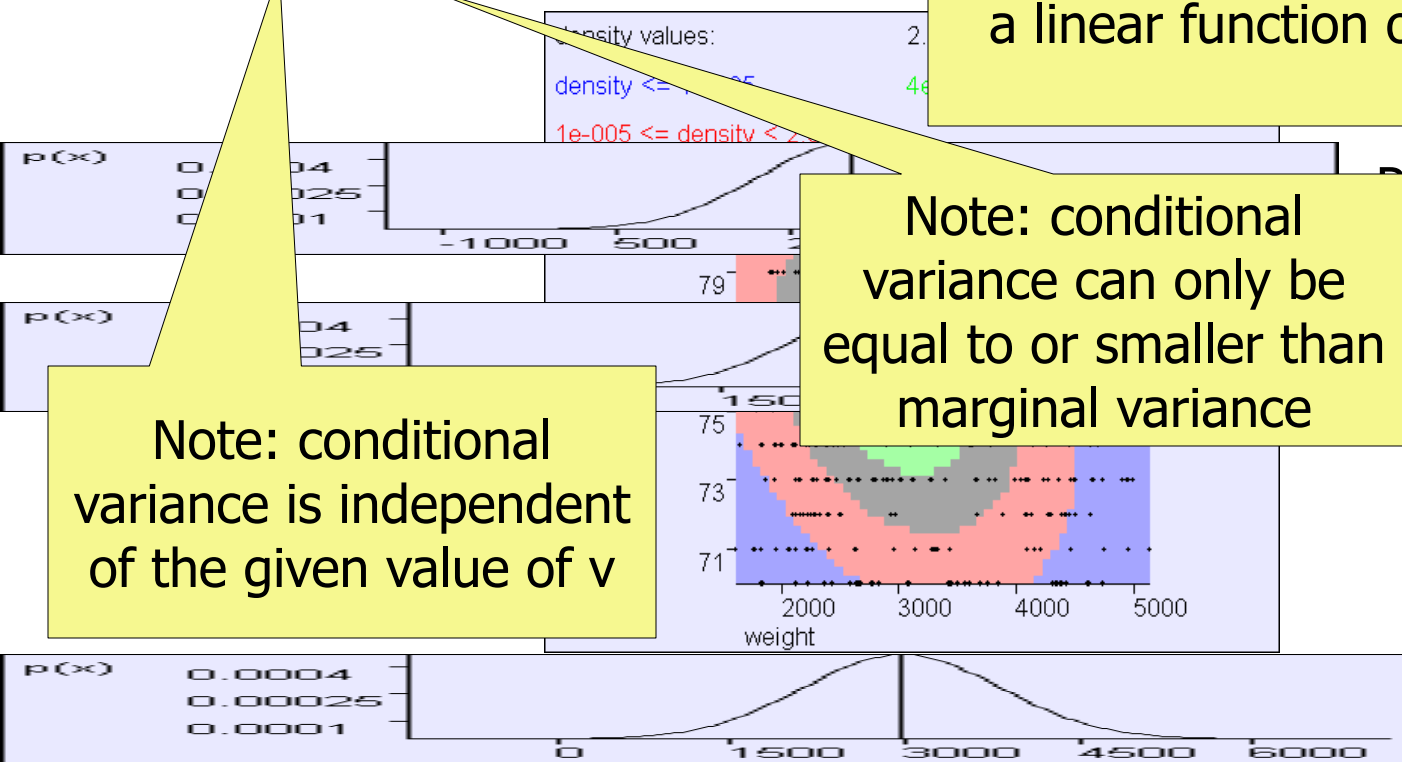
THEN

$$\mu_{w|y} = 2977 - \frac{(-967)(y - 849)}{3.68^2}$$

Note: marginal mean is a linear function of  $v$

Note: conditional variance is independent of the given value of  $v$

Note: conditional variance can only be equal to or smaller than marginal variance



$P(w|m=82)$

$P(w|m=76)$

$P(w)$

# Gaussians and the chain rule

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \\ \mathbf{V} \rightarrow \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{Chain Rule}} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a constant matrix

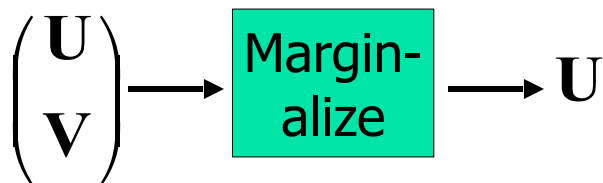
IF  $\mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{V}, \Sigma_{u|v})$  and  $\mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_v, \Sigma_{vv})$

