

CSL003P1M : Probability and Statistics
Lecture 23 (Some Problems on Variances & Covariances and Correlation Coefficient)

Sumit Kumar Pandey

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Exercise-1

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent and identically distributed random variables having expected value μ and variance σ^2 . Let $\bar{X} = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i/n$ be the sample mean. The quantities $X_i - \bar{X}$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, are called deviations, as they equal the differences between the individual data and the sample mean. The random variable

$$S^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n-1}$$

is called the sample variance. Find (a) $\text{Var}(\bar{X})$ and (b) $E[S^2]$.

Exercise-1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(\bar{X}) &= \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2 \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^2 \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i) \quad \text{by independence} \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2}{n}. \end{aligned}$$

Exercise-1

$$\begin{aligned}(n-1)S^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu + \mu - \bar{X})^2 \\&= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n (\bar{X} - \mu)^2 - 2(\bar{X} - \mu) \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu) \\&= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 + n(\bar{X} - \mu)^2 - 2(\bar{X} - \mu)n(\bar{X} - \mu) \\&= \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 - n(\bar{X} - \mu)^2\end{aligned}$$

Taking expectations both sides, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}(n-1)E[S^2] &= \sum_{i=1}^n E[(X_i - \mu)^2] - nE[(\bar{X} - \mu)^2] \\&= n\sigma^2 - n\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = (n-1)\sigma^2\end{aligned}$$

Exercise-2

Compute the variance of a binomial random variable X with parameters n and p .

Solution:

- Let

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_n$$

where the X_i are independent Bernoulli random variables such that

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{th trial is a success} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Hence,

$$\text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}(X_1) + \cdots + \text{Var}(X_n)$$

Exercise-2

But,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(X_i) &= E[X_i^2] - (E[X_i])^2 \\ &= E[X_i] - (E[X_i])^2 \quad \text{since } X_i^2 = X_i \\ &= p - p^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\text{Var}(X) = np(1 - p)$$

Correlation Coefficient

Correlation Coefficient

Let X and Y be two random variables having finite nonzero variances. One measure of the degree of dependence between the two random variables is the correlation coefficient $\rho(X, Y)$ defined by

$$\rho = \rho(X, Y) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{(\text{Var}(X)\text{Var}(Y))}}$$

- These random variables are said to be uncorrelated if $\rho = 0$.
- If X and Y are independent, $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$ and we see at once that random variables are uncorrelated.
- The correlation coefficient ρ is always between -1 and 1 .

Thank You