

## 8.4

## *P*-Values

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## *P*-Values

- Using the **rejection region method** to test hypotheses entails first selecting a **significance level  $\alpha$** .
- Then after computing the **value** of the **test statistic**, the null hypothesis  $H_0$  is **rejected** if the **value falls** in the **rejection region** and is **otherwise not rejected**.
- We now consider **another way** of reaching a **conclusion** in a **hypothesis testing analysis**.
- This alternative approach is based on **calculation** of a certain **probability** called a ***P*-value**.
- One **advantage** is that the ***P*-value** provides an intuitive measure of the **strength of evidence** in the **data** against  $H_0$ .

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ນິ້ນ ປົກລົງ

## 8.4

## P-Values

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Conclusion

## P-Values

- Using the rejection region method to test hypotheses entails first selecting a significance level  $\alpha$ . *ກວດສອບຕົວ* *Type I error*
- Then after computing the value of the test statistic, the null hypothesis  $H_0$  is rejected if the value falls in the rejection region and is otherwise not rejected.
- We now consider another way of reaching a conclusion in a hypothesis testing analysis.
- This alternative approach is based on calculation of a certain probability called a *P-value*. *ໃນປະເທດທີ່  $\alpha = 1 - P$*
- One advantage is that the *P-value* provides an intuitive measure of the strength of evidence in the data against  $H_0$ .

$H_0$	True	False
Accept		Type II error
Reject	Type I error	

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## P-Values

### Definition

- The ***P-value*** is the probability, calculated **assuming** that the **null hypothesis is true**, of **obtaining a value** of the **test statistic** at least as **contradictory** to  $H_0$  as the **value calculated from the available sample**.

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## P-Values

- This definition is quite a mouthful.
- Here are some key points:
- The ***P-value*** is a **probability**.
- This **probability** is calculated **assuming** that the **null hypothesis is true**.
- Beware: The ***P-value*** is **not the probability** that  $H_0$  is **true**, nor is it an **error probability**!
- To **determine the *P-value***, we must **first decide** which **values** of the **test statistic** are **at least as contradictory** to  $H_0$  as the **value obtained from our sample**.

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## Example 14

- Urban storm water can be contaminated by many sources, including discarded batteries.
- When ruptured, these batteries release metals of environmental significance.
- The article “Urban Battery Litter” (*J. of Environ. Engr.*, 2009: 46–57) presented summary data for characteristics of a variety of batteries found in urban areas around Cleveland.
- A sample of  $n=51$  Panasonic AAA batteries gave a sample mean zinc mass of  $\bar{x}=2.06\text{g}$  and a sample standard deviation of  $s=0.141\text{g}$ .

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## Example 14

cont'd

- Does this data provide compelling evidence for concluding that the population mean zinc mass exceeds  $2.0\text{g}$ ?  $H_0: \mu = 2.0$  – Null value Annoy
- With  $\mu$  denoting the true average zinc mass for such batteries, the relevant hypotheses are  $H_0: \mu = 2.0$   
 $H_a: \mu > 2.0$
- The sample size is large enough so that a z test can be used without making any specific assumption about the shape of the population distribution.

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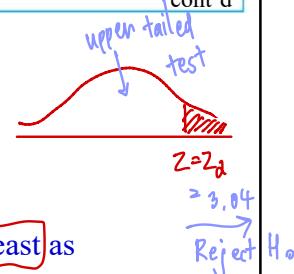
## Example 14

$$Z = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$$

cont'd

- The test statistic value is

$$z = \frac{\bar{x} - 2.0}{s/\sqrt{n}} = \frac{2.06 - 2.0}{.141/\sqrt{51}} = 3.04$$



- Now we must decide which values of  $z$  are at least as contradictory to  $H_0$ .
- Let's first consider an easier task:

Which values of  $\bar{x}$  are at least as contradictory to the null hypothesis as 2.06, the mean of the observations in our sample?

any

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## Example 14

$$H_0: \mu = 2.0$$

$$H_a: \mu > 2.0$$

$$\bar{X} = 2.06$$

↓  
2.10

cont'd

- Because  $>$  appears in  $H_a$ , it should be clear that 2.10 is at least as contradictory to  $H_0$  as is 2.06, and so in fact is any  $\bar{x}$  value that exceeds 2.06.

