

# Intro to Hypothesis Testing on the Population Mean

Nicky Grant

---

University of St Andrews, 31st July 2019

**Student A** claims the average economics grade in the UK population of UGs is no more than 65%

**Student B** disagrees believing this average grade is larger than 65%

**How could we form a test of the validity of Student A's claim against B?**

**Student A** claims the average economics grade in the UK population of UGs is no more than 65%

**Student B** disagrees believing this average grade is larger than 65%

**How could we form a test of the validity of Student A's claim against B?**

*First formally state the claims to be tested on the unknown population mean  $\mu$*

# Motivation

**Student A** claims the average economics grade in the UK population of UGs is no more than 65%

**Student B** disagrees believing this average grade is larger than 65%

**How could we form a test of the validity of Student A's claim against B?**

*First formally state the claims to be tested on the unknown population mean  $\mu$*

**Null Hypothesis:**  $H_0 : \mu \leq 65$

**Alternative Hypothesis:**  $H_A : \mu > 65$

Generally we cannot observe the whole population of data

# Motivation

Generally we cannot observe the whole population of data

Instead we observe a sample drawn from this population

Generally we cannot observe the whole population of data

Instead we observe a sample drawn from this population

*Suppose we sample 25 UK students at random and find the their econ average grade is **65%***

Generally we cannot observe the whole population of data

Instead we observe a sample drawn from this population

*Suppose we sample 25 UK students at random and find the their econ average grade is **65%***

**Q: Does this imply Student A's claim (the Null Hypothesis) is correct?**

Generally we cannot observe the whole population of data

Instead we observe a sample drawn from this population

*Suppose we sample 25 UK students at random and find the their econ average grade is **65%***

**Q: Does this imply Student A's claim (the Null Hypothesis) is correct?**

**Q: If the mean in our sample was 67% does this imply Student A is incorrect?**

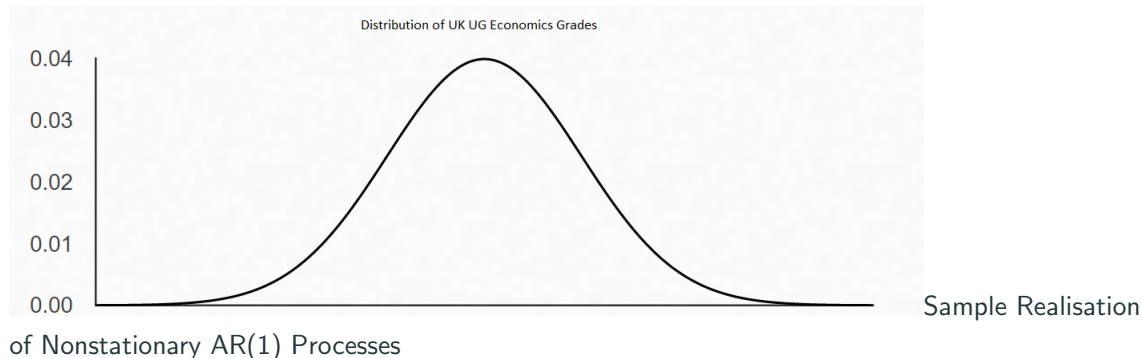
## Sampling Distribution of the Mean

Sample mean of  $N=25$  students economics grades ( $\hat{\mu}$ ) is a random variable

# Sampling Distribution of the Mean

Sample mean of  $N=25$  students economics grades ( $\hat{\mu}$ ) is a random variable

Suppose student grades ( $x$ ) are normally distributed with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = 100$

