

# Module 2:

# **Inference for a Normal Population**

Different flavours of t tests

# Hypothesis testing for means using t tests Agenda

1. **Why** do we use Student t-tests instead of Z scores?

2. **What** are the three types of t-tests

- **One sample t tests**

- ☐ Assumptions

- ☐ When assumptions not met, use median and rank → **Signed test**

- **Paired t test**

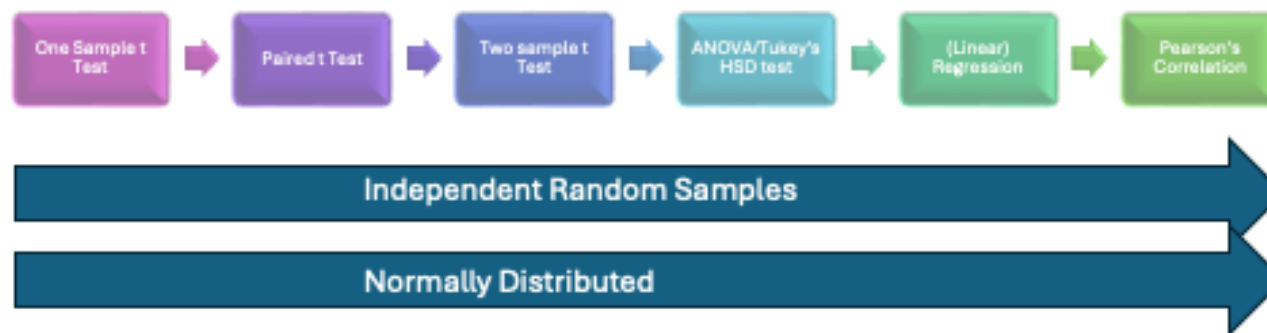
- ☐ Assumptions

- **Two sample t test**

- ☐ Assumptions

- ☐ When variances aren't equal → **Welch's approximate t test**

- ☐ Other assumptions not met: median and rank → **Mann Whitney U test**



How to test:

- Visual Assessment (Boxplot, histograms, qqplot, qqnorm)
- Shapiro Wilk test

A blue arrow pointing right, labeled "Homoscedasticity (variances are equal)".

How to test

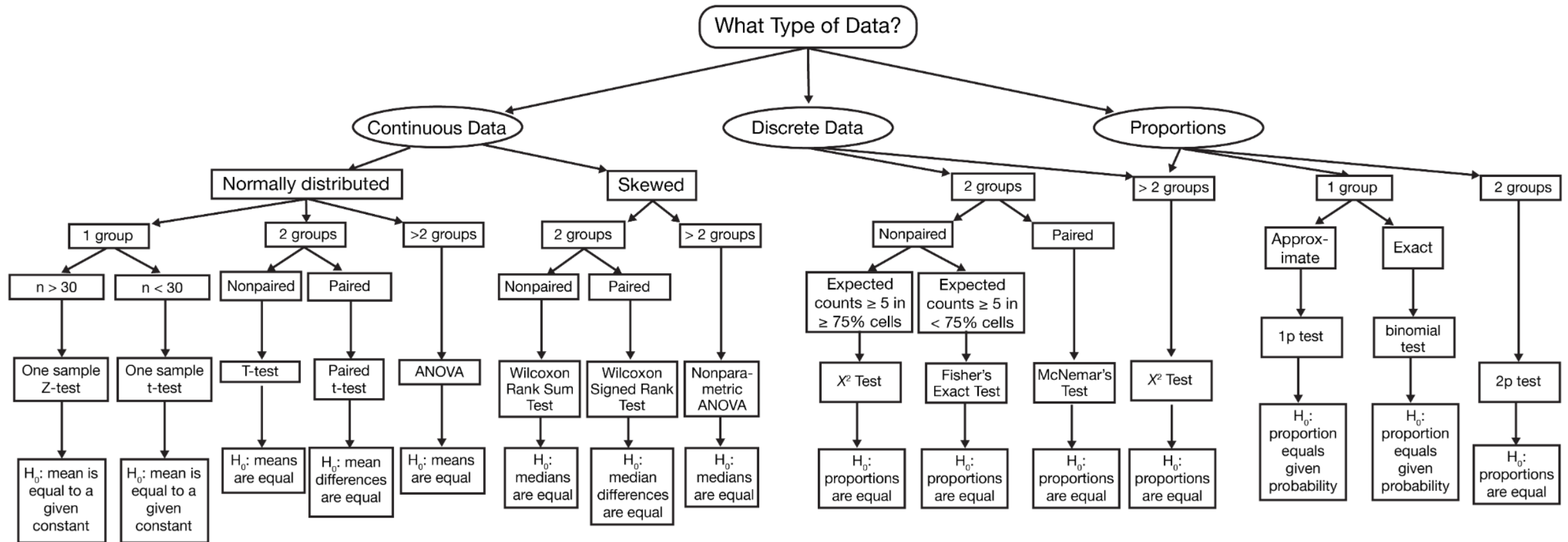
- Visual Assessment
- If normal;  $n=2 \rightarrow \text{var.test}$
- If normal;  $n>2 \rightarrow \text{Bartlett test}$
- If not norm  $\rightarrow \text{Levene's test}$
- If  $n=2$  and variances are significantly different:

Welch's  
Approximate t test

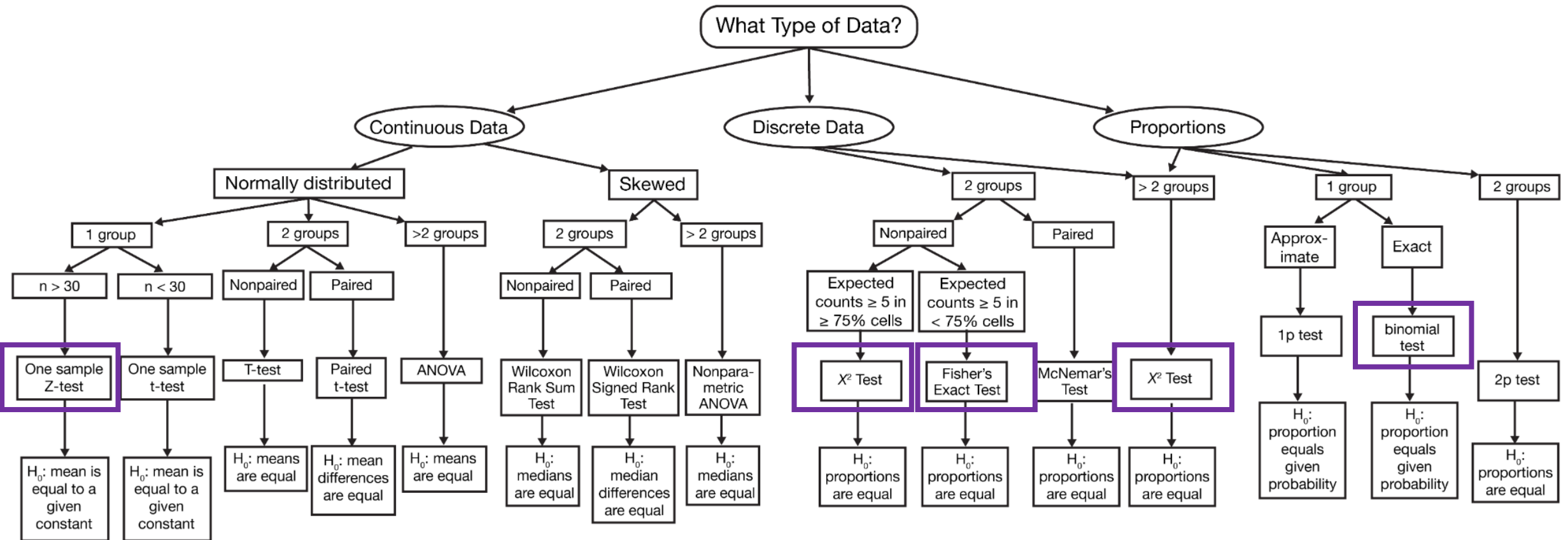
Non-parametric analogs of the parametric tests above. Instead of testing population **means**, they test population **medians**, and they use **ranks**.



