

Gov 50: 18. The Bootstrap

Matthew Blackwell

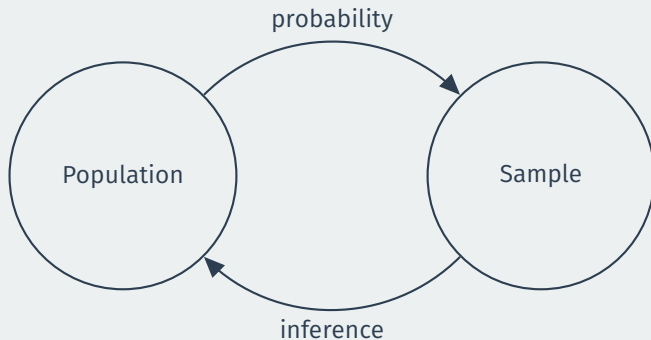
Harvard University

Roadmap

1. Resampling from our sample
2. Confidence intervals
3. Calculating confidence intervals

1/ Resampling from our sample

Where are we?



Can we approximate the **sampling distribution** with our single sample?

American National Election Survey data

Name	Description
state	State of respondent
district	Congressional district of respondent
pid7	Party ID (1=Strong D, 7=Strong R)
pres_vote	Self reported vote in 2020
sci_therm	0-100 therm score for scientists
rural_therm	0-100 therm score for rural Americans
favor_voter_id	1 if respondent thinks voter ID should be required
envir_doing_more	1 if respondent thinks gov't should be doing more about climate change

ANES data

```
library(gov50data)
anes
```

```
## # A tibble: 5,162 x 8
##   state district pid7 pres_vote sci_therm rural_~1 favor~2
##   <chr>      <dbl> <dbl> <chr>          <dbl>      <dbl>      <dbl>
## 1 ID                2     4 Other            70         60         1
## 2 VA                2     3 Biden           100        75         0
## 3 CO                4     4 Trump            60         90         1
## 4 TX                5     3 Biden            85         85         1
## 5 WI                6     6 Trump            85         70         1
## 6 CA               40     2 Biden            50         50         1
## 7 WI                5     2 Biden           100         70         1
## 8 OR                4     7 Trump            70         50         0
## 9 MA                5     3 Biden            80         70         0
## 10 NV               3     1 Biden            85         40         0
## # ... with 5,152 more rows, 1 more variable:
## #   envir_doing_more <dbl>, and abbreviated variable names
## #   1: rural_therm, 2: favor_voter_id
```

Sample statistic

What is the average thermometer score for scientists?

```
anes |>  
  summarize(mean(sci_therm))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   `mean(sci_therm)`  
##               <dbl>  
## 1               80.6
```

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## 1               80.6
```

What is the sampling distribution of this average? We only have this 1 draw!

Notation review

Population: all US adults.

Population parameter: average feeling thermometer score for scientists among all US adults.

Sample: (complicated) random sample of all US adults.

Sample statistic/point estimate: sample average of thermometer scores.

Notation review

Population: all US adults.

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Sample: (complicated) random sample of all US adults.

Sample statistic/point estimate: sample average of thermometer scores.

Roughly how far our point estimate is likely to be from the truth?

The bootstrap

Mimic sampling from the population by **resampling** many times from the sample itself.

Bootstrap resampling done **with replacement** (same row can appear more than once)

One bootstrap resample

```
boot_1 <- anes |>
  slice_sample(prop = 1, replace = TRUE)
boot_1
```

```
## # A tibble: 5,162 x 8
##   state district  pid7 pres_vote sci_therm rural_~1 favor~2
##   <chr>      <dbl> <dbl> <chr>          <dbl>      <dbl>      <dbl>
## 1 CA          22     3 Biden          100        15         0
## 2 MA           8     1 Biden           85        40         0
## 3 OH          10     1 Biden          100        40         1
## 4 CA          33     2 Biden          100        50         0
## 5 MA           5     1 Biden          100        85         0
## 6 SC           4     5 Trump           50        90         1
## 7 WA           2     3 Biden          100       100         1
## 8 MD           5     6 Trump           50        60         1
## 9 FL           1     2 Biden          100        50         0
## 10 MO          5     7 Trump           85        70         1
## # ... with 5,152 more rows, 1 more variable:
## #   enviro_doing_more <dbl>, and abbreviated variable names
## #   1: rural_therm, 2: favor_voter_id
```

Sample mean in the bootstrap sample

