

# A Probability Review

## Outline:

- A probability review.

Shorthand notation: RV stands for random variable.

# A Probability Review

Reading:

- Go over handouts 2–5 in EE 420x notes.

## Basic probability rules:

(1)  $\Pr\{\Omega\} = 1, \Pr\{\emptyset\} = 0, 0 \leq \Pr\{A\} \leq 1;$   
 $\Pr\{\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \Pr\{A_i\}$  if  $\underbrace{A_i \cap A_j}_{A_i \text{ and } A_j \text{ disjoint}} = \emptyset$  for all  $i \neq j;$

(2)  $\Pr\{A \cup B\} = \Pr\{A\} + \Pr\{B\} - \Pr\{A \cap B\}, \Pr\{A^c\} = 1 - \Pr\{A\};$

(3) If  $A \perp\!\!\!\perp B$ , then  $\Pr\{A \cap B\} = \Pr\{A\} \cdot \Pr\{B\};$

(4)

$$\Pr\{A | B\} = \frac{\Pr\{A \cap B\}}{\Pr\{B\}} \quad (\text{conditional probability})$$

or

$$\Pr\{A \cap B\} = \Pr\{A | B\} \cdot \Pr\{B\} \quad (\text{chain rule});$$

(5)

$$\Pr\{A\} = \Pr\{A | B_1\} \Pr\{B_1\} + \cdots + \Pr\{A | B_n\} \Pr\{B_n\}$$

if  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  form a *partition* of the full space  $\Omega$ ;

(6) Bayes' rule:

$$\Pr\{A | B\} = \frac{\Pr\{B | A\} \Pr\{A\}}{\Pr\{B\}}.$$

# Reminder: Independence, Correlation and Covariance

For simplicity, we state all the definitions for pdfs; the corresponding definitions for pmfs are analogous.

Two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are *independent* if

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y).$$

Correlation between real-valued random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$\mathbb{E}_{X,Y}\{XY\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} xy f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy.$$

Covariance between real-valued random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cov}_{X,Y}(X, Y) &= \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}\{(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)\} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y) f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_X &= E_X(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x f_X(x) dx \\ \mu_Y &= E_Y(Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y f_Y(y) dy.\end{aligned}$$

**Uncorrelated random variables:** Random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are *uncorrelated* if

$$c_{X,Y} = \text{COV}_{X,Y}(X, Y) = 0. \quad (1)$$

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are real-valued RVs, then (1) can be written as

$$E_{X,Y}\{XY\} = E_X\{X\} E_Y\{Y\}.$$

## Mean Vector and Covariance Matrix:

Consider a random vector

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ \vdots \\ X_N \end{bmatrix}.$$

The *mean* of this random vector is defined as

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_N \end{bmatrix} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}\{\mathbf{X}\} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}_{X_1}[X_1] \\ \mathbb{E}_{X_2}[X_2] \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{E}_{X_N}[X_N] \end{bmatrix}.$$

Denote the *covariance* between  $X_i$  and  $X_k$ ,  $\text{cov}_{X_i, X_k}(X_i, X_k)$ , by  $c_{i,k}$ ; hence, the *variance* of  $X_i$  is  $c_{i,i} = \text{cov}_{X_i, X_k}(X_i, X_i) = \text{var}_{X_i}(X_i) = \sigma_{X_i}^2$ . The *covariance matrix* of  $\mathbf{X}$  is defined as

more notation

$$C_{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{1,1} & c_{1,2} & \cdots & \cdots & c_{1,N} \\ c_{2,1} & c_{2,2} & \cdots & \cdots & c_{2,N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ c_{N,1} & c_{N,2} & \cdots & \cdots & c_{N,N} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The above definitions apply to both real and complex vectors  $\mathbf{X}$ .

Covariance matrix of a real-valued random vector  $\mathbf{X}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\mathbf{X}} &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}\{(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\mathbf{X}])(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\mathbf{X}])^T\} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T] - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\mathbf{X}](\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\mathbf{X}])^T. \end{aligned}$$

For real-valued  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $c_{i,k} = c_{k,i}$  and, therefore,  $C_{\mathbf{X}}$  is a symmetric matrix.