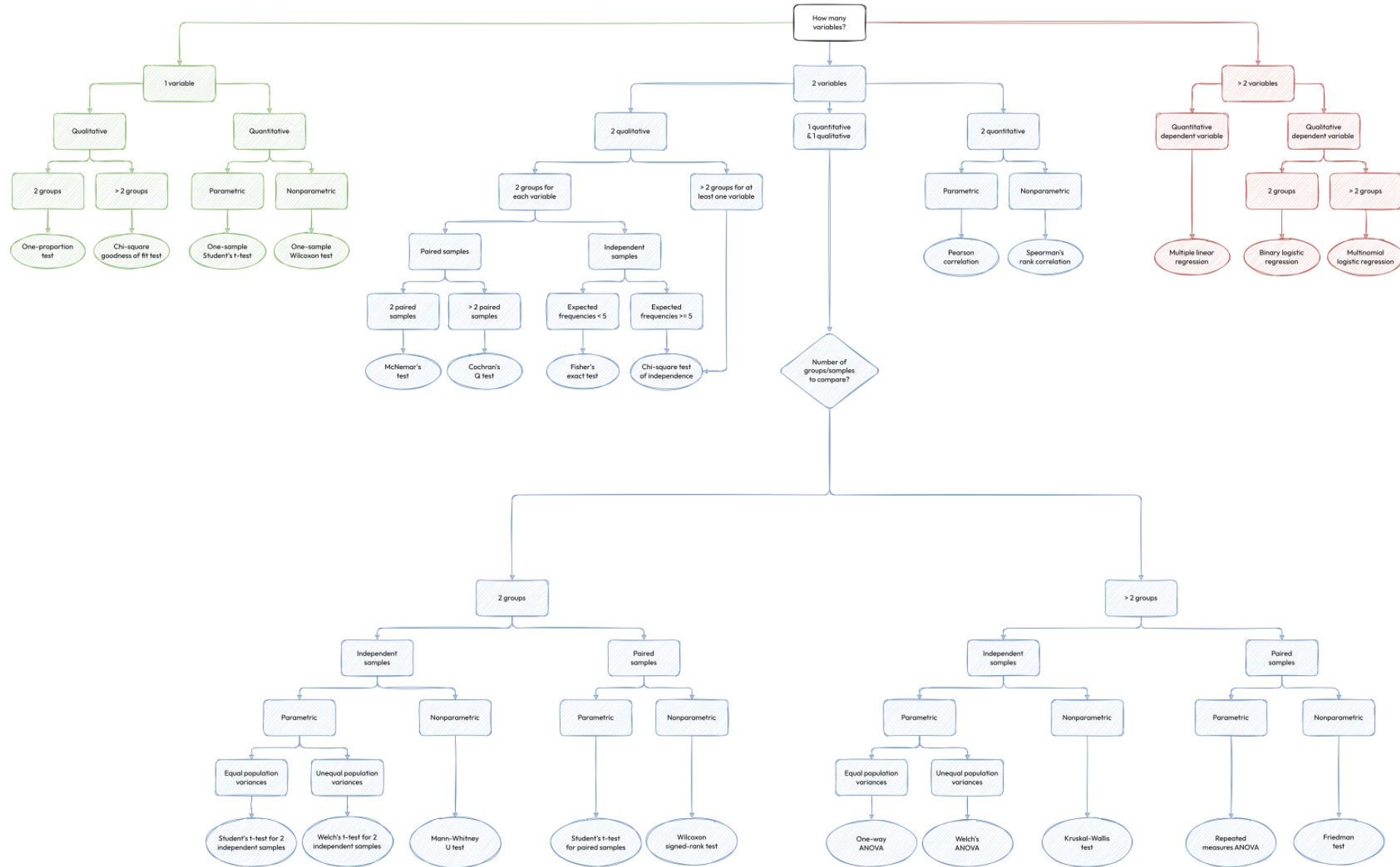
## Flow chart: which test statistic should you use?



