Statistical Inference

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Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Basic terms

- variable
- population
- sample
- distribution
- factor
- descriptive statistics

1.2 What is Statistical Inference?

- drawing conclusions about unknown population properties
- based on samples drawn from the population
- such as mean, proportion, variance, etc.
- unknown population properties - known as parameters

1.3 Three branches

- point estimation
- interval estimation
- testing of hypothesis

1.4 Parameter, Estimator, Estimate

- parameter - unknown property or characteristic of population
- estimator - rule / function based on sample observations used to estimate parameter
- estimate - value computed from estimator

1.5 Sampling distribution / error

- sampling distribution of sample means
- standard error is the standard deviation of the sample means

1.6 Hypothesis Testing

- hypothesis - assertion of distribution / parameter of one or more random variables
- null hypothesis (H_0) - assertion believed to be true until rejected
- alternative hypothesis (H_1) - claim that contradicts H_0

You test a hypothesis to decide if a statement / hypothesis about a population parameter is true based on sample data.

- test statistic - the statistic on which the decision to reject the null hypothesis is defined
- critical / rejection region - the region within which, if the value of the test statistic falls, the null hypothesis is rejected

1.7 Types of Error

- Type I Error
- Type II Error

	H_0 is true	H_0 is false
reject H_0	Type I Error	Correct
fail to reject H_0	Correct	Type II Error

- level of significance - probability of Type I Error (α)
- generally set at 5% or 0.05
- p-value - smallest level of significance that would lead to rejection of H_0
- H_0 rejected if observed risk (or p-value) is less than level of significance
- α = Probability [Type I Error] = Probability [Reject H_0 | H_0 is True]
- β = Probability [Type II Error] = Probability [Do not reject H_0 | H_0 is not True]
- power of the test - $1 - \beta$

1.8 One-tailed and two-tailed tests

One-tailed test:

$H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$

$H_0 : \mu > \mu_0$ (right-tailed) or $H_0 : \mu < \mu_0$ (left-tailed)

Two-tailed test:

$H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$

$H_0 : \mu \neq \mu_0$

2 Parametric Tests

2.1 Normality Tests

A prerequisite for many statistical tests - normal data is an underlying assumption in parametric tests. Normality can be assessed using two approaches:

- graphical
  - Box-Whisker plot
  - Q-Q plot
- numerical
  - Shapiro-Wilk test (small samples)
  - Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (large samples)

2.1.1 Box-Whisker Plot
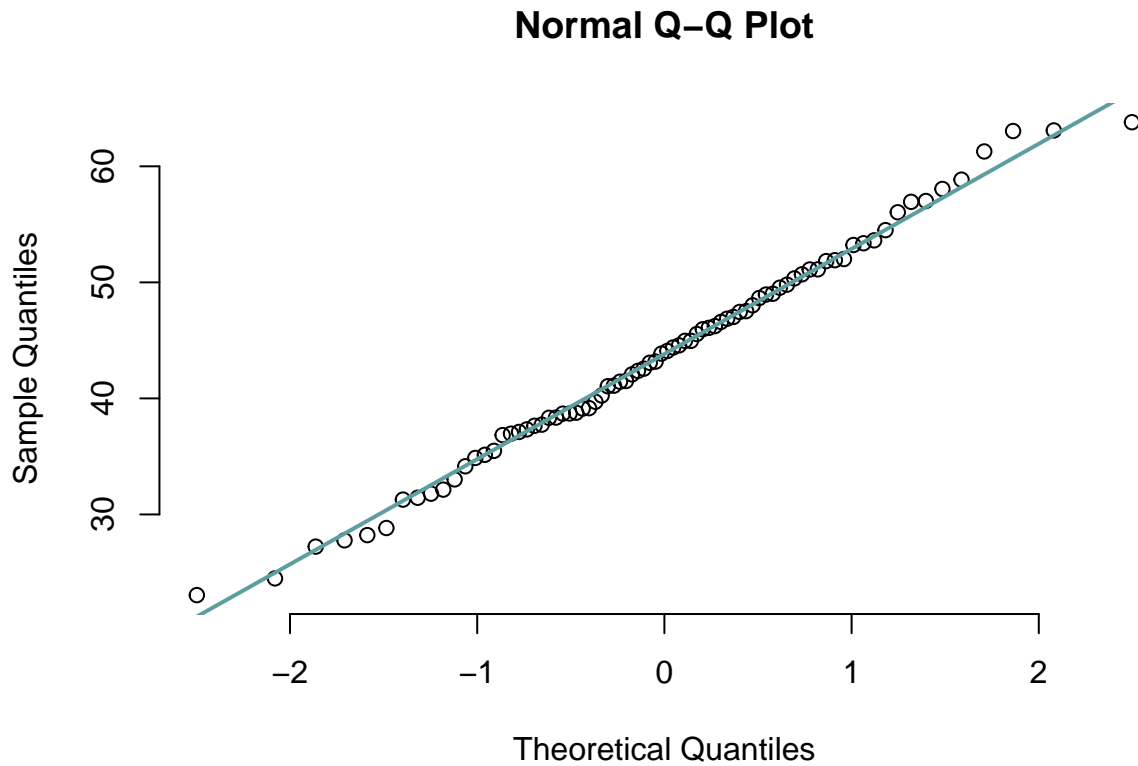
Powerful visual method for assessing symmetry.

```r
boxplot(data$csi, main = "Box Plot", ylab = "Length", col = "cadetblue")
```


