

Non-unbiased two-sample nonparametric tests. Numerical example

X. Yermolenko^{1*}

¹ Charles University in Prague, Department of Statistics, Sokolovská 83,
CZ-186 75 Prague 8, Czech Republic; Yermolenko@karlin.mff.cuni.cz

*Presenting author

Keywords. Unbiasedness; Two - sample problem; Wilcoxon test.

Many tests on vector or scalar parameters against two-sided alternatives are generally not finite-sample unbiased. They are unbiased only for symmetric distributions or under similar conditions. This was already noticed by ?, ? and generally analyzed by ?, ? and later by many others. While in univariate models the tests are unbiased against one-sample alternatives, such alternatives are not clearly characterized in the multivariate models.

We shall numerically illustrate this important problem on the Wilcoxon test against two-sample alternative of shift in location, applied to a skew logistic distribution and unequal sample sizes. Namely, let $X_1, \dots, X_n; Y_1, \dots, Y_m$ be two random samples according to absolutely continuous distributions $F(x)$ and $G(x)$ respectively.

In order to test the hypotheses $G(x) = F(x)$, against the alternative that F is the skew logistic distribution and $G(x) = F(x - \Delta)$, $\Delta \neq 0$, we will consider the following two - sample Wilcoxon test:

$$\phi(X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_m) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } X_{(n)} < Y_{(1)} \text{ or } X_{(1)} > Y_{(m)}, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

References

- Amrhein, P. (1995). An example of a two-sided Wilcoxon signed rank test which is not unbiased. *Ann. Inst. Statist. Math.* **47** 167–170.
- Jurečková, J., & Kalina, J. (2012). Nonparametric multivariate rank tests and their unbiasedness. *Bernoulli* **18**, 229–251.
- Jurečková, J. & Milhaud, X. (2003). Derivative in the mean of a density and statistical applications. *IMS Lecture Notes* **42**, 217–232.
- Sugiura, N., Murakami, H., Lee, S.K. & Maeda, Y. (2006). Biased and unbiased two-sided Wilcoxon tests for equal sample sizes. *Ann. Inst. Statist. Math.* **58**, 93–100.