

as given 27/11/15

Example 3.11  $X \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.7 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right)$

$$Y = X_1 - X_2 \quad Y = a^T X, \quad a = (1, -1)^T$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

works because

$$a^T X = (1, -1) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 1 \cdot X_1 + (-1) \cdot X_2$$

$$= X_1 - X_2$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{N}(a^T \mu, \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} a^T \Sigma a)$$

$$= \mathcal{N}\left((1, -1) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} (1, -1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.7 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

$$= \mathcal{N}\left(1 \cdot 2 + (-1) \cdot 1, \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} (1, -1) \begin{pmatrix} 0.3 \\ -0.5 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

$$= \mathcal{N}(1, 0.6)$$

Is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.7 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  positive definite?

$$a^T \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.7 & 1 \end{pmatrix} a = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + 0.7a_2 \\ 0.7a_1 + a_2 \end{pmatrix}^T \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + 0.7a_2 \\ 0.7a_1 + a_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= a_1 \cdot (a_1 + 0.7a_2) + a_2 \cdot (0.7a_1 + a_2)$$

$$= a_1^2 + 1.4a_1a_2 + a_2^2$$

$$= \underbrace{(a_1 + 0.7a_2)^2}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{0.51a_2^2}_{\geq 0} \geq 0$$

if  $a \neq 0 \Rightarrow a_2 \neq 0$  or else  $a_1 \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow 0.51a_2^2 > 0$$

So  $a^T \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0.7 \\ 0.7 & 1 \end{pmatrix} a > 0$  as long as  $a \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .