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1   Course: Statistical_Inference
2   Lesson: P_Values
3
4   - Class: text
5   Output: "P_Values. (Slides for this and other Data Science courses may be found at
6   github https://github.com/DataScienceSpecialization/courses/. If you care to use
7   them, they must be downloaded as a zip file and viewed locally. This lesson
8   corresponds to 06_Statistical_Inference/10_pValues.)"
9
10  - Class: text
11  Output: In this lesson, as the name suggests, we'll discuss p-values which have
12  nothing to do with urological testing. Instead they are the most common measure of
13  statistical significance.
14
15  - Class: text
16  Output: However, because they're popular they're used a lot, and often they're
17  misused or misinterpreted. In this lecture we'll focus on how to generate them and
18  interpret them correctly.
19
20  - Class: text
21  Output: The question motivating p-values is this. Given that we have some null
22  hypothesis concerning our data (for example, its mean), how unusual or extreme is
23  the sample value we get from our data? Is our test statistic consistent with our
24  hypothesis? So there are, implicitly, three steps we have to take to answer these
25  types of questions.
26
27  - Class: mult_question
28  Output: What do you think the first step is?
29  AnswerChoices: Create a null hypothesis; Calculate a test statistic from the data;
30  Compare the test statistic to a Z or t quantile; Consult your crystal ball
31  CorrectAnswer: Create a null hypothesis
32  AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Create a null hypothesis')
33  Hint: You always have to start with a null hypothesis.
34
35  - Class: text
36  Output: So we have to begin with a null hypothesis which is a reasoned guess at some
37  distribution of a data summary (a statistic). Recall from the last lesson that the
38  null hypothesis  $H_0$  is a baseline against which we'll measure an alternative
39  hypothesis using the actual observed data.
40
41  - Class: mult_question
42  Output: So you propose a null hypothesis. What's the next step?
43  AnswerChoices: Calculate a test statistic from the given data; Compare the test
44  statistic to a Z or t score; Go back to the crystal ball; Reject  $H_0$ 
45  CorrectAnswer: Calculate a test statistic from the given data
46  AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Calculate a test statistic from the given data')
47  Hint: You need something to compare the value proposed in  $H_0$  with.
48
49  - Class: mult_question
50  Output: Now you have a proposed statistic (from your reasoned hypothesis) and a test
51  statistic computed from your gathered data. What's the final step?
52  AnswerChoices: Calculate a test statistic from the given data; Compare the test
53  statistic to the hypothetical distribution; Go back to the crystal ball; Reject  $H_0$ 
54  CorrectAnswer: Compare the test statistic to the hypothetical distribution
55  AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Compare the test statistic to the hypothetical
56  distribution')
57  Hint: You have to compare your calculated value to a hypothetical.
58
59  - Class: text
60  Output: Your comparison tells you how "extreme" the test value is toward the
61  alternative hypothesis. The p-value is the probability under the null hypothesis of
62  obtaining evidence as or more extreme than your test statistic (obtained from your
63  observed data) in the direction of the alternative hypothesis.
64
65  - Class: text
66  Output: So if the p-value (probability of seeing your test statistic) is small, then
67  one of two things happens. EITHER  $H_0$  is true and you have observed a rare event (in
68  this unusual test statistic) OR  $H_0$  is false. Let's go through an example.
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46 - Class: text
47 Output: Suppose that you get a t statistic of 2.5 with 15 df testing  $H_0$ , (that  $\mu = \mu_0$ ) versus an alternative  $H_a$  (that  $\mu > \mu_0$ ). We want to find the probability of
    getting a t statistic as large as 2.5.
48
49 - Class: cmd_question
50 Output: R can help us! We can use the R function pt, the distribution function of the
    t distribution. This function returns one of two probabilities, EITHER the
    probability of  $X > q$  (if lower.tail is FALSE) OR  $X \leq q$  (if lower.tail is TRUE),
    where q is a quantile argument. Here we'll set  $q=2.5$ ,  $df=15$ ,  $lower.tail=FALSE$  since
     $H_a$  says that  $\mu > \mu_0$ . We have to gauge the extremity in the direction of  $H_a$ . Run
    this now.
51 CorrectAnswer: pt(2.5, 15, lower.tail=FALSE)
52 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='pt(2.5, 15, lower.tail=FALSE)')
53 Hint: Type pt(2.5, 15, lower.tail=FALSE) at the command prompt.
54
55 - Class: text
56 Output: This result tells us that, if  $H_0$  were true, we would see this large a test
    statistic with probability 1% which is rather a small probability.
