

Gov 50: 22. More Hypothesis testing

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Roadmap

1. Reviewing hypothesis testing
2. Issues with hypothesis testing
3. Power Analyses

1/ Reviewing hypothesis testing

Difference-in-means

```
library(gov50data)
trains <- trains |>
  mutate(treated = if_else(treatment == 1, "Treated", "Untreated"))
trains
```

```
## # A tibble: 115 x 15
##   age male income white college usborn treatment ideol~1
##   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 31 0 135000 1 1 1 1 3
## 2 34 0 105000 1 1 0 1 4
## 3 63 1 135000 1 1 1 1 2
## 4 45 1 300000 1 1 1 1 4
## 5 55 1 135000 1 1 1 0 2
## 6 37 0 87500 1 1 1 1 5
## 7 53 0 87500 1 0 1 0 5
## 8 36 1 135000 1 1 1 1 4
## 9 54 0 105000 1 0 1 0 3
## 10 42 1 135000 1 1 1 1 4
## # ... with 105 more rows, 7 more variables:
## #   numberim.pre <dbl>, numberim.post <dbl>,
## #   remain.pre <dbl>, remain.post <dbl>, english.pre <dbl>,
## #   english.post <dbl>, treated <chr>, and abbreviated
```

Calculating the ATE

```
library(infer)
ate <- trains |>
  specify(numberim.post ~ treated) |>
  calculate(stat = "diff in means",
            order = c("Treated", "Untreated"))
ate
```

```
## Response: numberim.post (numeric)
## Explanatory: treated (factor)
## # A tibble: 1 x 1
##   stat
##   <dbl>
## 1 0.383
```

Difference in means hypotheses

Hypotheses:

$$H_0 : \mu_T - \mu_C = 0$$

$$H_1 : \mu_T - \mu_C \neq 0$$

Observed difference in means:

$$\widehat{ATE} = \bar{Y}_T - \bar{Y}_C$$

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How can we approximate the **null distribution**? **Permute** the outcome/treatment variables.

Permuting the treatment

Let's do 2 permutations to see how things vary:

```
set.seed(02138)
perm <- trains |>
  specify(numberim.post ~ treated) |>
  hypothesize(null = "independence") |>
  generate(reps = 1000,
          type = "permute")
```


`generate(type = "permute")` shuffles to the outcomes, keeping treatment the same:

```
perm |> filter(replicate == 1)
```

```
## # A tibble: 115 x 3
## # Groups:   replicate [1]
##   numberim.post treated replicate
##   <dbl> <fct>         <int>
## 1         3 Treated         1
## 2         2 Treated         1
## 3         5 Treated         1
## 4         3 Treated         1
## 5         3 Untreated       1
## 6         3 Treated         1
## 7         2 Untreated       1
## 8         2 Treated         1
## 9         3 Untreated       1
## 10        3 Treated         1
## # ... with 105 more rows
```

```
perm |> filter(replicate == 2)
```

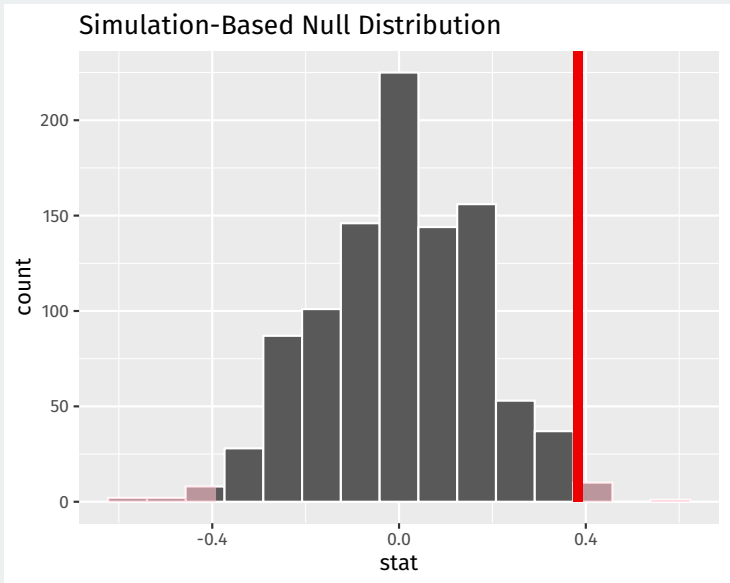
```
## # A tibble: 115 x 3
## # Groups:   replicate [1]
##   numberim.post treated replicate
##   <dbl> <fct>         <int>
## 1         2 Treated         2
## 2         3 Treated         2
## 3         3 Treated         2
## 4         3 Treated         2
## 5         3 Untreated       2
## 6         4 Treated         2
## 7         2 Untreated       2
## 8         3 Treated         2
## 9         3 Untreated       2
## 10        2 Treated         2
## # ... with 105 more rows
```

