Constructing Locally Best Invariant Tests of the Linear Regression Model Using the Density Function of a Maximal Invariant

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Abstract In the context of the linear regression model in which some regression coefficients are of interest and others are purely nuisance parameters, we derive the density function of a maximal invariant statistic after eliminating the nuisance parameters by the principle of invariance argument. This allows the construction of a range of optimal test statistics including the locally best invariant (LBI) test which is equivalent to the well-known one-sided t-test. The resultant LBI test is also found to be uniformly most powerful invariant (UMPI).

Keywords Invariance, Maximal Invariant Statistic, Nuisance Parameters, t-Test, Uniformly Most Powerful Invariant (UMPI)

1. Introduction

This paper is concerned with the problem of testing the null hypothesis that one regressor coefficient is zero, against the alternative that it is non-negative, in the context of linear model. Statistical models and particularly those used by econometricians, involve a large number of influences. These kinds of models contain two types of parameters, those of interest and those not of immediate interest that are known as nuisance parameters. Their presence can cause unexpected complications in statistical inference. Kalbfleisch and Sprott[6] discussed methods of eliminating nuisance parameters from the likelihood function so that inference can be made about the parameters of interest. Bhowmik and King[7] used invariance arguments in order to deal with nuisance parameters and derived maximal invariant likelihoods for semi-linear regression models with the aim of testing for the inclusion of regressors (either linear or non-linear) in linear or semi-linear models.

In practice, many statistical problems including testing of hypotheses, display symmetries, which impose additional restrictions for the choice of proper statistical procedure. In the statistical testing literature the idea of invariance dates back half a century. Among others, Lehmann[3,4,5], King[10,12,13], and Bhowmik and King[7,8,9] suggested the use of invariance arguments to overcome the problem of nuisance parameters. It is a generally accepted principle that if a problem with a unique solution is invariant under a certain group of transformations, then the solution should be invariant under those transformations. A hypothesis testing problem is invariant under a group of transformations acting on the sample space of the observed data vector if for any transformation the probability distribution of transformed data vector belongs to the same set (null or alternative hypothesis) as the original data vector. The idea behind invariance is that if the hypothesis testing problem under consideration has a particular invariance property, then we should restrict attention to only those tests that share this invariance property. The class of all invariant functions can be obtained as the totality of functions of a maximal invariant. A maximal invariant is a statistic which takes the same value for the observed data vectors that are connected by transformations and different values for those data vectors that are not connected by transformations. Consequently any invariant test statistic can be written as a function of the maximal invariant.

The performance of a statistical test is assessed by its size and power properties. Econometricians are always interested in optimality of power and for any testing problem they would like to use a uniformly most powerful (UMP) test. Many testing problems involving the linear regression model can be reduced, either by conditioning on sufficient statistics or by invariance arguments to testing a simple null hypothesis against one sided alternatives. Ideally we would then like to use a UMP test but unfortunately it is rarely possible to find a UMP test when the alternative hypothesis is composite and/or in the presence of nuisance parameters.
Cox and Hinkley[2] discuss three approaches for constructing tests of simple hypotheses against composite alternative hypotheses when no UMP test exits. They involve choosing a point at which the power is optimised:

(i) “to pick, somewhat arbitrarily, a ‘typical’ point” in the alternative parameter space and use it in test construction in order to find a test that at least has optimal power for the chosen point;

(ii) removing this arbitriness by choosing a point to be close to the null hypothesis which leads to the locally best (LB) test, i.e. to maximize the power locally near the null hypothesis;

(iii) choosing a test which maximizes some weighted average of the powers over the alternative parameter space.

Option (i), labelled by King[15] as the point optimal (PO) approach, uses the most powerful test against a specific alternative solution. Option (ii) is the most popular for a single parameter and leads us to a LB or a locally most powerful test. These tests are constructed by maximizing power locally at the null hypothesis. The LB test is also optimal in the sense that its power curve has the steepest slope, at the null hypothesis, of all power curves from tests with the same size. Following Neyman and Pearson[10], a number of authors, notably Ferguson[21], Efron[1], King[16,17], King and Hillier[18] and Wu and King[19] among others, have recommended the use of LB tests.

Our interest in this paper is to derive the density function of the maximal invariant statistic in the context of linear regression model and then construct a locally best invariant test for linear regressors, which is called the Locally Best Invariant (LBI) test. Also we show that this LBI test is equivalent to the one-sided t-test in the case of testing linear regression coefficients.

The plan of this paper is as follows. First of all we derive the density function of the maximal invariant statistic in section 2 and in section 3 we construct the LBI test statistic which is shown to be equivalent to the one-sided t-test. Finally, some concluding remarks are made in section 4.

2. The Density Function

Let us consider the linear model,

\[ y = X_1 \beta_1 + X_2 \beta_2 + u \]  

where \( y \) is \( n \times 1 \), \( X_1 \) is an \( n \times q \) nonstochastic matrix, \( X_2 \) is an \( n \times p \) nonstochastic matrix, \( \beta_1 \) is a \( q \times 1 \) vector and \( \beta_2 \) is \( p \times 1 \) vector. Here \([X_1', X_2']\) is a full column rank matrix.

Considering first the case of \( p = 1 \), our interest is in testing \( H_0: \beta_2 = 0 \) against \( H_1: \beta_2 > 0 \) in the context of the above linear regression model. It is assumed that \( u \sim N(0, \sigma^2 I_n) \) where \( \sigma^2 \) is unknown. This problem is invariant under the class of transformations

\[ y \rightarrow \gamma y + X \gamma \]  

where \( \gamma_0 \) is a positive scalar and \( \gamma \) is a \( q \times 1 \) vector.

Let \( M_1 = I - X_1(X_1'X_1)^{-1}X_1' \) and \( P \) be any \( m \times n \) matrix such that \( PP' = I_m \), \( P'P = M_1 \) where \( m = n - q \).

Multiplying both sides of (1) by \( PM_1 \) and noting that \( PM_1 = P \) and \( M_1 X_1 = 0 \) we get \( Py = PX_2 \beta_2 + Pu \).

Thus \( Py \sim N(PX_2 \beta_2, \sigma^2 I_m) \). Let \( z = Py \).

Then the joint density function of \( z \) is

\[ f(z) = (2\pi \sigma^2)^{-m/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(z - PX_2 \beta_2)'(z - PX_2 \beta_2)\right\} \]  

Let \( r^2 = z'z \) be the usual squared distance of \( z \) from the origin. Now, we change \( z \) to the \( m \)-dimensional polar co-ordinates \((r, \theta_1, \theta_2, ..., \theta_{m-1})\) as follows:

\[ z_1 = r \cos \theta_1 \]
\[ z_j = r \prod_{k=1}^{j-1} \sin \theta_k \cos \theta_j; \text{ for } 2 \leq j \leq m-1 \]
\[ z_m = r \prod_{k=1}^{m-1} \sin \theta_k \]

where \( 0 \leq \theta_k \leq \pi \), for \( k = 1, 2, ..., (m - 2) \) and \( 0 \leq \theta_{m-1} \leq 2\pi \).

The Jacobian of the transformation is

\[ J_m(r, \theta_1, \theta_2, ..., \theta_{m-1}) = \frac{\partial(z_1, z_2, ..., z_m)}{\partial(r, \theta_1, \theta_2, ..., \theta_{m-1})} = r^{m-1} \prod_{k=1}^{m-2} \sin \theta_k^{m-1-k} \]  

(see[11]). To construct the LBI test, we have to find the density function of the maximal invariant statistic. So we want to find the distribution of the maximal invariant.

Note that \( w = z / (z'z)^{1/2} = z / r \) \( z = rw \).

Now the joint density function of \( z \) becomes, after the above change of variables,

\[ f(\theta_1, \theta_2, ..., \theta_{m-1}) = (2\pi \sigma^2)^{-m/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(r^2 w'w - 2w'PX_2 \beta_2 + \beta_2'X_1'PX_2 \beta_2)\right\} \]
To find the density function of \( W \) from the above joint density function of \( Z \), first we have to find the marginal density function of \( Z \). The components of \( Z \) are \( w_1, \ldots, w_m \) and they are defined by equation (4).

