



Chapter 7. Survey sampling

1 Random sampling

Population = set of elements $\{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ labeled by values $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$.

PD = population distribution of x -values.

Pick at random one element from the population.
Its x -value $X \sim$ PD is a random variable with the population distribution.

Types of x -values (data):

continuous, discrete, categorical, dichotomous (2 categories).

General population parameters

population mean $\mu = E(X)$,

population standard deviation $\sigma = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X)}$,

population proportion p (dichotomous data).

Two methods of studying PD and population parameters:

enumeration - expensive, sometimes impossible,

random sample: n random observations (X_1, \dots, X_n) ,

N is the population size, n is the sample size.

Randomisation is a guard against investigator's biases even unconscious

Sampling with and without replacement

Sampling without replacement produces so called Simple Random Sample:

negative dependence $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = -\frac{\sigma^2}{N-1}$,

to prove use $X_1 + \dots + X_N = \text{const.}$ and the addition rule of variance.

Sampling with replacement:

IID sample: Independent Identically Distributed observations,

easier to analyse,

good approximation of the simple random sample if n/N is small.

Example. Students heights: height in cm = discrete data, gender = dichotomous data.

2 Point estimates

Population parameter θ estimation uses a point estimate $\hat{\theta} = \hat{\theta}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$.

Sampling distribution of $\hat{\theta}$ around unknown θ : different values $\hat{\theta}$ observed for different samples.

Mean square error

$$E(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2 = [E(\hat{\theta}) - \theta]^2 + \sigma_{\hat{\theta}}^2$$

$E(\hat{\theta}) - \theta$ = systematic error, bias, lack of accuracy; $\sigma_{\hat{\theta}}$ = random error, lack of precision.

Desired properties of point estimates:

- $\hat{\theta}$ is an unbiased estimate of θ , if $E(\hat{\theta}) = \theta$,
- $\hat{\theta}$ is consistent, if $E(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2 \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Sample mean $\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}$ is an unbiased and consistent estimate of μ

$$\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \begin{cases} \sigma^2/n & \text{if IID sample} \\ \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \left(1 - \frac{n-1}{N-1}\right) & \text{if simple random sample} \end{cases}$$

Finite population correction $1 - \frac{n-1}{N-1}$ can be neglected if sample proportion $\frac{n}{N}$ is small.

Dichotomous data: $P(X_i = 1) = p$, $P(X_i = 0) = q$, $\mu = p$, $\sigma^2 = pq$, population proportion p . Sample proportion $\hat{p} = \bar{X}$ is an unbiased and consistent estimate of p .

Sample variance $s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2$, where s is the sample standard deviation.

Other formulae:

$$s^2 = \frac{n}{n-1} (\overline{X^2} - \bar{X}^2), \text{ where } \overline{X^2} = \frac{1}{n} (X_1^2 + \dots + X_n^2),$$

$$\text{dichotomous data case } s^2 = \frac{n}{n-1} \hat{p}\hat{q}.$$

Sample variance is an unbiased estimate of σ^2

$$E(s^2) = \begin{cases} \sigma^2 & \text{if IID sample} \\ \sigma^2 \frac{N}{N-1} & \text{if simple random sample.} \end{cases}$$

Standard errors of \bar{X} and \hat{p} for simple random sample: $s_{\bar{X}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{n}{N}}$, $s_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}\hat{q}}{n-1}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{n}{N}}$.

Standard errors for IID sampling $s_{\bar{X}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$, $s_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}\hat{q}}{n-1}}$

3 Confidence intervals

Approximate sampling distribution $\bar{X} \stackrel{a}{\sim} N(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n})$

$$P(\bar{X} - z s_{\bar{X}} < \mu < \bar{X} + z s_{\bar{X}}) = P(-z < \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{s_{\bar{X}}} < z) \approx 2(1 - \Phi(z))$$

Approximate 100(1- α)% two-sided CI for μ and p : $\bar{X} \pm z_{\alpha/2} \cdot s_{\bar{X}}$ and $\hat{p} \pm z_{\alpha/2} \cdot s_{\hat{p}}$, if n is large

100(1- α)%	68%	80%	90%	95%	99%	99.7%
$z_{\alpha/2}$	1.00	1.28	1.64	1.96	2.58	3.00

The higher is confidence level the wider is the CI, the larger is sample the narrower is the CI.

