

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

FOUNDATIONS FOR INFERENCE

AGENDA

1. Follow-up
2. Inferential Goals
3. Central Limit Theorem
4. Confidence Intervals
5. Hypothesis Testing

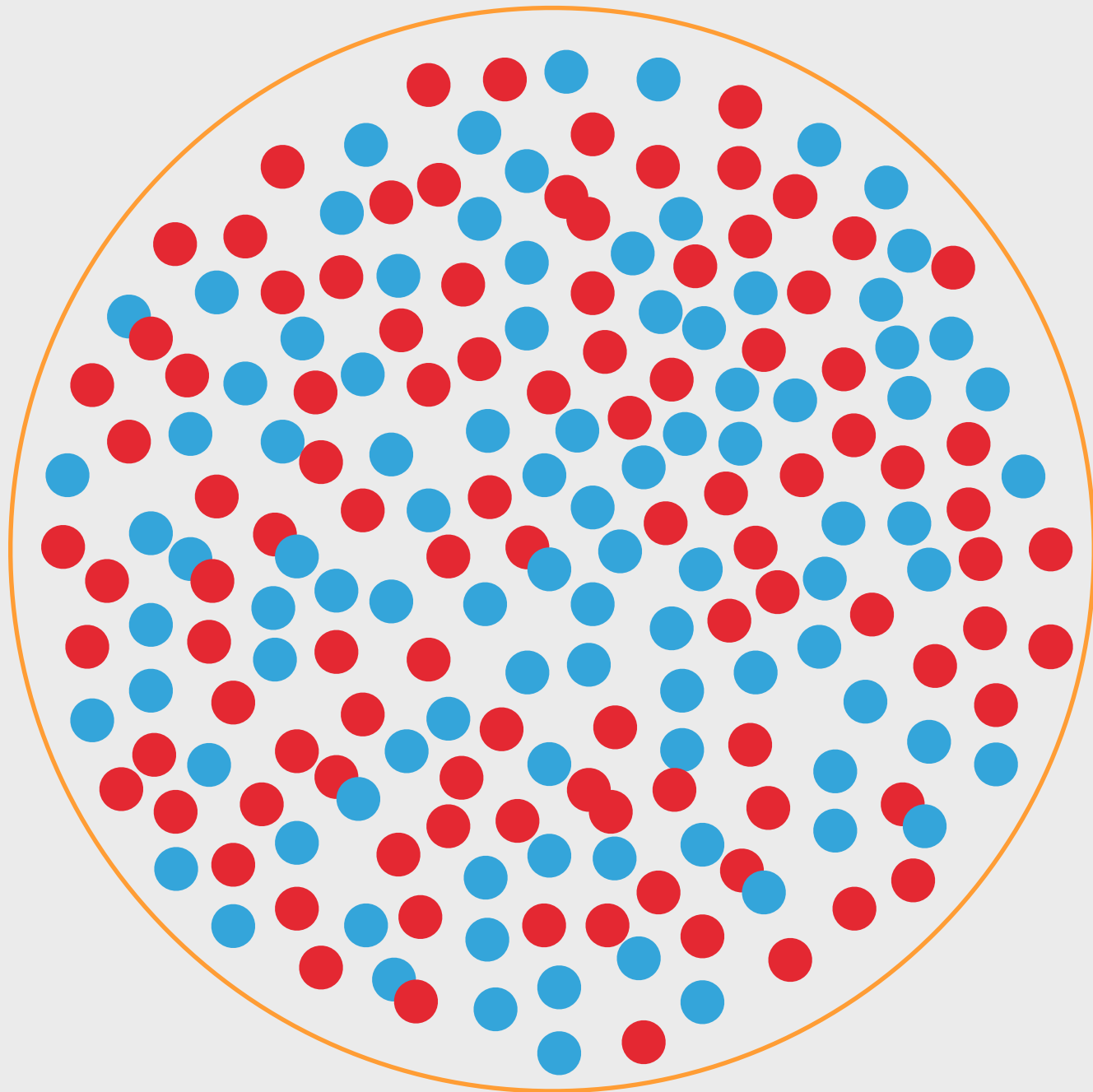
1 FOLLOW-UP

2 INFERENTIAL GOALS

2. INFERENCEAL GOALS

DRAWING INFERENCE

Universe or Population



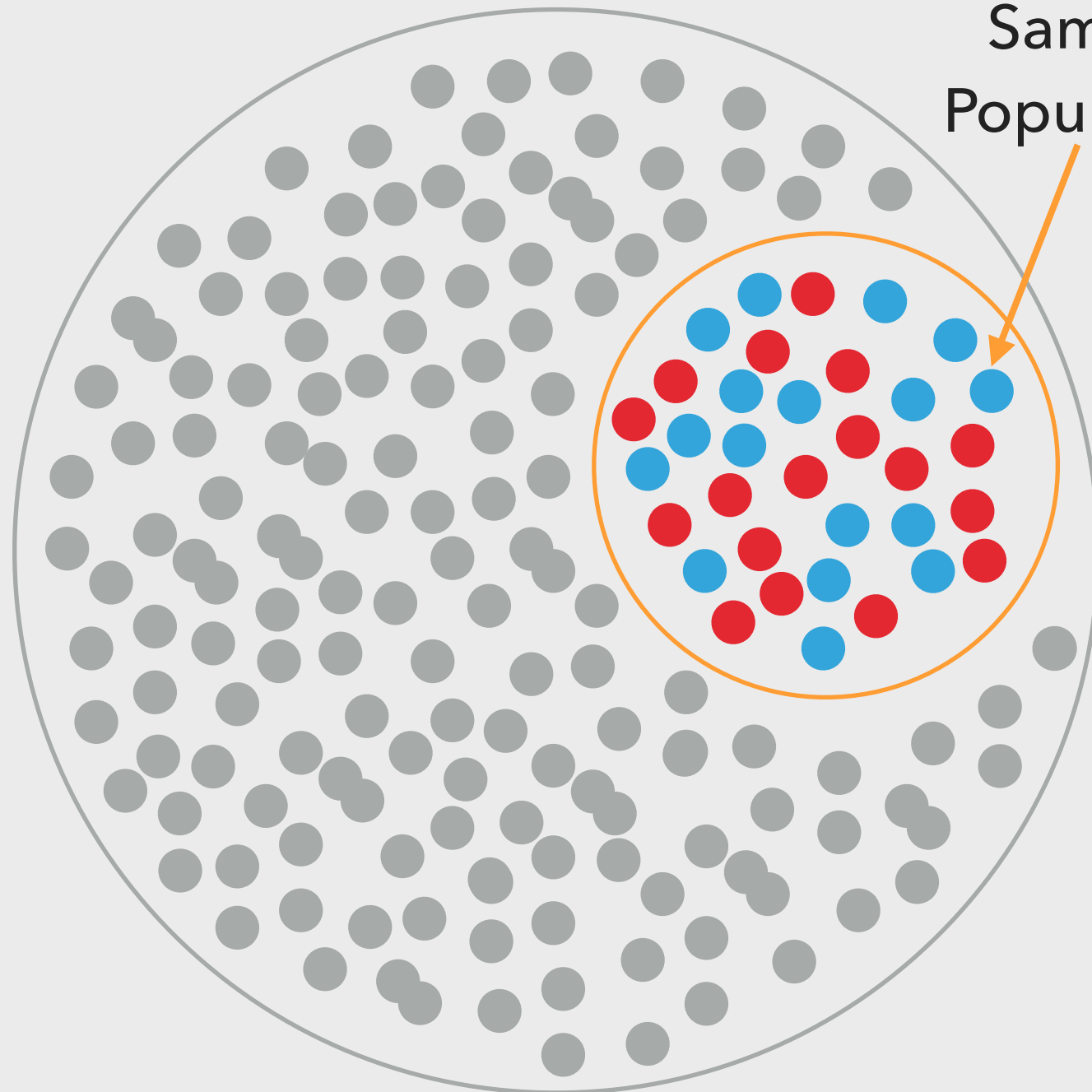
● = 1 observation

2. INFERENCEAL GOALS

DRAWING INFERENCE

Universe or Population

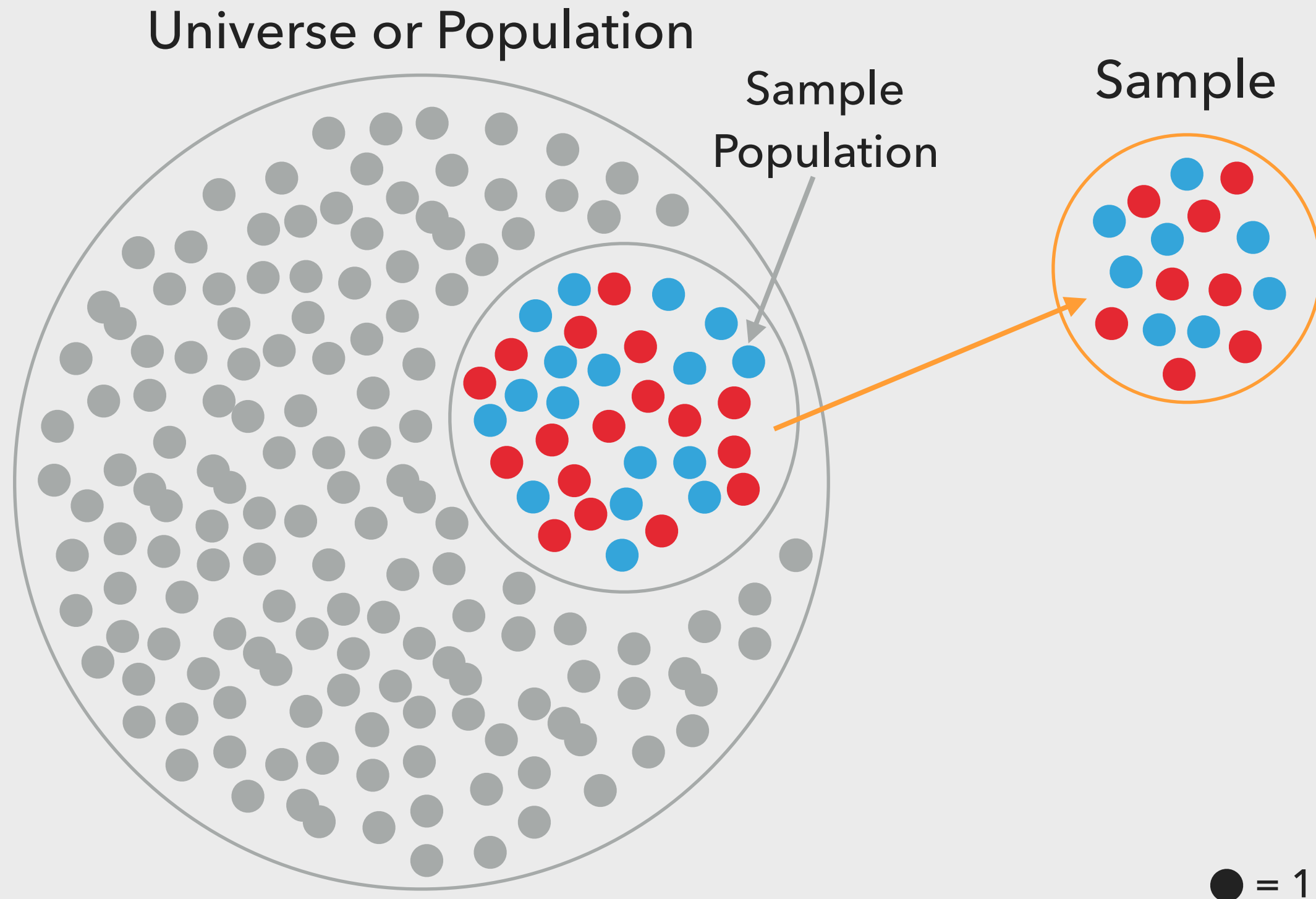
Sample
Population



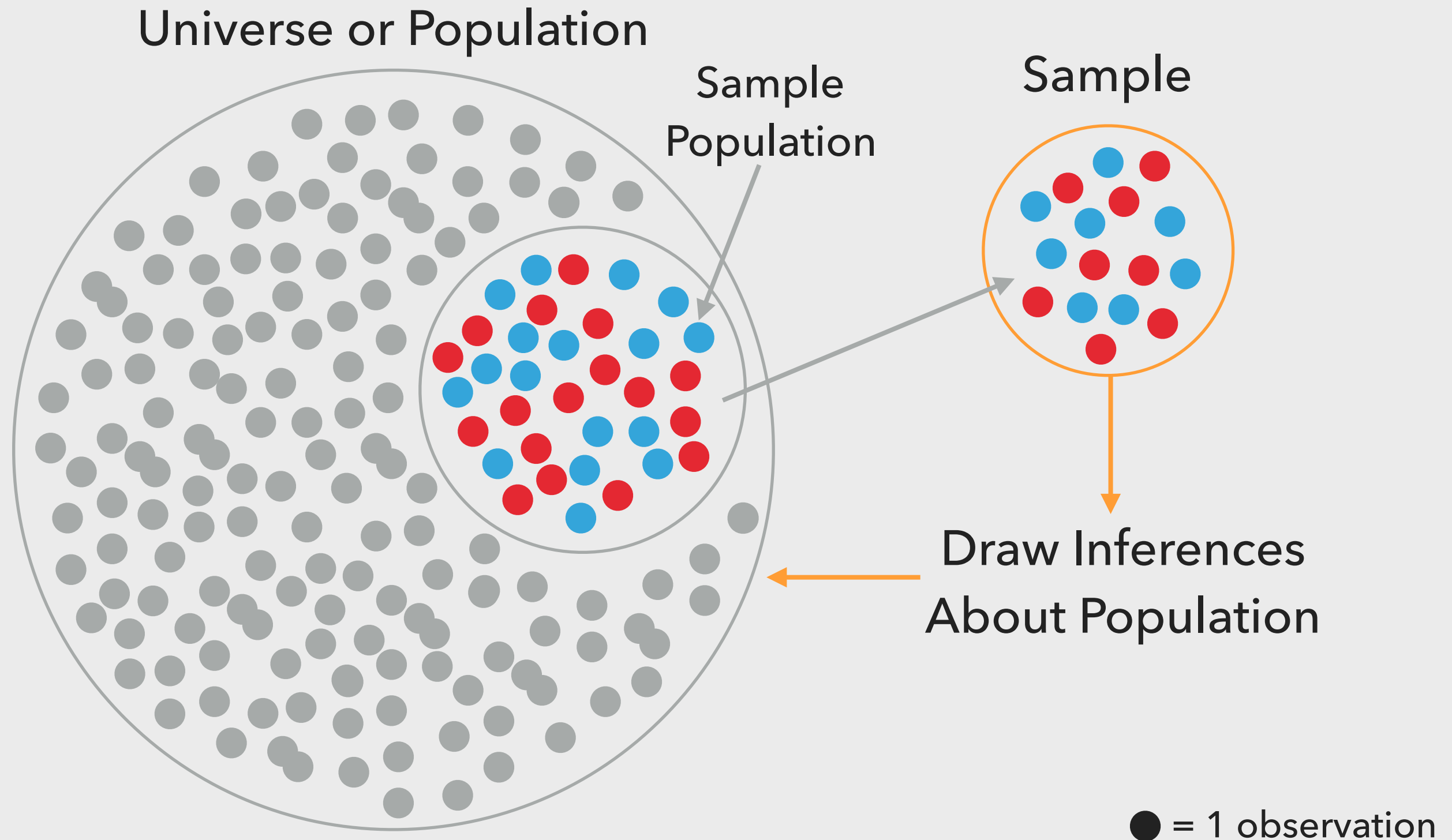
● = 1 observation

2. INFERENCEAL GOALS

DRAWING INFERENCE



DRAWING INFERENCE



2. INFERENCE GOALS

SAMPLE SIZE

Polling Data								
Poll	Date	Sample	MoE	Clinton (D)	Trump (R)	Johnson (L)	Stein (G)	Spread
RCP Average	9/21 - 9/29	--	--	43.4	41.1	7.0	2.4	Clinton +2.3
FOX News	9/27 - 9/29	911 LV	3.0	43	40	8	4	Clinton +3
Rasmussen Reports	9/27 - 9/29	1500 LV	2.5	43	42	6	2	Clinton +1
PPP (D)	9/27 - 9/28	933 LV	3.2	44	40	6	1	Clinton +4
