THE Z-DISTRIBUTION

INFERENTIAL STATISTICS

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TOPIC OUTLINE

Point Estimate

Confidence Interval

z-Distribution

POINT ESTIMATE

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A **point estimate** is a **single** value (statistic) derived from sample data that serves as the "best guess" for an unknown population parameter.

$\boldsymbol{\bar{x}}$ is a point estimate $\boldsymbol{\mu}$.

$\boldsymbol{s^2}$ is a point estimate $\boldsymbol{\sigma^2}$.

Example:

A factory produces resistors labeled as $\mathbf{100\ \Omega}$, but due to manufacturing variations, the actual resistance varies. An engineer takes a random samples of 30 resistors and calculated the average resistance of the sample, $\boldsymbol{\bar{x} = 101.2\ \Omega}$.

The point estimate for the true mean resistance $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ of all resistors produced is $\mathbf{101.2\ \Omega}$.

CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

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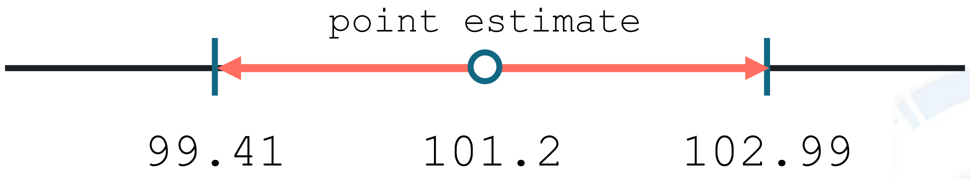
A **confidence interval** is a **range** of values, derived from sample data, that is likely to contain the **true value** of an unknown population parameter (e.g., $\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma^2}$).

Example:

A factory produces resistors labeled as $\mathbf{100\ \Omega}$, but due to manufacturing variations, the actual resistance varies. An engineer takes a random samples of 30 resistors and calculated a 95% confidence interval for the true mean resistance,

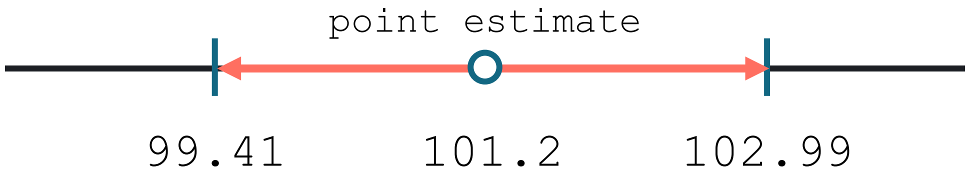
$$\mathbf{95\%\ CI} = (\mathbf{99.41\ \Omega}, \mathbf{102.99\ \Omega})$$



CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

A **confidence interval** is a **range** of values, derived from sample data, that is likely to contain the **true value** of an unknown population parameter (e.g., $\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma^2}$).

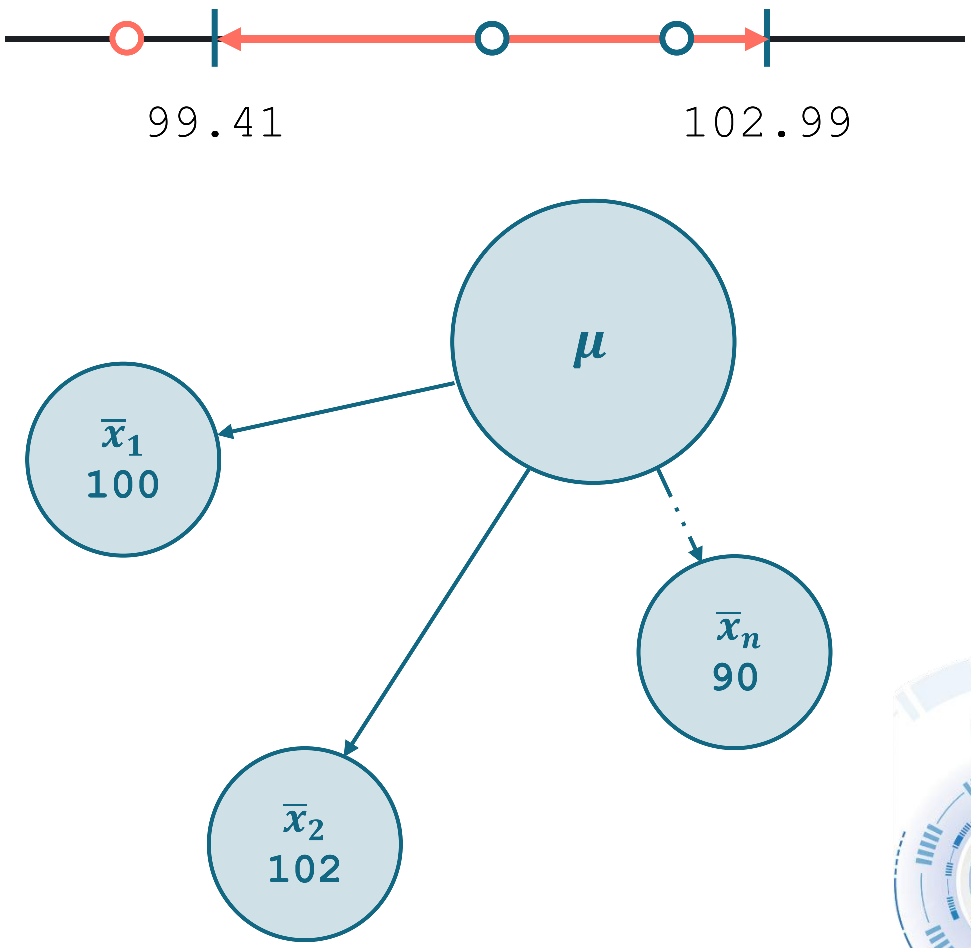
Example:



We are 95% confident that the true mean $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ of all resistors produced lies between 99.41 Ω and 102.99 Ω.

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

Example:



Confidence levels (e.g., 90%, 95%, 99%) describe the method's reliability over many samples.

A 95% confidence level means that if the same sampling process were **repeated** many times, approximately 95% of the calculated CIs would contain the true population parameter (e.g., $\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2$).

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

Confidence levels (e.g., 90%, 95%, 99%) describe the method's reliability over many samples.

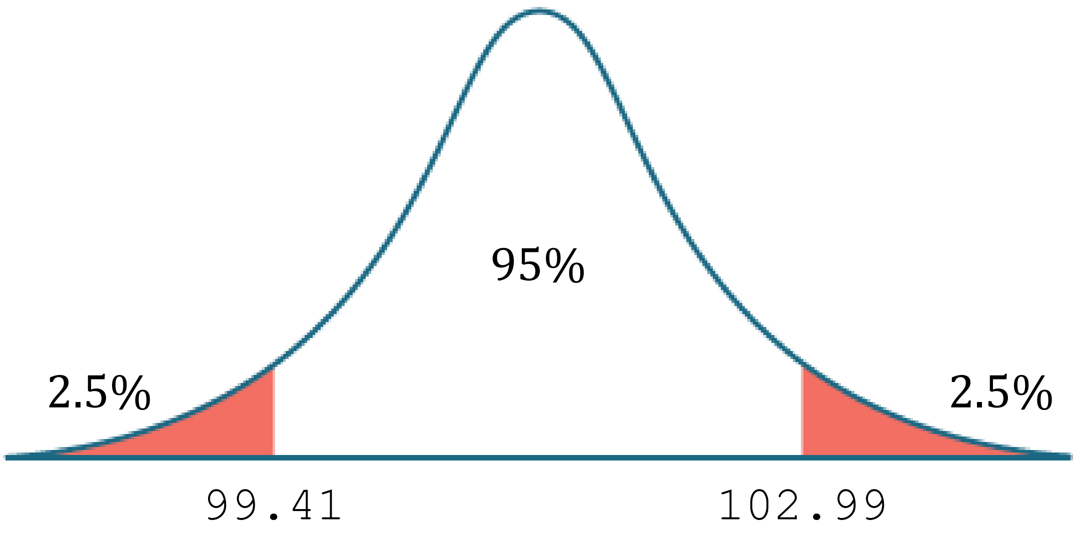
Formula:

$$\textbf{confidence level} = \mathbf{1} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}$$

where:

$$0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

95% Confidence Level:



$\alpha = 0.05$

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

Confidence levels (e.g., 90%, 95%, 99%) describe the method’s reliability over many samples.

