

This is an interesting article regarding a system (the Lego system for conditional inference) where one can define transformation and influence functions, can choose several forms of suitable test statistics, and can utilize several methods for the computation or approximation of the conditional distribution of the test statistic of interest without being limited to already published and implemented permutation test procedures.

This article is generally well written. There is not too much that the authors need to add to it in order to make it complete.

Following are my comments on this article.

1. It would be interesting for the authors to list the Monte Carlo equations (as mentioned on pages 5 and 6) that correspond to those that they have presented from Strasser and Weber, and to see how the two sets of equations compare to each other.
2. Page 6 – 5 lines from the bottom – change “every day’s data analysis” to “typical data analysis” or “ordinary data analysis”
3. Page 14 – 10 lines from the bottom – change “third application” to “fourth application”
4. The authors present four interesting examples from previously published papers or texts. The authors should also include one or two examples based on simulated data using pre-specified parameters or contrived data that are fixed in advance to obtain a specific result.
5. The authors should attempt to address whether the theoretical concepts of Strasser and Weber can be translated into software routines using SAS (PROC IML) and Stata (the MATA matrix programming language). In other words, can software implementation of flexible and adjustable spanners be carried out in SAS and/or Stata? This will be of interest to journal readers since there are many more statisticians who regularly use SAS and Stata than who regularly use R.