

1. (a) Yes; I'd think that it will be approximately a normal distribution with most Americans consuming around 2 lb of ground beef per month. And as the monthly ground beef consumption deviates from 2 lb, in both directions, there will be fewer and fewer amount of people.

(b) Yes; invoking Central Limit Theorem, the sample size here is larger than 30. Considering that the population distribution won't be heavily skewed, I would expect the sample mean to be approximately normal.

(c) Assuming a t distribution, we can use the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} 95\% \text{ CI} &= \left(\bar{x} - t_{\alpha/2, 99} \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}, \bar{x} + t_{\alpha/2, 99} \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \quad t_{0.025, 99} = 1.984 \\ &= \left(2.45 - 1.984 \cdot \frac{2}{\sqrt{100}}, 2.45 + 1.984 \cdot \frac{2}{\sqrt{100}} \right) \\ &= (2.0532, 2.8468) \end{aligned}$$

2. Referring to \rightarrow table of critical values for t distribution,

① $n=10$, $t_{\alpha/2, 9} = 1.96$, using R: " $\alpha \leftarrow (1 - pt(1.96, 9)) \cdot 2$ ", $\alpha = 0.08$
So the CI is actually $100(1 - 0.08)\% = 92\% \text{ CI}$

② $n=200$, $t_{\alpha/2, 199} = 1.96$, using R: " $\alpha \leftarrow (1 - pt(1.96, 199)) \cdot 2$ ", $\alpha = 0.05$
So the CI is actually $100(1 - 0.05)\% = 95\% \text{ CI}$

3. a. $L(\lambda) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_1} \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda x_2} \cdot \dots \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda x_n}$

b. $\log(L(\lambda)) = \log(\lambda e^{-\lambda x_1}) + \log(\lambda e^{-\lambda x_2}) \dots + \log(\lambda e^{-\lambda x_n})$

$$= \log(\lambda) + \log(e^{-\lambda x_1}) + \log(\lambda) + \log(e^{-\lambda x_2}) \dots + \log(\lambda) + \log(e^{-\lambda x_n})$$

$$= n \cdot \log(\lambda) - \lambda x_1 - \lambda x_2 \dots - \lambda x_n \text{ or } \sum_{i=1}^n (\log(\lambda) - \lambda x_i)$$

c. $d \log(L(\lambda)) / d\lambda = n \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_n = 0$

$$n \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n) = 0 \Rightarrow n \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} - n \cdot E(x) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = E(x) = \mu \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

d. see next page