Multivariate Statistics

Lecture 06

Fudan University

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Efficiency

Definition

If a *p*-component random vector \mathbf{Y} has mean vector $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Y}] = \nu$ and covariance matrix $\mathscr{C}(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbb{E}\left[(\mathbf{Y} - \nu)(\mathbf{Y} - \nu)^{\top} \right] = \mathbf{\Psi} \succ \mathbf{0}$, then

$$\left\{\mathbf{y}: (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\nu})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\nu}) = p + 2\right\}$$

is called the *concentration ellipsoid* of **Y**.

Remark

Concentration ellipsoid was named from the following property:

 The density defined by a uniform distribution over the interior of the concentration ellipsoid of Y has the same mean vector and covariance matrix as Y.

Efficiency

Theorem

Let $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ be the parameters of a distribution with the density $f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$, and \mathbf{t} be its unbiased estimator with covariance matrix $\mathbf{\Psi}$ based on N observations from $f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$, i.e., $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{t}] = \theta, \mathscr{C}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{\Psi}$. Then, we have

the ellipsoid

$$\left\{ \mathbf{t} : N(\mathbf{t} - \boldsymbol{\theta})^{\top} \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \right)^{\top} \right] (\mathbf{t} - \boldsymbol{\theta}) = p + 2 \right\}$$
(1)

lies entirely within the concentration ellipsoid of t;

moreover, the Multivariate Cramer-Rao Inequality holds, i.e.,

$$\left(N \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \right)^{\top} \right] \right)^{-1} \leq \boldsymbol{\Psi} = \mathbb{E} \left[(\mathbf{t} - \boldsymbol{\theta}) (\mathbf{t} - \boldsymbol{\theta})^{\top} \right].$$

Efficiency

Definition

- **1 t** is said to be *efficient* if the ellipsoid (1) is its concentration ellipsoid.
- ② In general, the ratio of the volume of (1) to that of the concentration ellipsoid defines the *efficiency* of \mathbf{t} .

Consider the case of the multivariate normal distribution.

- **1** If $\theta = \mu$, then $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ is efficient.
- ② If $\theta = \{\mu, \Sigma\}$, then $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ and \mathbf{S} have efficiency $((N-1)/N)^{p(p+1)/2}$.

Remark

Under suitable regularity conditions, which are satisfied by the multivariate normal distribution, we have

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}}\right)^{\top}\right]}_{} = -\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^{2} \ln f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta} \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\top}}\right].$$

Information Matrix

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Consistency

Definition

A sequence of vectors $\mathbf{t}_n = [t_{1n}, \dots, t_{pn}]^{\top}$ for $n = 1, 2, \dots$, is a *consistent estimator* of $\boldsymbol{\theta} = [\theta_1, \dots, \theta_p]^{\top}$ if

$$\mathsf{plim}_{n\to\infty}t_{in}=\theta_i$$

for i = 1, ..., p. That is, for any $\epsilon > 0$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P(|t_{in} - \theta_i| < \epsilon) = 1, \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, p.$$

- **1** By the law of large numbers, $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ is a consistent estimator of μ if the observations are i.i.d with mean μ (normality is not involved).
- The sample covariance matrix is also consistent since

$$\mathbf{S} = rac{1}{N-1} \sum_{lpha=1}^N (\mathbf{x}_lpha - oldsymbol{\mu}) (\mathbf{x}_lpha - oldsymbol{\mu})^ op - rac{N}{N-1} (ar{\mathbf{x}} - oldsymbol{\mu}) (ar{\mathbf{x}} - oldsymbol{\mu})^ op.$$

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Asymptotic Normality

Let X_1, \ldots, X_n be independent and identically distributed random variables with the same arbitrary distribution, mean μ , and variance σ^2 .

Let $\bar{X}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, then the random variable

$$Z = \lim_{n \to \infty} \sqrt{n} \left(\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma} \right)$$

is a standard normal distribution.

What about multivariate case?

Asymptotic Normality

Multivariate central limit theorem.