Therefore the marginal density function of \( (\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_{m-1}) \) is

\[
f(\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_{m-1}) = \frac{(2\pi)^{-m/2} r^{m-1} \prod_{k=1}^{m-2} \sin \theta_k^{m-1-k}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right)} \int_0^\infty \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}(\lambda^2 - 2\lambda \sin \theta_k^{m-1-k})\right\} \lambda^{m-1} d\lambda
\]

where \( \lambda = \frac{r^2}{\sigma^2} \) and \( dr = \sigma d\lambda \). If we set

\[
a(w, \beta') = w'PX_2 \beta',
\]

\[
b(w, \beta') = \frac{1}{2}(\beta' X_2' P' w w' P X_2 \beta' - \beta' X_2' P' P X_2 \beta') = -\frac{1}{2} \beta' X_2' P' M_{ww} P X_2 \beta'
\]

and \( M_{ww} = I - w' w' = I - w(w' w)^{-1} w' \), then \( b(w, \beta') \) is sum of squared errors of the OLS regression of \( P X_2 \beta' \) on \( w \) and

\[
f(\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_{m-1}) = (2\pi)^{-m/2} \prod_{k=1}^{m-2} \sin \theta_k^{m-1-k} \exp\{b(w, \beta')\} \lambda^{m-1} d\lambda
\]

Using Mathematica (see [21]) we found that

\[
\int_0^\infty \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}(\lambda - a(w, \beta'))^2\right\} \lambda^{m-1} d\lambda = \Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) F_1\left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{a^2(w, \beta')}{2}\right] + \sqrt{2} a(w, \beta') \Gamma\left(\frac{1+m}{2}\right)
\]

\[
F_1\left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{a^2(w, \beta')}{2}\right] = \frac{\Gamma\left(1+m\right)}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \left[\frac{2^m}{1} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2(w, \beta')}{2}\right)\right]
\]

where \( F_1[\ldots; \ldots] \) is the confluent hyper-geometric Function, which has the form

\[
F_1[c, d, \delta] = 1 + \frac{c \delta}{d} + \frac{c(c+1) \delta^2}{d(d+1) 2!} + \ldots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(c)_k}{(d)_k} \frac{\delta^k}{k!}
\]

Therefore the marginal density function of \( \theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_{m-1} \) is,

\[
f(\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_{m-1}) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \prod_{k=1}^{m-2} \sin \theta_k^{m-1-k} \exp\{c(w, \beta')\}
\]

\[
\{F_1\left[\frac{m}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{a^2(w, \beta')}{2}\right] + \sqrt{2} a(w, \beta') \eta \Gamma\left(\frac{1+m}{2}\right) F_1\left[\frac{1+m}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{a^2(w, \beta')}{2}\right]\}
\]

where

\[
c(w, \beta') = b(w, \beta') - \frac{a^2(w, \beta')}{2} = -\frac{1}{2} \beta' X_2' M_{ww} X_2 \beta'
\]

and

\[
\eta = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{1+m}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right)}
\]

Now the transformation from \( (\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots, \theta_{m-1}) \) to \( w = z / (z' z)^{1/2} \) is straightforward since the components of \( w \) are defined by equation (4).
Therefore the density function of $w$ is,

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(m/2)} \frac{m}{2} \pi^{-\frac{m}{2}} \exp[c(w, \beta^\star) \{1 + F_1 \frac{m}{2} \frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2} + \sqrt{2}a(w, \beta^\star) \eta \{1 + \frac{m}{2} \frac{3}{2} \frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2}\} \}]$$

(14)

where $c(w, \beta^\star)$ and $\eta$ are defined by equations (12) and (13). Using this density function we can construct the LBI test statistic for testing $H_0: \beta_2 = 0$.

