

Example (hours) 95% Confidence Interval

```
> sam1 = gss$hours
> xbar = mean(sam1)
> s = sd(sam1)
> n = length(sam1)
>
> ## Base R
> # for the sample mean
> alpha = 1 - 0.95
> q = qt(1 - alpha/2, df = n-1)
> q
[1] 1.964729
> xbar - q*(s/sqrt(n))
[1] 40.07984
> xbar + q*(s/sqrt(n))
[1] 42.68416
```

$$\bar{x} \pm q \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

We are 95% confident that
The average number of working hours, μ ,
is between 40.08 and 42.68 hours

Few comments:

→ The confidence level refers to the process (or method)

↳ E.g. if $CL = 95\%$

It means that if we repeat the process many times, about 95% of your CIs will contain the true μ

(check simulation)

→ Check lab for both theory-based and simulation "

methods to construct Confidence Intervals.

Sample Size

$$\bar{x} \pm q \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

sample size

$$\bar{x} \pm \underbrace{q \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}}_{\text{margin of error}}$$

$$L = 2 \cdot (\text{margin of error})$$

$$L = 2 \cdot q \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$n = \left(\frac{2 \cdot q \cdot \underbrace{s}_{\text{or } \sigma \text{ (sigma)}}}{L} \right)^2$$

9. Mt. Wrightson, the fifth highest summit in Arizona and the highest in Pima County, has a reputed elevation of 9453 feet. To amuse its members, the Southern Arizona Hiking Club (SAHC) decides to construct its own confidence interval for μ , the true elevation of Mt. Wrightson's summit. SAHC acquires an altimeter whose measurements will have an expected value of μ with a standard deviation of 6 feet. How many measurements should SAHC plan to take if it wants to construct a 0.99-level confidence interval for μ that has a length of 2 feet? n

✓ $L = 2$
✓ $\sigma = 6$

$CL = 0.99$ $\alpha = 1 - 0.99$

✓ $q = q_{\text{norm}} \left(1 - \frac{0.01}{2} \right)$

$$n = \left(\frac{2 \cdot q \cdot \sigma}{L} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{2 \cdot q \cdot 6}{2} \right)^2$$

```
> q = qnorm(1 - 0.01/2)
> (q*6)^2
[1] 238.8563
```

→ We need 239 measurements