Inference for a Difference in Proportions

Nate Wells

Math 141, 4/8/22

Outline

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- Calculate confidence intervals and perform hypothesis tests for proportions using the theory-based method
- Investigate the theoretical distribution for differences in proportions
- Calculate confidence intervals and conduct hypothesis tests for differences in proportions

Section 1

Inference for a Single Proportion

Taste Test

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  - Each student was provided 3 cups; 2 of the cups had the same flavor, and the other cup had a different flavor. Students were asked to identify the cup that was different.
- Let p denote the true proportion of the population who can correctly identify the cup that is different.
- Suppose the two flavors of carbonated water are distinguishable. Why is it still plausible $p < 1$?

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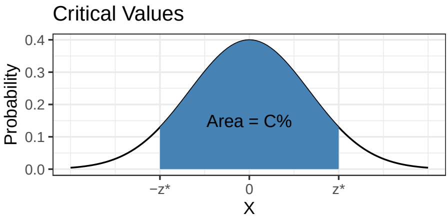

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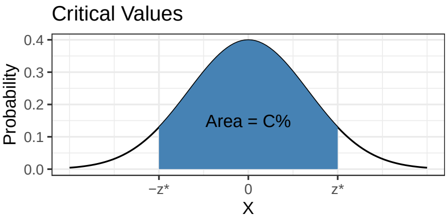

- For Normal distributions, approximately 95% of observations are within 2 standard deviations of the mean.
    - So the critical value for 95% confidence is approximately

$$z^* = 2 \qquad (\text{exact value is } z^* = 1.96)$$

Confidence Intervals

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Theorem

Suppose an SRS of size n is collected from a population with parameter p. If n is large enough so that both $n\hat{p}$ and $n(1-\hat{p})$ are at least 10, then the confidence interval for p is

$$\hat{p} \pm z^* \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}}$$

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qnorm(p = .95, mean = 0, sd = 1)
```

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- The standard error for $\hat{p}$ is

$$SE(\hat{p}) \approx \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{0.49(1-0.49)}{59}} = 0.065$$

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- That is, a plausible range of values for p is 0.38 to 0.60, with confidence 90%.
- How does this compare to the bootstrap method?

