

or $(\$134.60, \$1665.40)$

Because this interval contains only +ve values, we can be quite confident that $\mu_1 - \mu_2 > 0$. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that the mean salary for males exceeds the mean salary for females.

C.I. for $\mu_1 - \mu_2$ when variances are unknown & sample sizes are small (pop. normal)

The problem of finding a C.I. has been solved for the special case when the unknown variances are equal. A general solution has not been found for the case where the unknown variances are unequal.

$$\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, s_1^2, s_2^2$$

$$s_p^2 = \frac{(n_1 - 1)s_1^2 + (n_2 - 1)s_2^2}{n_1 + n_2 - 2}$$

100 (1- α %) C.I. $\mu_1 - \mu_2$

$$\text{C.I. } \left(\bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2 - t_{\frac{\alpha}{2}, \nu} \sqrt{\frac{s_p^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_p^2}{n_2}}, \bar{x}_1 - \bar{x}_2 + t_{\frac{\alpha}{2}, \nu} \sqrt{\frac{s_p^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_p^2}{n_2}} \right)$$

$\nu = n_1 + n_2 - 2$ & s_p^2 is the pooled variance estimate of the common variance.

e.g. Two manufacturing companies produce carbide drill tips that are used to cut holes in steel sheets. A customer wishing to know which drill tips have the longer life. He purchases independent samples of $n_1 = 20$ drill tips from company 1 and $n_2 = 15$ drill tips from company 2. The mean lives of the drill tips are $\bar{x}_1 = 78$ minutes & $\bar{x}_2 = 84$ minutes. The population variances are unknown but assumed to be equal. The sample variances are $s_1^2 = 41$, $s_2^2 = 36$. Construct a 95% C.I. for $\mu_1 - \mu_2$.

Soln:

$$s_p^2 = \frac{(20-1)(41) + (15-1)36}{20+15-2} = \frac{1283}{33} = 38.88$$

95% C.I. $\frac{\alpha}{2} = 0.025$, d.f. = $n_1 + n_2 - 2 = 33$
 $t_{\frac{\alpha}{2}, 33} = 2.04$

\therefore 95% C.I. for $\mu_1 - \mu_2$,

$$\left(78 - 84 - 2.04 \sqrt{\frac{38.88}{20} + \frac{38.88}{15}}, 78 - 84 + 2.04 \sqrt{\frac{38.88}{20} + \frac{38.88}{15}} \right)$$

$$= (-10.34, -1.66)$$

95% C.I. contains only -ve values, \Rightarrow drill tips of company #1 do NOT last as long, on the average by company 2.