

A Bayesian Meta-analysis Method that Corrects for Publication Bias

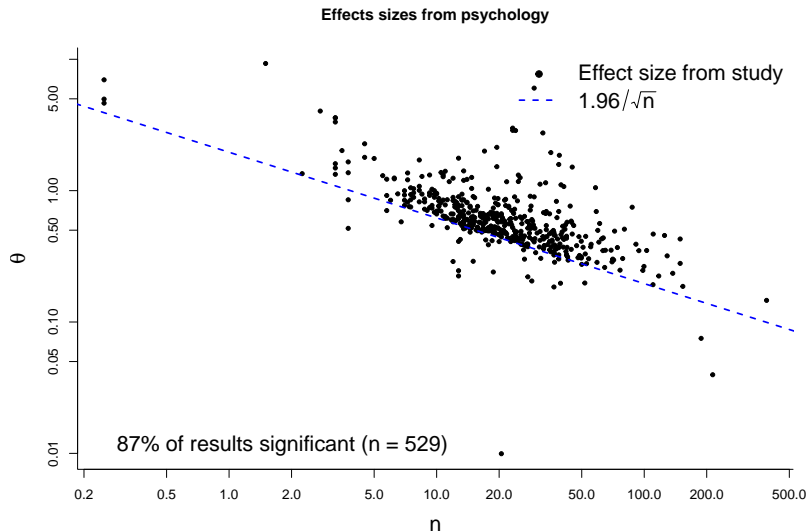
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June 26, 2018

Nordstat 2018

This is What p -hacking Looks Like!



Motyl et al. (2017): The state of social and personality science

Motivation and Setup

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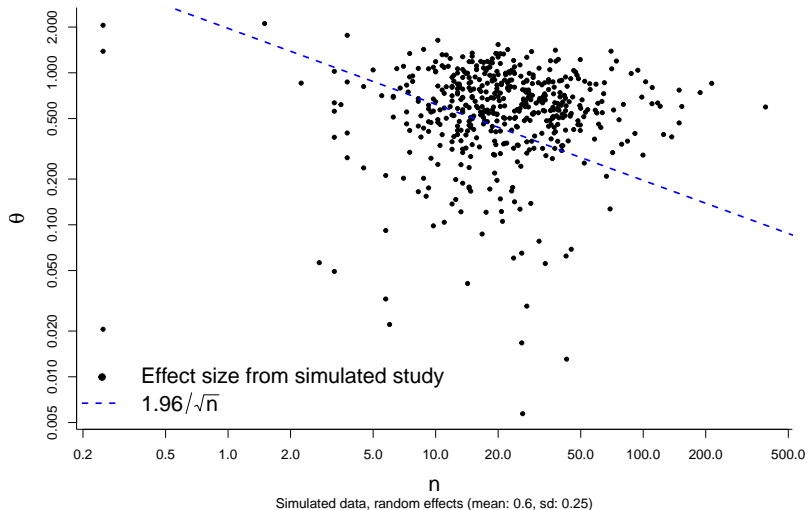
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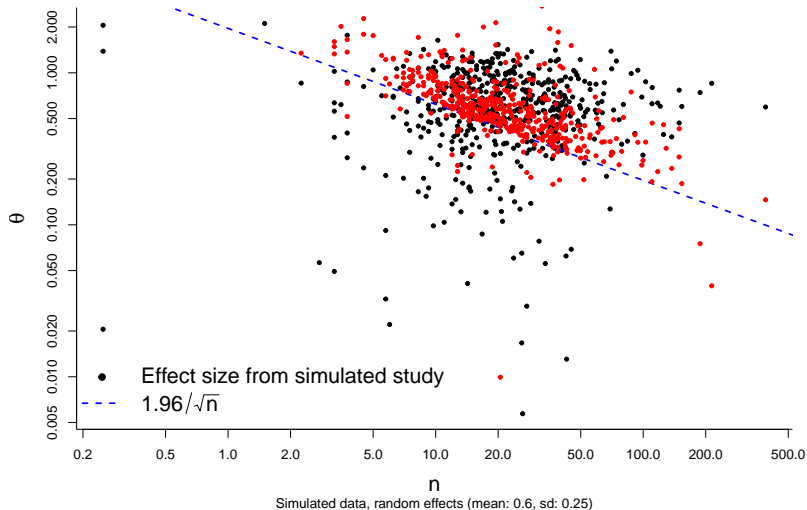
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 - ▶ ... but they don't have to be *that* closely related!
- ▶ **Question:** Is the classical model realistic in presence of *p*-hacking?

What the Previous Plot *Should Have* Looked Like!