```
set.seed(84)
lacroix %>% specify(response = correct, success = "yes") %>%
  generate(reps=5000, type = "bootstrap") %>%
  calculate(stat = "prop") %>%
  get_ci(level = .9, type = "percentile")
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 2
##   lower_ci upper_ci
##      <dbl>    <dbl>
## 1    0.390    0.593
```

Section 2

Difference in Proportions

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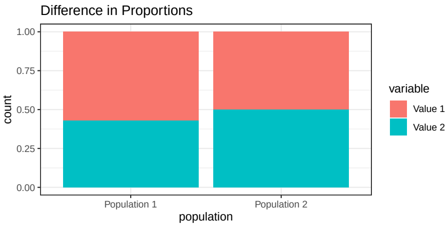

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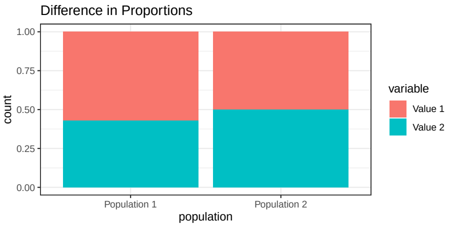

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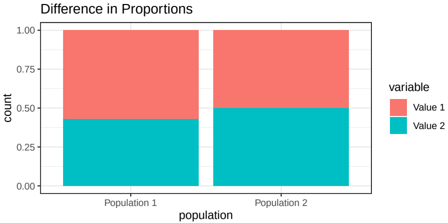

- A reasonable point estimate for $p_1 - p_2$ is the difference in sample proportions $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2$ for a sample taken from the 1st and 2nd populations.
- As long as we can verify that the statistic $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2$ has an approximately Normal distribution, we can use the same techniques we used for single sample proportions.

Distribution for $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2$

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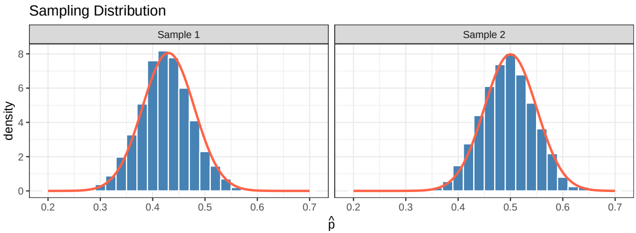

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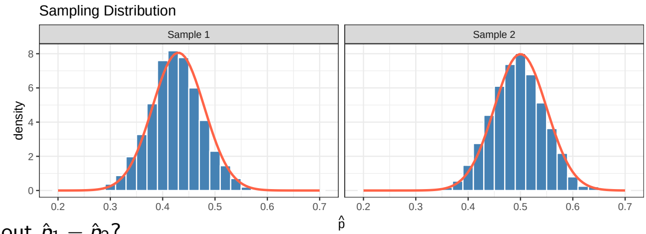

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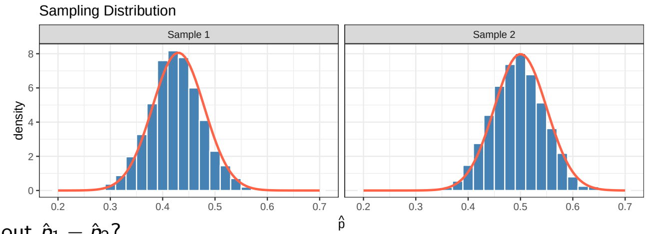

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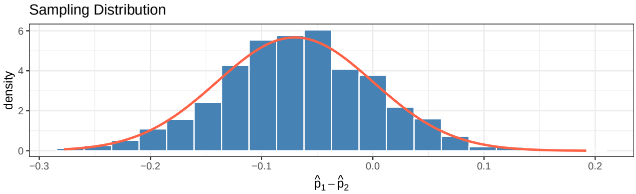

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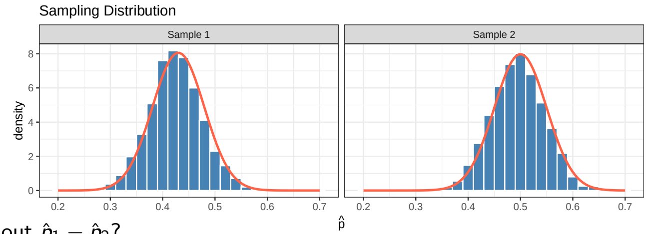

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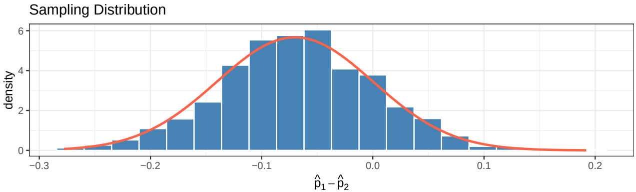

- The sum or difference of **independent** Normal variables will also be Normal, with variance equal to the sum of individual variances.

Conditions for Theory-based Normal Approximation

Theorem

The difference $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2$ is approximately Normal when

1. *Each sample proportion is approximately normal (≥ 10 success/failure)*
2. *The two samples are independent of each other*

In this case, the standard error of the difference in sample proportions is

$$SE_{\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2} = \sqrt{SE_{\hat{p}_1}^2 + SE_{\hat{p}_2}^2} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}_1(1-\hat{p}_1)}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{p}_2(1-\hat{p}_2)}{n_2}}$$

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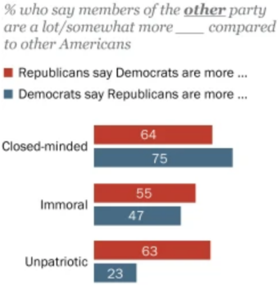
- Importantly, we know the distribution is Normal and we have the standard error
    - We can use `qnorm` to find critical values for confidence intervals and `pnorm` to compute P-values for hypothesis tests

Partisanship

U.S. POLITICS | OCTOBER 10, 2019

Partisan Antipathy: More Intense, More Personal

The share of Republicans who give Democrats a "cold" rating on a 0-100 thermometer has risen 14 percentage points since 2016. Similarly, 57% of Democrats give Republicans a very cold rating, up from 2016.



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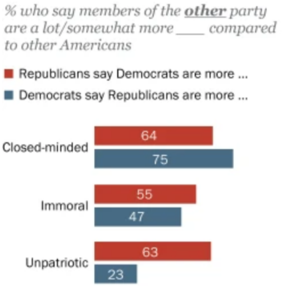

- Was there really a difference in the proportion of Democrats that view Republicans as close-minded compared to Republicans that view Democrats the same? Or is the difference just due to random sampling?

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- At a 95% confidence level, the critical value is $z^* = 1.96$

