

Asymptotic Theory for Common Principal Component Analysis

Ganchao Wei

October 13, 2021

Overview

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Asymptotic distribution of MLE
- 3 test for q hypothetical eigenvectors
- 4 inference for eigenvalues
- 5 Applications

Introduction

Common principle component analysis (CPCA): the $p \times p$ covariance matrices of k populations can be diagonalized by the same orthogonal transformation.

The hypothesis of common principal components (CPC's).

$$\mathbf{H}_C : \beta' \Sigma_i \beta = \Lambda_i, \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k$$

We can further arrange β according to the first group, i.e.

$$\beta_1' \Sigma_1 \beta_1 > \beta_2' \Sigma_1 \beta_2 > \dots > \beta_p' \Sigma_1 \beta_p$$

Notations & Assumptions:

- Σ_i are p.d.s.
- $\Lambda_i = \text{diag}(\lambda_{i1}, \dots, \lambda_{ip})$
- $n_i \mathbf{S}_i \sim W_p(n_i, \Sigma_i)$
- The ML estimates are $\hat{\beta} = (\hat{\beta}_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}_p)$ and $\hat{\Lambda}_i = \text{diag}(\hat{\lambda}_{i1}, \dots, \hat{\lambda}_{ip})$

Asymptotic distribution of MLE

The log-likelihood function of the k samples, up to an additive constant:

$$g(\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_k, \beta | \mathbf{S}_1, \dots, \mathbf{S}_k) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \left[\sum_{j=1}^p (\log \lambda_{ij} + \beta_j' \mathbf{S}_i \beta_j / \lambda_{ij}) \right]$$

Let $\lambda'_{(i)} = (\lambda_{i1}, \dots, \lambda_{ip})$, $n = n_1 + \dots + n_k$ and $r_i = n_i/n$. Then the information matrix is:

	$\lambda'_{(1)}$	$\lambda'_{(2)}$	\dots	$\lambda'_{(k)}$	$\beta^{*'}_j$
$\lambda_{(1)}$	$\frac{1}{2} n r_1 \Lambda_1^{-2}$	$\mathbf{0}$	\dots	$\mathbf{0}$	\mathbf{G}'
$\lambda_{(2)}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\frac{1}{2} n r_2 \Lambda_2^{-2}$	\dots	$\mathbf{0}$	
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots		\vdots	
$\lambda_{(k)}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	\dots	$\frac{1}{2} n r_k \Lambda_k^{-2}$	
β^*	\mathbf{G}				\mathbf{A}

, where \mathbf{G} and \mathbf{A} are not yet determined.

Asymptotic distribution of MLE (eigenvalues)

Use the asymptotic normality of $n_i \mathbf{S}_i$ to get the asymptotic univariate distribution of $\hat{\lambda}_{ij}$ as

$$\sqrt{n_i}(\hat{\lambda}_{ij} - \lambda_{ij}) \sim N(0, 2\lambda_{ij}^2)$$

From the Fisher information, the joint asymptotic distribution of $(\hat{\lambda}'_{(1)}, \dots, \hat{\lambda}'_{(k)})'$ has covariance matrix

$$\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{V}_\lambda = \left[\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} n r_1 \mathbf{\Lambda}_1^{-2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{2} n r_k \mathbf{\Lambda}_k^{-2} \end{pmatrix} - \mathbf{G}' \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{G} \right]^{-1}$$

By comparison, we can see that $\mathbf{G} = 0$. Therefore,

THEOREM 1. *The statistics $\sqrt{n_i}(\hat{\lambda}_{ij} - \lambda_{ij})$ are asymptotically ($\min_{1 \leq i \leq k} n_i \rightarrow \infty$) distributed as $N(0, 2\lambda_{ij}^2)$, independent of each other and independent of the $\hat{\beta}_j$.*

Asymptotic distribution of MLE (eigenvectors)

Let \mathbf{V}_i be the asymptotic covariance matrix of $\sqrt{n_i} \text{vec}(\hat{\beta}) = \sqrt{n}(\hat{\beta}'_1, \dots, \hat{\beta}'_k)'$. Further, define:

$$g_{jh}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{r_i} \frac{\lambda_{ij} \lambda_{ih}}{(\lambda_{ij} - \lambda_{ih})^2} \quad (h \neq j)$$

