

# Expected values of 2RVs and Joint moments (Chapter 5, 6)

With 2 random variables, we care how they vary together.

## Definition

Let  $Z = g(X, Y)$  be any function of  $X$  and  $Y$

Then 
$$E(Z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, y) f_{xy}(x, y) dy dx$$

or 
$$E(Z) = \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} g(x, y) f_{xy}(x, y)$$

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Some useful functions  $Z = g(X, Y)$

$$Z = X$$

$$Z = Y$$

$$Z = X + Y \quad (\text{sum of 2 RVs})$$

$$Z = XY \quad (\text{product of 2 RVs})$$

$$Z = g_1(X) g_2(Y) \quad (\text{product of 2 separable functions})$$

$$Z = X^i Y^j \quad (\text{a joint moment of } X \text{ and } Y)$$

(example  $Z = X^2 Y^2$ )

$$Z = (X - \mu_X)^i (Y - \mu_Y)^j \quad (\text{a joint centralized moment of } X \text{ and } Y)$$

Example:  $z = X + Y$

Easy to show that  $E(z) = E(X) + E(Y)$

proof:

$$\begin{aligned} E(z) &= E(X+Y) = \iint (x+y) f_{xy}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= \iint x f_{xy}(x,y) dy dx + \iint y f_{xy}(x,y) dx dy \\ &= \int x f_x(x) dx + \int y f_y(y) dy \\ &= E(X) + E(Y) \end{aligned}$$

Also,  $E(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + \dots + E(X_n)$

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are **independent**, and  $z = g(X, Y)$

can be decomposed into  $z = g_1(x)g_2(y)$

then  $E(z) = E(g_1(x))E(g_2(y))$

In particular,  $E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$

proof

$$\begin{aligned} E(g_1(x)g_2(y)) &= \iint g_1(x)g_2(y) f_{xy}(x,y) dy dx \\ &= \left[ \int g_1(x) f_x(x) dx \right] \left[ \int g_2(y) f_y(y) dy \right] \\ &= E(g_1(X))E(g_2(Y)) \end{aligned}$$

Example:  $z = \exp(X)Y^5$

$$E(z) = E(\exp(X))E(Y^5)$$

if and only if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

## Joint moments of $X$ and $Y$

Recall:  $E(X^n)$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  moment of  $X$

$E((X - \mu_x)^n)$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  central moment of  $X$

Joint moments  $E(X^n Y^m)$

Joint central moments  $E[(X - \mu_x)^n (Y - \mu_y)^m]$

These summarize information about the joint behavior of  $X$  and  $Y$

The more joint moments we know, the more we know about  $X$  and  $Y$  jointly

- Because while the joint PDF tells us everything about this, in practical situations it may be difficult to obtain or estimate.

**Correlation**  $E(XY) = r_{xy}$   $n=1$  and  $m=1$

If  $E(XY) = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  are said to be orthogonal but they may or may not be uncorrelated!

**Covariance**  $E((X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)) = \text{cov}(X, Y) = C_{xy}$

If  $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  are said to be uncorrelated

# Correlation coefficient

$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{\text{cov}(x, y)}{\sigma_x \sigma_y} = \frac{\text{cov}(x, y)}{\sqrt{\text{VAR}(x) \text{VAR}(y)}} = \frac{c_{xy}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$$

Note  $-1 \leq \rho_{xy} \leq 1$

$\rho_{xy} = 0$       uncorrelated  
 $\rho_{xy} > 0$       positively correlated  
 $\rho_{xy} < 0$       negatively correlated

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Be careful with the English terminology.

These are mathematical definitions.

When people, papers, and the press talk about the correlation, they often mean the correlation coefficient!

Q: Why covariance and not correlation?

A: Sometimes you don't care about the mean.

Ex: in a circuit, amplifiers are often given a large DC voltage (bias) so they'll operate as desired. The information signal is the variation about the bias. So covariance is more meaningful here.

Q: Why correlation coefficient and not covariance?

A: No units! The lack of units can make the correlation coefficient more interpretable.

