



STATISTICS  
MATH 414

6th March 2025

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# Introduction to hypothesis testing

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We looked at **joint estimation** using the maximum likelihood method.

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Today we look at a third type of inference

— testing of hypotheses

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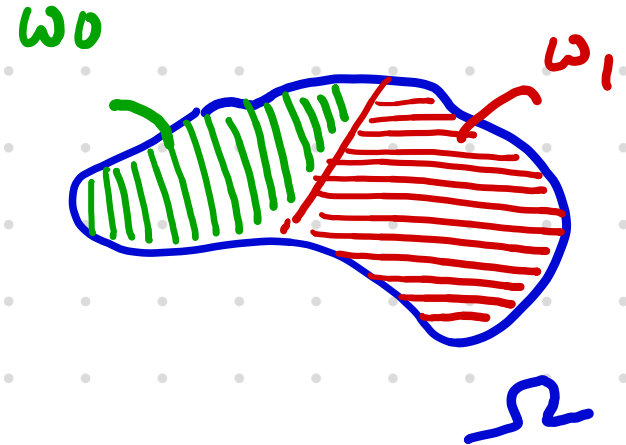
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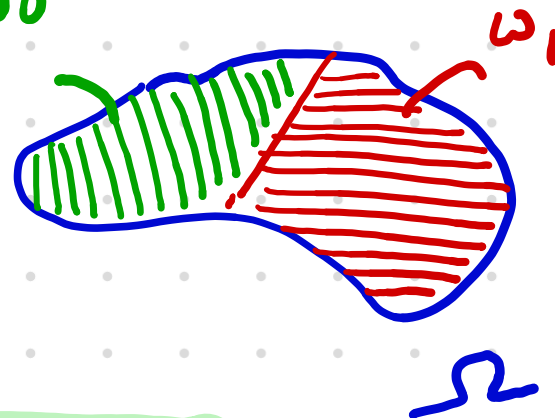
$$\Omega = \omega_0 \cup \omega_1$$

We see this as two hypotheses

$H_0: \theta \in \omega_0$

versus

$H_1: \theta \in \omega_1$





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make a decision for either  $H_0$  or  $H_1$ . Clearly, our  
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Type I error

We decide  $\theta \in \omega_1$  when actually  $\theta \in \omega_0$

Type II error

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We defer an analysis of these errors to the future.

## Examples

- ① Are temperatures on average higher now than they were a hundred years ago?
- ② Are people with high glucose levels at age 30 more likely to develop diabetes at age 60?
- ③ Does smoking decrease life expectancy?

# Binomial Test

We flip a coin  $n$  times.

Let  $X$  be the number of heads

$$X \sim \text{Binom}(n, p)$$

We want to know whether  $p = 0.5$  or not.

Suppose we get 40 heads out of 100.

What can we conclude?

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Step 1 Write down the null and alternative hypothesis.

In this case

$$H_0: p \text{ is } 0.5$$

~ null hypothesis.

$$H_2: p \text{ is not } 0.5$$

~ alternative hypothesis.

Step 2 Calculate a test statistic.

A statistic is a numerical output of an experiment. In this case, it would be the number of heads, 40.

Since we are using this statistic in a statistical test, we call it a

test-statistic.

The further this number is from 50, the stronger the evidence against the null hypothesis.

### Step 3

Compute the  $p$ -value.

As we have said before, the statistic is a random variable.

Now we ask: How unusual would the test statistic be if the null hypothesis were true?

We answer this question from our knowledge of the distribution of  $X$  if the null hypothesis were true. In this case,  $X \sim \text{Binom}(100, 0.5)$

In this case  $P(X \leq 40) = \text{pbinom}(40, 100, 0.5)$   
 $= 0.0284.$

We also need to look at the other tail,

viz.  $P(X \geq 60) = 0.0284.$

Therefore, the probability of getting the test-statistic if null hypothesis were true is 0.0568. This is called a p-value.

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a definition will have to wait.

## Step 4 Draw a conclusion.

The conclusion is that if we flipped a coin 100 times in multiple experiments, 5.7% of the time we will obtain fewer than 41 or more than 59 heads.

We will decide whether to keep  $H_0$  or reject  $H_0$  depending on a pre-determined threshold — which is conventionally taken as 5%.

