

**Discussion 11 Answers**

1. A random sample of size  $n = 16$  from  $N(\mu, \sigma^2 = 64)$  yielded  $\bar{x} = 85$ .

Construct the following confidence intervals for  $\mu$ :

$$\bar{x} = 85 \qquad \sigma = 8 \qquad n = 16$$

$\sigma$  is known. The confidence interval :  $\bar{X} \pm z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ .

a) 95%.

$$\alpha = 0.05 \qquad \alpha/2 = 0.025. \qquad z_{\alpha/2} = 1.96.$$

$$85 \pm 1.96 \cdot \frac{8}{\sqrt{16}} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{85 \pm 3.92} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{( 81.08 ; 88.92 )}$$

b) 90%.

$$\alpha = 0.10 \qquad \alpha/2 = 0.05. \qquad z_{\alpha/2} = 1.645.$$

$$85 \pm 1.645 \cdot \frac{8}{\sqrt{16}} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{85 \pm 3.29} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{( 81.71 ; 88.29 )}$$

c) 80%.

$$\alpha = 0.20 \qquad \alpha/2 = 0.10. \qquad z_{\alpha/2} = 1.28.$$

$$85 \pm 1.28 \cdot \frac{8}{\sqrt{16}} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{85 \pm 2.56} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{( 82.44 ; 87.56 )}$$

OR

$$\alpha = 0.20 \qquad \alpha/2 = 0.10. \qquad z_{\alpha/2} = 1.282.$$

$$85 \pm 1.282 \cdot \frac{8}{\sqrt{16}} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{85 \pm 2.564} \qquad \qquad \mathbf{( 82.436 ; 87.564 )}$$

2. What is the minimum sample size required for estimating  $\mu$  for  $N(\mu, \sigma^2 = 64)$  to within  $\pm 3$  with confidence level

$$\varepsilon = 10, \quad \sigma = 8.$$

$$n = \left( \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot 8}{3} \right)^2.$$

- a) 95%.  $\alpha = 0.05$   $\alpha/2 = 0.025.$   $z_{\alpha/2} = 1.96.$

$$n = \left( \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{1.96 \cdot 8}{3} \right)^2 \approx 27.318. \quad \text{Round up.} \quad n = \mathbf{28}.$$

- b) 90%.  $\alpha = 0.10$   $\alpha/2 = 0.05.$   $z_{\alpha/2} = 1.645.$

$$n = \left( \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{1.645 \cdot 8}{3} \right)^2 \approx 19.243. \quad \text{Round up.} \quad n = \mathbf{20}.$$

- c) 80%.  $\alpha = 0.20$   $\alpha/2 = 0.10.$   $z_{\alpha/2} = 1.28.$

$$n = \left( \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{1.28 \cdot 8}{3} \right)^2 \approx 11.651. \quad \text{Round up.} \quad n = \mathbf{12}.$$

OR

$$\alpha = 0.20 \quad \alpha/2 = 0.10. \quad z_{\alpha/2} = 1.282.$$

$$n = \left( \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma}{\varepsilon} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{1.282 \cdot 8}{3} \right)^2 \approx 11.687. \quad \text{Round up.} \quad n = \mathbf{12}.$$

3. Suppose the overall (population) standard deviation of the bill amounts at a supermarket is  $\sigma = \$13.75$ .

a) Find the probability that the sample mean bill amount will be within \$2.00 of the overall mean bill amount for a random sample of 121 customers.

Need  $P(\mu - 2.00 \leq \bar{X} \leq \mu + 2.00) = ?$

$n = 121$  – large

Central Limit Theorem:

$$\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} = Z.$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\mu - 2.00 \leq \bar{X} \leq \mu + 2.00) &= P\left(\frac{(\mu - 2.00) - \mu}{13.75 / \sqrt{121}} \leq Z \leq \frac{(\mu + 2.00) - \mu}{13.75 / \sqrt{121}}\right) \\ &= P(-1.60 \leq Z \leq 1.60) = 0.9452 - 0.0548 = \mathbf{0.8904}. \end{aligned}$$

b) What is the minimum sample size required for estimating the overall mean bill amount to within \$2.00 with 95% confidence?

$$\varepsilon = 2.00, \quad \sigma = 13.75, \quad \alpha = 0.05, \quad \alpha/2 = 0.025, \quad z_{\alpha/2} = z_{0.025} = 1.96.$$

$$n = \left(\frac{z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma}{\varepsilon}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{1.96 \cdot 13.75}{2.00}\right)^2 = 181.575625. \quad \text{Round up.} \quad n = \mathbf{182}.$$

4. 3. (continued)

The supermarket selected a random sample of 121 customers, which showed the sample mean bill amount of \$78.80.

$$\bar{X} = \$78.80, \quad \sigma = \$13.75, \quad n = 121.$$

c) Construct a 95% confidence interval for the overall mean bill amount at this supermarket.

$\sigma$  is known.  $n = 121$  – large.

The confidence interval for  $\mu$ :  $\bar{X} \pm z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ .

$$\alpha = 0.05. \quad \alpha/2 = 0.025. \quad z_{\alpha/2} = z_{0.025} = 1.96.$$

$$78.80 \pm 1.96 \cdot \frac{13.75}{\sqrt{121}} \quad \mathbf{78.80 \pm 2.45} \quad \mathbf{(76.35 ; 81.25)}$$

d) Suppose the supermarket puts Alex in charge of computing the confidence interval, and he gets the answer ( 76.15 , 81.45 ). Alex says that he used a different confidence level, but other than that did everything correctly. Find the confidence level used by Alex.

$$\bar{X} \pm z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \quad 81.45 - 78.80 = 78.80 - 76.15 = 2.65.$$

$$2.65 = z_{\alpha/2} \cdot \frac{13.75}{\sqrt{121}} \quad z_{\alpha/2} = 2.12.$$

$$\alpha/2 = \text{Area to the right of } 2.12 = 0.0170. \quad \alpha = 2 \cdot 0.0170 = 0.0340.$$

$$\text{Confidence level} = 100 \cdot (1 - \alpha)\% = \mathbf{96.6\%}.$$