DISTRIBUTION AND EXPECTED VALUE OF THE RANK OF A CONCOMITANT OF AN ORDER STATISTIC¹

By H. A. David, M. J. O'CONNELL² AND S. S. YANG

Iowa State University

Let (X_i, Y_i) be n independent rv's having a common bivariate distribution. When the X_i are arranged in nondecreasing order as the order statistics $X_{r:n}$ $(r=1,2,\cdots,n)$, the Y-variate $Y_{[r:n]}$ paired with $X_{r:n}$ is termed the concomitant of the rth order statistic. The small-sample theory of the distribution and expected value of the rank $R_{r,n}$ of $Y_{[r:n]}$ is studied. In the special case of bivariate normality an illustrative table of the probability distribution of $R_{r,n}$ is given. A more extensive table of $E(R_{r,n})$ is also provided and it is found that asymptotic results require comparatively small finite-sample corrections even for modest values of n. Some applications are briefly indicated.

1. Introduction. Let (X_i, Y_i) $(i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ be n independent rv's having a common bivariate distribution corresponding to (X, Y). When the X_i are arranged in nondecreasing order as the order statistics $X_{r:n}$ $(r = 1, 2, \dots, n)$, the Y-variate associated with $X_{r:n}$ may be denoted by $Y_{[r:n]}$ and termed the concomitant of the rth order statistic. These concomitants have been put to a variety of uses, recent examples including Gross (1973) and O'Connell and David (1976).

In this paper we are concerned primarily with the distribution and the expected value of the rank $R_{r:n}$ of $Y_{[r:n]}$ among the n Y_i . By way of motivation note that (X_i, Y_i) may refer to two tests taken by the ith individual A_i . We address ourselves to the following questions: If A_i has rank r in the first test, what is the probability that he will have rank s in the second test and what is his expected rank in the second test? Again, X_i may represent an observable (or phenotypic) rv, used as a basis for ranking or selection, and Y_i the true (or genotypic) rv that is really of interest.

Asymptotic results for the behavior of $R_{r,n}$ have been developed in David and Galambos (1974). Here we concentrate on the small-sample theory. In the special case when X and Y are bivariate normal an illustrative table of the probability distribution of $R_{r,n}$ is given. A more extensive table of $E(R_{r,n})$ is also provided and it is found that the asymptotic results require comparatively small finite-sample corrections even for modest values of n.

2. Probability distribution of the rank of $Y_{[r:n]}$. Let the indicator function

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² Now at Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

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I(u) be defined by

(2.1)
$$I(u) = 1 \quad \text{for } u \ge 0$$
$$= 0 \quad \text{otherwise.}$$

Then the rank of $Y_{[r:n]}$ is given by

$$(2.2) R_{r,n} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} I(Y_i - Y_{[r:n]}) r = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Let X and Y have the absolutely continuous joint cdf F(x, y), with pdf f(x, y). Since $R_{r,n}$ is from (2.2) location and scale invariant with respect to both X and Y, we take F and f to refer to the standardized variates. Writing $r(X_i)$ for the rank of X_i among the n X's, with a similar meaning for $r(Y_i)$, we have for $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$; $s = 1, 2, \dots, n$

(2.3)
$$\Pr\left\{R_{r,n} = s\right\} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \Pr\left\{r(Y_i) = s, r(X_i) = r\right\} \\ = n \Pr\left\{r(Y_n) = s, r(X_n) = r\right\},$$

where the subscript is taken to be n for definiteness. The manner in which the compound event $r(Y_n) = s$, $r(X_n) = r$ can occur is best seen from the following 2×2 table with fixed marginals:

Corresponding to the four cell entries write

(2.4)
$$\theta_1(x, y) = \Pr \{X < x, Y < y\}, \qquad \theta_2(x, y) = \Pr \{X < x, Y > y\},$$

 $\theta_3(x, y) = \Pr \{X > x, Y < y\}, \qquad \theta_4(x, y) = \Pr \{X > x, Y > y\}.$

By conditioning on X_n , Y_n , we then have from (2.3)

