# Chi-Squared Tests <br> Math 6070, Spring 2006 

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"Chi-squared tests" refers to a family of statistical test whose large-sample asymptotics are related in one way or another to the $\chi^{2}$ family of distributions. These are our first examples of "non-parametric procedures." Let me mention one particularly useful chi-squared test here before we get started properly. Consider a population whose distribution is believed to follow a known density function $f$-say, exponential(12). Then there is a chi-squared test that can be used to check our hypothesis. This chi-squared test is easy to implement, and works well for large-sized samples. First, we study a related parametric estimation problem. Then we find a consistent MLE. And finally, we use our estimate to devise a test for our hypothesis. This will be done in several stages. It is likely that you already know something of the resulting " $\chi^{2}$-test" (page 7). But here you will find a rigorous proof, in line with the spirit of this course, of the fact that the said $\chi^{2}$-test actually works. A [convincing but] non-rigorous justification of the same fact can be found in pages 314-316 of the excellent monograph of P. Bickel and K. Doksum [Mathematical Statistics, Holden Day, First edition, 1977]. There, a likelihood principle argument is devised, which "usually" works.

## 1 MLE for Goodness-of Fit

Suppose $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ is an independent sample from a finite population. More precisely, let $t_{1}, \ldots, t_{m}$ be $m$ distinct numbers (or "types"), and $\boldsymbol{\theta}:=\left(\theta_{1}, \ldots, \theta_{m}\right)$ an $m$-dimensional probability vector. Consider i.i.d. random variables $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ such that $\mathrm{P}\left\{X_{1}=t_{i}\right\}=\theta_{i}$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$. That is, each $X$ is of type $t_{i}$ with probability $\theta_{i}$. We wish to find a (actually, "the") MLE for the mass function of the $X_{i}$ 's. That is, the MLE for the vector $\boldsymbol{\theta}:=\left(\theta_{1}, \ldots, \theta_{m}\right)$. Note that, here, $\Theta$ is the collection of all $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ such that $0 \leq \theta_{1}, \ldots, \theta_{m} \leq 1$ and $\theta_{1}+\cdots+\theta_{m}=1$.

This is a kind of parametric problem, of course, and we proceed by computing the MLE.

Define $\boldsymbol{N}:=\left(N_{1}, \ldots, N_{m}\right)$ to be the count statistics for the various types. Using column-vector notation, this means that

$$
\boldsymbol{N}=\left(\begin{array}{c}
\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbf{I}\left\{X_{j}=t_{1}\right\}  \tag{1}\\
\vdots \\
\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbf{I}\left\{X_{j}=t_{m}\right\}
\end{array}\right)
$$

In words, $N_{k}$ denotes the number of occurances of type $k$ in the sample $\boldsymbol{X}:=$ $\left(X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}\right)$. Note that $\sum_{j=1}^{m} N_{j}=n$, so the $N_{j}$ 's are obviously dependent rv's. Let us calculate their joint mass function.

Let $\boldsymbol{n}=\left(n_{1}, \ldots, n_{m}\right)$ be an $m$-vector of positive integers such that $\sum_{j=1}^{m} n_{j}=$ $n$. Such $\boldsymbol{n}$ 's are the possible values of $\boldsymbol{N}$. Moreover,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\{\boldsymbol{N}=\boldsymbol{n}\}=\sum \mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left\{X_{1}=s_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}=s_{n}\right\} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the sum is taken over all $s=\left(s_{1}, \ldots, s_{n}\right)$ such that $n_{1}$ of them are of type $t_{1}, n_{2}$ of type $t_{2}$, etc. For all such $\boldsymbol{s}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left\{X_{1}=s_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}=s_{n}\right\}=\theta_{1}^{n_{1}} \cdots \theta_{m}^{n_{m}} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Moreover, the number of all such $\boldsymbol{s}$ 's is exactly

