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Lecture 5f: Practice Problem Solutions

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#### **Practice Problems**

1. A health policy researcher is doing an ad-hoc study of gender differences in attitudes about medical confidentiality. He spends some time at a shopping mall and polls and asks individuals to rate their degree of agreement for a statement related to confidentiality using the following five-point scale:

- Strongly disagree (1)
- Disagree (2)
- Neutral (3)
- Agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

#### Practice Problems

- Responses are coded from 1 to 5
- At the end of his tenure at the mall, this researcher has a total of 11 respondents: 6 male, 5 female
- The distribution of responses is as follows:

- W

— F

## Practice Problems

- Despite the small sample size, the researchers is interested in testing for a difference in degree of agreement for males compared to females.
  - a) How could he do this using the ranks of the data values?
  - b) Compute the average rank for each gender group

The final dataset was as follows:

\_ W

- Despite the small sample size, the researchers is interested in testing for a difference in degree of agreement for males compared to females
  - a) How could he do this using the ranks of the data values?
  - No surprises here, he could use the Mann-Whitney/Wilcoxon method

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - First, we must arrange the data from lowest to highest without regard for group
  - -1 2 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Now, assign ranks to the data:

1 2 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5 Rank 1 2 3 ? ? ?

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - What to do about the ties?

```
1 2 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5
Rank 1 2 3 ? ? ?
```

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - FYI: With ties, we take the "average rank" of the group with ties, and assign it to each member of the group

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - For example, with the series of 3s we first assign them ascending ranks as if they were increasing

1 2 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5 Rank 1 2 3 4 5 6

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Then we average these ascending ranks

Rank 1 2 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5 5  $\frac{3+4+5+6}{4} = 4.5$ 

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Now reassign each "3" the average rank, 4.5

1 2 3 3 3 3 4 4 5 5 Rank 1 2 4.5 4.5 4.5

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Rank the rest of the values, treating ties the same way

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Rank the rest of the values, treating ties the same way

1 2 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5 Rank 1 2 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 8 8 8 10.5 10.5

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Reassign the group labels to the data

```
1 2 3 3 3 4 4 4 5 5

Rank
1 2 4.5 4.5 4.5 4.5 8 8 8 10.5 10.5

Group M M F M F M F M F M
```

- b) Compute the average rank for each group
  - Now we can compute group average ranks!
  - For females:

$$\overline{R}_{f \text{ emales}} \frac{4.5 + 4.5 + 8 + 8 + 10.5}{5} = 7.1$$

For males:

$$\overline{R}_{males} \frac{1+2+4.5+4.5+8+10.5}{6} = 5.1$$

- The Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon compares the average ranks for males compared to females and tests:
  - H<sub>o</sub>: Distribution of degree of agreement is the same for males and females
  - H<sub>A</sub>: Distribution of degree of agreement is NOT the same for males and females
- The p-value for this test is .29, suggesting there is not enough evidence to conclude that the "degree of agreement" is different for males and females

#### b) Data entered into Stata:

. list

	+		+
	response		sex
1.	i	1	М
2.	i	3	M
3.	i	4	M
4.	Ī	2	M
5.	1	3	M
			I
6.	1	5	М
7.	1	3	F
8.	1	4	F
9.	1	4	F
10.	1	3	F
11.	1	5	F
	+		+

#### b) Results from Mann Whitney: