

### 3. TEST about a SUBSET OF $\beta$

Consider the model  $Y_i = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_{p_0} x_{i p_0} + \beta_{p_0+1} x_{i p_0+1} + \dots + \beta_p x_{ip} + \epsilon_i$   $\epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$

we want to test jointly  $(\beta_{p_0+1}, \dots, \beta_p) = 0$

$$\begin{cases} H_0: \beta_{p_0+1} = \dots = \beta_p = 0 \\ H_1: H_0: \text{at least one of them is } \neq 0 \quad (\exists r \in \{p_0+1, \dots, p\}) : \beta_r \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

idea:

under  $H_1$ , I have  $p$  covariates (we call it the "full model")

I can estimate this model, obtaining  $\hat{\beta}$ , and compute the residuals  $e = y - X\hat{\beta}$

then, I compute the sum of the squared residuals  $e^T e$

under  $H_0$ , I have the model  $Y_i = \beta_1 + \beta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \beta_{p_0} x_{i p_0} + \epsilon_i \rightarrow p_0$  covariates

I am constraining the coefficients  $(\beta_{p_0+1}, \dots, \beta_p)$  to be  $= 0$  (we call it the "restricted model")

I can estimate this model, obtaining  $\hat{\beta}_0$ , and I obtain the residuals  $\tilde{e} = y - X\hat{\beta}_0$

The sum of squared residuals is  $\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}$

We know that  $\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e} \geq e^T e$ , since the model under  $H_0$  is a constrained version of the full model.

In particular, the difference between the two will be large if the coefficients that I have forced to zero are actually relevant for the analysis.

Notice that the two models are NESTED, meaning that the model under  $H_0$  is included into the model under  $H_1$  (it can be obtained from the full model using a set of constraints).

Careful: if the models are not nested you can not use the test to compare them.

How we test the hypothesis:

It is useful to write the model in a way to highlight the separation between the unconstrained parameters and the ones we are testing.

Write

$$\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_{p_0} \\ \beta_{p_0+1} \\ \vdots \\ \beta_p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta^{(0)} \\ \beta^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \beta^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_0} \\ \beta^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{p-p_0} \end{matrix} \rightarrow \text{the system of hypothesis becomes}$$

$$\begin{cases} H_0: \beta^{(1)} = 0 \\ H_1: \beta^{(1)} \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Similarly, we partition the matrix  $X$  into 2 sub-matrices

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1 p_0} & x_{1 p_0+1} & \dots & x_{1 p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{n2} & \dots & x_{n p_0} & x_{n p_0+1} & \dots & x_{n p} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X^{(0)} & X^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

$n \times p_0 \quad n \times (p-p_0)$

Hence we obtain

FULL MODEL ( $H_1$ )

$$Y \sim N_n(X\beta, \sigma^2 I)$$

$$Y = X\beta + \epsilon = [X^{(0)} X^{(1)}] \begin{bmatrix} \beta^{(0)} \\ \beta^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} + \epsilon$$

$$= X^{(0)} \beta^{(0)} + X^{(1)} \beta^{(1)} + \epsilon$$

$$\hat{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\beta}^{(0)} \\ \hat{\beta}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$$

RESTRICTED MODEL ( $H_0$ )

$$Y \sim N_n(X^{(0)} \beta^{(0)}, \sigma^2 I)$$

$$Y = X^{(0)} \beta^{(0)} + \epsilon$$

$$\hat{\beta}^{(0)} = (X^{(0)T} X^{(0)})^{-1} X^{(0)T} y$$

If  $H_0$  is true, removing  $\beta^{(1)}$  in the model will not make a big difference for predicting  $y$ .

If  $H_0$  is not true, removing  $\beta^{(1)}$  will lead to worse results (larger errors).

Under  $H_0$ , I expect  $\frac{\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}}{e^T e} \approx 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}}{e^T e} \approx 1 \Rightarrow \frac{\sigma^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \approx 1$$

Under  $H_1$ , I expect  $\frac{\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}}{e^T e} \gg 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}}{e^T e} \gg 1 \Rightarrow \frac{\sigma^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \gg 1$$

To perform the test, we are going to use again a function of  $\frac{\sigma^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} - 1$

In particular, consider

$$F = \frac{\frac{\sigma^2 - \hat{\sigma}^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \cdot \frac{n-p}{p-p_0}}{\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{n-p}} = \frac{\sigma^2 - \hat{\sigma}^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \cdot \frac{n-p}{p-p_0} = \frac{e^T e - \tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}}{\tilde{e}^T \tilde{e}} \cdot \frac{n-p}{p-p_0}$$

