

## PROBABILTY REVIEW - GAUSSIANS

### ECEN 633: Robotic Localization and Mapping

Some slides courtesy of Ryan Eustice.

# Agenda

- ▶ State Representation and Uncertainty
- ▶ Multivariate Gaussian
- ▶ Covariance Projection/Uncertainty Propagation



# Probabilistic State Estimation

- ▶ Uncertain Observations
  - ▶ Sensor noise & non-idealities
- ▶ Uncertain Beliefs
  - ▶ Derived from sensor observations
  - ▶ Approximate algorithms
- ▶ *Probabilistic State Estimation*
  - ▶ Identify the quantities (state variables) we care about.
    - ▶ E.g. “study time” versus “exam grade”
  - ▶ Determine probability for every possible simultaneous assignment

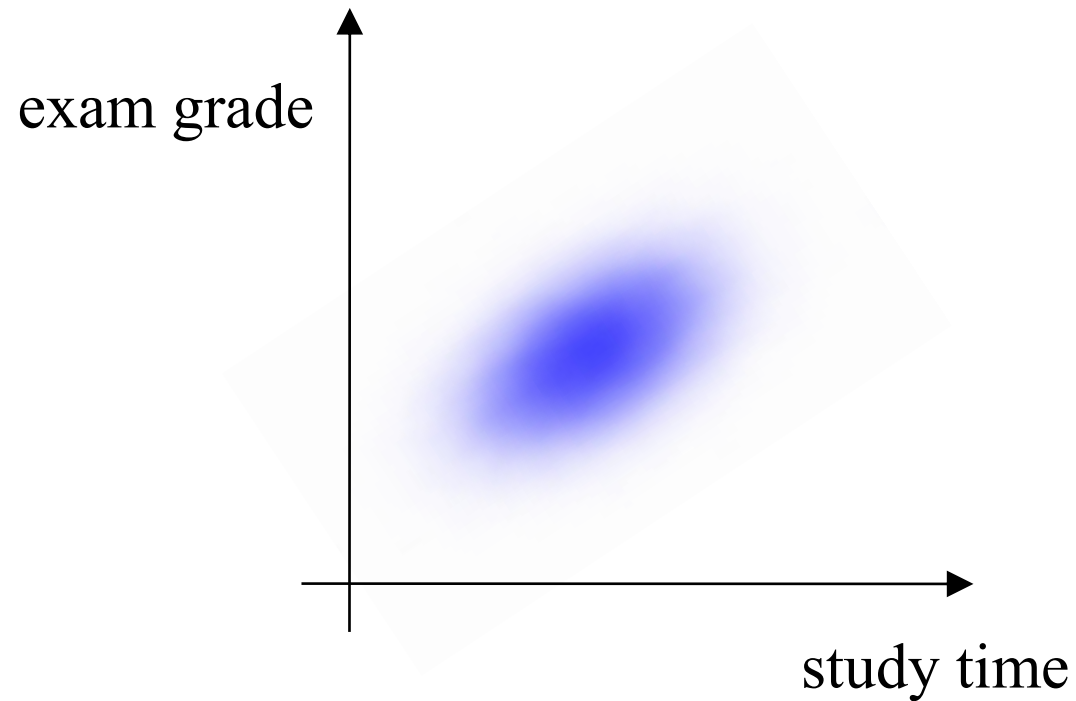
# Representing State

- ▶ Represent everything we need to know in terms of a vector of quantities
  - ▶ “State vector”
  - ▶ Usually continuous-valued in this course
- ▶ The “meaning” of the variables is up to us
  - ▶ e.g., index 7 is the temperature in Seattle.
  - ▶ Bookkeeping work for us.

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

# Representing Uncertainty

- In principle, distribution of unknown quantities can be arbitrary



# Common Statistics

## ► Expectation?

$$\mu_x = E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xp(x)dx$$

## ► Variance/Covariance?

$$\sigma_x^2 = E[(x - E[x])^2]$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = E[(\mathbf{x} - E[\mathbf{x}])(\mathbf{x} - E[\mathbf{x}])^\top] = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx}^2 & \sigma_{xy}^2 \\ \sigma_{yx}^2 & \sigma_{yy}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

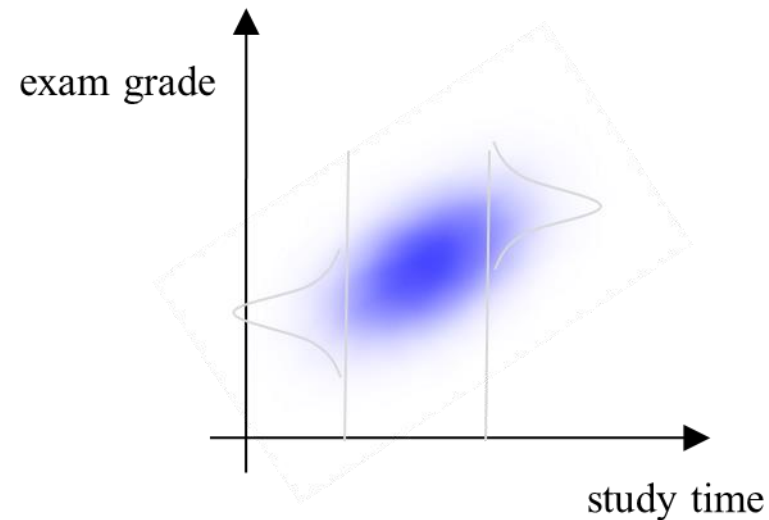
## ► Correlation Coefficients?

