

# STA414 Assignment 0

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## 0.1 Probability

### 0.1.1 Variance and Covariance

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two continuous, independent random variables.

1. [3pts] Starting from the definition of independence, show that the independence of  $X$  and  $Y$  implies that their covariance is 0.

Answer:

By (i) Definition of Covariance, and (ii)  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent iff  $E[g(X)h(Y)] = E[g(X)]E[h(Y)]$  whenever all expectations exist for  $g$  and  $h$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cov}(X, Y) &= \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}(X))(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[XY - X\mathbb{E}(Y) - Y\mathbb{E}(X) + \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}(XY) - \mathbb{E}(Y)(\mathbb{E}(XY)) - \mathbb{E}(X)(\mathbb{E}(Y)) + \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y) - \mathbb{E}(Y)(\mathbb{E}(XY)) - \mathbb{E}(X)(\mathbb{E}(Y)) + \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y) \\ &= \boxed{0}\end{aligned}$$

2. [3pts] For a scalar constant  $a$ , show the following two properties starting from the definition of expectation:

$$\mathbb{E}(X + aY) = \mathbb{E}(X) + a\mathbb{E}(Y) \tag{1}$$

$$\text{var}(X + aY) = \text{var}(X) + a^2\text{var}(Y) \tag{2}$$

Answer:

**Part (1)** By definition of expectation and the property of linearity of expectation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(X + aY) &= \mathbb{E}(X) + \mathbb{E}(aY) \\ &= \boxed{\mathbb{E}(X) + a\mathbb{E}(Y)}\end{aligned}$$

**Part (2)** By definition of variance, we know that  $\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2\text{Cov}(X, Y)$ . Using that and the result from part 1 that for independent random variable  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ , we can write this as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Var}(X + aY) &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(aY) + 2\text{Cov}(X, aY) \\
 &= \text{Var}(X) + \mathbb{E}[(aY - \mathbb{E}(aY))(aY - \mathbb{E}(aY))] + 2a\text{Cov}(X, Y) \\
 &= \text{Var}(X) + \mathbb{E}[a(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))a(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))] + 2a\text{Cov}(X, Y) \\
 &= \text{Var}(X) + a^2\mathbb{E}[(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))] + 2a\text{Cov}(X, Y) \\
 &= \text{Var}(X) + a^2\text{Var}(Y) + 2a\text{Cov}(X, Y) \\
 &= \boxed{\text{Var}(X) + a^2\text{Var}(Y)}
 \end{aligned}$$

### 0.1.2 1D Gaussian Densities

1. [1pts] Can a probability density function (pdf) ever take values greater than 1?

Answer:

Yes. For a uniform distribution on  $[a, b]$ , the density is  $\frac{1}{b-a}$ . So, if  $b=0.5$  and  $a=0$ , then density is 2 in the region  $[0, 0.5]$ .

2. Let  $X$  be a univariate random variable distributed according to a Gaussian distribution with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ .

[1pts ] Write the expression for the pdf:

Answer:

For gaussian distribution, pdf is:  $\frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{0.5}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$

[2pts ] Write the code for the function that computes the pdf at  $x$  with default values  $\mu = 0$  and  $\sigma = \sqrt{0.01}$ :

Answer:

```
function gaussian_pdf(x; mean=0., variance=0.01)
    return (1/sqrt(2*pi*variance)) * exp((-1/(2*variance))*((x - mean)^2))
end
```

gaussian\_pdf (generic function with 1 method)

Test your implementation against a standard implementation from a library:

```

# Test answers
using Test
using Distributions: pdf, Normal
using Random # Import Random Package

Random.seed!(414); #Set Random Seed
@testset "Implementation of Gaussian pdf" begin
    x = randn()
    @test gaussian_pdf(x) ≈ pdf.(Normal(0.,sqrt(0.01)),x)
    @test isapprox(gaussian_pdf(x) , pdf.(Normal(0., sqrt(0.01)),x))
    @test isapprox(gaussian_pdf(x,mean=10., variance=1) , pdf.(Normal(10., sqrt(1)),x)) #
    checking non-default values
end

```

```

Test Summary: | Pass Total
Implementation of Gaussian pdf |    3    3
Test.DefaultTestSet("Implementation of Gaussian pdf", Any[], 3, false)

```

3. [1pts] What is the value of the pdf at  $x = 0$ ? What is probability that  $x = 0$  (hint: is this the same as the pdf? Briefly explain your answer.)