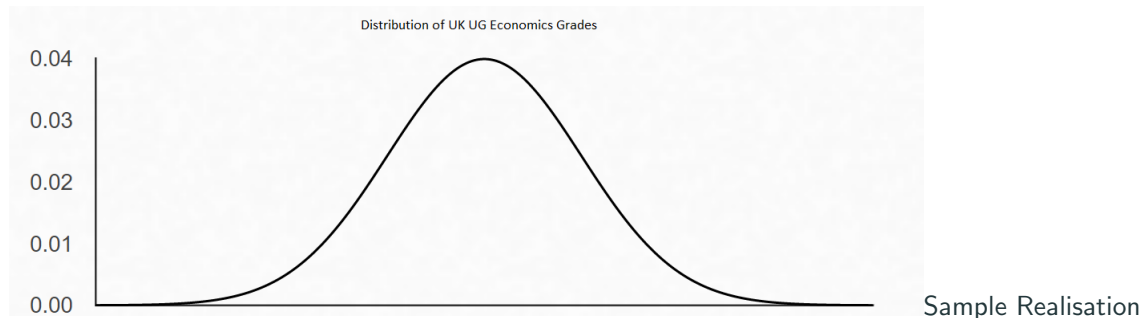


of Nonstationary AR(1) Processes

# Sampling Distribution of the Mean

Sample mean of  $N=25$  students economics grades ( $\hat{\mu}$ ) is a random variable

Suppose student grades ( $x$ ) are normally distributed with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = 100$



of Nonstationary AR(1) Processes

**Sample Mean Distribution:**  $\hat{\mu}$  is normally distributed with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\frac{\sigma^2}{25} = 4$

## Importance of Sampling Distribution

Suppose again our sample mean of 25 students is 67%

**Q: How to work out the probability of observing a sample mean  $\geq 67$  if Stud. A is correct?**

## Importance of Sampling Distribution

Suppose again our sample mean of 25 students is 67%

**Q: How to work out the probability of observing a sample mean  $\geq 67$  if Stud. A is correct?**

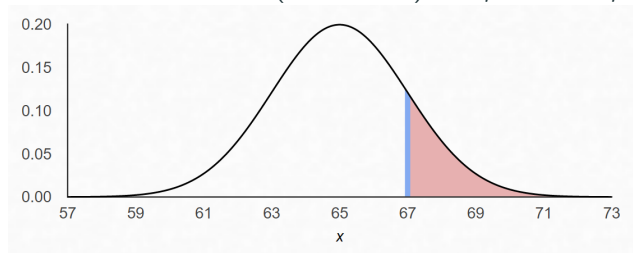
If Student A is correct (Null is true) and  $\mu = 65 \Rightarrow \hat{\mu}$  is normally dist. with  $\mu = 65$  and variance 4

# Importance of Sampling Distribution

Suppose again our sample mean of 25 students is 67%

**Q: How to work out the probability of observing a sample mean  $\geq 67$  if Stud. A is correct?**

If Student A is correct (Null is true) and  $\mu = 65 \Rightarrow \hat{\mu}$  is normally dist. with  $\mu = 65$  and variance 4



Sample Realisation of Nonstationary AR(1)

Processes

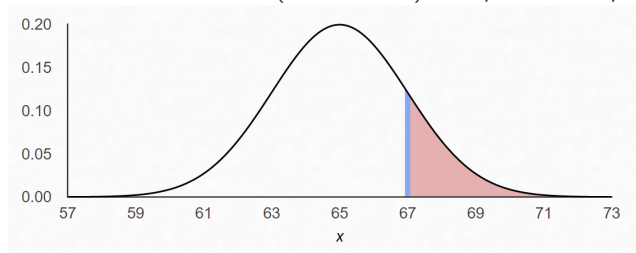
**Q: Does this imply Student A's claim is correct?**  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > 67 | \mu = 65\} = 0.159$

# Importance of Sampling Distribution

Suppose again our sample mean of 25 students is 67%

**Q: How to work out the probability of observing a sample mean  $\geq 67$  if Stud. A is correct?**

If Student A is correct (Null is true) and  $\mu = 65 \Rightarrow \hat{\mu}$  is normally dist. with  $\mu = 65$  and variance 4



Sample Realisation of Nonstationary AR(1)

Processes

**Q: Does this imply Student A's claim is correct?**  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > 67 | \mu = 65\} = 0.159$

