

Protocol 03- Hypothesis testing

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Data Analysis in Biosciences — Level: L3 biology

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There are several types of parametric tests designed to test certain hypotheses related to one or more parameters of a specific probability distribution. These tests are mainly grouped into two categories: conformity tests and homogeneity tests. We illustrate the steps in SPSS to perform a conformity (Goodness of fit) test for a mean and a homogeneity test between two means, using the following examples:

Example 1 (Conformity test of observed and theoretical mean). *To study a batch of tablets, 10 tablets were randomly selected and weighed. The weights (in grams) were:*

0.81	0.84	0.83	0.80	0.85	0.86	0.85	0.83	0.84	0.80
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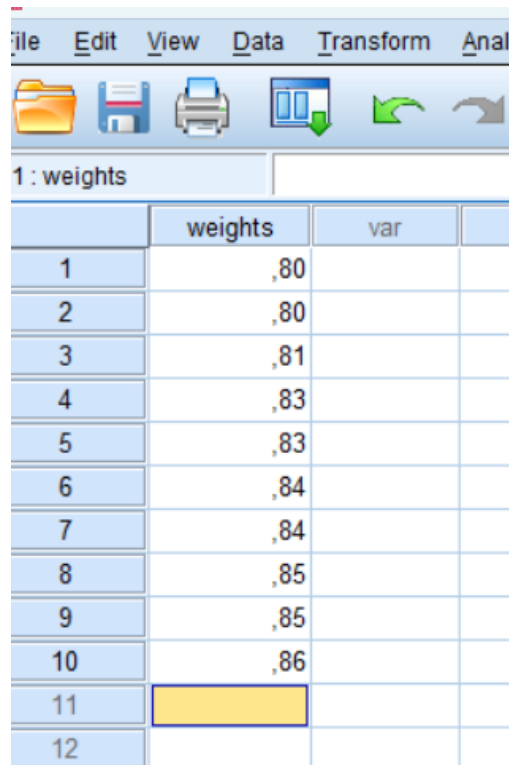
Is the observed mean compatible with the value 0.83g at a 0.02 significance level?

Hypotheses:

$$H_0 : \mu = \mu_0 \quad vs. \quad H_1 : \mu \neq \mu_0$$

SPSS Procedure:

1. Launch SPSS and enter data via **Variable View** and **Data View**.
2. From the top menu: **Analyze** → **Compare Means** → **One-Sample T Test**.
3. Select the variable **weight**, set the test value to 0.83.
4. Under **Options**, set confidence level to 98% ($1 - \alpha = 0.98$).
5. Click **Continue**, then **OK** to get results.



	weights	var	
1	,80		
2	,80		
3	,81		
4	,83		
5	,83		
6	,84		
7	,84		
8	,85		
9	,85		
10	,86		
11			
12			

