

# Information Theory and Probabilistic Programming

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# This time

- Method of types
- Universal source coding
- Large deviation theory

# Motivation

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- Tom throws a unbiased dice for 10,000 times and adds all values
- For whatever reason, he is not happy until the sum is at least 40,000. If not, he will just throw the dice again for 10,000
- Now, by the time he eventually got a sequence with sum at least 40,000, *approximately how many ones in the sequence?*

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- Every sequence with 400 heads has the same probability. And in general, sequences with the same fraction of outcomes have same probability and we can put them into the same **(type) class**



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- Let's also refer  $p_{x^N}$  as the empirical distribution of  $x^N$ . That is  $p_{x^N}(a) = \frac{\mathcal{N}(a|x^N)}{N}$ . So  $T(p_{x^N})$  is the type class containing  $x^N$

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- And for any sequence  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $T(p_{x^N})$ ,  $p(\mathbf{y}) = q(1)^3 q(2) q(3)$ , where  $q(\cdot)$  is the true distribution

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Even though we have seen that in the coin toss example, let's restate it more formally.

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If  $x^N \in \mathcal{T}(p)$  and  $q(\cdot)$  is the true distribution of  $X$ , the probability of getting  $x^N$  from sampling  $q(\cdot)$  for  $N$  times, as denoted as  $q^N(x^N)$ , is given by

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- Recall that this is the probability of a typical sequence supposed to be. Therefore, any  $x^N$  in  $T(q)$  is a typical sequence ( $T(q) \subset A_\epsilon^N(X)$ )

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- Number of types is  $|\mathcal{P}_N(X)|$

# Number of types

It is not too difficult to count the exact number of types. But in practice, we don't quite bother with it as long as we know that the number is relatively "small"

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# Size of a type class

Recall that  $|T(p)| = \frac{N!}{(Np(x_1))!(Np(x_2))!(Np(x_3))! \dots}$  but the following bounds are much more useful in practice

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# Size of a type class

Recall that  $|T(p)| = \frac{N!}{(Np(x_1))!(Np(x_2))!(Np(x_3))!\dots}$  but the following bounds are much more useful in practice

## Theorem 3

$$\frac{1}{(N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|}} 2^{NH(p)} \leq |T(p)| \leq 2^{NH(p)}$$

## Proof

Let's assume  $p(\cdot)$  is the actual distribution of  $X$  here

$$1 \geq \sum_{x^N \in T(p)} p^N(x^N) = \sum_{x^N \in T(p)} 2^{-NH(p)} = |T(p)| 2^{-NH(p)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \sum_{\hat{p} \in \mathcal{P}_N} \Pr(T(\hat{p})) \leq \sum_{\hat{p} \in \mathcal{P}_N} \max_{\check{p}} \Pr(T(\check{p})) = \sum_{\hat{p} \in \mathcal{P}_N} \Pr(T(p)) \leq (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|} \Pr(T(p)) \\ &= (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|} |T(p)| 2^{-NH(p)} \end{aligned}$$

# Probability of a type class

## Theorem 4

Let the true distribution of  $X$  is  $q(\cdot)$ , then

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## Proof

From Theorem 1, each sequence in  $T(p)$  has probability  $2^{-N(H(p)+KL(p||q))}$  and since  $\frac{1}{(N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|}} 2^{NH(p)} \leq |T(p)| \leq 2^{NH(p)}$  from Theorem 3,

$$\frac{1}{(N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|}} 2^{NH(p)} 2^{-N(H(p)+KL(p||q))} \leq \Pr(T(p)) \leq 2^{NH(p)} 2^{-N(H(p)+KL(p||q))}$$

# Summary of type

- Type class  $T(p)$  contains all sequences with empirical distribution of  $p$ .  
That is,

$$T(p) = \left\{ x^N : \frac{\mathcal{N}(a|x^N)}{N} = p(a) \right\}$$

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- For the compression scheme (such as Huffman coding) that we discussed earlier in this class, one needs to know the source distribution ahead to design the encoder and decoder
- Question: Is it possible to construct compression scheme without knowing the source distribution and still performs as good?
- Answer: Yes. At least theoretically  $\rightarrow$  universal source coding

# Theory of universal source coding

Given any source  $Q$  with  $H(Q) < R$ , there exists a length- $N$  universal code of rate  $R$  such that the source can be decoded losslessly as  $N \rightarrow \infty$

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- Encoder: given input, check if input is in  $A$ , output index if so. Otherwise, declare failure
- Decoder: simply map index back to the sequence

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Note that the probability of error  $P_e$  is given by

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- Hence,  $P_e \rightarrow 0$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1, & 0, & 11 \end{array}$$

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  - Encode representation to bit stream. Note that as the dictionary grows, number of bits needed to store the index increases  $\Rightarrow$   
**01000111010111001110010110**

# Lempel-Ziv decoding

- Decode bitstream back to representation

0100011101011001110010110  $\Rightarrow$

$(0, 1), (0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 0), (3, 1), (1, 0), (6, \emptyset)$

- Build dictionary and decode

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1

1

$\Rightarrow$  1

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1	2
1	0

$\Rightarrow$  10



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1	2	3
1	0	11

$\Rightarrow$  1011

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- Build dictionary and decode

1	2	3	4
1	0	11	01

$\Rightarrow$  101101

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(0, 1), (0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 0), (3, 1), (1, 0), (6,  $\emptyset$ )

- Build dictionary and decode

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	0	11	01	110	111	10	111

$\Rightarrow$  10110111011110111

# Motivation

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- Now, what if we are interested in the probability of a more general case? Say what is the probability of getting  $> 300$  and  $< 400$  heads?

# Sanov's Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{E} = \{p : 0.3 \leq p(\text{Head}) \leq 0.4\}$  and  $q(\cdot) = (0.5, 0.5)$  is the true distribution, then

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$$Pr(\mathcal{E}) = Pr(\mathcal{E} \cap \mathcal{P}_N) \leq (N+1)^{|\mathcal{X}|} 2^{-N(KL(p^*||q))},$$

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where  $p^* = \arg \min_{p \in \mathcal{E}} KL(p||q)$ . Moreover, given a rather weak condition (closure of interior of  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\mathcal{E}$  itself), we have

$$\frac{1}{N} \log Pr(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow -KL(p^*||q)$$



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Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be a closed convex subset of  $\mathcal{P}$  (the set of all distributions) and  $q(\cdot)$  be the true distribution which is  $\notin \mathcal{E}$ . If  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$  are drawn from  $q(\cdot)$  and we know that  $p_{x_N} \in \mathcal{E}$ , then

$$\frac{\mathcal{N}(a|x_N)}{N} \rightarrow p^*(a)$$

in probability as  $N \rightarrow \infty$

# Examples

## Coin toss

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# Examples

## Lower bounds

- Let say  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$  are drawn from  $q(\cdot)$ . And we have  $K$  functions  $g_1(\cdot), g_2(\cdot), \dots, g_K(\cdot)$  such that for  $k = 1, \dots, K$ ,

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- This is a simple constrained optimization problem and can be solved with KKT conditions. If you go through the conditions, you will find that

$$p^*(x) \propto q(x) 2^{\sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k g_k(x)},$$

with  $\lambda_k (\sum_a p(a) g_k(a) - \alpha_k) = 0$ ,  $\lambda_k \geq 0$ , and  $\sum_a p(a) g_k(a) \geq \alpha_k$

# Examples

I think this example below gives a nice demonstration that the technique we have learned today can solve some amazing puzzle!

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## Fair dice

A fair dice is thrown 10,000 times and the sum of all outcomes is larger than 40,000, out of the 10,000 throw, how many ones do you think there are?

# Fair dice

- From the result of previous example, let  $g_1(x) = x$  and  $\alpha_1 = 4$ , we expect

$$p^*(i) = \frac{2^{\lambda i}}{\sum_{j=1}^6 2^{\lambda j}}$$

for some  $\lambda$



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- # ones  $\approx 0.103 \times 10000 = 1030$

# Normal distribution

- Univariate Normal:  $\mathcal{N}(x; \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- Multivariate Normal:  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{\det(2\pi\boldsymbol{\Sigma})} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})}$

## Remark

*Note that  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}; \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ . It is trivial but quite useful*

## Remark

*$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$  is known to be the covariance matrices and it has to be (symmetric) positive definite*

## Remark

*Consequently, symmetric matrices are carefully studied and understood by statisticians and information theorists (more discussion couple slides later)*

# Covariance matrices

## Definition (Covariance matrices)

Recall that for a vector random variable  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$ , the covariance matrix  $\Sigma \triangleq E[(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T]$

## Remark

*Covariance matrices are always positive semi-definite since  $\forall u$ ,  $u^T \Sigma u = E[u^T (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T u] = E[\|(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T u\|^2] \geq 0$*

## Remark

*In general, we usually would like to assume  $\Sigma$  to be strictly positive definite. Because otherwise it means that some of its eigenvalues are zero and so in some dimension, there is actually no variation and is just constant along that dimension. Representing those dimension as random variable is troublesome since "1/ $\sigma^2$ " which occurs often will become infinite. Instead we can always simply strip away those dimensions to avoid complications*

# Symmetric matrices

## Lemma

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## Proof.

$$(M^{-1})^T M^T = (M M^{-1})^T = I \Rightarrow (M^{-1})^T \text{ is inverse of } M^T \quad \square$$

## Lemma

*If  $M$  is symmetric, so is  $M^{-1}$*



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# Hermitian matrices

- An extension of transpose operation to complex matrices is the hermitian transpose operation, which is simply the transpose and conjugate of a matrix (vector)
- We denote the hermitian transpose of  $M$  as  $M^\dagger \triangleq \overline{M}^T$ , when  $\overline{M}$  is the complex conjugate of  $M$
- A matrix is Hermitian if  $M^\dagger = M$ . **Note that a real symmetric matrix is Hermitian**

# Eigenvalues of Hermitian matrices

## Lemma

*If  $M$  is Hermitian ( $M^\dagger = M$ ), all eigenvalues are real*

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$$\overline{\lambda(x^\dagger x)} = (\lambda x)^\dagger x = (Mx)^\dagger x = x^\dagger M^\dagger x = x^\dagger Mx = x^\dagger (\lambda x) = \lambda(x^\dagger x) \quad \square$$

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## Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 x_1^\dagger x_2 &= (Mx_1)^\dagger x_2 = x_1^\dagger Mx_2 = \lambda_2 x_1^\dagger x_2 \\ \Rightarrow \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2 &\Rightarrow x_1^\dagger x_2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

# Hermitian matrices are diagonalizable

## Lemma

*Hermitian matrices are diagonalizable*

## Proof (\*).

We will sketch the proof by construction. For any  $n$ -d Hermitian matrix  $M$ , consider an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  and corresponding eigenvector  $u$ , without loss of generality, let's also normalize  $u$  such that  $\|u\| = 1$ . Consider the subspace orthogonal to  $u$ ,  $U^\perp$ , and let  $v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}$  be arbitrary orthonormal basis of  $U^\perp$ . Note that for any  $k$ ,  $Mv_k$  will be orthogonal to  $u$  since

$$u^\dagger Mv_k = u^\dagger M^\dagger v_k = (Mu)^\dagger v_k = \lambda u^\dagger v_k = 0.$$

