

Extra Credit

Direct proof that \bar{X} and S^2 are independent when sampling from the $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ distribution.

Let X_1, X_2 independent $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ random variables. (A random sample of size $n = 2$.)

1. Show that $Y_1 = X_1 + X_2$ and $Y_2 = X_2 - X_1$ are independent.
2. What is the distribution of Y_1 ? What is the distribution of Y_2 ?
3. Show that $W_1 = \frac{1}{2}Y_1$ and $W_2 = \frac{1}{2}Y_2$ are independent.

Note:

$$\begin{aligned} W_1 &= \frac{1}{2}Y_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(X_1 + X_2) \\ &= \bar{X} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} W_2 &= \frac{1}{2}Y_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(X_2 - X_1) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}X_2 - \frac{1}{2}X_1 \\ &= X_2 - \frac{1}{2}X_1 - \frac{1}{2}X_2 \\ &= X_2 - \left(\frac{X_1 + X_2}{2}\right) \\ &= X_2 - \bar{X} \end{aligned}$$

(So \bar{X} and the $n - 1$ deviations from the sample mean are independent.)

4. What is the distribution of W_1 ? What is the distribution of W_2 ?
5. Show that since W_1 and W_2 are independent that $W_3 = X_1 - \bar{X}$ is also independent of W_1 .

Note:

$$X_1 - \bar{X} + X_2 - \bar{X} = 0$$

(So \bar{X} and the first deviation $X_1 - \bar{X}$ are also independent.)

6. Argue that \bar{X} and $S^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^2 (X_i - \bar{X})^2$ are independent for a random sample of size $n = 2$ from the $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ distribution.
7. What is the distribution of \bar{X} ? What is the distribution of S^2 ?
8. Develop the same results for $n = 3$.
9. Develop the same result for a sample of size n .