

MATHEMATICS 201-510-LW

Business Statistics

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Inferences - Steps

	Confidence Intervals	Hypothesis Testing: classical approach	Hypothesis Testing: p -value approach
Step 1	Assumptions	Assumptions	Assumptions
Step 2	a) Identify the probability distribution used (the test statistic). b) Determine the level of confidence, $1 - \alpha$	State the hypothesis H_0 : (=) H_a : (\neq , $<$ or $>$)	State the hypothesis H_0 : (=) H_a : (\neq , $<$ or $>$)
Step 3	Find the point estimate	a) Identify the test statistic to be used. b) Determine the kind of test and the level of significance α . (If it is not given, assume $\alpha = 0.05$) c) Determine the critical region(s) and the critical value(s).	a) Identify the test statistic to be used. b) Determine the kind of test and the level of significance α . (If it is not given, assume $\alpha = 0.05$)
Step 4	Determine the confidence interval a) Find the confidence coefficient $z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}$ or $t_{(df, \frac{\alpha}{2})}$. b) Find the maximum error of estimate E . c) Find the confidence interval: $\bar{x} - E < \mu < \bar{x} + E$	Calculate the value of the test statistic	a) Calculate the value of the test statistic. b) Calculate the p -value
Step 5	Describe the results.	Determine the results a) Is the test statistic in the critical region? b) Make a decision about H_0 . From (a): Yes \Rightarrow reject H_0 No \Rightarrow fail to reject H_0 . c) Write a conclusion.	Determine the results a) Is the p -value less than α ? b) Make a decision about H_0 . From (a): Yes \Rightarrow reject H_0 No \Rightarrow fail to reject H_0 . c) Write a conclusion.

Inferences – Decision Chart

