



Department of Psychiatry  
and Behavioral Sciences

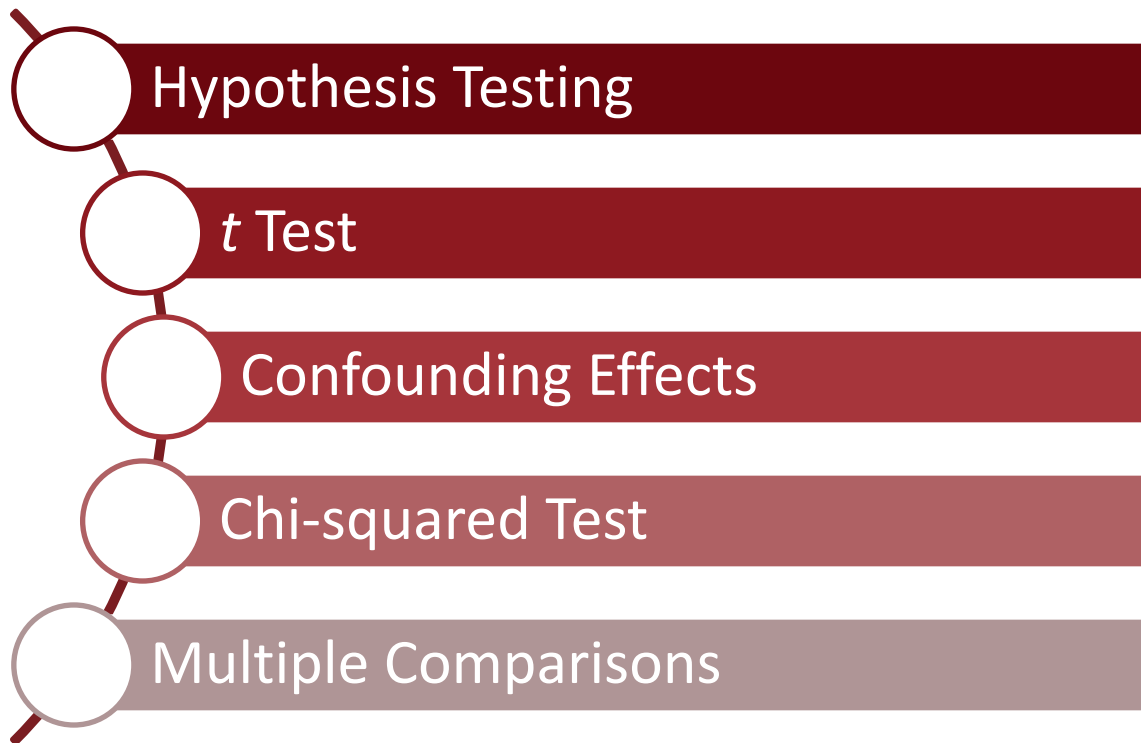
# Machine Learning for Neuroimaging

Autumn 2023

Session 5 – 10/10/2023

Basics for statistical analysis

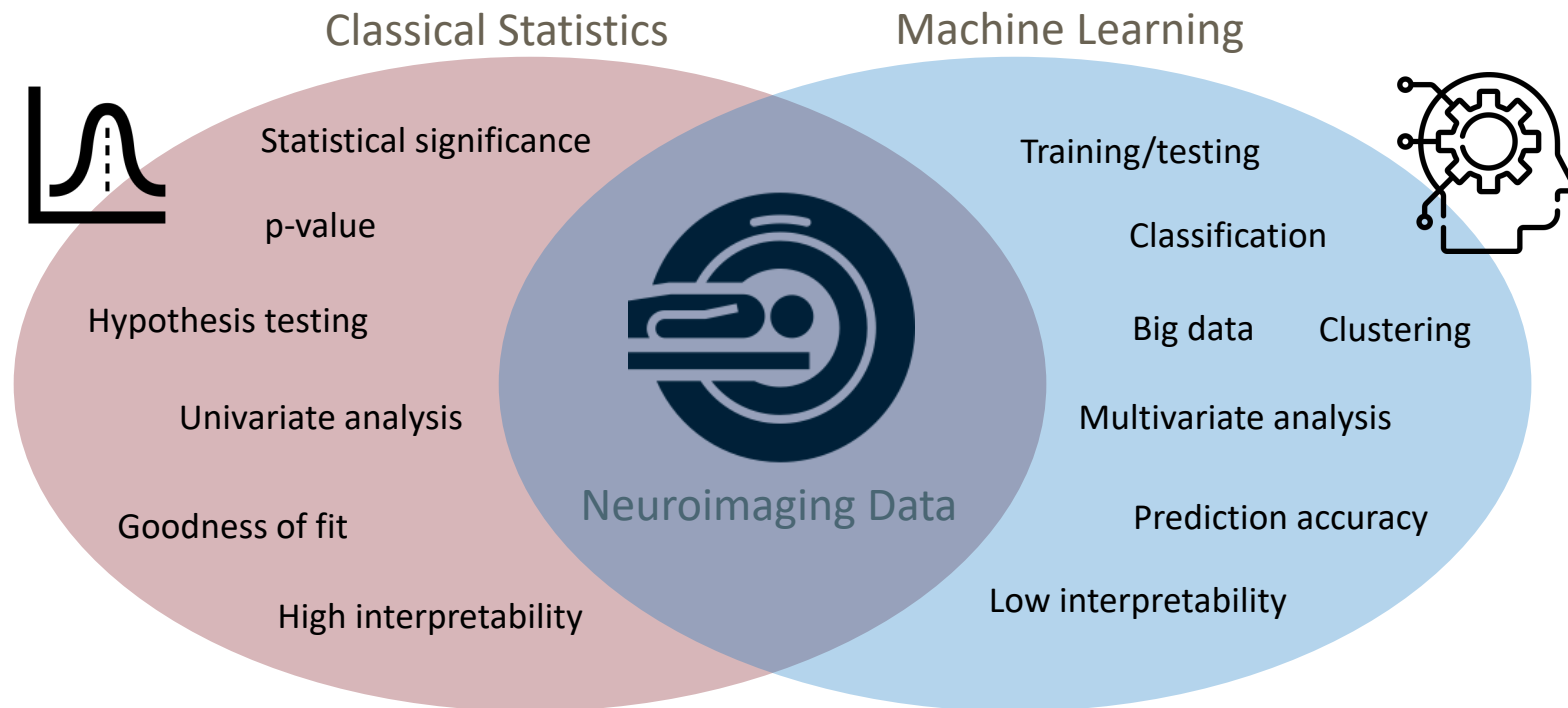
# Today...



# Assignment

- Writing assignment (due on 10/24)
- Reading assignment
- Office hours (please send emails to schedule place/time)

# Data Science in Neuroimaging



# Steps of the Scientific Method

1

Make an observation



2

Ask a question



3

Test hypothesis and gather data



4

Examine test results and form a conclusion



5

Report findings



verywell

# History of Hypothesis Testing

## ■ Early 20<sup>th</sup> century



Karl Pearson



William Sealy Gosset  
(aka *Student*)



Ronald Fisher

Pearson:

- Chi-squared test
- Standard deviation
- Correlation

Student:

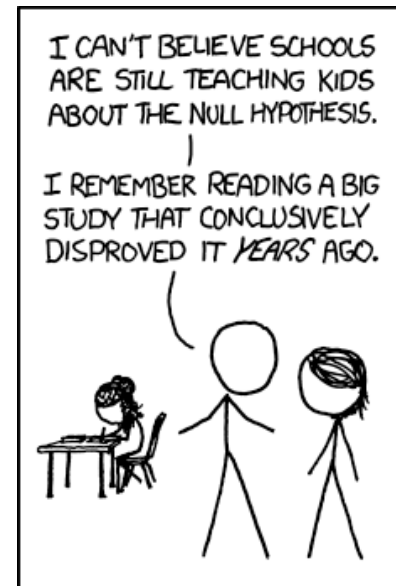
- t-distribution

Fisher:

- Null hypothesis
- Significant test
- Exact test
- ANOVA

# Hypothesis Testing – A Formal Recipe

- A statistical hypothesis test is a method of statistical inference used to decide whether the data at hand sufficiently support a particular hypothesis.
  - Choose a test statistic and set a null hypothesis
    - *The effect investigated by the analysis does not occur*
  - Derive the null distribution
    - *Distribution of possible results under the null hypothesis*
  - Select a significance level
  - Decide to either reject the null hypothesis or not to reject it
    - *Compare the actual observed result to the null distribution*



# An “Engineering” Solution: Permutation Test

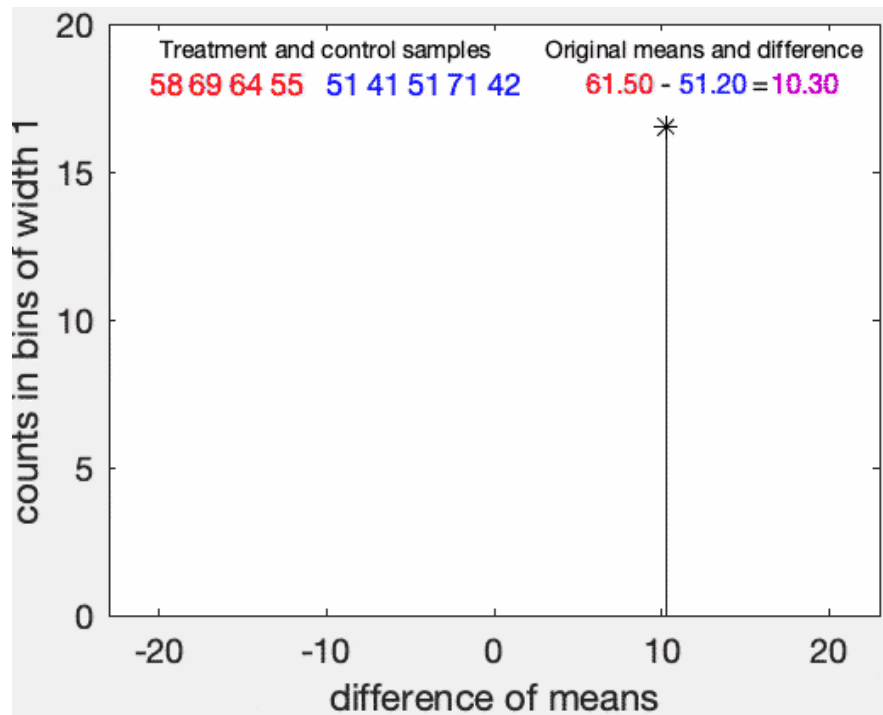
- Two groups of samples
  - 5 control samples: (51, 41, 51, 71, 42)
  - 4 treatment samples: (58, 69, 64, 55)
  - Question: is there a difference between groups?
    - $(58+69+64+55)/4 - (51+41+51+71+42)/5 = 10.3$  <--- Observed mean difference!
- If there is no group difference (null hypothesis), can I observe 10.3 just by chance?
- Random Permutation:
  - Control (51, 41, 55, 51, 64), Treatment (58, 42, 69, 71)
    - $(58+42+69+71)/4 - (51+41+55+51+64)/5 = 7.6$
  - Control (69, 64, 51, 71, 42), Treatment (58, 55, 51, 41)
    - $(58+55+51+41)/4 - (69+64+51+71+42)/5 = -8.15$
  - .....