$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{\text{cov}(x, y)}{\sigma_x \sigma_y} \quad |\rho_{xy}| \leq 1$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho_{12}\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \dots & \rho_{1n}\sigma_1\sigma_n \\ \rho_{21}\sigma_2\sigma_1 & \sigma_2^2 & \dots & \rho_{2n}\sigma_2\sigma_n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \rho_{n1}\sigma_n\sigma_1 & \rho_{n2}\sigma_n\sigma_2 & \dots & \sigma_n^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Correlations

- ▶ Estimates of variables tend to become correlated over time
  - ▶ Observation: Study time is 4 hours
  - ▶ Belief about study time *and* exam grade are affected
- ▶ Distribution of exam grade depends on study time: two are correlated
  - ▶ We'll look at correlations closer later today
  - ▶ The data does not necessarily imply any *causal* relationship.



# Projecting Covariances

► Suppose I know  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mu_{\mathbf{x}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{x}}$

► How do we handle  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$  ???

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}} = E[(\mathbf{y} - E[\mathbf{y}])(\mathbf{y} - E[\mathbf{y}])^{\top}]$$

► (Algebra)  $\rightarrow \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{A}\Sigma_{\mathbf{x}\mathbf{x}}\mathbf{A}^{\top}$



# Gaussians

# Gaussian (Covariance Form)

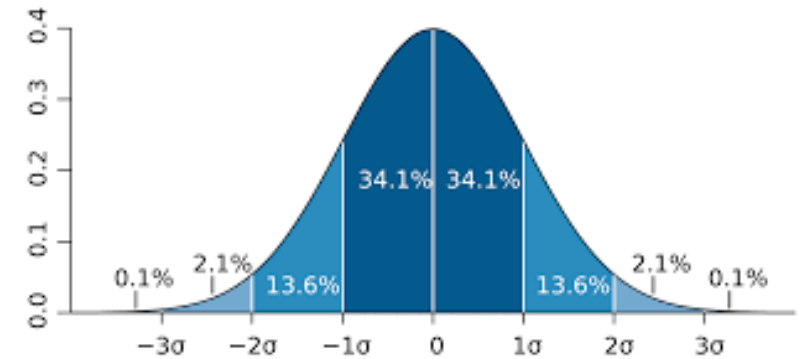
- ▶ In this class, we'll (mostly) focus on Gaussian distributions
  - ▶ For both observations and our beliefs

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi\Sigma|}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)}$$

- ▶ Characterized by mean & covariance

$$\mu_{\mathbf{x}} = E[\mathbf{x}]$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{xx}} = E[(\mathbf{x} - E[\mathbf{x}])(\mathbf{x} - E[\mathbf{x}])^\top]$$



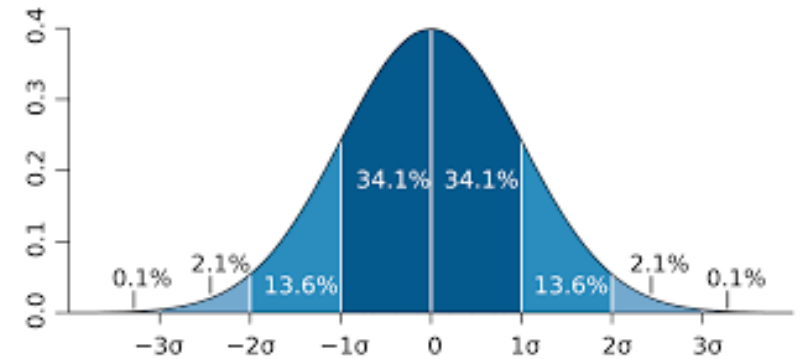
# Gaussian (Covariance Form)

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi\Sigma|}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)}$$

- All that gunk out front is just for normalization. Your mental model:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)}$$

- How do the terms in the exponential, correspond to the graph?



# Gaussian (Information Form)

- An alternative parameterization of the Gaussian distribution

$$\begin{aligned} p(\xi_t) &= \mathcal{N}(\xi_t; \mu_t, \Sigma_t) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi\Sigma_t|}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\xi_t - \mu_t)^\top \Sigma_t^{-1}(\xi_t - \mu_t)\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{|2\pi\Sigma_t|}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\xi_t^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} \xi_t - 2\mu_t^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} \xi_t + \mu_t^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} \mu_t)\right\} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}\mu_t^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} \mu_t}}{\sqrt{|2\pi\Sigma_t|}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\xi_t^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} \xi_t + \mu_t^\top \Sigma_t^{-1} \xi_t\right\} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}\eta_t^\top \Lambda_t^{-1} \eta_t}}{\sqrt{|2\pi\Lambda_t^{-1}|}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\xi_t^\top \Lambda_t \xi_t + \eta_t^\top \xi_t\right\} \\ &= \mathcal{N}^{-1}(\xi_t; \eta_t, \Lambda_t) \end{aligned}$$

