

On an Asymptotic Representation of the Distribution
of the Characteristic Roots of $S_1 S_2^{-1}$

by

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1. Introduction and Summary. Let $S_i : p \times p$ ($i = 1, 2$) be independently distributed as Wishart (n_i, p, Σ_i) . Let the characteristic roots of $S_1 S_2^{-1}$ and $\Sigma_1 \Sigma_2^{-1}$ be denoted by l_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, p$) and λ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, p$) respectively such that $l_1 > l_2 > \dots > l_p > 0$ and $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots > \lambda_p > 0$. Then the distribution of l_1, \dots, l_p can be expressed in the form (Khatri [8])

$$(1.1) \quad C |\Lambda|^{-\frac{1}{2}n_1} |L|^{\frac{1}{2}(n_1-p-1)} \alpha_p(L) \int_{O(p)} |I_p + \Lambda^{-1} H L H'|^{-\frac{1}{2}(n_1+n_2)} (H' dH)$$

$$\text{where } C = 2^{-p} \pi^{p(p-1)/4} \prod_{i=1}^p \Gamma(\frac{i}{2}) \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{2}n_1 + \frac{1}{2}n_2) \left\{ \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{2}p) \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{2}n_1) \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{2}n_2) \right\}^{-1},$$

$$\Gamma_p(t) = \pi^{\frac{1}{2}p(p-1)} \prod_{j=1}^p \Gamma(t - \frac{1}{2}j + \frac{1}{2}), \quad \alpha_p(L) = \prod_{i < j} (l_j - l_i),$$

$L = \text{diag}(l_1, \dots, l_p)$, $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p)$ and $(H' dH)$ is the invariant measure on the group $O(p)$. However, this form is not convenient for further development. Also, since

$$(1.2) \quad I = \int_{O(p)} |I_p + \Lambda^{-1} H L H'|^{-\frac{1}{2}(n_1+n_2)} (H' dH) = c' \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{\kappa} \frac{C_{\kappa}(-\Lambda^{-1}) C_{\kappa}(L) (n_1+n_2)_{\kappa}}{C_{\kappa}(I_p)}$$

where

$$c' = 2^p \pi^{p(p+1)/4} \prod_{i=1}^p \Gamma(\frac{i}{2}).$$

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and the zonal polynomial $C_k(\mathbb{T})$ of any $p \times p$ symmetric matrix \mathbb{T} is defined in James [7], the use of (1.2) in (1.1) gives a power series expansion, but the convergence of this series is very slow. In the one sample case G. A. Anderson [1] has obtained a gamma type asymptotic expansion for the distribution of the characteristic roots of the estimated covariance matrix. In this paper we obtain a beta type asymptotic representation of the roots distribution of $S_1 S_2^{-1}$ involving linkage factors between sample roots and corresponding population roots. A study is also made of the approximation to the distribution of w_1, \dots, w_p where $w_i = \ell_i / (1 + \ell_i)$, ($i = 1, 2, \dots, p$). If the roots are distinct the limiting distribution as n_2 tends to infinity has the same form as that of Anderson [1]. If, moreover, n_1 is assumed also large, then it agrees with Girshick's result [4].

2. The asymptotic representation of I. The procedure used to find the expansion of (1.2) is an extension of the method sketched below for the case $p = 2$. In the asymptotic theory it is necessary to assume $\ell_1 > \ell_2 > \dots > \ell_p > 0$ and $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots > \lambda_p > 0$. For the simplification of notations we let $\underline{A} = \underline{\Lambda}^{-1}$, i.e. $a_i = 1/\lambda_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, p$), $0 < a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_p < \infty$, and $n = n_1 + n_2$. Thus for $p = 2$, let $O_{\pm}(2) = \{H \in O(2), |H| = \pm 1\}$ then

$$(2.1) \quad I = 2 \int_{O_{\pm}(2)} |I_p + \underline{A} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}'|^{-\frac{n}{2}} (\underline{H}' d\underline{H}).$$

