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العدد الثالث

والأربعون

## مراجعة لأهمية نهج بوتستراب في التقدير الإحصائي

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## المستخلص

يمثل فاصل الثقة (Confidence Interval – CI) تقديراً فاصلاً لمعلمة مجتمع إحصائي يتم اشتقاقه من بيانات العينة. وغالباً ما يواجه تقدير فواصل الثقة التقليدية صعوبات عند التعامل مع الإحصاءات المعقدة التي تتطلب صيغاً رياضية متعددة الخطوات وغير عملية في التطبيق. ولمعالجة هذه القيود، يعتمد أسلوب البوتستراب (Bootstrapping) على منهجية إعادة المعاينة (Resampling)، إذ يتم توليد عدد كبير من مجموعات البيانات المحاكاة انطلاقاً من العينة الأصلية بهدف تقدير التوزيع التجريبي للمعلمة.

يقدم هذا البحث مراجعة شاملة لمفاهيم البوتستراب وآليات بناء فواصل الثقة المعتمدة عليه. ويهدف

هذا التحليل السردي إلى تحقيق هدفين بحثيين رئيسيين هما: **أساسية**  
للعلوم التربوية والنفسية وطرائق التدريس للعلوم الأساسية

١. توضيح المبادئ الأساسية لأسلوب البوتستراب وفواصل الثقة المرتبطة به.

٢. تقييم الأطر المنهجية المختلفة المستخدمة في اشتقاق هذه الفواصل.

وقد صنفت هذه المراجعة عدداً من التقنيات الرئيسية، من بينها: طريقة الفاصل الطبيعي (Normal

Interval Method)، البوتستراب المئوي (Percentile Bootstrap)، البوتستراب الأساسي

(Basic Bootstrap)، التقريب الطبيعي من الدرجة الأولى (First-Order Normal



(Approximation)، البوتستراب المصحح للتحيز (BC)، البوتستراب المصحح والمعجل للتحيز (BCa)، وطريقة Bootstrap-t.

وتخلص الدراسة إلى أن أبرز نقاط قوة فواصل الثقة المعتمدة على البوتستراب تكمن في طبيعتها غير المعتمدة على التوزيع الإحصائي (Distribution-Free)، أي أنها لا تتطلب افتراض خضوع المجتمع للتوزيع الطبيعي، فضلاً عن قابليتها للتطبيق على نطاق واسع في نماذج إحصائية متعددة. ويوصفه أسلوباً يعتمد على كثافة الحسابات، فإن البوتستراب يستفيد من قدرات المعالجة الرقمية السريعة الحديثة لإجراء عدد كبير من عمليات المحاكاة اللازمة للحصول على تقديرات قوية للمعلمات الإحصائية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: البوتستراب، فاصل الثقة، تقدير المعلمات، إعادة المعاينة، الإحصاء الحاسوبي.

## A Review of the Importance of the Bootstrap Method in Statistical Estimation

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### Abstract

A Confidence Interval (CI) serves as an interval estimate for a population parameter derived from sample data. Traditional CI estimation becomes challenging when dealing with complex statistics that require impractical multi-step mathematical derivations. To address these limitations, the bootstrap method employs a resampling approach, generating multiple simulated datasets from the original sample to estimate the empirical distribution of the parameter.

This paper provides a comprehensive review of bootstrap concepts and the construction of bootstrap confidence intervals. The study aims to:

1. Clarify the fundamental principles of bootstrap methodology and its associated confidence intervals.



2. Evaluate different methodological frameworks used to derive bootstrap confidence intervals.

The review covers several key techniques, including the normal interval method, percentile bootstrap, basic bootstrap, first-order normal approximation, bias-corrected (BC), bias-corrected and accelerated (BCa), and the bootstrap-t method.

The study concludes that bootstrap confidence intervals are powerful due to their distribution-free nature and flexibility across statistical models. Despite being computationally intensive, modern computing capabilities make bootstrap methods highly practical and widely applicable.

This study adopts a structured narrative review approach to synthesize existing literature on bootstrap confidence interval methods.

A systematic search was conducted across major academic databases, including Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholar, and PubMed. Keywords used included: “bootstrap methods”, “confidence intervals”, “bootstrap-t”, “BCa”, and “resampling techniques.”

The review covers publications from 2000 to 2025, in addition to foundational studies such as Efron (1979) and Efron & Tibshirani (1993).

**Keywords:** Bootstrap, Confidence Interval, Resampling, Parameter Estimation, Computational Statistics.

## Introduction

In statistics, researchers take the information of a sample  $X = (X_1, X_2, X_3, \text{etc.})$  and use it in the determination of an unknown population parameter (Salkind, 2010). The most common forms of parameter estimation are hypothesis testing, point estimation, and confidence interval (CI) estimation. A CI is an interval estimate of a population parameter with the help of a representative sample. A CI can be defined as a range or interval within which an unknown population parameter lies, but based on a statistically reasonable level of confidence (Petty, 2012).

CIs are important statistical measures to estimate the parameters of the location and dispersion of a population (Abu-Shawiesh, Sinsomboonthong, and Kibria, 2022). In its structure, a CI is composed of an upper and lower



bound that is supposed to cover the true mean value to illustrate the probability of the population parameter of interest (Tapia, Salvador, and Rodríguez, 2020). These estimates are constructed based on the level of confidence level, which is the probability that the interval calculated has the true parameter. Although the common level of confidence is 95, one can modify the level to other levels, e.g., 90 or 99, based on the precision needed.

