

A very short proof of the Multivariate Chebyshev's Inequality. Applications to order statistics and data sets.

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Notation

- $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k)'$ a random vector.
- $\boldsymbol{\mu} = E(\mathbf{X}) = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)'$ mean vector.
- $V = \text{Cov}(\mathbf{X}) = E((\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})')$ covariance matrix.
- $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k)' \in \mathbb{R}^k$.
- Mahalanobis distance from \mathbf{x} to $\boldsymbol{\mu}$:

$$\Delta_V(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' V^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})}.$$

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The (univariate) Markov's inequality.

- If Z is a non-negative random variable with finite mean $E(Z)$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, then

$$\varepsilon \Pr(Z \geq \varepsilon) = \varepsilon \int_{[\varepsilon, \infty)} dF_Z(x) \leq \int_{[\varepsilon, \infty)} x dF_Z(x) \leq \int_{[0, \infty)} x dF_Z(x) = E(Z)$$

where $F_Z(x) = \Pr(Z \leq x)$.

- It can be stated as

$$\Pr(Z \geq \varepsilon) \leq \frac{E(Z)}{\varepsilon}. \quad (1)$$

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- If X is a random variable with finite mean $\mu = E(X)$ and variance $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X) > 0$, then by taking $Z = (X - \mu)^2/\sigma^2$ in (1), we get

$$\Pr\left(\frac{(X - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \quad (2)$$

for all $\varepsilon > 0$.

- It can also be written as

$$\Pr((X - \mu)^2 < \varepsilon\sigma^2) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

or as

$$\Pr(|X - \mu| < r) \leq 1 - \frac{\sigma^2}{r^2}$$

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The multivariate Chebyshev's inequality (MCI).

- If \mathbf{X} is a random vector with finite mean $\boldsymbol{\mu} = E(\mathbf{X})'$ and positive definite covariance matrix $V = \text{Cov}(\mathbf{X})$.
- Then

$$\Pr((\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})'V^{-1}(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \geq \varepsilon) \leq \frac{k}{\varepsilon} \quad (3)$$

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- This inequality says that the ellipsoid

$$E_\varepsilon = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k : (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' V^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) < \varepsilon\} \quad (5)$$

contains at least the $100(1 - k/\varepsilon)\%$ of the population.

- The inequality can also be written as

$$\Pr(\Delta_V(\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\mu}) < r) \geq 1 - \frac{k}{r^2}. \quad (6)$$

- Hence (6) gives a lower bound for the percentage of points from \mathbf{X} in spheres “around” the mean $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ in the Mahalanobis distance based on V .

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A very short proof.

- Let us consider the random variable

$$Z = (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' V^{-1} (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}).$$

- As V is positive definite, then $Z \geq 0$.
- Moreover, there exist symmetric matrices $V^{1/2}$ and $V^{-1/2}$ such that $V^{1/2} V^{1/2} = V$, $V^{-1/2} V^{-1/2} = V^{-1}$ and $V^{1/2} V^{-1/2} = V^{-1/2} V^{1/2} = I_k$, where I_k is the identity matrix of dimension k .
- Therefore

$$Z = (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' V^{-1/2} V^{-1/2} (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) = \mathbf{Y}' \mathbf{Y},$$

where $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_k)' = V^{-1/2} (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$.

- Hence $E(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbf{0}_k$ and

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- Hence, from Markov's inequality (1), we get

$$\Pr(Z \geq \varepsilon) = \Pr((\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})'V^{-1}(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \geq \varepsilon) \leq \frac{E(Z)}{\varepsilon} = \frac{k}{\varepsilon}$$

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Another short proof.

