Lecture 1: The sampling variance and its main determinants some simulations

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2. Determinants Distribution in the population

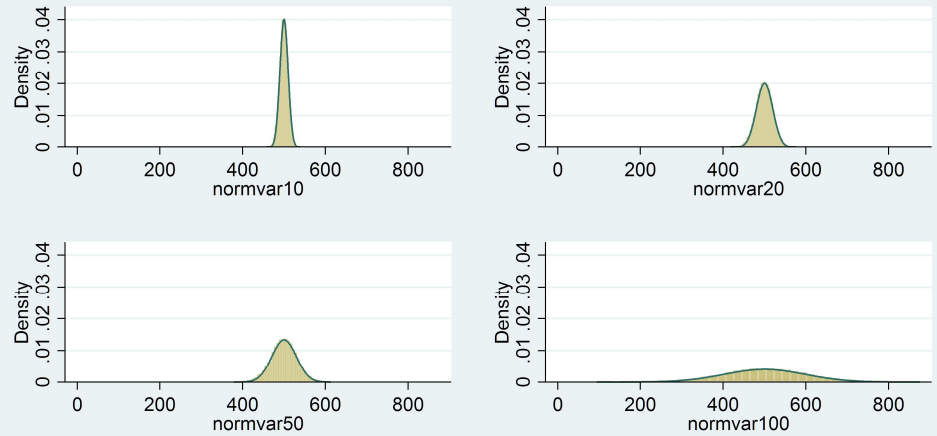
- The shape of the population distribution

```
clear
set obs 10000

set seed 4278943

gen normvar10=rnormal(500,10)
gen normvar20=rnormal(500,20)
gen normvar50=rnormal(500,30)
gen normvar100=rnormal(500,100)
```

2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
normvar10	10,000	500.0346	9.945249	459.5004	537.4796
normvar20	10,000	500.0693	19.8905	419.0008	574.9593
normvar50	10,000	500.1039	29.83575	378.5011	612.4389
normvar100	10,000	500.3463	99.45249	95.00376	874.7963

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2. Determinants
Distribution in the population

- The shape of the population distribution

```
forvalues x=1/1000 {
        bsample 250

        local listing 10 20 50 100
        foreach y of local listing {
                qui: sum normvar`y'
                local m`y'=r(mean)
        }
}
```

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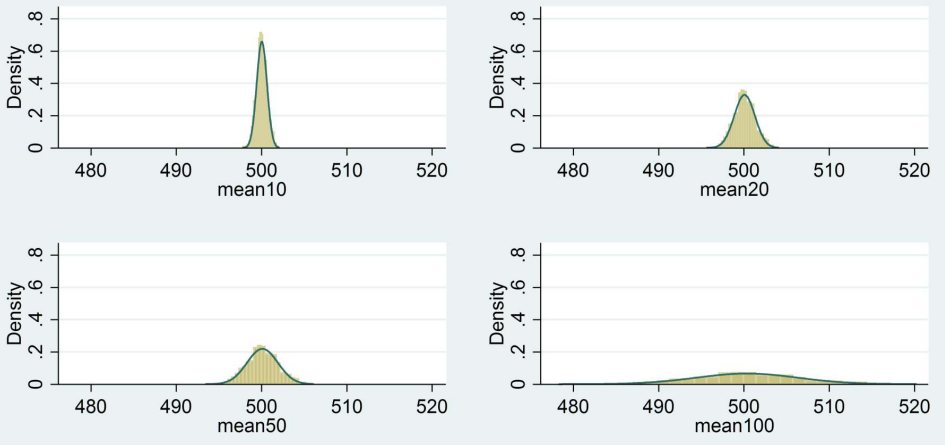
2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
mean10	1,000	500.0369	.6060214	497.831	502.0189
mean20	1,000	500.0738	1.212043	495.6619	504.0377
mean50	1,000	500.1108	1.818064	493.4929	506.0566
mean100	1,000	500.3692	6.060213	478.3096	520.1886

