

CS 2810 April 8

Admin:

- schedule update: we'll do a finals review in class & move up mini project day 2

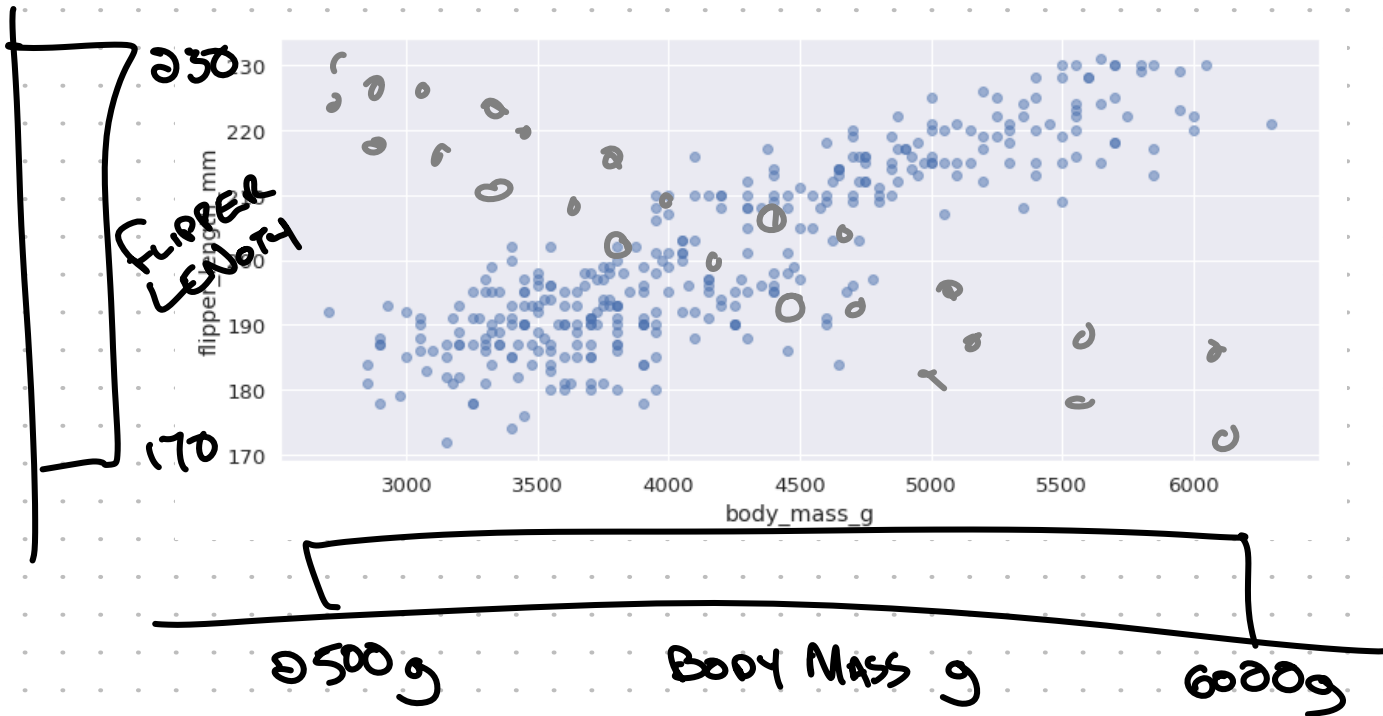
Content:

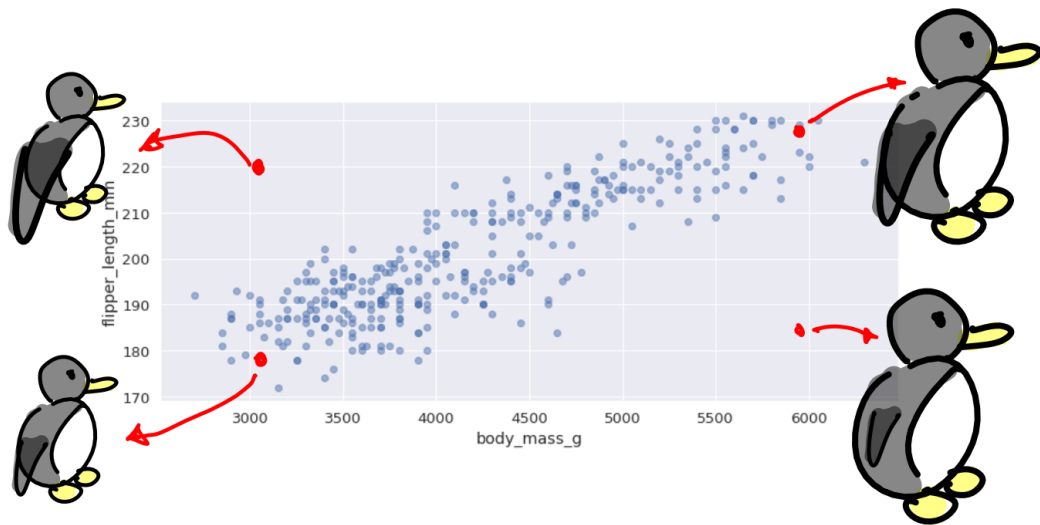
Covariance

Covariance Matrix

(covariance and correlation are tightly intertwined, we'll touch on correlation in the next lesson ... please save correlation questions until then, thanks!)

1. Why would one want to generate a "fake" sample?
2. Generating a "fake" penguin from marginal distributions





WE NEED A WAY OF QUANTIFYING  
HOW (BODY-MASS) VARIES WITH (FLIPPER-LENGTH)

(... COVARIANCE)

## Covariance: Intuition (How two values vary together)

The behavior between any two values  $x$  and  $y$  can be summarized in one of the three ways:

1. as  $x$  gets larger  $y$  typically gets larger too
  - ex:
    - $x$ =temp on some day
    - $y$ =number of people on the beach on the same day
  - covariance & correlation is positive
2. as  $x$  gets larger  $y$  typically doesn't get larger or smaller
  - ex:
    - $x$ =individual's favorite number
    - $y$ =number of hot dogs that individual has eaten in their lifetime
  - covariance & correlation is zero
3. as  $x$  gets larger,  $y$  typically gets more negative
  - ex:
    - $x$ =average speed of driver on 10 mile commute
    - $y$ =average commute time of driver on 10 mile commute
  - covariance & correlation are negative

# JOINT DISTRIBUTION + MARGINALIZATION (REVIEW)



CIRCLE  
 $c=0$     $c=1$

SHARED  $S=0$

$S=0$	$1/3$	$0$
$S=1$	$1/2$	$1/6$

→

WHAT IS  $P(S=0)$ ?

$$P(S=0, c=0) + P(S=0, c=1) \\ = 1/3 + 0 = 1/3$$

JOINT DISTRIBUTION  
 $P(S, c)$  DESCRIBES  
PROB OF  $S, c$  OUTCOME  
PAIRS  
(GO BACK)

MARGINAL DISTRIBUTION  
PROB OF JUST ONE VARIABLE

$$P(S) = \sum_c P(S, c)$$

ALL OUTCOMES  $c$

A JOINT DISTRIBUTION IMPOSES  
MARGINAL DISTRIBUTION

THERE CAN EXIST MANY JOINT  
DISTRIBUTIONS WHICH HAVE SAME  
MARGINALS

↳ How DO  $X, Y$  VARY  
TOGETHER?  
(... COV)

Observations of  $x$ ,  $y$  must be paired for a joint distribution / covariance to be defined.

1. on the same **day**, we observe temp ( $x$ ) & beach population ( $y$ )
2. on the same **individual**, we observe favorite number ( $x$ ) & hot dogs eaten ( $y$ )
3. on the same **driver**, we observe speed ( $x$ ) & commute time ( $y$ )

If we don't observe the data in pairs, correlation / covariance is not defined:

- $x$ =an individual's favorite number
- $y$ =the temperature on a given day

$x$  is observed per individual  
 $y$  is observed per day

... there isn't a way to "pair" every  $x$  with a  $y$ !



# COVARIANCE

How Do R.V.s X AND Y VARY TOGETHER?

