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When would you use Chi-Square?

Recall earlier, we had sets of pie-charts like these ones:



Although the data are fabricated, they represent the types of questions we want to address. If you line up several groups which are subdivided into the same sub-categories, are the proportional variations meaningful between the groups? Are Democrats more likely to be liberal? Are Republicans more likely to vote? Who is more likely to use mail-in ballots? All these things can be analysed with a Chi-Square test.

This discussion consists of three main parts, and they fit together in the shape of the letter

Υ.

- What is the Chi-Square family of distributions?
- What is the *Chi-Square* statistic?
- What is the *Chi-Square* test?

You ought to know what this family of distributions is, and if you're going to even play around a little bit with it by hand, you need to know how to calculate the statistic. The test is a process by which you look up the value you just calculated, on a table which represents this distribution, and this generates a p - value that tells you how unlikely it would be to get such an extreme result if your Null is true.

The Chi-Square family is a one-tail family, and it will soon make sense why. (But if you really think about why, you may only become more convinced as I am, that one-tail tests on the Normal curve are always nonsensical.)

In the study of statistics, there seems to be a lot of vocabulary. That's because every time you do something to a variable or a distribution, statisticans give it a new name!

So what is χ ?

"Chi", which rhymes with 'sky' and sounds like the name "Kai", χ is the Greek letter "ch" as in "choromatic" or "archeology" or "chaos". (Chai is a beverage and starts with the same sound as cheese, but that is a different 'ch' sound!)









Folding the Normal Curve



Folding and Stretching the Normal Curve



The χ^2 family of distributions begins with this one, which is just found by squaring the Normal Distribution. It's as if you took every item in the Standardized Normal distribution and squared it. The height of the distribution we had at z=1 will be double that height on the χ^2 graph at x = 1. The height that was at z=2 will be doubled and go to 4. The height that was at z=0.5 doubles and goes to 0.25 and so forth.

What you know from the Empirical Rule is useful here! You know that 68% of the time, you are to the left of x = 1, so 32% of the time, you are in the tail to the right of x = 1.

Notice that you are doing a one-tail test. However, this is a folded form of the Normal Distribution, so a one-tail test is automatically like a two-tail test!

The whole family!



 χ_1^2 is the distribution for z_1^2 if z_1 is sampled randomly from N(0,1).

Adding in the whole family!



The k = 2 curve is

$$z_1^2 + z_2^2$$

as just explained, if z_1 and z_2 are from N(0,1).



The k = 3 curve comes from $z_1^2 + z_2^2 + z_3^2$. The k = 4 curve comes from $z_1^2 + z_2^2 + z_3^2 + z_4^2$. Recall how previously, we have done exercises where we added two or more independent random Normal variables:

$$N(a, b) + N(c, d) = N(a + c, \sqrt{b^2 + d^2})$$

This should feel similar in some way, because after the squaring step, you are just adding the pieces together, and each piece you are adding is just from χ_1^2 . In our diagram, that is called $f_1(x)$.

Hard to estimate areas

Using this diagram, it's hard for you to estimate things like, "What is the expected value for k = n?"



Since it's hard to estimate areas...

Easier to estimate areas

We have another way of expressing these distributions. It's a visual form of the χ^2 Tables.



Using this diagram, you can estimate things like, "What is the expected value for k = n?"

Easier to estimate areas



First, verify that the k = 1 curve hits about 0.68 when x = 1. That agrees with the Empirical Rule. It also hits about 0.95 when x = 4.

It hits the 0.5 mark near x = 0.5. This means that roughly half population of N(0,1) when squared will be under one half! About 80% is under 1.6 and 90% is below 3.

Central Limit Theorem

Any distribution when sampled randomly and independently, will eventually limit to a Normal Distribution.

We saw this already when the Binomial distributions converged to the Normal. So, a distribution with just two bars (0 and 1, or success and failure) did this! All distributions have this property, and χ_1 is no exception!

Note: Mathematicans could probably come up with counterexamples, but they would not apply to real world problems!

$N(k,\sqrt{2k})$

As k grows, the χ_k^2 mean gets closer to k and the standard deviation gets closer to $\sqrt{2k}$.

