

Probability Distributions 1

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1. Binary Variables

Single binary random variable $x \in \{0, 1\}$

example) x : outcome of flipping a coin ($x=1$: head, $x=0$: tail)

Damaged coin? -> probability of landing heads is not same

The probability of $x=1$: $p(x = 1|\mu) = \mu$ where $0 \leq \mu \leq 1$

$$p(x = 0|\mu) = 1 - \mu.$$

Bernoulli distribution :

$$\text{Bern}(x|\mu) = \mu^x (1 - \mu)^{1-x}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[x] &= \mu \\ \text{var}[x] &= \mu(1 - \mu) \end{aligned}$$

1. Binary Variables

Dataset $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$ (observed values)

Likelihood function (function of μ)

- Assumption : observations are independent from $p(x|\mu)$

$$p(\mathcal{D}|\mu) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(x_n|\mu) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mu^{x_n} (1 - \mu)^{1-x_n}$$

We can estimate μ by **maximizing** the likelihood function

$$\ln p(\mathcal{D}|\mu) = \sum_{n=1}^N \ln p(x_n|\mu) = \sum_{n=1}^N \{x_n \ln \mu + (1 - x_n) \ln(1 - \mu)\}$$

$$\rightarrow \mu_{\text{ML}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n \quad (\text{sample mean})$$

proof 

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln p(\mathcal{D}|\mu) &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \sum_{n=1}^N \left(x_n \ln \mu + (1 - x_n) \ln(1 - \mu) \right) &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left(x_n \ln \mu + (1 - x_n) \ln(1 - \mu) \right) &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{\mu} x_n - \frac{1}{1 - \mu} (1 - x_n) \right) &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{\mu} x_n - \frac{1}{1 - \mu} + \frac{1}{1 - \mu} x_n \right) &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{\mu} x_n + \frac{1}{1 - \mu} x_n \right) &= \frac{N}{1 - \mu} \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{n=1}^N \left(\frac{1 - \mu}{\mu} x_n + x_n \right) &= N \Leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{\mu} x_n &= N \Leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

1. Binary Variables

m : The number of observations of $x=1$

$$\mu_{\text{ML}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n = \frac{m}{N}$$

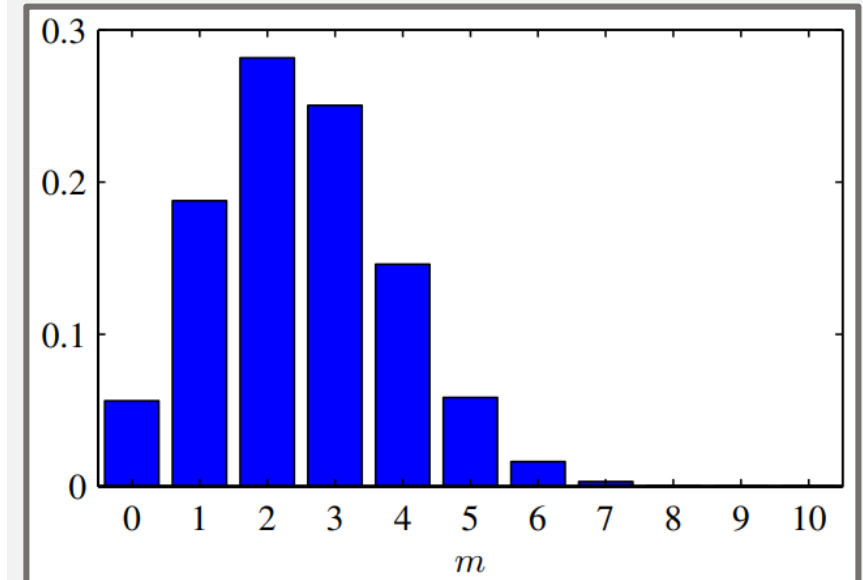
Overfitting by observed dataset -> prior distribution?

Binomial distribution :

$$\text{Bin}(m|N, \mu) = \binom{N}{m} \mu^m (1 - \mu)^{N-m}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[m] \equiv \sum_{m=0}^N m \text{Bin}(m|N, \mu) = N\mu$$

$$\text{var}[m] \equiv \sum_{m=0}^N (m - \mathbb{E}[m])^2 \text{Bin}(m|N, \mu) = N\mu(1 - \mu).$$



Binomial distribution with
 $N=10$, $\mu = 0.25$

2.1.1 The beta distribution

Binomial distribution : overfitting for small dataset

-> prior : proportional to powers of μ and $1 - \mu$.