Thus,  $(u, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1})^\dagger M (u, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}) = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & M' \end{pmatrix}$ . Moreover,  $M'$  is also a Hermitian matrix with one less dimension. We can apply the same process on  $M'$  and "diagonalize" one more row/column. That is,

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & P' \end{pmatrix}^\dagger P^\dagger M P \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & P' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \lambda' & \\ & & M'' \end{pmatrix}$ . We can repeat this until the entire  $M$  is diagonalized □

# Hermitian matrices are diagonalizable

## Remark

We can find a orthogonal set of eigenvectors that diagonalize a Hermitian matrix. That is

$$(v_1, \dots, v_n)^\dagger \underbrace{M(v_1, \dots, v_n)}_V = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \\ \vdots & & \ddots \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $V$  is unitary (orthogonal), i.e.,  $V^\dagger V = I$  and thus  $V^{-1} = V^\dagger$ . Note that  $v_i \perp v_j$  if  $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$ . Otherwise, we may use Gram-Schmidt

## Remark

The reverse is obviously true. If a matrix can be diagonalized by a unitary matrix into a real diagonal matrix, the matrix is Hermitian

## Remark

Recall that real-symmetric matrices are Hermitian, thus can be diagonalized by its eigenvectors also

# Positive definite matrices

## Definition (Positive definite)

For a Hermitian matrix  $M$ , it is positive definite iff  $\forall x, x^\dagger Mx > 0$

## Definition (Positive semi-definite)

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*$M$  is positive definite (semi-definite) iff all its eigenvalue is larger (larger or equal to) 0*



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## Proof.

$\Rightarrow$ : assume positive definite but some eigenvalue  $< 0$ , WLOG, let  $\lambda_1 < 0$ , then  $v_1^\dagger Mv_1 = \lambda_1 < 0$  contradicts that  $M$  is positive definite

$\Leftarrow$ : If  $\forall k, \lambda_k > 0$ , for any  $x$ ,

$$x^\dagger Mx = (V^\dagger x)^\dagger \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ & \ddots \\ 0 & \ddots \end{pmatrix} V^\dagger x = \sum_i \lambda_i (V^\dagger x)_i^2 > 0$$

□

# Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of covariance matrices

- WLOG, let's assume  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$  is zero mean. So the covariance matrix  $\Sigma_X = E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T]$

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- Covariance matrices are real symmetric (hence Hermitian) and so can be diagonalized by its eigenvectors. That is,
  - $P^T \Sigma_X P = D$ , where  $P = [u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n]$  with  $u_k$  being eigenvectors of  $\Sigma$  and  $D$  is a diagonal matrix with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  as the diagonal elements

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# Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of covariance matrices

- WLOG, let's assume  $\mathbf{X} = [X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n]^T$  is zero mean. So the covariance matrix  $\Sigma_X = E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T]$
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- So the variance of  $Y_k$  is simply  $\lambda_k$
- $E[Y_i Y_j] = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . That is,  $Y_i \perp Y_j$  for  $i \neq j$
- Note that  $\mathbf{Y} = P^T \mathbf{X}$  is just principal component analysis (PCA)

# Principal component analysis (PCA)

- Recall that  $\Sigma = E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T]$  (assume  $\mathbf{X}$  is zero-mean) and  $\mathbf{Y} = P^T\mathbf{X}$  with  $E[\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}^T] = P^T\Sigma P = D$
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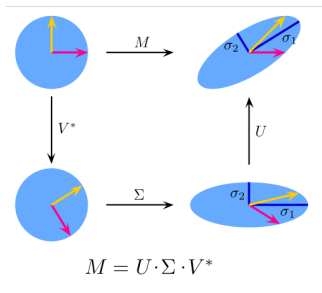
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  - A more common approach is to decompose  $\mathcal{X}$  with singular value decomposition (SVD) instead

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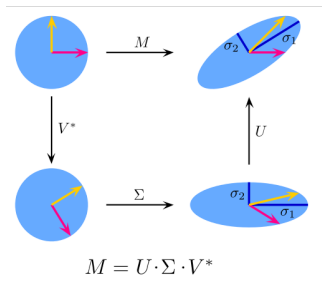
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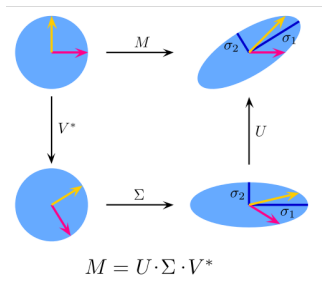
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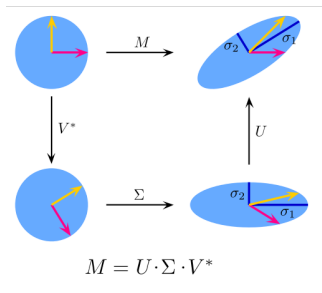
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  - Similar, we have  $MM^T = UD^2 U^T$



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- Note that column of  $V$  are now the principal components, and we can transform a data column as  $V^T x$ . The entire data set can be transformed as  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{X}V$

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- Decomposed the mean subtracted data with SVD. We get  $\mathcal{X} = UDV^T$
- Note that column of  $V$  are now the principal components, and we can transform a data column as  $V^T x$ . The entire data set can be transformed as  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{X}V$ 
  - The first few columns of  $\mathcal{Y}$  will contain most “information” regarding the original  $\mathcal{X}$

# PCA with SVD

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  - For example, they can be taken as features for recognition or one can omit other columns besides the first few for “compression” as discussed earlier

# Marginalization of normal distribution

- Consider  $\mathbf{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Z}})$  and let say  $\mathbf{X}$  is a segment of  $\mathbf{Z}$ . That is,  $\mathbf{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix}$  for some  $\mathbf{Y}$ . Then how should  $\mathbf{X}$  behave?

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- We can find the pdf of  $\mathbf{X}$  by just marginalizing that of  $\mathbf{Z}$ . That is

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}) &= \int p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi\boldsymbol{\Sigma})}} \int \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} \\ \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}} \end{pmatrix}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} \\ \mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}} \end{pmatrix}\right) d\mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$



# Marginalization of normal distribution

- Denote  $\Sigma^{-1}$  as  $\Lambda$  (also known as the precision matrix). And partition both  $\Sigma$  and  $\Lambda$  into  $\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{XX} & \Sigma_{XY} \\ \Sigma_{YX} & \Sigma_{YY} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{XX} & \Lambda_{XY} \\ \Lambda_{YX} & \Lambda_{YY} \end{pmatrix}$

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- Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi\Sigma)}} \int \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}) \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}) + (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}) \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}) \right] \right) d\mathbf{y} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})}{2}}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi\Sigma)}} \int \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[ (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}) \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}) + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}) \right] \right) d\mathbf{y}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Marginalization of normal distribution

To proceed, let's apply the completing square trick on

$$(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)^T \Lambda_{YX} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_X) + (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_X)^T \Lambda_{XY} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) + (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)^T \Lambda_{YY} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y).$$

For the ease of exposition, let us denote  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  as  $\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_X$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  as  $\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y$ . We have

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For the ease of exposition, let us denote  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  as  $\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_X$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  as  $\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \tilde{\mathbf{y}}^T \Lambda_{YX} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} + \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \Lambda_{XY} \tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \tilde{\mathbf{y}}^T \Lambda_{YY} \tilde{\mathbf{y}} \\ &= (\tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{YY}^{-1} \Lambda_{YX} \tilde{\mathbf{x}})^T \Lambda_{YY} (\tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{YY}^{-1} \Lambda_{YX} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \Lambda_{XY} \Lambda_{YY}^{-1} \Lambda_{YX} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we use the fact that  $\Lambda = \Sigma^{-1}$  is symmetric and so  $\Lambda_{XY} = \Lambda_{YX}$

# Marginalization of normal distribution

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{e^{-\frac{\bar{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}}) \bar{\mathbf{x}}}{2}}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \int e^{-\frac{(\bar{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}} \bar{\mathbf{x}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}} (\bar{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}} \bar{\mathbf{x}})}{2}} d\mathbf{y}$$

# Marginalization of normal distribution

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{e^{-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \int e^{-\frac{(\tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}} (\tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}})}{2}} d\mathbf{y} \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1})}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

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 p(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{e^{-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \int e^{-\frac{(\tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}} (\tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}})}{2}} d\mathbf{y} \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1})}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right) \\
 &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \frac{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1})}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

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 &= \frac{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1})}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right) \\
 &\stackrel{(a)}{=} \frac{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1})}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right) \\
 &\stackrel{(b)}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}})}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$



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 &= \frac{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1})}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T (\Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}}) \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right) \\
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 &\stackrel{(b)}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}})}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}}{2}\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}})}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}})}{2}\right),
 \end{aligned}$$

where (a) and (b) will be shown next

$$(a) \Sigma_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1} = \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}}\Lambda_{\mathbf{YY}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{YX}}$$

### Lemma

Assume  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{A} & \tilde{B} \\ \tilde{C} & \tilde{D} \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $A^{-1} = \tilde{A} - \tilde{B}\tilde{D}^{-1}\tilde{C}$

### Proof.

Note that  $\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{A} & \tilde{B} \\ \tilde{C} & \tilde{D} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$ . Thus  $A\tilde{A} + B\tilde{C} = I$  and

$A\tilde{B} + B\tilde{D} = 0$ . So

$$A(\tilde{A} - \tilde{B}\tilde{D}^{-1}\tilde{C}) = A\tilde{A} - (A\tilde{B})\tilde{D}^{-1}\tilde{C} = A\tilde{A} + B\tilde{D}\tilde{D}^{-1}\tilde{C} = A\tilde{A} + B\tilde{C} = I \quad \square$$

$$(b) \det(a\Sigma) = \det(a\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}) \det(a\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1})$$

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### Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ D^{-1}C & I \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & B \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A - BD^{-1}C & 0 \\ D^{-1}C & I \end{pmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} &= \det(D) \det(A - BD^{-1}C) = \det(D) \det(\tilde{A}^{-1}) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

# Review

- ML:  $\hat{x} = \arg \max_x p(x|\hat{\theta}), \hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(o|\theta)$
- MAP:  $\hat{x} = \arg \max_x p(x|\hat{\theta}), \hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta|o)$
- Bayesian:  $\hat{x} = \sum_{\theta} p(\theta|o) \sum_x xp(x|\theta)$
- For zero-mean  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}} = E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T]$  and say we have  $P^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}} P = D$ . The transformed  $\mathbf{Y} = P^T \mathbf{X}$  are independent to each other
  - Note that the transform is just principal component analysis
- Marginalization of a normal distribution is still a normal distribution
- (a)  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1} = \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1} \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}}$
- (b)  $\det(a\Sigma) = \det(a\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}) \det(a\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1})$  for any constant  $a$

# Conditioning of normal distribution

- Consider the same  $\mathbf{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Z}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Z}})$  and  $\mathbf{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{Y} \end{pmatrix}$ . What will  $\mathbf{X}$  be like if  $\mathbf{Y}$  is observed to be  $\mathbf{y}$ ?

