

STATS 412

Eighteenth Class Note

In Son Zeng

26 November, 2018

My Office Hour:

The office hours this week are on **16:30 - 18:00 Tuesday** and **13:30 - 15:00 Friday**, at **USB 2165**. You may check the campus map to get to my office. I am prepared for your questions, so please feel free to come to my office hours.

Exam 2 Comments:

Overall, a majority of you will feel better for this exam, compared to the previous one on October. During this exam, I had several observations.

- Some people asked about what is significance level. Sorry for cannot helping you during the exam. In hypothesis testing, a significance level is what we need to specify to decide whether we can reject the null hypothesis. We denote the significance level the notation α . For example, $\alpha = 0.05$ means significance level 0.05.
- This time I saw most of the student wrote **population/true mean** as parameter on the questions. Test is a catalyst for you to remember (or think about) the concepts carefully. Am I right?
- Some people have issues when checking the t-table. If the t-value is extremely large such that it is larger than the value with corresponding p-value 0.005, it means the p-value (the probability of observing a sample which is as extreme as, or more extreme than, the observed value) is less than 0.005.
- Handwriting is a big issue. Some students have great handwriting, while some do not. Let me explain like this: if you try to write better, you can save my time on grading the assignments -> I have more time -> I can be more efficiently respond questions on Piazza, I can finish writing the class notes on time, I can give better exam revisions by providing better designed questions and solutions (with video). In short, writing better may help the class.

Homework Grading Policy:

Please include the final answer for each homework question. If the final answer is not included, you will risk 0.5 points for each missing part.

Homework 10 Reminder:

Difference between parameter and statistics:

A statistic is defined as a numerical value obtained from a sample. Therefore, a statistic represents just a fraction of the population. We typically use statistics to estimate the parameter.

So what is a parameter? A parameter is a fixed numerical value, or a true value of the population; it reflects the aggregate of all population members under consideration. The difference between these two are described in the following website in detail.

Reference: <https://keydifferences.com/difference-between-statistic-and-parameter.html>

Two sample hypothesis testing or confidence interval: Before reading this, please tell yourself do not get confused with the one-sample hypothesis testing and confidence interval, which is stated on class notes 15 and 16.

Now, let us go through the **Two sample hypothesis testing for difference between population means**

- Our parameter of interest is $\mu_X - \mu_Y$, which is the **difference between the mean of the first population and the mean of the second population**.
- Hypothesis: In most cases we construct the hypothesis as the follows: $H_0 : \mu_X - \mu_Y = \mu_0$ vs $H_1 : \mu_X - \mu_Y \neq \mu_0$ (two tails), you may check your notes for the one-tail situation.
- If the two samples are given random, you are good to go! If not, we need to assume independence within the two samples and proceed.
- If the underlying distribution of the two samples are given normal, you are good to go! If not, we first check the sample size of the two samples. If the sample sizes are large, then we can use the CLT to say that the sampling distribution for the difference between sample means is approximately normal. If the sample size is small, we cannot use CLT. Instead, we need to rely on the robustness of t-distribution and perform the two sample t-test.

- Sample statistics: First we compute the degree of freedom for two sample t-test.

Comments for degree of freedom for two-sample t-test: Assuming equal variance or not will significantly change the resulting degree of freedom. Many other probability books may assume equal variance but **our class does not** generally.

In our class, we find the degree of freedom by:

$$v = \frac{\left(\frac{s_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}\right)^2}{\frac{1}{n_X-1} \cdot \left(\frac{s_X^2}{n_X}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{n_Y-1} \cdot \left(\frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}\right)^2} \quad (1)$$

We typically round the degree of freedom down to the nearest integer. To see how this different is addressed, welcome to browse the following website:

Reference: https://www.statsdirect.co.uk/help/parametric_methods/utt.htm

- Sample statistics: We derive the t-statistics by:

$$t = \frac{(\bar{x} - \bar{y}) - \mu_0}{\sqrt{\frac{s_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}}} \quad (2)$$

Upon finding the t-value we refer back to the t-table and find the range of the corresponding p-value.

- If the hypothesis testing is one-tail, we just use that p-value; if the hypothesis testing is two-tail, we need to multiple the p-value by 2.

