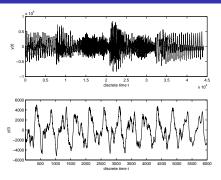
SGN 21006 Advanced Signal Processing: Lecture 2 Random Signals

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Studying signal waveforms



(Top) One second of audio signal sampled at 44100 Hz, with 16 bits per sample;

(Bottom) Zoom onto the first 6000 samples

- Finding periodicities
- Finding compact representations:
 - ▶ Deterministic function + random component
 - Regression on other signals + random (exploiting correlations to other given signals)
 - A parametric model including random components



Signal representations

Deterministic + random

$$\begin{array}{lcl} X(t) & = & f(t) + e(t) \\ & = & \sum_{k=1}^{K_1} a_k \sin(\omega_k t + \phi_k) + e_1(t) & \text{Sum of sinusoids} \\ \\ & = & \sum_{k=1}^{K_2} b_k \phi_k(t) + e_2(t) & \text{Decomposition on bases } \{\phi_k\}_{k=1}^{K_2} \end{array}$$

where X(t) is the given signal, f(t) is a deterministic signal and $e(t), e_1(t), e_2(t)$ are random components ("errors" or "residuals")

► Regression + random

$$X(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{K_3} X_k(t) + e(t)$$

where the random signal X(t) is regressed on other (random) signals $X_1(t), \ldots, X_{K_3}(t)$.

Parametric models Parametric models $X(t) = a_1 X(t-1) + \dots + a_{n_a} X(t-n_a) + b_0 e(t) + \dots + b_{n_b} e(t-n_b)$

Random variables

- A random variable X takes values in a set (continuous or discrete). The cumulative distribution function $F_X(x) = Prob(X \le x)$ can be used for describing probabilities of X falling in an interval: $Prob(a < X \le b) = F_X(b) F_X(a)$.
- ▶ for a discrete random variable defined on $m, m+1, m+2, \ldots, M$ the probability mass function $p(j) = Prob(X \le j) Prob(X \le j) = Prob(X = j)$ is easy to use. We have the normalization condition $\sum_{j=m}^{M} Prob(X = j) = 1$.
- ▶ continuous random variables $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$ are fully described by the probability density function (pdf) p(x), which obeys the normalization condition $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x) dx = 1$.
 - 1. The cumulative distribution function is $F_X(x) = Prob(X \le x) = \int_{-\infty}^x p(y) dy$.
 - 2. Probability of the variable X falling in the interval (a, b] is $Prob(a < X \le b) = F_X(b) F_X(a)$.

Examples of continuous distributions

Normal distribution, or Gaussian distribution, denoted $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, with mean μ and standard deviation σ , with the pdf

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{\frac{-(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

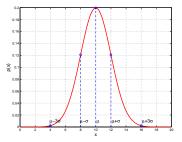
1. the cumulative distribution

$$F_X(x) = Prob(X \le x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{x} e^{\frac{-(y-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dy$$

does not have a closed form expression. It is often computed using the cdf of the distribution having parameters $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$, denoted $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2-}} \int_{-\infty}^{x} e^{-y^2/2} dy$

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{x} e^{-y^{2}/2} dx$$

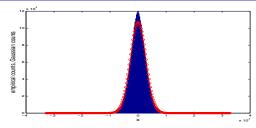
Gaussian $\mathcal{N}(\mu = 10, \sigma = 2)$



Probability distribution function

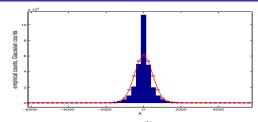
Cumulative distribution function

Fitting a Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$ to the audio data of Page 1



- Estimate the sample mean $\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} Y(k) = -0.063824 \approx 0$
- Estimate the sample standard deviation $\hat{\sigma}_1 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} (Y(k) \hat{\mu}_1)^2} = 2742.3$
- Since the range of Y is too large, $Y_k \in \{-2^{15}, 2^{15}\}$, let us take intervals in the range $\{-2^{15}, 2^{15}\}$, of length 256; there are 256 such intervals. Count how many times Y_k falls in a given interval, call it empirical count (blue stems).
- Compute the probability of a Gaussian $\mathcal{N}(\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1)$ random variable to fall in an interval (a, b], as $Prob(Y \in (a, b]) = F_X(b) F_X(a)$. Obtain the Gaussian counts as $N \cdot Prob(Y \in (a, b])$, represented in red.
- The empirical counts and the Gaussian counts are reasonably close, so Gaussian distribution is a good approximation. In this representation we have $Y_t = e_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\sigma}_1)$. Is this the best representation?

