

# Lecture 06. Hypothesis Testing (Chapters 9 and 10)

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## Plan of This Lecture

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  - Concepts of Hypothesis Testing
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  - Assessing the Power of a Test
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- Hypothesis Testing: Two Populations
  - Matched Pair: Two Means
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# Hypothesis Testing: One Population

# Concepts of Hypothesis Testing: Null and Alternative Hypotheses

- In hypothesis testing, we first state two alternatives/options/hypotheses that cover all possible outcomes, and then select one of them using statistics computed from random samples.
  - What is the difference between estimation and hypothesis testing?
- A **hypothesis** is a claim (assumption) about a population parameter.
- The **null hypothesis** is the maintained hypothesis unless there is strong evidence against it.
- The **alternative hypothesis** is the complement of the null (hypothesis), i.e., "rejecting the null" means "accepting the alternative".
- $H_0$  and  $H_1$  are asymmetric:  $H_0$  is the default state of the world, and we focus on using data to reject  $H_0$ .
- The textbook uses the term "fail to reject the null" instead of "accept the null" since the null need not be correct (even if we cannot reject it) but only because we do not have sufficient evidence to reject it; anyway, we will use these two terms interchangeably.

## Simple and Composite Hypotheses

- The specification of null and alternative hypotheses depends on the problem.

### Example

To test whether the mean package weight of a ready-to-eat cereal is 16 ounces, we can set our null hypothesis as

$$H_0 : \mu = 16,$$

and the alternative hypothesis can be

$$H_1 : \mu > 16 \text{ or } H_1 : \mu \neq 16.$$

If the company wants to avoid legal action and/or customer dissatisfaction, then it can set  $H_0 : \mu \leq 16$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu > 16$ .

- The hypothesis like  $\mu = 16$ , which specifies a single value of  $\mu$ , is called the **simple hypothesis**.
- Either of the two alternative hypotheses in the above example includes more than one values of  $\mu$ , so is called the **composite hypothesis**.
- Among which,  $\mu > 16$  is a **one-sided (composite) hypothesis**, and  $\mu \neq 16$  is a **two-sided (composite) hypothesis**.

## Testing Procedure

- Define a test statistic; if its value has a small probability to occur under  $H_0$ , then we will reject  $H_0$ ; otherwise, accept  $H_0$ .
  - How to construct the test statistic from the observed data?
  - To study the probability of its realized value, we need to derive the distribution of the test statistic.
  - Also, how small is small? 10%, 5% or 1%?
- Answering the above three questions determines a test.
- **Analog:** in criminal jury trial,

$H_0$  : you are innocent vs.  $H_1$  : you are guilty;

evidences cannot happen if you are innocent, but they indeed happened, so you must be guilty.

- Rejecting  $H_0$  is a strong statement, but accepting  $H_0$  is not. [why?]
  - This is also why the textbook uses the terms "accept  $H_1$ " and "fail to reject  $H_0$ ".
- So if seek strong evidence in favor of a particular outcome, we should define that outcome as the alternative hypothesis.

## Type I and II Errors

- Because the test statistic is random, the decision rule based on the test statistic is random, i.e., we have some chance to make mistakes.
- A false rejection of  $H_0$  (rejecting  $H_0$  when  $H_0$  is true) is called a **Type I error**.
  - Usually, restrict the **Type I error rate**  $P(\text{Reject } H_0 | H_0 \text{ is true}) = \alpha$  to be small, i.e., the probability of convicting an innocent should be small.
  - $\alpha$  is called the **significance level** of the test.
- A false acceptance of  $H_0$  (accepting  $H_0$  when  $H_1$  is true) is called a **Type II error**.
  - $\pi := 1 - P(\text{Accept } H_0 | H_1 \text{ is true}) =: 1 - \beta$  is called the **power** of the test, which is the probability of correctly rejecting  $H_0$ , i.e., convicting a guilty.
  - Minimizing the probability of the Type II error,  $\beta$ , is equivalent to maximizing the power, i.e., trying our best to convict every guilty person.
  - Type I error is more serious than Type II error because the former involves declaring a scientific finding that is not correct. This is why we must restrict the Type I error rate to be small.

## continue

**Table 9.1** States of Nature and Decisions on the Null Hypothesis, with Probabilities of Making the Decisions, Given the States of Nature

DECISIONS ON NULL HYPOTHESIS	STATES OF NATURE	
	NULL HYPOTHESIS IS TRUE	NULL HYPOTHESIS IS FALSE
Fail to reject $H_0$	Correct decision Probability = $1 - \alpha$	Type II error Probability = $\beta$
Reject $H_0$	Type I error Probability = $\alpha$ ( $\alpha$ is called the significance level)	Correct decision Probability = $1 - \beta$ ( $1 - \beta$ is called the power of the test)

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- We fail to reject  $H_0$  either because  $H_0$  is true or we have committed a Type II error.
- $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  cannot be minimized simultaneously, so there is a trade-off between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . [see the next slide]
- Usually, we fix  $\alpha$  and try to minimize  $\beta$  (or equivalently, maximize  $\pi$ ).



## Trade-off Between Type-I and Type-II Errors

- Suppose we have only one data point  $z$  in hand and we know  $z \sim N(\mu, 1)$ .
- We want to test  $H_0: \mu = 0$  against  $H_1: \mu = 3$ .
- A natural test is to reject  $H_0$  if  $z$  is large, e.g.,  $z > c$  for some  $c > 0$ .
- $\alpha = P(z > c | \mu = 0) = 1 - \Phi(c)$ , which is a decreasing function of  $c$ , where  $\Phi(\cdot)$  is the distribution function of the standard normal.
- $\beta = P(z \leq c | \mu = 3) = P(z - 3 \leq c - 3) = \Phi(c - 3)$  which is an increasing function of  $c$ . [\[figure here\]](#)
- There is not a direct linear substitution between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .
- What is the difference in the two legal systems with  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  switched?
  
- Fix  $\alpha = 0.05$ , then  $c$  is chosen such that  $1 - \Phi(c) = 0.05$ , i.e.,  $c = 1.645$ .
- Now,  $\pi = 1 - \Phi(1.645 - 3)$ .

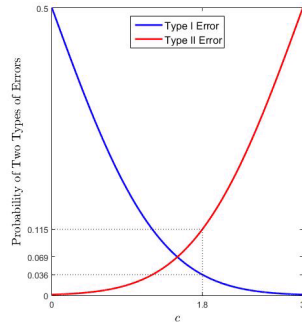
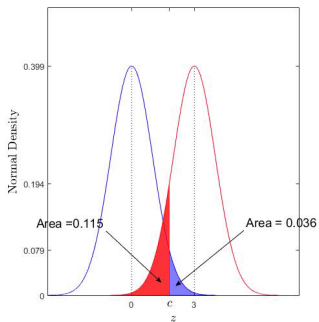
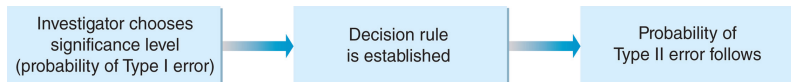


Figure: Trade-Off Between Type-I and Type-II Errors

- The left panel illustrates  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  when  $c = 1.8$ , and the right panel illustrates these probabilities as a function of  $c$ .