Figure 1: Data entry in SPSS

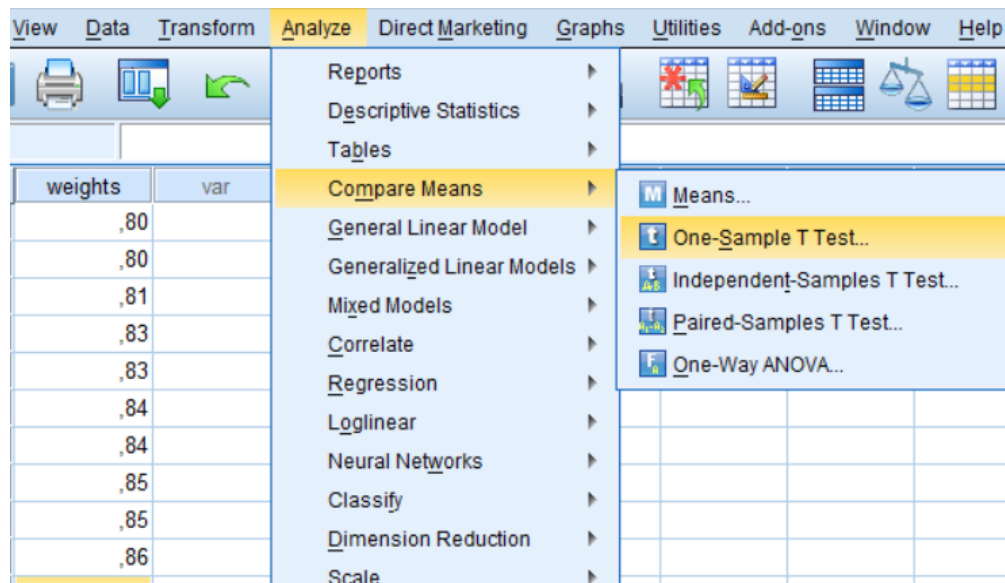


Figure 2: Performing one-sample t-test in SPSS

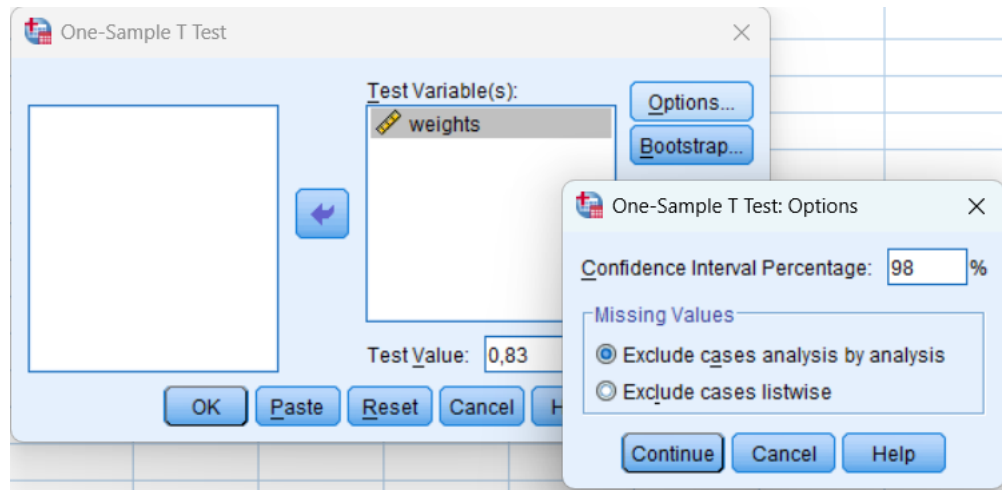


Figure 3: Performing one-sample t-test in SPSS

Interpretation: For a two-tailed test:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Do not reject } H_0 & \text{if } \alpha < \text{p-value} \\ \text{Reject } H_0 & \text{if } \alpha > \text{p-value} \end{cases}$$

In our case, $\alpha = 0.02 < \text{p-value} = 0.885$, so we do not reject H_0 .

→ T-Test

[DataSet0]

One-Sample Statistics

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
weights	10	,8310	,02132	,00674

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 0.83					
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	98% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
weights	,148	9	,885	,00100	-,0180	,0200

Figure 4: Results window of the one-sample t-test in SPSS

Remark 1. In the case of a one-tailed test (i.e., when $H_1 : \mu < \mu_0$ or $H_1 : \mu > \mu_0$), the decision to reject or not reject the null hypothesis H_0 is made as follows:

- Do **not** reject H_0 if $2\alpha < \text{significance}$ (i.e., the mean is not significantly different from μ_0);
- **Reject** H_0 if $2\alpha > \text{significance}$ (i.e., the mean is significantly greater than μ_0 if $H_1 : \mu > \mu_0$, or significantly less than μ_0 if $H_1 : \mu < \mu_0$).