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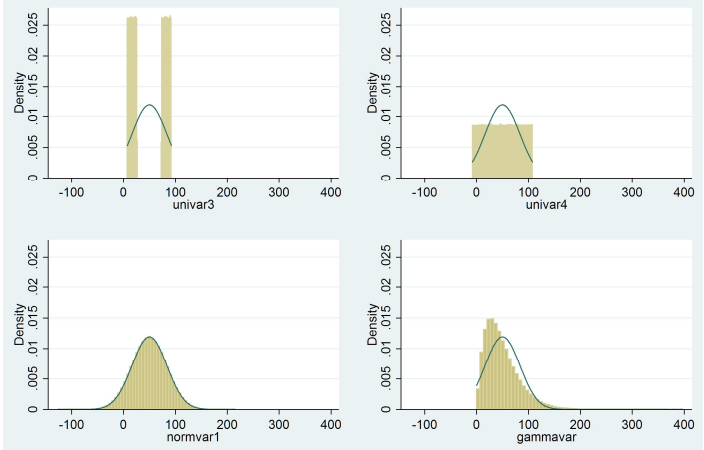
2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
gammavar	1,000,000	50.00715	33.50935	.0217693	397.5127
univar3	1,000,000	50.00809	33.51855	7.377846	92.61644
univar4	1,000,000	50.00306	33.51426	-8.102166	108.0365
normvar1	1,000,000	49.97284	33.52434	-127.1313	215.4159

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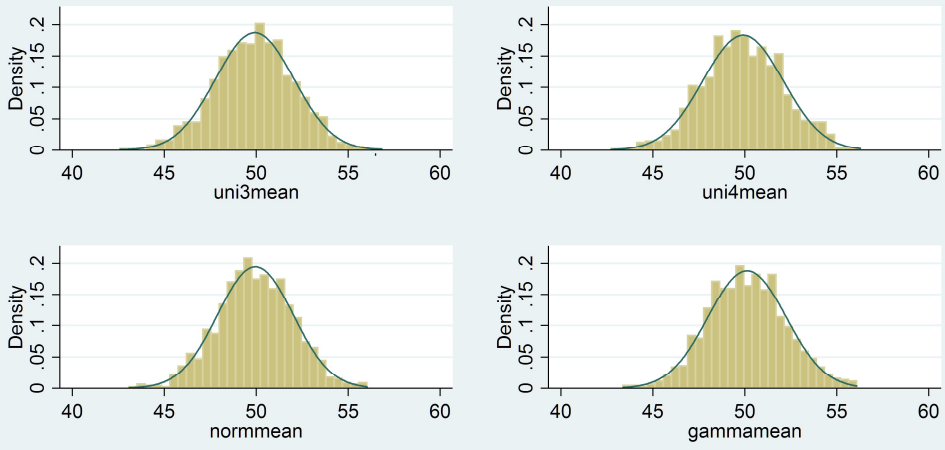
2. Determinants
Distribution in the population

- The shape of the population distribution

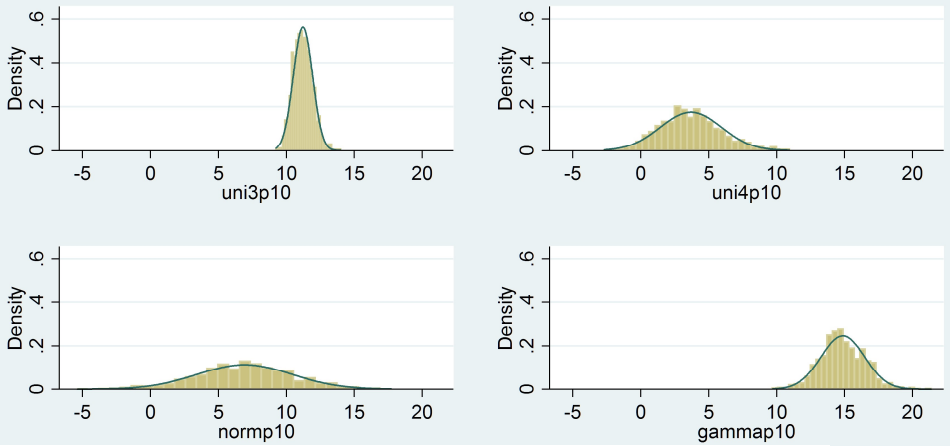
```
preserve
forvalues x=1/1000 {
 cap restore, preserve
 bsample 250

 qui: sum

}
restore
```


