

LN18: Multivariate Normal Distribution

Yasutomo Murasawa

June 13, 2003

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1 Density Function

Definition 1 *The density function of an n -variate normal distribution is $\forall x \in \mathfrak{R}^n$,*

$$f(x) := (2\pi)^{-n/2} \det(\Sigma)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right).$$

Remark: We write $N(\mu, \Sigma)$.

Definition 2 *The n -variate standard normal distribution is $N(0, I_n)$.*

2 Moment Generating Function

Theorem 1 *The mgf of $N(\mu, \Sigma)$ is $\forall t \in \mathfrak{R}^n$,*

$$M(t) = \exp\left(\mu't + \frac{t'\Sigma t}{2}\right).$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} M(t) &:= \mathbb{E}\left(e^{t'X}\right) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t'x} (2\pi)^{-n/2} \det(\Sigma)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (2\pi)^{-n/2} \det(\Sigma)^{-1/2} \exp\left(t'x - \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
& t'x - \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) \\
&= t'x - \frac{1}{2}(x' \Sigma^{-1}x - 2\mu' \Sigma^{-1}x + \mu' \Sigma^{-1}\mu) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \left[x' \Sigma^{-1}x - 2 \left(\mu' \Sigma^{-1/2} + t' \Sigma^{1/2} \right) \Sigma^{-1/2}x + \mu' \Sigma^{-1}\mu \right] \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \left[\Sigma^{-1/2}x - \left(\Sigma^{-1/2}\mu + \Sigma^{1/2}t \right) \right]' \left[\Sigma^{-1/2}x - \left(\Sigma^{-1/2}\mu + \Sigma^{1/2}t \right) \right] \\
&\quad + \mu't + \frac{t' \Sigma t}{2} \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} [x - (\mu + \Sigma t)]' \Sigma^{-1} [x - (\mu + \Sigma t)] + \mu't + \frac{t' \Sigma t}{2}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary 1 Suppose that $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{E}(X) &= \mu, \\
\mathbf{V}(X) &= \Sigma.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof. Exercise.

Corollary 2 Suppose that $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$. Then

$$AX + b \sim N(A\mu + b, A\Sigma A').$$

Proof. Exercise.

Remark: In particular, for $i = 1, \dots, n$, $X_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$.

3 Independence

Theorem 2 Suppose that $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$. Then X_1, \dots, X_n are independent iff they are uncorrelated.

Proof. “ \implies ” Standard. “ \impliedby ” Since Σ is diagonal,

$$\begin{aligned}
\det(\Sigma) &= \sigma_1^2 \cdots \sigma_n^2, \\
\Sigma^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^{-2} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \sigma_n^{-2} \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

So $\forall x \in \mathfrak{R}^n$,

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) &:= (2\pi)^{-n/2} \det(\Sigma)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right) \\
&= (2\pi)^{-n/2} (\sigma_1^2 \cdots \sigma_n^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2}\right) \\
&= \prod_{i=1}^n (2\pi)^{-1/2} (\sigma_i^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i - \mu_i)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right) \\
&= f_1(x_1) \cdots f_n(x_n).
\end{aligned}$$

□

4 Conditional Distribution

Let $X := (X_1, X_2)'$.

Theorem 3 *Suppose that*

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

Then

$$X_2|X_1 \sim N(\mu_{2|1}, \Sigma_{22|1}),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{2|1} &:= \mu_2 + \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(X_1 - \mu_1), \\ \Sigma_{22|1} &:= \Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \det(\Sigma) &= \det(\Sigma_{11}) \det(\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12}) \\ &= \det(\Sigma_{11}) \det(\Sigma_{22|1}). \end{aligned}$$

So $\forall x \in \mathfrak{R}^n$,

$$\begin{aligned} f_{2|1}(x_2|x_1) &:= \frac{f(x)}{f_1(x_1)} \\ &= \frac{(2\pi)^{-n/2} \det(\Sigma)^{-1/2} \exp(-(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)/2)}{(2\pi)^{-n_1/2} \det(\Sigma_{11})^{-1/2} \exp(-(x_1 - \mu_1)' \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1)/2)} \\ &= (2\pi)^{-n_2/2} \det(\Sigma_{22|1})^{-1/2} \\ &\quad \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} [(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) - (x_1 - \mu_1)' \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1)]\right). \end{aligned}$$

