

UTSSRP - Causal Inference

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Question

(Adapted from Box, Hunter, and Hunter) Fifteen judges were randomly allocated to judge one of two brands of beer, A or B, for taste. Eight judges will be assigned to Brand A and seven judges to brand B. The judges ranked the beer they tasted using a 10-point (Likert) scale with 1 representing ‘poor taste’ and 10 representing ‘outstanding taste’.

The table below shows the rating from each judge. The number in brackets beside the rating indicates which judge gave the rating. For example, judge 1 gave a rating of 2 to brand A, and judge 9 gave a rating of 3 to brand B. In this question you will evaluate if there is “causal” evidence that Brand B tastes better than Brand A.

Brand A	2 (1)	4 (2)	2 (3)	1 (4)	9 (5)	9 (6)	2 (7)	2 (10)
Brand B	8 (8)	3 (9)	5 (11)	3 (12)	7 (13)	7 (14)	4 (15)	

Answer the following questions using a programming language such as R or Python.

- What are the null and alternative hypotheses?
- What are the experimental units? What are the treatments?
- How many values does the randomization distribution of the difference in **median** ratings between the two brands contain?
- Create a histogram of this randomization distribution.
- Compute the P-value and interpret the P-value.
- Is there causal evidence that brand B tastes better than Brand A? Explain.