(2.5)
$$\Pr\left\{R_{r,n} = s\right\} = n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{t} C_{k} \theta_{1}^{\ k} \theta_{2}^{\ r-1-k} \theta_{3}^{\ s-1-k} \theta_{4}^{\ n-r-s+1+k} f(x, y) \, dx \, dy \, ,$$
 where

$$(2.6) t = \min(r-1, s-1),$$

(2.7)
$$C_k(r, s, n) = \frac{(n-1)!}{k! (r-1-k)! (s-1-k)! (n-r-s+1+k)!}$$

Equation (2.5) provides the distribution of $R_{r,n}$. However, it is quicker to obtain the following two symmetry relations directly from (2.3). Write $\pi_{rs} = \Pr\{R_{r,n} = s\}$.

RELATION 1. If there exist monotone increasing transformations from X to X' and from Y to Y' such that the joint pdf g(x', y') of X' and Y' is symmetric (i.e., g(x', y') = g(y', x')), then

$$\pi_{rs} = \pi_{sr} r, s = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

PROOF. We have $\Pr\{r(Y_n') = s, r(X_n') = r\} = \Pr\{r(X_n') = s, r(Y_n') = r\}$ and hence that $\Pr\{r(Y_n) = s, r(X_n) = r\} = \Pr\{r(Y_n) = r, r(X_n) = s\}$ which by (2.3) gives (2.8).

RELATION 2. If f(x, y) = f(-x, -y), then

$$\pi_{rs} = \pi_{n+1-r, n+1-s}.$$

PROOF. Put $Y_i^* = -Y_i$, $X_i^* = -X_i$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then

$$\Pr \{r(Y_n) = s, r(X_n) = r\} = \Pr \{r(Y_n^*) = n + 1 - s, r(X_n^*) = n + 1 - r\}$$
$$= \Pr \{r(Y_n) = n + 1 - s, r(X_n) = n + 1 - r\},$$

since the *n* pairs X_i^* , Y_i^* have the same joint distribution as the *n* pairs X_i , Y_i . This completes the proof.

3. Expected rank of $Y_{[r:n]}$. We require for $r=1, 2, \dots, n$

$$E(R_{r,n}) = \sum_{s=1}^{n} s \Pr \{R_{r,n} = s\}$$

= 1 + \sum_{u=0}^{n-1} u \Pr \{R_{r,n} = u + 1\}.

Noting that $C_k(r, u + 1, n)$ of (2.7) may be written as

$$C_k = \binom{n-1}{r-1} \binom{r-1}{k} \binom{n-r}{u-k}$$

and setting u = k + j we have from (2.5)

$$\begin{split} E(R_{r,n}) &= 1 + n\binom{n-1}{r-1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{n-r} (k+j) \\ &\times \binom{r-1}{k} \binom{n-r}{j} \theta_1^{\ k} \theta_2^{\ r-1-k} \theta_3^{\ j} \theta_4^{\ n-r-j} f(x,y) \ dx \ dy \ . \end{split}$$

Now $\theta_1 + \theta_2 = F_X(x)$ by (2.4). Hence from binomial-type summations such as

$$\sum_{k=0}^{r-1} k \binom{r-1}{k} \theta_1^{k} \theta_2^{r-1-k} = (r-1) \theta_1 [F_X(x)]^{r-2}$$

we obtain

(3.1)
$$E(R_{r,n}) = 1 + n \{ \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} \theta_1 f(y \mid x) \, dy] f_{r-1:n-1}(x) \, dx + \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} \theta_3 f(y \mid x) \, dy] f_{r:n-1}(x) \, dx \},$$

where $f_{r-1:n-1}(x)$ is the pdf of $X_{r-1:n-1}$, etc.

Higher moments of $R_{r,n}$ can be obtained via the factorial moments (cf. O'Connell, 1974).

4. Numerical results when X and Y are bivariate normal. For the case

$$f(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi(1 - \rho^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\{-\frac{1}{2}[x^2 - 2\rho xy + y^2]\} \qquad |\rho| < 1$$

(2.5) may be simplified somewhat by setting

$$cu = y - \rho x$$
 with $c = |\rho|(1 - \rho^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$.

