

Worksheet 18 (Solutions)

1. Let $X \sim N(4, 10^2)$. What is the probability that X is greater than 20?

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[X > 20] &= \mathbb{P}[(X - 4)/10 > (20 - 4)/10] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Z > 1.6] \\ &= 1 - 0.9452 \\ &= 0.0548\end{aligned}$$

2. Let $X \sim N(1, 3^2)$. What is the probability that X is between 0 and 5?

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[X < 5] &= \mathbb{P}[(X - 1)/3 < (5 - 1)/3] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Z < 1.333333] \\ &= 0.9082\end{aligned}$$

The solution comes from taking $0.9082 - 0.5$, which is 0.4082.

3. Let $X \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$. What is the probability that X is greater than 3σ ?

We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[X > 3\sigma] &= \mathbb{P}[X/\sigma > 3] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[Z > 3] \\ &= 1 - 0.9986 \\ &= 0.0014\end{aligned}$$

4. Let $X \sim \text{Bin}(100, 0.2)$. Using a normal approximation, estimate the probability that X is between 10 and 25.

The mean is equal to 20 and the variance is $np(1 - p)$, or 16, so we

have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}[X < 10] &= \mathbb{P}[(X - 20)/4 < (10 - 20)/4] \\
 &= \mathbb{P}[Z < -2.5] \\
 &= \mathbb{P}[Z > 2.5] \\
 &= 1 - 0.9938 \\
 &= 0.0062
 \end{aligned}$$

And the probability that X is greater than 25 is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}[X > 25] &= \mathbb{P}[(X - 20)/4 > (25 - 20)/4] \\
 &= \mathbb{P}[Z > 1.25] \\
 &= 1 - 0.8944 \\
 &= 0.1056
 \end{aligned}$$

And, adding the regions, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}[10 < X < 25] &= 1 - 0.1056 - 0.0062 \\
 &= 0.8882
 \end{aligned}$$

5. Let $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim_{i.i.d.} N(\mu, 1)$. If n is equal to 16 what is the probability that \bar{X} is more than 0.1 away from μ ? What if n is equal to 100?

We know that $\bar{X} \sim N(\mu, n^{-1})$, so:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{P}[|\bar{X} - \mu| > 1] &= 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}[\bar{X} - \mu > 0.1] \\
 &= 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}[(\bar{X} - \mu) \cdot \sqrt{n} > 0.1 \cdot \sqrt{n}] \\
 &= 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}[Z > 0.1\sqrt{n}]
 \end{aligned}$$

For $n = 16$, we then have

$$\begin{aligned}
 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}[Z > 0.4] &= 2 \cdot (1 - 0.6554) \\
 &= 0.6892
 \end{aligned}$$

So the estimator is more than 0.1 of the actual value about 69% of the time. Now with $n = 100$ we instead have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}[Z > 1] &= 2 \cdot (1 - 0.8413) \\
 &= 0.3174
 \end{aligned}$$

So, in this case, the estimator is not within 0.1 with a probability of 31.7%.