

Term Test 1: Practice Problems : solutions

Problem 1. We consider a population of N units with bernoulli random variables $\{0, 1\}$ data values. Suppose we choose a simple random sample without replacement of n units from this population. Let $p = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i$ be the population proportion, and $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - p)^2$ denotes the population variance. Let $\hat{p} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$ and $s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{p})^2$ be the sample proportion and the sample variance, respectively.

(a) Is \hat{p} unbiased estimator for p ? Justify.

$$E(\hat{p}) = E\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum y_i\right) = \frac{1}{n} \sum E(y_i) = \frac{1}{n} \sum p = \frac{1}{n} (np) = p$$

Yes \hat{p} is unbiased for p .

(b) Show that σ^2 can be written as $\sigma^2 = p(1-p)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^2 &= \frac{1}{N} \left[\sum y_i^2 - 2p \sum y_i + \sum p^2 \right] = \frac{1}{N} \left[\sum y_i - 2p \sum y_i + \sum p^2 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \left[Np - 2pNp + \sum p^2 \right] = \frac{1}{N} N (p - 2p^2 + p^2) = p(1-p) \end{aligned}$$

(c) Show that s^2 can be written as $s^2 = \frac{n}{n-1} \hat{p}(1-\hat{p})$.

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 &= \frac{1}{n-1} \left[\sum y_i^2 - 2\hat{p} \sum y_i + \sum \hat{p}^2 \right] = \frac{1}{n-1} \left[n\hat{p} - 2n\hat{p} + n\hat{p}^2 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n-1} n(\hat{p} - \hat{p}^2) = \frac{n}{n-1} \hat{p}(1-\hat{p}) \end{aligned}$$

(d) Is the sample variance s^2 unbiased estimator for σ^2 ? Find $E(s^2)$

Under SRS without replacement, we have seen to demonstrate in class that when estimating μ , the sample variance s^2 is biased estimator for σ^2 and $E[s^2] = \frac{N}{N-1} \sigma^2$, which is also true when $\mu = p$.

(e) Compute $V(\hat{p})$. Given the result in (d), find an unbiased estimator for $V(\hat{p})$ in term of \hat{p} .

① From the estimation of μ , we have demonstrated that using SRS without Rep, $V(\bar{y}) = \frac{N-n}{N-1} \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$. For $\mu = p$, $V(\hat{p}) = \frac{N-n}{N-1} \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$.

② Based on (d), an unbiased estimator for σ^2 is $\frac{N-1}{N} s^2$. Thus, unbiased estimator for $V(\hat{p})$ is $\frac{N-n}{N-1} \cdot \frac{N-1}{N} \frac{s^2}{n} = \frac{N-n}{N} \frac{s^2}{n}$ *

Using $s^2 = \frac{n}{n-1} \hat{p}(1-\hat{p})$, \Rightarrow * become $\hat{V}(\hat{p}) = \frac{N-n}{N} \frac{1}{n} \frac{n}{n-1} \hat{p}(1-\hat{p})$
 Estimator of $V(\hat{p}) \Rightarrow \hat{V}(\hat{p}) = \frac{N-n}{N} \frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n-1}$

Problem 2. To estimate the proportion of voters in favor of a controversial proposition, a simple random sample of XXXXX eligible voters was contacted and questioned. Of these, 552 reported that they favored the proposition. The study also reports a margin of error $\pm 3\%$, 19 out of 20. The number of eligible voters in the population is approximately 1,800,000.

(a) What "a margin of error $\pm 3\%$, 19 out of 20" means? \Rightarrow means 95% Margin of Error is 0.03, e.g. For at least 95% of all random samples, the bound on error [the amount by which the sample proportion \hat{p} is expected to differ from the true population proportion p] is 0.03.

(b) Complete the study by computing the missing sample size.

~~can~~ n for estimating p : we use $n = \frac{Npq}{(N-1)D + pq}$

p unknown, we use $p=0.5$ to get conservative n .