95% CI is a random interval: out of 100 intervals computed for 100 samples

$\text{Bin}(100, 0.95) \approx N(95, (2.18)^2)$ will cover the true value.

4 Stratified random sampling

Population consists of L strata with known L strata fractions $W_1 + \dots + W_L = 1$ and unknown strata means μ_l and standard deviations σ_l

Population mean $\mu = W_1\mu_1 + \dots + W_L\mu_L$,

population variance $\sigma^2 = \bar{\sigma}^2 + \sum W_l(\mu_l - \mu)^2$,

average variance $\bar{\sigma}^2 = W_1\sigma_1^2 + \dots + W_L\sigma_L^2$,

average standard deviation $\bar{\sigma} = W_1\sigma_1 + \dots + W_L\sigma_L$.

Stratified random sampling: take L independent samples from each stratum with sample means $\bar{X}_1, \dots, \bar{X}_L$

$$\text{Stratified sample mean: } \bar{X}_s = W_1\bar{X}_1 + \dots + W_L\bar{X}_L$$

\bar{X}_s is an unbiased and consistent estimate of μ : $E(\bar{X}_s) = W_1E(\bar{X}_1) + \dots + W_LE(\bar{X}_L) = \mu$.

Sample variance $s_{\bar{X}_s}^2 = (W_1s_{\bar{X}_1})^2 + \dots + (W_Ls_{\bar{X}_L})^2$

$$\text{Approximate CI for } \mu: \bar{X}_s \pm z_{\alpha/2} \cdot s_{\bar{X}_s}$$

Pooled sample mean $\bar{X}_p = \frac{1}{n}(n_1\bar{X}_1 + \dots + n_L\bar{X}_L)$, pooled sample size $n = n_1 + \dots + n_L$.

$E(\bar{X}_p) = \frac{n_1}{n}\mu_1 + \dots + \frac{n_L}{n}\mu_L = \mu + \sum(\frac{n_l}{n} - W_l)\mu_l$,

$\text{bias}(\bar{X}_p) = \sum(\frac{n_l}{n} - W_l)\mu_l$.

Example. Students heights: $L = 2$, $W_1 = W_2 = 0.5$, compare \bar{X}_s with \bar{X}_p .

$$\text{Optimal allocation: } n_l = n \frac{W_l\sigma_l}{\bar{\sigma}}, \text{Var}(\bar{X}_{so}) = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \bar{\sigma}^2$$

\bar{X}_{so} minimizes standard error of X_s . Weakness: usually unknown σ_l and $\bar{\sigma}$.

$$\text{Proportional allocation: } n_l = nW_l, \text{Var}(\bar{X}_{sp}) = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \bar{\sigma}^2$$

Compare three unbiased estimates of μ : $\text{Var}(\bar{X}_{so}) \leq \text{Var}(\bar{X}_{sp}) \leq \text{Var}(\bar{X})$.

Variability in σ_l across strata:

$$\text{Var}(\bar{X}_{sp}) - \text{Var}(\bar{X}_{so}) = \frac{1}{n}(\bar{\sigma}^2 - \bar{\sigma}^2) = \frac{1}{n} \sum W_l(\sigma_l - \bar{\sigma})^2.$$

Variability in means μ_l across strata:

$$\text{Var}(\bar{X}) - \text{Var}(\bar{X}_{sp}) = \frac{1}{n}(\sigma^2 - \bar{\sigma}^2) = \frac{1}{n} \sum W_l(\mu_l - \mu)^2.$$