Confidence and Uncertainty

Homework

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Uncertainty

When we calculate a summary statistic in univariate statistics, we're making a statement about what we can expect to see in other situations. If I say that the average height of a cedar tree is 75 feet, that gives an expectation for the average height we might calculate for any given sample of cedar trees. However, there's more information that we need to communicate. It's not just the summary measure– it's also our level of uncertainty around that summary measure. Sure, the average height might be 75 feet, but does that mean in every sample we ever collect we're always going to see an average of 75 feet?

Motivating Question

We'll be working with data from every NBA player who was active during the 2018-19 season.

Here's the data:

```
require(tidyverse)
nba<-read_rds("https://github.com/jbisbee1/ISP_Data_Science_2024/raw/main/data/nba_players_2018.Rds")
```

This data contains the following variables:

Codebook for NBA Data

Name	Definition
namePlayer	Player name
idPlayer	Unique player id
slugSeason	Season start and end
numberPlayerSeason	Which season for this player
isRookie	Rookie season, true or false
slugTeam	Team short name
idTeam	Unique team id
gp	Games Played
gs	Games Started

Name	Definition
fgm	Field goals made
fga	Field goals attempted
pctFG	Percent of field goals made
fg3m	3 point field goals made
fg3a	3 point field goals attempted
pctFG3	Percent of 3 point field goals made
pctFT	Free Throw percentage
fg2m	2 point field goals made
fg2a	2 point field goals attempted
pctFG2	Percent of 2 point field goals made
agePlayer	Player age
minutes	Minutes played
ftm	Free throws made
fta	Free throws attempted
oreb	Offensive rebounds
dreb	Defensive rebounds
treb	Total rebounds
ast	Assists
blk	Blocks
tov	Turnovers
pf	Personal fouls
pts	Total points
urlNBAAPI	Source url

We might be interested in a variety of questions:

- Do certain colleges produce players that have more field goals? What about free throw percentage above a certain level? Are certain colleges in the east or the west more likely to produce higher scorers? How does this vary as a player has more seasons?

To answer these questions we need to look at the following variables:

- Field goals
- Free throw percentage above .25
- Colleges
- Player seasons

- Region

For me, I'm most curious if the Eastern or Western conferences have different styles of play. In particular, I want to know if one conference *fouls* more than the other.

Continuous by Categorical

Recall that there are two conference in the NBA, eastern and western. Let's take a look at the variable that indicates which conference the payer played in that season.

```
nba%>%select(idConference)%>%
  glimpse()
```

```
## Rows: 530
## Columns: 1
## $ idConference <int> 2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, …
```

It looks like conference is structured as numeric, but a "1" or a "2". Because it's best to have binary variables structured as "has the characteristic" or "doesn't have the characteristic" we're going to create a variable for western conference that's set to 1 if the player was playing in the western conference and 0 if the player was not (this is the same as playing in the eastern conference).

```
nba<-nba%>%
  mutate(conference=ifelse(idConference==1,'West','East'))
```

Now that we've wrangled, let's compare personal fouls among players in the east versus west conferences

```
nba %>%
  group_by(conference) %>%
  summarise(pf_mean = mean(pf,na.rm=T))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   conference pf_mean
##   <chr>        <dbl>
## 1 East          98.0
## 2 West          96.1
```

Players in the Eastern conference have an average of 98 personal fouls in the 2018-2019 seasons, compared to players in the Western conference who only had 96.1 (on average).

But are these differences meaningful? Another way of expressing this is "how confident are we that they are significantly different?"

Statistical significance can be expressed in many different ways, but for now think of it as if you were an all-powerful deity who could see across a thousand universes. In how many of those universes would our conclusion that Eastern conference players commit more personal fouls be true?

This is all very heady, so let's do something more mundane that winds up simulating this idea.

Sampling

We're going to start by building up a range of uncertainty from the data we already have. We'll do this by sampling from the data itself.

Let's just take very small sample of players– 100 players– and calculate personal fouls for those in the Eastern and Western conferences. We are going to `set.seed` to ensure that we get the same/similar answers every time we run the "random number" generator.

```
set.seed(123)
sample_size<-100
nba%>%
  sample_n(size=sample_size, replace=TRUE) %>% ## Sample size is as set above.  Replacem
ent is set to TRUE
  group_by(conference)%>% ## Group by the conference
  summarize(mean(pf)) ## calculate mean
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   conference `mean(pf)`
##   <chr>           <dbl>
## 1 East             96.9
## 2 West             86.6
```

An even bigger difference! Among this random sample of 100 players, there is more than a 10-personal foul difference between the East and the West!

If we think of this random sample as a proxy for an alternate universe, in this universe our conclusion is even **stronger**!

But what about a different universe?

And again:

```
nba%>%
  sample_n(size=sample_size, replace=TRUE) %>% ## Sample size is as set above.  Replacem
ent is set to TRUE
  group_by(conference)%>% ## Group by the conference
  summarize(mean(pf)) ## calculate mean
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   conference `mean(pf)`
##   <chr>           <dbl>
## 1 East             100.
## 2 West             102.
```

Oh wait…this time the conclusion is reversed? In this simulated alternate universe, Western conference players had more personal fouls (102 versus 100). What should we therefore conclude?

These resamples on their own don't appear to be particularly useful, but what would happen if we calculated a bunch (technical term) of them?

I can continue this process of sampling and generating values many times using a loop. The code below resamples from the data 1,000 times, each time calculating the mean personal fouls for Eastern and Western conference players in a sample of size 100. It then adds those two means to a growing list, using the bind_rows function. ## Warning: the code below will take a little while to run

```
bsRes<-NULL ##  Create a NULL variable: will fill this in later
for (i in 1:1000){ # Repeat the steps below 1000 times
  bsRes<-nba%>%
  sample_n(size=sample_size, replace=TRUE) %>% ## Sample 100 players
  group_by(conference)%>% ## Group by conference
  summarize(mean_pf=mean(pf))%>% ## Calculate mean personal fouls for Eastern and Wester
n players
    mutate(bsInd = i) %>% ## Save the indicator for which random sample we are on
    bind_rows(bsRes) ## add this result to the existing dataset
}
```

Now I have a dataset that is built up from a bunch of small resamples from the data, with average personal fouls for Eastern and Western conference players in each small sample. Let's see what these look like.

```
bsRes
```

```
## # A tibble: 2,000 × 3
##    conference mean_pf bsInd
##    <chr>        <dbl> <int>
##  1 East          84.4  1000
##  2 West          86.9  1000
##  3 East          91.5   999
##  4 West          93.2   999
##  5 East         102.    998
##  6 West          94.3   998
##  7 East         112.    997
##  8 West         102.    997
##  9 East         113.    996
## 10 West          94.5   996
## # ℹ 1,990 more rows
```

This is a dataset that's just a bunch of means. We can calculate the mean of all of these means and see what it looks like:

```
bsRes%>%
  group_by(conference)%>%
  summarise(mean_of_means=mean(mean_pf))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   conference mean_of_means
##   <chr>              <dbl>
## 1 East                97.6
## 2 West                96.4
```

So the average of these averages is actually pretty close to what we see in the actual data, right?

```
nba %>%
  group_by(conference) %>%
  summarise(mean_pf = mean(pf))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   conference mean_pf
##   <chr>        <dbl>
## 1 East          98.0
## 2 West          96.1
```

Quick Exercise Repeat the above, but do it for points scored.

