1 Chapter 1

Exercise 1.1(a)

Let X be the sum of the two number obtained.

Let X_1 be the number obtained on Die 1.

Let X_2 be the number obtained on Die 2.

Thus, $X = X_1 + X_2$, and

$$E_x = \{X = x\} = \{X_1 + X_2 = x\} = \{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x - x_1 \mid 1 \le x_1, x - x_1 \le 6\}$$

Now,

$$1 \le x - x_1 \le 6 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad -1 \ge x_1 - x \ge -6 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad x - 1 \ge x_1 \ge x - 6 \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad x - 6 \le x_1 \le x - 1$$

Hence,

$$E_x = \{X = x\} = \{X_1 + X_2 = x\} = \{X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x - x_1 \mid \max\{1, x - 6\} \le x_1 \le \min\{6, x - 1\}\}$$

$$P(E_x) = \sum_{x_1 = \max\{1, x - 6\}}^{\min\{6, x - 1\}} P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x - x_1) = \sum_{x_1 = \max\{1, x - 6\}}^{\min\{6, x - 1\}} \frac{1}{6^2}$$
$$= \frac{1}{6^2} (\min\{6, x - 1\} - \max\{1, x - 6\} + 1)$$

Next, note that

$$\min\{6, x - 1\} = \begin{cases} x - 1, & \text{if } x = 2, 3, \dots, 6 \\ 6, & \text{if } x = 7, 8, \dots, 12 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \max\{1, x - 6\} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x = 2, 3, \dots, 6 \\ x - 6, & \text{if } x = 7, 8, \dots, 12 \end{cases}$$

Hence,

$$P(E_x) = \frac{1}{6^2} \left(\min\{6, x - 1\} - \max\{1, x - 6\} + 1 \right) = \frac{1}{36} \begin{cases} (x - 1) - 1 + 1, & \text{if } x = 2, 3, \dots, 6 \\ 6 - (x - 6) + 1, & \text{if } x = 7, 8, \dots, 12 \end{cases}$$

$$= \frac{1}{36} \begin{cases} x - 1, & \text{if } x = 2, 3, \dots, 6 \\ 13 - x, & \text{if } x = 7, 8, \dots, 12 \end{cases}$$

Exercise 1.18

Recapitulation of the rules of craps: Let x be the number obtained on the first roll. If $x \in \{7,11\}$, then the player wins. If $x \in \{2,3,12\}$, then the player loses. If $x \in \{4,5,6,8,9,10\}$, then the player keeps rolling, until either 7 is rolled or x is rolled. If x is rolled first (before 7 is rolled), then the player wins. If 7 is rolled first (before x is rolled), then the player loses.

Let W be the $\{0,1\}$ -valued random variable such that W=1 if the player wins, and W=0 if the player loses. We thus seek to compute P(W=1). Let X be (the random variable of) the sum of the two numbers obtained on the first roll. Note that $\operatorname{Range}(X)=\{2,3,4,\ldots,12\}$. Then,

$$P(W = 1) = \sum_{x=2}^{12} P(W = 1|X = x) \cdot P(X = x)$$

$$= P(W = 1|X = 7) P(X = 7) + P(W = 1|X = 11) P(X = 11) + \sum_{x \in \{4,5,6,8,9,10\}} P(W = 1|X = x) \cdot P(X = x)$$

Now, note that P(W = 1|X = 7) = P(W = 1|X = 11) = 1, $P(X = 7) = \frac{6}{36} = \frac{1}{6}$, and $P(X = 11) = \frac{2}{36} = \frac{1}{18}$. From Exercise 1.1(a), we have:

$$P(X = x) = \frac{1}{6^2} (\min\{6, x - 1\} - \max\{1, x - 6\} + 1) = \frac{1}{36} \begin{cases} (x - 1) - 1 + 1, & \text{if } x = 2, 3, \dots, 6 \\ 6 - (x - 6) + 1, & \text{if } x = 7, 8, \dots, 12 \end{cases}$$

$$= \frac{1}{36} \begin{cases} x - 1, & \text{if } x = 2, 3, \dots, 6 \\ 13 - x, & \text{if } x = 7, 8, \dots, 12 \end{cases}$$

