Quadratic Forms of Random Variables

1 Quadratic Forms

For a $k \times k$ symmetric matrix $\boldsymbol{A} = \{a_{ij}\}$ the quadratic function of k variables $\boldsymbol{x} = (x_1, \ldots, x_n)'$ defined by

$$Q(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{k}\sum_{j=1}^{k} a_{i,j}x_i x_j$$

is called the *quadratic form* with matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$.

If $\boldsymbol{A}$ is not symmetric, we can have an equivalent expression/quadratic form replacing $\boldsymbol{A}$ by $(\boldsymbol{A} + \boldsymbol{A}')/2$.

Definition 1. *$Q(\boldsymbol{x})$ and the matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ are called* positive definite *if*

$$Q(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} > 0, \quad \forall\, \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k,\ \boldsymbol{x} \neq \boldsymbol{0}$$

and positive semi-definite *if*

$$Q(\boldsymbol{x}) \geq \forall\, \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

For negative definite *and* negative semi-definite*, replace the $>$ and $\geq$ in the above definitions by $<$ and $\leq$, respectively.*

Theorem 1. *A symmetric matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ is positive definite if and only if it has a Cholesky decomposition $\boldsymbol{A} = \boldsymbol{R}'\boldsymbol{R}$ with strictly positive diagonal elements in $\boldsymbol{R}$, so that $\boldsymbol{R}^{-1}$ exists. (In practice this means that none of the diagonal elements of $\boldsymbol{R}$ are very close to zero.)*

Proof. The "if" part is proven by construction. The Cholesky decomposition, $\boldsymbol{R}$, is constructed a row at a time and the diagonal elements are evaluated as the square roots of expressions calculated from the current row of $\boldsymbol{A}$ and previous rows of $\boldsymbol{R}$. If the expression whose square root is to be calculated is not positive then you can determine a non-zero $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ for which $\boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} \leq 0$.

Suppose that $\boldsymbol{A} = \boldsymbol{R}'\boldsymbol{R}$ with $\boldsymbol{R}$ invertible. Then

$$\boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{R}'\boldsymbol{R}\boldsymbol{x} = \|\boldsymbol{R}\boldsymbol{x}\|^2 \geq 0$$

with equality only if $\boldsymbol{R}\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{0}$. But if $\boldsymbol{R}^{-1}$ exists then $\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{R}^{-1}\boldsymbol{0}$ must also be zero. □

Transformation of Quadratic Forms:

Theorem 2. *Suppose that $\boldsymbol{B}$ is a $k \times k$ nonsingular matrix. Then the quadratic form $Q^*(\boldsymbol{y}) = \boldsymbol{y}'\boldsymbol{B}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{y}$ is positive definite if and only if $Q(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}$ is positive definite. Similar results hold for positive semi-definite, negative definite and negative semi-definite.*

Proof.

$$Q^*(\boldsymbol{y}) = \boldsymbol{y}'\boldsymbol{B}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{y} = \boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} > 0$$

where $\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{y} \neq \boldsymbol{0}$ because $\boldsymbol{y} \neq \boldsymbol{0}$ and $\boldsymbol{B}$ is nonsingular. □

Theorem 3. *For any $k \times k$ symmetric matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ the quadratic form defined by $\boldsymbol{A}$ can be written using its spectral decomposition as*

$$Q(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i \|\boldsymbol{q}_i'\boldsymbol{x}\|^2$$

where the eigendecomposition of of $\boldsymbol{A}$ is $\boldsymbol{Q}'\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{Q}$ with $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ diagonal with diagonal elements λ_i, $i = 1, \ldots, k$, $\boldsymbol{Q}$ is the orthogonal matrix with the eigenvectors, $\boldsymbol{q}_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, k$ as its columns. (Be careful to distinguish the bold face $\boldsymbol{Q}$, which is a matrix, from the unbolded $Q(\boldsymbol{x})$, which is the quadratic form.)

