

z-test for a population mean t-test for a population mean

7.1

### In the last lecture ...

- We learnt that a 95% confidence interval was an interval which we believed, with 95% confidence, will contain the value of the population parameter of interest.
- The general form for a confidence interval is:
   sample estimate ± critical value × standard error
- We found confidence intervals for  $\mu$  and  $\pi$ .
- In order to decrease the width of a confidence interval but at the same time retain our level of confidence (say 95%), then we need to increase the sample size.

7.2









V Re	view Answers	
Quiz 1:		
Quiz 2: a.	b.	
Exercise 1:		
	с.	
Exercise 2:		
		7.7A

## **Research Question**

- Recall that we often want to answer a research question pertaining to some target population of interest.
- We design a study carefully, and obtain a representative sample, random if possible, from the target population.
- We use this sample to make inferences about the population and, thus, to answer the research question.

Answering a Research Question

*Research Question*: Is the mean IQ of children who attend country schools the same as that of the general population?

We can perform a statistical test to answer the above research question, so long as our data are independent.

Let Y = variable of interest.

Here Y = IQ score of country students.

Recall that the sample consisted of 36 students, selected randomly, with a mean IQ of 103. (In the general population, IQ scores have mean  $\mu = 100$  and standard deviation  $\sigma = 15$ ).

## **Null Hypothesis**

• A null hypothesis is a statement (or claim) that a population parameter has a specified value  $\mu_0$  ie.

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\mathsf{H}_0: \mu = \mu_0
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- Here, we could claim that the mean IQ score of country school students is 100. This claim is based on the fact that the population mean is known to be 100, and we want to determine if this is the same for country school students. (In fact the word 'null' means 'no effect' or 'no change'.)
- So we express the null hypothesis as:

 $H_0: \mu = 100$ 

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# Alternative Hypothesis

- We can also specify a second hypothesis  $\mathsf{H}_1$  which must be true if the null hypothesis is not.
- H<sub>1</sub> is often called the research hypothesis since it is often the hypothesis that is of greatest interest to the researcher.
- H<sub>0</sub> and H<sub>1</sub> are complementary. They do not overlap and should exhaust all the possible values of the parameter being tested.
- When testing a population mean,  $\mathsf{H}_1$  can take one of the following forms:
  - $H_{1:} \ \mu \neq \mu_0$  Two-sided test (i.e. direction is not specified)
  - $H_{1:} \mu > \mu_0$  One-sided test (i.e. direction is specified)
  - $H_{1:} \mu < \mu_0$  One-sided test (i.e. direction is specified)

# A one-sided test is appropriate when the researcher has specific ideas about the direction in which the population parameter lies. Researchers need to decide whether to use a one-sided or a two-sided test <u>before</u> they look at the data. For the country school students IQ data, the researchers were simply interested in determining whether the mean IQ score of country school students is 100 or not (i.e. no direction was suggested). Therefore a two-sided hypothesis test is appropriate and the alternative hypothesis for this problem takes the form:

H<sub>1:</sub> μ ≠ 100.

7.12















## Significance level

- A *small p-value* leads to a decision to *reject* the null hypothesis.
- By convention, a p-value is considered 'small' if it is less than 0.05. (This value of 0.05 is referred to as the significance level or *α-level* of the test.)
- The result is then said to be 'statistically significant'.
- Conversely, if a *p-value is not small*, the decision is to *not reject* the null hypothesis. However, this does not mean that H<sub>0</sub> is accepted!
- So, for the country students' study, the correct decision is to *not reject H*<sub>0</sub>, since the p-value is 0.2302.

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- Each of the sets of hypotheses on previous slide account for all possible values of μ.
- However, only the parameter value in  $\rm H_0$  that is closest to  $\rm H_1$  influences the form of the test.
- We will therefore write  $H_0$  in a simpler form where the parameter takes on the specific value of  $\mu_0$ . For one-sided hypothesis tests we will therefore write the null/alternative hypothesis set as either

$$\begin{array}{ll} H_{0:} \ \mu = \mu_{0} & & \\ H_{1:} \ \mu > \mu_{0} & & \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{ll} OR & & H_{0:} \ \mu = \mu_{0} \\ & H_{1:} \ \mu < \mu_{0} \end{array}$$

• All the steps outlined earlier for hypothesis testing still apply when doing a one-sided hypothesis test. Only the determination of the p-value is different. 7.31

















7.38



Quiz 3					
Use the t-tables to determine a range of p-values for the following test statistics when performing					
1) one-sided hypothesis test:					
a. $t = 3.326$ with a sample size of 15					
<b>b.</b> $t = 3.855$ with a sample size of 10					
c. $t = 1.276$ with a sample size of 20					
2) two-sided hypothesis test:					
a. $t = 0.544$ with a sample size of 30					
<b>b.</b> $t = 2.925$ with a sample size of 58					
c. $t = 1.650$ with a sample size of 200					
	7.40Q				

V	Ansv	wers	to Q	uiz 3	
1)	one-sided	hypothe	sis test:		
	t-value	n	df	p-value	
a.	3.326	15			
b.	3.855	10			
c.	1.276	31			
2)	two-sided	hypothe	sis test:		
	t-value	n	df	p-value	
a.	0.544	30			
b.	2.925	58			
c.	1.650	200			7.41



















# Lecture 7 summary (1)

A null hypothesis  $({\rm H}_0)$  is a statement that a population parameter has a particular value, known as the null value.

A test statistic is a scaled measure of the discrepancy between the null value and the corresponding value obtained from a sample.

A p-value is the probability of getting such a test statistic or even more extreme in a study, assuming  $\rm H_{\rm 0}$  is true.

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# Lecture 7 summary (2)

Hypothesis testing involves:

*study information*: outlining information about the target population and the sample.

*data summaries:* stating the variable/s of interest and providing numerical summaries and visual display/s from the data.

answering the research question: H stating the null and the alternative hypothesis, A checking the assumptions of the test, T calculating the test statistic, P obtaining the p-value and making a decision about the believability of  $H_0$ based on this and C writing a conclusion, which should include a confidence interval if a two-sided hypothesis test was carried out and the  $H_0$  was rejected. 7.50



