Hypothesis Tests II

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Hypothesis testing

Hypothesis testing

Goal: make decisions about a population parameter based on a sample of data.

Statistical hypothesis - a statement made about the value of a population parameter (e.g. $\mu > 80$)

Hypothesis test - statistical method for evaluating the degree to which data favors (or does not favor) the "alternative" hypothesis over the null hypothesis.

Example

Research question: Can I read your minds?

The data

n =Number of people in room

x =Number that I got correct

Is *x* large enough for us to believe that I'm psychic?

Guiding mindset

We want to find a simplest explanation of the observed phenomenon

- · Unless there is strong enough evidence to the contrary, we should assume that I am random guessing.
- Thinking like a skeptic: If I were random guessing, would getting x correct out of n be surprising?

Statistics to the rescue

• x is a realization of what sort of random variable?

$$X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$$

Null hypothesis - expresses skeptical perspective, i.e., "nothing interesting here" (status quo) - in this example - "He's random guessing." - $H_0: p=1/4$

Alternative hypothesis - something new, not previously accepted - He's psychic! $H_A: p > 1/4$.

Is this surprising "under the null?"

$$H_0: p = 1/4$$

Under null, we think x is a realization of random variable

$$X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, 1/4).$$

x is higher than n/4. But is it unlikely under random guessing?

If $P(X \ge x)$ is very small under null hypothesis, perhaps we should favor alternative that p > 1/4.

In R

```
n=65 # number of trials
x=25 # number of successes
p = 1/4 # calculate under null hypothesis
1 - pbinom(x-1, size = n, prob = p)
```

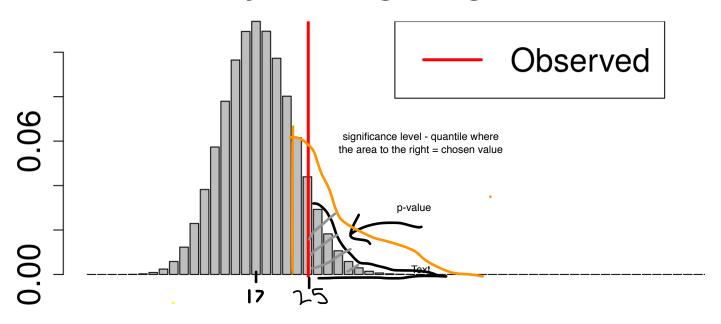
[1] 0.011344

If Null were true, what are the odds that I'd see something as or more extreme than what was observed

- This is called a p-value the probability, calculated under the null, of seeing something as extreme or more extreme than what was observed.
- Note: direction of "extreme" is defined by alternative hypothesis

In a picture

Probability of being to right of red?



How small is small enough?

Upper Bound on Making Type I error

- the **significance** level α of a hypothesis test is our chosen threshold for the p-value, below which we reject the null.
- · most common choice: $0.05\dots$ i.e., 1/20.
- Are you surprised if something happens to you that should only happen 1 out of every 20 times?

"A claimed result that overturns all ideas of causality might well require something stricter than .05." - Brad Efron (NY Times 2011)

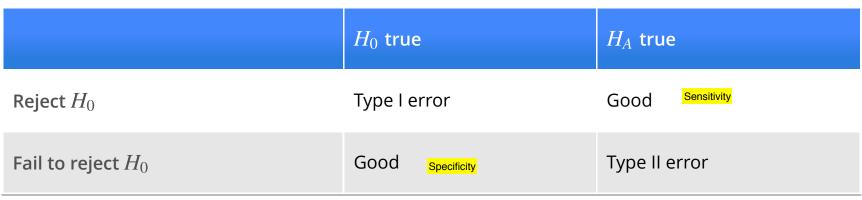
Connecting back to science

Your goal: Convince skeptical reader of your "research finding" - Is observed data necessarily inconsistent with a more simple explanation? - **Structure of argument:** - There are two possibilities:

```
1) simple ("null") explanation
```

- 2) new ("alternative") science here
- Our data would be very unusual if (1) were true.
- We and reader are forced to reject (1) in favor of (2)

Two kinds of errors



Type I error - false positive ("gullible")

Type II error - false negative ("missed out on an opportunity")

Goal: design a procedure that can ensure that

 $P(\text{Type I error}) \leq \alpha$

Chance of getting it wrong. e.g. if \alpha = 0.05 we have a 5% chance of being wrong. Upper bound on making a type I error

yet still has small P(Type II error).