Box Plot
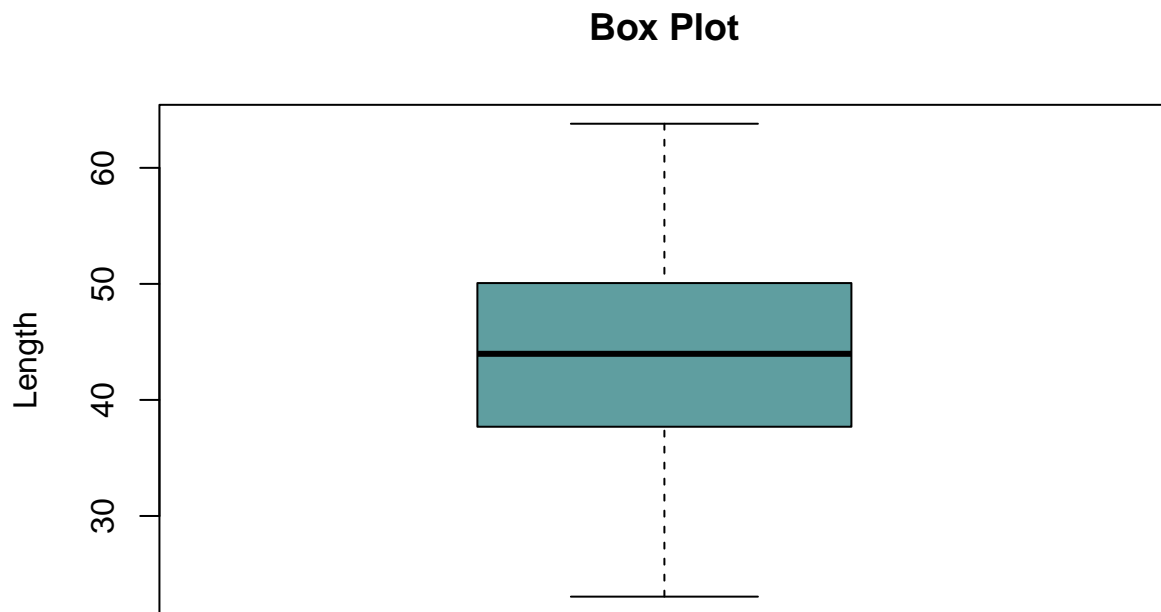
2.1.2 Q-Q Plot

Powerful visual method for assessing normality.

```
qqnorm(data$csi, pch = 1, frame = FALSE)
qqline(data$csi, col = "cadetblue", lwd = 2)
```


2.1.3 Shapiro-Wilk test

A widely used test for assessing normality.

```
shapiro.test(data$csi)
```

```
##
##  Shapiro-Wilk normality test
##
## data:  data$csi
## W = 0.99196, p-value = 0.9038
```

2.1.4 Kolmogorov-Smirnov test

Another widely used test for assessing normality.

```r
lillie.test(data$csi)
```

```
##
##  Lilliefors (Kolmogorov-Smirnov) normality test
##
## data:  data$csi
## D = 0.042387, p-value = 0.9764
```

2.2 t-distribution

- symmetric
- resembles bell shape of the normal distribution
- as the sample size increases, as the degrees of freedom increases, it approaches the normal distribution with mean 0 and variance 1

2.3 Degrees of freedom

- the number of independent terms
- n values would have $n - 1$ degrees of freedom
- $S = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 \implies x_1 = S - (x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5)$

2.4 One sample t-test

- test a hypothesis about a single population mean
- a single sample drawn from a defined population
- compare sample statistic to hypothesized value of a population parameter

The assumptions of the one sample t-tests:

- random sampling from a defined population
- population is normally distributed
- variable under study is continuous

Normality tests can be performed using any of the methods described previously. The validity of the test is not significantly affected by moderate deviations from the normality assumption.

```r
t.test(data$Time, alternative = "greater", mu = 90)
```

```
##
##  One Sample t-test
##
## data:  data$Time
## t = 1.9176, df = 11, p-value = 0.04074
## alternative hypothesis: true mean is greater than 90
## 95 percent confidence interval:
##  90.22748      Inf
## sample estimates:
## mean of x
##  93.58333
```

2.5 Independent samples t-test

- compares means of two independent groups on the same continuous variable
- hypothesis tested
  - H_0: $\mu_1 = \mu_2$
  - H_1: $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$

The assumptions of the independent samples t-test:

- samples drawn are random samples
- populations from which samples are drawn have equal and unknown variances
- populations follow normal distribution

Normality tests can be performed using any of the methods described previously.

```r
t.test(data$time_g1, data$time_g2, alternative = "two.sided", var.equal = TRUE)
```

```
##
##  Two Sample t-test
##
## data:  data$time_g1 and data$time_g2
## t = 0.22346, df = 24, p-value = 0.8251
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
##  -4.216185  5.239994
## sample estimates:
## mean of x mean of y
##  93.58333  93.07143
```

```r
t.test(data$time_g1, data$time_g2, alternative = "two.sided", var.equal = FALSE)
```

```
##
##  Welch Two Sample t-test
```

```
## 
## data:  data$time_g1 and data$time_g2
## t = 0.21966, df = 21.103, p-value = 0.8282
## alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
##  -4.333074  5.356884
## sample estimates:
## mean of x mean of y
##  93.58333  93.07143
```

2.6   Paired sample t-test

- used to determine if the mean difference between two sets of observations is 0
- each subject is measured twice - paired observations
- typically before / after
- hypothesis tested
  - H_0: $\mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0$
  - H_1: $\mu_1 - \mu_2 \neq 0$

The assumptions of the paired sample t-test:

- random sampling from a defined population
- population is normally distributed

A normality test can be performed using any of the methods described previously. The validity of the test is not significantly affected by moderate deviations from the normality assumption.

```r
t.test(data$time_before, data$time_after, alternative = "greater", paired = TRUE)
```

```
## 
##  Paired t-test
## 
## data:  data$time_before and data$time_after
## t = 8.2295, df = 14, p-value = 4.919e-07
## alternative hypothesis: true mean difference is greater than 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
##  6.549798      Inf
## sample estimates:
## mean difference
##        8.333333
```

2.7   t-test for correlation

- correlation coefficient summarizes the strength of a linear relationship between two variables
- a t-test is used to test if there is a significant correlation between two variables
- sample correlation coefficient is calculated using bivariate data

- hypothesis tested
  - H_0: there is no significant correlation between two variables under study ($\rho = 0$)
  - H_1: there is correlation between two variables under study ($\rho \neq 0$)

```r
cor.test(data$aptitude, data$job_prof, alternative = "two.sided", method = "pearson")
```

```
##
##  Pearson's product-moment correlation
##
## data:  data$aptitude and data$job_prof
## t = 2.8769, df = 23, p-value = 0.008517
## alternative hypothesis: true correlation is not equal to 0
## 95 percent confidence interval:
##  0.1497097 0.7558981
## sample estimates:
##       cor
## 0.5144107
```