Asymptotic expansions of the distributions of MANOVA test statistics when the dimension is large

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(Received October 1, 2013)
(Revised February 26, 2014)

Abstract. Asymptotic expansions of the null distribution of the MANOVA test statistics including the likelihood ratio, Lawley-Hotelling and Bartlett-Nanda-Pillai tests are obtained when both the sample size and the dimension tend to infinity with assuming the ratio of the dimension and the sample size tends to a positive constant smaller than one. Cornish-Fisher expansions of the upper percent points are also obtained. In order to study the accuracy of the approximation formulas, some numerical experiments are done, with comparing to the classical expansions when only the sample size tends to infinity.

1. Introduction

This paper is concerned with the multivariate linear model:

\[ X = QB + \delta, \]

where \( X \) is the \( N \times p \) observation matrix, \( Q \) is the \( N \times k \) design matrix, \( B \) is the \( k \times p \) matrix of regression coefficients, and, \( \delta \) is the \( N \times p \) error matrix distributed as \( N_{N \times p}(0, I_N \otimes \Sigma) \). Consider testing the hypothesis

\[ H_0 : CB = O, \]

where \( C \) is a \( q \times k \) known matrix of rank \( q \). Under a certain group of transformations, the testing problem is invariant, and invariant tests depend on the non-zero eigenvalues of \( S_hS_e^{-1} \) where

\[ S_h = \hat{B}'C'(Q'Q)^{-1}C'\hat{B} \quad \text{and} \quad S_e = (X - Q\hat{B})'(X - Q\hat{B}) \]

with \( \hat{B} = (Q'Q)^{-1}Q'X \) (see [4, Theorem 10.2.1]). Among famous invariant tests, we consider the three statistics

(i) \( A = \frac{|S_e|}{|S_e + S_h|} \), \quad (ii) \( T_0^2 = \text{tr} S_hS_e^{-1} \), \quad \text{and} \quad (iii) \( V^{(e)} = \text{tr} S_h(S_e + S_h)^{-1} \).
which are the likelihood ratio test statistics, Lawley-Hotelling’s generalized $T^2$ statistics, and Bartlett-Nanda-Pillai’s test statistics, respectively.

Since the exact distributions of these statistics are complicated and not easy to treat, we need some method to approximate the distributions. One of the method is to use the asymptotic expansions of the distribution functions when the sample size $N$ is large (see [1], [4], or [5]). However, it is known that the approximations are bad when the dimension $p$ is large relative to $N$.

Tonda and Fujikoshi [6] derived an asymptotic expansion of the null distribution function for the LR test under the framework:

$$q : \text{fixed}, \ n \to \infty, \ p \to \infty, \ \frac{p}{n} \to c \in (0, 1),$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)

where $n = N - k$ is the degree of freedom of the Wishart distribution of $S_e$. Their derivation depends on property of Wilks’s lambda distribution:

$$A_p(q, n) = A_q(p, n - p + q) = \prod_{j=1}^{q} \text{Beta}((n - p + q - j + 1)/2, p/2).$$

In their paper, the problems of deriving the asymptotic expansions of the null distributions for (ii), (iii), and the non-null distributions for the three statistics were left for future work. In this paper, we derive the asymptotic expansions of the null distributions for the three statistics under a similar framework (6) as (3) in an unified way. The results was first presented in [7] as a preprint.

2. Preliminaries

In this section we prepare some lemmas.

By transforming the variables and parameters, the model (1) can be represented as

$$X^* = \begin{pmatrix} X_1^* \\ X_2^* \\ X_3^* \end{pmatrix}$$

where $X_1^*$, $X_2^*$, and $X_3^*$ are independent random matrices, and

$$X_1^* \sim N_q \times p(M_1, I_q \otimes \Sigma), \quad X_2^* \sim N_{(k-q)} \times p(M_2, I_{k-q} \otimes \Sigma),$$

$$X_3^* \sim N_n \times p(O, I_n \otimes \Sigma),$$

where $n = N - k$. The null hypothesis (2) is equivalent with $H : M_1 = O$. The basic statistics $S_e$ and $S_h$ can be represented as

$$S_e = (X_3^*)' X_3^* \quad \text{and} \quad S_h = (X_1^*)' X_1^*.$$  

Here $A'$ denotes the transpose of $A$ for arbitrary matrix $A$. See [4] for details.
Let
\[ Z = X_1^t \Sigma^{-1/2}, \quad A = \Sigma^{-1/2} S_e \Sigma^{-1/2}, \quad \text{and} \quad M = M_1 \Sigma^{-1/2}. \tag{4} \]
Then \( Z \) and \( A \) are independent, \( Z \sim N_{q \times p}(M, I_q \otimes I_p) \), \( A \sim W_p(n, I_p) \) and the joint distribution of the non-zero eigenvalues of \( S_e^{-1} S_h \) is equal to the joint distribution of the eigenvalues \( (l_1, \ldots, l_q) \) of \( Z A^{-1} Z' \).

