

Shrinkage Estimators for Large Covariance matrices in multivariate real and complex normal distributions under an invariant quadratic loss

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Abstract

The problem of estimating large covariance matrices of multivariate real normal and complex normal distributions is considered when the dimension of the variables is larger than the number of sample size. The Stein-Haff identities and calculus on eigenstructures for singular Wishart matrices are developed for real and complex cases, respectively. By using these techniques, the unbiased risk estimates for certain class of estimators for the population covariance matrices under an invariant quadratic loss functions are obtained for real and complex cases, respectively. Based on the unbiased risk estimates, shrinkage estimators which are counterparts of the estimators due to Haff [1980, ANN. STATIST. **8**

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586-697] are shown to improve upon the best scalar multiple of the empirical covariance matrix under the invariant quadratic loss functions for both real and complex multivariate normal distributions in the situation where the dimension of the variables is larger than the number of sample size.

1 Introduction

Estimating a population covariance matrix is an important and difficult problem in the theory of the multivariate statistical analysis [29, 35]. It is known that the empirical covariance matrix has an undesirable characteristics, namely, its eigenvalues are more spread out than those of the population covariance matrix. Since James and Stein [16], many papers have reported on improved estimators of the population covariance matrix from a decision-theoretic perspective [7, 12, 13, 14, 24, 37] or from a Bayesian point of view [3, 4, 5, 42] in order to overcome the shortcoming of the empirical covariance matrix. Recently there has been an increased interest in the problem of estimating covariance matrix of large dimension given in the situation in which the dimension of variables, p , is larger than the number of observations, n . See [2, 15, 23].

In this article we consider the problem of estimating large covariance matrices in a decision-theoretic manner when the dimension of variables, p , is larger than the number of observations, n . Population distributions include not only real multivariate distributions but also complex multivariate distributions. We provide estimators that are better than the best scalar multiple of the empirical covariance matrix under an invariant quadratic loss function. Our approach to derive new estimators is the so-called ‘unbiased risk estimate method’ and calculus on the

eigenstructures for singular Wishart matrices. Both methods for full-rank Wishart matrices have been well-established. See [6, 10, 11, 14, 37, 39] for the Stein-Haff identities for full-rank Wishart matrices and see [13, 14, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 36, 37, 39] for calculus on eigenstructures for full-rank Wishart matrices. We extensively develop the Stein-Haff identities and calculus on eigenstructures for singular Wishart matrices, i.e., in the situation such that $p > n$, in order to obtain unbiased risk estimate for certain class of estimators which are analogues of estimators due to [12] for population covariance matrix in the situation such that $n > p$.

This paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, the situation for real singular Wishart matrices is considered. In Section 2.1, we derive integration by parts formula for singular real Wishart matrices in a matrix form. In Section 2.2, using calculus on eigenstructures for singular real Wishart matrices, we obtain unbiased risk estimate for certain class of estimators under an invariant loss function. In Section 2.3, we derive shrinkage estimators which are analogues of estimators due to Haff [12]. In Section 2.4, we give some numerical results from simulations. In Section 3, parallel results for singular complex Wishart matrices are explored. In Section 4, more technical proofs of Theorems in Sections 2 and 3 are given.

For high-dimensional covariance estimation problems, where the number of variables p is larger than the number of sample n , two major approaches have been proposed; that is, (a) shrinking toward a structure [23] and (b) a regularization method [2, 15]. We work within the approach (a) and finite-sampling setup. In other words, our proposed estimators are regarded as a weighted combination of a structured matrix and the sample covariance matrix. To develop the so-called Stein's unbiased risk estimate based on singular Wishart matrix, we restrict ourselves to the normality assumption. This leads to finite-sample evaluation of the performance of alternative estimators. Besides, our technical results developed in Section 4 of

this paper are of independent interest.

2 Real case

Assume that $n < p$ and let \mathbf{X} be an $n \times p$ random matrix having the multivariate real normal distribution $N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}_{n \times p}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, where $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is a $p \times p$ positive-definite matrix. So the rows of the matrix \mathbf{X} are mutually independent and have p -dimensional normal distribution with zero-mean vector and the covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$. Set $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$. Then \mathbf{S} has a real Wishart distribution of dimension p on n degrees of freedom, and the scale parameter $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$. We call \mathbf{S} a singular real Wishart matrix. See Srivastava [34] for the density function of a partial block of singular real Wishart matrix with respect to Lebesgue measure.

2.1 The Stein-Haff identities and calculus on eigenstructure for singular real Wishart matrices

The Stein-Haff identity for singular real Wishart matrices was first established by Kubokawa and Srivastava [22]. Their derivation was based on the approach due to Sheena [32]. In this subsection, the Stein-Haff identity for singular Wishart matrices in [22] is generalized to a matrix form of the identity via a modification of an approach by [37].

To state our identity, let $\nabla_{\mathbf{X}} = (\partial/\partial x_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$ for $\mathbf{X} = (x_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$. For real numbers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n , we denote by $\mathbf{Diag}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ an $n \times n$ diagonal matrix with diagonal elements a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n . Furthermore, set $\mathbb{R}_{\geq}^p = \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{R}^p; a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n > 0\}$.

Theorem 2.1. Assume that an $n \times p$ real matrix \mathbf{X} is distributed according to $N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}_{n \times p}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \Sigma)$ with a $p \times p$ positive-definite matrix Σ . Assume that, for a $p \times p$ real random matrix $\mathbf{G} := \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{S}) = (g_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$, each g_{ij} is a differentiable function of $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$ and satisfies the following conditions;

$$\mathbb{E} [|x_{j_1 i_1}^2 g_{i_2 i_3}|] < \infty, \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\left| x_{j_1 i_1} \frac{\partial g_{i_2 i_3}}{\partial x_{j_2 i_4}} \right| \right] < \infty$$

for $i_1, \dots, i_4 = 1, 2, \dots, p$ and $j_1, j_2 = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then we have

$$(2.1) \quad \mathbb{E} [\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{G}] = \mathbb{E} [n \mathbf{G} + (\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\mathbf{X}})' \mathbf{G}],$$

where the superscript “ $'$ ” stands for the transpose of a matrix. In particular,

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{G})] = \mathbb{E} [n \text{Tr}(\mathbf{G}) + \text{Tr}(\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{G}')].$$

The identity (2.1) appeared in the proof of the Wishart identity for nonsingular Wishart matrix in Loh [25]. Note that the identity (2.1) involves in a differential operator related to the multivariate normal random matrix \mathbf{X} rather than an operator related to singular Wishart matrices. This is an ingredient to develop the Stein-Haff identity for singular Wishart matrices. Combining Theorem 2.1 with calculus on eigenstructures for the singular Wishart matrices in terms of the differential operator $\nabla_{\mathbf{X}}$, we give a matrix form of the Stein-Haff identity below. Another ingredient, i.e., calculus on eigenstructures for singular real Wishart matrices, is developed in Section 4.

Theorem 2.2. Assume that $n < p$ and that an $n \times p$ real matrix \mathbf{X} is distributed according to $N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}_{n \times p}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \Sigma)$ with a $p \times p$ positive-definite matrix Σ . Decompose $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{O}_1'$, where \mathbf{O}_1 is a $p \times n$ semi-orthogonal matrix such that $\mathbf{O}_1' \mathbf{O}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n$. Let $\Psi := \Psi(\mathbf{L}) =$

$\mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1(\mathbf{L}), \psi_2(\mathbf{L}), \dots, \psi_n(\mathbf{L}))$, where $\psi_k := \psi_k(\mathbf{L})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) is differentiable function from \mathbb{R}_{\geq}^n to \mathbb{R} . If the conditions stated in Theorem 2.1 for $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\ell_1^{-1}\psi_1, \dots, \ell_n^{-1}\psi_n) \mathbf{O}'_1$ are satisfied, then we have the following identity;

$$\mathbb{E} [\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{O}'_1] = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{O}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{(1r)} \mathbf{O}'_1 + \text{Tr}(\mathbf{L}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi})(\mathbf{I}_p - \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{O}'_1) \right],$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{(1r)} = \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^{(1r)}, \psi_2^{(1r)}, \dots, \psi_n^{(1r)})$ and, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\psi_k^{(1r)} = \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + 2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} - \frac{\psi_k}{\ell_k}.$$

In particular,

$$(2.2) \quad \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} \{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{O}'_1 \}] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ (p - n - 1) \frac{\psi_k}{\ell_k} + 2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} \right\} \right].$$

The identity (2.2) was given in [22] to develop an unbiased risk estimate for orthogonally invariant estimators for precision matrices of the multivariate real normal distributions in the situation where the number of samples n is less than the dimension p . Their approach to obtain the identity (2.2) is based on the arguments of Sheena [32]. It is interesting that the matrix form of the identity in Theorem 2.2 involves in the matrix \mathbf{O}_2 . Here \mathbf{O}_2 is a $p \times (p - n)$ semi-orthogonal matrix such that a $p \times p$ matrix $[\mathbf{O}_1; \mathbf{O}_2]$ is orthogonal. This part involves a certain difficulty in evaluation of risk for alternative estimators of the covariance matrix based on singular real Wishart matrices. The theorem which now follows plays an important role in derivation of an unbiased risk estimate under an invariant quadratic loss function can be obtained from an application of Theorem 2.2 and from calculus on the eigenstructures for singular Wishart matrices given in Section 4.

