

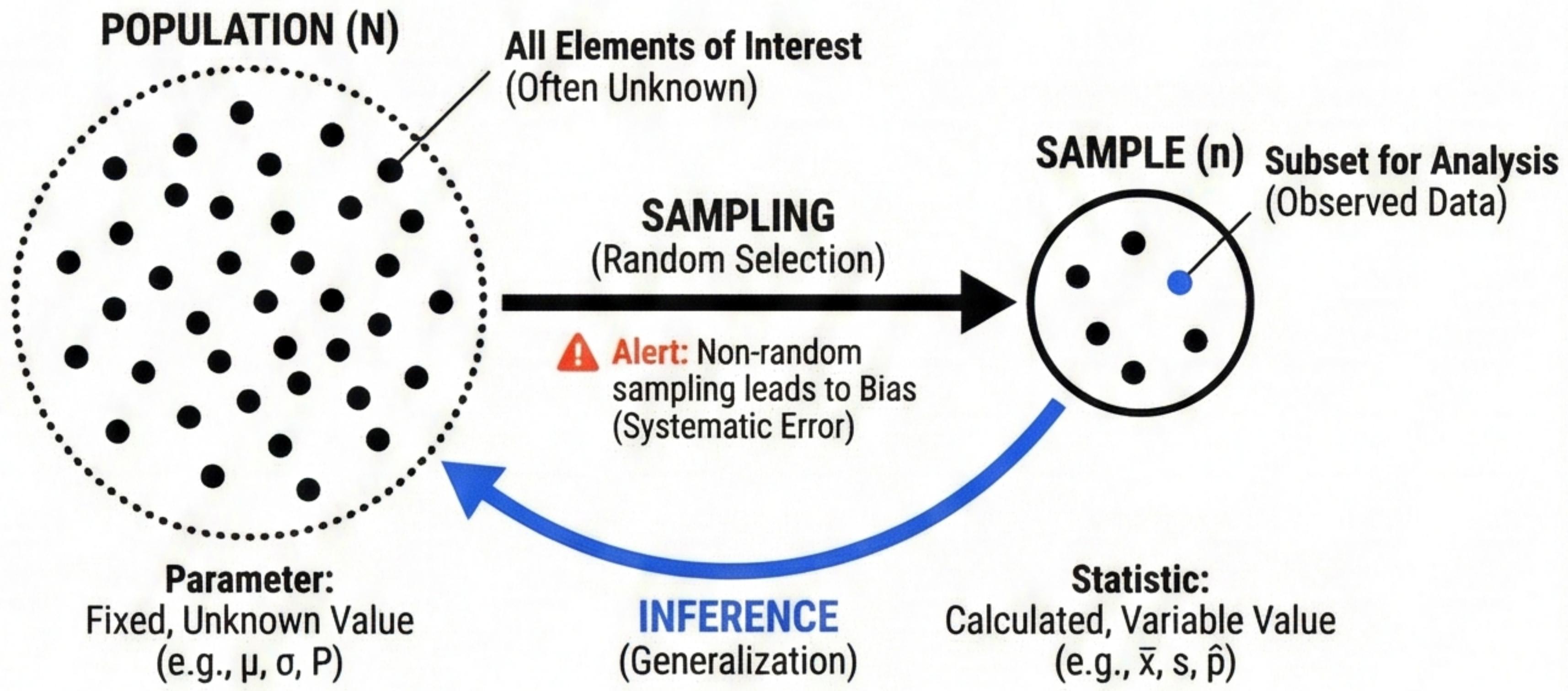
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# INFERENTIAL STATISTICS

Making Predictions About a Population from a Sample

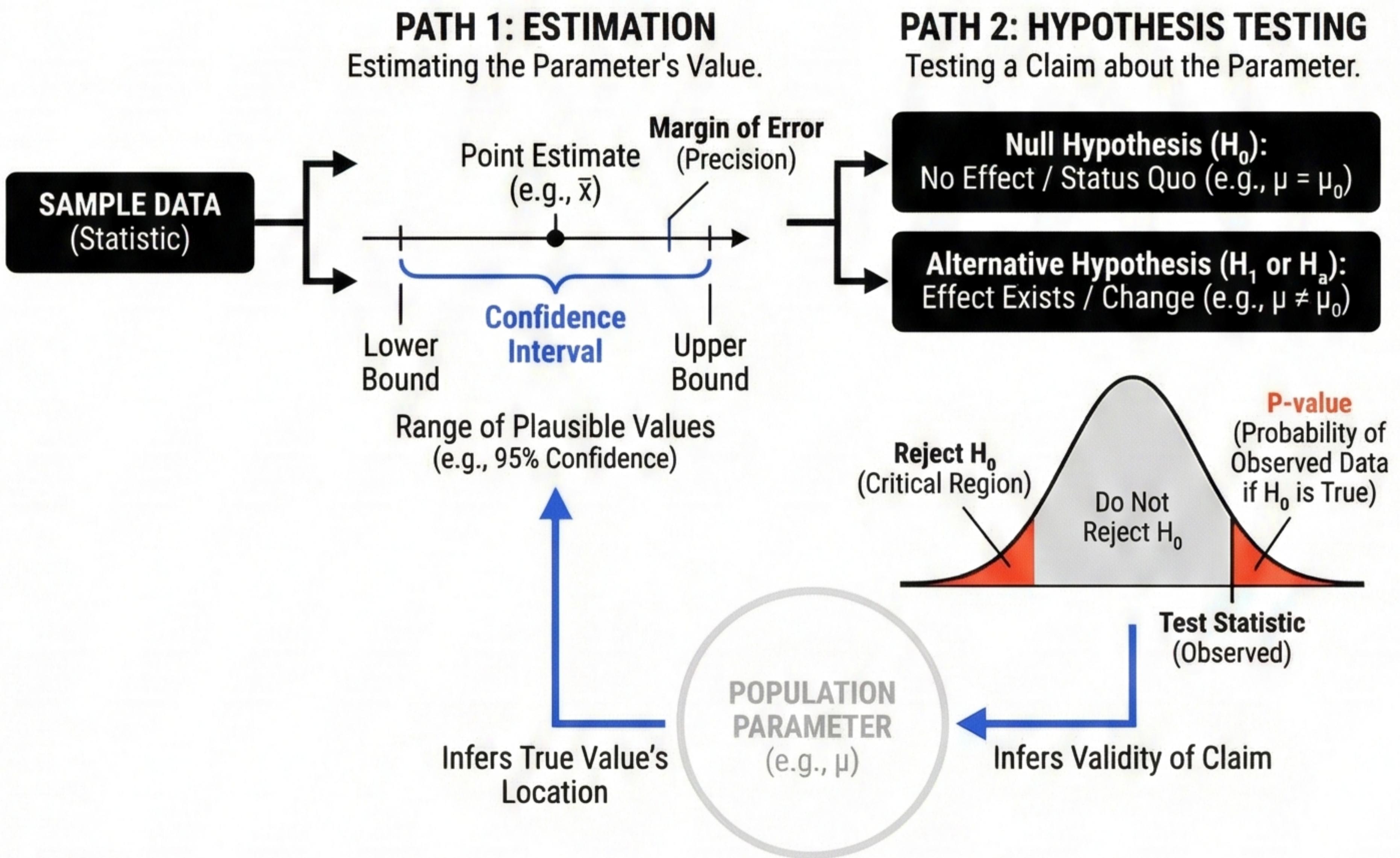
## MODULE 1: THE FOUNDATION (Population vs. Sample)