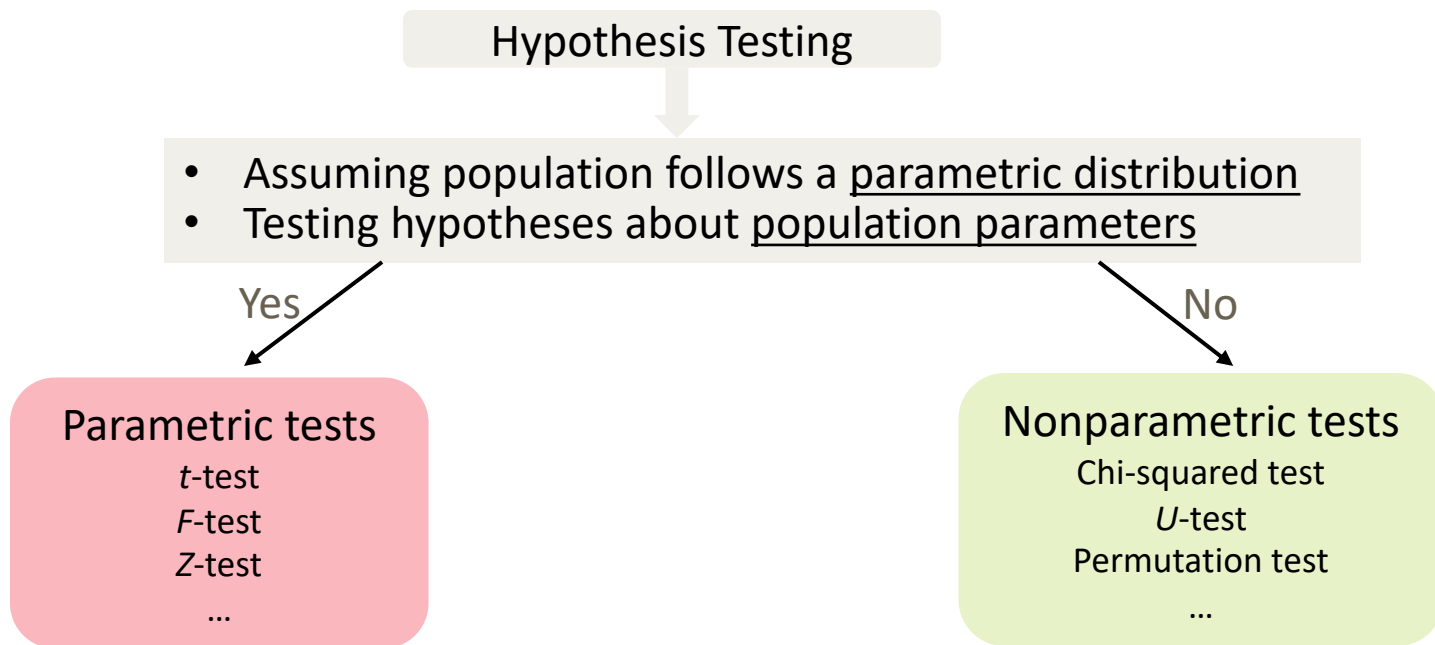


# Non-parametric test

## ■ Permutation test

- Build null distribution via permutation
  1. Randomly re-group the data into n and m samples
  2. Compute the mean difference from regrouped data
  3. Repeat K times
- Compare actual mean difference with null distribution ( $p = \frac{\text{the \# permuted mean difference is larger than the original mean difference}}{K}$ )
- Reject null hypothesis:  $p = 0.001 < 0.05$
- Cannot reject:  $p = 0.2 > 0.05$





## Hypothesis Testing

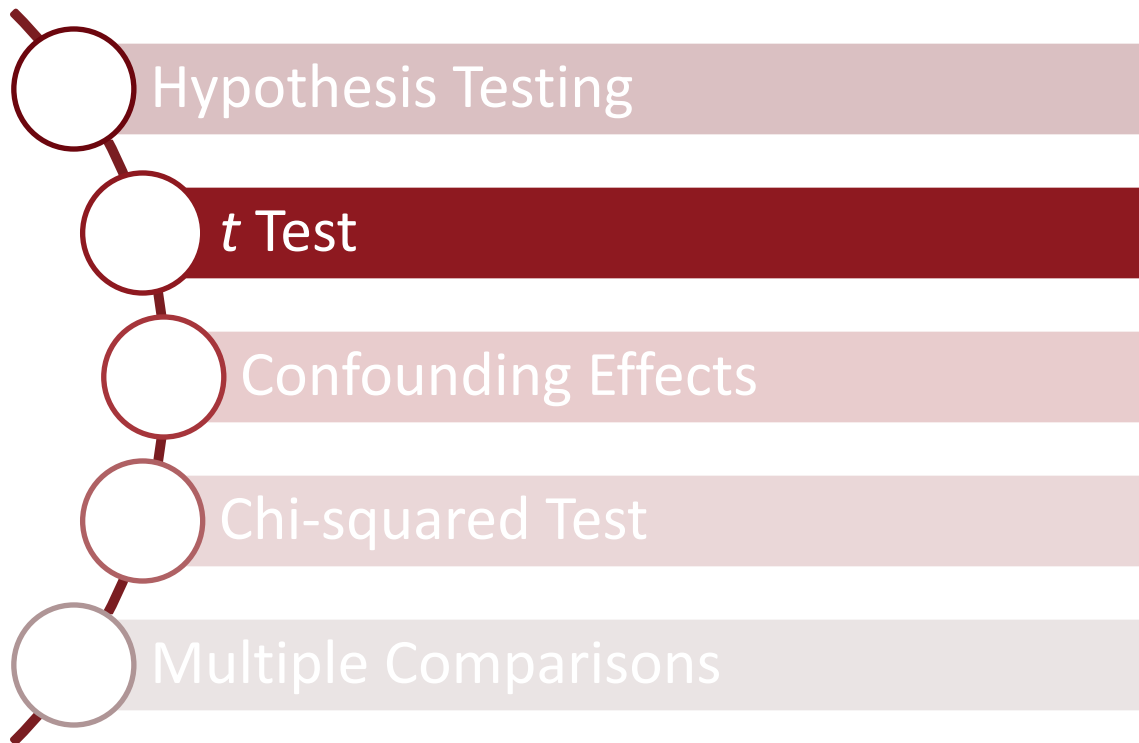
- Assuming population follows a parametric distribution
- Testing hypotheses about population parameters

Yes

### Parametric tests

*t*-test  
*F*-test  
Z-test  
...

# Today...



# Two-Sample t-test: Student's $t$ -distribution

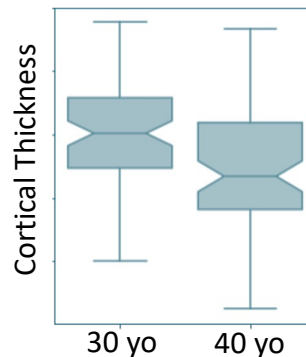
- $t$ -distribution plays a critical role in estimating the mean of a normally distributed population in situations where the the population's standard deviation is unknown.
  - $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  and  $\{Y_1, \dots, Y_m\}$  are independently and identically drawn from a **Gaussian distribution**
  - Null hypothesis: the mean difference  $\bar{X} - \bar{Y} = 0$
  - Let  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ ,  $\bar{Y} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m Y_i$ ,  $S^2 = \frac{(n-1)s_X^2 + (m-1)s_Y^2}{n+m-2}$  be the sample mean and the unbiased sample variance ( $s_X^2 = \frac{\sum_i (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n-1}$ ,  $s_Y^2 = \frac{\sum_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}{m-1}$ )
  - Construct t-statistic  $t = \frac{\bar{X} - \bar{Y}}{S^* \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m}}}$
  - $t$  follows a Student's t-distribution with  $n + m - 2$  degrees of freedom
  - Compute p-value based on observed  $t$ -value

# Two-sample $t$ -test

Test whether cortical thickness grows with aging?

Group 1	Age 30
Participant 1	3
Participant 2	2.7
...	...
Participant n	2.5

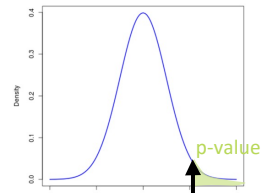
Group 2	Age 40
Participant 1	3
Participant 2	2.7
Participant 3	2.2
...	...
...	...
Participant m	2.5



Null hypothesis:  $\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2 = 0$

Null distribution of DOF  $n+m-2$

$$t = \frac{\bar{X}_1 - \bar{X}_2}{S_p \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m}}} \sim$$



Observed  $\bar{X}_1$   $\bar{X}_2$   $S_p$

# Example: One sample $t$ -test

Test whether cortical thickness grows with aging?

	Age 30
Participant 1	3
Participant 2	2.7
Participant 3	2.2
...	...
Participant n	2.5

# Example: One sample $t$ -test

Test whether cortical thickness grows with aging?

