

Topics: Correspondence analysis, causal inference, structural equation models

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1. Correspondence analysis

[10]

- (a) Let r_k, s_k be the row, column indices corresponding to the k -th largest singular value $\sqrt{\lambda_k}$ of C . Show that

$$\mathbb{E}_I r_{kI} = 0, \quad \mathbb{E}_J s_{kJ} = 0, \quad \text{and} \\ \text{Var}_I(r_{kI}) = \text{Var}_J(s_{kJ}) = \frac{\lambda_k}{x_{..}},$$

where I and J are random row and column indices from the corresponding marginal distributions.

- (b) Express the conditional distributions $(\frac{x_{ij}}{x_{i.}})_{j=1}^p$ and $(\frac{x_{ij}}{x_{.j}})_{i=1}^n$ in terms of the indices r and s .
- (c) Apply correspondence analysis (including visualization) on the contingency table given here, and interpret the result. (Each row of the table corresponds to a text sample by a writer, whereas columns correspond to the occurrence of particular letters. Thus the (i, j) -th cell gives the frequency of the j -th letter in the i -th text sample.)

Solution. (a) Let us denote; $a = (x_{1.}, x_{2.}, \dots, x_{n.})^\top$ and A be the diagonal matrix with the entries $x_{i.}$. We know that, $r_k = \sqrt{\lambda_k} A^{-1/2} \gamma_k$, where γ_k is the eigenvector of CC^\top corresponding to k -th largest eigenvalue. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_I r_{kI} &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_{i.}}{x_{..}} r_{ki} \\ &= \frac{1}{x_{..}} a^\top r_k \\ &= \frac{1}{x_{..}} a^\top \sqrt{\lambda_k} A^{-1/2} \gamma_k \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_k} x_{..}} \sqrt{a}^\top \lambda_k \gamma_k \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_k} x_{..}} \sqrt{a}^\top CC^\top \gamma_k \\ &= 0, \text{ since } \sqrt{a}^\top C = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, as $C\sqrt{b} = 0$, where $b = (x_{.1}, x_{.2}, \dots, x_{.p})^\top$, we have $\mathbb{E}_J s_{kJ} = 0$.

For the variance, note that;

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}_I(r_{kI}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_{i.}}{x_{..}} r_{ki}^2, \text{ since the expectation is 0 by previous argument} \\ &= \frac{1}{x_{..}} r_k^\top A r_k \\ &= \frac{1}{x_{..}} \lambda_k \gamma_k^\top A^{-1/2} A A^{-1/2} \gamma_k \\ &= \frac{\lambda_k}{x_{..}} \gamma_k^\top \gamma_k \\ &= \frac{\lambda_k}{x_{..}} \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the fact that due to Singular Value Decomposition, γ_k 's form an orthonormal basis and hence $\|\gamma_k\| = 1$.

In a similar way, we also have, $\text{Var}_J(s_{kJ}) = \frac{\lambda_k}{x_{..}}$.

(b) We know that;

$$r_{ki} = \frac{\sqrt{x_{..}}}{\sqrt{\lambda_k}} \sum_j \frac{x_{ij}}{x_{i.}} s_{kj}$$

$$s_{kj} = \frac{\sqrt{x_{..}}}{\sqrt{\lambda_k}} \sum_i \frac{x_{ij}}{x_{.j}} r_{ki}$$

Letting $a_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij}}{x_{i.}}$ and $b_{ij} = \frac{x_{ij}}{x_{.j}}$, and dividing the equation by each other, we obtain;

$$\frac{r_{ki}}{s_{kj}} = \frac{\sum_j a_{ij} s_{kj}}{\sum_i b_{ij} r_{ki}}$$

which implies;

$$\sum_j a_{ij} s_{kj}^2 = \sum_i b_{ij} r_{ki}^2 \quad (1)$$

Also note that;

$$\sum_j a_{ij} = \sum_i b_{ij} = 1 \quad (2)$$

Note that both the equation 1 and 2 are true for any $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ used on the left hand side and for any $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$ used on the right hand side. Therefore, we consider the following vector of size $2np$,

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{12} \\ \dots \\ a_{1p} \\ a_{21} \\ \dots \\ a_{np} \\ b_{11} \\ \dots \\ b_{np} \end{bmatrix}$$

which consists of the entries made from the conditional probabilities.