```
boot_1 |>  
  summarize(mean(sci_therm))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   `mean(sci_therm)`  
##               <dbl>  
## 1                80.8
```

Many bootstrap samples

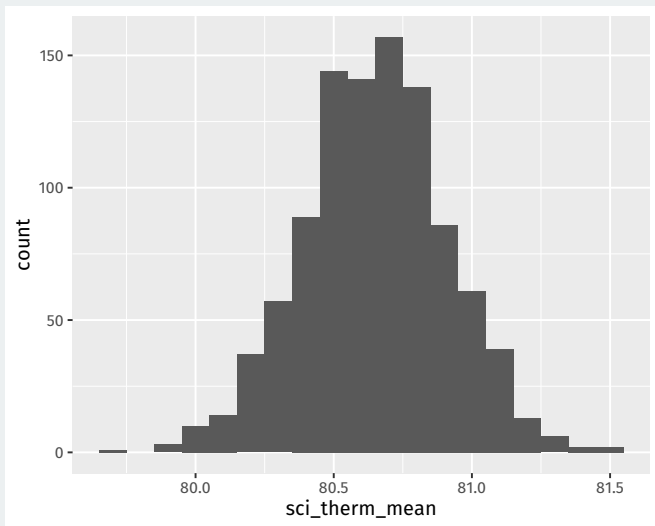
```
library(infer)
bootstrap_dist <- anes |>
  rep_slice_sample(prop = 1, reps = 1000, replace = TRUE) |>
  group_by(replicate) |>
  summarize(sci_therm_mean = mean(sci_therm))
bootstrap_dist
```

Many bootstrap samples

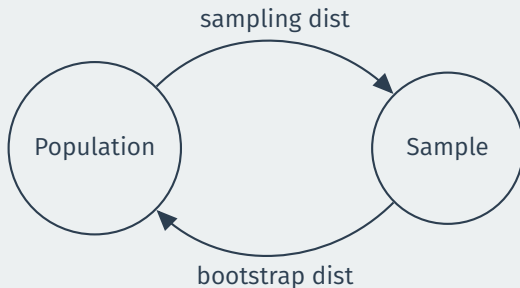
```
## # A tibble: 1,000 x 2
##   replicate sci_therm_mean
##   <int>      <dbl>
## 1         1      80.2
## 2         2      80.7
## 3         3      80.5
## 4         4      80.4
## 5         5      80.3
## 6         6      80.7
## 7         7      80.9
## 8         8      80.7
## 9         9      80.7
## 10        10      80.9
## # ... with 990 more rows
```

Visualizing the bootstrap distribution

```
bootstrap_dist |>  
  ggplot(aes(x = sci_therm_mean)) + geom_histogram(binwidth = 0.1)
```

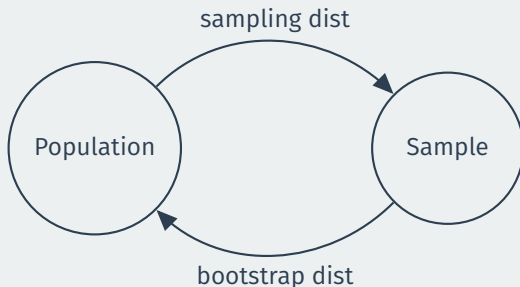


Bootstrap distribution



Bootstrap distribution **approximates** the sampling distribution of the estimator.

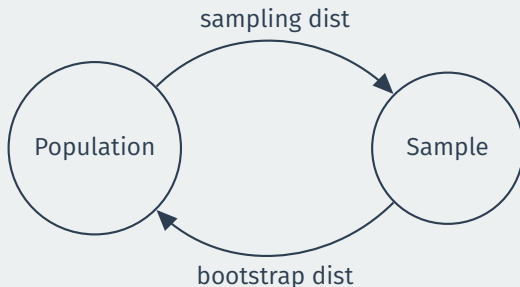
Bootstrap distribution



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Both should have a **similar shape and spread** if sampling from the distribution \approx bootstrap resampling.

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Approximation gets better as sample gets bigger.

Comparing to the point estimate

Given the sampling, not surprising that bootstrap distribution is centered on the point estimate:

```
bootstrap_dist |>  
  summarize(mean(sci_therm_mean))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   `mean(sci_therm_mean)`  
##               <dbl>  
## 1                80.6
```