Formal Statement for Conclusion for two-sample hypothesis testing:

- With a p-value lower than the significant level (such as 0.05, 0.01), we reject H_0 , the null hypothesis. And we say: There is sufficient evidence to suggest that the **population mean of A** is (different from/greater than/smaller than) the **population mean of B**.
- With a p-value greater than the significant level (such as 0.05, 0.01), we fail to reject H_0 , the null hypothesis. And we say: There is not sufficient evidence to suggest that the **population mean of A** is (different from/greater than/smaller than) the **population mean of B**.

Steps of constructing confidence interval for difference in population means:

- The first step is to define the parameter correctly! The parameter should be the **difference between the population/true mean of A and B**. If you mention sample mean or mean, you will be taken points off.
- To check the conditions, first, we have to check whether the two samples are random. If it is told, great! Just move on! If not, we can either explain by your own reasoning why you think the two samples are random or not, or draw a scatterplot if the samples are given (if you have great sense of calculation you can explain clearly by plain words). This is important because we need randomness of samples to perform either t-test or z-test.

Then, we check

- 1. Whether the underlying population distributions of two samples are normal, we check if we are told that the distributions of the two populations from which the measurements are taken are normal.
- 2. If not 1, then we check whether the sample sizes are large enough $n \geq 30$ to employ the central limit theorem, which claims that the sampling distributions of the sample means of the measurements are approximately normal.
- 3. If not 1 and not 2, we may use QQ-plot (or perform normality test) to look at the data to see if the populations seem to be normally distributed. (It is a good way to practice in homework)
- 4. If the data are not given or the sample size are small $n < 30$, then we rely on the robustness of the t procedures against violations of normality. In short, we should check (not PROVE) the randomness and normality.

Then you can construct confidence interval as follows:

- We compute the degree of freedom v using the same formula above for the hypothesis testing.
- If σ_X and σ_Y are given, compute $\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{\sigma_Y^2}{n_Y}}$. Otherwise, compute s_X and s_Y , which are the square root of the sample variances. Then, compute $\sqrt{\frac{s_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}}$.
- Find the t-score or z-score by referencing the table, given the specified significance level. For two-tails (keyword: **between, \pm**), we find $t_{v, \frac{\alpha}{2}}$ or $z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}$, and the confidence interval is (most often)

$$(\bar{x} - \bar{y}) \pm t_{v, \frac{\alpha}{2}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{s_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}} \quad (3)$$

- For one-tail (keyword: **no greater than, no less than**), we find the confidence upper bound (CUB) or confidence lower bound (CLB) by finding $t_{v, \alpha}$ or z_{α} . The confidence upper bound is $(\bar{x} - \bar{y}) + t_{v, \alpha} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{s_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}}$ and the confidence lower bound is $(\bar{x} - \bar{y}) - t_{v, \alpha} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{s_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{s_Y^2}{n_Y}}$

Example of Formal Statement for Conclusion for confidence interval:

- We are approximately (95%/99%) confident that the **difference between population means** ofwhat question say..... is (between /no greater than/no smaller than) ...the result...

Clarification for the caveat: The caveat says t-distribution tolerates the violation of normality due to the small sample size, so that we can perform t-distribution whenever the sample is random. However, the caveat does not indicate that the t-distribution also allows the outliers which may totally deviate the sample from the (approximately) normal distribution.

Using t-score or z-score (two samples): During the class 17 (Monday) there are concerns about using the z-score and t-score. Professor's explanation is that, after checking the randomness:

- If one of the sample size is small ($n < 30$), use t-test. Also, you could plot a normal Q-Q plot to see whether both samples are approximately normal. If yes, you are good to use either z-test or t-test. In short, using t-test guarantees correctness.
- If the population standard deviation σ_X or σ_Y (for either sample) is not known, use t-test.
- If the two samples have large sample size, are given underlying distribution normal and the population standard deviations are known, use z-test.
- If the two samples have large sample size ($n \geq 30$) and the population standard deviations are known, but with unknown underlying distributions, we still need to employ Central Limit Theorem, and use z-test with approximated probability

$$P(\bar{X} - \bar{Y} > t) \approx P(Z > \frac{t - \mu_0}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_X^2}{n_X} + \frac{\sigma_Y^2}{n_Y}}})$$

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Last Comment:

Please inform me to fix the typos and grammatical mistakes if they exist. It is a great practice of writing and I appreciate your help!