Null distribution

The distribution of the differences-in-means under permutation will be mean 0 because shuffling the outcomes means that the outcomes in each permutation's treated and control group are coming from the same distribution.

```
null_dist <- trains |>
  specify(numberim.post ~ treated) |>
  hypothesize(null = "independence") |>
  generate(reps = 1000,
          type = "permute") |>
  calculate(stat = "diff in means", order = c("Treated", "Untreated"))
```

```
null_dist |>  
  visualize() +  
  shade_p_value(obs_stat = ate, direction = "both")
```



Interpreting p-values

```
get_p_value(null_dist, obs_stat = ate, direction = "both")
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 1  
##   p_value  
##   <dbl>  
## 1    0.022
```

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p-value: probability of an estimated ATE as big as $|\widehat{ATE}|$ by random chance if there is no treatment effect.

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Decision rule: “reject the null if the p-value is below the **test level α** ”

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Test level α controls the amount of false positives:

| | Null False (True difference) | Null True (No true difference) |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Reject Null | True Positive | False Positive (Type I error) |
| Retain Null | False Negative (Type II error) | True Negative |

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 - 95% CI for social pressure experiment: $[0.016, 0.124]$
 - \rightsquigarrow p-value for $H_0 : \mu_T - \mu_C = 0$ less than 0.05.
- Confidence intervals are all of the null hypotheses we **can't reject** with a test.

CI in the trains example

```
trains |>
  specify(numberim.post ~ treated) |>
  generate(reps = 1000, type = "bootstrap") |>
  calculate(stat = "diff in means",
            order = c("Treated", "Untreated")) |>
  get_ci(level = 0.95)
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 2
##   lower_ci upper_ci
##   <dbl>     <dbl>
## 1    0.0893    0.698
```

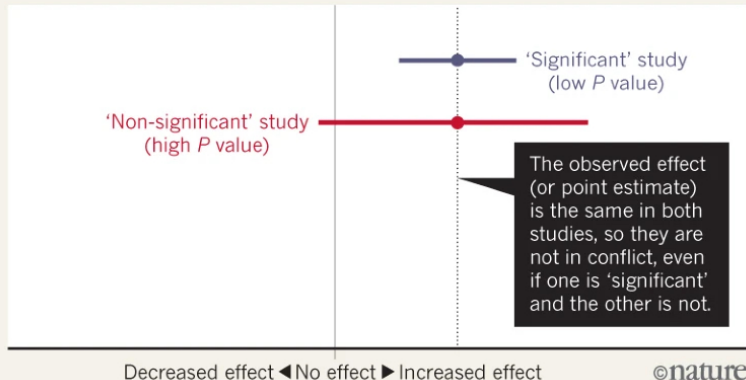
2/ Issues with hypothesis testing

Significant vs not significant

The difference between statistically significant and not statistically significant is itself not statistically significant:

BEWARE FALSE CONCLUSIONS

Studies currently dubbed 'statistically significant' and 'statistically non-significant' need not be contradictory, and such designations might cause genuine effects to be dismissed.