- Let us consider the random variable

$$Z = (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' V^{-1} (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \geq 0.$$

- As V is positive definite and symmetric, there exists an orthogonal matrix T such that $TT' = T'T = I_k$ and $T'VT = D$ and $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k)$ is the diagonal matrix with the ordered eigenvalues $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k > 0$.
- Then $V = TDT'$ and $V^{-1} = TD^{-1}T'$.
- Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= (\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})' TD^{-1}T'(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) \\ &= [D^{-1/2}T'(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})]' [D^{-1/2}T'(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})] \\ &= \mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{Z}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{Z} = (Z_1, \dots, Z_n)' = D^{-1/2}T'(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$ and $D^{-1/2} = \text{diag}(\lambda_1^{-1/2}, \dots, \lambda_k^{-1/2})$.

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Bounds for singular covariance matrices.

- $\mathbf{Z} = D^{-1/2} T'(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$ is the vector of the standardized principal components of \mathbf{X} .
- Then (3) can be written as

$$\Pr(\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{Z} < \varepsilon) \geq 1 - \frac{k}{\varepsilon} \quad (7)$$

where $\mathbf{Z}'\mathbf{Z} = \sum_{i=1}^k Z_i^2$.

- If V is singular, then $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_m > \lambda_{m+1} = \dots = \lambda_k = 0$.
- Then (7) can be replaced with

$$\Pr\left(\sum_{i=1}^m Z_i^2 < \varepsilon\right) \geq 1 - \frac{m}{\varepsilon} \quad (8)$$

for all $\varepsilon > 0$, where $Z_i = \lambda_i^{-1/2} \mathbf{t}_i'(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$ is the i th standardized principal components of \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{t}_i is the normalized eigenvector associated with the eigenvalue λ_i .

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- If V is singular, then $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_m > \lambda_{m+1} = \dots = \lambda_k = 0$.
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for all $\varepsilon > 0$, where $Z_i = \lambda_i^{-1/2} \mathbf{t}'_i(\mathbf{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$ is the i th standardized principal components of \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{t}_i is the normalized eigenvector associated with the eigenvalue λ_i .

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An example.

- $(X_1, X_2, X_3) \equiv \text{Multinomial}(p_1 = 1/3, p_2 = 1/3, p_3 = 1/3, n)$.
- Then $\mu = E(\mathbf{X}) = (n/3, n/3, n/3)'$ and

$$V = \frac{n}{9} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- As $X_1 + X_2 + X_3 = n$, we of course have $|V| = 0$,
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$$Z_1 = \frac{X_1 - X_2}{\sqrt{2n/3}}, \quad Z_2 = \frac{X_1 + X_2 - 2X_3}{\sqrt{2n}}$$

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The bounds are sharp.

Theorem (Navarro SPL 2014)

Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k)'$ be a random vector with finite mean vector $\mu = E(\mathbf{X})$ and positive definite covariance matrix $V = \text{Cov}(\mathbf{X})$ and let $\varepsilon \geq k$. Then there exists a sequence $\mathbf{X}^{(n)} = (X_1^{(n)}, \dots, X_k^{(n)})'$ of random vectors with mean vector μ and covariance matrix V such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr((\mathbf{X}^{(n)} - \mu)' V^{-1} (\mathbf{X}^{(n)} - \mu) \geq \varepsilon) = \frac{k}{\varepsilon}. \quad (9)$$

The bounds are sharp (proof).

- For $\varepsilon \geq k$, let us consider

$$D_n = \begin{cases} \sqrt{Z_n + \varepsilon} & \text{with probability } (p - 1/n)/2 \\ -\sqrt{Z_n + \varepsilon} & \text{with probability } (p - 1/n)/2 \\ 0 & \text{with probability } 1 - p + 1/n \end{cases}$$

for $n > \varepsilon/k$, where $p = k/\varepsilon \leq 1$ and

$$Z_n \equiv \text{Exp}(\mu_n = \frac{\varepsilon/n}{p-1/n} > 0).$$

- Note that $\Pr(D_n^2 \geq \varepsilon) = p - 1/n$.
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- Let U_n be a r.v., independent of Z_n , with a uniform distribution over $\{1, \dots, k\}$.
- Let $\mathbf{Y}^{(n)} = (Y_1^{(n)}, \dots, Y_k^{(n)})'$ defined by $Y_i^{(n)} = D_n$ and $Y_j^{(n)} = 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, i-1, i+1, \dots, k$ when $U_n = i$.
- Hence $E(Y_i^{(n)}) = \frac{1}{k}E(D_n) = 0$ and

