

Professor Notes About the “1-Sample t-Test” Homework

- Make sure that you provide some statement of evidence for the fact that a quantitative variable was measured and that only one group/population was sampled in step 3.
- Make sure to include, and refer to, a table of results from `t.test()`.
- Make sure to answer the overall question of the study in step 10. For example, in 11.23, make sure to say that there was evidence for acid rain, not just saying that the mean pH was less than 5.6.
- Make sure to show your work in hand calculation problems.
- It is not possible for the p-value to be zero. If the p-value is very small (i.e., less than a rounded 0.0001) then we write “ $p < 0.00005$.”

Sea Level Rise Rate

1. $\alpha = 0.01$.
2. $H_O : \mu = 0$, $H_A : \mu > 0$, where μ is the mean sea level rise rate for all ecosystems. [Note that a mean of 0 means no change.]
3. A one-sample t-test is required because a quantitative variable (sea level rise rate) was measured on individuals from one group or population (ecosystems), σ is UNknown, and the population mean is being compared to a specific value in the null hypothesis.
4. An observational study without obvious randomization was used.
5. The assumptions are met because σ is unknown, the sample size is greater than 15 and the background suggests that the distribution is not strongly skewed. Thus, the sampling distribution of the test statistic should follow a t-distribution.
6. The statistic is $\bar{x} = 0.059$.
7. The test statistic is $t = \frac{0.059 - 0}{\frac{0.135}{\sqrt{23}}} = 2.107$ with $23 - 1 = 22$ df.
8. The p-value is $p = 0.0234$.
9. The H_O is not rejected because the $p\text{-value} > \alpha$.
10. The mean sea level rise rate does not appear to be greater than 0, indicating that the sea level has not increased significantly over the period of study.

Acid Rain in Shenandoah National Park

1. $\alpha = 0.01$.
2. $H_O : \mu = 5.6$, $H_A : \mu < 5.6$, where μ is the mean pH for all rainwater collections at the Big Meadows Station in the Shenandoah National Park, VA.
3. A one-sample t-test is required because quantitative variable (pH) was measured on individuals from one group or population (all rainwater collections at Big Meadows Station), σ is UNknown, and the population mean is being compared to a specific value in the null hypothesis.
4. An observational study without obvious randomization was used.
5. The assumptions are met because σ is unknown and the sample size (90) is greater than 40. Thus, the sampling distribution of the test statistic should follow a t-distribution.
6. The statistic is $\bar{x} = 4.578$ (Table 1).

Table 1. Results from the one-sample t-test for testing that the pH is less than 5.6.

```
t = -33.5303, df = 89, p-value < 2.2e-16
99 percent confidence interval:
  -Inf 4.650103
sample estimates:
mean of x
 4.577889
```

7. The test statistic is $t = -33.530$ with 89 df (Table 1).
8. The p-value is $p < 0.00005$ (Table 1).
9. The H_O is rejected because the p-value $< \alpha$.
10. The mean pH appears to be significantly lower than 5.6 and, thus, indicates acid rain at this site.
11. A 99% upper confidence bound is required. Thus, one is 99% confident that the mean pH level is less than 4.65 (Table 1).

R Appendix.

```
library(NCStats)
( distrib(2.107,distrib="t",df=22,lower.tail=FALSE) )

setwd('C:/aaaWork/Books/IntroStats/HW/')
ph <- read.csv("pHlevels.csv")
( ph.t <- t.test(ph$pH,mu=5.6,alt="less",conf.level=0.99) )
```