

3.5) Finding μ and σ

Worked example

$$X \sim N(\mu, 4^2)$$

Given that $P(X > 30) = 0.1$, find the value of μ .

Your turn

$$X \sim N(\mu, 3^2)$$

Given that $P(X > 20) = 0.2$, find the value of μ .

$$\mu = 17.5 \text{ (3sf)}$$

Worked example

A machine makes metal sheets with width, X cm, modelled as a normal distribution such that

$$X \sim N(70, \sigma^2)$$

- (a) Given that $P(X < 64) = 0.02275$, find the value of σ .
- (b) Find the 80th percentile of the widths.

Your turn

A machine makes metal sheets with width, X cm, modelled as a normal distribution such that

$$X \sim N(50, \sigma^2)$$

- (a) Given that $P(X < 46) = 0.2119$, find the value of σ .
- (b) Find the 90th percentile of the widths.

- a) $\sigma = 5$
- b) 56.4 cm (1dp)

Worked example

A random variable

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Given that $P(X < 13) = 0.1964$ and $P(X > 51) = 0.01$, find the values of μ and σ

Your turn

A random variable

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Given that $P(X < 15) = 0.1469$ and $P(X > 35) = 0.025$, find the values of μ and σ

$$\sigma = 6.64, \mu = 22.0 \text{ (3 sf)}$$

Worked example

The time taken for a journey, X , has a normal distribution with mean 200 minutes and standard deviation d minutes.

Given that 30% of the journeys take longer than 230 minutes, find the standard deviation.

Your turn

The time taken for a journey, X , has a normal distribution with mean 100 minutes and standard deviation d minutes.

Given that 15% of the journeys take longer than 115 minutes, find the standard deviation.

$$d = 14.5$$

Worked example

The time taken for a journey, X , is normally distributed with mean μ days and standard deviation σ days.

15% of journeys are shorter than 532 days.

2.5% are longer than 682 days.

Find the values between which the middle 95% of journeys lie.

Your turn

The time taken for a journey, X , is normally distributed with mean μ days and standard deviation σ days.

2.5% of journeys are shorter than 235 days.

15% are longer than 286 days.

Find the values between which the middle 68% of journeys lie.

251 and 285 (3 sf)

Worked example

The mass of an animal is found to be normally distributed with mean μ and standard deviation σ .

10% of the animals have a mass less than 9 kg. 5% of the animals have a mass greater than 60 kg.

8 animals are chosen at random.

Find the probability that at least two of them have a mass greater than 50 kg.

Your turn

The mass of an animal is found to be normally distributed with mean μ and standard deviation σ .

5% of the animals have a mass less than 18 kg. 10% of the animals have a mass greater than 30 kg.

9 animals are chosen at random.

Find the probability that at least three of them have a mass greater than 25 kg.

0.8832 (4 dp)