

# The Impact of Covariance Priors on Arm-based Bayesian Network Meta-Analyses with Binary Outcomes

## Supplementary Materials

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## A Definition of restricted Wishart distribution and its properties

In this appendix, we want to show the equivalence of restricted Wishart distribution and LKJ distribution Lewandowski et al. (2009) in some sense. We start with the definition of Wishart distribution. As we know, if  $T \times 1$  vectors  $\boldsymbol{\nu}_1, \boldsymbol{\nu}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\nu}_K$  are independent random variables that are multivariate normally distributed with mean  $\mathbf{0}$  and variance  $\Sigma$ , and we have a  $T \times K$  matrix  $\boldsymbol{\nu} = (\boldsymbol{\nu}_1, \boldsymbol{\nu}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\nu}_K)$ , then the  $T$ -dimensional positive definite matrix  $\mathbf{S} = \boldsymbol{\nu}\boldsymbol{\nu}'$  ( $\boldsymbol{\nu}'$  is the transpose of  $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ ) follows the Wishart distribution with degree of freedom  $K > T - 1$  and positive definite scale matrix  $\Sigma$ :

$$\mathbf{S} \sim W_T(K, \Sigma) \equiv \left\{ 2^{\frac{1}{2}KT} \Gamma_T\left(\frac{1}{2}K\right) \right\}^{-1} |\Sigma|^{-\frac{1}{2}K} |\mathbf{S}|^{\frac{1}{2}(K-T-1)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{S})\right) \quad (1)$$

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where  $|\bullet|$  is the determinant,  $tr$  is the trace, and  $\Gamma_T$  is the multivariate (T-variate here) gamma function. After that, we can formally define the restricted Wishart distribution based on the Wishart distribution:

**Definition 1.** A positive definite correlation matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  follows the restricted Wishart distribution  $RW_T(m)$ , if  $\mathbf{R} = \Delta \Sigma \Delta$ , where  $\Sigma \sim W_T(m, \Psi)$  with  $\Psi$  being diagonal matrix with diagonal entries  $\psi_{11}, \psi_{22}, \dots, \psi_{TT}$ ,  $\Delta$  is a diagonal matrix with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  diagonal element  $\sigma_{ii}^{-1/2}$  and  $\sigma_{ii}$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  diagonal element of  $\Sigma$ .

**Theorem 1.** If  $R$  follows the restricted Wishart distribution  $RW_T(m)$ , then

(a) the joint distribution of  $\mathbf{R}$  is:

$$f(\mathbf{R}) = b_T(m) |\mathbf{R}|^{\frac{m-T-1}{2}} \quad (2)$$

where

$$b_T(m) = \frac{\Gamma^T(\frac{m}{2})}{\Gamma_T(\frac{m}{2})} \quad (3)$$

is the normalizing constant. When  $m = T + 1$ ,  $R$  becomes a jointly uniform distribution on a compact subspace of the  $T(T - 1)/2$  dimensional hypercube  $[-1, 1]^{T(T-1)/2}$ .

(b) this normalizing constant  $b_T(m)$  matches the following alternative formula given by Lewandowski et al. (2009):

$$c_T = 2^{\sum_{k=1}^{T-1} (m-k-1)(k-T)} \times \prod_{k=1}^{T-1} [B(\frac{m-k}{2}, \frac{m-k}{2})]^{k-T} \quad (4)$$

where  $B(\bullet, \bullet)$  is the beta function.

(c) the marginal distribution of each element  $\rho_{ij}$  ( $i \neq j$ ) in matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  is

$$f(\rho_{ij}) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m-1}{2})\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})} (1 - \rho_{ij}^2)^{\frac{m-3}{2}}, \quad -1 \leq \rho_{ij} \leq 1 \quad (5)$$

which is exactly the  $Beta(\frac{m-1}{2}, \frac{m-1}{2})$  distribution on  $[-1, 1]$ , and will be  $Beta(\frac{T}{2}, \frac{T}{2})$  when  $f(\mathbf{R}) = b_T(T + 1)$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.* (a). We first calculate the Jacobian matrix of the transformation  $\Sigma \rightarrow (\sigma_{11}, \dots, \sigma_{TT}, \mathbf{R})$

$$\mathbf{J}_1 = \mathbf{J}(\sigma_{11} = \sigma_{11}, \dots, \sigma_{TT} = \sigma_{TT}, \rho_{ij} = \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{ii}\sigma_{jj}}}) = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{I}_T & 0 \\ \hline * & \mathbf{C} \end{array} \right] \quad (6)$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the entry of matrix  $\Sigma$ ,  $\mathbf{I}_T$  is the  $T$ -dimensional identity matrix,  $\mathbf{C}$  is the  $T(T - 1)/2$  dimensional diagonal matrix with entries  $1/\sqrt{\sigma_{ii}\sigma_{jj}}$  ( $i \neq j$ ). Since  $J_1$  is a lower triangular matrix, its determinant  $|\mathbf{J}_1|$  equals  $\prod_{i=1}^T \sigma_{ii}^{-(T-1)/2}$  and sub-matrix in (6) given as \* need not be derived. Then, given  $\Sigma \sim W_T(m, \Psi)$ , we can derive the joint distribution of  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $(\sigma_{11}, \dots, \sigma_{TT})$  is

