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KOLMOGOROV-SMIRNOV TWO-SAMPLE TEST BASED ON REGRESSION RANK SCORES*

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Abstract. We derive the two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov type test when a nuisance linear regression is present. The test is based on regression rank scores and provides a natural extension of the classical Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. Its asymptotic distributions under the hypothesis and the local alternatives coincide with those of the classical test.

Keywords: regression rank scores, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, two sample problem, Cramér-von Mises test

MSC 2010: 62G08, 62G10, 62J05

1. Introduction

In [3] Hájek extended the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of the hypothesis of randomness to tests against alternatives of simple linear regression. He expressed the test criterion (see equation (4)) as a functional of a special rank score process (Hájek's rank scores) for which he proved convergence to Brownian bridge. We mention this fact in Subsection 2.1. Similarly he extended the Cramér-von Mises and the Rényi tests. If, instead of Hájek's rank scores, we consider the process of regression rank scores (see e.g. [1]), we can extend the (two-sample) Kolmogorov-Smirnov test also to a nuisance regression.

So here we deal with the tests of Kolmogorov-Smirnov type on one component of the regression parameter $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ in the linear model $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{e}$. These tests, based on regression rank scores, were introduced in Jurečková [5]. We derive the two-sample variant of the test and show that this test represents a straightforward extension of the classical Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, more specifically the variant of the classical Kolmogorov-Smirnov test that is the most sensitive to difference in location.

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Note that already in Gutenbrunner and Jurečková [1] the regression rank score process was studied. Further, in Gutenbrunner et al. [2] a broader class of tests of hypothesis in linear regression model based on regression rank scores was derived. This class represents a generalization of simple linear rank tests.

Consider the linear regression model

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{X}^{(1)}\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(1)} + \mathbf{x}^{(p)}\beta_p + \mathbf{e}, \tag{1}$$

where $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \ldots, Y_N)'$ is a vector of observations, $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_{N\times p}$ is a known design matrix, $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_p)' = (\boldsymbol{\beta}^{(1)'}, \beta_p)$ are unknown parameters, $\mathbf{e} = (e_1, \ldots, e_N)'$ is the vector of i.i.d. errors, the matrix $\mathbf{X}^{(1)}$ consisting of the first $p-1$ columns of the matrix $\mathbf{X}$ represents the nuisance regression and $\mathbf{x}^{(p)}$ is the pth column of $\mathbf{X}$. Here we do not specify the vector $\mathbf{x}^{(p)}$ but later, in Section 2, we will set $\mathbf{x}^{(p)} = (1, \ldots, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)'$ to derive and describe the two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test.

We want to test the hypothesis

$$H_0\colon\ \beta_p = 0, \quad \boldsymbol{\beta}^{(1)} \text{ unspecified.}$$

This problem will be tested by a test of Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) type. In the presence of nuisance regression, regression rank scores (RRS) are employed. RRS (see e.g. [2]) in the submodel of (1) given by H_0 are defined as the vector of solutions $\hat{\mathbf{a}}_N(\alpha) = (\hat{a}_{N1}(\alpha), \ldots, \hat{a}_{NN}(\alpha))'$, $0 \leqslant \alpha \leqslant 1$ of the linear programming problem ($\mathbf{1}_N$ denotes the $(N\times 1)$ vector of ones):

$$\max \mathbf{Y}'\hat{\mathbf{a}}_N(\alpha)$$

subject to

$$\begin{gathered} \mathbf{X}^{(1)'}\hat{\mathbf{a}}_N(\alpha) = (1-\alpha)\mathbf{X}^{(1)'}\mathbf{1}_N, \\ \hat{\mathbf{a}}_N(\alpha) \in [0,1]^N. \end{gathered} \tag{2}$$

1.1. Assumptions

We will impose the following conditions on the regression matrix $\mathbf{X}$ and on the underlying distribution function F.