Then, we get

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 & \hat{\beta}'_1 & \hat{\beta}'_2 & & \hat{\beta}'_p \\
\hline
\hat{\beta}_1 & \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ h \neq 1}}^p g_{1h}^{(1)} \beta_h \beta'_h & -g_{12}^{(1)} \beta_2 \beta'_1 & \cdots & -g_{1p}^{(1)} \beta_p \beta'_1 \\
\hat{\beta}_2 & -g_{21}^{(1)} \beta_1 \beta'_2 & \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ h \neq 2}}^p g_{2h}^{(1)} \beta_h \beta'_h & \cdots & -g_{2p}^{(1)} \beta_p \beta'_2 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\
\hat{\beta}_p & -g_{p1}^{(1)} \beta_1 \beta'_p & -g_{p2}^{(1)} \beta_2 \beta'_p & \cdots & \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ h \neq p}}^p g_{ph}^{(1)} \beta_h \beta'_h
\end{array} = \mathbf{V}_i$$

Asymptotic distribution of MLE (eigenvectors)

Since \mathbf{V}_i are simultaneously diagonalizable, there exists an orthogonal matrix \mathbf{H} , s.t.

$$\mathbf{H}'\mathbf{V}_i\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{E}_i & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \quad (i = 1, \dots, k),$$

Then we can get the information matrix for the transformed variable $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{H}'_1 \text{vec} \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}$ as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^* &= \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbf{A}_i^* = n \text{diag} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k e_{i1}^{-1}, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^k e_{is}^{-1} \right) \\ &= n \text{diag}(e_1^{-1}, \dots, e_s^{-1}), \end{aligned}$$

Asymptotic distribution of MLE (eigenvectors)

Then transform back and write out \mathbf{H}_1 explicitly, we can get

THEOREM 2. *The asymptotic distribution of $\sqrt{n} \text{vec}(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} - \boldsymbol{\beta})$ is normal with mean $\mathbf{0}$ and covariance matrix \mathbf{V} given by*

$$(2.13) \quad \begin{array}{c|cccc} & \boldsymbol{\beta}'_1 & \boldsymbol{\beta}'_2 & \cdots & \boldsymbol{\beta}'_p \\ \hline \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_1 & \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ h \neq 1}}^p g_{1h} \boldsymbol{\beta}_h \boldsymbol{\beta}'_h & -g_{12} \boldsymbol{\beta}_2 \boldsymbol{\beta}'_1 & \cdots & -g_{1p} \boldsymbol{\beta}_p \boldsymbol{\beta}'_1 \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_2 & -g_{21} \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 \boldsymbol{\beta}'_2 & \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ h \neq 2}}^p g_{2h} \boldsymbol{\beta}_h \boldsymbol{\beta}'_h & \cdots & -g_{2p} \boldsymbol{\beta}_p \boldsymbol{\beta}'_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_p & -g_{p1} \boldsymbol{\beta}_1 \boldsymbol{\beta}'_p & -g_{p2} \boldsymbol{\beta}_2 \boldsymbol{\beta}'_p & \cdots & \sum_{\substack{h=1 \\ h \neq p}}^p g_{ph} \boldsymbol{\beta}_h \boldsymbol{\beta}'_h \end{array} = \mathbf{V},$$

where the g_{jl} are defined in (2.5), and the $\boldsymbol{\beta}_j$ are the (common) eigenvectors of the k matrices $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i$.

An asymptotic test for q hypothetical eigenvectors

The null hypothesis is $H_q : (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_q) = (\beta_1^0, \dots, \beta_q^0)$, which is based on the submatrix of asymptotic covariance \mathbf{V} . Denote the submatrix as $\mathbf{V}(q)$. $\mathbf{V}(q)$ has following eigenstructure:

THEOREM 3. *The upper left $pq \times pq$ submatrix of \mathbf{V} has the following eigenvectors and eigenvalues:*