Significance level

By P(Type I error) we mean

 $P(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_0 \text{ is true})$

Think of significance level as our level of gullibility

- thinking I'm psychic when I'm random guessing
- declaring drug works when it actually makes no difference
- jury deciding "guilty" when person is innocent



The **power** of a test is

$$P(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_A \text{ is true})$$

Sensitivity

Power is test's **ability to detect** that alternative applies.

- detecting that drug works when it in fact does
- jury deciding "guilty" when person was guilty of crime

Note:

 $P(\text{Type II error}) = P(\text{Fail to reject } H_0 \mid H_A \text{ is true}) = 1 - \text{Power}$

Back to example

Test

$$H_0: p = 1/4 \text{ versus } H_A: p > 1/4$$

Suppose I want a test with significance level $\alpha = 0.05$. How high would observed x need to be for me to reject H_0 ?

Consider decision rule in which I reject H_0 if observed x is $\geq c$.

Want to find a cutoff c such that

$$P(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_0 \text{ true}) = P(X \ge c \mid H_0 \text{ true}) = 0.05$$

Finding cutoff

```
P(X \ge c \mid H_0 \text{ true}) = P(\text{Binomial}(n, 1/4) \ge c)
= 1 - P(\text{Binomial}(n, 1/4) \le c - 1)
```

```
alpha = 0.05; p = 1/4 # under null quantile = qbinom(1-alpha, n, p) # this is c - 1 cutoff = quantile + 1 cutoff
```

[1] 23

```
1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, p)
```

Rejection region

Our level $\alpha = 0.05$ test rejects if observed number of successes is greater than or equal to 23.

We have designed the rejection region of the test (the set of values for which we will reject H_0) so that

 $P(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_0 \text{ is true}) \leq 0.05$

Making the case

Suppose we found that I got x = 21 correct out of n = 65 guesses.

We fail to reject H_0 because 21 is less than 23.

Have we shown that I am not psychic?

"Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence."

- Difference between "not guilty" and "innocent"
- · Similarly we say "fail to reject H_0 " rather than "accept H_0 "
- · If we fail to reject null, it could just mean we didn't get enough data ("under-powered study")

Power

Suppose I were *slightly* psychic:

$$p = 1/4 + 0.01 = 0.26$$

What's the probability under this alternative that our test would have rejected the null at the $\alpha=0.05$ level?

Recall: our test rejects H_0 if we observe ≥ 23 successes out of n=65.

$$P(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid p = 0.26) = P(X \ge 23 \mid p = 0.26)$$

where $X \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$.

Significance level calculates type 1 error with no power

Power

Power =
$$P$$
 (Binomial(65, 0.26) \geq 23) =?

cutoff

[1] 23

```
1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, prob = 0.26)
```

[1] 0.05988829

This is very low power, meaning that if p=0.26, my experiment had very little shot at establishing this.

Power is a function of sample size

Suppose I am *very* psychic, so that p = 1/2.

Power =
$$P$$
 (Binomial(65, 0.5) \geq 23) =?

cutoff

[1] 23

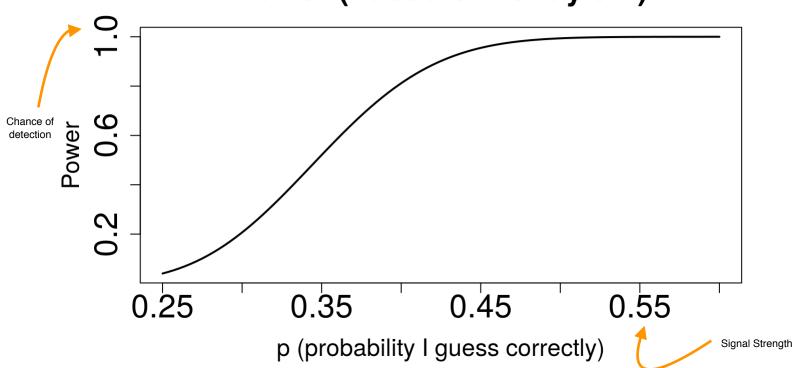
1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, prob = 0.5)

[1] 0.9937487

This is very high power, meaning that if p=0.5, my experiment had a very good chance of detecting my abilities.