Proof. For any $\boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ let $\boldsymbol{y} = \boldsymbol{Q}'\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{Q}^{-1}\boldsymbol{x}$. Then

$$Q(\boldsymbol{x}) = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}) = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{x}'\boldsymbol{Q}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{Q}'\boldsymbol{x}) = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{y}'\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{y}) = \operatorname{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{y}\boldsymbol{y}') == \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i y_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \lambda_i \|\boldsymbol{q}_i'\boldsymbol{x}\|^2$$

This proof uses a common "trick" of expressing the scalar $Q(\boldsymbol{x})$ as the trace of a 1×1 matrix so we can reverse the order of some matrix multiplications. □

Corollary 1. *A symmetric matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ is positive definite if and only if its eigenvalues are all positive, negative definite if and only if its eignevalues are all negative, and positive semi-definite if all its eigenvalues are non-negative.*

Corollary 2. $\operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{A}) = \operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda})$ *hence* $\operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{A})$ *equals the number of non-zero eigenvalues of* $\boldsymbol{A}$

2 Idempotent Matrices

Definition 2 (Idempotent)**.** *The $k \times k$ matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$, is* idempotent *if $\boldsymbol{A}^2 = \boldsymbol{A}\,\boldsymbol{A} = \boldsymbol{A}$.*

Definition 3 (Projection matrices)**.** *A symmetric, idempotent matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ is a* projection matrix*. The effect of the mapping $\boldsymbol{x} \to \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}$ is orthogonal projection of $\boldsymbol{x}$ onto* $\operatorname{col}(A)$.

Theorem 4. *All the eigenvalues of an idempotent matrix are either zero or one.*

Proof. Suppose that λ is an eigenvalue of the idempotent matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$. Then there exists a non-zero $\boldsymbol{x}$ such that $\boldsymbol{Ax} = \lambda\boldsymbol{x}$. But $\boldsymbol{Ax} = \boldsymbol{AAx}$ because $\boldsymbol{A}$ is idempotent. Thus

$$\lambda\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{Ax} = \boldsymbol{AAx} = \boldsymbol{A}(\lambda\boldsymbol{x}) = \lambda(\boldsymbol{Ax}) = \lambda^2\boldsymbol{x}$$

and

$$\boldsymbol{0} = \lambda^2\boldsymbol{x} - \lambda\boldsymbol{x} = \lambda(\lambda - 1)\boldsymbol{x}$$

for some non-zero $\boldsymbol{x}$, which implies that $\lambda = 0$ or $\lambda = 1$. □

Corollary 3. *The $k \times k$ symmetric matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ is idempotent of rank$(\boldsymbol{A}) = r$ iff $\boldsymbol{A}$ has r eigenvalues equal to 1 and $k - r$ eigenvalues equal to 0*

Proof. A matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$ with r eigenvalues of 1 and $k - r$ eigenvalues of zero has r non-zero eigenvalues and hence rank$(\boldsymbol{A}) = r$. Because $\boldsymbol{A}$ is symmetric its eigendecomposition is $\boldsymbol{A} = \boldsymbol{Q\Lambda Q}'$ for an orthogonal $\boldsymbol{Q}$ and a diagonal $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$. Because the eigenvalues of $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ are the same as those of $\boldsymbol{A}$, they must be all zeros or ones. That is all the diagonal elements of $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ are zero or one. Hence $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ is idempotent, $\boldsymbol{\Lambda\Lambda} = \boldsymbol{\Lambda}$, and

$$\boldsymbol{AA} = \boldsymbol{Q\Lambda Q}'\boldsymbol{Q\Lambda Q}' = \boldsymbol{Q\Lambda Q}' = \boldsymbol{A}$$

is also idempotent. □

Corollary 4. *For a symmetric idempotent matrix $\boldsymbol{A}$, we have tr$(\boldsymbol{A})$ = rank$(\boldsymbol{A})$, which is the dimension of* col$(\boldsymbol{A})$*, the space into which $\boldsymbol{A}$ projects.*

3 Expected Values and Covariance Matrices of Random Vectors

An k-dimensional *vector-valued random variable* (or, more simply, a *random vector*), $\mathcal{X}$, is a k-vector composed of k scalar random variables

$$\mathcal{X} = (\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_k)'$$

If the expected values of the component random variables are $\mu_i = E(\mathcal{X}_i)$, $i = 1, \dots, k$ then

$$E(\mathcal{X}) = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathcal{X}} = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_k)'$$

Suppose that $\mathcal{Y} = (\mathcal{Y}_1, \dots, \mathcal{Y}_m)'$ is an m-dimensional random vector, then the *covariance* of $\mathcal{X}$ and $\mathcal{Y}$, written Cov$(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$ is

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{XY} = \text{Cov}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}) = E[(\mathcal{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathcal{X}})(\mathcal{Y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathcal{Y}})']$$