```
anes |>  
  summarize(mean(sci_therm))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   `mean(sci_therm)`  
##               <dbl>  
## 1                80.6
```

2/ Confidence intervals

What is a confidence interval?



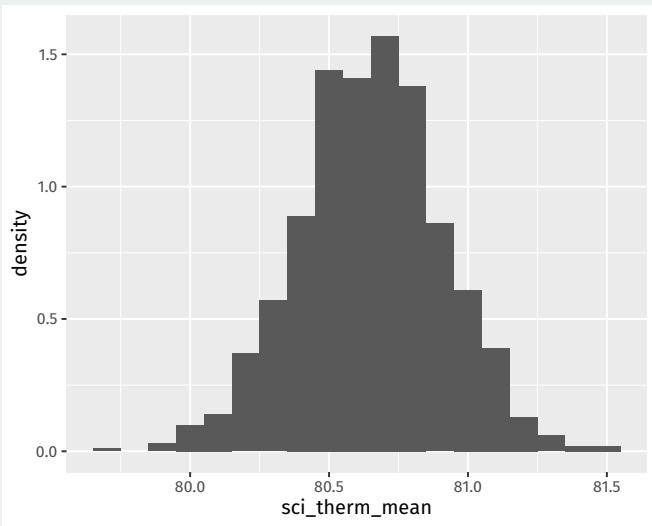
Point estimate: best single guess about the population parameter. Unlikely to be exactly correct.



Confidence interval: a range of plausible values of the population parameter.

Where is most of the bootstrap distribution?

```
bootstrap_dist |>  
  ggplot(aes(x = sci_therm_mean)) +  
  geom_histogram(aes(y= ..density..), binwidth = 0.1)
```



Confidence intervals



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- Some samples the ring will contain the target (the CI will contain the truth) other times it won't.
 - We don't know if the CI for our sample contains the truth!
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 - Number of ring tosses that will hit the target.

Confidence intervals



- Each sample gives a different CI or toss of the ring.
- Some samples the ring will contain the target (the CI will contain the truth) other times it won't.
 - We don't know if the CI for our sample contains the truth!
- **Confidence level:** percent of the time our CI will contain the population parameter.
 - Number of ring tosses that will hit the target.
 - We get to choose, but typical values are 90%, 95%, and 99%

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- Tell you the truth in 95% of repeated samples (contain the population parameter 95% of the time)
- Lie to you in 5% of repeated sample (not contain the population parameter 5% of the time)

Can you tell if your particular confidence interval is telling the truth? No!

Percentile method

Percentile method: find the middle 95% of the bootstrap distribution.

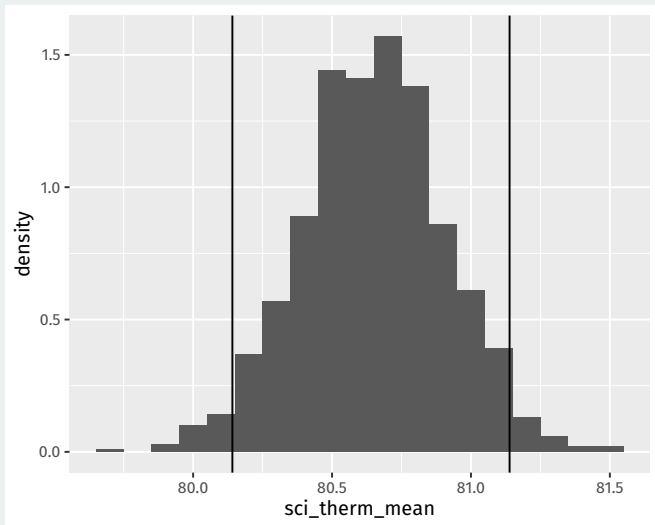
We can do this by finding the points that the 2.5th percentile and the 97.5th percentile.

```
perc_ci95 <- quantile(bootstrap_dist$sci_therm_mean,  
                      probs = c(0.025, 0.975))  
perc_ci95
```

```
## 2.5% 97.5%
```

```
## 80.1 81.1
```

Visualizing the CI



Width of the interval

What happens if we want the CI to be right more often? Will the width of a 99% confidence interval be wider or narrower?

99% confidence interval

For 99% CI we need to find the middle 99% of the bootstrap distribution.

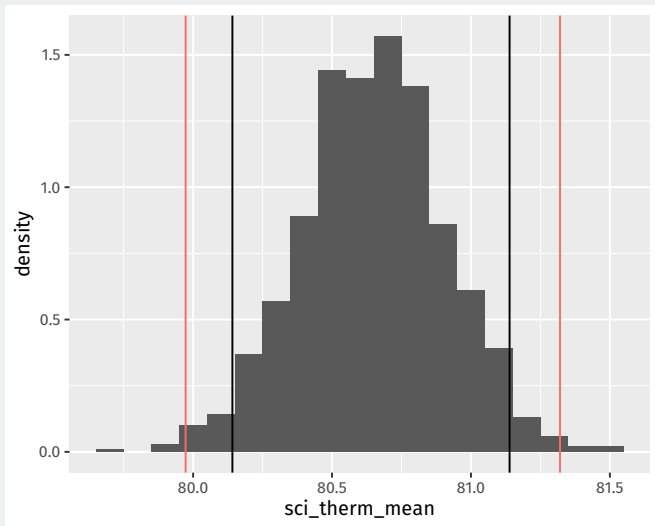
We can do this by finding the points that the 0.5th percentile and the 99.5th percentile.