Let us denote the Kronecker product between two matrices A and B by $A \otimes B$, denote the matrix of all 1's of size $n \times n$ by J_n , and the identity matrix of order n by I_n . Also, let \mathbf{S}_k is the diagonal matrix consists of the entries s_{kj}^2 and \mathbf{R}_k is the diagonal matrix consists of the entries r_{ki}^2 .

Now, note that, equation 1 and 2 reduces to the following matrix equation;

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_n \otimes J_p & -(J_n \otimes I_p) \\ I_n \otimes \mathbf{S}_1 & -(\mathbf{R}_1 \otimes I_p) \\ \dots & \dots \\ I_n \otimes \mathbf{S}_m & -(\mathbf{R}_m \otimes I_p) \end{bmatrix}_{mnp \times 2np} \mathbf{P}_{2np \times 1} = \mathbf{0}_{mnp \times 1}$$

where m is the number of indexes present in the correspondence analysis. Denoting the $mnp \times 2np$ order matrix as \mathbb{M} , we note that, the vector P can be chosen from the null space of the matrix \mathbb{M} . Also, note

that, this only ensures that, $\sum_j a_{i^*j} = \sum_i b_{ij^*}$ holds for every i^* and j^* , however, the condition that the sum is actually equal to one can be obtained through dividing the entries by appropriate constant.

(c) We first read the data into R.

```
1 data <- read.csv('./writers_data.csv')
2 ctab <- as.matrix(data[, -1])
3 rownames(ctab) <- data[, 1]
4 ctab
```

| | B | C | D | F | G | H | I | L | M | N | P | R | S | U | W | Y |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| CharlesDarwin1 | 34 | 37 | 44 | 27 | 19 | 39 | 74 | 44 | 27 | 61 | 12 | 65 | 69 | 22 | 14 | 21 |
| CharlesDarwin2 | 18 | 33 | 47 | 24 | 14 | 38 | 66 | 41 | 36 | 72 | 15 | 62 | 63 | 31 | 12 | 18 |
| CharlesDarwin3 | 32 | 43 | 36 | 12 | 21 | 51 | 75 | 33 | 23 | 60 | 24 | 68 | 85 | 18 | 13 | 14 |
| ReneDescartes1 | 13 | 31 | 55 | 29 | 15 | 62 | 74 | 43 | 28 | 73 | 8 | 59 | 54 | 32 | 19 | 20 |
| ReneDescartes2 | 8 | 28 | 34 | 24 | 17 | 68 | 75 | 34 | 25 | 70 | 16 | 56 | 72 | 31 | 14 | 11 |
| ReneDescartes3 | 9 | 34 | 43 | 25 | 18 | 68 | 84 | 25 | 32 | 76 | 14 | 69 | 64 | 27 | 11 | 18 |
| ThomasHobbes1 | 15 | 20 | 28 | 18 | 19 | 65 | 82 | 34 | 29 | 89 | 11 | 47 | 74 | 18 | 22 | 17 |
| ThomasHobbes2 | 18 | 14 | 40 | 25 | 21 | 60 | 70 | 15 | 37 | 80 | 15 | 65 | 68 | 21 | 25 | 9 |
| ThomasHobbes3 | 19 | 18 | 41 | 26 | 19 | 58 | 64 | 18 | 38 | 78 | 15 | 65 | 72 | 20 | 20 | 11 |
| MaryShelley1 | 13 | 29 | 49 | 31 | 16 | 61 | 73 | 36 | 29 | 69 | 13 | 63 | 58 | 18 | 20 | 25 |
| MaryShelley2 | 17 | 34 | 43 | 29 | 14 | 62 | 64 | 26 | 26 | 71 | 26 | 78 | 64 | 21 | 18 | 12 |
| MaryShelley3 | 13 | 22 | 43 | 16 | 11 | 70 | 68 | 46 | 35 | 57 | 30 | 71 | 57 | 19 | 22 | 20 |
| MarkTwain1 | 16 | 18 | 56 | 13 | 27 | 67 | 61 | 43 | 20 | 63 | 14 | 43 | 67 | 34 | 41 | 23 |
| MarkTwain2 | 15 | 21 | 66 | 21 | 19 | 50 | 62 | 50 | 24 | 68 | 14 | 40 | 58 | 31 | 36 | 26 |
| MarkTwain3 | 19 | 17 | 70 | 12 | 28 | 53 | 72 | 39 | 22 | 71 | 11 | 40 | 67 | 25 | 41 | 17 |

