# On the use of aggregation functions within tests of symmetry

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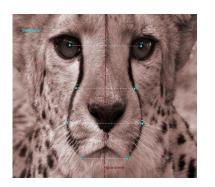
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- 3 Experimental setup

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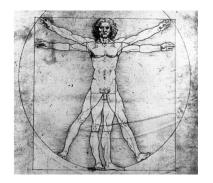
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# Symmetry in nature





# Symmetry in art



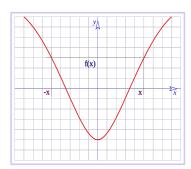
Vitruvian man (Leonardo Da Vinci, 1490)



The starry night (Vincent Van Gogh, 1889)

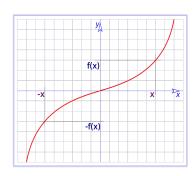
# Symmetry in mathematics (analysis)

#### **Even function**



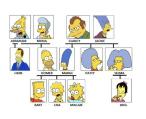
Axial symmetry about y axis

#### **Odd** function



Rotational symmetry about the origins of the coordinates

## Symmetry in mathematics (relational algebra)



**Symmetric relationship:**  $xRy \Rightarrow yRx$ 

Example: 'x is y's sibling'

**Asymmetric relationship:**  $xRy \Rightarrow y\cancel{R}x$ 

Example: 'x is y's child'

## Symmetry in mathematics (linear algebra)

A matrix M is symmetric if

$$M = M^T$$

Typical example in probabilities: variances and covariances' matrix

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_X^2 & \sigma_{XY} & \sigma_{XZ} \\ \sigma_{XY} & \sigma_Y^2 & \sigma_{YZ} \\ \sigma_{XZ} & \sigma_{XY} & \sigma_Z^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Symmetry in a random variable

• A random variable X is called **symmetric about**  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  if

$$P(X \le x_0 - x) = P(X \ge x_0 + x)$$
, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ 

• If there exists no point  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that P(X = x) > 0, then X is symmetric about  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  if and only if

$$F(x_0 - x) = 1 - F(x_0 + x)$$
, for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ 

• If X is a continuous random variable with a density function f, then X is symmetric about  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  if and only if

$$f(x_0-x)=f(x_0+x)\,, \text{ for any } x\in\mathbb{R}$$

A random variable X is called **symmetric** if there exists  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  about which X is symmetric



