

SPR Day 6

Multivariate Gaussian Distribution

Reading: Bishop PRML Sec 2.3

Intro

Sec 2.3.1 Conditionals are Gaussian

Sec 2.3.2 Marginals are Gaussian

Sec 2.3.3 Bayes for Gaussians

Sec 2.3.4 ML estimators

Sec 2.3.5 skim for intuition

Sec 2.3.6 skim for intuition from Fig 2.12

Outline:

- ① Multivariate Gaussian PDF
- ② Properties of covariance matrices
- ③ Marginal of a G is Gaussian
- ④ Conditional of a G is Gaussian
- ⑤ Linear Gaussian joint is Gaussian

Joint Distribution of Two Independent Gaussians

Consider: $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$
 $X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$

X_1 is indep. of X_2
this implies

$$\text{Cov}[X_1, X_2] = 0$$

Careful! This is a one-way implication.
 $\text{Cov}[A, B] = 0$ does not mean
A is indep. of B.

Can write joint distribution's PDF as:

$$p(x_1, x_2) = \text{NormPDF}(x_1 | \mu_1, \sigma_1^2) \text{NormPDF}(x_2 | \mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$$
$$= c(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) c(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2) e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} (x_1 - \mu_1)^2} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sigma_2^2} (x_2 - \mu_2)^2}$$

$$= \text{const} \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sigma_2^2} \end{bmatrix} (x - \mu)}$$

where $x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$= \text{const} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) \right\}$$

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2}} \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{1/2}} \frac{1}{\sigma_1} \frac{1}{\sigma_2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}} \frac{1}{|\det \Sigma|^{1/2}}$$

since $\det \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$
 $= ad - bc$
 $= \sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2$

Multivariate Gaussian PDF

Let X be a D -dim. random variable

$$X = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D]^T \quad (\text{column vector with } D \text{ entries})$$

Sample space is \mathbb{R}^D

Assume X has a multivariate Gaussian distribution

$$X \sim \text{MVN}(\mu, \Sigma)$$

Parameters:

"mean vector"

$$\mu \in \mathbb{R}^D$$

"covariance"

$$\Sigma \text{ is } D \times D$$

Symmetric
and
positive definite

PDF function:

$$\text{MVNormPDF}(x | \mu, \Sigma) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}} \frac{1}{(\det \Sigma)^{1/2}}}_{c(\mu, \Sigma)} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)}_{\text{Mahalanobis distance}}}$$

determinant of matrix Σ (scalar)
inverse of matrix Σ ($D \times D$)

dimension check

$$c(\mu, \Sigma) = \text{scalar} \cdot \text{scalar}$$

$$f(x, \mu, \Sigma) = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\underbrace{(x-\mu)^T}_{1 \times D} \underbrace{\Sigma^{-1}}_{D \times D} \underbrace{(x-\mu)}_{D \times 1}}_{1 \times 1 \text{ scalar!}}}$$

is it a valid PDF?

need: $\det \Sigma > 0$.

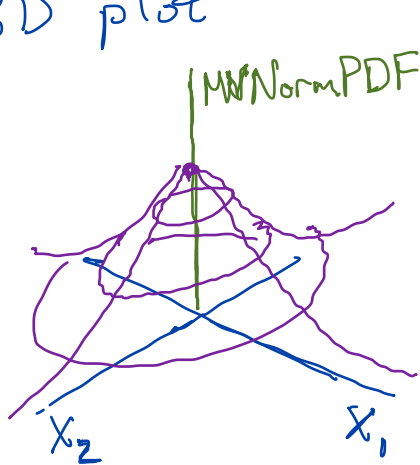
Always true if Σ is positive def.

need: $\int e^{-\frac{1}{2}d(x)} dx$ to be finite.

True if Σ is positive def. so this is a unimodal function.

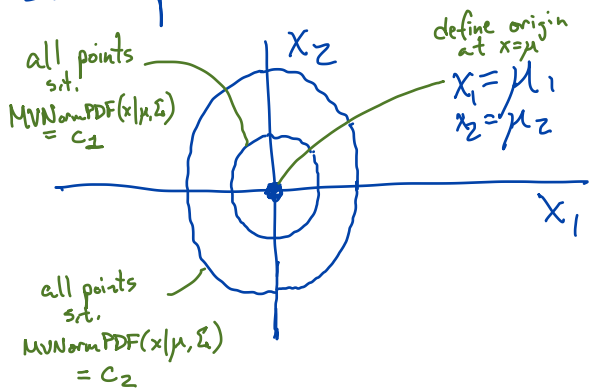
Basic Facts and Visuals

3D plot



unimodal "bump"
 peak at $x = \mu$
 smoothly decaying away
 as dist from μ increases

2D plot contours



Pick several "levels" with fixed PDF value c_1, c_2

Turns out, all level sets look like ellipses in 2D, with center $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}$

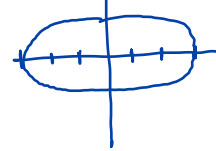
$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

perfect circle



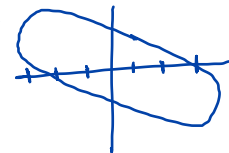
$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

stretch x_1



$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

stretch x_1 and rotate



Given: $x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$:

Mode (peak) is at $x = \mu$

mean of X is at $\mathbb{E}[x] = \mu$

covariance of X is $\text{Cov}[x] = \Sigma$

expected value of xx^T is $\mathbb{E}[xx^T] = \Sigma + \mu\mu^T$

Covariance Matrix Properties

Assume parameter Σ is symmetric and positive definite.