Rasmussen Reports	9/26 - 9/28	1500 LV	2.5	42	41	7	2	Clinton +1
Reuters/Ipsos	9/22 - 9/26	1041 LV	3.5	42	38	7	2	Clinton +4
Quinnipiac	9/22 - 9/25	1115 LV	2.9	44	43	8	2	Clinton +1
Bloomberg	9/21 - 9/24	1002 LV	3.1	41	43	8	4	Trump +2
Monmouth	9/22 - 9/25	729 LV	3.6	46	42	8	2	Clinton +4
Economist/YouGov	9/22 - 9/24	948 RV	3.8	44	41	5	2	Clinton +3
NBC News/SM	9/19 - 9/25	13598 LV	1.1	45	40	10	3	Clinton +5
ABC News/Wash Post	9/19 - 9/22	651 LV	4.5	46	44	5	1	Clinton +2
Rasmussen Reports	9/20 - 9/21	1000 LV	3.0	39	44	8	2	Trump +5
Gravis	9/20 - 9/20	1560 LV	2.5	44	40	5	2	Clinton +4
Economist/YouGov	9/18 - 9/19	936 RV	4.0	40	38	7	2	Clinton +2
Reuters/Ipsos	9/15 - 9/19	1111 LV	3.4	37	39	7	2	Trump +2
McClatchy/Marist	9/15 - 9/20	758 LV	3.6	45	39	10	4	Clinton +6
NBC News/Wall St. Jnl	9/16 - 9/19	922 LV	3.2	43	37	9	2	Clinton +6
Associated Press-GfK	9/15 - 9/16	1251 LV	—	45	39	9	2	Clinton +6
NBC News/SM	9/12 - 9/18	13320 LV	1.2	45	40	10	4	Clinton +5
FOX News	9/11 - 9/14	867 LV	3.0	41	40	8	3	Clinton +1