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- Basically, we want to find  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) = p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})/p(\mathbf{y})$
- From previous result, we have  $p(\mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}})$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left[\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{y}} \end{pmatrix}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \\ \tilde{\mathbf{y}} \end{pmatrix} - \tilde{\mathbf{y}}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{y}}\right]\right) \\
 &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} + \tilde{\mathbf{x}}^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} \tilde{\mathbf{y}} + \tilde{\mathbf{y}}^T \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}]\right),
 \end{aligned}$$

where we use  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$  as shorthands of  $\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}$  and  $\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}$  as before

# Conditioning of normal distribution

- Completing the square for  $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}}\tilde{\mathbf{y}})^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}}\tilde{\mathbf{y}})\right) \\
 &= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}))^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}\right. \\
 &\quad \left. (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}))\right)
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- Therefore  $\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y}$  is Gaussian distributed with mean  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{XY}}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}})$  and covariance  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{XX}}^{-1}$

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- Therefore  $\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y}$  is Gaussian distributed with mean  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} - \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}})$  and covariance  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1}$
- Note that since  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}} = 0 \Rightarrow \Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}}^{-1}\Lambda_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} = -\Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}$  and from (a), we have

$$\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}), \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \Sigma_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}})$$

# Interpretation of conditioning

$$\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}})$$

- When the observation of  $\mathbf{Y}$  is exactly the mean, the conditioned mean does not change

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- When the observation of  $\mathbf{Y}$  is exactly the mean, the conditioned mean does not change
- Otherwise, it needs to be modified and the size of the adjustment decreases with  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}$ , the variance of  $\mathbf{Y}$  for the 1-D case.
  - The observation is less reliable with the increase of  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}$ . The adjustment is finally scaled by  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}$ , which translates the variation of  $\mathbf{Y}$  to the variation of  $\mathbf{X}$

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- When the observation of  $\mathbf{Y}$  is exactly the mean, the conditioned mean does not change
- Otherwise, it needs to be modified and the size of the adjustment decreases with  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}$ , the variance of  $\mathbf{Y}$  for the 1-D case.
  - The observation is less reliable with the increase of  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}$ . The adjustment is finally scaled by  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}$ , which translates the variation of  $\mathbf{Y}$  to the variation of  $\mathbf{X}$
  - In particular, if  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are negatively correlated, the sign of the adjustment will be reversed
- As for the variance of the conditioned variable, it always decreases and the decrease is larger if  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}$  is smaller and  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}$  is larger ( $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are more correlated)

# Uncorrelated implies independence

$$\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}})$$

If  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are uncorrelated,  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{0}$ . Then

$$\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}})$$

Note that the statistics of  $\mathbf{X}$  does not change with respect to  $\mathbf{y}$  and so  $\mathbf{X}$  is independent of  $\mathbf{Y}$

$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y|Z$  if  $\rho_{XZ}\rho_{YZ} = \rho_{XY}$

### Corollary

Given multivariate Gaussian variables  $X, Y$  and  $Z$ , we have  $X$  and  $Y$  are conditionally independent given  $Z$  if  $\rho_{XZ}\rho_{YZ} = \rho_{XY}$ , where

$\rho_{XZ} = \frac{E[(X-E(X))(Z-E(Z))]}{\sqrt{E[(X-E(X))^2]E[(Z-E(Z))^2]}}$  is the correlation coefficient between  $X$  and  $Z$ . Similarly,  $\rho_{YZ}$  and  $\rho_{XY}$  are the correlation coefficients between  $Y$  and  $Z$ , and  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively.



$X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y|Z$  if  $\rho_{XZ}\rho_{YZ} = \rho_{XY}$

Proof.

- From the definition of correlation coefficient,

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{XX} & \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{YY}}\rho_{XY} & \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{XZ} \\ \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{YY}}\rho_{XY} & \sigma_{YY} & \sqrt{\sigma_{YY}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{YZ} \\ \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{XZ} & \sqrt{\sigma_{YY}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{YZ} & \sigma_{ZZ} \end{pmatrix}$$

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- Then from the conditioning result, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} | Z &= \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{XX} & \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{YY}}\rho_{XY} \\ \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{YY}}\rho_{XY} & \sigma_{YY} \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad - \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{XZ} & \sqrt{\sigma_{YY}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{YZ} \end{pmatrix} \sigma_{ZZ}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{XZ} \\ \sqrt{\sigma_{YY}\sigma_{ZZ}}\rho_{YZ} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{XX}(1 - \rho_{XZ}^2) & \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{YY}}(\rho_{XY} - \rho_{XZ}\rho_{YZ}) \\ \sqrt{\sigma_{XX}\sigma_{YY}}(\rho_{XY} - \rho_{XZ}\rho_{YZ}) & \sigma_{YY}(1 - \rho_{YZ}^2) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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- Therefore,  $X$  and  $Y$  are uncorrelated given  $Z$  when the off-diagonal is zero and this gives us  $\rho_{XY} = \rho_{XZ}\rho_{YZ}$ . Since for Gaussian variables, uncorrelatedness implies independence. This concludes the proof. □

# Gaussian Process

- Consider a 1-D discrete-time signal, and say the signal is joint Gaussian and two points are conditional independent given points in the middle
- If the variance is stationary and say the correlation coefficient between two adjacent points is  $\rho$ , further assume that the variance is normalized to 1. WLOG, then

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho & \rho^2 & \dots & & \\ \rho & 1 & \rho & \rho^2 & \dots & \\ \rho^2 & \rho & 1 & \rho & \dots & \\ & & & \dots & & \end{pmatrix}$$

# Product of normal distributions

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- Now, if we want to compute the overall likelihood,  $p(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2 | \mathbf{x})$ . Assuming that  $\mathbf{Y}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_2$  are conditionally independent given  $\mathbf{X}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2 | \mathbf{x}) &= p(\mathbf{y}_1 | \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{y}_2 | \mathbf{x}) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}). \end{aligned}$$

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- Essentially, we just need to compute the product of two Gaussian pdfs. Such computation is very useful and it occurs often when one needs to perform inference



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As in previous cases, the product turns out to be normal also. However, unlike them, **the product is not a pdf and so it does not normalize to 1**. So we have to compute both the scaling factor and the exponent explicitly. Let us start with the exponent.

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$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) \\ & \propto \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} [(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}_1)^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}_1) + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}_2)^T \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}_2)] \right) \end{aligned}$$

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 & \propto \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2})^{-1} (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} \mathbf{y}_2 + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} \mathbf{y}_1), (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1})^{-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) \\
 & = K(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2})^{-1} (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} \mathbf{y}_2 + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} \mathbf{y}_1), (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1})^{-1})
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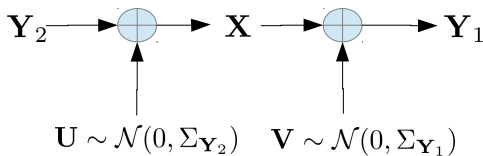
for some scaling factor  $K(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2})$  independent of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

# Product of normal distributions

- One can compute the scaling factor  $K(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2})$  directly

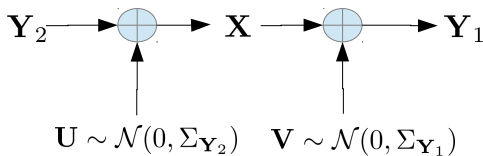
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- Since  $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2})$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_1 \perp\!\!\!\perp \mathbf{Y}_2 | \mathbf{X}$ , we have

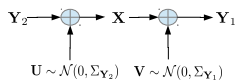
$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) = \underbrace{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1})}_{p(\mathbf{y}_1 | \mathbf{x})} \underbrace{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2})}_{p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}_2)} = p(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}_2)$$



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- Then, marginalizing  $\mathbf{x}$  out from  $p(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}_2)$ , we have

$p(\mathbf{y}_1|\mathbf{y}_2) = \int p(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}_2) d\mathbf{x}$ . However, from the figure,

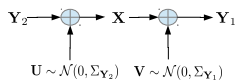


$$\int p(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}_2) d\mathbf{x} = p(\mathbf{y}_1|\mathbf{y}_2) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{Y_2} + \Sigma_{Y_1})$$

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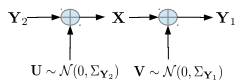
- On the other hand,

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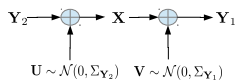
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- Thus we have  $K(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1})$

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$$\begin{aligned} &\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2})^{-1}(\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2}\mathbf{y}_2 + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1}\mathbf{y}_1), (\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1})^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

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  - The weight is higher when the precision  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2}$  or  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1}$  is larger
- The overall variance  $(\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1})^{-1}$  is always smaller than the individual variance  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2}$  and  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}$ 
  - We are more certain with  $\mathbf{x}$  after considering both  $\mathbf{y}_1$  and  $\mathbf{y}_2$

# Product of normal distributions

Let us try to interpret the product as the overall likelihood after making two observations. Consider the simpler case when  $\mathbf{X}$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_2$  are all scalar

- The mean considering both observations,  $(\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1} + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2})^{-1}(\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2}y_2 + \Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1}y_1)$ , is essentially a weighted average of observations  $y_2$  and  $y_1$ 
  - The weight is higher when the precision  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_2}$  or  $\Lambda_{\mathbf{Y}_1}$  is larger
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  - We are more certain with  $\mathbf{x}$  after considering both  $y_1$  and  $y_2$
- The scaling factor,  $\mathcal{N}(y_1; y_2, \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1})$ , can be interpreted as how much one can believe on the overall likelihood.
  - The value is reasonable since when the two observations are far away with respect to the overall variance  $\Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \Sigma_{\mathbf{Y}_1}$ , the likelihood will become less reliable
  - The scaling factor is especially useful when we deal with mixture of Gaussian to be discussed next



## Review

- PCA (assume zero mean)
  - Via eigen-decomposition
    - 1  $\Sigma \approx \frac{1}{m} \mathcal{X}^T \mathcal{X}$
    - 2  $P^T \Sigma P = D$
    - 3  $Y = P^T X$
  - Via SVD
    - 1  $U^T \mathcal{X} V = D$
    - 2  $Y = V^T X$
- Marginalization of a normal distribution is still a normal distribution

- Conditioning of normal distribution:

$$\mathbf{X} | \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_X + \Sigma_{XY} \Sigma_{YY}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y), \Sigma_{XX} - \Sigma_{XY} \Sigma_{YY}^{-1} \Sigma_{YX})$$

- Product of normal distribution:

$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{Y_1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \Sigma_{Y_2}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{y}_2, \Sigma_{Y_2} + \Sigma_{Y_1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; (\Lambda_{Y_1} + \Lambda_{Y_2})^{-1} (\Lambda_{Y_2} \mathbf{y}_2 + \Lambda_{Y_1} \mathbf{y}_1), (\Lambda_{Y_2} + \Lambda_{Y_1})^{-1})$$