## Flow chart: which test statistic should you use?



# What statistical test should I do?



Website with dataset, different types of data that lead to **various tests**, visualizations, and assumptions tested to run on it!

<https://statistiy.app/>

[Clear Table](#) [Export / Import](#) [Settings](#)

▼ nominal	▼ metrisch	▼ metrisch	▼ nominal	▼ metrisch	▼ nominal	▼ ordinal		
Gender	Salary	Age	Place	Weight	Company	Academic degree		
Female	1500	33	Chicago	80	BMW	Bachelor		
Female	1200	33	Chicago	82.5	Ford	No		
Male	2200	34	New York	100.8	BMW	Bachelor		
Male	2100	42	New York	90	BMW	Master		
Female	1500	29	Chicago	67	Ford	Master		
Female	1700	19	Washington	60	Ford	Master		
Male	3000	50	Washington	77	Ford	No		
Male	3000	55	Washington	77	Ford	Bachelor		
Female	2800	31	New York	87	Ford	Bachelor		
Male	2900	46	New York	70	GM	Master		
Female	2780	36	Washington	57	BMW	No		
Male	2550	48	New York	64	GM	Master		

**Metric:**  
☐ Salary ☐ Age ☐ Weight

**Ordinal:**  
☒ Academic degree

**Nominal:**  
☐ Gender ☐ Place ☐ Company

Descriptive Statistics

Hypothesis test

Regression

Charts

# Part 1: **Why** t tests?

## Inference about means:

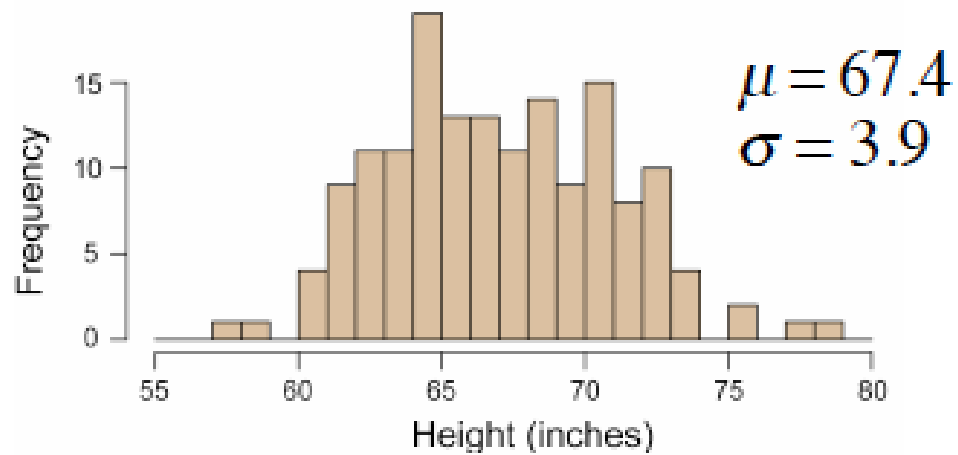
### As a reminder from Learning Path I....

- To make statistical statements, we need to describe the sampling distribution of an estimator (for the null hypothesis probabilities).
  - The sampling distribution is the probability distribution of all values of an estimate that we might obtain when sampling a population
  - When the variable  $Y$  is normally distributed or  $n$  is large (if  $Y$  is not normally distributed) the sampling distribution for  $E(Y)$  is normal\*