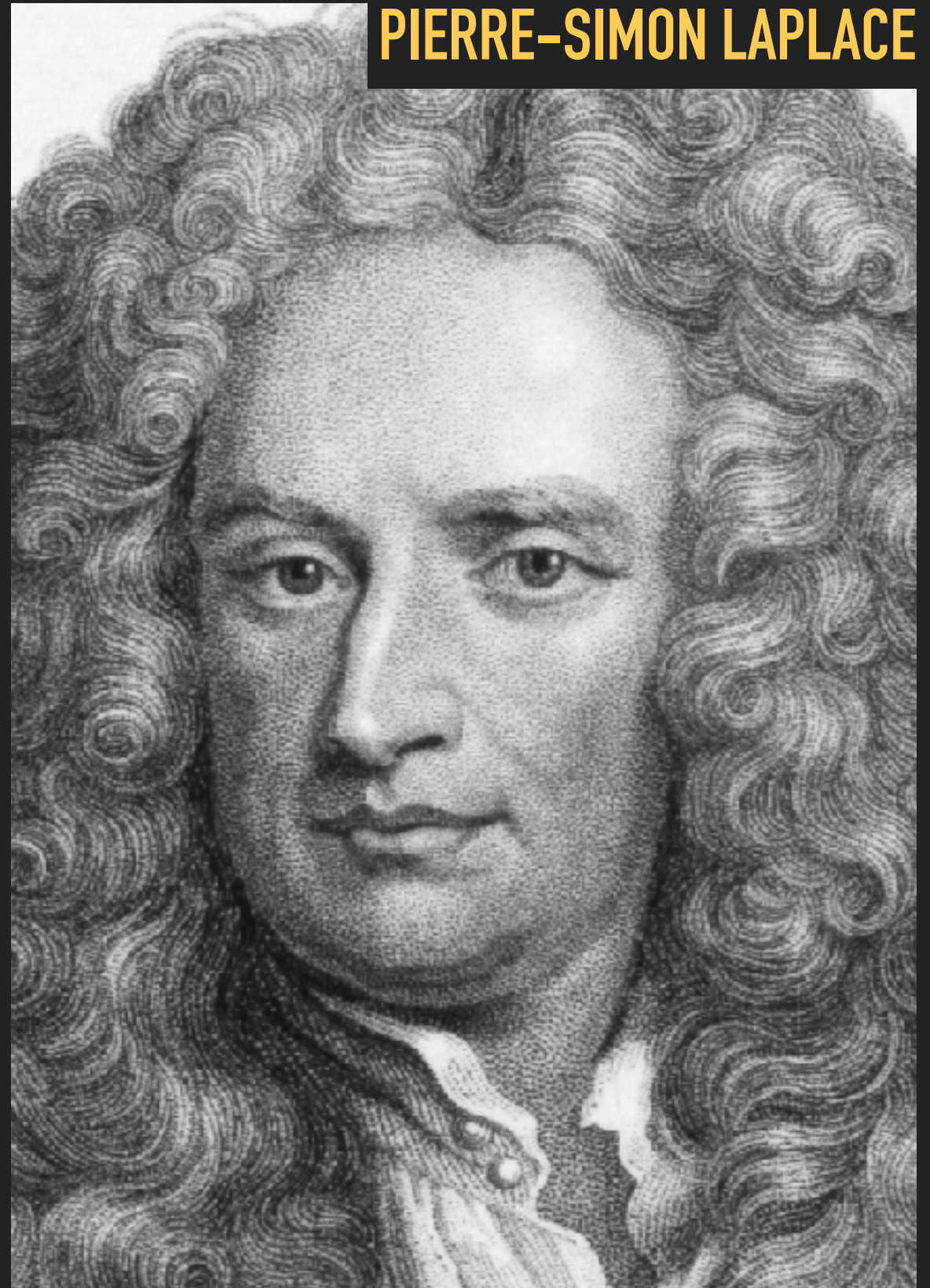
3 CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

ABRHAM DE MOIVRE



PIERRE-SIMON LAPLACE



3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

A POPULATION

```
> library("testDriveR")
```

```
> autoData <- auto17
```

```
> nrow(autoData)
```

```
[1] 1216
```

```
> summary(autoData$combFE)
```

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
11.00	19.00	23.00	23.27	26.00	58.00

```
> sd(autoData$combFE)
```

```
[1] 5.83503
```


3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

A RANDOM SAMPLE

```
> library("dplyr")
```

```
> sample1 <- dplyr::sample_n(autoData, 500)
```

```
> summary(sample1$combFE)
```

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
12.00	19.00	23.00	23.38	26.25	56.00

```
> sd(sample1$combFE)
```

```
[1] 5.814742
```

3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

A SECOND RANDOM SAMPLE

```
> sample2 <- dplyr::sample_n(autoData, 500)
```

```
> summary(sample2$combFE)
```

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
12.0	19.0	23.0	23.3	26.0	58.0

```
> sd(sample2$combFE)
```

```
[1] 6.263133
```

3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

ANOTHER 4,998 RANDOM SAMPLES

```
> summary(mpgSample$mean)
```

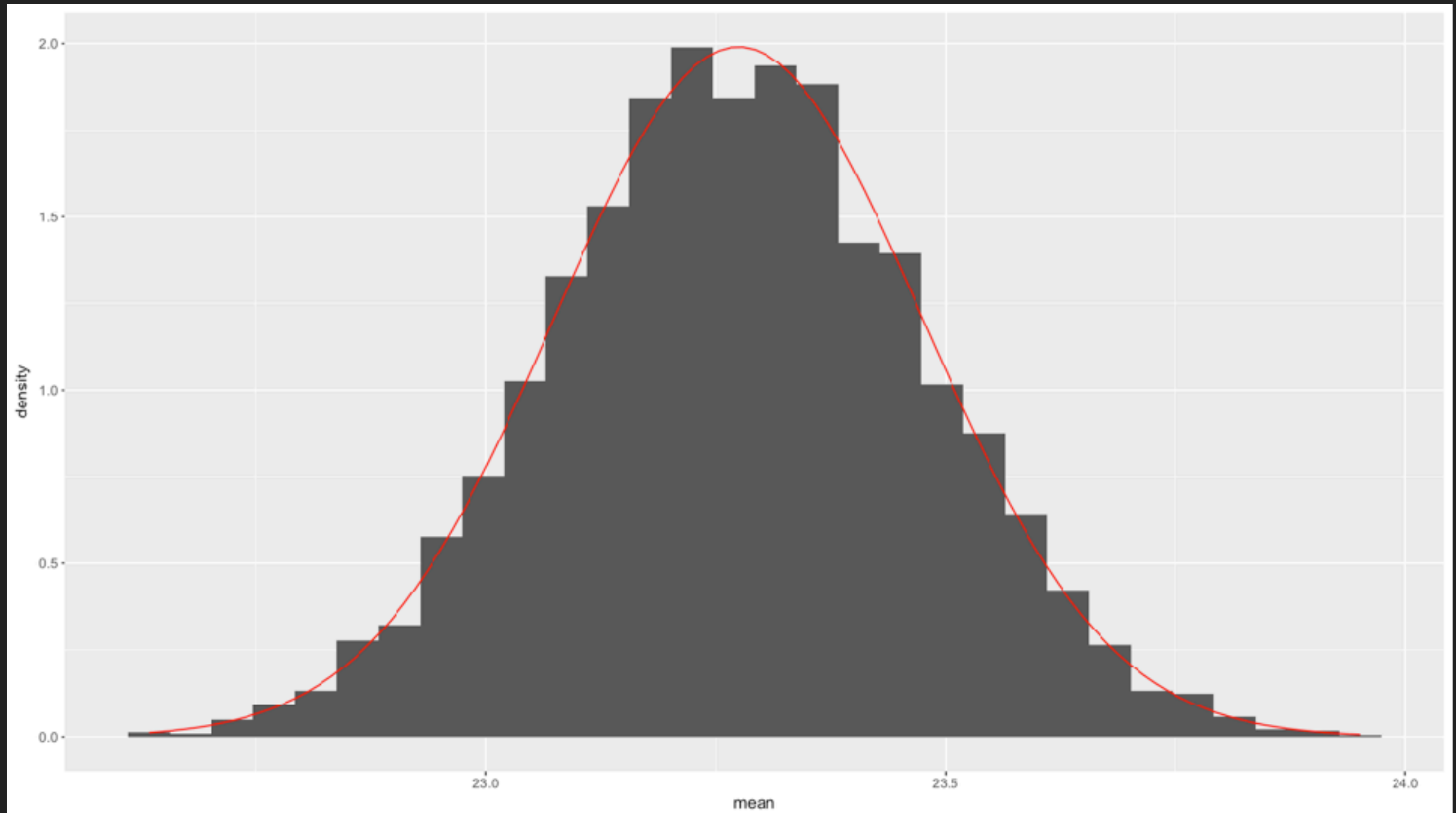
Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.
22.63	23.14	23.27	23.27	23.41	23.95

```
> sd(mpgSample$mean)
```

```
[1] 0.2003956
```

3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

DISTRIBUTION OF $K=5000$ MEANS



THE “MAGIC” OF THE CLT

- ▶ This holds up for any population regardless of its underlying distribution.

<https://goo.gl/qYaZIx>

DEFINITION

- ▶ Population:
 - ▶ Parameters of μ , σ
 - ▶ Sample size of n
 - ▶ Sample means of $\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_3, \dots, \bar{x}_k$
- ▶ Distribution of \bar{X} :
 - ▶ Has mean of μ
 - ▶ Has a standard deviation of $\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$
 - ▶ Normal as $n \rightarrow \infty$

3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

COMPARING A POPULATION AND RELATED SAMPLES

```
> mean(autoData$combFE)
```

```
[1] 23.27385
```

```
> sd(autoData$combFE)
```

```
[1] 5.83503
```

```
> mean(mpgSample$mean)
```

```
[1] 23.27471
```

```
> sd(mpgSample$mean)
```

