

# Take home 2

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## Excercise 1

(a)

Fit a linear model, assuming that the strong Gaussian assumption is relevant.

The value for the intercept of the fit is 1.0321764 and for the rico of the fit is 0.1904323

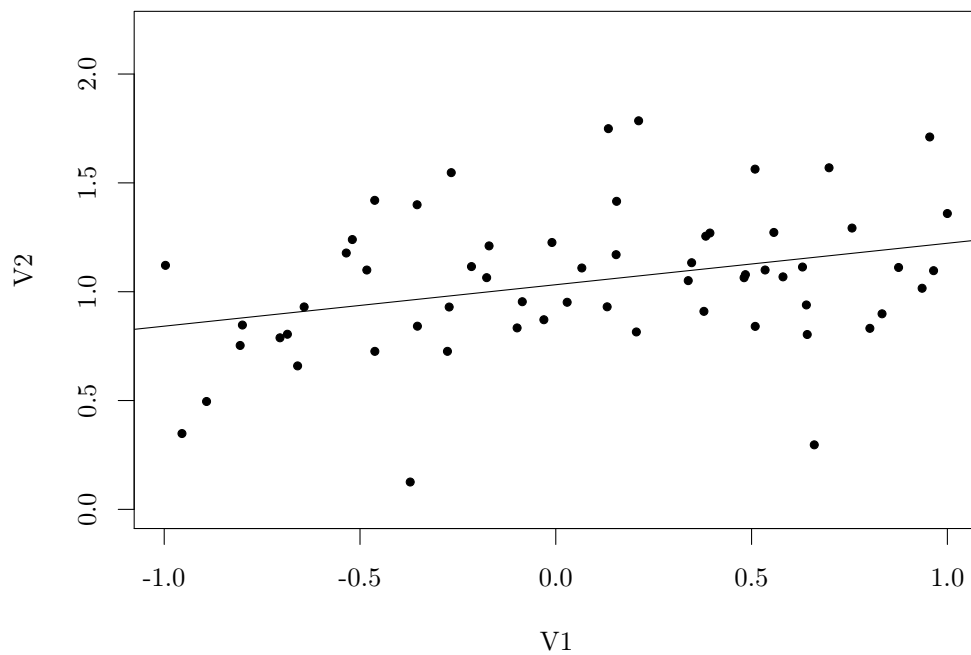


Figure 1: line fit throught the data in Ex1.txt

(b)

Test whether  $\beta_1 = 0$  at the level  $\alpha = 0.01$ .

Using the result from section 7.4.1 in [1] we know that the random variable

$$T = \frac{\beta_1}{\sqrt{\frac{S^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x}^2)}}$$

has a Student-t distribution with  $n - 2$  degrees of freedom. The test value is 2.603. Using a student-t distribution with  $60 - 2 = 58$  degrees of freedom we find a p-value of 0.0117. At the confidence level  $\alpha = 0.01$ , the null hypothesis that  $\beta_1 = 0$  holds. The 99% confidence region for the test value is  $[-2.663, 2.663]$ .

(c)

Explain what a Q-Q plot is and apply this to the residuals.

A q-q plot is a plot where the quantiles of the assumed distribution are plotted against the quantiles from the sample. So in a sample of  $n$  points where the observation  $x_i, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  are labeled from lowest to highest, the  $i$ th point will be plotted at the coordinate  $(Q(i/n), x_i)$ . Here  $Q(x)$  is the quantile function of the assumed distribution, apart from a translation and/or rescaling. This is a function such that  $P(X < Q(p)) = p$ . If the assumed distribution is a good model for the observed sample, the points will well fitted by a linear function.

