

6.3 Hypothesis testing

Last section illustrated how probability can enable confidence interval estimation. We can also use probability as a means to use data to quantitatively assess the plausibility of a trial value of a parameter.

Statistical inference is using data from the sample to draw conclusions about the population.

($\bar{X} \xrightarrow{\text{infer}} \mu$)

1. Interval estimation (confidence intervals)

estimating a population parameter and specifying the degree of precision of the estimate

• what is μ ? $\bar{X} \rightarrow \mu \in [3, 5]$

2. Hypothesis testing

testing the validity of statements about the population parameter

• is $\mu > 4$? use $\bar{X} \rightarrow$ "YES" $\mu > 4$, or "NO" μ not > 4 .

Definition 6.3. Statistical *significance testing* is the use of data in the quantitative assessment of the plausibility of some trial value for a parameter (or function of one or more parameters).

i.e. assess plausibility of a process mean value of 1389 for full weight of baby food

Significance (or hypothesis) testing begins with the specification of a trial value (or **hypothesis**).

Definition 6.4. A null hypothesis is a statement of the form

$$\text{Parameter} = \#$$

(staksak)

or

$$\text{Function of parameters} = \#$$

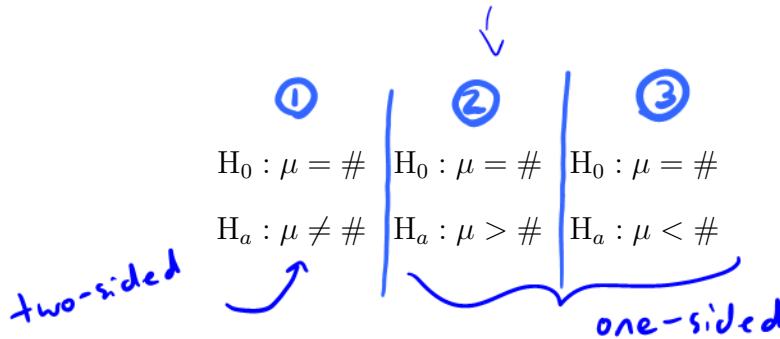
for some $\#$ that forms the basis of investigation in a significance test. A null hypothesis is usually formed to embody a status quo/"pre-data" view of the parameter. It is denoted H_0 .

"null" because it is a statement of no difference (equality).

Definition 6.5. An *alternative hypothesis* is a statement that stands in opposition to the null hypothesis. It specifies what forms of departure from the null hypothesis are of concern. An alternative hypothesis is denoted as H_a . It is of the form

$$\text{Parameter} \neq \# \quad \text{or} \quad \text{Parameter} > \# \quad \text{or} \quad \text{Parameter} < \#$$

Examples (testing the true mean value):

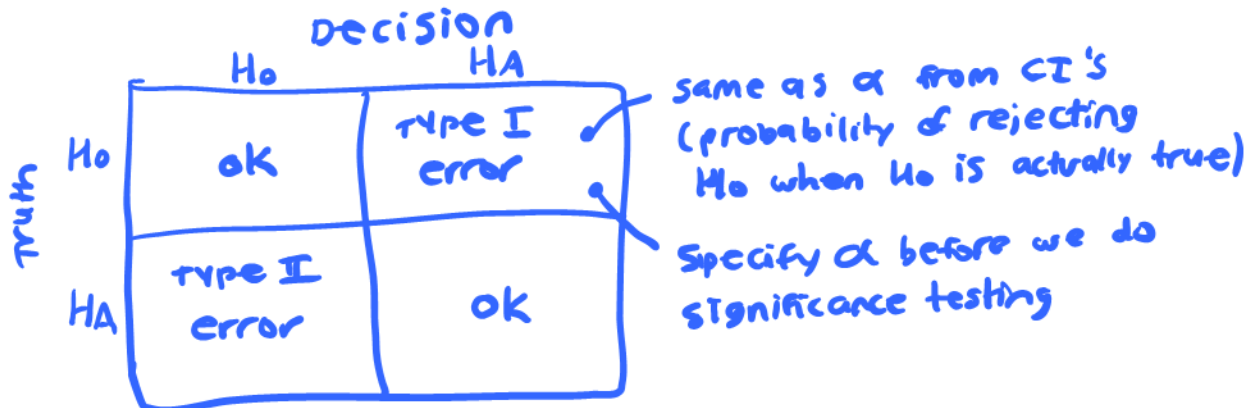


Often, the alternative hypothesis is based on an investigator's suspicions and/or hopes about the true state of affairs.

The **goal** is to use the data to debunk the null hypothesis in favor of the alternative.

1. Assume H_0 . ("status quo")
2. Try to show that, under H_0 , the data are "preposterous." (use probability)
3. If the data are preposterous, reject H_0 and conclude H_a .

The outcomes of a hypothesis test consists of:



$$P(H_0 \text{ true, but you reject it}) = \alpha$$

Type I error probability is fixed before you do testing (before you look at data)

Example 6.11 (Fair coin). Suppose we toss a coin $n = 25$ times, and the results are denoted by X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{25} . We use 1 to denote the result of a head and 0 to denote the results of a tail. Then $X_1 \sim \text{Binomial}(1, \rho)$ where ρ denotes the chance of getting heads, so $E(X_1) = \rho$, $\text{Var}(X_1) = \rho(1 - \rho)$. Given the result is you got all heads, do you think the coin is fair?

Null hypothesis: $H_0: p = 0.5$ "Coin is fair"
 $H_A: p \neq 0.5$ "Coin is not fair"

If H_0 is correct, $P(\text{result is all heads}) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{25} < 0.000001$ ← Binomial formula (p^n)

\Rightarrow I don't think this coin is fair (reject H_0)

In the real life, we may have data from many different kinds of distributions! Thus we need a universal framework to deal with these kinds of problems.

We have $n=25 \geq 25$ independent and identically distributed trials
 \Rightarrow by the CLT if $H_0: p = 0.5$, then:

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{25} \sum_{i=1}^{25} X_i \quad \text{where } X_i \sim \text{Binom}(1, p) \quad \text{0.5 if } H_0 \text{ true.}$$

$$E X_i = p \Rightarrow E \bar{X} = p$$

$$\text{Var } X_i = p(1-p) \Rightarrow \text{Var } \bar{X} = p(1-p)/25$$

$$\text{by CLT} \quad \bar{X} \sim N\left(p, \frac{p(1-p)}{25}\right)$$

$$\frac{\bar{X} - p}{\sqrt{p(1-p)/25}} \sim N(0, 1).$$

We observe $\bar{x} = 1$. So,

$$\frac{\bar{x} - 0.5}{\sqrt{0.5(1-0.5)/25}} = 5 \quad \text{Then } P(Z \text{ bigger than } 5 \text{ or less than } -5) < .000001!$$

This is absurd, so we reject H_0 .

6.3.1 Significance tests for a mean

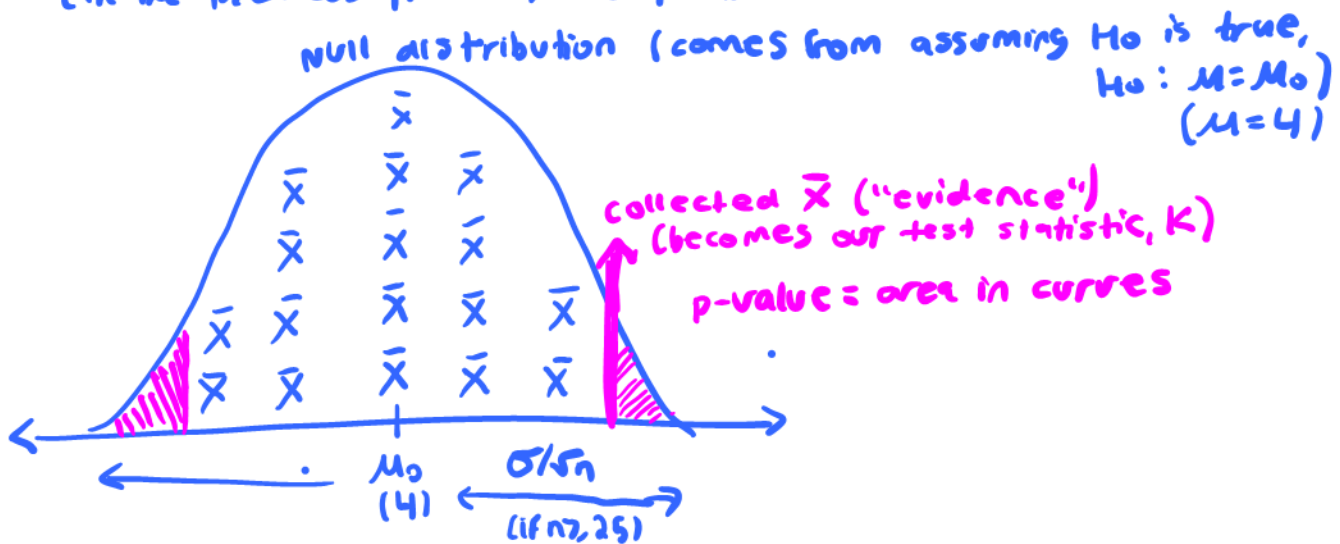
Definition 6.6. A *test statistic* is the particular form of numerical data summarization used in a significance test.

Definition 6.7. A *reference (or null) distribution* for a test statistic is the probability distribution describing the test statistic, provided the null hypothesis is in fact true.

IF sample means and $n > 25 \rightarrow N(0,1)$

Definition 6.8. The *observed level of significance or p-value* in a significance test is the probability that the reference distribution assigns to the set of possible values of the test statistic that are at least as extreme as the one actually observed.

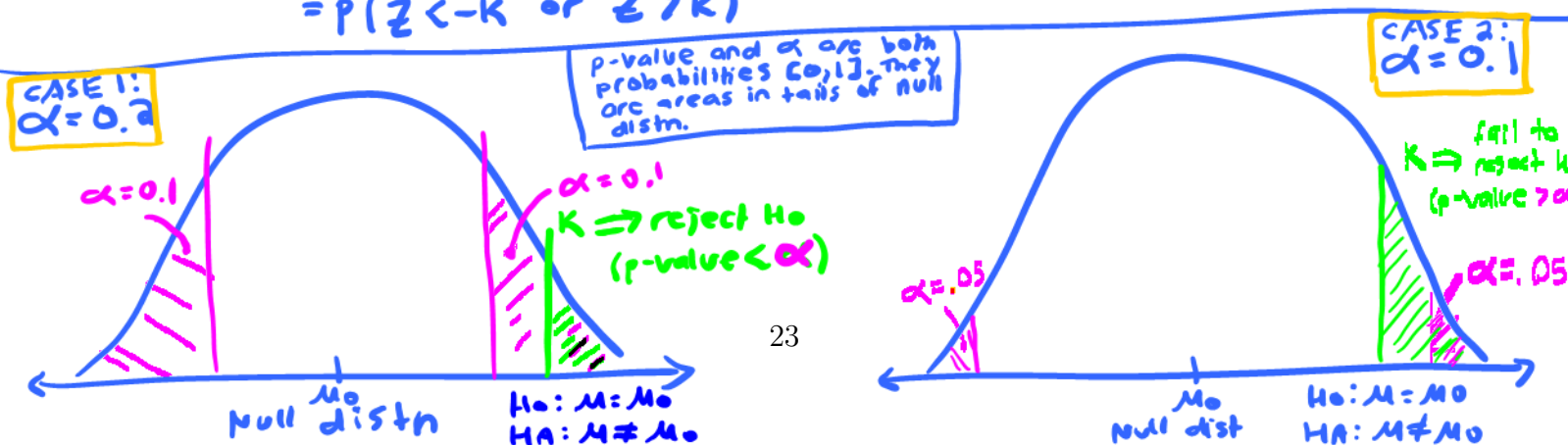
(In the previous problem, the p-value was < 0.000001)



Let k be test statistic

Say $H_0: \mu = \mu_0 = 4$
 $H_A: \mu \neq \mu_0 \neq 4$

p-value = P(see data "as extreme as" k if H_0 is true)
 $= P(Z < -k \text{ or } Z > k)$



Based on our results from Section 6.2 of the notes, we can develop hypothesis tests for the true mean value of a distribution in various situations, given an iid sample X_1, \dots, X_n where $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$.

Let K be the value of the test statistic, $Z \sim N(0, 1)$, and $T \sim t_{n-1}$. Here is a table of p -values that you should use for each set of conditions and choice of H_a .

Situation	K	$H_a : \mu \neq \mu_0$	$H_a : \mu < \mu_0$	$H_a : \mu > \mu_0$
$n \geq 25, \sigma$ known	$\frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$	$P(Z > K)$	$P(Z < K)$	$P(Z > K)$
$n \geq 25, \sigma$ unknown	$\frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$	$P(Z > K)$	$P(Z < K)$	$P(Z > K)$
$n < 25, \sigma$ unknown	$\frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$	$P(T > K)$	$P(T < K)$	$P(T > K)$

Handwritten notes:
 - "we use CLT" with a bracket next to the first two rows.
 - "reference dist is Normal" with a bracket next to the first two rows.
 - "reference dist is t_{n-1} " with an arrow pointing to the third row.

