

ENEE 621
SPRING 2017
DETECTION AND ESTIMATION
THEORY
MEAN-SQUARE ESTIMATION

1 The basic setting

Throughout, p and k are arbitrary positive integers. Let the random parameter ϑ be modelled as an \mathbb{R}^p -valued rv, while the observation rv \mathbf{Y} is an \mathbb{R}^k -valued rv. Here the family of distributions $\{F_\theta, \theta \in \Theta\}$ on \mathbb{R}^k is interpreted as conditional distributions in the sense that

$$\mathbb{P}[\mathbf{Y} \leq \mathbf{y} | \vartheta = \theta] = F_\theta(\mathbf{y}), \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k \\ \theta \in \Theta. \end{array}$$

We assume that the rv ϑ is a *second-order* rv, namely,

$$\mathbb{E}[|\vartheta_i|^2] < \infty, \quad i = 1, \dots, p.$$

We shall use $\mathcal{B}(k; p)$ to denote the collection of all Borel mappings $\mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$. With $r \geq 1$, let $\mathcal{G}_r(p; \mathbf{Y})$ denote the collection of all estimators for ϑ on the basis of \mathbf{Y} with finite r^{th} moment. Formally,

$$\mathcal{G}_r(p; \mathbf{Y}) = \{g \in \mathcal{B}(k; p) : \mathbb{E}[|g_i(\mathbf{Y})|^r] < \infty, \quad i = 1, \dots, p\}.$$

We shall also introduce $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ as the collection of *affine* estimators for ϑ on the basis of \mathbf{Y} . Thus, the estimator g in $\mathcal{B}(k; p)$ is an affine estimator in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ if it takes the form

$$g(\mathbf{y}) = A\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

for some $p \times k$ matrix A and a vector \mathbf{b} in \mathbb{R}^p .

The following easy fact will be found handy in a number of places.

Fact 1.1 *With scalars a and b , if*

$$at + bt^2 \geq 0, \quad t \in \mathbb{R},$$

then necessarily $a = 0$.

Proof. It is plain that

$$a + bt \geq 0, \quad t > 0$$

and

$$-a + b|t| \geq 0, \quad t < 0.$$

Letting t go to zero in both sets of inequalities we find that $a \geq 0$ and $a \leq 0$ both hold, hence $a = 0$. ■

2 Minimum Mean Square Error (MMSE) Estimation

The MMSE problem can be formulated as follows: Find g^* in $\mathcal{G}_2(k; \mathbf{Y})$ such that

$$(1) \quad \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad g \in \mathcal{G}_2(k; \mathbf{Y}).$$

Any estimator g^* in $\mathcal{G}_2(k; \mathbf{Y})$ which satisfies (1) is known as a MMSE estimator of ϑ on the basis of \mathbf{Y} .

Theorem 2.1 *The estimator g^* in $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$ satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad g \in \mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$$

if and only if the Orthogonality Principle

$$(2) \quad \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y}))' h(\mathbf{Y})] = 0, \quad h \in \mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$$

holds.

This characterization is geometric in nature, and points to g^* as the projection of ϑ on the subspace of second-order rvs

$$\{g(\mathbf{Y}) : g \in \mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})\}.$$

This is a subspace of $L_2((\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}); \mathbb{R}^p)$, the space of all second-order \mathbb{R}^p -valued rvs. Orthogonality in $L_2((\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}); \mathbb{R}^p)$ is defined by

$$\mathbb{E} [\boldsymbol{\xi}' \boldsymbol{\eta}] = 0, \quad \boldsymbol{\xi}, \boldsymbol{\eta} \in L_2((\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}); \mathbb{R}^p).$$

The Orthogonality Principle (2) can be restated as saying that the error $\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})$ is orthogonal to the subspace $\{g(\mathbf{Y}) : g \in \mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})\}$.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.1 we have the following uniqueness result.