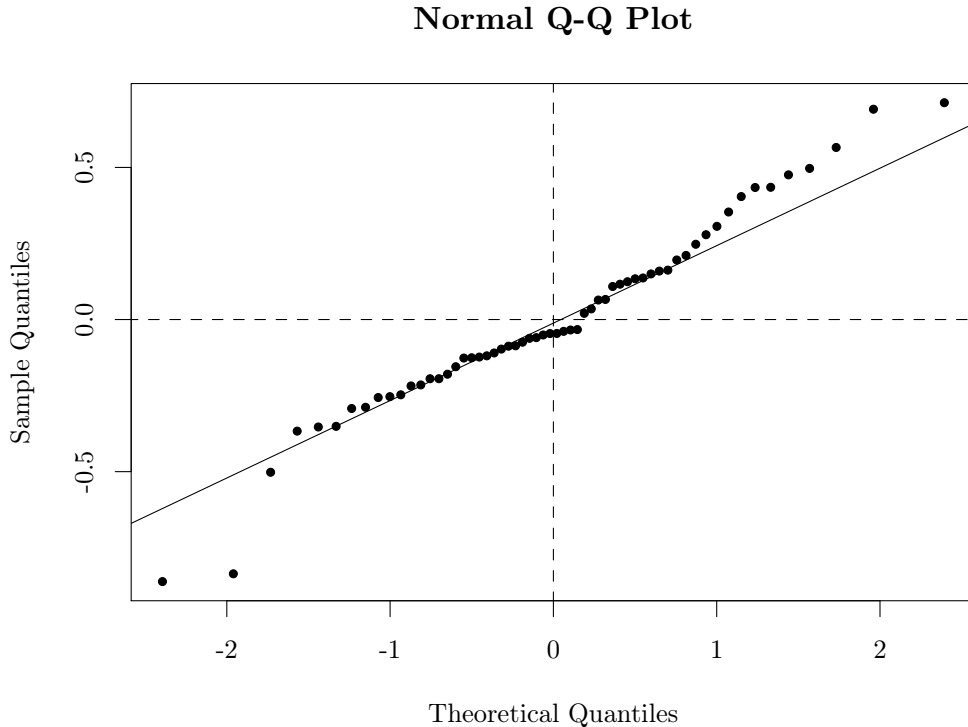


Figure 2: qq plot for the errors on the fit against a standard normal distribution

We see that in this case the line fits the observed quatiles well. In part (d) a Shapiro-Wilk test is done to test if the null-hypothesis of normality of the errors is valid. Notice that the line goes almost exactly through  $(0,0)$ , from which we can conclude that the distribution will have a mean 0.

(d)

Perform a test that does not require normality of the errors.

To do a test that does not require normality of the errors we first derive an asymptotic result for the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}$ . We use that  $\hat{\beta}$  is given by:

$$\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y \quad (1)$$

And that we can rewrite  $Y$  as  $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$  where  $\epsilon$  is the random vector of errors. Filling this in in equation 1 yields

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\beta} &= (X^T X)^{-1} X^T (X\beta + \epsilon) \\ &= (X^T X)^{-1} (X^T X) \beta + (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \epsilon \\ &= \beta + (X^T X)^{-1} X^T \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

We see that the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}$  is a linear combination of the distributions of the individual errors.

$$\hat{\beta}_i = \beta_i + \sum_{j=1}^n [(X^T X)^{-1} X^T]_{ij} \epsilon_j$$

Let  $A = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T$ . If we assume that the  $\epsilon_i$  are i.i.d. with  $E(\epsilon_i) = 0$  and  $Var(\epsilon_i) = \sigma^2$  we see that the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_i$  has expectation value  $E(\hat{\beta}_i) = \beta_i$  and  $Var(\hat{\beta}_i) = (A_i \cdot A_i^T) \sigma^2$ .

(e)

Determine a 99% confidence region for  $\hat{\beta}$

We use the formula from section 7.5.4 in the book to find a confidence region for  $\beta$ . This is a region of the form:

$$\left\{ \beta \left| \frac{(\hat{\beta} - \beta)^T (X^T X) (\hat{\beta} - \beta)}{p S^2} \leq F_{p, n-p}(1 - \alpha) \right. \right\} \quad (2)$$

Because the matrix  $X^T X$  is positive definite, this is an ellips with center  $\beta$  and axes along the eigenvectors of  $X^T X$ . The upper bound in 2 for the 99% confidence region is:  $F_{2, 58(0.99)} = 4.9910$ . Filling in the values for  $X, p = 2, n = 60$  and  $S^2 = 0.0983$  we get the following result (obtained using the CAS system sympy):

$$\{\beta | 5.2596\alpha^2 + 0.8222\alpha\beta - 0.4950\alpha + 1.6711\beta^2 - 0.6629\beta + 0.0711 \leq 4.9910\}$$

The resulting ellips is plotted in figure 3.