Theorem

Let p-component vectors $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots$ be i.i.d with means $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}_{\alpha}] = \boldsymbol{\nu}$ and covariance matrices $\mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{y}_{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\nu})(\mathbf{y}_{\alpha} - \boldsymbol{\nu})^{\top}] = \mathbf{T}$. Then the limiting distribution of

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\sum_{\alpha=1}^n(\mathbf{y}_\alpha-\boldsymbol{\nu})$$

as $n \to +\infty$ is $\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{T})$.

Characteristic Function and Probability

If x does not have a density, the characteristic function uniquely defines the probability of any continuity interval.

Theorem

Let $\{F_j(\mathbf{x})\}$ be a sequence of cdfs, and let $\{\phi_j(\mathbf{t})\}$ be the sequence of corresponding characteristic functions. A necessary and sufficient condition for $F_j(\mathbf{x})$ to converge to a cdf $F(\mathbf{x})$ is that, for every \mathbf{t} , $\phi_j(\mathbf{t})$ converges to a limit $\phi(\mathbf{t})$ that is continuous at $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{0}$. When this condition is satisfied, the limit $\phi(\mathbf{t})$ is identical with the characteristic function of the limiting distribution $F(\mathbf{x})$.

See the proof in Section 10.7 of "Cramer, H. (1946). Mathematical Methods of Statistics. Princeton University Press"

Asymptotic Normality

Theorem

Let

$$\mathbf{A}(n) = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N} (\mathbf{x}_{\alpha} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N}) (\mathbf{x}_{\alpha} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N})^{\top},$$

where $\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_N$ are independently distributed according to $\mathcal{N}_p(\mu,\mathbf{\Sigma})$ and n=N-1. Then the limiting distribution of

$$\mathbf{B}(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} (\mathbf{A}(n) - n\mathbf{\Sigma})$$

is normal with mean $\mathbf{0}$ and covariance $\mathbb{E}\big[b_{ij}(n)b_{kl}(n)\big] = \sigma_{ik}\sigma_{jl} + \sigma_{il}\sigma_{jk}$.

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Decision Theory

- **1** An observation \mathbf{x} is a random variable \mathbf{X} , whose distribution P_{θ} depends on a parameter $\theta \in \mathbf{\Theta}$. The statistician is to make a decision \mathbf{d} in a set \mathcal{D} .
- **2** A *decision procedure* is a function $\delta(\cdot)$ whose domain is the set of values of **x** and whose range is \mathcal{D} .
- **1** The *loss* in making decision **d** for the distribution $P_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})$ is a nonnegative function $L(\theta, \mathbf{d})$.
- lacktriangle The evaluation of a procedure $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ is on the basis of the *risk function*

$$R(\theta, \delta) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\theta}} [L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x}))].$$

For example, the risk can be the mean squared error for univariate case

$$R(\theta, \delta) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} \left[(\delta(\mathbf{x}) - \theta)^2 \right]$$

Decision Theory

1 A decision procedure $\delta(x)$ is as good as a procedure $\delta^*(x)$ if

$$R(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\delta}) \leq R(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\delta}^*),$$

and $\delta(x)$ is better than $\delta^*(x)$ if it holds with a strict inequality for at least one value of θ .

- ② A procedure $\delta^*(\mathbf{x})$ is *inadmissible* if there exists another procedure $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ that is better than $\delta^*(\mathbf{x})$.
- A procedure is admissible if it is not inadmissible (i.e., if there is no procedure better than it) in terms of the given loss function.

Definition

If the parameter θ can be assigned an a prior distribution, say, with density $\rho(\theta)$, then the average loss from use of a decision procedure $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ is

$$r(\rho, \delta) = \mathbb{E}_{\rho} \left[R(\theta, \delta) \right] = \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \rho} \left[\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim P_{\theta}} \left[L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x})) \right] \right].$$

Given the a prior density ρ , the decision procedure $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ that minimizes $r(\rho, \delta)$ is the *Bayes procedure*, and the resulting minimum of $r(\rho, \delta)$ is the *Bayes risk*.