$$
\begin{equation*}
\binom{n}{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{m}}:=\frac{n!}{n_{1}!\cdots n_{m}!} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, we have derived the following.
Lemma 1 The random n-vector $\boldsymbol{N}$ has the multinomial distribution with parameters $(n, \boldsymbol{\theta})$. That is, for all integers $n_{1}, \ldots, n_{m} \geq 1$ such that $n_{1}+\cdots+n_{m}=$ $n$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\{\boldsymbol{N}=\boldsymbol{n}\}=\binom{n}{n_{1}, \ldots, n_{m}} \theta_{1}^{n_{1}} \cdots \theta_{m}^{n_{m}} . \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Consider the special case $n=2$. Then, $N_{1} \sim \operatorname{binomial}(n, \theta)$, and $N_{2}=$ $n-N_{1}$. So the multinomial distribution is an extension of the binomial in this
sense. We write " $\boldsymbol{N} \sim \operatorname{Multinomial}(n, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ " in place of the statement that " $\boldsymbol{N}$ is multinomial with parameters $(n, \boldsymbol{\theta})$."

It turns out that we can compute the MLE for $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ by using $\boldsymbol{N}$ as the basic data. To do so, we use Lemma 1 and first find the log-likelihood as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
L(\boldsymbol{\theta})=A+\sum_{i=1}^{m} N_{i} \ln \theta_{i} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $A$ does not depend on $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. The case where some $\theta_{i} \in\{0,1\}$ is trivial and can be ruled out easily. Therefore, we may assume that $0<\theta_{i}<1$ for all $i=1, \ldots, m$. Thus, for all $l=1, \ldots, m$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_{l}} L(\boldsymbol{\theta})=\sum_{i=1}^{m}\left(\frac{N_{i}}{\theta_{i}} \cdot \frac{\partial \theta_{i}}{\partial \theta_{l}}\right) . \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

As $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ varies in $\Theta, \theta_{1}, \ldots, \theta_{m}$ roam freely subject to the single condition that $\theta_{m}=1-\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \theta_{i}$. In other words, $\left(\partial \theta_{i} / \partial \theta_{l}\right)=0$ for all $i=1, \ldots, m-1$ different from $l$, but $\left(\partial \theta_{m} / \partial \theta_{l}\right)=-1$. This proves that $\left(\partial L(\boldsymbol{\theta}) / \partial \theta_{l}\right)=\left(N_{m} / \theta_{m}\right)-\left(N_{l} / \theta_{l}\right)$ for all $l=1, \ldots, m-1$. Set it equal to zero (for MLE) to see that there must exist $\gamma$ such that $N_{j}=\gamma \theta_{j}$ for all $j=1, \ldots, m$. But $\sum_{j=1}^{m} N_{j}=n$, whereas $\sum_{j=1}^{m} \theta_{j}=1$. Therefore, $\gamma=n$. We have proved the following.

Lemma 2 The MLE for $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ based on $N_{1}, \ldots, N_{m}$ is given by

$$
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}:=\left(\begin{array}{c}
N_{1} / n  \tag{8}\\
\vdots \\
N_{m} / n
\end{array}\right) .
$$

[To prove that $\partial L / \partial \theta_{l}=0$ indeed yields a maximum, you take second derivatives and apply similar arguments.]

## 2 The Multinomial Distribution

Choose and fix a probability vector $\boldsymbol{\theta}$, and assume it is the true one so that we write $\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{E}$, etc. in place of the more cumbersome $\mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, \mathrm{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$, etc.

We can use (1) to say a few more things about the distribution of $\boldsymbol{N}$. Note first that (1) is equivalent to the following:

$$
\boldsymbol{N}=\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left(\begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{I}\left\{X_{j}=t_{1}\right\}  \tag{9}\\
\vdots \\
\mathbf{I}\left\{X_{j}=t_{m}\right\}
\end{array}\right):=\sum_{j=1}^{n} \mathbf{Y}_{j} .
$$

We can compute directly to find that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{E} \boldsymbol{Y}_{\mathbf{1}}=\boldsymbol{\theta} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
\operatorname{Cov} \boldsymbol{Y}_{1} & =\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
\theta_{1}\left(1-\theta_{1}\right) & -\theta_{1} \theta_{2} & \cdots & -\theta_{1} \theta_{m} \\
-\theta_{1} \theta_{2} & \theta_{2}\left(1-\theta_{2}\right) & \cdots & -\theta_{2} \theta_{m} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
-\theta_{m} \theta_{1} & -\theta_{m} \theta_{2} & \cdots & \theta_{m}\left(1-\theta_{m}\right)
\end{array}\right)  \tag{11}\\
& :=\boldsymbol{Q}_{0} .
\end{align*}
$$

Because $\boldsymbol{Y}_{1}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{Y}_{n}$ are i.i.d. random vectors, the following is a consequence of the preceding, considered in conjunction with the multidimensional CLT.

