

Recitation Session 11

Problem

1. *Convergence* A fair dice is casted independently 600 times. Give an approximation (by CLT) for the probability that the number of 6s falls between 95 and 110.
2. *Empirical covariance* Suppose $\{(X_i, Y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ are n independent samples from a two-variable pdf $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$ where

$$\mu_X = \mathbb{E}(X), \quad \mu_Y = \mathbb{E}(Y)$$

and

$$\sigma_X^2 = \text{Var}(X), \quad \sigma_Y^2 = \text{Var}(Y), \quad \sigma_{XY} = \text{Cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}(X))(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))].$$

Consider the empirical covariance between $\{X_i\}$ and $\{Y_i\}$:

$$\hat{\sigma}_{XY} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)(Y_i - \bar{Y}_n).$$

Prove that

$$\hat{\sigma}_{XY} = \frac{1}{n-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i Y_i - n \bar{X}_n \bar{Y}_n \right)$$

3. *PCA* Let $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$ be a (sample) covariance matrix with an eigenvalue/eigenvector decomposition as

$$\Sigma = [\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_d \end{bmatrix} [\mathbf{u}_1, \dots, \mathbf{u}_d]^\top$$

where $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_d$, $\mathbf{u}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times 1}$, and $\mathbf{u}_i \perp \mathbf{u}_j$, i.e., $\mathbf{u}_i^\top \mathbf{u}_j = 0$ for $i \neq j$.

a. Prove

$$\lambda_1 = \max_{\|\mathbf{v}\|=1} \mathbf{v}^\top \Sigma \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{u}_1 = \operatorname{argmax}_{\|\mathbf{v}\|=1} \mathbf{v}^\top \Sigma \mathbf{v}$$

(Hint: Rewrite Σ into $\Sigma = \sum_{i=1}^d \lambda_i \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^\top$ and use the fact that $\sum_{i=1}^d \mathbf{u}_i \mathbf{u}_i^\top = \mathbf{I}_d$.)

b. Prove that

$$\lambda_2 = \max_{\|\mathbf{v}\|=1, \mathbf{v} \perp \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{v}^\top \Sigma \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{u}_2 = \operatorname{argmax}_{\|\mathbf{v}\|=1, \mathbf{v} \perp \mathbf{u}_1} \mathbf{v}^\top \Sigma \mathbf{v}$$

where $\|\mathbf{v}\|^2 = \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=1}^d v_i^2 = 1$.