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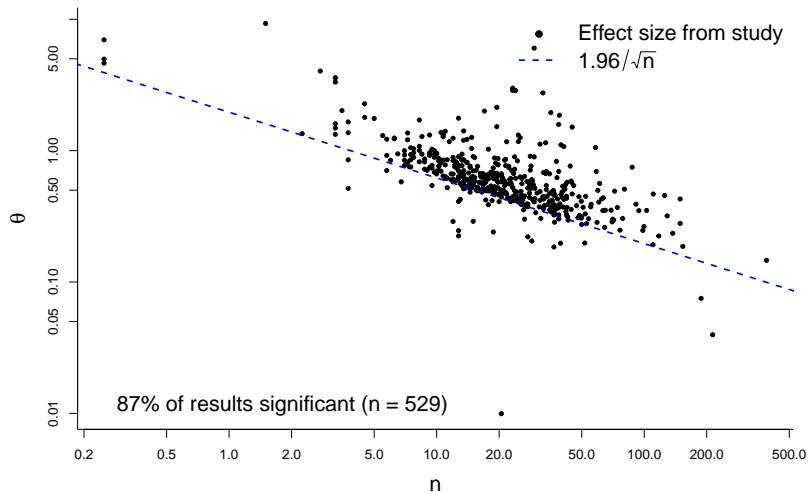
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- ▶ **Problem:** The first plot also contains studies that weren't affected by selection for significance!

Revisiting the First Plot



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The Mixture Model Skeleton

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- ▶ On to examples!

Example I: Meta-analysis of a Field

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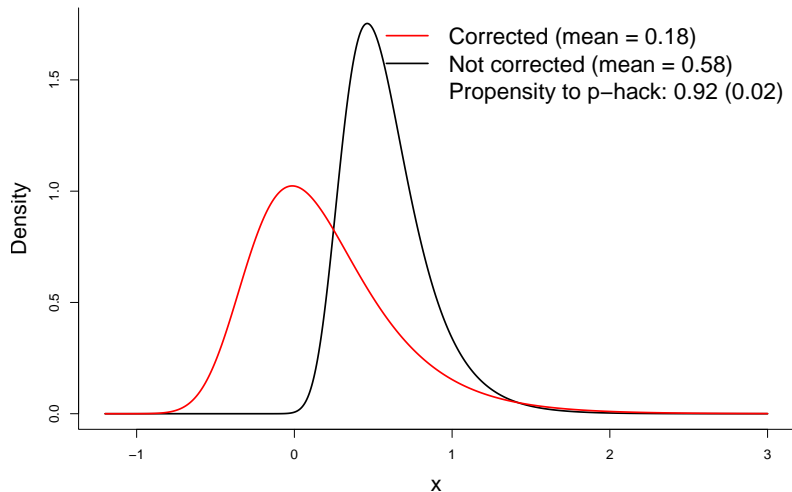
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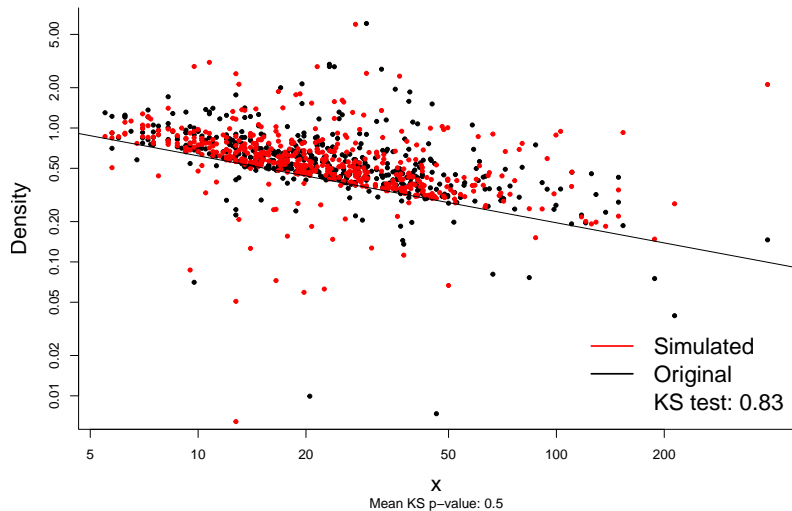
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- ▶ **Priors:** $\theta_0 \sim N(0, 1)$, $\sigma \sim \text{Exp}(1)$, $p \sim \text{Uniform}$

