

# **Causality and Hypothesis Testing**

Week 09 Day 01

DS 3000 - Foundations of Data Science

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## Reminders

**HW 5** 

Optional

Due Thursday, October 31

**FP3: Project Summary** 

Available on BB

**Due Monday, November 11** 

# **Outline**

Causality

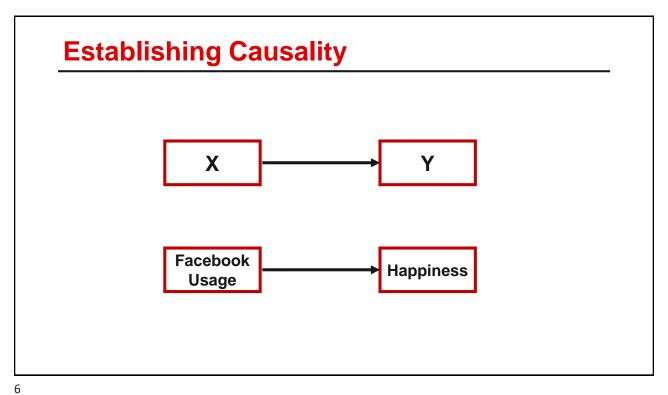
Experiments and Experimental Designs

Hypothesis Testing

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# **Causality**





## **Experiments**

#### Goal:

To establish the existence of a cause-and-effect relationship between two variables

#### A true experiment

Must demonstrate that changes in one variable are directly responsible for causing changes in the second variable

#### **Four Basic Elements:**

Manipulation, Measurement, Comparison, and Control

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## Four Basic Elements of an Experiment

#### **Manipulation**

Researcher manipulates one variable by changing its value to create a set of two or more treatment conditions

#### Measurement

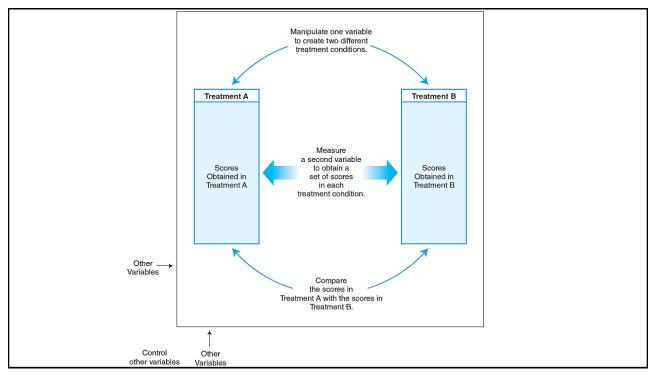
A second variable is measured for a group of participants resulting in a set of scores in each treatment condition

#### Comparison

The scores in one treatment condition are compared with the scores in another treatment condition

#### Control

All other variables are controlled to be sure that they do not influence the two variables being examined



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## **Terminology for Experiments**

## Independent variable (IV)

The variable that is manipulated by the researcher

By generating a set of treatment conditions or levels

## Dependent variable (DV)

The variable that is measured in each of the treatment conditions

Observed for changes to assess the effects of manipulating the IV

#### Extraneous variables

All other variables other than the IVs and DVs

# IVs and DVs: Example 1

In an experiment examining immersion in movies, two groups of participants were used.

One group watched Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows Part 1 for 30 minutes on a 4.5-inch phone and the second group watched the same movie for 30 minutes on a 13-inch screen.

Then, both groups provided immersion ratings using the Immersive Experiences Questionnaire (to indicate how immersed they were in the movie).

For this experiment, identify the independent variable and the dependent variable

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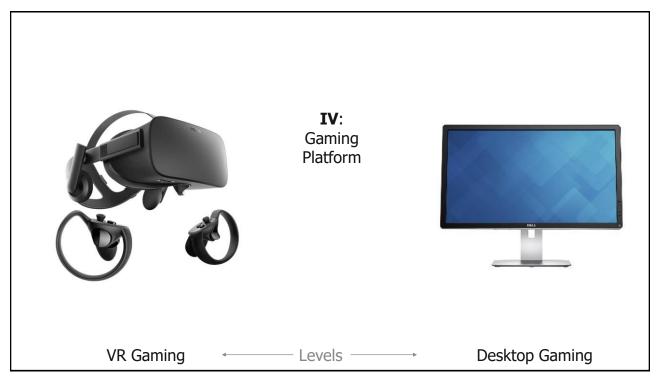
## IVs and DVs: Example 2

In an experiment examining immersion in movies, two groups of participants were used.

One group watched Harry Potter and Deathly Hallows Part 1 for 30 minutes on a 13-inch screen and the second group watched the same movie for 60 minutes on a 13-inch screen.

Then, both groups provided immersion ratings using the Immersive Experiences Questionnaire (to indicate how immersed they were in the movie).

For this experiment, identify the independent variable and the dependent variable





## **Inferential Questions**

Does **screen size** affect **viewer immersion** when watching movies on Netflix?

Does the new UI layout enable users to complete their tasks faster than the current layout?

Does gaming platform affect game enjoyment?

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# **Experimental Designs**

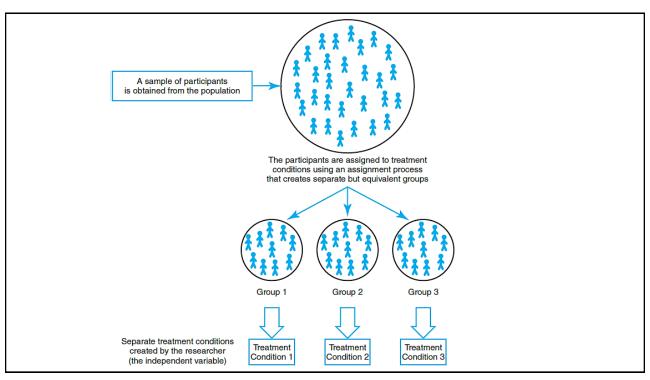
## **Between-Subjects Designs**

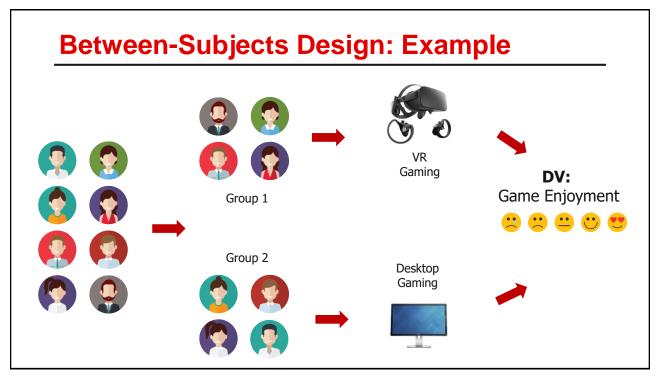
Experimental design wherein a researcher manipulates an IV to generate different treatment conditions

A **separate** group of participants is assigned to each of the different conditions

The DV for each participant is measured

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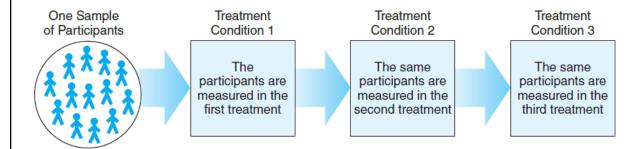
## Within-Subjects Designs

Uses a **single group** of participants and tests each individual in all of the different treatments being compared

**Same group** of individuals participates in every level of the IV Study repeats measurements of the same individuals under different conditions (Often called a repeated-measures design)

**Goal:** to look for differences between treatment conditions within the same group of participants

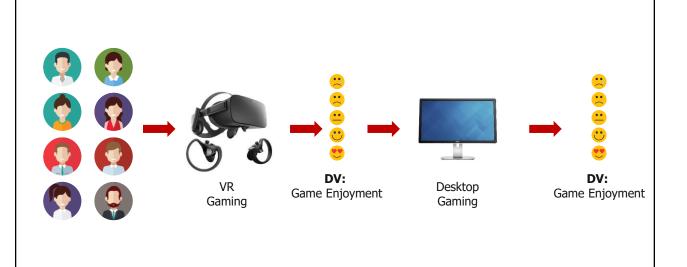
# The Structure of a Within-Subjects Design



All participants go through the entire series of treatments but not necessarily in the same order.

