

Experimenting the “CENTRAL LIMIT” theorem

Author: “G ARGENTON”

Overview

This document attempt to illustrate via simulation and associated explanatory text the properties of the distribution of the mean of 40 exponentials, compare it to a normal distribution and doing so, to illustrate the central limit theorem.

1. The sample mean is shown and compared to the theoretical mean of the distribution.
2. The sample variance is shown and compared to the theoretical variance of the distribution.
3. The distribution is plotted (histogram) and compared to normal distribution.

Simulations

We will investigate the exponential distribution with $\lambda = 0.2$.

First we set the seed to make the analysis reproducible, then we initialize parameters λ (0.2) and numbers ($n=40$) of exponentials.

```
set.seed(1003)
lambda <- 0.2; n <- 40;
```

Sample Mean versus Theoretical Mean:

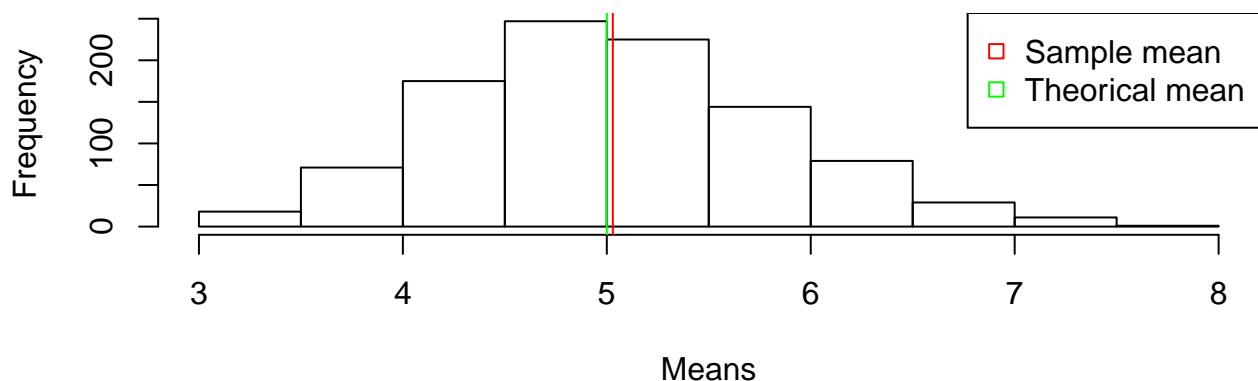
Let's simulate 1000 trials of the mean of 40 exponentials and study the distribution of that mean.

Results are shown using an histogram of those 1000 trial. Sample mean is represented by a verticle red line. Theoretical mean ($1/\lambda$) is represented by a vertical green line.

If n is sufficiently large ($n=40$) those two values should be very close.

```
mns = NULL
for (i in 1 : 1000) mns = c(mns, mean(rexp(n, lambda)))
hist(mns, main = "Histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials", xlab = "Means")
abline(v=mean(mns), col = "red", lwd =1); abline(v=(1/lambda), col = "green", lwd =1);
legend("topright", pch = 0, col = c("red", "green"), legend = c("Sample mean", "Theoretical mean"))
```

Histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials



```
print(paste("Sample mean:", round(mean(mns),2)));print(paste("Theoretical mean:", round(1/lambda,2)));

## [1] "Sample mean: 5.03"

## [1] "Theoretical mean: 5"

print(paste("GAP between sample & theoretical mean in %:",round(abs((mean(mns)-1/lambda)*100/(1/lambda)),2)));

## [1] "GAP between sample & theoretical mean in %: 0.59"
```

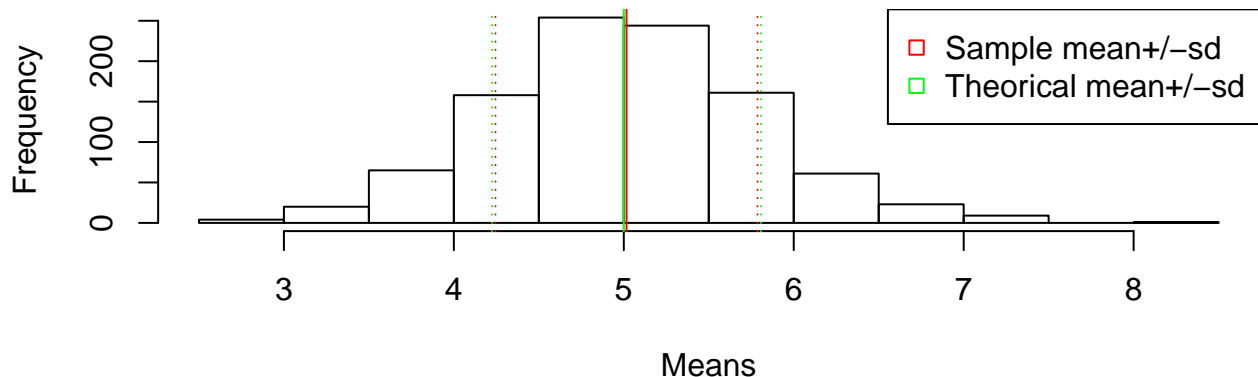
Sample Variance versus Theoretical Variance:

Let's calculate the variance of the sample of 1000 trials of the mean of 40 exponentials and compare it to the theoretical variance of that distribution $(1/\lambda)^2/40$.

If n is sufficiently large ($n=40$) those two values should be close.

```
mns = NULL
for (i in 1 : 1000) mns = c(mns, mean(rexp(n, lambda)))
hist(mns, main = "Histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials", xlab = "Means")
sample.var <- var(mns); th.var <- (1/lambda)^2/40;
abline(v=mean(mns), col = "red", lwd =1); abline(v=(1/lambda), col = "green", lwd =1);
abline(v=mean(mns)-sqrt(sample.var), col = "red", lwd =1, lty = "dotted")
abline(v=mean(mns)+sqrt(sample.var), col = "red", lwd =1, lty = "dotted")
abline(v=mean(mns)-sqrt(th.var), col = "green", lwd =1, lty = "dotted")
abline(v=mean(mns)+sqrt(th.var), col = "green", lwd =1, lty = "dotted")
legend("topright", pch = 0, col = c("red","green"), legend = c("Sample mean+/-sd ", "Theoretical mean+/-sd "))
```

Histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials



```
print(paste("Sample variance:", round(sample.var,2))); print(paste("Theoretical variance:", round(th.var,2)));

## [1] "Sample variance: 0.59"

## [1] "Theoretical variance: 0.62"
```

```
print(paste("GAP between sample variance & theoretical variance in %:", round(abs((sample.var-th.var)*100,
```

```
## [1] "GAP between sample variance & theoretical variance in %: 4.85"
```

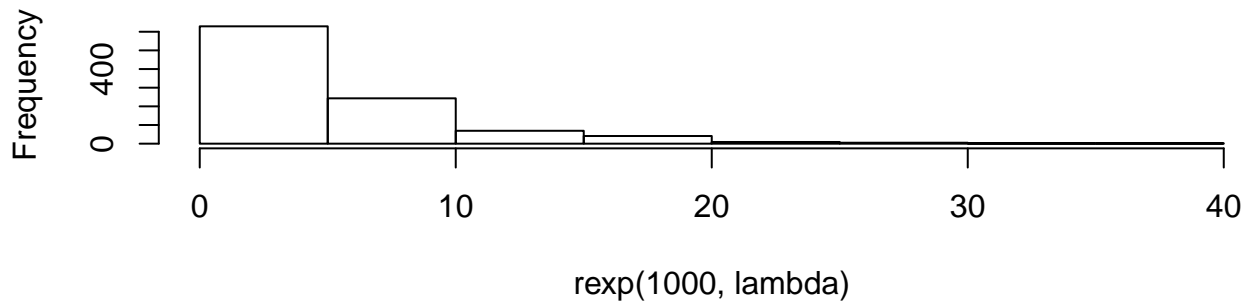
Distribution: Via figures and text

According to central limit theorem, if n is large, distribution of means of n exponentials is close to a normal distribution of mean $1/\lambda$ and standard deviation of $(1/\lambda)/\sqrt{n}$

Lets plot an histogram of 1000 random exponentials and an histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials and compare its density curve (red curve) to the density curve of a normal distribution (green curve)

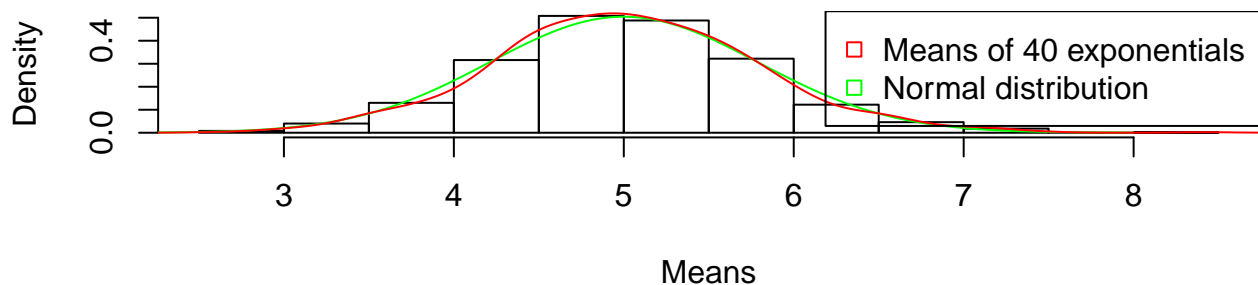
```
hist(rexp(1000, lambda), main = "histogram of 1000 random exponentials (lambda =0.2)")
```

histogram of 1000 random exponentials (lambda =0.2)



```
hist(mns, main = "Histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials (lambda =0.2)", prob = TRUE, xlab = "Means", col = "red", add = TRUE)
plot(function(x) dnorm(x,1/lambda,1/lambda/sqrt(40)), xlim=c(2,8), col = "green",add = TRUE )
lines(density(mns), col = "red")
legend("topright", pch = 0, col = c("red","green"), legend = c("Means of 40 exponentials","Normal distribution"))
```

Histogram of 1000 means of 40 exponentials (lambda =0.2)



The two curves are very close!