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**14.23** A study reports the mean change in HDL (high-density lipoprotein, or "good" cholesterol) of adults eating raw garlic six days a week for six months. The margin of error for a 95% confidence interval is given as plus or minus 6 milligrams per deciliter of blood (mg/dl).<sup>8</sup> This means that

- (a) we can be certain that the study result is within 6 mg/dl of the truth about the population.
- (b) we could be certain that the study result is within 6 mg/dl of the truth about the population if the conditions for inferences were satisfied.
- (c) the study used a method that gives a result within 6 mg/dl of the truth about the population in 95% of all samples.

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- 1. A CI is written like this: (Estimate-Margin of Error, Estimate+Margin of Error)
- 2. The confidence level (popularly 95%) can be interpreted as the percentage of many, many generated CI's that will contain the true distribution parameter.

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Be careful with your units!

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This is a direct application of the definition of a confidence interval.

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Helpful Note: Uncertainty is statisticians' forte. If we were certain, we wouldn't need to estimate anything.

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A laboratory scale is known to have a standard deviation of  $\sigma = 0.001$  gram in repeated weighings. Scale readings in repeated weighings are Normally distributed, with mean equal to the true weight of the specimen.

**14.24** Three weighings of a specimen on this scale give 3.412, 3.416, and 3.414 grams. A 95% confidence interval for the

true weight is

- (a)  $3.414 \pm 0.00113$ .
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#### **CONFIDENCE INTERVAL FOR THE MEAN OF A NORMAL POPULATION**

Draw an SRS of size n from a Normal population having unknown mean  $\mu$  and known standard deviation  $\sigma$ . A level C confidence interval for  $\mu$  is

$$\overline{x} \pm z^* \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

The critical value  $z^*$  is illustrated in Figure 14.4 and found in Table C or using technology. Technology can also be used to obtain the confidence interval directly.

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Confidence level C	90%	95%	99%
Critical value z*	1.645	1.960	2.576

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We've got a normal distribution with unknown mean and known variance.

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And some data to calculate the sample mean from.

Calculate the sample mean "x-bar". You can also do this by some inspection.

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n <- 3
data <- c(3.412, 3.416, 3.414)
x_bar <- sum(data) / n
x_bar</pre>
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## [1] 3.414
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Calculate the margin of error (ME).

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sigma <- 0.001
z_star <- 1.96
me <- z_star*(sigma/sqrt(n))
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Therefore, our confidence interval is  $3.414 \pm 0.0011316$ .

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Therefore, our confidence interval is 3.414  $\pm$  0.0011316.

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# Try answering this on your own for a bit.

- (a) not significant at the 5% level.
- (b) significant at the 5% level but not at the 1% level.
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- **14.30** You use software to run a test of significance. The program tells you that the *P*-value is 0.031. This result is
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  - 2. It is defined as P(Rejecting H0 | H0 is true).

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- 1. A p-value is a standard for decision making used in most statistical analyses.
  - 2. It is defined as P(Rejecting H0 | H0 is true).
- 3. But also, it is the probability of observing data as extreme as yours given that your null hypothesis is true.

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# Interpret the p-value in the question

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# Interpret the p-value in the question

We expect to observe our data or more extreme 3.1% of the time given that our null hypothesis is true.

# So, is this p-value significant?

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Significance Level (alpha)	p-value v. alpha	Significant?
0.01		
0.05		

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