Let $\mathbf{x}_i'$ denote the ith row of the matrix $\mathbf{X}$, $i = 1, \ldots, N$. We assume that the matrix $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_N$ satisfies the regularity conditions

(X.1) $x_{i1} = 1$, $i = 1, \ldots, N$,

(X.2) $\max\limits_{\substack{1\leqslant i\leqslant N\\ 1\leqslant j\leqslant p}} |x_{ij}| = \mathcal{O}(N^{(2(b-a)-\delta)/(1+4b)})$
for some a, b, δ, $0 < a \leqslant \frac{1}{4} - \varepsilon$, $0 < b - a \leqslant \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$, $\varepsilon > 0$, $\delta > 0$,

(X.3) $\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\|\mathbf{x}_i\|^3=\mathcal{O}(1)$ as $N\to\infty$,

(X.4) $\mathbf{D}_N=N^{-1}\mathbf{X}_N'\mathbf{X}_N\overset{N\to\infty}{\longrightarrow}\mathbf{D}$, where $\mathbf{D}$ is a positively definite matrix.

Further assume that the errors $e_1,\dots,e_N$ in (1) are i.i.d. with an absolutely continuous distribution function F whose tails are assumed to satisfy the following regularity conditions (F.1)–(F.4) (these conditions are satisfied by many common densities f including t-distributions with 5 or more d.f.):

(F.1) F has an absolutely continuous density f, positive for $A<x<B$ and decreasing monotonously when $x\to A+$, $x\to B-$, where $-\infty\leqslant A=\sup\{x\colon F(x)=0\}$ and $+\infty\geqslant B=\inf\{x\colon F(x)=1\}$. The derivative f' of f is bounded a.e.

(F.2) $|F^{-1}(\alpha)|\leqslant c(\alpha(1-\alpha))^{-a}$ (with a from (X.2)) for $0<\alpha\leqslant\alpha_0$, $1-\alpha_0\leqslant\alpha<1$ for some $0<\alpha_0\leqslant\frac{1}{2}$ and for some $c>0$.

(F.3) $1/f(F^{-1}(\alpha))\leqslant c(\alpha(1-\alpha))^{-1-a}$ for $0<\alpha\leqslant\alpha_0$, $1-\alpha_0\leqslant\alpha<1$, $c>0$.

(F.4) $\left|\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)}\right|\leqslant c(|x|+1)$, $x\in\mathbf{R}^1$, $c>0$.

1.2. Statistic of K-S type

Consider the model (1) and define the projection matrix

$$\mathbf{H}^{(1)}=\mathbf{H}_N^{(1)}=\big(h_{ij}^{(1)}\big)_{i=1,\dots,N}^{j=1,\dots,N}=\mathbf{X}_N^{(1)}(\mathbf{X}_N^{(1)'}\mathbf{X}_N^{(1)})^{-1}\mathbf{X}_N^{(1)'}$$

and $\mathbf{x}^*=(x_1^*,\dots,x_N^*)'=\mathbf{H}^{(1)}\mathbf{x}^{(p)}$ the projection of $\mathbf{x}^{(p)}$ into the space spanned by the columns of $\mathbf{X}_N^{(1)}$.

We define the process $\{S_N(t)\colon\ 0\leqslant t\leqslant 1\}$ on $C[0,1]$:

$$S_N(t)=\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)}-x_i^*)^2\right)^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)}-x_i^*)\hat{a}_{Ni}(t).$$

It is shown in [5] that under the conditions (X.1)–(X.4) and (F.1)–(F.4) it follows from [2, Theorem 3.2] that

$$\sup_{0\leqslant t\leqslant 1}|S_N(t)-\tilde{S}_{N(t)}|\overset{p}{\to}O\quad\text{as}\quad N\to\infty,\tag{3}$$

where

$$\tilde{S}_N(t)=\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)}-x_i^*)^2\right)^{-1/2}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)}-x_i^*)I[e_i>F^{-1}(t)],\quad 0\leqslant t\leqslant 1$$

and that $S_N(t)$ converges to the Brownian bridge in the uniform topology on $C[0,1]$. In the next section we show how to construct a test based on this fact in the case of a two sample problem.

Consider the model (1) and let $\mathbf{x}^{(p)} = (1, \ldots, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)'$ be the vector with m ones and n zeros, $m + n = N$.

We want to test the hypothesis H_0 of no difference between the samples. This two-sample problem will be tested by a test of Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) type which is a generalization of the classical rank test of K-S type (the variant that is the most sensitive to difference in location) that works in the model (1) without nuisance regression ($\mathbf{X}^{(1)} = \mathbf{1}_N$).

