



Statistics for Astronomers: Lecture 14, 2020.12.04

Prof. Sundar Srinivasan

IRyA/UNAM



Review

Hypothesis testing.

Two-sample Z - and t -tests.

Jupyter demos

- 1 ▶ [Download this Jupyter notebook.](#)
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- 4 Click on "Upload" and upload the notebook you downloaded in step 1.

F-test

Data: two **independent** samples of sizes N_1, N_2 drawn from $\mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$ and $\mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$.

Question: Is $\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2$? Null hypothesis $H_0: \sigma_1 = \sigma_2$.

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Under H_0 , $F = \frac{\chi_{\text{red}}^2(N_2-1)}{\chi_{\text{red}}^2(N_1-1)}$ by design, $F > 1$.

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This quantity, the ratio of two reduced χ^2 variables, has an **F distribution** with parameters $(\nu_{\text{numerator}}, \nu_{\text{denominator}}) = (N_2 - 1, N_1 - 1)$.

Python implementation: `scipy.stats.f`. Also see Sec. 4.7.6 in the AstroML book.

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For you to solve:

Given $N_1 = 10$, $N_2 = 7$, and $S_2^2 = (1 + \lambda)S_1^2$, with $\lambda > 0$.

What is λ if the *F*-test rejects the null hypothesis with 99.5% confidence?

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$$\text{Var}[f_i] = \text{Var}[f_{\text{true},i}] + \text{Var}[f_{\text{meas},i}] = \text{Var}[f_{\text{true},i}] + \sigma^2.$$

Under H_0 , $\text{Var}[f_i] = \sigma^2$. Under H_A , $\text{Var}[f_i] > \sigma^2$.

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Perform F -test on the data! Define $F = \frac{\text{Sample variance for data } f_i}{\text{Sample variance of measurement error}}$

See Jupyter notebook for illustration.

Nonparametric tests

References

▶ [This series of videos](#)

Barlow

Wall & Jenkins

AstroML

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Great for when we don't know!
- 2 Ideal for small sample sizes, poorly-defined distributions, data with outliers.
difficult to determine parametric model for such data.
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We've already used nonparametric inference!

Location estimate: sort data, pick central value – median.

Scale estimate: sort data, compute interquartile range.

Distribution estimate: EDF. Used this for interval estimates (CI).

The bootstrap procedure.

Kolmogorov-Smirnov test

One-sample test (implementation: `scipy.stats.kstest`):

Given: sample of size N . Question: Is the sample drawn from a particular distribution?

H_0 : yes. H_A : No (two-sided) or *greater/less* than CDF of distribution (one-sided).

Two-sample test (implementation: `scipy.stats.ks_2samp`):

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KS statistic: maximum distance between CDFs that are being compared. One-sample case:

$$D_{KS} = \max |CDF_{\text{model}}(x) - ECDF(x)| \text{ (two-sided)}. \quad D_{KS} = \max (CDF_{\text{model}}(x) - ECDF(x)) \text{ (one-sided)}.$$

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Beware the KS test!