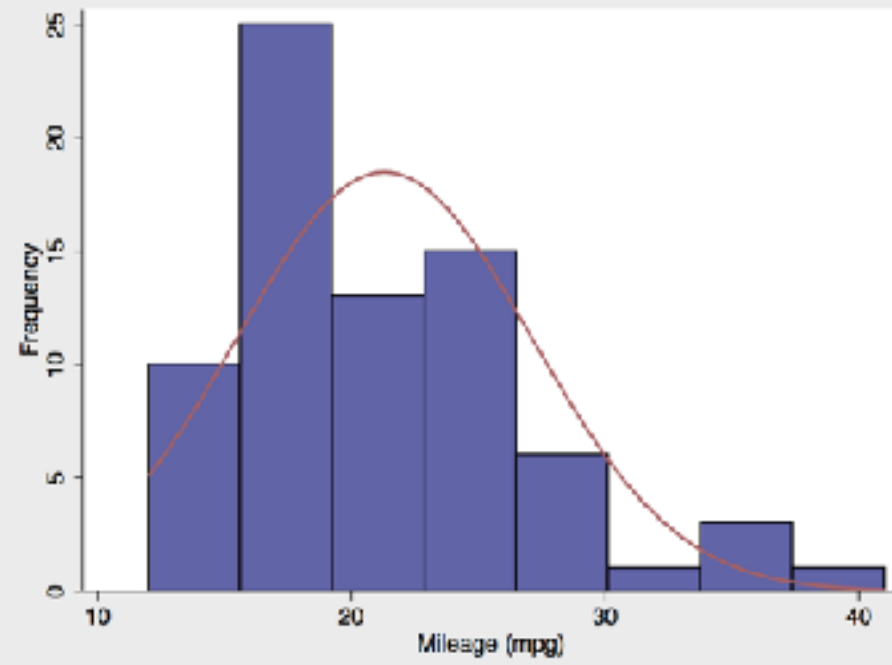
```
[1] 0.2003956
```

STANDARD ERROR

- ▶ The standard deviation of the distribution of sample means (\bar{X}) is known as the *standard error*.
- ▶ A means for assessing the reliability of a particular statistic by estimating the difference between the sample statistic and the population statistic.

$$\sigma_{\bar{x}} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

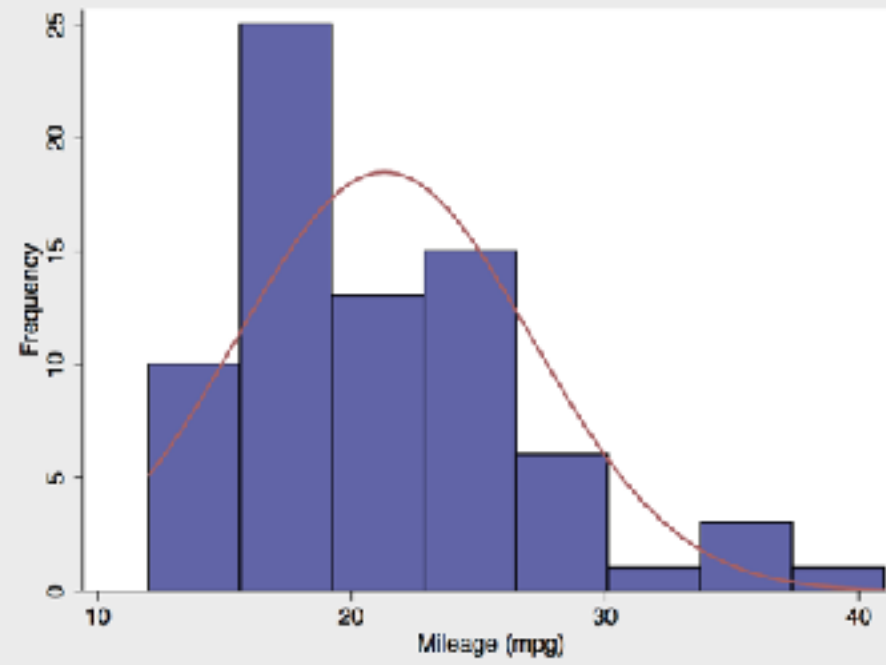
Population



$$\sigma_x = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \mu)^2}{n}}$$

$$\mu = \frac{\sum x}{n}$$

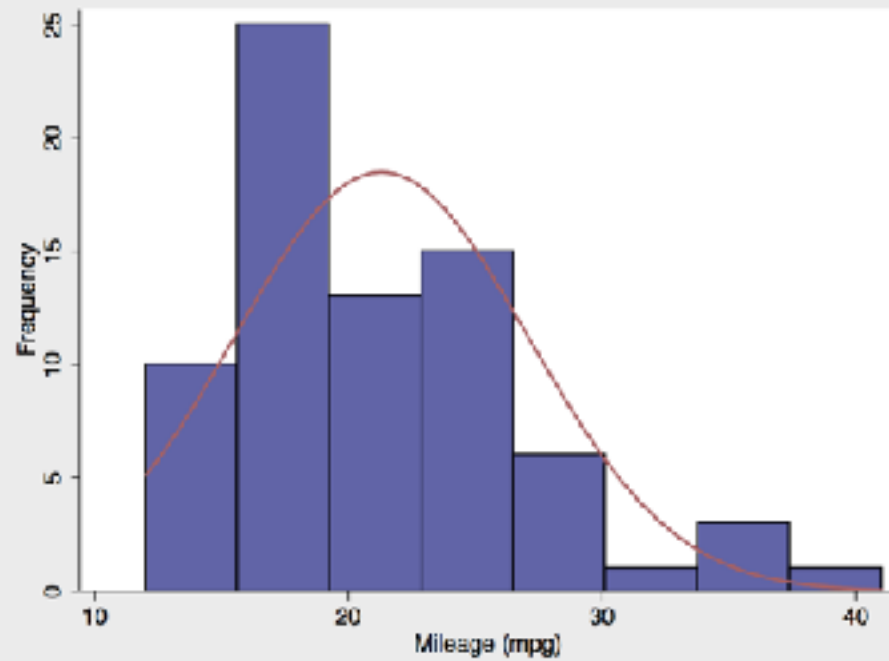
Population



$$\sigma_x = 5.83263$$

$$\mu = 23.27385$$

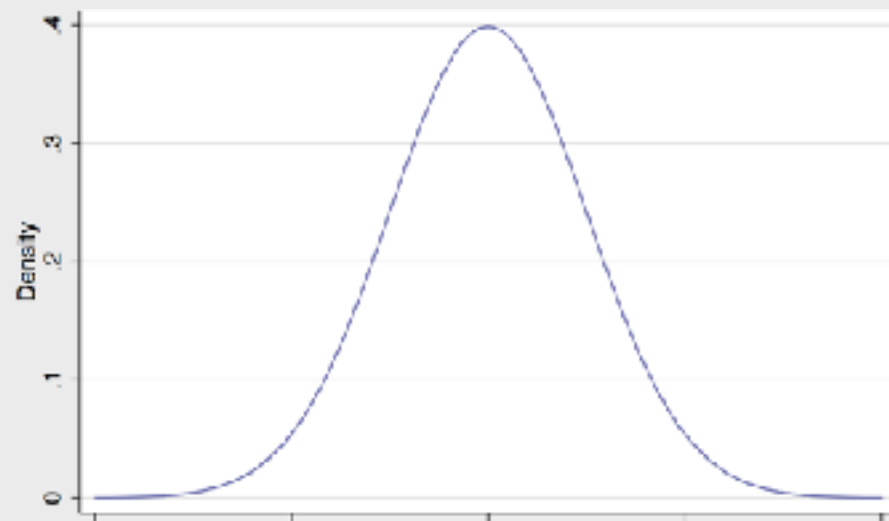
Population



$$\sigma_x = 5.83263$$

$$\mu = 23.27385$$

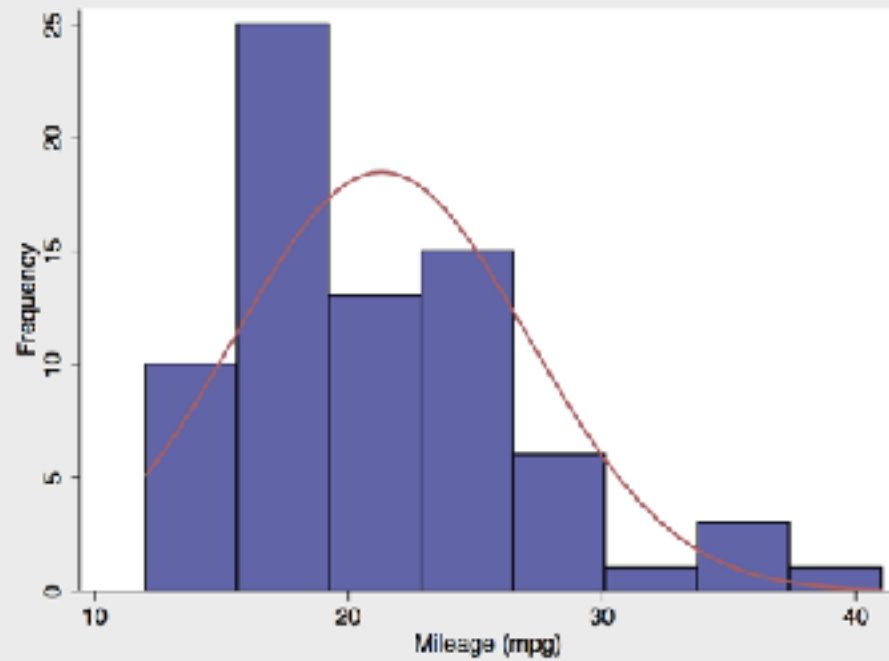
Samples of \bar{X}



$$\sigma_{\bar{x}} = \frac{\sigma_x}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\mu = 23.27385$$

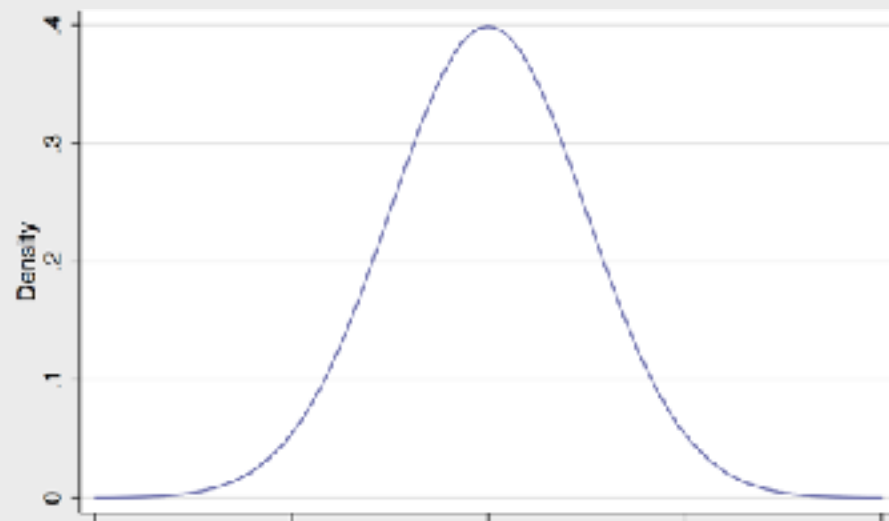
Population



$$\sigma_x = 5.83263$$

$$\mu = 23.27385$$

Samples of \bar{X}



$$\sigma_{\bar{x}} = \frac{5.83263}{\sqrt{500}} = 0.260$$

$$\mu = 23.27385$$

3. CENTRAL LIMIT THEOREM

Z-SCORES

- ▶ The value of an observation expressed in standard deviations.