This gives Pr $\{R_{r,n} = \hat{s}\}$ as

$$(4.1) \pi_{rs}(\rho) = nc \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{t} C_k \theta_1^{k} \theta_2^{r-1-k} \theta_3^{s-1-k} \theta_4^{n-r-s+1+k} \varphi(x) \varphi(cu) \, dx \, du \,,$$

where the θ 's are now functions of x and u; e.g., for $0 < \rho < 1$

$$\theta_1(x, u) = \int_{-\infty}^0 \varphi(t+x) \{1 - \Phi[c(t-u)]\} dt,$$

 φ , Φ denoting the standard normal pdf and cdf.

Relations (2.8) and (2.9) clearly hold in this case. Also results for negative ρ are given by

(4.2)
$$\pi_{rs}(\rho) = \pi_{r,n+1-s}(-\rho) \qquad r, s = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

From results more generally true for any variates X and Y, respectively inde-

TABLE 1 $\pi_{rs} = \Pr \left\{ R_{r,n} = s \right\} \text{ as a function of } \rho \text{ for } n = 9$

r	s	ρ									
		.10	.20	.30	.40	. 50	.60	.70	.80	.90	.95
9	9	.1407	.1746	.2133	.2576	.3087	.3686	.4404	. 5306	.6564	.7510
	8	. 1285	. 1459	.1631	.1797	.1952	. 2087	.2185	.2207	.2033	.1725
	7	.1211	.1296	. 1363	.1408	. 1424	. 1401	.1321	.1152	.0817	.0523
	6	.1152	.1173	.1171	.1143	.1085	.0989	.0846	.0640	.0350	.0169
	5	.1100	. 1069	. 1015	.0938	.0836	.0706	.0546	.0357	.0149	.0053
	4	. 1051	.0973	.0877	.0765	.0638	.0497	.0345	.0192	.0059	.0015
	3	.0999	.0877	.0747	.0611	.0472	.0334	.0205	.0095	.0021	.0004
	2	.0939	.0773	.0612	.0462	.0324	.0204	.0107	.0040	.0006	.0001
	1	.0856	.0635	.0451	.0300	.0183	.0097	.0041	.0011	.0001	.0000
8	8	.1220	.1334	. 1458	.1602	.1779	.2014	.2355	.2907	.3992	.5129
	7	.1177	.1247	.1323	.1409	. 1509	.1628	.1771	.1934	.2057	.1976
	6	.1142	.1175	.1208	.1241	.1273	.1299	.1304	.1254	.1044	.0762
	5	.1109	.1108	.1102	.1090	.1066	. 1022	.0941	.0793	.0511	.0281
	4	.1078	.1042	.0999	.0946	.0877	.0785	.0656	.0477	.0233	.0094
	3	.1043	.0972	.0893	.0803	.0699	.0575	.0430	.0264	.0093	.002
	2	.1001	.0890	.0773	.0650	.0520	.0385	.0250	.0124	.0030	.000
	1	.0946	.0773	.0612	.0462	.0324	.0204	.0107	.0040	.0006	.000
7	7	.1154	.1205	.1266	.1345	.1449	.1597	.1824	.2222	.3104	.416
	6	.1133	.1165	.1205	. 1259	.1331	. 1428	. 1561	.1743	.1964	. 200
	5	.1114	.1124	.1141	.1164	.1193	. 1225	.1253	.1249	.1112	.086
	4	. 1094	.1082	. 1071	. 1059	.1043	.1013	.0955	.0834	.0573	.033
	3	.1071	.1033	.0991	.0942	.0881	.0797	.0680	.0508	.0259	.010
	2	. 1043	.0972	.0893	.0803	.0699	.0576	.0430	.0264	.0094	.002
	1	. 1000	.0877	.0747	.0611	.0472	.0334	.0205	.0095	.0021	.000
6	6	.1126	.1150	.1188	.1242	.1321	. 1438	. 1625	. 1961	.2742	.373
	5	.1116	.1132	.1160	.1202	.1263	. 1350	. 1475	. 1657	. 1908	. 199
	4	.1107	.1110	.1122	.1141	.1169	.1202	.1234	. 1242	.1127	.089
	3	. 1095	.1081	.1071	.1060	. 1043	.1013	.0955	.0834	.0573	.033
	2	.1078	. 1042	.0999	.0946	.0878	.0785	.0657	.0477	.0233	.009
	1	. 1048	.0973	.0877	.0766	.0638	.0497	.0345	.0192	.0059	.001
5	5	.1117	.1134	.1165	.1213	.1285	.1394	.1570	.1889	.2640	.361

