

Ex. 3.3 p.42

Show that if X has a normal distribution such that the mean is zero and the inverse of the variance is Γ -distributed

$$X | \Sigma^2 = \lambda \sim N(0, \frac{1}{\lambda}) \quad \text{with} \quad \Sigma^2 \sim \Gamma(\frac{n}{2}, \frac{2}{n})$$

then $X \sim t(n)$.

Solution:

We use $f_X(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \boxed{f_{X|\theta=\theta}(x)} \boxed{f_{\theta}(\theta)} d\theta$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \int_0^{\infty} \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \frac{1}{\lambda}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2 \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda}}}} \cdot \boxed{\frac{1}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \frac{1}{(\frac{2}{n})^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{\lambda}{2/n}}} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{\lambda x^2}{2} - \frac{n\lambda}{2}} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi n} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \int_0^{\infty} \lambda^{\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{-\frac{\lambda}{2}(x^2+n)} d\lambda = * \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\int_0^{\infty} t^{k-1} e^{-\frac{t}{r}} dt = r^k \Gamma(k)$$

so for $k = \frac{n+1}{2}$ and $r = \frac{2}{x^2+n}$ we get

$$\int_0^{\infty} \lambda^{\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{-\lambda \cdot \frac{(x^2+n)}{2}} d\lambda = \left(\frac{2}{x^2+n}\right)^{\frac{n+1}{2}} \Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)$$

Finally

$$* = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi n} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \frac{n^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}{2^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} \frac{2^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}{(x^2+n)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}} \Gamma\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{\sqrt{\pi n} \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{x^2}{n} + 1\right)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}$$

that is density function for t -Student distribution $t(n)$

$$X \sim t(n)$$