# Properties of correlation, covariance, and correlation coefficient for general RVs $X$ and $Y$

Shortcut for computing covariance

$$\text{recall } \text{Var}(X) = E((X - E(X))^2) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$$

proof

$$\begin{aligned} &= E((X - E(X))(Y - E(Y))) = E(XY - E(X)Y - XE(Y) \\ &+ E(X)E(Y)) = E(XY) - E(X)E(Y) - E(X)E(Y) + E(X)E(Y) \end{aligned}$$

More properties

$$\text{Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X)$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \text{Cov}(Y, X)$$

$$\text{Var}(X + Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + \underline{2 \text{Cov}(X, Y)}$$

proof

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X + Y) &= E((X + Y)^2) - E(X + Y)^2 \\ &= E[X^2 + 2XY + Y^2] - (E(X) + E(Y))^2 \\ &= E(X^2) + 2E(XY) + E(Y^2) \\ &\quad - E(X)^2 - 2E(X)E(Y) - E(Y)^2 \\ &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 + 2[E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)] \\ &\quad + E(Y^2) - E(Y)^2 \\ &= \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y) + 2 \text{Cov}(X, Y) \end{aligned}$$

↑ cross-term

disappears  
ONLY if  
 $X$  and  $Y$  are  
uncorrelated

$$\text{Cov}(aX + b, cY + d) = ac \text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X + Y, U + V) &= \text{Cov}(X, U) + \text{Cov}(X, V) \\ &\quad + \text{Cov}(Y, U) + \text{Cov}(Y, V) \end{aligned}$$

The most  
general.  
All relationships  
can be  
derived  
from this  
one

$$|E(XY)| \leq \sqrt{E(X^2)E(Y^2)}$$

$$|\text{Cov}(X, Y)| \leq \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)\text{Var}(Y)}$$

Interpreting the correlation coefficient.

— indicates the strength of the linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$

Suppose you want to estimate a RV  $Y$  from another RV  $X$  using a linear relationship.

Model:  $Y = aX + b + N$

What's  $E(Y)$ ,  $\text{Var}(Y)$ ,  $\rho_{xy}$ ?

The noise RV  $N$  indicates it may not be an exact linear relationship

Define  $E(X) = \mu$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2$

$E(Y) = E(aX + b + N) = a\mu + b + E(N)$

Assume  $E(N) = 0$

$\text{Var}(Y) = \text{Var}(aX + b + N)$

$= \text{Var}(aX) + \text{var}(N) + 2\text{cov}(aX, N)$

$= a^2\sigma^2 + \sigma_N^2$

Assume noise uncorrelated with signal

$E(XY) = E(aX^2 + bX + XN)$

$= aE(X^2) + b\mu$

and since  $\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \mu^2$ ,  
 $E(X^2) = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$

so  $E(XY) = a\sigma^2 + a\mu^2 + b\mu$

and, finally,

$\rho_{xy} = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{var}(X)\text{var}(Y)}} = \frac{E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)}{\sigma \sqrt{a^2\sigma^2 + \sigma_N^2}}$

simplifying

$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{a\sigma^2 + a\mu^2 + bu - \mu(a\mu + b)}{\sigma \sqrt{a^2\sigma^2 + \sigma_N^2}}$$

$$= \frac{a\sigma}{\sqrt{a^2\sigma^2 + \sigma_N^2}}$$

depends on  $\sigma_N^2$

Interpretation:  $\rho_{xy}$  describes how effective the linear relationship is

If  $Y \approx aX + b$  is an accurate approximation, then  $\sigma_N^2$  is small and

$$\rho_{xy} \rightarrow \frac{a\sigma}{|a|\sigma} = \pm 1 \quad \text{as } \sigma_N^2 \rightarrow 0$$