## Tables for symmetric variables: half the effort!





Z	0,00	0.01	0,02	0,03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0,09
0.0	0,5000	0,5040	0,5080	0,5120	0,5160	0,5199	0,5239	0,5279	0,5319	0,5359
0.1	0,5398	0,5438	0,5478	0,5517	0,5557	0,5596	0,5636	0,5675	0,5714	0,5753
0,2	0,5793	0,5832	0,5871	0,5910	0,5948	0,5987	0,6026	0,6064	0,6103	0,6141
0,3	0,6179	0,6217	0,6255	0,6293	0,6331	0,6368	0,6406	0,6443	0,6480	0,6517
0,4	0,6554	0,6591	0,6628	0,6664	0,6700	0,6736	0,6772	0,6808	0,6844	0,6879
0,5	0,6915	0,6950	0,6985	0,7019	0,7054	0,7088	0,7123	0,7157	0,7190	0,7224
0,6	0,7257	0,7291	0,7324	0,7357	0,7389	0,7422	0,7454	0,7486	0,7517	0,7549
0,7	0,7580	0,7611	0,7642	0,7673	0,7704	0,7734	0,7764	0,7794	0,7823	0,7852
0,8	0,7881	0,7910	0,7939	0,7967	0,7995	0,8023	0,8051	0,8078	0,8106	0,8133
0,9	0,8159	0,8186	0,8212	0,8238	0,8264	0,8289	0,8315	0,8340	0,8365	0,8389
1,0	0,8413	0,8438	0,8461	0,8485	0,8508	0,8531	0,8554	0,8577	0,8599	0,8621
1.1	0,8643	0,8665	0,8686	0,8708	0,8729	0,8749	0,8770	0,8790	0,8810	0,8830
1.2	0,8849	0,8869	0,8888	0,8907	0,8925	0,8944	0,8962	0,8980	0,8997	0,9015
1,3	0,9032	0,9049	0,9066	0,9082	0,9099	0,9115	0,9131	0,9147	0,9162	0,9177
1,4	0,9192	0,9207	0,9222	0,9236	0,9251	0,9265	0,9279	0,9292	0,9306	0,9319
1,5	0,9332	0,9345	0,9357	0,9370	0,9382	0,9394	0,9406	0,9418	0,9429	0,9441
1,6	0,9452	0,9463	0,9474	0,9484	0,9495	0,9505	0,9515	0,9525	0,9535	0,9545
1,7	0,9554	0,9564	0,9573	0,9582	0,9591	0,9599	0,9608	0,9616	0,9625	0,9633
1,8	0,9641	0,9649	0,9656	0,9664	0,9671	0,9678	0,9686	0,9693	0,9699	0,9706
1,9	0,9713	0,9719	0,9726	0,9732	0,9738	0,9744	0,9750	0,9756	0,9761	0,9767
2.0	0,9772	0,9778	0,9783	0,9788	0,9793	0,9798	0,9803	0,9808	0,9812	0,9817
2.1	0,9821	0,9826	0,9830	0,9834	0,9838	0,9842	0,9846	0,9850	0,9854	0,9857
2.2	0,9861	0,9864	0,9868	0,9871	0,9875	0,9878	0,9881	0,9884	0,9887	0,9890
2,3	0,9893	0,9896	0,9898	0,9901	0,9904	0,9906	0,9909	0,9911	0,9913	0,9916
2,4	0,9918	0,9920	0,9922	0,9925	0,9927	0,9929	0,9931	0,9932	0,9934	0,9936
2,5	0,9938	0,9940	0,9941	0,9943	0,9945	0,9946	0,9948	0,9949	0,9951	0,9952
2.6	0,9953	0,9955	0,9956	0,9957	0,9959	0,9960	0,9961	0,9962	0,9963	0,9964
2.7	0,99653	0,99664	0,99674	0,99683	0,99693	0,99702	0,99711	0,99720	0,99728	0,99736
2,8	0,99744	0,99752	0,99760	0,99767	0,99774	0,99781	0,99788	0,99795	0,99801	0,99807
2,9	0,99813	0,99819	0,99825	0,99831	0,99836	0,99841	0,99846	0,99851	0,99856	0,99861
3,0	0,99865	0,99869	0,99874	0,99878	0,99882	0,99886	0,99889	0,99893	0,99896	0,99900
3,1	0,99903	0,99906	0,999 10	0,99913	0,99916	0,999 18	0,99921	0,99924	0,99926	0,99929
3,2	0,99931	0,99934	0,99936	0,99938	0,99940	0,99942	0,99944	0,99946	0,99948	0,99950
3,3	0,99952	0,99953	0,99955	0,99957	0,99958	0,99960	0,99961	0,99962	0,99964	0,99965
3,4	0,99966	0,99968	0,999 @	0,99970	0,99971	0,99972	0,99973	0,99974	0,99975	0,99976
3,5	0,99977	0,99978	0,99978	0,99979	0,99980	0,99981	0,99981	0,99982	0,99983	0,99983
3,6	0,99984	0,99985	0,99985	0,99986	0,99986	0,99987	0,99987	0,99988	0,99988	0,99989
3,7	0,99989	0,99990	0,99990	0,99990	0,99991	0,99991	0,99992	0,99992	0,99992	0,99992
3,8	0,99993	0,99993	0,99993	0,99994	0,99994	0,99994	0,99994	0,99995	0,99995	0,99999
3,9	0,99995	0,99995	0,99996	0,99996	0,99996	0,99996	0,99996	0,99996	0,99997	0,99997
40	0.00007	0.00007	0.000.07	0.00007	0.00007	0.000.07	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000

