

## 02462 – Signals and data

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# Overview

## 1 Multivariate Normal Distributions

## Multivariate Normal Distributions

## Correlation

When we mix random variables, the result is often *correlated*,

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ 2X_1 + 1X_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $X_1$  changes, both  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  change!

### Correlation

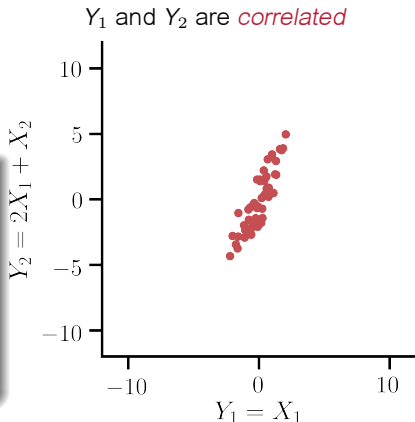
Correlation measures the influence two variables have on the other.

$$\text{Corr}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(X, Y) / \sqrt{\text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)}.$$

where  $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$  is the *covariance*,

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X])(Y - \mathbb{E}[Y])].$$

1. Correlation is in  $[-1, 1]$ .
2. If  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, it is 0.
3. If  $X = Y$  it is 1 and if  $X = -Y$  it is  $-1$ .



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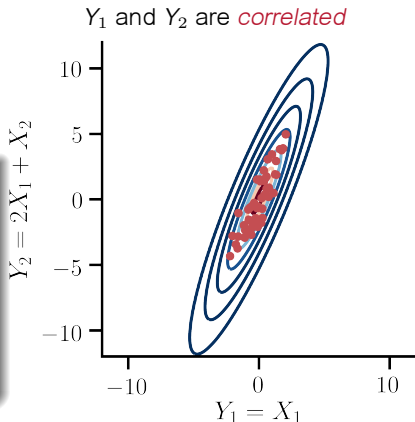
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we need to work with the *joint density* of  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ .

## Multivariate Normal Joint Density

If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent, their joint density is a *product*,

$$p(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_1^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_2^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2}\right)$$

We can collect these factors using *vectors*,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^2 \underbrace{\sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2}_{\det(\Sigma)}}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} - \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}\right)^\top \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1/\sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\sigma_2^2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}} \left(\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} - \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}}\right)\right)$$

### Multivariate Normal Distribution

A multivariate  $D$ -dimensional random variable  $\mathbf{X}$  has a multivariate normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$  if it has the joint probability density,

$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^D \det(\boldsymbol{\Sigma})}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$$

with mean parameter  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^D$  and  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times D}$  a symmetric matrix with positive eigenvalues called the covariance matrix.

## Multivariate Normal Joint Density

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## The Covariance Matrix

Variables  $X_i$  have a variance, multivariate variables  $\mathbf{X}$  have a *covariance matrix*,

$$\text{Cov}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{X}])^\top]. \quad (\text{covariance matrix})$$

where element  $(i, j)$  is the covariance between the  $i$ 'th and the  $j$ 'th element of  $\mathbf{X}$

$$\text{Cov}(\mathbf{X})_{ij} = \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = \mathbb{E}[(X_i - \mathbb{E}[X_i])(X_j - \mathbb{E}[X_j])].$$

Remember that covariance is just *scaled correlation*,

$$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X_i) \text{Var}(X_j)} \text{Corr}(X_i, X_j) \quad (1)$$

In particular, note that the diagonal element  $\text{Cov}(\mathbf{X})_{ii} = \text{Var}(X_i)$  is the *variance*!

- When  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ , then  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \text{Cov}(\mathbf{X})$ .
- Before,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  were independent, and

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

If the dimensions of  $\mathbf{X}$  are independent,  $\text{Cov}(\mathbf{X})$  is always *diagonal*.



