Tutorial 01, Michaelmas Term

Research Methods for Political Science (PO3600)

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http://muellerstefan.net/research-methods

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Tutorial Structure

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- Deepen and apply knowledge from the lectures
- Learn how to use SPSS
- Apply theories, concept and statistical methods to real-world data
- Clarify questions, discuss homework
- **But tutorials do not replace the lectures!**

Grades

Students taking the entire module:

1. 60% of mark based on end-of-year exam (covers methods and statistics).
2. 2 homework assignments counting 4% (1 during MT, 1 during HT).
3. 2 papers counting 10% (one at the end of each term). Work will be done *in pairs*submitting joint papers.
4. 8 homework exercises (4 per term). Submit online via Turnitin *before class*.

Grades

Exchange students (one term only)

1. 1 homework assignment counting 12%.
2. 80% of the mark based on two papers: a research proposal (30%) and a final paper based on that proposal (50%).
3. 8% based on the 4 homework exercises to be submitted *before* the tutorials.

Turnitin

Separate Turnitin modules per term.

MT: Class ID: **16383023**; Password: **po3600**

HT: TBD

Please register as soon as possible!

Dates for Michaelmas Term

Homework

Submit 4 homework exercises per term on Monday evening (11:59pm) preceding the tutorial session

- Week 4: HW 1 (next Monday!)
- Week 6: HW 2
- Week 9: HW 3
- Week 11: HW 4

Paper deadlines

- Homework 1: 10 November 2017, 11:59pm
- Research proposal (one-term students only!): 24 November, 11:59pm
- Paper 1: 15 December 2017, 11:59pm

Support & Additional Material

Support

- Constant feedback through short surveys
- Notes, useful links and literature:
  http://muellerstefan.net/research-methods
- Questions: mullers@tcd.ie

