

**4. Acknowledgment.** I am grateful to Dr. Robert E. Greenwood for his advice and guidance.

## REFERENCES

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**THE LIMITING JOINT DISTRIBUTION OF THE LARGEST AND  
SMALLEST SAMPLE SPACINGS<sup>1</sup>**

BY LIONEL WEISS

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**1. Introduction and summary.**  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are independent chance variables, each with the same distribution. This common distribution assigns all the probability to the closed interval  $[0, 1]$ , and has a density function  $f(x)$  whose graph consists of any finite number of horizontal line segments. That is, there are  $H$  non-degenerate subintervals

$$I_1, I_2, \dots, I_H, \quad I_1 = [0, z_1), I_2 = [z_1, z_2), \dots, I_H = [z_{H-1}, 1],$$

and for each  $x$  in  $I_j$ ,  $f(x) = a_j$ . We assume that  $a_j$  is positive for all  $j$ . Let  $z_0$  denote zero, and  $z_H$  denote unity.  $M$  will denote  $\min_j a_j$ ,  $B$  will denote

$$\sum_{j: a_j = M} (z_j - z_{j-1}),$$

and  $S$  shall denote  $\int_0^1 f^2(x) dx = \sum_{j=1}^H a_j^2 (z_j - z_{j-1})$ .

Let  $Y_1 \leq Y_2 \leq \dots \leq Y_n$  denote the ordered values of  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ , and define  $W_1 = Y_1, W_2 = Y_2 - Y_1, \dots, W_n = Y_n - Y_{n-1}, W_{n+1} = 1 - Y_n, U_n = \min(W_1, \dots, W_{n+1}), V_n = \max(W_1, \dots, W_{n+1})$ . In [1] it is shown that if  $f(x)$  is the uniform density function over  $[0, 1]$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left[ U_n > \frac{u}{(n+1)^2}, \quad V_n < \frac{\log(n+1) - \log v}{n+1} \right] = \exp \{ - (u + v) \},$$

for any positive numbers  $u, v$ . It is easy to see that the convergence must be uniform over any bounded rectangle in the space of  $u$  and  $v$ . In this paper it is shown that if  $f(x)$  is of the type described above, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left[ U_n > \frac{u}{(n+1)^2}, \quad V_n < \frac{\log(n+1) + \log M - \log v}{M(n+1)} \right] \\ = \exp \{ - (Su + Bv) \},$$

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for any positive values  $u, v$ . This result can be used to study the asymptotic power of various tests of fit based on  $U_n$  and  $V_n$  which have been proposed (see [1], p. 253).

**2. Derivation of the distribution.** Let  $N_j$  denote the number of the values  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  which fall in the subinterval  $I_j$ , and let  ${}_jY_1 \leq {}_jY_2 \leq \dots \leq {}_jY_{N_j}$  be the ordered values of the observations in  $I_j$ . Denote  $z_{j-1}$  by  ${}_jY_0$ , and  $z_j$  by  ${}_jY_{N_j+1}$ . Define  ${}_jW_h$  as  ${}_jY_h - {}_jY_{h-1}$  for  $h = 1, \dots, N_j + 1$ . The joint conditional distribution of

$$\frac{{}_jW_1}{z_j - z_{j-1}}, \dots, \frac{{}_jW_{N_j+1}}{z_j - z_{j-1}}$$

given  $N_j$  is the same as the joint distribution of  $N_j + 1$  sample spacings created by  $N_j$  independent observations on a uniform distribution over  $[0, 1]$ , and depends only on  $N_j$ . Denote  $\min({}_jW_1, \dots, {}_jW_{N_j+1})$  by  $U(N_j)$ , and

$$\max({}_jW_1, \dots, {}_jW_{N_j+1})$$

by  $V(N_j)$ . Then we have from the theorem of ([1], p. 252)

$$\lim_{\min_j N_j \rightarrow \infty} P \left[ \frac{U(N_j)}{z_j - z_{j-1}} > \frac{u_j}{(N_j + 1)^2}, \quad \frac{V(N_j)}{z_j - z_{j-1}} < \frac{\log(N_j + 1) - \log v_j}{N_j + 1}; \right. \\ \left. \text{all } j \mid N_1, \dots, N_H \right] = \exp \left\{ - \sum_{j=1}^H (u_j + v_j) \right\},$$

and this approach is uniform over any bounded subset of  $u_1, \dots, u_H, v_1, \dots, v_H$  space. Now we set

$$u_j = \left( \frac{N_j + 1}{n + 1} \right)^2 \frac{u}{z_j - z_{j-1}}$$

$$\log v_j = \log(N_j + 1) - \frac{N_j + 1}{M(n + 1)(z_j - z_{j-1})} \log \left[ \frac{M(n + 1)}{v} \right].$$

Then the inequalities in the conditional probability above become

$$U(N_j) > \frac{u}{(n + 1)^2}$$

$$V(N_j) < \frac{\log(n + 1) + \log M - \log v}{M(n + 1)}.$$

$(N_j + 1) / (n + 1)$  can be written as  $a_j(z_j - z_{j-1}) + Z_j(n)$ , where  $Z_j(n)$  is a chance variable such that  $n^{1-\delta} Z_j(n)$  converges to zero with probability one as  $n$  increases, for any positive  $\delta$ . This means that  $Z_j(n) \log(n + 1)$  converges to zero with probability one as  $n$  increases. Then it is easily verified that as  $n$  increases, with probability one  $u_j$  converges to  $ua_j^2(z_j - z_{j-1})$  and  $v_j$  converges to  $v(z_j - z_{j-1})$  if  $a_j = M$  and to zero if  $a_j > M$ . We turn our conditional prob-

ability above into an unconditional probability by taking the expectation with respect to  $N_1, \dots, N_H$ , and we find

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P \left[ \min_j U(N_j) > \frac{u}{(n+1)^2}, \quad \max_j V(N_j) < \frac{\log(n+1) + \log M - \log v}{M(n+1)} \right] = \exp \{ - (Su + Bv) \},$$

for any positive values  $u, v$ .

