

# Hypothesis Testing

## Steps for hypothesis testing

- 1) state hypothesis
  - null ( $H_0$ ) - hypothesis of no difference
  - research hypothesis ( $H_A$ )
- 2) calculate probability of getting sample mean
- 3) decide whether to
  - reject  $H_0$  ( $p < .05$ )
  - retain  $H_0$  ( $p > .05$ )
- 4) make general conclusion

## Null hypothesis

- states that there is no difference between our statistic and what we would find by chance
  - can compare sample to population (e.g.  $H_0 - \mu_1 = \mu$ )
  - can compare two samples (e.g.  $H_0 - \mu_1 = \mu_2$ )
- why use null
  - cannot prove something to be true, but can prove something to be false (theoretical)
  - by starting w/ null, we can put together sampling distribution

## Statistical conclusion

- if data are very different from expected  $\rightarrow$  reject  $H_0$
- if data isn't different  $\rightarrow$  fail to reject null hypothesis (retain)
- why do we say "fail to reject"?
  - hypothesis doesn't prove anything
  - failure to reject could be due to a variety of factors
- when retaining null, you aren't actually saying two groups are equal

## Significance level

- we set a limit on what values are sufficiently unlikely
  - this value is usually  $.05$  ( $p < .05$ )
  - $\rightarrow$  when  $p < .05$ , we have a less than 5% chance that the difference we see is sampling error
- when p value is less than  $.05$  - sufficiently unlikely and we reject the null
  - we want a p value less than  $.05$
  - indicates that difference is large and meaningful
- when p value is greater than  $.05$  - likely retain the null hypothesis
  - indicates difference is small/due to sampling error

## Type one/two error

- type one error: rejecting null when it is true
  - finding an effect when there isn't one
- type two error: failing to reject null when null is false
  - not finding an effect that is there

decision	$H_0$ true (no diff)	$H_0$ false (diff)
reject $H_0$ (say diff)	type one error $p = \alpha$	correct (power) $p = 1 - \beta$
retain $H_0$ (say no diff)	correct $p = 1 - \alpha$	type two error $p = \beta$

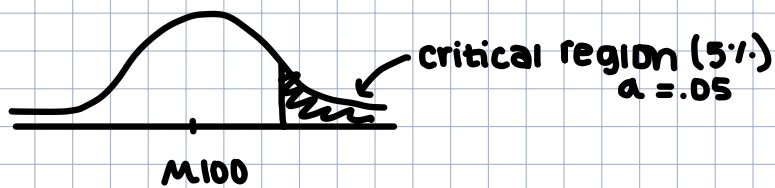
## One Tailed & Two Tailed tests

- one tailed (directional) test: decide that scores are in the top 5% (or bottom 5%) are very unlikely  $\rightarrow$  greater than/less than symbol
- two-tailed (undirectional test): decide that scores at either extreme are unlikely
- decide which test before testing

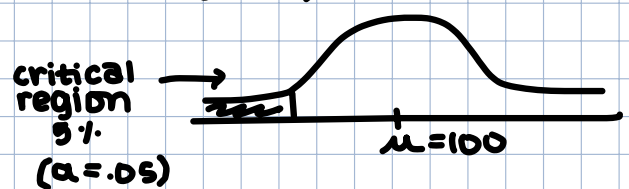
EXAMPLE:

$IQ = \mu = 100$

$H_A: \mu > 100$  (I think sample is better than pop.)

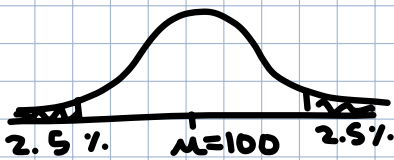


$H_A: \mu < 100$  (I think sample is less)



$H_A: \mu \neq 100$

\* a priori



I believe that our stats class is smarter than average. class has mean IQ of 106. is our class rly intelligent?

1)  $H_0: \mu = 100$

\* our class is no different than the rest of pop in IQ scores

$H_a: \mu > 100$

\* our class will score higher

$\mu = 100$

$\sigma = 15$

$N = 25$

$M = 106$

$$z_{obt} = \frac{M - \mu}{\sigma_M}$$

$$z_{obt} = \frac{106 - 100}{3}$$

$$\sigma_M = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{15}{\sqrt{25}} = 3$$

2)  $?% = +2.00$

$\mu = 100$   
 $z = 0$

$M = 106$   
 $z = +2.00$

$p = .0228$   
 $p = 2.3\%$  due to chance!  $\rightarrow$  reject  $H_0 \rightarrow$  class is intelligent

### What is power?

- power: prob. of rejecting false null

. ability to detect difference if one exists

- factors of effect:

. true diff. btwn pop means: increases in diff = increases in power

.  $N$ : increases in sample size = increases in power

.  $\sigma_M$  (standard error): increase in variance  $\rightarrow$  decreases in power

.  $\alpha$ : increases in  $\alpha$  = increases in power

. one tail test increases power

- determining power a priori