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{R}, \sigma_{11}, \dots, \sigma_{TT}) &= f(\Sigma)|\mathbf{J}_1|^{-1} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma^T(\frac{m}{2})|\mathbf{R}|^{\frac{m-T-1}{2}}}{\Gamma_T(\frac{m}{2})} \prod_{i=1}^T \left\{ \frac{\sigma_{ii}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \exp(-\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{\psi_{ii}})}{2^{\frac{m}{2}} \psi_{ii}^{\frac{m}{2}} \Gamma(\frac{m}{2})} \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Clearly,  $\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{\psi_{ii}}, i = 1, \dots, T$  are independently distributed as chi-square with  $m$  degrees of freedom. Also, the density of  $\mathbf{P}$  is

$$f(\mathbf{R}) = \frac{\Gamma^T(\frac{m}{2})}{\Gamma_T(\frac{m}{2})} |\mathbf{R}|^{\frac{m-T-1}{2}} \quad (8)$$

(b). We just need to prove function  $f(T, m) = b_T(m)/c_T$  equals 1 for any integer  $T$  ( $\geq 2$ )

and  $m > T - 1$ . Given  $\Gamma_T(\frac{m}{2}) = \pi^{T(T-1)/4} \prod_{k=1}^T \Gamma(\frac{m}{2} + \frac{1-k}{2})$  (JamesJames (1964), p. 483), we can simplify  $f(T, m)$  as

$$\begin{aligned} f(T, m) &= \frac{\Gamma^T(\frac{m}{2})}{\Gamma_T(\frac{m}{2})} \prod_{k=1}^{T-1} [B(\frac{m-k}{2}, \frac{m-k}{2})]^{T-k} \times 2^{\sum_{k=1}^{T-1} (m-k-1)(T-k)} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma^T(\frac{m}{2})}{\pi^{T(T-1)/4} \Gamma(\frac{m}{2}) \prod_{k=1}^{T-1} \Gamma(\frac{m-k}{2})} \prod_{k=1}^{T-1} [\frac{\Gamma^2(\frac{m-k}{2})}{\Gamma(m-k)}]^{T-k} \times 2^{\sum_{k=1}^{T-1} (m-k-1)(T-k)} \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^{T-1} [2^{(m-k-1)(T-k)} \times \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\pi^{T/4}} \frac{\Gamma^{2T-2k-1}(\frac{m-k}{2})}{\Gamma^{T-k}(m-k)}] \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

We prove that (9) equals 1 using mathematical induction. Start with  $T = 2$ , then for any  $m > 1$ ,  $f(2, m)$  reduces to

$$2^{m-2} \pi^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{m-1}{2})}{\Gamma(m-1)} \equiv 1 \quad (10)$$

which is known as a special case ( $k = 1$ ) of the identity  $\Gamma(m-k) \equiv 2^{m-k-1} \pi^{-1/2} \Gamma(\frac{m-k}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{m-k+1}{2})$  (Abramowitz and StegunAbramowitz and Stegun (1965), p. 483). Assume  $f(T, m) = 1$  holds for  $T = t$ . It must then be shown that  $f(t+1, m) = 1$ ,  $\forall m > T - 1$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} f(t+1, m) &= \prod_{k=1}^t [2^{(m-k-1)(t+1-k)} \times \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\pi^{(t+1)/4}} \frac{\Gamma^{2t-2k+1}(\frac{m-k}{2})}{\Gamma^{t+1-k}(m-k)}] \\ &= [2^{m-t-1} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\pi^{(t+1)/4}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m-t}{2})}{\Gamma(m-t)}] \times \prod_{k=1}^{t-1} [2^{(m-k-1)(t+1-k)} \times \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\pi^{(t+1)/4}} \frac{\Gamma^{2t-2k+1}(\frac{m-k}{2})}{\Gamma^{t+1-k}(m-k)}] \\ &= [2^{m-t-1} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\pi^{(t+1)/4}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m-t}{2})}{\Gamma(m-t)}] \times f(t, m) \times \prod_{k=1}^{t-1} [2^{m-k-1} \frac{1}{\pi^{1/4}} \frac{\Gamma^2(\frac{m-k}{2})}{\Gamma(m-k)}] \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Using the same identity  $\Gamma(m-k) \equiv 2^{m-k-1} \pi^{-1/2} \Gamma(\frac{m-k}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{m-k+1}{2})$  multiple times,  $f(t+1, m)$

is

$$\begin{aligned}
f(t+1, m) &= \left[ \frac{1}{\pi^{(t-1)/4}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m-t+1}{2})} \right] \times 1 \times \prod_{k=1}^{t-1} \left[ \frac{1}{\pi^{-1/4}} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m-k}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m-k+1}{2})} \right] \\
&= \prod_{k=1}^t \left[ \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m-k+1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m-k}{2})} \right] \\
&= 1
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