According to the recent literature, CIs are more holistic than point estimates (Das, 2019). Whereas a point estimate gives one statistical figure (e.g., the average or median), a CI gives a range based on a range (observable data, which likely contains the true population value. Since the methodology is intended to generate intervals in which the target parameter falls, it can be regarded as a powerful estimation tool (Das, 2019). More so, CIs are a good basis for making a statistical inference since they provide the point estimate and the margin of error (Cumming, 2007). CI estimation can be more advantageous than point estimation due to the much deeper and statistically significant information it may provide, because it suggests a set of probable values instead of one (Saito and Dohi, 2018).

Researchers often opt for small sample sizes when faced with budgetary constraints or limited time. In such scenarios, deriving population parameter estimates from small-sample statistics becomes necessary. However, the validity of **Confidence Intervals (CIs)** relies on three fundamental assumptions that are frequently difficult to satisfy with limited data (LaFontaine, 2021).

To make accurate inferences from a representative sample, LaFontaine (2021) identifies three critical requirements:

1. **Normality of the Sampling Distribution:** The first assumption posits that the sampling distribution of the parameter must be normal. Specifically, residuals are expected to be **identically and independently distributed (i.i.d.)** following a normal distribution. Because standard CIs rely on z and t distributions, they are typically symmetric around the point estimate (Berrar, 2019; Dogan, 2004).



2. **Standard Error Accuracy:** The second assumption requires the estimated standard error to be a reliable approximation of the true standard deviation of the parameter's sampling distribution.
3. **Minimal Bias:** The final assumption is that the estimation process must yield negligible bias.

Whereas some parameters require few conditions to be satisfied, some demand specific methodologies to take care of validity. Meeting these assumptions is essential in making the inferences of what the population means; a breach of any of them may invalidate the integrity of the CI.

Moreover, Banjanovic and Osborne (2016) state that the fact that CI is not used in certain studies is due to the impossibility of estimating certain statistics. Some of the parameters involve complicated, multi-cursor formulae and inflexible assumptions that, in most instances, are not feasible. There are 95 percent intervals that are calculated traditionally in the following models.:

- **For large datasets:**  
 $\bar{x} \pm z(ns)$
- **For small datasets ( $n < 30$ ):**  
 $\bar{x} \pm t(ns)$

In these equations,  $\bar{x}$  represents the sample mean,  $s$  denotes the standard deviation,  $n$  is the sample size, and the term  $ns$  represents the **standard error**, which determines the **margin of error**.

### Limitations of Traditional Statistical Inference

The traditional statistical estimation has two main problems. First, it is very dependent on the normality assumption, in which a distribution is supposed to be symmetric. Based on this assumption, it is used in finding the (1 -100% confidence interval (CI)) of the population mean (  $\mu$  ). Nonetheless, empirical evidence is often not normal, and several scientists are doubting the stability of conventional approaches in such situations (Boos and Hughes-Oliver 2000; David 1998; Desharnais et al. 2015; Wilcox 2021).

Nevertheless, despite these disadvantages, previous research has also shown that the conventional method is still somewhat resistant, in the sense that its coverage probability can be close to the nominal confidence coefficient,



though its average variability and interval widths do not necessarily seem optimal as compared to other methods of competition (Boos and Hughes-Oliver 2000; Shi and Golam Kibria 2007; Wang 2001; Zhou and Dinh 2005).

### The Shift Toward Robust Estimation

The major disadvantage of the classical model is that it is not very strong under severe departures from the norm. Moreover, the theory of normal approximation can be inaccurate when dealing with small data sets and cannot give a precise estimate of the accuracy (Saha and Kapilesh 2016). Bootstrapping becomes an effective alternative to parameter estimation when these parametric assumptions are not met (Tong, Saminathan, and Chang 2016; Flowers-Cano et al. 2018)

In contrast to the old-fashioned techniques, bootstrapping does not impose so strict conditions of normality, independence, and constant variation (Hongyi Li and Maddala 2007; Tong et al. 2016; Rousselet, Pernet, and Wilcox 2021). It is part of a wider resampling methodology, which includes:

- Jackknife resampling
- Permutation tests
- Cross-validation
- Monte Carlo simulations

### Mechanics and Applications of Bootstrapping

Bootstrapping is also useful in situations where sample sizes and/or population representation are limited. The procedure is based on the assumption that the pattern between the sample and the population may be reflected in the pattern between the initial sample and an empirical distribution that is produced by repeated resampling (with replacement)

Through the development of this empirical distribution, researchers can determine the quality of the predictions of population parameters and compare them with sample statistics (Lafontaine, 2021). These values can be observed and create strong standard errors and confidence intervals (Tong et al., 2016). Bootstrapping CIs are also common in many applications in



modern society, such as biomedical studies, financial analysis, and off-policy analysis (Hanna et al., 2017; Haukoos and Lewis, 2005; Klaudia and Łukasz, 2020).