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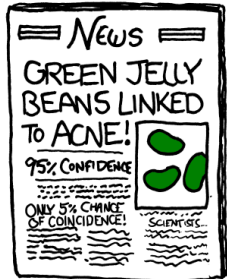
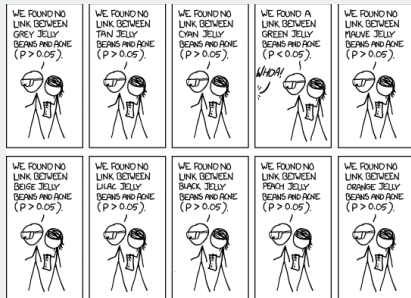
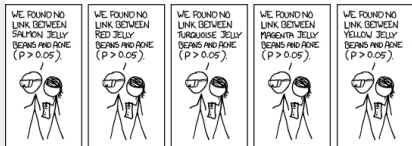
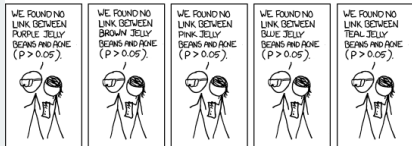
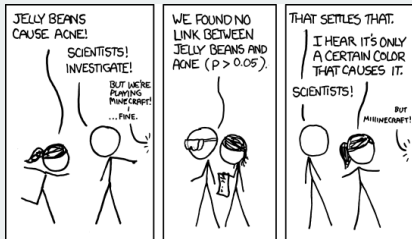
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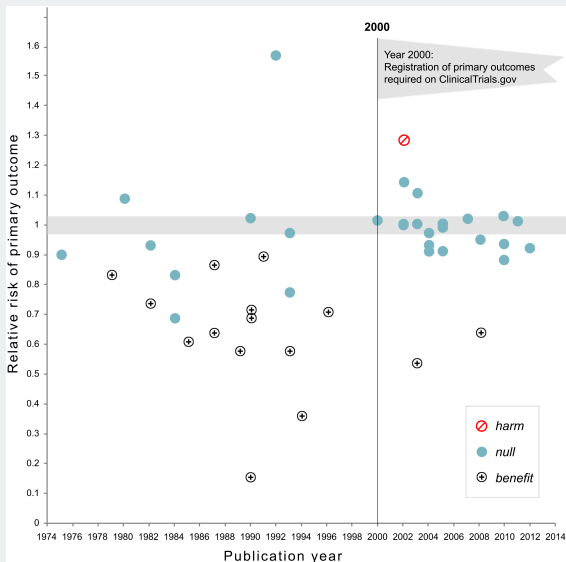
There are different types of significance that don't all have to be true together:

1. **Statistical significance:** we can reject the null of no effect.
2. **Causal significance:** we can interpret our estimated difference in means as a causal effect.
3. **Practical significance:** the estimated effect is meaningfully large.

p-hacking



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3/ Power Analyses

TABLE 2. Effects of Four Mail Treatments on Voter Turnout in the August 2006 Primary Election

| | Experimental Group | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| | Control | Civic Duty | Hawthorne | Self | Neighbors |
| Percentage Voting | 29.7% | 31.5% | 32.2% | 34.5% | 37.8% |
| N of Individuals | 191,243 | 38,218 | 38,204 | 38,218 | 38,201 |

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- Choose the sample size to ensure that you can *detect* what you think might be the true treatment effect:
 - Small effect sizes (half percentage point) will require huge n
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- **Detect** here means “reject the null of no effect”

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 - Null is true (no treatment effect)
 - Null is false (there is a treatment effect), but test had low power.

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 - You sample 10 hiring records of each race, conduct hypothesis test and fail to reject null.
- Say to judge, “look we don’t have any racial discrimination”! What’s the problem?

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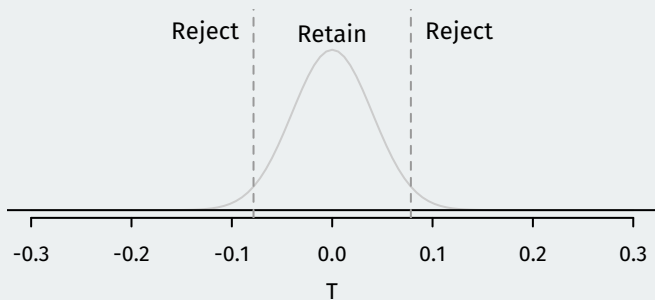
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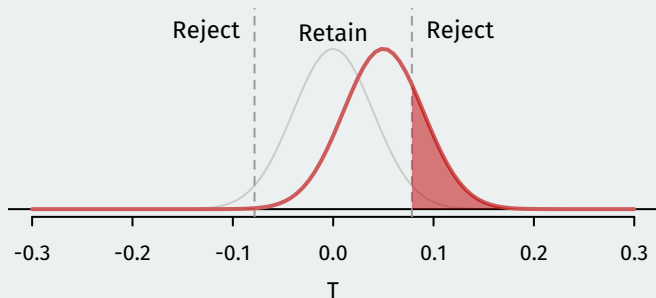
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 - Repeat for different effect sizes.

