DSC 215 - PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

ONE SAMPLE T-TESTS



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• Example: We'd like to determine whether UCSD students sleep less than 7 hrs a night on average. A random sample of 50 students is asked how much they sleep at night, and the point estimate suggests they sleep less than 7 hrs a night on average.

n	Sample mean	Sample SD (s)	Sample min	Sample max
50	6.74	0.71	5.81	8.98

Here, our hypotheses are

- H_0 : UCSD students sleep 7 hours a night, on average. $\iff H_0: \mu = 7$

- H_1 : UCSD students sleep less than 7 hours a night, on average. $\iff H_1: \mu < 7$

n	Sample mean	S	Sample min	Sample max
50	6.74	0.71	5.81	8.98

- Exercise: Are the independence and normality conditions satisfied? (Yes.)
- Question: What is the standard error SE for our sample?

$$SE = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{0.71}{\sqrt{50}} = 0.1004$$

- Question: What is *df* in this example?
- Answer:

$$df = n - 1 = 50 - 1 = 49$$

• We now know that $\bar{x} = 6.74$, SE = 0.1004, and df = 49. We'd like to now conduct our hypothesis test.

Categorical Data

Find Z-score using observed value, null value, and SE.

$$Z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{SE}$$

Find p-value: the probability that data as extreme as the sample was generated, under the null.

Numerical Data

Find **T-score** using observed value, null value, and SE.

$$T = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{SE}$$

Find p-value: the probability that data as extreme as the sample was generated, under the null.

- Question: Having found $\bar{x} = 6.74$, SE = 0.1004, and df = 49, find the test statistic T, and the associated p-value for the given sample.
- Answer:

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$$T = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{SE} = \frac{6.74 - 7}{0.1004} \approx -2.59$$

(note that we used the mean μ under the null, i.e., $\mu=7$)

- Using software or a t-table we find that $\mathbb{P}(T < -2.59) = 0.0063$. (Note that we calculated the tail area only on one side of the distribution).
- So the p-value is 0.0063 which means we reject the null hypothesis at the 95% confidence level (since 0.0063 < 0.05).

• Question: Interpret your result.

Answer:

- Because the p-value is smaller than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis.
- That is, the data provide strong evidence that the UCSD students sleep less than 7 hrs a night on average.

Summary

- There are 4 steps to conducting a one-mean hypothesis test
 - Prepare: Identify or calculate \bar{x} , s, n, and determine the significance level α to be used.
 - Check: Verify the conditions that \bar{x} is nearly normal.
 - Calculate: If \bar{x} is nearly normal, calculate SE, and calculate the T-score $T = \frac{x \mu}{S}$. Calculate the p-value, which depends on df.
 - Conclude: compare the p-value to α and evaluate the hypothesis test. Provide a conclusion in the context of the problem.

Variation on a Theme: Paired Data

- Sometimes we work with paired data, e.g., item prices at two grocery stores.
- **Definition:** Two sets of observations are paired if each observation in one set has a special correspondence with exactly one observation in the other set.

	Whole Foods	Vons	Difference
Fuji Apples	1.89	1.49	0.4
Whole Milk	2.49	3.99	-1.5
•••			
Yoghurt	5.89	5.99	-0.1

- In such cases, it often makes sense to examine differences in pairs of observations.
- We then analyze the differences using the t-distribution techniques we just saw.