

Sampling and point estimates

SAMPLING IN PYTHON



James Chapman

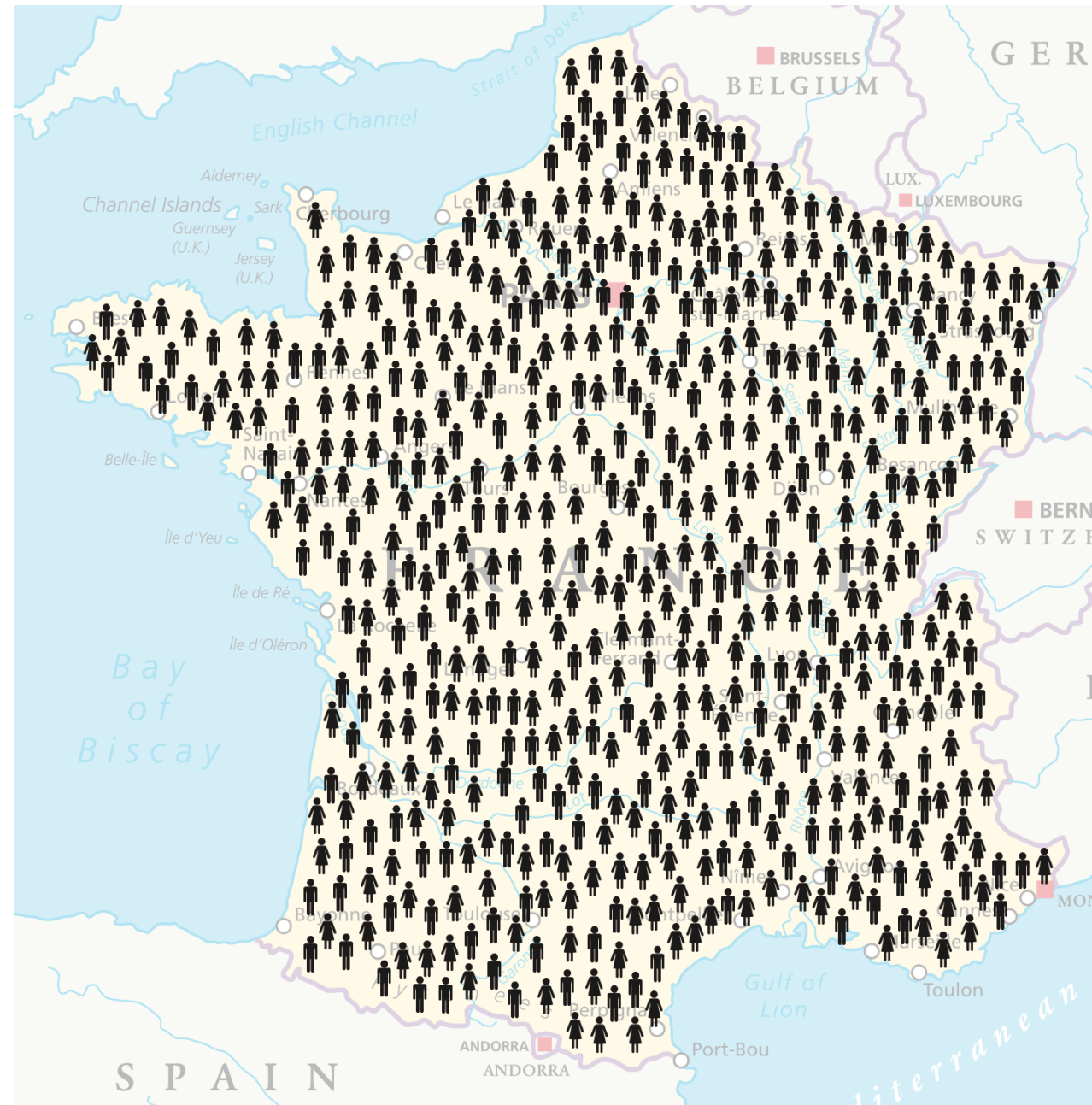
Content Developer, DataCamp

Estimating the population of France

A census asks every household how many people live there.