- But an  $\bar{x}$  value that exceeds 2.06 corresponds to a value of  $z$  that exceeds 3.04.

- Thus the  $P$ -value is

a minuscule type I error

when  $\mu = 2.0$   $P\text{-value} = P(Z \geq 3.04 \text{ when } \mu = 2.0)$

$Z \stackrel{d}{\sim} Z_{\mu=2}$

- Since the test statistic  $Z$  was created by subtracting the null value 2.0 in the numerator, when  $\mu = 2.0$ —i.e., when  $H_0$  is true— $Z$  has approximately a standard normal distribution.

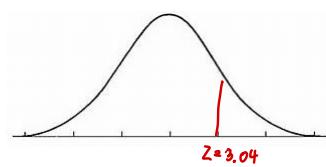
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## Example 14

cont'd

As a consequence,

$$P\text{-value} = P(Z \geq 3.04 \text{ when } \mu = 2.0)$$



$\approx$  area under the  $z$  curve to the right of 3.04

$$= 1 - F(3.04)$$

$$= 0.0012$$

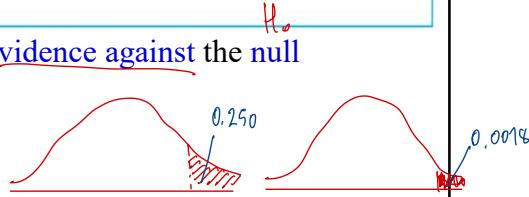
$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
3.0	.9987	.9987	.9987	.9988	.9988	.9989	.9989	.9989	.9990	.9990

## P-Values

- We will shortly illustrate how to determine the  $P$ -value for any  $z$  or  $t$  test—i.e., any test where the reference distribution is the standard normal distribution (and  $z$  curve) or some  $t$  distribution (and corresponding  $t$  curve).
- For the moment, though, let's focus on reaching a conclusion once the  $P$ -value is available.
- Because it is a probability, the  $P$ -value must be between 0 and 1.

## P-Values

- What kinds of P-values provide evidence against the null hypothesis?
- Consider two specific instances:
- **P-value = 0.250**: In this case, fully 25% of all possible test statistic values are at least as contradictory to  $H_0$  as the one that came out of our sample.
- So our data is not all that contradictory to the null hypothesis.
- **P-value = 0.0018**: Here, only 0.18% (much less than 1%) of all possible test statistic values are at least as contradictory to  $H_0$  as what we obtained. Thus the sample appears to be highly contradictory to the null hypothesis.



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## P-Values

$$H_0: \mu = 2.0$$

$$H_a: \mu > 2.0$$

- More generally, the smaller the P-value, the more evidence there is in the sample data against the null hypothesis and for the alternative hypothesis.  $\sqrt{0.168} = 0.41\bar{8}\bar{5}$
- That is,  $H_0$  should be rejected in favor of  $H_a$  when the P-value is sufficiently small.
- So what constitutes “sufficiently small”?

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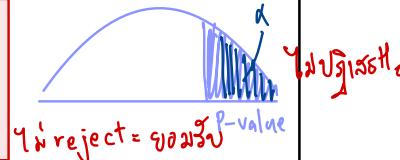
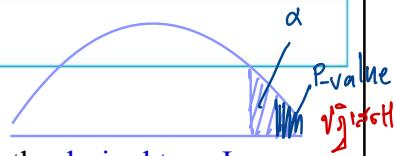
## P-Values

### Decision rule based on the P-value

- Select a significance level  $\alpha$  (as before, the desired type I error probability).

- Then

reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$   
 do not reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$



- Thus if the  $P\text{-value}$  exceeds the chosen significance level, the null hypothesis cannot be rejected at that level.  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$  [拒绝  $H_0$ ]
- But if the  $P\text{-value}$  is equal to or less than  $\alpha$ , then there is enough evidence to justify rejecting  $H_0$ .