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- Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr((\mathbf{X}^{(n)} - \mu)' V^{-1} (\mathbf{X}^{(n)} - \mu) \geq \varepsilon) &= \Pr((V^{1/2} \mathbf{Y}^{(n)})' V^{-1} (V^{1/2} \mathbf{Y}^{(n)}) \geq \varepsilon) \\ &= \Pr((\mathbf{Y}^{(n)})' V^{1/2} V^{-1} V^{1/2} \mathbf{Y}^{(n)} \geq \varepsilon) \\ &= \Pr((\mathbf{Y}^{(n)})' \mathbf{Y}^{(n)} \geq \varepsilon) \\ &= \Pr\left(\sum_{i=1}^k (Y_i^{(n)})^2 \geq \varepsilon\right) \\ &= \Pr(D_n^2 \geq \varepsilon) \\ &= p - \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow p = \frac{k}{\varepsilon}, \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

Applications. Case $k = 2$.

Theorem

$(X, Y)'$ with $E(X) = \mu_X$, $E(Y) = \mu_Y$, $\text{Var}(X) = \sigma_X^2 > 0$, $\text{Var}(Y) = \sigma_Y^2 > 0$ and $\rho = \text{Cor}(X, Y) \in (-1, 1)$. Then

$$\Pr((X^* - Y^*)^2 + 2(1 - \rho)X^*Y^* < \delta) \geq 1 - 2\frac{1 - \rho^2}{\delta} \quad (10)$$

for all $\delta > 0$, where $X^* = (X - \mu_X)/\sigma_X$ and $Y^* = (Y - \mu_Y)/\sigma_Y$.

$Z_1 = (X^* + Y^*)/\sqrt{2(1 + \rho)}$, $Z_2 = (X^* - Y^*)/\sqrt{2(1 - \rho)}$ and

$$\Pr\left(\frac{(X^* + Y^*)^2}{2(1 + \rho)} + \frac{(X^* - Y^*)^2}{2(1 - \rho)} < \varepsilon\right) \geq 1 - \frac{2}{\varepsilon}. \quad (11)$$

An example

- (X, Y) with $E(X) = E(Y) = 1$, $\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(Y) = 1$ and $\rho = \text{Cor}(X, Y) = 0.9$. Then

$$\Pr(5(X - Y)^2 + (X - 1)(Y - 1) < 5\delta) \geq 1 - 2\frac{0.19}{\delta},$$

that is,

$$\Pr(5X^2 - 9XY + 5Y^2 - X - Y + 1 < \varepsilon) \geq 1 - \frac{1.9}{\varepsilon}$$

for all $\varepsilon > 1.9$.

- The distribution-free confidence regions for $\varepsilon = 3, 4, 5, 10$ containing respectively at least the 36.6666%, 52.5%, 62% and the 81% of the values of (X, Y) can be seen in the following figure.

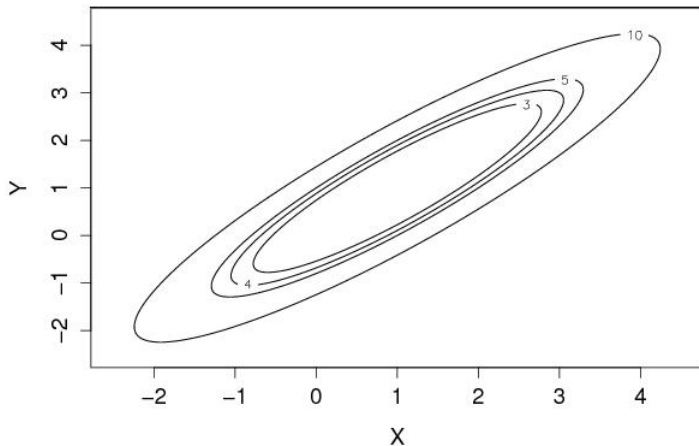


Figure: Confidence regions for $\varepsilon = 3, 4, 5, 10$ containing at least the 36.66%, 52.5%, 62% and the 81% of the values of (X, Y) .

