

Test for the probability of a binomial distribution

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For an i.i.d sample from a bernoulli distribution

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(p),$$

The likelihood of the data is

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n p^{x_i} (1-p)^{1-x_i} = p^{\sum x_i} (1-p)^{n-\sum x_i}.$$

MLE for p is $\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sim \text{Binom}(n, p).$$

So here are mainly two situations: One is to test the probability p against some given value p_0 . The other is to compare the probability between two independent random samples x_1, \dots, x_n and y_1, \dots, y_m .

1 Normal approximation

Note that

$$EX = p, \quad \text{Var}X = p(1-p).$$

Then by CLT we have

$$\bar{x} \stackrel{\text{asympt}}{\sim} N\left(p, \frac{p(1-p)}{n}\right).$$