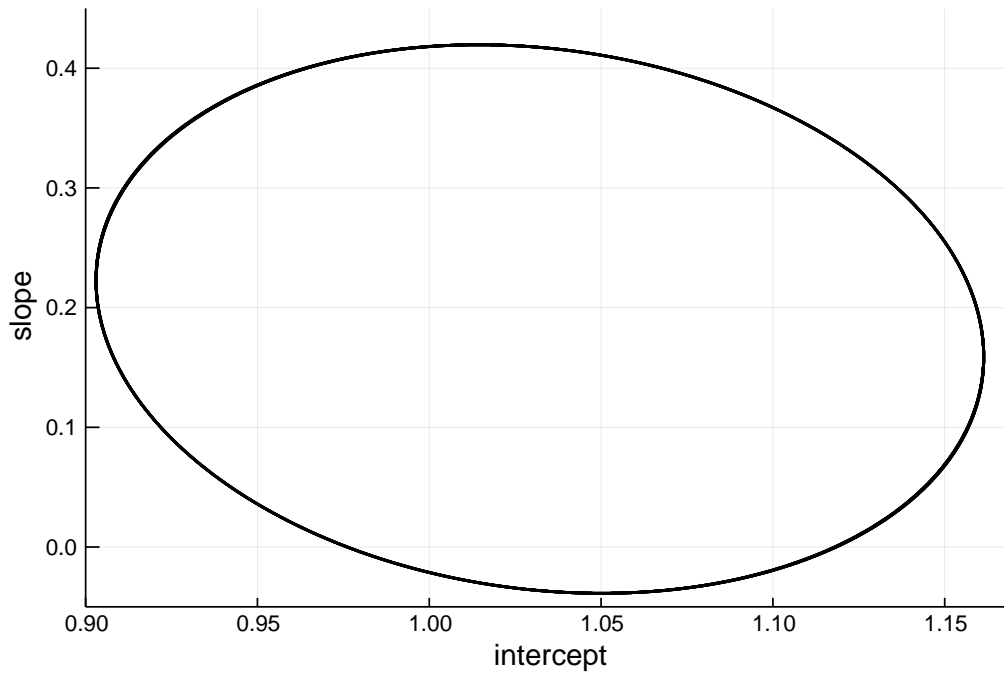


Figure 3: A plot of the 99% confidence region for  $\beta$ .

## Question 2

(a)

Compute the ordinary least squares  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ .

The value for  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$  obtained using ordinary least squares with the correlated errors is:

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS} = (3.923161, 1.214355)^T$$

(b)

Suppose we further know that the errors are correlated and satisfy the following equation:

$$\epsilon_i = \rho\epsilon_{i-1} + \eta_i, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n \quad (3)$$

Where  $\eta_n$  are i.i.d. standard Gaussian and  $\rho = 0.8$ . Use 3 to compute the variance of  $\epsilon$ .

we know that the variance is the same for all  $\epsilon_i$  and that they obey the recursive relation:

$$\epsilon_i = \rho\epsilon_{i-1} + \eta_i$$

with  $\eta_i$  standard normally distributed. Using  $Var(\epsilon_i) = Var(\epsilon_j)$  for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, 80\}$  we find:

$$\begin{aligned} Var(\epsilon_i) &= \rho^2 Var(\epsilon_{i-1}) + Var(\eta_i) \\ \Leftrightarrow Var(\epsilon_i) &= \rho^2 Var(\epsilon_i) + 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow Var(\epsilon_i) &= \frac{1}{1 - \rho^2} \\ &= \frac{25}{9} \\ &= 2.777 \dots \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that the variance of  $\epsilon$  is  $\frac{25}{9}$ .

(c)

Transform the model in such a way that the errors are no longer correlated. Compute the ordinary least squares for this new model and compare it to the one obtained in (a)

To transform the errors to a basis where they are no longer correlated we will use the variance-covariance matrix  $V$  of the errors. The off-diagonal elements, so the covariances, are (suppose  $i < j$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} Cov(\epsilon_i, \epsilon_j) &= E[(\epsilon_i - E(\epsilon_i))(\epsilon_j - E(\epsilon_j))] \\ &= E[\epsilon_i \epsilon_j] \\ &= E[\epsilon_i (\rho \epsilon_{j-1} \eta_j)] \\ &\vdots \\ &= E[\epsilon_i (\rho^{j-i} \epsilon_i + \rho^{j-i-1} \eta_i + \rho^{j-i-2} \eta_{i-2} + \dots + \eta_j)] \\ &= E[\epsilon_i \rho^{i-j} \epsilon_i] \\ &= \rho^{i-j} Var(\epsilon) \\ &= \rho^{i-j} \frac{25}{9} \end{aligned}$$