Theorem 3 As $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\boldsymbol{N}-n \boldsymbol{\theta}}{\sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{d} N_{m}\left(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q}_{0}\right) . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

There is a variant of Theorem 3 which is more useful to us. Define

$$
\widetilde{\boldsymbol{N}}:=\left(\begin{array}{c}
\left(N_{1}-n \theta_{1}\right) / \sqrt{\theta_{1}}  \tag{13}\\
\vdots \\
\left(N_{m}-n \theta_{m}\right) / \sqrt{\theta_{m}}
\end{array}\right) .
$$

This too is a sum of $n$ i.i.d. random vectors $\tilde{\boldsymbol{Y}}_{1}, \ldots, \widetilde{\boldsymbol{Y}}_{n}$, and has

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{E} \tilde{\boldsymbol{Y}}_{1}:=\mathbf{0} \quad \text { and } \quad \operatorname{Cov} \tilde{\boldsymbol{Y}}_{1}=\boldsymbol{Q} \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{Q}$ is the $(m \times m)$-dimensional covariance matrix given below:

$$
\boldsymbol{Q}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
1-\theta_{1} & -\sqrt{\theta_{1} \theta_{2}} & \cdots & -\sqrt{\theta_{1} \theta_{m}}  \tag{15}\\
-\sqrt{\theta_{1} \theta_{2}} & 1-\theta_{2} & \cdots & -\sqrt{\theta_{2} \theta_{m}} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
-\sqrt{\theta_{m} \theta_{1}} & -\sqrt{\theta_{m} \theta_{2}} & \cdots & 1-\theta_{m}
\end{array}\right) .
$$

Then we obtain,
Theorem 4 As $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \widetilde{\boldsymbol{N}} \xrightarrow{d} N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q}) \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remark 5 One should be a little careful at this stage because $\boldsymbol{Q}$ is singular. [For example, consider the case $m=2$.] However, $N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})$ makes sense even in this case. The reason is this: If $\boldsymbol{C}$ is a non-singular covariance matrix, then we know what it means for $\boldsymbol{X} \sim N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{C})$, and a direct computation reveals that for all real numbers $t$ and all $m$-vectors $\boldsymbol{\xi}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{E}\left[\exp \left(i t \boldsymbol{\xi}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{X}\right)\right]=\mathrm{E}\left[\exp \left(-\frac{t^{2}}{2} \boldsymbol{\xi}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{C} \boldsymbol{\xi}\right)\right] \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

This defines the characteristic function of the random variable $\boldsymbol{\xi}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{X}$ uniquely. There is a theorem (Mann-Wold device) that says that a unique description of the characteristic function of $\boldsymbol{\xi}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{X}$ for all $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ also describes the distribution of $\boldsymbol{X}$ uniquely. This means that any random vector $\boldsymbol{X}$ that satisfies (17) for all $t \in \mathbf{R}$ and $\boldsymbol{\xi} \in \mathbf{R}^{m}$ is $N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{C})$. Moreover, this approach does not require $\boldsymbol{C}$ to be invertible. To learn more about multivariate normals, you should attend Math. 6010.

As a consequence of Theorem 4 we have the following: As $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\|\widetilde{\boldsymbol{N}}\|^{2} \xrightarrow{d}\left\|N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})\right\|^{2} . \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

[Recall that $\|\boldsymbol{x}\|^{2}=x_{1}^{2}+\cdots+x_{m}^{2}$.] Next, we identify the distribution of $\left\|N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})\right\|^{2}$. A direct (and somewhat messy) calculation shows that $\boldsymbol{Q}$ is a projection matrix. That is, $\boldsymbol{Q}^{2}:=\boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{Q}=\boldsymbol{Q}$. It follows fairly readily from this that its eigenvalues are all zeros and ones. Here is the proof: Let $\lambda$ be an eigenvalue and $\boldsymbol{x}$ an eigenvector. Without loss of generality, we may assume that $\|\boldsymbol{x}\|=1$; else, consider the eigenvector $\boldsymbol{y}:=\boldsymbol{x} /\|\boldsymbol{x}\|$ instead. This means that $\boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{x}=\lambda \boldsymbol{x}$. Therefore, $\boldsymbol{Q}^{2} \boldsymbol{x}=\lambda^{2} \boldsymbol{x}$. Because $\boldsymbol{Q}^{2}=\boldsymbol{Q}$, we have proven that $\lambda=\lambda^{2}$, whence it follows that $\lambda \in\{0,1\}$, as promised. Write $\boldsymbol{Q}$ in its spectral form. That is,