# Gaussian (Information Form)

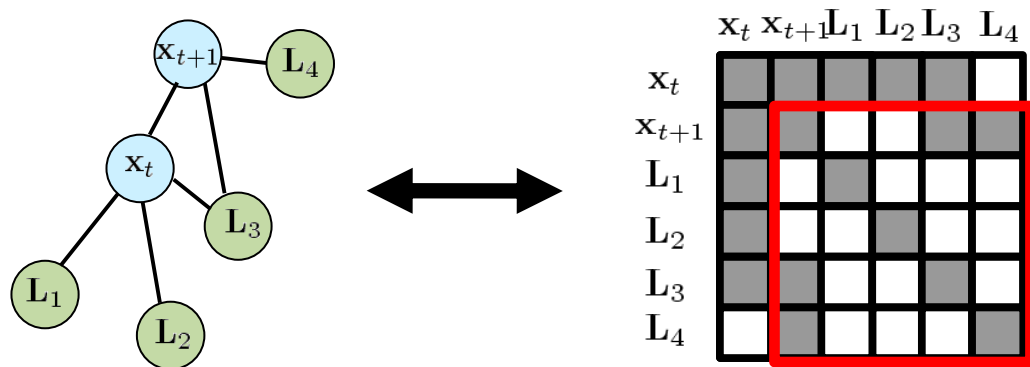
- Information matrix and vector

$$\begin{aligned} p(\boldsymbol{\xi}_t) &= \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_t; \boldsymbol{\mu}_t, \Sigma_t) \\ &= \mathcal{N}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\xi}_t; \boldsymbol{\eta}_t, \Lambda_t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_t &= \Sigma_t^{-1} \\ \boldsymbol{\eta}_t &= \Lambda_t \boldsymbol{\mu}_t \end{aligned}$$

- Encodes a graphical model

- Markov Random Field or Markov Net (Will talk about in a month or so)

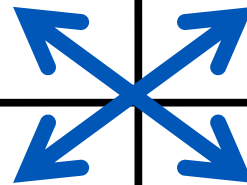


Sparsity  $\Rightarrow$  Missing Edges  $\Rightarrow$  Available Conditional Independence

# Gaussian Covariance & Information Parameterizations:

$\alpha\alpha$	$\alpha\beta$
$\beta\alpha$	$\beta\beta$

	Covariance Form	Information Form
<b>Marginalization</b> $p(\alpha) = \int p(\alpha, \beta) d\beta$	$\mu = \mu_\alpha$ $\Sigma = \Sigma_{\alpha\alpha}$ (sub-block)	$\eta = \eta_\alpha - \Lambda_{\alpha\beta} \Lambda_{\beta\beta}^{-1} \eta_\beta$ $\Lambda = \Lambda_{\alpha\alpha} - \Lambda_{\alpha\beta} \Lambda_{\beta\beta}^{-1} \Lambda_{\beta\alpha}$ (Schur complement)
<b>Conditioning</b> $p(\alpha \beta) = \frac{p(\alpha, \beta)}{p(\beta)}$	$\mu' = \mu_\alpha + \Sigma_{\alpha\beta} \Sigma_{\beta\beta}^{-1} (\beta - \mu_\beta)$ $\Sigma' = \Sigma_{\alpha\alpha} - \Sigma_{\alpha\beta} \Sigma_{\beta\beta}^{-1} \Sigma_{\beta\alpha}$ (Schur complement)	$\eta' = \eta_\alpha - \Lambda_{\alpha\beta} \beta$ $\Lambda' = \Lambda_{\alpha\alpha}$ (sub-block)

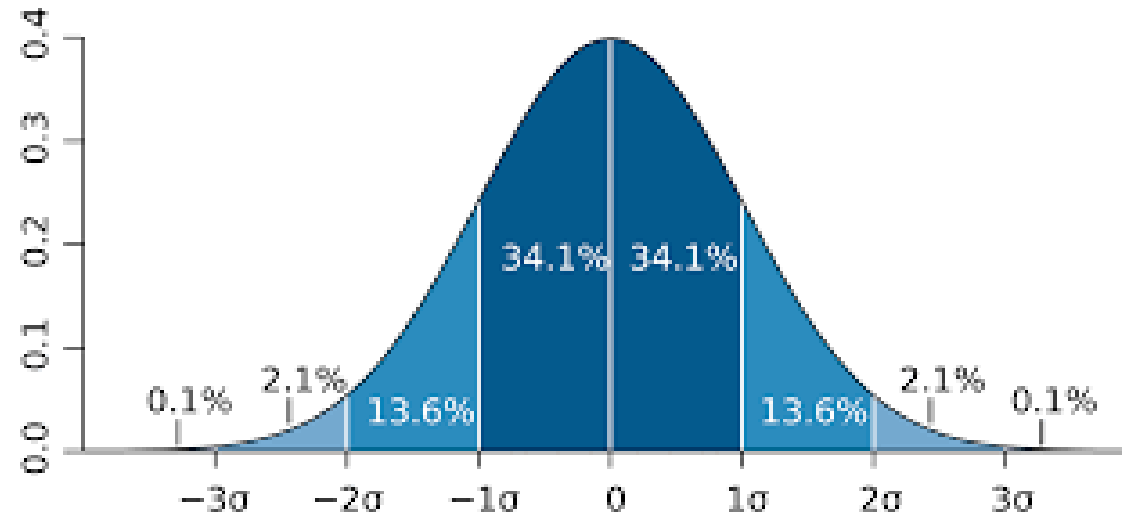


# Standard Deviation and Mahalanobis Distance

- ▶ Standard Deviation:

- ▶ Square root of variance

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$$



- ▶ Mahalanobis Distance

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)^{\top} \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)}$$

$$q^2 = (x - \mu)^{\top} \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) \quad q = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

**Mahalanobis Distance:**  $q = \sqrt{(x - \mu)^{\top} \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)}$

# Visualizing Gaussians

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \alpha e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)^{\top}\Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\mu)}$$

- ▶ Find contours of constant probability

$$q^2 = (x - \mu)^{\top}\Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) \quad q = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- ▶ Expand these terms, we end up with quadratic curve
  - ▶ An ellipse



# Visualizing Gaussians

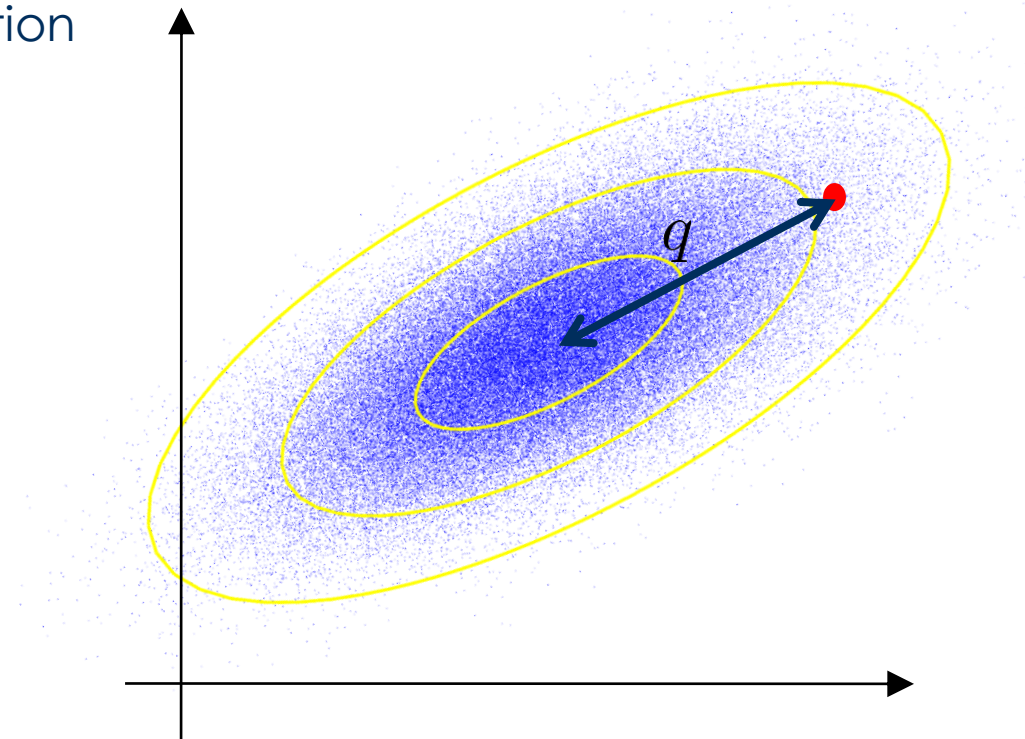
- ▶ Number of particles within each ellipse can be computed based on properties of Gaussian distributions
  - ▶ Distance from sample to mean (in terms of likelihood) is Mahalanobis Distance  $q$
  - ▶ Square of  $q$  follows Chi-squared distribution

$$q^2 \sim \chi_k^2$$

$k$

$n$

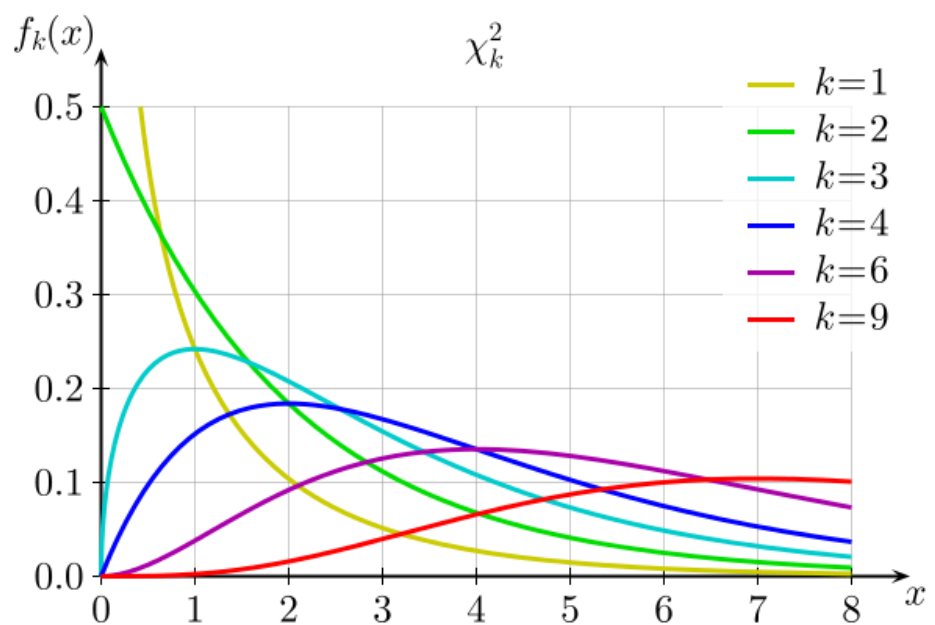
Sigma	1D	2D
1	0.6827	0.3935
2	0.9545	0.8647
3	0.9973	0.9889



