

Testable Forecasts

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Abstract

Predictions about the future are often evaluated through statistical tests. As shown by recent literature, many known tests are subject to adverse selection problems and are ineffective at discriminating between forecasters who are competent and forecasters who are uninformed but predict strategically.

This paper presents necessary and sufficient conditions under which it *is* possible to discriminate between informed and uninformed forecasters. It is shown that optimal tests take the form of likelihood-ratio tests comparing forecasters' predictions against the predictions of a hypothetical Bayesian outside observer. The paper also illustrates a novel connection between the problem of testing strategic forecasters and the classical Neyman-Pearson paradigm of hypothesis testing.

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1 Introduction

Forecasts are often formulated in terms of probability distributions over future events (e.g., “a recession will happen with 5% probability”). Probabilistic forecasts appear across a wide variety of economic and scientific activities, including the analysis of weather and climate (Gneiting and Raftery, 2005), aggregate output and inflation (Diebold, Tay and Wallis, 1997), epidemics (Alkema, Raftery and Clark, 2007), seismic hazard (Jordan et al., 2011), financial risk (Timmermann, 2000), demographic variables (Raftery et al., 2012) and elections (Tetlock, 2005), among many others.¹

One practical difficulty with probabilistic forecasts is that they cannot be falsified by casual observation but only through proper statistical tests. From an economic perspective, a key issue is that statistical tests aimed at evaluating forecasters can be subject to adverse selection. Consider, to illustrate, a forecaster who is asked to predict how a stochastic process of interest will evolve over time and is evaluated by an empirical test comparing her prediction against the realized sequence of outcomes. The forecaster can be either a *true expert*, who knows the actual distribution P generating the data and is willing to report it truthfully, or a *strategic forecaster*, who is uninformed about the stochastic process but is interested in passing the test in order to establish a false reputation of competence. Recent literature shows that many tests of interest cannot discriminate between the two.

In their seminal paper, Foster and Vohra (1998) examine the well-known calibration test.² They construct a randomized forecasting algorithm that allows to pass the test regardless of how data unfold and without any knowledge of the true data generating process. By employing such an algorithm, an uninformed but strategic forecaster can completely avoid being discredited by the data, thus defeating the purpose of the test.

This surprising phenomenon is not restricted to calibration. Subsequent work emphasizes one critical feature of the calibration test: the fact that it is free of Type-I errors. For any possible true law P generating the data, where P is an arbitrary probability measure defined over sequences of outcomes, an expert who predicts according to P will pass the calibration test with high probability (Dawid, 1982). This remarkable property ensures that the test is unlikely to reject any competent forecaster. However, as shown by Sandroni (2003) and Olszewski and Sandroni (2009), once incentives are taken into account, the same property leads to a general impossibility result for testing probabilistic predictions: *any* test that operates in finite time and is free of Type-I errors can be passed by a strategic but uninformed forecaster. This impossibility result has been further extended in several directions by Olszewski and Sandroni (2008) and Shmaya (2008), among many others.

¹Corradi and Swanson (2006) and Gneiting and Katzfuss (2014) review the literature on probabilistic forecasts.

²Consider a stochastic process that every day can generate two outcomes, say “rain” and “no rain.” A forecaster passes the calibration test if, roughly, for every $p \in [0, 1]$, the empirical frequency of rainy days computed over the days where the forecaster predicted rain with probability p is close to p .

Tests, such as calibration, that are free of Type-I errors, do not impose any restriction on the unknown law P generating the process. However, such a degree of agnosticism is all but common in economics and statistics. Indeed, most empirical studies posit that data are generated according to a specific model, often fully specified up to a restricted set of parameters. This paper takes a similar approach to the problem of testing forecasters and examines the problem of testing forecasters in the presence of a theory about the data generating process.

This paper considers a framework where it is known that the law generating the data belongs to a given set Λ , which represents a theory, or *paradigm*, about the phenomenon under consideration. Accordingly, forecasters are required to provide forecasts belonging to Λ , while predictions incompatible with the paradigm are rejected.

For the purpose of this paper, paradigms admit multiple interpretations. A paradigm can be seen as a summary of pre existing knowledge about the problem. It can also represent the set of restrictions imposed on the data-generating process by a scientific theory. It can, alternatively, be interpreted as a normative standard to which forecasters' predictions must conform in order to qualify as useful. Classic examples of paradigms include the classes of i.i.d., Markov or stationary distributions. In this paper, in order to make the analysis applicable to a broad class of environments, no a priori restrictions are imposed over paradigms (beyond measurability).

A paradigm Λ is *testable* if it admits a test with the following three features. First, it is unlikely that the test will reject a true expert who knows the correct law in Λ . Second, for any possible strategy that a forecaster might employ to misrepresent her knowledge, there is a law belonging to Λ under which the forecaster will fail the test with high probability. Hence, strategic forecasters are not guaranteed to avoid rejection. Third, the test returns a decision (acceptance or rejection) in finite time. So, under a testable paradigm it is possible to construct tests that do not reject true experts and cannot be manipulated.

A crucial question, then, is which paradigms are testable and, if they are, by using what tests. The existing literature has presented instances of testable classes of distributions (see, among others, Olszewski and Sandroni, 2009, and Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky and Weinstein, 2010). However, reasonably general conditions under which a paradigm is testable are not known.

The first step of the analysis is a general characterization of testable paradigms. The result is formulated by taking the perspective of a hypothetical Bayesian outside observer. Given a paradigm Λ , consider, for the sake of illustration, an analyst, consumer or statistician who is uncertain about the odds of the data generating process, and who is sophisticated enough to express a prior probability μ over the set of possible laws. The prior assigns probability 1 to the paradigm. It is shown that Λ is testable if and only if there exists at least one prior μ such that the observer, by predicting according to the prior, is led to forecasts that are incompatible with any law in the paradigm. Formally,

testability is equivalent to the existence of a prior μ over the paradigm such that the law $\int_{\Lambda} P d\mu(P)$ obtained by averaging with respect to the prior is sufficiently distant, in the appropriate metric (the total-variation distance), from every law P in the paradigm.

The second main result of the paper shows that, given any testable paradigm, it is without loss of generality to restrict the attention to standard likelihood-ratio tests: Given a testable paradigm Λ there exists a finite likelihood-ratio test that is unlikely to reject a true expert and cannot be manipulated. Such tests are constructed as follows.

First, the test creates a fictitious Bayesian forecaster. This forecaster is obtained by placing a sufficiently “uninformative” prior μ over the paradigm. Actual forecasters are then evaluated by comparing their predictions to the forecasts generated by the test. A forecaster passes the test if only if the realized sequence of outcomes was, ex-ante, deemed more likely by the agent than by the fictitious Bayesian forecaster.

The results suggests a, perhaps intuitive, criterion for identifying competent forecasters: a predictor is recognized as knowledgeable if her forecasts results more accurate, in likelihood-ratio terms, than the predictions of a Bayesian endowed with an uninformative prior.

The third main result of the paper shows that likelihood-ratio tests are in, a proper sense, optimal. The result is based on a novel ordering over tests. A test T is evaluated by the worst-case probability of passing the test an uninformed forecaster can guarantee herself, where the worst-case is computed over all possible laws of the data-generating process. A test T_1 is *less manipulable than* T_2 if such worst-case probability is lower under T_1 than under T_2 . So, less manipulable tests are more effective at screening between informed and uninformed experts. Theorem 3 shows that for any paradigm, and controlling for sample size and for the level of Type-I error, there exists a likelihood-ratio test that is less manipulable than any other test. The result provides a foundation for likelihood-ratio tests as a general methodology for testing probabilistic predictions under adverse selection. As explained in the main text, the result is related to the celebrated Neyman-Pearson lemma and highlights a novel connection between the problem of testing strategic forecasters and the theory of hypothesis testing.

Section 4 studies several examples of paradigms: Markov processes, Mixing processes, paradigms defined by moments inequalities, and maximal paradigms. For each example, we provide conditions such that the paradigm under consideration is testable.

Section 5 discusses extensions and provides further comments on the related literature.

1.1 Related Literature

Foster and Vohra (2011) and Olszewski (2015) survey the literature on testing strategic forecasters.³ In this section, we comment on those papers that are closer to the present work.

Likelihood-ratio tests appear in Al-Najjar and Weinstein (2008) as a method for comparing the predictions of two forecasters under the assumption that at least one of them is informed.

Olszewski and Sandroni (2009) extend the impossibility result of Sandroni (2003) to finite tests where the paradigm is convex and compact. In addition, they provide examples of testable paradigms.

Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky and Weinstein (2010) consider the set of laws that have a learnable and predictable representation, a class of distributions introduced by Jackson, Kalai and Smorodinsky (1999). They show that the paradigm is testable by constructing a test where experts are asked to announce a deadline after which they must be able to provide sharp predictions about future frequencies of outcomes.

This paper is also related to the work of Babaioff, Blumrosen, Lambert and Reingold (2010), who consider a principal-agent model where the principal offers a monetary contract with the intent of discriminating between informed and uninformed experts. They show, quite surprisingly, that screening is possible if and only if the true law is restricted to a non-convex set of distributions. There are several important differences between the two approaches. In Babaioff, Blumrosen, Lambert and Reingold (2010) payoffs are a function solely of the monetary transfers (which are allowed to be negative and unbounded). This paper follows the literature on testing strategic experts where transfers are absent and the forecaster expected payoff is the probability of passing the test chosen by the tester. As a consequence, the two papers arrive at different conclusions. In particular, there exist non-convex paradigms that are not testable, and convex paradigms that are testable.⁴

Likelihood-ratio tests play an important role in Stewart (2011). Stewart proposes a framework where the tester is a Bayesian endowed with a prior over laws and the forecaster is evaluated according to a likelihood-ratio test against the predictions induced by the prior. In the current paper the tester is not assumed to be Bayesian. Instead, the existence of an appropriate prior which allows to construct a nonmanipulable likelihood-ratio test is shown to be a property that is intrinsic to all testable paradigm.

Section 5.3 discusses more in details the relation between this paper and the work of

³Recent contributions to the literature that are not included in the surveys include Al-Najjar, Pomatto, and Sandroni (2014), Feinberg and Lambert (2015), and Kavalier and Smorodinsky (2017).

⁴The paradigm studied in Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky and Weinstein (2010) is convex, but testable. Consider a binary process that in each period can take two values, x or y . The paradigm of all distributions such that the probability of observing x in the first period is restricted to be in $[0, 0.25) \cup (0.75, 1]$ is not convex and not testable.

Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky and Weinstein (2010) and Stewart (2011).

2 Basic Definitions

In each period an outcome from a finite X is realized, where $|X| \geq 2$. A *path* is an infinite set of outcomes and $\Omega = X^\infty$ denotes the set of all paths. Time is indexed by $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and for each path $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots)$ the corresponding finite history of length n is denoted by ω^n . That is, ω^n is the set of paths that coincide with ω in the first n periods. We denote by \mathcal{F}_n the algebra generated by all histories of length n and by \mathcal{B} the σ -algebra generated by $\bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$. The set of paths Ω is endowed with the product topology, which makes \mathcal{B} the corresponding Borel σ -algebra. We denote by $\Delta(\Omega)$ the space of Borel probability measures on Ω . Elements of $\Delta(\Omega)$ will be interchangeably referred to as *laws* or *distributions*. The space $\Delta(\Omega)$ is endowed with the weak* topology and the corresponding Borel σ -algebra.⁵ The same applies to the space $\Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ of Borel probability measures over $\Delta(\Omega)$. Given a measurable subset $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$, $\Delta(\Gamma)$ is the set of Borel probability measures on $\Delta(\Omega)$ that assign probability 1 to Γ .