If  $Y \approx aX + b$  is less accurate,  $\sigma_N^2$  larger,

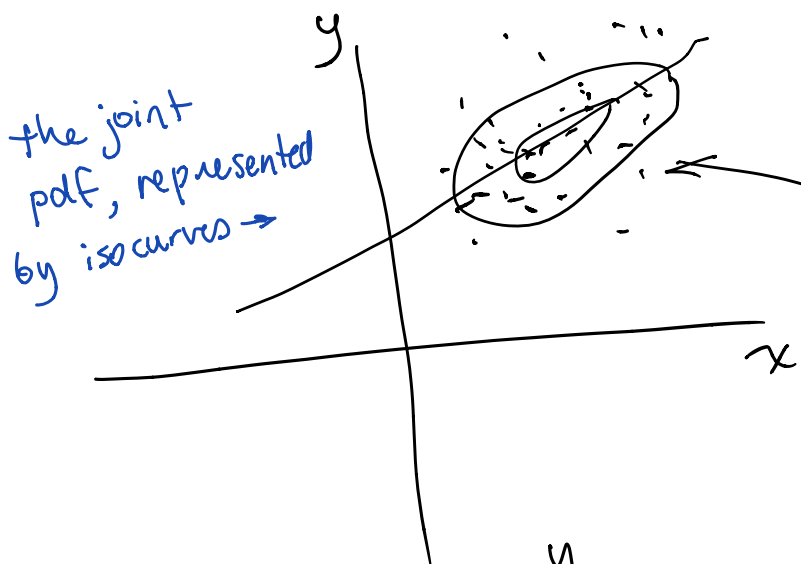
then  $\rho_{xy} \approx \frac{a\sigma}{\sigma_N} \rightarrow 0$  as  $\sigma_N^2$  grows

If  $\rho = 0$ , there is no linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ .

if  $\rho = \pm 1$  there is a direct linear relationship

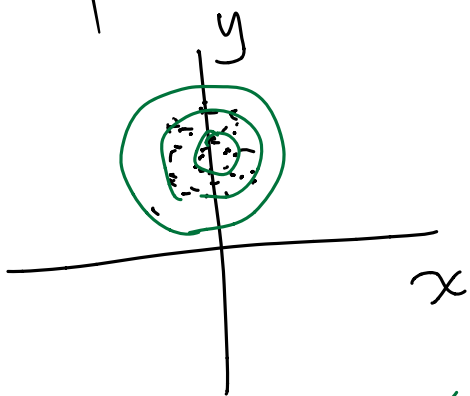


# Scatter plot examples

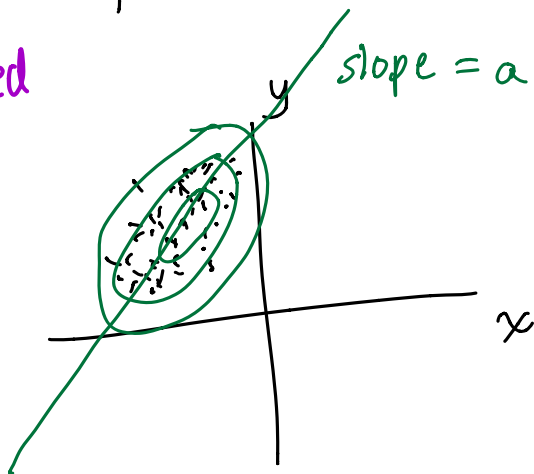


(these represent equal height contours for the joint pdf of  $X$  and  $Y$ )  
(lines for which  $f_{xy}(x,y) = c$  for different  $c$ .)

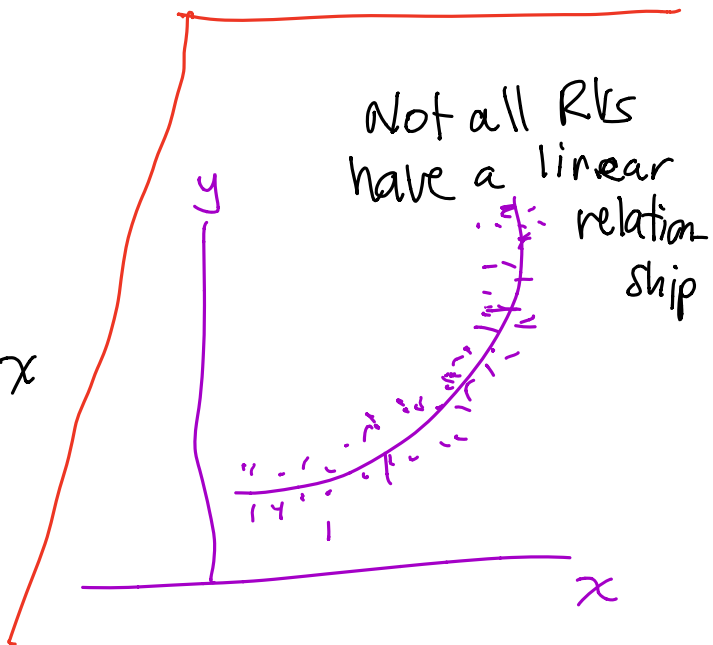
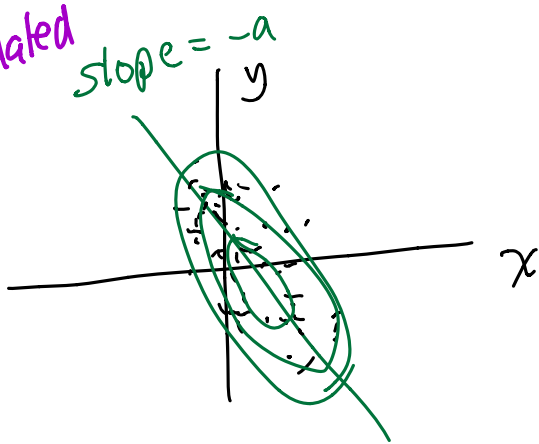
uncorrelated  
 $\rho \approx 0$