1. $\binom{q}{2}$ eigenvectors (one for each pair j, l with $1 \leq j < l \leq q$) have $\beta_l / \sqrt{2}$ in position j and $-\beta_j / \sqrt{2}$ in position l . All other positions are zero, and the associated roots are $2g_{il}$.
2. $(p - q)q$ eigenvectors (one for each combination of indices j, l such that $1 \leq j \leq q < l \leq p$) have β_l in position j and 0 in all other positions; the associated roots are g_{il} .
3. $\binom{q}{2}$ eigenvectors (one for each pair of indices j, l such that $1 \leq j \leq l \leq q$) can be chosen to have $\beta_l / \sqrt{2}$ in position j , $\beta_j / \sqrt{2}$ in position l , and zeros in all other positions. The associated roots are zero.
4. q eigenvectors (one for each j with $1 \leq j \leq q$) can be chosen to have β_j in position j and zeros elsewhere. The associated roots are zero.

An asymptotic test for q hypothetical eigenvectors

Let Φ be a diagonal matrix with diagonal elements equal to the nonzero roots of $\mathbf{V}(q)$, i.e. $\Phi = \text{diag}(2g_{12}, \dots, 2g_{q-1,1}, g_{1,q+1}, \dots, g_{qp})$. Also let the columns of matrix Γ be given by the characteristic vectors associated with the nonzero roots. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{z}'\mathbf{z} &= \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{\beta}_q - \beta_q \end{pmatrix}' \Gamma \Phi^{-1} \Gamma' \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\beta}_1 - \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{\beta}_q - \beta_q \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{j=1}^{q-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^q g_{jl}^{-1} (\beta_l' \hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j' \hat{\beta}_l)^2 \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^q \sum_{l=q+1}^p g_{jl}^{-1} (\beta_l' \hat{\beta}_j)^2.\end{aligned}$$

follows $\chi^2(t)$ distribution.

An asymptotic test for q hypothetical eigenvectors

This leads to the distribution of the test statistics for $H_q : (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_q) = (\beta_1^0, \dots, \beta_q^0)$:

THEOREM 4. *Under H_q as defined in (3.1), the statistic*

$$(3.3) \quad X^2(H_q) = n \left[\frac{1}{4} \sum_{j=1}^{q-1} \sum_{l=j+1}^q \hat{g}_{jl}^{-1} (\hat{\beta}_l' \beta_j^0 - \hat{\beta}_j' \beta_l^0)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^q \sum_{l=q+1}^p \hat{g}_{jl}^{-1} (\hat{\beta}_l' \beta_j^0)^2 \right]$$

is asymptotically distributed as chi square with $q(p - (q + 1)/2)$ degrees of freedom.

The paper also illustrated 2 special cases: (1) $q = 1$ and (2) $q = p$.

Asymptotic inference for eigenvalues

Similar to regular PCA, we may need to discard CPC's with relatively small variances.

Let $c_i = \sum_{j=1}^q \lambda_{ij}$, $d_i = \text{tr} \Sigma_i - c_i$, $f_i = d_i / \text{tr} \Sigma_i$ (relative contribution to trace) and f_0 be the pre-specified fraction. Then,

$$z_i = \frac{\sqrt{n_i} [(1 - f_0) \hat{d}_i - f_0 \hat{c}_i]}{\left(2 \left[f_0^2 \sum_{j=1}^q \hat{\lambda}_{ij}^2 + (1 - f_0)^2 \sum_{j=q+1}^p \hat{\lambda}_{ij}^2 \right] \right)^{1/2}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

when $f_i = f_0$ (null hypothesis).

So for testing the H_1 : all f_i are less than or equal to f_0 , we can just reject the hypothesis if

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq k} z_i > z_\beta \quad \text{with } \beta = 1 - (1 - \alpha)^{1/k},$$

LRT for sphericity of p-q CPC's

In PCA, the motivation for testing equality of p-q characteristic roots stems from the model $\Sigma = \Psi + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_p$, where Ψ is p.s.d. of rank q.

In CPCA, we can consider similar model for each group, i.e.

$\Sigma_i = \Psi_i + \sigma_i^2 \mathbf{I}_p$, with Ψ_i be simultaneously diagonalizable and of rank q.

