

ii) Test for equality of variances

We are to test
 $H_0: \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$

(a) Means μ_x and μ_y are known say $\mu_x = \mu_{x_0}$ and $\mu_y = \mu_{y_0}$

Consider a random sample of size n_1
 $(x_1, \dots, x_{n_1}) \sim N(\mu_x, \sigma_x^2)$ and $(y_1, \dots, y_{n_2}) \sim N(\mu_y, \sigma_y^2)$

Based on these we need to obtain σ_x^2 & σ_y^2

Apt estimator of σ_x^2 is $S_{x_0}^2 = \frac{1}{n_1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (x_i - \mu_x)^2$

$S_{y_0}^2 = \frac{1}{n_2} \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} (y_i - \mu_y)^2$

Note that H_0 can also be expressed as $H_0: \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} = 1$.
 We consider the ratio $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$. If H_0 is true, then the ratio $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$ will be close to 1.

Case I: $H_1: \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} > 1$. In this case $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$ will be much higher than 1. Thus such high values of $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$ indicate departure of H_0 towards H_1 .

Case II: $H_1: \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} < 1$; following a similar logic low values of $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$ indicate departure of H_0 towards H_1 .

Case III: $H_1: \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} \neq 1$. Following same logic, \pm high values of $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$ indicate departure of H_0 towards H_1 .
 Thus, in all cases, the ratio $\frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$ indicate how close H_0 is towards the truth, the test statistic for testing H_0 will be based on this ratio.

We have $\frac{n_1 S_{x_0}^2}{\sigma_x^2} \sim \chi_{n_1}^2$ and $\frac{n_2 S_{y_0}^2}{\sigma_y^2} \sim \chi_{n_2}^2$.

Also, $S_{x_0}^2$ & $S_{y_0}^2$ are independently distributed as X and Y are independent.

Thus by knowledge of sampling distributions

$$\frac{\left(\frac{n_1 S_{x_0}^2}{\sigma_x^2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{n_1} \right)}{\left(\frac{n_2 S_{y_0}^2}{\sigma_y^2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{n_2} \right)} \sim F_{n_1, n_2}$$

i.e. $F = \frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2} \cdot \frac{\sigma_y^2}{\sigma_x^2} \sim F_{n_1, n_2}$. Under $H_0: \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} = 1$,

$F = \frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2} \sim F_{n_1, n_2}$. The apt test statistic for testing

H_0 is $F = \frac{S_{x_0}^2}{S_{y_0}^2}$. Critical Region:

Case I: $H_1: \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} > 1$. Test rule: Reject H_0 at

α if $F_{obs} > F_{n_1, n_2, \alpha}$

Critical region : $F > K$ where K is so chosen that $P(\text{Type I error}) = \alpha$
 so $K = \text{upper } \alpha\text{-point}$

Case II : $H_1 : \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} < 1$. Critical region : $F < K^*$ where K^* is so chosen that prob. of Type I error $= \alpha = F_{n_1, n_2, 1-\alpha}$.

Test rule : Reject H_0 at a l.o.s iff $F_{obs} < F_{n_1, n_2, 1-\alpha}$

Case III $H_1 : \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} \neq 1$. Critical region : $F > K^{**}$ and $F < K^{***}$ where K^{**} and K^{***} are chosen s.t. $P(\text{Type I error}) = \alpha$.

From similar calculations, we see $K^{**} = F_{n_1, n_2, \alpha/2}$ and $K^{***} = F_{n_1, n_2, 1-\alpha/2}$.

Test rule : Reject H_0 at a l.o.s iff $F_{obs} > F_{n_1, n_2, \alpha/2}$ and/or $F_{obs} < F_{n_1, n_2, 1-\alpha/2}$

(b) Means are unknown. Here we cannot use \bar{x}_0 and \bar{y}_0 since they involve the unknown parameters

μ_x, μ_y . So in this case we need to estimate

σ_x^2 & σ_y^2 entirely from the samples.

Apt estimator of σ_x^2 is given by

$$\hat{\sigma}_x^2 = S_x^2 = \frac{1}{n_1 - 1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \text{ and}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_y^2 = S_y^2 = \frac{1}{n_2 - 1} \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

Following a similar logic as in (a) an apt test statistic for testing H_0 is given by $F = \frac{S_x^2}{S_y^2}$

Under $H_0 : F \sim F_{n_1-1, n_2-1}$. Test rules are given by

($\alpha = 1.0.5$) . Case I : $H_1 : \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} > 1$: Reject H_0 iff $F_{obs} > F_{n_1-1, n_2-1, \alpha}$

Case II : $H_1 : \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_y^2} < 1$: Reject H_0 iff $F_{obs} < F_{n_1-1, n_2-1, 1-\alpha}$