

Normal confidence intervals

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First, I will set up the **confidence level**.

```
c=0.80
```

The critical value associated with this confidence level is

```
z.star=qnorm((1+c)/2)
z.star
```

```
## [1] 1.281552
```

Next, let's draw a sample of size $n = 100$ from the standard normal distribution.

```
n=100
srs=rnorm(n,0,1)
srs
```

```
## [1] 0.25915167 0.11574200 0.59661785 -2.02795107 -0.24443083 -0.20591710
## [7] -0.29727253 -1.15537109 0.56656248 -0.35627697 -0.04845604 0.54829681
## [13] -1.08815161 2.25616429 -0.78452691 1.40776535 0.01766353 0.52491032
## [19] -0.42369809 -0.73728414 0.81626525 1.16310236 -0.39934987 1.56520853
## [25] -1.02647741 0.34854508 0.06181104 -1.74755104 0.23116746 0.50514287
## [31] -0.58277265 0.35207234 1.44518542 0.01908338 -0.86368531 -0.48716906
## [37] 0.97661264 -1.91886908 -0.90158009 0.15655673 0.45549280 -0.56760510
## [43] -0.15442038 -0.76253076 0.67671333 -0.49388745 0.93609208 -1.49288371
## [49] 1.80873080 0.76739031 -1.25419465 -0.64859834 1.04288131 -0.28334203
## [55] 0.89544044 -1.59135820 0.98804300 0.50324165 0.54601610 -1.24311680
## [61] -0.40033010 -1.32671492 1.60649798 0.20808914 -1.58969698 -0.10651805
## [67] 1.18959102 -1.22709328 1.05522855 -0.55071794 -1.41968514 -0.35362659
## [73] -0.60653550 -0.93872165 0.12638084 -1.42603960 -0.99896707 1.17981710
## [79] 0.20328784 2.25245683 0.50930854 1.49466296 -0.74866986 0.19082804
## [85] -0.22638792 0.88784647 0.23501857 -1.30506714 0.12570302 0.11572848
## [91] -1.76027562 -0.69627705 0.65474335 -0.47835905 0.22924477 -0.11696630
## [97] 1.66978777 -2.48790154 2.05050297 1.22168875
```

What's the value of the point estimate for the mean in this sample?

```
x.bar=mean(srs)
x.bar
```

```
## [1] -0.02793197
```

Assume that the σ_X parameter is known. What's the value of the standard error?

```
s.e=1/sqrt(n)
s.e
```

```
## [1] 0.1
```

What's the value of the margin of error?

```
m.e=z.star*s.e
m.e
```

```
## [1] 0.1281552
```

Then the confidence interval will be $\bar{x} \pm z^* \left(\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$. Is the theoretical mean in the confidence interval?

```
abs(x.bar-0)<m.e
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

What if we repeat this procedure a number of times? Say, 1000?

```
n=100
n.sim=1000
in.conf.int=numeric(0)
for (i in 1:n.sim){
  srs=rnorm(n,0,1)
  x.bar=mean(srs)
  in.conf.int=append(in.conf.int,as.numeric(abs(x.bar-0)<m.e))
}
mean(in.conf.int)
```

```
## [1] 0.786
```