THE CORE PROBLEM: POPULATION vs. SAMPLE



## MODULE 2: THE PROCESS (Estimation & Testing)

THE INFERENTIAL PROCESS: TWO MAIN PATHS



## MODULE 3: THE OUTCOME (Making Decisions)

THE GOAL: INFORMED DECISION-MAKING

### ESTIMATION OUTCOME

- Provides a likely range for the unknown parameter, quantifying uncertainty.

### HYPOTHESIS TESTING OUTCOME

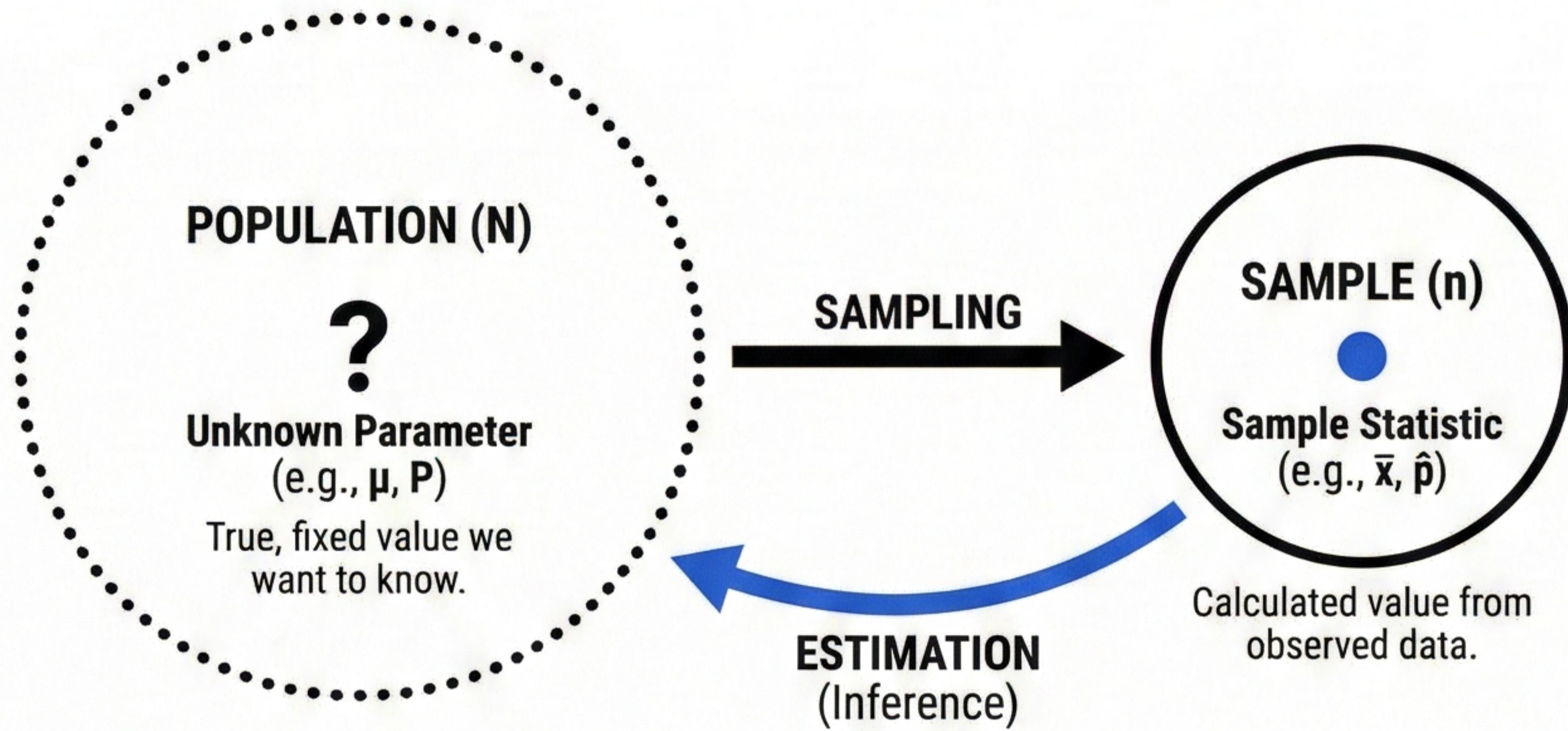
- Provides evidence to either reject or fail to reject a specific claim about the parameter.

# CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

Estimating an Unknown Population Parameter with a Stated Level of Confidence

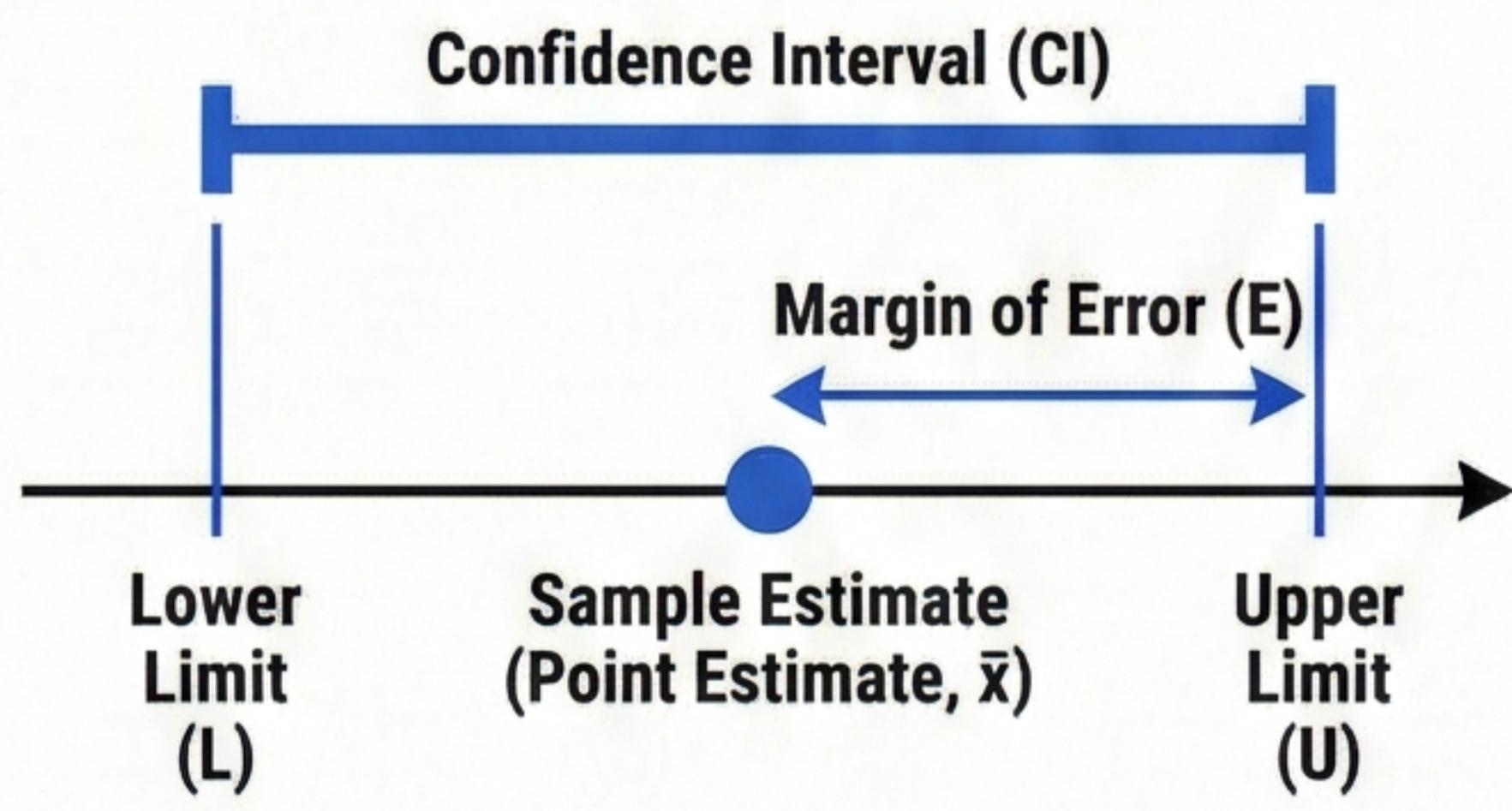
## MODULE 1: THE PROBLEM (Population vs. Sample)

