

STAT 518 --- Chapter 6 --- Goodness-of-Fit Tests

- Often in statistics, we assume a sample comes from a particular distribution.
- Goodness-of-fit tests help us determine whether the assumed distribution is reasonable for the data we have.

Section 6.1: Kolmogorov Goodness-of-Fit Test

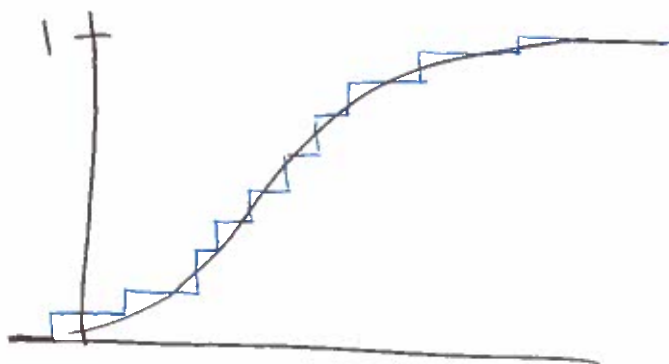
- Recall that the empirical distribution function (e.d.f.) $\hat{F}(x) = S(x)$ ← book's notation of a sample is an estimate of the cumulative distribution function (c.d.f.)

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x) \quad \text{for all } x$$

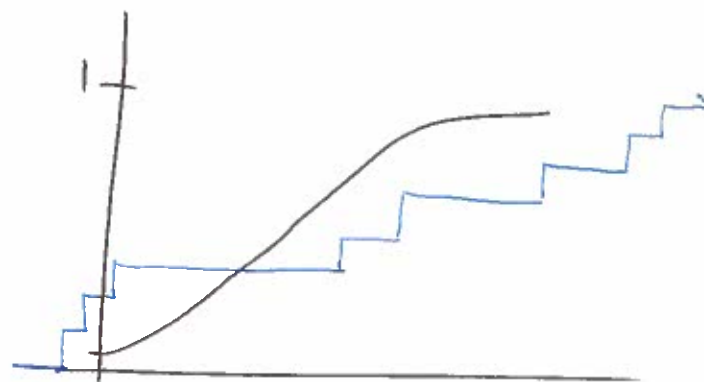
for the population that the sample came from.

- If $S(x)$ is close to the c.d.f. $F^*(x)$ of our assumed distribution, then our assumption is reasonable.
- If $S(x)$ is far from the c.d.f. $F^*(x)$ of our assumed distribution, then our assumption should be rejected.

Picture:



Good fit



Poor fit

- How to measure the distance between $S(x)$ and $F^*(x)$?
- Kolmogorov suggested using the maximum vertical discrepancy between $S(x)$ and $F^*(x)$ as a test statistic:

$$T = \sup_x |F^*(x) - S(x)|$$

- In Chapter 6 we will see several tests that use a type of maximum vertical discrepancy.
- For the Kolmogorov Goodness-of-Fit test, we assume only that we have a random sample X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n .

Test Statistic (depends on the alternative hypothesis):

(Two-Sided) $T = \sup_x |F^*(x) - S(x)|$

(One-Sided) $T^+ = \sup_x (F^*(x) - S(x))$

(One-Sided) $T^- = \sup_x (S(x) - F^*(x))$

- The null distribution of T is tabulated in Table A13 for $n \leq 40$.
- This approach is exact if $F(x)$ is continuous and conservative if $F(x)$ is discrete.
- Pages 435-436 describe an adjustment to improve the test if $F(x)$ is discrete, but we will not cover this.
- If $n > 40$, an asymptotic null distribution can be used (see equation (5) on page 431).

Possible Hypotheses and Decision Rules

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 H_0: F(x) = F^*(x) & \text{for all } x & H_0: F(x) \geq F^*(x) & \text{for all } x & H_0: F(x) \leq F^*(x) & \text{for all } x \\
 H_1: F(x) \neq F^*(x) & \text{for some } x & H_1: F(x) < F^*(x) & \text{for some } x & H_1: F(x) > F^*(x) & \text{for some } x
 \end{array}$$

• The corresponding rejection rules in each case are:

Reject H_0 if

$$T > W_{1-\alpha}$$

↖ Table A13, 2-sided

Reject H_0 if

$$T^+ > W_{1-\alpha}$$

↖ Table A13, One-sided

Reject H_0 if

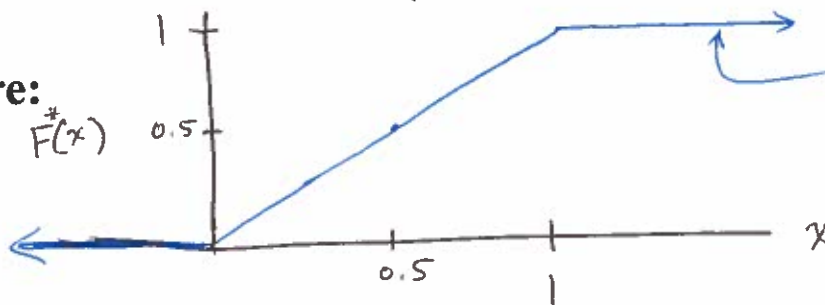
$$T^- > W_{1-\alpha}$$

↖ Table A13, One-sided

• The P-values for each case are approximated by interpolation within Table A13 or found using R.

Example 1: Ten observations are obtained in a sample which supposedly comes from a Uniform(0, 1) distribution. The sorted sample is: 0.203, 0.329, 0.382, 0.477, 0.480, 0.503, 0.554, 0.581, 0.621, 0.710. Is there evidence that the hypothesized distribution is incorrect? (Use $\alpha = 0.05$.)

Picture:



$$H_0: F(x) = F^*(x) \text{ for all } x \text{ vs. } H_1: F(x) \neq F^*(x) \text{ for some } x$$

Test statistic: $T = 0.29$ from R.

Decision rule: Reject H_0 if $T > W_{.95} = .409$ (Table A13, 2-sided)
 P-value $\approx .307$ from R. Since $0.29 < .409$, we fail to reject H_0 . Conclude that the Unif(0,1) distribution is reasonable for these data.

Example 2: A medical team collecting counts of tumors on kidneys has used a Poisson(1.75) distribution to model the counts in the past. They gather such counts on 18 kidneys and obtain this sample: 2, 2, 4, 1, 3, 1, 4, 0, 2, 2, 1, 1, 0, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3. Is there evidence that the count distribution is actually stochastically larger than previously thought? (Use $\alpha = .05$.)

"Stochastically larger than previous"
 \Rightarrow For any x , "Real $P(X > x)$ " $>$ "Previous (Assumed) $P(X > x)$ "
 \Rightarrow "Real $P(X \leq x)$ " $<$ "Assumed $P(X \leq x)$ "
 $\Rightarrow H_1$ is: $F(x) < F^*(x)$
 $H_0: F(x) \geq F^*(x)$ for all x vs. $H_1: F(x) < F^*(x)$ for some x .
 The Pois (1.75) cdf

Decision Rule: Reject H_0 if $T^+ > W_{.95} = 0.279$ (Table A13, one-sided, $n=18$)
 Test Statistic: $T^+ = 0.4106$ from R

Since $.4106 > .279$, reject the H_0 and conclude the true distribution tends to produce larger counts than the Poisson(1.75) distribution. P -value $\approx .0015$ from R.

In R, see the function `ks.test` to perform this test.

A Confidence Band for the True Population c.d.f.

- From Table A13, it is easy to obtain an upper function and lower function that form a $(1 - \alpha)100\%$ confidence band.
- We can be, say, 95% confident that the entire true c.d.f. will fall within the 95% confidence band.

- To form the band, simply draw the e.d.f $S(x)$, and add $W_{1-\alpha}$ from Table A13 (two-sided) to each point to form the upper boundary of the band.
- Subtract $W_{1-\alpha}$ from $S(x)$ at each point to form the lower boundary.
- If $S(x) - W_{1-\alpha}$ goes below 0, simply draw the lower boundary at 0 in those places.
- If $S(x) + W_{1-\alpha}$ exceeds 1, simply draw the upper boundary at 1 in those places.
- See example in R using Example 1 data.

Properties of the Kolmogorov Test

- The two-sided Kolmogorov test is consistent against all differences between the hypothesized $F^*(x)$ and the true $F(x)$.
- However, the test is biased for finite sample sizes.
- The Kolmogorov test is more powerful than the chi-squared goodness-of-fit test (covered in Chapter 4) when the data are ordinal.
- The Kolmogorov test is exact even for small samples, while the chi-square test requires a large sample size.