

## L11 Bayes estimator

### 1. Bayes estimator

#### (1) Five distributions

In Bayesian statistics parameter  $\theta \in R^p$  is treated as a random vector with a prior distribution that reflects the prior knowledge on  $\theta$ .

There will be the distribution of sample  $Y$ , the joint distribution of  $\theta$  and  $Y$ , the conditional distribution of  $Y$  given  $\theta$  and the conditional distribution of  $\theta$  given  $Y$ .

The traditional distribution family of  $Y$  with parameter  $\theta$  is now treated as a conditional distribution of  $Y$  given  $\theta$ .

#### (2) Bayes estimator

The conditional distribution of  $\theta$  given  $Y$  is the posterior distribution of  $\theta$ . The mean of this distribution,  $E(\theta|Y)$ , is a function of  $Y$ , a statistic. This statistic is often used to estimate  $\theta$ , and is called the Bayes estimator of  $\theta$ .

#### (3) Finding the posterior pdf

Suppose  $f_\theta(\theta) \propto f_0(\theta)$  which means the prior pdf  $f_\theta(\theta)$  is proportional to a given function  $f_0(\theta)$ , i.e.,  $f_\theta(\theta) = c_0 f_0(\theta)$  where  $c_0 > 0$

Suppose  $L(\theta) = f_{Y|\theta}(y) \propto f_1(\theta)$  which means the likelihood function, the conditional pdf of  $Y$  given  $\theta$  treated as a function of  $\theta$ , is proportional to a given function  $f_1(\theta)$ , i.e.,  $f_{Y|\theta}(y) = c_1(y) f_1(\theta, y)$  where  $c_1(y) > 0$ .

Then  $f_{\theta|Y}(\theta) \propto f_0(\theta) f_1(\theta)$ , i.e., the posterior pdf of  $\theta$  is proportional to  $f_0(\theta) f_1(\theta)$ .

**Proof.** The joint pdf of  $\theta$  and  $Y$  is  $f(y, \theta) = f_\theta(\theta) f_{Y|\theta}(y) = c_0 f_0(\theta) c_1(y) f_1(\theta, y)$ .

$$\text{Hence } f_{\theta|Y}(\theta) = \frac{f(\theta, y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{c_0 c_1(y)}{f_Y(y)} f_0(\theta) f_1(\theta, y) \propto f_0(\theta) f_1(\theta, y).$$

**Ex1:** For  $X \sim N_p(\mu, \Sigma)$  let  $f_0(x) = \exp\left(\frac{x'\Sigma^{-1}x - 2x'\Sigma^{-1}\mu}{-2}\right)$ . The pdf of  $X$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)'\Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} \exp\left(\frac{\mu'\Sigma^{-1}\mu}{-2}\right) \exp\left(\frac{x'\Sigma^{-1}x - 2x'\Sigma^{-1}\mu}{-2}\right) = c f_0(x) \end{aligned}$$

So  $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma) \implies f(x) \propto f_0(x)$ . On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \propto f_0(x) &\implies f(x) = c f_0(x) \implies 1 = \int_R f(x) dx = c \int_R f_0(x) dx \\ &\implies f(x) = \frac{f_0(x)}{\int_R f_0(x) dx} \implies X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma). \end{aligned}$$

### 2. Bayes estimator in linear model

#### (1) Prior and posterior distributions for $\beta$

For  $Y|\beta \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2 I_n)$  assign prior  $\beta \sim N(\beta_0, \Sigma_0)$ . Then the posterior

$$\beta|Y \sim N\left(\left(\Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2}\right)^{-1} \left(\Sigma_0^{-1}\beta_0 + \frac{X'Y}{\sigma^2}\right), \left(\Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2}\right)^{-1}\right)$$

Because the posterior and prior are in the same distribution family, the prior is called a conjugate prior.

**Pf:**  $\beta \sim N(\beta_0, \Sigma_0) \implies f_\beta(\beta) \propto f_0(\beta) = \exp \left[ \frac{\beta' \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta - 2\beta' \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0}{-2} \right]$ .

$Y|\beta \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2 I_n) \implies L(\beta) \propto f_1(\beta) = \exp \left[ \frac{(X\beta)'(X\beta) - 2(X\beta)'Y}{-2\sigma^2} \right]$ .

$f_{\beta|Y}(\beta) \propto f_0(\beta)f_1(\beta) = \exp \left[ \frac{\beta' \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right) \beta - 2\beta' \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0 + \frac{X'Y}{\sigma^2} \right)}{-2} \right]$

$= \exp \left[ \frac{\beta' \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right) \beta - 2\beta' \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right) \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right)^{-1} \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0 + \frac{X'Y}{\sigma^2} \right)}{-2} \right]$

Thus  $\beta|Y \sim N \left( \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right)^{-1} \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0 + \frac{X'Y}{\sigma^2} \right), \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right)^{-1} \right)$

