

1

STOCHASTIC ESTIMATION

Review of Probabilistic  
Concepts

2

SCALAR RANDOM VARIABLES

- Let  $x$  be a random variable, the outcome of a probabilistic experiment.
- Let  $p(x)$  denote probability density function of  $x$ .

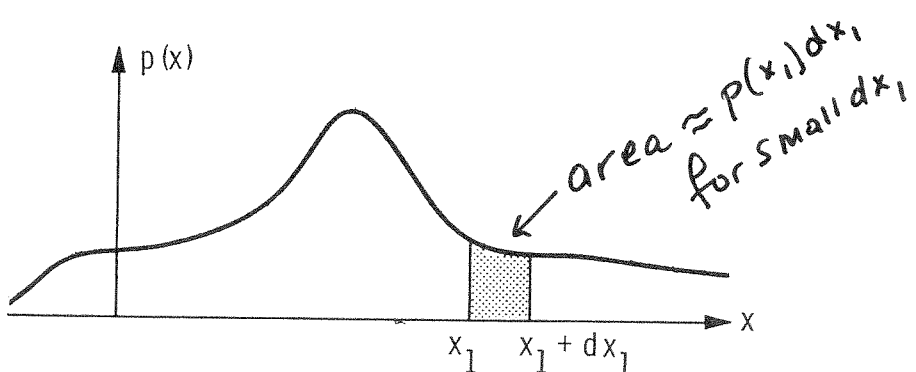
Then

$$p(x_1) dx_1 = \text{probability that the value of } x \text{ will be in the interval } x_1 \leq x \leq x_1 + dx_1$$

 (1)

3

VISUALIZATION



Note:

$$p(x) \geq 0 ; \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x) dx = 1$$
 (2)

#### 4

#### EXPECTED VALUES

• Definition

$$E\{x\} \triangleq \bar{x} \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x) dx \quad (3)$$

$$E\{f(x)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) p(x) dx \quad (4)$$

• Note:

$$E\{x - \bar{x}\} = 0$$

(5) *from (4) with  $f(x) = x - \bar{x}$*

#### 5

#### VARIANCE

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[x] &\triangleq E\{(x - \bar{x})^2\} \\ &\triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x - \bar{x})^2 p(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

(6) *from (4) with  $f(x) = (x - \bar{x})^2$*

• variance = (standard deviation)<sup>2</sup>

• We shall also write

$$\text{cov}[x; x] = \text{var}[x] \quad (7)$$

#### 6

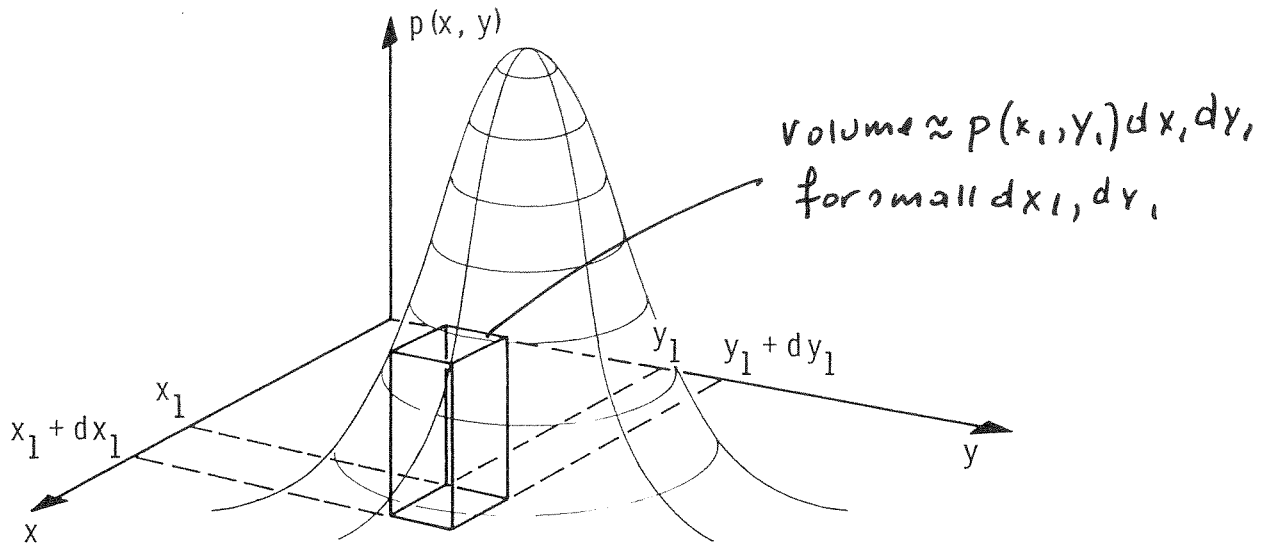
#### JOINT DENSITIES

• x and y are random variables.