# Chi-Square Distribution

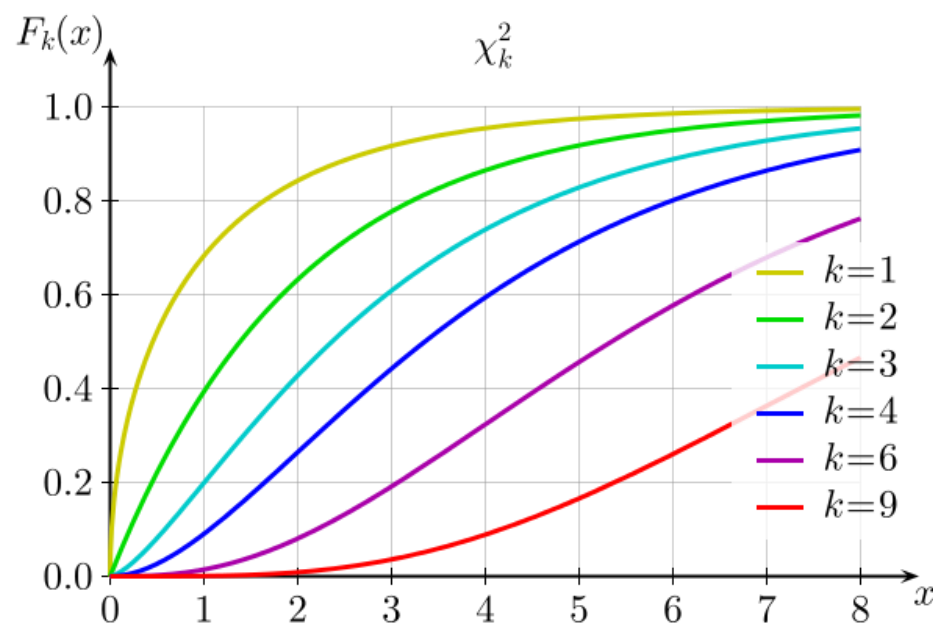
- Distribution of the sum of squares of independent standard normal random variables

$$q^2 = \sum_{i=1, \dots, k} x_i^2 \mid x_i \sim \mathcal{N}, \forall i = 1, \dots, k$$



Probability density function

[Wikipedia]