## Linear Transform of Random Vectors

**Linear Transform.** For real-valued  $\mathbf{Y}$ ,  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $A$ ,

$$\mathbf{Y} = g(\mathbf{X}) = A \mathbf{X}.$$

**Mean Vector:**

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}} = E_{\mathbf{X}}\{A \mathbf{X}\} = A \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}. \quad (2)$$

**Covariance Matrix:**

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\mathbf{Y}} &= E_{\mathbf{Y}}\{\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^T\} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}^T \\ &= E_{\mathbf{X}}\{A \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T A^T\} - A \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}^T A^T \\ &= A \left( \underbrace{E_{\mathbf{X}}\{\mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^T\} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}^T}_{C_{\mathbf{X}}} \right) A^T \\ &= A C_{\mathbf{X}} A^T. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

## Reminder: Iterated Expectations

In general, we can find  $E_{X,Y}[g(X,Y)]$  using *iterated expectations*:

$$E_{X,Y}[g(X,Y)] = E_Y\{E_{X|Y}[g(X,Y) | Y]\} \quad (4)$$

where  $E_{X|Y}$  denotes the expectation with respect to  $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$  and  $E_Y$  denotes the expectation with respect to  $f_Y(y)$ .

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned} E_Y\{E_{X|Y}[g(X,Y) | Y]\} &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E_{X|Y}[g(X,Y) | y] f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x,y) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right) f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x,y) f_{X|Y}(x|y) f_Y(y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x,y) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= E_{X,Y}[g(X,Y)]. \end{aligned}$$

□



## Reminder: Law of Conditional Variances

Define the conditional variance of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  to be the variance of  $X$  with respect to  $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$ , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}_{X|Y}(X | Y = y) &= \mathbb{E}_{X|Y} \left[ (X - \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | y])^2 | y \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X^2 | y] - (\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | y])^2.\end{aligned}$$

The random variable  $\text{var}_{X|Y}(X | Y)$  is a function of  $Y$  only, taking values  $\text{var}(X | Y = y)$ . Its expected value with respect to  $Y$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_Y \{ \text{var}_{X|Y}(X | Y) \} &= \mathbb{E}_Y \left\{ \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X^2 | Y] - (\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y])^2 \right\} \\ &\stackrel{\text{iterated exp.}}{=} \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[X^2] - \mathbb{E}_Y \{ (\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y])^2 \} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_X[X^2] - \mathbb{E}_Y \{ (\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y])^2 \}.\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y]$  is a random variable (and a function of  $Y$  only), it has variance:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}_Y \{ \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y] \} &= \mathbb{E}_Y \{ (\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y])^2 \} - (\mathbb{E}_Y \{ \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y] \})^2 \\ &\stackrel{\text{iterated exp.}}{=} \mathbb{E}_Y \{ (\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y])^2 \} - (\mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[X])^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}_Y \{ \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[X | Y]^2 \} - (\mathbb{E}_X[X])^2.\end{aligned}$$

Adding the above two expressions yields the *law of conditional variances*:

$$E_Y\{\text{var}_{X|Y}(X|Y)\} + \text{var}_Y\{E_{X|Y}[X|Y]\} = \text{var}_X(X). \quad (5)$$

**Note:** (4) and (5) hold for both real- and complex-valued random variables.

# Useful Expectation and Covariance Identities for Real-valued Random Variables and Vectors

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[aX + bY + c] &= a \cdot \mathbb{E}_X[X] + b \cdot \mathbb{E}_Y[Y] + c \\ \text{var}_{X,Y}(aX + bY + c) &= a^2 \text{var}_X(X) + b^2 \text{var}_Y(Y) \\ &\quad + 2ab \cdot \text{cov}_{X,Y}(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

where  $a, b,$  and  $c$  are constants and  $X$  and  $Y$  are random variables. A vector/matrix version of the above identities:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[A\mathbf{X} + B\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{c}] &= A\mathbb{E}_X[\mathbf{X}] + B\mathbb{E}_Y[\mathbf{Y}] + \mathbf{c} \\ \text{cov}_{X,Y}(A\mathbf{X} + B\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{c}) &= A\text{cov}_X(\mathbf{X})A^T + B\text{cov}_Y(\mathbf{Y})B^T \\ &\quad + A\text{cov}_{X,Y}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})B^T + B\text{cov}_{X,Y}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X})A^T \end{aligned}$$

where “ $T$ ” denotes a transpose and

$$\text{cov}_{X,Y}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}\{(\mathbf{X} - \mathbb{E}_X[\mathbf{X}])(\mathbf{Y} - \mathbb{E}_Y[\mathbf{Y}])^T\}.$$

Useful properties of crosscovariance matrices:



$$\text{cov}_{X,Y,Z}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Z}) = \text{cov}_{X,Y}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) + \text{cov}_{X,Z}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}).$$

- $$\text{cov}_{\mathbf{Y},\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X}) = [\text{cov}_{\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})]^T.$$

- $$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{X}) &= \text{cov}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}) \\ \text{var}_{\mathbf{X}}(X) &= \text{cov}_{\mathbf{X}}(X, X).\end{aligned}$$

- $$\text{cov}_{\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y}}(A\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}, P\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{q}) = A \text{cov}_{\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) P^T.$$

(To refresh memory about covariance and its properties, see p. 12 of handout 5 in EE 420x notes. For random vectors, see handout 7 in EE 420x notes, particularly pp. 1–15.)