(c). According to EatonEaton (1983) (p. 256), if  $\Sigma \sim W_T(m, \Psi)$ , then any  $T_1 \times T_1$  principal sub-matrix  $\Sigma_1$  of  $\Sigma$  has following distribution

$$\Sigma_1 \sim W_{T_1}(m, \Psi_1) \tag{13}$$

with  $\Psi_1$  being the  $T_1 \times T_1$  principal sub-matrix of  $\Psi$ . By applying it to the (2), any  $T_1 \times T_1$  principal sub-matrix  $\mathbf{R}_1$  of  $\mathbf{R}$  has density function  $b_{T_1}(m)|\mathbf{R}_1|^{\frac{m-T_1-1}{2}}$ . Simply let  $T_1=2$ , we could obtain the marginal distribution of  $\rho_{ij}$

$$f(\rho_{ij}) = \frac{\Gamma^2(\frac{m}{2})}{\Gamma_2(\frac{m}{2})} (1 - \rho_{ij}^2)^{\frac{m-3}{2}}, \quad -1 \leq \rho_{ij} \leq 1 \tag{14}$$

□

## B Stan code for AB-NMA models

### B.1 AB-IW model

```

1 data{
2   int<lower=0> len; //total number of data size
3   int<lower=0> ntrt; //total number of treatments
4   int<lower=0> nstudy; //total number of studies
5   int<lower=0> t[len]; //indices of treatment

```

```

6   int<lower=0> s[len]; //indices of study
7   int<lower=0> r[len]; //number of events
8   int<lower=0> totaln[len]; //number of participants
9   int<lower=0,upper=1> higher_better; //to indicate whether higher
   ↳ absolute risk is better or not
10  vector<lower=0>[ntrt] zeros; //mean effects in MVN
11  matrix[ntrt,ntrt] Lambda; //parameter lambda in Inverse-Wishart,
   ↳ generally identity matrix
12  real<lower=1> nu; //parameter nu in Inverse-Wishart, generally ntrt+1
13 }
14 parameters {
15   matrix[nstudy,ntrt] vi; //random effects
16   vector[ntrt] mu; //fixed effect for treatment
17   cov_matrix[ntrt] Sigma; //covariance matrix
18 }
19 transformed parameters {
20   vector<lower=0,upper=1>[len] p; //Study_specified Absolute Risk
21   for(i in 1:len){
22     p[i]=inv_logit(mu[t[i]]+vi[s[i],t[i]]);
23   }
24 }
25 model{
26   for(i in 1:len){
27     r[i]~binomial(totaln[i],p[i]);
28   }
29   for(j in 1:nstudy){
30     vi[j,]~multi_normal(zeros,Sigma);
31   }
32   for(j in 1:ntrt){
33     mu[j]~normal(0,100);
34   }

```

```

35 Sigma~inv_wishart(nu,Lambda);
36 }
37 generated quantities {
38   real AR[ntrt]; //Populaiton averaged absolute risk
39   real MU[ntrt];
40   real SD[ntrt]; //standard deviation of covariance matrix
41   real OR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Odds Ratio
42   real LOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Log odds Ratio
43   real cLOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //cLog odds Ratio
44   real CORR[ntrt,ntrt]; //correlation matrix
45   int rk[ntrt]; // rank of AR
46   int rank_prob[ntrt,ntrt]; //rank probability
47   real DEV=0; // Total Residual Deviance
48   for(j in 1:ntrt){
49     AR[j]=inv_logit(mu[j]/sqrt(1+Sigma[j,j]*256/75/pi()/pi()));
50     SD[j]=sqrt(Sigma[j,j]);
51     MU[j]=mu[j];
52   }
53   for(j in 1:ntrt){
54     for(k in 1:ntrt){
55       OR[j,k]=AR[j]/(1-AR[j])/AR[k]*(1-AR[k]);
56       LOR[j,k]=log(OR[j,k]);
57       cLOR[j,k]=MU[j]-MU[k];
58       CORR[j,k]=Sigma[j,k]/SD[j]/SD[k];
59     }
60   }
61   for(j in 1:ntrt){
62     rk[j]=higher_better?ntrt-rank(AR,j):rank(AR,j)+1;
63   }
64   for(j in 1:ntrt){
65     for(k in 1:ntrt){