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

Z-SCORES FOR SAMPLING DISTRIBUTIONS

- ▶ The value of an observation expressed in standard deviations.

$$z = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

Z-SCORES FOR SAMPLING DISTRIBUTIONS

- ▶ Taking repeated samples of $n=500$ from this population, what proportion of these samples will have means ≥ 25 ?

$$z = \frac{25 - 23.27385}{\frac{5.83263}{\sqrt{500}}} = \frac{1.72615}{0.260} = 6.639$$

Z-SCORES FOR SAMPLING DISTRIBUTIONS

- ▶ Taking repeated samples of $n=500$ from this population, what proportion of these samples will have means ≥ 25 ?

$$z = \frac{25 - 23.27385}{\frac{5.83263}{\sqrt{500}}} = \frac{1.72615}{0.260} = 6.639$$

```
> pnorm(6.6389, mean = 0, sd = 1, lower.tail = FALSE)
```

```
[1] 1.580164e-11
```

- ▶ The likelihood of obtaining a sample mean that is ≥ 25 from that population is very, very small.

ESTIMATING SAMPLE SIZES

- ▶ The CLT can be used to estimate sample sizes based on how close we want our sample to be to the population. This is one version of what we call *power analyses*.

$$\left(\frac{1.96\sigma}{\Delta} \right)^2$$

- ▶ The Greek uppercase letter Δ ("Delta") is used to represent the amount of error we are willing to tolerate.
- ▶ We want our sample to be within $\pm \Delta$ of the population mean.

ESTIMATING SAMPLE SIZES

- ▶ Given the population parameters we have been using in this case for miles per gallon, what sample size would we need to have sample mean that is within 3 miles per gallon of the population's?

$$\left(\frac{1.96\sigma}{\Delta} \right)^2$$

ESTIMATING SAMPLE SIZES

- ▶ Given the population parameters we have been using in this case for miles per gallon, what sample size would we need to have sample mean that is within 3 miles per gallon of the population's?

$$\left(\frac{(1.96)(5.83263)}{3} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{11.4319548}{3} \right)^2 = (3.8106516)^2 = 14.521$$

- ▶ We need to have a sample size of at least 15 vehicles to have a sample mean within 3 miles per gallon of the population's.
- ▶ To be within 2 miles per gallon, we need $n=32$.
- ▶ To be within 1 miles per gallon, we need $n=127$.

4 CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

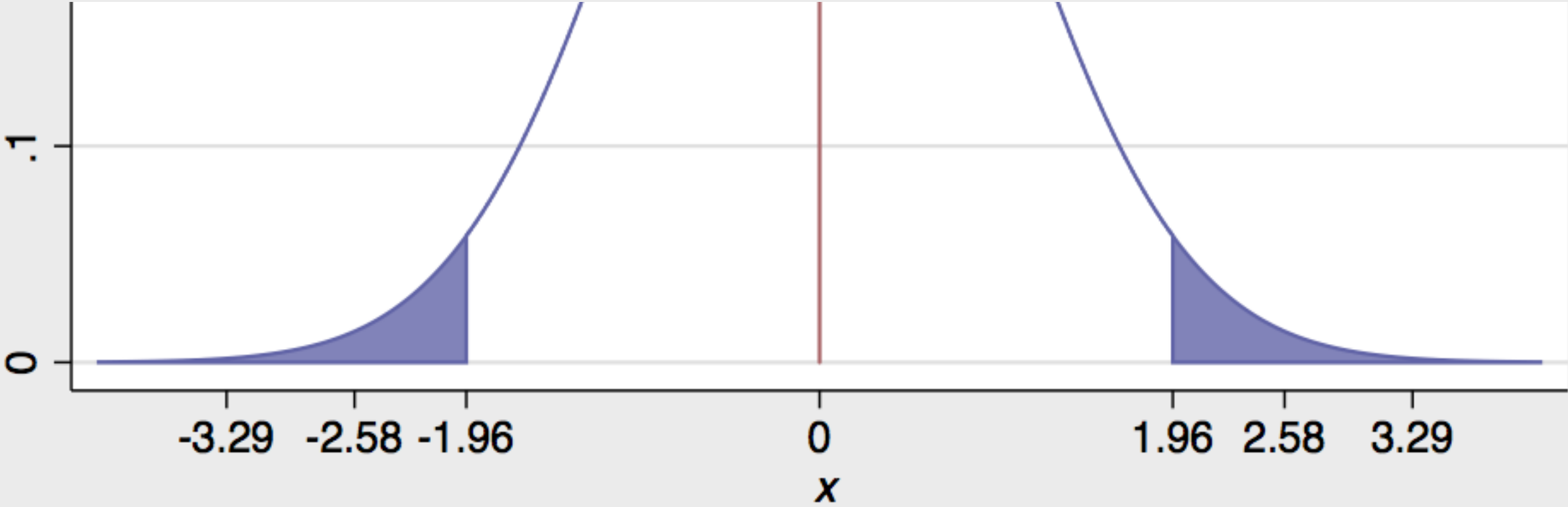
THE PREDICTIVE INTERVAL

- ▶ Related to the confidence interval.
- ▶ Can be used prior to sampling to estimate a value for both x and \bar{x} .
- ▶ Use z-scores from two-sided critical values.

$$(\mu - 1.96\sigma, \mu + 1.96\sigma)$$

Critical Values for Standard Normal

Two-tailed Test (Right Side Detail)



z	1.96	2.58	3.29
$p <$	0.05	0.01	0.001
% of scores inside	95%	99%	99.9%
% of scores outside	5%	1%	0.1%

4. CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

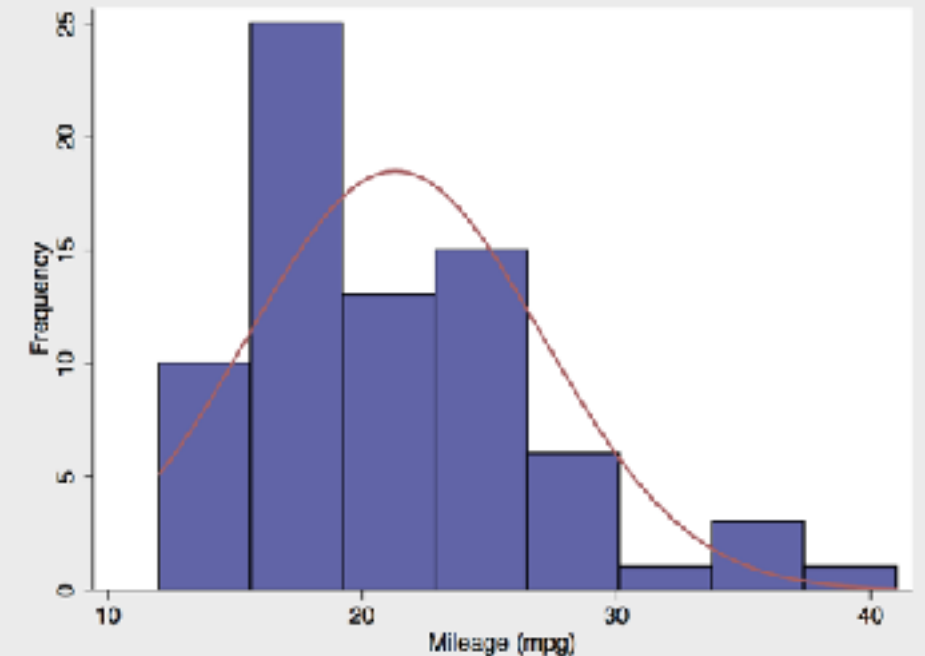
THE PREDICTIVE INTERVAL

$$(\mu - 1.96\sigma, \mu + 1.96\sigma)$$

$$(21.297 - (1.96)(5.746), 21.297 + (1.96)(5.746))$$

$$(21.297 - 11.26216, 21.297 + 11.26216)$$

$$(10.03484, 32.55916)$$



$$\mu = 21.297$$
$$\sigma_x = 5.746$$

- ▶ Based on the predictive interval, a given value of x selected at random will fall between 10.035 and 32.559 95% percent of the time.

4. CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

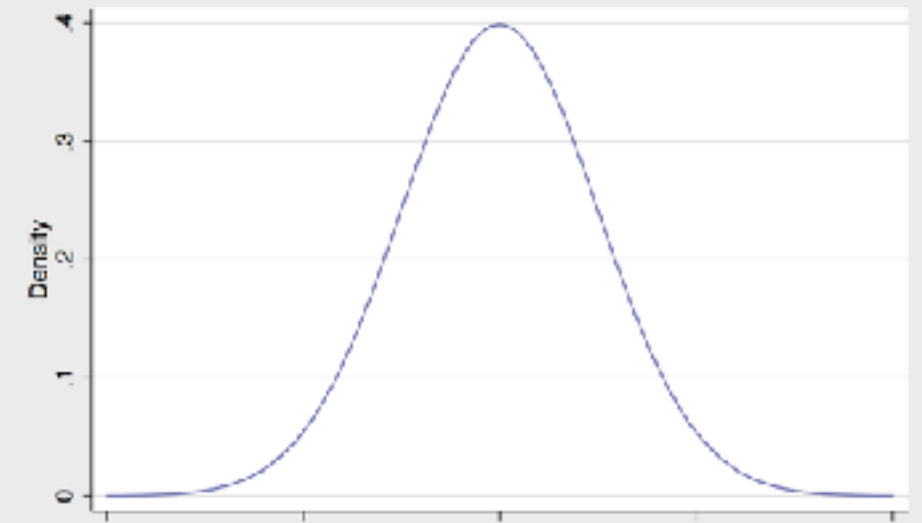
THE PREDICTIVE INTERVAL

$$\left(\mu - 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}, \mu + 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

$$(21.297 - (1.96)(0.909), 21.297 + (1.96)(0.909))$$

$$(21.297 - 1.78164, 21.297 + 1.78164)$$

$$(19.51536, 23.07864)$$



$$\mu = 21.297$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{X}} = \frac{5.746}{\sqrt{40}} = 0.909$$

- ▶ Based on the predictive interval, a sample mean will fall between 19.515 and 23.079 95% percent of the time.

THE CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

- ▶ Used after sampling to the amount of possible error between the given sample mean (for example) and the population sample mean.
- ▶ Like predictive intervals, use z-scores from two-sided critical values.

$$\left(\bar{x} - 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}, \bar{x} + 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

Critical Values for Standard Normal

Two-tailed Test (Right Side Detail)



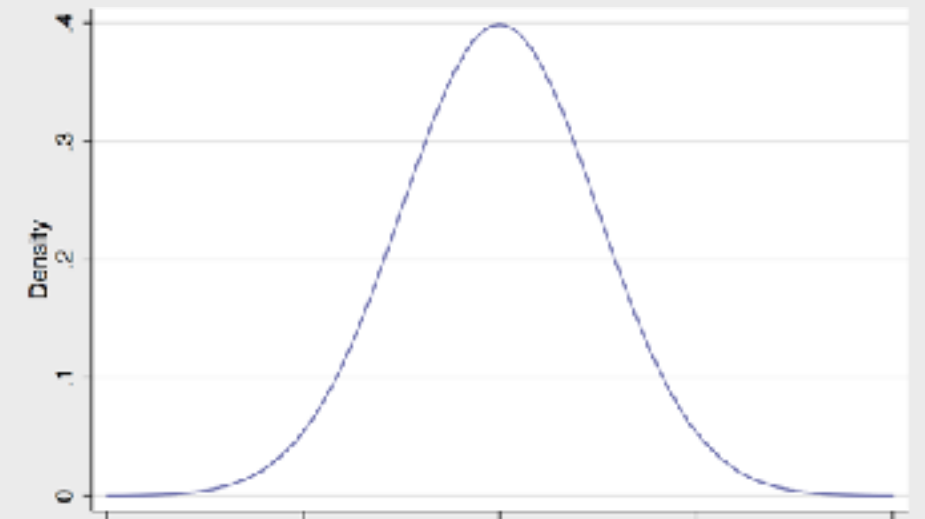
z	1.96	2.58	3.29
$p <$	0.05	0.01	0.001
% of scores inside	95%	99%	99.9%
% of scores outside	5%	1%	0.1%

4. CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

THE CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

$$\left(\bar{x} - 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}, \bar{x} + 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right)$$

$$(\bar{x} - 1.78164, \bar{x} + 1.78164)$$



$$\mu = 21.297$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{X}} = \frac{5.746}{\sqrt{40}} = 0.909$$

- ▶ If we take a sample of size $n=40$ from our population, the the interval of the sample mean ± 1.782 has a 95% chance of covering μ .

4. CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

WIDTH OF CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

Confidence Interval	Formula	Width
95%	$\bar{X} \pm 1.96 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$	$3.92 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$
99%	$\bar{X} \pm 2.58 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$	$5.16 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$

CONFIDENCE INTERVALS & N

n	95% CI for μ	Width
10	$\overline{X} \pm 0.620\sigma$	1.240σ
100	$\overline{X} \pm 0.196\sigma$	0.392σ
1000	$\overline{X} \pm 0.062\sigma$	0.124σ

5 HYPOTHESIS TESTING

THE PROBLEM: EVERYTHING WE HAVE
DONE SO FAR ASSUMES WE KNOW
THE POPULATION PARAMETERS

WILLIAM SEALY GOSSET (1876–1937)
“STUDENT”



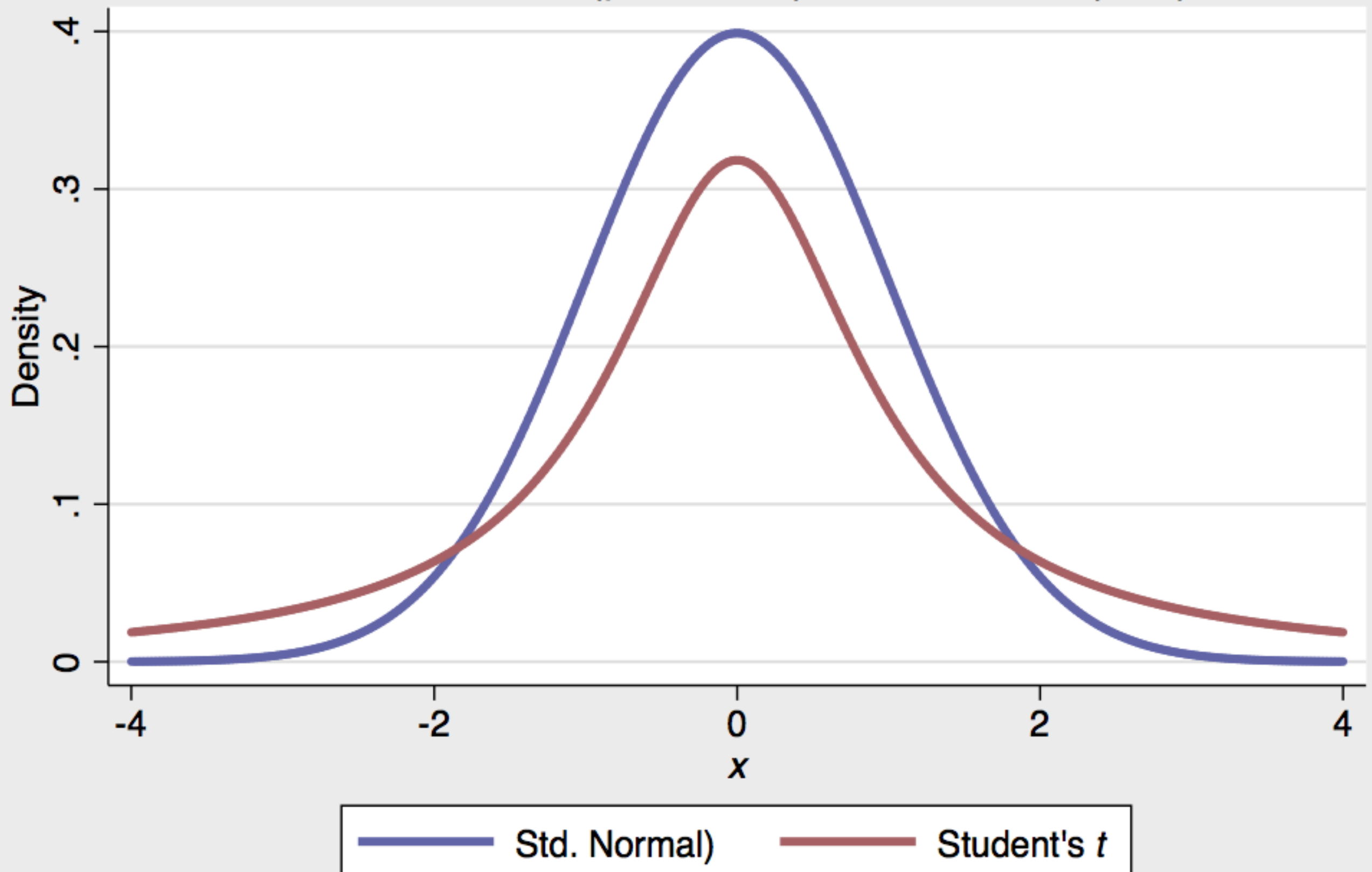
AN ALTERNATIVE

- ▶ As part of his work with Guisness, Gosset identified a solution to the problem of not knowing the population parameters.
- ▶ The Student's t distribution approximates normal once the degrees of freedom ($n-1$) is ≥ 30 .

$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

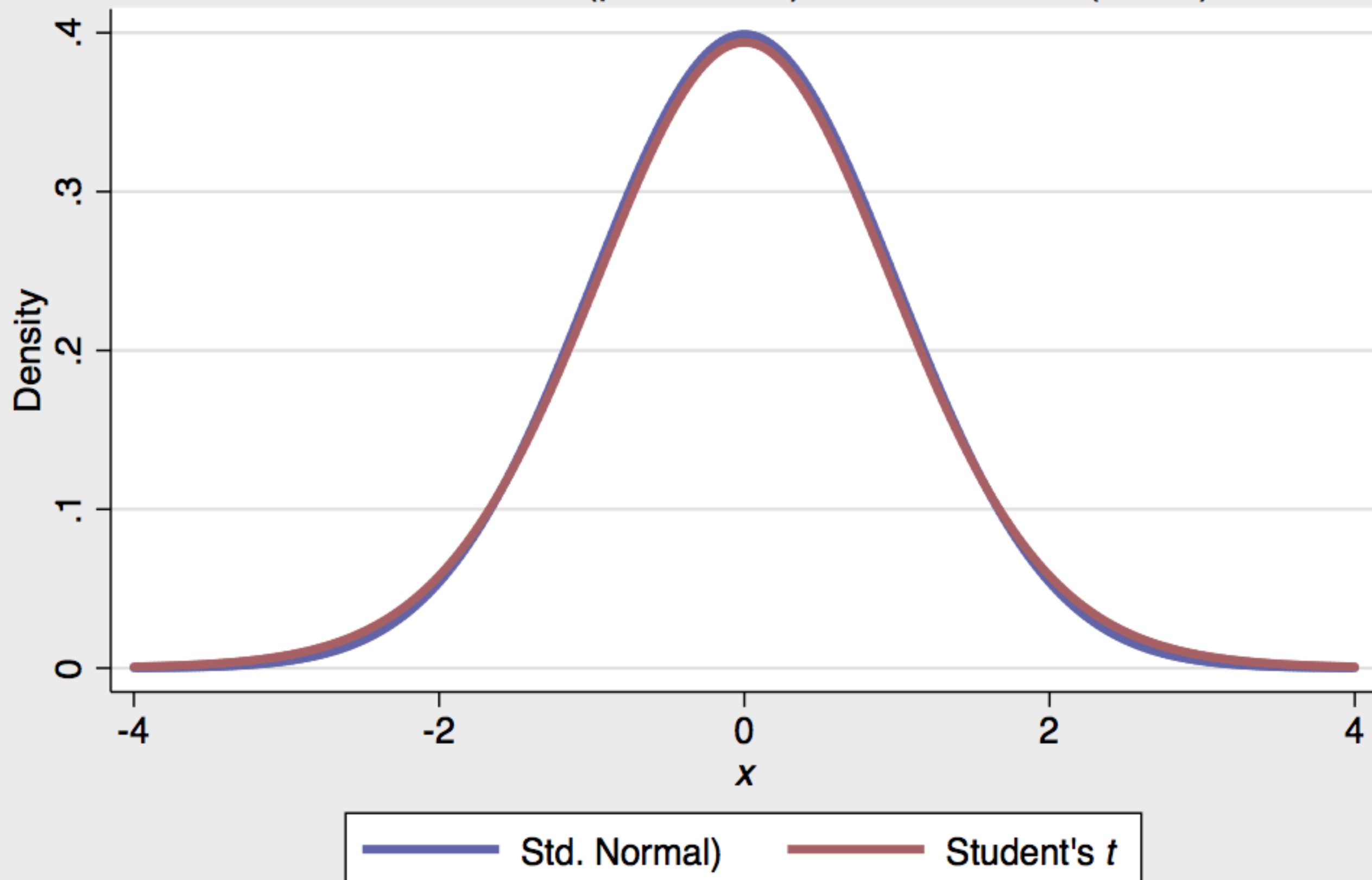
Probability Density Functions Compared

Standard Normal ($\mu=0$, $\sigma=1.0$) and Student's t ($df=1$)



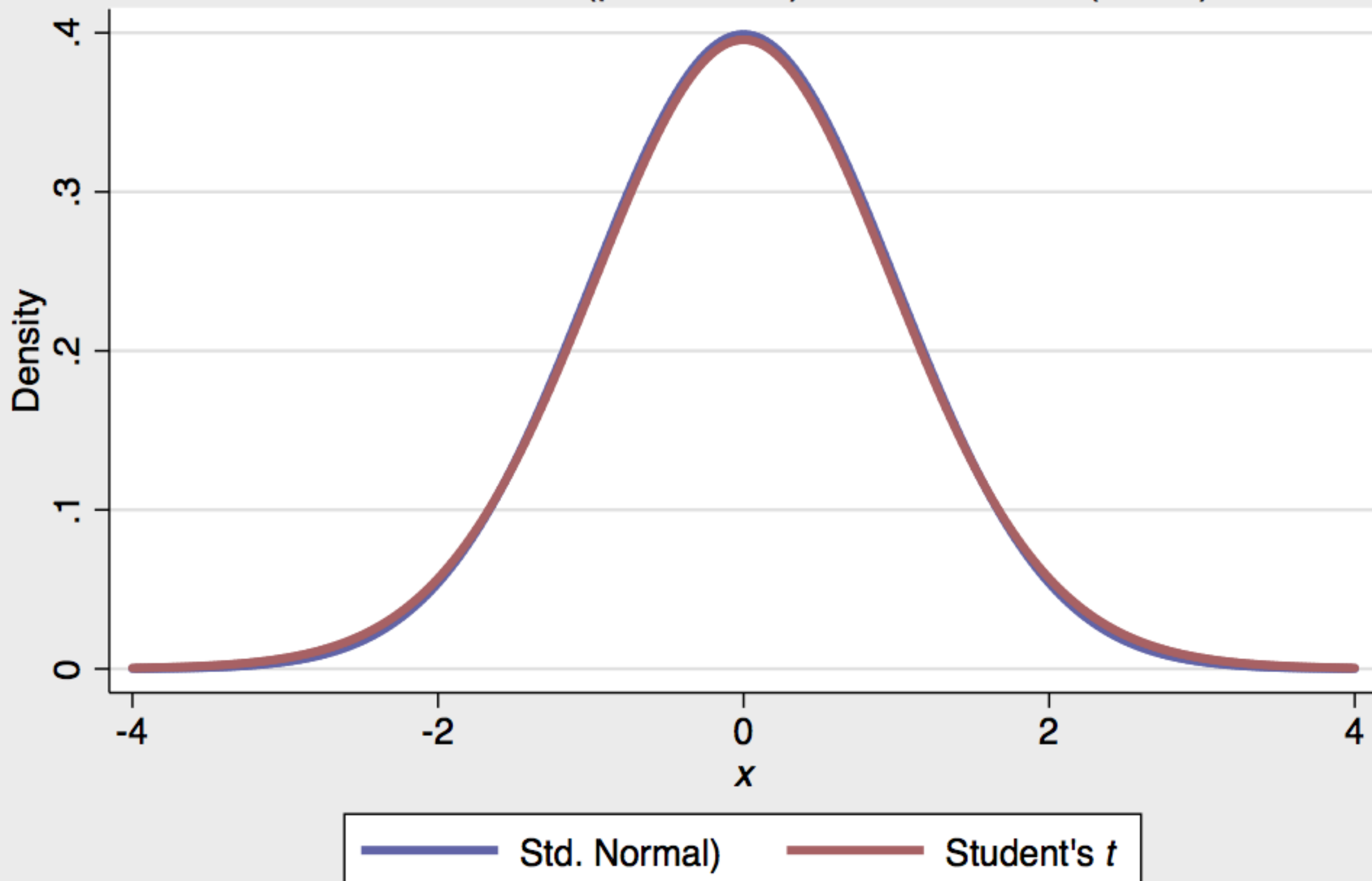
Probability Density Functions Compared

Standard Normal ($\mu=0$, $\sigma=1.0$) and Student's t ($df=20$)



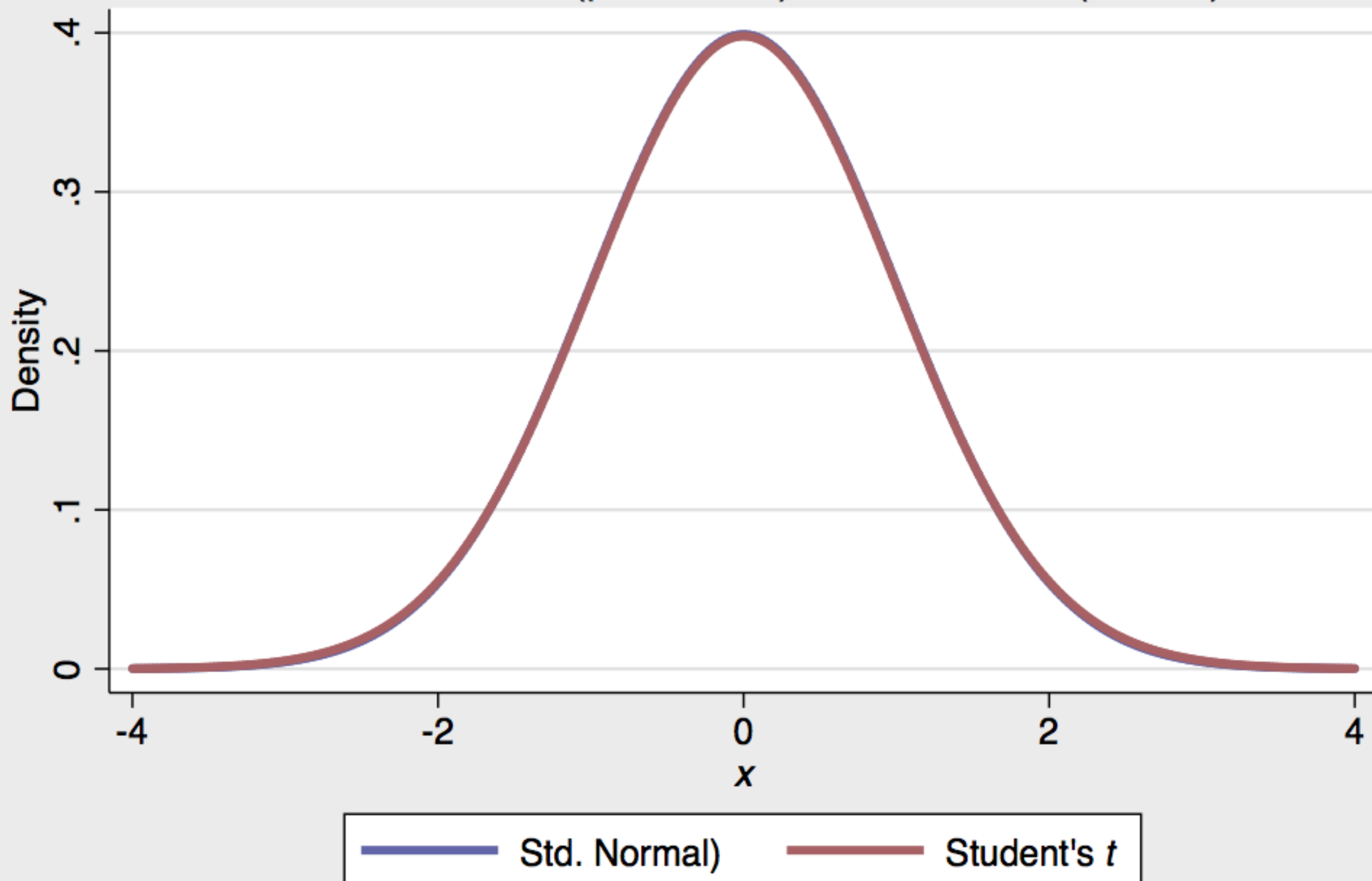
Probability Density Functions Compared

Standard Normal ($\mu=0$, $\sigma=1.0$) and Student's t ($df=30$)