So the matrix  $V$  has  $\frac{25}{9}$  on the diagonal,  $\frac{25}{9}\rho$  on the two sub-diagonals next to the diagonal,  $\frac{25}{9}\rho^k$  on the  $k$ th sub-diagonal. the matrix  $V$  can be diagonalized with an orthogonal (or unitary) transformation  $U$ :  $\Lambda = UVU^T$ . When we use the definition of the variance-covariance matrix (where  $\epsilon$  denotes the column vector with the errors) we find:

$$\begin{aligned} V &= E((\epsilon - E(\epsilon))(\epsilon - E(\epsilon))^T) \\ \Leftrightarrow \Lambda &= UE(\epsilon\epsilon^T)U^T \\ \Leftrightarrow \Lambda &= E((U\epsilon)(U\epsilon)^T) \end{aligned}$$

Where we used that  $E(\epsilon) = \mathbf{0}$ . The vector  $U\epsilon$  has variance-covariance matrix  $\Lambda$ , therefore it is a vector of uncorrelated variables. To be able to use the ordinary least squares method however, we need a vector of *i.i.d.* variables which this vector is not, the variances are the eigenvalues of  $V$ . To get a transformation we can use to do the fit we need to correct this. Let  $\epsilon' = \sqrt{\Lambda^{-1}}U\epsilon$ . The variance-covariance matrix of this vector is:

$$\begin{aligned} E(\epsilon'\epsilon'^T) &= \sqrt{\Lambda^{-1}}UE(\epsilon\epsilon^T)U^T\sqrt{\Lambda^{-1}} \\ &= \sqrt{\Lambda^{-1}}\Lambda\sqrt{\Lambda^{-1}} \\ &= Id \end{aligned}$$

where  $Id$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. The vector  $\epsilon'$  is a vector of uncorrelated random variables with standard deviation 1. Because they have mean 0 and are linear combinations of Gaussian distributions, we conclude that this is a vector of uncorrelated standard Gaussian distributions so

when we transform the model in this way the strong Gaussian assumption is valid and we can use ordinary least squares to fit the model. To transform the errors, we need to transform the matrix  $X$  and the vector  $Y$ . Let  $A = \sqrt{\Lambda^{-1}}U$ ,  $X' = AX$  and  $Y' = AY$ . Using this in the relation between  $Y$  and  $X$ :

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= X\beta + \epsilon \\ \Leftrightarrow AY &= AX\beta + \epsilon' \\ \Leftrightarrow Y' &= X'\beta + \epsilon' \end{aligned}$$

We see that the parameter  $\hat{\beta}$  from a fit through the new model is an estimate for the same  $\beta$  as the  $\hat{\beta}$  from a fit through the original model. The fitted parameters in this model are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\beta} &= (X'^T X')^{-1} X'^T Y' \\ &= (X^T A^T A X)^{-1} (X^T A^T A Y) \\ &= (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T W^{-1} Y \end{aligned}$$

where we used that  $A^T A = U^T \Lambda^{-1} U = (U \Lambda U^T)^{-1} = W^{-1}$  which is the same formula for weighted least squares with the eigenvalues of the variance-covariance matrix as weights. As estimate for the parameters this yields:

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = 3.630090 \qquad t\beta_1 = 1.180644$$

with  $RSS(\hat{\beta}) = 2.074712$ . The residual least square value is a lot smaller than the one obtained with the correlated errors. The difference in the obtained values is small, but because of the smaller RSS, the one obtained by the model with uncorrelated errors is a lot better. In figure 4 the two 99% confidence regions are plotted. The smaller ellips is the confidence region for the estimate obtained with the model where the errors are uncorrelated. Its clear that this model gives a more accurate estimate of the true value of the parameters. In figure ?? the data is plotted together with the two fits.

