

COMPOSITE T^2 TEST FOR HIGH-DIMENSIONAL DATA

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Abstract: We consider high-dimensional location test problems in which the number of variables p may exceed the sample size n . The classical T^2 test does not work well because the contamination bias in estimating the covariance matrix grows rapidly with p . Unlike most existing remedies abandoning all the correlation information, the method developed here is to make use of them in a practical and efficient way. Our method, called composite T^2 test, consists of two steps. The first step is to sequentially select K variables which have the largest correlation among all combinations of K elements from the remaining variables. The second step is to construct p/K T^2 test statistics and combining them together. Under mild conditions, the proposed test statistic is asymptotically normal, and allows the dimensionality to almost exponentially increase in n . This test inherits certain appealing features of the classical T^2 test and does not suffer from large bias contamination. Due to incorporating much correlation information, the proposed test can delivery more robust performance than existing methods in many cases. Simulation studies demonstrate the validity of asymptotic analysis.

Key words and phrases: Asymptotic normality, High-dimensional data, Large- p -small- n , Composite T^2 test.

1. Introduction

Assume that $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ are independent and identically distributed random p -vectors from distribution $F(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})$ located at p -variate center $\boldsymbol{\mu}$. The classic one sample testing problem is

$$H_0 : \boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{0} \text{ versus } H_1 : \boldsymbol{\mu} \neq \mathbf{0}. \quad (1.1)$$

Such a hypothesis test plays an important role in a number of statistical problems. A classic method is the Hotelling T^2 test statistic $T^2 = n\bar{\mathbf{X}}^T \hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{X}}$ where $\bar{\mathbf{X}}$ is the sample mean vector and $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$ is the sample covariance matrix. However, Hotelling T^2 test cannot be applied to the so-called large- p -small- n paradigm ($p > n - 1$) due to the singularity of $\hat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$. A natural idea is replacing the singular

sample covariance matrix $\hat{\Sigma}$ with its nonsingular diagonal matrix (Srivastava, 2009; Park and Ayyala, 2013) or identity matrix (Bai and Saranadasa, 1996; Chen and Qin, 2010). However, these tests lose all the information of the correlations between those variables. Another nature idea is replacing the sample covariance matrix by those sparse matrix estimators (Bickel and Levina, 2008; Cai and Liu, 2011). However, it is difficult to maintain the significant level for those modified test statistics (Feng, Zou and Wang, 2015a) because of the contamination bias, which grows rapidly with p . Chen et al. (2011) propose a regularized Hotelling's T^2 test, $n\bar{\mathbf{X}}^T(\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda\mathbf{I}_p)^{-1}\bar{\mathbf{X}}$, $\lambda > 0$, by stabilizing the inverse of the sample covariance matrix. However, the size and power of their test are deeply impacted by the choice of λ and the sparsity of Σ .

To overcome these problems, we propose another novel test, called composite T^2 test by the following two steps. The first step is to sequentially select K variables which have the largest correlation among all combinations of K elements from the remaining variables. We group the variables in many blocks and let the correlation between those blocks be rather small. And then we construct p/K Hotelling T^2 test statistics and combining them together. The asymptotic normality of the proposed test can be derived under some very mild conditions. We allow the dimensionality to almost exponentially increase with n . The information of the correlation between those variables is sufficiently used in our test procedure. We also derive the formula of the asymptotic relative efficiency of our test with Park and Ayyala (2013)'s test. Theoretical analysis reveals that our test performs better in most cases. Simulation studies also demonstrate this result.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In the next section, the test statistic is constructed and its asymptotic normality is established. And then we extend our method to the two sample problem in Section 3. Simulation comparison is conducted in Section 4. All technical details are provided in the Appendix.

2. One Sample Problem

2.1. A new test statistic

The classic Hotelling T^2 can not work because the sample covariance matrix

$\hat{\Sigma}$ is not invertible. However, any submatrix of $\hat{\Sigma}$ with dimension smaller than the sample sizes is still invertible. So we can divide the p variables into several small parts and then sum the Hotelling T^2 test statistics of each part. That is

$$W_n = \sum_{i=1}^N T_{A_i}^2 = \sum_{i=1}^N n \bar{\mathbf{X}}_{A_i}^T \mathbf{S}_{A_i}^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{X}}_{A_i},$$

where $A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_N = \{1, \dots, p\}$, $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ and $\bar{\mathbf{X}}_{A_i}$, \mathbf{S}_{A_i} are the sample mean vector and covariance matrix of X_{st} , $t \in A_i$, $s = 1, \dots, n$. There are many choices for the subsets A_i . In practice, we may choose those subsets from some available prior information. For example, in multi-sensor detection problem, the sensors located in the same spatial point should be naturally grouped together. When no preference is given, we suggest to fix the subsets with the same sizes, i.e. $|A_i| = K = \lfloor p/N \rfloor$, $i = 1, \dots, N-1$ and $|A_N| = p - (N-1)K$. Additionally, we suggest to choose those strong correlated variables in a same subset and let the correlations between those subsets are as weak as possible. Next, we will propose the algorithm to divide the variables.

First, we define some notations. For any symmetric matrix $\mathbf{B} = (b_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times q}$, define the l_1 -norm of \mathbf{B} is $\|\mathbf{B}\|_{l_1} = \sum_{1 \leq i, j \leq q} |b_{ij}|$. For a subset $A \subset \{1, \dots, q\}$, define $\mathbf{B}_A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times q}$ be the corresponding ‘‘submatrix’’ of \mathbf{B} based on subset A , i.e. $a_{ij} = b_{ij}$ if $i, j \in A$ and $a_{ij} = 0$ if i or $j \notin A$. And for a set of subsets $\mathcal{C} = \{C_1, \dots, C_s\}$, $\mathbf{B}_{\mathcal{C}} = (c_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times q}$ denotes the ‘‘submatrix’’ of \mathbf{B} where $c_{ij} = b_{ij}$ if $i, j \in C_k$, $k = 1, \dots, s$ and otherwise $c_{ij} = 0$.

We consider the following algorithm to divide the variables based on the matrix $\mathbf{R}^0 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times p}$.

Algorithm 1

- Step 1. Find the initial subset $A_1 = \underset{A \subset \{1, \dots, p\}, |A|=K}{\operatorname{argmax}} \|\mathbf{R}_A^0\|_{l_1}$.
- Step 2. Suppose A_1, \dots, A_i has been selected and define the rest set $A_{-i} = \{1, \dots, p\} \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^i A_k$. Find $A_{i+1} = \underset{A \subset A_{-i}, |A|=K}{\operatorname{argmax}} \|\mathbf{R}_A^0\|_{l_1}$.
- Step 3. Repeat Step 2 by $N-1$ times and denote the last subset $A_N = A_{-(N-1)}$.

Remark 1. If we search all the submatrices with size K exhaustively, the computation burden of Step 1 would be $O(p^K)$, which is too complicated for

high dimensional data. In practice, we suggest to use the following algorithm. First, we find $\{a_1, a_2\} = \operatorname{argmax}_{1 \leq i < j \leq p} |\operatorname{cor}(X_{li}, X_{lj})|$. Then, we find the k -th variable which has the biggest correlation with $\{a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}\}$ in the remain subsets $\{1, \dots, p\} \setminus \{a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}\}$, i.e. $a_k = \operatorname{argmax}_{i \in \{1, \dots, p\} \setminus \{a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}\}} \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} |\operatorname{cor}(X_{li}, X_{la_j})|$. Denote the result subset by A'_1 . Though A'_1 is a little different from A_1 , the computation burden is only $O(p^2)$. We also use the same algorithm in Step 2. We found that this algorithm also have good performance in practice.

