

M339G: March 12th, 2025.

Bivariate Normal Random Variables.

(Based on Pitman's "Probability")

Recall: In 1-D, the standard normal density is

$$\varphi(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2i\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}}, \text{ for } z \in \mathbb{R}$$

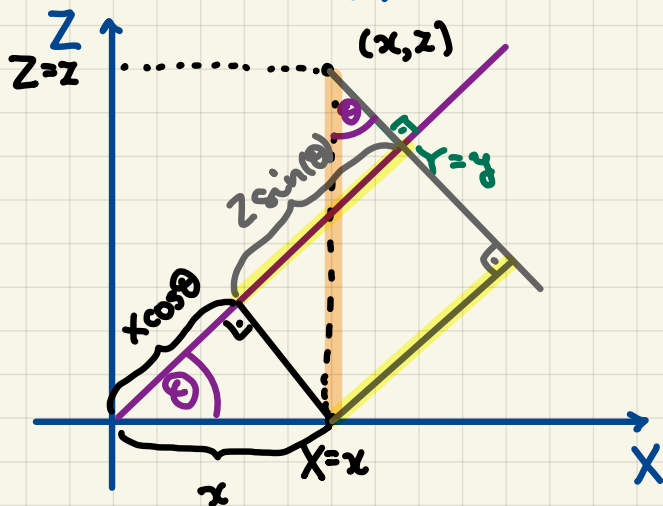
In 2-D, we start w/ X and Y that are independent and both are standard normal, i.e., $N(0,1)$.

Then, their joint density, i.e., the density of the pair (X, Y) is

$$f(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x^2+y^2)} \quad \text{for all } (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

Standard.

Start w/ a pair of independent, standard normal random variables. Say, X and Z .



$$\Rightarrow Y = X \cdot \cos \vartheta + Z \cdot \sin \vartheta \quad \leftarrow$$

We know: Y is normal

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[Y] &= \mathbb{E}[X \cdot \cos\Theta + Z \cdot \sin\Theta] \\ \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{linearity} \\ \text{of} \\ \mathbb{E} \end{array} \right) &= \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[X]}_{=0} \cdot \cos\Theta + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[Z]}_{=0} \cdot \sin\Theta \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}[Y] &= \text{Var}[X \cdot \cos \Theta + Z \cdot \sin \Theta] \quad (X \text{ and } Z \text{ independent}) \\ &= \underbrace{\text{Var}[X]}_1 \cdot \cos^2 \Theta + \underbrace{\text{Var}[Z]}_1 \cdot \sin^2 \Theta = 1\end{aligned}$$

Q: What is the correlation coefficient between X and Y ?

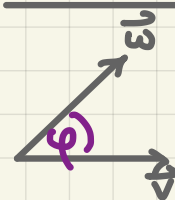
→:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(X, Y) &= \frac{\text{Cov}[X, Y]}{\underbrace{\text{SD}[X]}_{=1} \cdot \underbrace{\text{SD}[Y]}_{=1}} = \text{Cov}[X, Y] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)] = \\ &= \mathbb{E}[XY - X\mu_Y - \mu_X Y + \mu_X \mu_Y] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mathbb{E}[X] \cdot \mu_Y - \mu_X \mathbb{E}[Y] + \mu_X \mu_Y \\ &= \mathbb{E}[XY] - \mu_X \cdot \mu_Y \\ &= \mathbb{E}[XY] \quad \mu_X = \mu_Y = 0 \\ &= \mathbb{E}[X(X \cdot \cos \Theta + Z \cdot \sin \Theta)] = \\ &= \cos \Theta \cdot \mathbb{E}[X^2] + \sin \Theta \mathbb{E}[X \cdot Z] \\ &\quad \underbrace{\text{Var}[X] + (\mathbb{E}[X])^2}_{=1} \quad \parallel \text{independent} \quad \mathbb{E}[X] \cdot \mathbb{E}[Z] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\rho(X, Y) = \cos \Theta}$$



Linear Algebra



$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = \|\vec{v}\| \cdot \|\vec{w}\| \cdot \cos(\varphi)$$

$$\cos(\varphi) = \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w}}{\|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\|}$$

Special Cases:

$$\Theta = 0 \Rightarrow Y = X$$

$$\Theta = \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow Y \perp Z \quad (\text{So, } X \text{ and } Y \text{ are independent.})$$

$$\Theta = \pi \Rightarrow Y = -X$$

In general: For each correlation coefficient $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$, there exists an angle $\theta = \arccos(\rho)$ such that X and Y as above have the correlation coefficient ρ .

Alternatively,

$$Y = \rho \cdot X + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \cdot Z$$



w/ X and Z independent and $N(0,1)$.

Joint Density:

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi(1-\rho^2)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}(x^2 - 2\rho xy + y^2)\right)$$

Marginal Dist's: $X \sim N(0,1)$, $Y \sim N(0,1)$

Conditional Dist'n: Given $X=x$, $Y \sim \text{Normal}\left(\frac{\rho x}{1}, \text{var} = 1 - \rho^2\right)$
Given $Y=y$, $X \sim \text{Normal}\left(\frac{\rho y}{1}, \text{var} = 1 - \rho^2\right)$

Independence.

X and Y are independent

iff

$$\rho(X,Y) = 0$$