

Gaussian Measures in Hilbert Spaces

[Da Prato, 2006, Chap. 1]

G. Chiusole

TU München

Table of Contents

1. Notation, Review, etc.
2. One-dimensional Hilbert spaces
3. Finite-dimensional Hilbert spaces
4. Separable Hilbert spaces
5. Closing remarks

”There is no infinite dimensional Lebesgue measure”

”There is no infinite dimensional Lebesgue measure”

Theorem

Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed space with $\dim E = \infty$. Then there is no non-trivial, translation-invariant, σ -additive Borel measure μ on $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ s.t. $\mu[B_\varepsilon(0)] < \infty$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$.

"There is no infinite dimensional Lebesgue measure"

Theorem

Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a normed space with $\dim E = \infty$. Then there is no non-trivial, translation-invariant, σ -additive Borel measure μ on $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ s.t. $\mu[B_\varepsilon(0)] < \infty$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$.

Alternative: Gaussian measures

Notation, Review, etc.

Notation, Review, etc.

Unless otherwise specified, H denotes a real, separable Hilbert space.

$\mathcal{B}(H)$... Borel σ – algebra on H

$L(H) := \{T \in L(H) \mid \text{linear, bounded}\}$

$L^+(H) := \{T \in L(H) \mid \text{symmetric, pos. semi-definite}\}$

$L_1^+(H) := \left\{ T \in L^+(H) \mid \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle e_k, T e_k \rangle < \infty, (e_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ ONB of } H \right\}.$

Notation, Review, etc.

Unless otherwise specified, H denotes a real, separable Hilbert space.

$\mathcal{B}(H)$... Borel σ – algebra on H

$L(H) := \{T \in L(H) \mid \text{linear, bounded}\}$

$L^+(H) := \{T \in L(H) \mid \text{symmetric, pos. semi-definite}\}$

$L_1^+(H) := \left\{ T \in L^+(H) \mid \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \langle e_k, T e_k \rangle < \infty, (e_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ ONB of } H \right\}.$

For $H = \mathbb{R}^d$ we have

$$L_1^+(\mathbb{R}^d) = L^+(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq L(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Spectral Theorem for $Q \in L_1^+(H)$

Theorem

Let $Q \in L_1^+(H)$. Then there exists an ONB $(e_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ of H and a sequence $(\lambda_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \in \ell^1$ s.t.

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0$$

in particular $\lambda_k \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Define

$$\mathcal{F} := \sigma\left(\underbrace{\{x \in \mathbb{R}^\infty : (x_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_n}) \in A\}}_{C_{k_1, \dots, k_n, A}} : A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n), n \in \mathbb{N}\right)$$

Define

$$\mathcal{F} := \sigma\left(\underbrace{\{x \in \mathbb{R}^\infty : (x_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_n}) \in A\}}_{C_{k_1, \dots, k_n, A}} : A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n), n \in \mathbb{N}\right)$$

Proposition

\mathcal{F} coincides with $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^\infty)$ and the σ -algebra generated by the projections.

Product measures

Define

$$\mathcal{F} := \sigma \left(\underbrace{\{x \in \mathbb{R}^\infty : (x_{k_1}, \dots, x_{k_n}) \in A\}}_{C_{k_1, \dots, k_n, A}} : A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n), n \in \mathbb{N} \right)$$

Proposition

\mathcal{F} coincides with $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^\infty)$ and the σ -algebra generated by the projections.

Theorem

Let $(\mathbb{P}_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of probability measures on $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$. Then there exists a unique probability measure on $(\mathbb{R}^\infty, \mathcal{F})$ s.t. for every $C_{k_1, \dots, k_n, A}$ we have

$$\mathbb{P}(C_{k_1, \dots, k_n, A}) = (\mathbb{P}_{k_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}_{k_n})(A).$$

In particular, for every $i \in \mathbb{N}$ the projection onto the k -th coordinate $\pi_k : x \mapsto x_k$ has distribution \mathbb{P}_k and $\{\pi_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$ is a set of independent real valued random variables w.r.t. \mathbb{P} .

One-dimensional Hilbert spaces

Definition (1-dim.)

Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda \geq 0$. Then define the measure $N_{a,\lambda}$ on $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ by

$$(\lambda = 0) \quad N_{a,\lambda}(B) = \delta_a(B) = \begin{cases} 1 & a \in B, \\ 0 & a \notin B \end{cases}, \quad \forall B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}),$$

and

$$(\lambda \neq 0) \quad dN_{a,\lambda}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\lambda}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-a)^2}{2\lambda}\right\} dx.$$

Moments and characteristic function (1-dim.)