• p(x, y) = joint probability density function

$\begin{aligned} p(x_1, y_1) dx_1 dy_1 &= \text{probability that} \\ x_1 \leq x \leq x_1 + dx_1 &\quad \text{AND} \\ y_1 \leq y \leq y_1 + dy_1 \end{aligned}$	(8)
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7



8

EXPECTED VALUES

$$\bar{x} \triangleq E\{x\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x, y) dx dy \quad (9)$$

$$\bar{y} \triangleq E\{y\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y p(x, y) dx dy \quad (10)$$

$$E\{f(x, y)\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x, y) p(x, y) dx dy \quad (11)$$

9

VARIANCES

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[x] &\triangleq \Sigma_x \triangleq E\{(x - \bar{x})^2\} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x - \bar{x})^2 p(x, y) dx dy \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[y] &= \Sigma_y = E\{(y - \bar{y})^2\} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (y - \bar{y})^2 p(x, y) dx dy \end{aligned}$$

(12) from (11) using  $f(x, y) = (x - \bar{x})^2$

(13) from (11) with  $f(x, y) = (y - \bar{y})^2$

## 10

### COVARIANCE AND CORRELATION

#### • Covariance

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_{xy} &\triangleq \text{cov}[x; y] \triangleq E\{(x-\bar{x})(y-\bar{y})\} \\ &\triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x-\bar{x})(y-\bar{y}) p(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \text{cov}[y; x]\end{aligned}$$

from (11) with  
(14)  $f(x, y) = (x-\bar{x})(y-\bar{y})$

#### • Correlation (common in statistical analyses)

$$\rho(x, y) = \frac{\Sigma_{xy}}{\sqrt{\Sigma_x \Sigma_y}} \quad (15)$$

$$|\rho(x, y)| \leq 1 \quad (16)$$

## 11

### INDEPENDENCE

#### • If $x$ and $y$ are independent random variables

$$p(x, y) = p(x) p(y) \quad (17)$$

#### • Implications

$$E\{xy\} = E\{x\} E\{y\} = \bar{x} \bar{y} \quad (18)$$

$$\text{cov}[x; y] = E\{(x-\bar{x})(y-\bar{y})\} \quad (19)$$

$$= E\{x-\bar{x}\} \cdot E\{y-\bar{y}\} = 0$$

$$\rho(x, y) = 0 \quad (20)$$

If  $\rho(x, y) = 0$ ,  
this does not  
necessarily mean  
that  $x$  and  $y$   
are independent  
RVs.

## 12

### PROPERTIES

$$p(x, y) \geq 0 \quad (21)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x, y) dx dy = 1 \quad (22)$$

### 13

#### OTHER DEFINITIONS

• Marginal density

$$p(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x, y) dy \quad (23)$$

$$p(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x, y) dx \quad (24)$$

• Conditional density

$$p(x | y) \quad \text{or} \quad p(y | x) \quad (25)$$

### 14

#### INTERPRETATION

$$p(x, y) = \text{joint density } \overset{\text{prob.}}{\text{function}} \text{ (PDF)} \quad (26)$$

$$p(x | y) = \text{conditional density of } x \overset{\text{prob.}}{\text{function}} \text{ given the value of } y \quad (27)$$

$$p(x_1 | y_1) dx_1 = \text{probability that } x_1 \leq x \leq x_1 + dx_1 \text{ given that we have seen the value } y = y_1 \quad (28)$$

### 15

#### BAYES RULE

*Relates joint, marginal, and conditional PDFs*

$$p(x, y) = p(x | y) p(y) = p(y | x) p(x) \quad (29)$$

• If  $x, y$  independent

$$p(x | y) = p(x) \quad (30)$$

$$p(y | x) = p(y) \quad (31)$$

16

CONDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS

$$E\{x|y\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x|y) dx \quad (32)$$