## Example Continued

- In testing  $H_0 : \mu \leq 16$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu > 16$ , suppose our test statistic is  $\bar{x}$ , and the decision rule is "reject  $H_0$  if  $\bar{x} > 16.13$ ".
- $\alpha = P(\bar{x} > 16.13 | \mu)$  with  $\mu \leq 16$  and  $\beta = P(\bar{x} \leq 16.13 | \mu)$  with  $\mu > 16$ .
- Obviously,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are functions of  $\mu$ , i.e., they should be written as  $\alpha(\mu)$  and  $\beta(\mu)$ .
  - $\sup_{\mu \leq 16} \alpha(\mu)$  is called the **size** of the test, and  $\sup_{\mu \leq 16} \alpha(\mu)$  is restricted to be no greater than the significance level  $\alpha$ .
  - $\pi(\mu) := 1 - \beta(\mu)$  is called the **power function** of the test, and is the target of maximization (uniformly over  $\mu > 16$  although maybe impossible).
- Figure 9.1: Consequences of Fixing the Significance Level of a Test:



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## Summary

- One hypothesis testing problem includes the following steps.
  0. specify the null and alternative.
  1. construct the test statistic.
  2. derive the distribution of the test statistic under the null.
  3. specify a level of significance.
  4. determine the decision rule by finding the critical value.
  5. study the power of the test.
- The difficult step is Step 2 which has been studied in Lecture 5.

# One Normal Mean, Known Population Variance

- **Data:**  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , where  $x_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , and  $n$  is the sample size.
- $\sigma^2$  is known from the historical data and is assumed to be maintained, and we only want to know whether the mean of the new data meets a standard,  $\mu_0$ .
- $H_0: \mu = \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1: \mu > \mu_0$ 
  - In the previous example, let  $\mu_0 = 16.1$  ounces to meet the industry regulation with label weight 16 ounces.
  - $\mu > \mu_0$  is chosen as  $H_1$ . (why?)

## continue

- **Test Statistic:**

$$z = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}},$$

which follows the  $N(0, 1)$  distribution under  $H_0$ .

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $z > z_\alpha$ .
  - **Why?** Under  $H_1$ ,  $z$  tends to be large (the mean of  $\bar{x}$  is  $\mu$ , greater than  $\mu_0$ , and  $\sigma / \sqrt{n} > 0$  is fixed), and  $P(z > z_\alpha) = \alpha$  (i.e.,  $z$  has only  $\alpha$  probability to be larger than  $z_\alpha$ ) under  $H_0$ .
- **Caution on the notation:** When we state the distribution of  $z$ ,  $z$  is a random variable; in the decision rule,  $z$  is the realized value of  $z$ .<sup>1</sup>
- $z > z_\alpha \iff \bar{x} > \bar{x}_c = \mu_0 + z_\alpha \sigma / \sqrt{n}$ , where  $\bar{x}_c (> \mu_0)$  is called the **critical value** for the decision.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The textbook uses  $Z$  to denote the random variable, and  $z$  its realized value, but the authors seem not consistent in their notations.

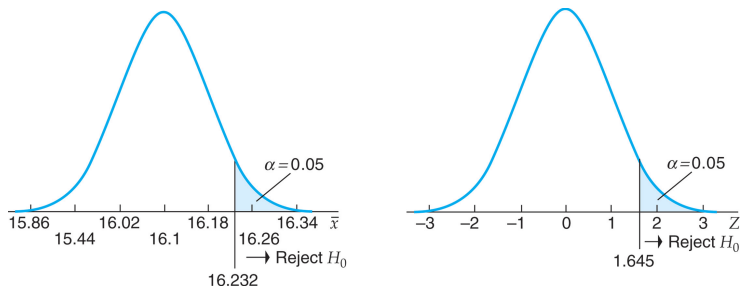
<sup>2</sup>The critical value is defined relative to the test statistic: if  $z$  is the test statistic, then  $z_\alpha$  is its critical value.

## A Numerical Example

- Suppose  $n = 25$ ,  $\sigma = 0.4$  and  $\alpha = 0.05$  (so  $z_\alpha = 1.645$ ).
- The decision rule is to reject  $H_0$  if

$$\frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} = \frac{\bar{x} - 16.1}{0.4/\sqrt{25}} > 1.645$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \bar{x} > \bar{x}_c = \mu_0 + z_\alpha \sigma / \sqrt{n} = 16.1 + 1.645 \times (0.4/\sqrt{25}) = 16.232.$$



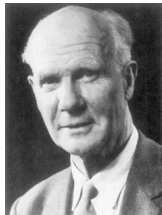
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**Figure:** Normal Densities Showing Both  $z$  and  $\bar{x}$  Values for the Decision Rule to Test  $H_0 : \mu = 16.1$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu > 16.1$

# History of the Neyman-Pearson Approach and the $p$ -Value Approach



Jerzy Neyman (1894-1981), Berkeley



Egon Pearson (1895-1980), UCL



Ronald A. Fisher (1890-1962), UCL


- The rejection/acceptance dichotomy is associated with the Neyman-Pearson approach to hypothesis testing;  $p$ -value is associated with R.A. Fisher.



## $p$ -Value

- There is a shortcoming in the above testing procedure: for a different  $\alpha$ , we need to repeat the test. The  $p$ -value can avoid this problem.
- If  $\alpha$  is made smaller and smaller, there will be a point where  $H_0$  cannot be rejected anymore. [refer to the figure in the last slide, where  $\bar{x} = 16.3$  (or  $z = 2.5$ )]
- The reason is that, by lowering  $\alpha$ , we need stronger evidences to reject  $H_0$ , and the current evidence becomes not enough.
- The smallest  $\alpha$  at which  $H_0$  is still rejected, is called the  **$p$ -value** of the hypothesis test. [Do you expect the  $p$ -value  $< .05$  or  $> .05$  when  $\bar{x} = 16.3$ ?]
- The  $p$ -value is the  $\alpha$  at which one is indifferent between rejecting and not rejecting the null hypothesis.
- Alternatively, the  $p$ -value is the probability of observing a test statistic as extreme as or more extreme than what we obtained if  $H_0$  is true.  
-  $p = P(Z > z)$ ,<sup>3</sup> where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ , the null distribution of  $Z$ .
- A null hypothesis is rejected if and only if the corresponding  $p$ -value is smaller than  $\alpha$ :

$$\alpha = P(Z > z_\alpha), \text{ so } z > z_\alpha \iff p < \alpha.$$

<sup>3</sup>Note that  $P(Z > z) = P(Z \geq z)$  since the probability of a single point for  $N(0, 1)$  is 0. 

## More on the $p$ -Value

- In the above example,

$$p = P(Z > 2.5) = 1 - \Phi(2.5) = 0.0062 < 0.05.$$

- Note that  $p = P(Z > z) = 1 - \Phi(z)$  is actually a random variable because  $z$  is random, and the observed  $p$ -value is one of its realized value.
- A small  $p$ -value is evidence against  $H_0$  because one would reject  $H_0$  even at small  $\alpha$ 's.
- $P$ -values are more informative than tests at fixed  $\alpha$ 's because you can choose your own  $\alpha$ .
- **Caveat:** the  $p$ -value should not be interpreted as the probability that either hypothesis is true. For example,  $p$  is NOT the probability "that  $H_0$  is true." Rather,  $p$  is a measure of the strength of information against  $H_0$ .