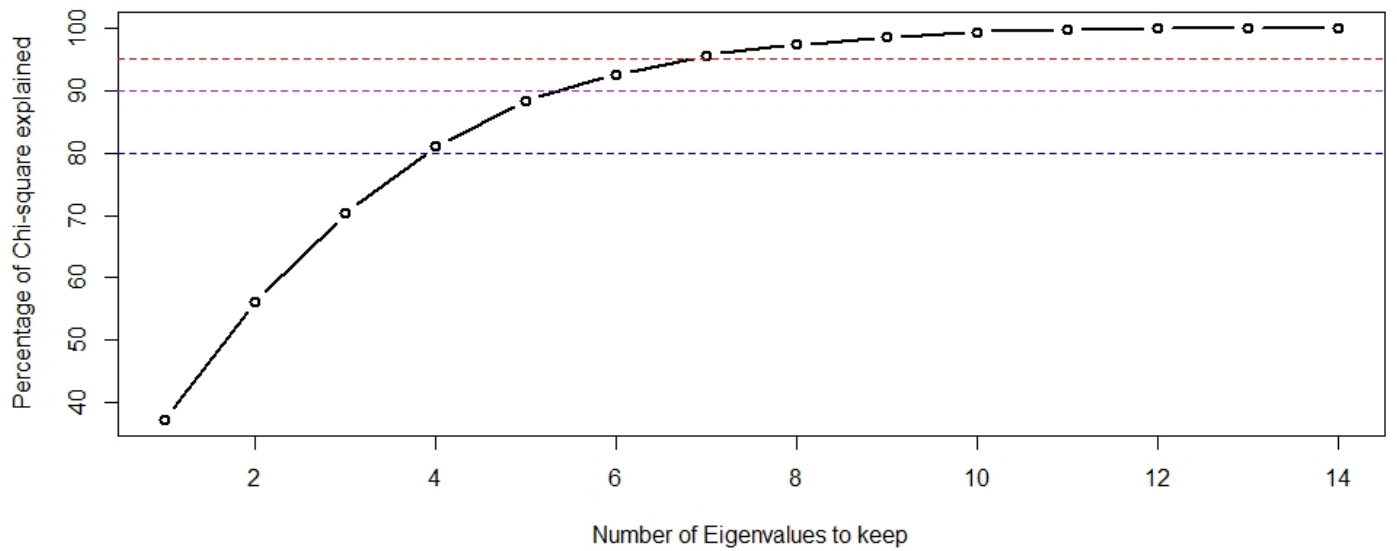
We use **FactoMineR** package to perform the correspondence analysis of the above data and make necessary visualization plots.

```
1 library(FactoMineR)
2 fit <- CA(ctab, ncp = 14, graph = TRUE)
3 head(fit$eig)
```