Theorem 2.3. *If the conditions stated in Theorem 2.1 for $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\ell_1^{-1}\psi_1, \dots, \ell_n^{-1}\psi_n) \mathbf{O}'_1 \times \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n) \mathbf{O}'_1$ are satisfied, then we have*

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1 \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1 \}] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi^{(1)} \mathbf{O}'_1 \}],$$

where $\Psi^{(1)} = \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^{(1)}, \psi_2^{(1)}, \dots, \psi_n^{(1)})$ with

$$(2.3) \quad \psi_k^{(1)} = (p - n - 1) \frac{\psi_k^2}{\ell_k} + 4\psi_k \cdot \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + 2\psi_k \cdot \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

2.2 Unbiased risk estimate for a class of invariant estimators

Consider the problem of estimating a covariance matrix Σ under a quadratic loss function

$$(2.4) \quad L(\widehat{\Sigma}, \Sigma) = \text{Tr}(\widehat{\Sigma} \Sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{I}_p)^2,$$

where $\widehat{\Sigma}$ is an estimator of Σ . This loss function was used in [12, 30]. We denote by $R(\widehat{\Sigma}, \Sigma)$ the risk function of $\widehat{\Sigma}$, i.e., the expected values of the loss function (2.4) with respect to the distributions of \mathbf{X} .

Recall that $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{O}'_1$, where $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{Diag}(\ell_1, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_n)$ and \mathbf{O}_1 is a $p \times n$ semi-orthogonal matrix such that $\mathbf{O}'_1 \mathbf{O}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n$. Our class of estimators is of the form

$$(2.5) \quad \widehat{\Sigma} = \mathbf{O}_1 \Phi(\mathbf{L}) \mathbf{O}'_1,$$

where $\Phi := \Phi(\mathbf{L}) = \mathbf{Diag}(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_n)$, and $\varphi_k := \varphi_k(\mathbf{L})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) is a differentiable function from \mathbb{R}_{\geq}^n to \mathbb{R} .

Theorem 2.4. *For the estimators of the form (2.5) that satisfies the regularity conditions stated*

in Theorems 2.2 and 2.3, we have

$$R(\widehat{\Sigma}, \Sigma) = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ (p-n-1) \left(\frac{\varphi_k^{(1)}}{\ell_k} - 2 \frac{\varphi_k}{\ell_k} \right) + 2 \left(\frac{\partial \varphi_k^{(1)}}{\partial \ell_k} - 2 \frac{\partial \varphi_k}{\partial \ell_k} \right) + \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{(\varphi_k^{(1)} - 2\varphi_k) - (\varphi_b^{(1)} - 2\varphi_b)}{\ell_k - \ell_b} \right\} + p \right],$$

where $\varphi_k^{(1)} = (p-n-1)\varphi_k^2/\ell_k + 4\varphi_k(\partial\varphi_k/\partial\ell_k) + 2\varphi_k \sum_{b \neq k}^n (\varphi_k - \varphi_b)/(\ell_k - \ell_b)$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Proof. Note that

$$(2.6) \quad \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\widehat{\Sigma}\Sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{I}_p)^2] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\widehat{\Sigma}\Sigma^{-1}\widehat{\Sigma})] - 2\mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\widehat{\Sigma})] + p.$$

We first apply Theorem 2.3 to the first term in the right hand side of (2.6) to get

$$(2.7) \quad \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\widehat{\Sigma}\Sigma^{-1}\widehat{\Sigma})] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{O}_1\Phi^{(1)}\mathbf{O}'_1)],$$

with $\Phi^{(1)} = \mathbf{Diag}(\varphi_1^{(1)}, \varphi_2^{(1)}, \dots, \varphi_n^{(1)})$. Then we apply Theorem 2.2 to the second term in the right hand side of (2.6) and the term in the right hand side of (2.7) to get the desired result. \square

2.3 Alternative estimators

Proposition 2.1. Consider the form of estimators $\widehat{\Sigma}_a = a\mathbf{S}$, where a is a positive constant.

Then the best constant is given by $a = 1/(p+n+1)$ under the loss function (2.4).

Proof. Apply Theorem 2.4 with $\varphi_k = a\ell_k$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) to get that

$$\begin{aligned} R(\widehat{\Sigma}_a, \Sigma) &= np\{(p+n+1)a^2 - 2a\} + p \\ &= np(p+n+1)\left(a - \frac{1}{p+n+1}\right)^2 + \frac{p^2+p}{p+n+1}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. \square

Proposition 2.2. Let $a = 1/(p + n + 1)$. Consider estimators of the form

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}} &= \frac{1}{p + n + 1} \mathbf{O}_1 \text{Diag}(\ell_1 + \frac{t}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+}, \ell_2 + \frac{t}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+}, \dots, \ell_n + \frac{t}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+}) \mathbf{O}'_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{p + n + 1} (\mathbf{S} + \frac{t}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{O}'_1)\end{aligned}$$

where t is a positive constant and \mathbf{S}^+ is the Moore-Penrose inverse of \mathbf{S} . Then $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}$ improves upon $\widehat{\Sigma}_a$ if $0 < t \leq 2(n - 1)(p - n - 1)/\{(p - n + 1)(p - n + 3)\}$ under the loss function (2.4).

Proof. Apply Theorem 2.4 with $\varphi_k = a(\ell_k + t/\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$). Then we have, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\varphi_k^{(1)} = a\ell_k + 2a^2\left(\frac{p}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+} + \frac{2}{\ell_k(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2}\right)t + a^2\left(\frac{p - n - 1}{\ell_k(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} + \frac{4}{\ell_k^2(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^3}\right)t^2.$$

Therefore, noting that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\ell_k^{-1} - \ell_b^{-1}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} < 0; \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\ell_k^{-2} - \ell_b^{-2}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} < 0,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}R(\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}, \Sigma) - R(\widehat{\Sigma}_a, \Sigma) &< a\mathbb{E} \left[(p - n - 1) \left\{ 2a \left(p + \frac{2\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} \right) t + a \frac{(p - n + 3)\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} t^2 - 2t \right\} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \left\{ 2a \frac{(p + 2)\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} t + a \frac{(p - n + 3)\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} t^2 - \frac{2\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} t \right\} \right].\end{aligned}$$

But the coefficients of $\{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2/(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2\}t$ is evaluated as

$$\{4a(p - n - 1) + 4a(p + 2) - 4\} \frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{S}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+)^2} t < 4a(p - n - 1)t,$$

from which it follows that

$$R(\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}, \Sigma) - R(\widehat{\Sigma}_a, \Sigma) < a^2 \{(p - n + 1)(p - n + 3)t^2 - 2(n - 1)(p - n - 1)t\}.$$

This completes the proof. □

2.4 Monte-Carlo simulations

From Proposition 2.1, it is seen that $R(\mathbf{S}/n, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = p(p+1)/n$ and $R(\mathbf{S}/(n+p+1), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = p(p+1)/(n+p+1)$. These results imply that the risk reduction of the best scalar multiple in percentage over the sample covariance matrix, $100 \times \{R(\mathbf{S}/n, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) - R(\mathbf{S}/(n+p+1), \boldsymbol{\Sigma})\} / R(\mathbf{S}/n, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ is bounded below by 50%. Hence this leads to the fact that alternative estimators which improves upon the best scalar multiple reduce the risk more than 50% compared to that of the sample covariance matrix \mathbf{S}/n .

We carry out simulations for real case to investigate the performance of alternative estimators numerically. From Proposition 2.2 we consider an estimator

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}} = \frac{1}{p+n+1} \left(\mathbf{S} + \frac{t_0}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{O}_1' \right), \quad \text{with} \quad t_0 = \frac{2(n-1)(p+n+1)}{(p-n+1)(p-n+3)}.$$

We also include an estimator

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}^* = \frac{1}{p+n+1} \left(\mathbf{S} + \frac{t_0}{\text{Tr } \mathbf{S}^+} \mathbf{I}_p \right).$$

This estimator is a modification of $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}$. It is not clear whether $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}^*$ improves upon $\mathbf{S}/(n+p+1)$ or not although it is nonsingular. We report the percentage relative improvement in average loss of $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{Ha}}$ and $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{Ha}}^*$ over $\mathbf{S}/(n+p+1)$, the best estimator of $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ having the form $c\mathbf{S}$ with a positive constant c , defined as

$$\text{PRIAL}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}) = \frac{\text{average loss of } \mathbf{S}/(n+p+1) - \text{average loss of } \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}}{\text{average loss of } \mathbf{S}/(n+p+1)}$$

for $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}$ or $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}^*$. Without loss of generality we can assume that the true covariance matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is diagonal.

When the parameters are fixed at $n/p = 1/2$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \mathbf{I}_p$, we get the result in Table 1. When we increase p from 10 to 100, the PRIAL's of $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}^*$ decrease from 7% to 2%. The estimator

$\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}$ is slightly better than $\mathbf{S}/(n + p + 1)$.