Next, let Y_n be the random variable of the sum of the two numbers obtained on the (n+1)st roll. Then,

$$P(W = 1|X = x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[1 - P(Y_n = 7) - P(Y_n = x)\right]^{n-1} \cdot P(X = x)$$

$$= P(X = x) \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[1 - P(Y_n = 7) - P(Y_n = x)\right]^{n-1}$$

$$= P(X = x) \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \left[1 - P(Y = 7) - P(Y = x)\right]}$$

$$= \frac{P(X = x)}{P(Y = 7) + P(Y = x)}$$

$$= \frac{P(X = x)}{\frac{1}{6} + P(Y = x)}$$

Hence,

$$P(W=1) = \sum_{x=2}^{12} P(W=1|X=x) \cdot P(X=x)$$

$$= P(W=1|X=7) P(X=7) + P(W=1|X=11) P(X=11) + \sum_{x \in \{4,5,6,8,9,10\}} P(W=1|X=x) \cdot P(X=x)$$

$$= \frac{6}{36} + \frac{2}{36} + \sum_{x \in \{4,5,6,8,9,10\}} \frac{P(X=x)^2}{\frac{1}{6} + P(Y=x)}$$

$$= \frac{6}{36} + \frac{2}{36} + \frac{\frac{(4-1)^2}{36}}{\frac{1}{6} + \frac{4-1}{36}} + \frac{(\frac{5-1}{36})^2}{\frac{1}{6} + \frac{5-1}{36}} + \frac{\frac{(13-8)^2}{36}}{\frac{1}{6} + \frac{13-8}{36}} + \frac{\frac{(13-9)^2}{36}}{\frac{1}{6} + \frac{13-10}{36}}$$

$$= \frac{6}{36} + \frac{2}{36} + \frac{(1/36)^2}{1/36} \left(\frac{3^2}{6+3} + \frac{4^2}{6+4} + \frac{5^2}{6+5} + \frac{5^2}{6+5} + \frac{4^2}{6+4} + \frac{3^2}{6+3}\right)$$

$$= \frac{6}{36} + \frac{2}{36} + \frac{2}{36} \left(\frac{3^2}{6+3} + \frac{4^2}{6+4} + \frac{5^2}{6+5}\right) = \frac{1}{36} \left[6 + 2 + 2\left(\frac{9}{9} + \frac{16}{10} + \frac{25}{11}\right)\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{36} \left[8 + 2\left(\frac{536}{110}\right)\right] = \frac{1}{36} \left[\frac{1952}{110}\right] = \frac{1}{2^2 \cdot 3^2} \left[\frac{2^5 \cdot 61}{2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11}\right]$$

$$= \frac{2^2 \cdot 61}{3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11} \approx 0.4929293$$

Exercise 1.19(a)

Let n be the number of workers in the sample. Let X_i , i = 1, 2, ..., n, be $\{0, 1\}$ -valued random variables defined by:

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if the } i \text{th subject is highly exposed,} \\ 0, & \text{if the } i \text{th subject is NOT highly exposed} \end{cases}$$

Define

$$S_n := \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$
, and $S_{n-1} := \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} X_i$.

First, note that

$$\theta_n = P(S_n \text{ is even}), \text{ and } \theta_{n-1} = P(S_{n-1} \text{ is even}).$$

Note also that

$$\theta_n = P(S_n \text{ is even}) = P(X_n = 1)P(S_{n-1} \text{ is odd}) + P(X_n = 0)P(S_{n-1} \text{ is even})$$

= $\pi_h (1 - \theta_{n-1}) + (1 - \pi_h)\theta_{n-1} = \pi_h + (1 - 2\pi_h)\theta_{n-1}$

Thus, the desired difference equation is:

$$\theta_n = \pi_h + (1 - 2\pi_h) \,\theta_{n-1} \tag{1.1}$$

Exercise 1.19(b)

To solve the difference equation (1.1) obtained in Exercise 1.19(a), we assume that θ_n has the following form:

$$\theta_n = \alpha + \beta \gamma^n \tag{1.2}$$

where α , β , and γ are unknown constants to be determined. We first make the following:

Observation: $\beta \neq 0$ and $\gamma \notin \{0, 1\}$.