The *variance-covariance* matrix of $\mathcal{X}$ is

$$\text{Var}(\mathcal{X}) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{XX} = E[(\mathcal{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathcal{X}})(\mathcal{X} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\S})$$

Suppose that $\boldsymbol{c}$ is a constant m-vector, $\boldsymbol{A}$ is a constant $m \times k$ matrix and $\mathcal{Z} = \boldsymbol{Z}\mathcal{X} + \boldsymbol{c}$ is a linear transformation of $\mathcal{X}$. Then

$$E(\mathcal{Z}) = \boldsymbol{A}E(\mathcal{X}) + \boldsymbol{c}$$

and

$$\mathrm{Var}(\mathcal{Z}) = \boldsymbol{A}\,\mathrm{Var}(\mathcal{X})\boldsymbol{A}'$$

If we let $\mathcal{W} = \boldsymbol{B}\mathcal{Y} + \boldsymbol{d}$ be a linear transformation of $\mathcal{Y}$ for suitably sized $\boldsymbol{B}$ and $\boldsymbol{d}$ then

$$\mathrm{Cov}(\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{W}) = \boldsymbol{A}\,\mathrm{Cov}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})B'$$

Theorem 5. *The variance-covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{X},\mathcal{X}}$ of $\mathcal{X}$ is a symmetric and positive semi-definite matrix*

Proof. The result follows from the property that the variance of a scalar random variable is non-negative. Suppose that $\boldsymbol{b}$ is any nonzero, constant k-vector. Then

$$0 \leq \mathrm{Var}(\boldsymbol{b}'\mathcal{X}) = \boldsymbol{b}'\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{X}\mathcal{X}}\boldsymbol{b}, \text{ which is the positive, semi-definite condition.}$$

□

4 Mean and Variance of Quadratic Forms

Theorem 6. *Let $\mathcal{X}$ be a k-dimensional random vector and $\boldsymbol{A}$ be a constant $k \times k$ symmetric matrix. If $E(\mathcal{X}) = \boldsymbol{\mu}$ and $\mathrm{Var}(\mathcal{X}) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}$, then*

$$E(\mathcal{X}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{X}) = \mathrm{tr}(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathcal{X}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{X}) &= \mathrm{tr}(E(\mathcal{X}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{X})) \\ &= E[\mathrm{tr}(\mathcal{X}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{X})] \\ &= E[\mathrm{tr}(\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{X}\mathcal{X}')] \\ &= \mathrm{tr}(\boldsymbol{A}E[\mathcal{X}\mathcal{X}']) \\ &= tr(\boldsymbol{A}(\mathrm{Cov}(\mathcal{X}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}\boldsymbol{\mu}')) \\ &= tr(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{X}\mathcal{X}}) + \mathrm{tr}(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}\boldsymbol{\mu}') \\ &= tr(\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{X}\mathcal{X}}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} \end{aligned}$$

□

5 Distribution of Quadratic Forms in Normal Random Variables

Definition 4 (Non-Central χ^2)**.** *If $\mathcal{X}$ is a (scalar) normal random variable with $E(\mathcal{X}) = \mu$ and $\mathrm{Var}(\mathcal{X}) = 1$, then the random variable $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{X}^2$ is distributed as $\chi^2_1(\lambda^2)$, which is called the noncentral χ^2 distribution with 1 degree of freedom and non-centrality parameter $\lambda^2 = \mu^2$. The mean and variance of $\mathcal{V}$ are*

$$E[\mathcal{V}] = 1 + \lambda^2 \text{ and } \mathrm{Var}[\mathcal{V}] = 2 + 4\lambda^2$$

As described in the previous chapter, we are particularly interested in random n-vectors, $\boldsymbol{Y}$, that have a *spherical normal distribution.*

Theorem 7. *Let $\mathcal{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2 \boldsymbol{I}_n)$ be an n-vector with a spherical normal distribution and $\boldsymbol{A}$ be an $n \times n$ symmetric matrix. Then the ratio $\mathcal{Y}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{Y}/\sigma^2$ will have a $\chi^2_r(\lambda^2)$ distribution with $\lambda^2 = \boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}/\sigma^2$ if and only if $\boldsymbol{A}$ is idempotent with $rank(\boldsymbol{A}) = r$*