Order statistics

- Let $X_{1:k}, \dots, X_{k:k}$ be the OS from (X_1, \dots, X_k) .
- For $k = 2$ we have

$$\rho_{1,2:2} = \text{Cor}(X_{1:2}, X_{2:2}) = \rho \frac{\sigma_1 \sigma_2}{\sigma_{1:2} \sigma_{1:2}} + \frac{(\mu_1 - \mu_{1:2})(\mu_2 - \mu_{1:2})}{\sigma_{1:2} \sigma_{1:2}},$$

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- Then

$$\Pr((X_{2:2}^* - X_{1:2}^*)^2 + 2(1 - \rho_{1,2:2})X_{2:2}^*X_{1:2}^* < \delta) \geq 1 - 2 \frac{1 - \rho_{1,2:2}^2}{\delta}, \quad (12)$$

where $X_{i:2}^* = (X_{i:2} - \mu_{i:2})/\sigma_{i:2}$, $i = 1, 2$.

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Order statistics. Example 1.

- (X_1, X_2) has a Pareto distribution with

$$\bar{F}(x, y) = \Pr(X_1 > x, X_2 > y) = (1 + \lambda x + \lambda y)^{-\theta}$$

for $x, y \geq 0$, where $\lambda > 0$ and $\theta > 2$.

- Then $\mu = 1/(\lambda\theta - \lambda)$, $\sigma^2 = \mu^2/(1 - 2\rho)$, $\rho = 1/\theta$,
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$$\sigma_{1:2}^2 = \frac{\mu^2}{4(1 - 2\rho)}, \quad \sigma_{2:2}^2 = \frac{\mu^2(6 + 3\rho)}{4(1 - 2\rho)}, \quad \rho_{1:2:2} = \frac{1 + 2\rho}{\sqrt{6 + 3\rho}}.$$

- If $\lambda = 0.5$ and $\theta = 3$, then $\mu = 1$, $\rho = 1/3$, $\mu_{1:2} = 1/2$,
 $\mu_{2:2} = 3/2$, $\sigma_{1:2} = 0.866$, $\sigma_{2:2} = 2.291$, $\rho_{1:2:2} = 0.6299$ and

$$\Pr \left(\left[\frac{X_{2:2} - \frac{3}{2}}{2.291} - \frac{X_{1:2} - \frac{1}{2}}{0.866} \right]^2 + 0.74 \frac{X_{2:2} - \frac{3}{2}}{2.291} \frac{X_{1:2} - \frac{1}{2}}{0.866} < \delta \right) \geq 1 - \frac{1.206}{\delta}.$$

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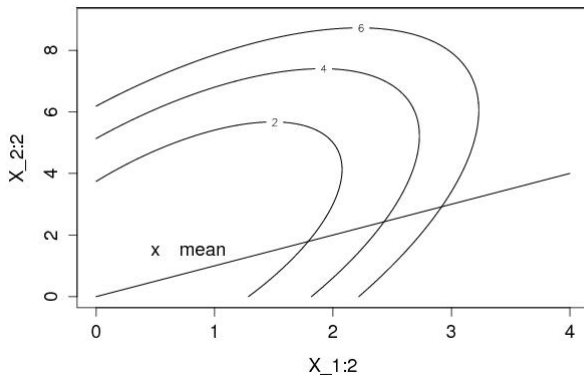


Figure: Confidence regions for $\delta = 2, 4, 6$ containing at least the 39.68%, the 69.84% and the 79.89% of the values of $(X_{1:2}, X_{2:2})$.