Corollary 2.1 *If g_1^* and g_2^* are estimators in $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$ such that*

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g_i^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad g \in \mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$$

for each $i = 1, 2$, then we have

$$\mathbb{P} [g_1^*(\mathbf{Y}) = g_2^*(\mathbf{Y})] = 1.$$

Proof. Use the Orthogonality Principle (2) with $h = g_1^* - g_2^*$ for both g_1^* and g_2^* .

■

Basic ideas behind the proof of Theorem 2.1

With estimator g in $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$, note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y}))' (\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y}))] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [((\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})) + (g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y})))' ((\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})) + (g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y})))] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y}))' (g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y}))] \\ &\quad + \mathbb{E} [\|g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$(3) \quad \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] - \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] = \mathbb{E} [\|g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y}))' (g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y}))].$$

If g^* in $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$ satisfies the Optimality Principle (2), then the equality (3) implies

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] - \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] = \mathbb{E} [\|g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2]$$

since $g - g^*$ is an element of $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$ as both g^* and g are. It follows that

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] - \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \geq 0, \quad g \in \mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$$

and g^* is an MMSE estimator.

Conversely, if g^* is an MMSE estimator, then (3) implies

$$\mathbb{E} [\|g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y}))' (g^*(\mathbf{Y}) - g(\mathbf{Y}))] \geq 0$$

for every g element of $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$. Thus, with h an arbitrary element of $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$ and t in \mathbb{R} , consider the estimator $g_t : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ given by

$$g_t(\mathbf{y}) = g^*(\mathbf{t}) + th(\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

It is plain that g_t is also an element of $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$. Applying the last inequality with $g = g_t$ we conclude that

$$t^2\mathbb{E} [\|g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2t\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - g^*(\mathbf{Y}))' h(\mathbf{Y})] \geq 0, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

and Fact 1.1 immediately leads to the Optimality Principle (2).

To identify the MMSE estimator we focus on the following problem: With $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ be a second-order \mathbb{R}^p -valued rv, we seek \mathbf{a}^* in \mathbb{R}^p such that

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\boldsymbol{\xi} - \mathbf{a}^*\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\boldsymbol{\xi} - \mathbf{a}\|^2], \quad \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^p.$$

The solution to this problem is well known to be unique, and is given by

$$\mathbf{a}^* = \mathbb{E} [\boldsymbol{\xi}].$$

Returning to the MMSE problem, we recall that

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - g(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \mathbf{a}\|^2 | \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}]_{\mathbf{y}=\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{a}=g(\mathbf{Y})} \right]$$

for every estimator g in $\mathcal{G}_2(p; \mathbf{Y})$. This fact readily leads to concluding

$$g^*(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{E} [\vartheta | \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}], \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

It is customary to write

$$g^*(\mathbf{Y}) = \mathbb{E} [\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}]$$

where the right handside is understood as the conditional expectation of the rv ϑ given the σ -field generated by the rv \mathbf{Y} . The reason to proceed via the Orthogonality Principle is to show the parallel with the next problem where only affine estimators are considered.

3 Linear Mean Square Error (LMSE) Estimation

Assume that the observation rv \mathbf{Y} is also a second-order rv, i.e.,

$$\mathbb{E} [|Y_j|^2] < \infty, \quad j = 1, \dots, k.$$

The LMSE problem can be formulated as follows: Find ℓ^* in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ such that

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p).$$

We refer to this affine estimator ℓ^* in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ as the *Linear Mean Square Error (LMSE) estimator* of ϑ on the basis of \mathbf{Y} . It is characterized by the following version of the *Orthogonality Principle*.

Theorem 3.1 *The estimator ℓ^* in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)$$

if and only if the Orthogonality Principle

$$(4) \quad \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}))' h(\mathbf{Y})] = 0, \quad h \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)$$

holds.

This characterization is also geometric in nature, pointing to the LMSE estimator to ℓ^* as the projection of ϑ on the subspace of second-order rvs

$$\{\ell(\mathbf{Y}) : \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)\}.$$

This is also a subspace of $L_2((\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}); \mathbb{R}^p)$, with the Orthogonality Principle (4) stating that the error $\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})$ is orthogonal to the subspace $\{\ell(\mathbf{Y}) : \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)\}$.

