

Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

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Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a sample from distribution function F and Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_m be another sample from distribution function G . We want to test $H_0 : F = G$ vs $H_1 : F \neq G$.

K-S Test Statistic = $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x)|$

We shall reject the null hypothesis for large values of test-statistic.

We have to check that we can calculate the K-S test Statistic by evaluating \hat{F}_n and \hat{G}_m only at finitely many points. Relate this thing with a Random Walk problem.

We know that

$$\hat{F}_n(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n 1_{[X_i \leq x]}}{n}$$

and

$$\hat{G}_m(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m 1_{[Y_i \leq x]}}{m}$$

$\hat{F}_n(x)$ is a step function discontinuous only at distinct elements of the set A . Also, $\hat{G}_m(x)$ is a step function discontinuous only at distinct elements of the set $\{Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_m\}$. So, $\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x)$ is a step function discontinuous only at distinct elements of the set $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n, Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_m\} = A$, say. So as we can calculate the difference $\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x)$ everywhere in the domain $x \in \mathbb{R}$ by evaluating the difference only at distinct elements of A , we can calculate the K-S test Statistic by evaluating \hat{F}_n and \hat{G}_m only at finitely many points. (Proved)

Let us now assume, $m=n$.

Now we arrange the elements of A in non-decreasing order

Let $z_1 \leq z_2 \leq \dots \leq z_{2m}$ be the elements of A . For an interpretation in terms of paths, we write $\epsilon_p = +1$ or -1 according as z_j equals to X_i , for some i or Y_i , for some i .

Claim: $|\hat{F}_m(t) - \hat{G}_m(t)| > c$ for some t if and only if $|s_k| > cm$ for some k , and $c > 0$.

Let, $t \in [z_k, z_{k+1})$, for some k .

Now when $|\hat{F}_m(t) - \hat{G}_m(t)| > c$, then $|s_k| = m|\hat{F}_m(t) - \hat{G}_m(t)| > cm$

When given that, $|s_k| > cm$ for some k , take $t = z_k$, then, $|\hat{F}_m(t) - \hat{G}_m(t)| > c$. (proved)

Let, our test statistic, $\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x)| \leq M$, then
 $\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x) \leq M \forall x$
 $\iff |s_k| \leq Mm$ for all $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$, as if $|s_k| > Mm$ for some k , then
 $|\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x)| > Mm$ by our claim which we proved earlier, but M is the
supremum of $\hat{F}_n(x) - \hat{G}_m(x)$
 $\iff \sup\{|s_k| : k = 1, \dots, m\} \leq mM$.

Thus, we can relate the test with random walk problem.