Steps to perform a hypothesis test:

1. state H_0 and H_a
2. state α , significance-level (usually 0.1, 0.05, 0.01) ↓
3. state the form of test-statistic, distn under the null hypothesis, and assumptions
4. Calculate the test statistic and p-value
5. Make a decision based on the p-value.
 - if p-value is $< \alpha \Rightarrow$ reject H_0 otherwise fail to reject H_0
6. Interpret the conclusion using layman's terms
 rejected $H_0 \Rightarrow$ have evidence for H_a (in context)
 fail to reject $H_0 \Rightarrow$ do not have evidence for H_a (in context).

Example 6.12 (Cylinders). The strengths of 40 steel cylinders were measured in MPa. The sample mean strength is 1.2 MPa with a sample standard deviation of 0.5 MPa. At significance level $\alpha = 0.01$, conduct a hypothesis test to determine if the cylinders meet the strength requirement of 0.8 MPa.

$$1. H_0: \mu = 0.8$$

$$H_A: \mu > 0.8$$

$$2. \alpha = 0.01$$

3. Since σ is unknown, and $n = 40 \geq 25$,

$$K = \frac{\bar{x} - 0.8}{s/\sqrt{n}} \text{ is the test statistic.}$$

I assume X_1, \dots, X_{40} are iid with mean μ and σ^2 variance.
Then by CLT, $K \sim N(0, 1)$ under the null hypothesis.

$$4. K = \frac{1.2 - 0.8}{0.5/\sqrt{40}} = 5.06$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{p-value. } P(Z > 5.06) &= 1 - P(Z \leq 5.06) \\ &= 1 - \Phi(5.06) \\ &\approx 1 - 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

5. Since p-value $\ll \alpha$, I reject H_0 in favor of H_A .

6. There is overwhelming evidence to conclude that the cylinders meet the strength requirement of 0.8 MPa.

Example 6.13 (Concrete beams). 10 concrete beams were each measured for flexural strength (MPa). The data is as follows.

[1] 8.2 8.7 7.8 9.7 7.4 7.8 7.7 11.6 11.3 11.8

The sample mean was 9.2 MPa and the sample variance was 3.0933 MPa. Conduct a hypothesis test to find out if the flexural strength is different from 9.0 MPa.

1. $H_0: \mu = 9.0$, $H_A: \mu \neq 9.0$

2. Choose $\alpha = 0.05$

3. I will choose test statistic $K = \frac{\bar{x} - 9.0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$ (unknown σ)

Since $n = 10 < 25$, (small), we must assume $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

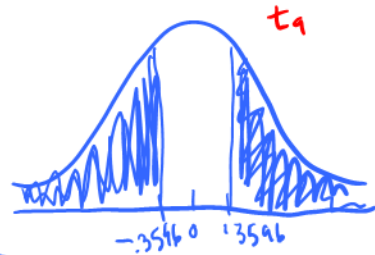
Then if our assumptions hold, $K \sim t_{n-1} = t_9$ under H_0 .

4. $K = \frac{9.2 - 9}{\sqrt{\frac{3.0933}{10}}} = 0.3596$

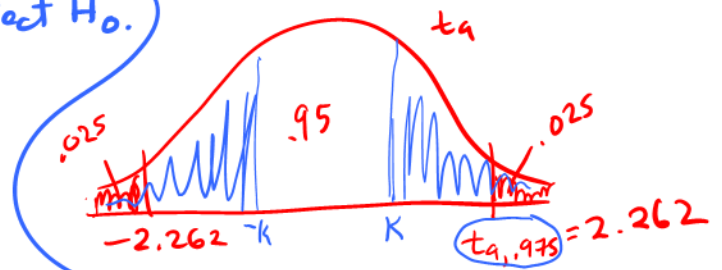
p-value $P(|T| > 0.3596)$ where $T \sim t_9$

Since $K = 0.3596 < t_{9, 0.975} = 2.262$,

we know $P(|T| > 0.3596) > .05$



5. Since p-value $> .05$, I fail to reject H_0 .



6. There is not enough evidence to conclude the true mean flexural strength of the beams is different from 9.0 MPa.

6.3.2 Hypothesis testing using the CI

We can also use the $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval to perform hypothesis tests (instead of p -values). The confidence interval will contain μ_0 when there is little to no evidence against H_0 and will not contain μ_0 when there is strong evidence against H_0 .