2.1 Empirical Tests

A *forecaster* announces a law $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, under the claim that P describes how the data will evolve. A *tester* is interested in evaluating this claim using a statistical test.

Definition 1 A *test* is a measurable function $T : \Omega \times \Delta(\Omega) \rightarrow [0, 1]$.

A test T compares the realized path ω with the reported law P . The law is accepted if $T(\omega, P) = 1$ and rejected if $T(\omega, P) = 0$. Values strictly between 0 and 1 describe randomized tests where the forecaster is accepted with probability $T(\omega, P)$.⁶ The timing is as follows: (i) At time 0, the tester chooses a test T ; (ii) After having observed T , the forecaster chooses whether or not to participate in the test; (iii) A forecaster who chooses to participate must announce a law P ; (iv) Nature generates a path ω ; and (v) T reports acceptance or rejection.

Following Olszewski (2015), we call a test T *finite* if for every law P there exists a time n_P such that $T(\cdot, P)$ is measurable with respect to \mathcal{F}_{n_P} . That is, a law P is accepted or rejected as a function of the first n_P observations, where n_P is deterministic and known ex-ante. Throughout the paper we restrict the attention to finite tests. A relevant special case is given by the class of *non-asymptotic* tests, where there exists a single deadline

⁵A sequence (P_n) in $\Delta(\Omega)$ converges to P in the weak* topology if and only if $\mathbb{E}_{P_n}[\phi] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_P[\phi]$ for every continuous function $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Given a measure P , \mathbb{E}_P denotes the expectation operator with respect to P .

⁶Except for Theorem 3 below, none of the results are affected by restricting the attention to non-randomized tests.

N such that $n_P \leq N$ for every P . While the main focus will be on asymptotic tests, in Section 5.1 we show that many of the results extend without difficulties to non-asymptotic tests.

2.2 Strategic Forecasting

The forecaster can be of two possible types. A *true expert* (or informed forecaster) knows the law governing the data generating process and is willing to report it truthfully. A *strategic* (or uninformed) *forecaster* does not possess any relevant knowledge about the data generating process. Her goal is to simply pass the test. Strategic forecasters can produce their predictions using mixed strategies. Formally, a *strategy* is a randomization over laws $\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$.

The next example shows how a standard likelihood-ratio test can be manipulated by strategic forecasters.

Example 1. (*A manipulable likelihood-ratio test*) The test is specified by a time n and a probability measure $Q \in \Delta(\Omega)$ with full support. The law Q serves as a benchmark against which the forecaster is compared. Given a forecast P and a path ω , the test returns 1 if

$$\frac{P(\omega^n)}{Q(\omega^n)} > 1 \tag{1}$$

and 0 otherwise. Thus, the forecaster passes the test if and only if the realized history is more likely under the forecast P than under the benchmark Q . The test can be manipulated using the following simple strategy. For each history ω^n of length n , consider the measure $P_{\omega^n} = Q(\cdot | \Omega - \omega^n)$ obtained by conditioning Q on the complement of ω^n . It satisfies

$$P_{\omega^n}(\omega^n) = 0 \text{ and } P_{\omega^n}(\tilde{\omega}^n) > Q(\tilde{\omega}^n) \text{ for all } \tilde{\omega}^n \neq \omega^n.$$

Let ζ be the mixed strategy that randomizes uniformly over all measures of the form P_{ω^n} . Given a history ω^n , a forecaster using strategy ζ will pass the test as long as the law she happens to announce is different from P_{ω^n} . This is an event that under ζ has probability greater or equal than $1 - 2^{-n}$. So, no matter how the data will unfold, even for n relatively small, the forecaster is guaranteed to pass the test with high probability.

The test in Example 1 does not assume any structure on the data-generating process. In this example, the freedom of announcing any law allows the uninformed predictor to manipulate the test. We will see how appropriate restrictions on the domain of possible laws for the observed stochastic process will allow even simple likelihood-ratio tests to screen between informed and uninformed forecasters.

2.3 Testable Paradigms

The tester operates under a theory, or *paradigm*, about the data generating process. In this paper a theory is identified with the restrictions it imposes over the law of the observed process. Formally, a paradigm is a measurable set $\Lambda \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$, with the interpretation that the data are generated according to some unknown law belonging to Λ . Beyond measurability, no assumptions are imposed on Λ .

A paradigm can be defined in many ways. For instance, it can express statistical independence between different variables (“the outcome ω_n realized at time n is independent from the outcome realized at time $n + 365$ ”) or it might reflect assumptions about the long run behavior of the process (“ P is ergodic”). Additional examples will be discussed in Section 4.

Given a paradigm, a basic property a test should satisfy is to not reject informed experts.

Definition 2 Given a paradigm Λ , a nonrandomized test T *does not reject the truth with probability* $1 - \epsilon$ if for all $P \in \Lambda$ it satisfies

$$P(\{\omega : T(\omega, P) = 1\}) \geq 1 - \epsilon. \quad (2)$$

A test that does not reject the truth is likely to accept an expert who reports the actual law of the data generating process. As shown by Olszewski and Sandroni (2008, 2009), any finite test that does not reject the truth with respect to the unrestricted paradigm $\Lambda = \Delta(\Omega)$ can be manipulated: Given a finite test T that satisfies property (2) for all $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, there exists a strategy ζ such that

$$\zeta(\{P : T(\omega, P) = 1\}) \geq 1 - \epsilon \text{ for all paths } \omega \in \Omega.$$

Thus, the strategy allows the forecaster to completely avoid rejection. The result motivates the next definition.

Definition 3 Given a paradigm Λ , a non-randomized test T is ϵ -*nonmanipulable* if for every strategy ζ there is a law $P_\zeta \in \Lambda$ such that

$$(P_\zeta \otimes \zeta)(\{(\omega, P) : T(\omega, P) = 1\}) \leq \epsilon.$$

The notation $P_\zeta \otimes \zeta$ stands for the independent product of P_ζ and ζ . A test T is ϵ -nonmanipulable if for any strategy ζ there is a law P_ζ in the paradigm such that the forecaster is rejected with probability greater than $1 - \epsilon$. Thus, no strategy can guarantee a strategic forecaster more than an ϵ probability of passing the test.

As discussed by Olszewski and Sandroni (2009b), nonmanipulable tests can screen out uninformed forecasters. To elaborate, assume that a forecaster who opts not to participate

in the test receives a payoff of 0, while a forecaster announcing a law P obtains a payoff that depends on the outcome of the test. If P is accepted then she is recognized as knowledgeable and gets a payoff $w > 0$. If the law is rejected then she is discredited and incurs a loss $l < 0$. Assume, in addition, that an uninformed forecaster chooses in accordance with the maxmin criterion of Wald (1950) and Gilboa and Schmeidler (1989), where each strategy ζ is evaluated according to the minimum expected payoff with respect to a set of laws. If such a set equals the paradigm, then for each strategy ζ the expected payoff is⁷

$$\inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [wT + l(1 - T)] \quad (3)$$

If ϵ is sufficiently small, then the value (3) is negative and so the optimal choice for a strategic forecaster is to not take the test. Therefore, given a test that rejects the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$ and is ϵ -nonmanipulable, a true expert finds profitable to participate in the test, while for an uninformed expert it is optimal not to participate.⁸

Definitions 3 and 4 extend immediately to general, randomized, tests. Given a paradigm Λ , a test T *does not reject the truth with probability* $1 - \epsilon$ if for every $P \in \Lambda$ it satisfies $\mathbb{E}_P[T(\cdot, P)] \geq 1 - \epsilon$. The test is ϵ -*nonmanipulable* if for every strategy ζ there is a law $P_\zeta \in \Lambda$ such that $\mathbb{E}_{P_\zeta \otimes \zeta} [T] \leq \epsilon$. The next definition summarizes the properties introduced so far.

Definition 4 Given $\epsilon > 0$, a paradigm Λ is ϵ -*testable* if there is a finite test T such that:

1. T does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$; and
2. T is ϵ -nonmanipulable.

A paradigm Λ is *testable* if it is ϵ -testable for every $\epsilon > 0$.

3 Main Results

It will be useful, in what follows, to consider the perspective of a Bayesian outside observer (e.g. an analyst, a voter, or a statistician) who is interested in the problem at hand and uncertain about the odds governing the data generating process. The uncertainty perceived by the observer is expressed by a prior probability $\mu \in \Delta(\Gamma)$, where $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$ is the set of laws the observer believes to be possible. Of particular interest is the case where Γ coincides with (or is close to) the paradigm Λ , so that the observer and the tester have compatible views. If asked to make forecasts about the future, the observer would predict according to the probability measure defined as

$$Q_\mu(E) = \int_\Gamma P(E) d\mu(P) \quad \text{for all } E \in \mathcal{B}. \quad (4)$$

⁷In what follows, $\mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta}$ denotes the expectation with respect to $P_\zeta \otimes \zeta$.

⁸Section 8.3 considers a different specification where uninformed forecasters are less conservative and, in (3), the worst case scenario is taken with respect to a neighborhood of laws in the paradigm.

The definition (4) follows the standard approach in Bayesian statistical decision theory of defining, from the prior μ , a probability measure over the sample space Ω by averaging with respect to the prior.⁹

3.1 Characterization

The next result characterizes testable paradigms. Given laws P and Q , let $\|P - Q\| = \sup_{E \in \mathcal{B}} |P(E) - Q(E)|$ denote the (normalized) total-variation distance between the two measures. Given a paradigm Λ , its closure with respect to the weak* topology is denoted by $\bar{\Lambda}$.

Theorem 1 *A paradigm Λ is testable if and only if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ such that $\|Q_\mu - P\| \geq 1 - \epsilon$ for all $P \in \Lambda$.*

Consider an outside observer whose prior assigns probability 1 to (the closure of) Λ . The result compares the observer’s forecasts with the paradigm. Two polar cases are of interest. If $Q_\mu \in \Lambda$, then the observer’s prediction cannot be distinguished, ex-ante, from the prediction of an expert who announced Q_μ knowing it was the true law of the process. Theorem 1 is concerned with the opposite case, where the prediction Q_μ is far from *any* possible law P in the paradigm. It shows that a paradigm is testable if and only if there is some observer whose uncertainty about the data generating process leads her to predictions that are incompatible (in the sense of being far with respect to the total-variation distance) with respect to any law in the paradigm.

Given a prior μ with the above properties, it is possible to define an explicit non-manipulable test. In the next section we provide a direct construction of such a test, together with an intuition for the result. The intuition for why testability of a paradigm implies the existence of a prior that satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1 can be sketched as follows. For a strategic forecaster, randomization is valuable because it allows to increase the probability of passing the test in the worst-case, across all possible distributions that belong to the paradigm. Naturally, to different strategies will correspond different worst-case distributions. For a given strategy ζ it is irrelevant whether the worst-case is computed within the paradigm, or across the set of all distributions of the form Q_μ for some prior μ . This follows from the fact that the forecaster’s “payoff function” is given by the expectation of T , hence it is linear in the randomization ζ and in the law P . However, as we show in the proof of Theorem 1, considering the set of laws Q_μ that can be achieved by some prior μ is important. In the proof we show that given a test, there exists a worst-case distribution Q_μ that is common to all strategies. Intuitively, this

⁹In the literature, Q_μ is often referred to as a *predictive* probability. Cerreia-Vioglio, Maccheroni, and Marinacci (2013) provide, under appropriate conditions on Γ , an axiomatic foundation for the representation (4).

worst-case distribution must not be within the paradigm, since otherwise a forecaster could simply announce it and pass the test. The result shows that, in a specific sense, it must be sufficiently far away from the paradigm.

