

MA8109 Stochastic Processes in Systems Theory Autumn 2013

Exercise set 1 – solutions

- $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & \mathbf{a} \end{pmatrix} x \in (A \cap B)^c \Leftrightarrow x \notin A \cap B \Leftrightarrow x \notin A \text{ and } x \notin B \Leftrightarrow x \in A^c \text{ and } x \in B^c \Leftrightarrow x \in A^c \cap B^c \\ & A^c \cap B^c \end{array}$ 
  - **b)**  $x \in (\bigcup_i A_i)^c \Leftrightarrow x \notin \bigcup_i A_i \Leftrightarrow x \notin A_i \text{ for all } i \Leftrightarrow x \in A_i^c \text{ for all } i \Leftrightarrow x \in \bigcup_i A_i^c$
  - c)  $x \in f^{-1}(A^c) \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in A^c \Leftrightarrow f(x) \notin A \Leftrightarrow x \notin f^{-1}(A) \Leftrightarrow x \in f^{-1}(A)^c$
  - **d)**  $x \in f^{-1}(\bigcup_i A_i) \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in \bigcup_i A_i \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in A_i \text{ for all } i \Leftrightarrow x \in f^{-1}(A_i) \text{ for all } i \Leftrightarrow x \in \bigcup_i f^{-1}(A_i)$
- 2 a) Note that  $X = A \cup B \cup (A \cup B)^c$  and this union is disjoint since  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .  $\mathcal{F}_{\{A,B\}} = \{\emptyset, A, B, (A \cup B)^c, A \cup B, A \cup (A \cup B)^c, B \cup (A \cup B)^c, X\}$ 
  - b) Since any subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  is a countable union of elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ , it follows that  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{A}} = \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$ , the set of all subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ .
- **3** It is enough to check all axioms:  $\emptyset$  and  $\Omega$  are in all  $\mathcal{H}_i$ -s, and hence in  $\mathcal{H}$ . If  $A \in \mathcal{H}$ , then A (and  $A^C$ !) is in all  $\mathcal{H}_i$ -s, therefore  $A^C \in \mathcal{H}$ . For the last axiom, we observe that if  $\{A_n\}$  is in  $\mathcal{H}$ , then it is in all  $\mathcal{H}_i$  and so will the limit A be since all  $\mathcal{H}_i$ -s are  $\sigma$ -algebras. But then  $A \in \mathcal{H}$ .
- **4** a) Since  $A_1 \subset A_2$ ,  $A_2 = A_1 \cup (A_2 \cap A_1^c)$ , a union of disjoint measurable sets. By using the definition of a measure ( $\sigma$ -additivity) we may conclude the following:

$$m(A_2) = m(A_1 \cup (A_2 \cap A_1^c)) = m(A_1) + \underbrace{m(A_2 \cap A_1^c)}_{\ge 0} \ge m(A_1).$$

**b)** We would now like to show that  $m(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} m(A_i)$ . To do this we define the following disjoint sets  $B_i$ :

$$B_1 = A_1,$$
  

$$B_2 = A_2 \setminus A_1,$$
  

$$B_3 = A_3 \setminus (A_1 \cup A_2),$$
  

$$\vdots$$
  

$$B_k = A_k \setminus \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k-1} A_i\right).$$

We first show by induction that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$ . Trivially,  $A_1 = B_1$ . Now assume  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} A_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^{k} B_i$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and check if the same holds for k+1,

$$\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} B_{i}\right) \cup B_{k+1} = \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} A_{i}\right) \cup B_{k+1},$$
$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{k+1} B_{i} = \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} A_{i}\right) \cup \left(A_{k+1} \setminus \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} A_{i}\right)\right) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{k+1} A_{i}.$$

This leads to

$$m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} m(B_i) \le \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} m(A_i),$$

since  $B_i \subset A_i$  and thus  $m(B_i) \leq m(A_i)$  as shown in a).