(2) Bayes estimator for  $\beta$

Let  $\hat{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1}X'Y$  be the BLUE for  $\beta$  in classical statistics. Then the Bayesian estimator for  $\beta$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\beta}_B &= E(\beta|Y) = \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right)^{-1} \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0 + \frac{X'Y}{\sigma^2} \right) \\ &= \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right)^{-1} \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0 + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} (X'X)^{-1} X'Y \right) \\ &= \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \right)^{-1} \left( \Sigma_0^{-1} \beta_0 + \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2} \hat{\beta} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $W_1 = \Sigma_0^{-1}$ ,  $W_2 = \frac{X'X}{\sigma^2}$  and  $W = W_1 + W_2$ . Then

$$\hat{\beta}_B = W^{-1}(W_1 \beta_0 + W_2 \hat{\beta}).$$

So the Bayesian estimator for  $\beta$  is the weighted average of prior mean  $\beta_0$  and classical BLUE  $\hat{\beta}$  with weight matrices  $W_1$  and  $W_2$ .

### 3. Loss functions and risk functions

(1) Risk function in Bayesian statistics

In Bayesian statistics, the risk is calculated with respect to the posterior distribution of  $\theta$ , i.e.,

$$r(\hat{\theta}, \theta) = E \left[ (\hat{\theta} - \theta)(\hat{\theta} - \theta)' | Y \right] \in R^{p \times p}$$

where  $\hat{\theta}(Y)$  is treated as non-random. With Bayesian estimator  $\hat{\theta}_B = E(\theta|Y)$ ,

$$r(\hat{\theta}_B, \theta) = E[(\theta - \hat{\theta}_B)(\theta - \hat{\theta}_B)'] = \text{Cov}(\theta|Y).$$

(2) Bayes estimator dominates all estimators

Let  $\hat{\theta}$  be an estimator for  $\theta$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} r(\hat{\theta}, \theta) &= E \left[ (\theta - \hat{\theta})(\theta - \hat{\theta})' | Y \right] \\ &= E \left[ (\theta - \hat{\beta}_B + \hat{\beta}_B - \hat{\theta})(\theta - \hat{\beta}_B + \hat{\beta}_B - \hat{\theta})' | Y \right] \\ &= E \left[ (\theta - \hat{\beta}_B)(\theta - \hat{\beta}_B)' | Y \right] + E \left[ (\hat{\beta}_B - \hat{\theta})(\hat{\beta}_B - \hat{\theta})' | Y \right] \\ &= r(\hat{\theta}_B, \theta) + (\hat{\beta}_B - \hat{\theta})(\hat{\beta}_B - \hat{\theta})' \\ &\geq r(\hat{\theta}_B, \theta). \end{aligned}$$

Thus for Bayes estimator  $\hat{\theta}_B$ ,  $E[L(\hat{\theta}_B, \theta)|Y] = \text{Cov}(\theta|Y) \leq E[L(\hat{\theta}, \theta)|Y]$ .

## L12 Confidence regions

1.  $\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n-p)$

(1) Expression of SSE

In  $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2\Sigma)$ ,  $E(Y) = X\beta$  is estimable with BLUE

$$\hat{Y} = X\hat{\beta} = X(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y.$$

So  $\epsilon = Y - X\beta$  is predicted by the residual vector

$$e = Y - \hat{Y} = Y - X(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y = \Sigma^{1/2} \left[ I - (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)(\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \right] \Sigma^{-1/2}Y.$$

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

where  $Z = \Sigma^{-1/2}Y \sim N(\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta, \sigma^2I_n)$ ,  $A = I - DD^+$  with  $D = \Sigma^{-1/2}X$ .

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

Recall:  $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$ ,  $A\Sigma A = A = A' \implies X'AX \sim \chi^2(\mu' A\mu, \text{tr}(A\Sigma))$ .

With  $\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} = Z' \frac{A}{\sigma^2} Z$  where  $Z \sim N(\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta, \sigma^2I)$  and  $A = I - DD^+$ ,  $D = \Sigma^{-1/2}X$ ,

$$\frac{A}{\sigma^2} \sigma^2 I \frac{A}{\sigma^2} = \frac{I - DD^+}{\sigma^2} \sigma^2 I \frac{I - DD^+}{\sigma^2} = \frac{I - DD^+}{\sigma^2} = \frac{A}{\sigma^2},$$

$$(\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta)' \frac{A}{\sigma^2} (\Sigma^{-1/2}X\beta) = (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)' \frac{I - DD^+}{\sigma^2} (D\beta) = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$\text{tr}\left(\frac{A}{\sigma^2} \sigma^2 I\right) = \text{tr}(I - DD^+) = n - \text{rank}(D) = n - r \text{ where } r = \text{rank}(X).$$

Hence  $\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n-r)$ .

(3) Consequences

MSE  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\text{SSE}}{n-r}$  is an UE for  $\sigma^2$  since  $E\left(\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2}\right) = n-r \implies E(\text{MSE}) = \sigma^2$ .