Proof. Suppose that $\boldsymbol{A}$ is idempotent (which, in combination with being symmetric, means that it is a projection matrix) and has $rank(\boldsymbol{A}) = r$. Its eigendecomposition, $\boldsymbol{A} = \boldsymbol{V}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{V}'$, is such that $\boldsymbol{V}$ is orthogonal and $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ is $n \times n$ diagonal with exactly $r = \text{rank}(\boldsymbol{A})$ ones and $n - r$ zeros on the diagonal. Without loss of generality we can (and do) arrange the eigenvalues in decreasing order so that $\lambda_j = 1$, $j = 1, \ldots, r$ and $\lambda_j = 0$, $j = r + 1, \ldots, n$ Let $\mathcal{X} = \boldsymbol{V}'\mathcal{Y}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\mathcal{Y}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{Y}}{\sigma^2} &= \frac{\mathcal{Y}'\boldsymbol{V}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{V}'\mathcal{Y}}{\sigma^2} \\
&= \frac{\mathcal{X}'\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\mathcal{X}}{\sigma^2} \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^{n} \lambda_j \frac{\mathcal{X}_j^2}{\sigma^2} \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^{r} \frac{\mathcal{X}_j^2}{\sigma^2}
\end{aligned}$$

(Notice that the last sum is to $j = r$, not $j = n$.) However, $\frac{\mathcal{X}_j}{\sigma} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{v}_j'\boldsymbol{\mu}/\sigma, 1)$ so $\frac{\mathcal{X}_j^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2_1((\boldsymbol{v}_j'\boldsymbol{\mu}/\sigma)^2)$. Therefore

$$\sum_{j=1}^{r} \frac{\mathcal{X}_j^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2_{(r)}(\lambda^2) \text{ where } \lambda^2 = \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{V}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}\boldsymbol{V}'\boldsymbol{\mu}}{\sigma^2} = \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}}{\sigma^2}$$

□

Corollary 5. *For $\boldsymbol{A}$ a projection of rank r, $(\mathcal{Y}'\boldsymbol{A}\mathcal{Y})/\sigma^2$ has a central χ^2 distribution if and only if $\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} = \boldsymbol{0}$*

Proof. The χ^2_r distribution will be central if and only if

$$0 = \boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} = \boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} = \boldsymbol{\mu}'\boldsymbol{A}'\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} = \|\boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{\mu}\|^2$$

□

Corollary 6. *In the full-rank Gaussian linear model, $\boldsymbol{Y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}, \sigma^2\boldsymbol{I}_n)$, the residual sum of squares, $\|\boldsymbol{y} - \boldsymbol{X}\widehat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}\|^2$ has a central $\sigma^2\chi^2_{n-r}$ distribution.*

Proof. In the full rank model with the QR decomposition of $\boldsymbol{X}$ given by

$$\boldsymbol{X} = \begin{bmatrix}\boldsymbol{Q}_1 & \boldsymbol{Q}_2\end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix}\boldsymbol{R} \\ \boldsymbol{0}\end{bmatrix}$$

and $\boldsymbol{R}$ invertible, the fitted values are $\boldsymbol{Q}_1\boldsymbol{Q}_1'\mathcal{Y}$ and the residuals are $\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{y}$ so the residual sum of squares is the quadratic form $\mathcal{Y}'\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2'\mathcal{Y}$. The matrix defining the quadratic form, $\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2'$, is a projection matrix. It is obviously symmetric and it is idempotent because $\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2'\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2' = \boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2'$. As

$$\boldsymbol{Q}_2'\boldsymbol{\mu} = \boldsymbol{Q}_2'\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 = \boldsymbol{Q}_2'\boldsymbol{Q}_1\boldsymbol{R}\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 = \underbrace{\boldsymbol{0}}_{(n-p)\times n}\boldsymbol{R}\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 = \underbrace{\boldsymbol{0}}_{(n-p)\times p}\boldsymbol{\beta}_0 = \boldsymbol{0}_{n-p}$$

the ratio

$$\frac{\mathcal{Y}'\boldsymbol{Q}_2\boldsymbol{Q}_2'\mathcal{Y}}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2_{n-p}$$

and the RSS has a central $\sigma^2\chi^2_{n-p}$ distribution. □

R Exercises: Let's check some of these results by simulation. First we claim that if $\mathcal{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, 1)$ then $\mathcal{X}^2 \sim \chi^2(\lambda^2)$ where $\lambda^2 = \mu^2$. First simulate from a standard normal distribution

```
> set.seed(1234)                          # reproducible "random" values
> X <- rnorm(100000)                      # standard normal values
> zapsmall(summary(V <- X^2))             # a very skew distribution

   Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
 0.0000  0.1026  0.4521  0.9989  1.3190 20.3300

> var(V)

[1] 1.992403
```

The mean and variance of the simulated values agree quite well with the theoretical values of 1 and 2, respectively.

