

Key Concepts and Terminology

Kruskal-Wallis analysis: Non-parametric equivalent to a 1-way Anova. A solution to violations of parametric assumptions. A test used on >2 independent groups.

Hypothesis: An important part of this method is that the final assumptions are dependent upon testing for equality or non-equality of distributions for the categories involved. Equal distributions met-Null: The medians of the categories are equal; Equal distributions NOT met-Null: The mean ranks are equal

Dunn's Comparison: Pairwise comparison between groups to find significance in difference and get further insight into the concern being investigated.

Kruskal-Wallis H: Is the statistic used in the K-W test. It is also the statistic used in comparing the similarity of distributions between categories.

$$H = (N - 1) \frac{\sum_{i=1}^g n_i (\bar{r}_i - \bar{r})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^g \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (r_{ij} - \bar{r}_i)^2}$$

$N = \# \text{ of observations}$

$g = \text{number of groups}$

$n_i = \text{number of observations in group } i, r_{ij} = \text{rank (among all obs) } j \text{ from group } i$

$\bar{r}_i = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n_i} r_{ij}}{n_i}$, average rank of all observations in group i

$\bar{r} = \frac{1}{2}(N + 1), N = \# \text{ of obs}$

$$H = \frac{12}{(n(n+1))} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \frac{R_j^2}{n_i} - 3(n+1) \right)$$

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Shapiro-Wilk (S-W) test: The null states normality and so a $p < 0.001$ is expected in the K-W test.

Kolmogorov-Smirnov: The null states normality and so a $p < 0.001$ is expected in the K-W test.

Lavene's test: The null states equality of variance and so a $p < 0.001$ is expected in the K-W test.

SPSS Visual of K-W:

