

# Sampling distribution

132 orange-spotted warblers. 1 indicates infected

pathogen <-

```
c(1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,1,1,0,1,1,0,1,1,0,0,0,1,1,0,0,1,1,0,1,0,0,0,0,  
  1,1,1,0,1,1,0,1,1,0,0,1,1,0,0,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,1,1,  
  0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0,1,0,0,1,1,0,1,1,0,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,0,1,1,1,0,  
  1,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,1,1,0,0,0,1,1,1,1,0,0,1)
```

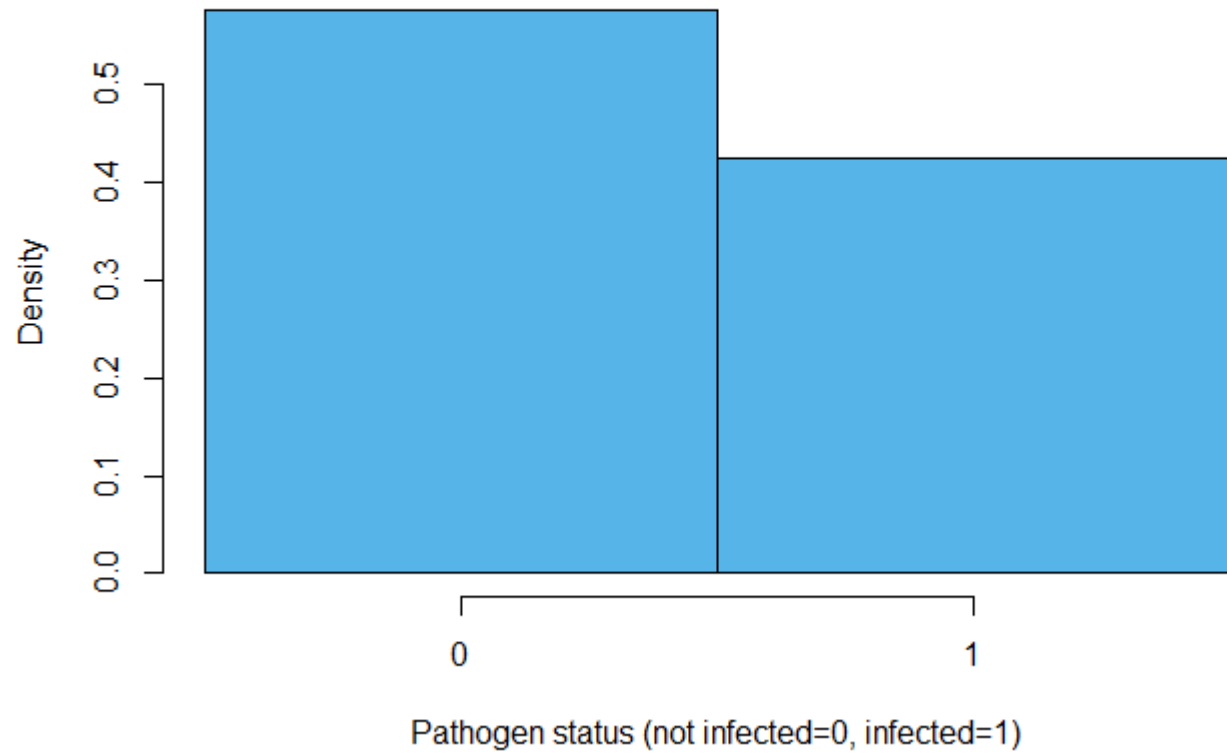
Take a sample:

```
sample(pathogen,10)
```

```
0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0
```

```
pathogen prevalence = 0.2
```

