

Multivariate Statistical Analysis

Lecture 13

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1 The Conjugate Prior for the Covariance

2 The Characteristic Function of Wishart Distribution

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The Conjugate Prior for the Covariance

Theorem

If $\mathbf{A} \sim \mathcal{W}_p(\mathbf{\Sigma}, n)$ and $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ has a prior distribution $\mathcal{W}^{-1}(\mathbf{\Psi}, m)$, then the conditional distribution of $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ given \mathbf{A} is the inverted Wishart distribution

$$\mathcal{W}^{-1}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{\Psi}, n + m).$$

Let each of $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N$ has distribution $\mathcal{N}_p(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$ independently and $n = N - 1$, then the sample covariance

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})(\mathbf{x}_i - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^\top \sim \mathcal{W}_p(\mathbf{\Sigma}, n).$$

If $\mathbf{\Sigma} \sim \mathcal{W}_p^{-1}(\mathbf{\Psi}, m)$, then we have

$$\mathbf{\Sigma} | \mathbf{S} \sim \mathcal{W}^{-1}(n\mathbf{S} + \mathbf{\Psi}, n + m).$$

The Inverted Wishart Distribution

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N$ be observations from $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$. Suppose $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ have prior densities

$$n \left(\boldsymbol{\mu} \mid \boldsymbol{\nu}, \frac{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}{K} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad w^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mid \boldsymbol{\Psi}, m)$$

respectively, where $n = N - 1$. Then the posterior density of $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ given

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \mathbf{x}_{\alpha} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N (\mathbf{x}_{\alpha} - \bar{\mathbf{x}})(\mathbf{x}_{\alpha} - \bar{\mathbf{x}})^{\top}$$

is

$$n \left(\boldsymbol{\mu} \mid \frac{N\bar{\mathbf{x}} + K\boldsymbol{\nu}}{N + K}, \frac{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}{N + K} \right) \cdot w^{-1} \left(\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mid \boldsymbol{\Psi} + n\mathbf{S} + \frac{NK(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu})(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu})^{\top}}{N + K}, N + m \right).$$

1 The Conjugate Prior for the Covariance

2 The Characteristic Function of Wishart Distribution

The Characteristic Function of Wishart Distribution

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{A} \sim \mathcal{W}_p(\mathbf{\Sigma}, n)$, then the characteristic function of

$$a_{11}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{pp}, 2a_{12}, \dots, 2a_{p-1,p},$$

is

$$\mathbb{E} [\exp(i \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{\Theta}))] = (\det(\mathbf{I} - 2i\mathbf{\Theta}\mathbf{\Sigma}))^{-\frac{n}{2}}.$$