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# Precedence Probability, Prediction Interval and A Combinatorial Identity 

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## SUMMARY

Precedence tests are simple yet useful nonparametric tests based on two specified order statistics from independent random samples or, equivalently, on the count of the number of observations from one of the samples preceding some order statistic of the other sample. The probability that an order statistic from the second sample exceeds an order statistic from the first sample is termed the precedence probability. When the distributions are the same, this probability can be calculated exactly, without any specific knowledge of the underlying common continuous distribution. This fact can be utilized to set up nonparametric prediction intervals in a number of situations. In this paper, prediction intervals are considered for the number of second sample observations that exceed a particular order statistic of the first sample. To aid the user, tables are provided for small sample sizes, where exact calculations are most necessary. The same tables can be used to implement a precedence test for small sample sizes. Finally, a combinatorial identity is proved.

Keywords: Distribution-free; Extremes; Exceedance and Precedence; Nonparametric; Order statistics.

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## 1. Introduction

Let $X_{(1)}<X_{(2)}<\ldots<X_{(m)}$ be the order statistics of a random sample of size $m$ from a continuous c.d.f. F and let $\mathrm{Y}_{(1)}<\mathrm{Y}_{(2)}<\ldots<\mathrm{Y}_{(\mathrm{n})}$ be the order statistics of a second, independent, random sample of size n from a continuous c.d.f. G. Consider the probability that the jth Y-order statistic exceeds the ith $X$-order statistic, $\left.\theta=\theta_{i j}(F, G)=P\left(Y_{(j)}\right) X_{(i)}\right)$. The parameter $\theta$ can be interpreted in several ways. Two such interpretations are: (i) it is the probability that the number of Y observations that precede $\mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{i})}$ is at most equal to $\mathrm{j}-1$ and (ii) it is the probability that the number of Y observations that exceed $\mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{i})}$ is at least equal to $\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{j}+1$. According to the first interpretation, $\theta$ is termed a "precedence" probability whereas according to the second interpretation $\theta$ is referred to as an "exceedance" probability. Both interpretations can be found in the literature as the quantity $\theta$ arises in various applications. The fields of applications include quality control and reliability where $\theta$ can be associated with the so-called "warranty time" of a product. In these problems, the underlying probability distributions are often not completely known and frequently can not be assumed to be normal. Thus, a study of the precedence probability, from a distribution-free point of view is useful.

The study of precedence and exceedances goes back to at least the early 40's. Some of this literature will be referred to later on. Nelson (1963) proposed a simple nonparametric test, called the precedence test, for the usual two sample problem $\mathrm{H}_{0}: \mathrm{F}(\mathrm{t})=\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{t})$. Against the one-sided alternative $\mathrm{H}_{1}: \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{t})<\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{t})$, that the Y 's are stochastically larger than the X 's, the precedence test rejects $H_{0}$ iff, say, $Y_{(j)}>X_{(i)}$. Thus the precedence probability $\theta$ is simply the power of the precedence test.

The concept of precedence (or exceedance) is easy to grasp and is intuitively appealing (one just needs to compare two ordered values from the two samples) to practitioners in many
statistical inference problems. Since a precedence test is based on ordered values, in situations (such as life-testing) where data are collected sequentially, such a test can lead to savings in time and resources by allowing an early decision (rejecting $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ or not) before all the data are collected.

Recently, there has been a resurgence of interest in precedence tests. Nelson (1993) revisited the precedence test. Lin and Sukhatme (1992) studied "best" precedence tests under Lehmann alternatives. Liu (1992) investigated some properties of precedence probabilities, and obatined some results, mainly for the equal sample size case. Chakraborti and van der Laan $(1996,1997)$ provided comprehensive surveys of the area of precedence and precedence-type tests for two- and multi-sample problems, for the complete and the right-censored data, respectively. Further, van der Laan and Chakraborti (1998) studied "best" precedence tests, based on power, for several types of Lehmann and proportional-hazards alternatives. In this paper the focus is mainly on the precedence probability and in this context the problem of some nonparametric prediction intervals is considered based on exceedance statistics. Necessary formulas and tables are presented so that these can be implemented in practice. In the sequel, an interesting combinatorial identity is obtained.

