

M378K Introduction to Mathematical Statistics

Problem Set #17

Hypothesis testing.

Problem 17.1. *An instructor of a massive online course claims that students solve at most 20 problems per week (on average). To verify this conviction, the instructor intends to conduct a hypothesis test.*

What are the null and alternative hypotheses in this case?

With a sample size of 256, what is the test statistics appropriate the test the above claim? What is its (approximate) distribution under the null?

Say that the sample average equals 19.7 and that the sample variance equals 9. What is the p -value associated with these data?

Assume that the given significance level is 5%. What would the decision be?

Problem 17.2. *A candy-cane twisting machine is considered defective if at least 10% of the candy canes crack or break in the twisting process. A random sample of 100 candy canes was collected and it was found that it contained 12 cracked candy canes. You believe that the machine is defective. Formulate and conduct the relevant hypothesis test with a 2% significance level.*

Problem 17.3. Consider a poll ahead of an election with two candidates: A and B. Let p denote the population proportion of voters who will vote for A. We want to conduct a hypothesis test on whether candidate A will win, i.e., our hypotheses are

$$H_0 : p = 0.5 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_a : p < 0.5$$

Let our significance level be 5%. What is the rejection region (RR) for a sample size of 10?