

## t-Distribution.

Def'n. A **Student t-distribution** w/  $k$  degrees of freedom is the dist'n of the random variable

$$T = \frac{Z}{\sqrt{\frac{Q^2}{k}}}$$

w/

- $Z \sim N(0,1)$
- $Q^2 \sim \chi^2(df=k)$
- $Z$  and  $Q^2$  are independent.

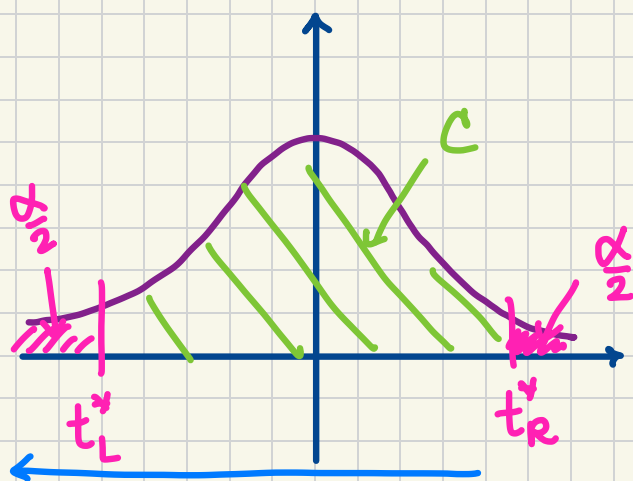
We write

$$T \sim t(df=k)$$

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## More on t-Confidence Intervals.

To construct a confidence interval w/ the confidence level  $C = 1 - \alpha$ , we do



$$-t_L^* = t_R^* =: t^*$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} t^* &= qt(1 - \alpha/2, df = n-1) \\ t^* &= qt((1+C)/2, df = n-1) \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ -t^* \leq \frac{\bar{Y} - \mu}{S/\sqrt{n}} \leq t^* \right] = C = 1 - \alpha$$

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ -t^* \cdot \frac{S}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \bar{Y} - \mu \leq t^* \cdot \frac{S}{\sqrt{n}} \right] = 1 - \alpha$$

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \bar{Y} - t^* \cdot \frac{S}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \mu \leq \bar{Y} + t^* \cdot \frac{S}{\sqrt{n}} \right] = 1 - \alpha$$

$\hat{\Theta}_L$

$\hat{\Theta}_R$

$$\mu = \bar{Y} \pm t^* \frac{S}{\sqrt{n}}$$

pt. estimator

std error

critical value

**Problem 16.9.** (20 points)

A random sample of size 10 is drawn from a normal distribution with **both** mean and standard deviation **unknown**. The generated sample has the sample mean  $\bar{y}_{10} = 14$  and the (unbiased) estimate of the variance  $s^2 = 25$ .

(i) (10 points) Construct a (symmetric) 90% confidence interval for  $\mu$ . ✓

(ii) (10 points) Construct a (symmetric) 90% confidence interval for  $\sigma^2$ .  
Hint: Remember that you know the distribution of  $(n-1)S^2/\sigma^2$ .

Critical value  $t^*$  of the t-dist'n w/  $df = 10 - 1 = 9$

$$t^* = qt(0.95, df=9) = 1.833$$

$$\mu = 14 \pm 1.833 \cdot \frac{5}{\sqrt{10}} \quad \square$$

$$Q^2 = \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(df=9)$$

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \chi_L^2 \leq \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \leq \chi_R^2 \right] = 0.90$$

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \frac{s^2(n-1)}{\chi_R^2} \leq \sigma^2 \leq \frac{s^2(n-1)}{\chi_L^2} \right] = 0.90$$

$$\chi_L^2 = qchisq(0.05, df=9)$$

$$\chi_R^2 = qchisq(0.95, df=9) \quad \square$$

Q:  $E[(Y-a)^2] \xrightarrow{a} \min$

$$a^* = E[Y]$$

## Maximum Likelihood Estimation.

### Likelihood.

Def'n. Given a random sample  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n$  from a discrete dist'n  $D$  w/ an unknown parameter  $\theta$ , the likelihood f'n is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} L(\theta; y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) &= p_{Y_1, \dots, Y_n}^{\theta}(y_1, \dots, y_n) \\ &= p_{Y_1}^{\theta}(y_1) \cdot p_{Y_2}^{\theta}(y_2) \cdots p_{Y_n}^{\theta}(y_n) \\ &= p^{\theta}(y_1) \cdot p^{\theta}(y_2) \cdots p^{\theta}(y_n) \end{aligned}$$

where  $p^{\theta}$  is the pmf of  $D$ .