2.1. Classical K-S two-sample test

In the location model (model (1) with $\mathbf{X}^{(1)} = \mathbf{1}_N$) the solution $\hat{\mathbf{a}}_N(\alpha)$ of (2) specializes to Hájek's rank scores $\mathbf{a}^*_N(\alpha) = (a^*_{N1}(\alpha), \ldots, a^*_{NN}(\alpha))$ where

$$a^*_{Ni}(\alpha) = a^*_N(R_i, \alpha) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leqslant \alpha \leqslant (R_i - 1)/N, \\ R_i - \alpha N, & (R_i - 1)/N < \alpha \leqslant R_i/N, \\ 0, & R_i/N < \alpha \leqslant 1, \end{cases}$$

where R_i is the rank of Y_i among $Y_1, \ldots, Y_N$, $i = 1, \ldots, N$. Hájek in [3] or Hájek & Šidák in [4] considered the process $T_N = \{T_N(t)\colon\ 0 \leqslant t \leqslant 1\}$,

$$T_N(t) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} (c_{Ni} - \overline{c}_N)^2\right)^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (c_{Ni} - \overline{c}_N) a^*_N(R_i, t), \tag{4}$$

with a triangular array $\mathbf{c}_N = (c_{N1}, \ldots, c_{NN})'$ of constants satisfying

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} (c_{Ni} - \overline{c}_N)^2 / \max_{1 \leqslant i \leqslant N} (c_{Ni} - \overline{c}_N)^2 \overset{N \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} \infty, \quad \overline{c}_N = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} c_{Ni}$$

and showed that T_N converges in the uniform topology on $C[0,1]$ to the Brownian bridge. We define the empirical distribution functions of the two samples $\hat{F}_m(x) = m^{-1} \sum\limits_{i=1}^{m} I[Y_i \leqslant x]$ and $\hat{G}_n(x) = n^{-1} \sum\limits_{i=m+1}^{N} I[Y_i \leqslant x]$ and the zero-one quantity V_i, $V_i = 1$ if $Y_{(i)}$ is one of $Y_1, \ldots, Y_m$, $i = 1, \ldots, N$.

Setting $\mathbf{c}_N = \mathbf{x}^{(p)}$, $\max\limits_{0 \leqslant t \leqslant 1} T_N(t)$ coincides with the classical K-S two-sample test statistic T^+. We use the fact that (2) implies $\sum\limits_{i=1}^{N} a^*_N(R_i, j/N) = (1 - j/N)N = N - j$ and that $\max\limits_{0 \leqslant t \leqslant 1} T_N(t) = \max\limits_{1 \leqslant j \leqslant N} T_N(j/N)$ since the process $T_N(t)$ is linear on every interval $[(j-1)/N, j/N]$, $j = 1, \dots, N$:

$$\begin{aligned}
T^+ &= \Big(\frac{mn}{N}\Big)^{1/2} \max_{1\leqslant j\leqslant N} [\hat{G}_n(Y_{(j)}) - \hat{F}_m(Y_{(j)})] \\
&= \Big(\frac{mn}{N}\Big)^{1/2} \max_{1\leqslant j\leqslant N} \Big[\frac{1}{n}((1-V_1)+\ldots+(1-V_j)) - \frac{1}{m}(V_1+\ldots+V_j)\Big] \\
&= \Big(\frac{N}{mn}\Big)^{1/2} \max_{1\leqslant j\leqslant N} \Big[\frac{jm}{N} - (V_1+\ldots+V_j)\Big] \\
&= \Big(\frac{N}{mn}\Big)^{1/2} \max_{1\leqslant j\leqslant N} \Big[\frac{jm}{N} - \sum_{i=1}^{m}\Big(1 - a_N^*\Big(R_i, \frac{j}{N}\Big)\Big)\Big] \\
&= \Big(\frac{N}{mn}\Big)^{1/2} \max_{1\leqslant j\leqslant N} \Big[\sum_{i=1}^{m} a_N^*\Big(R_i, \frac{j}{N}\Big) - \frac{m}{N}(N-j)\Big] \\
&= \Big(\frac{N}{mn}\Big)^{1/2} \max_{1\leqslant j\leqslant N} \Big[\Big(1-\frac{m}{N}\Big)\sum_{i=1}^{m} a_N^*\Big(R_i, \frac{j}{N}\Big) - \frac{m}{N}\sum_{i=m+1}^{N} a_N^*\Big(R_i, \frac{j}{N}\Big)\Big] \\
&= \max_{0\leqslant t\leqslant 1} T_N(t).
\end{aligned}$$