```

```

66     rank_prob[k,j]=(rk[k]==j);
67
68 }
69
70 for(i in 1:len){
71
72   DEV=DEV+2*(r[i]*(-log(p[i]*totaln[i]))+(totaln[i]-r[i])*(-log(totaln[i
73   ↪ ]-p[i]*totaln[i])));
74
75 }
76 }
```

## B.2 AB-RW model

```

1 data{
2
3   int<lower=0> len; //total number of data size
4
5   int<lower=0> ntrt; //total number of treatments
6
7   int<lower=0> nstudy; //total number of studies
8
9   int<lower=0> t[len]; //indices of treatment
10
11  int<lower=0> s[len]; //indices of study
12
13  int<lower=0> r[len]; //number of events
14
15  int<lower=0> totaln[len]; //number of participants
16
17  real<lower=0> uni_upper; //uniform distribution upper bound
18
19  int<lower=0,upper=1> higher_better; //to indicate whether higher
20   ↪ absolute risk is better or not
21
22  vector<lower=0>[ntrt] zeros; //mean effects in MVN
23
24  real<lower=0.1> eta; //parameter eta in LKJ, generally 1
25
26 }
27
28 parameters {
29
30   matrix[nstudy,ntrt] vi; //random effects
31
32   vector[ntrt] mu; //fixed effect for treatment
33
34   cholesky_factor_corr[ntrt] LOmega; //LKJ prior
35
36   vector[ntrt] ssd; //seperate standard deviation
37
38 }
```

```

20 transformed parameters {
21   vector<lower=0,upper=1>[len] p; //Study_specified Absolute Risk
22   corr_matrix[ntrt] CORR; //correlation matrix
23   for(i in 1:len){
24     p[i]=inv_logit(mu[t[i]]+vi[s[i],t[i]]);
25   }
26   CORR <- multiply_lower_tri_self_transpose(LOmega);
27 }
28 model{
29   for(i in 1:len){
30     r[i]~binomial(totaln[i],p[i]);
31   }
32   for(j in 1:nstudy){
33     vi[j,]~multi_normal(zeros, quad_form_diag(CORR,ssd));
34   }
35   for(j in 1:ntrt){
36     mu[j]~normal(0,100);
37     ssd[j]~uniform(0,uni_upper);
38   }
39   LOmega~lkj_corr_cholesky(eta);
40 }
41 generated quantities {
42   real AR[ntrt]; //Populaiton averaged absolute risk
43   real MU[ntrt];
44   real SD[ntrt]; //standard deviation
45   real OR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Odds Ratio
46   real LOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Log odds Ratio
47   real cLOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //cLog odds Ratio
48   int rk[ntrt]; // rank of AR
49   int rank_prob[ntrt,ntrt]; //rank probability
50   real DEV=0; // Total Residual Deviance

```

```

51   for(j in 1:ntrt){
52     AR[j]=inv_logit(mu[j]/sqrt(1+ssd[j]*ssd[j]*256/75/pi()/pi()));
53     SD[j]=ssd[j];
54     MU[j]=mu[j];
55   }
56   for(j in 1:ntrt){
57     for(k in 1:ntrt){
58       OR[j,k]=AR[j]/(1-AR[j])/AR[k]*(1-AR[k]);
59       LOR[j,k]=log(OR[j,k]);
60       cLOR[j,k]=MU[j]-MU[k];
61     }
62   }
63   for(j in 1:ntrt){
64     rk[j]=higher_better?ntrt-rank(AR,j):rank(AR,j)+1;
65   }
66   for(j in 1:ntrt){
67     for(k in 1:ntrt){
68       rank_prob[k,j]=(rk[k]==j);
69     }
70   }
71   for(i in 1:len){
72     DEV=DEV+2*(r[i]*(-log(p[i]*totaln[i]))+(totaln[i]-r[i])*(-log(totaln[i]
73     ↪ ]-p[i]*totaln[i])));
74   }

```

### B.3 AB-RIW model

```

1 data{
2   int<lower=0> len; //total number of data size
3   int<lower=0> ntrt; //total number of treatments