$P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$  [拒绝  $H_0$ ]

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## P-Values

- In Example 14, we calculated  $P\text{-value} = 0.0012$ .

$$\alpha = 0.01 \quad H_0$$

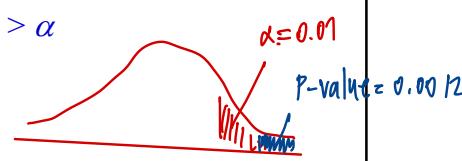
- Then using a significance level of 0.01, we would reject the null hypothesis in favor of the alternative hypothesis because  $0.0012 \leq 0.01$ .

$P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$

reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$

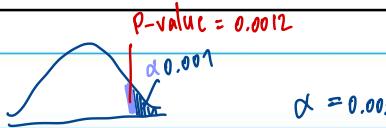
do not reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$

$$\begin{aligned} H_0: \mu &= 2.0 \\ H_a: \mu &> 2.0. \end{aligned}$$



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## P-Values



- However, suppose we select a **significance level** of only **0.001**, which requires more substantial evidence from the data before  $H_0$  can be **rejected**.
- In this case we would **not reject  $H_0$**  because  **$0.0012 > 0.001$** .  
*Accept  $H_0$*
- How does the **decision rule** based on the **P-value** compare to the **decision rule** employed in the **rejection region approach**?
- *The two procedures—the rejection region method and the P-value method—are in fact identical.*  
reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$   
do not reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$

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## P-Values

- Whatever the **conclusion** reached by employing the **rejection region approach** with a **particular  $\alpha$** , the **same conclusion** will be reached via the **P-value approach** using that **same  $\alpha$** .

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$P\text{-value} = P(Z > 2.10; \mu = 1.5)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 - P(Z \leq 2.10) \\ &= 1 - \Phi(2.10) \\ &= 1 - 0.9821 = 0.0179 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 15**

- The nicotine content problem involved testing  $H_0: \mu = 1.5$  versus  $H_a: \mu > 1.5$
- using a  $z$  test (i.e., a test which utilizes the  $z$  curve as the reference distribution).
- The inequality in  $H_a$  implies that the upper-tailed rejection region  $z \geq z_\alpha$  is appropriate.
- Suppose  $z = 2.10$ .
- Then using exactly the same reasoning as in Example 14 gives  $P\text{-value} = 1 - F(2.10) = 0.0179$ .

$\begin{array}{c|cccccccccccc} z & .00 & .01 & .02 & .03 & .04 & .05 & .06 & .07 & .08 & .09 \\ \hline 2.1 & .9821 & .9826 & .9830 & .9834 & .9838 & .9842 & .9846 & .9850 & .9854 & .9857 \end{array}$

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**Example 15** Suppose  $z = 2.10$ . *Rejection Region*  
cont'd

- Consider now testing with several different significance levels:
- $\alpha = 0.10 \Rightarrow z_\alpha = z_{.10} = 1.28 \Rightarrow 2.10 \geq 1.28 \Rightarrow$  reject  $H_0$
- $\alpha = 0.05 \Rightarrow z_\alpha = z_{.05} = 1.645 \Rightarrow 2.10 \geq 1.645 \Rightarrow$  reject  $H_0$
- $\alpha = 0.01 \Rightarrow z_\alpha = z_{.01} = 2.33 \Rightarrow 2.10 < 2.33 \Rightarrow$  do not reject  $H_0$

$\begin{array}{c|cccccccccccc} z & .00 & .01 & .02 & .03 & .04 & .05 & .06 & .07 & .08 & .09 \\ \hline 1.2 & .8849 & .8869 & .8888 & .8907 & .8925 & .8944 & .8962 & .8980 & .8997 & .9015 \\ 1.6 & .9452 & .9463 & .9474 & .9484 & .9495 & .9505 & .9515 & .9525 & .9535 & .9545 \\ 2.3 & .9893 & .9896 & .9898 & .9901 & .9904 & .9906 & .9909 & .9911 & .9913 & .9916 \end{array}$

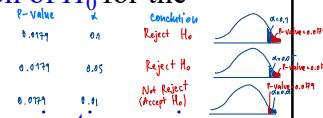
## Example 15

reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$

do not reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$

cont'd

- Because  $P\text{-value} = 0.0179 \leq 0.10$  and also  $0.0179 \leq 0.05$ , using the  $P\text{-value}$  approach results in rejection of  $H_0$  for the first two significance levels.
- However, for  $\alpha = 0.01$ ,  $z = 2.10$  is not in the rejection region and  $0.0179$  is larger than  $0.01$ .
- More generally, whenever  $\alpha$  is smaller than the  $P\text{-value}$   $0.0179$ , the critical value  $z_\alpha$  will be beyond the calculated value of  $z$  and  $H_0$  cannot be rejected by either method.



