

Economics 30330: Statistics for Economics
Problem Set 0 - Suggested Answers
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Review of Summations (40 points)

1. Evaluate:

(a) $\sum_{j=0}^3 2^j = 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 = 15$

(b) $\sum_{j=0}^3 j^2 = 0^2 + 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 = 14$

(c) $\sum_{j=1}^5 (2j - 3) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^5 j - 3 \sum_{j=1}^5 1 = 2(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5) - (3)(5) = 15$

(d) $\sum_{j=1}^{1000} 5 = 5 \sum_{j=1}^{1000} 1 = 5000$

2. Show that:

(a) $\frac{\sum_i (X_i + Y_i) + \sum_i X_i - \sum_i Y_i}{\sum_i X_i} = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_i (X_i + Y_i) + \sum_i X_i - \sum_i Y_i}{\sum_i X_i} &= \frac{\sum_i (X_i + Y_i + X_i - Y_i)}{\sum_i X_i} \\ &= \frac{\sum_i 2X_i}{\sum_i X_i} \\ &= 2 \frac{\sum_i X_i}{\sum_i X_i} \\ &= 2 \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\frac{\sum_i (X_i^2 + 2X_i Y_i + Y_i^2) - \sum_i (X_i^2 - 2X_i Y_i + Y_i^2)}{\sum_i 8X_i Y_i} = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sum_i (X_i^2 + 2X_i Y_i + Y_i^2) - \sum_i (X_i^2 - 2X_i Y_i + Y_i^2)}{\sum_i 8X_i Y_i} &= \frac{\sum_i (X_i^2 + 2X_i Y_i + Y_i^2 - X_i^2 + 2X_i Y_i - Y_i^2)}{\sum_i 8X_i Y_i} \\ &= \frac{\sum_i 4X_i Y_i}{\sum_i 8X_i Y_i} \\ &= \frac{4 \sum_i X_i Y_i}{8 \sum_i X_i Y_i} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

3. Calculate/expand the following:

(a) $\sum_{i=1}^4 i^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 = 30$

(b) $\sum_{i=1}^5 x_i^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 + x_5^2$

(c) $\sum_{i=1}^3 x = x + x + x = 3x$

(d) $\sum_{i=1}^n x^2 = x^2 + x^2 + \dots + x^2 = nx^2$

$$(e) \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x}{n} = \frac{x + x + \dots + x}{n} = \frac{nx}{n} = x$$

4. Explain the difference between $\sum_i x_i^2$ and $(\sum_i x_i)^2$. Construct an example to show that, in general, these quantities are not equal.

The expression $\sum_i x_i^2$ represents the sum of the squares of the data; to calculate the sum of squares, we square each observation and add up all those values. The expression $(\sum_i x_i)^2$ represents the square of the sum of the data; to calculate the squared sum, we add up all of the observations and square that value.

One example:

Let $x = [1, 5, 2]$, that is, $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 5, x_3 = 2$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^3 x_i^2 &= 9 + 25 + 4 = 38 \\ \left(\sum_{i=1}^3 x_i \right)^2 &= (3 + 5 + 2)^2 = 100 \end{aligned}$$