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## 11. Chi-Squared Test for a Family of Discrete Distributions

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Exercises due Aug 3, 2021 19:59 EDT

In the problems on this page, you will apply the  $\chi^2$  goodness of fit test to determine whether or not a sample has a binomial distribution.

So far, we have used the  $\chi^2$  test to determine if our data had a categorical distribution with specific parameters (e.g. uniform on an  $N$  element set).

For the problems on this page, we extend the discussion on  $\chi^2$  tests **beyond** what was discussed in lecture to the following more general statistical set-up.

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} X \sim \mathbf{P}$  denote iid discrete random variables supported on  $\{0, \dots, K\}$ . We will decide between the following null and alternative hypotheses:

$$H_0 : \mathbf{P} \in \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)}$$

$$H_1 : \mathbf{P} \notin \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)},$$

where the null hypothesis can be rephrased as:

$$H_0 : \text{ there exists } \theta \in (0, 1) \text{ such that for all } j = 0, \dots, K, \text{ we have } P(X = j) = \binom{K}{j} \theta^j (1 - \theta)^{K-j}.$$

### Review: Log-likelihood for a Binomial Distribution

2/2 points (graded)

Let  $(\{0, \dots, K\}, \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)})$  denote a binomial statistical model. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Bin}(K, \theta^*)$  for some unknown parameter  $\theta^* \in (0, 1)$ .

The log-likelihood of this statistical model can be written

$$C + A \log B + (nK - A) \log (1 - B)$$

where  $C$  is independent of  $\theta$ ,  $A$  depends on  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ , and  $B$  depends on  $\theta$ .

What is  $A$ ?

Use **Sigma** to stand for  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ .

What is  $B$ ?

STANDARD NOTATION

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You have used 1 of 4 attempts

# Review: MLE for a Binomial Distribution

1/1 point (graded)

As above, let  $(\{0, \dots, K\}, \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)})$  denote a binomial statistical model. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Bin}(K, \theta^*)$  for some unknown parameter  $\theta^* \in (0, 1)$ .

Which of the following denotes the MLE for  $\theta^*$ ?

- ☒  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
- ☐  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
- ☐  $\frac{1}{K} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
- ☐  $\frac{1}{nK} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

✓ Correct (1/1 point)

## $\chi^2$ -Test for a Family of Distributions :

Now, we return to the following more general statistical set-up.

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathbf{P}$  denote iid discrete random variables supported on  $\{0, \dots, K\}$ . We will decide between the following null and alternative hypotheses.

$$H_0 : \mathbf{P} \in \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)}.$$

$$H_1 : \mathbf{P} \notin \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)}.$$

Let  $f_\theta$  denote the pmf of the distribution  $\text{Bin}(K, \theta)$ , and let  $\hat{\theta}$  denote the MLE of the parameter  $\theta$  from the previous problem.

Further, let  $N_j$  denote the number of times that  $j$  ( $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, K\}$ ) appears in the data set  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  (so that

$\sum_{j=0}^K N_j = n$ . ) The  $\chi^2$  test statistic for this hypothesis test is defined to be

$$T_n := n \sum_{j=0}^K \frac{\left(\frac{N_j}{n} - f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)\right)^2}{f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)}.$$

This statistic is different from before. Previously, under the null hypothesis,  $\mathbf{P}(X = j) = p_j$  for some fixed  $p_j$ . Here, instead, we use  $f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)$  to estimate  $\mathbf{P}(X = j)$ . This statistic still converges in distribution to a  $\chi^2$  distribution, but the number of degrees of freedom is smaller.

## Degrees of Freedom for $\chi^2$ Test for a Family of Distribution

More generally, to test if a distribution  $\mathbf{P}$  is described by some member of a family of discrete distributions  $\{\mathbf{P}_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d}$  where  $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is  $d$ -dimensional, with support  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, K\}$  and pmf  $f_\theta$ , i.e. to test the hypotheses:

$$H_0 : \mathbf{P} \in \{\mathbf{P}_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta}$$

$$H_1 : \mathbf{P} \notin \{\mathbf{P}_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta},$$

then if indeed  $\mathbf{P} \in \{\mathbf{P}_\theta\}_{\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d}$  (i.e., the null hypothesis  $H_0$  holds), and if in addition some technical assumptions hold, then we have that

$$T_n := n \sum_{j=0}^K \frac{\left(\frac{N_j}{n} - f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)\right)^2}{f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \chi^2_{(K+1)-d-1}.$$

Note that  $K + 1$  is the support size of  $\mathbf{P}_\theta$  (for all  $\theta$ .)

In our example testing for a binomial distribution, the parameter  $\theta$  is one-dimensional, i.e.  $d = 1$ . Therefore, under the null hypothesis  $H_0$ , it holds that

$$T_n \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \chi^2_{(K+1)-1-1} = \chi^2_{K-1}.$$

---

### Chi-squared Test for a Binomial Distribution on a Sample Data Set I

1 point possible (graded)

Consider the same statistical set-up as above. In particular, we have the test statistic

$$T_n := n \sum_{j=0}^K \frac{\left(\frac{N_j}{n} - f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)\right)^2}{f_{\hat{\theta}}(j)}.$$

where  $\hat{\theta}$  is the MLE for the binomial statistical model  $(\{0, 1, \dots, K\}, \{\text{Bin}(K, \theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,1)})$ .

We define our test to be

$$\psi_n = \mathbf{1}(T_n > \tau),$$

where  $\tau$  is a threshold that you will specify. For the remainder of this page, we will assume that  $K = 3$  (the sample space is  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ ).

What value of  $\tau$  should be chosen so that  $\psi_n$  is a test of asymptotic level 5%? Give a numerical value with at least 3 decimals.

(Use [this table](#) or software to find the quantiles of a chi-squared distribution.)

$\tau =$

Submit

You have used 0 of 2 attempts

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### Chi-squared Test for a Binomial Distribution on a Sample Data Set II

3 points possible (graded)

Consider the same statistical set-up as above. Suppose we observe a data set consisting of 1000 observations as described in the following (format:  $i$ , number of observations of  $i$ ):

$i$	$N_i$
0	339
1	455
2	180
3	26

What is the value of the test statistic  $T_n$  for this data set? Give a numerical value with at least 4 decimals. (You are encouraged to use computational software.)

$T_n =$

What is the p-value of this data set with respect to the test  $\psi_{1000}$ ? Give a numerical value with at least 4 decimals.

Use [this tool](#) to find the tail probabilities of a  $\chi^2$  distribution (you may also use any other software). If you are using this tool, note that you need to set "Choose Type of Control" to "Adjust X-axis quantile (Chi square) value" to find the tail probability associated with an x-axis value for a chi-squared distribution with degrees of freedom set in the "Degrees of Freedom" box.

$p$ -value:

If  $\psi_n$  is designed to have level 5%, would you **reject** or **fail to reject** on the given data set?

☐ Reject

☐ Fail to reject

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You have used 0 of 3 attempts

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