Statistical Inference Project

Part 1: Simulation Exercises

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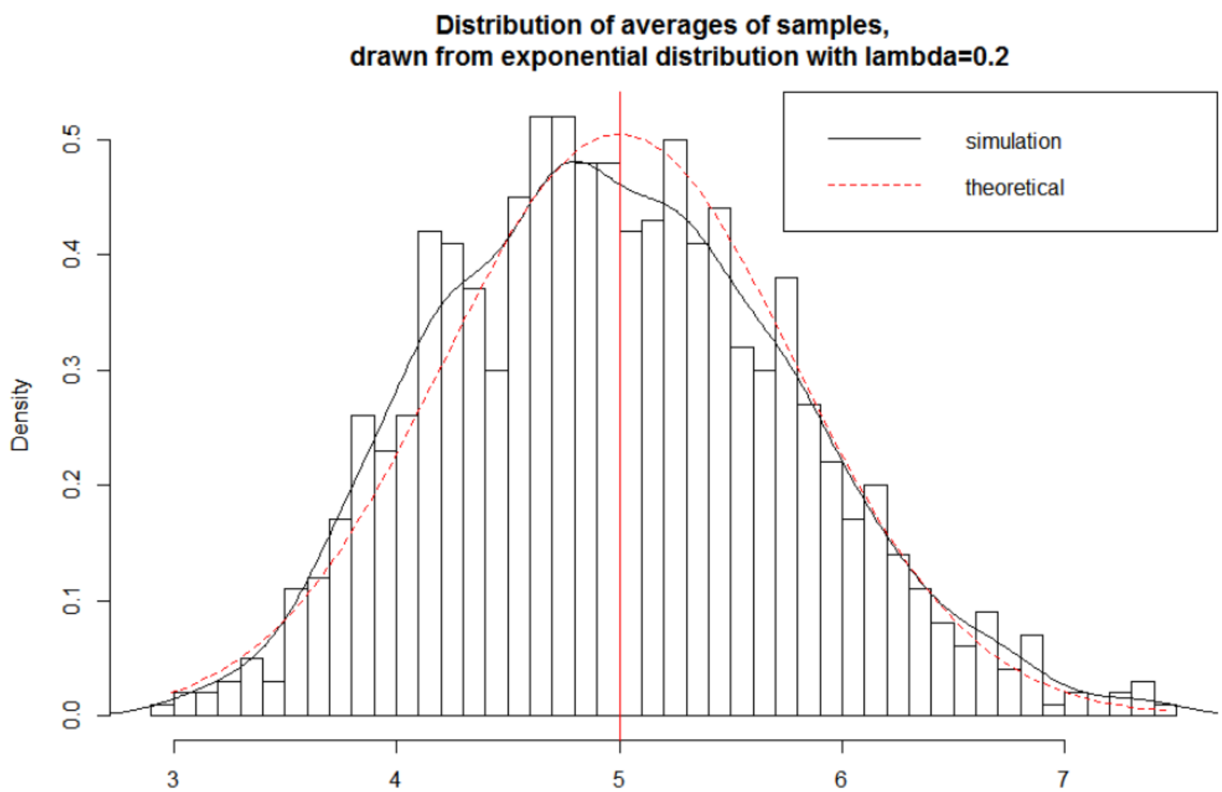
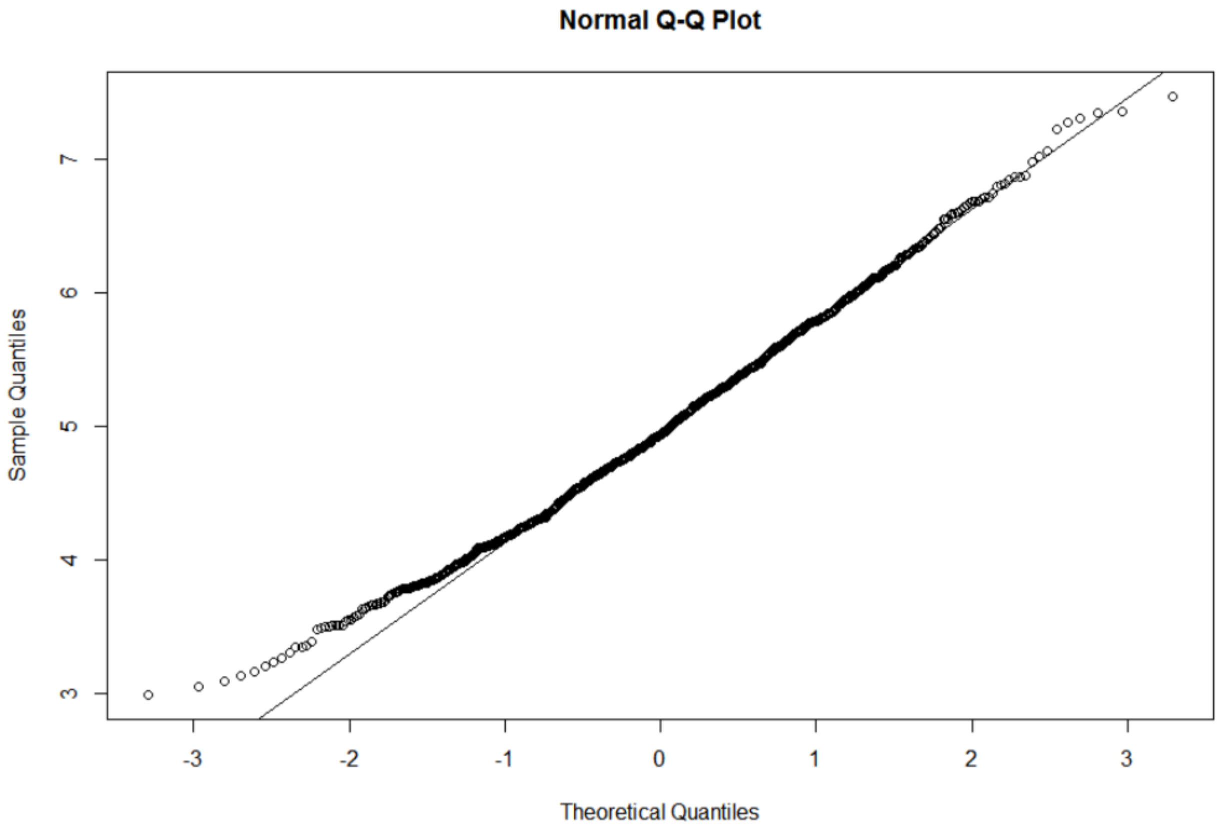
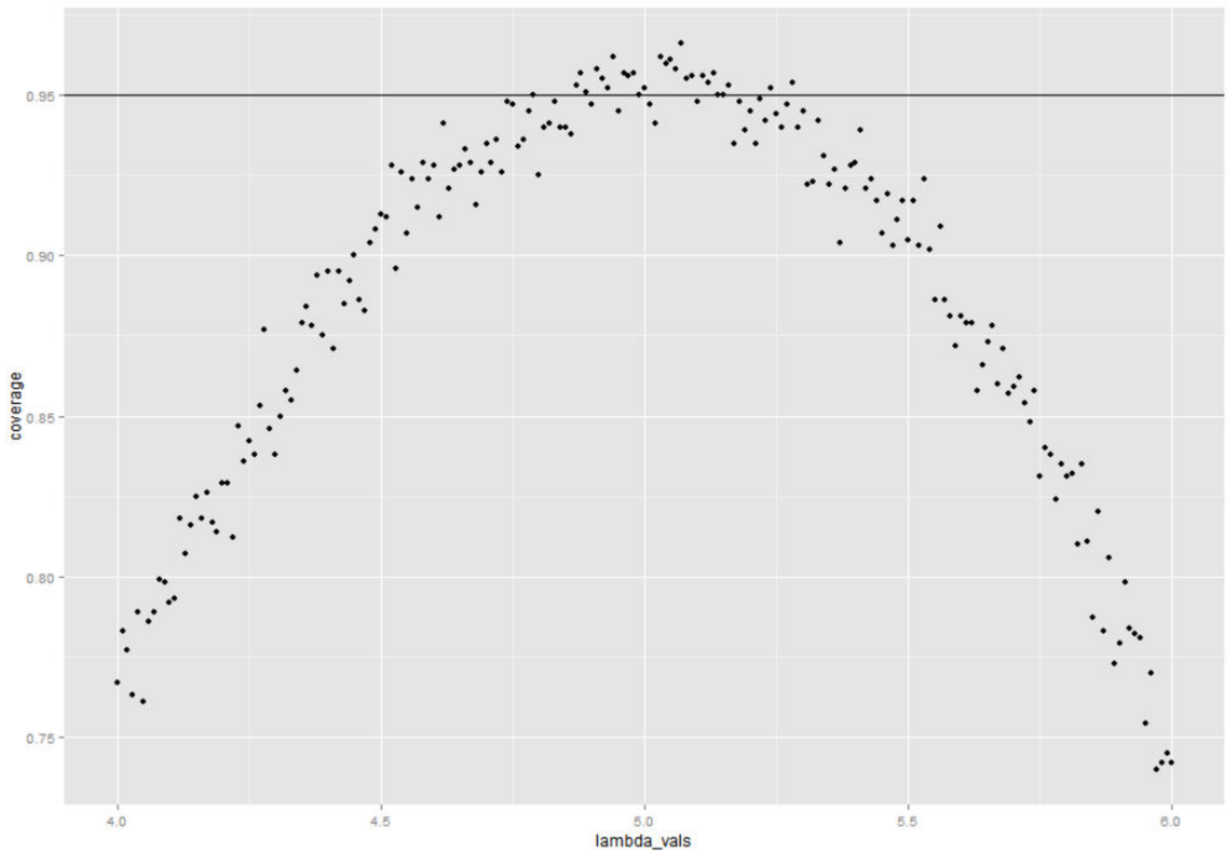
The exponential distribution can be simulated in R with rexp(n, lambda) where lambda λ is the rate parameter. The mean of exponential distribution is $1/\lambda$ and the standard deviation is also $1/\lambda$. For this simulation, we set $\lambda = 0.2$. In this simulation, we investigate the distribution of averages of 40 numbers sampled from exponential distribution with $\lambda = 0.2$.
