

CONDITIONING

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Conditioning One Random Variable on Another

Conditional PDF of X given that $Y = y$, is defined by

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

y as a fixed number and $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$ is as a function of the single variable x .

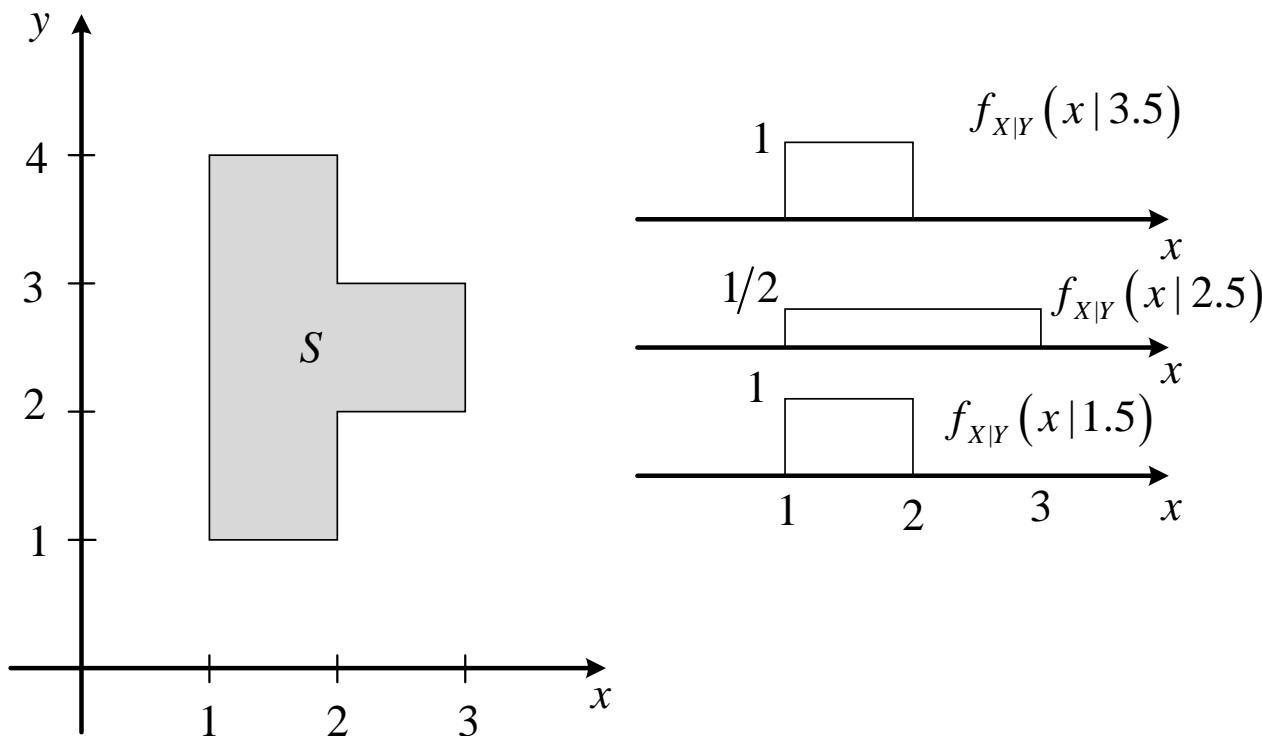
the conditional PDF $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$ has the same shape as the joint PDF $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$

Normalization

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx = 1$$

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Textbook: D. P. Bertsekas, J. N. Tsitsiklis, "Introduction to Probability", 2nd Ed., Athena Science 2008.

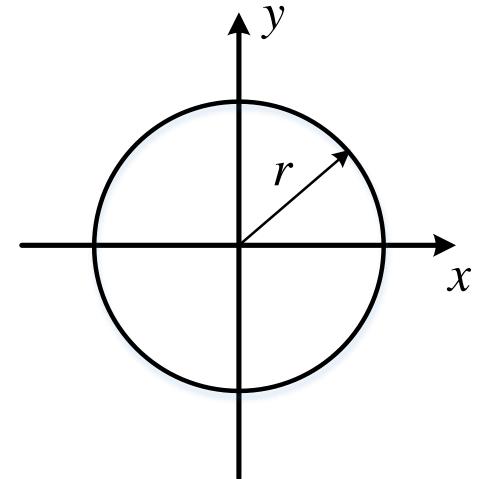
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Example. 3.15 (textbook) Circular Uniform PDF.

