How to Set Up and Run Hypothesis Tests

Presented by Elisabeth Swan Managing Partner & Executive Advisor at GoLeanSixSigma.com



Our Expert: Elisabeth

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 - **Born in the UK**





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Today's Agenda

- What Are Hypothesis Tests?
- Why Do We Need Them in Process Improvement?
- When Should We Use Them?
- How Do We Setup and Run Them?
- Any Words of Advice?



What Are Hypothesis Tests?

Hypothesis: Educated Guess or Theory

- Something that requires further investigation
- There are many ways to test theories
- Hypothesis Testing is a formal way to test theories



What Can Be Tested?

Swiffer 3 X more effective than a broom



Prevagen improves memory in 90 Days

Sketchers Sneakers make you lose weight



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Is There a Difference?





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Two Types of Testing



Applying to Process Improvement



Applying to Process Improvement

A way of making sure that your theories about the root causes of process issues are worth pursuing





When Should We Run Them?



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Poll #1:

How have you used Hypothesis Tests?

- A. To verify a root cause
- B. To verify that the solution made a difference
- C. To test the guarantee made by a vendor
- D. I haven't tried to use one yet





The Testing Process



General Hypothesis

1. Practical Problem

- What's the problem?
- What type of data?
- What is the statistic of interest?



Bahama Bistro Example

- Problem Cannot keep up with hot sauce demand. 16% of the time, customers cannot get the hot sauce they want
- General Hypothesis the average hot sauce sales are higher at the Downtown location which is causing the hot sauce stock-outs



If Continuous – Is It Normal?

- Data Shape Bell Curve is Normal
- Anderson Darling Test on each Data Set
 - Listed under "Basic Statistics"
- Non-Normal if P-Value < .05 (More on P-Value Shortly)



If Continuous – Test For Normality



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Both Data Sets Are Normal

Formal Hypothesis Statements

1. Practical Problem



- What's the Null Hypothesis?
- What's the Alternative Hypothesis?



Why Null and Alternative?



- Theory: "All swans are white"
- Proof: hmmm can't get all swans together in one place
- BUT: If we find one *black* swan...we can prove our theory is *false*!

 We can use *falsification* – so we set up the Null Hypothesis and try to disprove it

Null and Alternative Theories

Ho Hum - There's no difference

H

Try to "reject" the Null A HA! - There's a difference!

Then we can pursue the Alternative



Formal Hypothesis Statements



Null: There is no difference between the average hot sauce sales at the Downtown location and the Beachfront location

 $\mu_1 = \mu_2$



Alternative: The average hot sauce sales at the Downtown location are not equal to the average sales at the Beachfront location

• $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$



Hypothesis Testing





Select the Appropriate Test







What are you testing?

- A. Comparing two or more defect rates
- B. Comparing two or more cycle times
- C. Checking if 2 things correlate
- D. Other
- E. Not sure yet



Gather The Hot Sauce Sales Data

	A	В	С
1	Date	Downtown Sales	Beachfront Sales
2	8/1/15	199.38	136.48
3	8/2/15	190.14	131.05
4	8/3/15	161.14	117.07
5	8/4/15	183.14	142.97
6	8/5/15	172.20	127.38
7	8/6/15	162.39	116.54
8	8/7/15	162.45	140.61
9	8/8/15	162.56	127.22
10	8/9/15	158.07	122.63
11	8/10/15	166.65	126.35
12	8/11/15	163.44	122.68
13	8/12/15	186 52	133.78



Perform the Test





Simply Smart Software



Test Results

Test Information		
H ₀ : Mean Difference	= 0	
H _a : Mean Difference	Not Equal To 0	
Assume Equal Varian	ce	
Results:	Downtown Sales	Beachfront Sales
Count	200	200
Mean	160.82	120.58
Standard Deviation	12.714	12.471
Mean Difference	40.245	
Std Error Difference	1.259	
DF	398	
t	31.958	
P-Value (2-sided)	0.0000	
UC (2-sided, 95%)	42.721	
LC (2-sided, 95%)	37.769	



Accept or Reject the Null



P-Value?

What is it?

- P stands for Probability
- Can be between 0 and 1
- Boils down to the probability of the Null Hypothesis being true

"High" P-Values

 If P = .84 then there is very little reason to doubt the Null (there's no difference)

"Low" P-Values

 If P = .015 then there is very little probability the Null Hypothesis is true (reject the Null)





Poll #3 Mini-Quiz:

In which case would you reject the Null Hypothesis?

- A. P-Value = .210
- B. P-Value = .061
- C. P-Value = .045
- D. P-Value = .500



Confidence & Risk

Confidence Level

95% Confidence

"I'm 95% confident that the inferences I'm making based on testing these samples are correct"

Risk of being wrong?

• 5%



What happens if you're wrong?

- You might reject the Null when there really is no difference
- It's possible since you're working with samples



Statistical Conclusion

Test Information					
H ₀ : Mean Difference	= 0		If the Diclow		
H _a : Mean Difference	Not Equal To 0		In the P is low		
Assume Equal Variance			- the Null		
			must go –		
Results:	Downtown Sales	Beachfront Sales			
Count	200	200			
Mean	160.82	120.58			
Standard Deviation	12.714	12.471			
	40.045				
Mean Difference	40.245				
Std Error Difference	1.259				
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t	31.958				
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Practical Conclusion

1. Practical Problem



Update The Hypothesis Testing Plan

Possible X	Hypothesis	Hypothesis Test	Result	
Problem Statement: They cannot keep up with hot sauce demand				
	Okay, we've upda	ated our	• <u>.</u> • • •	
	hypothesis result to move on to a test!	nother		
Day of Week	There's more variation in customer wait-time to Pick- Up orders on certain days of the week	Levene's	False	
Location	Average hot sauce sales are higher at the downtown location than the beachfront	Two-Sample T-Test	True	



Verifying Results

- Have you ever fixed a root cause that was not the culprit?
- Have you been part of in improvement effort that failed to have an impact? Proof matters.
- If you're claiming your project reduced costs, increased customer satisfaction or reduced cycle time - you have to be able to prove it.





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Poll #4:

Who here has ever:

- A. Addressed a root cause that was not a critical "x"?
- B. Fixed a process and saw no positive results?
- C. Watched as others based fixes on assumptions?
- D. Experienced some combination of the above?
- E. Experienced none of the above?





Why Use Tests?

Root Cause: Examples

- Are defects higher at one location? Find out what's different
- Are a higher proportion of late shipments coming from a particular supplier? – Investigate
- Are the portion weights the same across all meals? Could lead to mistake-proofing solutions like standard scoops

Verifying Standards: Example

 Is the average delivery time as advertised? – Renegotiate the contract

Verify Solutions: Example

 Did the changes reduce defects, cycle time, etc.? – Confirm and spread the news – build trust, confidence and momentum



Any Words of Advice?

- Clarify the practical problem you are addressing
- Use the Decision Tree to choose the right test
- Spend time setting up your Null and Alternative Hypotheses Statements
- Remember you are looking for:
 - A difference between particular strata (Who, What, Where, When)
 - Correlation between the Y and a particular X
- The P-Value is your guide "If the P is low..."
- Hypothesis Tests are helpful when determining potential "Xs" for root cause, but they can also prove your solutions made a difference.



Today We Covered

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- Why Do We Need Them in Process Improvement?
- When Should We Use Them?
- How Do We Setup and Run Them?
- Any Words of Advice?







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