

How do you perform a Cramer-Von Mises test in R? Can you provide some examples?

Authored by
stats writer

June 26, 2024

RECOMMENDED CITATION

stats writer (2024). *How do you perform a Cramer-Von Mises test in R? Can you provide some examples?*. PSYCHOLOGICAL SCALES. Retrieved from <https://scales.arabpsychology.com/?p=153144>

The Cramer-Von Mises test is a statistical test used to determine whether a given set of data follows a specific distribution. In R, this test can be performed using the "cvm.test" function from the "stats" package. This function takes in two arguments - the data and the theoretical distribution to be tested against. It then calculates the Cramer-Von Mises statistic and its associated p-value, which can be used to determine the goodness of fit between the data and the chosen distribution. Some examples of using this test in R include testing whether a set of data follows a normal distribution or an exponential distribution.

Perform a Cramer-Von Mises Test in R (With Examples)

The Cramer-Von Mises test is used to determine whether or not a sample comes from a normal distribution.

This type of test is useful for determining whether or not a given dataset comes from a normal distribution, which is used in many statistical tests including regression, ANOVA, t-tests, and many others.

We can easily perform a Cramer-Von Mises test using the `cvm.test()` function from the `gofest` package in R.

The following example shows how to use this function in practice.

Example 1: Cramer-Von Mises Test on Normal Data

The following code shows how to perform a Cramer-Von Mises test on a dataset with a sample size $n=100$:

```
library(goftest)
```

```
#make this example reproducible
```

```
set.seed(0)
```

```
#create dataset of 100 random values generated from a  
normal distribution
```

```
data <- rnorm(100)
```

```
#perform Cramer-Von Mises test for normality
```

```
cvm.test(data, 'pnorm')
```

Cramer-von Mises test of goodness-of-fit

Null hypothesis: Normal distribution

Parameters assumed to be fixed

```
data: data
```

```
omega2 = 0.078666, p-value = 0.7007
```

The p-value of the test turns out to be 0.7007.

Since this value is not less than .05, we can assume the sample data comes from a population that is normally distributed.

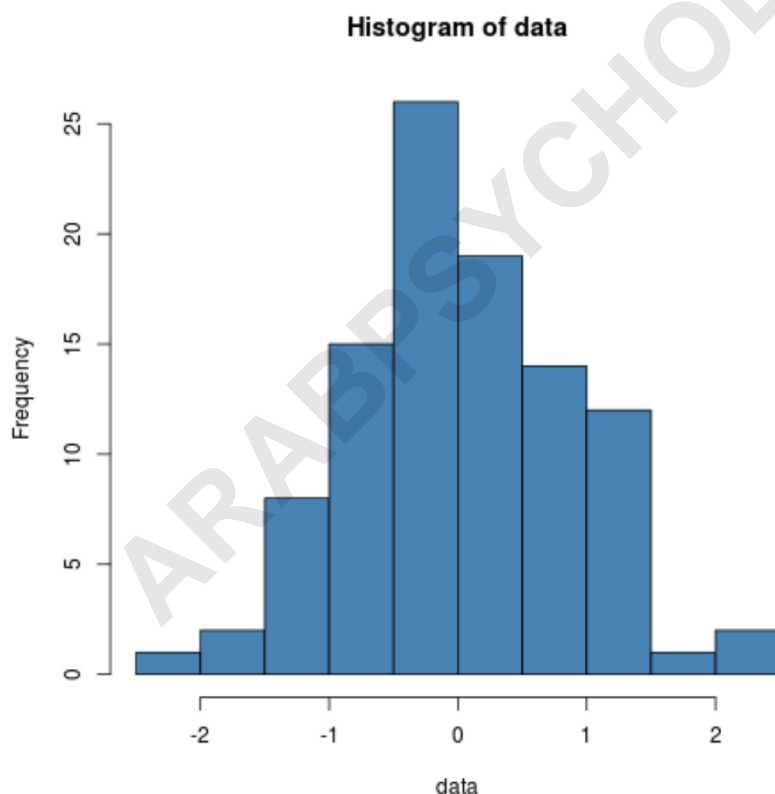
This result shouldn't be surprising since we generated

the sample data using the `rnorm()` function, which generates random values from a .