Answer:

**Part 1:** Based on the function we created, pdf at  $x=0$  is:

```
gaussian_pdf(0)
```

```
3.989422804014327
```

While analytically, pdf is:  $\frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{0.5}} \exp(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2})$ . We know that  $x=0, \text{mean}=0$  and  $\text{variance}=0.01$ . So, based on that, the pdf becomes:  $\frac{10}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$  which is same as the value we get from the function created.

**Part 2:** Since  $x$  is continuous,  $P(x=0) = 0$ .

4. A Gaussian with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$  can be written as a simple transformation of the standard Gaussian with mean 0. and variance 1..

[1pts ] Write the transformation that takes  $x \sim \mathcal{N}(0., 1.)$  to  $z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ :

Answer:

If  $x \sim N(0., 1.)$  and  $z \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then we can write the relation between them as:

$$x = \frac{z - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{z = \mu + \sigma x}$$

[2pts] Write a code implementation to produce  $n$  independent samples from  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  by transforming  $n$  samples from  $\mathcal{N}(0., 1.)$ .

Answer:

```
using Distributions: Normal
function sample_gaussian(n; mean=0., variance=0.01)
    # getting n samples from standard gaussian
    x = randn(n)

    # transform x to z with N(mean, variance)
    z = x*sqrt(variance) .+ mean
    return z
end;
```

[2pts] Test your implementation by computing statistics on the samples:

Answer:

```
using Test
using Distributions: Normal
using Statistics
@testset "Numerically testing Gaussian Sample Statistics" begin

    # Test1:
    # Sampling 1000000 from the normal distribution with mean = 0 and variance = 0.01
    x = sample_gaussian(100000; mean=0., variance=0.01)

    # Declaring true mean and variance
    x_mean = 0.
    x_var = 0.01

    # Testing true mean and variance with the numerical statistics
    @test isapprox(Statistics.mean(x) , x_mean, atol=1e-2)
    @test isapprox(var(x) , x_var, atol=1e-2)

    # Test2:
    # Sampling 1000000 from the normal distribution with mean = 3 and variance = 1
    y = sample_gaussian(100000; mean=3., variance=1.)

    # Declaring true mean and variance
    y_mean = 3.
    y_var = 1.

    # Testing true mean and variance with the numerical statistics
    @test isapprox(Statistics.mean(y) , y_mean, atol=1e-2)
    @test isapprox(var(y) , y_var, atol=1e-2)
end;
```

Test Summary:	Pass	Total
Numerically testing Gaussian Sample Statistics	4	4

5. [3pts] Sample 10000 samples from a Gaussian with mean 10. an variance 2. Plot the **normalized histogram** of these samples. On the same axes plot! the pdf of this distribution.

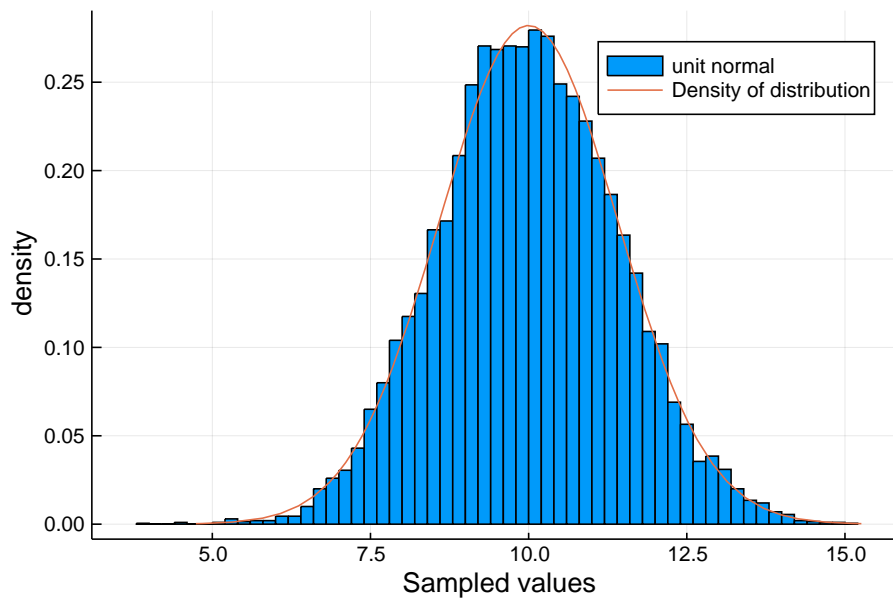
Confirm that the histogram approximates the pdf.

