MATH 140 Check-Up

January 12, 2023

Which value is more extreme, the value X=12, which lives in a N(10,0.5) distribution or X=20 which lives in a N(10,5) distribution?

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Answer

The first value has standardized value Z = (12 - 10)/0.5 = 4, while the second has standardized value Z = (20 - 10)/5 = 2, so the first value is more extreme in its distribution.

Give an example of a discrete random variable X; give an example of a continuous random variable Y

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Answer

X = how many 4s you get when you roll a single die ten times. Y = the weight (in grams) of newborn chicks.

Assume 60% of all ripe watermelons at a particular farm weigh more than 20 pounds. We randomly select 10 to sample and find 40% of them weigh more than 20 pounds. (a) Is 60% a parameter or a statistic? (b) Is 40% a parameter or a statistic?

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Answer

(a) parameter; (b) statistic

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Suppose the diameters of ball-bearing produced at a plant vary normally with mean $1.2~\rm cm$ and standard deviation $0.05~\rm cm$. If you pick a ball-bearing at random, what is the probability that it will have diameter between $1.18~\rm and$ $1.22~\rm cm$?

Answer

If X = the diameter of a randomly chosen ball-bearing, we want P(1.18 < X < 1.22).

This probability equals $P(z_{low} < Z < z_{high})$ where

$$z_{low} = (1.18 - 1.2)/0.05 = -0.4$$
, and

$$z_{high} = (1.22 - 1.2)/0.05 = 0.4.$$

Finally, P(-0.4 < Z < 0.4) = pnorm(0.4)-pnorm(-0.4) = .3108

Suppose a big box of marbles contains 1800 blue ones and 3200 orange ones, all mixed up. We close our eyes and randomly grab 200 marbles. Use the CLT to estimate the probability of getting at least 90 blue marbles in our sample.

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Answer

To use CLT, convert everything to proportions.

p = proportion of blue marbles in the box = 1800/5000 = 0.36.

We gather a sample of size n=200 and ask for this probability: $P(\hat{p} > 90/200)$

By the CLT, \hat{p} lives in a normal distribution with mean = p = .36, and standard deviation $\sqrt{p(1-p)/n} = .03394$.

Now, 90/200 = 0.45 and the Z-score for 0.45 is Z = (0.45-0.36)/.03394 = 2.65.

So we want P(Z > 2.65) = 1-pnorm(2.65) = .0040.