

In my opinion, the paper is very interesting and present original research in the areas of statistics and economics. Authors modified and adapted in a clever way a previous fitting procedure for asymptotic power law distribution (Malevergne et al (2011) and applied to economic firm size data.

So, I recommend to accept the manuscript for its publication in Economics journal. However, there are two suggestions that I would like to see in the final version of the manuscript:

1) Since authors methodology deals with the problem of estimate an interval in which perform a straight line fit, they apply a lower and a higher cut off to the empirical data. Higher cut off eliminates the most extreme events from data, surely the most noisy, but may be the most interesting. A brief discussion of this fact on the quality of the fit will be welcomed.

2) There exist previous work about the use of the Anderson-Darling statistic (which is a sensitive statistic for detecting departures in the tails from the hypothesized probability distribution) that could be a useful reference. In these works the procedure of estimating an optimal cutting off point for fitting power law distributions and fitting a power law distribution from left censored samples are discussed. Both works of relevance for the methodology presented in the manuscript.

These suggested techniques appeared in:

Coronel-Brizio, H.F. and A.R. Hernandez-Montoya (2010): The Anderson-Darling Test of fit for the Power Law distribution from left censored samples. *Physica A: Statistical Mechanics and its Applications*, Volume 389, Issue 17, 1 September 2010, Pages 3508-3515.

Coronel-Brizio, H.F. and Hernandez-Montoya, R.A (2005): On fitting the Pareto-Levy distribution to stock market index data: selecting a suitable cutoff value. *Physica A*. 354, 437-449.

Finally I would like to regard and congratulate to authors for their nice and interesting work and apologize for the unusual delay of my answer.