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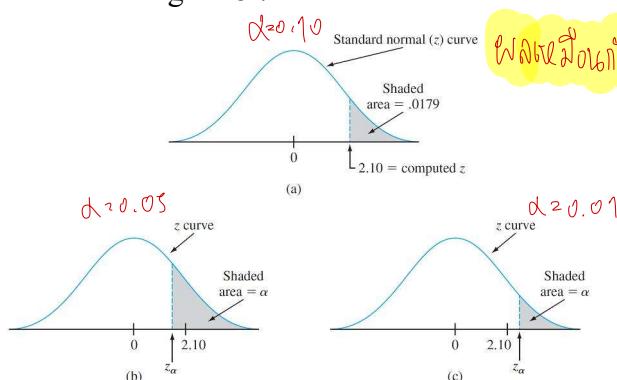
## Example 15

reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$

do not reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$

cont'd

This is illustrated in Figure 8.7.



Relationship between  $\alpha$  and tail area captured by computed  $z$ : (a) tail area captured by computed  $z$ ; (b) when  $\alpha < .0179$ ,  $z_\alpha < 2.10$  and  $H_0$  is rejected; (c) when  $\alpha < .0179$ ,  $z_\alpha < 2.10$  and  $H_0$  is not rejected

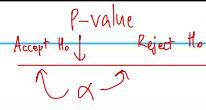
Figure 8.7

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## P-Values

reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$

do not reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$



### Proposition

- The P-value is the smallest significance level  $\alpha$  at which the null hypothesis can be rejected.
- Because of this, the P-value is alternatively referred to as the observed significance level (OSL) for the data.
- It is customary to call the data significant when  $H_0$  is rejected and not significant otherwise.
- The P-value is then the smallest level at which the data is significant.

ນີ້ແມ່ນສຳເນົາ ທັງນີ້ແມ່ນສຳເນົາ

$\rightarrow$  Accept  $H_0$

$\rightarrow \alpha$

$\rightarrow$  Reject  $H_0$

P-value ດັ່ງນີ້ກ່ອນສູດທໍ່ໃຫຍ້ວ່າ ຕ່າງໆຈະໄປຢູ່ຢ່າງຍິນຍຸ (Reject  $H_0$ )

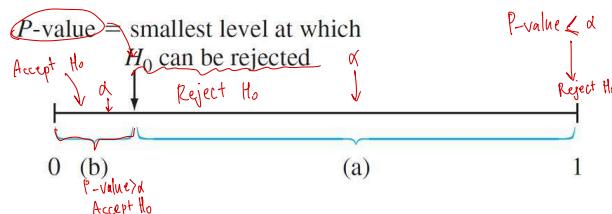
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## P-Values

Accept  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} > \alpha$

Reject  $H_0$  if  $P\text{-value} \leq \alpha$

- An easy way to visualize the comparison of the P-value with the chosen  $\alpha$  is to draw a picture like that of Figure 8.8.



Comparing  $\alpha$  and the P-value: (a) reject  $H_0$  when  $\alpha$  lies here; (b) do not reject  $H_0$  when  $\alpha$  lies here

Figure 8.8

- The calculation of the P-value depends on whether the test is upper-, lower-, or two-tailed.
- However, once it has been calculated, the comparison with  $\alpha$  does not depend on which type of test was used.