Basic ideas behind the proof of Theorem 3.1

With affine estimator ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$, this time we note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y}))' (\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y}))] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}))' (\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y}))] \\ & \quad + \mathbb{E} [\|\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] - \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\|\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}))' (\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y}))]. \end{aligned}$$

If ℓ^* in $\mathcal{L}_2(k; p)$ satisfies the Optimality Principle (4), then the equality (5) implies

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] - \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] = \mathbb{E} [\|\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2]$$

since $\ell - \ell^*$ is an element of $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ as both ℓ^* and ℓ are. It follows that

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] - \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \geq 0, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)$$

and ℓ^* is an LMSE estimator.

Conversely, if ℓ^* is an LMSE estimator, then (5) implies

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}))' (\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) - \ell(\mathbf{Y}))] \geq 0$$

for every ℓ element of $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$. Thus, with h an arbitrary element of $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ and t in \mathbb{R} , consider the estimator $\ell_t : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ given by

$$\ell_t(\mathbf{y}) = \ell^*(\mathbf{t}) + t h(\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

It is plain that ℓ_t is also an element of $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$. Applying the last inequality with $\ell = \ell_t$ we conclude that

$$t^2 \mathbb{E} [\|h(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] + 2t \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}))' h(\mathbf{Y})] \geq 0, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

and Fact 1.1 immediately leads to the Optimality Principle (4).

4 Algebraic characterization of the LMSE estimators

The main results concerning the *existence* and *algebraic characterization* of the LMSE estimators are given next. First some notation: We shall write

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_Y = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{Y}] \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta = \mathbb{E}[\vartheta].$$

Next, the appropriate covariance matrices are given by

$$\Sigma_{\vartheta Y} = \text{Cov} [\vartheta, \mathbf{Y}] = \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta) (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)']$$

and

$$\Sigma_Y = \text{Cov} [\mathbf{Y}] = \mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)'] .$$

The matrices $\Sigma_{\vartheta Y}$ and Σ_Y are $p \times k$ and $k \times k$ matrices, respectively.

Theorem 4.1 *There always exists an affine estimator ℓ^* in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ which satisfies*

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p).$$

With such an estimator $\ell^* : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ being given by

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{y}) = A^* \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}^*, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

for some $p \times k$ matrix A^* and a vector \mathbf{b}^* in \mathbb{R}^p , then A^* and \mathbf{b}^* satisfy the normal equations

$$(6) \quad A^* \Sigma_Y = \Sigma_{\vartheta Y}$$

and

$$(7) \quad \mathbf{b}^* = \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta - A^* \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y.$$

The normal equations (6)-(7) have a unique solution when Σ_Y is invertible.

Corollary 4.1 *If Σ_Y is invertible, then the LMSE estimator ℓ^* is uniquely determined by*

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{y}) = \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta + \Sigma_{\vartheta Y} \Sigma_Y^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

If Σ_Y is not invertible, there is still uniqueness in the following sense; see analogy with Corollary 2.1.

Corollary 4.2 *Let ℓ_1^* and ℓ_2^* be affine estimators in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ such that*

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell_i^*(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] \leq \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2], \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)$$

for each $i = 1, 2$, then we have

$$\mathbb{P} [\ell_1^*(\mathbf{Y}) = \ell_2^*(\mathbf{Y})] = 1.$$

In analogy with the notation used for MMSE estimators, we shall write

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{y}) = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}], \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

and

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{Y}) = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}].$$

This last rv is unambiguously defined (in the a.s. sense) in view of Corollary 4.2.

5 A proof of Theorem 4.1

The proof has three parts:

Part 1: Given the $p \times k$ matrix A , there is always a best vector $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}(A)$ in \mathbb{R}^p For any $p \times k$ matrix A and vector \mathbf{b} in \mathbb{R}^p , note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - (A\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b})\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\|(\vartheta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta) - A(\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) + (\boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta - (A\boldsymbol{\mu}_Y + \mathbf{b}))\|^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\|(\vartheta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta) - A(\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)\|^2] + \|\boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta - (A\boldsymbol{\mu}_Y + \mathbf{b})\|^2 \\ (8) \quad & \geq \mathbb{E} [\|(\vartheta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta) - A(\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)\|^2] \end{aligned}$$

if we select $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}(A)$ with

$$\mathbf{b}(A) = \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta - A\boldsymbol{\mu}_Y,$$

so that (7) holds.

