

Gradient for multivariate normal CDF

For a set of $d > 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ random variables $\mathbf{X} := \{X_1, \dots, X_d\}$, let $\mathbf{X} \sim MVN(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma)$, with $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^d, \Sigma \in \mathbb{R}_+^{d \times d}$ for dimension $d > 1 \in \mathbb{Z}_+$. If the CDF evaluated at a vector $\mathbf{x} := \{x_i \in \mathbb{R} : i \in \{1, \dots, d\}\}$ is $\Phi(\mathbf{x}; \boldsymbol{\mu}, \Sigma) = \Pr\{X_1 < x_1, X_2 < x_2, \dots, X_d < x_d\}$, then

$$\frac{d}{dx_i} \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \phi(x_i; \mu_i, \sigma_i) \Phi(\mathbf{x}_{-i}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{-i|i}, \Sigma_{-i|i}),$$

where μ_i is the i th element of $\boldsymbol{\mu}$, and σ_i^2 is the i th diagonal component of Σ , and $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{-i|i}, \Sigma_{-i|i}$ are the mean and covariance conditional on the i th component, respectively. The conditional mean and variance are given by

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{-i|i} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{-i} + \Sigma_{-i,i} \Sigma_{i,i}^{-1} (x_i - \mu_i), \quad \Sigma_{-i|i} = \Sigma_{-i,-i} - \Sigma_{-i,i} \Sigma_{i,i}^{-1} \Sigma_{i,-i},$$

where $\Sigma_{-i,i}$ represents the off diagonal components. Note that in the case of i being one-dimensional, that $\Sigma_{i,i}^{-1} = 1/\sigma_i^2$.