The following lemma enables us to derive the valid asymptotic expansions of the null distributions of the three test statistics.

**Lemma 1.** Let
\[ B = ZZ' \quad \text{and} \quad W = B^{1/2}(ZA^{-1}Z')^{-1}B^{1/2}. \]
Then \( B \) and \( W \) are independently distributed as the noncentral and central Wishart distributions, \( W_q(p, I_q, \Omega) \) and \( W_q(m, I_q) \), respectively, where \( \Omega \) is the noncentrality matrix given by
\[ \Omega = MM' = M_1 \Sigma^{-1} M_1', \tag{5} \]
and \( m = n - p + q \).

**Proof.** It is obvious about the distribution of \( B \). For given \( Z \), the conditional distribution of \( (ZA^{-1}Z')^{-1} \) is \( W_q(n - p + q, (ZZ')^{-1}) \) (see [4, Theorem 3.2.11]). Therefore the conditional distribution of \( W \) is \( W_q(m, I_q) \), which proves the independence.

The non-zero eigenvalues of \( Z A^{-1} Z' \) are equal to the ones of \( BW^{-1} \). Both \( B \) and \( W \) can be represented as sums of independent random matrices of size \( q \times q \). Therefore, the distribution of the smooth and symmetric function of \( l_1, \ldots, l_q \), which is the smooth function of \( BW^{-1} \), has the valid asymptotic expansions (see [2]). In particular, the three statistic can be represented as

(i) \[ \frac{|S_e|}{|S_e + S_h|} = \frac{|W|}{|W + B|}, \]

(ii) \[ \text{tr}(S_h S_e^{-1}) = \text{tr}(BW^{-1}), \]

(iii) \[ \text{tr}(S_h (S_e + S_h)^{-1}) = \text{tr}(B(W + B)^{-1}). \]

3. Null distributions

In this section we derive the asymptotic expansions of the test statistics under the null hypothesis. By virtue of lemma 1, we can obtain the asymptotic expansions following the usual methods: perturbation expansion of statistics,
expanding the characteristic functions, and inverting the resultant characteristic functions.

3.1. Perturbation expansion. In what follows we assume that

\[ q : \text{fixed, } p \rightarrow \infty, m \rightarrow \infty, \text{ and both } \frac{p}{m} \text{ and } \frac{m}{p} \text{ are bounded} \]  \hspace{1cm} (6)

instead of (3), since the convergence of the ratio \( p/n \) is not necessary.

Let \( U \) and \( V \) be defined by

\[ \frac{1}{p} B = I_q + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} U, \quad \frac{1}{m} W = I_q + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} V. \]  \hspace{1cm} (7)

Then \( U \) and \( V \) are asymptotically normal. Let

\[ D = \sqrt{p} \left( \frac{m}{p} BW^{-1} - I_q \right). \]  \hspace{1cm} (8)

Then \( D = O_p(1) \) and the three statistics can be expanded in terms of \( D \) as follows:

\[ \log \frac{|W|}{|W + B|} = -\log |I_q + BW^{-1}| \]

\[ = -q \log(1 + r) - \frac{r_2}{\sqrt{p}} \text{ tr}(D) + \frac{r_2^2}{2p} \text{ tr}(D^2) \]

\[ - \frac{r_2^3}{3p \sqrt{p}} \text{ tr}(D^3) + O_p\left( \frac{1}{p^2} \right), \]

\[ \text{tr}(BW^{-1}) = r \text{ tr} \left( I_q + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} D \right) = rq + \frac{r}{\sqrt{p}} \text{ tr}(D), \]

\[ \text{tr}[B(W + B)^{-1}] = \text{tr}[BW^{-1}(I_q + BW^{-1})^{-1}] \]

\[ = r_2 q + r_2 (1 - r_2) \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \text{ tr}(D) - \frac{r_2}{p} \text{ tr}(D^2) + \frac{r_2^2}{p \sqrt{p}} \text{ tr}(D^3) \right\} \]

\[ + O_p\left( \frac{1}{p^2} \right), \]