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

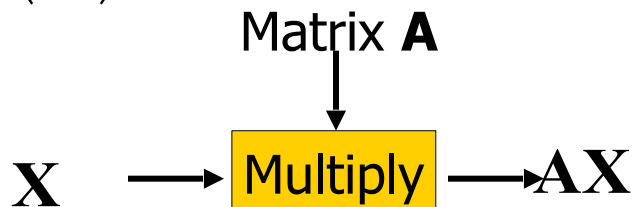
$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}_v \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix} \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}\Sigma_{vv}\mathbf{A}^T + \Sigma_{u|v} & \mathbf{A}\Sigma_{vv} \\ (\mathbf{A}\Sigma_{vv})^T & \Sigma_{vv} \end{pmatrix}$$



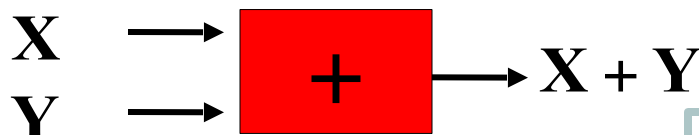
# Available Gaussian tools



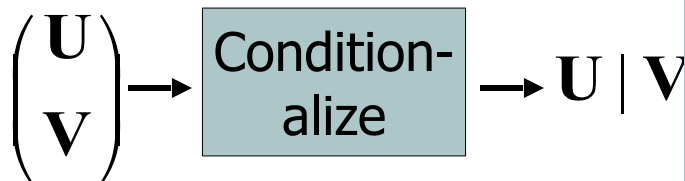
$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}\right)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



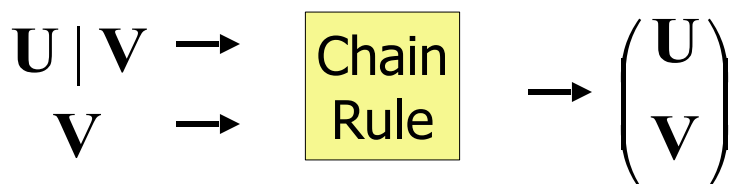
$$\text{IF } \mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) \text{ AND } \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{AX} \text{ THEN } \mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{A}^T)$$



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



$$\text{IF } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_u \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_v \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}\right) \text{ THEN } \mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v}) \\ \text{where } \boldsymbol{\mu}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_u + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} (\mathbf{V} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_v) \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uu} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{uv}$$



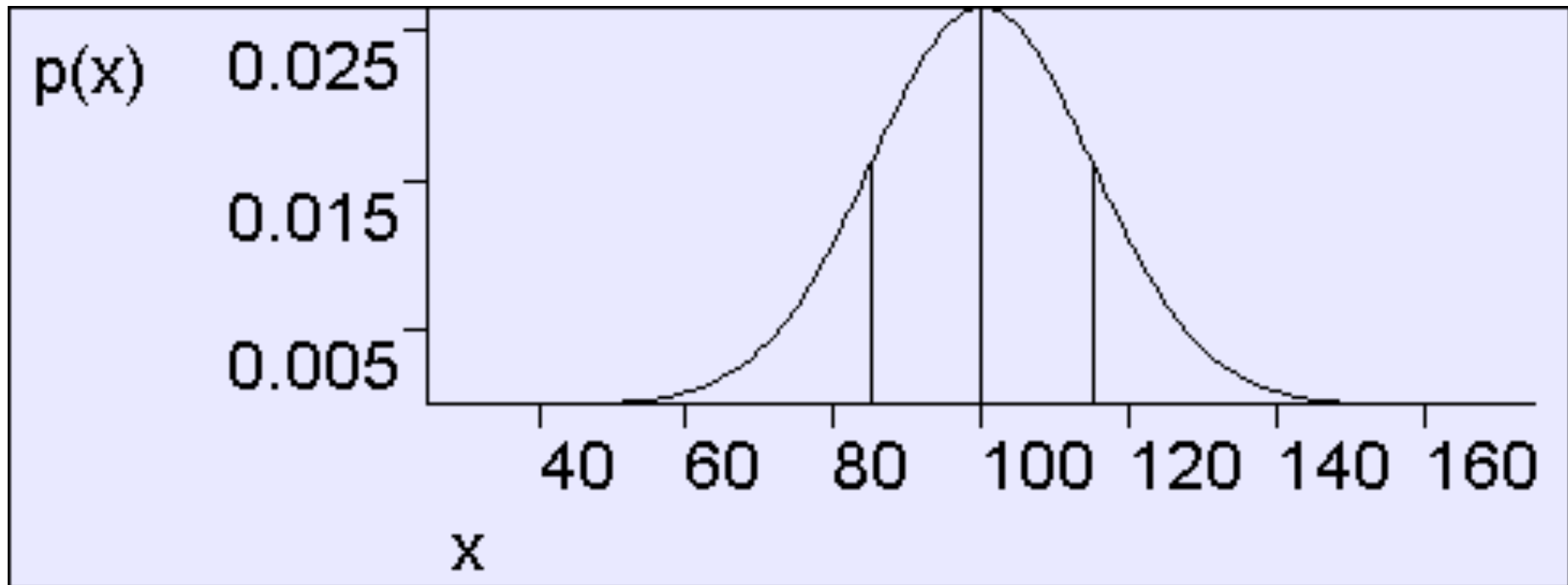
$$\text{IF } \mathbf{U} | \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{AV}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v}) \text{ and } \mathbf{V} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_v, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}) \\ \text{THEN } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}), \text{ with } \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}\mathbf{A}^T + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} & \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \\ (\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv})^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Assume...

