

L07 Model with normal distributions

1. Maximum likelihood Estimators

(1) Model

Model $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$ with $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2\Sigma)$ allows us to approach the estimating β and σ^2 via maximum likelihood methods.

The likelihood function is the joint pdf of Y treated as a function of β and σ^2 .

$$\begin{aligned} L(\beta, \sigma^2) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |\sigma^2\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left[\frac{-1}{2} (Y - X\beta)' (\sigma^2\Sigma)^{-1} (Y - X\beta) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left[\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2} (Y - X\beta)' \Sigma^{-1} (Y - X\beta) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2} \|Y - X\beta\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

(2) MLE for β

Since Y was observed, it is reasonable to believe that β and σ^2 have the values to make the pdf high at Y . Thus we call $\hat{\beta}$ and $\hat{\sigma}^2$ maximum likelihood estimators (MLEs) if $L(\beta, \sigma^2) \leq L(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\sigma}^2)$ for all β and σ^2 .

Let $\text{MLE}(\beta)$ be the collection of all MLEs for β . Then

$$\text{MLE}(\beta) = \text{GLSE}_{V^{-1}}(\beta) = \left(\Sigma^{-1/2} X \right)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2} Y + \mathcal{N}(X).$$

Proof. By the form of $L(\beta, \sigma^2)$ in (1),

$$\begin{aligned} L(\beta, \sigma^2) \leq L(\hat{\beta}, \sigma^2) \text{ for all } \beta \text{ and } \sigma^2 &\iff \|Y - X\beta\|_{V^{-1}}^2 \geq \|Y - X\hat{\beta}\|_{V^{-1}}^2 \text{ for all } \beta \\ &\iff \hat{\beta} \in \text{GLSE}_{V^{-1}}(\beta). \end{aligned}$$

(3) MLE for σ^2

With $\hat{\beta} \in \text{MLE}(\beta)$, let $\text{SSE}_{\Sigma^{-1}} = \|Y - X\hat{\beta}\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^2$. Then $\frac{\text{SSE}_{\Sigma^{-1}}}{n}$ is MLE for σ^2 .

Proof. $L(\hat{\beta}, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \text{SSE}_{\Sigma^{-1}} \right)$ is a function of σ^2 .

By conventional first derivative test or second derivative test, one can see that this function is maximized at $\sigma^2 = \frac{\text{SSE}_{\Sigma^{-1}}}{n}$.

Comment: $L(\hat{\beta}, \hat{\sigma}^2) = \left(\frac{n}{2\pi e} \right)^{n/2} |\Sigma|^{-1/2} (\text{SSE}_{\Sigma^{-1}})^{-n/2}$.

2. MVUE

(1) Cramer-Rao lower bound

Suppose $Y \in R^n$ has pdf $f(y, \theta)$, $\theta \in R^k$. With respect to $\theta \in R^k$, $\nabla \ln f(Y, \theta) \in R^k$ is a random vector with variance-covariance matrix $I(\theta) \in R^{k \times k}$ called the information matrix for the pdf $f(y, \theta)$.

Suppose statistic vector $T(Y) \in R^q$ has mean $E[T(Y)] = g(\theta) \in R^q$. It can be shown (in Stat771-772 or Stat870-871) that

$$\text{Cov}(T(Y)) \geq \left[\frac{\partial g(\theta)}{\partial \theta^T} \right] [I(\theta)]^{-1} \left[\frac{\partial g(\theta)}{\partial \theta^T} \right]'$$

This lower bound for $\text{Cov}(T(Y))$ is called the Cramer-Rao lower bound which is the lowest risk for all UEs for $g(\theta)$.

(2) MVUE

If $\text{Cov}(T(Y))$ reaches the Cramer-Rao lower bound, then it is the best estimator among all UEs for $g(\theta)$. This best estimator is called the minimum variance-covariance unbiased estimator (MVUE).

(3) Theorem

Suppose in model $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$, $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2\Sigma)$, X has full column rank. Then all $H\beta$ are estimable, and $H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y$ is MVUE for $H\beta$.

Proof. For $H \in R^{q \times p}$, $H = [H(X'X)^{-1}X']X$. So $H\beta$ is estimable with $\frac{\partial H\beta}{\partial \beta'} = H$.

For $Y \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2\Sigma)$, $\ln f(y, \beta) = -\frac{n}{2} \ln 2\pi\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma| - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(Y - X\beta)' \Sigma^{-1}(Y - X\beta)$.

$\frac{\partial \ln f(y, \beta)}{\partial \beta'} = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(Y - X\beta)' 2\Sigma^{-1}(-X)$. So $\nabla \ln f(Y, \beta) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} X' \Sigma^{-1}(Y - X\beta)$.

Thus $I(\beta) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} X' \Sigma^{-1} X$. Hence $\text{CRLB}(H\beta) = \sigma^2 H(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} H'$.

But $\text{Cov}(H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y) = \sigma^2 H(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^+ H' = \sigma^2 H(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} H'$ which is $\text{CRLB}(H\beta)$. Hence $H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y$ is the MVUE for $H\beta$.