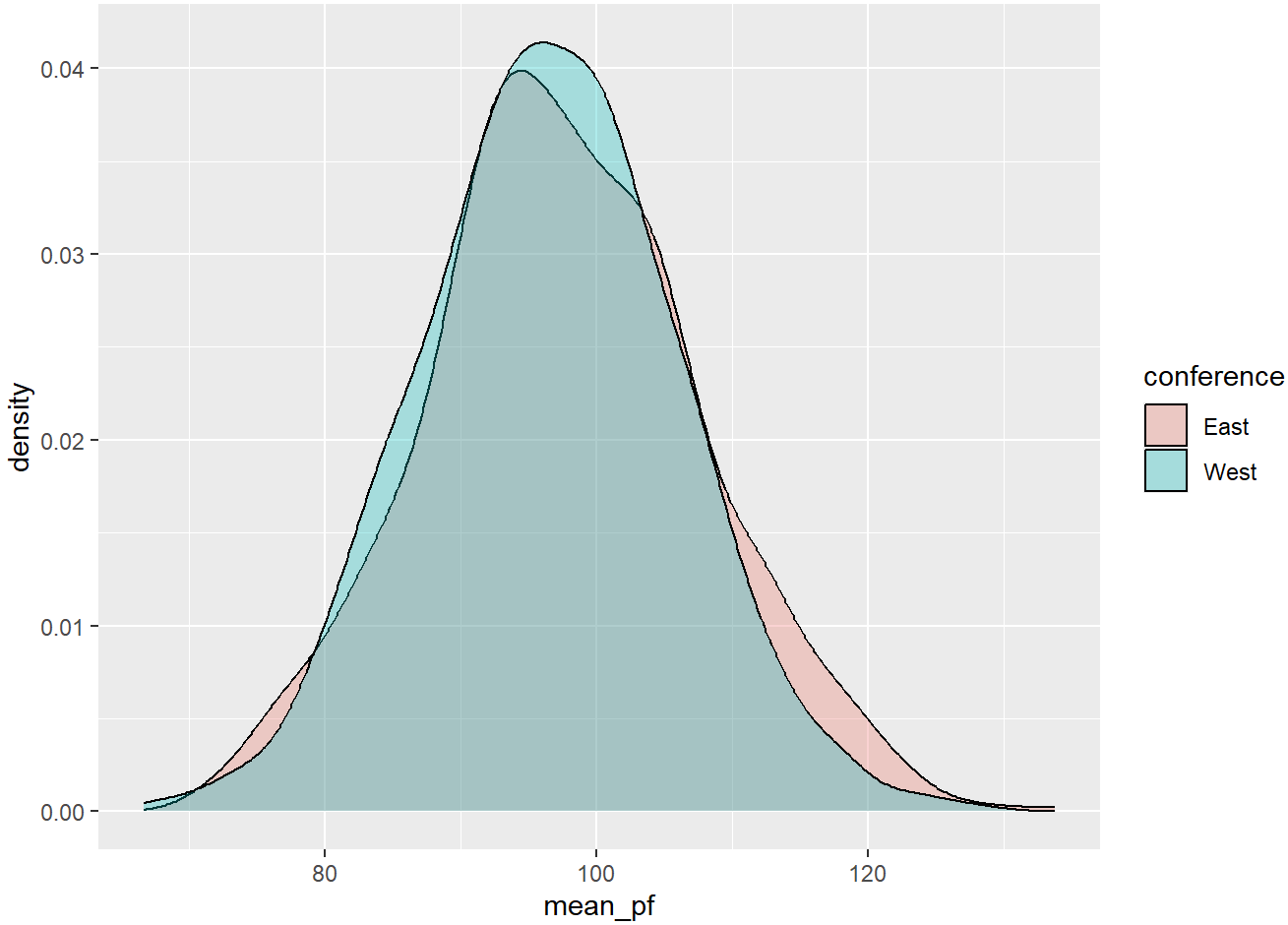
```
# INSERT CODE HERE
```

Distribution of Resampled Means

That's fine, but the other thing is that the *distribution* of those repeated samples will tell us about what we can expect to see in other, out of sample data that's generated by the same process.

Let's take a look at the distribution of personal fouls by conference:

```
bsRes%>%
  ggplot(aes(x=mean_pf,fill=conference))+
  geom_density(alpha=.3)
```



It's pretty hard to tell if these are different, right?

So What? Using Percentiles of the Resampled Distribution

Now we can make some statements about uncertainty. Based on this, we can pretend to be all-powerful voyager across universes, and conclude that Eastern conference players commit more personal fouls.

The easiest way to do this is just to create a new variable that indicates whether the Eastern conference players had more personal fouls than the Western conference players in a given random sample. But currently, our data is organized in the "long" format, right?

```
bsRes
```

```
## # A tibble: 2,000 × 3
##    conference mean_pf bsInd
##    <chr>        <dbl> <int>
##  1 East          84.4  1000
##  2 West          86.9  1000
##  3 East          91.5   999
##  4 West          93.2   999
##  5 East         102.    998
##  6 West          94.3   998
##  7 East         112.    997
##  8 West         102.    997
##  9 East         113.    996
## 10 West          94.5   996
## # ℹ 1,990 more rows
```

We want to convert it to the "wide" format, which means that each row is a random sample simulation, and we have one column for the Eastern conference personal fouls, and one column for the Western conference personal fouls.

Let's create this using either `spread()` or `pivot_wider()`.

```
# Spread approach
bsRes %>%
  spread(conference,mean_pf)
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,000 × 3
##    bsInd  East  West
##    <int> <dbl> <dbl>
##  1     1 112.   92.3
##  2     2 110.   92.5
##  3     3  85.9 104.
##  4     4 103.   93.2
##  5     5  93.5  79.5
##  6     6  94.2  98.0
##  7     7  93.8  94.1
##  8     8  94.6  89.9
##  9     9  91.8  79.8
## 10    10  92.0 101.
## # ℹ 990 more rows
```

```
# Pivot-wider approach
bsRes %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = 'conference',values_from = 'mean_pf')
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,000 × 3
##    bsInd  East  West
##    <int> <dbl> <dbl>
##  1  1000  84.4  86.9
##  2   999  91.5  93.2
##  3   998 102.   94.3
##  4   997 112.  102.
##  5   996 113.   94.5
##  6   995 117.   84.6
##  7   994  92.5  92.3
##  8   993 106.   98.1
##  9   992 101.   85.5
## 10   991  97.2  99.7
## # ℹ 990 more rows
```

With the data organized in “wide” format, it is now trivial to calculate whether the Eastern players had more personal fouls than the Western players.

```
bsRes %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = 'conference',values_from = 'mean_pf') %>%
  mutate(diff = East - West,
         EastMore = diff > 0)
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,000 × 5
##    bsInd  East  West   diff EastMore
##    <int> <dbl> <dbl>  <dbl> <lgl>
##  1  1000  84.4  86.9 -2.47  FALSE
##  2   999  91.5  93.2 -1.73  FALSE
##  3   998 102.   94.3  7.53  TRUE
##  4   997 112.  102.   9.75  TRUE
##  5   996 113.   94.5 18.3   TRUE
##  6   995 117.   84.6 32.8   TRUE
##  7   994  92.5  92.3  0.235 TRUE
##  8   993 106.   98.1  7.37  TRUE
##  9   992 101.   85.5 15.9   TRUE
## 10   991  97.2  99.7 -2.44  FALSE
## # ℹ 990 more rows
```

Expressing confidence

To express our “confidence” in the conclusion that Eastern conference players made more personal fouls than Western conference players in the 2018-2019 season, we can simply calculate the proportion of the 1,000 simulated alternate universes in which this conclusion was true! To do this, we just take the overall average of our new column `EastMore`!

```
bsRes %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = 'conference',values_from = 'mean_pf') %>%
  mutate(diff = East - West,
         EastMore = diff > 0) %>%
  summarise(conf = mean(EastMore))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 1
##    conf
##   <dbl>
## 1 0.531
```

0.531. Or, approximately 53.1%. In other words, in the data, Eastern conference players committed more personal fouls in a little more than half of the 1,000 simulated realities.

How strong is our argument do you think? Typically social scientists adhere to a norm of at least 95% confidence before we feel comfortable defending our conclusion. Otherwise, how can we be certain that it's not just a fluke of the data?

Try it yourself

How confident are you that Eastern conference players are better than Western conference players on any of these metrics?

- Turnovers
- Rebounds
- Field goals

```
# INSERT CODE HERE
```

Motivation: How much do turnovers matter?