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 Insert Table 1 here.
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When we increase n/p for fixed p and $\Sigma = \mathbf{I}_p$, we get the result in Table 2. When we increase n/p from 1/5 to 4/5 for $p = 20$ and $p = 100$, the PRIAL's of $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}^*$ decrease and the PRIAL's of $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}$ increase slightly.

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Finally we investigate the effect of the dispersion of eigenvalues of the true covariance matrix Σ . Its eigenvalues are drawn according to a log-normal distributions. Their grand mean of eigenvalues is set to almost one. Following the argument in [23], we can see that the improvement of the optimal linear shrinkage $\Sigma^* = \rho_1 \mathbf{S} + \rho_2 \mathbf{I}_p$ with $\rho_1 > 0$ and $\rho_2 > 0$ is controlled by $\alpha/\{(p+1)/n\}$ with $\alpha = \{p - (\text{Tr } \Sigma^{-1})^2/\text{Tr } \Sigma^{-2}\}/p$. We record the values of α for each set of the eigenvalues of the true covariance matrix. Note that $\alpha = 0$ when $\Sigma = \mathbf{I}_p$. Since the PRIAL's of $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}$ vary slightly as α varies, we only report the result of the PRIAL's of $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}^*$. For $(p, n) = (20, 4), (20, 8), (20, 12), (20, 16)$, we repeat the experiment 50 times and plot the values of PRIAL for $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}^*$ and values of α . We can see that the PRIAL of $\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}^*$ increase as the values of α increase from 0 to 3 and that the correlation between α and PRIAL is more than 0.85.

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3 Complex case

Consider an $n \times p$ complex random matrix \mathbf{Z} whose density function with respect to Lebesgue measure on $\mathbb{C}^{n \times p}$ is given by

$$f_{\mathbf{Z}}(\mathbf{z}) = \pi^{-np} \text{Det}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma})^{-n} \exp\{-\text{Tr}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{z}^* \mathbf{z})\}, \quad \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times p},$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is a $p \times p$ positive-definite Hermitian matrix. This is denoted by $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathbb{C}N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$. See [1, 8, 18, 35] for multivariate complex normal distributions. Set $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z}$. Then the distribution of a $p \times p$ complex random matrix \mathbf{W} is called a complex Wishart distribution with parameters $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$, p , and n . This is denoted by $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{W}) = \mathbb{C}W_p(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}, n)$. The integers p and n are called the dimension and the degrees of freedom, respectively. The complex Wishart distributions were first explored by Goodman [8] and followed by [1, 9, 18, 33]. This model plays important roles in signal processing methods[17, 28, 41]. If $n < p$, then we call \mathbf{W} a singular complex Wishart matrix, as the matrix \mathbf{W} is singular. See Ratnaraja and Vaillancourt [31] for the density function of singular complex Wishart distribution with respect to Lebesgue measure on the set of $n \times p$ complex matrices $\mathbb{C}^{n \times p}$.

3.1 The Stein-Haff identities and calculus on eigenstructure for singular complex Wishart matrices

To describe integration by parts formula for the complex Wishart matrices, we introduce notion of a complex-valued function of complex variables. Recall that, for a complex number $z \in \mathbb{C}$,

we write $z = \operatorname{Re} z + \sqrt{-1}\operatorname{Im} z$, where $\operatorname{Re} z$ and $\operatorname{Im} z$ are real numbers, and that we denote by \bar{z} the complex conjugate of a complex number z , i.e., $\bar{z} = \operatorname{Re} z - \sqrt{-1}\operatorname{Im} z$. A continuous function $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called differentiable on \mathbb{C} if $\partial f / \partial(\operatorname{Re} z)$ and $\partial f / \partial(\operatorname{Im} z)$ exist on \mathbb{C} . A function $f = u + \sqrt{-1}v$, where $u, v : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is called differentiable if both u and v are differentiable.

We define

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Re} z)} - \sqrt{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Im} z)} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Re} z)} + \sqrt{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Im} z)} \right).$$

For a differentiable function $f = u + \sqrt{-1}v : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, we set

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial(\operatorname{Re} z)} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial(\operatorname{Im} z)} \right) + \frac{\sqrt{-1}}{2} \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial(\operatorname{Re} z)} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial(\operatorname{Im} z)} \right).$$

For an $n \times p$ complex matrix $\mathbf{Z} = (z_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$, we define an $n \times p$ matrix operator $\nabla_{\mathbf{Z}}$ as

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{Z}} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_{ij}} \right)_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Re} z_{ij})} - \frac{\sqrt{-1}}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Im} z_{ij})} \right)_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}.$$

For a $p \times q$ matrix $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,q}}$, whose (i, j) element a_{ij} is a differentiable function from $\mathbb{C}^{n \times p}$ to \mathbb{C} , we define the (i, j) element of a matrix $\nabla_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{A}$ by

$$(\nabla_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{A})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{\partial a_{kj}}{\partial z_{ik}} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n; j = 1, 2, \dots, q.$$

Theorem 3.1. *Let \mathbf{Z} be an $n \times p$ complex matrix with $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathbb{C}N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \Sigma)$, where Σ is a $p \times p$ positive-definite Hermitian matrix. Assume that, for a $p \times p$ complex random matrix $\mathbf{G} := \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{W}) = (g_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$, the (i, j) element g_{ij} is a differentiable function of \mathbf{Z} through $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z}$ and satisfies the following conditions;*

$$\mathbb{E} [|z_{j_1 i_1}^2 g_{i_2 i_3}|] < \infty, \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\left| z_{j_1 i_1} \frac{\partial g_{i_2 i_3}}{\partial z_{j_2 i_4}} \right| \right] < \infty$$

for $i_1, \dots, i_4 = 1, 2, \dots, p$; $j_1, j_2 = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then we have

$$(3.1) \quad \mathbb{E} [\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{G}] = \mathbb{E} [n \mathbf{G} + (\mathbf{Z}' \nabla_{\mathbf{Z}})' \mathbf{G}],$$

where “ ’ ” stands for the transpose of a matrix. In particular,

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{G})] = \mathbb{E} [n \text{Tr} (\mathbf{G}) + \text{Tr} (\mathbf{Z}' \nabla_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{G}')].$$

Remark 3.1. Assume that $n \geq p$. Hence \mathbf{W} is invertible with probability one. Let

$$D_{\mathbf{W}} = \left\{ \frac{1 + \delta_{ij}}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial(\text{Re } w_{ij})} + (1 - \delta_{ij}) \sqrt{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\text{Im } w_{ij})} \right) \right\}_{\substack{i=1, 2, \dots, p \\ j=1, 2, \dots, p}}.$$

Note that the operator above is slightly different from that in Svensson [39] so that the expressions below are changed correspondingly [see also [21]]. From (3.1) and the fact that $\nabla_{\mathbf{Z}} = \overline{\mathbf{Z}} D_{\mathbf{W}}$ and that $\text{Tr} \{D_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{G}\} = p \text{Tr} (\mathbf{G}) + \text{Tr} (\overline{\mathbf{W}} D_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{G}')$, we can see that

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{G})] = \mathbb{E} [(n - p) \text{Tr} (\mathbf{G}) + \text{Tr} \{D_{\mathbf{W}} (\mathbf{W} \mathbf{G})\}].$$

Replacing \mathbf{G} with $\mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{G}$, we obtain that

$$(3.2) \quad \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} (\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{G})] = \mathbb{E} [(n - p) \text{Tr} (\mathbf{G} \mathbf{W}^{-1}) + \text{Tr} (D_{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{G})],$$

which was obtained by Svensson [39].

For integers n, p such that $p > n \geq 1$, we denote by $\mathbb{C}V_{p,n}$ the set of all $p \times n$ semi-unitary matrices \mathbf{U}_1 such that $\mathbf{U}_1^* \mathbf{U}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n$, i.e., $\mathbb{C}V_{p,n} = \{\mathbf{U}_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times n}; \mathbf{U}_1^* \mathbf{U}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n\}$. Next theorem gives the Stein-Haff identity in a matrix form. Its proof is a combination of an application of Theorem 3.1 with calculus on the eigenstructure related to the singular real Wishart matrices given in Section 4.