Beta distribution :

$$\text{Beta}(\mu|a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \mu^{a-1} (1-\mu)^{b-1}$$

 **normalization** 

$$\int_0^1 \text{Beta}(\mu|a, b) d\mu = 1.$$

where $\Gamma(x)$ is the gamma function

$$\mathbb{E}[\mu] = \frac{a}{a+b}$$

$$\text{var}[\mu] = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}.$$

2.1.1 The beta distribution

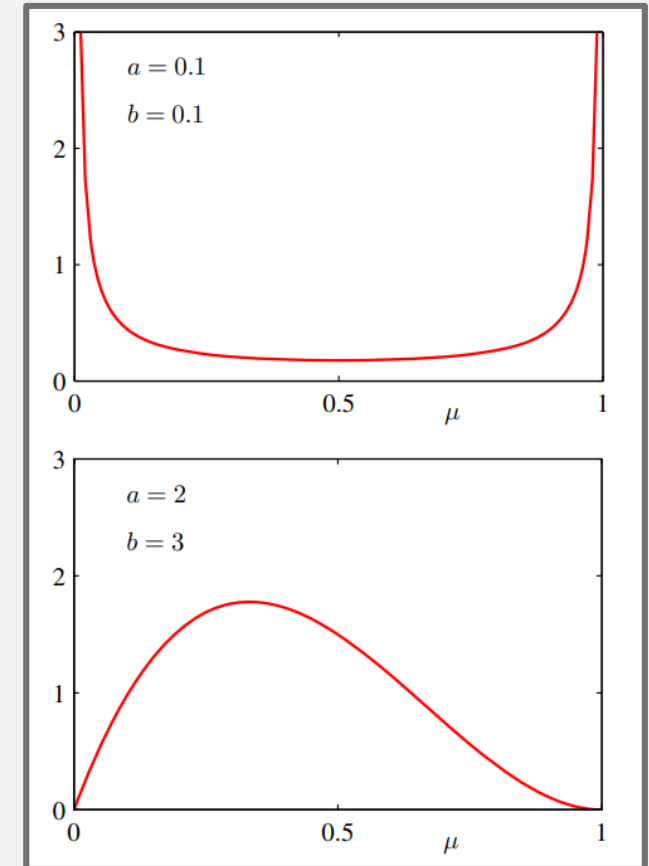
Posterior distribution over μ .

: multiplying beta prior by the binomial likelihood function and normalizing

$$p(\mu|m, l, a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(m + a + l + b)}{\Gamma(m + a)\Gamma(l + b)} \mu^{m+a-1} (1 - \mu)^{l+b-1}.$$

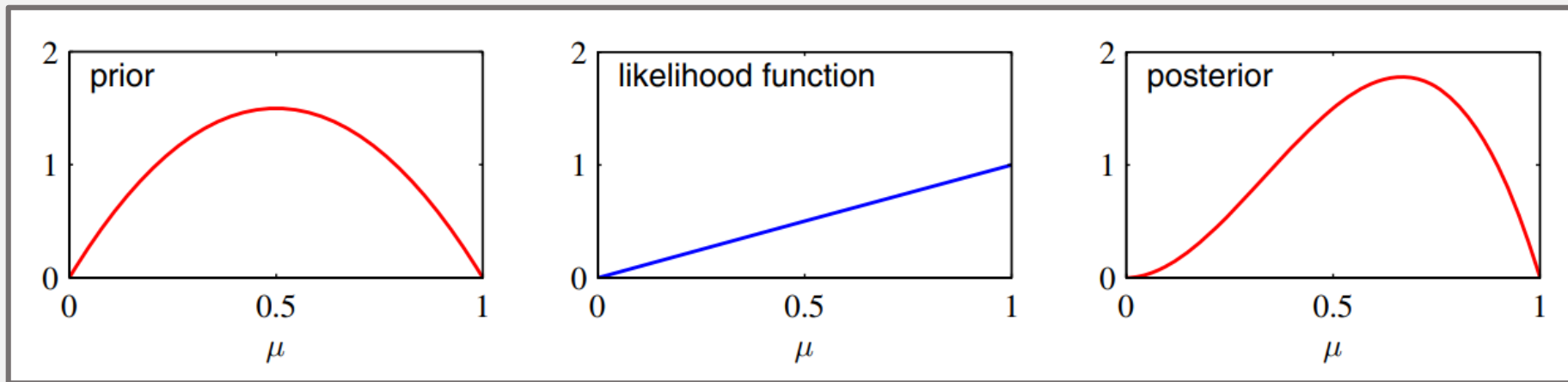
where $l = N - m$ (tail)