## Necessary assumption for some non-parametric tests

### Wilcoxon signed-rank test (Wilcoxon, 1945):

Let X be a continuous and **symmetric** random variable about which we test

$$H_0$$
: Me =  $m$   
 $H_1$ : Me  $\neq m$ 

Using the statistic

$$T^+ = \sum_{X_i > m} \operatorname{rank}(|X_i - m|)$$

and the

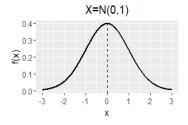
$$RR = \{T^+ < c_1, T^+ > c_2\}$$

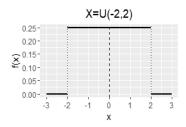
**Fun fact:** If we knew the population median instead of the symmetry property, we may perform a test of symmetry (Thas, Rayner and Best, 2015)

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#### Axiomatic definition of a **skewness coefficient** $\gamma$ :

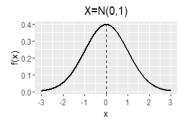


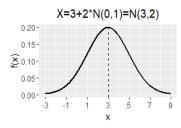


Sometimes, it is requiered



Axiomatic definition of a **skewnees coefficient**  $\gamma$ :



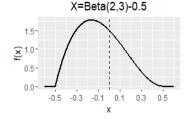


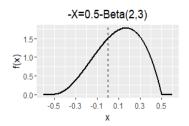
Sometimes, it is requiered

- $\gamma(X) \in [-1,1]$



Axiomatic definition of a **skewnees coefficient**  $\gamma$ :





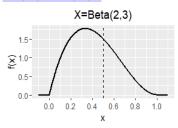
Sometimes, it is requiered

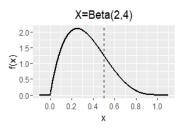
- $\gamma(X) \in [-1,1]$

Axiomatic definition of a **skewnees coefficient**  $\gamma$ :

- 2  $\gamma(cX+d)=\gamma(X)$  for any  $c,d\in\mathbb{R}$  such that c>0

Sometimes, it is requiered





**3**  $\gamma(X)$  ∈ [-1, 1]

## Some classic skewness coefficients

• Moment skewness coefficient (Pearson, 1895)

$$\gamma_{\mathsf{M}}(X) = \frac{E\left((X-\mu)^3\right)}{\sigma^3}$$

Non-parametric skewness coefficient (Pearson, 1895)

$$\gamma_{\mathsf{NP}}(X) = \frac{\mu - \mathsf{Me}(X)}{\sigma}$$

• Groeneveld-Meeden skewness coefficient (1984, 1995)

$$\gamma_{\mathsf{GM}}(X) = rac{\mu - \mathsf{Me}(X)}{E(|X - \mathsf{Me}(X)|)}$$

## Some robust skewness coefficients

#### Hinkley skewness coefficients (1975)

For any  $p \in ]0,1[$ 

$$\gamma_{p}(X) = \frac{\left(C_{1-p}(X) - C_{0.5}(X)\right) - \left(C_{0.5}(X) - C_{p}(X)\right)}{C_{1-p}(X) - C_{p}(X)}$$

• Bowley skewness coefficient (1901)

$$\gamma_{\mathsf{B}}(X) = rac{Q_{3}(X) + Q_{1}(X) - 2\mathsf{Me}(X)}{Q_{3}(X) - Q_{1}(X)}$$

Octile skewness coefficient (Hinkley, 1975)

$$\gamma_{\mathsf{OCT}}(X) = \frac{\left(C_{0.875}(X) - C_{0.5}(X)\right) - \left(C_{0.5}(X) - C_{0.125}(X)\right)}{C_{0.875}(X) - C_{0.125}(X)}$$



## Some robust skewness coefficients

Medcouple skewness coefficient (Brys, Hubert and Struyf, 2003)

$$\gamma_{\mathsf{MC}}(\mathbf{x}) = \underset{x_i \leq \mathsf{Me}(\mathbf{x}) \leq x_i}{\mathsf{Me}} h(x_i, x_j)$$

where 
$$h(x_i, x_j) = \frac{(x_j - \mathsf{Me}(\mathbf{x})) - (\mathsf{Me}(\mathbf{x}) - x_i)}{x_j - x_i}$$
 (if  $x_i \neq x_j$ )

