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Best symmetric two-sided test for the positional parameter
of the uniform distribution

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Abstract.

Let α be a real number such that $0 < \alpha < 1$. In this paper we show that the two-sided test obtained in Nogami(2000, §3) has the greatest power among the size- α tests symmetric about θ .

Let α be a real number such that $0 < \alpha < 1$. In this paper we show that the two-sided test obtained in Nogami(2000, §3) has the greatest power among size- α tests symmetric about θ .

We shall prove the following theorem:

Theorem. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a random sample from the p.d.f. $f(x|\theta) = c^{-1}$, for $\theta + \delta_1 < x < \theta + \delta_2$; $= 0$ otherwise where $\delta_1 < \delta_2$ and $c = \delta_2 - \delta_1$. The test ϕ^* given by (9) with θ_0 some constant for testing the null hypothesis $H_0: \theta = \theta_0$ versus the alternative hypothesis $H_1: \theta \neq \theta_0$ has the greatest power among size- α tests symmetric about θ .

Proof.) Let $X_{(i)}$ be the i -th smallest observation such that $X_{(1)} \leq X_{(2)} \leq \dots \leq X_{(n)}$. Let $Y = (X_{(1)} + X_{(n)} - \theta_0)/2$ with $\theta_0 = \theta_1 + \theta_2$. As we have seen in Nogami(2000) the p.d.f. of Y is given by

$$g(y|\theta) = nc^{-n} (c - 2|y - \theta|)^{n-1} I_{(-c/2, c/2)}(y - \theta)$$

where for a set A $I_A(x) = 1$ for $x \in A$; $= 0$ for $x \notin A$.

Let ϕ be a size- α test symmetric about θ (namely, $\phi(y) = \phi(2\theta - y)$, $\forall y$). Then, it follows that

$$(1) \quad E_\theta(\phi(Y)) = \alpha$$

and

$$(2) \quad E_\theta(Y\phi(Y)) = \theta E_\theta(\phi(Y)) = \theta \alpha.$$

Above (2) holds because $E_\theta((Y - \theta)\phi(Y)) = 0$ and (1) holds.

Hence, by generalized Neyman-Pearson Lemma ϕ maximizes the integral

$$\int \phi(y) g(y|\theta') dy \quad \text{for } \theta' \neq \theta_0$$

out of all functions ϕ , $0 \leq \phi \leq 1$, satisfying (1) and (2), when there exist real

constants k_1 and k_2 such that

$$(3) \quad \phi(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } (c-2|y-\theta'|)^{n-1} I_{(-c/2, c/2)}(y-\theta') \\ & \geq (k_2+k_1 y)(c-2|y-\theta_0|)^{n-1} I_{(-c/2, c/2)}(y-\theta_0) \\ 0, & \text{if } (c-2|y-\theta'|)^{n-1} I_{(-c/2, c/2)}(y-\theta') \end{cases}$$

$$(4) \quad < (k_2+k_1 y)(c-2|y-\theta_0|)^{n-1} I_{(-c/2, c/2)}(y-\theta_0).$$

We check the existence of such k_1 and k_2 and show that the test ϕ is of form (8). We first check the existence of such k_1 and k_2 until the fifth line below (7).

When $\theta' < \theta_0 - 2^{-1}c$ or $\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c < \theta'$, we take $k_1=0$ and $k_2=1$. Let $\theta' < \theta_0 - 2^{-1}c$. Let $a \wedge b$ be the maximum of a and b . Then, the inequality (4) holds for $(\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c) \vee ((\theta_0 + \theta')/2) < y < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ and the inequality (3) holds otherwise. Let $\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c < \theta'$. Let $a \wedge b$ be the minimum of a and b . Then, (4) holds for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < y < ((\theta_0 + \theta')/2) \wedge (\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c)$ and (3) holds otherwise.

Let $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$. Then, for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < y < \theta' - 2^{-1}c$, the inequality (4) holds when $k_1=0$ and $k_2=1$. On the other hand, for $\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c < y < \theta' + 2^{-1}c$, the inequality (3) always holds for any real k_1 and k_2 .

Let $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$. Then, for $\theta' - 2^{-1}c < y < \theta_0 - 2^{-1}c$, the inequality (3) always holds for any real k_1 and k_2 . On the other hand, for $\theta' + 2^{-1}c < y < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$, the inequality (4) holds when $k_1=0$ and $k_2=1$.

