

Discussion 4

Fall 2023

1. Covariance Matrix

For a random vector $X = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^\top$, its covariance matrix Σ is defined with entries $\Sigma_{ij} = \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j)$. Suppose that $\mathbb{E}[X] = 0$.

- a. Show that Σ is positive semi-definite, i.e. for all $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we have $v^\top \Sigma v \geq 0$.
- b. Show that if the X_i 's are *pairwise* independent, then Σ is diagonal.
- c. Give an example of two random variables X_1, X_2 with a diagonal covariance matrix, but such that X_1, X_2 are not independent.