### THE INFERENCE GAP: ESTIMATING THE UNKNOWN



## MODULE 2: THE SOLUTION (The Interval)

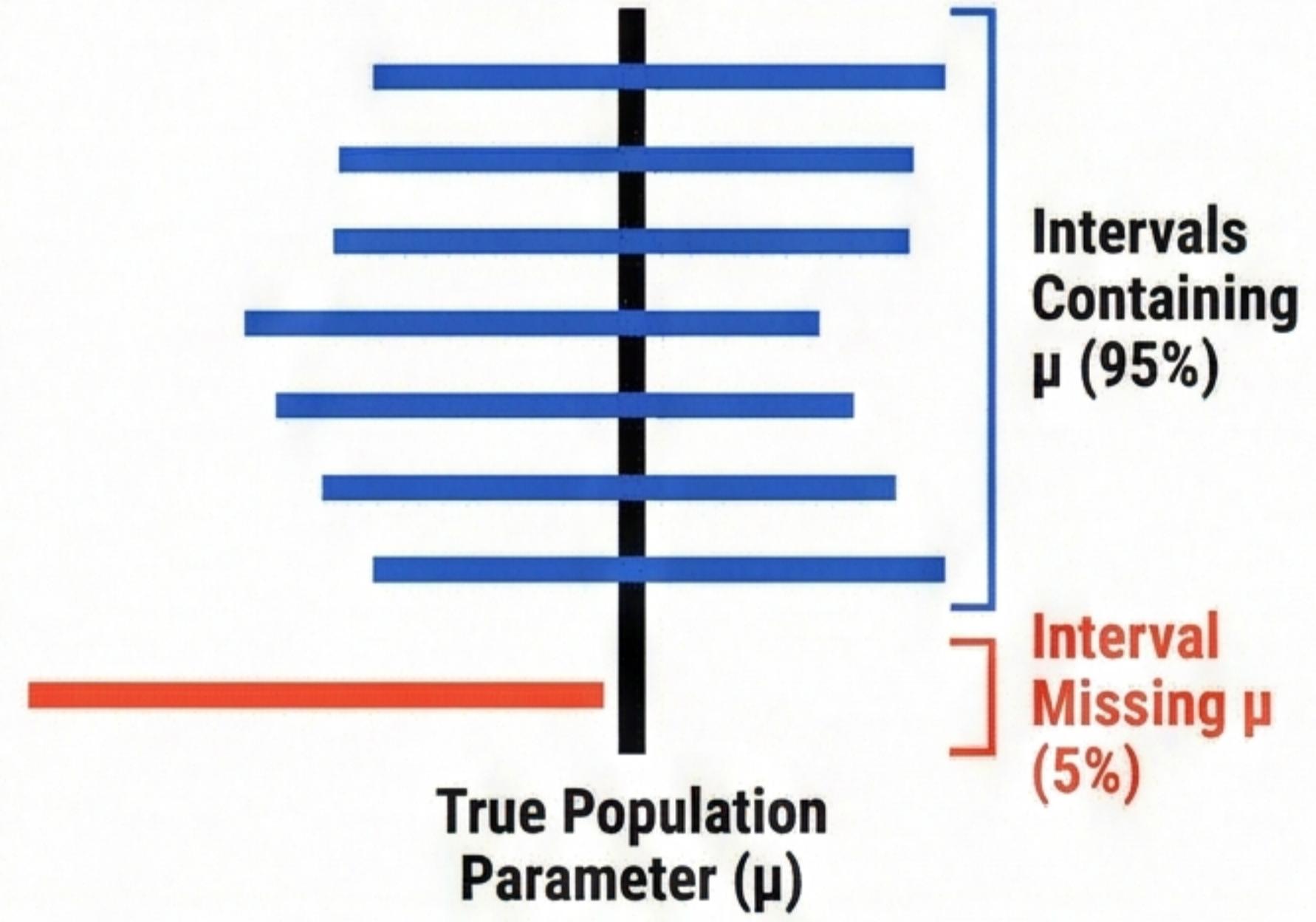
### THE CONFIDENCE INTERVAL: A RANGE OF PLAUSIBLE VALUES



$$CI = \text{Point Estimate} \pm \text{Margin of Error}$$

## MODULE 3: THE INTERPRETATION (Confidence Level)

### INTERPRETING CONFIDENCE (e.g., 95% Level)



**Correct Interpretation:** If we repeated the sampling process many times, 95% of the calculated intervals would contain the true population parameter. It is **NOT** a probability that a specific interval contains  $\mu$ .

## MODULE 4: THE FACTORS (Precision Drivers)

### FACTORS AFFECTING INTERVAL WIDTH (PRECISION)

#### SAMPLE SIZE (n)

Small Sample Size (n)



Larger n = Narrower Interval (More Precise)

Large Sample Size (n)

#### VARIABILITY ( $\sigma$ or s)

Low Variability ( $\sigma$  or s)



Higher Variability = Wider Interval (Less Precise)

High Variability ( $\sigma$  or s)

# HYPOTHESIS TESTING: SALES EXCEEDING A THRESHOLD

Quantifying the probability of a single sale amount surpassing a specific target value using a Gamma distribution model.

## 1. THE RESEARCH QUESTION & HYPOTHESES

What is the probability of a single sale exceeding a threshold (e.g., \$250)?

### NULL HYPOTHESIS ( $H_0$ : STATUS QUO)

The sale amount ( $X$ ) is less than or equal to the threshold value.

$$H_0: X \leq \$250$$

### ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS ( $H_1$ : THE TEST)

The sale amount ( $X$ ) is strictly greater than the threshold value.

$$H_1: X > \$250$$

## 2. THE STATISTICAL MODEL (MODEL (GAMMA DISTRIBUTION))

SCENARIO: Analyst analyzing daily transaction values.

Mean = \$100,  
Standard Deviation = \$50  
(Variance = 2500).



### Step 1: Calculate Parameters:

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{\text{Variance}}{\text{Mean}} = \frac{2500}{100} = 25$$
$$\hat{k} = \frac{\text{Mean}}{\hat{\theta}} = \frac{100}{25} = 4$$