$$\text{Now let } \underline{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad -\pi < \theta \leq \pi,$$

so that $(\underline{H}' d\underline{H}) = d\theta$ and

$$(2.2) \quad I = 4 \left[(1 + a_1 l_1)(1 + a_2 l_2) \right]^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} C_{12} (1 - \cos 2\theta) \right]^{-\frac{n}{2}} d\theta$$

where

$$C_{12} = \frac{(a_2 - a_1)(l_1 - l_2)}{(1 + a_1 l_1)(1 + a_2 l_2)} .$$

The integrand has a maximum of unity at $\theta = 0$ and then decreases to $(1 + \frac{1}{2} C_{12})$ at $\theta = \pm \frac{\pi}{2}$. Write (2.2) as

$$(2.3) \quad 4 \left(\prod_{i=1}^2 (1 + a_i l_i) \right)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \exp \left[-\frac{n}{2} \log(1 + C_{12} (1 - \cos 2\theta)) \right] d\theta$$

Since the integral is mostly concentrated in a small neighborhood of the origin, for large n we can expand the argument of the exponential function and $\cos 2\theta$ in the usual power series and set the limit to be $\pm \infty$ (see Erdélyi [3]). Thus for large degrees of freedom I is approximately

$$4 \left[\prod_{i=1}^2 (1 + a_i l_i) \right]^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left\{ -\frac{n}{2} C_{12} \theta^2 \right\} d\theta, \left\{ 1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \right\}$$

or

$$I \sim 4 \left[\prod_{i=1}^2 (1 + a_i l_i) \right]^{-\frac{n}{2}} \left(\frac{2\pi}{nC_{12}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ 1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \right\} .$$

Lemma 1. Let \underline{A} and \underline{L} are defined as before then $f(\underline{H}) = |\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}'|$
 $\underline{H} \in O(p)$ attains its identical minimum value $|\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{L}|$ when \underline{H} is of the
 form

$$(2.4) \quad \underline{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & & & & \\ & \pm 1 & & & \\ & & \dots & & \\ & & & \dots & \\ 0 & & & & \pm 1 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Proof: $df = d|\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}'|$
 $= d|\underline{I}_p + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}}|$
 $= \text{tr} (\underline{I}_p + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} (\underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} d \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} d \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}})$
 $= 2 \text{tr} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\underline{I}_p + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{H}' d \underline{H} .$

Note that $\underline{H}' d \underline{H}$ is a skew symmetric matrix therefore, $df = 0$ implies
 that $\underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\underline{I}_p + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H}$ is a symmetric matrix. But
 $\underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\underline{I}_p + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H}$ is itself a symmetric matrix and \underline{L} is
 a diagonal matrix with distinct positive roots,

so $\underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\underline{I}_p + \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}})^{-1} \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H}$ has to be a diagonal matrix, say \underline{D} .

Thus $\underline{I}_p = \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}} \underline{H} (\underline{L} - \underline{D}^{-1}) \underline{H}' \underline{A}^{\frac{1}{2}}$. This can happen only if \underline{H} is of the form
 with ± 1 in one position in a column or a row and zero in other positions.

After substituting those stationary values into $f(\underline{H})$ we obtain a general
 form

$$(2.5) \quad \prod_{i=1}^p (1 + a_i l_{\sigma_i}),$$

where l_{σ_i} is any permutation of $l_i (i = 1, \dots, p)$. It is easy to see that
 (2.5) attains its minimum value when $l_{\sigma_i} = l_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, p)$. Or $f(\underline{H})$
 attains its identical minimum value $|\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{L}|$ when \underline{H} is of the form
 of (2.4).