# Division of normal distributions

- To compute  $\frac{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1)}{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2)}$ , note that from the product formula earlier

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where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2)^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2 \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)$

- Note that the final pdf will be Gaussian-like if  $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 \succeq \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2$ . Otherwise, one can still write out the pdf using the precision matrix. But the covariance matrix will not be defined (Try plot some pdfs out yourselves)

# Mixture of Gaussians

Consider an electrical system that outputs signal of different statistics when it is on and off

- When the system is on, the output signal  $S$  behaves like  $\mathcal{N}(5, 1)$ .  
When the system is off,  $S$  behaves like  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

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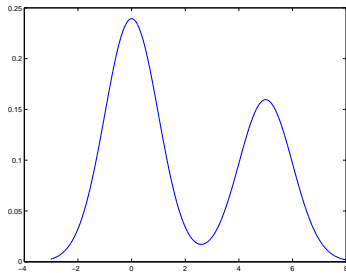
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- If someone measuring the signal does not know the status of the system but only knows that the system is on 40% of the time, then to the observer, the signal  $S$  behaves like a mixture of Gaussians
- The pdf of  $S$  will be  $0.4\mathcal{N}(s; 5, 1) + 0.6\mathcal{N}(s; 0, 1)$  as shown below



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- Let us illustrate this with the following example:
  - Consider two mixtures of Gaussian likelihood of  $x$  given two observations  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  as follows:

$$p(y_1|x) = 0.6\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1) + 0.4\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1);$$

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- As usual, it is reasonable to assume the observations to be conditionally independent given  $x$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} p(y_1, y_2|x) &= p(y_1|x)p(y_2|x) \\ &= (0.6\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1) + 0.4\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1))(0.5\mathcal{N}(x; -2, 1) + 0.5\mathcal{N}(x; 4, 1)) \\ &= 0.3\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1)\mathcal{N}(x; -2, 1) + 0.2\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1)\mathcal{N}(x; -2, 1) \\ &\quad + 0.3\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1)\mathcal{N}(x; 4, 1) + 0.2\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1)\mathcal{N}(x; 4, 1) \end{aligned}$$

# Explosion of Gaussians

- The last step involves computing products of Gaussians but we have learned it in previous sections. Using the previous result,

$$p(y_1, y_2 | x) = 0.3\mathcal{N}(-2; 0, 2)\mathcal{N}(x; -1, 0.5) + 0.2\mathcal{N}(-2; 5, 2)\mathcal{N}(x; 1.5, 0.5) \\ + 0.3\mathcal{N}(4; 0, 2)\mathcal{N}(x; 2, 0.5) + 0.2\mathcal{N}(4; 5, 2)\mathcal{N}(x; 4.5, 0.5).$$

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- Let's repeat our discussion but with  $n$  observations instead. The overall likelihood will be a mixture of  $2^n$  Gaussians!
  - Therefore, the computation will quickly become intractable as the number of observations increases
  - Fortunately, in reality, some of the Gaussians in the mixture tend to have a very small weight

# Reduce number of components in Gaussian mixtures

- For instance, in our previous numerical example, if we continue our numerical computation for the two observation example, we have

$$p(y_1, y_2|x) = 0.4163\mathcal{N}(x; -1, 0.5) + 3.5234 \times 10^{-6}\mathcal{N}(x; 1.5, 0.5) \\ + 0.0202\mathcal{N}(x; 2, 0.5) + 0.5734\mathcal{N}(x; 4.5, 0.5).$$



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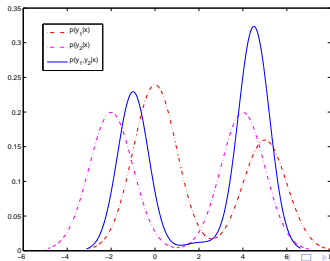
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- We can see that the weight for the component at mean 1.5 is very small. And the component at mean 2 has a rather small weight also.
- Even with the four Gaussian components, the overall likelihood is essentially just a bimodal distribution as shown in the figure below



# Reduce number of components in Gaussian mixtures

- Therefore, we may approximate  $p(y_1, y_2|x)$  with only two of its original component as  $0.4163/(0.4163 + 0.5734)\mathcal{N}(x; -1, 0.5) + 0.5734/(0.4163 + 0.5734)\mathcal{N}(x; 4.5, 0.5) = 0.4206\mathcal{N}(x; -1, 0.5) + 0.5794\mathcal{N}(x; 4.5, 0.5)$

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- However, it is not always a good approximation strategy just to dump away the small components in a Gaussian mixture

# Another example

Consider

$$p(x) = 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; -0.2, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; -0.1, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; 0.1, 1) \\ + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; 0.2, 1) + 0.5\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1).$$

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- Let say we want to reduce  $p(x)$  to only a mixture of two Gaussians. It is tempting to just dumping four smallest one and renormalized the weight. For example, if we choose to remove the first four components, we have

$$\hat{p}(x) = 1/6\mathcal{N}(x; 0.2, 1) + 5/6\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1)$$

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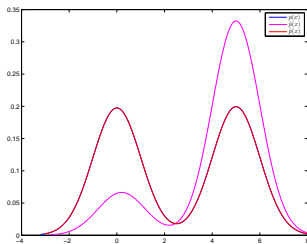
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- The approximation  $\hat{p}(x)$  is significantly different from  $p(x)$  as shown below



# Merging components

- The problem is that while the first five components are all relatively small compared to the last one, they are all quite similar and their combined contribution is comparable to the latter

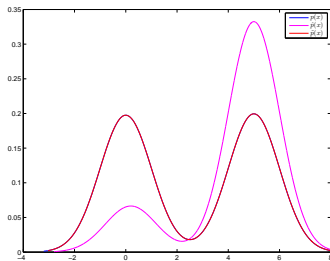


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- Actually the first five components are so similar that their combined contribution can be accurately modeled as one Gaussian
- So rather than discarding the components, one can get a much more accurate approximation by merging them. The approximation is illustrated as  $\tilde{p}(x)$  in the figure below



# Merging components

To successfully obtain such approximation  $\tilde{p}(x)$ , we have to answer two questions:

- which components to merge?
- how to merge them?

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- By Cauchy-Schwartz inequality,

$$\frac{\langle p(\mathbf{x}), q(\mathbf{x}) \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle p(\mathbf{x}), p(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \langle q(\mathbf{x}), q(\mathbf{x}) \rangle}} = \frac{\int p(\mathbf{x})q(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x}}{\sqrt{\int p(\mathbf{x})^2d\mathbf{x} \int q(\mathbf{x})^2d\mathbf{x}}} \leq 1$$

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- The inner product maximizes ( $= 1$ ) when  $p(\mathbf{x}) = q(\mathbf{x})$ . This suggests a very reasonable similarity measure between two pdfs



# Similarity measure

- Let's define

$$\text{Sim}(p(\mathbf{x}), q(\mathbf{x})) \triangleq \frac{\int p(\mathbf{x})q(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x}}{\sqrt{\int p(\mathbf{x})^2d\mathbf{x} \int q(\mathbf{x})^2d\mathbf{x}}}$$

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- In particular, if  $p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_p, \Sigma_p)$  and  $q(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_q, \Sigma_q)$ , we have (please verify)

$$\text{Sim}(\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_p, \Sigma_p), \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_q, \Sigma_q)) = \frac{\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_p; \boldsymbol{\mu}_q, \Sigma_p + \Sigma_q)}{\sqrt{\mathcal{N}(0; 0, 2\Sigma_p)\mathcal{N}(0; 0, 2\Sigma_q)}},$$

which can be computed very easily and is equal to one only when means and covariances are the same

# How to Merge Components?

Say we have  $n$  components  $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1), \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2), \dots, \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_n, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_n)$  with weights  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ . What should the combined component be like?

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- Combined component weight should equal to total weight  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i$
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  - Because the weighted sum only counted the contribution of variation among each component, it did not take into account the variation due to different means across components.
  - Instead, let's denote  $\mathbf{X}$  as the variable sampled from the mixture. That is,  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_i, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i)$  with probability  $\hat{w}_i$ . Then, we have (please verify)

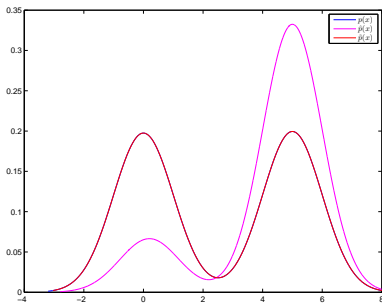
$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} &= E[\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T] - E[\mathbf{X}]E[\mathbf{X}]^T \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{w}_i (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i + \boldsymbol{\mu}_i \boldsymbol{\mu}_i^T) - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{w}_i \hat{w}_j \boldsymbol{\mu}_i \boldsymbol{\mu}_j^T. \end{aligned}$$

Now, go back to our previous numerical example

- Recall that  $p(x) = 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; -0.2, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; -0.1, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; 0.1, 1) + 0.1\mathcal{N}(x; 0.2, 1) + 0.5\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1)$

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- If we merge the five smallest components (one can easily check that they are also more similar to each other than to the last component), we have  $\tilde{p}(x) = 0.5\mathcal{N}(x; 0, 1.02) + 0.5\mathcal{N}(x; 5, 1)$  as shown again below. The approximate pdf is virtually indistinguishable from the original



# Review multivariate normal

- Marginalization of a normal distribution is still a normal distribution
- Conditioning of normal distribution:

$$\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{X}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{Y}}), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{X}\mathbf{Y}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{X}})$$

- Product of normal distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}_1})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}_2}) = \\ &\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{y}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{Y}_1})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; (\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}_1} + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}_2})^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}_2}\mathbf{y}_2 + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}_1}\mathbf{y}_1), (\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}_2} + \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_{\mathbf{Y}_1})^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

- Division of normal distribution:

$$\frac{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_1)}{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_2)} = \frac{\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, (\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2)^{-1})}{\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_2; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2^{-1} + (\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2)^{-1})},$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2)^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_1\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_2\boldsymbol{\mu}_2)$

- Similarity measure

$$\text{Sim}(\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_p, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_p), \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_q, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_q)) = \frac{\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_p; \boldsymbol{\mu}_q, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_p + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_q)}{\sqrt{\mathcal{N}(0; 0, 2\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_p)\mathcal{N}(0; 0, 2\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_q)}},$$

# Bernoulli distribution

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- The mean and variance are

$$E[X] = p \cdot 1 + (1 - p) \cdot 0 = p$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = p \cdot (1 - p)^2 + (1 - p) \cdot p^2 = p(1 - p)$$



