



[Lecture 14: Wald's Test, Likelihood  
Ratio Test, and Implicit Hypothesis](#)

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> 7. Wald's Test in 1 Dimension

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## 7. Wald's Test in 1 Dimension

### Comparing Quantiles

1/1 point (graded)

Let  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ . Then  $Z^2 \sim \chi_1^2$ .

The **quantile**  $q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)$  of the  $\chi_1^2$ -distribution is the number such that

$$\mathbf{P}(Z^2 > q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)) = \alpha.$$

Find the quantiles of the  $\chi_1^2$  distribution in terms of the quantiles of the normal distribution. That is, write  $q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)$  in terms of  $q_{\alpha'}(\mathcal{N}(0, 1))$  where  $\alpha'$  is a function of  $\alpha$ .

(Enter **q(alpha)** for the quantile  $q_\alpha(\mathcal{N}(0, 1))$  of the normal distribution.)

$q_\alpha(\chi_1^2) =$

(q(alpha/2))^2

✓ Answer: (q(alpha/2))^2

**Solution:**

Since  $Z^2 > q$  for any  $q > 0$  if and only if  $|Z| > \sqrt{q}$ , we have

$$P(Z^2 > q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)) = P(|Z| > \sqrt{q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)}) = \alpha.$$

Since  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ ,  $P(|Z| > \sqrt{q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)}) = \alpha$  if and only if

$$\sqrt{q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)} = q_{\alpha/2}(\mathcal{N}(0, 1))$$

Hence  $q_\alpha(\chi_1^2) = q_{\alpha/2}(\mathcal{N}(0, 1))^2$ .

For example, for  $\alpha = 5\%$ , using a table (e.g. <https://people.richland.edu/james/lecture/m170/tbl-chi.html>) or software (e.g. R), we have

$$\begin{aligned} q_{0.05}(\chi_1^2) &\approx 3.84. \\ (q_{0.025}(\mathcal{N}(0, 1)))^2 &\approx (1.96)^2 \approx 3.84. \end{aligned}$$

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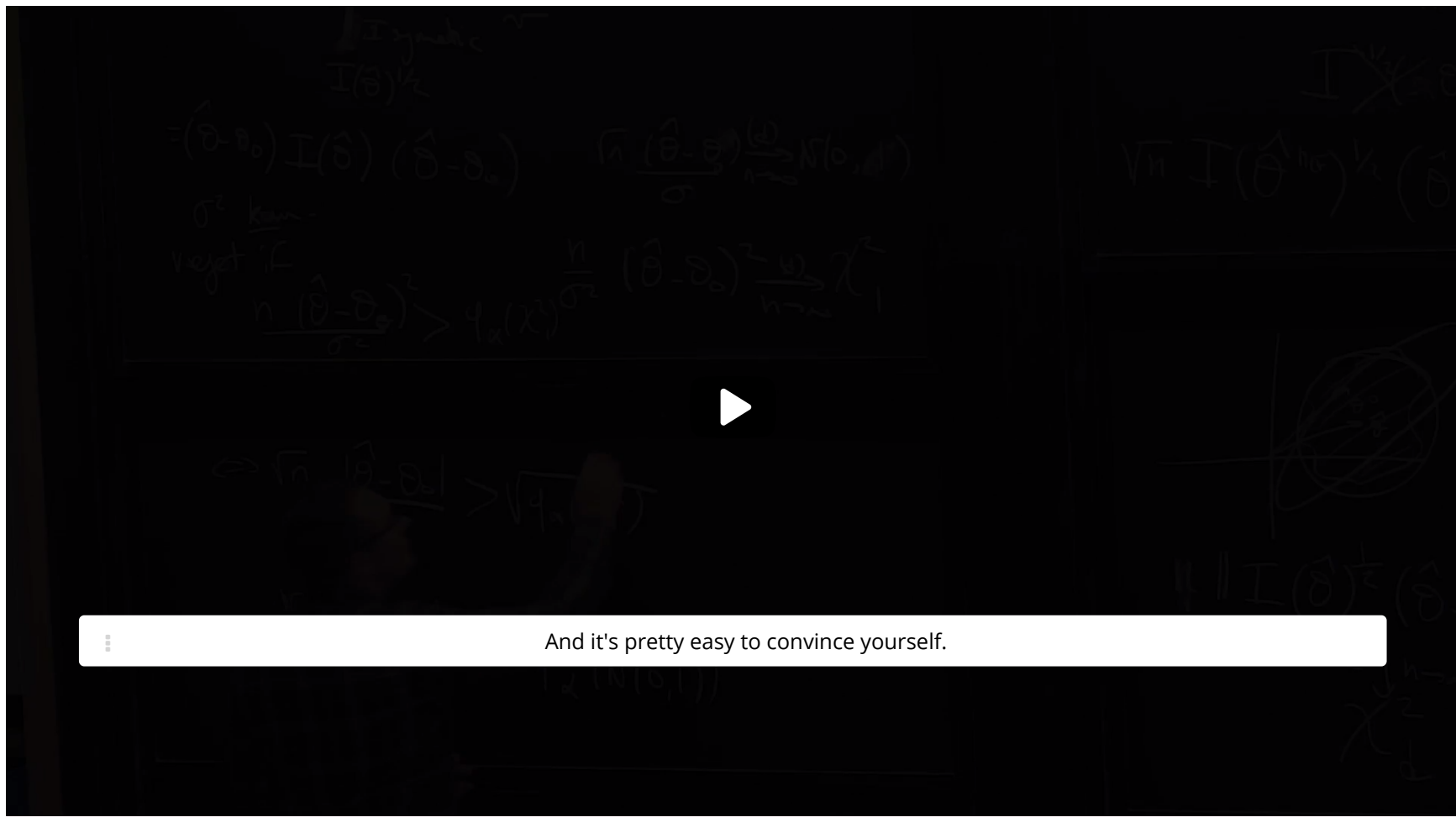
You have used 3 of 3 attempts

