

1 Wishart Distribution

a $p \times p$ Wishart random variate has a density of the form

$$\mathcal{W}(\Omega | V, k) = C(k, V) |\Omega|^{(k-p-1)/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(V^{-1}\Omega)\right) \quad (1)$$

$$C(k, V) = |V|^{-k/2} \left(2^{kp/2} \pi^{p(p-1)/4} \prod_{i=1}^p \Gamma\left(\frac{k+1-i}{2}\right)\right)^{-1} \quad (2)$$

The log-density is

$$\log \mathcal{W}(\Omega | k, V) = \frac{k-p-1}{2} \log |\Omega| - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(V^{-1}\Omega) - \frac{k}{2} \log |V| \quad (3)$$

$$- \frac{kp}{2} \log 2 - \frac{p(p-1)}{4} \log \pi - \sum_{i=1}^p \log \Gamma\left(\frac{k+1-i}{2}\right) \quad (4)$$

Before jumping into the derivative of the log-density, let's do it by parts.

- $\ell = \text{Tr}(V^{-1}\Omega) = \text{vec}(\Omega)' \text{vec}(V^{-1})$

$$d\ell = \text{vec}(\Omega)' \text{vec}(dV^{-1}) \quad (5)$$

$$= \text{vec}(\Omega)' \text{vec}(-V^{-1} dV V^{-1}) \quad (6)$$

$$= -\text{vec}(\Omega)' (V^{-1} \otimes V^{-1}) D_p d \text{vech}(V) \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{d \text{Tr}(V^{-1}\Omega)}{d \text{vech}(V)'} = -D_p' (V^{-1} \otimes V^{-1}) D_p \text{vech}(\Omega) \quad (8)$$

where D_p is the unique duplication matrix such that $D_p \text{vech}(A) = \text{vec}(A)$.

- $\ell = \log |V|$

$$\frac{d \log |V|}{d \text{vech}(V)'} = D_p \text{vech}(V^{-1}) \quad (9)$$

Therefore,

$$\nabla_{\text{vech}(V)} \log \mathcal{W}(\Omega | k, V) = \frac{1}{2} D_p' (V^{-1} \otimes V^{-1}) D_p \text{vech}(\Omega) - \frac{k}{2} D_p \text{vech}(V^{-1}) \quad (10)$$

$$\nabla_k \log \mathcal{W}(\Omega | k, V) = \frac{1}{2} \log |\Omega| - \frac{1}{2} \log |V| - \frac{p}{2} \log 2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^p \psi\left(\frac{k+1-i}{2}\right) \quad (11)$$