

# Repeated Measurement Designs under Subject Dropout

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**Repeated Measurement Design (Crossover Design):** A number of experimental units (subjects) are used to compare treatments of interest and each subject is assigned to a sequence of treatments over a number of time periods. Heavily used in various practices, ranging from psychology and human factor engineering to medical and agricultural applications.

### Example

0	1	2	3
1	2	3	0
3	0	1	2
2	3	0	1

$n$ : the number of subjects;  $t$ : the number of treatments;  $p$ : the number of periods.

$\Omega(t, n, p)$ : the class of designs with  $t$  treatments,  $n$  subjects and  $p$  periods.

## Traditional fixed-effects model:

$$y_{ij} = \alpha_i + \beta_j + \tau_{d(i,j)} + \rho_{d(i-1,j)} + \epsilon_{ij}$$

$i = 1, 2, \dots, p$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

$\alpha_i$ : period effect,

$\beta_j$ : subject effect,

$\tau_{d(i,j)}$ : treatment direct effect,

$\rho_{d(i-1,j)}$ : carryover effect,

$\epsilon_{ij}$ : random error with  $E(\epsilon_{ij}) = 0$  and  $\text{Var}(\epsilon_{ij}) = \sigma^2$ ,

$\text{Cov}(\epsilon_{ij}, \epsilon_{i'j'}) = 0$  for any  $(i, j) \neq (i', j')$ .

For any design  $d$ :

$$Y^d = X_1^d \theta_1 + X_2^d \theta_2 + \varepsilon.$$

The Fisher Information Matrix:

$$C^d = (X_1^d)'(Pr^\perp X_2^d)X_1^d = (X_1^d)'X_1^d - (X_1^d)'X_2^d((X_2^d)'X_2^d)^{-1}(X_2^d)'X_1^d.$$

A-criterion:  $tr(C^d)^+$ .

### Theorem

(Kiefer (1975)) Suppose a class  $\{C^d, d \in \Omega(t, n, p)\}$  of matrices contains a  $C^{d^*}$  for which

- 1  $C^{d^*}$  is completely symmetric,
- 2  $tr C^{d^*} = \max_{d \in \Omega(t, n, p)} tr C^d$ .

Then  $d^*$  is universally optimal in  $\Omega(t, n, p)$ .

There is an **implicit, but critical**, assumption that the experiment will yield all the planned observations.

### Example

0	1	2	3
1	2	3	0
3	0	1	*
*	3	*	*

\* means that observation is not available

- ① What statistical properties are maintained in the design at the end of the experiment? Here we choose to study UBRMD.
- ② Whether and how can we measure the goodness of a planned design in terms of precision loss due to subject dropouts? We suggest using two quantities: the expected precision loss and the maximum precision loss.

**Assumption:**

Subjects drop out independently with a probability  $\lambda$ .

**The case:**

Dropouts occur in the final period.

$d_{plan}$ : the starting design,

$d_{min}$ : the starting design without the final period,

$d_{imp}$ : the design actually observed; inbetween  $d_{plan}$  and  $d_{min}$ .

The loss of  $d_{imp}$  with respect to  $d_{plan}$  is measured by

$$L_{d_{imp}:d_{plan}} = \frac{H^{d_{plan}} - H^{d_{imp}}}{H^{d_{plan}}} = 1 - \frac{H^{d_{imp}}}{H^{d_{plan}}}$$

where  $H^d = \frac{t-1}{tr(C^d)^+}$ .



## Uniformly Balanced Repeated Measure Designs (UBRMDs):

A design is **uniform** if

- for each subject, each treatment is allocated to the same number of periods
- for each period, each treatment is allocated to the same number of subjects

A design is called **balanced for carryover effects (balanced, in short)** if, in the order application, each treatment is preceded by every other treatment the same number of times and is not preceded by itself.

## Example

A UBRMD with  $t = 4$ ,  $p = 4$  and  $n = 4$ :

0	1	2	3
1	2	3	0
3	0	1	2
2	3	0	1

It is universally optimal in  $\Omega(4, 4, 4)$ .