For $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda \geq 0$ we have

mean $a = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x \, dN_{a,\lambda}(x)$

variance $\lambda = \int_{\mathbb{R}} (x - a)^2 \, dN_{a,\lambda}(x)$

char. function $\widehat{N}_{a,\lambda}(h) = \exp \left\{ iah - \frac{1}{2} \lambda h^2 \right\}, \quad h \in \mathbb{R}$

Finite-dimensional Hilbert spaces

Definition

A measure μ on H is called Gaussian, if for every $h \in H$ the functional $x \mapsto \langle h, x \rangle$ has law $N_{a,\lambda}$ for some $a \in \mathbb{R}, \lambda \geq 0$.

Construction (fin. dim.)

1. Let H be a real Hilbert space with $\dim(H) = d$, $a \in H$, $Q \in L^+(H)$. Then let $\{e_1, \dots, e_d\} \subseteq H$ be an ONB of H s.t.

$$\forall 1 \leq k \leq d : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0 \quad .$$

Construction (fin. dim.)

1. Let H be a real Hilbert space with $\dim(H) = d$, $a \in H$, $Q \in L^+(H)$. Then let $\{e_1, \dots, e_d\} \subseteq H$ be an ONB of H s.t.

$$\forall 1 \leq k \leq d : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0 \quad .$$

2. Identify H with \mathbb{R}^d via $x \mapsto (\langle x, e_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle x, e_d \rangle)$.

Construction (fin. dim.)

1. Let H be a real Hilbert space with $\dim(H) = d$, $a \in H$, $Q \in L^+(H)$. Then let $\{e_1, \dots, e_d\} \subseteq H$ be an ONB of H s.t.

$$\forall 1 \leq k \leq d : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0 \quad .$$

2. Identify H with \mathbb{R}^d via $x \mapsto (\langle x, e_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle x, e_d \rangle)$.
3. Then define the measure $N_{a,Q}$ on $\mathcal{B}(H)$ by

$$N_{a,Q} = \prod_{k=1}^d N_{a_k, \lambda_k}$$

Is this construction Gaussian?

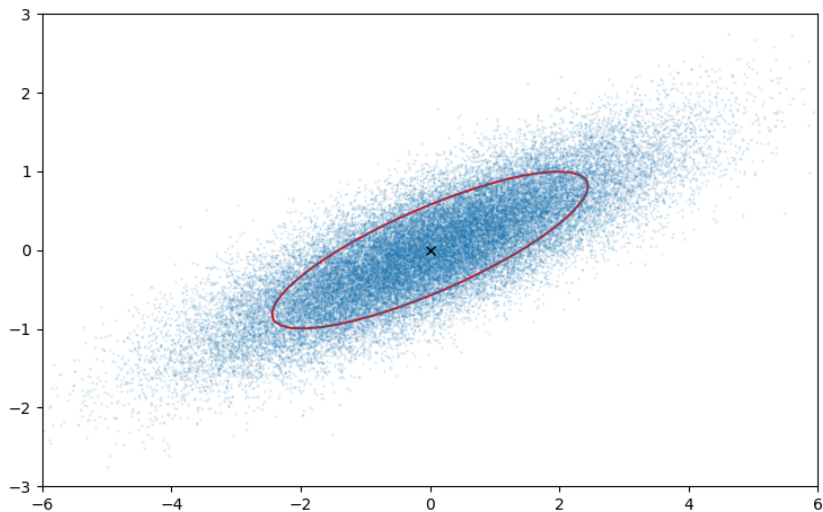
Theorem

$N_{a,Q}$ is a Gaussian measure.

Proof.



Figure in $H = \mathbb{R}^2$



Moments and characteristic function (fin. dim.)

For $a, \in H, Q \in L^+(H)$ we have

$$\text{mean} \quad a = \int_H x \, dN_{a,Q}(x)$$

$$\text{covariance} \quad \langle y, Qz \rangle = \int_H \langle y, (x - a) \rangle \langle z, (x - a) \rangle \, dN_{a,Q}(x)$$

$$\text{char. functional} \quad \widehat{N}_{a,Q}(h) = \exp \left\{ i \langle h, a \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle h, Qh \rangle \right\}, \quad h \in H$$

Moments and characteristic function (fin. dim.)

