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Day 20

Two Independent Samples t-Test

When it's used: randomized with unrelated treatments & control groups **OR** observational study with comparing two unrelated groups.

Very common: compute mean if everyone got “new” treatment to mean if everyone got “control” treatment. Example; two groups, one smoking and the other group not smoking.

Data looks like: one numerical response variable measured in two **independent groups**

Example

Lung Cap (Smoke)		Lung Cap (No Smoke)	
#		#	
#		#	
#		#	
#		#	
#		#	
		#	
		#	
		#	
		#	
		#	
TOTAL		TOTAL	
5		10	

Figure 1: Numbers to numbers

Lung Cap		Group
#		Smoker
#		Smoker
#		Smoker
#		No smoker

Figure 2: Numbers to groups

Theory & Concepts

Let μ_1 = population mean in group 1. μ_2 = population mean in group 2.

Example: μ_1 = population mean cholesterol level if everyone got new drug. μ_2 = population mean cholesterol level if everyone current drug.

We want to do inference on $\mu_1 - \mu_2$, the difference of population means.

Recall:

$$t = \frac{STATISTIC - PARAMETER}{STANDARD ERROR}$$

$$t = \frac{(\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2) - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)}{STANDARD ERROR}$$

Now we have two sample, so we have:

- \bar{x}_1
- S_1
- n_1
- \bar{x}_2
- S_2
- n_2

By CLT,

$$\bar{X}_1 \sim N(\mu_1, \frac{\sigma_1}{\sqrt{n_1}})$$

$$\bar{X}_2 \sim N(\mu_2, \frac{\sigma_2}{\sqrt{n_2}})$$

$$\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2 \sim N(\mu_1 - \mu_2, \sqrt{\frac{(\sigma_1)^2}{n_1} + \frac{(\sigma_2)^2}{n_2}}]$$

$$Var(\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2) = Var(\bar{X}_1) + Var(\bar{X}_2)$$

$$(\sigma_1)^2 + (\sigma_2)^2$$

Serious problem: we need to estimate two standard deviations!

Solution 1 : Assume $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$

Estimate using pooled standard deviation S_p

$$\sqrt{\text{weighted average of variance}}$$

this is not needed

Satterthwaite Approximation

$$t \sim t(df)$$

Where **df** is calculated by Satterthwaite approximation.

In general, df is NOT an integer

Welch's t-Test

Almost always, H_0 :

- $\mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0$
- $(\mu_1 = \mu_2)$

Under H_0 ,

$$t = \frac{(\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2)}{\sqrt{\frac{(s_1)^2}{n_1} + \frac{(s_2)^2}{n_2}}}$$

Almost always: use a two-sided test

Alternative hypothesis: difference between treatment & control.

Neyman-Pearson:

H_1 :

- $\mu_1 - \mu_2 = \Delta$
- Δ = desired effects size in original units
- Two sided critical region:

Compute t_{observed}

Accept H_1 if t_{observed} in critical region. Else accept H_0 .

NHST Approach

H_a: $\mu_1 - \mu_2 \neq 0$

NOTE: can use $\mu_1 - \mu_2 > 0$ or $\mu_1 - \mu_2 < 0$ but be very careful

Under H₀:

$$t = \frac{(\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2)}{\sqrt{\frac{(s_1)^2}{n_1} + \frac{(s_2)^2}{n_2}}} \sim t(K)$$

K is given by software

Two-sided p-value = $P(|t| \geq |t_{\text{observed}}| | H_0 \text{ is true})$

If p-value \leq significance level, reject H₀ & accept H_a. Else fail to reject H₀.

Example

Study comparing fat consumption of early vs late eaters. We want to know whether there is a difference in fat consumption.

Use NHST approach

- H₀: $\mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0$
- H_a: $\mu_1 - \mu_2 \neq 0$

Let μ_1 = population mean fat consumption in early eaters

Let μ_2 = population mean fat consumption in later eaters

Data

Early eaters (n=202)

- $\bar{x} = 23.1g$
- $S = 12.5g$

Late eaters (n=200)

- $\bar{x} = 21.4g$
- $S = 8.2g$

$\mu_1 - \mu_2 > 0 \implies$ always above

$\mu_1 - \mu_2 < 0 \implies$ always below

Under H₀:

$$t = \frac{(\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2)}{\sqrt{\frac{(s_1)^2}{n_1} + \frac{(s_2)^2}{n_2}}}$$

The answer is about 1.614.

Satterthwaite approximation gives df = 347.41

`pt(1.614, df = 347.41, lower.tail = FALSE)`

p-value = $2(0.054) = 0.108$

At 5% significance level, we fail to reject H₀ because $0.108 > 0.05$. We failed to find a statistically significant difference in fat consumption.