

ME 597: AUTONOMOUS MOBILE ROBOTICS SECTION 2 – PROBABILITY

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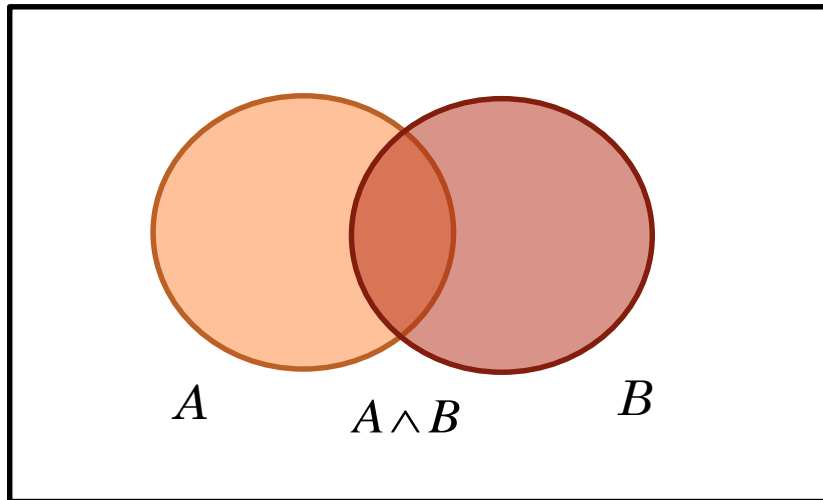
PROBABILITY

- $p(A)$: Probability that A is true

$$0 \leq p(A) \leq 1$$

$$p(\text{True}) = 1, p(\text{False}) = 0$$

$$p(A \vee B) = p(A) + p(B) - p(A \wedge B)$$



PROBABILITY

○ Discrete Random Variable

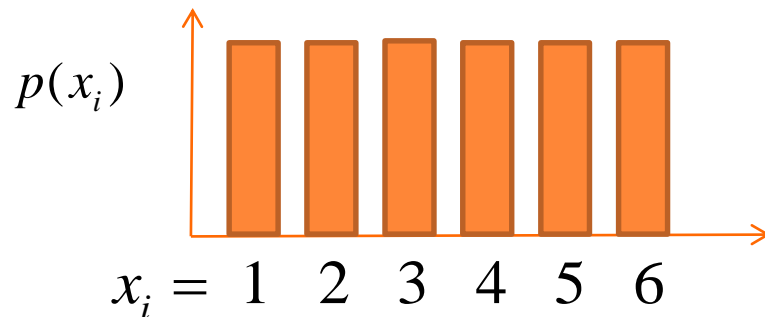
- X denotes a random variable
- X can take on a countable number of values

$$X \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$$

- The probability that X takes on a specific value

$$p(X = x_i) \text{ or } p(x_i)$$

- A 6-sided die's discrete probability distribution



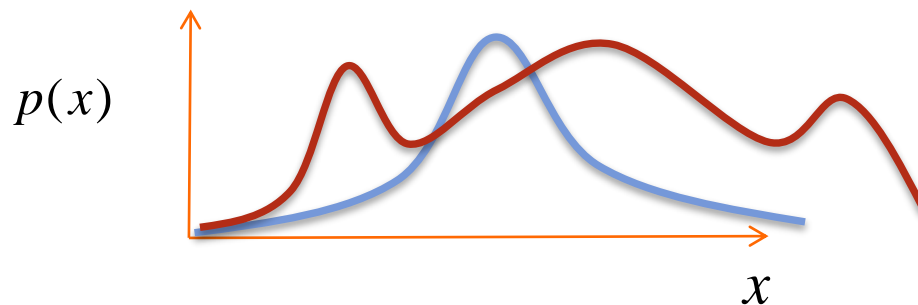
$$\sum_{i=1}^n p(x_i) = 1$$

PROBABILITY

○ Continuous Random Variable

- X takes on a value in a continuum
- Probability density function, $p(X=x)$ or $p(x)$
- Evaluated over finite intervals of the continuum

$$p(x \in (a, b)) = \int_a^b p(x) dx$$



PROBABILITY

○ Measures of Distributions

• Mean

- Expected value of a random variable

$$\mu = E[X]$$

$$\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i p(x_i) \text{ discrete case}$$

$$\mu = \int xp(x)dx \text{ continuous case}$$

• Variance

- Measure of the variability of a random variable

$$\text{Var}(X) = E[(X - \mu)^2]$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 p(x_i) \text{ discrete case}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \int (x - \mu)^2 p(x)dx \text{ continuous case}$$

