

# Hierarchical-block conditioning approximations for high-dimensional multivariate normal probabilities

---

Hyunseok Yang, Kyeongwon Lee, and Songhyun Kim

December 9, 2019

Department of Statistics, SNU

# Table of contents

1. Introduction
2. Multidimensional Conditioning Approximations  
Quasi Monte Carlo Method
3. Hierarchical-Block Approximation
4. Block Reordering
5. Numerical Examples  
Cholesky Factorization  
Multidimensional Conditioning Approximations  
Hierarchical-Block Approximations

# Introduction

---

- The computation of the multivariate normal (MVN) probability

$$\Phi_n(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; 0, \mathbf{\Sigma}) = \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\mathbf{\Sigma}|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{x}\right) d\mathbf{x}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  are integration limits, the mean vector  $\mu$  is assumed to be 0,  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$  is a positive-definite covariance matrix, is required for a variety of applications.

- Various methods to compute MVN probability are suggested such as Richtmyer Quasi-Monte Carlo(QMC) (Genz and Bretz, 2009)
- However, In high-dimensional settings (large  $n$ ), it is hard to compute (1) directly.
- We review new approaches proposed by Cao et al. (2019) to approximate high-dimensional multivariate normal probability (1) using the hierarchical matrix  $\mathcal{H}$  (Hackbusch, 2015) for the covariance matrix  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ .

The methods are based on

1. the bivariate conditioning method (Trinh and Genz, 2015) and
2. the hierarchical QMC method (Genton et al., 2018).

# Multidimensional Conditioning Approximations

---

# Quasi Monte Carlo Method

- MonteCarlo Error bound :  $O(N^{-1/2})$  for monte carlo(MC) method
- Genz and Bretz (2009) claimed independent sample points is the reason of slow convergence.
- Via employing low discrepancy sets for sequence, QMC is asymptotically efficient than MC.
- With  $\Delta \sim U[0, 1]^n$ ,

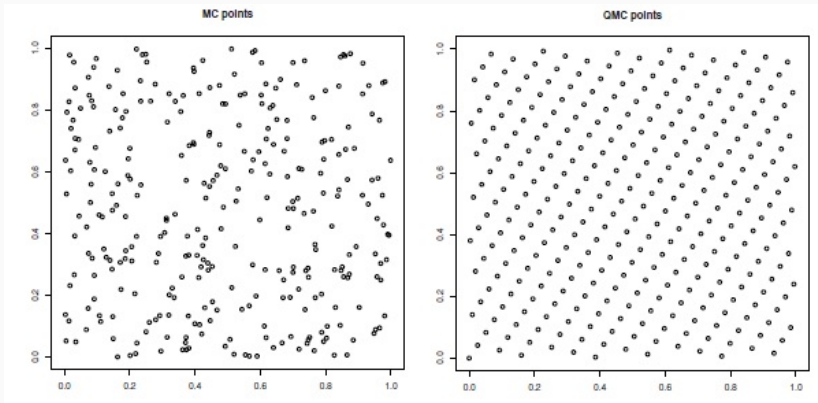
$$L_N = \{\mathbf{z} + \Delta \bmod 1 : \mathbf{z} \in K_N\}$$

$$K_N = \{i\mathbf{q} \bmod 1, i = 1, \dots, N\}$$

where  $\mathbf{q} = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}}$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  is set of prime numbers.

- Since square root of prime numbers is irrational and linear independent over the rational numbers,

# Quasi Monte Carlo Method



**Figure 1:** Comparison of MC and QMC sample points(Genz and Bretz, 2009)



# Quasi Monte Carlo Method

$$\Phi_n(\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{b}; \Sigma) = \Phi_n(\mathbf{a} \leq \mathbf{L}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{b}; I_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{a_1 \leq l_{11}y_1 \leq b_1} \phi(y_1) \cdots \int_{a_n \leq l_{n1}^t y_1 \leq b_n} \phi(y_n) d\mathbf{y} \\ &= \int_{\tilde{a}_1}^{\tilde{b}_1} \phi(y_1) \int_{\tilde{a}_2(y_1)}^{\tilde{b}_2(y_1)} \phi(y_2) \cdots \int_{\tilde{a}_n(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})}^{\tilde{b}_n(y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})} \phi(y_n) d\mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{with } \tilde{a}_i(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}) = \frac{a_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{ij}y_j}{l_{ii}}$$

$$\text{and } \tilde{b}_i(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}) = \frac{b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} l_{ij}y_j}{l_{ii}}$$

$$= \int_{\Phi(\tilde{a}_1)}^{\Phi(\tilde{b}_1)} \int_{\Phi(\tilde{a}_2(\Phi^{-1}(z_1)))}^{\Phi(\tilde{b}_2(\Phi^{-1}(z_1)))} \cdots \int_{\Phi(\tilde{a}_n(\Phi^{-1}(z_1), \dots, \Phi^{-1}(z_{n-1})))}^{\Phi(\tilde{b}_n(\Phi^{-1}(z_1), \dots, \Phi^{-1}(z_{n-1})))} dz(y_i = \Phi^{-1}(z_i))$$

$$= (e_1 - d_1) \int_0^1 (e_2(w_1) - d_2(w_1)) \cdots$$

$$\int_0^1 (e_n(w_1, \dots, w_{n-1}) - d_n(w_1, \dots, w_{n-1})) \int_0^1 dw$$

$$\text{with } z_i = d_i + (e_i - d_i)w_i$$

(2)

