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*On the Multi-linear Empirical Copula Process*

A critical review of copula-based modelling approaches for discrete variables will be presented. Conceived for the analysis of continuous data, copula inference techniques are based on relations that may no longer hold when the marginal distributions have atoms. An indiscriminating transposition of these techniques for the treatment of discrete data may thus affect the analyses and lead to misleading or invalid conclusions. The multi-linear empirical copula provides a promising alternative avenue. The limiting behaviour of the process associated with this copula will be described along with its use for the construction of new copula inference tools for discrete data.