

# Comparison

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Idea

• BRW / BBM direct analysis of the extremes

• Gaussian processes: we have more tools

Tools to compare different Gaussian processes

Comparing Gaussian models with non-Gaussian

## Gaussian comparison

• Two indep. Gaussian processes, mean zero,

"one is more correlated than other"

→ max of one is larger than max of other

Example Binary BRW

Cov: overlap.

$2^n$  iid Gaussians

two diff:  $\circ$

Max



Kahanes Thm

$X, Y$   
 $D_1, D_2$

$n$ -dim Gaussian  
 $\subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \times \{1, \dots, n\}$

$X_i, Y_i$  indep.  
mean zero.

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i X_j) \geq \mathbb{E}(Y_i Y_j) \quad (i, j) \in D_1$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i X_j) \leq \mathbb{E}(Y_i Y_j) \quad (i, j) \in D_2$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i X_j) = \mathbb{E}(Y_i Y_j) \quad (i, j) \notin D_1 \cup D_2$$

$F$ : on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , moderate growth, twice diff.

and

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} F(x) \geq 0 \quad (i, j) \in D_1$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} F(x) \leq 0 \quad (i, j) \in D_2$$

Then

$$\mathbb{E}(F(X)) \leq \mathbb{E}(F(Y))$$

Rem • One very useful function:  
Laplace transforms  $e^{-\langle x, \lambda \rangle}$

$$\bullet F = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} X_i \quad (?)$$

Slepian's Lemma

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i X_j) \geq \mathbb{E}(Y_i Y_j) \quad \forall i \neq j$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X_i X_i) = \mathbb{E}(Y_i Y_i) \quad \forall i$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E} \max X_i \leq \mathbb{E} \max Y_i$$

Rem • In particular:

- Gaussian cov that you understand  $\uparrow$   $\leq$  Model cov  $\leq$  Gaussian cov that you understand  $\uparrow$

- There are more functions connected to maximum, where such a result holds.

Methods used to prove them (useful on its own) (Kahane Thm)

Build  $X^h$  whose covariance interpolates between the one of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

$$X^h := \sqrt{h} X + \sqrt{1-h} Y$$

$$\text{Cov}(X^h) = h \text{Cov}(X) + (1-h) \text{Cov}(Y)$$

- $f(h) = \mathbb{E} F(X_1^h, \dots, X_n^h)$

$$f(1) - f(0) = \int_0^1 dh \underbrace{\frac{d}{dh} f(h)}_{\text{Explicit.}}$$

- Gaussian integration by parts:  
 $g$  moderate growth  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbb{E} g(X) X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\mathbb{E}(X_i X_j)} \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial X_j} g(X) \right)$$

magic where the covariance appears!

↗ assume to know sign

Work with functions that are not twice differentiable:

Approximate them.

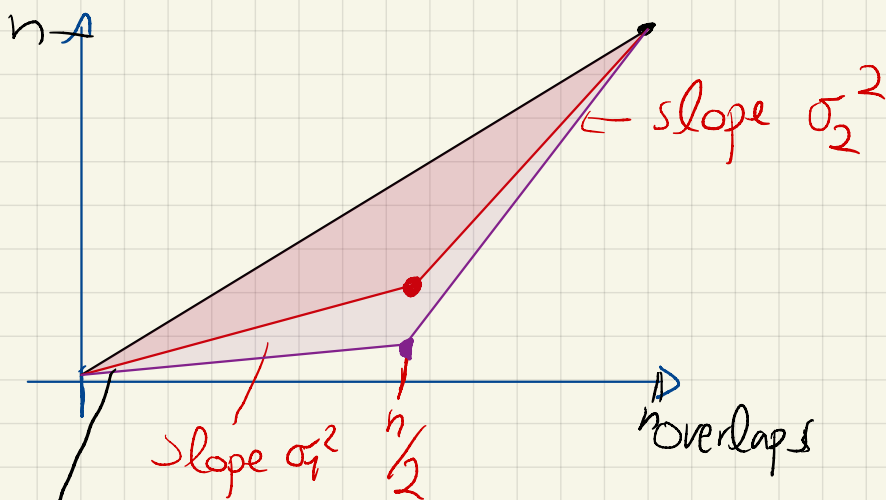
### One application

Two-speed BRW:

First  $\frac{n}{2}$  levels  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_1^2)$

The other  $\frac{n}{2}$  level  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_2^2)$

$$\text{s.t. } \frac{n}{2} \sigma_1^2 + \frac{n}{2} \sigma_2^2 = n$$



Representation of Covariance as a function of 'overlap'

↳ Gaussian comparison:

$\mathbb{E}$  of maxima are ordered!  
"Lower functions have higher max".

# Comparing with Gaussian model with non-Gaussian

1) Localization works for non-Gaussian things

## Berry-Essen bound

Thm Let  $(W_j, j \geq 1)$  sequence of indep. random vectors on  $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d), P)$  with mean  $E(W_j)$  and cov. matrix  $\text{Cov}(W_j)$ .

Define

$$\mu_m = \sum_{j=1}^m E W_j, \quad \Sigma_m = \sum_{j=1}^m \text{Cov} W_j$$

$\lambda_m$  smallest eigenvalue of  $\Sigma_m$

$Q_m$  law of  $W_1 + \dots + W_m$ .

Then there exists a constant  $c$  (only dep  $d$ ) s.t

$$\sup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} |Q_m(A) - \int_{\mu_m, \Sigma_m} (A)|$$

Gaussian measure  
↓ with mean  $\mu_m$ ,  
cov  $\Sigma_m$

$\mathcal{A}$  collection of convex Borel meas. subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^d$

$$\leq c \lambda_m^{-3/2} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{E}[\|W_i - \mathbb{E}[W_i]\|^3]$$

Idea why it could be useful

If you are able to write your model  
in terms of sum of indep. increments.  
*not identically distr.*

[increments  $\rightarrow W_i$ ]

Then: compare to corresponding Gaussian  
measure!

$\hookrightarrow$  e.g. Gaussian branching random walk.

Difficulty: Need good bounds for r.h.s!

This method has been successfully used

Arguin, Belius, Harper "Maxima of a  
randomized Riemann zeta function".

$\rightarrow$  Toolbox to compare different models.

# Useful Tools

- localization
  - first + second moments
  - Comparing Gaussian models  
via Gaussian compare
  - to non-Gaussian ones!
- [ Still a lot to be understood  
... ]