

## Standard deviation of the means (SDOM)

Consider a sample of  $N$  measurands. From its sample mean  $\bar{x}$  and sample standard deviation  $S_x$ , a precision interval can be determined within which we expect the true mean  $m_x$  of the population lies with confidence  $P\%$ .

Although we will find that we don't need them in the end, for now we introduce  $M$  samples, each with  $N$  measurands. The  $i^{\text{th}}$  measurand from the  $j^{\text{th}}$  sample is denoted  $x_{ij}$ .

Each  $\bar{x}_j$  is a r.v., and the central limit theorem implies that  $\bar{x}_j$  will be normally distributed about their mean

The standard deviation of the means (SDOM) is

It can be shown from (\*) and (\*\*\*) that

Now we can compute a precision interval in which we expect the true mean  $\mu_X$  with confidence  $P\%$ :

**Example** What is the SDOM of r.v.  $X$  that has a sample

$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$	$x_7$	$x_8$	$x_9$
2.1	2.4	1.7	2.0	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.9	2.3

Also, what is the precision interval of the true mean  $\mu_X$  with confidence 95%?