

6 Continuous variables and testing – Part 2

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English	Write it 3 times (English)
continuous random variable	_____
probability density function	_____
hypothesis test	_____
null hypothesis	_____
rejection region	_____

Recall

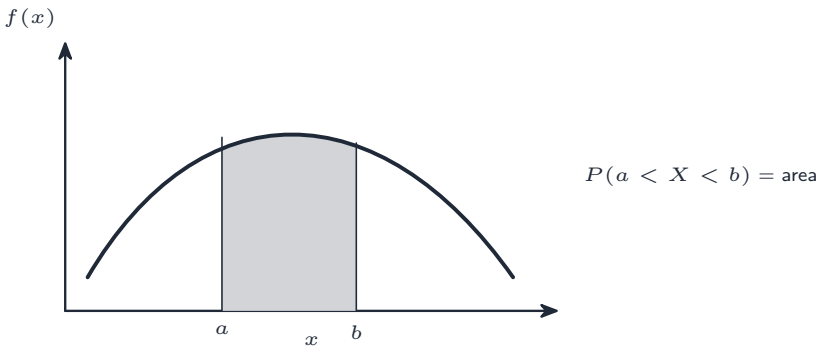
A continuous variable can take any value in a range, and a hypothesis test judges a claim from data.

New ideas

Read these first, then do the Practice.

■ 1 Continuous random variables

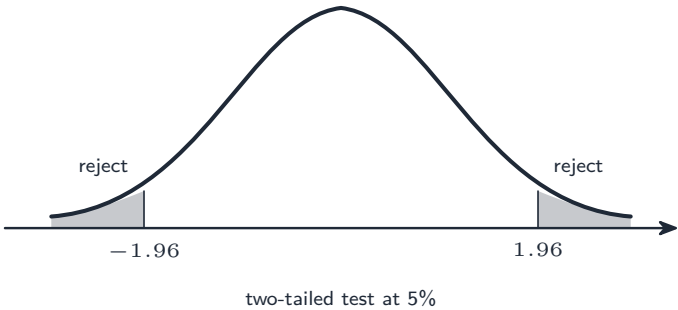
A continuous random variable has a **probability density function** $f(x)$. A probability is the **area** under the curve:



$$P(a < X < b) = \int_a^b f(x) \, dx, \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \, dx = 1$$

■ 2 Hypothesis tests

A **hypothesis test** tests the **null hypothesis** H_0 against the alternative H_1 . You reject H_0 if the test statistic lands in the **rejection region**:



Watch out: for a pdf, the *total* area = 1, and a probability is the *area* under the curve (an integral). Reject H_0 only if the test statistic lands in the *rejection region*; a two-tailed 5% test uses ± 1.96 .

Practice

Try these in order.

6.6 For a probability density function $f(x)$, what must the total area equal? [1]

6.7 On a density curve, what does the area between $x = a$ and $x = b$ represent? [1]

6.8 In a hypothesis test, what is the null hypothesis usually? [1]

6.9 When do you reject the null hypothesis? [1]

6.10 A two-tailed test at 5% rejects H_0 if the test statistic is beyond what value? [1]

6.11 Challenge. A continuous random variable has $f(x) = kx$ for $0 \leq x \leq 2$ (and 0 elsewhere). Find the value of k . [3]