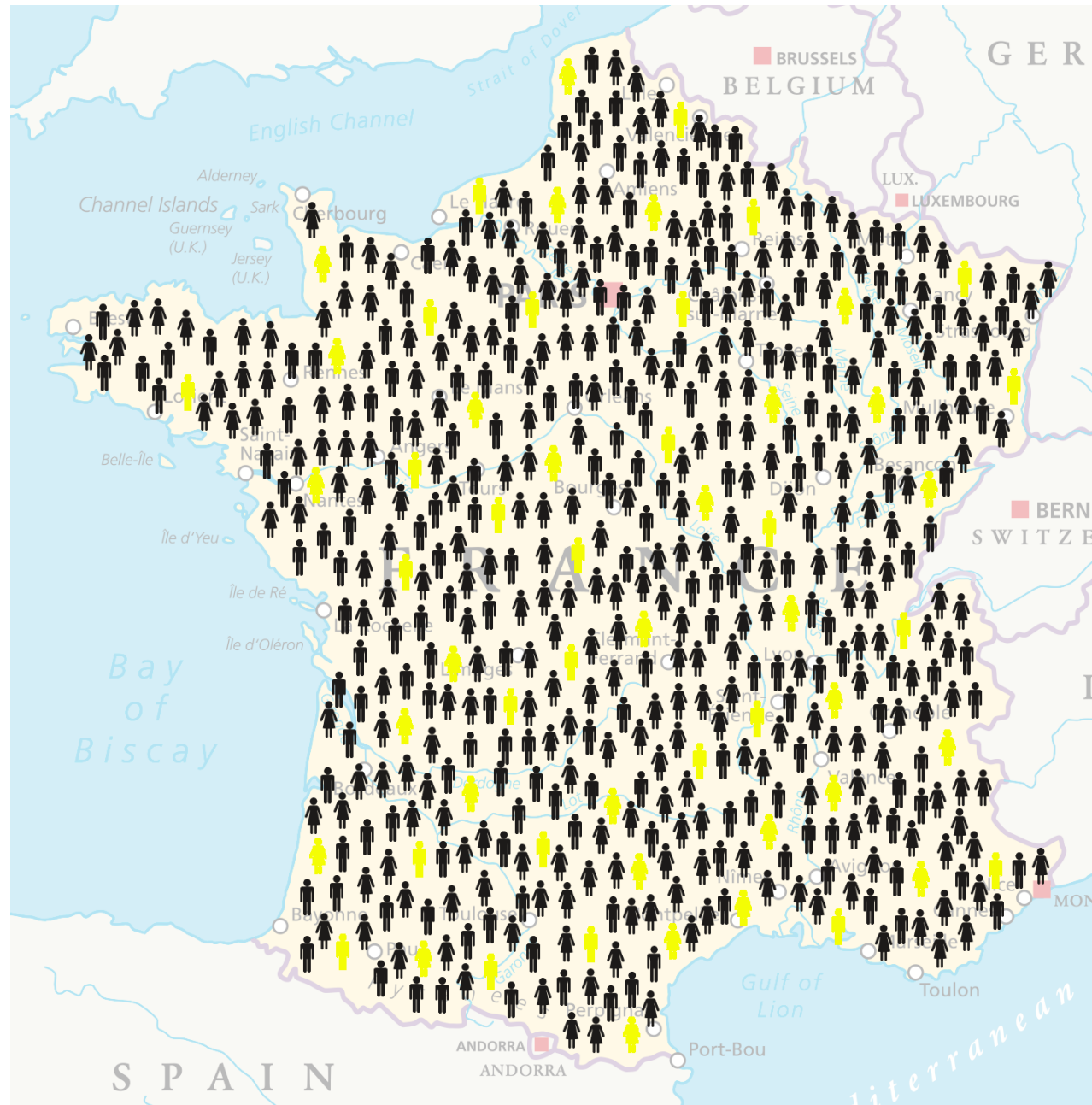


There are lots of people in France



Censuses are really expensive!

Sampling households



Cheaper to ask a small number of households and use statistics to estimate the population

Working with a subset of the whole population is called *sampling*

Population vs. sample

The *population* is the complete dataset

- Doesn't have to refer to people
- Typically, don't know what the whole population is

The *sample* is the subset of data you calculate on

Coffee rating dataset

total_cup_points	variety	country_of_origin	aroma	flavor	aftertaste	body	balance
90.58	NA	Ethiopia	8.67	8.83	8.67	8.50	8.42
89.92	Other	Ethiopia	8.75	8.67	8.50	8.42	8.42
...
73.75	NA	Vietnam	6.75	6.67	6.5	6.92	6.83