Define A_{n1}, \dots, A_{nN} be the result selected sets by the above algorithm based on the sample correlation matrix $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$. Then the test statistic W_n can be rewrote as

$$W_n = n\bar{\mathbf{X}}^T \hat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_n^K}^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{X}},$$

where $\mathcal{O}_n^K = \{A_{n1}, \dots, A_{nN}\}$. However, there are still some drawbacks of W_n . Even when p is small, there is no explicit form of the expectation of W_n under the null hypothesis. When p gets larger, there will be a non-negligible bias term because $\hat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_n^K}$ is not independent of $\bar{\mathbf{X}}$ and the sample mean and variance is only root- n consistent (Feng et al., 2015b).

Similar to Feng and Sun (2015), we consider the following test statistic based on the leave out method (abbreviated as CT hereafter)

$$T_n = \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n \mathbf{X}_i^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K}^{(i,j)-1} \mathbf{X}_j, \quad (2.1)$$

where $\widehat{\Sigma}^{(i,j)}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{R}}^{(i,j)}$ are the corresponding sample covariance and correlation matrices of $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}_{k \neq i,j}$, respectively. And \mathcal{O}_{ij}^K is the corresponding selected sets based on $\widehat{\mathbf{R}}^{(i,j)}$ by Algorithm 1. Now \mathbf{X}_i , $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K}^{(i,j)}$ and \mathbf{X}_j are independent from each other and then the expectation of T_n is exactly zero under the null hypothesis. So the bias-correction procedure is not needed for T_n . And the asymptotic normality of T_n is easily established in the next subsection.

2.2. Theoretical results

Like Bai and Saranadasa (1996) and Chen and Qin (2010) did, \mathbf{X}_i 's come from the following multivariate model:

$$\mathbf{X}_i = \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{z}_i + \boldsymbol{\mu} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, n, \quad (2.2)$$

where each $\mathbf{\Gamma}$ is a $p \times m$ matrix for some $m \geq p$ such that $\mathbf{\Gamma}\mathbf{\Gamma}^T = \mathbf{\Sigma}$, and $\{\mathbf{z}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ are m -variate independent and identically distributed random vectors such that

$$\begin{aligned} E(\mathbf{z}_i) &= 0, \quad \text{var}(\mathbf{z}_i) = \mathbf{I}_m, \quad E(z_{il}^4) = 3 + \Delta, \quad E(z_{il}^8) = m_8 \in (0, \infty), \\ E(z_{ik_1}^{\alpha_1} z_{ik_2}^{\alpha_2} \cdots z_{ik_q}^{\alpha_q}) &= E(z_{ik_1}^{\alpha_1}) E(z_{ik_2}^{\alpha_2}) \cdots E(z_{ik_q}^{\alpha_q}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

whenever $\sum_{k=1}^q \alpha_k \leq 8$ and $k_1 \neq k_2 \cdots \neq k_q$. The data structure (2.3) generates a rich collection of \mathbf{X}_i from \mathbf{z}_i with a given covariance. We need the following conditions: as $n, p \rightarrow \infty$,

$$(C1) \quad \varpi_{\min} = \min_{1 \leq k \leq N} \varpi_k > \omega, \quad \varpi_k = \min_{\substack{A \subset \{1, \dots, p\} \setminus \{A_1^o \cup \dots \cup A_{k-1}^o\} \\ |A|=K, A \neq A_k^o}} \frac{\lambda_{A_k^o} - \lambda_A}{\sigma_A + \sigma_{A_k^o}} \text{ where } \omega \text{ is}$$

a positive constant and $\lambda_A = \|\mathbf{R}_A\|_{l_1}$. σ_A^2 is the asymptotic variance of $\sqrt{n}\|\hat{\mathbf{R}}_A\|_{l_1}$.

$$(C2) \quad \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^4) = o(\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)), \text{ where } \mathbf{\Lambda}_K = \mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma}^{1/2} \text{ and } \mathcal{O}^K = \{A_1^o, \dots, A_N^o\}$$

is the selected sets based on the true correlation matrix \mathbf{R} .

$$(C3) \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} = o(n^{-1} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)) \text{ and } (\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu})^2 = o((\log p)^{-1/2} n^{-3/2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)).$$

$$(C4) \quad \log p = o(n).$$

Condition (C1) is a technical condition to make the partition in Algorithm 1 identifiable. To appreciate Condition (C2), consider the simplest case $K = 1$. (C2) then becomes $\text{tr}(\mathbf{R}^4) = o(\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{R}^2))$, which is similar to Condition (3.7) in Chen and Qin (2010). Let $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_p$ be the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{\Lambda}_K$ and $\nu_k = \sum_{i=1}^p \lambda_i^k$. (C2) becomes $\nu_4 = o(\nu_2^2)$. If all eigenvalues of $\mathbf{\Lambda}_K$ are bounded, $\nu_4 = O(p)$ and $\nu_2 = O(p)$. So (C2) is trivially true. And (C3) becomes $\|\boldsymbol{\mu}\|^2 = O(n^{-1} p^{1/2})$, which can be viewed as a high-dimensional version of the local alternative hypotheses.

Proposition 1 *Under the Conditions (C1)-(C4), we have*

$$P \left(\bigcap_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K = \mathcal{O}^K\} \right) = 1 - O(n^{3/2} p^{K+1} e^{-n\omega^2/2}).$$

Proposition 1 shows that the probability of $\bigcup_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K \neq \mathcal{O}^K\}$ is exponentially small as $n, p \rightarrow \infty$.

Theorem 1 *Under conditions (C1)-(C4), we have*

$$\frac{T_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}}{\sqrt{2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} N(0, 1).$$

To construct test procedure, we propose the following ratio-consistent estimator of $\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)} &= \frac{1}{2P_n^4} \sum^* (\mathbf{X}_{i_1} - \mathbf{X}_{i_2})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4}^K}^{\widehat{(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4)}}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_{i_3} - \mathbf{X}_{i_4}) \\ &\quad \times (\mathbf{X}_{i_1} - \mathbf{X}_{i_4})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4}^K}^{\widehat{(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4)}}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_{i_3} - \mathbf{X}_{i_2}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where $\mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4}^K$ is the selected sets based on $\mathbf{R}^{\widehat{(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4)}}$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{\widehat{(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4)}}$, $\mathbf{R}^{\widehat{(i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4)}}$ are the corresponding sample covariance and correlation matrix of $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}_{k \neq i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4}$, respectively. Through this article, we use \sum^* denote summations over distinct indexes. For example, in $\widehat{\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}$, the summation is over the set $\{i_1 \neq i_2 \neq i_3 \neq i_4\}$, for all $i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4 \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $P_n^m = n!/(n-m)!$.

Proposition 2 *Under the conditions (C1), (C2) and (C4), as $n, p \rightarrow \infty$,*

$$\frac{\widehat{\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}}{\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)} \xrightarrow{p} 1.$$

This result suggests rejecting H_0 with α level of significance if $T_n / \sqrt{2n^{-2} \widehat{\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}} > z_\alpha$, where z_α is the upper α quantile of $N(0, 1)$.