### SHAPE PARAMETER ( $\alpha$ )

$$\hat{\alpha} (\hat{k}) = 4$$

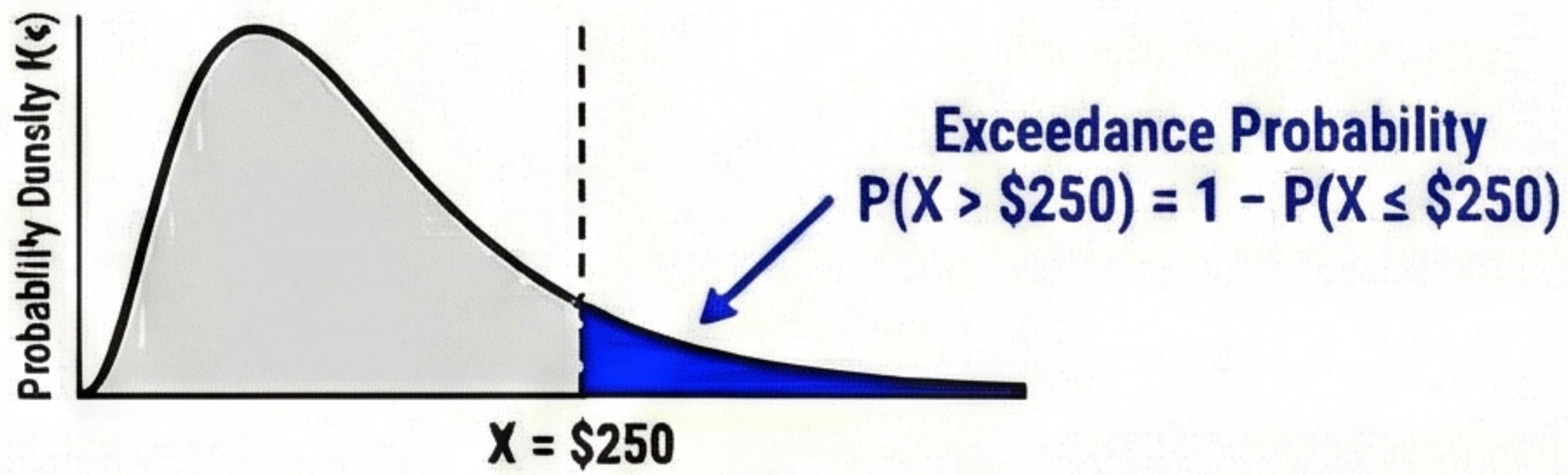
### SCALE PARAMETER ( $\beta$ )

$$\hat{\beta} (\hat{\theta}) = 25$$

## MODULE 2A: BUSINESS INTERPRETATION OF PARAMETERS

### BUSINESS INTERPRETATION: DISTRIBUTION SHAPE

Since  $\alpha (k) = 4$ , the distribution is humped and skewed (not exponential, not normal). This suggests a healthy mix of low and high value tiers, with most sales around the mode, but a significant tail of larger



### EXCEL FORMULA & RESULT (THE EXAMPLE)

$$= 1 - \text{GAMMA.DIST}(250, 4, 25, \text{TRUE})$$

$$\approx 1 - 0.9897 = 0.0103 \text{ (or } 1.03\%)$$

Interpretation: There is a 1.03% probability that a single sale will exceed \$250, based on this model.

## 4. CONCLUSION & DECISION RULE (MANAGEMENT CONTEXT)

The calculated probability (p-value context) informs management decisions regarding high-value sales.

### LOW PROBABILITY (e.g., < 5%)

If the probability is low, high-value sales are rare but potentially significant anomalies.

Action: Investigate for unique drivers or potential errors.



### HIGH PROBABILITY (e.g., > 10%)

If the probability is relatively high (like 1.03%), high-value sales are a recurrent part of the process.

Action: Incorporate into regular forecasting and resource planning.

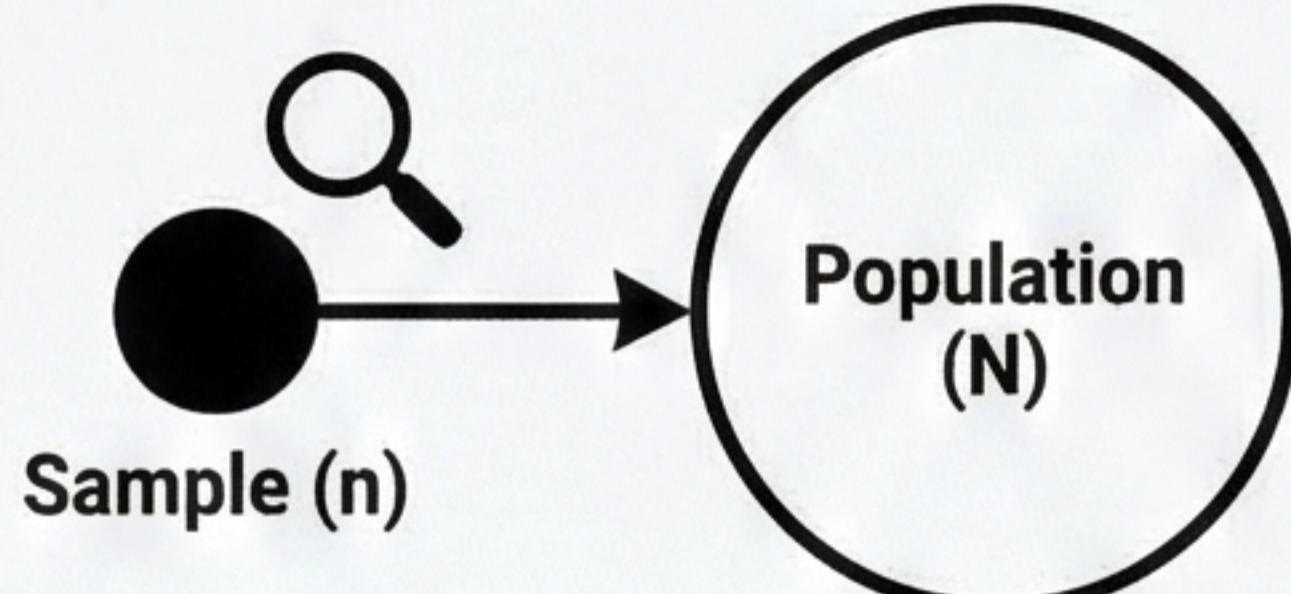


Note: Always validate the distributional assumptions before relying on the model's output.