N.B. Outside the range of the table, use relations (2.8), (2.9), (4.2), (4.3) and (4.4).

pendent or with Y a monotone increasing function of X, we also have

$$\pi_{rs}(0) = 1/n \,,$$

(4.4)
$$\pi_{rs}(1) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad r \neq s,$$
$$= 1 \quad \text{if} \quad r = s.$$

Values of π_{rs} have been computed on an IBM 360/65 from (4.1) for n=3,5,9 and $\rho=0.1$ (0.1) 0.9, 0.95 (O'Connell, 1974). Table 1 gives the results for n=9. Among other interesting features of this table it may be observed that for small and moderate ρ -values π_{rs} is not necessarily a maximum for r=s; e.g., π_{89} (= π_{98}) > π_{88} for $\rho \leq 0.60$.

EXAMPLE. Suppose that the scores of candidates taking two tests are bivariate normal with $\rho=0.8$. Out of 9 candidates taking the first (screening) test the top k are selected and given the second test. What is the smallest value of k ensuring with probability at least 0.9 that the best of the n candidates, as judged by the second test, is included among the k selected?

We require the smallest k such that

$$\pi_{99} + \pi_{89} + \cdots + \pi_{10-k,9} \ge 0.9$$

i.e.,

$$\pi_{99} + \pi_{98} + \cdots + \pi_{9,10-k} \geq 0.9$$
.

Since, from the column for $\rho = 0.8$, we have

$$0.5306 + 0.2207 + 0.1152 + 0.0640 = 0.9305$$

the required value is k = 4.

The computation of $E(R_{r,n})$ is facilitated by noting that (3.1) may be expressed as

(4.5)
$$E(R_{r,n}) = 1 + n(n-1)\binom{n-2}{r-2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\Phi(x)]^{r-2} [1 - \Phi(x)]^{n-r} \theta_1(x, \bullet) \varphi(x) dx$$
$$+ n(n-1)\binom{n-2}{r-2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [\Phi(x)]^{r-1} [1 - \Phi(x)]^{n-r-1} \theta_3(x, \bullet) \varphi(x) dx ,$$

where

$$\theta_{1}(x, \cdot) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \theta_{1}(x, u) c \varphi(cu) du$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{0} \left[1 - \Phi(2^{-\frac{1}{2}}ct)\right] \varphi(t + x) dt, \text{ etc.}$$

From (2.9) we also have

(4.6)
$$E(R_{r,n}) = n + 1 - E(R_{n+1-r,n})$$

and, for negative ρ , we can use by (4.2)

(4.7)
$$E(R_{r,n}|\rho) = n + 1 - E(R_{r,n}|-\rho) .$$

Table 2 effectively gives $E(R_{r,n})$ for n=9, 19 and $\rho=0.05$ (0.05) 0.95, 0.99 and for n=39 and $\rho=0.5$ (0.05) 0.95, 0.99. This is done by providing finite-sample correction terms, $\Delta(\rho, \lambda_r)$ to the $n=\infty$ rows containing the asymptotic expectation ratio

$$\bar{r}(\rho, \lambda_r) = \lim_{n \to \infty} E(R_{r,n}/(n+1))$$
 with $r/(n+1) = \lambda_r$ (constant).