3. Sampling distributions

(1) The MVUE for $H\beta$, $H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y \sim N(H\beta, \sigma^2 H(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^+ H')$.

Proof. With $A = H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}$ and $Y \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2\Sigma)$,

$AY \sim N(AX\beta, \sigma^2 A\Sigma A') = N(H\beta, \sigma^2 H(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^+ H')$.

Comment: Because X has full column rank, $(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^+ = (X' \Sigma X)^{-1}$.

Ex1: The distribution of $\hat{Y} = X(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y$, the MVUE for $X\beta = E(Y)$, is

$\hat{Y} \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2 X(X' \Sigma^{-1} X)^{-1} X')$.

(2) $\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n - r)$ where $r = \text{rank}(X)$.

Proof. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SSE} &= \|Y - \hat{Y}\|_{\Sigma^{-1}}^2 = \|\Sigma^{-1/2}Y - \Sigma^{-1/2}\hat{Y}\|^2 \\ &= \|\Sigma^{-1/2}Y - \Sigma^{-1/2}X(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \left[I - (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \right] (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y) \right\|^2 \\ &= (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y)' \left[I - (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \right] (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y). \end{aligned}$$

So $\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} = Z'BZ$ where $Z = \Sigma^{-1/2}Y \sim N(\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta, \sigma^2 I)$ and

$$B = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[I - (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \right].$$

But $B\sigma^2 IB = B$, $(\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta)' B(\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta) = 0$ and $\text{tr}(B\sigma^2 I) = n - r$.

The above imply that $\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n - r)$.

(3) $H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y$ and SSE are independent.

Proof. With $Y \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2\Sigma)$, $A = H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}$, and $\text{SSE} = \sigma^2 Y' (\Sigma^{-1/2} B \Sigma^{-1/2}) Y$,

$A(\sigma^2 \Sigma) (\Sigma^{-1/2} B \Sigma^{-1/2}) = 0$ from which the conclusion of the independence of

$AY = H(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y$ and SSE follows.

L08: A biased estimator: Ridge estimator

1. The problem of multicollinearity

(1) Biased estimators

When ξ is estimated by $\hat{\xi}$, the risks $r(\hat{\xi}, \xi) = \text{Cov}(\hat{\xi}) + [E(\hat{\xi}) - \xi][E(\hat{\xi}) - \xi]'$ and $\text{MSE}(\hat{\xi}, \xi) = \text{tr}[r(\hat{\xi}, \xi)] = \text{tr}[\text{Cov}(\hat{\xi})] + \|E(\hat{\xi}) - \xi\|^2$.

Reducing the large $\text{tr}[\text{Cov}(\hat{\xi})]$ may cause the increase in the bias and result in a biased estimator. However, if the reduction in $\text{tr}[\text{Cov}(\hat{\xi})]$ is greater than the increment in the bias, then it is worthwhile to do so.

(2) BLUE of β

In Model $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$, $\epsilon \sim (0, \sigma^2 I_n)$, if the columns of X are linearly independent, then β is estimable since $\beta = I_p \beta$ and $I_p = X^+ X$. The BLUE for β

$$\hat{\beta} = X^+ Y = (X'X)^{-1} X'Y \sim (\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}).$$

Let $X'X = P\Lambda P'$ be the EVD. Then $r(\hat{\beta}, \beta) = \text{Cov}(\hat{\beta}) = \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1} = \sigma^2 P\Lambda^{-1}P'$ and $\text{MSE}(\hat{\beta}, \beta) = \text{tr}(\sigma^2 P\Lambda^{-1}P') = \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_1} + \dots + \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_p}$.

(3) The problem of multicollinearity in X

Note that the columns of X are linearly independent if and only if $|X'X| = \prod_i \lambda_i > 0$. We say that there is a multicollinearity in X if the columns of X are almost linearly dependent interpreted as $|X'X| = \prod_i \lambda_i$ is almost 0.

So the multicollinearity will make $\text{MSE}(\hat{\beta}, \beta) = \text{tr}[\text{Cov}(\hat{\beta})] = \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_1} + \dots + \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_p}$ large. Thus while $\hat{\beta}$ is still a BLUE, but it is not stable due to large total variances, also its risk $\text{MSE}(\hat{\beta}, \beta)$ is high.

2. Ridge estimator

(1) Ridge estimator

One naive idea on the remedy for the problem caused by the smaller λ_i , $i = 1, \dots, p$, in

$$\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1} X'Y = (P\Lambda P')^{-1} X'Y$$

is to replace λ_i by $\lambda_i + k_i$ where $k_i > 0$, i.e., to replace Λ by $\Lambda + K$ where $K = \text{diag}(k_1, \dots, k_p)$ to have

$$\hat{\beta}(K) = [P(\Lambda + K)P']^{-1} X'Y = P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' X'Y$$

called a ridge estimator for β . The ridge estimator is still a linear estimator for β .

$$(2) \text{tr} \left[\text{Cov} \left(\hat{\beta}(K) \right) \right] = \sigma^2 \sum_i \frac{\lambda_i}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2}$$