# INFERENTIAL VERSUS PREDICTIVE STATISTICS

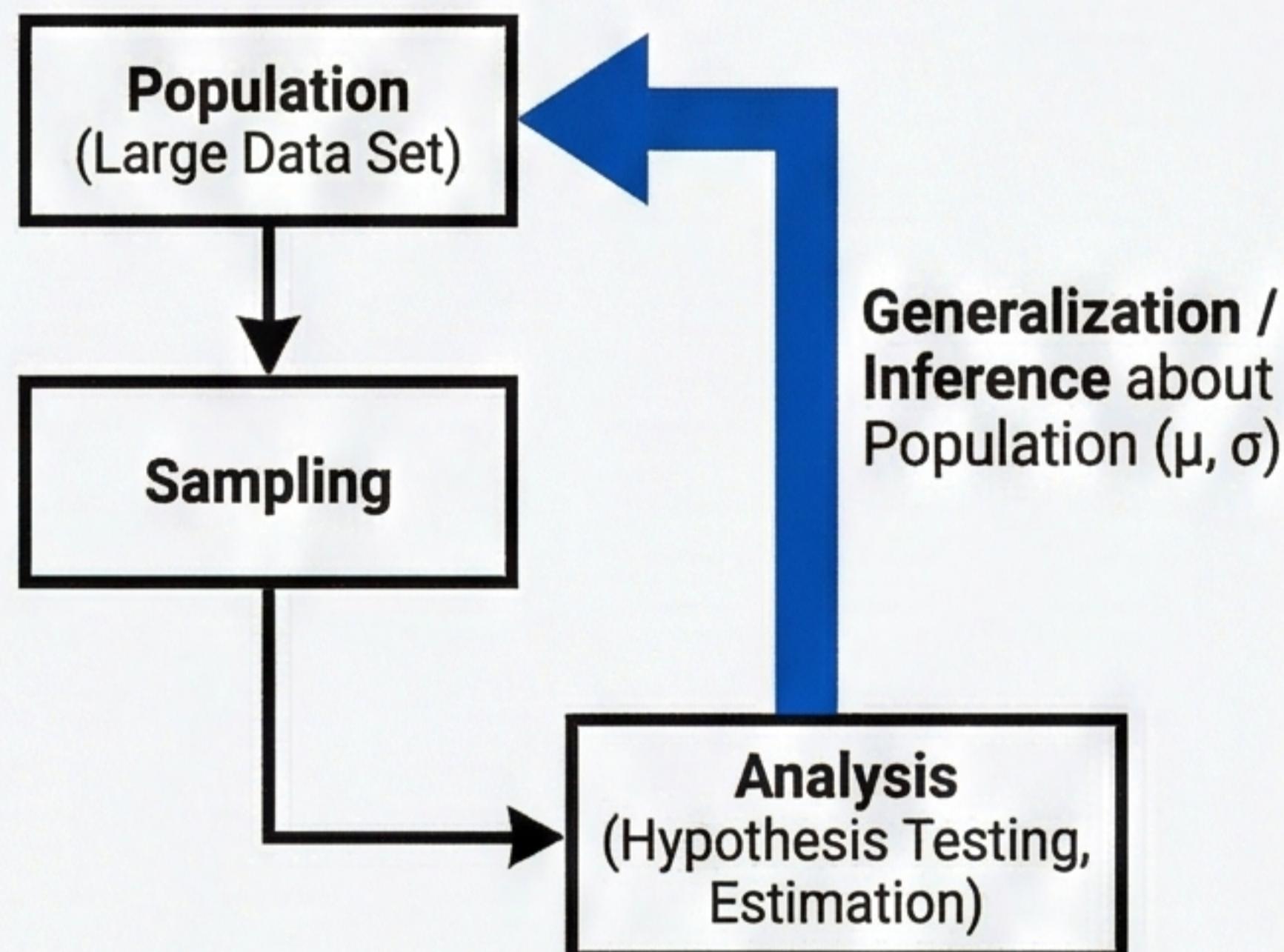
## INFERENTIAL STATISTICS

### GOAL & FOCUS



Understand population parameters from sample data.  
Focus on relationships and causality.