It holds  $F \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F_{p-p_0, n-p}$

#### REMARKS

(1) the degrees of freedom

$$\sigma^2 \sim \chi^2_{n-p}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 \sim \chi^2_{n-p}$$

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$$F = \frac{\frac{\sigma^2 - \hat{\sigma}^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \cdot \frac{n-p}{p-p_0}}{\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{n-p}} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{difference of the estimators} \\ \text{difference of the d.o.f.} \end{matrix} = \frac{\sigma^2 - \hat{\sigma}^2}{(n-p) - (n-p)} = n-p - n + p = p-p_0$$

(2) the test about an individual coefficient  $\beta_j$  (test 1) and about the overall significance (test 2) are particular cases of this test.

#### TEST about a SINGLE PARAMETER $\beta_j$

Assume we are testing the significance of the last parameter  $\beta_p$ .

(or simply sort the columns of  $X$  so that the last covariate is the one corresponding to the parameter of interest)

Testing  $\beta_p$  is equivalent to testing a model with  $p_0 = p-1$  covariates

In this case we can partition  $\beta$  and  $X$  as

$$\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_{p-1} \\ \beta_p \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} p_0 = p-1 \\ 1 \end{matrix} \quad X = [x_1 \dots x_{p-1} | x_p]$$

Indeed  $p_0 = p-1$  and the test becomes

$$F = \frac{\frac{\sigma^2 - \hat{\sigma}^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \cdot \frac{1}{p-p_0}}{\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{n-p}} \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F_{1, n-p} \quad F = (T_p)^2 \quad \text{with } T_p = \frac{\hat{\beta}_p - 0}{\sqrt{\hat{V}(\hat{\beta}_p)}} \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} t_{n-p}$$

(recall: if  $V \sim t_m$ , then  $V^2 \sim F_{1, m}$ )

#### TEST ABOUT THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE

if we consider  $p_0 = 1$

$$\text{then } \beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \beta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_p \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} 1 = p_0 \\ p-1 \end{matrix}$$

And  $H_0$  becomes  $H_0: \beta_2 = \beta_3 = \dots = \beta_p = 0$

$$\text{the test is } F = \frac{\frac{\sigma^2 - \hat{\sigma}^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \cdot \frac{p-1}{p-p_0}}{\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{n-p}} \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F_{p-1, n-p}$$

which is equivalent to the test on the coefficients  $R^2$  ( $H_0: R^2 = 0$  vs  $H_1: R^2 \neq 0$ )

#### (3) Geometric interpretation of the test

Consider again the representation of the model in an  $n$ -dimensional space.

Here, the variables  $(y, x_1, \dots, x_p)$  are  $n$ -dimensional vectors, with coordinates the observations on the  $n$  units.

The covariates  $(x_1, \dots, x_p)$  identify a subspace of dimension  $p$ ,  $C(X)$ .

This subspace is defined by all linear combinations  $\beta_1 x_1 + \dots + \beta_p x_p = X\beta$ .

The mean of  $Y$  is  $\bar{y} = X\bar{\beta} \Rightarrow$  the mean of  $Y$  belongs to  $C(X)$ .

The vector  $\hat{y}$  in general will not belong to  $C(X)$ : indeed we have seen that

$\hat{y} = \hat{y}$  is the orthogonal projection of  $\hat{y}$  onto  $C(X)$ .

What happens when we compare NESTED models?

example with 2 variables  $(x_1, x_2)$

$C(X)$  is the subspace of  $\beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 \rightarrow \hat{y}$  is the vector of this space that

minimizes the distance between  $\hat{y}$  and  $X\hat{\beta}$ :  $\hat{y} = \hat{\beta}_1 x_1 + \hat{\beta}_2 x_2$

Assume we want to test

$H_0: \beta_2 = 0$  vs  $H_1: \beta_2 \neq 0$

Under  $H_0$ , I am saying that  $\hat{y} = \hat{\beta}_1 x_1 \rightarrow \hat{y}$  will belong to the subspace

defined by a straight line (and not to the entire plane)

$\rightarrow$  This is a constrained estimate:

$\hat{\beta}_1$  is the value minimizing the distance between  $\hat{y}$  and  $X\hat{\beta} = \hat{\beta}_1 x_1$

Test: we look how far is  $\hat{y}$  to  $\hat{y}$  or, equivalently,  $\tilde{e} \perp e$

i.e.  $d = \tilde{e} - e$

example with 2 covariates  $x_1$  and  $x_2$   
and I test  $\beta_2 = 0$