# Quasi Monte Carlo Method

```
1: procedure MVN( $\mu$ ,  $\Sigma$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $ns$ ,  $N$ )
2:    $\mathbf{L}$  = cholesky( $\Sigma$ )
3:    $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a} - \mu$ ;  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} - \mu$ 
4:    $T = 0$ ,  $N = 0$ ,  $V = 0$ 
5:    $\mathbf{p}$  = vector of primes less than  $\frac{5n \log n + 1}{4}$ ;  $\mathbf{q} = \sqrt{\mathbf{p}}$ 
6:    $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{1}_{ns}$ 
7:    $ans = 0$ 
8:   for  $i = 1, \dots, ns$  do
9:      $l_i = 0$ ,  $\Delta \sim U(0, 1)^n$ 
10:    for  $j = 1, \dots, N$  do
11:       $\mathbf{X}[1 : n, j] = (j + 1)\mathbf{q} + \Delta$ 
12:       $\mathbf{X}[1 : n, j] = 2|\mathbf{X}[1 : n, j] - \text{floor}(\mathbf{X}[1 : n, j])| - 1$ 
13:    end for
14:    sample =  $\mathbf{O}_{n, N}$ 
15:     $\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{dc}, \mathbf{P} = \mathbf{0}_N$ 
16:    for  $j = 1, \dots, n$  do
17:      if  $j > 1$  then
18:         $\mathbf{c} = \min(1, \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{X}[j - 1, :] \odot \mathbf{dc})$ 
19:        sample[ $i - 1, 1 : N$ ] =  $\Phi^{-1}(\mathbf{c})$ 
20:         $\mathbf{s} = \text{sample}[1 : i - 1, 1 : N]^T \mathbf{L}[1 : i - 1, j]$ 
21:      end if
22:       $\mathbf{P}^* = \Phi(\frac{\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{s}}{\mathbf{L}[i, j]}) - \Phi(\frac{\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{s}}{\mathbf{L}[i, j]})$ 
23:    end for
24:     $ans += \text{mean}(\mathbf{P})$ 
25:  end for
26:  return  $ans / ns$ 
27: end procedure
```

**Algorithm 1:** Multivariate Normal Probability with Quasi Monte Carlo Method

# Conditioning Approximation

Mendell and Elston (1974), Kamakura (1989), and Trinh and Genz (2015) exploit Cholesky factors from LDL decomposition rather than dealing with original covariance matrix. Bivariate example is follow.

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{1,1} & \mathbf{R}^T \\ \mathbf{R} & \hat{\Sigma} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ with } \mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I}_2 & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{1} : \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{L} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{D}_1 & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \hat{\mathbf{D}} \end{pmatrix}$$

,where  $\Sigma_{1,1}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}_1$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix. From  $\mathbf{D}_1 = \Sigma_{1,1}$ ,  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{D}_1^{-1}$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{D}} = \hat{\Sigma} - \mathbf{M}\mathbf{D}_1\mathbf{M}^T$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_n(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \mathbf{0}, \Sigma) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\mathbf{D}|}(2\pi)^n} \int_{\alpha_1}^{\beta_1} \int_{\alpha_2}^{\beta_2} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}_2^T \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{x}_2} \\ &\quad \dots \int_{\alpha_{2k-1}}^{\beta_{2k-1}} \int_{\alpha_{2k}}^{\beta_{2k}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{x}_{2k}^T \mathbf{D}_1^{-1} \mathbf{x}_{2k}} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

# Conditioning Approximation

Cao et al. (2019) generalizes bivariate method of Trinh and Genz (2015) to  $d$ -dimensional. Algorithms and details are following.

```
1: procedure LDL( $\Sigma$ )
2:    $\mathbf{L} \leftarrow \mathbf{I}_m, \mathbf{D} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}_m$ 
3:   for  $i = 1 : d : m - d + 1$  do
4:      $\mathbf{D}[i : i + d - 1, i : i + d - 1] \leftarrow \Sigma[i : i + d - 1, i : i + d - 1]$ 
5:      $\mathbf{L}[i + d : m, i : i + d - 1] \leftarrow \Sigma[i + d : m, i : i + d - 1] \mathbf{D}^{-1}[i : i + d - 1, i : i + d - 1]$ 
6:      $\Sigma[i + d : m, i + d : m] \leftarrow \Sigma[i + d : m, i + d : m] - \mathbf{L}[i + d : m, i : i + d - 1] \mathbf{D}^{-1}[i : i + d - 1, i : i + d - 1] \mathbf{L}[i : i + d - 1, i + d : m]$ 
7:     if  $i + d < m$  then
8:        $\mathbf{D}[i + d : m, i + d : m] \leftarrow \Sigma[i + d : m, i + d : m]$ 
9:     end if
10:  end for
11:  return  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$ 
12: end procedure
```