- Each row represents 1 coffee
- 1338 rows
- We'll treat this as the population

Points vs. flavor: population

```
pts_vs_flavor_pop = coffee_ratings[["total_cup_points", "flavor"]]
```

```
total_cup_points  flavor
0               90.58    8.83
1               89.92    8.67
2               89.75    8.50
3               89.00    8.58
4               88.83    8.50
...             ...    ...
1333             78.75    7.58
1334             78.08    7.67
1335             77.17    7.33
1336             75.08    6.83
1337             73.75    6.67
```

```
[1338 rows x 2 columns]
```

Points vs. flavor: 10 row sample

```
pts_vs_flavor_samp = pts_vs_flavor_pop.sample(n=10)
```

	total_cup_points	flavor
1088	80.33	7.17
1157	79.67	7.42
1267	76.17	7.33
506	83.00	7.67
659	82.50	7.42
817	81.92	7.50
1050	80.67	7.42
685	82.42	7.50
1027	80.92	7.25
62	85.58	8.17

[10 rows x 2 columns]

Python sampling for Series

- Use `.sample()` for `pandas` DataFrames and Series

```
cup_points_samp = coffee_ratings['total_cup_points'].sample(n=10)
```

```
1088    80.33
1157    79.67
1267    76.17
...     ...
685     82.42
1027    80.92
62      85.58
Name: total_cup_points, dtype: float64
```

Population parameters & point estimates

A *population parameter* is a calculation made on the population dataset

```
import numpy as np
np.mean(pts_vs_flavor_pop['total_cup_points'])
```

```
82.15120328849028
```

A *point estimate* or *sample statistic* is a calculation made on the sample dataset

```
np.mean(cup_points_samp)
```

```
81.318000000000001
```

Point estimates with pandas

```
pts_vs_flavor_pop['flavor'].mean()
```

```
7.526046337817639
```

```
pts_vs_flavor_samp['flavor'].mean()
```

```
7.4850000000000001
```

Let's practice!

SAMPLING IN PYTHON

Convenience sampling

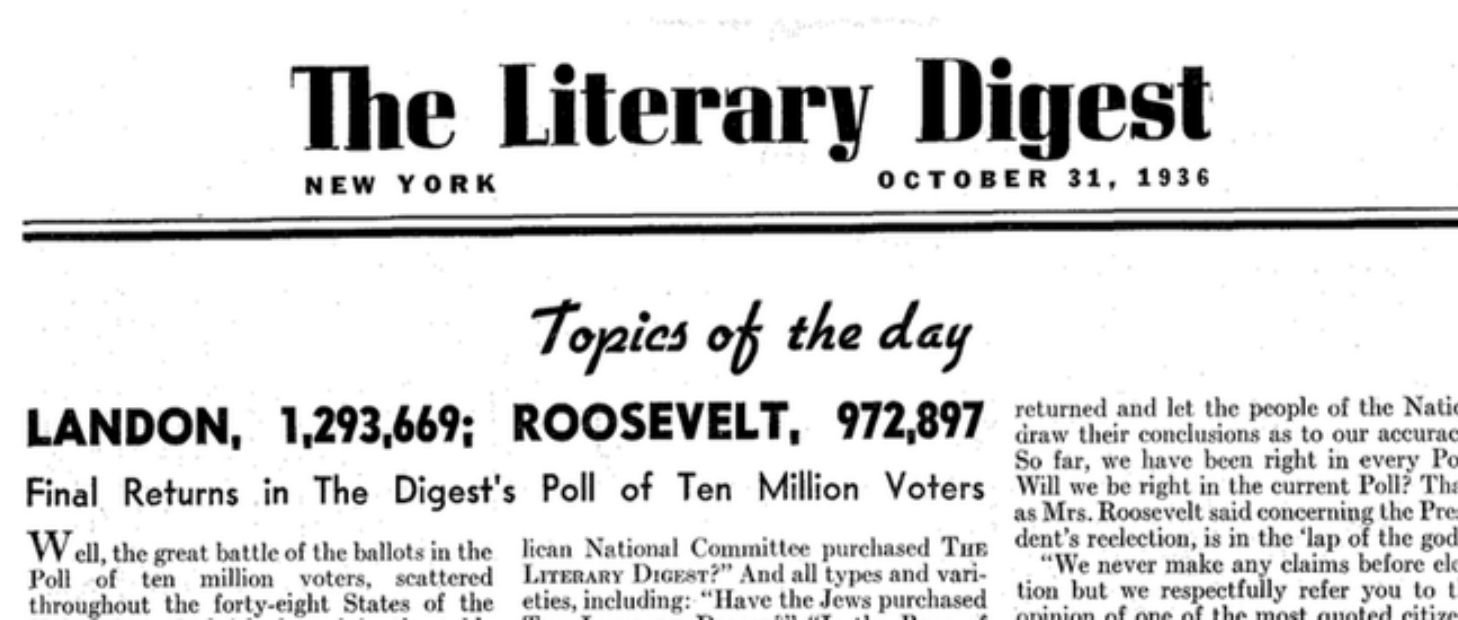
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The Literary Digest election prediction