c) Assuming  $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset A_3 \subset \ldots$  and  $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$ , we want to show that  $m(A) = \lim_{i \to \infty} m(A_i)$ . If we construct disjoint sets  $B_i$  like in b), the following holds:

$$m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} B_i\right) = m(A_n)$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . By using the definition of A and the fact that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$  we get:

$$m(A) = m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} m(B_i)$$
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{i=1}^{n} m(B_i) = \lim_{n \to \infty} m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} B_i\right) = \lim_{n \to \infty} m(A_n)$$

5 Let  $m_L$  be the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Let  $\{q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of the elements in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Define the open intervals  $A_n = (q_n - 2^{-n}\epsilon, q_n + 2^{-n}\epsilon)$ . Notice that  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$ , thus

$$m_L(\mathbb{Q}) \le m_L(\cup_{n\in\mathbb{N}}A_n) \le \sum_{n\in\mathbb{N}}m_L(A_n) = \sum_{n\in\mathbb{N}}\frac{\epsilon}{2^n} = \epsilon.$$

Since  $\epsilon$  is chosen arbitrarily small, we have  $m_L(\mathbb{Q}) = 0$ .

**6** Assuming  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  are  $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable, we know

$$f_1^{-1}((a,\infty)) \in \mathcal{F} \text{ and } f_2^{-1}((a,\infty)) \in \mathcal{F}, \forall a \in \mathbb{R}.$$

From this, we find that

$$f^{-1}((a,\infty)) = \{x \in X : f(x) \in (a,\infty)\} \\ = \{x \in X : \max(f_1(x), f_2(x)) \in (a,\infty)) \\ = \{x \in X : f_1(x) \in (a,\infty) \lor f_2(x) \in (a,\infty)\} \\ = f_1^{-1}((a,\infty)) \cup f_2^{-1}((a,\infty)) \in \mathcal{F} \forall a \in \mathbb{R},$$

since unions of measurable sets are measurable ( $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra). Since the collection of sets  $(a, \infty)$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , generate the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}$ , it follows that f is  $(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{B})$ -measurable, i.e.  $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable.

7 1. We first prove the result for simple functions. So let  $s_1 = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \chi_{A_k}$  and  $s_2 = \sum_{l=1}^m b_l \chi_{B_l}$ , where  $\{A_i\}_i$  and  $\{B_i\}_i$  are partitions of the underlying space.<sup>1</sup> We want to prove that  $\int (s_1 + s_2) = \int s_1 + \int s_2$ .

Since  $s_1 + s_2 = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^m (a_k + b_l) \chi_{A_k \cap B_l}$  we see that  $s_1 + s_2$  is also a simple function, and thus

$$\int (s_1 + s_2) = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^m (a_k + b_l) m(A_k \cap B_l)$$
  
=  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_k \sum_{l=1}^m m(A_k \cap B_l) + \sum_{l=1}^m b_l \sum_{k=1}^n m(A_k \cap B_l)$   
=  $\sum_{k=1}^n a_k m(A_k) + \sum_{l=1}^m b_l m(B_l)$   
=  $\int s_1 + \int s_2.$ 

2. We prove the result for measurable functions  $f_1, f_2 : X \to [0, \infty]$ . Pick two increasing sequences of nonnegative simple functions  $\{s_n^1\}_n$  and  $\{s_n^2\}_n$  converging pointwise to  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , respectively. Then  $s_n^1 + s_n^2$  is a nonnegative sequence of increasing simple functions converging to  $f_1 + f_2$ . Thus we get, by the Monotone Convergence Theorem and the corresponding result for simple functions, that

$$\int (f_1 + f_2) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int (s_n^1 + s_n^2) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left( \int s_n^1 + \int s_n^2 \right) = \int f_1 + \int f_2.$$

8 We first note that  $\mu(A) = \int_A \phi \, dm$  is well-defined and non-negative for all  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  since  $\phi$  is non-negative and  $\mathcal{F}$ -measurable.