Testability of a paradigm is a property which can be formulated as a lack of compactness and convexity. In order to illustrate this idea we now associate to each paradigm Λ an index $I(\Lambda)$ of its compactness and convexity. The definition is based on notions introduced in the context of general equilibrium theory by Folkmann, Shapley, and Starr (see Starr, 1969). Given a subset $\Lambda \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$, let

$$I(\Lambda) = \sup_{Q \in \overline{\text{co}}(\Lambda)} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \|Q - P\|$$

where $\overline{\text{co}}(\Lambda)$ is the weak*-closed convex hull of Λ . I satisfies $0 \leq I(\Lambda) \leq 1$ by the definition of the total-variation distance. If $I(\Lambda) = 0$, then any law Q in the closed convex hull of the paradigm can be approximated with arbitrary precision by a law P in Λ . In this case, as shown by Olszewski and Sandroni (2009), any finite test that does not reject the truth is manipulable.¹⁰ In the opposite case, when $I(\Lambda) = 1$, one can find a law in the closed convex hull of Λ that has distance arbitrarily close to 1 from every law in the paradigm. The next result shows that this is true if and only if the paradigm is testable.

Corollary 1 *A paradigm Λ is testable if and only if it satisfies $I(\Lambda) = 1$.*

3.2 Nonmanipulable Tests

Next we study non-manipulable tests. By applying the characterization provided by Theorem 1, we show that given a testable paradigm, it is without loss of generality to restrict the attention to simple likelihood-ratio tests:

Theorem 2 *Let Λ be a testable paradigm. Given $\epsilon > 0$, let $\mu \in \Delta(\overline{\Lambda})$ be a prior that satisfies $\|Q_\mu - P\| > 1 - \epsilon$ for all $P \in \Lambda$. There exist positive integers $(n_P)_{P \in \Lambda}$ such that the test defined as*

$$T(\omega, P) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P \in \Lambda \text{ and } P(\omega^{n_P}) > Q_\mu(\omega^{n_P}) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$ and is ϵ -nonmanipulable.

¹⁰The intuition behind the result can be sketched as follows. Finiteness of the test, together with compactness and convexity of Λ , allow to invoke Fan's minmax theorem and establish the equality $\min_{P \in \Lambda} \max_{\zeta} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta}[T] = \max_{\zeta} \min_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta}[T]$. If T does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$ then the left-hand side is greater than $1 - \epsilon$. Hence there exists a strategy that passes the test with probability $1 - \epsilon$ for every $P \in \Lambda$. Therefore, the paradigm is not testable.

Given a law P , the test reaches a decision after n_P observations, where n_P is known in advance. The forecaster passes the test if and only if the history realized at time n_P is strictly more likely under P than under the law Q_μ . The prior μ is required to be sufficiently “uninformative” so that the induced law Q_μ is far from every law in the paradigm. As implied by Theorem 1, such a prior exists whenever the paradigm is testable.

The likelihood-ratio test is one of the most well-known statistical tests.¹¹ It is therefore reassuring that all testable paradigms can be unified under the same, canonical, family of tests.

The main idea behind the proof of Theorem 2 is to exploit a key relation between likelihood-ratio tests and the total-variation distance. To illustrate, let A^P be the set of paths where the law $P \in \Lambda$ passes the test (5), and consider the difference in probability $P(A^P) - Q_\mu(A^P)$. It can be shown that by taking n_P large enough, this difference approximates the distance $\|P - Q_\mu\|$ between the two measures. Hence, the event A^P must have probability higher than $1 - \epsilon$ under P , so the test does not reject the truth with high probability. In addition, A^P must have probability at most ϵ under Q_μ . Because this is true for every P , then, in the hypothetical scenario where the data were generated according to Q_μ , a forecaster would be unlikely to pass the test regardless of what law is announced and, therefore, regardless of whether or not she randomizes her prediction. It follows from this observation and from the fact that Q_μ is a mixture of laws in the paradigm, that against every fixed randomization ζ there must exist some law P_ζ in the paradigm against which passing the test is unlikely. That is, the test cannot be manipulated.

3.3 The Optimality of Likelihood Tests: a Neyman-Pearson Lemma

Theorem 2 shows that simple likelihood-ratio tests can screen between informed and uninformed forecasters. However, it leaves open the possibility that such tests are inefficient in the number of observations they require. A natural question is whether there exist tests that for a fixed sample size can outperform likelihood-ratio tests in screening between experts and strategic forecasters. We now make this question precise by introducing a novel ordering over tests.

Definition 5 Let Λ be a paradigm. Given tests T_1 and T_2 , say that T_1 is *less manipulable* than T_2 if

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_1] \leq \sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_2]. \quad (6)$$

Consider a strategic forecaster who is confronted with a test T and must choose whether or not to undertake the test. As discussed in Section 2, an uninformed forecaster will participate only if the value $\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Lambda)} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{\zeta \otimes P} [T]$, which is proportional to the maxmin expected payoff from taking the test, is sufficiently large. So, the left-hand side of

¹¹See, for instance, Lehmann and Romano (2006) for an introduction to the likelihood-ratio test.

(6) is proportional to the highest expected payoff a strategic forecaster can guarantee when facing test T_1 .

The ranking (6) requires that any strategic forecaster who finds optimal not to participate in the test T_2 must also find optimal not to participate in the test T_1 . Hence, any uninformed forecaster who is screened out by the test T_2 is also screened out by the test T_1 . In other terms, a less manipulable test has a greater deterrent effect against strategic forecasters.

A comparison between tests is more informative when some variables, such as the required number of observations, are kept fixed. To this end, we call a collection $(n_P)_{P \in \Lambda}$ of positive integers a collection of *testing times* if the map $P \mapsto n_P$ is measurable. A test T is *bounded* by the testing times $(n_P)_{P \in \Lambda}$ if $T(\cdot, P)$ is a function of the first n_P observations. The definition allows for the possibility that different predictions may need different sample sizes in order to be properly tested. Finally, given a class \mathcal{T} of tests, we say that a test T is *least manipulable in \mathcal{T}* if it belongs to \mathcal{T} and is less manipulable than any other test in the same class. We can now state the main result of this section.

Theorem 3 *Fix a paradigm Λ , testing times $(n_P)_{P \in \Lambda}$ and a probability $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. There exists a prior $\mu^* \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$, thresholds $(\lambda_P)_{P \in \Lambda}$ in \mathbb{R}_+ and a test T^* such that:*

1. $T^*(\omega, P) = 1$ if $P \in \Lambda$ and $P(\omega^{n_P}) > \lambda_P Q_{\mu^*}(\omega^{n_P})$;
2. $T^*(\omega, P) = 0$ if $P \notin \Lambda$ or $P(\omega^{n_P}) < \lambda_P Q_{\mu^*}(\omega^{n_P})$; and
3. T^* is least manipulable in the class of tests that are bounded by (n_P) and do not reject the truth with probability α .

Theorem 3 is a general result illustrating the optimality of likelihood-ratio tests. Given the number of data points n_P that the tester is willing to collect for each forecast P , and given a lower bound α on the probability of accepting a true expert, there exists a likelihood-ratio test that is less manipulable than any other test that satisfies the same constraints.

The result does not demand any assumptions on the paradigm, which is not required to be testable. Another difference with the test introduced in Theorem 2 is the use of law-specific thresholds λ_P which allow to adjust the probability of accepting a true expert as a function of the desired level α of Type-I errors.¹²

The result is based on a novel connection between the problem of testing strategic forecasters and the statistical hypothesis testing literature. To illustrate this idea, consider

¹²The proof of Theorem 3 provides a complete description of the test T^* and illustrates how the thresholds and the prior μ^* are computed. In the knife-edge case where $P(\omega^{n_P}) = \lambda_P Q_{\mu^*}(\omega^{n_P})$ the test is randomized. The use of randomized tests greatly simplifies the analysis and allows the tester to achieve a probability of accepting a true expert that is exactly equal to α .

the standard problem of testing a null hypothesis P_0 against an alternative hypothesis P_1 , where P_0 and P_1 are two given probability measures over paths. To be clear, in such a context a (possibly randomized) *hypothesis test* is a function $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$, where $\phi(\omega)$ is the probability of accepting P_0 given the path ω .

The test T^* is formally equivalent to a hypothesis test where the law P produced by the expert plays the role of the null hypothesis while the outside observer’s prediction Q_{μ^*} plays the role of the alternative. The crucial difference with the standard hypothesis testing framework is that the two “hypotheses” P and Q_{μ^*} are not given exogenously: P is produced by a possibly strategic forecaster while Q_{μ^*} is chosen by the tester.

The celebrated Neyman and Pearson lemma shows that given two hypotheses P_0 and P_1 , and given an upper bound on the probability of Type I error, there exists a likelihood-ratio test between P_0 and P_1 that minimizes the probability of Type II errors. The proof of Theorem 3 applies this fundamental result to the problem of strategic forecasters. The proof proceeds in two steps. First, the belief μ^* is obtained as the solution of an explicit nonlinear minimization problem over the space of priors. The test T^* is then defined by applying the Neyman-Pearson Lemma to each pair of laws P and Q_{μ^*} . The key step is to show, through a duality argument, that because of the particular choice of μ^* , a test which minimizes the probability of Type-II errors with respect to Q_{μ^*} is also a test that is least manipulable.

4 Examples and Properties Related to Testability

In this section we analyze examples of paradigms. In each case, we provide conditions under which the paradigm under consideration is testable.

4.1 Markov Processes

We first consider Markov processes. The law of a Markov process is described by a transition probability $\pi : X \rightarrow \Delta(X)$ and an initial probability $\rho \in \Delta(X)$. We denote by $\Pi = \Delta(X)^X$ the set of all transition probabilities. Every pair (ρ, π) induces a Markov distribution $P_{\rho, \pi} \in \Delta(\Omega)$. We denote such a law by P_π whenever ρ is uniform.

Consider a Bayesian outside observer who is uncertain about the transition probability of the process and believes the true law to be P_π for some π . Let m be a Borel probability measure over Π that for every $c \in [0, 1]$ and $x, y \in X$ satisfies $m(\{\pi : \pi(x)(y) = c\}) = 0$. In particular, m is non-atomic.¹³ By taking π to be distributed according to m , we obtain, implicitly, a prior μ defined over the set of Markov distributions such that the resulting

¹³For instance, if $X = \{x, y\}$ then we can define m by setting $\pi(x)(y)$ and $\pi(y)(x)$ to be independent and uniformly distributed over $(0, 1)$.

law Q_μ satisfies

$$Q_\mu(E) = \int_{\Pi} P_\pi(E) dm(\pi) \quad \text{for all } E \in \mathcal{B}$$

The next result follows by applying standard asymptotic results for Markov processes.

Proposition 1 *The prior μ satisfies $\|Q_\mu - P_{\pi,\rho}\| = 1$ for all Markov $P_{\pi,\rho}$.*

It follows from Theorem 2 that the paradigm of Markov distributions is testable by means of a likelihood-ratio test defined with respect to the law Q_μ . Under this test, forecasters' predictions are compared against the predictions of a Bayesian who is endowed with a non-atomic prior over the true transition probabilities of the process.