## Composite Null and Alternative Hypotheses

- $H_0 : \mu \leq \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu > \mu_0$
- The data, test statistic, decision rule and  $p$ -value are exactly the same as in the previous test.
  - Why is  $z_\alpha$  the appropriate critical value to guarantee the size of the test to be  $\alpha$ ? [Exercise]
- $H_0 : \mu \geq \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu < \mu_0$ 
  - e.g., from the regulator's perspective in the cereal example,  $H_0 : \mu = 16$  (or  $H_0 : \mu \geq 16$ ) vs.  $H_1 : \mu < 16$
- The data and test statistic are exactly the same as in the previous test.
- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $z < -z_\alpha$ , or equivalently,  $\bar{x} < \bar{x}_c = \mu_0 - z_\alpha \sigma / \sqrt{n}$ .
  - e.g., in the setup of the previous numerical example,

$$\bar{x}_c = 16 - 1.645 \times \left(0.4 / \sqrt{25}\right) = 13.868.$$

- The  $p$ -value is now  $P(Z < z)$ , where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ .

## Two-Sided Alternative Hypotheses

- $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu \neq \mu_0$ 
  - e.g., the diameter of an automobile engine piston cannot be too large or too small.
- The data and test statistic are exactly the same as in the previous test.
- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $|z| > z_{\alpha/2}$ , or equivalently,  $\bar{x} < \mu_0 - z_{\alpha/2}\sigma/\sqrt{n}$  or  $\bar{x} > \mu_0 + z_{\alpha/2}\sigma/\sqrt{n}$ .
  - Note that  $z_{\alpha/2} > z_{\alpha}$ , e.g.,  $z_{0.05/2} = 1.96$ .
- The  $p$ -value is now  $P(|Z| > |z|)$ , where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ .

## Acceptance Interval and Critical Interval (Pages 264-266)

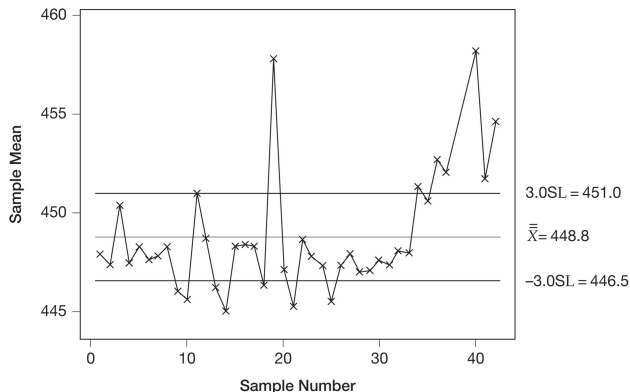
- The **acceptance interval** is the interval where  $\bar{x}$  occurs such that  $H_0$  cannot be rejected.
- This concept can be applied to any test, but we discuss it here to aid understanding the acceptance interval on Page 264.
- Specifically, the acceptance interval for the above test is

$$[\mu_0 - z_{\alpha/2}\sigma/\sqrt{n}, \mu_0 + z_{\alpha/2}\sigma/\sqrt{n}] =: \text{AI} \left( \bar{x} \in \text{AI} \iff \left| \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \right| \leq z_{\alpha/2} \right).$$

- The acceptance interval provides an operating rule for process-monitoring to determine if product standards continue to be achieved over time.
- In US industries,  $z_{\alpha/2} = 3$ , which results in the so-called **Six Sigma** methodology.
- Often, the process is adjusted so that  $\sigma$  is small, and the resulting acceptance interval is called the **control interval**, which is plotted over time and is called the **control chart** (or more specifically, **X-bar chart** for  $\bar{x}$ ).
- The **critical interval** is the interval where  $\bar{x}$  occurs such that  $H_0$  is rejected, i.e., it is the complement of the acceptance interval.

## Example 6.6: Cereal Package Weights

- A random sample of five packages is collected every 30 minutes,  $\mu = 448.8$ , and the implied  $\sigma$  from  $451 - 448.8 = 3 \times \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{5}}$  is 1.64.



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Figure: X-Bar Chart For Cereal-Package Weight

# One Normal Mean, Unknown Population Variance

- The hypotheses are exactly the same as in the known population variance case:
  - (i)  $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$  or  $H_0 : \mu \leq \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu > \mu_0$
  - (ii)  $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$  or  $H_0 : \mu \geq \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu < \mu_0$
  - (iii)  $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu \neq \mu_0$

- **Test Statistic:** the  $t$ -statistic

$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}},$$

which follows the Student's  $t_{n-1}$  distribution under  $H_0$ . [see the next four slides for the definition and history of the  $t$  distribution]

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $t > t_{n-1,\alpha}$  in (i), if  $t < -t_{n-1,\alpha}$  in (ii), and  $|t| > t_{n-1,\alpha/2}$  in (iii).
  - The corresponding decision rule based on  $\bar{x}$  is the same as before except replacing  $z_\alpha$  by  $t_{n-1,\alpha}$ , and  $\sigma$  by  $s$ .
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(T > t)$  in (i),  $P(T < t)$  in (ii), and  $P(|T| > |t|)$  in (iii), where  $T \sim t_{n-1}$ .

## $t$ Distribution (Section 7.3)

- If  $Z$  is a standardized normal r.v.,

$$Z \sim N(0, 1),$$

and the r.v.  $X$  has a  $\chi^2$  (chi-square) distribution with  $\nu$  degrees of freedom,

$$X \sim \chi^2_{\nu}, \text{ [see the next slide for review]}$$

independent of  $Z$ , then

$$\frac{Z}{\sqrt{X/\nu}} = \frac{\text{standard normal variable}}{\sqrt{\text{independent chi-square variable}/df}} \sim t_{\nu},$$

a  $t$ -distribution with  $\nu$  degrees of freedom.



## continue

- If  $Z_1, \dots, Z_\nu$  are i.i.d. such that  $Z_i \sim N(0, 1)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, \nu$ , then

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{\nu} Z_i^2 \sim \chi_{\nu}^2.$$

- Note that

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\nu} Z_i^2}{\nu} \rightarrow E[Z_i^2] = 1 \text{ as } \nu \rightarrow \infty$$

by the LLN, so

$$t_{\nu} \rightarrow N(0, 1) \text{ as } \nu \rightarrow \infty.$$

- Recall that  $E[Z_i^2] = \text{Var}(Z_i) + E[Z_i]^2 = 1 + 0^2 = 1$ .

- In practice, when  $\nu \geq 20$ , the approximation is good enough.

continue

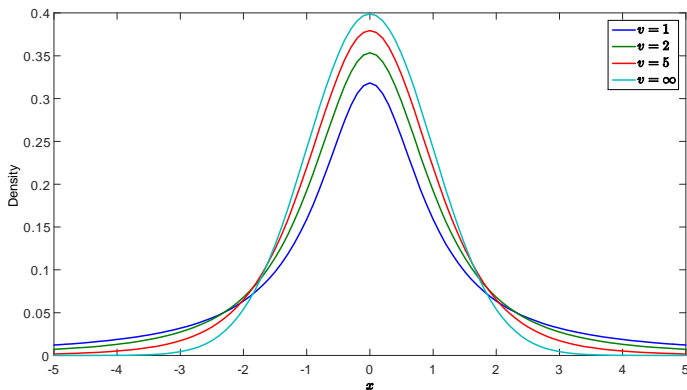


Figure: Density of the  $t_\nu$  Distribution with  $\nu = 1, 2, 5, \infty$

- Compared to  $N(0, 1)$ , the  $t$ -distribution is also symmetric, but has a heavier tail, which implies the upper  $\alpha$ th quantile of the  $t_{n-1}$  distribution  $t_{n-1, \alpha} > z_\alpha$ .

