# Impact of dependency on the distribution of $p$-value 

Marie Ernst* and Yvik Swan<br>University of Liege, Belgium

Baltimore, August 1st, 2017

## Introduction

## Multiple testing

- Multiple null hypotheses $\left(H_{0, i}\right)_{i=1, \ldots, m}$
- Each test is based on a dataset $\mathbf{x}_{i}=\left(x_{i 1}, \ldots, x_{i n_{s}}\right)$

If the datasets are not independent, how can we detect deviations from null hypotheses?

## Multiple testing: example

Example with dependence: portfolio of assets

- $k$ Brownian motions measured at $n_{t}$ times
- Test if the correlation between each pair is as expected considering $n_{s}$ independent repetitions.



## Outline

(1) Impact of dependency on the distribution of $p$-value
(2) Distribution of multivariate $p$-values
(3) Distribution of sums of indicators

## Multiple testing: control procedures

Family-wise error rate (FWER)
Probability to reject at least one null hypothesis.
Examples: Bonferroni, Sidák, Hochberg

False discovery rate (FDR)
Rate of falsely rejected null hypotheses:

$$
E\left[\frac{\# \text { falsely rejected }}{\# \text { rejects }}\right]
$$

Examples: Benjamini-Hochberg (1995), Benjamini-Yekutieli (2001), Cai-Liu (2016)

## Multiple testing: control procedures

Family-wise error rate (FWER)
Probability to reject at least one null hypothesis.
Examples: Bonferroni, Sidák, Hochberg

False discovery rate (FDR)
Rate of falsely rejected null hypotheses:

$$
E\left[\frac{\# \text { falsely rejected }}{\# \text { rejects }}\right]
$$

Examples: Benjamini-Hochberg (1995), Benjamini-Yekutieli (2001), Cai-Liu (2016)
$\rightsquigarrow$ Instead of a correction, could we consider a better distribution for multivariate $p$-values?

## Distributions of $p$-values

Under $H_{0, i}, p$-value $p_{i} \sim U[0,1]$ for $i=1, \ldots, m$

- With independence, $\mathbf{p} \sim U[0,1]^{m}$
- Without independence, only the margins are uniformly distributed.


## Distributions of $p$-values

Under $H_{0, i}, p$-value $p_{i} \sim U[0,1]$ for $i=1, \ldots, m$

- With independence, $\mathbf{p} \sim U[0,1]^{m}$
- Without independence, only the margins are uniformly distributed.



Without independence

## Distributions under $H_{0}$

Distributions of $p$-values
Difficult problem (see Wang 2014)
$\rightsquigarrow$ "Easier" distributions can be considered

## Distributions under $H_{0}$

Distributions of $p$-values
Difficult problem (see Wang 2014)
$\rightsquigarrow$ "Easier" distributions can be considered
Distributions of the number $W$ of rejections under $H_{0}$
For a level $\alpha$ for each test,

- With independence, $W \sim \operatorname{Bin}(m, \alpha)$.
- Without independence, Binomial distribution does not fit anymore.


## Distribution under $H_{0}$

Example: portfolio of assets
Testing correlation of 11 Brownian motions measured at 300 times


Which distribution fits the data ?

## Distribution under $H_{0}$

Example: portfolio of assets
Testing correlation of 11 Brownian motions measured at 300 times


Which distribution fits the data?

- Binomial ?


## Distribution under $H_{0}$

Example: portfolio of assets
Testing correlation of 11 Brownian motions measured at 300 times


Which distribution fits the data ?

- Binomial ?
- Beta binomial?


## Distribution under $H_{0}$

Example: portfolio of assets
Testing correlation of 11 Brownian motions measured at 300 times


Which distribution fits the data ?

- Binomial ?
- Beta binomial?
- Hypergeometric?


