

# Statistical hypothesis tests

remembers : t test to compare group means

hypothesis  $\rightarrow H_0 : \mu_{\text{male}} = \mu_{\text{female}}$

alternative  $\rightarrow H_1 : \mu_{\text{male}} \neq \mu_{\text{female}}$   
(hypothesis)

data example:

```
> t.test(wage~gender)
```

Welch Two Sample t-test

data: wage by gender

t = 4.8853, df = 530.55, p-value = 1.369e-06

alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0

95 percent confidence interval:

1.265164 2.966949

sample estimates:

mean in group male	mean in group female
9.994913	7.878857

decision based  
on p value

mean for  
males

mean for females

here : p value = 0.000001369 = 0.0001369%  
 $< 5\%$

$\Rightarrow$  we reject the hypothesis (at  
level 5%)

(we would also reject at 1% or  
0.1% or 10%)

other test (with t.test in R)

$H_0 : \mu = 9$

$H_1 : \mu \neq 9$

$\leftarrow$  expected wage  
equals 9 US\$

$\Rightarrow$  one sample t test

```
> t.test(wage,mu=9)
```

### One Sample t-test

data: wage

t = 0.1082, df = 533, p-value = 0.9139

alternative hypothesis: true mean is not equal to 9

95 percent confidence interval:

8.587194 9.460933

sample estimates:

mean of x

9.024064

⇒ (we accept  $H_0$ )

but: we do not reject  $H_0$ !

“political correct formulation”

		(decision from data)	
		$H_0$	$H_1$
(truth)	$H_0$	OK	$\alpha$ (1st type error in the decision)
	$H_1$	$\beta$ (2nd type error in the decision)	OK

- it is complicated to minimize  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  simultaneously

⇒ predefine  $\alpha$  typically 5%  
(or 10% or 1%)

⇒ if we reject then we have  
either an error  $\alpha$  or everything is OK

$\Rightarrow$  if we reject  $H_0$  then our maximal error is  $\alpha$

(as if we do not reject  $H_0$  :  
we do not know the size of  $\beta$ )

## Statistical tests in regression

- t tests for the coefficients  $\beta_j$

$\nearrow$   
Coefficient of  
the  $j$ th variable

$$H_0 : \beta_j = 0$$

$$H_1 : \beta_j \neq 0$$

$\leftarrow$  we could also  
test another value  
than 0, but  
this is the most  
interesting case

$\Rightarrow$  in order to perform such a  
test we need some more  
assumptions on  $\varepsilon_i$  (or on  
our model)

$\Rightarrow$  normality assumption for  $\varepsilon$   
(or later on: large sample size)

## Normality Assumption

Until now we assumed:

$$E\epsilon = \mathbf{0}, \quad \text{Var}(\epsilon) = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$$

Let us here assume that the  $\epsilon_i$  are

$$\epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2) \text{ iid} \iff \epsilon \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

*additional  
assumption: normality of  $\epsilon_i$*

*$\Rightarrow$  it follows (slide 39)*

### Distribution of the LSE under Normality

#### Theorem:

Under the assumption  $\epsilon \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$  hold:

- (i)  $\hat{\beta} \sim N(\beta, \sigma^2(\mathcal{X}^\top \mathcal{X})^{-1})$
- (ii)  $\hat{\beta}$  (and therefore also  $\hat{Y} = \mathcal{X}\hat{\beta}$ ) is independent from  $\text{RSS} = Y^\top (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}) Y$
- (iii)  $\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \text{RSS} \sim \chi_{n-p-1}^2$  *← chi square distribution with  $n-(p+1)$  degrees of freedom*
- (vi)  $\frac{\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j}{\hat{\sigma} \sqrt{c_{jj}}} \sim t_{n-p-1}$  for each  $j = 0, \dots, p$   
(where  $c_{jj}$  is the  $j$ th diagonal element of the matrix  $(\mathcal{X}^\top \mathcal{X})^{-1}$ )

*now  $\hat{\beta}$  has a normal distribution and we need that distribution to establish a test for  $\hat{\beta}$  or for each single  $\hat{\beta}_j$*

