

NON-PARAMETRIC STATISTICAL TESTS

TESTS OF INDEPENDENCE

using the Pearson's test

The problem:

We consider a 2-D RV (X, Y) of the discrete type (or categorical type) and we want to test the hypothesis:

are the two variables independent of each other?

Suppose: X has been divided (classified) into r intervals (classes) and Y has been divided (classified) into c intervals (classes)

We form a sample consisting on n $X - Y$ pairs; n_{ik} — the number (frequency) of sample elements with X belonging to the i -th class and Y belonging to the k -th class. Let's denote the marginal frequencies:

$$n_{i\cdot} = \sum_{k=1}^c n_{ik} \quad n_{\cdot k} = \sum_{i=1}^r n_{ik} \quad n = \sum_{k=1}^c \sum_{i=1}^r n_{ik}$$

In a similar way we may introduce „straight” and „marginal” probabilities:

$$p_{ik} = \mathcal{P}(X \in \langle \text{class} \rangle_i; Y \in \langle \text{class} \rangle_k)$$

$$p_{i\cdot} = \mathcal{P}(X \in \langle \text{class} \rangle_i; \text{any } Y) \quad p_{\cdot k} = \mathcal{P}(\text{any } X; Y \in \langle \text{class} \rangle_k)$$

$$\sum_i^r p_{i\cdot} = \sum_k^c p_{\cdot k} = \sum_{i,k} p_{ik} = 1$$

The problem, cntd.

We may visualise the situation with the aid of the following table (*contingency table, two-way table*):

$$p_{ik} = \mathcal{P}(X \in \langle \text{class} \rangle_i; Y \in \langle \text{class} \rangle_k)$$

X↓ <i>r</i> classes	Y <i>c</i> classes →				
	1	2	...	<i>c</i>	
1	n_{11}	n_{12}	...	n_{1c}	$\sum = n_{1.}$
2	n_{21}	n_{22}	...	n_{2c}	$\sum = n_{2.}$
⋮	n_{ik}
<i>r</i>	n_{r1}	n_{r2}	...	n_{rc}	$\sum = n_{r.}$
	$\sum = n_{.1}$	$\sum = n_{.2}$...	$\sum = n_{.c}$	= <i>n</i>

(Summing the cell frequencies across the rows gives the marginal row frequencies $n_{i.}$, and summing the cell frequencies down the columns gives the marginal column frequencies $n_{.k}$.)

The problem, cntd.

The $X - Y$ independence hypothesis is consistent with the statement: $p_{ik} = p_{i.} \times p_{.k}$. On the other hand, we have (it's not hard to show):

$$p_{i.} = \frac{n_{i.}}{n} \quad p_{.k} = \frac{n_{.k}}{n}$$

Consequently, the χ^2 statistic is:

$$\chi^2 = n \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k=1}^c \frac{(n_{ik} - n_{i.}n_{.k}/n)^2}{n_{i.}n_{.k}}$$

What about the number of DoF? From the data we have to estimate $r - 1 + c - 1 = r + c - 2$ parameters (r $p_{i.}$ and c $p_{.k}$ – but they are linked by two normalisation identities: $\sum p = 1$). Thus the number of DoF is: the number of independent data – the number of estimated parameters. We have:

$$\text{No of DoF} = rc - 1 - (r + c - 2) = (r - 1)(c - 1).$$

Note: the number of *independent* data is $n - 1$ as n probabilities (class frequencies) p_{ik} are again normalised: $\sum_{i,k} p_{ik} = 1$.