2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
uni3mean	1,000	49.91706	2.129674	42.59286	56.82093
uni4mean	1,000	49.90305	2.176538	42.72189	56.29216
normmean	1,000	49.95122	2.047861	43.08036	56.02635
gammamean	1,000	50.11824	2.118951	43.37864	56.09466

2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
uni3p10	1,000	11.21537	.7077174	9.220869	14.00088
uni4p10	1,000	3.692301	2.275497	-2.685387	10.94674
normp10	1,000	6.925952	3.510496	-5.386353	17.71629
gammap10	1,000	14.86741	1.615323	9.672161	21.36809

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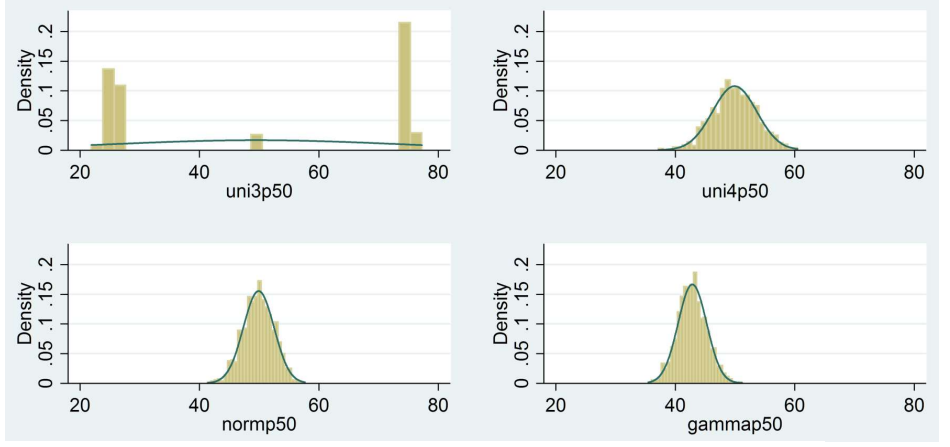
2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
uni3p50	1,000	49.49378	23.90457	21.92049	77.25404
uni4p50	1,000	49.93655	3.695098	37.17944	60.44971
normp50	1,000	49.91847	2.563515	41.36387	57.67188
gammap50	1,000	42.85547	2.392129	35.49556	51.17348

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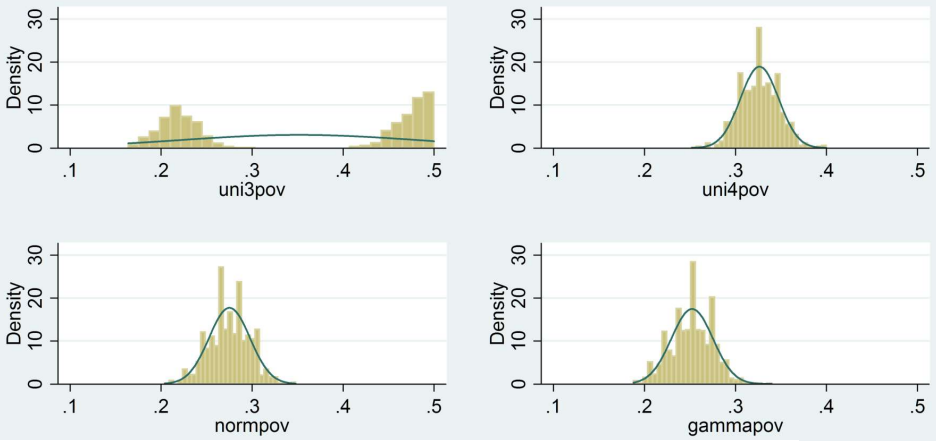
2. Determinants
Distribution in the population



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
uni3pov	1,000	.351576	.1304707	.164	.5
uni4pov	1,000	.326492	.021048	.252	.4
normpov	1,000	.275192	.0224979	.204	.348
gammapov	1,000	.252464	.0228446	.188	.34

