

Solutions to Exercises of Chapter 3

September 21, 2025
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Problem 3.1 (Exactness of p_{FRT})

We are asked to show that the p -value

$$p_{\text{FRT}} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^m, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))$$

is finite-sample exact under the sharp null hypothesis; i.e., for any $u \in [0, 1]$,

$$P(p_{\text{FRT}} \leq u) \leq u.$$

In a completely randomized experiment (CRE), \mathbf{Z} is uniformly distributed over the set $\{\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^M\}$, where $M = \binom{n}{n_1}$ is the total number of possible treatment assignments. That is,

$$P(\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{z}^m) = \frac{1}{M}, \quad m = 1, \dots, M.$$

Under the sharp null hypothesis, $Y_i(1) = Y_i(0)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, so the observed outcome \mathbf{Y} is invariant to the treatment assignment \mathbf{Z} . Therefore, the test statistic $T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y})$ is also uniformly distributed over the set $\{T(\mathbf{z}^1, \mathbf{Y}), \dots, T(\mathbf{z}^M, \mathbf{Y})\}$, and the p -value p_{FRT} is uniformly distributed over the set $\{1/M, 2/M, \dots, 1\}$. This implies that for any $k \in \{1, \dots, M\}$,

$$P\left(p_{\text{FRT}} \leq \frac{k}{M}\right) = \frac{k}{M}.$$

For any $u \in [0, 1]$, let $k = \lfloor Mu \rfloor$ be the largest integer less than or equal to Mu . Then,

$$P(p_{\text{FRT}} \leq u) = P\left(p_{\text{FRT}} \leq \frac{k}{M}\right) = \frac{k}{M} \leq u,$$

which completes the proof.

Problem 3.2 (Monte Carlo error of \hat{p}_{FRT})

In practice, we usually approximate p_{FRT} by

$$\hat{p}_{\text{FRT}} = \frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^R \mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y})),$$

where $\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^R$ are R independent draws from the uniform distribution over the set $\{\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^M\}$.

We are asked to show that given the observed data (\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}) ,

$$E_{\text{mc}}(\hat{p}_{\text{FRT}}) = p_{\text{FRT}},$$

and

$$\text{Var}_{\text{mc}}(\hat{p}_{\text{FRT}}) \leq \frac{1}{4R},$$

where E_{mc} and Var_{mc} denote the expectation and variance with respect to the Monte Carlo draws $\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^R$, given the observed data (\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}) .

For any $r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$, \mathbf{z}^r is drawn from the uniform distribution over the set $\{\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^M\}$, so we have

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{mc}}(\mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))) &= P_{\text{mc}}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y})) \\ &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^m, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y})) \\ &= p_{\text{FRT}}. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the linearity of expectation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &E_{\text{mc}}(\hat{p}_{\text{FRT}}) \\ &= E_{\text{mc}}\left(\frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^R \mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^R E_{\text{mc}}(\mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))) \\ &= p_{\text{FRT}}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the first part.

For the second part, notice that for any r ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Var}_{\text{mc}}(\mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))) \\ &= E_{\text{mc}}(\mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))^2) - (E_{\text{mc}}(\mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))))^2 \\ &= p_{\text{FRT}} - p_{\text{FRT}}^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathbf{z}^1, \dots, \mathbf{z}^R$ are independent,

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Var}_{\text{mc}}(\hat{p}_{\text{FRT}}) \\ &= \text{Var}_{\text{mc}}\left(\frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^R \mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{R^2} \sum_{r=1}^R \text{Var}_{\text{mc}}(\mathbf{1}(T(\mathbf{z}^r, \mathbf{Y}) \geq T(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Y}))) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{R^2} \sum_{r=1}^R \frac{1}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{4R}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the second part.

Problem 3.3 (A finite-sample valid Monte Carlo approximation of p_{FRT})

Problem 3.4 (Fisher's exact test)

Problem 3.5 (More details for lady tasting tea)

Problem 3.6 (Covariate-adjusted FRT)

Problem 3.8 (An algebraic detail)

We are asked to show that

$$(n-1)s^2 = \sum_{Z_i=1} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(1))^2 + \sum_{Z_i=0} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(0))^2 + \frac{n_1 n_0}{n} \hat{\tau}^2. \quad (3.7)$$

First, notice that

$$\bar{Y} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{Z_i=1} Y_i + \sum_{Z_i=0} Y_i \right) = \frac{1}{n} (n_1 \hat{Y}(1) + n_0 \hat{Y}(0)),$$

which implies

$$\bar{Y} = \hat{Y}(1) - \underbrace{\frac{n_0}{n} (\hat{Y}(1) - \hat{Y}(0))}_{\hat{\tau}} = \hat{Y}(0) + \underbrace{\frac{n_1}{n} (\hat{Y}(1) - \hat{Y}(0))}_{\hat{\tau}}. \quad (1)$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (n-1)s^2 \\ & \equiv \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 && \text{(Definition)} \\ & = \sum_{Z_i=1} (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 + \sum_{Z_i=0} (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 && \text{(Partition by } Z_i) \\ & = \sum_{Z_i=1} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(1) + \hat{Y}(1) - \bar{Y})^2 + \sum_{Z_i=0} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(0) + \hat{Y}(0) - \bar{Y})^2 && \text{(Add and subtract)} \\ & = \sum_{Z_i=1} \left(Y_i - \hat{Y}(1) + \frac{n_0}{n} \hat{\tau} \right)^2 + \sum_{Z_i=0} \left(Y_i - \hat{Y}(0) - \frac{n_1}{n} \hat{\tau} \right)^2 && \text{(Use Equation (1))} \\ & = \sum_{Z_i=1} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(1))^2 + \frac{n_0^2 n_1}{n^2} \hat{\tau}^2 + \sum_{Z_i=0} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(0))^2 + \frac{n_1^2 n_0}{n^2} \hat{\tau}^2 && \left(\sum_{Z_i=z} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(z)) = 0 \right) \\ & = \sum_{Z_i=1} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(1))^2 + \sum_{Z_i=0} (Y_i - \hat{Y}(0))^2 + \frac{n_1 n_0}{n} \hat{\tau}^2, && \text{(Combine terms)} \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.

Acronyms

CRE completely randomized experiment. [1](#)