- You are an intellectual snob
- You have a child

# Intellectual snobs with children

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



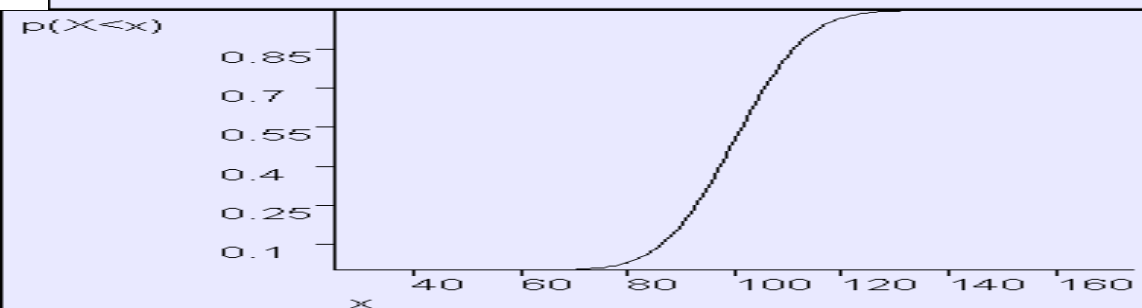
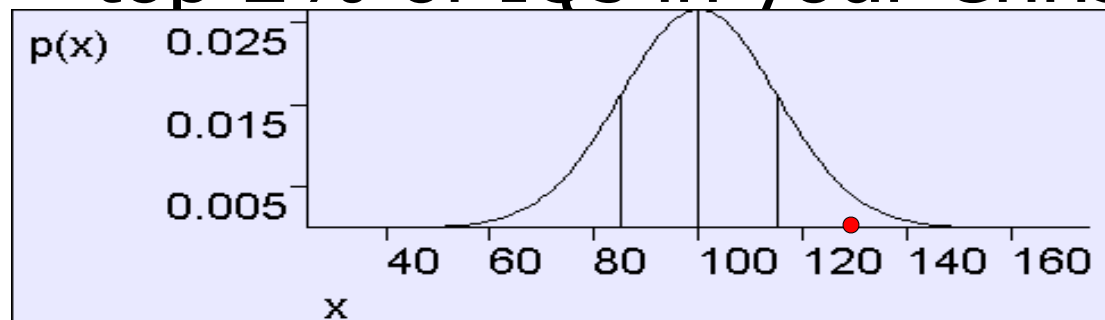
# IQ tests

- 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.

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

## 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.



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

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

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

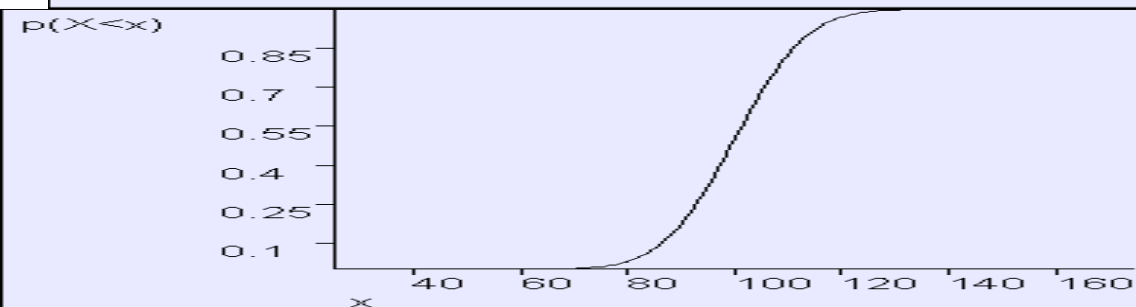
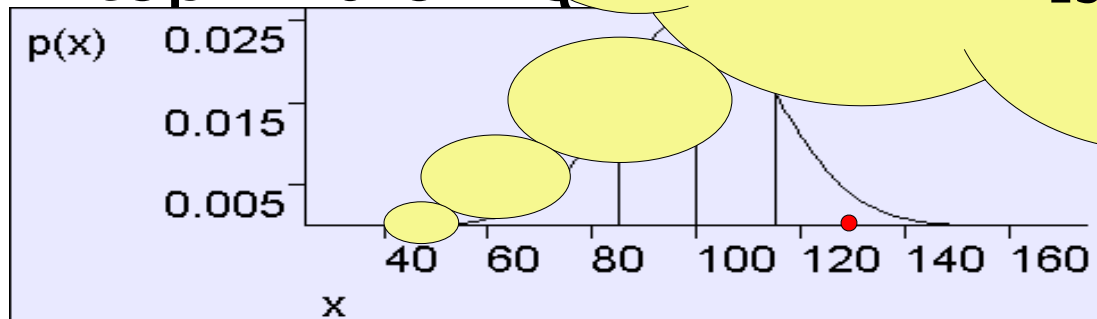
# Assume...