Part 2: The optimal $p \times k$ matrix A is characterized by the normal equations (6)-(7) Part 1 shows that any LMSE estimator $\ell^* : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ is of the form

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{y}) = A^*\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}^*, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

with \mathbf{b}^* necessarily given by

$$\mathbf{b}^* = \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta - A^*\boldsymbol{\mu}_Y.$$

The Orthogonality Principle states that A^* and \mathbf{b}^* are completely characterized by

$$\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - (A^*\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*))'(C\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{c})] = 0$$

for every $p \times k$ matrix C and every \mathbf{c} in \mathbb{R}^p . This last relation is equivalent to

$$\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*))' C \mathbf{Y}] = 0$$

since $\mathbb{E} [\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*)] = \mathbf{0}_p$ – This fact is just the fact, established later (in Section 6) that the LMSE estimator is unbiased in the sense that

$$\mathbb{E} [\widehat{\mathbb{E}} [\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}]] = \mathbb{E} [\vartheta].$$

But, by elementary properties of the trace operator, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*))' C \mathbf{Y}] &= \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} ((\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*))' C \mathbf{Y})] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} (C \mathbf{Y} (\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*))')] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} ((\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*)) (C \mathbf{Y})')] \\ &= \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} ((\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*)) \mathbf{Y}' C')] \\ &= \text{Tr} (\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*)) \mathbf{Y}' C']) \\ &= \text{Tr} (\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - (A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*)) \mathbf{Y}'] C') \\ &= \text{Tr} (\mathbb{E} [(\vartheta - \boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta - A^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y)) \mathbf{Y}'] C') \\ (9) \quad &= \text{Tr} ((\Sigma_{\vartheta Y} - A^* \Sigma_Y) C') \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$\text{Tr} ((\Sigma_{\vartheta Y} - A^* \Sigma_Y) C') = 0.$$

Since the $p \times k$ matrix C is *arbitrary*, we conclude that

$$\Sigma_{\vartheta Y} - A^* \Sigma_Y = \mathbf{O}_{p \times k}$$

and the normal equations (6) are now established.

Part 3: The existence of the optimal $p \times k$ matrix A^* If Σ_Y is invertible, then the normal equations can be solved. Just take

$$A^* = \Sigma_{\vartheta Y} (\Sigma_Y)^{-1}.$$

If Σ_Y is not invertible, then proceed as follows: Since Σ_Y is a covariance matrix, it is symmetric and positive semi-definite, hence it can always be diagonalized: There exists a $k \times k$ matrix H such that

$$H' \Sigma_Y H = D$$

where

$$H'H = \mathbf{I}_k \quad (\text{hence } H' = H^{-1})$$

and D is a $k \times k$ diagonal matrix. Therefore, $\Sigma_Y = HDH^{-1}$, and the normal equations can now be rewritten as

$$A^*\Sigma_Y = A^*(HDH^{-1}) = \Sigma_{\vartheta Y},$$

or equivalently,

$$A^*HD = \Sigma_{\vartheta Y}H.$$

Thus, with arbitrary $i = 1, \dots, p$ and $j = 1, \dots, k$, entrywise we have

$$((A^*H)D)_{ij} = (\Sigma_{\vartheta Y}H)_{ij},$$

whence

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^k (A^*H)_{i\ell} D_{\ell\ell} \delta_{\ell j} = (\Sigma_{\vartheta Y}H)_{ij}.$$

Thus,

$$(10) \quad (A^*H)_{ij} D_{jj} = (\Sigma_{\vartheta Y}H)_{ij}.$$

If $D_{jj} \neq 0$, it follows that

$$(\mathbf{a}_i^*)' \mathbf{h}_j = \frac{1}{D_{jj}} (\Sigma_{\vartheta Y}H)_{ij}.$$

6 Properties of LMSE estimators

These properties are easy consequences of the Orthogonality Principle.