$\Rightarrow n = 1111$ ~~eligible voter should be contacted.~~ $\Rightarrow n = \frac{1800000 \times 0.5 \times 0.5}{(1800000-1) \frac{0.03^2}{4} + 0.5^2} = 1110.4$

(c) Using (b), estimate the population proportion in favor.

$$\hat{p} = \frac{552}{1111} = 0.497$$

(d) Give a 95% confidence interval for population proportion.

a 95% C.I for p is $(\hat{p} - ME, \hat{p} + ME)$

$$(0.497 - 0.03, 0.497 + 0.03)$$

$$(0.467, 0.527)$$

Interpretation: we are 95% confidence that the true prop p lies between 0.467 and 0.527

Problem 3. Consider the following data from a simple random sample of size $n = 4$ from a population of size $N = 250$, in which y is the variable of interest and x is an auxiliary variable. The population mean of the x 's is 3.9.

- (a) Suggest two types of estimators for estimating the mean of y . Summarize some properties of each estimator.

Simple: $\bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum y_i$ (unbiased) Ratio $\mu_r = \frac{\bar{y}}{\bar{x}} \mu_x$ (biased)
 Regression $\mu_{reg} = \bar{y} + b(\mu_x - \bar{x})$ (biased)

- (b) The data obtained were recorded in variables y and x , analyzed in R and produced results presented below (see next page). Based on the R output, answer the following questions.

- (i) Estimate mean of y using the simple estimator, and estimate the variance of the estimator.

From R output

line 8 $\rightarrow \hat{\mu} = \bar{y} = \frac{590}{4} = 147.5$

line 14 $\hat{V}(\hat{\mu}) = (1 - \frac{n}{N}) \frac{s_y^2}{n} = 1416.501$

- (ii) Estimate mean of y using the ratio estimator, and estimate the variance of the estimator.

lines 8-12 $\hat{\mu}_r = 177 = \frac{\sum y}{\sum x} \cdot \mu_x = 177$

line 15 $\hat{V}(\hat{\mu}_r) = (1 - \frac{n}{N}) \frac{s_r^2}{n} = 117.71$

- (iii) Estimate mean of y using the regression estimator, and estimate the variance of the estimator.

line 24 $\hat{\mu}_{reg} = \bar{y} + b(\mu_x - \bar{x}) = 171.72$

line 26 $\hat{V}(\hat{\mu}_{reg}) = (1 - \frac{n}{N}) \frac{MSE}{n} = 154.3$

- (iv) Estimate mean of y using the difference estimator, and estimate the variance of the estimator.

lines 8-9 $\hat{\mu}_D = \bar{y} + (\mu_x - \bar{x}) = \frac{590}{4} + (3.9 - \frac{13}{4}) = 590.65$

$\hat{V}(\hat{\mu}_D) = (1 - \frac{n}{N}) \frac{1}{n} \frac{\sum (d_i - \bar{d})^2}{n-1}$ (not provided in the R output)

- (v) Based on the data, which estimator appears preferable in this situation?

We would prefer ratio estimator which provides small variance.

R output:

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> # Population
> N<-250
3 > mu_x<-3.9
> # SRS of size n=4
> n<-4
> y<-c(150, 100, 200, 140)
8 > x<-c(4,2,4,3)
> ysum<-sum(y); ysum
9 [1] 590
> xsum<-sum(x); xsum
[1] 13
> s2_y<-var(y); s2_y
[1] 1691.667
> r<-(ysum/xsum); r
12 [1] 45.38462
> (ysum/xsum)*mu_x
[1] 177
> s2_r<-var(y-r*x); s2_r
[1] 478.501
14 > (1 - n/N)*(s2_y/n)
[1] 416.15
15 > (1 - n/N)*(s2_r/n)
[1] 117.7112
> (1 - n/N)*(1/mu_x)^2*(s2_r/n)
[1] 7.739069
> (1 - n/N)*(1/mu_x)*(s2_r/n)
[1] 30.18237
> cor(x,y)
[1] 0.8676399
> # regression of y on x
> fitreg<-lm(y~x)
> coef(fitreg)
(Intercept)          x
    26.36364    37.27273
> yhat<-fitted(fitreg)
> ehat<-y-yhat
24 > mean(y) + coef(fitreg)[2]*(mu_x-mean(x))
      x
171.7273
26 > MSE<-sum( ehat^2 )/(n-2)
> (1 - n/N)*(MSE/n)
[1] 154.3091
> (1 - n/N)*(MSE/(n-1))
[1] 205.7455
> (1 - n/N)*(MSE/(n-2))
[1] 308.6182

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