## 2. Precedence Probability and Prediction Intervals

First note that in general an expression for the precedence probability $\theta$ can be easily obtained from the distributions of the order statistics $X_{(i)}$ and $Y_{(j)}$. It can be shown (see for example Chakraborti and van der Laan, 1996; hereafter referred to as CV ) that $\theta$ depends on the unknown c.d.f.'s only through the so-called "conversion" function $C(u)=\mathrm{FG}^{-1}(u), 0<u<1$. Thus $\theta$ can be calculated explicitly when the conversion function is completely specified. This includes common situations where parametric model assumptions (such as normal or exponential) are made about F and G .

However, when $\mathrm{F} \equiv \mathrm{G}$ (for example, under $\mathrm{H}_{0}$ ), $\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{u})=\mathrm{u}$, and the expression for $\theta$ reduces to an incomplete beta integral that can be calculated using tables of the incomplete beta function or via the c.d.f. of a binomial distribution. Note that in practice there are situations where the precedence probability $\theta$, when $F \equiv G$, is important. This is particularly true in problems of prediction. Suppose that a random sample of observations is available from some (continuous) population and based on this sample one wishes to estimate some characteristics of a future sample drawn from the same population. For example, the interest might be to estimate the number of observations in the second random sample that will exceed (or precede) some ordered (say the median or the largest) value of the first sample. This type of problem is important, for example, in studies of the extremes (in environmental monitoring; hydrology, etc.) and in quality control. For instance, in a production process producing a certain type of light fuses, it might be of interest to estimate, with some degree of confidence, the number of fuses in a future sample that would last longer than say the longest working fuse from the current sample. Such a number or the proportion could be interpreted as one measure of the "quality" of this type of fuses.

Since E is a random variable, an answer to the above problem might be given by a prediction interval. For various problems in the context of prediction intervals the reader is referred to the recent book by Hahn and Meeker (1991). For a brief introduction, one can also refer to Vardeman (1992). For our problem, let $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{i}}$ (or $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}$ ) denote the number of Y observations that precede (or exceed) $X_{(i)}$. The statistic $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{i}}$ is called a "precedence" statistic and a test based on $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{i}}$ is called a "precedence" test (on the other hand one could just as easily use the "exceedance" statistic $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}$, and could call the resulting test an "exceedance" test). Recall that according to the first interpretation of the precedence probability, $\theta$ is simply the c.d.f. of $V_{i}$ at $j-1$. Also, since $P\left(V_{i} \leq j-\right.$

1) $=P\left(E_{i} \geq n-j+1\right)$, one can consider either the exceedances or the precedances in testing hypotheses or in constructing prediction intervals.

When $\mathrm{F} \equiv \mathrm{G}$, it has been shown that (see for example, CV)
$P\left(V_{i}=\mathrm{v}\right)=\frac{\binom{i+\mathrm{v}-1}{\mathrm{v}}\binom{m+n-i-\mathrm{v}}{n-\mathrm{v}}}{\binom{m+n}{n}}, \quad \mathrm{v}=0,1, \ldots, \mathrm{n} ; \mathrm{i}=1,2, \ldots, \quad \mathrm{~m}$.
Remark 1 For $1 \leq \mathrm{a}<\mathrm{b} \leq \mathrm{m}$, it can be seen that $\mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{a})} \leq \mathrm{Y}_{(\mathrm{j})} \leq \mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{b})}\right)=\mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{a} \leq \mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{j}} \leq \mathrm{b}-1\right)$, where $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{j}}$ is the number of X 's preceding $\mathrm{Y}_{(\mathrm{j})}$. The distribution of $\mathrm{W}_{\mathrm{j}}$ can be obtained from (1) by writing m for n and j for i . This result gives a nonparametric prediction interval for $\mathrm{Y}_{(\mathrm{j})}$ based on two X-order statistics. See Fligner and Wolfe $(1976,1979)$ for further details.

Remark 2 The probability distribution of $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}$, the number of Y "exceedances" (the number of Y 's that exceed $\mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{i})}$ ) follows from (1) and is given for completeness

$$
\begin{equation*}
P\left(E_{i}=e\right)=\frac{\binom{i+n-e-1}{n-e}\binom{m-i+e}{e}}{\binom{m+n}{n}}, \quad \mathrm{e}=0,1, \ldots, \mathrm{n} ; \mathrm{i}=1,2, \ldots, \mathrm{~m} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remark 3 In some applications (such as in the analysis of extremes) the probability distribution of $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{i}}$, the number of Y observations that exceed $\mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{m}-\mathrm{i}+1)}$, the ith largest (note that $\mathrm{X}_{(\mathrm{i})}$ is the ith smallest) of the X's, is needed. This exceedance probability is easily obtained from (2) by substituting $\mathrm{m}-\mathrm{i}+1$ for i . After some simplification the result can be expressed as
$P\left(F_{i}=f\right)=\frac{i}{m+n} \frac{\binom{m}{i}\binom{n}{f}}{\binom{m+n-1}{i+f-1}}, \quad \mathrm{f}=0,1, \ldots, \mathrm{n} ; \mathrm{i}=1,2, \ldots ., \mathrm{m}$.