#### Population expression for medcouple

$$MC = H_F^{-1}(0.5)$$

where

$$H_F(u) = 4 \int_{\mathsf{Me}(X)}^{\infty} F\Big(\frac{x(u-1) + 2\mathsf{Me}(X)}{u+1}\Big) dF(x)$$



## Asymptotically normal skewness coefficients

Under some regularity conditions, the sample versions  $\hat{\gamma}$  of all the skewness coefficients above are asymptotically normal estimators of the corresponding population skewness coefficient  $\gamma_F$ , i.e.,

$$\sqrt{n} \frac{\hat{\gamma} - \gamma_F}{\sqrt{V(\gamma, F)}} \rightsquigarrow N(0, 1)$$

## Skewness-based goodness-of-fit tests

Let  $\mathcal F$  be a location-scale distribution family. We can set out

$$H_0: X \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{F}$$
  
 $H_1: X \not \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{F}$ 

For any  $F,F'\in\mathcal{F}$  it holds that  $\gamma_F=\gamma_{F'}$  and  $V(\gamma,F)=V(\gamma,F')$ 

Under asymptotic normality, the rejection region will be defined as

$$RR = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \,\middle|\, \sqrt{n} \, \frac{|\gamma(\mathbf{x}) - \gamma_F|}{\sqrt{V(\gamma, F)}} > z_{1-\alpha/2} \,\right\}$$

where  $z_{1-\alpha/2}$  is the quantile of order  $1-\alpha/2$  of a normal distribution

## Tests of symmetry (i)

It is set out

$$H_0: \gamma(X) = 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is symmetric})$$

$$H_0: \quad \gamma(X) = 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is symmetric})$$
  
 $H_1: \quad \gamma(X) \neq 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is not symmetric})$ 

Under asymptotic normality, we could define the rejection region

$$RR = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \,\middle|\, \sqrt{n} \, \frac{|\gamma(\mathbf{x}) - 0|}{\sqrt{V(\gamma, F)}} > z_{1 - \alpha/2} \right\}$$

where  $z_{1-\alpha/2}$  is the quantile of order  $1-\alpha/2$  of a normal distribution

**Problem:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is unknown!

## Tests of symmetry (ii)

It is set out

$$H_0: \quad \gamma(X) = 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is symmetric})$$
  
 $H_1: \quad \gamma(X) \neq 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is not symmetric})$ 

**Problem:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is unknown!

- **Solution 1:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is estimated considering a reference distribution (e.g.,  $\phi$ )
- **Solution 2:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is estimated with some techniques for estimation of density function
- **Solution 3:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is estimated with its bootstrap estimation  $V^*(\gamma, \mathbf{x})$

## Tests of symmetry (iii)

It is set out

$$H_0: \quad \gamma(X) = 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is symmetric})$$
  
 $H_1: \quad \gamma(X) \neq 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is not symmetric})$ 

$$H_1: \gamma(X) \neq 0 \quad (\approx X \text{ is not symmetric})$$

**Problem:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is unknown!

**Adopted solution:**  $V(\gamma, F)$  is estimated with its bootstrap estimation  $V^*(\gamma, \mathbf{x})$ 

Then, under asymptotic normality, we can consider

$$RR = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \,\middle|\, \sqrt{n} \, \frac{|\gamma(\mathbf{x}) - 0|}{\sqrt{V^*(\gamma, \mathbf{x})}} > z_{1 - \alpha/2} \right\}$$

where  $z_{1-\alpha/2}$  is the quantile of order  $1-\alpha/2$  of a normal distribution

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## Experimental framework (i)

#### Objective

Compare the power of the here-presented tests with the *m*-out-of-*n* bootstrap counterparts version implemented in the R package *lawstat* of two tests:

- Cabilio and Masaro test (1996)
- Miao, Gel and Gastwirth test (2006)
- Significance level  $\alpha = 0.05$
- The power of the tests is estimated by Monte Carlo simulation ( $10^4$  replications) and the number of bootstrap replications is set to  $B = 10^3$
- 4 sample sizes are studied:  $n \in \{25, 50, 100, 200\}$
- All tests are applied to the same samples with the aim of reducing the influence of the sampling