Next, we discuss the power properties of the proposed test. According to Theorem 1, the power under the local alternative (C3) is

$$\beta_{CT}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \Phi \left(-z_\alpha + \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}}{\sqrt{2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}} \right),$$

where $\Phi(\cdot)$ is the standard normal distribution function. So the performance of our proposed test relies certainly upon the choice of K . Obviously, the optimal choice of K is the maximizer of β_{CT} . But it is infeasible because $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ is unknown. For simplicity, we only illustrate the procedure with $K = 2$ in the subsequent theoretical results.

Remark 2. In practice, if we know some knowledge of the correlation between those variables, we need to combine them together. In this case, we do not need to divide the variables by Algorithm 1. For example, if we know some genes express a trait together, we should combine them in a subset. Otherwise, we suggest to use Algorithm 1 in Section 2.1. The choice of K in practice deserves some further studies. Generally speaking, when the correlations between those variables are strong, we need to use a large K . However, when correlations between those variables are weak, large K may cause so many meaningless estimators of correlations in $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K}^{(i,j)}$. So a small K is preferable. See some more information in the simulation studies.

In contrast, Park and Ayyala (2013) showed that the power of their tests (abbreviated as PA hereafter) are

$$\beta_{PA}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \Phi \left(-z_\alpha + \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{D}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}}{\sqrt{2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{R}^2)}} \right).$$

where \mathbf{D} is the diagonal matrix of $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$. It is difficult to propose a theoretical comparison between our proposed test with Park and Ayyala (2013)'s tests under general settings. For simplicity, we consider $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \mathbf{R} = (a_{ij}), a_{2k-1,2k} = a_{2k,2k-1} = \rho, k = 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2}$ and the others are all zeros. In this case, $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K = \mathbf{I}_p$. And then, the power of our test is

$$\beta_{CT}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \Phi \left(-z_\alpha + \frac{\frac{1}{1-\rho^2} \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p}{2}} (\mu_{2k-1}^2 + \mu_{2k}^2 - 2\rho\mu_{2k-1}\mu_{2k})}{\sqrt{2n^{-2}p}} \right).$$

And the power of PA test is

$$\beta_{PA}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \Phi \left(-z_\alpha + \frac{\sum_{k=1}^p \mu_k^2}{\sqrt{2n^{-2}p(1+\rho^2)}} \right).$$

We consider the following representative cases for $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p)$:

- (1) $\mu_k = \delta, k = 1, \dots, p$. Then the asymptotic relative efficiency is

$$\text{ARE}(\text{CT}, \text{PA}) = \frac{\sqrt{1+\rho^2}}{1+\rho}.$$

When $\rho < 0$, $\frac{\sqrt{1+\rho^2}}{1+\rho} > 1$ and then our proposed test is more powerful than PA test. When $\rho > 0$, $\frac{\sqrt{1+\rho^2}}{1+\rho} < 1$ and then PA test performs better. This

ARE has a positive lower bound of $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ when $\rho > 0$, whereas it can be arbitrarily large if ρ is close to -1 .

(2) $\mu_{2k-1} = \delta, \mu_{2k} = -\delta$. In this case, the asymptotic relative efficiency is

$$\text{ARE}(\text{CT}, \text{PA}) = \frac{\sqrt{1 + \rho^2}}{1 - \rho}.$$

Thus, similar to case (1), when $\rho > 0$, our proposed test is more powerful than PA test and vice versa. This ARE has a positive lower bound of $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ when $\rho < 0$, whereas it can be arbitrarily large if ρ is close to 1 .

(3) $\mu_{2k-1} = \delta, \mu_{2k} = 0, k = 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2}$. Then the asymptotic relative efficiency is

$$\text{ARE}(\text{CT}, \text{PA}) = \frac{\sqrt{1 + \rho^2}}{1 - \rho^2}.$$

When $\rho = 0$ or $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}_p$, these two tests are equivalently powerful from the asymptotic viewpoint. Otherwise, the proposed test would be preferable.

(4) μ_k is independent from $N(0, \delta)$, $\delta > 0$. Then, by the law of large numbers,

$$p^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{p}{2}} (\mu_{2k-1}^2 + \mu_{2k}^2 - 2\rho\mu_{2k-1}\mu_{2k}) \xrightarrow{a.s.} \delta, \quad p^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^p \mu_k^2 \xrightarrow{a.s.} \delta.$$

Thus, Then the asymptotic relative efficiency is the same as the case (iii), i.e.

$$\text{ARE}(\text{CT}, \text{PA}) = \frac{\sqrt{1 + \rho^2}}{1 - \rho^2}.$$

3. Two Sample Problem

In this section, we extend our proposed test to the two sample case (Chen and Qin 2010; Cai et al. 2014; Feng et al. 2015b; Gregory et al. 2015). Let $\mathbf{X}_{ij}, j = 1, \dots, n_i, i = 1, 2$, be independent p -dimensional multivariate random vectors from the diverging factor model (2.3) with mean $\boldsymbol{\mu}_i$ and unknown common covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$.

We extend the test statistic T_n in (2.1) to the two sample case

$$Q_n = \frac{1}{n_1 n_2 (n_1 - 1)(n_2 - 1)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \neq i_2 \leq n_1} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \neq j_2 \leq n_2} (\mathbf{X}_{1i_1} - \mathbf{X}_{2j_1})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2}^K}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_{1i_2} - \mathbf{X}_{2j_2}), \quad (3.1)$$

where $\widehat{\Sigma}^{(i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2)}$, $\widehat{\mathbf{R}}^{(i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2)}$ is the corresponding pooled sample covariance matrix and correlation matrix of the sample $\{\mathbf{X}_{1k}\}_{k \neq i_1, i_2}$ and $\{\mathbf{X}_{2l}\}_{l \neq j_1, j_2}$, respectively. And $\mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2}^K$ is the selected sets based on $\widehat{\mathbf{R}}^{(i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2)}$ by Algorithm 1.

Next, we also can show the asymptotic normality of Q_n . Define $n = n_1 + n_2$ and $\frac{n_1}{n} \rightarrow \kappa \in (0, 1)$. In this case, we consider the following alternative hypothesis:

$$(C5) \quad (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2) = o(n^{-1} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)) \text{ and } ((\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2))^2 = o((\log p)^{-1/2} n^{-3/2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)).$$

Theorem 2 *Under the conditions (C1), (C2), (C4) and (C5), as $n, p \rightarrow \infty$, we have*

$$\frac{Q_n - (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)}{\sqrt{2(n_1^{-1} + n_2^{-1})^2 \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} N(0, 1).$$

For simplicity, we only use the first sample to estimate $\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)$ by (2.4). And then we reject H_0 with α level of significance if $Q_n / \sqrt{2(n_1^{-1} + n_2^{-1})^2 \text{tr}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2})} > z_\alpha$.