	Age 30	Age 40
Participant 1	3	2.6
Participant 2	2.7	2.5
Participant 3	2.2	2.3
...	...	...
Participant n	2.5	2.4

Growth $X$
-0.4
-0.2
0.1
...
-0.1

**Null hypothesis:** the growth (temporal change) is 0



**Null hypothesis:**  $X \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$



# One-Sample t-test: Student's $t$ -distribution

- $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are independently and identically drawn from a **Gaussian distribution**
- Null hypothesis: the mean of that Gaussian is  $\mu$
- Let  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  ,  $S^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$  be the sample mean and the unbiased sample variance
- Construct t-statistic  $t = \frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{S/\sqrt{n}}$
- $t$  follows a Student's t-distribution with  $n - 1$  degrees of freedom
- Compute p-value based on observed  $t$ -value

# Example: One sample $t$ -test

Test whether cortical thickness grows with aging?

	Age 30	Age 40
Participant 1	3	2.6
Participant 2	2.7	2.5
Participant 3	2.2	2.3
...	...	...
Participant n	2.5	2.4

Growth $X$
-0.4
-0.2
0.1
...
-0.1

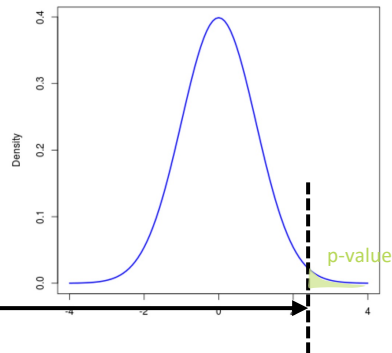
**Null hypothesis:** the growth (temporal change) is 0

**Null hypothesis:**  $X \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$

$$t = \frac{\bar{X} - 0}{s/\sqrt{n}} \sim$$

Observed  $t$ -value  $t = \frac{\bar{X} - 0}{s/\sqrt{n}}$

Null distribution of DOF  $n-1$

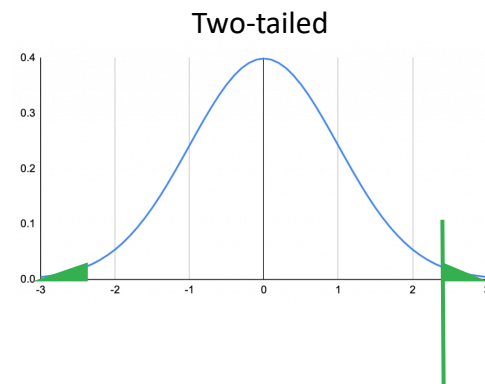
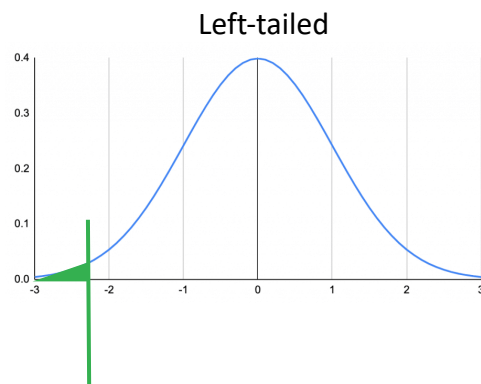
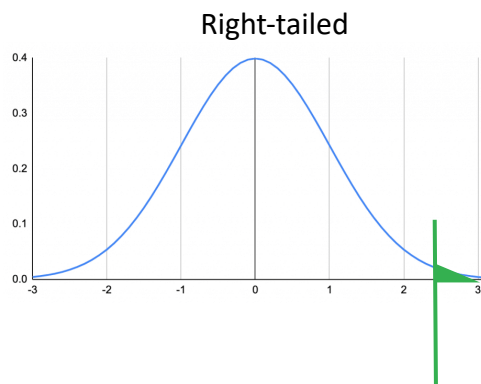


# Pitfall of $p$ -values

- Correct: probability of obtaining the observed results under the null hypothesis
- Incorrect: probability of the null hypothesis being wrong

# What are paired vs unpaired $t$ -tests?

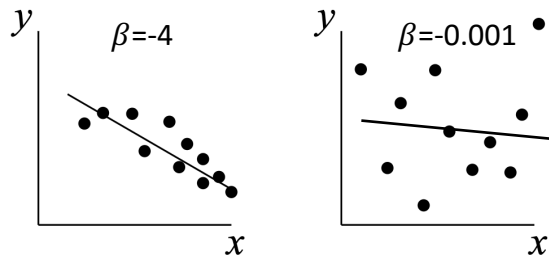
- Reading assignment 1
  - Find out what paired and unpaired  $t$ -tests are, and how they are related to one-sample and two-sample  $t$ -tests.
  - What are one-tailed and two-tailed p-values (you have to use this concept in the assignment)?



# Slope of a regression line

- Fitting the linear regression model  $Y = \alpha + \beta X + \epsilon$

Question: whether there is a linear relationship?

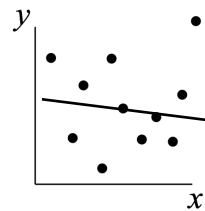


- Null hypothesis:  $\beta = 0$  (there is no correlation between  $X, Y$ )

- Null distribution:

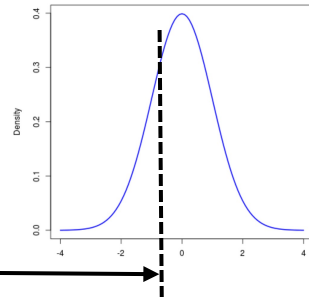
– Let  $\hat{\beta}$  be the least-squares estimator  $\hat{\beta} = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$

–  $\frac{\hat{\beta}}{SE_{\hat{\beta}}} \sim t\text{-distribution with DOF } n-2$



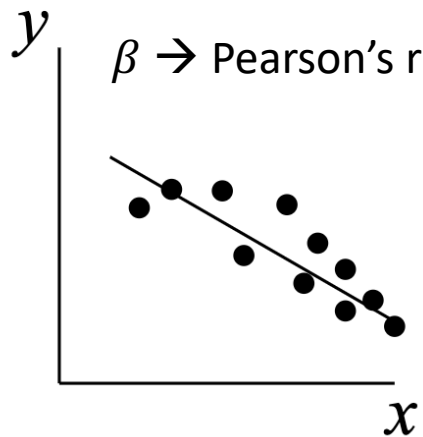
Observed  $\frac{\hat{\beta}}{SE_{\hat{\beta}}}$

Null distribution of DOF n-2

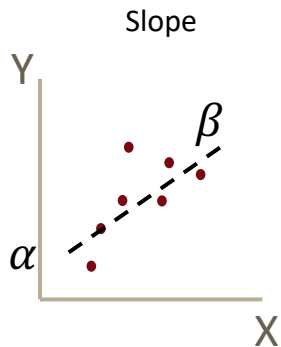


# Pearson Correlation

- Very similar concept/computation as the slope test
- $\beta$  of the standardized  $X, Y$  equals the correlation coefficient

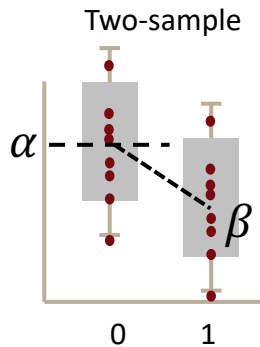


# All these tests are General Linear Models (GLM)!



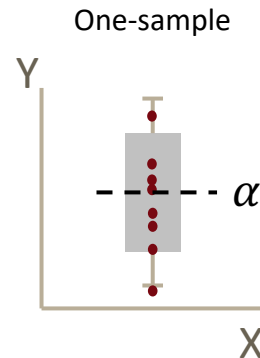
$$Y = \alpha + \beta X + \epsilon$$

↑  
Continuous



$$Y = \alpha + \beta X + \epsilon$$

↑  
{0,1}



$$Y = \alpha + \beta 0 + \epsilon$$

↑  
Test this linear coefficient!

Multivariate Linear Regression

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 \dots + \epsilon$$

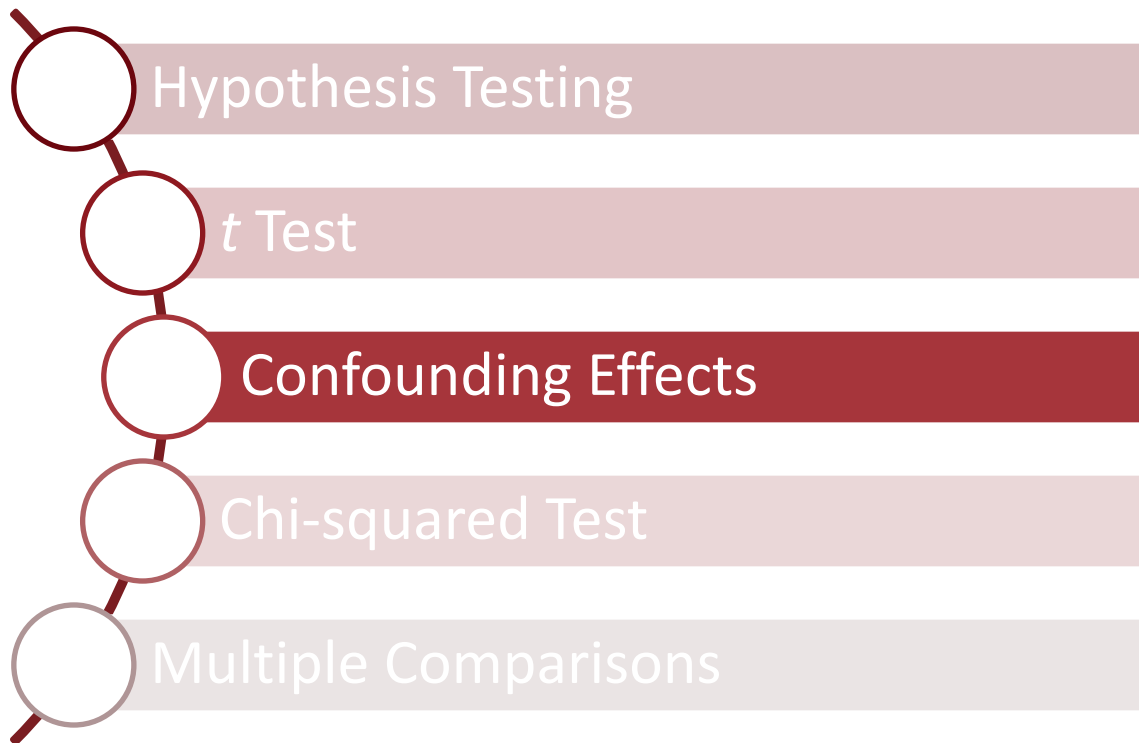
↓ age      ↓ sex      ↓ race      ↓ race  
 $p_1$        $p_2$        $p_3$        $p_4$