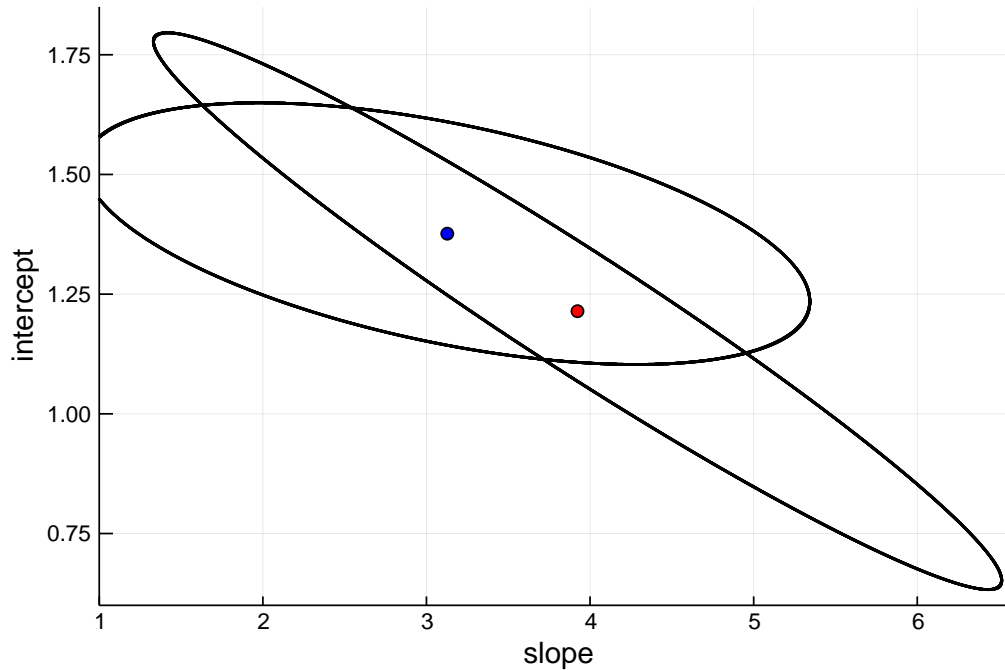


Figure 4: The 99% confidence regions and estimate for  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$  obtained with the original data (stretched ellips and red point) and with the model where the errors are uncorrelated (less stretched ellips and blue point).

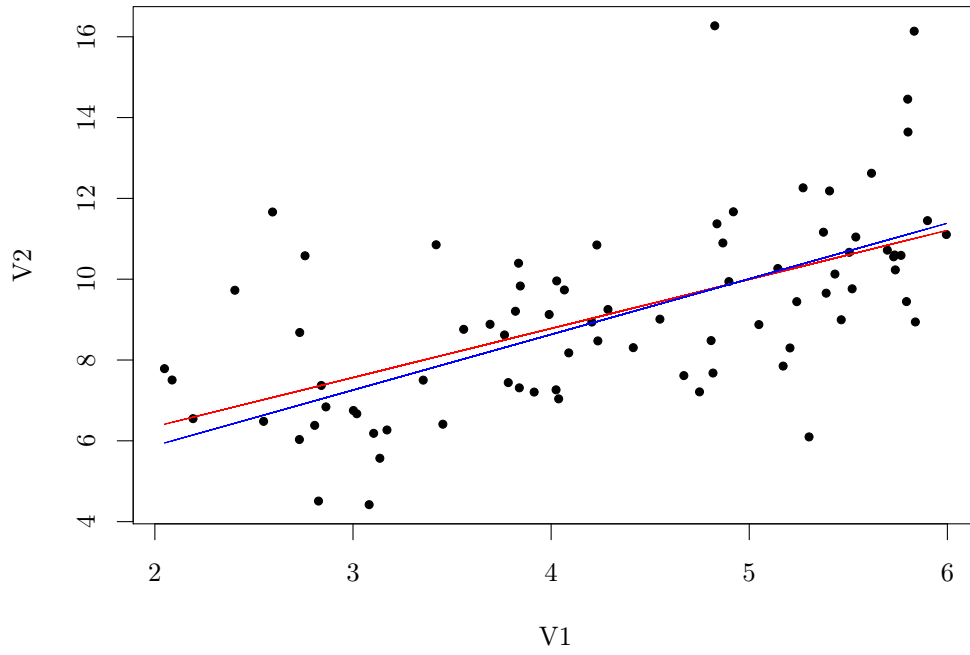


Figure 5: The data together with the two fits, red line is fit trough data with correlated errors, blue the fit trough data with uncorrelated errors.

### Question 3

(a)

Compute the weighted least square estimator  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$

The values for the fitted coefficients with ordinary least squares are:

$[0.4994, 1.1985, -2.4959, 1.2082]$ .

In figure 6 the fit is plotted along with the data.