- Prediction: Landon gets 57%; Roosevelt gets 43%
- Actual results: Landon got 38%; Roosevelt got 62%
- Sample not representative of population, causing *sample bias*
- Collecting data by the easiest method is called *convenience sampling*

Finding the mean age of French people



- Survey 10 people at Disneyland Paris
- Mean age of 24.6 years
- Will this be a good estimate for all of France?

¹ Image by Sean MacEntee

How accurate was the survey?

Year	Average French Age
1975	31.6
1985	33.6
1995	36.2
2005	38.9
2015	41.2

- 24.6 years is a poor estimate
- People who visit Disneyland aren't representative of the whole population

Convenience sampling coffee ratings

```
coffee_ratings["total_cup_points"].mean()
```

```
82.15120328849028
```

```
coffee_ratings_first10 = coffee_ratings.head(10)
```

```
coffee_ratings_first10["total_cup_points"].mean()
```

```
89.1
```

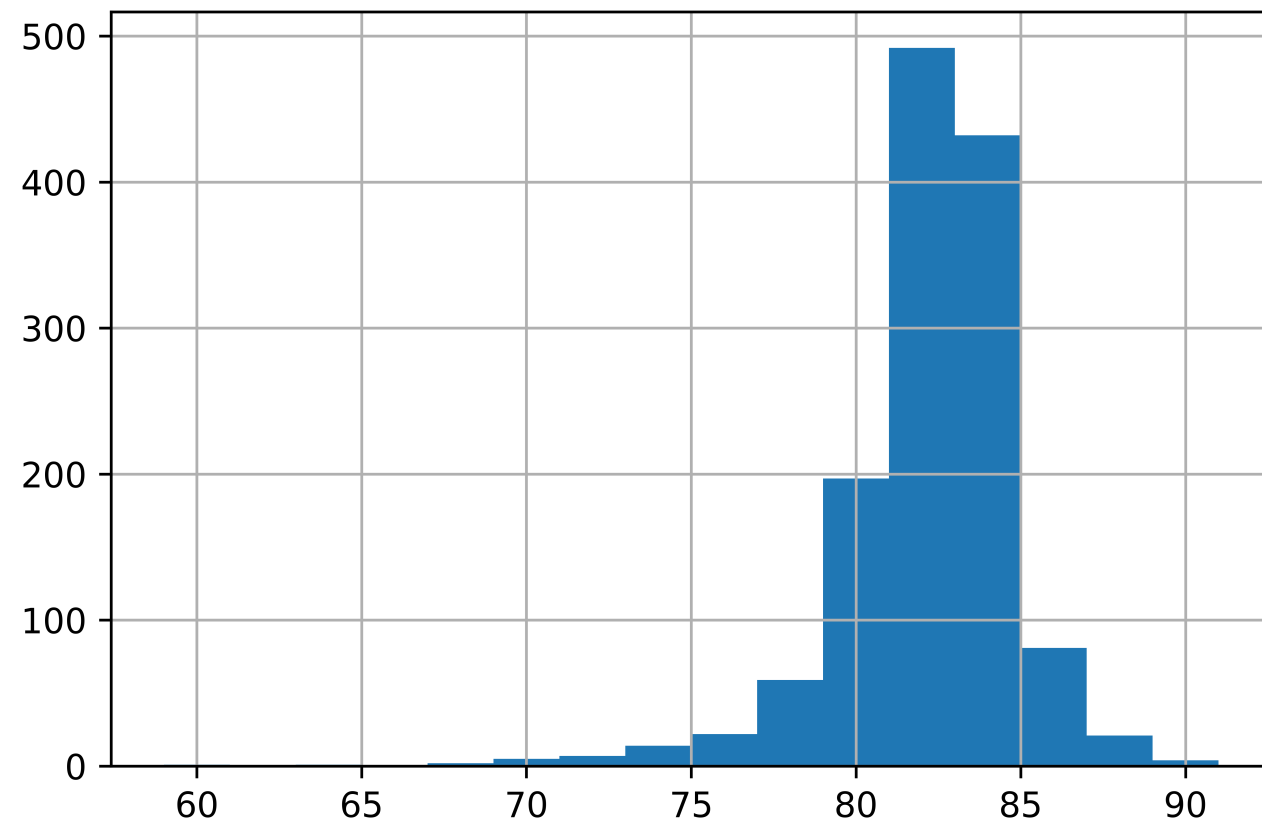
Visualizing selection bias

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
coffee_ratings["total_cup_points"].hist(bins=np.arange(59, 93, 2))
plt.show()
```

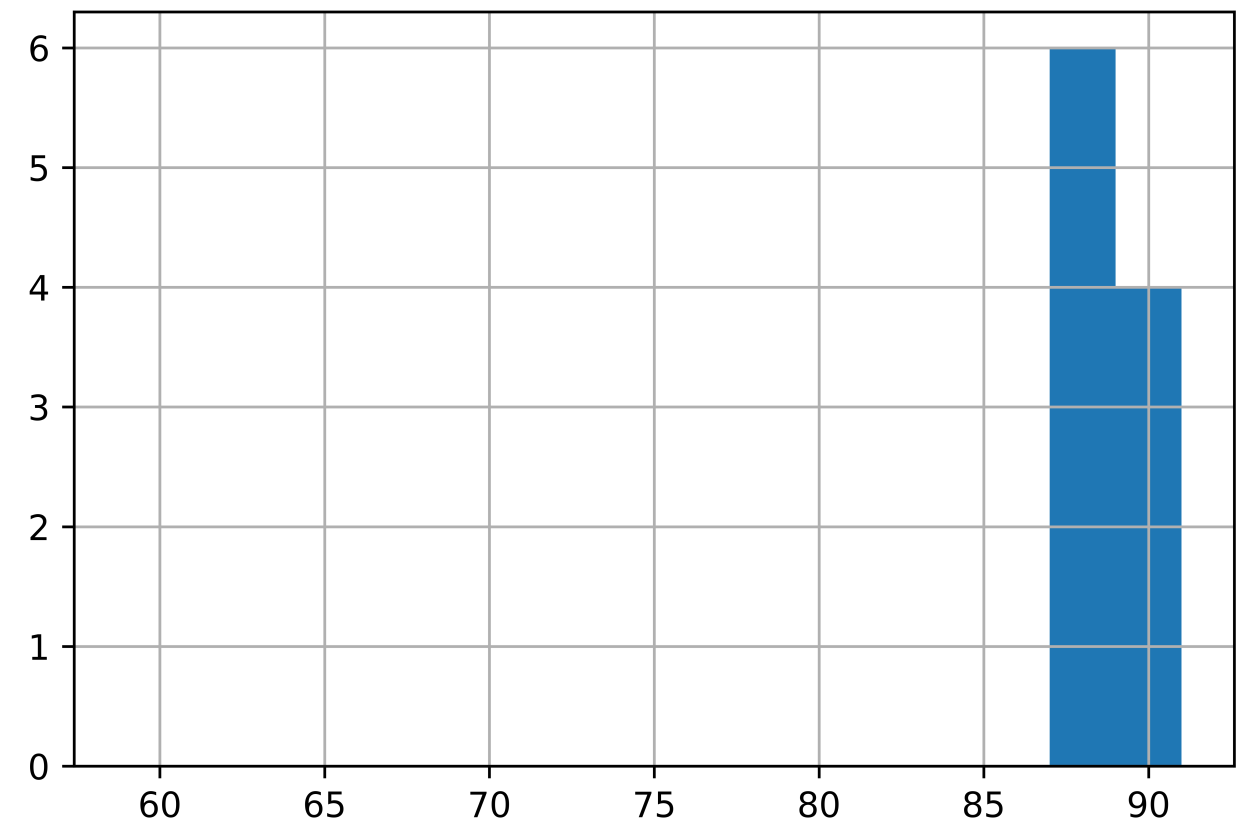
```
coffee_ratings_first10["total_cup_points"].hist(bins=np.arange(59, 93, 2))
plt.show()
```