To check the form of the distribution we could plot an empirical density function but this distribution has its maximum density at 0 and is zero to the left of 0 so an empirical density is a poor indication of the actual shape of the density. Instead, in Fig. 1, we present the quantile-quantile plot for this sample versus the (theoretical) quantiles of the χ^2_1 distribution.

Now simulate a non-central χ^2 with non-centrality parameter $\lambda^2 = 4$

```
> V1 <- rnorm(100000, mean=2)^2
> zapsmall(summary(V1))

   Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
  0.000   1.773   3.994   5.003   7.144  39.050

> var(V1)
```

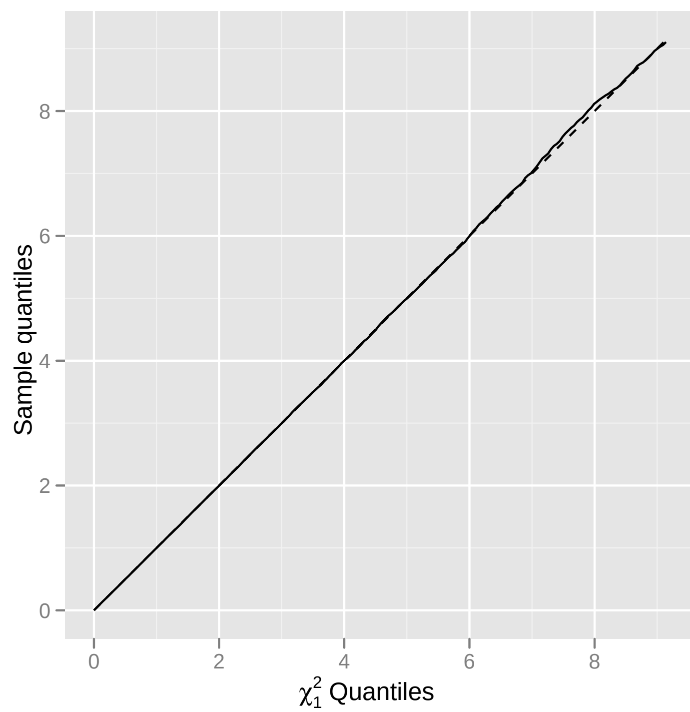

Figure 1: A quantile-quantile plot of the squares of simulated $\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ random variables versus the quantiles of the χ^2_1 distribution. The dashed line is a reference line through the origin with a slope of 1.

```
[1] 17.95924
```

The sample mean is close to the theoretical value of $5 = 1 + \lambda^2$ and the sample variance is close to the theoretical value of $2 + 4\lambda^2$ although perhaps not as close as one would hope in a sample of size 100,000.

A quantile-quantile plot versus the non-central distribution, $\chi^2_1(4)$, (Fig. 2) and versus the central distribution, χ^2_1, shows that the sample does follow the claimed distribution $\chi^2_1(4)$ and is stochastically larger than the χ^2_1 distribution.

More interesting, perhaps is the distribution of the residual sum of squares from a regression model. We simulate from our previously fitted model `lm1`

```
> lm1 <- lm(optden ~ carb, Formaldehyde)
> str(Ymat <- data.matrix(unname(simulate(lm1, 10000))))

 num [1:6, 1:10000] 0.088 0.258 0.444 0.521 0.619 ...
 - attr(*, "dimnames")=List of 2
  ..$ : chr [1:6] "1" "2" "3" "4" ...
  ..$ : NULL
```