```
z<-qnorm(.975)
z
```

```
## [1] 1.959964
```

Confidence Intervals II

- Assembling these pieces, the confidence interval for $p_r - p_d$ is

$$(\hat{p}_r - \hat{p}_d) \pm z^* \cdot SE$$

```
ci_low<-p_hat_r - p_hat_d - z*SE
ci_high<-p_hat_r - p_hat_d + z*SE

c(ci_low, ci_high)
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- Note that both endpoints of the interval are less than 0, suggesting that the true difference in proportions between Republicans and Democrats is negative
  - i.e. a greater proportion of Democrats hold the view that Republicans as closed-minded compared to the converse

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```
pew %>% group_by(party,close_minded) %>%
  summarize(N = n()) %>%
  mutate(prop = N / sum(N))
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
## # Groups:   party [2]
##   party      close_minded     N  prop
##   <chr>      <chr>        <int> <dbl>
## 1 Democrat   no            1237 0.250
## 2 Democrat   yes           3710 0.750
## 3 Republican no            1781 0.360
## 4 Republican yes           3167 0.640
```

Confidence Interval via infer II

```
boot<-pew %>%
  specify(close_minded ~ party, success = "yes" ) %>%
  generate(reps = 1000, type = "bootstrap" ) %>%
  calculate( "diff in props", order = c("Republican", "Democrat") )
```

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```

```
interval <-boot %>% get_confidence_interval(level = .95, type = "se",
              point_estimate = p_hat_r - p_hat_d)
interval
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 2
##   lower_ci upper_ci
##      <dbl>    <dbl>
## 1   -0.128  -0.0922
```

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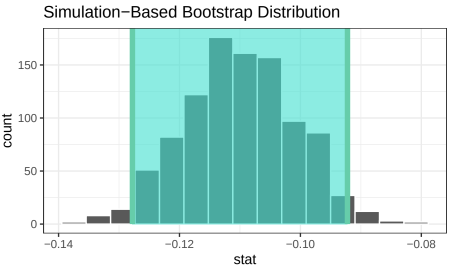

Pooled sample for Hypothesis Tests

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    - So we may instead consider the pooled proportion $\hat{p}$ given by

$$\hat{p} = \frac{\text{overall successes}}{\text{overall sample size}} = \frac{n_1\hat{p}_1 + n_2\hat{p}_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

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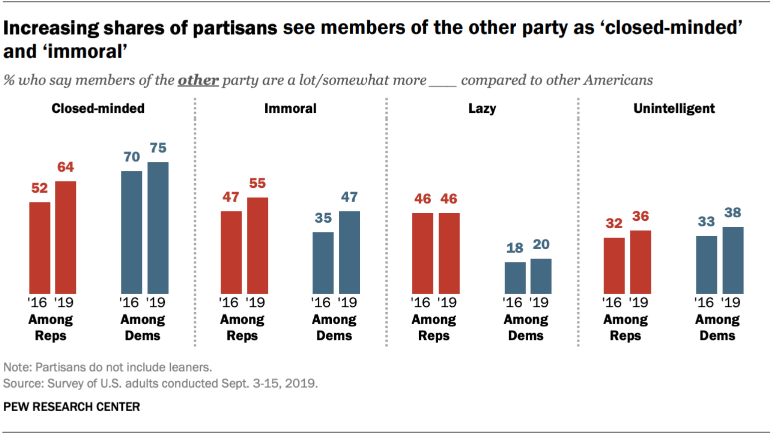
$$\hat{p} = \frac{\text{overall successes}}{\text{overall sample size}} = \frac{n_1 \hat{p}_1 + n_2 \hat{p}_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

- This gives a standard error for the null distribution of

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n_2}}$$

Partisanship over Time



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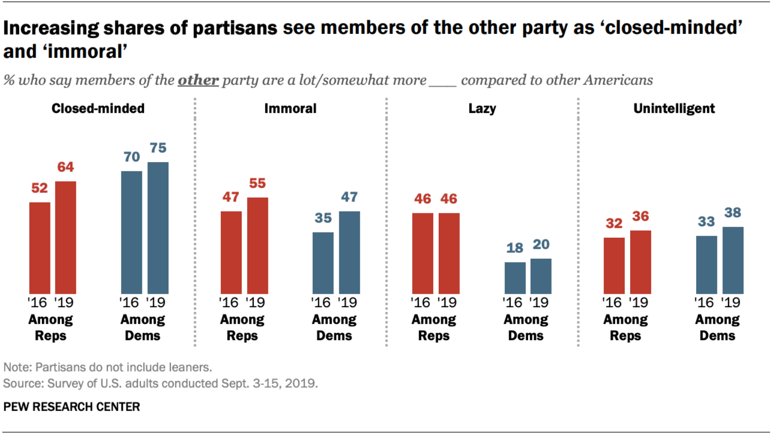

- Was there really a change in the proportion of Democrats that view Republicans as close-minded between 2016 and 2019?

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```
n_16<-4948
n_19<-4947

p_hat_16<-.7
p_hat_19<-.75

p_hat<-(p_hat_16*n_16 + p_hat_19*n_19)/(n_16 + n_19)

p_hat
```

```
## [1] 0.7249975
```