where

\[ r = \frac{p}{m} \quad \text{and} \quad r_2 = \frac{r}{1 + r}. \]
Let
\[ T_{LR} = -\sqrt{p} \left( 1 + \frac{m}{p} \right) \left\{ \log \frac{|S_e|}{|S_e + S_h|} + q \log \left( 1 + \frac{p}{m} \right) \right\}, \]
\[ T_H = \sqrt{p} \left\{ \frac{m}{p} \log (S_h S_e^{-1}) - q \right\}, \]
\[ T_{BNP} = \sqrt{p} \left( 1 + \frac{p}{m} \right) \left\{ \left( 1 + \frac{m}{p} \right) \log \left( S_h (S_e + S_h)^{-1} \right) - q \right\}. \]

Then the expansion of \( T_G \) (\( G = LR, H, \) or \( BNP \)) is given by
\[ T_G = \text{tr}(D) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} c_1 \text{tr}(D^2) + \frac{1}{p} c_2 \text{tr}(D^3) + O_p \left( \frac{1}{p^{3/2}} \right) \] (9)

with \( (c_1, c_2) = \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{p}{m+p} \right)^2, \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{p}{m+p} \right)^2 \right), (0, 0) \) and \( \left( \frac{p}{m+p}, \frac{p}{m+p} \right)^2 \) for \( G = LR, H \) and \( BNP \), respectively. Using (7) and (8), (9) can be expanded as
\[ T_G = \text{tr}(U - \sqrt{r} V) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \{ c_1 \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^2] - \sqrt{r} \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V) V] \}
+ \frac{1}{p} \{ c_2 \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^3] - 2 c_1 \sqrt{r} \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^2 V] + r \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V) V^2] \}
+ O_p \left( \frac{1}{p^{3/2}} \right). \]

3.2. The characteristic function. The characteristic function \( C_T(t) \) of \( T_G \) is given by
\[ C_T(t) = E[\exp \{ it T_G \}] = E[\exp \{ it (\text{tr} U - \sqrt{r} \text{ tr} V) \} g(U, V)] \]
where
\[ g(U, V) = 1 + \frac{it}{\sqrt{p}} \{ c_1 \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^2] - \sqrt{r} \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V) V] \}
+ \frac{it}{p} \{ c_2 \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^3] - 2 c_1 \sqrt{r} \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^2 V] 
+ r \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V) V^2] \}
+ \frac{(it)^2}{2p} \{ c_1 \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V)^3] - \sqrt{r} \text{tr}[(U - \sqrt{r} V) V] \}^2 + O_p \left( \frac{1}{p^{3/2}} \right). \]
Let \( Y \) be a \( q \times m \) random matrix distributed as \( N_{q \times m}(O, I_q \otimes I_m) \) and \( Z \) be the \( q \times p \) random matrix given by (4). Then

\[
U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} ZZ' - \sqrt{p} I_q \quad \text{and} \quad V = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} YY' - \sqrt{m} I_q, \quad (10)
\]

and the characteristic function is represented as

\[
C_T(t) = (2\pi)^{-q(p+m)/2} \iint \text{etr}\left\{-\frac{1}{2} ZZ' + it\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} ZZ' - \sqrt{p} I_q\right)\right\}
\times \text{etr}\left\{-\frac{1}{2} YY' - it\sqrt{r}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} YY' - \sqrt{m} I_q\right)\right\}
\times g\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} ZZ' - \sqrt{p} I_q, \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} YY' - \sqrt{m} I_q\right)(dZ)(dY).
\]

Let

\[
a = 2it \quad \text{and} \quad b = -2it\sqrt{r}.
\]

Considering transformations

\[
Z = \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-1/2} \tilde{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad Y = \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-1/2} \tilde{Y}, \quad (11)
\]

we obtain

\[
C_T(t) = (2\pi)^{-q(p+m)/2} \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-q/p/2} \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-q/m/2}
\times \iint \text{etr}\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \tilde{Z} \tilde{Z}' - \frac{1}{2} \tilde{Y} \tilde{Y}'\right\}
\times g\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-1} \tilde{Z} \tilde{Z}' - \sqrt{p} I_q, \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-1} \tilde{Y} \tilde{Y}' - \sqrt{m} I_q\right)
\times (d\tilde{Z})(d\tilde{Y}).
\]

Since

\[
\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-1} \tilde{Z} \tilde{Z}' - \sqrt{p} I_q = \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-1} \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \tilde{Z} \tilde{Z}' - \sqrt{p} I_q\right) + a I_q \right\},
\]

\[
\frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-1} \tilde{Y} \tilde{Y}' - \sqrt{m} I_q = \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-1} \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \tilde{Y} \tilde{Y}' - \sqrt{m} I_q\right) + b I_q \right\},
\]
we obtain

\[ C_T(t) = \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-qp/2} \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-qm/2} \mathbb{E}[g(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})] \quad (12) \]

where

\[ \tilde{U} = \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-1} (U + aI_q), \quad \tilde{V} = \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-1} (V + bI_q). \]

Here \( U \) and \( V \) has the same distributions given by (10).