## Example 2

Suppose our coin has a probability  $\frac{1}{6}$  of turning up heads. Then 50 tosses follow  $\text{Binom}(50, \frac{1}{6})$ .

Suppose in an experiment, we get 16 heads.

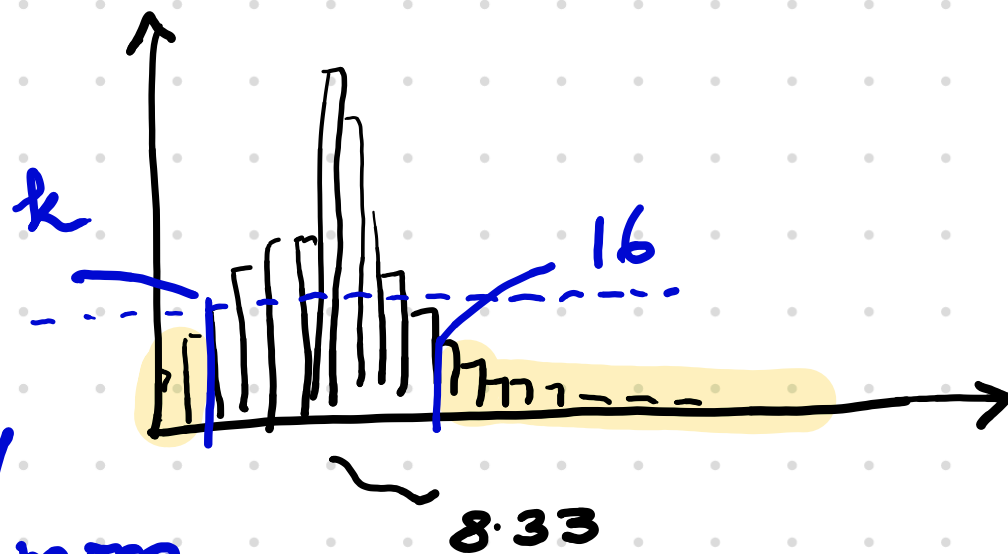
①  $H_0: p = \frac{1}{6}$

$H_1: p \neq \frac{1}{6}$

② Test Statistic is 16

③ p-value is the probability of getting 16 heads or more

but also getting  $k$  heads or fewer where  $k$  is unknown.



we find all values  $x$  such that

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We can do this on R

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probs ← dbinom(0:50, 50, 1/6)
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sum(probs[probs ≤ dbinom(16, 50, 1/6)])
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In this situation, we might want to reject the null hypothesis.

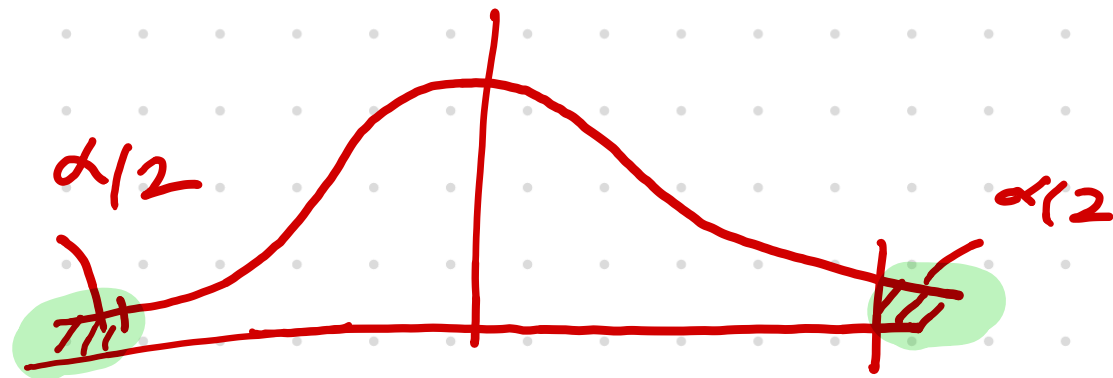
# Types of Error and Statistical Power

## Type I error

← This is when we reject the null hypothesis when it is true.

The threshold  $\alpha$  that we choose is called a significance level of the test.

The probability of making a type I error is  $\alpha$  when the null hypothesis is true. (sort of!)



for cts things!

Type II error or can happen that null hypothesis is false but we do not reject it.

