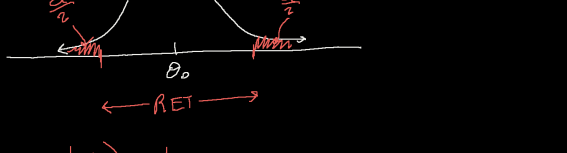


A "confidence interval" (CI) with coverage probability $1 - \alpha$ is denoted

$$\hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha}, \hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha}$$

where the first denotes the interval estimat*or* and the second denotes the interval estimat*e*. We need to define this. Given a α , compute the lower and upper bound of the interval.

Let's begin with an example. Let the DGP be iid $N(\theta, \sigma^2)$ where σ^2 is known and θ is the inferential target. Consider the two sided test where the alternative hypothesis is $\theta \neq \theta_0$ where the estimator is \bar{X} and the size / level is α . This was our picture:



$$\begin{aligned} P(\hat{\theta} \in RET | H_0) &= 1 - \alpha \\ \Rightarrow P(\hat{\theta} \in [\theta_0 \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}] | \theta = \theta_0) &= 1 - \alpha \\ \Rightarrow P(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0 \in [\pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}] | \theta = \theta_0) &= 1 - \alpha \\ \Rightarrow P(\theta_0 - \hat{\theta} \in [\pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}] | \theta = \theta_0) &= 1 - \alpha \\ \Rightarrow P(\theta_0 \in [\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}] | \theta = \theta_0) &= 1 - \alpha \\ \Rightarrow P(\theta_0 \in [\underbrace{\hat{\theta} - z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}}_{w_L(X_1, \dots, X_n)}, \underbrace{\hat{\theta} + z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}}_{w_U(X_1, \dots, X_n)}] | \theta = \theta_0) &= 1 - \alpha \end{aligned}$$

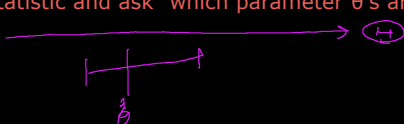
$$\text{Let } CI_{\theta, 1-\alpha} = [\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}]$$

which has coverage probability $1 - \alpha$.

We constructed this CI by "inverting the test"

$$\hat{\theta} \in RET_{\theta_0, \alpha} \iff \theta_0 \in \hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha}$$

p421 C&B: Both hypothesis testing and interval construction look for "consistency" between the sample statistic $\hat{\theta}$ and the population parameter θ . Hypothesis test fix the parameter θ and ask "which $\hat{\theta}$'s are consistent?" Confidence sets fix the sample statistic and ask "which parameter θ 's are consistent?"



Note: we inverted the two-sided test. We can also invert the one-sided tests (right and left) to produce one-sided CI's e.g.

$$\hat{CI}_{L, \theta, 1-\alpha} = [w_L(X_1, \dots, X_n), \infty)$$

$$\hat{CI}_{R, \theta, 1-\alpha} = (-\infty, w_R(X_1, \dots, X_n)]$$

This class will almost exclusively focus on the two-sided CI's.

Sometimes the sampling distribution is known exactly. Inverting the test here yields *exact* CI's. Sometimes the sampling distribution is known only approximately. Inverting the test here yields *approximate* or *asymptotic* CI's meaning the coverage probabilities are approximately what you specified and converge to what you specified as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Let the DGP be iid $N(\theta, \sigma^2)$ where σ^2 is unknown and θ is the inferential target.

$$\hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha} = [\hat{\theta} \pm t_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}, n-1} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}] \quad \text{exact!}$$

Let the DGP for sample 1 be iid $N(\theta_1, \sigma_1^2)$ and sample 2 be independent and iid $N(\theta_2, \sigma_2^2)$

$$\hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha} = [\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2 \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}}] \quad \text{exact}$$

$$\text{if } \sigma_1^2 \neq \sigma_2^2 \text{ but known} \Rightarrow [\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2 \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{n_2}}] \quad \text{exact}$$

$$\text{if } \sigma_1^2 = \sigma_2^2 \text{ unknown} \Rightarrow [\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2 \pm t_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}, n_1+n_2-2} s_{pooled} \sqrt{\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}}] \quad \text{exact}$$

$$\text{if } \sigma_1^2 \neq \sigma_2^2 \text{ and unknown} \Rightarrow [\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2 \pm t_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}, df} \sqrt{\frac{s_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_2^2}{n_2}}] \quad \text{approx}$$

where df is the Satterthwaite approximation

$$t_{H_1: \theta \neq \theta_0} \frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1) \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

by the CLT or by the monster MLE thm. Let's do the inversion now:

$$P\left(\frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}} \in [-z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}, z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}] \mid \theta = \theta_0\right) \approx 1 - \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow P\left(\frac{\theta - \hat{\theta}}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}} \in [-z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}, z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}] \mid \theta = \theta_0\right) \approx 1 - \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow P\left(\theta - \hat{\theta} \in \left[\pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}\right] \mid \theta = \theta_0\right) \approx 1 - \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow P\left(\theta \in \left[\underbrace{\hat{\theta} - z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}}_{w_L?}, \underbrace{\hat{\theta} + z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}}_{w_U?}\right] \mid \theta = \theta_0\right) \approx 1 - \alpha$$

Are we done? We're not since the w_L and w_U need θ to be computed. This is illegal. We're stuck. But we know by Slutsky's thm that:

$$\frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1) \quad \text{but it just goes slower so you need more } n \text{ and it's more approximate}$$

$$\Rightarrow P\left(\theta \in \left[\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}\right]\right) \approx 1 - \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha} \approx \left[\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}(1-\hat{\theta})}{n}}\right]$$

This is known as the "confidence interval for the binomial proportion" and is still being researched today. When θ is close to zero or one, it's not very good.

Pop 1 DGP is iid Bern(θ_1) independent of Pop 2 DGP is iid Bern(θ_2), two sided test then

$$\frac{(\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2) - (\theta_1 - \theta_2)}{\sqrt{\frac{\theta_1(1-\theta_1)}{n_1} + \frac{\theta_2(1-\theta_2)}{n_2}}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$$

We can't invert using the lhs's standardized statistic since we'll get the same problem where we don't know the two values of θ when we try to compute the interval estimator. So once again, we use Slutsky's thm and:

$$\frac{\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}_1(1-\hat{\theta}_1)}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{\theta}_2(1-\hat{\theta}_2)}{n_2}}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{CI}_{\theta_1 - \theta_2, 1-\alpha} \approx \left[\hat{\theta}_1 - \hat{\theta}_2 \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}_1(1-\hat{\theta}_1)}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{\theta}_2(1-\hat{\theta}_2)}{n_2}}\right]$$

Let the DGP be iid with mean θ where σ^2 is unknown and θ is the inferential target. By the CLT and Slutsky's thm,

$$\frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta}{\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1) \Rightarrow \hat{CI}_{\theta, 1-\alpha} \approx \left[\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}\right]$$

Let the DGP be iid $f(\theta)$ and θ is the inferential target and $\hat{\theta}^{MLE}$ is known. By the monster MLE thm and Slutsky's thm,

$$\frac{\hat{\theta}^{MLE} - \theta}{\sqrt{\frac{I(\hat{\theta}^{MLE})^{-1}}{n}}} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1) \Rightarrow CI_{\theta, 1-\alpha} \approx \left[\hat{\theta}^{MLE} \pm z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} \sqrt{\frac{I(\hat{\theta}^{MLE})^{-1}}{n}}\right]$$