Related: [A Guide to `dnorm`, `pnorm`, `qnorm`, and `rnorm` in R](#)

We can also produce a histogram to visually verify that the sample data is normally distributed:

```
hist(data, col='steelblue')
```



We can see that the distribution is fairly bell-shaped with one peak in the center of the distribution, which is

typical of data that is normally distributed.

Example 2: Cramer-Von Mises Test on Non-Normal Data

The following code shows how to perform a Cramer-Von Mises test on a dataset with a sample size of 100 in which the values are randomly generated from a Poisson distribution:

```
library(goftest)
```

```
#make this example reproducible
```

```
set.seed(0)
```

```
#create dataset of 100 random values generated from a  
Poisson distribution
```

```
data <- rpois(n=100, lambda=3)
```

```
#perform Cramer-Von Mises test for normality
```

```
cvm.test(data, 'pnorm')
```

Cramer-von Mises test of goodness-of-fit

Null hypothesis: Normal distribution

Parameters assumed to be fixed

```
data: data
```

```
omega2 = 27.96, p-value < 2.2e-16
```

The p-value of the test turns out to be extremely small.

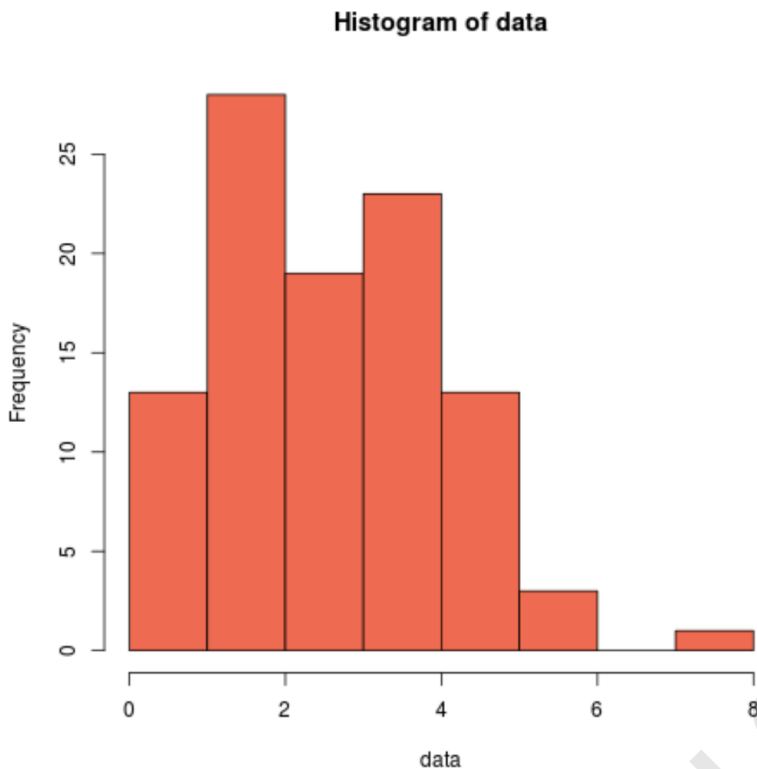
Since this value is less than .05, we have sufficient evidence to say that the sample data does *not* come from a population that is normally distributed.

This result shouldn't be surprising since we generated the sample data using the `rpois()` function, which generates random values from a Poisson distribution.

Related: [A Guide to `dpois`, `ppois`, `qpois`, and `rpois` in R](#)

We can also produce a histogram to visually see that the sample data is not normally distributed:

```
hist(data, col='coral2')
```



We can see that the distribution is and doesn't have the typical "bell-shape" associated with a normal distribution.

Thus, our histogram matches the results of the Cramer-Von Mises test and confirms that our sample data does not come from a normal distribution.

What to Do with Non-Normal Data

If a given dataset is *not* normally distributed, we can often perform one of the following transformations to make it more normal:

1. Log Transformation: Transform the response variable from y to $\log(y)$.

2. Square Root Transformation: Transform the response variable from y to \sqrt{y} .

3. Cube Root Transformation: Transform the response variable from y to $y^{1/3}$.

By performing these transformations, the response variable typically becomes closer to normally distributed.

Refer to [this tutorial](#) to see how to perform these transformations in practice.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other normality tests in R:

[How to Conduct an Anderson-Darling Test in R](#)