**Algorithm 2:** LDL decomposition

# Conditioning Approximation

When  $s = \frac{m}{d}$  is integer, results of Algorithm 2,  $\mathbf{L}, \mathbf{D}$  can be written as

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I}_d & \mathbf{O}_d & \cdots & \mathbf{O}_d \\ \mathbf{L}_{2,1} & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \mathbf{I}_d & \mathbf{O}_d \\ \mathbf{L}_{s,1} & \cdots & \mathbf{L}_{s,s-1} & \mathbf{I}_d \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{D}_1 & \mathbf{O}_d & \cdots & \mathbf{O}_d \\ \mathbf{O}_d & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \mathbf{D}_{s-1} & \mathbf{O}_d \\ \mathbf{O}_d & \cdots & \mathbf{O}_d & \mathbf{D}_s \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $d$ -dimensional identity matrix  $\mathbf{I}_d$  and  $d$ -dimensional zero matrix  $\mathbf{O}_d$  and  $d$ -dimensional positive-definite matrix  $\mathbf{D}_1, \dots, \mathbf{D}_s$ . As in (3), tranformation,  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{X}$  provides  $m$ -dimensional multivariate normal prabability as the product of  $s$   $d$ -dimensional multivariate normal probabilities as below.

$$\Phi_m(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma}) = \int_{\alpha_1}^{\beta_1} \phi_d(\mathbf{y}_1; \mathbf{D}_1) \int_{\alpha_2}^{\beta_2} \phi_d(\mathbf{y}_2; \mathbf{D}_2) \cdots \int_{\alpha_s}^{\beta_s} \phi_d(\mathbf{y}_s; \mathbf{D}_s) d\mathbf{y}_s \cdots d\mathbf{y}_2 d\mathbf{y}_1 \quad (4)$$

,where  $\alpha_i = \mathbf{a}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \mathbf{L}_{ij}\mathbf{y}_j, \beta_i = \mathbf{b}_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \mathbf{L}_{ij}\mathbf{y}_j$

# Conditioning Approximation

```
1: procedure CMVN( $\Sigma$ ,  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $d$ )
2:    $\mathbf{y} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}$ ,  $P \leftarrow 1$ 
3:   for  $i = 1 : s$  do
4:      $j \leftarrow (i - 1)d$ 
5:      $\mathbf{g} \leftarrow \mathbf{L}[j + 1 : j + d, 1 : j]\mathbf{y}[1 : j]$ 
6:      $\alpha \leftarrow \mathbf{a}[j + 1 : j + d] - \mathbf{g}$ 
7:      $\beta \leftarrow \mathbf{b}[j + 1 : j + d] - \mathbf{g}$ 
8:      $\mathbf{D}' \leftarrow \mathbf{D}[j + 1 : j + d, j + 1 : j + d]$ 
9:      $P \leftarrow P \cdot \Phi_d(\alpha, \beta; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{D}')$ 
10:     $\mathbf{y}[j + 1 : j + d] \leftarrow E[\mathbf{Y}']$ 
11:  end for
12:  return  $P$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ 
13: end procedure
```

**Algorithm 3:** d-dimensional conditioning algorithm

# Multidimensional Truncated Expectations

The truncated expectation is expressed as

$$E(X^{e_j}) = \frac{1}{\Phi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})} \int_{\mathbf{a}}^{\mathbf{b}} x_j \phi_d(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) d\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{\Phi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})} F_j^d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

## Theorem

(Kan and Robotti, 2017)

$$F_j^d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \mu_j \Phi_d(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) + \mathbf{e}_j^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{c}$$

, where  $\mathbf{c}$  is a vector with  $l$ th component defined as

$$\begin{aligned} c_l &= \phi_1(a_l; \mu_l, \sigma_l^2) \Phi_{d-1}(\mathbf{a}_{-l}, \mathbf{b}_{-l}; \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}^1, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_l) - \phi_1(b_l; \mu_l, \sigma_l^2) \Phi_{d-1}(\mathbf{a}_{-l}, \mathbf{b}_{-l}; \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}^2, \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_l) \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_l^1 &= \mu_{-l} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{-l,l} \frac{a_l - \mu_l}{\sigma_l^2}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_l^2 = \mu_{-l} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{-l,l} \frac{b_l - \mu_l}{\sigma_l^2}, \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_l &= \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{-l,-l} - \frac{1}{\sigma_l^2} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{-l,l} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{l,-l} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1 has same form with bivariate version of Trinh and Genz (2015) with  $d = 2$  and it allows us to calculate  $E[Y]$  in Algorithm 3 with  $\Phi$  which can be obtained with quasi monte calro method proposed by Genz (1992)

# Multidimensional Conditioning Approximation with Univariate Reordering

Appropriate integration order on conditioning algorithm possibly improves estimation accuracy

- Schervish (1984) : integral with shortest integration interval widths be the outermost integration variables
- Gibson et al. (1994) : variables which have smallest expected values be the outermost integration variables.  
Since innermost integrals which have smaller variation have the most influence with this order, overall variance reduces.
- Trinh and Genz (2015) also employs this ordering, and Cao et al. (2019) generalized it to  $d$ -dimensional problem.