$$
\boldsymbol{Q}=\boldsymbol{P}^{\prime}\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
\lambda_{1} & 0 & \cdots & 0  \tag{19}\\
0 & \lambda_{2} & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_{m}
\end{array}\right) \boldsymbol{P},
$$

where $\boldsymbol{P}$ is an orthogonal $(m \times m)$ matrix. [This is because $\boldsymbol{Q}$ is positive semidefinite. You can learn more on this in Math. 6010.] Define

$$
\boldsymbol{\Lambda}:=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
\sqrt{\lambda_{1}} & 0 & \cdots & 0  \tag{20}\\
0 & \sqrt{\lambda_{2}} & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & \cdots & \sqrt{\lambda_{m}}
\end{array}\right) \boldsymbol{P} .
$$

Then, $\boldsymbol{Q}=\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}$, which is why $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ is called the (Penrose) square root of $\boldsymbol{Q}$. Let $\boldsymbol{Z}$ be an $m$-vector of i.i.d. standard normals and consider $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{Z}$. This is multivariate normal (check characteristic functions), $\mathrm{E}[\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{Z}]=\mathbf{0}$, and $\operatorname{Cov}(\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{Z})=$ $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{\prime} \operatorname{Cov}(\boldsymbol{Z}) \boldsymbol{\Lambda}=\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{\prime} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}=\boldsymbol{Q}$. In other words, we can view $N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})$ as $\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{Z}$. Therefore,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\|N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})\right\|^{2} \stackrel{d}{=}\|\boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{Z}\|^{2}=\sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_{j} Z_{i}^{2} \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

Because $\lambda_{i} \in\{0,1\}$, we have proved that $\left\|N_{m}(\mathbf{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})\right\| \sim \chi_{r}^{2}$, where $r=$ $\operatorname{rank}(\boldsymbol{Q})$. Another messy but elementary computation shows that the rank of
$\boldsymbol{Q}$ is $m-1$. [Roughly speaking, this is because the $\theta_{i}$ 's have only one source of linear dependence. Namely, that $\theta_{1}+\cdots+\theta_{m}=1$.] This proves that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\|\widetilde{N}\|^{2} \xrightarrow{d} \chi_{m-1}^{2} \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

Write out the left-hand side explicitly to find the following:
Theorem 6 As $n \rightarrow \infty$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\left(N_{i}-n \theta_{i}\right)^{2}}{n \theta_{i}} \xrightarrow{d} \chi_{m-1}^{2} \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

It took a while to get here, but we will soon be rewarded for our effort.

## 3 Application to Goodness-of-Fit

### 3.1 Testing for a Finite Distribution

In light of the development of Section 1, can paraphrase Theorem 6 as saying that under $\mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}$, as $n \rightarrow \infty,{ }^{1}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
n \mathbb{X}_{n}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \xrightarrow{d} \chi_{m-1}^{2}, \quad \text { where } \quad \mathbb{X}_{n}(\boldsymbol{\theta}):=\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\left(\hat{\theta}_{i}-\theta_{i}\right)^{2}}{\theta_{i}} \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

Therefore, we are in a position to derive an asymptotic $(1-\alpha)$-level confidence set for $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. Define for all $a>0$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{n}(a):=\left\{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta: \mathbb{X}_{n}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \leq \frac{a}{n}\right\} \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

Equation (24) shows that for all $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathrm{P}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}\left\{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in C_{n}(a)\right\}=\mathrm{P}\left\{\chi_{m-1}^{2} \leq a\right\} \tag{26}
\end{equation*}
$$

We can find (e.g., from $\chi^{2}$-tables) a number $\chi^{2}(\alpha)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{P}\left\{\chi_{m-1}^{2}>\chi_{m-1}^{2}(\alpha)\right\}=\alpha \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