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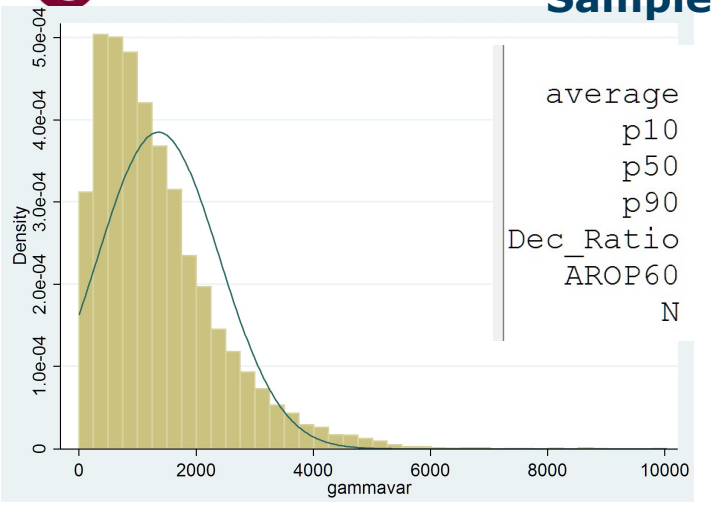
2. Determinants
Sample design



	Population
average	1357.28
p10	303.03
p50	1114.01
p90	2737.27
Dec_Ratio	9.03
AROP60	0.29
N	10000.00

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
gammavar	10,000	1357.284	1035.138	.3877368	10036.7

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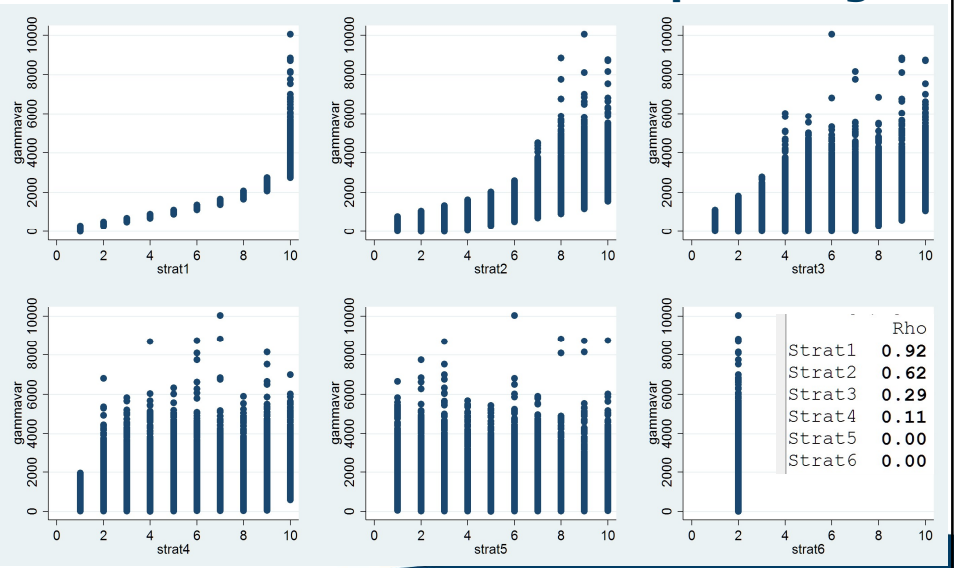
2. Determinants Sample design

- Stratification:
  - Divide population in 10 Strata of equal size
  - Correlation with variable of interest varies:

	gammavar
gammavar	1.0000
strat1	0.9004
strat2	0.7714
strat3	0.5029
strat4	0.2564
strat5	-0.0015
strat6	.

2. Determinants Sample design



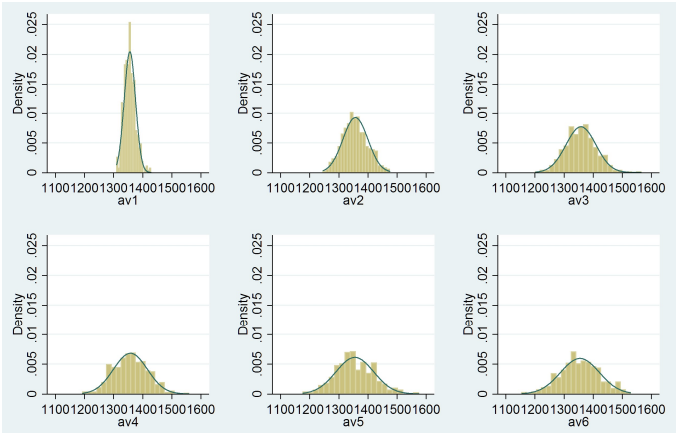
2. Determinants Sample design

- Proportional stratified random sample (with replacement):

```
if `strat'<6 {
    bsample 25, strata(strat`strat')
}
else bsample 250, strata(strat`strat')
```

- 500 samples each

2. Determinants Sample design

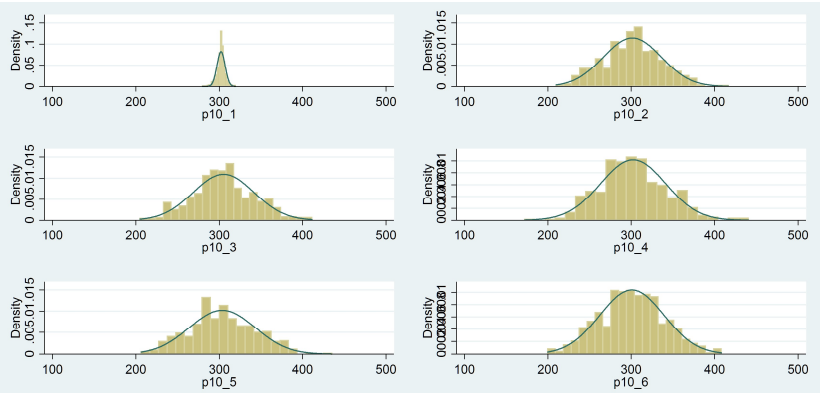


Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
av1	500	1356.058	19.50588	1310.552	1428.615
av2	500	1356.953	42.9279	1245.744	1475.519
av3	500	1358.104	51.57698	1201.169	1566.287
av4	500	1357.965	58.432	1193.144	1558.686
av5	500	1355.083	65.05759	1176.831	1575.077
av6	500	1354.736	66.99023	1154.819	1528.803

2. Determinants Sample design

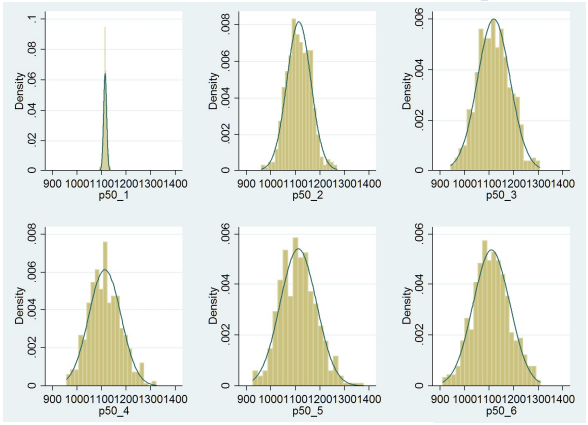
- Stratification:
  - Effect depends also on statistic of interest

2. Determinants Sample design



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
p10_1	500	302.1921	4.832357	279.8178	319.5673
p10_2	500	301.4527	34.81528	209.8498	416.5609
p10_3	500	305.3007	36.54603	204.9383	411.3605
p10_4	500	302.3185	39.22937	172.1416	440.6783
p10_5	500	303.7435	39.07421	206.4495	435.1558
p10_6	500	300.8718	38.36178	199.7205	408.2195

2. Determinants Sample design



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
p50_1	500	1114.126	6.216117	1091.08	1135.718
p50_2	500	1114.017	48.86296	961.9463	1268.867
p50_3	500	1118.86	66.47265	944.1757	1305.745
p50_4	500	1113.185	64.95626	957.2345	1322.375
p50_5	500	1111.914	73.43771	926.6582	1377.373
p50_6	500	1109.334	74.06387	910.3398	1308.924