Theorem 3.2. Assume that $n < p$ and that $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Z}) = \mathbb{C}N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$, where $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is a $p \times p$ positive-definite Hermitian matrix. Decompose $\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U}_1^*$, where \mathbf{U}_1 is a $p \times n$ semi-unitary matrix such that $\mathbf{U}_1^* \mathbf{U}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n$. Let $\boldsymbol{\Psi} := \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\mathbf{L}) = \text{Diag}(\psi_1(\mathbf{L}), \psi_2(\mathbf{L}), \dots, \psi_n(\mathbf{L}))$,

where $\psi_k := \psi_k(\mathbf{L})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) is differentiable function from \mathbb{R}_{\geq}^n to \mathbb{R} . If the conditions stated in Theorem 3.1 for $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\ell_1^{-1} \psi_1, \dots, \ell_n^{-1} \psi_n) \mathbf{U}_1^*$ are satisfied, then we have the following identity;

$$\mathbb{E} [\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{U}_1^*] = \mathbb{E} \left[\mathbf{U}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{(1c)} \mathbf{U}_1^* + \text{Tr}(\mathbf{L}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi})(\mathbf{I}_p - \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{U}_1^*) \right],$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{(1c)} = \text{Diag}(\psi_1^{(1c)}, \psi_2^{(1c)}, \dots, \psi_n^{(1c)})$ and, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\psi_k^{(1c)} = \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k}.$$

In particular,

$$(3.3) \quad \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} \{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{U}_1^* \}] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ (p-n) \frac{\psi_k}{\ell_k} + \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} \right\} \right].$$

Remark 3.2. Combining Theorem 3.2 with the result obtained by Svensson [39][see also [21, 40]], we can see that, under suitable conditions,

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} \{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{U}_1^* \}] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^{\min(n,p)} \left\{ |p-n| \frac{\psi_k}{\ell_k} + \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + \sum_{b \neq k}^{\min(n,p)} \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} \right\} \right],$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Psi} = \text{Diag}(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_{\min(n,p)})$. Here we decompose $\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z}$ as $\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U}_1^*$, where $\mathbf{L} = \text{Diag}(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_{\min(n,p)})$, \mathbf{U}_1 belongs to $\mathbb{C}V_{n,p}$ if $p > n$, and \mathbf{U}_1 is a $p \times p$ unitary matrix if $n > p$.

Next theorem is a complex analog of Theorem 2.3.

Theorem 3.3. If the conditions stated in Theorem 3.1 for $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\ell_1^{-1} \psi_1, \dots, \ell_n^{-1} \psi_n) \mathbf{U}_1^* \times \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1, \dots, \psi_n) \mathbf{U}_1^*$ are satisfied, then we have

$$\mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} \{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \boldsymbol{\Psi} \mathbf{U}_1^* \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}^{(1)} \mathbf{U}_1^* \}] = \mathbb{E} [\text{Tr} \{ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Psi}}^{(1)} \mathbf{U}_1^* \}],$$

where $\tilde{\Psi}^{(1)} = \mathbf{Diag}(\tilde{\psi}_1^{(1)}, \tilde{\psi}_2^{(1)}, \dots, \tilde{\psi}_n^{(1)})$ with

$$(3.4) \quad \tilde{\psi}_k^{(1)} = (p-n)\frac{\psi_k^2}{\ell_k} + 2\psi_k \cdot \frac{\partial\psi_k}{\partial\ell_k} + 2\psi_k \cdot \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

3.2 Unbiased risk estimate for a class of invariant estimators

Consider the problem of estimating a covariance matrix Σ under the loss function (2.4), where $\hat{\Sigma}$ is an estimator of Σ based on \mathbf{W} . We denote by $R(\hat{\Sigma}, \Sigma)$ the risk function of $\hat{\Sigma}$, i.e., the expected values of the loss function (2.4) with respect to the distribution of \mathbf{Z} .

Recall that $\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U}_1^*$, where $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{Diag}(\ell_1, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_n)$ and \mathbf{U}_1 is a $p \times n$ semi-unitary matrix such that $\mathbf{U}_1^* \mathbf{U}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n$. Our class of estimators are of the form

$$(3.5) \quad \hat{\Sigma} = \mathbf{U}_1 \Phi(\mathbf{L}) \mathbf{U}_1^*,$$

where $\Phi := \Phi(\mathbf{L}) = \mathbf{Diag}(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_n)$ and $\varphi_k := \varphi_k(\mathbf{L})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) is a differentiable function from \mathbb{R}_{\geq}^n to \mathbb{R} .

Theorem 3.4. *For the estimators of the form (3.5) that satisfies the regularity conditions stated in Theorems 3.2 and 3.3, we have*

$$R(\hat{\Sigma}, \Sigma) = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^n \left\{ (p-n) \left(\frac{\tilde{\varphi}_k^{(1)}}{\ell_k} - 2 \frac{\varphi_k}{\ell_k} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial \tilde{\varphi}_k^{(1)}}{\partial \ell_k} - 2 \frac{\partial \varphi_k}{\partial \ell_k} \right) + \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{(\tilde{\varphi}_k^{(1)} - 2\varphi_k) - (\tilde{\varphi}_b^{(1)} - 2\varphi_b)}{\ell_k - \ell_b} \right\} + p \right],$$

where $\tilde{\varphi}_k^{(1)} = (p-n)\varphi_k^2/\ell_k + 2\varphi_k(\partial\varphi_k/\partial\ell_k) + 2\varphi_k \sum_{b \neq k}^n (\varphi_k - \varphi_b)/(\ell_k - \ell_b)$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Proof. Note that

$$(3.6) \quad \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\hat{\Sigma} \Sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{I}_p)^2] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} \Sigma^{-1} \hat{\Sigma})] - 2\mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1} \hat{\Sigma})] + p.$$

We first apply Theorem 3.3 to the first term in the right hand side of (3.6) to get

$$(3.7) \quad \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}})] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathbf{U}_1\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Phi}}^{(1)}\mathbf{U}_1^*)],$$

where $\widetilde{\boldsymbol{\Phi}}^{(1)} = \mathbf{Diag}(\widetilde{\varphi}_1^{(1)}, \widetilde{\varphi}_2^{(1)}, \dots, \widetilde{\varphi}_n^{(1)})$. Then apply Theorem 3.2 to the second term in the right hand side of (3.6) and the term in the right hand side of (3.7) to get the desired result. \square

3.3 Alternative estimators

Proposition 3.1. *Consider the form of estimators $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_a = a\mathbf{W}$, where a is a positive constant.*

Then the best constant is given by $a = 1/(p+n)$ under the loss function (2.4).

Proof. Apply Theorem 3.4 with $\varphi_k = a\ell_k$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) to get that

$$\begin{aligned} R(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_a, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) &= np\{(p+n)a^2 - 2a\} + p \\ &= np(p+n)\left(a - \frac{1}{p+n}\right)^2 + \frac{p^2}{p+n}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. \square

Proposition 3.2. *Put $a = 1/(p+n)$ and consider estimators of the form*

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}} &= \frac{1}{p+n}\mathbf{U}_1\mathbf{Diag}\left(\ell_1 + \frac{t}{\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+}, \ell_2 + \frac{t}{\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+}, \dots, \ell_n + \frac{t}{\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+}\right)\mathbf{U}_1^* \\ &= \frac{1}{p+n}\left(\mathbf{W} + \frac{t}{\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+}\mathbf{U}_1\mathbf{U}_1^*\right) \end{aligned}$$

where t is a positive constant and \mathbf{W}^+ is the Moore-Penrose inverse of \mathbf{W} . Then $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{\text{HF}}$ improves upon $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_a$ if $0 < t \leq 2(n-1)(p-n)/\{(p-n+1)(p-n+2)\}$ under the loss function (2.4).

Proof. Apply Theorem 3.4 with $\varphi_k = a(\ell_k + t/\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$). Then we have, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\varphi_k^{(1)} = a\ell_k + 2a^2\left(\frac{p}{\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+} + \frac{1}{\ell_k(\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+)^2}\right)t + a^2\left(\frac{p-n}{\ell_k(\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+)^2} + \frac{2}{\ell_k^2(\text{Tr}\mathbf{W}^+)^3}\right)t^2.$$

After a calculation similar to that in the proof of Proposition 2.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& R(\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}, \Sigma) - R(\widehat{\Sigma}_a, \Sigma) \\
& < a \mathbb{E} \left[(p-n) \left\{ 2a \left(p + \frac{2 \text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2} \right) t + a \frac{(p-n+2) \text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2} t^2 - 2t \right\} \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \left\{ 2a \frac{(p+1) \text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2} t + a \frac{(p-n+2) \text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2} t^2 - \frac{2 \text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2} t \right\} \right].
\end{aligned}$$

But the coefficients of $\{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2/(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2\}t$ is evaluated as

$$\{2a(p-n) + 2a(p+1) - 2\} \frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{W}^+)^2}{(\text{Tr} \mathbf{W}^+)^2} t < 2a(p-n)t,$$

from which it follows that

$$R(\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}, \Sigma) - R(\widehat{\Sigma}_a, \Sigma) < a^2 \{(p-n+1)(p-n+2)t^2 - 2(n-1)(p-n-1)t\}.$$

This completes the proof. □

4 Proofs

4.1 Proof of Theorem 2.1

Write $\Sigma = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}'$, where \mathbf{A} is a $p \times p$ nonsingular matrix, and put $\widetilde{\mathbf{X}} = (\tilde{x}_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{A}')^{-1}$.