## Useful theorems:

**(1)** (handout 5 in EE 420x notes)

$$\mathbb{E}_X(X) = \mathbb{E}_Y[\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}(X | Y)] \quad \text{shown on p. 8}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[g(X) \cdot h(Y) | y] = h(y) \cdot \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[g(X) | y]$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[g(X) \cdot h(Y)] = \mathbb{E}_Y\{h(Y) \cdot \mathbb{E}_{X|Y}[g(X) | Y]\}.$$

The vector version of (1) is the same — just put bold letters.

(2)

$$\text{var}_X(X) = E_Y[\text{var}_{X|Y}(X|Y)] + \text{var}_Y(E_{X|Y}[X|Y]);$$

and the vector/matrix version is

$$\underbrace{\text{cov}_X(\mathbf{X})}_{\substack{\text{variance/covariance} \\ \text{matrix of } \mathbf{X}}} = E_Y[\text{cov}_{X|Y}(\mathbf{X}|Y)] \\ + \text{cov}_Y(E_{X|Y}[\mathbf{X}|Y]) \quad \text{shown on p. .}$$

(3) Generalized law of conditional variances:

$$\text{cov}_{X,Y}(X, Y) = E_Z[\text{cov}_{X,Y|Z}(X, Y|Z)] \\ + \text{cov}_Z(E_{X|Z}[X|Z], E_{Y|Z}[Y|Z]).$$

(4) Transformation:

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}) \quad \text{one-to-one} \iff \begin{aligned} Y_1 &= g_1(X_1, \dots, X_n) \\ &\vdots \\ Y_n &= g_n(X_1, \dots, X_n) \end{aligned}$$

then

$$f_Y(\mathbf{y}) = f_X(h_1(y_1), \dots, h_n(y_n)) \cdot |J|$$

where  $h(\cdot)$  is the unique inverse of  $g(\cdot)$  and

$$J = \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{y}^T} \right| = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial y_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial x_n}{\partial y_n} \end{vmatrix}$$

Print and read the handout **PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS** from the Course readings section on **WebCT**. Bring it with you to the midterm exams.

# Jointly Gaussian Real-valued RVs

Scalar Gaussian random variables:

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_X^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{(x-\mu_X)^2}{2\sigma_X^2}\right].$$

**Definition.** Two real-valued RVs  $X$  and  $Y$  are *jointly Gaussian* if their joint pdf is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X,Y}(x,y) &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_X\sigma_Y\sqrt{1-\rho_{X,Y}^2}} \\ &\cdot \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho_{X,Y}^2)} \cdot \left[\frac{(x-\mu_X)^2}{\sigma_X^2} + \frac{(y-\mu_Y)^2}{\sigma_Y^2} \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - 2\rho_{X,Y}\frac{(x-\mu_X)(y-\mu_Y)}{\sigma_X\sigma_Y}\right]\right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

This pdf is parameterized by  $\mu_X, \mu_Y, \sigma_X^2, \sigma_Y^2$ , and  $\rho_{X,Y}$ . Here,  $\sigma_X = \sqrt{\sigma_X^2}$  and  $\sigma_Y = \sqrt{\sigma_Y^2}$ .

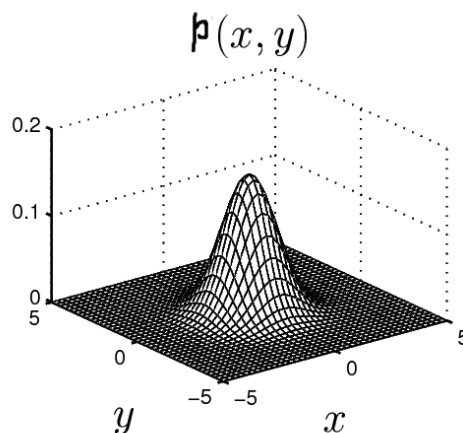
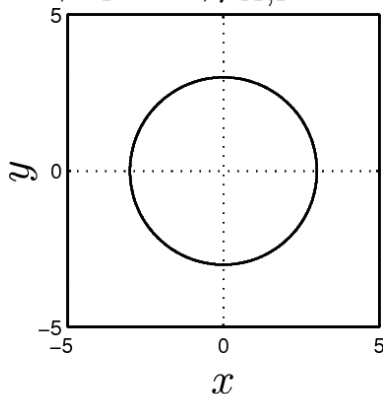
**Note:** We will soon define a more general multivariate Gaussian pdf.