Like our binomial distribution, this is similar to "counts" or "totals" rather than averages. You can, of course, divide by k to find the averages if you wish. We don't need to do that in this course.

Just as with our other distributions, you have paper tables as well as StatCrunch tools that give you progressively more accurate values for calculation purposes. But, there is nothing like a picture to help you understand what's happening!

You will get practice on the worksheet with looking at the graphic, and the table, and the StatCrunch tool. Now, we turn our discussion to the statistic we will be calculating, and associated concepts.

After that, we'll put those ideas together.

df

We use the concept of *degrees of freedom* frequently enough in Statistics that we have an abbreviation for it: *df*. 'Degrees of freedom' means simply, "How many choices do we have?"

You can fully define a circle with a center (which has two coordinates) and a radius, for a total of three choices. So, a circle has three degrees of freedom.



Degrees of Freedom

A line on the x-y plane can be drawn by defining a y-intercept and a slope, which is two choices or two degrees of freedom.

But you may have instead drawn a line by placing a point on each of the two axes, but you still only made two choices, so this only confirms that a line has two degrees of freedom.



There are often multiple ways of describing your choices, but the total number of choices remains the same.

A quadratic, which is really a parabola with its line of symmetry parallel to the y-axis, can be defined using a vertex (2 choices) and a directrix (one choice, since it has to be horizontal).

This same quadratic can be defined by choosing *a*, *b*, and *c* in the formula $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, but you still have just 3 choices to make.

3 choices



Focus and Directrix for Parabola

You have 3 decisions to make for a parabola of this type. You choose the focus, and your directrix will have the form y = C where you get to choose C. (The vertex is always halfway between the focus and the directrix!)

What does *df* mean in this context?

	А	В	Total
P			80
Q			220
Total	100	200	300

	А	В	Total
Р	?		80
Q			220
Total	100	200	300

You may choose the number of items which exhibit properties A and P, but once you do that, you have no more freedom. Likewise, you could have picked another cell to fill, but once you do, you're done. So, here, **you have one degree of freedom**.

	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Total
Р								33
Q								30
R								27
Total	8	12	15	11	14	17	13	90

	А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Total
Р	?	?	?	?	?	?		33
Q	?	?	?	?	?	?		30
R								27
Total	8	12	15	11	14	17	13	90

One way to think of this is to ask how many cells you could fill in before the rest of the cells are determined. In this case, we have 12 cells that we can fill before the rest are determined. So we had **12 degrees of freedom**. We may have chosen different cells to fill, but we would have selected a total of 12. We do have to be careful which 12 we choose, because we could not, for example, choose all the cells in column A. But let's presume we only make selections which are non-conflicting. So we have 12 choices. Note: $(7 - 1) \cdot (3 - 1) = 12$.

In order to do a Chi-Square test, you need Chi-Square tables, we need a Chi-Square *statistic* that we will look up on a table or computer. How do we calculate this?



Add together the χ^2 contributions for each cell:

$$\frac{(\textit{Observed} - \textit{Expected})^2}{\textit{Expected}}$$

Let us do this one together:

Color	Candies	Cookies	Total
Yellow	10	20	
Black	20	30	
Total			

We have a total of 80 colored food items.

There are $\frac{30}{80}$ Yellow items and $\frac{30}{80}$ Candies, so we would expect a ratio of $\frac{30\cdot30}{80\cdot80} = 0.140625$ or 11.25 Yellow Candies.

We instead see we have slightly fewer, or 10.

$$\frac{(11.25-10)^2}{11.25} = 0.1389.$$

Color	Candies	Cookies	Total
Yellow	10	20	
Black	20	30	
Total			

Recall our Expected Values shortcut:

Row sum times column sum divided by overall sum.