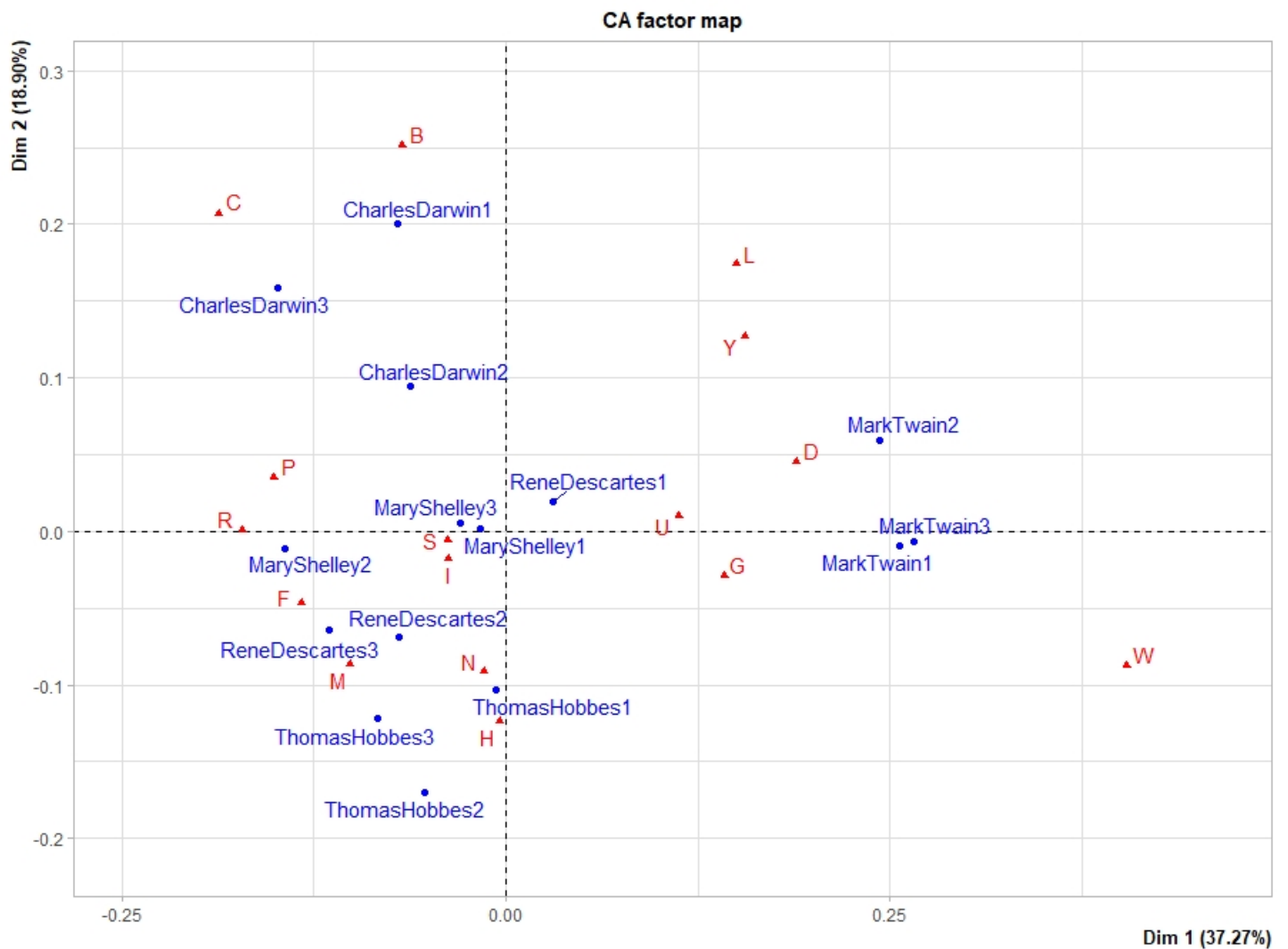
| | eigenvalue | percentage of variance | cumulative percentage of variance |
|-------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| dim 1 | 0.018582834 | 37.265385 | 37.26539 |
| dim 2 | 0.009425336 | 18.901250 | 56.16663 |
| dim 3 | 0.007100377 | 14.238855 | 70.40549 |
| dim 4 | 0.005292075 | 10.612547 | 81.01804 |
| dim 5 | 0.003628482 | 7.276435 | 88.29447 |
| dim 6 | 0.002153008 | 4.317569 | 92.61204 |

It seems the first 6 components alone accounts for more than 90% of the variation measured by Pearsonian chi-square.

```
1 plot(1:14, fit$eig[,3], type = "b", lwd = 2, xlab = "Number of Eigenvalues
  to keep",
2 ylab = "Percentage of Chi-square explained")
3 abline(h = 80, col = "blue", lty = 2)
4 abline(h = 90, col = "purple", lty = 2)
5 abline(h = 95, col = "red", lty = 2)
```



The screeplot shows a better view of the proportion of variation explained based on number of eigenvalues used. We see that using only 4 dimensions, we can capture about 80% of the variability, while using 7 dimension, we get to capture more than 95% of the variability measured through Pearson's chi-square.



