

Class 29: Topic 21: Comparing Two Proportions

Held: Friday, 11 April 2008

Summary: We begin to consider what samples from two populations tell us about the relationships between those populations.

Notes:

- There is a typo on p. 420 in the definition of a confidence interval for $\pi_1 - \pi_2$. See if you can find it.
- My initial glance at the exams suggests we'll have a seriously bi-modal distribution. Since my main concern is that you learn the material, I am working on plans for a makeup exam.
- Are there questions on the mini-project?
- Homework for Monday: &due30;
- Handouts: Applets: Friendly Observer Simulation and Test of Significance Calculator; R Notes for Topic 21; Activity 21-1, Modified.

Overview:

- Sampling from multiple populations.
- New formulate for confidence and intervals and test statistics.

Comparing Two Proportions

- Recent topic: What does one sample tell us about the population?
- This topic: What do two samples, taken under different conditions, tell us about differences between the underlying populations?
- We'll use similar approaches:
 - Confidence intervals
 - Tests of significance

Some Important Formulae

- We typically start with four values: A sample proportion and sample size for condition 1, and a sample proportion and sample size for condition 2.
- In R, I'll call these p_1 , n_1 , p_2 , and n_2
- The p 's have implicit hats.
- It will be helpful to have the overall proportion, treating the two samples as a single sample from a combined population.
- $p_C = (p_1 * n_1 + p_2 * n_2) / (n_1 + n_2)$
- The confidence interval and test statistic are somewhat more complicated in these cases.
- Test statistic:

$$z = (p_1 - p_2) / \sqrt{p_c(1-p_c)(1/n_1 + 1/n_2)}$$

- Confidence interval:

- $lb = (p_1 - p_2) - z \sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n_1 + p_2(1-p_2)/n_2}$

- $ub = (p_1 - p_2) + z \sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n_1 + p_2(1-p_2)/n_2}$

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