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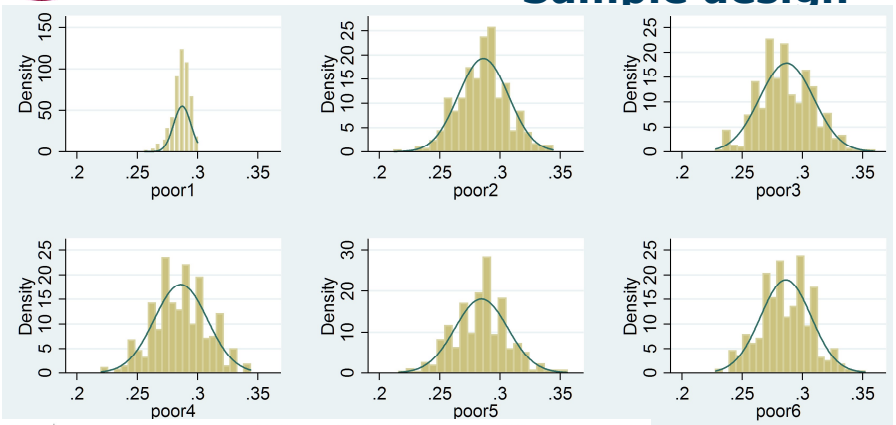
2. Determinants Sample design



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
poor1	500	.28728	.00726	.256	.3
poor2	500	.286208	.0206815	.212	.344
poor3	500	.286792	.0223533	.228	.36
poor4	500	.286072	.0221395	.22	.344
poor5	500	.284536	.0220853	.216	.356
poor6	500	.286192	.0210108	.228	.352

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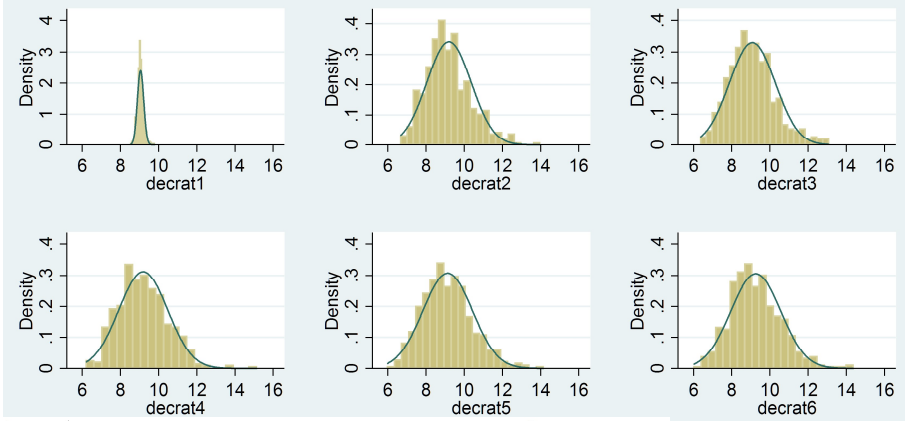
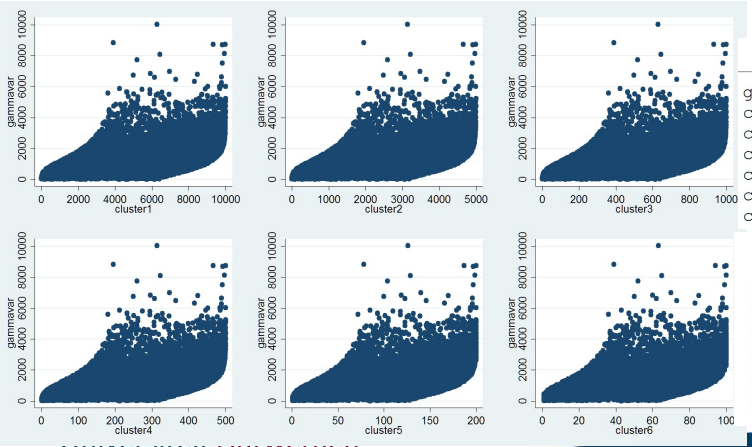
2. Determinants Sample design



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
decrat1	500	9.052211	.1657317	8.537816	9.793636
decrat2	500	9.196112	1.167475	6.674008	13.96403
decrat3	500	9.075966	1.207079	6.370455	13.08185
decrat4	500	9.190802	1.278179	6.210597	15.13555
decrat5	500	9.128898	1.297242	5.974261	14.14456
decrat6	500	9.257492	1.304941	6.026394	14.37358