Posterior Predictive Distributions

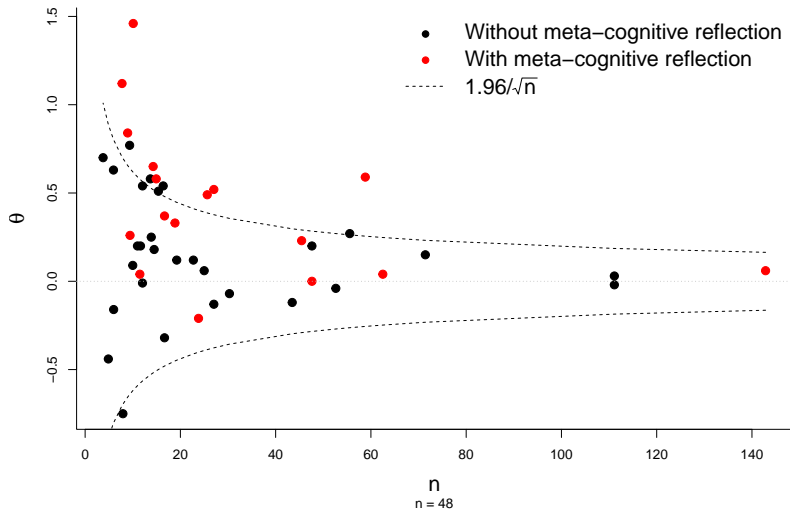


A Simulation from the Posterior



Example II: Ordinary Meta-analysis

Bangert-Drowns, Hurley & Wilkinson (2004)



Is there a difference between red and black?

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Model	θ_0	θ_M	σ	p
Corrected	0.02(0.06)	0.14(0.16)	0.1(0.1)	0.3(0.07)
Not corrected	0.14(0.05)	0.21(0.10)	0.2(0.05)	NA



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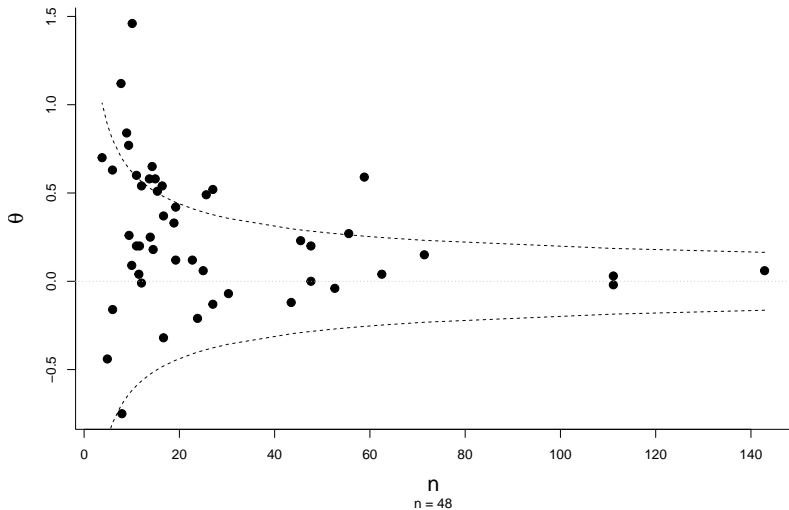
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- ▶ $p \mid n = \text{logit} (p_0 + p_1 \log n)$
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- ▶ p -hacking becomes *harder* with increasing sample size.
- ▶ Publication is easier with larger n .

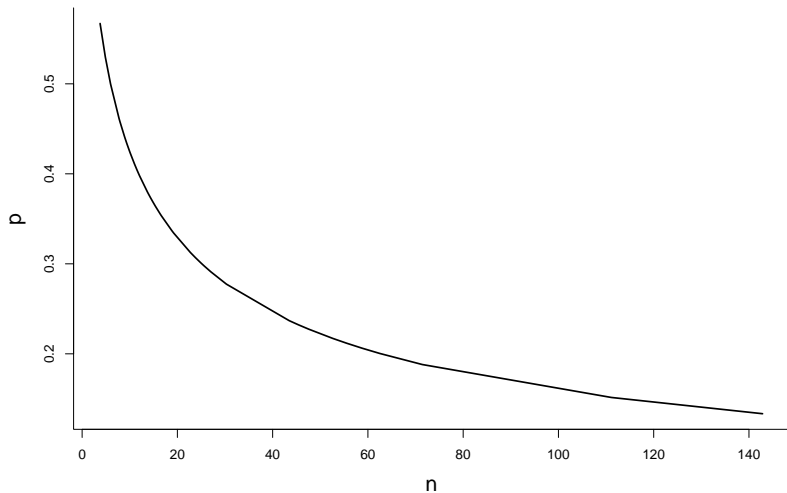
Visually Evidence for Logistic Regression on p



Results without Meta-cognition

Model	θ_0	σ	p_0	p_1
Random effects	0.07(0.07)	0.1(0.05)	-0.7(0.3)	-0.5(0.3)
Fixed effects	0.04(0.07)	NA	-0.8(0.3)	-0.6(0.4)

The Shape of the p -hacking Propensity



Conclusion

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- ▶ An R-package at GitHub:

`straussR`

Statistical Reanalysis under Selection for Significance

<https://github.com/JonasMoss/straussR>

References

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