

1 RECIPE FOR Z-TEST (GAUSSIAN TEST FOR THE MEAN)

1) Define $z = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{\sigma / \sqrt{N}}$

2) Fixed probability?

OR Fixed value μ_0 / deviation z ?

↓
set P (e.g. 95%)

↓
determine z (e.g. 1.5)

3) Ask:

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(a) Above which value μ_0 ...

With which probability is the true mean ~~of~~ my population...
that represents

(b) Below which value μ_0 ...

(c) In which range $\bar{x} \pm |\mu_0 - \bar{x}|$

(a) above μ_0 ?

... is the true mean that represents my distribution, with probability P ?

(b) below μ_0 ?

(c) in the range $\bar{x} \pm |\mu_0 - \bar{x}|$?

4) Answer:

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(a) $\Phi(z) = P$ (b) $\Phi(-z) = P$

(a) ~~$P = \Phi(z)$~~ (b) $P = \Phi(-z)$
 $= 1 - \Phi(z)$

(c) $2\Phi(|z|) - 1 = \Phi(|z|) - \Phi(-|z|) = P$

(c) $P = 2\Phi(|z|) - 1$
 $= \Phi(|z|) - \Phi(-|z|)$

→ Find z from table.

→ Compute μ_0 .

2 Two-sample Gauss / z-test.

We are interested in the difference of two ^{independent} distributions X and Y . We assume σ_x and σ_y are known.

Distribution of the difference: Mean: $\bar{X} - \bar{Y}$

Variance: $V(X) + V(Y)$
(as $V(-Y) = (-1)^2 V(Y)$)

and is still Gaussian / Normal.

So we now use $z = \frac{\bar{X} - \bar{Y}}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_x^2}{N_{sx}} + \frac{\sigma_y^2}{N_{sy}}}}$ and proceed as before.

3 One-sample Student t-test

We do not know σ , but estimate it from the unbiased estimator for σ , $s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_s - 1} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$.

We then get the "t-value" $t = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{s / \sqrt{N_s}}$ (like z, but $\sigma \rightarrow s$).

We now have an estimator (s) in our equation, so the "degrees of freedom" (df) for our system are reduced by 1. $df = N_s - 1$

t now follows a "T-distribution" which is equal to a Gaussian but for $df \rightarrow \infty$ but broader (implying more uncertainty) for small df.

We need to look up its CDF in a "t table" now, which depends on df, but otherwise the recipe is the same as in [1].

4 Two-sample t-test. Assuming both samples have the same variance, $\sigma_x = \sigma_y$ and are independent.

The "pooled" sample variance estimator is

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{N_{sx} + N_{sy} - 1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{sx}} (x_i - \bar{x})^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_{sy}} (y_i - \bar{y})^2 \right)$$

$\bar{x}$ and $\bar{y}$ can be different so we subtract separately;

Now
$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \bar{y}}{\sqrt{\frac{s^2}{N_{sx}} + \frac{s^2}{N_{sy}}}}$$
 and $df = (N_{sx} - 1) + (N_{sy} - 1)$

and proceed as before.

E.g. we measured two independent groups of people who tried out different medicine.