Example 2 (Comparing calcium levels between two samples). *The following table presents calcium levels in patients suffering from chronic renal failure :*

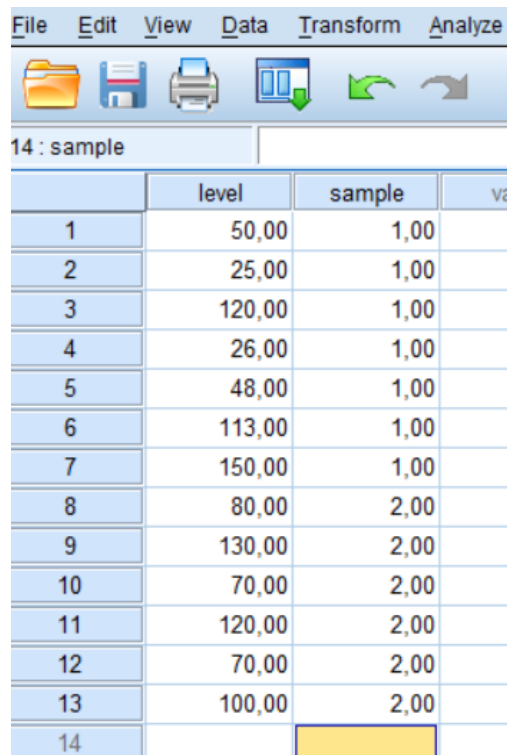
<i>Patient</i>	<i>Sample 1</i>	<i>Sample 2</i>
1	50	80
2	25	130
3	120	70
4	26	120
5	48	70
6	113	100
7	150	—

Can we conclude, at a 5% significance level, that the means are significantly different?

Hypotheses:

$$H_0 : \mu_1 = \mu_2 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1 : \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

SPSS Procedure: The data from the two samples must be entered as a single variable (i.e., as one combined sample), and a second variable should be added to indicate the sample number from which each observation (X_i) comes. Thus, for the data in our example, we obtain the following:



	level	sample	va
1	50,00	1,00	
2	25,00	1,00	
3	120,00	1,00	
4	26,00	1,00	
5	48,00	1,00	
6	113,00	1,00	
7	150,00	1,00	
8	80,00	2,00	
9	130,00	2,00	
10	70,00	2,00	
11	120,00	2,00	
12	70,00	2,00	
13	100,00	2,00	
14			

Figure 5: SPSS data format for independent samples t-test

1. Enter data as a single variable with a group identifier.
2. Use **Analyze** → **Compare Means** → **Independent-Samples T Test**.

3. Place the variable **sample** in the box labeled “*Grouping criterion (numeric qualitative)*”.
4. Select the variable **sample** and click on the **Define Groups** button, a small new window will appear.
5. In the *Group* boxes, enter the numbers of the two samples you wish to compare, in our case, “1” for sample 1 and “2” for sample 2.
6. Once the groups are defined, click on **Continue**, then click on **OK** to display the test results.

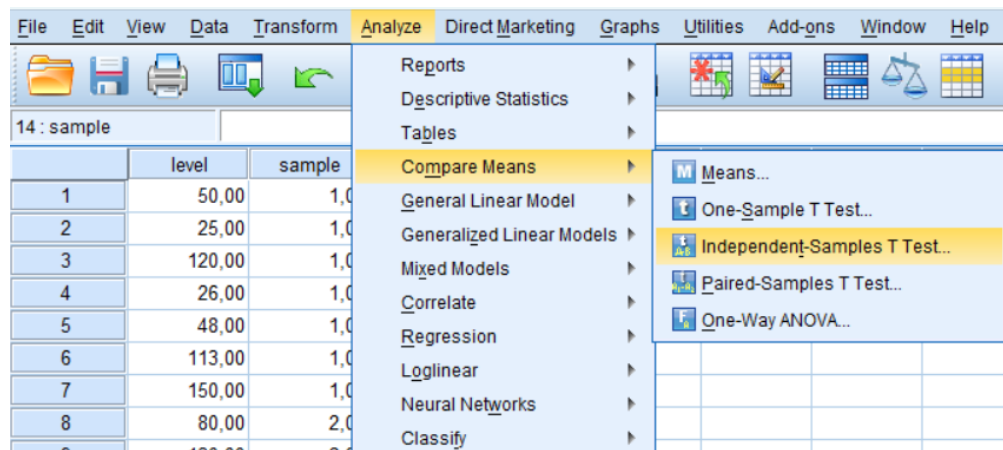


Figure 6: Selecting independent samples t-test in SPSS

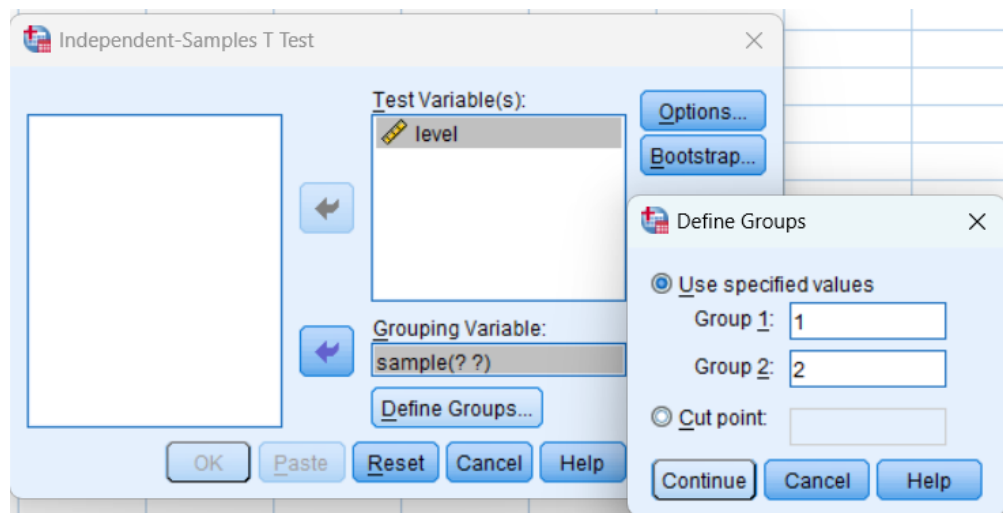


Figure 7: Running the test in SPSS

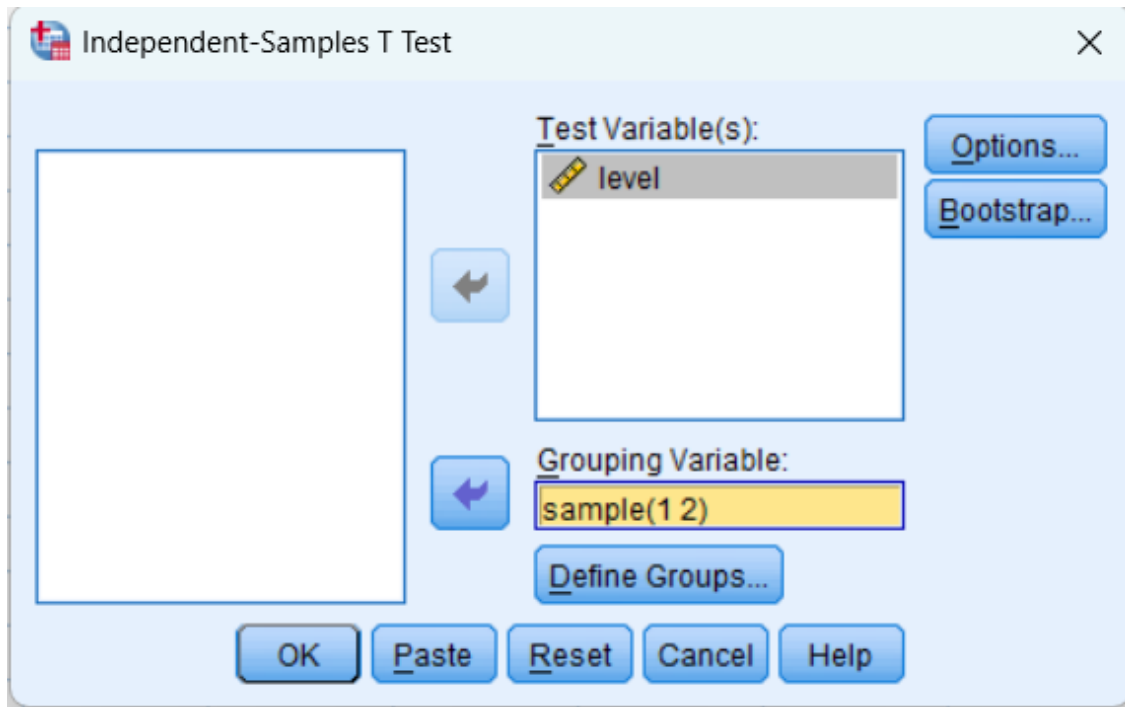


Figure 8: Result window comparing two means in SPSS

Interpretation:

If $\alpha < \text{sig1}$: use sig2 (equal variances)

- Do not reject H_0 if $\alpha < \text{sig2}$
- Reject H_0 if $\alpha \geq \text{sig2}$

If $\alpha \geq \text{sig1}$: use sig3 (unequal variances)

- Do not reject H_0 if $\alpha < \text{sig3}$
- Reject H_0 if $\alpha \geq \text{sig3}$

From the results: $\alpha = 0.05 \geq 0.014$ and $0.05 < 0.406$, then no significant difference (accept H_0)

Group Statistics				
sample	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
level 1,00	7	76,0000	50,56679	19,11245
2,00	6	95,0000	25,88436	10,56724

Independent Samples Test									
		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means					
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference
level	Equal variances assumed	8,470	1 ,014	-,828	11	2 ,425	-19,00000	22,93393	-69,47725 31,47725
	Equal variances not assumed			-,870	9,198	3 ,406	-19,00000	21,83924	-68,24244 30,24244

Figure 9: Result window comparing two means in SPSS

Remark 2. In the context of a one-tailed test, and for a significance level α , the decision to reject or not reject the null hypothesis H_0 is made according to the following scheme:

- If $\alpha < \text{sig1}$, then the two variances are not significantly different (i.e., they are equal). In this case, to make the decision concerning the two means, one must use the significance value sig2 :
 1. Do not reject H_0 if $2\alpha < \text{sig2}$ (the two means are not significantly different).
 2. Reject H_0 if $2\alpha \geq \text{sig2}$ ($H_1 : \mu_1 < \mu_2$ or $H_1 : \mu_1 > \mu_2$).
- If $\alpha \geq \text{sig1}$, then the two variances are significantly different. In this case, to make the decision concerning the two means, one must use the significance value sig3 :
 1. Do not reject H_0 if $2\alpha < \text{sig3}$ (the two means are not significantly different).
 2. Reject H_0 if $2\alpha \geq \text{sig3}$ ($H_1 : \mu_1 < \mu_2$ or $H_1 : \mu_1 > \mu_2$).

Exercises (Solve the exercises manually, then confirm the results using SPSS)

Example 3. The weight of grapes produced per vine was measured for 10 vines randomly selected from a vineyard. The obtained results, expressed in kilograms, are as follows:

2.4	3.4	3.6	4.1	4.3	4.7	5.4	5.9	6.5	6.9
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Assuming $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$, test whether mean < 8 at 5% level.

Example 4. In order to compare two types of trees with respect to their heights, we collected height measurements for several trees, which are presented in the following table.

Tree 1	23.3	24	24.3	24.5	25	25.9
Tree 2	21.1	21.1	22.1	22.4	23.3	—

Assuming $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$, test at 1% if Tree 2 mean is lower.

Example 5. We want to compare two teaching methods for reading. For this purpose, two groups of children were formed: the first group was taught using the so-called classical method, and the second group using the modern method. The scores obtained at the end of the school year are as follows:

Group 1	15	18	17	18	17	19	16	17	14	19
Group 2	20	16	19	16	18	17	16	20	21	17

1. Is the classical method's mean compatible with 6 at 1% risk?
2. Assuming $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$, test at 5% whether modern method yields better results.