For $a, \in H, Q \in L^+(H)$ we have

$$\text{mean} \quad a = \int_H x \, dN_{a,Q}(x)$$

$$\text{covariance} \quad \langle y, Qz \rangle = \int_H \langle y, (x - a) \rangle \langle z, (x - a) \rangle \, dN_{a,Q}(x)$$

$$\text{char. functional} \quad \widehat{N_{a,Q}}(h) = \exp \left\{ i \langle h, a \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle h, Qh \rangle \right\}, \quad h \in H$$

Proposition

If $\det(Q) > 0$ i.e. $\lambda_k > 0$ for every $k \in \{1, \dots, d\}$, then

$$dN_{a,Q}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^d \det Q}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \langle (x - a), Q^{-1}(x - a) \rangle \right\} dx.$$

Separable Hilbert spaces

Definition of mean

Let μ be a measure on $(H, \mathcal{B}(H))$ s.t. $\int_H \|x\| \, d\mu(x) < \infty$.

Then $h \mapsto F(h) := \int_H \langle h, x \rangle \, d\mu(x)$ is bounded since

$$|F(h)| \leq \int_H |\langle h, x \rangle| \, d\mu(x) \leq \|h\| \underbrace{\int_H \|x\| \, d\mu(x)}_{< \infty}$$

Thus by Riesz' Representation theorem $\exists! a \in H$:

$$\langle h, a \rangle = \int_H \langle h, x \rangle \, d\mu(x), \quad h \in H.$$

called the **mean of μ** .

Intermezzo: Bochner spaces

It is clear how to integrate $f : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ when there is a measure on H . But how about $f : H \rightarrow H$, e.g. $x \mapsto x$, as in the definition of the mean?

Intermezzo: Bochner spaces

It is clear how to integrate $f : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ when there is a measure on H . But how about $f : H \rightarrow H$, e.g. $x \mapsto x$, as in the definition of the mean?

Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space. Then define the Bochner space

$$L^p(\Omega; H) := \left\{ u : \Omega \rightarrow H \mid u \text{ measurable, } \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} \|u(\omega)\|_H^p d\mathbb{P}(\omega)}_{=:\|u\|_{L^p(\Omega; H)}^p} < \infty \right\}$$

where $1 \leq p < \infty$.

Proposition

The set $\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n 1_{A_i} h_i : A_i \in \mathcal{F}, h_i \in H \right\}$ of simple functions lies dense in $(L^p(\Omega; H), \|\cdot\|_{L^p(\Omega; H)})$.

Proposition

The set $\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n 1_{A_i} h_i : A_i \in \mathcal{F}, h_i \in H \right\}$ of simple functions lies dense in $(L^p(\Omega; H), \|\cdot\|_{L^p(\Omega; H)})$.

Definition

For $\sum_{i=1}^n 1_{A_i} h_i \in L^1(\Omega; H)$ define

$$\int \sum_{i=1}^n 1_{A_i} h_i d\mathbb{P} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(A_i) h_i \in H$$

For $u \in L^1(\Omega; H)$, define the Bochner integral of u as

$$\int u d\mathbb{P} := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int \sum_{i=1}^{n^{(k)}} 1_{A_i^{(k)}} h_i^{(k)} d\mathbb{P} \in H$$

Proposition

Let $f : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bounded linear functional and $u \in L^1(\Omega; H)$. Then

$$f \left[\int u(\omega) \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega) \right] = \int f[u(\omega)] \, d\mathbb{P}(\omega)$$

Characterization of the mean

Theorem

Indeed,

$$a = \int_H x \, d\mu(x).$$

Proof.

Let $a \in H$ be the mean of μ and let $h \in H$ be arbitrary. Then $x \mapsto \langle h, x \rangle$ defines a bounded linear functional on H . Hence it can be pulled into the integral and we have

$$\langle h, a \rangle = \int_H \langle h, x \rangle \, d\mu(x) = \left\langle h, \int_H x \, d\mu(x) \right\rangle$$

Uniqueness of a gives the result. □

Definition the covariance

Let μ be a measure on $(H, \mathcal{B}(H))$ s.t. $\int_H \|x\|^2 d\mu(x) < \infty$.