It follows that

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{n}\left(\chi_{m-1}^{2}(\alpha)\right) \text { is an asymptotic level }(1-\alpha) \text { confidence interval for } \boldsymbol{\theta} \tag{28}
\end{equation*}
$$

[^0]The statistics $\mathbb{X}_{n}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is a little awkward to work with, and this makes the computation of $C_{n}\left(\chi_{m-1}^{2}(\alpha)\right)$ difficult. Nevertheless, it is easy enough to use $C_{n}\left(\chi_{m-1}^{2}(\alpha)\right)$ to test simple hypotheses for $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

Suppose we are interested in the test

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{0}: \boldsymbol{\theta}=\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0} \quad \text { versus } \quad H_{1}: \boldsymbol{\theta} \neq \boldsymbol{\theta}_{0} \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}=\left(\theta_{01}, \ldots, \theta_{0 m}\right)$ is a (known) probability vector in $\Theta$. Then we can reject $H_{0}$ (at asymptotic level $\left.(1-\alpha)\right)$ if $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0} \notin C_{n}\left(\chi_{m-1}^{2}(\alpha)\right)$. In other words,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\text { we reject } H_{0} \text { if } \mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right)>\frac{\chi_{m-1}^{2}(\alpha)}{n} \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

Because $\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right)$ is easy to compute, (29) can be carried out with relative ease. Moreover, $\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right)$ has the following interpretation: Under $H_{0}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\left(\mathrm{Obs}_{i}-\operatorname{Exp}_{i}\right)^{2}}{\operatorname{Exp}_{i}} \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathrm{Obs}_{i}$ denotes the number of observations in the sample that are of type $i$, and $\operatorname{Exp}_{i}:=\theta_{0 i}$ is the expected number-under $H_{0}$-of sample points that are of type $i$.

Next we study two examples.
Example 7 A certain population contains only the digits 0 , 1, and 2. We wish to know if every digit is equally likely to occur in this population. That is, we wish to test

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{0}: \boldsymbol{\theta}=\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) \quad \text { versus } \quad H_{1}: \boldsymbol{\theta} \neq\left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right) . \tag{32}
\end{equation*}
$$

To this end, suppose we make 1,000 independent draws from this population, and find that we have drawn 300 zeros $\left(\hat{\theta}_{1}=0.3\right), 340$ ones $\left(\hat{\theta}_{2}=0.34\right)$, and 360 twos ( $\left.\hat{\theta}_{3}=0.36\right)$. That is,

| Types | Obs | Exp | $(\text { Obs }- \text { Exp })^{2} /$ Exp |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0.30 | $1 / 3$ | $3.33 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 1 | 0.34 | $1 / 3$ | $1.33 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| 2 | 0.36 | $1 / 3$ | $2.13 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| Total | 1.00 | 1 | 0.00551 (approx.) |

Suppose we wish to test (32) at the traditional (asymptotic) level 95\%. Here, $m=3$ and $\alpha=0.05$, and we find from chi-square tables that $\chi_{2}^{2}(0.05) \approx 5.9991$. Therefore, according to (30), we reject if and only if $\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right) \approx 0.00551$ is greater than $\chi_{2}^{2}(0.05) / 1000 \approx 0.005991$. Thus, we do not reject the null hypothesis at asymptotic level $95 \%$. On the other hand, $\chi_{2}^{2}(0.1) \approx 4.605$, and $\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right)$ is greater than $\chi_{2}^{2}(0.1) / 1000 \approx 0.004605$. Thus, had we performed the test at
asymptotic level $90 \%$ we would indeed reject $H_{0}$. In fact, this discussion has shown that the "asymptotic $P$-value" of our test is somewhere between 0.05 and 0.1 . It is more important to report/estimate $P$-values than to make blanket declarations such as "accept $H_{0}$ " or "reject $H_{0}$." Consult your Math. 5080-5090 text(s).

To illustrate this example further, suppose the table of observed vs. expected remains the same but $n=2000$. Then, $\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right) \approx 0.00551$ is a good deal greater than $\chi_{2}^{2}(0.05) / n \approx 0.00299955$ and we reject $H_{0}$ soundly at the asymptotic level $95 \%$. In fact, in this case the $P$-value is somewhere between 0.005 and 0.0025 (check this!). You can find many online $\chi^{2}$-tables. One such table can be found at "http://www.unc.edu/ ~farkouh/usefull/chi.html." [The unfortunate misspelling "usefull" is not due to me.]

