

χ^2 test for multinomial data (part 1)

Lecture 16b (STAT 24400 F24)

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The multinomial distribution (definition)

The multinomial distribution is a generalization of the binomial:

- We have $m \geq 2$ categories ← for a binomial, $m = 2$ — success & failure
- Each category i has probability $p_i \geq 0$,
with $p_1 + \cdots + p_m = 1$ ← for a binomial, the prob's are written as p & $1 - p$
- Draw n observations, which are \perp and each obey these probabilities,
& count $X_i =$ total # falling into category i , for $i = 1, \dots, m$

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The multinomial distribution (one-way example)

Example:

Probabilities

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 | Category 5 | Category 6 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| p_1 | p_2 | p_3 | p_4 | p_5 | p_6 |

Observed counts

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 | Category 5 | Category 6 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| X_1 | X_2 | X_3 | X_4 | X_5 | X_6 |

Note: X_i 's are counts, not individual observations, $X_1 + \cdots + X_m = n$ (here $m = 6$).

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The multinomial distribution (two-way example)

In the $m = 6$ example, the data may have a two-way structure:

Probabilities

| | Col. 1 | Col. 2 | Col. 3 |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Row 1 | p_1 | p_2 | p_3 |
| Row 2 | p_4 | p_5 | p_6 |

Observed counts

| | Col. 1 | Col. 2 | Col. 3 |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Row 1 | X_1 | X_2 | X_3 |
| Row 2 | X_4 | X_5 | X_6 |

It may be convenient to use different labeling to reflect the structure, e.g.:

| | Col. 1 | Col. 2 | Col. 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 1 | p_{11} | p_{12} | p_{13} |
| Row 2 | p_{21} | p_{22} | p_{23} |

| | Col. 1 | Col. 2 | Col. 3 |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Row 1 | X_{11} | X_{12} | X_{13} |
| Row 2 | X_{21} | X_{22} | X_{23} |

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The multinomial distribution (labeling)

Example:

Probabilities

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| p_1 | p_2 | p_3 | p_4 |

Observed counts

| Category 1 | ... |
|------------|-----|
| X_1 | ... |

It may be convenient to use different labeling for the categories, e.g.:

| 0 hits | 1 hits | 2 hits | 3 hits |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| p_0 | p_1 | p_2 | p_3 |

← # of bullseye hits with 3 darts thrown

or non-numerical labelling, e.g.:

| Blood type O | Blood type A | Blood type B | Blood type AB |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| p_O | p_A | p_B | p_{AB} |

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The multinomial distribution (notations)

- Careful with the notation:

X_i is *not* the i th data point. It's the total # in category i

↪ the X_i 's are not \perp (must satisfy $X_1 + \dots + X_m = n$)

- Other common notation:

O_i instead of X_i (O stands for "observed"), or

N_i instead of X_i

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Hypotheses for multinomial data (examples)

Many common questions arise with multinomial data, which can be framed as hypotheses about parameters (p_1, \dots, p_m) .

Some typical questions for a two-way table:

| | Undergrads | Grad students | Faculty |
|------------------|------------|---------------|----------|
| Prefer morning | p_{11} | p_{12} | p_{13} |
| Prefer afternoon | p_{21} | p_{22} | p_{23} |

- Are time preferences the same for each subpopulation?

↪ test if $\frac{p_{11}}{p_{21}} = \frac{p_{12}}{p_{22}} = \frac{p_{13}}{p_{23}}$

- Are the two choices equally popular for faculty?

↪ test if $p_{13} = p_{23}$ (Caution: This is not testing $p_{13} = p_{23} = 0.5$.)

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Hypotheses for multinomial data (typical questions)

Some typical questions for a one-way tables.

- Example

| Blood type O | Blood type A | Blood type B | Blood type AB |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| p_O | p_A | p_B | p_{AB} |

- Are all blood types equally likely?
↪ test if $p_O = p_A = p_B = p_{AB}$
- Is it true that type A is twice as common as type AB?
↪ test if $p_A = 2p_{AB}$

- Example

| 0 hits | 1 hits | 2 hits | 3 hits |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| p_0 | p_1 | p_2 | p_3 |

- Is the data consistent with a Binomial distribution?
↪ Test if, for some $p \in (0, 1)$,
 $p_i = \binom{3}{i} p^i (1-p)^{3-i}$ for each $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$.