Power graph

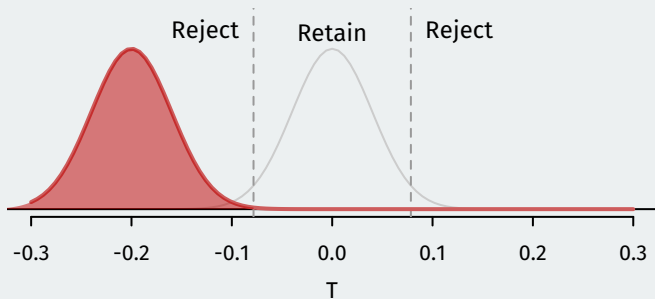


Power graph



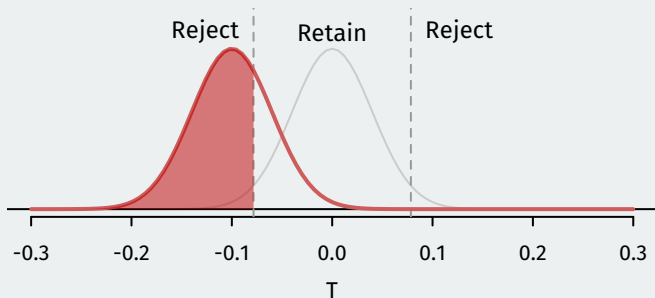
Assumed treatment effect = 0.05 and power = 0.24.

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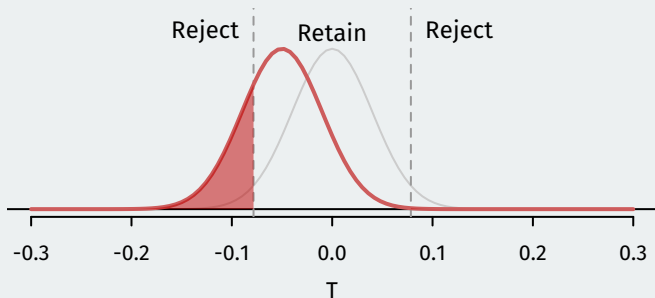
Assumed treatment effect = -0.2 and power = 0.999.

Power graph



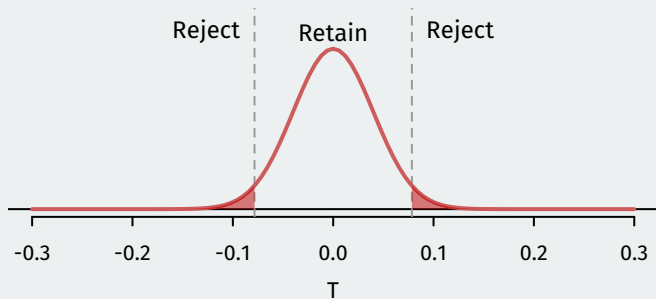
Assumed treatment effect = -0.1 and power = 0.705.

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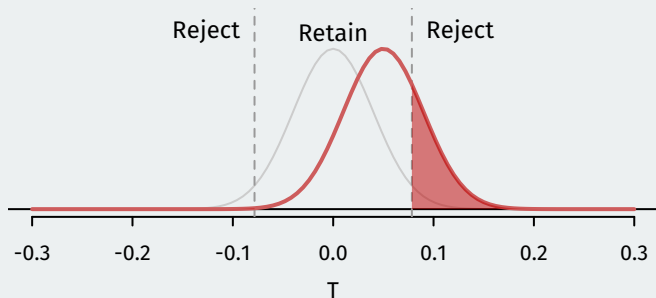
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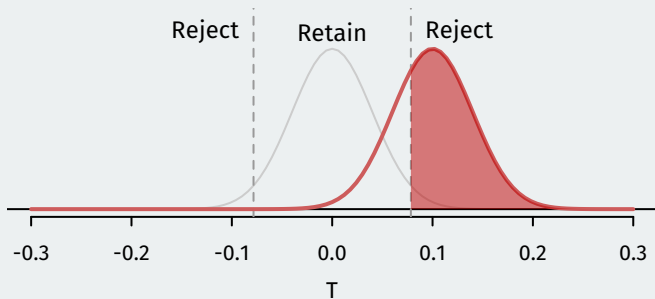
Assumed treatment effect = 0 and power = 0.05.

Power graph



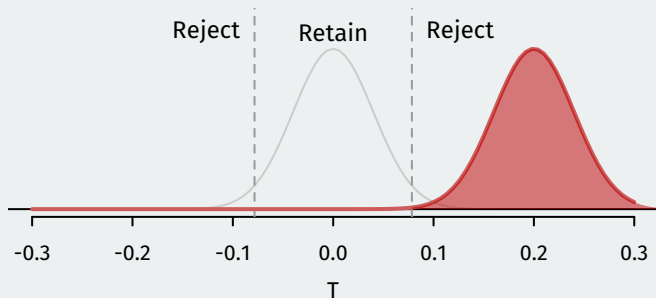
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Power graph



Assumed treatment effect = 0.1 and power = 0.705.

Power graph



Assumed treatment effect = 0.2 and power = 0.999.

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