

baseline / base level

Example: In the project of faculty salary equity study, there is a variable named Academic Rank, which include 5 levels, Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor and Distinguished Professor.

base level $k=5$

1. How many dummy variables are required for Academic Rank?

$$k-1 = 5-1 = 4$$

2. Set up the dummy variables.

3. Use a table to show the values of each dummy variable for each level of Academic Rank.

	X_1 Instructor-Y	X_2 Associate-Y	X_3 Prof-Y	X_4 Dist-Y
Instructor	1	0	0	0
Assistant	0	0	0	0
Associate	0	1	0	0
Professor	0	0	1	0
Distinguished	0	0	0	1

4 dummy variables / indicator variables / dummies
 $X_1 = \text{Instructor-Y} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if instructor} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$X_2 = \text{Associate-Y} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if associate professor} \\ 0, & \text{ow} \end{cases}$

$X_3 = \text{Professor-Y} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if professor} \\ 0, & \text{ow} \end{cases}$

$X_4 = \text{Distinguished-Y} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if Dis... professor} \\ 0, & \text{ow} \end{cases}$