Distribution of a population and of a convenience sample

Population:



Convenience sample:

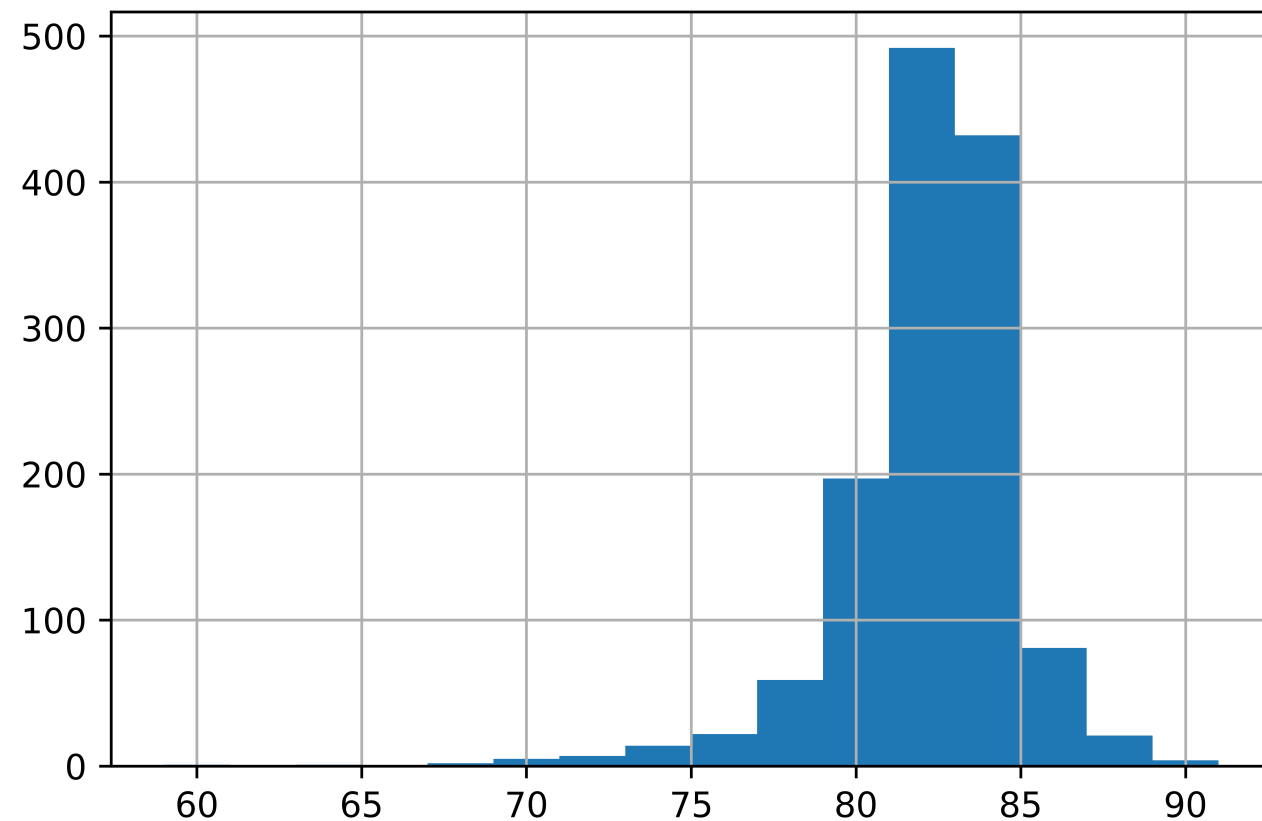


Visualizing selection bias for a random sample

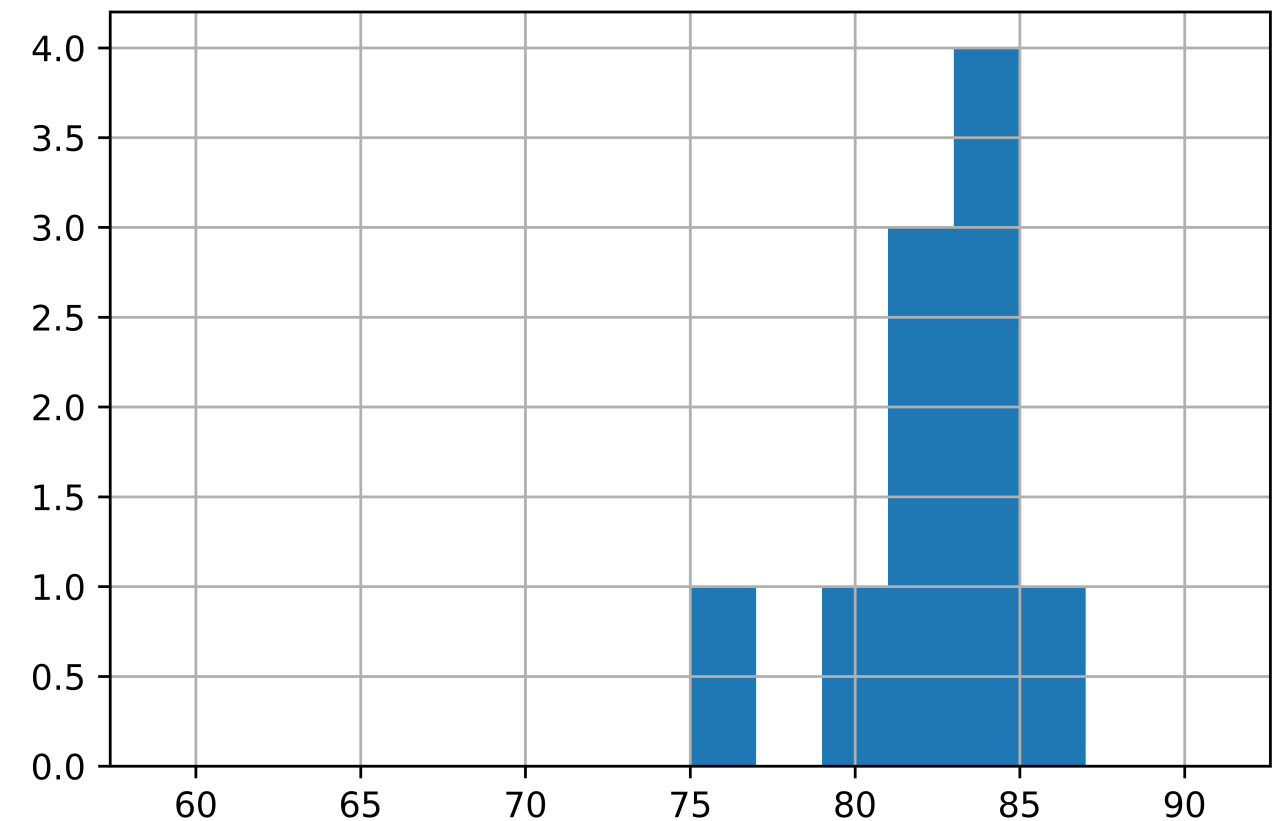
```
coffee_sample = coffee_ratings.sample(n=10)
coffee_sample["total_cup_points"].hist(bins=np.arange(59, 93, 2))
plt.show()
```

Distribution of a population and of a simple random sample

Population:



Random Sample:



Let's practice!

SAMPLING IN PYTHON

Pseudo-random number generation

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What does random mean?

{adjective} made, done, happening, or chosen without method or conscious decision.

¹ Oxford Languages

True random numbers

- Generated from physical processes, like flipping coins
- Hotbits uses radioactive decay
- RANDOM.ORG uses atmospheric noise
- True randomness is expensive

¹ <https://www.fourmilab.ch/hotbits> ² <https://www.random.org>

Pseudo-random number generation

- Pseudo-random number generation is **cheap** and **fast**
- Next "random" number calculated from previous "random" number
- The first "random" number calculated from a *seed*
- The same seed value yields the same random numbers

Pseudo-random number generation example