$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = \text{COV}(X, Y) = E \left[ \underbrace{(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])}_{\text{CAN BE NEGATIVE}} \right]$$

NOTE:  $\text{VAR}(X) = E \left[ \underbrace{(X - E[X])^2}_{\text{ALWAYS NON NEGATIVE}} \right] = \text{VAR}(X) = \sigma_x^2$

Example: Compute  $\text{cov}(x,y)$  and write one sentence which explains its sign.  $E[X] = E[Y] = .5$

		0	1
0	.4	.1	
1	.1	.4	

JOINT DISTRIBUTION

$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = \text{cov}(x,y) = E[(x - E[X])(y - E[Y])]$$

$$E[X] = \sum x P(x)$$

$$P(X=0) = P(X=0, Y=0) + P(X=0, Y=1)$$
$$= .4 + .1 = .5$$

$$E[X] = 0 \cdot .5 + 1 \cdot .5 = .5$$

Example: Compute  $\text{cov}(x,y)$  and write one sentence which explains its sign.  $E[X] = E[Y] = .5$

		Y	
		0	1
X	0	.4	.1
	1	.1	.4

JOINT DISTRIBUTION

cov is positive since when x increase, y often does too!

$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = \text{cov}(x,y) = E[(x - E[X])(y - E[Y])]$$

$$\text{cov}(x,y) = \sum_{x,y} P(x,y) (x - E[X]) (y - E[Y])$$

$$= .4 (0 - .5) (0 - .5) +$$

$$.1 (0 - .5) (1 - .5) +$$

$$.1 (1 - .5) (0 - .5) +$$

$$.4 (1 - .5) (1 - .5) = .15$$

# SAMPLE COVARIANCE (ESTIMATING COV)

$$\sigma_{xy}^2 = \text{COV}(X, Y) = E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{xy}^2 = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{x,y} (x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})$$

GROUND TRUTH  
(REQUIRES DISTRIBUTION)

ESTIMATOR

BESSEL  $\Rightarrow$  UNBIASED

In Class Assignment 1:

$$\hat{\sigma}_{xy}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})$$

Compute the sample covariance from the x,y samples given below. Write one sentence which interprets its sign.

X	1	2	3	4	5
Y	1	4	9	16	20

$$\bar{x} = 3$$
$$\bar{y} = 10$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{xy}^2 =$$

WE OBSERVE  
WHILE  $x=1$   
 $y=1$

$$\frac{1}{5-1} \left[ (1-3)(1-10) + (2-3)(4-10) + (3-3)(9-10) + (4-3)(16-10) + (5-3)(20-10) \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{4} (18 + 6 + 0 + 6 + 20) = 12.5$$

## In Class Assignment 1:

Compute the sample covariance from the x,y samples given below. Write one sentence which interprets its sign.

$$\hat{\sigma}_{xy}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})$$

x	6	5	5	4
y	1	2	2	3

$\bar{x} = 5$   
 $\bar{y} = 2$

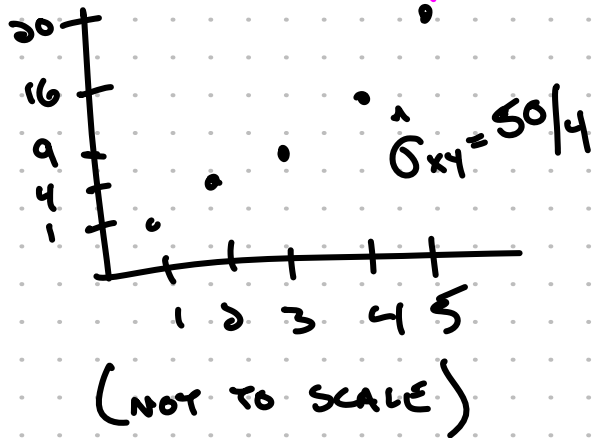
$$= \frac{1}{4-1} \left[ (6-5)(1-2) + (5-5)(2-2) + (5-5)(2-2) + (4-5)(3-2) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} (-1 + 0 + 0 - 1) = -2/3$$

