

Homework 1: Contingency tables

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Exercise 1

Consider a $I \times J \times K$ contingency table, with classification variables X, Y, Z . Prove that if

1. X and Y are conditionally independent on Z ; and
2. X and Z are conditionally independent on Y

then:

Y and Z are jointly independent from X

Hint: Write down the probability forms involved, and try to derive the result by using simple probability calculus.

Exercise 2

Consider a $I \times J \times K$ contingency table, with classification variables X, Y, Z . Prove that if Y and Z are jointly independent from X ,

then

1. X and Y are conditionally independent on Z ; and
2. X and Z are conditionally independent on Y

Hint: Write down the probability forms involved, and try to derive the result by using simple probability calculus.

Exercise 3

¹ The 1988 General Social Survey compiled by the National Opinion Research Center asked: “Do you support or oppose the following measures to deal with AIDS? (1) Have the government pay all of the health care costs of AIDS patients; (2) Develop a government information program to promote safe sex practices, such as the use of condoms. Table 1 summarizes opinions about health care costs (H) and the information program (I), classified also by the respondent’s gender (G).

¹R-script is available to double check.

Gender (G)	Information Opinion (I)	Health Opinion (H)	
		Support	Oppose
Male	Support	76	160
	Oppose	6	25
Female	Support	114	181
	Oppose	11	48

Table 1: Source: 1988 General Social Survey, National Opinion Research Center.

1. Compute the marginal GH-table
2. For the GH-table, compute the MLE of the marginal odds ratio, the confidence intervals. Interpret the result. (sig. level 5%)
3. Perform a hypothesis test, in order to test if the Information Opinion and the Health Opinion are independent at each level of the Gender. (sig. level 5%)
4. Compute the conditional IH odds ratio at each level of the Gender. Interpret the result.