4. Simulation

4.1. One Sample problem

4.1.1 Large- p -small- n case

Here we report a simulation study designed to evaluate the performance of our proposed test (abbreviated as CT₂ with $K = 2$ and CT₅ with $K = 5$). We compare our test with the methods proposed by chen et al.(2011) (abbreviated as RHT) and Park and Ayyala (2013). We consider the following different covariance matrices:

- (I) $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij})$, $\sigma_{ii} \sim U(0, 1)$, $i = 1, \dots, p$ and $\sigma_{ij} = 0$ for $i \neq j$;
- (II) $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij})$, $\sigma_{2k-1, 2k} = \sigma_{2k, 2k-1} = 0.8$, $k = 1, \dots, p/2$ and $\sigma_{ii} = 1$, $i = 1, \dots, p$;
- (III) $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij})$, $\sigma_{2k-1, 2k} = \sigma_{2k, 2k-1} = -0.8$, $k = 1, \dots, p/2$ and $\sigma_{ii} = 1$, $i = 1, \dots, p$;
- (IV) $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij})$, $\sigma_{ij} = 0.8^{|i-j|}$;

$$(V) \mathbf{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij}), \sigma_{ij} = (-0.8)^{|i-j|};$$

$$(VI) \mathbf{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij}), \sigma_{ij} = 0.2 \text{ for } i \neq j \text{ and } \sigma_{ii} = 1, i = 1, \dots, p.$$

$$(VII) \mathbf{\Sigma} = (\sigma_{ij}), \sigma_{ij} = 0.9 \text{ for } i \neq j \text{ and } \sigma_{ii} = 1, i = 1, \dots, p.$$

And we consider three distributions for \mathbf{X} : (a) Multivariate Normal distribution $N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$; (b) Multivariate t-distribution $MT(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{\Sigma}, 5)$; (c) Multivariate chisquare distribution $\mathbf{X} = \boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1/2}\mathbf{Z}$, where $\mathbf{Z} = (Z_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq p}$, Z_{ij} is distributed from centered χ_4^2 . For the alternative hypothesis, we consider two patterns for $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \kappa(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p)$. Random cases:

- (i) all the components are distributed from $N(0, 1)$, i.e. $\mu_i \sim N(0, 1)$, $i = 1, \dots, p$;
- (ii) randomly half of components are distributed from $N(0, 1)$ and the others are zeros;
- (iii) randomly $[0.05p]$ components are distributed from $N(0, 1)$ and the others are zeros.

Fixed cases:

- (iv) all the components are equal to one, i.e. $\mu_i = 1$, $i = 1, \dots, p$;
- (v) $\mu_{2k-1} = 1, \mu_{2k} = -1$, $k = 1, \dots, p/2$;
- (vi) $\mu_{2k-1} = 1, \mu_{2k} = 0$, $k = 1, \dots, p/2$;
- (vii) $\mu_i = 1$, $i = 1, \dots, [0.05p]$ and the others are zeros.

To make the power comparable among the configurations of H_1 , the coefficient κ is selected so that the signal-to-noise $\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} = 1.5$ throughout the simulation. And $(n, p) = (30, 100)$ or $(40, 200)$.

Tables 4.1-4.3 report the simulation results of the three tests under different distributions and scenarios of $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ in the one-sample case. We observe that both PA test and our test have reasonable sizes in most of cases. However, the RHT test can not control the empirical size very well, especially when the correlations between the variables are large. Chen et al. (2011) use the shrinkage estimator $(\hat{\mathbf{\Sigma}} + \lambda \mathbf{I}_p)^{-1}$ to estimate the inverse of covariance matrix $\mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1}$ in their test statistic.

Thus, if the difference between Σ and $\lambda \mathbf{I}_p$ is very small, RHT performs very well, such as Case (I). However, if Σ is not very sparse, the power of the RHT test is smaller than the other tests in Cases (IV)-(VI). When $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}_p$, our test CT_2 performs similar to PA test. Next, we consider the four sparse models (II, III, IV, V) in the following analysis. In the random cases, our test is more efficient than the PA test. And our test CT_2 performs better than PA test in the fixed cases (vi) and (vii), which is consistent with the theoretical result (3) in subsection 2.2. For the fixed case (iv), the PA test performs a little better than our test CT_2 when the correlation between the variables is positive. However, when the correlation between those variables is negative, the power of our test is significantly larger than the PA test. It is consistent with the theoretical result (1) in subsection 2.2. Similarly, the performance of our test CT_2 and PA test is consistent with the theoretical result (2) under the fixed case (v). Finally, we consider the model (VI) i.e. strong correlation between all the variables. Our test CT_2 outperforms the PA test in all cases under model (VI). These results demonstrate the advantage of our method. Next, we compare our two tests, CT_2 and CT_5 . They performs similarly when $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}_p$. For the model (II) and (III), CT_2 outperforms CT_5 in most cases because CT_5 need to estimate many meaningless correlations between those variables in the subset A_i . However, for the model (IV)-(VII), CT_5 is more powerful than CT_2 in most cases because CT_2 lose some information between the correlation of variables. It shows that the choice of K depends on the structure of Σ and the alternative hypothesis. The choice of K deserves some further studies.

All these results together suggest that the CT test is quite robust and efficient in testing the shift of locations, especially when there are strong correlations between all variables. If the correlation between all variables is not large, our test will outperform PA test when the direction of location shift contrary to the correlation between the variables and vice versa. If the direction of location shift is random (random cases (i), (ii), (iii)), our test is also more efficient than the PA test.

4.1.2 Large- n -small- p case

In this subsection, we consider large- n -small- p case to compare our test CT_2 with the classic Hotelling's T^2 test (abbreviated HT hereafter) and PA test. All the settings are the same as Section 4.1.1 except $n = 50, p = 4$. Here we only

Table 4.1: Empirical sizes and power (%) comparisons under the multivariate normal distribution in the one sample case

	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅
Random Cases																
Model	size				(i)				(ii)				(iii)			
$n = 30, p = 100$																
(I)	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.3	70	65	72	75	73	69	72	69	69	63	72	67
(II)	4.7	4.3	4.9	6.2	20	15	79	48	20	16	77	51	20	16	76	41
(III)	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.9	20	18	79	51	21	18	79	57	21	17	78	57
(IV)	7.1	1.2	6.1	6.2	10	2.5	31	42	10	2.3	30	55	10	2.6	29	45
(V)	4.7	1.4	4.7	5.4	10	4.1	30	51	10	3.7	29	52	9.5	3.1	31	48
(VI)	7.1	1.3	6.3	3.8	21	23	43	61	23	17	44	57	22	23	45	56
(VI)	5.6	0.4	4.6	4.6	6.4	22	7.3	29	6.1	20	6.5	33	5.3	31	5.6	31
$n = 40, p = 200$																
(I)	6.1	4.5	5.3	5.2	71	61	71	77	72	65	72	69	71	61	72	73
(II)	6.3	2.1	4.2	3.9	20	13	79	55	19	13	79	53	18	13	78	55
(III)	6.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	20	14	80	54	20	14	77	47	18	12	79	45
(IV)	7.4	1.3	6.1	4.8	10	1.3	30	51	9.3	2.2	29	37	10	1.2	29	50
(V)	4.3	2.4	5.4	4.7	9.6	2.1	29	45	9.2	3.1	30	46	11	2.3	30	48
(VI)	7.1	1.1	6.6	6.2	15	14	31	55	16	11	33	37	15	1.7	33	52
(VI)	4.6	0.1	4.3	4.9	8.3	12	9.5	20	4.6	0.4	5.0	19	6.1	15	6.9	24
Fixed Cases																
	(iv)				(v)				(vi)				(vii)			
$n = 30, p = 100$																
(I)	70	5.3	69	70	75	67	73	66	68	28	72	70	72	62	73	72
(II)	94	2.1	79	81	13	10	78	53	21	8.3	79	47	63	44	76	68
(III)	10	5.5	78	49	94	85	78	79	20	10	78	56	10	11	77	43
(IV)	100	0.4	100	99	7.2	1.3	24	35	10	1.3	31	45	59	24	65	57
(V)	7.3	1.3	24	47	100	93	100	99	9.1	2.2	27	45	8.3	3.7	28	41
(VI)	100	1.2	100	100	22	23	45	58	48	13	63	75	24	26	45	64
(VII)	41.6	0.5	41.3	100	5.0	20	6.0	26	5.3	12	6.7	29	6.0	25	7.9	30
$n = 40, p = 200$																
(I)	69	4.7	72	62	73	64	73	71	73	23	75	75	67	65	69	74
(II)	94	1.5	76	77	11	7.4	81	42	19	6.6	78	53	95	84	77	87
(III)	12	4.4	80	56	97	88	79	85	20	10	79	49	11	10	80	39
(IV)	100	1.2	100	98	6.5	1.1	24	43	8.2	1.2	27	50	88	45	85	83
(V)	7.1	2.3	23	45	100	99	100	99	12	2.4	30	53	9.6	2.2	25	43
(VI)	100	1.1	100	100	15	11	32	51	36	5.1	52	65	18	13	34	49
(VII)	54	0.0	53.3	100	6.3	0.7	7.7	19	3.3	0.8	4.8	21	5.2	11	6.5	19