```
seed = 1  
calc_next_random(seed)
```

3

```
calc_next_random(3)
```

2

```
calc_next_random(2)
```

6

Random number generating functions

- Prepend with `numpy.random` , such as `numpy.random.beta()`

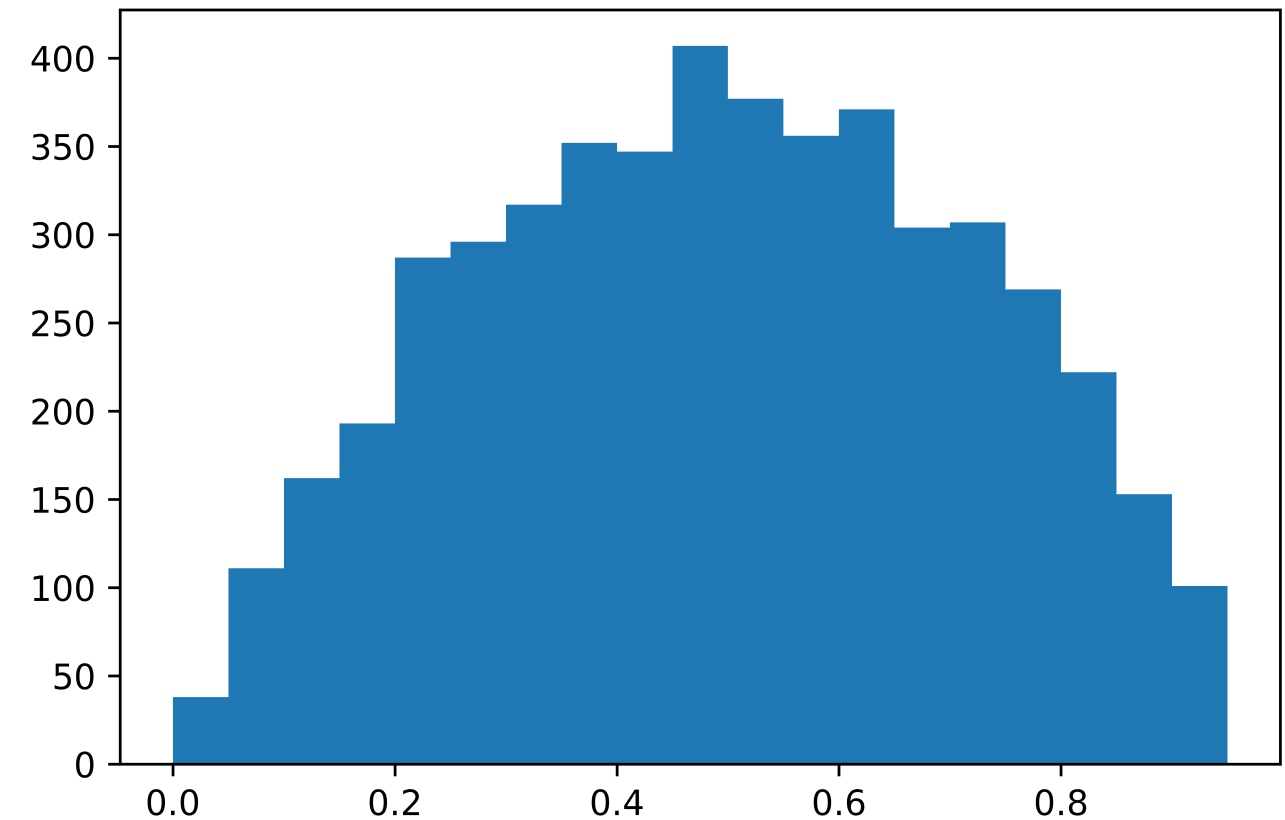
function	distribution	function	distribution
<code>.beta</code>	Beta	<code>.hypergeometric</code>	Hypergeometric
<code>.binomial</code>	Binomial	<code>.lognormal</code>	Lognormal
<code>.chisquare</code>	Chi-squared	<code>.negative_binomial</code>	Negative binomial
<code>.exponential</code>	Exponential	<code>.normal</code>	Normal
<code>.f</code>	F	<code>.poisson</code>	Poisson
<code>.gamma</code>	Gamma	<code>.standard_t</code>	t
<code>.geometric</code>	Geometric	<code>.uniform</code>	Uniform

Visualizing random numbers

```
randoms = np.random.beta(a=2, b=2, size=5000)  
randoms
```

```
array([0.6208281 , 0.73216171, 0.44298403, ...,  
       0.13411873, 0.52198411, 0.72355098])
```

```
plt.hist(randoms, bins=np.arange(0, 1, 0.05))  
plt.show()
```



Random numbers seeds

```
np.random.seed(20000229)
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([-0.59030264, 1.87821258])
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([2.52619561, 4.9684949 ])
```

```
np.random.seed(20000229)
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([-0.59030264, 1.87821258])
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([2.52619561, 4.9684949 ])
```

Using a different seed

```
np.random.seed(20000229)
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([-0.59030264, 1.87821258])
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([2.52619561, 4.9684949 ])
```

```
np.random.seed(20041004)
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([1.09364337, 4.55285159])
```

```
np.random.normal(loc=2, scale=1.5, size=2)
```

```
array([2.67038916, 2.36677492])
```

Let's practice!

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