57
58 - Class: mult_question
59 Output: What should we do?
60 AnswerChoices: Reject  $H_0$ ; Fail to reject  $H_0$ ; Consult the crystal ball
61 CorrectAnswer: Reject  $H_0$ 
62 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Reject  $H_0$ ')
63 Hint: 1% is less than the usual benchmark of 5%
64
65 - Class: text
66 Output: Another way to think about a p-value is as an attained significance level.
    This is a fancy way of saying that the p-value is the smallest value of alpha at
    which you will reject the null hypothesis.
67
68 - Class: text
69 Output: Recall the example from our last lesson in which we computed a test statistic
    of 2. Our  $H_0$  said that  $\mu_0 = 30$  and the alternative  $H_a$  that  $\mu > 30$ . Assume we
    used a Z test (normal distribution). We rejected the one sided test when alpha was
    set to 0.05.
70
71 - Class: cmd_question
72 Output: Why did we reject? Find the quantile associated with this test, that's the
    place to start. Use qnorm at the 95th percentile.
73 CorrectAnswer: qnorm(.95)
74 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qnorm(.95)')
75 Hint: Type qnorm(.95) at the command prompt.
76
77 - Class: figure
78 Output: We rejected  $H_0$  because our data (the test statistic actually) favored  $H_a$ .
    The test statistic 2 (shown by the vertical blue line) falls in the shaded portion of
    this figure because it exceeds the quantile. As you know, the shaded portion
    represents 5% of the area under the curve.
79 Figure: conf_5pct.R
80 FigureType: new
81
82 - Class: cmd_question
83 Output: Now try the 99th percentile to see if we would still reject  $H_0$ .
84 CorrectAnswer: qnorm(.99)
85 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='qnorm(.99)')
86 Hint: Type qnorm(.99) at the command prompt.
87
88 - Class: mult_question
89 Output: Would we reject  $H_0$  if alpha were .01?
90 AnswerChoices: Yes; No
91 CorrectAnswer: No
92 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='No')
93 Hint: Now the quantile 2.33 exceeds the test statistic 2.
94
95 - Class: figure
96 Output: Again, a picture's worth a thousand words, right? The vertical line at the
    test statistic 2 is not in the region of rejection.

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97     Figure: conf_1pct.R
98     FigureType: new
99
100 - Class: cmd_question
101 Output: So our data (the test statistic) tells us what the attained significance
level is. We use the R function pnorm to give us this number. With the default
values, specifically lower.tail=TRUE, this gives us the probability that a random
draw from the distribution is less than or equal to the argument. Try it now with the
test statistic value 2. Use the default values for all the other arguments.
102 CorrectAnswer: pnorm(2)
103 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='pnorm(2)')
104 Hint: Type pnorm(2) at the command prompt.
105
106 - Class: text
107 Output: Just as we thought, somewhere between .95 (where we rejected) and .99 (where
we failed to reject). That's reassuring.
108
109 - Class: cmd_question
110 Output: Now let's find the p value associated with this example. As before, we'll
use pnorm. But this time we'll set the lower.tail argument to FALSE. This gives us
the probability of X exceeding the test statistic, that is, the area under the curve
to the right of test statistic. Try it now with the test statistic value 2.
111 CorrectAnswer: pnorm(2,lower.tail=FALSE)
112 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='pnorm(2,lower.tail=FALSE)')
113 Hint: Type pnorm(2,lower.tail=FALSE) at the command prompt.
114
115 - Class: text
116 Output: This tells us that the attained level of significance is about 2%.
117
118 - Class: text
119 Output: By reporting a p-value, instead of an alpha level and whether or not you
reject  $H_0$ , reviewers of your work can hypothesis test at any alpha level they
choose. The general rule is that if the p-value is less than the specified alpha you
reject the null hypothesis and if it's greater you fail to reject.
120
121 - Class: text
122 Output: For a two sided hypothesis test, you have to double the smaller of the two
one-sided p values. We'll see an example of this shortly. Most software assumes a
two-sided test and automatically doubles the p value.
123
124 - Class: text
125 Output: Now for the two-sided test. Recall the binomial example from the last lesson
- the family with 8 children, 7 of whom are girls. You want to test  $H_0$ , that  $p=.5$ ,
where p is the probability of a girl (like a fair coin flip).  $H_a$  is that p is not
equal to .5. It's either greater or less than .5.
126
127 - Class: cmd_question
128 Output: This is a two-sided test. First we find the probability of having at least i
girls, for i running from 0 to 8. We have a vector of these probabilities, mybin.
Look at it now.
129 CorrectAnswer: mybin
130 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='mybin')
131 Hint: Type mybin at the command prompt.
132
133 - Class: cmd_question
134 Output: The second last value shows us that the probability of having at least 7
girls (out of 8 children) is .035, assuming that genders are equally likely ( $p=.5$ ).