4.2 Asymptotic Independence

There is considerable interest, in the analysis of economic time series, in dependence conditions that go beyond independence. A common assumption is *mixing*, which, informally, expresses the idea that two events are approximately independent provided they occur sufficiently far apart in time. Mixing is a generalization of the i.i.d. assumption which has found applications in econometrics and in the forecasting literature: See, for instance, Davidson (1994) and Nze and Doukhan (2004), and the reference therein, for the role of mixing and its generalizations in the analysis of time series, and Giacomini and White (2006, Theorem 1) for an example of applications of mixing in the forecasting literature. In this section, we study mixing in the context of strategic forecasting.¹⁴

For every $k \in \mathbb{N}$ denote by \mathcal{F}_k^∞ the σ -algebra generated by the coordinate random variables (Z_k, Z_{k+1}, \dots) , where, for every $m \geq 1$, $Z_m(\omega) = \omega_m$ is the outcome in period m . So, \mathcal{F}_k^∞ is the collection of all events that do not depend on the first $k - 1$ realizations of the process. A law P is *mixing* if for every history ω^n it satisfies $P(\omega^n) > 0$ and

$$\sup_{A \in \mathcal{F}_k^\infty} |P(A|\omega^n) - P(A)| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty. \quad (7)$$

So, under a mixing measure P , the information ω^n known at time n has a negligible effect in changing the predicted probability $P(A)$ of an event A , if A depends on realizations of the process which will occur only in the far enough future.

The fact that a paradigm consists of laws that are mixing does not, without further assumptions, imply that the same paradigm is testable. For instance, if the laws in Λ disagree only about the odds of the first realization ω_1 of the process, testability is not achieved. The next result provides an elementary richness condition that, when added to the mixing assumption, ensures that the paradigm is testable.

¹⁴Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky and Weinstein (2010) study the paradigm of asymptotically reverse mixing laws, a paradigm strictly larger than the class of all mixing distributions. We discuss the relation with their work in Section 5.3.

For the next result, recall that the measures P_1, \dots, P_n are *orthogonal* if they satisfy $\|P_i - P_j\| = 1$ for all $i \neq j$. Equivalently, for every $i \neq j$ there is an event E such that $P_i(E) = 1 - P_j(E) = 1$. So, two orthogonal measures fully disagree about the probability of some event.

Proposition 2 *Let Λ be a paradigm such that each $P \in \Lambda$ is mixing and for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there are laws P_1, \dots, P_n in Λ that are orthogonal. Then Λ is testable.*

In the proof, given n , we consider a prior μ_n that is uniform over n orthogonal laws P_1, \dots, P_n in Λ , and show that the induced distribution Q_{μ_n} has total-variation distance of at least $1/n$ from every law in Λ . Hence, by Theorem 2, a non-manipulable test can be obtained by a likelihood-ratio test with respect to Q_{μ_n} , for n suitably large.¹⁵

The result implies, in particular, that the paradigm of all mixing processes is testable. This is because i.i.d. laws are mixing and the collection of all i.i.d. distributions satisfies the richness condition. However, the main contribution of Proposition 2 is showing that *any* set of mixing distributions that satisfies the above richness condition is testable. This is an important difference, since, in applications, mixing is usually coupled with additional conditions which further restrict the paradigm under consideration (e.g. assumptions on the rate of convergence in (7), or parametric assumptions on the functional form of the process. See, for instance, Davidson, 1994), and a subset of a testable paradigm is not necessarily testable.

4.3 Moment Inequalities

Economic models based on optimizing behavior lead to predictions that, in many cases, can be described by inequality constraints on the law of the data generating process. This is the subject of a large literature (e.g. Andrews and Soares (2010) and Pakes (2010), among others) studying inferential methods for models defined by moment inequalities. The purpose of this section is to consider a stylized example of a paradigm defined by moment inequalities and provide conditions under which it is testable.

A parameter θ belongs to a finite set Θ . The parameter θ and the law $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$ of the data generating process are related by the inequality

$$\mathbb{E}_P[g(\cdot, \theta)] \geq 0 \tag{8}$$

with respect to a *moment restriction* $g : \Omega \times \Theta \rightarrow (-\infty, u]$, where $u > 0$. We assume g is measurable (and bounded above). Let $\Lambda_\theta = \{P \in \Delta(\Omega) : \mathbb{E}_P[g(\cdot, \theta)] \geq 0\}$. The paradigm is the collection of all laws that satisfy the moment inequality (8) for some θ :

$$\Lambda_\Theta = \bigcup_{\theta \in \Theta} \Lambda_\theta$$

¹⁵Notice that the mixing assumption is crucial for the result. The paradigm $\Lambda = \Delta(\Omega)$ trivially satisfies the richness assumption but is not testable.

As usual, the forecaster is assumed to know P while the tester only knows the paradigm.

As a concrete example, consider a decision maker who is observed making an investment. The investment is made at time 0, and its future payoff $g(\omega, \theta)$ is a function of the unobserved agent's type θ (e.g. a characteristic of the agent), as well as a sequence ω of future observable payoff-relevant shocks (e.g. returns or stock prices) distributed according to P . In order for the investment decision to be individually rational, $g(\cdot, \theta)$ must have positive expectation. In this context, a competent forecaster is one who is able to forecast the correct distribution P of payoff-relevant shocks that, by satisfying (8), can rationalize the decision maker's choice.

The paradigm Λ_Θ is in general not testable. If, for instance, Θ has a single element and g is continuous, then Λ_Θ is compact and convex and hence, by Corollary 1, not testable. A different type of difficulty arises if there exists a value θ of the parameter such that $g(\omega, \theta) \geq 0$ holds everywhere. In this case $\Lambda_\Theta = \Delta(\Omega)$, hence Λ_Θ is non-testable. Therefore, intuitively, in order for Λ_Θ to be testable, the moment restriction g must display enough variability both in θ and in ω .

To this end, we introduce the following assumptions. First, as Proposition 3 below makes formal, we assume that Θ contains sufficiently many types. In addition, we impose the following conditions on g :

- (i) There is $\ell > 0$ and for every θ an event $\Omega_\theta \subseteq \Omega$ such that $\omega \in \Omega_\theta \implies g(\omega, \theta) < -\ell$.
- (ii) For every θ the set $\left(\bigcap_{\theta' \neq \theta} \Omega_{\theta'}\right) \cap \{\omega : g(\omega, \theta) > 0\}$ is non-empty.

In the language of the example above, (i) states that the investment is not without risk. For every agent's type θ , there is a region Ω_θ of realizations where the agent incurs a loss greater than ℓ . If condition (ii) is satisfied then $g(\cdot, \omega)$ depends nontrivially on θ . For every type θ , there is at least some path ω such that the investment is profitable for type θ but leads to a loss larger than ℓ for every other type. In particular, the events (Ω_θ) are not nested.

Proposition 3 *For every $\epsilon > 0$ there exist $\bar{\ell} > 0$ and $\bar{n} > 0$ such that if $|\Theta| > \bar{n}$ and the moment restriction g satisfies assumptions (i) and (ii) with $\ell > \bar{\ell}$, then Λ_Θ is ϵ -testable.*

Therefore, assumptions (i)-(ii) imply that a paradigm defined by moment inequalities is ϵ -testable, provided that the set Θ of types is sufficiently rich, and that the loss ℓ in (i) is large enough.

4.4 Maximal Paradigms

We have taken as a datum that the paradigm Λ is correctly specified. A paradigm that is incorrectly specified exposes the tester to the risk of rejecting, out of hand, forecasters who

are informed but whose predictions lie outside Λ . Adopting a larger paradigm mitigates such a risk. Olszewski (2015) posed the question of which testable paradigms are *maximal*, in the sense of not being included in any other testable paradigm. The next result provides an answer to this open question.

Proposition 4 *Let $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ and fix a law $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$. The paradigm*

$$\Lambda_P^\epsilon = \left\{ \tilde{P} \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|P - \tilde{P}\| > 1 - \epsilon \right\}$$

is ϵ -testable and is not included in any testable paradigm.

The paradigm is constructed by simply fixing a distribution P and considering all laws which are sufficiently far from it. The resulting set Λ_P^ϵ is not included in any testable paradigm.¹⁶

As shown in the proof of Proposition 4, P equals the law Q_μ induced by some prior μ that assigns probability 1 to the closure of Λ_P^ϵ . Therefore, by Theorem 2 and the definition of Λ_P^ϵ , the law P can be used to construct a non-manipulable likelihood-ratio test where it plays the role of a benchmark against which forecasters' predictions are compared.

5 Discussion and Extensions

5.1 Non-asymptotic Tests

We now consider the case of non-asymptotic tests where at most n observations are available to the tester. A paradigm is *ϵ -testable in n periods* if it admits a test T such that $T(\cdot, P)$ is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable for every P , does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$, and is ϵ -nonmanipulable. The next result shows how Theorems 1 and 2 can be adapted to non-asymptotic tests. Given n , we define the semi-metric $\rho_n(Q, P) = \max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_n} |Q(E) - P(E)|$.

Proposition 5 *Let Λ be a paradigm. If Λ is ϵ -testable in n periods then there exists a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ such that $\rho_n(Q_\mu, P) > 1 - 2\epsilon$ for every $P \in \Lambda$. Conversely, if there exists a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ with the property that $\rho_n(Q_\mu, P) > 1 - \epsilon$ for every $P \in \Lambda$, then the test*

$$T(\omega, P) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P \in \Lambda \text{ and } P(\omega^n) > Q_\mu(\omega^n) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$ and is ϵ -nonmanipulable.

¹⁶As shown in the proof, Λ_P^ϵ is not included in any δ -testable paradigm, for all $\delta > 0$ sufficiently small. However, we do not know if the class of paradigms that are testable, rather than ϵ -testable, and have the property of not being strictly included in any testable paradigm, admits a simple characterization. For example, given a non-degenerate law P , it can be shown that $\Lambda = \{\tilde{P} \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|P - \tilde{P}\| = 1\}$ is testable. Λ is however strictly included in the testable paradigm $\Lambda' = \{\tilde{P} \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|P(\cdot|E) - \tilde{P}\| = 1\}$, where E is any event such that $P(E) \in (0, 1)$, since Λ' contains the measure $P(\cdot|E^c)$ but Λ does not.

Hence, similarly to Theorem 1, testability in n periods is equivalent to a high distance between the law Q_μ induced by some prior μ and any law in the paradigm. Conversely, if such a prior exists, then restricting the attention to likelihood-ratio tests is without loss of generality.

5.2 Maxmin and Strategic Forecasters

As discussed in Section 4, a strategic but uninformed forecaster evaluates a strategy ζ as

$$\inf_{P \in C} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [wT + l(1 - T)]$$

where $C \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$ is a set of laws. So far, we have considered the case where C is equal to the paradigm. However, an uninformed forecaster may adopt a less conservative decision making criterion.

To this end, let d be a distance that metrizes the weak*-topology on $\Delta(\Omega)$, and for every law $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$ denote by $B_\delta(P)$ the open ball of radius δ around P . We consider the specification

$$C = B_\delta(P_o) \cap \Lambda \text{ for some } P_o \in \Lambda. \quad (9)$$

So, under (9), an uninformed forecaster evaluates a strategy by considering the worst-case expected payoff with respect to laws that are within distance δ from a reference measure P_o . Similar definitions appear in robust statistics (Huber, 1981) and economics (Bergemann and Schlag, 2011, and Babaioff, Blumrosen, Lambert and Reingold, 2010). We will not assume that P_o coincides with the correct law generating the data nor that P_o is known to the tester.

