MATH 450: Mathematical statistics

September 8th, 2020

Lecture 3: Statistics and Sampling Distributions

Topics

Week 2	*Chapter 6: Statistics and Sampling Distributions*
Week 4	Chapter 7: Point Estimation
Week 6	*Chapter 8: Confidence Intervals*
Week 9	*Chapter 9: Test of Hypothesis*
Week 11	Chapter 10: Two-sample inference
Week 12	Regression

Week 1: Probability review

Discrete random variable

A random variable X is described by its *probability mass function*

Definition *The **probability mass function** p of a random variable X whose set of possible values is $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots\}$ is a function from $\mathbf{R}$ to $\mathbf{R}$ that satisfies the following properties.*

(a) $p(x) = 0$ *if* $x \notin \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots\}$.

(b) $p(x_i) = P(X = x_i)$ *and hence* $p(x_i) \geq 0$ $(i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots)$.

(c) $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p(x_i) = 1$.

Law of the unconscious statistician (LOTUS)

Theorem 4.2 *Let X be a discrete random variable with set of possible values A and probability mass function p(x), and let g be a real-valued function. Then g(X) is a random variable with*

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{x \in A} g(x)p(x).$$

Continuous random variable

Definition

Let X be a random variable. Suppose that there exists a nonnegative real-valued function $f : \mathbb{R} \to [0, \infty)$ such that for any subset of real numbers A, we have

$$P(X \in A) = \int_A f(x)dx$$

Then X is called **absolutely continuous** or, for simplicity, **continuous**. The function f is called the **probability density function**, or simply the **density function** of X.

Whenever we say that X is continuous, we mean that it is absolutely continuous and hence satisfies the equation above.

Properties

Let X be a continuous r.v. with density function f, then

- $f(x) \geq 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)\ dx = 1$
- For any fixed constant a, b,

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x)\ dx$$

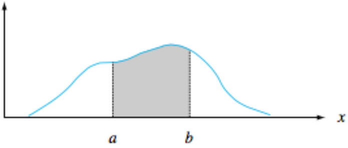


Figure 4.2 $P(a \leq X \leq b)$ = the area under the density curve between a and b

Expectation

Definition *If X is a continuous random variable with probability density function f, the **expected value** of X is defined by*

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x)\, dx.$$

The expected value of X is also called the **mean**, or **mathematical expectation**, or simply the **expectation** of X, and as in the discrete case, sometimes it is denoted by EX, $E[X]$, μ, or μ_X.

Distribution function

Definition

If X is a random variable, then the function F defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$ by

$$F(t) = P(X \leq t)$$

is called the distribution function of X.

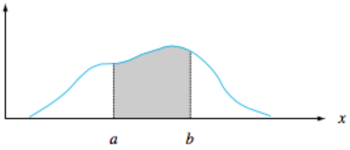
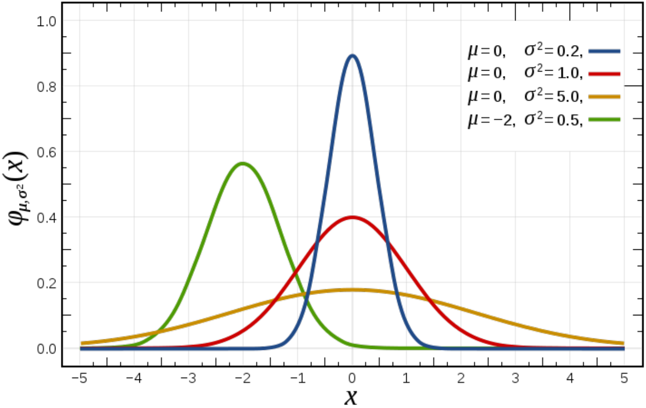


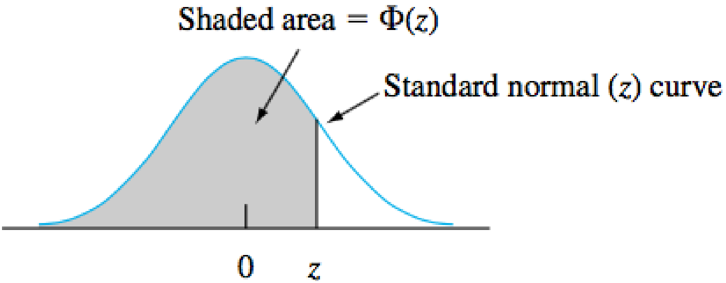
Figure 4.2 $P(a \leq X \leq b)$ = the area under the density curve between a and b