You can verify this with the R function pbinom, with the arguments 6, size=8,
prob=.5, and lower.tail=FALSE. (This last yields the probability that  $X>6$ .) Try this
now.
135 CorrectAnswer: pbinom(6,size=8,prob=.5,lower.tail=FALSE)
136 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='pbinom(6,size=8,prob=.5,lower.tail=FALSE)')
137 Hint: Type pbinom(6,size=8,prob=.5,lower.tail=FALSE) at the command prompt.
138
139 - Class: mult_question
140 Output: We see a probability of about .03. Should we reject or fail to reject  $H_0$  if
alpha = .05?
141 AnswerChoices: Reject; Fail to reject
142 CorrectAnswer: Reject

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143 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Reject')
144 Hint: Remember the picture of areas. The probability .03 is less than the benchmark
    of .05.
145
146 - Class: mult_question
147 Output: We see a probability of about .03. Should we reject or fail to reject H_0 if
    alpha = .04?
148 AnswerChoices: Reject; Fail to reject
149 CorrectAnswer: Reject
150 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Reject')
151 Hint: Remember the picture of areas. The probability .03 is less than .04.
152
153 - Class: mult_question
154 Output: We see a probability of about .03. Should we reject or fail to reject H_0 if
    alpha = .03?
155 AnswerChoices: Reject; Fail to reject
156 CorrectAnswer: Fail to reject
157 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Fail to reject')
158 Hint: The p-value is about .035 which is greater than alpha=.03.
159
160 - Class: cmd_question
161 Output: For the other side of the test we want the probability that  $X \leq 7$ , again out
    of a sample of size 8 with probability .5. Again, we use pbinom, this time with an
    argument of 7 and lower.tail=TRUE. Try this now.
162 CorrectAnswer: pbinom(7,size=8,prob=.5,lower.tail=TRUE)
163 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='pbinom(7,size=8,prob=.5,lower.tail=TRUE)')
164 Hint: Type pbinom(7,size=8,prob=.5,lower.tail=TRUE) at the command prompt.
165
166 - Class: text
167 Output: So it's pretty likely (probability .996) that out of 8 children you'll have
    at most 7 girls. The p value of this two sided test is 2*the smaller of the two
    one-sided values. In this case the lower value is .035, so 2*.035 is the p-value for
    this two-sided test.
168
169 - Class: text
170 Output: Now a final example using a Poisson distribution. Remember that this is
    discrete and it involves counts or rates of counts. The example from the slides
    involves rates of infections in a hospital.
171
172 - Class: text
173 Output: Suppose that the hospital has an infection rate of 10 infections per 100
    person/days at risk. This is a rate of 0.1. Assume that an infection rate of 0.05 is
    the benchmark. This is our alpha level, recognize it? With this model, could the
    observed rate (.1) be larger than the benchmark 0.05 by chance or does it indicate a
    problem?
174
175 - Class: text
176 Output: In other words, H_0 says that  $\lambda = 0.05$  so  $\lambda_0 * 100 = 5$ , and H_a
    says that  $\lambda > 0.05$ . Is H_0 true and our observed rate (.1) is just a fluke OR
    should we reject H_0 ?
177
178 - Class: cmd_question
179 Output: As before, R has the handy function ppois, which returns probabilities for
    Poisson distributions. We want the probability of seeing at least 9 infections using
    a lambda value of 5 and lower.tail=FALSE. As when we used pbinom we have to use 9 as
    the argument since we're looking for a probability of a value greater than the
    argument. Try this now.
180 CorrectAnswer: ppois(9,5,lower.tail=FALSE)
181 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctExpr='ppois(9,5,lower.tail=FALSE)')
182 Hint: Type ppois(9,5,lower.tail=FALSE) at the command prompt.
183
184 - Class: mult_question
185 Output: We see a probability of about .03. Should we reject or fail to reject H_0?
    (Remember those helpful pictures with shaded areas. Smaller areas mean smaller
    probabilities and vice versa.)
186 AnswerChoices: Reject; Fail to reject
187 CorrectAnswer: Reject
188 AnswerTests: omnitest(correctVal='Reject')
189 Hint: Remember the picture of areas. The probability .03 is less than the benchmark

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190         of .05.
191 - Class: text
192 Output: So we reject the infection rate hypothesized by H_0 since the data favors
193           H_a, indicating that the rate is much higher.
194 - Class: text
195 Output: Congrats! You finished this lesson. We hope you p-valued it.
196
197 - Class: mult_question
198 Output: "Would you like to receive credit for completing this course on
199           Coursera.org?"
200 CorrectAnswer: NULL
201 AnswerChoices: Yes;No
202 AnswerTests: coursera_on_demand()
203 Hint: ""
204
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