Problem.

A random sample of size 10 from a normal population gives the values,

64, 72, 65, 70, 68, 71, 65, 62, 66, 67.

65.432 and 68.568.

If it is known that the standard error of the sample mean is v0.64, find the 95% confidence limits for the population mean. Also find the population variance.

Solution:

The mean of this sample equals $\bar{x} = \frac{64+72+65+70+68+71+65+62+66+67}{10} = 67$. For 95% confidence interval $z^* = 1.96$. The confidence limits for the population mean are equal to $\bar{x} \pm z^* \cdot \text{SE}$ (SE = $\sqrt{0.64} = 0.8$) or

$$SE = \frac{\sqrt{Var}}{\sqrt{n}},$$

so the population variance equals $Var = nSE^2 = 6.4$.

Answer: confidence limits for the population mean are 65.432 and 68.568; the population variance equals Var = 6.4.