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## Example 16

- The true average time to initial relief of pain for a best-selling pain reliever is known to be 10 min.  $\mu = 10$
- Let  $\mu$  denote the true average time to relief for a company's newly developed reliever.
- Suppose that when data from an experiment involving the new pain reliever is analyzed, the P-value for testing

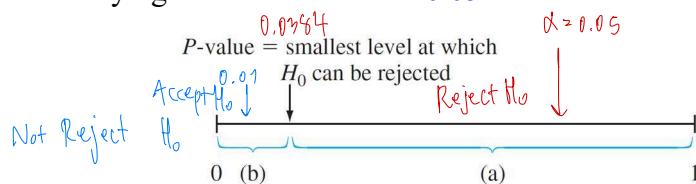
$H_0: \mu = 10$  versus  
 $H_a: \mu < 10$  is calculated as 0.0384.

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## Example 16

cont'd

- Since  $\alpha = 0.05$  is larger than the P-value [0.05 lies in the interval (a) of Figure 8.8],  $H_0$  would be rejected by anyone carrying out the test at level 0.05.



Comparing  $\alpha$  and the P-value: (a) reject  $H_0$  when  $\alpha$  lies here; (b) do not reject  $H_0$  when  $\alpha$  lies here

Figure 8.8

- However, at level 0.01,  $H_0$  would not be rejected because 0.01 is smaller than the smallest level (0.0384) at which  $H_0$  can be rejected.

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## P-Values for $z$ Tests

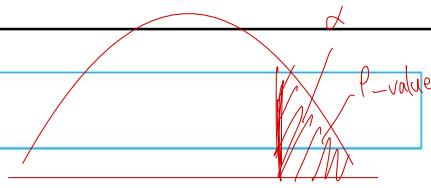
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## P-Values for $z$ Tests

- The *P-value* for a  $z$  test (one based on a *test statistic* whose distribution when  $H_0$  is true is at least *approximately standard normal*) is easily determined from the information in Appendix Table A.3.
- Consider an upper-tailed test and let  $z$  denote the computed value of the test statistic  $Z$ .
- The *null hypothesis* is rejected if  $z \geq z_\alpha$ , and the *P-value* is the *smallest*  $\alpha$  for which this is the case.
- Since  $z_\alpha$  increases as  $\alpha$  decreases, the *P-value* is the *value* of a  $\alpha$  for which  $z = z_\alpha$ .

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## P-Values for $z$ Tests



- That is, the  $P$ -value is just the area captured by the computed value  $z$  in the upper tail of the standard normal curve.

$$\begin{aligned} P\text{-value} &= P(Z \geq z) \\ &\Rightarrow 1 - P(Z \leq z) = 1 - \phi(z) \end{aligned}$$

- The corresponding cumulative area is  $F(z)$ , so in this case

$$\begin{aligned} P\text{-value} &= 1 - F(z) \\ &= 1 - \phi(z) \end{aligned} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{cdf} \\ \text{Upper} \end{matrix}$$

- An analogous argument for a lower-tailed test shows that the  $P$ -value is the area captured by the computed value  $z$  in the lower tail of the standard normal curve.

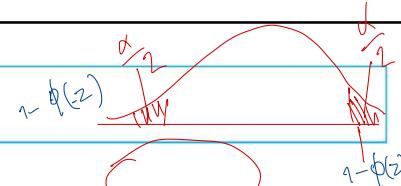
$$P\text{-value} = P(Z \leq z)$$



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## P-Values for $z$ Tests

$$P\text{-value} = 2(1 - \phi(z))$$



- More care must be exercised in the case of a two-tailed test. Suppose first that  $z$  is positive. Then the  $P$ -value is the value of  $\alpha$  satisfying  $z = z_{\alpha/2}$  (i.e., computed  $z$  = upper-tail critical value).
- This says that the area captured in the upper tail is half the  $P$ -value, so that  $P\text{-value} = 2[1 - F(z)]$ .
- If  $z$  is negative, the  $P$ -value is the  $\alpha$  for which  $z = -z_{\alpha/2}$ , or, equivalently,  $-z = z_{\alpha/2}$  so that  $P\text{-value} = 2[1 - F(-z)]$ .