## Power under symmetry

Distribution	n	γм	$\gamma_{NP}$	$\gamma_{\sf GM}$	$\gamma_{B}$	$\gamma$ oct	$\gamma_{\sf MC}$	СМ	MGG
Normal	25	0.0652	0.0174	0.0167	0.0036	0.0169	0.0086	0.0298	0.0313
	50	0.0809	0.0269	0.0265	0.0152	0.0298	0.0158	0.0293	0.0315
Normai	100	0.0739	0.0366	0.0355	0.0278	0.0360	0.0247	0.0426	0.0467
	200	0.0654	0.0420	0.0414	0.0363	0.0425	0.0330	0.0419	0.0458
	25	0.4092	0.1329	0.2136	0.0105	0.0531	0.0262	0.2673	0.0304
C	50	0.4185	0.1527	0.2216	0.0281	0.0633	0.0323	0.3638	0.0421
Cauchy	100	0.4189	0.1511	0.2090	0.0389	0.0640	0.0356	0.4314	0.0563
	200	0.4216	0.1407	0.1980	0.0360	0.0584	0.0359	0.4231	0.0453
	25	0.2272	0.0381	0.0438	0.0038	0.0184	0.0114	0.0485	0.0304
	50	0.2472	0.0535	0.0528	0.0150	0.0338	0.0157	0.0492	0.0347
$t_3$	100	0.2253	0.0597	0.0563	0.0274	0.0397	0.0221	0.0679	0.0567
	200	0.1969	0.0568	0.0512	0.0326	0.0441	0.0312	0.0564	0.0502
	25	0.1108	0.0198	0.0192	0.0023	0.0163	0.0086	0.0299	0.0261
1	50	0.1268	0.0363	0.0358	0.0155	0.0299	0.0171	0.0351	0.0329
Logistic	100	0.1144	0.0384	0.0377	0.0279	0.0373	0.0228	0.0415	0.0453
	200	0.0902	0.0425	0.0422	0.0338	0.0407	0.0315	0.0437	0.0447
	25	0.1653	0.0343	0.0372	0.0045	0.0253	0.0127	0.0401	0.0299
Laulana	50	0.1586	0.0435	0.0428	0.0196	0.0366	0.0171	0.0394	0.0360
Laplace	100	0.1474	0.0492	0.0475	0.0328	0.0438	0.0241	0.0516	0.0488
	200	0.1147	0.0485	0.0479	0.0356	0.0456	0.0301	0.0486	0.0480
	25	0.0308	0.0248	0.0235	0.0038	0.0269	0.0134	0.0480	0.0553
11-:6	50	0.0445	0.0422	0.0403	0.0228	0.0453	0.0287	0.0499	0.0554
Uniform	100	0.0492	0.0484	0.0462	0.0301	0.0491	0.0387	0.0590	0.0714
	200	0.0494	0.0521	0.0502	0.0391	0.0535	0.0463	0.0525	0.0604
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## Power under asymmetry