# INTERPRETING SIGN OF COV

X	1	2	3	4	5
Y	1	4	9	16	20

+ COV  $\Rightarrow$  WHEN X IS LARGER  
Y GETS LARGER



- COV  $\Rightarrow$   
WHEN X IS LARGER  
Y IS SMALLER

X	6	5	5	4
Y	1	2	2	3

SCATTER LIES  
WITH REDUNDANT  
POINT



## Anatomy of a covariance matrix:

Given a vector of random variables, we can describe the covariance of every pair of variables with a covariance matrix:

$$\vec{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ x_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

VECTOR OF  
RANDOM  
VARIABLES

$$\Sigma =$$

COV MATRIX  
(NOT SUMMATION)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{COV}(x_0, x_0) & \text{COV}(x_0, x_1) \\ \text{COV}(x_1, x_0) & \text{COV}(x_1, x_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{VAR}(x_0)$

$\text{VAR}(x_1)$

→ DIAGONAL TELLS US HOW FAR  
EACH SAMPLE IS FROM MEAN

→ COV MATRICES ARE  
SYMMETRIC



OBSERVATION 1

$$\text{COV}(X, X) = \text{VAR}(X)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{COV}(X, X) &= E[(X - E[X])(X - E[X])] \\ &= E[(X - E[X])^2] = \text{VAR}(X)\end{aligned}$$

(makes sense why we call it "co"-variance, right?)