# Multidimensional Conditioning Approximation with Univariate Reordering

```
1: procedure RCMVN( $\Sigma$ , a, b, d)
2:    $y \leftarrow 0$ ,  $C \leftarrow \Sigma$ 
3:   for  $i = 1 : m$  do
4:     if  $i > 1$  then
5:        $y[i-1] \leftarrow \frac{\phi(a') - \phi(b')}{\Phi(b') - \Phi(a')}$ 
6:     end if
7:      $j \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{1 \leq j \leq m} \{ \Phi(\frac{b[j] - C[j, 1:i-1]y[1:i-1]}{\sqrt{\Sigma[j, j] - C[j, 1:i-1]C^T[j, 1:i-1]}}) - \Phi(\frac{a[j] - C[j, 1:i-1]y[1:i-1]}{\sqrt{\Sigma[j, j] - C[j, 1:i-1]C^T[j, 1:i-1]}}) \}$ 
8:      $\Sigma[:, (i, j)] \leftarrow \Sigma[:, (j, i)]; \Sigma[(i, j), :] \leftarrow \Sigma[(j, i), :]$ 
9:      $C[:, (i, j)] \leftarrow C[:, (j, i)]; C[(i, j), :] \leftarrow C[(j, i), :]$ 
10:     $a[(i, j)] = a[(j, i)]$ 
11:     $b[(i, j)] = b[(j, i)]$ 
12:     $C[i, i] \leftarrow \sqrt{\Sigma[i, i] - C[i, 1:i-1]C^T[i, 1:i-1]}$ 
13:     $C[j, i] \leftarrow \frac{\Sigma[j, i] - C[i, 1:i-1]C^T[j, 1:i-1]}{C[i, i]}$ , for  $j = i+1, \dots, m$ 
14:     $a' = \frac{a[i] - C[i, 1:i-1]y[1:i-1]}{C[i, i]}$ 
15:     $b' = \frac{b[i] - C[i, 1:i-1]y[1:i-1]}{C[i, i]}$ 
16:  end for
17:  return CMVN( $\Sigma$ , a, b, d) as in Algorithm 3
18: end procedure
```

**Algorithm 4:** d-dimensional conditioning algorithm with univariate reordering

# **Hierarchical-Block Approximation**

---

# Hierarchical Cholesky Decomposition

Hackbusch (2015) proposed hierarchical matrix and its Cholesky decomposition method.  $A = LU$  have the structure

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} L_{11} & O \\ L_{21} & L_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} L_{11}^T & L_{12}^T \\ O & L_{22}^T \end{pmatrix}$$

with lower triangular matrix  $L_{11}, L_{22}$ . It leads to four tasks:

- (a) compute  $L_{11}$  via Cholesky decomposition of  $A_{11}$
- (b) compute  $L_{12}$  from  $L_{21}L_{11}^T = A_{21}$
- (c) low rank approximation of  $L_{12} = UV^T$
- (d) compute  $L_{22}$  via Cholesky decomposition of  $A_{22} - L_{21}L_{11}^T$

We have applied low rank approximation with svd to (c) each block of its decomposition to make implementation efficiently and save storage while accuracy is preserved. : i.e.  $A = UDV^T = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i u_i v_i^T \approx \sum_{i=1}^k d_i u_i v_i^T$ .

# Hierarchical Cholesky Decomposition

Hierarchical cholesky decomposition of  $n \times n$  matrix into  $m \times m$  blocks is implemented like below.

```
1: procedure HCHOL( $A, n, m, rank$ )
2:   for  $i = 1 : \log_2(\frac{n}{m})$  do
3:      $nb = n/2^i$ 
4:      $x = 0, y = nb$ 
5:     for  $j = 1 : 2^{i-1}$  do
6:        $U, D, V = \text{lowrankSVD}(A[xbegin + 1 : xbegin + nb, ybegin + 1 : ybegin + nb], rank)$ 
7:        $A[x + 1 : x + nb, y + 1 : y + rank] = UD$ 
8:        $A[x + 1 : x + nb, y + rank + 1 : y + nb] = O$ 
9:        $A[y + 1 : y + nb, x + 1 : x + rank] = VD$ 
10:       $A[y + 1 : y + nb, x + rank + 1 : x + nb] = O$ 
11:       $x += 2nb, y += 2nb$ 
12:    end for
13:  end for
14: end procedure
```

**Algorithm 5:** Hierarchical cholesky decomposition

# The Hierarchical-Block Conditioning Method

Let  $\phi_m(\mathbf{x}; \Sigma)$  be a pdf of the  $m$ -dimensional normal distribution  $N(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$  and  $(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{UV}^T)$  be the hierarchical Cholesky decomposition of the covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ . Then,

$$\Phi_n(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}; \mathbf{0}, \Sigma) = \int_{\mathbf{a}'_1}^{\mathbf{b}'_1} \phi_m(\mathbf{x}_1; \mathbf{B}_1 \mathbf{B}_1^T) \cdots \int_{\mathbf{a}'_r}^{\mathbf{b}'_r} \phi_r(\mathbf{x}_r; \mathbf{B}_r \mathbf{B}_r^T) d\mathbf{x}_r \cdots d\mathbf{x}_1. \quad (5)$$

,where  $\mathbf{a}'$ ,  $\mathbf{b}'$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , are the corresponding segments of the updated  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$ .