Next we check that  $\mu$  is  $\sigma$ -additive. If  $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$  with  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$   $(i \neq j)$ , then

(1) 
$$\mu(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \int_{\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i} \phi \, dm = \int_X \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \phi \chi_{A_i} \, dm.$$

Define  $f_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \phi \chi_{A_i}$ . Obviously,  $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a non-decreasing sequence of non-negative functions. Hence by (1) and the monotone convergence theorem,

$$\mu(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) = \int_X \lim_{n \to \infty} f_n \, dm = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_X f_n \, dm.$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>In the note *Measure and Probability*, a simple function is defined to be a linear combination of characteristic functions of disjoint sets  $\{A_i\}_i$ . We can demand that  $\{A_i\}_i$  is a partition of X – meaning that in addition to disjointness we have that  $\cup A_i = X$  – since we can always add  $0 \cdot \chi_{s^{-1}(\{0\})}$  as a term without changing the function.

Now  $\sigma$ -additivity follows from linearity of the integral since

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_X f_n \, dm = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_X \sum_{i=1}^n \phi \chi_{A_i} \, dm$$
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_X \phi \chi_{A_i} \, dm$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^\infty \int_{A_i} \phi \, dm$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu(A_i).$$

Since  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ , we then conclude that  $\mu(A)$  is a measure on  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ .

9 a) We have  $\mu_X(\emptyset) = P(X^{-1}(\emptyset)) = P(\emptyset) = 0$  and also  $\mu_X(A) = P(X^{-1}(A)) \ge 0$ for every  $A \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  since P is a measure. Lastly, if  $\{A_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  are pairwise disjoint, then

$$f^{-1}(A_i) \cap f^{-1}(A_j) = f^{-1}(A_i \cap A_j) = f^{-1}(\emptyset) = \emptyset \text{ for } i \neq j,$$

and  $\{f^{-1}(A_i)\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  is also pairwise disjoint. It follows that

$$\mu_X \left( \bigsqcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right) = P \left( X^{-1} \left( \bigsqcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right) \right)$$
$$= P \left( \bigsqcup_{i=1}^{\infty} X^{-1}(A_i) \right)$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(X^{-1}(A_i))$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu_X(A_i),$$

again since P is a measure. So  $\mu_X$  is a measure on  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$ . It is a probability measure since  $\mu_X(\mathbb{R}) = P(X^{-1}(\mathbb{R})) = P(\Omega) = 1$ .

**b)** First suppose that  $f = \chi_A$  for some  $A \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . We deduce that  $\chi_A \circ X = \chi_{X^{-1}(A)}$ , which yields

$$E(\chi_A(X)) = \int_{\Omega} \chi_A(X(\omega)) dP(\omega)$$
  
= 
$$\int_{\Omega} \chi_{X^{-1}(A)}(\omega) dP(\omega)$$
  
= 
$$P(X^{-1}(A))$$
  
= 
$$\mu_X(A)$$
  
= 
$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \chi_A(x) d\mu_X(x).$$

By the linearity of the integral, this will also hold for all simple functions. Now take any  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ -measurable  $f : \Omega \to [0, \infty]$ . Then we can find a sequence  $(s_n)$  of

simple functions such that  $0 \leq s_n \uparrow f$  (pointwise everywhere!). Clearly this also means that  $0 \leq s_n \circ X \uparrow f \circ X$ . By the above we have

$$E(s_n(X)) = \int_{\Omega} s_n(X(\omega)) dP(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} s_n(x) d\mu_X(x)$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Letting  $n \to \infty$  and using the monotone convergence theorem, we obtain

$$E(f(X)) = \int_{\Omega} f(X(\omega))dP(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x)d\mu_X(x),$$

which is what we wanted to show.

**(10)** (a) is simple: Since  $f_n$  is 0 on the interval  $[2\omega_n, 1]$  and  $\omega_n \to 0$ , the variable  $\omega > 0$  will not be in  $[2\omega_n, 1]$  when n is large enough. Thus the limit is 0 for all  $\omega$ -s. Clearly, since  $g(\omega) = \lim_{n\to\infty} f_n(\omega) = 0$ , also  $\int g dP = 0$ .