Henceforth, it is enough to consider the y 's in $(\theta' - 2^{-1}c, \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c)$ for $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ or in $(\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c, \theta' + 2^{-1}c)$ for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$. We let

$$h(y) = (c-2|y-\theta'|)/(c-2|y-\theta_0|) \quad (\geq 0)$$

and

$$z(y) = (k_2+k_1 y)^{1/(n-1)} \quad (\geq 0).$$

We also let

$$(5) \quad y_0 = -k_2/k_1.$$

For $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$, take y_0 such that $\theta' - 2^{-1}c < y_0 < \theta_0$. For $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$, take y_0 such that $\theta_0 < y_0 < \theta' + 2^{-1}c$. Let p be a given number such that $0 < p < 1$. Take $y_0 = (1-p)\theta_0 + p(\theta' - 2^{-1}c)$ for $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ and take $y_0 = (1-p)\theta_0 + p(\theta' + 2^{-1}c)$ for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$. Then, from (5), k_2 is taken as follows:

$$(6) \quad k_2 = \begin{cases} -k_1 \{(1-p)\theta_0 + p(\theta' - 2^{-1}c)\}, & \text{for } \theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c \\ -k_1 \{(1-p)\theta_0 + p(\theta' + 2^{-1}c)\}, & \text{for } \theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0. \end{cases}$$

Substituting these values into $z(y)$ we have

$$(7) \quad z(y) = \begin{cases} [k_1 \{y - ((1-p)\theta_0 + p(\theta' - 2^{-1}c))\}]^{1/(n-1)}, & \text{for } \theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c, \\ [k_1 \{y - ((1-p)\theta_0 + p(\theta' + 2^{-1}c))\}]^{1/(n-1)}, & \text{for } \theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0. \end{cases}$$

which are drawn by stripe lines in the figure below. Since we must accept H_0 for $y = \theta_0$, we must have $h(\theta_0) < z(\theta_0)$. We take $k_1 = 2(pc)^{-1}$ for $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ and $k_1 = -2(pc)^{-1}$ for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$. Then, $(z(\theta_0))^{n-1} = h(\theta_0)$. Hence, we have $h(\theta_0) < z(\theta_0)$ because $|\theta_0 - \theta'| < 2^{-1}c$. k_2 is obtained by substituting these values of k_1 into (6).

To show that the test ϕ is of form (8) we check the existence of two intersection points of $h(y)$ and $z(y)$. Since for $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$

$$h(y) = \begin{cases} 1 - \{2(\theta' - \theta_0)/(2y + c - 2\theta_0)\}, & (\theta' - 2^{-1}c < y \leq \theta_0) \\ 1 - \{2(c - (\theta' - \theta_0))/(2y - c - 2\theta_0)\}, & (\theta_0 < y \leq \theta') \\ 1 - \{2(\theta' - \theta_0)/(2y - c - 2\theta_0)\}, & (\theta' < y < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c), \end{cases}$$

$h(y)$ is an increasing function for $\theta' - 2^{-1}c < y < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$.

Since for $\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$

$$h(y) = \begin{cases} 1 + \{2(\theta_0 - \theta') / (2y + c - 2\theta_0)\}, & (\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < y \leq \theta') \\ -1 + \{2c - 2(\theta_0 - \theta') / (2y + c - 2\theta_0)\}, & (\theta' < y \leq \theta_0) \\ 1 + \{2(\theta_0 - \theta') / (2y - c - 2\theta_0)\}, & (\theta_0 < y < \theta' + 2^{-1}c), \end{cases}$$

$h(y)$ is a decreasing function for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < y < \theta' + 2^{-1}c$. On the other hand, when $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ $dz(y)/dy > 0$ for all $y > y_0$ and when $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$ $dz(y)/dy < 0$ for all $y < y_0$. Since $0 = z(y_0) < h(y_0) (< 1)$ and since for $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ $z((\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c) -) < \lim_{y \rightarrow (\theta_0 + 2^{-1}c) -} h(y) = +\infty$ and for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$ $z((\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c) +) < \lim_{y \rightarrow (\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c) +} h(y) = +\infty$, in view of the fact that $h(\theta_0) < z(\theta_0)$ there must exist two intersection points of $h(y)$ and $z(y)$ for $\theta_0 < \theta' < \theta_0 + 2^{-1}c$ and for $\theta_0 - 2^{-1}c < \theta' < \theta_0$, respectively. (See Figure.)

