DS 100/200: Principles and Techniques of Data Science **Date: Sep 4, 2019**

Discussion #2

Name:

Working with 0-1 Data

Often the data we work with are indicator variables that *indicate* whether a quality exists or not in individuals. Examples include: whether a voter voted for Trump in the 2016 election; whether someone released from Broward prison committed a crime within two years of release; whether 8^{th} boys in a school district out-perform the girls on a math test; whether women who have been married more than 5 years are having affairs.

These variables can be represented by 0-1 values, where a 1 denotes the individual has the characteristic and a 0 that they don't. This is a common way to represent a qualitative variable. Aside from being a common occurrence, 0-1 data are special in that they have features that make them easy to work with.

Let's explore these aspects of 0-1 data. We begin with a simple example. There are 20 people in Deb's extended family (parents, siblings, spouses, nieces and nephews) who were of voting age in 2016. From oldest to youngest, here's how they voted, where 1 stands for a Trump vote.

1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

1. If we want to summarize the support in her family for Trump, how would we do this?

proportion

2. More generally, we can refer to these data as $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$, where each x_i is a 0 or 1. Show that the average of the x_i, i.e., $\bar{x}$, is the proportion of 1s in the data. (In your proof, assume that m of the n values are 1s).

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i = \frac{1}{n}\left(1+0+0+1+1+\ldots+0+1\right) = \frac{1}{n}\left(m \cdot 1 + 0\right) = \boxed{\frac{m}{n}}$$

3. In class, we saw that for general values of x_i, the sample average minimizes the empirical risk for l_2 loss:

$$\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - c)^2$$

Confirm that the minimizer of the empirical risk in the special case of 0-1 data is the proportion of 1s in the sample. To do this, rewrite the summation as two summations, one for the xs that are 0 and the other for 1s. Let m be the number of 1s.

$$f(c) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - c)^2$$

$$f'(c) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} -2(x_i - c) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - c) = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i - nc = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i}$$

more general

Working with 0-1 Random Variables

Often we want to generalize our findings beyond the set of values that we have observed. For example, we might want to generalize to all voters, all parolees, all married women, all school districts, etc. To do this we need to understand how the data we have observed were generated. As you saw in Data 8, it can be problematic to generalize from your data to a larger population.

We describe on approach here that depends on a random process where we can compute the probability of an individual winding up in our sample.

Suppose that an individual chosen at random from the population has a chance p of having the characteristic, i.e., a chance p of being 1. And chance $1 - p$ of being 0.

Let X_1 – capital X, denote the 0-1 value of the first individual chosen at random according to this random process. Similarly define $X_2, \ldots, X_n$. We use upper case letters here to denote that these are random quantities that represent the possible outcome that the chance process might yield. This is not the same as our observed data values.

4. Provide a probability distribution table for X_1

x	1	0
$P(X_1 = x)$	p	$1-p$

5. Provide a probability distribution table for X_n

x	1	0
$P(X_n = x)$	p	$1-p$

Bernoulli

6. What is the expected value of X_1?

$$E[X_1] = 1 \cdot p + 0 \cdot (1-p) = \boxed{p}$$

7. If our goal is to find an estimator for the probability distribution that minimizes the expected squared loss, i.e.,

$$\mathbb{E}[(X-c)^2]$$

show that the value of c that minimizes the expected squared loss is $\mathbb{E}(X)$.

$X - c = X - \mu + \mu - c$

$\square \quad \Delta$

$$E[(X-\mu+\mu-c)^2]$$

$(\square + \Delta)^2 = \square^2 + 2\square\Delta$

$$= E[(X-\mu)^2 + 2(X-\mu)(\mu-c) + (\mu-c)^2]$$

$$= E[(X-\mu)^2] + E[2(X-\mu)(\mu-c)] + E[(\mu-c)^2] + \Delta^2$$

$$= \text{var}(X) + 2(\mu-c)(E[X]-\mu) + (\mu-c)^2$$

independent of c

$E[X]-\mu = 0$

$\rightarrow c = \mu$ minimizes

8. Note that with this data generation process, $\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i = \bar{X}$ can be used to estimate $p = \mathbb{E}(X_1)$. And we can show that

$$\mathbb{E}(\bar{X}) = p$$

Hence, the data generation/design process is crucial to our ability to make a good estimate for p.

$$E[\bar{X}] = E\left[\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} E[X_i] \quad \text{(by linearity of expectation)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \cdot n \cdot E[X_1]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \cdot n \cdot p$$

$$= \boxed{p} \quad \text{as required}$$

didn't cover problems 3, 4: consult official solutions

Population, Sampling Frame, and Bias

Hite Report

Shere Hite published the Hite Report in 1987. The book reported findings from a survey of 4,500 women. Some of these findings were quite sensational. We'll focus on one in particular:

> 70% who are married 5+ years are having sex outside their marriage

To carry out the survey, 100,000 questionnaires were mailed to such organizations as professional womens groups, counseling centers, church societies. Identify the following aspects of the sampling process.

9. Target Population – complete collection of individuals we want to generalize to

10. Question. – the focused question that we are trying to answer about the population.

11. Sampling Frame – collection of individuals that might have been chosen for the sample

12. Design – technique used to survey individuals in the sampling.

13. Sources of Bias – potential sources of bias that might be introduced by the difference between the population and the sampling frame and the sampling method/design. It looks like the sample is representative of the population in terms of race and location (see tables below), but they might differ in other important ways.

Location	Study	U. S.
Large city/urban	60%	62%
Rural	27%	26%
Small town	13%	12%

Race	Study	U. S.
White	82.5%	83%
Black	13%	12%
Hispanic	1.8%	1.5%
Asian	1.8%	2%

Boys Outperform Girls in Math

In June 2018, the Upshot published an article about the performance of 8^{th} grade girls and boys in school districts across the country. (`https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/06/13/upshot/boys-girls-math-reading-tests.html`) We will simplify the scenario and consider only whether or not the boys outperformed the girls on average in a school district. (The actual data was how much more advanced in their math studies was one group over the other). From the article, we know that "the study included test scores from the 2008 to 2014 school years for 10,000 of the roughly 12,000 school districts in the United States," and we can assume that the data collected were a census since there was no sampling involved.

Identify the following aspects of the sampling process:

14. Target Population – CAUTION - an individual is not necessarily a person. What is being studied here?

15. Question –

16. Sampling Frame –

17. Design –

18. Confounders – What are some possible ways that we may break down the data to compare more homogenous groups? How do you think the proportion might change in these smaller groups?