These and other related expressions have been obtained by several authors, particularly in the 50 's and the 60 's, using a variety of mathematical-statistical as well as combinatorial techniques. The starting point for many of these works appears to be the classic paper by Wilks
(1942). Some rather old but still useful references on this topic are: Gumbel and von Schelling (1950), Epstein (1954) and Rosenbaum (1954).

The distribution of $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}$ is computed and presented in Tables 3 and 4 for selected 'small' values of $m$ and $n: m, n=3(2) 15$ and $i=(m+1) / 2$ and $i=m$. Thus, the tables cover exceedances above the median and the largest, respectively. Note that for values of $\mathrm{m}, \mathrm{n}$ and i not covered by the tables, it is not hard to use the explicit formulas given above. First, these tables can be used to implement a precedence test as proposed in Nelson (1963). To illustrate this, for example, suppose $\mathrm{m}=9, \mathrm{n}=9$ and a size $\alpha=.05$ precedence test is desired at the X -median, so that $\mathrm{i}=5$. Using Table 4, the rejection region can be found as follows. Since $V_{5}=n-E_{5}$, where $E_{5}$ is the number of Y's exceeding $X_{(5)}$, from Table 4, we first find the smallest integer $r$ so that $P\left(E_{5} \leq r\right) \geq .95$. This yields $\mathrm{r}=9$ so that $\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{r}=2$ and the precedence test has rejection region $\mathrm{V}_{5} \leq 2$, with an exact size equal to .0379 . Also, using either of the two interpretations for $\theta$, this corresponds to $\mathrm{j}=3$ and the precedence rejection region can be equivalently expressed in terms of two order statistics: $\mathrm{Y}_{(3)}>$ $X_{(5)}$. Secondly, tables 3 and 4 are useful in the calculation of prediction intervals. This is discussed in the following section.

### 2.1 Prediction intervals

The exact distribution of the exceedance statistic when $\mathrm{F} \equiv \mathrm{G}$, can be used to set up a prediction interval on the number (or the proportion) of future observations that exceed a current order statistic. For example, suppose $m=9, n=7$ and $i=5$, so the interest is in the number of future exceedances in sample of size 7 over the median of a current sample of size 9 . The distribution of Y-exceedances over the X -median, $\mathrm{E}_{5}$, in this case is found from Table 3 and is given in Table 1 for quick reference.

Table 1: Distribution of number of exceedances $E$ with $m=9, n=7$ and $i=5$

|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| prob | 0.02885 | 0.09178 | 0.16521 | 0.21416 | 0.21416 | 0.16521 | 0.09178 | 0.02885 |
| cuprob | 0.02885 | 0.12063 | 0.28584 | 0.50000 | 0.71412 | 0.87937 | 0.97115 | 1.00000 |

From Table 1 it is seen that the distribution of $\mathrm{E}_{5}$ in this case is symmetric and bimodal. The number of future observations that are expected to exceed the current sample median is 3.5 . Now, suppose we want a $90 \%$ prediction interval on $\mathrm{E}_{5}$, the number of Y -observations exceeding the X -median. From Table 1, using the cumulative probabilities (cuprob), it is found that the required prediction interval is between 1 and 6 , with both endpoints included. This interval is conservative in the sense that the exact confidence coefficient is 0.9423 , which is higher than the nominal 0.90 . Equivalently, the proportion of future observations that The distribution given in Table 1 also demonstrates the well-known fact not all typical confidence coefficients might be available for all $\mathrm{m}, \mathrm{n}$ and i , owing to the discreteness of the $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}$ statistic. In general, a two-sided prediction interval $[a, b]$ for $E_{i}$, with confidence coefficient 1- $\alpha$, can be calculated by solving for two integers $a$ and $b$ so that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{e=a}^{b} \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}=\mathrm{e} \mid \mathrm{F} \equiv \mathrm{G}\right)=1-\alpha, \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $P\left(E_{i}=e l F \equiv G\right)$ is given by (2).
When $i$ corresponds to the median of the $X$-sample, the distribution of $E_{i}$ is symmetric. In this case one can set a to be the largest integer such that $\sum_{e=0}^{a-1} \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{i}}=\mathrm{elF} \equiv \mathrm{G}\right) \leq \alpha / 2$ and take $\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{a}$.