The above lemma enables us to claim that, for large n , the integrand of I is negligible except for small neighborhoods about each of these matrices of (2.4) and I consists of identical contributions from each of these neighborhoods so that

$$(2.6) \quad I \cong 2^p \int_{N(\underline{I})} |\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}'|^{-\frac{n}{2}} (d\underline{H}),$$

where $N(\underline{I})$ is a neighborhood of the identity matrix on the orthogonal manifold. Since any proper orthogonal matrix can be written as the exponential of a skew symmetric matrix we transform I under

$$(2.7) \quad \underline{H} = \exp \underline{S}, \quad \underline{S} \text{ a } p \times p \text{ skew symmetric matrix,}$$

so that $N(\underline{I}) \rightarrow N(\underline{S} = 0)$. The Jacobian of this transformation has been computed by G. A. Anderson [1],

$$(2.8) \quad J = 1 + \frac{p-2}{24} \text{tr } \underline{S}^2 + \frac{8-p}{4 \times 6!} \text{tr } \underline{S}^4 + \dots$$

Direct substitution of (2.7) into (2.6) yields

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{aligned} & |\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{H} \underline{L} \underline{H}'|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \\ &= |\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{L} + \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} - \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} + \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S}^2 - \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} \underline{S} + \dots|^{-\frac{n}{2}} \\ &= |\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{L}|^{-\frac{n}{2}} |\underline{I}_p + (\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{L})^{-1} (\underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} - \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} + \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S}^2 \\ & \quad - \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} \underline{S} + \dots)|^{-\frac{n}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2. For any $p \times p$ matrix \underline{B} and its characteristic roots $b_i (i = 1 \dots p)$,

if $\max_{1 \leq i \leq p} |b_i| < 1$ then

$$(2.10) \quad |\underline{I}_p + \underline{B}|^{-\frac{n}{2}} = \exp \left\{ -\frac{n}{2} \text{tr}(\underline{B} - \frac{\underline{B}^2}{2} + \frac{\underline{B}^3}{3} \dots) \right\}.$$

Proof:

$$(2.11) \quad |\underline{I}_p + \underline{B}|^{-\frac{n}{2}} = \exp \left\{ -\frac{n}{2} \log \prod_{i=1}^p (1 + b_i) \right\}.$$

If $\max_{1 \leq i \leq p} |b_i| < 1$ then

$$|\underline{I}_p + \underline{B}|^{-\frac{n}{2}} = \exp \left\{ -\frac{n}{2} \text{tr}(\underline{B} - \frac{\underline{B}^2}{2} + \frac{\underline{B}^3}{3} \dots) \right\}.$$

Apply lemma 2 to (2.9) and the maximum characteristic roots of

$(\underline{I}_p + \underline{A} \underline{L})^{-1} (\underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} - \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} + \dots)$ can be assumed to be less than unity.

Since we are only interested in the first term we need to investigate the group of terms up to order of \underline{S}^2 which is denoted by $\{\underline{S}^2\}$. Let

$\underline{R} = (\underline{I} + \underline{A} \underline{L})^{-1}$, then

$$(2.12) \quad \text{tr} \{ \underline{S}^2 \} = \text{tr} \left[\underline{R} (\underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S}^2 - \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} \underline{S}) \right. \\ \left. - \frac{1}{2} (\underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} + \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} - \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} \right. \\ \left. - \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L}) \right].$$

After simplification (2.12) reduces to

$$(2.13) \quad \text{tr} \left[\underline{R} (\underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S}^2 - \underline{A} \underline{S} \underline{L} \underline{S}) - (\underline{L} \underline{S} - \underline{S} \underline{L}) \underline{R} \underline{A} \underline{L} \underline{S} \underline{R} \underline{A} \right]$$

$$\text{or} \quad \text{tr} \{ \underline{S}^2 \} = \sum_{i < j}^p C_{ij} s_{ij}^2$$

(2.14) where $C_{ij} = (a_j - a_i)(l_i - l_j) / ((1 + a_i l_i)(1 + a_j l_j))$.

Direct substitution into (2.1) yields

(2.15) $I = 2^p \prod_{i=1}^p (1 + a_i l_i)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \int_{N(s=0)} \exp\left\{-\frac{n}{2} \sum_{i < j} C_{ij} s_{ij}^2\right\} \prod_{i < j} ds_{ij} \left\{1 + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)\right\}$.