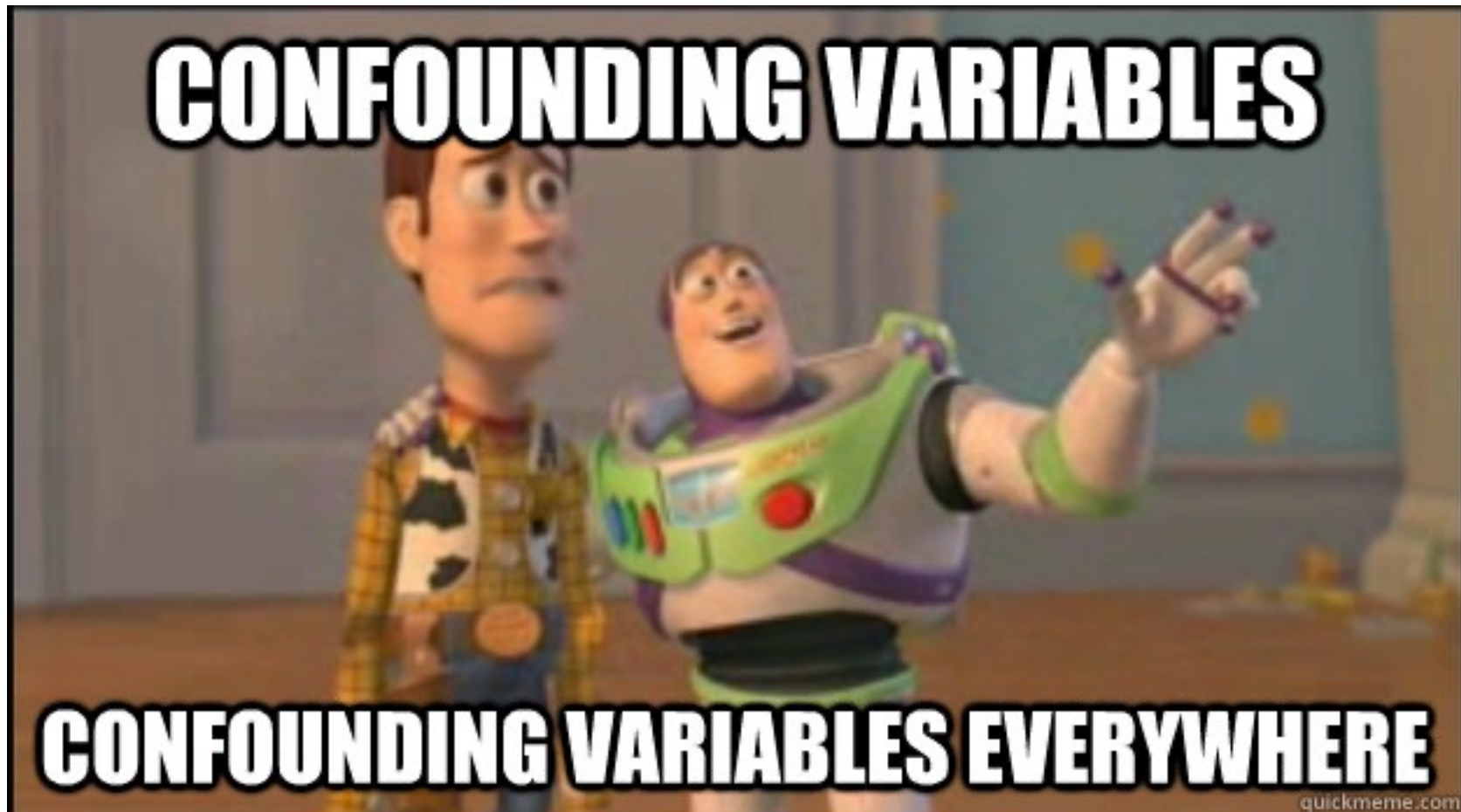
# Other Popular Test Statistics

- Reading assignment 2
  - Find out what Z-test and F-test are and when those tests are preferred over  $t$ -tests



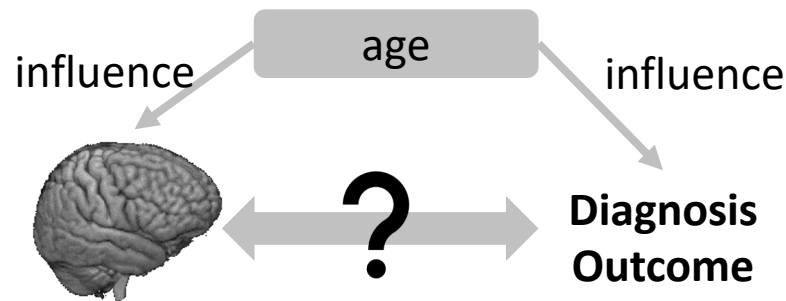
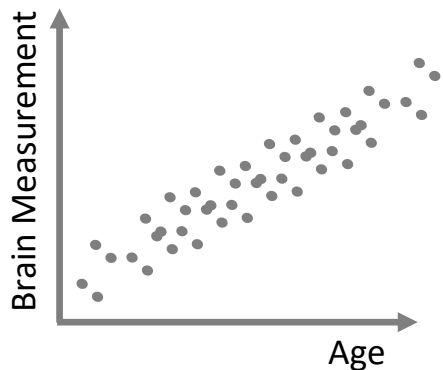
# Today...





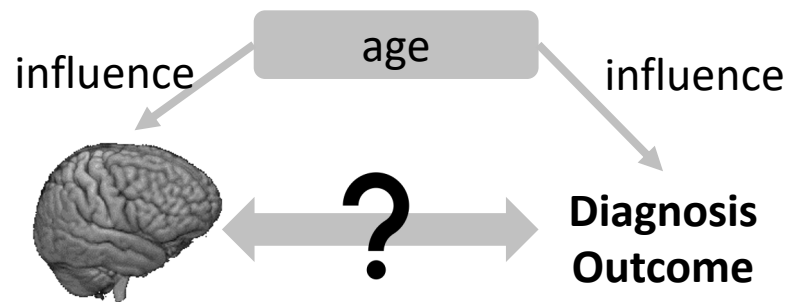
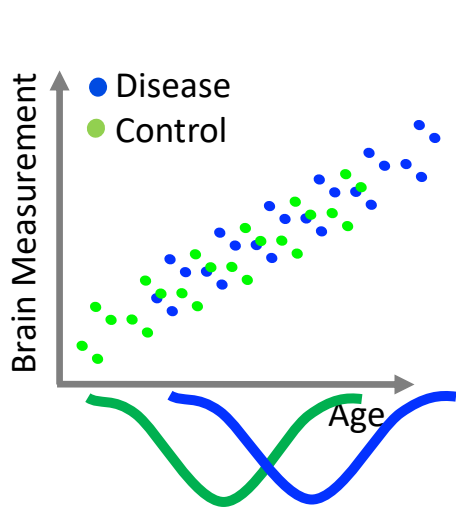
# Confounding Variables

- A confounder is a variable that influences both the dependent variable and independent variable, causing a spurious association.



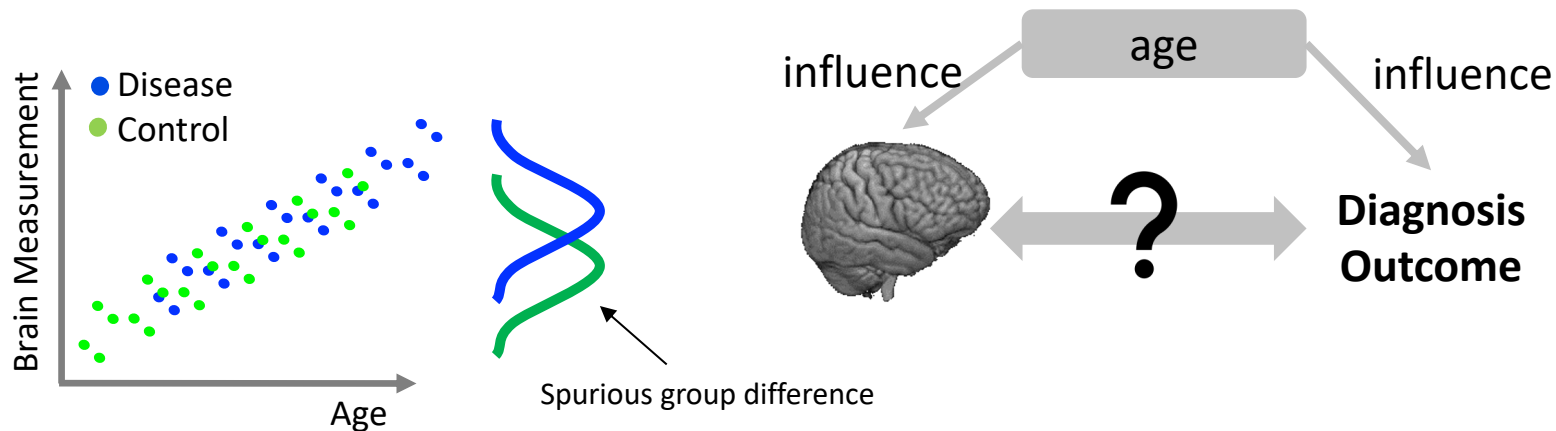
# Scenario 1

- A confounder is a variable that influences both the dependent variable and independent variable, causing a spurious association.



