

Elementary hypothesis testing

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Exercise 4.1

Given

$$P(D_1 \dots D_m | H_i X) = \prod_j P(D_j | H_i X)$$

and

$$P(D_1 \dots D_m | \overline{H}_i X) = \prod_j P(D_j | \overline{H}_i X)$$

for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $n > 2$ show that for any fixed i at most one of

$$\frac{P(D_j | H_i X)}{P(D_j | \overline{H}_i X)}$$

is not equal to 1.

Proof:

Firstly, we claim that the case of 2 pieces of data implies the general result.

Indeed, independence assumptions of all D_j together imply analogous pairwise independence for any pair D_k and D_l . So, assuming the case with two data pieces is solved, we have, for a fixed i and for any pair of k, l , either $\frac{P(D_k | H_i X)}{P(D_k | \overline{H}_i X)} = 1$, or $\frac{P(D_l | H_i X)}{P(D_l | \overline{H}_i X)} = 1$ (or both), so of the whole set of $\frac{P(D_j | H_i X)}{P(D_j | \overline{H}_i X)}$ at most one is not equal to 1, as wanted.

So it is enough to solve the case of only two data sets, D_1 and D_2 .

We will denote probability density/mass function of D_1 under hypothesis $H_i X$ by V_i and that of D_2 by U_i . We will also denote probability density/mass function of D_1 under hypothesis $\overline{H}_i X$ by V_i^c and that of D_2 by U_i^c , though we will not use these until the very end.

Remark 1: The proof actually works for arbitrary (not necessarily discrete or continuous) real-valued random variables, one just has to say that V s and U s are CDFs instead of PMFs/PDFs. The reason for that is, firstly, that independence of two random variables can be equivalently written as joint CDF being a product or as joint PMF/PDF being a product, and, secondly, that equality of CDFs is equivalent to equality of PMFs/PDFs. We work with PDFs/PMFs out of a strange esthetic choice, rather than for any other reason.

We will denote value of V_i at some $D_1 = x_1$ by v_{i1} (and at $D_1 = x_2$ by v_{i2}). Similarly the values of U at $D_2 = y_1$ will be denoted by u_{i1} .

We will use independence of D_1 and D_2 conditional on various hypotheses to prove independence under other hypotheses. Note that independence always means $P(D_1 = x, D_2 = y|H) = P(D_1 = x|H)P(D_2 = y|H)$ and can be checked by checking this for (arbitrary) specific values.

With this in mind, we pick any pair of possible value pairs $D_1 = x_1, D_2 = y_1$ and $D_1 = x_2, D_2 = y_2$, fixed from now on, and form vectors $v_i = \begin{bmatrix} v_{i1} \\ v_{i2} \end{bmatrix}$ and $u_i = \begin{bmatrix} u_{i1} \\ u_{i2} \end{bmatrix}$

Then independence of D_1 and D_2 (conditional on $H_i X$) says that the joint distribution of $P(D_1 = x, D_2 = y|H_i X)$ is a product of distributions of D_1 and D_2 and is given (at $x = x_1, x_2$ and $y = y_1, y_2$) by the matrix

$$\begin{aligned} M_i &= v_i u_i^T = \begin{bmatrix} v_{i1} \\ v_{i2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{i1} & u_{i2} \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} v_{i1}u_{i1} & v_{i1}u_{i2} \\ v_{i2}u_{i1} & v_{i2}u_{i2} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

It follows from this that the (joint) probability matrix of $D_1 D_2$ (again, at $x = x_1, x_2$ and $y = y_1, y_2$) conditional on $\overline{H_i} X$ is obtained by taking all the matrices of H_j with $j \neq i$ weighing them by (prior) probabilities h_j of H_j and adding them (and then dividing by the sum of the weights, but this is an overall normalizing factor which will not be important for us). That is, the matrix is proportional to

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \neq i} h_j M_j &= \sum_{j \neq i} h_j v_j u_j^T = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{j \neq i} h_j v_{j1} u_{j1} & \sum_{j \neq i} h_j v_{j1} u_{j2} \\ \sum_{j \neq i} h_j v_{j2} u_{j1} & \sum_{j \neq i} h_j v_{j2} u_{j2} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Now the assumption that D_1 and D_2 are independent conditional on $\overline{H_i}$ means this matrix is also a product of “marginal” matrices of $D_1|\overline{H_i} X$ and $D_2|\overline{H_i} X$, i.e. is of rank 1. This means that it has determinant 0.