Order statistics. Example 2.

- X_1, \dots, X_k iid $Exp(\mu = 1)$, then

$$\mu_{i:k} = \sum_{j=k-i+1}^k \frac{1}{j}, \quad \sigma_{i:k}^2 = \sum_{j=k-i+1}^k \frac{1}{j^2}$$

and

$$\rho_{i,j:k} = Cor(X_{i:k}, X_{j:k}) = \frac{\sigma_{i:k}}{\sigma_{j:k}}, \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq k$$

- If $k = 3$, $i = 2$ and $j = 3$, then $\mu_{2:3} = 5/6$, $\mu_{3:3} = 11/6$, $\sigma_{2:3} = 0.6009$, $\sigma_{3:3} = 1.1667$, and $\rho_{2,3:3} = 0.5151$.
- Hence

$$\Pr \left(\left[\frac{X_{3:3} - \frac{11}{6}}{1.1667} - \frac{X_{2:3} - \frac{5}{6}}{0.6009} \right]^2 + 0.969 \frac{X_{3:3} - \frac{11}{6}}{1.1667} \frac{X_{2:3} - \frac{5}{6}}{0.6009} < \delta \right) \geq 1 - \frac{1.469}{\delta}.$$

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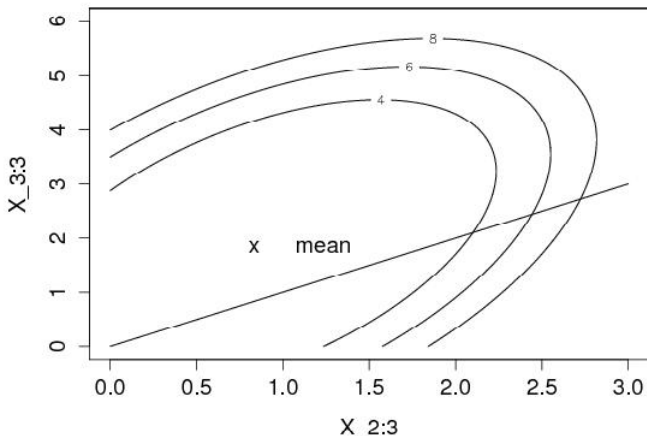


Figure: Confidence regions for $\delta = 2, 3, 4$ containing at least 63.26%, the 75.51% and the 81.63% of the values of $(X_{2:3}, X_{3:3})$.

Order statistics. Example 2.

- For $(X_{1:3}, X_{2:3}, X_{3:3})'$ we obtain the confidence region

$$R_\varepsilon = \{(x, y, z) : 1.444x^2 - 1.602xy + 1.805y^2 - 1.402yz + 1.361z^2 < \varepsilon\}$$

containing $(X_{1:3}^*, X_{2:3}^*, X_{3:3}^*)'$ with a probability greater than $1 - 3/\varepsilon$, where $X_{i:k}^* = (X_{i:k} - \mu_{i:k})/\sigma_{i:k}$ for $i = 1, 2, 3$.

- If we use the two principal components

$$\Pr\left(\frac{Y_1^2}{1.9129431} + \frac{Y_2^2}{0.77153779} < \varepsilon\right) \geq 1 - \frac{2}{\varepsilon} \quad (13)$$