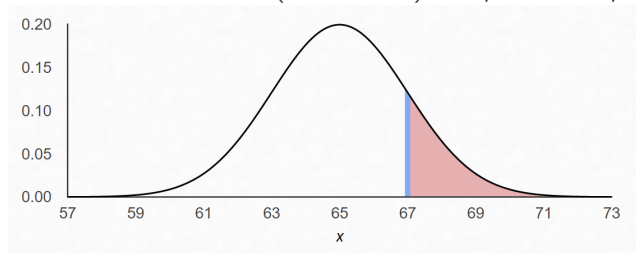
**Q: What if we observe sample mean of 70 where**  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > 70 | \mu = 65\} = 0.0062$

# Importance of Sampling Distribution

Suppose again our sample mean of 25 students is 67%

**Q: How to work out the probability of observing a sample mean  $\geq 67$  if Stud. A is correct?**

If Student A is correct (Null is true) and  $\mu = 65 \Rightarrow \hat{\mu}$  is normally dist. with  $\mu = 65$  and variance 4



Sample Realisation of Nonstationary AR(1)

Processes

**Q: Does this imply Student A's claim is correct?**  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > 67 | \mu = 65\} = 0.159$

**Q: What if we observe sample mean of 70 where**  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > 70 | \mu = 65\} = 0.0062$

Both probabilities are known as **p-values** you may have seen reported on statistical software

Form a test where there is 5% chance of rejecting the Null Hypothesis when it is true  
(Type I Error)

Form a test where there is 5% chance of rejecting the Null Hypothesis when it is true  
(Type I Error)

5% is the **significance level** of our test - the probability with which we are willing to make a Type I Error (other common choices are 10% and 1%)

Form a test where there is 5% chance of rejecting the Null Hypothesis when it is true (Type I Error)

5% is the **significance level** of our test - the probability with which we are willing to make a Type I Error (other common choices are 10% and 1%)

Need to find '**critical value**'  $c$  where  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > c | \mu = 65\} = 0.05$

**Form a test where there is 5% chance of rejecting the Null Hypothesis when it is true (Type I Error)**

5% is the **significance level** of our test - the probability with which we are willing to make a Type I Error (other common choices are 10% and 1%)

Need to find '**critical value**'  $c$  where  $\Pr\{\hat{\mu} > c | \mu = 65\} = 0.05$

**Test Procedure:** **Accept**  $H_0$  if  $\hat{\mu} \leq 68.29$  and **Reject** if  $\hat{\mu} > 68.29$

Often a hypothesis test of the mean **standardise** the test statistic to form acc./rej. region

Often a hypothesis test of the mean **standardise** the test statistic to form acc./rej. region

$$\hat{\mu} \leq 68.29 \text{ equivalent to } \hat{\mu} - 65 \leq 3.29 \text{ equivalent to } \frac{\hat{\mu} - 65}{2} \leq 1.645$$

Often a hypothesis test of the mean **standardise** the test statistic to form acc./rej. region

$$\hat{\mu} \leq 68.29 \text{ equivalent to } \hat{\mu} - 65 \leq 3.29 \text{ equivalent to } \frac{\hat{\mu} - 65}{2} \leq 1.645$$

$\frac{\hat{\mu} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{N}}$  is the **standardised sample mean (z-stat)**

## Standardised Test

Often a hypothesis test of the mean **standardise** the test statistic to form acc./rej. region

$$\hat{\mu} \leq 68.29 \text{ equivalent to } \hat{\mu} - 65 \leq 3.29 \text{ equivalent to } \frac{\hat{\mu} - 65}{2} \leq 1.645$$

$\frac{\hat{\mu} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{N}}$  is the **standardised sample mean (z-stat)**

z-stat is distributed standard normal (mean 0 variance 1)

Perform test of Null Hypothesis by comparing z-stat with critical value from standard normal distribution tables

# Standardised Test

$$\mu + 10$$

$$\mu + 20$$

$$\mu + 30$$

$$\mu - 10$$

$$\mu - 20$$

$$\mu - 30$$