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Hypotheses for multinomial data (General setting)

Formulation in a general setting:

Define the *probability simplex* (a subset of \mathbb{R}^m):

$$\Delta_m = \{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \mathbb{R}^m : p_i \geq 0 \text{ for all } i, p_1 + \dots + p_m = 1\}$$

We will learn to run tests of the form

$$H_0 : (p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Omega_0 \quad \text{vs} \quad H_1 : (p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \underbrace{\Delta_m \setminus \Omega_0}_{\text{this means: in } \Delta_m \text{ but not in } \Omega_0}$$

where Ω_0 is defined by one or more equality constraints.

Examples

- Testing if $p_1 = \dots = p_m \rightsquigarrow \Omega_0 = \{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Delta_m : p_1 = \dots = p_m\}$
- Testing if $p_1 = 2p_2 \rightsquigarrow \Omega_0 = \{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Delta_m : p_1 = 2p_2\}$

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Hypotheses for multinomial data (other cases)

Not all questions can be framed with a test of this form, e.g.,

- Test inequalities, e.g., test $H_0 : p_1 \leq p_2$ vs $H_1 : p_1 > p_2$
- Test $H_0 : p_1 = p_2 = p_3 = p_4$ vs $H_1 : p_1 = p_2 \neq p_3 = p_4$

(These types of tests are not covered in this course)

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Calculating the MLE for multinomial data (without constraints)

- Without constraints, i.e., parameter space $(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Delta_m$:

$$\text{Likelihood} = L(p_1, \dots, p_m | X_1, \dots, X_m) = \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdot \dots \cdot X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_m^{X_m}$$

The MLE (without constraints on $\Delta_m = \Omega_0 \cup \Omega_1$)

$$(\hat{p}_1, \dots, \hat{p}_m) = \underset{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Delta_m}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdot \dots \cdot X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_m^{X_m}$$

maximizes the likelihood at

$$\hat{p}_1 = \frac{X_1}{n}, \dots, \hat{p}_m = \frac{X_m}{n}$$

i.e., for each i , \hat{p}_i is the observed fraction of the sample (of size n) that falls into category i

Note This is consistent with the binomial case of $m = 2$.

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Calculating the MLE for multinomial data (with constraints)

- With constraints, i.e., parameter space $(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Omega_0$ under H_0 ,

The MLE

$$\underset{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Omega_0}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdot \dots \cdot X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \cdot \dots \cdot p_m^{X_m}$$

The derivation of the MLE would depend on the specific structure of Ω_0 .

General strategy:

- Find the dimension of Ω_0 (how many free parameters?)
- Rewrite (p_1, \dots, p_m) as a function of the free parameters.
- Set each derivative of the log-likelihood to zero, then solve.
- Translate back to the original model parameters (the p_i 's).

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Example

The data:

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 | Category 5 | Total |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|
| X_1 | X_2 | X_3 | X_4 | X_5 | n |

The multinomial model:

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 | Category 5 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| p_1 | p_2 | p_3 | p_4 | p_5 |

Suppose we want to test $H_0: p_1 = p_2 \text{ \& } p_3 = p_4$

Reparameterize:

$$\begin{cases} p_1 = p_2 = p \\ p_3 = p_4 = q \\ p_5 = 1 - 2p - 2q \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow \text{dimension}(\Omega_0) = 2$$

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Example (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Likelihood} &= \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdots X_5!} p_1^{X_1} p_2^{X_2} p_3^{X_3} p_4^{X_4} p_5^{X_5} \\ \text{(under } H_0 \rightarrow) &= \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdots X_5!} p^{X_1} p^{X_2} q^{X_3} q^{X_4} (1 - 2p - 2q)^{X_5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Log lik.} &= \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{terms that don't} \\ \text{depend on } p \text{ or } q \end{array} \right) + (X_1 + X_2) \log(p) + (X_3 + X_4) \log(q) \\ &\quad + X_5 \log(1 - 2p - 2q) \end{aligned}$$

Taking derivatives w.r.t. the free parameters p and q ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} (\text{Log lik.}) &= \frac{X_1 + X_2}{p} - \frac{2X_5}{1 - 2p - 2q} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial q} (\text{Log lik.}) &= \frac{X_3 + X_4}{q} - \frac{2X_5}{1 - 2p - 2q} \end{aligned}$$

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Example (cont.)

