Math 4720: Statistical Methods

13^{th} and 14^{th} Week Summary (04/25/25)

- Chi-square Tests
- The **chi-square goodness-of-fit** test allows us to test whether a categorical variable follows a given probability distribution.
- A categorical variable has k possible outcomes, with probabilities $\pi_1, \pi_2, \pi_3, \dots, \pi_k$. That is, π_i is the probability of the i^{th} outcome. We have n independent observations from this categorical variable.
- We use chi-square goodness-of-fit test for testing the null hypothesis that the probabilities have specified values:

$$H_0: \pi_1 = \pi_{10}, \pi_2 = \pi_{20}, \pi_3 = \pi_{30}, \dots, \pi_k = \pi_{k0}$$

The expected count of outcome $i, E_i = n\pi_{i0}$. Expected counts do not have to be round numbers.

• The chi-square statistic is a measure of how far observed counts are from expected counts under the null hypothesis. The formula for the statistic is:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(\text{observed count - expected count})^2}{\text{expected count}} = \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{(O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i}$$

Each of the k terms in the sum is called a chi-square component

- The chi-square goodness of fit test involving k outcomes refers to the chi-square distribution with k-1 degrees of freedom. The p-value is the area to the right of χ^2 under the density curve of this chi-square distribution.
- You can safely use the chi-square goodness-of-fit test with critical values from the chi-square distribution when no more than 20% of the expected counts are less than 5 and all individual expected counts are 1 or greater. In particular, the chi-square goodness-of-fit test can be used when all the expected counts are 5 or greater.
- The **chi-square test of independence** is for checking the dependence of two categorical variable. The null hypothesis is given by :

 H_0 : Two categorical variables are independent of each other.

- The chi-square test for a two-way table with r rows and c columns uses critical values from the chi-square distribution with (r-1)(c-1) degrees of freedom.
- You can safely use the chi-square test with critical values from the chi-square distribution when no more than 20% of the expected counts are less than 5 and all individual expected counts are 1 or greater. In the special case of a 2×2 table, all four expected counts should be 5 or greater.
- Regression

A tool to describe how a response (dependent) variable y changes based on an explanatory (independent) variable x. Often, a straight line is used to model and predict y given x.

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + \epsilon_i$$

where ϵ_i are normally distributed error terms with mean 0 and constant variance σ^2 .

• Least Squares Estimation:

The slope $\hat{\beta}_1$ and intercept $\hat{\beta}_0$ are chosen to minimize the sum of squared residuals, $\sum (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$.

• Assumptions:

Linear relationship between x and y.

Independent, normally distributed error terms with constant variance.

Watch for outliers or influential points that may distort the regression.

• ANOVA and R^2 :

An ANOVA table splits total variation into that explained by the regression and that attributed to error. The coefficient of determination \mathbb{R}^2 measures the proportion of the variation in y explained by the model.

• Inference:

Hypothesis tests (e.g., $H_0: \beta_1=0$) determine whether there is a statistically significant linear relationship. Confidence and prediction intervals provide estimates for the mean response and for individual new observations.

• Cautions:

Regression lines only capture linear patterns; always check scatterplots.

Extrapolating far beyond observed x-values can be unreliable.

Residual plots are crucial for checking model assumptions.



