Course project: Part 1

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Overview

The following report covers Task 1 in the final course project of course "Statistical Inference" available on Coursera. In this project I will investigate the exponential distribution in R and compare it with the Central Limit Theorem.

Simulations

A thousand simulations are performed. The value for lambda is set at 0.2 and the distribution of means of 40 exponential distributions are used.

The simulations illustrate:

- comparison of the sample mean with the theoretical mean of the distribution,
- how variable the sample is and compare it to the theoretical variance of the distribution,
- that the distribution is approximately normal.

Sample vs Theoretical means

Setup

Mean comparison

Theoretical mean is computed as 1 over lambda:

num [1:40, 1:1000] 0.505 6.886 6.863 21.047 0.674 ...

```
theoretical_mean <- 1/lambda
paste0('Theoretical mean: ', theoretical_mean)</pre>
```

```
## [1] "Theoretical mean: 5"
```

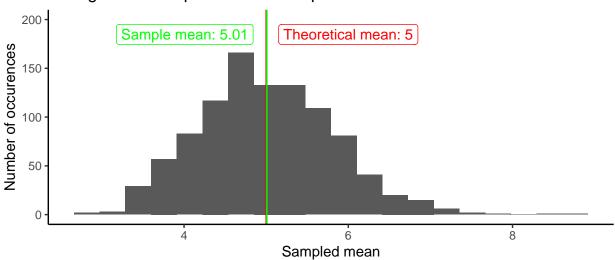
For a sample mean, I need to compute a mean for each simulation and then find a mean of the sample means.

```
simluated_means <- apply(simulations, 2, mean)
mean_of_sampled_means <- mean(simluated_means)
paste0('Sample mean: ', mean_of_sampled_means)</pre>
```

[1] "Sample mean: 5.00839620389703"

Visually this can be displayed as:

Histogram of sampled means compared to the theoretical mean



Sample vs Theoretical variances

Theoretical variance of the exponential distribution is 1/lambda^2:

```
theoretical_variance <- 1/(lambda^2)
paste0('Theoretical variance: ', theoretical_variance)</pre>
```

[1] "Theoretical variance: 25"

In the same way I calculated means for the simulated dataset, variance calculation is possible:

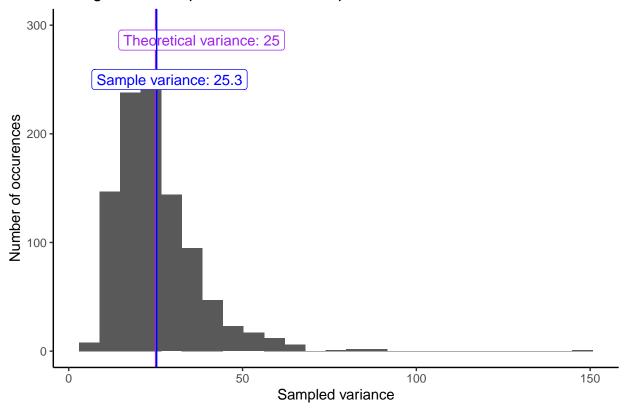
```
simulated_variances <- apply(simulations, 2, var)

mean_of_sampled_variances <- mean(simulated_variances)
paste0('Sample data variance: ', mean_of_sampled_variances)</pre>
```

[1] "Sample data variance: 25.2987318536376"

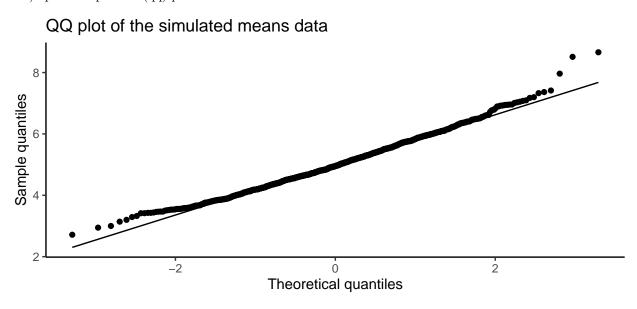
Visually the differences can be displayed for example as following:

Histogram of sampled variances compared to the theoretical variance



Distribution of the means is normally distributed

1) quantile-quantile (qq) plot



2) distribution density compared to normal distribution's density if it had the same mean

If we find normal distribution with the same standard deviation and mean as our resampled means and compare the densities, we can "eyeball" the plot to see how close the densities are.

Normal distribution and sampled means densities

Normal distribution and sample means distributions have the same parameters