Then we know:

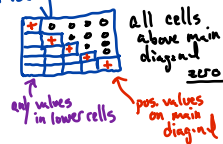
- Σ is invertible: There exists a $D \times D$ matrix Σ^{-1} s.t. $\Sigma \Sigma^{-1} = \mathbf{I}$
and Σ^{-1} is also pos. def.

- Σ has all positive diagonal entries

- Σ has positive determinant $\det \Sigma > 0$

- Σ has a unique Cholesky factorization. $\Sigma = LL^T$ for some $D \times D$ lower triangular matrix

- Σ has all positive eigenvalues.



Let Σ be decomposed into

D eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_D$

D eigenvectors u_1, u_2, \dots, u_D
each $u_d \in \mathbb{R}^D$

$$\lambda_d \geq 0 \quad \forall d$$

These form an orthonormal basis

We can write:

$$\Sigma = \sum_{d=1}^D \lambda_d \underbrace{u_d u_d^T}_{D \times D \text{ outer product}}$$

$$u_d^T u_d = 1 \quad \forall d$$

$$u_d^T u_e = 0 \quad \forall d \neq e$$

Each u_d is orthogonal to all other eigenvectors and has magnitude 1 (its a unit vector)

and it turns out the inverse is:

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \sum_{d=1}^D \frac{1}{\lambda_d} u_d u_d^T$$

How does this eigen decomposition help?

Define $U = \begin{bmatrix} - & u_1 & - \\ & \vdots & \\ - & u_D & - \end{bmatrix}$ as $D \times D$ matrix of stacked eigen vectors.

Mahalanobis distance becomes

$$\text{dist}(x) = (x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)$$

$$\Delta = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \frac{1}{\lambda_D} \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonal matrix of inverted eigen values

$$= (x - \mu)^T U^T \Delta U (x - \mu)$$

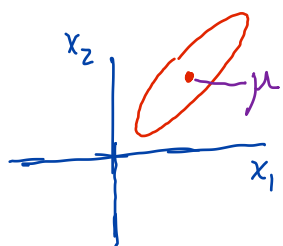
Because U is square with determinant 1 and $U^T = U^{-1}$, it is a rotation matrix.

Change variables: $y(x) = U(x - \mu)$ shift by μ
rotate by U

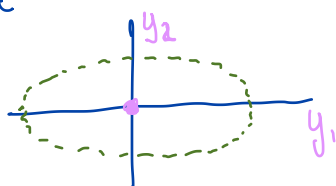
$$\text{dist} = y(x)^T \Delta y(x)$$

$$= \sum_d \frac{1}{\lambda_d} y_d^2$$

equation for an axis-aligned ellipse



shift and rotate



Thus, all x values with same distance (same PDF density value) live on an elliptical contour.

Joint Gaussian Distribution and possible partitions

Suppose we have D -dimensional r.v. X

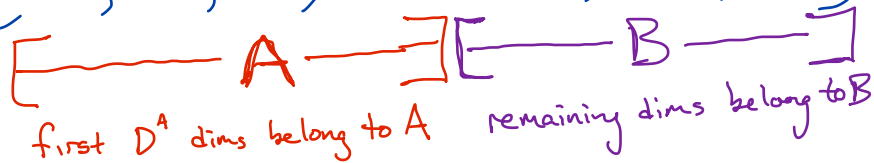
s.t. $X \sim \text{MVN}(\mu, \Sigma)$. Assume $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^D$ Both $\Sigma \in \text{sym. pos. def. } D \times D$ known.