for all $\varepsilon > 0$, where

$$Y_1 = 0.5548133X_{1:3}^* + 0.6382230X_{2:3}^* + 0.5337169X_{3:3}^*$$

and

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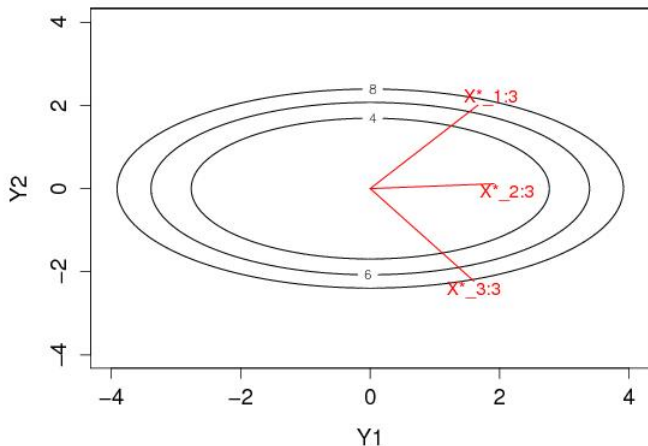


Figure: Confidence regions for $\varepsilon = 4, 6, 8$ containing at least the 50%, the 66.6667% and the 75% of the scores of $(X_{1:3}, X_{2:3}, X_{3:3})$.

Data sets.

- If we have a data set $O_i = (X_i, Y_i)'$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, the mean is

$$\bar{O} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n O_i = (\bar{X}, \bar{Y})$$

and its covariance matrix is

$$\hat{V} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=1}^n (O_m - \bar{O})(O_m - \bar{O})' = (\hat{V}_{i,j}),$$

- The correlation is $r = \hat{V}_{1,2} / \sqrt{\hat{V}_{1,1} \hat{V}_{2,2}}$ and

$$\Pr((X_l^* - Y_l^*)^2 + 2(1-r)X_l^*Y_l^* < \delta) \geq 1 - 2\frac{1-r^2}{\delta}, \quad (14)$$

where $X_l^* = (X_l - \bar{X}) / \sqrt{\hat{V}_{1,1}}$, $Y_l^* = (Y_l - \bar{Y}) / \sqrt{\hat{V}_{2,2}}$ and $l = i$ with probability $1/n$.

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- Then, by taking $\delta = 4(1 - r^2)$

$$R_1 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (x^* - y^*)^2 + 2(1 - r)x^*y^* < 4(1 - r^2)\},$$

contains (for sure) at least the 50% of the data.

- By taking $\delta = 8(1 - r^2)$

$$R_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (x^* - y^*)^2 + 2(1 - r)x^*y^* < 8(1 - r^2)\},$$

contains (for sure) at least the 75% of the data and the complementary region

$$\bar{R}_2 = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (x^* - y^*)^2 + 2(1 - r)x^*y^* \geq 8(1 - r^2)\},$$

contains (for sure) at most the 25% of the data.

- These regions are similar to (univariate) box plots.

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Data sets. An example.

- Consider in the data set “iris” from R (Fisher, 1936), the variables $X = \text{Petal.Length}$ and $Y = \text{Petal.Width}$.
- We obtain $r = 0.9628654$ and R_1 and R_2 determined by

$$\left(\frac{x - 3.758}{1.759} - \frac{y - 1.199}{0.759} \right)^2 + 2(1-r) \frac{x - 3.758}{1.759} \frac{y - 1.199}{0.759} < 0.292$$

and

$$\left(\frac{x - 3.758}{1.759} - \frac{y - 1.199}{0.759} \right)^2 + 2(1-r) \frac{x - 3.758}{1.759} \frac{y - 1.199}{0.759} < 0.583,$$

respectively.

- These regions contain more than the 50% and the 75% of the data (i.e. more than 75 and 113 data in this case).

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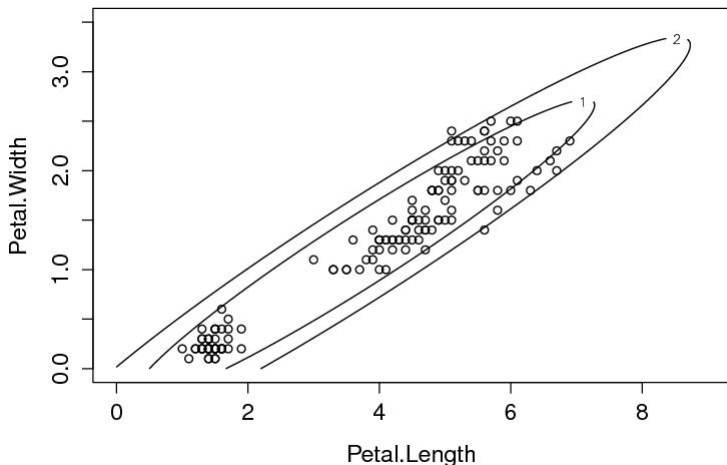