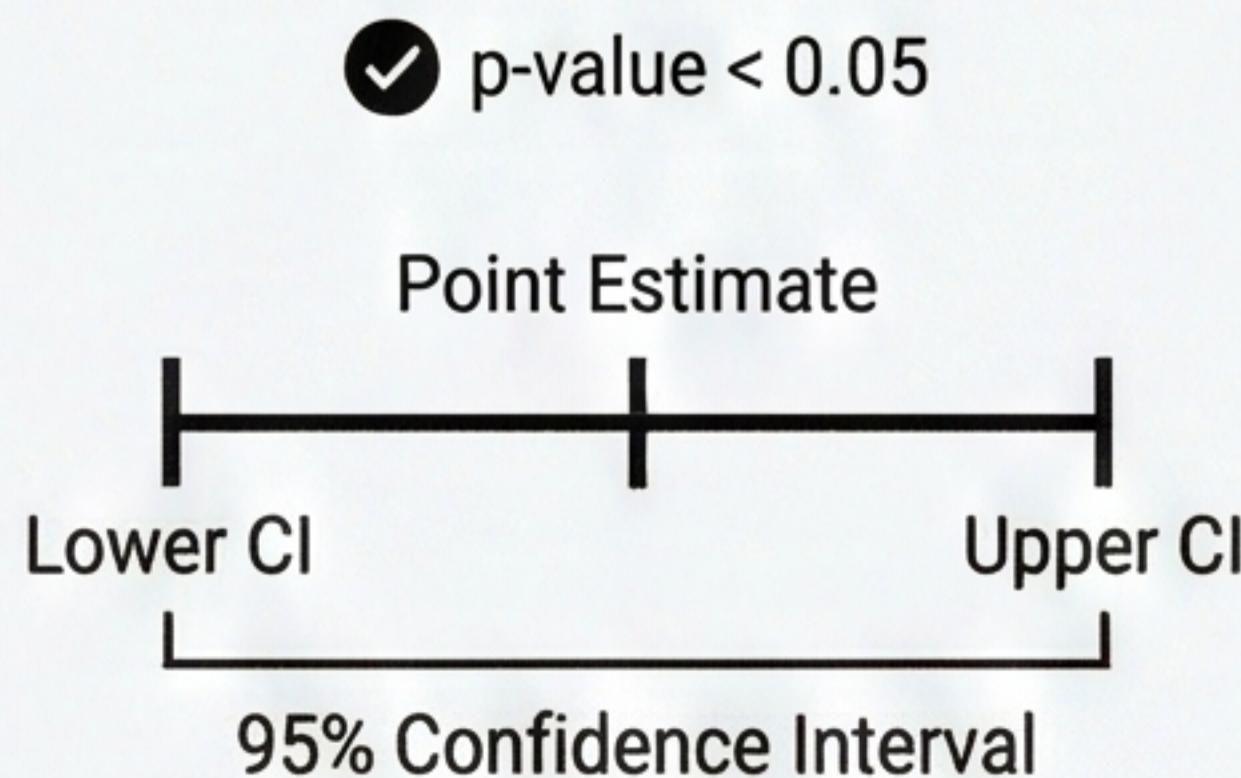
### DATA FLOW & PROCESS



### KEY TECHNIQUES/METHODS

- t-tests, ANOVA
- Chi-Square Test
- Confidence Intervals
- Linear Regression (for relationship)

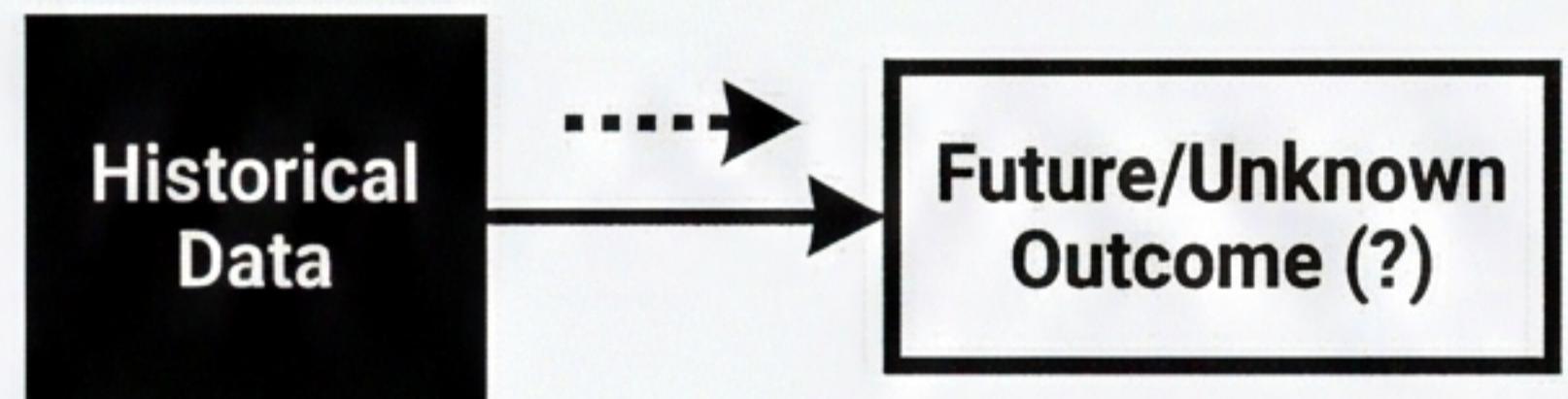
### OUTPUT & INTERPRETATION



Estimates with uncertainty.  
Explains \*why\* a phenomenon occurs.

