

Note for Probability Theory and Statistics

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1 Distribution

Multivariate normal distribution

$$f_{\mathbf{x}}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \frac{e^{-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})}{2}}}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\mathbf{C}|}}$$

Where,

\mathbf{C} The symmetric covariance matrix.

\mathbf{x} A real k-dimensional column vector.

2 Distance

2.1 Distance of Random Variables (Same Distribution, Covariance Matrix= Σ)

Mahalanobis Distance

(1) Distance of vector \mathbf{x} and set:

$$D_M(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})}$$

If \mathbf{x} is a k-dimensional Gaussian random vector with mean vector $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and rank k covariance matrix \mathbf{C} , then the Mahalanobis distance $D_M^2(\mathbf{x})$ follows a χ^2 -distribution with d degrees of freedom.

(2) Distance of two vectors \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} :

$$d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})}$$

References