For large n the limits for each s_{ij} can be put to $\pm \infty$. We finally have the following theorem.

Theorem: The asymptotic distribution of the roots, $l_1 > l_2 > \dots > l_p > 0$, of $\sum_{i=1}^p s_i s_2^{-1}$ for large degrees of freedom $n = n_1 + n_2$ when the roots of $\sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i^{-1}$ are $\lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots > \lambda_p > 0$ and $a_i = 1/\lambda_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, p$), is given by

(2.16) $c_2^p \alpha_p(L) \prod_{i=1}^p \left[\frac{n_1 - p - 1}{(l_i)^2} (a_i)^{\frac{1}{2}n_1} (1 + a_i l_i)^{-\frac{(n_1 + n_2)}{2}} \right]^p \frac{2\pi}{C_{ij}(n_1 + n_2)}^{\frac{1}{2}}$.

The asymptotic formula shows that the distribution function of a group of adjacent roots is sensitive only to those other roots which are close to them.

3. A Dual Expansion of I and Some Remarks. If we let

$\tilde{W} = L(I_p + L)^{-1}$ in (1.1) i.e. $w_i = l_i / (1 + l_i)$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, p$) where $\tilde{W} = \text{diag}(w_1, \dots, w_p)$, then the joint distribution of w_i 's is given by

(3.1) $c|\tilde{\Delta}|^{-\frac{n_1}{2}} |\tilde{W}|^{\frac{1}{2}(n_1 - p - 1)} |I_p - \tilde{W}|^{-\frac{1}{2}(n_1 + p + 1)} \alpha_p(\tilde{W}) \int_{O(p)} |I_p + A H L H'|^{-\frac{n}{2}} (H A H)$
 $> w_1 > w_2 > \dots > w_p > 0.$

Application of lemmas 1 and 2 to (3.1) yields its asymptotic representation

$$(3.2) \quad C[A] + \frac{n_1}{2} |W|^{-\frac{1}{2}(n_1-p-1)} |I_p - W|^{-\frac{1}{2}(n_2-p-1)} \alpha_p(W) \prod_{i=1}^p (1 + (a_i - 1)w_i)^{-\frac{1}{2}(n_1 + n_2)}$$

$$\prod_{i < j}^p \left(\frac{2\pi}{C_{ij}^*} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\text{where } C_{ij}^* = \frac{(a_j - a_i)(w_i - w_j)}{[1 + (a_i - 1)w_i][1 + (a_j - 1)w_j]}$$

Now let us proceed to look at (2.16) once again. The asymptotic distribution of characteristic roots of $S_1 S_2^{-1}$ given there can be rewritten as

$$(3.3) \quad F_1(A) \prod_{i < j} (l_i - l_j)^{\frac{1}{2}} \prod_{i=1}^p \left[l_i^{\frac{n_1-p-1}{2}} (1 + a_i l_i)^{-\frac{(n_1+n_2)}{2} + p-1} \right] \prod_{i=1}^p d l_i$$

where $F_i(A)$ ($i = 1, 2, 3$) depends on a_i but not on l_i . If we make $g_i = l_i/n_2$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, p$) and let n_2 tends to infinity then (3.3) reduces to the limiting form

$$(3.4) \quad F_2(A) \prod_{i=1}^p g_i^{\frac{1}{2}(n_1-p-1) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^p a_i g_i} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^p a_i g_i} \prod_{i < j} (g_i - g_j)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Moreover, let $l_i^* = n_1 g_i$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, p$), then (3.4) becomes

$$(3.5) \quad F_3(A) \prod_{i=1}^p l_i^{*\frac{1}{2}(n_1-p-1) - \frac{n_1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^p a_i l_i^*} e^{-\frac{n_1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^p a_i l_i^*} \prod_{i < j} (l_i^* - l_j^*)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Note that l_i^* 's here are, in limiting sense, the characteristic roots of $S_1^* S_2^{*-1}$ where S_1^* is the covariance matrix of the first sample.

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