-> The posterior distribution also follows the beta distribution.
a, b : effective number of observation



a, b : hyperparameters

2.1.1 The beta distribution



Sequential Bayesian inference

Prior : beta with $a=2$, $b=2$

Likelihood : $N = 1$

Posterior : beta with $a=3$, $b=2$

2.1.1 The beta distribution

Sequential approach to learning

Maximum likelihood methods can also be cast into a sequential framework

- the posterior distribution can act as the prior if subsequent observations arrive
- > taking one observation at a time and after each observation **updating** the current posterior distribution by multiplying by the likelihood of the incoming observation
- It is **independent** of the choice of prior and of the likelihood function and **depends only** on the assumption of data

$$p(x = 1|\mathcal{D}) = \int_0^1 p(x = 1|\mu)p(\mu|\mathcal{D}) d\mu = \int_0^1 \mu p(\mu|\mathcal{D}) d\mu = \mathbb{E}[\mu|\mathcal{D}].$$

$$p(x = 1|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{m + a}{m + a + l + b}$$

- If m, l are large, MLE!

2.2. Multinomial Variables

Discrete random variables $\mathbf{x} = (0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0)^T$
where k is represented k -th element being 1 and all others being 0.
→ $x_k = 1$ by the parameter μ_k

Generalization of Bernoulli distribution → Categorical distribution :

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k} \quad \text{where } \mu_k \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_k \mu_k = 1$$

Since parameter $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)^T$ (vector),

$$\sum_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sum_{k=1}^K \mu_k = 1$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}] = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) \mathbf{x} = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)^T = \boldsymbol{\mu}.$$

proof

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k} \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k^1} + \dots + \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k^K} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K \mu_k = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}] &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x} p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{x} \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k} \\ &= \mathbf{x}^1 \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k^1} + \dots + \mathbf{x}^K \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_k^K} \\ &= (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_K)^T \end{aligned}$$

2.2. Multinomial Variables

dataset \mathcal{D} of N independent observations $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_N$

likelihood function :

$$p(\mathcal{D}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \prod_{n=1}^N \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{x_{nk}} = \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{(\sum_n x_{nk})} = \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{m_k}$$

-> likelihood function depends on N data only through the K quantities :

$$m_k = \sum_n x_{nk}$$

-> **Sufficient statistics**

2.2.1 The Dirichlet distribution

Family of prior distributions for parameters $\{\mu_k\}$ of multinomial distributions.

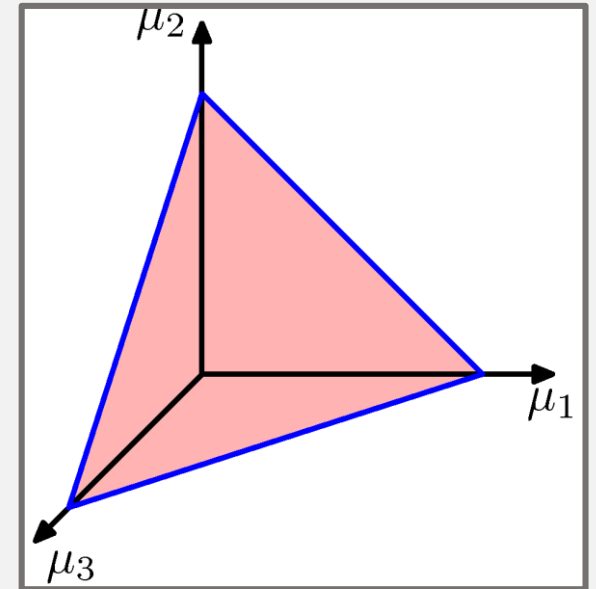
Conjugate prior : $p(\boldsymbol{\mu}|\boldsymbol{\alpha}) \propto \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{\alpha_k-1}$ where $0 \leq \mu_k \leq 1$
 $\sum_k \mu_k = 1$

Dirichlet Distribution :