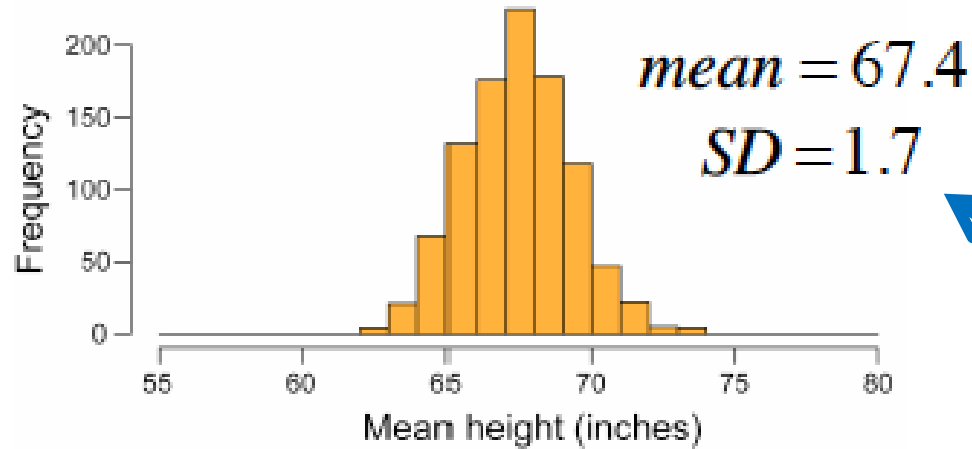
\* thank-you Central Limit Theorem



# Inference for a Normal Population



Mean heights of samples of size 5  
(1000 samples)



The central limit theorem has two constraints:

1. It depends on a large sample size ( $n > 30$ -ish)
2. To use it, we need to know  $\sigma^2$  (i.i.d.), but we seldom do.

$$\sigma_{\bar{Y}} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{3.9}{\sqrt{5}} = 1.7$$

# Inference about Means

- Because  $\bar{Y}$  is normally distributed, we can convert the distribution to the **standard normal distribution**:

$$Z = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}} = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}}$$

- This gives a probability distribution of the difference between a **sample** mean and **the population** mean

# Inference about Means

## But we don't know $\sigma$ !

### Now what?

- we *do* know **s**, the standard deviation of our sample, which estimates  **$\sigma$** .

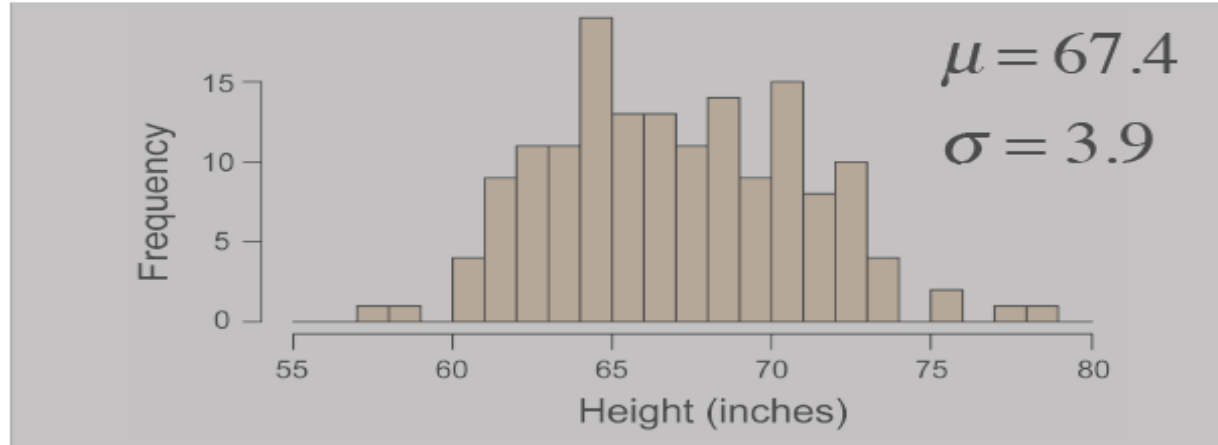
- We can use **s** to get:  $SE_{\bar{Y}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$