## Introducing Covariance

Mixing the elements of  $X$  with a matrix  $A$  introduces covariance,

$$\text{Cov}(AX) = \mathbb{E}\left[A(X - \mathbb{E}[X])(X - \mathbb{E}[X])^\top A^\top\right] = A \text{Cov}(X) A^\top \quad (2)$$

*Example*  $\text{Cov}(X) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is not covariant, but  $Y$  is,

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ 2X_1 + 1X_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X \Rightarrow \text{Cov}(Y) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This is true no matter how  $X$  is distributed, but if  $X$  is normal then  $Y$  is also normal.

### Linear Transforms of Multivariate Normal

For any linear transformation  $Y = AX + b$  of any normal  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$  the result  $Y$  has distribution,

$$Y = AX + b \Rightarrow Y \sim \mathcal{N}(A\mu + b, A\Sigma A^\top) \quad (\text{linearity})$$

## Friendly Linear Algebra Reminder: Rotations

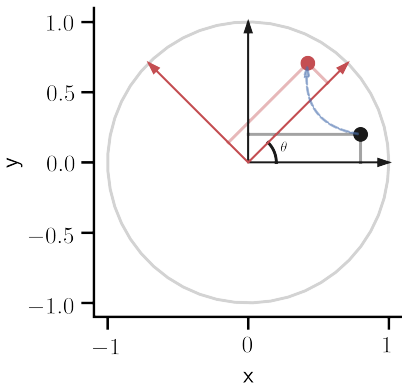
A rotation matrix is defined as,

$$R_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix}.$$

A vector  $\mathbf{x} = x_1 \mathbf{e}_1 + x_2 \mathbf{e}_2$  in the standard basis is rotated to a new basis,

$$R_\theta \mathbf{x} = x_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) \end{pmatrix} + x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -\sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- $(\cos(\theta), \sin(\theta))$  is a unit vector at angle  $\theta$  with the x-axis.
- The transpose rotates backwards,  $R_\theta^\top R_\theta \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$ .
- In higher dimensions we have the *orthogonal matrices*  $U$  where  $U^\top U = I$  and  $\det(U) = 1$ .

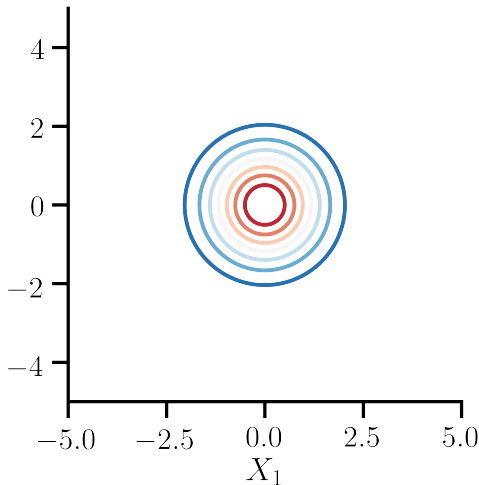


# Multivariate Normals with Dependency

## Standard Multivariate Normal

If we take the product of  $D$  independent univariate  $X_d \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  normals we get the standard multivariate normal,

$$\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$



## Multivariate Normals with Dependency

### Scaled Diagonal Multivariate Normal

If  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$  is scaled as  $Y = \mathbf{S}X$  by a diagonal matrix<sup>1</sup>  $\mathbf{S}$  we get

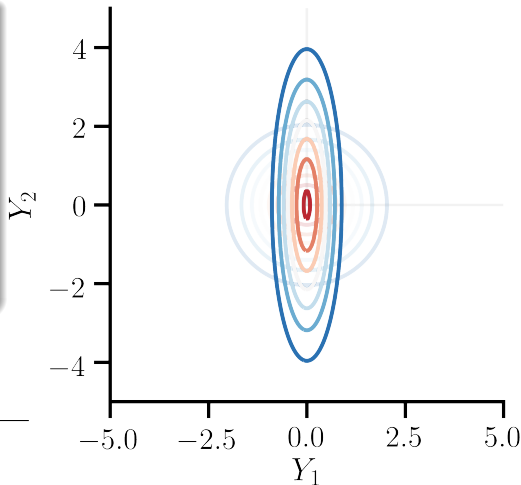
$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{S}^2)$$

which is the product of independent normals

$$Y_d \sim \mathcal{N}(0, S_{dd}^2).$$

Note that the contour is only stretched along the two coordinate axes!