## Distribution under $H_{0}$

## Example

Pearson's Chi-squared test to determine the distribution of the number of rejections.

$$
W \sim \operatorname{Bin}(55,0.05) ?
$$

$W \sim \operatorname{Beta} \operatorname{Bin}(55, \alpha, \beta) ?$



## Sum of correlated indicators

General question
How "close" are the distributions of sums of indicators?
Can we identify when they are alike or different?
Some examples of law
We consider random variables which admit representations of the form

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}_{i}
$$

for $\left(\mathbb{I}_{1}, \ldots, \mathbb{I}_{n}\right) \in\{0,1\}^{n}$ with $\mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{i}\right)$

## Some laws $X=\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}_{i}$

- Binomial $\operatorname{Bin}(n, p): \mathbb{I}_{i} \stackrel{\text { i.i.d. }}{\sim} \operatorname{Bern}(p)$
- Poisson binomial $S: \mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{i}\right)$ and $\mathbb{I}_{i} \Perp$
- Beta Binomial $\mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta): \mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}\right)$ and $\operatorname{cor}\left(\mathbb{I}_{i}, \mathbb{I}_{j}\right)=\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta+1}>0$
- Hypergeometric $\mathcal{H}(M, N, n): \mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(\frac{M}{M+N}\right)$ and $\operatorname{cor}\left(\mathbb{I}_{i}, \mathbb{I}_{j}\right)=\frac{-1}{M+N-1}<0$
- A general case
$\operatorname{Bin}\left(n_{1}, p\right) \oplus \sum_{i=1}^{n_{2}} X_{i}$ with some $X_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{i}\right)$
- $k$-runs
$\mathbb{I}_{i}=\prod_{j=1}^{k} X_{i+j}$ with $X_{i} \stackrel{i i d}{\sim} \operatorname{Bern}(p)$
- m-dependent $N\left(n ; k_{1}, k_{2}\right)$
$\mathbb{I}_{i}=\prod_{j=1}^{k_{1}} X_{i+j} \prod_{j=1}^{k_{2}}\left(1-X_{i+k_{1}+j}\right)$ with $X_{i} \stackrel{i i d}{\sim} \operatorname{Bern}(p)$


## Some laws $X=\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}_{i}$

- Binomial $\operatorname{Bin}(n, p): \mathbb{I}_{i} \stackrel{\text { i.i.d. }}{\sim} \operatorname{Bern}(p)$
explicit law
- Poisson binomial $S: \mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{i}\right)$ and $\mathbb{I}_{i} \Perp$
- Beta Binomial $\mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta): \mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}\right)$ and $\operatorname{cor}\left(\mathbb{I}_{i}, \mathbb{I}_{j}\right)=\frac{1}{\alpha+\beta+1}>0$
explicit law
- Hypergeometric $\mathcal{H}(M, N, n): \mathbb{I}_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(\frac{M}{M+N}\right)$ and $\operatorname{cor}\left(\mathbb{I}_{i}, \mathbb{I}_{j}\right)=\frac{-1}{M+N-1}<0$
- A general case
$\operatorname{Bin}\left(n_{1}, p\right) \oplus \sum_{i=1}^{n_{2}} X_{i}$ with some $X_{i} \sim \operatorname{Bern}\left(p_{i}\right)$
- $k$-runs
$\mathbb{I}_{i}=\prod_{j=1}^{k} X_{i+j}$ with $X_{i} \stackrel{i i d}{\sim} \operatorname{Bern}(p)$
- m-dependent $N\left(n ; k_{1}, k_{2}\right)$
$\mathbb{I}_{i}=\prod_{j=1}^{k_{1}} X_{i+j} \prod_{j=1}^{k_{2}}\left(1-X_{i+k_{1}+j}\right)$ with $X_{i} \stackrel{i i d}{\sim} \operatorname{Bern}(p)$


## Distance between distributions

Let $W$ and $Z$ be two random variables
Total variation distance

$$
\mathrm{TV}(W, Z)=\sup _{A}|P(W \in A)-P(Z \in A)|
$$

for measurable sets $A$.
$\rightsquigarrow$ Stein's method allows us to get bounds