Power function





Idea: Before doing an experiment, I should figure out what size sample is needed to have a target power.

Requires that I have a guess of the size of p.

Suppose I think I'm slightly psychic: p = 1/4 + 0.01 = 0.26. What n do I need to have 85% power?

Is n = 1000 enough?

```
n = 1000 # initial guess
alpha = 0.05; pnull = 1/4 # under null
quantile = qbinom(1-alpha, n, pnull) # this is c - 1
cutoff = quantile + 1 # this is the cutoff to ensure a level alpha test
palt = 0.26 # suppose I think I'm slightly psychic: 1/4 + 0.01
power = 1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, prob = palt)
power
```

Is n = 2000 enough?

```
n = 2000 # initial guess

alpha = 0.05; pnull = 1/4 # under null

quantile = qbinom(1-alpha, n, pnull) # this is c - 1

cutoff = quantile + 1 # this is the cutoff to ensure a level alpha test

palt = 0.26 # suppose I think I'm slightly psychic: 1/4 + 0.01

power = 1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, prob = palt)

power
```

Is n = 10000 enough?

```
n = 10000 # initial guess

alpha = 0.05; pnull = 1/4 # under null

quantile = qbinom(1-alpha, n, pnull) # this is c - 1

cutoff = quantile + 1 # this is the cutoff to ensure a level alpha test

palt = 0.26 # suppose I think I'm slightly psychic: 1/4 + 0.01

power = 1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, prob = palt)

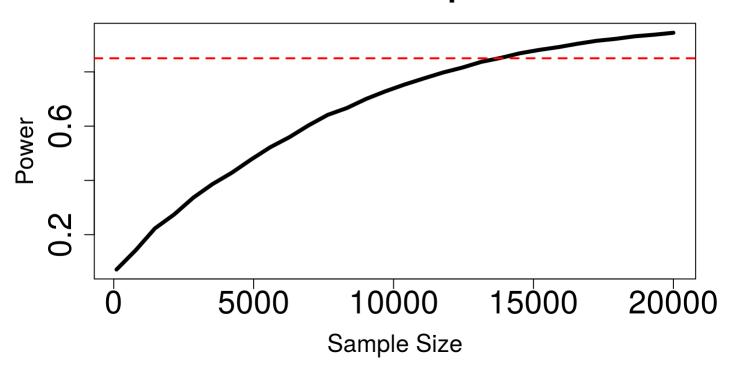
power
```

Is n = 20000 enough?

```
n = 20000 # initial guess
alpha = 0.05; pnull = 1/4 # under null
quantile = qbinom(1-alpha, n, pnull) # this is c - 1
cutoff = quantile + 1 # this is the cutoff to ensure a level alpha test
palt = 0.26 # suppose I think I'm slightly psychic: 1/4 + 0.01
power = 1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, n, prob = palt)
power
```

Power versus sample size

Power vs. Sample Size



Power versus sample size

```
alpha = 0.05; pnull = 1/4 # under null
palt = 0.26 # suppose I think I'm slightly psychic: 1/4 + 0.01
nlist = round(seq(100, 20000, length=50))
power = rep(NA, length(nlist))
for (i in 1:length(nlist)) {
   quantile = qbinom(1-alpha, nlist[i], pnull) # this is c - 1
   cutoff = quantile + 1 # this is the cutoff to ensure a level alpha test
   power[i] = 1 - pbinom(cutoff - 1, nlist[i], prob = palt)
}
```

```
plot(nlist, power, type="l", xlab="n", ylab="Power", main="Power vs. Sample Size")
abline(h=0.85, col=2, lwd=2, lty=2)
```

To sum up ...

Two kinds of errors

	H_0 true	H_A true
Reject H_0 Specificity	Type I error	Good
Fail to reject H_0 Sensitivity	Good	Type II error

Type I error - false positive ("gullible")

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Goal: design a procedure that can ensure that

$$P(\text{Type I error}) \leq \alpha$$

yet still has small P(Type II error).