Expected Yellow Candies = (30*30)/80 = 11.25Expected Yellow Cookies = (30*50)/80 = 18.75Expected Black Candies = (50*30)/80 = 18.75Expected Black Cookies = (50*50)/80 = 31.25

Now χ^2 contributions:

Color	Candies	Cookies	Total
Yellow	10	20	
Black	20	30	
Total			

Yellow Candies: $(11.25 - 10)^2/11.25 = 0.1389$ Yellow Cookies: $(18.75 - 20)^2/18.75 = 0.0833$ Black Candies: $(18.75 - 20)^2/18.75 = 0.0833$ Black Cookies: $(31.25 - 30)^2/31.25 = 0.05$

Add those: 0.3555

On StatCrunch

Stat > Tables > Contingency > With Summary Select columns: Cookies, Candies Row Variable: Color Display: Contibutions to Chi-Square

Untitle StatCr	ed runch +	Applets -	Edit -	Options	enc	r tab	le reculte.		20	
Row	Color	Cookies	Candies	Rows: Co	olor	- La O	ic results.			
1	Yellow	10	20	Columns	: No	me				
2	Black	20	30							
3					Ce	ll for	mat			
4				Count						
5				(Contrib	outio	ns to	Chi-Squar	re)		
6										
7					Co	okies	Candies	Total		
8				Vellow		10	20	30		
9					(0.14)	(0.08)			
10				Black		20	30	50		
11				Distances	0	0.08)	(0.05)	20		
12				Tetel		20	50	80		
13				Total		50	50	50		
14				Chi Son						
15				Christe	are	DF	T. Inc.	n		Ż
16				Statist	1C	Dr	varue	r-	varus	1
17				Chi-squ	are	1	0.3555555	6	0.55	1
18										

Consistent with intuition, this is not significant, as you can see from the p-value.

Verify the *df* and the Value.

Untitle StatCr	ed runch +	Applets •	Edit -	Options	ency	tab	e reculto.		20	2
Row	Color	Cookies	Candies	Rows: C	olor					
1	Yellow	10	20	Columns	: Not	ne				
2	Black	20	30							
3					Cel	for	mat			
4				Count						
5				(Contri	bution	ns to	Chi-Squa	re)		
6										
7					Coo	kies	Candies	Total		
8				Yellow		10	20	30		
9					(0	.14)	(0.08)			
10				Black		20	30	50		
11				Distant	(0	.08)	(0.05)	20		
12				Total		20	50	20		
13				Total		50	50	30		
14				Chi-Son	are f	est-				
15				Statio	da la	DE	Value	D		
16				Statis	inc :	or	varue	r-	vaiue	
17				Chi-squ	are	1	0.355555	56	0.551	
18										

I think we agree, right? If we have four counts with four forced totals, we can only make one choice, like saying we have 10 yellow cookies. Once we make that choice, the other 3 categories are set. Notice they were all off by exactly the same count value of 1.25 (but not the same percent)!

Looking up the value.



Since df = 1 in this situation, look at that curve. But this curve is backwards from what we're going to want for a p-value. This gives the total area, not the remaining area! For our statistic value of 0.3555, we should estimate that the area captured thus far is near 0.4. You can't do much better than that on this graphic. That's close enough. That would give a remaining tail of roughly 0.6 which is not remotely significant. This graphic is quite accurate enough to allow you to reject the hypothesis that the color distribution between the cookies and candies is anything other than random. You will notice that a value of 0.3555 doesn't appear in the table anyhwere. The lowest value on the paper table anywhere at all is 1.32.

This is not inconclusive! On the contrary, we get the exact same result as we did before, which is to say that the tail probability is too high to do anything other than fail to reject the null. We have no evidence to make a claim of difference between these groups.

And StatCrunch?

We can, of course, use technology to generate uselessly accurate values.

 $\mathsf{Stat} > \mathsf{Calculators} > \mathsf{Chi}\text{-}\mathsf{Square}$



It may not be obvious why this process that we use to calculate the chi-square statistic is equivalent to adding up n copies of z^2 . However, if you are interested in seeing the algebraic steps in detail, Wikipedia has a great article on this and explains it nicely.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chi-squared_distribution

For the χ^2 family, when we cut off the tail on the high end, this is really like a two-tail test that we would do on a Normal distribution. Is it clear to you why that is?

When we squared the Normal distribution, we combined the two tails into one tail, on right side.