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are jointly Gaussian, contours of equal joint pdf are ellipses defined by the quadratic equation

$$\frac{(x - \mu_X)^2}{\sigma_X^2} + \frac{(y - \mu_Y)^2}{\sigma_Y^2} - 2\rho_{X,Y} \frac{(x - \mu_X)(y - \mu_Y)}{\sigma_X\sigma_Y} = \text{const} \geq 0.$$

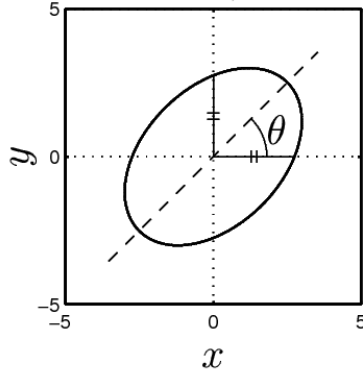
**Examples:** In the following examples, we plot contours of the joint pdf  $f_{X,Y}(x,y)$  for zero-mean jointly Gaussian RVs for various values of  $\sigma_X$ ,  $\sigma_Y$ , and  $\rho_{X,Y}$ .

$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 1, \rho_{X,Y} = 0: \theta = 0^\circ$

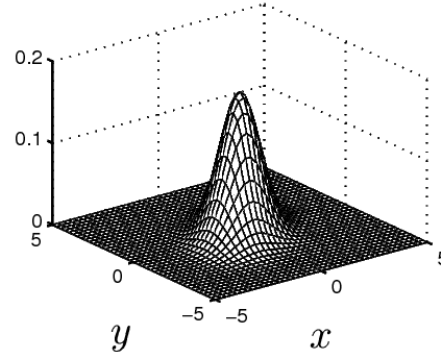




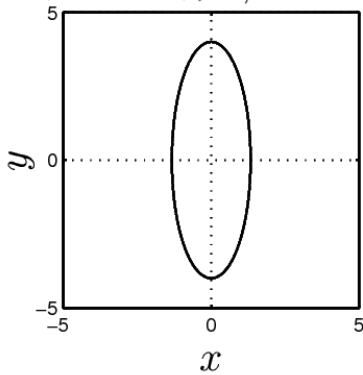
$$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 1, \rho_{X,Y} = 0.4: \theta = 45^\circ$$



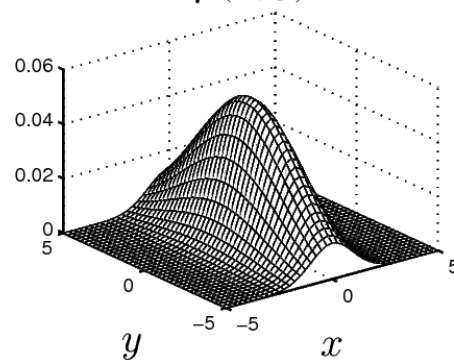
$$p(x, y)$$



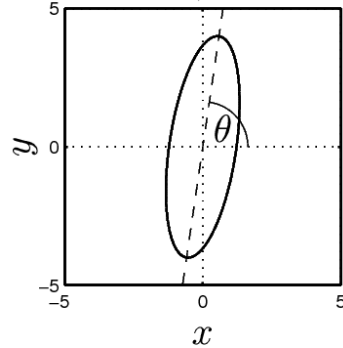
$$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 3, \rho_{X,Y} = 0: \theta = 90^\circ$$



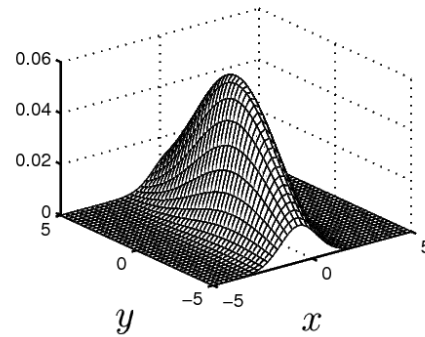
$$p(x, y)$$



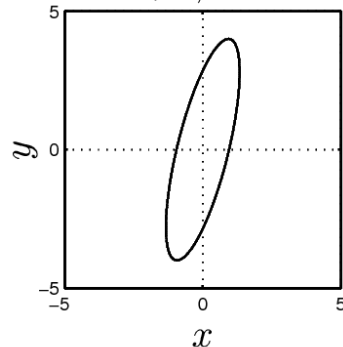
$$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 3, \rho_{X,Y} = 0.4: \theta = 81.65^\circ$$