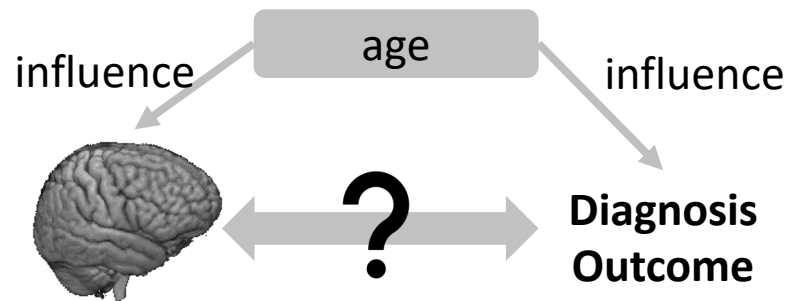
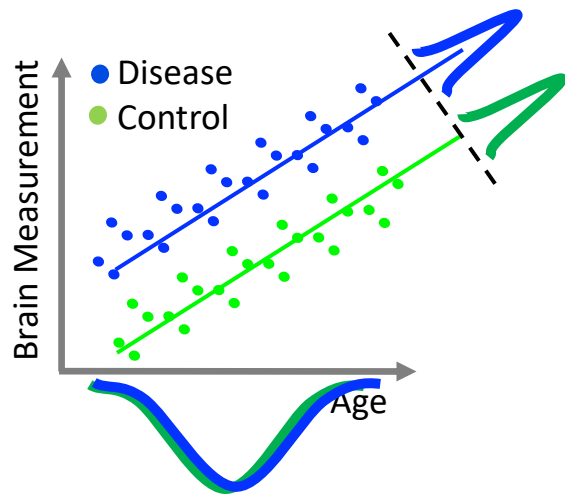
# Scenario 1

- A confounder is a variable that influences both the dependent variable and independent variable, causing a spurious association.



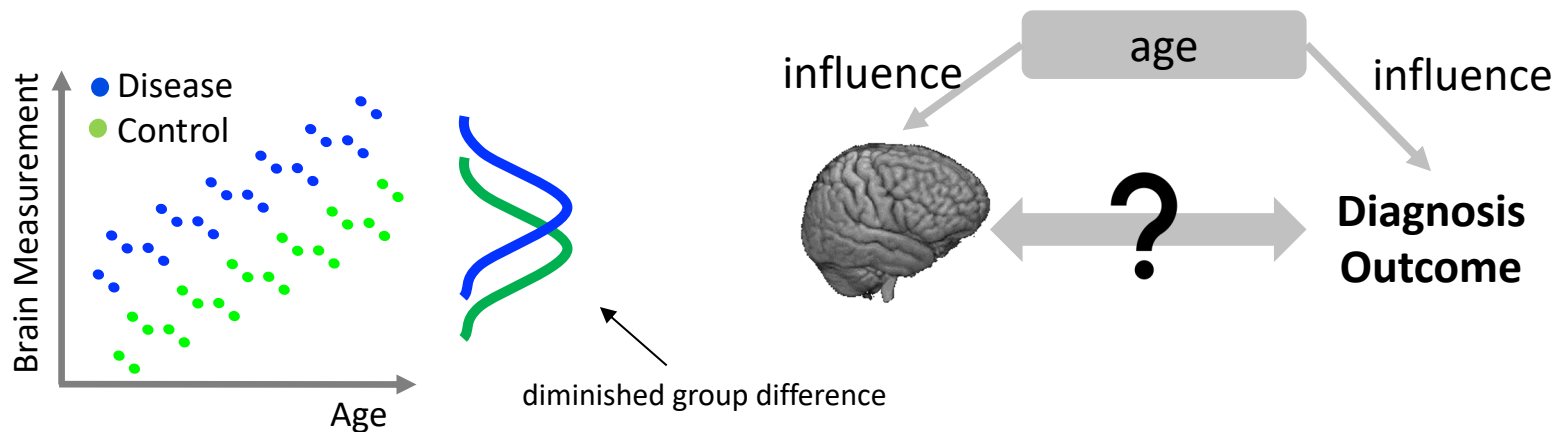
## Scenario 2

- A confounder is a variable that influences both the dependent variable and independent variable, causing a spurious association.



# Scenario 2

- A confounder is a variable that influences both the dependent variable and independent variable, causing a spurious association.

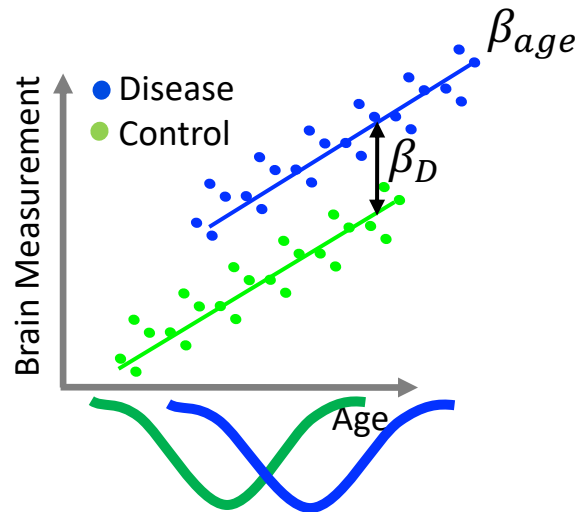


# Confounder as a Covariate in GLM

- A covariate is an independent variable that can influence the outcome of a given statistical trial, but which is not of direct interest.

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_{age}age + \beta_D D + \epsilon$$

$\{0,1\}$   
↓  
 $t\text{-test on } \beta_D$  ↑



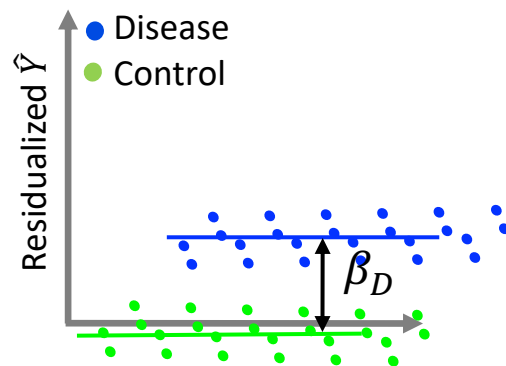


# Compute Correct Group Differences by Residualization

- Compute disease effect by removing the aging effect.
  - Subtract  $\beta_{age}age$  from raw measurements

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_{age}age + \beta_D D + \epsilon$$

$$\hat{Y} = Y - \beta_{age}age$$

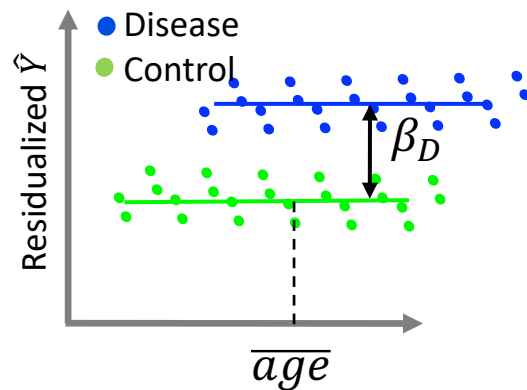


# Compute Correct Group Differences by Residualization

- Compute disease effect by removing the aging effect.
  - Subtract  $\beta_{age}age$  from raw measurements
  - Adjust 'reference point' to  $\overline{age}$

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_{age}age + \beta_D D + \epsilon$$

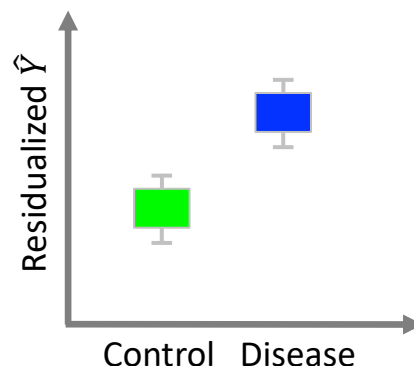
$$\hat{Y} = Y - \beta_{age}age + \beta_{age}\overline{age}$$



# Compute Correct Group Differences by Residualization

- Compute disease effect by removing the aging effect.
  - Subtract  $\beta_{age}age$  from raw measurements
  - Adjust 'reference point' to  $\overline{age}$
  - Use boxplot to visualize  $\hat{Y}$

*Adeli et al., Chained Regularization for Identifying Brain Patterns Specific to HIV Infection, NeuroImage, 2018*



# Interaction in GLM

- An interaction effect occurs when the effect of one variable depends on the value of another variable

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_{age}age + \beta_D D + \epsilon$$

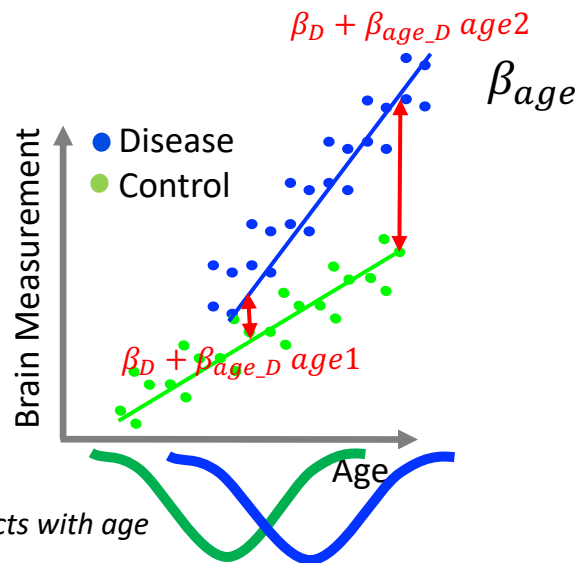
$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_{age}age + (\beta_D + \beta_{age\_D} age) * D + \epsilon$$