The definition of testable paradigm can now be strengthened as follows:

Definition 6 A paradigm Λ is *uniformly testable with precision δ* if for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a finite test T such that:

1. T does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$; and
2. For every strategy ζ and every $P_o \in \Lambda$ there exists a law $P_\zeta \in \Lambda \cap B_\delta(P_o)$ such that $\mathbb{E}_{P_\zeta \otimes \zeta} [T] \leq \epsilon$.

Thus, the test passes a true expert with high probability. In addition, for every strategy ζ , there is a law P_ζ in the paradigm under which rejection is likely. Given a reference law P_o , the measure P_ζ can be chosen to belong to $\Lambda \cap B_\delta(P_o)$. Hence, the test guarantees that the value (9) an uninformed forecaster can expect from participating in the test is negative whenever ϵ is sufficiently small. So, the test can screen between the two types of forecasters.

While a complete characterization of paradigms that fulfill the requirements of Definition 6 is beyond the scope of this paper, the next proposition provides a basic sufficient condition for a paradigm to be uniformly testable.

Proposition 6 *Let Λ be a paradigm. If there exists a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ with support $\bar{\Lambda}$ and such that Q_μ satisfies $\|Q_\mu - P\| = 1$ for every P in Λ , then Λ is uniformly testable with precision δ for every $\delta > 0$.*

The most significant difference with respect to Theorem 1 is the assumption that the prior μ has full support over the paradigm. Following the interpretation presented in Section 2, a Bayesian outside observer endowed with such a prior μ is “cautious,” in the sense of assigning positive probability to any open set of possible laws.

5.3 Discussion of the Related Literature

Mixing Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky, and Weinstein (2010) study the paradigm of *asymptotically reverse mixing* distributions (henceforth, ARM), a class introduced by Jackson, Kalai and Smorodinsky (1999). It contains deterministic, i.i.d. and Markov laws. In fact, it is even larger than the class of mixing distributions.

Large paradigms, such as the class of ARM distributions or the paradigm defined in Proposition 4, come with the cost of making nonmanipulability a conceptually weak property for a test. The assertion that uninformed forecasters are screened out by non-manipulable tests rests on the assumption that uninformed agents evaluate the odds of passing the test according to the worst-case scenario distribution in the paradigm Λ . Such an assumption becomes more demanding as Λ gets larger.

Notice, in addition, that a subset of a testable paradigm is not necessarily testable. Hence, the results in Al-Najjar, Sandroni, Smorodinsky, and Weinstein (2010) do not directly imply (nor are implied) by Propositions 1 or 2.

Orderings Over Tests Theorem 3 relies on the “less manipulable” ordering over tests introduced in Section 3. This ordering is related to a different notion introduced by Olszewski and Sandroni (2009b). Given two tests T_1 and T_2 , Olszewski and Sandroni define T_1 as being *harder than* T_2 , henceforth $T_1 \succsim T_2$, if for every path ω and law $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$ the relation $T_1(\omega, P) \leq T_2(\omega, P)$ holds.¹⁷ Hence, a harder test is more likely to reject a forecaster regardless of how the data unfolds and of what prediction is made.

To simplify the language, given a paradigm Λ , we write $T_1 \preceq_\Lambda T_2$ if T_1 is less manipulable than T_2 . In order to compare the two orders \succsim and \preceq_Λ , observe that \preceq_Λ is a complete ordering over tests, while by contrast the relation \succsim is incomplete. It is moreover immediate to verify that

$$T_1 \succsim T_2 \implies T_1 \preceq_\Lambda T_2 \text{ for every } \Lambda \subseteq \Delta(\Omega).$$

So, the order defined by the “less manipulable” ordering \preceq_Λ is a completion of \succsim . We note that the conclusions of Theorem 3 do not extend to the more stringent order \succsim . Given

¹⁷Olszewski and Sandroni’s original definition is adapted here to general, possibly randomized, tests.

a class \mathcal{T} of tests defined as in Theorem 3, there might not be any test $T^* \in \mathcal{T}$ with the property that $T^* \preceq T$ for every $T \in \mathcal{T}$.¹⁸

Bayesian Priors. Stewart (2011) studies strategic forecasting in an environment where the tester is a Bayesian endowed with a prior μ over $\Delta(\Omega)$. Stewart (2011) considers a (non-finite) likelihood-ratio test which compares the forecaster's predictions to the tester's predictions induced by Q_μ . The paper studies priors μ for which the quantity

$$\varepsilon = \int P \left\{ \omega : \sum_{t=1}^T (Q_\mu(\omega^t | \omega^{t-1}) - P(\omega^t | \omega^{t-1}))^2 \text{ converges} \right\} d\mu(P).$$

is sufficiently small. Intuitively, this implies that over time a true expert is able to provide more precise predictions than the tester. For every strategy ζ , a strategic but ignorant forecaster will fail the test in Stewart (2011) with probability 1 under $Q_\mu \otimes \zeta$, while a true expert will almost surely pass the test, for a class of measures P that has probability $1 - \varepsilon$ under μ .

To see more clearly the connection between the two papers, consider the case where ε is zero, and define the paradigm Λ consisting of all distributions P for which $\sum_{t=1}^T (Q_\mu(\omega^t | \omega^{t-1}) - P(\omega^t | \omega^{t-1}))^2$ diverges P -almost surely. The assumption that $\varepsilon = 0$ implies that $\mu(\Lambda) = 1$. The same argument used by Stewart (2011) in the proof of his main result shows that every such $P \in \Lambda$ has the property that the likelihood-ratio $P(\omega^t) \backslash Q_\mu(\omega^t)$ diverges, P -almost surely. In turn, by an application of the Lebesgue-Decomposition Theorem,¹⁹ this implies that each P in Λ is orthogonal to the predictive distribution Q_μ . That is, the two have total variation distance 1. So, while there are many modeling differences between the two papers, given a prior μ that satisfies the condition $\varepsilon = 0$ in Stewart (2011), there is a paradigm that satisfies the conditions of Theorem 1 with respect to μ .

At a conceptual level, Stewart (2011) and the present paper provide complementary perspectives on the use of the log-likelihood ratio as a way to screen forecasters. In this paper, we take as a primitive a paradigm, while the prior μ and the corresponding Bayesian forecaster are endogenously derived from the test. Stewart (2011) takes as a primitive the prior, and the tester is willing to discard measures that have low probability under her subjective belief.

On the Notion of Non-Manipulability. We conclude by comparing the notion of definition of non-manipulability used in this paper to other notions that appear in the

¹⁸For instance, assume $X = \{1, \dots, n\}$, and define the class \mathcal{T} by setting $\Lambda = \Delta(\Omega)$, $n_P = 1$ for every P , and $\alpha = 1 - 1/n$. If P assigns probability $1/n$ to each outcome x occurring in the first period, then for each $x \in X$ there is a non-randomized test $T \in \mathcal{T}$ that rejects P upon observing x and accepts it otherwise. So a test satisfying $T^* \leq T$ for every $T \in \mathcal{T}$ must reject P regardless of the realization. Such a test does not belong to \mathcal{T} .

¹⁹see Theorem 2, p. 525, in Shiryaev (1996).

literature. In Dekel and Feinberg (2006) and Olszewski and Sandroni (2009) a test is deemed non-manipulable if, for every strategy, there exists a topologically large set of realizations for which the forecaster fails the test. This notion, while intuitive, is mute when studying finite tests, since all finite histories are topologically equivalent.²⁰ Section 5.2 explores a different methodology for strengthening non-manipulability, uniform testability, that is based on decision-theoretic ideas. We leave a more comprehensive study of this notion to further research.

A Appendix

A.1 Preliminaries

The space of paths Ω is endowed with the product topology. Hence, a function that is \mathcal{F}_n -measurable for some n is also continuous. This implies that for every finite test T and any law $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$ the function $Q \mapsto \mathbb{E}_Q [T(\cdot, P)]$, $Q \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is continuous. We will denote by \mathcal{H}_n the set of histories ω^n of length n .

Recall that the space $\Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ is endowed with the weak* topology. As proved in Phelps (2001) (Proposition 1.1), the function $\mu \mapsto Q_\mu$ assigning to each prior $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ its barycenter Q_μ is continuous. In particular, given a continuous function $\psi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the map $\mu \mapsto \int_\Omega \psi(\omega) dQ_\mu(\omega)$, $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$, is continuous. In addition, Q_μ satisfies $\int_\Omega \psi(\omega) dQ_\mu(\omega) = \int_{\Delta(\Omega)} (\int_\Omega \psi(\omega) dQ(\omega)) d\mu(Q)$ for every bounded measurable function ψ . Given a measurable subset Γ of $\Delta(\Omega)$, denote by $\Delta(\Gamma)$ the set of probability measures $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ assigning probability 1 to Γ . The space $\Delta(\bar{\Gamma})$ is compact by the Banach-Alaoglu theorem (see Aliprantis and Border (2006, Chapter 16)).

Lemma 1 *Let T be a finite test. For every strategy ζ the function $P \mapsto \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T]$, $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is continuous.*

Proof. Let (ω_k) be a sequence in Ω converging to a path ω . Given a law P , the function $T(\cdot, P)$ is continuous. So, $T(\omega_k, P) \rightarrow T(\omega, P)$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Given a strategy ζ , Lebesgue's convergence theorem implies $\mathbb{E}_\zeta [T(\omega_k, \cdot)] \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_\zeta [T(\omega, \cdot)]$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$. Hence, for every strategy ζ the map $\omega \mapsto \mathbb{E}_\zeta [T(\omega, \cdot)]$, $\omega \in \Omega$, is continuous. Fubini's Theorem implies $\mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T] = \int_\Omega \mathbb{E}_\zeta [T(\omega, \cdot)] dP(\omega)$. Therefore, for each P , $\int_\Omega \mathbb{E}_\zeta [T(\omega, \cdot)] dP(\omega)$ is the expectation with respect to P of a continuous function. Hence, it follows from the definition of weak* topology that the map $P \mapsto \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T]$, $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is continuous. ■

²⁰One could ask a different question, and demand a test such that for every strategy there exists a topologically large set of distributions under which the forecaster fails the test with high probability. This property would require, for every ϵ and every $P \in \Lambda$, the existence of a set A that is a finite union of finite histories, and satisfies $Q(A) \geq 1 - \epsilon$ for a set of distributions Q that includes P and is a topologically small subset of Λ . This property fails to hold under some simple examples of testable paradigms, such as the case of i.i.d. distributions.

A.2 Proofs of Theorems 1 and 2

Proof of Theorems 1 and 2. The first half of the proof shows the necessity part of Theorem 1. The second half establishes Theorem 2 and, therefore, the sufficiency part of Theorem 1.

Assume Λ is testable. Fix $\epsilon > 0$ and let T be a test that satisfies the conditions of Definition 4. Given a measure $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$ and a strategy ζ , let $V(P, \zeta) = \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta}[T]$. The map V is affine in each argument and for each strategy ζ the map $V(\cdot, \zeta)$ is continuous by Lemma 1. Since T is ϵ -nonmanipulable then

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} V(P, \zeta) \leq \epsilon. \quad (10)$$

Let $\Delta_o(\Lambda) \subseteq \Delta(\Lambda)$ be the subset of priors on Λ with finite support. We have

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} V(P, \zeta) = \sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{\mu \in \Delta_o(\Lambda)} V(Q_\mu, \zeta) = \sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} V(Q_\mu, \zeta). \quad (11)$$

The first equality follows immediately from the definition of Q_μ and the affinity of $V(\cdot, \zeta)$. The second equality follows from the continuity of the map $\mu \mapsto V(Q_\mu, \zeta)$, $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$, together with the fact that $\Delta_o(\Lambda)$ is dense in $\Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ (as implied by Aliprantis and Border (2006, Theorem 15.10)) and that $\Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ is compact.