Significance level

By P(Type I error) we mean

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Think of significance level as our level of gullibility

- thinking I'm psychic when I'm random guessing
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- jury deciding "guilty" when person is innocent

Power

The **power** of a test is

$$P(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_A \text{ is true})$$

Power is test's **ability to detect** that alternative applies.

- detecting that drug works when it in fact does
- jury deciding "guilty" when person was guilty of crime

Note:

 $P(\text{Type II error}) = P(\text{Fail to reject } H_0 \mid H_A \text{ is true}) = 1 - \text{Power}$

Rejection region approach

Rejection region approach

Classic Approach. Later comes the p-value approach

- 1. Specify H_0 and H_A
- 2. Determine test statistic

Distribution to do calculations e.g. X~Binom(n, p)

- figure out its sampling distribution under H_0
- 3. Determine rejection region

This changes with p-value approach

- ullet specify for which observed values we will reject H_0
- · choose size of it to ensure significance level is lpha
- 4. **Decision**: Did observed value of test statistic fall in rejection region?
- 5. Check assumptions

Example (from Gosset himself!)

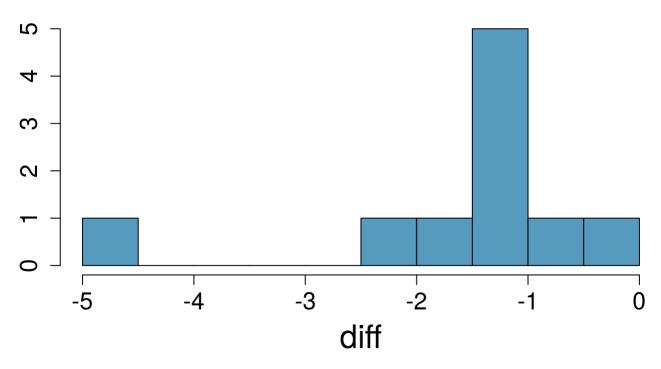
Measure effect of sleeping drugs A and B on each of 10 people

	А	В	diff
person1	0.7	1.9	-1.2
person2	-1.6	0.8	-2.4
person3	-0.2	1.1	-1.3
person4	-1.2	0.1	-1.3
person5	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
person6	3.4	4.4	-1.0
person7	3.7	5.5	-1.8
person8	0.8	1.6	-0.8
person9	0.0	4.6	-4.6
person10	2.0	3.4	-1.4

Example (from Gosset himself!)

hist(diff, breaks=10)





Step 1: Identify hypotheses

Null hypothesis - "no difference between drugs"

- a hypothesis is a statement about the population parameter
- · let μ be the (population) mean difference between drug A and drug B.
- $H_0: \mu = 0$

Alternative hypothesis - "there is a difference between the drugs"

- $H_A: \mu \neq 0$
- this is called a "two-sided" hypothesis
- two-sided hypothesis should be your default choice

Step 2: Test statistic

 X_i = the difference in effect between the drugs for person i.

Test statistic - let's make decision based on $\bar{X}_n = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}$

Assuming X_i is approximately $N(\mu, \sigma)$, then

$$\bar{X}_n \approx N(\mu, \sigma/\sqrt{n}).$$

Under $H_0: \mu=0$, we have $ar{X}_n pprox N(0, \frac{ ext{Standard Error}}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}})$ or

$$rac{ar{X}_n - 0}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} pprox N(0, 1)$$
 Test Statistic

If σ were known we'd have a test statistic with known sampling distribution under the null!

Rejection region - range of values of test statistic for which we will reject H_0 in favor of H_A .

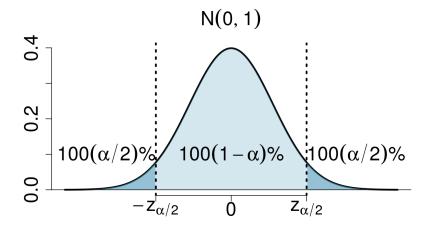
· look at H_A to decide whether low values, high values, or both would be considered evidence against H_0 in favor of H_A .

In example:

 $H_A: \mu \neq 0$. So will reject if computed value of our test statistic $\frac{x_n-0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$ is too high or too low.

What does "too high" or "too low" mean?

What does "too high" or "too low" mean?



