Multiple Testing Project

2.2 P-value

1. Distribution of the p-value under the null

1.1 Show that for any α, $c_\alpha = F_H^{-1}(1-\alpha)$

We know that $\alpha = 1 - F_H(c_\alpha)$ from the definition of c_α.

$\alpha = 1 - F_H(c_\alpha)$

$\alpha - 1 = -F_H(c_\alpha)$

$-(\alpha - 1) = F_H(c_\alpha)$

$1 - \alpha = F_H(c_\alpha)$

$F_H^{-1}(1-\alpha) = c_\alpha$

$c_\alpha = F_H^{-1}(1-\alpha)$

Q.E.D.

1.2 Show that the p-value of the test, as a function of the data $\mathbf{X}$ used, is given by $p(\mathbf{X}) = 1 - F_H(T(\mathbf{X}))$.

The p-value is defined as $p - value = inf\{\alpha : T(X) \in R_\alpha\}$

Which is to say that the p-value is the *smallest* α for which $T(X)$ is in the region R_α of the probability distribution P_H

So the p-value is an instance of α, which is defined as $\alpha = 1 - F_H(c_\alpha)$ where c_α is chosen so that the equation is true. Therefore, if we replace c_α with our test statistic $T(\mathbf{X})$, we get a $p(\mathbf{X}) = 1 - F_H(\mathbf{X})$.

This matters because it highlights that the choice of α sets the minimum p-value for $\mathbf{X}$ as $p(\mathbf{X})$ such that one rejects the hypothesis that X is from the same distribution as Y when $T(\mathbf{X}) > c_\alpha$.

From the previous question we know, $F_H(c_\alpha) = 1 - \alpha$

$F_H(c_\alpha) = 1 - P_H[T(\mathbf{X}) > c_\alpha]$

$P_H[T(\mathbf{X}) > c_\alpha] = 1 - F_H(c_\alpha)$

$P_H[T(\mathbf{X}) > \mathbf{x}] = 1 - F_H(\mathbf{X})$

$p(\mathbf{X}) = 1 - F_H(\mathbf{X})$

1.3 Show that for any univariate random variable y with continuous distribution function F, the random variables $F(y)$ and $1 - F(y)$ follow the uniform distribution.

We know that the CDF of a uniform distribution is as follows,

$$F(y) \begin{cases} 0 & y \leq a \\ \frac{y-a}{b-a} & a \leq y \leq b \\ 1 & y \leq b \end{cases}$$

$$1 - F(y) \begin{cases} 1 & y \leq a \\ 1 - \frac{y-a}{b-a} & a \leq y \leq b \\ 0 & y \leq b \end{cases}$$

$$1 - F(y) \begin{cases} 1 & y \leq a \\ \frac{b-y}{b-a} & a \leq y \leq b \\ 0 & y \leq b \end{cases}$$

$$1 - F(y) \begin{cases} 1 & y \leq a \\ \frac{y-b}{a-b} & b \leq y \leq a \\ 0 & y \leq b \end{cases}$$

which is the CDF for another unifrom random distribution.

1.4 Using the above results, show that the p-value follows the uniform distribution under H.

$\alpha = 1 - F_H(c_\alpha)$

If $F_H(c_\alpha)$ follows a uniform distribution, $1 - F_H(c_\alpha)$ does too, as proven in the previous exercise.