

data don't speak for themselves

a quick introduction to Bayesian statistics

João P. Faria

Disclaimer

I'm not a statistician.

I never gave this course before.

I borrowed (heavily) from material presented in the references.

But, unless otherwise noted, all opinions are my own.

Outline

- main differences between frequentist and Bayesian statistics
 - problems with p-values, confidence intervals and null hypothesis testing
- the basic rules of probability theory
- how to assign probability distributions
 - the role of priors
 - the likelihood
- the simplest models in Bayesian statistics
 - linear regression
 - beta-binomial model
 - hierarchical models

Outline

- main differences between frequentist and Bayesian statistics
 - problems with p-values, confidence intervals and null hypothesis testing
- the basic rules of probability theory
- how to assign probability distributions
 - the role of priors
 - the likelihood
- the simplest models in Bayesian statistics
 - linear regression
 - beta-binomial model
 - hierarchical models
- MCMC



Introduction

• statistical inference was invented because of astronomy (this claim is not based on an in-depth search)

- statistical inference was invented because of astronomy (this claim is not based on an in-depth search)
- Tycho Brahe, Galileo, Legendre, Laplace, Gauss used and developed statistical methods

- statistical inference was invented because of astronomy (this claim is not based on an in-depth search)
- Tycho Brahe, Galileo, Legendre, Laplace, Gauss used and developed statistical methods
- $\bullet \sim 20 \text{th}$ century, astronomers focused on least-squares techniques, and heuristic procedures

- statistical inference was invented because of astronomy (this claim is not based on an in-depth search)
- Tycho Brahe, Galileo, Legendre, Laplace, Gauss used and developed statistical methods
- $\bullet \sim 20 {
 m th}$ century, astronomers focused on least-squares techniques, and heuristic procedures
- "astrostatistics" emerged in the late 1990s collaborations between astronomers and statisticians names like Babu, Feigelson, Gregory, Hobson

- statistical inference was invented because of astronomy (this claim is not based on an in-depth search)
- Tycho Brahe, Galileo, Legendre, Laplace, Gauss used and developed statistical methods
- $\bullet \sim 20 {
 m th}$ century, astronomers focused on least-squares techniques, and heuristic procedures
- "astrostatistics" emerged in the late 1990s collaborations between astronomers and statisticians names like Babu, Feigelson, Gregory, Hobson
- statistics today is mostly Bayesian
 (many) astronomers are (very) sceptical of (sophisticated) statistics

Consider n independent measurements of the same quantity, under identical conditions

Calculate their mean \bar{x} and standard deviation σ

Consider n independent measurements of the same quantity, under identical conditions

Calculate their mean \bar{x} and standard deviation σ

$$\mu = \bar{x} \pm \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Consider n independent measurements of the same quantity, under identical conditions

Calculate their mean \bar{x} and standard deviation σ

$$\mu = \bar{x} \pm \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

what you think this means:

$$p(\bar{x} - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \le \mu \le \bar{x} + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}) = 68\%$$

7

Consider n independent measurements of the same quantity, under identical conditions

Calculate their mean \bar{x} and standard deviation σ

$$\mu = \bar{x} \pm \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

what you think this means:

what it actually means:

$$p(\bar{x} - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \le \mu \le \bar{x} + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}) = 68\%$$
 $p(\mu - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \le \bar{x} \le \mu + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}) = 68\%$

7

Consider n independent measurements of the same quantity, under identical conditions

Calculate their mean \bar{x} and standard deviation σ

$$\mu = \bar{x} \pm \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

what you want it to mean:

what it actually means:

$$p(\bar{x} - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \le \mu \le \bar{x} + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}) = 68\% \qquad p(\mu - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \le \bar{x} \le \mu + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}) = 68\%$$

7

Here is the main difference:

- Frequentists assign a probability to what is <u>random</u>
- Bayesians assign a probability to what is <u>unknown</u>

Blocks

Three different block environments are pre-defined and may be styled with an optional background color.

Default I	Default
-----------	---------

Block content. Block content.

Alert

Block content. Block content.

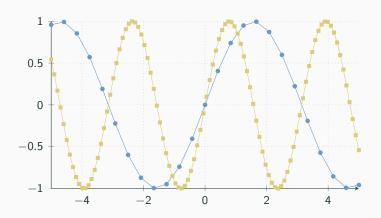
Example Example

Block content. Block content.

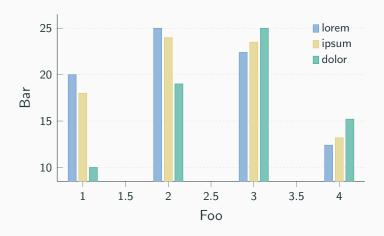
Math

$$e = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n$$

Line plots



Bar charts



Quotes

Veni, Vidi, Vici

References

Some references to showcase [allowframebreaks] [4, 3, 1, 2]

Conclusion

Summary

Get the source of this theme and the demo presentation from

github.com/matze/mtheme

The theme *itself* is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.



${\sf Q}/{\sf A}$ everything

References I



P. Figueira, J. P. Faria, E. Delgado-Mena, V. Z. Adibekyan,

S. G. Sousa, N. C. Santos, and G. Israelian.

Exoplanet hosts reveal lithium depletion. Results from a homogeneous statistical analysis.

Astronomy and Astrophysics, 570:A21, Oct. 2014.



J. Lillo-Box, D. Barrado, N. C. Santos, L. Mancini, P. Figueira,

S. Ciceri, and T. Henning.

Kepler-447b: a hot-Jupiter with an extremely grazing transit.

ArXiv150203267 Astro-Ph. Feb. 2015.

References II



N. C. Santos, G. Israelian, M. Mayor, R. Rebolo, and S. Udry. Statistical properties of exoplanets: II. Metallicity, orbital parameters, and space velocities.

Astron. Astrophys., 398(1):363-376, Jan. 2003.



J. Schneider, V. Lainey, and J. Cabrera.

A next step in exoplanetology: exo-moons.

Int. J. Astrobiol., 14(Special Issue 02):191–199, Apr. 2015.