

Re: chi-square test goodness of fit

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"Alexis Gatt" <alexismajordomo@yahoo.co.uk> wrote in message news:<cmd8or\$b20\$1@iss-nntp.leeds.ac.uk>...

> [...]

> According to a chi-square table I found in a book, the equivalent

> probability value is between 0.5 and 0.75.

> And this is where I am confused. Does this mean that the model

> predict the data well or not? And why?

I know the feeling. You had better struggle with this question a couple of more days, but if you are in a hurry, read on now.

A goodness-of-fit score of about 50% means that your fit is of average "goodness". A 100% goodness of fit means that the curve goes through the points; a perfect fit, but people will suspect that you have massaged the data *and* that you are obsessive-compulsive. Consequently, not only it is nonsense to say that 100% g.o.f. is twice as good as a 50% g.o.f., but it may be less desirable.

~ George Kahrmanis