Values of $\bar{r}(\rho, \lambda_r)$ to 3 decimals were given in David (1973). It may be noted here

TABLE 2 Asymptotic expectation ratio $\bar{r}(\rho, \lambda_r) = \lim_{n \to \infty} E(R_{r,n}/(n+1))$ with $r/(n+1) = \lambda_r$, and $\Delta(\rho, \lambda_r) = E(R_{r,n}/(n+1)) - \bar{r}(\rho, \lambda_r)$ for n = 9, 19, 39.

ρ	n	λr								
μ		.55	.60	.65	. 70	.75	.80	.85	.90	.95
.05	∞ 9	. 5018	.5036 0001	. 5055	.5075 0002	. 5096	.5119 0001	.5147	.5181 + .0007	. 5233
	19	0001	- .000 1	0001	0001	0001	0001	+.0001	+0.003	+ .0014
.10	∞ 9	.5037	.5073 0003	.5110	.5149 0004	.5192	.5239 0002	.5294	.5363 + .0014	. 5465
	19	0002	0002	0002	0002	0002	0001	+.0001	+ .0007	+.0029
.15	∞ 9	.5055	.5109 0003	.5165	.5224 0006	. 5289	.5359 0003	. 5441	.5545 + .0021	. 5698
	19	0002	0003	0003	0003	0003	0001	+.0002	+ .0011	+.0042
.20	∞ 9	. 5073	.5146 0005	. 5221	.5300 0007	. 5385	.5480 0003	.5590	.5727 + .0027	. 5930
	19	0003	0003	0004	0004	0003	0002	+.0003	+ .0014	+.0055
.25	∞ 9	. 5092	.5183 0006	.5277	.5376 0008	. 5483	. 5601 0004	.5739	.5911 + .0032	.6162
	19	0003	0003	0003	0004	0004	0002	+.0004	+.0018	+.0067
.30	∞ 9	.5110	.5220 0007	. 5334	.5454 0010	. 5582	.5725 0005	. 5890	.6095 + .0035	.6394
	19	0003	0004	0004	0005	0004	0001	+.0005	+.0021	+.0076
.35	∞ 9	.5129	.5258 0007	. 5392	.5533 0011	.5683	.5850 0006	.6043	.6282 0038	.6626
	19	0003	0004	0004	0005	0004	0002	+.0005	+.0023	+.0084
.40	∞ 9	.5148	.5298	. 5452	.5614 0013	.5787	. 5978 0008	.6199	.6470 + .0038	.6859
	19	0002	0004	0005	0005	0004	0002	+.0005	+ .0024	+.0086
.45	∞ 9	.5168	.5338	.5513	.5697 00015	. 5894	.6110 0011	.6358	.6661 +.0036	.7091
	19	0002	0004	0005	0006	0005	0003	+.0005	+.0024	+.0089
.50	∞ 9	.5189	.5380 0001	.5577	.5784 0017	.6004	.6245 0015	.6520	.6856 + .0080	. 7324
	19	0002	0004	0006	0006	0006	0004	+.0003	+.0022	+.0086
	39	0001	0001	0002	0002	0002	+.0000	+.0004	+.0014	+.0048
.55	∞ 9	. 5211	. 5425 0011	. 5644	.5874 0020	.6118	.6385 0020	.6688	.7053 + .0021	.7558
	19 39	0003 0001	0005 0001	0006 0002	0008 0003	0008 0002	0006 0001	+.0000 +.0003	+.0019 +.0013	$+.0079 \\ +.0045$
.60	∞ 9	. 5234	.5471 0013	.5714	.5968 0024	.6238	.6530 0027	.6860	.7255	.7790
	19 39	0003 0001	0005 0002	0008 0003	0010 0003	0010 0004	0007 0009 0003	0004 + .0007	0013	+ .0068 + .0040
	19		0005		0010		0009	0004 + .0007	+ .0008 0013 + .0010	

TABLE 2 (continued)