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# Within-Subjects Design: Example



# **Hypothesis Testing**

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# **Hypotheses**

## **Hypothesis:**

A statement that describes or explains a relationship between variables; a conjectural explanation

Identifies the specific variables involved and describes how they are related

## **Hypotheses**

**Theory**: People like jelly donuts best

**Hypothesis**: Given cream-filled donuts and jelly-filled donuts, people will rate jelly donuts as more enjoyable

Compared to cream-filled donuts, jelly-filled donuts will be rated as more enjoyable



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# **Hypothesis Testing**

A hypothesis test

A systematic procedure that determines whether the sample data provide convincing evidence to support the original research hypothesis

#### Goal

Rule out chance as a plausible explanation for the results

## **Hypothesis Testing**

Attempts to distinguish between two explanations for the sample data:

1. Patterns in the data represent systematic relationships among variables in the population

IV is causing the changes in the DV

2. Patterns in the data were produced by random variation from chance or sampling error

Changes in the DV are caused by chance

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# **Logic of Hypothesis Testing**

State hypothesis about a population

Predict the expected characteristics of the sample based on the hypothesis

Obtain a random sample from the population

Compare the obtained sample data with the prediction made from the hypothesis

If consistent, hypothesis is reasonable If discrepant, hypothesis is rejected

## The Five Basic Elements of a Hypothesis Test

**Null Hypothesis** 

Sample statistic

Standard error

Test statistic

Alpha level (level of significance)

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# **Hypotheses**

#### Null hypothesis ( $H_0$ )

States that, in the general population, there is no effect/difference/change/ or relationship

### Alternative hypothesis $(H_1)$

States that there is an effect, change, a difference, or a relationship in the general population (your research hypothesis)

The null hypothesis is exactly the opposite of the research, or alternative, hypothesis.

## **Null Hypothesis: Example**

## Hypothesis:

VR gaming will lead to a better gaming user experience

## Null hypothesis:

VR gaming will lead to a gaming user experience that is similar to desktop gaming experience





Desktop Gaming

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# **More on the Null Hypothesis**

According to the null hypothesis, any patterns in the sample are nothing more than chance (sampling error)

According to the alternative hypothesis, the patterns observed in the data are caused by the manipulation of the IV

The hypothesis test determines whether the results are sufficient to reject the null hypothesis

Therefore aka Null Hypothesis Significance Testing (NHST)

## The Five Basic Elements of a Hypothesis Test

**Null Hypothesis** 

## Sample statistic

Standard error

Test statistic

Alpha level (level of significance)

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# **Sample Statistic**

The data collected from the sample

The mean score for the dependent variable

## Hypothesis:

VR gaming will lead to a better gaming user experience

## Sample statistic:

The average of game enjoyment ratings

## The Five Basic Elements of a Hypothesis Test

**Null Hypothesis** 

Sample statistic

#### Standard error

Test statistic

Alpha level (level of significance)

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## **Standard Error**

A measure of the average, or standard, **distance** between a **sample statistic** and the corresponding **population parameter**.

Typically, there is some discrepancy between a sample statistic (what you measure in the sample) and the population parameter (the actual value in the population)

SE tells you how much discrepancy to expect

# **Sample Mean and Population Mean**

We use samples as a way of estimating the value of the parameter in a population

The sample mean is an estimate of the population mean

## **Sampling Error**

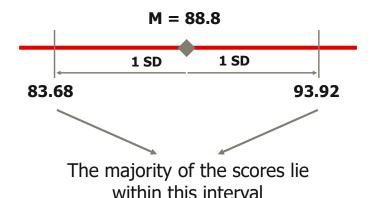
The discrepancy, or amount of error, that exists between a sample statistic and the corresponding population parameter

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## The Mean and Standard Deviation

Describe an entire distribution with just two numbers (M and SD)

The mean DADA scores was 88.8 (SD = 5.12)



# DADA – Riddiculus Spell

Suppose the entire student population who performed this spell is composed of 100 students only

All students in the population performed the spell and Professor Lupin graded their performance



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# **Population Scores**

| P01 | 83  | P21 | 92 | P41 | 92 | P61 | 96  | P81  | 81  |
|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| P02 | 74  | P22 | 87 | P42 | 94 | P62 | 84  | P82  | 78  |
| P03 | 84  | P23 | 99 | P43 | 95 | P63 | 94  | P83  | 96  |
| P04 | 96  | P24 | 83 | P44 | 84 | P64 | 90  | P84  | 96  |
| P05 | 84  | P25 | 86 | P45 | 80 | P65 | 87  | P85  | 81  |
| P06 | 95  | P26 | 85 | P46 | 88 | P66 | 90  | P86  | 90  |
| P07 | 100 | P27 | 82 | P47 | 87 | P67 | 95  | P87  | 100 |
| P08 | 87  | P28 | 95 | P48 | 95 | P68 | 94  | P88  | 89  |
| P09 | 89  | P29 | 82 | P49 | 83 | P69 | 84  | P89  | 92  |
| P10 | 86  | P30 | 91 | P50 | 81 | P70 | 94  | P90  | 78  |
| P11 | 84  | P31 | 85 | P51 | 99 | P71 | 84  | P91  | 88  |
| P12 | 85  | P32 | 78 | P52 | 88 | P72 | 100 | P92  | 80  |
| P13 | 85  | P33 | 95 | P53 | 82 | P73 | 92  | P93  | 92  |
| P14 | 88  | P34 | 84 | P54 | 94 | P74 | 89  | P94  | 90  |
| P15 | 85  | P35 | 89 | P55 | 78 | P75 | 85  | P95  | 89  |
| P16 | 93  | P36 | 82 | P56 | 86 | P76 | 81  | P96  | 79  |
| P17 | 85  | P37 | 85 | P57 | 94 | P77 | 81  | P97  | 85  |
| P18 | 86  | P38 | 85 | P58 | 88 | P78 | 89  | P98  | 88  |
| P19 | 91  | P39 | 75 | P59 | 84 | P79 | 76  | P99  | 82  |
| P20 | 100 | P40 | 87 | P60 | 89 | P80 | 88  | P100 | 85  |
|     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |      |     |

## DADA – Riddiculus Spell

Suppose the entire student population who performed this spell is composed of 100 students only

All students in the population (N = 100) performed the spell

**Population** DADA Scores:  $\mu = 86.8$  and  $\sigma = 5.98$ 

Our sample was composed of 10 students

**Sample** DADA Scores: M = 88.8 and SD = 5.12

This sample was one of many possible samples that could be taken from the entire population of 100 students who performed the spell

| Sample  | e 1 Sam           | ıple 2 San          | ıple 3 Sa       | mple 4 | Sam   | ple 5  |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------|-------|--------|
| P26 90  | 0 P14             | 93 P31              | 93 P5           | 5 84   | P97   | 93     |
| P15 87  | 7 P85             | 91 P66              | 91 P7           | 7 89   | P73   | 83     |
| P74 92  | 2 P77             | 89 P51              | 83 P0           | 2 88   | P74   | 92     |
| P05 89  | 9 P70             | 95 P26              | 90 P9           | 9 93   | P86   | 92     |
| P96 94  | 4 P67             | 90 P61              | 85 P6           | 6 91   | P20   | 91     |
| P97 93  | 3 P05             | 89 P01              | 92 P1           | 4 93   | P32   | 87     |
| P27 79  | 9 P44             | 85 P06              | 93 P8           | 0 88 0 | P55   | 84     |
| P84 8:  | 1 P49             | 88 P37              | 87 P7           | 8 83   | P70   | 95     |
| P46 84  | 4 P61             | 85 P77              | 89 P5           | 4 90   | P65   | 93     |
| P80 88  | 8 P42             | 78 P82              | 72 P1           | 2 90   | P92   | 82     |
| M = 87. | $.7 \qquad M=8$   | $88.3 \qquad M = 3$ | 87.5 <i>M</i> = | 88.9   | M = 8 | 39.2   |
| Sample  | e 6 Sam           | ple 7 Sam           | ple 8 Sa        | mple 9 | Samı  | ple 10 |
| P89 8   | 37 P26            | 90 P10              | 85 P0           | 2 88   | P31   | 93     |
| P63 8   | 30 P86            | 92 P03              | 82 P1           | 8 80   | P13   | 86     |
| P23 9   | 90 P47            | 93 P28              | 95 P7           | 3 83   | P33   | 87     |
| P27 7   | 79 P06            | 93 P60              | 81 P0           | 6 93   | P30   | 92     |
| P09 8   | 36 P87            | 83 P44              | 85 P4           | 0 80   | P47   | 93     |
| P06 9   | 93 P82            | 72 P55              | 84 P1           | 4 93   | P26   | 90     |
| P16 9   | 93 P41            | 94 P80              | 88 P5           | 5 84   | P86   | 92     |
| P66 9   | 91 P74            | 92 P99              | 93 P4           | 8 89   | P92   | 82     |
| P69 8   | 39 P55            | 84 P38              | 75 P2           | 0 91   | P21   | 95     |
| P02 8   | 38 P72            | 83 P67              | 90 P8           | 9 87   | P05   | 89     |
| M = 87. | $.6 \qquad M = 8$ | $87.6 \qquad M = 3$ | 00 44-          | 86.8   | M = 8 | 0.00   |

# **Sample Means**

Samples are variable; two samples are very, very rarely identical

Samples differ from each other

Given a random sample it is unlikely that sample means would always be the same

We can present these sample means as a distribution

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## **Distribution of Sample Means**

The distribution of sample means is the collection of sample means for **all** the possible random samples of a particular size (*n*) that can be obtained from a population

In theory you need to imagine that we're taking hundreds or thousands of samples to construct a sampling distribution

This means that if we took the average of **all** sample means of the same size (n) we'd get the value of the population mean

| Sample | M    |
|--------|------|
| 1      | 87.7 |
| 2      | 88.3 |
| 3      | 87.5 |
| 4      | 88.9 |
| 5      | 89.2 |
| 6      | 87.6 |
| 7      | 87.6 |
| 8      | 85.8 |
| 9      | 86.8 |
| 10     | 89.9 |
|        |      |

M = 87.9

This is not equal to population mean because n = 10

# **Variability of Sample Means**

Variability of a distribution of *scores* is measured by the standard deviation of the scores

Variability of a distribution of *sample means* is measured by the **standard deviation** of the *sample means* 

This is called the standard error of sample means

| 1  | 87.7 |
|----|------|
| 2  | 88.3 |
| 3  | 87.5 |
| 4  | 88.9 |
| 5  | 89.2 |
| 6  | 87.6 |
| 7  | 87.6 |
| 8  | 85.8 |
| 9  | 86.8 |
| 10 | 89.9 |

Sample

M = 87.9

SD = 1.13

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## **Standard Error of the Mean**

The standard error of the mean is the standard deviation of sample means

Provides a measure of how much distance is expected on average between a sample mean and a population mean

A measure of how representative a sample is likely to be of the population

Referred to as standard error of sample means or standard error of the mean, or standard error

Denoted by SE or SEM 
$$SE_{\overline{x}} = \frac{s_x}{\sqrt{n}}$$

## **Calculating Standard Error of a Sample Mean**

The distribution of DADA scores:

80, 82, 86, 87, 89, 90, 92, 92, 94, 96

$$M = 88.8$$
,  $SD = 5.12$ 

$$n = 10$$

Standard Error = 
$$SE_{\bar{x}} = \frac{s_x}{\sqrt{n}} = 5.12 / \sqrt{10}$$

SE = 1.62 The amount of average distance between the mean DADA score of 88.8, obtained from the sample of 10 students, and the mean DADA score all students in the population

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## Standard Error of the Mean

A large standard error (relative to the sample mean) means that there is a lot of variability between the means of different samples the sample we have might not be representative of the population

A small standard error indicates that most sample means are similar to the population mean

our sample is likely to be an accurate reflection of the population

## Standard Deviation vs. Standard Error

The standard deviation describes scores in terms of average distance from the mean

Tells us how spread out the individual scores are from the mean

The standard error describes the standard deviation of sample means Tells us how close our sample mean is to the true mean of the overall population

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## The Five Basic Elements of a Hypothesis Test

**Null Hypothesis** 

Sample statistic

Standard error

#### **Test statistic**

Alpha level (level of significance)

## **Test Statistic**

A summary value that measures the degree to which the sample data are in accordance with the null hypothesis (no difference)

Compares the sample statistic with the null hypothesis, using the standard error as a baseline

 $Test\ statistic = \frac{Sample\ statistic - Parameter\ from\ the\ null\ hypothesis}{Standard\ error}$ 