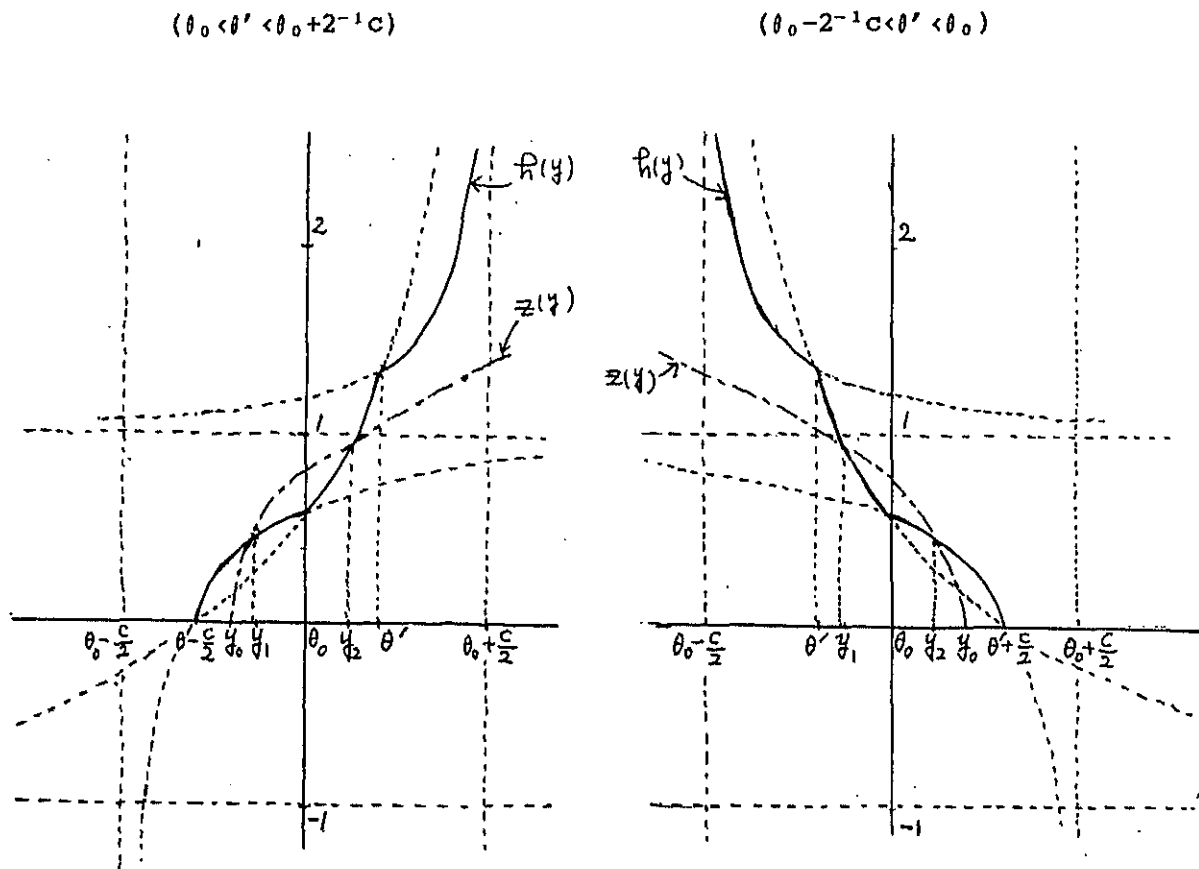
Let y_1 and y_2 be such y -coordinates of these intersection points with $y_1 < y_2$. Then, we finally have the optimal test of form

$$(8) \quad \phi(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y \leq y_1 \text{ or } y \geq y_2 \\ 0, & \text{if } y_1 < y < y_2. \end{cases}$$

Hence, the test in Nogami(2000, §3) provided by

$$(9) \quad \phi^*(y) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y \leq \theta_0 - r \text{ or } y \geq \theta_0 + r \\ 0, & \text{if } \theta_0 - r < y < \theta_0 + r, \end{cases}$$

where $r = c(1 - \alpha^{1/n})/2$, is the size- α test with the greatest power among size- α tests symmetric about θ .

Figure. The graphs of $h(y)$ and $z(y)$ 

(q. e. d.)

Reference.

Nogami, Y. (2000). "An unbiased test for the location parameter of the uniform distribution. Discussion Paper Series No. 861, Inst. of Policy and Planning Sciences, Univ. of Tsukuba, April, pp.1-4.