## History of the $t$ Test



William S. Gosset (1876-1937)

- The  $t$ -test is named after Gosset (1908), "The probable error of a mean". At the time, Gosset worked at Guinness Brewery, which prohibited its employees from publishing in order to prevent the possible loss of trade secrets. To circumvent this barrier, Gosset published under the pseudonym "Student". Consequently, this famous distribution is known as the Student's  $t$  rather than Gosset's  $t$ ! The name " $t$ " was popularized by R.A. Fisher.

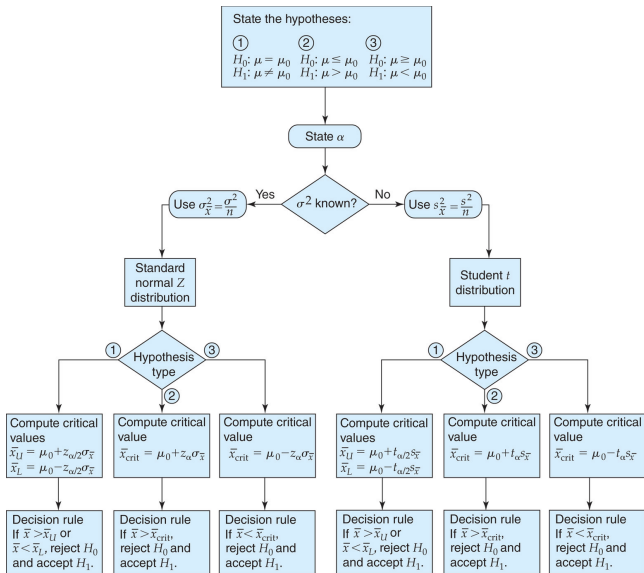
## Why the $t$ -Statistic Follows the $t$ -Distribution Under $H_0$ ?

- Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 t &= \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{s/\sqrt{n}} = \frac{(\bar{x} - \mu_0) / \sqrt{\sigma^2/n}}{\sqrt{\frac{s^2/n}{\sigma^2/n}}} \\
 &= \frac{(\bar{x} - \mu_0) / sd(\bar{x})}{\sqrt{\frac{(n-1)s^2}{\sigma^2} / (n-1)}} \\
 &\sim \frac{N(0, 1)}{\sqrt{\chi_{n-1}^2 / (n-1)}} = t_{n-1},
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $N(0, 1)$  and  $\chi_{n-1}^2$  are independent [proof not required].

- When the  $\sigma$  in  $\frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}$  is replaced by its estimator  $s$ , the null distribution changes from  $N(0, 1)$  to  $t_{n-1}$ .
- When  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , the two null distributions coincide [(\*) because  $s$  is consistent to  $\sigma$ ], but when  $n$  is small, e.g.,  $n \leq 10$ , the  $t_n$ -distribution differs greatly from the normal distribution.



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# One Proportion, Large Samples

- **Data:** same as in the previous test, but  $x_i$  can only take 0 or 1 and follows the Bernoulli( $p$ ) distribution.
- The three pairs of hypotheses are the same as in the previous test, but here the population means are denoted as  $p$ .

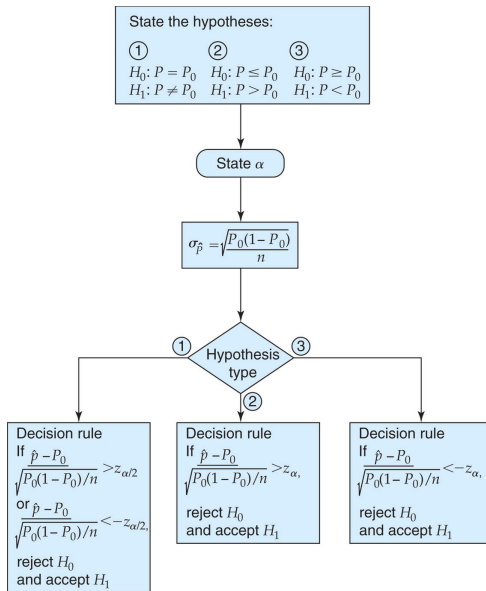
- **Test Statistic:**

$$z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{p_0(1 - p_0) / n}},$$

which follows the  $N(0, 1)$  distribution under  $H_0$  in large sample [ $np_0(1 - p_0) > 5$  with  $p_0$  being the proportion under  $H_0$ ], where  $\hat{p} = \bar{x}$  is the sample proportion.

- Recall that the variance of the Bernoulli( $p$ ) distribution is  $p(1 - p)$ , so under  $H_0$ , the variance of  $x_i$  is known. This is like testing one normal mean with known population variance.

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $z > z_\alpha$  in (i), if  $z < -z_\alpha$  in (ii), and  $|z| > z_{\alpha/2}$  in (iii).
- The  $p$ -value formulae are the same as in testing one normal mean with known population variance.



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## Example 9.5: Supermarket Shoppers Price Knowledge

- A supermarket wants to know whether shoppers are sensitive to the prices of goods. Among a random sample of 802 shoppers, 378 can state the correct price of an item immediately after putting it into their cart. Test at the 7% level the null that at least one-half of all shoppers can test the correct price.
- Solution: Our hypotheses are  $H_0 : p \geq 0.5$  vs.  $H_1 : p < 0.5$ . The decision rule is

$$z = \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{p_0(1-p_0)/n}} < -z_\alpha.$$

In this example,  $\hat{p} = 378/802 = 0.471$ ,  $p_0 = 0.5$  and  $n = 802$ , so

$$z = \frac{0.471 - 0.5}{\sqrt{0.5(1-0.5)/802}} = -1.64 < -1.474 = -z_{0.07},$$

and we reject the null. Or the  $p$ -value is  $P(Z < z) = 0.051 < 0.07$ .



## Assessing the Power of a Test

- In testing one normal mean with known population variance,  $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu > \mu_0$ .
- Fix  $\mu^* > \mu_0$ ,

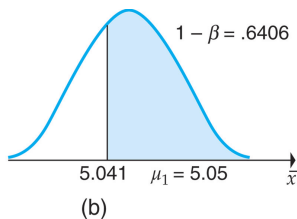
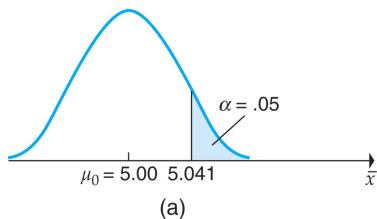
$$\begin{aligned}\beta(\mu^*) &= P(\bar{X} < \bar{x}_c | \mu^*) \\ &= P\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \mu^*}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} < \frac{\bar{x}_c - \mu^*}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \mid \mu^*\right) \\ &= P\left(Z < \frac{\bar{x}_c - \mu^*}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\bar{x}_c - \mu^*}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right).\end{aligned}$$

- $\pi(\mu^*) = 1 - \beta(\mu^*) = P(\bar{X} > \bar{x}_c | \mu^*) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\bar{x}_c - \mu^*}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu^* - \bar{x}_c}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right)$ .