Now we're going to work with a different dataset covering every NBA game played in the seasons 2016-17 to 2018-19. I'm interested in whether winning teams have higher or lower values of turnovers, and whether winning teams tend to more often make over 80 percent of their free throws.

```
library(tidyverse)
```

The Data

The data for today is game by team summary data for every game played from 2017 to 2019. Make sure to download the data (game_summary.Rds (https://github.com/jbisbee1/ISP_Data_Science_2024/raw/main/data/game_summary.Rds)) and save to your `data` folder!

```
gms<-read_rds("https://github.com/jbisbee1/ISP_Data_Science_2024/raw/main/data/game_summary.Rds")
gms
```

```
## # A tibble: 7,380 × 16
##      idGame yearSeason dateGame   idTeam nameTeam locationGame   tov   pts  treb
##       <dbl>      <int> <date>      <dbl> <chr>    <chr>        <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
##  1 21600001       2017 2016-10-25 1.61e9 Clevela… H               14   117    51
##  2 21600001       2017 2016-10-25 1.61e9 New Yor… A               18    88    42
##  3 21600002       2017 2016-10-25 1.61e9 Portlan… H               12   113    34
##  4 21600002       2017 2016-10-25 1.61e9 Utah Ja… A               11   104    31
##  5 21600003       2017 2016-10-25 1.61e9 Golden … H               16   100    35
##  6 21600003       2017 2016-10-25 1.61e9 San Ant… A               13   129    55
##  7 21600004       2017 2016-10-26 1.61e9 Miami H… A               10   108    52
##  8 21600004       2017 2016-10-26 1.61e9 Orlando… H               11    96    45
##  9 21600005       2017 2016-10-26 1.61e9 Dallas … A               15   121    49
## 10 21600005       2017 2016-10-26 1.61e9 Indiana… H               16   130    52
## # ℹ 7,370 more rows
## # ℹ 7 more variables: oreb <dbl>, pctFG <dbl>, pctFT <dbl>, teamrest <dbl>,
## #   second_game <lgl>, isWin <lgl>, ft_80 <dbl>
```

The codebook for this dataset is as follows:

Name	Description
idGame	Unique game id
yearSeason	Which season? NBA uses ending year so 2016-17 = 2017
dateGame	Date of the game
idTeam	Unique team id
nameTeam	Team Name
locationGame	Game location, H=Home, A=Away
tov	Total turnovers
pts	Total points
treb	Total rebounds
pctFG	Field Goal Percentage
teamrest	How many days since last game for team
pctFT	Free throw percentage
isWin	Won? TRUE or FALSE
ft_80	Team scored more than 80 percent of free throws

We're interested in knowing about how turnovers `tov` are different between game winners `isWin`.

Continuous Variables: Point Estimates

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        13.8
## 2 TRUE         12.9
```

It looks like there's a fairly substantial difference– winning teams turned the ball over an average of 12.9 times, while losing teams turned it over an average of 13.8 times. One way to summarize this is that winning teams in general had one less turnover per game than losing teams.

What if we take these results and decide that these will apply in other seasons? We could say something like: "Winning teams over the course of a season will turn the ball over 12.9 times, and losing teams 13.8 times, period." Well let's look and see:

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2018)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        14.1
## 2 TRUE         13.3
```

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2019)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        13.9
## 2 TRUE         13.1
```

So, no, that's not right. In other seasons winning teams turned the ball over less, but it's not as simple as just saying it will always be the two numbers we calculated from the 2017 data.

What we'd like to be able to do is make a more general statement, not just about a given season but about what we can expect in general. To do that we need to provide some kind of range of uncertainty: what range of turnovers can we expect to see from both winning and losing teams? To do that we're going to use some key insights from

probability theory and statistics that help us generate estimates of uncertainty.

Quick exercise Are winning teams in 2017 more likely to make more than 80 percent of their free throws?*

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(ft_80))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(ft_80)`
##   <lgl>         <dbl>
## 1 FALSE         0.353
## 2 TRUE          0.410
```

Sampling

We're going to start by building up a range of uncertainty from the data we already have. We'll do this by sampling from the data itself.

Let's just take very small sample of games– 100 games– and calculate turnovers for winners and losers. We are going to `set.seed` to ensure that we get the same/similar answers every time we run the "random number" generator.

```
set.seed(210916)
sample_size<-100
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>% ## Filter to just 2017
  sample_n(size=sample_size, replace=TRUE) %>% ## Sample size is as set above.  Replacem
ent is set to TRUE
  group_by(isWin)%>% ## Group by win/lose
  summarize(mean(tov)) ## calculate mean
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        14.7
## 2 TRUE         12.9
```

And again:

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>% ## Filter to just 2017
  sample_n(size=sample_size, replace=TRUE) %>% ## Sample size is as set above
  group_by(isWin)%>% ## Group by win/lose
  summarize(mean(tov)) ## calculate mean
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        14.1
## 2 TRUE         13
```

Sometimes we can get samples where the winning team turned the ball over more! These reasmples on their own don't appear to be particularly useful, but what would happen if we calculated a bunch (technical term) of them?

I can continue this process of sampling and generating values many times using a loop. The code below resamples from the data 1,000 times, each time calculating the mean turnovers for winners and losers in a sample of size 10. It then adds those two means to a growing list, using the bind_rows function. ## Warning: the code below will take a little while to run

```
gms_tov_rs<-NULL ##  Create a NULL variable: will fill this in later
for (i in 1:1000){ # Repeat the steps below 1000 times
  gms_tov_rs<-gms%>% ## Create a dataset called gms_tov_rs (rs=resampled)
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>%  ## Just 2017
  sample_n(size=sample_size, replace=TRUE) %>% ## Sample 100 games
  group_by(isWin)%>% ## Group by won or lost
  summarize(mean_tov=mean(tov))%>% ## Calculate mean turnovers for winners and losers
    bind_rows(gms_tov_rs) ## add this result to the existing dataset
}
```

Now I have a dataset that is built up from a bunch of small resamples from the data, with average turnovers for winners and losers in each small sample. Let's see what these look like.

```
gms_tov_rs
```

```
## # A tibble: 2,000 × 2
##    isWin mean_tov
##    <lgl>    <dbl>
##  1 FALSE     14.5
##  2 TRUE      13.7
##  3 FALSE     13.7
##  4 TRUE      12.8
##  5 FALSE     14.4
##  6 TRUE      12.3
##  7 FALSE     13.6
##  8 TRUE      13.2
##  9 FALSE     13.6
## 10 TRUE      11.4
## # ℹ 1,990 more rows
```

This is a dataset that's just a bunch of means. We can calculate the mean of all of these means and see what it looks like:

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarise(mean_of_means=mean(mean_tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin mean_of_means
##   <lgl>         <dbl>
## 1 FALSE          13.8
## 2 TRUE           12.9
```

How does this “mean of means” compare with the actual?