The probability of a type II error is not as straightforward as it depends on

- the pre-determined significance level  $\alpha$
- how wrong is the null hypothesis.

We expect that if the alternate hypothesis is very far from the null then we are not very likely to make this error.

Let us see this in an example.

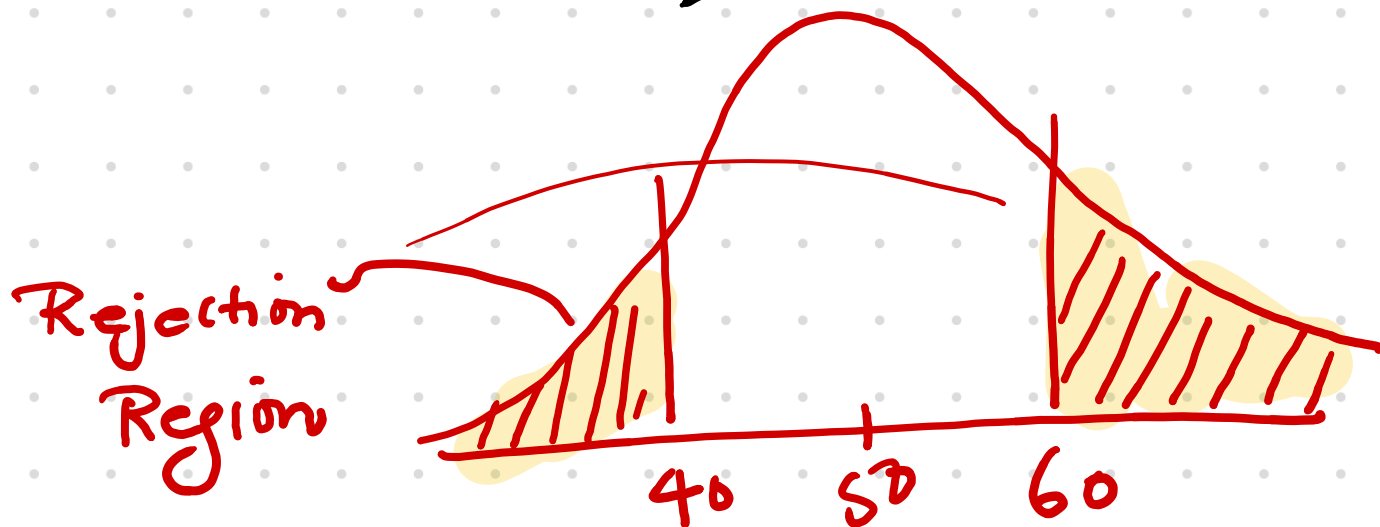
Let  $\alpha = 0.05$

We make 100 coin tosses.

The region in which we reject the null-hypothesis is  $\{0, 1, \dots, 39, 61, \dots, 100\}$

