

In a cross of two heterozygotes in each of two traits, the Mendelian expected ratio of offspring types are 9:3:3:1 for the possible phenotypes (DD,DR,RD,RR) where D stands for the dominant phenotype, R stands for the recessive phenotype, and we have given the two traits an arbitrary order of first and second. In an experiment, the number of offspring of each type is: 128 DD, 39 DR, 31 RD, and 14 RR.

- (a) Carry out a χ^2 goodness-of-fit test to test if the observed counts are consistent with the Mendelian expected counts. State hypotheses, compute a test statistic, and use the table to find a range for the p -value.

Solution:

H_0 : The probabilities of the phenotypes are 9/16, 3/16, 3/16, and 1/16.

H_A : The probabilities of the phenotypes are something else.

There are a total of 212 individuals and the expected counts are this sum times 9/16, 3/16, 3/16, and 1/16, or 119.25, 39.75, 39.75, and 13.25.

The χ^2 test statistic is 2.62.

From the table, the p -value is larger than 0.2.

- (b) How strong is the evidence against the Mendelian hypothesis for these traits?

Solution: There is very little evidence against the null hypothesis. The observed data is consistent with the Mendelian theory.

- (c) Assume that the Mendelian expected ratios are correct and that offspring types are independent of one another. What is the probability that in a future experiment with 32 offspring that there would be one or fewer offspring of type RR?

Solution: The number of offspring of type RR fits the binomial model — binary outcomes (RR or not), independent trials, fixed sample size, and same probability of success for each trial — with $n = 32$ and $p = 1/16$.

The probability of one or fewer successes is

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr\{Y \leq 1\} &= {}_{32}C_0(1/16)^0(15/16)^{32} + {}_{32}C_1(1/16)^1(15/16)^{31} \\ &= (1/16)^0(15/16)^{32} + 32(1/16)^1(15/16)^{31} \\ &= 0.1268 + 0.2705 = 0.3973\end{aligned}$$

For each remaining part, circle TRUE or FALSE. If the answer is FALSE, either explain why it is false or make a small change to make the statement true.

- (d) TRUE or FALSE:

A bucket contains 100 balls, 10 of which are black and 90 of which are white. The balls are mixed thoroughly and a random sample of 16 balls is taken (without replacement). The number of black balls in the sample is a binomial random variable.

Solution: False. The trials are not independent, as the probabilities of future trials depend on the results of previous draws. For example, there is probability 0 of drawing 16 black balls.

- (e) TRUE or FALSE:

Assume that a population is approximately normal and that we are able to take random samples from this population. There is approximately a 95% chance that a 95% confidence interval for a population mean μ will contain μ .

Solution: True. That's why we are 95% confident that it does.

- (f) TRUE or FALSE:

Assume that a population is approximately normal and that we are able to take random samples from this population. A sample of size 100 yields a 95% confidence interval for μ of 2.12 ± 0.32 . To achieve a 95% confidence interval that has a margin of error of 0.16 in a subsequent sample from a similar population, we should double the sample size.

Solution: False. The margin of error is $t \times s/\sqrt{n}$. When the sample size increases, t and s won't change much. You need a sample four times as large to halve the margin of error.