Property A (LMSE estimators are unbiased)

We have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}] \right] = \mathbb{E}[\vartheta].$$

With \mathbf{v} arbitrary in \mathbb{R}^p , apply the Orthogonality Principle with the (degenerate) affine estimator $h_{\mathbf{v}}$ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ given by

$$h_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

This yields

$$(11) \quad 0 = \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\vartheta - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}] \right)' \mathbf{v} \right] = \left(\mathbb{E}[\vartheta] - \mathbb{E} \left[\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}] \right] \right)' \mathbf{v}.$$

The result follows since \mathbf{v} is arbitrary.

Property B (Marginalization) _____

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}]_i = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta_i | \mathbf{Y}], \quad i = 1, \dots, p.$$

For each affine estimator ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$, we have the decomposition

$$\mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] = \sum_{i=1}^p \mathbb{E} [|\vartheta_i - \ell_i(\mathbf{Y})|^2].$$

We have

$$\ell(\mathbf{y}) = A\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

where A is a $p \times k$ matrix and \mathbf{b} an element of \mathbb{R}^p . Therefore, writing

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}'_1 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}'_p \end{bmatrix}$$

with $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_p$ elements of \mathbb{R}^k , we note that

$$\ell_i(\mathbf{y}) = (A\mathbf{y})_i + b_i = \mathbf{a}'_i \mathbf{y} + b_i, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

It follows

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} [\|\vartheta - \ell(\mathbf{Y})\|^2] &= \sum_{i=1}^p \mathbb{E} [|\vartheta_i - \mathbf{a}'_i \mathbf{Y} - b_i|^2] \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^p \mathbb{E} \left[\left| \vartheta_i - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta_i | \mathbf{Y}] \right|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

and the desired result is straightforward by uniqueness.

Property C (Matrix version of the Orthogonality Principle) _____

With q a positive integer, it holds that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left(\vartheta - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] \right) \ell(\mathbf{Y})' \right] = \mathbf{O}_{p \times q}, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; q)$$

Any ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; q)$ can be written as

$$\ell(\mathbf{y}) = B\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{c}, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

with $q \times k$ matrix B and vector \mathbf{c} in \mathbb{R}^q

Property D _____

If ϑ is a.s. constant, then

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] = \vartheta \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

An easy consequence of the Orthogonality Principle as we note that

$$\vartheta - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] = \ell(\mathbf{Y}) \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

for some ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$.

Property E (Linearity) _____

With positive integer q , we have

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[M\vartheta + \mathbf{m}|\mathbf{Y}] = M\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] + \mathbf{m} \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

where M is a $q \times p$ matrix and \mathbf{m} is an element of \mathbb{R}^q .

Property F _____

If the rvs ϑ and \mathbf{Y} are related through

$$\vartheta = C\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{c} \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

where C is a $p \times k$ matrix and \mathbf{c} is an element of \mathbb{R}^p , then

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] = \vartheta \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

Property G

For every \mathbf{d} in \mathbb{R}^k , we have

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{d}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

This property is an immediate consequence of the Orthogonality Principle upon noting the following equivalence: For every ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$, there exists a unique $\tilde{\ell}$ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ such that

$$\ell(\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{d}) = \tilde{\ell}(\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Conversely, for every $\tilde{\ell}$ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$, there exists a unique ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ such that

$$\tilde{\ell}(\mathbf{y}) = \ell(\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{d}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Just take

$$\ell(\mathbf{y}) = \tilde{\ell}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{d}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Property H

With D an invertible $k \times k$ matrix, we have

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|D\mathbf{Y}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

It follows from Properties G and H that

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|D\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{d}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

for any invertible $k \times k$ matrix D and every \mathbf{d} in \mathbb{R}^k .

