

Question 3 A: Let $\underline{X} \sim N_p(\underline{\mu}, \Sigma)$

Show: $M_{\underline{X}}(\underline{t}) = E[\exp(\underline{t}' \underline{X})] = \exp(\underline{t}' \underline{\mu} + \frac{1}{2} \underline{t}' \Sigma \underline{t})$

Definitions / Knowns:

For a univariate $Z_i \sim N(0,1)$: $M_{Z_i}(t_i) = E[e^{t_i Z_i}]$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{t_i z_i} \cdot \left(\frac{e^{-(z_i^2/2)}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) dz_i$$

$$= e^{(t_i)^2/2} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(z_i - t_i)^2/2} dz_i$$

evaluates to 1

$$= e^{(t_i)^2/2}$$

When \underline{Z} is a vector of random samples: $\underline{Z} = (Z_1, \dots, Z_n)$

$$\underline{Z} \sim N(0, I)$$

$$M_{\underline{Z}}(\underline{t}) = E[e^{\sum_i t_i Z_i}] = E\left[\prod_{i=1}^n e^{t_i Z_i}\right] = \prod_{i=1}^n E[e^{t_i Z_i}] = \prod_{i=1}^n M_{Z_i}(t_i) = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{t_i^2/2}$$

b/c Z_i is a ~~univariate~~
standardized normal
we can assume indep.

$$= \exp\left\{\sum_{i=1}^n t_i^2/2\right\}$$

$$= \exp\left\{\sum \underline{t}^2/2\right\} =$$

$$= \exp\left\{\underline{t}' \underline{t}/2\right\}$$

$$A A' = A' A = \Sigma^{-1}$$

If we define $\underline{X} = A \underline{Z} + \underline{\mu}$ \leftarrow here \underline{X} is a linear combination of \underline{Z} .

$$M_{\underline{X}}(\underline{t}) = E[\exp\{\underline{t}' \underline{X}\}] \leftarrow \text{sub for } \underline{X}$$

$$= E[\exp\{\underline{t}' (A \underline{Z} + \underline{\mu})\}] = E[\exp\{\underline{t}' A \underline{Z} + \underline{\mu}' \underline{t}\}]$$

Nothing to do w/ \underline{Z} so we can pull it out

$$= \exp\{\underline{\mu}' \underline{t}\} \cdot E[\exp\{\underline{t}' A \underline{Z}\}] \leftarrow M_{Z_i}(A \underline{t})$$

$$= \exp\{\underline{\mu}' \underline{t}\} \cdot \exp\{\underline{t}' (A A')/2\}$$

$$= \exp\{\underline{\mu}' \underline{t}\} \cdot \exp\{\underline{t}' (A A')(\underline{t}' \underline{t})/2\}$$

$$= \exp\{\underline{\mu}' \underline{t}\} \cdot \exp\{\underline{t}' \Sigma^{-1} \underline{t}/2\} = \exp\{\underline{\mu}' \underline{t} + \frac{1}{2} \underline{t}' \Sigma^{-1} \underline{t}\}$$

Question 3b: $\underline{X} \sim N_p(\mu, \Sigma)$

If we partition \underline{X} ...

$$\underline{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x}_1 \\ \underline{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{X}_1 = (x_1, \dots, x_g) \quad \mu_1 = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_g)$$

$$\underline{X}_2 = (x_{g+1}, \dots, x_p) \quad \mu_2 = (\mu_{g+1}, \dots, \mu_p)$$

Show that marginal distribution of \underline{X}_1 is $\underline{X}_1 \sim N_g(\mu_1, \Sigma_{11})$

If we can use similar logic to part A then we can prove this by writing \underline{X}_1 as a linear combination of \underline{X} then we can show this true.

test: $\underline{X}_1 = \underline{B}' \underline{X}$

In the test, we will assume

ex: \underline{B} is a vector that when multiplied by \underline{X} will leave \underline{X}_1 remaining

$$\underline{X}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{B} \\ 1 \cdot 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{x} \\ \underline{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \cdot x_1 + 0 \cdot x_2 = x_1$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \cdot 0 \\ 1 \times 2 \quad 2 \times 2 \\ \{\end{array}$$

