

Statistics: The Science of Decisions Project Instructions

Background Information

In a Stroop task, participants are presented with a list of words, with each word displayed in a color of ink. The participant's task is to say out loud the *color of the ink* in which the word is printed. The task has two conditions: a congruent words condition, and an incongruent words condition. In the *congruent words* condition, the words being displayed are color words whose names match the colors in which they are printed: for example **RED**, **BLUE**. In the *incongruent words* condition, the words displayed are color words whose names do not match the colors in which they are printed: for example **PURPLE**, **ORANGE**. In each case, we measure the time it takes to name the ink colors in equally-sized lists. Each participant will go through and record a time from each condition.

Questions For Investigation

As a general note, be sure to keep a record of any resources that you use or refer to in the creation of your project. You will need to report your sources as part of the project submission.

Q1. What is our independent variable? What is our dependent variable?

Ans :-

1. Here the Congruent words and In-Congruent words are the independent parameters
2. While the Time taken to name the ink colour is the dependent variable

Here we can observe from the data that incongruent words take more time to be named as compared to congruent **as depicted in the sample**

Congruent	Incongruent
12.079	19.278
16.791	18.741
9.564	21.214
8.63	15.687

As depicted in this snapshot of the sample data we are considering

Q2. What is an appropriate set of hypotheses for this task? What kind of statistical test do you expect to perform? Justify your choices.

Ans:-

Here we will perform Hypotheses Testing

Here we will consider the Null Hypothesis and a Alternative Hypothesis

1. **Null Hypothesis**:- In this Hypothesis we generally make a statement without any proof or data and we don't consider any relationship between the two variables it takes observation
2. Null Hypothesis is **indirect and implicit** and is denoted by **H0(H-zero)** and they carry '=' sign in their formulation
3. **Mathematical form** $H0 : \mu = k, H0 : \mu \leq k, H0 : \mu \geq k$
4. **Alternative Hypothesis** is based on the statistical results and observation where we establish some relationship between the two variables based on the observation
5. Alternative hypotheses is **Direct and explicit** and is denoted by **H1(H-one) or Ha** and they carry ' \neq ' sign in mathematical formulation
6. **Mathematical form** $H1 : \mu \neq k, H1 : \mu > k, H1 : \mu < k$
7. Here μ represents the parameters we are working with like proportion etc
8. '**k**' or μI represents a content value or the intervention of the test
9. Here we will use a **Two Tailed Test(Non-Directional statistical Test)** Since we don't have the idea about the direction in which values will move
10. Here the general trends is that the Congruent words require less time to be recognised as compared to the in-congruent words so here we are simply comparing the means of the sample sets from the two category to rectify this fact hence here we want to ensure that the values that we are comparing lies in the 95% samples hence we use two tail Testing.
11. **Here we are assuming** the given sample data set as a population set for performing these tests while in real-world scenarios its a sample of the much bigger population set.

Now it's your chance to try out the Stroop task for yourself. Go to [this link](#), which has a Java-based applet for performing the Stroop task. Record the times that you received on the task (you do not need to submit your times to the site.) Now, download [this dataset](#) which contains results from a number of participants in the task. Each row of the dataset contains the performance for one participant, with the first number their results on the congruent task and the second number their performance on the incongruent task.

Ans:-

Data downloaded and added to the spread sheet for further processing and analysis the work-sheet is also added in this submission folder for reference

Q3. Report some descriptive statistics regarding this dataset. Include at least one measure of central tendency and at least one measure of variability.

Ans:- Following Descriptive statistics have been calculated about the given data set

1. **Central Tendency** :- Here we have calculated the Mean and the Median for the data *(Mode cannot be calculated since the frequency of different items is 1 only hence technically all are mode !)
2. Here we can observe that the Congruent words have lower mean (less response time) while the incongruent words have higher mean (higher response time) which is as expected from the data
- 3 . Median also shows a similar trend
4. **Variability**:- Here we have calculated the range of the values ,variance and Standard Deviation
5. As expected the range boundary values of the Congruent words is less than that of the incongruent words
6. A similar trend is observed in the case of variance and Standard deviation which indicates a steeper curve for Congruent and a less steeper for the Incongruent curves.