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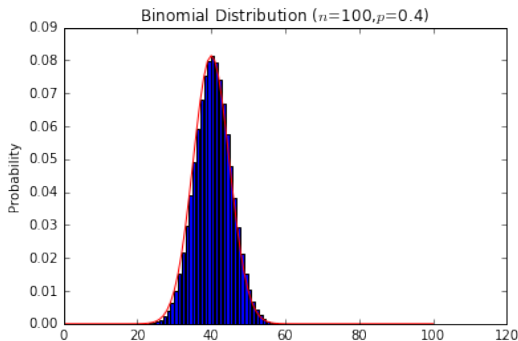
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- $$\text{Therefore, } \text{Var}[X] = E[X^2] - E[X]^2 = E[X(X-1)] + E[X] - E[X]^2 =$$

$$N(N-1)p^2 + Np - (Np)^2 = Np(1-p)$$

# Binomial distribution

As shown below, the binomial distribution can be model well with a normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(Np, Np(1 - p))$  for large  $N$



The binomial distribution is shown in blue and an approximation by normal distribution is shown in red

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- It is very difficult to determine the prior unanimously. Actually it can be controversial just to determine the form of it
- However, if we select  $p(p)$  of a form  $p(p) \propto p^a(1-p)^b$ , then the resulting posterior distribution with the same form as before. This choice is often chosen for practical purposes, and a prior with same “form” as its likelihood (and thus posterior) is known as the **conjugate prior**

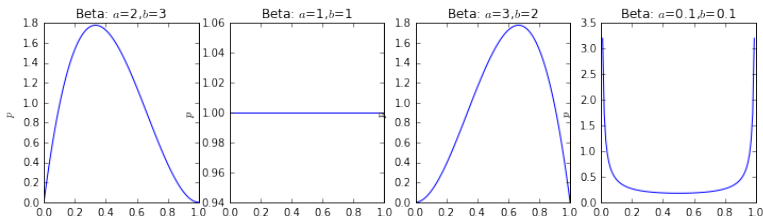


# Beta distribution

- The conjugate prior of both Bernoulli and binomial distributions is the beta distribution. Its pdf is given by

$$\text{Beta}(x|a, b) = \frac{x^{a-1}(1-x)^{b-1}}{B(a, b)},$$

where  $X \in [0, 1]$  and  $B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$

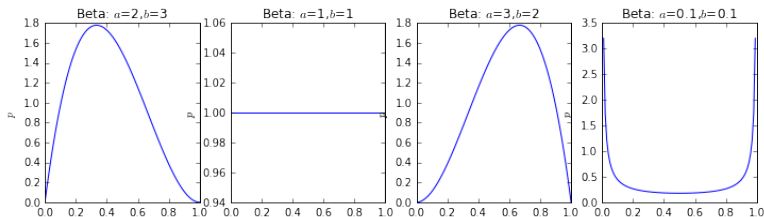


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- Note that with  $a = b = 1$ ,  $\text{Beta}(x|1, 1) = 1$ . It is the same as no prior

# Gamma function

Note that  $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{z-1} e^{-x} dx$

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□

- Therefore, for integer  $z > 1$ ,  $\Gamma(z) = (z-1)!$

# Mode of beta distribution

The mode is the peak of a distribution. Recall that

$Beta(x|a, b) = \frac{x^{a-1}(1-x)^{b-1}}{B(a, b)}$ . Set

$$\frac{\partial Beta(x|a, b)}{\partial x} = \frac{(a-1)x^{a-2}(1-x)^{b-1} - (b-1)x^{a-1}(1-x)^{b-2}}{B(a, b)} = 0,$$

we have  $(a-1)(1-x) = (b-1)x \Rightarrow x = \frac{a-1}{a+b-2}$

# Mean and variance of Beta distribution

Note that  $\int_{x=0}^1 p(x|a, b) = 1 \Rightarrow \int_{x=0}^1 x^{a-1}(1-x)^{b-1} = B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$ .

This gives us a handy trick to manipulate beta distribution

# Mean and variance of Beta distribution

Note that  $\int_{x=0}^1 p(x|a, b) = 1 \Rightarrow \int_{x=0}^1 x^{a-1}(1-x)^{b-1} = B(a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \int_{x=0}^1 x \text{Beta}(x|a, b) dx = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \int_{x=0}^1 x^a (1-x)^{b-1} dx \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \frac{\Gamma(a+1)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b+1)} = \frac{a}{a+b} \end{aligned}$$

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# Posterior estimate of probability $p$

Consider the coin flipping example again. Let say the prior probability<sup>4</sup> of the coin is beta distributed with parameters  $a$  and  $b$ . And we flip the coin once to get outcome  $x$ .

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So the posterior probability distribution is also beta distributed and the parameters just changed to  $\tilde{a} \leftarrow a + x$  and  $\tilde{b} \leftarrow b + 1 - x$

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Let say we continue our example and we flip the coin by  $N$  times and obtain  $x$  head. So instead of the Bernoulli likelihood, we have a binomial likelihood. Like the last slide, we have the same beta prior with parameters  $a$  and  $b$ .

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Again, the posterior distribution is still beta but with parameters updated to  $\tilde{a} \leftarrow a + x$  and  $\tilde{b} \leftarrow b + N - x$

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- One major reason of introducing prior is for the sake of “regularizing” the answer
- Another coin example
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  - 0? Okay, the estimate is a bit extreme. We know that it is very difficult to make a coin that always gives a tail
  - How about we first assumed that we actually flipped two times and got 1 head before we did experiment? We will estimate  $1/12$  instead of  $0/10$

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- Recall that  $Beta(1, 1) = 1$  and so likelihood function is equivalent to  $Beta(p|1, 1)Bin(0|p, 10) \sim Beta(1, 11)$ . Thus the ML estimate is the mode of  $Beta(1, 11) \Rightarrow p_{Head}^{(ML)} = \frac{1-1}{1+11-2} = \frac{0}{10} = 0$ 
  - This indeed is the same as our high school naïve estimate

# Bayesian estimation and regularization

- Now let's consider the Bayesian estimate. Even for the case with no prior (equivalently an uniform prior or Beta prior with  $a = 1$  and  $b = 1$ ), recall that the “posterior distribution” is  $Beta(1, 11)$

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- Note that Bayesian estimation is “self-regularized” (i.e., giving less extreme results) since it inherently averages out all possible cases

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- Just make sure we are in the same pace. Note that  $p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_n = 1$  and  $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = N$

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- It turns out that the distribution is the so-called Dirichlet distribution. Its pdf is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & Dir(x_1, \dots, x_n | \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \Gamma(\alpha_2) \dots \Gamma(\alpha_n)} x_1^{\alpha_1-1} x_2^{\alpha_2-1} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n-1} \end{aligned}$$

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- As usual since pdf should be normalized to 1, we have

$$\int x_1^{\alpha_1-1} x_2^{\alpha_2-1} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n-1} = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1)\Gamma(\alpha_2)\dots\Gamma(\alpha_n)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n)}$$

# Mean, mode, variance of Dirichlet distribution

- Mean:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_1] &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \cdots \Gamma(\alpha_n)} \int x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2-1} \cdots x_n^{\alpha_n-1} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \cdots \Gamma(\alpha_n)} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + 1) \cdots \Gamma(\alpha_n)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n + 1)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n} \end{aligned}$$

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- Mode: one can show that the mode of  $\text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is

$$\frac{\alpha_i - 1}{\alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n - n}.$$

We will not show it now but will leave as an **exercise**

# Summary of Dirichlet distribution

- Pdf:

$$Dir(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)\Gamma(\alpha_2)\cdots\Gamma(\alpha_n)} x_1^{\alpha_1-1} x_2^{\alpha_2-1} \cdots x_n^{\alpha_n-1}$$

- Mean:

$$\frac{\alpha_j}{\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n}$$

- Variance:

$$\frac{\alpha_j(\alpha_0 - \alpha_j)}{\alpha_0^2(\alpha_0 + 1)}$$

- Mode:

$$\frac{\alpha_j - 1}{\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n - n}$$

# Posterior probability given Multinomial likelihood and Dirichlet prior

Upon observing  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , the posterior distribution of  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  becomes

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$$\begin{aligned} & p(p_1, \dots, p_n | x_1, \dots, x_n, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \\ &= \text{Const}1 \cdot \text{Dir}(p_1, \dots, p_n | \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \text{Mult}(x_1, \dots, x_n | p_1, \dots, p_n) \end{aligned}$$

# Posterior probability given Multinomial likelihood and Dirichlet prior

Upon observing  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , the posterior distribution of  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p(p_1, \dots, p_n | x_1, \dots, x_n, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \\
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 &= \text{Const2} \cdot p_1^{x_1 + \alpha_1} \dots p_n^{x_n + \alpha_n} \\
 &= \text{Dir}(p_1, \dots, p_n | \tilde{\alpha}_1, \dots, \tilde{\alpha}_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

So the posterior distribution is Dirichlet with parameters updated to  $\tilde{\alpha}_1 \leftarrow x_1 + \alpha_1, \dots, \tilde{\alpha}_n \leftarrow x_n + \alpha_n$

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where  $k$  is a non-negative integer,  $\lambda$  is rate of arrival and  $T$  is the length of the observed period. It is easy to check that (please verify)

$$Mean = \lambda T$$

$$Variance = \lambda T$$

N.B. the parameters  $\lambda T$  comes as a group and so we can consider it as a single parameter



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  - For example, even though we just have one customer coming in, the probability that the next customer to come in immediately should not decrease
  - It makes sense to model say customers to a department store
  - It can be less perfect to model the times my car broke down. The events are likely to be related

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Note that indeed  $\Pr(k \text{ arrivals in } T) = \text{Poisson}(k|\lambda T)$

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## Exponential distribution

$f_T(t) = \lambda \exp(-\lambda t) \triangleq \text{Exp}(t|\lambda)$  is the pdf of the exponential distribution with parameter  $\lambda$ . It is easy to verify that (as exercise)

- $E[T] = 1/\lambda$
- $\text{Var}(T) = 1/\lambda^2$

# Normal distribution revisit

For a univariate normal random variable, the pdf is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Norm}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda(x-\mu)^2}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

with

$$E[X|\mu, \sigma^2] = \mu,$$

$$E[(X - \mu)^2|\mu, \sigma^2] = \sigma^2,$$

Recall that  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$  is the precision parameter that simplifies computations in many cases

# Conjugate prior of normal distribution for fixed $\sigma^2$

Consider  $\sigma^2$  fixed and  $\mu$  as the model parameter, then the posterior probability is given by

$$p(\mu|x; \sigma^2) \propto p(\mu, x; \sigma^2)$$

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It is apparent that the posterior will keep the same form if  $p(\mu)$  is also normal. Therefore, normal distribution is the conjugate prior of itself for fixed variance



# Posterior distribution of normal variable for fixed $\sigma^2$

Given prior  $p(\mu) = \text{Norm}(\mu|\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$  and likelihood  $\text{Norm}(x|\mu; \sigma^2)$ . Let's find the posterior probability,

$$\begin{aligned} & p(\mu|x; \sigma^2, \mu_0, \sigma_0^2) \\ &= \text{Const} \cdot \text{Norm}(\mu|\mu_0, \sigma_0^2) \text{Norm}(x|\mu; \sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$

