

Topics: Normal distribution, Functions of Random Variables

1. The time required for servicing transmissions is normally distributed with $\mu = 45$ minutes and $\sigma = 8$ minutes. The service manager plans to have work begin on the transmission of a customer's car 10 minutes after the car is dropped off and the customer is told that the car will be ready within 1 hour from drop-off. What is the probability that the service manager cannot meet his commitment?
- A. 0.3875
 - B. 0.2676
 - C. 0.5
 - D. 0.6987

Ans: We have to find the probability that the service manager cannot meet his commitment i.e probability of work done on car greater than 50(as work begins after 10 min, so $60-10=50$).

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > 50) &= 1 - P(X < 50) \\ &= 1 - 0.73 \\ &= 0.26 \end{aligned}$$

2. The current age (in years) of 400 clerical employees at an insurance claims processing center is normally distributed with mean $\mu = 38$ and Standard deviation $\sigma = 6$. For each statement below, please specify True/False. If false, briefly explain why.
- A. More employees at the processing center are older than 44 than between 38 and 44.
 - B. A training program for employees under the age of 30 at the center would be expected to attract about 36 employees.

Ans: Both the statements are true.

- a) There are about 63 employees older than 44 and 137 employees between 38 and 44. So the statement is true.
- b) The training program under the age of 30 has approximately 36 employees. So this statement is also true.

3. If $X_1 \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and $X_2 \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ are *iid* normal random variables, then what is the difference between $2X_1$ and $X_1 + X_2$? Discuss both their distributions and parameters.

Ans: Distributions:

a) $2X_1$

Mean = 2μ

Variance = $4\sigma^2$

b) $X_1 + X_2$

Mean = 2μ

Variance = $2\sigma^2$

Both a) and b) have same mean but variance differ. The Variance of a) is twice than the b).

4. Let $X \sim N(100, 20^2)$. Find two values, a and b , symmetric about the mean, such that the probability of the random variable taking a value between them is 0.99.

A. 90.5, 105.9

B. 80.2, 119.8

C. 22, 78

D. 48.5, 151.5

E. 90.1, 109.9

Ans: D. Mean = 100

Variance = 20

$a = \text{Mean} - Z(\text{Variance})$

$b = \text{Mean} + Z(\text{Variance})$

As the confidence interval is 99% so value of z is 2.576

hence $a = 100 - 2.576(20) = 48.5$

$b = 100 + 2.576(20) = 151.5$

5. Consider a company that has two different divisions. The annual profits from the two divisions are independent and have distributions $\text{Profit}_1 \sim N(5, 3^2)$ and $\text{Profit}_2 \sim N(7, 4^2)$ respectively. Both the profits

are in \$ Million. Answer the following questions about the total profit of the company in Rupees. Assume that \$1 = Rs. 45

A. Specify a Rupee range (centered on the mean) such that it contains a 95% probability for the annual profit of the company.

Ans. As both the divisions are independent, the sum of independent normal random variables results in a normal random variable with mean equal to the sum of the individual means and variance equal to the sum of the individual variances.

So, Total for profits

$$\text{Mean} = 5+7 = 12 * 45 = 540 \text{ million rupees}$$

$$\text{Variance} = 9+15 = 25$$

$$\text{Std Deviation} = 5 * 45 = 225 \text{ million rupees}$$

For 95% probability, $z = 1.960$

$$\text{Range} = 99 \text{ to } 981 \text{ million rupees}$$

$$540 - 1.96(225) = 99$$

$$540 + 1.96(225) = 981$$

B. Specify the 5th percentile of profit (in Rupees) for the company

Ans. for 5th percentile, $z = 1.675$

$$\text{Profit} = 540 - 1.675(225) = 169.875 \text{ million rupees}$$

C. Which of the two divisions has a larger probability of making a loss in a given year?

Ans. As both the divisions have profit mean greater than 0 so neither divisions have the probability of making loss in a given year.