Example: If the average of a sample is 10, the contribution to the χ^2 statistic from 9 or 11 will be the same. The contribution from 5 or 15 will be the same. What we are looking at is based off the difference to the mean, so being on the right or left side doesn't matter. All the contributions get added up.

Yes, many of the χ^2 curves have two tails, however, if you are anywhere to the left of that maximum "hump", your p-value is insignificant, unless for some reason you're trying to demonstrate that someone's data are *too perfect*. However, I have (strangely) never heard of any statistician being accused of fabricating data because they're too perfect.



You now have the tools to fully explore the Simpson's Paradox exercises. In addition to the analysis you've done, you can test both the split data as well as the combined data to see if there is evidence that the effects you are claiming to see are even meaningful or not! As before with LSR, let's investigate a progression where two things are not related in any way, but they progress until they're totally related.

The truth of A will remain constant, but the B truth values will slowly start to agree more and more with A's truth values.

Progression 1: No interaction

Contingency table results:

Rows: A Columns: B

Cell format
Count
(Expected count)

	false	true	Total
false	20 (20.88)	16 (15.12)	36
true	38 (37.12)	26 (26.88)	64
Total	58	42	100

Chi-Square test:

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	0.13797665	0.7103

A can be true or false, and so can B. Currently there is no interaction.

Contingency table results:

Rows: A Columns: D1

Cell format		
Count		
(Expected count)		

	false	true	Total
false	21 (21.24)	15 (14.76)	36
true	38 (37.76)	26 (26.24)	64
Total	59	41	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	0.010334849	0.919

Contingency table results:

Rows: A Columns: D2

Cell format			
Count			
(Expected count)			

	false	true	Total
false	22 (20.52)	14 (15.48)	36
true	35 (36.48)	29 (27.52)	64
Total	57	43	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	0.38788023	0.5334

Contingency table results: Rows: A Columns: D3

Cell format		
Count		
(Expected count)		

	false	true	Total
false	22 (19.08)	14 (16.92)	36
true	31 (33.92)	33 (30.08)	64
Total	53	47	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	1.485626	0.2229

Contingency table results: Rows: A

Columns: D4

Cell format		
Count		
(Expected count)		

	false	true	Total
false	23 (17.28)	13 (18.72)	36
true	25 (30.72)	39 (33.28)	64
Total	48	52	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	5.6893808	0.0171

Contingency table results: Rows: A Columns: D5

Cell format			
Count			
(Expected count)			

	false	true	Total
false	26 (16.56)	10 (19.44)	36
true	20 (29.44)	44 (34.56)	64
Total	46	54	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	15.570764	< 0.0001

Progression 7

Contingency table results: Rows: A

Columns: D6

Cell format
Count
(Expected count)

	false	true	Total
false	30 (15.12)	6 (20.88)	36
true	12 (26.88)	52 (37.12)	64
Total	42	58	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	39.449918	< 0.0001

Contingency table results:

Rows: A Columns: D7

Cell format			
Count			
(Expected count)			

	false	true	Total
false	32 (15.48)	4 (20.52)	36
true	11 (27.52)	53 (36.48)	64
Total	43	57	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	48.327497	< 0.0001

Contingency table results: Rows: A

Columns: D8

Cell format			
Count			
(Expected count)			

	false	true	Total
false	33 (14.04)	3 (21.96)	36
true	6 (24.96)	58 (39.04)	64
Total	39	61	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	65.584279	< 0.0001

Progression 10

Contingency table results: Rows: A Columns: D9

Cell format		
Count		
(Expected count)		

	false	true	Total
false	35 (14.04)	1 (21.96)	36
true	4 (24.96)	60 (39.04)	64
Total	39	61	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	80.15039	< 0.0001

Progression 11

Contingency table results:

Rows: A Columns: A

Cell format
Count
(Expected count)

	false	true	Total
false	36 (12.96)	0 (23.04)	36
true	0 (23.04)	64 (40.96)	64
Total	36	64	100

Statistic	DF	Value	P-value
Chi-square	1	100	< 0.0001

MEMORY QUESTION

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