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        13.8
## 2 TRUE         12.9
```

Pretty similar! It’s what we would expect, really, but it’s super important. If we repeatedly sample from a dataset, our summary measures of a sufficiently large number of repeated samples will converge on the true value of the measure from the dataset.

Quick Exercise Repeat the above, but do it for Pct of Free Throws above .8.

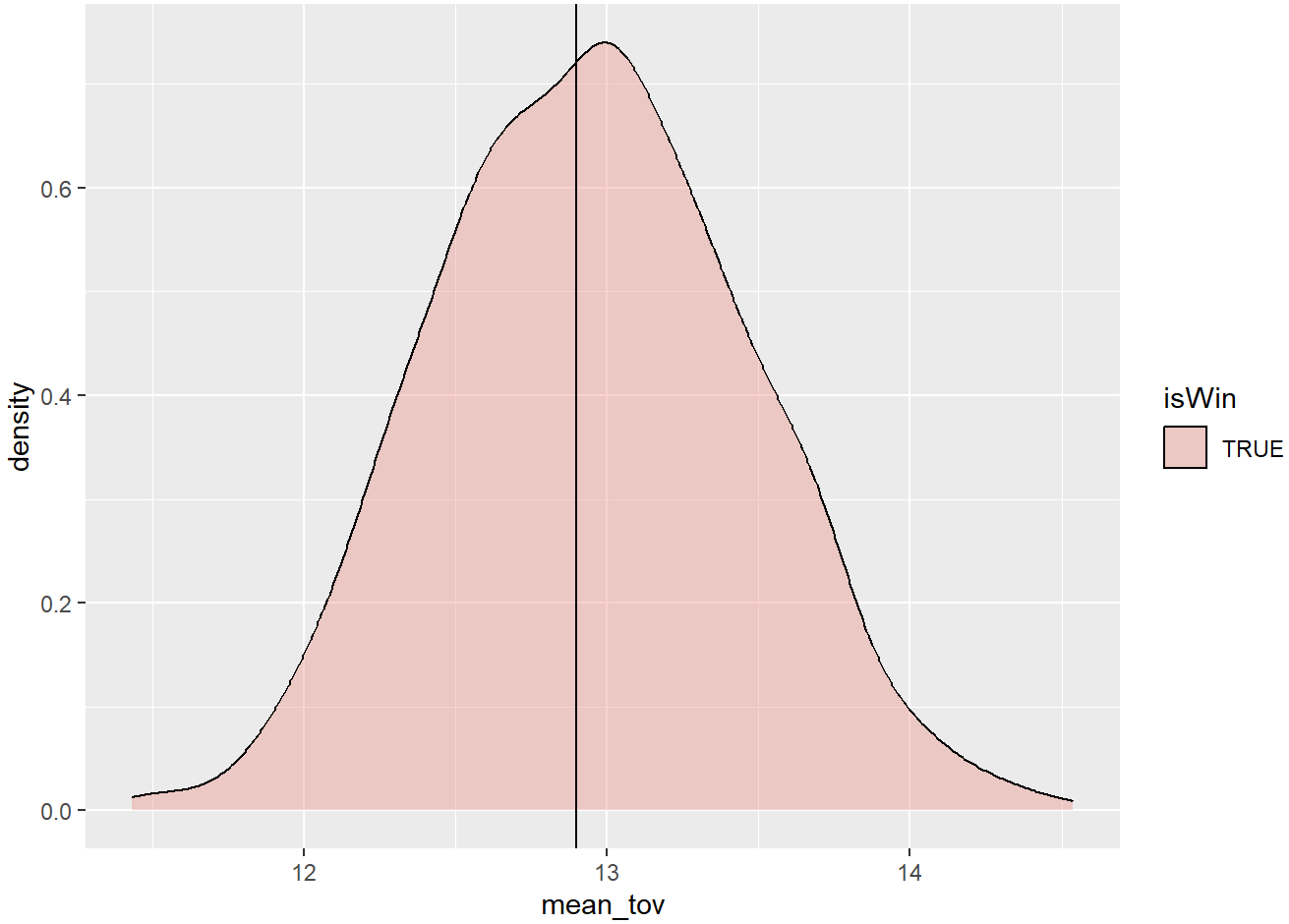
```
gms_ft_80_rs<-NULL ##  Create a NULL variable: will fill this in later
for (i in 1:1000){ # Repeat the steps below 10,000 times
  gms_ft_80_rs<-gms%>% ## Create a dataset called gms_tov_rs (rs=resampled)
  filter(yearSeason==2017)%>%  ## Just 2017
  sample_n(size=sample_size) %>% ## Sample 100 games
  group_by(isWin)%>% ## Group by won or lost
  summarize(mean_ft80=mean(ft_80))%>% ## Calculate mean turnovers for winners and losers
    bind_rows(gms_ft_80_rs) ## add this result to the existing dataset
}
```

Distribution of Resampled Means

That’s fine, but the other thing is that the *distribution* of those repeated samples will tell us about what we can expect to see in other, out of sample data that’s generated by the same process.

Let’s take a look at the distribution of turnovers for game winners:

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  filter(isWin)%>%
  ggplot(aes(x=mean_tov,fill=isWin))+
  geom_density(alpha=.3)+
  geom_vline(xintercept =12.9)
```



We can see that the mean of this distribution is centered right on the mean of the actual data, and it goes from about 11 to about 15. This is different than the minimum and maximum of the overall sample, which goes from 3 to 24 (bad night).

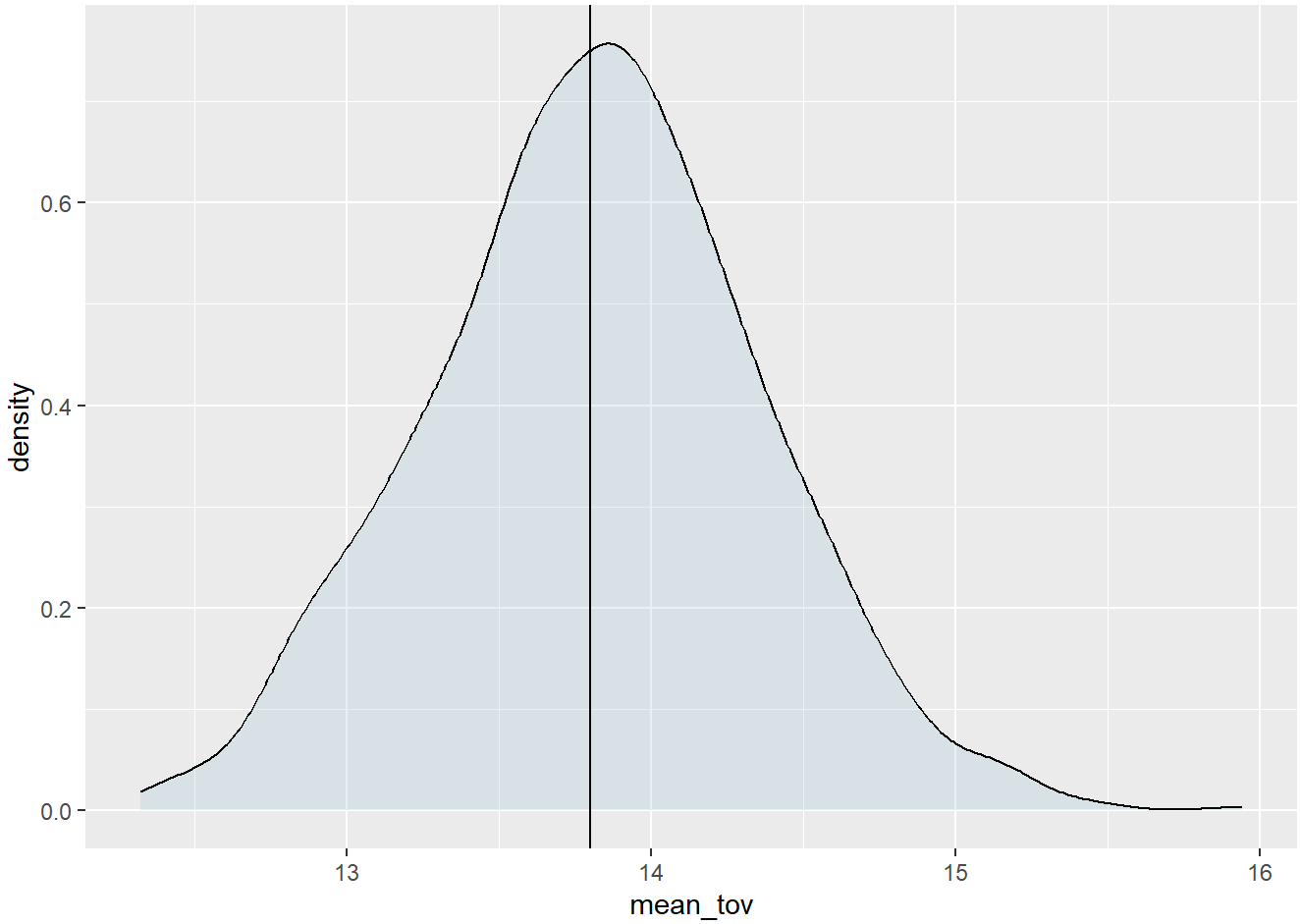
```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  filter(isWin)%>%
  summarize(value=fivenum(mean_tov))%>%
    mutate(measure=c("Min","25th percentile","Median","75th percentile","Max"))%>%
  select(measure, value)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##   measure         value
##   <chr>           <dbl>
## 1 Min              11.4
## 2 25th percentile  12.6
## 3 Median           13.0
## 4 75th percentile  13.3
## 5 Max              14.5
```

So what this tells us is that the minimum turnovers for winners in all of the samples we drew was 11.2, the maximum was about 15 and the median was 12.9.

And for game losers, let's look at the distribution.

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  filter(!isWin)%>%
  ggplot(aes(x=mean_tov,fill=isWin))+
  geom_density(alpha=.3,fill="lightblue")+
    geom_vline(xintercept =13.8)
```



And now the particular values.

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  filter(!isWin)%>%
  summarize(value=fivenum(mean_tov))%>%
    mutate(measure=c("Min","25th percentile","Median","75th percentile","Max"))%>%
  select(measure, value)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##   measure         value
##   <chr>           <dbl>
## 1 Min              12.3
## 2 25th percentile  13.5
## 3 Median           13.8
## 4 75th percentile  14.2
## 5 Max              15.9
```

For game losers, minimum turnovers for winners in all of the samples we drew was 11.6, the maximum was about 16 (!!) and the median was 13.8.

Quick Exercise Calculate the same summary, but do it for Pct of Free Throws above .8.

```
gms_ft_80_rs%>%
  filter(isWin)%>%
  summarize(value=fivenum(mean_ft80))%>% ## Five number summary: described below
  mutate(measure=c("Min","25th percentile","Median","75th percentile","Max"))%>%
  select(measure, value)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##   measure         value
##   <chr>           <dbl>
## 1 Min             0.222
## 2 25th percentile 0.365
## 3 Median          0.408
## 4 75th percentile 0.456
## 5 Max             0.642
```

```
gms_ft_80_rs%>%
  filter(!isWin)%>%
  summarize(value=fivenum(mean_ft80))%>% ## Five number summary: described below
  mutate(measure=c("Min","25th percentile","Median","75th percentile","Max"))%>%
  select(measure, value)
```

```
## # A tibble: 5 × 2
##   measure         value
##   <chr>           <dbl>
## 1 Min             0.137
## 2 25th percentile 0.310
## 3 Median          0.352
## 4 75th percentile 0.4
## 5 Max             0.581
```

So What? Using Percentiles of the Resampled Distribution

Now we can make some statements about uncertainty. Based on this what we can say is that in other seasons, we would expect that turnover for game winners will be in a certain range, and the same for game losers. What range? Well it depends on the level of risk you're willing to take as an analyst. Academics (a cautious bunch to be sure) usually use the 5th percentile and the 95th percentile of the resampled values that were created.

So for game winners:

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  filter(isWin)%>%
  summarize(pct_025=quantile(mean_tov,.025),
            pct_975=quantile(mean_tov,.975))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 2
##   pct_025 pct_975
##     <dbl>   <dbl>
## 1      12    14.0
```

This tells us we can expect that game winners in future seasons will turn the ball over between about 12 and 14 times.

And how many times will their free throw percentage exceed 80%?

```
gms_ft_80_rs%>%
  filter(isWin)%>%
  summarize(pct_025=quantile(mean_ft80,.025),
            pct_975=quantile(mean_ft80,.975))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 2
##   pct_025 pct_975
##     <dbl>   <dbl>
## 1   0.282   0.542
```

And for game losers

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  filter(!isWin)%>%
  summarize(pct_05=quantile(mean_tov,.025),
            pct_95=quantile(mean_tov,.975))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 2
##   pct_05 pct_95
##    <dbl>  <dbl>
## 1   12.8   14.9
```

This tells us that we can expect that game losers in future seasons will turn the ball over between … 12.8 and 14.9 times.

Don’t be disappointed! It just turns out that if we want to make accurate statements about out of sample data, we need to reflect our uncertainty.

Let’s check to see if our expectations are borne out in future seasons:

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2018)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        14.1
## 2 TRUE         13.3
```

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2019)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        13.9
## 2 TRUE         13.1
```

So, our intervals for both winners and losers did include the values in future seasons.

Other intervals– the tradeoff between a “precise” interval and risk

You may be underwhelmed at this point, because the 95 percent range is a big range of possible turnover values. We can use narrower intervals– it just raises the risk of being wrong. Let’s try the middle 50 percent.

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(pct_25=quantile(mean_tov,.25),
            pct_75=quantile(mean_tov,.75))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 3
##   isWin pct_25 pct_75
##   <lgl>  <dbl>  <dbl>
## 1 FALSE   13.5   14.2
## 2 TRUE    12.6   13.3
```

Okay, now we’re saying that winners will have between 12.6 and 13.3 turnovers. Is that right?

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2018)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        14.1
## 2 TRUE         13.3
```

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2019)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        13.9
## 2 TRUE         13.1
```

Yes, this checks out for subsequent seasons. What about a really narrow interval– the middle 10 percent?

```
gms_tov_rs%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(pct_45=quantile(mean_tov,.45),
            pct_55=quantile(mean_tov,.55))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 3
##   isWin pct_45 pct_55
##   <lgl>  <dbl>  <dbl>
## 1 FALSE   13.8   13.9
## 2 TRUE    12.9   13.0
```

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2018)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        14.1
## 2 TRUE         13.3
```

In 2018, winning teams turned the ball over 13.3 times, on average. That's below the range we gave! If we used a 10 percent interval we'd be wrong. Similarly, in 2018 losing teams turned the ball over 14.1 times, again below our interval.

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2019)%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(mean(tov))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   isWin `mean(tov)`
##   <lgl>       <dbl>
## 1 FALSE        13.9
## 2 TRUE         13.1
```

In 2019, winning teams turned the ball over 13.1 times, on average. That's below the range we gave! If we used a 10 percent interval we'd be wrong, again.

It turns out that the way this method works is that for an interval of a certain range, the calculated interval will include the true value of the measure in the same percent *of repeated samples*. We can think of each season as a repeated sample, so the middle 95 percent of this range will include the true value in 95 percent of seasons. When we call this a confidence interval, we're saying we have confidence in the approach, not the particular values we calculated.

The tradeoff here is between providing a narrow range of values vs. the probability of being correct. We can give a very narrow interval for what we would expect to see in out of sample data, but we're going to be wrong– a lot. We can give a very wide interval, but the information isn't going to be useful to decisionmakers. This is one of the key tradeoffs in applied data analysis, and there's no single answer to the question: what interval should I use? Academic work has settled on the 95 percent interval, but there's no real theoretical justification for this.

Empirical Bootstrap

What we just did is called the empirical bootstrap (https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/mathematics/18-05-introduction-to-probability-and-statistics-spring-2014/readings/MIT18_05S14_Reading24.pdf). It's massively useful, because it can be applied for any summary measure of the data: median, percentiles, and measures like regression coefficients. Here is the summary of steps for the empirical bootstrap:

- Decide on the summary measure to be used for the variable (it doesn't have to be the mean)
- Calculate the summary measure on a small subsample (called the bootstrap sample) of the data
- Repeat step 2 many times (how many? Start with 1000, but more is better.) Compile the estimates.
- Calculate the percentiles of the bootstrap distribution from the previous step.
- Describe your uncertainty using those percentiles.

Quick Exercise Does 50 percent interval for free throws percent above 80 include the values for subsequent seasons?

```
gms_ft_80_rs%>%
  group_by(isWin)%>%
  summarize(pct_25=quantile(mean_ft80,.25),
            pct_75=quantile(mean_ft80,.75))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 3
##   isWin pct_25 pct_75
##   <lgl>  <dbl>  <dbl>
## 1 FALSE  0.310  0.4
## 2 TRUE   0.365  0.456
```

The middle 50% of this distribution is between .36 and .46.

And in the actual subsequent seasons

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2018)%>%
  summarize(mean(ft_80))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 1
##   `mean(ft_80)`
##           <dbl>
## 1         0.389
```

Yep, that checks out. And in 2019?

```
gms%>%
  filter(yearSeason==2019)%>%
  summarize(mean(ft_80))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 1
##   `mean(ft_80)`
##           <dbl>
## 1         0.368
```

Again, yes but just barely.