 $= \frac{\text{Actual difference between the data and the hypothesis}}{\text{Difference expected by chance}}$ 

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## **Test Statistic**

A large value for the test statistic (much larger than 1) indicates a large discrepancy between the sample statistic and the parameter specified by **the null hypothesis**, and leads to rejecting the null hypothesis

 $Test statistic = \frac{Sample \ statistic - Parameter \ from \ the \ null \ hypothesis}{Standard \ error}$ 

 $= \frac{Actual\ difference\ between\ the\ data\ and\ the\ hypothesis}{Difference\ expected\ by\ chance}$ 

## The Five Basic Elements of a Hypothesis Test

**Null Hypothesis** 

Sample statistic

Standard error

Test statistic

Alpha level (level of significance)

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# Alpha Level (Level of Significance)

Provides a criterion for interpreting the test statistic

The alpha level, or level of significance, for a hypothesis test is the maximum probability that the research result was obtained simply by chance

An alpha level of .05 means that the test demands that there is less than a 5% (.05) probability that the results are caused only by chance

## Alpha Level (Level of Significance)

The goal of a hypothesis test is to rule out chance as a plausible explanation for the results

To achieve this, we need to determine

which results are reasonable to expect just by chance (without any effect of the IV) which results are extremely unlikely to be obtained by chance alone

#### The alpha level

a probability value that defines what is extremely unlikely the probability that the sample results would be obtained even if the null hypothesis were true

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## Alpha Level (Level of Significance)

In the literature, significance levels are reported as p values

By convention, alpha levels are set at .05, .01, or .001

If your *p* value is smaller than your alpha level, your result is significant

## *p* < .05:

There is less than a .05 probability that the result is caused by chance (or there is a 5% risk that the result is just a result of chance)

Since the probability is so small, you can reject the null hypothesis

# Alpha Level (Level of Significance)

When the results of a research study satisfy the criterion imposed by the alpha level, the results are said to be **significant**, or **statistically significant** 

A significant result, or a statistically significant result, means that it is extremely unlikely that the research result was obtained simply by chance.

The smaller the level of significance, the more confidence you have in the result (that the difference did not occur by chance)

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## **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJSh1zkPEvc

# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

#### Theory:

"Elder wand is more powerful than any in existence."



## **Experimental task:**

Light candles using the *Incendio* charm



## **Experimental hypothesis:**

Wizards will light more candles when using the Elder Wand than any other wand

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# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

100 wizards perform the *Incendio* charm using both the Elder Wand and a regular wand

We count the number of candles they were able to light using each wand



# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

Imagine that we found that 75% of wizards could light more candles using the Elder Wand than using the regular wand

Based on the null hypothesis, assuming that the Elder Wand is no different whatsoever, is it likely that 75% of wizards would be able to light more candles?

Chances are very low

If H<sub>0</sub> is true, they should light the same number of candles using both wands

Thus, it is very unlikely that we would have obtained these results if were H<sub>0</sub> true, increasing our confidence in H<sub>1</sub>

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## **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

What if we found that only 1 wizard (1%) could light more candles using the Elder Wand than using the regular wand

Based on the null hypothesis, assuming that the Elder Wand is no different whatsoever, is it likely that 1% of wizards would be able to light more candles?

Chances are higher

If  $H_0$  is true, no wizards should be able to light more candles using the Elder Wand

Thus, the chances of getting these data if  $H_0$  were true are higher than before, supporting  $H_0$ 

# **Errors in Hypothesis Testing**

Hypothesis testing is an inferential process

Uses limited information from a sample to make a statistical decision, and then from it a general conclusion

Sample data used to make the statistical decision allows us to make an inference and draw a conclusion about a population

Errors are possible

Type I Error

Type II Error

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## **Errors in Hypothesis Testing: Type I Error**

The mistake of rejecting a null hypothesis that is actually true and should not be rejected

### Implication:

Researcher concludes that a difference exists when there is none

Alpha level is the probability that a test will lead to a Type I error

A false report: a researcher finds evidence for a significant result when there is no effect in the population

An unusual or extreme sample leads to this error

# **Errors in Hypothesis Testing: Type II Error**

The mistake of not rejecting a null hypothesis that is really false and should be rejected

