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$N(\mathbf{a}, B)$ (B is positive definite symmetric matrix) :

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |B|^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})' B^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})\right\}.$$

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Its c.f. is

$$f(\mathbf{t}) = \exp(i\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t}),$$

i.e.,

$$f(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \exp\left(i \sum_{k=1}^n a_k t_k - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l=1}^n \sum_{s=1}^n b_{ls} t_l t_s\right).$$

Proof. Write $B = LL'$ ($L = B^{1/2}$). Let $\boldsymbol{\eta} = L^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\xi} - \boldsymbol{a})$.

Then by Theorem 2 in §2.5, the pdf of $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ is

$$p_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\boldsymbol{y}) = p(\boldsymbol{x})|L| \quad (\text{where } \boldsymbol{x} = L(\boldsymbol{y} + \boldsymbol{a}))$$

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$$\begin{aligned} p_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\boldsymbol{y}) &= p(\boldsymbol{x})|L| \quad (\text{where } \boldsymbol{x} = L(\boldsymbol{y} + \boldsymbol{a})) \\ &= \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi})^{n/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{a})'(L')^{-1}L^{-1}(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{a})\right\} \end{aligned}$$

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i.e., η_1, \dots, η_n i.i.d. $\sim N(0, 1)$. From Property 3' in §3.3 it follows that

$$f_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\mathbf{t}) = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-\frac{t_i^2}{2}} = \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{t}\right\}.$$

Also $\boldsymbol{\xi} = L\boldsymbol{\eta} + \mathbf{a}$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{t}) &= Ee^{it'\boldsymbol{\xi}} = e^{it'\mathbf{a}} Ee^{it' L\boldsymbol{\eta}} = e^{it'\mathbf{a}} Ee^{i(L't)'\boldsymbol{\eta}} \\ &= e^{it'\mathbf{a}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(L't)'(L't)\right\} \\ &= e^{it'\mathbf{a}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}' L L' \mathbf{t}\right\} \\ &= e^{it'\mathbf{a}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}' B \mathbf{t}\right\} \\ &= \exp\left\{it'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}' B \mathbf{t}\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

When B is non-negative definite,

$$f(\mathbf{t}) = \exp(i\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t})$$

is also a c.f.. In fact, Write $B = LL'$, if

$\boldsymbol{\eta} = N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_{n \times n})$, then the c.f. of $\boldsymbol{\xi} = L\boldsymbol{\eta} + \mathbf{a}$ is $f(\mathbf{t})$.

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We call the corresponding distribution a **singular** normal distribution or a **degenerate** normal distribution. When the rank of B is r ($r < n$), it is actually only a distribution in r dimensional subspace.

3.4.2 Properties

- ① Any sub-vector $(\xi_{l_1}, \dots, \xi_{l_k})'$ of ξ also follows normal distribution as $N(\tilde{\mathbf{a}}, \tilde{B})$, where $\tilde{\mathbf{a}} = (a_{l_1}, \dots, a_{l_k})'$, \tilde{B} is a $k \times k$ matrix consisting of elements in both l_1, \dots, l_k rows and l_1, \dots, l_k columns in B . $N(\mathbf{a}, B)$ has expected value \mathbf{a} , covariance matrix B .

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Proof. In the cf of $\boldsymbol{\xi}$: $f_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(\mathbf{t}) = \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t} \right\}$, setting all t_j except t_{l_1}, \dots, t_{l_k} to be 0 yields the cf of $(\xi_{l_1}, \dots, \xi_{l_k})'$: $\exp \left\{ i\tilde{\mathbf{t}}'\tilde{\mathbf{a}} - \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\mathbf{t}}'\tilde{B}\tilde{\mathbf{t}} \right\}$.

- 2 $N(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{B})$ has expected value \mathbf{a} , covariance matrix \mathbf{B} .

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Proof. If \mathbf{B} is non-singular, the proof is already given in Section 3.2. When \mathbf{B} is singular, suppose $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim N(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{B})$, $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$, $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ and $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ are independent.

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$$\begin{aligned} f_{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}(\mathbf{t}) &= f_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(\mathbf{t}) f_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\mathbf{t}) = \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{B}\mathbf{t} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{I}\mathbf{t} \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{I})\mathbf{t} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that $\zeta \sim N(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{I})$ and $\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{I}$ is non-singular.

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On the other hand,

$$E\zeta = E\xi + E\eta = E\xi + \mathbf{0}$$

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$$E\xi = \mathbf{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}\xi = \mathbf{B}.$$

- 3 ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n with joint normal distribution are mutually independent iff they are pairwise uncorrelated. (Proof. Omitted.)

① Suppose $\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B)$,
 $C = (c_{ij})_{m \times n}$ is an $m \times n$ matrix, then

$$\boldsymbol{\eta} = C\boldsymbol{\xi} + \boldsymbol{\mu} \sim N(C\mathbf{a} + \boldsymbol{\mu}, CBC'),$$

an m -dimensional normal distribution.

