Chapter 4

One Factor Designs and Extensions

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4.1 Completely randomized design

This section describes an experimental design to compare the effectiveness of four insecticides to eradicate beetles. The primary interest is determining which treatment is most effective, in the sense of providing the lowest typical survival time.

In a **completely randomized design** (CRD), the scientist might select a sample of genetically identical beetles for the experiment, and then randomly assign a predetermined number of beetles to the treatment groups (insecticides). The sample sizes for the groups need not be equal. A power analysis is often conducted to determine sample sizes for the treatments. For simplicity, assume that 48 beetles will be used in the experiment, with 12 beetles assigned to each group.

After assigning the beetles to the four groups, the insecticide is applied (uniformly to all experimental units or beetles), and the individual survival times recorded. A natural analysis of the data collected from this **one factor** design would be to compare the survival times using a one-way ANOVA.

There are several important controls that should be built into this experiment. The same strain of beetles should be used to ensure that the four treatment groups are alike as possible, so that differences in survival times are attributable to the insecticides, and not due to genetic differences among beetles. Other factors that may influence the survival time, say the concentration of the insecticide or the age of the beetles, would be held constant, or fixed by the experimenter, if possible. Thus, the same concentration would be used with the four insecticides.

In complex experiments, there are always potential influences that are not realized or are thought to be unimportant that you do not or can not control. The **randomization** of beetles to groups ensures that there is no systematic dependence of the observed treatment differences on the uncontrolled influences. This is extremely important in studies where genetic and environmental influences can not be easily controlled (as in humans, more so than in bugs or mice). The randomization of beetles to insecticides tends to diffuse or greatly reduce

the effect of the uncontrolled influences on the comparison of insecticides, in the sense that these effects become part of the uncontrolled or error variation of the experiment.

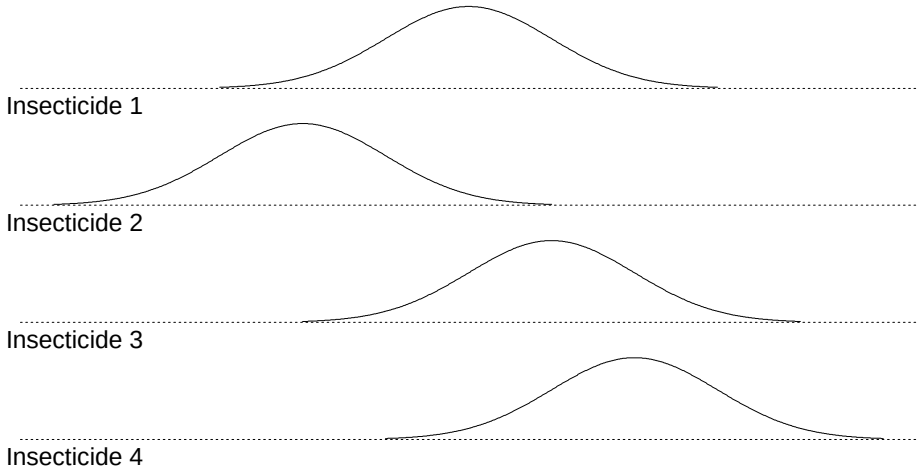
In summary, an **experiment** is to impose a treatment on experimental units to observe a response. Randomization and carefully controlling factors are important considerations.

Suppose y_{ij} is the response for the j^{th} experimental unit in the i^{th} treatment group, where $i = 1, 2, \ldots, I$. The statistical model for a **completely randomized one-factor design** that leads to a one-way ANOVA is given by:

$$y_{ij} = \mu_i + e_{ij},$$

where μ_i is the (unknown) population mean for all potential responses to the i^{th} treatment, and e_{ij} is the residual or deviation of the response from the population mean. The responses within and across treatments are assumed to be independent, normal random variables with constant variance.

For the insecticide experiment, y_{ij} is the survival time for the j^{th} beetle given the i^{th} insecticide, where $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ and $j = 1, 2, \ldots, 12$. The random selection of beetles coupled with the randomization of beetles to groups ensures the independence assumptions. The assumed population distributions of responses for the $I = 4$ insecticides can be represented as follows:



Let

$$\mu = \frac{1}{I}\sum_i \mu_i$$

be the grand mean, or average of the population means. Let

$$\alpha_i = \mu_i - \mu$$

be the i^{th} group **treatment effect**. The treatment effects are constrained to add to zero, $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \cdots + \alpha_I = 0$, and measure the difference between the treatment population means and the grand mean. Given this notation, the one-way ANOVA model is

$$y_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_i + e_{ij}.$$

The model specifies that the

Response = Grand Mean + Treatment Effect + Residual.

An hypothesis of interest is whether the population means are equal: $H_0 : \mu_1 = \cdots = \mu_I$, which is equivalent to the hypothesis of no treatment effects: $H_0 : \alpha_1 = \cdots = \alpha_I = 0$. If H_0 is true, then the one-way model is

$$y_{ij} = \mu + e_{ij},$$

where μ is the common population mean. You know how to test H_0 and do multiple comparisons of the treatments, so I will not review this material.

Most texts use treatment effects to specify ANOVA models, a convention that I will also follow. A difficulty with this approach is that the treatment effects must be constrained to be uniquely estimable from the data (because the I population means μ_i are modeled in terms of $I+1$ parameters: $\mu_i = \mu + \alpha_i$). An infinite number of constraints can be considered each of which gives the same structure on the population means. The standard constraint where the treatment effects sum to zero was used above, but many statistical packages, impose the constraint $\alpha_I = 0$ (or sometimes $\alpha_1 = 0$). Although estimates of treatment effects depend on which constraint is chosen, the null and alternative models used with the ANOVA F-test, and pairwise comparisons of treatment effects, do not. I will downplay the discussion of estimating treatment effects to minimize problems.