$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - 0}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \approx N(0, 1)$$

so if we calculate $rac{ar{x}_n-0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$ and it falls in tails, we'd reject H_0 in favor of H_A .

Reject H_0 in favor of H_A if

$$\left|\frac{\bar{x}_n-0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right|>z_{\alpha/2}.$$

doing so ensures Type I error rate is α :

$$P\left(\text{Reject } H_0 \mid H_0 \text{ true}\right) = P\left(\left|\frac{\bar{X}_n - 0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right| > z_{\alpha/2} \mid \mu = 0\right)$$
$$= P\left(|N(0, 1)| > z_{\alpha/2}\right) = \alpha$$

Step 4: Decision

Compute our test statistic (assume we know $\sigma = 1$):

```
alpha = 0.05; mu0 = 0; sigma = 1
xbar = mean(diff); n = length(diff)
(xbar - mu0) / (sigma / sqrt(n))

## [1] -4.996399

zvalue = -qnorm(alpha / 2)
zvalue

## [1] 1.959964
```

We reject H_0 in favor of H_A since $4.996 \ge 1.96$.

Step 5: Check assumptions

Assumptions made:

- independence of X_i 's
- approximate normality of X_i 's

In reality, we don't know $\sigma = 1$. How does the above change?

Step 1: Identify hypotheses

(Unchanged)

- $H_0: \mu = 0$
- $H_A: \mu \neq 0$

Step 2: Test statistic

 X_i = the difference in effect between the drugs for person i.

Test statistic - let's make decision based on $\bar{X}_n = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}$

Assuming X_i is approximately $N(\mu, \sigma)$, then

$$\bar{X}_n \approx N(\mu, \sigma/\sqrt{n}).$$

Under $H_0: \mu=0$, we have $\bar{X}_n pprox N(0,\sigma/\sqrt{n})$ or

$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - 0}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \approx N(0, 1)$$

However, since σ is unknown, we can't calculate its value and so it is not a usable test statistic.

Step 2: Test statistic

Problem: we don't know σ , so we can't compute

$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}}$$

What did we do for confidence intervals?

$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{S_n / \sqrt{n}}$$

where

$$S_n = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2}$$

Flashback Why is it not normal?

Intuitively,

$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{S_n / \sqrt{n}} \qquad \text{(let's call this } T_n)$$

has more variability "in it" than

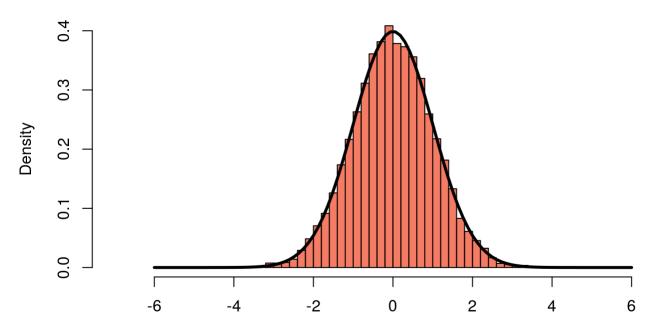
$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \sim N(0, 1)$$

since S_n is also random.

Monte Carlo simulation (normal data, n=5)

Draw
$$X_1,\ldots,X_5 \sim N(\mu,\sigma)$$
: See $\frac{\bar{X}_n-\mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \approx N(0,1)$

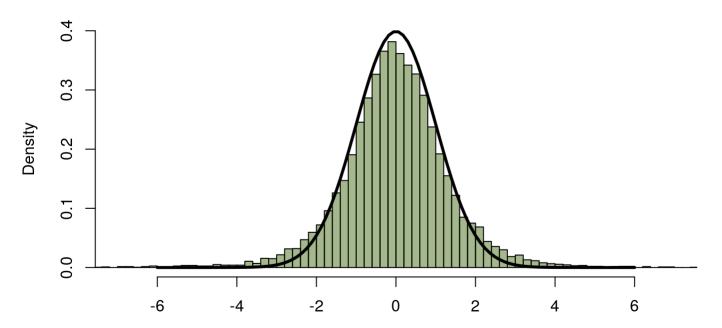
Distribution of $(\overline{X}_n - \mu)/(\sigma/\sqrt{n})$