**Implication**: Researcher has failed to detect a real difference

Type II error probability is not easily identified

Occurs when the effect is so small that it does not show up in the sample

The key to controlling Type II error is the sample size

Large sample sizes address the power issue and reduce Type II error rates

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# **Five Steps in Hypothesis Testing**

Step 1: State the hypotheses

Avoid HARKing

Step 2: Set the criteria for a decision

Determine alpha level (generally alpha = .05 in most sciences)

Step 3: Collect/retrieve data

Always after stating your hypothesis and setting the criteria (ensures objectivity)

Step 4: Compute sample statistics

Choose and conduct your statistical test

Step 5: Make a decision

If *p* < alpha level, you reject the null hypothesis If not, you fail to reject the null hypothesis

# **Choosing Statistical Tests for NHST**

| <b>Experiment Design</b>         | # of IVs  | # of Conditions for each IV | Statistical Test             |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                  | 1         | 2                           | Independent-samples t test   |
| Between-subjects                 | 1         | 3 or more                   | One-way ANOVA                |
|                                  | 2 or more | 2 or more                   | Factorial ANOVA              |
|                                  | 1         | 2                           | Paired-samples <i>t</i> test |
| Within-subjects                  | 1         | 3 or more                   | Repeated measures ANOVA      |
|                                  | 2 or more | 2 or more                   | Repeated measures ANOVA      |
| Between- and within-<br>subjects | 2 or more | 2 or more                   | Mixed (split-plot) ANOVA     |

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# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

## Theory:

"Elder wand is more powerful than any in existence."



## **Experimental task:**

Light candles using the Incendio charm



## **Experimental hypothesis:**

Wizards will light more candles when using the Elder Wand than any other wand

# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

100 wizards perform the *Incendio* charm using both the Elder Wand and a regular wand

We count the number of candles they were able to light using each wand



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## **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

Imagine that we found that 75% of wizards could light more candles using the Elder Wand than using the regular wand

Based on the null hypothesis, assuming that the Elder Wand is no different whatsoever, is it likely that 75% of wizards would be able to light more candles?

Chances are very low

If H<sub>0</sub> is true, they should light the same number of candles using both wands

Thus, it is very unlikely that we would have obtained these results if were  $H_0$  true, increasing our confidence in  $H_1$ 

# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

What if we found that only 1 wizard (1%) could light more candles using the Elder Wand than using the regular wand

Based on the null hypothesis, assuming that the Elder Wand is no different whatsoever, is it likely that 1% of wizards would be able to light more candles?

Chances are higher

If  $H_0$  is true, no wizards should be able to light more candles using the Elder Wand

Thus, the chances of getting these data if  $H_0$  were true are higher than before, supporting  $H_0$ 

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# **Five Steps in Hypothesis Testing**

Step 1: State the hypotheses

Avoid HARKing

Step 2: Set the criteria for a decision

Determine alpha level (generally alpha = .05 in most sciences)

Step 3: Collect/retrieve data

Always after stating your hypothesis and setting the criteria (ensures objectivity)

Step 4: Compute sample statistics

Choose and conduct your statistical test

Step 5: Make a decision

If *p* < alpha level, you reject the null hypothesis If not, you fail to reject the null hypothesis

## t Tests

Used to compare two means to see if they are **significantly** different from each other

Hypotheses

 $H_0$ : No difference between the two means ( $\mu_A = \mu_B$ )

 $H_A$ : The two means are different ( $\mu_A \neq \mu_B$ )

Two common *t* tests

Independent-samples t test

Paired-samples (or dependent-samples) t test

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## t Tests

Used to compare two means to see if they are **significantly** different from each other

Hypotheses

 $H_0$ : No difference between the two means ( $\mu_A = \mu_B$ )

 $\emph{\textbf{H}}_{\emph{A}}$ : The two means are different  $(\mu_{\emph{A}} \neq \mu_{\emph{B}})$ 

Two common t tests

Independent-samples t test

Paired-samples (or dependent-samples) t test

# Independent-Samples t Test

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## Independent-Samples t Test

Used for between-subjects designs

One categorical IV with two levels

One quantitative DV measured in each condition for different groups of participants

The mean value of DV is calculated for each group

The sample mean difference is used to test a hypothesis about the corresponding population mean difference