This is equivalent as the following test (**hypothesis of partial sphericity**):

$$H_S : \lambda_{i,q+1} = \dots = \lambda_{ip}$$

Putting $H_S : \lambda_{i,q+1} = \dots = \lambda_{ip} = \lambda_i^*$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & -2g(\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_k, \beta | \mathbf{S}_1, \dots, \mathbf{S}_k) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \left[\sum_{j=1}^q (\log \lambda_{ij} + \beta_j' \mathbf{S}_i \beta_j / \lambda_{ij}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (p - q) \log \lambda_i^* + \left(\sum_{j=q+1}^p \beta_j' \mathbf{S}_i \beta_j \right) / \lambda_i^* \right] \end{aligned}$$

LRT for sphericity of p-q CPC's

After some algebra, we can get the LRT test statistic:

$$X_S^2 = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \log \frac{(\tilde{\lambda}_i^*)^{p-q} \prod_{j=1}^q \tilde{\lambda}_{ij}}{\prod_{j=1}^p \hat{\lambda}_{ij}}$$

The null distribution of X_S^2 is asymptotically $\chi^2((p-q-1)(p-q+2k)/2)$. The paper also provided the approximated statistic:

$$X_S^2(\text{approx}) = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \log \frac{(\hat{\lambda}_i^*)^{p-q}}{\prod_{j=q+1}^p \hat{\lambda}_{ij}}$$

But we need to be careful: since $X_S^2(\text{approx}) \geq X_S^2$, the approximate statistic can be used to accept H_S , but not necessarily to reject it.

Applications

Data: 2 groups (24 males and 24 females), with 3 features.
We do log-transformation of data because of their relationship to allometry. The data and MLE's are shown in the table:

TABLE 1
*Common principal component analysis of turtle carapace dimensions,
transformed logarithmically.*

(a) Sample covariance matrices^a

$$\mathbf{S}_1 = \begin{matrix} & \text{males } (n_1 = 23) \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1.1072 & 0.8019 & 0.8160 \\ 0.8019 & 0.6417 & 0.6005 \\ 0.8160 & 0.6005 & 0.6773 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \qquad \mathbf{S}_2 = \begin{matrix} & \text{females } (n_2 = 23) \\ \begin{pmatrix} 2.6391 & 2.0124 & 2.5443 \\ 2.0124 & 1.6190 & 1.9782 \\ 2.5443 & 1.9782 & 2.5899 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

(b) Variances of CPC's and eigenvalues of \mathbf{S}_i

males	$\hat{\lambda}_{1j}$	2.3148	0.0729	0.0385
	eigenvalues	2.3303	0.0599	0.0360
females	$\hat{\lambda}_{2j}$	6.7135	0.0807	0.0538
	eigenvalues	6.7200	0.0751	0.0530

(c) Coefficients of CPC's^b

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.6406 \\ 0.4905 \\ 0.5907 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (0.013) \\ (0.015) \\ (0.016) \end{pmatrix} \qquad \hat{\beta}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.3839 \\ -0.4617 \\ -0.7997 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (0.182) \\ (0.201) \\ (0.032) \end{pmatrix} \qquad \hat{\beta}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -0.6650 \\ 0.7391 \\ 0.1075 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (0.105) \\ (0.126) \\ (0.218) \end{pmatrix}$$

Applications

Test 1: if allometric growth is true, then the first PC of log-data should be $\beta'_1 = (1, \dots, 1)/\sqrt{p}$. Therefore, the test is

$H_0 : \beta_1 = \beta_1^0 = (1, \dots, 1)'/\sqrt{3}$ The test statistic $X^2(H_1) = 46.17$, which follows $\chi^2(2)$ under null. \Rightarrow reject the null.

Test 2: test $H_S : \lambda_{i2} = \lambda_{i3}$ for $i = 1, 2$ (simultaneous sphericity of the second and third CPC's). The resulting statistic is $X_S^2(\text{approx}) = 3.24$, which (approximately) follows $\chi^2(3)$ under the null. \Rightarrow fail to reject. Taking into consideration the relative smallness of these 2 roots in both groups \Rightarrow

- the 3 shell dimensions are distributed about a single principal axis ("size") and 2 minor axes.
- the main axis having the same orientation in space for both groups.