Table 4.2: Empirical sizes and power (%) comparisons under the multivariate t distribution in the one sample case

		PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅	PA	RHT	CT ₂	CT ₅
Random Cases																	
Model	size	(i)				(ii)				(iii)							
		$n = 30, p = 100$															
(I)	5.1	2.2	5.7	4.3	70	53	72	77	69	47	72	69	70	48	72	70	
(II)	5.2	0.2	4.4	5.1	20	4.3	74	42	22	5.1	76	47	19	1.8	73	52	
(III)	5.4	1.8	4.7	5.3	20	8.1	75	53	23	13	77	49	19	9.1	74	45	
(IV)	7.1	0.1	5.3	5.4	11	0.1	30	41	10	0.6	29	39	09	0.7	32	35	
(V)	6.3	0.0	5.2	4.7	11	1.5	33	43	09	2.1	32	40	10	0.8	32	45	
(VI)	7.2	0.0	5.9	5.9	24	15	47	64	26	12	49	61	26	13	53	57	
(VII)	6.3	0.0	6.7	3.9	6.3	3.1	6.3	28	6.0	5.6	5.0	36	3.7	5.3	4.7	29	
$n = 40, p = 200$																	
(I)	6.1	0.2	4.7	3.9	70	37	73	73	69	34	71	70	67	46	72	73	
(II)	6.6	1.3	5.1	4.1	20	3.3	76	49	17	3.2	75	48	19	2.3	75	49	
(III)	5.2	0.0	4.7	5.6	19	2.7	73	53	18	3.5	77	54	18	2.8	73	42	
(IV)	5.8	0.1	5.8	6.3	09	1.1	33	51	10	1.7	31	35	09	1.1	26	41	
(V)	5.7	0.1	5.5	5.9	09	1.5	26	48	10	1.1	29	47	08	1.3	29	40	
(VI)	6.5	0.1	6.2	4.1	17	5.3	37	58	17	7.1	41	49	18	5.6	40	65	
(VII)	9.7	0.1	9.3	4.1	10	1.5	11	19	5.3	1.8	5.3	18	5.7	1.1	6.0	20	
Fixed Cases																	
		(iv)				(v)				(vi)				(vii)			
$n = 30, p = 100$																	
(I)	69	1.1	72	70	72	57	74	73	71	16	73	69	62	56	69	68	
(II)	90	2.3	74	77	11	2.3	75	37	21	2.1	74	53	58	38	72	68	
(III)	12	1.7	77	43	89	86	77	81	17	1.4	74	48	12	4.3	73	48	
(IV)	99	0.6	98	98	8.4	0.3	27	38	11	0.3	32	39	59	31	64	61	
(V)	8.3	1.0	25	35	99	96	99	97	12	1.1	31	48	7.4	2.2	25	38	
(VI)	100	0.2	100	99	25	16	50	61	52	7.2	66	73	27	20	51	65	
(VII)	42	0.2	41	100	4.7	5.3	4.7	45	8.3	4.8	7.3	38	7.7	4.1	7.7	37	
$n = 40, p = 200$																	
(I)	69	0.0	71	79	70	35	72	79	69	9.6	73	70	71	29	69	75	
(II)	91	0.1	75	78	10	3.6	74	41	19	2.7	75	54	92	70	75	85	
(III)	11	0.3	74	43	91	83	75	82	19	1.1	76	47	12	0.0	76	50	
(IV)	100	0.4	99	99	6.8	1.1	25	40	09	0.6	29	37	83	48	83	83	
(V)	8.5	0.1	26	41	99	100	100	99	10	0.7	29	35	07	0.0	27	39	
(VI)	100	0.0	100	100	16	6.2	39	56	36	3.2	51	60	16	5.6	37	58	
(VII)	55	0.0	54	100	6.1	1.3	6.9	19	5.3	0.8	5.7	22	4.8	0.5	4.4	21	

Table 4.3: Empirical sizes and power (%) comparisons under the multivariate chisquare distribution in the one sample case

PA		RHT		CT ₂		CT ₅		PA		RHT		CT ₂		CT ₅		PA		RHT		CT ₂		CT ₅	
Random Cases																							
Model	size				(i)				(ii)				(iii)										
$n = 30, p = 100$																							
(I)	5.8	3.9	6.8	5.9	67	67	67	59	71	69	69	58	67	66	66	60							
(II)	5.1	4.1	6.1	6.3	20	18	72	51	19	12	75	47	18	20	70	44							
(III)	4.3	3.3	6.9	4.7	20	17	72	47	18	20	72	43	19	21	71	49							
(IV)	5.2	1.1	6.5	6.2	9.3	2.2	30	46	8.6	1.1	28	44	10	3.4	31	51							
(V)	5.0	1.0	6.0	6.4	11	3.0	28	43	10	2.6	32	42	10	3.5	29	39							
(VII)	6.9	0.2	5.3	5.1	26	23	47	59	23	24	48	54	25	30	45	54							
(VI)	5.0	1.3	5.8	4.3	5.0	26	6.2	33	3.1	28	4.3	31	8.3	24	8.7	32							
$n = 40, p = 200$																							
(I)	5.9	4.7	6.1	6.6	69	58	67	68	72	63	71	73	67	63	66	68							
(II)	5.7	5.2	6.9	5.2	19	14	77	47	16	16	75	56	19	16	72	49							
(III)	6.0	7.1	6.0	6.8	20	19	73	53	18	19	74	53	19	27	72	46							
(IV)	6.1	0.6	6.5	4.3	9.6	2.6	28	52	7.1	2.9	29	47	10	1.9	31	45							
(V)	6.0	2.3	6.3	5.2	7.0	1.2	28	41	8.2	2.3	28	45	10	5.1	29	49							
(VI)	6.3	1.7	5.8	6.1	14	11	35	46	16	12	34	56	13	11	34	47							
(VII)	6.7	0.1	6.3	5.1	5.3	14	5.3	20	7.7	14	9.0	14	4.0	11	4.3	17							
Fixed Cases																							
(iv)				(v)				(vi)				(vii)											
$n = 30, p = 100$																							
(I)	70	4.3	54	57	69	62	69	61	67	30	63	58	64	70	70	67							
(II)	93	2.7	81	77	10	7.3	71	45	22	6.3	77	45	57	48	75	57							
(III)	12	3.5	79	37	92	73	71	74	18	4.1	81	47	11	11	76	46							
(IV)	100	0.2	100	99	08	1.9	24	39	10	0.6	32	44	60	24	67	59							
(V)	9.7	1.9	24	47	100	94	100	96	10	1.7	28	40	7.6	2.1	27	49							
(VI)	100	0.6	100	100	25	19	47	60	47	12	63	75	28	28	50	67							
(VII)	42	0.1	44	100	5.0	21	6.5	27	3.5	13	4.7	39	5.0	20	6.2	35							
$n = 40, p = 200$																							
(I)	69	5.1	53	49	71	65	70	72	69	30	62	64	67	63	71	62							
(II)	94	3.4	81	74	11	8.4	73	49	20	7.2	77	51	90	85	76	81							
(III)	12	8.5	79	43	95	79	75	84	21	6.9	82	47	12	12	75	49							
(IV)	100	0.6	100	100	06	0.0	23	38	11	0.4	28	47	82	50	87	84							
(V)	5.3	2.1	21	39	100	100	100	100	11	2.1	27	47	7.3	2.7	24	41							
(VI)	100	0.8	100	100	16	14	34	51	34	14	51	68	15	14	36	45							
(VII)	57	0.3	56	100	5.7	9.5	5.3	22	7.7	11	8.4	20	6.1	7.6	7.2	17							