Indeed, if $\beta = 0$ or $\gamma \in \{0, 1\}$, then θ_n would be constant in n. In that case, define $\theta := \theta_n = \theta_{n-1} = \cdots$. By the difference equation (1.1), we would then have

$$\theta = \pi_h + (1 - 2\pi_h)\theta \implies 0 = \pi_h (1 - 2\theta) \implies \theta = \frac{1}{2} \text{ (since } \pi_h > 0)$$

However, this contradicts the initial condition that $\theta_0 = 1$. Thus, this proves the assertion that $\beta \neq 0$ and $\gamma \notin \{0, 1\}$. (Note that if the sample size is 0, then the number of highly exposed subjects must be 0; hence $\theta_0 = P(S_0 \text{ is even}) = 1$, since we have here adopted the convention that 0 is "even.")

Now, substituting (1.2) into (1.1) yields:

$$\alpha + \beta \gamma^{n} = \theta_{n} = \pi_{h} + (1 - 2\pi_{h}) \theta_{n-1}$$

$$= \pi_{h} + (1 - 2\pi_{h}) (\alpha + \beta \gamma^{n-1})$$

$$= \alpha + \pi_{h} (1 - 2\alpha) + \beta \gamma^{n-1} (1 - 2\pi_{h})$$

Collecting terms involving γ on the right-hand side yields:

$$\pi_h(2\alpha - 1) = \beta \gamma^{n-1} (1 - 2\pi_h - \gamma)$$

Now, note that the left-hand side of the preceding equation is independent of γ , while the right-hand side is a scalar multiple of the (n-1)th power of γ ; in other words, the right-hand side is a scalar multiple of a power of γ which is constant in n.

Exercises and Solutions in Biostatistical Theory

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This happens if and only if either $\gamma \in \{0, 1\}$, or if the coefficient $\beta(1 - 2\pi_h - \gamma) = 0$. The preceding Observation (i.e. $\beta \neq 0$ and $\gamma \notin \{0, 1\}$) thus implies:

$$\gamma = 1 - 2\pi_h$$

Since $\pi_h > 0$, we furthermore conclude that

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$$

We therefore have:

$$\theta_n = \frac{1}{2} + \beta \left(1 - 2\pi_h\right)^n$$

The initial condition $\theta_0 = 1$ now implies:

$$1 = \theta_0 = \frac{1}{2} + \beta (1 - 2\pi_h)^0 = \frac{1}{2} + \beta \implies \beta = \frac{1}{2}$$

We may now conclude:

$$\theta_n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(1 - 2\pi_h)^n$$

Lastly, if $\pi_h = 0.05$, then

$$\theta_{50} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(1 - 2 \times 0.05)^{50} \approx 0.5025769$$

Comment: For $0 < \pi_h < \frac{1}{2}$, the formula $\theta_n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(1 - 2\pi_h)^n$ implies that $\theta_n > \frac{1}{2}$, for any n = 1, 2, 3, ...; in other words, there is a higher than 50:50 chance that the number of highly exposed subjects in the sample is "even", whenever $0 < \pi_h < \frac{1}{2}$. This apparent asymmetry between odd and even is NOT surprising given the fact that 0 is regarded as "even" here, and that the probability that there are no highly exposed workers in the sample is high if π_h is "small" (e.g. $0 < \pi_h < \frac{1}{2}$).

Exercise 1.20(a)

$$p(D|S,x) = \frac{p(D,S,x)}{p(S,x)} = \frac{p(D,S,x)}{p(D,x)} \frac{p(D,x)}{p(S,x)} = p(S|D,x) \frac{p(D,x)/p(x)}{p(S,x)/p(x)} = p(S|D,x) \frac{p(D|x)}{p(S|x)}$$

Now, we are given that

$$p(S|D,x) = \pi_1$$
, and $p(D|x) = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x)}$