$\left(\frac{\text{SSE}}{\chi_{\alpha/2}^2(n-r)}, \frac{\text{SSE}}{\chi_{1-\alpha/2}^2(n-r)}\right)$  is a  $1 - \alpha$  CI for  $\sigma^2$  since

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\frac{\text{SSE}}{\chi_{\alpha/2}^2(n-r)} \leq \sigma^2 \leq \frac{\text{SSE}}{\chi_{1-\alpha/2}^2(n-r)}\right) &= P\left(\frac{\chi_{1-\alpha/2}^2(n-r)}{\text{SSE}} \leq \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \leq \frac{\chi_{\alpha/2}^2(n-r)}{\text{SSE}}\right) \\ &= P\left(\chi_{1-\alpha/2}^2(n-r) \leq \frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \leq \chi_{\alpha/2}^2(n-r)\right) = 1 - \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

**Ex1:** For  $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2I)$ ,  $\text{SSE} = Y'(I - XX^+)Y$ ,  $\text{MSE} = \frac{\text{SSE}}{n-p}$  and

$$\frac{\text{SSE}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n-p).$$

2.  $(H\hat{\beta} - H\beta)' \frac{[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}}{\sigma^2} (H\hat{\beta} - H\beta) \sim \chi^2(q)$ .

(1)  $H\hat{\beta} - H\beta \sim N(0, \sigma^2 H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H)$ .

In  $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2\Sigma)$ ,  $X$  has full column rank so  $\theta = H\beta$  is estimable for all  $H$ . With full row rank  $H$ ,  $\theta = H\beta \in R^q$  has BLUE

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

So  $H\hat{\beta} - H\beta \sim N(0, \sigma^2 H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H)$ .

(2)  $(H\hat{\beta} - H\beta)' \frac{[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}}{\sigma^2} (H\hat{\beta} - H\beta) \sim \chi^2(q)$ .

Write  $(H\hat{\beta} - H\beta)' \frac{[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}}{\sigma^2} (H\hat{\beta} - H\beta)$  as  $Z'AZ$  where  $Z = H\hat{\beta} - H\beta$  and

$A = \frac{[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}}{\sigma^2}$ . Then  $Z \sim N(0, A^{-1})$ . Note that

$$AA^{-1}A = A, \quad 0'A0 = 0 \text{ and } \text{tr}(AA^{-1}) = \text{tr}(I_q) = q.$$

So  $Z'AZ \sim \chi^2(q)$ .

### 3. Confidence regions

(1) A pivotal quantity

$$F = \frac{(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})'[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})}{q \text{MSE}} \sim F(q, n - p)$$

**Proof.** In  $Y = X\beta + \epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2\Sigma)$ ,  $X$  has full column rank.

With  $\hat{\beta} = (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \Sigma^{-1/2}Y = D\Sigma^{-1/2}Y$  where  $D = \Sigma^{-1/2}X$  and

$$\text{SSE} = (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y)' \left[ I - (\Sigma^{-1/2}X) (\Sigma^{-1/2}X)^+ \right] (\Sigma^{-1/2}Y) = Y'\Sigma^{-1/2}(I - DD^+)\Sigma^{-1/2}Y,$$

$\hat{\beta}$  and SSE are independent since

$$(D\Sigma^{-1/2})' (\sigma^2\Sigma) [\Sigma^{-1/2}(I - DD^+)\Sigma^{-1/2}] = 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } F &= \frac{(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})'[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})}{q \text{MSE}} \\ &= \frac{(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})'[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})/(\sigma^2q)}{\text{SSE}/[\sigma^2(n-p)]} \sim F(q, n - p). \end{aligned}$$

(2)  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\theta = H\beta$ .

Because  $P\left(\frac{(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})'[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}(H\beta - H\hat{\beta})}{q \text{MSE}} \leq F_\alpha(q, n - p)\right) = 1 - \alpha$ ,  
the collection of all  $\theta \in R^q$  satisfying

$$\frac{(\theta - H\hat{\beta})'[H(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}H']^{-1}(\theta - H\hat{\beta})}{q \text{MSE}} \leq F_\alpha(q, n - p)$$

is a  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\theta = H\beta$ .

This region can be written as  $(\theta - H\hat{\beta})'A^{-1}(\theta - H\hat{\beta}) \leq 1$ , and hence is an ellipsoid in  $R^q$  with center  $H\hat{\beta}$ .

**Ex2:** With  $H = I_p$ , the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\beta$  is the collection of  $\beta$  satisfying

$$\frac{(\beta - \hat{\beta})'(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)(\beta - \hat{\beta})}{p, \text{MSE}} \leq F_\alpha(p, n - p)$$

**Ex3:** With  $H = l'$  such that  $\theta = H\beta = l'\beta \in R$ , the  $1 - \alpha$  confidence region for  $\theta$  becomes a confidence interval.

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{(\theta - l'\hat{\beta})'[l'(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}l]^{-1}(\theta - l'\hat{\beta})}{\text{MSE}} \leq F_\alpha(1, n - p) \\ \iff &(\theta - l'\hat{\beta})^2 \leq F_\alpha(1, n - p) \text{MSE } l'(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}l \\ \iff &\theta \in l'\hat{\beta} \pm \sqrt{F_\alpha(1, n - p)} \sqrt{\text{MSE } l'(X'\Sigma^{-1}X)^{-1}l} \end{aligned}$$