Given any reordering of dimension indices π is permutation of $\{1, 2, \dots, D\}$

then, $X_\pi = \begin{bmatrix} X_{\pi(1)} \\ \vdots \\ X_{\pi(D)} \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{MVN} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_{\pi(1)} \\ \vdots \\ \mu_{\pi(D)} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{\pi(1)\pi(1)} & \dots & \Sigma_{\pi(1)\pi(D)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \Sigma_{\pi(D)\pi(1)} & \dots & \Sigma_{\pi(D)\pi(D)} \end{bmatrix} \right)$

Consider any partition of indices

$\{1, 2, 3, \dots, D-2, D-1, D\}$



then $\begin{bmatrix} X_A \\ X_B \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{MVN} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_A \\ \mu_B \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{AA} & \Sigma_{AB} \\ \Sigma_{AB}^T & \Sigma_{BB} \end{bmatrix} \right)$

μ is $D \times 1$ Σ is $D \times D$

Σ_{AA} is square matrix $D^A \times D^A$

Σ_{BB} is square matrix $D^B \times D^B$

Σ_{AB} is rectangular $D^A \times D^B$

Marginals of a Joint Gaussian are Gaussian

Given joint distribution over X_A and X_B :

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_A \\ X_B \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{MVN} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_A \\ \mu_B \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{AA} & \Sigma_{AB} \\ \Sigma_{AB}^T & \Sigma_{BB} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

μ is $D \times 1$ Σ is $D \times D$

Σ_{AA} is square matrix $D^A \times D^A$
 Σ_{BB} is square matrix $D^B \times D^B$
 Σ_{AB} is rectangular $D^A \times D^B$

We have the marginal of X_A is:

$$p(X_A) = \int p(X_A, X_B) dX_B$$

$$= \text{MVNormPDF}(X_A | \mu_A, \Sigma_{AA})$$

By symmetry

$$p(X_B) = \text{MVNormPDF}(X_B | \mu_B, \Sigma_{BB})$$

Conditionals of a Joint Gaussian are Gaussian

Given joint distribution over X_A, X_B :

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_A \\ X_B \end{bmatrix} \sim \text{MVN} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_A \\ \mu_B \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{AA} & \Sigma_{AB} \\ \Sigma_{AB}^T & \Sigma_{BB} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

μ is $D \times 1$ Σ is $D \times D$

Σ_{AA} is square matrix
 $D^A \times D^A$

Σ_{BB} is square matrix
 $D^B \times D^B$

Σ_{AB} is rectangular
 $D^A \times D^B$

Recall that Σ^{-1} exists. Define $\Delta = \Sigma^{-1}$

with partitions $\Delta = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta_{AA} & \Delta_{AB} \\ \Delta_{AB}^T & \Delta_{BB} \end{bmatrix}$

Δ_{AA} is square $D^A \times D^A$
 Δ_{BB} is square $D^B \times D^B$
 Δ_{AB} is rectangle $D^A \times D^B$
 $D \times D$ overall

Define the conditional density of X_A given $X_B = m_B$

$$p(X_A | X_B = m_B) = \frac{p(X_A, X_B = m_B)}{p(X_B = m_B)}$$

$$= \text{MVNormPDF}(X_A \mid \mu_A - \Delta_{AA}^{-1} \Delta_{AB} (m_B - \mu_B), \Delta_{AA}^{-1})$$

known value of X_B mean of X_B

dim. check

$A \times 1$ $(A \times A)$ $(A \times B)$ $(B \times 1)$ $A \times A$

\searrow \swarrow

$A \times 1$

verified! mean is $A \times 1$
cov. is $A \times A$

Linear Gaussian Model

Consider a model with two random variables:

$$(1) \quad \mathbf{x} \sim \text{MVN}(\underbrace{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{S \times 1}, \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\Delta}^{-1}}_{S \times S}) \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^S$$

$$(2) \quad \mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x} \sim \text{MVN}(\underbrace{A\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}}_{T \times S \quad S \times 1 \quad T \times 1}, \underbrace{L^{-1}}_{T \times T}) \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^T$$

What is the joint distribution?

Write log pdf out and simplify

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \log p(\mathbf{x}) + \log p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) \\ &= \text{const}_{\text{wrt } \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}} - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Delta} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b})^T L (\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{const}_{\text{wrt } \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \boldsymbol{\Delta} \mathbf{x} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T A^T L A \mathbf{x} - \frac{1}{2} (-2) \mathbf{y}^T L A \mathbf{x} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^T L \mathbf{y} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} (-2) \mathbf{x}^T \boldsymbol{\Delta} \boldsymbol{\mu} - \frac{1}{2} (+2) \mathbf{x}^T A^T L \mathbf{b} - \frac{1}{2} (-2) \mathbf{y}^T L \mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{const}_{\text{wrt } \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}^T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Delta} + A^T L A & -A^T L \\ -L A & L \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{order } 2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Delta} \boldsymbol{\mu} - A^T L \mathbf{b} \\ L \mathbf{b} \end{pmatrix}^T}_{\text{order } 1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Continued

$$= \text{const wrt } x, y - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}^T P \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}^T (P m)$$

where $P = \begin{bmatrix} \Delta + A^T L A & -A^T L \\ -L A & L \end{bmatrix}$ shape of P
(S+T) x (S+T)

$$m = P^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mu - A^T L b \\ L b \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{shape of } m \\ S+T \times 1$$

thus:

$$\log p(x, y) = \text{const} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} - m \right)^T P \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} - m \right)$$

Recognise this is a Multivariate Gaussian over \mathbb{R}^{S+T}
with mean m
covariance P^{-1}