

This document provides the calculations for the results in the week 1 notes.

Background information: $sd = 14.8$ minutes/day

Precision approach:

Goal: Want se of a difference = 2 minutes/day

Need the formula for the se of a difference, using pooled sd: $goal = s\sqrt{2/n}$

Need to find n for which $2 = 14.8\sqrt{2/n}$

Algebra on the general equation: $n = 2(s/goal)^2$,

For this problem: $n = 2(14.8/2)^2 = 109.5$

Round up: $n = 110$

Confidence interval width approach:

Goal: Want 95% ci width for a difference = 3 minutes/day

Note: Not the problem in the notes - that was ci width for a mean

And I've changed the goal to 3 to clarify which value is which

The mean problem in the notes has exactly the same principles, changes are:

a different se formula: $se = s\sqrt{2/n}$

and a different df, since we will pool: $df = 2(n - 1)$

where $n = \#$ obs per group

width = $2 t_{1-\alpha/2, df} se$

95% confidence interval, so $\alpha = 0.05$, $1 - \alpha/2 = 0.975$

Need to find n such that $2 t_{0.975, 2n-2} s\sqrt{2/n} = 3$

As stated in lecture, n enters twice: t value (thru the df) and the se

Two ways to find n :

1) Try multiple values of n ,

compute $2 t_{0.975, 2n-2} s\sqrt{2/n}$ for each n

see where drops below the goal, 3 here.

2) Iterative solution to a non-linear equation

Pick a starting n , compute df and find the T quantile

e.g. $n = 31$, $df = 2(31 - 1) = 60$, $T_{0.975, 60} = 2.000$.

Now: need to solve: $2 \times 2.000 \times s\sqrt{2/n} = 3$,

That is $n = 2(2 \times 2.000 \times 14.8/3)^2 = 778.8$

$n = 779$ per group gives $2*(779-1) = 1556$ df.

$t_{0.975, 1556} = 1.961$

Now, need to solve: $2 \times 1.961 \times s\sqrt{2/n} = 3$,

That is $n = 2(2 \times 1.961 \times 14.8/3)^2 = 748.7$

$n = 749$ per group gives $2*(749-1) = 1496$ df.

$t_{0.975, 1496} = 1.961$

Same quantile, so that's the answer: 749 per group

Power approach:

Goal: 80% power to detect difference of 3

Could plug various values of n into the fundamental equation:

$$\delta = (t_{1-\alpha/2, df} + t_{power, df}) s \sqrt{2/n}$$

to see what is the smallest n that gives $\delta \leq 3$

Or iterate

Worked example in week 2 notes, slightly different goal used here

Solving the fundamental equation for n gives:

$$n = 2 (t_{1-\alpha/2, df} + t_{1-\beta, df})^2 (s/\delta)^2$$

Problem specifies: $\alpha = 0.05$, $\beta = 0.80$, $s = 14.8$ (WWE data), $\delta = 3$

Start with $n = 31$ per group, for which $df = 60$

$t_{0.975, 60} = 2.000$, $t_{0.8, 60} = 0.847$, $s/\delta = 4.93$, $n = 2 \times 2.847^2 \times 4.93^2 = 394$ per group

New $df = 2(394-1) = 786$, so:

$t_{0.975, 786} = 1.963$, $t_{0.8, 786} = 0.842$, $n = 2 \times 2.805^2 \times 4.93^2 = 382$ per group

Similar to previous sample size (both are a bit less than 400).

If you continue one more time:

New $df = 2(382-1) = 762$, so:

$t_{0.975, 762} = 1.963$, $t_{0.8, 762} = 0.842$,

Quantiles are the same (to 3 decimal places), so n will be the same

If you carry more digits through the calculations, you get $n = 383.02$

Software (`power.t.test()`, `proc power`) using a non-central T distribution gives $n = 383.01$