Then $\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}$ is distributed according to $N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_p)$. Furthermore, put $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{A}'\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{A}')^{-1} = (h_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$. We regard h_{ij} as a differentiable real-valued functions of $\widetilde{\mathbf{X}}$. Define $\widetilde{\mathbf{S}} = (\tilde{s}_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \widetilde{\mathbf{X}}' \widetilde{\mathbf{X}}$. So $\widetilde{\mathbf{S}} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{S} (\mathbf{A}')^{-1}$. Now recall an integration-by-parts formula on the standard normal distribution, i.e.,

$$(4.1) \quad \mathbb{E} [\tilde{x}_{ki} \tilde{x}_{kj} h_{j\ell}] = \mathbb{E} \left[\delta_{ij} h_{j\ell} + \tilde{x}_{kj} \cdot \frac{\partial h_{j\ell}}{\partial \tilde{x}_{ki}} \right],$$

where $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$; $j, \ell = 1, 2, \dots, p$; and δ_{ij} is Kronecker's delta, i.e., $\delta_{ij} = 1$ if $i = j$, and $\delta_{ij} = 0$ if $i \neq j$ for integers i, j . Summing both sides of (4.1) over j from 1 to p and over k from 1 to n , we obtain

$$(4.2) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{j=1}^p \tilde{s}_{ij} h_{jl} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[n h_{il} + \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{x}_{kj} \cdot \frac{\partial h_{jl}}{\partial \tilde{x}_{ki}} \right].$$

Thus we get

$$(4.3) \quad \mathbb{E} [\tilde{\mathbf{S}}\mathbf{H}] = \mathbb{E} \left[n\mathbf{H} + (\tilde{\mathbf{X}}' \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}})' \mathbf{H} \right].$$

Finally, by the definition of \mathbf{H} , we have $\mathbb{E} [\tilde{\mathbf{S}}\mathbf{H}] = \mathbb{E} [\mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{A}')^{-1}]$ while, since $\nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}} = \nabla_{\mathbf{X}} \mathbf{A}$, we have $\mathbb{E} [(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}' \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{X}}})' \mathbf{H}] = \mathbb{E} [\mathbf{A}' (\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\mathbf{X}})' \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{A}')^{-1}]$. Putting these two equations into (4.3) and multiplying by $(\mathbf{A}')^{-1}$ from the left and by \mathbf{A}' from the right, we get $\mathbb{E} [(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}')^{-1} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{G}] = \mathbb{E} [n\mathbf{G} + (\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\mathbf{X}})' \mathbf{G}]$, which completes the proof of (2.1). \square

4.2 Proof of Theorem 2.2

To prove Theorem 2.2, we need the following lemma of the independent interest, which states the partial derivatives of the eigenvalues and the elements of eigenvectors of the singular real Wishart matrix $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$ with respect to the elements of the matrix \mathbf{X} . For full-rank real Wishart matrices, partial derivatives which play a similar role to those in the next lemma appeared in Stein [37].

In the rest of the paper, we denote by $\{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}\}_{ij}$ the (i, j) element of product of matrices \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} .

Lemma 4.1. *Assume that $p > n$. Let $\mathbf{X} = (x_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$ and decompose a $p \times p$ matrix $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}$ as $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{O}_1'$, where $\mathbf{O}_1 \in V_{p,n} = \{\mathbf{O}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times n}; \mathbf{O}_1' \mathbf{O}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n\}$ and $\mathbf{L} =$*

Diag $(\ell_1, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_n)$ is an $n \times n$ diagonal matrix with $\ell_1 \geq \ell_2 \geq \dots \geq \ell_n > 0$. Furthermore, let

$\mathbf{O}_2 = (o_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=n+1,2,\dots,p}} \in V_{p,p-n}$ be a $p \times (p-n)$ semi-orthogonal matrix such that $\mathbf{O} = [\mathbf{O}_1; \mathbf{O}_2]$

is a $p \times p$ orthogonal matrix. If $\ell_1 > \ell_2 > \dots > \ell_n > 0$, then we have, for $i, k, m = 1, 2, \dots, n$

and $a, j = 1, 2, \dots, p$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ell_m}{\partial x_{ij}} &= 2 \sum_{c_1=1}^p o_{c_1 m} x_{i c_1} o_{j m}; \\ \frac{\partial o_{ak}}{\partial x_{ij}} &= \sum_{b \neq k}^n \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{o_{ab} \{o_{j b} o_{c_1 k} + o_{c_1 b} o_{j k}\} x_{i c_1}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \sum_{b=n+1}^p \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{o_{ab} \{o_{j b} o_{c_1 k} + o_{c_1 b} o_{j k}\} x_{i c_1}}{\ell_k}, \end{aligned}$$

for $a \neq k$, and $\partial o_{kk} / \partial x_{ij} = 0$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Proof. Taking differentials of

$$\mathbf{X}' \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{0}_{n \times (p-n)} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(p-n) \times n} & \mathbf{0}_{(p-n) \times (p-n)} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{O}' = [\mathbf{O}_1; \mathbf{O}_2] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{O}'_1 \\ \mathbf{O}'_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

and using the fact that $\mathbf{O}'(d\mathbf{O}) + (d\mathbf{O}')\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{0}_{p \times p}$, we have, for $a, k, m = 1, 2, \dots, n$ such that

$a \neq k$,

$$(4.4) \quad \{\mathbf{O}'_1(d\mathbf{O}_1)\}_{ak} = \frac{1}{\ell_k - \ell_a} \{\mathbf{O}'_1((d\mathbf{X}')\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}'(d\mathbf{X}))\mathbf{O}_1\}_{ak};$$

$$(4.5) \quad (d\mathbf{L})_{mm} = \{\mathbf{O}'_1((d\mathbf{X}')\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}'(d\mathbf{X}))\mathbf{O}_1\}_{mm};$$

and, for $a = n+1, 2, \dots, p$ and $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$(4.6) \quad \{\mathbf{O}'_2(d\mathbf{O}_1)\}_{ak} = \frac{1}{\ell_k} \{\mathbf{O}'_2((d\mathbf{X}')\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{X}'(d\mathbf{X}))\mathbf{O}_1\}_{ak}.$$

The equation (4.6) is an essential part for singular matrix case. Using (4.5) and the fact that dx_{ij} is the dual basis of $\partial/\partial dx_{ij}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$, we can complete the first part of the lemma. Next Using (4.4) and (4.6), we get that, for $i, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and

$a, j = 1, 2, \dots, p,$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial o_{ak}}{\partial x_{ij}} &= \sum_{b=1}^n o_{ab} \{ \mathbf{O}'_1(d\mathbf{O}_1) \}_{bk} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}} \right) + \sum_{b=n+1}^p o_{ab} \{ \mathbf{O}'_2(d\mathbf{O}_1) \}_{bk} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{ij}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{b \neq k}^n \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{o_{ab} o_{jb} o_{c_1 k} x_{ic_1}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \sum_{b \neq k}^n \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{o_{ab} o_{c_1 b} o_{jk} x_{ic_1}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \sum_{b=n+1}^p \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{o_{ab} o_{jb} o_{c_1 k} x_{ic_1}}{\ell_k} \\ &\quad + \sum_{b=n+1}^p \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{o_{ab} o_{c_1 b} o_{jk} x_{ic_1}}{\ell_k}, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of the lemma. \square

Proof of Theorem 2.2. We adapt the notation in Theorem 2.1 and Lemma 4.1. Apply Theorem 2.1 with $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1$ to get

$$(4.7) \quad \mathbb{E} [\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1] = \mathbb{E} [n \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1 + \{ (\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\mathbf{X}})' \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1 \}].$$

Applying Lemma 4.1 to the second term inside the right expectation, we can obtain that

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \{ (\mathbf{X}' \nabla_{\mathbf{X}})' \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1 \}_{ij} &= \sum_{c_3=1}^n o_{ic_3} o_{jc_3} \left\{ 2\ell_{c_3} \frac{\partial \psi_{c_3}}{\partial \ell_{c_3}} + \sum_{b \neq c_3}^n \frac{\ell_b \psi_{c_3} - \ell_b \psi_b}{\ell_{c_3} - \ell_b} \right\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{b=n+1}^p o_{ib} o_{jb} \sum_{c_3=1}^n \psi_{c_3}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting (4.8) into (4.7), we get that

$$\mathbb{E} [\{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{O}_1 \Psi \mathbf{O}'_1 \}_{ij}] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{k=1}^n o_{ik} o_{jk} \left\{ n \psi_k + 2\ell_k \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\ell_b \psi_k - \ell_b \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} \right\} + \sum_{b=n+1}^p o_{ib} o_{jb} \sum_{k=1}^n \psi_k \right].$$

Finally, changing ψ_k into $\ell_k^{-1} \psi_k$, noting that $\mathbf{O}_2 \mathbf{O}'_2 = \mathbf{I}_p - \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{O}'_1$ and that

$$(4.9) \quad \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\ell_b \ell_k^{-1} \psi_k - \ell_b \ell_b^{-1} \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} = \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} - (n-1) \frac{\psi_k}{\ell_k},$$

we can complete the proof of this theorem. \square

4.3 Proof of Theorem 2.3

Write

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F} &= (f_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}\left(\frac{\psi_1}{\ell_1}, \frac{\psi_2}{\ell_2}, \dots, \frac{\psi_n}{\ell_n}\right) \mathbf{O}'_1; \\ \tilde{\mathbf{F}} &= (\tilde{f}_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n) \mathbf{O}'_1.\end{aligned}$$

First apply Theorem 2.1 with $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{F}\Sigma^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{F}}$ to get that

$$(4.10) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{F}}\Sigma^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\text{Tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{F}\Sigma^{-1}\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \right] =: \mathbb{E}[n\Delta_1 + \Delta_2],$$

where $\Delta_1 = \text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^2/\ell_1, \psi_2^2/\ell_2, \dots, \psi_n^2/\ell_n) \mathbf{O}'_1 \}$ and $\Delta_2 = \text{Tr} \{ (\mathbf{X}'\nabla_{\mathbf{X}})' \mathbf{F} \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} \}$.