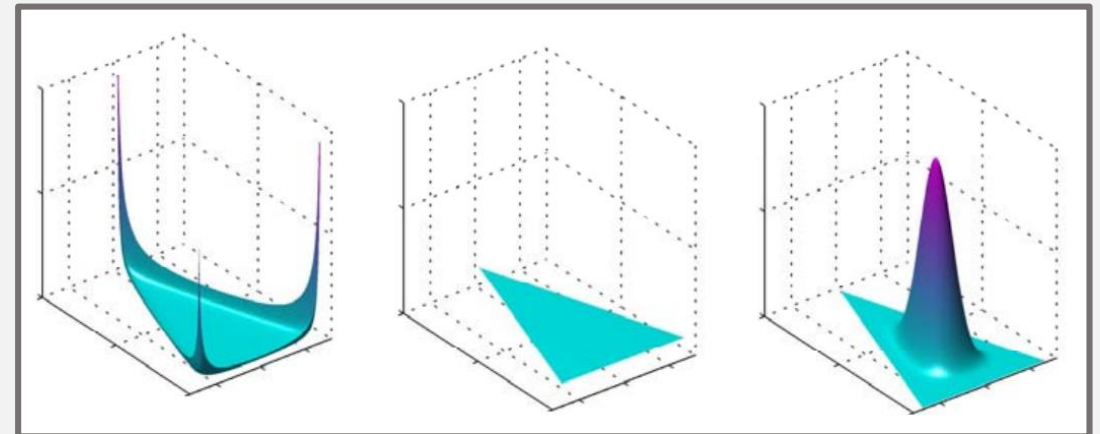
$$\text{Dir}(\boldsymbol{\mu}|\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_0)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \cdots \Gamma(\alpha_K)} \prod_{k=1}^K \mu_k^{\alpha_k-1}$$

where $\Gamma(x)$: gamma function and $\alpha_0 = \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k$.

Simplex?



K-1 dimensions




2.3. The Gaussian Distribution

Continuous random variable x

Gaussian = normal distribution :

$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x - \mu)^2 \right\}$$

Multi-dimension


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

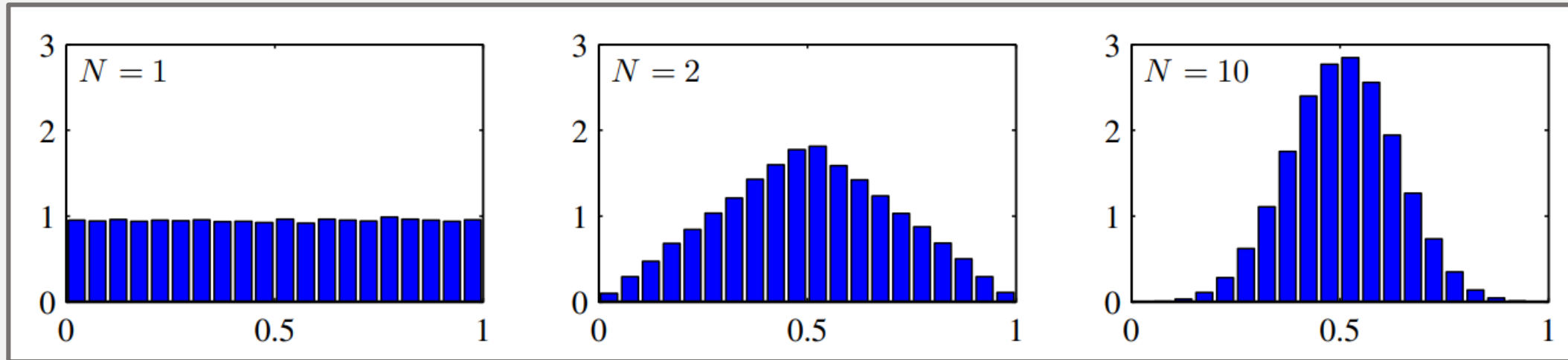
where D by D covariance matrix

-> the distribution **maximizing the entropy** is a Gaussian distribution.

2.3. The Gaussian Distribution

Central limit theorem

The sum of a set of random variables has a distribution that becomes increasingly Gaussian as the number of terms increase.