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n_16<-4948
n_19<-4947

p_hat_16<-.7
p_hat_19<-.75

p_hat<-(p_hat_16*n_16 + p_hat_19*n_19)/(n_16 + n_19)

p_hat
```

```
## [1] 0.7249975
```

- The standard error for the null distribution is 0.009

```
SE <- sqrt( p_hat*(1- p_hat)/n_16 + p_hat*(1- p_hat)/n_19 )
SE
```

```
## [1] 0.008977568
```

Hypothesis Tests II

- Our test statistic is

$$z = \frac{\hat{p}_{16} - \hat{p}_{19}}{SE} = -5.57$$

```
z <- (p_hat_16 - p_hat_19)/SE
z
```

```
## [1] -5.569437
```

Hypothesis Tests II

- Our test statistic is

$$z = \frac{\hat{p}_{16} - \hat{p}_{19}}{SE} = -5.57$$

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z <- (p_hat_16 - p_hat_19)/SE
z
```

```
## [1] -5.569437
```

- The P-value for this statistic is 0.00000002

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P_value<-2*pnorm(z,0 ,1)
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## [1] 2.555634e-08
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- The test is significant at $\alpha = 0.01$ and we reject the null hypothesis.
  - It is unlikely that the observed difference in proportions is due to chance, if the popualtions truly had the same proportion.

Hypothesis Test via `infer`

Let's now use the `pew2` data

Hypothesis Test via `infer`

Let's now use the pew2 data

```
pew2 %>% group_by(year,close_minded) %>%
  summarize(N = n()) %>%
  mutate(prop = N / sum(N))
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
## # Groups:   year [2]
##   year  close_minded     N  prop
##   <chr> <chr>        <int> <dbl>
## 1 2016  no            1484 0.300
## 2 2016  yes           3464 0.700
## 3 2019  no            1237 0.250
## 4 2019  yes           3710 0.750
```

Hypothesis Tests via infer II

```
nulldist<-pew2 %>%
  specify(close_minded ~ year, success = "yes" ) %>%
  hypothesize(null = "independence") %>%
  generate(reps = 1000, type = "permute" ) %>%
  calculate( "diff in props", order = c("2016", "2019") )
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p_value <-nulldist %>% get_p_value(obs_stat = (p_hat_16 - p_hat_19),
              direction = "both")

p_value
```

```
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