### The Bootstrapping Principle and Methodology

The **bootstrapping principle** refers to the process of generating "pseudo-samples" from an original dataset or applying a model directly to that sample to perform statistical inference (Puth et al., 2015). This paper aims to explore the construction of Confidence Intervals (CI) through various bootstrap techniques, including:

- First-order normal approximation
- Percentile bootstrap method
- Bias-corrected (BC) bootstrap
- Normal interval method
- Accelerated bias-corrected (BCa) bootstrap
- Basic and Bootstrap-t methods

By situating these techniques under the broader umbrella of **resampling**, this article addresses a common gap in existing literature regarding the procedural application of bootstrapping in CI calculations.

### Organizational Structure

The paper is structured into three primary components:

1. **Overview:** An introduction to the foundational concepts of bootstrapping.
2. **Methodological Analysis:** A detailed discussion on various bootstrap CI methods, their procedural execution, and their statistical performance.
3. **Conclusion:** A synthesis of the overall utility of bootstrapping in modern research.

### Foundations of the Bootstrap Method

Bootstrapping is a statistical inference method that is a simulation technique and was introduced by Efron (1979). It is a data-based method. It is



applicable in estimating means, standard deviation, or any other statistic provided the observations are independent and identically distributed (Good and Hardin, 2012). In essence, bootstrapping will utilize data to recycle the data to create an approximation of the distribution of an estimator or the test statistic. (Horowitz, 2019).

### Advantages Over Traditional Methods

Bootstrapping is a widely used technique to generate CIs because it is versatile due to its ability to be used to produce a large variety of statistics (Puth et al., 2015). The main purpose of it is to make credible assumptions regarding a population value, using the existing data (Rousselet et al., 2021). [Comparison of normal distribution theory and bootstrap empirical distribution, image].

Bootstrapping has several unique advantages compared to the traditional methods based on parameters:

- Robustness:** It is useful when the sample size is small, the distribution of estimators is not known, or non-standard assumptions are compromised (Bochniak et al., 2019).
- Computational Efficiency:** It uses the availability of modern computing power to carry out uncertainty analysis instead of using complex mathematical derivations (Saha and Kapilesh, 2016; Tong et al., 2016).
- Flexibility:** Bootstrapping can be combined with more robust estimators (e.g., M-estimators, trimmed means, or the median) to gain a greater insight since they are less sensitive to outliers (Tong et al., 2016).
- Lusivity to Assumptions:** The procedure is not based on strict underlying population assumptions, and hence is much more practical in messy real-life applications (Hoyle & Cameron, 2003).

Through these ideas, this paper aims at elucidating the use of bootstrapping as a more robust and convenient substitute for standard statistical models.

### The Percentile Bootstrap and Practical Considerations



The percentile bootstrap confidence interval is often associated with the bootstrap approach (Pek, Wong, and Wong 2017; Abushawiesh and Saeed 2022). Although more sophisticated CI development methods employ sophisticated resampling in order to get excellent theoretical coverage probabilities, they tend to perform unpredictably in practice, mainly determined by the distribution of the bootstrap estimator in question (Sinsomboonthong, Abu-Shawiesh, and Kibria 2020).

Moreover, certain advanced bootstrap methods may be hard to software due to the requirement to use specialized statistics programs. Contrastingly, this paper focuses on the bootstrap-t approach, which provides a compromise of good performance and convenience of practical implementation.

### Theoretical Framework: The Bootstrap Concept and CI

The fundamental mechanics of the bootstrap method involve treating the original sample as a proxy for the population.

### The Resampling Process

Assume a random sample of size  $n$  is drawn from an original dataset. From this data, a **bootstrap sample** is generated by resampling with replacement. In a strictly theoretical sense, there are  $nn$  possible resamples available. This process is functionally equivalent to sampling from the **empirical population distribution** with replacement.

1. **Original Sample:**  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$
2. **Bootstrap Resample:**  $X^* = \{x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*\}$  (drawn with replacement)
3. **Estimation:** For every bootstrap sample generated, the target parameter value is estimated.

By repeating this process numerous times, a distribution of estimates is created, which serves as the basis for constructing the confidence interval.

### The Role of Replications in Bootstrapping



The replication (B) is an important aspect in bootstrap methodology because the replication determines the efficiency and accuracy of resampling (Hedges 1992). To achieve reasonable accuracy in the estimation of parameters and the construction of a confidence interval (CI), B should be large enough.

### Recommended Number of Replications

While the theoretical number of feasible resamples is  $nn$ , practical application requires a specific target for B. Literature provides varying guidelines for the minimum number of bootstraps:

- **Standard Accuracy:** A minimum of **1,000 resamples** is often considered adequate for reasonable parameter estimates (Tong, Saminathan, and Chang 2016; Zhao et al. 2021; Wilcox 2021).
- **High Precision:** DiCiccio and Efron (1996) and Yan (2022) suggest at least **2,000 replications**.
- **Optimal Performance:** For improved estimation, modern computing allows for **5,000 replications** without significant time costs (Banjanovic & Osborne, 2016; Tong et al., 2016).
- **Stability:** Estimates tend to become more consistent as B increases (Mahmudah et al. 2023). Some studies specifically recommend **4,000 to 5,000 samples**, particularly when the original sample size is 30 or more (Saha and Kapilesh 2016).

