## Logarithmic Voronoi cells for Gaussian models

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# Logarithmic Voronoi cells for discrete models

• A probability simplex is defined as

$$\Delta_{n-1} = \{ (p_1, \dots, p_n) : p_1 + \dots + p_n = 1, p_i \ge 0 \text{ for } i \in [n] \}.$$



- An algebraic statistical model is a subset M = V ∩ Δ<sub>n-1</sub> for some variety V ⊆ C<sup>n</sup>.
- For an empirical data point u = (u<sub>1</sub>,..., u<sub>n</sub>) ∈ Δ<sub>n-1</sub>, the log-likelihood function defined by u assuming distribution p = (p<sub>1</sub>,..., p<sub>n</sub>) ∈ M is

$$\ell_u(p) = u_1 \log p_1 + u_2 \log p_2 + \cdots + u_n \log p_n + \log(c).$$

## Maximum likelihood estimation

• The maximum likelihood estimation problem (MLE):

Given a sampled empirical distribution  $u \in \Delta_{n-1}$ , which point  $p \in \mathcal{M}$  did it most likely come from? In other words, we wish to maximize  $\ell_u(p)$  over all points  $p \in \mathcal{M}$ .

## Maximum likelihood estimation

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Occupation Computing logarithmic Voronoi cells:

Given a point  $q \in \mathcal{M}$ , what is the set of all points  $u \in \Delta_{n-1}$  that have q as a global maximum when optimizing the function  $\ell_u(p)$  over  $\mathcal{M}$ ?

We call the set of all such elements  $u \in \Delta_{n-1}$  above the *logarithmic Voronoi cell* at *q*.

#### Proposition (A., Heaton)

Logarithmic Voronoi cells are convex sets.

The *log-normal space* at q is the space of possible data points  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$  for which q is a critical point of  $\ell_u(p)$ . It is a *linear* space.

Intersecting this space with the simplex  $\Delta_{n-1}$ , we obtain a polytope, which we call the *log-normal polytope* at q.

The log-normal polytope at q contains the logarithmic Voronoi cell at q.

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#### Example (The twisted cubic.)

The curve is given by  $p\mapsto \left(p^3,3p^2(1-p),3p(1-p)^2,(1-p)^3
ight).$ 



# Polytopal cells

The maximum likelihood degree (ML degree) of  $\mathcal{M}$  is the number of complex critical points when optimizing  $\ell_u(x)$  over  $\mathcal{M}$  for generic data u.

### Theorem (A., Heaton)

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a finite model, a linear model, a toric model, or a model of ML degree 1, the logarithmic Voronoi cell at any point  $p \in \mathcal{M}$  is equal to the log-normal polytope at p.

For linear models, logarithmic Voronoi cells at all interior points on the model have the same combinatorial type.



### Gaussian models

Let X be an m-dimensional random vector, which has the density function

$$p_{\mu,\Sigma}(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{m/2} (\det \Sigma)^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x-\mu)\right\}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

with respect to the parameters  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\Sigma \in \mathsf{PD}_m$ .

Such X is distributed according to the *multivariate normal distribution*, also called the *Gaussian distribution*  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$ .

For  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathsf{PD}_m$ , the statistical model

$$\mathcal{P}_{\Theta} = \{\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) : \theta = (\mu, \Sigma) \in \Theta\}$$

is called a *Gaussian model*. We identify the Gaussian model  $\mathcal{P}_{\Theta}$  with its parameter space  $\Theta.$ 

### Gaussian models

For a sampled data consisting of *n* vectors  $X^{(1)}, \dots, X^{(n)} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , we define the sample mean and sample covariance as

$$ar{X} = rac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X^{(i)}$$
 and  $S = rac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X^{(i)} - ar{X}) (X^{(i)} - ar{X})^{T},$ 

respectively. The log-likelihood function is defined as

$$\ell_n(\mu, \Sigma) = -\frac{n}{2} \log \det \Sigma - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{tr} \left( S \Sigma^{-1} \right) - \frac{n}{2} (\bar{X} - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\bar{X} - \mu).$$

The problem of maximizing  $\ell_n(\mu, \Sigma)$  over  $\Theta$  is maximum likelihood estimation.

The *logarithmic Voronoi cell* of  $\theta = (\mu, \Sigma) \in \Theta$ , is the set of all multivariate distributions  $(\bar{X}, S)$  for which  $\ell_n$  is maximized at  $\theta$ .

### Gaussian models

In practice, we will only consider models given by parameter spaces of the form  $\Theta = \mathbb{R}^m \times \Theta_2$  where  $\Theta_2 \subseteq PD_m$ . Thus, a Gaussian model is a subset of  $PD_m$ . The log-likelihood function is then

$$\ell_n(\Sigma, S) = -\frac{n}{2} \log \det \Sigma - \frac{n}{2} \operatorname{tr}(S\Sigma^{-1}).$$

For  $\Sigma \in \Theta_2$ , the *log-normal matrix space*  $\mathcal{N}_{\Sigma}\Theta_2$  at  $\Sigma$  is the set of  $S \in \text{Sym}_m(\mathbb{R})$  such that  $\Sigma$  appears as a critical point of  $\ell_n(\Sigma, S)$ . The intersection  $\text{PD}_m \cap \mathcal{N}_{\Sigma}\Theta_2$  is the *log-normal spectrahedron*  $\mathcal{K}_{\Theta}\Sigma$  at  $\Sigma$ .

If  $\Sigma$  is a covariance matrix, its inverse  $\Sigma^{-1}$  is a *concentration matrix*.

### Discrete vs. Gaussian

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Simplex } \Delta_{n-1} \longleftrightarrow \text{Cone } \mathsf{PD}_m \\ \text{Model } \mathcal{M} \subseteq \Delta_{n-1} \longleftrightarrow \text{Model } \Theta \subseteq \mathsf{PD}_m \\ & \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \log p_i \longleftrightarrow \log \det \Sigma - \operatorname{tr}(S\Sigma^{-1}) \\ \text{Log-normal space } \longleftrightarrow \text{Log-normal matrix space} \\ \text{Log-normal polytope} \longleftrightarrow \text{Log-normal spectrahedron} \end{array}$$

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## Example

Consider the model  $\boldsymbol{\Theta}$  given parametrically as

$$\Theta = \{ \Sigma = (\sigma_{ij}) \in \mathsf{PD}_3 : \sigma_{13} = 0 \text{ and } \sigma_{12}\sigma_{23} - \sigma_{22}\sigma_{13} = 0 \}.$$

This model is the union of two linear three-dimensional planes. It has ML degree 2. The log-normal spectrahedron of each point  $\Sigma \in \Theta$  is an ellipse. Each log-Voronoi cell is given as:



### Concentration models

Let G = (V, E) be a simple undirected graph with |V(G)| = m. A *concentration model* of G is the model

$$\Theta = \{\Sigma \in \mathsf{PD}_m : (\Sigma)_{ij}^{-1} = 0 \text{ if } ij \notin E(G) \text{ and } i \neq j\}.$$

#### Proposition (A., Hoșten)

Let  $\Theta$  be a concentration model of some graph G. For a point  $\Sigma \in \Theta$ , its logaritmic Voronoi cell is equal to its log-normal spectrahedron.

In fact, we can describe log  $Vor_{\Theta}(\Sigma)$  as:

 $\log \operatorname{Vor}_{\Theta}(\Sigma) = \{ S \in \operatorname{PD}_m : \Sigma_{ij} = S_{ij} \text{ for all } ij \in E(G) \text{ and } i = j \}.$ 

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Example

The concentration model of  $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$  is defined by

 $\Theta = \{ \Sigma = (\sigma_{ij}) \in \mathsf{PD}_4 : (\Sigma^{-1})_{13} = (\Sigma^{-1})_{14} = (\Sigma^{-1})_{24} = 0 \}.$ 



# Directed graphical models

Directed graphical models are Gaussian models defined by directed acyclic graphs (DAGs). Each vertex j defines a random variable such that

$$X_j = \sum_{k \in \mathsf{pa}(j)} \lambda_{kj} X_k + \varepsilon_j.$$

### Theorem (A., Hoșten)

For Gaussian models of ML degree one, logarithmic Voronoi cells and log-normal spectrahedra coinside.

### Corollary

Logarithmic Voronoi cells of directed graphical models are equal to log-normal spectrahedra.

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## Covariance models and the bivariate correlation model

Let  $A \in \mathsf{PD}_m$  and let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a linear subspace of  $\mathsf{Sym}_m(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $A + \mathcal{L}$  is an affine subspace of  $\mathsf{Sym}(\mathbb{R}^m)$ . Models defined by  $\Theta = (A + \mathcal{L}) \cap \mathsf{PD}_m$ are called *covariance models*.

The *bivariate correlation model* is the covariance model

$$\Theta = \left\{ \Sigma_x = egin{pmatrix} 1 & x \ x & 1 \end{pmatrix} : x \in (-1,1) 
ight\}.$$

This model has ML degree 3. For a general matrix  $S = (S_{ij}) \in PD_2$ , the critical points are given by the roots of the polynomial

$$f(x) = x^3 - bx^2 - x(1 - 2a) - b$$

where  $b = S_{12}$  and  $a = (S_{11} + S_{22})/2$  [Améndola and Zwiernik].