Summarizing the Bootstrap

The goal is to repeatedly calculate a measure of interest on random samples of the data. There are two basic ways to do this, both of which use a loop.

1. Use a loop to generate 100 (or 1,000, or more) simulated datasets and then run the analysis on this massive object.
2. Use a loop to generate a single simulated dataset and run the analysis within the loop, saving only the measures of interest.

To demonstrate, we're going to go back to the other NBA data.

```
nba <- readRDS('../data/nba_players_2018.Rds')
```

We want to know if players from Tennessee are better at shooting free throws than players from Virginia. If we look at the overall data, we can see that NBA players who graduated from Tennessee are better overall.

```
nba %>%
  filter(org %in% c('Tennessee','Virginia')) %>%
  group_by(org) %>%
  summarise(pctFT = mean(pctFT))
```

```
## # A tibble: 2 × 2
##   org       pctFT
##   <fct>     <dbl>
## 1 Tennessee 0.842
## 2 Virginia  0.833
```

So now let's bootstrap this to express how **confident** we are in this conclusion.

Method 1: Big Dataset

```
set.seed(123)
bsSeasons <- NULL
for(bsSeason in 1:100) {
  tmpSeason <- nba %>%
    sample_n(size = nrow(.),replace = T) %>%
    select(org,pctFT) %>%
    mutate(bsSeasonNumber = bsSeason)
  bsSeasons <- bind_rows(bsSeasons,tmpSeason)
}
nrow(bsSeasons)
```

```
## [1] 53000
```

We have a huge dataset of 100 simulated seasons which we can now run our analysis on. First, let's compare free throw shooting in each simulated season.

```
bsSeasons %>%
  filter(grepl('Tennessee|^Virginia',org)) %>% # Focus only on the schools of interest
  group_by(bsSeasonNumber,org) %>% # Group by the simulated season and the organization
  summarise(mean_ftp = mean(pctFT),.groups = 'drop') # Calculate average pctFT
```

```
## # A tibble: 188 × 3
##    bsSeasonNumber org       mean_ftp
##             <int> <fct>        <dbl>
##  1              1 Tennessee    0.866
##  2              1 Virginia     0.785
##  3              2 Tennessee    0.866
##  4              2 Virginia     0.799
##  5              3 Tennessee    0.816
##  6              3 Virginia     0.827
##  7              4 Tennessee    0.847
##  8              4 Virginia     0.852
##  9              5 Tennessee    0.852
## 10              5 Virginia     0.836
## # ℹ 178 more rows
```

In simulated seasons 1, 2, and 5 Tennessee grads are better shooters. However, in simulated seasons 3 and 4, Virginia grads have a better percentage!

But remember the question of interest – we want to calculate the *difference* in free throw percentage. To do this, we can use the `spread()` command to create one column for Tennessee and one column for Virginia

```
bsSeasons %>%
  filter(grepl('Tennessee|^Virginia',org)) %>%
  group_by(bsSeasonNumber,org) %>%
  summarise(mean_ftp = mean(pctFT),.groups = 'drop') %>%
  spread(org,mean_ftp) # Create two columns one for each school
```

```
## # A tibble: 100 × 3
##    bsSeasonNumber Tennessee Virginia
##             <int>     <dbl>    <dbl>
##  1              1     0.866    0.785
##  2              2     0.866    0.799
##  3              3     0.816    0.827
##  4              4     0.847    0.852
##  5              5     0.852    0.836
##  6              6     0.866    0.771
##  7              7     0.861   NA
##  8              8     0.842   NA
##  9              9     0.863    0.836
## 10             10     0.833    0.743
## # ℹ 90 more rows
```

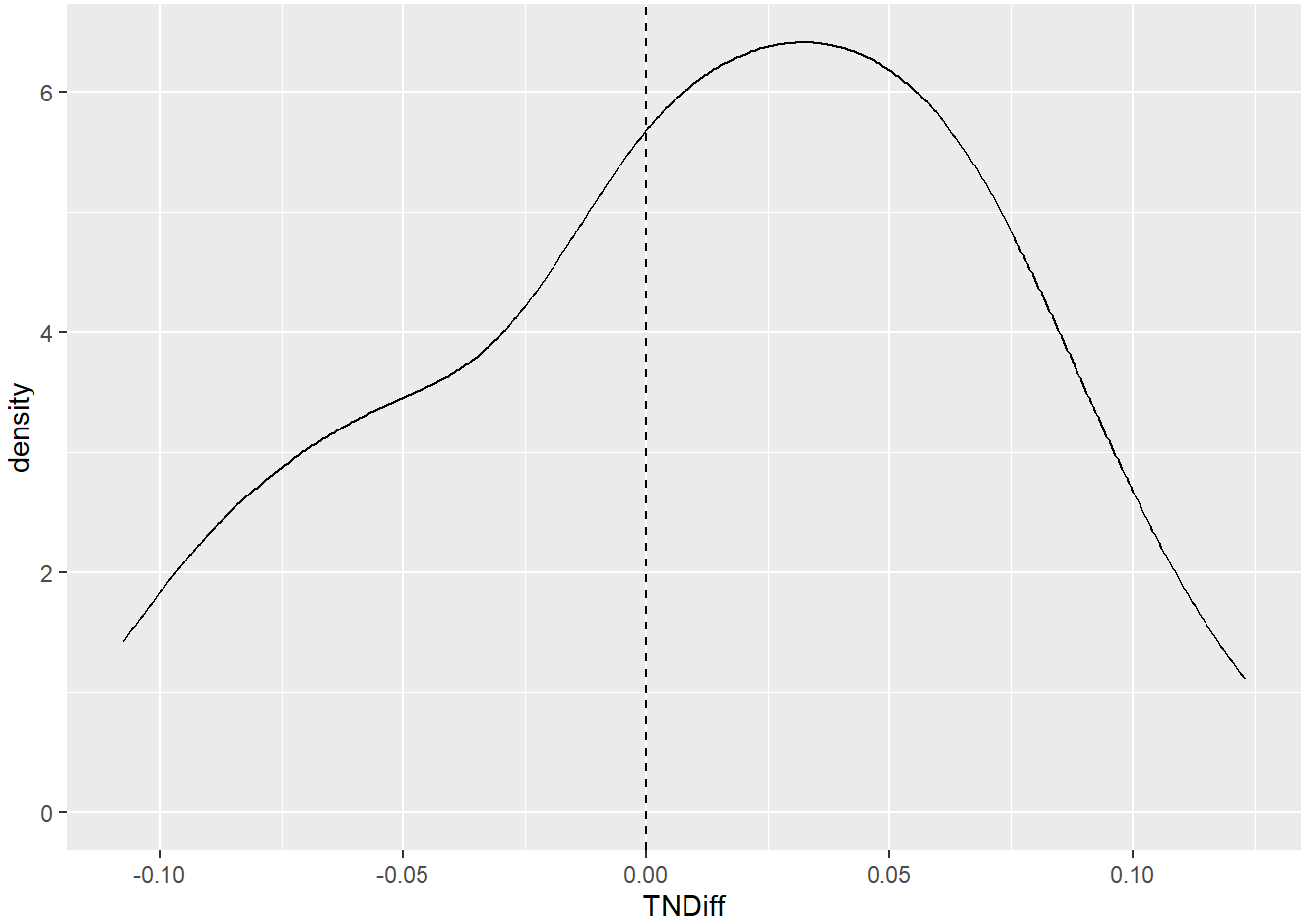
Interestingly, in seasons 7 and 8 we **don’t have measures of Virginia free throw shooting! This is because we just happened not to sample any players from Virginia in these simulated seasons! We can drop these missing values and then use `mutate()` to create the difference between Virginia and Tennessee.

```
bsSeasons %>%
  filter(grepl('Tennessee|^Virginia',org)) %>%
  group_by(bsSeasonNumber,org) %>%
  summarise(mean_ftp = mean(pctFT),.groups = 'drop') %>%
  spread(org,mean_ftp) %>%
  drop_na() %>% # Drop any rows with missing data in any column
  mutate(TNDiff = Tennessee - Virginia) # Calculate the difference in free throw shootin
g between TN and VA
```

```
## # A tibble: 88 × 4
##    bsSeasonNumber Tennessee Virginia   TNDiff
##             <int>     <dbl>    <dbl>    <dbl>
##  1              1     0.866    0.785  0.0810
##  2              2     0.866    0.799  0.0670
##  3              3     0.816    0.827 -0.0105
##  4              4     0.847    0.852 -0.00525
##  5              5     0.852    0.836  0.0163
##  6              6     0.866    0.771  0.095
##  7              9     0.863    0.836  0.0280
##  8             10     0.833    0.743  0.09
##  9             11     0.839    0.878 -0.0389
## 10             12     0.842    0.928 -0.0857
## # ℹ 78 more rows
```