Then $(h, k) \mapsto G(h, k) := \int_H \langle h, x - a \rangle \langle k, x - a \rangle d\mu(x)$ is bounded since

$$\begin{aligned} |G(h, k)| &\leq \int_H |\langle h, x - a \rangle| |\langle k, x - a \rangle| d\mu(x) \\ &\leq \|h\| \|k\| \underbrace{\int_H \|x - a\|^2 d\mu(x)}_{< \infty} \end{aligned}$$

Thus by Riesz' Representation theorem there exists a unique bounded linear operator $Q : H \rightarrow H$ s.t.

$$\langle h, Qk \rangle = \int_H \langle h, x - a \rangle \langle k, x - a \rangle d\mu(x), \quad h, k \in H.$$

called the **covariance of μ** .

Theorem

Let μ be a measure on $(H, \mathcal{B}(H))$ s.t. a and Q exist. Then $Q \in L_1^+(H)$ i.e. Q is symmetric, positive semi-definite and of trace class.

Proof.



Definition of Gaussian Measures

Definition

A measure μ on $(H, \mathcal{B}(H))$ is called Gaussian if

$\exists a \in H, Q \in L_1^+(H)$ s.t.

$$\int_H \exp \{i\langle h, x \rangle\} d\mu(x) = \underbrace{\exp \left\{ i\langle a, h \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle h, Qh \rangle \right\}}_{=: \widehat{N_{a,Q}}(h)}, \quad h \in H.$$

$N_{a,Q}$ is called **non-degenerate** if $\ker Q = \{0\}$.

Definition of Gaussian Measures

Definition

A measure μ on $(H, \mathcal{B}(H))$ is called Gaussian if

$\exists a \in H, Q \in L_1^+(H)$ s.t.

$$\int_H \exp \{i \langle h, x \rangle\} d\mu(x) = \underbrace{\exp \left\{ i \langle a, h \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle h, Qh \rangle \right\}}_{=: \widehat{N_{a,Q}}(h)}, \quad h \in H.$$

$N_{a,Q}$ is called **non-degenerate** if $\ker Q = \{0\}$.

Recall: for $H = \mathbb{R}^n$ the Fourier inversion theorem asserts that two measures with the same characteristic functional are equal. This also is still true when $\dim H = \infty$. In particular, Gaussian measures are entirely characterized by their mean and covariance operator.

Existence of Gaussian measures

1. Let $a \in H$ and $Q \in L^+(H)$ with $\{e_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq H$ an ONB of H associated to Q . Then

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0 \quad .$$

Existence of Gaussian measures

1. Let $a \in H$ and $Q \in L^+(H)$ with $\{e_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq H$ an ONB of H associated to Q . Then

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0 \quad .$$

2. Identify H with ℓ^2 via $x \mapsto (\langle x, e_k \rangle)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$.

Existence of Gaussian measures

1. Let $a \in H$ and $Q \in L^+(H)$ with $\{e_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq H$ an ONB of H associated to Q . Then

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} : Qe_k = \lambda_k e_k, \quad \lambda_k \geq 0 \quad .$$

2. Identify H with ℓ^2 via $x \mapsto (\langle x, e_k \rangle)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$.
3. Define the measure $N_{a,Q}$ on $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^\infty)$ by

$$N_{a,Q} = \prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}} N_{a_k, \lambda_k} .$$

Definition (separable)

This gives a measure on $\mathbb{R}^\infty := \prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{R}$ and not on ℓ^2 , but

Definition (separable)

This gives a measure on $\mathbb{R}^\infty := \prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{R}$ and not on ℓ^2 , but

Theorem

$\mu := N_{a,Q}$ is concentrated on ℓ^2 i.e. $\mu(\ell^2) = 1$.

Proof.



Is this construction Gaussian?

Theorem

$N_{a,Q}$ is a Gaussian measure.

Proof.



Closing remarks

What if H is less well-behaved?

More generally, how can one define a Gaussian measure?

What if H is less well-behaved?

More generally, how can one define a Gaussian measure?

1. via a density (needs $\dim H < \infty$)
2. via cont. linear functions (needs rich enough dual theory e.g. loc. convex TVS)
3. via the characteristic functional (needs Fourier theory on H)
4. via identification $H \simeq \ell^2$ (needs H to be a separable Hilbert space)



Da Prato, G. (2006).

An Introduction to Infinite-Dimensional Analysis.

Springer Science & Business Media.