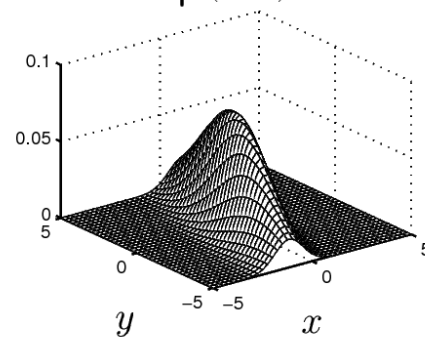
$$p(x, y)$$



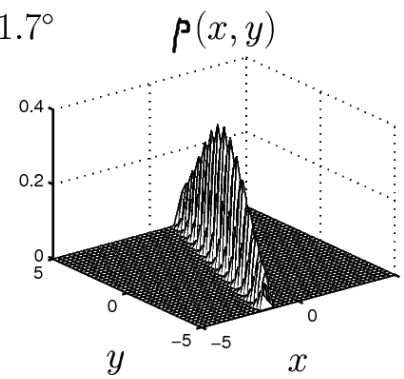
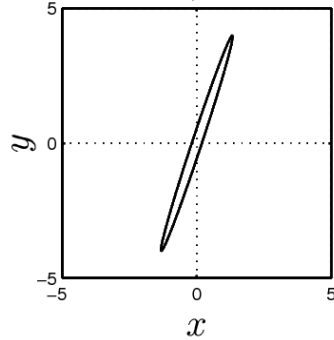
$$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 3, \rho_{X,Y} = 0.7: \theta = 76.15^\circ$$



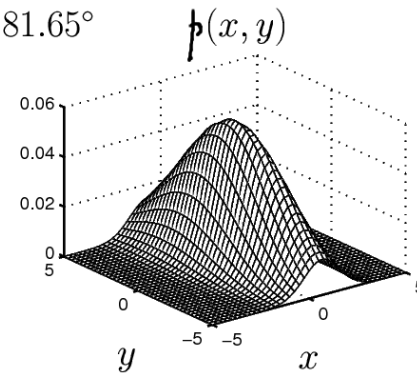
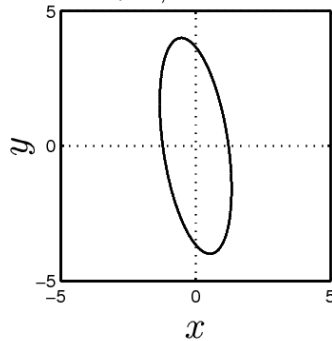
$$p(x, y)$$



$$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 3, \rho_{X,Y} = 0.99: \theta = 71.7^\circ$$



$$\sigma_X = 1, \sigma_Y = 3, \rho_{X,Y} = -0.4: \theta = -81.65^\circ$$



If  $X$  and  $Y$  are jointly Gaussian, the conditional pdfs are Gaussian, e.g.

$$X | \{Y = y\} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\rho_{X,Y} \cdot \sigma_X \cdot \frac{y - \mathbb{E}_Y[Y]}{\sigma_Y} + \mathbb{E}_X[X], (1 - \rho_{X,Y}^2) \cdot \sigma_X^2\right). \quad (7)$$

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are jointly Gaussian and uncorrelated, i.e.  $\rho_{X,Y} = 0$ , they are also independent.

# Gaussian Random Vectors

**Real-valued Gaussian random vectors:**

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{N/2} |C_{\mathbf{X}}|^{1/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T C_{\mathbf{X}}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}) \right].$$

**Complex-valued Gaussian random vectors:**

$$f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{\pi^N |C_{\mathbf{Z}}|} \exp \left[ -(\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}})^H C_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} (\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}}) \right].$$

Notation for *real*- and *complex-valued* Gaussian random vectors:

$$\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}_r(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}, C_{\mathbf{X}}) \text{ [or simply } \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}, C_{\mathbf{X}})] \quad \text{real}$$

$$\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}_c(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}, C_{\mathbf{X}}) \quad \text{complex.}$$

An *affine transform* of a Gaussian vector is also a Gaussian random vector, i.e. if

$$\mathbf{Y} = A \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{b}$$

then

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}_r(A \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \mathbf{b}, A C_{\mathbf{X}} A^T) \quad \text{real}$$

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}_c(A \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \mathbf{b}, A C_{\mathbf{X}} A^H) \quad \text{complex.}$$

