## Mental exercise:

Rejecting the null hypothesis

## What is a null hypothesis?

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E.g. you measure height in girls and boys
- you suspect they differ
- null hypothesis (H0): boys and girls have the same height


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- rate that you "fail to reject H0" - a TRIPLE NEGATIVE!


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- p value:
- rate of getting a false positive result
- rate at which you would find a difference if there is no difference
- rate that you "fail to reject HO" - a TRIPLE NEGATIVE!

WHY THIS TORTURED LANGUAGE?

Because the people who invented the tests were well-trained.

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## Called PROOF BY CONTRADICTION

I'll show 2 examples from 400 BC .

## Euclid's Elements

I.1: given a line segment, construct an equilateral triangle

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## I.2: move a line segment somewhere else

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## Euclid's Elements

I.3: to cut off a segment of a line at a point, equal to a given segment

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## Euclid's Elements

I.4: if two triangles have an angle the same and the angle-enclosing sides are the same, then the triangles are the same (SAS theorem)

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Proof is by superposition

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I.5: in triangles, equal sides imply equal subtended angles.

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2. SAS about apex


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3. SAS about lower angle


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Note that I.1-I. 5 were "constructive" proofs. We set up a situation, and then proved the consequence step by step. I. 6 will be different.

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## Step 1: suppose the subtended sides were NOT equal

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## Step 3: by SAS these triangles are equal



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sides must be equal
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We falsely supposed that the sides were unequal
This led to an absurd situation

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We falsely supposed that the sides were unequal
This led to an absurd situation
So the false supposition must be abandoned - the sides are equal

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Suppose you construct an isosceles, and make it a right triangle.

What kind of number is sqrt(2)? Is it measurable?

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## Proof by contradiction \#2: prove the existence of irrational numbers

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It would suffice to show that no integers p,q satisfy $\quad \frac{p}{q}=\sqrt{2}$

Proof by contradiction \#2: prove the existence of irrational numbers

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Even number

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## Even number <br> $2 s$

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Odd number

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Odd number $\quad 2 s+1$

Proof by contradiction \#2: prove the existence of irrational numbers

Square

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Proof by contradiction \#2: prove the existence of irrational numbers

## Square

Even number
$2 s$
$(2 s)^{2}=4 s^{2}$

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Thus, evens square to evens, odds to odds

## Proof by contradiction \#2: prove the existence of irrational numbers

Suppose there exist integers p , q such that $\frac{p}{q}=\sqrt{2} \quad$ and further that $\mathrm{p}, \mathrm{q}$ are in the most reduced form (i.e., coprime)

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Which could not be true

The math is right, which means our suppositions are wrong

So we reject our false supposition

And thus prove the existence of a non-rational kind of number

## The null hypothesis

## The null hypothesis

This HO construct, which reads awkwardly in language

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This H0 construct, which reads awkwardly in language

- is logically sound


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This H0 construct, which reads awkwardly in language

- is logically sound
- is historically routine


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## The null hypothesis

This HO construct, which reads awkwardly in language

- is logically sound
- is historically routine
- is a powerful tool

So even though the H0 construct isn't how we typically think, and is certainly not how we typically speak, it is a sensible way to frame statistical problems.

## The null hypothesis

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In real-world data, we don't get the clarity of Euclid

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We CAN generate a good null hypothesis

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But we CANNOT say H0 is for sure false

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Instead, we say H0 is unlikely, and how unlikely

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In real-world data, we don't get the clarity of Euclid

We CAN generate a good null hypothesis

But we CANNOT say HO is for sure false

Instead, we say H 0 is unlikely, and how unlikely

Like so:

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

I suspect they differ

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

I suspect they differ

HO: height does not differ by sex

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

I suspect they differ, and I make measurements

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Height in boys and girls

I suspect they differ, and I make measurements

H0: measurements grouped by sex do not differ

## Example 1

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I suspect they differ, and I make measurements

H0: measurements grouped by sex do not differ (from the measurements grouped randomly)

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

I suspect they differ, and I make measurements

H0: measurements grouped by sex do not differ (from the measurements grouped randomly)

How can I test H 0 ? See if it is true?

