

## 1. The Two-sample T-Test (Normal with Equal Variances)

The data consists of separate simple random samples from two different populations, label them 1 and 2.  
Let:

$\mu_1$  = true mean of population 1

$\mu_2$  = true mean of population 2

$n_1$  = sample size taken from population 1

$n_2$  = sample size taken from population 2

$\sigma_1^2$  = true variance of population 1

$\sigma_2^2$  = true variance of population 2

We wish to test:

$$H_0 : \mu_1 - \mu_2 = \delta$$

vs.

$$H_A : \mu_1 - \mu_2 \neq \delta$$

Good numerical and graphical summaries to explore the data might include means, medians, standard deviations, side-by-side boxplots, side-by-side dotplots, stacked histograms, and normal quantile plots, among others.

If based on our prior knowledge and after exploring the data we are willing to assume:

- All of the data points are independent, both within and between populations (this will be true if the samples are simple random samples)
- The two populations each follow normal distributions
- The variances of the two populations are equal so that  $\sigma_1^2 = \sigma_2^2 = \sigma^2$

Then the test statistic is:

$$t = \frac{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2 - \delta}{s_p \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}}}$$

Where:

$$s_p^2 = \frac{(n_1 - 1)s_1^2 + (n_2 - 1)s_2^2}{n_1 + n_2 - 2}$$

Compare to a  $t$  distribution on  $\nu = n_1 + n_2 - 2$  degrees of freedom.

## 2. The Welch T-Test (Normal with Unequal Variances)

The data consists of separate simple random samples from two different populations, label them 1 and 2.  
Let:

$\mu_1$  = true mean of population 1

$\mu_2$  = true mean of population 2

$n_1$  = sample size taken from population 1

$n_2$  = sample size taken from population 2

$\sigma_1^2$  = true variance of population 1

$\sigma_2^2$  = true variance of population 2

We wish to test:

$$H_0 : \mu_1 - \mu_2 = \delta$$

vs.

$$H_A : \mu_1 - \mu_2 \neq \delta$$

Good numerical and graphical summaries to explore the data might include means, medians, standard deviations, side-by-side boxplots, side-by-side dotplots, stacked histograms, and normal quantile plots, among others.

If based on our prior knowledge and after exploring the data we are willing to assume:

- All of the data points are independent, both within and between populations (this will be true if the samples are simple random samples)
- The two populations each follow normal distributions
- The variances of the two populations are not equal

Then the test statistic is:

$$t = \frac{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2 - \delta}{\sqrt{\frac{s_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_2^2}{n_2}}}$$

Compare to a  $t$  distribution on  $\nu$  degrees of freedom, where:

$$\nu = \frac{\left(\frac{s_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_2^2}{n_2}\right)^2}{\frac{(s_1^2/n_1)^2}{n_1-1} + \frac{(s_2^2/n_2)^2}{n_2-1}}$$

## 3. When deciding between a variance equal and variance unequal test, remember that:

- A good guideline when the sample sizes are similar in the two groups is that if  $0.5 \leq \frac{s_1}{s_2} \leq 2.0$ , we can feel fairly comfortable assuming the sigmas equal. The more our samples sizes differ, the more strict we need to be in having the sigmas similar
- If the variances are truly equal, but are allowed to differ, the test loses some power, but is still a good test.
- If the variances are truly different, but they are assumed equal, the test can make wildly incorrect conclusions.

#### 4. Comparing Two Population Proportions

The data consists of separate samples from two populations, label them 1 and 2. Let:

$\pi_1$  = true proportion in population 1

$\pi_2$  = true proportion in population 2

$n_1$  = sample size taken from population 1

$n_2$  = sample size taken from population 2

We wish to test:

$$H_0 : \pi_1 - \pi_2 = 0$$

vs.

$$H_A : \pi_1 - \pi_2 \neq 0$$

When the null is true,  $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi$ . The unknown  $\pi$  can be estimated using a weighted average of the two individual sample proportions:

$$\hat{\pi} = \frac{\hat{\pi}_1 n_1 + \hat{\pi}_2 n_2}{n_1 + n_2}.$$

where  $\hat{\pi}_1$  and  $\hat{\pi}_2$  are the sample proportions as computed from the two samples. If based on our prior knowledge we are willing to assume:

- All of the data points are independent, both within and between populations (this will be true if the samples are simple random samples)
- The sample sizes are large enough ( $\pi n_1$ ,  $(1 - \pi)n_1$ ,  $\pi n_2$ , and  $(1 - \pi)n_2$  are all greater than 5).

Then the test statistic is:

$$\frac{\hat{\pi}_1 - \hat{\pi}_2}{\sqrt{\hat{\pi}(1-\hat{\pi})(\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2})}} \approx N(0, 1).$$

Calculate the p-value and compare to the given significance level  $\alpha$ .