Apply:

$$\underline{X}_1 = \underline{B}' \underline{X}$$

$$E[\underline{X}_1] = E[\underline{B}' \underline{X}] \rightarrow \text{constant}$$

$$\underline{X}_1 = \underline{B}' E[\underline{X}] \rightarrow \text{this is defined above:}$$

$$= \underline{B}' \mu$$

$$E[\underline{X}_1] = \mu_1 \quad \mu_1 \text{ remains.}$$

Similarly for the $\text{Var}(\underline{X}_1)$

$$\text{Var}(\underline{X}_1) = \text{Var}(\underline{B}' \underline{X})$$

$$= \underline{B}' \text{Var}(\underline{X}) \rightarrow \Sigma \text{ covariance matrix}$$

$$= \underline{B}' \Sigma$$

Question 3c: Show $x_1 | x_2 \sim N_q(\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2), \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21})$

Show: $\mu_{1|2} = \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2)$ $\text{var}(x_1 | x_2) = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21}$

Knowns: $f(x_1 | x_2) = \frac{f(x_1, x_2)}{f(x_2)}$

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

$$\Sigma^{11} = \Sigma_{11}^{-1} + \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} (\Sigma_{22} - A_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12})^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1}$$

$$\Sigma^{12} = (\Sigma^{21})^T = -\Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12} (\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma^{22} &= (\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} = \\ &= \Sigma_{22}^{-1} + \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12}^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12})^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \cdot \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu)^T \cdot \Sigma^{-1} \cdot (x - \mu) \right]}_{\downarrow}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R(x_1, x_2) &= (x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) \\ &= (x_1 - \mu_1)^T \cdot \underbrace{(\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1}}_{\Sigma^{22}} \underbrace{[(x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{21}]}_{x_2 - \mu_2} \\ &= (x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{11} (x_1 - \mu_1) + 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{12} (x_2 - \mu_2) + \\ &\quad (x_2 - \mu_2)^T \Sigma^{22} (x_2 - \mu_2) \end{aligned}$$

Plug in for Σ^{-1} :

$$\begin{aligned} R(x_1, x_2) &= (x_1 - \mu_1)^T [\Sigma_{11}^{-1} + \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} (\Sigma_{22} - A_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12})^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1}] (x_1 - \mu_1) \\ &\quad - 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^T [\Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} (\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1}] \cdot (x_2 - \mu_2) + \\ &\quad + (x_2 - \mu_2)^T [(\Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{12} \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1}] \cdot (x_2 - \mu_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$R(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 - \mu_1)^T S^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2)$$

$$\nu = x_2 - \mu_2 \quad R(x_1, x_2) =$$

$$= ((x_1 - \mu_1) \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} - (x_2 - \mu_2)^T (\Sigma_{22} \cdot A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1})$$

$$((x_1 - \mu_1) \cdot \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} - (x_2 - \mu_2))$$

$$(x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1)$$

$$(x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12} (\Sigma_{22} \cdot A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} - (x_2 - \mu_2)^T (\Sigma_{22} \cdot A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1}$$

$$(x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \cdot \Sigma_{12}$$

$$(x_2 - \mu_2)$$

$$R(x_1, x_2) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_1(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) + (x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}^T (\Sigma_{22} \cdot A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} \\ (x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12} \\ R_2(x_2) = - (x_2 - \mu_2)^T (\Sigma_{22} \cdot A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} \cdot x_2 - \mu_2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$R(x_1, x_2) = R_1(x_1, x_2) + R_2(x_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (R(x_1, x_2)) \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma_{22}|^{1/2} \cdot |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (R(x_1, x_2)) \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} \cdot |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \left((x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) + (x_1 - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}^{-1} (\Sigma_{22} - A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}) \cdot (x_1 - \mu_1) \right) \right\} \\
 &\quad \cdot \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{q/2} |\Sigma_{22}|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \left((x_2 - \mu_2)^T (\Sigma_{22} - A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) \right) \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Define:

$$f_2(x_2) = \int f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma_{22}|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (x_2 - \mu_2)^T (\Sigma_{22} - A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) \right\}$$

$$f(x_1 | x_2) = \frac{f(x_1, x_2)}{f_2(x_2)} = \frac{\exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} ((x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}^{-1} (\Sigma_{22} - A_{12}^T \Sigma_{11}^{-1} \Sigma_{12})^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2))) \right\}}{(2\pi)^{p/2} \cdot |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{12}|^{1/2}}$$