```

```

4   int<lower=0> nstudy; //total number of studies
5   int<lower=0> t[len]; //indices of treatment
6   int<lower=0> s[len]; //indices of study
7   int<lower=0> r[len]; //number of events
8   int<lower=0> totaln[len]; //number of participants
9   real<lower=0> uni_upper; //uniform distribution upper bound
10  int<lower=0,upper=1> higher_better; //to indicate whether higher
    ↪ absolute risk is better or not
11  vector<lower=0>[ntrt] zeros; //mean effects in MVN
12  matrix[ntrt,ntrt] Lambda; //parameter lambda in Inverse-Wishart,
    ↪ generally identity matrix
13  real<lower=1> nu; //parameter nu in Inverse-Wishart, generally ntrt+1
14 }
15 parameters {
16   matrix[nstudy,ntrt] vi; //random effects
17   vector[ntrt] mu; //fixed effect for treatment
18   cov_matrix[ntrt] Sigma; //covariance matrix
19   vector[ntrt] ssd; //seperate standard deviation
20 }
21 transformed parameters {
22   vector<lower=0,upper=1>[len] p; //Study_specified Absolute Risk
23   corr_matrix[ntrt] CORR; //correlation matrix
24   for(i in 1:len){
25     p[i]=inv_logit(mu[t[i]]+vi[s[i],t[i]]);
26   }
27   for(j in 1:ntrt){
28     for(k in 1:ntrt){
29       CORR[j,k]=Sigma[j,k]/sqrt(Sigma[j,j])/sqrt(Sigma[k,k]);
30     }
31   }
32 }
```

```

33 model{
34   for(i in 1:len){
35     r[i]~binomial(totaln[i],p[i]);
36   }
37   for(j in 1:nstudy){
38     vi[j,]~multi_normal(zeros, quad_form_diag(CORR,ssd));
39   }
40   for(j in 1:ntrt){
41     mu[j]~normal(0,100);
42     ssd[j]~uniform(0,uni_upper);
43   }
44   Sigma~inv_wishart(nu,Lambda);
45 }
46 generated quantities {
47   real AR[ntrt]; //Populaiton averaged absolute risk
48   real MU[ntrt];
49   real SD[ntrt]; //standard deviation
50   real OR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Odds Ratio
51   real LOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Log odds Ratio
52   real cLOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //cLog odds Ratio
53   int rk[ntrt]; // rank of AR
54   int rank_prob[ntrt,ntrt]; //rank probability
55   real DEV=0; // Total Residual Deviance
56   for(j in 1:ntrt){
57     AR[j]=inv_logit(mu[j]/sqrt(1+ssd[j]*ssd[j]*256/75/pi()/pi()));
58     SD[j]=ssd[j];
59     MU[j]=mu[j];
60   }
61   for(j in 1:ntrt){
62     for(k in 1:ntrt){
63       OR[j,k]=AR[j]/(1-AR[j])/AR[k]*(1-AR[k]);

```

```

64     cLOR[j,k]=MU[j]-MU[k];
65
66     LOR[j,k]=log(OR[j,k]);
67 }
68 }
69 for(j in 1:ntrt){
70     rk[j]=higher_better?ntrt-rank(AR,j):rank(AR,j)+1;
71 }
72 for(j in 1:ntrt){
73     for(k in 1:ntrt){
74         rank_prob[k,j]=(rk[k]==j);
75     }
76 }
77 for(i in 1:len){
78     DEV=DEV+2*(r[i]*(-log(p[i]*totaln[i]))+(totaln[i]-r[i])*(-log(totaln[i
79     ↪ ]-p[i]*totaln[i])));
}

```

## B.4 AB-EQ model

```

1 data{
2     int<lower=0> len; //total number of data size
3     int<lower=0> ntrt; //total number of treatments
4     int<lower=0> nstudy; //total number of studies
5     int<lower=0> t[len]; //indices of treatment
6     int<lower=0> s[len]; //indices of study
7     int<lower=0> r[len]; //number of events
8     int<lower=0> totaln[len]; //number of participants
9     real<lower=0> uni_upper; //uniform distribution upper bound
10    int<lower=0,upper=1> higher_better; //to indicate whether higher
11      ↪ absolute risk is better or not

```

```

11  vector<lower=0>[ntrt] zeros; //mean effects in MVN
12 }
13 parameters {
14   matrix[nstudy,ntrt] vi; //random effects
15   vector[ntrt] mu; //fixed effect for treatment
16   vector[ntrt] ssd; //seperate standard deviation
17   real CORR; //correlation
18 }
19 transformed parameters {
20   vector<lower=0,upper=1>[len] p; //Study_specified Absolute Risk
21   matrix[ntrt,ntrt] Omega; //precision matrix
22   real diag;
23   real offdiag;
24   diag=(1+(ntrt-2)*CORR)/(1+(ntrt-2)*CORR-(ntrt-1)*CORR^2);
25   offdiag=(-CORR/(1+(ntrt-2)*CORR-(ntrt-1)*CORR^2));
26   for(i in 1:len){
27     p[i]=inv_logit(mu[t[i]]+vi[s[i],t[i]]);
28   }
29   for(j in 1:ntrt){
30     for(k in 1:ntrt){
31       Omega[j,k]=(j==k?diag:offdiag)/ssd[j]/ssd[k];
32     }
33   }
34 }
35 model{
36   for(i in 1:len){
37     r[i]~binomial(totaln[i],p[i]);
38   }
39   for(j in 1:nstudy){
40     vi[j,]~multi_normal_prec(zeros, Omega);
41   }