Property H is an immediate consequence of the following equivalence: For every ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$, the estimator $\tilde{\ell} : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$ given by

$$\tilde{\ell}(\mathbf{y}) = \ell(D\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

is an affine estimator in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$. Conversely, for every $\tilde{\ell}$ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$, there exists a unique affine estimator ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k; p)$ such that

$$\tilde{\ell}(\mathbf{y}) = \ell(D\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Just take

$$\ell(\mathbf{y}) = \tilde{\ell}(D^{-1}\mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k.$$

Property I

If the rvs ϑ and \mathbf{Y} are uncorrelated, i.e.,

$$\Sigma_{\vartheta\mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{O}_{p \times k},$$

then

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] = \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

The Orthogonality Principle states that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left(\vartheta - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] \right)' \ell(\mathbf{Y}) \right] = 0, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p).$$

We note that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\vartheta' \ell(\mathbf{Y})] &= \mathbb{E}[(\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta])' \ell(\mathbf{Y})] + \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\vartheta]' \ell(\mathbf{Y})] \\ (13) \quad &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\vartheta]' \ell(\mathbf{Y})] \end{aligned}$$

because the the rvs ϑ and \mathbf{Y} are uncorrelated. The Orthogonality Principle now takes the form

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\left(\mathbb{E}[\vartheta] - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] \right)' \ell(\mathbf{Y}) \right] = 0, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k; p)$$

and the conclusion follows.

The next three properties involve the \mathbb{R}^k -valued rv \mathbf{Y} and the \mathbb{R}^m -valued rv \mathbf{Z} with k and m arbitrary positive integers. Both rvs are *second-order* rvs.

Property J

If the \mathbb{R}^k -valued rv \mathbf{Y} and the \mathbb{R}^m -valued rv \mathbf{Z} are uncorrelated, then

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Z}] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

whenever

$$\mathbb{E}[\vartheta] = \mathbf{0}_p.$$

Any affine estimator ℓ in $\mathcal{L}(k + m; p)$ is of the form

$$\ell(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = A_y \mathbf{y} + A_z \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k \\ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m \end{array}$$

where A_y and A_z are $p \times k$ and $p \times m$ matrices, and \mathbf{b} an element in \mathbb{R}^p . In particular,

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] = \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

with affine estimator ℓ^* in $\mathcal{L}(k + m; p)$ of the form

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = A_y^* \mathbf{y} + A_z^* \mathbf{z} + \mathbf{b}^*, \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k \\ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m \end{array}$$

where A_y^* and A_z^* are $p \times k$ and $p \times m$ matrices, and \mathbf{b}^* an element in \mathbb{R}^p . Since $\boldsymbol{\mu}_\vartheta$ we recall that \mathbf{b}^* is given by

$$\mathbf{b}^* = -A_y^* \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y - A_z^* \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z.$$

so that

$$\ell^*(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = A_y^* (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) + A_z^* (\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z), \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^k \\ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^m \end{array}$$

The Orthogonality Principle will read

$$(14) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\vartheta - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] \right)' \ell(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) \right] = 0, \quad \ell \in \mathcal{L}(k + m; p).$$

With the notation introduced earlier we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\vartheta - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] \right)' \ell(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) \\ &= \left(\vartheta - A_y^* \mathbf{Y} - A_z^* \mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{b}^* \right)' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + A_z \mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{b}) \\ &= \left(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z) \right)' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + A_z \mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{b}) \\ &= \left(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z) \right)' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}) \\ (15) \quad & + \left(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z) \right)' A_z \mathbf{Z} \end{aligned}$$

Next, upon taking $A_z = \mathbf{O}_{p \times m}$ in (15) and using the resulting (14), we conclude that

$$0 = \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z) \right)' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \mathbb{E} \left[(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y))' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}) \right] \\
&\quad - \mathbb{E} \left[(A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z))' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}) \right] \\
(16) \quad &= \mathbb{E} \left[(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y))' (A_y \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

as we make use of the fact that the rvs \mathbf{Y} and \mathbf{Z} are uncorrelated. It follows that

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] = A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

by the Orthogonality Principle characterizing the LMMSE estimator of ϑ on the basis of \mathbf{Y} .