- Square root of variance is standard deviation, $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X)$

PROBABILITY

- Multi-variable distributions
 - Vector of random variables

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ \vdots \\ X_n \end{bmatrix}$$

- Mean

$$\mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mu_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E[X_1] \\ \vdots \\ E[X_n] \end{bmatrix}$$

PROBABILITY

○ Multi-variable distributions

• Covariance

- Measure of how much two random variables change together

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) &= E[(X_i - \mu_i)(X_j - \mu_j)] \\ &= E[X_i X_j] - \mu_i \mu_j \end{aligned}$$

- If $\text{Cov}(X, Y) > 0$, when X is above its expected value, then Y tends to be above its expected value
- If $\text{Cov}(X, Y) < 0$, when X is above its expected value, then Y tends to be below its expected value
- If X, Y are independent, $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$

PROBABILITY

- Multi-variable distribution

- Covariance Matrix, Σ

- Defines variational relationship between each pair of random variables

$$\Sigma_{i,j} = Cov(X_i, X_j)$$

- Generalization of variance, diagonal elements represent variance of each random variable

$$Cov(X_i, X_i) = Var(X_i)$$

- Covariance matrix is symmetric, positive semi-definite

PROBABILITY

- Multiplication by a constant matrix yields

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}(Ax) &= E[(Ax - A\mu)(Ax - A\mu)^T] \\ &= E[A(x - \mu)(x - \mu)^T A^T] \\ &= AE[(x - \mu)(x - \mu)^T]A^T \\ &= A\text{cov}(x)A^T\end{aligned}$$

PROBABILITY

- Addition/Subtraction of random variables

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}(X \pm Y) &= E \left[\left((X - \mu_x) \pm (Y - \mu_y) \right) \left((X - \mu_x) \pm (Y - \mu_y) \right)^T \right] \\ &= E \left[(X - \mu_x)(X - \mu_x)^T \pm (X - \mu_x)(Y - \mu_y)^T \right. \\ &\quad \left. \pm (Y - \mu_y)(X - \mu_x)^T + (Y - \mu_y)(Y - \mu_y)^T \right] \\ &= \text{cov}(X) + \text{cov}(Y) \pm 2\text{cov}(X, Y)\end{aligned}$$

- If X,Y independent,

$$\text{cov}(X \pm Y) = \text{cov}(X) + \text{cov}(Y)$$

PROBABILITY

○ Joint Probability

- Probability of x and y :

$$p(X = x \text{ and } Y = y) = p(x, y)$$

- e.g. probability of clouds and rain today

○ Independence

- If X, Y are independent, then

$$p(x, y) = p(x)p(y)$$

- e.g. probability of two heads coin-flips in a row is $\frac{1}{4}$

PROBABILITY

○ Conditional Probability

- Probability of x given y

$$p(X = x | Y = y) = p(x | y)$$

- Probability of KD for dinner, given a Waterloo engineer is cooking

- Relation to joint probability

$$p(x | y) = \frac{p(x, y)}{p(y)}$$

- If X and Y are independent,

$$p(x | y) = p(x)$$

- Follows from the above

PROBABILITY

- Law of Total Probability

Discrete

$$\sum_x p(x) = 1$$

$$p(x) = \sum_y p(x, y)$$

$$p(x) = \sum_y p(x | y) p(y)$$

Continuous

$$\int p(x) dx = 1$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x, y) dy$$

$$p(x) = \int p(x | y) p(y) dy$$

PROBABILITY

○ Probability distribution

- It is possible to define a discrete probability distribution as a column vector

$$p(X = x) = \begin{bmatrix} p(X = x_1) \\ \vdots \\ p(X = x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

- The conditional probability can then be a matrix

$$p(x | y) = \begin{bmatrix} p(x_1 | y_1) & \cdots & p(x_1 | y_m) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p(x_n | y_1) & \cdots & p(x_n | y_m) \end{bmatrix}$$

PROBABILITY

○ Discrete Random Variable

- And the Law of Total Probabilities becomes

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \sum_y p(x | y) p(y) \\ &= p(x | y) \cdot p(y) \end{aligned}$$