Cumulative distribution function

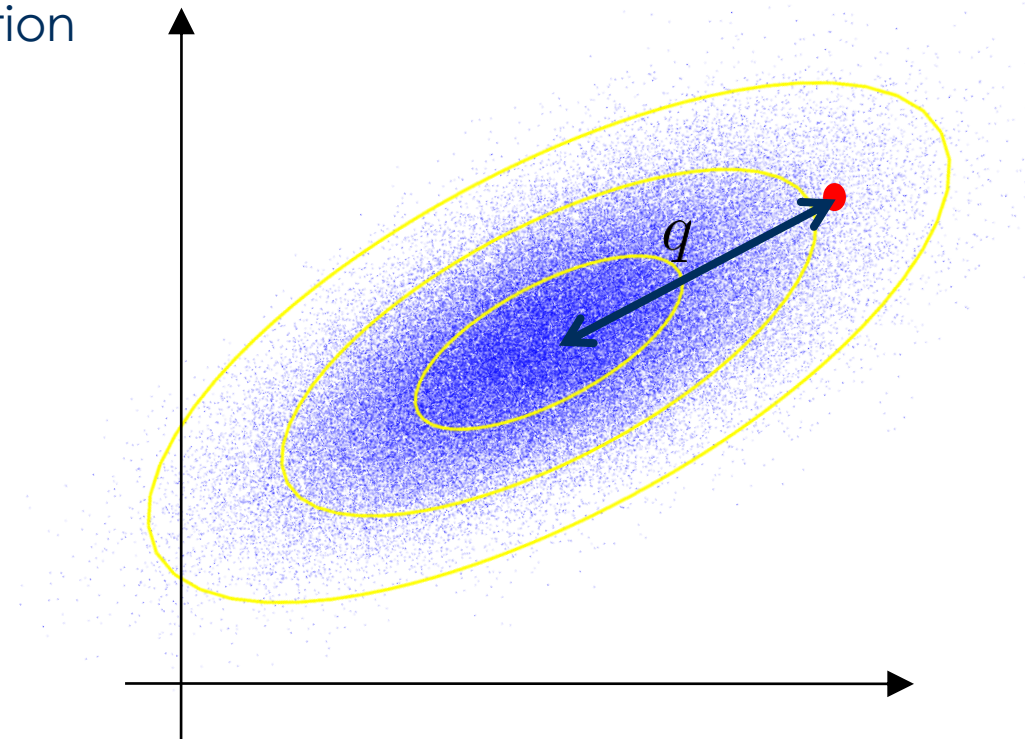
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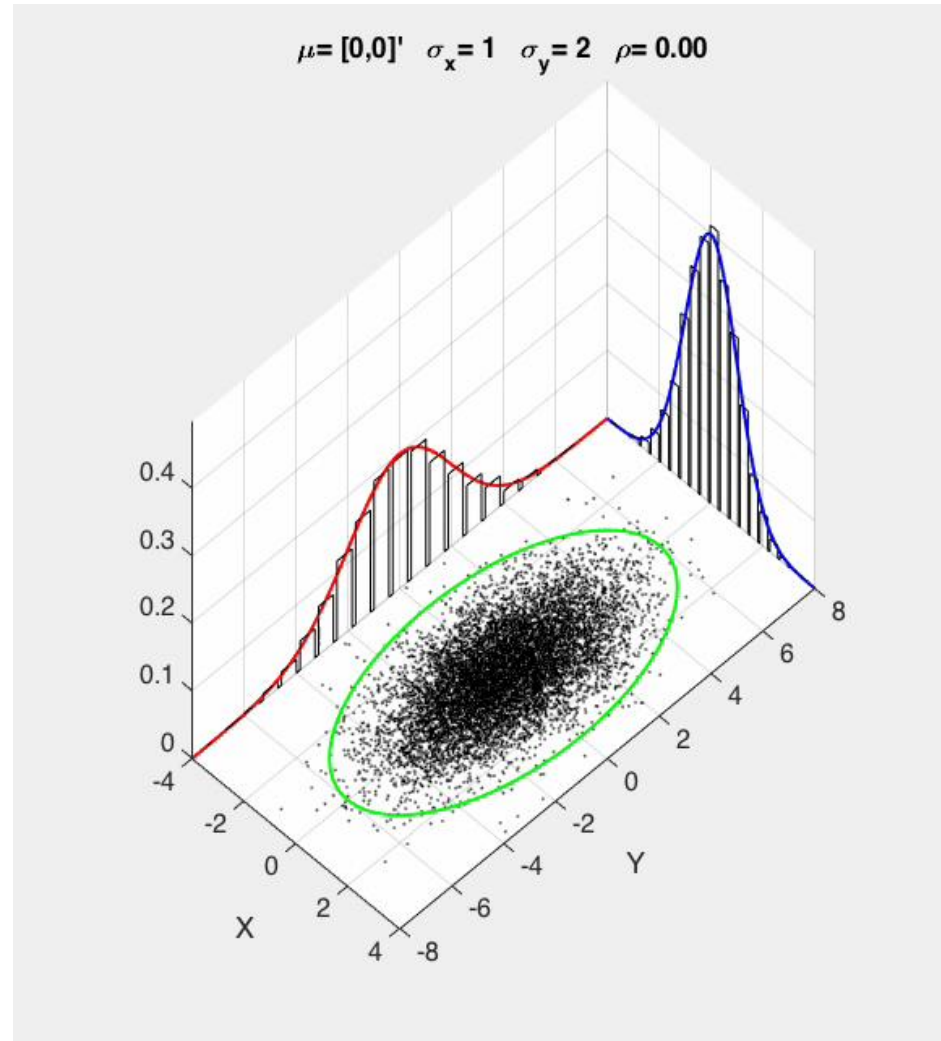
$$q^2 \sim \chi_k^2$$

$k$

$n$	Sigma	1D	2D
	1	chi2cdf(1,1)	chi2cdf(1,2)
	2	chi2cdf(4,1)	chi2cdf(4,2)
	3	chi2cdf(9,1)	chi2cdf(9,2)



# 2-DOF Gaussian Correlation



# 2-DOF Gaussian Correlation

►  $\rho = 0$

►  $\Sigma =$

►  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

►  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

►  $V =$

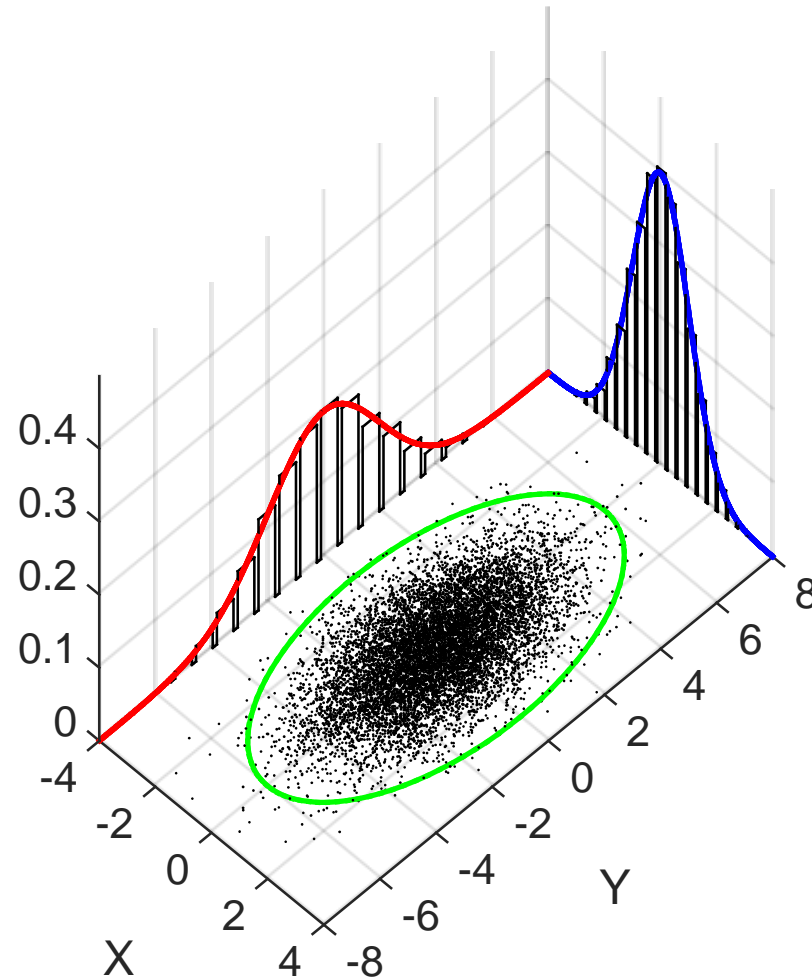
►  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

