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INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

Data Exploration

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Credits



34 Stories To Help You Actually Understand Statistics

Statistics

- Estimation vs inference
- Estimation: how big or small something is.
- Inference: making conclusions. Usually with a statistical test or hypothesis.

Data type

- Categorical (e.g. "fertilized" vs "control")
- Real numbers
 - Continuous (1.34, 147.3...)
 - Discrete (1, 30)
- If real numbers: data restricted? (e.g. positive)

Models

- Dependent variable: the one you want to explain: Y.
- Independent variable: explanatory: X.

 Explain Y: central tendency and measure of dispersion

∽ X



• Mean (arithmetic mean):

$$\overline{\mathbf{X}} = \frac{\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2 + \dots + \mathbf{X}_n}{n}$$

• Median: middle value





Bill Gates: Outlier

- Yearly salaries
- Mean: \$125,039,375
- Median: \$42,500

\$250,000	
\$85,000	•
\$50,000	
\$45,000	
\$40,000	•
\$35,000	
\$30,000	
\$30,000	

- Cost of surgery
- **Mean**: \$70,625
- Median: \$42,500

• Variance:

$$V = \frac{1}{n} \int_{i=1}^{p} n_i (\mathbf{x}_i - \overline{\mathbf{x}})^2$$

• Standard deviation: $SD = \sqrt{V}$



- Interquartile range: IQR=Q3-Q1
 - Breakdown point of 25%
 - Middle of IQR: median





- Without Bill Gates:
 - Approx. Normal
 - Mean: \$42,360
 - SD: \$9,616
 - 5% of the salaries
 below \$23,128 or
 above \$61,592

Normal distribution

- Sum of lot of random events
- Bell shaped
- Symmetrical
- Mean = median
- 95% of values within ± 2 SD









- With Bill Gates:
 - Skewed
 - Mean: \$12 million
 - SD: \$100 million
 - Can't have a salary of negative \$88 million
 - Median: \$41,900
 - IQR: \$36,000 to\$49,300

Correlations

- Measures the strength of association between two continuous variables.
- -1 < correlation between X and Y < 1
- If > 0, positive correlation. Y increases when X increases.
- If < 0, negative correlation. Y decreases when X increases.
- The further away from 0, the stronger the correlation.
- Doesn't say anything about causality!

Data exploration in R

- c(), list(), data.frame(), matrix()
- read.table(, h=TRUE)
- [], subset()
- ==, %in%
- mean(), range(), dim()
- rep(), seq()
- function(){}

Data exploration in R: Data type

> str(dataset)

gives the data type of each variable and its values

- > levels(dataset\$categorical.variable)
 # returns the values of a factor
- > range(dataset\$numeric.variable)
 # returns of vector of length 2: min and max
- > min(dataset\$numeric.variable)
- > max(dataset\$numeric.variable)

Data exploration in R: Central Tendency

- > mean(dataset\$numeric.variable)
- > mean(dataset\$numeric.variable, na.rm=T)
 # na.rm=TRUE: removes NAs
- > median(dataset\$numeric.variable)
- > is.na(dataset\$numeric.variable)
 # returns a vector of TRUE and FALSE of the same length

Data exploration in R: Measures of dispersion

- > var(dataset\$numeric.variable)
 #variance
- > sd(dataset\$numeric.variable)
 # standard deviation
- > quantile(dataset\$numeric.variable)
 # returns min, Q1, median, Q3, and max

Data exploration in R: Summary

- > summary(dataset)
- > summary(dataset\$variable)

returns min, max, quantiles, mean and median

Data exploration in R: Correlation

> cor(x,y)

returns only the value of the correlation between X andY.

- X and Y must be two vectors of same length!
- > cor.test(x,y)

returns some information about the significance of the correlation as well. More about that later.

Exercise: Forest

- Fake data.
- 105 forest plots with different number of tree species.
- Productivity estimated as tons of Carbons produced per hectare and per year.
- Forest plots can be divided into 3 categories: "only conifer species", "only deciduous", and "mixed conifers and deciduous".