- Note, each column of $p(x | y)$ must sum to 1

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_x p(x | y) &= \sum_x \frac{p(x, y)}{p(y)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_x p(y, x)}{p(y)} = \frac{p(y)}{p(y)} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Relation of joint
and conditional
probabilities

Total probability

PROBABILITY

○ Bayes Theorem

- From definition of conditional probability

$$p(x | y) = \frac{p(x, y)}{p(y)}, \quad p(y | x) = \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)}$$

$$p(x | y)p(y) = p(x, y) = p(y | x)p(x)$$

- Bayes Theorem defines how to update one's beliefs about X given a known (new) value of y

$$p(x | y) = \frac{p(y | x)p(x)}{p(y)} = \frac{\textit{likelihood} \cdot \textit{prior}}{\textit{evidence}}$$

PROBABILITY

○ Bayes Theorem

- If Y is a measurement and X is the current vehicle state, Bayes Theorem can be used to update the state estimate given a new measurement
 - Prior: probabilities that the vehicle is in any of the possible states
 - Likelihood: probability of getting the measurement that occurred given every possible state is the true state
 - Evidence: probability of getting the specific measurement recorded

$$p(x | y) = \frac{p(y | x)p(x)}{p(y)} = \frac{\textit{likelihood} \cdot \textit{prior}}{\textit{evidence}}$$

PROBABILITY

○ Bayes Theorem

- Example: Drug testing
 - A drug test is 99% sensitive (will correctly identify a drug user 99% of the time)
 - The drug test is also 99% specific (will correctly identify a non-drug user 99% of the time)
 - A company tests its employees, 0.5% of whom are drug users
 - What's the probability that a positive test result indicates an actual drug user?

33%, 66%, 97%, 99% ???



PROBABILITY

○ Bayes Theorem

- Example: Drug Testing

- Employees are either users or non-users

$$X = \{u, n\}$$

- The test is either positive or negative

$$Y = \{\rho, \eta\}$$

- We want to find the probability that an employee is a user given the test is positive. Applying Bayes Theorem:

$$p(u | \rho) = \frac{p(\rho | u)p(u)}{p(\rho)} = \frac{\textit{likelihood} \cdot \textit{prior}}{\textit{evidence}}$$

PROBABILITY

○ Bayes Theorem

- Example: Drug Testing

- Prior: Probability that an individual is a drug user

$$p(u) = 0.005$$

- Likelihood: Probability that a test is positive given an individual is a drug user

$$p(\rho | u) = 0.99$$

- Evidence: Total probability of a positive test result

$$\begin{aligned} p(\rho) &= p(\rho | u)p(u) + p(\rho | n)p(n) \\ &= (0.99)(0.005) + (0.01)(0.995) = 0.0143 \end{aligned}$$

PROBABILITY

○ Bayes Theorem

• Example: Drug Testing

- Finally, the probability an individual is a drug user given a test is positive

$$\begin{aligned} p(u | \rho) &= \frac{p(\rho | u) p(u)}{p(\rho)} \\ &= \frac{(0.99)(0.005)}{(0.0149)} = 0.3322 \end{aligned}$$