		λr								
ρ	n	.55	.60	.65	.70	.75	.80	.85	.90	.95
.65	∞	.5258	.5520	.5789	.6068	.6363	.6682	. 7039	.7461	.8022
	9		0015		0029		0035		0009	
	19	0030	0006	0009	0012	0014	0013	0009	+.0005	+.0052
	3 9	0010	0002	0004	0005	0005	0005	0002	+.0006	+.0033
.70	∞	.5285	.5573	.5867	.6173	.6494	.6840	.7223	.7671	.8252
	9		0018		0034		0045		+.0025	
	19	0004	0008	0011	0015	0017	0018	0016	0005	+.0033
	39	0001	0003	0005	0006	0007	0007	0006	0001	+.0023
.75	∞	.5313	.5628	.5951	.6284	.6633	.7006	.7415	.7885	.8480
	9		0020		0040		0056		+.0033	
	19	0004	0009	0013	0018	0021	0024	0023	0017	+.0009
	39	0002	0004	0006	0010	0010	0011	0010	0006	+.0011
.80	∞	.5343	.5689	.6041	.6404	.6781	.7181	.7614	.8103	.8702
	9		0023		0046		0067		+.0077	
	19	0005	0010	0016	0021	0026	0030	0032	0030	0016
	39	0002	0004	0007	0009	0012	0015	0015	0013	0002
.85	∞	.5376	.5754	.6139	.6533	.6939	.7366	.7821	.8324	.8919
	9		0026		0053		0079		0105	
	19	0006	0012	0018	0024	0030	0036	0041	0044	0032
	39	0002	0005	0008	0011	0014	0017	0019	0020	0017
.90	∞	.5412	.5827	.6246	.6673	.7110	.7563	.8038	.8549	.9127
	9		0027		0057		0089		0127	
	19	0006	0012	0019	0027	0034	0041	0049	0057	0065
	39	0003	0006	0009	0012	0016	0020	0024	0027	0029
.95	∞	.5453	.5908	.6365	.6827	.7296	.7773	.8264	.8774	.9321
	9		0027		0057		0090		0134	
	19	0006	0012	0019	0027	0034	0043	0052	0062	0077
	39	0003	0006	0009	0013	0017	0021	0025	0030	0036
.99	∞	.5490	.5980	.6472	.6964	.7458	.7953	.8452	.8955	.9469
	9		0017		0037		0059		0091	
	19	0004	0008	0013	0018	0023	0028	0035	0042	0055
	39	0002	0004	0006	0009	0011	0014	0017	0021	0026

N.B. For $\lambda_r < 0.5$ and for $\rho < 0$ use relations (4.6) and (4.7).

that by a transformation of variables the integral expression for $\bar{r}(\rho, \lambda_r)$ previously derived can be simplified to

(4.8)
$$\bar{r}(\rho, \lambda_r) = \Phi\left(\frac{\rho\Phi^{-1}(\lambda_r)}{(2-\rho^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right).$$

Likewise the formula for the limiting cdf of $R_{r,n}$ developed in David and Galambos (1974) reduces, for any constant z ($0 \le z \le 1$), to

(4.9)
$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \Pr\left\{ R_{r,n} \le nz \right\} = \Phi\left(\frac{\Phi^{-1}(z) - \rho \Phi^{-1}(\lambda_r)}{(1-\rho^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right).$$

As an example of how to use Table 2 consider r = 8, n = 9, $\rho = 0.75$. Then $\lambda_r = 0.8$ and

$$E(R_{8.9}) = 10 (0.7006 - 0.0056) = 6.95$$
.

Since the correction terms in Table 2 are quite small, even for n = 9, the table and (4.8) are useful for a wide range of sample sizes. Similarly (4.9) provides an approximation to the exact cdf of $R_{r,n}$ but the approximation remains quite rough, at least for n = 9, in spite of attempted continuity corrections.

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STATISTICAL LABORATORY IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY AMES, IOWA 50011

Added in proof. It has recently come to our notice that what we call "concomitants of order statistics" are termed "induced order statistics" by Bhattacharya (1974) and Sen (1976). The emphasis of their work is, however, quite different from ours.

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