Distribution of the Sample Mean

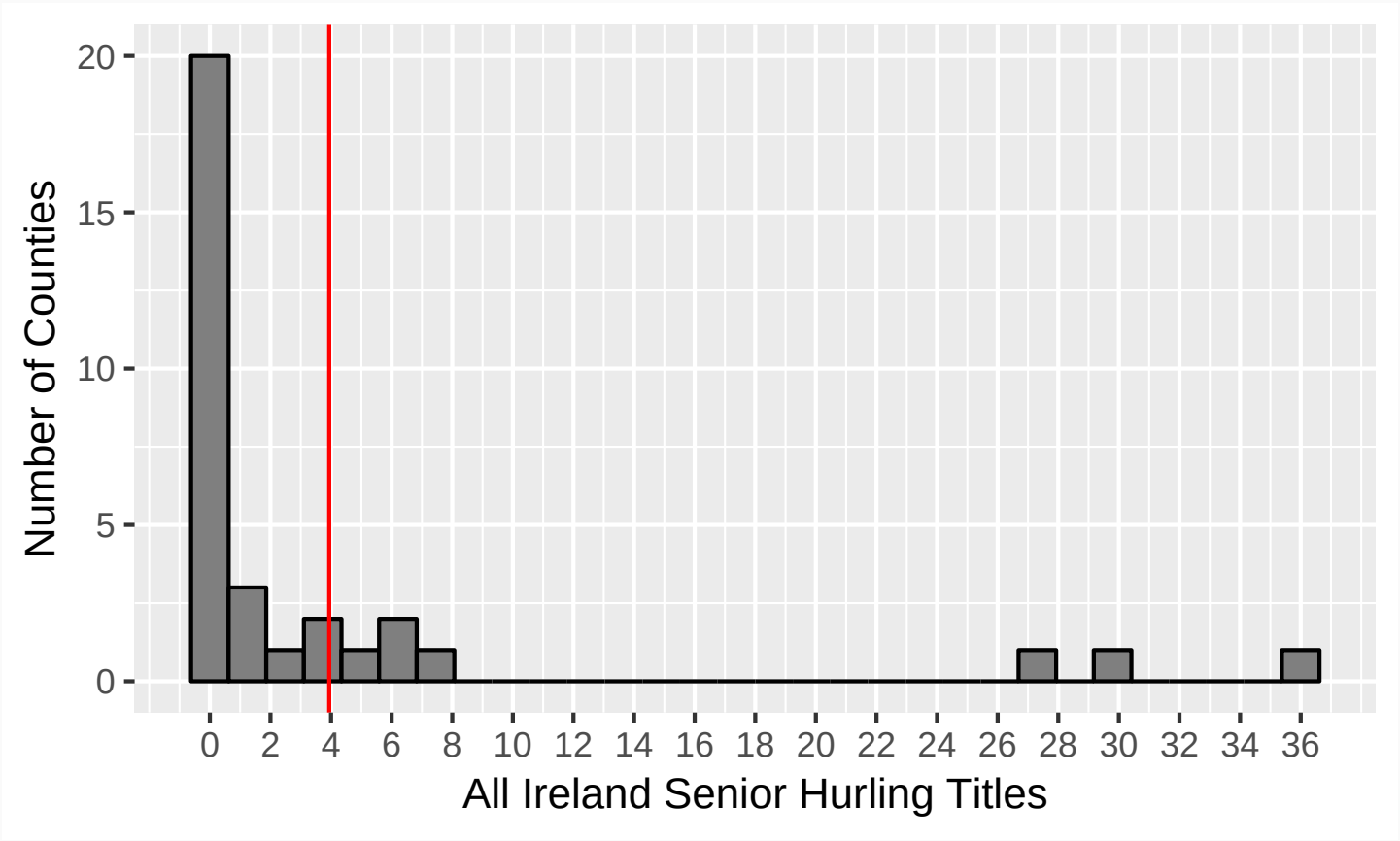
Simulation

http://onlinestatbook.com/stat_sim/sampling_dist/
(click "Begin" in the top left corner)

Central Limit Theorem

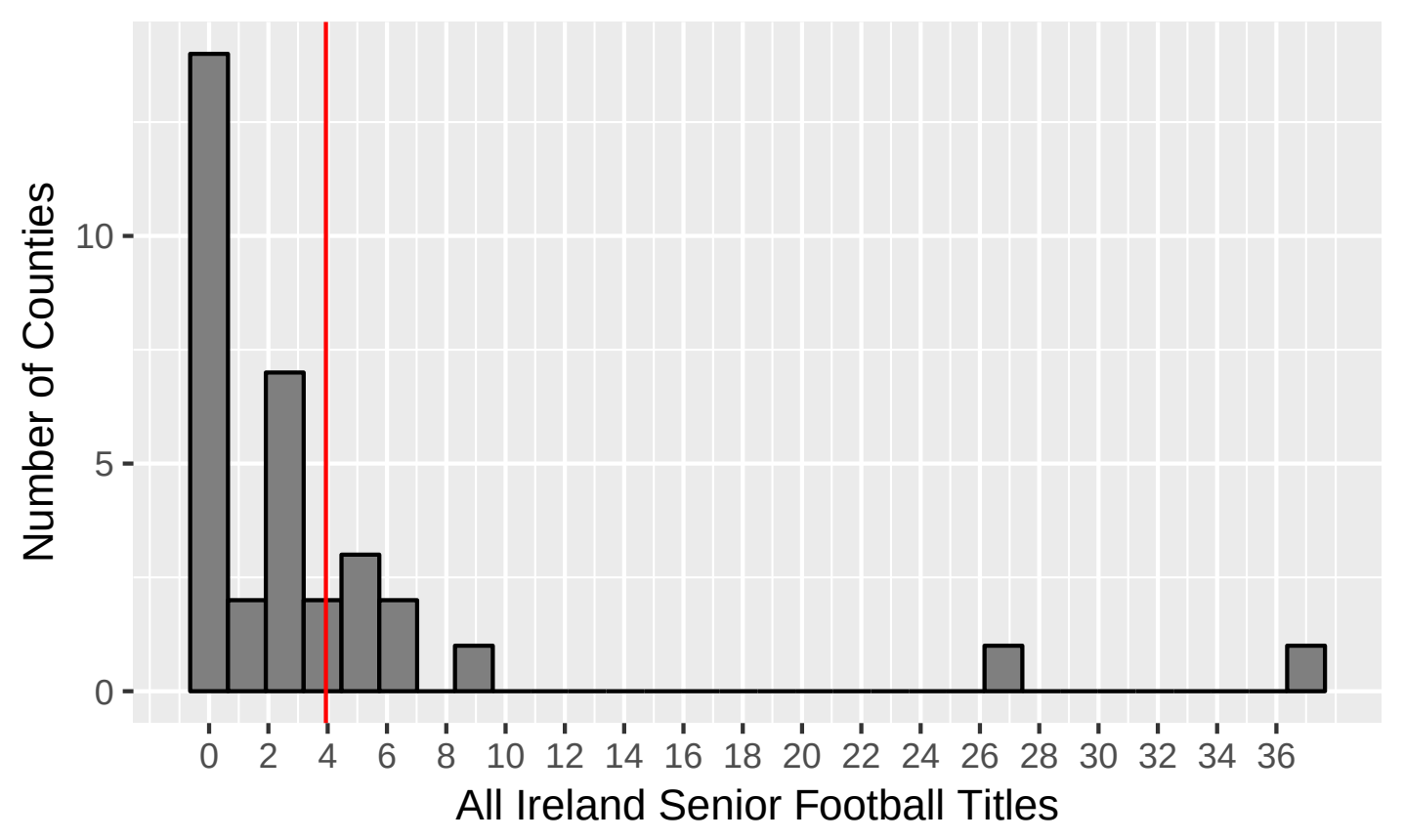
As your sample size (n) increases, we find a normal distribution when (for example) taking sample mean or sample sum.