Set both derivatives to zero, obtain 2 equations with 2 unknowns p and q .

Solve (exercise), also use $X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + X_4 + X_5 = n$,

$$\rightsquigarrow \hat{p} = \frac{X_1 + X_2}{2n}, \quad \hat{q} = \frac{X_3 + X_4}{2n}$$

Translate back to the original model parameters, the MLE for Ω_0 under H_0 :

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{p}_1 &= \frac{X_1 + X_2}{2n}, & \hat{p}_2 &= \frac{X_1 + X_2}{2n} \\ \hat{p}_3 &= \frac{X_3 + X_4}{2n}, & \hat{p}_4 &= \frac{X_3 + X_4}{2n} \\ \hat{p}_5 &= \frac{X_5}{n} \quad (\leftarrow \text{use } \sum_j \hat{p}_j = 1, \sum_i X_i = n) \end{aligned}$$

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Generalized LRT

To run a generalized LRT, we calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda &= \frac{\max_{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Omega_0} \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdots X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \cdots p_m^{X_m}}{\max_{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Delta_m} \frac{n!}{X_1! \cdots X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \cdots p_m^{X_m}} \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{best likelihood under } H_0 \\ \text{best likelihood under } H_0 \text{ or } H_1 \end{array} \\ &= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^m \hat{p}_i^{X_i}}{\prod_{i=1}^m \left(\frac{X_i}{n} \right)^{X_i}} \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} (\hat{p}_1, \dots, \hat{p}_m) \text{ is the MLE in } \Omega_0 \\ (\frac{X_1}{n}, \dots, \frac{X_m}{n}) \text{ is the MLE in } \Delta_m \end{array} \end{aligned}$$

To test H_0 / calculate p-value —

compare $-2 \log(\Lambda)$ to $\chi^2_{d-d_0}$ distrib. (its approximate null distrib.)

Calculating the degrees of freedom:

- d_0 = dimension of Ω_0 (how many free parameters?)
- d = dimension of $\Delta_m = m - 1$ (not m , since $p_1 + \cdots + p_m = 1$)

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Pearson's χ^2 test

A different test — Pearson's χ^2 test

- For each cell $i = 1, \dots, m$, calculate the expected count, according to the MLE for H_0 :

$$\text{Expected count in cell } i = n \cdot \hat{p}_i$$

- Calculate the discrepancy between observed & expected count in each cell, and add it up:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(X_i - n \cdot \hat{p}_i)^2}{n \cdot \hat{p}_i}$$

\leftarrow squared because difference may be positive or negative
 \leftarrow a large difference is more unusual if expected count is low

- To test H_0 / calculate p-value — compare χ^2 to $\chi^2_{d-d_0}$ distrib. (its approximate null distrib.)

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Pearson's χ^2 test

The statistic is sometimes written as

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\overset{\text{observed count (i.e., } X_i)}{O_i} - \overset{\text{expected count (i.e., } n \cdot \hat{p}_i)}{E_i})^2}{E_i}$$

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Example (cont.)

The observed counts (X_i 's):

| Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 | Category 5 | Total |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|
| 10 | 15 | 30 | 20 | 50 | 125 |

We want to test $H_0: p_1 = p_2 \text{ \& } p_3 = p_4$

- d_0 = dimension of $\Omega_0 = 2$ (we reparameterized with p & q)
- d = dimension of $\Delta_5 = 5 - 1 = 4$

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Example (cont.)

Plug in the observed data into the MLE:

- MLE under H_0 :

$$\hat{p}_1 = \hat{p}_2 = \frac{10 + 15}{2 \cdot 125} = 0.1, \quad \hat{p}_3 = \hat{p}_4 = \frac{30 + 20}{2 \cdot 125} = 0.2, \quad \hat{p}_5 = \frac{50}{125} = 0.4$$

- MLE under $H_0 \cup H_1$:

$$\hat{p}_1 = \frac{10}{125} = 0.08, \quad \hat{p}_2 = \frac{15}{125} = 0.12, \quad \hat{p}_3 = \frac{30}{125} = 0.24, \quad \hat{p}_4 = \frac{20}{125} = 0.16, \quad \hat{p}_5 = \frac{50}{125} = 0.4$$

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Example (cont.)

