

Statistical Hypothesis Test “Flow Chart” (QSCI 482 Winter 2013)

One population (sample)

Interval/Ratio Scale –

Test of mean / location / central tendency –

Pop’n standard deviation known or large sample: Z -test (1, 3)

Pop’n standard deviation Unknown, small sample: t -test (4)

Test of variance / dispersion: χ^2 variance test (6)

Test of distribution: K - S test for continuous data (14)

Ordinal Scale –

Test of “fit” of a uniform distribution for data in categories: K - S test for ordinal data (14.1)

Nominal Scale –

Single factor affecting distribution of data among categories: χ^2 Goodness-of-fit test (15)

Two or more factors affecting distribution among categories: χ^2 test of independence (17)

Two populations (samples)

Independent samples –

Interval/Ratio scale –

Normal Distribution of data –

To detect difference in means / locations / central tendencies –

Equal variances: “standard” two-sample t -test (7)

Unequal variances: Welch’s two-sample t -test (7-6)

Detect difference in variances / dispersions: F -test (variance ratio test) (9)

Non-normal Distribution of data –

Difference in means / locations / central tendencies: Mann-Whitney U -test (12)

Difference in variances / dispersions: Squared-Ranks test (12)

Ordinal / Nominal scale –

Diff. between populations in data distribution over categories: χ^2 test of homogeneity

Paired (correlated or “blocked”) samples –

Normal Distribution of data: Paired t -test (10)

Non-normally distributed data: Wilcoxon signed-ranks test (13)

Three or more populations (samples)

NOTE: Use factors with *fixed* effects to detect differences in *specific* treatment means;

Use *random* factors to identify sources of *variation* (variance components) in a larger population from which the studied treatments came

Completely Randomized Design (Independent Experimental Units) –

Normal Distribution of data –

Single “thing” (factor) affects treatment outcome:

One-way ANOVA (*F*-tests) (20)

Two (or more) factors affect treatment outcome:

Two (or higher)-way ANOVA (27)

Non-normal data, single factor:

Kruskal-Wallis test (30)

Randomized Block Design (associated / correlated Exptl. Units) –

Normal distribution of data:

2-way ANOVA (*no interaction*) (29)

Non-normal data:

Friedman’s test

Post-ANOVA analysis (which treatments are actually different?)

Normal Distribution of data –

All pair-wise comparisons:

Tukey’s HSD (if CI’s needed),
or SNK (24)

Compare all treatments to control

Dunnett’s test (25)

Data “snooping”

Scheffe’s contrasts (26)

Non-Normal Distribution of data –

All pair-wise comparisons:

Tukey analogues (30)

Compare all treatments to control

Dunnett’s analogue (30)

Data “snooping”

Scheffe’s analogue (30)