

Joint Probability Distributions (cont.)

Joint Probability Density Functions

The **joint probability density function** for the continuous random variables X and Y , denoted as $f_{XY}(x,y)$, satisfies the following properties:

$$(1) f_{XY}(x, y) \geq 0 \text{ for all } x, y$$

$$(2) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy = 1$$

$$(3) P((X, Y) \subset R) = \iint_R f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy \quad (5-2)$$

An example of a joint PDF

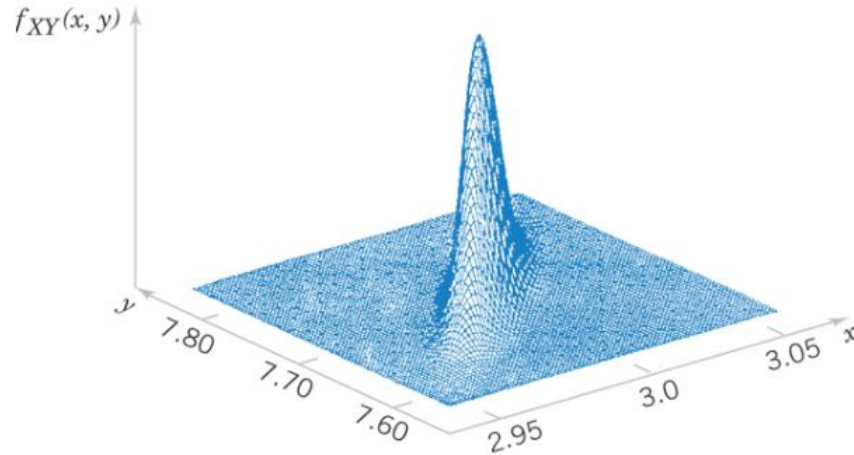


Figure 5-3 Joint probability density function for the continuous random variables X and Y of expression levels of two different genes. Note the asymmetric, narrow ridge shape of the PDF – indicating that small values in the X dimension are more likely to occur when small values in the Y dimension occur.

Marginal PDFs

- Rather than summing a discrete joint PMF, we integrate a continuous joint PDF.
- The marginal PDFs are used to make probability statements about one variable.
- If the joint probability density function of random variables X and Y is $f_{XY}(x,y)$, the marginal probability density functions of X and Y are:

$$f_X(x) = \int_y f_{XY}(x, y) dy$$

$$f_Y(y) = \int_x f_{XY}(x, y) dx$$

(5-3)

$$f_X(x) = \sum_y f_{XY}(x, y)$$

$$f_Y(y) = \sum_x f_{XY}(x, y)$$

Conditional PDFs

Given continuous random variables X and Y with joint probability density function $f_{XY}(x, y)$, the conditional probability density function of Y given $X=x$ is

$$f_{Y|x}(y) = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_X(x)} = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{\int_y f_{XY}(x, y) dy} \text{ if } f_X(x) > 0 \quad (5-4)$$

which satisfies the following properties:

- (1) $f_{Y|x}(y) \geq 0$
- (2) $\int f_{Y|x}(y) dy = 1$

Conditional Probabilities

Conditional probability distributions can be developed for multiple random variables by extension of the ideas used for two random variables.

Suppose $p = 5$ and we wish to find the distribution of X_1 , X_2 and X_3 conditional on $X_4=x_4$ and $X_5=x_5$.

$$f_{X_1X_2X_3|x_4x_5}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{f_{X_1X_2X_3X_4X_5}(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5)}{f_{X_4X_5}(x_4, x_5)}$$

for $f_{X_4X_5}(x_4, x_5) > 0$.

Independence for Continuous Random Variables

For random variables X and Y , if any one of the following properties is true, the others are also true. Then X and Y are independent.

