

STAT 405-01: Mathematical Statistics I

Problem Set 5

Assigned 2015 October 1

Due 2015 October 8

Show your work on all problems! Be sure to give credit to any collaborators, or outside sources used in solving the problems. Note that if using an outside source to do a calculation, you should use it as a reference for the method, and actually carry out the calculation yourself; it's not sufficient to quote the results of a calculation contained in an outside source.

1 Hogg 2.6.1

2 Hogg 2.6.2

3 Hogg 2.6.8

4 Hogg 2.6.5

5 Hogg 2.6.9

6 Correlation Coefficient

Consider two random variables X_1 and X_2 with variances $\text{Var}(X_i) = \sigma_i^2$ and covariance $\text{Cov}(X_1, X_2) = \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2$. You showed on a previous problem set, using algebra, that $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$. In this problem, you will give an alternate proof, following from the fact that the variance-covariance matrix Σ is positive definite.

(a) Show that $\Sigma = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{A}$ where \mathbf{A} is the positive definite matrix $\text{diag}(\sigma_1^{-1}, \sigma_2^{-1})$ and

$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Find the eigenvalues of \mathbf{S} and show that the condition that they both be non-negative is $-1 \leq \rho \leq 1$.

(c) Use this method to obtain a condition that must be satisfied by the three correlation coefficients $\rho_{12}, \rho_{13}, \rho_{23}$ for three random variables $\{X_i | i = 1, 2, 3\}$.