Note the probabilities  $\Phi_m(\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{b}_i; \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{B}_i \mathbf{B}_i^T)$  can be computed using

1. Quasi-Monte Carlo method (HBMV, Method 1 in Cao et al. (2019))
2.  $d$ -dimensional conditioning algorithm (HCMV, Method 2 in Cao et al. (2019))
3.  $d$ -dimensional conditioning algorithm with univariate reordering (HRCMV, Method 3 in Cao et al. (2019)).

These methods are more effective and easily parallelizable than the classical methods.

# The Hierarchical-Block Conditioning Method

```
1: procedure HBMV( $a, b, \Sigma, d$ )
2:    $x \leftarrow 0$  and  $P \leftarrow 1$ 
3:    $[B, UV] \leftarrow \text{choldecomp\_hmatrix}(\Sigma)$ 
4:   for  $i = 1 : r$  do
5:      $j \leftarrow (i - 1)m$ 
6:     if  $i > 1$  then
7:        $o_r \leftarrow \text{row offset of } U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T$ 
8:        $o_c \leftarrow \text{column offset of } U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T$ 
9:        $l \leftarrow \text{dim}(U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T)$ 
10:       $g \leftarrow U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T x[o_c + 1 : o_c + l]$ 
11:       $a[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] = a[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] - g$ 
12:       $b[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] = b[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] - g$ 
13:    end if
14:     $a_i \leftarrow a[j + 1 : j + m]$ 
15:     $b_i \leftarrow b[j + 1 : j + m]$ 
16:     $P = P * \Phi_m(a_i, b_i; 0, B_i B_i^T)$ 
17:     $x[j + 1 : j + m] \leftarrow B_i^{-1} E(X_i)$ 
18:  end for
19: end procedure
```

**Algorithm 6:** Hierarchical-block conditioning algorithm

# Computational Complexity

$M(\cdot)$  denotes the complexity of the QMC simulation in the given dimension.

Table 1 shows that the time efficiency of the  $d$ -dimensional conditioning algorithm mainly comes from lowering the dimension in which the QMC simulation is performed.

|        | MVN prob                      | Trunc exp          | Upd limits            |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| HMVN   | $\frac{n}{m} M(m)$            | $2nM(m) + O(nm^2)$ | $O(mn + kn\log(n/m))$ |
| HCMVN  | $\frac{n}{d} M(d) + O(m^2 n)$ | $2nM(d) + O(nd^2)$ | $O(mn + kn\log(n/m))$ |
| HRCMVN | $\frac{n}{d} M(d) + O(m^2 n)$ | $2nM(d) + O(nd^2)$ | $O(mn + kn\log(n/m))$ |

**Table 1:** Complexity decomposition of the HMVN, HCMVN, and HRCMVN

- The updating cost is independent of the method.
- The complexity of the univariate reordering is  $O(m^2 n)$ , the same as the complexity of computing the MVN probabilities in HCMVN
- Since HCMVN and HRCMVN perform the QMC simulation in  $d$ -dimensions, these two methods are not greatly affected by the choice of  $m$ .

# Block Reordering

---



# Block Reordering

- The cdf value for  $n$ -dimensioned multivariate normal variable comprises of  $m$  multiplications of  $d$ -dimensional integrals.
- Recall the RCMVN algorithm(3) : as computing each  $d$ -dimensional integral values, integration variables were arranged in order of increasing order of CMVN probability values, from outer to inner
- Permutes the block of LDL-decomposed covariance matrix, in order of RCMVN probability values of each blocks
- Result accuracy and time cost is compared among HMVN, HCMVN, HRCMVN with/without block reordering.

# Block Reordering

```
procedure BLOCKREORDER( $G, \rho, a, b, m, ind$ )  
   $G, \rho, a, b, m, ind$  given,  $P \leftarrow 0$   
  for  $i = 1 : m : n - m + 1$  do  
     $s \leftarrow ind[i : i + m - 1]$   
     $A \leftarrow \rho(G, s)$   
     $a' \leftarrow a[s]$   
     $b' \leftarrow b[s]$   
     $P \leftarrow [P, RCMVN(A, a', b', 1).P]$   
  end for  
  sort( $ind, P, m$ )  
  return  $ind$   
end procedure
```

**Algorithm 7:** Blockwise reordering

# Block Reordering

```
procedure HCMVN_BRO( $a, b, \Sigma, d$ )
   $x \leftarrow 0, P \leftarrow 1, \text{ind} \leftarrow [1, \dots, n]$ 
   $[B, UV] \leftarrow \text{choldecomp\_hmatrix}(\Sigma)$ 
   $B \leftarrow \text{Blockreorder}(G, \rho, a, b, m, \text{ind})$ 
  for  $i = 1 : r$  do
     $j \leftarrow (i - 1)m$ 
    if  $i > 1$  then
       $o_r \leftarrow \text{row offset of } U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T$ 
       $o_c \leftarrow \text{column offset of } U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T$ 
       $l \leftarrow \text{dim}(U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T)$ 
       $g \leftarrow U_{i-1} V_{i-1}^T x[o_c + 1 : o_c + l]$ 
       $a[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] = a[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] - g$ 
       $b[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] = a[o_r + 1 : o_r + l] - g$ 
    end if
     $a_j \leftarrow a[j + 1 : j + m]$ 
     $b_j \leftarrow b[j + 1 : j + m]$ 
     $P = P * \Phi_m(a_j, b_j; 0, B_j B_j^T)$ 
     $x[j + 1 : j + m] \leftarrow B_j^{-1} E[X_j]$ 
  end for
end procedure
```