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

| Sex | Height |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 45 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 35 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 64 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 75 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 54 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 42 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 67 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 43 |

$$
\delta_{\text {real }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
$$

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

| Sex | Height |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}$ |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 35 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 64 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 75 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 54 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 42 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 67 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 43 |

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

| Sex | Height |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 45 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | $\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}$ |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 35 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 64 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 75 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 54 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 42 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 67 |

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

| Sex | Height |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 45 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | $\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}$ |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 35 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 64 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 75 |
| $\mathbf{0}$ | 54 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 42 |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | 67 |

## Example 1

Height in boys and girls

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \delta_{\text {real }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
& \\
& \delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
& \delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
& \delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
& \cdots \\
& \delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example 1

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\ldots \\
\ldots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example 1

## Largest

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\ldots \\
\ldots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Smallest

## Example 1

## Largest

$\delta_{\text {rand } 0001}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand } 0002}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\cdots \\
\delta_{\text {rand } 0100}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example 1

## Largest

$\delta_{\text {rand } 0001}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\cdots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

Smallest

## Example 1

## Largest

$\delta_{\text {rand } 0003}$
$\delta_{\text {rand } 0001}$
$\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}$
rand0002

Smallest

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\ldots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example 1

## Largest

$\delta_{\text {rand0004 }}$
$\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}$
$\delta_{\text {rand } 0001}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\cdots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Smallest

## Example 1

## Largest

$\delta_{\text {rand } 0004}$
$\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}$
$\delta_{\text {rand } 0001}$
$\delta_{\text {rand } 0005}$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\cdots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

$\delta_{\text {rand } 0002}$

Smallest

## Example 1

## Largest

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\delta_{\text {rand0006 }} & \\
\delta_{\text {rand } 0004} & \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }} & \begin{array}{l}
\delta_{\text {rand } 0001}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{array} \\
\delta_{\text {rand } 0003}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }} & \delta_{\text {rand } 0100}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0005 }} & \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }} &
\end{array}
$$

## Example 1

## Largest



$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\ldots \\
\ldots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example 1

## Largest



$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\ldots \\
\ldots \\
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\end{gathered}
$$

Smallest

## Example 1

## Largest



$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
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$$
\begin{gathered}
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$$

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$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
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\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\ldots \\
\ldots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example 1

## Largest



## Example 1

Largest

Are any of these deltas meaningful?

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\cdots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

Smallest

## Example 1

Largest


Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!

$$
\begin{gathered}
\delta_{\text {rand0001 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0002 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\delta_{\text {rand0003 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0} \\
\cdots \\
\delta_{\text {rand0100 }}=\mu_{1}-\mu_{0}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Example 1

Largest


Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!

## Example 1

Largest


Smallest

Are any of these deltas meaningful?
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At what threshold are 95\% of random deltas left out? Or, what threshold do only 5\% of random deltas attain?

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Define: H0 accepted below arrow

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Define: H0 accepted below arrow
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Define: H0 accepted below arrow Define: H0 rejected above arrow Define: groups "differ" above arrow

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Largest


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By design, NO!
At what threshold are 95\% of random deltas left out? Or, what threshold do only 5\% of random deltas attain?

Define: H0 accepted below arrow
Define: H0 rejected above arrow
Define: groups "differ" above arrow
Suppose I take sample 0004

Largest


Smallest

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At what threshold are 95\% of random deltas left out? Or, what threshold do only 5\% of random deltas attain?

Define: H0 accepted below arrow
Define: H0 rejected above arrow
Define: groups "differ" above arrow
Suppose I take sample 0004

I accept H0 that far up. And the groups do not in fact differ. Good!

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Define: groups "differ" above arrow
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Define: H0 accepted below arrow
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Define: groups "differ" above arrow
Suppose I take sample 0003

I accept H0 that far up. And the groups do not in fact differ. Good!

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At what threshold are 95\% of random deltas left out? Or, what threshold do only 5\% of random deltas attain?

Define: H0 accepted below arrow
Define: H0 rejected above arrow
Define: groups "differ" above arrow
Suppose I take sample 0006

Largest


Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!
At what threshold are 95\% of random deltas left out? Or, what threshold do only 5\% of random deltas attain?

Define: H0 accepted below arrow Define: H0 rejected above arrow Define: groups "differ" above arrow

Suppose I take sample 0006
I reject H0 that far up. But by construction HO is true! I say the groups differ but they do not! This is a false positive.

## Example 1



Are any of these deltas meaningful?
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Define: H0 accepted below arrow Define: H0 rejected above arrow Define: groups "differ" above arrow

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I reject H0 that far up. But by construction HO is true! I say the groups differ but they do not! This is a false positive.

## Example 1



Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!

## Example 1



Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!

What have we done here?

## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!

What have we done here?
We made HO true!
We did that by permuting labels
Got actual "HO true" values

And set a threshold to exclude most

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We made HO true!
We did that by permuting labels
Got actual "HO true" values

And set a threshold to exclude most

So that we can usually reject true H0

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Are any of these deltas meaningful?
By design, NO!

What have we done here?
We made HO true!
We did that by permuting labels
Got actual "HO true" values
And set a threshold to exclude most

So that we can usually reject true H 0
Customarily at a 95\% success rate

## Example 1

Largest


## Example 1

Largest


Now, where is the real delta?

## Example 1

Largest


Smallest

Now, where is the real delta?

## Example 1

Largest


Now, where is the real delta?

## Example 1



## Example 1

Largest


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## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



## Example 1



Some considerations

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Whatever the analytic machinery, it is identical for real and random

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You need a credible number of permutations, 10K is customary

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For binary labels, $2^{\wedge}(n-1)$ are possible permutation groups
$2^{\wedge} n$ total groups, but each with 2 versions (e.g., 0001, 1110)

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For binary labels, $2^{\wedge}(n-1)$ are possible permutation groups
$2^{\wedge} n$ total groups, but each with 2 versions (e.g., 0001, 1110)
$2^{\wedge} 8=256$

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$2^{\wedge} 8=256$
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For binary labels, $2^{\wedge}(n-1)$ are possible permutation groups
$2^{\wedge} \mathrm{n}$ total groups, but each with 2 versions (e.g., 0001, 1110)

$$
2^{\wedge} 8=256 \quad 2^{\wedge} 10=1024 \quad 2^{\wedge} 20=1 \mathrm{M}
$$

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$$
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$$

10K: 40x oversample

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For binary labels, $2^{\wedge}(n-1)$ are possible permutation groups
$2^{\wedge} n$ total groups, but each with 2 versions (e.g., 0001, 1110)
$2^{\wedge} 8=256$
$2^{\wedge} 10=1024$
$2^{\wedge} 20=1 M$

10K: 40x oversample
10x

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For binary labels, $2^{\wedge}(n-1)$ are possible permutation groups
$2^{\wedge} n$ total groups, but each with 2 versions (e.g., 0001, 1110)

$$
2^{\wedge} 8=256
$$

10K: 40x oversample
$2^{\wedge} 10=1024$
$2^{\wedge} 20=1 M$
10x
.01x

Some considerations

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Often, the challenge people face is what to permute.

# Some considerations 

Often, the challenge people face is what to permute.

Recipe:

## Some considerations

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Recipe:

1) Identify the relationship that matters.

## Some considerations

Often, the challenge people face is what to permute.

Recipe:

1) Identify the relationship that matters.
2) Destroy ONLY that relationship, by permutation.