The Gaussian random vector  $\mathbf{W} \sim \mathcal{N}_r(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 I_n)$  (where  $I_n$  denotes the identity matrix of size  $n$ ) is called *white*; pdf contours of a white Gaussian random vector are spheres centered at the origin. Suppose that  $W[n]$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$  are independent, identically distributed (i.i.d.) zero-mean univariate Gaussian  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ . Then, for  $\mathbf{W} = [W[0], W[1], \dots, W[N - 1]]^T$ ,

$$f_{\mathbf{W}}(\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 I).$$

Suppose now that, for these  $W[n]$ ,

$$Y[n] = \theta + W[n]$$

where  $\theta$  is a constant. What is the joint pdf of  $Y[0], Y[1], \dots$ , and  $Y[N - 1]$ ? This pdf is the pdf of the vector  $\mathbf{Y} = [Y[0], Y[1], \dots, Y[N - 1]]^T$ :

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{1} \theta + \mathbf{W}$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  is an  $N \times 1$  vector of ones. Now,

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{1} \theta, \sigma^2 I).$$

Since  $\theta$  is a constant,

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}) = f_{\mathbf{Y} | \theta}(\mathbf{y} | \theta).$$

## Gaussian Random Vectors

A real-valued random vector  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$  with

- mean  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$  and
- covariance matrix  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$  with determinant  $|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}| > 0$  (i.e.  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$  is positive definite)

is a *Gaussian random vector* (or  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are *jointly Gaussian RVs*) if and only if its joint pdf is

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{|2\pi\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right]. \quad (8)$$

Verify that, for  $n = 2$ , this joint pdf reduces to the two-dimensional pdf in (6).

**Notation:** We use  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$  to denote a Gaussian random vector. Since  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$  is positive definite,  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$  is also positive definite and, for  $\mathbf{x} \neq \boldsymbol{\mu}$ ,

$$(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) > 0$$

which means that the contours of the multivariate Gaussian pdf in (8) are ellipsoids.

The Gaussian random vector  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 I_n)$  (where  $I_n$  denotes the identity matrix of size  $n$ ) is called *white* — contours of the pdf of a white Gaussian random vector are spheres centered at the origin.

# Properties of Real-valued Gaussian Random Vectors

**Property 1:** For a Gaussian random vector, “uncorrelation” implies independence.

This is easy to verify by setting  $\Sigma_{i,j} = 0$  for all  $i \neq j$  in the joint pdf, then  $\Sigma$  becomes diagonal and so does  $\Sigma^{-1}$ ; then, the joint pdf reduces to the product of marginal pdfs  $f_{X_i}(x_i) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \Sigma_{i,i}) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \sigma_{X_i}^2)$ . Clearly, this property holds for blocks of RVs (subvectors) as well.

**Property 2:** A linear transform of a Gaussian random vector  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_X, \Sigma_X)$  yields a Gaussian random vector:

$$\mathbf{Y} = A \mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(A \boldsymbol{\mu}_X, A \Sigma_X A^T).$$

It is easy to show that  $E_Y[\mathbf{Y}] = A \boldsymbol{\mu}_X$  and  $\text{cov}_Y(\mathbf{Y}) = \Sigma_Y = A \Sigma_X A^T$ . So

$$E_Y[\mathbf{Y}] = E_X[A \mathbf{X}] = A E_X[\mathbf{X}] = A \boldsymbol{\mu}_X$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_Y &= E_Y[(\mathbf{Y} - E_Y[\mathbf{Y}])(\mathbf{Y} - E_Y[\mathbf{Y}])^T] \\ &= E_X[(A \mathbf{X} - A \boldsymbol{\mu}_X)(A \mathbf{X} - A \boldsymbol{\mu}_X)^T] \\ &= A E_X[(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_X)(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_X)^T] A^T = A \Sigma_X A^T. \end{aligned}$$

Of course, if we use the definition of a Gaussian random vector in (8), we cannot yet claim that  $\mathbf{Y}$  is a Gaussian random vector. (For a different definition of a Gaussian random vector, we would be done right here.)

**Proof.** We need to verify that the joint pdf of  $\mathbf{Y}$  indeed has the right form. Here, we decide to take the equivalent (easier) task and verify that the *characteristic function* of  $\mathbf{Y}$  has the right form.

**Definition.** Suppose  $\mathbf{X} \sim f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{X})$ . Then the characteristic function of  $\mathbf{X}$  is given by

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\exp(j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{X})]$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional real-valued vector and  $j = \sqrt{-1}$ .