The above biplot shows the representation using only first 2 dimensions. We find that the letter **B** and **C** appears more often in **Charles Darwin**'s writings, while the letter **D** appears more often in **Mark Twain**'s writings. Another interesting thing is that the writings of same author's tend to cluster together due to similar patterns.

2. Causal inference [5]

Suppose that $C_i, i = 0, 1$, have continuous and strictly increasing CDFs $F_i, i = 0, 1$, and that the treatment is randomly assigned. Assume that the consistency relationship $Y = C_X$ holds. Using data $(Y_i, X_i)_{i=1}^n$, show that it is possible to consistently estimate the following measure of causal effect

$$\theta_m = \text{median}(C_1) - \text{median}(C_0).$$

Solution. Before proceeding with the problem, we first consider the following claim.

Claim. Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be i.i.d. samples from a continuous distribution function F with median ξ defined as $\mathbb{P}_F(X \geq \xi) = \mathbb{P}_F(X \leq \xi) = 0.5$. Then the sample median $\hat{\xi}_n$ is consistent for population median ξ , i.e. $\hat{\xi}_n \xrightarrow{P} \xi$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. To prove consistency, choose $\epsilon > 0$. It is enough to show that; $\mathbb{P}_F(\hat{\xi}_n - \xi > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, since then by symmetry it will follow that $\mathbb{P}_F(\hat{\xi}_n - \xi < -\epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, i.e. $\mathbb{P}_F(|\hat{\xi}_n - \xi| > \epsilon) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, which proves the consistency.

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}_F(\hat{\xi}_n - \xi > \epsilon) &= \mathbb{P}_F(\hat{\xi}_n > \xi + \epsilon) \\ &= \mathbb{P}_F(Z_n \geq (n+1)/2) \end{aligned}$$

where Z_n denotes the number of samples which exceeds the value $(\xi + \epsilon)$. Note that, $Z_n \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$, where $p = \mathbb{P}_F(X > \xi + \epsilon) < 0.5$, as ξ is the median. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}_F(\hat{\xi}_n - \xi > \epsilon) &= \mathbb{P}_F(Z_n \geq (n+1)/2) \\ &= \mathbb{P}_F(Z_n - np \geq (n+1)/2 - np) \\ &= \mathbb{P}_F(Z_n - np \geq n(0.5 - p) + 1/2) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}_F(Z_n - np \geq n(0.5 - p)) \\ &\leq \frac{\text{Var}(Z_n)}{n^2(0.5 - p)^2} \quad \text{from Chebyshev's inequality} \\ &= \frac{p(1-p)}{n(0.5 - p)^2} \\ &\rightarrow 0 \quad , \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

This proves the claim. □

Now, moving on, let $\hat{\xi}_1$ denotes the sample median of Y in the subpopulation where $X = 1$, and let $\hat{\xi}_0$ denotes the sample median of Y in the subpopulation where $X = 0$. Clearly, $\hat{\xi}_1 \xrightarrow{P} \xi_1$, where ξ_1 is the population median of the conditional distribution of Y given $X = 1$, i.e. the conditional distribution of C_1 given $X = 1$. But note that, due to random assignment $X \perp\!\!\!\perp C_i$, and hence the conditional distribution of C_1 given $X = 1$ is same as the unconditional distribution of C_1 . Therefore, $\hat{\xi}_1 \xrightarrow{P} \text{median}(C_1)$.

In a similar way, $\hat{\xi}_0 \xrightarrow{P} \text{median}(C_0)$. Now, applying Slutsky's theorem, we conclude that $(\hat{\xi}_1 - \hat{\xi}_0) \xrightarrow{P} \theta_m$. Since, both $\hat{\xi}_1$ and $\hat{\xi}_0$ are quantities based on the data, hence it is possible to consistently estimate θ_m , the causal effect.