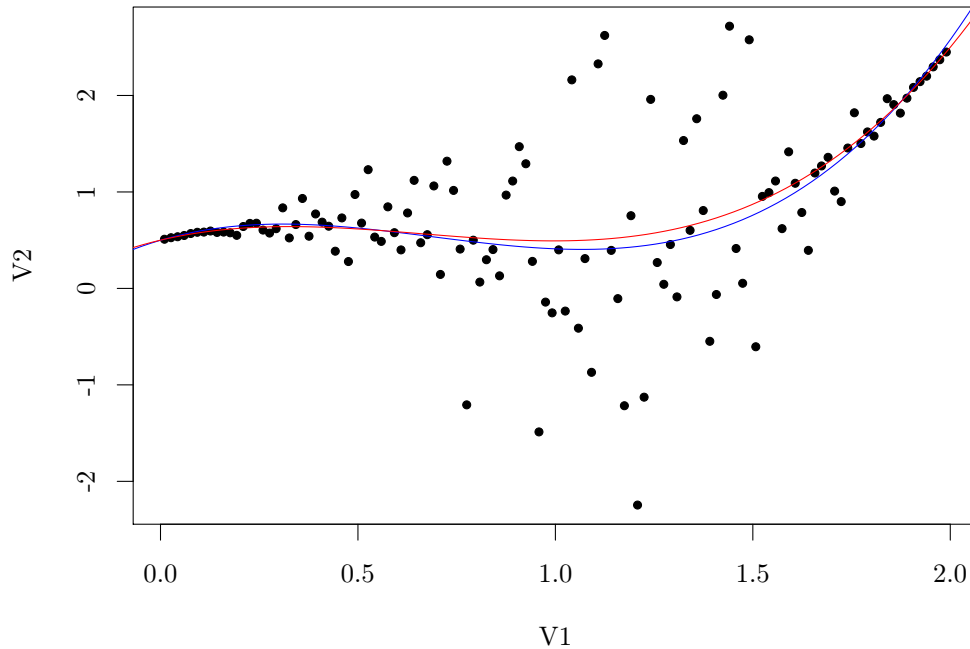


Figure 6: fits of a cubic function using ordinary least square (blue) and weighted least squares (red)

(b)

Suppose we further know that the errors are Gaussian but heteroscedastic as follows:

$$\sigma(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \in [0, 4/3] \\ 4(x-2)^2 & \text{if } x \in [4/3, 2] \end{cases}$$

Compute the weighted least square estimator  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$ .

The formula to calculate an estimate for  $\beta$  with the weighted least squares method is given by:

$$\hat{\beta}_{WLS} = (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T W^{-1} Y \quad (4)$$

Where  $W$  is the variance-covariance matrix of the errors. In this case this is a diagonal matrix with the variance of  $\epsilon_i$  at position  $W_{ii}$ . The coefficients fitted with the weighted least square algorithm are:



$$[0.5003, 0.9669, -1.9655, 0.9910].$$

(c)

Compare  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$  to  $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$  and with the true parameter i.e.  $\beta = (0.5, 1, -2, 1)^T$

The coefficients that are calculated using the weighted least squares method are closer to the real values than the ones calculated using the ordinary least squares. To really say something about the difference and how well they match the given real values of the function we need more information about the distribution of the parameters. In figure 6 the two fits are plotted together with the data used for the fit.

(d)

Determine the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$

To derive the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$  we start from the distribution for the errors, which is known:

$$\epsilon \sim N_n(0, W)$$

Where  $W$  is a diagonal matrix with at position  $W_{ii}$  the variance of  $\epsilon_i$ . This is the same matrix  $W$  used in equation 4. here  $Y$  is the vector with samples used to calculate the least squares estimator.  $X$  is the matrix as defined on page 193 in the course notes, this matrix is deterministic.  $Y$  can be rewritten as follows:

$$Y = X\beta + \epsilon$$

substituting this into equation ?? yields:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta}_{WLS} &= (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T W^{-1} (X\beta + \epsilon) \\ &= (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1} (X^T W^{-1} X)\beta + (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1} X^T W^{-1} \epsilon \\ &= \beta + X^{-1} W X^{-T} X^T W^{-1} \epsilon \\ &= \beta + X^{-1} \epsilon\end{aligned}$$

Note that the matrix  $X^{-1}$  used here is not well-defined as it is not unique. We take any matrix  $A = X^{-1}$  such that  $X^{-1}X = Id_p$ . We can see that such a matrix exist by adding extra columns to  $X$  with the values  $x_i^p, x_i^{p+1}, \dots, x_i^{n-1}$  with  $p$  the amount of parameters in the model and  $n$  the mamount of sample points. The determinant of this extended matrix  $B$  is the determinant of Vandermonde and is non-zero if all  $x_i$  are different. Thus  $B$  has an inverse and we can take the first  $p$  rows of  $B$  as the matrix  $X^{-1}$ .