positively correlated  
 $\rho \approx 0.8$



negatively correlated  
 $\rho \approx -0.8$



## Covariance, correlation, and independence

Recall,  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent

if and only if  $f_{xy}(x, y) = f_x(x)f_y(y)$

for all  $x$  and all  $y$

if  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent, then  $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$

why? easy to prove...

Be careful, the reverse is not always true.

if  $\text{cov}(X, Y) = 0$ ,  $X$  and  $Y$  may not be  
independent!

Example: uncorrelated but NOT independent.

example 5.27

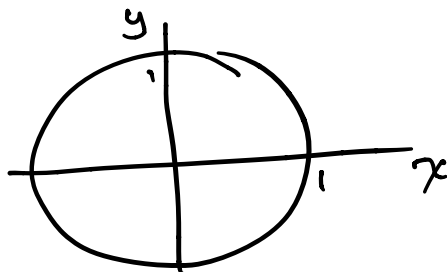
$\Theta$  is a uniformly distributed angle,  $(0, 2\pi)$

$$X = \cos \Theta$$

$$Y = \sin \Theta$$

$(x, y)$  are on the unit circle

Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent?  
Uncorrelated?



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To show independence, you must be able to show

$$f_{xy}(x, y) = f_x(x) f_y(y) \text{ for all } x \text{ and } y.$$

But note that the region of support for

$f_{xy}(x, y)$  is on the unit circle.

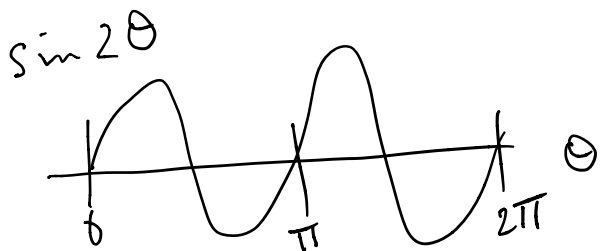
So we know immediately that they are NOT independent, because a circle is not in product form

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What is  $\text{COV}(X, Y)$ ?  $= E(XY) - E(X)E(Y)$   
 $= E(XY)$  because  $E(X) = 0$

$$E(XY) = E(\cos \Theta \sin \Theta) = E\left(\frac{\sin 2\Theta}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \sin 2\Theta d\Theta = 0$$



$\Rightarrow X$  and  $Y$  are uncorrelated but not independent!

## Summary for independent RVs

Independent RVs are always uncorrelated

Uncorrelated RVs may not be independent

Uncorrelated joint Gaussian RVs are independent

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Independent RVs ONLY

$$E(g_1(x) g_2(y)) = E(g_1(x)) E(g_2(y))$$

$$r_{xy} = E(XY) = E(X)E(Y)$$

$$C_{xy} = \text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$$

$$\text{Var}(X+Y) = \text{Var}(X) + \text{Var}(Y)$$

no  
cross term

and of course

$$f_{xy}(x, y) = f_x(x) f_y(y)$$

$$f_x(x|y) = f_x(x)$$

(next topic..)