Statistics Basics Week 5 SGA

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Proof: Standard decision-making procedure of t-test is equivalent to the following: reject null hypothesis if and only if μ_0 does not belong to I. If μ_0 does not lie in I, either μ_0 is larger than the right endpoint of I or μ_0 is smaller than the left endpoint of I. Let's assume one sample null hypothesis $\mathbb{E}X = \mu_0$ holds. Without loss of generality, we prove the latter which is

$$\mu_0 < \bar{x} - 1.96 \cdot \frac{SD(x)}{\sqrt{n}}$$

This can be reorganised as

$$\frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{SD(x)} \cdot \sqrt{n} > 1.96$$

We picked the magic number 1.96 because it represents a confidence interval, I, of 95% in standard normal distribution. Hence the probability of μ_0 smaller than the left endpoint of I is 2.5%. And μ_0 does not lie in I is 5%. The probability that we falsely reject null hypothesis provided that it is true is also 5%. We will reject this assumption only when μ_0 falls out of the confidence interval I which is equivalent to the rule used in ordinary two-sided one-sample t-test.