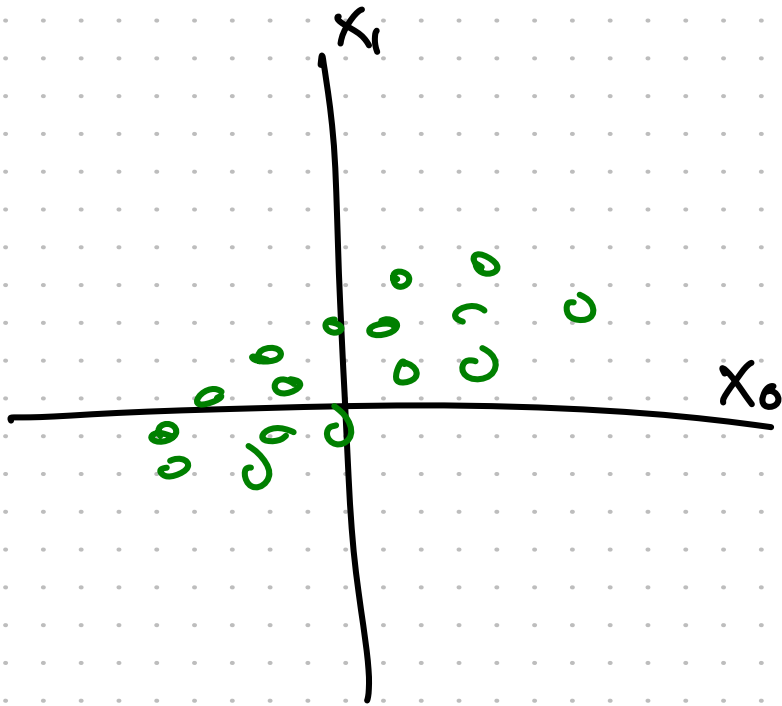
OBSERVATION 2

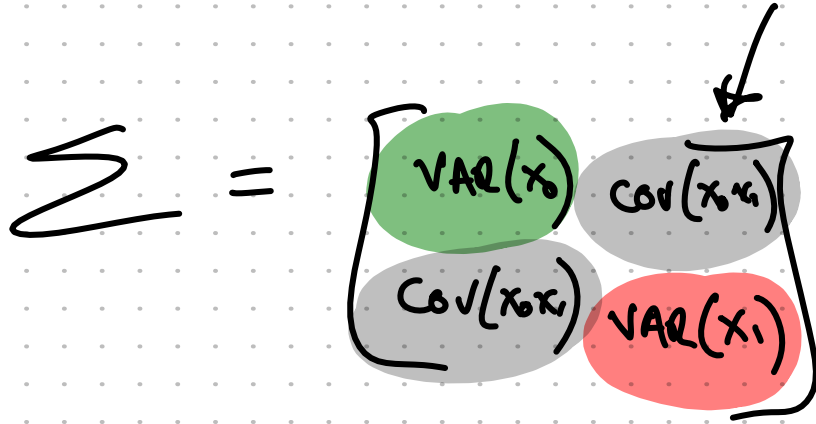
$$\text{cov}(x, y) = \text{cov}(y, x)$$

$$\text{cov}(x, y) = E[(x - E[x])(y - E[y])]$$

$$= E[(y - E[y])(x - E[x])] = \text{cov}(y, x)$$

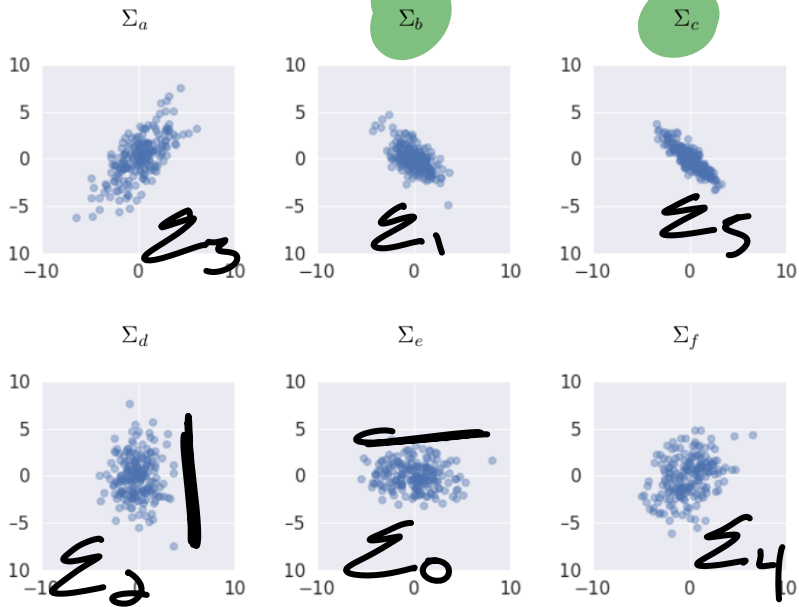
$$\mathcal{N} = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \varphi_0 \\ \varphi_1 \end{array} \right]$$



$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \text{VAR}(x_0) & \text{COV}(x_0, x_1) \\ \text{COV}(x_0, x_1) & \text{VAR}(x_1) \end{bmatrix}$$
A hand-drawn diagram of a 2x2 covariance matrix. The matrix is enclosed in large square brackets. The top-left cell contains the text 'VAR(x\_0)' and is shaded green. The top-right cell contains 'COV(x\_0, x\_1)' and is shaded grey. The bottom-left cell contains 'COV(x\_0, x\_1)' and is shaded grey. The bottom-right cell contains 'VAR(x\_1)' and is shaded red. A black arrow points downwards from the top of the matrix towards the top-right cell.

## In Class Assignment 2: Covariance Matching

Match each scatter plot on the right with its associated covariance below.



$$\begin{aligned}
 \Sigma_0 &= \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, & \Sigma_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1.3 \\ -1.3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, & \Sigma_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \\
 \Sigma_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, & \Sigma_4 &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, & \Sigma_5 &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1.7 \\ -1.7 & 2 \end{bmatrix},
 \end{aligned}$$

### ICA 3 (if time) Interpreting a covariance matrix:

The covariance matrix to the right describes covariances between four penguin features.

1. Which penguin feature varies the most? (Can you compare across units?)
2. Give an intuition for what the -748 is saying in the matrix, does this make sense to you?

	<b>bill_length_mm</b>	<b>bill_depth_mm</b>	<b>flipper_length_mm</b>	<b>body_mass_g</b>
<b>bill_length_mm</b>	29.906333	-2.462091	50.058195	2595.623304
<b>bill_depth_mm</b>	-2.462091	3.877888	-15.947248	-748.456122
<b>flipper_length_mm</b>	50.058195	-15.947248	196.441677	9852.191649
<b>body_mass_g</b>	2595.623304	-748.456122	9852.191649	648372.487699

$$X' = C X$$

$$\text{VAR}(X') = C^2 \text{VAR}(X)$$

Use these scatters to validate your thinking on ICA 3.

Try to form your intuition for the cov matrix alone, before using these plots.