Our scientific observation



True prevalence is 0.424

# Sampling distribution algorithm

repeat very many times

law of large numbers

- sample  $n$  units from the population

- calculate the sample statistic

- plot sampling distribution (histogram) of the sample statistic

## for pathogen prevalence

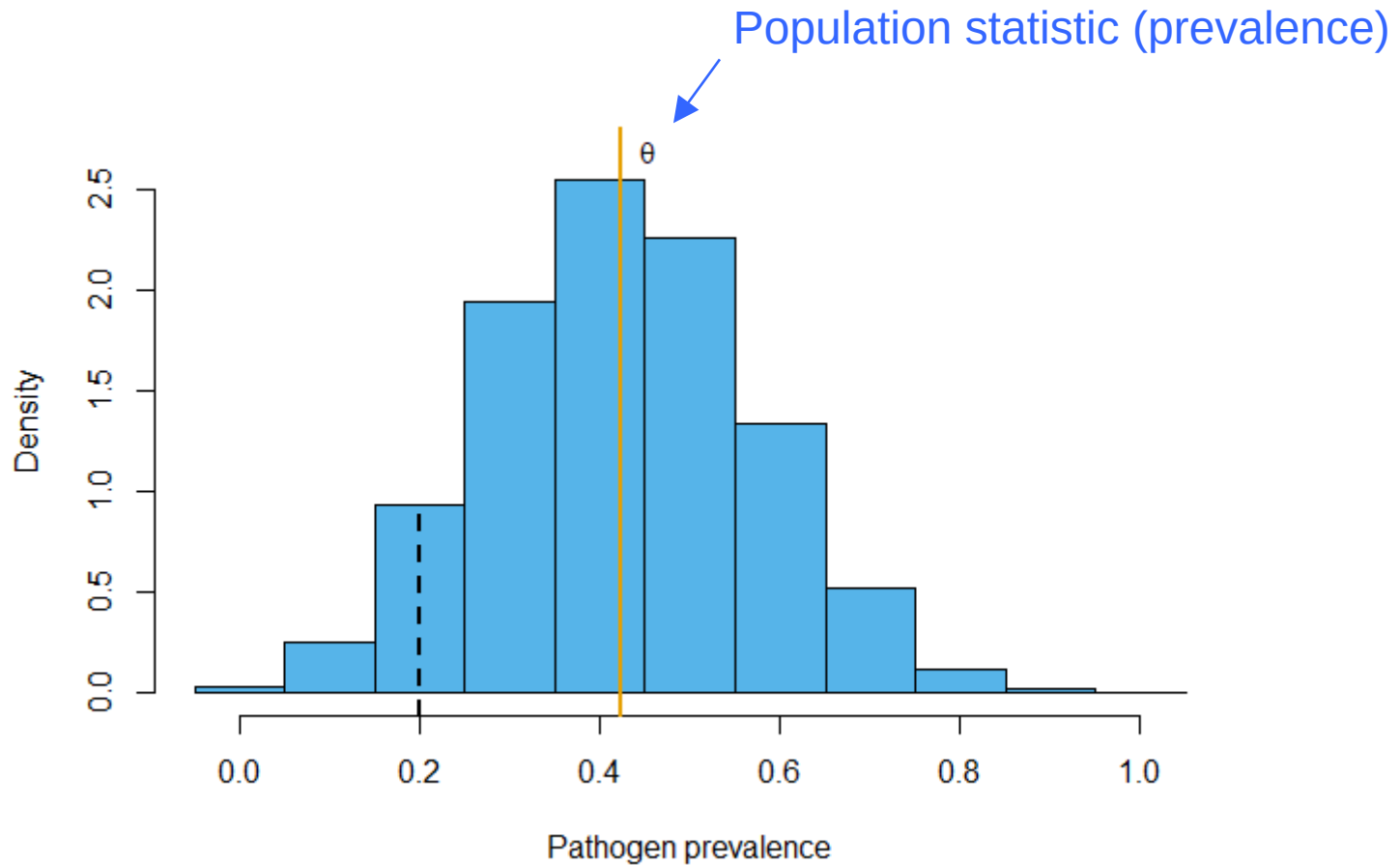
for a large number of repeated samples

- randomly sample 10 birds from the population

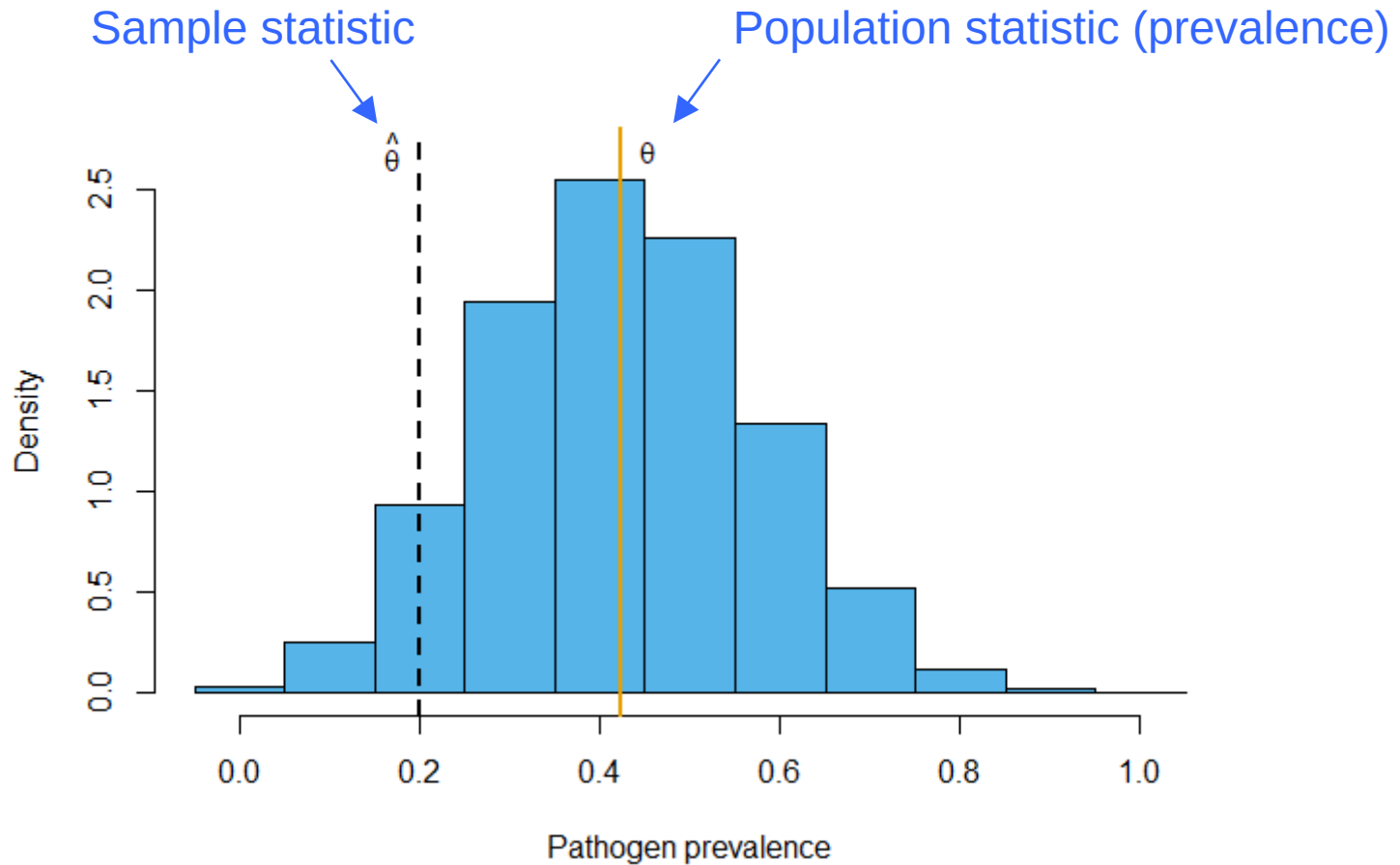
- calculate the prevalence in the sample