Values that are greater than zero indicate simulated seasons where Tennessee grads shot better, while values less than zero indicate simulated seasons where Virginia grads shot better. We can plot this as a distribution!

```
bsSeasons %>%
  filter(grepl('Tennessee|^Virginia',org)) %>%
  group_by(bsSeasonNumber,org) %>%
  summarise(mean_ftp = mean(pctFT),.groups = 'drop') %>%
  spread(org,mean_ftp) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  mutate(TNDiff = Tennessee - Virginia) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = TNDiff)) + # Plot the difference
  geom_density() +
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0,linetype = 'dashed') # Add a vertical line for clarity
```



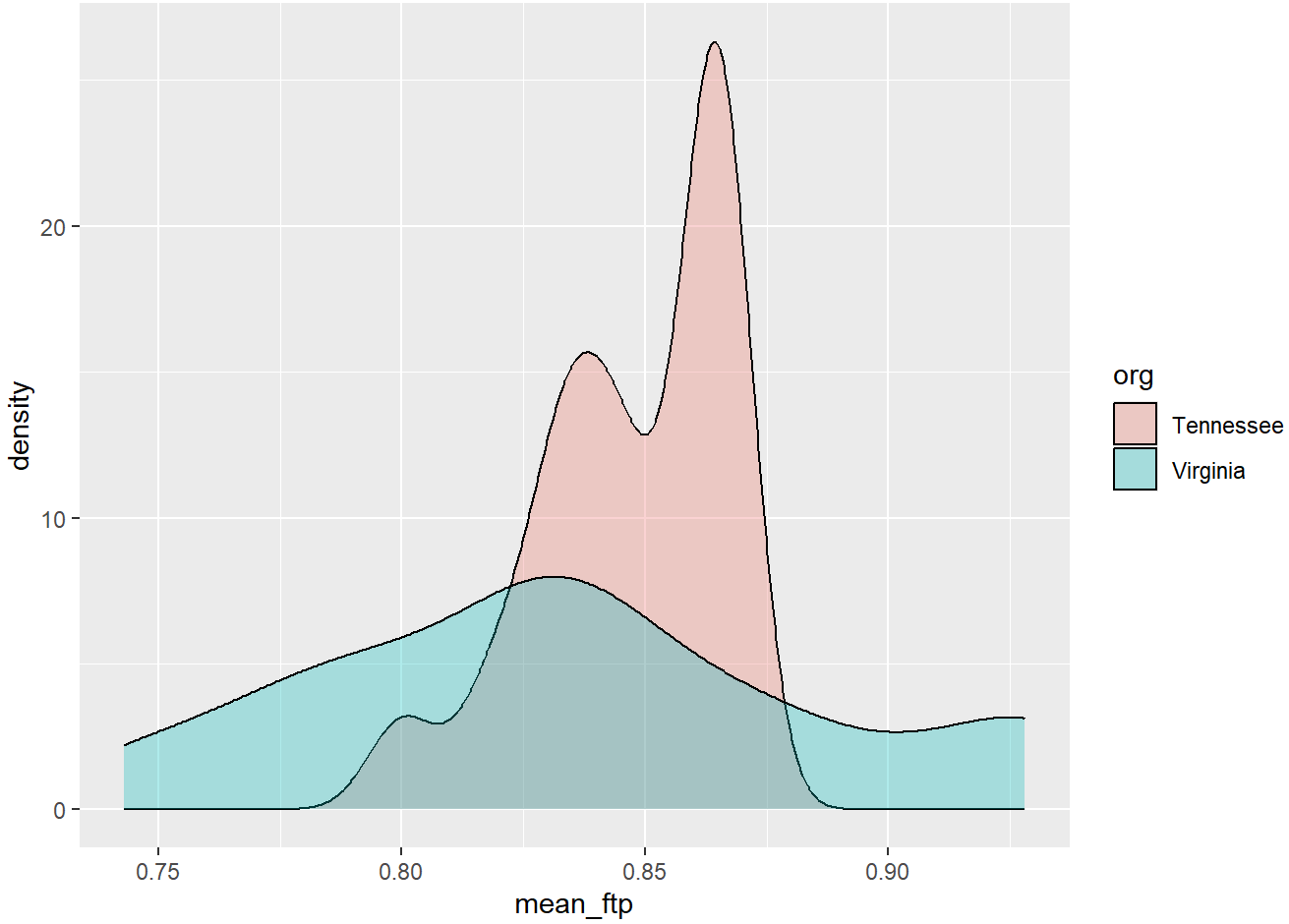
Our confidence is the proportion of times that Tennessee outshoots Virginia grads, or the proportion of the data that is to the **right** of zero (indicated with the vertical dashed line). We can calculate this proportion directly with a mean!

```
bsSeasons %>%
  filter(grepl('Tennessee|^Virginia',org)) %>%
  group_by(bsSeasonNumber,org) %>%
  summarise(mean_ftp = mean(pctFT),.groups = 'drop') %>%
  spread(org,mean_ftp) %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  mutate(TNDiff = Tennessee - Virginia) %>%
  mutate(TNBetter = ifelse(TNDiff > 0,1,0)) %>% # Create an indicator for whether TN did
better
  summarise(mean(TNBetter))
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 × 1
##   `mean(TNBetter)`
##              <dbl>
## 1            0.614
```

The benefit of creating the huge dataset first and then analyzing it is that we can look at many different aspects of the data. We can calculate the overall confidence, or we can plot the distribution of the difference. We can even plot the two distributions for each school!

```
bsSeasons %>%
  filter(grepl('Tennessee|^Virginia',org)) %>%
  group_by(bsSeasonNumber,org) %>%
  summarise(mean_ftp = mean(pctFT),.groups = 'drop') %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = mean_ftp,fill = org)) + # Plot the difference
  geom_density(alpha = .3)
```



Method 2: Calculate within the loop

We could have instead calculated all this WITHIN each loop of the bootstrap.