7. Here since this is a sample of a bigger population a more accurate Standard Deviation will be calculated with Bessels correction hence to increase the value of SD to compensate for those points that are not covered in the sample under consideration

H	I	J
Descriptive statistics	Values(Congruent)	Values(Incongruent)
Central Tendency		
Mean	14.051125	22.01591667
Median	14.3565	21.0175
Variability		
Range (Min)	8.63	15.687
Range(Max)	22.328	35.255
Variance	12.14115288	22.05293383
Standard Deviation	3.484415713	4.696055135

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE STROOP DATA

Standard Deviation	12.66902907	23.01175704
With Bessels correction	3.559357958	4.797057122

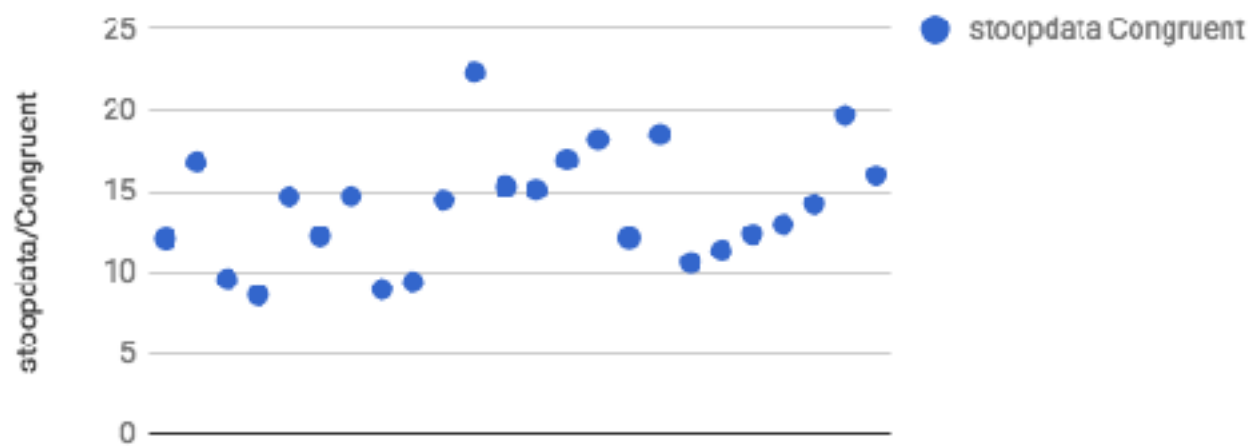
SD with Bessels correction

Q4. Provide one or two visualisations that show the distribution of the sample data. Write one or two sentences noting what you observe about the plot or plots.

