

In 1-dimension the variance can be calculated by,

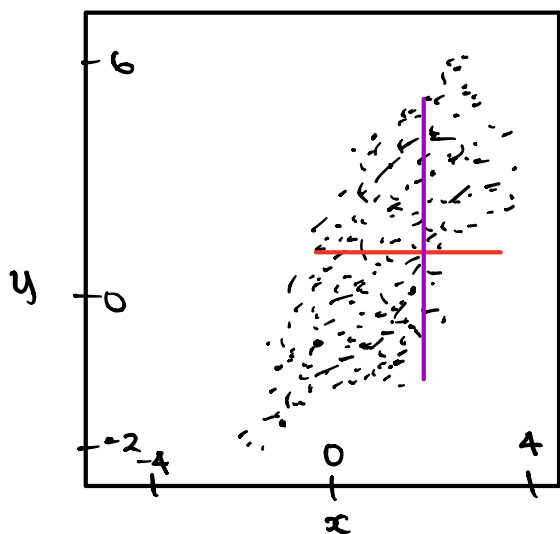
$$\text{Var } X = \frac{1}{N} \sum (x - \bar{x})^2$$

In higher dimensions the squaring operation is undefined.

In addition variance can occur with respect to many different domains x, y, z, \dots , etc.

The variance of data with respect to only one domain is ill suited to describing the relationship between two different variables/domains.

Covariance — describes the relationship between two variables.



As an example the variances are drawn on the left.

The variances of this dataset can be replicated by many other datasets — sometimes even with the same means.

This makes it impossible to explain any correlation between two variables using only the spread/variance of the data.

The extension of variance to covariance, is a tool that can be used to describe correlation.

$$\text{Cov}[x, y] = E[(x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y)]$$

$$\mu_x = E[x]$$

$$\mu_y = E[y]$$

Also can be written,

$$\text{Var } X = \text{Cov } X = E[(X - E[X])(X - E[X])^T].$$

In two dimensions there are four measurements of interest.

Var x

Var y

Cov x, y

Cov y, x

These can be

used to form

a Covariance Matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{var } x & \text{cov } x, y \\ \text{cov } y, x & \text{var } y \end{bmatrix}$$

- If $\text{Cov } x, y > 0$, then y increases with x .
- If $\text{Cov } x, y < 0$, then y decreases with x .
- If $\text{Cov } x, y = 0$, then there is no correlation.

The Covariance matrix is always a symmetric positive definite matrix. Variances on diagonal and the cross-covariance/covariances on the off diagonals.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{var } x & \text{cov } x, y & \text{cov } x, z \\ \text{cov } y, x & \text{var } y & \text{cov } y, z \\ \text{cov } z, x & \text{cov } z, y & \text{var } z \end{bmatrix}$$

The covariance matrix increases proportionate to the number of dimensions.

The covariance of high dimensional dataset can be described.

$$D = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}, x_i \in \mathbb{R}^D$$

$$\text{Cov}(D) = \frac{1}{n} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - \bar{x} & x_2 - \bar{x} \\ y_1 - \bar{y} & y_2 - \bar{y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - \bar{x} & y_1 - \bar{y} \\ x_2 - \bar{x} & y_2 - \bar{y} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{var}[D] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)(x_i - \mu)^T, \text{ computes the covariance matrix } (D \times D) \text{ where } \mu \text{ is the mean value.}$$

The covariance of two distributed real valued random variables,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{COV}(X, Y) &= E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] \\ &= E[XY - XE[Y] - E[X]Y + E[X]E[Y]] \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] - E[X]E[Y] + E[X]E[Y] \\ &= E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] \end{aligned}$$

$\begin{matrix} x & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ y & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \end{matrix}$

diff, mean for cov

$$\frac{1}{4^2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{(1-1)(5-5)}{2} & \frac{(1-2)(5-6)}{2} & \frac{(1-3)(5-7)}{2} & \frac{(1-4)(5-8)}{2} \\ \frac{(2-1)(6-5)}{2} & \frac{(2-2)(6-6)}{2} & \frac{(2-3)(6-7)}{2} & \frac{(2-4)(6-8)}{2} \\ \frac{(3-1)(7-5)}{2} & - & - & - \\ \frac{(4-1)(8-5)}{2} & - & - & \frac{(4-4)(8-8)}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\frac{1}{n} \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{n} \sum x\right) \left(5 - \frac{1}{n} \sum y\right) + \left(2 - \frac{1}{n} \sum x\right) \left(6 - \frac{1}{n} \sum y\right) + \left(3 - \frac{1}{n} \sum x\right) \left(7 - \frac{1}{n} \sum y\right) + \left(4 - \frac{1}{n} \sum x\right) \left(8 - \frac{1}{n} \sum y\right) \right]$

$\leftarrow \text{Always 0.}$

Why is $\text{COV}(X, Y) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_j - \bar{y}) \frac{1}{2}$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_j - \bar{y})$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x_1 - \bar{x})(y_1 - \bar{y}) &= x_1 y_1 - \bar{x} y_1 - x_1 \bar{y} + \bar{x} \bar{y} \\ (x_2 - \bar{x})(y_2 - \bar{y}) &= x_2 y_2 - \bar{x} y_2 - x_2 \bar{y} + \bar{x} \bar{y} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x_1 y_1 & x_1 y_2 & x_1 y_3 \\ x_2 y_1 & x_2 y_2 & x_2 y_3 \\ x_3 y_1 & x_3 y_2 & x_3 y_3 \end{array}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n (x_i y_i - x_i y_j - x_j y_i + x_j y_j)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n x_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n (x_j y_j - x_i y_j - x_j y_i) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n x_i y_i \right]$$

$$x_1 y_1 - x_1 y_1, \quad x_1 y_1 - x_1 y_2, \quad x_1 y_1 - x_1 y_3$$

$$x_2 y_2 - x_2 y_1$$

$$x_3 y_3 - x_3 y_1$$

$$x_1 (y_1 - y_1) \quad x_1 (y_1 - y_2) \quad x_1 (y_1 - y_3)$$

$$x_2 (y_2 - y_1) \quad x_2 (y_2 - y_3)$$

$$x_3 (y_3 - y_1) \quad x_3 (y_3 - y_2)$$

$$x_1 (y_1(3) - y_1 - y_2 - y_3)$$

$$x_3 (y_3(3) - y_1 - y_2 - y_3)$$

In geometry, an affine transformation is a vector manipulation which preserves points, straight lines and planes.

- does not preserve angles between lines
- does not preserve distance between points
- does preserve the ratio of distances between points.