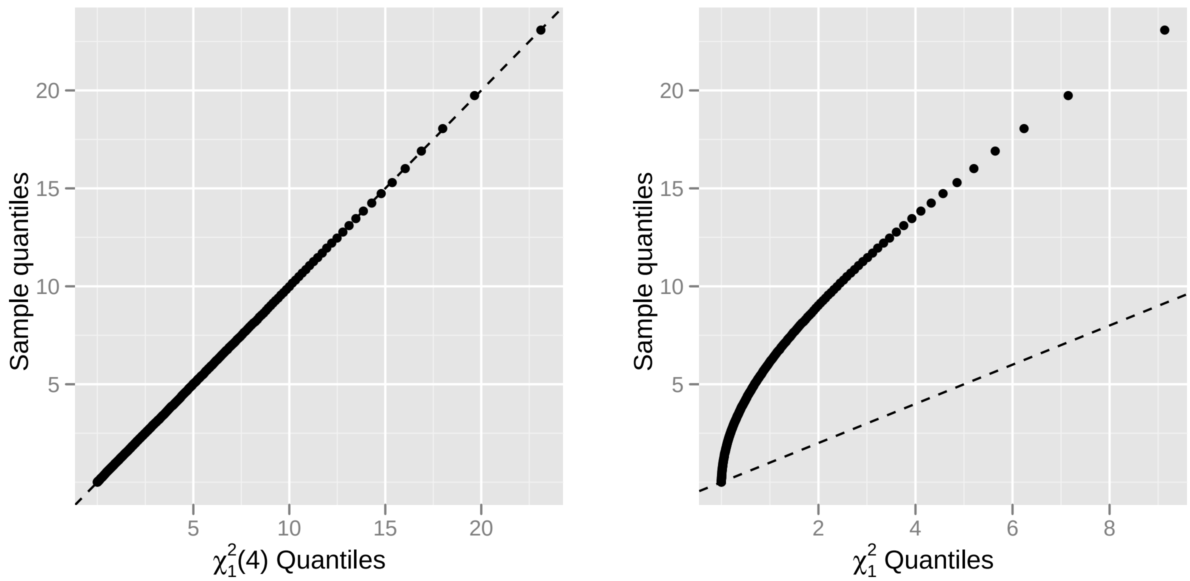

Figure 2: Quantile-quantile plots of a sample of squares of $\mathcal{N}$ (2, 1) random variables versus the quantiles of a $\chi_1^2(4)$ non-central distribution (left panel) and a χ_1^2 central distribution (right panel)

```
> str(RSS <- deviance(fits <- lm(Ymat ~ carb, Formaldehyde)))

 num [1:10000] 0.000104 0.000547 0.00055 0.000429 0.000228 ...

> fits[["df.residual"]]

[1] 4
```

Here the `Ymat` matrix is 10,000 simulated response vectors from model `lm1` using the estimated parameters as the true values of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ and σ^2. Notice that we can fit the model to **all** 10,000 response vectors in a single call to the `lm()` function.

The `deviance()` function applied to a model fit by `lm()` returns the residual sum of square, which is not technically the deviance but is often the quantity of interest.

These simulated residual sums of squares should have a $\sigma^2\chi_4^2$ distribution where σ^2 is the residual sum of squares in model `lm1` divided by 4.

```
> (sigsq <- deviance(lm1)/4)

[1] 7.48e-05

> summary(RSS)

     Min.   1st Qu.    Median      Mean   3rd Qu.      Max.
6.997e-07 1.461e-04 2.537e-04 3.026e-04 4.114e-04 1.675e-03
```