To proceed, take $A_y = \mathbf{O}_{p \times k}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}_p$ in (15) and use the resulting (14). This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \mathbb{E} \left[(\vartheta - A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z))' A_z \mathbf{Z} \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[(\vartheta - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z))' A_z \mathbf{Z} \right] - \mathbb{E} \left[(A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y))' A_z \mathbf{Z} \right] \\
(17) \quad &= \mathbb{E} \left[(\vartheta - A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z))' A_z \mathbf{Z} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

as we make use of the fact that the rvs \mathbf{Y} and \mathbf{Z} are uncorrelated. It follows that

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Z}] = A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z) \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

by the Orthogonality Principle characterizing the LMMSE estimator of ϑ on the basis of \mathbf{Z} .

To conclude the proof we note that

$$\begin{aligned}
\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] &= \ell^*(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}) \\
&= A_y^* (\mathbf{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Y) + A_z^* (\mathbf{Z} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_Z) \\
(18) \quad &= \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Z}] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.
\end{aligned}$$

as desired.

Property K

If the \mathbb{R}^k -valued rv \mathbf{Y} and the \mathbb{R}^m -valued rv \mathbf{Z} are uncorrelated, then

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Z}] - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

Property F applied to the zero-mean rv $\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta]$ gives

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta]|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

while Property J applied to the zero-mean rv $\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta]$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] &= \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] | \mathbf{Y}] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] | \mathbf{Z}] \\
 &= \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}] - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Z}] - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] \\
 (19) \qquad \qquad \qquad &= \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Z}] - 2\mathbb{E}[\vartheta] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.
 \end{aligned}$$

where the last step follows by Property F. Comparing we get the result.

Property L

More generally, with arbitrary \mathbb{R}^k -valued rv \mathbf{Y} and \mathbb{R}^m -valued rv \mathbf{Z} , we have

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Y}] + \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta | \mathbf{Z} - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y}]] - \mathbb{E}[\vartheta] \quad \mathbb{P} - a.s.$$

The rv $\mathbf{Z} - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y}]$ is known as the (*linear*) *innovations* in \mathbf{Z} with respect to \mathbf{Y} . The rvs \mathbf{Y} and $\mathbf{Z} - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y}]$ are always uncorrelated.

We start by noting that

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y}] = A^* \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}^*$$

for some $m \times k$ matrix A^* and an element \mathbf{b}^* of \mathbb{R}^m .

Thus, with

$$\mathbf{V} \equiv \mathbf{Z} - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\mathbf{Z} | \mathbf{Y}],$$

it holds that

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{bmatrix} = D \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y} \\ \mathbf{Z} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_k \\ -\mathbf{b}^* \end{bmatrix}$$

with $(m+k) \times (m+k)$ matrix D given by

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_k & \mathbf{O}_{k \times m} \\ -A^* & \mathbf{I}_m \end{bmatrix}.$$

Observe that the equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I}_k & \mathbf{O}_{k \times m} \\ -A^* & \mathbf{I}_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_k \\ \mathbf{0}_m \end{bmatrix}$$

implies

$$\mathbf{I}_k \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{O}_{k \times m} \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}_k$$

and

$$-A^* \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{I}_m \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}_m.$$

The first equation implies $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}_k$; replacing this fact into the second equation we get $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}_m$. In other words, $\text{Ker}(D)$ is reduced to the zero vector in \mathbb{R}^{k+m} , and is therefore invertible.

As a result,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y} \\ \mathbf{Z} \end{bmatrix} = D^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Y} \\ \mathbf{V} \end{bmatrix} + D^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_k \\ -\mathbf{b}^* \end{bmatrix}.$$

Invoking Property G and Property H we conclude that

$$\widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}] = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\vartheta|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{V}]$$

and the desired conclusion now follows by Property K since rvs \mathbf{Y} and $\mathbf{Z} - \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[\mathbf{Z}|\mathbf{Y}]$ are always uncorrelated (as an immediate consequence of the Orthogonality Principle).

7 The Gaussian case