Thus

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) \exp(j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

proportional to the inverse multi-dimensional Fourier transform of  $f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$ ; therefore, we can find  $f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x})$  by taking the Fourier transform (with the appropriate proportionality factor):

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Phi_{\mathbf{X}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) \exp(-j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{x}) d\boldsymbol{\omega}$$

**Example:** The characteristic function for  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  is given by

$$\Phi_X(\omega) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\omega^2 \sigma^2 + j \mu \omega\right) \quad (9)$$

and for a Gaussian random vector  $\mathbf{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$ ,

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\omega}^T \Sigma \boldsymbol{\omega} + j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \boldsymbol{\mu}\right). \quad (10)$$

Now, go back to our proof: the characteristic function of  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{\mathbf{Y}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}) &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Y}}[\exp(j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{Y})] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}}[\exp(j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X})] \\ &= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{A} \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{A}^T \boldsymbol{\omega} + j \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}, \mathbf{A} \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{A}^T).$$

Example: Let

$$\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

Find the joint pdf of

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}$$

Solution: From Property 2, we conclude that

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$



**Property 3:** Marginals of a Gaussian random vector are Gaussian, i.e. if  $\mathbf{X}$  is a Gaussian random vector, then, for any  $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k\} \subset \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} X_{i_1} \\ X_{i_2} \\ \vdots \\ X_{i_k} \end{bmatrix}$$

is a Gaussian random vector. To show this, we use Property 2. Here is an example with  $n = 3$  and  $\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix}$ . We set

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

thus

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}\left( \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{1,1} & \Sigma_{1,3} \\ \Sigma_{3,1} & \Sigma_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

Here

$$\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{X}} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\text{COV}_{\mathbf{X}} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{1,1} & \Sigma_{1,2} & \Sigma_{1,3} \\ \Sigma_{2,1} & \Sigma_{2,2} & \Sigma_{2,3} \\ \Sigma_{3,1} & \Sigma_{3,2} & \Sigma_{3,3} \end{bmatrix}$$

and note that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \\ \mu_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{1,1} & \Sigma_{1,3} \\ \Sigma_{3,1} & \Sigma_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{1,1} & \Sigma_{1,2} & \Sigma_{1,3} \\ \Sigma_{2,1} & \Sigma_{2,2} & \Sigma_{2,3} \\ \Sigma_{3,1} & \Sigma_{3,2} & \Sigma_{3,3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

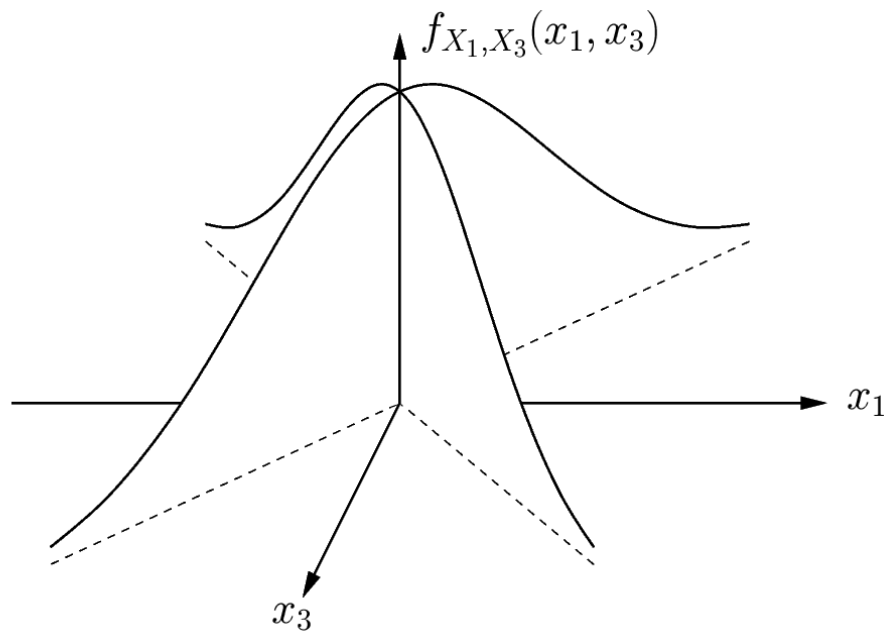
The converse of Property 3 does not hold in general; here is a counterexample:

**Example:** Suppose  $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  and

$$X_2 = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ -1, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

are independent RVs and consider  $X_3 = X_1 X_2$ . Observe that

- $X_3 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  and
- $f_{X_1, X_3}(x_1, x_3)$  is *not* a jointly Gaussian pdf.



