

Solution

1. A random sample of $n=16$ observations from a normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ leads to sample mean $\bar{x} = 70$, sample variance $s^2 = 576$.
 (a).[2pt] Determine a 90% confidence interval for population mean μ .

$$n = 16, d.f. = n - 1 = 15, \alpha/2 = 0.05, t_{(0.05,15)} = 1.753$$

$$\text{C.I. for } \mu: \bar{x} \pm t_{(0.05,15)} \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} = 70 \pm (1.753 \cdot 6) = 70 \pm 10.518$$

- (b).[3pt] Find a 90% confidence interval for population variance σ^2 .

$$d.f. = 15, \alpha/2 = 0.05, \chi^2_{(0.05,15)} = 24.996, \chi^2_{(0.95,15)} = 7.261$$

C.I. for σ^2 :

$$\left[\frac{(n-1)s^2}{\chi^2_{(0.05,15)}}, \frac{(n-1)s^2}{\chi^2_{(0.95,15)}} \right] = \left[\frac{15 \cdot 576}{24.996}, \frac{15 \cdot 576}{7.261} \right] = [345.65, 1189.92]$$

2. [3pt] The makers of a medicated facial skin cream are interested in determining the percentage of people in a given age group who may benefit from the ointment. A random sample of 68 people results in 42 successful treatments. Give a 99% confidence interval for the proportion of people in the given age group who may be successfully treated with the facial cream.

$$y=42, n=68, \hat{p} = \frac{y}{n} = \frac{42}{68} = .6176, \quad \alpha = 0.01, \alpha/2 = 0.005, z_{0.005} = 2.576$$

C.I. for p:

$$\hat{p} \pm z_{0.005} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}} = 0.6176 \pm 2.576 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{0.6176 \cdot (1-0.6176)}{68}} = 0.6176 \pm 0.1518$$

3. [2pt] Let Y be Binomial(n, p). Find the sample size n such that we are 95% confident that the estimate $\hat{p} = y/n$ is within 0.2 units of p given that p is unknown.

$$\text{Margin of error } B = 0.2, \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \frac{z_{\alpha/2}}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}} = 0.2$$

$$(1-\alpha) = 0.95, \alpha/2 = 0.025, z_{0.025} = 1.96$$

$$\text{Then } n = \frac{z_{\alpha/2}^2 \cdot p(1-p)}{B^2} \leq \frac{z_{\alpha/2}^2 \alpha/2}{4B^2} = \frac{1.96^2}{4(0.2)^2} = 24.01 \nearrow 25$$