## Example 2

You have subjects with measures in 2 conditions. Do they differ?

|  | Cond A | Cond B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 34 | 35 |
|  | 57 | 57 |
|  | 36 | 45 |
|  | 97 | 87 |
|  | 46 | 4 |
|  | 33 | 23 |
|  | 75 | 43 |
|  | 45 | 34 |

$$
\delta_{\text {real }}=\mu_{A-B}
$$

## Example 2

You have subjects with measures in 2 conditions. Do they differ?

| Where A? | Cond A | Cond B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L | 34 | 35 |
| L | 57 | 57 |
| L | 36 | 45 |
| L | 97 | 87 |
| L | 46 | 4 |
| L | 33 | 23 |
| L | 75 | 43 |
| L | 45 | 34 |

$$
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$$

## Example 2

You have subjects with measures in 2 conditions. Do they differ?

| Where A? | Cond A | Cond B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L | 34 | 35 |
| R | 57 | 57 |
| L | 36 | 45 |
| R | 97 | 87 |
| R | 46 | 4 |
| L | 33 | 23 |
| R | 75 | 43 |
| L | 45 | 34 |

$$
\delta_{\text {rand001 }}=\mu_{A-B}
$$

## Example 2

You have subjects with measures in 2 conditions. Do they differ?

| Where A? | Cond A | Cond B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | 34 | 35 |
| L | 57 | 57 |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | 36 | 45 |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | 97 | 87 |
| R | 46 | 4 |
| L | 33 | 23 |
| L | 75 | 43 |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | 45 | 34 |

$$
\delta_{\text {rand002 }}=\mu_{A-B}
$$

## Example 3

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You have two BOLD timeseries and would like to compare them

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Pearson r

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Has a parametric $p$ value (more samples -> higher confidence)

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Why not get an empirical $p$ by permuting the timepoints?

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But BOLD data autocorrelated, scrambling destroys that too

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Downsample to every $\sim 5$ seconds?

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Downsample to every $\sim 5$ seconds?

Negate autocorrelation, but lose samples samples and power

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Why not get an empirical $p$ by permuting the timepoints?
But BOLD data autocorrelated, scrambling destroys that too
Downsample to every $\sim 5$ seconds?
Negate autocorrelation, but lose samples samples and power
E.g., 125 samples become 60 in a 5 min scan. Ouch!

## Example 3

## Autocorrelated timeseries



Permute timepoints

## Example 3

## Autocorrelated timeseries



## Example 3

## Autocorrelated timeseries



Downsample

## Example 3

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You have two BOLD timeseries and would like to compare them
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Why not get an empirical $p$ by permuting the timepoints cyclically?

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Decent idea, but watch for periodic phenomena

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What if I compared timeseries to another scan or person?

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You have two BOLD timeseries and would like to compare them
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Why not get an empirical $p$ by permuting the timepoints cyclically?
Decent idea, but watch for periodic phenomena
What if I compared timeseries to another scan or person?

Spatial registration, brain folding, global signals, etc etc etc

## Example 3

## Autocorrelated timeseries



Cyclic shift randomly

## Example 3

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Has a parametric $p$ value (more samples -> higher confidence)

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You have two BOLD timeseries and would like to compare them
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Has a parametric $p$ value (more samples -> higher confidence)

What if...

## Example 3

You have two BOLD timeseries and would like to compare them
Pearson r

Has a parametric $p$ value (more samples -> higher confidence)

What if... I took the second timeseries
used Fourier transform
permuted phase but kept power
reconstructed signals
and used that as a null model?

## Example 3

You have two BOLD timeseries and would like to compare them
Pearson r

Has a parametric $p$ value (more samples -> higher confidence)
What if... I took the second timeseries
used Fourier transform
permuted phase but kept power
reconstructed signals
and used that as a null model?
Not shabby

## Example 3

## Autocorrelated timeseries



FFT -> permuted phase -> IFFT

In sum

In sum

Generating hypotheses only to discard them is a tradition

In sum

Generating hypotheses only to discard them is a tradition

When the tradition is recognized, it helps us see how H0 works

In sum

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The hard part is choosing the framework for permutation

