

## Equivalence for Row-Standardized CAR models

The CAR model (7.7), written in the form with an overall variance parameter  $\sigma^2$ , weight matrix  $\mathbf{W}$ , and autocorrelation parameter  $\rho$ , is

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \sigma^2(\mathbf{I} - \rho\mathbf{W})^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{\text{CAR}}.$$

Recall from Section 7.3 that

$$\mathbf{D} = \text{diag}\left(\frac{1}{w_{1+}}, \frac{1}{w_{2+}}, \dots, \frac{1}{w_{n+}}\right) = [\text{diag}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{1})]^{-1},$$

and the row-standardized CAR model is

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \sigma^2(\mathbf{I} - \rho\overline{\mathbf{W}})^{-1}\mathbf{D},$$

where recall that  $\overline{\mathbf{W}} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{W}$ . Then the row-standardized CAR model can also be written as

$$\begin{aligned}\boldsymbol{\Sigma} &= \sigma^2(\mathbf{I} - \rho\mathbf{D}\mathbf{W})^{-1}\mathbf{D} \\ &= \sigma^2[\mathbf{D}^{-1}(\mathbf{I} - \rho\mathbf{D}\mathbf{W})]^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2(\mathbf{D}^{-1} - \rho\mathbf{W})^{-1} \\ &= \sigma^2(\text{diag}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{1}) - \rho\mathbf{W})^{-1}.\end{aligned}$$

This last formula is a good computing formula for  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$ .

This result is in,

Ver Hoef, J.M., Peterson, E. E., Hooten, M. B., Hanks, E. M., and Fortin, M.-J. 2018. Spatial Autoregressive Models for Statistical Inference from Ecological Data. Ecological Monographs, 88: 36{59.

although I saw it somewhere else (and don't recall exactly where).