```
perc_ci99 <- quantile(bootstrap_dist$sci_therm_mean,  
                      probs = c(0.005, 0.995))  
perc_ci99
```

```
## 0.5% 99.5%
```

```
## 80.0 81.3
```

Visualizing the CIs



3/ Calculating confidence intervals

infer package

Possible to use `quantile` to calculate CIs, but `infer` package is a more unified framework for CIs and hypothesis tests.

We'll use a `dplyr`-like approach of chained calls.

Step 1: define an outcome of interest

Start with defining the variable of interest:

```
anes |>  
  specify(response = sci_therm)
```

```
## Response: sci_therm (numeric)  
## # A tibble: 5,162 x 1  
##   sci_therm  
##   <dbl>  
## 1         70  
## 2        100  
## 3         60  
## 4         85  
## 5         85  
## 6         50  
## 7        100  
## 8         70  
## 9         80  
## 10        85  
## # ... with 5,152 more rows
```

Step 2: generate bootstraps

Next `infer` can generate bootstraps with the `generate()` function (similar to `rep_slice_sample()`):

```
anes |>  
  specify(response = sci_therm) |>  
  generate(reps = 1000, type = "bootstrap")
```

```
## Response: sci_therm (numeric)
## # A tibble: 5,162,000 x 2
## # Groups:   replicate [1,000]
##   replicate sci_therm
##         <int>      <dbl>
## 1           1         50
## 2           1        100
## 3           1         50
## 4           1         60
## 5           1         60
## 6           1         85
## 7           1         90
## 8           1        100
## 9           1         80
## 10          1        100
## # ... with 5,161,990 more rows
```

Step 3: calculate sample statistics

Use `calculate()` to do the `group_by(replicate)` and summarize commands in one:

```
boot_dist_infer <- anes |>
  specify(response = sci_therm) |>
  generate(reps = 1000, type = "bootstrap") |>
  calculate(stat = "mean")
```

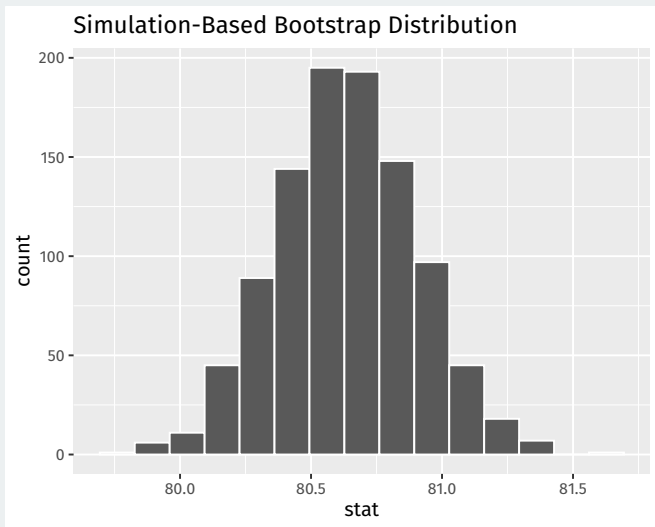
```
boot_dist_infer
```

```
## Response: sci_therm (numeric)
## # A tibble: 1,000 x 2
##   replicate stat
##   <int> <dbl>
## 1         1  80.7
## 2         2  80.3
## 3         3  80.5
## 4         4  80.6
## 5         5  80.4
## 6         6  80.9
## 7         7  80.6
## 8         8  80.7
## 9         9  80.9
## 10        10  80.6
## # ... with 990 more rows
```

Step 3(b): visualize the bootstrap distribution

`infer` also has a shortcut for plotting called `visualize()`:

```
visualize(boot_dist_infer)
```



Step 4: calculate CIs

Finally we can calculate the CI using the percentile method with `get_confidence_interval()`:

```
perc_ci_95 <- boot_dist_infer |>  
  get_confidence_interval(level = 0.95, type = "percentile")  
perc_ci_95
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 2  
##   lower_ci upper_ci  
##   <dbl>    <dbl>  
## 1    80.1    81.2
```


Step 4(b): visualize CIs

```
visualize(boot_dist_infer) +  
  shade_confidence_interval(endpoints = perc_ci_95)
```