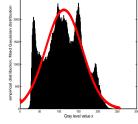
Fitting a Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$ to the difference Y(t) - Y(t-1)

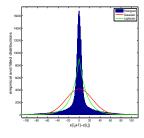


- ► Estimate the sample mean $\hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=2}^{N} (Y(k) Y(k-1)) = 0.0006464 \approx 0$
- Estimate the sample standard deviation of e(k) = Y(k) Y(k-1) as $\hat{\sigma}_2 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1}} \sum_{k=2}^{N} ((Y(k) Y(k-1)) \hat{\mu}_2)^2 = 470$
- ▶ Repeat the interval construction and the counting as in previous page
- In this representation we have Y(k) = Y(k-1) + e(k) where $e(k) \sim \mathcal{N}(\hat{\mu}_2, \hat{\sigma}_2)$. Here $\hat{\sigma}_2 = 470 << \hat{\sigma}_1 = 2742.3$, so the random component needed for explaining data is much smaller. Prediction by this model will be more accurate!
- The empirical counts and the Gaussian counts are not as close as earlier, so Gaussian distribution may be changed for example to a Laplace distribution.
- Even tighter representations, of the form $Y(t) = a_1 Y(t-1) + \ldots + a_{n_a} Y(t-n_a) + e(t)$ will be discussed in linear prediction lectures.

Fitting a Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$ to the gray levels on "Barbara" image





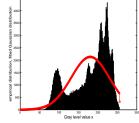


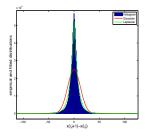
- (Middle) Fitting a Gaussian to the gray levels y(i,j). Estimate the sample mean $\hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=2}^{N} Y(k) = 112.45$. Estimate the sample standard deviation $\hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=2}^{N} (Y(k) \hat{\mu})^2} = 47.2$. Model: $y(i,j) = \varepsilon(i,j) \sim \mathcal{N}(112.4,47.2)$
- (Right) Fitting Gaussian and Laplace distributions to the differences y(i, j+1) y(i, j). Interval constructions and counts as in previous page for the Gaussian distribution (red curve). Model: $y(i, j+1) = y(i, j) + \varepsilon(i, j+1)$ with $\varepsilon(i, j+1) \sim \mathcal{N}(-0.01, 25)$.
- Similar estimation of parameters and counting for the Laplace distribution (green curve).

$$p(x; \mu, b) = \frac{1}{2b} e^{-|x-\mu|/b}$$

Fitting a Gaussian distribution $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$ to the gray levels on "Lena" image



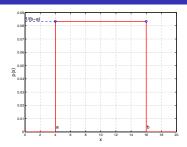


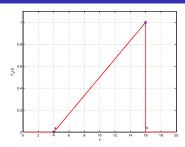


- (Middle) Fitting a Gaussian to the gray levels y(i,j). Estimate the sample mean $\hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=2}^{N} Y(k) = 180.2$. Estimate the sample standard deviation $\hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{k=2}^{N} (Y(k) \hat{\mu})^2} = 49.05$. Model: $y(i,j) = \varepsilon(i,j) \sim \mathcal{N}(180,49)$
- (Right) Fitting Gaussian and Laplace distributions to the differences y(i,j+1) y(i,j). Interval constructions and counts as in previous page for the Gaussian distribution (red curve). Model: $y(i,j+1) = y(i,j) + \varepsilon(i,j+1)$ with $\varepsilon(i,j+1) \sim \mathcal{N}(-0.03,12.5)$
- Similar estimation of parameters and counting for the Laplace distribution (green curve).