So, we now proceed to compute p(S|x). To this end,

$$p(S|x) = \frac{p(S,x)}{p(x)} = \frac{1}{p(x)} \left(p(S,D,x) + p(S,\overline{D},x) \right) = \frac{1}{p(x)} \left(\frac{p(S,D,x)}{p(D,x)} p(D,x) + \frac{p(S,\overline{D},x)}{p(\overline{D},x)} p(\overline{D},x) \right)$$
$$= p(S|D,x)p(D|x) + p(S|\overline{D},x)p(\overline{D}|x)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{split} p(D|S,x) &= p(S|D,x) \frac{p(D|x)}{p(S|x)} = \frac{p(S|D,x) \, p(D|x)}{p(S|D,x) \, p(D|x) + p(S|\overline{D},x) \, p(\overline{D}|x)} = \frac{\pi_1 \cdot p(D|x)}{\pi_1 \cdot p(D|x) + \pi_0 \cdot p(\overline{D}|x)} \\ &= \frac{\pi_1 \cdot \frac{\exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)}{1 + \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)}}{\pi_1 \cdot \frac{\exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)}{1 + \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)} + \pi_0 \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)}} = \frac{\pi_1 \cdot \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)}{\pi_1 \cdot \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right) + \pi_0} \\ &= \frac{\frac{\pi_1}{\pi_0} \cdot \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)}{1 + \frac{\pi_1}{\pi_0} \cdot \exp\left(\beta_0 + \beta^T x\right)} = \frac{\exp\left[\log(\pi_1/\pi_0) + \beta_0 + \beta^T x\right]}{1 + \exp\left[\log(\pi_1/\pi_0) + \beta_0 + \beta^T x\right]}, \end{split}$$

as required.

Comment: The above derivations show that, in a case-control study, if one has knowledge (or good estimate) of the ratio π_1/π_0 , one can obtain an estimate for p(D|x), the disease risk associated to covariate value x, from the quantity p(D|S,x), which can be estimated from case-control study data as follows:

$$p(D|S,x) \;\; \approx \;\; \frac{\#(\text{subjects in sample with disease and covariate value }x)}{\#(\text{subjects in sample with covariate value }x)}$$

However, in practice, the ratio π_1/π_0 is rarely, if ever, known. And, without knowledge or estimate of π_1/π_0 , the disease risk p(D|x) associated to covariate value x can NOT be estimated based on data from a case-control study.

Exercise 1.20(b)

First, note that

$$\frac{p(D|x^*)}{p(\overline{D}|x^*)} = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x^*)/(1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x^*))}{1/(1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x^*))} = \exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x^*)$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{p(D|x)}{p(\overline{D}|x)} = \exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x)$$

Hence,

$$\theta_r = \theta_r(x^*, x) = \frac{p(D|x^*)/p(\overline{D}|x^*)}{p(D|x)/p(\overline{D}|x)} = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x^*)}{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x)} = \exp[\beta^T (x^* - x)],$$

as required. Next,

$$\theta_c = \theta_c(x^*, x) = \frac{p(D|S, x^*)/p(\overline{D}|S, x^*)}{p(D|S, x)/p(\overline{D}|S, x)} = \frac{\exp\left[\log(\pi_1/\pi_0) + \beta_0 + \beta^T x^*\right]}{\exp\left[\log(\pi_1/\pi_0) + \beta_0 + \beta^T x\right]} = \exp\left[\beta^T (x^* - x)\right],$$

as required.

Comment: Exercise 1.20(a) showed that, without knowledge or estimate of the ratio π_1/π_0 , case-control study data can NOT be used to estimate the disease p(D|x) associated to covariate value x. On the other hand, case-control study data can be readily used to estimate the odds ratio

$$\theta_c = \theta_c(x^*, x) := \frac{p(D|S, x^*)/p(\overline{D}|S, x^*)}{p(D|S, x)/p(\overline{D}|S, x)}$$

Exercise 1.20(b) shows that θ_c is equal to

$$\theta_r = \theta_r(x^*, x) := \frac{p(D|x^*)/p(\overline{D}|x^*)}{p(D|x)/p(\overline{D}|x)}$$

Thus, Exercise 1.20(a) and Exercise 1.20(b) together show that, while case-control study data can NOT be used to estimate disease risk p(D|x) associated to covariate value x, they can be used to estimate the disease odds ratio

$$\theta_r = \theta_r(x^*, x) := \frac{p(D|x^*)/p(\overline{D}|x^*)}{p(D|x)/p(\overline{D}|x)}$$

associated to the covariate value x^* against x.

References