

1. Problem

An experiment is run with a control group of size 157 and a treatment group of size 180. The results are summarized in the table below.

	treatment	control
special	52	77
not special	105	103

Using a significance level of 0.04, determine whether the treatment causes an effect on the proportion of cases that are special.

- (a) Determine a p -value.
- (b) Does the treatment have a significant effect? (yes or no)

Solution

State the hypotheses.

$$H_0 : p_2 - p_1 = 0$$

$$H_A : p_2 - p_1 \neq 0$$

Determine the sample proportions.

$$\hat{p}_1 = \frac{52}{157} = 0.331$$

$$\hat{p}_2 = \frac{77}{180} = 0.428$$

Determine the difference of sample proportions.

$$\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1 = 0.428 - 0.331 = 0.097$$

Determine the pooled proportion (because the null assumes the population proportions are equal).

$$\hat{p} = \frac{52 + 77}{157 + 180} = 0.383$$

Determine the standard error.

$$\begin{aligned} SE &= \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n_2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{(0.383)(0.617)}{157} + \frac{(0.383)(0.617)}{180}} \\ &= 0.0531 \end{aligned}$$

We can be more specific about what the null hypothesis claims.

$$H_0 : \hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.0531)$$

We want to describe how unusual our observation is under the null by finding the p -value. To do so, first find the z score.

$$\begin{aligned} z &= \frac{(\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1) - (p_2 - p_1)_0}{SE} \\ &= \frac{(0.428 - 0.331) - 0}{0.0531} \\ &= 1.83 \end{aligned}$$

Determine the p -value.

$$\begin{aligned} p\text{-value} &= 2 \cdot \Phi(-|z|) \\ &= 2 \cdot \Phi(-1.83) \\ &= 0.0672 \end{aligned}$$

Compare the p -value to the significance level.

$$p\text{-value} > \alpha$$

So, we retain the null hypothesis. Thus the difference in proportions is not significant.

(a) The p -value = 0.0672

(b) We retain the null, so no

2. Problem

In one sample of 200 cases, 39% are folksy ($\hat{p}_1 = 0.39$). In a second sample of 50 cases, 40.4% are folksy ($\hat{p}_2 = 0.404$). Determine a 99.5% confidence interval of $p_2 - p_1$.

- (a) Determine the lower bound.
- (b) Determine the upper bound.

Solution

Determine the point estimate of $p_2 - p_1$ (our best guess for this population parameter is the corresponding sample statistic).

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1 &= 0.404 - 0.39 \\ &= 0.014\end{aligned}$$

Determine the critical z^* value such that $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.995$.

$$z^* = 2.81$$

Determine the standard error.

$$\begin{aligned}SE &= \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}_1(1 - \hat{p}_1)}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{p}_2(1 - \hat{p}_2)}{n_2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{(0.39)(0.61)}{200} + \frac{(0.404)(0.596)}{50}} \\ &= 0.0775\end{aligned}$$

Determine the lower bound.

$$\begin{aligned}LB &= \text{point estimate} - ME \\ &= (\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1) - z^* SE \\ &= 0.014 - (2.81)(0.0775) \\ &= -0.204\end{aligned}$$

Determine the upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned}UB &= \text{point estimate} + ME \\ &= (\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1) + z^* SE \\ &= 0.014 + (2.81)(0.0775) \\ &= 0.232\end{aligned}$$

We are 99.5% confident that $p_2 - p_1$ is between -0.204 and 0.232.

(a) The lower bound = -0.204

(b) The upper bound = 0.232

3. Problem

In one population, 64.2% are cold ($p_1 = 0.642$). In a second population, 39.2% are cold ($p_2 = 0.392$). When random samples of sizes 700 and 300 are taken from the first and second populations respectively, what is the chance that $\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1$ is between -0.32 and -0.18?