Generalized likelihood ratio test:

$$\Lambda = \frac{\max_{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Omega_0} \frac{n!}{X_1! \dots X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \dots p_m^{X_m}}{\max_{(p_1, \dots, p_m) \in \Delta_m} \frac{n!}{X_1! \dots X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \dots p_m^{X_m}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{125!}{10!15!30!20!50!} \cdot 0.1^{10} \cdot 0.1^{15} \cdot 0.2^{30} \cdot 0.2^{20} \cdot 0.4^{50}}{\frac{125!}{10!15!30!20!50!} \cdot 0.08^{10} \cdot 0.12^{15} \cdot 0.24^{30} \cdot 0.16^{20} \cdot 0.4^{50}} = 0.22087$$

$$-2 \log(\Lambda) = 3.0203$$

$$\text{p-value} = \mathbb{P}(\chi_{df=4-2}^2 \geq 3.0203) = 1 - F_{\chi^2}(3.0203) = 0.2209$$

⇒ Do not reject H_0 : $p_1 = p_2$ & $p_3 = p_4$

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Example (cont.)

Pearson's χ^2 test:

$$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(X_i - n \cdot \hat{p}_i)^2}{n \cdot \hat{p}_i}$$

$$= \frac{(10 - 125 \cdot 0.1)^2}{125 \cdot 0.1} + \frac{(15 - 125 \cdot 0.1)^2}{125 \cdot 0.1} + \frac{(30 - 125 \cdot 0.2)^2}{125 \cdot 0.2} + \frac{(20 - 125 \cdot 0.2)^2}{125 \cdot 0.2} + \frac{(50 - 125 \cdot 0.4)^2}{125 \cdot 0.4} = 3$$

$$\text{p-value} = 1 - F_{\chi^2}(3) = 0.2231$$

⇒ same conclusion as the generalized LRT.

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Comparing the two tests

- Asymptotically, the two tests are equivalent, because $\chi^2 \approx -2 \log(\Lambda)$
- The approx. null distrib. is $\chi_{d-d_0}^2$ for both tests
- For a finite sample size we may get somewhat different answers (i.e., $\chi^2 \neq -2 \log(\Lambda)$)
- And, we may get somewhat different Type I errors (i.e., null distrib.'s are not exactly $\chi_{d-d_0}^2$, and may not be the same)
- More common to use Pearson's χ^2 test
- It is not valid to run both tests & choose the better p-value—this is an instance of multiple testing

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Appendix - multinomial coefficients

The coefficient of the multinomial probability

$$\frac{n!}{X_1! \dots X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \dots p_m^{X_m} = \binom{n}{X_1!, \dots, X_m!} p_1^{X_1} \dots p_m^{X_m}$$

is the # of ways to put n objects into m categories ("sorting into groups", lecture 1a)

Derivations

- Case $m = 2$, $n_2 = n - n_1$ (binomial): $\binom{n}{n_1, n - n_1} = \frac{n!}{n_1!(n - n_1)!} = \binom{n}{n_1}$
which is putting n items into two categories of sizes n_1 and $n_2 = n - n_1$, respectively.
- Case $m = 3$: first splitting n items into subgroups of n_1 and $n - n_1$, then further splitting $n - n_1$ into two groups of n_2 and $n_3 = n - n_1 - n_2$.
Thus the number of ways of putting n objects into groups of sizes n_1, n_2, n_3 is
$$\binom{n}{n_1} \binom{n - n_1}{n_2} = \frac{n!}{n_1!(n - n_1)!} \cdot \frac{(n - n_1)!}{n_2!(n - n_1 - n_2)!} = \frac{n!}{n_1!n_2!(n - n_1 - n_2)!} = \binom{n}{n_1, n_2, n_3}$$
- and so on. More formally, mathematical induction can be used to prove for general m .

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