2.2. Main result

Let us first recall that $\mathbf{x}^{(p)} = (1, \dots, 1, 0, \dots, 0)'$ and $\mathbf{x}^* = (x_1^*, \dots, x_N^*)' = \mathbf{H}^{(1)}\mathbf{x}^{(p)}$. The projection matrix $\mathbf{H}^{(1)} = \big(h_{ij}^{(1)}\big)_{i=1,\dots,N}^{j=1,\dots,N}$ corresponding to $\mathbf{X}^{(1)}$ is idempotent, so

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)} - x_i^*)^2 &= (\mathbf{x}^{(p)} - \mathbf{x}^*)'(\mathbf{x}^{(p)} - \mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{x}^{(p)\prime}(\mathbf{I}_N - \mathbf{H}^{(1)})(\mathbf{I}_N - \mathbf{H}^{(1)})\mathbf{x}^{(p)} \\
&= \mathbf{x}^{(p)\prime}(\mathbf{I}_N - \mathbf{H}^{(1)})\mathbf{x}^{(p)} = m - \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)} > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1. *Assume that $\mathbf{X}_N$ satisfies* (X.1)–(X.4) *and F satisfies* (F.1)–(F.4). *Let $\hat{\mathbf{a}}_N(\alpha) = (\hat{a}_{N1}(\alpha), \dots, \hat{a}_{NN}(\alpha))'$, $0 \leqslant \alpha \leqslant 1$ be the regression rank scores corresponding to the submodel of the model* (1), *i.e. under H_0. Then the process $\{S_N(t)\colon 0 \leqslant t \leqslant 1\}$,*

$$\begin{aligned}
S_N(t) &= \Big(\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)} - x_i^*)^2\Big)^{-1/2} \sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i^{(p)} - x_i^*)\hat{a}_{Ni}(t) \\
&= \Big(m - \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Big)^{-1/2} \Big[\sum_{i=1}^{m}\Big(1 - \sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Big)\hat{a}_{Ni}(t) \\
&\qquad + \sum_{i=m+1}^{N}\Big(-\sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Big)\hat{a}_{Ni}(t)\Big],
\end{aligned}$$

converges to the Brownian bridge in the uniform topology on $C[0,1]$. *Thus, for* $K_N^+ = \max_{0\leqslant t\leqslant 1} S_N(t)$ *and* $K_N = \max_{0\leqslant t\leqslant 1} |S_N(t)|$ *we can write, under* H_0,

$$\lim_{N\to\infty} P(K_N^+ < x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \mathrm{e}^{-2x^2}, & x \geqslant 0,\\ 0, & x < 0,\end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{N\to\infty} P(K_N < x) = \begin{cases} 1 - 2\sum_{z=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{z+1}\mathrm{e}^{-2z^2x^2}, & x \geqslant 0,\\ 0, & x < 0.\end{cases}$$

P r o o f. It follows from (3) and from the properties of the Brownian bridge. □

The statistics K_N^+ and K_N, similarly to the classical K-S statistics, can be used for testing the two sample problem with nuisance regression against one-sided and two-sided alternatives.

By Theorem 1 the test based on K_N^+ rejects H_0 on the asymptotic significance level α provided $K_N^+ \geqslant (-\frac{1}{2}\log\alpha)^{1/2}$.

The asymptotic power of the test based on K_N^+, against the local alternative

$$H_N\colon\ \beta_p = N^{-1/2}\Delta, \quad \text{with } \beta_1,\dots,\beta_{p-1} \text{ unspecified},$$

can be obtained from the following theorem.

