

# Optimal Exact F Tests

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In balanced mixed-effects analysis-of-variance models, there are optimal exact F tests for most of the usual hypotheses about the fixed effects and the variance components. In such models Seifert (1979) showed that the usual ANOVA F tests of the fixed effects are uniformly most powerful invariant unbiased (UMPIU). El-Bassiouni and Seely (1980) and Mathew and Sinha (1988) established UMPU F tests for linear combinations of certain canonical linear combinations of the variance components. In this paper we generalize these results to models that are “partially balanced” and illustrate them in a split-plot model.

VanLeeuwen, Seely and Birkes (1998) introduced the concept of an error-orthogonal (EO) design. A linear model has an EO design if (i) the least-squares estimator of its mean vector is a uniformly best linear unbiased estimator and (ii) the linear space spanned by the possible covariance matrices of the vector of least-squares residuals is a commutative quadratic subspace (Seely, 1971). The structure of an EO linear model allows optimal exact F tests for certain canonical hypotheses (Utlaut, 1999).

Here we will focus on simple error-orthogonal (SEO) designs, defined as follows. Consider a variance-components model

$$E(y) = X\mathbf{b}, \quad \text{Cov}(y) = \sigma_1^2 V_1 + \dots + \sigma_r^2 V_r + \sigma_{r+1}^2 I.$$

The model is SEO if (i)  $V_j = m_j P_j$  for an orthogonal projection (o.p.) matrix  $P_j$ , (ii)  $P_X P_j = P_j P_X$  where  $P_X$  is the o.p. matrix on  $\varepsilon(X)$ , the range space (or column space) of  $X$ , and (iii)  $Q_j Q_k \neq 0$  implies  $Q_j Q_k = Q_l$  for some  $l$  where  $Q_j = M P_j$  and  $M = I - P_X$ .

In an ANOVA model, a type of partial balance called b&r-balance (VanLeeuwen, Birkes and Seely, 1999) implies SEO. A design is r-balanced if, for every pair of random effects, the marginal incidence matrix, obtained by summing the cell counts over all indices not involved in either of the two effects, is balanced. A design is b-balanced if, for every random effect and fixed effect, the marginal incidence matrix is conditionally balanced in the sense that for any given vector of indices for the fixed effect, the entries are equal. A design is b&r-balanced if it is b-balanced and r-balanced.

In an SEO model the o.p. matrix  $M$  can be decomposed as  $M = \sum_h M_h$  where (a) the  $M_h$ 's are mutually orthogonal o.p. matrices and (b) every  $Q_j$  can be written as a sum of some of the  $M_h$ 's. That is,  $Q_j = \sum_h w_{jh} M_h$  where  $w_{jh} = 0$  or 1. The matrices  $M_h$  can be constructed as follows. Start with the  $Q_j$ 's, including  $Q_{r+1} = M$ . For pairs of matrices for which  $\varepsilon(Q_j) \subset \varepsilon(Q_k)$ , replace  $Q_k$  by  $Q_k - Q_j$ .

Continue in this way until all the matrices are mutually orthogonal. This leads to a spectral decomposition of the covariance matrix of the vector of least-squares residuals as

$$\text{Cov}(My) = \pi_1(\psi)M_1 + \mathbf{p} + \pi_s(\psi)M_s$$

where  $\pi_h(\psi) = 3_j w_{jh} m_j \sigma_j^2$  and  $\psi = (\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_{r+1}^2)$ . Let  $V_\psi = \text{Cov}(y)$  and  $MS_h = y'M_h y / \text{rank}(M_h)$ .

Theorem 1: Consider a normal mixed-effects linear model that is SEO. Suppose  $P_0$  is an o.p. matrix such that (i)  $\varepsilon(P_0) \subset \varepsilon(X)$  and (ii)  $P_0 V_\psi = \pi_h(\psi)M_h$  for a particular  $h$ . Let  $MS_0 = y'P_0 y / \text{rank}(P_0)$ . Then  $MS_0/MS_h$  is the test statistic for an exact F test of  $H_0: P_0 X\beta = 0$  versus  $H_a: P_0 X\beta \neq 0$ . The test is UMPIU.

Theorem 2: Consider a normal mixed-effects linear model that is SEO. Suppose  $\pi_f(\psi) \geq \pi_g(\psi)$ . Then  $MS_f/MS_g$  is the test statistic for an exact F test of  $H_0: \pi_f(\psi) = \pi_g(\psi)$  versus  $H_a: \pi_f(\psi) > \pi_g(\psi)$ . The test is UMPIU.

Let us apply these results to a split-plot model with random blocks,

$$y_{ijklm} = \mu + \alpha_i + \beta_j + \theta_{ij} + c_k + d_{ijl} + e_{ijklm}$$

for  $m = 1, \dots, n_{ijkl}$ , where  $\alpha_i$  is a fixed whole-plot treatment effect,  $\beta_j$  is a fixed subplot treatment effect,  $\theta_{ij}$  is a fixed interaction effect,  $c_k$  is a random block effect,  $d_{ijl}$  is random whole-plot error, and  $e_{ijklm}$  is random subplot error. The design of the model is determined by the values of  $n_{ijkl}$ , the number of subplots in whole plot  $ikl$  to which the  $j$ -th subplot treatment is applied. To check whether or not a design has the SEO property it is helpful to reparameterize it by dropping the  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_j$  terms. Then the design is b&r-balanced if and only if (1)  $n_{ijkl}$  depends only on  $ij$  (i.e., for each given treatment combination  $ij$ , in all whole plots in all blocks, the number of subplots to which the  $ij$  treatment combination is applied is the same) and (2)  $n_{i\bullet\bullet l}$  (which is the number of subplots in whole plot  $ikl$ ) is the same in all whole plots in all blocks. For such designs, all the usual ANOVA tests are optimal exact F tests. Such a design would be useful, for instance, in a situation in which all the whole plots contained 3 subplots and there were 2 subplot treatments. Then the subplot treatments could not be balanced within each whole plot, but optimal exact F tests could still be obtained if the number of subplots to which subplot treatment 1 is assigned is the same among all the whole plots having any given whole-plot treatment.

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## RÉSUMÉ

En modèles mixtes de l'analyse de variance, tests F exacts optimaux peuvent être obtenus avec ne pas les plans balancés que des plans de balance partielle qui s'appellent de balance b&r. De plus généralité, en modèles linéaires mixtes, tests F exacts optimaux peuvent être obtenus avec des plans simples orthogonaux en ce qui concerne l'erreur. Les resultants sont appliqué à un modèle split-plot de blocs aléatoires.