Distribution	n	γм	$\gamma_{NP}$	$\gamma_{\sf GM}$	$\gamma_{B}$	$\gamma$ oct	$\gamma_{\sf MC}$	СМ	MGG
GLD7	25	0.2585	0.1056	0.1010	0.0106	0.0935	0.0534	0.1346	0.1355
	50	0.5975	0.2485	0.2340	0.0602	0.2315	0.1427	0.2387	0.2514
GLD1	100	0.9077	0.4273	0.4129	0.1250	0.4238	0.2902	0.4623	0.4867
	200	0.9976	0.6839	0.6763	0.2292	0.7041	0.5111	0.7320	0.7411
·	25	0.8351	0.4148	0.4113	0.0351	0.2903	0.1662	0.4124	0.3548
GLD8	50	0.9927	0.7548	0.7397	0.1612	0.6250	0.3856	0.7491	0.7248
GLD6	100	1.0000	0.9506	0.9457	0.3363	0.8996	0.6643	0.9719	0.9715
	200	1.0000	0.9981	0.9980	0.6201	0.9937	0.9135	0.9995	0.9998
	25	0.3894	0.1187	0.1199	0.0067	0.0795	0.0381	0.1329	0.1176
GLD9	50	0.6908	0.3056	0.2976	0.0528	0.2201	0.1160	0.2715	0.2650
GLD9	100	0.9272	0.5597	0.5506	0.1113	0.4379	0.2345	0.5691	0.5719
	200	0.9955	0.8420	0.8366	0.2244	0.7259	0.4466	0.8664	0.8656
	25	0.5967	0.2185	0.2260	0.0133	0.1323	0.0648	0.2235	0.1841
CLD10	50	0.8789	0.5007	0.4903	0.0762	0.3293	0.1726	0.4593	0.4336
GLD10	100	0.9876	0.7995	0.7901	0.1799	0.6325	0.3691	0.8141	0.8080
	200	0.9998	0.9732	0.9711	0.3489	0.8995	0.6410	0.9819	0.9815
	25	0.2097	0.0410	0.0449	0.0038	0.0255	0.0150	0.0477	0.0355
GLD11	50	0.2550	0.0727	0.0718	0.0196	0.0462	0.0239	0.0657	0.0566
GLDII	100	0.2676	0.1064	0.1026	0.0362	0.0703	0.0410	0.1107	0.1024
	200	0.2929	0.1680	0.1622	0.0468	0.1021	0.0585	0.1672	0.1630
	25	0.3781	0.1136	0.1250	0.0078	0.0601	0.0302	0.1188	0.0849
GLD12	50	0.5497	0.2603	0.2562	0.0417	0.1437	0.0741	0.2317	0.1999
GLD12	100	0.7081	0.4696	0.4544	0.0805	0.2777	0.1420	0.4676	0.4486
	200	0.8597	0.7633	0.7520	0.1528	0.5164	0.2891	0.7676	0.7600
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## Robustness in the presence of outliers

Distribution ( $n = 200$ )	ε	$\gamma_{M}$	$\gamma_{\rm NP}$	$\gamma_{GM}$	$\gamma_{B}$	$\gamma$ oct	$\gamma_{MC}$	CM	MGG
	0.00	0.0673	0.0412	0.0408	0.0363	0.0419	0.0324	0.0414	0.0415
	0.01	0.0755	0.0461	0.0456	0.0372	0.0417	0.0332	0.0453	0.0460
$(1-\varepsilon)N(0,1)+\varepsilon N(0,3)$	0.05	0.1481	0.0455	0.0430	0.0323	0.0392	0.0285	0.0446	0.0459
	0.10	0.1540	0.0469	0.0445	0.0346	0.0369	0.0303	0.0463	0.0449
	0.20	0.1305	0.0475	0.0470	0.0332	0.0373	0.0304	0.0501	0.0476
	0.00	0.0700	0.0369	0.0364	0.0319	0.0429	0.0304	0.0387	0.0407
	0.01	0.1391	0.0491	0.0456	0.0327	0.0438	0.0320	0.0645	0.0426
$(1-\varepsilon) N(0,1) + \varepsilon C(0,1)$	0.05	0.3558	0.0824	0.0735	0.0328	0.0421	0.0328	0.1391	0.0444
	0.10	0.4479	0.0994	0.1000	0.0319	0.0417	0.0284	0.2122	0.0439
	0.20	0.4503	0.1346	0.1523	0.0322	0.0405	0.0307	0.3093	0.0597
	0.00	0.0684	0.0427	0.0427	0.0364	0.0404	0.0345	0.0434	0.0443
	0.01	0.4099	0.0886	0.0826	0.0308	0.0420	0.0331	0.0829	0.0838
$(1-\varepsilon) N(0,1) + \varepsilon N(5,1)$	0.05	0.9954	0.6845	0.6692	0.0430	0.0955	0.0675	0.6744	0.6640
	0.10	1.0000	0.9832	0.9819	0.0772	0.3048	0.2448	0.9842	0.9819
	0.20	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000	0.3170	0.9967	0.9118	1.0000	1.0000

## Experimental framework (ii)

#### Objective

Study the tests of symmetry based on the skewness coefficients belonging to the class introduced by Hinkley (1975)