consider the multivariate normal distributions. Table 4.4 reports the simulation results of the three tests. For model (I)-(III), our test CT_2 performs similar to HT test because of $\Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K} = \Sigma$. For the other models, HT test is more powerful than CT_2 test because CT_2 test lose the information of some correlation of variables. CT_2 test also outperforms better than PA test for the model (II)-(V) in most cases, which is consistent with the large- p -small- n case.

Table 4.4: Empirical sizes and power (%) comparisons under the multivariate normal distribution in the one sample case

	PA	HT	CT_2	PA	HT	CT_2	PA	HT	CT_2	PA	HT	CT_2
Random Cases												
Model	size			(i)			(ii)			(iii)		
(I)	6.0	6.0	4.0	33	39	38	38	42	40	36	42	41
(II)	7.0	6.7	6.3	17	43	46	20	42	42	12	43	44
(III)	8.7	6.3	5.7	19	47	49	16	42	42	14	46	46
(IV)	3.0	6.7	3.7	9.6	37	27	12	42	29	8.9	41	28
(V)	8.3	5.0	5.1	9.1	39	27	11	38	26	10	42	28
(VI)	4.7	4.0	4.0	37	40	38	39	42	41	32	40	40
(VII)	6.2	5.2	6.3	6.0	42	25	8.0	41	26	8.3	39	25
Fixed Cases												
	(iv)			(v)			(vi)			(vii)		
(I)	41	43	42	42	42	42	47	46	46	23	44	43
(II)	51	43	43	9.2	35	40	17	41	44	16	41	42
(III)	9.0	37	37	52	41	40	15	41	42	13	46	47
(IV)	58	38	48	6.7	40	25	9.6	41	25	11	43	31
(V)	8.2	41	29	61	40	53	11	41	27	11	37	26
(VI)	58	43	50	33	40	38	38	38	38	45	47	47
(VII)	63	42	59	9.1	45	29	13	42	30	8.4	35	23

4.2. Two Sample problem

In this subsection, we compare our test CT_2 with PA test, RHT test, Cai et al. (2014)'s test (abbreviated as CLX test) and Gregory et al. (2015)'s test (abbreviated as GCT test) in two sample case. Here, we only consider the multivari-

Table 4.5: Empirical sizes and power (%) comparisons under the multivariate normal distribution in the two sample case

n_i	size					(ii)					(vi)				
	PA	RHT	CT ₂	GCT	CLX	PA	RHT	CT ₂	GCT	CLX	PA	RHT	CT ₂	GCT	CLX
15	5.3	0.0	4.7	9.6	36	15	3.3	59	24	56	15	2.6	46	24	57
20	6.2	2.1	5.1	8.0	23	17	5.5	73	31	51	18	2.4	72	28	48
30	5.7	1.2	5.6	11	10	27	3.7	97	41	53	26	2.1	96	42	45

ate normal distributions for the two samples, i.e. $X_{1i} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$, $i = 1, \dots, n_1$ and $X_{2j} \sim N(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$, $j = 1, \dots, n_2$. For simplicity, here we only consider the model (IV) and two cases (ii) and (vi) for $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \kappa(\mu_1, \dots, \mu_p)$. Now the coefficient κ is selected so that the signal-to-noise $\|\boldsymbol{\mu}\|^2 / \sqrt{\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Sigma}^2)} = 0.1$. Here we consider three sample sizes $n_1 = n_2 = 15, 20, 30$ and dimension $p = 224$.

Table 4.5 reports the simulation results of the five tests. The sizes of PA test and our test are close to the nominal level. Our test is more powerful than PA test in both (ii) and (vi), which is consistent with the simulation results in the one sample problem. However, the sizes of RHT test are still smaller than the nominal level. And then their tests are still not effective under the alternative hypothesis. The sizes of GCT test are a little larger than the nominal level. And our test CT₂ also outperforms GCT test. The CLX test can not control their empirical sizes very well in these cases, especially when the sample size is small. It is difficult to estimate the precision matrix very well when the sample size is not large. Consequently, their power are meaningless. All these results show that our CT test is also an efficient method for the two-sample problem.

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5. Appendix

5.1. Proof of Proposition 1

Proof. Define $\lambda_A = \|\mathbf{R}_A\|_{l_1}$ and $\hat{\lambda}_A^{ij}$ is the corresponding estimator based on the sample $\{\mathbf{X}_k\}_{k \neq i,j}$. By the Central Limited Theorem, $\sqrt{n}(\hat{\lambda}_A^{ij} - \lambda_A) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} N(0, \sigma_A^2)$ where σ_A^2 is the corresponding asymptotic variance. Define $\epsilon = \frac{(\lambda_{A_1^o} - \lambda_A)\sigma_{A_1^o}}{\sigma_A + \sigma_{A_1^o}}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} P(\hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} < \hat{\lambda}_A^{ij}) &= P(\hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} - \lambda_{A_1^o} < \hat{\lambda}_A^{ij} - \lambda_{A_1^o}, \hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} - \lambda_{A_1^o} > -\epsilon) \\ &\quad + P(\hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} - \lambda_{A_1^o} < \hat{\lambda}_A^{ij} - \lambda_{A_1^o}, \hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} - \lambda_{A_1^o} < -\epsilon) \\ &\leq P(\hat{\lambda}_A^{ij} - \lambda_{A_1^o} > -\epsilon) + P(\hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} - \lambda_{A_1^o} < -\epsilon) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(\lambda_{A_1^o} - \lambda_A - \epsilon)}{\sigma_A}\right) + \Phi\left(\frac{-\sqrt{n}\epsilon}{\sigma_{A_1^o}}\right) \\ &= 2\Phi\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(\lambda_{A_1^o} - \lambda_A)}{\sigma_A + \sigma_{A_1^o}}\right) \leq \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi n\varpi_1}} e^{-\frac{n\varpi_1^2}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Denote $\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K = (A_1^{ij}, \dots, A_N^{ij})$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} P(A_1^{ij} \neq A_1^o) &= P\left(\bigcup_{A \in \{1, \dots, p\}, |A|=K, A \neq A_1^o} \{\hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} < \hat{\lambda}_A^{ij}\}\right) \\ &\leq C_p^K P(\hat{\lambda}_{A_1^o} < \hat{\lambda}_A^{ij}) \leq \frac{2C_p^K}{\sqrt{2\pi n\varpi_1^2}} e^{-n\varpi_1^2/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can show that $P(A_k^{ij} \neq A_k^o) \leq \frac{C_p^K}{\sqrt{2\pi n\varpi_k^2}} e^{-n\varpi_k^2/2}$. And then