### 3.2 Testing for a Density

Suppose we wish to know if a certain data-set comes from the exponential(12) distribution (say!). So let $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ be an independent sample. We have

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{0}: X_{1} \sim \operatorname{exponential}(12) \quad \text { versus } \quad H_{1}: X_{1} \nsim \operatorname{exponential}(12) . \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

Now take a fine mesh $0<z_{1}<z_{2}<\ldots<z_{m}<\infty$ of real numbers. Then,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{P}_{H_{0}}\left\{z_{j} \leq X_{1} \leq z_{j+1}\right\}=12 \int_{z_{j}}^{z_{j+1}} e^{-12 r} d r=e^{-12 z_{j}}-e^{-12 z_{j+1}} \tag{34}
\end{equation*}
$$

These are $\theta_{0 j}$ 's, and we can test to see whether or not $\boldsymbol{\theta}=\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}$, where $\theta_{j}$ is the true probability $\mathrm{P}\left\{z_{j} \leq X_{1} \leq z_{j+1}\right\}$ for all $j=1, \ldots, m$. The $\chi^{2}$-test of the previous section handles just such a situation. That is, let $\hat{\theta}_{j}$ denote the proportion of the data $X_{1}, \ldots, X_{n}$ that lies in $\left[z_{j}, z_{j+1}\right]$. Then (30) provides us with an asymptotic $(1-\alpha)$-level test for $H_{0}$ that the data is exponential(12). Other distributions are handled similarly, but $\theta_{0 j}$ is in general $\int_{z_{j}}^{z_{j+1}} f_{0}(x) d x$, where $f_{0}$ is the density function under $H_{0}$.

Example 8 Suppose we wish to test (33). Let $m=5$, and define $z_{j}=(j-1) / 10$ for $j=1, \ldots, 5$. Then,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\theta_{0 j}=\mathrm{P}_{H_{0}}\left\{\frac{j-1}{10} \leq X_{1} \leq \frac{j}{10}\right\}=\exp \left(-\frac{6(j-1)}{5}\right)-\exp \left(-\frac{6 j}{5}\right) . \tag{35}
\end{equation*}
$$

That is,

| $\boldsymbol{j}$ | $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\mathbf{0} \boldsymbol{j}}$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 0.6988 |
| 2 | 0.2105 |
| 3 | 0.0634 |
| 4 | 0.0191 |
| 5 | 0.0058 |

Consider the following (hypothetical) data: $n=200$, and

| $j$ | $\theta_{0 j}$ | $\hat{\theta}_{j}$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 0.6988 | 0.7 |
| 2 | 0.2105 | 0.2 |
| 3 | 0.0634 | 0.1 |
| 4 | 0.0191 | 0 |
| 5 | 0.0058 | 0 |

Then, we form the $\chi^{2}$-table, as before, and obtain

| Types | Exp | Obs | $(\text { Obs }-\mathbf{E x p})^{2} /$ Exp |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0.6988 | 0.7 | $2.06 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 2 | 0.2105 | 0.2 | 0.00052 |
| 3 | 0.0634 | 0.1 | 0.0211 |
| 4 | 0.0191 | 0 | 0.0191 |
| 5 | 0.0058 | 0 | 0.0058 |
| Total | 0.9976 | 1 | 0.04655 (approx.) |

Thus, $\mathbb{X}_{n}\left(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}\right) \approx 0.04655$. You should check that $0.05 \leq P$-value $\leq 0.1$. In fact, the $P$-value is much closer to 0.1 . So, at the asymptotic level $95 \%$, we do not have enough evidence against $H_{0}$.

Some things to think about: In the totals for "Exp," you will see that the total is 0.9976 and not 1 . Can you think of why this has happened? Does this phenomenon render our conclusions false (or weaker than they may appear)? Do we need to fix this by including more types? How can we address it in a sensible way? Would addressing this change the final conclusion?


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ The statistic $\mathbb{X}_{n}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ was discovered by K. Pearson in 1900 , and is therefore called the "Pearson $\chi^{2}$ statistic." Incidentally, the term "standard deviation" is also due to Karl Pearson (1893).