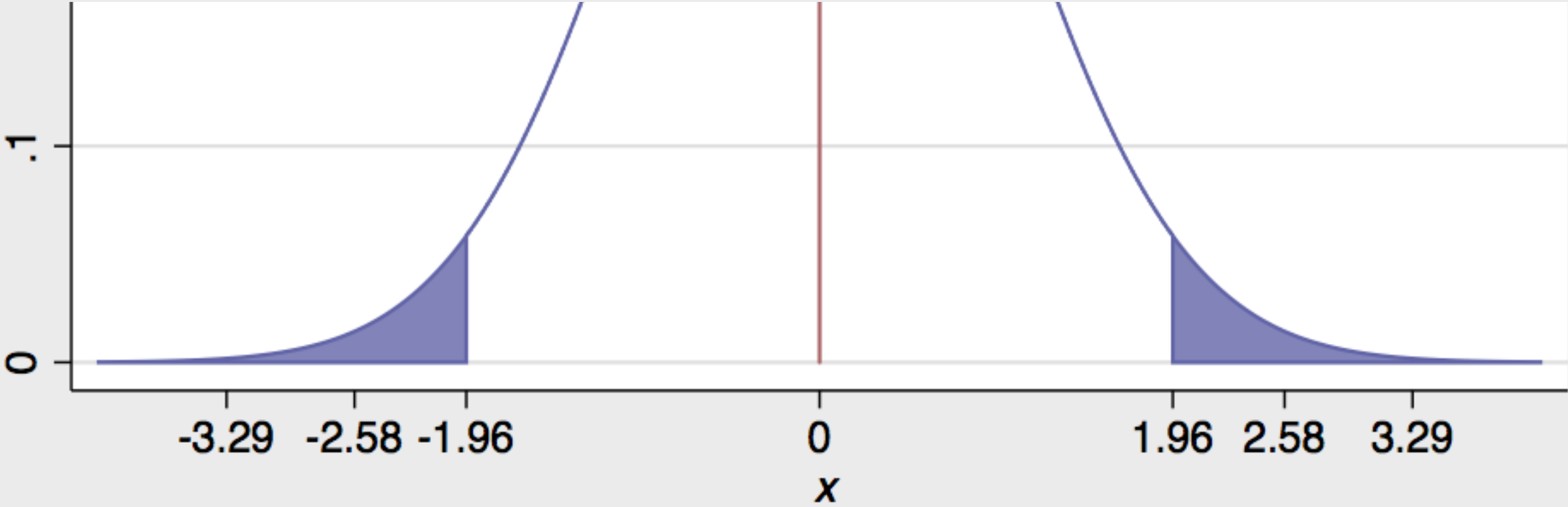
Probability Density Functions Compared

Standard Normal ($\mu=0$, $\sigma=1.0$) and Student's t ($df=100$)



Critical Values for Standard Normal

Two-tailed Test (Right Side Detail)



z	1.96	2.58	3.29
$p <$	0.05	0.01	0.001
% of scores inside	95%	99%	99.9%
% of scores outside	5%	1%	0.1%

ERROR

Sample	Population	
	$\mu = \mu_0$	$\mu \neq \mu_0$
Not Reject	yes	Type II
Reject	Type I	yes

*The null hypothesis is that $\mu = \mu_0$

5. HYPOTHESIS TESTING

ERROR

$$\Pr(\text{Type II}) = \beta$$
$$1 - \beta = \text{power}$$

Sample	Population	
	$\mu = \mu_0$	$\mu \neq \mu_0$
Not Reject	yes	Type II
Reject	Type I	yes

*The null hypothesis is that $\mu = \mu_0$

$$\Pr(\text{Type I}) = \alpha$$

**THE PROBABILITY OF GETTING RESULTS
AT LEAST AS EXTREME AS THE ONES YOU
OBSERVED, GIVEN THAT THE NULL
HYPOTHESIS IS CORRECT**

Christie Aschwanden

FiveThirtyEight's [p-value story](#)

AES STATEMENT ON P-VALUES

1. P-values do not measure the probability that the studied hypothesis is true, or the probability that the data were produced by random chance alone.
2. Scientific conclusions and business or policy decisions should not be based only on whether a p-value passes a specific threshold.
3. Proper inference requires full reporting and transparency.
4. A p-value, or statistical significance, does not measure the size of an effect or the importance of a result.
5. By itself, a p-value does not provide a good measure of evidence regarding a model or hypothesis.

P-HACKING

<https://goo.gl/3oVKaP>

Hack Your Way To Scientific Glory

You're a social scientist with a hunch: **The U.S. economy is affected by whether Republicans or Democrats are in office.** Try to show that a connection exists, using real data going back to 1948. For your results to be publishable in an academic journal, you'll need to prove that they are "statistically significant" by achieving a low enough p-value.

1 CHOOSE A POLITICAL PARTY

Republicans

Democrats

2 DEFINE TERMS

Which politicians do you want to include?

- ☐ Presidents
- ☐ Governors
- ☒ Senators
- ☐ Representatives

How do you want to measure economic performance?

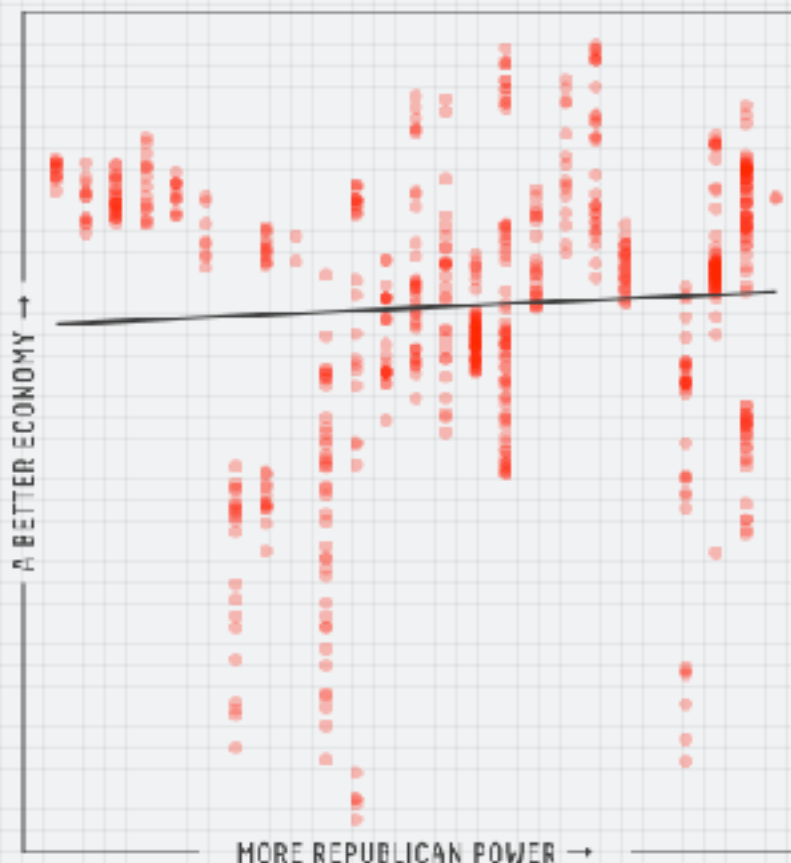
- ☒ Employment
- ☒ Inflation
- ☐ GDP
- ☐ Stock prices

Other options

- ☒ Factor in power
Weight more powerful positions more heavily
- ☒ Exclude recessions
Don't include economic recessions

3 IS THERE A RELATIONSHIP?

Given how you've defined your terms, does the economy do better, worse or about the same when more Republicans are in power? Each dot below represents one month of data.



4 IS YOUR RESULT SIGNIFICANT?

If there were no connection between the economy and politics, what is the probability that you'd get results at least as strong as yours? That probability is your p-value, and by convention, you need a p-value of 0.05 or less to get published.



Result: Almost

Your 0.10 p-value is close to the 0.05 threshold. Try tweaking your variables to see if you can push it over the line!

If you're interested in reading real (and more rigorous) studies on the connection between politics and the economy, see the work of Larry Bartels and Alan Hinder and Mark Watson.

Data from: The Unitedstates Project, National Governors Association, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and Yahoo Finance.

5. HYPOTHESIS TESTING

P-HACKING

Same Data, Different Conclusions

Twenty-nine research teams were given the same set of soccer data and asked to determine if referees are more likely to give red cards to dark-skinned players. Each team used a different statistical method, and each found a different relationship between skin color and red cards.