$\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$



$$E(X) = \mu, \, Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

$\Phi(z)$



$$\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z) = \int_{-\infty}^{z} f(y)\, dy$$

Table A.3 Standard Normal Curve Areas (*cont.*) $\Phi(z) = P(Z \leq z)$

z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
0.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359
0.1	.5398	.5438	.5478	.5517	.5557	.5596	.5636	.5675	.5714	.5753
0.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141
0.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517
0.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879
0.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224
0.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549
0.7	.7580	.7611	.7642	.7673	.7704	.7734	.7764	.7794	.7823	.7852
0.8	.7881	.7910	.7939	.7967	.7995	.8023	.8051	.8078	.8106	.8133
0.9	.8159	.8186	.8212	.8238	.8264	.8289	.8315	.8340	.8365	.8389
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177
1.4	.9192	.9207	.9222	.9236	.9251	.9265	.9278	.9292	.9306	.9319
1.5	.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633
1.8	.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706
1.9	.9713	.9719	.9726	.9732	.9738	.9744	.9750	.9756	.9761	.9767

Shifting and scaling normal random variables

If X has a normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ, then

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

has a standard normal distribution. Thus

$$P(a \le X \le b) = P\left(\frac{a-\mu}{\sigma} \le Z \le \frac{b-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$
$$= \Phi\left(\frac{b-\mu}{\sigma}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{a-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$P(X \le a) = \Phi\left(\frac{a-\mu}{\sigma}\right) \quad P(X \ge b) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{b-\mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

Exercise 3

Problem

Let X be a $\mathcal{N}(3, 9)$ random variable. Compute $P[X \leq 5.25]$.

Descriptive statistics

1.3: Measures of locations

- The Mean
- The Median
- Trimmed Means

Measures of locations: mean

The **sample mean** $\bar{x}$ of observations $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ is given by

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_n}{n} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i}{n}$$

Measures of locations: median

Step 1: ordering the observations from smallest to largest

$$\tilde{x} = \begin{cases} \text{The single middle value if } n \text{ is odd} & = \left(\dfrac{n+1}{2}\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ordered value} \\ \text{The average of the two middle values if } n \text{ is even} & = \text{average of } \left(\dfrac{n}{2}\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ and } \left(\dfrac{n}{2}+1\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ ordered values} \end{cases}$$

Median is not affected by outliers

Measures of locations: trimmed mean

- A $\alpha\%$ trimmed mean is computed by:
  - eliminating the smallest $\alpha\%$ and the largest $\alpha\%$ of the sample
  - averaging what remains
- $\alpha = 0 \rightarrow$ the mean
- $\alpha \approx 50 \rightarrow$ the median

The **sample variance**, denoted by s^2, is given by

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1} = \frac{S_{xx}}{n-1}$$

The **sample standard deviation**, denoted by s, is the (positive) square root of the variance:

$$s = \sqrt{s^2}$$

Working with vectors in R

- manually create a vector a with entry values

$$a = c(1, 2, 6, 8, 5, 3, -1, 2.1, 0)$$

- create a zero vector with length $n = 25$

$$a = rep(0, 25)$$

- $a[i]$ is the i^{th} element of a
- manipulate all entries at the same time using 'for' loop

Working with vectors in R

- *rnorm*(n, mean=0, sd=2)
  generate a vector of n observations from the normal distribution with mean $\mu = 0$ and standard deviation $\sigma = 2$
- *hist*(A)
  produce a histogram plot of the vector A
- *boxplot*(A)
  produce a boxplot of A
  `https://www.rdocumentation.org/packages/graphics/versions/3.6.1/topics/boxplot`

Boxplots

Order the n observations from smallest to largest and separate the smallest half from the largest half; the median $\tilde{x}$ is included in both halves if n is odd. Then the **lower fourth** is the median of the smallest half and the **upper fourth** is the median of the largest half. A measure of spread that is resistant to outliers is the **fourth spread** f_s, given by

$$f_s = \text{upper fourth} - \text{lower fourth}$$

Boxplots

40 52 55 60 70 75 85 85 90 90 92 94 94 95 98 100 115 125 125

The five-number summary is as follows:

smallest $x_i = 40$ lower fourth $= 72.5$ $\tilde{x} = 90$ upper fourth $= 96.5$
largest $x_i = 125$