If the density of \mathbf{x} given $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is $f(\mathbf{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})$, the joint density of \mathbf{x} and $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is $f(\mathbf{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})\rho(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ and the average risk of a procedure $\delta(\mathbf{x})$ is

$$r(\rho, \delta) = \int_{\Theta} \int_{\mathcal{X}} L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x})) f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta) \rho(\theta) \, d\mathbf{x} \, d\theta$$

$$= \int_{\mathcal{X}} \underbrace{\left(\int_{\Theta} L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x})) g(\theta \mid \mathbf{x}) \, d\theta\right)}_{\mathbb{E}_{\theta \mid \mathbf{x}} [L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x}))]} f(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x}, \tag{2}$$

where

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rho(\boldsymbol{\theta}) d\boldsymbol{\theta}$$
 and $g(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}) = \frac{f(\mathbf{x} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \rho(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{f(\mathbf{x})}$

are the marginal density of ${\bf x}$ and the a posterior density of ${m heta}$ given ${\bf x}$.

The procedure that minimizes $r(\rho, \delta)$ is one that for each \mathbf{x} minimizes $\mathbb{E}_{\theta \mid \mathbf{x}}[L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x}))]$ in (2), i.e., expectation of $L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x}))$ w.r.t. the posterior $g(\theta \mid \mathbf{x})$.

If θ and δ are vectors and $L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x})) = (\theta - \delta(\mathbf{x}))^{\top} \mathbf{Q}(\theta - \delta(\mathbf{x}))$, where \mathbf{Q} is positive definite. Then we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[L(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x})) \right] = & \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x}))^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x})) \right] \\ = & \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}])^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}]) \right] \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}])^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}] - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x})) \right] \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}] - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x}))^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}]) \right] \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}] - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x}))^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}] - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x})) \right] \\ = & \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}])^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}]) \right] \\ & + \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}} \left[(\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}] - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x}))^{\top} \mathbf{Q} (\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}] - \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{x})) \right] \end{split}$$

and the minimum occurs at $\delta(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \mathbf{x}]$ the mean of the a posterior distribution.

Theorem

If $\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_N$ are i.i.d. according to $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, and if $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ has an a prior distribution $\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\nu},\boldsymbol{\Phi})$, then the posterior of $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ given $\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_N$ is normal with mean

$$\mathbf{\Phi} \left(\mathbf{\Phi} + \frac{1}{N} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right)^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{x}} + \frac{1}{N} \mathbf{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{\Phi} + \frac{1}{N} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right)^{-1} \nu$$
 (3)

and covariance matrix

$$\mathbf{\Phi} - \mathbf{\Phi} \left(\mathbf{\Phi} + \frac{1}{N} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{\Phi}.$$

Corollary

Under the same assumptions of the theorem above, if the loss function is

$$L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x})) = (\theta - \delta(\mathbf{x}))^{\top} \mathbf{Q}(\theta - \delta(\mathbf{x}))$$

then the Bayes estimator of μ is (3).

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The sample mean $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ seems the natural estimator of the population mean μ based on a sample from $\mathcal{N}_p(\mu, \mathbf{\Sigma})$.

However, Stein (1956) showed $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$ is not admissible with respect to the mean squared loss when $p \geq 3$.

Consider the loss function

$$L(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{m}) = \|\boldsymbol{\mu} - \mathbf{m}\|_2^2,$$

where ${\bf m}$ is an estimator of the mean ${m \mu}$.

If $\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_N$ are independently distributed to $\mathcal{N}_p(\mu,N\mathbf{I})$, we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\|\bar{\mathbf{x}}-\boldsymbol{\mu}\|_2^2\right] = \sum_{\alpha=1}^p \operatorname{Var}(\bar{x}_\alpha) = p.$$

Theorem

If $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N$ are independently distributed to $\mathcal{N}_p(\mu, N\mathbf{I})$, for the estimator proposed by James and Stein, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{m}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) = \left(1 - \frac{p - 2}{\|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2^2}\right)(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}) + \boldsymbol{\nu}$$

where ν is an arbitrary fixed vector and $p \ge 3$. It holds that

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{m}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}\|_2^2\right] < \mathbb{E}\left[\|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}\|_2^2\right].$$

For small values of $\|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2$, the multiplier of $(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu})$ is negative; that is, the estimator $m(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$ is in the direction from $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ opposite to that of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$.