We evaluate the expectation of Δ_2 in (4.10). Since \mathbf{F} , $\tilde{\mathbf{F}}$, and $\Sigma^{-1} = (\sigma^{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$ are symmetric matrices, we see that the expectation of Δ_2 is given by

$$(4.11) \quad \mathbb{E}[\Delta_2] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{c_3, c_4, i=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} f_{c_4 i} T_{ic_3}^{(1)} + \sum_{c_3, c_4=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} T_{c_4 c_3}^{(2)} \right],$$

where, for $i, c_3, c_4 = 1, 2, \dots, p$,

$$T_{ic_3}^{(1)} = \sum_{c_1=1}^n \sum_{c_2=1}^p x_{c_1 i} \frac{\partial \tilde{f}_{c_2 c_3}}{\partial x_{c_1 c_2}}; \quad \text{and} \quad T_{c_4 c_3}^{(2)} = \sum_{c_1=1}^n \sum_{c_2, i=1}^p x_{c_1 i} \tilde{f}_{c_2 c_3} \frac{\partial f_{c_4 i}}{\partial x_{c_1 c_2}}.$$

Next, using Lemma 4.1, we evaluate $T_{ic_3}^{(1)}$ and $T_{c_4 c_3}^{(2)}$, respectively. To evaluate $T_{ic_3}^{(1)}$, recall that

$\tilde{\mathbf{F}} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n) \mathbf{O}'_1$. Then we have

$$(4.12) \quad \begin{aligned}T_{ic_3}^{(1)} &= \sum_{c_1, c_5=1}^n \sum_{c_2=1}^p x_{c_1 i} \psi_{c_5} o_{c_3 c_5} \frac{\partial o_{c_2 c_5}}{\partial x_{c_1 c_2}} + \sum_{c_1, c_5=1}^n \sum_{c_2=1}^p x_{c_1 i} \psi_{c_5} o_{c_2 c_5} \frac{\partial o_{c_3 c_5}}{\partial x_{c_1 c_2}} \\ &+ \sum_{c_1, c_5, m=1}^n \sum_{c_2=1}^p x_{c_1 i} o_{c_2 c_5} o_{c_3 c_5} \frac{\partial \psi_{c_5}}{\partial \ell_m} \cdot \frac{\partial \ell_m}{\partial x_{c_1 c_2}} =: T_{ic_3}^{(11)} + T_{ic_3}^{(12)} + T_{ic_3}^{(13)}.\end{aligned}$$

Applying Lemma 4.1 and using the fact that $\mathbf{O}'_1 \mathbf{O}_1 = \mathbf{I}_n$ and that $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{O}'_1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}(T_{ic_3}^{(11)})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ c_3=1,2,\dots,p}} &= \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag} \left(\sum_{b \neq 1} \frac{\ell_1 \psi_1}{\ell_1 - \ell_b}, \sum_{b \neq 2} \frac{\ell_2 \psi_2}{\ell_2 - \ell_b}, \dots, \sum_{b \neq n} \frac{\ell_n \psi_n}{\ell_n - \ell_b} \right) \mathbf{O}'_1 \\ &+ (p-n) \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n) \mathbf{O}'_1.\end{aligned}$$

Similarly we use Lemma 4.1 and the fact that $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}\mathbf{O}'_2\mathbf{O}_2 = \mathbf{0}_{p \times (p-n)}$ to get

$$\begin{aligned} (T_{ic_3}^{(12)})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ c_3=1,2,\dots,p}} &= \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag} \left(\sum_{b \neq 1} \frac{\ell_1 \psi_b}{\ell_b - \ell_1}, \sum_{b \neq 2} \frac{\ell_2 \psi_b}{\ell_b - \ell_2}, \dots, \sum_{b \neq n} \frac{\ell_n \psi_b}{\ell_b - \ell_n} \right) \mathbf{O}'_1; \\ (T_{ic_3}^{(13)})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ c_3=1,2,\dots,p}} &= \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag} \left(2\ell_1 \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial \ell_1}, 2\ell_2 \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial \ell_2}, \dots, 2\ell_n \frac{\partial \psi_n}{\partial \ell_n} \right) \mathbf{O}'_1. \end{aligned}$$

Putting these three expressions into (4.12), we get that

$$(4.13) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{c_3, c_4, i=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} f_{c_4 i} T_{ic_3}^{(1)} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\text{Tr} \left\{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^{(1a)}, \psi_2^{(1a)}, \dots, \psi_n^{(1a)}) \mathbf{O}'_1 \right\} \right],$$

where, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\psi_k^{(1a)} = \psi_k \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + 2\psi_k \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + (p-n) \frac{\psi_k^2}{\ell_k}.$$

Similarly, we can see that the second term in the right hand side of (4.11) is given by

$$(4.14) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{c_3, c_4=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} T_{c_4 c_3}^{(2)} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\text{Tr} \left\{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^{(1b)}, \psi_2^{(1b)}, \dots, \psi_n^{(1b)}) \mathbf{O}'_1 \right\} \right],$$

where, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\psi_k^{(1b)} = -(n+1) \frac{\psi_k^2}{\ell_k} + 2\psi_k \cdot \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + \psi_k \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b}.$$

Putting (4.13) and (4.14) into (4.11), we see that the expectation of $n\Delta_1 + \Delta_2$ is given by

$$\mathbb{E}[n\Delta_1 + \Delta_2] = \mathbb{E} \left[\text{Tr} \left\{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{O}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^{(1)}, \psi_2^{(1)}, \dots, \psi_n^{(1)}) \mathbf{O}'_1 \right\} \right],$$

where the $\psi_k^{(1)}$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n$) is given by (2.3). This completes the proof of this theorem. \square

4.4 Proof of Theorem 3.1

The proof is essentially the same as for Theorem 2.1. Write $\Sigma = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^*$, where \mathbf{A} is a $p \times p$ nonsingular complex matrix, and put $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}} = (\tilde{z}_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{Z}(\mathbf{A}^*)^{-1}$. Then $\mathcal{L}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}) =$

$\mathbb{C}N_{n \times p}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_n \otimes \mathbf{I}_p)$. Furthermore, put $\mathbf{H} = (h_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{A}^* \mathbf{G} (\mathbf{A}^*)^{-1}$. We regard h_{ij} as a differentiable functions of $\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$. Define $\tilde{\mathbf{W}} = \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}}$. Since

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Re} \tilde{z}_{ij})} \exp\left(-\operatorname{Tr}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}})\right) = -(\operatorname{Re} \tilde{z}_{ij}) \exp\left(-\operatorname{Tr}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}})\right)$$

and

$$-\frac{\sqrt{-1}}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial(\operatorname{Im} \tilde{z}_{ij})} \exp\left(-\operatorname{Tr}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}})\right) = \sqrt{-1}(\operatorname{Im} \tilde{z}_{ij}) \exp\left(-\operatorname{Tr}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}})\right)$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$, we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{z}_{ij}} \exp\left(-\operatorname{Tr}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}})\right) = -\overline{\tilde{z}_{ij}} \exp\left(-\operatorname{Tr}(\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}^* \tilde{\mathbf{Z}})\right),$$

from which it follows that

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{j=1}^p \tilde{w}_{ij} h_{jl} \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[n h_{il} + \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{z}_{kj} \cdot \frac{\partial h_{jl}}{\partial \tilde{z}_{ki}} \right].$$

From this formula, we can see that the analogue of the formulas (4.2) and (4.3) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{j=1}^p \tilde{w}_{ij} h_{jl} \right] &= \mathbb{E} \left[n h_{il} + \sum_{j=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{z}_{kj} \cdot \frac{\partial h_{jl}}{\partial \tilde{z}_{ki}} \right]; \\ \mathbb{E} [\tilde{\mathbf{W}} \mathbf{H}] &= \mathbb{E} \left[n \mathbf{H} + (\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}' \nabla_{\tilde{\mathbf{Z}}})' \mathbf{H} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

for $j, \ell = 1, 2, \dots, p$, The rest of the proof proceeds in the same manner as for Theorem 2.1.

□

4.5 Proof of Theorem 3.2

To prove Theorem 3.2, we need the following lemma of the independent interest, which states the partial derivatives of the eigenvalues and the elements of eigenvectors of the singular complex Wishart matrix $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z}$ with respect to the elements of the matrix \mathbf{Z} . For full-rank complex

Wishart matrices, partial derivatives which play a similar role to those in the next lemma appear in [21, 39].