- This is used as an estimate of  $\sigma_{\bar{Y}}$

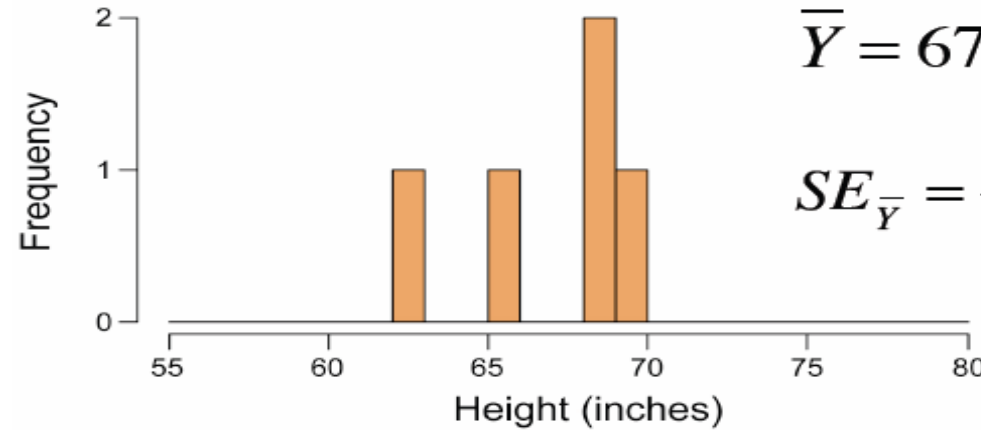
# Inference for a Normal Population

In most cases, we don't know the real population distribution.

We only have a sample.



Heights of a sample of students ( $n = 5$ )



$$SE_{\bar{Y}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{3.1}{\sqrt{5}} = 1.4$$

We use this as an estimate of  $\sigma_{\bar{Y}}$

## The Z score:

$$\text{SIGNAL} \quad Z = \frac{\boxed{Y - \mu}}{\boxed{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}}} = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \quad \text{NOISE}$$

## The Student's t Distribution:



$$\text{SIGNAL} \quad t = \frac{\boxed{\bar{Y} - \mu}}{\boxed{SE_{\bar{Y}}}} = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{s / \sqrt{n}} \quad \text{NOISE}$$

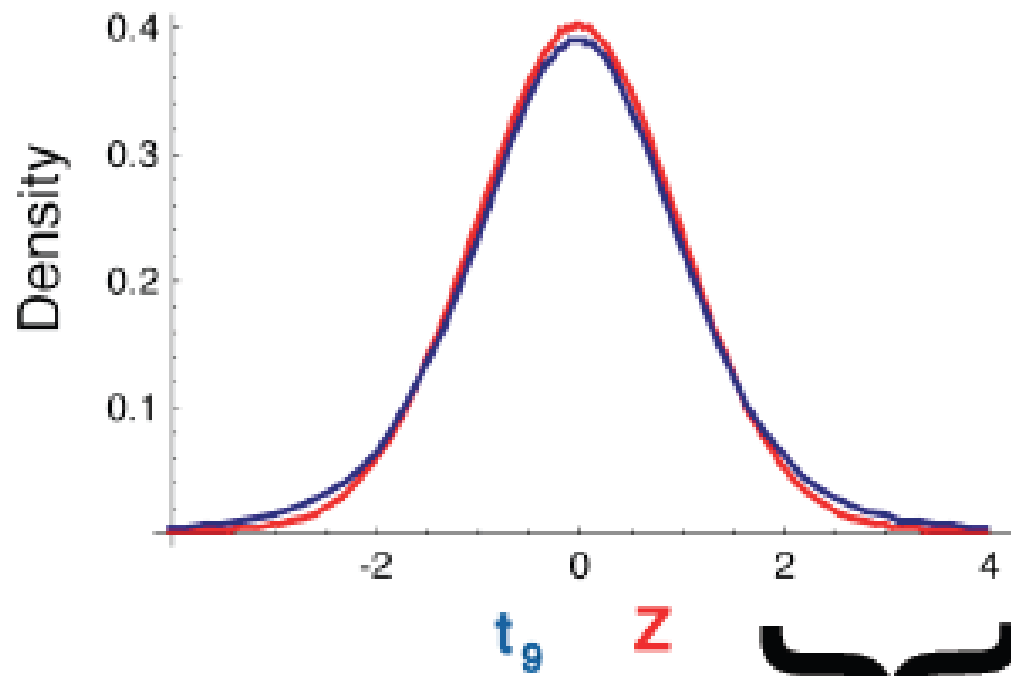
\* Alias of William Gosset of the Guinness Brewing Company

	<u><b>t</b></u>	<u><b>z</b></u>
<u><b>Stand. Error</b></u>	$SE_{\bar{y}} = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$	$\sigma_{\bar{y}} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$
<u><b>dof</b></u>	n - 1	n
<u><b>Sampling Distribution</b></u>	t-distribution	Normal Distribution

Why is degrees of freedom n-1 instead of n?