I am stopping because I'm not entirely sure I have done the math right to this point. Also, ~~is~~ a so I don't want to derive $E[x_1 | x_2]$ and $\text{Var}(x_1 | x_2)$ if my $f(x_1 | x_2)$ isn't correct.

I struggled with this problem. I referenced website (see below); but they derived for $x_2 | x_1$. I tried to go back & figure it out, but I am not sure where I went wrong.

Question 4. Let $\underline{Z} \sim N_p(0, I_p)$

Γ : orthogonal matrix

$$\Gamma\Gamma^T = I_p$$

Show that $\underline{W} = \Gamma \underline{Z} \sim N_p(0, I_p)$:

Here $\underline{W} = \Gamma \underline{Z}$ is a linear combination of \underline{Z} .

I attempted 2 solutions, but I'm not sure Solution #2 is valid.

Solution #1: Similar to 3A.

Before we had $\underline{X} = A\underline{Z} + \mu$ so

$$M_{\underline{X}}(t) = E[\exp\{\underline{X}^T t\}] = E[\exp\{\underline{A}\underline{Z}^T t + \mu^T t\}] = \exp\{\mu^T t + \frac{1}{2} t^T \Sigma^{-1} t\}$$

But in this case we have $\underline{W} = \Gamma \underline{Z}$

$$M_{\underline{W}}(t) = E[\exp\{\underline{W}^T t\}] = E[\exp\{\underline{\Gamma}\underline{Z}^T t\}] = M_{\underline{Z}}(\Gamma t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Exp} &= \exp\{\underline{\Gamma}(\Gamma t)^2/2\} = \exp\{\underline{\Gamma}(\Gamma t)(\Gamma t)/2\} \\ &= \exp\{\underline{\Gamma}(\Gamma t)^T (\Gamma t)/2\} \\ &= \exp\{\underline{\Gamma}\underline{\Gamma}^T(\Gamma t)^2/2\} \end{aligned}$$

There is no μ term thus the mean is 0.

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \exp\{\underline{\Gamma}\underline{\Gamma}^T(\Gamma t)^2/2\} \\ &\text{usually } \underline{\Gamma}^{-1} \\ &\underline{\Gamma}^{-1} = I_p \end{aligned}$$

Solution #2:

$$\underline{Z} \sim N_p(0, I_p) \quad \Gamma \underline{Z} \sim N_p(\Gamma \cdot 0, \Gamma I_p \Gamma^T) \rightarrow \text{similar to } A \underline{X} \sim N(A\mu, A\Sigma A^{-1})$$

$$N_p(0, I_p \cdot I_p)$$

$$I_p \cdot I_p \text{ ex: } I_p = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 0 & 0 \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 0 & 1 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I_p$$

$$\underline{Z} \sim N_p(0, I_p)$$

→ I'm not sure if I've done enough to prove this formally though.

Question 5:

Show that the identity matrix I_p is the one among all $P \times P$ dimensional positive definite matrices B that maximizes

$$f(B) = |\ln B|^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{n}{2} \text{trace}(B)\right\}$$

How do we maximize a function? Find the MLE

Log likelihood:

$$\ln(f(B)) = \frac{n}{2} \ln(|\ln B|) + -\frac{n}{2} \text{trace}(B)$$

estimate \hat{B} &

$$\frac{d}{d\hat{\Sigma}} \ln|\Sigma| = \Sigma^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d}{d\Sigma} (\text{trace}(a\Sigma)) \rightarrow a$$

$$\frac{d}{dB} (\ln(f(B))) = \frac{n}{2} \cdot n \cdot (nB)^{-1} + -\frac{n}{2} \cdot I_p$$