## A Numerical Example

- Suppose  $n = 16$ ,  $\sigma = 0.1$ ,  $\mu_0 = 5$  and  $\alpha = 0.05$  (so  $z_\alpha = 1.645$ ).
- Now,  $\bar{x}_c = \mu_0 + z_\alpha \sigma / \sqrt{n} = 5 + 1.645 \times (0.1 / \sqrt{16}) = 5.041$ , so

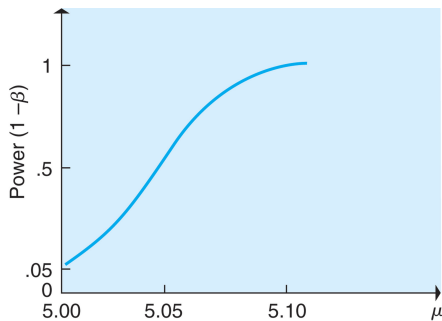
$$\beta(\mu^*) = \Phi\left(\frac{5.041 - \mu^*}{0.1/\sqrt{16}}\right) \text{ and } \pi(\mu^*) = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu^* - 5.041}{0.1/\sqrt{16}}\right).$$



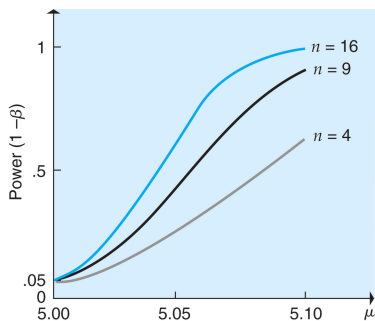
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Figure: The Determination of  $\pi(5.05)$

- Refer also to the figure on the trade-off between two types of errors.



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Figure: Power Functions for Test of  $H_0: \mu = 5$  vs.  $H_1: \mu > 5$   
 $(\alpha = 0.05, \sigma = 0.1, n = 16, 9, 4)$

- $\pi(\mu^*) = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu^* - \bar{x}_C}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu^* - \mu_0 - z_\alpha \sigma/\sqrt{n}}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) = \Phi\left(\sqrt{n}\frac{\mu^* - \mu_0}{\sigma} - z_\alpha\right)$  is increasing in  $\mu^*$ ,  $n$  and  $\alpha$ , and decreasing in  $\sigma^2$ , and  $\pi(\bar{x}_C) = 0.5$ . [why?]

## Another Numerical Example

- Suppose we are interested in  $H_0 : p = p_0 = 0.5$  vs.  $H_1 : p \neq 0.5$ , where  $p$  is, say, the proportion of forecasts made by a group of financial analysts that exceeded the actual level of earnings.
- The decision rule is to reject  $H_0$  if  $\left| \frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{p_0(1-p_0)/n}} \right| > z_{\alpha/2}$ , where  $\hat{p} = 382/600 = .637$  and  $n = 600$ .
- For  $p_1 \neq p_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \beta(p_1) &= P\left(\left|\frac{\hat{p} - p_0}{\sqrt{p_0(1-p_0)/n}}\right| \leq z_{\alpha/2} \mid p_1\right) \\
 &= P\left(\left|\frac{\hat{p} - p_1 + p_1 - p_0}{\sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n}}\right| \leq z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sqrt{p_0(1-p_0)/n}}{\sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n}} \mid p_1\right) \\
 &= P\left(\left|Z + \frac{p_1 - p_0}{\sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n}}\right| \leq z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{p_0(1-p_0)}{p_1(1-p_1)}}\right) \\
 &= \Phi\left(z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{p_0(1-p_0)}{p_1(1-p_1)}} - \frac{p_1 - p_0}{\sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n}}\right) \\
 &\quad - \Phi\left(-z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{p_0(1-p_0)}{p_1(1-p_1)}} - \frac{p_1 - p_0}{\sqrt{p_1(1-p_1)/n}}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

continue

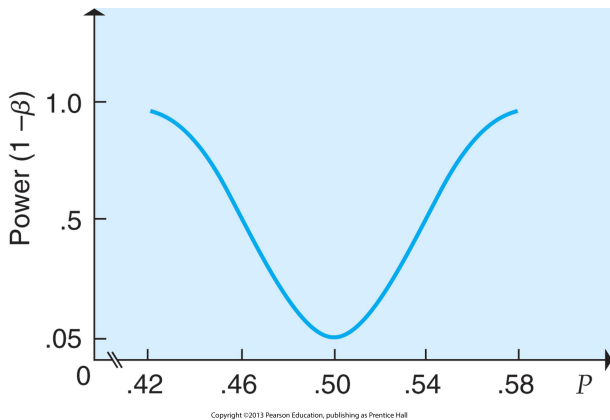


Figure: Power Functions for Test of  $H_0 : P = .5$  vs.  $H_1 : P \neq .5$  ( $\alpha = 0.05, n = 600$ )

- $\pi(p_1) = 1 - \beta(p_1)$  is increasing in  $|p_1 - p_0|$ .

## One Normal Variance

- **Data:** same as in the one normal mean test.
- $H_0 : \sigma^2 = \sigma_0^2$  vs. (i)  $H_1 : \sigma^2 > \sigma_0^2$ , (ii)  $\sigma^2 < \sigma_0^2$ , and (iii)  $\sigma^2 \neq \sigma_0^2$   
- Such hypotheses are useful in quality control.

- **Test Statistic:**

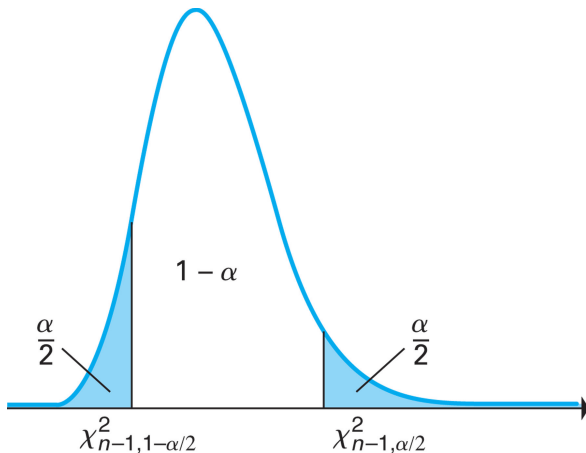
$$\chi^2 = \frac{(n-1)s^2}{\sigma_0^2},$$

which follows the  $\chi_{n-1}^2$  distribution under  $H_0$ .

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $\chi^2 > \chi_{n-1,\alpha}^2$  in (i), if  $\chi^2 < \chi_{n-1,1-\alpha}^2$  in (ii), and  $\chi^2 > \chi_{n-1,\alpha/2}^2$  or  $\chi^2 < \chi_{n-1,1-\alpha/2}^2$  in (iii). [figure here]  
- The chi-square distribution tests are more sensitive to the normality assumption than the standard normal distribution tests.
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(\chi_{n-1}^2 > \chi^2)$  in (i),  $P(\chi_{n-1}^2 < \chi^2)$  in (ii), and in (iii)

$$2 \times \min \left\{ P(\chi_{n-1}^2 > \chi^2), P(\chi_{n-1}^2 < \chi^2) \right\}$$

[why? make sure the  $p$ -value approach is equivalent to the Neyman-Pearson approach].