(1) $f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y)$

(2) $f_{Y|x}(y) = f_Y(y)$ for all x and y with $f_X(x) > 0$

(3) $f_{X|y}(x) = f_X(x)$ for all x and y with $f_Y(y) > 0$

(4) $P(X \in A, Y \in B) = P(X \in A) \cdot P(Y \in B)$ for any sets A and B in the range of X and Y , respectively. (5-7)

Covariance and Correlation

Covariance Defined

Covariance is a number quantifying the average *linear* dependence between two random variables.

The covariance between the random variables X and Y , denoted as $\text{cov}(X, Y)$ or σ_{XY} is

$$\sigma_{XY} = E[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)] = E(XY) - \mu_X\mu_Y$$

Montgomery, Runger 5th edition Eq. (5-14)

The units of σ_{XY} are the units of X times the units of Y .

Unlike the range of the variance, covariance can be negative: $-\infty < \sigma_{XY} < \infty$.

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Notes About Covariance

Covariance measures dependencies between variables

If X and Y are independent, $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$

$-\infty < \text{Cov}(X, Y) < \infty$: So covariances can be negative

Covariances And PMFs

y = number of times city name is stated	x = number of bars of signal strength		
	1	2	3
1	0.01	0.02	0.25
2	0.02	0.03	0.20
3	0.02	0.10	0.05
4	0.15	0.10	0.05

Do you think the covariance will be:

- A. Positive
- B. Negative
- C. Zero

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By inspection, note that the larger probabilities occur as X and Y move in opposite directions. This indicates a negative covariance.

Covariances and Scatter Plots

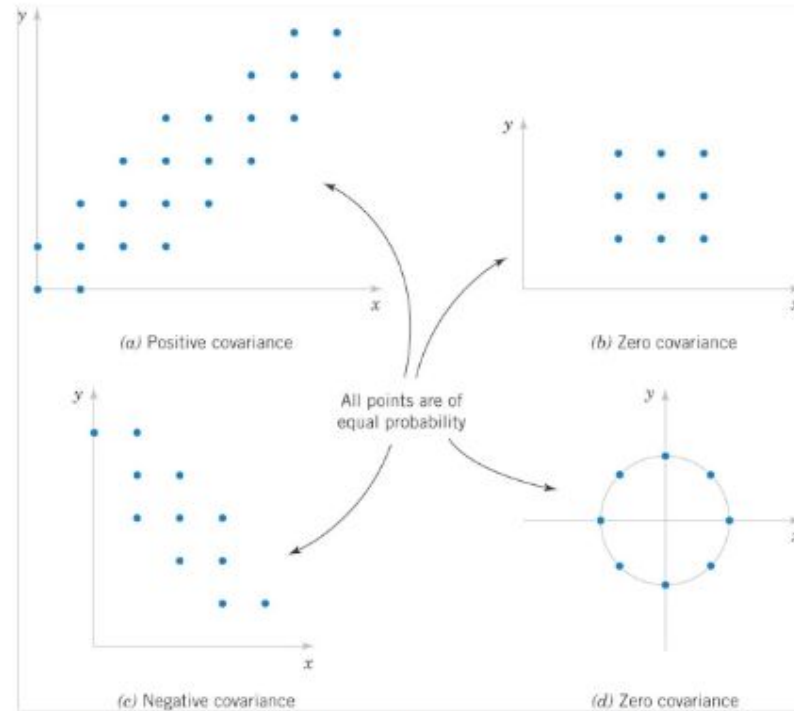


Figure 5-13 Joint probability distributions and the sign of $\text{cov}(X, Y)$. Note that covariance is a measure of linear relationship. Variables with non-zero covariance are **correlated**.