Three hypothesis. Let's start with the case of only 3 hypothesis H_1, H_2, H_3 . Start with $i = 3$.

####Lemma: A sum M of two rank 1 matrices $M = h_1 v_1 u_1^T + h_2 v_2 u_2^T$ can only be rank 1 if either v_1 and v_2 are linearly dependent or u_1 and u_2 are linearly dependent.

A “conceptual” proof is as follows: Consider the image of M . Vectors $M(u_1)$ and $M(u_2)$ are both linear combinations of $h_1 v_1$ and $h_2 v_2$, so, to get that the image of M is the span of v_1 and v_2 , it is enough that the matrix of coefficients $G = \begin{pmatrix} u_1^T u_1 & u_1^T u_2 \\ u_2^T u_1 & u_2^T u_2 \end{pmatrix}$ is invertible. But G is the Gramian of u_1, u_2 and is invertible precisely when u_1 and u_2 are linearly independent (its determinant is the square of the area of the parallelogram spanned by u_1 and u_2 , as you can easily verify). In that case (of independent u s), the rank of M is the dimension of the span of v_1, v_2 and if v_1, v_2 were independent, it would be 2. So if rank of M is below 2, then either u s or v s are dependent, as wanted.

Remark 2: Those familiar with tensors may realize that we use metric in which u_1 and u_2 are orthonormal (that’s the inverse of G) to “raise and index” and go from a bilinear form encoded by M to a linear map, whose range is then the span of v s.

Remark 3: Alternatively, for those who don’t like linear algebra, a computational proof of Lemma 1 is as follows: A (non-zero) 2 by 2 matrix has rank one when its determinant is zero. Writing this out in our case we get:

$$\begin{aligned} & [h_1 v_{11} u_{11} + h_2 v_{21} u_{21}] [h_1 v_{12} u_{12} + h_2 v_{22} u_{22}] = \\ & [h_1 v_{11} u_{12} + h_2 v_{21} u_{22}] [h_1 v_{12} u_{11} + h_2 v_{22} u_{21}] \end{aligned}$$

Additively canceling $h_1^2 v_{11} v_{12} u_{11} u_{12}$ and $h_2^2 v_{21} v_{22} u_{21} u_{22}$ and then dividing by $h_1 h_2$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} & v_{11} u_{11} v_{22} u_{22} + v_{21} u_{21} v_{12} u_{12} = \\ & v_{11} u_{12} v_{22} u_{21} + v_{21} u_{22} v_{12} u_{11} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$(v_{11} v_{22} - v_{12} v_{21})(u_{11} u_{22} - u_{12} u_{21}) = 0,$$

so either v_1 and v_2 are linearly dependent, or u_1 and u_2 are.

Continuing with the case of three hypothesis, recall v_i and u_i were likelihood/probability vectors of D_1 taking values x_1, x_2 and D_2 taking values y_1, y_2 (under hypothesis $H_i X$).

Observe that a pair of non-zero functions V_1 and V_2 such that $(V_1(x_1), V_1(x_2))$ is always proportional to $(V_2(x_1), V_2(x_2))$ are “globally” proportional meaning $V_1 = kV_2$ (take any x with $V_2(x) \neq 0$ and make $k = V_1(x)/V_2(x)$).

If distributions of D_1 under H_1X and H_2X are different, then they are also not proportional. By the previous paragraph, this implies that there will be two values x_1 and x_2 giving unproportional v_1 and v_2 . Then for arbitrary pair of values y_1, y_2 of D_2 the corresponding vectors u_1 and u_2 are proportional, so, again, by the previous paragraph, the whole probability mass/density functions U_1 and U_2 of D_2 under H_1X and H_2X are proportional, ergo equal.

So either $V_1 = V_2$ or $U_1 = U_2$.