$$p(x; \mu, b) = \frac{1}{2b} e^{-|x-\mu|/b}$$

Uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}(a,b)$





Probability distribution function Cumulative distribution function

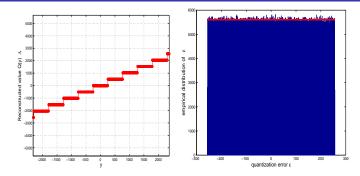
▶ Uniform distribution, denoted $\mathcal{U}(a,b)$, with mean $\mu = \frac{a+b}{2}$ and standard deviation $\sigma = \sqrt{(b-a)^2/12}$, with the pdf

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & \text{if} \quad x \in \{a, b\} \\ 0 & \text{if} \quad x \notin \{a, b\} \end{cases}$$

the cumulative distribution

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-a}{b-a} & \text{if} & x \in \{a,b\} \\ 0 & \text{if} & x \notin \{a,b\} \end{cases}$$

Uniform quantization



- ▶ The quantized value is computed as $Q(y) = \text{round } (y/\Delta)$ and has a dynamic range Δ times smaller than the initial dynamic range.
- ▶ The reconstructed value is $\hat{y} = Q(y)\Delta$. The quantization error is $\varepsilon = y \hat{y}$.
- ▶ For the audio signal we have $y \in \{-2^{15}, 2^{15}\}$. Let's take $\Delta = 512$.
- ▶ The quantization error ε belongs to $\{-256,\ldots,256\}$, hence the uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}(a,b)$ has parameters a=-256,b=256. The histogram of ε is shown in blue, while the ideal uniform counts, corresponding to the uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}(a,b)$, are shown in red.

Joint probabilities; Vector random variables

- the joint probability of X and Y is p(x, y) = Prob(X = x; Y = y)
- Two situations:
 - 1. X and Y are independent iff for all x, y

$$Prob(X = x; Y = y) = Prob(X = x)Prob(Y = y)$$

when X and Y are NOT independent, the factorization involves conditional probabilities, by the rule of Bayes

$$Prob(X = x; Y = y)$$
 = $Prob(X = x|Y = y)Prob(Y = y)$
 = $Prob(Y = y|X = x)Prob(X = x)$

• for a vector of random variables, $\underline{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$, having pdf $p(\underline{x})$, the mean is

$$\underline{\mu} = E[\underline{X}] = \int \underline{x} p(\underline{x}) dx_1 \dots dx_n,$$

the correlation matrix is

$$R = E[\underline{x}\underline{x}^T]$$

and the covariance matrix is

$$\Sigma = E[(\underline{x} - E[\underline{x}])(\underline{x} - E[\underline{x}])^T = R - \mu \mu^T$$

Gaussian random vectors

• consider the vector of random variables, $\underline{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$, having the Gaussian pdf

$$\rho(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{N/2} (\det \Sigma)^{1/2}} e^{-(\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})/2}$$

with mean μ and covariance matrix Σ .

A linear transformation B applied to a Gaussian vector \underline{x} of mean $\underline{\mu}_{\underline{x}}$ and covariance matrix Σ_x , results in a Gaussian vector $\underline{y} = B\underline{x}$, having the mean

$$\underline{\mu}_{y} = B\underline{\mu}_{x}$$

and covariance matrix

$$\Sigma_v = B\Sigma_x B^T$$

Uncorrelated Gaussian random vectors

If the n_x-vector <u>x</u> and n_y-vector <u>y</u> are zero mean and uncorrelated and jointly Gaussian, then they are also independent.

Proof: Denote the joint vector $\underline{z} = [\underline{x}^T \ \underline{y}^T]^T$. The Gaussian assumption states:

$$\begin{split} \rho(\underline{x}) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n_X/2} (\det \Sigma_x)^{1/2}} e^{-\underline{x}^T \Sigma_x^{-1} \underline{x}/2} \\ \rho(\underline{y}) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n_Y/2} (\det \Sigma_y)^{1/2}} e^{-\underline{y}^T \Sigma_y^{-1} \underline{y}/2} \\ \rho(\underline{z}) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{(n_X + n_Y)/2} (\det \Sigma_z)^{1/2}} e^{-\underline{z}^T \Sigma_z^{-1} \underline{z}/2} \end{split}$$

We need to show that $p(\underline{z}) = p(\underline{x})p(y)$.

If \underline{x} and \underline{y} are uncorrelated $E[\underline{x}\underline{y}^T]=0$. The covariance matrix of \underline{z} is

$$\Sigma_{z} = E\left[\begin{bmatrix} \underline{x} \\ \underline{y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x}^{T} & \underline{y}^{T} \end{bmatrix} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} E\left[\underline{x}\underline{x}^{T}\right] & E\left[\underline{y}\underline{y}^{T}\right] \\ E\left[\underline{y}\underline{x}^{T}\right] & E\left[\underline{y}\underline{y}^{T}\right] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E\left[\underline{x}\underline{x}^{T}\right] & 0 \\ 0 & E\left[\underline{y}\underline{y}^{T}\right] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{x} & 0 \\ 0 & \Sigma_{y} \end{bmatrix}$$

The quadratic form in the exponential of $p(\underline{z})$ is

$$\underline{z}^T \Sigma_z^{-1} \underline{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x}^T & \underline{y}^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_x & 0 \\ 0 & \Sigma_y \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x} \\ \underline{y} \end{bmatrix} = x^T \Sigma_x^{-1} \underline{x} + y^T \Sigma_y^{-1} \underline{y}$$

and hence

$$e^{-z^T \sum_{z}^{-1} \underline{z}/2} = e^{-(x^T \sum_{x}^{-1} \underline{x} + y^T \sum_{y}^{-1} \underline{y})/2} = e^{-x^T \sum_{x}^{-1} \underline{x}/2} e^{-y^T \sum_{y}^{-1} \underline{y}/2}$$

The determinant of Σ_z also factorizes as $\det \Sigma_z = \det \Sigma_x \det \Sigma_y$ and finally $p(\underline{z}) = p(\underline{x})p(\underline{y})$ which means \underline{x} and \underline{y} are independent.

Expectation for continuous variables

- ▶ for continuous random variables $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$, fully described by the probability density function (pdf) p(x) the expectation of a function g(X) is $E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)p(x)dx$
- Important expectations
 - 1. mean, or first moment, or expected value of X

$$\mu = E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p(x) dx$$

2. variance, or expected value of $(X - \mu)^2$

$$\sigma^2 = var(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 p(x) dx$$

3. second moment, or expected value of X^2

$$E[X^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 p(x) dx = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$$

Expectation for discrete variables

- ▶ for discrete random variables X taking values in the set $m, m+1, m+2, \ldots, M$ with the probability mass function $p(j) = Prob(X \le j) Prob(X \le j) = Prob(X = j)$ the expectation of a function g(X) is $E[g(X)] = \sum_{i=m}^{M} g(j)p(j)$
- Important expectations
 - 1. mean, or first moment, or expected value of X

$$\mu = E[X] = \sum_{j=m}^{M} jp(j)$$

2. variance, or expected value of $(X - \mu)^2$

$$\sigma^2 = var(X) = E[(X - m)^2] = \sum_{i=m}^{M} (j - \mu)^2 p(j)$$

3. second moment, or expected value of X^2

$$E[X^2] = \sum_{j=m}^{M} j^2 p(j) = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$$

Properties of expectation operator

For simplicity we take the case of discrete random variables, but the results are holding for continuous random variables as well.

The linearity property: given two random variables, X and Y, with joint pmf g(x, y) = Prob(X = x; Y = y) and two constants a and b, then

$$\mathsf{E}[\mathsf{a}\mathsf{X} + \mathsf{b}\mathsf{Y}] = \mathsf{a}\mathsf{E}[\mathsf{X}] + \mathsf{b}\mathsf{E}[\mathsf{Y}]$$

