

Answer on Question #82458 – Math – Statistics and Probability

Question

Sample of 40 electric batteries gives a mean life span of 600 hours with a standard deviation of 20 hours. Another sample of 50 electric batteries gives a mean lifespan of 520 hours with a standard deviation of 30 hours. If these two samples were combined and used in a given project simultaneously, determine the combined new mean for the larger sample and hence determine the combined or pulled standard deviation.

Solution

Let m be the combined mean.

Let x_1 be the mean of first sample.

Let x_2 be the mean of the second sample.

Let n_1 be the size of the first sample.

Let n_2 be the size of the second sample.

Let s_1 be the standard deviation of the first sample.

Let s_2 be the standard deviation of the second sample.

$$\text{combined mean} = m = \frac{n_1 x_1 + n_2 x_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

$$\text{combined standard deviation} = \sqrt{\frac{n_1 s_1^2 + n_1 (m - x_1)^2 + n_2 s_2^2 + n_2 (m - x_2)^2}{n_1 + n_2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 &= \frac{n_1 s_1^2 + n_1 (m - x_1)^2 + n_2 s_2^2 + n_2 (m - x_2)^2}{n_1 + n_2} = \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (x_i - x_1)^2 + n_1 (m - x_1)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} (y_i - x_2)^2 + n_2 (m - x_2)^2}{n_1 + n_2} = \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} ((x_i - x_1)^2 + (x_1 - m)^2) + \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} ((y_i - x_2)^2 + (x_2 - m)^2)}{n_1 + n_2} = \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (x_i^2 - 2x_i x_1 + 2x_1^2 - 2m x_1 + m^2)}{n_1 + n_2} + \\ &+ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_2} (y_i^2 - 2y_i x_2 + 2x_2^2 - 2m x_2 + m^2)}{n_1 + n_2} = \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \left(x_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} \frac{x_j}{n_1} \right) + 2n_1 x_1^2 - 2x_1 \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} x_i}{n_1 + n_2} + \\ &+ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_2} \left(y_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \frac{y_j}{n_2} \right) + 2n_2 x_2^2 - 2x_2 \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} y_i}{n_1 + n_2} = \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \left(x_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} \frac{x_j}{n_1} \right) + 2n_1 x_1^2 - 2x_1 n_1 x_1}{n_1 + n_2} + \\
&+ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_2} \left(y_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \frac{y_j}{n_2} \right) + 2n_2 x_2^2 - 2x_2 n_2 x_2}{n_1 + n_2} = \\
&= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \left(x_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} \frac{x_j}{n_1} \right)}{n_1 + n_2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_2} \left(y_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_2} \frac{y_j}{n_2} \right)}{n_1 + n_2}
\end{aligned}$$

Since each $\left(-2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} \frac{x_j}{n_1} \right)$ term appears n_1 times, then we can reorder the sums

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \left(x_i^2 + m^2 - 2m \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} \frac{x_j}{n_1} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (x_i^2 + m^2 - 2mx_i)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
s^2 &= \frac{n_1 s_1^2 + n_1 (m - x_1)^2 + n_2 s_2^2 + n_2 (m - x_2)^2}{n_1 + n_2} = \\
&= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1} (x_i^2 + m^2 - 2mx_i)}{n_1 + n_2} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_2} (y_i^2 + m^2 - 2my_i)}{n_1 + n_2} = \\
&= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1+n_2} (z_i^2 + m^2 - 2mz_i)}{n_1 + n_2} = \\
&= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_1+n_2} (z_i - m)^2}{n_1 + n_2} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} s^2
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
n_1 &= 40, x_1 = 600 \text{ h}, s_1 = 20 \text{ h} \\
n_2 &= 50, x_2 = 520 \text{ h}, s_2 = 30 \text{ h}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{combined mean} = m = \frac{40(600) + 50(520)}{40 + 50} = \frac{5000}{9} \approx 555.56 \text{ (h)}$$

combined standard deviation =

$$= \sqrt{\frac{40(20)^2 + 40 \left(\frac{5000}{9} - 600 \right)^2 + 50(30)^2 + 50 \left(\frac{5000}{9} - 520 \right)^2}{40 + 50}} \approx 47.52 \text{ (h)}$$

combined mean = 555.56 hours

combined standard deviation = 47.52 hours

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