For (b) we observe that  $\int f_n dP$  is the same as the familiar integral  $\int_0^1 f_n(\omega) d\omega$ . For  $a_n = \omega_n^{\alpha}$  we obtain

(2) 
$$\int_0^1 f_n(\omega) \, d\omega = \omega_n^{\alpha} \cdot \frac{(2\omega_n) \cdot 1}{2} = \omega_n^{\alpha+1},$$

showing that the limit when  $n \to \infty$  may be 0, 1, or  $\infty$  depending on the value of  $\alpha$ . In (c) the function h is a dominating function for all  $f_n$ -s and in fact the smallest such function. If  $\int h dP < \infty$ , h is integrable, and in that case (recalling the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem) we *must* have

(3) 
$$\int \left(\lim_{n \to \infty} f_n\right) dP = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int f_n dP.$$

Thus, we conclude that  $\int h dP$  has to be  $\infty$  when  $a_n = \omega_n^{-1}$ , and  $\omega_n^{-2}$ . Comment: For the first case,  $a_n = \omega_n^{-1/2}$ , it is tempting to say that

(4) 
$$h(\omega) = \max_{n} f_n(\omega) \le \omega^{-1/2}.$$

But this function is integrable, and  $\int_0^1 \omega^{-1/2} d\omega = 2$ . Therefore, Eqn. 4 must be wrong (why?). *Challenge:* Prove that an integrable majorant nevertheless exists by finding a larger function, g, such that  $h(\omega) < g(\omega)$  and  $\int g dP < \infty$ .

It could also be remarked that it is possible to find more complicated examples, with similar functions, such that  $\int (\lim_{n\to\infty} f_n) dP = \lim_{n\to\infty} \int f_n dP$  even if there is no integrable majorant.

(a) This, so-called *monotone property* of conditional expectation, follows easily by utilizing the linearity and that  $X \ge 0$  a.s. implies that  $E(X|\mathcal{H}) \ge 0$  a.s. (Property 5):

(5) 
$$Y - X \ge 0 \Longrightarrow E(Y - X|\mathcal{H}) = E(Y|\mathcal{H}) - E(X|\mathcal{H}) \ge 0.$$

(b) From point (a) it follows that also  $\{E(X_n|\mathcal{H})\}$  will be an increasing sequence,

(6)  $E(X_n|\mathcal{H})(\omega) \le E(X_{n+1}|\mathcal{H})(\omega) \text{ a.s.}$ 

Apart from a possible set of probability 0, we then know that

(7) 
$$E(X_n|\mathcal{H})(\omega) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} Y(\omega) \le \infty$$

for some non-negative function Y. First of all, the Y function will be  $\mathcal{H}$ -measurable since it is a limit of  $\mathcal{H}$ -measurable functions (this was mentioned briefly in the lectures and is a general result from measure theory). Moreover, by applying the Monotone Convergence Theorem to *both* sides of

(8) 
$$\int_{H} E(X_{n}|\mathcal{H}) dP = \int_{H} X_{n} dP, \ H \in \mathcal{H},$$

we have

(9) 
$$\int_{H} Y dP = \int_{H} X dP$$

for all  $H \in \mathcal{H}$ . Thus,  $Y = E(X|\mathcal{H})$  a.s.

12 a) The RHS is the familiar (for some) probability density for a multivariate gaussian variable **X** as long as the covariance matrix is non-singular.

Let  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2} \mathbf{u}$ . The square root exists since  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$  is positive definite. Then  $d^n y = |\mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2}| d^n u$ , where  $|\mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2}|$ , the determinant of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2}$ , is the *Jacobian* of the transformation. Note also that  $\mathbf{u}' \mu = \mathbf{y}' \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1/2} \mu$ . By introducing this, we obtain

(10) 
$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-i\mathbf{u}'\mathbf{x}} \exp\left(i\mathbf{u}'\mu - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{u}'\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{u}\right) d^n u$$

(11) 
$$= \frac{1}{\left(2\pi\right)^{n}} \frac{1}{\left|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{1/2}\right|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \exp\left(i\mathbf{y}'\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1/2}\left(\boldsymbol{\mu}-\mathbf{x}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{y}\right) d^{n}y$$

(12) 
$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2}|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \exp\left(i\mathbf{y'a} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y'y}\right) d^n y, \quad \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1/2} \left(\mu - \mathbf{x}\right).$$