Now, in the same way as we just did for $i = 3$, from $i = 1$ and $i = 2$ we get that (either $V_2 = V_3$ or $U_2 = U_3$) and (either $V_1 = V_3$ or $U_1 = U_3$). Since we have 3 equalities and only two types of distributions (U and V), either the V s are equal twice, and $V_1 = V_2 = V_3$, or the U s are (and $U_1 = U_2 = U_3$). Correspondingly either D_1 has same distribution under all 3 hypothesis, and then $\frac{P(D_1|H_iX)}{P(D_1|\bar{H}_iX)}$ are all equal to 1, or D_2 does (and then all $\frac{P(D_2|H_iX)}{P(D_2|\bar{H}_iX)}$ are equal to 1). In either case, we get what we want.

This completes the case of 3 hypothesis.

The general case. To get the extension to more than 3 hypothesis we use the following approach. As we mentioned before, a 2 by 2 matrix is of rank at most 1 if its determinant is zero. So we need some an efficient way of telling when the determinant of 2 by 2 matrix is zero.

Remark 4: More generally, a matrix is of rank at most 1 if all 2 by 2 minors have determinant zero i.e. all $M_{(i,j),(k,l)}^{\wedge 2} = M_{ik}M_{jl} - M_{il}M_{jk}$ are zero. In tensor analysis, these are the entries of the second exterior power $M^{\wedge 2}$ of M . When dimension is 2 there is only one minor, and the $M^{\wedge 2}$ is a scalar, equal to $\det M$. So in dimensions above 2, we can formulate everything that follows in terms of determinants.

We will use the following property of 2D determinants. If M and N are 2 by 2 matrices then

$$D(M, N) := \frac{1}{2}(\det(M + N) - \det M - \det N)$$

is symmetric and bilinear in M, N . This means

$$D(M, N) = D(N, M)$$

and

$$D(M_1 + M_2, N) = D(M_1, N) + D(M_2, N)$$

(and hence the same for second variable). Indeed, one computes

$$D(M, N) = \frac{1}{2}(M_{11}N_{22} + M_{22}N_{11} - M_{12}N_{21} - M_{21}N_{12})$$

and the resulting formula is linear in M and in N , i.e. bilinear.

Observe that $D(M, M) = \det M$. We then have, by induction on the number of summands,

$$\det(\sum M_i) = D(\sum M_i, \sum M_j) = \sum_{i,j} D(M_i, M_j)$$

Remark 5: We also have $D(\lambda M, N) = \lambda D(M, N)$, as usual in bilinearity, but we don't need this.

Remark 6: In higher (possibly) dimensions, and using tensor language, we are saying that taking second exterior power, which is quadratic in the matrix input, is a restriction of a symmetric bilinear operation (on two inputs), $(M \wedge N)(\vec{a} \wedge \vec{b}) = \frac{1}{2}[(M\vec{a}) \wedge (N\vec{b}) + (N\vec{a}) \wedge (M\vec{b})]$

Now we can apply this to our problem. Let $M_i = h_i v_i u_i^T$ and $N_i = \sum_{j \neq i} M_j$, and $M = M_i + N_i = \sum_j M_j$.

Our assumptions are that all M_i and N_j are rank 1 (i.e. have zero determinant). We now show that M has rank 1 (i.e. has zero determinant).

To that end we write

$$\det M = \sum_{j,k} D(M_j, M_k)$$

We want to see that this is zero. We know

$$0 = \det(N_i) = \sum_{j \neq i, k \neq i} D(M_j, M_k)$$

Summing over i we get (taking note that each $D(M_l, M_l)$ will appear $n - 1$ times, while those $D(M_j, M_k)$ with $j \neq k$ will appear only $n - 2$ times):

$$\sum_l D(M_l, M_l) + (n - 2) \sum_{j,k} D(M_j, M_k) = 0$$

So, since $D(M_l, M_l) = 0$, as long as $n \neq 2$ we have what we want.

This gives $M = vu^T$. Going back to $M = M_i + N_i$ we again see two rank one matrices add up to a rank one matrix. We conclude, just as in the case of 3 hypothesis, that for each specific i , either $V_i^c = V_i$ and hence $\frac{P(D_1|H_i X)}{P(D_1|\bar{H}_i X)} = 1$

OR

$U_i^c = U_i$ and hence $\frac{P(D_2|H_iX)}{P(D_2|\overline{H_i}X)} = 1$. This is exactly what we wanted to prove.