3. Construction of the Test

We are interested in testing the hypothesis $H_0: \beta_2 = 0$ against $H_a: \beta_2 > 0$ in the context of the linear regression model given in equation (1). Let us first consider $p = 1$, i.e. $\beta_2$ is a scalar. A LBI test of $H_0$ against $H_a$ is that with critical region of the form

$$\left. \frac{\partial \log f(w)}{\partial \beta_2} \right|_{\beta_2 = 0} \geq c_\alpha \, .$$

(15)

The density function of the maximal invariant $w$ is given by equation (14). Taking logs on both sides of equation (14) we get

$$\log f(w) = -\log 2 + \log \{\Gamma(m/2)\} - \frac{m}{2} \log(\pi) + c(w, \beta^\star) +$$

$$\log[\{1 + \frac{m}{2} \frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2} + \frac{m}{2} (\frac{1}{2})^2 (\frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2})^2 + \ldots\} +$$

$$\sqrt{2}a(w, \beta^\star) \eta \{1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{3}{2})^2 (\frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2})^2 + \ldots\} ]$$

$$\frac{\partial \log f(w)}{\partial \beta^\star} = \frac{\partial [c(w, \beta^\star)]}{\partial \beta^\star} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta^\star} (\log[\{1 + \frac{m}{2} \frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2} + \frac{m}{2} (\frac{1}{2})^2 (\frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2})^2 + \ldots\} +$$

$$\sqrt{2}a(w, \beta^\star) \eta \{1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} (\frac{3}{2})^2 (\frac{a^2(w, \beta^\star)}{2})^2 + \ldots\} ]$$

where

$$\frac{\partial [c(w, \beta^\star)]}{\partial \beta^\star} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta^\star} (\frac{-1}{2} \beta^\star X_2^\prime M_1 X_2 \beta^\star) = -X_2^\prime M_1 X_2 \beta^\star$$

and
\[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta^*} \left( \log \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m+1}{2} \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \right. \]

\[ \sqrt{2} a(w, \beta^*) \eta \left[ 1 + \frac{1+m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{1+m}{2} \left( \frac{1+m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] \]

\[ = \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \]

\[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta^*} \left[ \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \right. \]

\[ \sqrt{2} a(w, \beta^*) \eta \left[ 1 + \frac{1+m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{1+m}{2} \left( \frac{1+m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] \]

\[ = \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \]

\[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta^*} \left[ \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \right. \]

\[ \sqrt{2} a(w, \beta^*) \eta \left[ 1 + \frac{1+m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{1+m}{2} \left( \frac{1+m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] \]

\[ = \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \]

\[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta^*} \left[ \left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \right. \]

\[ \sqrt{2}(w'PX_2)' \eta \left[ 1 + \frac{1+m}{2} a^2(w, \beta^*) + \frac{1+m}{2} \left( \frac{1+m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{a^2(w, \beta^*)^2}{2!} \right] + \]
\[
\sqrt{2}a(w, \beta^*) \eta \left\{ \frac{1 + m}{3} \left( w'PX_2 \beta^* \right) \left( w'PX_2 \right)' + \frac{1 + m}{2} \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{\alpha^3(w, \beta^*)}{2} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' + \ldots \right\}.
\]

Now

\[
\frac{\partial \log f(w)}{\partial \beta^*} = -X'_{2*} M X \beta^* + \left[ \frac{m}{2} \left( \frac{m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{\alpha^3(w, \beta^*)}{2} \right] + \frac{1 + m}{2} \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{\alpha^3(w, \beta^*)}{2} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' + \ldots + \frac{1 + m}{2} \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{\alpha^3(w, \beta^*)}{2} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' + \ldots + \frac{1 + m}{2} \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{\alpha^3(w, \beta^*)}{2} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' + \ldots + \frac{1 + m}{2} \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} + 1 \right) \frac{\alpha^3(w, \beta^*)}{2} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' + \ldots \right\}.
\]

Note that because

\[
\frac{\partial \log f(w)}{\partial \beta^*} \bigg|_{\beta^* = 0} = 0 \text{ etc.}
\]

\[
\frac{\partial \log f(w)}{\partial \beta^*} \bigg|_{\beta^* = 0} = \sqrt{2} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' \eta \Gamma \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( \frac{m}{2} \right)
\]