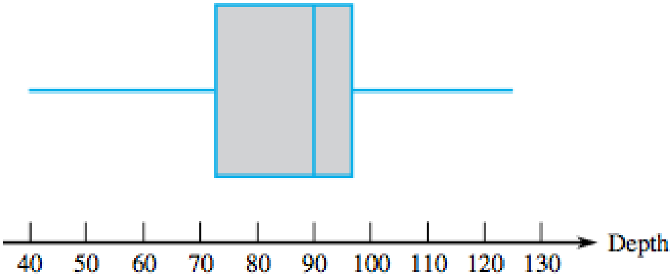
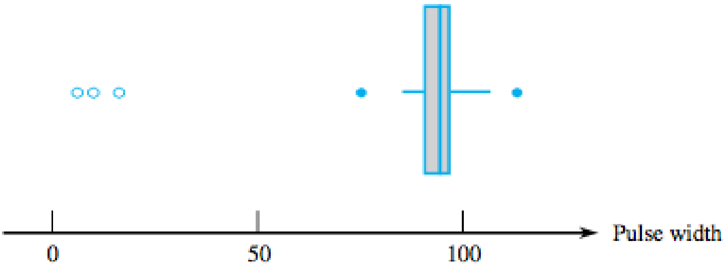


Figure 1.17 A boxplot of the corrosion data

Boxplot with outliers

Any observation farther than $1.5f_s$ from the closest fourth is an **outlier**. An outlier is **extreme** if it is more than $3f_s$ from the nearest fourth, and it is **mild** otherwise.



Statistics and sampling distribution

Overview

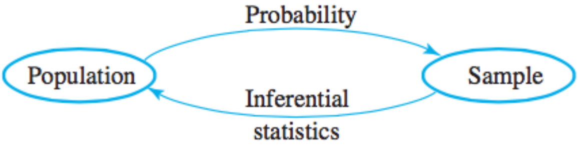
6.1 Statistics and their distributions

6.2 The distribution of the sample mean

6.3 The distribution of a linear combination

Order 6.1 $\rightarrow$ 6.3 $\rightarrow$ 6.2

Random sample



Definition

The random variables $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$ are said to form a (simple) random sample of size n if

1. the X_i's are independent random variables
2. every X_i has the same probability distribution

Recap: Independent random variables

Definition

Two random variables X and Y are said to be independent if for every pair of x and y values,

$$P(X = x, Y = y) = P_X(x) \cdot P_Y(y) \quad \text{if the variables are discrete}$$

or

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) \quad \text{if the variables are continuous}$$

Property

If X and Y are independent, then for any functions g and h

$$E[g(X) \cdot h(Y)] = E[g(X)] \cdot E[h(Y)]$$

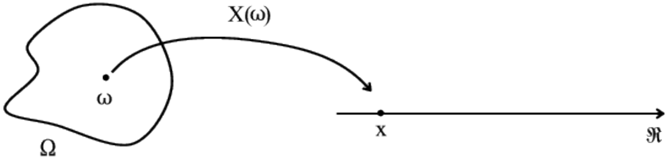
Statistics

Definition

A statistic is any quantity whose value can be calculated from sample data

- prior to obtaining data, there is uncertainty as to what value of any particular statistic will result $\rightarrow$ a statistic is a random variable
- the probability distribution of a statistic is referred to as its *sampling distribution*

Random variables



- random variables are used to model uncertainties
- Notations:
  - random variables are denoted by uppercase letters (e.g., X);
  - the calculated/observed values of the random variables are denoted by lowercase letters (e.g., x)

Example of a statistic

- Let $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$ be a random sample of size n
- The sample mean of $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$, defined by

$$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + X_2 + \ldots X_n}{n},$$

  is a statistic
- When the values of $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ are collected,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \ldots x_n}{n},$$

  is a realization of the statistic $\bar{X}$

Example of a statistic

- Let $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$ be a random sample of size n
- The random variable

$$T = X_1 + 2X_2 + 3X_5$$

  is a statistic
- When the values of $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$ are collected,

$$t = x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_5,$$

  is a realization of the statistic T

Questions for this chapter

Given statistic T computed from sample $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$

- Question 1: If we **know** the distribution of X_i's, can we obtain the distribution of T?
- Question 2: If we **don't know** the distribution of X_i's, can we still obtain/approximate the distribution of T?

Questions for this chapter

Real questions: If T is a linear combination of X_i's, can we

- compute the distribution of T in some easy cases?
- compute the expected value and variance of T?

Questions for this section

Real questions: If $T = X_1 + X_2$

- compute the distribution of T in some easy cases
- compute the expected value and variance of T