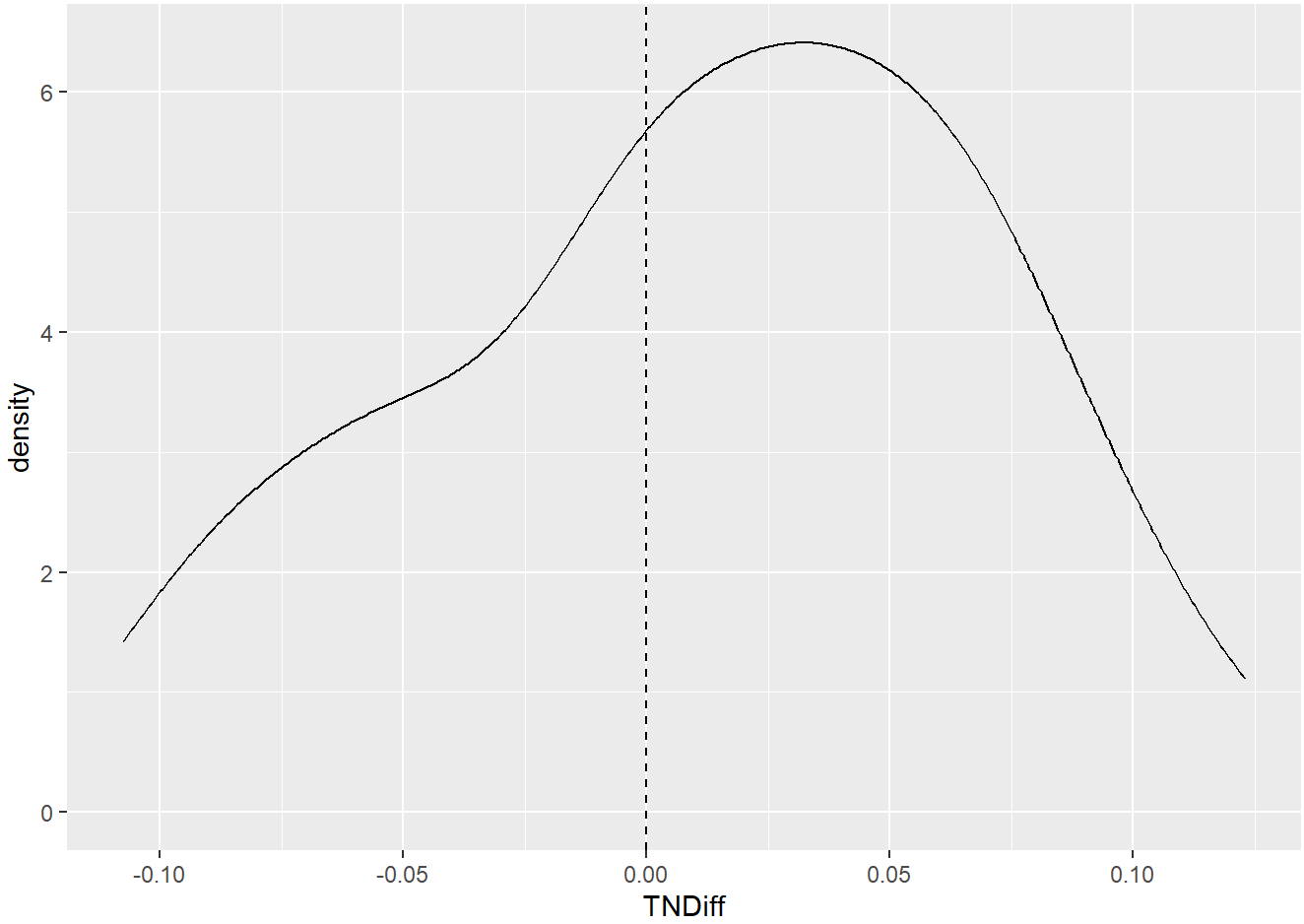
```
set.seed(123)
bsRes <- NULL
for(counter in 1:100) {
  tmpEst <- nba %>%
    sample_n(size = nrow(.),replace = T) %>%
    filter(org %in% c('Tennessee','Virginia')) %>%
    group_by(org) %>%
    summarise(mean_FT = mean(pctFT,na.rm=T)) %>%
    ungroup() %>%
    spread(org,mean_FT) %>%
    mutate(bsSeason = counter)
  bsRes <- bind_rows(bsRes,tmpEst)
}
```

Then we can plot and calculate without having to do the analysis.

```
bsRes %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  summarise(mean(Tennessee > Virginia)) # NOTE: You can calculate the average of TRUE/FA
LSE logic and R will know to treat it as a 1/0 number.
```

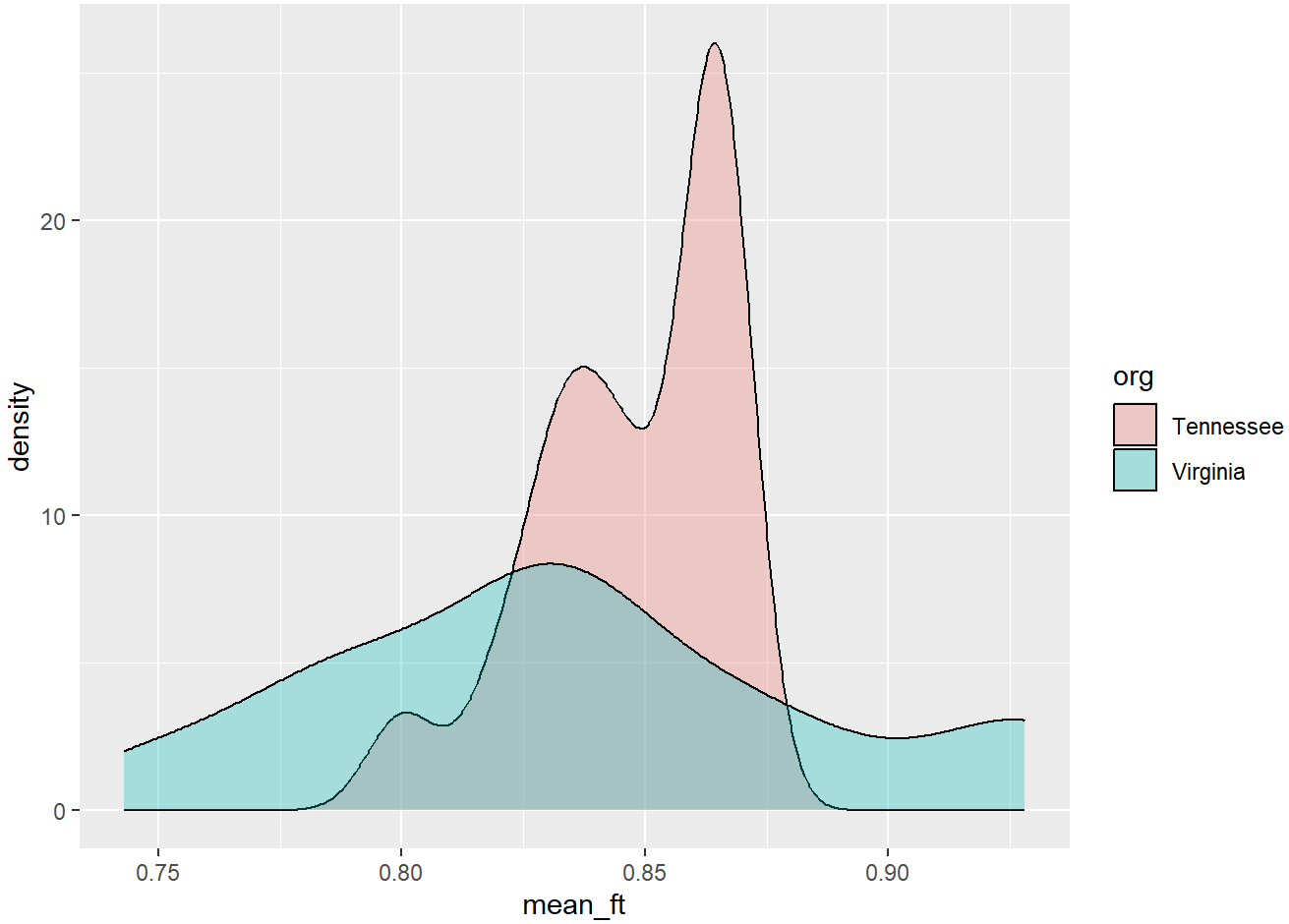
```
## # A tibble: 1 × 1
##   `mean(Tennessee > Virginia)`
##                          <dbl>
## 1                        0.614
```

```
bsRes %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  mutate(TNDiff = Tennessee - Virginia) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = TNDiff)) +
  geom_density() +
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0,linetype = 'dashed')
```



We can use the `gather()` command to get the overlapping plot as well.

```
bsRes %>%
  drop_na() %>%
  gather(org,mean_ft,-bsSeason) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = mean_ft,fill = org)) +
  geom_density(alpha = .3)
```



Quick Exercise Which team has the highest free throw percentage? How confident are you?

```
# INSERT CODE HERE
```