►  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

►  $D =$

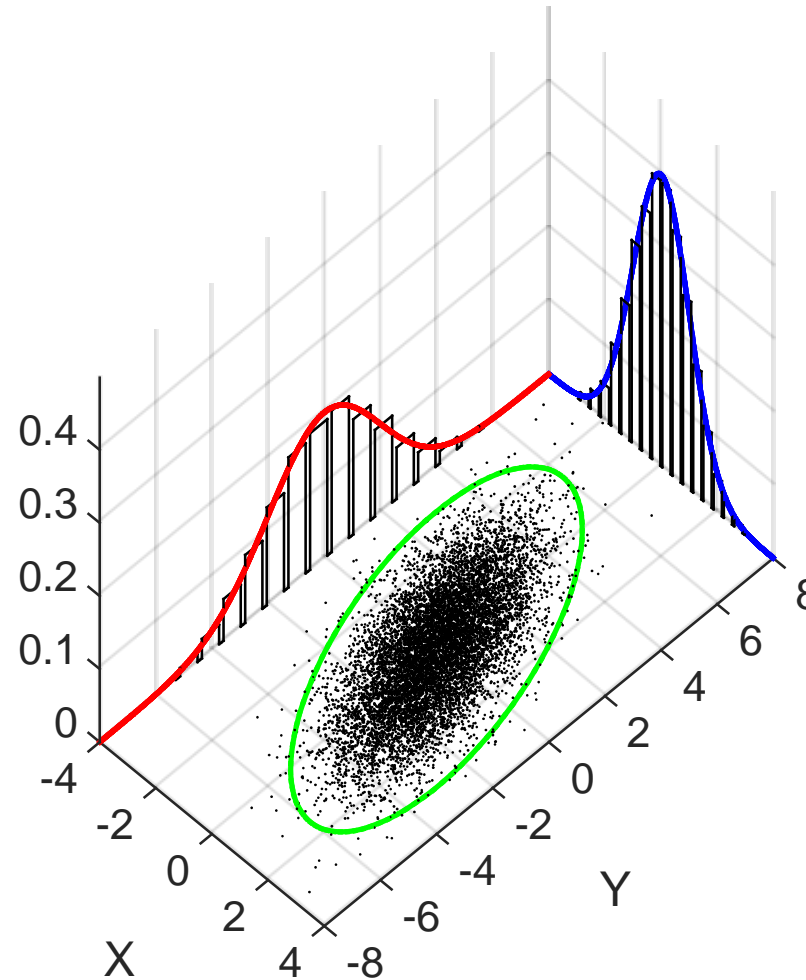
►  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