When calculating, remember that the determinant of a diagonal matrix is the product of the diagonal elements!



## Multivariate Normals with Dependency

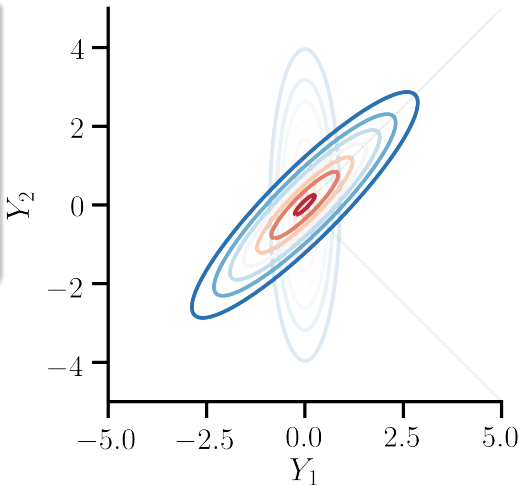
### Full Multivariate Normal

If we first scale by  $\mathbf{S}$  and then multiply by a *rotation matrix*  $\mathbf{U}$  so that  $\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{x}$  we get,

$$\mathbf{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{U}\mathbf{S}^2\mathbf{U}^\top),$$

which is a product of independent Gaussians *in a different coordinate system*.

Instead of being stretched along the new coordinated axes, the contour is stretched along the rotated original axes.



## Multivariate Normals with Dependency

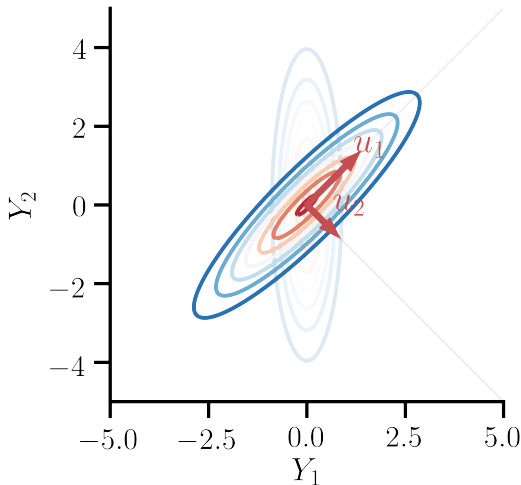
This should look familiar:

$$\Sigma = US^2U^T$$

- $U$  and  $S^2$  are the *eigenvectors* and *eigenvalues* of  $\Sigma$ .
- $\Sigma$  is symmetric and its eigenvectors form an *orthogonal basis*<sup>2</sup>.
- If we rotate to the eigenbasis, the variables become independent.
- $\Sigma$  has positive eigenvalues  $S^2$  which makes it a *positive definite matrix*.

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as long as the eigenvalues are distinct.



## Normal Marginals

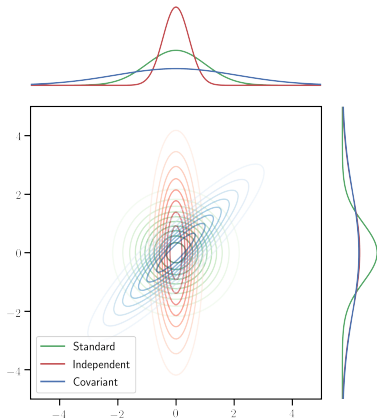
If  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ ,

1. split the mean and covariance,

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

2. *the marginal* of  $X_1$  is then equal to

$$p(x_1) = \mathcal{N}(x_1; \mu_1, \Sigma_{11}).$$



# Normal Conditionals

If  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ ,

1. split the mean and covariance,

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

2. *the conditional* of  $X_1$  given  $X_2 = x_2$  is then equal to

$$p(x_1|x_2) = \mathcal{N}(x_1; \mu_{1|2}, \Sigma_{1|2}),$$

$$\mu_{1|2} = \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2),$$

$$\Sigma_{1|2} = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}.$$