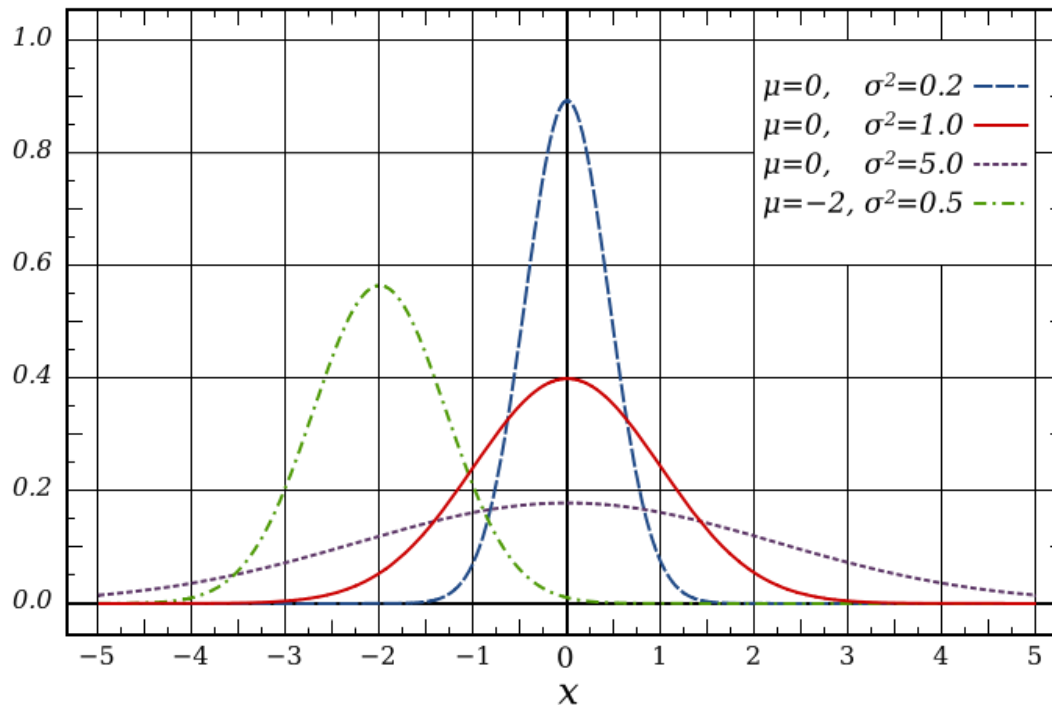
- 33% chance of that positive test result has caught a drug user. That's not a great test!
- Difficulty lies in the large number of non-drug users that are tested
 - Hard to find a needle in the haystack with a low resolution camera.

PROBABILITY

○ Gaussian Distribution (Normal)

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

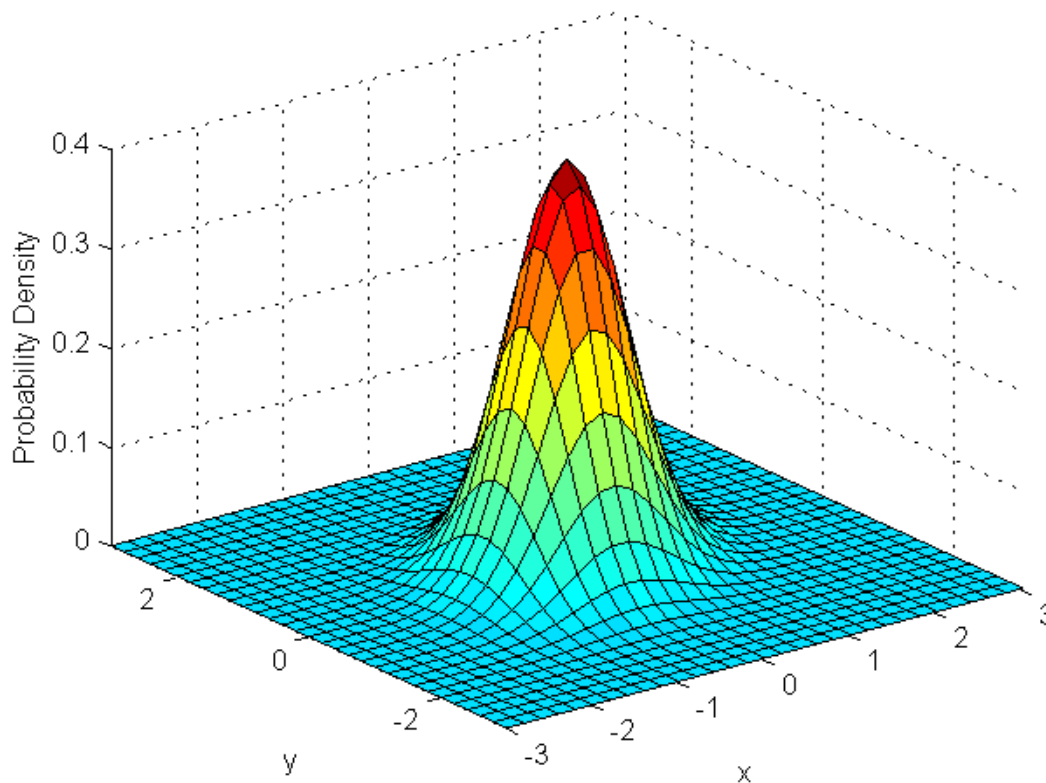
$$p(x) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$



PROBABILITY

- Multivariate Gaussian Distribution (Normal)

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi\Sigma)}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})} \quad p(\mathbf{x}) \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$$