since  $q_{\text{binom}}(0.025, 100, 0.5)$

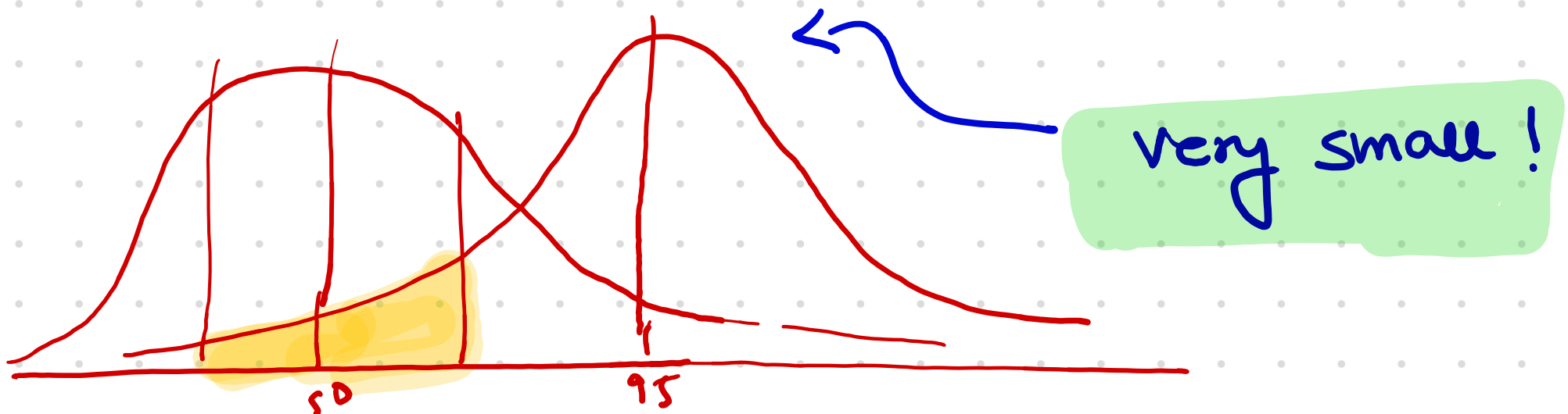
$= 40$



① If the true  $p = 0.95$ .

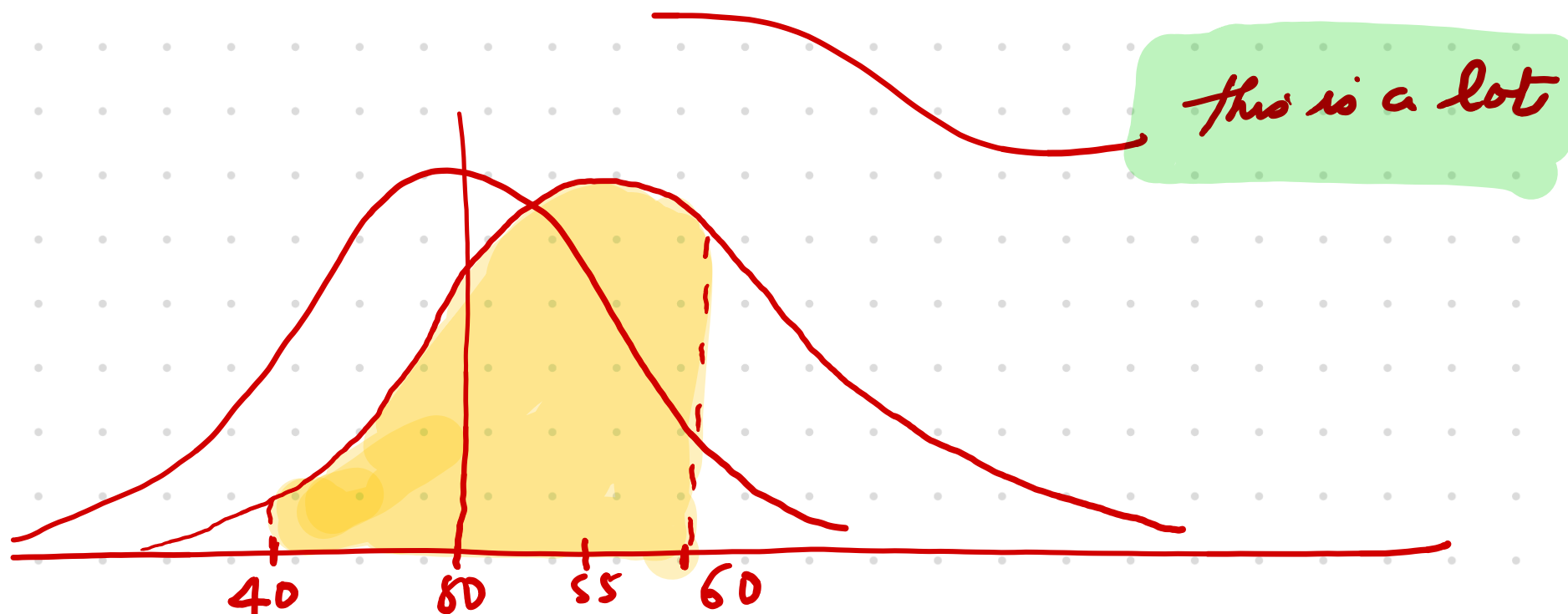
then the probability that we will fail to reject the null hypothesis is

$$P_{\text{binom}}(60, 100, 0.95) - P_{\text{binom}}(39, 100, 0.95) \\ = 6.24 \times 10^{-26}$$



② On the other hand, if the bias is smaller,  
say  $p = 0.55$  then

$$P^{\text{binom}}(60, 100, 0.55) - P^{\text{binom}}(39, 100, 0.55) \\ = 0.865$$



The point is that for any possible value of probability  $P$ , we get a different type II error.