### Sample Size Considerations

In less massive samples, i.e.,  $n=5$  to 30, the bootstrap technique is also an effective option (Tong et al. 2016). Studies show that 1,000 to 2,000 samples are useful when the size of the individual resamples has as few as 25 data points (Saha and Kapilesh 2016). It is important to note that the bootstrap technique is often resistant to the original selection of data as well as the samples produced on the various runs.

### Statistical Estimation and CI Types

Assume a population parameter  $\theta$  is estimated using a random sample. The bootstrap estimate of this parameter is denoted as  $\theta^*$ . To construct this estimate, the resampling process is executed B times to generate B unique sets of bootstrap samples.



According to Tong et al. (2016), there are four primary types of bootstrap confidence intervals used to evaluate these estimates:

1. **Standard Bootstrap CI**
2. **Percentile Bootstrap CI**
3. **Bias-Corrected (BC) Bootstrap CI**
4. **Bias-Corrected Accelerated (BCa) Percentile Bootstrap CI**

The procedural workflow—from selecting the original dataset to generating these intervals—is often visualized through a schematic representation to ensure consistency in the research app.

Feature	Traditional Method	Parametric Bootstrap	Nonparametric Bootstrap
<b>Distributional Assumption</b>	Rigid (e.g., Normality)	Required (Model-based)	None (Data-based)
<b>Source of Resamples</b>	Theoretical Distribution	Fitted Parametric Model	Original Sample Data
<b>Small Sample Performance</b>	Often poor/unreliable	Effective if the model is correct	Robust and versatile
<b>Computational Demand</b>	Low	High	High

Application (Haukoos and Lewis 2005).



Feature	Nonparametric Bootstrap	Parametric Bootstrap	Traditional Parametric Method
<b>Requirements &amp; Assumptions</b>	Requires a sufficiently large sample size to represent the population.	Requires prior knowledge or a sound estimate of the population distribution.	Must satisfy specific parametric assumptions (e.g., normality, homoscedasticity).
<b>Primary Use Case</b>	Used when traditional formulas are unavailable or mathematically intractable.	Used when traditional formulas are unavailable or too complex to derive.	Used when population data is available and standard formulas are applicable.
<b>Sampling Mechanism</b>	Resamples the original observations <b>with replacement</b> .	Estimates parameters from a fitted model and samples from that <b>theoretical distribution</b> .	Relies on the <b>true population</b> parameters or direct sampling theory.
<b>Key Advantages</b>	Highly versatile; can estimate virtually any sampling distribution without a model.	Generally more statistically powerful than the nonparametric approach when the model is	Standardized formulas are widely recognized and computationally simple.



Feature	Nonparametric Bootstrap	Parametric Bootstrap	Traditional Parametric Method
		correct.	
<b>Key Disadvantages</b>	May be less reliable or unstable with very small sample sizes.	Performance is highly sensitive to the correct choice of the underlying distribution.	Limited to estimating distributions under strict, often unrealistic, conditions.

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### Comparison of Statistical Approaches

The table below identifies the differences in the bootstrap of the nonparametric method, the parametric method, and the traditional parametric method in four main dimensions.

مجلة العلوم الأساسية  
للعلوم التربوية والنفسية وطرائق التدريس للعلوم الأساسية

**Table 1: Comparative Analysis of Bootstrap Methods and Traditional Parametric Inference**

Feature	Nonparametric Bootstrap	Parametric Bootstrap	Traditional Parametric Method
<b>Requirements &amp;</b>	Requires a sufficiently large sample size to	Requires prior knowledge or a sound estimate of	Must satisfy specific parametric assumptions (e.g.,



Feature	Nonparametric Bootstrap	Parametric Bootstrap	Traditional Parametric Method
<b>Assumptions</b>	represent the population.	the population distribution.	normality, homoscedasticity).
<b>Primary Use Case</b>	Used when traditional formulas are unavailable or mathematically intractable.	Used when traditional formulas are unavailable or too complex to derive.	Used when population data is available and standard formulas are applicable.
<b>Sampling Mechanism</b>	Resamples the original observations <b>with replacement</b> .	Estimates parameters from a fitted model and samples from that <b>theoretical distribution</b> .	Relies on the <b>true population</b> parameters or direct sampling theory.
<b>Key Advantages</b>	Highly versatile; can estimate virtually any sampling distribution without a model.	Generally more statistically powerful than the nonparametric approach when the model is correct.	Standardized formulas are widely recognized and computationally simple.



Feature	Nonparametric Bootstrap	Parametric Bootstrap	Traditional Parametric Method
<b>Key Disadvantages</b>	May be less reliable or unstable with very small sample sizes.	Performance is highly sensitive to the correct choice of the underlying distribution.	Limited to estimating distributions under strict, often unrealistic, conditions.

### Synthesis of Findings

Table 1 shows that the traditional method is easy because of the available formulae, but in most cases, it is limited by strict assumptions. The parametric bootstrap seals this gap by offering more power by simulation on a model basis in case the correct distribution is known. Conversely, the nonparametric bootstrap is a highly versatile tool that can be used to permit a researcher to experiment with the sampling distributions, without having to have a defined mathematical model.

**Would you like me to help you draft a concluding paragraph for this section that summarizes which method is best suited for your specific research data?**

Here is the reworded and technically refined version of the bootstrap confidence interval (CI) methods.

