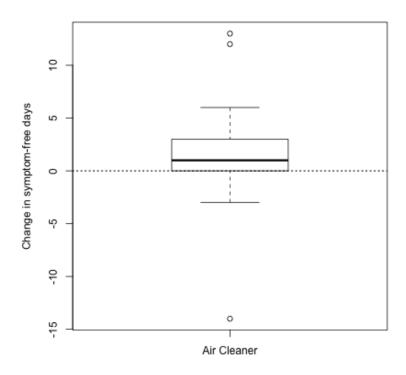


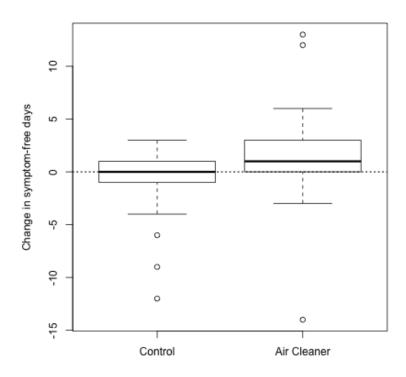
Roger D. Peng, Associate Professor of Biostatistics Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

- · Principle 1: Show comparisons
  - Evidence for a hypothesis is always *relative* to another competing hypothesis.
  - Always ask "Compared to What?"

# **Show Comparisons**



# **Show Comparisons**

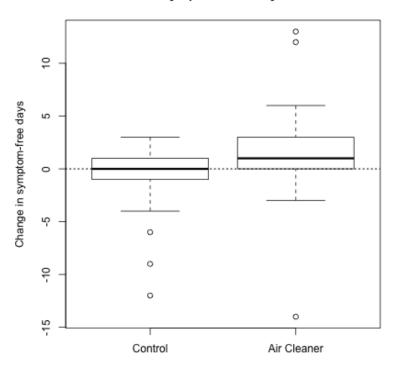


- Principle 1: Show comparisons
  - Evidence for a hypothesis is always *relative* to another competing hypothesis.
  - Always ask "Compared to What?"
- · Principle 2: Show causality, mechanism, explanation, systematic structure
  - What is your causal framework for thinking about a question?

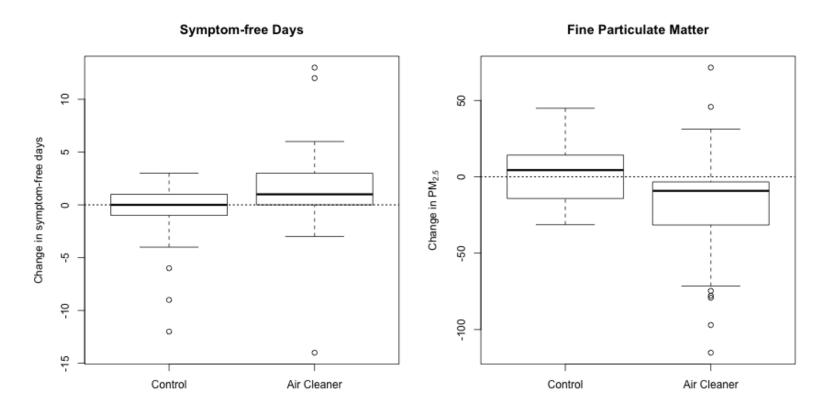
not need to be formal at this phase but show what you believe and suggest the possible explanation