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where  $\tilde{\mu} = \frac{\sigma_0^2 x + \mu_0 \sigma^2}{\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2}$  and  $\tilde{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sigma_0^2 \sigma^2}{\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2}$ . Alternatively,  $\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda_0 + \lambda$  and  $\tilde{\mu} = \frac{\lambda}{\tilde{\lambda}} x + \frac{\lambda_0}{\tilde{\lambda}} \mu_0$ . Note that we have already come across the more general expression when we studied product of multivariate normal distribution

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More generally, when we have  $N$  observations from the same source,

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1, \dots, x_N, \lambda; \mu) &= p(\lambda) \prod_{i=1}^N \text{Norm}(x_i|\lambda; \mu) \\ &\propto p(\lambda) \lambda^{\frac{N}{2}} \exp\left(-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} p(x|\lambda; \mu) &\propto p(x, \lambda; \mu) = p(\lambda) \text{Norm}(x|\lambda; \mu) \\ &\propto p(\lambda) \sqrt{\lambda} \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda(x - \mu)^2}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

More generally, when we have  $N$  observations from the same source,

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1, \dots, x_N, \lambda; \mu) &= p(\lambda) \prod_{i=1}^N \text{Norm}(x_i|\lambda; \mu) \\ &\propto p(\lambda) \lambda^{\frac{N}{2}} \exp\left(-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

From inspection, the conjugate prior should have a form  $\lambda^a \exp(-b\lambda)$

# Gamma distribution

The distribution with the desired form described in previous slide turns out to be the Gamma distribution. Its pdf, mean, and variance (please verify the mean and variance) are given by

$$\text{Gamma}(\lambda|a, b) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} b^a \lambda^{a-1} \exp(-b\lambda)$$

$$E[\lambda] = \frac{a}{b}$$

$$\text{Var}[\lambda] = \frac{a}{b^2},$$

where  $a, b > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$



# Gamma distribution

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$$E[\lambda] = \frac{a}{b}$$

$$\text{Var}[\lambda] = \frac{a}{b^2},$$

where  $a, b > 0$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$

N.B. when  $a = 1$ , Gamma reduces to the exponential distribution. When  $a$  is integer, it reduces to Erlang distribution

# Posterior distribution of normal variable for fixed $\mu$

Posterior probability given Normal likelihood (fixed mean) and Gamma prior

$$p(\lambda|x, a, b; \mu) = \text{Const1} \cdot \text{Gamma}(\lambda|a, b) \text{Norm}(x|\lambda; \mu)$$

# Posterior distribution of normal variable for fixed $\mu$

Posterior probability given Normal likelihood (fixed mean) and Gamma prior

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\lambda|x, a, b; \mu) &= \text{Const1} \cdot \text{Gamma}(\lambda|a, b) \text{Norm}(x|\lambda; \mu) \\
 &= \text{Const2} \cdot \lambda^{a-1} \exp(-b\lambda) \sqrt{\lambda} \exp\left(-\lambda \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2}\right) \\
 &= \text{Gamma}\left(\lambda; \tilde{a}, \tilde{b}\right),
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{a} \leftarrow a + \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\tilde{b} \leftarrow b + \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2}$

# Conjugate prior summary

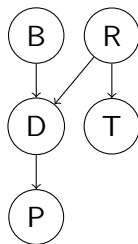
Distribution	Likelihood $p(\mathbf{x} \theta)$	Prior $p(\theta)$	Distribution
Bernoulli	$(1 - \theta)^{(1-x)}\theta^x$	$\propto (1 - \theta)^{(a-1)}\theta^{(b-1)}$	Beta
Binomial	$\propto (1 - \theta)^{(N-x)}\theta^x$	$\propto (1 - \theta)^{(a-1)}\theta^{(b-1)}$	Beta
Multinomial	$\propto \theta_1^{x_1}\theta_2^{x_2}\theta_3^{x_3}$	$\propto \theta_1^{\alpha_1-1}\theta_2^{\alpha_2-1}\theta_3^{\alpha_3-1}$	Dirichlet
Normal (fixed $\sigma^2$ )	$\propto \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\theta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$	$\propto \exp\left(-\frac{(\theta-\mu_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right)$	Normal
Normal (fixed $\mu$ )	$\propto \sqrt{\theta} \exp\left(-\frac{\theta(x-\mu)^2}{2}\right)$	$\propto \theta^{a-1} \exp(-b\theta)$	Gamma
Poisson	$\propto \theta^x \exp(-\theta)$	$\propto \theta^{a-1} \exp(-b\theta)$	Gamma

# This time...

- Bayesian Net
- Belief Propagation Algorithm
- LDPC/IRA Codes

# Bayesian Net

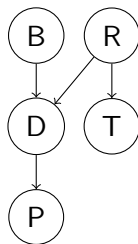
- Relationship of variables depicted by a directed graph with no loop
- Given a variable's parents, the variable is conditionally independent of any non-descendants
- Reduce model complexity
- Facilitate easier inference



# Burlgar and racoon

Burlgar: B; Racoon: R; Dog barked: D; Police called: P; Trash can fell: T

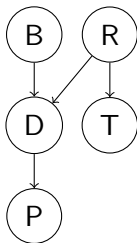
$$p(p, d, b, t, r) = p(p|d, b, t, r)p(d|b, t, r)p(b|t, r)p(t|r)p(r)$$



# Burlgar and racoon

Burlgar: B; Racoon: R; Dog barked: D; Police called: P; Trash can fell: T

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(p, d, b, t, r) &= p(p|d, b, t, r)p(d|b, t, r)p(b|t, r)p(t|r)p(r) \\
 &= \underbrace{p(p|d, \cancel{b}, \cancel{t}, \cancel{r})}_{2 \text{ parameters}}p(d|b, \cancel{t}, r)p(b|\cancel{t}, \cancel{r})p(t|r)p(r)
 \end{aligned}$$





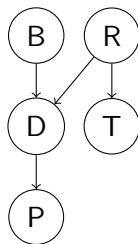
# Burlgar and racoon

Burlgar: B; Racoon: R; Dog barked: D; Police called: P; Trash can fell: T

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(p, d, b, t, r) &= p(p|d, b, t, r)p(d|b, t, r)p(b|t, r)p(t|r)p(r) \\
 &= \underbrace{p(p|d, \bar{b}, \bar{t}, f)}_{2 \text{ parameters}} p(d|b, \bar{t}, r)p(b|\bar{t}, f)p(t|r)p(r)
 \end{aligned}$$

$P$	$D$	$p(p d)$
$p$	$\neg d$	0.01
$p$	$d$	0.4
$\neg p$	$\neg d$	0.99
$\neg p$	$d$	0.6

$T$	$R$	$p(t r)$
$t$	$\neg r$	0.05
$t$	$r$	0.7
$\neg t$	$\neg r$	0.95
$\neg t$	$r$	0.3



## Burlgar and racoon

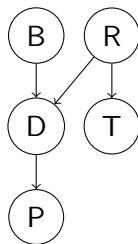
Burlgar: B; Racoon: R; Dog barked: D; Police called: P; Trash can fell: T

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(p, d, b, t, r) &= p(p|d, b, t, r)p(d|b, t, r)p(b|t, r)p(t|r)p(r) \\
 &= \underbrace{p(p|d, \bar{b}, \bar{t}, \bar{r})}_{2 \text{ parameters}} p(d|b, \bar{t}, r)p(b|\bar{t}, \bar{r})p(t|r)p(r)
 \end{aligned}$$

$P$	$D$	$p(p d)$
$p$	$\neg d$	0.01
$p$	$d$	0.4
$\neg p$	$\neg d$	0.99
$\neg p$	$d$	0.6

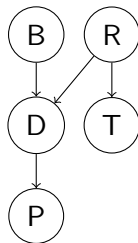
$T$	$R$	$p(t r)$
$t$	$\neg r$	0.05
$t$	$r$	0.7
$\neg t$	$\neg r$	0.95
$\neg t$	$r$	0.3

$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d b, r)$
$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.1
$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.5
$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	1
$d$	$b$	$r$	1
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.9
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.5
$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0



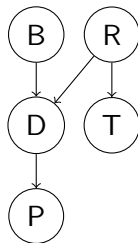
# Comparison of # parameters

- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$



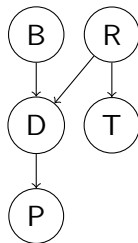
# Comparison of # parameters

- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$
- # parameters of Bayesian net:



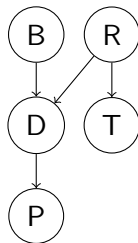
# Comparison of # parameters

- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$
- # parameters of Bayesian net:
  - $p(p|d)$ : 2



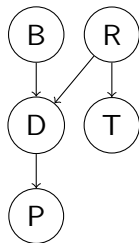
# Comparison of # parameters

- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$
- # parameters of Bayesian net:
  - $p(p|d)$ : 2
  - $p(d|b, r)$ : 4



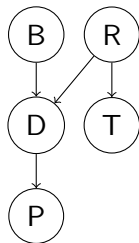
# Comparison of # parameters

- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$
- # parameters of Bayesian net:
  - $p(p|d)$ : 2
  - $p(d|b, r)$ : 4
  - $p(b)$ : 1



# Comparison of # parameters

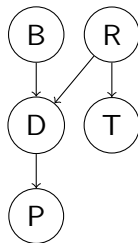
- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$
- # parameters of Bayesian net:
  - $p(p|d)$ : 2
  - $p(d|b, r)$ : 4
  - $p(b)$ : 1
  - $p(t|r)$ : 2





# Comparison of # parameters

- # parameters of complete model:  $2^5 - 1 = 31$
- # parameters of Bayesian net:
  - $p(p|d)$ : 2
  - $p(d|b, r)$ : 4
  - $p(b)$ : 1
  - $p(t|r)$ : 2
  - $p(r)$ : 1
  - Total:  $2 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 1 = 10$
- The model size reduces to less than  $\frac{1}{3}$ !



# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

Let  $p(r) = 0.2$  and  $p(b) = 0.01$

$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d b, r)$
$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.1
$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.5
$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	1
$d$	$b$	$r$	1
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.9
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.5
$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
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$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	1
$d$	$b$	$r$	1
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.9
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.5
$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0

$\Rightarrow$

$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r)$
$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.0792
$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.099
$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.008
$d$	$b$	$r$	0.002
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.7128
$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.099
$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0

# Burglar and racoon

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$P$	$D$	$p(p d)$
$p$	$\neg d$	0.01
$p$	$d$	0.4
$\neg p$	$\neg d$	0.99
$\neg p$	$d$	0.6

$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p)$
$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.0792
$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.099
$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.008
$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.002
$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.7128
$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.099
$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...				

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

$P$	$D$	$p(p d)$
$p$	$\neg d$	0.01
$p$	$d$	0.4
$\neg p$	$\neg d$	0.99
$\neg p$	$d$	0.6

$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p)$
$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.0792
$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.099
$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.008
$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.002
$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.007128
$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.00099
$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...				