The Jacobian of the transformation (11) is expanded as

\[ \left(1 - \frac{a}{\sqrt{p}}\right)^{-pq/2} \left(1 - \frac{b}{\sqrt{m}}\right)^{-mq/2} \]

\[ = \exp[(it)^2q(1 + r)] \]

\[ \times \left\{ 1 + \frac{(it)^3}{3^3} \frac{4}{q}(1 - r^2) + \frac{(it)^4}{p^2} \frac{2q(1 + r^3)}{3^3} + \frac{(it)^6}{9} \frac{q^2(1 - r^2)^2 + \cdots} {3^3} \right\}. \]

Basic formulas of the normalized Wishart statistics \( U \) and \( V \) are given as follows:

\[ \mathbb{E}[U] = \mathbb{E}[V] = O, \]

\[ \mathbb{E}[(\text{tr}(U))^2] = \mathbb{E}[(\text{tr}(V))^2] = 2q, \quad \mathbb{E}[\text{tr}(U^2)] = \mathbb{E}[\text{tr}(V^2)] = q(q + 1) \]

\[ \mathbb{E}[U^3] \approx \mathbb{E}[V^3] \approx O, \]

\[ \mathbb{E}[(\text{tr}(U^2))^2] \approx \mathbb{E}[(\text{tr}(V^2))^2] \approx q(q + 1)(q^2 + q + 4), \]

\[ \mathbb{E}[(\text{tr}(UV))^2] = 2q(q + 1), \]

where \( \approx \) means the difference between the left and right sides is \( O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}\right) \). By using the above formulas, the expectation in (12) can be expanded as

\[ \mathbb{E}[g(\tilde{U}, \tilde{V})] = 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \{ ita_1 + (it)^3 a_3 \} \]

\[ + \frac{1}{p} \{ (it)^2 a_2 + (it)^4 a_4 + (it)^6 a_6 \} + O\left(\frac{1}{p \sqrt{p}}\right), \]

where

\[ a_1 = \{ c_1 (1 + r) + r \} q(q + 1), \]

\[ a_3 = 4\{ c_1 (1 + r) + r \}(1 + r)q, \]
\[ a_2 = 6c_2(1+r)^2q(q+1) + \frac{1}{2} c_1^2(1+r)^2q(q+1)(q^2+q+4) + c_1(1+r)q(q+1)(4 + r(q^2 + q + 12)) + \frac{1}{2} q(q+1)r\{6 + r(q^2 + q + 8)\}, \]
\[ a_4 = 8c_2(1+r)^3q + 4c_1^2(1+r)^3q(q^2 + q + 4) + 8c_1q(1+r)^2\{2 + r(q^2 + q + 4)\} + 4(1+r)r\{3 + r(q^2 + q + 2)\}, \]
\[ a_6 = \frac{1}{2} a_3^2. \]

Multiplying by the Jacobian, the characteristic function is expanded as
\[ C_T(t) = \exp\{q(1+r)(it)^2\} \]
\[ \times \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}}\left\{ itb_1 + (it)^3b_3 \right\} + \frac{1}{p}\left\{ (it)^2b_2 + (it)^4b_4 + (it)^6b_6 \right\} \right] + O\left(\frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}}\right) \]
where
\[ b_1 = a_1, \quad b_3 = a_3 + \frac{4}{3}(1-r^2)q, \]
\[ b_2 = a_2, \quad b_4 = \frac{4}{3}a_1(1-r^2)q + a_4 + 2(1+r^3)q, \quad b_6 = \frac{1}{2} b_3^2. \]