□

**Property 4:** Conditionals of Gaussian random vectors are Gaussian, i.e. if

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 \\ \mathbf{X}_2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,2} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

then

$$\{\mathbf{X}_2 \mid \mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1\} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1) + \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,2} \right)$$

and

$$\{\mathbf{X}_1 \mid \mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2\} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2) + \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} \right).$$

**Example:** Compare this result to the case of  $n = 2$  in (7):

$$\{X_2 | X_1 = x_1\} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{\Sigma_{2,1}}{\Sigma_{1,1}}(x_1 - \mu_1) + \mu_2, \Sigma_{2,2} - \frac{\Sigma_{1,2}^2}{\Sigma_{1,1}}\right).$$

In particular, having  $X = X_2$  and  $Y = X_1, y = x_1$ , this result becomes:

$$\{X | Y = y\} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{\sigma_{X,Y}}{\sigma_Y^2}(y - \mu_Y) + \mu_X, \sigma_X^2 - \frac{\sigma_{X,Y}^2}{\sigma_Y^2}\right)$$

where  $\sigma_{X,Y} = \text{cov}_{X,Y}(X, Y)$ ,  $\sigma_X^2 = \text{cov}_{X,X}(X, X) = \text{var}_X(X)$ , and  $\sigma_Y^2 = \text{cov}_{Y,Y}(Y, Y) = \text{var}_Y(Y)$ . Now, it is clear that

$$\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{\sigma_{X,Y}}{\sigma_X \sigma_Y}$$

where  $\sigma_X = \sqrt{\sigma_X^2} > 0$  and  $\sigma_Y = \sqrt{\sigma_Y^2} > 0$ .

**Example:** Suppose

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \\ X_3 \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

From Property 4, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_{X_2|X_1}(\mathbf{X}_2|X_1 = x) &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (x - 1) + \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mu_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ x + 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 \Sigma_{\{\mathbf{X}_2|X_1=x\}} &= \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Property 5:** If  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$  then

$$(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \sim \chi_d^2 \quad (\text{Chi-square in your distr. table}).$$

# Additive Gaussian Noise Channel

Consider a communication channel with input

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_X, \tau_X^2)$$

and noise

$$W \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$

where  $X$  and  $W$  are independent and the measurement  $Y$  is

$$Y = X + W.$$

Since  $X$  and  $W$  are independent, we have

$$f_{X,W}(x, w) = f_X(x) f_W(x)$$

and

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ W \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_X \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \tau_X^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}\right).$$

What is  $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$ ? Since

$$\{Y | X = x\} = x + W \sim \mathcal{N}(x, \sigma^2)$$

we have

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \mathcal{N}(y|x, \sigma^2).$$

How about  $f_Y(y)$ ? Construct the joint pdf  $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$  of  $X$  and  $Y$ : since

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ W \end{bmatrix}$$

then

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mu_X \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tau_X^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

yielding

$$\begin{bmatrix} X \\ Y \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mu_X \\ \mu_X \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \tau_X^2 & \tau_X^2 \\ \tau_X^2 & \tau_X^2 + \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}\right).$$

Therefore,

$$f_Y(y) = \mathcal{N}\left(y \mid \mu_X, \tau_X^2 + \sigma^2\right).$$

# Complex Gaussian Distribution

Consider joint pdf of real and imaginary part of an  $n \times 1$  complex vector  $\mathbf{Z}$

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U} + j \mathbf{V}.$$

Assume

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{bmatrix}.$$

The  $2n$ -variate Gaussian pdf of the (real!) vector  $\mathbf{X}$  is

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{2n} |\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}}|}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}}^{-1} (\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}) \right]$$

where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{U}} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{V}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{\mathbf{UU}} & \Sigma_{\mathbf{UV}} \\ \Sigma_{\mathbf{VU}} & \Sigma_{\mathbf{VV}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore,

$$\Pr\{\mathbf{x} \in A\} = \int_{\mathbf{x} \in A} f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}.$$



## Complex Gaussian Distribution (cont.)

Assume that  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}}$  has a special structure:

$$\Sigma_{UU} = \Sigma_{VV} \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_{UV} = -\Sigma_{VU}.$$

[Note that  $\Sigma_{UV} = \Sigma_{VU}^T$  has to hold as well.] Then, we can define a complex Gaussian pdf of  $\mathbf{Z}$  as

$$f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{\pi^n |\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}}|} \exp \left[ -(\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}})^H \Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}}^{-1} (\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}}) \right]$$

where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_U + j \boldsymbol{\mu}_V$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{Z}} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}} \{ (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}}) (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}})^H \} = 2 (\Sigma_{UU} + j \Sigma_{VU})$$

$$\mathbf{0} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{Z}} \{ (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}}) (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}})^T \}.$$