Proof:

$$E[aX + bY] = \sum_{x} \sum_{y} (ax + by) Prob(X = x; Y = y)$$

$$= a \sum_{x} \sum_{y} x Prob(X = x; Y = y) + b \sum_{x} \sum_{y} y Prob(X = x; Y = y)$$

$$= a \sum_{x} x Prob(X = x) + b \sum_{y} y Prob(Y = y) = aE[X] + bE[Y]$$

The expectation of a product of two independent random variables is equal to the product of expectations E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]Proof: If X is independent of Y, then Prob(X = x, Y = y) = Prob(X = x)Prob(Y = y) and

$$E[XY] = \sum_{x} \sum_{y} xyProb(X = x; Y = y)$$

$$= \sum_{x} xProb(X = x) \sum_{y} yProb(Y = y) = E[X]E[Y]$$
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Properties of expectation operator

- ▶ In general the expectation of a product of two random variables is NOT equal to the product of expectations, $E[XY] \neq E[X]E[Y]$ unless the random variables are independent.
- ▶ The difference E[XY] E[X]E[Y] is equal to the crosscorrelation function

$$R(X,Y) = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] = E[XY - YE[X] - XE[Y] + E[X]E[Y]]$$

= $E[XY] - 2E[X]E[Y] + E[X]E[Y] = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y]$

For independent variables the cross-correlation is 0. Proof: R(X, Y) = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] = 0.

Gaussian vectors with diagonal covariance matrix have independent components

Take a random vector $\underline{X} = [X_1 \dots X_n]^T$ with mean $\mu = [\mu_1 \dots \mu_n]^T$ and diagonal covariance matrix

$$R = E[(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu})(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu})^T] = \begin{bmatrix} E[(X_1 - \mu_1)^2] & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & E[(X_2 - \mu_2)^2] & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & E[(X_n - \mu_n)^2] \end{bmatrix}$$

Proof that Gaussian vectors with diagonal covariance matrix have independent components:

$$R^{-1} = \left(E[(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu})(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu})^T] \right)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sigma_1^2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\sigma_2^2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1/\sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence
$$(\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})^T R^{-1} (\underline{x} - \underline{\mu}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2}$$
 and $\det R = \prod_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(\underline{x}) &=& \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} (\det R)^{1/2}} e^{-(\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})^T R^{-1} (\underline{x} - \underline{\mu})/2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} (\det R)^{1/2}} e^{-\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}} \\ &=& \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2} \sigma_i} e^{-\frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}} = \prod_{i=1}^n \rho(x_i) = \rho(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \to \mathsf{INDEPENDENCE} \end{aligned}$$

Uncorrelated jointly Gaussian variables are independent

- ▶ Take X_1 ... X_n uncorrelated jointly Gaussian.
- "uncorrelatedness" means that $E[(X_i \mu_i)(X_j \mu_j)] = 0$ for all i, j, thus the covariance matrix of the vector $[X_1 \ X_2 \ \dots X_n]$ is diagonal.
- ▶ "jointly Gaussian" means that $p(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} (\det R)^{1/2}} e^{-(\underline{X} \underline{\mu})^T R^{-1} (\underline{X} \underline{\mu})/2}$.
- From the previous page it results that $X_1 \ldots X_n$ are independent.
- Hence uncorrelated Gaussian variables are independent
- The opposite is true in general: independent variables are uncorrelated
- ➤ To the extent that the distributions can be approximated well by Gaussiaan distribution, one can identify in general "uncorrelated" and "independent", at least at the level of heuristic descriptions.

De-correlating random vectors: the Karhunen-Loeve transform

- Consider a random vector $\underline{X} = [X_1 \dots X_n]^T$ with mean $\underline{\mu} = [\mu_1 \dots \mu_n]^T$ with an arbitrary covariance matrix R_X , which is not a diagonal matrix.
- ▶ The non-diagonal element (i,j) of the matrix R_X is

$$R_X(i,j) = E[(X_i - \mu_i)(X_j - \mu_j)^T]$$

- The random variables are not independent! We want to find, by using a simple linear transformation, a vector of n random variables which are uncorrelated (and if Gaussian distributed, are also independent).
- ▶ We want to find the transformation matrix B so that $\underline{Y} = B(\underline{X} \mu)$ has the elements uncorrelated with each other. That will happen if the covariance matrix $E[\underline{Y}\underline{Y}^T]$ is diagonal.

