Statistics for Human Genetics and Molecular Biology Lecture 3: Some Statistical Tools

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Objectives of Lecture 3

Continuous Data

- Summarizing and Presenting Continuous Data
- Two sample Test
- Permutation Test
- Categorical Data
 - Tabulating and Plotting Categorical Data

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- Test for Contingency Tables
- Cochran-Armitage Trend Test

Summarizing and Presenting Continuous Data



The ALL Dataset

- Microarrays data with 12,625 gene expression probes (features) from 128 individuals with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).
- individual specific covariates: gender, age, tumor type and stage, translocation mutations (Philadelphia chromosome), molecular types, ...

	01005	01010	03002	04006	04007
1000_at	7.60	7.48	7.57	7.38	7.91
1001_at	5.05	4.93	4.80	4.92	4.84
1002_f_at	3.90	4.21	3.89	4.21	3.42
1003_s_at	5.90	6.17	5.86	6.12	5.69
1004_at	5.93	5.91	5.89	6.17	5.62

Philadelphia Chromosome



Changed chromosome 9

Gene Expression Example



Distribution of 1636_g_at probe by cancer molecular subtypes

Gene Expression Example (ALL Data)





- Is this difference worth reporting?
- Some journal requires statistical significance. What does it mean?

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Men are taller than women



This statement refers to population averages: the population average of men's height is larger than the population average of women

One Data Point





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Sampling Distribution of Means



The sampling distribution depends on:

- The type of statistic
- The population distribution
- The sample size



Hypothesis Testing

Test of hypothesis: answer a yes, or no question regarding a population parameter.

Example: Does the gene expression from the two molecular groups (BCR/ABL vs. NEG) have the same population mean?



Distribution of 1636_g_at probe by cancer molecular subtypes

Molecular types

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Two Sample T-Test

$$H_{0}: \mu_{1} = \mu_{2}$$
versus
$$H_{a}: \mu_{1} \neq \mu_{2}$$
Test Statistic: T = $\frac{\overline{X_{1}} - \overline{X_{2}}}{\sqrt{\frac{s_{1}^{2}}{\mu_{1}} + \frac{s_{2}^{2}}{\mu_{2}}}}$ (signal to noise ratio)

Reject H_0 , if $|T| > t_{\alpha/2,k}$



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p value



p value: the probability of observing a test statistic more extreme as the one that was actually observed under the null distribution.

Two Sample T-Test

- ▶ When reject *H*₀:
 - The difference is statistically significant.
 - The observed difference can not be explained by chance variation.
- ▶ When fail to reject *H*₀:
 - The difference is not statistically significant.
 - There is insufficient evidence to conclude that $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$
 - The observed difference could reasonably be the result of chance variation.

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Two Sample T-Test

```
>g1<- data[whp, ALL_bcrneg$mol.biol==''BCR/ABL"]
>g2 <- data[whp,ALL_bcrneg$mol.biol==''NEG"]</pre>
>t.test(g1, g2)
Welch Two Sample t-test
data: g1 and g2
t = 9.1304, df = 68.717, p-value = 1.792e-13
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
0.8596467 1.3403765
sample estimates:
mean of x mean of y
9.781236 8.681225
```

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Wilcoxon Rank-Sum Test (Nonparametric Test)

Small sample setting when normality assumption is not reasonable

> wilcox.test(g1,g2)

Wilcoxon rank sum test data: g1 and g2 W = 1432, p-value = 8.306e-13 alternative hypothesis: true location shift is not equal to 0

Permutation

Idea: generate the null distribution by random shuffling group label

Group 1	Group 2
0.82	-1.19
0.12	-0.84
0.46	1.89

Randomly assign the group labels \rightarrow T^*



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 $P\text{-value} = Pr(|T^{\star}| \ge |T_{obs}|)$

Permutation Test



Permutation Test is A Good Friend

Good: Do not assume distribution for the test statistic Bad: Computational intense (longer computation time)

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The t-test relies on a normality assumption. When sample size is small, consider:

- Wilcoxon Rank Sum Test
- Permutation Test

 \rightarrow The crucial assumption is independence between observations.

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Multiple Groups Comparison



Distribution of 1636_g_at probe by cancer molecular subtypes

Molecular types

Multiple groups comparison: Hypothesis

Are there differences in the means of gene expression among the three molecular groups (ALL1/AF4, BCR/ABL, NEG) ?

$$H_0$$
 : $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu_3$,
 H_2 : H_0 is false

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ANOVA

Grouping variable is important if there is large between group variation, and small within group variation.



ANOVA: Gene Expression Example

>summary(aov(all[whs,] \sim ALL3\$mol.biol))

	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F value	Pr(>F)
ALL3\$mol.biol	2	25.77	12.88	44.04	0.0000
Residuals	86	25.16	0.29		





Kruskal-Wallis (K-W) Test

Small sample setting when normality assumption is not reasonable

> kruskal.test(all[whs,], ALL3\$mol.biol, na.action=na.exclude)

Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test data: all[whs,] and ALL3mol.biolKruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 43.5804, df = 2, p-value = 3.441e-10

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Permutation Test



Exercise: Your turn, use the ALL data example to generate the permuted null distribution.

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Permutation Test

```
>perm <-1000
>tstar<- rep(NA, perm)</pre>
> for (i in 1:perm){
       group <- sample(ALL_bcrneg$mol.biol)</pre>
       g1<- data[whp, group==''BCR/ABL"]
       g2 <- data[whp, group==''NEG"]
       tstar[i] <- t.test(g1, g2)$statistic</pre>
}
> plot(density(tstar), main=''Permuted Null
Distribution")
> pvalue <- mean(abs(tstar) >= abs(tobs))
> pvalue
[1] 0
```

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