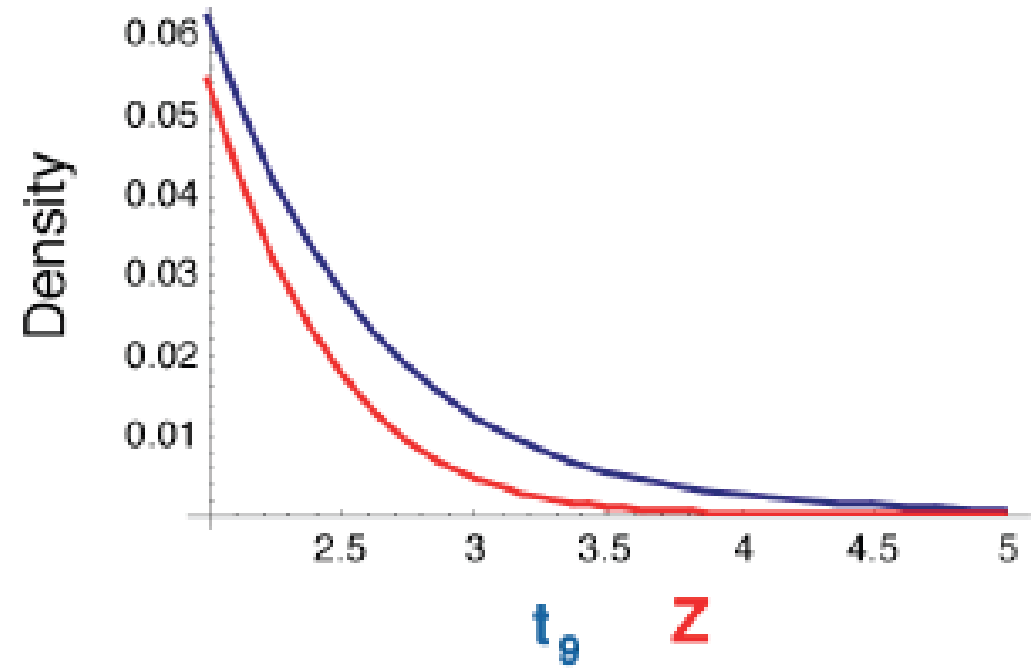
## The consequences of using $SE_{\bar{Y}}$ instead of $\sigma_{\bar{Y}}$

- **The value of  $SE_{\bar{Y}}$  is different for each sample; it doesn't have a constant value like  $\sigma_{\bar{Y}}$** 
  - Introduces some error
    - t-distribution is wider than the equivalent Normal distribution
      - therefore, it is not as precise
    - As sample size,  $n$ , increases the t-distribution narrows and approaches the Normal Distribution
- *dof =  $n - 1$  because we have 'used up' one piece of information when we estimate  $\sigma_{\bar{Y}}$  by using  $SE_{\bar{Y}}$*