*The disease effect varies with age*

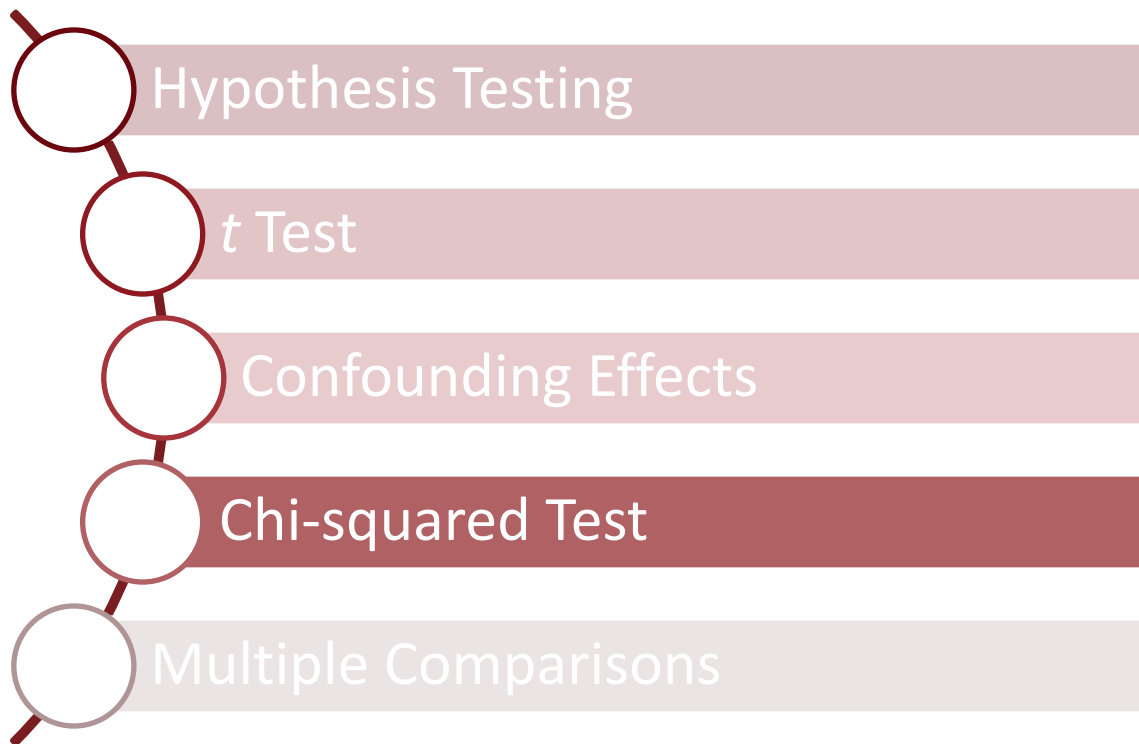
$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_{age}age + \beta_D D + \beta_{age\_D} age * D + \epsilon$$

*Whether there is an overall disease effect*

*Whether there is the disease effect interacts with age*



# Today...



## Hypothesis Testing

- Assuming population follows a parametric distribution
- Testing hypotheses about population parameters

What if the samples  
do not follow normal  
distribution?

### Nonparametric tests

Chi-squared test

*U*-test

Permutation test

...

# Non-parametric test

## ■ Permutation test

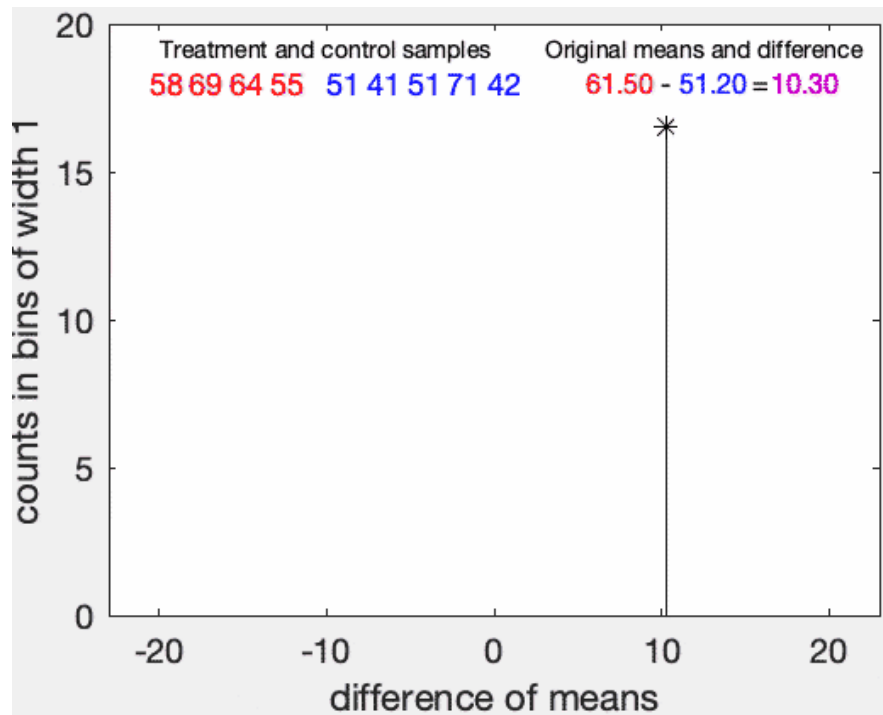
- Build null distribution via permutation
  1. Randomly re-group the data into n and m samples
  2. Compute the mean difference from regrouped data
  3. Repeat K times
- Compare actual mean difference with null distribution (p = the # permuted mean difference is larger than the original mean difference / K)

## ■ Advantage

- Application to any test statistic
- No assumptions on data distribution

## ■ Disadvantage

- Time consuming
- Minimum  $p = 1/K$



# Non-parametric test

- Reading assignment 3
  - Find out what Mann–Whitney U test and Spearman's Correlation are.



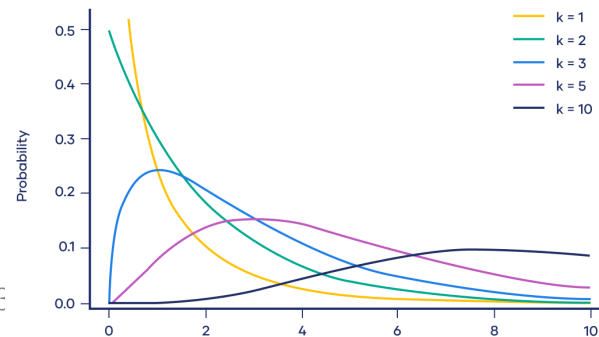
# Chi-squared Test

- Example: Test a whether a coin is fair

	Head	Tail	Total
Observed	65	35	100
Expected	50	50	

Contingency table

- Chi-squared test is used to determine whether the expected frequencies in a contingency table differ from observed frequencies.
  - N samples classified into K classes with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  class having  $X_i$  samples (observed frequency)
  - Null hypothesis: observed frequency follows expected frequency  $\{M_i\}$
  - Null Distribution:
    - $$\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^K \frac{(X_i - M_i)^2}{M_i}$$
    - Follows a Chi-squared distribution of DOF k
  - Compute  $p$ -value from observed  $\chi^2$



# Chi-squared Test

- Example: Test a whether a coin is fair

	Head	Tail
Expected	50	50

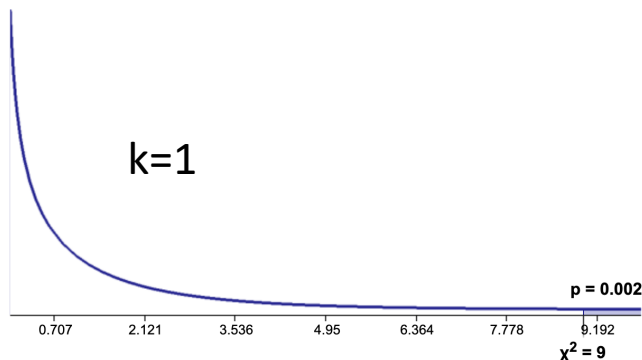
	Head	Tail
Observed	65	35

Total

100

→ Marginal frequency

- $X^2$  follows a Chi-squared distribution of DOF  $k$ 
  - $k = \#$  of independent cells given marginal frequency
- Observed  $X^2 = \frac{(65-50)^2}{50} + \frac{(35-50)^2}{50} = 9$



# Chi-squared Test: Another Example

- Frequencies of male and female being right-handed or left-handed
- Null Hypothesis: the frequency of handedness is the same across sexes
  - Translation:  $\{X_{ij}\}$  follow expected frequency  $\{M_{ij}\}$
  - How to compute  $\{M_{ij}\}$  ?

Contingency Table

	Right-handed	Left-handed
Male	43	9
Female	44	4

# Chi-squared Test: Another Example

- Null Hypothesis: the frequency of handedness is the same across sexes
  - Compute expected frequencies from marginal frequencies!
  - There are 100 samples, with 52% males and 87% overall right-handed rate.
  - Expected  $m_{11} = 100 * \frac{52}{100} * \frac{87}{100} = 45.24$
  - DOF = # of independent cells given marginal frequency

Expected Frequency

	Right-handed	Left-handed	Total
Male	?		52
Female			48
Total	87	13	

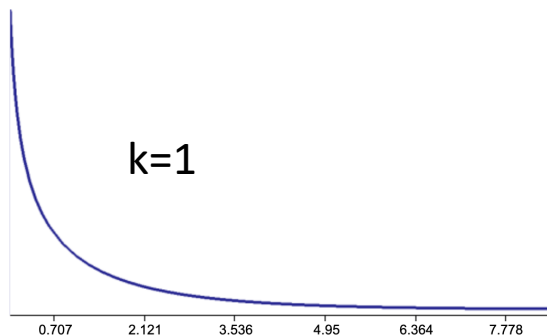
Contingency Table

	Right-handed	Left-handed	Total
Male	43	9	52
Female	44	4	48
Total	87	13	100

Marginal frequencies

# Chi-squared Test: Another Example

- Null Hypothesis: the frequency of handedness is the same across sexes
  - Compute observed  $\chi^2 = \sum \sum \frac{(X_{ij} - M_{ij})^2}{M_{ij}}$
  - DOF = # of independent cells given marginal frequency =  $(2-1) * (2-1) = 1$