Answer:

```
function gaussian_pdf_temp(x; mean=0., variance=0.01)
    return (1/sqrt(2*pi*variance)) * exp.((((x .- mean).^2) .* (-1/(2*variance))))
end

using Plots
using Distributions
using StatPlots

histogram(sample_gaussian(10000; mean = 10., variance = 2.), normalize=true, label="unit normal")
plot!(Normal(10,sqrt(2)), label = "Density of distribution")
```



## 0.2 Calculus

### 0.2.1 Manual Differentiation

Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , and square matrix  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ . And where  $x'$  is the transpose of  $x$ . Answer the following questions in vector notation.

1. [1pts] What is the gradient of  $x'y$  with respect to  $x$ ?

Answer:  $\nabla_x x^T y = \left[ \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m x_k y_k}{dx_i} \right] = [y_i] = \boxed{y}$

2. [1pts] What is the gradient of  $x'x$  with respect to  $x$ ?

Answer:  $\nabla_x x^T x = \left[ \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m x_k^2}{dx_i} \right] = [2x_i] = \boxed{2x}$

3. [2pts] What is the Jacobian of  $x'A$  with respect to  $x$ ?

Answer:

$J = \text{Jacobian of } (f_3 = [\sum_{i=1}^m x_i A_{i1} \dots \sum_{i=1}^m x_i A_{in}])$

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m x_k A_{k1}}{dx_1} & \dots & \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m x_k A_{k1}}{dx_m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m x_k A_{kn}}{dx_1} & \dots & \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m x_k A_{kn}}{dx_m} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & \dots & A_{m1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{1n} & \dots & A_{mn} \end{bmatrix} = \boxed{A^T}$$

4. [2pts] What is the gradient of  $x^T B x$  with respect to  $x$ ?

Answer:  $\nabla_x x^T B x = \left[ \frac{d \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m x_j b_{jk} x_k}{dx_i} \right] = [\sum_{k=1}^m b_{ik} x_k + \sum_{j=1}^m b_{ji} x_j] = Bx + B^T x = \boxed{(B + B^T)x}$

## 0.2.2 Automatic Differentiation (AD)

Here, we use an accepted AD library i.e., Zygote.jl (julia) to implement and test our answers.

[1pts] Create Toy Data Answer:

```
# Choosing dimensions of toy data
m = 3
n = 4

# Making random toy data with correct dimensions

x = vec(rand(3,1)) # as x is a column vector
y = vec(rand(3,1)) # as y is a column vector
A = rand(3,4) # A is a m * n Matrix
B = rand(3,3) # B is a m * m Matrix
```

```
3×3 Array{Float64,2}:
 0.733746  0.442975  0.973124
 0.0918403 0.744545  0.0769872
 0.771936  0.943475  0.907889
```

[1pts] Test to confirm that the sizes of your data is what you expect:

Here, we want to make sure that our toy data is the size we expect. If we use size function on a column vector, it gives us one value which is the number of rows in a column vector. Based on that, we test for number on rows in vector x and y as they are column vectors.

Following that, we use size() function on a matrix. When we use size() function on a matrix, it gives us a vector of 2 values where the first value is the number of rows and the second is column. Based on that, we test for number of rows and columns in matrix A and B using size() function.

```
@testset "Sizes of Toy Data" begin
```

```

@test size(x)[1] == 3 # Rows in column vector x
@test size(y)[1] == 3 # Rows in column vector y

@test size(A)[1] == 3 # Rows in matrix A
@test size(A)[2] == 4 # Columns in matrix A
@test size(B)[1] == 3 # Rows in matrix B
@test size(B)[2] == 3 # Columns in matrix B

end;

```

```

Test Summary:      | Pass  Total
Sizes of Toy Data |     6      6

```

## Automatic Differentiation

1. [1pts] Compute the gradient of  $f_1(x) = x'y$  with respect to  $x$ ?