3.3. Expansions of the null distributions. Inverting the characteristic functions we obtain the asymptotic expansion of the distribution function of \( T_G \) as in the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.**
\[ \Pr\left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma} T_G \leq z \right\} = \Phi(z) - \phi(z) \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma} b_1 + \frac{1}{\sigma^3} b_3 h_3(z) \right\} \right. \]
\[ + \frac{1}{p}\left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma^2} b_2 h_1(z) + \frac{1}{\sigma^4} b_4 h_3(z) + \frac{1}{\sigma^6} b_6 h_5(z) \right\} \left. \right] + O\left(\frac{1}{p\sqrt{p}}\right), \]
where
\[ \sigma = \sqrt{2q(1+r)}, \]
\( b_j \)'s are given above, and \( h_j(z) \)'s are the Hermite polynomials given by
\[ h_1(z) = z, \quad h_2(z) = z^2 - 1, \quad h_3(z) = z^3 - 3z, \]
\[ h_4(z) = z^4 - 6z^2 + 3, \quad h_5(z) = z^5 - 10z^3 + 15z. \]
By using the above theorem, we obtain the Cornish-Fisher expansion of the upper percent point of the distribution as in the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.** Let $z_a$ be the upper 100$a$% point of the standard normal distribution, and let

$$
z_{CF}(a) = z_a + \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} \left\{ \frac{b_1}{\sigma} + (z_a^2 - 1) b_3 \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \right\} + \frac{1}{p} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} z_a \left( \frac{b_1}{\sigma} \right)^2 + z_a^2 \frac{b_2}{\sigma^3} ight. \\
- z_a^2(z_a^2 - 3) b_1 b_3 \frac{1}{\sigma^4} - z_a^2(2z_a^2 - 5) \left( \frac{b_3}{\sigma^3} \right)^2 + z_a^2(z_a^2 - 3) b_4 \frac{1}{\sigma^4} \right\}.
$$

Then

$$
\Pr \left\{ \frac{1}{\sigma} T_G \leq z_{CF}(a) \right\} = 1 - a + O \left( \frac{1}{p^3} \right).
$$

4. **Numerical experiment**

We study a comparison of the accuracy of asymptotic expansions in Theorem 1 with the other approximations based on asymptotic expansions when the sample size tend to infinity, while the dimension is a constant. For the latter asymptotic expansions, we used the approximations up to terms of the second order with respect to $n^{-1}$. The formulas of these asymptotic expansions can be found in [4, chapter 10].

Our comparison was done for the approximated upper 5 percent points given by Corollary 1, and the Cornish-Fisher expansions based on the large sample asymptotic expansions. The values of $p$, $n$ and $q$ were chosen as follows:

$q$: 2, 4, 8,

$(p,n)$: (10,40), (20,40), (30,40), (10,80), (40,80), (70,80).

Table 1 shows the estimated upper 5 percent points based on Monte Carlo simulation, and the approximated upper 5 percent points base on our (New) method and the (Old) method.

Table 2 shows the actual error probabilities of the first kind by using the approximated percent points given by Table 1.

Figures 1, 2, and 3 show the actual error probabilities of the first kind of the two methods for the likelihood ratio, Lawley-Hotelling’s test and Bartlett-Nanda-Pillai’s test, respectively. In these figures the plotting symbols “□” and “X” correspond to our new method and the classical method, respectively.
Table 1. Cornish-Fisher expansions

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Table 2. Actual error probabilities of the first kind when the nominal level is 0.05.

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Expansions for MANOVA test with large dimension

Fig. 1. Actual error probabilities of the first kind for LR test

Fig. 2. Actual error probabilities of the first kind for Lawley-Hotelling’s test
It can be seen that our new method performs better than the old one in most of the cases. Three figures reveal same tendency of the accuracy of our method:

- If the ratio $p/n$ is small, Cornish-Fisher expansion of the percent point is under estimate. (Actual error probabilities are larger than the nominal level.)
- If the ratio $p/n$ is equal to $\frac{1}{2}$, our method performs very good.
- If the ratio $p/n$ is large, Cornish-Fisher expansion gives over estimate approximation.

It is seen that when $q$ becomes large, the accuracy becomes bad as we can expect. This suggests that asymptotic expansion formulas are needed when $q$, as well as $p$ and $n$, tends to infinity. Wakaki [8] derived an Edgeworth expansion for Wilks’ lambda distribution in such case. Ulyanov, Wakaki and Fujikoshi [9] obtained a Berry–Esseen type bound for Wilks’ lambda distribution. The problems of deriving asymptotic expansion formulas and their error bounds for the other test statistics in the case that $p$, $q$ and $n$ become large are left for future. The detailed discussion of asymptotic expansions for MANOVA tests for large sample and high-dimensional frameworks could be found in [10, Chapter 6].
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References


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