- You drag your little sister to a public library.
- She gets a score of 130 on a standardized IQ test.
- “Yippee” you brag to your friends that your little sister is in the top 2% of IQ scores.

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.

Waiter.



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

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

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

Can we trust this reasoning?

# Maximum Likelihood IQ

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

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

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

$$IQ^{mle} = 130$$

# BUT....

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

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

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

$$IQ^{mle} = 130$$

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



# What we really want:

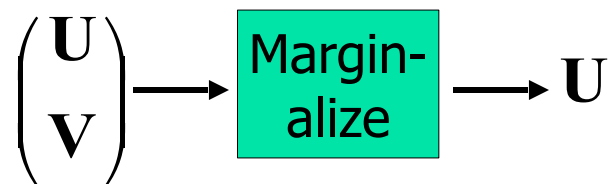
- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$
  
- Question: What is  $IQ \mid (S=130)$ ?



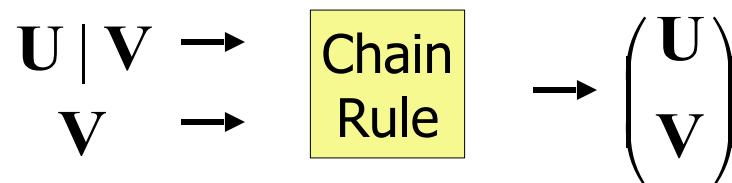
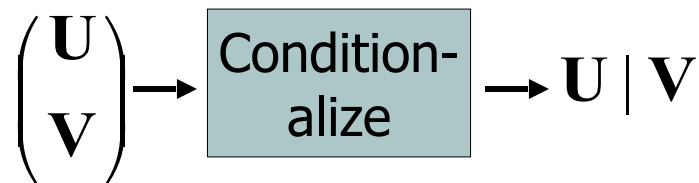
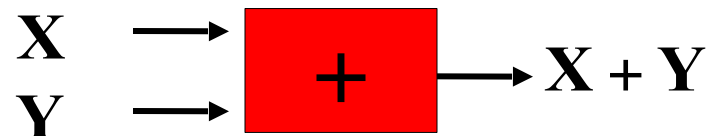
Called the Posterior  
Distribution of IQ

# Which tool or tools?

- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$
- Question: What is  $IQ \mid (S=130)$ ?

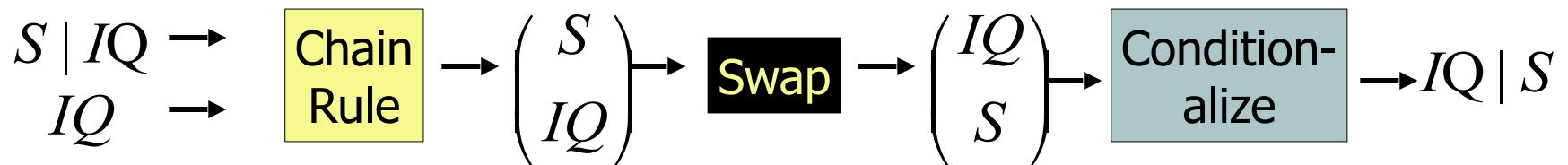


Matrix  $\mathbf{A}$



# Plan

- $IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$
- $S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$
- $S=130$
- Question: What is  $IQ | (S=130)$ ?



# Working...

$IQ \sim N(100, 15^2)$

$S|IQ \sim N(IQ, 10^2)$

$S=130$

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

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

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

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

$$\text{THEN } \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{pmatrix} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}), \text{ with } \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv}\mathbf{A}^T + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{u|v} & \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \\ (\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv})^T & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{vv} \end{pmatrix}$$

# Your pride and joy's posterior IQ

- If you did the working, you now have  $p(\text{IQ} | S=130)$
- If you have to give the most likely IQ given the score you should give
- where MAP means “Maximum A-posteriori”

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

# 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