

3703-3J04 PROBABILITY & STATISTICS FOR  
CO1-Lecture 25 (CIVIL) ENGINEERING

Today HYPOTHESIS TESTING [9-1]

How to use data to check a claim about a parameter.

A statistical hypothesis is some statement about the parameters of one or more populations.

e.g.  $\mu = 50$  or  $\sigma_1^2 > \sigma_2^2$ .

We start with claim

$H_0$  : null hypothesis  $\rightarrow$  for us this is some equality statement e.g.  $\mu = 50$

$H_1$  : alternative hypothesis (relative to  $H_0$ )

$\rightarrow$  some statement that contradicts  $H_0$

e.g. if  $H_0$  is  $\mu = 50$ ,

$H_1$  could be  $\mu \neq 50$

or  $\mu > 50$

or  $\mu < 50$

[Can be 2-sided

or } 1-sided.]

Our goal: use data to decide if we should

— accept  $H_0$

or — reject  $H_0$  and accept  $H_1$

i.e. we assume  $H_0$  & reject  $H_0$  if the data suggests we should.

Possible Objectives

1. Test whether or not a parameter value has changed.

2. Test a theory / model (verify or refute).

3. Conformance testing.

To reject  $H_0$ , need a compelling reason — we witness something about the data that is very unlikely to happen if  $H_0$  is true.

We need a test statistic e.g.  $\bar{X}$ ,  $P$ ,  $S^2$  etc.

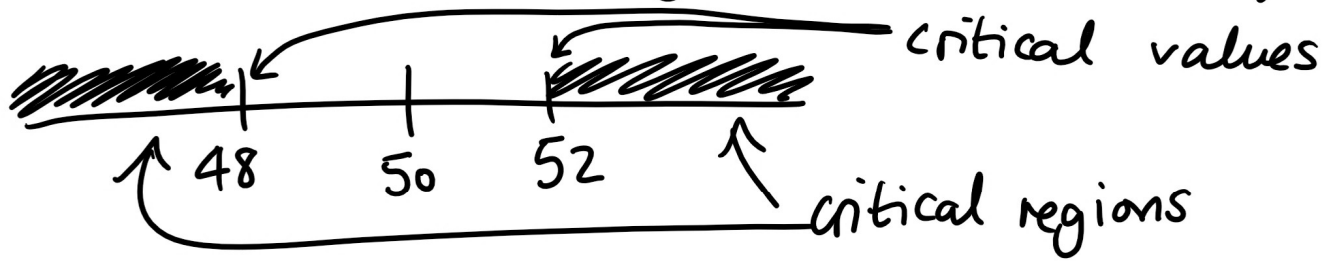
& critical values (which define (a) critical region(s))

e.g. in testing  $H_0: \mu = 50$   
against  $H_1: \mu \neq 50$

we could use as test statistic  $\bar{X}$

& we could say reject  $H_0$  & accept  $H_1$  if

$\bar{x} \geq 52$  say or  $\bar{x} \leq 48$  say



	$H_0$ true	$H_1$ true
Accept $H_0$	✓ Correct	✗ Type II Error
Reject $H_0$ and accept $H_1$	✗ Type I Error	✓ Correct

Type I Error: like finding innocent person guilty  
(under "Presumption of Innocence")

Type II Error: like acquitting a guilty person.

The significance level (or size) of the test

$$= \alpha = P(\text{Type I error})$$

$$= P(\text{rejecting } H_0 \text{ when } H_0 \text{ true}).$$

$$P(\text{Type II Error}) = P(\text{accepting } H_0 \text{ when } H_1 \text{ true})$$

$$= \beta$$

Example We have sample of size 35 from a Normal population,  $\sigma = 10$ , to test

$$H_0 : \mu = 50 \quad , \quad H_1 : \mu \neq 50.$$

We reject  $H_0$  if  $\bar{x} \geq 52$  or  $\bar{x} \leq 48$ .

Find  $\alpha$ , and find  $\beta$  if  $\mu = 53$ .

Solution

$$\alpha = P(\text{Type I error})$$

$$= P(\bar{X} \geq 52 \text{ or } \bar{X} \leq 48 \text{ when } \mu = 50)$$

$$= P\left(Z \geq \frac{52-50}{10/\sqrt{35}} \text{ or } Z \leq \frac{48-50}{10/\sqrt{35}}\right)$$

$$= P(Z \geq 1.18) + P(Z \leq -1.18)$$

$$= (1 - 0.881) + 0.119$$

$$= \underline{\underline{0.238}}.$$

$$\beta = P(48 \leq \bar{X} \leq 52 \text{ when } \mu = 53)$$

$$= P\left(\frac{48-53}{10/\sqrt{35}} \leq Z \leq \frac{52-53}{10/\sqrt{35}}\right)$$

$$= P(-2.96 \leq Z \leq -0.59)$$

$$= 0.277595 - 0.003907$$

$$= \underline{\underline{0.274}}$$

Want  $\alpha$  small.

(This is the overriding philosophy: really do NOT want to convict an innocent person.)

Notice : We can make  $\alpha$  smaller by increasing  $n$   
or we can increase the size of the  
critical region

But increasing size of critical region increases  $\beta$ .  
(So better to increase  $n$ , as this decreases  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  
if you can — but maybe can't.)

So we fix  $\alpha$  in advance.

Usually  $0.01 \leq \alpha \leq 0.1$ .

Measure of risk & depends on context.

Then determine critical region using  $\alpha$

&  $\beta$ .  $\leftarrow$  Notice  $\beta$  still depends as well on true  
value of parameters.

Notice As the true value of the parameter being  
tested approaches the critical values,  $\beta$   
approaches  $1 - \alpha$ .

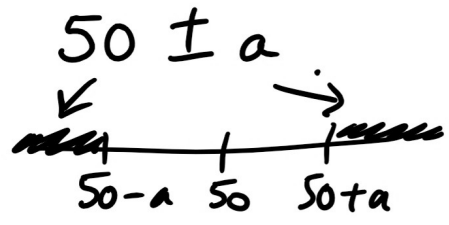
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Example (continued)  $H_0: \mu = 50$ ,  $H_1: \mu \neq 50$   
Normal distribution  $\sigma = 10$ .

Find the critical region if we want  $\alpha = 0.05$ .



Solution Call the critical region  $50 \pm a$   
We want to find  $a$  so that



$$\alpha = 0.05 = P(\bar{X} \geq 50 + a \text{ or } \bar{X} \leq 50 - a \text{ when } \mu = 50)$$

$$= P\left(\frac{\cancel{50} + a - \cancel{50}}{10/\sqrt{35}} \leq Z\right) + P\left(Z \leq \frac{\cancel{50} - a - \cancel{50}}{10/\sqrt{35}}\right)$$

$$= P\left(\frac{a}{10/\sqrt{35}} \leq Z\right) + P\left(Z \leq -\frac{a}{10/\sqrt{35}}\right)$$

$$= 2\left(1 - \Phi\left(\frac{a}{10/\sqrt{35}}\right)\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi\left(\frac{a}{10/\sqrt{35}}\right) = 0.975$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a}{10/\sqrt{35}} = 1.96 \Rightarrow a = 3.313.$$

So critical region has critical values & is given by

$$50 - 3.313 = 46.687 \quad \leftarrow \bar{x} \leq 46.687$$

$$50 + 3.313 = 53.313 \quad \leftarrow \bar{x} \geq 53.313.$$