- plot sampling distribution (histogram) of prevalence

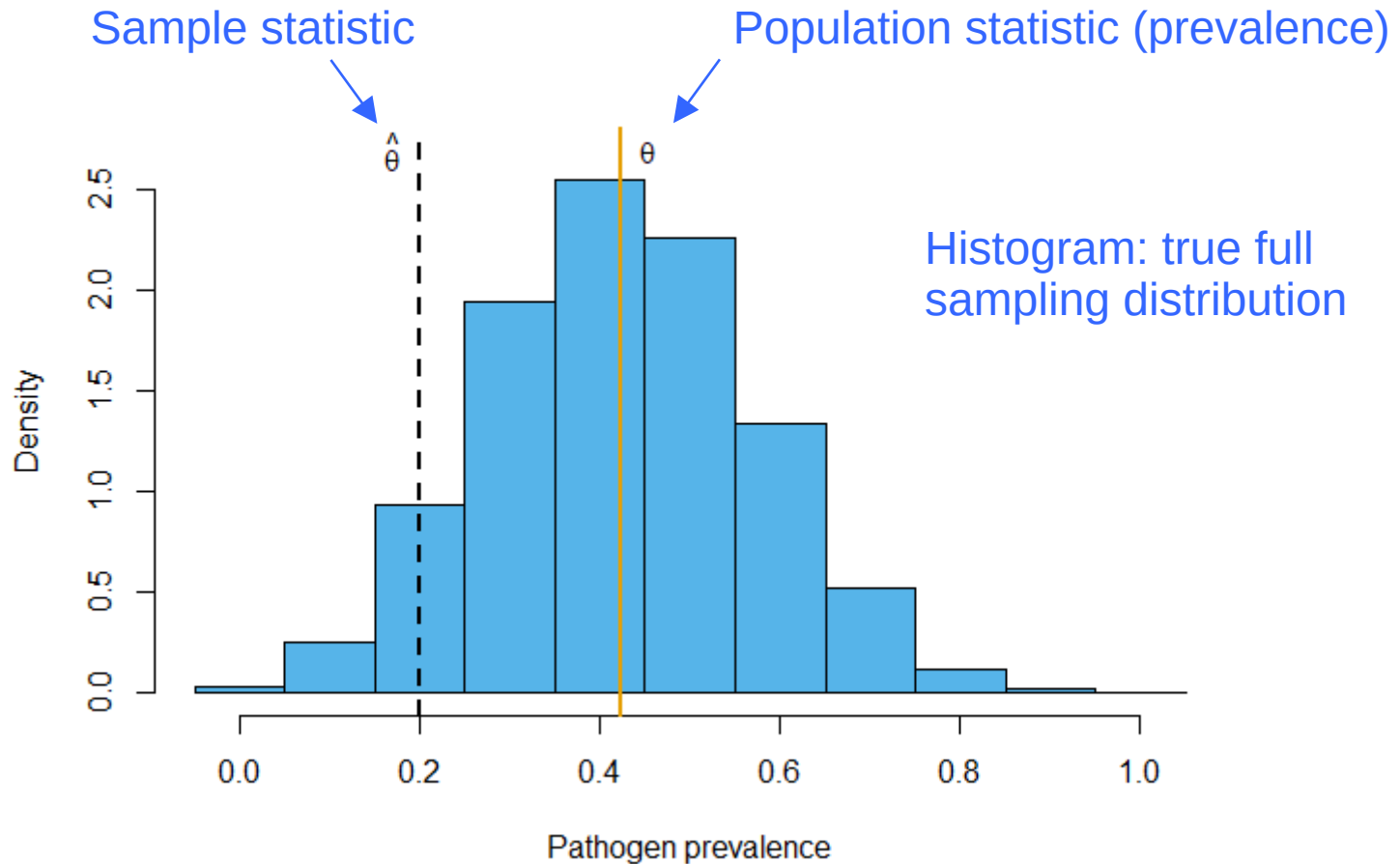
# The sampling distribution for prevalence