2. Determinants Sample design

- Clusters with similar correlation structure
- Range from 1 to 100 elements in size



	gammavar
gammavar	1.0000
cluster1	0.5068
cluster2	0.5068
cluster3	0.5068
cluster4	0.5067
cluster5	0.5067
cluster6	0.5066

Rho	nClusters
1.00	10000.00
0.67	5000.00
0.38	1000.00
0.35	500.00
0.32	200.00
0.31	100.00

2. Determinants Sample design

- Clustering:

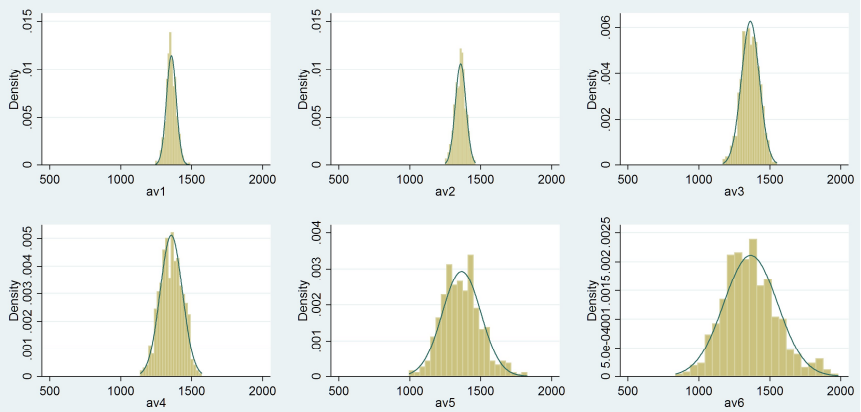
```
forvalues cluster=1/6 {
    forvalues x=1/500 {
            qui: sum cluster`cluster'
            local clustersize=10000/r(max)
            local nclusters=1000/`clustersize'

            bsample `nclusters', cluster(cluster`cluster')

    }
}
```

Foreach 'experiment' the sample size is 1,000 elements

2. Determinants Sample design



Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
av1	500	1357.245	34.83031	1246.497	1488.326
av2	500	1358.596	37.5426	1250.866	1461.115
av3	500	1362.86	63.58747	1171.349	1549.005
av4	500	1356.271	78.12186	1139.158	1571.038
av5	500	1365.295	135.9096	995.9584	1827.797
av6	500	1364.913	188.9331	837.6111	1981.93

2. Determinants Sample design

- Clustering:
  - Even though same sample size, clustering considerably increases variance, for a given n
  - Sampling variance is approximately equal to the 'between cluster variance' / nclusters

	Between	Within	Total	Rho	NClusters	nClusters	n	Predict_SE	SE
Cluster1	1.070E+06	0.000E+00	1.07E+06	1	10,000	1,000	1,000	33	35
Cluster2	7.147E+05	3.567E+05	1.07E+06	0.67	5,000	500	1,000	38	38
Cluster3	4.079E+05	6.635E+05	1.07E+06	0.38	1,000	100	1,000	64	64
Cluster4	3.699E+05	7.015E+05	1.07E+06	0.35	500	50	1,000	86	78
Cluster5	3.435E+05	7.279E+05	1.07E+06	0.32	200	20	1,000	131	136
Cluster6	3.361E+05	7.353E+05	1.07E+06	0.31	100	10	1,000	183	189

2. Determinants Sample design

Simulation

- Population 100,000
- 1000 clusters of 100 elements

	Between	Within	Total	Check	Rho	nClusters
Strat6	1,005,342	83,024	1,088,366	1,088,377	0.92	1,000

	PSUs	USUs	n	VAR total	SE total	SE-exp
scenario 1	100	1	100	10,884	104	103
scenario 2	100	2	200	10,469	102	98
scenario 3	100	5	500	10,219	101	101
scenario 4	100	10	1,000	10,136	101	95
scenario 5	100	50	5,000	10,070	100	95
scenario 6	100	100	10,000	10,062	100	100