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Proof.

$$f_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\mathbf{t}) = Ee^{it'(C\boldsymbol{\xi} + \boldsymbol{\mu})} = e^{it'\boldsymbol{\mu}} Ee^{i(C't)'\boldsymbol{\xi}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} f_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\mathbf{t}) &= E e^{it'(C\boldsymbol{\xi} + \boldsymbol{\mu})} = e^{it'u} E e^{i(C't)'\boldsymbol{\xi}} \\ &= e^{it'u} f_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(C'\mathbf{t}) \end{aligned}$$

① Suppose $\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n) \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B)$,
 $C = (c_{ij})_{m \times n}$ is an $m \times n$ matrix, then

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an m -dimensional normal distribution.

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}(\mathbf{t}) &= E e^{i\mathbf{t}'(C\boldsymbol{\xi} + \boldsymbol{\mu})} = e^{i\mathbf{t}'\boldsymbol{\mu}} E e^{i(C'\mathbf{t})'\boldsymbol{\xi}} \\ &= e^{i\mathbf{t}'\boldsymbol{\mu}} f_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(C'\mathbf{t}) \\ &= \exp\{i\mathbf{t}'(C\mathbf{a} + \boldsymbol{\mu}) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'CBC'\mathbf{t}\}. \end{aligned}$$

- 5 ξ is normally distributed iff any linear combination of its components follows normal distributions. Specifically, let $\mathbf{l} = (l_1, \dots, l_n)'$ be any n dimensional real vector, then

$$\begin{aligned} \xi \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B) &\Leftrightarrow \zeta = \mathbf{l}'\xi \sim N(\mathbf{l}'\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{l}'B\mathbf{l}) \\ \Leftrightarrow \zeta &= \sum_{j=1}^n l_j \xi_j \sim N\left(\sum_{j=1}^n l_j a_j, \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n l_j l_k b_{jk}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} f_{\zeta}(t) &= E e^{it\mathbf{l}'\boldsymbol{\xi}} = \exp \left\{ i(t\mathbf{l})'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}(t\mathbf{l})'B(t\mathbf{l}) \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ it(\mathbf{l}'\mathbf{a}) - \frac{1}{2}t^2\mathbf{l}'B\mathbf{l} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

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So $\zeta = l'\xi \sim N(l'\mathbf{a}, l'Bl)$.

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" \Longleftarrow " First, by assumption, each ξ_k is normal. So its mean and variance exists, and then $Cov\{\xi_k, \xi_j\}$ exists. Denote $\mathbf{a} = E\xi$ and $B = Var\xi$. We want to show that $\xi \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B)$.

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$$\text{Var}\zeta = \mathbf{t}'(\text{Var}\boldsymbol{\xi})\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t}.$$

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$Var\zeta = \mathbf{t}'(Var\boldsymbol{\xi})\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t}$. It follows that

$$\zeta \sim N(\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t}).$$

Hence

$$f_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(\mathbf{t}) = Ee^{i\mathbf{t}'\boldsymbol{\xi}} = f_{\zeta}(1)$$

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$$\zeta \sim N(\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t}).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\boldsymbol{\xi}}(\mathbf{t}) &= Ee^{i\mathbf{t}'\boldsymbol{\xi}} = f_{\zeta}(1) \\ &= \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{t}'\mathbf{a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

So, $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B)$.

- ④ Assume that $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B)$, $\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\boldsymbol{\xi}'_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}'_2)'$, where $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2$ are k and $n - k$ -dimensional sub-vectors of $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ respectively, and

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1 \sim N(\mathbf{a}_1, B_{11})$, $\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 \sim N(\mathbf{a}_2, B_{22})$; and, $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1$ and $\boldsymbol{\xi}_2$ are independent if and only if

$B_{12} = \mathbf{0}$ (resp. $B_{21} = \mathbf{0}$), i.e.,

$$\text{Cov}\{\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2\} = E[(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1 - E\boldsymbol{\xi}_1)(\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 - E\boldsymbol{\xi}_2)'] = \mathbf{0}.$$

Proof. The first of conclusion is obvious. And also, it is obvious that, if ξ_1 and ξ_2 are independent, then

$$B_{12} = E(\xi_1 - E\xi_1)E(\xi_2 - E\xi_2)' = \mathbf{0}.$$

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Conversely, if $B_{12} = \mathbf{0}$ and $B_{21} = \mathbf{0}$, then

$$f_{\xi}(\mathbf{t}) = \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{a}'\mathbf{t} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t} \right\}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} f_{\xi}(\mathbf{t}) &= \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{a}'\mathbf{t} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t} \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{a}'_1\mathbf{t}_1 + i\mathbf{a}'_2\mathbf{t}_2 - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'_1B_{11}\mathbf{t}_1 - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'_2B_{22}\mathbf{t}_2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} f_{\xi}(\mathbf{t}) &= \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{a}'\mathbf{t} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\mathbf{t} \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ i\mathbf{a}'_1\mathbf{t}_1 + i\mathbf{a}'_2\mathbf{t}_2 - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'_1B_{11}\mathbf{t}_1 - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'_2B_{22}\mathbf{t}_2 \right\} \\ &= f_{\xi_1}(\mathbf{t}_1)f_{\xi_2}(\mathbf{t}_2). \end{aligned}$$

