

or  $[f^*(a', b', w_3, \dots, w_n), g^*(a', b', w_3, \dots, w_n)]$ , is the center of gravity of the points  $(a, b)$  for which the cube  $C$ , shifted to have center at  $(a, b, 0, \dots, 0)$ , contains the point  $(a', b', w_3, \dots, w_n)$ . However, it is equivalent to state that the estimate of  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is the center of gravity of the points  $(a, b)$  for which the line  $y = a + bx$  is a possible regression line for the observed points  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , i.e., for which  $y = a + bx$  is within  $\delta/2$  vertically of each point  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ .

It is of interest to note that the estimates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are  $\bar{y}$  and  $\sum y_i x_i / \sum x_i^2$  plus corrections which depend only on the deviations from the usual regression line. This is essentially the invariance requirement.

The methods of Section 3 up to formulas (7) and (8) may be applied in much the same manner to any regression problem for which the errors are a sample from some given fixed distribution.

#### REFERENCE

- [1] DAVID BLACKWELL AND M. A. GIRSHICK, *Theory of Games and Statistical Decisions*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1954.

## ON DISCRETE VARIABLES WHOSE SUM IS ABSOLUTELY CONTINUOUS<sup>1</sup>

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**1. Summary.** If  $\{Z_n\}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  is a stationary stochastic process with  $D$  states  $0, 1, \dots, D - 1$ , and  $X = \sum_1^\infty Z_k/D^n$ , Harris [1] has shown that the distribution of  $X$  is absolutely continuous if and only if the  $Z_n$  are independent and uniformly distributed over  $0, 1, \dots, D - 1$ , i.e., if and only if the distribution of  $X$  is uniform on the unit interval. In this note we show that if  $\{Z_n\}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  is any stochastic process with  $D$  states  $0, 1, \dots, D - 1$  such that  $X = \sum_1^\infty Z_n/D^n$  has an absolutely continuous distribution, then the conditional distribution of  $R_k = \sum_{n=1}^\infty Z_{k+n}/D^n$  given  $Z_1, \dots, Z_k$  converges to the uniform distribution on the unit interval with probability 1 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . It follows that the unconditional distribution of  $R_k$  converges to the uniform distribution as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . Since if  $\{Z_n\}$  is stationary the distribution of  $R_k$  is independent of  $k$ , the result of Harris follows.

### 2. Proof of the theorem.

**THEOREM.** *If  $\{Z_n\}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  is a sequence of random variables, each assuming only values  $0, 1, \dots, D - 1$  such that  $X = \sum_1^\infty Z_n/D^n$  has an absolutely continuous distribution, and*

$0 < \lambda \leq 1$ , then  $U_k(\lambda) = P(\sum_1^\infty Z_{k+n}/D^n < \lambda \mid Z_1, \dots, Z_k) \rightarrow \lambda$  with probability 1 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

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PROOF. Say  $X$  has density  $p$  with respect to Lebesgue measure on the unit interval. Then

$$U_k(\lambda) = \lambda d(y_k(X), \lambda D^{-k})/d(y_k(X), D^{-k}),$$

where  $y_k(s) = mD^{-k}$  for  $mD^{-k} \leq s < (m + 1)D^{-k}$ ,  $m = 0, 1, \dots, D^k - 1$ , and  $d(a, h) = h^{-1} \int_a^{a+h} p(s) ds$ .

We must show that

$$\lambda d(y_k(s), \lambda D^{-k})/d(y_k(s), D^{-k}) \rightarrow \lambda$$

for almost all  $s$  (Lebesgue measure) for which  $p(s) > 0$ , and this will follow from

$$(1) \quad d(y_k(s), \lambda D^{-k}) \rightarrow p(s) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Now a basic theorem of real variable theory asserts that

$$(2) \quad d(s, h) \rightarrow p(s) \quad \text{a.e.}$$

as  $h \rightarrow 0$ . Let  $a_k(s) = (s - y_k(s))/\lambda D^{-k}$

Then

$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned} d(y_k(s), \lambda D^{-k}) &= a_k(s) d(s, y_k(s) - s) + [1 - a_k(s)] d(s, y_k(s) + \lambda D^{-k} - s) \\ &= a_k(s)[d(s, y_k(s) - s) - d(s, y_k(s) + \lambda D^{-k} - s)] \\ &\quad + d(s, y_k(s) + \lambda D^{-k} - s). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $a_k(s)$  is bounded, letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  in (3) and using (2) yields (1), and the proof is complete.

REFERENCE

[1] T. E. HARRIS, "On chains of infinite order," *Pacific J. Math.*, Vol. 5 (1955), pp. 707-724.

**A PROOF THAT THE SEQUENTIAL PROBABILITY RATIO TEST  
(S.P.R.T.) OF THE GENERAL LINEAR HYPOTHESIS  
TERMINATES WITH PROBABILITY UNITY**

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**1. Introduction.** It can be shown [1] [2] that the S.P.R.T. of the general linear hypothesis resolves itself into the following form of procedure: Continue sampling at stage ( $n$ ) if

$$(1) \quad \frac{\beta}{1 - \alpha} < e^{-\lambda(n)/2} M \left( \alpha(n), \gamma; \frac{\frac{1}{2}\lambda(n)G^{(n)}}{1 + G^{(n)}} \right) < \frac{1 - \beta}{\alpha} \dots;$$

otherwise accept or reject the null hypothesis depending upon whether the left-hand or right-hand inequality is violated.

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