Correlation

Correlation is normalized covariance

This is also known as Pearson correlation coefficient

$$\rho_{XY} = \sigma_{XY} / \sigma_X \sigma_Y$$

is the covariance
normalized to
be $-1 \leq \rho_{XY} \leq 1$



Spearman Correlation

Pearson correlation tests for linear relationship between X and Y

Spearman correlation tests for any monotonic relationship between X and Y

Calculate ranks (1 to n), $r_X(i)$ and $r_Y(i)$ of variables in both samples. Calculate Pearson correlation between ranks: $\text{Spearman}(X, Y) = \text{Pearson}(r_X, r_Y)$

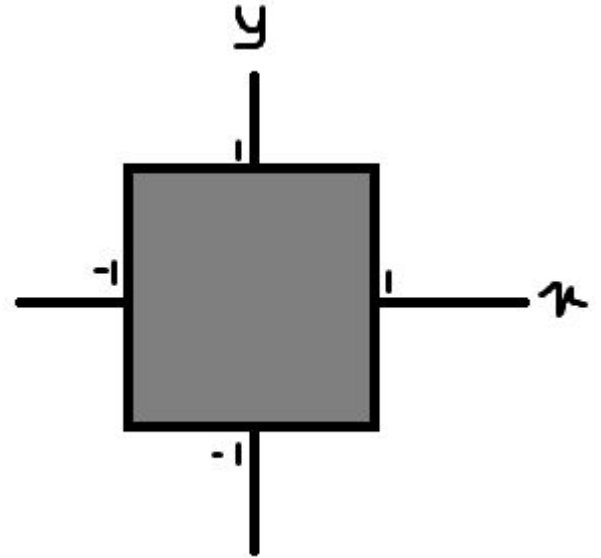
Ties: convert to fractions, e.g. tie for 6s and 7s place both get 6.5. This can lead to artefacts.





Example 1

Uniform distribution in the square $-1 < X < 1, -1 < Y < 1$



Example 1

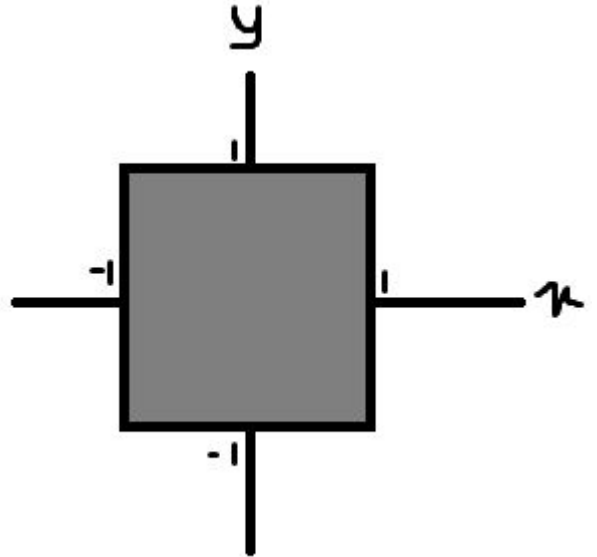
Uniform distribution in the square $-1 < X < 1, -1 < Y < 1$

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = c \text{ if } -1 < x < 1, -1 < y < 1$$

$$1 = \int_{\text{square}} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy$$

$$1 = c * \text{area} = 4c$$

$$c = 1/4$$



Example 1

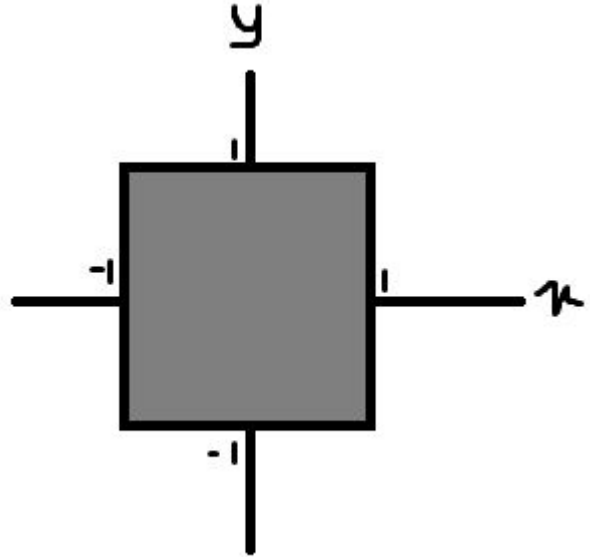
Are X and Y independent?