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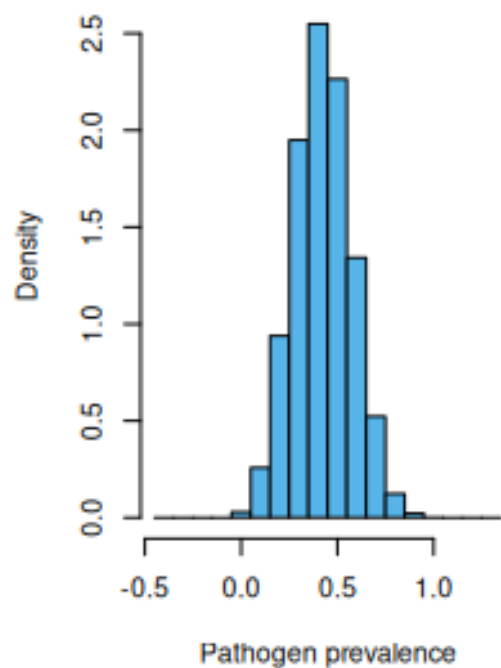


# Confidence interval

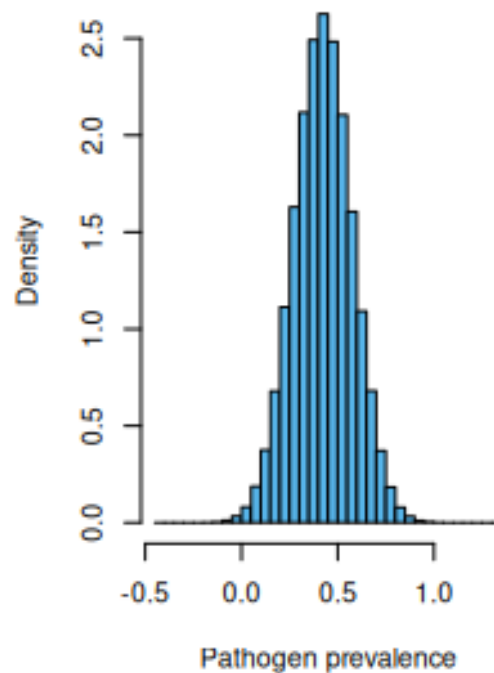
- An interval calculated by some procedure that would **contain** (or **cover**) the true population value 95% of the time, **if sampling and calculating an interval were repeated a very large number of times**