Contingency Table

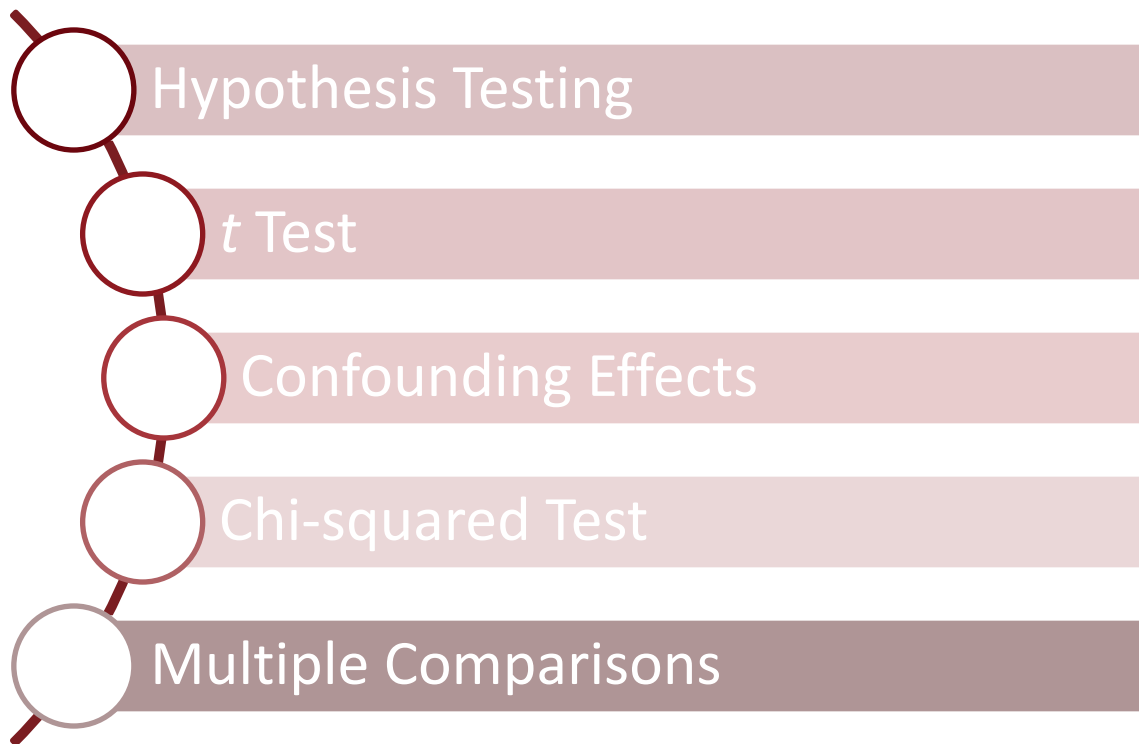
	Right-handed	Left-handed	Total
Male	43	9	52
Female	44	4	48
Total	87	13	

Marginal frequencies

## Other statistics related to Chi-squared tests

- Reading assignment 4
  - Find out what Binomial test and Fisher's Exact test are

# Today...



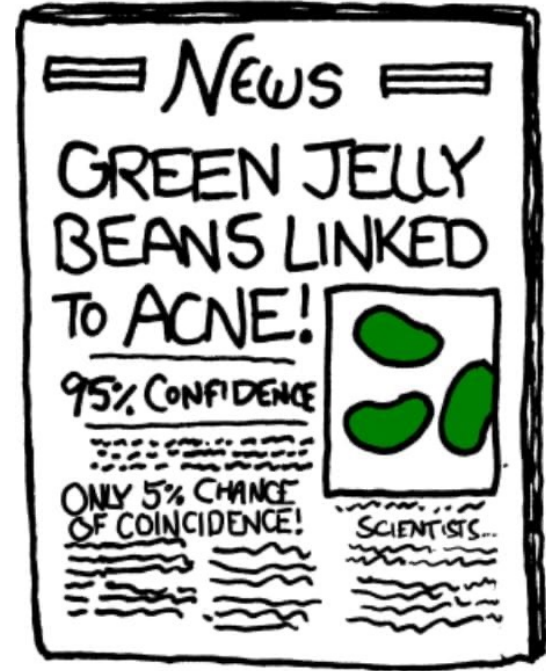
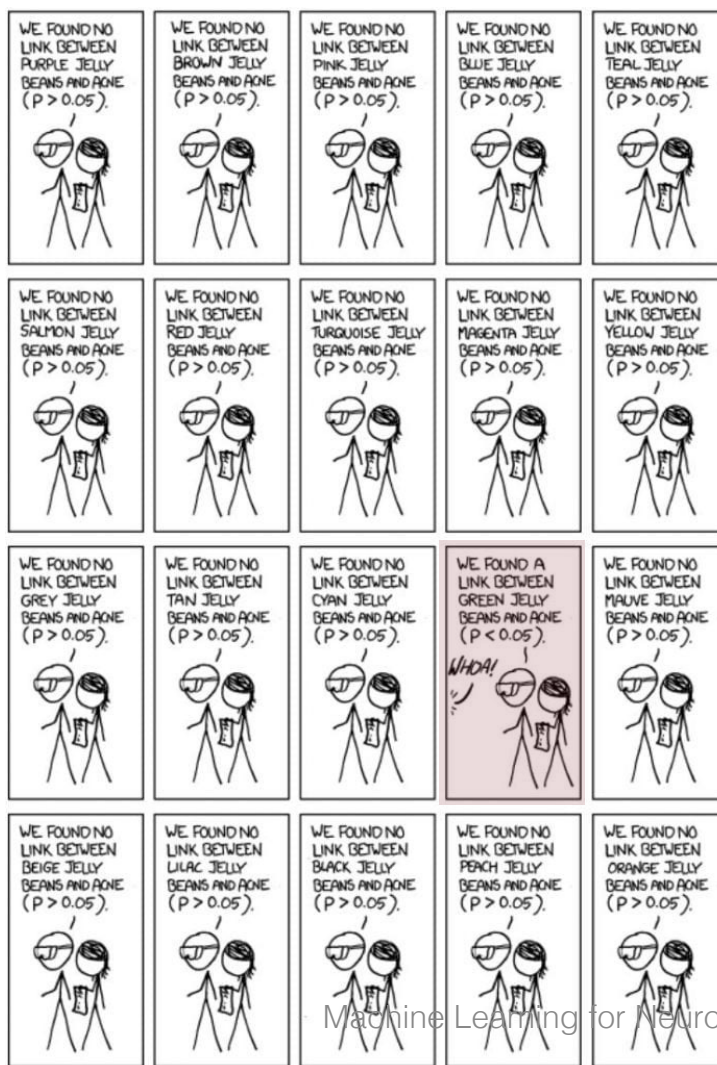
# Pitfall of $p$ -values

- $p$ -hacking and reproducibility crisis

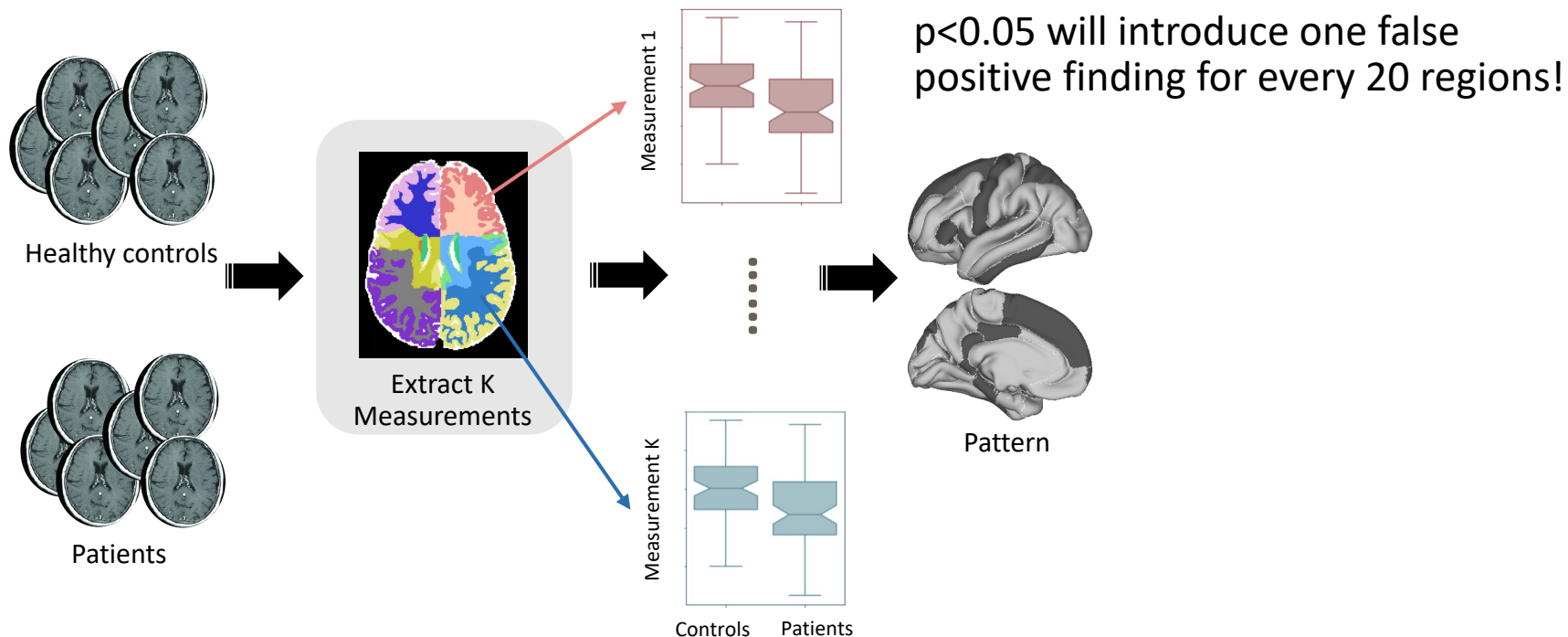


*M. Baker, 1500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility, Nature, 2016*