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\text{area of the circle}}, & \text{if } (x,y) \text{ in the circle,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi r^2}, & \text{if } x^2 + y^2 \leq r^2, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



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Example 3.15. (Continued)

For $|y| > r$, $f_Y(y) = 0$. For $|y| \leq r$, it is given by

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx = \frac{1}{\pi r^2} \int_{x^2+y^2 \leq r^2} dx = \frac{1}{\pi r^2} \int_{-\sqrt{r^2-y^2}}^{\sqrt{r^2-y^2}} dx = \frac{2}{\pi r^2} \sqrt{r^2 - y^2}, \quad |y| \leq r$$

Note that the marginal PDF f_Y is not uniform.

The conditional PDF is,

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{1/\pi r^2}{\frac{2}{\pi r^2} \sqrt{r^2 - y^2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{r^2 - y^2}}, \quad \text{if } x^2 + y^2 \leq r^2$$

Thus, for a fixed value of y , $f_{X|Y}$ is uniform.

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For more than two random variables:

$$f_{X,Y|Z}(x, y | z) = \frac{f_{X,Y,Z}(x, y, z)}{f_Z(z)}, \text{ if } f_Z(z) > 0$$

$$f_{X|Y,Z}(x | y, z) = \frac{f_{X,Y,Z}(x, y, z)}{f_{Y,Z}(y, z)}, \text{ if } f_{Y,Z}(y, z) > 0$$

Analog of the multiplication rule:

$$f_{X,Y,Z}(x, y, z) = f_{X|Y,Z}(x | y, z) f_{Y|Z}(y | z) f_Z(z)$$

CONDITIONING

Conditional Expectation

- **Definition:**

$$E[X | A] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_{X|A}(x)dx$$

The conditional expectation of X given $Y = y$ is defined by

$$E[X | Y = y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_{X|Y}(x | y)dx$$

- **The expected value rule:** For a function $g(X)$, we have

$$E[g(X) | A] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f_{X|A}(x)dx \text{ and}$$

$$E[g(X) | Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f_{X|Y}(x | y)dx$$

CONDITIONING Independence

Random variables X and Y are **independent** if their joint PDF can be written as the product of the marginal PDFs:

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y) \text{ for all } x, y.$$

By using the formula $f_{XY}(x, y) = f_{X|Y}(x | y)f_Y(y)$, independence means that

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) = f_X(x) \text{ for all } y \text{ with } f_Y(y) > 0 \text{ and all } x.$$

Symmetrically,

$$f_{Y|X}(y | x) = f_Y(y) \text{ for all } x \text{ with } f_X(x) > 0 \text{ and all } y.$$

CONDITIONING

Independence

Independence implies that

$$F_{XY}(x, y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = P(X \leq x)P(Y \leq y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y)$$

If X and Y are independent, then

$$E[g(X)h(Y)] = E[g(X)]E[h(Y)]$$

where g and h are real-valued functions.

For more than two random variables:

$$f_{XYZ}(x, y, z) = f_X(x)f_Y(y)f_Z(z) \quad \text{for all } x, y, z.$$

CONDITIONING

Independence

Summary

- X and Y are **independent** if

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

- If X and Y are **independent**, then

$$E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$$

Furthermore, for any functions g and h , the random variables $g(X)$ and $h(Y)$ are independent, and therefore