2.3. The Gaussian Distribution

Important analytical properties of Gaussian Distribution

functional dependence of the Gaussian on x is through the quadratic form

$$\Delta^2 = (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \quad \text{where } \Delta \text{ is Mahalanobis distance}$$

- Eigenvector equation for covariance matrix : $\Sigma \mathbf{u}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i$

\downarrow
 symmetric

\downarrow
 orthonormal

$$\rightarrow \mathbf{u}_i^T \mathbf{u}_j = I_{ij}$$

$$I_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \Sigma = \sum_{i=1}^D \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T$$

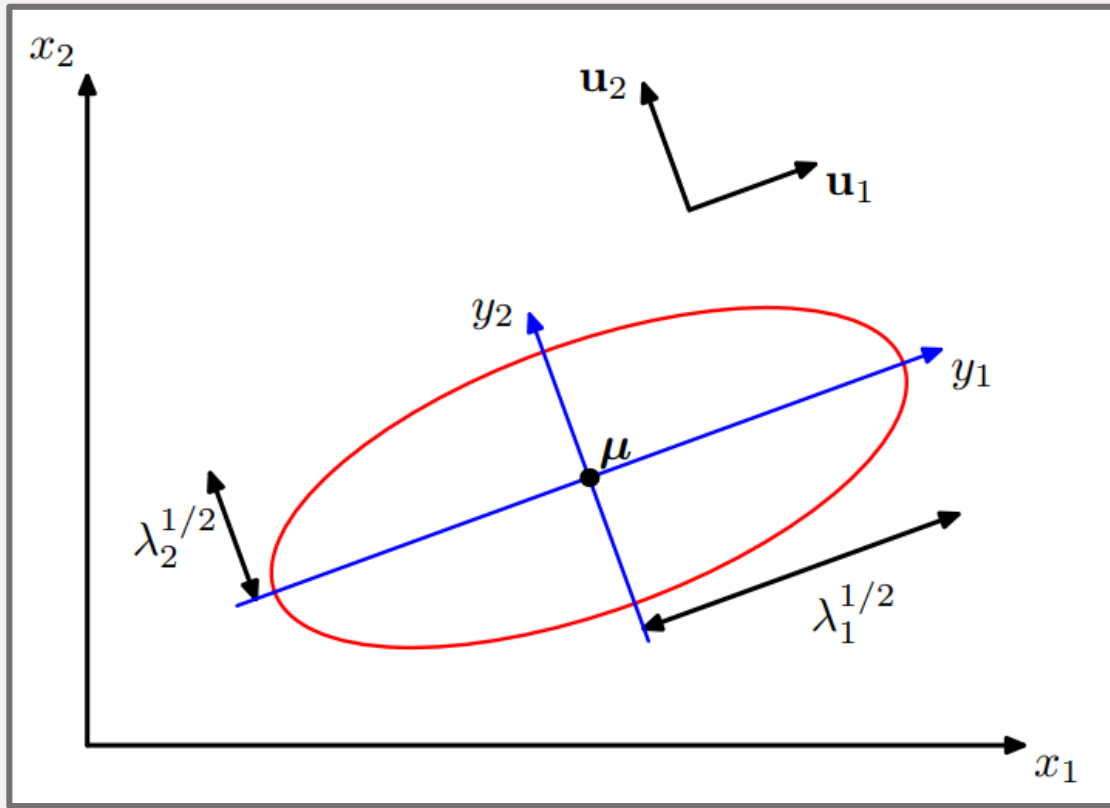
$$\rightarrow \Delta^2 = \sum_{i=1}^D \frac{y_i^2}{\lambda_i}$$

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \sum_{i=1}^D \frac{1}{\lambda_i} \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^T.$$

$$y = \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x} - \mu)$$

-> **y** : new coordinate system defined by the orthonormal vector U

2.3. The Gaussian Distribution



Red

: elliptical surface of constant probability density of Gaussian

The major axes of the ellipse are defined by the eigenvectors U of covariance matrix

$\lambda_2^{1/2}$ scale ellipse, centroid : μ
-> i.e all eigenvalues > 0

2.3. The Gaussian Distribution

Gaussian distribution in the new coordinate system defined by \mathbf{y}

$$J_{ij} = \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial y_j} = U_{ji} \quad \text{where } \mathbf{J} : \text{jacobian matrix}, \mathbf{U} : \text{orthonormal}$$

$$\rightarrow |\mathbf{J}|^2 = |\mathbf{U}^T|^2 = |\mathbf{U}^T| |\mathbf{U}| = |\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U}| = |\mathbf{I}| = 1 \quad \rightarrow |\mathbf{J}| = 1$$

$$|\Sigma|^{1/2} = \prod_{j=1}^D \lambda_j^{1/2}.$$

$$\xrightarrow{\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})} p(\mathbf{y}) = p(\mathbf{x}) |\mathbf{J}| = \prod_{j=1}^D \frac{1}{(2\pi \lambda_j)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{y_j^2}{2\lambda_j} \right\}$$