The construction of UBRMDs are provided in Williams (1949), called **Williams Designs (WDs)**:

- (Family One)  $t$  is even, a UBRMD with  $n = p = t$
- (Family Two)  $t$  is odd, a UBRMD with  $n = 2t$  and  $p = t$

We suggest a type of design: **UBRMD Balanced for Loss**, denoted by  $d^*$ .

- $d^*$  is a UBRMD,
- $d^*$  covers all ordered pairs of distinct treatments the same number times in the last two periods.

This requires  $n \geq t(t-1)$ .

### Example

A UBRMD Balance for Loss with  $t = p = 4$ ,  $n = 12$

0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3
1	0	3	2	2	3	0	1	3	2	1	0
2	3	0	1	3	2	1	0	1	0	3	2
3	2	1	0	1	0	3	2	2	3	0	1

This UBRMD is universally optimal in  $\Omega(4, 12, 4)$ .

## Theorem

*In the class of designs  $\Omega(t, n, t-1)$ , for which  $z_d \geq \lfloor \frac{2n}{t(t-2)} \rfloor$  or  $z_d = 0$ ,  $n$  is a multiple of  $t(t-1)$ ,  $d_{min}^*$  is universally optimal.*

## Corollary

*If  $n = t(t-1)$  and  $t \geq 5$ ,  $d_{min}^*$  is universally optimal in the class of designs  $\Omega(t, n, t-1)$  for which  $z_d \geq 2$  or  $z_d = 0$ . When  $t = 4$ ,  $d_{min}^*$  is universally optimal in  $\Omega(4, 12, 3)$  for which  $z_d \geq 3$  or  $z_d = 0$ . When  $t = 3$ ,  $d_{min}^*$  is universally optimal in  $\Omega(3, 6, 2)$  for which  $z_d \geq 4$  or  $z_d = 0$ .*

Using the bound in Stufken(1991) that is generalized to the entire class by Hedayat and Yang (2004), the lower bound to efficiency of  $d_{min}^*$

Order t	$d_{min}^*$	WD
4	0.9967427	*
5	0.9995917	0.898608
6	0.9999083	0.8953254
7	0.9999718	0.973486
8	0.9999894	0.9631566
9	0.9999954	0.9881278
10	0.9999978	0.9811

Proved that the lower bound to efficiency of  $d_{min}^* \geq 99.63\%$  for  $t \geq 4$ . Thus  $d_{min}^*$  is nearly optimal.

Maximum Loss Table:

Order $t=$	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$d^*$	0.41	0.28	0.21	0.18	0.15	0.13	0.11
$WD$	*	0.35	0.30	0.20	0.18	0.14	0.13

Proved the maximum loss of  $d^*$  is an decreasing function of  $t$ .

$$Expected\ Loss = \sum_{d_{imp}} L_{d_{imp}:d_{plan}} \times P(d_{imp}),$$

where  $P(d_{imp})$  is the probability to observe  $d_{imp}$ .

## Example

A UBRMD with  $t = p = 5$  and  $n = 20$

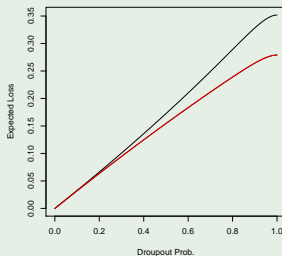


Figure:  $t=5$ ,  $d^*$  (red) and two copies of  $WD$ (black)

## Definition

The subject dropout pattern of a implemented design is a  $t \times t$  matrix with  $(i, j)$  entry 1 if treatment  $i$  lost due to subject dropout in the last period is preceded by treatment  $j$ ; 0 otherwise. It is denoted by  $DPM_{d_{imp}}$ . Two implemented designs  $d_{imp1}$  and  $d_{imp2}$  from the same planned design which is a UBRMD is said to have the same dropout pattern if there exists a permutation matrix  $P$  such that  $DPM_{d_{imp1}} = P \cdot DPM_{d_{imp2}} \cdot P'$ .

## Theorem

*If two implemented designs from the same planned design which is a UBRMD have the same subject dropout pattern, then they have the same information loss.*



Constructions of UBRMD Balanced for Loss with  $n = t(t - 1)$ :

- ① Complete set of mutually orthogonal Latin squares.
- ② Union of WDs using permutations.
- ③ Case  $t = 6$  (Amusement in Mathematics, 1958).
- ④ Methods by Bose and Bagchi (Utilitas Mathematica).