Monte Carlo simulation (normal data, n=5)

Same as before. See $T_n = \frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{S_n / \sqrt{n}}$ has **heavier tails** than N(0, 1)

Distribution of T_n



Student's t-distribution

If $X_1,\ldots,X_n \sim N(\mu,\sigma)$ are independent, then

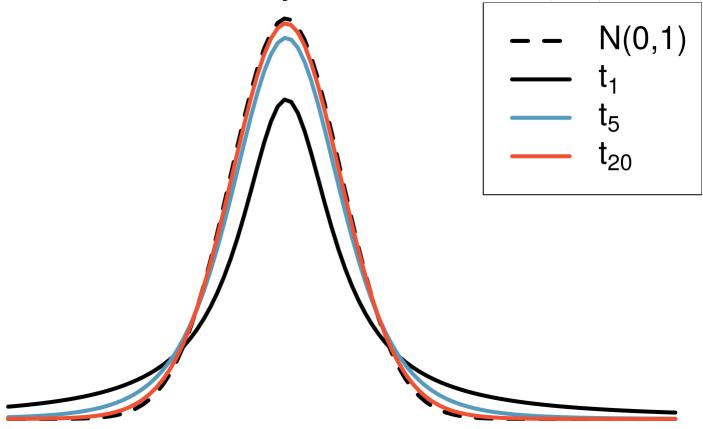
$$T_n = \frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu}{S_n / \sqrt{n}} \sim t_{n-1}$$

In words, we say that T_n has a **t-distribution with** n-1 **degrees of freedom**.

 t_{n-1} denotes this distribution.

Student's t-distribution

For small n has noticeably heavier tails than N(0, 1).



Flashforward Step 2: Test statistic

Let's use

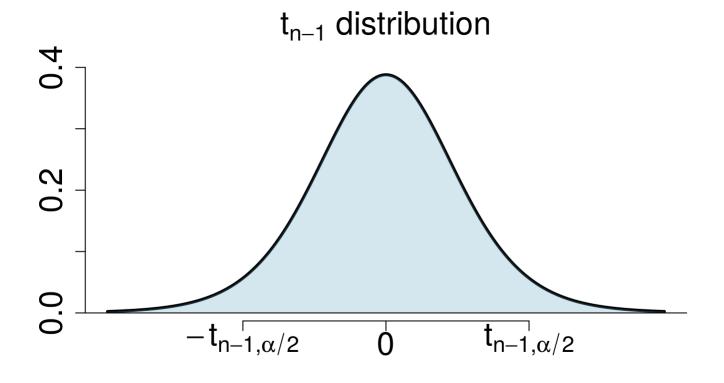
$$\frac{\bar{X}_n - \mu_0}{S_n / \sqrt{n}}$$

as our test statistic.

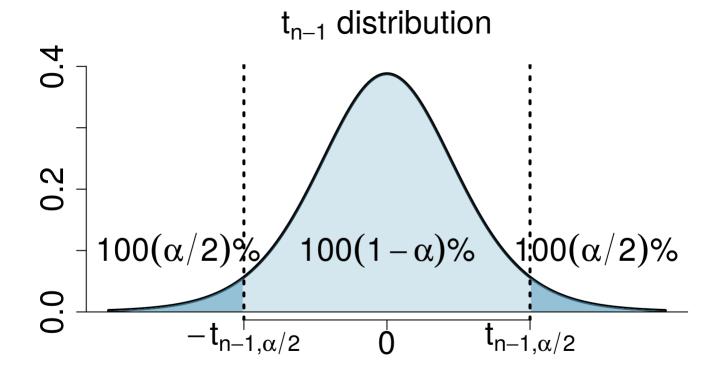
Under $H_0: \mu = \mu_0$, its sampling distribution is known: t_{n-1}

Step 2: Test statistic

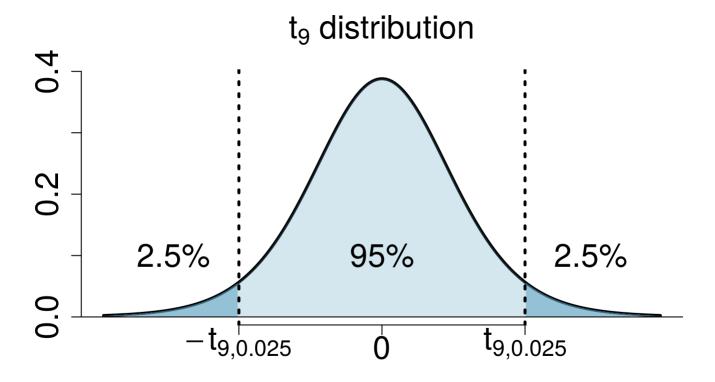
Distribution of $rac{ar{X}_n - \mu_0}{S_n / \sqrt{n}}$ under H_0

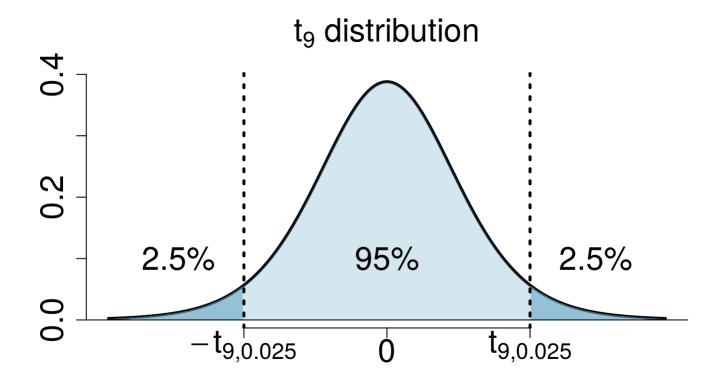


Distribution of $rac{ar{X}_n - \mu_0}{S_n / \sqrt{n}}$ under H_0



Sleep example: $\frac{\bar{X}_n - 0}{S_n / \sqrt{n}}$ under H_0 has distribution t_9





Reject
$$H_0$$
 in favor of H_A if computed $\left|\frac{\bar{x}_n-0}{s/\sqrt{n}}\right| > t_{9,0.025}$.

Step 4: Decision

Compute our test statistic:

```
alpha = 0.05; mu0 = 0
xbar = mean(diff); n = length(diff); s = sd(diff)
(xbar - mu0) / (s / sqrt(n))

## [1] -4.062128

tvalue = -qt(alpha / 2, df = n - 1)
tvalue

## [1] 2.262157
```

We reject H_0 in favor of H_A since $4.062 \ge 2.262$.

Note

For t-test, our cutoff is $t_{n-1,\alpha/2}$ which is bigger than $z_{\alpha/2}$.

$$z_{0.025} = 1.960$$

$$t_{9,0.025} = 2.262$$

Intuition for higher cutoff: We're less surprised by a large value of test statistic when if we were using S_n .

Step 5: Check assumptions

t-test assumes X_i 's are normal. How to evaulate?

- matters most when n is small
- hardest to verify when n is small (unfortunate!)

p-value approach

p-value approach

- 1. Specify H_0 and H_A
- 2. Determine test statistic
 - figure out its sampling distribution under H_0
- 3. Compute the **p-value** based on the particular sample of data you collected
- 4. **Decision**: Did p-value fall below α ? If so, reject H_0 in favor of H_A .
- 5. Check assumptions

Steps 1 and 2

Identical to what was done in rejection region approach

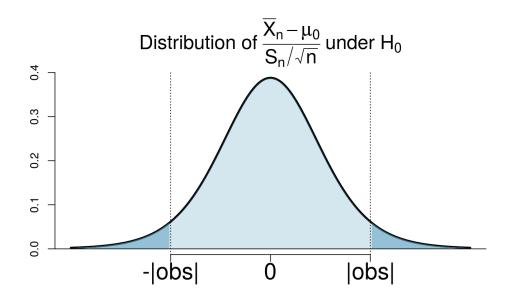
Step 3: Compute the p-value

The **p-value** is the probability under the null hypothesis of seeing something as extreme or more extreme than what was actually observed.

- "extreme" is defined by H_A .
- · in example, $H_A: \mu \neq 0$, so "extremeness" means how far \bar{X}_n is from 0, that is $|\bar{X}_n 0|$.
- · "probability under the null" we know $\frac{ar{X}_n 0}{S_n / \sqrt{n}} \sim t_{n-1}$
- ' "actually observed" we observed $\frac{\bar{x}_n 0}{s/\sqrt{n}} = -4.06$

Putting it all together: what is the probability that a t_{n-1} random variable would be larger than 4.06 or smaller than -4.06?

Always draw a picture!



- sampling distribution is a t_{n-1} distribution
- obs is the observed value (realization of test statistic):

$$\frac{\bar{x}_n - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$$

Calculating p-value

Want

$$P(t_{n-1} < -|obs|) + P(t_{n-1} > |obs|) = 2P(t_{n-1} < -|obs|)$$

In example:

```
mu0 = 0 \# null \ value
xbar = mean(diff); s = sd(diff); n = 10
obs = (xbar - mu0) / (s / sqrt(n))
pvalue = 2*pt(-abs(obs), df = n - 1)
pvalue
```

[1] 0.00283289

Step 4: Decide

- If p-value is less than α , we reject H_0 in favor of H_A .
- this step is optional if you've calculated the p-value. You can leave it up to the reader whether this is "statistically significant"

Step 5: Check assumptions

Same as before.

Other remarks

What makes a p-value small?

Recall for two-sided t-test, our p-value was

$$2P\left(t_{n-1} > \left|\frac{\bar{x}_n - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}\right|\right)$$

where \bar{x}_n and s are the computed values from your data.

- p-value is small when $\left|\frac{\bar{x}_n \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}\right|$ is large.
- this occurs when:
 - $|\bar{x}_n \mu_0|$ is large (happens when true μ is far from μ_0)
 - s is small (happens when σ is small)
 - *n* is large (in your control!)

What makes a p-value small?

Consequence:

- As long as true μ is not exactly equal to μ_0 , we can get small p-values by increasing n.
- cynical view: p-values just reflect your amount of effort (sample size) relative to what's there,

$$\frac{|\mu-\mu_0|}{\sigma}$$
.

Practical significance

Important distinction

Statistical significance ≠ Practical significance

In example: If drug A increases sleep by 1.2 minutes over drug B, do we care?

- · relevant question since we could still get a p-value < 0.0001 with a large enough n.
- essential to consider the effect size
 - such as $|\mu \mu_0|$
 - or standardized $|\mu \mu_0|/\sigma$

Duality between testing and confidence intervals

There's a connection!

1. Recall **level** α **test** for $H_0: \mu = \mu_0$ vs. $H_A: \mu \neq \mu_0$:

Reject H_0 when

$$\frac{|\bar{x}_n - \mu_0|}{s_n/\sqrt{n}} > t_{n-1,\alpha/2}$$

1. $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ confidence interval for μ :

$$\left[\bar{x}_n - t_{n-1,\alpha/2} s_n / \sqrt{n}, \bar{x}_n + t_{n-1,\alpha/2} s_n / \sqrt{n}\right]$$

Observe: μ_0 in confidence interval is equivalent to failing to reject H_0 !

There's a connection!

Justification: μ_0 being in CI means

$$\bar{x}_n - t_{n-1,\alpha/2} s_n / \sqrt{n} \le \mu_0 \le \bar{x}_n + t_{n-1,\alpha/2} s_n / \sqrt{n}$$

or

$$|\bar{x}_n - \mu_0| \le t_{n-1,\alpha/2} s_n / \sqrt{n}$$

or

$$\frac{|\bar{x}_n - \mu_0|}{s_n/\sqrt{n}} \le t_{n-1,\alpha/2}$$

Compare to

Reject H_0 when

$$\frac{|\bar{x}_n - \mu_0|}{s_n/\sqrt{n}} > t_{n-1,\alpha/2}$$

New interpretation of CIs

A $100(1-\alpha)\%$ confidence interval consists of all the values of μ_0 for which a test of the form

$$H_0: \mu = \mu_0$$

$$H_A: \mu \neq \mu_0$$

would fail to reject H_0 at the α significance level.

Why this is useful

Suppose we are interested in testing

$$H_0: \mu = 0$$

$$H_A: \mu \neq 0.$$

Suppose we get a 95% confidence interval: [-0.6, 1.1]

Test would fail to reject at 0.05 significance level because the interval [-0.6, 1.1] includes 0.

Sanity check: what happens to both if you increase α ?