## Some bounds for TV Distances

| $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}_{i}$ | $\operatorname{Bin}(n, p)$ | Pois( $\lambda$ ) | $N B(r, q)$ <br> (Neg. bin.) | $\begin{gathered} \operatorname{TP}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right) \\ \text { (Translated Pois.) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} N^{d}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right) \\ \text { (Discretized) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\operatorname{Bin}(n, p)$ | 0 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \leq\left(1-e^{n p}\right) p \\ & \quad \text { (Barbour et al., 1992) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta)$ | $\leq \frac{n(n-1)}{(n+1)(1+\alpha+\beta)}$ <br> (Teerapabolarn, 2008) |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathcal{H}(M, N, n)$ | $T V \leq \frac{n-1}{N-1}$ <br> (Holmes, 2004) | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{\varepsilon}{11+3 \max \left(0, \frac{2}{\lambda_{\varepsilon}}\right.} \leq T V \\ & \leq \frac{1-e^{-\lambda}}{N-1}(n+R-n R-1) \\ & \quad \text { (Barbour et al., 1992) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| $S(n, \mathbf{p})$ | $\sim \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(p_{i}-p\right)^{2} \quad($ Ehm, 1991) | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \sim \lambda^{-1} \sum_{\text {(Barbour-Hall, 1984) }}^{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline \operatorname{Bin}(n-k, p) \\ & \oplus k \operatorname{Bern}(p) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2-runs |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{32.2 p}{\sqrt{(n-1)(1-p)^{3}}} \quad(\text { Brown-Xia, 2001) } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{c_{p}}{\sqrt{n}} \\ & \text { (Fang, 2014) } \end{aligned}$ |
| $k$-runs | $T V \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k^{2}}{\rho(1-p)}\left(\frac{k}{k-1}\right)^{k-1}\right)$ <br> (Kumar-Upadhye, 2016) |  | $\begin{array}{r} \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{(4 k-3)(2 k-1) \rho^{2}}{\sqrt{(n-4 k+2) \rho^{k}(1-p)^{3}}}\right) \\ \quad(\text { Wang-Xia, 2008) } \end{array}$ | $\leq \frac{K(k, p)}{\sqrt{n}}$ <br> (Röllin, 2005) |  |
| $m$-dependent $N\left(n, k_{1}, k_{2}\right)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{(1-p)^{1.5 k_{1} p^{1.5 k_{2}} m^{2}}}{\sqrt{n-m+1}} \\ & \quad \text { (Cekanavicius-Vell., 2015) } \\ & \text { (Zhang, 2016) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{(2+q p)(n-k)}{q(1+(n-k-1) p)}\right) \\ & \quad(\text { Kumar-Upadhye, 2017) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |

## Some bounds for TV Distances

| $\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}_{i}$ | $\operatorname{Bin}(n, p)$ | Pois( $\lambda$ ) | $N B(r, q)$ <br> (Neg. bin.) | $\begin{gathered} \operatorname{TP}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right) \\ \text { (Translated Pois.) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} N^{d}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right) \\ \text { (Discretized) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\operatorname{Bin}(n, p)$ | 0 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \hline \leq\left(1-e^{n p}\right) p \\ & \quad \text { (Barbour et al., 1992) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{n^{2}(\alpha+\beta)^{2}}{(\alpha+\beta)}\right) \leq T V \\ & \leq \frac{n(n-1)}{(n+1)(1+\alpha+\beta)} \\ & \quad \text { (Teerapabolarn, 2008) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathcal{H}(M, N, n)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{O}\left(\left(\frac{n}{n-R}\right)^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\left(\frac{n-R}{N-R}\right)^{R}\left(\frac{N-R}{N}\right)^{n}\right) \leq \\ & T V \leq \frac{n-1}{N-1} \end{aligned}$ <br> (Holmes, 2004) | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{\varepsilon}{11+3 \max \left(0, \frac{\pi}{k}\right)} \leq T V \\ & \leq \frac{1-e^{-\lambda}}{N-1}(n+R-n R-1) \\ & \quad(\text { Barbour et al., 1992) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| $S(n, \mathbf{p})$ | $\sim \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(p_{i}-p\right)^{2} \quad \text { (Ehm, 1991) }$ | $\begin{array}{\|l\|} \hline \sim \lambda^{-1} \sum_{\text {(Barbour-Hall, 1984) }}^{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$ |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Bin}(n-k, p) \\ & \oplus k \operatorname{Bern}(p) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k^{2} p q}{n p q+k p q+k^{2}}\right) \leq T V \\ & \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k(k-1)}{n+1}\right) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 2-runs |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{32,2 p}{\sqrt{(n-1)(1-p)^{3}}} \quad(\text { Brown-Xia, 2001) } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{c_{p}}{\sqrt{n}} \\ & \text { (Fang, 2014) } \end{aligned}$ |
| $k$-runs | $T V \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{k^{2}}{\rho(1-p)}\left(\frac{k}{k-1}\right)^{k-1}\right)$ <br> (Kumar-Upadhye, 2016) |  | $\begin{array}{r} \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{(4 k-3)(2 k-1) \rho^{2}}{\sqrt{(n-4 k+2) \rho^{k}(1-p)^{3}}}\right) \\ \quad(\text { Wang-Xia, 2008) } \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{K(k, p)}{\sqrt{n}} \\ & \quad \text { (Röllin, 2005) } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $m$-dependent $N\left(n, k_{1}, k_{2}\right)$ | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \frac{(1-p)^{1 \cdot 5 k k_{1} p^{1.5} \cdot k_{2} m^{2}}}{\sqrt{n-m+1}} \\ & \quad \text { (Cekanavicius-Vell., 2015) } \\ & \text { (Zhang, 2016) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \leq \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{(2+q p)(n-k)}{q(1+(n-k-1) p)}\right) \\ & \quad(\text { Kumar-Upadhye, 2017) } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |

## Illustration

$T V(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10$


## Illustration

$T V(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10,20$


## Illustration

$T V(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10,20,30$


## Illustration

$T V(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10,20, \ldots, 50$.


## Illustration

$T V(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10,20, \ldots, 100$.


## Illustration

$T V(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10,20, \ldots, 150$.


## Illustration

$\operatorname{TV}(\operatorname{Bin}(n, p), \mathcal{B B}(n, \alpha, \beta))$
where $p=\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \beta=1$ and $n=10,20, \ldots, 200$.


## Applications

Example: family-wise error rate
Testing correlation for 20 Brownian motions measured at 300 times

|  | FWER <br> method | Proportion <br> of rejections |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| FWER | Bonferroni | $0.324 \%$ |
| method on | Sidák | $0.332 \%$ |
| $p$-values | Hochberg | $0.327 \%$ |
| FWER | Binomial | $16 \%$ |
| method on <br> indicators | quantile <br> Beta Binomial <br> quantile | $6 \%$ |

## Applications

Example: family-wise error rate
Testing correlation for 20 Brownian motions measured at 300 times

|  | FWER <br> method | Proportion <br> of rejections |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | FWER | Bonferroni | $0.324 \%$ |
| method on | Sidák | $0.332 \%$ |  |
| $p$-values | Hochberg | $0.327 \%$ |  |
| FWER | Binomial | $16 \%$ | anticonservative tests |
| method on <br> indicators | quantile <br> Beta Binomial <br> quantile | $6 \%$ | tests |

## Related problems

Power in multiple testing
Number of rejections $W \sim \operatorname{Bin}\left(m_{0}, p\right) \oplus \sum_{i=m_{0}+1}^{m} \operatorname{Bern}\left(\beta_{i}\right)$
Exact distances
The exact distances between distributions is important (Adell 2005, 2008)

Distribution of multivariate $p$-values
A better understanding of the joint distribution can lead to refined confidence/rejection regions (already studied in Chi 2008). This is a difficult problem (see Wang 2014).

## References

## Stein's method

- Barbour \& Hall (1984). On the rate of Poisson convergence. Cambridge University Press.
- Barbour, Holst \& Janson (1992). Poisson approximation. Clarendon Press Oxford.
- Brown \& Xia (2001). Stein's method and birth-death processes. Annals of probability.
- Čekanavičius \& Vellaisamy (2013). Discrete approximations for sums of $m$-dependent random variables. arXiv.
- Ehm (1991). Binomial approximation to the Poisson binomial distribution. Statistics \& Probability Letters.
- Fang (2014). Discretized normal approximation by Stein's method. Bernoulli.
- Holmes (2004). Stein's method for birth and death chains. Stein's Method, Institute of Mathematical Statistics.
- Kumar \& Upadhye (2017). On discrete Gibbs measure approximation to runs. arXiv.
- Kumar \& Upadhye (2016). Pseudo-binomial Approximation to ( $k_{1}, k_{2}$ )-runs. arXiv.
- Röllin (2005). Approximation of sums of conditionally independent variables by the translated Poisson distribution. Bernoulli.
- Soon (1996). Binomial approximation for dependent indicators. Statistica Sinica.
- Teerapabolarn (2008). A bound on the binomial approximation to the beta binomial distribution. International Mathematical Forum.
- Wang \& Xia (2008). On negative binomial approximation to $k$-runs. Journal of Applied Probability.
- Zhang (2016). Binomial approximation for sum of indicators with dependent neighborhoods. Statistics \& Probability Letters.

Thanks to the IAP StUDyS for financial support