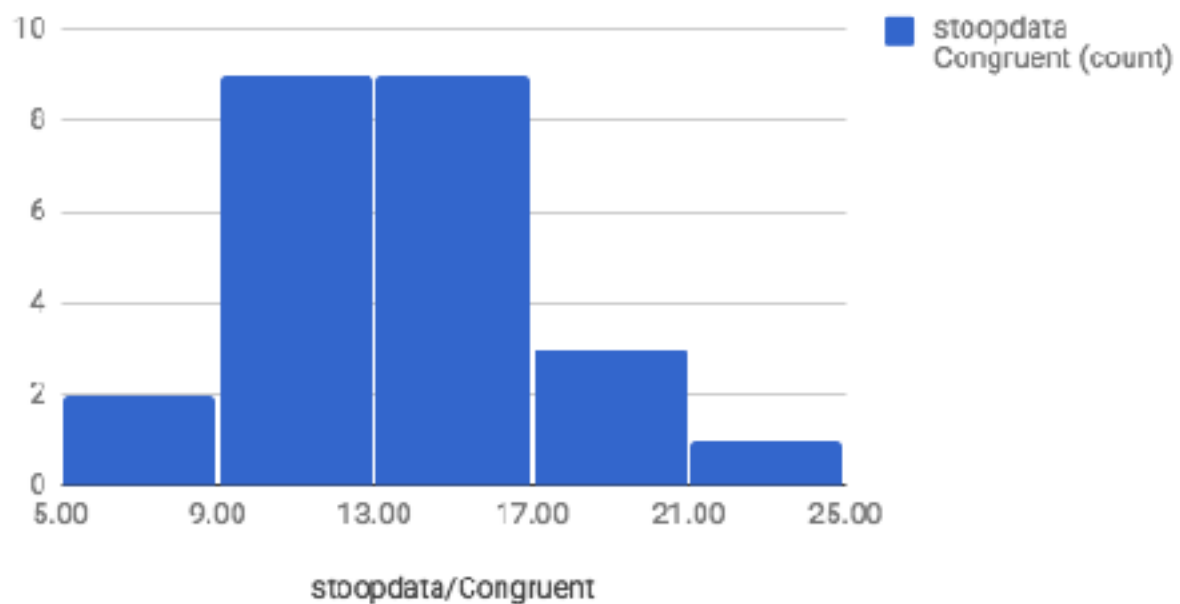
Ans :-

1. Here the First scatter plot and the histogram represents the Congruent Data set.
2. Here Second scatter plot and the histogram represents the In-Congruent Data Set
3. Here we can observe that the histogram for Congruent words represent more of a normal curve with mode in range 9-17 s
4. Hence it is in line with the general trend that maximum people take only 9-17s in identifying the Congruent words
5. While if we talk about the histogram for in-Congruent words it is a positively skewed curve where median is in the range 20-25 seconds which is again support are general trend of most of the people taking approx. 20-25 s to identify in-congruent words which is greater than that of congruent word
6.
$$\text{Mode}(\text{Congruent}) < \text{Mode}(\text{In-Congruent})$$
7. Again in the scatter plot we can see the range for max points in congruent words is 8-20s
8. While that of the In-Congruent words is 15-30s
9. Hence this is also in line with the general trend of the users as depicted by Histogram