**Algorithm 8:** Hierarchical-block conditioning algorithm with Block Reordering

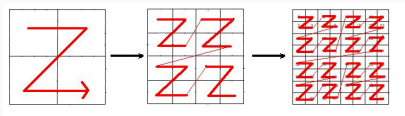
## Numerical Examples

---

# Cholesky Factorization

- The *chol* function from **LinearAlgebra** package
- The *dpotrf* from **LAPACK** package
- Hierarchical cholesky decomposition which suggested by Hackbusch (2015) are implemented.

Exponential covariance matrix,  $\Sigma_{ij} = \exp(-\|\mathbf{s}_i - \mathbf{s}_j\|/\beta)$  is set with  $\beta = 0.3$ .  $n$  points,  $\mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_n$  is evenly distributed over unique square with Morton's order which defined recursively as described in figure 2.



**Figure 2:** Morton's order(Salem and Arab, 2016)

# Cholesky Factorization

With various  $n$ , three Cholesky methods are applied and results are below table 2. In low rank approximation at algorithm 5, rank is about  $n^{1/4}$ .

| n                              | 256     | 1024    | 4096    | 16384   |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| chol                           | 0.001s  | 0.0097s | 0.414s  | 156.3s  |
| dpotrf                         | 0.0007s | 0.0132s | 0.431s  | 154.1s  |
| hierarchical cholesky          | 0.153s  | 0.076s  | 0.916s  | 37.3s   |
| Error of hierarchical cholesky | 1.06e-7 | 9.97e-7 | 1.11e-3 | 1.87e-3 |

**Table 2:** Execution times for Cholesky factorization

- Hierarchical cholesky decomposition is more efficient than other classical cholesky method with large dimension.
- Hierarchical cholesky decomposition provides  $\Sigma \approx L_H L_H^T$ . Its relative error is defined as  $\frac{\|\Sigma - L_H L_H^T\|_2}{\|\Sigma\|_2}$
- Table 2 ensures accuracy of hierarchical cholesky decomposition proposed by Hackbusch (2015).

# Multivariate Normal Probabilities

- We implement `mvn`, the function that calculate multivariate normal probabilities using Richtmyer QMC method introduced in subsection 1.
- Varying sample size  $N$  and dimension  $d$ , two Monte Carlo methods are compared and results are below table 3 and 4.
- We generate  $N$  samples from  $N(0, I_d)$  and set  $\mathbf{a}_i = -\infty$  and  $\mathbf{b}_i = 0$ , i.e. true probabilities are  $1/2^d$ s, and repeat 20 times.
- To summarize the results, QMC is superior to MC in every criterion.

# Multivariate Normal Probabilities

| $(n, d)$ | 4       | 8       | 12      | 16      | 20      |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 500      | 12.2%   | 56.8%   | 161.9%  | 100.0%  | 100.0%  |
|          | 0.294ms | 0.016ms | 0.018ms | 0.019ms | 0.019ms |
| 1000     | 9.5%    | 50.6%   | 193.8%  | 100.0%  | 100.0%  |
|          | 0.046ms | 0.041ms | 0.028ms | 0.028ms | 0.034ms |
| 1500     | 8.9%    | 38.7%   | 150.2%  | 100.0%  | 100.0%  |
|          | 0.055ms | 0.046ms | 0.042ms | 0.048ms | 0.045ms |
| 2000     | 5.4%    | 26.5%   | 102.4%  | 100.0%  | 100.0%  |
|          | 0.070ms | 0.065ms | 0.072ms | 0.058ms | 0.055ms |
| 2500     | 5.1%    | 32.0%   | 100.1%  | 100.0%  | 100.0%  |
|          | 0.073ms | 0.092ms | 0.081ms | 0.083ms | 0.076ms |

**Table 3:** Results for the classical Monte Carlo



# Multivariate Normal Probabilities

| $(n, d)$ | 4       | 8       | 12      | 16      | 20      |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 500      | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    |
|          | 0.058ms | 0.003ms | 0.006ms | 0.006ms | 0.011ms |
| 1000     | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    |
|          | 0.003ms | 0.009ms | 0.013ms | 0.017ms | 0.020ms |
| 1500     | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    |
|          | 0.006ms | 0.011ms | 0.016ms | 0.019ms | 0.030ms |
| 2000     | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    |
|          | 0.011ms | 0.012ms | 0.013ms | 0.025ms | 0.036ms |
| 2500     | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    | 0.0%    |
|          | 0.009ms | 0.022ms | 0.033ms | 0.038ms | 0.056ms |

