

Problem 3.3

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We want to generate a random sample from a multivariate normal distribution, given the number of samples wanted, the mean and the covariance matrix, without relying on mnormt or similar packages.

We will first use the univariate normal random number generator `rnorm()` available in R to create standard multivariate normal data. Then we will employ a coloring transformation to transform this data to multivariate normal data with the desired mean and covariance Sigma.

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0} \text{ and } Var(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{I} \implies E(\mathbf{y}) = \boldsymbol{\mu} \text{ and } Var(\mathbf{y}) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$$

And inverse Mahalanobis coloring transformation

$$\mathbf{y} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{X}$$

```
myrmnorm = function(n, mu, Sigma) {  
  
  d = length(mu)  
  
  # generate data using a standard univariate normal random number generator  
  univ_data = rnorm(n * d)  
  # place into a matrix so that it is a a sample from a standard multivariate sample  
  X = matrix(univ_data, nrow = n)  
  
  # eigendecomposition of Sigma  
  eigen = eigen(Sigma)  
  lambda = eigen$values  
  U = eigen$vectors  
  
  #inverse square root of Sigma  
  sqrt_Sigma = U %*% diag(lambda^(1/2)) %*% t(U)  
  
  # make matrix from mu  
  MU = t(replicate(n, mu))  
  # use Mahalanobis coloring transformation to set mean and covariance  
  Y = MU + X %*% sqrt_Sigma  
  
  return(Y)  
}
```

Let us test the method with some data.

```
mu = c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
Sigma = matrix(0.8, nrow = 6, ncol = 6)
diag(Sigma) = c(6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1)

gen_data = myrmnorm(100000, mu, Sigma)
```

```
print(colMeans(gen_data))
```

```
## [1] 0.9954172 2.0135961 3.0034152 3.9992987 4.9971163 6.0001106
```

```
print(cov(gen_data))
```

```
##           [,1]      [,2]      [,3]      [,4]      [,5]      [,6]
## [1,] 6.0314083 0.8242398 0.7808167 0.7958592 0.7912302 0.7922787
## [2,] 0.8242398 5.0168403 0.8141572 0.8060864 0.8013204 0.8027201
## [3,] 0.7808167 0.8141572 3.9768649 0.7887172 0.8078960 0.8010721
## [4,] 0.7958592 0.8060864 0.7887172 2.9823981 0.7897106 0.7917466
## [5,] 0.7912302 0.8013204 0.8078960 0.7897106 2.0118730 0.8012749
## [6,] 0.7922787 0.8027201 0.8010721 0.7917466 0.8012749 0.9965843
```