The space $\Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ is compact and convex and for every ζ the map $\mu \mapsto V(Q_\mu, \zeta)$, $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$, is continuous (by Lemma 1) and affine. In addition, $\Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ is convex and for every μ the map $V(Q_\mu, \cdot)$ is affine. We can therefore apply Fan's Minmax Theorem (Fan, 1953) to obtain the equality

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} V(Q_\mu, \zeta) = \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} V(Q_\mu, \zeta). \quad (12)$$

For every μ , the function V satisfies $V(Q_\mu, \zeta) = \int_{\Delta(\Omega)} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu}[T(\cdot, P)] d\zeta(P)$ by Fubini's theorem. So, $\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} V(Q_\mu, \zeta) = \sup_{P \in \Delta(\Omega)} V(Q_\mu, \delta_P)$. Hence the right-hand side of (12) can be written as

$$\min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} V(Q_\mu, \zeta) = \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Delta(\Omega)} V(Q_\mu, \delta_P) = \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Delta(\Omega)} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu}[T(\cdot, P)]. \quad (13)$$

Taken together, (10), (11) (12) and (13) prove the existence of a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ such that

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} V(P, \zeta) = \sup_{P \in \Delta(\Omega)} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu}[T(\cdot, P)] \leq \epsilon.$$

Because the test does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$, it follows that

$$\mathbb{E}_P[T(\cdot, P)] - \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu}[T(\cdot, P)] \geq 1 - 2\epsilon \text{ for all } P \in \Lambda. \quad (14)$$

As shown by Lemmas 1 and 2 in Shiryaev (2016, Chapter 8), the (normalized) total variation distance $\|Q_\mu - P\|$ satisfies

$$\|Q_\mu - P\| = \sup_{\phi} \left| \int_{\Omega} \phi dQ_\mu - \int_{\Omega} \phi dP \right|$$

where the supremum is taken over all measurable functions $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$. By letting $\phi = T(\cdot, P)$, it follows from (14) that $\|Q_\mu - P\| \geq 1 - 2\epsilon$. Thus, $\|Q_\mu - P\| \geq 1 - 2\epsilon$ for every $P \in \Lambda$. Since ϵ is arbitrary, the first part of the proof is concluded.

Consider a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ such that $\|Q_\mu - P\| > 1 - \epsilon$ for all $P \in \Lambda$. Fix a measure $P \in \Lambda$. For any n ,

$$\max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_n} Q_\mu(E) - P(E) = \max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_n} |Q_\mu(E) - P(E)|.$$

As shown in Halmos (1950, 13D), $(\max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_n} |Q_\mu(E) - P(E)|) \uparrow \|Q_\mu - P\|$ as $n \uparrow \infty$.²¹ Therefore, we can conclude that for each $P \in \Lambda$ the number

$$n_P = \min \left\{ n : \max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_n} Q_\mu(E) - P(E) > 1 - \epsilon \right\} \quad (15)$$

is well defined. Consider now the test

$$T(\omega, P) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P \in \Lambda \text{ and } P(\omega^{n_P}) > Q_\mu(\omega^{n_P}) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We now prove that T is measurable. First we show that for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$ the set $\{P \in \Lambda : n_P = k\}$ is measurable. For every n and every $E \in \mathcal{F}_n$ the function $P \mapsto P(E)$, $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is continuous. Because \mathcal{F}_n is finite, it follows that $\varphi_n : P \mapsto \max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_n} Q_\mu(E) - P(E)$, $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is measurable. Since Λ is measurable the restriction of φ_n on Λ is also measurable. The set $\{P \in \Lambda : n_P = k\}$ can be written as $\{P \in \Lambda : \varphi_k > 1 - \epsilon\}$ if $k = 1$, or as the intersection

$$\bigcap_{1 \leq n < k} \{P \in \Lambda : \varphi_n \leq 1 - \epsilon\} \cap \{P \in \Lambda : \varphi_k > 1 - \epsilon\}$$

if $k > 1$. Hence $\{P \in \Lambda : n_P = k\}$ is measurable. For each path ω , the function $T(\omega, \cdot)$ is measurable: For each n , the set $\{P \in \Delta(\Omega) : T(\omega, P) = 1\}$ is given by the union over $k > 1$ of all sets of the form

$$\left\{ P \in \Delta(\Omega) : P(\omega^k) - Q_\mu(\omega^k) > 0 \right\} \cap \{P \in \Lambda : n_P = k\}.$$

²¹We provide here a sketch of the proof. Let $\mathcal{F} = \cup_n \mathcal{F}_n$. It can be verified that for every $Q \in \Delta(\Omega)$, the collection of events E for which there exists a sequence (F_m) in \mathcal{F} such that $\lim_n Q(E \Delta F_n) = 0$ is a σ -algebra containing \mathcal{F} . Hence it equals \mathcal{B} . Fix $B \in \mathcal{B}$ and let (E_m) be a sequence in \mathcal{F} such that $\lim_m (P + Q_\mu)(B \Delta E_m) = 0$. Hence $\lim_m |P(B) - P(E_m)| \leq \lim_m P(B \Delta E_m) = 0$. Similarly, $\lim_m |Q_\mu(B) - Q_\mu(E_m)| = 0$.

Because, for every m ,

$$|P(B) - Q_\mu(B)| \leq |P(B) - P(E_m)| + |P(E_m) - Q_\mu(E_m)| + |Q_\mu(B) - Q_\mu(E_m)|$$

then letting $m \rightarrow \infty$, it follows that $|P(B) - Q_\mu(B)| \leq \sup_{F \in \mathcal{F}} |P(F) - Q_\mu(F)|$. Because B is arbitrary, then $\|P - Q_\mu\| \leq \sup_{\mathcal{F}} |P(F) - Q_\mu(F)| \leq \|P - Q_\mu\|$. Since $\sup_{F \in \mathcal{F}_n} |P(F) - Q_\mu(F)| \uparrow \sup_{\mathcal{F}} |P(F) - Q_\mu(F)|$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the result is established.

It follows that $T(\omega, \cdot)$ is measurable. For each $\omega \in \Omega$ and $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, the function $T(\cdot, P)$ is continuous and $T(\omega, \cdot)$ is measurable. That is, T is a Carathéodory function. It follows then from Lemma 4.51 in Aliprantis and Border (2016) that T is measurable.

We now show that $P(\{\omega : T(\omega, P) = 1\}) > 1 - \epsilon$ and $Q_\mu(\{\omega : T(\omega, P) = 1\}) < \epsilon$ for each P . The proof follows Lehmann and Romano (2006, Chapter 16). If $P \notin \Lambda$ the result is obvious. So let $P \in \Lambda$, and denote by A^P the set $\{\omega : P(\omega^{n_P}) > Q_\mu(\omega^{n_P})\}$. Recall \mathcal{H}_{n_P} is the set of all histories of length n_P . For every $E \in \mathcal{F}_{n_P}$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} P(E) - Q_\mu(E) &= \sum_{\omega^{n_P} \in \mathcal{H}_{n_P} : \omega^{n_P} \subseteq E} P(\omega^{n_P}) - Q_\mu(\omega^{n_P}) \\ &\leq \sum_{\omega^{n_P} \in \mathcal{H}_{n_P} : \omega^{n_P} \subseteq E \cap A^P} P(\omega^{n_P}) - Q_\mu(\omega^{n_P}) \\ &\leq \sum_{\omega^{n_P} \in \mathcal{H}_{n_P} : \omega^{n_P} \subseteq A^P} P(\omega^{n_P}) - Q_\mu(\omega^{n_P}). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $P(A^P) - Q_\mu(A^P) = \max_{E \in \mathcal{F}_{n_P}} P(E) - Q_\mu(E) > 1 - \epsilon$. So $P(A^P) > 1 - \epsilon$ (in particular, the test T does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon$) and $Q_\mu(A^P) < \epsilon$. We can now show that T is ϵ -nonmanipulable. For every strategy ζ , we have

$$V(Q_\mu, \zeta) = \int_{\Delta(\Omega)} Q_\mu(A^P) d\zeta(P) < \epsilon. \quad (16)$$

Using again the fact that $\mu \mapsto V(Q_\mu, \zeta)$, $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$, is continuous and $\Delta_o(\Lambda)$ is dense in $\Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$, we can find a prior $\mu_\zeta \in \Delta_o(\Lambda)$ such that

$$V(Q_{\mu_\zeta}, \zeta) = \sum_{P \in \Lambda} \mu_\zeta(P) V(P, \zeta) < \epsilon$$

Hence, there must exist some law $P_\zeta \in \Lambda$ in the support of μ_ζ such that $V(P_\zeta, \zeta) < \epsilon$. Because ϵ is arbitrary, we conclude that Λ is testable. ■

Proof of Corollary 1. As shown in Phelps (2001, Proposition 1.2) a law P belongs to the weak*-closed convex hull of Λ if and only if there exists a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ such that $P = Q_\mu$. The result now follows immediately from Theorem 1 and the definition of I . ■

A.3 Proof of Theorem 3

The next result is a version of the Neyman-Pearson lemma. The standard proof parallels the proof of Theorem 3.2.1 in Lehmann and Romano (2006) and is therefore omitted.

Theorem 4 (Neyman-Pearson Lemma) *Let $P_0, P_1 \in \Delta(\Omega)$. Given $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, let Φ be the set of \mathcal{F}_n -measurable functions $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$ that satisfy $E_{P_0}[\phi] \geq \alpha$. Let*

$$\lambda = \sup \{k \in \mathbb{R} : P_0(\{\omega : P_0(\omega^n) \geq kP_1(\omega^n)\}) \geq \alpha\}$$

and, letting $0 \cdot \infty = 0$, define

$$\begin{aligned}\delta &= P_0(\{\omega : P_0(\omega^n) > \lambda P_1(\omega^n)\}) \\ \gamma &= P_0(\{\omega : P_0(\omega^n) = \lambda P_1(\omega^n)\})\end{aligned}$$

The function

$$\phi^*(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } P_0(\omega^n) > \lambda P_1(\omega^n) \\ \frac{\alpha - \delta}{\gamma} & \text{if } P_0(\omega^n) = \lambda P_1(\omega^n) \text{ and } \gamma > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a solution to $\min_{\phi \in \Phi} \mathbb{E}_{P_1}[\phi]$.

Proof of Theorem 3. Fix a paradigm Λ , testing times (n_P) and a probability $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. Denote by \mathcal{T} the class of finite tests that are bounded by (n_P) and do not reject the truth with probability α .

For every $P \in \Lambda$, let Φ_P be the set of \mathcal{F}_{n_P} -measurable functions $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$ that satisfy $E_P[\phi] \geq \alpha$. Define the function $f : \Delta(\bar{\Lambda}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as

$$f(\mu) = \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu}[\phi].$$

The function f is lower-semicontinuous: Fix $P \in \Lambda$. The set Φ_P can be identified with a subset of $[0, 1]^m$, where m is the cardinality of the set of histories of length n_P . It is then immediate to verify that Φ_P is compact. It then follows from the theorem of the maximum that the map $Q \mapsto \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_Q[\phi]$, $Q \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is continuous. Thus, the continuity of the map $\mu \mapsto Q_\mu$, $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$, implies that the map $\mu \mapsto \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu}[\phi]$, $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ is a composition of continuous functions. Thus, f is a supremum of continuous functions. Hence f is lower-semicontinuous and so attains a minimum on $\Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$. Let μ^* be a prior which minimizes f .