Let's do a thousand simulated averages of 40 exponentials.

```
set.seed(3)

lambda <- 0.2

num_sim <- 1000

sample_size <- 40

sim <- matrix(rexp(num_sim*sample_size, rate=lambda), num_sim, sample_size)

row_means <- rowMeans(sim)
```



The distribution of sample means is centered at 4.9866 and the theoretical center of the distribution is $\lambda^{-1} = 5$. The variance of sample means is 0.6258 where the theoretical variance of the distribution is $\sigma^2/n = 1/(\lambda^2 n) = 1/(0.04 \times 40) = 0.625$.
Due to the central limit theorem, the averages of samples follow normal distribution. The figure above also
shows the density computed using the histogram and the normal density plotted with theoretical mean and
variance values. Also, the q-q plot below suggests the normality.





The 95% confidence intervals for the rate parameter (λ) to be estimated ($\hat{\lambda}$) are
$\hat{\lambda}_{low} = \hat{\lambda}(1 - 1.96/\text{squareroot}(n))$ and
$\hat{\lambda}_{upp} = \hat{\lambda}(1 + 1.96/\text{Squareroot}(n))$.

As can be seen from the plot above, for selection of $\hat{\lambda}$ around 5, the average of the sample mean falls within the confidence interval at least 95% of the time. Note that the true rate, λ is 5.