PROBABILITY

- Properties of Gaussians

- Linear combinations

$$x \sim N(\mu, \Sigma), \quad y = Ax + B$$

$$y \sim N(A\mu + B, A\Sigma A^T)$$

- The result remains Gaussian!
 - Note: exclamation point, because this is somewhat surprising, and does not hold for multiplication, division.
 - Let's take a look

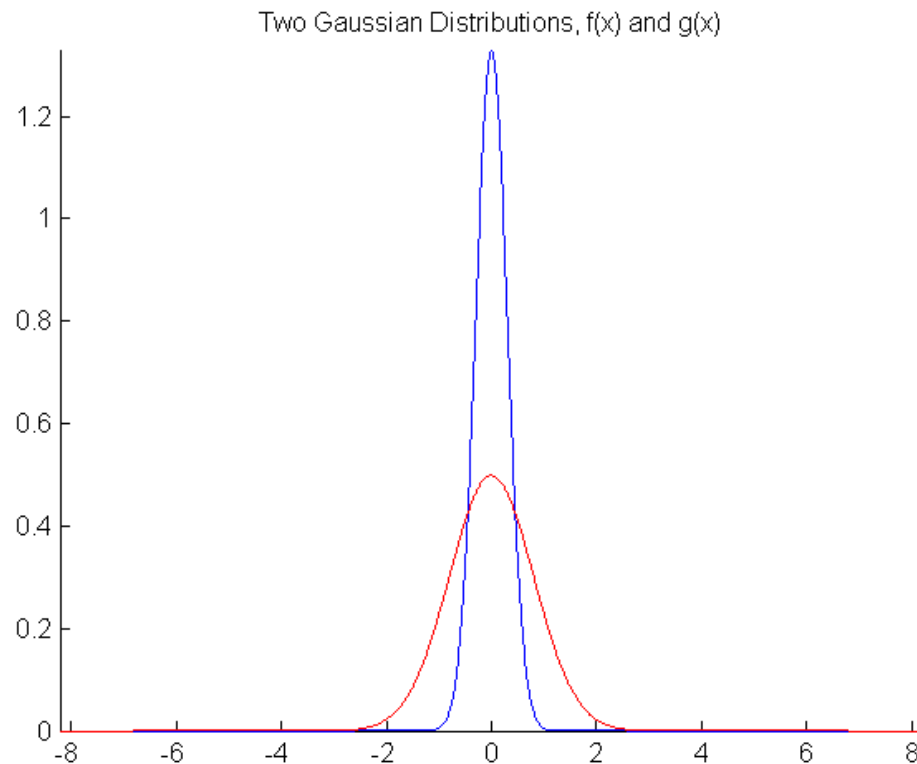
PROBABILITY

- Demonstration of combination of Gaussians
 - A tale of two univariate Gaussians
 - Define two Gaussians (zero mean)
 - Generate many samples from each distribution (5,000,000)
 - Combine these samples linearly, one sample from each distribution at a time
 - Multiply these samples
 - Divide these samples
 - Create histograms of the resulting samples
 - Take mean and variance of resulting samples
 - Generate Gaussian fit and compare

PROBABILITY

- Demonstration of combination of Gaussians
 - A tale of two univariate Gaussians

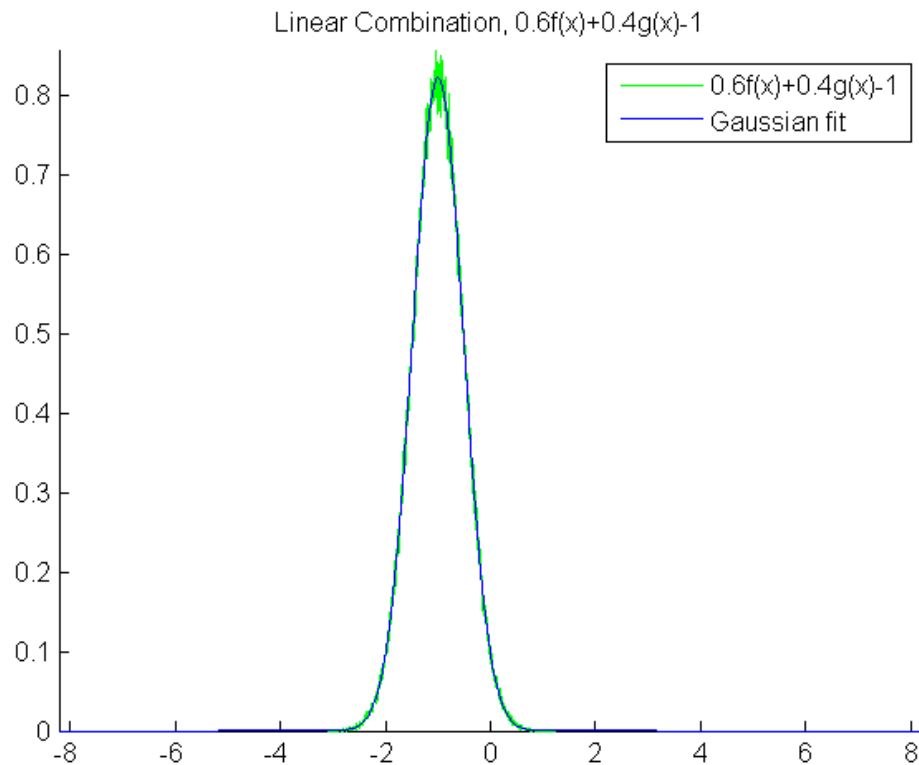
$$f(x) \sim N(0, 0.3^2) \quad g(x) \sim N(0, 0.8^2)$$