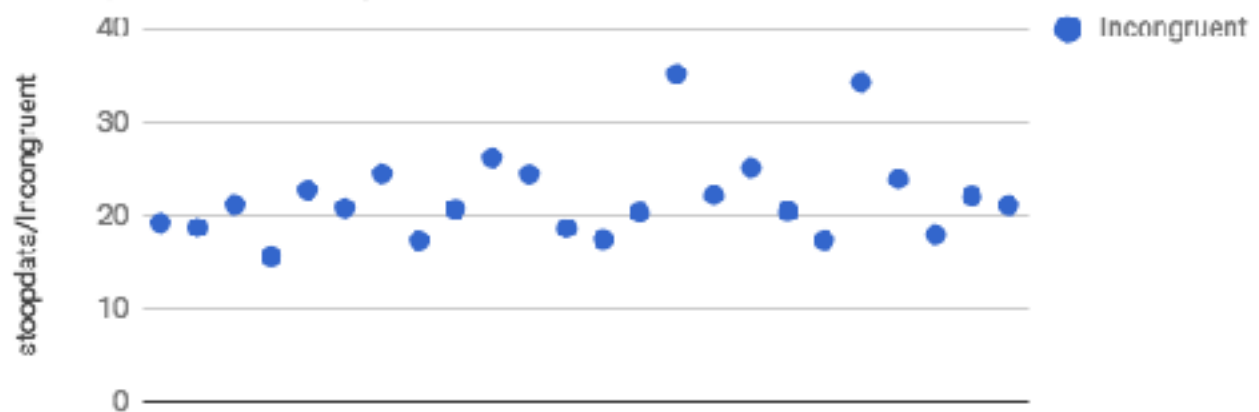
stoopdata/Congruent



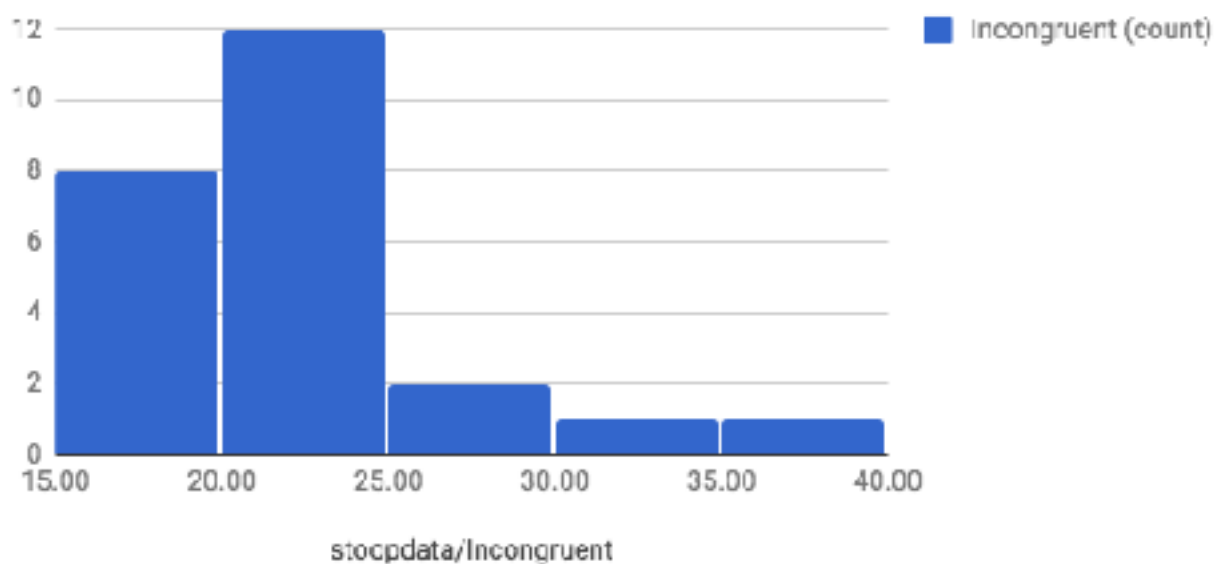
Histogram of stoopdata/Congruent



stoopdata/Incongruent



Histogram of stoopdata/Incongruent



Q5. Now, perform the statistical test and report your results. What is your confidence level and your critical statistic value? Do you reject the null hypothesis or fail to reject it? Come to a conclusion in terms of the experiment task. Did the results match up with your expectations?

Ans

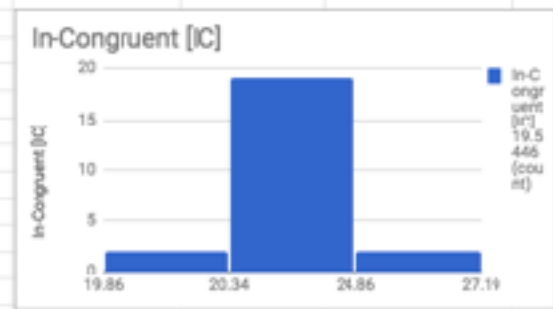
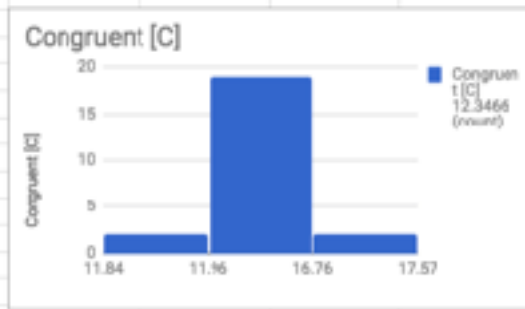
Two tailed (non-directional testing was performed on the above sample)

Following steps were performed separately for the congruent and incongruent words

Step-1 here we randomly selected sample size of 5 and calculated the means for each sample size

stoopdata		Randomly Selected Samples Means		
Congruent	Incongruent	Congruent [C]	In Congruent [IC]	Comparison Result
12.079	19.278	12.3488	19.5448	As Expected C < IC
16.791	18.741	12.3784	19.8048	As Expected C < IC
9.684	21.214	11.9688	21.0808	As Expected C < IC
8.63	15.687	11.8432	20.2068	As Expected C < IC
14.669	22.803	11.9974	21.2818	As Expected C < IC
12.238	20.876	11.9596	21.9776	As Expected C < IC
14.882	24.572	13.9778	22.7088	As Expected C < IC
8.987	17.394	14.0988	21.5212	As Expected C < IC
9.401	20.702	16.318	21.5444	As Expected C < IC
14.48	26.282	16.8216	21.458	As Expected C < IC
22.328	24.524	17.5656	23.2526	As Expected C < IC
15.298	18.644	15.526	22.7794	As Expected C < IC
16.073	17.61	16.1654	24.0784	As Expected C < IC
16.929	20.88	16.2788	24.6022	As Expected C < IC
18.2	38.268	14.1818	24.0812	As Expected C < IC
12.13	22.158	12.9954	23.8878	As Expected C < IC
18.485	25.198	13.1582	24.235	As Expected C < IC
10.839	20.429	12.3058	22.7962	As Expected C < IC
11.344	17.425	14.12	23.125	As Expected C < IC
12.389	34.288	15.052	23.8714	As Expected C < IC
12.944	23.894	14.9508	21.7156	As Expected C < IC
14.233	17.96	14.2824	27.1886	As Expected C < IC
19.71	22.056	14.421	24.661	As Expected C < IC
16.004	21.157	13.6078	23.425	As Expected C < IC

Step-2 Now we plotted the curve distribution for these mean values which was a normal curve as expected by the **Central Limit Theorem**



Here we can approximate that the curves we obtained from the means are somewhat Normal Curves
 Here both the Congruent and In-Congruent Histogram plots form a Normal Distribution in accordance with the Central Limit Theorem

Step-3 Now on the basis of the Central Limit Theorem we calculated the Standard error for the mean values.