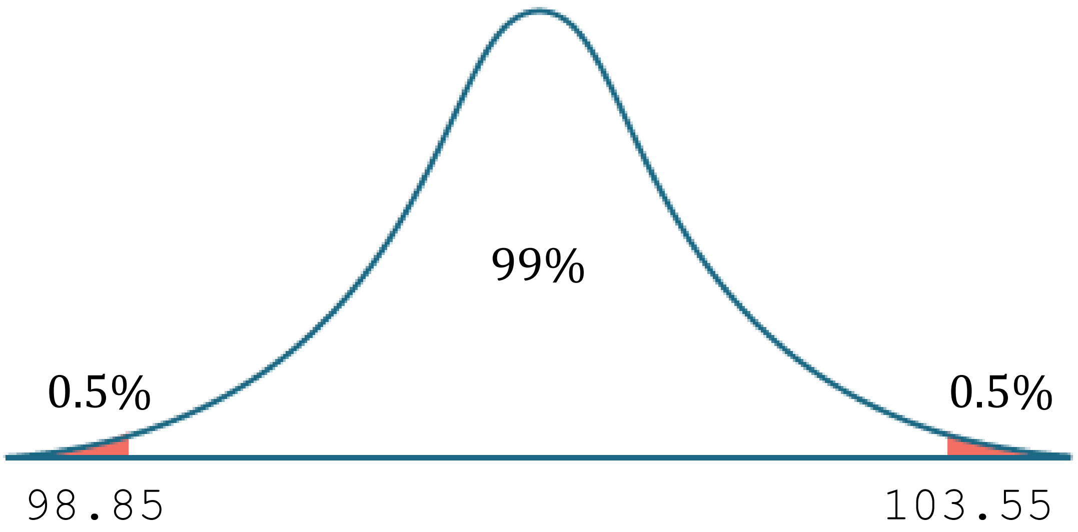
Formula:

$$\textbf{confidence level} = \mathbf{1} - \boldsymbol{\alpha}$$

where:

$$0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

99% Confidence Level:



$\alpha = 0.01$

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

Confidence levels (e.g., 90%, 95%, 99%) describe the method's reliability over many samples.

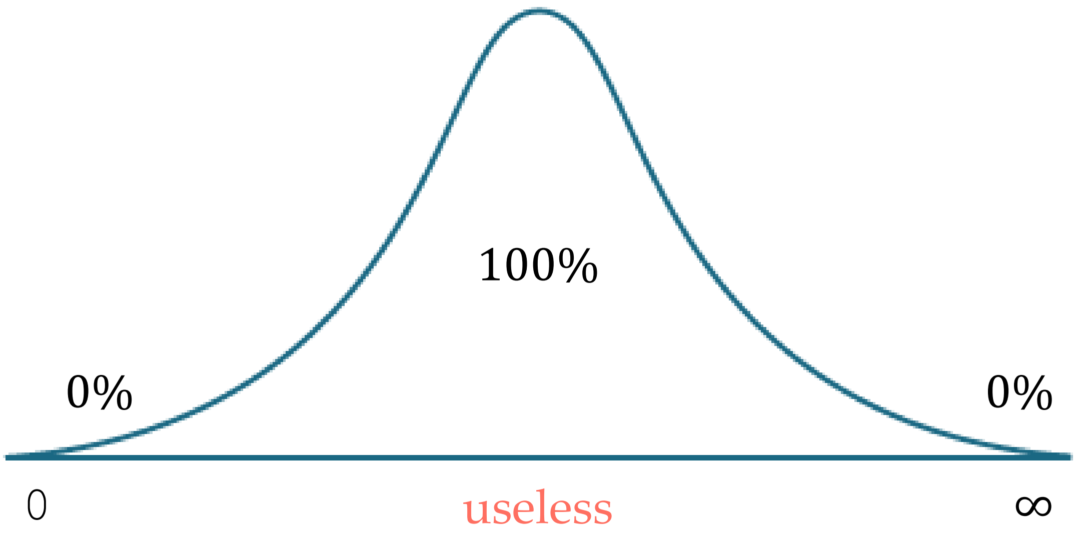
Formula:

$$\mathbf{confidence\ level = 1 - \alpha}$$

where:

$$0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

100% Confidence Level:



$\alpha = 0$

Z-DISTRIBUTION

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The **z-distribution** (also known as the standard normal distribution) is used to calculate the confidence interval when the **population standard deviation** (σ) is **known**.

