## Product of two Gaussian probabilistic density functions

Luis Pedro Coelho

November 22, 2012

Let's start by defining a few variables:

```
x = var('x')
mu1 = var('mu1')
mu2 = var('mu2')
```

x will be our variable,  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  the means.

```
s1 = var('s1', latex_name=r'\sigma_1^2', domain='positive')
s2 = var('s2', latex_name=r'\sigma_2^2', domain='positive')
N1, N2 = var('N1 N2')
```

We define  $\sigma^2$  as positive.

```
Z(s) = sqrt(2*pi*s)
N(x,m,s) = 1./Z(s) * exp(- (x-m)^2 /(2*s))
N1 = N(x, mu1, s1)
N2 = N(x, mu2, s2)
```

N1 is the first normal:

$$\frac{0.5000000000000000\sqrt{2}e^{\left(-\frac{(\mu_1-x)^2}{2\sigma_1^2}\right)}}{\sqrt{\pi\sigma_1^2}},\tag{1}$$

which is not in canonical form because of sage simplification, but we can recognise the normal distribution.

```
product = N1 * N2
```

The product as a Gaussian is readily obtained by algebraic manipulation:

```
m12 = (mu1*s2+mu2*s1)/(s1+s2)

s12 = s1*s2/(s1+s2)

newnormal = N(x,m12,s12)
```

We have that

$$\mu_{12} = \frac{\mu_1 \sigma_2^2 + \mu_2 \sigma_1^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$$

$$\sigma_{12}^2 = \frac{\sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$$
(2)

$$\sigma_{12}^2 = \frac{\sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \tag{3}$$

However, to obtain the full product, we need to add several normalization factors:

direct = 
$$1./Z(s1)*1./Z(s2)*$$
  
 $exp(-(mu1-mu2)^2/2/(s1+s2))*Z(s12)*newnormal$ 

Which is

Let's finally check that this is correct, by checking the value of the ratio:

And the output is 1!