Proof. With $\hat{\beta}(K) = P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' X'Y$ and $Y \sim (X\beta, \sigma^2 I_n)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov} \left[\hat{\beta}(K) \right] &= [P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' X' X P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P'] \sigma^2 I [P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' X' X P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P'] \\ &= \sigma^2 P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' X' X P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' \\ &= \sigma^2 P(\Lambda + K)^{-1} \Lambda (\Lambda + K)^{-1} P' \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \text{tr} \left[\text{Cov} \left(\hat{\beta}(K) \right) \right] = \sigma^2 \text{tr} \left[(\Lambda + K)^{-1} \Lambda (\Lambda + K)^{-1} \right] = \sigma^2 \sum_i \frac{\lambda_i}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2}$$

Ex1: $\text{tr} \left[\text{Cov} \left(\widehat{\beta}(K) \right) \right] = \sigma^2 \sum_i \frac{\lambda_i}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2} \leq \sigma^2 \sum_i \frac{1}{\lambda_i} = \text{tr} \left(\text{Cov}(\widehat{\beta}) \right).$

(3) $\|\widehat{\beta}(K) - \beta\|^2 = \sum_i \frac{k_i^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i^2)^2} [(P'\beta)_i]^2$

Proof. First, $\beta - E[\widehat{\beta}(K)] = \beta - P(\Lambda + K)^{-1}P'X'X\beta = \beta - P(\Lambda + K)^{-1}\Lambda P'\beta$
 $= P[I - (\Lambda + K)^{-1}\Lambda]P'\beta.$

But $(\Lambda + k)^{-1} = \Lambda^{-1} - \Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}\Lambda^{-1}$ since

$$\begin{aligned} & (\Lambda + K)[\Lambda^{-1} - \Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}\Lambda^{-1}] \\ &= I - (\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}\Lambda^{-1} + K\Lambda^{-1} - K\Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}\Lambda^{-1} \\ &= I + K[-K^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1} + I - \Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}]\Lambda^{-1} \\ &= I + K[I - (K^{-1} + \Lambda^{-1})(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}]\Lambda^{-1} = I. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \|\beta - E[\widehat{\beta}(K)]\|^2 &= \|P[I - (\Lambda + K)^{-1}\Lambda]P'\beta\|^2 \\ &= \|P\{I - [\Lambda^{-1} - \Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}\Lambda^{-1}]\Lambda\}P'\beta\|^2 \\ &= \|[\Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda^{-1} + K^{-1})^{-1}]P'\beta\|^2 \\ &= \sum_i \left[\frac{1/\lambda_i}{(1/\lambda_i) + (1/k_i)} (P'\beta)_i \right]^2 = \sum_i \frac{k_i^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2} [(P'\beta)_i]^2. \end{aligned}$$

Ex2: $\|E(\widehat{\beta}(K)) - \beta\|^2 \geq 0 = \|E(\widehat{\beta}) - \beta\|^2.$

3. Making ridge estimator better than BLUE

(1) $\text{MSE}(\widehat{\beta}(K), \beta)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MSE}(\widehat{\beta}(K), \beta) &= \text{tr} \left[\text{Cov} \left(\widehat{\beta}(K) \right) \right] + \|E(\widehat{\beta}(K)) - \beta\|^2 \\ &= \sum_i \frac{\sigma^2 \lambda_i}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2} + \sum_i \frac{k_i^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2} [(P'\beta)_i]^2 = \sum_i \frac{k_i^2 [(P'\beta)_i]^2 + \lambda_i \sigma^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2} \\ &= \sum_i f_i(k_i) \quad \text{where } f_i(k_i) = \frac{k_i^2 [(P'\beta)_i]^2 + \lambda_i \sigma^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) Minimizing $\text{MSE}(\widehat{\beta}(K), \beta)$

$$f'(k_i) = \dots = \frac{2k_i \lambda_i [(P'\beta)_i]^2 - 2\lambda_i \sigma^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^3} = \frac{2\lambda_i [(P'\beta)_i]^2}{(\lambda_i + k_i)^3} \left[k_i - \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2} \right].$$

By the first derivative test, $f(k_i)$ is minimized at $k_i = \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2}$, $i = 1, \dots, p$, So is $\text{MSE}(\widehat{\beta}(K), \beta)$.

(3) Ridge estimator could be better than the BLUE

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MSE}(\widehat{\beta}(K), \beta)_{k_i = \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2}} &= \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{\frac{\sigma^4}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2} + \lambda_i \sigma^2}{\left[\lambda_i + \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2} \right]^2} = \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{\sigma^2 \left[\lambda_i + \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2} \right]}{\left[\lambda_i + \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2} \right]^2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_i + \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2}} \leq \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda_i} = \text{MSE}(\widehat{\beta}) \end{aligned}$$

Comment: $k_i = \frac{\sigma^2}{[(P'\beta)_i]^2}$ is a theoretical value since it depends on unknown parameter σ^2 and β . In practice one can estimate σ^2 and β , and use the estimated value of k_i .