### Introduction & Review

author: ECONOMIC FORECASTING date: Summer 2017 autosize: true

## Measures of Central Tendency

Moments allow us to describe a probability distribution. Expected Value is a measure of the distribution's central tendency.

$$\mu = E(X) = \begin{cases} \sum_{x} X \cdot p(X) \text{ if the variable is discrete} \\ \int_{x} X \cdot f(x) \ dx \text{ if the variable is continuous} \end{cases}$$

Sample measure (estimator) of E(X) is:

$$\hat{\mu} = \bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i$$

which is commonly known as the sample mean. \* Minimum Variance Unbiased (MVU)

## Measures of Dispersion

The second moment is a measure of the dispersion of the distribution about its mean.

$$\sigma^2 = V(X) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{E}[(X - \mu)^2] & \text{if the variable is discrete} \\ \int (x - \mu)^2 f(x) dx & \text{if the variable is continuous} \end{cases}$$

Sample measure of V(X):

$$\sigma^2 = s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \bar{X})^2$$

NOTE: the standard error, s, transforms this measure into the appropriate units.

### Correlation

Many times, we would like to measure how two random variables are related.

$$\mathbf{C}(X,Y) = \mathbf{E}[(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)]$$

Scaling this to fall between -1 and 1 yields:

$$\rho(X,Y) = \frac{\mathbf{C}(X,Y)}{\sqrt{\sigma_X^2 \sigma_Y^2}}$$

which is the correlation coefficient.

#### Normal Distribution

N( $\mu, \sigma^2$ ) The shape is determined by two factors: - Expected Value ( $\mu$ ), and - Variance ( $\sigma^2$ )

Properties - Centered on  $\mu$  - Symmetrical about  $\mu$  - Area above  $\mu$  and below  $\mu$  are each equal to 1/2

### Central Limit Theorem

Suppose  $X_i$  is a sequence of independent and identically distributed (i.i.d) random variables  $E(X_i) = \mu$  and  $V(X_i) = \sigma^2 < \infty$ , Then,  $\bar{X} \sim N(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n})$  This is critical since we rarely know the distribution from whuch the data is generated.

#### t-Distribution

Properties - Symmetrical about 0 and bell-shaped - Standard deviation is determined by the number of degrees of freedom - As degrees of freedom  $\to \infty$ , standard deviation  $\to 1$  - As degrees of freedom  $\to \infty$ , the curve approaches the probability curve of the standard normal distribution

### Hypothesis Testing

Allows us to know if our estimations are statistically significant We can use standard deviations from the mean to determine statistical significance.

 $\mu \pm \sigma = 68.2\%$  of the area  $\mu \pm 2\sigma = 95.4\%$  of the area  $\mu \pm 3\sigma = 99.8\%$  of the area

# Steps for Hypothesis Testing

- 1. Formulate Hypothesis
- 2. Collect data and compute test statistic
- 3. Determine sampling distribution of test statistic
- 4. Compute the probability that a value of the sample statistic at least as large as the one observed could have been drawn from the sampling distribution
- 5. If the probability is high, do NOT reject the null hypothesis. If the probability is low, then reject the null hypothesis.

# Formulating a Hypothesis, Part I

 $\mathbf{H_0}$ : null hypothesis

 $\mathbf{H_1}$ : alternative hypothesis

**Example:** Suppose someone claims that the average height of a man in the U.S. is 5'9". What are the null and alternative hyptheses?

## Formulating a Hypothesis, Part II

 $\mathbf{H_0}$ : null hypothesis

 $\mathbf{H_1}$ : alternative hypothesis

Example: Suppose someone claims that the average height of a man in the U.S. is 5'9".

What are the null and alternative hyptheses?

 $\mathbf{H_0}$ : The average height of men in the U.S. is 5'9"

H<sub>1</sub>: The average height of men in the U.S. is NOT 5'9"

Mathematically:

 $\mathbf{H_0}$ :  $Height_{men} = 5'9$ "

 $\mathbf{H_1}: Height_{men} \neq 5'9$ "

# Testing the Hypothesis, Part I

$$t = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu_0}{s / \sqrt{n}}$$

n=225  $\bar{X}=69.1333$ ,  $\mu_0=69$   $s=1 \implies t=2$  and Pr>|t|= 'a little less than 10 percent' So do we reject the null hypothesis???

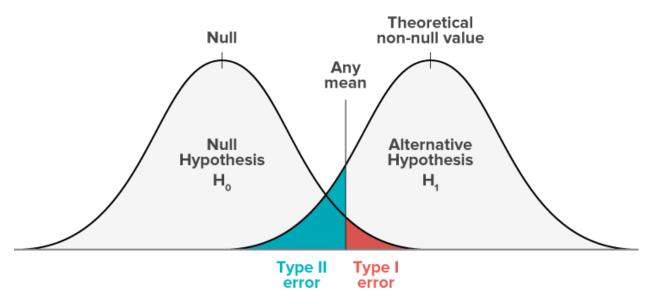
## Testing the Hypothesis, Part II

$$t = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$$

n=225  $\bar{X}=69.1333$ ,  $\mu_0=69$   $s=1 \implies t=2$  and Pr>|t|= 'a little less than 10 percent' So do we reject the null hypothesis??? It depends...