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**Figure:** Chi-Square Distribution with  $n-1$  Degrees of Freedom and Its **Upper**  $\alpha/2$  and  $1 - \alpha/2$  Quantiles: the chi-square distribution is not symmetric, so there is no direct relation between  $\chi^2_{n-1, \alpha/2}$  and  $\chi^2_{n-1, 1-\alpha/2}$  and we cannot use  $|\chi^2|$  to describe the two-sided test

# Hypothesis Testing: Two Populations



## Matched Pair: Two Means

- **Matched pair** is a kind of dependent samples; apart from the factor under study, the pairs should resemble one another as closely as possible, such as twins.
  - Dependent samples can also be two measurements taken on the same person or object, e.g., a measurement is taken before an event and one after the event (e.g., the treatment on a patient), namely, **repeated measurements**.
- **Data:**  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ , where  $x_i - y_i \sim N(\mu_x - \mu_y, \sigma_d^2)$  but  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  need not be normally distributed, and  $\mu_x$ ,  $\mu_y$  and  $\sigma_d^2$  are unknown.<sup>4</sup>
  - (i)  $H_0 : \mu_x - \mu_y = 0$  or  $H_0 : \mu_x - \mu_y \leq 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu_x - \mu_y > 0$
  - (ii)  $H_0 : \mu_x - \mu_y = 0$  or  $H_0 : \mu_x - \mu_y \geq 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu_x - \mu_y < 0$
  - (ii)  $H_0 : \mu_x - \mu_y = 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu_x - \mu_y \neq 0$
- This is like testing one normal mean with unknown population variance.
  - $x_i$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\mu_0$  and  $\sigma^2$  there are like  $x_i - y_i$ ,  $\mu_x - \mu_y$ , 0 and  $\sigma_d^2$  here.

<sup>4</sup>Because  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are not independent,  $\sigma_d^2$  need not be  $\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2$ .

## continue

- Test Statistic:

$$t = \frac{\bar{d}}{s_d / \sqrt{n}},$$

which follows the  $t_{n-1}$  distribution under  $H_0$ , where  $\bar{d} = \bar{x} - \bar{y}$ , and  $s_d$  is the sample standard deviation of  $\{(x_i - y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ .

- Decision Rule: reject  $H_0$  if  $t > t_{n-1, \alpha}$  in (i), if  $t < -t_{n-1, \alpha}$  in (ii), and  $|t| > t_{n-1, \alpha/2}$  in (iii).
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(T > t)$  in (i),  $P(T < t)$  in (ii), and  $P(|T| > |t|)$  in (iii), where  $T \sim t_{n-1}$ .
- (\*) Recall that the power of the  $t$ -test is inversely affected by  $\sigma_d^2$ , so a smaller  $\sigma_d^2$  is favorable to the detection of the difference in  $\mu_x$  and  $\mu_y$ . Since

$$\sigma_d^2 = \text{Var}(x - y) = \sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 - 2\sigma_{xy},$$

a positive  $\sigma_{xy}$  (as in our treatment example in the last slide) is helpful to our purpose. Intuitively, taking differences eliminates random fluctuations that are present in both the  $x$ - and  $y$ -components and do not interest us; after eliminating this variation, it is easier to discover a possible difference caused by the treatment.

## Example 10.1: Analysis of Alternative Turkey-Feeding Programs

- Suppose we want to know whether a new feeding process can increase the mean weight of turkeys at the level 2.5% by using a random set of 25 matched turkey chicks hatched from the the same hen.
- Solution: Our hypotheses are  $H_0 : \mu_x - \mu_y \leq 0$  vs.  $H_1 : \mu_x - \mu_y > 0$ . In this example,  $\bar{d} = 1.489$ ,  $s_d^2 = 3.226^2 + 2.057^2 - 2 \times 0.823 \times 3.226 \times 2.057 = 3.716$ , so

$$t = \frac{1.489}{\sqrt{3.716}/\sqrt{25}} = \frac{1.489}{0.385} = 3.86 > 2.064 = t_{24,0.025},$$

and we reject the null and conclude that the new feeding program indeed increases the weight of turkey.

## Independent Samples: Two Normal Means, Known Variances

- **Data:**  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^{n_x} \cup \{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n_y}$ , where  $x_i \sim N(\mu_x, \sigma_x^2)$ ,  $y_j \sim N(\mu_y, \sigma_y^2)$ , and  $x_i$  and  $y_j$  are independent for any  $i$  and  $j$ .
- The three pairs of hypotheses are the same as in the previous test.
- **Test Statistic:**

$$z = \frac{\bar{x} - \bar{y}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_x^2}{n_x} + \frac{\sigma_y^2}{n_y}}},$$

which follows the  $N(0, 1)$  distribution under  $H_0$  because  $E[\bar{x} - \bar{y}] = \mu_x - \mu_y = 0$ ,  
 $\text{Var}(\bar{x} - \bar{y}) = \text{Var}(\bar{x}) + \text{Var}(\bar{y}) = \frac{\sigma_x^2}{n_x} + \frac{\sigma_y^2}{n_y}$ , and  $\bar{x} - \bar{y}$  is normally distributed.

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $z > z_\alpha$  in (i), if  $z < -z_\alpha$  in (ii), and  $|z| > z_{\alpha/2}$  in (iii).
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(Z > z)$  in (i),  $P(Z < z)$  in (ii), and  $P(|Z| > |z|)$  in (iii), where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ .

# Independent Samples: Two Normal Means, Unknown Equal Variances

- Data and hypotheses are the same as in the previous test, but  $\sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$  now.
- Test Statistic:**

$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \bar{y}}{\sqrt{\frac{s_p^2}{n_x} + \frac{s_p^2}{n_y}}},$$

which follows the  $t_{n-2}$  distribution under  $H_0$ , where  $n = n_x + n_y$ , and the **pooled sample variance**

$$s_p^2 = \frac{(n_x - 1) s_x^2 + (n_y - 1) s_y^2}{n_x + n_y - 2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_x} (x_i - \bar{x})^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{n_y} (y_j - \bar{y})^2}{n_x + n_y - 2}$$

is the weighted average of  $s_x^2$  and  $s_y^2$ .<sup>5</sup>

- Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $t > t_{n-2, \alpha}$  in (i), if  $t < -t_{n-2, \alpha}$  in (ii), and  $|t| > t_{n-2, \alpha/2}$  in (iii).
- The  $p$ -value  $P(T > t)$  in (i),  $P(T < t)$  in (ii), and  $P(|T| > |t|)$  in (iii), where  $T \sim t_{n-2}$ .

---

<sup>5</sup>Why  $s_p^2$  is better than  $\frac{s_x^2 + s_y^2}{2}$ ?

## Example 10.4: Example 10.1 continued

- The setup and data are the same as in Example 10.1 but we assume the two samples are independent now.
- In the current notation,  $n_x = n_y = n_0 = 25$ , and  $n = 2n_0 = 50$ .
- $\bar{x} - \bar{y}$  is still 1.489, but

$$s_d^2 = 3.226^2 + 2.057^2 = 14.638 > 3.716$$

and

$$\frac{s_d}{\sqrt{n_0}} = \frac{\sqrt{14.638}}{\sqrt{25}} = 0.765 > 0.385$$

or

$$s_p^2 = \frac{24 \times 3.226^2 + 24 \times 2.057^2}{48} = 7.319$$

and

$$\frac{s_d}{\sqrt{n_0}} = \sqrt{\frac{7.319}{25} + \frac{7.319}{25}} = 0.765 > 0.385.$$

## continue

- The test statistic

$$t = \frac{1.489}{0.765} = 1.946 < 2.01 = t_{48,0.025},$$

so we cannot reject the null, a different conclusion from that in Example 10.1, where note that the df is 48 now.

