

Math 5301 Homework 13

1. The number of emissions from a radioactive sample in a fixed time period is sometimes modeled using a poisson distribution. Suppose a researcher records the number of emissions in 200 one-minute time periods, and the data is summarized in the following table.

Number of Emissions	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Number of Time Periods	9	36	39	50	30	19	8	4	5	200

Test the null hypothesis that the number of emissions follows a Poisson distribution.

Hints: The p.m.f. for the poisson distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$ is

$$P(X = x) = f(x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}, \text{ for } x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

For this application, λ represents the average number of particle emissions in a one-minute period, so a good estimate for λ is

$$\hat{\lambda} = \frac{\text{Total Number of Emissions}}{200}.$$

Because there are infinitely many possible values of X , the last cell in the table, corresponding to $X = 8$, should be replaced by $X \geq 8$, and the probability for that cell will be $P(X \geq 8)$. This guarantees that the p_j^* 's will add up to 1.

Then, to ensure $E_j \geq 5$, it would be best to combine $X = 7$ and $X \geq 8$ into one cell for $X \geq 7$.

2. The effectiveness of a number of different media for the growth of diphtheria bacilli was investigated by the Communicable Disease Centre, U.S. Public Health Service. Specimens were taken from the throats of sixty-nine suspected cases, and each specimen was grown on each of four media A, B, C, D. In the table below, 1 denotes that growth occurred with that medium.

Number of Cases	Diphtheria Media			
	A	B	C	D
4	1	1	1	1
2	1	1	0	1
3	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	1
59	0	0	0	0
Column Totals	6	10	7	10

Test the null hypothesis that, for each specimen, the different media have the same growth probabilities.