We see this is a linear transformation of a multivariate normal distribution with mean  $\mathbf{0}$  and as variance-covariance matrix  $\Sigma_\epsilon = W$ . Again using the results from section 6.2, page 172 in the course notes we find that the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$  is a multivariate normal distribution with mean  $\beta$  and variance-covariance matrix  $X^{-1} W X^{-T} = (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1}$ . We conclude that:

$$\hat{\beta}_{WLS} \sim N_p(\beta, (X^T W^{-1} X)^{-1})$$

Notice that there is no  $X^{-1}$  in the final expression and we only used the fact that  $X^{-1}X = Id_p$  so there is no ambiguity in the final expression for the distribution of  $\hat{\beta}_{WLS}$ .

## Question 4

Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be a 3-dimensional Gaussian vector with parameters

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1.25 & 1.50 & 0.5 \\ 1.5 & 5.25 & 3.5 \\ 0.5 & 3.5 & 3.0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(a)

Produce  $n = 200$  simulations of  $\mathbf{X}$

To generate a sample from a multi-normal distribution we Proposition 6.2 (b) from [1]. We are given the variance-covariance matrix  $\Sigma_X$  of a multivariate normal model. This matrix must be positive definite, so the square root of this matrix exists.

Let  $A$  be a matrix such that  $AA^T = \Sigma_X$ . This matrix can be found by diagonalizing  $\Sigma_X$ :  $\Sigma_X = U\Lambda U^T$  and then taking  $A = U\sqrt{\Lambda}$ . We can do this because all eigenvalues of  $\Sigma_X$  are positive.

Proposition 6.2 b) tells us that  $X = AY + \mu$  where  $Y$  is a vector of standard normal distributions. Because  $A\Sigma_Y A^T = \Sigma_X$  where we used that  $\Sigma_Y$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. This observation can be used to draw a sample from  $X$  by drawing  $n$  independent samples from a standard normal distribution, filling them in in a vector  $y$  and then calculating the sample from  $X$  as  $x = Ay + \mu$ . This was implemented in *R* and projections of this sample are plotted in figure 7 together with a 3D-plot.

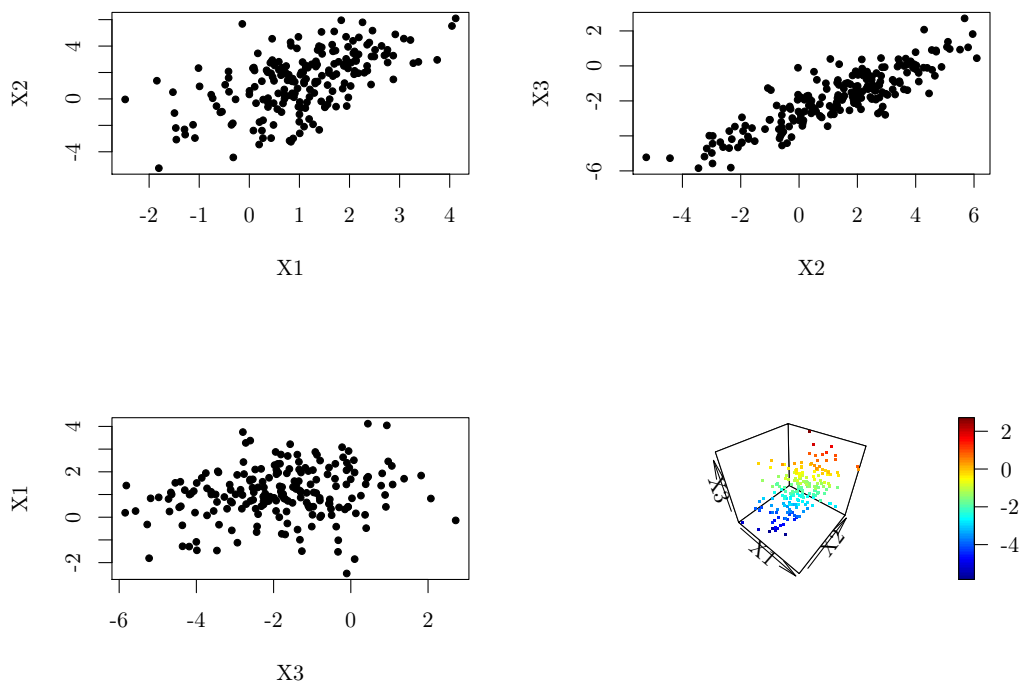


Figure 7: Projection on the  $xy$ -plane of the sample from the multivariate normal distribution

(b)

Compute  $P(X_1 > 1|X_2 = 1, X_3 = -2)$  and  $P(X_1 > 1|X_2 + X_3 = -1)$ .