Solution

Check if we expect the $\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1$ sampling to follow a normal distribution. The random sampling from two (presumably very large) populations allows us to assume independence. The inequalities are also satisfied:

$$\begin{aligned}n_1 p_1 &> 10 \\n_1(1 - p_1) &> 10 \\n_2 p_2 &> 10 \\n_2(1 - p_2) &> 10\end{aligned}$$

So, we do expect $\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1$ sampling to follow a normal distribution.

$$\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(p_2 - p_1, SE)$$

Calculate the expected difference.

$$\begin{aligned}p_2 - p_1 &= 0.392 - 0.642 \\&= -0.25\end{aligned}$$

Calculate the standard error.

$$\begin{aligned}SE &= \sqrt{\frac{p_1(1 - p_1)}{n_1} + \frac{p_2(1 - p_2)}{n_2}} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{0.642(1 - 0.642)}{700} + \frac{0.392(1 - 0.392)}{300}} \\&= 0.0335\end{aligned}$$

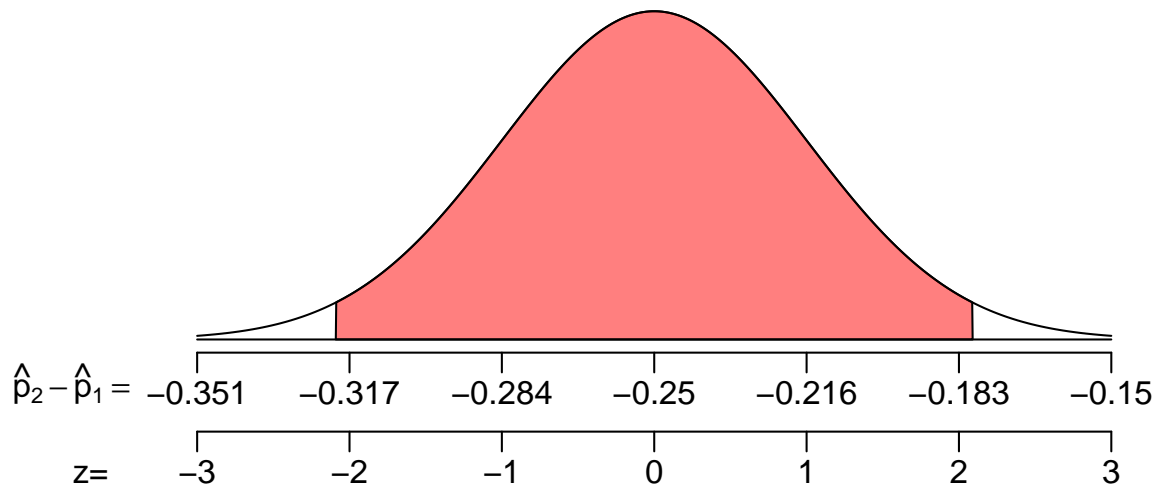
We have the parameters for $\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1$ sampling.

$$\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(-0.25, 0.0335)$$

Determine z scores of the boundaries.

$$\begin{aligned}z_{\text{lower}} &= \frac{(\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1)_{\text{lower}} - (p_2 - p_1)}{SE} \\&= \frac{(-0.32) - (-0.25)}{0.0335} \\&= -2.09 \\z_{\text{upper}} &= \frac{(\hat{p}_2 - \hat{p}_1)_{\text{upper}} - (p_2 - p_1)}{SE} \\&= \frac{(-0.18) - (-0.25)}{0.0335} \\&= 2.09\end{aligned}$$

Draw a sketch. The phrase “between -0.32 and -0.18” suggests finding a central area.



Use a z table.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Pr(-0.32 < \hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1 < -0.18) &= \Pr(|Z| < 2.09) \\
 &= 2 \cdot \Phi(2.09) - 1 \\
 &= 0.9634
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we conclude that there is a 96.34% chance that $\hat{P}_2 - \hat{P}_1$ is between -0.32 and -0.18.

4. Problem

It is generally accepted that a population's proportion is 0.802. However, you think that maybe the population proportion is not equal to 0.802, so you decide to run a two-tail hypothesis test with a significance level of 0.1 with a sample size of 1000.