In some problems only a one-sided prediction interval (or a prediction bound), say of the form [0,c] is needed. In this case (4) can be easily modified and tables 3-4 can be used to find the interval.

Now suppose that for the same $m$ and $n, i=9$, so that the interest is in the number of future exceedances over the largest value of the current sample. For this case, the distribution of E is found from Table 4 and is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Distribution of number of exceedances $E$ with $m=9, n=7$ and $i=9$

|  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| prob | 0.56250 | 0.26250 | 0.11250 | 0.04327 | 0.01442 | 0.00393 | 0.00079 | 0.00009 |
| cuprob | 0.56250 | 0.82500 | 0.93750 | 0.98077 | 0.99519 | 0.99913 | 0.99991 | 1.00000 |

Thus there is a $11.25 \%$ probability that in a future (Y-) sample of 7,2 will exceed the largest of the current (X-) sample of 9 observations from the same continuous population. As it might be expected, this distribution is highly skewed to the right. The probability is over $56 \%$ that none of the Y-sample values will exceed the maximum. It may be noted that for these small values of $m, n$ there are no prediction intervals for $\mathrm{E}_{9}$ (exceedances over the current maximum), given typical confidence coefficients such as 0.95 or 0.90 .

```
<<Tables 3 and 4 Here>>
```


## Normal Approximation

Though exact formulas are given, when $m$ and $n$ are large, the practitioner may find it more convenient to employ a normal approximation to calculate $a$ and $b$. To this end, note that it has been shown (see for example, CV, equation (8)) that $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{i}}$ has, approximately, a normal distribution. Specifically, when $F \equiv G$, and $m$ and $n$ are large, the precedence statistic $V_{i}$ is approximately normally distributed with mean $\mu=n\left(1-\frac{i}{m}\right)$ and variance $\sigma^{2}=n\left(\frac{m+n}{m}\right)\left(\frac{i}{m}\right)\left(1-\frac{i}{m}\right)$. It follows that a normal approximation to and $b$ are

$$
a=n-\left[\frac{n}{m}\left\{i-z_{\alpha / 2} \sqrt{i(m-i)\left(\frac{1}{m}+\frac{1}{n}\right)}\right\}\right]
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{n}-\left[\frac{\mathrm{n}}{\mathrm{~m}}\left\{\mathrm{i}+\mathrm{z}_{\alpha / 2} \sqrt{\mathrm{i}(\mathrm{~m}-\mathrm{i})\left(\frac{1}{\mathrm{~m}}+\frac{1}{\mathrm{n}}\right)}\right\}\right]-1 \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

respectively, where $\mathrm{z}_{\alpha / 2}$ is the upper $100 \alpha / 2$ th standard normal percentile and $[\mathrm{x}$ ] denotes the greatest integer not exceeding $x$. Using these formulas for our example, with $m=9, n=7, i=5$ and $\alpha=.10$, we get $\mathrm{a}=1$ and $\mathrm{b}=6$, the same solutions that were found using the exact distribution.

### 2.2 A combinatorial identity

Recall that the precedence probability $\theta$ is simply the value of the c.d.f. of $V_{i}$ at $j-1$. Thus, when $F \equiv G$, we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& \theta=P\left(V_{i} \leq j-1\right) \\
& =\sum_{\mathrm{r}=0}^{\mathrm{j}-1} \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{i}}=\mathrm{v}\right) \\
& =\sum_{\mathrm{v}=0}^{j-1} \frac{\binom{i+\mathrm{v}-1}{\mathrm{v}}\binom{m+n-i-\mathrm{v}}{n-\mathrm{v}}}{\binom{m+n}{n}} . \tag{6}
\end{align*}
$$

On the other hand, when $F \equiv G$, the probability $\theta$ can also be viewed (see for example, van der Laan, 1970; Liu, 1992) as the probability that at least i of the X 's are in the first $\mathrm{i}+\mathrm{j}-1$ positions out of the total $m+n$ ordered X's and Y's, where $m$ X's and $n$ Y's are drawn from the same distribution. It follows that
$\theta=\sum_{r=i}^{i+j-1} \frac{\binom{m}{r}\binom{n}{i+j-r-1}}{\binom{m+n}{i+j-1}}$
Thus (6) should be equal to (7). The result is stated as a combinatorial identity in the following lemma. An alternative algebraic proof is also provided below.