The integral now splits into a product of n one-dimensional integrals of the form  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp\left(iya - \frac{1}{2}y^2\right) dy$ , which can be found by observing that

(13) 
$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \exp\left(iya - \frac{1}{2}y^2\right) dy$$

(14) 
$$= e^{-\frac{a^2}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(ia-y)^2}{2}\right) dy$$

(15) 
$$\sum_{s=(y-ia)}^{s=(y-ia)} e^{-\frac{a^2}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-s^2/2} ds = \sqrt{2\pi} e^{-\frac{a^2}{2}}$$

(We are integrating an analytic function in the complex plane along a path parallel to the y-axis. The contributions from the connecting paths at both ends vanish. Therefore,

(16) 
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\left(ia - y\right)^2/2\right) dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-y^2/2\right) dy = \sqrt{2\pi}$$

for all real a-s).

Finally,

(17) 
$$\frac{|\mathbf{a}|^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1/2} \left( \boldsymbol{\mu} - \mathbf{x} \right) \right)_k^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \left( \mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right),$$

which is just what we need.

(b) *Proof of (i)*: This is rather surprising since it holds *regardless* the variables are independent or not! The proof is simple if we use the series expansion for the characteristic function,

(18) 
$$\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{u}'\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{u}\right) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{u}'\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{u} + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{u}'\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{u}\right)^2 + \cdots,$$

and the formula

(19) 
$$E(X_1X_2X_3) = i^3 \frac{\partial^3 \phi}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2 \partial u_3} (\mathbf{0}).$$

Observe that the third term in Eqn. 18 contains a product of 4 *u*-components and all later terms contain even more than that. At the end we are going to put all *u*-components equal to zero. After three derivations, the third term and all later terms will either already be 0, or have remaining *u*-components and will be 0 for  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ . The derivatives of the second term are all of the form

(20) 
$$\sigma_{ij} \frac{\partial^3 \left( u_i u_j \right)}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2 \partial u_3},$$

and are all equal to  $0\ \mathrm{as}$  well.

Proof of (ii):

In this case, we need to take four derivatives,

(21) 
$$E(X_1X_2X_3X_4) = \frac{\partial^4\phi}{\partial u_1\partial u_2\partial u_3\partial u_4}(\mathbf{0}),$$

and all terms in the expansion in Eqn. 18 will vanish, apart from some of the derivatives of the third term. The third term may be written as

(22) 
$$\frac{1}{8} \sum_{i,j,k,l=1}^{4} \sigma_{ij} \sigma_{kl} u_i u_j u_k u_l,$$

and we see that

(23) 
$$\frac{\partial^4 \left( u_i u_j u_k u_l \right)}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2 \partial u_3 \partial u_4}$$

will be non-zero *only* if all four components in the numerator are different. Since  $\sigma_{ij} = \sigma_{ji}$ , there will be 8 such terms for  $\sigma_{12}\sigma_{34}$ , and likewise, 8 terms for  $\sigma_{13}\sigma_{24}$  and  $\sigma_{14}\sigma_{23}$ . This makes up the identity.

For info: The cumulants are coefficients in the Taylor expansion of  $\log (\phi(\mathbf{u}))$ . The main k-th order cumulant is the coefficient in front of the  $\frac{i^k}{k!}u_1 \cdot u_2 \cdots u_n$  -term of the multidimensional Taylor expansion. Since the Taylor expansion of  $\log (\phi(\mathbf{u}))$  for

multivariate Gaussian variables is simply  $\log (\phi(\mathbf{u})) = i\mathbf{u}'\mu - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{u}'\Sigma\mathbf{u}$ , all cumulants larger that the second vanish. The fourth cumulant is in general (24)

 $\kappa_{4} = E(X_{1}X_{2}X_{3}X_{4}) - E(X_{1}X_{2}) E(X_{3}X_{4}) - E(X_{1}X_{3}) E(X_{2}X_{4}) - E(X_{1}X_{4}) E(X_{2}X_{3}),$ 

hence the name of the identity. The identity is useful in all situations involving Gaussian signals.