= a function of  $y$

$$E\{y|x\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y p(y|x) dy \quad (33)$$

= a function of  $x$

• Note:  $E\{x|y\} \neq E\{x\}$   
 $E\{y|x\} \neq E\{y\}$  equality would hold if  $x$  and  $y$  were independent RVs

17

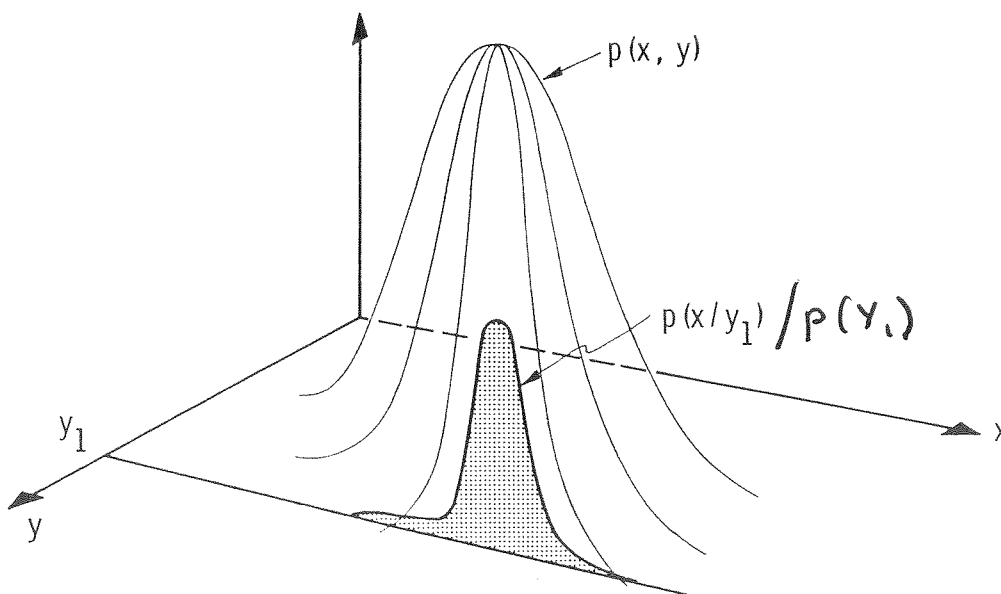
CONDITIONAL VARIANCES

$$\text{var}[x|y] = E\{(x - E\{x|y\})^2 | y\} \quad (34)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x - E\{x|y\})^2 p(x|y) dx$$

= a function of  $y$

18



19

Example

- $x$  = weight  
 $y$  = height

$$E\{x\} = 152 \text{ lbs}$$

$$E\{y\} = 5 \text{ ft } 8 \text{ in}$$

$$E\{x|y = 6 \text{ ft } 3 \text{ in}\} = 195 \text{ lbs}$$

$$E\{y|x = 30 \text{ lbs}\} = 3 \text{ ft } 2 \text{ in}$$

20

RANDOM VECTORS

- $\underline{x}$  n-dimensional random vector

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (35)$$

$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are scalar random variables, jointly distributed

- Joint Density (Joint PDF)

$$p(\underline{x}) = p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \quad (36)$$

All  $x_i$  may be dependent RVs!

21

EXPECTATION

$$E\{\underline{x}\} \triangleq \underline{\bar{x}} \triangleq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \underline{x} p(\underline{x}) d\underline{x} \quad (37) \text{ shorthand for (39)}$$

$$E\{\underline{x}\} = \begin{bmatrix} E\{x_1\} \\ E\{x_2\} \\ \dots \\ E\{x_n\} \end{bmatrix} \quad (38)$$

$$E\{x_i\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x_i p(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n \quad (39) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$E\{f(\underline{x})\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\underline{x}) p(\underline{x}) d\underline{x} \quad (40)$$