Hence the LBI test rejects \( H_0 \) for

\[
\frac{\partial \log f(w)}{\partial \beta^*} \bigg|_{\beta^* = 0} = \sqrt{2} \frac{\Gamma \left( \frac{1 + m}{2} \right)}{\Gamma \left( \frac{m}{2} \right)} \left( w'PX_2 \right)' \geq c_{\alpha}
\]

or \( (w'PX_2)' \geq d_{\alpha} \)

\[
\frac{X'_{2*} P' P y}{(y'P'y)^{1/2}} = \frac{X'_{2*} M y}{(y'My)^{1/2}} \geq d_{\alpha}
\]

where \( d_{\alpha} \) is an appropriate critical value.
Therefore \( s = \frac{X_2'M_1y}{(y'M_1y)^{1/2}} \) is the LBI test statistic.

### 3.1. Relationship between the t-test and the LBI Test

From the above discussion we can say that the LBI test rejects \( H_0 \) for large values of

\[
s = \frac{X_2'M_1y}{(y'M_1y)^{1/2}}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (18)

for testing \( H_0 : \beta_2 = 0 \) against \( H_a : \beta_2 > 0 \) in the linear model defined by equation (1) if \( X_2 \) is a vector, i.e. \( p = 1 \).

The ordinary least squares (OLS) estimator of \( \beta_2 \) in equation (1) is

\[
\hat{\beta}_2 = (X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1}X_2'M_1y
\]

and the unbiased OLS estimator of the error variance is

\[
\hat{\sigma}^2 = y'(I - M_1X_2(X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1}X_2'M_1)y / (m-1)
\]

Thus the \( t \) test statistic is

\[
t = \hat{\beta}_2 / \left\{ \hat{\sigma}(X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1/2} \right\}
\]

\[
= (m-1)^{-1/2}(X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1}X_2'M_1y / \left\{ y'(I - M_1X_2(X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1}X_2'M_1)y \right\}^{1/2}(X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1/2}
\]

or

\[
t = (m-1)^{1/2}(X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1/2} \left[ 1 - (X_2'M_2X_2)^{-1}s^2 \right] / s \]

\[
\left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} s^2 \beta^2 + \frac{m}{2} \frac{(m/2+1)}{2} \left( \frac{s^2 \beta^2}{2} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2}
\]

where \( X_2'M_2X_2 \) is a positive scalar. So, clearly equation (19) is a monotonic increasing function of the test statistic \( s \).

Therefore we may conclude that the LBI test \( s \) is equivalent to the \( t \)-test.

### 3.2. The LBI Test Statistic is UMPI

We have

\[
w = \frac{z}{(z| |)^{1/2}} = \frac{P'y}{(y'M_1'y)^{1/2}}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (20)

Replacing equation (20) and equation (18) in equation (14) we get,

\[
f(w) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \pi^{-m/2} \exp\left( -\frac{1}{2} X_2P'yX_2^2 \right)
\]

\[
\left[ \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2} \frac{(m/2+1)}{2} \left( \frac{s^2 \beta^2}{2} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2} + \sqrt{2} s \beta \eta
\]

\[
\left[ 1 + \frac{m}{2} s^2 \beta^2 + \frac{m}{2} \frac{(m/2+1)}{2} \left( \frac{s^2 \beta^2}{2} \right)^2 \right]^{1/2}
\]

We observe that equation (21) is a monotonic increasing function of \( s \). Since the density function of the maximal invariant statistic is a monotonic increasing function of the LBI test \( s \), there exists therefore a UMPI test of \( H_0 : \beta_2 = 0 \) against \( H_a : \beta_2 > 0 \). Hence the LBI test statistic \( s \) is a UMPI test.

### 4. Conclusions

In this paper, having derived the density function of the maximal invariant statistic, an LBI test is constructed in the linear regression model against one-sided alternatives. The principle of invariance is used to eliminate nuisance parameters in multi-parameter one-sided testing problems. This allows the construction of the LBI test. The resultant LBI test is found to be UMPI and equivalent to the one-sided \( t \)-test.

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