**Table 4:** Results for the Richtmyer Quasi-Monte Carlo

## Theorem

*Stewart (1980) Let the independent vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be distributed  $N(0, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$ . For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ , let  $\mathbf{H}_{x_j}$  be the Householder transformation that reduces  $x_j$  to  $r_{jj}e_1$ , where  $r_{jj}$  is obtained in QR decomposition of  $[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ . Let  $\mathbf{H}_j = \text{diag}(\mathbf{I}_{j-1}, \bar{\mathbf{H}}_j)$ . Let  $\mathbf{D} = \text{diag}(\text{sign}(r_{11}), \dots, \text{sign}(r_{nn}))$ . Then the product  $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{H}_1 \cdots \mathbf{H}_{n-1}$  follows Haar Distribution.*

- 250 MVN problems with various values of  $m$  and  $d$
- $\Sigma = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{J}\mathbf{Q}^T$  is simulated with  $\mathbf{Q} \sim \text{Haardistribution}$  and  $\mathbf{J} = \text{diag}(j_i)$  where  $j_1, \dots, j_m \sim U(0, 1)$
- Integration limits  $a_i = -\infty$  and  $b_i \sim (U, m)$  for  $i = 1 \cdots, m$
- Estimated value is compared with approximated value obtained via quasi monte carlo method with a sample size of  $10^4$ , which ensures error below  $10^{-4}$

# d-dimensional Conditioning Algorithm without/with Reordering

| $(m, d)$                      | 1       | 2       | 4       | 8       | 16        |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Without univariate reordering |         |         |         |         |           |
| 16                            | 3.7%    | 3.5%    | 3.6%    | 3.8%    | 2.9%      |
|                               | 0.029ms | 0.201ms | 0.431ms | 0.676ms | 1.372ms   |
| 32                            | 2.4%    | 2.9%    | 2.9%    | 3.3%    | 2.7%      |
|                               | 0.001ms | 0.390ms | 0.833ms | 1.283ms | 2.545ms   |
| 64                            | 1.9%    | 2.1%    | 2.1%    | 1.8%    | 1.9%      |
|                               | 0.004ms | 0.762ms | 1.686ms | 2.545ms | 5.004ms   |
| 128                           | 1.3%    | 1.5%    | 1.3%    | 1.2%    | 1.4%      |
|                               | 0.024ms | 1.505ms | 3.333ms | 5.146ms | 10.548ms  |
| With univariate reordering    |         |         |         |         |           |
| 16                            | 3.3%    | 3.1%    | 3.3%    | 3.6%    | 2.7%      |
|                               | 0.007ms | 0.203ms | 0.439ms | 0.680ms | 1.363ms   |
| 32                            | 2.3%    | 2.6%    | 2.6%    | 3.2%    | 2.6%      |
|                               | 0.004ms | 0.393ms | 0.841ms | 1.289ms | 2.544ms   |
| 64                            | 2.0%    | 2.1%    | 2.1%    | 1.9%    | 1.9%      |
|                               | 0.014ms | 0.773ms | 1.695ms | 2.552ms | 5.022ms   |
| 128                           | 1.2%    | 1.5%    | 1.4%    | 1.2%    | 1.4%      |
|                               | 0.097ms | 1.593ms | 3.462ms | 5.268ms | 10.7861ms |

**Table 5:** Errors and execution times of the d-dimensional conditioning method

Estimation error tended to decrease as  $d$  increases with each  $m$  since larger  $d$  implies less discarded correlation information. Spent time grows to a linear fashion with  $m$  while it grows exponentially with  $d$ .

# Hierarchical-Block Approximations

## Methods

- M1, HMVN(): Calculate multivariate normal probabilities using hierarchical-block approximation
- M2, HCMVN(): Calculate multivariate normal probabilities using hierarchical-block conditioning approximation
- M3, HRCMVN(): Calculate multivariate normal probabilities using hierarchical-block conditioning approximation with univariate reordering

## Data

1. Constant covariance matrix:  $k(x_i, x_j) = \theta + (1 - \theta)\delta_{ij}$  for some  $|\theta| < 1$ .
2. 1D exponential covariance matrix:  $k(x_i, x_j) = \exp(-d_{ij}/\beta)$  for some  $\beta > 0$ , where  $d_{ij}$  is the distance between  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ .

## Settings

- Simulation size = 20
- Integration limits  $a_i = -\infty$  and  $b_i \sim (U, n)$  for  $i = 1 \dots, n$
- $\theta = 0.7$ ,  $d_{ij} = 1$ , and  $\beta = 10$  as in Cao et al. (2019)
- Fix  $d = 4$  for HCMVN and HRCMVN.