The power of the test is the probability that we will make the correct decision (reject null hypothesis) when the alternative is true. This is  $1 - \beta$  where  $\beta$  is the probability of type II error.



Now, we can use R to plot the power as a function of the alternate probability.

```
p ← seq(0, 1, by = 0.01)
```

```
power ← 1 - binom(60, 100, p)  
+ binom(39, 100, p)
```

```
gf_line(power ~ p, size = 1) %>%
```

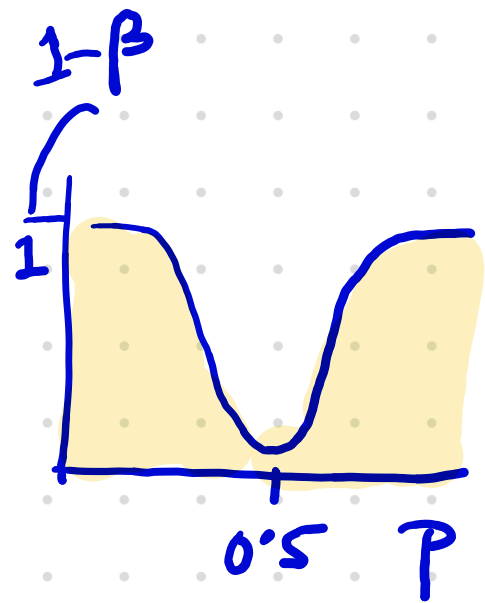
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```



Given a fixed alternate probability, we can plot the power against the size of the sample.

A test is said to be under-powered if we have too little data to detect an effect of some desired magnitude.

Later on, we will look at power of tests in more detail.

— We can now repeat this for normal distributions under the assumption of knowledge of variance — z-test  
ignorance of variance — t-test

## An example with normal distribution

① Data. In an experiment, the lifetime of car tyres was recorded. It may be assumed that the mean is  $\theta$  and standard deviation is 5000.

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From past experience, we think that  $\theta = 30000$  miles. The manufacturer claims that tyres made by a new process have  $\theta > 30000$ .

2

The null hypothesis

$$H_0: \theta = 30000$$

The alternative hypothesis

$$H_1: \theta > 30000$$

3

②

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③

Suppose that 10 independent values of

$X$ , say  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{10}$  were observed and

the sample mean was found to be 35000.

Do we reject the null hypothesis at  
95% significance level?



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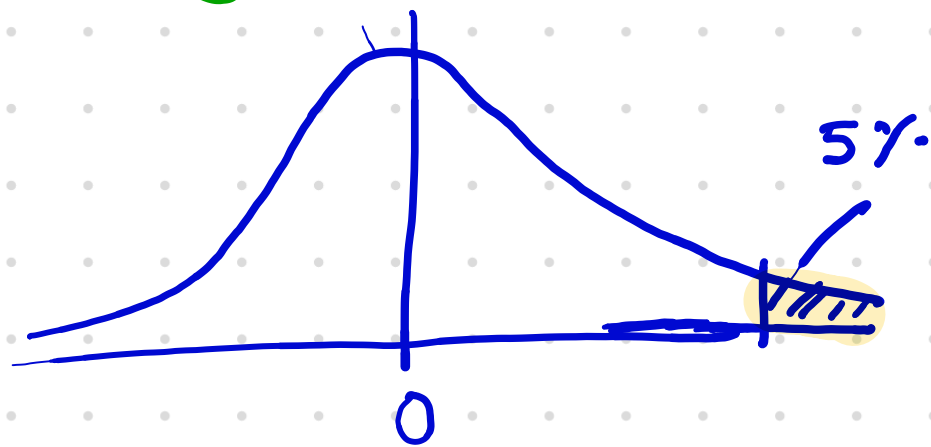
the sample mean was found to be 35000.

Do we reject the null hypothesis at

95% significance level?