2. Determinants Sample design

Simulation

- Population 100,000
- 1000 clusters of 100 elements

Standard errors

	PSUs	USUs	average	p10	p50	p90	p90 / p10	arop60 (%)
scenario 1	100	1	103.2	61.8	108.8	289.9	2.0	3.7
scenario 2	100	2	97.6	60.2	113.4	254.3	1.8	3.3
scenario 3	100	5	100.9	57.9	113.4	256.7	1.9	3.1
scenario 4	100	10	95.3	57.5	113.7	242.7	1.8	2.9
scenario 5	100	50	94.6	53.4	110.9	225.3	1.6	3.0
scenario 6	100	100	99.9	54.3	107.2	235.6	1.7	3.0

2. Determinants Weighting

Three 'experiments':

- Stratified samples of 300 elements, with varying probabilities of selection
- No non-response, No calibration
- 10 strata of equal size, in each stratum simple random sample with replacement, 500 times
  1. No correlation between prob weights and 'gammavar'
  2. Positive correlation between prob weights and var
  3. Negative correlation between prob weights and var

2. Determinants Weighting

No correlation between probability of selection and variable of interest.

5 scenarios:

- 1/ equal probability of selection (30/1000)
- 2/ 2 strata with 50/1000, rest 25/1000
- 3/ 2 strata with 70/1000, rest 20/1000
- 4/ 8 strata 20/1000, one 50/1000 and one 90/1000
- 5/ each stratum different probability of selection, with numerators 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 45 50 65

2. Determinants Weighting

No systematic correlation between probability of selection and variable of interest.

Standard errors

	var(weights)	average	p10	p50	p90	p90 / p10	arop60 (%)
scenario 1	0.0	58.8	35.5	65.6	164.9	1.2	2.0
scenario 2	89.2	62.1	37.6	71.1	168.5	1.2	2.0
scenario 3	318.5	66.5	40.9	77.8	183.7	1.4	2.3
scenario 4	327.0	69.9	41.2	74.6	187.6	1.3	2.5
scenario 5	812.2	81.6	46.9	93.2	220.9	1.5	2.6

2. Determinants Weighting

Positive correlation between probability of selection and variable of interest.

5 scenarios:

- 1/ equal probability of selection (30/1000)
- 2/ 2 lowest strata with 50/1000, rest 25/1000
- 3/ 2 lowest strata with 70/1000, rest 20/1000
- 4/ 8 highest strata 20/1000, second lowest 50/1000 and lowest 90/1000
- 5/ each stratum different probability of selection, with numerators 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 45 50 65

2. Determinants Weighting

Positive correlation between weights and variable of interest (oversampling lowest income brackets)

Standard errors

	correlation	average	p10	p50	p90	p90 / p10	arop60 (%)
scenario 1	0.0	36.4	31.3	43.9	139.7	1.1	1.9
scenario 2	0.5	39.3	27.9	48.6	146.2	1.0	2.0
scenario 3	0.6	45.4	27.7	50.4	171.8	1.0	2.2
scenario 4	0.6	45.9	28.1	56.1	175.4	1.0	2.1
scenario 5	0.7	63.6	22.6	45.7	267.2	1.1	1.8

2. Determinants Weighting

Negative correlation between weights and variable of interest (oversampling highest income brackets)

Standard errors

	correlation	average	p10	p50	p90	p90 / p10	arop60 (%)
scenario 1	0.0	37.2	32.6	42.4	143.2	1.1	1.9
scenario 2	-0.7	33.9	32.5	45.6	121.4	1.1	2.0
scenario 3	-0.7	36.3	36.9	52.3	128.5	1.2	2.4
scenario 4	-0.7	36.6	35.4	52.2	122.9	1.1	2.3
scenario 5	-0.5	33.6	59.8	46.1	107.4	2.2	2.7

2. Determinants Weighting

So…

- Variance in weights tends to increase sampling variance
- …but depends on correlation structure of weights with variable of interest
- …and how it interacts with increasing sample size in various parts of the distribution
- …as well as statistic of interest

Conclusion

Key messages

1. If estimates are based on samples -> estimate and report SEs, CIs & p-values

2. Always take as much as possible account of sample design when estimating SEs, CIs & p-values