Distribution of All-Ireland Hurling Titles per County



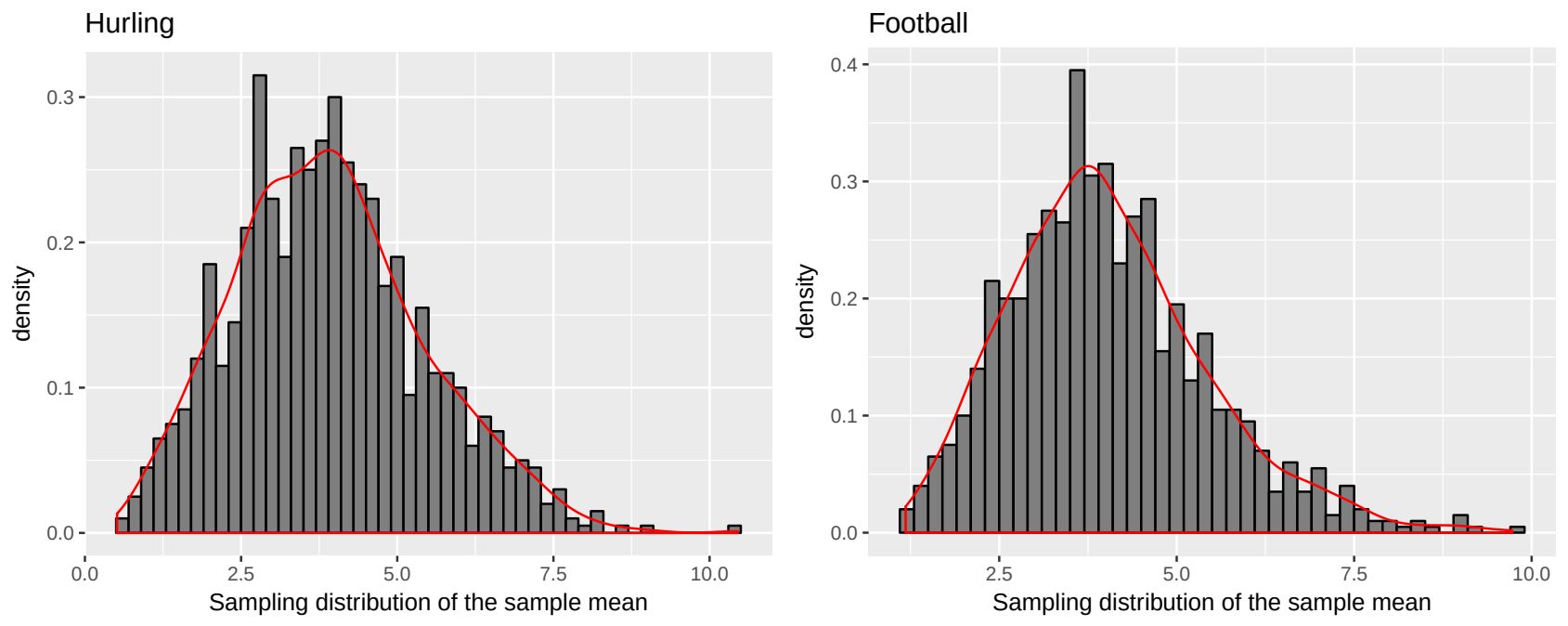
Top 3: 1. Kilkenny (36); 2. Cork (30); 3. Tipperary (27)

Distribution of All-Ireland Football Titles per County



Top 3: 1. Kerry (37); 2. Dublin (27); 3. Galway (9)

Distribution of Bootstrapped Sample Means



Note: 1000 random draws, calculation of mean, plot of distribution; hypothetical example as we draw from the population!

How to Use SPSS

SPSS

- How to open (data) in SPSS?
- How to work reproducibly in SPSS?