# MOLS Method

Suppose  $x$  is a primitive root of the field  $GF(t)$ . Express all the elements in the field as a power of  $x$ :

$\alpha_0 = 0, \alpha_1 = 1, \alpha_2 = x, \alpha_3 = x^2, \dots, \alpha_{t-1} = x^{t-2}$ . The following  $t-1$  pairwise orthogonal squares  $L_1, \dots, L_{t-1}$  are constructed as:

$L_i = (l_{jk}) = (\alpha_j + \alpha_i \alpha_k)$  for

$i = 1, \dots, t-1; j = 0, \dots, t-1; k = 0, \dots, t-1$ . To get  $L$ ,

juxtapose  $L'_1, \dots, L'_{t-1}$  in the following way:

$$\begin{bmatrix} L'_1 & L'_2 & \dots & L'_{t-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Theorem

$L$  is a UBRMD Balanced for Loss.

## Example

$t = 4$ . Use an irreducible polynomial of order 2 which is  $x^2 + x + 1$  on  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  to construct a  $GF(4)$  having elements  $0, 1, x, 1 + x$ . Relabel  $0, 1, x, 1 + x$  by  $0, 1, 2, 3$ , the following  $4 \times 12$  array is our type of design:

0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3
1	0	3	2	2	3	0	1	3	2	1	0
2	3	0	1	3	2	1	0	1	0	3	2
3	2	1	0	1	0	3	2	2	3	0	1

## Union of WDs Using Permutation Method

- 1 Start with a *WD* of order  $t$ , call it  $W_0$ .
- 2 Find a permutation matrix of order  $t$   $P_1$ , such that  $W_1$  obtained from  $W_0$  by applying  $P_1$ , and  $W_0$  covers totally different pairs of treatments in the last two rows.
- 3 Find a permutation matrix of order  $t$  again  $P_2$ , such that  $W_2$  obtained from  $W_0$  by applying  $P_2$ , covers pairs totally different from those covered by  $W_1$  and  $W_0$  in the last two rows.
- 4 Continue in this fashion till all designs obtained together constitute a design with  $t(t-1)$  sequences and every pair of distinct treatments is represented once in the final two rows.

## Example

 $t = 5,$ 

0	1	2	3	4	3	4	0	1	2	0	3	1	4	2	4	2	0	3	1
1	2	3	4	0	2	3	4	0	1	3	1	4	2	0	1	4	2	0	3
4	0	1	2	3	4	0	1	2	3	2	0	3	1	4	2	0	3	1	4
2	3	4	0	1	1	2	3	4	0	1	4	2	0	3	3	1	4	2	0
3	4	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	4	4	2	0	3	1	0	3	1	4	2

$L_2$ (right WD) obtained from  $L_1$ (left WD) by permuting treatments. Permutation is (0, 3, 1, 4, 2)

## Case $t = 6$ and Methods by Bose and Bagchi

In Dudeney (1958), a *UBRMD* Balanced for Loss with  $t = 6, 10$  was provided. One can construct *UBRMDs* Balanced for Loss for  $t = 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11$  using either *MOLS* method or permutation algorithm. For  $t = 12$ , the existence of a *UBRMD* Balanced for Loss is still unclear. In Bose and Bagchi (2006), a different construction method for *UBRMDs* Balanced for Loss was suggested for  $t$  is an odd prime. They started with the initial columns of *WD* and expanded each column  $\text{mod}(t)$  to get a *UBRMD* Balanced for Loss in  $\Omega(t, n = t(t - 1), p = t)$ .

## Random Subject Effect Model:

$$E(y_{ij}) = \alpha_i + \tau_{d(i,j)} + \rho_{d(i-1,j)},$$
$$\text{Var}(y_{ij}) = \sigma^2 + \sigma_\beta^2,$$

and

$$\text{Cov}(y_{ij}, y_{i'j'}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \neq j' \\ \sigma_\beta^2 & \text{if } j = j' \text{ and } i \neq i' \end{cases}$$

$i = 1, 2, \dots, p$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Let  $\theta = \frac{\sigma_\beta^2}{\sigma^2}$

