

Confidence Intervals for Means

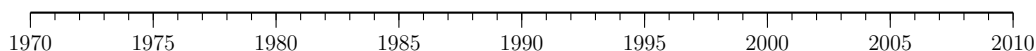
Math 121 - Workshop

In my office I have a bag of 20 quarters. These are the years when the quarters were minted:

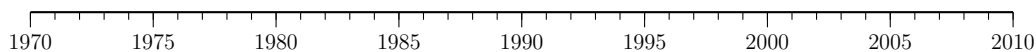
1972	1977	1977	1979	1982	1985	1987	1990	1990	1990
1991	1991	1995	1996	1998	2004	2006	2006	2006	2007

The average year is $\bar{x} = 1990.6$ and the standard deviation is $s = 10.8$ years.

1. Find the five number summary for this data, then use the number line below to draw a box-and-whisker plot.



2. What is the right critical t -value to make a 95% confidence interval for the average mint date of all quarters in circulation.
3. Make a 95% confidence interval for the average mint date of all quarters in circulation. Draw the confidence interval using the number line below. Why is the confidence interval so much smaller than the box-and-whisker plot in part (a)?



4. The quarters in my office have just been sitting in my desk drawer since 2008. Explain why this means that we shouldn't trust our 95% confidence interval for the mean mint date of all quarters currently in circulation.
5. What population might my quarters be representative of?