$$Z = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{\sigma_{\bar{Y}}}$$

$$t = \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{SE_{\bar{Y}}}$$





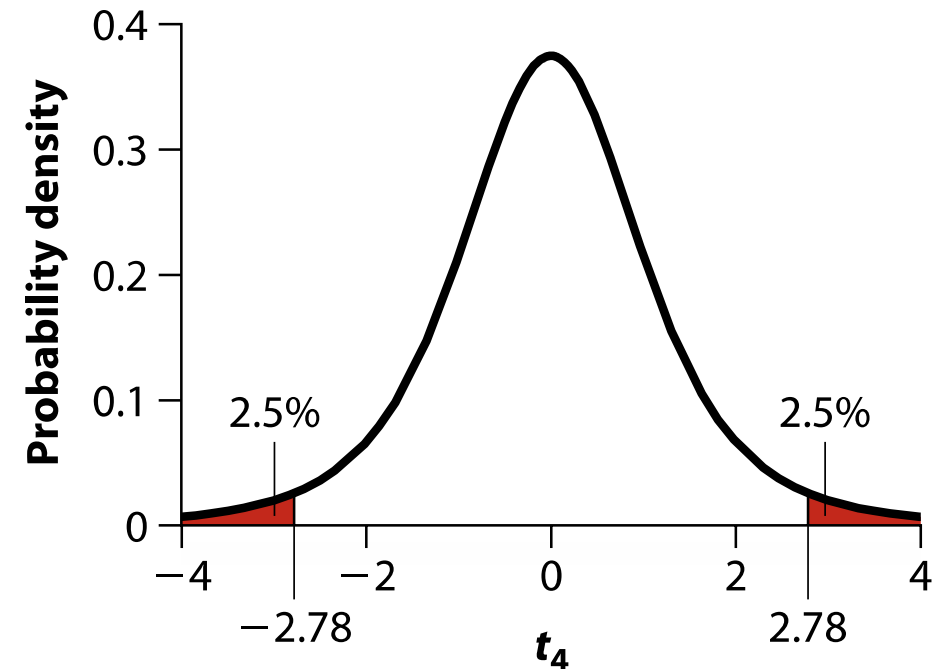
# Critical values for the student's t distribution:

<https://www.sjsu.edu/faculty/gerstman/StatPrimer/t-table.pdf>

- $t_{0.05(2),df}$

– the 0.05 is the fraction of the area under the curve shared between the two tails of the distribution

**$2.5\% > t_{0.05(2),df}$  and  $-2.5\% < -t_{0.05(2),df}$**



Use the t-distribution to calculate the **confidence interval** for the mean of a normal distribution

$$-t_{\alpha(2),df} < \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{SE_{\bar{Y}}} < t_{\alpha(2),df}$$

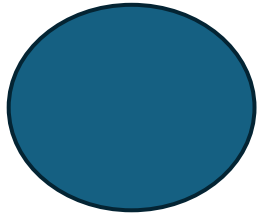
- This can be re-arranged:

$$\bar{Y} - t_{\alpha(2),df} SE_{\bar{Y}} < \mu < \bar{Y} + t_{\alpha(2),df} SE_{\bar{Y}}$$

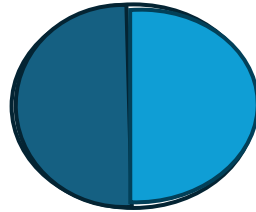
Never this (why not?):  ~~$\bar{Y} - t_{\alpha(2),df} SE_{\bar{Y}} < \bar{Y} < \bar{Y} + t_{\alpha(2),df} SE_{\bar{Y}}$~~

## Part 2: What t tests? We will look at the following t-tests:

1. Comparing one mean:
  - a. **One-sample t-test**
2. Comparing two means:
  - a. **Paired t-test**
  - b. **Two-sample t-test**



one sample



paired



two sample

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*Each of the above tests have slightly different assumptions which allow our conclusions to be supported. We will investigate what happens when these assumptions are violated and how robust our various t-tests are to violations.*

## Applications of one sample t-test

Researchers are studying the body weight of mice to understand the impact of a high-fat diet on genetically modified (GM) mice. They can collect the following data: **Body Weight**.

**One-Sample t-test:**

**Two-Sample t-test:**

**Paired t-test:**

## Applications of one sample t-test

Researchers are studying the body weight of mice to understand the impact of a high-fat diet on genetically modified (GM) mice. They can collect the following data: **body weight**.

**One-Sample t-test:** Does the **body weight of the GM mice** differ significantly from a **known population mean weight** of non-GM mice?

**Two-Sample t-test:** Does the body weight of GM mice on a **high-fat diet** differ from the body weight of a GM mice on a **standard diet**?

**Paired t-test:** They measure the body weights of a group of GM mice **before** and **after** they are switched from a normal diet to a high fat diet to see if there's a significant change in weight within the same group.