## Lemma

$\sum_{r=0}^{j-1} \frac{\binom{i+r-1}{r}\binom{m+n-j-r}{n-r}}{\binom{m+n}{n}}=\sum_{r=i}^{i+j-1} \frac{\binom{m}{r}\binom{n}{i+j-r-1}}{\binom{m+n}{i+j-1}}$

## Proof

Note that we can write

$$
\sum_{r=i}^{i+j-1} \frac{\binom{m}{r}\binom{n}{i+j-r-1}}{\binom{m+n}{i+j-1}}=\sum_{r=0}^{j-1} \frac{\binom{m}{i+r}\binom{n}{j-1-r}}{\binom{m+n}{i+j-1}}
$$

so we need to show that
$\sum_{r=0}^{j-1} \frac{\binom{i+r-1}{r}\binom{m+n-i-r}{n-r}}{\binom{m+n}{n}}=\sum_{r=0}^{j-1} \frac{\binom{m}{i+r}\binom{n}{j-1-r}}{\binom{m+n}{i+j-1}}$.
Canceling the common factorials on both sides, it can be seen that the above amounts to showing that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{r=0}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=0}^{j-1}\binom{i+r-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-r}{m-i}=0 \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof of (9) is given by induction on j .
For $\mathrm{j}=1$, (9) is true since
$\binom{i}{i}\binom{m+n-i}{m-i}-\binom{i-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i}{m-i}=0$.
To illustrate the general approach, note that for $\mathrm{j}=2$ we have to show that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\binom{i+1}{i}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i}+\binom{i+1}{i+1}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i-1}-\binom{i-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i}{m-i}-\binom{i}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i}=0 \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

For this, using the well-known identity
$\binom{M}{s}+\binom{M}{s-1}=\binom{M+1}{s}$, so that $\binom{M}{s}-\binom{M+1}{s}=-\binom{M}{s-1}$,
for any positive integer M and any non-negative integer $\mathrm{s}=0,1, \ldots, \mathrm{M}$, we get,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \binom{i+1}{i}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i}-\binom{i}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i}=\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i}\binom{i}{i} \\
& \binom{i}{i}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i}-\binom{i-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i}{m-i}=-\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i-1}
\end{aligned}
$$

and therefore the L.H.S. of (8) equals

$$
-\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i-1}+\binom{i+1}{i+1}\binom{m+n-i-1}{m-i-1}=0
$$

Now we suppose the identity (1) is true for fixed $j$, then we have to prove that the identity is also true for $\mathrm{j}+1$. Thus we have to prove

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{r=0}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=0}^{j}\binom{i+r-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-r}{m-i}=0 \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Note that the second sum can be rewritten as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{r=0}^{j-1}\binom{i+r-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-r}{m-i}+\binom{i+j-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

By the induction hypothesis, the first sum in (12) is equal to

$$
\sum_{r=0}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}
$$

so that the left hand side of (11) equals

$$
\sum_{r=0}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=0}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}-\binom{j+i-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i}
$$

which reduces to

$$
\sum_{r=1}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=0}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}+\binom{j+i-1}{i-1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i}
$$

The last expression can be further simplified as follows

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =\sum_{r=1}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=1}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}-\binom{i+j-1}{i}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-1} \\
& =\sum_{r=2}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=1}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}+\binom{i+j-1}{i+1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-1} \\
& =\sum_{r=2}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=2}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}-\binom{i+j-1}{i+1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-2} \\
& =\sum_{r=j-1}^{j}\binom{i+j+r}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=j-1}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}-\binom{i+j-1}{i+j-2}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-j+1} \\
& =\sum_{r=j}^{j}\binom{i+j}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-r}-\sum_{r=j-1}^{j-1}\binom{i+j-1}{i+r}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-r}+\binom{i+j-1}{i+j-1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-j+1} \\
& =\binom{i+j}{i+j}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-j}-\binom{i+j-1}{i+j-1}\binom{m+n-i-j+1}{m-i-j+1}+\binom{i+j-1}{i+j-1}\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-j+1} \\
& =\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-j}-\binom{m+n-i-j}{m-i-j}=0,
\end{aligned}
$$

and the proof is complete.

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Table 3. Distribution of $E$ for exceedances over the median






Table 4: Distribution of $E$ for exceedances above the largest






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