```

```

42   for(j in 1:ntrt){
43     mu[j]~normal(0,100);
44     ssd[j]~uniform(0,uni_upper);
45   }
46   CORR~uniform((-1.000)/(ntrt-1)+0.0001,0.9999);
47 }
48 generated quantities {
49   real AR[ntrt]; //Populaiton averaged absolute risk
50   real MU[ntrt];
51   real SD[ntrt]; //standard deviation
52   real OR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Odds Ratio
53   real LOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Log odds Ratio
54   real cLOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //cLog odds Ratio
55   int rk[ntrt]; // rank of AR
56   int rank_prob[ntrt,ntrt]; //rank probability
57   real DEV=0; // Total Residual Deviance
58   for(j in 1:ntrt){
59     AR[j]=inv_logit(mu[j]/sqrt(1+ssd[j]*ssd[j]*256/75/pi()/pi()));
60     SD[j]=ssd[j];
61     MU[j]=mu[j];
62   }
63   for(j in 1:ntrt){
64     for(k in 1:ntrt){
65       OR[j,k]=AR[j]/(1-AR[j])/AR[k]*(1-AR[k]);
66       cLOR[j,k]=MU[j]-MU[k];
67       LOR[j,k]=log(OR[j,k]);
68     }
69   }
70   for(j in 1:ntrt){
71     rk[j]=higher_better?ntrt-rank(AR,j):rank(AR,j)+1;
72   }

```

```

73   for(j in 1:ntrt){
74     for(k in 1:ntrt){
75       rank_prob[k,j]=(rk[k]==j);
76     }
77   }
78   for(i in 1:len){
79     DEV=DEV+2*(r[i]*(-log(p[i]*totaln[i]))+(totaln[i]-r[i])*(-log(totaln[i]
80     ↪ ]-p[i]*totaln[i])));
81   }

```

## B.5 AB-EQ-EV model

```

1 data{
2   int<lower=0> len; //total number of data size
3   int<lower=0> ntrt; //total number of treatments
4   int<lower=0> nstudy; //total number of studies
5   int<lower=0> t[len]; //indices of treatment
6   int<lower=0> s[len]; //indices of study
7   int<lower=0> r[len]; //number of events
8   int<lower=0> totaln[len]; //number of participants
9   real<lower=0> uni_upper; //uniform distribution upper bound
10  int<lower=0,upper=1> higher_better; //to indicate whether higher
11    ↪ absolute risk is better or not
12  vector<lower=0>[ntrt] zeros; //mean effects in MVN
13 }
14 parameters {
15   matrix[nstudy,ntrt] vi; //random effects
16   vector[ntrt] mu; //fixed effect for treatment
17   real ssdd; //seperate standard deviation
18   real CORR; //correlation

```

```

18 }
19 transformed parameters {
20   vector<lower=0,upper=1>[len] p; //Study_specified Absolute Risk
21   matrix[ntrt,ntrt] Omega; //precision matrix
22   real diag;
23   real offdiag;
24   diag=(1+(ntrt-2)*CORR)/(1+(ntrt-2)*CORR-(ntrt-1)*CORR^2);
25   offdiag=(-CORR/(1+(ntrt-2)*CORR-(ntrt-1)*CORR^2));
26   for(i in 1:len){
27     p[i]=inv_logit(mu[t[i]]+vi[s[i],t[i]]);
28   }
29   for(j in 1:ntrt){
30     for(k in 1:ntrt){
31       Omega[j,k]=(j==k?diag:offdiag)/ssdd/ssdd;
32     }
33   }
34 }
35 model{
36   for(i in 1:len){
37     r[i]~binomial(totaln[i],p[i]);
38   }
39   for(j in 1:nstudy){
40     vi[j,]~multi_normal_prec(zeros, Omega);
41   }
42   for(j in 1:ntrt){
43     mu[j]~normal(0,100);
44   }
45   ssdd~uniform(0,uni_upper);
46   CORR~uniform((-1.000)/(ntrt-1)+0.0001,0.9999);
47 }
48 generated quantities {