- Significance level  $\alpha = 0.05$
- Sample size n = 200
- The power of the tests is estimated by Monte Carlo simulation ( $10^4$  replications) and the number of bootstrap replications is set to  $B=10^3$
- $p \in \{0.05, 0.1, 0.15, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.40, 0.45\}$
- All tests are applied to the same samples with the aim of reducing the influence of the sampling



## Power of the tests

Distribution	ε	70.05	$\gamma_{0.10}$	$\gamma_{0.15}$	$\gamma_{0.20}$	$\gamma_{0.25}$	$\gamma_{0.30}$	$\gamma_{0.35}$	$\gamma_{0.40}$	$\gamma_{0.45}$
Normal		0.0419	0.0435	0.0379	0.0371	0.0338	0.0294	0.0208	0.0073	0.0000
Cauchy		0.0682	0.0587	0.0549	0.0501	0.0408	0.0318	0.0203	0.0086	0.0000
Laplace		0.0471	0.0472	0.0427	0.0416	0.0374	0.0334	0.0212	0.0067	0.0000
Uniform		0.0584	0.0529	0.0500	0.0425	0.0390	0.0326	0.0223	0.0064	0.0001
GLD7		0.9581	0.8092	0.6025	0.4000	0.2303	0.1211	0.0565	0.0164	0.0002
GLD8		1.0000	0.9994	0.9804	0.8657	0.6180	0.3350	0.1326	0.0304	0.0002
GLD9		0.9437	0.8190	0.6177	0.3986	0.2258	0.1144	0.0494	0.0122	0.0000
GLD10		0.9933	0.9530	0.8231	0.5929	0.3488	0.1770	0.0738	0.0156	0.0001
GLD11		0.1506	0.1195	0.0928	0.0681	0.0492	0.0356	0.0241	0.0075	0.0001
GLD12		0.7222	0.6029	0.4268	0.2720	0.1587	0.0876	0.0373	0.0096	0.0000
GLD13		1.0000	1.0000	0.9978	0.9626	0.7959	0.4835	0.2024	0.0418	0.0000
GLD14		1.0000	1.0000	0.9990	0.9743	0.8322	0.5259	0.2207	0.0456	0.0005
	0.01	0.0489	0.0454	0.0426	0.0367	0.0308	0.0285	0.0194	0.0077	0.0000
$(1-\varepsilon)N(0,1)+\varepsilon N(5,1)$	0.05	0.4221	0.1070	0.0793	0.0556	0.0430	0.0323	0.0224	0.0080	0.0000
$(1-\varepsilon)^{N}(0,1)+\varepsilon^{N}(5,1)$	0.10	0.9873	0.5615	0.2132	0.1351	0.0772	0.0435	0.0254	0.0070	0.0000
	0.20	1.0000	0.9998	0.9746	0.7000	0.3170	0.1610	0.0586	0.0120	0.0002

#### **Conclusions**

- The tests based on classic skewness coefficients exhibit the highest power at asymmetric distributions, but they fail to maintain the significance level at some symmetric distributions
- The tests based on robust skewness coefficients are less powerful at asymmetric distributions but they are more robust in the presence of outliers
- Lower values of p in the skewness coefficients belonging to Hinkley class result in tests that are more powerful but less robust in the presence of outliers
- Comparison with two classic tests of symmetry:
  - Cabilio and Masaro test (1996) shows worse results than most of the here-presented tests
  - Miao, Gel and Gastwirth test (2006) exhibit an intermediate behaviour between the tests of symmetry based on skewness coefficientes and the robust and classic ones

#### Future work

• Study a more general family based on OWA estimators:

$$\gamma_{\mathbf{v},\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\left(\mathbf{v}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x}\right) - \left(\mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x}\right)}{\mathbf{v}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v'}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{x}}$$

where  $\mathbf{v} = 1 - \mathbf{v}'$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  are weight vectors, with  $\mathbf{w}$  symmetric and  $\mathbf{v}$  asymmetric

- Explore the use of different skewness coefficients constructed from different aggregation functions
- Adapt the notion of the skewness coefficient to the context of imprecision and study skewness tests that are robust to the presence of imprecision in sampling

# On the use of aggregation functions within tests of symmetry

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