Let's see if $f_{XY}(x,y) = f_X(x) * f_Y(y)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-inf}^{inf} f_{XY}(x,y) dy \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{4} dy = \frac{1}{2} \text{ if } -1 < x < 1 \end{aligned}$$

Same for $f_Y(y)$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) * f_Y(y) &= \frac{1}{2} * \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} \\ &= f_{XY}(x,y) \end{aligned}$$



Independent!

Example 2

Are X and Y uniformly distributed in the disc $x^2+y^2 \leq 1$ independent?

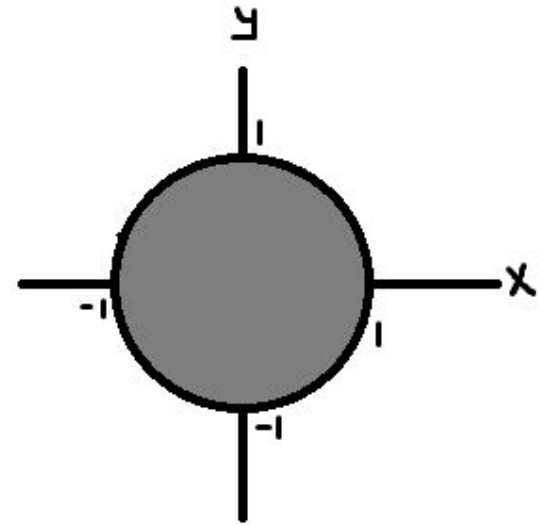
$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \frac{1}{\text{Area}} = \frac{1}{\pi}$$

Let's see if $f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x) * f_Y(y)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_{-inf}^{inf} f_{XY}(x, y) dy \\ &= \int_{-\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \frac{1}{\pi} dy = \frac{2 * \sqrt{1-x^2}}{\pi} \end{aligned}$$

Same for $f_Y(y)$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) * f_Y(y) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-x^2} * \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1-y^2} \\ &\neq f_{XY}(x, y) \end{aligned}$$



Not independent!

Independence Implies $\sigma = \rho = 0$ but not vice versa

- If X and Y are independent random variables,

$$\sigma_{XY} = \rho_{XY} = 0 \quad (5-17)$$

- $\rho_{XY} = 0$ is necessary, but **not a sufficient** condition for independence.





Matlab Exercise: Covariance/Correlation

- Generate a sample with **Stats=100,000** of two Gaussian random variables **r1** and **r2** which have **mean 0** and **standard deviation 2** and are:
 - **Uncorrelated**
 - Correlated with **correlation coefficient 0.9**
 - Correlated with **correlation coefficient -0.5**
 - Trick: first make **uncorrelated r1** and **r2**. Then make anew variable: **$r1_{mix} = mix \cdot r2 + (1 - mix^2)^{0.5} \cdot r1$** ; where **mix= corr. coeff.**
- For each value of **mix** calculate covariance and **correlation coefficient** between **r1mix** and **r2**
- In each case make a scatter plot: **plot(r1mix,r2,'k.');**

Matlab Exercise: Covariance/Correlation

1. Stats=100000;
2. r1=2.*randn(Stats,1);
3. r2=2.*randn(Stats,1);
4. disp('Covariance matrix='); disp(cov(r1,r2));
5. disp('Correlation=');disp(corr(r1,r2));
6. figure; plot(r1,r2,'k.');
7. mix=0.9; **%Mixes r2 to r1 but keeps same variance**
8. r1mix=mix.*r2+sqrt(1-mix.^2).*r1;
9. disp('Covariance matrix='); disp(cov(r1mix,r2));
10. disp('Correlation=');disp(corr(r1mix,r2));
11. figure; plot(r1mix,r2,'k.');
12. mix=-0.5; **%REDO LINES 8-11**