Table 3.2 gives values of the risk for p=10 and $\sigma^2=1$. For example, if $\tau^2 = \|\mu - \nu\|^2$ is 5, the mean squared error of the James-Stein estimator is 8.86, compared to 10 for the natural estimator; this is the case if $\mu_i - \nu_i = 1/\sqrt{2} = 0.707$, i = 1, ..., 10, for instance.

Table 3.2[†]. Average Mean Squared Error of the James-Stein Estimator for p = 10 and $\sigma^2 = 1$

$\tau^2 = \ \mu - \nu\ ^2$	$\mathscr{E}_{\mu} m(Y)-\mu ^2$
0.0	2.00
0.5	4.78
1.0	6.21
2.0	7.51
3.0	8.24
4.0	8.62
5.0	8.86
6.0	9.03

[†]From Efron and Morris (1977).

The estimator proposed by James and Stein is

$$\mathbf{m}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) = \left(1 - \frac{p-2}{\|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2^2}\right)(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}) + \boldsymbol{\nu}.$$

For small values of $\|\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2$, the multiplier of $(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu})$ is negative; that is, the estimator $m(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$ is in the direction from $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ opposite to that of $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$.

We can improve $\mathbf{m}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$ by using

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{m}}(\overline{\mathbf{x}}) = \left(1 - \frac{p-2}{\|\overline{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}\|_2^2}\right)^+ (\overline{\mathbf{x}} - \boldsymbol{\nu}) + \boldsymbol{\nu},$$

which holds that $\mathbb{E}\left[\|\tilde{\mathbf{m}}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}\|_2^2\right] \leq \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{m}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}\|_2^2\right]$.

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Chi-Squared Distribution

If x_1, \ldots, x_n are independent, standard normal random variables, then the sum of their squares,

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i^2,$$

is distributed according to the (central) chi-squared distribution (χ^2 -distribution) with n degrees of freedom.

We have $\mathbb{E}[y] = n$ and Var[y] = 2n.

Chi-Squared Distribution

The probability density function of the (central) chi-squared distribution is

$$f(y; n) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2^{\frac{n}{2}}\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} y^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp\left(-\frac{y}{2}\right), & y > 0; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where

$$\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty t^{\alpha - 1} \exp(-t) \, \mathrm{d}t.$$

Chi-Squared Distribution

The derivation for the density is based on

- **1** We have $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$.
- ② For $y_1 = x^2$ with $x \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$, the density function of y_1 is

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi y_1}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}y_1\right).$$

3 For beta function $B(\alpha,\beta) = \int_0^1 t^{\alpha-1} (1-t)^{\beta-1} dt$, we have

$$B(\alpha,\beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}.$$

1 If $F(z) = \int_{a(z)}^{b(z)} f(y, z) \, dy$, then

$$F'(z) = \int_{a(z)}^{b(z)} \frac{\partial f(y,z)}{\partial z} dx + f(b(z),z)b'(z) - f(a(z),z)a'(z).$$

Noncentral Chi-Squared Distribution

Definition (Noncentral Chi-Squared Distribution)

If x_1, \ldots, x_n are independent and each x_i are normally distributed random variables with means μ_i and unit variances, then the sum of their squares,

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i^2,$$

is distributed according to the noncentral Chi-squared distribution with n degrees of freedom and noncentrality parameter

$$\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mu_i^2.$$

This is usually denoted as $y \sim \chi_n^2(\lambda)$.

We have $\mathbb{E}[y] = n + \lambda$ and $Var[y] = 2n + 4\lambda$.

Noncentral Chi-Squared Distribution

If y_1, \ldots, y_k are independent and each y_i is distributed according to the noncentral chi-squared distribution with n_i degrees of freedom and noncentrality parameter λ_i , then

$$\sum_{i=1}^k y_i \sim \chi^2_{n_1 + \dots + n_k} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i \right).$$

Theorem

If the n-component vector ${\bf y}$ is distributed according to $\mathcal{N}(\nu, T)$ with $T \succ 0$, then

$$\mathbf{y}^{ op}\mathbf{T}^{-1}\mathbf{y} \sim \chi_n^2 \left(oldsymbol{
u}^{ op}\mathbf{T}^{-1}oldsymbol{
u}
ight).$$

If $\nu = \mathbf{0}$, the distribution is the central χ^2 -distribution.