►  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$



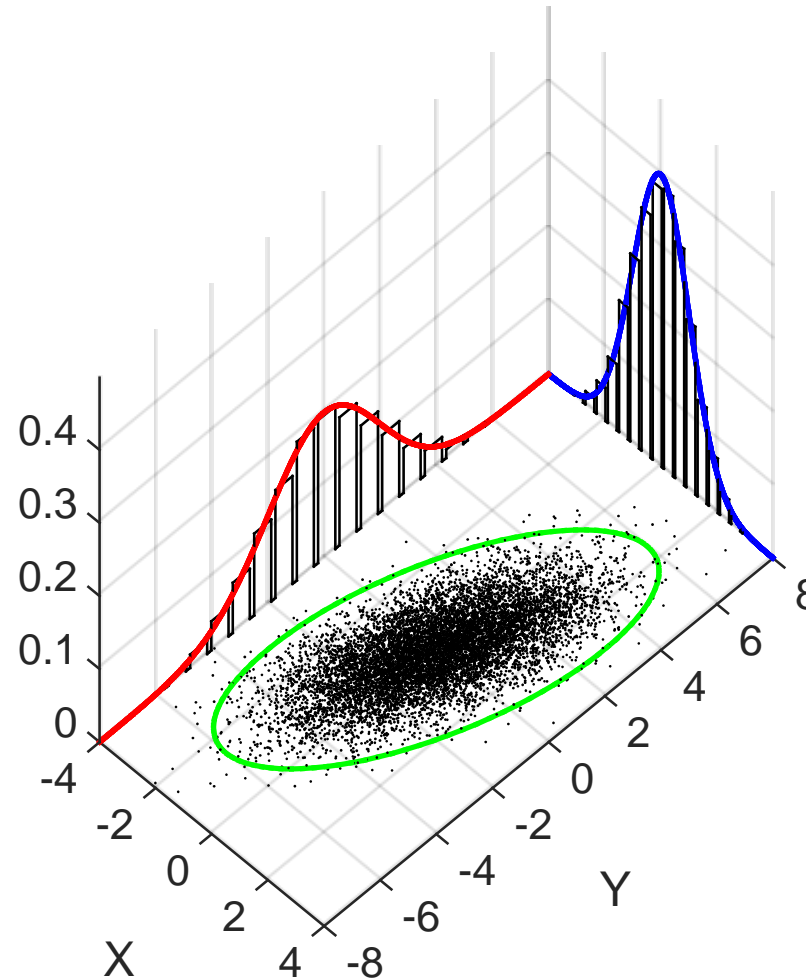
# 2-DOF Gaussian Correlation

- ▶  $\rho = -0.5000$
- ▶  $\Sigma =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶  $V =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} -0.9571 & -0.2898 \\ -0.2898 & 0.9571 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶  $D =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} 0.6972 & 0 \\ 0 & 4.3028 \end{bmatrix}$



# 2-DOF Gaussian Correlation

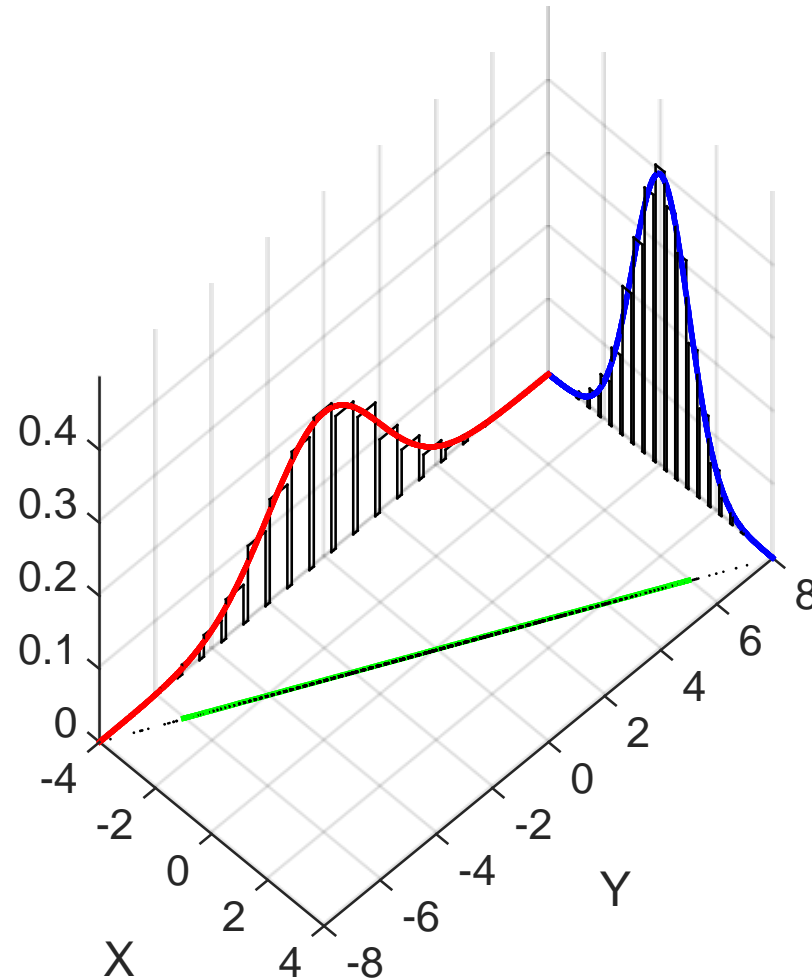
- ▶  $\rho = 0.5000$
- ▶  $\Sigma =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶  $V =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} -0.9571 & 0.2898 \\ 0.2898 & 0.9571 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶  $D =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} 0.6972 & 0 \\ 0 & 4.3028 \end{bmatrix}$





# 2-DOF Gaussian Correlation

- ▶  $\rho = 1$
- ▶  $\Sigma =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶  $V =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} -0.8944 & 0.4472 \\ 0.4472 & 0.8944 \end{bmatrix}$
- ▶  $D =$ 
  - ▶  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$





# Implications of CLT

- ▶ We often estimate the state of something using many observations
  - ▶ Measuring the gravity on the moon by dropping a weight and timing the result
- ▶ Even if the distribution of each observation is non-Gaussian, their average will tend towards one.

# Why use Gaussians?

- ▶ Convenience
  - ▶ Compact representation
  - ▶ Linear operations on Gaussians produce new Gaussians
- ▶ Central Limit Theorem: Distribution of the sum (or average) of  $N$  independent and identically distributed (IID) random variables approaches a normal distribution.
  - ▶ Only minor restrictions on the distribution of the individual random variables