Denote by ϕ_P^* the test obtained by applying the Neyman-Pearson lemma when setting $P_0 = P$, $P_1 = Q_{\mu^*}$ and $n = n_P$ in the statement of Theorem 4. Denote also by λ_P , δ_P and γ_P the corresponding quantities. Let T^* be the test defined as

$$T^*(\omega, P) = \begin{cases} \phi_P^*(\omega) & \text{if } P \in \Lambda \\ 0 & \text{if } P \notin \Lambda. \end{cases}$$

We now show that T^* is a well-defined test belonging to \mathcal{T} . By definition, the test is finite and does not reject the truth with probability α . It remains to show it is measurable. By Lemma 4.51 in Aliprantis and Border (2016), it is enough to prove that $T(\omega, \cdot)$ is measurable for every ω . We first show that the map $P \mapsto \lambda_P$, $P \in \Lambda$, mapping each measure to the corresponding threshold $\lambda_P \in [0, \infty]$ in the likelihood-ratio test, is measurable. For every $k \in \mathbb{R}$ let

$$\Gamma_k = \{P \in \Lambda : P(\{\omega : P(\omega^{n_P}) \geq k Q_{\mu^*}(\omega^{n_P})\}) \geq \alpha\}.$$

Notice that Γ_k can be written as

$$\bigcup_{m \in \mathbb{N}} (\{P \in \Lambda : n_P = m\} \cap \{P \in \Lambda : P(\{\omega : P(\omega^m) \geq kQ_{\mu^*}(\omega^m)\}) \geq \alpha\})$$

Each set $\{P \in \Lambda : n_P = m\}$ is measurable. For each ω^m the function $P \mapsto P(\omega^m)$, $P \in \Delta(\Omega)$, is continuous. So, for each history ω^m the set

$$\Upsilon_{\omega^m} = \{P \in \Lambda : P(\omega^m) \geq kQ_{\mu^*}(\omega^m)\}$$

is measurable. Let $1_{\Upsilon_{\omega^m}}$ be the indicator function of Υ_{ω^m} and notice that

$$P(\{\omega : P(\omega^m) \geq kQ_{\mu^*}(\omega^m)\}) = \sum_{\omega^m \in \mathcal{H}_m} P(\omega^m) 1_{\Upsilon_{\omega^m}}(P),$$

where the latter is a measurable function of P . It then follows that each set of the form

$$\{P \in \Lambda : P(\{\omega : P(\omega^m) \geq kQ_{\mu^*}(\omega^m)\}) \geq \alpha\}$$

is measurable. Thus, Γ_k is measurable. This in turn yields that for each k the function $P \mapsto k1_{\Gamma_k}(P)$ is measurable. Notice that $\lambda_P = \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Q}} k1_{\Gamma_k}(P)$ for every P . Thus, we can conclude that the function $P \mapsto \lambda_P$ (mapping $\Delta(\Omega)$ to $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$) is measurable. Now fix a path ω . An argument analogous to that one used to prove the measurability of the set Γ_k shows that $\{P \in \Lambda : P(\omega^{n_P}) > \lambda_P Q_{\mu^*}(\omega^{n_P})\}$ and $\{P \in \Lambda : P(\omega^{n_P}) = \lambda_P Q_{\mu^*}(\omega^{n_P})\}$ are measurable and that δ_P and γ_P are measurable functions of P . It is then routine to verify that $T(\omega, \cdot)$ is measurable. We can therefore conclude that T is a well defined test belonging to \mathcal{T} .

We now show that T^* is a least manipulable test in the class \mathcal{T} . Let $T \in \mathcal{T}$. As in the proof of Theorems 1 and 2, given any test $T \in \mathcal{T}$ we can apply Fan's minmax theorem to conclude

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T] = \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Delta(\Omega)} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu} [T(\cdot, P)]. \quad (17)$$

It is without loss of generality to assume that $T(\omega, P) = 0$ for every ω and $P \notin \Lambda$. So, the expression can be simplified to

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Lambda)} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T] = \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu} [T(\cdot, P)].$$

The test T is finite and does not reject the truth with probability α . So, it satisfies $T(\cdot, P) \in \Phi_P$ for every $P \in \Lambda$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu} [T(\cdot, P)] &\geq \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu} [\phi] \\ &= \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} f(\mu) \\ &= \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu^*}} [\phi]. \end{aligned}$$

The essential idea is that the test T^* has been defined to satisfy, for every $P \in \Lambda$,

$$\mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu^*}} [T^*(\cdot, P)] = \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu^*}} [\phi]$$

This means that

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu}} [T(\cdot, P)] &\geq \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \min_{\phi \in \Phi_P} \mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu^*}} [\phi] \\ &= \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu^*}} [T^*(\cdot, P)] \\ &\geq \min_{\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})} \sup_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{Q_{\mu}} [T^*(\cdot, P)]. \end{aligned}$$

By applying (17) to both T and T^* we now obtain

$$\sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Lambda)} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T] \geq \sup_{\zeta \in \Delta(\Lambda)} \inf_{P \in \Lambda} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T^*].$$

Hence, T^* is less manipulable than T . ■

A.4 Proof of Propositions 1-4

Proof of Proposition 1. Fix two outcomes $x, y \in X$. Let $N_n(\omega)$ be the number of periods outcome x occurs along the path ω up to time n , and let $N_{\infty}(\omega) = \sup_n N_n(\omega)$. In addition, define $N_n[x \rightarrow y](\omega)$ to be the number of periods, up to time n , where the outcome x is followed in the next period by y .

For every transition π , let E_{π} be the set of paths ω such that $N_{\infty}(\omega) = \infty$ and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{N_n[x \rightarrow y](\omega)}{N_n(\omega)} = \pi(x)(y) \quad (18)$$

It is a standard result that every Markov $P_{\rho, \pi}$ satisfies $P_{\rho, \pi}(\{N_{\infty} < \infty\} \cup E_{\pi}) = 1$. We include here a proof for completeness. Let $A = \{N_{\infty} < \infty\} \cup E_{\pi}$ and notice that $P_{\rho, \pi}(A) = \sum_{z \in X} P_{\rho, \pi}(\{\omega_1 = z\})P_{z, \pi}(A)$, where $P_{z, \pi}$ denotes the Markov law with transition π and initial probability putting mass 1 on z . Write $X = S \cup R_1 \cup \dots \cup R_n$, where S is the set of transient states and (R_i) are disjoint maximal irreducible sets of states (see Theorem 6.2.13 in Dembo, 2015). Assume $x \in R_1$, without loss of generality. If $z \in R_i$ and $i > 1$ then $P_{z, \pi}(\{N_{\infty} = 0\}) = 1$. So $P_{z, \pi}(A) = 1$. If $z \in R_1$ then it is well known that $P_{z, \pi}$, being irreducible, satisfies $P_{z, \pi}(E_{\pi}) = 1$.²² Thus $P_{z, \pi}(A) = 1$. Hence $P_{z, \pi}(A) = 1$ for every recurrent state. Now let $z \in S$ and consider the stopping time $\tau(\omega) = \inf\{n : \omega_n \notin S\}$. Because z is transient and X is finite then $P_{z, \pi}(\{\tau < \infty\}) = 1$. Because $P_{z, \pi}(A) = 1$ for every $z \notin S$ it follows from the strong Markov property (Proposition 6.1.16 in Dembo, 2015) that $P_{z, \pi}(A) = 1$.

²²See, for example, <http://www.statslab.cam.ac.uk/~james/Markov/s110.pdf>

The measure m assigns probability 1 to the set $\Pi_+ \subseteq \Pi$ of transition probabilities π that satisfy $\pi(y)(z) \in (0, 1)$ for all $y, z \in X$. Let $\pi \in \Pi_+$. Then P_π is irreducible and satisfies $P_\pi(N_\infty = \infty) = 1$. Hence $P_\pi(E_\pi) = 1$. Therefore, given a Markov law $P_{\sigma, \rho}$ with transition $\sigma \in \Pi$,

$$\begin{aligned} & P_{\sigma, \rho}(\{N_\infty < \infty\} \cup E_\sigma) - Q_\mu(\{N_\infty < \infty\} \cup E_\sigma) \\ &= 1 - \int_{\Pi_+} P_\pi(E_\sigma) dm(\pi) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality follows from the fact that $\pi(x)(y) \neq \sigma(x)(y)$ implies $E_\sigma \cap E_\pi = \emptyset$ (hence $P_\pi(E_\sigma) = 0$) and $\{\pi \in \Pi : \pi(x)(y) = \sigma(x)(y)\}$ has probability 0 under m . Therefore $\|Q_\mu - P_{\sigma, \rho}\| = 1$. ■

Proof of Proposition 2. Recall that two measures $P_0, P_1 \in \Delta(\Omega)$ that assign positive probability to every history are orthogonal if and only if the event

$$A = \left\{ \omega : \frac{P_0(\omega^n)}{P_1(\omega^n)} \rightarrow \infty \right\}$$

satisfies $P_0(A) = 1$ and $P_1(A) = 0$. See Shiryaev (1996, Theorem 2, p. 527).

Given two paths ω and $\tilde{\omega}$, for every n and t in \mathbb{N} , we denote by

$$(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \tilde{\omega}_{n+1}, \dots, \tilde{\omega}_t)$$

the history where the first n outcomes are as in the path ω and the the outcomes from time $n + 1$ to t are as in path $\tilde{\omega}$.

Now let P_1, \dots, P_n in Λ be orthogonal. If $i \neq j$, then given a finite history ω^n also $P_i(\cdot | \omega^n)$ and $P_j(\cdot | \omega^n)$ are orthogonal. This implies that for every path $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots)$ and every n , the event

$$A(\omega^n) = \left\{ \tilde{\omega} \in \Omega : \lim_{t \geq n+1, t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_i((\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \tilde{\omega}_{n+1}, \dots, \tilde{\omega}_t) | \omega^n)}{P_j((\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \tilde{\omega}_{n+1}, \dots, \tilde{\omega}_t) | \omega^n)} = +\infty \right\}$$

satisfies $P_i(A(\omega^n) | \omega^n) = 1$ and $P_j(A(\omega^n) | \omega^n) = 0$. Notice that $A(\omega^n) \in \mathcal{F}_n^\infty$. In addition, $P_i(A(\omega^n)) = 1$ and $P_j(A(\omega^n)) = 0$. Define $A(n) = \bigcap_{\omega^n \in \mathcal{H}_n} A(\omega^n)$. Thus, $A(n) \in \mathcal{F}_n^\infty$, $P_i(A(n)) = 1$ and $P_j(A(n)) = 0$. Let $A = \bigcap_n A(n)$. Then A is tail-measurable (i.e. measurable with respect to the tail σ -algebra $\bigcap_n \mathcal{F}_n^\infty$) and satisfies $P_i(A) = 1$ and $P_j(A) = 0$.

Hence, for every P_i and P_j we can find a tail-measurable event $A_{i,j}$ such that $P_i(A_{i,j}) = 1$ and $P_j(A_{i,j}) = 0$. Let $E_i = \bigcap_{j \neq i} A_{i,j}$. Then each E_i is tail-measurable and satisfies $P_i(E_i) = 1$ and $P_j(E_i) = 0$ for every $j \neq i$. If $i \neq j$ then $A_{i,j}$ and $A_{j,i}$ are disjoint, and so are E_i and E_j . By enlarging E_n to be equal to the complement of $\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} E_i$, we can assume that E_1, \dots, E_n form a partition of Ω . Each of its element are tail-measurable.