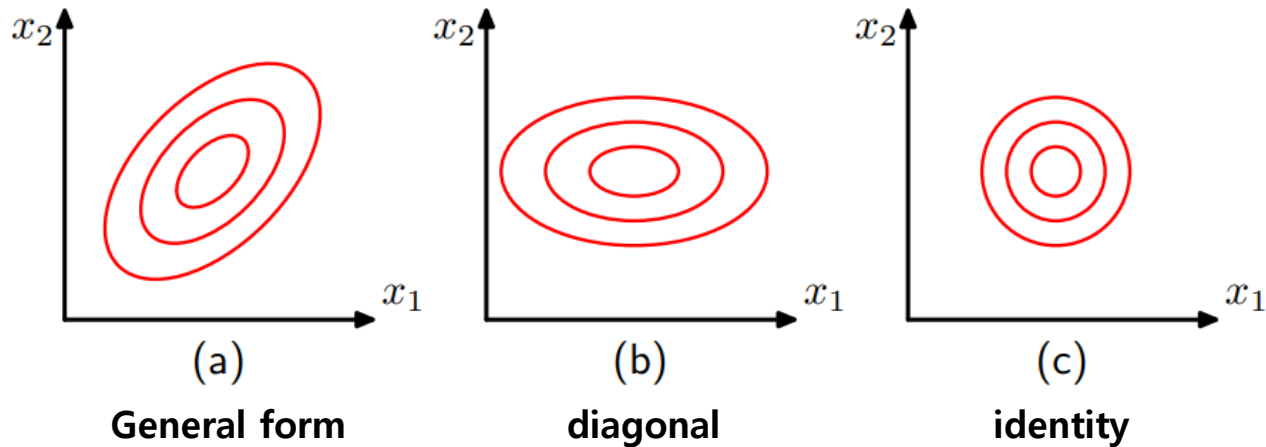
\rightarrow Product of independent normal distributions

2.3. The Gaussian Distribution

Significant limitations

1. General symmetric covariance matrix has $D(D+1)/2$ independent parameters and there are another independent parameters in μ -> total : $D(D+3)/2$ (many..)


-> restrict the covariance matrix to diagonal matrix or identity matrix



2. Gaussian distribution is intrinsically unimodal (i.e., has a single maximum)
-> unable to approximate multimodal distributions.

2.3.1 Conditional Gaussian distributions

\mathbf{x} : D-dimensional vector with Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$

Partition $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_a \\ \mathbf{x}_b \end{pmatrix}$  correspond partition of mean $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_a \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_b \end{pmatrix}$

Covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{aa} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ab} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ba} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{bb} \end{pmatrix}$

Since $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is symmetric, $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^T = \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ba} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ab}^T$.

Let $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \equiv \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$ then $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ab} \\ \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ba} & \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{bb} \end{pmatrix}$: precision matrix


$p(\mathbf{x}_a|\mathbf{x}_b)$? \rightarrow consider $p(\mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b)$

 fix

2.3.1 Conditional Gaussian distributions

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \\ -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_a - \boldsymbol{\mu}_a)^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa}(\mathbf{x}_a - \boldsymbol{\mu}_a) - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_a - \boldsymbol{\mu}_a)^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ab}(\mathbf{x}_b - \boldsymbol{\mu}_b) \\ - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_b - \boldsymbol{\mu}_b)^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{ba}(\mathbf{x}_a - \boldsymbol{\mu}_a) - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_b - \boldsymbol{\mu}_b)^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{bb}(\mathbf{x}_b - \boldsymbol{\mu}_b). \end{aligned}$$

Quadratic form of \mathbf{x}_a i.e. $p(\mathbf{x}_a | \mathbf{x}_b)$: Gaussian (Covariance?)

Diff twice  $-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}_a^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa} \mathbf{x}_a \rightarrow \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{a|b} = \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{aa}^{-1}.$

- Summary) $p(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b)$: Gaussian $\rightarrow p(\mathbf{x}_a | \mathbf{x}_b)$: Gaussian