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\bigcap_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K = \mathcal{O}^K\}\right) &= 1 - P\left(\bigcup_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \{\mathcal{O}_{ij}^K \neq \mathcal{O}^K\}\right) \\ &= 1 - P\left(\bigcup_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} \bigcup_{1 \leq k \leq N} \{A_k^{ij} \neq A_k^o\}\right) \\ &\leq 1 - \frac{n^2 N C_p^K}{\sqrt{2\pi n\varpi_{\min}^2}} e^{-n\varpi_{\min}^2/2} = 1 - O(n^{3/2} p^{K+1} e^{-n\omega^2/2}), \end{aligned}$$

by the condition (C1). \square

5.2. Proof of Theorem 1

Proof. According to Proposition 1, we only need to consider the asymptotic property of \tilde{T}_n ,

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{T}_n &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n \mathbf{X}_i^T \widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{(i,j)^{-1}} \mathbf{X}_j \\ &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n \mathbf{X}_i^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j + \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n \mathbf{X}_i^T \left(\widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{(i,j)^{-1}} - \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \right) \mathbf{X}_j \\ &\doteq \tilde{T}_{n1} + \tilde{T}_{n2}.\end{aligned}$$

Next, we will show that

$$\frac{\tilde{T}_{n1} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}}{\sqrt{2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} N(0, 1). \quad (5.1)$$

and $\tilde{T}_{n2} = o_p\left(\sqrt{2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}\right)$.

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{T}_{n1} &= \frac{1}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n (\mathbf{X}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_j - \boldsymbol{\mu}) + \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu}) + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \\ &\doteq \tilde{T}_{n11} + \tilde{T}_{n12} + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}.\end{aligned}$$

It is easy to show that $E(\tilde{T}_{n12}) = 0$ and $\text{var}(\tilde{T}_{n12}) = 4n^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \Sigma \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} = o(2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2))$. So $\tilde{T}_{n12} = o_p(\sqrt{2n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)})$. Next, we only need to show the asymptotic normality of \tilde{T}_{n11} . Without loss of generality, we assume $\boldsymbol{\mu} = 0$ here and after.

Define $V_{nj} = n^{-1}(n-1)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \mathbf{X}_i^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j$, $j = 2, \dots, n$ and $W_{nk} = \sum_{i=2}^k V_{ni}$, $k = 2, \dots, n$. Let $\mathcal{F}_i = \sigma\{\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_i\}$ be the σ -field generated by $\{\mathbf{X}_j\}_{j \leq i}$. It is easy to show that $E(V_{ni} | \mathcal{F}_{i-1}) = 0$ and it follows that $\{W_{nk}, \mathcal{F}_k; 2 \leq k \leq n\}$ is a zero mean martingale. Let $v_{ni} = E(V_{ni}^2 | \mathcal{F}_{i-1})$, $2 \leq i \leq n$ and $V_n = \sum_{i=2}^n v_{ni}$. The central limit theorem (Hall and Heyde 1980) will hold if we can show

$$\frac{V_n}{\text{var}(W_{nn})} \xrightarrow{p} 1, \quad (5.2)$$

and for any $\epsilon > 0$,

$$\sum_{i=2}^n n^2 \text{tr}^{-1}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2) E \left[V_{ni}^2 I(|V_{ni}| > \epsilon \sqrt{n^{-2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)}) | \mathcal{F}_{i-1} \right] \xrightarrow{P} 0. \quad (5.3)$$

It can be shown that

$$v_{ni} = \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)^2} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j + 2 \sum_{1 \leq j < k < i} \mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_k \right).$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{V_n}{\text{var}(W_{nn})} &= \frac{2}{n(n-1)\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} j \mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j + 2 \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} \mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_k \right) \\ &\doteq C_{n1} + C_{n2}. \end{aligned}$$

Simple algebras lead to

$$\begin{aligned} E(C_{n1}) &= 1, \\ \text{var}(C_{n1}) &= \frac{4}{n^2(n-1)^2 \text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)} E \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} j^2 (\mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j)^2 - \text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Define $\mathbf{\Gamma}^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Gamma} = (\omega_{kl})_{1 \leq k \leq l \leq m}$. Under the diverging factor model,

$$\begin{aligned} E((\mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j)^2) &= E((\mathbf{z}_j^T \mathbf{\Gamma}^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{z}_j)^2) = E \left(\left(\sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{l=1}^m \omega_{kl} z_{jk} z_{jl} \right)^2 \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{l=1}^m \sum_{s=1}^m \sum_{t=1}^m \omega_{kl} \omega_{st} E(z_{jk} z_{jl} z_{js} z_{jt}) = (3 + \Delta) \sum_{k=1}^m \omega_{kk}^2 + \sum_{k \neq l}^m \omega_{kl}^2 \\ &= (2 + \Delta) \sum_{k=1}^m \omega_{kk}^2 + \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^4) \leq (3 + \Delta) \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^4). \quad (5.4) \end{aligned}$$

Under the condition (C2), $E((\mathbf{X}_j^T \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_j)^2) = o(\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2))$. Hence, $\text{var}(C_{n1}) \rightarrow 0$ and then $C_{n1} \xrightarrow{P} 1$. Similarly, $E(C_{n2}) = 0$ and

$$\text{var}(C_{n2}) = \frac{16}{n(n-1)} \frac{\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^4)}{\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)} \rightarrow 0.$$

implies $C_{n2} \xrightarrow{p} 0$. Thus, (5.2) holds. It remains to show (5.3). Since

$$E \left[Z_{ni}^2 I \left(|Z_{ni}| > \epsilon \sqrt{n^{-2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)} \right) | \mathcal{F}_{i-1} \right] \leq E(Z_{ni}^4 | \mathcal{F}_{i-1}) / (\epsilon^2 n^{-2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2))$$

we only need to show that

$$\sum_{i=2}^n E(Z_{ni}^4) = o(n^{-4} \text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)).$$

Note that

$$\sum_{i=2}^n E(Z_{ni}^4) = O(n^{-4}) \sum_{i=2}^n E \left(\left(\sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \eta_i \eta_j \mathbf{X}_i^T \mathbf{X}_j \right)^4 \right).$$

which can be decomposed as $3Q + P$ where

$$Q = O(n^{-8}) \sum_{i=2}^n \sum_{s \neq t}^{i-1} E \left(\mathbf{X}_i^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_s \mathbf{X}_s^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i \mathbf{X}_i^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{X}_t^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i \right),$$

$$P = O(n^{-8}) \sum_{i=2}^n \sum_{s=1}^{i-1} E \left((\mathbf{X}_i^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_s)^4 \right).$$

