

# Two tailed test

In statistical significance testing, a **one-tailed** test and a **two-tailed** test are alternative ways of computing the statistical significance of a parameter inferred from a data set, in terms of a test statistic. A **two-tailed test** is used if deviations of the estimated parameter in either direction from some benchmark value are considered theoretically possible; in contrast, a one-tailed test is used if only deviations in one direction are considered possible.