$$R_Y = E[\underline{Y}\underline{Y}^T] = E[B(\underline{X} - \mu)(B(\underline{X} - \mu))^T]$$

=
$$E[B(\underline{X} - \mu)(\underline{X} - \mu)^TB^T] = E[BR_XB^T]$$

In general the matrix B will be complex valued, so all transposition operations $(\cdot)^T$ must be replaced by "complex conjugation and transpose" operation $(\cdot)^H$.

$$R_Y = E[\underline{YY}^H] = E[BR_XB^H]$$

The Karhunen-Loeve transform

Consider the eigenvalue decomposition of R_x , where each eigenvalue-eigenvector pair λ_i , \underline{q}_i obeys $R_x\underline{q}_i=\lambda_i\underline{q}_i$. Denote $\Lambda=diag(\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_n)$. One can choose such eigenvectors that the matrix $Q=[\underline{q}_1\ \underline{q}_2\ \ldots\underline{q}_n]$ is unitary, so that

$$Q^{H}Q = I$$

$$R_{X}Q = Q\Lambda$$

$$R_{X} = Q\Lambda Q^{H}$$

$$\Lambda = Q^{H}R_{X}Q$$

ightharpoonup Taking $B = Q^H$ we have the desired transformation

$$\underline{Y} = Q^{H}(\underline{X} - \underline{\mu})$$
 $R_{Y} = E[\underline{Y}\underline{Y}^{H}] = Q^{H}R_{X}Q = \Lambda$

and, since the matrix Λ is diagonal, the components of the vector \underline{Y} are not correlated, $E[Y_i Y_i] = 0$.

- if the distribution of the initial vector <u>X</u> was Gaussian, also the transformed vector <u>Y</u> is Gaussian distributed, and hence the components of the vector <u>Y</u> are independent!
- the dependent components of X are transformed easily by the KL transform into independent components, over which the study is much simpler, since each component can be studied separately!
- the results of the analysis over the components of \underline{Y} can then be phrased in terms of the initial random variables in \underline{X} by the inverse transform

$$\underline{X} = Q\underline{Y} + \mu$$

Simulation of random variables in Matlab

- Uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}(0,1)$ on the open interval (0,1): rand(n) returns a n-by-n matrix containing pseudorandom values drawn from the standard uniform distribution on the open interval (0,1). rand(m,n) or rand([m,n]) returns an m-by-n matrix.
- normal distribution $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ of zero mean and standard deviation $\sigma=1$: $r=\mathsf{randn}(\mathsf{n})$ returns an n-by-n matrix containing pseudorandom values drawn from the standard normal distribution. $\mathsf{randn}(\mathsf{m},\mathsf{n})$ or $\mathsf{randn}([\mathsf{m},\mathsf{n}])$ returns an m-by-n matrix.
- Inverse transform method We want to generate n samples from any given cumulative distribution function, say $F_X(x)$. The inverse method requires to generate n samples u_1, \ldots, u_n from the uniform distribution $\mathcal{U}(0,1)$ (e.g. by using rand(n) function) and then obtain the desired samples as $x_1 = F_X^{-1}(u_1), \ldots, x_n = F_X^{-1}(u_n)$, where the function F_Y^{-1} is defined as

$$F_X^{-1}(u) = \arg\min_{x} \{F(x) \ge u, u \in [0, 1]\}$$

Proof: We need to show that $Prob(X \leq x) = F_X(x)$, where $X = F_X^{-1}(U)$ and where U satisfies $Prob(U \leq u) = u$. We evaluate: $Prob(X \leq x) = Prob(F_X^{-1}(U) \leq x)$. If the function $F_X(x)$ is continuous, the function $F_X^{-1}(\cdot)$ is the proper inverse function of $F_X(x)$. $Prob(X \leq x) = Prob(F_X^{-1}(U) \leq x) = Prob(U \leq F_X(x)) = F_X(x)$. The case of discontinuous $F_X(x)$ can be shown to lead to same result, that $F_X^{-1}(U)$ is distributed as $F_X(\cdot)$.