Confidence = **reliability** of the **procedure**

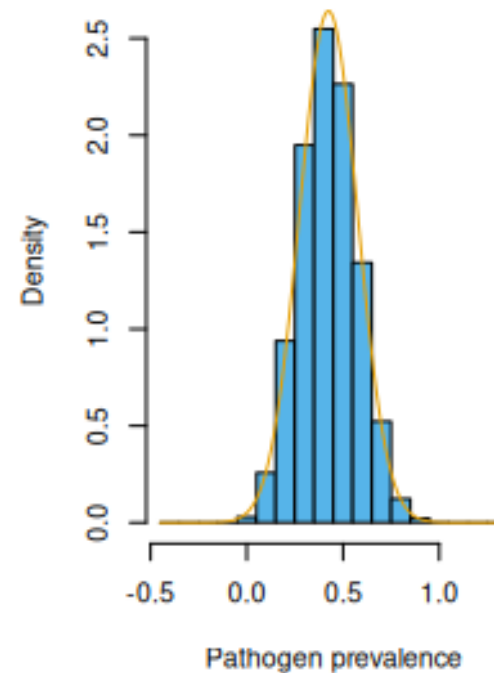
**True sampling distribution**



**Approximating Normal**

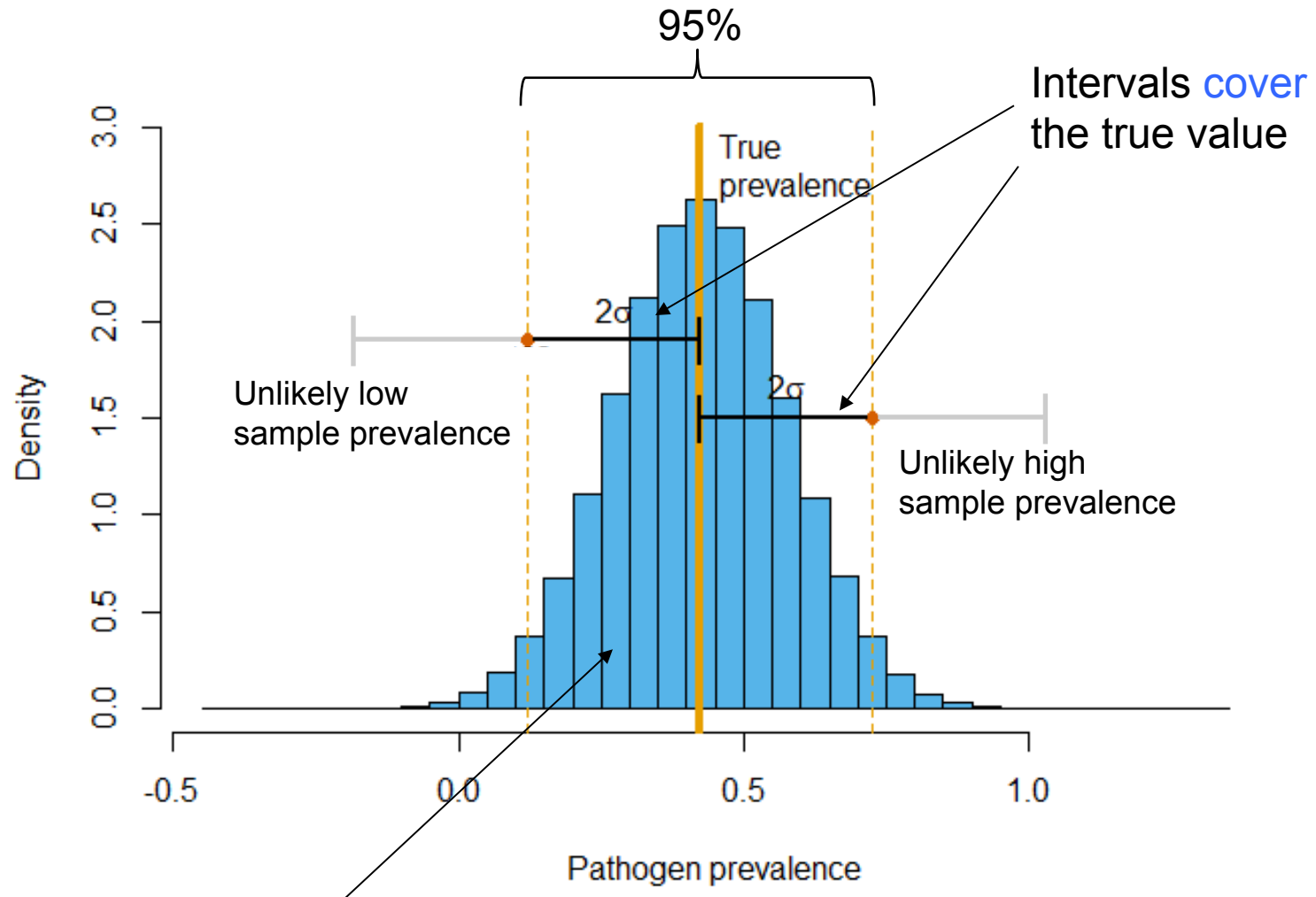


**Normal overlaid on true**





# Construct an interval to cover true value



Normal distribution approximating the true sampling distribution

# Plug in principle

- We don't know the true sampling distribution or its parameters
- Plug in the sample instead as an estimate
  - in this example we can use the standard error of the sample as an estimate of the standard deviation of the sampling distribution

# Coverage algorithm

repeat very many times

- sample  $n$  units from the population

- calculate the sample statistic

- calculate the interval for the sample statistic

- calculate frequency true value is in the interval

**Calibrates** the degree of confidence in the procedure

# Calibration: 95.6% confidence intervals

In first 100, 6 do not cover the true value  
(we expect about 5/100)

