

1. The heights in centimetres of a random sample of five Pearson students were 158, 184, 177, 166, 170. Calculate unbiased estimates of the mean and variance of the population of heights of all Pearson students.

$$\bar{x} = 171, \quad S_{n-1} = 10 \quad \text{according to the GDC.}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \hat{\mu} = 171, \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = 10^2 = 100.$$

2. Consider the Mersenne number $M_n = 2^n - 1$. Prove that if M_n is prime then n is prime. Is the converse also true?

Suppose M_n is prime while n isn't.

Then $n = ab$, $a > 1$, $b > 1$, $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$.

$$M_n = (2^a)^b - 1 = (2^a - 1)[(2^a)^{b-1} + (2^a)^{b-2} + \dots + 1]$$

Since $2^a - 1 > 1$, $(2^a)^{b-1} + \dots + 1 > 1$,

M_n is composite.

Hence n must be prime by the contrast.

The converse isn't true as

$$2^{11} - 1 = 2047 = 23 \times 89.$$

3. Currently, the largest known prime number is the Mersenne prime $2^{82589933} - 1$.

(a) How many digits does this number have in base 16?

$$\lceil \log_{16} 2^{82589933} \rceil = \lceil 20647483.25 \rceil = 20647484.$$

The power isn't odd, so the last digit can't be 0. "-1" won't have effects on digit number. So the value has 20647484 digits.

(b) How many digits does this number have in base 10?

$$\lceil \log 2^{82589933} \rceil = 24862048.$$

The power of 2 never ends in 0, so "-1" still has no effect on digit number. Hence, the value has 24862048 digits.

4. Pippin chocolates are packed in boxes of 25. The weight in grams of a Pippin chocolate is distributed $N(10, 2^2)$.

(a) What is the probability that the contents of a box of Pippin chocolates weighs more than 245 grams?

$$S \sim N(250, 25 \cdot 2^2)$$

$$P(S > 245) = \text{normalcdf}(245, \infty, 250, \sqrt{25 \cdot 4}) = 0.691 \text{ (3 s.f.)}$$

(b) What is the probability that the mean weight of the chocolates in a box is between 9.9 and 10.1 grams?

$$M \sim N\left(10, \frac{2^2}{25}\right)$$

$$P(9.9 \leq M \leq 10.1) = \text{normalcdf}(9.9, 10.1, 10, \sqrt{\frac{4}{25}}) = 0.197 \text{ (3 s.f.)}$$

5. Consider the permutations $(1\ 2)$ and $(1\ 2\ 3)$ in the symmetric group S_3 .

(a) Let $H = \langle (1\ 2) \rangle$.

i. Determine the left cosets of H in S_3 giving your answers in cycle notation.

$$\{(1\ 3), (1\ 2\ 3)\}, \{(2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2)\}, \text{ also } \{e, (1\ 2)\}$$

ii. Determine the right cosets of H in S_3 giving your answers in cycle notation.

$$\{(1\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2)\}, \{(2\ 3), (1\ 2\ 3)\}, \text{ also } \{e, (1\ 2)\}$$

(b) Describe the group $\langle (1\ 2), (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle$.

$$(1\ 2)(1\ 2) = e$$

$$\text{so } \langle (1\ 2), (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle = S_3$$

$$(1\ 2)(1\ 2\ 3) = (2\ 3)$$

$$(1\ 2\ 3)(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 3\ 2)$$

$$(1\ 2\ 3)(1\ 3\ 2) = e$$

$$(1\ 2)(1\ 3\ 2) = (1\ 3)$$