Session 3: Probability Distributions II Exercise Solutions

For questions 1 and 2, recall that, for offspring genotypes from a heterozygous cross:

Carrier = Aa with $Pr(Aa) = \frac{1}{2}$

Unaffected = AA with $Pr(AA) = \frac{1}{4}$

Affected = aa with Pr(aa) = 1/4

Consider a scenario with n=3 offspring.

Question 1

What is the probability that all three offspring will be carriers?

$$P(Y_1 = 0, Y_2 = 3, Y_3 = 0) = \frac{3!}{0!3!0!} p_1^0 p_2^3 p_3^0$$

= $\frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} (0.25)^0 (0.5)^3 (0.25)^0$
= 0.125

R code:

dmultinom(x=c(0, 3, 0), prob=c(0.25, 0.5, 0.25))

Question 2

What is the probability that two offspring will be affected and one will be a carrier?

$$P(Y_1 = 0, Y_2 = 1, Y_3 = 2) = \frac{3!}{0!1!2!} p_1^0 p_2^1 p_3^2$$

= $\frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 1} (0.25)^0 (0.5)^1 (0.25)^2$
= 0.09375

R code:

dmultinom(x=c(0, 1, 2), prob=c(0.25, 0.5, 0.25))

Exercises

For the following questions, calculate the specified probabilities for the standard Normal random variable $Z \sim N(0,1)$. You can use an online standard Normal CDF calculator.

Question 3

P(Z ≤ 1.65) = **0.9505**

R code:

pnorm(1.65, mean = 0, sd = 1)

Question 4

P(Z ≥ 0.5) = **0.3085**

R code:

1 - pnorm(0.5, mean = 0, sd = 1)

Question 5

 $P(-1.96 \le Z \le 1.96) = 0.975 - 0.025 = 0.95$

R code:

pnorm(1.96, mean = 0, sd = 1) - pnorm(-1.96, mean = 0, sd = 1)