Let μ be a uniform prior over P_1, \dots, P_n . Then $Q_\mu(E_i) = 1/n$ for every $i = 1, \dots, n$. Fix $P \in \Lambda$. Because P is mixing, it satisfies $P(F) \in \{0, 1\}$ for every event F that is

tail-measurable (see Theorem 13.18 in Davidson, 1994). Because E_1, \dots, E_n is a partition of Ω that consists of tail-measurable events, then $P \in \Lambda$ satisfies $P(E_{i_P}) = 1$ for some $i_P \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Hence

$$\|Q_\mu - P\| \geq P(E_{i_P}) - Q_\mu(E_{i_P}) = P(E_{i_P}) - \mu(P_{i_P}) = 1 - 1/n.$$

Since P and n are arbitrary, it follows from Theorem 1 that Λ is testable. ■

Proof of Proposition 3. Fix $\epsilon > 0$. Let $\bar{n} > 2/\epsilon$ and $\bar{\ell} = 2u/\epsilon$, and assume $|\Theta| > \bar{n}$ and $\ell > \bar{\ell}$. For every θ , let P_θ be a measure that assigns probability 1 to the intersection of $\bigcap_{\theta' \neq \theta} \Omega_{\theta'}$ and $\{\omega : g(\omega, \theta) > 0\}$. In particular, each P_θ satisfies $\mathbb{E}_{P_\theta}[g(\cdot, \theta)] \geq 0$ hence $P_\theta \in \Lambda_\Theta$. Let μ be the uniform prior over $\{P_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}$. Then $\mu(P_\theta) < \epsilon/2$ for every θ .

Let $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and $P \in \Lambda_{\theta^*}$. Then

$$0 \leq \mathbb{E}_P[g(\cdot, \theta^*)] \leq \int_{\Omega_{\theta^*}} g(\omega, \theta^*) dP(\omega) + u(1 - P(\Omega_{\theta^*})) \leq -\frac{2u}{\epsilon}P(\Omega_{\theta^*}) + u$$

therefore $P(\Omega_{\theta^*}) \leq \epsilon/2$. For every $\theta \neq \theta^*$, we have $P_\theta(\bigcap_{\theta' \neq \theta} \Omega_{\theta'}) = 1$, hence $P_\theta(\Omega_{\theta^*}) = 1$. Therefore $Q_\mu(\Omega_{\theta^*}) = \sum_{\theta \neq \theta^*} \mu(P_\theta) > 1 - \epsilon/2$.

So, $\|Q_\mu - P\|$ is greater than $Q_\mu(\Omega_{\theta^*}) - P(\Omega_{\theta^*}) > 1 - \epsilon$. Because this holds for every $P \in \Lambda$ then, by Theorem 2, the paradigm Λ_Θ is ϵ -testable. ■

Proof of Proposition 4. As shown by Theorem 2, in order to prove that Λ_P^ϵ is ϵ -testable it is enough to find a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\overline{\Lambda_P^\epsilon})$ such that $P = Q_\mu$. Consider the set $N = \{\omega : P(\{\omega\}) = 0\}$. Each $\omega \in N$ satisfies $\delta_\omega \in \Lambda_P^\epsilon$. Notice that P can have at most countably many atoms, so N is dense. The function $\omega \mapsto \delta_\omega$, $\omega \in \Omega$, is continuous, and so $\{\delta_\omega : \omega \in N\}$ is dense in $\{\delta_\omega : \omega \in \Omega\}$. We can therefore conclude that $\{\delta_\omega : \omega \in \Omega\} \subseteq \overline{\Lambda_P^\epsilon}$. Consider now the prior defined as $\mu(\Gamma) = P(\{\omega : \delta_\omega \in \Gamma\})$ for every measurable set $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$. Standard arguments shows that μ is well defined and satisfies $Q_\mu = P$. Because $\mu(\{\delta_\omega : \omega \in \Omega\}) = 1$, then $\mu \in \Delta(\overline{\Lambda_P^\epsilon})$. Therefore, Λ_P^ϵ is ϵ -testable.

Suppose, as a way of contradiction, that $\Lambda_P^\epsilon \subseteq \Lambda$, where Λ is a paradigm that is ϵ' -testable and $\epsilon' < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$. As shown in the proof of Theorem 1, there exists a prior $\nu \in \Delta(\overline{\Lambda})$ such that $\|Q_\nu - Q\| \geq 1 - 2\epsilon'$ for every $Q \in \Lambda$. Equivalently,

$$\{Q \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|Q - Q_\nu\| < 1 - 2\epsilon'\} \subseteq \Lambda^c$$

By assumption, $\Lambda^c \subseteq (\Lambda_P^\epsilon)^c = \{Q \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|Q - P\| \leq 1 - \epsilon\}$, so

$$\{Q \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|Q - Q_\nu\| < 1 - 2\epsilon'\} \subseteq \{Q \in \Delta(\Omega) : \|Q - P\| \leq 1 - \epsilon\}. \quad (19)$$

To show that this leads to a contradiction, let $R \in \Delta(\Omega)$ be a measure such that $\|R - Q_\nu\| = \|R - P\| = 1$. For instance, let $R = \delta_\omega$ for some path ω that is not an atom of either Q_ν or P . Fix $t \in (2\epsilon', \epsilon)$ and consider the measure $tQ_\nu + (1-t)R$. We have

$$\|tQ_\nu + (1-t)R - Q_\nu\| = (1-t)\|R - Q_\nu\| = (1-t) < 1 - 2\epsilon'.$$

Hence, it follows from (19) that $\|tQ_\nu + (1-t)R - P\| \leq 1 - \epsilon$. Now let E be an event such that $R(E) = 1$ and $Q_\nu(E) = P(E) = 0$. Then

$$1 - \epsilon \geq \|tQ_\nu + (1-t)R - P\| \geq tQ_\nu(E) + (1-t)R(E) - P(E) = 1 - t.$$

By construction, $1 - t > 1 - \epsilon$. So we obtain a contradiction. Therefore, Λ_P^ϵ is not included in any testable paradigm. ■

A.5 Other Proofs

Proof of Proposition 5. Let Λ be ϵ -testable in n periods. Then, by substituting the total-variation distance with the semi-distance ρ_n and following the same arguments used in the proof of Theorem 1, it follows that there exists a prior $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ such that $\rho_n(Q_\mu, P) > 1 - 2\epsilon$ for all $P \in \Lambda$.

Only one change is necessary: the same results in Shiryaev (2016) cited in the proof of Theorem 1 imply $\rho_n(P, Q) = \max_\phi |\int_\Omega \phi dP - \int_\Omega \phi dQ|$ where the maximum is taken over all functions $\phi : \Omega \rightarrow [0, 1]$ that are \mathcal{F}_n -measurable.

Conversely, let $\mu \in \Delta(\bar{\Lambda})$ be a prior such that $\|Q_\mu - P\|_n > 1 - \epsilon$ for all $P \in \Lambda$. The first part of the proof follows, verbatim, the proof of Theorem 2 (notice that by assumption $n_P \leq n$ for every $P \in \Lambda$). ■

The next result will be used in the proof of Proposition 6. In what follows, $B_\delta(P)$ denote the open ball of radius δ around P with respect to the same metric d fixed in the main text.

Lemma 2 *Let $\mu \in \Delta(\Delta(\Omega))$ be a prior and let $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$ be its support. For every $\delta > 0$ there exists a constant $\lambda > 0$ such that*

$$\mu(B_\delta(P)) \geq \lambda \text{ for all } P \in \Gamma.$$

Proof of Lemma 2. Suppose not. Then there must exist $\delta > 0$ and a sequence (P_n) in Γ such that $\mu(B_\delta(P_n)) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. The space $\Delta(\Omega)$ is compact and $\Gamma \subseteq \Delta(\Omega)$ is closed. Hence, it is compact. So, we can assume (taking a subsequence if necessary) that P_n converges to a law $P \in \Gamma$. Fix a law Q . Assume $Q \in B_{\delta/2}(P)$. Then $d(P_n, Q) < \delta$ for all n large enough. Thus $Q \in B_\delta(P_n)$ for all n large enough. Thus,

$$1_{B_{\delta/2}(P)}(Q) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1_{B_\delta(P_n)}(Q) \text{ for every } Q \in \Gamma$$

where $1_{B_{\delta/2}(P)}$ denotes the indicator function of $B_{\delta/2}(P)$. By applying Fatou's lemma, we can then conclude that

$$\mu(B_{\delta/2}(P)) \leq \int_{\Delta(\Omega)} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1_{B_\delta(P_n)} d\mu \leq \liminf_n \mu(B_\delta(P_n)) = 0$$

Hence $\mu(B_{\delta/2}(P)) = 0$. Since $P \in \Gamma$, then μ must assign positive probability to every neighborhood of P , so we reach a contradiction, and the proof is finished. ■

Proof of Proposition 6. By Lemma 2, there exists a $\lambda > 0$ such that $\mu(B_\delta(P)) \geq \lambda$ for every $P \in \Lambda$. Fix a sequence (ϵ_n) such that $\epsilon_n \downarrow 0$. Because $\|Q_\mu - P\| = 1$ for every $P \in \Lambda$, then, as shown in the proof of Theorem 2, we can find for every n a finite test T_n with the properties that T_n does not reject the truth with probability $1 - \epsilon_n$ and for every strategy ζ , by equation (16),

$$\mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu \otimes \zeta} [T_n] = \int_{\bar{\Lambda}} \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n] d\mu(P) \leq \epsilon_n.$$

By applying Markov's inequality, for every $k > 0$ and ζ , we have

$$\mu\left(\left\{P \in \bar{\Lambda} : \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq k\epsilon_n\right\}\right) \geq 1 - \frac{\mathbb{E}_{Q_\mu \otimes \zeta} [T_n]}{k\epsilon_n} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k}$$

Fix $\epsilon > 0$ and choose k large enough such that $1 - \frac{1}{k} + \lambda > 1$. In addition, given k choose N large enough such that $k\epsilon_n \leq \epsilon$ for all $n > N$. Now fix a particular $n > N$. Given $P_o \in \Lambda$ and a strategy ζ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu\left(\left\{P \in \bar{\Lambda} \cap B_\delta(P_o) : \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq \epsilon\right\}\right) \\ & \geq \mu\left(\left\{P \in \bar{\Lambda} : \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq k\epsilon_n\right\} \cap B_\delta(P_o)\right) \\ & = \mu\left(\left\{P \in \bar{\Lambda} : \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq k\epsilon_n\right\}\right) \\ & \quad + \mu(B_\delta(P_o)) - \mu\left(\left\{P \in \bar{\Lambda} : \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq k\epsilon_n\right\} \cup B_\delta(P_o)\right) \\ & \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k} + \lambda - 1 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

This implies we can select a measure $P_\zeta \in \bar{\Lambda} \cap B_\delta(P_o)$ such that $\mathbb{E}_{P_\zeta \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq \epsilon$. By continuity of the map $P \mapsto \mathbb{E}_{P \otimes \zeta} [T_n]$ we can then select a measure $P'_\zeta \in \Lambda \cap B_\delta(P_o)$ such that $\mathbb{E}_{P'_\zeta \otimes \zeta} [T_n] \leq \epsilon$. Because P_o is arbitrary, then it follows that the test T_n satisfies the conditions of Definition 6. Because ϵ is arbitrary, it follows that Λ is uniformly testable with precision δ . ■

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