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

$P$	$D$	$p(p d)$
$p$	$\neg d$	0.01
$p$	$d$	0.4
$\neg p$	$\neg d$	0.99
$\neg p$	$d$	0.6

$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p)$
$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.03168
$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.0396
$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.0032
$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.0008
$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.007128
$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.00099
$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...				

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

$T$	$R$	$p(t r)$
$t$	$\neg r$	0.05
$t$	$r$	0.7
$\neg t$	$\neg r$	0.95
$\neg t$	$r$	0.3

$T$	$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p, t)$
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.03168
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.0396
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.0032
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.0008
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.007128
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.00099
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...					

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

$T$	$R$	$p(t r)$
$t$	$\neg r$	0.05
$t$	$r$	0.7
$\neg t$	$\neg r$	0.95
$\neg t$	$r$	0.3

$T$	$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p, t)$
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.030096
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.0396
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.00304
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.0008
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.0067716
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.00099
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...					



# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

$T$	$R$	$p(t r)$
$t$	$\neg r$	0.05
$t$	$r$	0.7
$\neg t$	$\neg r$	0.95
$\neg t$	$r$	0.3

$T$	$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p, t)$
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.030096
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.01188
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.00304
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.00024
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.0067716
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.000297
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...					

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

Normalize...

$T$	$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p)$
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.030096
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.01188
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.00304
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.00024
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.0067716
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.000297
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...					

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

Normalize...

$T$	$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p)$
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.57518
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.22704
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.058099
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.0045868
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.12942
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.0056761
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...					

# Burglar and racoon

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p(b|\neg t, p) \\
 &= 0.058099 + 0.0045868 \\
 &\approx 0.0626
 \end{aligned}$$

$T$	$P$	$D$	$B$	$R$	$p(d, b, r, p)$
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.57518
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.22704
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0.058099
$\neg t$	$p$	$d$	$b$	$r$	0.0045868
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$\neg r$	0.12942
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$\neg b$	$r$	0.0056761
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$\neg r$	0
$\neg t$	$p$	$\neg d$	$b$	$r$	0
...					

# Belief Propagation Algorithm

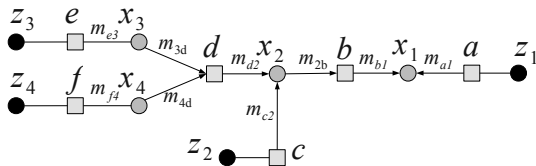
- It is also known to be the sum-product algorithm
- The goal of belief propagation is to efficiently compute the marginal distribution out of the joint distribution of multiple variables. This is essential for inferring the outcome of a particular variable with insufficient information
- The belief propagation algorithm is usually applied to problems modeled by a undirected graph (Markov random field) or a factor graph
- Rather than giving a rigorous proof of the algorithm, we will provide a simple example to illustrate the basic idea

# Factor Graph

- A factor graph is a bipartite graph describing the correlation among several random variables. It generally contains two different types of nodes in the graph: variable nodes and factor nodes
- A variable node that is usually shown as circles corresponds to a random variable
- A factor node that is usually shown as a square connects variable nodes whose corresponding variables are immediately related

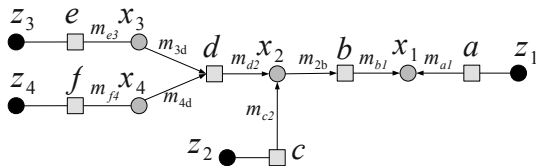
# An Example

- A factor graph example is shown below. We have 8 *discrete* random variables,  $x_1^4$  and  $z_1^4$ , depicted by 8 variable nodes



# An Example

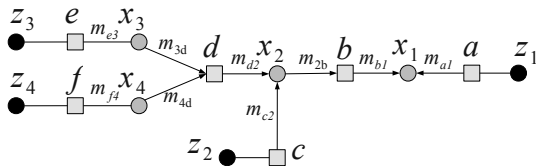
- A factor graph example is shown below. We have 8 *discrete* random variables,  $x_1^4$  and  $z_1^4$ , depicted by 8 variable nodes
- Among the variable nodes, random variables  $x_1^4$  (indicated by light circles) are unknown and variables  $z_1^4$  (indicated by dark circles) are observed with known outcomes  $\tilde{z}_1^4$





# An Example

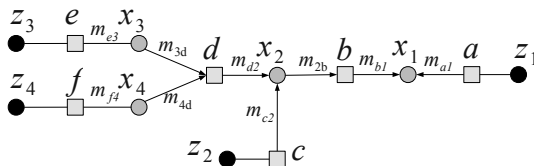
- A factor graph example is shown below. We have 8 *discrete* random variables,  $x_1^4$  and  $z_1^4$ , depicted by 8 variable nodes
- Among the variable nodes, random variables  $x_1^4$  (indicated by light circles) are unknown and variables  $z_1^4$  (indicated by dark circles) are observed with known outcomes  $\tilde{z}_1^4$
- The relationships among variables are captured entirely by the figure. For example, given  $x_1^4$ ,  $z_1$ ,  $z_2$ ,  $z_3$ , and  $z_4$  are conditional independent of each other. Moreover,  $(x_3, x_4)$  are conditional independent of  $x_1$  given  $x_2$



- The joint probability  $p(x^4, z^4)$  of all variables can be decomposed into factor functions with subsets of all variables as arguments in the following

$$p(x^4, z^4) = p(x^4)p(z_1|x_1)p(z_2|x_2)p(z_3|x_3)p(z_4|x_4)$$

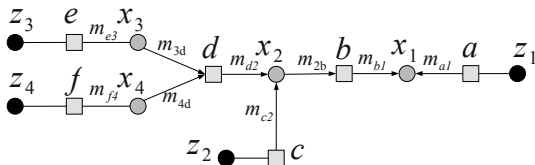
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 &= \underbrace{p(x_1, x_2)}_{f_b(x_1, x_2)} \underbrace{p(x_3, x_4|x_2)}_{f_d(x_2, x_3, x_4)} \underbrace{p(z_3|x_3)}_{f_e(x_3, z_3)} \underbrace{p(z_1|x_1)}_{f_a(x_1, z_1)} \underbrace{p(z_4|x_4)}_{f_f(x_4, z_4)} \underbrace{p(z_2|x_2)}_{f_c(x_2, z_2)}
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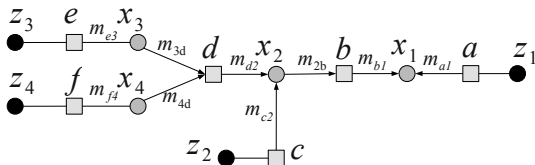
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 &= f_b(x_1, x_2)f_d(x_2, x_3, x_4)f_e(x_3, z_3)f_a(x_1, z_1)f_f(x_4, z_4)f_c(x_2, z_2)
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One common problem in probability inference is to estimate the value of a variable given incomplete information. For example, we may want to estimate  $x_1$  given  $z^4$  as  $\tilde{z}^4$ . The optimum estimate  $\hat{x}_1$  will satisfy

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This requires us to compute the marginal distribution  $p(x_1, \tilde{z}^4)$  out of the joint probability  $p(x^4, \tilde{z}^4)$ . Note that

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We can see from the last equation that the joint probability can be computed by combining a sequence of messages passing from a variable node  $i$  to a factor node  $a$  ( $m_{ia}$ ) and vice versa ( $m_{ai}$ ). More precisely, we can write

$$m_{a1}(x_1) \leftarrow f_a(x_1, \tilde{z}_1) = \sum_{z_1} f_a(x_1, z_1) \underbrace{p(z_1)}_{m_{1a}},$$

$$m_{c2}(x_2) \leftarrow f_c(x_2, \tilde{z}_2) = \sum_{z_2} f_c(x_2, z_2) \underbrace{p(z_2)}_{m_{2c}},$$

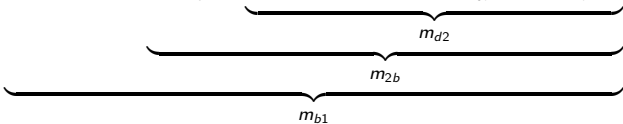
$$m_{e3}(x_3) \leftarrow f_e(x_3, \tilde{z}_3) = \sum_{z_3} f_e(x_3, z_3) \underbrace{p(z_3)}_{m_{3e}},$$

$$m_{f4}(x_4) \leftarrow f_f(x_4, \tilde{z}_4) = \sum_{z_4} f_f(x_4, z_4) \underbrace{p(z_4)}_{m_{4f}},$$

$$\text{where } p(z_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & z_i = \tilde{z}_i \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$\rho(x_1, \tilde{z}^4) = \underbrace{f_a(x_1, \tilde{z}_1)}_{m_{a1}} \sum_{x_2} f_b(x_1, x_2) \underbrace{f_c(x_2, \tilde{z}_2)}_{m_{c2}} \sum_{x_3, x_4} \underbrace{f_d(x_2, x_3, x_4)}_{m_{d2}} \underbrace{f_e(x_3, \tilde{z}_3)}_{m_{3d}} \underbrace{f_f(x_4, \tilde{z}_4)}_{m_{4d}} \quad (1)$$



$$m_{3d}(x_3) \leftarrow m_{e3}(x_3) = f_e(x_3, \tilde{z}_3),$$

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 m_{2b}(x_2) &\leftarrow m_{c2}(x_2) m_{d2}(x_2), \\
 m_{b1}(x_1) &\leftarrow \sum_{x_2} f_b(x_1, x_2) m_{2b}(x_2), \\
 p(x_1, \tilde{z}^4) &\leftarrow m_{a1}(x_1) m_{b1}(x_1),
 \end{aligned}$$

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# Belief propagation algorithm

- **Initialization:** For any variable node  $i$ , if the prior probability of  $x_i$  is known and equal to  $p(x_i)$ , for  $a \in N(i)$ ,
- **Message passing:**
- **Belief update:**
- **Stopping criteria:** repeat message update and/or belief update until the algorithm stops when maximum number of iterations is reached or some other conditions are satisfied.

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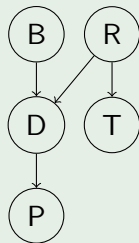
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# Remark

- We have not assumed the precise physical meanings of the factor functions themselves. The only assumption we made is that the joint probability can be decomposed into the factor functions and apparently this decomposition is not unique
- The belief propagation algorithm as shown above is exact only because the corresponding graph is a tree and has no loop. If loop exists, the algorithm is not exact and generally the final belief may not even converge
- While the result is no longer exact, applying BP algorithm for general graphs (sometimes refer to as loopy BP) works well in many applications such as LDPC decoding

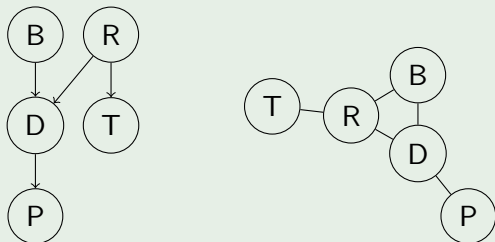
# Burglar and racoon revisit

Question: What is the probability of a burglar visit if police was called but trash can stayed untouched?