Steps to perform a hypothesis test using a confidence interval:

1. State the hypotheses H_0 and H_A
2. State the significance level, α
3. State the form of the $1 - \alpha$ CI along with all assumptions
 - use a one-sided CI for 1-sided tests (i.e. $H_A: \mu < \#$ or $H_A: \mu > \#$)
 - use a two-sided CI for two-sided tests (i.e. $H_A: \mu \neq \#$).
4. Calculate the $1 - \alpha$ CI
- (make a decision) 5. Based on $1 - \alpha$ CI, either reject H_0 or fail to reject H_0
6. Interpret the conclusion using layman's terms in the context of the problem.

Example 6.14 (Breaking strength of wire, cont'd). Suppose you are a manufacturer of construction equipment. You make 0.0125 inch wire rope and need to determine how much weight it can hold before breaking so that you can label it clearly. You have breaking strengths, in kg, for 41 sample wires with sample mean breaking strength 91.85 kg and sample standard deviation 17.6 kg. Using the appropriate 95% confidence interval, conduct a hypothesis test to find out if the true mean breaking strength is above 85 kg.

① $H_0: \mu = 85$, $H_A: \mu > 85$ μ is true mean breaking strength.

② $\alpha = 0.05$

③ One-sided test, where we care about the lower bound. I will use the $1-\alpha$ CI
 $(\bar{x} - z_{1-\alpha} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}, \infty)$

because $n = 41 \geq 25$ and σ^2 unknown.

I am assuming the data points are iid draws from a distn w/ mean μ and variance σ^2 .

Since $n \geq 25$, we use the $z_{1-\alpha}$ quantile.

④ from example 6.7, the CI is $(87.3422, \infty)$ ↙ $\mu_0 = 85$ is not in this interval \Rightarrow reject H_0 .

⑤ With 95% confidence we have shown the $\mu > 87.3422$. Hence at significance level $\alpha = .05$, we can reject H_0 in favor of H_A .

⑥ There is significant evidence to show that the true mean breaking strength of the wire is greater than 85 kg. The requirement seems to be met.

Example 6.15 (Concrete beams, cont'd). 10 concrete beams were each measured for flexural strength (MPa). The data is as follows.

[1] 8.2 8.7 7.8 9.7 7.4 7.8 7.7 11.6 11.3 11.8

The sample mean was 9.2 MPa and the sample variance was 3.0933 MPa. At $\alpha = 0.01$, test the hypothesis that the true mean flexural strength is 10 MPa using a confidence interval.

① $H_0: \mu = 10$, $H_A: \mu \neq 10$ where μ is the true mean flexural strength of the beams.

② $\alpha = 0.01$

③ This is a two-sided test:

$$1-\alpha \text{ CI: } \left(\bar{x} - t_{n-1, 1-\alpha/2} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}, \bar{x} + t_{n-1, 1-\alpha/2} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

We choose this (+ assumptions) because $n = 10 < 25$
 we choose this because σ unknown

where we assume X_1, \dots, X_n are iid drawn from $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

If these are true, our choice of crit. value $t_{n-1, 1-\alpha/2}$ makes sense.

④ From example 6.9, the confidence interval is (7.393, 11.007).

⑤ Since 10 MPa is in our CI, we fail to reject H_0 .

⑥ There is not enough evidence to conclude that the true mean flexural strength is different from 10 MPa.

Example 6.16 (Paint thickness, cont'd). Consider the following sample of observations on coating thickness for low-viscosity paint.

[1] 0.83 0.88 0.88 1.04 1.09 1.12 1.29 1.31 1.48 1.49 1.59 1.62 1.65 1.71 [15] 1.76 1.83

Using $\alpha = 0.1$, test the hypothesis that the true mean paint thickness is 1.00 mm. Note, the 90% confidence interval for the true mean paint thickness was calculated from before as (1.201, 1.499).

① $H_0: \mu = 1, H_A: \mu \neq 1$

② $\alpha = 0.1$

③ Since this is a two sided test with $n < 25$ and σ unknown,

$$\left(\bar{x} - t_{n-1, 1-\alpha/2} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}, \bar{x} + t_{n-1, 1-\alpha/2} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

assuming x_1, \dots, x_n iid drawn from a $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

④ From before, the CI is (1.201, 1.499).

⑤ Since 1mm. is not in the CI, we reject H_0 in favor of H_A .

⑥ There is significant evidence to conclude that the true mean paint thickness is not 1mm.