

Characteristic function

Definition 1

The characteristic function of a random variable Y is defined as

$$\phi_Y(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbb{E}[\exp(it'\mathbf{y})].$$

MVN

Definition 2

MVN Let \mathbf{u} be a vector of order n whose components u_1, \dots, u_n are independent standard normal variables. Let X be an $r \times n$ matrix, and let $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ be a constant $r \times 1$ vector. The vector $\mathbf{y} = X\mathbf{u} + \boldsymbol{\mu}$ is said to have (an r -dimensional) multivariate normal distribution.

Clearly, $\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{y}) = \boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $D(\mathbf{y}) = XX' = \Sigma$.

Characteristic function: MVN

Definition 3

The characteristic function of a MVN RV \mathbf{y} is given as

$$\phi_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{t}) = \exp \left(i \mathbf{t}' \boldsymbol{\mu} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{t}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{t} \right)$$

Characteristic function: MVN

Result 1: If $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$, then for any matrix B ,

$$B\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(B\boldsymbol{\mu}, B\Sigma B').$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{B\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{t}) &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(it'B\mathbf{y})] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(it'^*\mathbf{y})], \text{ where } \mathbf{t}^{*'} = (B'\mathbf{t})' \\ &= \exp\left(it'^*\boldsymbol{\mu} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}^{*'}\Sigma\mathbf{t}^*\right) = \exp\left(it'B\boldsymbol{\mu} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'B\Sigma B'\mathbf{t}'\right) \\ &= \exp\left(it'\boldsymbol{\mu}^* - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{t}'\Sigma^*\mathbf{t}'\right)\end{aligned}$$

where $\boldsymbol{\mu}^* = B\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\Sigma^* = B\Sigma B'$. Thus, $B\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}^*, \Sigma^*)$.

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Result 2: Let $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$. Suppose that \mathbf{y} , $\boldsymbol{\mu}$, and Σ are conformally partitioned as

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_1 \\ \mathbf{y}_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

Then $\mathbf{y}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \Sigma_{11})$ and $\mathbf{y}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \Sigma_{22})$.

Proof: Note that for $B_1 = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $B_1 \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_1$ and for $B_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$, $B_2 \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_2$. Now use **Result 1**.

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Result 3: Let $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$, and suppose that \mathbf{y} , $\boldsymbol{\mu}$, and Σ are conformally partitioned as in (1). Then \mathbf{y}_1 and \mathbf{y}_2 are independent if and only if $\Sigma_{12} = 0$.

Proof: If \mathbf{y}_1 and \mathbf{y}_2 are independent then $\text{Cov}(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2) = \Sigma_{12} = 0$. We now prove the converse part. Suppose that $\Sigma_{12} = 0$. Then

$$\mathbf{t}'\Sigma\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{t}_1'\Sigma_{11}\mathbf{t}_2 + \mathbf{t}_2'\Sigma_{22}\mathbf{t}_2.$$

Therefore,

$$\phi_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{t}) = \phi_{\mathbf{y}_1}(\mathbf{t}_1)\phi_{\mathbf{y}_2}(\mathbf{t}_2),$$

and hence \mathbf{y}_1 and \mathbf{y}_2 are independent.

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Result 4: Let $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, and let A and B be matrices such that $A\boldsymbol{\Sigma}B' = 0$. Then, $A\mathbf{y}$ and $B\mathbf{y}$ are independent.

Proof: From **Result 1**

$$\begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} A\mathbf{y} \\ B\mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix}$$

has multivariate normal distribution. Thus, by **Result 3** $A\mathbf{y}$ and $B\mathbf{y}$ are independent if $\text{Cov}(A\mathbf{y}, B\mathbf{y}) = A\boldsymbol{\Sigma}B' = 0$.

Cochran's Theorem

Theorem 4

Let $\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_n)$ and let \mathbf{A} be a symmetric $n \times n$. Let $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$ has the chi-square distribution with r degrees of freedom (χ_r^2) if and only if \mathbf{A} is idempotent and $\text{Rank}(\mathbf{A}) = r$.

Cochran's Theorem

To prove Theorem 4, following results are needed.

Result 5: If A is an idempotent matrix of rank r then there exists an orthogonal matrix P such that $A = P' \begin{pmatrix} I_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} P$.

Result 6: If $X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and are independently for $i = 1 \dots, n$ then $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \sim \chi_n^2$.

Result 7: If $A_{n \times n}$ is a real symmetric matrix then there exist a orthogonal matrix P such that $A = P \text{Diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) P'$, where λ_i 's are eigen values of A .

Cochran's Theorem

Proof: Let A is an idempotent matrix with rank r then by **Result 5** there exists an orthogonal matrix P such that

$$A = P' \begin{pmatrix} I_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} P.$$

Let $z = Py$. Then $z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_n)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}'A\mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{y}'P' \begin{pmatrix} I_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} P\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z}' \begin{pmatrix} I_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{z} \\ &= z_1^2 + \cdots + z_r^2 \sim \chi_r^2. \text{ (by \textbf{Result 6}).} \end{aligned}$$

Cochran's Theorem

Conversely, suppose $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \sim \chi_r^2$. Since \mathbf{A} is symmetric, there exists an orthogonal matrix \mathbf{P} such that

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}'\text{Diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}'\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P},$$

where $\mathbf{D} = \text{Diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$, $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ are the eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} . Again, let $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{y}$, so that $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_n)$. The characteristic function of $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z}'\mathbf{D}\mathbf{z}$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(t) &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(it\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y})] = \mathbb{E}[\exp(it\mathbf{z}'\mathbf{D}\mathbf{z})] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(it \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j z_j^2)] = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 - 2it\lambda_j)^{-\frac{1}{2}},\end{aligned}\quad (2)$$

since $z_j^2 \sim \chi_1^2$.

Cochran's Theorem

However, since $\mathbf{y}'\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \sim \chi_r^2$, its characteristic function is

$$\phi(t) = (1 - 2it)^{-r/2}. \quad (3)$$

Equating (2) and (3), we get

$$(1 - 2it)^{-r/2} = \prod_{j=1}^n (1 - 2it\lambda_j)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \quad (4)$$

for all t .

Cochran's Theorem

The left-hand side of (4) is a polynomial in t with r roots, all equal to $1/2i$. Therefore, the right-hand side also must have the same roots. This is possible precisely when r of the λ'_i s are equal to 1, the rest being zero. Therefore, A is idempotent with rank r .