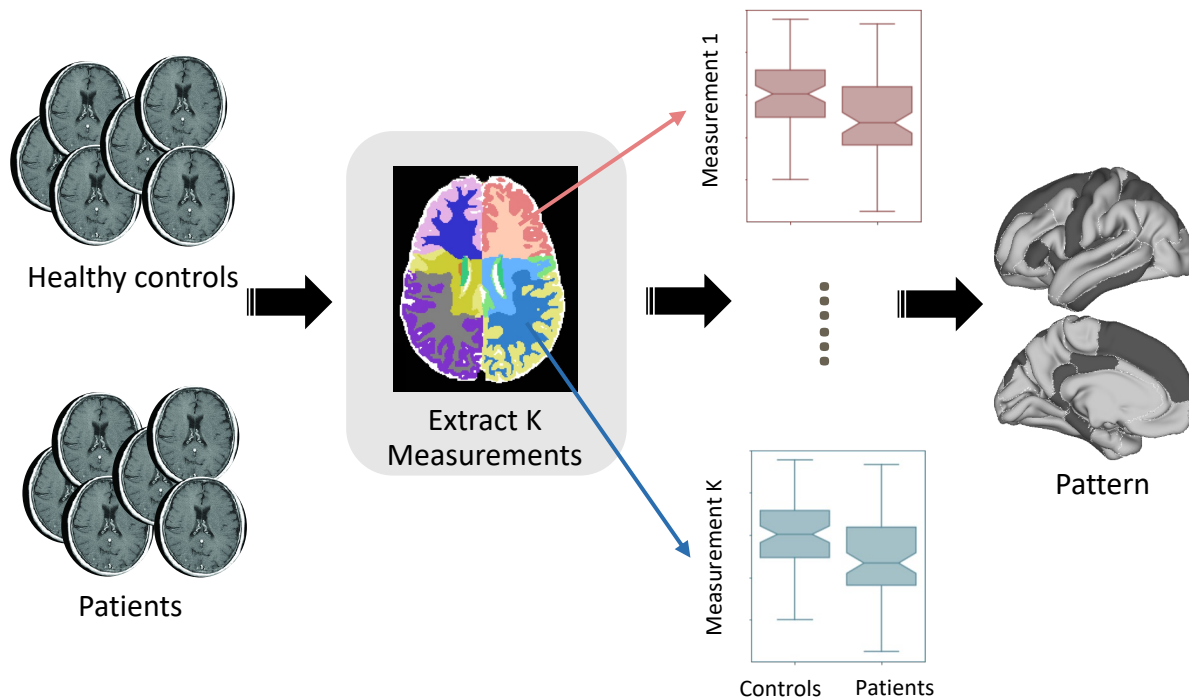




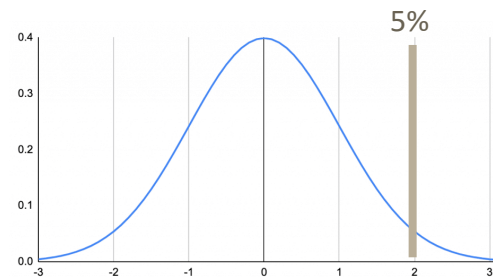
# Multiple Comparisons



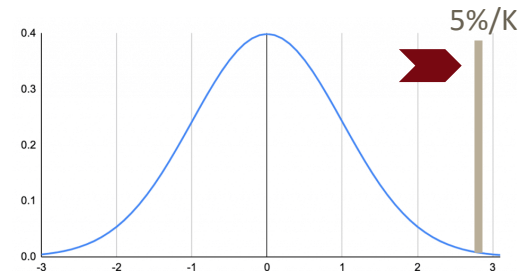
# Multiple Comparisons



One **false positive** every 20 tests



Push to a more stringent threshold



# Bonferroni Correction

- $\alpha$  of a single test: probability of falsely rejecting a true null hypothesis
- FWER (familywise error rate): probability of rejecting at least one true null hypothesis among a family of true hypotheses.
- Assume we have  $m$  null hypotheses to be tested, with  $m_0$  null hypotheses are true ( $m_0$  unknown)
  - Rejects the null hypothesis for each  $p_i \leq \frac{\alpha}{m}$

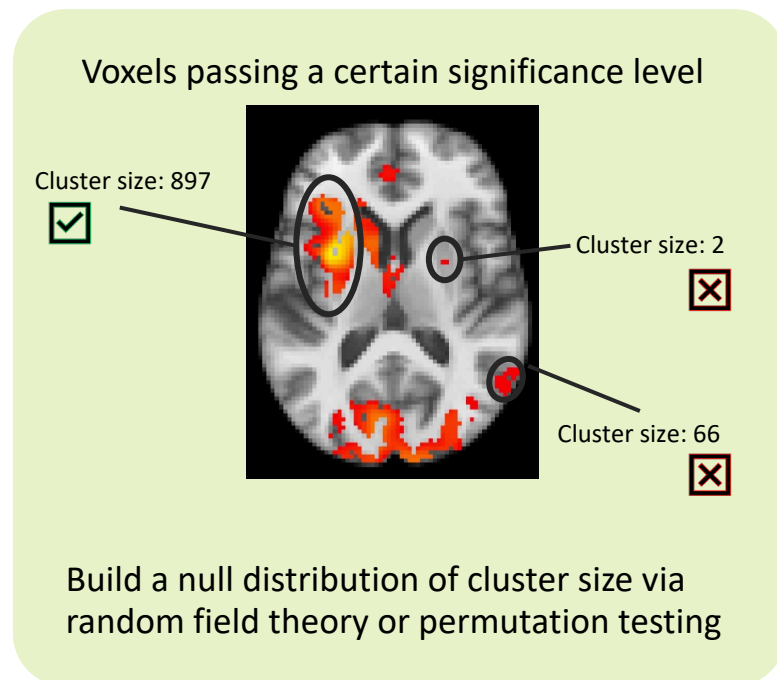
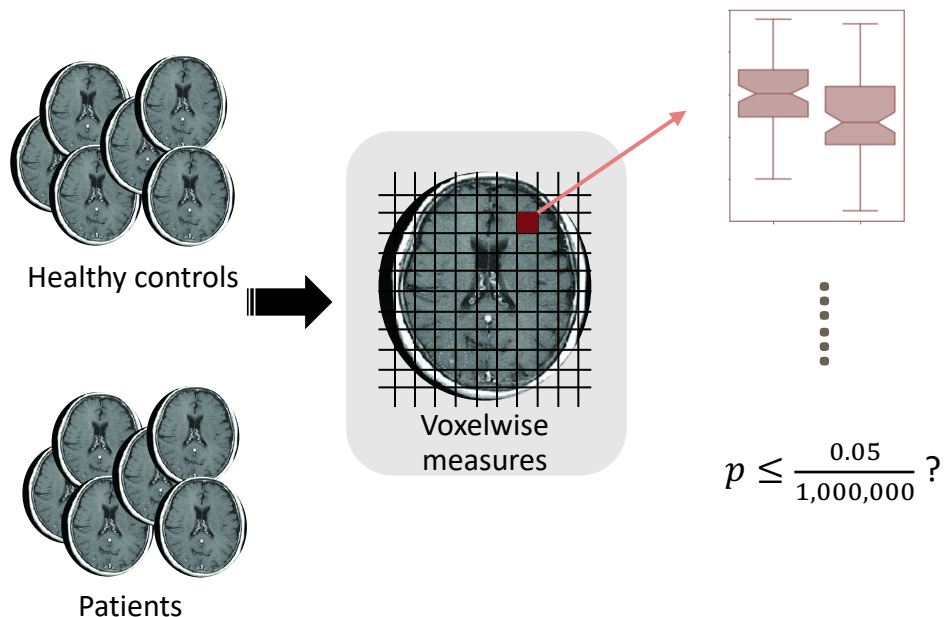
$$\text{FWER} = P \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^{m_0} \left( p_i \leq \frac{\alpha}{m} \right) \right\} \leq \sum_{i=1}^{m_0} \left\{ P \left( p_i \leq \frac{\alpha}{m} \right) \right\} = m_0 \frac{\alpha}{m} \leq \alpha.$$

- Disadvantage: too conservative (high Type-II error rate) when  $m$  is large

# Other Correction Procedures

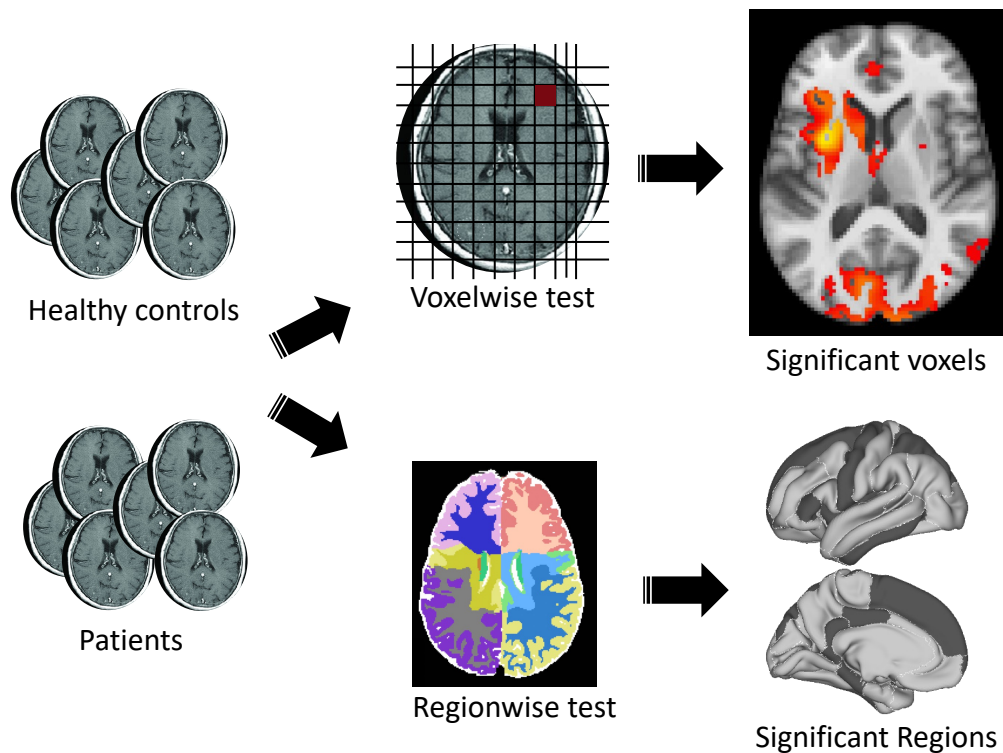
- Reading assignment 5
  - Find out what false discovery rate (FDR) and Benjamini–Hochberg procedure are

# Voxel-wise Correction



*Eklund et al., Cluster failure: Why fMRI inferences for spatial extent have inflated false-positive rates, PNAS, 2016*

# Limitations of Hypothesis Testing



- Population-level conclusion
- Require a hypothesis beforehand
- Large # of “independent” tests

# Assignment

- Due on 10/24
  - P1, P2: write calculation steps, equations, etc.
  - P3: source code with results, comments, visualization, description of what you did (easiest in Jupyter notebook)



Thank you!