# Burglar and racoon revisit

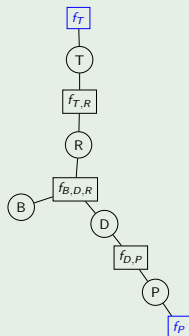
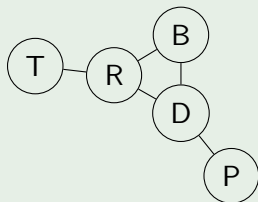
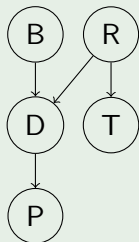
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Moralization...

# Burglar and racoon revisit

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Convert to factor graph..

## Using belief propagation...

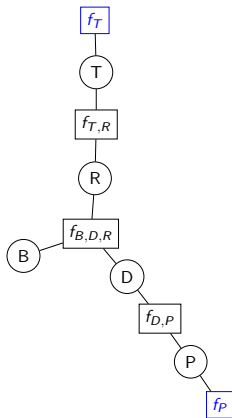
$$\begin{cases} f_P(p) &= 1 \\ f_P(\neg p) &= 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} f_T(t) &= 0 \\ f_T(\neg t) &= 1 \end{cases}$$

$$f_{B,D,R}(b, d, r) = p(b, d, r)$$

$$f_{T,R}(t, r) = p(t|r)$$

$$f_{D,P}(d, p) = p(p|d)$$



# Some History of LDPC Codes

- Before 1990's, the strategy for channel code has always been looking for codes that can be decoded optimally. This leads to a wide range of so-called algebraic codes. It turns out the “optimally-decodable” codes are usually poor codes
- Until early 1990's, researchers had basically agreed that the Shannon capacity was restricted to theoretical interest and could hardly be reached in practice
- The introduction of turbo codes gave a huge shock to the research community. The community were so dubious about the amazing performance of turbo codes that they did not accept the finding initially until independent researchers had verified the results
- The low-density parity-check (LDPC) codes were later rediscovered and both LDPC codes and turbo codes are based on the same philosophy differs from codes in the past. Instead of designing and using codes that can be decoded “optimally”, let us just pick some *random* codes and perform decoding “sub-optimally”



# LDPC Codes

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# LDPC Codes

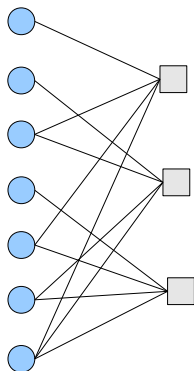
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- We learn from the proof of Channel Coding Theorem that random code is asymptotically optimum. This suggests that if we just generate a code randomly with a very long code length. It is likely that we will get a very good code.
- The problem is: how do we perform decoding? Due to the lack of structure of a random code, tricks that enable fast decoding for structured algebraic codes that were widely used before 1990's are unrealizable here
- Solution: Belief propagation!

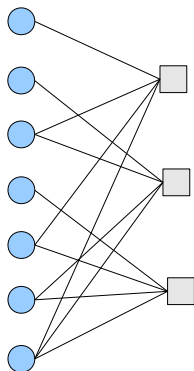
# Tanner Graph

- An LDPC code can be represented using a Tanner graph as shown on the right



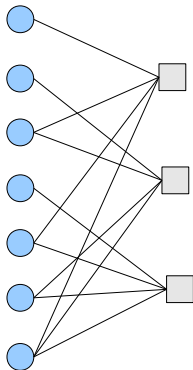
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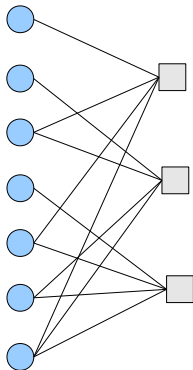
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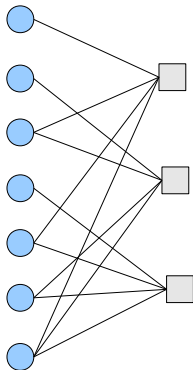
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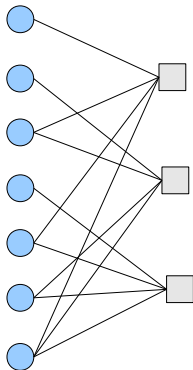
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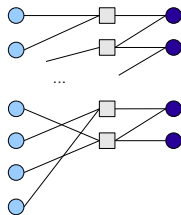
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- The vector  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$  is a codeword only if all checks are zero
- By default, the mapping between a codeword to the actual message is non-trivial for an LDPC code
- It would be great if the actual message is included in the codeword. That is, some of the bits in the codeword spell out the actual message  $\Rightarrow$  IRA codes



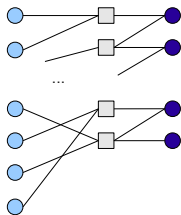
# IRA Codes

- Irregular repeated accumulate (IRA) code a type of systematic LDPC code, i.e., each codeword can be partitioned into message bits and syndrome bits



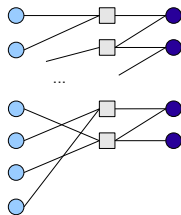
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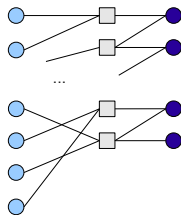
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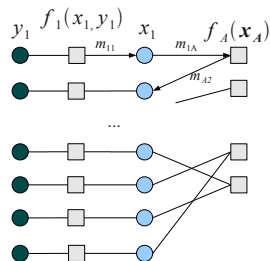
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- To ensure the top check bit is satisfied, the top syndrome bit will be set to be the sum of message bits connecting to the check
- The computed syndrome bit will then pass to the next check and again we can ensure the next check bit is satisfied by setting that second syndrome bit as the sum of message bits connecting to the check + *last syndrome bit*. All (dark blue) syndrome bits can be assigned in similar token



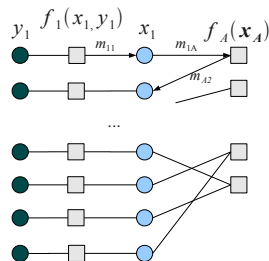
## LDPC Decoding

- $x_1, \dots, x_N$  (light blue): transmitted bits
- $y_1, \dots, y_N$  (dark grey): received bits



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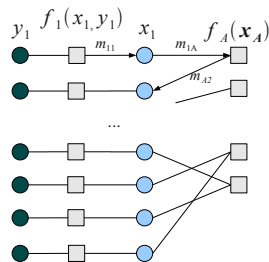
- $x_1, \dots, x_N$  (light blue): transmitted bits
- $y_1, \dots, y_N$  (dark grey): received bits
- $p(x^N, y^N) = \prod_i \underbrace{p(y_i|x_i)}_{f_i(x_i, y_i)} \underbrace{p(x^N)}_{\prod_A f_A(x_A)}$



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- $f_i(x_i, y_i) = p(y_i|x_i)$  and

$$f_A(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 0, & \mathbf{x} \text{ contains even number of 1,} \\ 1, & \mathbf{x} \text{ contains odd number of 1.} \end{cases}$$





# Variable Node Update

- Since the unknown variables are binary, it is more convenient to represent the messages using likelihood or log-likelihood ratios. Define

$$l_{ai} \triangleq \frac{m_{ai}(0)}{m_{ai}(1)}, \quad L_{ai} \triangleq \log l_{ai} \quad (2)$$

and

$$l_{ia} \triangleq \frac{m_{ia}(0)}{m_{ia}(1)}, \quad L_{ia} \triangleq \log l_{ia} \quad (3)$$

for any variable node  $i$  and factor node  $a$ .

- Then,

$$L_{ia} \leftarrow \sum_{b \in N(i) \setminus i} L_{ai}. \quad (4)$$

# Check Node Update

- Assuming that we have three variable nodes 1,2, and 3 connecting to the check node  $a$ , then the check to variable node updates become

$$m_{a1}(1) \leftarrow m_{2a}(1)m_{3a}(0) + m_{2a}(0)m_{3a}(1) \quad (5)$$

$$m_{a1}(0) \leftarrow m_{2a}(0)m_{3a}(0) + m_{2a}(1)m_{3a}(1) \quad (6)$$

- Substitute in the likelihood ratios and log-likelihood ratios, we have

$$l_{a1} \triangleq \frac{m_{a1}(0)}{m_{a1}(1)} \leftarrow \frac{1 + l_{2a}l_{3a}}{l_{2a} + l_{3a}} \quad (7)$$

and

$$e^{L_{a1}} = l_{a1} \leftarrow \frac{1 + e^{L_{2a}} e^{L_{3a}}}{e^{L_{2a}} + e^{L_{3a}}}. \quad (8)$$

- Note that

$$\tanh\left(\frac{L_{a1}}{2}\right) = \frac{e^{\frac{L_{a1}}{2}} - e^{-\frac{L_{a1}}{2}}}{e^{\frac{L_{a1}}{2}} + e^{-\frac{L_{a1}}{2}}} = \frac{e^{L_{a1}} - 1}{e^{L_{a1}} + 1} \quad (9)$$

$$\leftarrow \frac{1 + e^{L_{2a}}e^{L_{3a}} - e^{L_{2a}} - e^{L_{3a}}}{1 + e^{L_{2a}}e^{L_{3a}} + e^{L_{2a}} + e^{L_{3a}}} \quad (10)$$

$$= \frac{(e^{L_{2a}} - 1)(e^{L_{3a}} - 1)}{(e^{L_{2a}} + 1)(e^{L_{3a}} + 1)} \quad (11)$$

$$= \tanh\left(\frac{L_{2a}}{2}\right) \tanh\left(\frac{L_{3a}}{2}\right). \quad (12)$$

- When we have more than 3 variable nodes connecting to the check node  $a$ , it is easy to show using induction that

$$\tanh\left(\frac{L_{ai}}{2}\right) \leftarrow \prod_{j \in N(a) \setminus i} \tanh\left(\frac{L_{ja}}{2}\right). \quad (13)$$

# More inequalities

Lemma (Anup Rao, CSE 533, Lecture 2, Lemma 3)

If  $k \leq n/2$ , then  $\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i} \leq 2^{nH(k/n)}$

Proof.

Consider length- $n$  binary sequence  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  uniformly sampled from a set of binary sequences with at most  $k$  1's. Since there are  $\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i}$  so many sequences,  $H(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \log \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{n}{i}$ . On the other hand,  $H(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n H(X_i) = nH(k/n)$ . Raise both sides with the power of two and we get the proof  $\square$

# Example

Say we have  $2^n$  people watching a subset of  $2n$  movies. Each of them have at least watch 90% of all movies. At least two people actually watch the same set

Proof.

Let's count how many different subsets a person can watch, which is

$$\sum_{i=0.9(2n)}^{2n} \binom{2n}{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{0.1(2n)} \binom{2n}{i} \leq 2^{2nH(0.1)} < 2^n$$

since  $H(0.1) = 0.469 < 0.5$ .

As we have  $2^n$  people, by pigeon hole principle, there must be at least a pair who watched the same set □