## The bivariate correlation model

Fix  $c \in (-1,1)$  so  $\Sigma_c \in \Theta$ . The log-normal spectrahedron of  $\Sigma_c$  is

$$\mathcal{K}_{\Theta}(\Sigma_{c}) = \{ S \in \mathsf{PD}_{2} : f(c) = 0 \}$$
  
=  $\{ S \in \mathsf{PD}_{2} : a = (bc^{2} - c^{3} + b + c)/2c \}$   
=  $\{ S_{b,k} = \begin{pmatrix} k & b \\ b & 2a - k \end{pmatrix} \succ 0 : \frac{0 \le k \le 2a}{a = (bc^{2} - c^{3} + b + c)/2c} \}$ 

#### Theorem (A., Hoșten)

Let  $\Theta$  be the bivariate correlation model and let  $\Sigma_c \in \Theta$ . If c > 0, then

$$\log \operatorname{Vor}_{\Theta}(\Sigma_c) = \{S_{b,k} \in \mathcal{K}_{\Theta}(\Sigma_c) : b \geq 0\}.$$

If c < 0, then

$$\log \operatorname{Vor}_{\Theta}(\Sigma_c) = \{S_{b,k} \in \mathcal{K}_{\Theta}(\Sigma_c) : b \leq 0\}.$$

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## The bivariate correlation model

Important things to note:

- The log-Voronoi cell of  $\Sigma_c$  is strictly contained in the log-normal spectrahedron of  $\Sigma_c$ .
- Logarithmic Voronoi cells of Θ are semi-algebraic sets! This is extremely surprising!

The logarithmic Voronoi cell and the log-normal spectrahedron at c = 1/2:



## Equicorrelation models

An *equicorrelation model* is given by the parameter space

$$\Theta_m = \{\Sigma_x \in \mathsf{Sym}(\mathbb{R}^m) : \Sigma_{ii} = 1, \Sigma_{ij} = x \text{ for } i \neq j, i, j \in [m], x \in \mathbb{R}\} \cap \mathsf{PD}_m$$

Fix  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $-\frac{1}{m-1} < c < 1$ . For  $S \in PD_m$ , we define the symmetrized sample covariance matrix to be the matrix

$$\bar{S} = \frac{1}{m!} \sum_{P \in S_m} PSP^T.$$

Let  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{N}}$  denote the space of all symmetrized sample covariance matrices. Note:

• 
$$\bar{S}_{ii} = a$$
 and  $\bar{S}_{ij} = b$  whenever  $i \neq j$ ,  
•  $\langle S, \Sigma_c^{-1} \rangle = \langle \bar{S}, \Sigma_c^{-1} \rangle$ .

## Equicorrelation models

Every equicorrelation model has ML degree 3 with

$$f_m(x) = (m-1)x^3 + ((m-2)(a-1) - (m-1)b)x^2 + (2a-1)x - b.$$

Setting  $f_m(c) = 0$ , we get the relationship b = g(a). Note:

$$\mathcal{K}_{\Theta_m}(\Sigma_c) \cap \mathcal{N} = \{ \overline{S}_b \in \mathsf{PD}_m : b = g(a) \}.$$

Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  denote the other two roots of  $f_m$ . Then:

$$\log \operatorname{Vor}_{\Theta_m}(\Sigma_c) \cap \mathcal{N} = \{ \bar{S}_b \in \mathcal{K}_{\Theta_m}(\Sigma_c) \cap \mathcal{N} : \ell_n(\Sigma_c, \bar{S}_b) \geq \ell_n(\Sigma_{c_i}, \bar{S}_b), i = 1, 2 \}$$

#### Theorem (A., Hoșten)

Let  $\Sigma_c \in \Theta_m$ . The logarithmic Voronoi cell at  $\Sigma_c$  is given as

 $\log \operatorname{Vor}_{\Theta_m}(\Sigma_c) = \{ S \in \operatorname{PD}_m : \psi(S) = \bar{S}, \bar{S} \in \log \operatorname{Vor}_{\Theta_m}(\Sigma_c) \cap \mathcal{N} \},\$ 

where  $\psi : \mathsf{PD}_m \to \mathcal{N} : S \mapsto \overline{S}$ .

# The boundary: transcendental? algebraic?

Given a Gaussian model  $\Theta$  and  $\Sigma \in \Theta$ , the matrix  $S \in \mathsf{PD}_m$  is on the boundary of log  $\mathsf{Vor}_{\Theta}(\Sigma)$  if  $S \in \mathsf{log} \, \mathsf{Vor}_{\Theta}(\Sigma)$  and there is some  $\Sigma' \in \Theta$  such that  $\ell(\Sigma, S) = \ell(\Sigma', S)$ .

The bivariate correlation models fit into a larger class of models known as *unrestricted correlation models*. Such a model is given by the parameter space

$$\Theta = \{\Sigma \in \mathsf{Sym}(\mathbb{R}^m) : \Sigma_{ii} = 1, i \in [m]\} \cap \mathsf{PD}_m.$$

When m = 3, the model is a compact spectrahedron known as the elliptope. Its ML degree is 15.

#### Conjecture

The logarithmic Voronoi cells for general points on the elliptope are not semi-algebraic; in other words, their boundary is defined by transcendental functions.

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### Thanks!



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