

Multinomial distribution

Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k be k jointly distributed random variables, each of which is discrete and integer-valued such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k x_i = m,$$

a positive integer. Suppose the joint probability-mass function of x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k is

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) = \binom{m}{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \dots p_k^{x_k}$$

$$\text{where } \sum_{i=1}^k x_i = m \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^k p_i = 1 \\ \text{and } p_i > 0 \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, k \\ = 0, \text{ elsewhere.}$$

Here p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k are all parameters and x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k are called multinomial variables.

M.G.F of multinomial distribution

The m.g.f of multinomial distribution is given by.

$$\begin{aligned} M(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k) &= E \left[e^{\sum_{i=1}^k t_i x_i} \right] \\ &= \sum_{\substack{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \\ \sum_{i=1}^k x_i = m}} e^{\sum_{i=1}^k t_i x_i} \frac{m!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_k!} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \dots p_k^{x_k} \\ &= \sum_{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k} \frac{m!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_k!} (p_1 e^{t_1})^{x_1} (p_2 e^{t_2})^{x_2} \dots (p_k e^{t_k})^{x_k} \\ &= (p_1 e^{t_1} + p_2 e^{t_2} + \dots + p_k e^{t_k})^m \end{aligned}$$

Now, $\mu_i' = E(x_i)$

$$= \left(\frac{\partial M}{\partial t_i} \right)_{t_i=0}$$

$$= m (p_1 e^{t_1} + \dots + p_k e^{t_k})^{m-1} p_i e^{t_i} \Big|_{t_i=0}$$

$$= m p_i$$

$$E(x_i^2) = \left(\frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial t_i^2} \right)_{t_i=0}$$

$$= m(m-1) p_i^2 e^{2t_i} (p_1 e^{t_1} + \dots + p_k e^{t_k})^{m-2}$$

$$+ m (p_1 e^{t_1} + \dots + p_k e^{t_k})^{m-1} p_i e^{t_i} \Big|_{t_i=0}$$

$$= m(m-1) p_i^2 + m p_i$$

$$\therefore \text{Var}(x_i) = \sigma_i^2$$

$$= m(m-1) p_i^2 + m p_i - m^2 p_i^2$$

$$= m p_i - m p_i^2$$

$$= m p_i (1 - p_i)$$

$$\text{Now, } E(x_i x_j) = m(m-1) p_i p_j e^{(t_i+t_j)} (p_1 e^{t_1} + \dots + p_k e^{t_k})$$

$$= m(m-1) p_i p_j$$

$$\therefore \text{Cov}(x_i x_j) = E(x_i x_j) - E(x_i) E(x_j)$$

$$= m(m-1) p_i p_j - m^2 p_i p_j$$

$$= -m p_i p_j$$

It follows that the correlation coefficient between x_i

$$\text{is } \rho = \frac{-m p_i p_j}{\sqrt{m p_i (1-p_i)} \sqrt{m p_j (1-p_j)}} = -\sqrt{\frac{p_i p_j}{(1-p_i)(1-p_j)}}$$

Marginal distribution

The marginal distⁿ of X_1 is obtain by summing over other $(k-1)$ variables X_2, X_3, \dots, X_k as.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_1 = x_1) &= \sum_{x_2} \sum_{x_3} \dots \sum_{x_k} \frac{m!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_k!} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \dots p_k^{x_k} \\
 &= \frac{m! p_1^{x_1}}{x_1! (m-x_1)!} \sum_{x_2} \sum_{x_3} \dots \sum_{x_k} \frac{(m-x_1)!}{x_2! x_3! \dots x_k!} p_2^{x_2} \dots p_k^{x_k} \\
 &= \binom{m}{x_1} p_1^{x_1} (p_2 + p_3 + \dots + p_k)^{m-x_1} \\
 &= \binom{m}{x_1} p_1^{x_1} (1-p_1)^{m-x_1}
 \end{aligned}$$

This means that the marginal distribution of X_1 is of the binomial type with parameters m and p_1 .

Proceeding in the similar way the marginal distⁿ of any q ($q < k-1$) of the variables say X_1, X_2, \dots, X_q can be obtain as

$$P(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_q = x_q) = \frac{m!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_q! (m-x_1-x_2-\dots-x_q)!} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \dots p_q^{x_q} (1-p_1-p_2-\dots-p_q)^{m-\sum_{i=1}^q x_i}$$

which is also of the multinomial type with parameter m and p_1, p_2, \dots, p_q

Conditional distribution.

The conditional distⁿ of $X_1 = x_1$, given $X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_{k-1} = x_{k-1}$ is obtain as.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X_1 = x_1 / X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_{k-1} = x_{k-1}) &= \frac{P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_{k-1} = x_{k-1})}{P(X_2 = x_2, X_3 = x_3, \dots, X_{k-1} = x_{k-1})} \\
 &= \frac{\frac{m!}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_{k-1}! (m - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{k-1})!} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \dots (1 - p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_{k-1})^{m - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{k-1}}}{\frac{m!}{x_2! x_3! \dots x_{k-1}! (m - x_2 - x_3 - \dots - x_{k-1})!} p_2^{x_2} p_3^{x_3} \dots (1 - p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_{k-1})^{m - x_2 - x_3 - \dots - x_{k-1}}} \\
 &= \frac{(m - x_2 - x_3 - \dots - x_{k-1})!}{x_1! (m - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{k-1})!} \left(\frac{p_1}{1 - p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_{k-1}} \right)^{x_1} \\
 &\quad \times \left\{ 1 - \frac{p_1}{1 - p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_{k-1}} \right\}^{m - x_1 - x_2 - x_3 - \dots - x_{k-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the conditional distribution of X_1 , given X_2, X_3, \dots, X_{k-1} is of the binomial type with parameters $(m - x_2 - x_3 - \dots - x_{k-1})$ and $\frac{p_1}{1 - p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_{k-1}} = P(\text{say})$

Now the regression of X_1 on the others X_2, X_3, \dots, X_{k-1} is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(X_1 / X_2, X_3, \dots, X_{k-1}) &= (m - x_2 - x_3 - \dots - x_{k-1}) \frac{p_1}{1 - p_2 - p_3 - \dots - p_{k-1}} \\
 &= mP - x_2P - x_3P - \dots - x_{k-1}P
 \end{aligned}$$