```

```

49   real AR[ntrt]; //Populaiton averaged absolute risk
50
51   real MU[ntrt];
52
53   real SD; //standard deviation
54
55   real OR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Odds Ratio
56
57   real LOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //Log odds Ratio
58
59   real cLOR[ntrt,ntrt]; //cLog odds Ratio
60
61   int rk[ntrt]; // rank of AR
62
63   int rank_prob[ntrt,ntrt]; //rank probability
64
65   real DEV=0; // Total Residual Deviance
66
67   for(j in 1:ntrt){
68
69     AR[j]=inv_logit(mu[j]/sqrt(1+ssdd*ssdd*256/75/pi()/pi()));
70
71     MU[j]=mu[j];
72
73   }
74
75   SD=ssdd;
76
77   for(j in 1:ntrt){
78
79     for(k in 1:ntrt){
80
81       OR[j,k]=AR[j]/(1-AR[j])/AR[k]*(1-AR[k]);
82
83       LOR[j,k]=log(OR[j,k]);
84
85       cLOR[j,k]=MU[j]-MU[k];
86
87     }
88
89   }
90
91   for(j in 1:ntrt){
92
93     rk[j]=higher_better?ntrt-rank(AR,j):rank(AR,j)+1;
94
95   }
96
97   for(j in 1:ntrt){
98
99     for(k in 1:ntrt){
100
101       rank_prob[k,j]=(rk[k]==j);
102
103     }
104
105   }
106
107   for(i in 1:len){
108
109     DEV=DEV+2*(r[i]*(-log(p[i]*totaln[i]))+(totaln[i]-r[i])*(-log(totaln[i]

```

```

    ↪ ]-p[i]*totaln[i])));

80 }
81 }
```

## C R Simulation codes for Table 1

```

1 logit <- function(x){
2   return(log(x/(1-x)))
3 }
4 #####
5 library(rstan)
6 library(bayesplot)
7 library(coda)
8 library(mvtnorm)
9 library(randomizr)
10 #####
11 job = 1
12 #####
13 d = 3
14 nstudy = 18
15 pop_size <- 500
16 set.seed(seed)
17 sd = c(0.7,0.4,0.1)
18 cor <- matrix(c(1,2/3,4/9,2/3,1,2/3,4/9,2/3,1),nrow=3,ncol=3)
19 sigma <- matrix(NA,nrow=3,ncol=3)
20 for(i in 1:d){
21   for(j in 1:d){
22     sigma[i,j] <- cor[i,j]*sd[i]*sd[j]
23   }
24 }
25 v <- rmvnorm(nstudy, rep(0, length = 3), sigma)
```

```

26 rep.row<-function(x,n){
27   matrix(rep(x,each=n),nrow=n)
28 }
29 mu <- rep.row(c(-1,-1.5,-2),nstudy)
30 pi1 <- exp(mu+v)/(1+exp(mu+v))
31 event <- matrix(NA,nrow=nstudy ,ncol=3)
32 for(i in 1:d){
33   event[,i] <- rbinom(nstudy,pop_size,pi1[,i])
34 }
35
36 missing_pattern_determine <- function(ind=1, event){
37 d = 3
38 nstudy = 18
39
40 # 1. No missing
41 if(ind==1){
42   missing_ind <- rep(0,nstudy)
43 }
44
45 # 2. MAR
46 if(ind==2){
47   missing_ind <- rep(0,nstudy)
48   for(i in 1:nstudy){
49     if(event[i,2]>=median(event[,2])){missing_ind[i] <- 3}
50     else{missing_ind[i] <- 1}
51   }
52 }
53
54 # 3. MNAR
55 beta_mar_0 <- 4.5
56 beta_mar_1 <- 1

```

```

57 if(ind==3){
58   missing_ind <- rep(0,nstudy)
59   eventm <- event
60   for(i in 1:nstudy){
61     if(event[i,2]==0){eventm[i,2]=0.5}
62     if(event[i,2]==500){eventm[i,2]=499.5}
63     if(event[i,1]==0){eventm[i,1]=0.5}
64     if(event[i,1]==500){eventm[i,1]=499.5}
65     if(event[i,3]==0){eventm[i,3]=0.5}
66     if(event[i,3]==500){eventm[i,3]=499.5}
67     tempmisind <- exp(beta_mar_0+beta_mar_1*logit(eventm[i,2]/500)+beta_
68     ↪ mar_1*logit(eventm[i,1]/500)+beta_mar_1*logit(eventm[i,3]/500))/(1+
69     ↪ exp(beta_mar_0+beta_mar_1*logit(eventm[i,2]/500)+beta_mar_1*logit(
70     ↪ eventm[i,1]/500)+beta_mar_1*logit(eventm[i,3]/500)))
71     if(rbinom(1,1,tempmisind)==1){missing_ind[i] <- 1}
72     else{missing_ind[i] <- 3}
73   }
74 }
75
76
77 #### Construct the non-missing pattern
78 non_missing_pattern <- matrix(1,nrow=nstudy,ncol=d)
79 for(i in 1:nstudy){
80   if(missing_ind[i]!=0){
81     non_missing_pattern[i,missing_ind[i]] <- 0
82   }
83 }
84
85
86 ###### statistical analyze part
87 for(missing_i in 1:3){

