

Chance-constrained optimization

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Suppose, $K \sim N(\mu, C)$,

If $X = (X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_n)$ follows multivariate normal distribution, then $w^T \mu$ is also normally distributed.

$$K \sim N(\mu, C) \implies -w^T K \sim N(-w^T \mu, w^T C w)$$

Consider, $\mathbb{P}(-w^T K \leq d) \geq \alpha$,

$$\implies \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{-w^T K + w^T \mu}{\sqrt{w^T C w}} \leq \frac{d + w^T \mu}{\sqrt{w^T C w}}\right) \geq \alpha$$

Note that,

$$-w^T K \sim N(-w^T \mu, w^T C w) \implies \frac{-w^T K + w^T \mu}{\sqrt{w^T C w}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \phi\left(\frac{d + w^T \mu}{\sqrt{w^T C w}}\right) &\geq \alpha \\ \implies \frac{d + w^T \mu}{\sqrt{w^T C w}} &\geq \phi^{-1}(\alpha) \\ \implies \phi^{-1}(\alpha) \|C^{1/2} w\|_2 &\leq w^T \mu + d \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have the chance-constrained optimization problem as,

$$\begin{aligned} \max_w \quad & \mu^T w \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \phi^{-1}(\alpha) \|C^{1/2} w\|_2 \leq \mu^T w + d \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 1 \\ & w_i \geq 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

This is a convex set for $\alpha \in [0.5, 1]$,

We have used CVXPY to solve the optimization problem. As the chance-constrained optimization problem is a Second Order Cone Problem (SOCP), we use the SOCP solver from CVXPY to find the optimum point of the problem. The SOCP solver solves the following problem:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \min \quad f^T x \\
& \text{s.t.} \quad ||A_i x + b_i||_2 \leq c_i^T x + d_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \\
& \quad \quad Fx = g
\end{aligned}$$

Comparing our formulation to this form, we get,

$$\begin{aligned}
& x = w; \quad f = \mu; \quad F = [1, 1, 1, \dots, 1]; \quad g = 1 \\
& A_0 = C^{1/2} * (\phi^{-1}(\alpha)); \quad b_0 = 0; \quad c_0 = \mu; \quad d_0 = d;
\end{aligned}$$