22

Example:  $\underline{A}, \underline{b}$  deterministic

use  $f(x) = \underline{A}x + \underline{b}$  in (40)

$$E\{\underline{A}\underline{x} + \underline{b}\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\underline{A}\underline{x} + \underline{b}) p(\underline{x}) d\underline{x} \quad (41)$$

$$= \underline{A} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \underline{x} p(\underline{x}) d\underline{x}}_{E\{\underline{x}\}} + \underline{b} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(\underline{x}) d\underline{x}}_1$$

$$\rightarrow E\{\underline{A}\underline{x} + \underline{b}\} = \underline{A} E\{\underline{x}\} + \underline{b} \quad (42)$$

23

COVARIANCE MATRIX

•  $\underline{x} \in R_n$ , random vector

$$\underline{\Sigma} \triangleq \text{cov}[\underline{x}; \underline{x}] \triangleq E\{(\underline{x} - \bar{\underline{x}})(\underline{x} - \bar{\underline{x}})'\} \quad (43)$$

$$\underline{\Sigma} \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} \text{cov}[x_1; x_1] & \text{cov}[x_1; x_2] & \dots & \text{cov}[x_1; x_n] \\ \text{cov}[x_1; x_2] & \text{cov}[x_2; x_2] & \dots & \text{cov}[x_2; x_n] \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \text{cov}[x_n; x_1] & \text{cov}[x_n; x_2] & \dots & \text{cov}[x_n; x_n] \end{bmatrix} \quad (44)$$

•  $\underline{\Sigma}$  symmetric, positive semidefinite  $n \times n$  matrix.

24

LINEAR COMBINATIONS OF INDEPENDENT RANDOM VECTORS

•  $\underline{x}, \underline{y}$  independent random vectors  $\Rightarrow$

$$p(\underline{x}, \underline{y}) = p(\underline{x}) p(\underline{y}) \quad (45)$$

• Mean Calculation

$$E\{\underline{A}\underline{x} + \underline{B}\underline{y}\} = \underline{A} E\{\underline{x}\} + \underline{B} E\{\underline{y}\}$$

(46) True also for dependent RVs

• Note:

$$\text{cov}[\underline{x}; \underline{y}] = \underline{0} \quad (47)$$



25

- Covariance Calculation ( $x$  and  $y$  independent)

$$\underline{z} = \underline{A} \underline{x} + \underline{B} \underline{y} \quad (48)$$

- Let

$$\underline{\Sigma}_z = \text{cov} [\underline{z}; \underline{z}] \quad (49)$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \underline{\Sigma}_x &= \text{cov} [\underline{x}; \underline{x}] \\ \underline{\Sigma}_y &= \text{cov} [\underline{y}; \underline{y}] \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (50)$$

- Then

$$\boxed{\underline{\Sigma}_z = \underline{A} \underline{\Sigma}_x \underline{A}' + \underline{B} \underline{\Sigma}_y \underline{B}'}$$

(51) Key equation!

26

GAUSSIAN RANDOM VARIABLES

- $x$ : scalar Gaussian random variable (Gaussian = normal)

$$E \{ x \} = \bar{x}, \quad \text{var} [ x ] = \Sigma \quad (52)$$

- Gaussian Density Function

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sqrt{\Sigma}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\Sigma} (x - \bar{x})^2 \right\} \quad (53)$$

often we use shorthand  
 $x \sim N(\bar{x}, \Sigma)$

27

GAUSSIAN RANDOM VECTORS

- $\underline{x}$ : n-dimensional Gaussian random vector with

$$\bar{\underline{x}} = E \{ \underline{x} \}; \quad \underline{\Sigma} = \text{cov} [\underline{x}; \underline{x}] \quad (54)$$

often we use shorthand  
 $\underline{x} \sim N(\bar{\underline{x}}, \underline{\Sigma})$

- Gaussian Density Function

$$p(\underline{x}) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} (\det \underline{\Sigma})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad (55)$$

$$\exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (\underline{x} - \bar{\underline{x}})' \underline{\Sigma}^{-1} (\underline{x} - \bar{\underline{x}}) \right\}$$

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28

FACTS

- If  $\underline{x}, \underline{y}$  independent Gaussian random vectors
- Then, the random vector

$$\underline{z} = \underline{A} \underline{x} + \underline{B} \underline{y} \quad (56)$$

is also Gaussian.

- Rule: Linearity preserves gaussian distribution.

God made gaussian RVs and linear transformations to live in harmony!