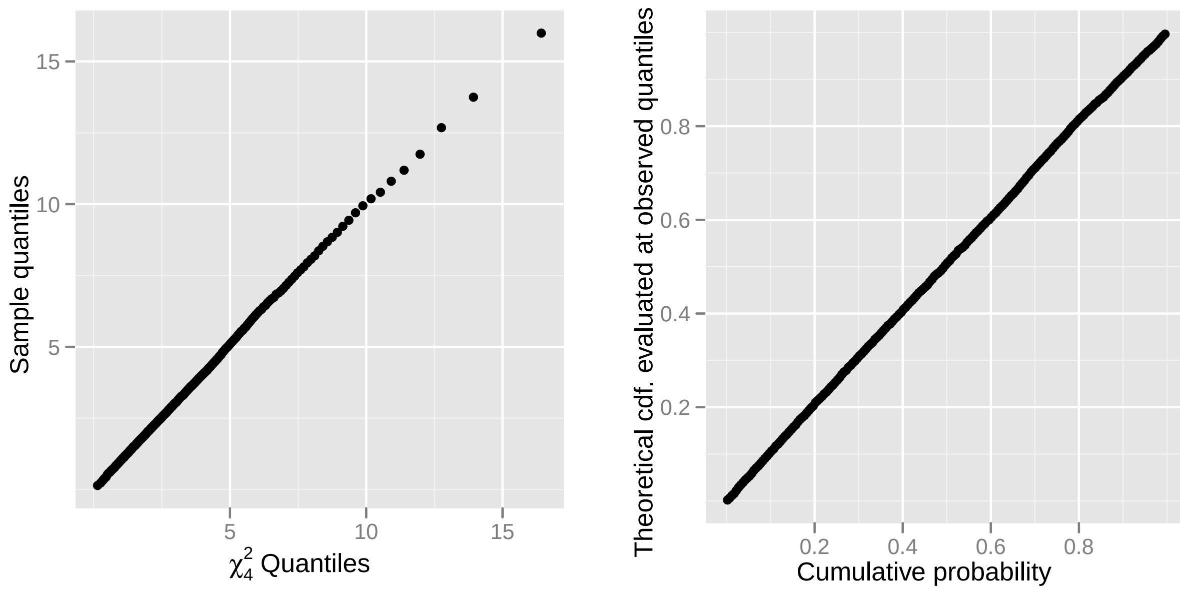

Figure 2.3: Quantile-quantile plot of the scaled residual sum of squares, `RSSsq`, from simulated responses versus the quantiles of a χ^2_4 distribution (left panel) and the corresponding probability-probability plot on the right panel.

We expect a mean of $4\sigma^2$ and a variance of $2 \cdot 4(\sigma^2)^2$. It is easier to see this if we divide these values by σ^2

```
> summary(RSSsc <- RSS/sigsq)

     Min.   1st Qu.    Median      Mean   3rd Qu.      Max.
 0.009354  1.953000  3.392000  4.045000  5.500000 22.390000

> var(RSSsc)

[1] 8.000057
```

A quantile-quantile plot with respect to the χ^2_4 distribution (Fig. 2.3) shows very good agreement between the empirical and theoretical quantiles. Also shown in Fig. 2.3 is the probability-probability plot. Instead of plotting the sample quantiles versus the theoretical quantiles we take equally spaced values on the probability scale (function `ppoints()`), evaluate the sample quantiles and then apply the theoretical cdf to the empirical quantiles. This should also produce a straight line. It has the advantage that the points are equally spaced on the x-axis.

We could also plot the empirical density of these simulated values and overlay it with the theoretical density (Fig. 2.4).

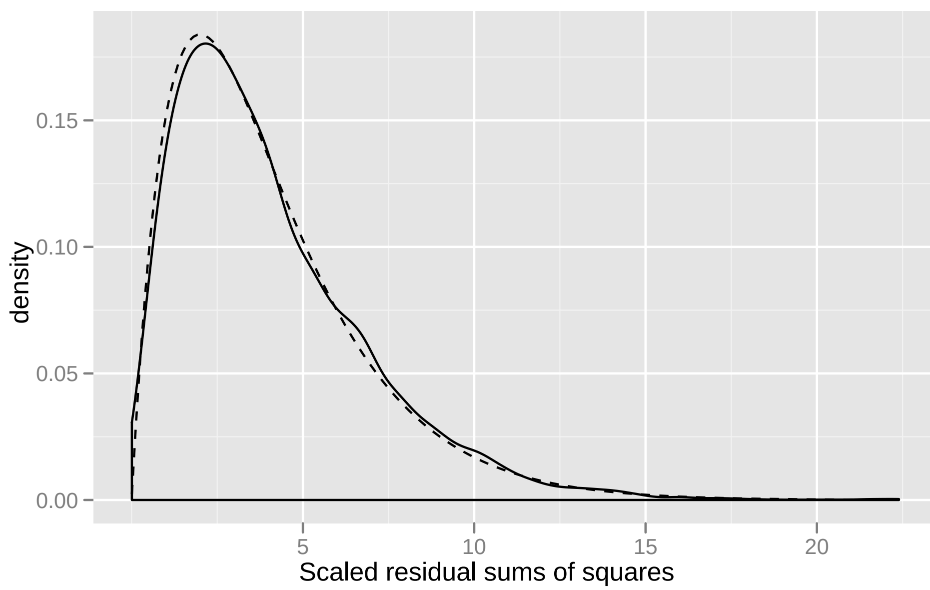

Figure 2.4: Empirical density plot of the scaled residual sums of squares, `RSSsq`, from simulated responses. The overlaid dashed line is the density of a χ^2_4 random variable. The peak of the empirical density gets shifted a bit to the right because of the way the empirical density if calculated. It uses a symmetric kernel which is not a good choice for a skewed density like this.