WTS

$$\begin{aligned} &(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) - (x_1 - \mu_1)' \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \\ &= [x_2 - \mu_2 - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(x_1 - \mu_1)]' \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} [x_2 - \mu_2 - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(x_1 - \mu_1)]. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} B_{11} &:= \Sigma_{11}^{-1} + \Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12}(\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12})^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1} \\ &= \Sigma_{11}^{-1} + \Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22|1}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}, \\ B_{12} &:= -\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12}(\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12})^{-1} \\ &= -\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22|1}^{-1}, \\ B_{21} &:= -(\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}\Sigma_{12})^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1} \\ &= -\Sigma_{22|1}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}, \\ B_{22} &:= \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
& (x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) - (x_1 - \mu_1)' \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \\
&= (x_1 - \mu_1)' \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} \Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) - 2(x_1 - \mu_1)' \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) \\
&\quad + (x_2 - \mu_2)' \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) \\
&= (x_2 - \mu_2)' \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) - 2(x_2 - \mu_2)' \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} \Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \\
&\quad \left[\Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \right]' \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} \Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \\
&= \left[(x_2 - \mu_2) - \Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \right]' \Sigma_{22|1}^{-1} \left[(x_2 - \mu_2) - \Sigma_{21} \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

□

A Partitioned Matrices

A.1 Partitioned Matrices

Let

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & \dots & A_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{m1} & \dots & A_{mn} \end{bmatrix},$$

where for $i = 1, \dots, m$, for $j = 1, \dots, n$, A_{ij} is $m_i \times n_j$.

Definition 3 A is upper (lower) block triangular if

1. the diagonal submatrices are square,
2. the lower (upper) off-diagonal submatrices are 0s.

Remark: A block triangular matrix is square.

Definition 4 A is block diagonal if

1. the diagonal submatrices are square,
2. the off-diagonal submatrices are 0s.

A.2 Matrix Algebra

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
A &:= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \\
B &:= \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
A + B &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} + B_{11} & A_{12} + B_{12} \\ A_{21} + B_{21} & A_{22} + B_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \\
AB &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} & A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} \\ A_{21}B_{11} + A_{22}B_{21} & A_{21}B_{12} + A_{22}B_{22} \end{bmatrix},
\end{aligned}$$

provided that they are conformable.

A.3 Inverses

Let A be a square matrix s.th.

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

where A_{11} and A_{22} are square.

Theorem 4 *Suppose that A and A_{11} are invertible. Then*

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} B_{11} &= A_{11}^{-1} + A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}, \\ B_{12} &= -A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}, \\ B_{21} &= -(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}, \\ B_{22} &= (A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} &= I, \\ A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} &= 0, \\ A_{21}B_{11} + A_{22}B_{21} &= 0, \\ A_{21}B_{12} + A_{22}B_{22} &= I. \end{aligned}$$

Since A_{11} is invertible,

$$\begin{aligned} B_{11} &= A_{11}^{-1}(I - A_{12}B_{21}), \\ B_{12} &= -A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}B_{22}. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging these into the third and fourth equations,

$$\begin{aligned} A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}(I - A_{12}B_{21}) + A_{22}B_{21} &= 0, \\ -A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}B_{22} + A_{22}B_{22} &= I, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} B_{21} &= -(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}, \\ B_{22} &= (A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging these back,

$$\begin{aligned} B_{11} &= A_{11}^{-1} \left[I + A_{12}(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}A_{21}A_{11}^{-1} \right] \\ &= A_{11}^{-1} + A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}, \\ B_{12} &= -A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12})^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark: A similar result holds when A_{22} is invertible.

A.4 Determinants

Lemma 1 *Suppose that A is block triangular. Then*

$$\det(A) = \det(A_{11}) \det(A_{22}).$$

Remark: This follows from Laplace's expansion theorem.

Theorem 5 *Suppose that A_{11} is invertible. Then*

$$\det(A) = \det(A_{11}) \det(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}),$$

Proof. Let

$$B := \begin{bmatrix} I & -A_{11}^{-1}A_{12} \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}.$$

By the previous lemma.

$$\det(B) = 1.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= \det(A) \det(B) \\ &= \det(AB) \\ &= \det \left(\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I & -A_{11}^{-1}A_{12} \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= \det \left(\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12} \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= \det(A_{11}) \det(A_{22} - A_{21}A_{11}^{-1}A_{12}). \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark: A similar result holds when A_{22} is invertible.