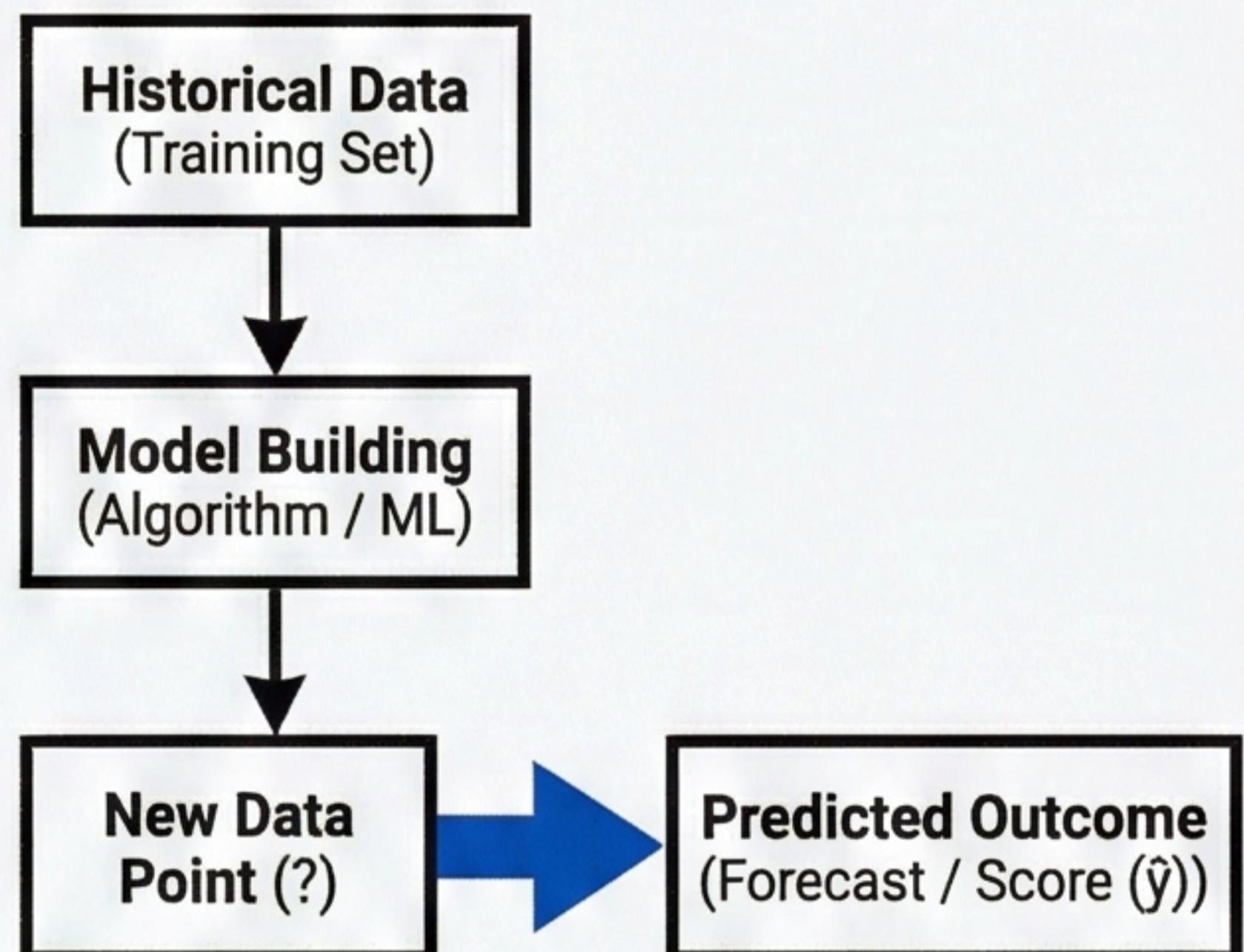
## PREDICTIVE STATISTICS

### GOAL & FOCUS



Forecast future outcomes for new observations.  
Focus on individual data point accuracy.

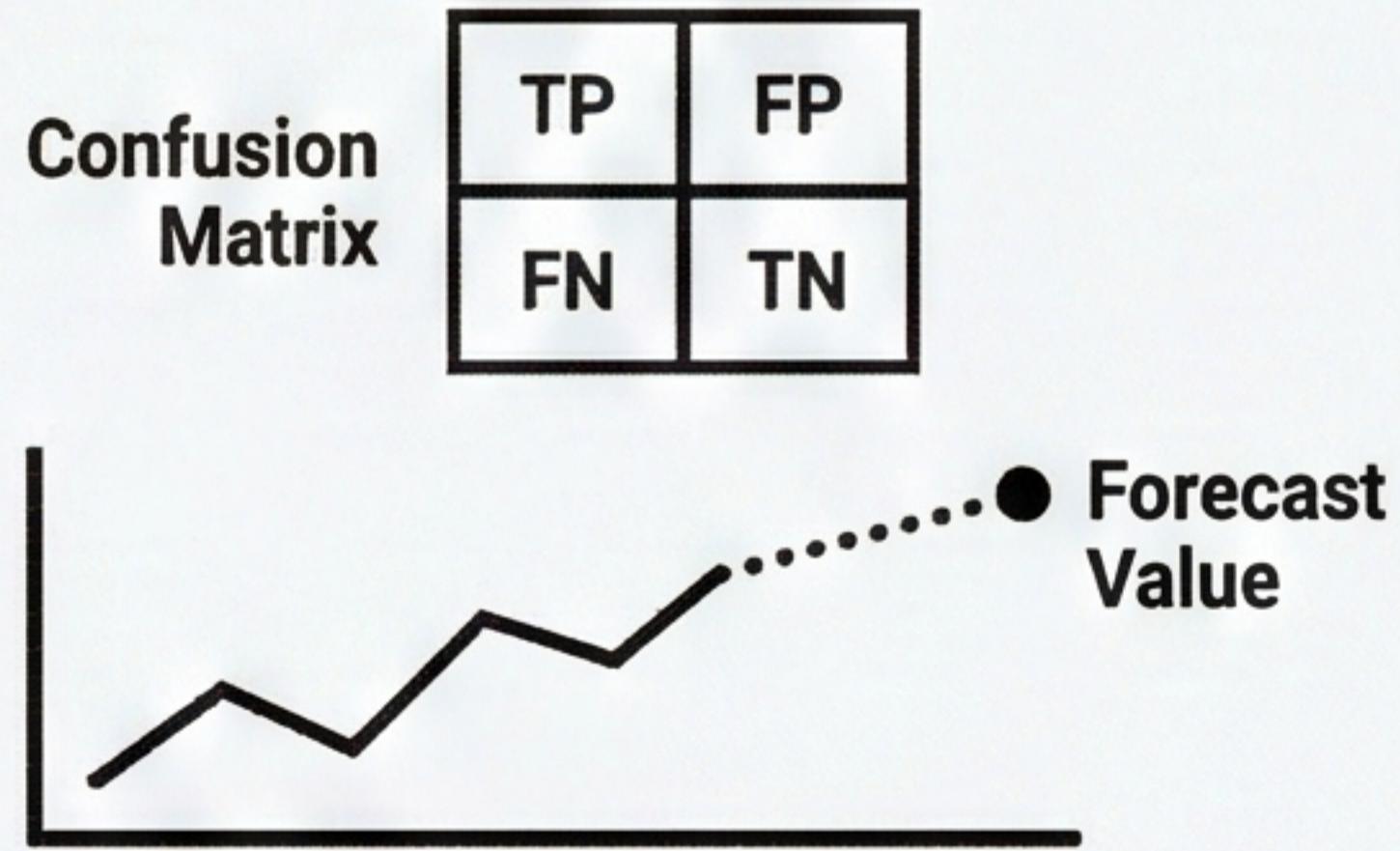
### DATA FLOW & PROCESS



### KEY TECHNIQUES/METHODS

- Logistic Regression (for classification)
- Decision Trees
- Neural Networks
- Time Series Forecasting

### OUTPUT & INTERPRETATION



Specific value or class.  
Metrics: Accuracy, RMSE.  
Focuses on \*what\* will happen.