```

```

85 #missing_ii <- 3
86 set.seed(seed*missing_ii)
87 # missing pattern
88 non_missing_pattern <- missing_pattern_determine(ind=missing_ii,event)
89 # set up network
90 len <- sum(sum(non_missing_pattern))
91 s.id <- rep(0,len)
92 t.id <- rep(0,len)
93 event.n <- rep(0,len)
94 total.n <- rep(pop_size,len)
95 ind <- 1
96 for(i in 1:nstudy){
97   for(j in 1:d){
98     if(non_missing_pattern[i,j] !=0){
99       s.id[ind] <- i
100      t.id[ind] <- j
101      event.n[ind] <- event[i,j]
102      ind <- ind+1
103    }
104  }
105 }
106 ntrt <- d
107 r <- event.n
108 n <- total.n
109
110
111 ##### AB-IW
112 data.stan <- list(len=len,ntrt=ntrt,nstudy=nstudy,t=t.id,s=s.id,r=event.
113   ↳ n,totaln=total.n, zeros=rep(0,ntrt),Lambda=diag(ntrt),nu=ntrt+1,
114   ↳ higher_better=1,uni_upper=5)
115 init.stan<- function() { list(mu=rep(0, ntrt),vi=matrix(0,nstudy,ntrt),

```

```

    ↵ Sigma=diag(ntrt))}

114 fit <- sampling(IW,pars=c("MU","LOR","cLOR","AR","SD","CORR","rank_prob"
    ↵ , "DEV", "p"),data=data.stan,init=init.stan,chains=4,iter=2000,warmup
    ↵ =1000,verbose=TRUE,seed=(1234+job),thin=1,control = list(max_
    ↵ treedepth = 15))

115 sum_fit <- summary(fit)$summary

116 saveRDS(sum_fit,paste("IW_",missing_ii,"_",job,sep=""))

117

118 ##### AB-RW

119 data.stan <- list(len=len,ntrt=ntrt,nstudy=nstudy,t=t.id,s=s.id,r=event.
    ↵ n,totaln=total.n, zeros=rep(0,ntrt),eta=1,higher_better=1,uni_upper
    ↵ =5)

120 init.stan<- function() { list(mu=rep(0, ntrt),vi=matrix(0,nstudy,ntrt),
    ↵ LOmega=diag(ntrt),ssd=rnorm(ntrt,0,1)) }

121 fit <- sampling(RW,pars=c("MU","LOR","cLOR","AR","SD","CORR","rank_prob"
    ↵ , "DEV", "p"),data=data.stan,init=init.stan, chains=4,iter=2000,warmup
    ↵ =1000,verbose=TRUE,seed=(1234+job),thin=1,control = list(adapt_delta
    ↵ = 0.99,max_treedepth = 15))

122 sum_fit <- summary(fit)$summary

123 saveRDS(sum_fit,paste("RW_",missing_ii,"_",job,sep=""))

124

125

126 ##### AB-RIW

127 data.stan <- list(len=len,ntrt=ntrt,nstudy=nstudy,t=t.id,s=s.id,r=event.
    ↵ n,totaln=total.n, zeros=rep(0,ntrt),Lambda=diag(ntrt),nu=ntrt+1,
    ↵ higher_better=1,uni_upper=5)

128 init.stan<- function() { list(mu=rep(0, ntrt),vi=matrix(0,nstudy,ntrt),
    ↵ Sigma=diag(ntrt),ssd=rnorm(ntrt,0,1)) }

129 fit <- sampling(RIW,pars=c("MU","LOR","cLOR","AR","SD","CORR","rank_prob"
    ↵ , "DEV", "p"),data=data.stan,init=init.stan, chains=4,iter=2000,
    ↵ warmup=1000,verbose=TRUE,seed=(1234+job),thin=1,control = list(adapt

```

```

130   ↪ _delta = 0.99, max_treedepth = 15))

131 sum_fit <- summary(fit)$summary
132 saveRDS(sum_fit, paste("RIW_", missing_i, "_", job, sep=""))
133
134 #### AB-EQ
135 data.stan <- list(len=len, ntrt=ntrt, nstudy=nstudy, t=t.id, s=s.id, r=event.
136   ↪ n, totaln=total.n, zeros=rep(0, ntrt), higher_better=1, uni_upper=5)
137 init.stan<- function() { list(mu=rep(0, ntrt), vi=matrix(0, nstudy, ntrt),
138   ↪ CORR=0, ssd=rnorm(ntrt, 0, 1)) }
139 fit <- sampling(EQ, pars=c("MU", "LOR", "cLOR", "AR", "SD", "CORR", "rank_prob",
140   ↪ , "DEV", "p"), data=data.stan, init=init.stan, chains=4, iter=2000, warmup
141   ↪ =1000, verbose=TRUE, seed=(1234+job), thin=1, control = list(adapt_delta
142   ↪ = 0.99, max_treedepth = 15))
143 sum_fit <- summary(fit)$summary
144 saveRDS(sum_fit, paste("EQ_", missing_i, "_", job, sep=""))
145 }

```

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