# Show causality, mechanism

#### Symptom-free Days

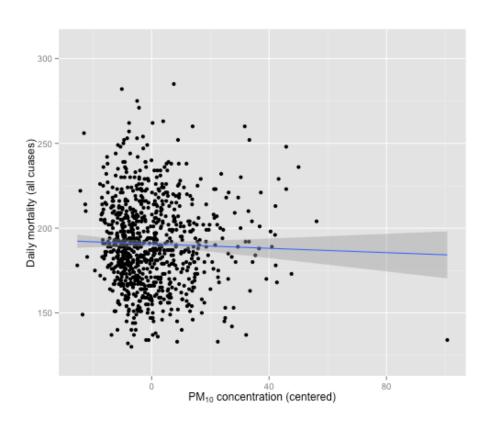


# Show causality, mechanism

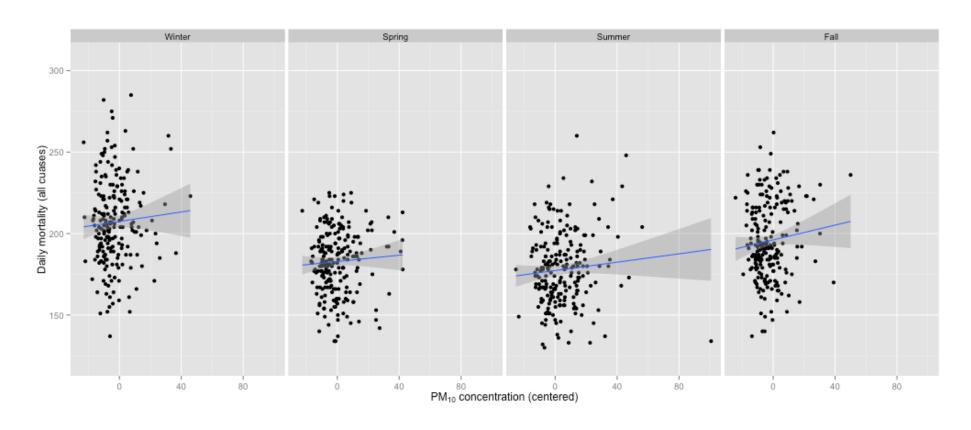


- Principle 1: Show comparisons
  - Evidence for a hypothesis is always *relative* to another competing hypothesis.
  - Always ask "Compared to What?"
- · Principle 2: Show causality, mechanism, explanation, systematic structure
  - What is your causal framework for thinking about a question?
- Principle 3: Show multivariate data
  - Multivariate = more than 2 variables
  - The real world is multivariate
  - Need to "escape flatland"

### **Show Multivariate Data**



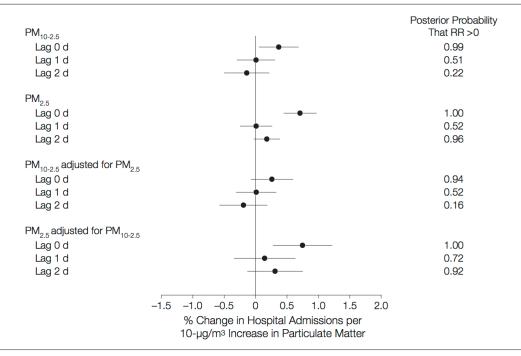
### **Show Multivariate Data**



- · Principle 4: Integration of evidence
  - Completely integrate words, numbers, images, diagrams
  - Data graphics should make use of many modes of data presentation
  - Don't let the tool drive the analysis

#### **Integrate Different Modes of Evidence**

**Figure 2.** Percentage Change in Emergency Hospital Admissions Rate for Cardiovascular Diseases per a  $10-\mu g/m^3$  Increase in Particulate Matter



Estimates are on average across 108 counties.  $PM_{2.5}$  indicates particulate matter is 2.5  $\mu$ m or less in aerodynamic diameter;  $PM_{10}$ , particulate matter is 10  $\mu$ m or less in aerodynamic diameter;  $PM_{10-2.5}$ , particulate matter is greater than 2.5  $\mu$ m and 10  $\mu$ m or less in aerodynamic diameter; RR, relative risk. Error bars indicate 95% posterior intervals.

- Principle 4: Integration of evidence
  - Completely integrate words, numbers, images, diagrams
  - Data graphics should make use of many modes of data presentation
  - Don't let the tool drive the analysis
- · Principle 5: Describe and document the evidence with appropriate labels, scales, sources, etc.
  - A data graphic should tell a complete story that is credible

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  - Completely integrate words, numbers, images, diagrams
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- Principle 5: Describe and document the evidence with appropriate labels, scales, sources, etc.
  - A data graphic should tell a complete story that is credible
- · Principle 6: Content is king
  - Analytical presentations ultimately stand or fall depending on the quality, relevance, and integrity of their content

when making plots and graphs, first think what's the content you are gonna present, what's the story and what's the data you have. And then think about what the best way to present it and how to present

#### **Summary**

- · Principle 1: Show comparisons
- · Principle 2: Show causality, mechanism, explanation
- Principle 3: Show multivariate data
- · Principle 4: Integrate multiple modes of evidence
- · Principle 5: Describe and document the evidence
- · Principle 6: Content is king

#### References

Edward Tufte (2006). Beautiful Evidence, Graphics Press LLC. www.edwardtufte.com