Sample Size = 5			
Randomly Picked mean values			
	Congruent [C]	In-Congruent [IC]	Comparison Result
	12.3496	19.5440	As Expected C < IC
	11.9586	21.0308	As Expected C < IC
	11.9596	21.9778	As Expected C < IC
	14.0986	21.5212	As Expected C < IC
	15.526	22.7784	As Expected C < IC
	14.1616	24.0812	As Expected C < IC
	14.12	23.125	As Expected C < IC
	14.2824	27.1980	As Expected C < IC

Step-4 Now we calculated the Z-score for the following means (Refer to the spread sheet for detailed information)

Step-5 Now we randomly selected 8 mean values from our set of mean values and performed Two Tailed Testing (Non-Directional testing) for $\alpha = 0.05$

And corresponding (Critical Z value) $Z^* = 1.96$

Z values (Congruent [C]) Z Values(In-Congruent [IC]) Here we are taking Alpha = 0.05%

Critical Z Values = +1.96 to -1.96

Congruent [C]	In-Congruent [IC]	Congruent [C] (ratio)	Congruent [C] (Percentage)	In-Congruent [IC] (ratio)	In-Congruent [IC] (Percentage)
-1.083840908	-1.178112331	0.1378	13.78%	0.118	11.80%
-1.342834417	-0.4686146578	0.0818	8.18%	0.3228	32.28%
-1.34219268	-0.01825828503	0.0801	8.01%	0.466	46.60%
0.03061064908	0.2359322219	0.612	61.20%	0.408	40.80%
0.9464877213	0.9639739266	0.9264	92.64%	0.0406	4.06%
0.07091192601	0.9845849844	0.6279	62.79%	0.6385	63.85%
0.04421567089	0.5287275486	0.516	51.60%	0.0885	8.85%
0.1484337389	2.485917363	0.5557	55.57%	0.9991	99.91%

Here all the sample values pass the two tail non-directional test where except one highlighted in red

We can conclude this from the % values also as most of the values lies in medium region one values has a % of 99.91 which lies in the alpha region of 5%

Hence we accept the null Hypothesis as the trend continues for all the mean values sets compared

In-C
error

Here we can approximate that the curves we obtained from the means are somewhat Normal Curves

Here both the Congruent and In-Congruent Histogram plots form a Normal Distribution in accordance with the Central Limit Theorem

Plot for randomly picked samples



Here we also notice that the mean of mean distribution is same as population mean

14.01201687

22.71679167

* here the mean of the sample mean is same as population mean based on Central Limit Theorem

Tests:-

1. Null Hypothesis :-

$$\mu = \mu I$$

The Trend Remains same :-Time Taken to recognise Congruent words remains lower than that of the In-congruent words

2. Alternative Hypothesis :-

$$\mu \neq \mu I$$

The Trend Reverses :- Time Take to recognise the Congruent Words was higher than that of the In-Congruent Words

Results:-

Here after Performing the Two tail testing on the Congruent and In-congruent Word recognition time sample of randomly selected users

We conclude that they depict the same trend of (Time Taken to recognise Congruent words remains lower than that of the In-congruent words)

And all of these mean values are well inside the 95% Zone based on the Two tail testing hence they occurred by chance

Hence we fail to disprove the Null Hypothesis

Conclusion :-

Hence we Conclude that it takes less time recognise Congruent words(Words named and coloured the same) while it takes a bit more time to recognise In-Congruent Words.

*** Please refer to the spread sheet present in the same folder of submission**

Q6. Optional: What do you think is responsible for the effects observed? Can you think of an alternative or similar task that would result in a similar effect? Some research about the problem will be helpful for thinking about these two questions!

Ans:-

1 .The ability of our brain to create a image for remembering different objects is the cause since on looking at a colour our brain can response very quickly due to perceptive memory while for processing the same color name on different color takes time

2. Yes jumbled up images and words ie if we display a image of a ship and call it a tree or vice versa it should show similar kind of impact as here also our brain relies on perceptive memory

3. It can also be done by interchanging the names of two people for a day and then see the difference your selves !!

Resources

1. <https://keydifferences.com/difference-between-null-and-alternative-hypothesis.html>
2. Wikipedia:- <https://www.wikipedia.org/>

Spread sheet can also be accessed here

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zMsd9yFfl3KSY2NDLIH5ogINnkGiZGjxr_SauzPHqlc/edit?usp=sharing