Here, `zygote`, while computing gradient, returns a tuple of gradients, one for each argument. But, we just want with respect to "x", which is the first element in all our cases. As a result, we will index the tuple of gradient with `[1]` to get gradient with respect to  $x$  in all the following questions where we are asked to compute gradients.

```

# Use Auto Differentiation Tool
using Zygote: gradient

f1(x,y) = x'*y
df1dx = gradient(f1,x,y)[1]
df1dx

```

```

3-element Array{Float64,1}:
 0.47416145867287285
 0.6762641934796711
 0.9955240023164769

```

2. [1pts] Compute the gradient of  $f_2(x) = x'x$  with respect to  $x$ ?

```

f2(x) = x'*x
df2dx = gradient(f2,x)[1]
df2dx

```

```

3-element Array{Float64,1}:
 1.7632915257534125
 0.7789011893968381
 0.5330367155704199

```

3. [1pts] Compute the Jacobian of  $f_3(x) = x'A$  with respect to  $x$ ?

If we try the usual `gradient` function to compute the whole Jacobian, it would give an error. So, we use the following code to compute the Jacobian instead.

```
function jacobian(f, x)
    y = f(x)
    n = length(y)
    m = length(x)
    T = eltype(y)
    j = Array{T, 2}(undef, n, m)
    for i in 1:n
        j[i, :] = gradient(x -> f(x)[i], x)[1]
    end
    return j
end
```

```
jacobian (generic function with 1 method)
```

```
f3(x) = (x'*A)
df3dx = jacobian(x -> f3(x), x)
df3dx
```

```
4×3 Array{Float64,2}:
 0.104215  0.257865  0.380962
 0.958234  0.716282  0.602106
 0.138519  0.987647  0.33412
 0.957227  0.895428  0.165908
```

[2pts] Briefly, explain why `gradient` of  $f_3$  is not well defined (hint: what is the dimensionality of the output?) and what the `jacobian` function is doing in terms of calls to `gradient`. Specifically, how many calls of `gradient` is required to compute a whole `jacobian` for  $f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ?

Answer:

- Because the function we are supposed to apply `gradient` on is a row vector and not a scalar, `gradient` is not well defined. In this particular case, we want to find Jacobian of  $x'A$ . Now, looking at the dimensions,  $x'A$  is of the dimension  $1 \times n$ . As that is not a scalar, we can not use `gradient` function on  $x'A$ .
- Mathematically, the `gradient` of  $f_3$  is not well defined because it is a map from  $\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ . It is only well defined for maps  $\mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- To understand what the function `Jacobian` does in terms of calling `gradient` function, we first observe that in our case, the Jacobian for  $f_3$ , is given by a column vector with dimension  $n \times 1$ , where  $i$ -th element is `gradient` of  $i$ -th element of row vector  $f_3$ .
- So, what the `jacobian` function does is that for each element of the row vector of the result we input (i.e., in this case  $x'A$ ), it computes the `gradient` with respect to  $x$ . The resulting vector is used as the respective row for the output of `jacobian` function.



- As the dimension of  $f_3$  is  $1 \times n$ , to calculate the complete Jacobian, we need to call 'gradient' function  $n$  times.

4. [1pts] Compute the gradient of  $f_4(x) = x'Bx$  with respect to  $x$ ?

```
f4(x, B) = x' * B * x
df4dx = gradient(f4,x,B)[1]
df4dx
```

```
3-element Array{Float64,1}:
 1.9671826903223844
 1.3234166938401206
 2.4198825329901754
```

5. [2pts] Test all your implementations against the manually derived derivatives in previous question

```
# Test to confirm that AD matches hand-derived gradients
@testset "AD matches hand-derived gradients" begin
    @test df1dx == y
    @test df2dx == 2*x
    @test df3dx == A'
    @test df4dx == (B' * x + B * x)[: ]
end
```

```
Test Summary: | Pass Total
AD matches hand-derived gradients | 4 4
Test.DefaultTestSet("AD matches hand-derived gradients", Any[], 4, false)
```

```
using Weave
weave("A0.jmd", doctype = "md2pdf")
```