The Riddler Classic - Marathon Problem

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Problem (538 Link). Given $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{i.i.d}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, estimate the number of n such that the probability of every pair of r.v.s is less than any $s \geq 0$, meaning $|X_i - X_j| \leq s$ for all $i \neq j$, is 0.99.

Solution The problem can be restated as, what is the gap between the order statistics of the i.i.d random variables.

Below is from an numerical experiment that looks at different number of N runners and different values of s, which is denoted as ϵ .