PROBABILITY

- Demonstration of combination of Gaussians
 - Linear combination

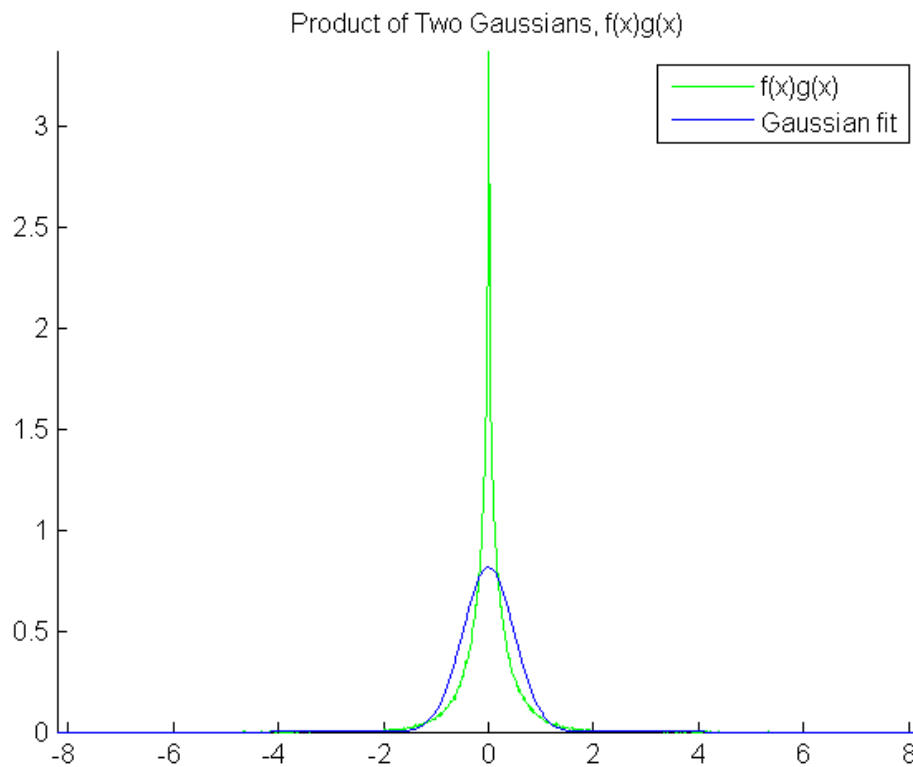
$$0.6f(x) + 0.4g(x) - 1 \sim N(-1, 0.62^2)$$



PROBABILITY

- Demonstration of combination of Gaussians
 - Product

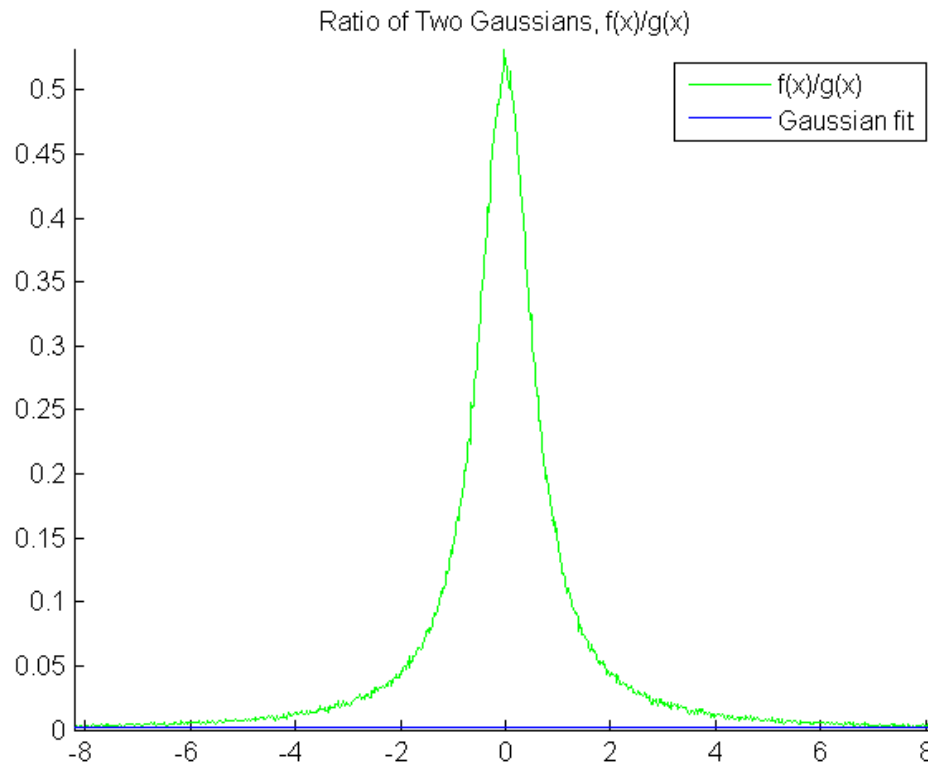
$$f(x)g(x) \sim N(0, 0.48^2)$$



PROBABILITY

- Demonstration of combination of Gaussians
 - Quotient

$$f(x) / g(x) \sim N(0, 170^2)$$



PROBABILITY

- Generating multivariate random noise samples
 - Define two distributions, the one of interest and the standard normal distribution

$$\delta \sim N(\mu, \Sigma) \qquad \omega \sim N(0, I)$$

- If the covariance is full rank, it can be diagonalized
 - Symmetry implies positive semi-definiteness

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma &= E\lambda E^T \\ &= E\lambda^{1/2} I \lambda^{1/2} E^T \\ &= H I H^T\end{aligned}$$

- Can now relate the two distributions (linear identity)

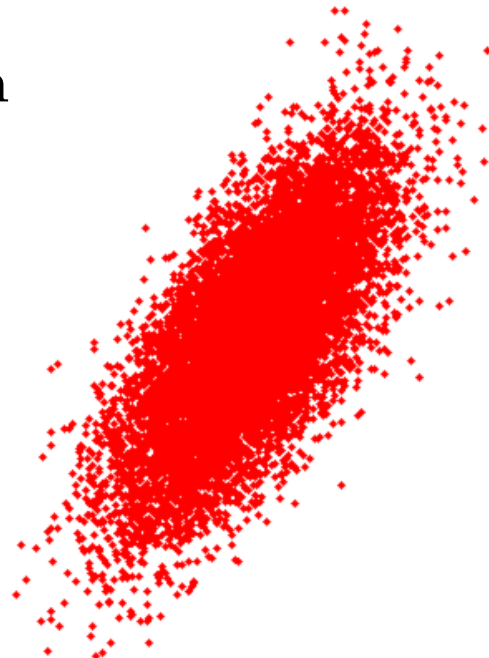
$$\begin{aligned}\delta &\sim N(\mu, H I H^T) \\ \delta &= \mu + H \omega\end{aligned}$$

PROBABILITY

- To implement this in Matlab for simulation purposes
 - Define μ, Σ
 - Find eigenvalues, λ , and eigenvectors, E of Σ
 - The noise can then be created with

$$\delta = \mu + E\lambda^{1/2}\text{randn}(n,1)$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$



PROBABILITY

○ Confidence ellipses

- Lines of constant probability
 - Found by setting pdf exponent to a constant
 - Principal axes are eigenvectors of covariance
 - Magnitudes depend on eigenvalues of covariance

$$\mu = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

50%, 99% error ellipses
Not easily computed,
code provided