Then, when you collect the random sample, you find its proportion is 0.82. Do you reject or retain the null hypothesis?

- (a) Determine the p -value.
- (b) Decide whether we reject or retain the null hypothesis.

Solution

State the hypotheses.

$$H_0 : p = 0.802$$

$$H_A : p \neq 0.802$$

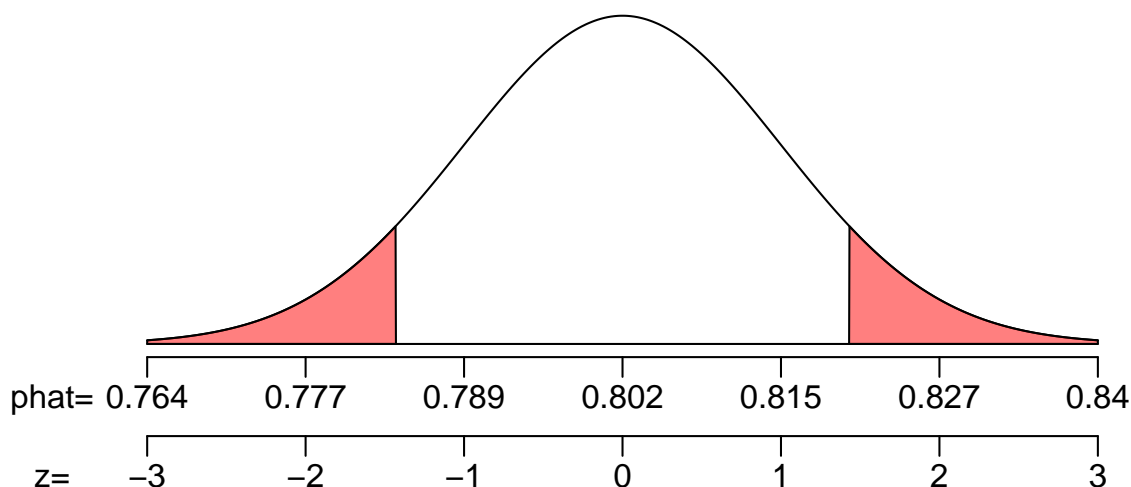
Determine the standard error.

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{p_0(1 - p_0)}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{0.802(1 - 0.802)}{1000}} = 0.0126$$

Determine a z score. For simplicity, we ignore the continuity correction.

$$z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{SE} = \frac{0.82 - 0.802}{0.0126} = 1.43$$

The p -value is a two-tail area.



To determine that two-tail area, we use the z table.

$$\Pr(\hat{P} > 0.82) = 2 \cdot \Phi(-1.43) = 0.1528$$

In other words:

$$p\text{-value} = 0.1528$$

Compare p -value to α (which is 0.1).

$$p\text{-value} > \alpha$$

Make the conclusion: we retain the null hypothesis.

(a) The p -value is 0.1528

(b) We retain the null hypothesis.

5. Problem

If you suspect that \hat{p} will be near 0.33, how large of a sample is needed to guarantee a margin of error less than 0.01 when building a 99.5% confidence interval?

Solution

Determine z^* such that $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.995$.

$$z^* = 2.81$$

Determine the maximal standard error.

$$ME = z^* SE$$

$$SE = \frac{ME}{z^*} = \frac{0.01}{2.81} = 0.00356$$

Calculate n . Because we have no idea what p is, we will use a conservative approach and use $p = 0.5$.

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

$$n = \frac{p(1-p)}{SE^2} = \frac{(0.33)(0.67)}{(0.00356)^2} = 17445.713925$$

When determining a necessary sample size, always round up (ceiling).

$$n = 17446$$

Also, for simplicity, you should probably only use about 2 significant digits, while still rounding up.

$$n = 18000$$

6. Problem

A random sample of size 1400 was found to have a sample proportion of 5.3%. Determine a 80% confidence interval of the population proportion.

- (a) Find the lower bound of the confidence interval.
- (b) Find the upper bound of the confidence interval.