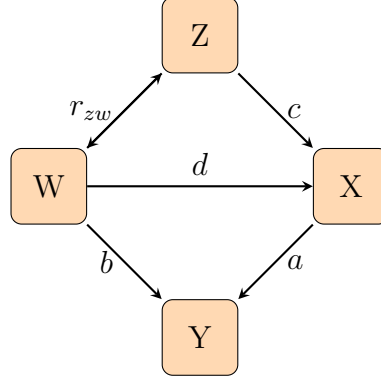
3. Structural equation models [5]

Consider the structural equations

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= aX + bW + \epsilon_1, \\ X &= cZ + dW + \epsilon_2. \end{aligned}$$

Here X, Y, Z, W are observed/manifest variables, and $\epsilon_i, i = 1, 2$, are error variables which represent unexplained random disturbances. Draw the corresponding path diagram and identify the endogenous and exogenous variables. Express the covariance matrix Σ of the observed variables in terms of the other parameters θ in the model, i.e. the path coefficients and the error variances. (Assume that $\text{cov}(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2) = \text{cov}(\epsilon_1, X) = \text{cov}(\epsilon_1, W) = \text{cov}(\epsilon_2, Z) = \text{cov}(\epsilon_2, Y) = 0$.) Describe how you may estimate θ from the sample covariance matrix S .

Solution. The path diagram of the given structural equation model is as follows;



The corresponding endogenous variables are X and Y , and the corresponding exogenous variables are Z and W .

Let us denote the covariance between any variable A and B by σ_{AB} , and hence the generic symbol for variance of A would be given by σ_{AA} . To get the covariance matrix we consider the following expression for its elements;

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sigma_{XX} &= c^2\sigma_{ZZ} + d^2\sigma_{WW} + 2cd\sigma_{ZW} + \sigma_{\epsilon_1} \\
 \sigma_{XZ} &= c\sigma_{ZZ} + d\sigma_{ZW} \\
 \sigma_{XW} &= c\sigma_{ZW} + d\sigma_{WW} \\
 \sigma_{YY} &= a^2\sigma_{XX} + b^2\sigma_{WW} + 2ab\sigma_{XW} + \sigma_{\epsilon_2} \\
 &= (a^2c^2)\sigma_{ZZ} + (a^2d^2 + b^2 + 2abd)\sigma_{WW} + (2a^2cd + 2abc)\sigma_{ZW} + \sigma_{\epsilon_2} \\
 &= (a^2c^2)\sigma_{ZZ} + (ad + b)^2\sigma_{WW} + 2ac(ad + b)\sigma_{ZW} + \sigma_{\epsilon_2} \\
 \sigma_{YZ} &= a\sigma_{XZ} + b\sigma_{ZW} \\
 &= ac\sigma_{ZZ} + (ad + b)\sigma_{ZW} \\
 \sigma_{YW} &= a\sigma_{XW} + b\sigma_{WW} \\
 &= ac\sigma_{ZW} + (ad + b)\sigma_{WW} \\
 \sigma_{YX} &= a\sigma_{XX} + b\sigma_{XW} \\
 &= ac^2\sigma_{ZZ} + (ad^2 + bd)\sigma_{WW} + (2acd + bc)\sigma_{ZW} + a\sigma_{\epsilon_1}
 \end{aligned}$$

We have corresponding sample covariance estimate for σ_{AA} denoted by s_{AA} . Then, we first consider the equations;

$$s_{XZ} = cs_{ZZ} + ds_{ZW} \quad (3)$$

$$s_{XW} = cs_{ZW} + ds_{WW} \quad (4)$$

The linear equations 3 can be solved to estimate values of the parameter c and d . Also,

$$\hat{r}_{ZW} = \frac{s_{ZW}}{\sqrt{s_{WW}}\sqrt{s_{ZZ}}}$$

Also, $\hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon_1} = s_{XX} - \hat{c}^2s_{ZZ} - \hat{d}^2s_{WW} - 2\hat{c}\hat{d}s_{ZW}$. Also, consider the equations;

$$s_{YZ} = acs_{ZZ} + (ad + b)s_{ZW} \quad (5)$$

$$s_{YW} = acs_{ZW} + (ad + b)s_{WW} \quad (6)$$

The linear equations 5 can be solved to estimate values of the parameter ac and $ad + b$, which in turn can be used to find \hat{a} and \hat{b} , as the estimates of c and d are already known. Finally, we estimate the second error variance as; $\hat{\sigma}_{\epsilon_2} = s_{YY} - \hat{a}^2\hat{c}^2s_{ZZ} - (\hat{a}\hat{d} + \hat{b})^2s_{WW} - 2\hat{a}\hat{c}(\hat{a}\hat{d} + \hat{b})s_{ZW}$.