Semiparametric robust mean estimations based on the orderliness of quantile averages

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This manuscript was compiled on June 8, 2023

As one of the most fundamental problems in statistics, robust location estimation has many prominent solutions, such as the symmetric trimmed mean, symmetric Winsorized mean, Hodges–Lehmann estimator, Huber M-estimator, and median of means. Recent studies suggest that their biases concerning the mean can be quite different in asymmetric distributions, but the underlying mechanisms largely remain unclear. This study exploited a semiparametric method to classify distributions by the asymptotic orderliness of robust location estimates with varying breakdown points, showing their interrelations and connections to parametric distributions. Further deductions explain why the Winsorized mean typically has smaller biases compared to the trimmed mean; two sequences of semiparametric robust mean estimators emerge. Building on the γ -U-orderliness, the superiority

semiparametric | mean-median-mode inequality | asymptotic | unimodal | Hodges–Lehmann estimator

of the median Hodges-Lehmann mean is discussed.