④ The test statistic is

$$3.162 = \frac{\sqrt{10} (35000 - 30000)}{5000}$$



⑤

What is the probability?

$$P(Z > 3.162) = 1 - \text{pnorm}(3.162, 0, 1)$$

$$= 0.00078 \dots$$

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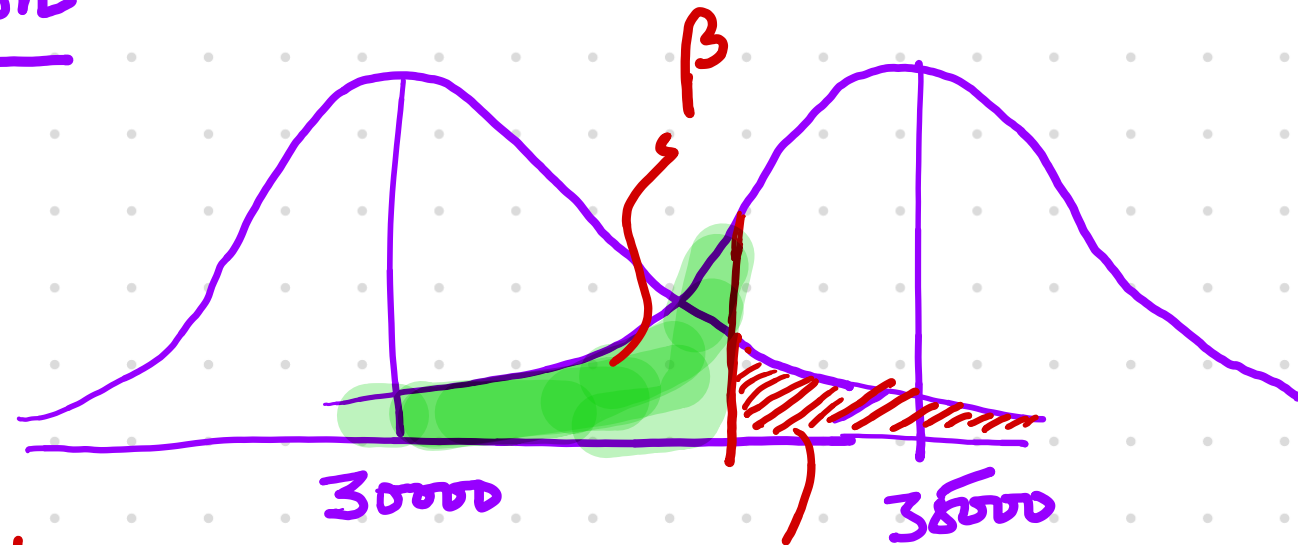
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## Power Function

probability that we reject null hypothesis when alternative



hypothesis is true. In the diagram it is  $1 - \beta$ .