- (\*)  $r_{xy} = 0.823 > \frac{2}{\sqrt{25}}$ , indicating that  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are not independent, so the  $t$  test here is not suitable. If  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are indeed independent, the  $t$  test here is preferable because it has a larger df and thus a higher power (e.g., in this example,  $t_{24,0.025} > t_{48,0.025}$ ).

## Indpt Samples: Two Normal Means, Unknown Unequal Variances

- This is the famous **Behrens-Fisher Problem**.
- Data and hypotheses are the same as in the previous test.
- **Test Statistic:**

$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \bar{y}}{\sqrt{\frac{s_x^2}{n_x} + \frac{s_y^2}{n_y}}},$$

whose null distribution is very complicated, but Welch (1938) and Satterthwaite (1946) suggested to use the  $t_v$  distribution to approximate it, where

$$v = \frac{\left[ \left( \frac{s_x^2}{n_x} \right) + \left( \frac{s_y^2}{n_y} \right) \right]^2}{\left( \frac{s_x^2}{n_x} \right)^2 / (n_x - 1) + \left( \frac{s_y^2}{n_y} \right)^2 / (n_y - 1)}$$

is random and need not be an integer. <sup>6</sup>

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $t > t_{v,\alpha}$  in (i), if  $t < -t_{v,\alpha}$  in (ii), and  $|t| > t_{v,\alpha/2}$  in (iii).
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(T > t)$  in (i),  $P(T < t)$  in (ii), and  $P(|T| > |t|)$  in (iii), where  $T \sim t_v$ .

---

<sup>6</sup>  $v$  reduces to  $(n_0 - 1) \left( 1 + \frac{2}{s_x^2/s_y^2 + s_y^2/s_x^2} \right)$  when  $n_x = n_y = n_0$ . If  $s_x^2 \approx s_y^2$ , then  $v$  further reduces to  $2(n_0 - 1)$ , which is the same as in the unknown equal population variances case.



## Example 10.4 continued

- The setup and data are the same as in Example 10.4, but we assume the two unknown population variances are unequal now.
- The test statistic takes the same value 1.946; this is because when  $n_x = n_y = n_0$ ,

$$\frac{s_p^2}{n_x} + \frac{s_p^2}{n_y} = \frac{2}{n_0} \frac{(n_0 - 1) s_x^2 + (n_0 - 1) s_y^2}{n_0 + n_0 - 2} = \frac{s_x^2 + s_y^2}{n_0}.$$

- The only difference is that the df is 40 rather than 48 now.
- The  $p$ -value is equal to

$$P(t_{40} > 1.946) = 0.02935 > 0.025,$$

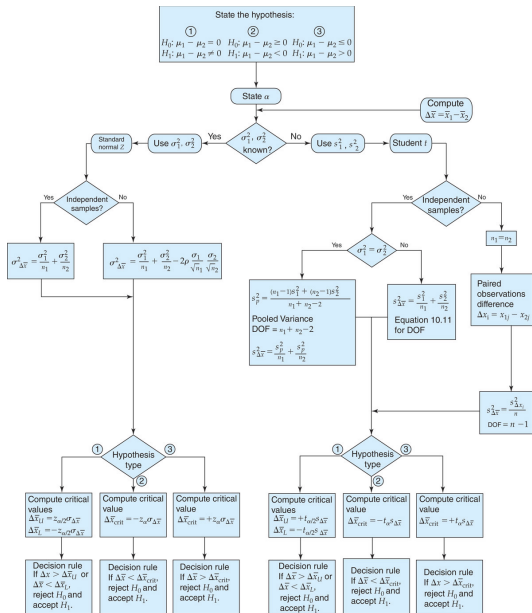
so we cannot reject null, the same conclusion as in Example 10.4.

- For comparison, the  $p$ -value in Example 10.4 is

$$P(t_{48} > 1.946) = 0.02876 > 0.025.$$

## (\*) More Comments

- When  $\sigma_x^2 \neq \sigma_y^2$ , but we assume they are equal and apply the two-sample  $t$ -test with equal variances, then the true size may be different from the nominal size.
- Anyway, as  $n_x = n_y \rightarrow \infty$ , the true size of  $t = \frac{\bar{x} - \bar{y}}{\sqrt{\frac{s_p^2}{n_x} + \frac{s_p^2}{n_y}}}$  converges to the nominal size for any pair of  $(\sigma_x^2, \sigma_y^2)$ .
- This leads to the advice to choose samples of equal size whenever possible.
- This is also wise when  $\sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$ , because the power of the corresponding  $t$ -test is maximal when  $n_x = n_y$  (for fixed  $n_x + n_y$ ) as  $\frac{1}{n_x} + \frac{1}{n_y}$  achieves the minimum.
- When  $n_x, n_y \rightarrow \infty$  (need not be equal), by the central limit theorem,  $t = \frac{\bar{x} - \bar{y}}{\sqrt{\frac{s_x^2}{n_x} + \frac{s_y^2}{n_y}}}$  converges in distribution to  $N(0, 1)$ .



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## Independent Samples: Two Proportions, Large Samples

- **Data:** same as in the previous test, but  $x_i$  and  $y_j$  can only take 0 or 1, so follows the Bernoulli( $p_x$ ) and Bernoulli( $p_y$ ) distributions.
- The three pairs of hypotheses are the same as in the previous test, but here the population means are denoted as  $p_x$  and  $p_y$ .
- **Test Statistic:**

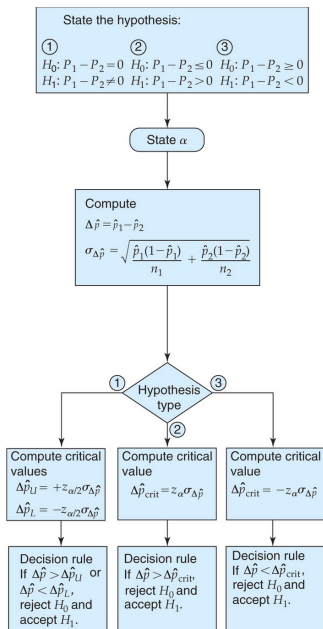
$$t = \frac{\hat{p}_x - \hat{p}_y}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}_0(1-\hat{p}_0)}{n_x} + \frac{\hat{p}_0(1-\hat{p}_0)}{n_y}}},$$

which follows the  $N(0, 1)$  distribution under  $H_0$  in large sample [ $np_0(1-p_0) > 5$  with  $p_0$  being the common proportion under  $H_0$ ], where

$$\hat{p}_0 = \frac{n_x \hat{p}_x + n_y \hat{p}_y}{n_x + n_y} = \frac{\text{total number of successes in } \{x_i\}_{i=1}^{n_x} \cup \{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n_y}}{\text{total sample size of } \{x_i\}_{i=1}^{n_x} \cup \{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n_y}}.$$

- Recall that the variance of the Bernoulli( $p$ ) distribution is  $p(1-p)$ , so under  $H_0$ , the variances of  $x_i$  and  $y_j$  are also equal. This is like testing two normal means with unknown equal population variances.