Lemma 4.2. *Assume that $p > n$. Let $\mathbf{Z} = (z_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,n \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$ and decompose a $p \times p$ matrix $\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z}$ as $\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U}_1^*$, where $\mathbf{U}_1 \in \mathbb{C}V_{p,n}$ and $\mathbf{L} = \text{Diag}(\ell_1, \ell_2, \dots, \ell_n)$ is an $n \times n$ diagonal matrix with $\ell_1 \geq \ell_2 \geq \dots \geq \ell_n > 0$. Furthermore, let $\mathbf{U}_2 = (u_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=n+1,2,\dots,p}} \in \mathbb{C}V_{p,p-n}$ be a $p \times (p-n)$ semi-unitary matrix such that $\mathbf{U} = [\mathbf{U}_1; \mathbf{U}_2]$ is a $p \times p$ unitary matrix. If $\ell_1 > \ell_2 > \dots > \ell_n > 0$, then we have, for $i, k, m = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $a, j = 1, 2, \dots, p$,*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ell_m}{\partial z_{ij}} &= \sum_{c_1=1}^p \bar{u}_{c_1 m} \bar{z}_{i c_1} u_{j m}; \\ \frac{\partial u_{ak}}{\partial z_{ij}} &= \sum_{b \neq k}^n \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{u_{ab} \bar{u}_{c_1 b} u_{jk} \bar{z}_{i c_1}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \sum_{b=n+1}^p \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{u_{ab} \bar{u}_{c_1 b} u_{jk} \bar{z}_{i c_1}}{\ell_k}; \\ \frac{\partial \bar{u}_{ak}}{\partial z_{ij}} &= \sum_{b \neq k}^n \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{\bar{u}_{ab} u_{jb} \bar{u}_{c_1 k} \bar{z}_{i c_1}}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \sum_{b=n+1}^p \sum_{c_1=1}^p \frac{\bar{u}_{ab} u_{jb} \bar{u}_{c_1 k} \bar{z}_{i c_1}}{\ell_k}, \end{aligned}$$

for $a \neq k$, and $\partial u_{kk} / \partial x_{ij} = 0$ and $\partial \bar{u}_{kk} / \partial x_{ij} = 0$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Proof. The proof is essentially the same as for Lemma 4.1. Take differentials of

$$\mathbf{Z}^* \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{U} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}^* = [\mathbf{U}_1; \mathbf{U}_2] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}_1^* \\ \mathbf{U}_2^* \end{bmatrix},$$

we can see that the analogue of the formulas (4.5) and (4.6) are given by

$$(4.15) \quad \{\mathbf{U}_1^*(d\mathbf{U}_1)\}_{ak} = \frac{1}{\ell_k - \ell_a} \{\mathbf{U}_1^*((d\mathbf{Z}^*)\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}^*(d\mathbf{Z}))\mathbf{U}_1\}_{ak}$$

for $a = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ such that $a \neq k$;

$$(4.16) \quad (d\mathbf{L})_{mm} = \{\mathbf{U}_1^*((d\mathbf{Z}^*)\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}^*(d\mathbf{Z}))\mathbf{U}_1\}_{mm}$$

for $m = 1, 2, \dots, n$; and

$$(4.17) \quad \{\mathbf{U}_2^*(d\mathbf{U}_1)\}_{ak} = \frac{1}{\ell_k} \{\mathbf{U}_2^*((d\mathbf{Z}^*)\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{Z}^*(d\mathbf{Z}))\mathbf{U}_1\}_{ak}$$

for $a = n + 1, 2, \dots, 1$ and $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$. From the fact that $d(\operatorname{Re} z_{ij})$ and $d(\operatorname{Im} z_{ij})$ are the dual basis of $\partial/\partial(\operatorname{Re} z_{ij})$ and $\partial/\partial(\operatorname{Im} z_{ij})$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$, we have

$$(4.18) \quad dz \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_{kl}} \right) = d(\operatorname{Re} z_{ij}) + \sqrt{-1}d(\operatorname{Im} z_{ij}) \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{kl}} \right\} = \delta_{ik}\delta_{jl} \quad \text{and} \quad d\bar{z} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_{kl}} \right) = 0$$

for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $l = 1, 2, \dots, p$. Using (4.15)-(4.18) and proceeding in a similar manner as for Lemma 4.1, we get the desired result. \square

Proof of Theorem 3.2. The proof is essentially the same as for Theorem 2.2. We adapt the notation in Theorem 3.1 and Lemma 4.2. Put $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{U}_1 \Psi \mathbf{U}_1^*$ and apply Theorem 3.1 to get

$$(4.19) \quad \mathbb{E} [\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{U}_1 \Psi \mathbf{U}_1^*] = \mathbb{E} [n \mathbf{U}_1 \Psi \mathbf{U}_1^* + (\mathbf{Z}' \nabla_{\mathbf{Z}})' \mathbf{U}_1 \Psi \mathbf{U}_1^*].$$

Similarly the analogue of the formula (4.8) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \{(\mathbf{Z}' \nabla_{\mathbf{Z}})' \mathbf{U}_1 \Psi \mathbf{U}_1^*\}_{ij} &= \sum_{c_3=1}^n u_{ic_3} \bar{u}_{jc_3} \left\{ \ell_{c_3} \frac{\partial \psi_{c_3}}{\partial \ell_{c_3}} + \sum_{b \neq c_3}^n \frac{\ell_b \psi_{c_3} - \ell_{c_3} \psi_b}{\ell_{c_3} - \ell_b} \right\} \\ &\quad + \sum_{b=n+1}^p u_{ib} \bar{u}_{jb} \sum_{c_3=1}^n \psi_{c_3}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting this expression into (4.19) and proceeding in a similar manner as for the proof of Theorem 2.2, we can complete the proof of this theorem. \square

4.6 Proof of Theorem 3.3

The proof is essentially the same as for Theorem 2.3. Write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F} &= (f_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag} \left(\frac{\psi_1}{\ell_1}, \frac{\psi_2}{\ell_2}, \dots, \frac{\psi_n}{\ell_n} \right) \mathbf{U}_1^*, \\ \tilde{\mathbf{F}} &= (\tilde{f}_{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}} = \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag} (\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n) \mathbf{U}_1^*. \end{aligned}$$

Apply Theorem 3.1 with $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{F} \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}$ to get that

$$(4.20) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\operatorname{Tr} (\Sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[\operatorname{Tr} (\Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{W} \mathbf{F} \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \right] =: \mathbb{E} [n \Delta_3 + \Delta_4],$$

where $\Delta_3 = \text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\psi_1^2/\ell_1, \psi_2^2/\ell_2, \dots, \psi_n^2/\ell_n) \mathbf{U}_1^* \}$ and $\Delta_4 = \text{Tr} \{ (\mathbf{Z}' \nabla_{\mathbf{Z}})' \mathbf{F} \Sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} \}$.

We evaluate the expectation of Δ_4 in (4.20). For $\Sigma^{-1} = (\sigma^{ij})_{\substack{i=1,2,\dots,p \\ j=1,2,\dots,p}}$, we see that the expectation of Δ_4 is given by

$$(4.21) \quad \mathbb{E}[\Delta_4] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{c_2, c_3, c_4=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} f_{c_2 c_3} T_{c_4 c_2}^{(3)} + \sum_{c_3, c_4=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} T_{c_4 c_3}^{(4)} \right],$$

where, for $c_2, c_3, c_4 = 1, 2, \dots, p$,

$$T_{c_4 c_2}^{(3)} = \sum_{c_1=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^p z_{c_1 c_2} \frac{\partial \tilde{f}_{c_4 i}}{\partial z_{c_1 i}}, \quad \text{and} \quad T_{c_4 c_3}^{(4)} = \sum_{c_1=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^p z_{c_1 c_2} \tilde{f}_{c_4 i} \frac{\partial f_{c_2 c_3}}{\partial z_{c_1 i}}.$$

Similarly the analogue of the formulas (4.13) and (4.14) are given by

$$(4.22) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{c_2, c_3, c_4=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} f_{c_2 c_3} T_{c_4 c_2}^{(3)} \right] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\tilde{\psi}_1^{(1a)}, \tilde{\psi}_2^{(1a)}, \dots, \tilde{\psi}_n^{(1a)}) \mathbf{U}_1^* \}];$$

$$(4.23) \quad \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{c_3, c_4=1}^p \sigma^{c_3 c_4} T_{c_4 c_3}^{(4)} \right] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\tilde{\psi}_1^{(1b)}, \tilde{\psi}_2^{(1b)}, \dots, \tilde{\psi}_n^{(1b)}) \mathbf{U}_1^* \}];$$

where, for $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\psi}_k^{(1a)} &= \psi_k \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b} + \psi_k \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + (p - n) \frac{\psi_k^2}{\ell_k}; \\ \tilde{\psi}_k^{(1b)} &= -n \frac{\psi_k^2}{\ell_k} + \psi_k \cdot \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial \ell_k} + \psi_k \sum_{b \neq k}^n \frac{\psi_k - \psi_b}{\ell_k - \ell_b}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting (4.22) and (4.23) into (4.20), we see that the expectation of $n\Delta_3 + \Delta_4$ is given by

$$(4.24) \quad \mathbb{E}[n\Delta_3 + \Delta_4] = \mathbb{E}[\text{Tr} \{ \Sigma^{-1} \mathbf{U}_1 \mathbf{Diag}(\tilde{\psi}_1^{(1)}, \tilde{\psi}_2^{(1)}, \dots, \tilde{\psi}_n^{(1)}) \mathbf{U}_1^* \}],$$

where $\tilde{\psi}_k^{(1)}$'s, $k = 1, 2, \dots, n$, are given by (3.4). This completes the proof of this theorem. \square

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Table 1: Result of 1000 Monte-Carlo simulations for $p/n = 1/2$ and $\Sigma = \mathbf{I}_p$.

p	n	$\mathbf{S}/(n+p+1)$	$\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}$	PRIAL	$\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}^*$	PRIAL
10	5	6.863 (0.013)	6.733 (0.014)	1.8%	6.3465 (0.017)	7.5%
20	10	13.549 (0.014)	13.323 (0.015)	1.7%	12.654 (0.017)	6.6%
40	20	26.891 (0.014)	26.580 (0.014)	1.2%	25.647 (0.016)	4.6%
60	30	40.216 (0.014)	39.867 (0.015)	0.9%	38.821 (0.016)	3.5%
80	40	53.570 (0.014)	53.200 (0.014)	0.7%	52.095 (0.015)	2.8%
100	50	66.894 (0.014)	66.511 (0.014)	0.6%	65.362 (0.015)	2.3%

The values in parentheses refer to the standard error on average loss.