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## P-Values for $z$ Tests

- Since  $-z = |z|$  when  $z$  is negative,  $P\text{-value} = 2[1 - F(|z|)]$  for either positive or negative  $z$ .

$$P\text{-value}: P = \begin{cases} 1 - \Phi(z) & \text{for an upper-tailed } z \text{ test} \\ \Phi(z) & \text{or an lower-tailed } z \text{ test} \\ 2[1 - \Phi(|z|)] & \text{for a two-tailed } z \text{ test} \end{cases}$$

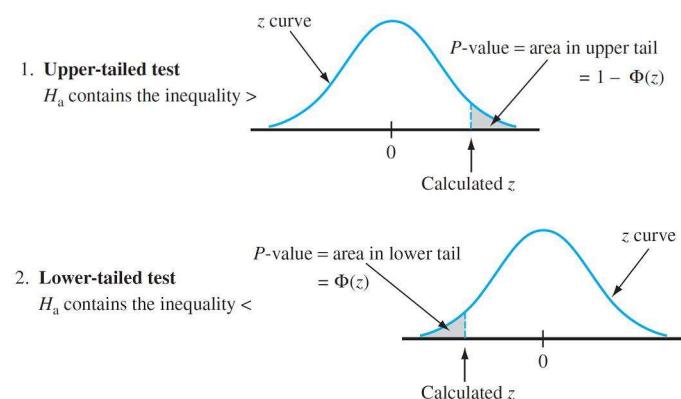


- Each of these is the probability of getting a value at least as extreme as what was obtained (assuming  $H_0$  true).

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## P-Values for $z$ Tests

The three cases are illustrated in Figure 8.9.



Determination of the P-value for a  $z$  test

Figure 8.9

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## P-Values for $z$ Tests

cont'd

3. Two-tailed test  
 $H_a$  contains the inequality  $\neq$

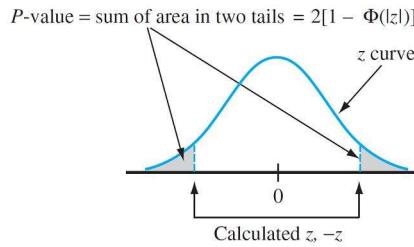
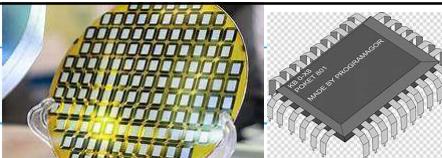
Determination of the P-value for a  $z$  test

Figure 8.9

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## Example 17



- The target thickness for silicon wafers used in a certain type of integrated circuit is  $245 \mu\text{m}$ .
- A sample of 50 wafers is obtained and the thickness of each one is determined, resulting in a sample mean thickness of  $246.18 \mu\text{m}$  and a sample standard deviation of  $3.60 \mu\text{m}$ .
- Does this data suggest that true average wafer thickness is something other than the target value?

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## Example 17

cont'd

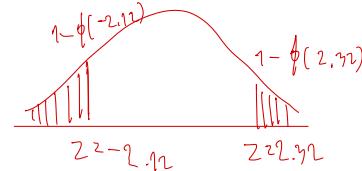
1. Parameter of interest:  $\mu$  = true average wafer thickness

2. Null hypothesis:  $H_0: \mu = 245$

3. Alternative hypothesis:  $H_a: \mu \neq 245$

4. Formula for test statistic value:  $z = \frac{\bar{x} - 245}{s/\sqrt{n}} \approx 24.618$

5. Calculation of test statistic value:  $z = \frac{246.18 - 245}{3.60/\sqrt{50}} = 2.32$



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$\text{Reject } H_0 \text{ P-value} \leq \alpha$   
 $\text{Not Reject } H_0 \text{ P-value} > \alpha$

## Example 17

$\alpha$       P-value  
 $0.0204$

cont'd

6. Determination of P-value: Because the test is two-tailed,

$$P\text{-value} = 2(1 - F(2.32)) = 0.0204$$

$$\approx 2(1 - 0.9798) \quad \alpha = 0.01$$

7. Conclusion: Using a significance level of 0.01,  $H_0$  would not be rejected since  $0.0204 > 0.01$ .

$\alpha = 0.01$   
At this significance level, there is insufficient evidence to conclude that true average thickness differs from the target value.

$\mu_0 = 245$

$z$	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
2.3	.9893	.9896	<u>.9898</u>	.9901	.9904	.9906	.9909	.9911	.9913	.9916



**End of Section 8.4**

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