

Hypothesis Testing: Motivation through an example

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We have already seen the familiar example where we had six different plots that were as identical as possible, and we sow 3 different varieties randomly in equal proportion on these plots. We measure the yield for these different varieties. We get the equations as:

$$y_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_i + \epsilon_{ij} \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad j = 1, 2$$

where

$$\epsilon_{ij} \sim (0, \sigma^2)$$

We ask the following question: Do the 3 varieties differ in terms of their yield? If not then our model is:

$$y_{ij} = \mu + \epsilon_{ij} \quad i = 1, 2, 3 \quad j = 1, 2$$

The above is a restricted version of our original model, where we are setting the α_i 's equal to 0 or some other constant. Note that the two μ 's in the two models may be different. So our second model represents a set of distributions which is a subset of the first set of distributions. Such a model is called a restricted model, or a nested model and that's what we are going to specialize on.