

The distribution of 20 student ^{by their gender} in an undergraduate CDA class in the spring 2020

Counts n_i	Gender		Total 20
	Male 08	Female 12	

Nominal variable

This table is referred to as a one-way classification table because it was formed from the classification of a single variable.

Dichotomous / binary / Categorical - dichotomous

A variable that has only two categories is called dichotomous or binary. And sometimes referred to as the categorical-dichotomous.

20 students in our CDA class classified by their economic status

Counts n_i	Economic status		Total 20
	Elite / middle class 17	Poverty level 3	

ordinal variable

The number of occurrences in each category is referred to as the frequency count for that category.

When subjects or objects are classified simultaneously by two or more attributes, the result of such a cross-classification can be conveniently arranged as a table of counts known as a contingency table.

Cross-classification of students by gender & economic status:

Gender	Economic Status			Total
	Elite class	Middle class	Poverty class	
Male	1	6	1	08
Female	1	11	0	12
Total	2	17	01	20

2x3 table.

Here students have been cross-classified by two variables, gender and status. So the resulting table is known as two-way table or a two-way contingency table.

And if the students have been cross-classified by three variables then the resulting table will be known as three way table or three way contingency table.

Cross-classification of students by gender, economic status and attitudes towards uni life.

2x3x3 table

Gender	Status	Attitudes			Total
		Positive	Mixed	Negative	
Male	Elite	1	0	0	1
	Middle	3	1	2	6
	Low	0	1	0	1
Female	Elite	1	0	0	1
	Middle	6	3	2	11
	Low	0	0	0	0

In general, our data will consist of counts $\{n_i \Rightarrow i = 1, 2, \dots, k\}$ in the k cells (or categories) for a contingency table.

These might be observations for the k levels of a single categorical variable or for $k = I \times J$ cells of a two-way $I \times J$ contingency table.

Categorical data consist of frequency counts of observations occurring in the response categories. Let x and y denote two categorical variables, x having I levels and y having J levels. We display the IJ possible combinations of outcomes in a rectangular table having I rows for the categories of x and J columns for the categories of y . The cells of the table represent the IJ possible outcomes. A table of this form in which the cells contain frequency counts of outcomes is called a contingency table. A contingency table that cross classifies two variables is called a two-way table; one that cross classifies three variables is called a three-way table and so forth. A two-way table having I rows and J columns is an $I \times J$ (read I -by- J) table.

structure

Probability for contingency tables;

Probabilities for contingency tables can be of three types - joint, marginal or conditional.

(The sample proportions in the categories estimate the category probabilities)

Joint Probability: A randomly chosen subject from the population of interest is classified on x and y . Let $\pi_{ij} = P(x=i, y=j)$ denote the probability that (x, y) falls in the cell in row i and column j .

The probabilities π_{ij} from the joint distribution of x and y that satisfy

$$\sum_i \sum_j \pi_{ij} = 1$$

$$\pi_{ij} = n_{ij}/n$$

Marginal Distribution.

The marginal distributions are the row and column totals of the joint probabilities. We denote these by π_{i+} for the row variable and π_{+j} for the column variable where the subscript '+' denotes the sum over the index it replaces. For 2x2 Tables.

$$\pi_{i+} = \pi_{11} + \pi_{12}, \quad \pi_{+j} = \pi_{21} + \pi_{22}$$

Each marginal distribution refers to a single variable.

Conditional distribution:

In many contingency tables, one variable (say, the column variable, Y) is a response variable and the other (the row variable, X) is an explanatory variable. Then it is informative to construct a separate probability distribution of Y at each level of X . Such a distribution consists of conditional probabilities for Y , given the level of X . It is called a conditional distribution.

2x2 Table

Gender	Response		Total
	Yes	No	
Male	$n_{11} = 2$	$n_{12} = 6$	8
Female	$n_{21} = 1$	$n_{22} = 11$	12
Total	3	17	20

Gender	Response		$g(x)$
	Yes	No	
Male	$P_{11} = 0.1$	$P_{12} = 0.3$	$P_{1+} = 0.4$
Female	$P_{21} = 0.05$	$P_{22} = 0.55$	$P_{2+} = 0.6$
$h(y)$	$P_{+1} = 0.15$	$P_{+2} = 0.85$	1

For Male,

The proportion of "Yes" response

$$\frac{2}{8} = 0.25$$

The proportion of "No" response

$$\frac{6}{8} = 0.75$$

of having car

The sample conditional distribution is $(0.25, 0.75)$

For Female

The proportion of "Yes" response = $\frac{1}{12} = 0.08$

The proportion of "No" response = $\frac{11}{12} = 0.92$

The proportions $(0.08, 0.92)$ from sample conditional distribution of having car.