### Bootstrap Methodologies for Constructing Confidence Intervals

There are several methods to compute CIs through bootstrapping, and each of them is based on various underlying assumptions. The most noticeable are normal interval, percentile, basic, First-order normal approximation, bias - corrected (BC), accelerated bias-corrected (BCa), and bootstrap-t. To



implement it, it is strongly advised that software packages like Scilab, R, and STATA should be used to simulate it.

#### (i) Basic Method

Such an approach, as explained by Puth et al. (2015), pays attention to the distribution of estimation errors. Overall, an error is computed using each bootstrap replicate, i.e., the error is compared with the optimal parameter, i.e., such error is represented by:  $\delta = \hat{\theta} - \theta$ . These errors are then ranked to determine the precise lower and upper limits, which include the central (1-50) proportion of the distribution: the lower (1- 50) and upper limits. The resulting CI of the population parameter is determined as  $[\hat{\theta} - \delta_{upper}, \hat{\theta} - \delta_{lower}]$

#### (ii) Normal Interval Method

Normal interval method makes use of the bootstrap distribution to estimate the standard error (SE), which is then inserted in the standard parametric CI formula. As Banjanovic and Osborne (2016) state, the interval is calculated as:  $\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \cdot SE$

where  $\hat{\theta}$  is the original sample estimate and  $SE$  is the standard deviation of the bootstrap replicates.

#### (iii) Percentile Bootstrap Method

The easiest resampling method is the percentile bootstrap proposed by Efron in 1982. It relies on the quantiles of the empirical bootstrap distribution of the parameter estimates (Mesabbah et al., 2015)

The interval is characterized by the percentile  $\alpha/2$  and percentile  $1 - \alpha/2$  of the bootstrap estimates in an ordered form. In case of confidence level of 95 (percentage 95), the lower and the upper limits are the percentiles 2.5 and 97.5, respectively.

#### Procedural Steps for Percentile Bootstrap CIs:

1. **Generate**  $B$  random bootstrap samples from the original data.
2. **Calculate** the parameter estimate  $(\hat{\theta}^*)$  for each of the  $B$  samples.



3. **Sort** all  $B$  bootstrap estimates in ascending order:  
 $\hat{\theta}_{(1)} \leq \hat{\theta}_{(2)} \leq \dots \leq \hat{\theta}_{(B)}$ .
4. **Define** the CI as  $[\hat{\theta}_{(\text{lower})}, \hat{\theta}_{(\text{upper})}]$ , where the bounds are the specific  $j^{\text{th}}$  quantiles corresponding to the chosen  $\alpha$  level.

### Would you like me to continue with the remaining methods, such as the Bias-Corrected (BC) or the Bootstrap-t, to complete this section?

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Percentile limits. The percentile interval has an upper endpoint corresponding to the  $k$  th quantile, and the lower endpoint index is  $j$ , and the upper endpoint index is  $k$ .

- $j = [(\alpha/2) \times B]$
- $k = [(1 - \alpha/2) \times B]$

Considering the 95th percentile bootstrap CI with the default bootstrap parameters of  $B$ , relying on the quantile regimes of the 25th percentile and the 975th percentile of the bootstrap parameter estimates (Jung et al. 2019). However, the method is rather biased when small samples are involved (Shao and Tu 1995). Further, the percentile bootstrap does not necessarily hold in cases when the sampling distribution is not skewed or even biased in nature (Rousseelet, Pernet, and Wilcox 2021).

#### (iv) First-Order Normal Approximation

As Puth et al. (2015) establish, the assumption of this approach is that the bootstrap distribution is roughly normal. Assuming that the standard deviation of the  $B$  bootstrap samples,  $SD$ , equals  $SD^*$  and that the mean of the bootstrap, represented by  $\bar{\theta}$ , is denoted as:

$$\bar{\theta} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \cdot SD^*$$

The  $z_{1-\alpha/2}$  in this equation is the critical value of the standard normal distribution at a given level of significance of 0.05. Considering the example of  $\alpha = 0.05$ ,  $z_{0.975}$  is close to  $>$ Take the case of  $\alpha = 0.05$ ,





These equations represent the cumulative distribution of the standard normal, whereby  $1/12$  is the normal distribution of the variable  $z$ , and  $1/12$  is the normal distribution of the variable  $x$ . The value of the bias-corrected bootstrap confidence interval of  $\theta$  is determined to be:  $\hat{\theta}^* (PLB)$ ,  $\hat{\theta}^* (PUB)$

Even though the BC approach continues to utilize percentiles to calculate the CI endpoints, it also recomputes the boundaries to offer an opportunity to consider the fact that the median can vary in the bootstrap distribution. It is also significant to mention that the absence of bias ( $z_0 = 0$ ) makes the BC bootstrap identical to the normal percentile (Chen and Fritz 2021). In addition, Chen and Fritz (2021) single out six variants of bias correction, including the mean, various levels of Winsorized means (10% to 40% trimming), and the medcouple (a strong indicator of skewness).

#### (vi) Accelerated Bias-Corrected Bootstrap (BCa)

The **Accelerated Bias-Corrected (BCa)** approach further refines the interval by adjusting for both **bias** and **skewness** (the acceleration) within the bootstrap parameter estimates (Efron 1987; Efron and Tibshirani 1993).