$$a = I_p \quad b/c \quad I_p \cdot B = B$$

Set equal to 0 & solve for \hat{B}

$$0 = \frac{n^2}{2} (n\hat{B})^{-1} + -\frac{n}{2} \cdot I_p$$

$$0 = \frac{n}{2} (n(n\hat{B})^{-1} - I_p)$$

$$0 = n(n\hat{B})^{-1} - I_p$$

$$I_p = \cancel{\frac{n}{2}} \hat{B} \rightarrow n \cdot n^{-1} = 1$$

Question 6: Let $\mathbf{X} \sim N_p(\mu, \Sigma)$
 Find the MLE of Σ & μ , given a sample $(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n) \sim N_p(\mu, \Sigma)$
 - use the method of derivatives of symmetric positive definite matrices & vectors.

① Define likelihood:

$$\Theta = \{\mu, \Sigma\}$$

$$L(\Theta | \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n) = f(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n | \Theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(\mathbf{x}_i | \Theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu) \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{(np/2)} |\Sigma|^{n/2}} \prod_{i=1}^n \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{(np/2)} |\Sigma|^{n/2}} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

② Take the natural log (ln):

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(L(\Theta | \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)) &= \ln \left(\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{(np/2)} |\Sigma|^{n/2}} \right) \\ &= -n/2(p \ln(2\pi) + \ln(|\Sigma|)) + -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu) \end{aligned}$$

③ Estimate Parameters:

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{d}{d\mu} [\ln(L(\Theta | \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n))] = \frac{d}{d\mu} \left(-\frac{n}{2}(p \ln(2\pi) + \ln(|\Sigma|)) + \frac{d}{d\mu} \left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu) \right) \right)$$

$\downarrow \text{no } \mu = \text{constant}$

$$= ① + -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \Sigma^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d}{d\mu} (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu) \cdot (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)'$$

$$\frac{d}{d\mu} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - \mu \\ x_2 - \mu \\ \vdots \\ x_n - \mu \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 - \mu \\ 2x_2 - \mu \\ \vdots \\ 2x_n - \mu \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \Sigma^{-1} \cdot -2 \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \mu)$$

$$= \Sigma^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i - \hat{\mu} = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{Solve for } \hat{\mu}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i - n\hat{\mu} = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i = n\hat{\mu}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{x}_i = \hat{\mu}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\Sigma} &= \frac{d}{d\Sigma} \left[\ln(L(\theta | \mathbf{x}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)) \right] = \frac{d}{d\Sigma} \left(\frac{n}{2} (\rho \ln(2\pi) + \ln |\Sigma|) + \frac{d}{d\Sigma} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \Sigma^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu) \right) \right) \\
&= \frac{d}{d\Sigma} \left(-\frac{n}{2} \rho \ln(2\pi) \right) - \frac{d}{d\Sigma} \left(+\frac{n}{2} \cdot \ln |\Sigma| \right) + -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu) \right) \frac{d}{d\Sigma} (\Sigma^{-1}) \\
&= 0 + \frac{n}{2} \Sigma^{-1} + -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{d}{d\Sigma} ((x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu) \cdot \Sigma^{-1}) \right) \\
&= -\frac{n}{2} \Sigma^{-1} + -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n -\Sigma^{-1} \cdot (x_i - \mu)' \cdot (x_i - \mu) \cdot \Sigma^{-1} \\
&= -\frac{n}{2} \Sigma^{-1} + +\frac{1}{2} \cdot +\Sigma^{-1} \cdot \Sigma^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \Sigma^{-1} (-n + \Sigma^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu))
\end{aligned}$$

Set equal to 0 & solve for $\hat{\Sigma}$:

$$0 = \frac{1}{2} \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} (-n + \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu))$$

$$0 = -n + \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu)$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} \cdot n = \hat{\Sigma}^{-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu) \cdot \hat{\Sigma}^{-1}$$

$$\hat{\Sigma} n = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu)$$

$$\boxed{\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)' (x_i - \mu)}$$

Sample variance is usually defined as:

$$S_e^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ie} - \bar{x}_e)^2$$

but sometimes the denominator is an n instead of $n-1$ which can happen if the mean is known. In this case we are fixing the mean (it is known) in order to solve for Σ .