## Example

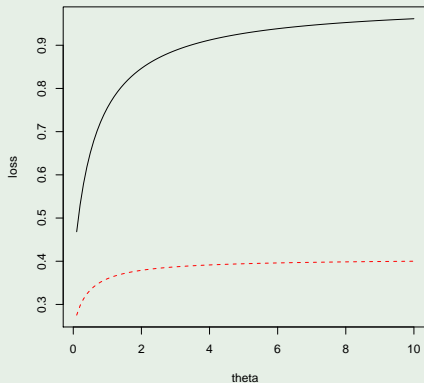


Figure: Maximum loss for  $t=4, d^*$  (red) and WD(black)



### Theorem

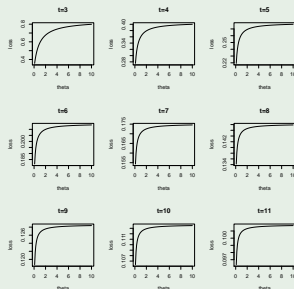
*The maximum loss of a UBRMD Balanced for Loss is monotonically increasing in  $\theta$ , for any given  $t \geq 3$ .*

### Theorem

*The maximum loss for WD is monotonically increasing in  $\theta$ , for any given  $t \geq 3$ .*

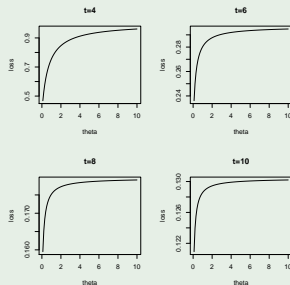
## Example

Maximum information loss for  $d^*$ :



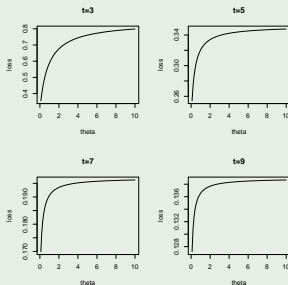
## Example

Maximum information loss for *WD*:



## Example

Maximum information loss for *WD*:



## Autoregressive Variance Model:

$$E(y_{ij}) = \alpha_i + \tau_{d(i,j)} + \rho_{d(i-1,j)},$$

$$\text{Var}(y_{ij}) = \sigma^2 + \sigma_\beta^2,$$

$$\text{Cov}(y_{ij}, y_{i'j'}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \neq j' \\ \sigma_\beta^2 \rho^{|i-i'|} & \text{if } j = j' \text{ and } i \neq i' \end{cases}$$

$i = 1, 2, \dots, p$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

$$\text{Var}(Y_{.j}) = \sigma_\beta^2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho & \dots & \rho^{p-1} \\ \rho & 1 & \dots & \rho^{p-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \rho^{p-1} & \rho^{p-2} & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Example

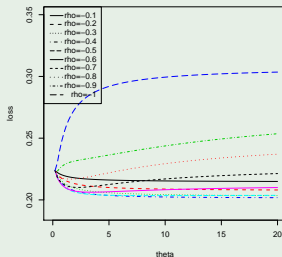


Figure: Maximum Loss of WD  $t = 5$ ,  $\rho < 0$

## Example

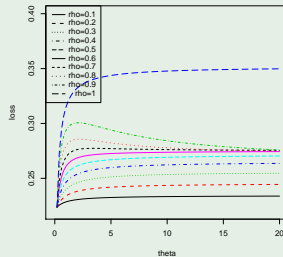


Figure: Maximum Loss of WD  $t = 5$ ,  $\rho > 0$

## Example

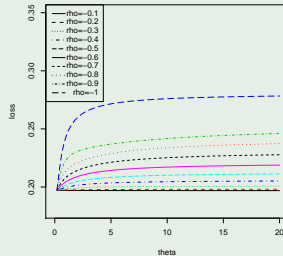


Figure: Maximum Loss of  $d^*$   $t = 5$ ,  $\rho < 0$



## Example

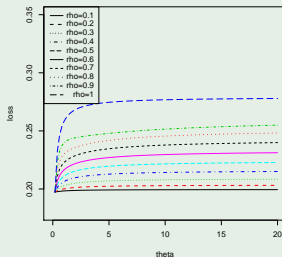


Figure: Maximum Loss of  $d^*$   $t = 5$ ,  $\rho > 0$

Thank you!