*this is the test statistic that we are going to use for our  $t$  tests now*

*$\rightarrow t$  test because a  $t_{n-p-1}$  distribution is used*

*$\rightarrow$  we see that we also have to estimate  $\sigma$  (or  $\sigma^2$ )*

Going back to our test problem:

$$H_0 : \beta_j = 0$$

hypothesis  
(null hypothesis)

$$H_1 : \beta_j \neq 0$$

alternative  
(alternative hypothesis)

⇒ Why is this test interesting for us?

remembers the model (multiple linear)

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_j X_j + \dots + \beta_p X_p + \varepsilon$$

if  $\beta_j = 0$

⇒ the term  $\beta_j X_j$  is not relevant

⇒ no need to consider variable  $X_j$

test statistic

$$\left| \frac{\hat{\beta}_j - 0}{\hat{\sigma} \sqrt{c_{jj}}} \right| = \left| \frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{\hat{\sigma} \sqrt{c_{jj}}} \right|$$

known (estimated) →  $\hat{\beta}_j$   
absolute value →  $| \dots |$   
known (see slide 39) →  $c_{jj}$   
to be defined: estimated via RSS →  $\hat{\sigma}$

we reject the hypothesis  $H_0$  if

$$\left| \frac{\hat{\beta}_j}{\hat{\sigma} \sqrt{c_{jj}}} \right| > c_\alpha$$

reject if this is "too large"

critical value determined by the  $t_{n-(p+1)} = t_{n-p-1}$  distribution

estimation of  $\hat{\sigma}$  :

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{RSS}{n - (p+1)} = \frac{RSS}{n - p - 1}$$

Sample  
size

no. of all  
Coefficients (incl. intercept)

$\Rightarrow$  please see slides 32 - 34

$$\hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2}$$

hat matrix :

$$P = X (X^T X)^{-1} X^T$$

$\nwarrow$  called  $P$  because it is a  
projection matrix :  $P^2 = P$

$$(\Rightarrow P^k = P)$$

$$\Rightarrow (I - P)^2 = I - P$$

$$(\Rightarrow (I - P)^k = I - P)$$

# t test in practice

```
> summary(lm1)
```

( see : CPS1985-ttests.R )

Call:

```
lm(formula = log(wage) ~ education + experience + I(experience^2))
```

Residuals:

Min	1Q	Median	3Q	Max
-2.12709	-0.31543	0.00671	0.31170	1.98418

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	0.5203218	0.1236163	4.209	3.01e-05 ***
education	0.0897561	0.0083205	10.787	< 2e-16 ***
experience	0.0349403	0.0056492	6.185	1.24e-09 ***
I(experience^2)	-0.0005362	0.0001245	-4.307	1.97e-05 ***

4 t tests

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Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 0.4619 on 530 degrees of freedom

Multiple R-squared: 0.2382, Adjusted R-squared: 0.2339

F-statistic: 55.23 on 3 and 530 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

→ one t test for each coefficient:

$$\textcircled{1} H_0: \beta_0 = 0 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1: \beta_0 \neq 0$$

:

$$\textcircled{4} H_0: \beta_3 = 0 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1: \beta_3 \neq 0$$

⇒ all p values are very small

⇒ we reject all 4 hypotheses at 5% (also at 1% or 10%...)

in our model:  $p+1 = 4 \Rightarrow p = 3$

$$n = 534 \Rightarrow n - (p+1) = 534 - 4 = 530$$

→ all coefficients  $\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$  are significantly different from 0 at 5% (1%, 10%)

recall  $H_0: \beta_j = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  if  $H_0$  is not rejected:

$\beta_j$  is not significantly  
different from 0

$\Rightarrow$  variable  $X_j$  may not be  
relevant in the  
model

if  $H_0$  is rejected:

(we are interested in rejecting  $H_0$ !)

$\beta_j$  is significantly different  
from 0

$\Rightarrow$  variable  $X_j$  is relevant!

Note: the numerical value of  $\hat{\beta}_j$  does  
not matter in general, for its  
significance it is the p value  
to look at