Formula:

$$CI = \bar{x} \pm z_{\alpha/2}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

where:

$\bar{x}$ = point estimate

$z_{\alpha/2}$ = reliability factor

$\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ = standard error

z-table:

z	0	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
0.0	0.5000	0.5040	0.5080	0.5120	0.5160	0.5199	0.5239	0.5279	0.5319	0.5359
0.1	0.5398	0.5438	0.5478	0.5517	0.5557	0.5596	0.5636	0.5675	0.5714	0.5753
0.2	0.5793	0.5832	0.5871	0.5910	0.5948	0.5987	0.6026	0.6064	0.6103	0.6141
0.3	0.6179	0.6217	0.6255	0.6293	0.6331	0.6368	0.6406	0.6443	0.6480	0.6517
0.4	0.6554	0.6591	0.6628	0.6664	0.6700	0.6736	0.6772	0.6808	0.6844	0.6879
0.5	0.6915	0.6950	0.6985	0.7019	0.7054	0.7088	0.7123	0.7157	0.7190	0.7224
0.6	0.7257	0.7291	0.7324	0.7357	0.7389	0.7422	0.7454	0.7486	0.7517	0.7549
0.7	0.7580	0.7611	0.7642	0.7673	0.7704	0.7734	0.7764	0.7794	0.7823	0.7852
0.8	0.7881	0.7910	0.7939	0.7967	0.7995	0.8023	0.8051	0.8078	0.8106	0.8133
0.9	0.8159	0.8186	0.8212	0.8238	0.8264	0.8289	0.8315	0.8340	0.8365	0.8389
1.0	0.8413	0.8438	0.8461	0.8485	0.8508	0.8531	0.8554	0.8577	0.8599	0.8621
1.1	0.8643	0.8665	0.8686	0.8708	0.8729	0.8749	0.8770	0.8790	0.8810	0.8830
1.2	0.8849	0.8869	0.8888	0.8907	0.8925	0.8944	0.8962	0.8980	0.8997	0.9015
1.3	0.9032	0.9049	0.9066	0.9082	0.9099	0.9115	0.9131	0.9147	0.9162	0.9177
1.4	0.9192	0.9207	0.9222	0.9236	0.9251	0.9265	0.9279	0.9292	0.9306	0.9319
1.5	0.9332	0.9345	0.9357	0.9370	0.9382	0.9394	0.9406	0.9418	0.9429	0.9441
1.6	0.9452	0.9463	0.9474	0.9484	0.9495	0.9505	0.9515	0.9525	0.9535	0.9545
1.7	0.9554	0.9564	0.9573	0.9582	0.9591	0.9599	0.9608	0.9616	0.9625	0.9633
1.8	0.9641	0.9649	0.9656	0.9664	0.9671	0.9678	0.9686	0.9693	0.9699	0.9706
1.9	0.9713	0.9719	0.9726	0.9732	0.9738	0.9744	0.9750	0.9756	0.9761	0.9767
2.0	0.9772	0.9778	0.9783	0.9788	0.9793	0.9798	0.9803	0.9808	0.9812	0.9817
2.1	0.9821	0.9826	0.9830	0.9834	0.9838	0.9842	0.9846	0.9850	0.9854	0.9857
2.2	0.9861	0.9864	0.9868	0.9871	0.9875	0.9878	0.9881	0.9884	0.9887	0.9890
2.3	0.9893	0.9896	0.9898	0.9901	0.9904	0.9906	0.9909	0.9911	0.9913	0.9916
2.4	0.9918	0.9920	0.9922	0.9925	0.9927	0.9929	0.9931	0.9932	0.9934	0.9936
2.5	0.9938	0.9940	0.9941	0.9943	0.9945	0.9946	0.9948	0.9949	0.9951	0.9952
2.6	0.9953	0.9955	0.9956	0.9957	0.9959	0.9960	0.9961	0.9962	0.9963	0.9964
2.7	0.9965	0.9966	0.9967	0.9968	0.9969	0.9970	0.9971	0.9972	0.9973	0.9974
2.8	0.9974	0.9975	0.9976	0.9977	0.9977	0.9978	0.9979	0.9979	0.9980	0.9981
2.9	0.9981	0.9982	0.9982	0.9983	0.9984	0.9984	0.9985	0.9985	0.9986	0.9986
3.0	0.9987	0.9987	0.9987	0.9988	0.9988	0.9989	0.9989	0.9989	0.9990	0.9990

EXERCISE

A power company measures the voltage output (in volts) of a batch of transformers. The population standard deviation ($\boldsymbol{\sigma}$) is known to be $\mathbf{0.5}$ volts. A random sample of **30** transformers is tested, and their voltage outputs are recorded in "transformer-voltage-data " dataset . Calculate a **95% confidence interval** for the true mean voltage output ($\boldsymbol{\mu}$) of all transformers.

Solution:

LABORATORY