Theorem 2. *Under the conditions of Theorem* 1 *and under* H_N, *the process*

$$S_N(t) - \Bigl[\Bigl(m - \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Bigr)^{1/2} \Delta N^{-1/2} f(F^{-1}(t))\Bigr]$$

converges to the Brownian bridge $\{Z(t)\colon 0 \leqslant t \leqslant 1\}$ *in the uniform topology on* $C[0,1]$ *from which it follows that*

$$\begin{aligned}&\lim_{N\to\infty} P(K_N^+ \geqslant x | H_N)\\ &\quad = P\Bigl(\max_{0\leqslant t\leqslant 1}\Bigl\{Z(t) + \Bigl(m - \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Bigr)^{1/2} \Delta N^{-1/2} f(F^{-1}(t))\Bigr\} \geqslant x\Bigr)\end{aligned}$$

for any $x > 0$. *Additionally,*

$$\begin{aligned}&\lim_{N\to\infty} P\Bigl(K_N^+ \geqslant \Bigl(-\frac{\log\alpha}{2}\Bigr)^{1/2} | H_N\Bigr) - \alpha\\ &\quad = \Bigl[2\Bigl(m - \sum_{i=1}^{m}\sum_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Bigr)^{1/2} \Delta N^{-1/2}\alpha\Bigl(-\frac{\log\alpha}{2}\Bigr)^{1/2}\\ &\qquad \times \int_0^1 -\frac{f'(F^{-1}(u))}{f(F^{-1}(u))}\psi(u,\alpha)\,\mathrm{d}u\Bigr](1 + o(1))\end{aligned}$$

holds for $\Big(m - \sum\limits_{i=1}^{m}\sum\limits_{j=1}^{m} h_{ij}^{(1)}\Big)^{1/2}\Delta N^{-1/2} \to 0$, *where*

$$\psi(u,\alpha) = 2\Phi\Big[\Big(-\frac{\log\alpha}{2}\Big)^{1/2}(2u-1)(u(1-u))^{-1/2}\Big] - 1,$$

$0 < \alpha < 1$ *and* Φ *is the standard normal distribution function.*

Proof. It follows from (3) and from [4, Theorem VI.3.2]. The last assertion follows from [4, Theorem VI.4.5]. □

Remark 1 (2-way ANOVA model). For example, in two-way layout, we can use this two-sample K-S test, similarly to e.g. the Friedman test, for comparing two treatments applied on I blocks. The effects of the blocks would represent the nuisance regression here.

2.3. Cramér-von Mises type test

Similarly to the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, we can generalize also the Cramér-von Mises type two-sample test for nuisance regression.

We first look at the location model. With the same notation as in Subsection 2.1, we put again $\mathbf{c}_N = \mathbf{x}^{(p)} = (1,\dots,1,0,\dots,0)'$, and for $T_N(t)$ from (4) we have that the classical Cramér-von Mises two-sample test statistic M equals (see [4, III.1.3.11 and V.3.8])

$$M = \frac{1}{mn}\sum_{j=1}^{N-1}\Big[\frac{jm}{N} - (V_1 + \ldots + V_j)\Big]^2 = \int_0^1 T_N^2(t)\,\mathrm{d}t + \frac{1}{6N}.$$

In model (1) (for nuisance linear regression) the test criterion of the Cramér-von Mises type two-sample test is then $\int_0^1 S_N^2(t)\,\mathrm{d}t$, where $S_N(t)$ is the process from Theorem 1, and it can be seen from the form of the test statistic that this test with a critical region $\{\int_0^1 S_N^2(t)\,\mathrm{d}t \geqslant C\}$ is suitable only for two-sided alternatives (similarly to the statistic K_N). The critical values can be obtained from the following theorem.

Theorem 3. *Under the conditions of Theorem* 1 *we have*

$$\lim_{N\to\infty} P\Big(\int_0^1 S_N^2(t)\,\mathrm{d}t < x\Big) = P\Big(\sum_{j=1}^{\infty}\frac{X_j^2}{j^2\pi^2} < x\Big),$$

where $X_1, X_2, \dots$ *are independent standardized normal random variables.*

Proof. It follows from Theorem 1 and from the property of the Brownian bridge stated in [4, Theorem V.3.3.c]. □

All the tests proposed in this paper are based on the regression rank scores and their construction is inspired by the structure of the classical Kolmogorov-Smirnov (Cramér-von Mises) test. Therefore, they do not require a preliminary estimation of the nuisance parameter and their asymptotic distributions coincide with the classical tests.

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