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $t > z_\alpha$  in (i), if  $t < -z_\alpha$  in (ii), and  $|t| > z_{\alpha/2}$  in (iii).
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(Z > t)$  in (i),  $P(Z < t)$  in (ii), and  $P(|Z| > |t|)$  in (iii), where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ .



## Example 10.5: Change in Customer Recognition of New Products After an Advertising Campaign

- Before the advertising campaign, 50 of 270 random residents heard of the new product; after the campaign, 81 of 203 new random samples heard of the new product. Do these results indicate that customer recognition increased after the campaign at the 5% level?
- Solution: Our hypotheses are  $H_0 : p_x - p_y \geq 0$  vs.  $H_1 : p_x - p_y < 0$ . In this example,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p}_x &= 50/270 = 0.185, \hat{p}_y = 81/203 = 0.399, \\ \hat{p}_0 &= \frac{n_x \hat{p}_x + n_y \hat{p}_y}{n_x + n_y} = \frac{50 + 81}{270 + 203} = 0.277,\end{aligned}$$

so

$$t = \frac{\hat{p}_x - \hat{p}_y}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}_0(1-\hat{p}_0)}{n_x} + \frac{\hat{p}_0(1-\hat{p}_0)}{n_y}}} = \frac{0.185 - 0.399}{\sqrt{\frac{0.277(1-0.277)}{270} + \frac{0.277(1-0.277)}{203}}} = -5.15,$$

which is smaller than  $-z_{0.05} = -1.645$ , and we reject the null and conclude that the advertising campaign is effective.

## Independent Samples: Two Normal Variances

- In testing two normal means with unknown equal population variances, we assume  $\sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$ .
  - This hypothesis is also of interest in quality-control studies.
- **Data:** same as in testing two normal means, where  $s_x^2 \geq s_y^2$ .
- (i)  $H_0 : \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$  or  $H_0 : \sigma_x^2 \leq \sigma_y^2$  vs.  $H_1 : \sigma_x^2 > \sigma_y^2$ 
  - Why don't we consider  $H_0 : \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$  or  $H_0 : \sigma_x^2 \geq \sigma_y^2$  vs.  $H_1 : \sigma_x^2 < \sigma_y^2$ ?
- (ii)  $H_0 : \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$  vs.  $H_1 : \sigma_x^2 \neq \sigma_y^2$
- **Test Statistic:**

$$f = \frac{s_x^2}{s_y^2},$$

which follows the  $F_{n_x-1, n_y-1}$  distribution [see the next slide] under  $H_0$ , where the larger sample variance is put in the numerator and the smaller in the denominator so that only the upper cutoff points of the  $F$  distribution are used [see below].

- **Decision Rule:** reject  $H_0$  if  $f > F_{n_x-1, n_y-1, \alpha}$  in (i), and if  $f > F_{n_x-1, n_y-1, \alpha/2}$  in (ii).
- The  $p$ -value is  $P(F > f)$  in (i), and  $2 \cdot P(F > f)$  in (ii), where  $F \sim F_{n_x-1, n_y-1}$ .

## F Distribution

- This distribution is named after R.A. Fisher.
- If  $X_1$  follows a  $\chi^2$  distribution with  $d_1$  degrees of freedom,

$$X_1 \sim \chi_{d_1}^2,$$

and  $X_2$  follows a  $\chi^2$  distribution with  $d_2$  degrees of freedom,

$$X_2 \sim \chi_{d_2}^2,$$

independent of  $X_1$ , then

$$\frac{X_1/d_1}{X_2/d_2} = \frac{\text{chi-square variable}/df}{\text{independent chi-square variable}/df} \sim F_{d_1, d_2},$$

an  $F$ -distribution with degrees of freedom  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ .

$$- f = \frac{s_x^2}{s_y^2} \stackrel{H_0}{=} \frac{s_x^2/\sigma_x^2}{s_y^2/\sigma_y^2} = \frac{[(n_x-1)s_x^2/\sigma_x^2]/(n_x-1)}{[(n_y-1)s_y^2/\sigma_y^2]/(n_y-1)} \sim \frac{\chi_{n_x-1}^2/(n_x-1)}{\chi_{n_y-1}^2/(n_y-1)} = F_{n_x-1, n_y-1}.$$

- As in the  $t$ -distribution,  $X_2/d_2 \rightarrow 1$  as  $d_2 \rightarrow \infty$ . So

$$F_{d_1, d_2} \rightarrow \chi_{d_1}^2/d_1$$

as  $d_2 \rightarrow \infty$ , i.e.,  $F_{d_1, d_2, \alpha} \approx \chi_{d_1, \alpha}^2/d_1$ .



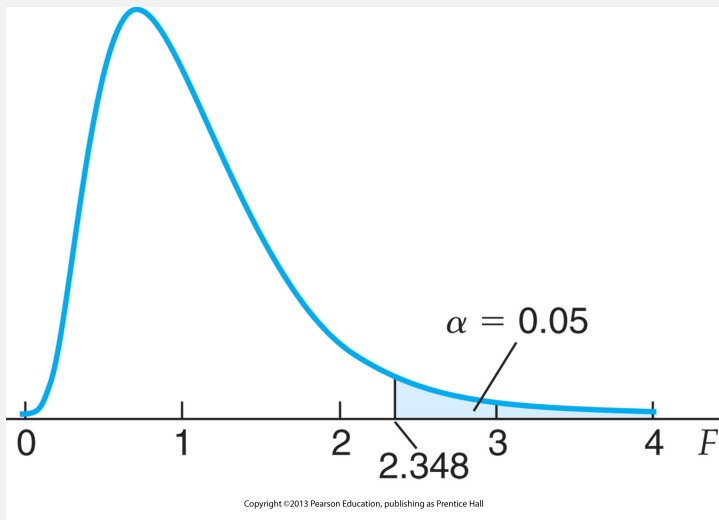


Figure: The Density of  $F_{10,20}$

## Example 10.6: Study of Maturity Variances

- We want to know whether the variance of the maturities of AAA-rated industrial bonds is different from that of CCC-rated ones at the 2% level.
- Solution: Our hypotheses are  $H_0 : \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2$  vs.  $H_1 : \sigma_x^2 \neq \sigma_y^2$ . In this example,

$$\begin{aligned}n_x &= 17, n_y = 11, \\s_x^2 &= 123.35 \text{ and } s_y^2 = 8.02,\end{aligned}$$

so

$$f = \frac{s_x^2}{s_y^2} = \frac{123.35}{8.02} = 15.380 > 4.520 = F_{16,10,0.01},$$

or the  $p$ -value is  $P(F_{16,10} > 15.380) = 0.00 < 0.01$ . As a result, we reject the null and conclude that there is strong evidence that variances in maturities are different for these two types of bonds.

## Some Comments on Hypothesis Testing

- A test with low power can result from:
  - Small sample size
  - Large variances in the underlying populations
  - Poor measurement procedures
- If sample sizes are large it is possible to find significant differences that are not practically important.
- Researchers should select the appropriate level of significance before computing  $p$ -values.