Note that $Q = O(n^{-4}) E((\mathbf{X}_i^T \Sigma_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_i)^2) = o(\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2))$ by similar arguments in (5.4). Next, we consider the part P . Define $\mathbf{\Gamma}^T \mathbf{\Gamma} = (\nu_{kl})_{1 \leq k, l \leq m}$.

$$P = O(n^{-8}) \sum_{i=2}^n \sum_{s=1}^{i-1} E \left((\mathbf{z}_i^T \mathbf{\Gamma}^T \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{z}_s)^4 \right) = O(n^{-8}) \sum_{i \neq j} E \left(\left(\sum_{k, l=1}^m \nu_{kl} z_{ik} z_{jl} \right)^4 \right)$$

$$= O(n^{-6}) \left(\sum_{k, l=1}^m \nu_{kl}^4 E(z_{ik}^4) E(z_{jl}^4) + \sum_{k \neq l} \sum_{s \neq t} v_{kl}^2 v_{st}^2 E(z_{ik}^2) E(z_{is}^2) E(z_{jl}^2) E(z_{jt}^2) \right.$$

$$\left. + 2 \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{s \neq t} v_{ks}^2 v_{kt}^2 E(z_{ik}^4) E(z_{js}^2 z_{jt}^2) + \sum_{k \neq l} \sum_{s \neq t} v_{kl} v_{kt} v_{st} v_{sl} E(z_{ik}^2) E(z_{jl}^2) E(z_{is}^2) E(z_{jt}^2) \right).$$

Note that $\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2) = (\sum_{s, t} \nu_{st}^2)^2 = \sum_{k, l, s, t} \nu_{st}^2 \nu_{kl}^2$ and

$$\sum_{k, l=1}^m \nu_{kl}^4 \leq \left(\sum_{k, l} \nu_{kl}^2 \right)^2, \quad \sum_{k=1}^m \sum_{s \neq t} v_{ks}^2 v_{kt}^2 \leq \left(\sum_{k, l} \nu_{kl}^2 \right)^2,$$

$$\sum_{k \neq l} \sum_{s \neq t} v_{kl}^2 v_{st}^2 \leq \sum_{k, l, s, t} \nu_{st}^2 \nu_{kl}^2, \quad \sum_{k \neq l} \sum_{s \neq t} v_{kl} v_{kt} v_{st} v_{sl} \leq \sum_{k \neq l} \omega_{kl}^2 \leq \sum_{k, l} \omega_{kl}^2 = \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^4).$$

Thus, under the condition (C2), $P = o(n^{-4}\text{tr}^2(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2))$ and then (5.3) follows immediately. This complete the proof of (5.1).

Next, we will show that $\tilde{T}_{n2} = o_p(\sqrt{n^{-2}\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)})$. Obviously, $E(\tilde{T}_{n2}) = 0$.

Here, we only need to show that $E(\tilde{T}_{n2}^2) = o(n^{-2}\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2))$. Define $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{\widehat{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}}^{(i,j)}}^{-1} = (\hat{d}_{st})_{1 \leq s \leq t \leq p}$ and $\mathbf{I}_p = (d_{st})_{1 \leq s \leq t \leq p}$. By the Central Limit Theorem, $\sqrt{n}(\hat{d}_{st} - d_{st}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} N(0, \zeta_{st}^2)$, where ζ_{st}^2 is the corresponding asymptotic variance. Define $\sigma_{\max}^2 = \max_{1 \leq s \leq t \leq p} \zeta_{st}^2$. As $n, p \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\begin{aligned} & P \left(\max_{1 \leq s \leq t \leq p} (\hat{d}_{st} - d_{st}) > 2\sigma_{\max} n^{-1/2} (\log p)^{1/2} \right) \\ & \leq \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{t=1}^p P \left(\sqrt{n}(\hat{d}_{st} - d_{st}) > 2\sigma_{\max} (\log p)^{1/2} \right) \\ & = \sum_{s=1}^p \sum_{t=1}^p \left(1 - \Phi(2\sigma_{\max} \zeta_{st}^{-1} (\log p)^{1/2}) \right) \leq p^2 (1 - \Phi((4 \log p)^{1/2})) \\ & \leq \frac{p^2}{\sqrt{8\pi \log p}} e^{-2 \log p} \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\max_{1 \leq s \leq t \leq p} (\hat{d}_{st} - d_{st}) = O_p(n^{-1/2} (\log p)^{1/2})$. And then,

$$\begin{aligned} E(\tilde{T}_{n2}^2) & \leq C(\log p)^{1/2} n^{-1/2} E(\tilde{T}_{n1}^2) \\ & \leq C(\log p)^{1/2} n^{-1/2} ((\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu})^2 + n^{-2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)) = o(n^{-2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)). \end{aligned}$$

by the Condition (C3). □

5.3. Proof of Proposition 2

Proof. Similar to Proposition 1, we can show that

$$P \left(\bigcap_{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4} \{ \mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4}^K = \mathcal{O}^K \} \right) = 1 - O(n^{7/2} p^{K+1} e^{-n\omega^2/2}).$$

And similar to the argument of \tilde{T}_{n2} in the proof of Theorem 1, we can show that

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\text{tr}}(\widehat{\mathbf{\Lambda}}_K^2) & = \frac{1}{2P_n^4} \sum^* (\mathbf{X}_{i_1} - \mathbf{X}_{i_2})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_{i_3} - \mathbf{X}_{i_4}) (\mathbf{X}_{i_1} - \mathbf{X}_{i_4})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_{i_3} - \mathbf{X}_{i_2}) + o_p(\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)) \\ & = \frac{1}{P_n^2} \sum^* (\mathbf{X}_{i_1}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{i_2})^2 - \frac{2}{P_n^3} \sum^* \mathbf{X}_{i_1}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{i_2} \mathbf{X}_{i_2}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{i_3} \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{P_n^4} \sum^* \mathbf{X}_{i_1}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{i_2} \mathbf{X}_{i_3}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{i_4} + o_p(\text{tr}(\mathbf{\Lambda}_K^2)). \end{aligned}$$

Then, according to Theorem 2 in Chen, Zhang and Zhong (2010), we can easily obtain the result. \square

5.4. Proof of Theorem 2

Proof. Similar to Proposition 1, we can show that

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2} \{\mathcal{O}_{i_1, i_2, j_1, j_2}^K = \mathcal{O}^K\}\right) = 1 - O(n^{7/2} p^{K+1} e^{-n\omega^2/2}).$$

And then we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_n &= \frac{1}{n_1 n_2 (n_1 - 1)(n_2 - 1)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \neq i_2 \leq n_1} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \neq j_2 \leq n_2} (\mathbf{X}_{1i_1} - \mathbf{X}_{2j_1})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} (\mathbf{X}_{1i_2} - \mathbf{X}_{2j_2}) + o_p(\sqrt{n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}) \\ &= \frac{1}{n_1 (n_1 - 1)} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \neq i_2 \leq n_1} \mathbf{X}_{1i_1}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{1i_2} + \frac{1}{n_2 (n_2 - 1)} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \neq j_2 \leq n_2} \mathbf{X}_{2j_1}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{2j_2} \\ &\quad - \frac{2}{n_1 n_2} \sum_{i_1=1}^{n_1} \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \mathbf{X}_{1i_1}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{O}^K}^{-1} \mathbf{X}_{2j} + o_p(\sqrt{n^{-2} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda}_K^2)}). \end{aligned}$$

Taking the same procedure as Chen and Qin (2010), we can easily obtain the result. \square

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