

L08 Hypothesis testing

1. An example of hypothesis testing

A machine is set up to produce a product with the mean width 3 mm. To test the setting of the machine a sample of 50 products is collected, and a test is conducted.

For the width $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ with known σ ,

$H_0 : \mu = 3$ versus $H_a : \mu \neq 3$
 Test statistic: $T = \frac{\bar{X}-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$
 Reject H_0 if $T < -1.96$ or $T > 1.96$ for $\alpha = 0.05$
 $Z_{ob} = 0.0032$.
 Fail to reject H_0 . The incorrect setting was not detected.

(1) Three-step test scheme

To specify a test scheme one must specify (i) the null and the alternative hypotheses (ii) the test statistic (iii) the decision rule

(2) Two-step implementation

To implement a test after specifying the test scheme there are (iv) computations and (v) conclusion.

2. Analysing a test

(1) Type I error and Type II error

	$\theta \in H_0$	$\theta \in H_a$
Rejecting H_0	Type I error	
Accepting H_0		Type II error

(2) Probability of rejecting H_0

For a test scheme, $\beta(\theta) = P_\theta(\text{Rejecting } H_0)$ is a function of θ

(3) Probability of Type I error, Power and Probability of Type II error

Probability	$\theta \in H_0$	$\theta \in H_a$
Rejecting H_0	$\beta(\theta) = P(\text{Type I error})$	$\beta(\theta)$: Power of the test at θ
Accepting H_0	$1 - \beta(\theta)$	$1 - \beta(\theta) = P(\text{Type II error})$

(4) α -level test

A test is an α -level test $\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \beta(\theta) \leq \alpha$ for all $\theta \in H_0$
 $\iff P(\text{Type I error}) \leq \alpha$ at all $\theta \in H_0$
 $\iff \sup[\beta(\theta) : \theta \in H_0] \leq \alpha$

Here the pre-selected α is called the significance of the test.

(5) Unbiased test

A test is unbiased $\stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \beta(\theta_1) \leq \beta(\theta_2)$ for all $\theta_1 \in H_0$ and all $\theta_2 \in H_a$
 $\iff \sup[\beta(\theta) : \theta \in H_0] \leq \beta(\theta)$ for all $\theta \in H_a$
 $\iff \text{Significance level } \alpha \leq \beta(\theta)$ for all $\theta \in H_a$.

For an unbiased test the probability of rejecting H_0 when H_0 is true is always less than or equal to the probability of rejecting H_0 when H_0 is false, i.e., $P(\text{Type I error}) \leq \text{Power}$.

(6) Comparison of powers

Suppose T and T_* are two tests on the same hypotheses.

T is more powerful than T_* at $\theta_1 \xLeftrightarrow{def} \theta_1 \in H_a$ and $\beta_T(\theta_1) \geq \beta_{T_*}(\theta_1)$.

T is uniformly more powerful than T_* $\xLeftrightarrow{def} \beta_T(\theta) \geq \beta_{T_*}(\theta)$ for all $\theta \in H_a$

(7) Uniformly most powerful (UMP) test in a class

T is UMP test in a class $\xLeftrightarrow{def} T$ is uniformly more powerful than all tests in the class.

Comment: For given hypothesis we always try to construct an α -level test and check if the test is unbiased or even if UMP test in the class.

3. Example

Consider the test in 1.

(1) Find the expression for $\beta(\mu)$

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2) \implies \bar{X} \sim N\left(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right) \implies T = \frac{\bar{X}-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \sim N\left(\frac{\mu-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}, 1^2\right) \sim \frac{\mu-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + N(0, 1^2).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\mu) &= P(T < -1.96) + P(T > 1.96) \\ &= P\left(N(0, 1^2) < -1.96 - \frac{\mu-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) + P\left(N(0, 1^2) > 1.96 - \frac{\mu-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

(2) Show that the test has level $\alpha = 0.05$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= \sup[\beta(\mu) : \mu \in H_0] = \beta(3) \\ &= P(N(0, 1^2) < -1.96 - 0) + P(N(0, 1^2) > 1.96 - 0) \\ &= 0.025 + 0.025 = 0.05. \end{aligned}$$

(3) Show that the test is unbiased.

Need to show $\alpha = 0.05 \leq \beta(\mu)$ for all $\mu \neq 3$, i.e.,

$$(i) \mu < 3 \implies \beta(\mu) \geq 0.05 \qquad (ii) \mu > 3 \implies \beta(\mu) \geq 0.05.$$

We show (i) only.

$$\mu < 3 \implies \frac{\mu-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} < 0 \implies h = -\frac{\mu-3}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} > 0.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\mu) - 0.05 &= [P(N(0, 1^2) < -1.96 + h) + P(N(0, 1^2) > 1.96 + h)] \\ &\quad - [P(N(0, 1^2) < -1.96) + P(N(0, 1^2) > 1.96)] \\ &= P(-1.96 < Z < -1.96 + h) - P(1.96 < Z < 1.96 + h) \\ &= P(1.96 - h < Z < 1.96) - P(1.96 < Z < 1.96 + h) \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$