reject region

## ⑥ Power Function

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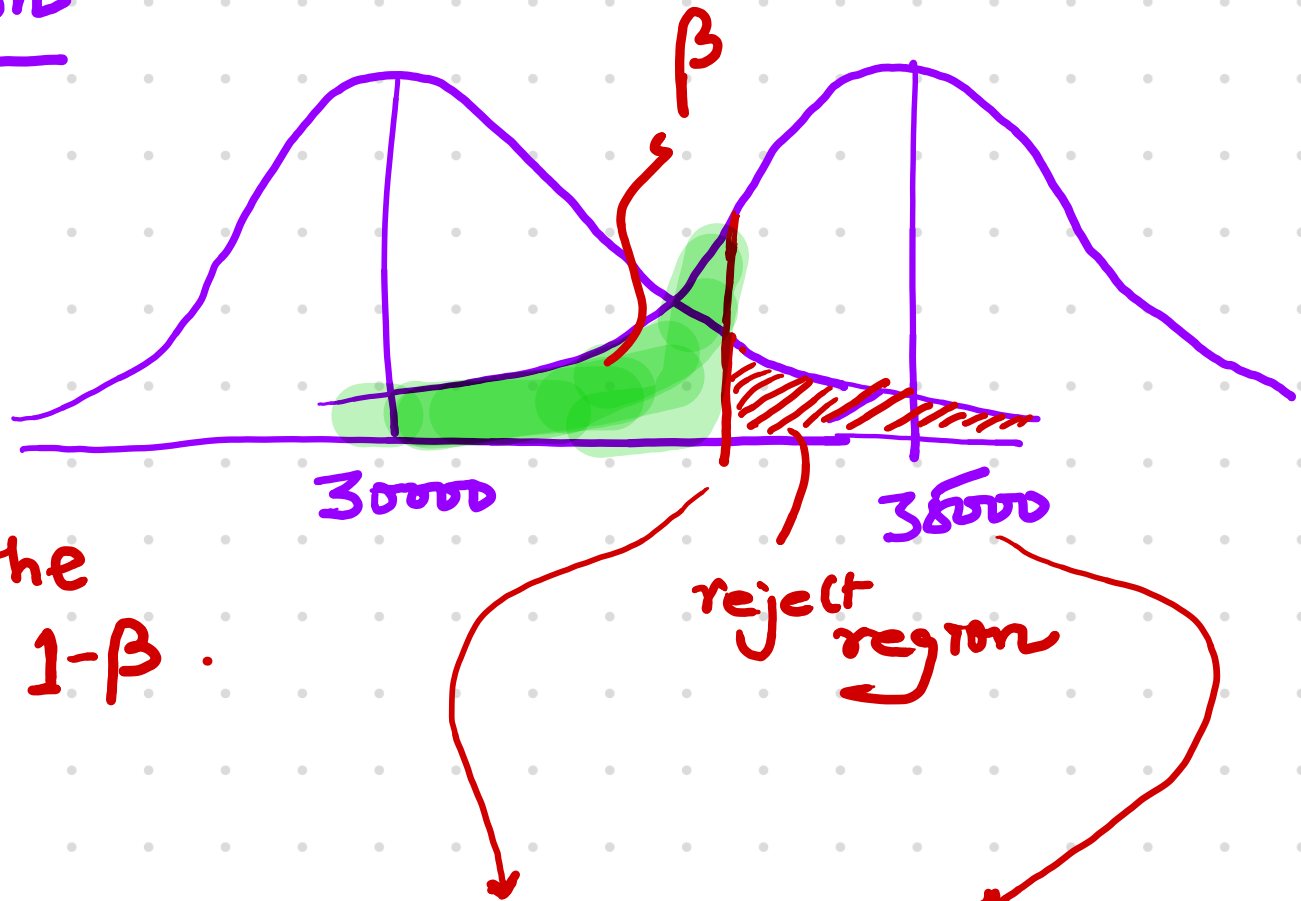
hypothesis is true. In the diagram it is  $1-\beta$ .

In the example,

power is  $1 - \text{pnorm}(1.64485, 3.162, 1)$

= 0.684

We have made the assumption that the standard deviation is the same for the new distribution!



One more example - In this case, we do not assume any knowledge of the variance.

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Charles Darwin once recorded data for the growth of a plant and wanted to see if there was any effect of cross-fertilization vs self-fertilization. He compared 15 pairs of plants.

# Data

Pot	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
CROSS	23.5	12.0	21.000	22	19.125	21.500	22.125	
SELF	17.375	20.375	20.000	20.000	18.375	18.625	18.625	
Pot	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
CROSS	20.375	18.25	21.625	23.25	21.00	22.125	23.00	12.00
SELF	15.250	16.500	18.00	16.25	18.00	12.75	15.5	18



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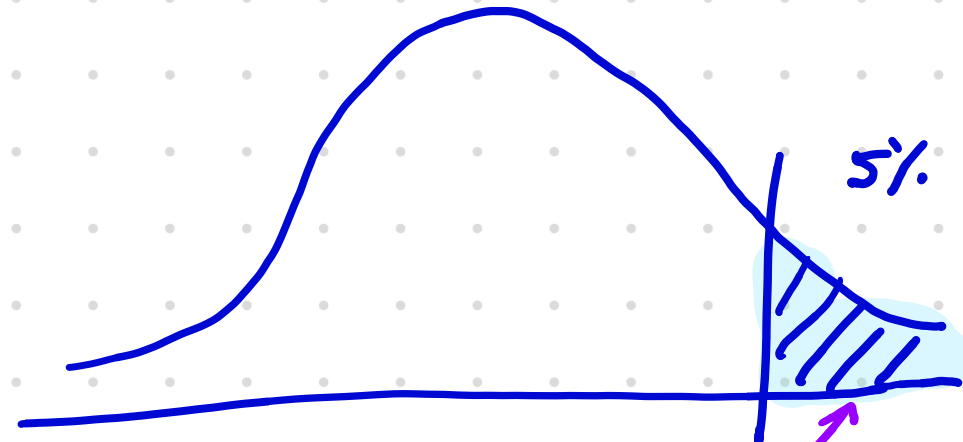
② Then 
$$\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{S/\sqrt{n}} \sim t_{n-1}$$

③ Null hypothesis:  $\mu = 0$   
Alternative hypothesis:  $\mu > 0$

④

gn this case

$$\bar{x} = 2.62$$
$$S_x = 4.72$$



Reject Region for the null hypothesis.