# Error Types

	Do NOT reject $H_0$	Reject $H_0$
$\overline{H_0}$ is true	Correct Decision	Type I Error
$H_0$ is false	Type II Error	Correct Decision

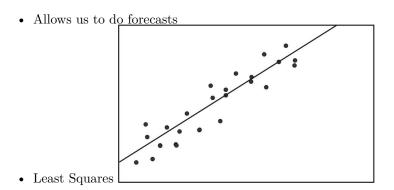


Type I Error: "Convicting the Innocent" Type II Error: "Freeing the Guilty"

# Assumptions of the CLR

1. Non-stochastic Xs 2. X and Y have a linear relationship 3.  $E(\epsilon) = 0$  4. N > k 5. Spherical errors

# Fitting a Straight Line



# Least Squares

Used to calculate the equation of a straight line that minimizes the sum of squared errors.

$$SSE = \sum \left( Y - \widehat{Y} \right)^2$$

 $\widehat{Y}$  can be written as  $b_0 + b_1 \mathbf{X}$ . Thus,

$$SSE = \sum (Y - b_0 - b_1 \mathbf{X})^2$$

and we can test whether  $b_1 = 0$  via a t-test

## What is a Time Series?

A random variable measured sequentially in time is known as a time series. Examples: - Monthly rainfall in Akron, Ohio from January 1997 to May 2012 - GDP of the U.S. from 1945 to 2017 - Quarterly unemployment rate in the U.S from Q1 2004 through Q3 2009

Notation:

$$\{x_1, x_2, x_3, ...\}$$
 or  $\{x_t\}$ 

Typically a time series is **serially correlated**.

## Horizontal

Data fluctuates around a certain level, E(X), and is stationary about its mean.

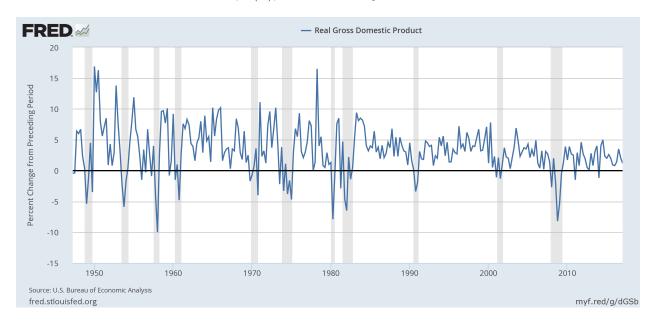


Figure 1: alt text

# Trend

Growth or decline of a variable over several periods.

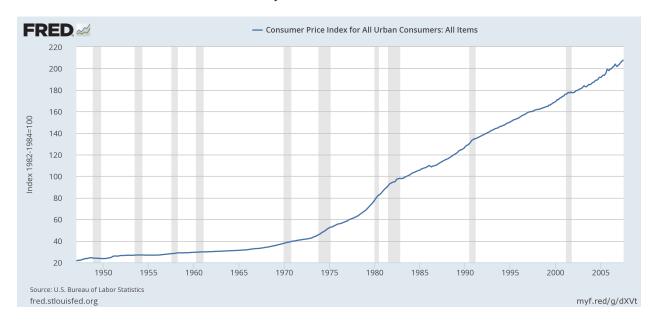


Figure 2: alt text

# Cyclical

Wavelike pattern around a trend. "Caused" by general economic conditions.



Figure 3: alt text

## Seasonal

Pattern changes that appear year after year.

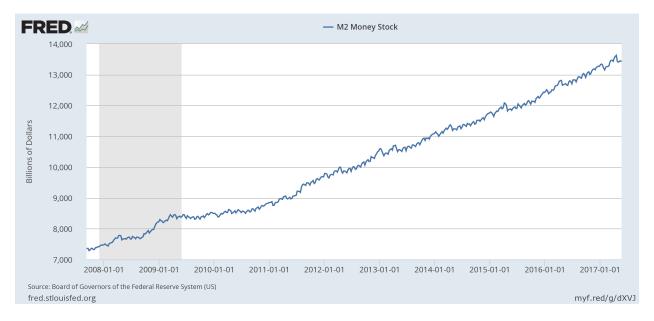


Figure 4: alt text

## Intro to R

R is a language - Easily implemented to perform statistical tasks - Extendable - FREE! We will be using RStudio! - Integrated Devlopment Environment (IDE) for R - Also FREE!

## Resources for R

There are resources available on Springboard. - R for Beginners - R for SAS and SPSS Users ... and resources available on the internet. - r-project.org - stackoverflow.com - r-bloggers.com