$$E[g(X)h(Y)] = E[g(X)]E[h(Y)]$$

- If X and Y are **independent**, then

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

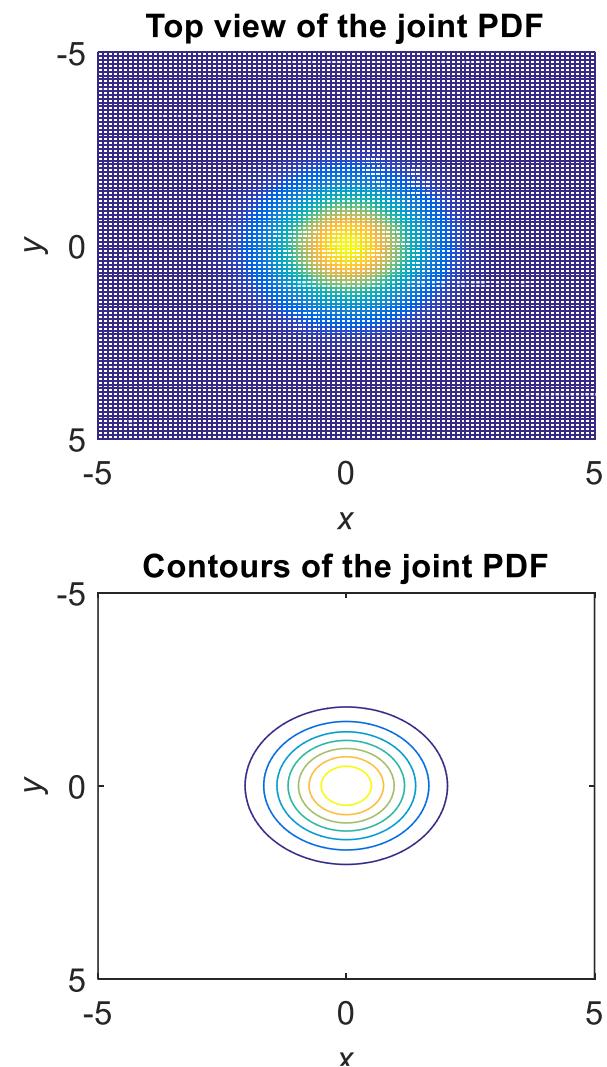
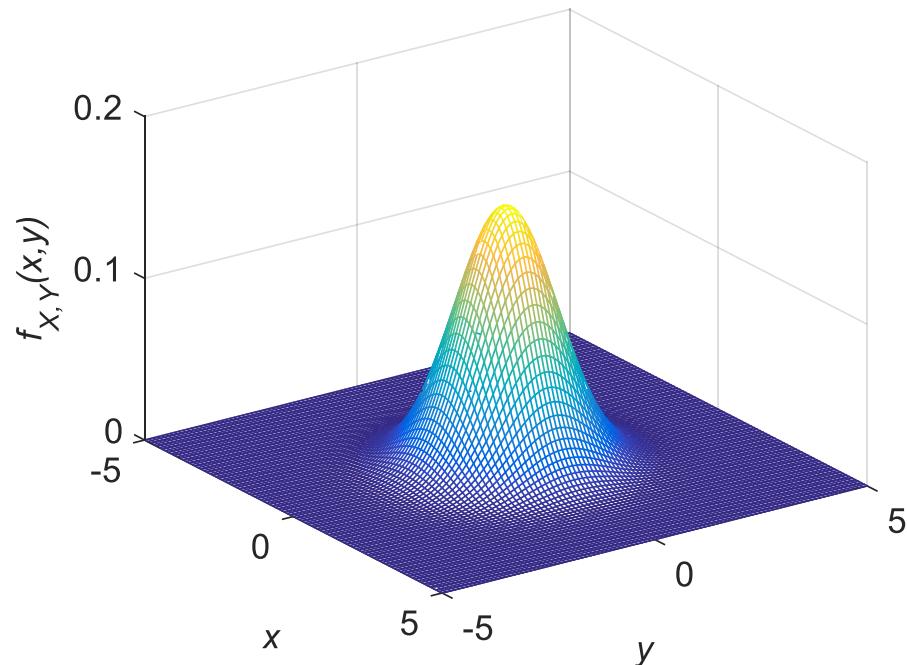
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Independence