The null hypothesis states that the population mean difference is zero

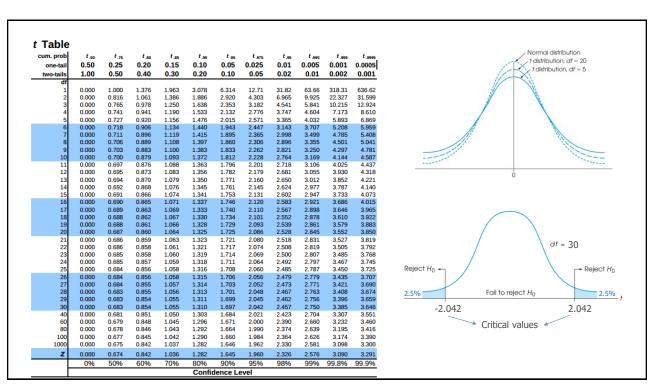
## Independent-Samples t Test

The sample mean difference is used to test a hypothesis about the corresponding population mean difference

The null hypothesis states that the population mean difference is zero

$$t = \frac{\overline{X}_1 - \overline{X}_2}{\text{estimate of the standard error}}$$

$$t = \frac{\overline{X}_1 - \overline{X}_2}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{s_1^2}{N_1} + \frac{s_2^2}{N_2}\right)}}$$



**IV**: Wand

# **Hypothesis Testing: A Magical Example**

## Research question:

Is the Elder Wand more powerful than any in existence?

## Dependent variable:

Number of candles lit

## **Experimental hypothesis:**

Wizards will light more candles when using the Elder Wand compared to when using the regular wand

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# Experimental Procedure Regular Wand DV: Number of candles lit Group 2 Group 2 Elder Wand

# **Choosing Statistical Tests for NHST**

| # of IVs  | # of Conditions for each IV           | Statistical Test  |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1         | 2                                     | Independent-samples t test  |
| 1         | 3 or more                             | One-way ANOVA   |
| 2 or more | 2 or more                             | Factorial ANOVA   |
| 1         | 2                                     | Paired-samples <i>t</i> test  |
| 1         | 3 or more                             | Repeated measures ANOVA   |
| 2 or more | 2 or more                             | Repeated measures ANOVA   |
| 2 or more | 2 or more                             | Mixed (split-plot) ANOVA  |
|           | 1<br>2 or more<br>1<br>1<br>2 or more | each IV  1 2  1 3 or more 2 or more  1 2  1 3 or more  2 or more  2 or more  2 or more  2 or more |

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# Independent-Samples t Test

#### **Assumptions**

- 1. The variances of the dependent variable in the two groups are roughly equal
- 2. The dependent variable is approximately normally distributed

#### SciPy allows you to check for these assumptions

Assumption 1: Levene's Test of Equality of Variances

Assumption 2: Shapiro-Wilk Test of Normality

You want **non-significant** results from these tests (p > .05)!

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# Reporting An Independent-Samples t Test

Report the results of checking for assumptions

Report t statistic, degrees of freedom (df), p-value

$$t(df) = x, p = y \text{ or } p < .05$$

Report the mean and standard error of the DV for each group

Group 1: (n = a, M = b, SE = c)

Group 2: 
$$(n = x, M = y, SE = z)$$

## **Reporting Assumptions**

#### For an independent-samples t test

Assumptions of normality, as assessed by Shapiro-Wilk's test (p > .05) and homogeneity (equality) of variances, as assessed by Levene's test (p > .05) were met.

\* Usually precedes the results of the independent-samples *t* test

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## Reporting An Independent-Samples t Test

# Test & Purpose

An independent sample *t* test was conducted to compare the number of candles lit by wizards using the Elder Wand and using the regular wand.

# Actual results

Results showed a statistically significant difference between the wands, t(38) = 8.74, p < .001. An examination of the average number of candles lit in each wand condition revealed that the wizards who used the Elder Wand could light a greater number of candles (n = 20, M = 21.1, SE = .49) compared to those who used the regular wand (n = 20, M = 15.6, SE = .40).

#### Meaning

These results indicate that the Elder Wand is more powerful than a regular wand in terms of enabling wizards to perform the *Incendio* spell.

#