Table 2: Effect of variables to number of observations on PRIAL when $\Sigma = \mathbf{I}_p$.

p	n	$\mathbf{S}/(n+p+1)$	$\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}$	PRIAL	$\widehat{\Sigma}_{\text{HF}}^*$	PRIAL
20	4	16.795 (0.009)	16.737 (0.009)	0.3%	15.391 (0.015)	8.4%
20	8	14.467 (0.013)	14.289 (0.013)	1.2%	13.367 (0.017)	7.6%
20	12	12.700 (0.015)	12.436 (0.015)	2.1%	11.974 (0.017)	5.7%
20	16	11.343 (0.015)	11.117 (0.016)	2.0%	10.992 (0.017)	3.1%
100	20	83.461 (0.009)	83.364 (0.009)	0.1%	81.044 (0.011)	2.9%
100	40	71.630 (0.014)	71.345 (0.014)	0.4%	69.849 (0.015)	2.5%
100	60	62.750 (0.015)	62.277 (0.015)	0.8%	61.435 (0.016)	2.1%
100	80	55.803 (0.016)	55.219 (0.017)	1.0%	54.891 (0.017)	1.6%

The values in parentheses refer to the standard error on average loss.

Figure 1: Effect of α for $p = 20, n = 4$.

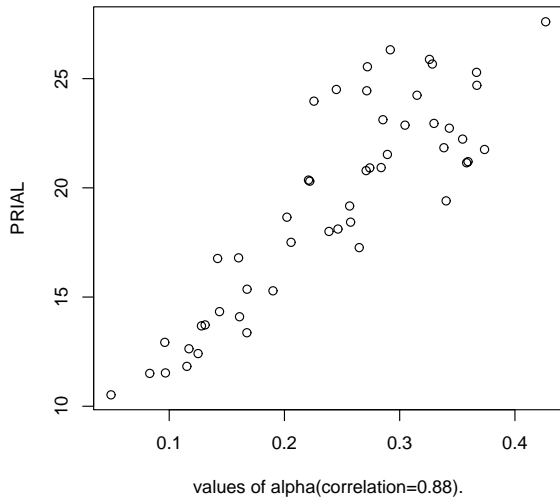


Figure 2: Effect of α for $p = 20, n = 8$.

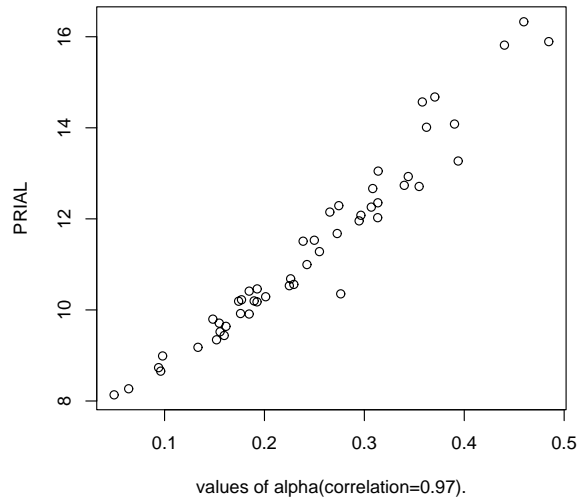


Figure 3: Effect of α for $p = 20, n = 12$.

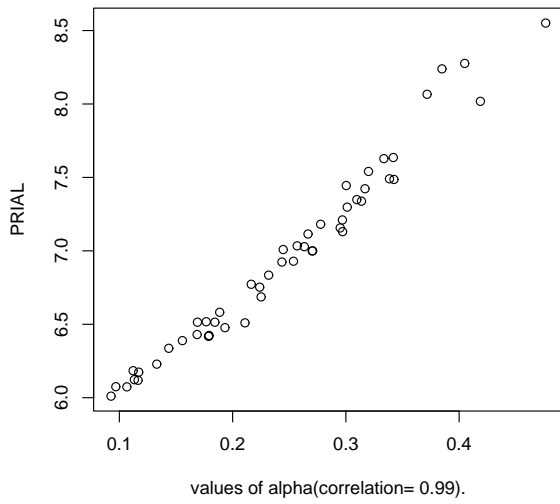


Figure 4: Effect of α for $p = 20, n = 16$.

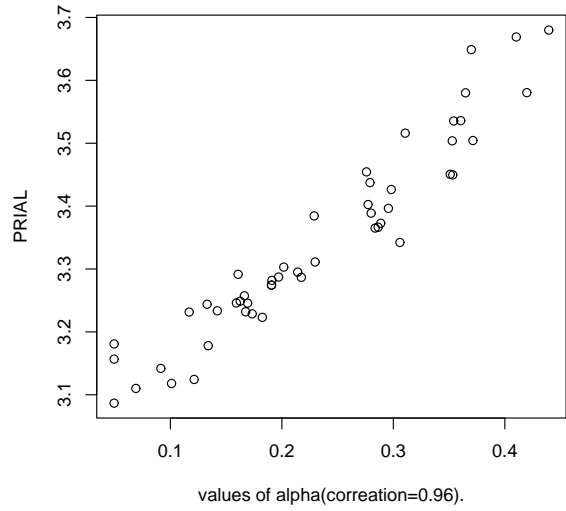


Figure 5: Effect of α for $p = 100, n = 20$.

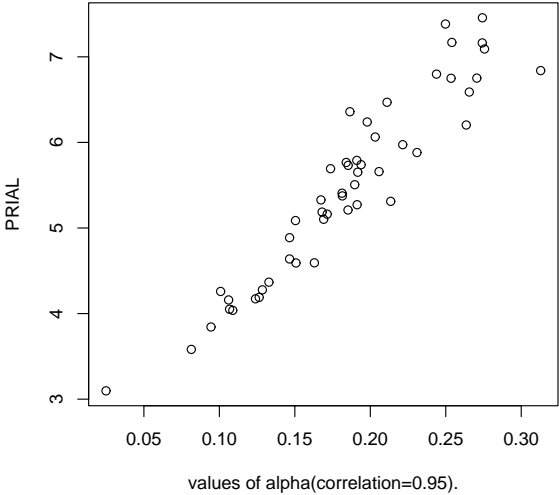


Figure 6: Effect of α for $p = 100, n = 40$.

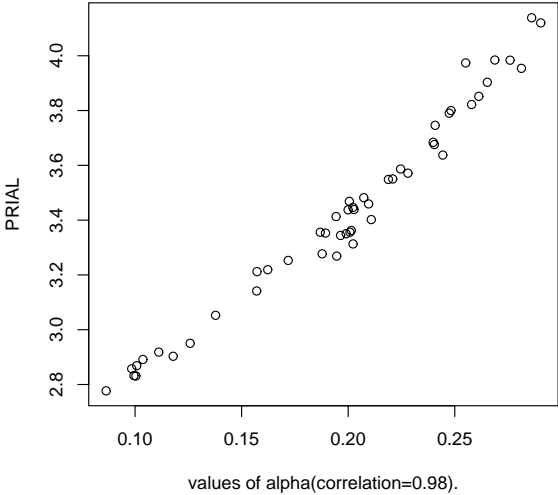


Figure 7: Effect of α for $p = 100, n = 60$.

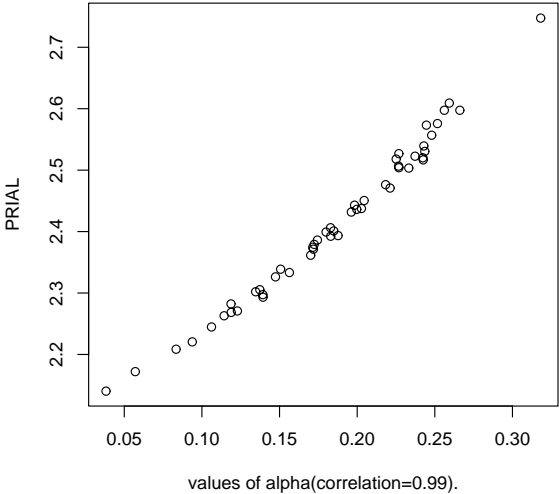


Figure 8: Effect of α for $p = 100, n = 80$.

