

MARKS

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4. In an audit of industrial accounts, 200 accounts were obtained by a equiprobable ('simple random') selecting from a total of 5,000 accounts outstanding, and the amount overdue (*i.e.*, owing for more than 30 days) was recorded. The sample average was found to be \$110.00 and the sample s.d. was \$48.00. Find an approximate 90% confidence interval for the *total* amount owing on overdue accounts.

This question involves finding an approximate 90% confidence interval for  $\mathfrak{Y}$ , the *total* amount owing on overdue accounts.

We have:  $N = 5,000$ ,  $n = 200$ ,  $\bar{y} = \$110.00 (= \bar{y})$ ,  $s = \$48.00 (= s)$ ,  $t_{199}^* = 1.65255$  for 90% confidence.

Then:  $s\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{N}} = 1.5\sqrt{\frac{1}{200} - \frac{1}{5,000}} = \$3.325\ 537\ 55$ .

Hence, an approximate 90% confidence interval for  $\mathfrak{Y}$ , the *total* amount owing on overdue accounts, is:

$$N\bar{y} \pm 1.65255 \times N \times s \cdot \hat{d}(\bar{Y}) = 5,000 \times 110.00 \pm 1.65255 \times 5,000 \times 3.325\ 538 \Rightarrow (522,522, 577,478)$$

or about (\$522,000, \$578,000).

With a sample size as large as 200, it is reasonable to hope for a reasonably accurate normal approximation for the distribution of  $\bar{Y}$  consequence of the Central Limit Theorem; also, to find the relevant  $t$  value for 199 degrees of freedom, we interpolate linearly between the values for 195 and 200 degrees of freedom.

$$\underline{(\$522,000, \$578,000)}$$

90% confidence interval