To compute these conditional chances we use proposition 6.2 from the course notes with the following vectors and matrices:

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_{11} &= (1.25) & \Sigma_{12} &= (1.50, 0.5) \\ \Sigma_{21} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1.50 \\ 0.50 \end{pmatrix} & \Sigma_{22} &= \begin{pmatrix} 5.25 & 3.5 \\ 3.5 & 3.0 \end{pmatrix} \\ \mathbf{X}_1 &= (X_1) & \mathbf{X}_2 &= \begin{pmatrix} X_2 \\ X_3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

When we fill these values in the the formula for the conditional distribution  $f_{\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2)$  we find the following:

$$f_{\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{x}_2) = N_1(1, 0.446) \quad (5)$$

The probability  $P(X_1 > 1|X_2 = 1, X_3 = -2)$  is equal to 0.5 because of the symmetry of the conditional probability distribution around 1.

To calculate the probability  $P(X_1 > 1|X_2 + X_3 = 1)$  we first transform the random vector  $\mathbf{X}$  to the vector  $\mathbf{Y} = (X_1, X_2 + X_3)^T = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$  where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Using part (b) of proposition 6.2 we find that the distribution of  $\mathbf{Y}$  is given by:

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim N(\mathbf{A}\mu, \mathbf{A}\Sigma\mathbf{A}^T) = N(\dots)$$

Observe that  $P(X_1 > 1|X_2 + X_3 = -1) = P(Y_1 > 1|Y_2 = -1)$ . We can again use part (c) of proposition 6.2 to calculate this probability. This yields the following conditional distribution:

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}_1|\mathbf{Y}_2}(\mathbf{y}_1|\mathbf{y}_2 = -1) = N(1, 0.9877)$$

Therefore  $P(X_1 > 1|X_2 + X_3 = -1) = 0.5$ .

(c)

Let  $\mathbf{Y} = (X_1, X_2)^T$ . Represent graphically the density contours that comprise 95% of the probability mass of  $\mathbf{Y}$

To determine the density function of  $\mathbf{Y} = (X_1, X_2)^T$  We make again use of proposition 6.2 (c) with the following matrix:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

From which we find the probability distribution of  $\mathbf{Y}$

$$\mathbf{Y} \sim N_2\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1.25 & 1.50 \\ 1.50 & 5.25 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

We can now use proposition 6.1 to find the contours of of this density function. The contour that comprises 95% of the probability mass is given by the following equation:

$$Q_{\chi^2_2}(0.95) = (\mathbf{Y} - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{Y} - \mu)$$

This region is plotted in figure 8.

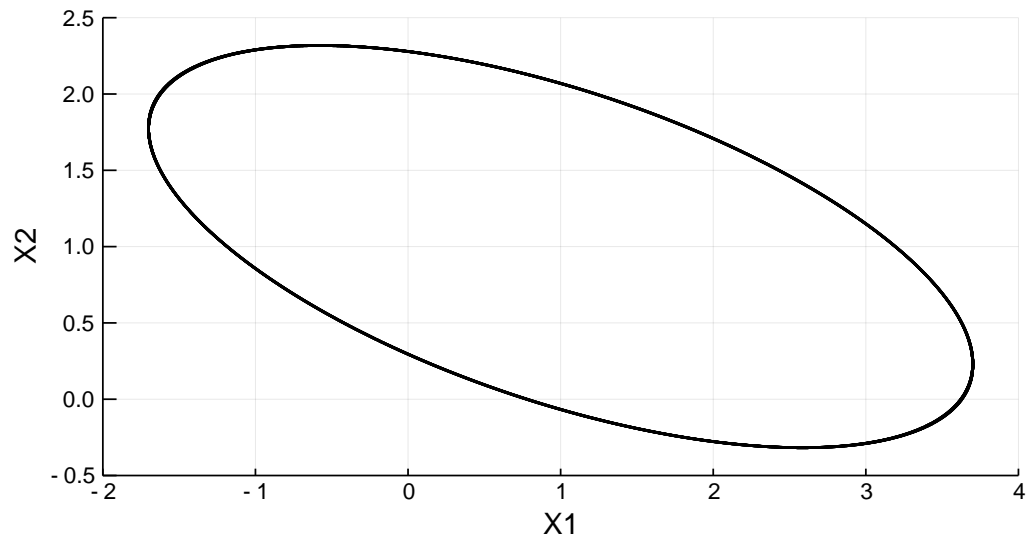


Figure 8: The contour that comprises 95% of the density of the probability density function of the random vector  $\mathbf{Y}$ .

## Acknowledgements

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## References

- [1] J Beirlandt and I. Gijbels. *Statistical inference and data analysis: course notes*. 2019.