1 Useful Gaussian Integrals

1.1 Simple univariate Gaussian integral

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^{2}/2\sigma^{2}} dx$$

$$\to I^{2} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^{2}/2\sigma^{2}} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^{2}/2\sigma^{2}} dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x^{2}+y^{2})/2\sigma^{2}} dx dy$$

$$= \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{2\pi} e^{-r^{2}/2\sigma^{2}} r dr d\theta = -2\pi\sigma^{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-r^{2}/2\sigma^{2}} \frac{-r}{\sigma^{2}} dr = 2\pi\sigma^{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow I = \sigma\sqrt{2\pi}$$
(1)

This also implies

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2} dx = \sigma\sqrt{2\pi}$$
 (2)

This can be shown by making the substitution $x \to x - \mu$; but, intuitively this makes sense, as the area under a Gaussian curve does not depend on where the curve is located.

1.2 Product of two univariate Gaussian integrals

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_f \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x - \mu_f)^2}{2\sigma_f^2}\right]$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_g \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x - \mu_g)^2}{2\sigma_g^2}\right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x)g(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_f \sigma_g} \exp\left[-\frac{(x - \mu_f)^2}{2\sigma_f^2} - \frac{(x - \mu_g)^2}{2\sigma_g^2}\right]$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_f \sigma_g} \exp[-\beta]$$
(3)

$$\beta = \frac{(x - \mu_f)^2}{2\sigma_f^2} + \frac{(x - \mu_g)^2}{2\sigma_g^2}$$

$$= \frac{2\sigma_g^2[x^2 - 2\mu_f x + \mu_f^2] + 2\sigma_f^2[x^2 - 2\mu_g x + \mu_g^2]}{4\sigma_f^2\sigma_g^2}$$

$$= \frac{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)x^2 - 2(\mu_f\sigma_g^2 + \mu_g\sigma_f^2)x + \mu_f^2\sigma_g^2 + \mu_g\sigma_f^2}{2\sigma_f^2\sigma_g^2}$$

$$= \frac{x^2 - 2\frac{\mu_f\sigma_g^2 + \mu_g\sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}x + \frac{\mu_f^2\sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2\sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}{2\frac{\sigma_f^2\sigma_g^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{(x^2 - 2\alpha x + \alpha^2) - \alpha^2 + \frac{\mu_f^2\sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2\sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{(x^2 - 2\alpha x + \alpha^2) - \alpha^2 + \frac{\mu_f^2\sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2\sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}{2\frac{\sigma_f^2\sigma_g^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}$$

$$\frac{\mu_f^2 \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2} - \alpha^2 = \frac{\mu_f^2 \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2} - \left(\frac{\mu_f \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g \sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}\right)^2 \\
= \frac{1}{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)^2} \left[(\mu_f^2 \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^2) (\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2) - (\mu_f \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g \sigma_f^2)^2 \right] \\
= \frac{1}{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)^2} \left[\mu_f^2 \sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2 + \mu_f^2 \sigma_g^4 + \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^4 - \dots \right] \\
- \mu_f^2 \sigma_g^4 - \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^4 - 2\mu_f \mu_g \sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2 \right] \\
= \frac{\sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2}{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)^2} \left[\mu_f^2 - 2\mu_f \mu_g + \mu_g^2 \right] \\
= \frac{\sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2}{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)^2} (\mu_f - \mu_g)^2$$
(5)

$$\beta = \frac{(x^2 - 2\alpha x + \alpha^2) - \alpha^2 + \frac{\mu_f^2 \sigma_g^2 + \mu_g^2 \sigma_f^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}{2\frac{\sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}$$

$$= \frac{(x - \alpha)^2 + \frac{\sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2}{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)^2} (\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2\frac{\sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}}$$

$$Define: \gamma^2 = \frac{\sigma_f^2 \sigma_g^2}{\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2}$$

$$\beta = \frac{(x - \alpha)^2}{2\gamma^2} + \frac{(\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}$$
(6)

$$f(x)g(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_f\sigma_g}e^{-\beta} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_f\sigma_g}\exp\left[-\frac{(x-\alpha)^2}{2\gamma^2}\right]\exp\left[\frac{(\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma_f\sigma_g}\gamma\sqrt{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)} \times \frac{1}{\gamma\sqrt{2\pi}}\exp\left[-\frac{(x-\alpha)^2}{2\gamma^2}\right] \times \dots$$

$$\times \frac{1}{\sqrt{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}\sqrt{2\pi}}\exp\left[\frac{(\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}\right]$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x)g(x) = \frac{1}{\gamma\sqrt{2\pi}}\exp\left[-\frac{(x-\alpha)^2}{2\gamma^2}\right]S_{fg}$$

$$S_{fg} = \frac{\gamma\sqrt{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}}{\sigma_f\sigma_g}\frac{1}{\sqrt{(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)\sqrt{2\pi}}}\exp\left[-\frac{(\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}}\exp\left[-\frac{(\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}\right]$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)g(x)dx = \frac{S_{fg}}{\gamma\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left[-\frac{(x-\alpha)^2}{2\gamma^2}\right] = S_{fg}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}} \exp\left[-\frac{(\mu_f - \mu_g)^2}{2(\sigma_f^2 + \sigma_g^2)}\right]$$
(8)

1.3 Univariate Gaussian with linear term in exponential

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2} + Jx\right] \tag{9}$$

Just as above, the idea is to complete the square

$$\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2} - Jx = \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[x^2 - 2\sigma^2 Jx + (\sigma^2 J)^2 - (\sigma^2 J)^2 \right]
= \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(x - \sigma^2 J \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\sigma^2 J)^2 = \frac{\left(x - \sigma^2 J \right)^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{(\sigma J)^2}{2}$$
(10)

Therefore, I find:

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2} + Jx\right] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left[\frac{\left(x - \sigma^2 J\right)^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{(\sigma J)^2}{2}\right]$$
$$= \sigma\sqrt{2\pi} \exp\left[\frac{(\sigma J)^2}{2}\right]$$
 (11)