The BCa method incorporates two specific factors:

1. **Bias-correction factor ( $z_0$ ):** Calculated as the proportion of bootstrap estimates smaller than the initial parameter estimate  $\hat{\theta}$ , transformed by the inverse standard normal CDF ( $\Phi^{-1}$ ).
2. **Acceleration factor ( $a$ ):** Accounts for the rate of change of the standard error with respect to the parameter  $\theta$ .

The adjusted endpoints of the CI,  $\alpha_1$ , and  $\alpha_2$  are calculated by moving the location of the percentiles concerning  $z_0$  and  $a$ :

and, where  $a(z_0 + z_0) = 1$ ,  $z_0 + z_0 a$  is given by the formula:

The  $\alpha_2$  is given as:

$$\alpha_1 = \Phi^{-1} \left( \Phi(z_0 + z_{1-\alpha/2}) - a(z_0 + z_{1-\alpha/2}) \right)$$

$$\alpha_2 = \Phi^{-1} \left( \Phi(z_0 + z_{1-\alpha/2}) + a(z_0 + z_{1-\alpha/2}) \right)$$



The ultimate BCa confidence interval can then be stated as  $[B_{Da} \theta_{\text{point-x.B}}, B_{Da} \theta_{\text{point-x.B}}]$ , with  $z_{1-\alpha/2}$  having the cumulative normal distribution of standard form (Mesabbah, Rashwan, and Arisha 2015). This approach is more accurate in case the bootstrap distribution is highly skewed.

**Is it possible that I can assist you in paraphrasing the last procedure, the Bootstrap-t, or maybe give you a regression of the software package (Scilab, R, or STATA) that is most effective in computing these particular BCa intervals?**

Method	Key Characteristic	Best Use Case
Basic	Focuses on the distribution of errors	General estimation
Normal Interval	Uses bootstrap for SE only	Near-normal distributions
Percentile	Uses quantiles of $\hat{\theta}^*$	Simple, intuitive applications
1st-Order Normal	Relies on $z$ -scores and $SD^*$	Large, symmetric samples
Bias-Corrected (BC)	Adjusts for median shift	Biased empirical distributions
Accelerated BC (BCa)	Adjusts for bias and skewness	Skewed data (requires large $n$ )
Bootstrap-t	Studentized resampling	Skewed data and small samples
Method	Formula / Mechanism	Key Assumptions & Description
Normal Interval	$\hat{\theta} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \cdot SE^*$	Assumes the bootstrap statistic's distribution is approximately normal and symmetric. The sample estimate is treated as an unbiased estimator of the population.
Percentile Bootstrap	$[\hat{\theta}^*_{(0.025 \cdot B)}, \hat{\theta}^*_{(\cdot B)}]$ ,	Relies on the quantiles of the empirical distribution. Assumes



	$\hat{\theta}_{(0.975 \cdot B)}$	the distribution is essentially normal and the sample estimate is unbiased.
Basic Method	$[2\hat{\theta} - \hat{\theta}_{(0.975 \cdot B)}, 2\hat{\theta} - \hat{\theta}_{(0.025 \cdot B)}]$	Premised on the idea that the bootstrap distribution of errors ( $\hat{\theta} - \theta$ ) serves as a reliable proxy for the actual sampling error distribution.
First-order Normal Approximation	$\bar{\theta} \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \cdot SD$	Utilizes the observation that bootstrap distributions often resemble normality. If $\alpha=0.05$ , the z-score is approximately 1.96.
Bias-Corrected (BC)	Adjusted Percentiles: $\Phi(2z_0 \pm 1.96)$	Adjusts the percentile range in median bias to remove quantile points other than the conventional 2.5th and 97.5th points. Assumes a transformation to normality.
Accelerated Bias-Corrected (BCa)	Adjusted Percentiles including Acceleration ( $a$ )	Adjusts for both skewness (bias) and non-constant variance (acceleration). It modifies the distribution location by incorporating an acceleration factor to handle non-constant variance.
Bootstrap-t	$\hat{\theta} - t^* \cdot \widehat{SE}$	It is also referred to as the percentile-t or studentized method. It builds the CI by approximating the t-statistic distribution using the data, which results in the CI being



very skewness-resistant.

This is the polished and professionally formatted version of Table 2, making sure that the equations and descriptions are understandable, mathematically consistent, and scholarly refined.

### Summary of Bootstrap Confidence Interval Methods

The table that follows summarizes the seven methodologies of bootstrap mentioned above, with their respective formulae and the assumptions that they make, as classified by Banjanovic and Osborne. (2016).

**Table 2: Summary of 95% CI Estimation Using Bootstrap Methods**

Method	Formula / Mechanism	Key Assumptions & Description
<b>Normal Interval</b>	$\hat{\theta} \pm z_{\{1-\alpha/2\}} \cdot SE^*$	Assumes the bootstrap statistic's distribution is approximately normal and symmetric. The sample estimate is treated as an unbiased estimator of the population.
<b>Percentile Bootstrap</b>	$[\hat{\theta}^*_{\{(0.025 \cdot B)\}}, \hat{\theta}^*_{\{(0.975 \cdot B)\}}]$	Relies on the quantiles of the empirical distribution. Assumes the distribution is essentially normal and the sample estimate is unbiased.
<b>Basic Method</b>	$[2\hat{\theta} - \hat{\theta}^*_{\{(0.975 \cdot B)\}}, 2\hat{\theta} - \hat{\theta}^*_{\{(0.025 \cdot B)\}}]$	Premised on the idea that the bootstrap distribution of errors $(\hat{\theta}^* - \hat{\theta})$ serves as a



	$\cdot B))\}$$	reliable proxy for the actual sampling error distribution.
<b>First-order Normal Approximation</b>	$\bar{\theta}^* \pm z_{1-\alpha/2} \cdot SD^*$	Utilizes the observation that bootstrap distributions often resemble normality. If $\alpha=0.05$ , the z-score is approximately 1.96.
<b>Bias-Corrected (BC)</b>	Adjusted Percentiles: $\Phi(2z_0 \pm 1.96)$	Normalizes the percentile interval of median bias by moving the 2.5th and 97.5th quantile points away. Assumes that it can be transformed to normalcy.
<b>Accelerated Bias-Corrected (BCa)</b>	Adjusted Percentiles including Acceleration (\$a\$)	Adjusts for both skewness (bias) and non-constant variance (acceleration). It modifies the distribution location by incorporating an acceleration factor to handle non-constant variance.
<b>Bootstrap-t</b>	$\hat{\theta} - t^* \cdot \widehat{SE}$	This is also referred to as the <u>percentile-t</u> or <u>studentized</u> method. It builds the CI using data-based estimates of the distribution of the t-statistic, and is therefore very robust to skewness.

### Key Takeaways for Method Selection

As outlined in the table, the choice of a bootstrap method depends heavily on the characteristics of your data:



- Use **Normal or Percentile** methods if your data is symmetric and your sample size is sufficiently large.
- Opt for **BCa or Bootstrap-t** if your distribution is skewed or shows evidence of non-constant variance, as these methods provide the most rigorous corrections for those specific issues.
- The **Bootstrap-t** is particularly favored in academic literature for its ability to maintain accurate coverage probabilities even in "messy" real-world datasets.

**Would you like me to help you write a "Results and Discussion" section that compares these methods based on a specific dataset or simulation?**

Here is the refined and reworded version of the bootstrapping process, structured for technical clarity and academic flow.

### **Procedural Workflow of the Bootstrapping Method**

The most basic rule of bootstrapping is that a sample of bootstrap should have the same size ( $n$ ) as the original data. Since sampling is done with replacement, there is a possibility of particular observations of the original data appearing in more than a single bootstrap sample. This recursive process is repeated with some repetitions of  $B$  to construct the empirical distribution (Tong, Saminathan, and Chang 2016).

### **Step-by-Step Execution**

The general execution of the bootstrap simulation follows these six stages:

1. **Original Sampling:** Choose or come up with a random sample of the population, which is referred to as the original sample ( $X$ ).
2. **Resampling:** Select a bootstrap sample ( $X_2$ ) by drawing  $n$  observations at random and with replacement out of the original sample.
3. **Replication:** - Re-sample randomly with bootstrapping exercised on the sample and with repetitions of  $B$ .
4. **Estimation of parameters:** Given the individual bootstrap samples numbered  $B$ , compute the parameter or statistic of interest, e.g., mean, median, or variance.



5. **CI Construction:** Using the collected statistics, apply the 7 bootstrap methods (Normal, Percentile, Basic, First-order Normal, BC, BCa, and Bootstrap-t) to obtain confidence intervals.
6. **Performance Evaluation:** Run step (ii) to step (v) repeatedly (N times) to have a complete set of intervals. Lastly, evaluate the performance of the seven methods by way of three evaluation indices (coverage probability, average width, and standard deviation of widths).

### Visualizing the Workflow

The following flowchart provides a visual representation of the computational steps required to generate and evaluate confidence intervals using the bootstrapping framework.

**Would you like me to help you define the "three indices" mentioned in step (vi) to complete your performance evaluation section?**

Here is the refined and reworded version of your text, focusing on the metrics used to evaluate bootstrap performance and the overall utility of the method.

### Performance Metrics for Bootstrapping Methods

In order to compare the accuracy and the accuracy of various bootstrap methods, indices of performance are obtained after constructing the confidence intervals. Three main indices in this research are applied to evaluate the efficiency of the seven bootstrap techniques ( Tong et al., 2012; Chou et al., 2006; Tong, Saminathan, and Chang, 2016):

1. **Coverage Performance Index:** This is used to show the count of times the real population parameter fits within the confidence intervals that have been calculated. The index should be higher, which means increased accuracy. The coverage should ideally match the nominal confidence level (e.g., 95%). The coverage is regarded as adequate when the average is similar to 95% without any large variations either to the upper or lower extremes (Flowers-Cano et al. 2018).



2. **Interval Mean Index:** It is an index to determine the mean width (the difference between the lower and upper bounds) of the bootstrap CIs. A smaller parameter implies greater accuracy and efficiency in the estimating system.
3. **Interval Standard Deviation Index:** This represents the variability in the lengths of the bootstrap CIs across simulations. A smaller standard deviation implies more consistent estimates and higher reliability in the bootstrap method's performance.