Solution

Determine z^* such that $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.8$.

$$z^* = 1.28$$

Calculate the standard error.

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{(0.053)(1 - 0.053)}{1400}} = 0.00599$$

Calculate the margin of error.

$$ME = z^* SE = (1.28)(0.00599) = 0.00767$$

To find the confidence interval's bounds, find the sample proportion plus or minus the margin of error.

$$p \approx \hat{p} \pm ME$$

Determine the interval.

$$(0.0453, 0.0607)$$

We are 80% confident that the true population proportion is between 4.53% and 6.07%.

- (a) The lower bound = 0.0453, which can also be expressed as 4.53%.
- (b) The upper bound = 0.0607, which can also be expressed as 6.07%.

7. Problem

In a very large population, 88.1% are special. When a random sample of size 4200 is taken, what is the chance that the sample proportion of special individuals is farther than ± 0.5 percentage points from 88.1%?

Solution

Determine the standard error.

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{0.881(1-0.881)}{4200}} = 0.005$$

Determine the upper and lower bounds on \hat{p} .

$$\hat{p}_{\text{lower}} = 0.881 - 0.005 = 0.876$$

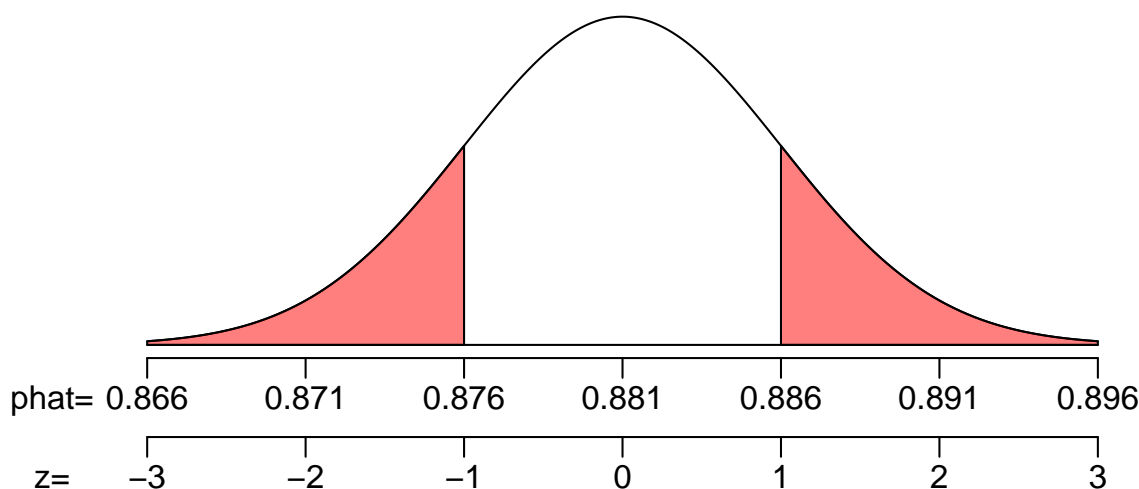
$$\hat{p}_{\text{upper}} = 0.881 + 0.005 = 0.886$$

Determine the z scores. For simplicity, we ignore the continuity correction.

$$z_{\text{lower}} = \frac{\hat{p}_{\text{lower}} - p}{SE} = \frac{0.876 - 0.881}{0.005} = \frac{-0.005}{0.005} = -1$$

$$z_{\text{upper}} = \frac{\hat{p}_{\text{upper}} - p}{SE} = \frac{0.886 - 0.881}{0.005} = \frac{0.005}{0.005} = 1$$

We are looking for a two-tail area (“farther than ± 0.5 percentage points from 88.1%”).



To determine that central area, we use the z table.

$$\Pr(|\hat{P} - 0.881| > 0.005) = \Pr(|Z| > 1) = 2 \cdot \Phi(-1) = 0.3173$$

Thus, we conclude there is a 31.7% chance that the sample proportion is farther than ± 0.5 percentage points from 88.1%.