**i** Answers are displayed within the problem

**Video note:** In the video below at 5:27, Prof Rigollet misprinted on the board: the bottom inequality should read:

$$\sqrt{n} \frac{|\hat{\theta} - \theta|}{\sigma} > q_{\alpha/2}(\mathcal{N}(0, 1)).$$

**Wald's Test Continued**



▶ 5:28 / 5:28

▶ 1.50x 🔊 🗑️ 📄 🗣️

## Video

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## Wald's Test in 1 dimension

In 1 dimension, Wald's Test coincides with the two-sided test based on the asymptotic normality of the MLE.

Given the hypotheses

$$H_0 : \theta^* = \theta_0$$

$$H_1 : \theta^* \neq \theta_0,$$

a two-sided test of level  $\alpha$ , based on the asymptotic normality of the MLE, is

$$\psi_\alpha = \mathbf{1} \left( \sqrt{nI(\theta_0)} \left| \hat{\theta}^{\text{MLE}} - \theta_0 \right| > q_{\alpha/2}(\mathcal{N}(0, 1)) \right)$$

where the Fisher information  $I(\theta_0)^{-1}$  is the asymptotic variance of  $\hat{\theta}^{\text{MLE}}$  under the null hypothesis.

On the other hand, a Wald's test of level  $\alpha$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_\alpha^{\text{Wald}} &= \mathbf{1} \left( nI(\theta_0) \left( \hat{\theta}^{\text{MLE}} - \theta_0 \right)^2 > q_\alpha(\chi_1^2) \right) \\ &= \mathbf{1} \left( \sqrt{nI(\theta_0)} \left| \hat{\theta}^{\text{MLE}} - \theta_0 \right| > \sqrt{q_\alpha(\chi_1^2)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Using the result from the problem above, we see that the two-sided test of level  $\alpha$  is the same as Wald's test at level  $\alpha$ .

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Q(alpha)

question posted 8 days ago by [nbourbon](#)



In the video, professor shows an equality where the  $\sqrt{Q(\alpha)}$  and  $Q(\chi)$  are the same... but a simple derivation of  $Q(\chi)$  was rejected by the grader. What am I missing?. Thanks!



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1 response

**SuhailWali**

8 days ago



Read the text followed by the grader carefully

got it, I missed the fact that one was two sided so that needed to be taken into consideration ... now I fixed it. thanks



posted 7 days ago by **nbourbon**

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