We compute the t value

$$qt(0.95, 14) = 1.76.$$

On the other hand, the test statistic is

$$\frac{\bar{x}}{S_x} \times \sqrt{n} = 2.15$$

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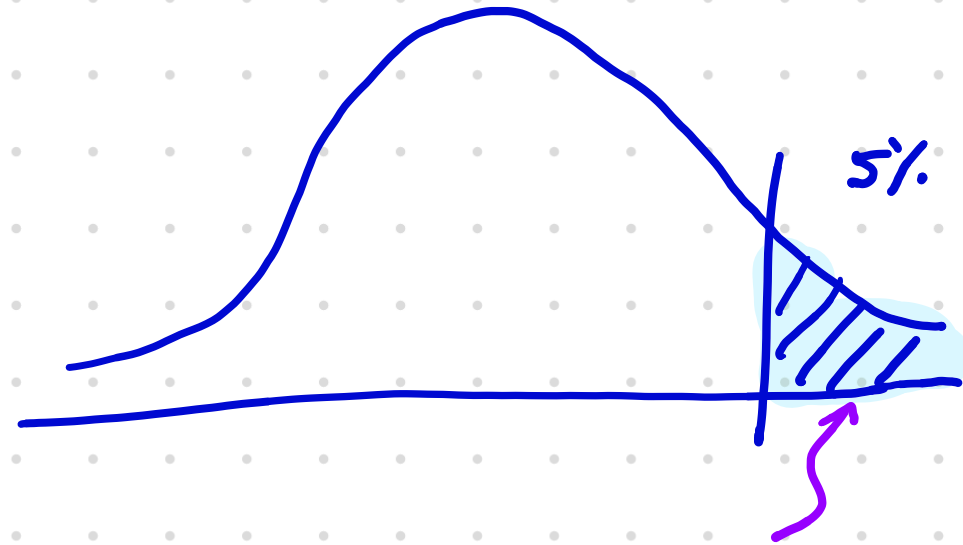
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Reject Region for the null hypothesis.

Hence, we may reject the null hypothesis.

Is this correct?

Possibly, a better analysis would be to assume that the two types of growth conditions individually represent two distinct normal distributions  $N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$ .

In this situation, how to obtain the distribution of the differences?

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum X_i}{n}, \quad \bar{Y} = \frac{\sum Y_i}{n}, \quad \hat{\Delta} = \bar{X} - \bar{Y}.$$

$\hat{\Delta}$  is an unbiased estimator.

The difference  $\hat{\Delta} - \Delta$  will be the numerator of the pivot variable.

By independence,  $\text{Var}(\hat{\Delta}) = \frac{\sigma_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{n_2}$

Let  $S_1^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n_1 - 1}$  and  $S_2^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_2} (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{n_2 - 1}$

Consider

$$S_p = \frac{(n_1 - 1)S_1^2 + (n_2 - 1)S_2^2}{n_1 + n_2 - 2}$$

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Consider

$$S_p^2 = \frac{(n_1 - 1)S_1^2 + (n_2 - 1)S_2^2}{n_1 + n_2 - 2}$$

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has a  $\chi^2(n_2 - 1)$  distribution

$\therefore \frac{(n - 2)S_p^2}{\sigma^2}$  has a  $\chi^2(n - 2)$  distribution.

Due to the independence of  $S_1^2$  and  $\bar{X}$ ,

$S_2^2$  and  $\bar{Y}$ , and the independence of the

samples,  $S_p^2$  is independent of

$\bar{X} - \bar{Y}$ .

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samples,  $S_p^2$  is independent of  
 $\bar{X} - \bar{Y}$ . Therefore, the statistic

$$T = \frac{(\bar{X} - \bar{Y}) - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)}{\sqrt{(n-2) S_p^2 / (n-2) \sigma^2}}$$
$$= \frac{(\bar{X} - \bar{Y}) - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)}{\sqrt{S_p^2 \left(\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2}\right)}} \sim t_{n-2}$$

Similarly, we can obtain a distribution  
in the case when

$$\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2.$$

---

$$-x - x-$$