- 5 Assume that $\boldsymbol{\xi} \sim N(\mathbf{a}, B)$, $\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\boldsymbol{\xi}'_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}'_2)'$, where $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\xi}_2$ are k and $n - k$ -dimensional sub-vectors of $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ respectively,

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

is positive definite and $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1 \sim N(\mathbf{a}_1, B_{11})$, $\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 \sim N(\mathbf{a}_2, B_{22})$. Then conditioning on $\boldsymbol{\xi}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1$, the conditional distribution of $\boldsymbol{\xi}_2$ is a normal distribution

$$N(\mathbf{a}_2 + B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}_1), B_{22} - B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}B_{12}).$$

Proof. Let

$$\eta = \xi_2 - \mathbf{a}_2 - B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}(\xi_1 - \mathbf{a}_1).$$

Then (ξ_1, η) is still normal random vector, and

$$\xi_2 = \mathbf{a}_2 + B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}(\xi_1 - \mathbf{a}_1) + \eta.$$

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Then $(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1, \boldsymbol{\eta})$ is still normal random vector, and

$\boldsymbol{\xi}_2 = \boldsymbol{a}_2 + B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_1 - \boldsymbol{a}_1) + \boldsymbol{\eta}$. It is easily seen that $E\boldsymbol{\eta} = \mathbf{0}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} Var\boldsymbol{\eta} &= B_{22} - 2B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}B_{12} + B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}B_{11}(B_{21}B_{11}^{-1})' \\ &= B_{22} - B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}B_{12} \triangleq \boldsymbol{\Sigma}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that $\boldsymbol{\eta} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$.

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It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\xi}_2|_{\boldsymbol{\xi}_1=\mathbf{x}_1} &= \mathbf{a}_2 + B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}_1) + \boldsymbol{\eta}|_{\boldsymbol{\xi}_1=\mathbf{x}_1} \\ &\sim N(\mathbf{a}_2 + B_{21}B_{11}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{a}_1), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}).\end{aligned}$$

Example

Suppose ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n be i.i.d. normal $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ random variables. Let

$$\bar{\xi} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n \xi_k}{n}, \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n (\xi_k - \bar{\xi})^2.$$

Show that $\bar{\xi}$ and $\hat{\sigma}^2$ are independent.

Proof. Since $(\bar{\xi}, \xi_1 - \bar{\xi}, \dots, \xi_n - \bar{\xi})$ is a linear transform of the normal vector (ξ_1, \dots, ξ_n) , so it is also a normal vector.

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$$\begin{aligned} Cov\{\bar{\xi}, \xi_k - \bar{\xi}\} &= Cov\{\bar{\xi}, \xi_k\} - Var\{\bar{\xi}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{n}\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{n}\sigma^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} Cov\{\bar{\xi}, \xi_k - \bar{\xi}\} &= Cov\{\bar{\xi}, \xi_k\} - Var\{\bar{\xi}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{n}\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{n}\sigma^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\bar{\xi}$ and $(\xi_1 - \bar{\xi}, \dots, \xi_n - \bar{\xi})$ are independent.
So $\bar{\xi}$ and $\hat{\sigma}^2$ are independent.

Example 1. Assume

$\boldsymbol{\xi} = (\xi_1, \xi_2)' \sim N(a_1, a_2, \sigma^2, \sigma^2, r)$, prove

$\eta_1 = \xi_1 + \xi_2$ and $\eta_2 = \xi_1 - \xi_2$ are independent, and find respective distributions of η_1, η_2 .

Solution. Since (η_1, η_2) is a linear transform of (ξ_1, ξ_2) , so (η_1, η_2) follows a normal distribution.

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$$\begin{aligned} Var\eta_1 &= Var\xi_1 + Var\xi_2 + 2Cov\{\xi_1, \xi_2\} \\ &= 2\sigma^2 + 2r\sigma\sigma = 2\sigma^2(1 + r), \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}\eta_2 &= \text{Var}\xi_1 + \text{Var}\xi_2 - 2\text{Cov}\{\xi_1, \xi_2\} \\ &= 2\sigma^2 - 2r\sigma\sigma = 2\sigma^2(1 - r), \end{aligned}$$

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So η_1 and η_2 are independent, and

$$\eta_1 \sim N(a_1 + a_2, 2\sigma^2(1 + r)), \quad \eta_2 \sim N(a_1 - a_2, 2\sigma^2(1 - r)).$$