The final step in our derivation is to show that with probability approaching one as  $n$  increases,  $U_n = \min_j U(N_j)$  and  $V_n = \max_j V(N_j)$ . If

$$U_n \neq \min_j U(N_j),$$

it means that for some  $j$ ,  $U(N_j) = {}_jW_1$  or  ${}_jW_{N_j+1}$ . But from the symmetry of the joint distribution of  ${}_jW_1, \dots, {}_jW_{N_j+1}$ , it is easily seen that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P[U(N_j) = {}_jW_1 \text{ or } {}_jW_{N_j+1}] = 0.$$

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P[U_n = \min_j U(N_j)] = 1$ . If  $V_n \neq \max_j V(N_j)$ , it implies that the sample spacing of maximum length contains one of the values  $z_0, \dots, z_H$ . Denote by  $T_j$  the length of the sample spacing which contains  $z_j$ . Simple calculations show that the limiting distribution of  $(n+1)T_j$  has a bounded density function. But  $V_n \geq \max_j V(N_j)$ , and the limiting probability given in the preceding paragraph shows that  $(n+1) \max_j V(N_j)$  grows without bound as  $n$  increases. Thus with probability approaching one as  $n$  increases,

$$V_n > \max_j T_j.$$

**3. The large-sample power of certain tests of fit based on  $U_n$  and  $V_n$ .** The statistics  $V_n/U_n$  and  $V_n - U_n$  have been proposed to test the hypothesis that  $f(x)$  is the uniform density function. We define  $U'_n$  as  $(n+1)^2 U_n$ , and  $V'_n$  as  $M(n+1)V_n - \log(n+1)$ . Above we showed that  $U'_n, V'_n$  have a non-degenerate joint limiting distribution as  $n$  increases. We have

$$\frac{M}{(n+1) \log(n+1)} \frac{V_n}{U_n} = \frac{1}{\log(n+1)} \frac{V'_n}{U'_n} + \frac{1}{U'_n}$$

$$M(n+1)(V_n - U_n) - \log(n+1) = V'_n - \frac{MU'_n}{(n+1)}.$$

These relations imply that asymptotically, the test based on  $V_n/U_n$  is equivalent to the test based on  $U_n$  alone, and the test based on  $V_n - U_n$  is equivalent to the test based on  $V_n$  alone. Small values of  $U_n$  are critical, large values of  $V_n$  are critical. Using the results above, we find that the asymptotic critical value for  $U_n$  if the desired level of significance is  $\alpha$  is  $-\log(1-\alpha)/(n+1)^2$ , and the asymptotic power of the test based on  $U_n$  is  $1 - (1-\alpha)^S$ . Thus the test based on  $U_n$  is not consistent against any alternative of the type we are considering. However, it is not difficult to show that the test based on  $V_n$  is consistent against any such alternative.

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GENERALIZED  $D_n^+$  STATISTICS<sup>1</sup>

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**1. Introduction.** The purpose here is to present simplified derivation methods which can be applied to generalizations of some distributions derived by Birnbaum and Tingey [1] and Birnbaum and Pyke [2]. In the case of [1] the generalization is explicitly written down as equation (5)'. Other authors have noticed this generalization; it appears implicitly in equation (31) of Chapman [3] and is given explicitly by Pyke [4]. However the derivation given in the following section differs from the methods of other authors and gives a probabilistic meaning to each term in the summation formula (5)'. In the case of [2] explicit formulas are given for a special case of our generalization different from that considered by Birnbaum and Pyke.

Consider a sample of  $n$  from the uniform distribution on  $(0, 1)$ . Denote the sample c.d.f. by  $F_n(x)$ . The relevant part of the curve  $y = F_n(x)$  is entirely contained by the closed unit square  $0 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq y \leq 1$ , and within this square the population c.d.f. is represented by the line  $y = x$ . For  $0 \leq \delta < 1$  and  $0 < \epsilon < 1$  the line joining  $(0, \delta)$  and  $(1 - \epsilon, 1)$  will be referred to as barrier  $(\delta, \epsilon)$ . A set of such barriers moving away from  $y = x$  may be conceived of, and we are concerned with a set of probabilistic questions about which barriers are crossed and where by the curve  $y = F_n(x)$  as it passes from  $(1, 1)$  to  $(0, 0)$ .

**2. The basic derivation.** Denote by  $f_j (0 \leq j \leq n - 1)$  the probability that  $y = F_n(x)$  crosses the barrier  $(\delta, \epsilon)$  at level  $y = (n - j) / n$  not having crossed it at any level  $y = (n - i) / n$  for  $i < j$ . Denote the abscissa of the intersection of the barrier  $(\delta, \epsilon)$  and level  $y = (n - j) / n$  by  $m_j$ . Then it is easily checked that

$$(1) \quad m_j = \frac{1 - \epsilon}{1 - \delta} \left( 1 - \delta - \frac{j}{n} \right).$$

Finally, let us use  $b(r, s, p)$  for the binomial probability  $\binom{s}{r} p^r (1 - p)^{s-r}$

An expression for  $f_j$  may be derived as follows. Given that  $y = F_n(x)$  passes

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