### Advantages and Disadvantages of Bootstrapping

Bootstrapping of CI estimation has some unique benefits over the conventional parametric models:

•**Relaxed Assumptions:** Bootstrapping does not need either the assumption of residual normality or the underlying population, as is common in traditional approaches like Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE) (Endo et al., 2015; Tong et al., 2016). This predisposes it to be more resistant to real-life information (Kennedy and Schumacher, 1993).

•**Simple and Transparent:** The procedure is simple and flexible in estimating the standard errors and CI. It is not always difficult to verify because it is direct and does not require strict structural models (Dogan, 2004; Rousselet et al., 2021).

**Computational Efficiency:** Bootstrapping makes use of the current computing capability in order to make complex statistical computations that would be mathematically unfeasible or too difficult to arrive at manually (Barker, 2005). These methods can be applied in most modern statistical software packages with very little additional effort (Puth et al., 2015; Doğan, 2017).



### Summary of the Bootstrapping Process

The next flowchart can give a graphical overview of the iterative process of the bootstrap method, starting with the initial sample creation up to the actual performance analysis.

1. **Original Sample:** Population: Coming up with the original data that is random.
2. **Resampling:** Select an amount of  $n$  samples, which must be replaced by another sample.
3. **Replication:** Produce  $B_n$  -datasets.
4. **The Estimation:** It is necessary to determine the parameter of every resample.
5. **Construction:** Use the achieved seven bootstrap methods in the construction of CI.
6. **Evaluation:** Evaluate the performance in terms of coverage, mean width, and standard deviation.

**Would you prefer me to assist you in formatting the results table in which you will enter these performance indices of your seven methods?**

Here is the refined and reworded conclusion and final analysis of the bootstrapping methodology.

#### Versatility and Constraints

Bootstrapping works very well when a small sample is used (Rahmandad et al., 2013; Zhao et al., 2021) and is very reliable with large samples, no matter what the underlying distribution of the population is (Barker, 2005).

Yet, there are some disadvantages to the method. It requires a lot of computing power, which requires the algorithm to compute high volumes of random resamples (Dogan, 2004). Moreover, the quality of the original sample is also fully reliant on the accuracy of bootstrapping: in case the sample fails to represent the population itself, the procedure can contribute to further sampling error, which increases biased estimates. This shows the seriousness of the need to make the first data as representative of the characteristics of the target group as possible. Moreover, these techniques are time-consuming and computationally inexpensive



in comparison with traditional parametric analysis. (Rahmandad et al., 2013; Zaman, 2016).

### Conclusions

The paper has examined the background concepts of bootstrapping and the creation of different bootstrap confidence intervals (CI). This work is a comprehensive overview of resampling methods as it examines seven different resampling methods: the normal interval, percentile, basic, first-order normal approximation, bias-corrected (BC), accelerated bias-corrected (BCa), and bootstrap-t.

### Key Summary of Findings:

- **Nonparametric Superiority:** Nonparametric bootstrapping is generally better suited for real-world data than traditional normal approximation theory (Saha and Kapilesh 2016).
- **Method Selection:** Although the percentile bootstrap is a good fit to particular robust statistics such as the 20 percent trimmed mean, the bootstrap-t can provide more accurate CIs on the mean and other trimmed statistics (Rousselet, Pernet, and Wilcox 2021).
- **Treating Skewness:** The bootstrap-t is the most precise and the least biased when dealing with skewness in estimations, and other bootstrap algorithms in this scenario fail (Hoyle and Cameron 2003).

**Coverage Accuracy:** In the case of symmetrically distributed underlying data, coverage probability is least inaccurate (near  $1-\alpha$ ) when a confidence level of 95 percent ( $= 0.05$ ) is applied. Overall, bootstrapping has become a strong alternative to classical parametric inferences that offers researchers a rich set of options to analyze uncertainties in non-parametric or non-normative data settings.

### Key Advantages and Implementation

Hoyle and Cameron (2003) state that bootstrapping has two main strengths over a standard statistical approach, namely:

1. **Stability:** It is a strong algorithm that handles datasets that do not satisfy the usual parametric conditions.
2. **Practicality:** It uses computational capabilities to avoid the complicated derivations of mathematics.



Moreover, bootstrap confidence intervals (CIs) are extremely flexible since they do not make any assumptions based on the form of the population distribution (Klaudia and Łukasz 2020). Bootstrapping is a computer-intensive method that makes use of contemporary high-speed processing to conduct huge simulations. It is possible to generalize this process into three critical stages.:

- Resampling: Generate bootstrap replications by sampling from the original data with replacement.
- Estimation: Calculate the statistic of interest (e.g., mean or standard error) for every resample.
- Inference: Analyze the distribution of these repeated statistics to construct CIs and draw conclusions about the population.

#### Limitations and Future Directions

Another important condition of bootstrapping is a sufficient starting sample. When the first sample itself is very small, the bootstrap distribution will be unable to reflect the features of the population properly (Rousselet, Pernet, and Wilcox 2021)

Although the methodology has a broad applicability to regression, hypothesis testing, adaptive estimation, and bioequivalence studies, future studies ought to be cautious in using those datasets that have extreme outliers because these may adversely affect the stability of the bootstrap estimates. (Onyesom and S.I. 2021).

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