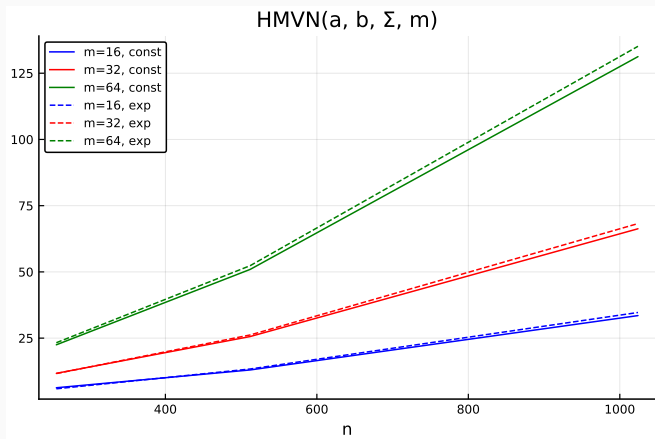
Table 6, Figure 3 and 4 are errors and execution times under the constant covariance structure and 1D exponential covariance structure respectively.

# Hierarchical-Block Approximations

| $m$                              | 16    |       |       | 32    |       |       | 64     |       |       |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| $n$                              | 256   | 512   | 1024  | 256   | 512   | 1024  | 256    | 512   | 1024  |
| Constant covariance structure    |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |
| M1                               | 8.22% | 7.11% | 8.66% | 8.94% | 7.88% | 6.68% | 10.58% | 8.05% | 9.78% |
| M2                               | 8.37% | 7.08% | 8.60% | 8.91% | 7.77% | 6.61% | 10.58% | 8.26% | 9.91% |
| M3                               | 8.51% | 7.10% | 8.70% | 9.51% | 7.92% | 7.00% | 10.68% | 7.94% | 9.63% |
| 1D exponential covariance matrix |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |
| M1                               | 2.87% | 0.00% | 0.01% | 0.07% | 1.31% | 0.00% | 2.65%  | 0.27% | 0.57% |
| M2                               | 3.28% | 0.01% | 0.90% | 0.07% | 1.31% | 0.01% | 2.65%  | 0.28% | 0.57% |
| M3                               | 4.73% | 0.09% | 2.11% | 2.17% | 1.90% | 0.16% | 3.72%  | 1.25% | 0.66% |

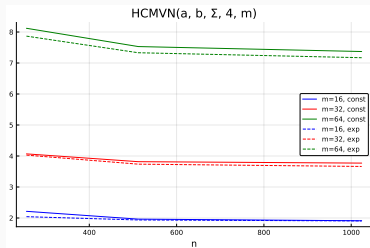
**Table 6:** Relative errors under the constant covariance structure and 1D exponential covariance structure

# Hierarchical-Block Approximations- Execution Time i

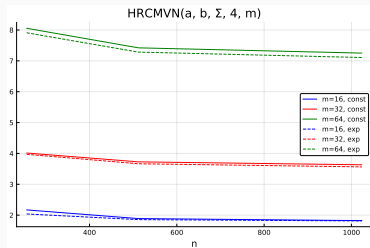


**Figure 3:** Execution time (seconds) for the hierarchical-block approximation

# Hierarchical-Block Approximations- Execution Time ii



(a) HCMVN



(b) HRCMVN

**Figure 4:** Execution time (seconds) for the hierarchical-block conditioning approximation

The execution times of HCMVN and HRCMVN are significantly smaller than of HMVN even their performances are similar



# References

---

- Cao, J., Genton, M. G., Keyes, D. E., and Turkiyyah, G. M. (2019). Hierarchical-block conditioning approximations for high-dimensional multivariate normal probabilities. *Statistics and Computing*, 29(3):585–598.
- Genton, M. G., Keyes, D. E., and Turkiyyah, G. (2018). Hierarchical decompositions for the computation of high-dimensional multivariate normal probabilities. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 27(2):268–277.
- Genz, A. (1992). Numerical computation of multivariate normal probabilities. *Journal of computational and graphical statistics*, 1(2):141–149.

- Genz, A. and Bretz, F. (2009). *Computation of multivariate normal and t probabilities*, volume 195. Springer Science & Business Media.
- Gibson, G., Glasbey, C., and Elston, D. (1994). Monte carlo evaluation of multivariate normal integrals and sensitivity to variate ordering. *Advances in Numerical Methods and Applications*, pages 120–126.
- Hackbusch, W. (2015). *Hierarchical matrices: algorithms and analysis*, volume 49. Springer.
- Kamakura, W. A. (1989). The estimation of multinomial probit models: A new calibration algorithm. *Transportation Science*, 23(4):253–265.
- Kan, R. and Robotti, C. (2017). On moments of folded and truncated multivariate normal distributions. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 26(4):930–934.

- Mendell, N. R. and Elston, R. (1974). Multifactorial qualitative traits: genetic analysis and prediction of recurrence risks. *Biometrics*, pages 41–57.
- Salem, F. K. A. and Arab, M. A. (2016). Comparative study of space filling curves for cache oblivious tu decomposition. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1612.06069*.
- Schervish, M. J. (1984). Algorithm as 195: Multivariate normal probabilities with error bound. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series C (Applied Statistics)*, 33(1):81–94.
- Stewart, G. W. (1980). The efficient generation of random orthogonal matrices with an application to condition estimators. *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis*, 17(3):403–409.
- Trinh, G. and Genz, A. (2015). Bivariate conditioning approximations for multivariate normal probabilities. *Statistics and Computing*, 25(5):989–996.