

STAT 515 hw 9

Two-sample testing for differences in means and proportions

- Two methods of measuring out one cup of flour from a large container of flour were compared. Under the *scoop* method no instruction was given on how to measure the flour, but a 1 cup measuring cup was provided. Under the *spoon* method, instructions were given to fluff up the flour in the large container with a spoon, then to scoop the fluffed-up flour into a 1 cup measuring cup, and then to scrap off the excess flour with a provided flat implement. The measurements were taken by students in a statistics class at different times in the semester. The weights in grams of the measured out cups of flour under the two methods are tabulated below:

Scoop			Spoon		
163	157	163	128	151	125
160	170	169	127	128	117
150	150	145	130	129	127
166	175	110	154	162	130
168	182	162	154	131	140
153	141	115			
152	122	146			

Serious bakers encourage measuring out flour by weighing it instead of by scooping it in a measuring cup, since flour is compacted by scooping. In the absence of a kitchen scale, some bakers recommend the *spoon* method described above. You will use the data to decide whether the *spoon* method results in smaller measurements of flour than the *scoop* method (assume throughout that the data follow Normal distributions):

- State the null and alternate hypotheses of interest (let μ_1 be the mean weight in grams of cups of flour measured out by the *scoop* method).
- Make side-by-side boxplots of the weights of the measured out cups of flour. Make sure it is labeled so that someone can tell which plot belongs to which method. Access the documentation for the `boxplot` function by executing `?boxplot`.
- Based on your boxplots in part (b), do you recommend using the equal-variances or the unequal-variances version of the two-sample *t*-test?
- Give the value of the test statistic for the equal-variances two-sample *t*-test of the hypotheses in part (a).
- Give the *p*-value based on the data for testing the hypotheses in part (a).
- What is the smallest significance level α at which you would reject the null hypothesis in part (a) based on these data?
- Give the *p*-value of the equal-variances *t*-test of

$$H_0: \mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0 \text{ versus } H_1: \mu_1 - \mu_2 \neq 0$$

based on these data.

- Construct a 95% confidence interval for $\mu_1 - \mu_2$, assuming equal variances.

- (i) Give an interpretation of the confidence interval in part (h).
- (j) Use R to obtain the p -value of the unequal-variances two-sample t -test of the one-sided hypotheses from part (a). Comment on whether there is a large difference.
- (k) You want to post a cookie recipe on your blog, and you want the directions to be as simple as possible, so you are reluctant to include instructions to fluff and spoon the flour. On the other hand, your recipe is very sensitive to poor flour measurements. You decide you will only include instructions to fluff and spoon the flour if you can conclude that the *spoon* method reduces the mean weight of a measured cup of flour by at least 10 grams.
 - i. Give the null and alternate hypothesis of interest.
 - ii. Obtain the p -value using the equal-variances two-sample t -test.
 - iii. What do you decide? Will you include instructions to fluff and spoon the flour in your recipe? Consider the significance levels $\alpha = 0.10$ and $\alpha = 0.05$.

2. Members of the 3D book club, whose names are of course aliases, are discussing whether to read *Bleak House* by Charles Dickens:

- 1. Daragh will vote to read it if more than 10% of the sentences have at least 40 words.
- 2. Deaglan will vote to read it if fewer than 10% of the sentences have at least 40 words.
- 3. Deidre will vote to read it as long as the percentage of sentences with at least 40 words is about 10%.

They randomly sample 200 sentences from *Bleak House* and count 21 with at least 40 words.

- (a) Write down the hypotheses each book club member wishes to test.
- (b) Give the p -value based the data for testing the hypotheses of each book club member.
- (c) Who, if any, of the book club members will vote to read the book?
- (d) You conduct your own text analysis of *Bleak House*, counting 20,488 sentences in the entire book, of which 1,919 have at least 40 words. Which, if any, of the book club members
 - i. committed a Type I error?
 - ii. committed a Type II error?
- (e) Suppose the book club members had, in their sample of 200 sentences, counted 16 with at least 40 words. Compared to the p -value previously computed, for which book club members, if any, would the p -value
 - i. increase?
 - ii. decrease?

3. The book club members from Question 2 decide that they must read either *Bleak House* by Charles Dickens or *Emma* by Jane Austen in order to consider themselves a proper literary triumvirate.

- 1. Daragh will vote for *Emma* if it has a greater proportion of sentences with at least 40 words than *Bleak House*; otherwise he will vote for *Bleak House*.
- 2. Deaglan will vote for *Emma* if it has a smaller proportion of sentences with at least 40 words than *Bleak House*; otherwise he will vote for *Bleak House*.

3. Deirdre will vote for Bleak House if the proportion of its sentences with at least 40 words is no different from that of the sentences in Emma; otherwise she will vote for Emma.

They randomly sample 150 sentences from Emma; 22 of these have at least 40 words.

- (a) State the null and alternate hypotheses of interest to each member of the 3D book club (formulate them in terms of $p_1 - p_2$, where Bleak House is 1 and Emma is 2).
- (b) Using the data from Question 2, give the value of the test statistic for testing the hypotheses of interest to the book club members.
- (c) For each book club member, give the p -value based on the data for testing his or her hypotheses.
- (d) State which book you think each member will vote for and explain why. In your explanation, give the significance level α you are assuming.
- (e) Construct a 95% confidence interval for the difference between the proportions of sentences with at least 40 words between Bleak House and Emma (Bleak House minus Emma).
- (f) You conduct a text analysis of Emma and count 7,319 sentences in the book among which 1,049 have at least 40 words. Which, if any, of the book club members
 - i. committed a Type I error?
 - ii. committed a Type II error?
- (g) Did the 95% confidence interval in part (e) contain the true difference in proportions?