Example 3.18 (textbook). Independent Normal Random Variables

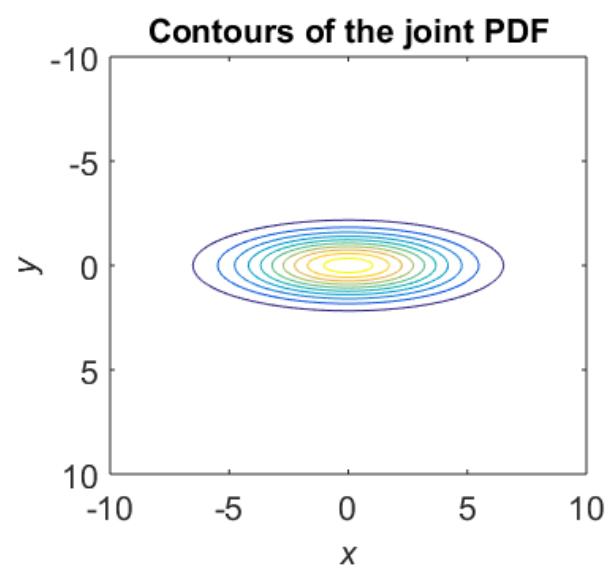
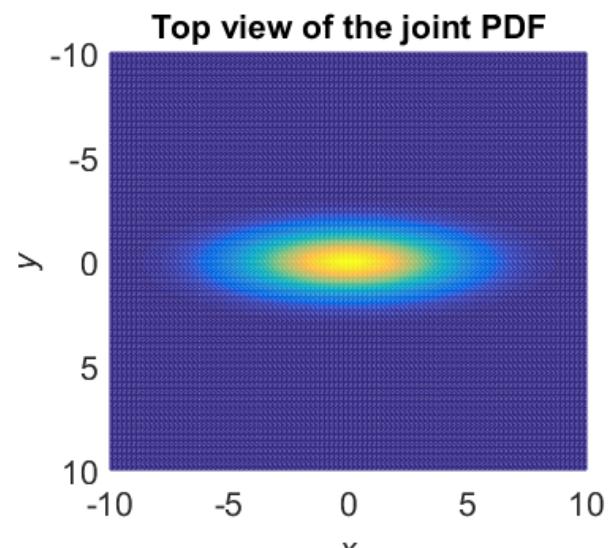
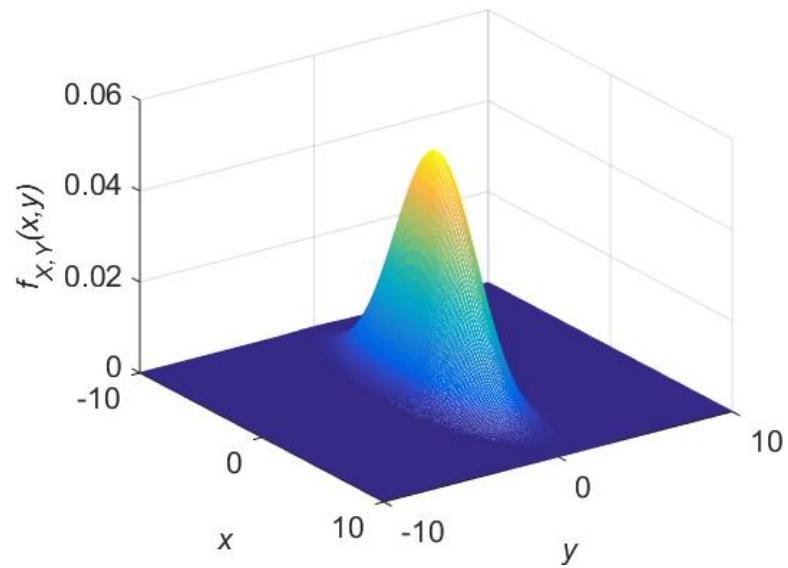
Let X and Y independent random variables. Their joint PDF is given as

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_x\sigma_y} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu_x)^2}{2\sigma_x^2} - \frac{(y-\mu_y)^2}{2\sigma_y^2}\right)$$



The joint PDF of two independent Normal r.v.s
in three-dimensional space ($\sigma_X = 1$, $\sigma_Y = 1$)

Textbook: D. P. Bertsekas, J. N. Tsitsiklis, “Introduction to Probability”, 2nd Ed., Athena Science 2008.



The joint PDF of two independent Normal r.v.s
in three-dimensional space ($\sigma_X = 3$, $\sigma_Y = 1$)

Textbook: D. P. Bertsekas, J. N. Tsitsiklis, “Introduction to Probability”, 2nd Ed., Athena Science 2008.