Figure: Regions R_1 and R_2 containing (for sure) at least the 50% and 75% of the data from $X = \text{Petal.Length}$ and $Y = \text{Petal.Width}$.

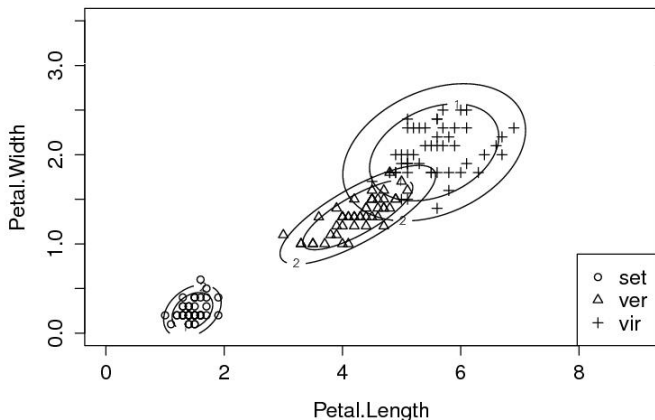


Figure: Regions R_1 and R_2 by species containing (for sure) at least the 50% and 75% of the data from $X = \text{Petal.Length}$ and $Y = \text{Petal.Width}$.

Data sets. An example.

- The two first principal components Y_1 and Y_2 of the four variables in this data set are

$$Y_1 = 0.521X_1^* - 0.269X_2^* + 0.580X_3^* + 0.565X_4^*$$

and

$$Y_2 = -0.377X_1^* - 0.923X_2^* - 0.025X_3^* - 0.067X_4^*,$$

where $X_i^* = (X_i - \bar{X}_i) / \sqrt{\widehat{V}_{i,i}}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$.

- In this case, $\bar{Y}_1 = \bar{Y}_2 = 0$ and $r = 0$ and hence

$$R_1 = \{(x, y) : \frac{x^2}{2.918} + \frac{y^2}{0.914} < 4\}$$

and

$$R_2 = \{(x, y) : \frac{x^2}{2.918} + \frac{y^2}{0.914} < 8\}.$$

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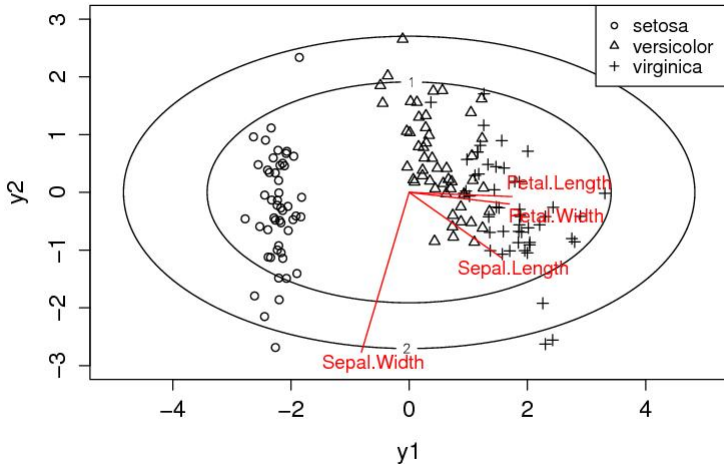


Figure: Regions R_1 and R_2 for the scores in the two first principal components containing (for sure) at least the 50% and 75% of the data scores.

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References

- Thank you for your attention!!